

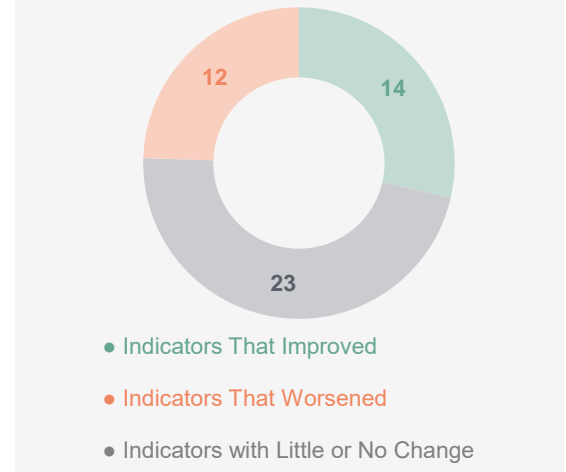
# Alabama

## Ranking Highlights<sup>a</sup>

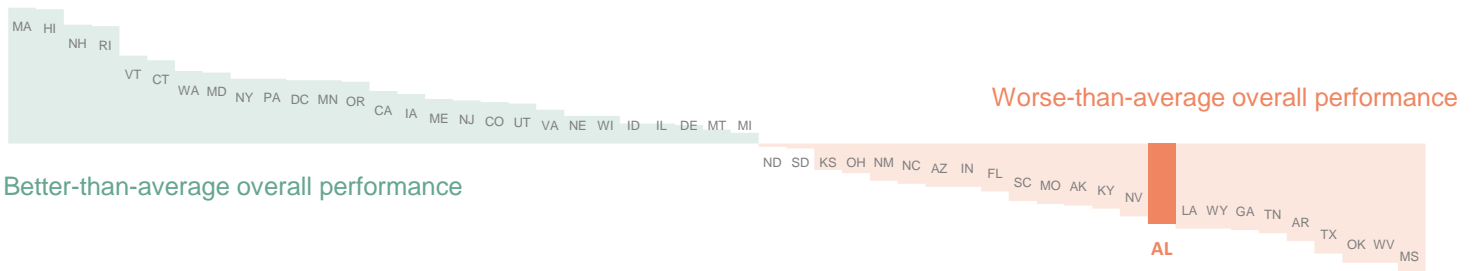
	National Rank	Rank Among Southeastern States*
<b>Overall</b>	<b>42</b> of 51	<b>7</b> of 12
Reproductive & Women’s Health	43	9
Access & Affordability	38	5
Prevention & Treatment	43	8
Avoidable Hospital Use & Cost	31	6
Healthy Lives	43	6
Income Disparity	49	9
Racial & Ethnic Health Equity	36	6

\* Southeastern states include AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV

## How Health Care Performance Changed in Alabama<sup>b</sup>



## How Alabama Compares to All States



## The Best and Worst in Alabama

### Best Performance

- Home health patients with improved mobility
- Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee
- No postpartum visit

### Improved the Most

- Preventable hospitalizations ages 18–64
- Adults who went without care because of cost
- High out-of-pocket medical spending

### Worst Performance

- Preterm birth rate
- Adults who are obese
- Adults vaccinated against COVID-19 with a booster

### Worsened the Most

- Central line-associated blood stream infection (CLABSI)
- Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging
- Children who did not receive needed mental health care

