

THE FACTS PENNSYLVANIA

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. Pennsylvania receives \$61 total per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) in public health funding. The Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state \$22.75 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in fiscal year 2020.

ACCESS TO CARE 5.8 percent of people in Pennsylvania 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. Pennsylvania has 281.8 active primary care providers per 100,000 people, well above the nation average of 241.9 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Tobacco use** 17.3 percent of adults in Pennsylvania smoke cigarettes regularly. Each year, 22,000 people die from smoking-related illnesses in Pennsylvania and \$6.4 billion is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- **Physical inactivity** The physical inactivity rate in Pennsylvania is 25.6 percent, compared to the national inactivity rate which is 26.4 percent.
- **Obesity** 33.2 percent of the adult population in Pennsylvania is obese, ranking the state 29th lowest 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.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Drug deaths** Pennsylvania has the 4th highest drug death rate in the nation.
- **Air pollution** Pennsylvania has the 3rd highest rate of air pollution in the nation with an estimated 8.8 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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