

THE FACTS FLORIDA

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. Florida receives about \$137 in public health funding per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). In fiscal year 2023, the Prevention and Public Health awarded the state \$9.04 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE 11.2 percent of people in Florida do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.0 percent, ranking the state 5th highest uninsured rate in the nation. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Florida has 262.9 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. Nationally, there are 232.0 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

- **Air pollution** The state reports 7.6 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter, ranking the state 24th 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.
- **Mental health providers** Mental health providers increased 39% from 2018 to 2023, from 153.8 to 214.6 per 100,000 population.
- **Drug deaths** Florida reported 36.5 drug deaths per 100,000 people in 2021, ranking 33rd highest rate in the nation. The rate of drug deaths has grown 57% since 2016.

The Challenges Ahead

- **High school graduation** 90.2 percent of students graduate high school in Florida, ranking Florida 9th in the nation. This is an important health indicator as there is a strong connection between education and health. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.
- **Low birthweight** Florida ranks 17th highest in the nation for low birthweight rates, with 9.0 percent of infants weighing less than 2,500 grams at birth.

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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