



Aug. 16, 2021

Dear SHaPE SC Health Subcommittee Chair Dr. Lee Pearson and Environmental Protection Subcommittee Chair Tommy Lavender:

In response to requests concerning existing reports indicating funding comparisons and trends for public health and environmental agencies in the United States, please see the following attached third-party reports:

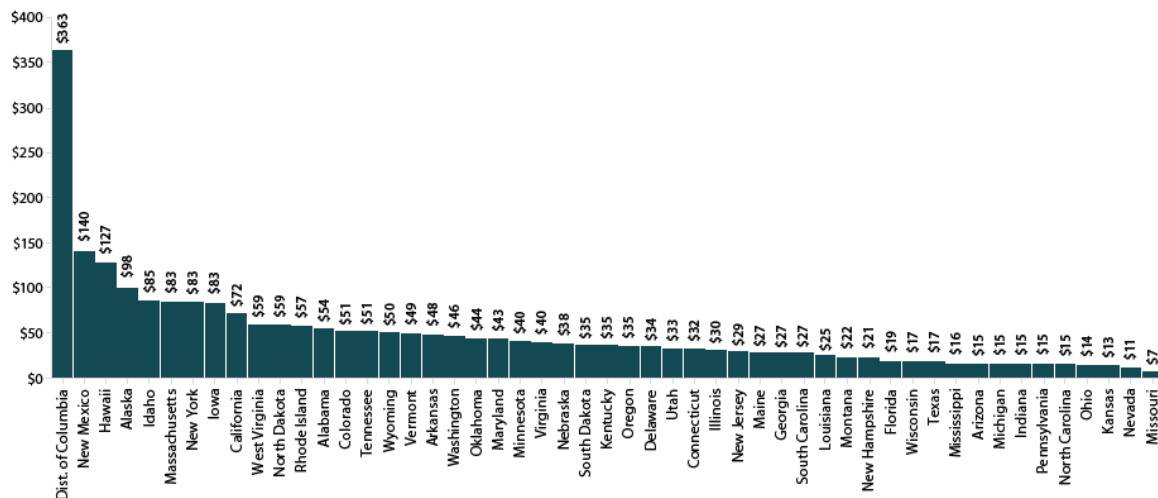
- The Impact of Chronic Underfunding on America’s Public Health System: Trends, Risks, and recommendations
- Exploring Public Health Indicators with Sate Health Compare: State Public Health Funding
- The most recent Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) funding report which provides additional funding information from a national perspective related to environmental services.

Public Health Funding

The first attachment concerning public health agencies is from Trust for America’s Health (TFAH) and the second is from the State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC).

The TFAH shows a comparison by state of the federal Centers for Disease Control funding. According to the report, South Carolina ranked **27th in total state public health funding per capita provided from the Centers of Disease Control** and **41st in pandemic response funding** during the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year (FY). Meanwhile, the SHADAC report provides general state fund comparisons per person.

Figure 1. Per Person Public Health Funding, 2019



***Source: SHADAC May 2020 Report (attached)**

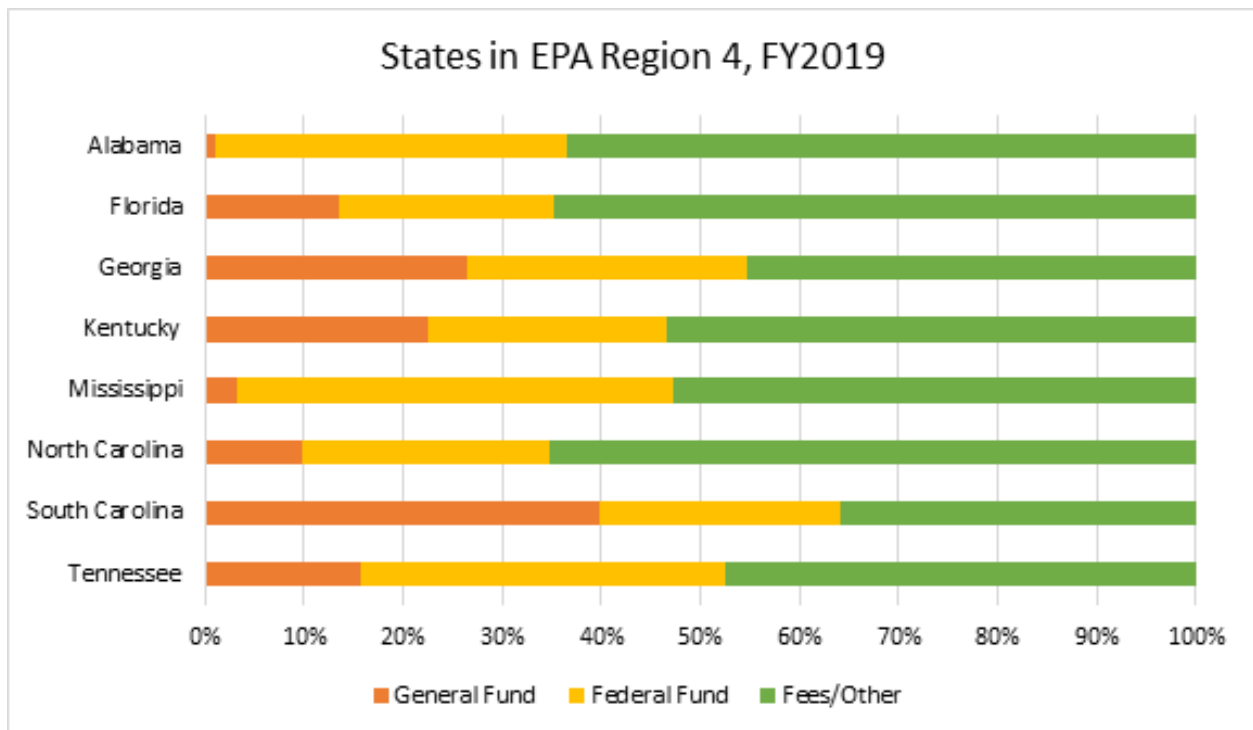
In the report from SHADAC, please note that organization is comparing state general funds across other states. In addition, the number for South Carolina includes all DHEC state recurring funds which include health, environmental, healthcare quality and administration.

A visualization of per person state public health funding by the SHADAC is available [here](#).

Environmental Protection Funding

The third attachment from ECOS, provides a per capita comparison of state funding for environmental agencies from FYs 2016-2019. According to the report, South Carolina ranked 37th in state funding for environmental services.

It's important to note that compared with other Region 4 states, South Carolina's environmental services fees are not as much a major contributor to our services as other states. Based on the information provided by ECOS, it appears that South Carolina has a greater reliance on our general fund. This observation is further supported by the previous detailed fee report provided to the Environmental Protection Subcommittee which indicates lengthy times between fee increases or no increases over decades.



***Source: ECOS June 2020 Report (attached)**

It's important to note that services provided by health and environmental agencies across the country differ and thus national overviews do not always provide an apples-to-apples comparison.

As always, please reach out to us if you have any additional questions and/or concerns throughout this process.