



## Galveston County Health Status Indicator Report

Prepared by Galveston County Health District Epidemiology Department, 12/2001

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a set of eighteen health status indicators in 1991 and encouraged their use by federal, state, and local health agencies (1). These indicators were developed through a process which included input from many public health experts so they were called the "consensus set" of health status indicators. Fifteen of them were also among the U.S. Public Health Service Healthy People 2000 national objectives for the year 2000 (2). These indicators have clear definitions and provide a means of making standardized health status comparisons between different geographic areas.

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) and the National Center for Health Statistics have used these indicators in various reports. State and national data (2-8) are shown along with data for Galveston County. Since the Galveston County population is relatively small in a statistical sense, county indicators for single years may not be representative. Therefore county data for several years are shown for most of the indicators. County rates and data for the most recent three-year period for which data are available were compared to state and national data where possible. Numbers of county deaths by age, sex, and cause along with county birth data were obtained from the TDH Bureau of Vital Statistics. County population estimates used in the calculations were obtained from the TDH Bureau of State Health Data and Policy Analysis, the Texas A&M University Texas State Data Center, and the 2000 U.S. Census. The county population increased moderately over the past decade to 250,158 residents in 2000.

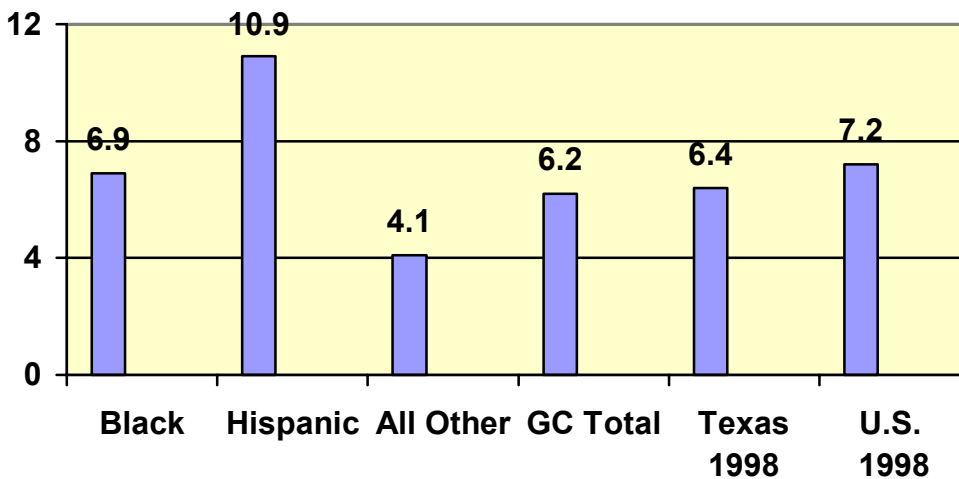
Data presented in this report for 1996-2000 indicate that Galveston County's health status compared somewhat unfavorably with that of the state and nation for six of the eighteen indicators. These are the indicators for total mortality, suicide, lung cancer mortality, breast cancer mortality, cardiovascular disease mortality, and air quality. For infant mortality, motor vehicle crash deaths, work-related injury deaths, homicide, AIDS incidence, measles, tuberculosis, low birth weight, births to adolescents, and childhood poverty the county's status was approximately equal or uncertain in comparison to Texas and the U.S. For two indicators, primary/secondary syphilis and prenatal care, the most recent available data show a better record for the county than the state or the nation. The county has apparently met six of the fifteen Year 2000 Objectives (infant mortality, work-related injury mortality, breast cancer mortality, AIDS incidence, measles incidence, and primary/secondary syphilis incidence), and is close to meeting two others (motor vehicle crash mortality and homicide). There is also evidence of improvement in recent years for the county in relation to total mortality, cardiovascular disease mortality, tuberculosis, and births to adolescents. The county looks best in comparison to Texas and the U.S. with regard to early prenatal care. Most room for improvement, based on these comparisons, exists for suicide, lung cancer mortality, breast cancer mortality, cardiovascular disease mortality, and air quality.

The data also show continuing inequalities by ethnicity. For most of the indicators, Galveston County data are shown for the three principal county ethnic groups: black, Hispanic, and all other which is primarily white non-Hispanic. For eleven indicators the health status of Galveston County black residents is most in need of improvement (total deaths, homicide, lung cancer, breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, AIDS, primary/secondary syphilis, low birth weight, births to adolescents, late prenatal care, and child poverty). In recent years infant mortality rates and incidence of tuberculosis have been worst for Hispanic residents. Motor vehicle crash mortality and suicide have been worst for white non-Hispanic residents.

