

Assessment of Cancers in East Harris County

2013-2021: Summary

What We Did

In 2024, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) received a request from the Texas Health and Environment Alliance (THEA) to analyze cancers in East Harris County (see map). THEA made the request because of community concerns about cancers.

To determine if the number of cancer cases in an area of East Harris County were higher or lower than expected in Texas, we did the following:

- Analyzed 22 types of all-age (adult and child cancers) cancers and three types of childhood cancers using Texas Cancer Registry data.
- Looked at those diagnosed with cancer from 2013 to 2021.
- Accounted for differences in age, sex, and race/ethnicity, which are related to cancer risk.
- Compared the number of cases in these areas to the number of expected cases based on Texas cancer rates.

What We Found

All-age cancers above the expected range:

- Cervix Uteri
- Leukemia
- Lung and Bronchus
- Lymphoma

Childhood cancers above the expected range:

- None

This analysis cannot tell us about the causes of cancers in this area. It only lets us compare the number of cancer cases to what we expect based on cancer rates in Texas. DSHS could not account for lifestyle factors such as smoking or diet in this analysis. Upon request, DSHS will continue monitoring cancer in the area when new data becomes available.



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Resources and More Information

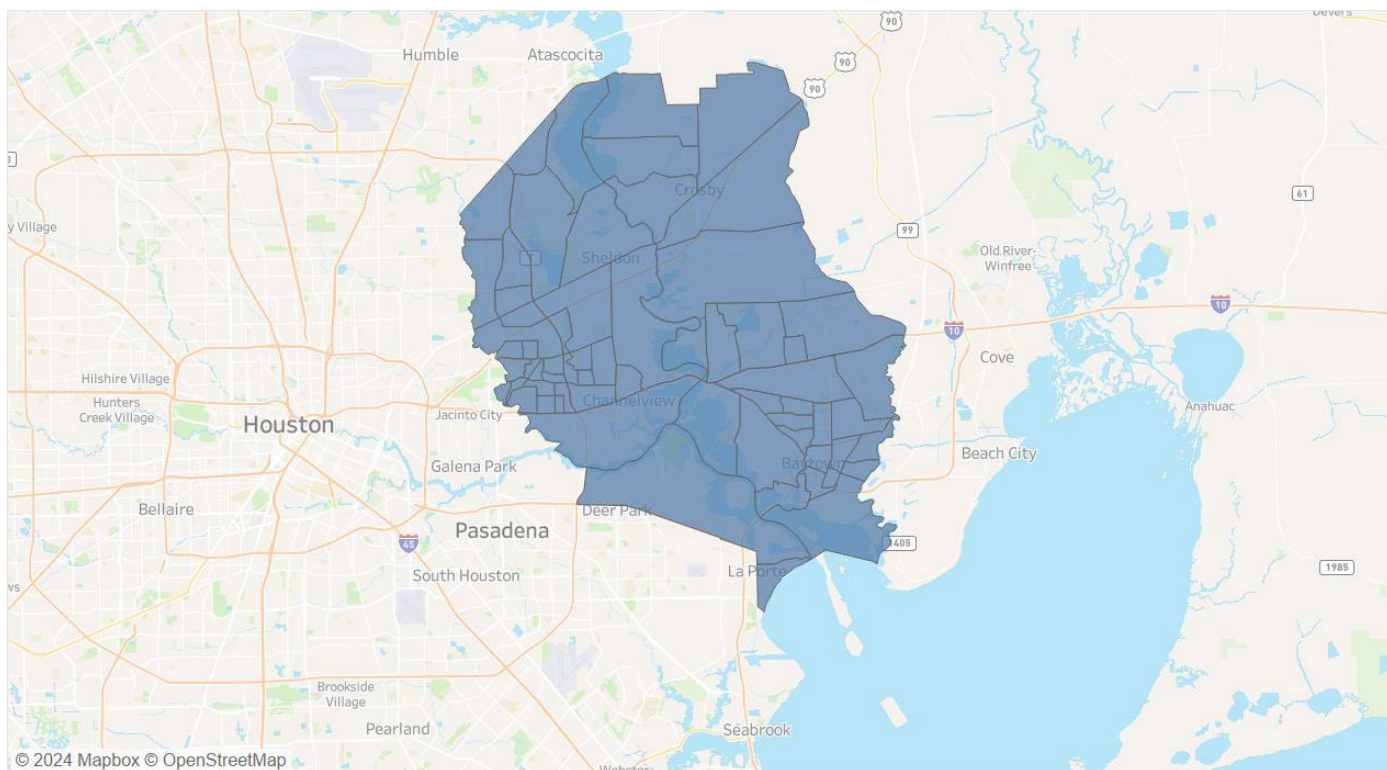
[About Unusual Patterns of Cancer](#)

[What Causes Cancer?](#)

For questions, comments, or requests for the full report, contact the DSHS Environmental Surveillance and Toxicology Branch.

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Map of Selected Census Tracts* (Census 2020) for East Harris County Texas

*A full list of selected census tracts can be found in the full report.



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