

Selected Health Status Indicators



SOUTH CENTRAL ALABAMA ACTION COMMISSION (Region 5)

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

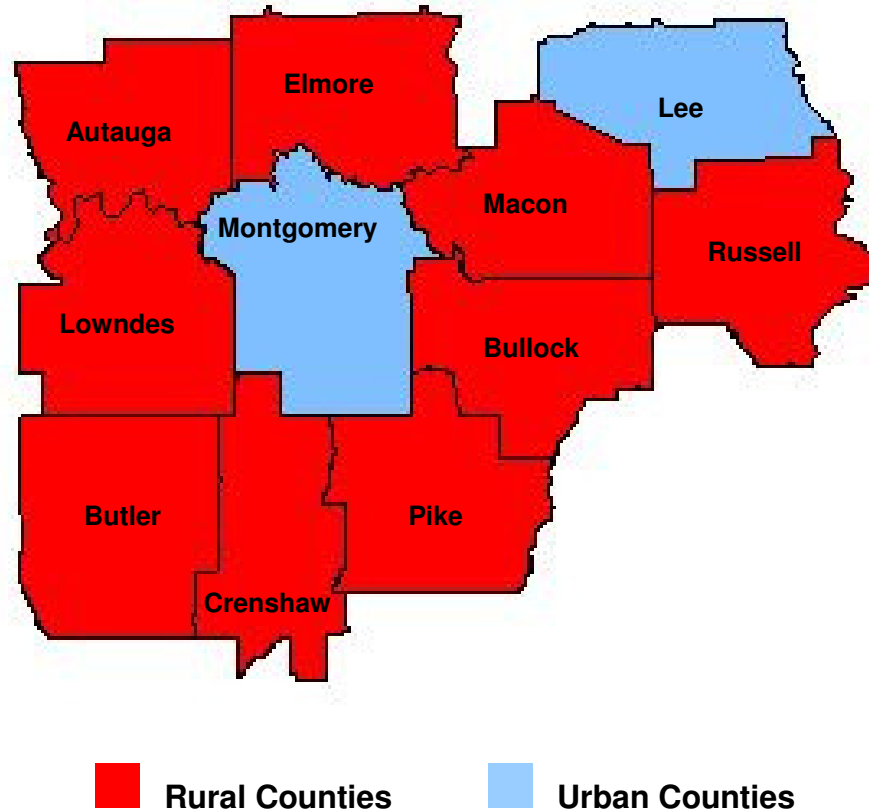
by
The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health,
Alabama Department of Public Health
and
The Alabama Rural Health Association

Special thanks to the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health and the National Rural Health Association for funding assistance in the production of this publication.

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 South Central 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 South Central Alabama Action Commission

