THE FACTS: New York

Public Health Funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. New York receives $26.34 per person in funding from CDC (16th in the nation) and $35.09 per person from HRSA (14th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over $245 million in grants to New York since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to Care: 6.1 percent of people in New York do not have health insurance coverage compared with the national uninsured rate of 8.6 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. New York has 215.5 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, ranking 3rd highest in the nation.

Notable Health Measures

- **Drug deaths:** While having the 13th lowest drug death rate in the nation, drug deaths have increased 48.8 percent from 8.2 deaths per 100,000 population in 2013 to 12.2 deaths per 100,000 population in 2017.
- **Tobacco use:** 14.2 percent of adults in New York smoke cigarettes, ranking the state 9th lowest in the nation. Even so, 28,200 people die from smoking-related illnesses in New York each year and $10.4 billion is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- **Obesity:** 25.5 percent of adults in New York 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.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Children in poverty:** 17.6 percent of children in New York live in a household below the poverty line. This places New York 26th in the nation. Poverty has been linked to higher rates of chronic diseases and shorter life expectancy.
- **High school graduation:** Only 79.2 percent of students graduate from high school in New York. This is a major public health concern as there is a strong connection between education and health. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.
- **Physical inactivity:** 26.3 percent of the adult population reports doing no physical activity in the past 30 days. Physical inactivity increases the risk of developing cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, hypertension, obesity, certain cancers, depression and premature death.

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.