

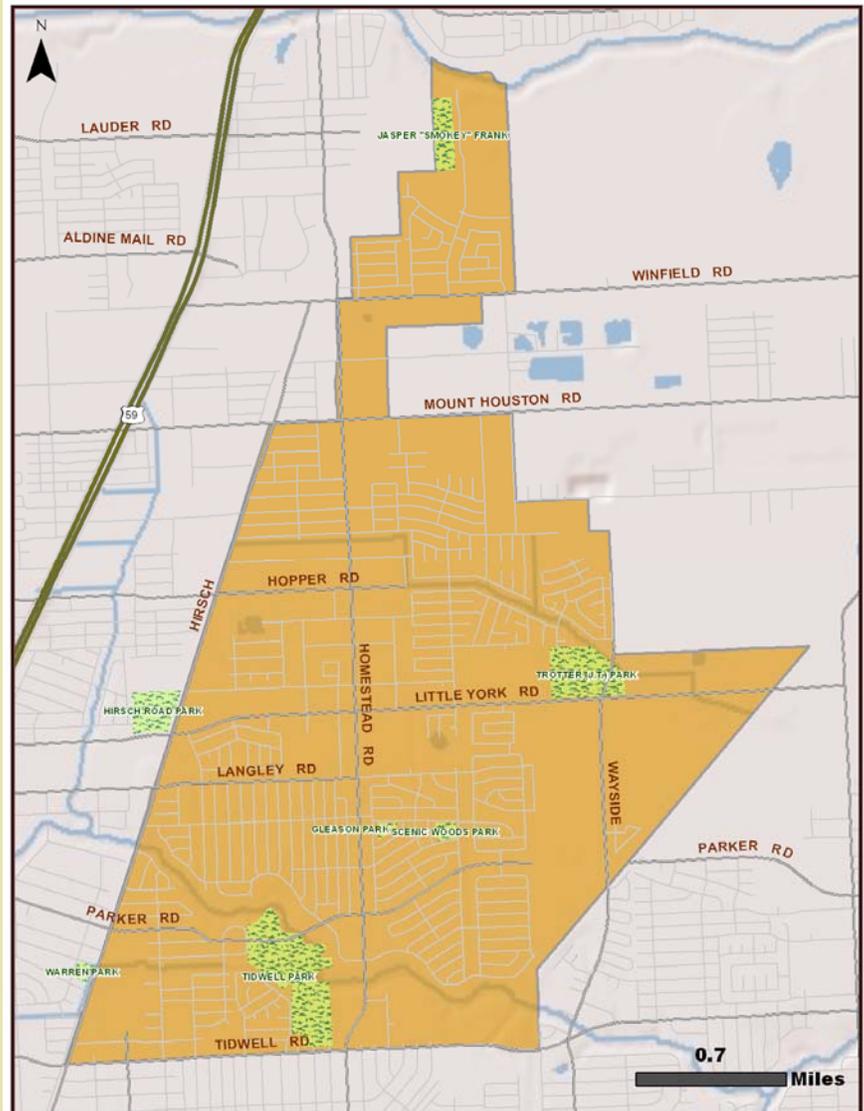
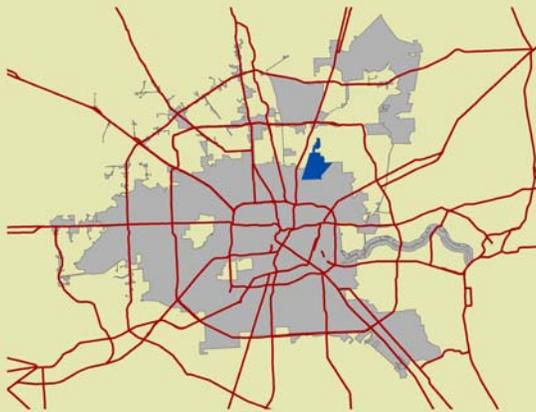
1999-2003



Community Health Profiles



East Little York/ Homestead Super Neighborhood



*Providing Health Information
for Community Action*

Introduction



This community health profile highlights important health issues facing the residents of the East Little York/Homestead Super Neighborhood.

In Houston, a “super neighborhood” is a geographically defined area where residents, civic organizations, institutions and businesses work together to identify, plan, and set priorities to address the needs and concerns of their community. The boundaries of each super neighborhood rely on major physical features such as bayous or freeways to group together contiguous communities that share common physical characteristics, identity or infrastructure. East Little York/Homestead Super Neighborhood will hereinafter be referred to as “East Little York/Homestead.”

It is the intention of the Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS), in developing health profiles such as this, to promote a better understanding by local residents, community-based organizations, community leaders, medical providers, and the public health community of the unique character and circumstances of our various communities, and to draw attention to those matters that contribute to the greatest of health disparities among the citizens of our growing, culturally and ethnically diverse city.

This profile also represents an effort on the part of HDHHS to provide a “baseline” of indicators of health in our communities, against which future trends in conditions can be measured and monitored, and appropriate public health actions, taken.

We hope that this health profile will support these efforts in East Little York/Homestead and across the city of Houston.

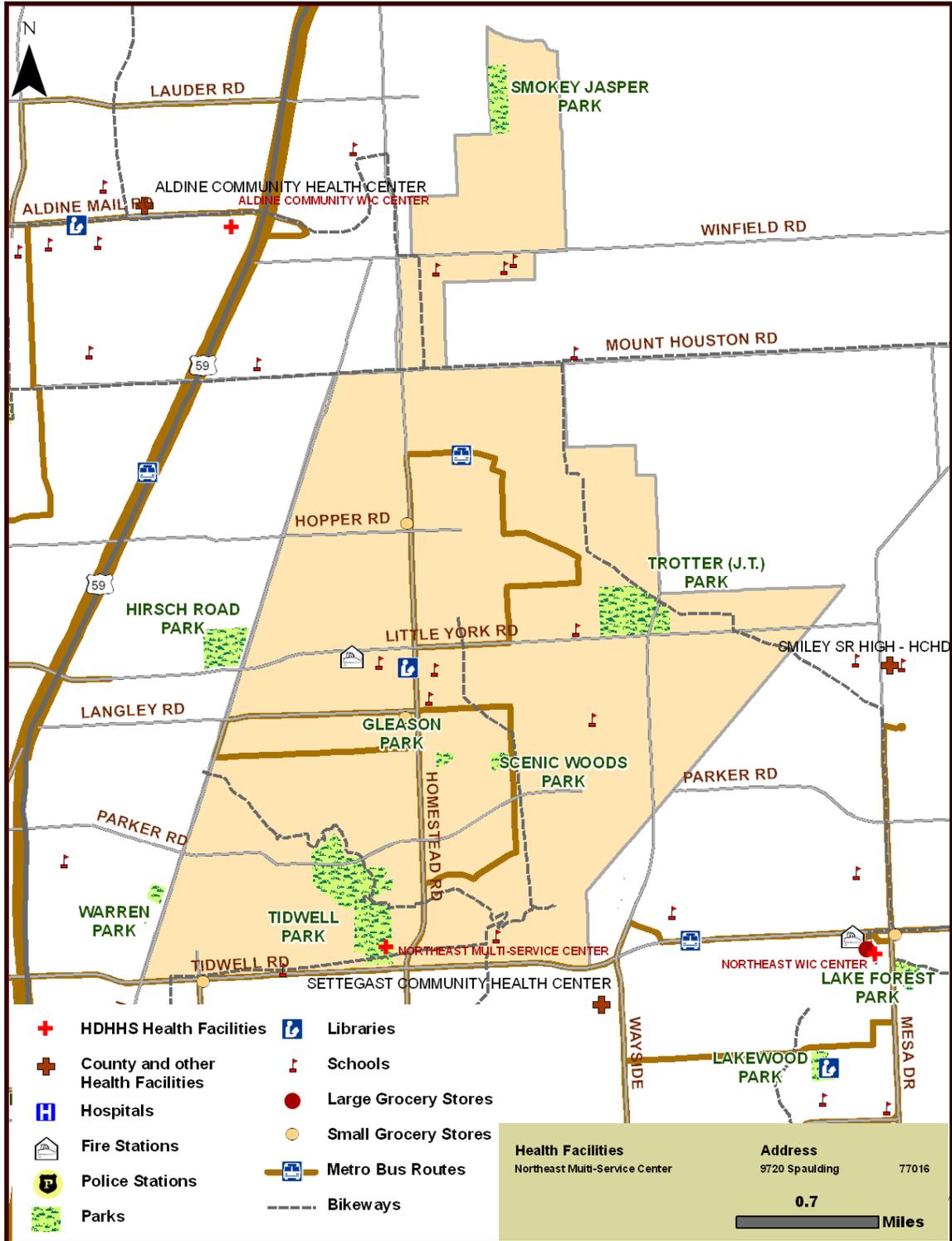
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Community Resources

