

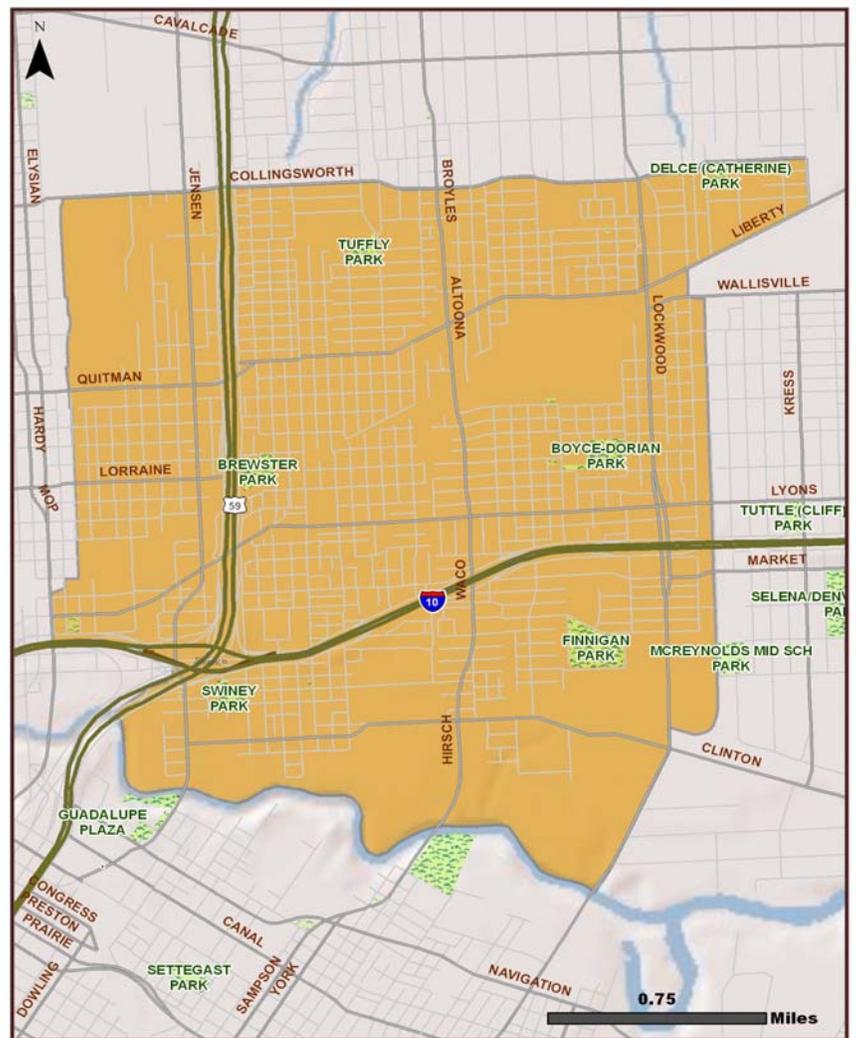
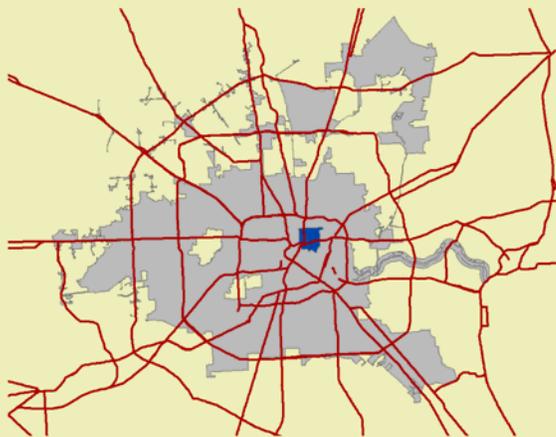
1999-2003



Community Health Profiles



**Greater Fifth
Ward
Super Neighborhood**



*Providing Health Information
for Community Action*

Introduction

This community health profile highlights important health issues facing the residents of the Greater Fifth Ward 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. Greater Fifth Ward Super Neighborhood will hereinafter be referred to as “Greater Fifth Ward”.

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 Greater Fifth Ward 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.

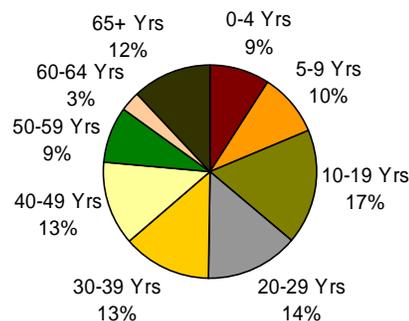


Greater Fifth Ward at a Glance

The total population of the Greater Fifth Ward was 22,211, according to the 2000 census.*

Age

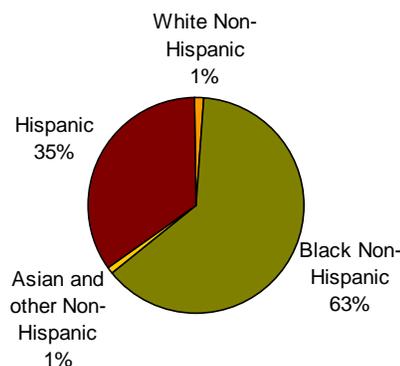
At the time of the 2000 census, more than one-third (36%) of Greater Fifth Ward residents were under the age of 20. Slightly more than half (52%) were between 20 and 64 years of age, and the remaining 12% were 65 and older.



Race, Ethnicity, National Origin

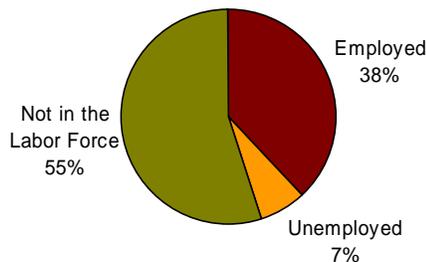
The majority of residents in Greater Fifth Ward were Black. Hispanics were the second largest ethnic group, comprising 35% of the population. Two percent (2%) of the population were of other races.

