

**Public health funding:** Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. California receives \$19.61 per person in funding from CDC (38th in the nation) and \$28.14 per person from HRSA (26th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over \$298 million in grants to California since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

**Access to care:** 8.6 percent of people in California do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 9.4 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. California has 131.5 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people in comparison to 145.3 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people nationally.

## Notable health measures

- **Tobacco use:** 11.7 percent of the adult population smokes cigarettes, ranking California 2nd lowest in the nation, and 27.4 percent of youth reported currently using any tobacco product. Each year, 40,000 people die from smoking-related illnesses in California and \$13.3 billion is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- **Obesity:** While California ranks 4th lowest in terms of obesity rate, the rate has continued to steadily increase with 24.2 percent of the adult population now obese in the state.
- **Infant mortality:** 4.5 deaths per 1,000 live births, ranking 3rd lowest in the nation.

## The challenges ahead

- **Air pollution:** California is ranked the worst state in the nation in terms of air pollution with an estimated 11.4 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.
- **Pertussis:** The incidence of pertussis has increased in recent years to 22.8 cases per 100,000 people, well over the national average of 10.4 cases per 100,000 people. Also known as whooping cough, pertussis is highly contagious, but can be prevented through immunization. However, in the past year, vaccinations among adolescents aged 13 to 17 years decreased 6 percent from 87.7 percent to 82.5 percent, leaving people more susceptible to outbreaks.

Sources: Sources: Trust for America's Health, Investing in America's Health; Trust for America's Health, Prevention and Public Health Fund at Work in States; U.S. Census Bureau, 2013, 2014, and 2015 1-Year American Community Surveys; United Health Foundation, America's Health Rankings; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Tobacco Control Program Funding.