The health of a community depends to a great extent upon the availability and accessibility of its resources.

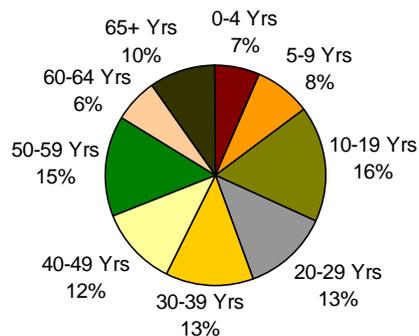


East Little York/ Homestead at a Glance

The total population of East Little York/Homestead was 22,140, according to the 2000 census.*

Age

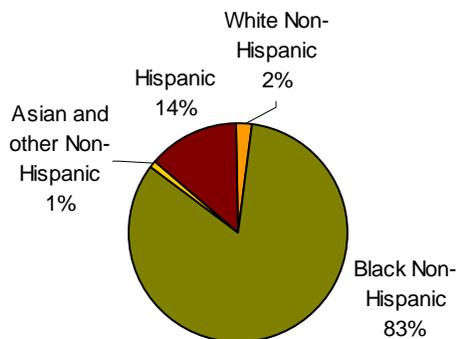
At the time of the 2000 census, 31% of East Little York/Homestead residents were under the age of 20. More than half (59%) were between 20 and 64 years of age, and 10% were 65 or older.



Race, Ethnicity, National Origin

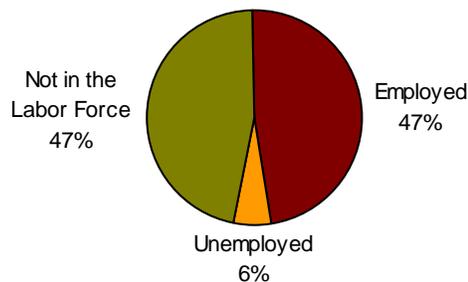
The majority of residents in East Little York/Homestead were Black. Hispanics were the second largest ethnic group, though they comprised only 14% of the population. Three percent of the population were other races.

Of the total population, a majority (78%) were native Texans; 6% were foreign born.



Employment

A large proportion (53%) of East Little York/Homestead residents, ages 16 and over, were either unemployed or were not in the labor force in 1999.

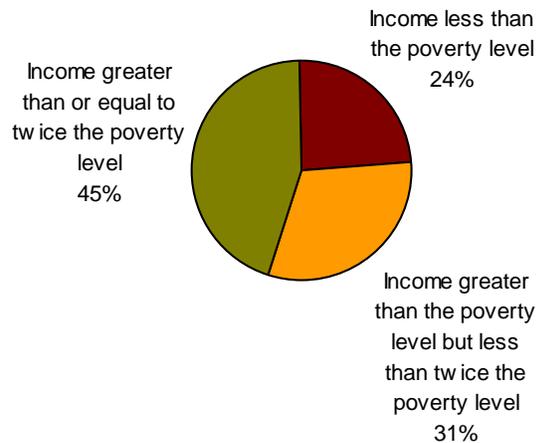


* Data Source: U.S. Census 2000. Total population was calculated from census block-level data using Summary File 1. For purposes of describing demographics using Summary File 3, the super neighborhood is defined by the following census geographies: Tracts 2307, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2318, 2319; and Tract 2320, Block Group 3.

Poverty

Twenty-four percent of the population in East Little York/Homestead lived below the poverty level in 1999. More than half (55%) of all residents in the super neighborhood had incomes less than twice the poverty level.

Of those living below the poverty level, 40% were children under 18 years of age; 7% were adults 65 and older.



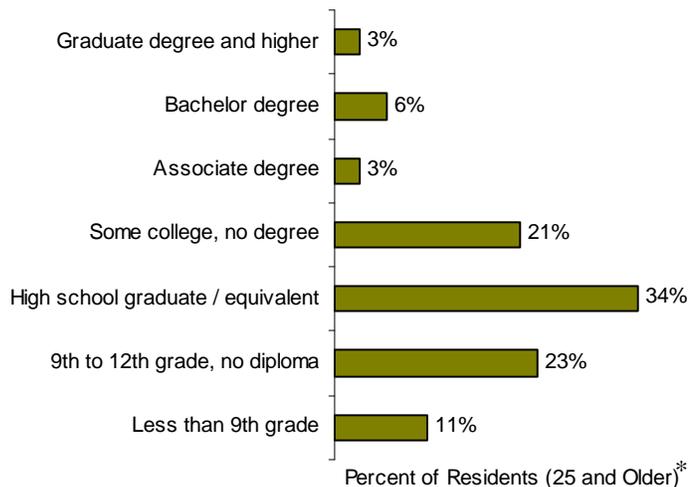
Education

Thirty-four percent of East Little York/Homestead residents, ages 25 and over, reported that they had not graduated from high school.

Another 34% of residents reported a high school diploma (or the equivalent) as their highest level of educational attainment.

One-third of residents had attained education beyond the high school level, with 12% earning a college degree.

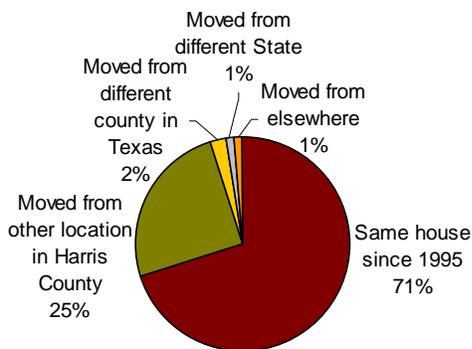
*Due to rounding, the total percentages may not be equal to 100.



Population Stability

More than two-thirds (71%) of the residents of East Little York/Homestead had lived in the same house since 1995. One-quarter moved to East Little York/Homestead from other locations in Harris County between 1995 and 1999.

Less than 5% of residents moved to the area from outside Harris County between 1995 and 1999.



Data Source: U.S. Census 2000, Summary File 3

Major Causes of Death

During the years 1999-2003, the residents of the super neighborhood had higher overall and cause-specific annual average mortality rates than those of Houston as a whole.

