**Asthma Research**: https://www.aafa.org/asthma-facts/

* ***General Facts:***
  + Inflammation and narrowing of the small airways in the lungs cause asthma symptoms, which can be any combination of cough, wheeze, shortness of breath and chest tightness.
  + Asthma affected an estimated 262 million people in 2019 (1) and caused 455 000 deaths.
  + Asthma rates are highest in Black adults in the U.S.
  + Asthma is more common in female adults than male adults. Around 9.8% of female adults have asthma, compared to 6.1% of male adults.
* ***Children Facts***
  + In 2019, 44.3% of children aged 18 and younger who had asthma reported having one or more asthma attacks in the past year.
  + About 47.2% of children under the age of 5 with asthma had an attack.
  + In 2018, asthma accounted for 5.8 million doctors’ office visits.
  + In 2018, asthma accounted for 178,530 discharges from hospital inpatient care and 1.6 million emergency department visits.
  + Black people in the U.S. are nearly five times more likely than white people in the U.S. to visit the emergency department due to asthma
* ***Cost***
  + From 2008-2013, the annual economic cost of asthma was more than $81.9 billion – including medical costs and loss of work and school days:
    - $3 billion in losses due to missed work and school days
    - $29 billion due to asthma-related mortality
    - $50.3 billion in medical costs
  + Medical costs for people with asthma are estimated to be $3,266 higher per year (in 2015 U.S. dollars) compared to medical costs for people without asthma.
  + Among children ages 5 to 17, asthma is one of the top causes of missed school days. In 2013, it accounted for more than 13.8 million missed school days.

**California State Government Spending**:

* California Public Health Fund: https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4642#:~:text=As%20Figure%201%20shows%2C%20the,the%20revised%202021%2D22%20level.
  + As Figure 1 shows, the budget package provides **$42.6 billion** General Fund for health departments in 2022-23. This level reflects an increase of $11.1 billion (35 percent) over the revised 2021-22 level.
* California Infrastructure Fund: https://lao.ca.gov/Infrastructure/Funding
  + Since 2000, voters have approved about $126 billion in general obligation bonds that are supported by the state’s General Fund. The large majority of these bonds are for education, transportation, and resources and environmental protection.