Of the total population, a majority (70%) were native Texans. Nearly one-fifth (18%) were foreign born.



Employment

A large proportion (62%) of Greater Fifth Ward residents, ages 16 and over, were either unemployed or were not in the labor force in 1999.

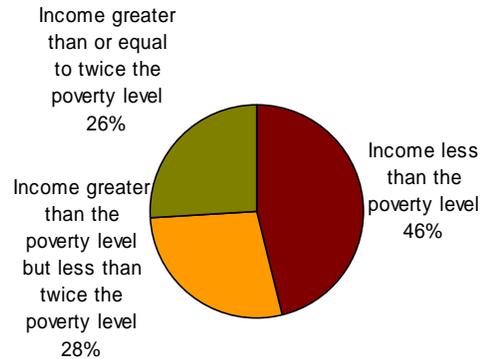


* Data Source: U.S. Census 2000. Total population was calculated from census block-level data using Summary File 1. For purposes of describing demographics using Summary File 3, the super neighborhood is defined by the following census geographies: Tracts 2102, 2111, 2113, 2114; Tract 2108, Block Groups 2-4; Tract 2112, Block Group 3; and Tract 2115, Block Group 1.

Poverty

Nearly half of the population in Greater Fifth Ward was below the poverty level in 1999. Three-quarters (74%) 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; 11% were adults 65 and older.

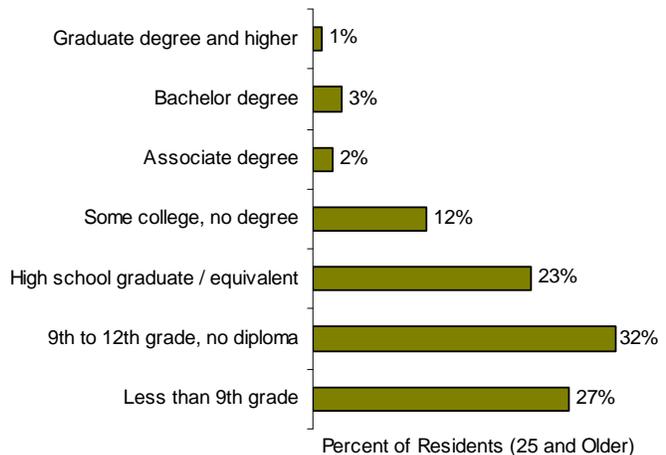


Education

More than half (59%) of Greater Fifth Ward residents, ages 25 and over, reported that they had not graduated from high school.

Nearly one-fourth (23%) of residents reported a high school diploma (or the equivalent) as their highest level of educational attainment.

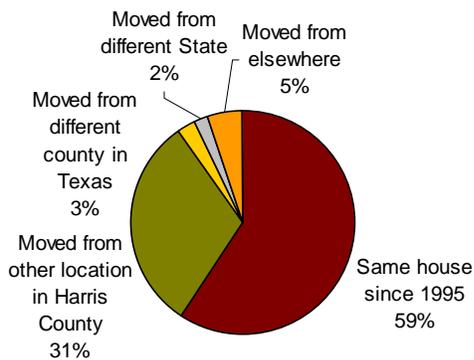
Approximately 18% of residents had attained education beyond the high school level, with 6% earning a college degree.



Population Stability

More than half of the residents of Greater Fifth Ward had lived in the same house since 1995. Just under one-third moved to Greater Fifth Ward from other locations in Harris County between 1995 and 1999.

Ten percent 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 mortality rate than that of Houston as a whole. Annual average mortality rates from the leading causes were also higher in the community, except the rate of chronic lower respiratory disease, which was lower in the community than it was in Houston.

Leading Causes of Mortality, Greater Fifth Ward, Houston, Texas, 1999-2003

Rank	Cause of Death	Greater Fifth Ward		Houston	Greater Fifth Ward-Houston
		Deaths	Rates*	Rates*	Rates
	All Causes	1376	1346.4	898.2	448.2
1	Heart Disease	424	413.7	262.0	151.7
2	Cancer	281	282.3	197.6	84.7
3	HIV/AIDS	78	84.3	13.7	70.6
4	Stroke	85	81.2	76.0	5.2
5	Accidents	66	65.2	34.8	30.4
6	Diabetes Mellitus	51	50.1	28.0	22.1
7	Septicemia	37	35.3	18.1	17.2
8	Homicide	31	29.7	11.1	18.6
9	Chronic Liver Disease-Cirrhosis	26	27.5	12.7	14.8
10	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease	25	25.2	31.9	-6.6

Other Causes of Death of Particular Interest, Greater Fifth Ward, Houston, Texas, 1999-2003

Cause of Death	Greater Fifth Ward		Houston	Greater Fifth Ward-Houston
	Deaths	Rates*	Rates*	Rates
Coronary Heart Disease	278	270.6	174.1	96.5
Bronchus-Lung Cancer	71	71.3	52.8	18.5
Firearm-Related	25	23.6	7.4	16.1
Motor Vehicle Accident	22	--	13.2	--
Drug-Induced Cause	16	--	8.2	--
Cervical Cancer	7	--	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**
HIV/AIDS	1490.6	1774.7	335.1
Accidents	1488.6	1532.5	779.0
Heart Disease	1480.4	1789.2	689.3
Cancer	1120.8	1350.3	816.3
Homicide	1011.4	1048.2	407.5
Conditions Originating in the Perinatal Period	901.1	--	-
Congenital Disorders	335.1	--	-
Stroke	288.1	--	-
Septicemia	255.4	--	-
Chronic Liver Disease-Cirrhosis	222.7	--	-
Specific Causes of Interest			
Firearm-Related	860.2	--	-
Coronary Heart Disease	779.5	970.3	376.1
Motor Vehicle Accident	620.1	--	-
Drug-Induced Cause	304.5	--	-
Bronchus-Lung Cancer	196.2	--	-

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, homicide, and firearm-related causes had disproportionately higher impact on annual average 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 HIV/AIDS, accidents, heart disease, cancer, and homicide in this community than any other causes.

