



# THE FACTS FLORIDA

## Speak for Health

AN INITIATIVE OF THE  
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

**PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING** Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Florida receives about \$79 in public health funding per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). In 2021 fiscal year, the Prevention and Public Health awarded the state \$8.18 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

**ACCESS TO CARE** 12.1 percent of people in Florida do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.6 percent, ranking the state 4th highest uninsured rate in the nation. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Florida has 288.6 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. Nationally, there are 265.3 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

### Notable Health Measures

- **Air pollution** 7.3 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter, ranking the state 19th 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.
- **Mental health providers** Mental health providers increased 31% from 2018 to 2022, from 153.8 to 201.7 per 100,000 population.
- **Drug deaths** Florida's number of drug deaths per 100,000 people has been increasing over the past six years despite a consistent decline in number of deaths from 2012 to 2016. From 2016 to 2022, drug deaths per 100,000 people climbed from 23.3 to 34.0.. This ranks Florida 15th highest in the nation.

### The Challenges Ahead

- **High school graduation** 87.2 percent of students graduate high school in Florida, ranking Florida 20th 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.
- **Low birthweight** Florida ranks 16th highest in the nation for low birthweight rates, with 8.7 percent of infants weighing less than 2,500 grams at birth.

Sources: America's Health Rankings analysis of Trust for America's Health, U.S. HHS, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population, United Health Foundation, AmericasHealthRankings.org, Accessed 2023; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP) State Fact Sheets, (2023). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/stateandcommunity/state-fact-sheets/index.htm>; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fiscal Year 2023 Grant Funding Profiles Totals, (2023). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://fundingprofiles.cdc.gov/>



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