

MASSACHUSETTS | 2017 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 Massachusetts families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services:

- CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program**
- CDC's National Asthma Control Program**
- CDC's Environmental Health Tracking Network**
- HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes**
- HUD's Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)**
- HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program**
- EPA's Lead Categorical Grants**
- EPA's Drinking Water Revolving Fund**
- HHS' Maternal and Child Health Block Grants**
- HHS' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**
- DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program**

MA received funding since 2015?

- YES

Full funding to federal programs such as these will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the residents and families of Massachusetts, including:



In Massachusetts, **34% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 15% of children live in poverty.



In 2015, **6,584 Massachusetts children tested had an elevated blood lead level** (5 µg/dL or more); **695 of them had blood lead levels of 10 µg/dL or more**.



73% of Massachusetts housing was built prior to 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint; approximately one-third was built in 1939 or earlier.



On average, **6 Massachusetts residents die annually from carbon monoxide exposure** (2011-2015).



Approximately **1 in 9 people in Massachusetts has current asthma**; 10.2% of adults and 12.9% children (2015).



An estimated **650,000 Massachusetts homes have radon levels above the EPA action level** of 4 pCi/L; about 34,000 of these have levels above 20 pCi/L.



Falls are the leading cause of injuries and injury death for adults over 65 in Massachusetts. Hospital charges in 2010 for these injuries totaled over **\$630 million**.



Approximately **628 cases of radon-related lung cancer occur annually** in Massachusetts.