

Selected Health Status Indicators



NORTH ALABAMA ACTION COMMISSION (Region 1)

Jointly produced to assist those seeking to improve health care in rural Alabama

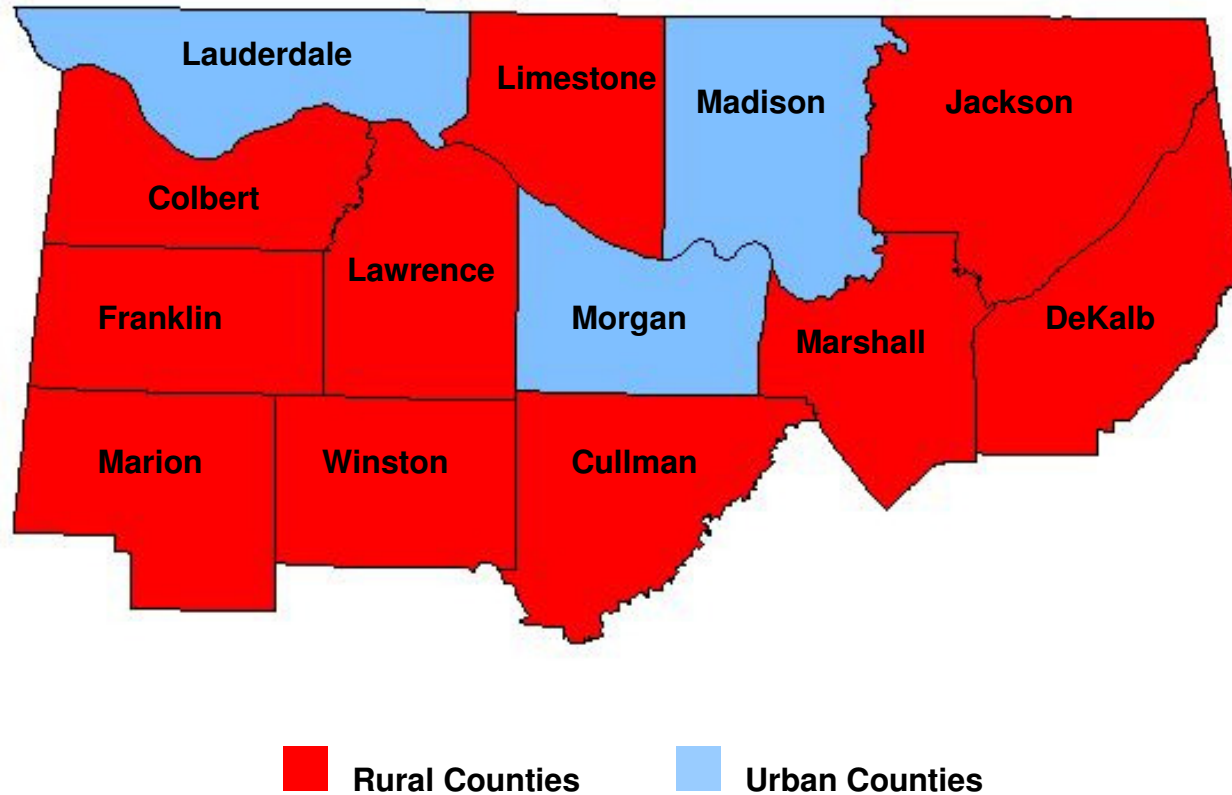
by
The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health,
Alabama Department of Public Health
and
The Alabama Rural Health Association

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This and other reports in this series can be referenced on-line by visiting the “Reports” section of the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health Web site at <http://adph.org/ruralhealth/> or the “Rural/Urban Comparisons” section of the Alabama Rural Health Association Web site at www.arhaonline.org

October 2007

The North Alabama Action Commission Region



This publication defines entire counties as being “rural” or “urban” since most data of interest is available at the county level, but not at sub-county levels. For this specific definition, counties are assigned a score using four major indicators of rurality. These are population per square mile, the size and number of cities in a county, percentage of total employment comprised by employment in public education, and per capita agricultural sales. For additional information on the determination of which counties are considered “rural,” please visit the “What Is Rural?” section at the Alabama Rural Health Association’s Web site, www.arhaonline.org.