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Access &amp; Affordability</b>						<b>2023 Scorecard</b>			<b>Baseline</b>
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	15%	12%	3%	44	2019	15%	13%	No Change
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	4%	5%	1%	23	2019	4%	6%	No Change
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2021	11%	10%	5%	41	2019	18%	14%	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2021	16%	17%	9%	29	—	—	—	—
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	9%	7%	5%	45	2018–19	14%	10%	Improved
Employee total potential out-of-pocket medical costs as a share of state median income	2021	13%	12%	7%	37	2019	13%	12%	No Change
People with medical debt	2021	16%	13%	2%	38	—	—	—	—
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2020	39%	35%	25%	39	2018	39%	34%	No Change
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment</b>						<b>2023 Scorecard</b>			<b>Baseline</b>
Adults with all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2020	71%	69%	76%	14	2018	69%	68%	Improved
Adults with age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2021	38%	42%	54%	40	2019	39%	41%	No Change
Adults vaccinated against COVID-19 with a booster	2022	26%	42%	63%	50	—	—	—	—
Diabetic adults without an annual hemoglobin A1c test	2021	11%	10%	4%	34	2019	12%	8%	No Change
Children without all recommended vaccines	2021	30%	28%	12%	34	2019	30%	27%	No Change
Children with a medical home	2020–21	48%	46%	55%	30	2018–19	46%	48%	No Change
Children without a medical and dental preventive care visit	2020–21	40%	38%	26%	44	—	—	—	—
Children who did not receive needed mental health care	2020–21	22%	20%	11%	41	2018–19	10%	18%	Worsened
Adults age 18 and older with any mental illness who did not receive treatment	2019–20	62%	55%	41%	47	—	—	—	—
Youth ages 12–17 with a major depressive episode who did not receive mental health services	2019–20	54%	60%	33%	20	—	—	—	—
Hospitals with better-than-average patient experience ratings	2021	50%	45%	83%	20	2019	45%	48%	No Change
Hospital 30-day mortality	07/2018–12/2021	13%	12%	11%	44	07/2016–06/2019	14%	14%	Improved

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (cont.)**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Prevention &amp; Treatment (cont.)</b>	<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI)	2021	1.043	0.921	0.571	43	2019	0.714	0.689	Worsened
Nursing home residents with an antipsychotic medication	2020	20%	14%	9%	49	2018	20%	15%	No Change
Home health patients with improved mobility	2019	87%	80%	87%	1	2017	80%	75%	Improved
<b>Avoidable Hospital Use &amp; Cost</b>	<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	135	134	122	30	2019	155	137	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	142	141	115	28	2019	202	185	Improved
Admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	4	4	4	6	2019	8	7	Improved
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	34	29	16	43	2019	47	41	Improved
30-day hospital readmissions									
Ages 18–64, per 1,000 employer-insured enrollees	2021	3	3	2	35	2019	3	3	Worsened
Age 65 and older, per 1,000 Medicare beneficiaries	2021	35	33	16	34	2019	44	40	Improved
Skilled nursing patients with a successful discharge	2020	55%	57%	69%	37	2018	53%	54%	No Change
Home health patients with a hospital admission	2019	16%	15%	11%	21	2017	17%	16%	Improved
Adults with inappropriate lower back imaging	2021	67%	69%	60%	16	2019	57%	68%	Worsened
Employer-sponsored insurance spending per enrollee	2021	\$4,884	\$6,060	\$4,255	5	2019	\$4,702	\$5,354	No Change
Medicare spending per beneficiary	2021	\$11,448	\$10,478	\$6,915	46	2019	\$11,175	\$10,180	No Change
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending									
Ages 18–64 (employer-insured enrollees)	2021	8.1%	6.9%	10.0%	14	2019	8.3%	7.2%	No Change
Age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2020	5.9%	5.5%	7.6%	13	2018	6.1%	5.7%	No Change
<b>Healthy Lives</b>	<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Premature deaths from treatable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	116	89	59	43	2018–19	109	84	No Change
Premature deaths from preventable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	302	232	152	42	2018–19	213	166	Worsened

