

## The Vintage Hospital



# Community Health Needs Assessment 2022

Report adopted by the Board of Directors in May 2022.

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## **Executive Summary**

## **Purpose Statement**

The purpose of this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is to identify and prioritize significant health needs of the community served by St. Luke's Health – The Vintage Hospital. The priorities identified in this report help to guide the hospital's community health improvement programs and community benefit activities, as well as its collaborative efforts with other organizations that share a mission to improve health. This CHNA report meets requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that nonprofit hospitals conduct a CHNA at least once every three years.

## **CommonSpirit Health Commitment and Mission Statement**

The hospital's dedication to engaging with the community, assessing priority needs, and helping to address them with community health program activities is in keeping with its mission. As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.

#### **CHNA Collaborators**

This CHNA was conducted in partnership with Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, St. Luke's Health – Patients Medical Center, St. Luke's Health – The Woodlands Hospital, St. Luke's Health – Springwoods Village Hospital, St. Luke's Health – Lakeside Hospital, and St. Luke's Health – Sugar Land Hospital. The Vintage Hospital engaged Biel Consulting, Inc. to conduct the CHNA.

## **Community Definition**

St. Luke's Health – The Vintage Hospital is located at 20171 Chasewood Park Drive, Houston, Texas 77505. The population of the service area is 1,330,899. Children and youth, ages 0-17, make up 28.1% of the population, 62.1% are adults, ages 18-64, and 9.8% of the population are seniors, ages 65 and older. 35.8% of the population in the service area identifies as Hispanic/Latino and 35.7% of the population identifies as non-Hispanic White. 18.4% of the population identifies as Black/African-American, and 7.8% of the population are Asian. 1.7% of individuals identify as multiracial (two-or-more races), 0.3% as a race/ethnicity not listed, 0.2% as American Indian/Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders represent 0.1% of the service area population. In the service area, 62.7% of the population, 5 years and older, speak only English in the home. Among the area population, 28.3% speak Spanish, 5.1% speak an Asian/Pacific Islander and 2.9% speak an Indo-European language in the home.

Among the residents in the service area, 12.1% live at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and 31.2% are at 200% of FPL or below. Those who spend more than 30% of their income on housing are said to be "cost burdened." In the service area, 32.6% of owner and renter occupied households spend 30% or more of their income on housing. Educational attainment is a key driver of health. In the hospital service area, 14.7% of adults, ages 25 and older, lack a high school diploma. 31.2% of area adults have a Bachelor's degree or higher degree.

#### **Assessment Process and Methods**

Secondary data were collected from local, county, and state sources to present community demographics, social determinants of health, health care access, birth indicators, leading causes of death, COVID-19, chronic disease, health behaviors, mental health, substance use and misuse and preventive practices. Where available, these data are presented in the context of Houston, Harris County, Montgomery County and Texas, framing the scope of an issue as it relates to the broader community. The report includes benchmark comparison data, comparing community data findings with Healthy People 2030 objectives.

Interviews with community stakeholders were conducted to obtain input on health needs, barriers to care and resources available to address the identified health needs. Thirteen (13) interviews were conducted from December 2021 to April 2022. Community stakeholders identified by the hospital were contacted and asked to participate in the interviews. Interviewees included individuals who are leaders and representatives of medically underserved, low-income, and minority populations, or local health or other departments or agencies that have "current data or other information relevant to the health needs of the community served by the hospital facility."

## **Process and Criteria to Identify and Prioritize Significant Health Needs**

Significant health needs were identified from an analysis of the primary and secondary data sources. Interviews with community stakeholders were used to gather input and prioritize the significant health needs. The following criteria were used to prioritize the health needs:

- The perceived severity of a health or community issue as it affects the health and lives of those in the community.
- Improving or worsening of an issue in the community.
- Availability of resources to address the need.
- The level of importance the hospital should place on addressing the issue.

The key informant stakeholders were asked to prioritize the health needs according to the highest level of importance in the community.

## **List of Prioritized Significant Health Needs**

Access to care, mental health, birth indicators, chronic diseases, and overweight and obesity were identified as priority needs by the community stakeholders.

Access to health care – Health insurance coverage is considered a key component to ensure access to health care. The Healthy People 2030 objective for health insurance is 92.1% coverage. 82.9% of the population in the service area has health insurance and 89.1% of children, ages 18 and younger, have health insurance coverage in the service area. A community stakeholder noted when people lost their jobs during COVID, they lost health insurance and coverage for medical care.

Mental health – Frequent mental distress is defined as 14 or more bad mental health days in the last month. In the hospital service area, the rate of mental distress among adults was 13%. Community stakeholders noted there is a stigma to talking about mental health issues. Often people experiencing mental health crises end up at the local Emergency Department.

Birth indicators – 60.8% of pregnant women in Harris County entered prenatal care on time – during the first trimester. This is a lower rate of entry to on-time prenatal care than found in the state (68.9%). The rates of teen births to females, ages 15-19, in Montgomery County (6.4% of live births) and Harris County (7.3%) are more than double the Healthy People 2030 objective for teen births (3.1%).

Chronic disease – Leading causes of death in the service area are heart disease and cancer. 11.2% of area adults have been diagnosed with diabetes, 31.2% have high blood pressure and 8.7% of adults have been diagnosed with asthma. Stakeholders commented that diabetes and its co-morbidities are on the rise among all populations.

Overweight and obesity – Over a third of adults in the service area (35.3%) are obese and 32.8% are overweight. Community stakeholders noted that obesity is a growing epidemic, especially among youth. Obesity is tied to chronic diseases and unhealthy eating habits.

## **Resources Potentially Available to Address Needs**

Community stakeholders identified community resources potentially available to address the identified community needs. A partial list of community resources can be found in the CHNA report.

## **Report Adoption, Availability and Comments**

This CHNA report was adopted by The Vintage Hospital Board of Directors in May

2022. The CHNA report is available to the public on the web site at <a href="https://www.stlukeshealth.org/about-st-lukes-health/healthy-communities">https://www.stlukeshealth.org/about-st-lukes-health/healthy-communities</a>. Paper copies of the report are available for inspection upon request at the Mission Integration and Spiritual Care Office, St. Luke's Health – The Vintage Hospital, 20171 Chasewood Park Drive, Houston, Texas 77505. Please send comments or questions about this report to Stephen Ferguson, Manager, Mission Integration, Spiritual Care and Volunteers at <a href="mailto:stephen.ferguson@commonspirit.org">stephen.ferguson@commonspirit.org</a>.

## **Community Definition**

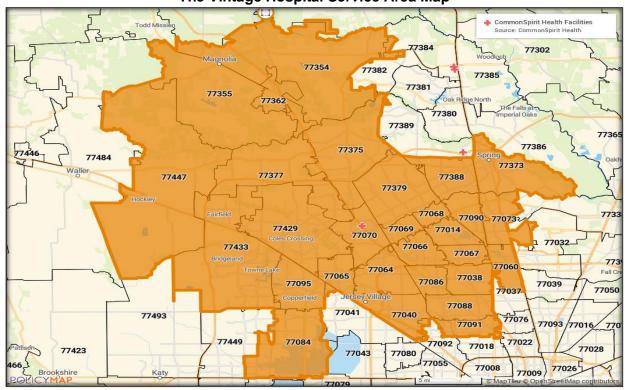
#### **Service Area**

St. Luke's Health - The Vintage Hospital is located at 20171 Chasewood Park Drive, Houston Texas 77505. The hospital tracks ZIP Codes of origin for all patient admissions and includes all who received care without regard to insurance coverage or eligibility for financial assistance. For the purposes of this report, the hospital defines its service area to include the following 29 ZIP Codes, in 9 cities or communities, located primarily in Harris County, with three ZIP Codes/communities in Montgomery County.

St. Luke's Health - The Vintage Hospital Service Area

Place	ZIP Code	County/Counties
Cypress	77429, 77433	Harris
Decker Prairie	77355	Montgomery
Hockley	77447	Harris & Waller
Houston	77014, 77038, 77060, 77064, 77065, 77066 77067, 77068, 77069, 77070, 77073, 77084 77086, 77088, 77090, 77091, 77095	Harris
Jersey Village	77040	Harris
Magnolia	77354	Montgomery
Pinehurst	77362	Montgomery
Spring	77373, 77379, 77388	Harris
Tomball	77375, 77377	Harris





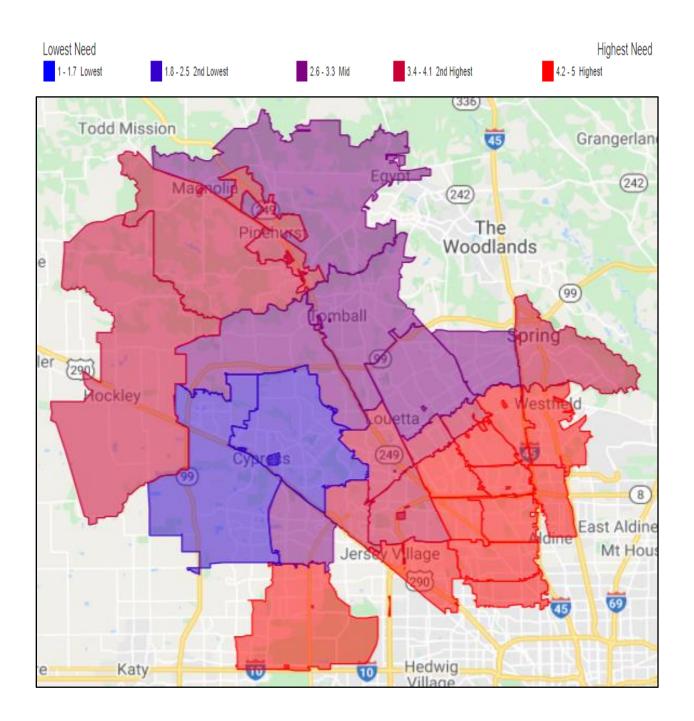
The population of the service area is 1,330,899. Children and youth, ages 0-17, make up 28.1% of the population, 62.1% are adults, ages 18-64, and 9.8% of the population are seniors, ages 65 and older. 35.8% of the population in the service area identifies as Hispanic/Latino and 35.7% of the population identifies as non-Hispanic White. 18.4% of the population identifies as Black/African-American, and 7.8% of the population are Asian. 1.7% of individuals identify as multiracial (two-or-more races), 0.3% as a race/ethnicity not listed, 0.2% as American Indian/Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders represent 0.1% of the service area population. In the service area, 62.7% of the population, 5 years and older, speak only English in the home. Among the area population, 28.3% speak Spanish, 5.1% speak an Asian/Pacific Islander and 2.9% speak an Indo-European language in the home.

Among the residents in the service area, 12.1% live at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and 31.2% are at 200% of FPL or below. Those who spend more than 30% of their income on housing are said to be "cost burdened." In the service area, 32.6% of owner and renter occupied households spend 30% or more of their income on housing. Educational attainment is a key driver of health. In the hospital service area, 14.7% of adults, ages 25 and older, lack a high school diploma. 31.2% of area adults have a Bachelor's degree or higher degree.

Harris County and Houston are designated as Medically Underserved Areas (MUA) and Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) for primary care, dental health and mental health. Montgomery County is designated as a Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) for mental health care and as a Medically Underserved Area (MUA) for primary care.

## **Community Need Index**

One tool used to assess health need is the Community Need Index (CNI). The CNI analyzes data at the ZIP Code level on five factors known to contribute or be barriers to health care access: income, culture/language, education, housing status, and insurance coverage. Scores from 1.0 (lowest barriers) to 5.0 (highest barriers) for each factor are averaged to calculate a CNI score for each ZIP Code in the community. The mean CNI score for The Vintage Hospital service area is 3.9. Houston 77060 and 77091 have the highest CNI scores in the service area (5.0), and Cypress 77429 and 77433 have the lowest CNI scores (2.4). Research has shown that communities with the highest CNI scores (those between 4.2 and 5.0) experience twice the rate of hospital admissions for ambulatory care sensitive conditions as those with the lowest scores (1.0 to 1.7).



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CNI Score Mode: 3.6,4.8

Zip Code	CNI Score	Population	City	County	State
77014	4.6	33958	Houston	Harris	Texas
77038	4.8	33254	Houston	Harris	Texas
77040	4.6	51888	Houston	Harris	Texas
77060	5	46742	Houston	Harris	Texas
77064	4	52023	Houston	Harris	Texas
77065	3.8	40953	Houston	Harris	Texas
77066	4.4	36218	Houston	Harris	Texas
77067	4.8	32524	Houston	Harris	Texas
77068	4	11486	Houston	Harris	Texas
77069	3.6	18239	Houston	Harris	Texas
77070	3.6	58462	Houston	Harris	Texas
77073	4.4	44515	Houston	Harris	Texas
77084	4.4	117695	Houston	Harris	Texas
77086	4.8	31870	Houston	Harris	Texas
77088	4.8	56510	Houston	Harris	Texas
77090	4.6	41912	Houston	Harris	Texas
77091	5	27120	Houston	Harris	Texas
77095	3.2	79403	Houston	Harris	Texas
77354	3	44659	Magnolia	Montgomery	Texas
77355	3.6	31643	Magnolia	Montgomery	Texas
77362	3.6	6593	Pinehurst	Montgomery	Texas
77373	3.8	67033	Spring	Harris	Texas
77375	3.2	60546	Tomball	Harris	Texas
77377	2.6	39054	Tomball	Harris	Texas
77379	2.6	85825	Spring	Harris	Texas
77388	2.8	53688	Spring	Harris	Texas
77429	2.4	93087	Cypress	Harris	Texas
77433	2.4	83874	Cypress	Harris	Texas
77447	3.4	17572	Hockley	Harris	Texas

## **Assessment Process and Methods**

## **Secondary Data Collection**

Secondary data were collected from a variety of local, county, and state sources to present community demographics, social determinants of health, health care access, birth indicators, leading causes of death, COVID-19, chronic disease, health behaviors, mental health, substance use and preventive practices. Where available, these data are presented in the context of Houston, Harris County, Montgomery County and Texas, framing the scope of an issue as it relates to the broader community.

The report includes benchmark comparison data, comparing the service area data findings with Healthy People 2030 objectives (Attachment 1). Texas is divided into 11 Public Health Regions, and this distinction is used in some of the data tables in this report. Harris and Montgomery Counties are part of Health Service Region (HSR) 6, along with the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Liberty, Matagorda, Walker, Waller, and Wharton.

## **Primary Data Collection**

The hospital conduct interviews with community stakeholders to obtain input on health needs, barriers to care and resources available to address the identified health needs.

#### Interviews

Thirteen (13) telephone interviews were conducted from December 2021 through April 2022. Interview participants included a broad range of stakeholders concerned with health and wellbeing within the service area. The hospital identified stakeholders who were invited by email to participate in a phone interview. Appointments for the interviews were made on dates and times convenient to the stakeholders. At the beginning of each interview, the purpose of the interview in the context of the assessment was explained, the stakeholders were assured their responses would remain confidential, and consent to proceed was given. Attachment 2 lists the stakeholder interview respondents, their titles and organizations.

A review of health data and needs in the service area was conducted prior to the interviews in order to develop an interview framework. The interview asked questions to identify the major health issues impacting the community and the social determinants of health contributing to poor health outcomes. Interviewees were asked to identify populations least likely to receive or seek services. They were also asked to reflect on the impact that COVID-19 had on the health issues in the community. Key stakeholders shared their perspectives on the issues, challenges, and barriers relative to the identified community needs (What makes each need a significant issue in the

community? What are the challenges and barriers people face in addressing these needs?). They also identified potential resources to address the community needs, such as services, programs and/or community efforts. Stakeholder responses to the questions from the interviews are detailed in Attachment 3.

Analysis of the primary data occurred through a process that compared and combined responses to identify themes. The interviews focused on these significant health needs:

- Access to care
- Birth indicators
- Chronic diseases
- COVID-19
- Homelessness
- Mental health
- Overweight and obesity
- Preventive practices
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Substance use
- Violence and injury

## **Public Comment**

In compliance with IRS regulations 501(r) for charitable hospitals, a hospital CHNA and Implementation Strategy are to be made widely available to the public and public comment is to be solicited. These documents are posted on the web site where they are widely available to the public. The Vintage Hospital report is available to the public at <a href="https://www.stlukeshealth.org/about-st-lukes-health/healthy-communities">https://www.stlukeshealth.org/about-st-lukes-health/healthy-communities</a>. No written comments have been received.

## **Project Oversight**

The CHNA process was overseen by:
Stephen Ferguson
Manager
Mission Integration, Spiritual Care and Volunteers
St. Luke's Health – The Vintage Hospital

## **Consultants**

Biel Consulting, Inc. conducted the CHNA. Melissa Biel, MSN, DPA was joined by Denise Flanagan, BA and Smruti Shah, MPH. Biel Consulting, Inc. is an independent consulting firm that works with hospitals, clinics and community-based nonprofit organizations. Biel Consulting, Inc. has over 25 years of experience conducting hospital

CHNAs and working with hospitals on developing, implementing, and evaluating community benefit programs. <a href="www.bielconsulting.com">www.bielconsulting.com</a>

## **Community Demographics**

## **Population**

The population of the St. Luke's Health - The Vintage Hospital (TVH) service area is 1,330,899. From 2014 to 2019, the population increased by 11.9%, which is a higher rate of growth than Harris County (8.8%) and the state (8.3%), and lower than the growth rate in Montgomery County (17.4%).

## **Total Population and Change in Population**

	TVH Service Area	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas	
Total population	1,330,899	4,646,630	571,949	28,260,856	
Change in population, 2014-2019	11.9%	8.8%	17.4%	8.3%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010-2014 & 2015-2019, DP05. http://data.census.gov

While data from the 2020 U.S. Census are not yet available at the city or ZIP Code level, the population for Montgomery County shows a 36.1% increase in population over the 2010 Census, more than twice the rate of population growth seen in Harris County (15.6%) and the state (15.9%).

## Total Population and Change in Population, 2010-2020

	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Total population	4,731,145	620,443	29,145,505
Change in population, 2010-2020	15.6%	36.1%	15.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Decennial Census, 2010-2020. <a href="https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/2020-population-and-housing-state-data.html">https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/2020-population-and-housing-state-data.html</a>

The service area population is 50.7% female and 49.3% male.

#### Population, by Gender

	TVH Service Area	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Male	49.3%	49.7%	49.5%	49.7%
Female	50.7%	50.3%	50.5%	50.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP05.http://data.census.gov

Children and youth, ages 0-17, make up 28.1% of the population, 62.1% are adults, ages 18-64, and 9.8% of the population are seniors, ages 65 and older.

## Population, by Age

	TVH Serv	vice Area	Harris	County	Montgomery County		
	Number Percent		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Age 0-4	98,586	7.4%	352,470	7.6%	38,701	6.8%	
Age 5-17	275,426	20.7%	893,422	19.2%	112,628	19.7%	
Age 18-24	116,702	8.8%	436,781	9.4%	47,246	8.3%	

	TVH Service Area		Harris County		Montgomery County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Age 25-44	388,712	29.2%	1,425,905	30.5%	151,276	26.4%
Age 45-64	321,259	24.1%	1,075,904	23.2%	148,746	26.0%
Age 65+	130,214	9.8%	472,148	10.2%	73,352	12.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP05. http://data.census.gov/

In the service area, Houston 77060 has the highest percentage of children and youth (35.7%) and the lowest percentage of seniors, ages 65 and older (5.1%). The second-highest percentage of children and youth is found in Cypress 77433 (34%), while Houston 77068 (17.1%) has the lowest percentage of children and youth in the service area. Houston 77069 has the highest percentage of seniors in the area (18.5%).