The age-adjusted annual average YPLL rates for HIV/AIDS, accidents, heart disease, cancer, and homicide 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 Greater Fifth Ward. YPLL rates are 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)
Accidents	1984.2(39)	981.6(15)
Heart Disease	1610.4(64)	1347.4(44)
HIV/AIDS	1572.0(41)	1407.3(32)
Homicide	1543.7(23)	467.0(7)
Cancer	1052.7(52)	1190.3(42)

Specific Causes of Interest

Firearm-Related	1337.6(19)	372.0(5)
Motor Vehicle Accident	929.5(15)	
Coronary Heart Disease	782.0(39)	777.0(27)

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

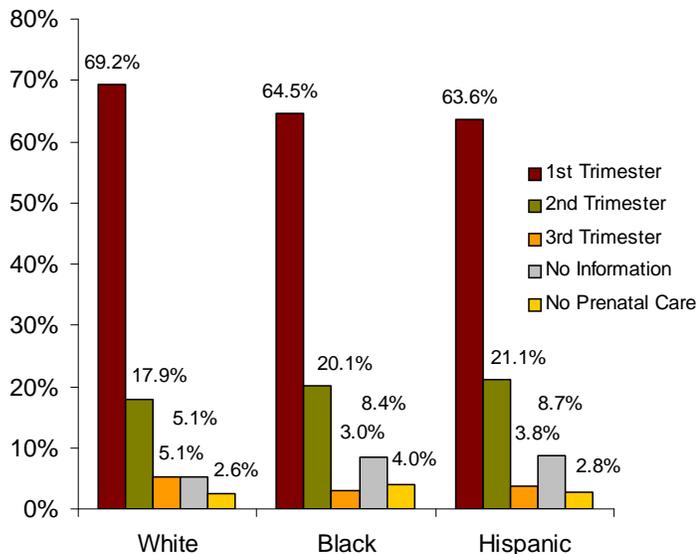
Data Sources: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics; US Census, 2000

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.

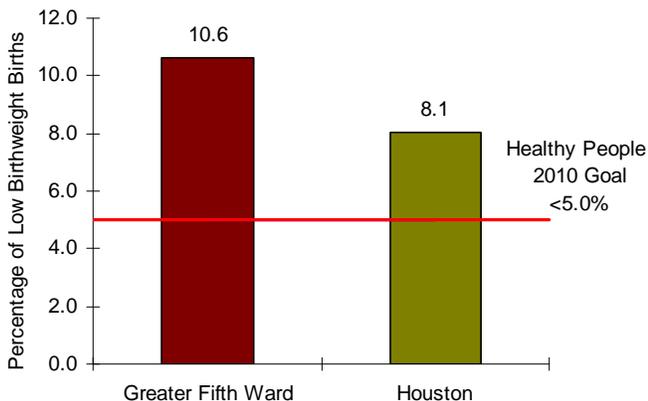
Entry into Prenatal Care by Trimester of Pregnancy, 1999-2003

Slightly higher percentages of Black and Hispanic women reported entering prenatal care in the second trimester than did White women. A small proportion of all women entered prenatal care very late in their pregnancy, or received no care at all.



Low Birth Weight Births (LBWB), 1999-2003

Approximately 11% of live births in Greater Fifth Ward were of low birth weight (2500 grams or less), which was a higher proportion than that seen in Houston as a whole. Both were far higher than the Healthy People 2010 goal of reducing this outcome to less than 5% of live births being low weight.

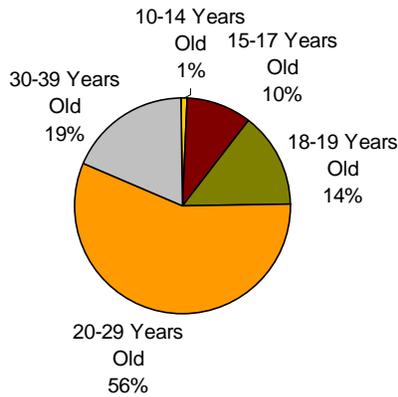


Low birth weight is a factor significantly related to infant mortality. Infants born with low birth weights are at increased risk for serious health problems and long term disabilities such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, and respiratory, vision, and hearing problems. Low birth weight and infant 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

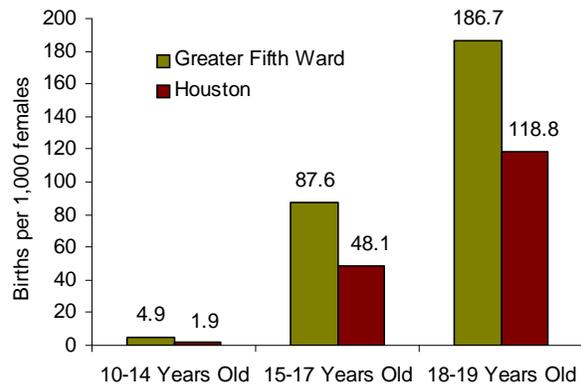
Births to Teen Mothers

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.



