

THE FACTS MISSOURI

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. Missouri receives \$152 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 \$5.88 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in fiscal year 2023.

ACCESS TO CARE 8.6 percent of people in Missouri do not have health insurance coverage compared with the national uninsured rate of 8.0 percent. The number of practicing health care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Missouri has 238.1 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. Nationally, there are 232.0 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Obesity** 36.4 percent of adults in Missouri are obese compared to the national average of 33.6 percent. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.
- **Diabetes** 11.7 percent of adults in Missouri are diagnosed with diabetes compared to a national average of 11.5 percent.
- **High school graduation** 89.5 percent of students graduate from high school in Missouri, ranking 10th 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.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** 16.8% of adults report smoking cigarettes, and 21.3% of high school students report using any tobacco product including e-cigarettes. The state experiences \$2.6 million in total annual morbidity-related productivity losses related to adults who currently smoke.
- **Drug deaths** Drug deaths increased 14 percent from 31.1 to 35.6 deaths per 100,000 population between 2020 and 2021.
- **Excessive drinking** Missouri reported an excessive drinking rate of 20.2 percent of the population in 2022. Excessive alcohol use can lead to fetal damage, liver diseases, high blood pressure, cardiovascular diseases and other major health problems.

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 2024; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP) State Fact Sheets, (2023). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/stateandcommunity/state-fact-sheets/index.htm>. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fiscal Year 2023 Grant Funding Profiles Totals, (2023). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://fundingprofiles.cdc.gov/>



The American Public Health Association champions the health of all people and all communities. We are the only organization that combines a 150-year perspective, a broad-based member community and the ability to influence policy to improve the public's health. Learn more at www.apha.org.