

## Mississippi State Department of Health Office of Health Disparity Elimination

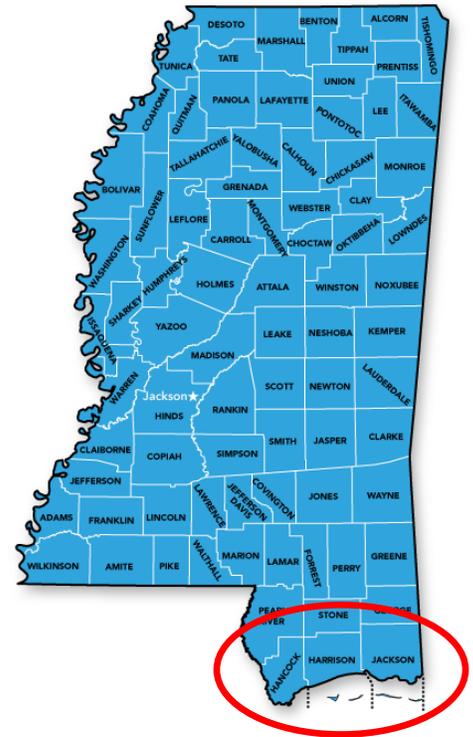
### Chronic Hepatitis B Among Vietnamese Adults in the Mississippi Gulf Coast, 2015

- An estimated 1.4 million Americans are infected with chronic hepatitis B.
- Asian and Pacific Islanders account for >50% of Americans with chronic hepatitis B, though they represent <5% of the U.S. population. Approximately 2 in 3 Asian and Pacific Islanders are unaware of their infection.
- In the U.S., chronic hepatitis B infections result in \$658 million in medical costs and lost wages annually.
- Chronic hepatitis B, also known as the 'silent killer,' may be asymptomatic and is a serious health disparity among Asian and Pacific Islanders, including Vietnamese Americans.
- Vietnamese Americans are one of the fastest growing Asian groups in the U.S., and in 2013, 11.2% of Vietnamese Americans on the Mississippi Gulf Coast were estimated to have chronic hepatitis B.

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/hepb.pdf>. National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable: [nvhr.org](http://nvhr.org)

#### Socio-Demographics of the Mississippi Gulf Coast

Variables	Hancock	Harrison	Jackson
<b>Population</b>	45,949	199,058	141,137
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, %	87.8	69.8	73.3
African American, %	8.4	24.0	22.1
Hispanic/Latino(a), %	3.6	5.4	5.2
Asian, %	1.1	3.0	2.3
<b>&lt;High School Diploma,%</b>	14.6	14.4	14.7
<b>Median Household Income</b>	\$44,522	\$43,124	\$48,943
<b>Percent Below Poverty</b>	18.7	19.9	15.9
<b>Uninsured Adults**, %</b>	26.0	26.0	25.0
<b>Percent Rural**</b>	42.6	22.8	27.3
*Percentages may exceed 100%. Data Source: United States Census Bureau, Quick Facts. 2016.			
**County Health Rankings and Roadmap, 2015.			



- Residents of the Mississippi Gulf Coast are predominately White (69.8-87.8%), followed by African American (8.4%-24.0%).
- Harrison County is the most populated county on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and contains over 50% of the state's Vietnamese population (3,400).
- Hancock County is the least populated county and has the lowest number of Vietnamese Americans.

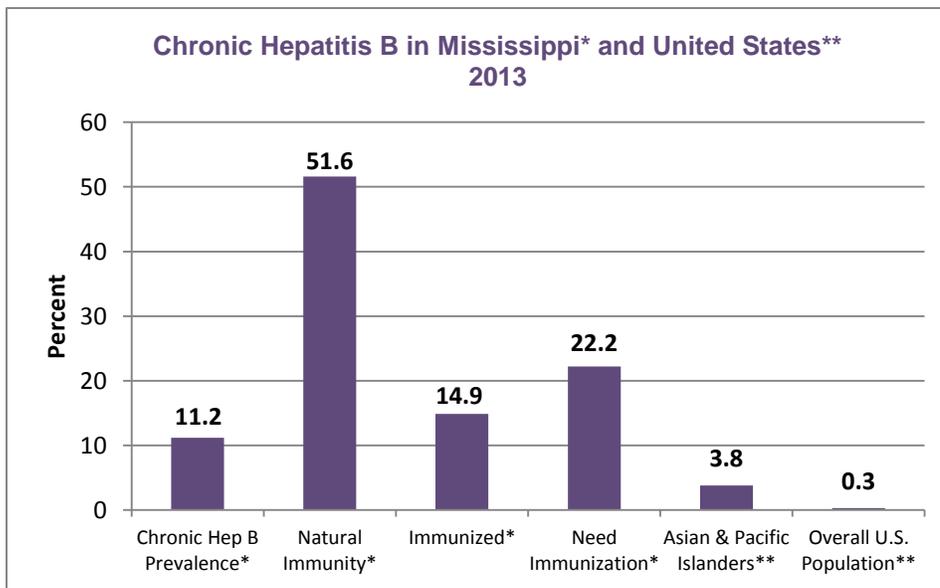
#### Health Profile of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, 2015

