

DELAWARE

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

	DE 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	YES
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 residents and families of Delaware, including:



In Delaware, **29% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 18% of children live in poverty.



46% of housing in Delaware was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.



In 2016, **104 Delaware children tested had an elevated blood lead level** (5 µg/dL or more); **19 of them had blood lead levels of 10 µg/dL or more.**



Approximately **11% of adults** (2017) and **12% of children** (2012) **have current asthma** in Delaware.



The total cost of asthma in Delaware, including medical costs and loss of productivity, is estimated at **over \$200 million per year.**



In 2015, there were **1,453 emergency department visits and 401 hospitalizations due to asthma** among Delaware children enrolled in Medicaid/CHIP.



In 2017, **unintentional falls were responsible for 68 deaths among Delawareans over the age of 65.**



In Delaware, the areas with the **highest percentages of radon over the EPA action level are Middletown (27%) and Odessa (22%);** both are in New Castle County.