**Public Health Funding**

Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Delaware receives $111 per person in funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), ranking the state 16th in the nation. The Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded Delaware about $5.1 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure in the 2018 fiscal year.

**Access to Care**

5.7 percent of people in Delaware do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.8 percent. The number of practicing health care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Delaware has 166.2 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people in comparison to the national rate of 159.6 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people. Delaware only has 43.3 dentists per 100,000 people, ranking the state 47th in the nation.

**Notable Health Measures**

- **Cardiovascular deaths**
  
  Cardiovascular have steadily decreased from 415.5 deaths per 100,000 people in 1990 to 256.4 deaths per 100,000 people in 2019.

- **Infectious disease**
  
  Delaware ranks 29th for incidence of infectious disease in the nation, including chlamydia, pertussis, and Salmonella.

- **Tobacco use**
  
  16.5 percent of the adult population smokes cigarettes, ranking Delaware 27th in the nation. Additionally, 27.5 percent of high school use e-cigarettes and 6.2 percent smoke cigarettes. Each year, 1,400 people die from smoking-related illnesses in Delaware and $532 million is spent on health care costs due to smoking.

**The Challenges Ahead**

- **Drug deaths**
  
  In the past ten years, drug deaths increased exponentially from 8.1 drug deaths per 100,000 people in 2008 to 29.2 drug deaths per 100,000 people in 2019.

- **Violent crime**
  
  424 offenses per 100,000 people in Delaware, 16th highest in the nation. Violent crimes may cause injuries, disability and early death. Additionally, violent crimes may cause long-term stress for families and communities, and interfere with leading a healthy lifestyle. However, violent crime can be prevented. Numerous programs and practices have shown that by addressing root causes it is possible to prevent violence.

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.