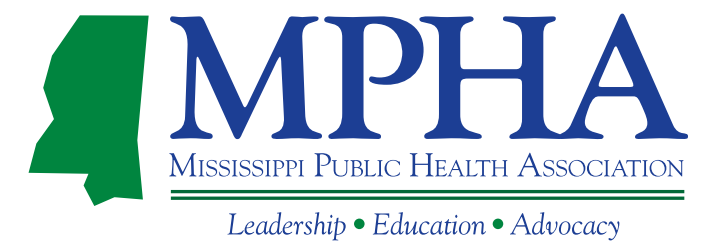


FUNDING PUBLIC HEALTH:

Comparing Mississippi to
Neighboring States

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MISSISSIPPI'S PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM IS ALREADY FRAGILE AND IN URGENT NEED OF SUPPORT.

As the backbone of our Public Health system, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) cannot sustain any further cuts to its funding without putting thousands of Mississippi lives at risk.

For that reason and those outlined below, we recommend fully funding MSDH's budgeting request of \$32.5 million.

PUBLIC HEALTH AFFECTS OUR LIVES EVERY DAY – OFTEN WITHOUT NOTICE.

Public Health develops programs, sponsors public education initiatives and conducts research to prevent illness at a community level. This can include the following:

- Safe food supply, including milk
- Vaccinations
- Clean water
- Reducing infant mortality
- Air quality
- Restaurant safety standards
- Preventing the spread of disease
- Emergency preparedness

IT PAYS TO FUND PUBLIC HEALTH.

According to a July 2011 study published in *Health Affairs*, researchers found that for each 10% increase in local public health spending, there were significant drops in infant deaths (6.9%), cardiovascular deaths (3.2%), diabetes deaths (1.4%) and cancer deaths (1.1%).

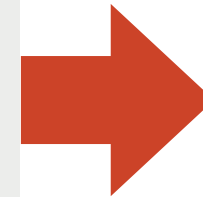
Based on Mississippi's 2010 statistics, this means today there would be:

- 27 more infants celebrating their 2nd birthday
- 314 more families not affected by cardiovascular disease
- 69 more cancer survivors

OTHER STATES ARE MAKING PUBLIC HEALTH A PRIORITY.

In 2010, other states recognized the importance of Public Health – as shown by the amount of funding allocated to Public Health on a per capita basis:

- Alabama (8th nationally) : \$70.19 per person
- Arkansas (12th nationally): \$51.37 per person
- Louisiana (14th nationally): \$49.70 per person
- Tennessee (17th nationally): \$43.87 per person



Meanwhile, Mississippi (48th nationally) allocated \$8.72 per person. Mississippians deserve the chance to live healthier lives. Don't put them at risk.

State Funding for Public Health: Comparing Mississippi to Neighboring States

	POPULATION U.S. CENSUS (MILLIONS)	STATE FUNDING PER CAPITA RANK FY 2010-11	STATE FUNDING PER CAPITA FY 2010-11	STATE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH FY 2010-11 (MILLIONS)
MISSISSIPPI	2.9	48	\$8.72	\$25.9
ALABAMA	4.8	8	\$70.19	\$335.5
ARKANSAS	2.9	12	\$51.37	\$149.8
LOUISIANA	4.5	14	\$49.70	\$225.3
TENNESSEE	6.4	17	\$43.87	\$278.4

As reported by Trust for America's Health at www.HealthyAmericans.org

MPHA's Mission is to Promote Public and Personal Health in the State of Mississippi.