Tarrant County Public Health

Division of Epidemiology and Health Information

Tarrant County Respiratory Surveillance Weekly Report

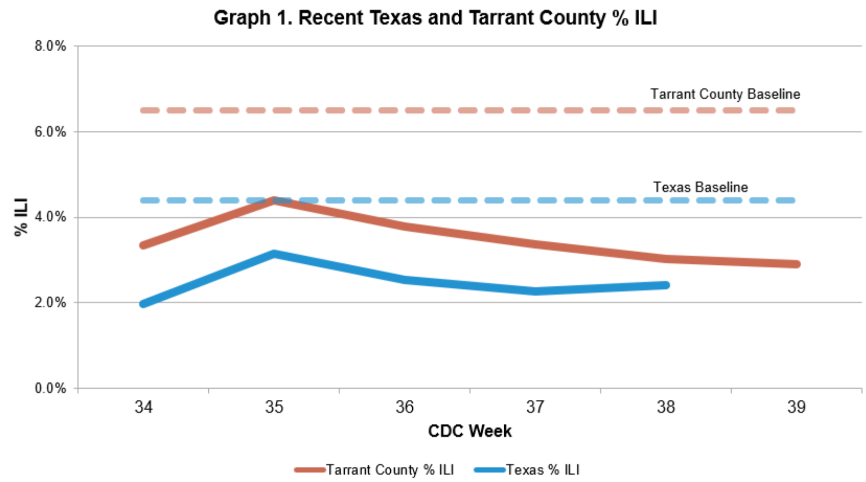
CDC Week 39: September 21 — September 27, 2025

Public Health

Influenza

Influenza Activity Code: County and State Levels

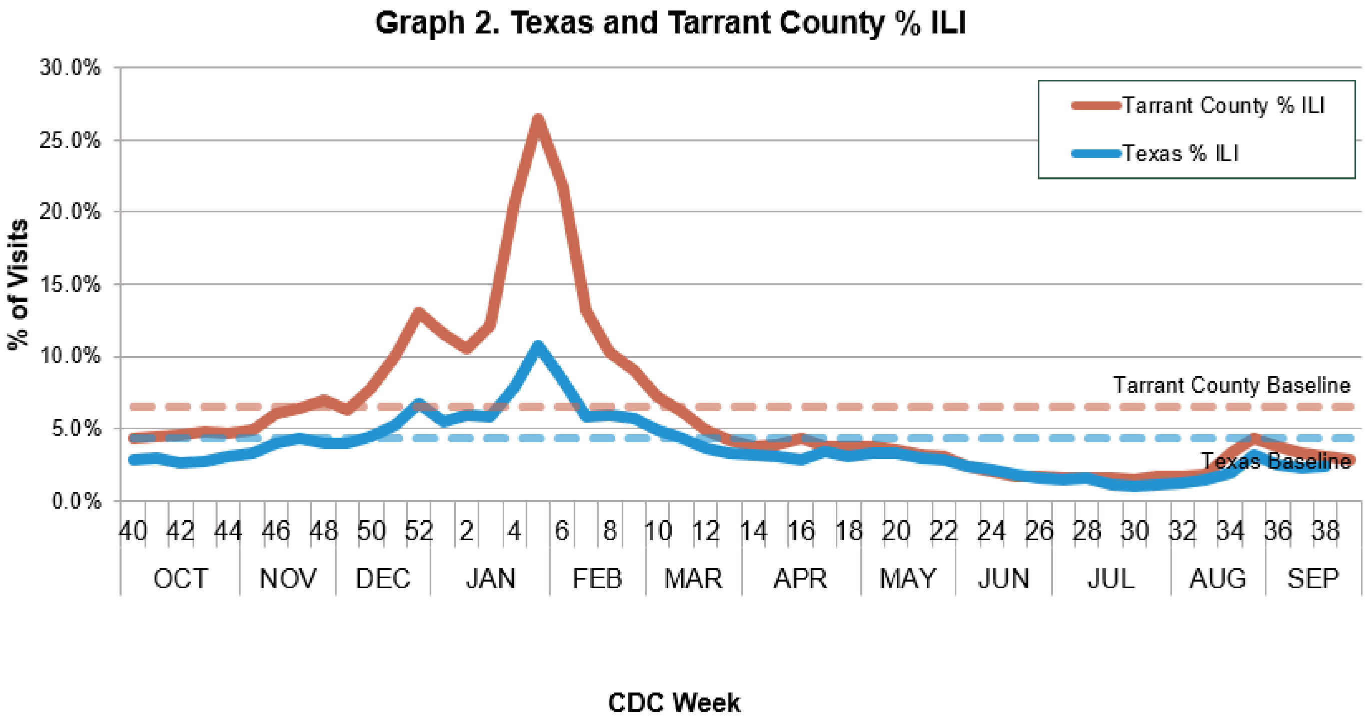
Tarrant County: Week 39
Sporadic
Tarrant County: Week 38
No Activity
Texas: Week 38
Minimal