1. **Infant Mortality Rate** (deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 resident live births). *Year 2000 Objective: 7.0.*

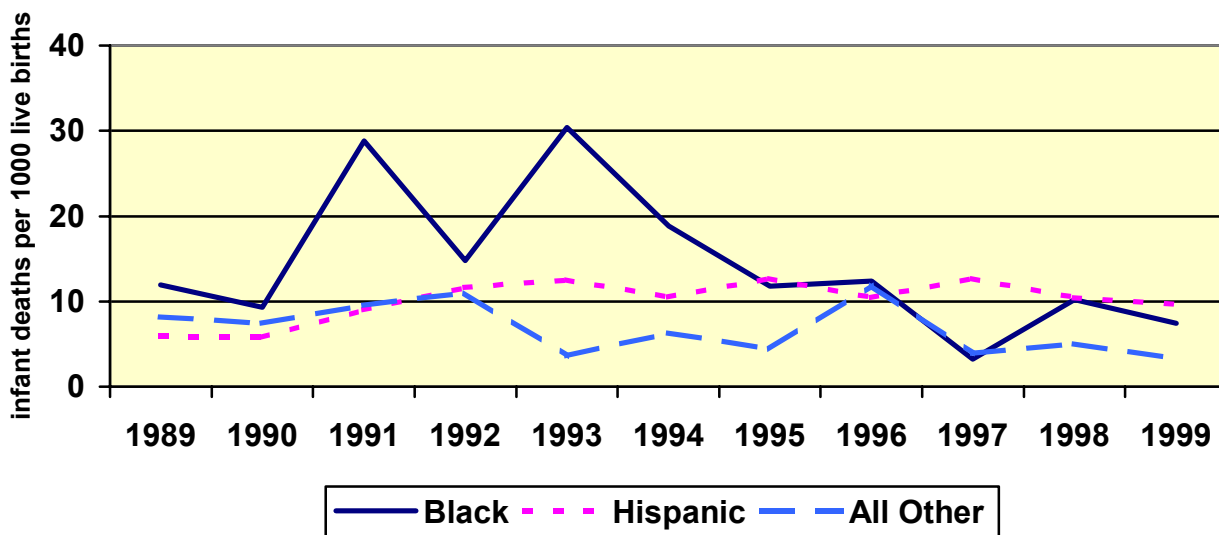
	Total	Black	Hispanic	All Other
<b>Galveston County, 1997-99 (number) ...</b>	68 ...	13	29	26
<b>(rate) .....</b>	6.2 ...	6.9	10.9	4.1
<b>Texas, 1998 (rate) .....</b>	6.4 ...	11.6	5.9	5.5
<b>United States, 1998 (rate) .....</b>	7.2 ...	14.2	6.0	6.0

**Infant deaths per 1,000 live births**



**Galveston County, 1997-99**

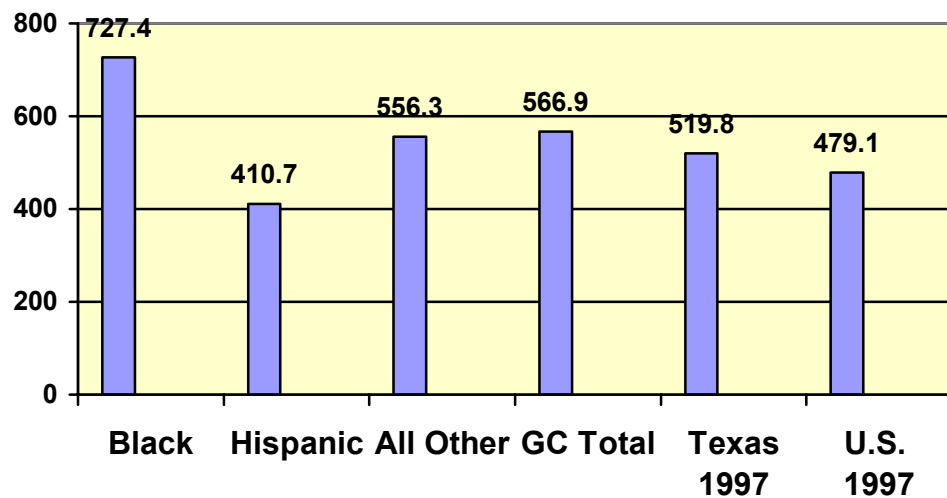
**Galveston County Infant Mortality by Ethnicity, 1989-99**



2. **Total Deaths** due to all causes per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population)

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County</b> , 1993	1,989	630.0
1994	2,044	639.0
1995	2,116	623.2
1996	2,115	603.5
1997	1,976	550.2
1998	1,986	547.2
<b>Texas</b> , 1997		519.8
<b>United States</b> , 1998		471.7

**Total deaths per 100,000 residents**  
Age-adjusted to 1940 standard U.S. population



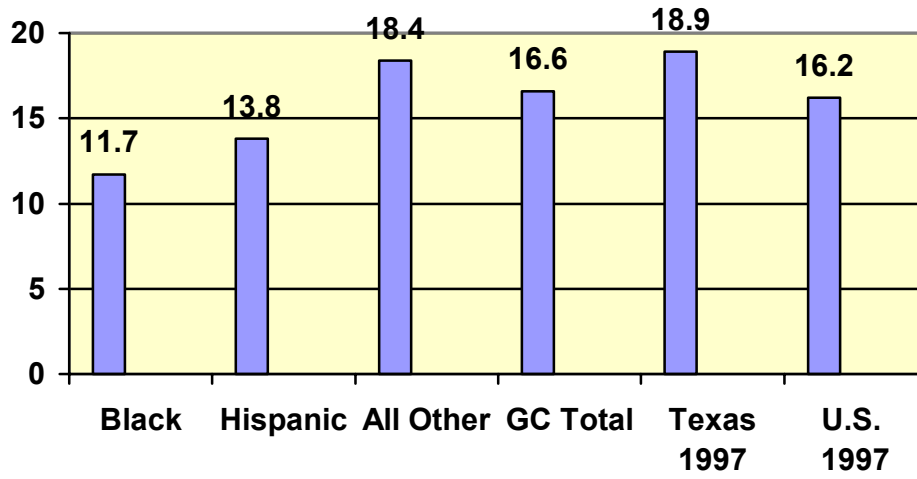
**Galveston County, 1996-98**

3. **Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths** per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population). *Year 2000 Objective: 14.2.*

