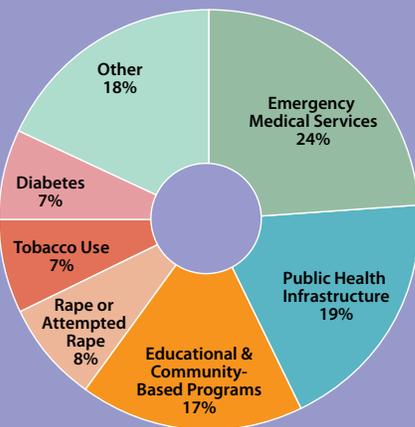


# Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

## West Virginia

### How West Virginia Invested PHS Block Grant Funding

Total FY 2015 Funding: \$1,336,670



### Improving Access to Emergency Medical Services

West Virginia is one of the most rural states in the eastern United States, so many residents live far from a hospital. When they have a medical emergency, West Virginians rely on local emergency medical services (EMS) to have an ambulance take them to a hospital. The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health (WVBPH) is responsible for ensuring that the ambulances used by the state's 240 emergency medical providers are properly maintained and safe to drive. WVBPH used a portion of its 2014 Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funds to inspect the ambulances and train emergency medical technicians (EMTs).

Within 5 months, WVBPH inspected more than 1,200 ambulances operated by 77 EMS providers across the state. The inspections help WVBPH ensure that the EMS providers have ambulances that are safe to use and contain all the equipment they need to save lives.

Also during this period, WVBPH released new guidelines to help EMS providers improve their service to the public. The guidelines give directions for EMS providers to follow when responding to customer concerns, thus helping the providers prevent recurring problems. WVBPH trained about 50 staff from different EMS providers on the new guidelines, and who in turn trained 8,000 more EMTs at their organizations.

The PHHS Block Grant funding is helping EMS in West Virginia provide safe emergency transportation and lifesaving services for its 1.8 million residents.

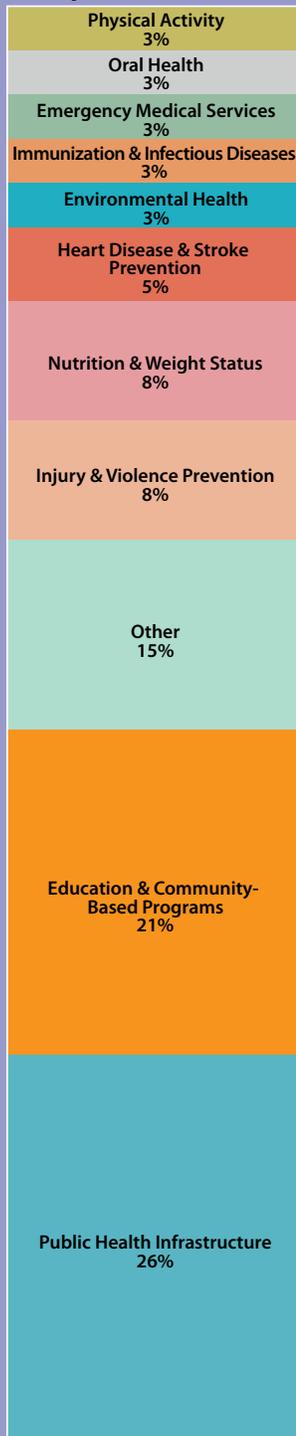


West Virginia used money from the PHS Block Grant to make sure that the state's ambulances are properly maintained, safe to drive, and contain the equipment they need.



# 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).