

In addition, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “[p]eople with moderate to severe asthma may be at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.”¹² African Americans “have one of the highest rates of current asthma compared to other racial/ethnic groups.” Sabal Trail Final EIS at 3-214. Compressor stations emit pollutants that aggravate asthma and reduce lung function. *See also* Reis Thebault et al., *The coronavirus is infecting and killing black Americans at an alarmingly high rate*, Washington Post, April 7, 2020¹³ (“African Americans have historically been disproportionately diagnosed with chronic diseases such as asthma, hypertension and diabetes — underlying conditions that experts say make covid-19 more lethal.”); Ellen Barry, *Days After a Funeral in a Georgia Town, Coronavirus ‘Hit Like a Bomb,’* N.Y. Times, March 30, 2020¹⁴ (“Dougherty County, dominated by cotton plantations in the 19th century, routinely ranks near the bottom of Georgia’s 159 counties in terms of most health outcomes, with high rates of diabetes and lung disease.”).

Albany is a “Global COVID-19 Hotspot”¹⁵

As of April 13, 2020, 1,208 people have tested positive for Covid-19 in Dougherty County, and 77 people have died.¹⁶ “[O]n a per-capita basis the outbreak makes Albany the fourth-worst hit in the country.” Graham Rapier, *How a small Georgia city far from New York became one of the worst coronavirus hotspots in the country*, Business Insider, April 7, 2020.¹⁷ And Albany has “the highest rate of deaths per 100,000 population of any metropolitan area in the country.” Alan Judd, *Georgia’s COVID-19 deaths surge, and a rural county coroner reels*, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, April 7, 2020.¹⁸

Area hospitals are already overwhelmed. *See, e.g.*, Brad Schrade and Johnny Edwards, *City under siege: Coronavirus exacts heavy toll in Albany*, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, March 27, 2020¹⁹ (“The sudden deluge of critically ill patients quickly overwhelmed Albany’s main hospital.”); Alan Mauldin, *Dougherty officials brace for what could be worst week in coronavirus crisis*, Albany Herald, April 6, 2020²⁰ (“As of Monday, ... all of the 50 intensive care units

¹² <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/asthma.html>. *See also id.* (“COVID-19 can affect your respiratory tract (nose, throat, lungs), cause an asthma attack, and possibly lead to pneumonia and acute respiratory disease.”).

¹³ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/04/07/coronavirus-is-infecting-killing-black-americans-an-alarmingly-high-rate-post-analysis-shows/?arc404=true>

¹⁴ <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/30/us/coronavirus-funeral-albany-georgia.html>

¹⁵ Grant Blankenship, *How Albany Emerged as a Global COVID-19 Hotspot*, Georgia Public Broadcasting, April 1, 2020, <https://www.gpbnews.org/post/how-albany-emerged-global-covid-19-hotspot>.

¹⁶ <http://www.southwestgeorgiapublichealth.org>

¹⁷ <https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-hotspot-albany-georgia-funderals-covid-19-cases-per-capita-2020-4>

¹⁸ <https://www.ajc.com/news/georgia-covid-deaths-surge-and-rural-county-coroner-reels/AxjqQUhZpbjIeMr2s4pIPO/>

¹⁹ <https://www.ajc.com/news/state--regional/city-under-seige-coronavirus-exacts-heavy-toll-albany/xC9NO677gfDQSaGEQDXSAN/>

²⁰ https://www.albanyherald.com/news/dougherty-officials-brace-for-what-could-be-worst-week-in-coronavirus-crisis/article_121e5026-7840-11ea-b350-fb3fe9cfb067.html