

# Understanding the Impact of COPD



**COPD is a progressive lung condition that restricts airflow, making breathing difficult.**

The disease:



**Limits patients' ability to work** and participate in their communities



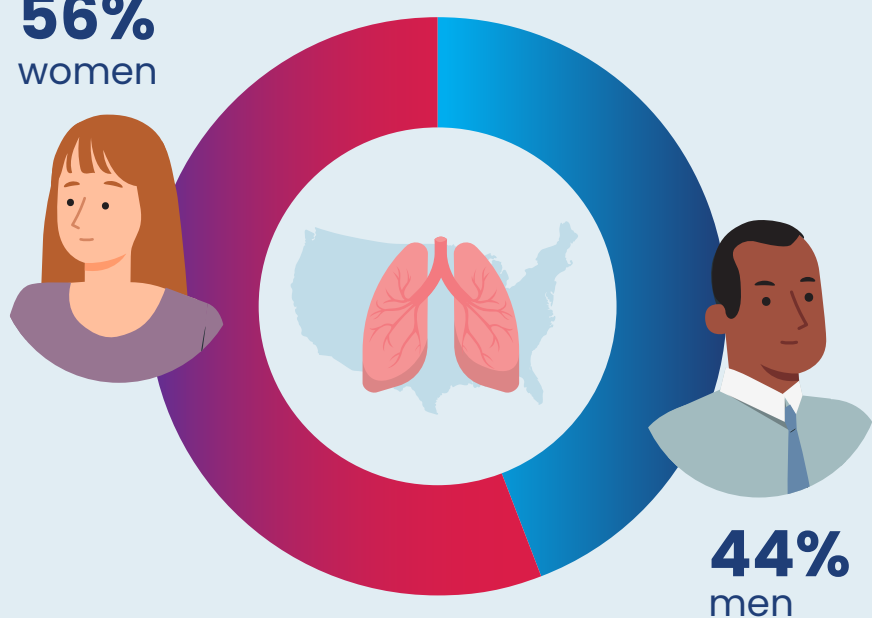
**Ranks as the 6th leading cause of death** in the United States



**Is projected to cost \$60.5 billion** annually by 2029

**17+ million Americans** are diagnosed.

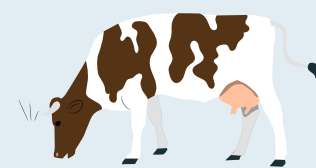
**56%**  
women



**44%**  
men



Rural prevalence is **2x higher** than urban areas.

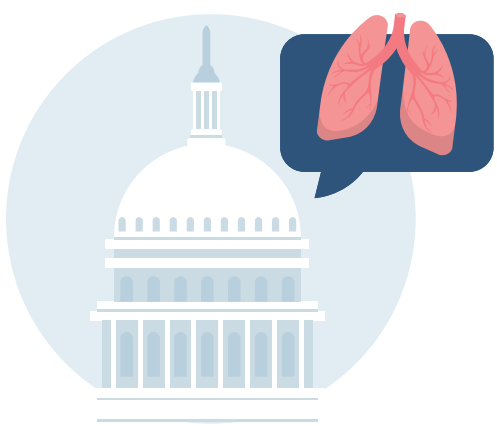


**25% of veterans**

are diagnosed, often with earlier symptoms.



**Policymakers can support patients by:**



**Elevating COPD**  
as a public health priority



**Improving access**  
to treatment



**Increasing awareness**  
and education

**Addressing COPD starts with patient-centered policy.**

