

# Kentucky again leads nation in lung cancer rate, report finds

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Kentucky continues to face the nation's highest rate of new lung cancer cases and the second-highest rate of adult smoking, according to the American Lung Association's 2025 "State of Lung Cancer" report.

The report found that while Kentucky remains among the worst states for lung cancer incidence and survival, it has made significant progress in early diagnosis, screening rates and biomarker testing coverage. Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer deaths in both Kentucky and the United States.

"Kentucky's history with lung cancer is long and painful, but recent progress gives us

hope," said Shannon Baker, director of advocacy for the American Lung Association in Kentucky, in a news release. "We're encouraged by above-average screening rates, reductions in new case rates, and the passage of biomarker testing coverage legislation. These gains show that with sustained effort, more Kentuckians' lives can be saved."

The report, released Tuesday, ranked Kentucky 51st in the nation for new lung cancer cases, at 84.1 per 100,000 people — a 9% improvement over the past five years. The national rate is 52.8. Kentucky ranked 32nd for

survival at 25.5%, reflecting a 32% gain in five years, compared to a national rate of 29.7%.

The state ranked 33rd for early diagnosis, with 27.3% of cases detected at an early stage, a 12% improvement over five years. Kentucky also performs above the national average in high-risk screening, ranking 12th with 21.4% of eligible individuals screened.

- Other rankings include:
- 26th for surgery as the first course of treatment (19.4%), slightly below the national rate of 20.7%.
  - 26th for lack of treatment (20.4%), with a 36% increase in the rate over five years.
  - 50th for adult smoking, with 17.4% of adults currently smoking compared to 11.4% nationally.

• 38th for radon test results, with 36.9% of tests equal to or above the EPA's recommended action level.

The association praised Kentucky for requiring insurance coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing, which identifies genetic markers that can guide targeted treatments for lung cancer patients.

State Rep. Kimberly Poore Moser, chairwoman of the House Health Services Committee, said she plans to request an increase in state tobacco prevention and cessation funding from \$2 million to \$4 million in the upcoming budget.

"It is a reasonable increase,

and preventing kids from ever starting and helping those who want to quit using nicotine products should be a priority in our budget discussions this year," Moser said in the release.

The American Lung Association joined Moser in urging lawmakers to strengthen tobacco prevention efforts, which it said remains the most effective tool for reducing lung cancer rates.

The full report is available at Lung.org/solc, according to the release.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Housing authority of Liberty, Ky has recently prepared an Agency and Five-Year Plan update in accordance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. (QHWRA). The "Act" requires full public disclosure of said plan with the request for public response to same. The "Plan" is available for review and inspection at the office of the Housing Authority of Liberty, KY located at 75 Riverdale Drive.

The Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing pertaining to the Agency plan on the date and time as indicated below:

**Date: Dec. 12 2025**  
**Time: 11:00 A.M.**  
**Location: Housing Authority Office, 75 Riverdale Drive**

At the public hearing the Board of Commissioners will present the plan in detail and receive public comments. Attendees will also receive a brief overview of the law which governs these activities, and of the purpose of the Five-Year and Agency Plan and how it relates to the future operation of the housing authority.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend and participate in this hearing. All reasonable suggestions will be taken into serious consideration by the Board and PHA staff when preparing the final draft of the Agency Plan.

If you have any questions, or require any further information, please contact the Housing Authority at the following address or phone number:

**Housing Authority of Liberty, 75 Riverdale Drive, PO Box 267, Liberty, Ky. 42539 606-787-7821**  
**Merl Hogue, Executive Director**



The Lake Cumberland Area Development District's Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 11:00 am CT (12:00 pm ET), in the large conference room at the Lake Cumberland Area Development District office in Russell Springs. This meeting will also be available by Zoom.

A link to join the meeting will be posted on the LCADD website at www.lcadd.org.

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**Part-Time Position**  
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**The Casey County News**

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**WEDNESDAY - 4:00 PM**

**Contact Customer Service at 606-787-7171, Option 1 or classifieds@caseynews.net**  
**Monday-Friday 8AM-4PM**

**\*Holidays advance deadline by 24 hours.**

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The East Casey County Water District is currently accepting applications for the position of Meter Reader. The position requires a High School diploma or equivalent. This is a full time position requiring 40 hours per week. The East Casey County Water District is an equal opportunity employer. Applications can be picked up at ECCWD 690 S. Wallace Wilkinson Blvd., Liberty, KY

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