

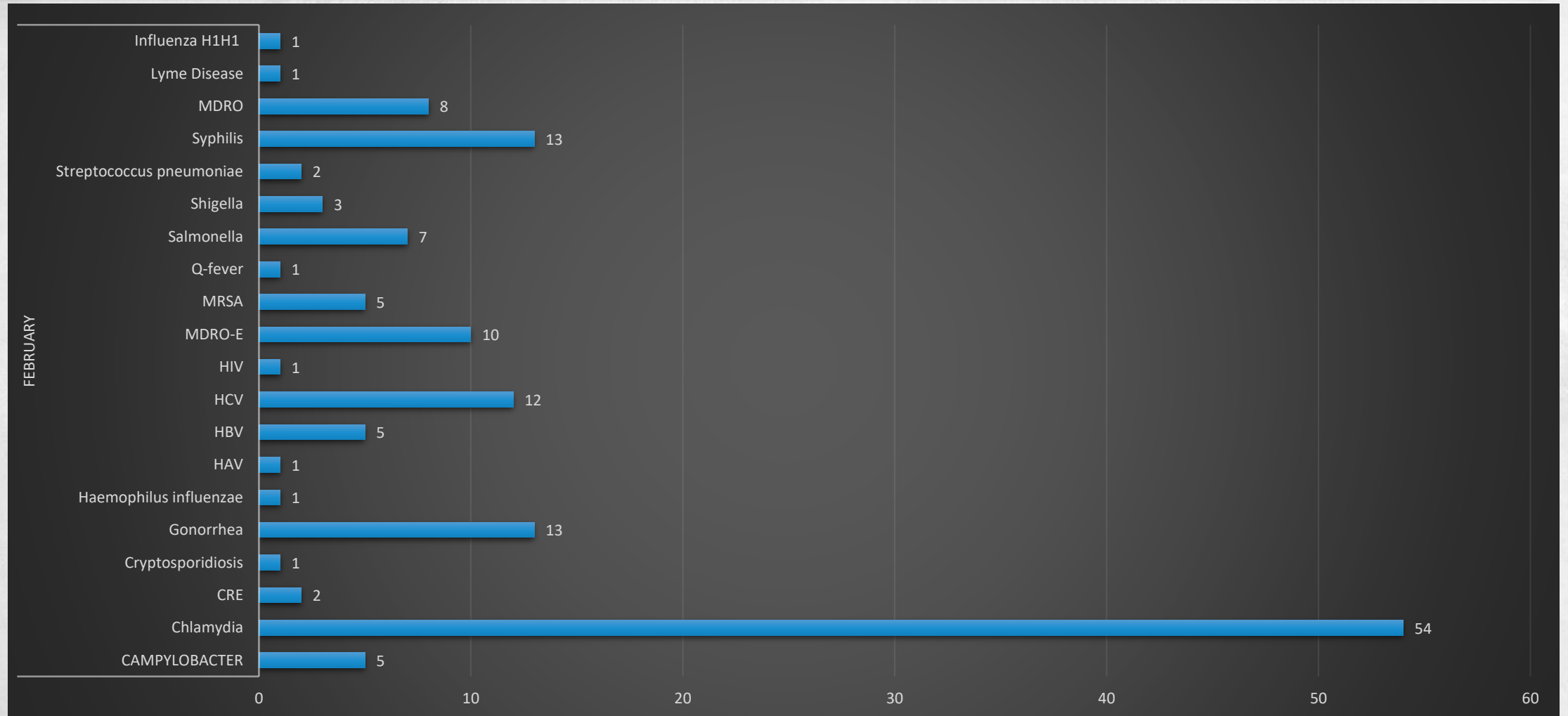
Epi Report

Feb 1-29, 2024

COSTA CLAVIER, MPH, CHIEF EPIDEMIOLOGIST
MEGAN MACKIEWICZ, MPH EPIDEMIOLOGIST

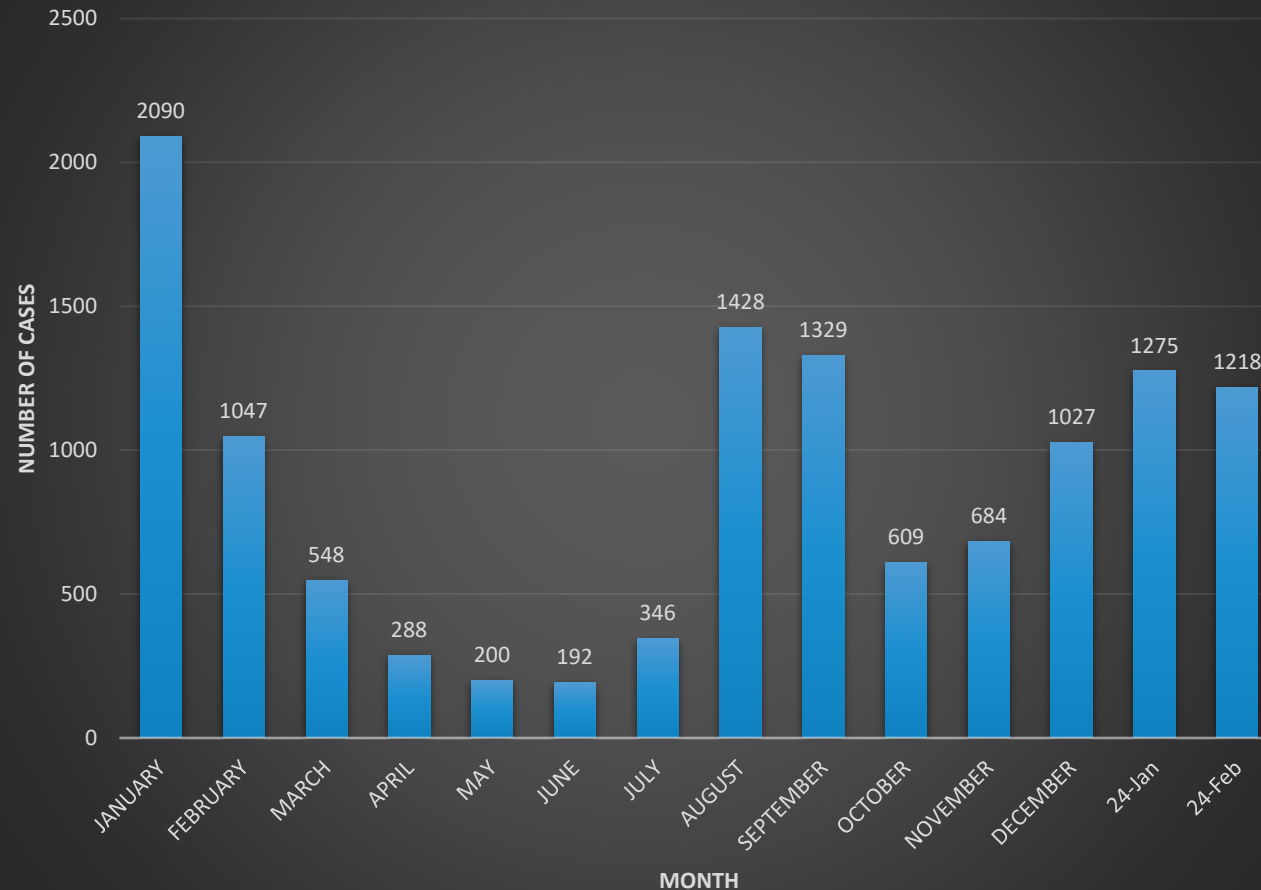


Cases and Conditions (146 Counts): Feb 1-29th, 2024



Covid-19, Influenza, & RSV: Feb 1-29th, 2024

Positive Covid-19 Cases per Month, 2023-2024



11,838

For the week of February 23rd, 2024– February 29th, 2024, the daily 7-day average number of COVID-19 cases (confirmed & probable cases) in Texas is 11,838 This is a 45.1% decrease from the previous weekly average

1,613

As of February 28th, 2024, the current daily 7-day average of hospitalized patients with COVID-19 in Texas is **1,613** This is an **0.7%** decrease from the previous weekly average.

Feb 2024
Flu-like
illness

1373

Feb 2024
Rapid A

139

Feb 2024
Rapid B

131

Feb 2024
PCR A

258

Feb 2024
PCR B

169

LTCF Harker Heights

2/6: 2 residents positive

2/7: 1 resident positive, mass testing then 10 positive

2/14: 47 positive

2/16: BCPH received notification from CDC/DSHS that 29/132 residents were positive

- DoN & Administrator are new, did not answer or return calls, and were not aware that they had reporting requirements. Apologies but no specific reason for not returning calls
- Found improper mask wearing by staff, lack of hand hygiene at stations
