The North Carolina Lung Health Report

Prepared by the North Carolina Thoracic Society

2022
Background

• The following information was assimilated from various data sources including the USA and North Carolina Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) health surveys and the CDC Wonder database (mortality)

• This only includes data on adults (>18 years-old)

• The state maps are based on the Area Health Education Centers (AHECs)
Mortality Data – Chronic Lower Respiratory Tract Diseases (USA and NC)

Note: >95% of deaths due to COPD
1999-2017 **US Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases Mortality Rate by Sex (Age Adjusted US Std. population)**
1999-2017 NC Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases Mortality Rate by Sex (Age Adjusted US Std. population)
1999-2017 US Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases Mortality Rate by Race & Sex (Age Adjusted US Std. population)
1999 & 2017 NC Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases Mortality by Race & Sex (Age Adjusted Rate US Std. population)
1999-2017 US Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases Mortality Rate by Age, Race & Sex (Crude Rate per 100,000 population)
1999-2017 NC Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases Mortality Rate By Age, Race & Sex (Crude Rate per 100,000 population)

- White Male
- White Female
- Black Male
- Black Female

Per 100,000
1999-2017 NC Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases Mortality Rate by Race & Sex (Age Adjusted US Std. population)

Per 100,000
Asthma and COPD
COPD Mortality Rates* by County
Three Year Average (2012-2014)

*Age-adjusted rate (per 100,000) to year 2000 US Standard population  
Source: CDC WONDER Online Database
National COPD Prevalence Using BRFSS

Model-based COPD Prevalence by County,
United States 2011

Prevalence (%)
- 2.3 - 5.8
- 5.9 - 7.8
- 7.9 - 10.0
- 10.1 - 13.0
- 13.1 - 26.3


Adapted from Zhang X. et al., Am J Epidemiol 2014;179(5):1025-1033

Jenks’ natural breaks

CDC: 4/19/2014
Prevalence of Self-reported COPD Among Adults by AHEC Region (NC BRFSS 2018)

Statewide: 8.1% of Adults Reported COPD

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined
Prevalence of Self-reported Ever Asthma Among Adults by AHEC Region (NC BRFSS 2018)

Statewide: 14.5% of Adults Reported Ever Asthma
Respiratory Symptoms
Respiratory Health - USA Data Using BRFSS in 2018

- Have you ever been given a breathing test? 32.85%
- Did you have shortness of breath? 24.51%
- During the past 3 months, did you cough up phlegm [FLEM] or mucus on most days? 14.97%
- During the past 3 months, did you have a cough on most days? 16.72%
Prevalence of Self-reported Cough on Most Days in Last 3 Months Among Adults (2018 NC BRFSS by AHEC Region)

Statewide: 18.4% of Adults Reported Cough on Most Days in Last 3 Months

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined
Prevalence of Self-reported Cough Up Phlegm Among Adults on Most Days in Last 3 Months (2018 NC BRFSS by AHEC Region)

Statewide: 16.1% of Adults Reported Coughing up Phlegm Most Days in Last 3 Months

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined
Prevalence of Self-reported Shortness of Breath Hurrying on the Level or Walking Up Stairs Among Adults (2018 NC BRFSS by AHEC Region)

Statewide: 25.4% of Adults Reported Shortness of Breath Hurrying Walking or Climbing Stairs

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined.
Flu and Pneumococcal Vaccinations
Prevalence of Self-report of Flu Vaccination Among Adults in Past 12 Months (2018 NC BRFSS by AHEC Region)

Statewide: 41.6% of Adults Reported Getting a Flu Vaccine in Last 12 Months

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined
Prevalence of Self-report of Pneumococcal Vaccination Among Adults Ever (2018 NC BRFSS by AHEC Region)

Statewide: 34.7% of Adults Reported Ever Getting Pneumococcal Vaccination

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined
Tobacco Smoking
Prevalence of Self-reported Smoking in Adults For More Than 15 years (2018 NC BRFSS by AHEC Region)

Statewide: 20.0% of Adults Reported Smoking > 15 years

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined
Performing Breathing Tests
Prevalence of Self-reported Ever Having a Breathing Test to Diagnose Breathing Problems (2018 NC BRFSS by AHEC Region)

Statewide: 31.0% of Adults Reported Ever Having a Breathing Test

Eastern and Area L AHEC data are combined
For Questions, Contact the North Carolina Thoracic Society (ncthoracicsociety@gmail.com) or Visit our Website (www.nc thoracic.org)