Population, by Youth, Ages 0-17, and Seniors, Ages 65 and Older

opulation, by routh,	ZIP Code	Total	Youth	Seniors
	Zii Gode	Population	Ages 0 – 17	Ages 65+
Cypress	77429	88,628	30.2%	9.1%
Cypress	77433	90,657	34.0%	6.8%
Decker Prairie	77355	29,281	23.7%	13.1%
Hockley	77447	16,246	30.0%	8.5%
Houston	77014	37,488	30.0%	5.9%
Houston	77038	31,912	33.5%	6.1%
Houston	77060	45,642	35.7%	5.1%
Houston	77064	48,637	24.4%	10.3%
Houston	77065	37,793	23.6%	11.7%
Houston	77066	35,676	26.0%	12.0%
Houston	77067	35,227	32.4%	5.3%
Houston	77068	11,011	17.1%	14.5%
Houston	77069	19,345	23.5%	18.5%
Houston	77070	53,057	24.6%	12.2%
Houston	77073	39,939	29.6%	7.1%
Houston	77084	107,673	28.1%	8.0%
Houston	77086	28,636	30.9%	8.1%
Houston	77088	55,734	28.0%	10.8%
Houston	77090	40,761	29.9%	6.4%
Houston	77091	27,750	29.1%	10.5%
Houston	77095	70,692	25.6%	10.3%
Jersey Village	77040	47,823	23.3%	10.2%
Magnolia	77354	37,058	27.3%	13.2%
Pinehurst	77362	6,435	29.5%	11.7%
Spring	77373	61,501	25.9%	10.1%
Spring	77379	81,368	26.2%	14.0%
Spring	77388	50,701	26.3%	11.8%
Tomball	77375	55,759	28.0%	10.3%
Tomball	77377	38,469	29.4%	11.6%
TVH Service Area		1,330,889	28.1%	9.8%
Harris County		4,646,630	26.8%	10.2%
Montgomery County		571,949	26.5%	12.8%
Texas		28,260,856	26.0%	12.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP05. http://data.census.gov/

## Race/Ethnicity

In the service area, 35.8% of the population identifies as Hispanic/Latino, 35.7% of the population identify as White/Caucasian, 18.4% of the population are Black/African American, and 7.8% of the population are Asian. 1.7% of individuals identify as multiracial (two-or-more races), 0.3% as a race/ethnicity not listed, 0.2% as American Indian/Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders represent 0.1% of the service area population.

## Race/Ethnicity

	TVH Service Area	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Hispanic or Latino	35.8%	42.9%	24.1%	39.3%
White	35.7%	29.6%	66.0%	42.0%
Black/African American	18.4%	18.6%	4.8%	11.8%
Asian	7.8%	6.9%	2.9%	4.7%
Multiracial	1.7%	1.5%	1.8%	1.7%
Some other race	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
American Indian/AK Native	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Native HI/Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.05%	0.04%	0.08%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP05. http://data.census.gov/

When race/ethnicity is examined by ZIP Code, Houston 77060 (76.9%) has the highest percentage of the population identifying as Hispanic/Latino. Pinehurst (79.8%) has the highest percentage of Whites. Houston 77090 (46.8%), has the highest percentage of Blacks/African Americans in the service area, and Houston 77064 has the highest percentage of Asians (16.5%).

## Race/Ethnicity, by ZIP Code

	ZIP Code	Hispanic/Latino	White	Black	Asian
Cypress	77429	20.4%	58.5%	9.9%	8.8%
Cypress	77433	28.1%	42.1%	16.1%	11.4%
Decker Prairie	77355	19.0%	76.5%	1.8%	0.3%
Hockley	77447	36.8%	51.3%	8.2%	2.3%
Houston	77014	39.0%	4.9%	44.3%	9.5%
Houston	77038	70.2%	4.8%	16.4%	8.1%
Houston	77060	76.9%	4.8%	15.5%	1.5%
Houston	77064	38.5%	28.1%	13.8%	16.5%
Houston	77065	30.6%	37.9%	20.9%	9.0%
Houston	77066	44.1%	18.2%	23.1%	12.2%
Houston	77067	53.4%	3.9%	34.5%	5.8%
Houston	77068	34.2%	35.2%	19.8%	8.6%
Houston	77069	15.3%	52.4%	23.2%	4.3%
Houston	77070	25.9%	44.8%	18.8%	9.0%
Houston	77073	51.0%	14.7%	31.3%	1.9%
Houston	77084	44.8%	26.7%	14.7%	10.7%
Houston	77086	65.7%	8.0%	17.3%	8.6%
Houston	77088	51.8%	5.2%	37.8%	4.1%

	ZIP Code	Hispanic/Latino	White	Black	Asian
Houston	77090	33.2%	14.7%	46.8%	2.4%
Houston	77091	45.2%	8.6%	43.7%	0.8%
Houston	77095	25.2%	45.1%	14.2%	12.8%
Jersey Village	77040	48.3%	28.2%	14.3%	8.3%
Magnolia	77354	20.2%	69.6%	3.4%	2.4%
Pinehurst	77362	13.1%	79.8%	6.9%	0.3%
Spring	77373	31.9%	40.4%	22.0%	2.9%
Spring	77379	19.2%	58.0%	9.3%	11.2%
Spring	77388	23.8%	52.7%	11.5%	8.5%
Tomball	77375	29.3%	51.4%	12.0%	4.8%
Tomball	77377	21.1%	62.2%	5.3%	9.1%
TVH Service Area		35.8%	35.7%	18.4%	7.8%
Harris County		42.9%	29.6%	18.6%	6.9%
<b>Montgomery County</b>		24.1%	66.0%	4.8%	2.9%
Texas		39.3%	42.0%	11.8%	4.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP05. http://data.census.gov/

## Language

In the service area, 62.7% of the population, 5 years and older, speak only English in the home. Among the area population, 28.3% speak Spanish, 5.1% speak an Asian/Pacific Islander language, and 2.9% speak an Indo-European language in the home. 1% of the population speak some other language.

Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5 Years and Older

	TVH Service Area	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Population, 5 years and older	1,232,313	4,294,160	533,248	26,261,053
English only	62.7%	55.6%	77.0%	64.5%
Speaks Spanish	28.3%	35.0%	19.0%	29.3%
Speaks Asian or Pacific Islander language	5.1%	4.6%	1.7%	3.0%
Speaks non-Spanish Indo-European language	2.9%	3.1%	2.0%	2.2%
Speaks other language	1.0%	1.6%	0.4%	1.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP02. http://data.census.gov/

There are three ZIP Codes within the service area where more than half of households speak Spanish in the home: Houston 77060 (70.5%), 77038 (63.8%), and 77086 (56.3%). Houston 77064 (12.3%) and 77066 (9.2%) have the highest percentage of Asian/Pacific-Islander language households. Spring 77379 has the highest percentage of Indo-European language households (5.5%), followed by Cypress 77433 (5%). Pinehurst has the highest percentage of English-only households (87.7%), followed by Houston 77069 (85.9%) and Decker Prairie (83.7%).

Language Spoken at Home, by ZIP Code

	ZIP Code	English	Spanish	Asian/Pacific Islander	Non-Spanish Indo European
Cypress	77429	79.0%	12.0%	5.4%	2.8%
Cypress	77433	68.8%	18.3%	6.4%	5.0%
Decker Prairie	77355	83.7%	15.3%	0.1%	0.9%
Hockley	77447	66.1%	31.3%	0.7%	1.6%
Houston	77014	54.7%	33.3%	6.2%	4.1%
Houston	77038	28.0%	63.8%	7.1%	0.9%
Houston	77060	26.4%	70.5%	1.0%	1.7%
Houston	77064	55.2%	28.4%	12.3%	3.7%
Houston	77065	68.8%	21.1%	4.8%	3.6%
Houston	77066	48.7%	38.7%	9.2%	2.6%
Houston	77067	46.4%	46.8%	3.4%	2.8%
Houston	77068	65.0%	26.4%	6.1%	2.4%
Houston	77069	85.9%	9.6%	1.8%	2.8%
Houston	77070	69.3%	19.1%	7.4%	2.7%
Houston	77073	55.5%	40.2%	0.8%	2.4%
Houston	77084	50.3%	36.6%	7.5%	3.2%
Houston	77086	36.0%	56.3%	6.9%	0.6%
Houston	77088	48.7%	47.1%	3.4%	0.8%
Houston	77090	67.4%	27.7%	1.6%	2.4%
Houston	77091	57.4%	40.0%	0.7%	1.7%
Houston	77095	67.4%	18.1%	6.9%	4.6%
Jersey Village	77040	51.1%	39.6%	7.1%	1.6%
Magnolia	77354	79.3%	17.7%	1.8%	0.9%
Pinehurst	77362	87.7%	12.0%	0.3%	0.0%
Spring	77373	73.9%	22.0%	2.3%	1.3%
Spring	77379	74.7%	13.4%	5.7%	5.5%
Spring	77388	74.6%	15.1%	5.7%	3.5%
Tomball	77375	71.8%	22.9%	2.7%	2.2%
Tomball	77377	73.8%	16.0%	5.5%	4.6%
TVH Service Area		62.7%	28.3%	5.1%	2.9%
Harris County		55.6%	35.0%	4.6%	3.1%
<b>Montgomery County</b>		77.0%	19.0%	1.7%	2.0%
Texas		64.5%	29.3%	3.0%	2.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP02. http://data.census.gov/

Among area school districts, the percentage of students classified as Limited English Proficient and English Language Learners ranges from 10% in the Tomball Independent School District, to 38.3% of Aldine Independent School District students.

**English Language Learner Students, by School District** 

	Number	Percent
Aldine Independent School District	25,711	38.3%
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	16,280	13.9%
Katy Independent School District	15,566	18.7%
Klein Independent School District	9,175	17.0%
Magnolia Independent School District	2,156	16.3%
Spring Independent School District	9,880	28.0%
Tomball Independent School District	1,823	10.0%

	Number	Percent
Waller Independent School District	2,314	30.1%
Harris County	241,272	26.7%
Montgomery County	19,156	16.6%
Texas	1,112,588	20.3%

Source: Texas Education Agency, Snapshot 2020 (2019-2020). https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/snapshot/2020/index.html

## **Veteran Status**

In the service area, 5.3% of the civilian population, 18 years and older, are veterans. This is higher than Harris County (4.7%) and lower than Montgomery County (7.5%). 11% of adults in Houston 77069 are veterans.

## Veteran Status, Civilian Population, Ages 18 and Older

	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	5.9%
Cypress	77433	4.8%
Decker Prairie	77355	8.6%
Hockley	77447	6.3%
Houston	77014	4.9%
Houston	77038	2.6%
Houston	77060	1.5%
Houston	77064	4.3%
Houston	77065	6.3%
Houston	77066	3.8%
Houston	77067	3.0%
Houston	77068	7.1%
Houston	77069	11.0%
Houston	77070	5.2%
Houston	77073	5.5%
Houston	77084	5.2%
Houston	77086	2.8%
Houston	77088	4.0%
Houston	77090	4.5%
Houston	77091	2.5%
Houston	77095	5.1%
Jersey Village	77040	4.3%
Magnolia	77354	7.5%
Pinehurst	77362	8.4%
Spring	77373	5.9%
Spring	77379	6.1%
Spring	77388	6.1%
Tomball	77375	7.1%
Tomball	77377	7.7%
TVH Service Area		5.3%
Harris County		4.7%
Montgomery County		7.5%
Texas		7.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP02. http://data.census.gov

## Citizenship

In the service area, 22% of the population is foreign-born, which is lower than Harris County (26.1%), but higher than Montgomery County (13.5%) rates. Of the foreign-born, 56.3% are not citizens. It is important to note that not being a U.S. citizen does not indicate an illegal resident status within the U.S.

## Foreign-Born Residents and Citizenship

	TVH Service Area	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Foreign born	22.0%	26.1%	13.5%	17.0%
Of the foreign born, not a U.S. citizen	56.3%	63.4%	64.6%	62.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP02. http://data.census.gov

## Social Determinants of Health

## **Social and Economic Factors Ranking**

The County Health Rankings ranks counties according to health factors data. Social and economic indicators are examined as a contributor to the health of a county's residents. Texas has 254 counties, 243 of which are ranked from 1 to 243 according to social and economic factors. A ranking of 1 is the county with the best factors and a ranking of 243 is the county with the poorest factors. This ranking examines: high school graduation rates, unemployment, children in poverty, social support, and others. Harris County is ranked 160 among ranked counties in Texas, according to social and economic factors, placing it in the bottom third quartile. Montgomery County, with a ranking of 28, is in the top quartile of ranked counties.

## Social and Economic Factors Ranking

	County Ranking (out of 243)
Harris County	160
Montgomery County	28

Source: County Health Rankings, 2021 http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

## **Poverty**

Poverty thresholds are used for calculating official poverty population statistics. They are updated each year by the Census Bureau. For 2019, the federal poverty level (FPL) for one person was \$13,011 and for a family of four \$25,926.

Among the residents in the service area, 12.1% are at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and 31.2% are at 200% of FPL or below. The service area poverty rate is above the Montgomery County rate (9.3%) and below Harris County (15.7%) and state (14.7%) rates. The low-income rate in the service area (31.2%) is above the Montgomery County rate (25%), but below Harris County and state rates. The highest poverty and low-income rates in the service area are found in Houston 77060, where 33% of the population lives in poverty and 71.7% qualify as low-income. Tomball 77377 has the lowest rate of poverty (3.6%), and Cypress 77429 has the lowest level of low-income residents (13.4%) who live below 200% FPL).

## Income below 100% and 200% of Federal Poverty Level, by ZIP Code

	ZIP Code	<100% FPL	<200% FPL
Cypress	77429	3.9%	13.4%
Cypress	77433	4.9%	14.8%
Decker Prairie	77355	6.7%	20.2%
Hockley	77447	12.9%	26.2%
Houston	77014	19.0%	43.9%
Houston	77038	27.0%	58.6%

	ZIP Code	<100% FPL	<200% FPL
Houston	77060	33.0%	71.7%
Houston	77064	12.8%	29.3%
Houston	77065	9.8%	29.3%
Houston	77066	13.6%	34.8%
Houston	77067	24.1%	54.8%
Houston	77068	11.0%	28.6%
Houston	77069	7.7%	21.1%
Houston	77070	9.4%	31.8%
Houston	77073	12.6%	43.1%
Houston	77084	12.1%	34.0%
Houston	77086	21.5%	49.2%
Houston	77088	20.8%	50.9%
Houston	77090	21.6%	52.0%
Houston	77091	25.1%	56.6%
Houston	77095	7.2%	17.5%
Jersey Village	77040	12.6%	35.5%
Magnolia	77354	11.4%	24.2%
Pinehurst	77362	20.0%	32.6%
Spring	77373	9.8%	27.0%
Spring	77379	5.6%	14.6%
Spring	77388	6.6%	17.4%
Tomball	77375	7.5%	21.8%
Tomball	77377	3.6%	18.5%
TVH Service Area		12.1%	31.2%
Harris County		15.7%	36.3%
Montgomery County		9.3%	25.0%
Texas		14.7%	34.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, S1701. http://data.census.gov/

The rate of poverty among children in the service area is 17.3%. The rate of poverty among seniors in the service area is 8.5%. The rate of poverty for female heads-of-household (HoH), living with their own children, under the age of 18, is 31.3% in the service area. The highest rate of poverty in children in the service area was found in Houston 77060 (43.2%). The rate of poverty among female heads-of-household living with children, ages 18 and younger, is highest in Houston 77060 (62.3%). The rate of poverty among seniors, ages 65 and older, is highest in Houston 77014 (27.1%). The lowest rate of poverty in children is found in Tomball 77377 (1.9%), among seniors it is in Pinehurst (2.3%) and among female HoH with children it is in Houston 77065 (8.4%).

Poverty Levels of Children, under Age 18; Seniors, Ages 65 and Older, and Female HoH

	ZIP Code	Children	Seniors	Female HoH with Children*
Cypress	77429	4.6%	3.2%	12.1%
Cypress	77433	5.4%	4.5%	9.4%
Decker Prairie	77355	7.2%	10.6%	40.5%

	ZIP Code	Children	Seniors	Female HoH with Children*
Hockley	77447	19.9%	5.7%	30.0%
Houston	77014	24.0%	27.1%	33.9%
Houston	77038	36.9%	19.3%	56.8%
Houston	77060	43.2%	21.7%	62.3%
Houston	77064	20.3%	11.0%	30.3%
Houston	77065	11.1%	9.0%	8.4%
Houston	77066	20.3%	9.9%	28.4%
Houston	77067	36.0%	14.6%	52.6%
Houston	77068	22.9%	2.4%	47.1%
Houston	77069	13.5%	2.9%	12.5%
Houston	77070	13.0%	4.7%	18.5%
Houston	77073	15.0%	11.7%	21.7%
Houston	77084	18.2%	10.3%	25.6%
Houston	77086	30.6%	18.5%	54.0%
Houston	77088	32.2%	14.1%	41.0%
Houston	77090	33.0%	9.1%	41.5%
Houston	77091	36.0%	16.7%	52.6%
Houston	77095	9.2%	5.8%	12.7%
Jersey Village	77040	17.6%	7.4%	31.5%
Magnolia	77354	14.4%	13.5%	19.4%
Pinehurst	77362	34.3%	2.3%	50.7%
Spring	77373	15.3%	8.8%	27.5%
Spring	77379	7.5%	4.4%	18.5%
Spring	77388	7.9%	4.1%	19.4%
Tomball	77375	10.4%	2.7%	18.8%
Tomball	77377	1.9%	7.1%	22.8%
TVH Service Area		17.3%	8.5%	31.3%
Harris County		23.4%	11.3%	38.9%
Montgomery County	'	12.3%	8.4%	32.5%
Texas		20.9%	10.6%	37.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, S1701 & \*S1702. http://data.census.gov/

## Unemployment

The unemployment rate in the service area, averaged over 5 years, was 5.5%. This is higher than Montgomery County (4.2%), and the state (5.1%), but lower than the Harris County (5.8%) unemployment rate. Rates ranged from 3.4% in Houston 77038 to 8.4% in Houston 77066.

## **Employment Status for the Population, Ages 16 and Older**

	ZIP Code	Civilian Labor Force	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Cypress	77429	44,896	1,842	4.1%
Cypress	77433	45,312	2,385	5.3%
Decker Prairie	77355	14,827	722	4.9%
Hockley	77447	7,771	371	4.8%

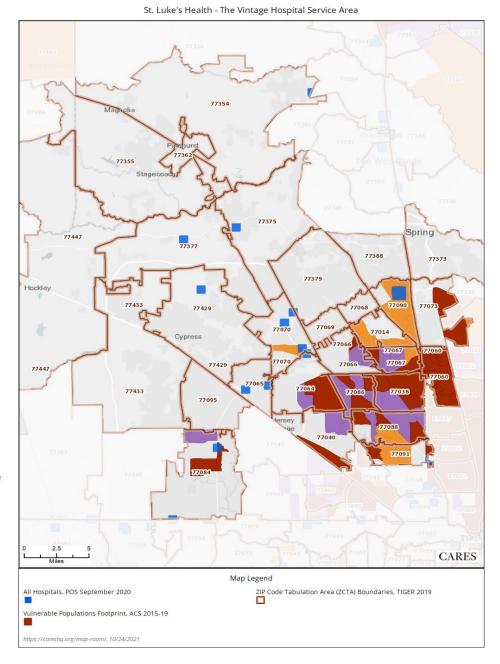
	ZIP Code	Civilian Labor Force	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Houston	77014	19,407	1,444	7.4%
Houston	77038	14,291	487	3.4%
Houston	77060	20,229	907	4.5%
Houston	77064	26,577	1,324	5.0%
Houston	77065	20,943	1,248	6.0%
Houston	77066	18,393	1,550	8.4%
Houston	77067	16,794	899	5.4%
Houston	77068	6,436	359	5.6%
Houston	77069	10,163	486	4.8%
Houston	77070	29,047	1,660	5.7%
Houston	77073	20,707	948	4.6%
Houston	77084	57,234	3,651	6.4%
Houston	77086	13,509	737	5.5%
Houston	77088	25,913	2,114	8.2%
Houston	77090	21,143	1,103	5.2%
Houston	77091	12,878	642	5.0%
Houston	77095	38,877	1,941	5.0%
Jersey Village	77040	26,208	1,337	5.1%
Magnolia	77354	18,268	893	4.9%
Pinehurst	77362	2,668	103	3.9%
Spring	77373	32,590	1,634	5.0%
Spring	77379	41,141	2,065	5.0%
Spring	77388	27,622	1,521	5.5%
Tomball	77375	29,421	1,739	5.9%
Tomball	77377	18,893	1,178	6.2%
<b>TVH Service Area</b>	1	682,158	37,290	5.5%
Harris County		2,387,583	138,920	5.8%
Montgomery Cou	nty	284,265	12,076	4.2%
Texas		13,962,458	708,827	5.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP03. http://data.census.gov/

## **Vulnerable Populations**

When vulnerable populations in the area are mapped, pockets of poverty emerge. The map below shows the St. Luke's Health - The Vintage Hospital service area and surrounding areas, highlighting the percentage of each ZIP Code that has more than 20% poverty (in tan) and more than 25% of the population with low education, defined as less than a high school education (in lavender). Areas above the vulnerable thresholds for poverty and education are noted on the map in brown. Area hospitals are represented by blue squares, and The Vintage Hospital is located in the center of the ZIP Code 77070 on the map.