SELECTED HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS
United States, Alabama, and the North Alabama Action Commission

Indicators	United States		Alabama		North Alabama Action Commission					
					All Counties		Rural Counties		Urban Counties	
	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total
2006 Population	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total
Total	299,398,484	100.0	4,599,030	100.0	1,043,736	100.0	536,301	100.0	507,435	100.0
African American (alone)	38,342,549	12.8	1,211,583	26.3	125,146	12.0	31,009	5.8	94,137	18.6
White (alone)	239,746,254	80.1	3,276,561	71.2	887,170	85.0	491,861	91.7	395,309	77.9
American Indian (alone)	2,902,851	1.0	23,799	0.5	8,197	0.8	5,021	0.9	3,176	0.6
Asian (alone)	13,159,343	4.4	41,881	0.9	9,536	0.9	1,779	0.3	7,757	1.5
Hispanic	44,321,038	14.8	113,890	2.5	40,919	3.9	26,571	5.0	14,348	2.8
Age 19 Years or Less	82,079,106	27.4	1,240,643	27.0	271,950	26.1	137,974	25.7	133,976	26.4
Age 65 Years or More	37,260,352	12.4	615,597	13.4	144,283	13.8	77,504	14.5	66,779	13.2
Age 85 Years or More	5,296,817	1.8	79,530	1.7	16,962	1.6	9,638	1.8	7,324	1.4
Population Change	Number	Pct. Change	Number	Pct. Change	Number	Pct. Change	Number	Pct. Change	Number	Pct. Change
1910 – 2000	91,972,266 to 281,421,906	206.0	2,138,093 to 4,447,100	108.0	353,196 to 996,565	182.2	241,438 to 520,835	115.7	111,758 to 475,730	325.7
2000 – 2025 Projected	281,421,906 to 349,695,000	24.3	4,447,100 to 5,385,997	21.1	996,565 to 1,242,006	24.6	520,835 to 658,005	26.3	475,730 to 584,001	22.8
Age 65+: 2000 – 2025 Projected	34,991,753 to 63,042,500	80.2	579,907 to 999,769	72.4	129,178 to 229,814	77.9	72,214 to 122,178	69.2	56,964 to 107,636	89.0
Hispanic: 1990 – 2006 Estimated	22,354,059 to 44,321,038	98.3	24,629 to 113,890	362.4	5,640 to 40,919	625.5	1,759 to 26,571	1,410.6	3,881 to 14,348	269.7
Income Related Indicators	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure
Population Below Poverty Level – 2004	37,039,804	12.7%	727,308	16.1%	144,292	14.1%	80,013	15.2%	64,279	13.0%
Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level - 2004	13,041,492	17.8%	245,017	22.6%	47,688	20.0%	26,250	21.5%	21,438	18.4%
Per Capita Personal Income – 2005	N.A.	\$34,471	N.A.	\$29,623	N.A.	\$28,990	N.A.	\$25,649	N.A.	\$32,544
Medicaid Eligible Population – 2006	N.A.	N.A.	988,677	21.1 %	203,032	19.1%	121,998	21.9%	81,034	16.0%
Medicaid Eligible Children (Under 21) - 2006	N.A.	N.A.	520,256	38.9%	106,906	35.3%	64,080	41.2%	42,826	29.1%
Medicaid Births - 2006	N.A.	N.A.	30,114	49.3%	6,493	47.7%	3,833	53.9%	2,660	40.9%
Access to Health Care Indicators	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure¹	Number	Measure
Primary Care Physicians – 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	209,550	7.2	3,044	6.5	645	6.1	274	4.9	371	7.3
Dentists – 2003 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	86,110	2.9 (2006)	1,557	3.5	351	3.5	135	2.6	216	4.4
Psychiatrists – 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	24,730	0.9	298	0.6	64	0.6	8	0.1	56	1.1
Hospital Beds (Per 10,000 Pop.)	N.A.	N.A.	16,917	36.1	3,456	32.5	1,575	28.2	1,881	37.2
Households With No Vehicle – 2000	10,861,067	10.3%	143,594	8.3%	25,356	6.4%	14,333	7.0%	11,023	5.8%
Uninsured Population - 2003	39,803,527	14.2% (2001)	504,539	11.2%	127,168	12.5%	73,915	14.1%	53,253	10.9%

SELECTED HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS - continued
United States, Alabama, and the North Alabama Action Commission

