

Portsmouth (Newport)

Portsmouth is a town in Newport County with 4,460 residents aged 65 and older. Compared to state average rates, older residents reported lower rates of hip fracture, tooth loss, Alzheimer's disease, anemia, chronic kidney disease, COPD, CHF, diabetes, endometrial cancer, heart attack, ischemic heart disease, liver disease, osteoarthritis/rheumatoid arthritis, peripheral vascular disease, tobacco use disorder, depression, and anxiety disorder. However, they have higher rates of benign prostatic hyperplasia and cataract. Portsmouth's older adults are more likely to engage in health-promoting behaviors such as getting adequate sleep, engaging in physical activity, meeting CDC guidelines for aerobic activity, receiving flu, pneumonia, and shingles vaccines, and having an annual dental exam. Additionally, they are more likely to report being stressed about buying food. Community resources to support healthy aging include a public library, an assisted living facility, an Alzheimer's caregiver support group, a senior center, a home health agency, a hospice agency, and seven primary care providers.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
Total population (all ages)		17,846	1,094,250
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		32.1%	25.0%
Total population 60 years and older		5,733	273,831
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		25.0%	17.9%
Total population 65 years and older		4,460	195,378
% 65-74 years		57.1%	57.8%
% 75-84 years		33.1%	29.0%
% 85 years or older		9.8%	13.2%
% 65+ population who are female		52.5%	56.3%
% 85+ population who are female		56.0%	67.8%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	97.8%	88.6%
% African American	*	0.8%	3.1%
% Asian	*	0.0%	1.8%
% Other race(s)	*	1.4%	6.5%
% Hispanic	*	0.5%	5.9%
# 55+ who are Native American / Alaskan		0	832
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		55.6%	51.6%
% divorced/separated		15.9%	16.9%
% widowed		22.2%	22.2%
% never married		6.3%	9.3%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education	*	6.8%	14.9%
% with high school or some college	*	37.7%	53.3%
% with college degree	*	25.7%	15.9%
% with graduate or professional degree	*	29.8%	16.0%
% 65+ population who speak only English at home	*	96.3%	83.3%
% 65+ population who are veterans of military service	*	23.8%	14.6%
% 60+ LGBT		3.8%	4.3%

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
HOUSING			
% 65+ population who live alone		28.7%	29.3%
Average household size (all ages)		2.4	2.4
Median house value (all ages)	*	\$483,700	\$343,100
% 60+ own home	*	89.2%	71.7%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		44.7%	48.4%
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		46.8%	38.9%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing		23.1%	25.2%
% grandparents who live with grandchildren		2.2%	2.8%
# of assisted living sites		1	63
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH			
COST OF LIVING			
Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.07	\$29,076	\$27,168
Single, renter, good health (County)	1.09	\$32,868	\$30,216
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.05	\$41,172	\$39,264
Couple, renter, good health (County)	1.06	\$44,964	\$42,312
ECONOMIC			
% 60+ receiving food stamps in past year	*	4.5%	14.7%
% 65+ employed in past year		27.0%	19.2%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in past year	*	6.1%	10.7%
Median annual income for households with a householder age 65+	*	\$80,600	\$56,242
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000	*	10.2%	19.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		19.4%	26.8%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		34.2%	26.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+		36.2%	28.0%
WELLNESS			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep	B	68.6%	63.1%
% 60+ doing any physical activity in past month	B	79.7%	73.5%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity		28.6%	26.1%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity	B	63.6%	55.4%
% 60+ with fair or poor self-reported health status	B	13.9%	17.9%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in past month	B	9.7%	13.6%
% 60+ who reported being satisfied with life		96.7%	95.5%
COMMUNITY			
Annual # unhealthy days due to air pollution for 65+ (County)		NA	NA
AARP Age-Friendly Communities		Not yet	Not yet
# of public universities and community colleges		0	9
# of public libraries		1	72
# of senior centers		1	34
# of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI)		0	1
% households with a smartphone (all ages)		85.3%	85.8%
% households with only a smartphone to access Internet (all ages)	*	3.9%	8.2%

