Tarrant County: Week 51

Tarrant County: Week 50

Texas: Week 50

Regional
Local
Regional

**Respiratory Virus Activity Summary**

- The percentage of reported influenza-like illness (ILI) in Tarrant County *increased* from 3.1% in week 50 to 4.0% in week 51 and is currently below the 2010-2011 regional baseline (4.9%).

- No absenteeism reports were received during week 51 due to Tarrant County schools being closed for the winter break.

- The percentage of flu screen positive tests in Tarrant County *increased* from 11.2% in week 50 to 19.7% in week 51.

- Since last report, 16 specimen results were received from The North Texas Regional Laboratory. The following types and numbers of respiratory viruses were detected in these specimens: influenza A/H3 (5), influenza B (4), and respiratory syncytial virus (1).

- Cumulatively this season, the North Texas Regional Laboratory at Tarrant County Public Health has tested 131 specimens.

- At the national level during week 50, 15.7% of specimens tested and reported to the CDC were positive for influenza. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI (2.1%) was *below* the national baseline (2.5%), and the proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (6.7%) was *below* the epidemic threshold (7.4%).
Eight-Week Influenza Like Illness (ILI): Local and State Levels

NOTE: Tarrant County ILI activity is assessed using information provided by surveillance participants and the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Texas ILI activity is assessed using information provided by a network of physicians. For week 51, 20 surveillance participants reported ILI information to Tarrant County Public Health. For week 50, 55 physicians reported information to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

In week 51, 4.0% of visits to health care providers were due to ILI. ILI levels are currently below the regional established baseline of 4.9% and lower than the state of Texas levels. In Tarrant County, of 574 patients presenting with ILI the majority (38.9%) were between 0-4 years of age. Those 65 years and older accounted for the lowest percentage of health care visits due to ILI (6.1%).

NOTE: Tarrant County ILI activity is assessed using information provided by surveillance participants and the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE). Texas ILI activity is assessed using information provided by a network of physicians. For week 51, 20 surveillance participants reported ILI information to Tarrant County Public Health. For week 50, 55 physicians reported information to the Texas Department of State Health Services.
Table 1. North Texas Regional Laboratory: Respiratory Virus Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current Week</th>
<th>2010-2011 Season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Specimens Tested</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Specimens</td>
<td>10 (62.5%)</td>
<td>35 (26.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A H1</td>
<td>5 (50.0%)</td>
<td>13 (37.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A H3</td>
<td>5 (100%)</td>
<td>13 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A, Inconclusive subtype</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A, Unsubtypeable</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza B</strong></td>
<td>4 (40.0%)</td>
<td>7 (20.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Respiratory Syncytial Virus</strong></td>
<td>1 (10.0%)</td>
<td>3 (8.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adenovirus</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>5 (14.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human Metapneumovirus</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parainfluenza-1</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>1 (2.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parainfluenza-2</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>6 (17.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parainfluenza-3</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inconclusive</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Laboratory results based on real-time PCR analysis; information is for the 2010-2011 season.
2 As of May 23, 2010, 2009 H1N1 influenza and seasonal influenza A/H1 are no longer reported differentially
3 Influenza A subtype not determined; further analysis pending.
4 Inconclusive for influenza A and influenza B.

Table 2. Influenza Screening Test Results– Tarrant County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDC Week Number</th>
<th>49 (Dec. 05-11)</th>
<th>50 (Dec. 12-18)</th>
<th>51 (Dec. 19-25)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Influenza Tests Performed</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Influenza Positive</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Influenza A Positive</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Influenza A Positive</td>
<td>87.9%</td>
<td>86.9%</td>
<td>81.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Influenza B Positive</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Influenza B Positive</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Non-differentiated Positive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Non-differentiated Positive</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3. Weekly Influenza Like Illness (ILI) and Absenteeism, %

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDC Week Number</th>
<th>49  (Dec. 05-11)</th>
<th>50  (Dec. 12-18)</th>
<th>51  (Dec. 19-25)</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Average Daily % Absent</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>Winter Break</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Average Daily % ILI Absent</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>Winter Break</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Average % ILI seen in nurse’s office</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>Winter Break</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Tarrant County absenteeism and student ILI is collected from 17 school districts located within Tarrant County. For week 51, no school districts provided general absenteeism data, no school districts provided data regarding absenteeism due to ILI, and no school districts provided data regarding nurses’ office visits due to ILI as Tarrant County schools were closed for the winter break. 
***Baseline percentage for absenteeism due to ILI and proportion of school nurses office visits due to ILI not yet established.
The Tarrant County Influenza Surveillance Weekly Report is available on the Tarrant County Public Health web site at: 
www.tarrantcounty.com/Flu

If you have questions or comments regarding influenza surveillance, please contact:

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meizaguirre@tarrantcounty.com

NOTE:

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever (temperature ≥ 100°F) plus a cough OR a sore throat, in the absence of a known cause other than influenza.

Tarrant County reporting quadrants consist of Northwest, Northeast, Southwest and Southeast regions within the boundaries of Interstate 35 and Interstate 30.

Regional ILI baselines are determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and can be accessed at http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm#SGSI

Absenteeism baseline is the average weekly absenteeism experienced during April-May during the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. Some data points may be excluded due to holidays and inclement weather.

Additional information regarding Tarrant County and statewide activity codes can be accessed at www.tarrantcounty.com/flu and http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2010/

Questions regarding a reportable disease or condition? Please contact the Epidemiology and Health Information Division:

• Main office number: (817) 321-5350
• 24-hour contact number: (817) 994-3708