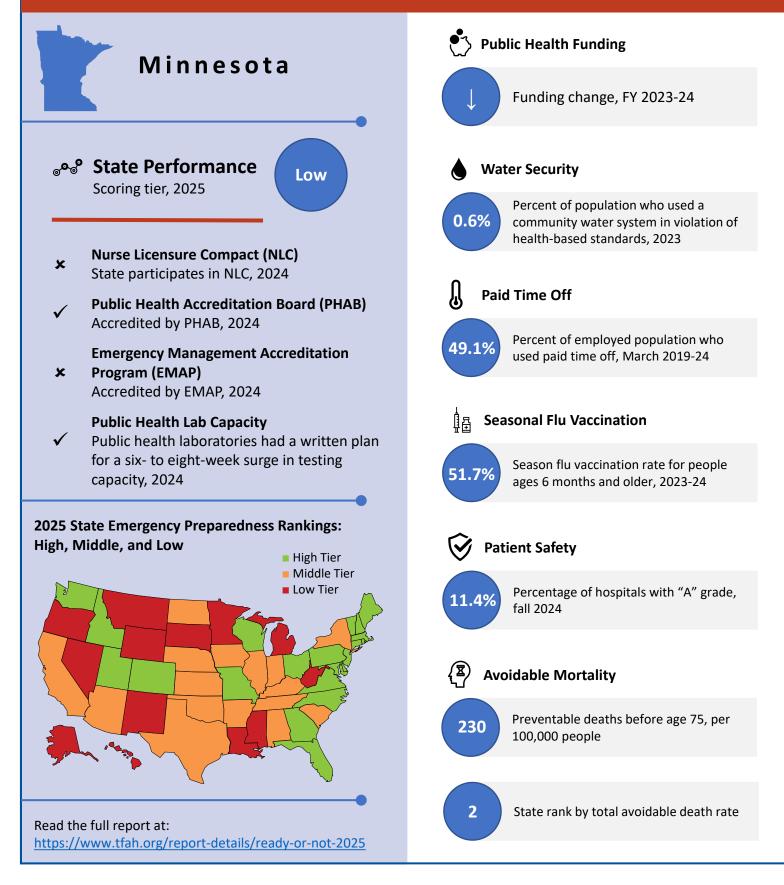


Ready or Not: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism





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.

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