



Approximately 5% of adults or 12.5 million Americans are living with COPD¹. COPD is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality, resulting in 536,000 hospitalizations² and 139,000 deaths³. COPD treatment costs an estimated \$50 billion annually⁴. **Alabama is one of 11 states with the highest COPD prevalence rate.**⁵

COPD by the Numbers in Alabama

Adults diagnosed with COPD ⁵	369,369
COPD prevalence ⁵	9.4%
COPD mortality ³	3,215
Annual cost of COPD treatment ⁴	\$543 Million
Workdays lost to COPD ⁴	338,250
Medicare hospitalizations ²	4,057

Who is most likely to have worse outcomes and barriers to treatment?

- People living in rural communities.
- People with lower income levels.
- People with lower educational levels.

2023







American Lung Association Indicator Reports

State of the Air⁶: Jefferson County, AL received an “F” for high ozone days.

State of Tobacco Control⁷: scored an “F” in access to cessation services.

State of Lung Cancer⁸: 5.5% of high risk adults were screened for lung cancer.

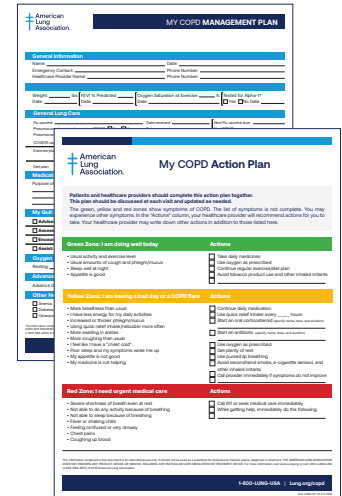
Compared to adults without COPD, those diagnosed with COPD in Alabama reported⁵:

Indicator	COPD	Comparison	No COPD
Having less than a high school education	25.7%		12.4%
Earning less than \$15,000 in household income	23.0%		7.0%
Currently smoking	41.3%		14.8%
Receiving a flu vaccination	48.0%		41.0%
Receiving a pneumococcal vaccination	51.5%		29.0%
Average number of bad mental health days in the last month	15.4		12.5



Five Opportunities to Address COPD in Alabama

- 1 Use a validated COPD screening tool for people who may be at risk of COPD or reporting symptoms.
- 2 Confirm a COPD diagnosis using spirometry, especially in primary care.
- 3 Use evidence-based tobacco prevention and cessation services.
- 4 Promote recommended vaccinations.
- 5 Recommend pulmonary rehabilitation, COPD education and a COPD Action Plan.



Learn how at Lung.org/HCP-COPD.



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8. American Lung Association. State of Lung Cancer 2022.