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County</b> , 1993	48	20.6
1994	55	25.1
1995	31	12.2
1996	49	20.1
1997	38	16.0
1998	36	13.8
<b>Texas</b> , 1997		18.9
<b>United States</b> , 1997		16.2

### Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths per 100,000 Residents

Age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population

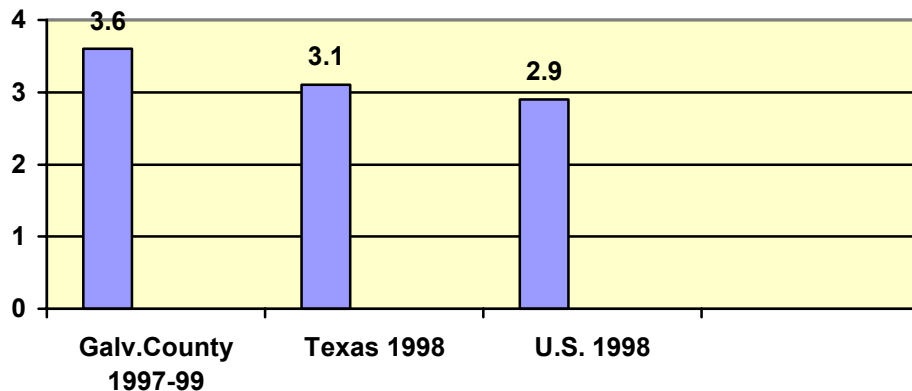


Galveston County, 1996-98

#### 4. Work-related Injury Deaths per 100,000 residents age 16 and over Year 2000 Objective: 4.0.

	number	rate
Galveston County, 1993	9	5.4
1994	13	7.6
1995	3	1.7
1996	8	4.4
1997	4	2.2
1998	10	5.4
1999	6	3.2
Texas, 1998		3.1
United States, 1998		2.9

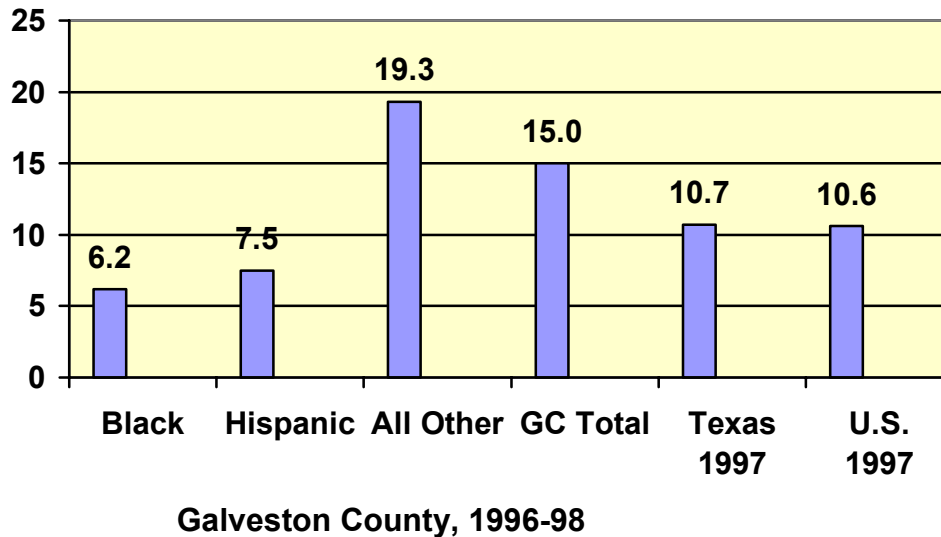
#### Work-related injury deaths per 100,000 residents



5. **Suicides** per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population)  
*Year 2000 Objective: 10.5.*

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County</b> , 1993	32	13.0
1994	47	20.7
1995	40	18.1
1996	37	14.6
1997	31	12.7
1998	45	13.8
<b>Texas</b> , 1997		10.7
<b>United States</b> , 1997		10.6

**Suicides per 100,000 Residents**  
 Age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population

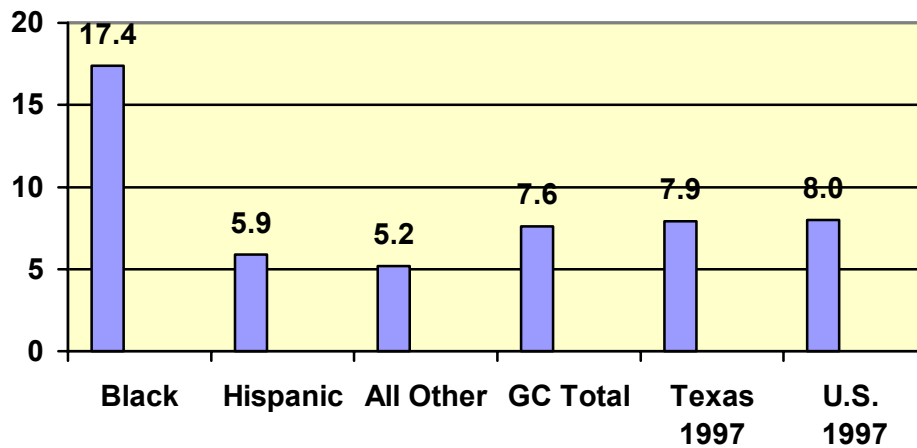


6. **Homicides** per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population)  
*Year 2000 Objective: 7.2.*