Leading Causes of Mortality, East Little York/Homestead, Houston, Texas, 1999-2003

Rank	Cause of Death	East Little York/ Home- stead		Houston	East Little York/ Homestead - Houston
		Deaths	Rates*	Rates*	Rates
	All Causes	1173	1410.3	898.2	512.1
1	Heart Disease	318	414.8	262.0	152.8
2	Cancer	264	286.0	197.6	88.4
3	Stroke	86	113.2	76.0	37.2
4	Diabetes Mellitus	67	74.6	28.0	46.6
5	Accidents	58	60.1	34.8	25.3
6	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	33	46.8	31.9	14.9
7	Septicemia	33	42.0	18.1	23.9
8	HIV/AIDS	39	39.2	13.7	25.5
9	Kidney Disease	26	37.5	15.8	21.7
10	Homicide	30	28.6	11.1	17.5

Other Causes of Death of Particular Interest, East Little York/Homestead, Houston, Texas, 1999-2003

Cause of Death	East Little York/ Home- stead		Houston	East Little York/ Homestead - Houston
	Deaths	Rates*	Rates*	Rates
Coronary Heart Disease	215	284.6	174.1	110.5
Bronchus-Lung Cancer	77	77.0	52.8	24.2
Motor Vehicle Accident	22	--	13.2	--
Firearm Related	20	--	7.4	--
Drug-Induced Cause	12	--	8.2	--
Cervical Cancer	<5	--	2.2	--

*Age-adjusted mortality rates: annual average deaths per 100,000 population; census 2000 populations as the denominators; age-adjusted to the 2000 US Standard Million; deaths with known age and disease information.
 -- Numbers of deaths were too small for rate calculation.

Data Sources: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics; US Census, 2000

Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL)

Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) is an indicator of premature mortality. This indicator suggests social and economic loss owing to premature death. It also gives information on the specific causes of deaths affecting younger age groups.

Leading Causes of Premature Death	YPLL Rate*	YPLL Rate**	Houston YPLL Rate**
Cancer	1463.8	1547.7	816.3
Accidents	1392.7	1596.3	779.0
Heart Disease	1318.6	1387.0	689.3
Homicide	1056.3	1135.6	407.5
HIV/AIDS	842.1	1029.2	335.1
Congenital Disorders	376.5	--	-
Stroke	327.4	--	-
Diabetes Mellitus	296.4	298.2	103.0
Suicide	286.4	--	-
Influenza and Pneumonia	178.2	--	-
Specific Causes of Interest			
Firearm Related	720.9	--	-
Coronary Heart Disease	696.9	714.7	376.1
Motor Vehicle Accident	614.8	--	-
Drug-Induced Cause	336.4	--	-
Bronchus-Lung Cancer	270.3	278.9	153.2

NOTE: Special cause of death categories may not be mutually exclusive.
 * Crude annual average YPLL per 100,000 population under age 65 years.
 ** Age-adjusted annual average YPLL per 100,000 population under age of 65, standardized for 2000 US Standard Million.
 -- Number of deaths too small for age-adjustment.
 - Houston data not presented because comparison data were not available for the community.

Differences in YPLL rates between Men and Women, 1999-2003

Premature deaths from accidents, heart disease, and HIV/AIDS had higher impact on YPLL rates among males than females in this community.

Rate of Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL Rate)

At every age of death, there is a certain number of years of "expected life" that are not lived, and are therefore "lost". The amount of lost years of life often differ by cause of death. Many people consider death before the age of 65 years as premature. More years of life were lost prematurely due to cancer, accidents, heart disease, homicide, and HIV/AIDS related deaths in this community than any other causes.

The age-adjusted annual average YPLL rates for the above conditions and diabetes were higher in the super neighborhood than those in Houston. Comparison of other age-adjusted YPLL rates is not possible because of the relatively small number of deaths occurring before age 65 in East Little York/Homestead. YPLL is not reported where fewer than 5 deaths occurred.

Leading Causes of Premature Death §	Male YPLL Rates (number of deaths)	Female YPLL Rates (number of deaths)
Homicide	1916.6(26)	
Accidents	1850.4(29)	988.3(18)
Heart Disease	1660.4(71)	1016.6(48)
Cancer	1395.8(58)	1524.0(56)
HIV/AIDS	1120.5(25)	596.0(12)

Specific Causes of Interest		
Firearm Related	1374.5(18)	
Motor Vehicle Accident	915.6(13)	348.9(5)
Coronary Heart Disease	892.1(46)	524.3(26)

§ Ranked by Male YPLL Rate.
 Note: YPLL rate might be unstable due to small number of premature deaths.

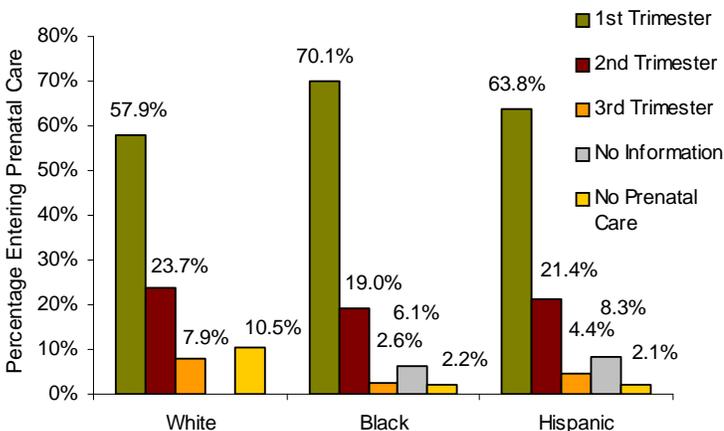
Data Sources: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics; US Census, 2000

Maternal and Child Health

Prenatal care is the care a woman gets during pregnancy. Both prenatal care and birth weight are good indicators of a newborn's chances of survival, growth, long term health, and psycho-social development.

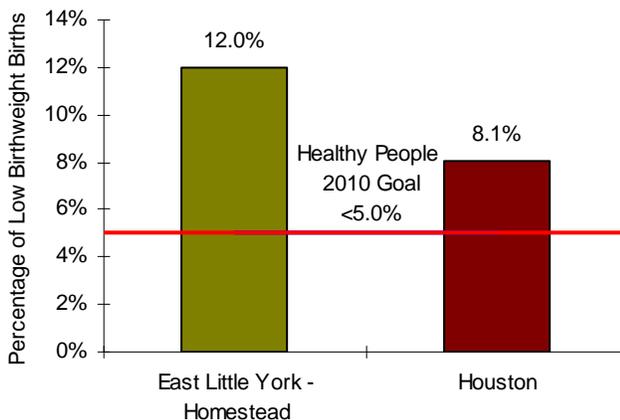
Entry into Prenatal Care by Trimester of Pregnancy, 1999-2003

Compared to Hispanic and Black women, a smaller proportion of White women reported entering prenatal care in the first trimester. A small proportion of women in all groups entered prenatal care very late in their pregnancy, or received no care at all.



Low Birth Weight Births (LBWB), 1999-2003

Twelve percent of live births in East Little York/Homestead were of low birth weight (2500 grams or less). This was nearly 50% higher than that of Houston. Both were far higher than the Healthy People 2010 goal of reducing this outcome to less than 5% of live births.

