

Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
February 24, 2010

**Interim Charge #8:
H1N1 and ImmTrac Registry**

Panel 2: Standardized Protocols for School Districts

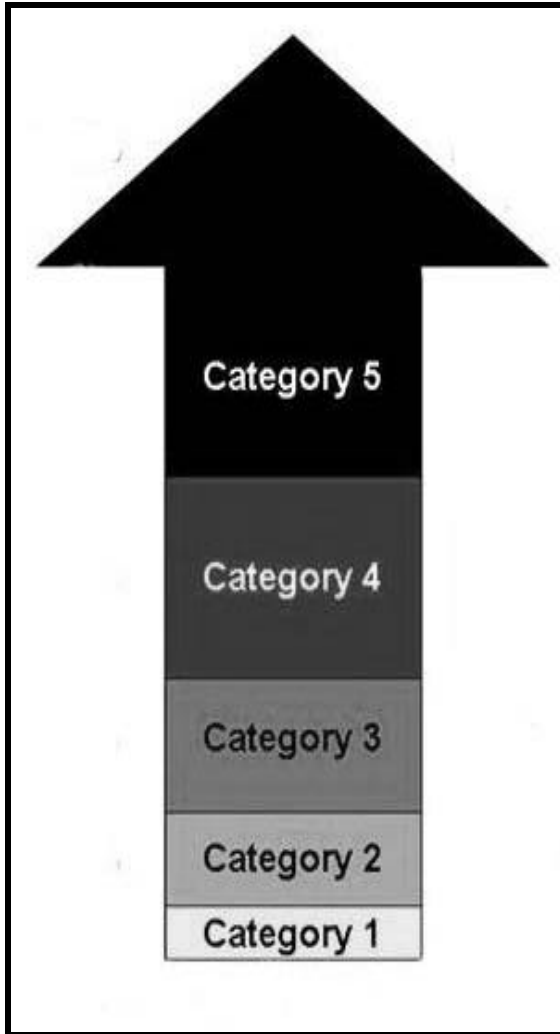
*Dr. David Lakey, Commissioner
Texas Department of State Health Services*



H1N1 Guidance for School Closures

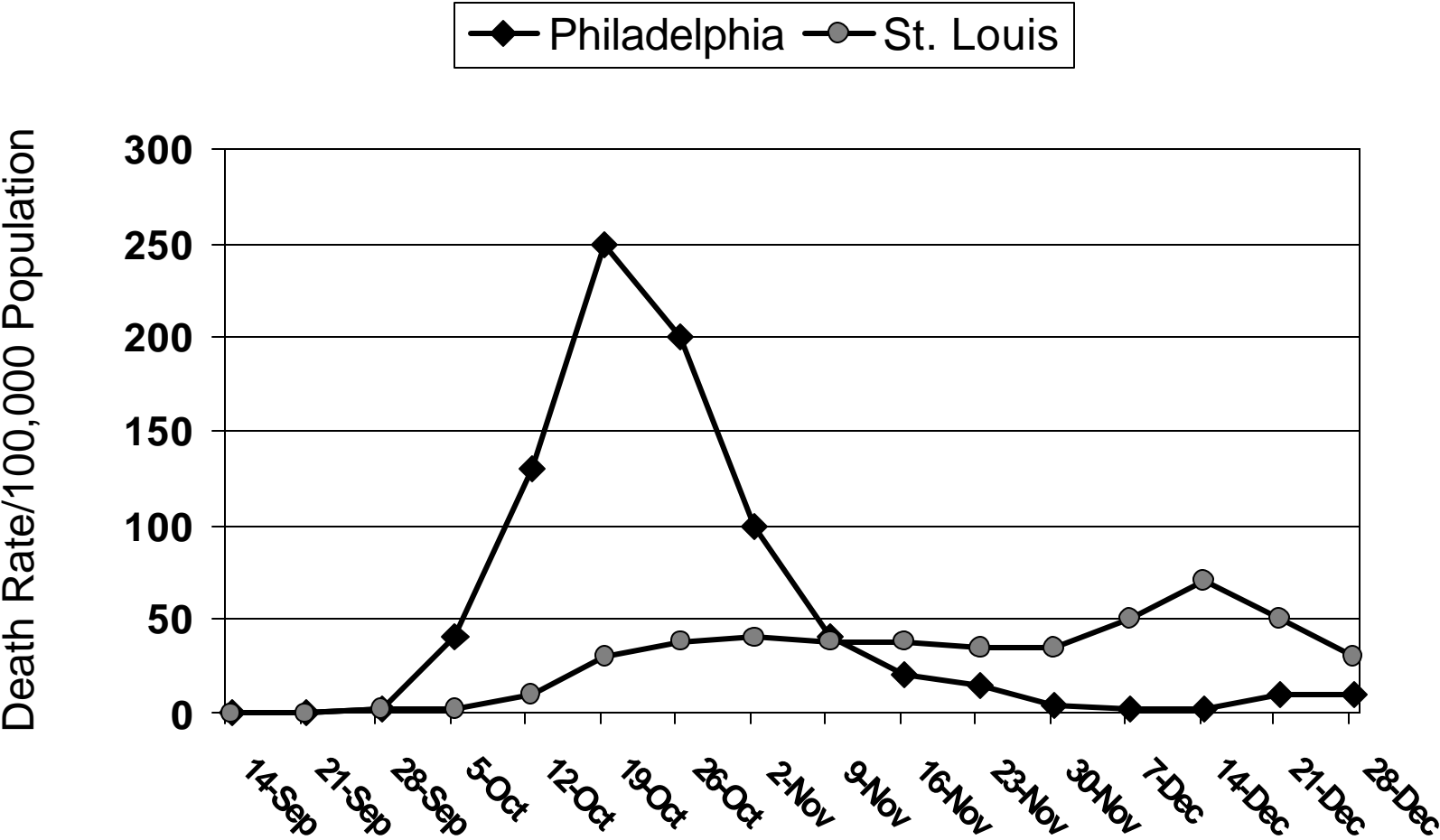
- April 17:** - CDC lab confirmed the first H1N1 result from California
- April 23:** - DSHS received laboratory confirmation of H1N1 virus in 2 teenagers from the same school in Guadalupe County
- April 24:** - Confirmation of flu-like illness in Mexico reported
- DSHS activated the department's emergency operations center
- April 25:** - Decision to close Byron Steele High School made
- A third student from the same Guadalupe County school was also confirmed for H1N1 influenza
- April 26:** - All 14 schools in the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD closed
- May 5:** - CDC announces new guidelines for school closure
- May/June:** - End of school year