Influenza Activity Summary

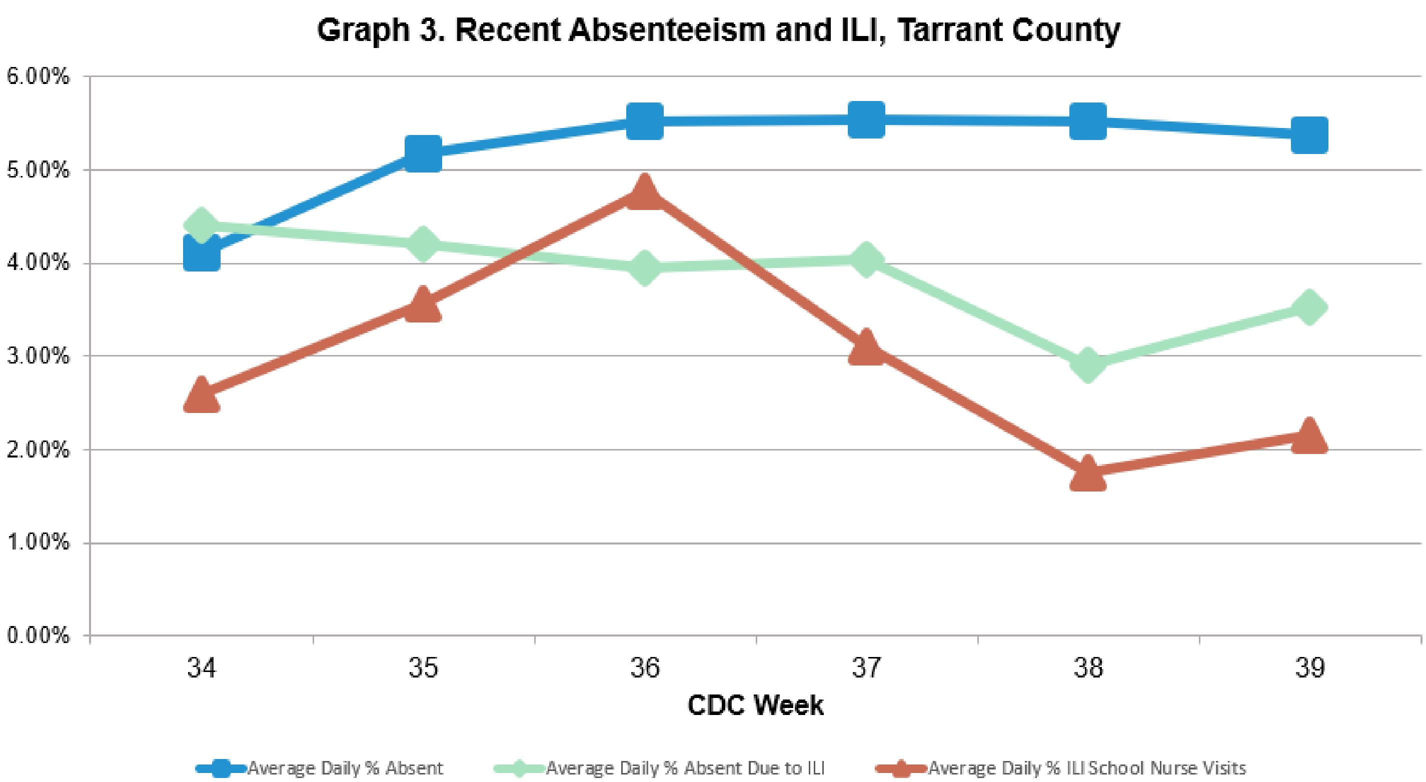
- The 2024-2025 influenza season began on September 29, 2024 and ended on May 17, 2025.
- Reported influenza-like illness (ILI) in Tarrant County decreased from 3.0% in Week 38 to 2.9% in Week 39, and is currently below the 2024-2025 Tarrant County baseline (6.5%). In Texas during Week 38, the proportion of outpatient visits for ILI, 2.4%, was below the state baseline (4.4%).
- The all cause school absenteeism was 5.4% during Week 39 in Tarrant County. Absenteeism due to ILI and school nurse visits due to ILI were 3.5% and 2.2% respectively during Week 39 in Tarrant County.
- The percentage of flu test positives in Tarrant County increased from 0.6% in Week 38 to 0.9% in Week 39.
- Based on data from the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE), patients hospitalized following ER visits who were diagnosed with influenza was 0.0% in Week 39.
- For influenza-associated pediatric deaths, to date, Tarrant County has reported 1 case, the state of Texas has reported 18 cases, and the United States has reported a total of 281 cases.
- For the season, 94 influenza outbreak(s) have been reported in Tarrant County institutions.
- Since last report, 20 surveillance specimens were tested. Cumulatively this season, the Tarrant County Public Health Laboratory has tested 1,546 surveillance specimens and of these, 181 have been positive for influenza, 144 have been positive for SARS-CoV-2 and 60 have been positive for RSV.
- Nationally during Week 38, 0.4% of specimens tested and reported to the CDC were positive for influenza. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI (1.7%) was below the national baseline (3.0%). Based on National Center for Health Statistics mortality surveillance data, 0.03% of the deaths that occurred during Week 38 were due to influenza.

Influenza Like Illness (ILI)



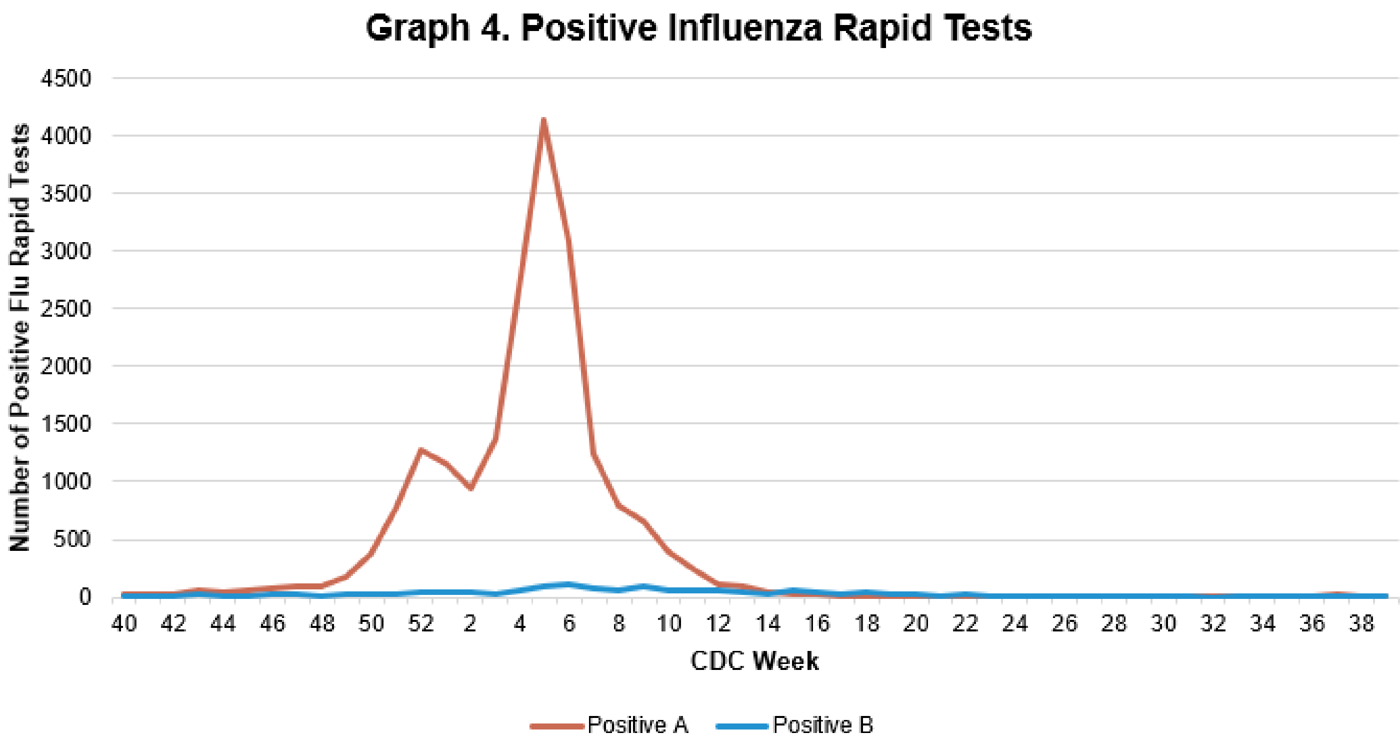
In Week 39, 2.9% of visits to health care providers were due to ILI. ILI levels are currently below the county established baseline of 6.5%.

