



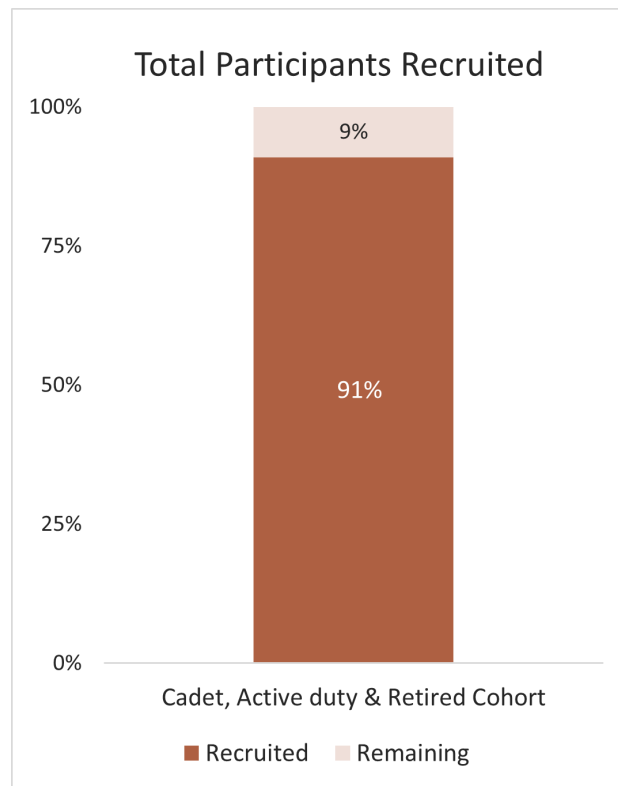
Texas Firefighter Cancer Study

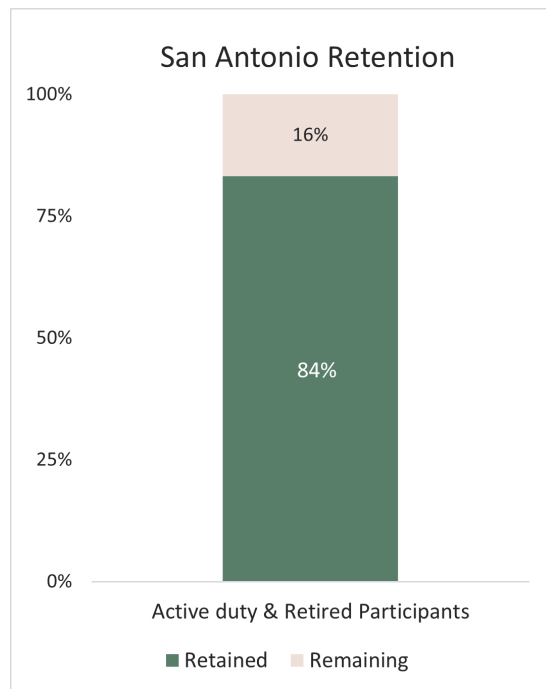
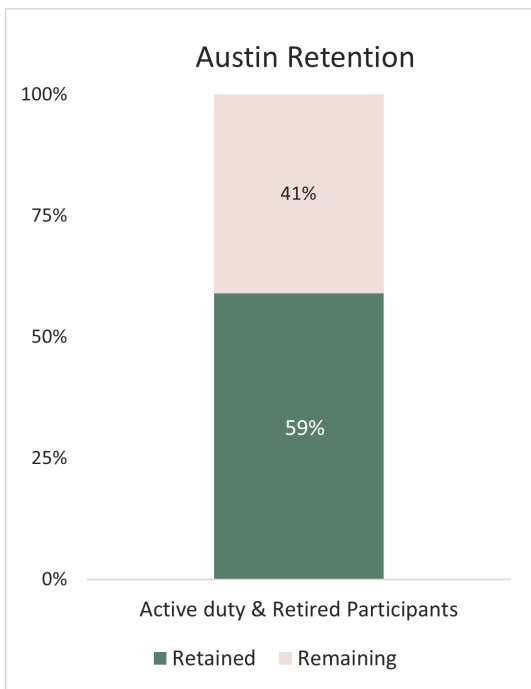
August | 2026

Announcements

Recruitment Updates

What a month! We successfully completed our first follow-up sampling campaign with our Austin and San Antonio cohorts. A sincere thank you to the participating fire departments for once again welcoming our team and supporting the Texas Firefighter Cancer Study (TFCS). Your continued involvement and partnership are helping advance cancer prevention and early detection among the fire service.





Austin participants: We'll be returning to the Austin Public Safety Wellness Center on **August 18** to conduct follow-up visits for those who were unable to attend in July. **San Antonio participants:** If you were unable to attend your scheduled visit, please email us so we can coordinate a follow-up visit.

San Antonio and Austin Follow-up Sampling



Texas Firefighter Occupational Cancer Epidemiology

We are pleased to share that our application has been successfully submitted to the DSHS Institutional Review Board and is expected to appear on the September IRB agenda. This milestone brings us one step closer to launching the statewide data linkage and formally beginning our epidemiological analyses.

In the meantime, the team continues to make progress on a scoping review manuscript examining cancer incidence and site-specific risks among firefighters, drawing on national and international cohort evidence to inform and further refine our study design. Findings from this review will help strengthen the epidemiological framework ahead of data linkage.

