

Public health funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Illinois receives \$16.76 per person in funding from CDC (47th in the nation) and \$27.81 per person from HRSA (28th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over \$129 million in grants to Illinois since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to care: 7.1 percent of people in Illinois do not have health insurance coverage, which is below the national uninsured rate of 9.4 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. Illinois has 169.5 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, which is more than the national average of 145.3 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people, and ranks the state 11th in the nation.

Notable health measures

- **Tobacco use:** 15.1 percent of the adult population in Illinois smokes cigarettes, ranking the state the 10th lowest in the nation.
- **Mental distress:** 9.7 percent of adults reported their mental health was not good 14 or more days in the past 30 days, ranking 7th lowest in the nation in terms of frequency of mental distress.

The challenges ahead

- **Excessive drinking:** 21.2 percent of the adult population reports excessively drinking, ranking the state 5th highest in the nation. Excessive drinking can lead to negative health outcomes including fetal damage, liver diseases, high blood pressure and cardiovascular diseases.
- **Drug deaths:** Deaths due to drug injury increased 21 percent from 10.4 to 12.6 deaths per 100,000 people in the past three years.
- **Cancer deaths:** There is a high rate of cancer deaths in Illinois – 199.6 deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Air pollution:** Illinois is ranked 48th in the nation in terms of air pollution with an estimated 10.8 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.

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.