School Absenteeism



The all cause school absenteeism was 5.4% during Week 39 in Tarrant County. Absenteeism due to ILI and school nurse visits due to ILI were 3.5% and 2.2% respectively during Week 39 in Tarrant County.

Influenza Rapid Test Results



In Week 39, 1,850 influenza rapid tests were conducted and 16 tests resulted as positive. Percent positivity for Week 39 was 0.9% with 9 reported positive influenza A tests and 7 reported positive influenza B.

Influenza Test Results

Table 1. Influenza Test Results, Tarrant County

CDC Week Number	37	38	39
# Influenza Tests Performed	2893	2613	1850
# of Influenza Positive (as % of tested)	26 (0.9%)	16 (0.6%)	16 (0.9%)
# Influenza A Positive (as % of total positive)	22 (84.6%)	10 (62.5%)	9 (56.3%)
# Influenza B Positive (as % of total positive)	4 (15.4%)	6 (37.5%)	7 (43.7%)
# Non-differentiated Positive (as % of total positive)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

NOTE: Tarrant County influenza test results are reported weekly by influenza surveillance participants. For CDC Week 39 rapid influenza test results were reported by 13 hospitals.

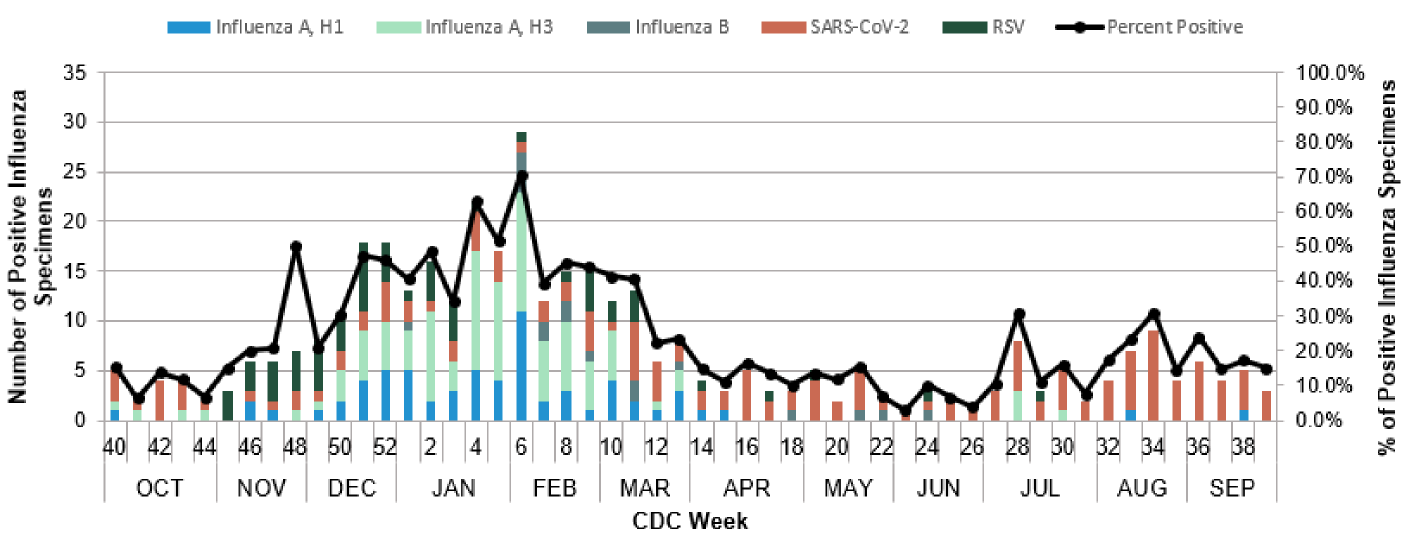
North Texas Regional Lab Influenza, SARS-CoV-2 Test Results

Table 2. North Texas Regional Laboratory: Respiratory Virus Results[1]

	Current Week	2024-2025 Season
Number of Specimens Tested	**20**	**1546**
Positive Specimens	3 (15.0%)	385 (24.9%)
Influenza A	0 (0.0%)	164 (42.6%)
Influenza A H1	0 (0.0%)	66 (40.2%)[7]
Influenza A H3	0 (0.0%)	99 (60.4%)[7]
Influenza A, Inconclusive subtype	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Influenza A, Unsubtypeable[2]	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Influenza B	0 (0.0%)	17 (4.4%)
Influenza B Victoria	0 (0.0%)	17 (100.0%)
Influenza B, Inconclusive[3]	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
SARS-CoV-2[4]	3 (100.0%)	144 (37.4%)
RSV[5]	0 (0.0%)	60 (15.6%)
Inconclusive[6]	0	0

[1] Laboratory results based on real-time PCR analysis; information is for the 2024-2025 season.
[2] Influenza A subtype not determined; further analysis pending.
[3] Pending Influenza B genotyping will be listed as inconclusive until genotyping has been completed. Genotyping data will be updated once genotyping has been completed.
[4] Specimens that contain influenza co-infections with SARS-CoV-2 are not included in the SARS-CoV-2 positive specimen count
[5] Specimens that contain influenza co-infections with RSV are not included in the RSV positive specimen count
[6] Inconclusive for influenza A and influenza B; not included in positive specimens count.
[7] 1 specimen in the 2024-2025 season has been a co-infection with influenza A/H1 and influenza A/H3

Graph 5. North Texas Regional Laboratory: Influenza, SARS-CoV-2 Virus, and RSV Results[1]



Since last report, 20 surveillance specimens were tested for influenza, SARS-CoV-2, and RSV. Percent positivity for Week 39 was 15.0% with 0 testing positive for Influenza A H1, 0 testing positive for Influenza A H3, 0 testing positive for Influenza A-inconclusive, 0 testing positive for Influenza B-Victoria, 0 testing positive for Influenza B-inconclusive, 3 testing positive for SARS-CoV-2, and 0 testing positive for RSV.

