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 Mississippi 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 Mississippi. 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: 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: 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

MS received funding since 2018?

In Mississippi, 27% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 28% of children live in poverty.

44% of Mississippi housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.

In 2016, there were 9 counties in Mississippi with at least 185 asthma hospitalizations per 10,000 people; in Leflore and Coahoma counties, it averaged 238 per 10,000 people.

Mississippi has no state statutes regarding carbon monoxide detectors or radon.

In 2017, 200 Mississippi children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); only 17% of children under six years of age were screened. Of Mississippi’s 82 counties, 23 are considered “high-risk” for lead exposure.

Unintentional falls were responsible for 242 deaths among Mississippians above the age of 65 in 2018.


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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 Missouri. For example:

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- CDC’s National Asthma Control Program: YES
- 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: NO
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Almost 10% of adults and 7% of children (2018) have current asthma in Mississippi.


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...