



THE FACTS

WASHINGTON

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. Washington receives \$102 per person total 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 \$16.47 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in fiscal year 2020.

ACCESS TO CARE 6.6 percent of people in Washington do not have health insurance coverage, which is below the national uninsured rate is 9.2 percent. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Washington has 248.4 active primary care providers per 100,000 people, compared to the national average of 241.9 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Drug deaths** Washington has a relatively low rate of drug deaths at 15.2 deaths due to drug injury per 100,000 people. The national rate is 20.6 drug deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Infant mortality** Washington has the 3rd lowest infant mortality rate in the nation with 4.1 deaths per 1,000 live births.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** Despite boasting the 6th lowest adult smoking rate in the nation, each year, 8,300 adults die from smoking-related illnesses in Washington and \$2.8 billion is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- **High school graduation** 86.7 percent of students in Washington graduate from high school. there is a strong connection between education and health. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.

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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