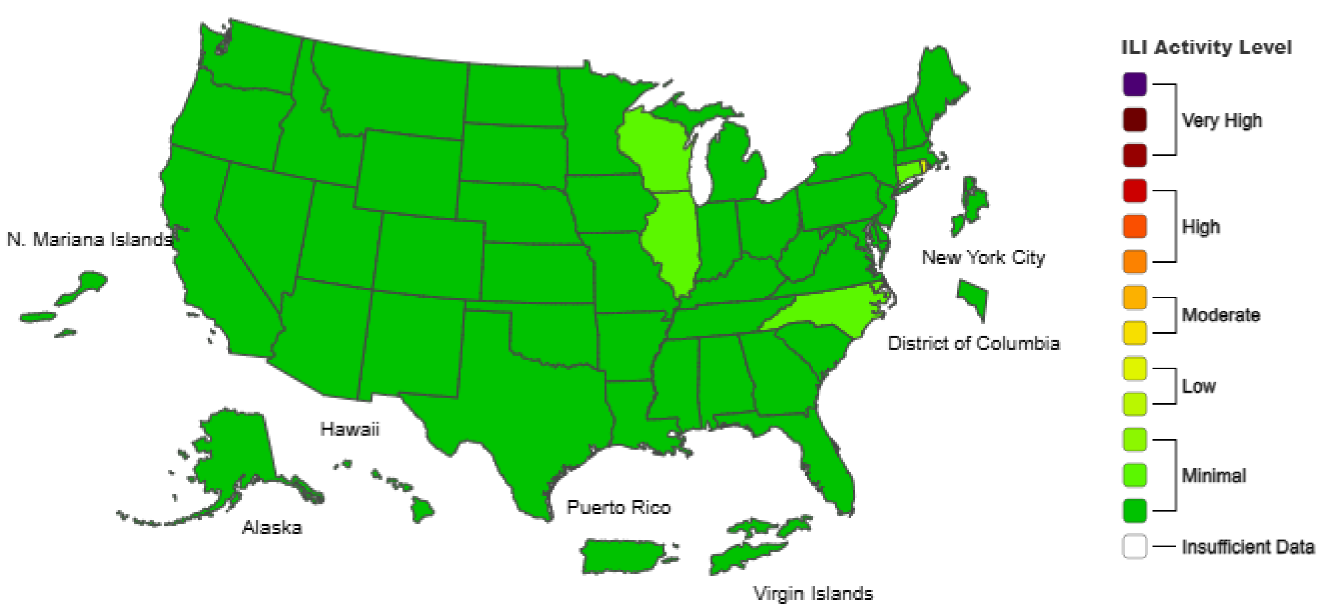
Texas and National Influenza and ILI Activity

Map 1: Texas County Specific Influenza Activity, CDC Week 38

Statewide Influenza Activity Map is not currently available

Influenza activity level corresponds to current MMWR week only and does not reflect previous weeks' activity. The majority of influenza cases are not reportable by law to the Texas Department of State Health Services. This map contains data from sentinel sites and does not represent all influenza cases in the state. Positive laboratory results are reported according to specimen collection date or date received in the lab if the former is unknown. https://www.dshs.texas.gov/texas-respiratory-virus-surveillance-report

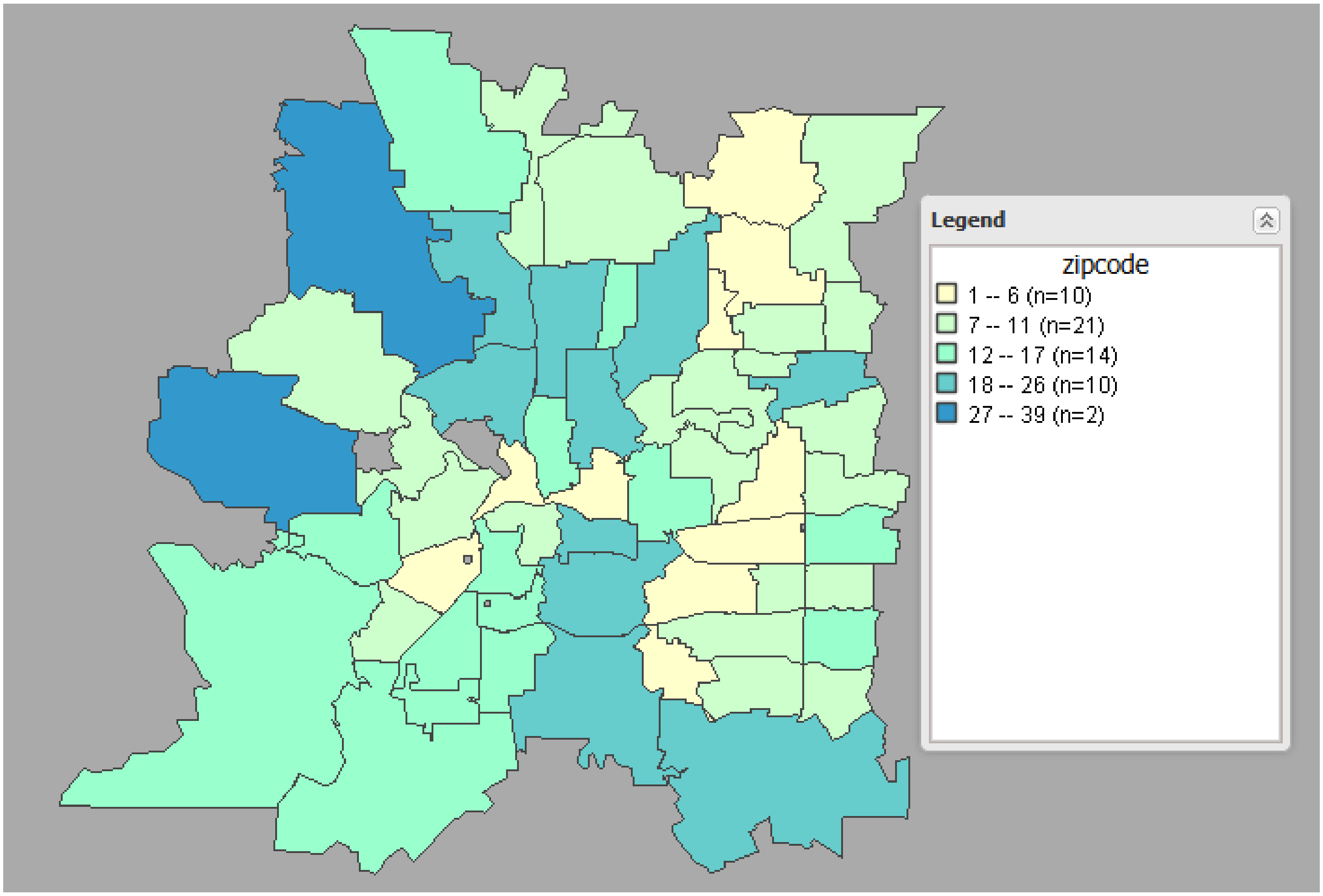
Map 2: ILINet Activity Indicator Map, CDC Week 38



