

2016-2017 BUDGET QUESTION
Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Health and Human Services

REQUEST NO.: 29

REQUESTED BY: Gallo

DATE REQUESTED: 5/20/16

DATE POSTED: 5/26/16

REQUEST: Please provide the population and graphic data included in the May 18th Health and Social Services presentation to Council for the City of Austin as opposed to only Travis County.

RESPONSE:

Health data presented at the May 18th Health and Social Services presentation related to Chronic Disease, Teen Pregnancy, Infant Mortality, and HIV/AIDs are provided by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Center for Health Statistics. As mentioned during this work session, most data is provided at the county level and is often not available for the city only. The Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) is actively working to identify additional data sources to provide health status information at the sub-county level using census tracts and zip codes. A summary of the available data and options for analysis beyond the Travis County level is detailed below.

Mortality (death certificate data) and birth data are available at smaller than county level size from the State of Texas. HHSD has requested this data from the state and are awaiting a response. This is the preferred data set because HHSD Office of Vital Records only has deaths and births that occur within the City of Austin. This includes non-city residents and does not include residents that died or gave birth in another city. Additionally, all of the major hospitals within Travis County are located in the city of Austin and most births occur in these hospitals.

Data regarding chronic disease prevalence (i.e. the number of people with diabetes, cardiovascular disease, obesity, use tobacco) is collected through the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey conducted by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). This data is only available at the county level and is considered representative of the entire Travis County population.

Lastly, the data related to HIV/AIDS prevalence comes from DSHS Center for Health Statistics and is based on reportable conditions. The State has only provided this data at the county level.