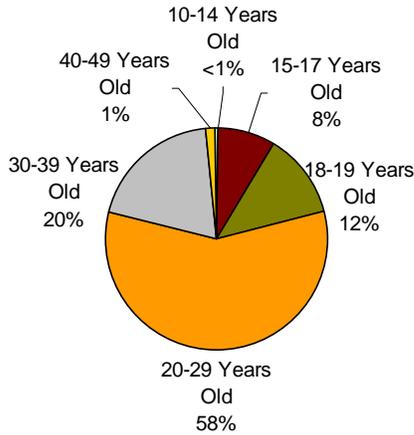


Low birth weight is a factor significantly related to infant mortality. Infants born with low birth weights are at increased risk for serious health problems and long term disabilities such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, and respiratory, vision, and hearing problems. Low birth weight and infant mortality are therefore among the most important indicators of a community's health.

Data Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics, 1999-2003

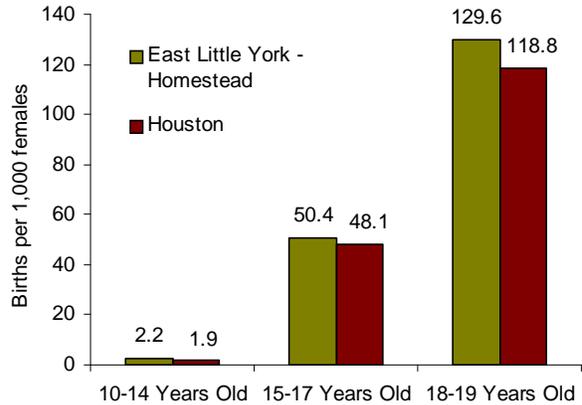
Births to Teen Mothers

Teenage childbearing is associated with negative consequences for the children born of teen mothers. In addition, there are important social and economic costs to individuals as well as the society as a result of births to teenage mothers.



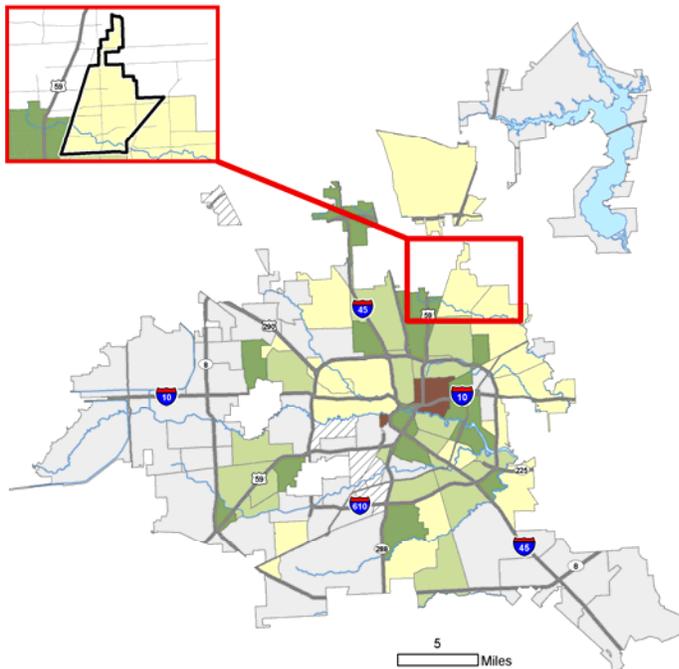
Births by Age of Mother, 1999-2003

A total of 1,773 births were recorded over the period among mothers in East Little York/Homestead. Approximately 1 out of every 5 of these births was to a young mother (10-19 years of age).



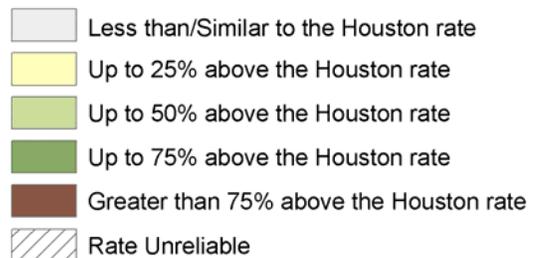
Births to Teen Mothers, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of births to 15-17 year-old teens in East Little York/Homestead (50.4 per 1,000 females aged 15 to 17 years) was slightly higher than that for females the same age in Houston, overall. The rate among 18-19 year-old females in East Little York/Homestead was also 9% higher than that for the same age group in Houston.



Births to Teen Mothers by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

East Little York/Homestead was among those neighborhoods in Houston with elevated annual average rates of births to teen mothers (15-17 years of age).



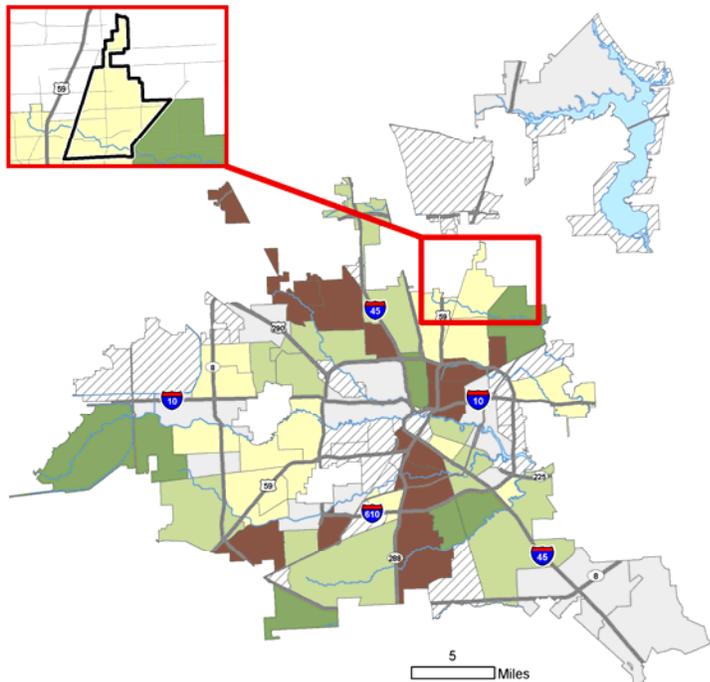
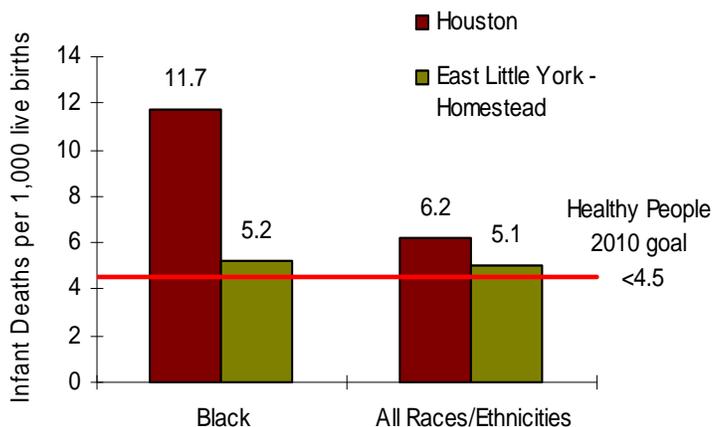
Data Sources: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics; US Census 2000

Infant Mortality

Infant mortality rate is the death of infants in the first year of life. It is one of the most important indicators of the health of a community. The Healthy People 2010 goal is to eliminate disparities among racial and ethnic groups with infant mortality rates (IMR) above the national average. The targeted groups are African American, American Indian, Alaskan Native and Puerto Rican populations.

Infant Mortality Rate, 1999-2003

The annual average infant mortality rate in East Little York/Homestead was 18% lower than Houston's IMR but 13% higher than Healthy People 2010 goal of 4.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Seventy-eight percent of all infant deaths were among Blacks. The annual average IMR among Blacks in East Little York/Homestead was half that of Blacks in Houston as a whole. Infant mortality among other groups is not presented due to small numbers of infant deaths in those groups.



