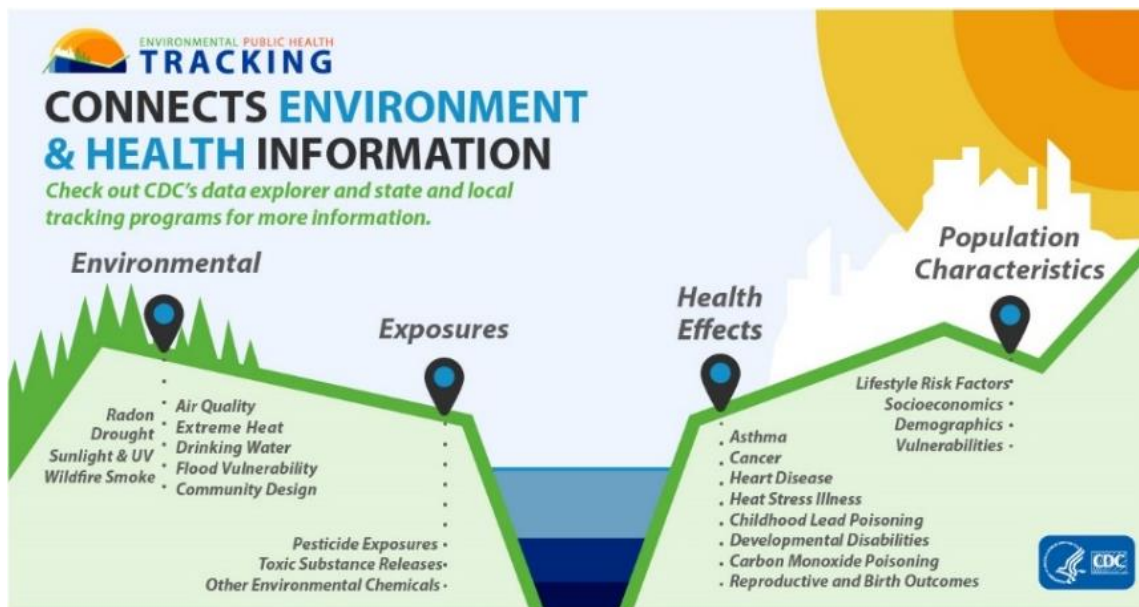




**Impact:** Roughly a decade after its inception, the Tracking Program contains data points for cancer, reproductive health outcomes, birth defects and demographics and socioeconomic status, outdoor air quality, drinking water quality, hospitalizations for asthma, cardiovascular disease, carbon monoxide poisoning, childhood lead poisoning, community design, and developmental disabilities. To date, Tracking grantees have taken over 400 data-driven actions to improve health.

In 2017, the program recently completed a new competitive process and in August 2017 announced awards to 25 states and one city for five-year expected funding. A previous Public Health Foundation study estimated that every dollar invested in tracking results in a \$1.44 return in the form of health care savings.



**Recommendation:** As of 2019, we still only fund half our states to participate in the Tracking Network. In the past CDC has estimated that roughly \$75 million will be needed to expand the program to all 50 states, D.C. and U.S. territories. As such, TFAH recommends that Congress provide \$40 million in FY 2019 as an initial payment towards fully funding the Network within the next five years.

For an additional \$6 million (\$40 million total), the program could add at least three states to the existing network. Additional levels of funding could also allow the program to continue to expand the type of health data available to policymakers, public health professionals, and the public.