

# LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY AFFECTS ALL MISSOURIANS

Missourians depend on public health agencies to build a strong foundation for community health and wellness. To give all of us the opportunity to thrive, public health agencies must have the capacity to assure the foundational public health capabilities and areas of expertise defined by Missouri's Foundational Public Health Services Model (right). This empowers the whole public health system to function effectively for all of us.



**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL RANKED AS THE AREA OF EXPERTISE WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF CAPACITY ACROSS THE STATE. A FINDING ILLUSTRATED BY THE DYNAMIC PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO COVID-19.**

## Missouri's local public health agencies evaluated their own capacity to assure the components of the FPHS model.

### KEY FINDINGS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:



#### The Level of Per Capita Funding Drives Capacity

Differences were not in rural vs urban, personnel, or other financial variables.

Local public health funding in Missouri varies dramatically.

Only the level of per capita funding distinguished LPHAs with capacity from those without.

A full costing assessment would define the funding increase necessary to improve public health capacity statewide.



#### Administrator Experience and Focus Influence Capacity

LPHAs are more likely to lack capacity in the capabilities when their administrator has less than two years of experience in the position or must also fill other positions.

With an administrator turnover rate of 25% since June 2019



1 in 4 local public health agencies in Missouri now has an administrator with less than two years of experience.

(19% between March 2020 and 2021)



#### Capacity in Capabilities Strong Predictor of Capacity in Areas of Expertise

LPHAs with higher capacity in the capabilities are

**2.3x**

more likely to have higher capacity in the areas of expertise

Capacity in capabilities relies on leadership skills and training.



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Using passion, policy and partnerships to build a stronger foundation for health

A project of the Missouri Public Health Association, with support from Missouri State University. Funding provided by Missouri Foundation for Health and Health Forward Foundation.



Read the full report here.