



THE FACTS ILLINOIS

Speak for Health

AN INITIATIVE OF THE
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Illinois receives \$79 per person total from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). This ranks the state 37th in the nation for per person funding, with the highest funded state at \$289 per person. In 2020 fiscal year, the Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded Illinois over \$27.61 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE 7.4 percent of people in Illinois do not have health insurance coverage, which is below the national uninsured rate of 9.2 percent. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Illinois has 249.6 active primary care providers per 100,000 people, which is more than the national average of 241.9 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people, ranking the state 28th in the nation.

Notable Health Measures

- **Tobacco use** Illinois ranks 13th lowest in the nation for smoking rates, with only 14.5 percent of adults regularly smoking cigarettes.
- **Mental distress** 28 percent of adults reported their mental health was not good 14 or more days in the past 30 days, ranking 15th lowest in the nation in terms of frequency of mental distress.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Excessive drinking** 21.6 percent of the adult population reports excessively drinking, ranking the state 8th highest in the nation. Excessive drinking can lead to negative health outcomes including fetal damage, liver diseases, high blood pressure and cardiovascular diseases.
- **Drug deaths** Deaths due to drug injury have steadily increased in the past four years, from 11.1 drug deaths per 100,000 people in 2014 to 21.2 drug deaths per 100,000 people in 2020.
- **Air pollution** Illinois is ranked 49th in the nation in terms of air pollution with an estimated 9.5 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter. Poor air quality can have severe health effects and impact a large number of people, particularly impacting young children and older adults.

Sources: America's Health Rankings analysis of Trust for America's Health, U.S. HHS, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, Accessed 2021; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP) State Fact Sheets, (March 2021). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/about/osh/state-fact-sheets/index.htm>; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fiscal Year 2020 Grant Funding Profiles Totals, (July 2021). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://fundingprofiles.cdc.gov/>



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