Infant Mortality Rate by Super Neighborhood 1999-2003

East Little York/Homestead was among the neighborhoods in Houston with elevated annual average infant mortality rates, relative to the Health People 2010 goal.

- Less than/Similar to the Healthy People 2010 goal
- Up to 25% above Healthy People 2010 goal
- Up to 50% above Healthy People 2010 goal
- Up to 75% above Healthy People 2010 goal
- Greater than 75% above Healthy People 2010 goal
- Rate Unreliable

Data Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics

Leading Causes of Hospitalization

Much information on the health issues that the super neighborhood residents face on a daily basis is not readily available. The leading causes of hospitalization provide a partial picture of those conditions.

	Principal Diagnosis, Multiple Level Clinical Classification of ICD 9	Counts
1	Diseases of the circulatory system	2803
	Diseases of the heart	1744
	Cerebrovascular disease	517
	Hypertension	328
2	Complications of pregnancy; childbirth; and the puerperium	1572
	Complications mainly related to pregnancy	494
	Indications for care in pregnancy; labor; and delivery	322
	Complications during labor	269
3	Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	1393
	Liveborn	1349
	Other perinatal conditions	26
	Short gestation; low birth weight; and fetal growth retardation	11
4	Diseases of the respiratory system	1227
	Respiratory infections	567
	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and bronchiectasis	218
	Asthma	194
5	Diseases of the digestive system	1052
	Lower gastrointestinal disorders	264
	Upper gastrointestinal disorders	165
	Biliary tract disease	132
6	Injury and poisoning	1043
	Complications	541
	Fractures	225
	Open wounds	55
7	Neoplasms	839
	Benign neoplasms	255
	Secondary malignancies	97
	Colorectal cancer	70

In East Little York/Homestead, during the years 1999-2002, the most common causes of hospitalization were related to issues of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, perinatal period conditions, respiratory diseases, and digestive diseases.

Note that only the most common conditions are listed under each major category of diagnosis, and that the sum of these counts may not equal the total counts for the category.

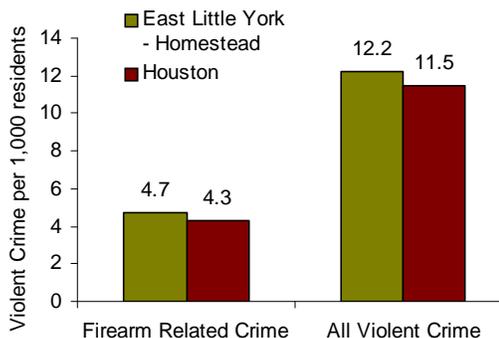
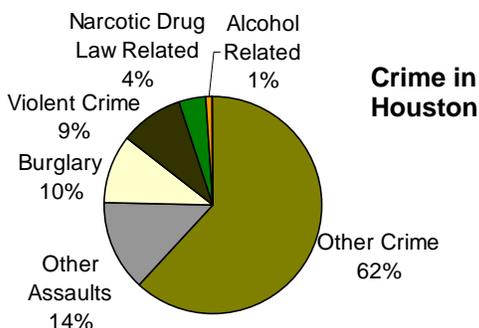
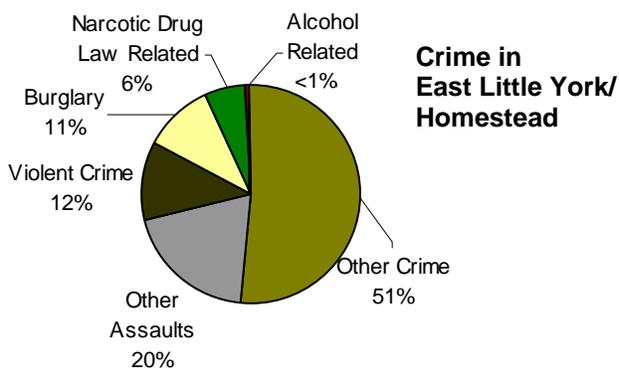
8	Mental disorders	737
	Schizophrenia and related disorders	267
	Affective disorders	223
9	Other psychoses	85
	Endocrine; nutritional; and metabolic diseases and immunity disorders	663
	Diabetes mellitus with complications	399
10	Fluid and electrolyte disorders	163
	Other nutritional; endocrine; and metabolic disorders	42
	Diseases of the genitourinary system	587
10	Diseases of the urinary system	358
	Diseases of female genital organs	183
	Diseases of male genital organs	46

Data Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Health Care Information Collection

Crime

The crime rate in urban areas is of concern to the residents, law enforcement and the local government. Crimes place stress on the residents of neighborhoods and affect their well-being. Of particular concern are violent crimes that threaten residents' lives, such as those involving firearms.

Overview of Crime, 1999-2003

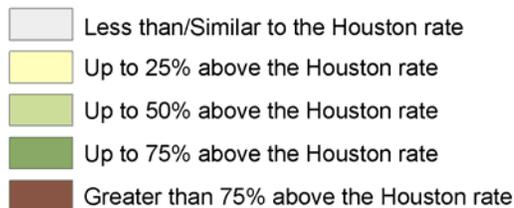
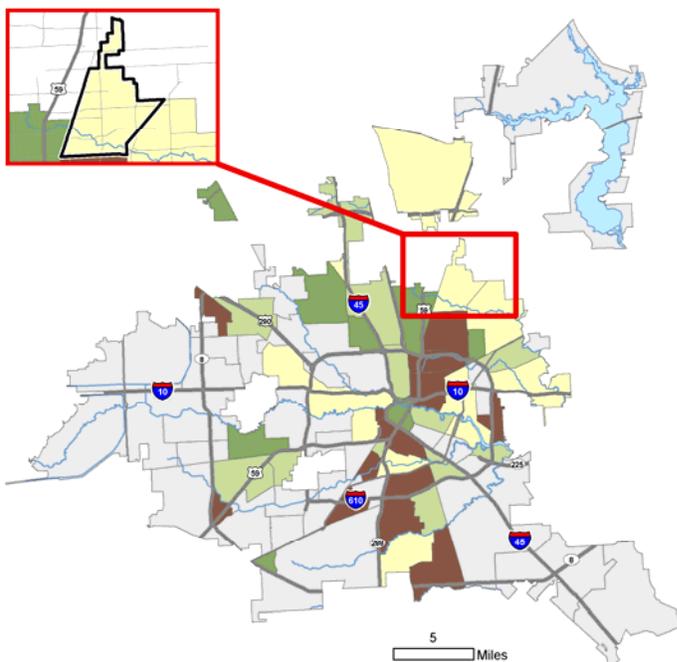


Violent Crime, 1999-2003

From 1999-2003, the annual average rate of violent crime in East Little York/Homestead was 12.2 per 1,000 population, 6% higher than that of Houston as a whole. The firearm-related violent crime rate in East Little York/Homestead was 4.7 per 1,000 population, slightly higher than the Houston rate.

Rate of Violent Crime by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

East Little York/Homestead was among the neighborhoods in Houston with elevated annual average rates of violent crime.



Data Source: Houston Police Department

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by a specific type of bacteria that spreads from person to person through the air. TB typically affects the lungs but can also affect the brain and other organs. If this disease is left untreated it can be fatal.

From 1999 to 2003, 19 newly-acquired cases of tuberculosis were identified among residents of East Little York/Homestead, representing 1.4% of all cases diagnosed in Houston in that period. The rate in this super neighborhood was 17.2 compared to 13.6 per 100,000 in Houston as a whole. Both rates appeared far higher than the national 2010 Healthy People target of 1 case per 100,000 population.

