The percentage of reported influenza-like illness (ILI) in Tarrant County decreased from 1.0% in week 27 to 0.8% in week 28 and is currently below the 2012-2013 Tarrant County baseline (3.8%).

Due to the closing of the traditional school year, data on student absenteeism, absenteeism due to ILI, and nurses’ office visits due to ILI will not be reported until the commencement of the 2013-2014 school year in August, 2013.

The percentage of rapid flu test positives in Tarrant County increased from 3.6% in week 27 to 7.4% in week 28.

During the 2012-2013 influenza season, 1 Tarrant County influenza-associated pediatric death has been reported. As of week 27, 19 influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in Texas, with a total of 154 reported nationwide.

During the 2012-2013 influenza season, 0 influenza outbreaks have been reported in Tarrant County schools.

During the 2012-2013 influenza season, 2 localized influenza outbreaks have been reported within institutions in Tarrant County.

Since last report, 8 surveillance specimens were tested by The North Texas Regional Laboratory. The following types and number of viruses were detected in these specimens: Rhinovirus (2).

Cumulatively this season, the North Texas Regional Laboratory at Tarrant County Public Health has tested 288 surveillance specimens.

At the state level during week 27, the proportion of outpatient visits for ILI (2.8%) was below the Texas baseline (4.8%).

At the national level during week 27, 1.7% of specimens tested and reported to the CDC were positive for influenza. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI (0.8%) was below the national baseline (2.2%), and the proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (5.8%) was below the epidemic threshold (6.4%).

*Note: Texas Department of State Health Services discontinued the determination of state-wide influenza activity levels beginning on May 19, 2013 (Week 21) for the remainder of the 2012-2013 influenza season. Activity level reporting will recommence at the beginning of the 2013-2014 influenza season.
In week 28, 0.8% of visits to health care providers were due to ILI. ILI levels are currently below the county established baseline of 3.8% and lower than state of Texas levels. In Tarrant County, of 179 patients presenting with ILI the majority (40.2%) were in the 0-4 years of age group; 65 years and older accounted for the lowest percentage of health care visits due to ILI (5.0%).

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 28, 33 surveillance participants reported ILI information to Tarrant County Public Health. For week 27, 28 physicians reported information to the Texas Department of State Health Services.
NOTE Tarrant County ILI distribution map is from ESSENCE and includes data from 46 hospitals that voluntarily provide data based on chief complaints of Tarrant County residents admitted to Emergency Departments in North Central Texas. This map represents the number of cases from each zip code, not the percent. Zip codes with larger populations are expected to have more cases.
NOTE: Tarrant County absenteeism and student ILI is collected from 17 school districts located within Tarrant County. For week 28, no data are reported due to the end of the traditional school year. Reporting will recommence at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year in August, 2013.

Table 1. Influenza Rapid Test Results, Tarrant County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDC Week Number</th>
<th>26 (June 23-29)</th>
<th>27 (June 30-July 6)</th>
<th>28 (July 7-13)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Influenza Tests Performed</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Influenza Positive</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Influenza A Positive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Influenza A Positive</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Influenza B Positive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Influenza B Positive</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</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>-</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Tarrant County rapid influenza test results are reported weekly by influenza surveillance participants. For CDC week 28, rapid influenza test results were reported by 11 hospitals and 13 healthcare clinics.
### Influenza Confirmatory Test Results: Tarrant County

**Table 2. North Texas Regional Laboratory: Respiratory Virus Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Specimens Tested</th>
<th>Current Week</th>
<th>2012-2013 Season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Specimens Tested</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Specimens</td>
<td>2 (25.0%)</td>
<td>159 (55.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza A</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A H1</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>63 (39.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza A H3</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>56 (88.9%)</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$^2$</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Influenza B</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>44 (27.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Respiratory Syncytial Virus</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>12 (7.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adenovirus</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>11 (6.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human Metapneumovirus</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>7 (4.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parainfluenza-1</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parainfluenza-2</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>4 (2.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parainfluenza-3</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>4 (2.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rhinovirus</strong></td>
<td>2 (100.0%)</td>
<td>29 (18.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inconclusive$^3$</strong></td>
<td>0 (0.0%)</td>
<td>1 (0.3%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Laboratory results based on real-time PCR analysis; information is for the 2012-2013 season.
2. Influenza A subtype not determined; further analysis pending.
3. Inconclusive for influenza A and influenza B; not included in positive specimens count.

**NOTE:** Percentages do not add up to 100% due to co-infections; 15 specimens have tested positive with co-infections:

- 1 specimen tested positive for rhinovirus and adenovirus
- 1 specimen tested positive for rhinovirus and parainfluenza type 3
- 2 specimen tested positive for influenza B and adenovirus
- 1 specimen tested positive for influenza A H3 and adenovirus
- 2 specimen tested positive for influenza B and respiratory syncytial virus
- 1 specimen tested positive for influenza A H3 and parainfluenza type 3
- 1 specimen tested positive for influenza A H3, rhinovirus, and adenovirus
- 1 specimen tested positive for influenza B and Respiratory Syncytial Virus
- 1 specimen tested positive for influenza A H3 and influenza B
- 1 specimen tested positive for human metapneumovirus and rhinovirus
- 1 specimen tested positive for adenovirus and respiratory syncytial virus
- 1 specimen tested positive for parainfluenza type 2 and adenovirus
- 1 specimen was inconclusive for influenza A and B but positive for rhinovirus

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**Graph 5. North Texas Regional Laboratory: Influenza Virus Results**

- **Influenza A H1**
- **Influenza A H3**
- **Influenza B**
- **Percent Positive**

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5
Data collected in ILINet are used to produce a measure of ILI activity by state. Activity levels are based on the percent of outpatient visits in a state due to ILI and are compared to the average percent of ILI visits that occur during spring and fall weeks with little or no influenza virus circulation. This map uses the proportion of outpatient visits to health care providers for influenza-like illness to measure the ILI activity level within a state. It does not, however, measure the extent of geographic spread of flu within a state. Therefore, outbreaks occurring in a single city could cause the state to display high activity levels. Data collected in ILINet may disproportionately represent certain populations within a state, and therefore, may not accurately depict the full picture of influenza activity for the whole state. http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/
The Tarrant County Influenza Surveillance Weekly Report is available on the Tarrant County Public Health website at:
www.tarrantcounty.com/flu

If you have questions or comments regarding influenza surveillance, please contact:
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Influenza Surveillance Specialist
kdmcelroy@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.

Tarrant County ILI baselines were determined using the same method as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Regional ILI baselines. Regional ILI baselines are determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and can be accessed at http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm

Absenteism baseline is the average weekly absenteism 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, Texas and national ILI activity can be accessed at
www.tarrantcounty.com/flu
http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2013/
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

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