Indicators	United States		Alabama		North Alabama Action Commission					
					All Counties		Rural Counties		Urban Counties	
	Number in 2004	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2003 - 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2003 - 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2003 - 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2003 - 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop.
All Causes	2,397,615	816.5	139,414	1,028.7	30,302	988.8	17,307	1,092.9	12,995	877.6
Septicemia	33,373	11.4	2,451	18.1	483	15.8	276	17.4	207	14.0
Cancer	553,888	188.6	29,389	216.9	6,476	211.3	3,594	227.0	2,882	194.6
Colon, Rectum, and Anus	53,772	18.3	2,696	19.9	566	18.5	298	18.8	268	18.1
Trachea, Bronchus, and Lung	158,091	53.8	9,286	68.5	2,179	71.1	1,254	79.2	925	62.5
Breast (female)	40,954	27.5	2,072	29.4	438	27.8	241	29.8	197	25.7
Cervix Uteri (female)	3,850	2.6	241	3.4	50	3.2	21	2.6	29	3.8
Ovary (female)	14,716	9.9	786	11.2	155	9.8	86	10.6	69	9.0
Prostate (male)	29,004	20.1	1,609	24.3	278	18.3	135	17.2	143	19.5
Meninges, Brain, Other Central Nervous System	12,829	4.4	611	4.5	167	5.4	96	6.1	71	4.8
Alzheimer's Disease	65,965	22.5	4,145	30.6	871	28.4	470	29.7	401	27.1
Diabetes Mellitus	73,138	24.9	4,273	31.5	941	30.7	467	29.5	474	32.0
Heart Diseases	675,562	230.1	38,683	285.4	8,903	290.5	5,541	349.9	3,362	227.0
Ischemic Heart Diseases	451,326	153.7	18,789	138.6	3,901	127.3	2,711	171.2	1,190	80.4
Heart Failure	57,120	19.5	6,606	48.7	1,590	51.9	1,030	65.0	560	37.8
Cerebrovascular Diseases (Stroke)	150,074	51.1	8,934	65.9	1,814	59.2	1,037	65.5	777	52.5
Pneumonia	58,564	19.9	3,111	23.0	708	23.1	392	24.8	316	21.3
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	121,987	41.5	7,156	52.8	1,661	54.2	1,025	64.7	636	42.9
Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	27,013	9.2	1,378	10.2	286	9.3	155	9.8	131	8.8
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome, and Nephrosis	42,480	14.5	3,132	23.1	713	23.3	395	24.9	318	21.5
Accidents	112,012	38.1	6,931	51.1	1,580	51.6	958	60.5	622	42.0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	44,933	15.3	3,480	25.7	818	26.7	527	33.3	291	19.7
Drowning and Submersion	3,308	1.1	187	1.4	42	1.4	23	1.5	19	1.3
Smoke, Fire, and Flames	3,229	1.1	322	2.4	61	2.0	43	2.7	18	1.2
Poisoning and Exposure to Noxious Substances	20,950	7.1	646	4.8	125	4.1	59	3.7	66	4.5
Homicide	17,357	5.9	1,233	9.1	153	5.0	73	4.6	80	5.4
Suicide	32,439	11.0	1,586	11.7	385	12.6	197	12.4	188	12.7

SELECTED HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS - continued
United States, Alabama, and the North Alabama Action Commission

Indicators	United States		Alabama		North Alabama Action Commission					
	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	All Counties		Rural Counties		Urban Counties	
Nativity Related Indicators	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Births (2004 – 2006)	28,534	6.9	1,646	9.0	331	8.3	180	8.5	151	8.0
Low Weight Births – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	331,772 (2004)	8.1 %	6,616	10.5 %	1,300	9.4%	616	8.5%	684	10.5%
Births to Teens (10-19) – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	422,043 (2004)	10.3 %	8,670	13.8%	1,845	13.4%	1,102	15.2%	743	11.3%
Births With Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	N.A.	N.A.	14,390	23.1%	3,325	24.2%	1,899	26.3%	1,426	21.9%
Tobacco Use During Pregnancy – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	419,429	10.2%	7,394	11.8%	2,085	15.1%	1,294	17.9%	791	12.1%
Births Occurring Outside of the Mother’s County of Residence – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	N.A.	N.A.	20,002	31.8%	3,692	26.7%	3,085	42.5%	607	9.3%
Births to Undereducated Women – 2006	N.A.	N.A.	11,648	18.6%	3,252	23.6%	2,156	29.8%	1,096	16.8%
Other Indicators	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure
Age 65+ With “Home Bound” Disability – 2000	6,795,517	19.4 %	139,401	24.0 %	30,736	23.8%	18,208	25.2%	12,528	22.0%
Age 25+ With Less Than High School Education - 2000	35,715,625	19.6 %	714,081	24.7 %	168,390	25.4%	110,820	31.7%	57,570	18.4%
Receiving Medicare Disability – 2003 (Percent of Total Population)	6,079,424	2.2 %	150,573	3.3 %	30,654	3.0%	18,722	3.6%	11,932	2.4%
Obese – 2003 (Percent of Total Population)	Not Comparable	Not Comparable	1,073,329	23.9 %	232,339	22.9%	117,715	22.4%	114,624	23.4%
Accidental Deaths Occurring Outside of a Health Care Facility: 2003-05 (Percent of All Accidental Deaths)	N.A.	N.A.	3,621	52.2 %	772	48.9%	505	52.7%	267	42.9%
Life Expectancy at Birth	N.A.	77.9 years	N.A.	74.8 years	N.A.	75.4 years	N.A.	74.4 years	N.A.	76.5 years
Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases Reported in 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	1,349,333	45.9	33,463	73.6	4,263	41.4	1,536	28.9	2,727	54.6
Cumulative HIV Cases as of December 31, 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	Not Comparable	Not Comparable	14,737	32.4	1,512	14.7	563	10.6	949	19.0
Families Being Counseled for Drug Issues by the Alabama Department of Mental Health During FY 2004 (Percent of All Families)	N.A.	N.A.	20,881	1.7 %	4,107	1.4%	2,386	1.6%	1,721	1.3%

