THE FACTS: Oregon

Public Health Funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Oregon receives $21.90 per person in funding from CDC (32nd in the nation) and $31.29 per person from HRSA (19th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over $60 million in grants to Oregon since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to Care: 6.2 percent of people in Oregon 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. Oregon has 143.8 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people. Nationally, there are 149.7 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures
- Low birthweight: In Oregon, 6.4 percent of live births are low birthweight, the 4th lowest rate in the nation.
- Physical inactivity: 17.2 percent of the adult population reports doing no physical activity, which is better than the national average of adults who do not engage in physical activity, ranking the state 3rd best in the nation.

The Challenges Ahead
- High school graduation: 73.8 percent of students graduate from high school in Oregon. This is the 3rd lowest high school graduation rate in the nation. This is of 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.
- Mental distress: 13.0 percent of adults reported their mental health was not good 14 or more days in the past 30 days, ranking 36th in the nation.
- Obesity: 28.7 percent of adults in Oregon are obese, ranking the state 20th in the nation. The adult obesity rate in the state has more than doubled since 1990. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.
- Immunization: Oregon has the lowest rate of childhood immunization, with only 58.1 percent of children aged 19 months to 35 months having received recommended vaccinations last year.

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.

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