PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING  Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Connecticut receives $86 per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), ranking the state 28th in the nation. In 2018 fiscal year, the Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded over $11.2 million in grants to Connecticut for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE  5.4 percent of people in Connecticut do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.8 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. Connecticut has 220 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, ranking 4th highest in the nation. Nationally, there are 159.6 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Tobacco use**  12.2 percent of adults smoke cigarettes, ranking 4th lowest in the nation. While the adult smoking rate is relatively low in comparison to the national rate, tobacco still takes a large toll on the state and its residents. Each year, 4,900 people die from smoking-related illnesses in Connecticut and about $2.0 billion is spent on smoking-related health care.

- **Infectious disease**  Connecticut boasts the 7th lowest incidence of infectious disease in the nation, including chlamydia, pertussis and salmonella.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Excessive drinking**  19.0 percent of the adult population reports excessively drinking, ranking the state as the 15th highest in the nation.

- **Drug deaths**  Drug deaths per 100,000 people have exponentially increased in the past years from 11.0 in 2014 to 26.4. This ranks Connecticut 11th highest in the country for unintentional, suicide, homicide, and undetermined drug deaths.

- **Air pollution**  Poor air quality can have severe health effects and impact a large number of people, particularly impacting young children and older adults. Connecticut has high levels of air pollution, ranking 23rd highest in the nation compared to the state with the lowest air pollution at 4.4 micrograms per cubic meter. However, much like national trends, Connecticut has shown steady improvements in air quality and has decreased air pollution from 13.7 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter in 2003 to 7.2 in 2019.

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, 2015, 2016, and 2017 1-Year American Community Surveys; United Health Foundation, America's Health Rankings; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Tobacco Control Program Funding.