## **MISSISSIPPI**



# PREVALENCE OF LIVER DISEASE STATE FACT SHEET

American Liver Foundation (ALF) Liver Life Advocates—Raising Awareness, Advancing Change™, represents more than 100 million Americans affected by liver disease.

## Mississippi Residents Affected by Liver Disease



#### Kimberly H.

Kimberly advocates on behalf of patients living with autoimmune liver disease and to raise awareness about the importance of organ donation. Kimberly was diagnosed with primary biliary cirrhosis at 28-years-old; she found out through routine bloodwork done by her employer. After being referred to a liver specialist, she learned that her disease had silently progressed to stage 3 of 4. The one medication typically prescribed did not work, and her condition worsened, but after two years of waiting, Kimberly received a second chance at life through a life-saving liver transplant.



#### Rhonda V.

Rhonda advocates for health equity and access to affordable care. Diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver in 2019, Rhonda's MELD score is too low to be considered for transplant, yet she is too sick to work. If not for Medicaid/Medicare, she would be unable to seek treatment at all.



State Statistics	
589	Mississippi residents died of liver disease/ cirrhosis in 2022
55	liver transplants were performed in Mississippi
25	people are on the liver transplant waitlist
5	Mississippians have died while on the liver transplant waitlist
13.9%	of adults in Mississippi have diabetes
40.1%	of adults in Mississippi are overweight or obese
30.9%	of adults have no leisurely physical activity

### **ALF 2025 Legislative Priorities**

- Increase funding for MASLD research and education
- Expand liver disease surveillance and prevention efforts at the CDC
- Finalize coverage for anti-obesity medication under Medicare Part D
- Support laws like the Living Donor Protection Act, Safe Step Act, HOLD Act and HELP Copays Act
- Improve access to liver disease treatments and reduce out-of-pocket costs

ALF is a national community of patients, caregivers and medical professionals dedicated to helping people improve their liver health. Providing guidance and life-saving resources, we are a beacon for the 100 million Americans affected by liver disease. We advocate for patients and families, fund medical research and educate the public about liver wellness and disease prevention. We bring people together through our educational programs and events and create a network of support that lasts a lifetime. ALF is the largest organization focused on all liver diseases and the trusted voice for patients and families living with liver disease. For more information visit liverfoundation.org or call 1-800-GO-LIVER (800-465-4837).