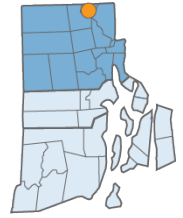


## Woonsocket (Providence)

Woonsocket is a city in Providence County with a population of 41,186 of whom 15% are age 65 or older. With the exception of lower than state rates of glaucoma and prostate cancer, Woonsocket older adults fare worse on many health indicators (less likely to engage in physical activity or be immunized for shingles or undergo colorectal; screening; higher rates of complete tooth loss, obesity, high cholesterol, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, hypertension, heart disease, congestive heart failure, atrial fibrillation, osteoporosis colon cancer and hypothyroidism). Tri-Town Community Action Agency, part of the state Aging and Disabilities Resource Center, the POINT Network, provides assessment services and case management for seniors receiving state-funded home and community services. Age-friendly community resources include Senior Services, Inc. which operates the Woonsocket Senior Center that offers a weekly noon luncheon, health promotion and disease prevention programs. Classes include: seniors in motion exercise, chair exercise, ZUMBA and line dancing. The Woonsocket Harris Public Library provides seniors with a knitting group, creative writing group, ZUMBA class, and reading club. BVCAP Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) provides opportunities for seniors 55+ to share their time, experience, knowledge and interests with others in the community. RSVP volunteers are connected to networks of seniors who use their skills to provide services and support throughout the community. Woonsocket adults age 60 and older are less likely than state estimates to be satisfied with their neighborhoods; and believe that local service organizations “understand their needs”.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE <sup>1</sup>	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE <sup>2</sup>	STATE ESTIMATE <sup>2</sup>
Total population all ages		41,186	1,052,567
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		19.6%	20.6%
Total population 60 years or older		8,075	217,066
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		14.6%	14.8%
Total population 65 years or older		5,983	155,558
% 65-74 years		47.6%	50.4%
% 75-84 years		32.7%	32.0%
% 85 years or older		19.7%	17.6%
Gender (65+ population)			
% female		57.6%	58.4%
Race/Ethnicity (65+ population)			
% White		94.9%	93.0%
% African American		2.3%	2.6%
% Asian		2.0%	1.3%
% Other		0.8%	3.2%
% Hispanic/Latino		1.4%	3.7%
Marital Status (65+ population)			
% married		43.9%	50.1%
% divorced/separated		14.3%	12.6%
% widowed		33.1%	30.8%
% never married		8.7%	6.4%
Education (65+ population)			
% with less than high school education		45.3%	26.8%
% with high school or some college		46.9%	50.7%
% with college degree		7.9%	22.5%
% of 60+ LGBT		2.1%	2.0%
% of 65+ population living alone		32.1%	30.4%
% of 65+ population who speak only English at home		67.2%	81.7%
% of 65+ population who are veterans of military service		20.5%	22.7%
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate	W	5.6%	4.8%

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Geographic Migration (65+ population)</b>			
% moved within same county		5.1%	3.5%
% moved from different county in Rhode Island		0.1%	0.8%
% moved from different state		0.9%	1.1%
% 60+ lived at same address 25 years or more		48.5%	48.1%
<b>WELLNESS and PREVENTION</b>			
% any physical activity within last month	W	60.9%	70.0%
% injured by a fall within last year		12.3%	10.0%
% ever had a hip fracture		4.1%	3.9%
% with self-reported fair or poor health status	w	24.6%	20.4%
% with 15+ physically unhealthy days last month		17.5%	13.9%
% with physical exam/check-up in past year		91.2%	91.9%
% met CDC preventive health screening goals		36.7%	39.5%
% flu shot past year		58.1%	59.1%
% pneumonia vaccine		70.8%	73.8%
% shingles vaccine	W	23.5%	30.3%
% cholesterol screening		90.4%	88.4%
% mammogram within last 2 years (women)		83.4%	81.8%
% colorectal cancer screening	W	69.1%	76.1%
<b>Oral Health</b>			
% with complete tooth loss	W	45.1%	32.4%
% with annual dental exam	W	62.0%	74.7%
# dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages)		56	58
<b>NUTRITION/DIET</b>			
% with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		21.7%	23.0%
% obese	w	30.1%	25.4%
% high cholesterol	W	80.8%	78.0%
% current smokers		10.5%	8.9%
% excessive drinking		9.4%	8.9%
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>			
% with 15+ days poor mental health last month		7.3%	7.5%
% 60+ talked with family or friends almost daily		70.8%	75.3%
% ever diagnosed with depression		32.0%	30.0%
<b>CHRONIC DISEASE</b>			
% with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias		15.3%	14.4%
% with diabetes	W	40.2%	35.7%
% with stroke		13.5%	12.5%
% with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	W	34.5%	24.1%
% with asthma	W	17.2%	14.0%