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
COMMUNITY			
% households without a computer (all ages)	*	3.2%	7.1%
% households with access to Broadband (all ages)	*	94.4%	89.2%
% households without access to the Internet (all ages)	*	5.4%	10.7%
% 60+ who used Internet in past month	*	78.2%	71.4%
Voter participation rate in 2020 election (age 18+)		72.8%	68.3%
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (County)		NA	2.1
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (County)		16	226
# 65+ deaths by suicide (County)		16	92
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate	B	3.5%	4.3%
TRANSPORTATION			
% householders 65+ who own a motor vehicle	*	93.4%	86.2%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt		93.0%	92.3%
% 60+ drove under influence		1.7%	1.9%
# fatal crashes involving adult age 60+ (County)		4	94
AllTransit Score		4	2.85
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
FALLS			
% 60+ who fell in past year		27.2%	26.0%
% 60+ who were injured by a fall in past year		9.4%	10.0%
% 65+ with hip fracture	B	2.2%	3.1%
PREVENTION			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in past year		91.6%	93.0%
% 60+ flu shot in past year	B	72.0%	67.8%
% 60+ with pneumonia vaccine	B	69.4%	64.2%
% 60+ with shingles vaccine	B	46.7%	37.8%
% 60+ women with mammogram in past 2 years		82.8%	82.1%
% 60+ had colorectal cancer screening		69.5%	68.7%
% 60+ with HIV test		23.3%	23.5%
% 60+ with optimal preventive health		35.9%	32.3%
NUTRITION & DIET			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		21.5%	18.8%
% 60+ stressed about buying food in past month	B	7.9%	12.3%
% 60+ self-reported obese		24.5%	27.1%
% 65+ with high cholesterol		79.2%	79.3%
% 60+ with high cholesterol screening		97.9%	97.3%
ORAL HEALTH			
% 60+ with dental insurance		64.7%	65.1%
% 60+ with annual dental exam	B	86.2%	77.5%
# dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages) (County)		65.7	53.0
% 60+ with loss of 6+ teeth	B	17.9%	26.0%

HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias	B	9.8%	12.0%
% 65+ with anemia	B	37.4%	47.0%
% 65+ with asthma		15.4%	15.0%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation		15.9%	14.3%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)	W	47.4%	43.3%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		10.5%	11.5%
% 65+ with cataract	W	67.8%	65.0%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease	B	28.2%	34.0%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	B	17.3%	20.8%
% 65+ with colon cancer		2.4%	2.4%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure	B	15.7%	20.0%
% 65+ with diabetes	B	28.4%	32.4%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)	B	1.3%	2.3%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic pain, and fatigue		32.8%	33.7%
% 65+ with glaucoma		25.6%	26.3%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack	B	4.4%	5.3%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.11%	0.19%
% 65+ with hypertension		74.2%	75.8%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease	B	33.8%	39.4%
% 65+ with liver disease	B	11.1%	13.0%
% 65+ with lung cancer		1.8%	2.0%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		7.8%	8.3%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis	B	54.4%	57.3%
% 65+ with osteoporosis		19.2%	18.9%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease	B	19.1%	23.1%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		7.2%	7.7%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		13.6%	13.4%
% 65+ with stroke		11.8%	11.6%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions	B	59.3%	63.0%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions		7.5%	7.2%
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH			
# drug overdose deaths (all ages) (County)		120	1,699
% 65+ with substance use disorder		7.8%	8.4%
% 60+ who used marijuana in past month		3.9%	4.9%
% 60+ excessive drinking		12.5%	10.0%
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder	B	9.4%	12.1%
% 60+ current smokers	B	5.5%	8.8%
% 60+ ever used E-Cigarettes in past month		0.9%	1.6%

HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
MENTAL HEALTH			
% 60+ who reported receiving adequate emotional support	B	82.1%	77.5%
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in past month		7.4%	8.3%
% 65+ with depression	B	30.7%	34.5%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder	B	28.4%	34.3%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		2.1%	2.2%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder		2.3%	3.1%
LIVING WITH DISABILITY			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		8.5%	12.2%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty	*	2.0%	5.1%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty	*	3.4%	7.0%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		13.6%	18.7%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty	*	0.8%	7.1%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty	*	5.6%	13.0%
CAREGIVING			
# of Alzheimer's support groups		1	9
% 60+ who provide care to a family/friend in past month		24.9%	22.1%
% grandparents raising grandchildren		0.28%	0.71%
ACCESS TO CARE			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	5.6%	15.0%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	34.3%	51.4%
% 60+ with a regular doctor		97.0%	96.6%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost		2.7%	3.9%
# of primary care providers		7	1,176
# of hospitals		0	12
# of home health agencies		1	24
# of skilled nursing facilities		0	75
# of hospice agencies		1	9
# of community health centers		0	52
# of adult day health centers		0	31
SERVICE UTILIZATION			
# physician visits per year		7.5	7.8
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually		465.9	500.0
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually	*	51.0	54.2
# home health visits annually		2.9	3.0
# durable medical equipment claims annually		1.7	1.9
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually	*	189.4	230.9
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		15.5%	17.1%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually	*	41.8	76.0
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		0.0	41.2
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports	*	1.6%	4.0%
% 65+ hospice users	*	2.7%	3.4%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents		54.1%	50.7%

TECHNICAL NOTES

*For more information on data sources, measures, and methodology used in the 2025 Rhode Island Healthy Aging Data Report see our technical documentation at (healthyagingdatareports.org). For most indicators, the community and state values are 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. We balance two goals. First, we aim to report data at very local levels because we believe change is often locally driven. Second, we vowed to protect the privacy of the people providing the information reported. Thus, given the constraints of the data analyzed, we used a hierarchical approach to reporting.

Data Sources:

- *Population Characteristics: The U.S. Census Bureau (American Community Survey (ACS)) 2018-2022; Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS), 2010-2022.*
- *Housing: ACS, 2018-2022; RIDOH, 2023.*
- *Cost of Living: Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging at the University of Massachusetts Boston, 2023.*
- *Economic: ACS, 2018-2022.*
- *Wellness: BRFSS, 2010-2022.*
- *Community: AARP, 2023; ACS, 2018-2022; AgeFriendly RI, 2023; BRFSS, 2010-2022; CDC WONDER, 2016-2020; The CMS Master Beneficiary Summary File ABCD/Other (CMS), 2020-2021; NECHE, 2023; OLLI, 2023; RI State Library, 2023; RI Secretary of State, 2023; U.S. EPA Air Compare, 2023.*
- *Transportation: ACS, 2018-2022; AllTransit™, 2023; BRFSS, 2010-2022; NHTSA, 2018-2022.*
- *Falls: CMS, 2020-2021; BRFSS, 2010-2022.*
- *Prevention: BRFSS, 2010-2022.*
- *Nutrition/Diet: BRFSS, 2010-2022; CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Oral Health: BRFSS, 2010-2022; HRSA, 2023.*
- *Chronic Disease: CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Behavioral Health: BRFSS, 2010-2022; CDC WONDER 2016-2020; CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Mental Health: BRFSS, 2010-2022; CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Living with Disability: ACS, 2018-2022.*
- *Caregiving: ACS, 2018-2022; Alzheimer’s Association, 2023; BRFSS, 2010-2022.*
- *Access to Care: BRFSS, 2010-2022; CMS, 2020-2021; HRSA, 2023; Medicare.gov, 2023; RI Adult Day Services, 2023.*
- *Service Utilization: CMS, 2020-2021.*

Healthy Aging Data Report Research Team (2025): Beth Dugan PhD, Nina Silverstein PhD, Chae Man Lee PhD, Taylor Jansen PhD, Yan-Jhu Su, Yan Lin, Shan Qu, Tiffany Tang & Qian Song PhD, from the Gerontology Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston. The Point32Health Foundation supported the research and provided important guidance.

Suggested citation: Dugan E, Lee CM, Jansen T, Su YJ, Silverstein NM, & Song Q. (2025). The Rhode Island 2025 Healthy Aging Data Report. Retrieved from www.healthyagingdatareports.org

Questions or Ideas? Beth.dugan@umb.edu



Point32Health Foundation

In partnership with



Point32Health companies