

**Public health funding:** Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Kansas receives \$20.26 per person in funding from CDC (36th in the nation) and \$23.47 per person from HRSA (36th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over \$70 million in grants to Kansas since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure. Overall, Kansas spends \$49 per person ranking the state 42nd in the nation in terms of public health funding.

**Access to care:** 9.1 percent of people in Kansas do not have health insurance coverage. The national uninsured rate is 9.4 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. Kansas has 129 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, below the national average of 145.3 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

## Notable health measures

- **Drug deaths:** While ranking 13th lowest in the nation, Kansas has recently experienced an increase in drug deaths. In the past three years, drug deaths increased 22 percent from 9.6 to 11.7 deaths per 100,000 people.
- **High school graduation:** 85.7 percent of students graduate from high school in Kansas, which is slightly above the national average of 83.2 percent. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.

## The challenges ahead

- **Obesity:** In the past year, obesity increased 9 percent from 31.3 percent to 34.2 percent of adults in Kansas. The state is ranked 7th highest in the nation. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases. Each year, an estimated \$190.2 billion is spent on obesity-related health issues in the U.S., accounting for 21 percent of annual medical spending.
- **Immunization coverage among adolescents:** Kansas ranks 7th lowest in the nation in terms of immunization coverage of adolescents aged 13 to 17 who received the recommended routine of vaccines to protect from tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, meningococcal diseases and the human papillomavirus.

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.