¹ Rates, percentages, etc based upon fewer than 16 events may not be statistically reliable for specific analyses. Caution should be exercised in using these indicators.

THIS PUBLICATION IS DESIGNED TO BE USED WITH THE “COUNTY SPECIFIC DATA” PUBLICATION IN IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC COUNTIES WHERE SELECTED INDICATORS MAY BE OF GREATER CONCERN.

FOR EXAMPLE: IT IS NOTED THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT MORTALITY RATE FOR RURAL COUNTIES IN THE NORTH ALABAMA ACTION COMMISSION REGION IS 33.3 DEATHS PER 100,000 PERSONS COMPARED TO A RATE OF 19.7 FOR THE URBAN COUNTIES IN THAT REGION.

THE USER CAN REFER TO THE “MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT MORTALITY” SECTION ON PAGE 16 IN THE “COUNTY SPECIFIC DATA” PUBLICATION WHERE IT CAN BE SEEN THAT THE HIGHEST MORTALITY RATES FOR MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS IN THAT COMMISSION REGION ARE IN THE RURAL COUNTIES OF LAWRENCE (46.5), CULLMAN (39.6), FRANKLIN (37.0), AND MARION (36.5).

Sources of Information and Special Notes

2006 Population: U.S. Census Bureau, County Population Estimates – characteristics; County Population by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2000 through July 1, 2006. <http://www.census.gov/popest/counties/asrh/CC-EST2006-alldata.html>

Population Change 1910-2000: U.S. Census Bureau, County Population Census Counts 1900-90, <http://www.census.gov/population/cencounts/al190090.txt> for 1910 data; U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data for 2000 data.

Population Change 2000-2025: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data for 2000 data. Alabama State Data Center, Alabama County Population 2000 and Projections 2005-2025 for 2025. http://cber.cba.ua.edu/edata/est_prj.html

Age 65+ Population Change 2000-2025: Alabama State Data Center, Alabama County Population 65 and Over 2000 and Projections 2005-2025 for 2025. http://cber.cba.ua.edu/edata/est_prj.html

Hispanic Population Change 1990-2006: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, Census 1990 Summary File 1 (STF 1) 100-Percent Data for 1990 data. Alabama State Data Center, Estimates of the Hispanic Population by County, 2006. http://cber.cba.ua.edu/edata/est_prj.html

Population Below Poverty Level - 2004: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/saipe.html>

Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level - 2004: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/saipe.html>

2005 Per Capita Personal Income: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Interactive Tables: Local Area Personal Income, Table CA1-3. <http://www.bea.gov/regional/reis/default.cfm?catable=CA1-3§ion=2>

Medicaid Eligible Population - 2006: Alabama Medicaid Agency, Alabama Medicaid Statistics by County – 2006. http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/resources/stats_reports.aspx?tab=5

Medicaid Eligible Children (Under 21) - 2006: Alabama Medicaid Agency, Alabama Medicaid Statistics by County – 2006. http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/resources/stats_reports.aspx?tab=5

Medicaid Births - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.

