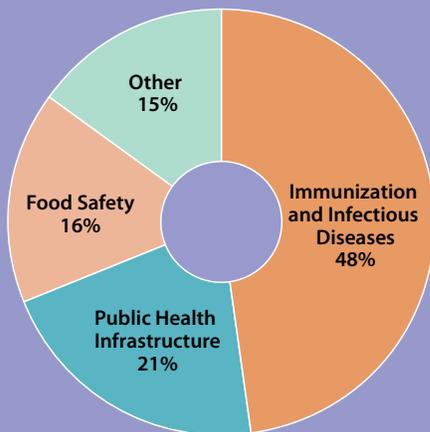


Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Alabama

How Alabama Invested PHS Block Grant Funding

Total FY 2015 Funding: \$2,411,588



PHHS Block Grant funding helped provide TB screening, treatment, and monitoring for Alabama residents, especially African Americans, who are more likely to have TB.

Reducing Tuberculosis in Prisons

In 2013, more than 9,500 people in the United States got sick with tuberculosis (TB). TB is a highly contagious disease that usually attacks the lungs. Treatment for TB disease takes at least six months, and the disease can be deadly without proper treatment. Since 2008, the TB Control Division of the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) used a portion of PHS Block Grant funding to reduce or limit the spread of TB.

TB is a troubling issue for many people, but in Alabama, African Americans are more likely to get TB than people of other races. In 2014, about 25% of the Alabama population were African American, but more than half of all reported TB cases were in this community. Also, African American prisoners in Alabama have much higher rates of TB than prisoners of other races.

TB spreads easily, especially in places like prisons, where many people live close together. The TB Control Division focused on reducing TB in Alabama prisons, especially among African American prisoners. They worked with the Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) health staff to screen, treat, and monitor the health of inmates with TB. Small group education and counseling helped inmates build trust and understanding about the signs of TB, the medical care needed for TB, and how to limit the disease's spread.

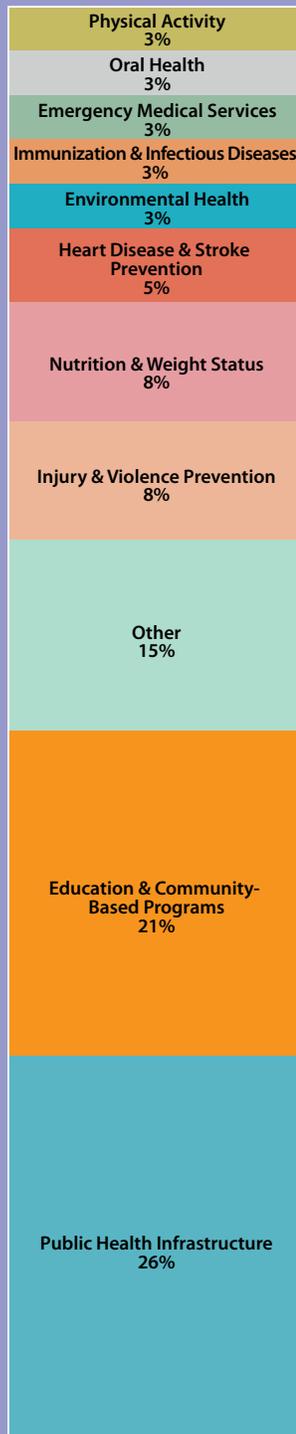
ADOC also has a minority health coordinator who teaches pre-release classes on TB signs and symptoms to inmates before they are released back into their high-risk communities. Prisoners who are still in treatment receive a special follow-up to make sure they are taking their medicines and limiting contact with others.

The number of inmates who continued TB treatment after their release increased from about half in 2008 to about three-fourths in 2014. ADPH hopes to continue this important work and expand its outreach efforts to more needy communities to reduce the rate of TB.



Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

2015 Top-Funded Health Areas



Excludes all non-discretionary funding: administrative costs (up to 10%), direct assistance, and funds set aside for sexual violence (rape prevention).

What is the PHHS Block Grant?

The Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant provides flexible federal funding to 61 states, tribes, and US territories. These grantees use the funding to meet vital public health needs within their jurisdictions that align with national priorities—the Healthy People (HP) 2020 objectives.

Block Grant Investment Across the Nation

In fiscal year 2015, the 61 grantees received about \$126 million from the PHHS Block Grant to support critical programs and services. Most funds (85%) supported HP 2020 objectives in 10 key areas: 1) Public Health Infrastructure, 2) Education and Community-Based Programs, 3) Injury and Violence Prevention, 4) Nutrition and Weight Status, 5) Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, 6) Environmental Health, 7) Immunization and Infectious Diseases, 8) Emergency Medical Services, 9) Oral Health, and 10) Physical Activity.

Public Health Infrastructure was the most funded area (26% of total funding); 43 grantees directed funds toward public health systems assessment, health improvement planning, accreditation, quality improvement, laboratory services, and other infrastructure activities. Education and Community-Based Programs was the second-most funded area (21% of total funding); 29 grantees directed funds toward community-based primary prevention services, worksite health promotion programs, and culturally appropriate community health programs.

Grantees also directed funds toward supporting local organizations working to improve community health (27% of total funding) and reduce health disparities (23% of total funding).