

# RHODE ISLAND | 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 Rhode Island families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services:

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

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



In Rhode Island, **35% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 19% of children live in poverty.



In 2015, **1,319 Rhode Island children tested had an elevated blood lead level** (5 µg/dL or more); **229 of them had blood lead levels of 10 µg/dL or more.**



**73% of Rhode Island housing was built prior to 1978 (30% before 1940)** and is likely to contain lead-based paint.



Approximately **11% of adults and 11% children** (2014) **have current asthma** in Rhode Island.



**Asthma hospitalization rates** per 10,000 Rhode Island children in 2012 were **13.9 for non-Hispanic white children compared to 38.1 for non-Hispanic black children.**



**\$21 million in total hospital charges attributable to asthma hospitalizations** were charged in Rhode Island in 2012.



Nearly **one in four Rhode Island residents is 65 or older**, and Rhode Island has the **highest proportion of residents 85 and older** in the U.S. (**15.8%**).



**One in four Rhode Island homes has elevated levels of radon** in their indoor air. In **Exeter and Richmond, over half of homes** are above the action level.