**Public Health Funding** Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Florida receives about $64 in public health funding per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). This is 12th lowest in the nation for public health funding, with the highest in the country at $281 per person. In 2018 fiscal year, the Prevention and Public Health awarded the state over $17.5 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

**Access to Care** 13 percent of people in Florida do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.8 percent, ranking the state 5th highest uninsured rate in the nation. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. Florida has 131.3 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people. Nationally, there are 159.6 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

**Notable Health Measures**

- **Air pollution** 7.4 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter, ranking the state 26th 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.

- **Cardiovascular deaths** 236.7 cardiovascular deaths per 100,000 people which places the rate of cardiovascular deaths in Florida below the national average of 260.4 deaths per 100,000 people.

- **Drug deaths** Florida’s number of drug deaths per 100,000 people has been increasing over the past three years despite a consistent decline in number of deaths from 2012 to 2016. From 2016 to 2019, drug deaths per 100,000 people climbed from 13.2 to 21.4. This ranks Florida 19th highest in the nation.

**The Challenges Ahead**

- **High school graduation** 82.3 percent of students graduate high school in Florida, the 13th lowest graduation rate in the nation, with the national rate at 84.6 percent. 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.

- **Children in poverty** 19.7 percent of children in Florida live in a household below the poverty line. This places Florida 36th in the nation. Poverty has been linked to higher rates of chronic diseases and shorter life expectancy.

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.