

# THE FACTS ALABAMA

**Speak**  
for **Health**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE  
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

**PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING** Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Alabama receives \$116 per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration in public health funding. The Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state \$11.24 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in fiscal year 2020.

**ACCESS TO CARE** 9.7% of people in Alabama do not have health insurance coverage, compared to the national uninsured rate of 9.2%. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Alabama has 203.5 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. This is significantly lower than the national rate of 241.9 active primary care providers per 100,000 people.

## Notable Health Measures

- **Diabetes** 14.0% of adults have diabetes, ranking the state 3rd highest in the nation
- **High school graduation** 90.0% of students graduate from high school in Alabama, ranking the state 5th highest in the nation. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.

## The Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** 20.2% of the adult population regularly smokes cigarettes, ranking Alabama 44th highest in the nation. Smoking-related illnesses have been attributed to 8,600 deaths each year in Alabama and an estimated \$1.9 billion annually in smoking-related expenditures, such as home health care and medical equipment.
- **Obesity** Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases. The obesity rate has steadily increased over the past two and a half decades, and is estimated to be about 36.1% of the population. .

Sources: America's Health Rankings analysis of Trust for America's Health, U.S. HHS, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, Accessed 2021; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP) State Fact Sheets, (March 2021). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/about/osh/state-fact-sheets/index.htm>; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fiscal Year 2020 Grant Funding Profiles Totals, (July 2021). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://fundingprofiles.cdc.gov/>



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