Public Health Funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Maine receives $26.35 per person in funding from CDC (15th in the nation) and $48.68 per person from HRSA (4th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over $41 million in grants to Maine since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to Care: 8.0 percent of people in Maine do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.6 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. Maine has 187.4 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, ranking 7th highest in the nation.

Notable Health Measures
- High school graduation: 87.5 percent of students graduate from high school in Maine, ranking the state 12th highest in the nation. This is a notable measure as there is a strong connection between education and health. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.
- Violent Crime: The state has the lowest violent crime rate in the nation with 124 offenses per 100,000 people.
- Air pollution: 6.4 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter, ranking the state 11th lowest in air pollution in the nation. Poor air quality leads to reduced lung function, increased risk of asthma complications, heart attacks, heart failure, and death, and particularly impacts young children and older adults.

The Challenges Ahead
- Tobacco use: 19.8 percent of adults in Maine smoke cigarettes, which places the state above the national average of 17.1 percent. Each year, 2,400 people die from smoking-related illnesses in Maine and $811 million is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- Child Immunization: In the past two years, immunization rates decreased from 84.7 percent to 70.6 percent of children aged 19 months to 35 months in Maine.
- Drug deaths: In the past three years, drug deaths increased 52 percent from 11.0 to 16.7 deaths per 100,000 people.
- Pertussis: The state has the 3rd highest rate of pertussis cases in the nation with 21.1 cases of pertussis per 100,000 people. Also known as whooping cough, pertussis is highly contagious, but can be prevented through immunization.

Sources: Trust for America’s Health, Investing in America’s Health; Trust for America’s Health, Prevention and Public Health Fund at Work in States; U.S. Census Bureau, 2015, 2016, and 2017 1-Year American Community Surveys; United Health Foundation, America’s Health Rankings; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Tobacco Control Program Funding.