



"ENSURING THAT OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR QUALITY DIALOGUE ON THE ISSUES IMPACTING HEALTH, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT, AND QUALITY OF LIFE."

***Presenter:***

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Chair  
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**SERVING THE TEXAS COASTAL BEND**

# **SUMMARY OF COASTAL BEND BIRTH DEFECT INQUIRIES**

## **2018 UPDATE**

**Corpus Christi City Council  
26 February 2019**

James A. Mobley, MD, MPH

Chair

Regional Health Awareness Board

# GABRIEL

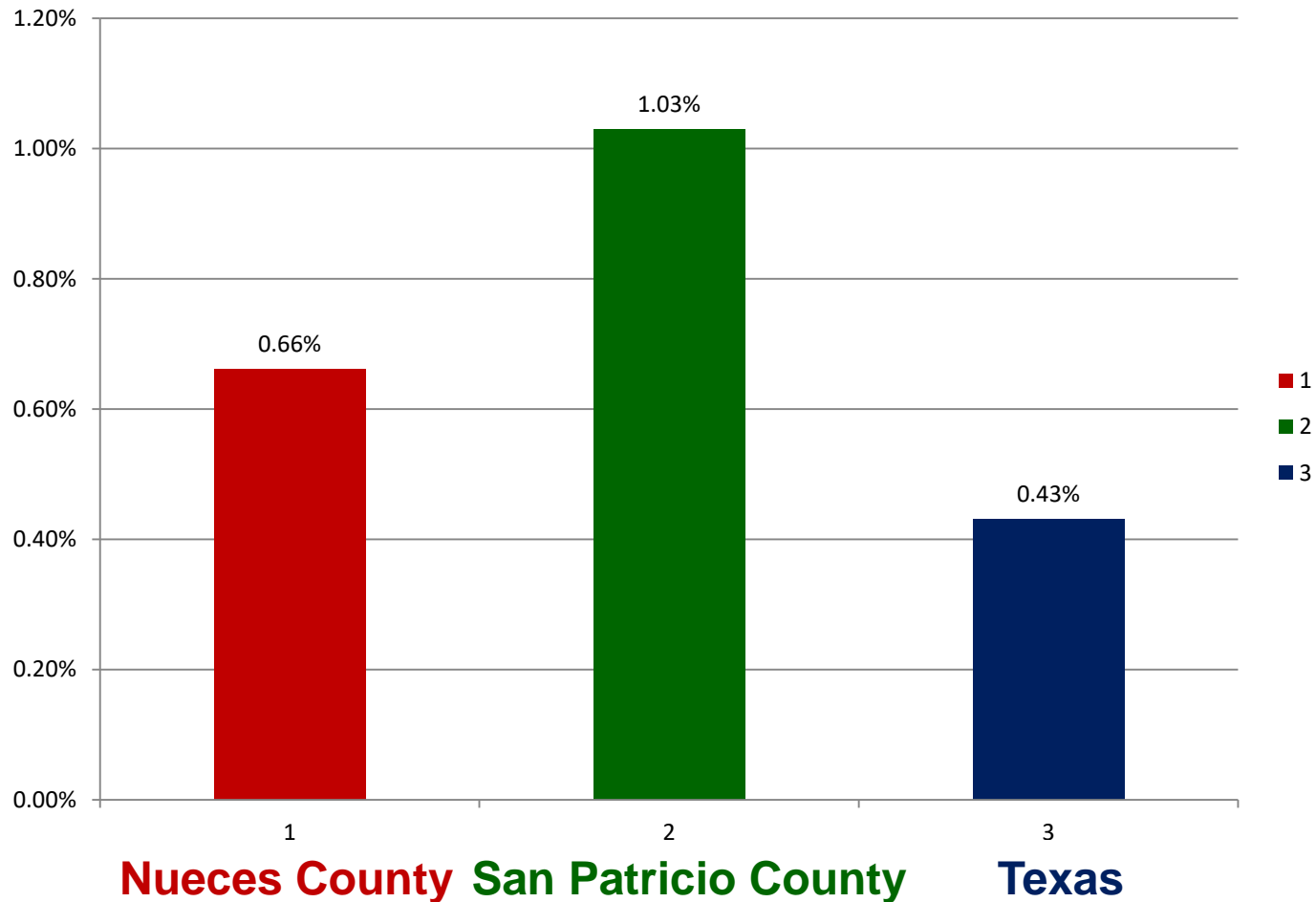


# 2006: Birth Defects in Corpus Christi vs the Rest of Texas



**Severe Cases are cases which were admitted to the hospital.**

# BIRTH DEFECTS 1999-2006



# TYPES OF BIRTH DEFECTS

- Heart
- Stomach
- Kidney
- Brain
- Cleft palate

**2008**

# **Texas Birth Defects Registry Possible Clusters**

## **Looked at:**

- Landfills
- Refineries / chemical plants
- Military airfields
- Oso Creek
- Old city incinerator
- Injection well
- Battery recycling plant



