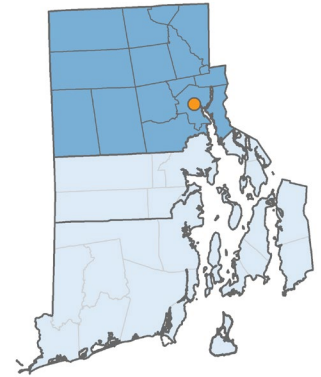


Providence (Providence)

Providence is a city in Providence County with 22,479 residents aged 65 and older. Older adults have lower than state rates of anemia, atrial fibrillation, benign prostatic hyperplasia, cataract, COPD, CHF, fibromyalgia, hypertension, ischemic heart disease, liver disease, arthritis, high cholesterol, and anxiety disorder. However, they have higher rates of tooth loss, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, PTSD, and schizophrenia. They are less likely to get adequate sleep, meet the CDC guidelines for aerobic activity, and have annual dental exams. They are also more likely to report being stressed about buying food and not seeing a doctor when needed due to cost. Community resources to support healthy aging include 4 public universities/community colleges, 3 hospice agencies, 4 senior centers, 5 hospitals, 6 home health agencies, 6 adult day health centers, 7 assisted living facilities, 8 skilled nursing facilities, an Alzheimer's caregiver support group, 10 public libraries, 15 community health centers, and 372 primary care providers. Providence is a designated AARP Age-Friendly Community.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
Total population (all ages)		189,715	1,094,250
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		16.9%	25.0%
Total population 60 years and older		32,086	273,831
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		11.8%	17.9%
Total population 65 years and older		22,479	195,378
% 65-74 years		56.7%	57.8%
% 75-84 years		28.6%	29.0%
% 85 years or older		14.7%	13.2%
% 65+ population who are female		59.5%	56.3%
% 85+ population who are female		72.5%	67.8%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	62.2%	88.6%
% African American	*	12.4%	3.1%
% Asian	*	3.8%	1.8%
% Other race(s)	*	21.7%	6.5%
% Hispanic	*	27.7%	5.9%
# 55+ who are Native American / Alaskan		287	832
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married	*	37.9%	51.6%
% divorced/separated		18.4%	16.9%
% widowed		21.5%	22.2%
% never married	*	22.2%	9.3%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education	*	28.6%	14.9%
% with high school or some college	*	41.4%	53.3%
% with college degree	*	11.5%	15.9%
% with graduate or professional degree		18.5%	16.0%
% 65+ population who speak only English at home	*	59.4%	83.3%
% 65+ population who are veterans of military service	*	8.1%	14.6%
% 60+ LGBT	*	7.7%	4.3%

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
HOUSING			
% 65+ population who live alone	*	34.1%	29.3%
Average household size (all ages)	*	2.5	2.4
Median house value (all ages)	*	\$293,000	\$343,100
% 60+ own home	*	52.0%	71.7%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		55.0%	48.4%
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		34.3%	38.9%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing		29.7%	25.2%
% grandparents who live with grandchildren		3.4%	2.8%
# of assisted living sites		7	63
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH			
COST OF LIVING			
Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	0.98	\$26,640	\$27,168
Single, renter, good health (County)	0.99	\$29,844	\$30,216
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	0.99	\$38,736	\$39,264
Couple, renter, good health (County)	0.99	\$41,940	\$42,312
ECONOMIC			
% 60+ receiving food stamps in past year	*	34.0%	14.7%
% 65+ employed in past year	*	16.0%	19.2%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in past year	*	21.4%	10.7%
Median annual income for households with a householder age 65+	*	\$36,234	\$56,242
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000	*	31.9%	19.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		26.6%	26.8%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999	*	17.3%	26.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+		24.2%	28.0%
WELLNESS			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep	W	57.7%	63.1%
% 60+ doing any physical activity in past month		70.6%	73.5%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity		24.4%	26.1%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity	W	48.6%	55.4%
% 60+ with fair or poor self-reported health status	W	23.7%	17.9%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in past month		15.4%	13.6%
% 60+ who reported being satisfied with life		94.1%	95.5%
COMMUNITY			
Annual # unhealthy days due to air pollution for 65+ (County)		4	NA
AARP Age-Friendly Communities		Yes	Not yet
# of public universities and community colleges		4	9
# of public libraries		10	72
# of senior centers		4	34
# of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI)		0	1
% households with a smartphone (all ages)	*	87.8%	85.8%
% households with only a smartphone to access Internet (all ages)	*	13.6%	8.2%