Three quarters of these cases occurred among Blacks between 20 to 64 years of age, with males being more affected than females.

Data Source: HDHHS, Bureau of TB Control

Drowning and Submersion

Drowning and submersion injuries are often unintentional and are preventable through increased awareness of precautions that can be taken in and around bodies of water.

No drowning or submersion injuries were reported among East Little York/Homestead residents from 1999-2003.

Data Source: HDHHS, Bureau of Epidemiology

Food-borne Diseases

Many food-related diseases are easily preventable. Eating well-cooked foods, keeping cooking areas free of contamination by thoroughly cleaning surfaces touched by raw meats and poultry, hand washing before handling food, and avoiding unpasteurized products are some of the measures that people can take to lower their risk of food-related disease.

Food-related diseases are typically under-reported. It is likely that many more cases occurred from 1999 to 2003 than were actually reported to health officials.

Typically Reported Diseases	Number of Cases
Hepatitis A	<5
Shigellosis	9
Salmonellosis	5
Campylobacteriosis	<5

Data Source: HDHHS, Bureau of Epidemiology

Environmental Health and Safety

Chemical emissions and waste released into the air, soil, and water can affect everyone. Knowing the locations and types of potential polluters allows residents to better monitor the environmental impact on their communities.



Regulated Facilities

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) administer programs which monitor and regulate facilities with the potential to release significant amounts of hazardous chemicals to the environment.

Within one mile of East Little York/Homestead, there are 4 Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) reporting facilities, 1 Large Quantity Generator (LQG) of hazardous waste, and 1 major discharger of air pollutants.

These facilities are regulated under one or more of the following federal statutes: the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act.

- Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Facility
- ⊗ Major Storm Water Runoff Facility
- ◆ Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal (TSD) Facility
- Large Quantity Generator (LQG) of Hazardous Waste
- Major Discharger of Air Pollutants
- ▬ Highway
- ▬ Major Roadway
- ◆ Radioactive Waste Site
- ◆ Current Superfund Site
- ◆ Former Superfund Site
- ⊕ Active Landfill
- ⊕ Inactive Landfill
- ⊕ Closed Landfill
- ▬ Railroad
- ~ Bayou

The EPA provides reports concerning federally regulated facilities through an online application called Envirofacts (www.epa.gov/enviro/index.html).

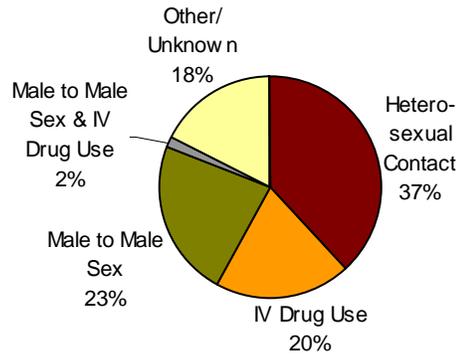
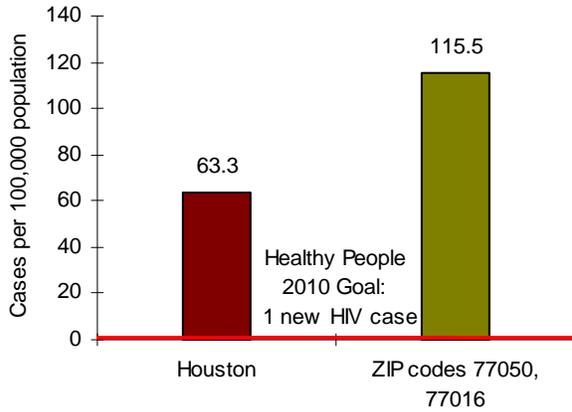
Type of Regulated Facility	Houston Count
Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Facilities (all reporting years)	302
Major Storm Water Runoff Facilities	56
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal (TSD) Facilities	35
Large Quantity Generators (LQG) of Hazardous Waste	132

Type of Regulated Facility	Houston Count
Major Dischargers of Air Pollutants	71
Radioactive Waste Sites	4
Current Superfund Sites	12
Former Superfund Sites	5
Active Landfills	9
Inactive Landfills	2
Closed Landfills	18

Data Sources: Environmental Protection Agency; Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

HIV/AIDS

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency virus) attacks the immune system and can progress to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). HIV is primarily transmitted through unprotected sex or sharing needles with someone infected with the virus. It can also be transmitted before or during birth and from breast milk from mother to child. Many of those infected are unaware of their HIV status, and therefore can transmit the disease unknowingly.

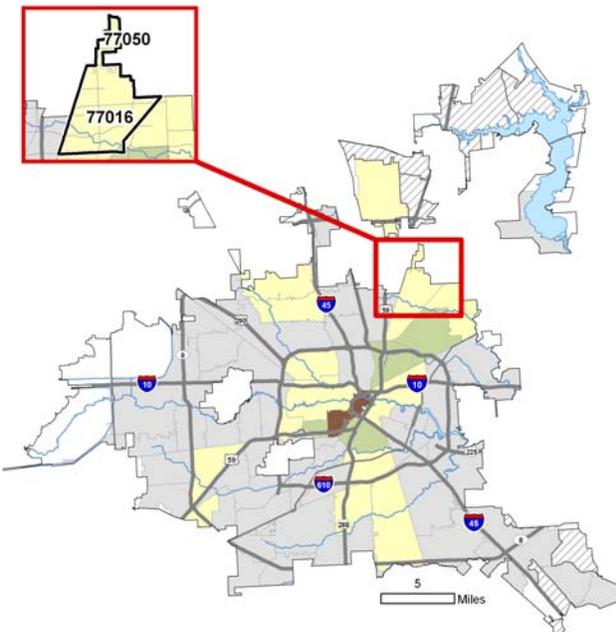


New HIV Diagnosis Rate, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of new HIV diagnosis in zip codes 77050 and 77016 (which include East Little York/Homestead) was 82% higher than the Houston-wide rate during the period; it was far above the 2010 Healthy People goal of reducing infections to less than 1 new case per 100,000 population.

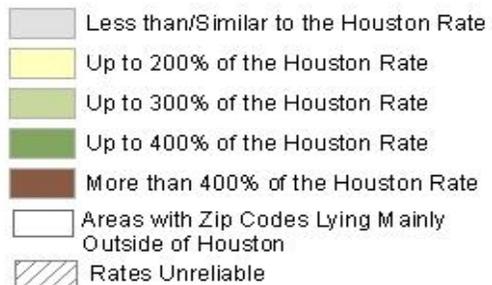
HIV Risk Factors, 1999-2003

In nearly one-fifth of all reported cases, the mode of transmission was unknown. Thirty-seven percent of cases reported heterosexual contact; 23% reported male-to-male sex; 20% reported IV drug use. Male-to-male sex and IV drug use was reported in 2% of new cases.



Rates of New HIV Diagnosis by Zip Code*, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of new HIV diagnosis in zip codes 77050 and 77016, which overlap East Little York/Homestead, were higher than those of many other zip codes in the city.



* Rates are calculated only for those zip codes that lie predominantly within the boundaries of the city of Houston.