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup></b>
% with hypertension	W	83.8%	79.0%
% ever had a heart attack		6.4%	5.4%
% with ischemic heart disease	W	58.8%	45.9%
% with congestive heart failure	W	34.4%	24.8%
% with atrial fibrillation	W	17.6%	15.2%
% with osteoarthritis/rheumatoid arthritis		53.3%	52.0%
% with osteoporosis	W	23.5%	21.0%
% with glaucoma	B	24.2%	26.6%
% with cataract		68.1%	67.9%
% women with breast cancer		9.0%	10.7%
% with colon cancer	W	4.5%	3.2%
% men with prostate cancer	B	11.0%	13.8%
% with lung cancer		2.2%	2.1%
% with hypothyroidism	W	24.0%	21.1%
% with anemia		54.5%	52.2%
% with benign prostatic hyperplasia		39.7%	40.3%
% with chronic kidney disease		23.6%	23.3%
<b>Summary chronic disease measures</b>			
% with 4+ chronic conditions	W	70.8%	63.9%
% with 0 chronic conditions		7.7%	8.4%
<b>LIVING WITH DISABILITY</b>			
% 65+ with hearing difficulty		16.6%	13.8%
% 65+ with vision difficulty		4.4%	5.2%
% 65+ with cognition difficulty		8.5%	7.8%
% 65+ with ambulatory difficulty		25.1%	19.9%
% 65+ with self-care difficulty		5.6%	6.6%
% 65+ with independent living difficulty		17.2%	13.7%
<b>ACCESS TO CARE</b>			
<b>Medicare (65+ population)</b>			
% Medicare managed care enrollees	*	47.1%	39.4%
% dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	24.0%	14.6%
% with a regular doctor		95.4%	96.5%
% did not see a doctor when needed due to cost		9.1%	6.3%
# of primary care providers (within 5 miles)		65	1,566
# of hospitals (within 5 miles)		1	11
# of nursing homes (within 5 miles)		8	84
# of home health agencies (in same town)		21	38

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>SERVICE UTILIZATION</b>			
Physician visits per year		7.6	8.0
Emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years per year	*	889	628
Part D monthly prescription fills per person per year	*	61.8	54.2
Home health visits per year		3.8	3.7
Durable medical equipment claims per year	*	2.6	2.0
Inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years per year	*	428	284
Inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		18.8%	16.9%
Skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years per year	*	135	100
Total skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		121	52
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports		11.5%	6.2%
<b>COMMUNITY VARIABLES &amp; CIVIC ENGAGEMENT</b>			
Air Pollution/Air Quality Index			
Annual # of unhealthy days for older adults		1	NA
Walkability of Community			
Walkability score (0-100)		84	NA
% of vacant housing units in community		12.5%	11.3%
% 60+ who are satisfied with neighborhood	W	61.1%	80.0%
# of registered voters (age 18+)		24,878	725,309
Voter participation rate in 2012 presidential election (age 18+)		49.7%	61.5%
% 60+ who believe local service orgs understand needs	W	37.4%	44.1%
% 60+ who believe he/she can make a difference	w	46.3%	51.6%
% 60+ who believe working together can make a difference		82.2%	81.0%
% 60+ who volunteer at least once per month		23.0%	22.8%
% 60+ who attend community events (e.g., church, club) at least once per month		40.8%	44.2%
<b>SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Violent crime rate / 100,000 persons		587	253
Property crime rate / 100,000 persons		2,984	2,394
# of motor vehicle fatalities involving adult age 60+/town		2	90
# of motor vehicle fatalities involving adult age 60+/county		40	90
# of alternative transportation programs by county		26	43
Municipal senior transportation available		NA	NA
Volunteer driver programs available		NA	NA

## HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS

COMMUNITY  
ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup>

STATE  
ESTIMATE<sup>2</sup>

### ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL

#### Poverty (65+ Population)

% with income below the poverty level past year	11.6%	8.6%
% 60+ receiving food stamps past year	19.4%	11.9%
% 65+ working past year	10.3%	16.3%

