

Public health funding: Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Utah receives \$22.19 per person in funding from CDC (24th in the nation) and \$23.85 per person from HRSA (35th in the nation). The Prevention and Public Health Fund has awarded over \$49 million in grants to Utah since 2010 for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

Access to care: 10.5 percent of people in Utah do not have health insurance coverage, which is above the national uninsured rate of 9.4 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. Utah has 96.7 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, well below the national average of 145.3 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

Notable health measures

- **Tobacco use:** 9.1 percent of adults smoke cigarettes in Utah. This is the lowest adult smoking rate in the nation. Still, every year, 1,300 adults in Utah die from smoking-related illnesses and \$542 million is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- **Cancer deaths:** The state also has the lowest cancer death rate in the nation with 149.3 deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Obesity:** While the state has the 6th lowest adult obesity rate in the nation, the rate has more than doubled since 1990 with 24.5 percent of adults now obese. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.

The challenges ahead

- **Drug deaths:** Utah has the 4th highest drug death rate in the nation with 22.8 deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Air pollution:** Utah is ranked 41st in the nation in terms of air pollution with an estimated 9.2 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: 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.