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County</b> , 1993	31	14.4 (1 age unknown excluded from rate)
1994	39	19.0
1995	34	15.3
1996	24	9.9
1997	12	5.5
1998	17	7.3
<b>Texas</b> , 1997		7.9
<b>United States</b> , 1997		8.0

**Homicides per 100,000 residents**

Age-adjusted to 1940 standard population



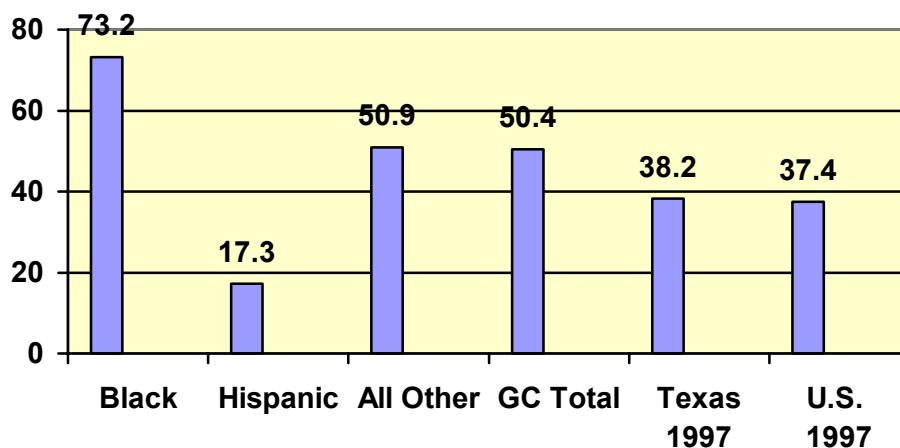
Galveston County, 1996-98

**7. Lung Cancer Deaths per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population). Year 2000 Objective: 42.0.**

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1993</b> .....	166	56.9
1994 .....	142	45.9
1995 .....	162	51.8
1996 .....	157	48.3
1997 .....	157	48.1
1998 .....	185	54.7
<b>Texas, 1997</b> .....		38.2
<b>United States, 1997</b> .....		37.4

**Lung cancer deaths per 100,000 residents**

Age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population

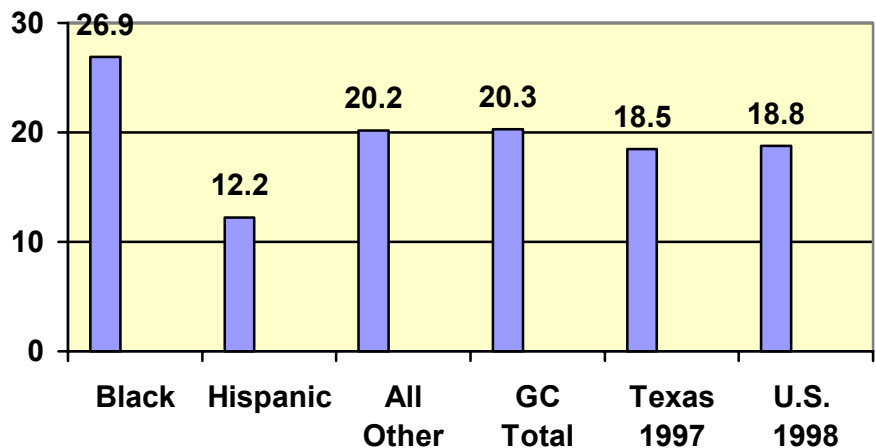


Galveston County, 1996-98

**8. Female Breast Cancer Deaths** per 100,000 female residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population). *Year 2000 Objective: 20.6.*

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1993</b> .....	41	27.9
1994 .....	40	26.1
1995 .....	52	31.8
1996 .....	48	28.9
1997 .....	22	14.8
1998 .....	35	21.0
1999 .....	50	25.0
<b>Texas, 1997</b> .....		18.5
<b>United States, 1998</b> .....		18.8

**Female breast cancer deaths per 100,000 female residents**  
Age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population



**Galveston County, 1997-99**

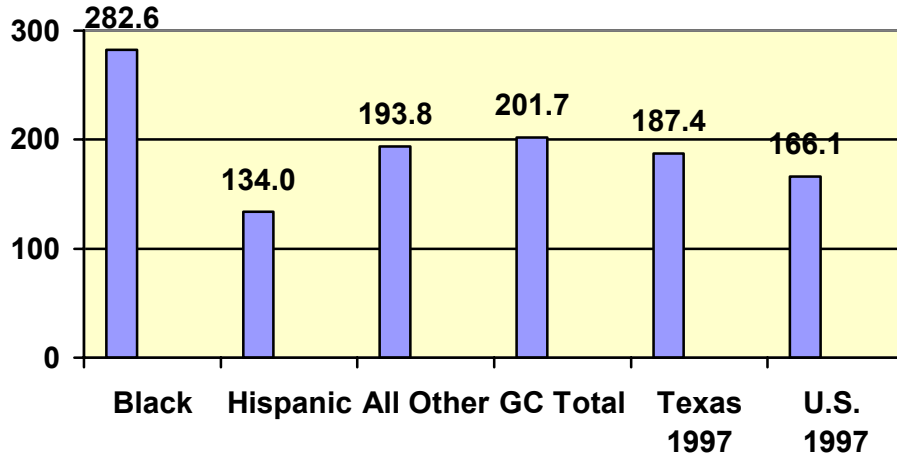
**9. Cardiovascular Disease Deaths** per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population)

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1993</b> .....	813	230.4
1994 .....	813	226.4
1995 .....	816	218.3
1996 .....	817	208.8
1997 .....	829	209.0
1998 .....	757	187.6
<b>Texas, 1997</b> .....		187.4
<b>United States, 1997</b> .....		166.1

Cardiovascular diseases include two major components: diseases of the heart and cerebrovascular diseases or strokes. Both are considered to be leading causes of death. Standardized rates were calculated for them separately and are shown below.