In the service area. parts of Houston ZIP Codes 77014. 77090, 77088 and 77091, among others, show a high percentage of poverty, while parts of 77066, 77067, 77086, 77038, and others, show low education levels. A portion of Houston 77084 and the southeastern corner of the service area contain a high percentage of vulnerable populations, with 25% or more of the population possessing less than a high school education and poverty found among 20% or more of the population.



## **Economically Disadvantaged Students**

The percentage of students determined by the Texas Education Agency to be 'Economically Disadvantaged' is another indicator of socioeconomic status. This classification is determined by eligibility for the national free and reduced-price meals program, or other public assistance. Spring ISD (82.6%) and Aldine ISD (87.9%) had rates of economic disadvantage among students enrolled in the 2019-2020 school year that were higher than Harris County (66%) and the state (60.3%). Waller ISD (62.7%) also had a higher rate than the state.

## **Economically Disadvantaged Students**

	Percent		
	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	
Aldine Independent School District	87.2%	87.9%	
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	54.5%	54.3%	
Katy Independent School District	31.6%	32.7%	
Klein Independent School District	45.2%	45.6%	
Magnolia Independent School District	47.4%	46.4%	
Spring Independent School District	70.1%	82.6%	
Tomball Independent School District	24.1%	23.8%	
Waller Independent School District	64.5%	62.7%	
Harris County	65.5%	66.0%	
Montgomery County	46.1%	45.6%	
Texas	60.6%	60.3%	

Source: Texas Education Agency, Snapshots 2019 & 2020. https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/snapshot/2020/index.html

#### Households

In the service area, there are 442,011 households and 475,024 housing units. Over the last five years, the population grew by 11.9%, the number of households grew at a rate of 13.4%, housing units grew at a rate of 12.1%, and vacant units decreased by 2%. Owner-occupied housing increased by 12.2% and renters increased by 15.4%.

## Households and Housing Units, and Percent Change

	TVH Service Area			Houston		
	2014	2019	Percent Change	2014	2019	Percent Change
Households	389,874	442,011	13.4%	792,763	858,374	8.3%
Owner occ.	64.2%	63.6%	12.2%	44.5%	42.3%	2.8%
Renter occ.	35.8%	36.4%	15.4%	55.5%	57.7%	12.6%
Housing units	423,563	475,024	12.1%	913,006	968,704	6.1%
Vacant	8.0%	6.9%	-2.0%	13.2%	11.4%	-8.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010-2014 & 2015-2019, DP04. http://data.census.gov/

27.3% of service area households are family households (married or cohabiting couples) with children under 18 years old, and 7.6% of households are households with 28.5% of service area households are family households (married or cohabiting couples) with children, ages 18 and younger, and 7.7% of households are households with a female as head of household with children. 5.6% of area households are seniors who live alone. Seniors living alone may be isolated and lack adequate support systems.

## Households, by Type

	Total Households	Family Households* with Children Under Age18	Female Head of Household with own Children Under Age 18	Seniors, 65 and Older, Living Alone
	Number	Percent	Percent	Percent
TVH Service Area	442,011	28.5%	7.7%	5.6%
Harris County	1,605,368	25.0%	7.4%	6.9%
Montgomery County	198,649	29.5%	4.8%	7.5%
Texas	9,691,647	24.6%	6.5%	8.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP02. <a href="http://data.census.gov/">http://data.census.gov/</a> \*Family Households refers to married or cohabiting couples with householder's children under 18.

6.5% of unmarried-partner households in the service area are same-sex couples and 93.5% are heterosexual-couples.

## **Unmarried Partner Households, by Gender of Partner**

	Total Households	Same-Gender Households				Mixed-0 House	
	Number	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
TVH Service Area	22,920	1,482	6.5%	21,438	93.5%		
Harris County	95,110	6,044	6.4%	89,066	93.6%		
Montgomery County	9,053	582	6.4%	8,471	93.6%		
Texas	513,894	33,857	6.6%	480,037	93.4%		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014-2018, B11009. http://data.census.gov/

The weighted average of the median household income in the area is \$72,991. This is below Montgomery County (\$80,902) but above median household income of the state (\$61,874) and Harris County (\$61,705). Household incomes ranged from \$31,006 in Houston 77060 to \$112,468 in Cypress 77433.

## **Median Household Income**

	ZIP Code	Households	Median Household Income
Cypress	77429	28,691	\$107,033
Cypress	77433	27,222	\$112,468
Decker Prairie	77355	9,634	\$88,042
Hockley	77447	5,044	\$76,343
Houston	77014	11,801	\$50,938
Houston	77038	9,075	\$41,052
Houston	77060	14,165	\$31,006
Houston	77064	16,139	\$71,754
Houston	77065	14,847	\$57,370
Houston	77066	10,804	\$61,930
Houston	77067	10,217	\$43,282
Houston	77068	3,986	\$83,803
Houston	77069	8,275	\$67,470
Houston	77070	20,264	\$66,569

	ZIP Code	Households	Median Household Income
Houston	77073	13,745	\$50,931
Houston	77084	35,082	\$64,133
Houston	77086	7,922	\$48,211
Houston	77088	17,379	\$42,489
Houston	77090	15,927	\$39,808
Houston	77091	9,911	\$36,098
Houston	77095	24,114	\$92,225
Jersey Village	77040	17,785	\$59,453
Magnolia	77354	12,327	\$89,489
Pinehurst	77362	1,873	\$74,681
Spring	77373	20,588	\$71,424
Spring	77379	27,653	\$103,359
Spring	77388	16,886	\$93,290
Tomball	77375	18,153	\$78,164
Tomball	77377	12,502	\$96,994
TVH Service Area		442,011	*\$72,991
Harris County 1,605		1,605,368	\$61,705
Montgomery County 198,649		\$80,902	
Texas		9,691,647	\$61,874

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP03. <a href="http://data.census.gov/">http://data.census.gov/</a> \*Weighted average of the medians.

According to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, those who spend more than 30% of their income on housing are said to be "cost burdened." 32.6% of owner and renter occupied households in the service area spend 30% or more of their income on housing. This is higher than the Montgomery County (26.2%) and state (30.5%) rates, but below the Harris County rate (34%). There are two service area ZIP Codes where more than half of households pay 30% or more of their income on housing: Houston 77090 (52.8%) and 77060 (51.8%).

## Households that Spend 30% or More of Income on Housing

	ZIP Code	Percent		
Cypress	77429	22.6%		
Cypress	77433	24.9%		
Decker Prairie	77355	20.2%		
Hockley	77447	26.0%		
Houston	77014	45.0%		
Houston	77038	45.0%		
Houston	77060	51.8%		
Houston	77064	27.9%		
Houston	77065	36.5%		
Houston	77066	35.4%		
Houston	77067	46.8%		
Houston	77068	30.4%		
Houston	77069	34.0%		
Houston	77070	36.3%		
Houston	77073	43.6%		
Houston	77084	34.0%		
Houston	77086	38.3%		
Houston	77088	38.8%		

	ZIP Code	Percent
Houston	77090	52.8%
Houston	77091	42.9%
Houston	77095	23.0%
Jersey Village	77040	34.1%
Magnolia	77354	28.2%
Pinehurst	77362	31.4%
Spring	77373	31.1%
Spring	77379	23.1%
Spring	77388	24.6%
Tomball	77375	26.6%
Tomball	77377	27.9%
TVH Service Area		32.6%
Harris County		34.0%
<b>Montgomery County</b>		26.2%
Texas		30.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP04. http://data.census.gov/

#### Homelessness

A point-in-time count (PIT Count) of persons experiencing homelessness is conducted annually in every state in the nation, scheduled to occur on a single night in the third week of January, unless weather does not permit. Most of the service area is covered under The Way Home Continuum of Care (CoC), which covers Harris, Fort Bend and Montgomery Counties. The 2020 PIT Count occurred on January 27, 2020 with the unsheltered portion of the county conducted over a three-day period from January 28-30. It was organized and led by the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County in consultation with UTHealth School of Public Health.

At the time of the 2020 PIT Count, there were an estimated 3,974 homeless individuals in The Way Home CoC, most in Harris County. Over the past three years, the homeless population has risen statewide. In the local CoC, both the number and proportion of homeless who were sheltered has declined, suggesting a loss of shelter beds over that period. In the state, the proportion of homeless who were chronically homeless has declined, while in the local CoC it has risen, from 15% to 20.1%, or 800 chronically homeless persons at the start of 2020. The number and proportion of persons experiencing homeless who were veterans has declined locally and in Texas.

## Homeless Point-in-Time Count, 2017 and 2020

	The Way Home (Harris, Fort Bend, Montgomery Counties) CoC				Tex	cas		
	20	17	2020		2017		2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Homeless	3,605	100%	3,974	100%	23,548	100%	27,229	100%
Sheltered	2,477	68.7%	2,318	58.3%	15,055	63.9%	14,017	51.5%
Unsheltered	1,128	31.3%	1,656	41.7%	8,493	36.1%	13,212	48.5%

	The Way Home (Harris, Fort Bend, Montgomery Counties) CoC				Tex	as		
	2017 2020		2017		2020			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Chronically homeless	539	15.0%	800	20.1%	3,711	15.8%	4,033	14.8%
Veteran	405	11.2%	267	6.7%	2,200	9.3%	1,948	7.2%

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), 2017 & 2020. https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/ahar/

## **Community Input – Homelessness**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to homelessness. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- People don't realize that Montgomery County has a large homeless population both in the metro and rural areas. They call it a "Houston problem."
- Many unhoused live in the rural or wooded areas of the county where the problem is not visible. We have 500 unhoused individuals living in the forest behind the junior college in Conroe.
- Many unhoused are male and a growing number of them are veterans who are dealing with mental health issues.
- Many of the rural parts of the county have substandard housing stock that include mold, lead, and low-quality building materials.
- The definition of housing insecurity should be expanded to include couch surfing by teens who leave a bad home situation, or individuals who can't afford to pay rent or stay in one place.
- Available services to address root causes of homelessness are insufficient to address the need.
- Reasons for homelessness could include those individuals who can't afford rent due to a spotty credit history or criminal background.
- Individuals, especially seniors on fixed incomes, are being pushed out of areas that are gentrifying with high rents.
- We can help individuals get subsidized housing but only for about six months. Then
  we have to search again.

## **Public Program Participation**

In the service area, 4% of residents received SSI benefits, 1.7% received cash public assistance income, and 10.8% of residents received food stamp benefits. These rates were higher than Montgomery County rates.

## **Household Supportive Benefits**

	TVH Service Area	<b>Harris County</b>	Montgomery County
Total households	442,011	1,605,368	198,649
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	4.0%	4.1%	3.8%

	TVH Service Area	<b>Harris County</b>	<b>Montgomery County</b>
Public Assistance	1.7%	1.4%	1.0%
Food Stamps/SNAP	10.8%	12.6%	6.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP03. http://data.census.gov

## Food Security

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) utilizes an 18-question Food Security Supplement module to determine food insecurity rates of households. Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization, defines 'Food Insecure' as three or more affirmative responses to these questions.

In Harris County, 13.9% of all residents in 2019 were food insecure and in Montgomery County the rate was 12.3%. Of those who reported being food insecure, 70% in Harris County and 48% in Montgomery County were likely eligible for SNAP benefits due to household income at or below 165% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Among Harris County children, 20.1% were food insecure in 2019 and in Montgomery County 15.8% were food insecure.

## **Food Security**

	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Food insecure population, all ages	644,710	70,560	4,092,850
Food insecure rate, all ages	13.9%	12.3%	14.1%
Income eligible for SNAP, all ages, at or < 165% FPL	70%	48%	62%
Food insecure, children	250,600	23,970	1,448,490
Food insecure rate, children	20.1%	15.8%	19.6%
Income eligible for federal programs, children, at or <185% FPL	68%	63%	66%

Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap, based on Current Population Survey data, 2019. https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2019/overall/texas

#### **Educational Attainment**

Educational attainment is a key driver of health. In the service area, 14.7% of adults, ages 25 and older, lack a high school diploma, which is higher than Montgomery County (12.3%), but lower than the state (16.3%) and Harris County (18.6%) rates. 31.2% of area adults have a Bachelor's degree or higher, which is higher than the state (29.9%) but below Harris County (31.5%) and Montgomery (34.5%) County rates.

#### **Education Levels, Population Ages 25 and Older**

	TVH Service Area	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Population ages 25 and older	840,185	2,963,957	373,374	18,131,554
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	7.4%	10.4%	5.1%	8.2%
9th to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma	7.3%	8.2%	7.2%	8.1%

	TVH Service Area	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
High school graduate	23.7%	23.4%	22.8%	25.0%
Some college, no degree	22.6%	19.8%	22.8%	21.6%
Associate's degree	7.9%	6.7%	7.5%	7.2%
Bachelor's degree	21.7%	20.1%	23.0%	19.5%
Graduate/professional degree	9.5%	11.4%	11.5%	10.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP02. http://data.census.gov/,

## **High School Graduation Rates**

High school graduation rates are the percentage of high school students that graduate four years after starting 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The Healthy People 2030 objective for high school graduation is 90.7%. Among area school districts, Aldine ISD (82.2%) and Spring ISD (83.5%) do not meet this objective.

## **High School Graduation Rates**

	Percent
Aldine Independent School District	82.2%
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	93.6%
Katy Independent School District	95.4%
Klein Independent School District	94.1%
Magnolia Independent School District	94.2%
Spring Independent School District	83.5%
Tomball Independent School District	96.4%
Waller Independent School District	96.7%
Harris County	*89.1%
Montgomery County	*95.2%
Texas	*92.8%

Source: Texas Education Agency, Snapshot 2020 (Class of 2019). <a href="https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/snapshot/2020/index.html">https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/perfreport/snapshot/2020/index.html</a> \*County and State rates do not include Districts whose graduation rates were either suppressed or otherwise unavailable.

## **Preschool Enrollment**

40.9% of service area children, ages 3 and 4, were enrolled in preschool, which was lower than Montgomery County (44.2%) and Harris County (43%) rates. The enrollment rates ranged from 15.7% in Jersey Village/Houston 77040 to 100% in Pinehurst (49 children in that age group). The Texas Public Education Information Resource website reports that among children eligible for public preschool, those who attended were more likely to graduate high school than those who did not (<a href="https://www.texaseducationinfo.org/">https://www.texaseducationinfo.org/</a>).

## Enrolled in Preschool, Children, Ages 3 and 4

	ZIP Code	Children, Ages 3 and 4	Percent Enrolled
Cypress	77429	3,050	38.4%
Cypress	77433	3,672	45.1%
Decker Prairie	77355	738	41.7%
Hockley	77447	599	48.2%
Houston	77014	929	33.5%

	ZIP Code	Children, Ages 3 and 4	Percent Enrolled
Houston	77038	1,021	33.4%
Houston	77060	2,053	32.2%
Houston	77064	1,252	52.0%
Houston	77065	811	16.9%
Houston	77066	1,091	59.7%
Houston	77067	1,341	28.9%
Houston	77068	222	21.2%
Houston	77069	390	46.7%
Houston	77070	1,351	42.3%
Houston	77073	1,241	51.7%
Houston	77084	2,847	40.1%
Houston	77086	829	16.3%
Houston	77088	1,687	35.0%
Houston	77090	1,327	30.1%
Houston	77091	783	47.6%
Houston	77095	2,000	52.9%
Jersey Village	77040	1,086	15.7%
Magnolia	77354	975	57.7%
Pinehurst	77362	49	100.0%
Spring	77373	2,007	28.6%
Spring	77379	2,054	51.0%
Spring	77388	1,415	39.4%
Tomball	77375	1,904	53.3%
Tomball	77377	1,006	57.2%
TVH Service Area		39,730	40.9%
Harris County		140,708	43.0%
Montgomery Cou	nty	15,659	44.2%
Texas		823,538	43.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, S1401. http://data.census.gov/

## **Crime and Violence**

Crime negatively impacts communities through economic loss, reduced productivity, and disruption of social services. Violent crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crimes include arson, burglary, larceny theft, and motor vehicle theft.

Violent crime rates increased slightly from 2014 to 2019. The crime rate was higher in Houston (1,086.1 violent crimes per 100,000 persons) and Harris County (723.3 violent crimes per 100,000 persons) than for Montgomery County (197.0 violent crimes per 100,000 persons).

Property crime rates decreased from 2014 to 2019. Rates were higher in Houston (4,402.4 property crimes per 100,000 persons) and Harris County (3,325.8 property

crimes) and lower in Montgomery County (1,365.3 property crimes per 100,000 persons).

Violent Crime and Property Crime Rates, per 100,000 Persons

	Violent Crimes 2014 2019		Property Crimes	
			2014	2019
Houston	996.3	1,086.1	4,769.1	4,402.4
Harris County	717.6	723.3	3,801.2	3,325.8
Montgomery County	178.8	197.0	1,670.3	1,365.3
Texas	406.8	418.9	3,016.6	2,386.3

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigations, Nationwide Crime Counts and Rates, via PolicyMap. https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables

# **Community Input – Violence and Injury**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to violence and injury. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- A lot of people are not paying attention to what they are doing because they are focused on their phones. When they injure themselves, they are embarrassed to seek care.
- People get on disability due to injury and it leads to household stress on finances and mental health concerns. It turns into a cycle where they injure themselves more frequently and it gets worse.
- Violence is a divisive issue. People blame other groups.
- The media disproportionately reports on violence and injury in poor areas due to gangs and gun use but there is crime and violence in other more middle-class areas as well. This creates skewed data and judgements about what is needed to address the issue.

### **Health Care Access**

# **Health Insurance Coverage**

Health insurance coverage is considered a key component to ensure access to health care. 82.9% of the population in the service area has health insurance. Cypress 77429 (92.9%) and Tomball 77377 (92.4%) have the highest health insurance rates, and Houston 77060 (60.3%) and 77091 (67.8%) have the lowest rates of health insurance. The Healthy People 2030 objective is for 92.1% of the population to be covered by health insurance. The service area does not meet this objective, and only two service area ZIP Codes meet it for the general population (Cypress 77429 and Tomball 77377).

89.1% of children, ages 0-18, have health insurance coverage in the service area. Tomball 77377 (96.7%) and Houston 77069 (96.5%) have the highest health insurance rates among children, and Pinehurst (68.7%) and Houston 77060 (79.2%) have the lowest percentage of children with health insurance. Among adults, ages 19-64, 77.6% in the service area have health insurance. Cypress 77429 has the highest insurance rate (90.6%), and Houston 77060 (45.6%) and 77091 (55.1%) have the lowest health insurance rates.

