

# ILLNESS SUMMARY

### Overall

Dallas and Ector counties are currently on **high alert for illness** due to the **spread of common colds in children**.

Over the past week, fevers have increased rapidly among children under 5. We expect illness to spread to all age groups.

# Disease-Specific Insights

Flu: moderate and stable

Early and severe season already reached its peak and continues to fall

### Colds: moderate and stable

- Spreading primarily among children
- Young adults are beginning to see an increase
- Will be less severe than the flu and RSV peak earlier this winter
- Includes rhinovirus, enterovirus, and seasonal coronaviruses

COVID-19: moderate and stable

Hospitalizations, wastewater, and test positivity are all decreasing

Stomach bug: low and stable

Dallas remains low, but other parts of Texas have seen rising norovirus activity

### Kinsa Forecast:

Expect a rise in pediatric illness, followed by a smaller rise in adult illness as children bring common colds into the home. This increase will be much smaller than the peak seen earlier this winter.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEMBERS/PATIENTS

# Priority messaging to share with members/patients:

Colds are spreading quickly among young children. Increase your disinfecting, wash your hands more frequently, and consider wearing a mask around coughing family members.

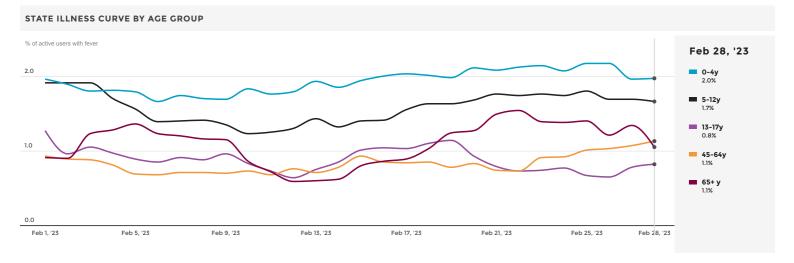
### Additional Member Guidance:

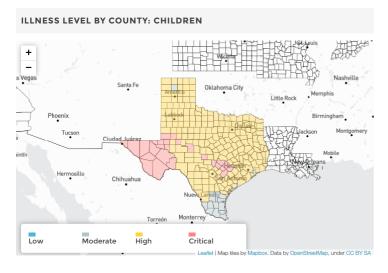
- Gather outdoors
  - o Common colds are often spread in crowded indoor spaces
  - o If you must gather indoors (especially with children), increase ventilation by opening a window
- Wash hands (and your kid's hands)
  - Every time you come home, go to the bathroom, and before eating.
  - Encourage your kids to wash their hands at school and as soon as they come home from school where colds are likely spreading the most.
  - $\circ~$  Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue, then toss the tissue and wash your hands.

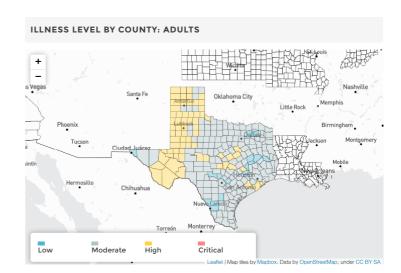


### **DATA SUMMARY**

- This is an alert-based report to assist care management, providers, and population health prioritize member interventions.
- In Texas, fever incidence is currently:
  - high among the adult population
  - critical among the pediatric population.
  - high among younger school-aged children (5-12yo).
    moderate among older school-aged children (13-17yo).
- In the state as a whole, individuals aged, individuals aged <u>0-4y</u> are experiencing the highest levels of fever incidence relative to other age groups. This is a <u>-0.1% decrease in absolute fever</u> incidence since last week









**Alert Report** 

## COUNTIES UNDER ALERT: NEW THIS WEEK

County name	Total number of days under alert this week
Dallas County, TX	5
Ector County, TX	2

## **COUNTIES UNDER ALERT: PAST 8-14 DAYS**

County name	Total number of days under alert in past 30d	Currently under alert?
Fort Bend County, TX	5	No
Travis County, TX	4	No
Brazoria County, TX	3	No

Alert Report

ZIP CODES UNDER ALERT	12
County	Zip
Kaufman County, TX	75161
Kaufman County, TX	75158
Kaufman County, TX	75142
Kaufman County, TX	75114
Travis County, TX	78734
Travis County, TX	78730
Travis County, TX	78726
Travis County, TX	78750
Travis County, TX	78732
Travis County, TX	78759
Travis County, TX	78731
Travis County, TX	78727