

Overall America's Health Ranking: **38**

United Health Foundation. (2024 Annual Report). America's Health Rankings. www.americashealthrankings.org



Total Population of PAs in GA: 5,087
PAs Practicing in a Rural Area: 3.9%

- 0.1% – American Indian/Alaskan Native
- 6.6% – Asian
- 10.3% – Black/African American
- 2.3% – Multi-race
- 0.2% – Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- 1.8% – Other
- 74.5% – White
- 4.1% – Prefer Not to Answer

Source: National Commission on Certification of PAs. (2023). Statistical Profile of Board Certified PAs by State

4.8% – Percentage of PAs by Hispanic, Latino(a), or Spanish origin



Total Population: ~12.7 Million

- 0.6% – American Indian/Alaskan Native
- 4.9% – Asian
- 33.2% – Black/African American
- 0.1% – Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- 2.5% – Two or More Races
- 58.7% – White

Source: United States Census Bureau accessible at Census.gov/quickfacts

11.1% – Hispanic/Latino
49.6% – White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino

Populations At Risk for Health Disparities

Source: United States Census Bureau accessible at Census.gov/quickfacts



Veterans
608,876




Language Other than English Spoken at Home
15.0%




People Living with a Disability Under Age 65
9.3%



People without Health Insurance Under 65
13.3%



Medicaid/CHIP Enrollment
20.1%
Kaiser Family Foundation, Medicaid State Fact Sheets 2022




Medicare Beneficiaries
17%
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, State Health Facts 2021



Poverty
13.6%



2020 Rural Population
25.9%



Persons with Less Than High School Education
13.1%

Top Ten Drivers of Poor Health Rankings

1 High-Risk HIV Behaviors

Percentage of adults who reported having done any of the following in the past year: injected any drug other than those prescribed for you; been treated for a sexually transmitted disease; or given or received money or drugs in exchange for sex

2 Low Birth Weight

Percentage of infants weighing less than 2,500 grams (5 pounds, 8 ounces) at birth

3 Avoided Care Due to Cost

Percentage of adults who reported a time in the past 12 months when they needed to see a doctor but could not because of cost

4 Chlamydia

Number of new cases of chlamydia per 100,000 population

5 HPV Vaccination

Percentage of adolescents ages 13-17 who received all recommended doses of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine

6 Homicide

Number of deaths due to injuries inflicted by another person with intent to injure or kill per 100,000 population

7 Uninsured

Percentage of population not covered by private or public health insurance

8 Climate Policies

Number of the following state policies in place: legally binding electricity portfolio standards, carbon pricing policies, climate change action plans, and economy-wide greenhouse gas emission targets

9 Adverse Childhood Experiences

Percentage of children ages 0-17 who have ever experienced two or more of the following: parental divorce or separation; household with an alcohol or drug problem; neighborhood violence victim or witness; household with mental illness; domestic violence witness; parent served jail time; treated or judged unfairly due to race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or a health condition or disability; or death of a parent (2-year estimate)

10 Insufficient Sleep

Percentage of adults who reported sleeping, on average, less than seven hours in a 24-hour period

1 High-Risk HIV Behaviors

- Increase patient access to preventative medications such as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) or post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).
- Screen and assess patients for HIV in accordance with recommended guidelines.
- Encourage patients to use condoms correctly whenever engaging in sexual activity.
- Provide education to patients on the risks of injection drug use.
- Prescribe antiretroviral therapy (ART) to those who test positive as soon as possible.
- Explore the CDC resources to help people find HIV prevention services in their area, including condoms, HIV testing, PrEP, and PEP.

2 Low Birth Weight

- Focus on women's long-term health before and beyond prenatal care (e.g., expanding women's access to medical and dental services).
- Promote smoking prevention and cessation programs.
- Ensure that women are able to obtain adequate nutrition before and during pregnancy.
- Address factors related to demographic, social, and environmental risks.

3 Avoided Care Due to Cost

- Implement patient-centered care and shared decision making to reduce expenditures by increasing health education and empowering patients to choose cost-effective diagnostic tools and treatment options.
- Link patients to care management which lowers cost by increasing continuity of care and reducing expensive emergency room and specialty care visits.

4 Chlamydia

- Educate patients on abstinence, having a single sexual partner, reducing the number of sexual partners, and making sure to use latex condoms and/or dental dams properly during sex.
- Integrate screening for chlamydia and other STIs into regular medical care based on CDC recommendations.

5 HPV Vaccination

- Educate parents about HPV vaccinations and implement reminder systems to inform families when children are due for a vaccine through phone calls, text messages, and/or letters.

6 Homicide

- Explore CDC Prevention Resources for Action and Violence Prevention in Practice resources.

7 Uninsured

- Advocate to expand health insurance coverage, deliver better preventive and chronic care, and focus on community prevention.

8 Climate Policies

- Recognize the impact of climate change on patients' health and keep abreast of climate science to address patients' questions about the effects of climate change by consulting reliable, health related research and policy sources.

9 Adverse Childhood Experiences

- Consider screening and assessing patients for ACES.

10 Insufficient Sleep

- Educate patients on NIH-recommended sleep guidelines and limiting use of electronic devices before bed.

Source: United Health Foundation. *Americas Health Rankings*. www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/measures

Prevalence of Top 10 Chronic Conditions

CHRONIC CONDITION	RATES (age-adjusted prevalence)
Hypertension among adults	56.5%
Obesity among adults	37.4%
High cholesterol among adults who have been screened	33.1%
Depression among adults	19.4%
Diabetes among adults	11.0%
Asthma among adults	9.6%
COPD among adults	6.6%
Cancer: Invasive cancer (all sites combined)	463.9 age-adjusted rate (cases per 100,000)
Chronic kidney disease: Incidence of treated end-stage kidney disease	4976 (cases per 1 million population)
Coronary heart disease: Mortality among all people, underlying cause	75 age-adjusted rate (cases per 100,000)

Source: CDC Chronic Disease Indicators accessible at <https://www.cdc.gov/cdi/>

Top 10 Causes of Death

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH	DEATHS (per 100,000 population)
1. Heart disease	183.9
2. Cancer	147
3. Accidents	58.9
4. COVID	47.1
5. Stroke	44
6. Chronic lower respiratory illness	39.6
7. Alzheimer's disease	39.3
8. Drug overdose	24.9
9. Diabetes	21.9
10. Firearms	19.7

Source: CDC National Center for Health Statistics Stats of the States accessible at www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/stats_of_the_states.htm