This Report Includes...

⇒ information on influenza-like illness (ILI) activity in Harris County as well as on
the state and national level.

Important Notes:

⇒ Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as an illness including a fever
(temperature of at least 100°F) with a cough OR a sore throat, without
another known cause (such as strep throat).

⇒ Influenza/ILI is reported on a voluntary basis and is not a mandatory notifiable
condition.

⇒ Similarly, rapid influenza test results are also reported on a voluntary basis.

⇒ Therefore, data presented in this report indicate trends and should not be
interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris
County.


Public Health is “what we as a society do
collectively to assure the
conditions in which peo-
ple can be healthy”

- The Future of the Public's
Health in the 21st Century,
Institutes of Medicine, 2003

Additional
Information

Harris County Public Health
http://
publichealth.harriscountytx.gov/
Services-Programs/Programs/
Epidemiology

Texas Department of State
Health Services
Influenza Surveillance:
http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/
disease/influenza/surveillance/

Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention
FluView Weekly Report:
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly
Information for Schools and
Childcare Providers:
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/
index.htm

World Health Organization
Influenza Surveillance:
http://www.who.int/topics/influenza/
en/
**Nationally**

Activity levels were minimal (ILI below, or only slightly above the average) throughout the Country. In Texas, activity decreased with respect to previous weeks, with minimal levels and sporadic spread reported for CDC Week 19 (7 May to 13 May, 2017).

[https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/)

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**Statewide**

There were no influenza-associated pediatric death reported in Texas during week 19. A total of five influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in Texas so far during the 2016-2017 season. Cases of pediatric flu mortality (children < 18 years of age) are reportable year-round and by law in Texas.

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**Locally**

There was one influenza associated pediatric deaths reported in Harris County (excluding the City of Houston) during this flu season for week 15 (9 April, 2017 to 15 April, 2017).

[https://www.dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/)
School Reporting

Influenza/ILI reporting is voluntary as it is not a mandatory notifiable condition. Therefore, this report indicates trends and should not be interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris County.

Daily absenteeism and student/staff ILI numbers are reported from schools in the 18 Harris County Independent School Districts (ISDs). Schools were asked to begin reporting ILI from the beginning of the school year; however, reporting participation generally increases as occurrence of ILI increases.

School holidays:
* Week 47/48 (Thanksgiving)
* Week 52-Week 1 (Winter Break)
* Week 10/11 (Spring Break)