

Public health funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Connecticut receives \$20.29 per person in funding from CDC (35th in the nation) and \$29.96 per person from HRSA (22nd in the nation). Since 2010, the Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over \$51 million in grants to Connecticut for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to care: 6.0 percent of people in Connecticut 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. Connecticut has 197.8 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, ranking 4th highest in the nation. Nationally, there are 145.3 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

Notable health measures

- **Tobacco use:** 13.5 percent of adults smoke cigarettes, ranking 3rd lowest in the nation. While the adult smoking rate is relatively low in comparison to the national rate, tobacco still takes a large toll on the state and its residents. Each year, 4,900 people die from smoking-related illnesses in Connecticut and \$2.0 billion is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- **Infectious disease:** Connecticut boasts the 5th lowest incidence of infectious disease in the nation, including chlamydia, pertussis and Salmonella.

The challenges ahead

- **Excessive drinking:** 18.6 percent of the adult population reports excessively drinking, ranking the state as the 18th highest in the nation.
- **Drug deaths:** Drug deaths have increased 44 percent from 10.5 to 15.1 deaths per 100,000 people, in the past three years.
- **Air pollution:** Poor air quality can have severe health effects and impact a large number of people, particularly impacting young children and older adults. Connecticut has high levels of air pollution ranking 33rd in the nation. However, much like national trends, Connecticut has shown steady improvements in air quality and has decreased air pollution from 13.7 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter in 2003 to 8.8 in 2016.

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.