Health Insurance, Total Population, Children, Ages 0-18, and Adults, Ages 19-64

	ZIP Code	Total Population	Children, Ages 0-18	Adults, Ages 19-64
Cypress	77429	92.9%	95.3%	90.6%
Cypress	77433	91.1%	92.9%	89.5%
Decker Prairie	77355	85.5%	88.8%	81.5%
Hockley	77447	81.2%	87.8%	74.9%
Houston	77014	75.1%	84.1%	68.4%
Houston	77038	69.3%	81.8%	59.8%
Houston	77060	60.3%	79.2%	45.6%
Houston	77064	82.7%	86.5%	78.7%
Houston	77065	84.5%	93.1%	78.5%
Houston	77066	76.3%	82.6%	70.6%
Houston	77067	73.7%	86.2%	64.6%
Houston	77068	82.3%	80.5%	79.4%
Houston	77069	90.2%	96.5%	84.2%
Houston	77070	86.6%	91.6%	82.2%
Houston	77073	79.2%	88.4%	72.6%
Houston	77084	80.4%	86.5%	75.4%
Houston	77086	74.2%	86.2%	64.6%
Houston	77088	73.1%	86.4%	62.7%
Houston	77090	79.2%	86.8%	73.5%
Houston	77091	67.8%	83.0%	55.1%
Houston	77095	90.5%	94.4%	87.4%
Jersey Village	77040	79.7%	88.4%	73.7%
Magnolia	77354	86.6%	91.8%	81.9%
Pinehurst	77362	75.4%	68.7%	74.2%

	ZIP Code	Total Population	Children, Ages 0-18	Adults, Ages 19-64
Spring	77373	85.2%	90.0%	80.9%
Spring	77379	90.8%	93.9%	87.5%
Spring	77388	88.5%	92.1%	85.4%
Tomball	77375	85.3%	88.6%	81.4%
Tomball	77377	92.4%	96.7%	89.2%
TVH Service Area		82.9%	89.1%	77.6%
Harris County		79.8%	87.9%	73.3%
Montgomery County		85.9%	90.7%	80.9%
Texas		82.8%	89.2%	76.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, DP03. http://data.census.gov/

When examined by race/ethnicity, there are differences in the rate of health insurance coverage in the service area. In every age group, health insurance coverage is lowest among either those residents who identified as some Other race than the listed races (non-Hispanic White, Asian, Black, AIAN, Hawaiian or Pacific Islander), or among Hispanic residents. It is important to keep in mind, however, that rates for several service area groups are based on small numbers of residents and should be interpreted with caution, particularly Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander residents (representing just 0.1% of the area population), AIAN residents (0.2% of the area population) and those who identified as a race Other than those listed (0.3% of the service area population). The lowest rate of health insurance coverage is seen among those who identify as Other race (71.2%) and Hispanic residents (71.6%). Coverage among service area children is 89.1%. The lowest rates of coverage (82.8%) are seen in children identified as Other race, Hispanic children (84.3%) and AIAN children (88.9%). Among adults, ages 19 to 64, 77.6% have health insurance. The lowest rate is seen among Hispanic adults (62.2%), adults who identify as Other race (63.6%) and AIAN adults (66.1%). The lowest rates of coverage among service area seniors, ages 65 and older, are found among seniors of Other race (89.5%), Hispanic seniors (91.1%), and Multiracial seniors (93.2%). Asian seniors also have a below-average rate of coverage (95.1%).

### Health Insurance, by Race/Ethnicity and Age Group

	Total Population	Children, Under 19	Adults, Ages 19-64	Senior Adults, 65+
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	94.8%	100.0%	90.0%	100.0%
Non-Hispanic White	91.4%	93.1%	88.7%	99.2%
Asian	89.2%	93.0%	86.7%	95.1%
Multiracial	86.1%	93.2%	78.1%	93.2%
Black/African American	85.2%	92.5%	80.2%	98.3%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	75.0%	88.9%	66.1%	100.0%
Hispanic	71.6%	84.3%	62.2%	91.1%
Other race	71.2%	82.8%	63.6%	89.5%
TVH Service Area average	82.9%	89.1%	77.6%	97.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, C27001B - C27001I. http://data.census.gov/

# **Regular Source of Care**

Access to a medical home and a primary care provider improve continuity of care and decrease unnecessary emergency room visits. 33.1% of adults in the service area do not have a usual primary care provider. Rates are lowest in Houston 77069 (24.1%) and Spring 77379 (27.2%) and highest in Houston 77060, where 46.3% of the population has no usual primary care provider.

**No Usual Primary Care Provider** 

	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	28.3%
Cypress	77433	33.1%
Decker Prairie	77355	28.0%
Hockley	77447	30.6%
Houston	77014	37.0%
Houston	77038	43.2%
Houston	77060	46.3%
Houston	77064	34.0%
Houston	77065	31.2%
Houston	77066	34.5%
Houston	77067	39.6%
Houston	77068	28.1%
Houston	77069	24.1%
Houston	77070	30.0%
Houston	77073	40.3%
Houston	77084	34.8%
Houston	77086	41.0%
Houston	77088	35.2%
Houston	77090	35.2%
Houston	77091	33.6%
Houston	77095	30.7%
Jersey Village	77040	35.9%
Magnolia	77354	28.4%
Pinehurst	77362	28.3%
Spring	77373	32.2%
Spring	77379	27.2%
Spring	77388	28.6%
Tomball	77375	30.0%
Tomball	77377	28.0%
TVH Service Area*		33.1%
Harris County		34.9%

	ZIP Code	Percent
Montgomery County		29.3%
Texas		31.8%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates.

#### **Unmet Medical Need**

15.6% of adults in Harris County reported an unmet medical need as a result of not being able to afford care. The rate of unmet need was higher in Texas (16.8%) and the Health Service Region 6 (17.9%). The Healthy People 2030 objective is 3.3% of the population to have an unmet medical need.

#### **Unmet Medical Need Due to Cost, Adults**

	Percent
Harris County	15.6%
Health Service Region 6	17.9%
Texas	16.8%

Source: for Harris County: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2018. via Houston State of Health <a href="http://houstonstateofhealth.com">http://houstonstateofhealth.com</a>

Source for HSR6 and Texas: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Dashboard, 2018. http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/behavioral-risk-factor-surveillance-system

# **Primary Care Physicians**

The ratio of the population to primary care physicians in Harris County was 1,710:1. This equates to fewer primary care physicians per capita than the state rate (1,640:1).

#### **Primary Care Physicians, Number and Ratio**

	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Number of primary care physicians	2,749	353	17,476
Ratio of population to primary care physicians	1,710:1	1,670:1	1,640:1
0 0 11 11 5 11 0010 111 11	1.1		

Source: County Health Rankings, 2018. http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

# **Access to Primary Care Community Health Centers**

Community Health Centers provide primary care (including medical, dental and mental health services) for uninsured and medically underserved populations. Using ZCTA (ZIP Code Tabulation Area) data for the service area and information from the Uniform Data System (UDS)<sup>1</sup>, 31.2% of the population in the service area is low-income (200% of Federal Poverty Level) and 12.1% of the population are living in poverty. There are several Section 330-funded grantees (Federally Qualified Health Centers – FQHCs and FQHC Look-Alikes) located in the service area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The UDS is an annual reporting requirement for grantees of HRSA primary care programs:

<sup>•</sup> Community Health Center, Section 330 (e)

Migrant Health Center, Section 330 (g)

<sup>•</sup> Health Care for the Homeless, Section 330 (h)

Public Housing Primary Care, Section 330 (i)

Even with Section 330 funded Community Health Centers serving the area, there are a number of low-income residents who are not served by one of these clinic providers. The FQHCs have a total of 31,825 patients in the service area, which equates to 7.7% penetration among low-income patients and 2.4% penetration among the total population. From 2018-2020, the Community Health Center providers added 3,764 patients for a 13.4% increase in patients served by Community Health Centers in the service area. However, there remain 381,100 low-income residents, 92.3% of the population at or below 200% FPL, which are not served by an FQHC.

**Low-Income Patients Served and Not Served by FQHCs** 

	Low-Income	Patients served by Section 330 Grantees	Penetration among Low-	Penetration of Total		come Not erved
	Population	In Service Area	Income Patients	Population	Number	Percent
Г	412,925	31,825	7.7%	2.4%	381,100	92.3%

Source: UDS Mapper, 2020, 2015-2019 population numbers. http://www.udsmapper.org

#### **Dental Care**

Among Montgomery County adults, 37.2% did not access dental care in the prior year. In Harris County, 40.9% of adults did not access dental care in the past year. Both service area counties and the state meet the Healthy People 2030 objective (among adults ages 18 and older) of 45% of the population, ages 2 years and older, to have a dental visit within the prior 12 months.

#### Did Not Access Dental Care, Adults, Prior Year

	Crude Rate	
Harris County	40.9%	
Montgomery County	37.2%	
Texas*	42.2%	

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), PLACES Project 2020. 2018 data. <a href="https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb">https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb</a> \*Weighted average of Texas county rates.

The ratio of residents to dentists in Harris County was 1,410:1, which was more dentists per capita than the state rate of 1,680 residents per dentist. Montgomery County had fewer dentists with only one dentist per 2,020 residents.

### **Dentists, Number and Ratio**

	Harris County	<b>Montgomery County</b>	Texas
Number of dentists	3,333	300	17,293
Ratio of population to dentists	1,410:1	2,020:1	1,680:1

Source: County Health Rankings, 2019 http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

#### Mental Health Providers

Mental health providers include psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage and family therapists who meet

certain qualifications and certifications. In Harris County, the ratio of residents to mental health providers was 800:1, as compared to 830 persons per mental health provider in Texas. Montgomery County had a ratio of 1,150 residents per mental health provider.

### **Mental Health Providers, Number and Ratio**

	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Number of mental health providers	5,889	526	35,039
Ratio of population to mental health providers	800:1	1,150:1	830:1

Source: County Health Rankings, 2020. http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

# **Community Input – Access to Health Care**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to access to health care. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- There are a lack of mass transportation options spanning the county.
- Many of our clients lack knowledge or the health literacy to navigate the health system and insurance.
- Many patients lack technology access (smartphones and internet) to make medical appointments or go on line to seek out health information. Everything is on line now and not having access is a definite barrier to managing health.
- There is a language barrier (mostly Spanish) and a lack of bilingual and bicultural providers, especially for mental health issues.
- When people lost their jobs, they lost insurance and coverage for medical care.
- Many low-income individuals have Medicaid, which is not accepted by all providers, especially specialists.
- HCAP is indigent health care program that covers some costs, but people still struggle to pay for rent and food.
- You have to meet very stringent requirements to get health coverage in Texas.
- Health providers can't always spend time to help change medication or discuss issues if a patient's insurance doesn't cover service.
- People tend to seek medical care only when the situation gets very bad.
- Many people do not trust health care providers due to a lack of familiarity and historical issues of discrimination.
- People fall between the cracks if there aren't follow-up attempts to make sure they are taking their medications.
- Many people can't afford prescriptions. They have to make a choice between buying food or medicines.

### **Birth Indicators**

### **Births**

In 2019, the number of births in Harris County was 66,354 and in Montgomery County the number of births was 7,395. The average annual births from 2015 to 2019 was 69,554 births in Harris County and 7,315 births in Montgomery County.

### **Total Births**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Harris County	73,478	72,420	68,422	67,095	66,354
Montgomery County	7,338	7,347	7,139	7,355	7,395
Texas	403,618	398,047	382,050	378,624	377,599

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2015-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html</a>

From 2013 to 2017, births to mothers in the service area averaged 19,002 per year. The highest number of births was to mothers in Houston 77084 (1,579.8 live births per year), Pinehurst saw an average of 67.2 births per year.

Births, by ZIP Code, Five-Year Average

	ZIP Code	Average Annual Live Births
Cypress	77429	1,029.2
Cypress	77433	1,231.0
Decker Prairie	77355	297.0
Hockley	77447	180.8
Houston	77014	597.4
Houston	77038	526.6
Houston	77060	1,056.8
Houston	77064	684.2
Houston	77065	529.8
Houston	77066	466.8
Houston	77067	602.6
Houston	77068	162.8
Houston	77069	202.8
Houston	77070	709.0
Houston	77073	789.6
Houston	77084	1,579.8
Houston	77086	468.2
Houston	77088	865.4
Houston	77090	761.6
Houston	77091	498.2

	ZIP Code	Average Annual Live Births
Houston	77095	869.6
Jersey Village	77040	737.2
Magnolia	77354	448.8
Pinehurst	77362	67.2
Spring	77373	857.0
Spring	77379	873.2
Spring	77388	593.6
Tomball	77375	861.4
Tomball	77377	454.4
TVH Service Area		19,002.0
Harris County		70,760.2
Montgomery County		7,083.0
Texas		393,781.2

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Health Data, Live Births Dashboard, 2013-2017. https://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/births-and-deaths/live-births-2005-2017

The race/ethnicity of mothers in Harris County was Hispanic/Latina (50.6%), White (22.4%), Black/African-American (19.1%), and Asian (6.6%). In Montgomery County was 54.6% of mothers were White, 33.6% Hispanic/Latina, 6.1% Black/African-American, and 4% Asian.

### Births, by Mother's Race/Ethnicity

, <b>,</b>					
	Hispanic/ Latina	White	Black/African American	Asian	Other or Unknown
Harris County	50.6%	22.4%	19.1%	6.6%	1.3%
Montgomery County	33.6%	54.6%	6.1%	4.0%	1.7%
Texas	47.6%	33.0%	12.5%	5.3%	1.6%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data, 2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html</a>

### **Teen Birth Rate**

From 2013 to 2017, teen births to mothers, ages 15 to 19, occurred in Montgomery County at a rate of 63.6 per 1,000 live births (6.4% of total births) and in Harris County the rate was 7.3% of total births. The rates in both counties were lower than the statewide teen birth rate (82.2 per 1,000 live births, or 8.2%). The Healthy People 2030 objective is no more than 31.4 pregnancies per 1,000 teens, ages 15 to 19.

Teen Births, Numbers and Rates, per 1,000 Births, Ages 15-19, Five-Year Average

	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Births to mother ages 14 and younger	68.2	4.6	431.2
Births to mothers ages 15 – 17	1,562.0	116.4	9,740.0

	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Births to mothers ages 18 – 19	3,593.6	334.4	22,622.4
Births to mothers ages 19 and younger	5,223.8	455.4	32,793.6
Rate per 1,000 live births, mothers ages 14 and younger	1.0	0.6	1.1
Rate per 1,000 live births, mothers ages 15 - 17	22.1	16.4	24.7
Rate per 1,000 live births, mothers ages 18 - 19	50.8	47.2	57.4
Rate per 1,000 live births, mothers ages 15 to 19	72.9	63.6	82.2

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Health Data, Live Births Dashboard, 2013-2017. https://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/births-and-deaths/live-births-2005-2017

#### **Prenatal Care**

60.4% of pregnant women in Montgomery County and 60.8% in Harris County entered prenatal care on-time – during the first trimester – where time-of-entry was known.

### First Trimester Prenatal Care, Three-Year Average

	Percent of Births	
Harris County	60.8%	
Montgomery County	60.4%	
Texas	68.9%	

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2017-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html">http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html</a>

# Low Birth Weight

Low birth weight is a negative birth indicator. Babies born at a low birth weight are at higher risk for disease, disability and possibly death. For this measurement, a lower rate is a better indicator. The rate of low-birth-weight babies in Harris County was 9%, and in Montgomery County the rate was 7.6% of births.

### Low Birth Weight (Under 2,500 grams), Three-Year Average

	Percent of Births
Harris County	9.0%
Montgomery County	7.6%
Texas	8.4%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2017-2019, on CDC WONDER. https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html

# **Preterm Births**

Preterm births – those occurring before 37 weeks of gestation – have higher rates of death and disability. 11.5% of births in Harris County were preterm births and between 9.8% and 9.9% of births in Montgomery County (where gestational age was known and recorded) were before 37 weeks of gestation. The exact percentage cannot be determined due to privacy constraints.

### Preterm Births, Babies Born Before 37 Weeks of Gestation

	Percent of Births
Harris County	11.5%
Montgomery County	9.8% to 9.9%
Texas	10.8%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2017-2019, on CDC WONDER. https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html

# **Maternal Smoking During Pregnancy**

Among pregnant women, 96.5% in Montgomery County and 98.9% in Harris County did not smoke during pregnancy. These rates meet the Healthy People 2030 objective of 95.7% of women to abstain from cigarette smoking during pregnancy.

### No Smoking during Pregnancy

	Percent of Births
Harris County	98.9%
Montgomery County	96.5%
Texas	97.3%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2016-2018, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-current.html</a>

# **Infant Mortality**

For the purposes of this report, the infant mortality rate is defined as deaths to infants under 1 year of age. The infant mortality rate in Harris County, from 2016 to 2018, was 6.10 deaths per 1,000 live births and in Montgomery County it was 5.27 deaths per 1,000 live births. These rates do not meet the Healthy People 2030 objective of 5.0 deaths per 1,000 live births.

### Infant Mortality Rate, Three-Year Average

	Deaths per 1,000 Births
Harris County	6.10
Montgomery County	5.27
Texas	5.69

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Linked Birth/Infant Death Records, 2016-2018, on CDC WONDER. https://wonder.cdc.gov/lbd-current.html

### **Breastfeeding Initiation**

Breastfeeding has been proven to have considerable benefits to baby and mother. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that babies are fed only breast milk for the first six months of life. According to data from birth certificates, 90% of infants in Harris County and 90.5% in Montgomery County were breastfed at some point prior to discharge from the hospital. These breastfeeding rates are higher than the state rate (88.2%).

Infants Breastfed at Some Point Prior to Discharge

	Percent of Births
Harris County	90.0%
Montgomery County	90.5%
Texas	88.2%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data 2017-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html">http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html</a>

# **Community Input - Birth Indicators**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to birth indicators. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- Pregnant women in certain communities are not aware or haven't been told by social service or medical providers that they can receive low cost or free prenatal services once they are signed up for insurance.
- Women who have not come for regular prenatal visits to a single provider will go to an ER to deliver. Sometimes that's the first visit they have made to a medical provider since becoming pregnant.
- Many of the local pregnancy care centers have religious affiliations so people will not go there because they feel judged.
- Many providers do not accept CHIP insurance, which many families qualify for.
- Many of our clients are the housekeepers and caregivers of the more affluent residents of the county. Their own providers are farther away and many times the clients don't go for care because they don't/can't take time off from work for fear of losing income.

# **Mortality/Leading Causes of Death**

# Life Expectancy at Birth

The life expectancy at birth in Montgomery County was 79.7 years and for Harris County it was 79.9 years.

Life Expectancy at Birth

	Number of Years
Harris County	79.9
Montgomery County	79.7
Texas	79.2

Source: County Health Rankings, 2021. Years of Data: 2017-2019. http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

While the life expectancy at birth for residents of Harris County was 79.9 years, it varied by race/ethnicity. The group with the highest expected life expectancy was American Indians/Alaskan Natives, at 103.1 years. While this estimate was based on a small population size, even the lower edge of the confidence interval for their data places them at 89.4 years of expected life. In comparison, Black/African-American residents had a life expectancy at birth of 74.8 years, and the life expectancy of White residents was 79.2 years.

Life Expectancy at Birth, Harris County, by Race/Ethnicity

	Number of Years
American Indian/Alaska Native	103.1
Asian	87.5
Hispanic	84.3
White	79.2
Black	74.8
Total Population	79.9

Source: County Health Rankings 2021, Data from years 2017-2019, via Houston State of Health http://houstonstateofhealth.com

### **Mortality Rates**

Age-adjusted death rates are an important factor to examine when comparing mortality data. The crude death rate is a ratio of the number of deaths to the entire population. Age-adjusted death rates eliminate the bias of age in the makeup of the populations. The age-adjusted death rate in Harris County was 686 deaths annually per 100,000 persons. In Montgomery County it was 705.6 deaths per 100,000 persons.

Mortality Rates, per 100,000 Persons, Three-Year Average

	Deaths	Crude Rate	Age-Adjusted Rate	
Harris County	26,901.0	573.8	686.0	

	Deaths	Crude Rate	Age-Adjusted Rate	
Montgomery County	3,986.3	675.9	705.6	
Texas	201,226.3	701.9	728.2	

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Mortality public-use data 2017-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html</a>

# **Leading Causes of Death**

The top two leading causes of death in Harris County and Montgomery County were heart disease and cancer. The age-adjusted heart disease mortality rate in Harris County was 156.4 deaths per 100,000 persons and in Montgomery County it was 168.8 deaths per 100,000 persons. The Healthy People 2030 objective is specific to ischemic heart disease only: 71.1 deaths per 100,000 persons. The Montgomery County rate of ischemic heart disease (77.6 deaths from ischemic heart disease per 100,000 persons) was lower than Harris County (85.3 deaths from ischemic heart disease per 100,000 persons).

