

VERMONT

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

	VT 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 Vermont, including:



In Vermont, **31% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 14% of children live in poverty.



In 2017, 9,791 Vermonter children received blood lead screenings; **157 of them had lead levels at 5 µg/dL or above.**



60% of Vermont housing was built prior to 1978 (compared to 57% nationally) and is likely to contain lead-based paint; **27% was built prior to 1940.**



In 2008, Vermont became **the first state to pass legislation that defined 5 µg/dL as an elevated blood lead level.**



Approximately **12% of adults and 7% of children have current asthma** in Vermont (2017); **81% of them have two or more indoor environmental triggers at home** (2015).



In 2015, there were **2,489 emergency department visits with a primary diagnosis of asthma** among Vermonters.



In 2017, **124 Vermonters over the age of 65 died from unintentional falls.**



One in eight Vermont homes has elevated levels of radon in their indoor air (2014).