PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING  Strong investments in public health allow a state to carry out programs that improve health. Minnesota receives $85 total per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) in public health funding. In 2018, the Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state over $14.2 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE  4.4 percent of people in Minnesota do not have health insurance coverage, well below the national uninsured rate of 8.8 percent. The number of practicing primary care physicians is also an important measure of health care availability. Minnesota has 169.5 active primary care physicians per 100,000 people, which is above the national average of 159.6 practicing primary care physicians per 100,000 people.

Notable Health Measures

• **Drug deaths** While the drug death rate is lower in Minnesota compared to the national rate of 19.2 deaths per 100,000 people, drug deaths have increased considerably over the past ten years. The number of deaths due to drug injury climbed from 5.0 deaths per 100,000 people in 2007 to 12.1 deaths per 100,000 people in 2019.

• **Physical inactivity** 20.5 percent of the adult population reports doing no physical activity in the past 30 days, which is low in comparison to the national rate of 23.8 percent.

The Challenges Ahead

• **High school graduation** 82.7 percent of students in Minnesota graduate from high school, which is below the national average of 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.

• **Excessive drinking** 21.8 percent of the adult population reports excessively drinking, ranking the state 7th highest in the nation. Excessive alcohol use can lead to fetal damage, liver diseases, high blood pressure, cardiovascular diseases and other major health problems.

• **Pertussis** With 13.1 cases per 100,000 people, the incidence of pertussis in Minnesota is well above the national average of 5.8 cases per 100,000 people. Also known as whooping cough, pertussis is highly contagious, but can be prevented through immunization.

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.