

# Selected Health Status Indicators



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 Rural Health Association for funding assistance in the production of this publication.

**July 2009**

**SELECTED HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS**  
**United States, Alabama, and Wilcox County**

Indicators	United States		Alabama		Wilcox County	
	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total	Number	Pct. of Total
<b>2007 Population</b>						
Total	301,621,157	100.0	4,627,851	100.0	12,779	100.0
African American (alone)	38,756,452	12.8	1,224,496	26.5	9,223	72.2
White (alone)	241,166,890	80.0	3,287,453	71.0	3,491	27.3
American Indian (alone)	2,938,436	1.0	24,315	0.5	19	0.1
Asian (alone)	13,366,154	4.4	44,086	1.0	21	0.2
Hispanic	45,504,311	15.1	124,741	2.7	144	1.1
Age 19 Years or Less	82,361,752	27.3	1,251,776	27.0	4,056	31.7
Age 65 Years or More	37,887,958	12.6	707,781	15.3	1,813	14.2
Age 85 Years or More	5,512,298	1.8	82,025	1.8	307	2.4
<b>Population Change</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Pct. Change</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Pct. Change</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Pct. Change</b>
1910 – 2000	91,972,266 to 281,421,906	206.0	2,138,093 to 4,447,100	108.0	33,810 to 13,183	-61.0
2000 – 2025 Projected	281,421,906 to 349,695,000	24.3	4,447,100 to 5,385,997	21.1	13,183 to 13,021	-1.2
Age 65+: 2000 – 2025 Projected	34,991,753 to 63,042,500	80.2	579,907 to 999,769	72.4	1,810 to 2,460	35.9
Hispanic: 1990 – 2007 Estimated	22,354,059 to 45,504,311	103.6	24,629 to 124,741	406.5	40 to 144	260.0
<b>Income Related Indicators</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>
Population Below Poverty Level – 2007	38,052,247	13.0%	750,197	16.6%	4,507	35.7%
Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level - 2007	13,097,100	18.0%	261,151	23.6%	1,709	46.7%
Per Capita Personal Income – 2006	N.A.	\$36,714	N.A.	\$30,894	N.A.	\$18,895
Medicaid Eligible Population – 2007	N.A.	N.A.	932,521	19.8%	5,306	40.8%
Medicaid Eligible Children (Under 21) - 2007	N.A.	N.A.	514,486	38.1%	2,620	59.0%
Medicaid Births - 2007	N.A.	N.A.	30,624	48.5%	113	66.9%
<b>Access to Health Care Indicators</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure<sup>1</sup></b>
Primary Care Physicians – 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	209,550	7.2	3,044	6.5	4	3.1
Dentists – 2007 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	86,110	2.9 (2006)	1,996	4.3	2	1.6
Psychiatrists – 2006 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	24,730	0.9	298	0.6	0	0.0
Hospital Beds - 2009 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	N.A.	N.A.	16,814	36.3	32	25.0
Households With No Vehicle – 2000	10,861,067	10.3%	143,594	8.3%	959	20.1%
Uninsured Population Under 65 Years of Age - 2005	44,209,874	17.2%	612,428	15.6%	1,574	14.1%

**SELECTED HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS - continued**  
**United States, Alabama, and Wilcox County**

