

THE FACTS MISSISSIPPI

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. Mississippi receives \$198 per person total from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) in public health funding. In fiscal year 2023, the Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded Mississippi over \$6.24 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

ACCESS TO CARE 10.8 percent of people in Mississippi do not have health insurance coverage, well above the national uninsured rate of 8.0 percent. The number of practicing health care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Mississippi has 239.5 active primary care providers per 100,000 people, ranking 28th highest in the nation.

Notable Health Measures

- **Physical inactivity** 31.9 percent of adults in Mississippi report doing no physical activity in the past 30 days, ranking the state highest in the nation for physical inactivity.
- **Obesity** Mississippi has the 4th highest obesity rate in the nation with 39.5 percent of adults obese. Obesity contributes to poor general health and is a leading factor in preventable diseases.
- **High school graduation** 87.7 percent students in Mississippi graduate from high school, ranking 20th in the nation. High school graduation rates are 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 Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** 17.4% of adults report smoking cigarettes, and 21.6% of high school students report using any tobacco product including e-cigarettes. The state experiences \$2.3 million in total annual morbidity-related productivity losses related to adults who currently smoke.
- **Teen birth rates** Mississippi has the 2nd highest rate of teen births, with 25.6 births per 1,000 females age 15-19.
- **Low birthweight** 12.3 percent of live births in Mississippi are low birthweight, the highest rate 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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