



BREATHLESS IN THE PALMETTO STATE



THE IMPACT OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD) IN SOUTH CAROLINA

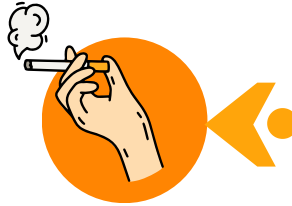
317,000+

SOUTH CAROLINA ADULTS AGED 18+

have been diagnosed with COPD¹



Adults 65+ see the highest rates of emergency department visits and hospitalization stays due to COPD in the state.³



CIGARETTE SMOKING

In South Carolina, 18.9% of current smokers and 23.4% of former smokers have been diagnosed with COPD. This is significantly higher than never smokers (3.6%).¹



AIR POLLUTION

Long-term exposure to particulate matter and nitrogen dioxides increases your risk of developing COPD. Exposure to poor air² quality can worsen symptoms of COPD.



GENETICS

Alpha-1 antitrypsin (AATD) deficiency is a genetic disorder that affects the ability to produce a protein that protects the lungs, making individuals at risk for COPD.²



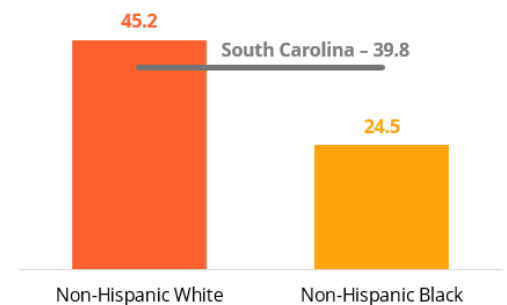
6th

From 2019-2023, COPD was the 6th leading cause of death in the state, with 14,408 South Carolinians dying from the disease.⁴



Non-Hispanic Whites died from COPD at a rate 84.5% times higher than their Non-Hispanic Black counterparts.⁴

COPD Mortality, by Race/Ethnicity
Age-adjusted rate per 100,000 population

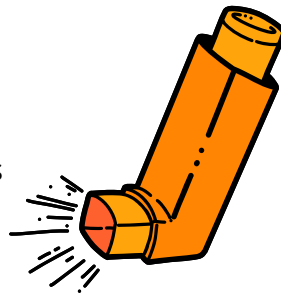


STRATEGIES FOR COPD CONTROL

For smokers, quitting smoking is the most important part of treatment. Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW

Vaccinations aimed at preventing lung diseases (i.e., flu, pneumonia) are recommended for individuals suffering from COPD.

Talk to your doctor about medications aimed at treating COPD symptoms.



CONTACT US

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1: SC BRFSS, 2019-2023
2: AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION, COPD CAUSES & RISK FACTORS, 2025
3: SC RFA, 2023
4: SC DPH VITAL STATISTICS, 2019-2023