The cancer death rate in Harris County was 137.8 per 100,000 persons, which was lower than Montgomery County (141 deaths per 100,000 persons). These rates do not meet the Healthy People 2030 objective for cancer mortality of 122.7 deaths per 100,000 persons.

In addition to heart disease and cancer, stroke and unintentional injury are among the top five causes of death in both counties, with Alzheimer's disease in the top five causes of death in Harris County and Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease in the top five for Montgomery County. In Harris County, the causes of death, which are known to exceed state rates are septicemia (18.9 deaths per 100,000 persons), kidney disease (17.8 deaths per 100,000 persons), and homicide (8.5 per 100,000 persons). For Montgomery County, the causes of death, which are known to exceed state rates are deaths due to Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (44.7 deaths per 100,000 persons) and suicide (16.2 deaths per 100,000 persons).

Mortality, Age-Adjusted Rates, per 100,000 Persons, Three-Year Average

	Harris C	ounty	Montgome	ery County	Texas	
	Number	Age- Adjusted	Number	Age- Adjusted	Number	Age- Adjusted
All causes	26,901.0	686.0	3,986.3	705.6	201,226.3	728.2
Heart disease	5,986.7	156.4	941.3	168.8	46,082.7	167.5
Ischemic heart disease	3,309.3	85.3	448.0	77.6	25,823.0	93.0
All Cancers	5,609.0	137.8	858.7	141.0	41,007.7	143.5
Stroke	1,497.0	40.6	200.0	37.6	10,802.3	40.2
Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	1,024.7	28.1	251.0	44.7	10,737.7	39.6

	Harris C	county	Montgome	ery County	Texas	
	Number	Age- Adjusted	Number	Age- Adjusted	Number	Age- Adjusted
Unintentional injury	1,725.7	39.2	233.0	40.0	10,931.0	38.7
Alzheimer's disease	1,018.0	30.9	166.3	33.9	9,803.0	38.5
Diabetes	826.7	20.4	80.0	13.3	6,237.3	22.0
Kidney disease	686.3	17.8	79.0	14.2	4,316.7	15.7
Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	496.0	10.9	69.0	10.7	4,206.7	14.1
Septicemia	730.3	18.9	85.3	15.3	3,901.3	14.1
Suicide	493.7	10.6	95.0	16.2	3,866.3	13.5
Pneumonia and flu	453.0	12.1	55.3	9.9	3,209.3	11.8
Parkinson's disease	256.7	7.6	51.7	10.2	2,452.3	9.6
Essential hypertension & hypertensive renal disease	334.7	9.1	38.3	7.3	2,356.7	8.7
Homicide	408.0	8.5	24.3	4.3	1,634.7	5.7

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Mortality public-use data 2017-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html</a>

# **Cancer Mortality**

The age-adjusted death rate for female breast cancer in Harris County was 21.3 per 100,000 women and the rate for prostate cancer deaths was 19.1 per 100,000 men. The rate of death for female breast cancer in Montgomery County was 18.1 per 100,000 women. The Montgomery County prostate cancer death rate was 15.8 per 100,000 men.

Cancer, Crude and Age-Adjusted Death Rates, per 100,000 Persons

	Fem	ale Breast Ca	ncer	Prostate Cancer			
	Number	Crude Rate	Age- Adjusted	Number	Crude Rate	Age- Adjusted	
Harris County	2,287	19.8	21.3	1,342	11.7	19.1	
Montgomery County	269	19.2	18.1	160	11.6	15.8	
Texas	14,585	20.8	19.7	9,214	13.3	17.5	

Source: Texas State Department of Health, Texas State Cancer Registry, 2014-2018. https://www.cancer-rates.info/tx/

The age-adjusted rate of colorectal cancer deaths in Harris County was 13.7 per 100,000 persons and in Montgomery County it was 13 deaths per 100,000 persons. The rate of lung cancer mortality in Montgomery County was 37.7 per 100,000 persons, and in Harris County the lung cancer death rate was 31.2 deaths per 100,000 persons.

Cancer, Crude and Age-Adjusted Death Rates, per 100,000 Persons

,	Co	lorectal Cand	er	Lung Cancer			
	Number	Crude Rate	Age- Adjusted	Number	Crude Rate	Age- Adjusted	
Harris County	2,656	11.5	13.7	5,805	25.2	31.2	
Montgomery County	356	12.8	13.0	1,071	38.6	37.7	
Texas	18,758	13.4	13.9	45,514	32.6	34.0	

Source: Texas State Department of Health, Texas State Cancer Registry, 2014-2018. https://www.cancer-rates.info/tx/

# **Drug Overdose Deaths**

Rates of death by drug overdose, whether unintentional, suicide, homicide, or undetermined intent, have been rising in Harris County since 2014, and drug overdose deaths in that county have been higher than the statewide rate for most of the previous decade. The low overall number of overdose deaths in Montgomery County make the annual rate highly variable. However, a three-year average rate shows a drug overdose rate of 14.4 deaths per 100,000 persons. Both area counties meet the Healthy People 2030 objective of 20.7 drug overdose deaths per 100,000 persons.

Drug Overdose Deaths, Age-Adjusted Rates, per 100,000 Persons

County	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2017-2019 Averaged
Harris	11.0	9.2	8.6	9.8	8.9	9.9	11.2	11.2	12.4	12.8	12.1
Montgomery	8.3	9.7	9.1	10.0	8.4	10.9	11.4	16.7	11.6	15.1	14.4
Texas	9.6	10.1	9.4	9.3	9.7	9.4	10.1	10.5	10.4	10.8	10.6

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Mortality public-use data 2009-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html</a>

Opioid deaths include those from heroin, methadone, fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, and oxycodone and other natural or semi-synthetic opioids. The rate of opioid drug overdoses in Montgomery County was 8.5 per 100,000 persons. The rate of opioid drug overdoses in Harris County was 6.3 per 100,000 persons. These rates meet the Healthy People 2030 objective of 13.1 deaths from opioids per 100,000 persons.

Fatal Opioid Overdoses, Age-Adjusted Rates, per 100,000 Persons, Three-Year Average

	Number	Rate
Harris County	300.3	6.3
Montgomery County	51.3	8.5
Texas	1,452.3	5.0

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Multiple Cause Death public-use data 2017-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd.html</a>

From 2015 through 2019 combined, Whites had the highest rates of drug overdose deaths (14.7 deaths per 100,000 persons), followed by Blacks (11.5 deaths per 100,000 deaths), and American Natives (8.3 deaths per 100,000 deaths). Asians had the lowest rate of drug overdose deaths (1.9 deaths per 100,000 persons).

Drug Overdose Deaths, Age-Adjusted Rates, per 100,000 Texas Residents, by Race and Ethnicity

	Number, 5 Years Combined	Rate
Asian, non-Hispanic	149	1.9
Hispanic	3,174	6.0
American Indian/Alaskan Native	44	8.3
Black, non-Hispanic	2,023	11.5
White, non-Hispanic	9,087	14.7
Texas, all races	14,549	10.3

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Mortality public-use data 2015-2019, on CDC WONDER. <a href="https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html">https://wonder.cdc.gov/Deaths-by-Underlying-Cause.html</a>

### COVID-19

In Harris County, there have been 570,129 confirmed cases of COVID-19 reported as of 10/19/21. This represents a rate of 12,050.6 cases per 100,000 persons. In Montgomery County, there have been 87,034 confirmed cases of COVID-19 reported as of 10/19/21. This represents a rate of 14,027.7 cases per 100,000 persons. As of the same date, according to the Texas Department of State Health, 8,881 persons have died in Harris County due to COVID-19 complications, a rate of 187.7 deaths per 100,000 persons, and in Montgomery County, 1,027 people have died for a COVID death rate of 165.5 deaths per 100,000 persons.

COVID-19, Cases and Crude Death Rates, per 100,000 Persons, as of 10/19/21

	Harris	County	Montgome	ry County	Texas	
	Number	Rate *	Number	Rate *	Number	Rate *
Confirmed or probable cases	570,129	12,050.6	87,034	14,027.7	4,172,288	14,315.4
Confirmed or probable deaths	8,881	187.7	1,027	165.5	68,043	233.5

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Updated October 19, 2021\*Calculated based on 2020 U.S. Census data. <a href="https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/">https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/</a>

The number of total confirmed COVID-19 cases reported by Harris County and Montgomery County Public Health Departments as of a given date varies from the number reported by the Texas Department of Health and Human Services due to timing issues related to reporting and case updates.

The discrepancies in the number of deaths in each county reported by the state's website versus those reported by the county' website (the number reported at the state level is higher) is due to a difference in how that data are compiled. The state data are an automated count utilizing death certificates, and may include 'probable' as well as confirmed COVID-19 cases, whereas those reported at the county level are only included after review and confirmation utilizing death certificates, physicians' notes and/or medical examiner's reports."

The highest rate of infection in the service area was in Magnolia, with 15,980.4 infections per 100,000 persons. The highest rate of death from COVID was in Houston 77091, with 225.3 deaths per 100,000 persons.

COVID-19, Cases and Crude Death Rates, per 100,000 Persons, as of 10/19/21

·	710.0-4-	Total Reported Cases		Deaths	
	ZIP Code	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Cypress	77429	9,235	10,453.5	36	40.7
Cypress	77433	10,735	13,050.6	44	53.5
Decker Prairie	77355	3,540	**12,089.8	22	**75.1

	ZID Code	Total Report	ed Cases	Dea	ths
	ZIP Code	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Hockley	77447	1,823	11,978.4	5	32.9
Houston	77014	3,630	9,957.5	53	145.4
Houston	77038	4,297	13,700.0	46	146.7
Houston	77060	5,588	12,465.4	61	136.1
Houston	77064	5,560	11,166.9	64	128.5
Houston	77065	3,758	9,821.0	16	41.8
Houston	77066	3,830	10,435.1	21	57.2
Houston	77067	3,728	10,782.4	31	89.7
Houston	77068	1,178	10,717.9	10	91.0
Houston	77069	1,794	9,633.8	14	75.2
Houston	77070	5,740	10,781.6	37	69.5
Houston	77073	6,059	14,514.3	31	74.3
Houston	77084	13,933	12,936.9	60	55.7
Houston	77086	3,995	13,691.8	25	85.7
Houston	77088	7,467	13,099.3	107	187.7
Houston	77090	4,810	12,214.0	48	21.9
Houston	77091	3,991	14,738.9	61	225.3
Houston	77095	7,779	10,822.5	61	84.9
Jersey Village	77040	5,741	11,888.6	62	128.4
Magnolia	77354	5,922	**15,980.4	25	**67.5
Pinehurst	77362	954	**14,825.2	6	**93.2
Spring	77373	7,717	13,059.1	55	93.1
Spring	77379	9,012	11,267.0	31	38.8
Spring	77388	5,825	11,770.8	19	38.4
Tomball	77375	7,413	14,043.8	65	123.1
Tomball	77377	4,056	10,957.4	29	78.3
	TVH Service Area		11,955.1	1,145	86.0
Harris County +	- Houston	570,517	10,221.9	6,011	107.7
Montgomery Co	ounty*	87,132	15,234.2	449	78.5

Source: Harris County Public Health, Updated October 19, 2021. https://covid-harriscounty.hub.arcgis.com/

The percent of Harris County residents, ages 12 and older, who received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine is 77.3%, and 91.1% of the population, ages 65 and older, have received at least one vaccine dose. In Montgomery County, 68.1% of residents, ages 12 and older, and 87.4% of the population, ages 65 and older, have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

<sup>\*</sup>Source: Montgomery County Public Health District, Updated October 19, 2021. <a href="https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/">https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/</a>\*\*Rates calculated using 2015-2019 ACS Population Estimates.

COVID-19 Vaccinations, Partial and Full, Ages 12 and Older and Seniors, as of 10/19/21

	Harris County		Montgomery County		Texas	
	Partially Vaccinated	Completed	Partially Vaccinated	Completed	Partially Vaccinated	Completed
Population 12 and older	10.5%	66.8%	9.3%	58.8%	9.7%	63.3%
Population 65 and older	9.2%	81.9%	8.9%	78.5%	8.5%	80.1%

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vaccine Dashboard. Updated October 19, 2021. https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/

While the percent of those vaccinated who were simply marked 'Other' (15.9% of all vaccinated, despite representing only 2% of the county population) or 'Unknown' (4.4% of all vaccinated) was a confounding factor, it appeared that Black/African American residents were underrepresented in the vaccinated population of Harris County.

Harris County Vaccinations for COVID-19, by Race, as of 10/19/21

	Percent of Population*	Percent of People Vaccinated**
Hispanic or Latino	42.9%	45.8%
White	29.6%	30.6%
Black/African American	18.6%	14.2%
Asian	6.9%	9.5%

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vaccine Dashboard. Updated October 6, 2021. \*per ACS 2015-2019 data. \*\*Where ethnicity of the vaccinated was known/recorded. <a href="https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/">https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/</a>

As with Harris County, many of the vaccinated in Montgomery County were marked 'Other' (17.3% of all vaccinated, despite representing only 2.2% of the county population) or 'Unknown' (4.4% of all vaccinated). Despite this, it appears that White residents of Montgomery County were underrepresented among the vaccinated population.

Montgomery County Vaccinations for COVID-19, by Race, 10/19/21

	Percent of Population*	Percent of People Vaccinated**
White	66.0%	61.5%
Hispanic or Latino	24.1%	28.8%
Black/African American	4.8%	5.3%
Asian	2.9%	4.4%

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vaccine Dashboard. Updated October 6, 2021. \*Per ACS 2015-2019 data. \*\*Where ethnicity of the vaccinated was known/recorded. <a href="https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/">https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/</a>

# Community Input – COVID-19

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to COVID-19. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- A lot of misinformation was out in the community about the vaccine and its effectiveness.
- County health and the National Guard teamed up to set up vaccine clinics.
- There was a lot of fear from essential workers about passing COVID to their families.

- We had to pivot to provide services for immediate needs like rent support, utilities, and food.
- Different communities and ethnic groups had different opinions and barriers to COVID precautions and that took a lot of time to overcome.

# **Chronic Disease**

### Diabetes

11.2% of service area adults have been diagnosed with diabetes by a health professional. Rates of diabetes among adults were lowest in Cypress 77433 (9.1%) and highest in Houston 77091 (16.2%).

**Diabetes Diagnoses, Adults** 

nabotoo Biagilooco, /	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	9.7%
Cypress	77433	9.1%
Decker Prairie	77355	11.0%
Hockley	77447	11.3%
Houston	77014	12.0%
Houston	77038	12.1%
Houston	77060	11.1%
Houston	77064	11.2%
Houston	77065	10.4%
Houston	77066	12.2%
Houston	77067	11.8%
Houston	77068	12.5%
Houston	77069	12.3%
Houston	77070	10.0%
Houston	77073	10.3%
Houston	77084	10.3%
Houston	77086	12.5%
Houston	77088	15.1%
Houston	77090	9.9%
Houston	77091	16.2%
Houston	77095	10.1%
Jersey Village	77040	11.7%
Magnolia	77354	10.6%
Pinehurst	77362	11.1%
Spring	77373	10.3%
Spring	77379	10.6%
Spring	77388	11.1%
Tomball	77375	9.7%
Tomball	77377	10.0%
TVH Service Area*		11.2%
Harris County		11.7%

	ZIP Code	Percent
Montgomery County		10.8%
Texas		12.6%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

### **Heart Disease and Stroke**

3.3% of service area adults report being told by a health professional they have heart disease and 2.7% of service area adults reported being told by a health professional they have had a stroke. The rate of heart disease diagnosis was highest in Houston 77069 (5%) and lowest in Houston 77073 (2.3%). The prevalence of stroke diagnoses was highest in Houston 77091 (4.7%) and lowest in Cypress 77433 (2.1%).

### Heart Disease and Stroke Prevalence, Adults

	ZIP Code	Heart Disease	Stroke
Cypress	77429	3.2%	2.4%
Cypress	77433	2.5%	2.1%
Decker Prairie	77355	4.3%	3.2%
Hockley	77447	4.0%	3.0%
Houston	77014	2.5%	2.7%
Houston	77038	2.6%	2.5%
Houston	77060	2.5%	2.6%
Houston	77064	3.0%	2.4%
Houston	77065	3.2%	2.5%
Houston	77066	3.1%	2.6%
Houston	77067	2.4%	2.6%
Houston	77068	4.2%	3.0%
Houston	77069	5.0%	3.3%
Houston	77070	3.4%	2.5%
Houston	77073	2.3%	2.3%
Houston	77084	2.7%	2.2%
Houston	77086	2.7%	2.7%
Houston	77088	3.6%	3.8%
Houston	77090	2.7%	2.4%
Houston	77091	4.1%	4.7%
Houston	77095	3.0%	2.3%
Jersey Village	77040	3.4%	2.7%
Magnolia	77354	4.1%	3.1%
Pinehurst	77362	4.3%	3.3%
Spring	77373	3.1%	2.5%
Spring	77379	3.6%	2.6%

	ZIP Code	Heart Disease	Stroke
Spring	77388	3.7%	2.7%
Tomball	77375	3.4%	2.5%
Tomball	77377	3.5%	2.5%
TVH Service Area*		3.3%	2.7%
Harris County		3.4%	2.9%
Montgomery County		4.2%	3.2%
Texas		3.8%	3.7%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

5.4% of service area adults reported having been diagnosed with angina or coronary heart disease, or a heart attack (Myocardial Infarction). Rates were lowest in Houston 77073 (4.1%), and highest in Houston 77069 (7.6%).

# **Heart Disease or Heart Attack, Adults**

	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	5.2%
Cypress	77433	4.3%
Decker Prairie	77355	6.9%
Hockley	77447	6.5%
Houston	77014	4.5%
Houston	77038	4.9%
Houston	77060	4.7%
Houston	77064	5.0%
Houston	77065	5.2%
Houston	77066	5.3%
Houston	77067	4.4%
Houston	77068	6.5%
Houston	77069	7.6%
Houston	77070	5.4%
Houston	77073	4.1%
Houston	77084	4.6%
Houston	77086	5.0%
Houston	77088	6.3%
Houston	77090	4.5%
Houston	77091	7.0%
Houston	77095	4.9%
Jersey Village	77040	5.7%
Magnolia	77354	6.5%
Pinehurst	77362	7.0%

	ZIP Code	Percent
Spring	77373	5.0%
Spring	77379	5.7%
Spring	77388	6.0%
Tomball	77375	5.5%
Tomball	77377	5.6%
TVH Service Area*		5.4%
Harris County		5.7%
Montgomery County		6.7%
Texas		6.7%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

# **High Blood Pressure and High Cholesterol**

Co-morbidity factors for diabetes and heart disease are high blood pressure (hypertension) and high blood cholesterol. The percent of adults who reported being diagnosed with high blood pressure in the service area was 31.2% and with high cholesterol was 28.6%. Rates of high BP diagnosis were highest in Houston 77091 (40.5%) and lowest in Cypress 77433 (27.2%). Rates of high cholesterol diagnosis were highest in Houston 77069 (34.8%) and lowest in Houston 77060 and 77073 (24.3%).

