



## THE FACTS

# LOUISIANA

**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. Louisiana receives \$130 total per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) for public health funding. In fiscal year 2023, the Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state about \$8.20 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

**ACCESS TO CARE** 6.9 percent of people in Louisiana do not have health insurance coverage, 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. Louisiana has 264.3 active primary care providers per 100,000 people, which is below the national average of 283.4 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

## Notable Health Measures

- **High school graduation** 83.1 percent of students graduate from high school in Louisiana, ranking the state 11th lowest 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.
- **HPV Vaccination** Louisiana has a high adolescent HPV vaccination rate of 66.2 percent of adolescents, ages 13-17, having received an HPV vaccination. This vaccine is incredibly important in preventing the development of cancers and HPV.

## The Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** 15.7 percent of adults reported smoking regularly in Louisiana, compared to the national average of 12.1 percent.
- **Obesity** 39.9 percent of adults in Louisiana are obese. The state has the 4th highest obesity rate in the nation. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.
- **Low birthweight** 11.5 percent of live births are low birthweight in Louisiana, ranking the state 2nd worst in the nation. Low birthweight is associated with short- and long-term complications and an increased risk of infant mortality.

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](https://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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