KENTUCKY Has Nation's Highest Rate of New Lung Cancer Cases, Third-Highest Smoking Rate

(November 17, 2026) – Today, the American Lung Association in Kentucky released its annual "State of Lung Cancer" report, which shows the toll lung cancer takes on each state in the country. Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer deaths in Kentucky and the U.S. Nationally, more than 229,000 people will be diagnosed with the disease this year. For Kentucky, the report finds that the state has the nation's highest rate of new lung cancer cases, at 83.9 per 100,000 people, and the third highest smoking rate. However, Kentucky saw progress in its smoking rate, declining from 17.4% last year to 15.2% this year, moving the state from second-highest to third-highest nationally.

Early-stage diagnosis has also improved 19% over the past five years and now falls within the average tier nationally. Five-year survival has improved 29%, though Kentucky remains in the bottom tier, ranking 38 out of 43 states. Surgery as a first course of treatment and the percentage of patients receiving no treatment also fall within the average range.

"Overall, our report reveals positive news—more people in the U.S. and in Kentucky are living longer after a lung cancer diagnosis than ever before, and more people are getting screened for the disease. While these findings give us hope, more still must be done to end the burden of this devastating disease on families throughout Kentucky," said Shannon Baker, director of advocacy for the American Lung Association. "We need to continue to increase screening rates among those at high risk to catch the disease early when it's more likely to be curable and improve access to clinical trials and the best lung cancer care."

The "State of Lung Cancer" report examines key lung cancer indicators and ranks Kentucky:

- 51 out of 51 in the nation for rate of new lung cancer cases, at 83.9 per 100,000. The national rate is 52.1 per 100,000. This marks a 7% improvement over the past five years.
- 38 out of 43 in the nation for survival, at 26.3%. Most lung cancer cases are diagnosed at later stages when the cancer has spread, and treatment options are less likely to be curative. The national rate of people living five years after a lung cancer diagnosis is 31.0%. This marks a 29% improvement over the past five years.
- 32 out of 47 in the nation for early diagnosis, at 28.4%. The earlier lung cancer is diagnosed, the more likely that treatments will be effective. Nationally, only 29.3% of cases are diagnosed at an early stage. This represents a 19% improvement over the past five years.
- 22 out of 40 in the nation for surgical treatment, at 19.9%. Lung cancer can often be treated with surgery if it is diagnosed at an early stage and has not spread. Nationally, 21.4% of cases underwent surgery. This represents a 13% improvement over the past five years.
- 29 out of 47 in the nation for lack of treatment, at 21%. While there are multiple reasons why people may not receive treatment after a lung cancer diagnosis, no one should go untreated because of lack of provider or patient knowledge, lung cancer stigma, fatalism after diagnosis or cost of treatment. Nationally, 20.9% of cases receive no treatment.
- 18 out of 50 in the nation for lung cancer screening, at 25.9%. Lung cancer screening with annual low-dose CT scans for people at high risk can reduce the lung cancer death rate by up to 20%. Nationally, only 24.4% of people at high risk were screened.
- 46 out of 48 in the nation for smoking, at 15.2%. Tobacco use is the leading risk factor for lung cancer. Both smoking and secondhand smoke have been shown to cause lung cancer.
- 38 out of 51 in the nation for radon, at 36.9%. Radon, a colorless and odorless gas that can be present at high levels inside homes and buildings, is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Every home should be regularly tested for radon and mitigated if results are high.

The "State of Lung Cancer" report also examines insurance coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing, which can help identify more personalized treatment options for a person's specific type of lung cancer, including targeted therapies and immunotherapy. Insurance coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing is critical for making this test more accessible, but 24 states and Washington, D.C., do not require any coverage. The report found that Kentucky does require insurance coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing.

Additionally, clinical trials are essential to improving outcomes for people affected by lung cancer and increasing survival rates. Unfortunately, too many people face barriers that prevent them from participating in and benefitting from cutting edge research. The Lung Association is urging Congress to pass the Clinical Trial Modernization Act, which includes critical steps to make clinical trials accessible to more people and advance research and care for all.

The Lung Association brings research, advocacy and health promotions together to address lung cancer, investing in science, advocating for better access to prevention and care, and providing education, support and resources to help individuals navigate timely access to screening, diagnosis and treatment.

ABSOLUTE LIVE ONLINE Auction

FORMER JONES IMPLEMENT SITE
3 COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS ON 1.63 ACRES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2026 – 10:30 A.M.
8646 US HWY 421, MCKEE, KY



• 3 Large versatile commercial buildings on 1.63 surveyed acres with over 450 feet of road frontage on U.S. Highway 421.
• Building #1 is Masonry and Metal construction with retail, parts, workshop/storage areas on the main level and offices on the second level.
• Building #2 is masonry and metal construction and was used as a service building. It has an office area and a large service area with five garage doors and a boiler heat system.
• Building #3 is a masonry and metal construction with a huge storage/warehouse area and covered loading/storage area.
• All 3 buildings combine for over 18,000 square feet under roof.
• This property has been the site for a farm implement, machinery and power tool dealership for decades. It's size, versatility and successful history make it ideal for many types of businesses.