- Advised to “hold new admission” until outbreak is contained
- Provided them with outbreak reporting form and advice on how to use it

2/19: received outbreak reporting forms for each day

2/20: DSHS Infection Control to set up infection control practices review for the morning of 2/22

2/29: BCPH advised staying closed to new admissions until there were 3 or fewer active cases in the facility

3/5: Met the 3 or fewer cases suggested for new admissions

	Total Census	First Positive Collection date	Latest Positive Collection Date	Total number of cases since first positive	Number of Active cases <14 days*	Number of new positives since last test date	Number of Hospitalized	Number of Deaths	Total number of vaccinated	# of vaccinated among positive cases
Residents	127	12/22/2024	3/5/2024	56	2	0	0	2	35	0
Staff	136	12/22/2024	3/5/2024	23	0	0	0	0	136	0

Outbreaks and Concerns

Strep Pneumo

70F, vaccination unknown, palliative care

Pediatric Influenza Death

4M, stage 3 Kidney Disease, neuroblastoma of adrenal gland

Haemophilus influenzae

0M, exposed to sister, was hospitalized and unvaccinated

Ft Cavazos Influenza A hospitalization

37M Belton

WNV IgG+

2 positives w/in past month, but did not meet case definition

Foodborne Illness

Reopened investigation of Listeria in Queso Fresco & Cotija cheese from Rizo Foods Company

