

ALASKA

2019 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 Alaska families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services:

	AK received funding since 2017?
CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	YES
CDC's National Asthma Control Program	NO
CDC's Environmental Health Tracking Network	NO
HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	YES
HUD's Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	YES
HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program	YES
EPA's Lead Categorical Grants	NO
EPA's State Indoor Radon 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 Alaska, including:



In Alaska, **31% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 15% of children live in poverty.



Less than **8% of Alaskan children under 6 years of age were tested for elevated blood lead** in 2018; the percentage of elevated blood lead levels among children tested under the age of 6 was highest in the southwest region of the state.



41% of Alaska housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.



On average, **9 Alaskans die annually from carbon monoxide exposure** (2012-2016).



Approximately **47,000 Alaskan adults have current asthma**, over 8% of the adult population (2017).



Between 2001 and 2004, known **asthma hospitalization charges in Alaska totaled almost \$17 million**, approximately **\$9,200 per hospitalization**.



Unintentional falls were responsible for 43 deaths in Alaska in 2017. **Total charges billed to older Alaskan adults for fall-related injuries was \$135 million** in 2016 – triple that of 2012.



In Alaska, **21% of collected radon tests had levels above the EPA action level** for indoor air (1990-2014).