#### Household income (65+ householder)

% households with annual income < \$20,000	45.0%	28.0%
% households with annual income \$20,000-49,999	31.2%	34.2%
% households with annual income ≥ \$50,000	23.8%	37.7%
% 60+ own home	30.3%	43.9%
% 60+ homeowners with mortgage	39.6%	45.3%

### COST OF LIVING

\$ COUNTY  
ESTIMATE

\$ STATE  
ESTIMATE

RATIO OF COUNTY  
TO STATE

#### Elder Economic Security Standard Index

Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health	\$21,732	\$22,188	0.98
Single, renter, good health	\$23,352	\$23,544	0.99
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health	\$31,896	\$32,352	0.99
Couple, renter, good health	\$33,516	\$33,708	0.99

**TECHNICAL NOTES:** Read our technical report for information on data sources and methodology at <http://healthyagingdatareports.org/ri/technicalreport>.

<sup>1</sup> For most indicators the community and state values are both statistical estimates derived from sample data. Thus, it is possible that some of the differences between state and community estimates may be due to chance associated with population sampling. We use the terms “better” and “worse” to highlight differences between community and state estimates that we are confident are not due to chance. When an upper case letter is used the 95% confidence intervals were used, the lowercase indicates a 90% confidence interval. When the implication for healthy aging is unclear we use an “.”

<sup>2</sup> “C” indicates that the community rate is censored due to inadequate sample size and “NA” indicates that the data were not available.

#### Other notes:

- We used a hierarchical approach to reporting estimates for every city/town in Rhode Island when data allow. In other cases, we could only report indicators for aggregated areas (e.g., cities and towns with similar demographic and socioeconomic population composition were combined for some indicators and counties were used for others). The same estimate is reported for all cities/towns within aggregated geographic areas.
- Total population estimates are from the 2010 Census and are reported for the 41 geographic units. Other population characteristic estimates are from the American Community Survey (ACS) (2009-2013) and are reported for 41 geographic units. Note that % may not add up to 100% due to rounding error.
- Mortality rate, specific chronic disease, access and utilization estimates are for beneficiaries 65 years or older in 2013 from the 2012 and 2013 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Master Beneficiary Summary File (MBSF).
- The 2009-2014 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is the source for wellness, health behavior, and some prevention estimates. BRFSS indicators were estimated for persons 60 years or older for 14 aggregated geographic areas derived by combining cities and towns with similar population composition. The same rate is reported for all cities/towns within the same unit.
- Access to care data pertaining to the # of primary care providers, hospitals, nursing homes, and home health agencies were obtained from the following CMS websites: <http://www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare/search.html>, <http://www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare/search.html>, <http://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/search.html>, <http://www.medicare.gov/physiciancompare/results.html>. The dentist data come from the RI Department of Health (<http://www.health.ri.gov/find/oralhealthservices/>).
- Walkability Estimates were downloaded from <http://www.walkscore.com/> using the finder term “city/town name, Rhode Island.”
- Air pollution/air quality estimates are from the US Environmental Protection Agency reported for 3 RI counties for older adults with no specific health concerns (2015). The same rate is reported for cities/towns within the same county.
- 2012 voter participation data from the Rhode Island Board of Elections.
- Crime estimates are from 2013 FBI Uniform Crime Reports (<http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/crimestats>).
- Data on fatal auto (driver, passenger) and pedestrian accidents for persons age 60+ is from the Fatal Accident Reporting System of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (2009-2013), reported at the town and county level.
- The housing, migration, and income indicators are from the ACS (2009-2013) and are reported for individual cities/towns.
- The 2016 Elder Economic Security Standard Index estimates were obtained from researchers at the University of Massachusetts Boston Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging.
- Our research team: Elizabeth Dugan, Frank Porell and Nina Silverstein. Graduate Student researchers included: Chae Man Lee, Hyo Jung Lee, Bon Kim, and Krystal Kittle. We thank Amanda Cox from the [NYTimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com) for data visualizations; and Maureen Maigret for sharing data on municipal senior transportation and volunteer driver programs collected by Mensel & Maigret (April, 2016). Please send your questions, comments, or ideas to [beth.dugan@umb.edu](mailto:beth.dugan@umb.edu). Let us know how you are using the Data Report in your community!