Mpox

5000 passenger cruise ship, no cases reported so far

March 2024 Updated CDC Respiratory Illness Guidance – Community

<https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/prevention/precautions-when-sick.html>

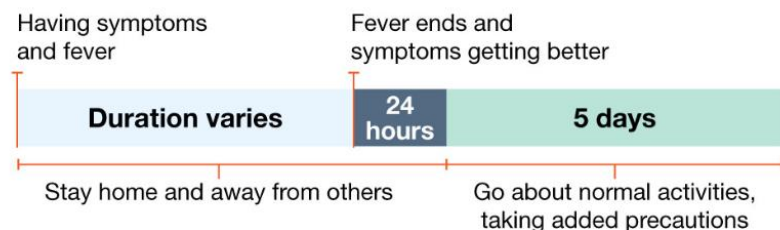
You can go back to your normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, both are true:

- Your symptoms are getting better overall, **and**
- You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication).

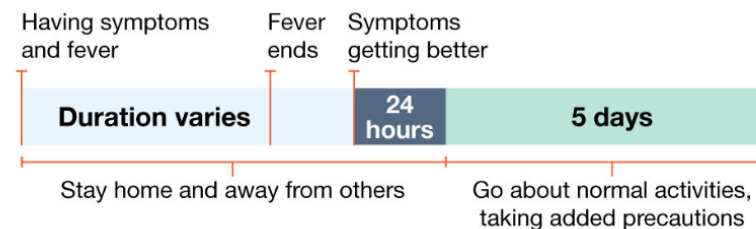
When you go back to your normal activities, take added precaution over the next 5 days, such as taking additional [steps for cleaner air](#), [hygiene, masks](#), [physical distancing](#), and/or [testing when you](#) will be around other people indoors.

- Keep in mind that you may still be able to spread the virus that made you sick, even if you are feeling better. You are likely to be less contagious at this time, depending on factors like how long you were sick or how sick you were.
- If you develop a fever or you start to feel worse after you have gone back to normal activities, stay home and away from others again until, for at least 24 hours, both are true: your symptoms are improving overall, and you have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication). Then take added precaution for the next 5 days.

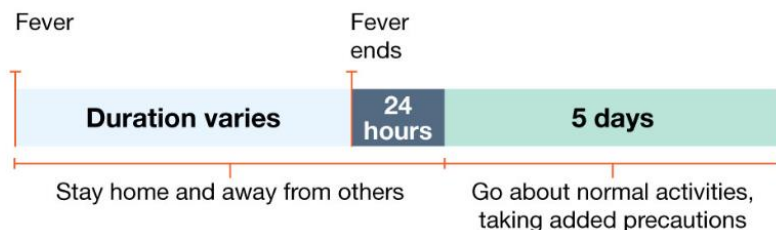
Example 1: Person with fever and symptoms.



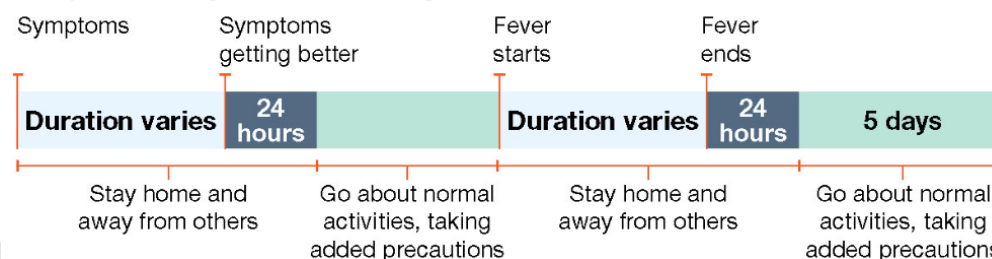
Example 3: Person with fever and other symptoms, fever ends but other symptoms take longer to improve.



Example 2: Person with fever but no other symptoms.



Example 4: Person gets better and then gets a fever.



Respiratory Virus Guidance Snapshot



Core prevention strategies

Immunizations



Hygiene



Steps for Cleaner Air



Treatment



Stay Home and Prevent Spread*

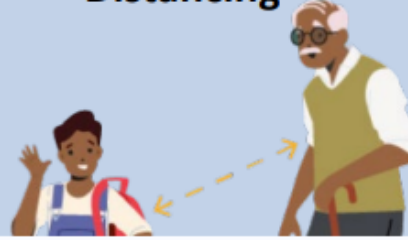


Additional prevention strategies

Masks



Distancing



Tests



Layering prevention strategies can be especially helpful when:

- ✓ Respiratory viruses are causing a lot of illness in your community
- ✓ You or those around you have risk factors for severe illness
- ✓ You or those around you were recently exposed, are sick, or are recovering

***Stay home and away from others until, for 24 hours BOTH:**



Your symptoms are getting better



You are fever-free (without meds)



Then take added precaution for the next **5 days**