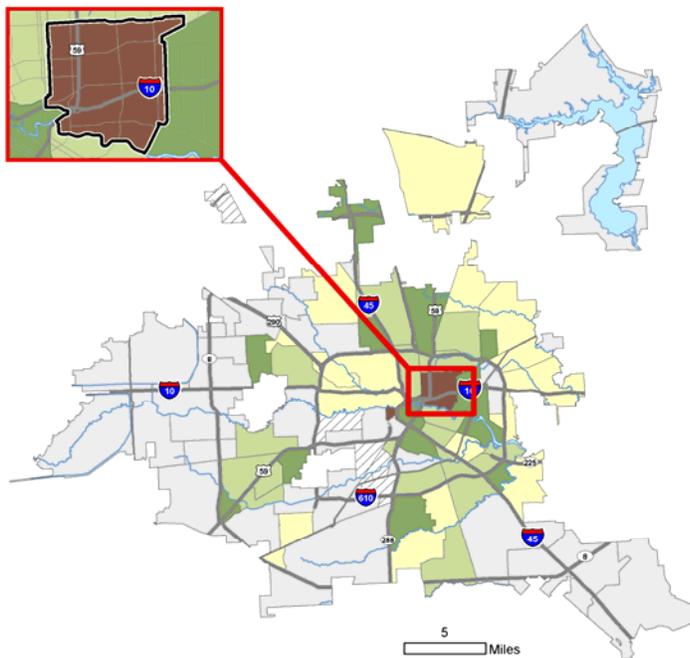
Births by Age of Mother, 1999-2003

A total of 2,433 births were recorded over the period among mothers in Greater Fifth Ward. Approximately 1 out of every 4 of these births was to a young mother (10-19 years of age).



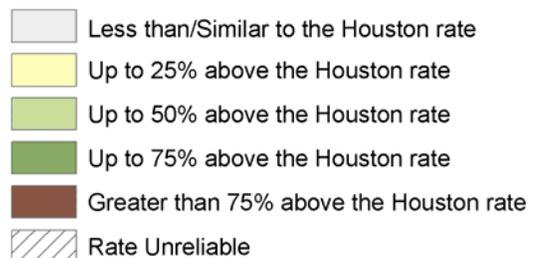
Births to Teen Mothers, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of births to 15-17 year-old teens in Greater Fifth Ward (87.6 per 1,000 females aged 15 to 17 years) was 80% higher, and among 18-19 year-old females, 60% higher, than that for girls of their respective age groups in Houston, overall.



Births to Teen Mothers by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

Greater Fifth Ward was among the neighborhoods in Houston with the highest annual average rates of births to teen mothers (15-17 years of age).



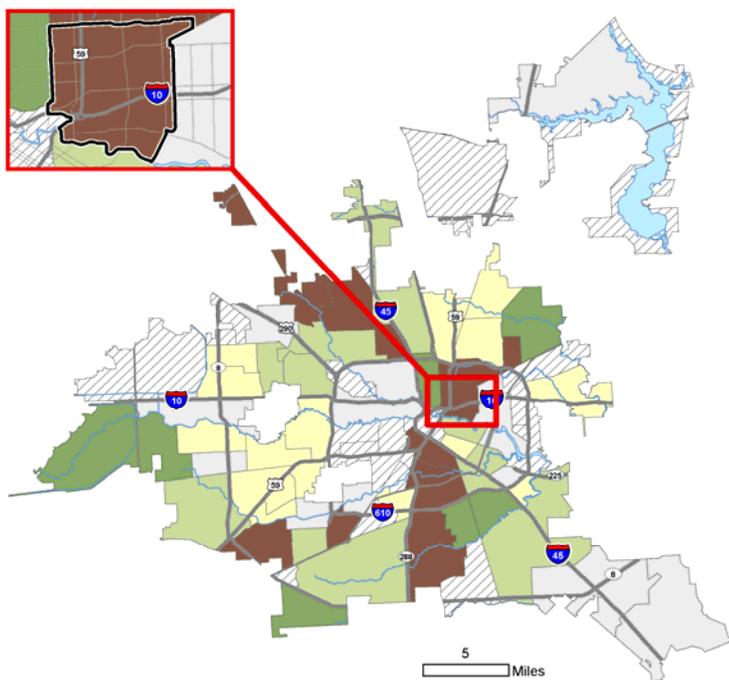
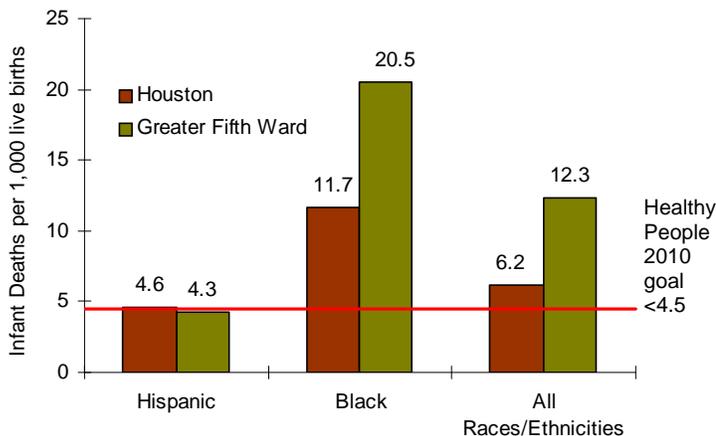
Data Sources: Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics; US Census 2000

Infant Mortality

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

Infant Mortality Rate, 1999-2003

The annual average mortality rate among infants in Greater Fifth Ward was nearly twice Houston's IMR and almost three times the 2010 goal (4.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births). Eighty-three percent of infant deaths were among Blacks. The annual average IMR among Blacks in Greater Fifth Ward was also 80% higher than that for Blacks in Houston as a whole.



Infant Mortality Rate by Super Neighborhood 1999-2003

Greater Fifth Ward was among the neighborhoods with the highest annual average infant mortality rates.

- 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 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	2132
Diseases of the heart	1294
Cerebrovascular disease	385
Hypertension	269
2 Complications of pregnancy; childbirth; and the puerperium	1853
Complications mainly related to pregnancy	571
Indications for care in pregnancy; labor; and delivery	362
Complications during labor	352
3 Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	1665
Liveborn	1628
Other perinatal conditions	25
Short gestation; low birth weight; and fetal growth retardation	7
4 Diseases of the respiratory system	1037
Respiratory infections	517
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and bronchiectasis	177
Asthma	128
5 Diseases of the digestive system	899
Lower gastrointestinal disorders	256
Upper gastrointestinal disorders	121
Biliary tract disease	107
6 Injury and poisoning	855
Complications	347
Fractures	224
Open wounds	69
7 Mental disorders	692
Affective disorders	246
Schizophrenia and related disorders	227
Other psychoses	75

In the Greater Fifth Ward, during the years 1999-2002, the most common causes of hospitalization were related to cardiovascular diseases; pregnancy, childbirth, and puerperium related complications; conditions originating in perinatal period; followed by diseases of respiratory system; diseases of digestive system, injuries and poisoning.