Pandemic Severity Index



Case Fatality Ratio	Number Deaths	Excess Death Rate per 100,000	Similar To Past Pandemic
$\geq 2\%$	$\geq 144,000$	≥ 600	1918
1 - 2%	72,000 - <144,000	300 - <600	
0.5 - < 1%	36,000 - <72,000	150 - <300	
0.1 - <0.5%	7,200 - <36,000	30 - <150	1957
< 0.1%	< 7,200	< 30	Severe seasonal

Community Mitigation 1918: Pandemic Flu Mortality in Philadelphia & St. Louis



Community Strategies by Pandemic Influenza Severity

Interventions by setting	<i>Pandemic Severity Index</i>		
	Category 1	Category 2 & 3	Category 4 & 5
<p><u>Workplace/Community/School</u></p> <p>➤ Decrease number of social contacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Adults</u>: teleconferences/webinars ▪ <u>Students</u> : altered curriculum; computer-based classes 	Generally not recommended	Consider	Recommend
<p>➤ Modify workplace/school schedules and practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Adults</u>: telecommute; staggered shifts ▪ <u>Students</u> : staggered school schedules 	Generally not recommended	Consider	Recommend
<p>➤ Increase distance between persons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Adults</u>: Increase space between people in meetings, public transit ▪ <u>Students</u>: Increase space between students in school buses; schools 	Generally not recommended	Consider	Recommend
<p>➤ Modify, postpone, or cancel public events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Adults</u>: UT/TAMU football game, theatre events ▪ <u>Students</u>: UIL, graduation 	Generally not recommended	Consider	Recommend

CDC Study on the Impact of School Closure

- **Survey completed in Spring 2009**
- **Ft. Worth: 1187 surveys**
 - 5% of households reported having “problems in the household” due to school closure
 - 14% reported loss of income due to missed work
 - 28% reported that an adult missed work
 - 31% of children went to a public place
 - 57% avoided crowds or public places to “avoid catching H1N1”
- **Irving: 1155 surveys**
 - 12% believed they “would have problems” if schools closed
 - 31% believed they would have lost income if schools closed
 - 44% of children went to public places
 - 44% avoided public places to “avoid catching “H1N1”

CDC School Closure Study

- **Conclusion**
 - Families in Irving expected greater burden from school closure than what was really experienced in Ft. Worth
 - Children in Ft. Worth were more likely to practice social distancing than children in Irving
- **Preliminary analysis by CDC indicates that the Fort Worth ISD school closure of 7 days may have decreased the amount of general respiratory illness among school age children compared to the Irving ISD.**

Fall 2009 Guidance for Schools

- **School Monitoring**
- **School Closure**
 - Based on the severity of the disease, school closure was not recommended for disease control. If severity of outbreaks increased, school closures might be approached differently
 - The decision to close schools is made at the local level
 - Information at www.tea.state.tx.us
- **School Breakfast and Lunch Programs**
 - Schools will be able to provide food service to students in non-congregate settings following a federal public health emergency declaration
 - Community organizations, such as food banks and Boys/Girls Clubs, will be able to provide food service to students
 - Entities must have an agreement with the Texas Department of Agriculture to receive meal reimbursement
 - For more information, www.tda.state.tx.us

Lessons from the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic

- **Closure is decision for local school district in consultation with local health department**
- **Coordination at all levels of government is essential**
 - State Operations Center
 - Close partnership with other state agencies (Division of Emergency Management, TEA, TDA)
 - Coordination with local school districts and health departments
 - Close working relationship with federal partners (CDC, U.S. Health and Human Services)
- **Difficulty of using national pandemic plans at the point of impact**

Health Care Provider Vaccination Registration

- **Total registered as of 1/22/10: 12,861**
 - 59% Private practice
 - 13% Pharmacies
 - 5% Hospitals
 - **2% Schools** ←
 - 20% Other
- **Vaccine apportioned to more than 10,800 providers and other health care facilities**

Vaccine Clinics in Public Schools

- Local Health Departments and DSHS Regional Offices worked with their area independent school districts to conduct H1N1 vaccine clinics at school campuses
- The number of H1N1 vaccine clinics held on school campuses varied across Texas depending on available local resources
- 224 ISDs or individual public schools registered to receive H1N1 vaccine
 - Received about 230,000 doses
- Local Health Departments were allocated 233,000 doses specifically for use in schools
- Community vaccinators received about 247,000 doses for use in schools