

Public health funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Georgia receives \$26.50 per person in funding from CDC (16th in the nation) and \$26.60 per person from HRSA (29th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over \$100 million in grants to Georgia since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to care: 13.9 percent of people in Georgia 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. Georgia has 117.2 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, ranking well below the national average of 145.3 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

Notable health measures

- **Infectious disease:** Georgia has high rates of Salmonella (22.4 cases per 100,000 people; 8th highest in the nation) and chlamydia (519.9 cases per 100,000 people; 9th highest in the nation).
- **Obesity:** Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases. The obesity rate has steadily increased over the decades with 30.7 percent of the adult population in Georgia obese.

The challenges ahead

- **Low birthweight:** In Georgia, 9.5 percent of live births have a low birthweight, the 4th highest in the nation. Low birthweight is associated with short- and long-term complications and an increased risk of infant mortality.
- **Infant mortality:** In the past year, infant mortality increased 9 percent from 6.6 to 7.2 deaths per 1,000 live births. The state now has the 8th highest infant mortality rate in the nation.
- **Children in poverty:** Georgia ranks 49th in the nation for children living below the poverty line. Poverty has been linked to higher rates of chronic diseases and shorter life expectancy. Additionally, children born into poverty are more likely than other children to die within the first month after birth.

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.