Behaviors and Conditions	Hancock	Harrison	Jackson
<b>Cigarette Use, %</b>	23.0	27.0	27.0
<b>Physical Inactivity, %</b>	31.0	29.0	28.0
<b>Self-reported Poor to Fair Health, %</b>	19.0	20.0	20.0
<b>Limited Access to Healthy Foods, %</b>	17.0	16.0	9.0
<b>Obesity, %</b>	29.0	34.0	32.0
<b>Diabetes, %</b>	12.0	13.0	13.0
<b>Ratio of Primary care providers</b>	1:1,424	1:1,092	1:1,924
Data Source: County Health Rankings and Roadmap, 2015.			

- Poor health behaviors are common among adults in the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- These behavioral factors may contribute to cardiovascular disease (CVD) and its related risk factors.

- Obesity and diabetes are highly prevalent among adults in the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- Access to healthy foods (defined as proportion of population who are low-income and do not live close to a grocery store) is limited among adults in the Mississippi Gulf Coast, which increases the risk of CVD.

## Prevalence of Chronic Hepatitis B/Liver Cancer Among Vietnamese Americans of the MS Gulf Coast, 2013



- In 2013, the prevalence of chronic hepatitis B among Vietnamese Americans in the Mississippi Gulf Coast was 11.2%.
- Twenty-two percent of Vietnamese Americans who tested negative had not been vaccinated for Hepatitis B.
- This suggests that the Mississippi Gulf Coast is a geographic hotspot for at-risk and unrecognized hepatitis B infections among Vietnamese Americans.

- Approximately 15-25% of people with chronic hepatitis B develop severe liver damage as well as liver cancer.
- Although the age-adjusted rate of liver cancer incidence is higher among Asian and Pacific Islanders, these results must be interpreted with caution.
- A major gap in Mississippi's surveillance data is the limited ability to delineate the incidence of liver cancer by race/ethnicity.

Liver Cancer Incidence Rates By Race in Mississippi Public Health District IX, 2009-13				
Race	Count	Age-Adjusted*	95% Confidence Interval	
White	163	7.1	6.0	8.3
Black	32	6.7	4.5	8.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	9	20.2	8.4	40.6

Data Source: Mississippi Cancer Registry. \*Rate is per 100,000 population.

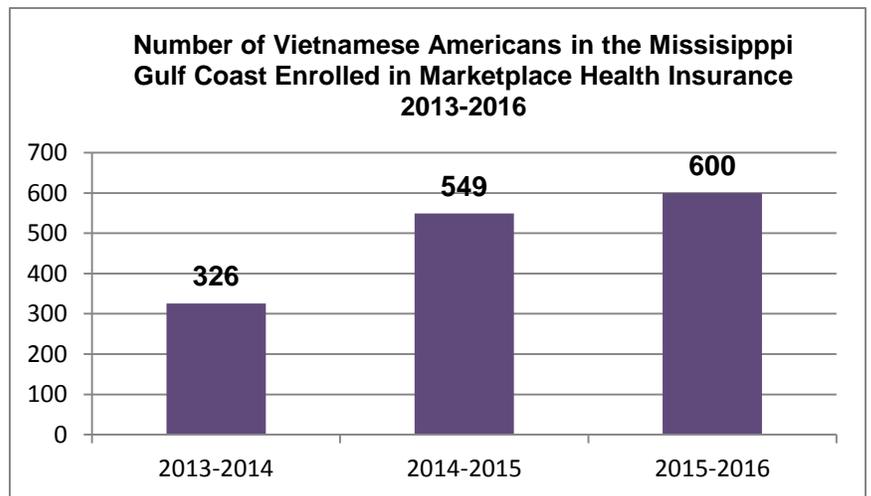
## Factors Associated with Chronic Hepatitis B and Other Health Outcomes Among Vietnamese Americans

