

PUERTO RICO | 2017 Healthy Housing Fact Sheet

Unhealthy conditions found in hazardous housing can lead to lead poisoning, asthma, respiratory illness, cancer, and unintentional injuries, resulting in missed school days and poor school performance for children, as well as missed work days for parents. To protect the health of families in Puerto Rico and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services:

	PR received funding since 2015?
CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	NO
CDC's National Asthma Control Program	YES
CDC's Environmental Health Tracking Network	NO
HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	NO
HUD's Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	YES
HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program	YES
EPA's Lead Categorical Grants	YES
EPA's Drinking Water Revolving Fund	YES
HHS' Maternal and Child Health Block Grants	YES
HHS' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	YES
DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program	YES

Full funding to federal programs such as these will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the families and residents of Puerto Rico, including:



In Puerto Rico, **31% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and **58% of children live in poverty**.



Puerto Rico **does not require blood lead data reporting**. Blood lead prevalence (5 µg/dL) for children under six is **estimated at over 3%**.



54% of Puerto Rico housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.



About **40% of Puerto Ricans with asthma visited an emergency department due to asthma in the previous year (2010)**.



Over **117,400 children and 298,000 adults in Puerto Rico have current asthma**, about 14% and 11% of the population for each age group, respectively (2014).



97.2% of the population in Puerto Rico is served by water systems that violate EPA's Lead and Copper Rule.



Unintentional falls were responsible for 152 deaths in Puerto Rico in 2014; **107 of these deaths were among adults over the age of 65**.



Northwestern and southeastern portions of Puerto Rico are considered to have a moderate risk of indoor radon.