Indicators	South Central Alabama Action Commission									
	United States		Alabama		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	634,973	100.0	285,621	100.00	349,352	100.0
African American (alone)	38,342,549	12.8	1,211,583	26.3	252,051	39.7	103,724	36.3	148,327	42.5
White (alone)	239,746,254	80.1	3,276,561	71.2	367,849	57.9	176,145	61.7	191,704	54.9
American Indian (alone)	2,902,851	1.0	23,799	0.5	2,057	0.3	1,163	0.4	894	0.3
Asian (alone)	13,159,343	4.4	41,881	0.9	6,863	1.1	1,712	0.6	5,151	1.5
Hispanic	44,321,038	14.8	113,890	2.5	10,661	1.7	4,994	1.7	5,667	1.6
Age 19 Years or Less	82,079,106	27.4	1,240,643	27.0	180,346	28.4	78,781	27.6	101,565	29.1
Age 65 Years or More	37,260,352	12.4	615,597	13.4	73,778	11.6	36,335	12.7	37,443	10.7
Age 85 Years or More	5,296,817	1.8	79,530	1.7	9,850	1.6	4,748	1.7	5,102	1.5
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	360,562 to 611,864	69.7	245,517 to 273,262	11.3	115,045 to 338,602	194.3
2000 – 2025 Projected	281,421,906 to 349,695,000	24.3	4,447,100 to 5,385,997	21.1	611,864 to 786,904	28.6	273,262 to 347,730	27.3	338,602 to 439,174	29.7
Age 65+: 2000 – 2025 Projected	34,991,753 to 63,042,500	80.2	579,907 to 999,769	72.4	69,834 to 126,004	80.4	34,190 to 63,415	85.5	35,644 to 62,589	75.6
Hispanic: 1990 – 2006 Estimated	22,354,059 to 44,321,038	98.3	24,629 to 113,890	362.4	3,408 to 10,661	212.8	1,232 to 4,994	305.4	2,176 to 5,667	160.4
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%	112,489	18.1%	50,361	18.0%	62,128	18.2%
Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level - 2004	13,041,492	17.8%	245,017	22.6%	37,080	24.6%	16,865	24.5%	20,215	24.7%
Per Capita Personal Income – 2005	N.A.	\$34,471	N.A.	\$29,623	N.A.	\$28,820	N.A.	\$25,633	N.A.	\$31,433
Medicaid Eligible Population – 2006	N.A.	N.A.	988,677	21.1%	148,083	22.7%	70,765	24.3%	77,318	21.3%
Medicaid Eligible Children (Under 21) - 2006	N.A.	N.A.	520,256	38.9%	80,488	40.7%	37,629	43.1%	42,859	38.8%
Medicaid Births - 2006	N.A.	N.A.	30,114	49.3%	4,258	53.2%	1,776	54.6%	2,482	52.2%
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	390	6.0	101	3.5	289	8.0
Dentists – 2003 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	86,110	2.9 (2006)	1,557	3.5	173	2.8	50	1.8	123	3.6
Psychiatrists – 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	24,730	0.9	298	0.6	21	0.3	4	0.1	17	0.5
Hospital Beds (Per 10,000 Pop.)	N.A.	N.A.	16,917	36.1	1,691	25.9	574	19.7	1,117	30.8
Households With No Vehicle – 2000	10,861,067	10.3 %	143,594	8.3%	21,935	9.4%	10,405	10.2%	11,530	8.8%
Uninsured Population - 2003	39,803,527	14.2% (2001)	504,539	11.2%	65,740	10.6%	32,047	11.6%	33,693	9.9%

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

Indicators	South Central Alabama Action Commission									
	United States		Alabama		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. ¹	Number in 2003 - 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop. ¹
All Causes	2,397,615	816.5	139,414	1,028.7	17,151	921.6	8,664	1,035.0	8,487	828.8
Septicemia	33,373	11.4	2,451	18.1	302	16.2	154	18.4	148	14.5
Cancer	553,888	188.6	29,389	216.9	3,582	192.5	1,726	206.2	1,856	181.2
Colon, Rectum, and Anus	53,772	18.3	2,696	19.9	350	18.8	187	22.3	163	15.9
Trachea, Bronchus, and Lung	158,091	53.8	9,286	68.5	1,031	55.4	515	61.5	516	50.4
Breast (female)	40,954	27.5	2,072	29.4	276	28.5	129	29.7	147	27.5
Cervix Uteri (female)	3,850	2.6	241	3.4	34	3.5	16	3.7	18	3.4
Ovary (female)	14,716	9.9	786	11.2	110	11.3	44	10.1	66	12.3
Prostate (male)	29,004	20.1	1,609	24.3	236	25.8	110	26.6	126	25.2
Meninges, Brain, Other Central Nervous System	12,829	4.4	611	4.5	72	3.9	40	4.8	32	3.1
Alzheimer's Disease	65,965	22.5	4,145	30.6	498	26.8	239	28.6	259	25.3
Diabetes Mellitus	73,138	24.9	4,273	31.5	719	38.6	309	36.9	410	40.0
Heart Diseases	675,562	230.1	38,683	285.4	4,611	247.8	2,461	294.0	2,150	210.0
Ischemic Heart Diseases	451,326	153.7	18,789	138.6	2,079	111.7	947	113.1	1,132	110.5
Heart Failure	57,120	19.5	6,606	48.7	1,026	55.1	642	76.7	384	37.5
Cerebrovascular Diseases	150,074	51.1	8,934	65.9	1,024	55.0	481	57.5	543	53.0
Pneumonia	58,564	19.9	3,111	23.0	332	17.8	178	21.3	154	15.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	121,987	41.5	7,156	52.8	883	47.4	424	50.7	459	44.8
Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	27,013	9.2	1,378	10.2	162	8.7	69	8.2	93	9.1
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome, and Nephrosis	42,480	14.5	3,132	23.1	374	20.1	198	23.7	176	17.2
Accidents	112,012	38.1	6,931	51.1	842	45.2	474	56.6	368	35.9
Motor Vehicle Accidents	44,933	15.3	3,480	25.7	455	24.4	264	31.5	191	18.7
Drowning and Submersion	3,308	1.1	187	1.4	22	1.2	15	1.8	7	0.7
Smoke, Fire, and Flames	3,229	1.1	322	2.4	44	2.4	27	3.2	17	1.7
Poisoning and Exposure to Noxious Substances	20,950	7.1	646	4.8	45	2.4	18	2.2	27	2.6
Homicide	17,357	5.9	1,233	9.1	206	11.1	90	10.8	116	11.3
Suicide	32,439	11.0	1,586	11.7	196	10.5	91	10.9	105	10.3

