

2020 Healthy Housing Fact Sheet

UTAH

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

	UT received funding since 2018?
CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	YES (Salt Lake County only)
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 those listed above will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the residents and families of Utah. For example:



In Utah, **23% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 10% of children live in poverty.



In 2018, **137 Utah children tested with blood lead levels at or above 5 µg/dL**.



40% of Utah housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint. In several central Utah counties, **more than 20% was built before 1950**.



Over 20% of Utah households lack carbon monoxide detectors. In 2018, there were **284 unintentional carbon monoxide exposures** reported to the Utah Poison Control Center.



Over **49,000 children** and **200,000 adults in Utah have current asthma**, about 6% and 9% of the population for each age group, respectively (2018).



There were **over 7,500 emergency department visits** and **1,500 hospitalizations due to asthma** in Utah in 2014, with **total costs of \$28 million and \$20.1 million**, respectively.



7 counties in eastern and central Utah have predicted average **indoor radon levels above the EPA action level**. Statewide, over **37% of radon test results returned were above the action level** (2019).



Every week, unintentional falls among Utahns over the age of 65 result in **200 emergency department visits, 63 hospitalizations, and 3 deaths**.