- Among Vietnamese Americans, factors related to the lack of Hepatitis B testing include:
    - Being age 30-49 years
    - Residence in the U.S. for more than 10 years
    - Less Vietnamese fluency (how well the respondent spoke Vietnamese)
    - Lower household income
    - Having the belief that Hepatitis B can be deadly
  - Among Vietnamese Americans, factors found promote or influence Hepatitis B testing include:
    - Having had Hepatitis B vaccination
    - Discussed Hepatitis B with family/friends
    - Employer requested Hepatitis B testing
    - Physician recommendation / Physician request
- Source: Ha NB et al. J Cancer Educ. 2013;28(2):319-24 & Nguyen TT, et al. J Gen Intern Med;25(7):694-700.
- Low socioeconomics, limited English proficiency and cultural beliefs may be linked to prevalent chronic Hepatitis B among Vietnamese Americans in the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
  - One-third of Vietnamese Americans in the Mississippi Gulf Coast are unemployed and 23% live in poverty.
  - Nearly one-half of Vietnamese Americans may fall in the Medicaid coverage gap.
  - Cultural values and beliefs against Western medicine hamper many Vietnamese Americans from seeking health services because of distrust for institutionalized services due to past persecution.

## Healthcare Coverage Among Vietnamese Americans on the Mississippi Gulf Coast

- Lack of health insurance is linked to a higher prevalence of chronic Hepatitis B infection among Vietnamese Americans.
- To address this gap, community organizations such as Boat People S.O.S. have been working to enroll Vietnamese Americans in the Marketplace Health Insurance through the Affordable Care Act.
- To date, nearly 1,500 Vietnamese Americans have been enrolled in the Marketplace Health Insurance.

Source: Boat People S.O.S. 2016



## Prevalent Chronic Disease Among Vietnamese Americans on the Mississippi Gulf Coast

- Chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, diseases of the heart and stroke are common among Mississippians. However, the prevalence of these conditions among Vietnamese Americans in the Mississippi Gulf Coast remains relatively unknown.
- We expect to document an increase in knowledge and awareness about chronic diseases and their self-management through the implementation of several chronic disease self-management trainings.

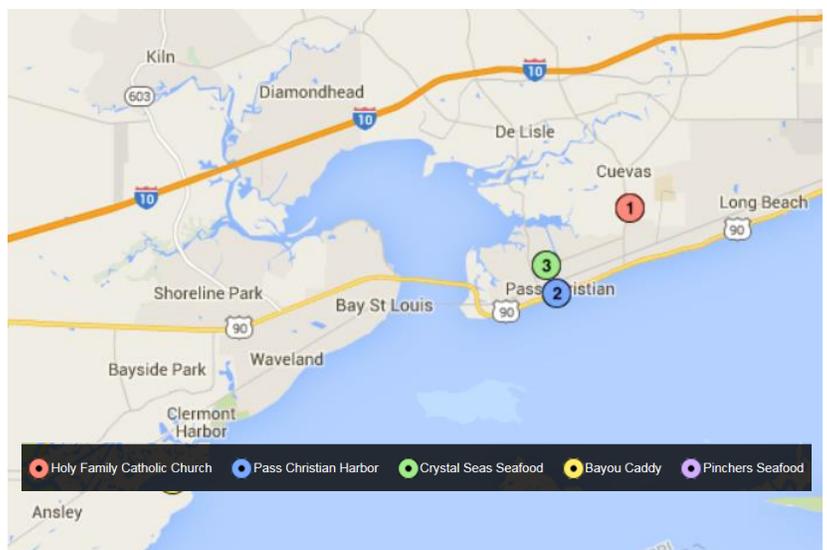
## Culture of the Vietnamese Population: Mississippi Gulf Coast

- Vietnamese Americans are the second fastest growing group of immigrants on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- Fishermen and Oystermen are among the largest professions in this region of Mississippi; the Gulf Coast was once known as the "Seafood Capital of the World".
- In 2005, the local seafood industry and many Vietnamese American communities were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, one of the most powerful hurricanes in U.S. history.
- More recently, an explosion aboard Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010 caused the largest accidental oil spill in U.S. history, which adversely affected the seafood industry in this part of the U.S.