**Table 1. State Health System Performance Indicator Data by Dimension (cont.)**

Dimension and indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Best state rate	State rank	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	Change over time <sup>b</sup>
<b>Healthy Lives (cont.)</b>	<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population	2021	30	32	11	23	2019	16	22	Worsened
Suicide deaths per 100,000 population	2021	16	14	6	27	2019	16	14	No Change
Alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population	2021	11	14	8	8	2019	8	10	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair or poor health	2021	17%	14%	10%	41	2019	20%	17%	Improved
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2021	17%	14%	7%	42	2019	20%	15%	Improved
Adults who are obese	2021	43%	34%	25%	50	2019	38%	32%	Worsened
Children who are overweight or obese	2020–21	37%	34%	24%	44	2018–19	34%	31%	Worsened
Adults who have lost six or more teeth	2020	14%	9%	5%	47	2018	14%	9%	No Change
<b>Reproductive &amp; Women’s Health</b>	<b>2023 Scorecard</b>					<b>Baseline</b>			
Maternal deaths while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, per 100,000 live births	2019–21	43	26	10	40	—	—	—	—
Severe maternal morbidity rate per 10,000 in-hospital deliveries	2020	—	88	43	—	2018	—	77	—
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2020	7	5.4	3.5	46	2018	6.9	5.7	No Change
Share of births born preterm, prior to 37 weeks of pregnancy (gestation)	2021	13%	10%	8%	49	2019	12%	10%	Worsened
Breast and cervical cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2021	24	22	16	41	2019	23	22	No Change
All-cause mortality rate per 100,000 women ages 15–44	2021	193	124	79	45	2019	132	89	Worsened
Share of in-hospital births in state with a self-pay insurance payment source	2021	1.65%	2.74%	0.30%	21	2019	1.96%	3.41%	No Change
Women ages 18–44 without a usual source of care	2021	21%	21%	9%	37	—	—	—	—
Women ages 18–44 without a routine checkup in the past two years	2021	13%	13%	8%	27	2019	13%	13%	No Change
Share of births not beginning prenatal care in first trimester	2021	27%	22%	11%	46	2019	29%	22%	Improved
Share of women with a recent live birth who did not report having a postpartum checkup visit	2020	9%	11%	8%	5	2018	6%	9%	Worsened
Women with up-to-date breast and cervical cancer screenings	2020	74%	74%	80%	15	2018	76%	76%	Worsened

**Table 2. State Income Disparity Data**

Disparity Indicator	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>c</sup>	Disparity <sup>d</sup>	State rank	Data year	Low-income rate <sup>c</sup>	Disparity <sup>d</sup>	Change over time <sup>e</sup>
	2023 Scorecard				Baseline			
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	28%	-23	46	2019	27%	-22	Worsened
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	5%	-3	9	2019	4%	-2	Worsened
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2020–21	25%	-22	49	2018–19	33%	-27	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2020–21	28%	-14	36	—	—	—	—
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	20%	-19	31	2018–19	33%	-31	Improved
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018/20	57%	-35	47	2016/18	54%	-32	No Change
Adults with all age- and gender-appropriate cancer screenings	2018/20	66%	-10	27	2016/18	62%	-13	Improved
Adults with age-appropriate flu and pneumonia vaccines	2020–21	28%	-18	42	2018–19	29%	-11	No Change
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2021	32%	-10	19	2019	40%	-27	Improved
Children ages 0–17 with all components of a medical home	2020–21	35%	-27	27	2018–19	33%	-31	No Change
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2020–21	50%	-23	37	—	—	—	—
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	254	-125	22	2019	386	-209	Improved
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	78	-44	24	2019	108	-65	Improved
30-day hospital readmissions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	74	-41	22	2019	59	-21	Worsened
Primary care spending as share of total health care spending among Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older	2020	5.1%	-1.0	31	2018	5.7%	-0.5	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who report fair or poor health	2020–21	30%	-25	48	2018–19	32%	-24	No Change
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2020–21	30%	-20	40	2018–19	31%	-20	No Change
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2020–21	46%	-9	33	2018–19	43%	-8	Worsened
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2018/20	21%	-15	39	2016/18	19%	-14	Worsened

**Table 3. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Summary Data<sup>f</sup>**

Health System Performance Score & State Rank  
Among Population Group

	Percentile Score (1–100)	State Rank Among Population Group
American Indian and Alaska Native people	—	—
Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander people	—	—
Black people	26	24 of 39 states
Hispanic people	19	35 of 48 states
White people <sup>g</sup>	56	—

Performance Score based on methodology used in: *Achieving Racial and Ethnic Equity in U.S. Health Care: A Scorecard of State Performance*, Commonwealth Fund, Nov. 2021, available at: <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/scorecard/2021/nov/achieving-racial-ethnic-equity-us-health-care-state-performance>

