

# THE STATE OF AMERICA'S LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Highlights from the 2019 National Profile of Local Health Departments (LHDs) Study



## LHDS OFFER VITAL SERVICES TO KEEP U.S. COMMUNITIES HEALTHY AND SAFE

CLINICAL AND POPULATION SERVICES LHDS PROVIDED IN 2019



Epidemiology and surveillance



Environmental health



Population-based primary prevention



Screening and treatment of diseases/conditions



Immunization



Maternal and child health

### KEY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES U.S. COMMUNITIES RELY ON LHDS TO PROVIDE

63%

Of LHDS reported being the primary local provider of women, infants, and children (WIC)

59%

Of LHDS reported being the primary local provider of food safety education

45%

Of LHDS reported being the primary local provider of infectious disease surveillance

## LHDS ARE FIGHTING HEALTH THREATS WITH FEWER RESOURCES THAN EVER



67%

Of LHDS' budgets either decreased or stayed the same in 2019 vs. 2018

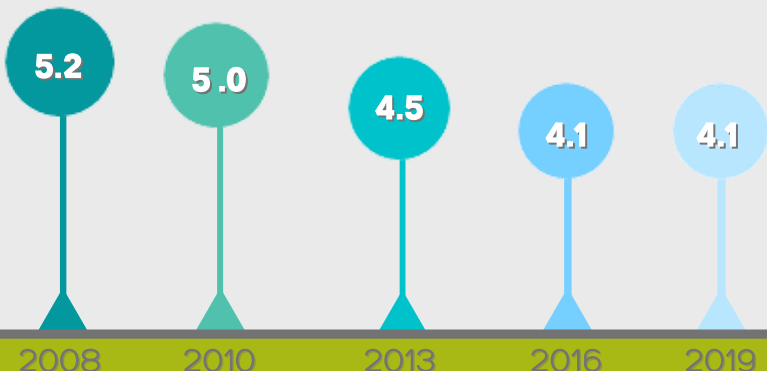
53%

Of the U.S. population lived in areas where LHD budgets were stagnant or decreased in 2019

### LHD WORKFORCE CAPACITY MEASURED IN FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTES) PER 10,000 PEOPLE

21%

Decrease in LHD workforce capacity has occurred over the past decade



## LHDS ARE VITAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND POLICY CHAMPIONS



TOP HEALTHCARE PARTNERS

Hospitals  
Emergency responders  
Community health centers



TOP GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Criminal justice system  
Local planning agencies  
Park and recreation



TOP COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Colleges or universities  
K-12 schools  
Community nonprofits

### KEY POLICY ACTIVITIES LHDS ADVANCE THAT HELP PROTECT THE HEALTH OF U.S. COMMUNITIES

74%

Of LHDS supported tobacco, alcohol, opioids, and other drug policy activities

62%

Of LHDS supported emergency preparedness and response policy activities

60%

Of LHDS supported infectious disease, including vaccination policy activities

## ABOUT THE 2019 NATIONAL PROFILE OF LHDS (PROFILE) STUDY

The National Association of County and City Officials (NACCHO) conducts the Profile study every three years to develop a comprehensive and accurate description of LHD infrastructure and practice. For the 2019 survey, NACCHO distributed the census-style questionnaire to 2,453 LHDS in the U.S. from March through August 2019. The survey achieved a response rate of 61%.