## Study Sites



● Airfield ● Landfill ● Refinery ● Other

0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles

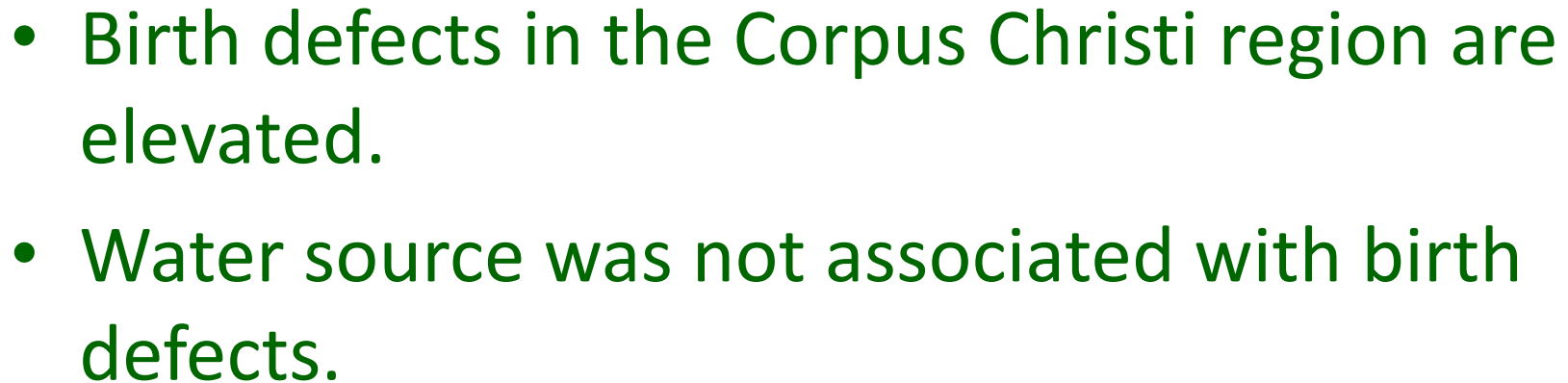




**2008**

# **Texas Birth Defect Registry Results**

- 150 comparisons
- No associations met all criteria



2016

# ATSDR PUBLIC HEALTH ASSESSMENT Air



- Air quality rarely reached harmful levels.
- Birth defects: Two heart defects were slightly more common near 'Refinery Row.'



**2018**

# **Texas Birth Defects Registry**

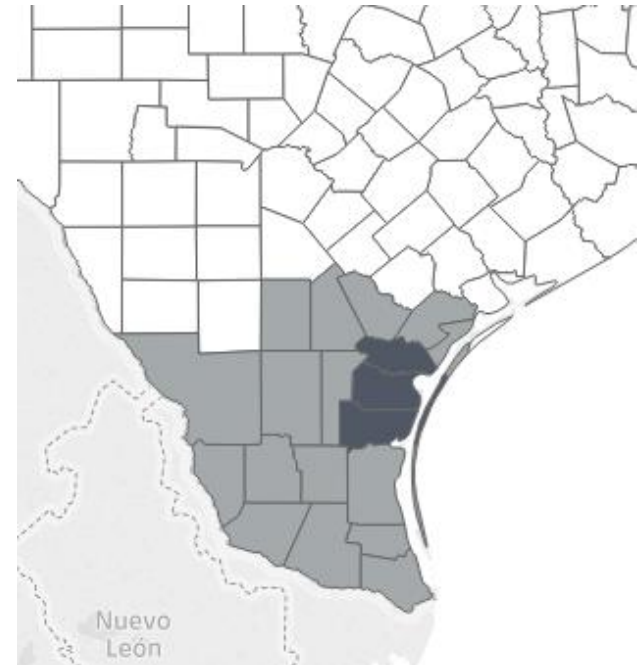
## **BIRTH DEFECTS IN THE CORPUS CHRISTI AREA**

Peter Langlois PhD

Birth Defects Epidemiology & Surveillance Branch

# Methods: Study Areas

- Corpus Christi Area (CCA):
  - Nueces, San Patricio, Kleberg Counties
- Comparison Area:
  - Rest of South Texas (HSR 11)



## Discussion: Major Conclusions

Of 131 specific birth defects

- 7 lower than expected
- 25 higher than expected
- Cause not evident

## Conclusions

Most clinically meaningful birth defects:

- Tetralogy of Fallot (heart)
- Cleft palate
- Kidney defects
- Limb reduction defects

## Conclusions

- In 2008-2014, total birth defects 18% higher
- From 1999-2007 total birth defects 63% higher

**Although still high, birth defect levels  
are dropping.**



**Questions?**

**Thank you!**