**Cardiovascular disease deaths per 100,000 residents**

Age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population



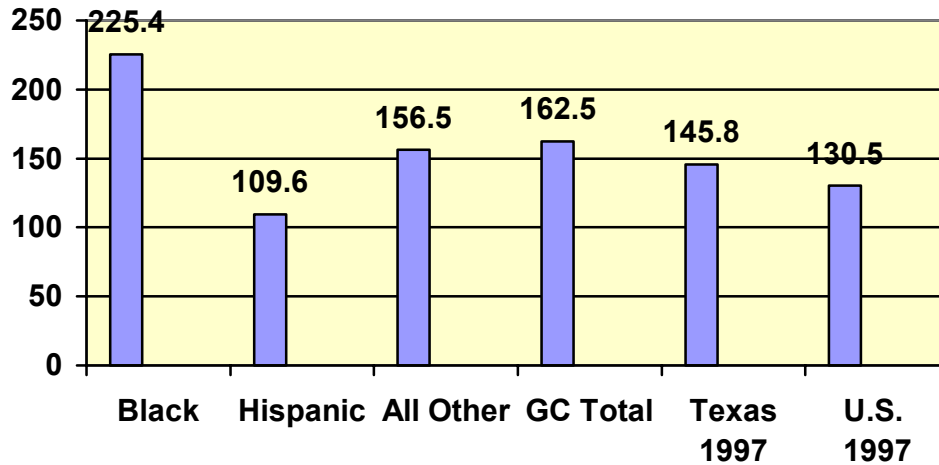
Galveston County, 1996-98

**Heart Disease Deaths** per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population)

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1993</b> .....	678	192.9
1994 .....	667	187.5
1995 .....	633	171.4
1996 .....	644	166.9
1997 .....	653	166.8
1998 .....	614	154.1
<b>Texas, 1997</b> .....		145.8
<b>United States, 1997</b> .....		130.5

**Heart disease deaths per 100,000 residents**

Age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population



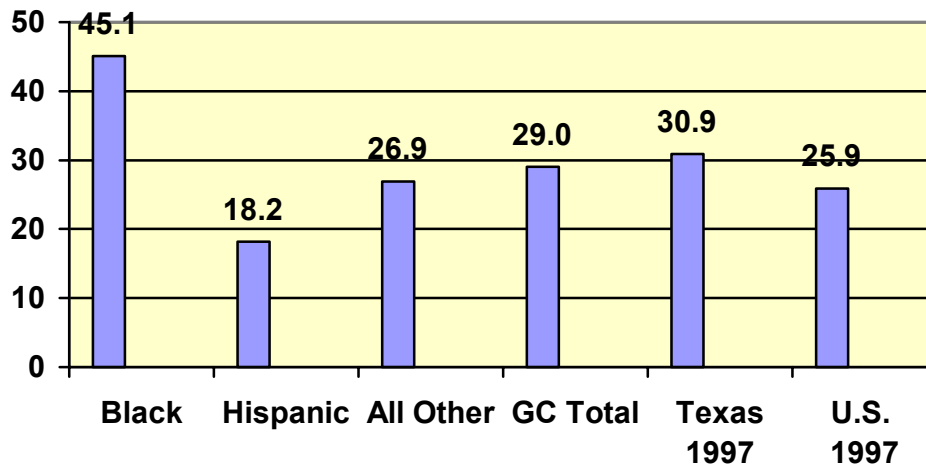
Galveston County, 1996-98

**Cerebrovascular Disease (Stroke) Deaths** per 100,000 residents (age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population)

1940 U.S. standard population). *Year 2000 Objective: 20.0.*

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1993</b> ....	89	24.7
1994 ....	103	27.3
1995 ....	137	34.1
1996 ....	127	30.1
1997 ....	135	32.3
1998 ....	106	24.7
<b>Texas, 1997</b> .....		30.9
<b>United States, 1997</b> .....		25.9

