

THE FACTS

RHODE ISLAND

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. Rhode Island receives \$333 total per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) for public health funding. The Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state \$3.89 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in fiscal year 2023.

ACCESS TO CARE 4.5 percent of people in Rhode Island do not have health insurance coverage, well below the national uninsured rate of 7.9 percent. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Rhode Island has 372.8 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. This is the third highest rate in the nation. Nationally, there are 283.4 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Infant mortality** The infant mortality rate in Rhode Island is 4.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, ranking the state 6th lowest in the nation.
- **Tobacco use** 9.5 percent of adults in Rhode Island smoke cigarettes, ranking 9th lowest in the nation.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Drug deaths** The state has the 15th highest drug death rate in the nation, with 38.8 drug deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Obesity** 31.6 percent of adults in Rhode Island 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 25 years. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.
- **Physical inactivity** 26.4 percent of adults report doing no physical activity in the past 30 days in Rhode Island. Staying active can help reduce the likelihood of heart diseases, along with other serious illnesses.

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 2025; 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/>

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