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/

Influenza Like Illness (ILI) by Tarrant County Zip Code

Map 3: Tarrant County ILI Activity by Zip Code, CDC Week 39



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.

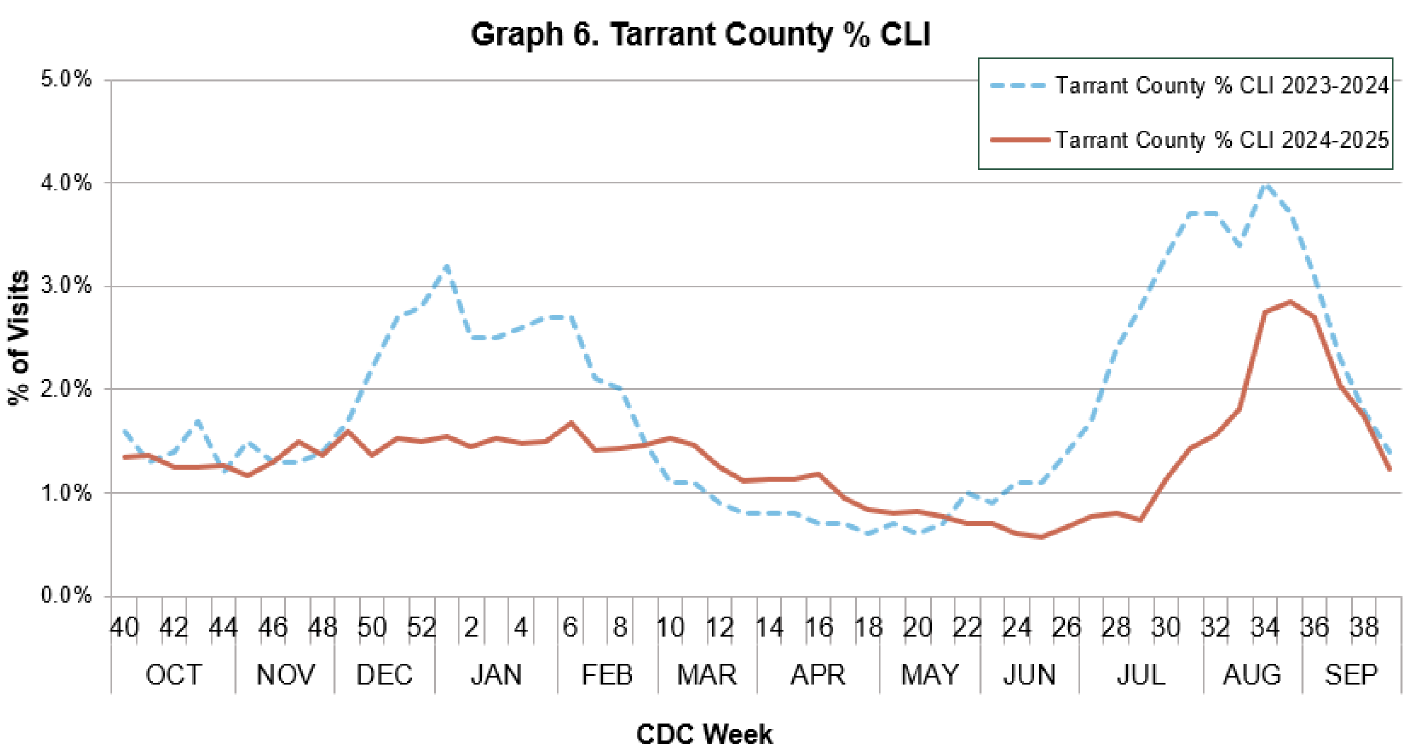
NOTE: Tarrant County ILI and CLI activity are assessed using information available from the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE). ILI and CLI visits are determined by identifying key terms and codes within the chief complaint field (i.e. the patients stated reason for visit), and diagnosis code field (i.e. ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM codes).

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)

COVID-19 Activity Summary

- Reported COVID-like illness (CLI) in Tarrant County decreased from 1.7% in Week 38 to 1.2% in Week 39.
- So far in 2025, 36 COVID-19 outbreak(s) have been reported in Tarrant County institutions.
- In Week 39, COVID-19 (N1/N2) wastewater levels were 3.53 gc/L/1000 and COVID-19 Omicron (C28311T) wastewater levels were 1.83 gc/L/1000.
- In Week 39, 0.16 per 100 outpatient doctor visits in Tarrant County were COVID-related.
- Nationally during Week 38, 7.8% of COVID-19 tests reported to the CDC were positive.

