

Public health funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Florida receives \$19.09 per person in funding from CDC (40th in the nation) and \$24.23 per person from HRSA (34th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over \$115.55 million in grants to Florida since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to care: 13.3 percent of people in Florida 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. Florida has 128.0 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, below the national rate of 145.3 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

Notable health measures

- **Air pollution:** 6.8 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter, ranking the state 10th lowest in air pollution in the nation. Reduced exposure to air pollution is important to as poor air quality leads to reduced lung function, increased risk of asthma complications, heart attacks, heart failure and death, and impacts a large number of people, particularly impacting young children and older adults.
- **Cardiovascular deaths:** 224.8 cardiovascular deaths per 100,000 people which places the rate of cardiovascular deaths in Florida below the national average of 251.7 deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Drug deaths:** As drug deaths continue to increase in many states across the nation, Florida has been successful in driving down the number of deaths due to drug injury. In Florida, drug deaths decreased 24 percent from 17.4 deaths per 100,000 people in 2012 to 13.2 deaths per 100,000 people in 2016.

The challenges ahead

- **High school graduation:** 77.9 percent of students graduate high school in Florida, the 9th lowest graduation rate 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. The health benefits of educational attainment accumulate and as a result will also impact the community level and social/cultural context.
- **Children in poverty:** 24.4 percent of children in Florida live in a household below the poverty line. This places Florida 44th in the nation. Poverty has been linked to higher rates of chronic diseases and shorter life expectancy.

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.