Indicators	United States		Alabama		Wilcox County	
	Number in 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2005 - 2007	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2003 - 2007	Rate per 100,000 Pop. <sup>1</sup>
<b>All Causes</b>	<b>2,448,017</b>	<b>825.9</b>	<b>139,039</b>	<b>1,010.6</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>1,154.1</b>
Septicemia	34,136	11.5	2,407	17.5	16	25.2
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) disease	12,543	4.2	536	3.9	4	6.3
<b>Cancer</b>	<b>559,312</b>	<b>188.7</b>	<b>29,475</b>	<b>214.2</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>235.9</b>
Lip, Oral Cavity, Pharynx, and Esophagus	21,272	7.2	1,034	7.5	8	12.6
Stomach	11,514	3.9	549	4.0	7	11.0
Colon, Rectum, and Anus	53,252	18.0	2,709	19.7	18	28.3
Liver and Intrahepatic Bile Ducts	16,076	5.4	773	5.6	3	4.7
Pancreas	32,760	11.1	1,625	11.8	9	14.2
Trachea, Bronchus, and Lung	159,292	53.7	9,233	67.1	32	50.3
Melanoma of Skin	8,345	2.8	463	3.4	2	3.1
Breast (female)	41,116	27.3	2,018	28.4	13	37.7
Cervix Uteri, Corpus Uteri, and Uterus (female)	11,020	7.3	512	7.2	3	8.7
Ovary (female)	14,787	9.8	769	10.8	4	11.6
Prostate (male)	28,905	19.8	1,556	23.4	15	51.5
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	12,517	4.2	591	4.3	1	1.6
Bladder	13,253	4.5	569	4.1	3	4.7
Meninges, Brain, Other Central Nervous System	13,152	4.4	625	4.5	0	0.0
Hodgkin's Disease	55,028	18.6	56	0.4	0	0.0
Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	20,873	7.0	969	7.0	3	4.7
Leukemia	21,623	7.3	1,063	7.7	10	15.7
Multiple Myeloma and Immunoproliferative Neoplasms	11,200	3.8	636	4.6	2	3.1
Diabetes Mellitus	75,119	25.3	4,138	30.1	26	40.9
Nutritional Deficiencies	3,183	1.1	228	1.7	3	4.7
Parkinson's Disease	19,544	6.6	907	6.6	5	7.9
Alzheimer's Disease	71,599	24.2	4,487	32.6	27	42.5
<b>Major Cardiovascular Diseases</b>	<b>856,030</b>	<b>288.2</b>	<b>48,383</b>	<b>351.7</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>471.7</b>
<b>Heart Diseases</b>	<b>652,562</b>	<b>220.0</b>	<b>36,995</b>	<b>268.9</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>367.9</b>
Hypertensive Heart Disease	29,282	9.9	1,225	8.9	16	25.2

**SELECTED HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS - continued**  
**United States, Alabama, and Wilcox County**

Indicators	United States		Alabama		Wilcox County	
	Number in 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2005 - 2007	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2003 - 2007	Rate per 100,000 Pop. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Major Cardiovascular Diseases – Continued</b>						
Ischemic Heart Diseases	445,687	150.4	17,326	125.9	59	92.8
Heart Failure	58,933	19.9	6,206	45.1	23	36.2
Cerebrovascular Diseases	143,579	48.4	8,318	60.5	56	88.1
Atherosclerosis	11,841	4.0	618	4.5	0	0.0
Pneumonia	61,189	20.6	2,748	20.0	14	22.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	130,933	44.2	7,158	52.0	19	29.9
Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	27,530	9.3	1,450	10.5	6	9.4
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome, and Nephrosis	43,901	14.8	3,110	22.6	18	28.3
<b>Accidents</b>	<b>117,809</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>7,295</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>83.3</b>
Motor Vehicle Accidents	45,343	15.3	3,544	25.8	30	47.2
Falls	19,656	6.6	498	3.6	2	3.1
Drowning and Submersion	3,582	1.2	219	1.6	1	1.6
Smoke, Fire, and Flames	3,197	1.1	281	2.0	3	4.7
Poisoning and Exposure to Noxious Substances	23,618	8.0	1,008	7.3	2	3.1
Intentional Self-Harm (suicide)	32,637	11.0	1,685	12.2	3	4.7
Assault (homicide)	18,124	6.1	1,340	9.7	11	17.3
<b>Causes of Death Groupings of Special Interest</b>						
Cause of Death Indicators	Number in 2005	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2005 - 2007	Rate per 100,000 Pop.	Number in 2005 - 2007	Rate per 100,000 Pop. <sup>1</sup>
Cataclysmic Storms	874	0.3	11	0.1	1	1.6
Firearm Deaths (intentional self-harm, assault, legal intervention, and undetermined intent)	30,364	10.4	2,306	16.8	6	9.4
Drug-Induced Deaths	33,541	11.3	1,328	9.7	2	3.1
Alcohol-Induced Deaths	21,634	7.3	732	5.3	5	7.9

