

RHODE ISLAND

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

	RI received funding since 2017?
CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	YES
CDC's National Asthma Control Program	YES
CDC's Environmental Health Tracking Network	YES
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 families and residents of Rhode Island, including:



In Rhode Island, **33% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 17% of children live in poverty.



In 2017, **815 Rhode Island children tested had an elevated blood lead level** (5 µg/dL or more); **175 of them had blood lead levels of 10 µg/dL or more.**



74% of Rhode Island housing was built prior to 1978 (30% before 1940) and is likely to contain lead-based paint.



Approximately **12% of adults and 10% children (2017) have current asthma** in Rhode Island.



Asthma hospitalization rates per 10,000 Rhode Island children in 2012 were **38.1 for non-Hispanic black children compared to 13.9 for non-Hispanic white children**.



\$21 million in total hospital charges attributable to asthma hospitalizations were charged in Rhode Island in 2012.



Nearly **one in four Rhode Islanders is 65 or older**, and Rhode Island has the **highest proportion of residents 85 and older** in the U.S. (**15.8%**).



One in four Rhode Island homes has elevated levels of radon in their indoor air. In **Exeter and Richmond, over half of homes** are above the action level.