

Ready or Not: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism



Arkansas



State Performance

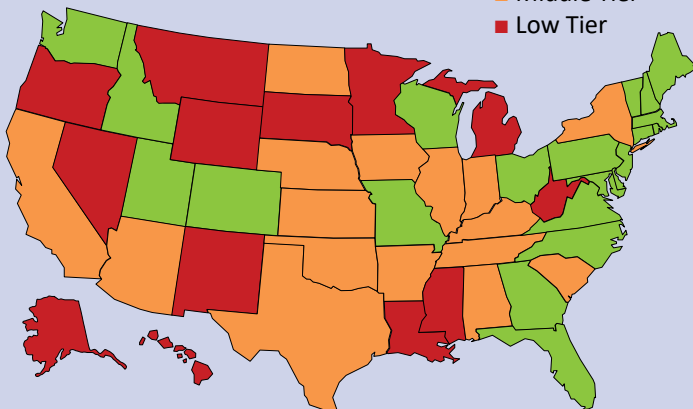
Scoring tier, 2025

Middle

- ✓ **Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC)**
State participates in NLC, 2024
- ✓ **Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)**
Accredited by PHAB, 2024
- ✓ **Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP)**
Accredited by EMAP, 2024
- ✓ **Public Health Lab Capacity**
Public health laboratories had a written plan for a six- to eight-week surge in testing capacity, 2024

2025 State Emergency Preparedness Rankings: High, Middle, and Low

- High Tier
- Middle Tier
- Low Tier



Public Health Funding



Funding change, FY 2023-24



Water Security

3.2%

Percent of population who used a community water system in violation of health-based standards, 2023



Paid Time Off

52.1%

Percent of employed population who used paid time off, March 2019-24



Seasonal Flu Vaccination

43.9%

Season flu vaccination rate for people ages 6 months and older, 2023-24



Patient Safety

20.0%

Percentage of hospitals with "A" grade, fall 2024



Avoidable Mortality

450.5

Preventable deaths before age 75, per 100,000 people

48

State rank by total avoidable death rate

Read the full report at:

<https://www.tfah.org/report-details/ready-or-not-2025>

Priorities for Congressional Action



Congress should provide \$11.5 billion for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in FY2026. CDC sends 80% of its domestic budget to states, tribes, territories, localities, non-profits, and researchers.



Congress should reauthorize the *Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act* to improve the nation's readiness for a spectrum of health threats.



Lawmakers should support readiness and response across the country through CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program.



Congress should invest in Public Health Data Modernization and enact the *Improving DATA in Public Health Act* to strengthen and streamline public health data reporting and enable faster and more effective detection and response to health emergencies.



Congress should provide job-protected paid leave to contain the spread of outbreaks and protect health, as proposed in the *FAMILY Act and Healthy Families Act*.



Federal policymakers should accelerate the development and stockpiling of medical countermeasures such as vaccines, therapeutic medicine, and diagnostic testing for faster distribution during emergencies.



Congress and federal agencies should support the National Immunization Program, which ensures access to effective routine vaccination and immunizations during outbreak responses.



Congress should pass the *Protecting America from Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza Act* to reinforce the pipeline of influenza vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics.



Congress and Health and Human Services (HHS) should help build the readiness of the healthcare delivery system by supporting the Health Care Readiness and Response program.