

Cerebrovascular Diseases (Stroke) Mortality Rate (2011-2013)	
Per 100,000 Population	
State Comparison	
Alabama	48.6
United States (2011)	37.9
Historic Trend	
2011-2013	48.6
2006-2008	57.6
2001-2003	68.3
Public Health Area	
1	46.5
2	48.3
3	55.3
4	53.6
5	42.3
6	48.3
7	54.6
8	46.7
9	47.6
10	45.1
11	51.6
Rurality	
Rural counties	49.9
Urban counties	47.7
Age	
Under 18	0.5
18 - 24	^
25 - 34	1.6
35 - 44	6.6
45 - 54	21.3
55 - 64	49.1
65 and over	297.5
Gender	
Female	46.8
Male	50.0
Race	
African American	61.7
American Indian/Alaskan Native	^
Caucasian	45.7
Ethnicity	
Hispanic	22.4
Non-Hispanic	48.9
Income	
	N.A.
Education	
Less than 9th Grade	231.7
9th Grade - 12th Grade	114.7
High school or G.E.D.	102.9
Post high school	40.5
College graduate and higher	44.2

Cerebrovascular Diseases (Stroke) Mortality Rate²²

- In 2012, cerebrovascular diseases (stroke) were the fourth leading cause of death in Alabama. Similar to heart disease, the mortality rate for stroke in Alabama is 1.3 times higher than the 2011 national mortality rate (48.6 per 100,000 and 37.9 per 100,000 respectively).
- The mortality rate has decreased from previous years:
 - 68.3 per 100,000 in 2001-2003
 - 57.6 per 100,000 in 2006-2008
 - 48.6 per 100,000 in 2011-2013
- While stroke mortality has decreased significantly over the past decade, Alabama still has the highest stroke mortality rate among all 50 states.
- Twenty-seven counties had stroke mortality rates below the overall state rate.
- Counties with the highest rates were Lawrence, Bibb, Franklin, Covington, and Marshall. Rates could not be calculated for four counties due to the number of deaths being too small.
- Alabama's stroke mortality rate is:
 - Higher for males (50.0 per 100,000) than for females (46.8).
 - Thirty-five percent higher for African Americans (61.7) than Caucasians (45.7).
 - More than double for Non-Hispanics (48.9) than individuals of Hispanic origin (22.4).
- The mortality rate for stroke also increases with lower levels of education. Higher levels of education, however, do not produce mortality rates lower than the 2011 rate reported for the entire United States:
 - Rates of 231.7 per 100,000 for those with less than 9th Grade education.
 - Rates of 44.2 per 100,000 for college graduates.
- Those 65 years or older had the highest stroke mortality rate in Alabama (297.5 per 100,000).
- The 25 counties with the highest stroke mortality rates are all rural.
- Fourteen counties have stroke mortality rates that are more than 50 percent higher than the national rate.
- Only three counties (Marion at 31.3, Conecuh at 32.0, and Shelby at 34.9) have stroke mortality rates below that for the nation.
- Alabama is a member of the "Stroke Belt" that also includes Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. These states had an age-adjusted stroke mortality rate exceeding that for the nation by 10 percent or more in 1980, which led to this definition.

