

THE FACTS MARYLAND

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. Maryland receives \$213 per person total in public health funding 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 Fund awarded Maryland \$12.17 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE 6.1 percent of people in Maryland do not have health insurance coverage, well below the national uninsured rate of 8.0 percent. The number of practicing health care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Maryland has 239.6 active primary care providers per 100,000 people, ranking 26th highest in the nation.

Notable Health Measures

- **Tobacco use** 9.6% of adults report smoking cigarettes, and 15.6% of high school students report using any tobacco product including e-cigarettes. The state experiences \$3.8 million in total annual morbidity-related productivity losses related to adults who currently smoke.
- **High school graduation** 86.8 percent of students graduate from high school in Maryland, which is just above the national average of 86.5 percent of students. This is a notable measure as there is a strong connection between education and health. People with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.

The Challenges Ahead

- **Drug deaths** Maryland's drug death rate has exponentially increased in recent years. In 2014, there were 12.2 reports of drug deaths per 100,000 people—which continued to grow yearly to the current rate of 43.7 cases per 100,000 people. This is the 9th highest rate of drug deaths in the country, with the national average at 32.1 drug deaths per 100,000 people.
- **Gun deaths** Firearm deaths increased 27% from 11.8 to 15.0 deaths per 100,000 population between 2018 and 2021.
- **Low birthweight** In Maryland, 8.9 percent of live births are low birthweight, ranking 32nd in the nation. Low birthweight is associated with short- and long-term complications and an increased risk of infant mortality.

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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