Note that only the top 3 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.

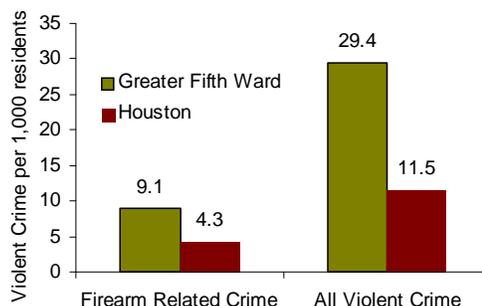
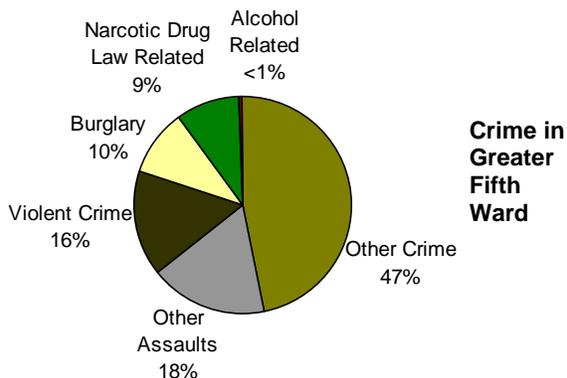
8 Neoplasms	573
Benign neoplasms	133
Secondary malignancies	78
Colorectal cancer	57
9 Diseases of the genitourinary system	510
Diseases of the urinary system	348
Diseases of female genital organs	121
Diseases of male genital organs	41
10 Symptoms; signs; and ill-defined conditions and factors influencing health status	506
Factors influencing health care	319
Symptoms; signs; and ill-defined conditions	187

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

Crime

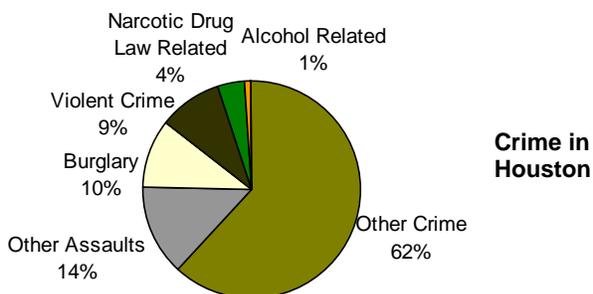
The crime rate in urban areas is of concern to the residents, law enforcement and the local government. Crimes place stress on the residents of neighborhoods and affect their well-being. Of particular concern are violent crimes that threaten residents' lives, such as those involving firearms.

Overview of Crime, 1999-2003



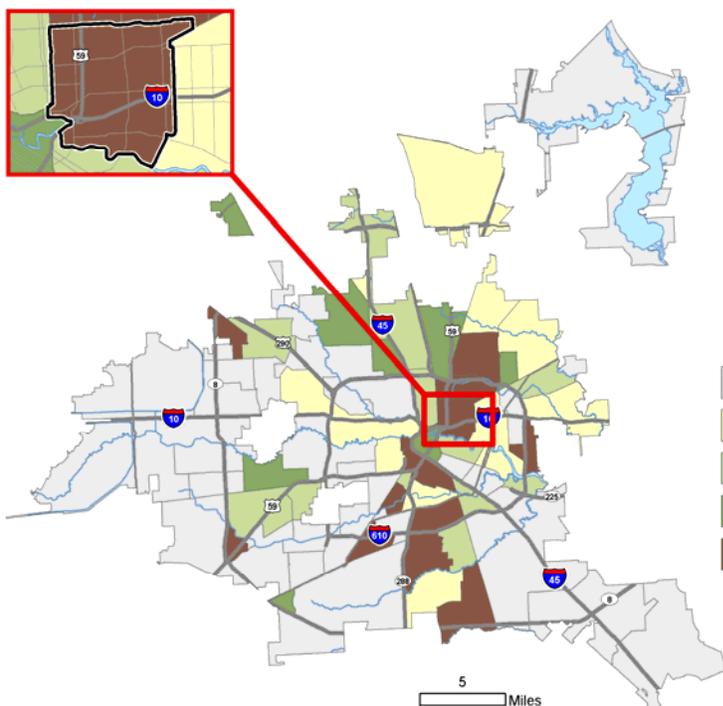
Violent Crime, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of violent crime in Greater Fifth Ward was 29.4 per 1,000 population, nearly three times that of Houston as a whole. The rate of firearm-related violent crime in Greater Fifth Ward was 9.1 per 1,000 population, twice the Houston rate.



Rate of Violent Crime by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

Greater Fifth Ward was among those neighborhoods with the highest annual average rates of violent crime in the city.



- Less than/Similar to the Houston rate
- Up to 25% above the Houston rate
- Up to 50% above the Houston rate
- Up to 75% above the Houston rate
- Greater than 75% above the Houston rate

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, 43 newly-acquired cases of tuberculosis were identified among residents of this super neighborhood, representing 3.2% of all cases diagnosed in Houston in that period. The annual average rate in Greater Fifth Ward was 38.7 compared to 13.6 per 100,000 population in Houston, as a whole. Both rates were far higher than the 2010 Healthy People target of 1 case per 100,000 population.

The majority (63%) of cases were Black males between 20 and 64 years of age.

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.

There were fewer than 5 submersion injury events among residents of Greater Fifth Ward 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.

