

Assessment of Cancers in San Antonio

2012-2017: Summary

Background

In 2020, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) got a request to analyze cancers in a combined 12-census tract area in San Antonio because of community concerns.

What We Did

To figure out if the number of cancer cases in this area were higher or lower than expected in Texas, we did the following:

- Analyzed 16 types of all-age (adult and child cancers) cancers using Texas Cancer Registry data.
- Looked at those diagnosed with cancer from 2012 to 2017.
- 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 in the expected range:

- Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Acute Myeloid Leukemia
- Breast
- Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Colon excluding Rectum
- Intrahepatic Bile Duct
- Lung and Bronchus
- Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
- Pancreas
- Rectum and Rectosigmoid Junction
- Stomach

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What We Found (continued)

All-age cancers above the expected range:

- Kidney and Renal Pelvis
- Liver
- Thyroid

All-age cancer below the expected range:

- Prostate

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. The DSHS could not account for lifestyle factors such as smoking or diet in this analysis.

DSHS will continue monitoring cancer in the area, upon request, when new data becomes available.

Resources and More Information

[About Cancer Clusters](#)

[What Causes Cancer?](#)

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

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