**Cerebrovascular disease deaths per 100,000 residents**  
Age-adjusted to 1940 U.S. standard population

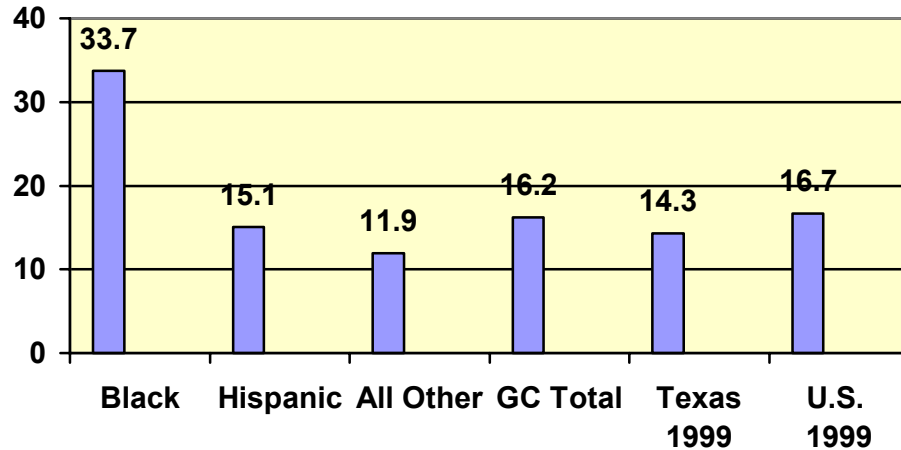


**Galveston County, 1996-98**

**10. Reported Incidence of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) per 100,000 residents. *Year 2000 Objective: 43.0.***

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1992</b> ....	59	25.9
1993 ....	84	36.3
1994 ....	54	23.0
1995 ....	73	30.8
1996 ....	71	29.3
1997 ....	62	25.6
1998 ....	49	20.1
1999 ....	20	8.1
2000 ....	47	18.8
<b>Texas, 1999</b> .....		14.3
<b>United States, 1999</b> .....		16.7

**Reported AIDS cases per 100,000 residents**



**Galveston County, 1998-2000**

**11. Reported Incidence of Measles per 100,000 residents**

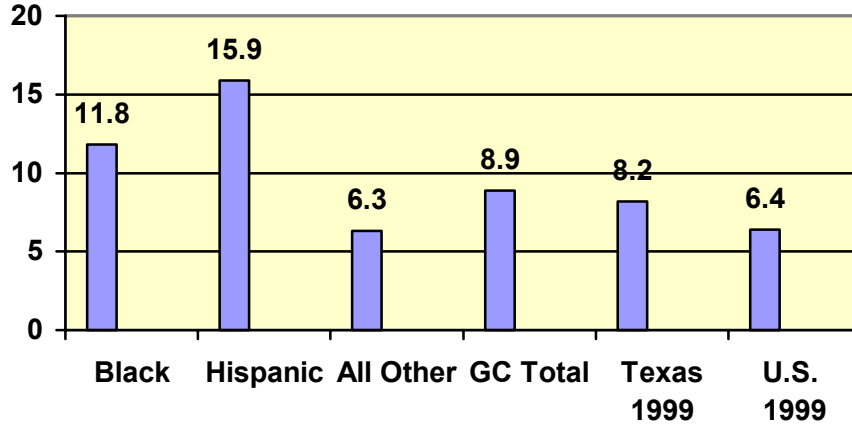
*Year 2000 Objective: 0.*

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1992</b> ....	3	1.3
1993 ....	2	0.9
1994 ....	0	0.0
1995 ....	0	0.0
1996 ....	3	1.2
1997 ....	0	0.0
1998 ....	0	0.0
1999 ....	0	0.0
2000 ....	0	0.0
<b>Texas, 1998</b> .....		0.0
<b>United States, 1998</b> .....		0.04

**12. Reported Incidence of Tuberculosis (new tuberculosis cases per 100,000 residents). *Year 2000 Objective: 3.5.***

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1992</b> ....	32	14.1
1993 ....	32	13.8
1994 ....	22	9.4
1995 ....	22	9.3
1996 ....	37	15.3
1997 ....	32	13.2
1998 ....	34	13.9
1999 ....	21	8.5
2000 ....	11	4.4
<b>Texas, 1999</b> .....		8.2
<b>United States, 1999</b> .....		6.4

**Reported tuberculosis cases per 100,000 residents**

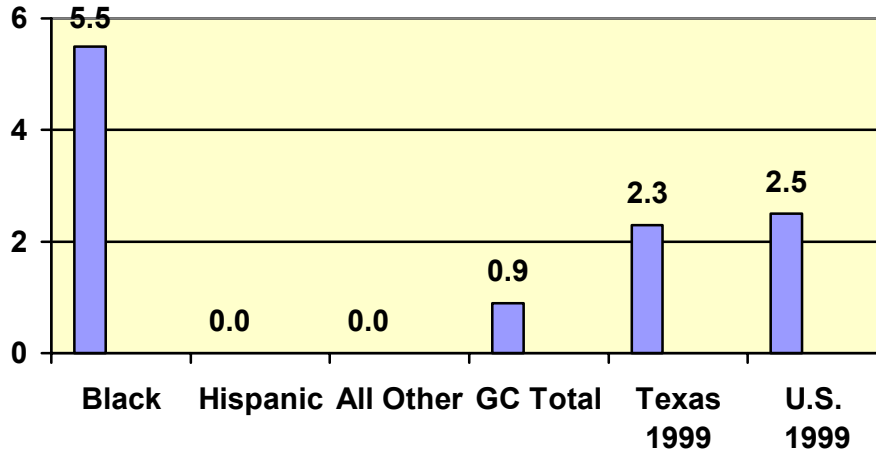


**Galveston County, 1998-2000**

**13. Reported Incidence of Primary and Secondary Syphilis per 100,000 residents**  
*Year 2000 Objective: 4.0.*

	number	rate
<b>Galveston County, 1992</b> .....	76 .....	33.4
1993 .....	34 .....	14.7
1994 .....	24 .....	10.2
1995 .....	17 .....	7.2
1996 .....	11 .....	4.5
1997 .....	13 .....	5.4
1998 .....	5 .....	2.0
1999 .....	1 .....	0.4
2000 .....	1 .....	0.4
<b>Texas, 1999</b> .....		2.3
<b>United States, 1999</b> .....		2.5

