Budget Basics: Public Health & Nutrition

FY 2021

An introduction to Missouri’s public health & nutrition services and funding
Public Health

Public health and nutrition services are funded through Missouri’s Division of Community and Public Health (DCPH). DCPH works with local public health agencies (LPHAs) and community partners to improve the health and well-being of Missourians through public health interventions and the analysis of health and longevity trends.

This primer is intended to serve as a guide for Missourians who care about public health and nutrition services. These services are funded through the Division of Community and Public Health (DCPH) budget, which is included in House Bill 10. **Amounts included are Appropriated and reflect Gubernatorial vetoes, but not any mid-year restrictions that may have been made.**
Budget Basics

Missouri’s state budget funding comes from three main sources:

- **Federal:** The first source of the funds come from the federal government for very specific purposes, such as Medicaid.

- **Earmarked State Funds:** Another source is state revenue dedicated to specific state purposes, like the fuel tax, which is dedicated to transportation.

- **State General Revenue:** Lawmakers have the most authority to allocate the final source of funds, referred to as General Revenue.

Funding for the Division of Community and Public Health and the State Public Health Lab
Total DCPH Budget, by Source of Funding
FY 2021

- In FY 2021, $656.1 million is dedicated to the Division of Community and Public Health and the State Public Health Lab.

- The vast majority of funding (92.6%) for public health and nutrition comes from federal sources.

- Over half of funding in the DCPH flows from the federal government to fund nutrition services, with the remainder funding public health and related services.
Public Health

The Division of Community and Public Health (DCPH) provides funding for a range of programs that support healthy and stable communities. DCPH coordinates the response to public health emergencies, directs programs that prevent and manages chronic and communicable disease, monitors and investigates environmental health hazards, conducts screenings for genetic conditions in newborns and maintains vital records and surveillance systems.

Public Heath Agencies Help Deliver:

Emergency response
- Disaster preparedness education for nearly 450,000 Missouri families

Environmental Health
- 79,118 Missouri children are tested for lead.
- Inspected 6,250 child care facilities for environmental hazards.

Newborn screenings
- 95,844 Missouri newborns are screened for genetic disorders and hearing loss annually.

Disease prevention and control
- Monitored nearly 95,000 cases of communicable disease in Missouri.
- Distributed 1.3 million vaccines
Local Public Health Agencies (LPHA) and other partner organizations work with the DCPH to provide comprehensive public health services in Missouri. The 114 LPHAs in Missouri are locally governed and financially supported through local, state, and federal funds.

The Missouri State Public Health Laboratory (MSPHL) serves local public health agencies, hospitals and medical and law enforcement professionals around the state by conducting and confirming a range of tests related to public health. The MSPHL is located in Jefferson City with a branch location in Poplar Bluff.

In 2020 the Public Health Laboratory performed over 7 million analyses and tested 226,335 samples.

- Performed 95,844 newborn screenings
- Tested 66,284 samples of drinking water and 1,424 samples of food
- Issued 3,079 permits for breath alcohol analysis
- Distributed 293,303 test kits to LPHAs, hospitals, and private labs in Missouri.

Funding for Local Public Health Agencies FY2018

Other revenue sources include federal and state funds used to reimburse LPHAs for services provided (such as home health services) that fall outside their core public health functions.
Nutrition

The federal government provides funding for several nutrition programs housed within the DHSS Division of Community and Public Health. These programs are aimed primarily at serving children, pregnant and postpartum women, seniors, and the homeless.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) provides vouchers for nutritious food, health screenings, nutrition counseling, and breastfeeding promotion and support. In order to qualify for WIC, a family’s income must be below 185% of the federal poverty level.

In FY2021, this program will serve 23,970 women, 27,295 infants, and 43,561 children.

Who qualifies for WIC?
- Pregnant women
- New mothers
- Infants
- Children up to age 5

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides funding for nutritious meals and snacks served to children and adults in day care centers, after-school enrichment programs, and emergency homeless shelters. In FY2021, this program will serve nearly 38 million meals.

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) provides funding for organizations to serve meals to low-income children age 18 and under when school is not in session. In FY2021, this program will serve over 4.75 million meals.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) provides a variety of nutritious food packages that are distributed to elderly qualified participants through the food bank network.
Nutrition

The federal government provides additional funding for limited nutrition assistance programs that serve low-wage Missourians, in addition to funding for related programs that provide job training and health education for recipients.

The Supplemen tal Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, provides assistance for low-wage Missourians to purchase food. Funding for SNAP benefits does not flow through the state budget, aside from the associated administrative costs. SNAP benefits cannot be withdrawn as cash or used to purchase alcohol, tobacco, prepared foods, or non-food items such as medicine or paper products.

SNAP served 340,865 households and 715,447 Missourians in FFY2020. The average benefit was $320.32 per household and $152.73 per person.²

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Gross monthly household income (130% of poverty)</th>
<th>Maximum monthly benefit</th>
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SNAP Eligibility Requirements³

- Recipients must work or participate in a work program (with exceptions for children, seniors, the disabled, and pregnant women.)
- Must meet income requirements and cannot have assets that value more than $2,250 (or $3,250 for seniors).

Food Distribution Programs pay for the initial processing and packaging of the food and for transporting it to designated points (i.e. food banks) within each state for the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

The Food Nutrition Program provides nutrition information, physical activity, food safety and food budgeting education to Food Stamp eligible individuals, especially to households with children in the home, at-risk pregnant and parenting teens, youth and seniors.

SkillUP provides Food Stamp participants opportunities to gain skills, training or experience that will improve their employment prospects and assists them to obtain and retain sustaining employment reducing their reliance on Food Stamp benefits.

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### Program Budget Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Section</th>
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### Notes

1. Local Public Health Agency Financial Review Available at: https://health.mo.gov/living/lpha/review18/preface.php

2. MBP Analysis of DSS Monthly Management Report