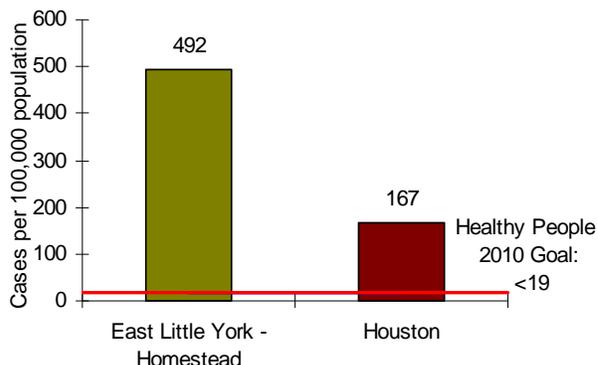
Data Source: HDHHS, Bureau of Epidemiology

Gonorrhea

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) caused by bacteria. If untreated, it can cause serious and permanent health problems in both women and men. It also places infected persons at greater risk for HIV. Though rare, it can result in death if untreated.

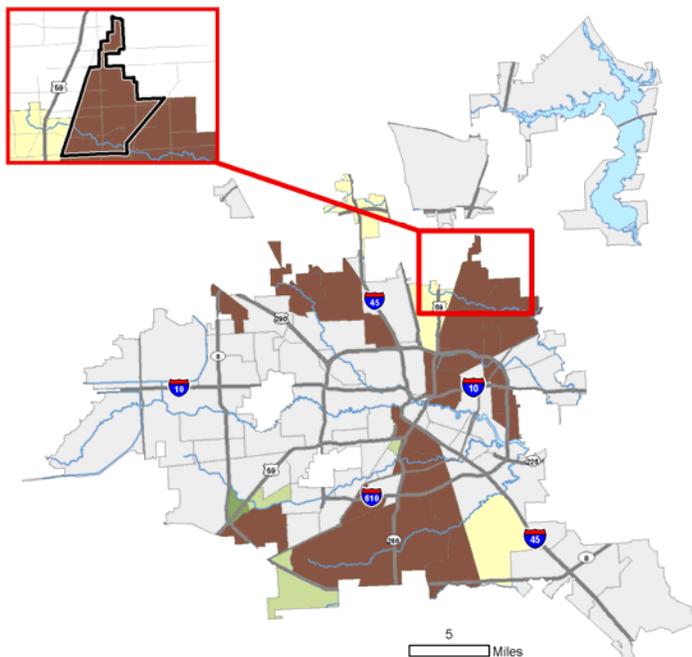
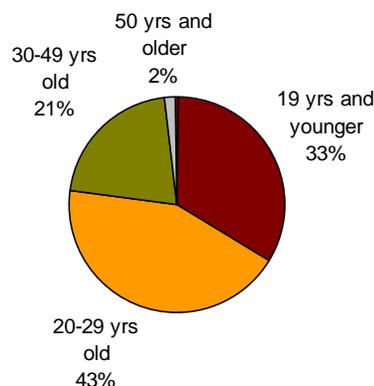
New Gonorrhea Infection, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of new gonorrhea infection in East Little York/Homestead was nearly three times that of Houston; both rates were much greater than the 2010 Healthy People goal of less than 19 cases per 100,000 population.



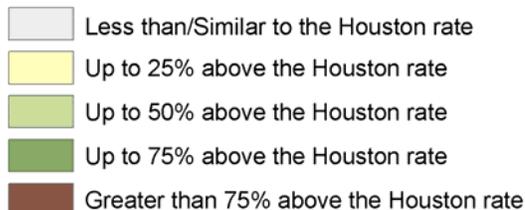
Gonorrhea infection by Age, Sex, Race/Ethnicity

Blacks, who represent 83% of East Little York/Homestead residents, accounted for 91% of new cases. Slightly more than half (52%) of all cases occurred in males, and persons aged 20-29 years were the most affected age group.



Rates of Gonorrhea Infection by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

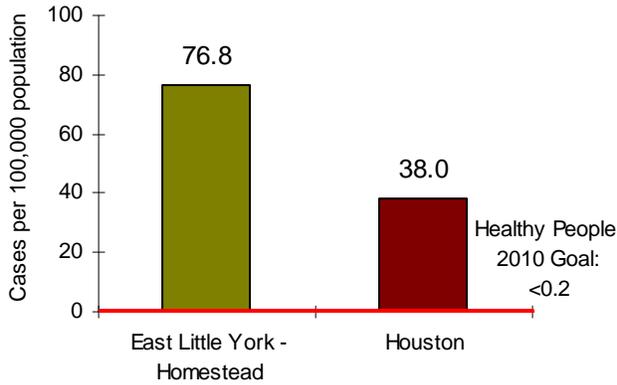
East Little York/Homestead was among the neighborhoods in Houston with the highest annual average rates of infection.



Data Source: HDHHS, Bureau of Epidemiology

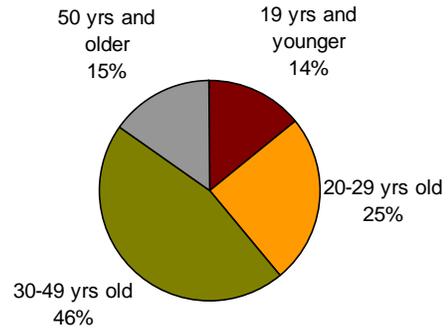
Syphilis

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) and is passed from person to person through direct contact with a syphilis sore. Sores occur mainly on the external genitals, vagina, anus, or in the rectum. Transmission occurs due to unprotected sex. The sores may also occur in lips and mouth. Untreated syphilis can progress into more serious conditions affecting the nervous system, heart and other organs, seriously impairing health.



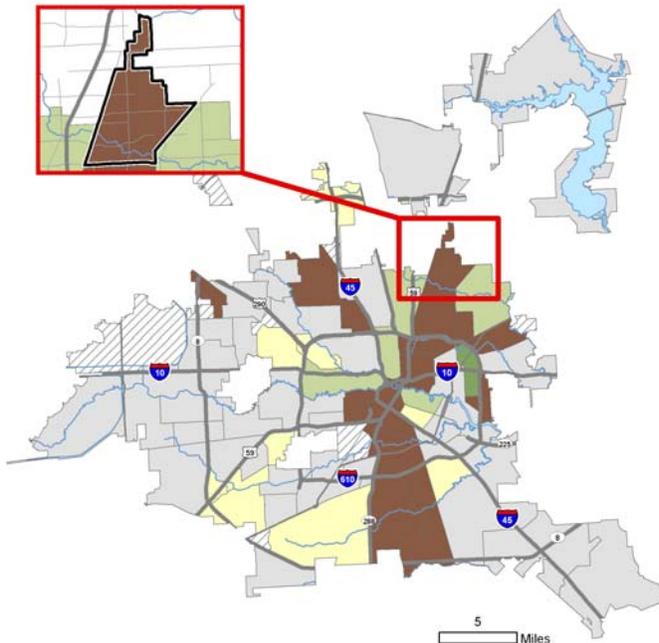
Rates of New Syphilis Infection, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of new syphilis infection in East Little York/Homestead was twice the Houston rate; both were far above the Healthy People 2010 goal.



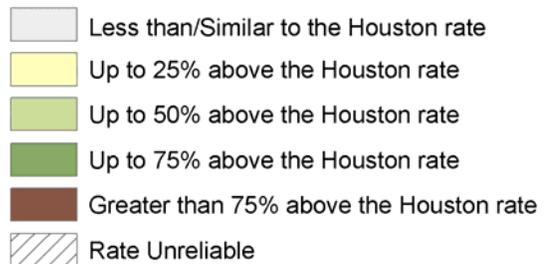
Syphilis Cases by Age, Sex, Race/Ethnicity

From 1999 to 2003, 89% of new cases in East Little York/Homestead were Black; 8% Hispanic. Slightly more than half (54%) of all cases were male. Thirty to forty-nine year olds were the most affected age group.