COVID-19 Like Illness (CLI)



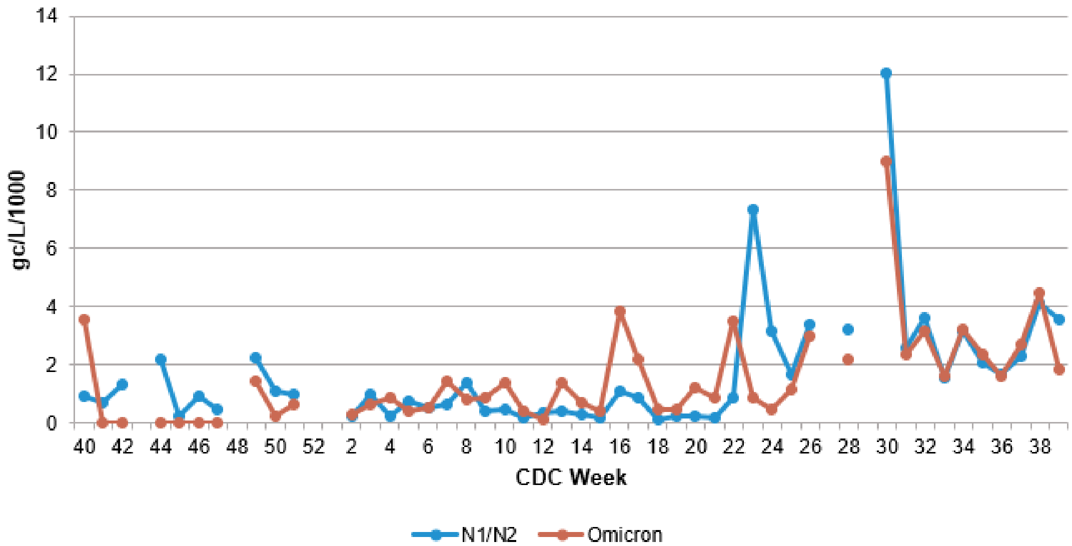
In Week 39, 1.2% of visits to health care providers were due to CLI, which was lower than this time the previous season.

COVID-19-like illness is defined as visits with a mention of Fever AND (Cough OR Shortness of Breath OR Difficulty Breathing) AND NOT (Influenza Diagnosis). These counts do not reflect confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.

NOTE: Tarrant County ILI and CLI activity are assessed using information available from the Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE). ILI and CLI visits are determined by identifying key terms and codes within the chief complaint field (i.e. the patients stated reason for visit), and diagnosis code field (i.e. ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM codes).

COVID-19 Wastewater Levels

Graph 7. COVID-19 Wastewater Levels by Weekly Average

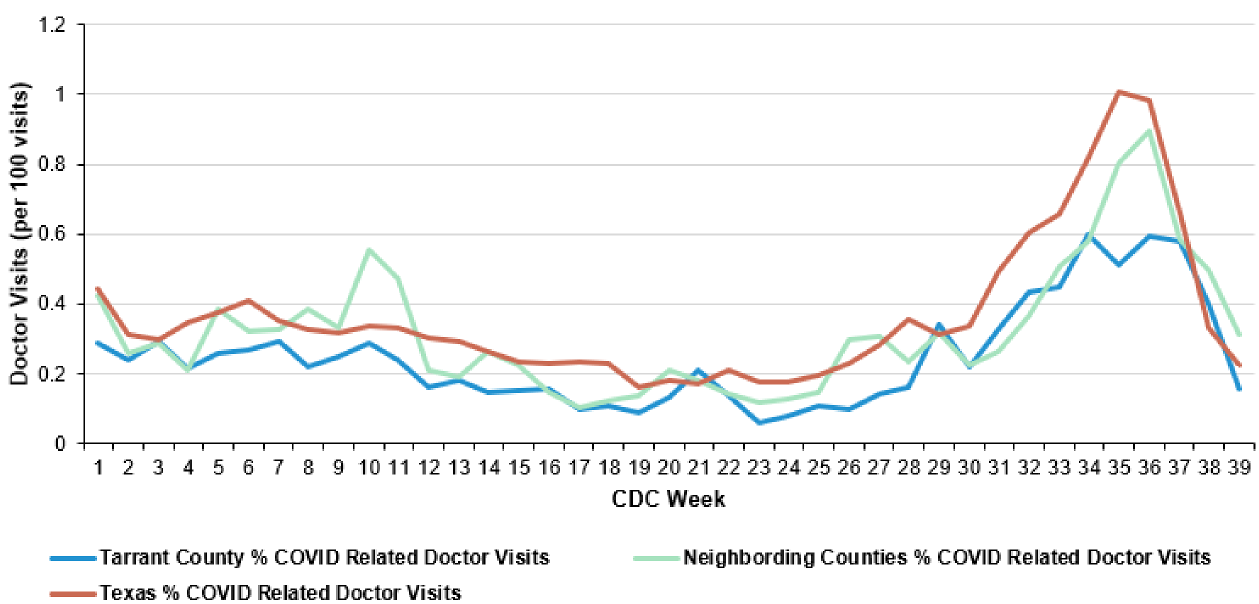


In Week 39, COVID-19 (N1/N2) wastewater levels were 3.53 gc/L/1000 and COVID-19 Omicron (C28311T) wastewater levels were 1.83 gc/L/1000.

Wastewater data is obtained from the Texas Department of State Health Services Wastewater-Based Disease Monitoring Program. Wastewater levels (gc/L/1000) are calculated by weekly averages. Wastewater samples are collected from the Village Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant in Fort Worth, TX.

COVID-19 Related Doctor Visits

Graph 8. Tarrant County COVID-Related Doctor Visits

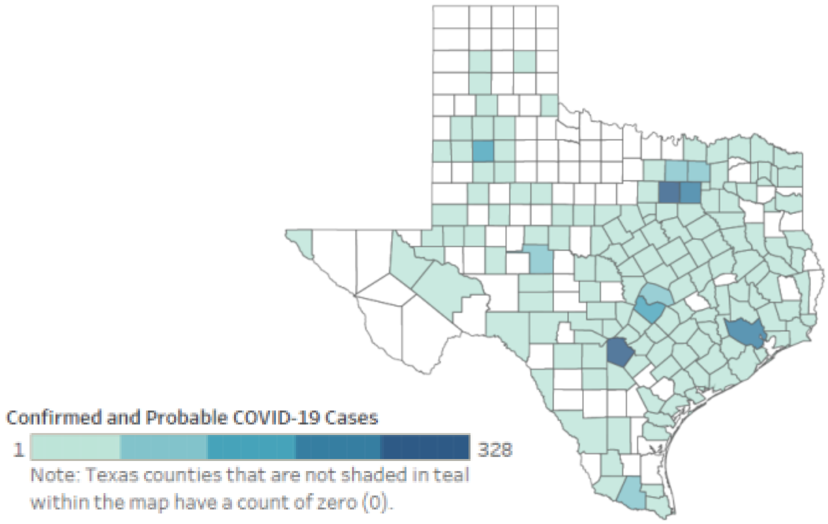


In Week 39, 0.16 per 100 outpatient doctor visits in Tarrant County were COVID-related. The Tarrant County's 5 neighboring counties are Dallas County, Denton County, Ellis County, Johnson County, and Parker County.