High Blood Pressure and High Cholesterol, Adults

	ZIP Code	Hypertension	High Cholesterol
Cypress	77429	29.5%	29.5%
Cypress	77433	27.2%	26.3%
Decker Prairie	77355	32.5%	32.5%
Hockley	77447	32.1%	31.1%
Houston	77014	32.2%	25.8%
Houston	77038	29.3%	26.1%
Houston	77060	27.7%	24.3%
Houston	77064	29.4%	28.2%
Houston	77065	29.8%	28.4%
Houston	77066	31.5%	28.5%
Houston	77067	30.9%	25.2%
Houston	77068	35.2%	32.4%
Houston	77069	36.6%	34.8%
Houston	77070	29.9%	29.0%
Houston	77073	28.5%	24.3%
Houston	77084	28.2%	27.1%
Houston	77086	30.8%	26.8%
Houston	77088	37.8%	29.8%

	ZIP Code	Hypertension	High Cholesterol
Houston	77090	30.2%	24.9%
Houston	77091	40.5%	30.5%
Houston	77095	29.2%	28.4%
Jersey Village	77040	30.8%	29.0%
Magnolia	77354	31.6%	31.7%
Pinehurst	77362	32.6%	32.5%
Spring	77373	30.1%	27.9%
Spring	77379	31.3%	31.1%
Spring	77388	31.9%	31.0%
Tomball	77375	29.3%	28.4%
Tomball	77377	30.1%	30.2%
TVH Service Area*		31.2%	28.6%
Harris County		31.2%	28.6%
Montgomery County	1	31.7%	31.4%
Texas		32.5%	34.0%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2017 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates.

### Cancer

In Harris County, the age-adjusted rate of cancer incidence was 392.8 per 100,000 persons and in Montgomery County it was 396.5 per 100,000 persons. These rates were s below the state cancer diagnoses rate of 410.7 per 100,000 persons. Harris County has higher rates of prostate, cervix, stomach and esophageal cancer than the state. Montgomery County has higher rates of lung/bronchus, urinary bladder, melanoma, and esophageal cancer than the state.

### Cancer Incidence, Age Adjusted Rates, per 100,000 Persons

	Harris County	<b>Montgomery County</b>	Texas
All sites	392.8	396.5	410.7
Breast (female)	111.0	106.5	114.1
Prostate	102.0	89.1	97.5
Lung and Bronchus	45.3	56.3	49.4
Colon and Rectum	37.1	33.0	37.8
Urinary Bladder	13.2	16.7	14.9
Leukemia	12.8	13.7	14.2
Melanoma of the skin	10.8	21.9	13.4
Cervix	10.3	9.3	9.3
Stomach	7.5	5.3	6.6
Esophagus	4.0	4.9	3.5

Source: Texas State Department of Health, Texas State Cancer Registry, 2014-2018. https://www.cancer-rates.info/tx/

### **Asthma**

In the service area, 8.7% of adults have been diagnosed with asthma. The percent of

adults in the service area diagnosed with asthma ranged from 8.1% in Houston 77064 and 77084 to 10.6% in Houston 77091.

# **Asthma Prevalence, Adults**

	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	8.4%
Cypress	77433	8.3%
Decker Prairie	77355	8.5%
Hockley	77447	8.5%
Houston	77014	9.4%
Houston	77038	8.6%
Houston	77060	9.0%
Houston	77064	8.1%
Houston	77065	8.3%
Houston	77066	8.3%
Houston	77067	9.3%
Houston	77068	8.4%
Houston	77069	8.4%
Houston	77070	8.2%
Houston	77073	8.9%
Houston	77084	8.1%
Houston	77086	8.8%
Houston	77088	9.9%
Houston	77090	9.3%
Houston	77091	10.6%
Houston	77095	8.4%
Jersey Village	77040	8.4%
Magnolia	77354	8.4%
Pinehurst	77362	8.5%
Spring	77373	8.7%
Spring	77379	8.3%
Spring	77388	8.5%
Tomball	77375	8.3%
Tomball	77377	8.3%
TVH Service Area*		8.7%
Harris County		8.7%
Montgomery County		8.4%
Texas		7.4%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

Asthma hospitalization in children, under age 18, occurred at a rate of 8.4 hospitalizations per 10,000 children in HSR 6. This rate was lower than the state rate of 10.9 hospitalizations per 10,000 children.

Asthma Hospitalizations, Age-Adjusted Rates, per 10,000 Children, Ages 0 to 17

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Number	Rate
Health Service Region 6	1,469	8.4
Texas	7,736	10.9

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, 2016 Child Asthma Fact Sheet, March 2016. https://www.dshs.texas.gov/asthma/data.aspx

#### **Tuberculosis**

The rate of TB was 5.6 per 100,000 persons in Harris County and the rate of TB in Montgomery County 1.8 per 100,000 persons. TB shows a declining rate over the past years, 2015-2019.

# Tuberculosis, Numbers and Crude Rates, per 100,000 Persons

	201	15	201	16	201	17	201	8	20	19
	No.	Rate								
Harris County	320	7.0	277	6.0	272	5.8	274	5.9	264	5.6
Montgomery County	9	1.7	13	2.3	12	2.1	5	0.8	11	1.8
Texas	1,334	4.9	1,250	4.5	1,127	4.0	1,129	3.9	1,159	4.0

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, TB Surveillance Report, 2019. https://www.dshs.texas.gov/idcu/disease/tb/statistics/

### Disability

In the service area, 9.3% of the non-institutionalized civilian population identified as having a disability.

#### **Disability, Five-Year Average**

	Percent
TVH Service Area	9.3%
Harris County	9.2%
Montgomery County	9.9%
Texas	11.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019, S1810. http://data.census.gov

# **Community Input - Chronic Disease**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to chronic disease. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- There is a lack of health literacy on how to manage chronic disease, especially in monolingual Hispanic populations.
- The high cost of medication leads to rationing of pills or stopping treatment early, which leads to ongoing disease.

- Diabetes and its co-morbidities are on the rise among all populations.
- COVID exacerbated respiratory illnesses. We are seeing the long-term cumulative effects of asthma, pollution, and exposure to pollutants.
- Better health education is needed around food choices and how it impacts disease management.
- Different cultures have varying beliefs about how and when to address chronic diseases and providers need to understand how to adjust their care plans accordingly.
- Many people don't take the time to focus on preventive care.
- More needs to be done to coordinate with medical providers and social services to help patients address lifestyle issues related to chronic disease.

### **Health Behaviors**

# **Health Behaviors Ranking**

The County Health Ranking examines healthy behaviors and ranks counties according to health behavior data. Texas has 254 counties, 243 of which are ranked from 1 (healthiest) to 243 (least healthy) based on indicators that include: adult smoking, obesity, physical inactivity, excessive drinking, sexually transmitted infections, and others. A ranking of 15 for Harris County and 13 for Montgomery County puts them in the top 10% of Texas counties for healthy behaviors.

### **Health Behaviors Ranking**

	County Ranking (out of 243)
Harris County	15
Montgomery County	13

Source: County Health Rankings, 2021. http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

# **Overweight and Obesity**

Over a third of adults in the service area (35.3%) were obese and another third (32.8%) were overweight. Rates of obesity in service area cities ranged from 32.7% in Houston 77070 to 41.6% in Houston 77091. Combined rates of overweight and obesity were lowest in Houston 77070 (65.8%) and highest in Houston 77091 (72.4%).

Overweight and Obesity, Adults

	ZIP Code	**Overweight	Obese	Combined
Cypress	77429	33.1%	33.8%	66.9%
Cypress	77433	32.8%	34.7%	67.5%
Decker Prairie	77355	33.0%	35.9%	68.9%
Hockley	77447	33.2%	35.9%	69.1%
Houston	77014	31.6%	38.3%	69.9%
Houston	77038	32.9%	37.7%	70.6%
Houston	77060	32.2%	38.4%	70.6%
Houston	77064	33.1%	33.6%	66.7%
Houston	77065	32.9%	33.1%	66.0%
Houston	77066	33.1%	34.9%	68.0%
Houston	77067	32.0%	38.6%	70.6%
Houston	77068	33.8%	34.3%	68.1%
Houston	77069	33.8%	33.0%	66.8%
Houston	77070	33.1%	32.7%	65.8%
Houston	77073	32.2%	38.1%	70.3%
Houston	77084	33.0%	34.4%	67.4%
Houston	77086	32.5%	38.0%	70.5%

	ZIP Code	**Overweight	Obese	Combined
Houston	77088	31.6%	40.5%	72.1%
Houston	77090	31.7%	36.5%	68.2%
Houston	77091	30.8%	41.6%	72.4%
Houston	77095	32.9%	33.7%	66.6%
Jersey Village	77040	33.1%	35.5%	68.6%
Magnolia	77354	33.0%	35.7%	68.7%
Pinehurst	77362	33.1%	35.9%	69.0%
Spring	77373	32.5%	36.0%	68.5%
Spring	77379	33.4%	33.1%	66.5%
Spring	77388	33.2%	34.3%	67.5%
Tomball	77375	33.0%	33.1%	66.1%
Tomball	77377	33.4%	33.4%	66.8%
TVH Service Area*		32.8%	35.3%	68.1%
Harris County		32.6%	35.5%	68.1%
Montgomery County	,	33.1%	35.1%	68.2%
Texas		34.7%	34.8%	69.5%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates. \*\*Calculated by subtracting percentage of those with BMI of 30 or more from the percentage of total population with a BMI over 24.9.

34.7% of Texas high school students and 38.3% in Houston were overweight (85<sup>th</sup> percentile or above for BMI by age and sex, but below the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile) or obese (95<sup>th</sup> percentile or above for BMI by age and sex).

Overweight and Obesity, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Overweight	Obese	Combined
Houston	18.8%	19.5%	38.3%
Texas	17.8%	16.9%	34.7%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

### Youth Body Dysmorphia and Dieting

33.1% of students surveyed in the *Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey* described themselves as slightly or very overweight – less than the percentage who were classified as overweight or obese (34.7%). This apparent lack of self-awareness varied by gender, with 30.1% of boys viewing themselves as overweight when 34.8% were actually overweight or obese. Among females, 36.2% viewed themselves as overweight while only 34.6% of them were classified as overweight or obese. Black students were most likely to underestimate their rates of overweight: 27.5% of Black students said they were overweight versus 37.6% being classified as overweight or obese.

Despite only 33.1% of students describing themselves as overweight, and 34.7% of the total surveyed population being classified as overweight or obese, 51.3% of students described themselves as currently trying to lose weight. Girls were more likely to describe themselves as trying to lose weight (61%), despite only 34.6% being actually classified as overweight or obese and only 36.2% describing themselves as overweight. 41.8% of boys said they were trying to lose weight, despite only 34.8% of them being classified as overweight or obese and only 30.1% describing themselves as overweight. This dieting despite not being overweight or obese – and not describing themselves as either slightly or very overweight – was most common among non-White, non-Black, non-Hispanic students, 53.9% of whom were trying to lose weight despite only 31.2% being classified as overweight or obese.

Describes Self as Overweight, and Trying to Lose Weight, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Describe Self as Overweight	Combined Overweight & Obese (see above chart)	Trying to Lose Weight
Texas	33.1%	34.7%	51.3%

Source: Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. <a href="http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/youth-risk-behavior-survey">http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/youth-risk-behavior-survey</a>

# **Community Input – Overweight and Obesity**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to overweight and obesity. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- Overweight and obesity is a growing epidemic, especially among youth.
- The type of food that is cheap and most easily available in Montgomery County is usually fried and fast food.
- Many working poor live in neighborhoods where they shop at small mom and pop stores or gas station mini markets. They don't feel safe crossing the highway to the other side of town where the larger grocery stores are.
- There are no large grocery stores on the east side of town (Conroe).
- Overweight and obesity is tied to chronic disease and unhealthy eating habits.
- Comorbidities exacerbate chronic disease conditions creating a vicious circle.
- There are definite food deserts/food swamps that contribute to the lack of healthy
  foods in Montgomery County. Many people lack nutrition knowledge (how to cook,
  what to choose when shopping and how to incorporate other good habits). There are
  very few or no classes that teach this information.
- There is a lack of regular exercise and physical activity.
- Although food pantries meet a great need, sometimes the food there is not healthy.

### **Physical Activity**

The CDC recommendation for adult physical activity is 30 minutes of moderate activity

five times a week or 20 minutes of vigorous activity three times a week, and strength training exercises that work all major muscle groups at least 2 times per week. In the service area, 83.7% of adults did not meet these recommendations,

Physical Activity Recommendations Not Met, Adults

	ZIP Code	Percent	
Cypress	77429	82.4%	
Cypress	77433	82.9%	
Decker Prairie	77355	84.2%	
Hockley	77447	83.9%	
Houston	77014	84.9%	
Houston	77038	86.3%	
Houston	77060	85.8%	
Houston	77064	84.0%	
Houston	77065	82.8%	
Houston	77066	84.1%	
Houston	77067	85.0%	
Houston	77068	82.9%	
Houston	77069	82.7%	
Houston	77070	82.4%	
Houston	77073	84.6%	
Houston	77084	83.3%	
Houston	77086	86.2%	
Houston	77088	85.9%	
Houston	77090	83.0%	
Houston	77091	85.2%	
Houston	77095	83.0%	
Jersey Village	77040	84.6%	
Magnolia	77354	84.0%	
Pinehurst	77362	84.2%	
Spring	77373	83.6%	
Spring	77379	82.5%	
Spring	77388	83.5%	
Tomball	77375	82.4%	
Tomball 77377		82.4	
TVH Service Area*		83.7%	
Harris County		83.8%	
Montgomery County		83.9%	
Texas		83.0%	

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2017 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

35.8% of adults in the service area were sedentary and did not participate in any leisure-time physical activity in the previous month. Adults in Houston 77038 (42.6%) and 77088 (42.8%) were the most likely to report not participating in any leisure-time physical activities (43.9%), while adults in Tomball 77377 (32.1%) and Cypress 77429 (31.8%) were least likely to be sedentary.

**Sedentary Adults** 

dedentary Addits	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	31.8%
Cypress	77433	33.5%
Decker Prairie	77355	35.4%
Hockley	77447	35.8%
Houston	77014	40.0%
Houston	77038	42.6%
Houston	77060	42.5%
Houston	77064	36.3%
Houston	77065	33.8%
Houston	77066	37.4%
Houston	77067	40.6%
Houston	77068	34.3%
Houston	77069	33.2%
Houston	77070	32.6%
Houston	77073	39.1%
Houston	77084	34.9%
Houston	77086	42.3%
Houston	77088	42.8%
Houston	77090	36.0%
Houston	77091	42.5%
Houston	77095	33.5%
Jersey Village	77040	38.2%
Magnolia	77354	34.8%
Pinehurst	77362	35.6%
Spring	77373	35.3%
Spring	77379	32.2%
Spring	77388	34.4%
Tomball	77375	32.7%
Tomball	77377	32.1%
TVH Service Area*		35.8%
Harris County		37.1%
Montgomery County		35.1%

	ZIP Code	Percent
Texas		38.1%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2017 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

30.4% of adults in Health Service Region 6 limited their activities for at least 5 of the prior 30 days due to poor mental or physical health, and 14.7% limited them for at least 14 of the prior 30 days.

Limited Activity Due to Poor Health, Days Per Month, Adults

	> = 5 days	> = 14 days
Health Service Region 6	30.4%	14.7%
Texas	26.6%	17.0%

Source for Texas: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Dashboard, 2018. <a href="http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/behavioral-risk-factor-surveillance-system">http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/behavioral-risk-factor-surveillance-system</a>

The CDC recommendation for youth physical activity is 60 minutes or more each day. Among Houston youth, 82.6% of high school students did not meet this activity recommendation, which was worse than the 77.1% seen statewide. 31.3% of student were active for at least 60 minutes on at least 5 of the past 7 days (compared to 41.8% for Texas). 23.2% of Houston's high school students surveyed indicated there was not one day in the previous week where they got at least an hour of exercise. In all categories, girls were less active than boys.

Physical Activity, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Houston	Texas
Active for 60+ minutes, 7 of past 7 days	17.4%	22.9%
Boys	21.8%	29.9%
Girls	13.0%	15.9%
Active for 60+ minutes, at least 5 of past 7 days	31.3%	41.8%
Boys	35.8%	49.5%
Girls	26.8%	34.0%
Active for 60+ minutes, 0 of past 7 days	23.2%	20.1%
Boys	19.3%	18.0%
Girls	27.3%	22.4%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

### **Exercise Opportunities**

Proximity to exercise opportunities can increase physical activity in a community. 91% of Harris County residents and 84% of Montgomery County residents live in close proximity to exercise opportunities. These rates are higher than the state rate of 81%.

# Adequate Access to Exercise Opportunities, 2010 and 2019 Combined

	Percent
Harris County	91%
Montgomery County	84%
Texas	81%

Source: County Health Rankings, 2020 ranking, utilizing 2010 and 2019 combined data. http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

# **Community Walkability**

WalkScore.com ranks over 2,500 cities in the United States (over 10,000 neighborhoods) with a walk score. The walk score for a location is determined by its access to amenities. Many locations are sampled within each city and an overall score is issued for the walkability of that city (scores for smaller towns, however, may be based on a single location). A higher score indicates an area is more accessible to walking while a lower score indicates a more vehicle-dependent location.

WalkScore.com has established the range of scores as follows:

0-24: Car Dependent (Almost all errands require a car)

25-49: Car Dependent (A few amenities within walking distance)

50-69: Somewhat Walkable (Some amenities within walking distance)

70-89: Very Walkable (Most errands can be accomplished on foot)

90-100: Walker's Paradise (Daily errands do not require a car)

Based on this scoring method, all but two of the 29 ZIP Codes in the service area are classified as "Car Dependent". Houston 77060 (score of 62), and Houston 77086 (score of 66) are considered "Somewhat Walkable".

### Walkability

	ZIP Code	Walk Score
Cypress	77429	0
Cypress	77433	6
Decker Prairie	77355	0
Hockley	77447	0
Houston	77014	8
Houston	77038	41
Houston	77060	62
Houston	77064	2
Houston	77065	34
Houston	77066	9
Houston	77067	27
Houston	77068	28
Houston	77069	16
Houston	77070	43

	ZIP Code	Walk Score
Houston	77073	21
Houston	77084	17
Houston	77086	66
Houston	77088	19
Houston	77090	43
Houston	77091	36
Houston	77095	16
Jersey Village	77040	35
Magnolia	77354	0
Pinehurst	77362	8
Spring	77373	20
Spring	77379	47
Spring	77388	18
Tomball	77375	0
Tomball	77377	4

Source: WalkScore.com, 2021.

## **Soda Consumption**

Houston high school students were less likely to consume soda than students statewide. 28.4% of Houston teens drank no soda in the past week.

Daily Soda Consumption, Past Week, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Houston	Texas
Drank soda at least once per day, past 7 days	14.4%	19.5%
Drank soda at least twice per day, past 7 days	8.5%	10.6%
Drank no soda, past 7 days	28.4%	23.6%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

# Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

11.5% of Texas high school students and 13.4% in Houston said they ate no vegetables, including salads, carrots, potatoes (excluding fried potatoes, chips or fries) or other vegetables, during the 7 days prior to the survey. 8.8% of Texas students and 8% in Houston said they ate no fruit and drank no 100% fruit juice (such as orange, apple or grape juice but excluding all fruit-flavored or sweetened drinks) in the 7 days prior to the survey. Cost and access must be considered as factors that may affect fruit and vegetable consumption, not solely personal preference.

## Consumed No Vegetables, Fruit or 100% Fruit Juice, Past Week, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Houston	Texas
Consumed no vegetables, past 7 days	13.4%	11.5%
Did not consume fruit or 100% fruit juice	8.0%	8.8%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

#### **Youth Sexual Behaviors**

Among Houston high-school students surveyed in the *Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 32.7% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 53% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders have had sex. These rates were lower than the statewide rates of sexual activity. 43.9% of Texas 10<sup>th</sup> graders who had sex during the prior three months did not use a condom during their last sexual encounter, and 54.4% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders did not use a condom during their last sexual encounter.

### Sexual Behaviors, Youth

SOXUAL BOHAVIOL		ad Sex	Did Not Use a Cor Sexual E	
	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Houston	32.7%	53.0%	N/A	53.7%
Texas	38.3%	65.7%	43.9%	54.4%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx N/A = suppressed due to sample size too small for statistical validity.

# **Sexually Transmitted Infections**

Chlamydia occurred at a rate of 583.5 cases per 100,000 persons in Harris County and 269.9 per 100,000 persons in Montgomery County. The rate of gonorrhea was 185.8 cases per 100,000 persons in Harris County and 60.8 per 100,000 persons in Montgomery County. Primary and Secondary syphilis occurred at a rate of 12 cases per 100,000 persons in Harris County and 3.7 per 100,000 persons in Montgomery County. Rates of STIs were higher in Harris County and lower in Montgomery County than in the state.