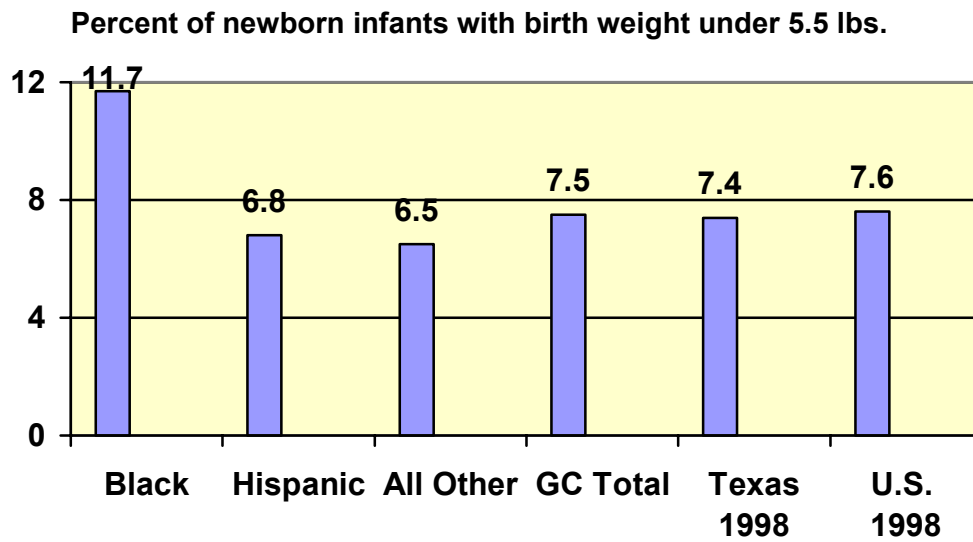
**Reported primary and secondary syphilis cases per 100,000 residents**



**Galveston County, 1998-2000**

**14. Prevalence of Low Birth Weight** (percentage of resident live births with birth weight below 5.5 pounds). *Year 2000 Objective: 5.0%.*

	number	percent
<b>Galveston County, 1992</b> ....	299	7.8
1993 ....	307	8.0
1994 ....	287	7.7
1995 ....	269	7.6
1996 ....	295	8.2
1997 ....	270	7.6
1998 ....	266	7.3
1999 ....	282	7.6
<b>Texas, 1998</b> .....		7.4
<b>United States, 1998</b> .....		7.6

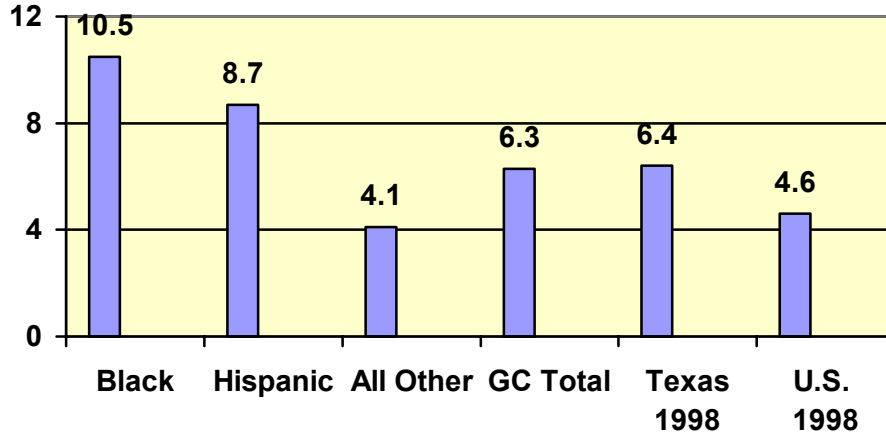


**Galveston County, 1997-99**

**15. Births to Adolescent Mothers** (percentage of resident live births to mothers under age 18)

	number	percent
<b>Galveston County, 1992</b> ....	251	6.5
1993 ....	265	6.9
1994 ....	267	7.2
1995 ....	255	7.2
1996 ....	261	7.2
1997 ....	240	6.7
1998 ....	216	5.9
1999 ....	235	6.3
<b>Texas, 1998</b> .....		6.4
<b>United States, 1998</b> .....		4.6

**Percent of live births to mothers under age 18**

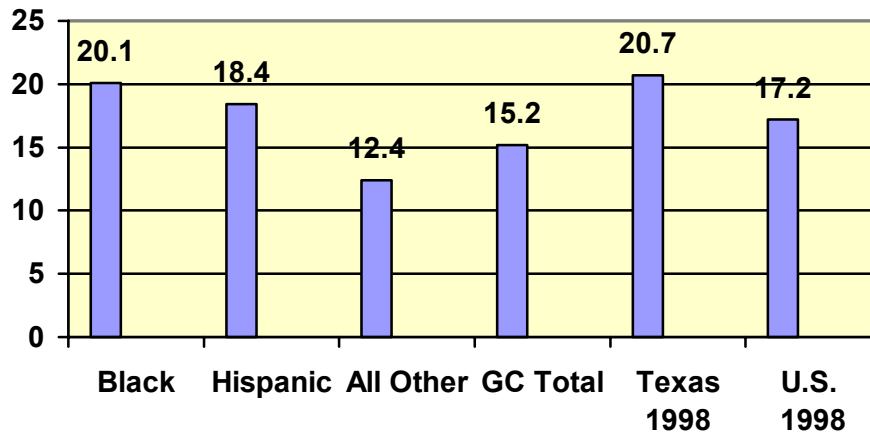


**Galveston County, 1997-99**

- 16. Lack of Prenatal Care in First Trimester** (percentage of resident live births for which mother did not begin prenatal care in first trimester). *Year 2000 Objective: 10.0%.*