Texas Firefighter Cancer Screening Promotion

As part of the firefighter cancer screening project, we have interviewed over 20 firefighters across the Houston area. We greatly appreciate the insights shared by participants, which are critical to ensuring this work reflects real-world experiences and needs.

We are now transitioning to in-person, drop-in interviews at HFD Stations 8 and 46 during the months of August and September. These brief interviews are designed to allow firefighters to participate with minimal disruption to their schedules. Be on the lookout for a sign-up link or contact Derek Craig, PhD, at Derek.W.Craig@uth.tmc.edu if you're interested in participating.

Additionally, we have started analyzing the first wave of interview data to identify key determinants of cancer screening behavior and other important themes that will inform the development of a tailored intervention. This phase is essential for translating firefighter input into actionable strategies that can improve screening uptake and overall health outcomes. We look forward to sharing our preliminary findings at the Texas Firefighters Cancer Study Research Symposium in October!

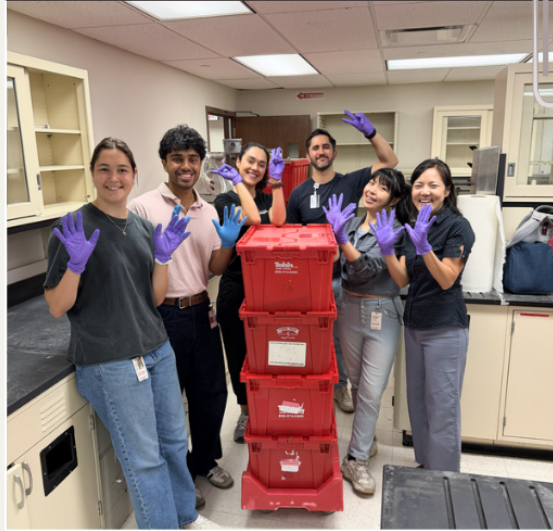
We're Officially Moved!

The TFCS team has officially settled into our new building in the Texas Medical Center! Over the course of three weeks, we spent 128 hours packing and relocated more than 419 boxes.

We're excited to welcome our retiree cohort into the new space in September for their follow-up visits and see everyone else here during the Texas Firefighter Cancer Study Research Symposium in October.



Moving boxes in
hallway



TFCS team packing in the Industrial Hygiene
and Exposure Sciences laboratory



Behind the Scenes: Our Blood Collection Team

Behind every blood sample collected for this study is a dedicated group of professionals who help make our research possible. From phlebotomists and nurse practitioners to EMS personnel and other healthcare professionals, we are incredibly grateful for your expertise, compassion, and care.

Blood draws are a personal part of this experience, and we appreciate the comfort you provide for our participants. Thank you for being an essential part of the TFCS team!



Texas Firefighter Cancer Study Research Symposium

Register now for the **Texas Firefighter Cancer Study's Research Symposium** on **Thursday, October 8, 2026** from **10:00 AM to 3:00 PM** at the new School of Public Health building located at 1930 Old Spanish Trail.

The symposium will highlight one year of progress and preliminary findings from the TFCS projects, showcasing contributions from faculty, staff, and students. The event will also provide an opportunity to discuss strategies for protecting firefighter health, with a focus on cancer prevention and mental health challenges that accompany cancer risk and diagnosis.

Speakers will include firefighters and fire service leaders, state legislators, researchers, and students. The symposium will also feature poster sessions and a tour of the laboratory, providing attendees with an opportunity to learn more about the research and the work behind the study.

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP using the button below.

Texas Firefighter Cancer Study

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

October 8, 2026

10 A.M. - 3 P.M.

**UTHealth Houston
School of Public Health**

1930 Old Spanish Trail
Houston, TX 77054

go.uth.edu/firefightersymposium



10/08/2026



RSVP for the Research Symposium

Coming Up

Visit 2: Six-Month Follow-Up Visit (F01) Sampling

Our research team is preparing for the first **six-month follow-up visit (F01)** for participants who have completed their baseline sampling.

Dallas, TX

August 24 & 25, 2026

Dallas Fire Fighters Association
10956 Audelia Rd.
Dallas, TX 75243

Fort Worth, TX

August 27 & 28, 2026

Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex
Administration
505 W Felix St.
Fort Worth, TX 76115

Brownsville, TX

September 2 & 3, 2026

DHR Health Specialty Clinic
4750 Frontage Rd,
Brownsville, TX 78526

Houston, TX (*Retirees seen on
2/21*)

September 8-11, 2026

NEW UTHealth Houston –
School of Public Health
1930 Old Spanish Trail,
Houston, TX 77054

El Paso, TX

September 22 & 23, 2026

El Paso Fire Department
Wellness Center
9565 Diana Dr.
El Paso, TX 79924

Texas Firefighter Cancer Study Team Travel Path



Austin | Brownsville | Dallas | El Paso | Fort Worth | Houston | San Antonio

Ways to Engage

Connect with Us

Visit our [webpage](#) to stay up-to-date on our study. Share this newsletter with your fellow firefighters and encourage them to join our mailing list.

If you are interested in taking part of this study or have questions, please submit an inquiry using the [Contact Us](#) form or by email at: TFCS@uth.tmc.edu



[TFCS Website](#) | [Contact Us](#)

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