Delphi receives aggregated statistics from health system partners on COVID-related outpatient doctor visits, derived from ICD codes found in insurance claims. Using this data, they estimate the percentage of daily doctor's visits in each area that are due to COVID-like illness. Note that these estimates are based only on visits by patients whose data is accessible to their partners.

Texas and National COVID Activity

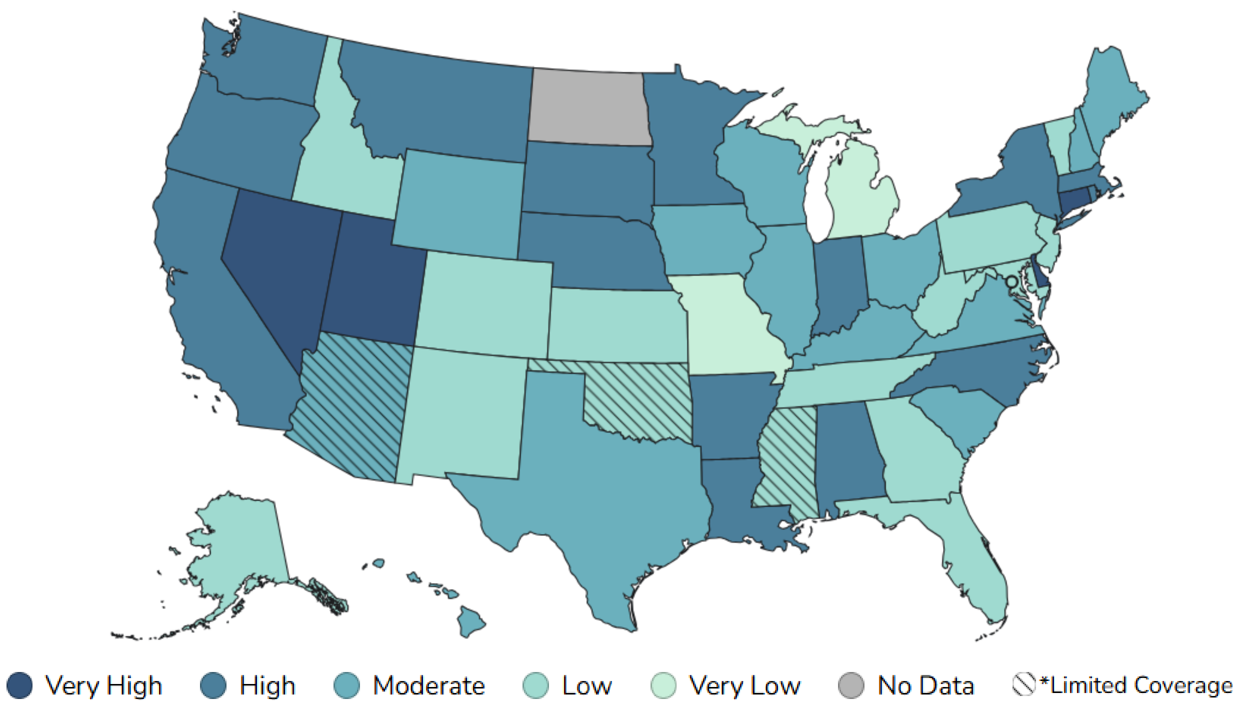
Map 4: Texas County Specific COVID-19 Cases, CDC Week 38



COVID-19 cases shown are for the MMWR week of the report. This count includes cases reported I the past week, as well as newly reported cases from prior weeks. All counts are provisional and subject to change.

The populations used are population projections from the Texas Demographic Center. There may be COVID-19 cases with incomplete addresses reported to Texas DSHS which are not included in the COVID-19 Case Map by County. https://www.dshs.texas.gov/texas-respiratory-virus-surveillance-report

Map 5: United States SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Viral Activity Levels, CDC Week 38



CDC's National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS) provides the public health infrastructure to monitor infectious diseases through wastewater across the country. Wastewater monitoring data can help local public health agencies identify outbreak trends early, direct prevention efforts to where they are most needed, and provide additional insights into disease spread that complements other public health surveillance data. Health departments, community leaders, and individuals can use wastewater monitoring data to make decisions about how to protect their community.

The wastewater viral activity level indicates whether the amount of virus in the wastewater is very low, low, moderate, high, or very high. This wastewater viral activity levels may indicates the risk of infection in an area.

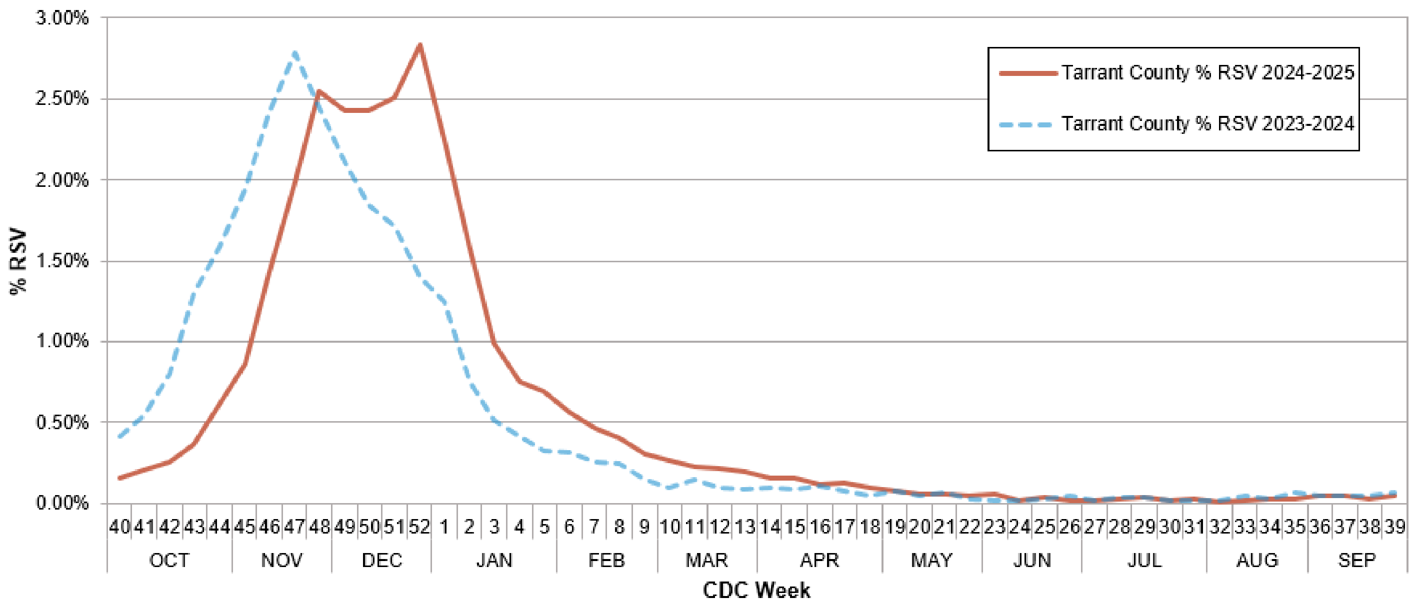
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

