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 workdays for parents. The requirement for safe and healthy housing has become even more urgent as people spend more time than ever in residential environments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To protect the health of Florida families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services.

Full funding to federal programs such as those listed above will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the residents and families of Florida. For example:

- **In Florida, 37% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 20% of children live in poverty.
- **38% of Florida housing was built before 1978** and is likely to contain lead-based paint.
- **Approximately 9% of adults and 7.5% of children have current asthma** in Florida (2018).
- **Unintentional falls are the leading cause of injury** for Floridians above the age of 65 and were **responsible for 3,013 deaths** in 2019.

In 2012, **2,946 Florida children tested had an elevated blood lead level** (5 μg/dL or more); **306 of them measured 10 μg/dL or higher**. Average blood lead testing activity **fell by 37% in the spring of 2020** due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On average, **44 Floridians die annually from carbon monoxide exposure** (2014-2018).

In 2014, **total costs for asthma emergency department visits and hospitalizations for Floridians were $1.2 billion**, and 34% of adult Floridians with current asthma reported missed work or limited activity due to their asthma.

One in five Florida homes has levels of **radon** in their indoor air above the EPA action level.

---

**FLORIDA Healthy Housing Fact Sheet**

February 2021. For references, additional state-specific healthy homes information, and to learn how you can engage your members of Congress on these vital issues... visit: [http://bit.ly/StatePro](http://bit.ly/StatePro) contact: sgoodwin@nchh.org