

A new report shows Arkansas ranks as one of the worst states in the nation for new cases of lung cancer. The annual State of Lung Cancer report released by the American Lung Association today (Tues) shows Arkansas ranks 49th out of 50 states and the District of Columbia for new cases, and sits below the national average for rates of survival. Zach Jump is national senior director of epidemiology and statistics for the American Lung Association. He says a number of factors can influence states' standing when it comes to lung cancer.

News01

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"...can then recommend."

Despite Arkansas ranking above average for early lung cancer diagnosis and access to treatment, the state fares poorly for survival rates and use of surgery to treat the disease. Jump says the state can also improve its rate of screening for the cancer, which can in turn improve health outcomes for those living with the disease.

News02

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"...those tumors early."

Jump says lung cancer screening rates are still relatively low nationwide at about 6%. He says annual C-T scans to screen for lung cancer is available even to people who have quit smoking. More information on the report can be found at [lung dot org slash S-O-L-C](http://lung.org/slash/S-O-L-C).

Arkansas continues to rank near the bottom among states when it comes to new cases of lung cancer. The latest State of Lung Cancer report from the American Lung Association shows Arkansas ranks 49th in the nation for new cases, as well as below average for screening, survival and use of surgery to treat the disease. Zach Jump, national senior director of epidemiology and statistics with the group, says the poor showing is likely due to one reason.

News03

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“...also very high.”

Jump says, on average, Black Arkansans are less likely to receive surgical treatment for lung cancer compared to white patients. Aside from quitting smoking, he says annual screening for lung cancer is one of the best ways to ensure better health outcomes for those at risk of developing the disease.