

## West Nile Virus Takes Deadly Toll on Texans

Contributed by Tom McGregor  
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The West Nile Virus is taking a record-braking deadly toll on the Lone Star state. The Houston Chronicle reports that, "Travis County has confirmed a third death from West Nile Virus," according to a Friday statement from Austin.

Travis County Health and Human Services Department said, "the victim was older than age 50 and died of West Nile neuroinvasive disease after two weeks of hospitalization. As of Friday, the department reported 56 cases of West Nile virus in the county. Meanwhile, the death brought to at least 47 the statewide death toll from West Nile this year."

According to the Houston Chronicle, "this is the worst year ever for West Nile in Texas, which has seen about half of the nation's deaths from the illness. The deaths in Texas now exceeded the 2003 record of 40. Mosquitoes spread the virus to people they bite."

To read the entire article from the Houston Chronicle, link here: [Tmcgregordallas@yahoo.com](mailto:Tmcgregordallas@yahoo.com)