



GOVERNOR'S PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

Current State of Public Health in Indiana



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Our goal: To ensure that every Hoosier has access to the core public health services that allow them to achieve their optimal health and wellbeing.

Public Health Challenges

Rising deaths from drugs, alcohol, and suicide



Rising rates of adult and child obesity and associated health conditions



Persistently high rates of adult tobacco use and teen vaping



Continuing risks from drug-resistant disease agents and infectious diseases



Increasing rates of chronic disease like cancer and heart disease



Public Health Funding

Pre-pandemic (2018–2019) state and CDC spending per person in Indiana was \$55 versus \$91 nationally



Most local public health funding comes from local governments (70%), many times from property taxes



The revenue of 90 of our 94 local health departments is below the national 25th percentile



Large difference in funding depending on where you live. Public health funding per person ranges from \$1.25 to \$83 across the state of Indiana



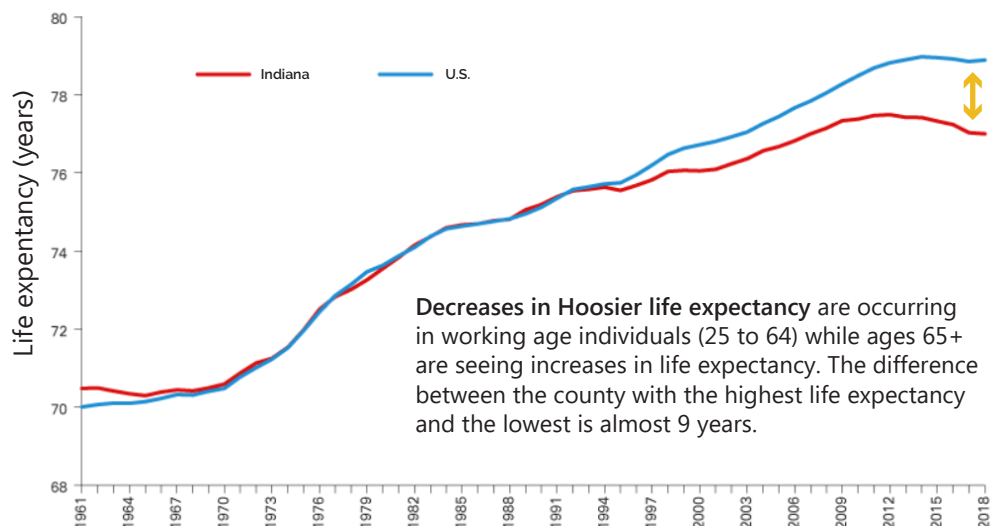
How Indiana Ranks in the Nation

Business		Public Health	
Affordability	6 th	Smoking and tobacco use	45 th
Opportunity	7 th	Obesity	46 th
Pre-K through 12 th grade	9 th	Mental Health	43 rd
Growth of the economy	19 th	Childhood Immunizations (by age 35 months)	41 st
Public safety	25 th	Public Health Funding	45 th

Source: U.S. News and World Report, 2021

Source: America's Health Rankings 2021

Life expectancy at birth, three-year moving average



Source: United States Mortality Database. University of California, Berkeley (USA). Available at usa.mortality.org (data downloaded on 5/10/21).



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Where Public Health is Going



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A state investment in local public health

- Governor Eric J. Holcomb established the Governor's Public Health Commission in August 2021 and charged it with examining the strengths and weaknesses of Indiana's public health system and making recommendations for improvements.
- The commission's report ([in.gov/gphc](https://www.in.gov/gphc)) released in July 2022 focuses on six workstreams: funding; governance, infrastructure, and services; emergency preparedness; workforce; data and information integration; and childhood and adolescent health.
- The centerpiece of the recommendations is a state investment in local public health to support consistent delivery of local public health services across the state.



Indiana ranked 45th for state government public health spending

Source: 2021 America's Health Rankings

Next steps:

- ✓ Every Hoosier deserves access to the foundational public health services, regardless of where they live
- ✓ Public health is best delivered locally by those who best know the issues in their communities
- ✓ These recommendations represent a state investment in local public health
- ✓ Local officials would decide whether to accept additional funding to provide core public health services every five years
- ✓ Recommendations are designed to ensure representation of municipalities on local health boards and allow for greater citizen and local elected official engagement
- ✓ Local health departments will benefit from additional state support at district and regional levels
- ✓ Investing in public health today assures economic security and prosperity tomorrow through skilled workforce retention, emergency preparedness, and better health outcomes

What Public Health Does



Healthier Mothers



Immunizations



Control of
Infectious Diseases



Lead and
Healthy Homes



Declines in deaths
from heart disease
and stroke



Fluoridation of
Drinking Water



Environmental
Health



Tobacco as a
Health Hazard



Safer and
Healthier Foods



Harm
Reduction

Be a public health champion!
Learn more at www.in.gov/gphc