Auction Preview Dates: November 13th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.; November 21st from 9:00 a.m. until the beginning of the auction.

TERMS: 20% down, balance due in full within 45 days.
There will be a 10% Auction Premium added to final bid.

This auction includes the real estate only. The equipment and inventory will be sold at a separate auction event.

Visit fordbrothersinc.com or call our London office at (606) 878-7111 for a copy of the survey map and more details.

AUCTIONEER: DEVIN FORD

Ford Brothers, Inc. Auctioneers Selling the Country

www.fordbrothersinc.com

Somerset, KY 606-679-2212
London, KY 606-878-7111 800-526-1637
Mt. Vernon, KY 606-256-4545

KAA NAA Auctioneer

Subscribe to the Jackson County Sun today!

Print Only - In County - 26.00

Elsewhere - 48.00

Online Only - 30.00

Print and Online

In County 44.80 - Out of County 62.00

Deeds Recorded at Jackson County Clerks Office 11/09/26 – 11/15/26

Buell, Lawrence, Buell, Georgia to Jones, Cassie
Gabbard, David to AJB Housing LLC
Slone, Bobby, Sloan, Bobby Joe, Sloan, Bobby J to Sloan, Bobby Joe-Trustee, The Bobby J and Lorraine R Sloan Revocable Living Trust
Clark, Ernest, Clark, Alicia to Barksdale, Charles Christopher
Truett, Brenda, Truett, William to CommonWealth Of Kentucky- Transportation Cabinet, Department Of Highways
Bowles, Whitney Marie, Bowles, Jacob Wayne to Wright, Daniel H
Sheehy, Shawn, Sheehy, Karen to Abner, Michael, Abner, Myra
Robinson, Madison, Thompson, Joshua to Robinson, Madison, Thompson, Joshua
Browning, Ariel, Browning, Kevin to Collins, Jared Allen, Switzer, Ella Louise

Thank You for Reading the Jackson County Sun

Don't forget us for your Classified!
$7.50 for the first 20 words and 0.15 a word after that.

Classifieds

Jackson Valley Apartments is now accepting applications for 1 bdr, 2 bdr and 3 bdrm apartments. Rent is based on income. Garbage and water included. On Site laundry and playground area. Units available for immediate move in upon approval. Applications may be picked up at the office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Hours 9-12 and 1-4 Office closed on Wednesdays 1-606-287-7677 (TTY 1-800-648-6056 Hearing/Speech Impaired Only) Equal Housing Opportunity

FOR RENT

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR APARTMENTS They are painted and clean. NO application fee. Fast, friendly service. Check with us. Your rent could be cheaper at the Housing Authority of McKee (Rocky Hill Heights Apts.) Laundry on site, Two playgrounds and basketball court. Rent based on income. Call today. (606) 287-8777 Housing Authority of McKee, Rocky Hill Heights, 1405 Roberts Ct., Ofc., McKee, Ky 40447 NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS 9 AM TO 1 PM MONDAY - FRIDAY

LEGAL

Notice is hereby given that Ashley Gregory, Executor for Ricky G Tudor, deceased, has filed a final settlement with the Jackson County District Court. Any exceptions to same must be filed before the hearing date of 11/30/2026.
Case # 22-P-095

Notice is hereby given that Rency Clark has been appointed Administrator of the estate of Margie Clark by the Jackson County District Court. All persons having claims against the estate of Margie Clark are requested to present same, verified according to law, to said Administrator within 6 months from 11/09/2026. All persons indebted to said estate are notified to pay said indebtedness to the Administrator.
Attorney: Hon. Travis Newman
Case # 26-P-00132

Notice is hereby given that Randall Madden has been appointed Executor of the estate of Cora Marcum by the Jackson County District Court. All persons having claims against the estate of Cora Marcum are requested to present same, verified according to law, to said Executor within 6 months from 11/09/2026. All persons indebted to said estate are notified to pay said indebtedness to the Executor.
Attorney: Hon. Ross Murray
Case # 26-P-00136

Notice is hereby given that Troy Joe Coffey, Executor for Troy Coffey, deceased, has filed a final settlement with the Jackson County District Court. Any exceptions to same must be filed before the hearing date of 11/23/2026.
Case # 26-P-00050

Notice is hereby given that Marlene Million has been appointed Executrix of the estate of Julie Peters by the Jackson County District Court. All persons having claims against the estate of Julie Peters are requested to present same, verified according to law, to said Executrix within 6 months from 11/16/2026. All persons indebted to said estate are notified to pay said indebtedness to the Executrix.
Attorney: Hon. Wm. Jacob Roberts
Case # 26-P-00140