Rates of Syphilis by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

East Little York/Homestead was among the neighborhoods in Houston with the highest annual average rates of infection.



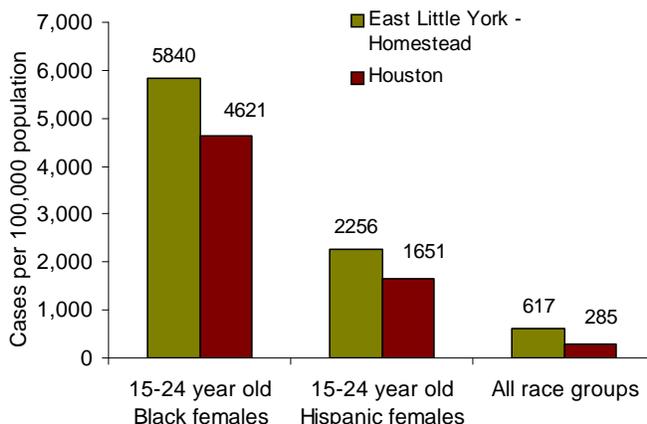
Data Source: HDHHS Bureau of Epidemiology

Chlamydia

Chlamydia is the most frequently reported sexually transmitted disease (STD) in the nation. Women are more commonly screened for the infection than are men, and those 15 to 24 years of age appear to be the most affected, nation-wide. The symptoms are usually mild and not easily recognized, causing many with the infection not to seek treatment. If untreated, chlamydia can cause infertility in women.

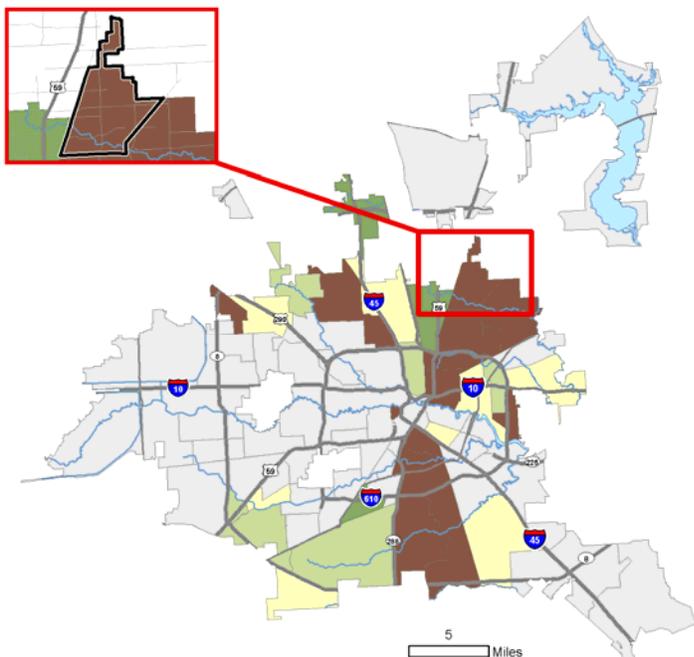
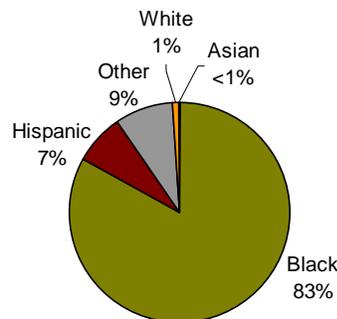
Rates of Chlamydia, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of chlamydia infection in East Little York/Homestead was 617 per 100,000 population, more than twice the Houston rate.



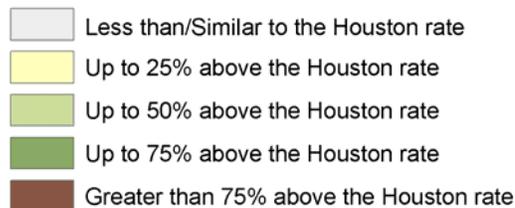
Chlamydia Infection By Age, Sex, and Race/Ethnicity, 1999-2003

In East Little York/Homestead, 83% of all new cases were Black. Ninety-four percent of new infection occurred in those 29 years of age and younger. The majority (82%) of new cases were female.



Rates of Chlamydia by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

East Little York/Homestead was among the neighborhoods in Houston with the highest annual average rates of infection.



Data Source: HDHHS Bureau of Epidemiology

Technical Notes

The Community Health Profiles Project attempts to provide the most recent statistical information available on the health of communities. The 1999-2003 series represents a “baseline” against which changes in the health indicators of communities can be evaluated over time. Data used to compile this profile are derived from a variety of sources — local, state, and national. These data sources may collect information on different cycles and therefore gaps in available years of data may be observed within a single profile.

Except where noted otherwise, rates are calculated using 2000 census data for each community, including age, race, and sex distributions. Agreement between race/ethnicity classifications in the data used in this report and those derived from the census is imperfect; disease registries do not uniformly capture ethnicity along with race and categories of “Black”, “White,” “Asian,” and “Other” may overlap with “Hispanic” ethnicity. Despite potential overlap, in this profile, “Black” is meant as “non-Hispanic Black,” “White” as “non-Hispanic White,” and “Hispanic” as being persons of any race and of Hispanic/Latino culture and origin. The profiles group a range of years of data and present them, where most appropriate, as annual average incidence of the indicator. If the total number of events is less than five, the associated rate is considered unreliable and is not reported; however for Leading Causes of Death, the minimum number of deaths for reporting age-adjusted rates is set at 25. Statistics presented in profiles of super neighborhoods, medically-underserved areas (MUAs), and other geographies are based upon successful geocoding of the residence of individual cases within the boundaries of those geographic entities. The denominator in all cases is the year 2000 census, as the estimated “average” population for each year of the analysis period. Background Houston rates and Healthy People 2010 goals have been used for most indicators as a standard for comparison.

Mortality data: Mortality data have been obtained at the address level from the Texas Department of State Health Services for 1999-2003. The YPLL statistics are computed using 65 years of age as the end point. **Crime data:** Data for 1999-2003 have been acquired from the Houston Police Department at the address level of the site of the incident. **HIV/AIDS data:** As of this report, data were only available at the zip code level.

Other notes

Data for a number of additional indicators considered important for a community’s assessment of its health and health planning efforts were not available at the time of printing of this document. These indicators, including various injury indicators, and more community-specific behavioral data are being collected or researched for potential inclusion in the future published version of this report.

Community Health Profiles

Community-specific public health profiles on medically-underserved areas and the 88 super neighborhoods of Houston are available from the Houston Department of Health and Human Services at www.houstontx.gov/health. Reports can also be requested by e-mail at webadmin@cityofhouston.net, or by writing to:

Community Health Statistics

Office of Surveillance & Public Health Preparedness
Houston Department of Health and Human Services
8000 N. Stadium Dr., 4th floor
Houston, Texas 77054



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About Community Health Statistics (CHS)

Community Health Statistics (CHS) is a program within the division of the Office of Surveillance and Public Health Preparedness of the Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS). It is comprised of epidemiologists, statisticians, and GIS analysts who acquire data through collaboration with multiple partners within and outside the department for analysis, interpretation, and sharing of information on local health issues.

Our mission is to serve the needs of HDHHS, and the needs of the scientific community, and general public as a resource for data and information on the indicators and the determinants of the health and well-being of geographically-defined communities, as well as of other distinct population groups within the city of Houston, Texas.