Sexually Transmitted Infections Rates, per 100,000 Persons

	Harris County	Montgomery County	Texas
Chlamydia	583.5	269.9	508.2
Gonorrhea	185.8	60.8	163.6
Syphilis (primary & secondary)	12.0	3.7	8.8

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas STD Surveillance Report, 2018. https://www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/

#### HIV

The rate of newly-diagnosed cases of HIV fell from 2014 to 2019 in Harris County and the state. The Harris County rate of newly-diagnosed HIV cases fell from 28.2 per

100,000 persons in 2016, to 24.9 cases per 100,000 persons in 2019, which was higher than the state rate of 14.5 cases per 100,000 persons.

Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases, Annual Counts and Rates, per 100,000 Persons

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019 Rate
Harris County	1,256	1,266	1,257	1,098	1,194	1,172	24.9
Montgomery County	31	41	45	44	51	54	8.9
Texas	4,462	4,551	4,548	4,368	4,419	4,203	14.5

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas HIV Surveillance Report, 2019 and Interactive Data Dashboard. https://www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/

The incidence of HIV (annual new cases) in Harris County over five years was 25.8 cases per 100,000 persons. In Montgomery County the average incidence of HIV was 8.2 cases per 100,000 persons. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS (those living with HIV/AIDS regardless of when they might have been diagnosed or infected) was 581.2 cases per 100,000 persons in Harris County and 146.5 cases per 100,000 persons in Montgomery County.

HIV Incidence and HIV/AIDS Prevalence Rates, per 100,000 Persons

	5-Year Average Incidence Rate, 2015-2019	2019 Prevalence
Harris County	25.8	581.2
Montgomery County	8.2	146.5
Texas	15.6	337.4

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas HIV Surveillance Report, 2019 and Interactive Data Dashboard. <a href="https://www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/">https://www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/</a>

# **Mental Health**

# **Frequent Mental Distress**

Frequent Mental Distress is defined as 14 or more bad mental health days in the last month. In the service area, 13% of adults had frequent mental distress. Adults with frequent mental distress ranged from 11.5% in Houston 77069 to 15.5% in Houston 77060.

# **Frequent Mental Distress, Adults**

	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	12.4%
Cypress	77433	12.7%
Decker Prairie	77355	13.1%
Hockley	77447	13.1%
Houston	77014	14.2%
Houston	77038	14.3%
Houston	77060	15.5%
Houston	77064	12.7%
Houston	77065	12.4%
Houston	77066	12.5%
Houston	77067	14.4%
Houston	77068	11.7%
Houston	77069	11.5%
Houston	77070	12.1%
Houston	77073	14.2%
Houston	77084	12.6%
Houston	77086	14.3%
Houston	77088	14.5%
Houston	77090	13.8%
Houston	77091	14.9%
Houston	77095	12.6%
Jersey Village	77040	13.3%
Magnolia	77354	12.9%
Pinehurst	77362	13.1%
Spring	77373	13.4%
Spring	77379	12.1%
Spring	77388	12.7%
Tomball	77375	12.3%
Tomball	77377	12.3%
TVH Service Area*		13.0%

	ZIP Code	Percent
Harris County		13.4%
Montgomery County		12.9%
Texas		11.7%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

#### **Youth Mental Health**

Among Texas high school students, 38.3% had experienced depression in the previous year, described as 'feeling so sad or hopeless every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities'.

## Depression, Past 12 Months, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Percent
Texas	38.3%

Source: Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/youth-risk-behavior-survey

19.6% of high school students in Texas said they had considered suicide in the past year, while 10% said they had attempted suicide in the past year.

## Considered and Attempted Suicide, Past 12 Months, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Seriously Considered Suicide	Attempted Suicide
Texas	18.9%	10.0%

Source: Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/youth-risk-behavior-survey

Experiencing physical or sexual violence from someone they were dating during the prior year was a concern for youth beginning in at least the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, rising by grade level. 9.3% of Houston teens and 8.3% of Texas teens said they were physically hurt on purpose by someone they were dating during the past 12 months.

6.5% of Houston teens and 15.4% of Texas teens said they were forced to do sexual things by someone they were dating during the past 12 months.

Dating Violence, in the Past 12 Months, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Physical Dating Violence	Sexual Dating Violence
Houston	9.3%	6.5%
Texas	8.3%	15.4%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

## **Community Input – Mental Health**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to mental health. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- There is a lack of bilingual and bicultural case workers in the county. Sam Houston
  University used to send bilingual case workers/counselors as part of their community
  counseling program but the program ended.
- Many members of the Hispanic community or elderly individuals feel a stigma in seeking mental health care.
- Often people experiencing mental health crises end up at the local ED where the staff is already overwhelmed and might not have the right provider or services readily available.
- There is a need for more providers (counselors, therapists, residential facilities) for all types of mental health problems.
- Shelter space dedicated to people who struggle with mental health issues is lacking in the county.
- The mental health provider community was not equipped to handle the surge in needs associated with COVID.
- People prefer to access telehealth services in order to stay anonymous. Initially it works, but then the patients do not follow up.
- Mental health co-pays are usually not enough to cover the complete cost of services, if it's covered at all.
- There is a lack of time for students and working individuals to access care as most appointments are during class/work times.
- Waiting lists to see a provider for non-emergency situations are 3-4 months long.
- The real question that needs a response is where to send people with mental health needs?
- The minimum wait time for a mental health provider in non-surge times is up a month. It was even worse during COVID.
- Many young people feel stigma and shame about admitting they need help.
- While services like helplines exist, there is no pro bono places to refer patients.
- A lot of services are located downtown but not in suburbs where people live.
- We have diversion centers with support services for mental health and substance abuse in Harris and Montgomery Counties to help head off repeat offenses in the downtown area but we need ten diversion centers to meet the needs in the suburbs.
- Mental health providers don't get a lot of reimbursement for Medicaid patients so what is the incentive for them to assist this population?

### **Substance Use and Misuse**

## **Cigarette Smoking**

15.6% of Montgomery County adults and 15.9% of Harris County adults were current smokers in 2018. The Healthy People 2030 objective is for 5% of the population to smoke cigarettes.

### **Smoking, Adults**

	Crude Rate	
Harris County	15.9%	
Montgomery County	15.6%	
Texas	*16.0%	

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), PLACES Project 2020. 2018 data. <a href="https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb">https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb</a> \*Weighted average of Texas county rates.

Vapor products are now the most common nicotine product used by youth. 3.8% of high school students surveyed in Houston smoked cigarettes in the prior 30 days, 3.1% used smokeless tobacco in the prior 30 days, and 11.1% had used vapor products. These rates were lower than the statewide rates of tobacco use.

Tobacco Use, Past 30 Days, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Smokes Cigarettes	Used Smokeless Tobacco	Used Vapor Products	
Houston	3.8%	3.1%	11.1%	
Texas	4.9%	3.4%	18.7%	

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

#### Alcohol Use

Binge drinking is defined as consuming a certain amount of alcohol within a set period of time. For males this is five or more drinks per occasion and for females it is four or more drinks per occasion. Among adults in the service area, 18% reported having engaged in binge drinking in the previous 30 days. Rates of binge drinking were highest in Cypress 77433 (19.3%) and Houston 77060 (19%) and lowest in Houston 77088 (15.5%) and 77019 (14.9%).

Binge Drinking, Past 30 Days, Adults

	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	18.8%
Cypress	77433	19.3%
Decker Prairie	77355	18.8%
Hockley	77447	18.6%

	ZIP Code	Percent
Houston	77014	16.9%
Houston	77038	17.9%
Houston	77060	19.0%
Houston	77064	17.6%
Houston	77065	17.9%
Houston	77066	16.7%
Houston	77067	17.4%
Houston	77068	16.1%
Houston	77069	15.8%
Houston	77070	18.1%
Houston	77073	18.6%
Houston	77084	18.4%
Houston	77086	17.3%
Houston	77088	15.5%
Houston	77090	18.2%
Houston	77091	14.9%
Houston	77095	18.3%
Jersey Village	77040	17.7%
Magnolia	77354	18.9%
Pinehurst	77362	18.6%
Spring	77373	18.8%
Spring	77379	17.9%
Spring	77388	17.9%
Tomball	77375	18.8%
Tomball	77377	18.8%
TVH Service Area*		18.0%
Harris County		17.6%
Montgomery County		18.6%
Texas		17.4%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

Alcohol use among youth increased by age. 28.9% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth in Houston had consumed at least one alcoholic drink on one or more occasions in the past 30 days. Consumption of alcohol was seen in 25.9% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders, 14.7% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders and 16% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Rates of reported alcohol use were lower in Houston than in the state.

Alcohol Use in Past 30 Days, Youth

	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade		11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Houston	16.0%	14.7%	25.9%	28.9%
Texas	16.1%	28.1%	28.6%	39.9%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

Binge drinking was described in the *Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey* as four or more alcoholic drinks in a row for female students or five or more drinks in a row for male students, within a couple of hours, on at least one day during the previous month. Extreme binge drinking was described as ten or more alcoholic drinks in a row, within a couple of hours, regardless of gender, on at least one occasion in the prior month. Reported rates of binge drinking (not extreme) among 10<sup>th</sup> graders in Houston was 3% and among 12<sup>th</sup> graders it was 8.8%. Extreme binge drinking among 10<sup>th</sup> graders in Houston was 1% and among 12<sup>th</sup> graders it was 2.1%.

Binge Drinking, and Extreme Binge Drinking, in Past 30 Days, Youth

_	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade		12 <sup>th</sup>	Grade
	Binge Drinking Extreme Binge Drinking		Binge Drinking	Extreme Binge Drinking
Houston	3.0%	1.0%	8.8%	2.1%
Texas	13.6%	4.0%	18.6%	6.6%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

# **Youth Drug Use**

40.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth, and 30.6% of the 10<sup>th</sup> grade youth in Houston indicated they had tried marijuana. These rates of marijuana usage were lower than state rates. Rates of marijuana use among 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in the past 30 days were higher in Houston (25.6%) than in the state (22%).

Marijuana Use, Ever and in Past 30 Days, Youth

	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade		12 <sup>th</sup>	Grade
	Ever	Ever Past 30 Days		Past 30 Days
Houston	30.6%	13.8%	40.3%	25.6%
Texas	31.1%	15.3%	42.2%	22.0%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

While Houston youth were less likely to have tried or currently use tobacco or alcohol, or to binge drink, they were more likely than their statewide peers to y use marijuana and to have experimented with other drugs. Among Houston 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders, 17.5%

have used prescription pain medications obtained without a prescription, 7.6% had used inhalants, 6.8% had tried ecstasy and 6% cocaine.

Other Drug Use, Ever, 9th - 12th Grade Youth

	Houston	Texas
Rx pain meds without a prescription	17.5%	16.6%
Inhalants (glue, aerosol, paints, sprays, etc.)	7.6%	6.3%
Ecstasy	6.8%	4.0%
Cocaine (any form)	6.0%	4.8%
Steroids	4.8%	2.1%
Methamphetamines	4.5%	2.2%
Heroin	3.8%	1.3%
Injected drugs	3.8%	1.2%

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 2019. https://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/app/default.aspx

# **Community Input – Substance Use**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to substance use. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

- While there is an increase in the use of street drugs like heroin and opioids, the amount of treatment facilities and providers has not kept pace with the demand.
- There are no inpatient treatment facilities for young people.
- Since COVID, there has been an increased dependence on alcohol and drugs to deal with stress and isolation.
- Kids are using opioids and overdosing at an alarming rate.
- Substance use treatment options are expensive and have to be paid out-of-pocket.
- Many people don't access substance use education because they don't think it is relevant to them.
- Social service providers need to be aware of the community-based services and referrals points beyond their own network.
- The number of drug overdoses skyrocketed during COVID.
- There is a lack of public and private funding to support substance abuse treatment.
- There are a lack services and education for addiction management.
- Only two or three detox hospitals are available in the nearby area.
- Gaining access to recovery services is like winning the lottery.
- Veterans struggling with substance abuse do not want to go to the VA because they see a lot of bureaucracy and limited services.
- It's difficult to find short term support that connects to long term services for substance abuse. Stopgap measures aren't effective.

# **Preventive Practices**

## Flu and Pneumonia Vaccines

23.3% of adults in the service area received a flu shot, which falls below the Healthy People 2030 objective for 70% of all adults, 18 and older, to receive a flu shot. Adults in Houston 77068 (26.7%) and 77069 (29.2%) were the most likely to be vaccinated for the flu, while those in Houston 77067 (19.5%) and 77060 (19%) were least likely to be vaccinated.

Flu Shots, Adults, Past 12 Months

Tu Silots, Adults, Fas	ZIP Code	Percent
Cypress	77429	25.0%
Cypress	77433	22.8%
Decker Prairie	77355	23.9%
Hockley	77447	23.8%
Houston	77014	20.0%
Houston	77038	19.9%
Houston	77060	19.0%
Houston	77064	23.4%
Houston	77065	24.6%
Houston	77066	23.2%
Houston	77067	19.5%
Houston	77068	26.7%
Houston	77069	29.2%
Houston	77070	25.5%
Houston	77073	19.6%
Houston	77084	23.0%
Houston	77086	20.2%
Houston	77088	21.3%
Houston	77090	21.4%
Houston	77091	22.3%
Houston	77095	23.9%
Jersey Village	77040	23.0%
Magnolia	77354	23.8%
Pinehurst	77362	24.0%
Spring	77373	22.7%
Spring	77379	26.2%
Spring	77388	25.0%
Tomball	77375	25.3%
Tomball	77377	25.6%

	ZIP Code	Percent
TVH Service Area*		23.3%
Harris County		23.7%
Montgomery County		24.3%
Texas		26.4%

Source: PolicyMap, utilizing the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018 data, <a href="https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/">https://commonspirit.policymap.com/tables/</a> \*Weighted average; calculated using 2015-2019 ACS adult population estimates

The state rate of pneumonia vaccination among adults, ages 65 and older, was 71.3%, which was higher than the pneumonia vaccine rate in Health Service Region 6 (70.8%).

#### Pneumonia Vaccine, Adults, Ages 65 and Older

	Percent
Health Service Region 6	70.8%
Texas	71.3%

Source for Texas: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Dashboard, 2018. <a href="http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/behavioral-risk-factor-surveillance-system">http://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/dashboard/surveys-and-profiles/behavioral-risk-factor-surveillance-system</a>

#### Immunization of Children

Among area school districts, rates of vaccinations among children entering Kindergarten ranged from 94.3% (for DTaP in Magnolia ISD) to 98.8% (for Hepatitis A in Katy ISD and Hepatitis B for Katy and Aldine ISDs). In the service area, Magnolia and Spring ISDs had the lowest rates of vaccination across all required vaccines.

**Up-to-Date Immunization Rates of Children Entering Kindergarten** 

	DTaP	Нер А	Нер В	MMR	Polio	Varicella
Aldine ISD	97.9%	95.3%	98.8%	98.5%	98.2%	97.0%
Cypress-Fairbanks ISD	97.9%	96.1%	97.5%	97.4%	97.3%	96.6%
Katy ISD	98.7%	98.8%	98.8%	98.7%	98.7%	98.6%
Klein ISD	97.3%	97.6%	97.6%	97.3%	97.4%	97.2%
Magnolia ISD	94.3%	94.5%	95.9%	95.3%	95.7%	94.7%
Spring ISD	95.5%	95.2%	96.7%	95.9%	95.4%	95.1%
Tomball ISD	97.2%	96.9%	96.8%	97.0%	96.9%	96.6%
Waller ISD	97.3%	96.4%	97.9%	97.3%	97.7%	96.8%
Harris County	96.9%	96.3%	97.3%	96.8%	96.6%	95.9%
Montgomery County	95.4%	94.5%	96.2%	95.8%	95.7%	94.7%
Texas	96.6%	96.4%	97.4%	97.0%	96.8%	96.5%

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, 2019-2020. https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/coverage/schools/

#### Mammograms

The Healthy People 2030 objective for mammograms is for 77.1% of women, between the ages of 50 and 74, to have a mammogram in the past two years. This translates to a maximum of 22.9% who lack screening. Harris County (27.6%), Montgomery County (28.2%) and Texas (28.3%) do not meet this objective.

#### No Mammogram, Past Two Years, Women, Ages 50-74, Five-Year Average

	Crude Rate
Harris County	27.6%
Montgomery County	28.2%
Texas*	28.3%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), PLACES Project 2020. 2018 data. <a href="https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb">https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb</a> \*Weighted average of Texas county rates.

## Pap Smears

The Healthy People 2030 objective is for 84.3% of women, ages 21 to 65, to have a Pap smear in the past three years. This equates to a maximum of 15.7% of women who lack screening. Harris County and Texas (18.2%) and Montgomery County (17%) do not meet this objective.

### No Pap Test, Past 3 Years, Women, Ages 21-65, 2018

Crude Rate	
Harris County	18.2%
Montgomery County	17.0%
Texas*	18.2%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), PLACES Project 2020. 2018 data. <a href="https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb">https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb</a> \*Weighted average of Texas county rates.

# **Colorectal Cancer Screening**

The Healthy People 2030 objective for adults, ages 50 to 75 years old, is for 74.4% to obtain colorectal cancer screening (defined as a blood stool test in the past year, sigmoidoscopy in the past five years plus blood test in the past three years, or colonoscopy in the past ten years). 55.4% of Harris County residents and 63.2% of Montgomery County residents, ages 50-75, met the colorectal cancer screening guidelines. These rates of screening do not meet the Healthy People objective.

### Screening for Colorectal Cancer, Adults, Ages 50-75

	Crude Rate
Harris County	55.4%
Montgomery County	63.2%
Texas*	58.7%

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), PLACES Project 2020. 2018 data. <a href="https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb">https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/500-Cities-Places/PLACES-Local-Data-for-Better-Health-County-Data-20/swc5-untb</a> \*Weighted average of Texas county rates.

# **Community Input - Preventive Practices**

Stakeholder interviews identified the following issues, challenges and barriers related to preventive practices. Following are their comments summarized and edited for clarity:

 Preventive visits don't happen if people lack documentation. They are too afraid of being asked to produce identification, which they don't have.

- There is a general lack of literacy on the importance of prevention.
- 90% of provider services are in English. This doesn't work for community members who speak another language.
- Persons who are undocumented will seek services where they know they don't have to show documents and they know they won't be asked about their legal status (e.g., school districts, certain clinics).
- First and second-generation foreign-born populations carry influences and choices from previous generations, especially if they are living in multigenerational families. This influences their health seeking behavior.
- If people feel mostly healthy, they don't think they need to see a provider.
- Some people rely on folk medicines or community wisdom instead of seeing a medical provider.

# **Prioritized Description of Significant Health Needs**

The identified significant community needs were prioritized with input from the community. Interviews with community stakeholders were used to gather input on the significant needs. The following criteria were used to prioritize the significant needs:

- The perceived severity of a health or community issue as it affects the health and lives of those in the community.
- Improving or worsening of an issue in the community.
- Availability of resources to address the need.
- The level of importance the hospital should place on addressing the issue.

Each of the stakeholder interviewees was sent a link to an electronic survey (Survey Monkey) in advance of the interview. The stakeholders were asked to rank each identified need. The percentage of responses were noted as those that identified the need as having severe or very severe impact on the community, had worsened over time, and had a shortage or absence of resources available in the community. Not all survey respondents answered every question, therefore, the response percentages were calculated based on respondents only and not on the entire sample size. COVID-19, access to care and mental health had the highest scores for severe and very severe impact on the community. Mental health and homelessness were the top two needs that had worsened over time. Homelessness, access to care, mental health and substance use had the highest scores for insufficient resources available to address the need.

