



THE FACTS CALIFORNIA

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. California receives \$238 per person in funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). In fiscal year 2023 California received \$23.21 million in Prevention and Public Health Fund funding – the highest in the country. These grants help fund community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE 6.5% of people in California do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.0%. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. California has 178.9 active primary care providers per 100,000 people in comparison to 232.0 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people nationally.

Notable Health Measures

- **Tobacco use** 9.7% of adults report smoking cigarettes, and 18.7% of high school students report using any tobacco product including e-cigarettes. The state experiences \$2.7 million in total annual morbidity-related productivity losses related to adults who currently smoke.
- **Obesity** While California ranks 5th lowest in terms of obesity rate, the rate has continued to steadily increase with 28.1% of the adult population now obese in the state.

The Challenges Ahead

AIR POLLUTION California is ranked the worst state in the nation in terms of air pollution with an estimated 13.4 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.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION 84.3% of students graduate from high school in California. This is the 20th lowest high school graduation rate 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.

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 2024; 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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