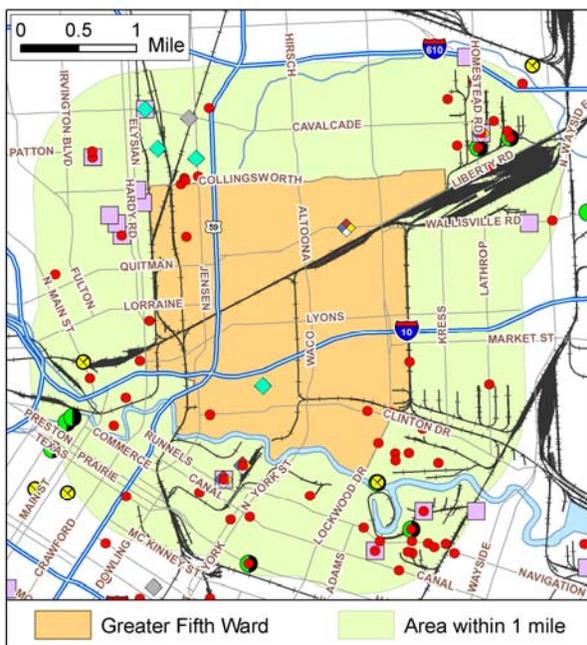
Food-related diseases are typically under-reported. It is likely that many more cases occurred from 1999 to 2003 than were actually reported to health officials.

Typically Reported Diseases	Number of Cases
Hepatitis A	5
Shigellosis	17
Salmonellosis	8
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 potential environmental impact on their communities.



- 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

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 Greater Fifth Ward, there are 59 Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) reporting facilities, 13 Large Quantity Generators (LQG) of hazardous waste, 4 facilities that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste, 7 major dischargers of air pollutants, 2 major storm water discharging facilities, and 4 current Superfund sites, 3 of which are on the National Priorities List (NPL) managed by the EPA.

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.

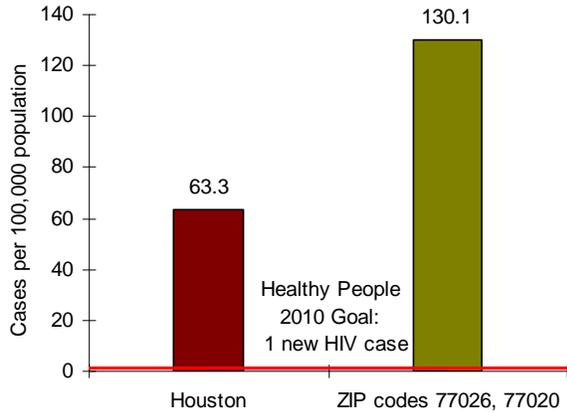
The EPA provides reports concerning federally regulated facilities through an online application called Envirofacts (www.epa.gov/enviro/index.html).

Type of Regulated Facility	Houston Count	Type of Regulated Facility	Houston Count
Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Facilities (all reporting years)	302	Major Dischargers of Air Pollutants	71
Major Storm Water Runoff Facilities	56	Radioactive Waste Sites	4
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal (TSD) Facilities	35	Current Superfund Sites	12
Large Quantity Generators (LQG) of Hazardous Waste	132	Former Superfund Sites	5
		Active Landfills	9
		Inactive Landfills	2
		Closed Landfills	18

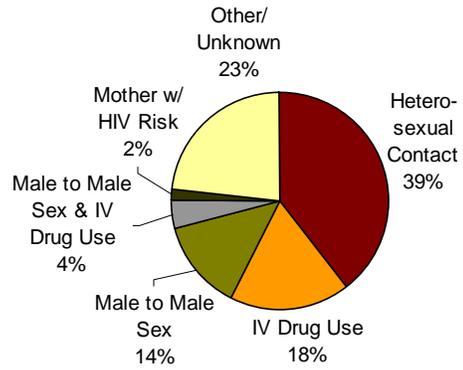
Data Sources: Environmental Protection Agency; Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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 from mother to child before or during birth and from breast milk. Many of those infected are unaware of their HIV status, and therefore can transmit the disease unknowingly.



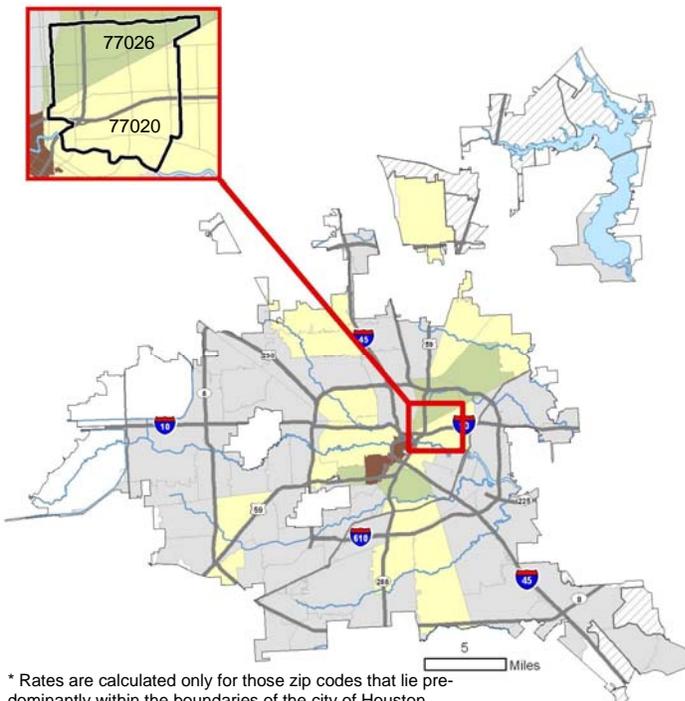
New HIV Diagnosis Rate, 1999-2003



HIV Risk Factors, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of new HIV case diagnosis in zip codes 77026 and 77020 (which include Greater Fifth Ward) was twice the Houston-wide rate during this period; it was far above the 2010 Healthy People Goal of reducing infections to less than 1 new case per 100,000 persons per year.

Risk factors for nearly one quarter of all reported cases were unknown. Fourteen percent of cases reported male-to-male sexual contact as a risk factor; 39% of cases reported heterosexual contact; and 18% reported exposure to IV drug use.