Significant Health Needs	Severe and Very Severe Impact on the Community	Worsened Over Time	Insufficient or Absent Resources
Access to care	85.7%	28.6%	85.7%
Birth indicators	28.6%	28.6%	57.1%
Chronic diseases	57.2%	28.6%	57.1%
COVID-19	100%	28.6%	57.1%
Homelessness	42.9%	57.1%	100%
Mental health	85.7%	85.7%	85.7%
Overweight and obesity	57.1%	28.6%	57.1%
Preventive practices	71.4%	14.3%	42.9%
Substance use	42.9%	42.9%	85.7%
Violence and injury	14.3%	0%	28.6%

The interviewees were also asked to prioritize the health needs according to highest level of importance in the community. The total score for each significant need (possible score of 4) was divided by the total number of responses for which data were provided, resulting in an overall score for each significant need. Access to care, mental health, birth indicators, chronic diseases and overweight and obesity were ranked as the top

five priority needs in the service area. Calculations resulted in the following prioritization of the significant needs:

Significant Needs	Priority Ranking (Total Possible Score of 4)
Access to care	4.00
Mental health	3.71
Birth indicators	3.50
Chronic diseases	3.50
Overweight and obesity	3.50
COVID-19	3.43
Preventive practices	3.33
Homelessness	3.00
Substance use	3.00
Violence and injury	2.83

# **Resources to Address Significant Health Needs**

Community stakeholders identified community resources potentially available to address the identified community needs. This is not a comprehensive list of all available resources. For additional resources refer to <a href="https://www.211texas.org/">https://www.211texas.org/</a>

Significant Needs	Community Resources
Access to care	FQHCs, Lone Star Family Health Center, Sam Houston Student Health Center, St. Luke's Compassionate Care Clinic for underfunded, Ben Taub Hospital, Urgent Care, Interfaith clinic, HCA Memorial, Express Family Clinic, United Way, Mission Northeast, Community Assistance Center, Meals on Wheels, St. Vincent de Paul, Texas Familias Council, Good Rx, NAACP, TOMAGWA HealthCare Ministries, local school districts' HCAP, Montgomery County Cares, Northwest Assistance Ministries, Local elected officials in Harris and Montgomery County, United First, Spring Branch Community Health, Dental Clinic, Unitas, County Elderly services
Birth indicators	Student Health Clinic, Pregnancy Care Centers, Medicaid, UT Maternal Medical Program, CHIP
Chronic diseases	Lone Star Family Health Center, Interfaith Clinic, all major hospitals, Harris Health Clinic, MD Anderson, St Luke's health classes, East County Food Bank, Faith-based organizations, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension classes, Mission Northeast, Interfaith Community Clinic, Texas AIM, County EMS, YMCA
COVID-19	Sam Houston Medical Center, Lone Star Family Health Center, SOS Magnolia, Mission Northeast, Faith-based communities, Montgomery County Cares, Salvation Army, House of Prayer -Conroe, Lone Star Community College, local school districts, Texas National Guard, Montgomery County Public Health District, Texas AIM, Second Harvest Food Bank
Housing and homelessness	Universal Unitarian Homeless Justice, Salvation Army, Montgomery and Harris County Homeless Coalition, homeless shelters, IDD Interfaith Community Clinic, Community Assistance Center, Yes to Youth, Faith-based organizations, Harris County Homeless Outreach Team, Hope Center, Catholic Charities. Northwest Assistance Ministries, Lord of the Streets Houston, Star of Hope Mission, The Beacon
Mental health	Tri-County Clinic, Lone Star Family Health Center, Harris County Diversion Court, Montgomery County Diversion Court, Montgomery ISD, and other independent school districts, Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention Task Force, Mosaic of Mercy, Mission Northeast, Yes to Youth, Catholic Charities, Northwest Assistance Ministries, Ben Taub Hospital, LBJ Hospital, Law Enforcement, Episcopal Health Foundation, Harris Center, Harris County Department Health and Human Services, United Way, Aging and Disability Resource Center
Overweight and obesity	Montgomery County Food Bank, YMCA, Texas AgriLife classes, Head Start
Preventive practices	Lone Star Family Health Center(dental), Interfaith Clinic, The Rose, Conroe ISD, New Caney ISD, Texas Familias Council, HEB grocery stores,

Significant Needs	Community Resources
	Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention Task Force, St. Thomas Medical
	School-Houston, Texas AIM, YMCA, local libraries, local pharmacies
Sexually transmitted	FQHCs, Lone Star Family Health Center, Montgomery County Health District,
infections	Sam Houston Student Health Center
Substance use	Lone Star Family Health Center, Tri-County Clinic, Behavioral Health and
	Suicide Prevention Task Force, Church counseling, Open Door Mission
Violence and injury	Interfaith Clinic, Transitional care centers, County senior services, Gateway
	Baptist (Seniors), Montgomery County Women's Center, Faith-based
	organizations, County EMS, law enforcement

# Impact of Actions Taken Since the Preceding CHNA

In 2019, The Vintage Hospital conducted the previous CHNA and significant health needs were identified from issues supported by primary and secondary data sources. The hospital's Implementation Strategy associated with the 2019 CHNA addressed: access to care, behavioral health, human trafficking and obesity through a commitment of community benefit resources. The following activities were undertaken to address these selected significant health needs since the completion of the 2019 CHNA.

#### **Access to Care**

- Provided education for the community regarding services and cultural differences that impact bias and affect treatment.
- Collaborated with community organizations, churches, civic groups and support groups to present educational seminars.
- Fostered new relationships with primary care providers and health care service providers to assist linking hospital patients to medical homes.
- Participated in the Think Healthy education outreach program.
- Offered a breast cancer awareness program.
- Worked with neighborhood resources (e.g., schools, businesses, community organizations, churches) to promote health, wellness and disease prevention through health and safety fairs, educational lectures and sponsorship of community events.
- Provided education and information on chronic disease prevention, screening and risk reduction.
- Hosted monthly classes free to the public to prepare women for pregnancy and childbirth

#### **Behavioral Health**

- Developed resources in the emergency department to manage needs of behavioral health patients.
- Strengthened community partnerships to advocate for additional support for behavioral health specialists to work alongside caregivers.
- Provided front line responders with education sessions on behavioral health topics.

## **Human Trafficking**

 Defined a procedure for treating and/or identifying trafficked victims in our facilities and collaborating with community partners, including law enforcement and health care providers.

- Increased prevention and treatment resources in areas of physical/sexual abuse, human trafficking and violence in schools.
- Partnered with the Houston Women's Center to educate staff on how to recognize abused patients.
- Partnered with law enforcement and social service organizations to increase trauma informed care to human trafficking victims.

# Obesity

Partnered with the local YMCA to provide youth with resources and educational support focused on nutrition, obesity, and healthy lifestyles.

# **Attachment 1: Benchmark Comparisons**

Where data were available, the service area health and social indicators were compared to the Healthy People 2030 objectives. The **bolded items** are Healthy People 2030 objectives that did not meet established benchmarks; non-bolded items met or exceeded the objectives.

Indicators	Service Area Data	Healthy People 2030 Objectives
High school graduation rate	<b>82.2%</b> - 96.7%	90.7%
Child health insurance rate	89.1%	92.1%
Adult health insurance rate	77.6%	92.1%
Unable to obtain medical care	15.6%	3.3%
Ischemic heart disease deaths	77.6 - 85.3	71.1 per 100,000 persons
Cancer deaths	137.8 - 141.0	122.7 per 100,000 persons
Colon/rectum cancer deaths	13.0 - 13.7	8.9 per 100,000 persons
Lung cancer deaths	31.2 - 37.7	25.1 per 100,000 persons
Female breast cancer deaths	18.1 - 21.3	15.3 per 100,000 persons
Prostate cancer deaths	15.8 - <b>19.1</b>	16.9 per 100,000 persons
Stroke deaths	37.6 - 40.6	33.4 per 100,000 persons
Unintentional injury deaths	39.2 - 40.0	43.2 per 100,000 persons
Suicides	10.6 - <b>16.2</b>	12.8 per 100,000 persons
Liver disease (cirrhosis) deaths	10.7 - 10.9	10.9 per 100,000 persons
Homicides	4.3 <b>- 8.5</b>	5.5 per 100,000 persons
Drug-overdose deaths	12.8 - 15.1	20.7 per 100,000 persons
Overdose deaths involving opioids	6.3 - 8.5	13.1 per 100,000 persons
No smoking during pregnancy	96.5% - 98.9%	95.7%
Infant death rate	5.3 - 6.1	5.0 per 1,000 live births
Adult obesity (age range unknown)	35.3%	36.0%, adults ages 20+
High school student obesity	19.5%	15.5%, children & youth, 2 to 19
Adults engaging in binge drinking	18.0%	25.4%
Cigarette smoking by adults	15.6% - 15.9%	5.0%
Pap smears, ages 21-65, screened in the past 3 years	81.8% - 83.0%	84.3%
Mammogram, ages 50-74, screened in the past 2 years	71.8% - 72.4%	77.1%
Colorectal cancer screenings, ages 50-75, screened per guidelines	55.4% - 63.2%	74.4%
Annual adult influenza vaccination	23.3%	70.0%

# **Attachment 2: Community Stakeholder Interviewees**

Community input was obtained from interviews with community stakeholders from community agencies and organizations that represent medically underserved, low-income, and/or minority populations.

Name	Title	Organization
Maria Banos Jordan	President and Founder	Texas Familias Council
Laurie Cantrell	Social Worker	St. Luke's Health - The Woodlands Hospital
Molly Carr	Kitchen Pastor, Executive Chef, The Abundant Harvest	St. Isidore Episcopal
Morgan Clark	Community Paramedicine Case Manager	Montgomery County Hospital District
Reverend Justin Cormie	Parochial Vicar	St. Ignatius Catholic Church
Kathleen Gilbert	Director, Food Pantry	College of Health Sciences Sam
Kathleen Glibert		Houston University
Missy Herndon	President and CEO	Interfaith of the Woodlands, Interfaith Community Clinic, Interfaith Child Development Center
Jennifer Landers	Executive Director	Community Assistance Center
Anita Phillips	Director of Clinic Operations	Interfaith of the Woodlands
Reverend Dr. Roman Roldan	Rector	St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
David Strickland	Market Vice President of Operational Finance	St. Luke's Health - North Houston Market
Brother Allen White	Executive Director	The Hope Center
Alicia Williams	Director	Montgomery County Public Health District

# **Attachment 3: Community Stakeholder Interview Responses**

Community interview participants were asked to name some of the major health issues affecting individuals in the community. Responses included:

## Access to Care

- Access points to receive medical and social services are far and few between in the rural parts of Montgomery County.
- Both maternal health and mental health services are very hard to find. There is more demand than supply.
- There is a lack of general preventive care including vision and dental care that is covered by insurance or is low-cost/free.
- People can't pay the cash prices for medication if they don't have insurance.
- Reliable public transportation is an issue in Montgomery County. It's only
  accessible in the metro area. A lot of services including medical providers are not
  near bus stops, except in the Woodlands.
- Many new arrivals who come to Montgomery County from other areas (mostly Harris County) are not familiar with the system here so they don't know how to access services.
- There is a need for health homes to coordinate care for patients with chronic disease.
- We need more support and services to help victims of human trafficking
- In Montgomery County we have pockets of food insecurity and malnourishment.
- Many people lost their jobs in the last two years, setting off a domino effect of lack of insurance leading to poor health management.
- Patients don't seek and receive preventive care in a timely manner.
- There is a lower vaccination rate in rural parts of the county.

#### Chronic Diseases

- There are high rates of chronic disease such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory issues and associated co-morbidities such as obesity, hyperlipidemia, high blood pressure and hypertension throughout Montgomery County.
- Lymphoma and other cancers are on the rise.
- Lack of management of chronic health conditions is based on unhealthy lifestyles (lack of healthy food and regular exercise).
- Chronic health issues like diabetes, obesity and hypertension are so common that many people don't even think about them as a problem. They just go on about their daily lives getting sicker.

#### **Senior Care**

- We have a large aging population in Montgomery and Harris Counties. As a result, we need coordinated elderly care for individuals that come to the emergency department.
- We are seeing many seniors with early onset dementia and memory issues, leading to falls and injury.
- Affordable transitional care is needed for those who are forced to age in place.
- Medicaid and Medicare patients are struggling to get ancillary services that support them at home.

### Mental Health

- There is an epidemic of mental health issues in the community: PTSD, depression, anxiety, fear of isolation and trauma.
- Our communities do not have enough mental health community clinics where care is culturally and linguistically competent.
- People are struggling with lost employment, illness, anxiety, and uncertainty. We
  do not have enough grief support providers.

#### **Social Determinants of Health**

Interviewees were asked about the underlying systemic issues/social determinants of health that impacted health and health outcomes in the area. Responses are presented according to the five domains of Social Determinants of Health (Healthy People 2030).

# Economic Stability

- Lots of people move from Harris County to Montgomery County where the cost of living is cheaper and they can afford a decent place to live.
- People are dependent on keeping their jobs for health insurance. If they lose their jobs and wages, they cannot afford health care. Many times, you see multiple generations dependent on one or two wage earners.
- The working poor have no savings and often work multiple jobs to make ends meet.
- If the head of household falls ill it has a catastrophic effect on the health and welfare of the family (no money for food or rent).
- Undocumented individuals have the hardest time finding regular employment as they don't have the required identification.
- Many people who work lower wage jobs are the most affected by the impacts of illness, lack of insurance, financial insecurity.
- The price of goods is going up. People have to make choices about what's a necessity and what is not. Fresh and healthy food should be easily accessible and affordable for all, not a choice they have to make.

# Neighborhood and Physical Environment

- Hwy 45 cuts the county in half. The eastern part is a food desert and has limited transportation options. Hospitals are primarily located on the western side, which is generally more affluent.
- The physical environment is better in Woodlands where there are nice parks and walking paths.
- Transport infrastructure growth is not keeping up with need-especially in small towns and the rural parts of the county. There is not one transportation option that crosses the county.
- Montgomery County has mobile home complexes but they are not considered quality, affordable housing units.
- The regular occurrence of natural disasters like hurricanes (Harvey and Irma) has left extensive damage in the waterways and housing in the rural areas. It takes longer to recover.
- There is not good access to basic services in the eastern part of the county.
- Food security is a big issue in the county. We see many neighborhoods where the closest large grocery store is miles away.
- For some food pantries, people need to show their check stub or ID to get access. Not everyone has that (if they are unemployed or undocumented).
- There are county resources for food for those who lack access but not enough advertising on how to get it/find it/access it.
- Eating healthy food items is expensive. For many families, they have to think of how to stretch their food dollars between paychecks. They will choose canned and processed food because it lasts longer.
- Our communities have so many fast-food restaurants and lifestyles are so busy that it's almost a given that their diets will be comprised of unhealthy foods.

### Education

- The quality of elementary education and outreach to families depends on where they live. There is a well-developed outreach in the larger school districts in places like the Woodlands, but the smaller school districts need more support.
- The adaptation of school districts and resources do not keep pace with the demographic changes. We see this in the lack of language and social support services.
- Vocational and job training information flows slowly into the community. Most job seekers don't know what resources are available.

#### Health Care Access

 There is a general lack of health care literacy. That includes knowing how to proactively access health care or where to go when sick. People will wait until

- there is a health crisis before they access care.
- Many people don't have knowledge or understanding of how insurance works, how to get it or use it, how to read the bills and notices for what is covered and what is not.
- Many providers do not take Medicaid, which is the insurance that many people have.
- Some of the health systems don't take different low-cost insurance plans.
   Persons who access care do not know they are not covered for services until they receive a bill.
- Not all health systems and providers have linguistic and culturally competent services and providers. This especially impacts Hispanic and African Americans.
   Further, there is a lack of intercultural awareness.
- Persons who are experiencing homelessness or are lower income individuals feel that doctors/hospitals 'shop them out' because they have more complex medical issues and are a burden on the medical system.
- There is a lack of centralized social services, such as legal assistance, food access or utilities assistance. Often this work is left to churches and community nonprofits.
- There are many pop-up clinics in the county, often in lower income neighborhoods that will see patients for cash payment but they don't give consistent care.
- Many foreign-born persons and undocumented individuals have distrust and fear
  of the medical system. They fear they will get deported if seeking services.
- Medicines for diabetes and steroids for COPD are the most commonly reported expensive medications that people stop taking because they can't afford it.
- There is little to no social support for elderly individuals who fall and are in recovery alone at home.

### Social and Community Context

- Many people don't have access to or understand how to use technology to get services.
- Many political offices are not held by people of color even though they are growing in larger numbers in this community.
- Local policy decisions are not representative of changing community demographics.
- There is pandemic misinformation. People don't know who to ask or where to go for trusted science-based information.
- There is institutional racism related to law enforcement actions and who gets food stamps.
- In some communities, there is still a sense of segregation. For example, in some

- Hispanic neighborhoods, they are traditional barrios or enclaves, which is both good and bad for the community's overall health and integration.
- Young families need food, clothing rent mortgage, legal services. They can't always easily get it due to language or other barriers.
- Those individuals who left Houston 35 years ago, who are still monolingual Spanish speakers, need elder care now.
- There is a delay in service availability in the needlest communities.
- The county does a good job of working on nondiscrimination. But it's not enough.

## **Gaps in Accessing Care**

Interviewees were asked to identify populations and geographies that were lacking access to regular health care and social services within Harris County. The following groups and areas came up multiple times in the interviews as having the most barriers to access.

## **Demographic Groups**

- Seniors living alone with a lack of transportation
- Vietnamese community in SE Conroe and Spring. There is a language barrier and translators are not available
- Foreign born, undocumented individuals
- Veterans
- Persons living in poverty or who are low-income
- Persons experiencing homelessness
- Hispanic communities
- African American communities
- Patients with untreated mental health issues.
- Young males between the ages of 18-30
- Afghan refugees
- Single parents

## <u>Under resourced neighborhood and geographic locations</u>

- East County- Hispanic communities
- Rural areas Willis or North County
- New Caney
- Cleveland
- Central and East Conroe
- Conroe
- NW Houston
- Southside Houston

## **Impact of COVID-19**

Interviewees were asked to reflect on how the pandemic influenced or changed the unmet health-related needs in the community.

- In the last three months of 2020, we saw three times the number of funerals due to COVID compared to the previous 18 months. The amount of stress and grief that people were dealing with was overwhelming.
- We don't have an accurate figure as to how many people died at home or how many homeless persons died.
- There was an increased number of deaths at home due to heart attacks or strokes. We don't know how many of these could have been prevented if the patients had sought medical care.
- We saw an increased need for food and use of food pantries by 400% in 2020.
- There was an increased need for financial assistance for rent and utilities among our clients as well as many middle-class families who had never sought help before.
- We could not keep up with emergent needs. We had to constantly adjust our strategies and services.
- Mental health declined because people worried about issues like financial security, paying for health care, how they would make a living, fear of catching COVID and passing it to their families.
- People started using 911 and EMS to get care and checked for COVID at home.
   They were too scared to come to the hospital for care. This overburdened the system and made it harder to get to real emergencies.
- We saw many high school kids dropping out of school due to psychological and physical struggles with depression, anxiety and lack of support.
- Many residents of Montgomery County live in multigenerational households.
  These individuals were at higher risk for COVID with essential workers, elderly
  parents and young children, too young to receive the vaccine, all in the same
  home.
- COVID amplified the cracks in the community safety net, both in the referral process between organizations and being able to meet people's needs.
- The underlying issues for working poor communities were highlighted.
- Foreign born and poor families struggled without consistent access to the Internet and broadband services.
- People stopped coming for health care visits due to fear of catching COVID.
- FQHCs and small nonprofits were overwhelmed for vaccinations. So many people came and we couldn't vaccinate them all.
- The amount of stress, isolation and addiction reported during COVID was intense. Everyone was struggling.
- A positive change was the shift to video and telehealth. But not everything can be

- managed through a virtual visit. It did not build trust for those families who already distrusted the medical system.
- Because of COVID, a lot of red tape to get help was removed. We hope this continues so we can get help to those individuals who are undocumented.
- There were a lack of hospital and nursing facility beds due to COVID.
- The capacity of health care workers was drastically lowered due to burnout.
- People turned to their faith communities for support even though we were closed to in-person gatherings.
- We couldn't see patients in the hospital who needed spiritual support. They were often alone at their most vulnerable moments.