**Table 4. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Measure Data<sup>f</sup>**

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
<b>Health Outcomes</b>							
Deaths before age 75 from health care treatable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	89	45	46	171	47	102
Deaths before age 75 from preventable causes per 100,000 population	2020–21	232	146	96	358	197	294
Colorectal cancer deaths per 100,000 population	2020–21	13	—	—	18	—	14
Adults age 18 and older who smoke	2020–21	14%	29%	—	18%	13%	18%
Adults ages 18–64 who are obese (BMI >= 30)	2020–21	34%	44%	—	51%	39%	39%
Adults ages 18–64 who have lost six or more teeth because of tooth decay, infection, or gum disease	2018/20	9%	25%	—	14%	7%	14%
30-day hospital readmissions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	33	—	—	47	—	36
<b>Health Care Access</b>							
Adults ages 19–64 uninsured	2021	12%	—	12%	16%	45%	13%
Children ages 0–18 uninsured	2021	5%	—	—	4%	11%	3%
Adults age 18 and older who went without care because of cost in past year	2020–21	10%	—	—	16%	18%	10%
Adults age 18 and older without a usual source of care	2020–21	17%	31%	28%	20%	39%	17%
Individuals under age 65 with high out-of-pocket medical costs relative to their annual household income	2020–21	7%	—	15%	7%	9%	9%
<b>Health Care Quality and Service Use</b>							
Adult women ages 50–74 who did not receive a mammogram in the past two years	2018/20	22%	17%	23%	13%	19%	23%
Adult women ages 25–64 who did not receive a cervical cancer screening test in the past three years	2018/20	24%	25%	17%	16%	24%	27%
Adults ages 50–74 without a recent colon cancer screening test	2018/20	28%	36%	21%	30%	23%	26%

**Table 4. State Racial and Ethnic Health Equity Performance Measure Data (cont.)<sup>f</sup>**

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
<b>Health Care Quality and Service Use (cont.)</b>							
Adults age 18 and older who did not receive a flu shot in the last year	2020–21	55%	75%	54%	66%	68%	54%
Adults age 65 and older who have never gotten a pneumonia vaccine	2020–21	30%	49%	23%	46%	—	28%
Hospital admissions for ambulatory care–sensitive conditions, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	29	—	—	43	—	39
Potentially avoidable emergency department visits, Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and older, per 1,000 beneficiaries	2020	137	—	—	212	—	134
Adults age 18 and older without a dental visit in past year	2018/20	35%	41%	45%	45%	37%	37%
Children ages 19–35 months who did not receive all recommended vaccines	2021	28%	—	—	29%	—	33%
Children without age-appropriate medical and dental preventive care visits in the past year	2020–21	38%	—	—	47%	64%	34%
Primary care spending as a share of total health care spending age 65 and older (Medicare beneficiaries)	2020	6%	—	—	5%	—	6%

**Table 5. Select Reproductive Care and Women’s Health Measures by Race and Ethnicity**

	Data year	U.S. total	AIAN people	AANHPI people	Black people	Hispanic people	White people
Severe maternal morbidity rate per 10,000 in-hospital deliveries	2020	88	—	—	—	—	—
Infant mortality, deaths per 1,000 live births	2019-20	5.4	—	—	11.2	7.2	5.4
Share of births born preterm, prior to 37 weeks of pregnancy (gestation)	2020-21	10%	16%	10%	17%	11%	11%
Breast and cervical cancer deaths per 100,000 female population	2020-21	22	—	—	31	—	22
All-cause mortality rate per 100,000 women ages 15–44	2020-21	124	—	—	231	58	163
Share of births not beginning prenatal care in first trimester	2020-21	22%	30%	24%	33%	52%	21%

Notes

(a) The 2023 Scorecard rankings generally reflect 2021 data. The 2023 Scorecard added or revised several performance measures, including the addition of 12 measures specifically related to reproductive care and women’s health and the removal of most measures around state COVID-19 response, since the June 2022 Scorecard report; rankings are not comparable between reports.

(b) Trend data available for 50 of 58 total Scorecard indicators. Improved/worsened denotes a change of at least one-half (0.5) standard deviation larger than the indicator’s distribution among all states over the two time points. No change denotes no change in rate or a change of less than one-half standard deviation.

(c) Rates are for state’s low-income population, generally those whose household income is less than 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

(d) Income disparity is the difference between the state’s low-income and higher-income (generally 400%+ FPL) populations.

(e) Improvement indicates that the low-income rate improved and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations narrowed; worsening indicates that the low-income rate worsened and the disparity between low- and higher-income populations widened.

(f) Performance data not available for all groups in every state.

(g) State not ranked on health system performance for white people in this report; included for comparative purposes.

“—” means data not available.