## Resource Map: Mississippi Gulf Coast

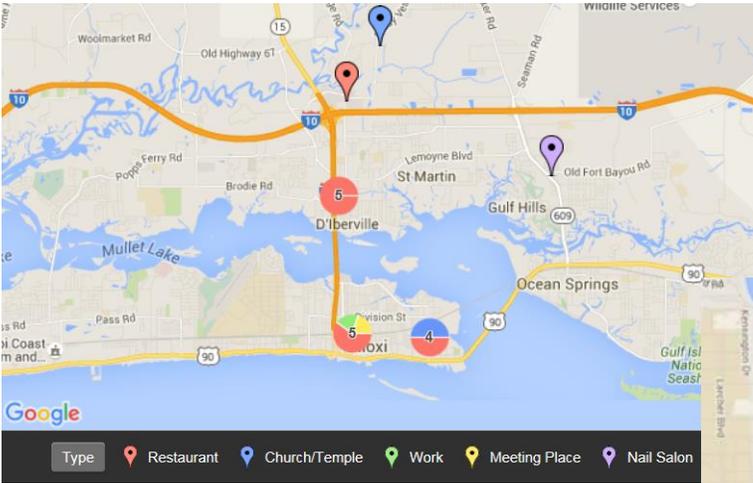
### Hancock County

- Religious faith is very important to the Vietnamese Americans, who primarily practice Catholicism and Buddhism.
- In Hancock County, Holy Family Catholic Church is a top location for community gatherings and provides an avenue to disseminate health information.
- Based key informants/community gatekeepers, other community gathering places include: (1) Pass Christian Harbor and Crystal Seas Seafood (in Pass Christian), (2) Bayou Caddy and Pinchers Seafood (in Bay St. Louis), and (3) various nail salons owned and/or operated by Vietnamese Americans.

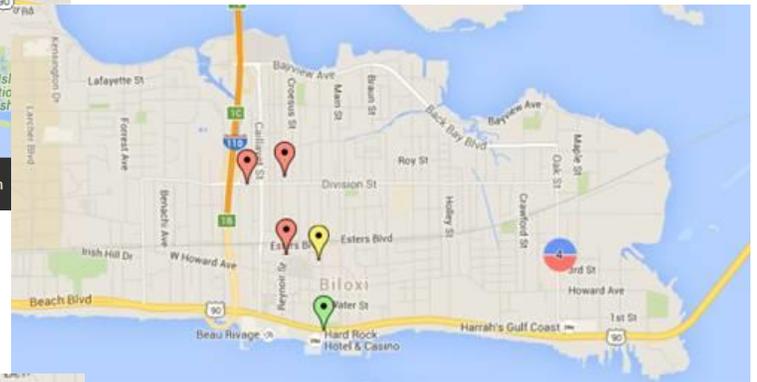


## Harrison County

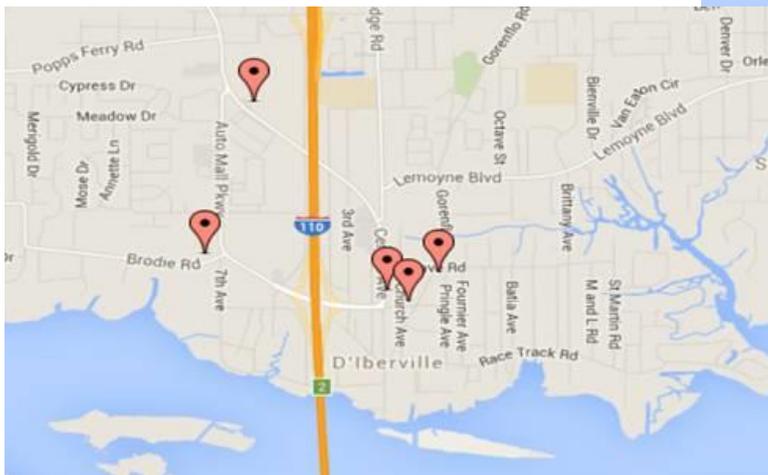
- Harrison County has the largest population of Vietnamese Americans.
- There are also a large number of Vietnamese American-owned restaurants that serve as community gathering places and enable the dissemination of health information.



Central/East Biloxi (Harrison County)

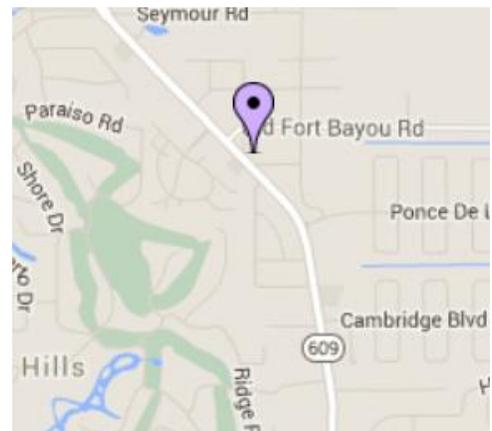


North Biloxi/D'Iberville (Harrison County)



## Jackson County

- A small Vietnamese American population resides in Jackson County.
- Consequently, Jackson County has far fewer community gathering places for Vietnamese Americans.



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