	number	percent
<b>Galveston County, 1992</b> .....	676	22.9
1993 .....	649	21.9
1994 .....	636	17.2
1995 .....	565	16.4
1996 .....	566	15.9
1997 .....	550	15.7
1998 .....	560	15.5
1999 .....	529	14.5
<b>Texas, 1998</b> .....		20.7
<b>United States, 1998</b> .....		17.2

**Percent of live births with prenatal care beginning after first trimester**

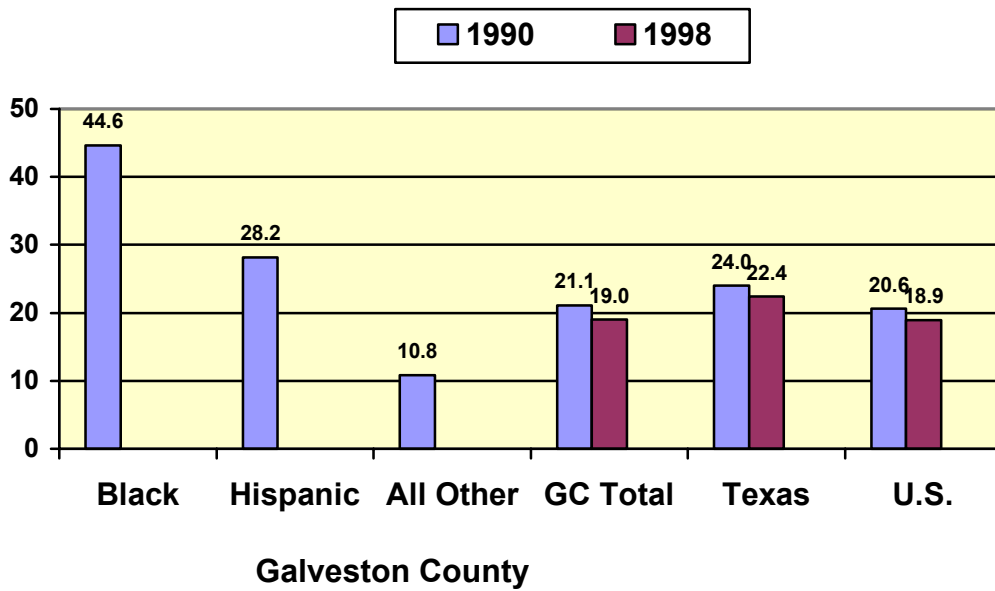


**Galveston County, 1997-99**

17. **Childhood Poverty** (percentage of children under age 18 living below poverty level)

	number	percent
<b>Galveston County</b> Total, 1990 .....	12,509	21.1
Black .....	5,618	44.6
Hispanic .....	3,002	28.2
All other .....	3,889	10.8
Total, 1998 .....	12,975	19.0
<b>Texas</b> , 1990 .....		24.0
<b>Texas</b> , 1998 .....		22.4
<b>United States</b> , 1990 .....		20.6
<b>United States</b> , 1998 .....		18.9

Percent of children under age 18 below poverty level

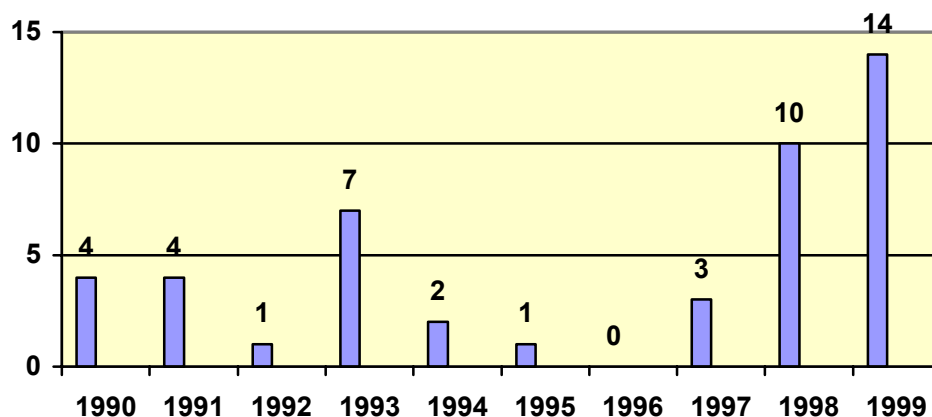


18. **Air Quality** (percentage of population residing in counties exceeding U.S. Environmental Protection Agency air quality standards)  
*Year 2000 Objective: 15%.*

<b>Galveston County</b> , 1997-99 .....	100.0
<b>Texas</b> , 1996 .....	40.0
<b>United States</b> , 1998 .....	23.5

## Galveston County High Ozone Days

Number of days on which ozone standard was exceeded, by year



## References and Sources

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