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

The annual average rates of new HIV diagnosis in zip codes 77020 and 77026, which overlap Greater Fifth Ward, were higher than those of most other zip codes in the city.

- Less than/Similar to the Houston Rate
- Up to 200% of the Houston Rate
- Up to 300% of the Houston Rate
- Up to 400% of the Houston Rate
- More than 400% of the Houston Rate
- Areas with Zip Codes Lying Mainly Outside of Houston
- Rates Unreliable

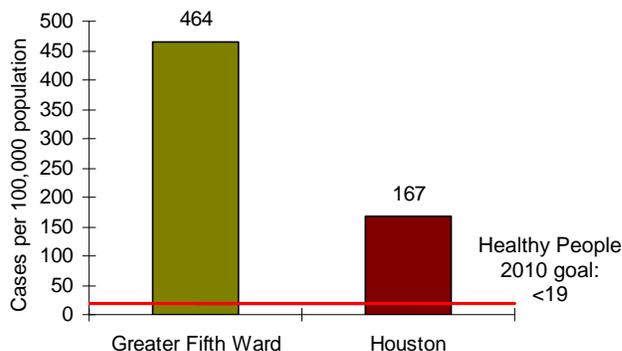
Data Source: HDHHS, Bureau of Epidemiology

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.

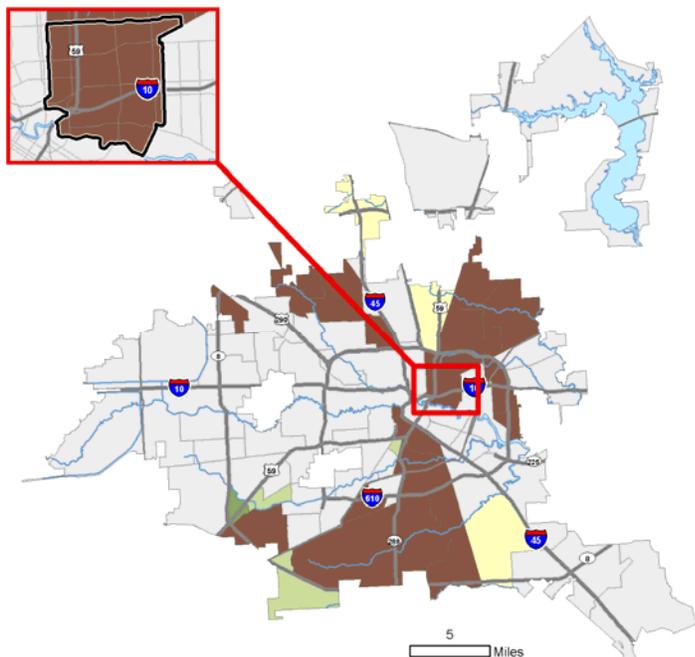
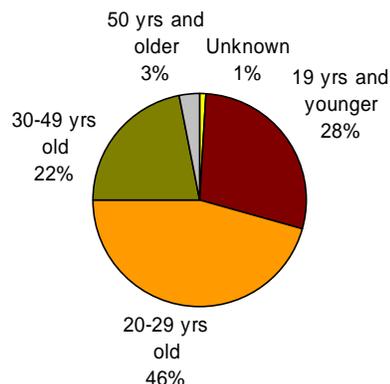
New Gonorrhea Infection in Greater Fifth Ward, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of new gonorrhea cases in Greater Fifth Ward was almost three times that of Houston. Both rates were much higher than the 2010 Healthy People goal of less than 19 cases per 100,000 population.



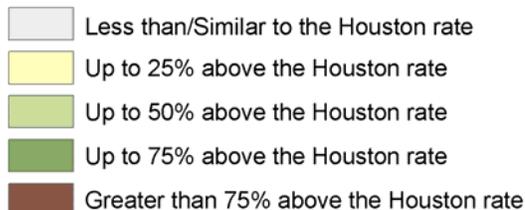
Gonorrhea infection by Age, Sex, Race/Ethnicity

Blacks, who represented 63% of Greater Fifth Ward residents, accounted for 90% of the new cases. Persons aged 20-29 years were almost half of all affected age groups. Slightly more males were affected than females.



Rates of Gonorrhea Infection by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

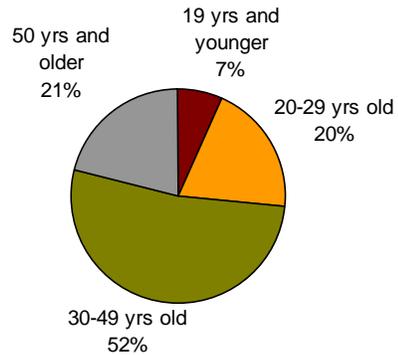
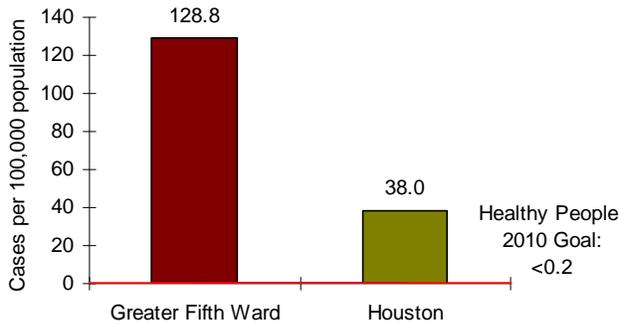
Greater Fifth Ward was among those super neighborhoods with the highest annual average rates of infection in the city.



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.

