

THE FACTS RHODE ISLAND

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. Rhode Island receives \$147 total per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) for public health funding. The Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state \$5.87 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in fiscal year 2020.

ACCESS TO CARE 4.1 percent of people in Rhode Island do not have health insurance coverage, well 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. Rhode Island has 344.1 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. This is the second highest rate in the nation. Nationally, there are 241.9 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Infant mortality** The infant mortality rate in Rhode Island is 5.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, ranking the state 25th in the nation.
- **Tobacco use** 13.3 percent of adults in Rhode Island smoke cigarettes, ranking 10th lowest in the nation. Each year, 1,800 people die from smoking-related illnesses in Rhode Island and \$640 million is spent on health care costs due to smoking

The Challenges Ahead

- **Drug deaths** The state has the 11th highest drug death rate in the nation, with 29.7 drug deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Obesity** 30.0 percent of adults in Rhode Island are obese. And while the state boasts a relatively low adult obesity rate in comparison to other states, the obesity rate has more than doubled over the past two and a half decades. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.
- **Physical inactivity** 26.5 percent of adults report doing no physical activity in the past 30 days in Rhode Island. Staying active can help reduce the likelihood of heart diseases, along with other serious illnesses.

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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