



# THE FACTS ALASKA

## 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. Alaska receives \$465 per person from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources Services Administration in public health funding. In fiscal year 2023 the Prevention and Public Health Fund awarded the state \$5.25 million in grants for community and clinical prevention efforts and improvements to public health infrastructure.

**ACCESS TO CARE** 11.0% of people in Alaska do not have health insurance coverage compared to the national uninsured rate of 8.0%. The number of practicing primary care providers is also an important measure of health care availability. Alaska has 298.3 active primary care providers per 100,000 people. Nationally, there are 232.0 practicing primary care providers per 100,000 people.

### Notable Health Measures

- **High school graduation** Alaska's graduation rate is 79.1% which is significantly lower than the national graduation rate of 86.5%. This data is of concern given the connection between education and health. Individuals with higher levels of education are more likely to adopt healthy behaviors.
- **Diabetes** 8.7% of adults have diabetes, ranking the state 4th lowest in the nation.
- **Chlamydia** The state reports 760.4 cases per 100,000 people, ranking the state the highest in the nation.
- **Flu Vaccination** Alaska has the 14th lowest rate of flu vaccination at 41.5%.

### The Challenges Ahead

- **Tobacco use** 15.9% of adults report smoking cigarettes, and 18.7% 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.
- **Drug deaths** Drug deaths increased 98% from 17.6 to 34.9 deaths per 100,000 population between 2019 and 2021.

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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