RSV Activity Summary

- Reported RSV-like illness in Tarrant County increased from 0.0% in Week 38 to 0.1% in Week 39.
- For the 2024-2025 respiratory disease season, 1 RSV outbreak(s) has been reported in Tarrant County institutions.
- In Week 39, RSV wastewater levels were undetectable.
- In Week 39, NREVSS data was not available.
- In Texas during Week 38, 0.6% of RSV tests were reported as positive.

RSV-Like Illness

Graph 9. Tarrant County % RSV



In Week 39, 0.1% of ER visits were due to RSV-like illness, which was lower than it was at this time the previous season.

Tarrant County NREVSS Test Results

CDC Week 39 NREVSS results were not reported for Tarrant County.

The National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) is a laboratory-based system that monitors temporal and geographic circulation patterns (patterns occurring in time and place) of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), human parainfluenza viruses (HPIV), human metapneumovirus (HMPV), respiratory adenoviruses, human coronavirus, rotavirus, and norovirus. In this surveillance system, participating U.S. laboratories voluntarily report weekly to CDC the total number of weekly aggregate tests performed to detect these viruses, and the weekly aggregate positive tests.

NOTE: Enteric viruses and Parainfluenza-4 are not included in the TCPH Respiratory Activity Report.

Situational Awareness: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A(H5N1)

Table 3. Influenza A(H5N1) Exposure Source, United States

State	Cattle	Poultry	Other Animal	Unknown	State Total
California	36	0	0	2	38
Colorado	1	9	0	0	10
Iowa	0	1	0	0	1
Louisiana	0	0	1	0	1
Michigan	2	0	0	0	2
Missouri	0	0	0	1	1
Nevada	1	0	0	0	1
Ohio	0	1	0	0	1
Oregon	0	1	0	0	1
Texas	1	0	0	0	1
Washington	0	11	0	0	11
Wisconsin	0	1	0	0	1
Wyoming	0	0	1	0	1
Source Total	41	24	2	3	70

As of September 16, 2025, there have been 70 confirmed total reported human cases in the United States across 13 total states since 2024. 1 death associated with H5N1 Bird Flu Infection has been reported in the United States.

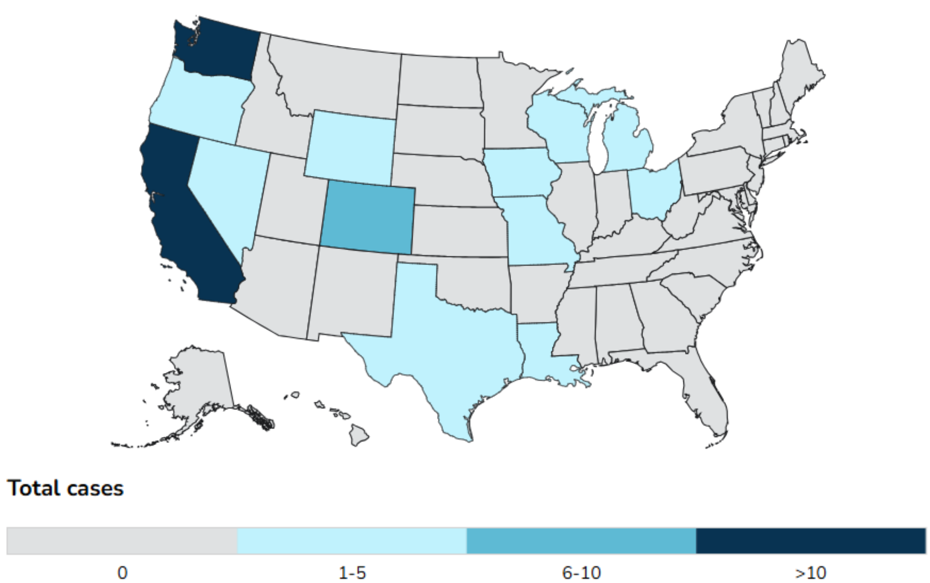
Data reflects confirmatory testing by CDC. https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/situation-summary/index.html

Note: One additional case was previously detected in a poultry worker in Colorado in 2022.

H5 Bird Flu Detections in the United States

Dairy Cattle
Ongoing multi-state outbreak
Wild Birds
Widespread
Poultry Flocks
Sporadic outbreaks
Mammals
Sporadic infections
Person-to-Person Spread
None
Current Public Health Risk
Low

Map 6. Confirmed Novel Influenza A H5 Virus Infections Since 2024



- 1,080 dairy herds affected as of 10/02/2025.
- 18 states with outbreaks in dairy cows.
- 51 jurisdictions with outbreaks in poultry.
- 51 jurisdictions with bird flu in wild birds.

The *Tarrant County Respiratory Illness Dashboard* is available on the Tarrant County Public Health website.

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

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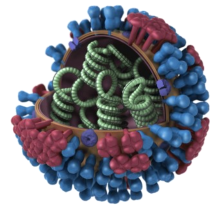

Brian Byrd, MD
Director, Tarrant County Public Health

NOTE:

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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 a similar method as the Centers for Disease Control Prevention Regional ILI baselines and Texas Department of State Health Services Texas baseline. Regional ILI baselines are determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and can be accessed at https://www.cdc.gov/fluview/overview/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm

Additional information regarding Tarrant County, Texas and national respiratory activity can be accessed at:

https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/public-health/public-health-administration/health-data-and-information/infectious-disease/respiratory-diseases.html

https://www.dshs.texas.gov/texas-respiratory-virus-surveillance-report

https://www.cdc.gov/fluview/surveillance/past-reports.html

https://www.cdc.gov/covid/php/surveillance/index.html

https://www.cdc.gov/nwss/index.html

https://www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/situation-summary/index.html

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