**SELECTED HEALTH STATUS INDICATORS - continued**  
**United States, Alabama, and Wilcox County**

<b>Indicators</b>	<b>United States</b>		<b>Alabama</b>		<b>Wilcox County</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Nativity Related Indicators</b>						
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Births (2005 – 2007)	28,534	6.9	1,771	9.5	4	7.6
Low Weight Births – 2007 (Percent of All Births)	331,772 (2004)	8.1 %	6,695	10.4 %	23	13.5%
Births to Teens (10-19) – 2007 (Percent of All Births)	422,043 (2004)	10.3 %	8,776	13.7 %	22	12.9%
Births With Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care – 2007 (Percent of All Births)	N.A.	N.A.	16,116	25.4%	62	36.5%
Tobacco Use During Pregnancy – 2007 (Percent of All Births)	419,429	10.2%	7,703	12.0 %	12	7.1%
Births Occurring Outside of the Mother's County of Residence – 2007 (Percent of All Births)	N.A.	N.A.	20,149	31.4 %	168	98.8%
Births to Undereducated Women – 2007	N.A.	N.A.	11,845	18.5 %	25	14.7%
<b>Other Indicators</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Measure</b>
Age 65+ With "Home Bound" Disability – 2000	6,795,517	19.4 %	139,401	24.0 %	405	22.4%
Age 25+ With Less Than High School Education - 2000	35,715,625	19.6 %	714,081	24.7 %	3,228	40.5%
Receiving Medicare Disability – 2007 (Percent of Total Population)	7,359,542	2.4 %	189,874	4.1 %	932	7.3%
Obese – 2003 (Percent of Total Population)	Not Comparable	Not Comparable	1,073,329	23.3 %	3,550	27.4%
Accidental Deaths Occurring Outside of a Health Care Facility: 2005-07 (Percent of All Accidental Deaths)	N.A.	N.A.	4,215	56.2%	41	89.1%
Life Expectancy at Birth - 2007	N.A.	77.9 years	N.A.	75.4 years	N.A.	71.0 years
Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases Reported in 2008 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	1,349,333	45.9	35,235	76.1	169	132.2
Cumulative HIV Cases as of December 31, 2008 (Per 10,000 Pop.)	Not Comparable	Not Comparable	16,222	35.1	27	21.1
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 %	46	1.4%

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## Sources of Information and Special Notes

**2007 Population:** U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates. <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

**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](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](http://cber.cba.ua.edu/edata/est_prj.html)

**Hispanic Population Change 1990-2007:** U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, Census 1990 Summary File 1 (STF 1) 100-Percent Data for 1990 data. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates. <http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

**Population Below Poverty Level - 2007:** U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/index.html>

**Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level - 2007:** U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/index.html>

**2006 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&section=2>

**Medicaid Eligible Population - 2007:** Alabama Medicaid Agency, Alabama Medicaid Statistics by County – 2007. [http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/resources/stats\\_reports.aspx?tab=5](http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/resources/stats_reports.aspx?tab=5)

**Medicaid Eligible Children (Under 21) - 2007:** Alabama Medicaid Agency, Alabama Medicaid Statistics by County – 2007. [http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/resources/stats\\_reports.aspx?tab=5](http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/resources/stats_reports.aspx?tab=5)

**Medicaid Births - 2007:** Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2007 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 2007:** Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama, Licensed dentists data base - 2007.

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

**Hospital Beds in 2008:** Alabama Department of Public Health, Division of Provider Services, Healthcare Facilities Directory – Hospital Section. January 28, 2009. <http://adph.org/providers/Default.asp?id=522>

**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 Under Age 65 - 2005:** U.S. Census Bureau, Model-based Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) for Counties and States. <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/sahie>

**Cause of Death Indicators:** Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special queries of the 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 Mortality Statistics Files for Alabama data. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC Wonder Interactive Program, Mortality – Underlying Cause of Death 2005 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 - 2007:** 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) - 2007:** Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2006 Birth Statistics File.

**Births With Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care - 2007:** 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 - 2007:** 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 - 2007:** 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 - 2007:** 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 - 2007:** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare County Enrollment, As of July 1, 2007. <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 - (2005-2007):** Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Special query of the 2005, 2006, and 2007 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 - 2007:** Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, County Health Profiles – 2007. <http://www.adph.org/healthstats/>

**Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases - 2008:** Alabama Department of Public Health, Division of STD Prevention and Control, Statistics, County Totals – 2008. <http://www.adph.org/STD/>

**Cumulative HIV Cases as of 12/31/2008:** Alabama Department of Public Health, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, Statistics, Public Health Area (January – December 2008). <http://www.adph.org/aids/>  
(National data for the cumulative number of HIV cases as of December 31, 2008 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](http://www.mh.alabama.gov/downloads/AnnualReports/ADMH_AnnualReport_03_04Part3.pdf)

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