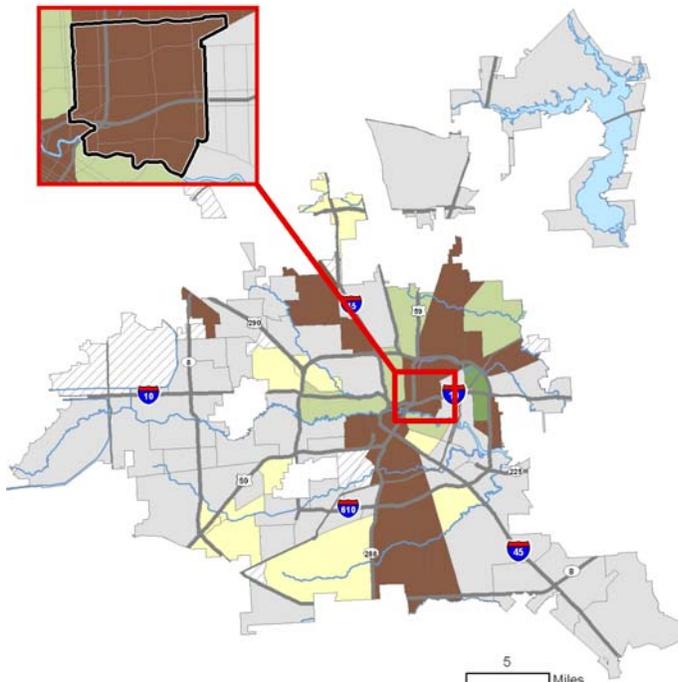


Rates of New Syphilis Infection, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of new syphilis cases in Greater Fifth Ward was more than three times the overall Houston rate, and more than 500 times the Healthy People 2010 goal.

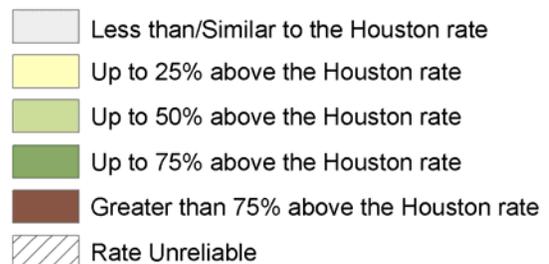
Syphilis Cases by Age, Sex, Race/Ethnicity

From 1999 to 2003, 84% of new cases in Greater Fifth Ward occurred among Blacks, 10% among Hispanics, and 6% among Whites. Adult males and females were almost equally affected by syphilis (males accounted for 48% of new cases, females 52%). Thirty to forty-nine year olds were the most affected age group.



Rates of Syphilis by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

Greater Fifth Ward was among the neighborhoods with the highest annual average rates of syphilis in the city.



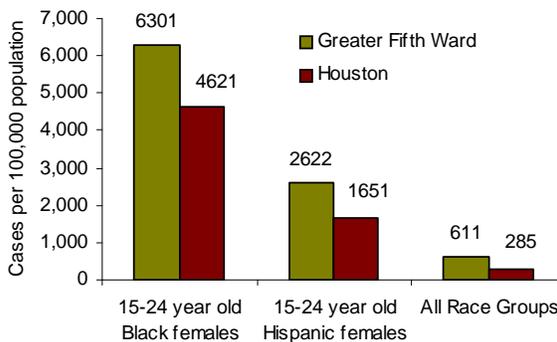
Data Source: HDHHS Bureau of Epidemiology

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.

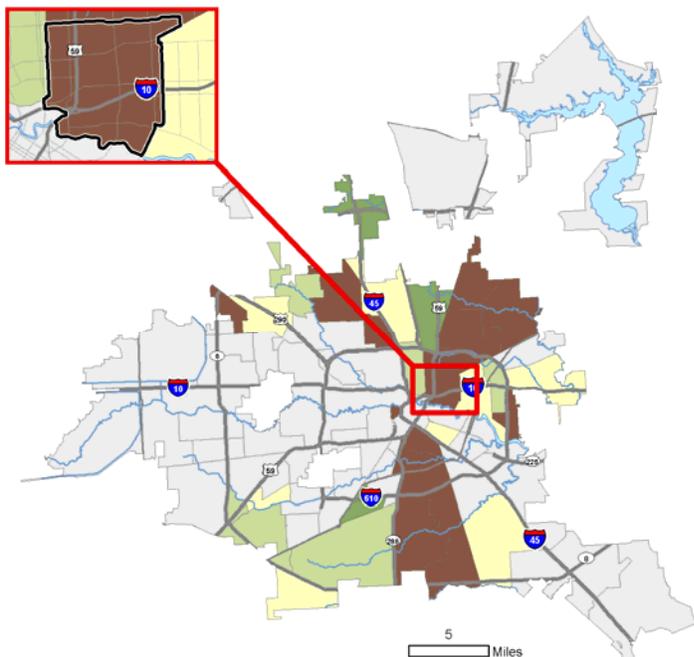
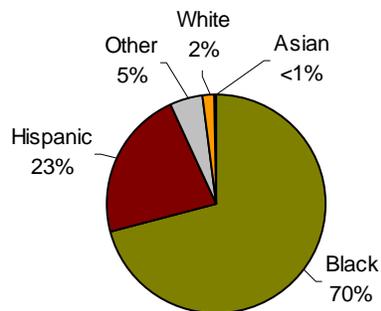
Rates of Chlamydia, 1999-2003

The annual average rate of chlamydia infection in Greater Fifth Ward was 611 cases per 100,000 population. It was twice the Houston rate. The age-specific rates for Black and Hispanic females 15-24 years of age were both higher than those for their cohorts, citywide.



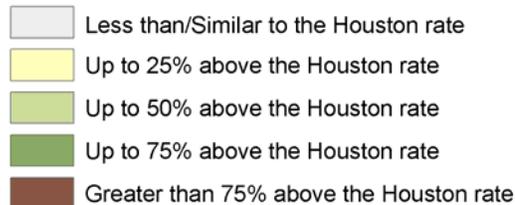
Chlamydia Infection By Age, Sex, and Race/Ethnicity, 1999-2003

Blacks were most affected in Greater Fifth Ward, accounting for 70% of new infections; twenty-three percent were Hispanic. The infection rate was highest among 15-24 year-old Black females.



Rates of Chlamydia by Super Neighborhood, 1999-2003

Greater Fifth Ward was among the neighborhoods with the highest annual average rates of chlamydia in the city.



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.