

THE FACTS MISSISSIPPI

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. Mississippi receives \$87 per person total from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) in public health funding. In 2020 the Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded Mississippi over \$6.90 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE 13.0 percent of people in Mississippi do not have health insurance coverage, well above the national uninsured rate of 9.2 percent. The number of practicing health care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Mississippi has 232.3 active primary care providers per 100,000 people, ranking 33rd in the nation.

Notable Health Measures

- **Physical inactivity** 37.7 percent of adults in Mississippi report doing no physical activity in the past 30 days, ranking the state highest in the nation for physical inactivity.
- **Obesity** Mississippi has the highest obesity rate in the nation with 40.8 percent of adults obese. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.
- **High school graduation** 84.0 percent students in Mississippi graduate from high school, ranking 18th lowest 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 Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** 20.4 percent of adults smoke cigarettes in Mississippi, ranking the state 5th highest in the nation. Each year, 5,400 people die from smoking-related illnesses in Mississippi and \$1.2 billion is spent on health care costs due to smoking.
- **Teen birth rates** Mississippi has the 2nd highest rate of teen births, with 27.8 births per 1,000 females age 15-19.
- **Low birthweight and infant mortality** 12.1 percent of live births in Mississippi are low birthweight, the highest rate in the nation. Low birthweight is associated with short- and long-term complications and an increased risk of infant mortality.

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 2021; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP) State Fact Sheets, (March 2021). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/about/osh/state-fact-sheets/index.htm>; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Fiscal Year 2020 Grant Funding Profiles Totals, (July 2021). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://fundingprofiles.cdc.gov/>



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