Primary Care Physicians in 2006: Medical Licensure Commission, Licensed Physician Data Base – 2006.
(In this publication, primary care physicians include family practitioners, internal medicine specialists, pediatricians, and obstetricians and gynecologists.)

Dentists in 2003: Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama, Licensed dentists data base - 2003.

Psychiatrists in 2006: Medical Licensure Commission, Licensed Physician Data Base – 2006.

Hospital Beds in 2007: Alabama Department of Public Health, Division of Provider Services, Healthcare Facilities Directory – Hospital Section. October 4, 2007.
[http://ph.state.al.us/facilitiesdirectory/\(S\(ikg10gmph4ih5550hmu4t45\)\)/Default.aspx](http://ph.state.al.us/facilitiesdirectory/(S(ikg10gmph4ih5550hmu4t45))/Default.aspx)

Households With No Vehicle in 2000: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) Sample Data, Table H44 - Tenure by Vehicles Available.

Uninsured Persons - 2003: State Health Access Data Assistance Center, Alabama County Chartbook: County-Level Estimates of Uninsurance July 2005. (Prepared for the Alabama Department of Public Health, Children's Health Insurance Program)

Cause of Death Indicators: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special queries of the 2003, 2004, and 2005 Mortality Statistics Files for Alabama data. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC Wonder Interactive Program, Mortality – Underlying Cause of Death 2004 file. <http://wonder.cdc.gov/>
(Cause of death data included in this publication is not age-adjusted)

Infant Mortality Rate - 2004-2006; Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special queries of the 2004, 2005, and 2006 Birth Statistics Files for birth data. Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Total Resident Infant Deaths and Infant Mortality Rates by County, Alabama, 2006, 2005, 2004, and Combined 2006-2004. <http://adph.org/healthstats/assets/06TotInfantDeaths.pdf>

Low Weight Births - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.
(Births weighing less than 2,500 grams or 5 pounds and 8 ounces are defined as being of low weight.)

Births to Teenagers (Age 10-19) - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.

Births With Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.
(The Kotelchuck Index is used in determining adequacy of prenatal care. This index primarily considers the date when prenatal care was begun and the number of visits in determining adequacy.)

Births With Tobacco Use During Pregnancy - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.

Births Occurring Outside Mother's County of Residence - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.
(This indicator was included because of the serious decline in the number of rural hospitals where obstetrics are performed and the natural relationship between women receiving adequate prenatal care and the presence of obstetrical care in the county.)

Births to Undereducated Women - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.
(Women are considered to be "undereducated" when their years of education is at least two years less than what would be expected for someone of their age.)

Age 65+ With "Home Bound" Disability - 2000: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) Sample Data, Table P41 – Age by Types of Disability for the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population 5 Years and Over With Disabilities.

Age 25+ With Less Than High School Education - 2000: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) Sample Data, Table P37 – Sex by Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over.

Persons Receiving Medicare Disability - 2003: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare County Enrollment, As of July 1, 2003.
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareEnrpts/>

Obesity - Percent of Population in 2003: Chronic Disease in Alabama: Past, Present, and Future Trends. Pp. 16-17.
<http://adph.org/ADMINISTRATION/chronicdisease.pdf>

Accidental Deaths Occurring Outside of a Health Care Facility - (2003-2005): Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2003, 2004, and 2005 Mortality Statistics File.
(This indicator was used in the place of an “emergency medical services emergency ambulance runs” data base. While there is such a data base maintained within the Alabama Department of Public Health, reporting to this data base is not complete and could produce confusing findings. The provision of adequate emergency medical service continues to be a serious issue in most rural Alabama counties.)

Life Expectancy at Birth - 2005: Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, County Health Profiles – 2005.
<http://www.adph.org/healthstats/Default.asp?id=1521>

Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases - 2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Division of STD Prevention and Control, Statistics, County Totals – 2006.
<http://www.adph.org/STD/Default.asp?id=1080>

Cumulative HIV Cases as of 12/31/2006: Alabama Department of Public Health, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, Statistics, Public Health Area (January – December 2006). <http://www.adph.org/aids/Default.asp?id=984>
(National data for the cumulative number of HIV cases as of December 31, 2006 is not comparable due to the fact that not all states report this information to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and those that are reporting initiated this reporting at varying times.)

Families Served by the Division of Substance Abuse Services in the Alabama Department of Mental Health - FY 2004: Alabama Department of Mental Health, Department's Annual Report, '03-'04. p35. http://www.mh.alabama.gov/downloads/AnnualReports/ADMH_AnnualReport_03_04Part3.pdf

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