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 Hawaii 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 Hawaii. For example:

- **CDC’s Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program**: YES
- **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 State Indoor Radon Grants**: NO
- **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

In Hawaii, 35% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 12% of children live in poverty.

Between 2013-2019, 1 of every 100 children in Hawaii tested with elevated blood lead levels (5 μg/dL or more). Average blood lead testing activity fell by 47% in the spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

53% of Hawaii housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.


About 10% of children and 9% of adults have current asthma in Hawaii (2018).

Hawaii averaged 22 deaths from asthma per year between 2013 and 2015. In 2015, over 7,500 Hawaiians were seen in the emergency department for asthma-related symptoms.

In 2018, unintentional falls were responsible for 153 deaths among Hawaiians over the age of 65.

Between 2010 and 2040, the share of adults aged 60 and over in Hawaii will increase by 38%, from 20.6% in 2010 to 28.5% in 2040.

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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...

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