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

Indicators	United States		Alabama		South Central Alabama Action Commission					
	Number	Measure	Number	Measure	All Counties		Rural Counties		Urban Counties	
					Number	Measure	Number	Measure	Number	Measure
Nativity Related										
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Births (2004 – 2006)	28,534	6.9	1,646	9.0	246	9.6	111	9.9	135	9.4
Low Weight Births – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	331,772 (2004)	8.1 %	6,616	10.5 %	957	10.8%	390	10.1%	567	11.3%
Births to Teens (10-19) – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	422,043 (2004)	10.3 %	8,670	13.8 %	1,289	14.5%	619	16.0%	670	13.4%
Births With Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	N.A.	N.A.	14,390	23.1%	2,314	26.2%	1,126	29.4%	1,188	23.8%
Tobacco Use During Pregnancy – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	419,429	10.2%	7,394	11.8 %	713	8.0%	390	10.1%	323	6.4%
Births Occurring Outside of the Mother’s County of Residence – 2006 (Percent of All Births)	N.A.	N.A.	20,002	31.8 %	3,880	43.6%	3,474	89.8%	406	8.1%
Births to Undereducated Women – 2006	N.A.	N.A.	11,648	18.6 %	1,469	16.6%	633	16.4%	836	16.7%
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 %	17,195	24.6%	9,072	26.5%	8,123	22.8%
Age 25+ With Less Than High School Education - 2000	35,715,625	19.6 %	714,081	24.7 %	89,478	23.7%	50,016	28.9%	39,462	19.4%
Receiving Medicare Disability – 2003 (Percent of Total Population)	6,079,424	2.2 %	150,573	3.3 %	18,562	3.0%	9,719	3.5%	8,843	2.6%
Obese – 2003 (Percent of Total Population)	Not Comparable	Not Comparable	1,073,329	23.9 %	152,884	24.8%	68,538	24.7%	84,346	24.8%
Accidental Deaths Occurring Outside of a Health Care Facility: 2003-05 (Percent of All Accidental Deaths)	N.A.	N.A.	3,621	52.2 %	452	53.7%	262	55.3%	190	51.6%
Life Expectancy at Birth - 2005	N.A.	77.9 years	N.A.	74.8 years	N.A.	74.9 years	N.A.	74.0 years	N.A.	75.7 years
Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases Reported in 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	1,349,333	45.9	33,463	73.6	6,435	102.8	2,160	76.6	4,275	124.3
Cumulative HIV Cases as of December 31, 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	Not Comparable	Not Comparable	14,737	32.4	2,872	45.9	898	31.8	1,974	57.4
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 %	2,543	1.6%	1,024	1.4%	1,519	1.8%

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 SOUTH CENTRAL ALABAMA ACTION COMMISSION REGION IS 31.5 DEATHS PER 100,000 PERSONS COMPARED TO A RATE OF 18.7 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 LOWNDES (58.6), BUTLER (43.6), CRENSHAW (36.7), AND PIKE (36.4).

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

PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO DUPLICATE OR OTHERWISE USE ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THIS REPORT

For additional information please contact the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health Development at (334) 206-5396 or the Alabama Rural Health Association at (334) 281-3866.