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
COMMUNITY			
% households without a computer (all ages)		8.2%	7.1%
% households with access to Broadband (all ages)	*	85.6%	89.2%
% households without access to the Internet (all ages)	*	14.2%	10.7%
% 60+ who used Internet in past month	*	62.1%	71.4%
Voter participation rate in 2020 election (age 18+)		45.7%	68.3%
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (County)		3.0	2.1
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (County)		142	226
# 65+ deaths by suicide (County)		43	92
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate		4.6%	4.3%
TRANSPORTATION			
% householders 65+ who own a motor vehicle	*	67.5%	86.2%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt		91.2%	92.3%
% 60+ drove under influence		2.3%	1.9%
# fatal crashes involving adult age 60+ (County)		57	94
AllTransit Score		7.4	2.85
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
FALLS			
% 60+ who fell in past year		25.6%	26.0%
% 60+ who were injured by a fall in past year		10.4%	10.0%
% 65+ with hip fracture		2.8%	3.1%
PREVENTION			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in past year		92.1%	93.0%
% 60+ flu shot in past year		67.6%	67.8%
% 60+ with pneumonia vaccine		61.0%	64.2%
% 60+ with shingles vaccine		34.8%	37.8%
% 60+ women with mammogram in past 2 years		78.6%	82.1%
% 60+ had colorectal cancer screening		66.8%	68.7%
% 60+ with HIV test	*	32.1%	23.5%
% 60+ with optimal preventive health		30.3%	32.3%
NUTRITION & DIET			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		20.3%	18.8%
% 60+ stressed about buying food in past month	W	18.1%	12.3%
% 60+ self-reported obese		26.4%	27.1%
% 65+ with high cholesterol	B	73.4%	79.3%
% 60+ with high cholesterol screening		95.9%	97.3%
ORAL HEALTH			
% 60+ with dental insurance		65.1%	65.1%
% 60+ with annual dental exam	W	71.4%	77.5%
# dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages) (County)		46.2	53.0
% 60+ with loss of 6+ teeth	W	29.8%	26.0%

HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias	W	13.4%	12.0%
% 65+ with anemia	B	45.0%	47.0%
% 65+ with asthma		14.0%	15.0%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation	B	11.5%	14.3%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)	B	38.1%	43.3%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		10.3%	11.5%
% 65+ with cataract	B	59.5%	65.0%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease		34.5%	34.0%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	B	16.9%	20.8%
% 65+ with colon cancer		2.2%	2.4%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure	B	18.4%	20.0%
% 65+ with diabetes	W	35.8%	32.4%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		2.2%	2.3%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic pain, and fatigue	B	30.6%	33.7%
% 65+ with glaucoma		24.9%	26.3%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack		5.3%	5.3%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.71%	0.19%
% 65+ with hypertension	B	71.6%	75.8%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease	B	35.6%	39.4%
% 65+ with liver disease	B	11.6%	13.0%
% 65+ with lung cancer		1.7%	2.0%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		8.0%	8.3%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis	B	50.4%	57.3%
% 65+ with osteoporosis		18.5%	18.9%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease		22.5%	23.1%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		7.0%	7.7%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		13.5%	13.4%
% 65+ with stroke		11.1%	11.6%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions	B	59.3%	63.0%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions	B	10.7%	7.2%
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH			
# drug overdose deaths (all ages) (County)		1,117	1,699
% 65+ with substance use disorder		9.2%	8.4%
% 60+ who used marijuana in past month		5.4%	4.9%
% 60+ excessive drinking		10.1%	10.0%
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder		12.2%	12.1%
% 60+ current smokers		8.6%	8.8%
% 60+ ever used E-Cigarettes in past month		1.1%	1.6%

HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
MENTAL HEALTH			
% 60+ who reported receiving adequate emotional support	W	72.5%	77.5%
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in past month		9.1%	8.3%
% 65+ with depression		35.7%	34.5%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder	B	31.9%	34.3%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder	W	3.2%	2.2%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder	W	4.6%	3.1%
LIVING WITH DISABILITY			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty	*	9.0%	12.2%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		6.6%	5.1%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty	*	12.7%	7.0%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty	*	26.5%	18.7%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty	*	12.7%	7.1%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty	*	19.4%	13.0%
CAREGIVING			
# of Alzheimer's support groups		1	9
% 60+ who provide care to a family/friend in past month		19.6%	22.1%
% grandparents raising grandchildren		1.01%	0.71%
ACCESS TO CARE			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	38.5%	15.0%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	53.3%	51.4%
% 60+ with a regular doctor		95.2%	96.6%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost	W	5.8%	3.9%
# of primary care providers		372	1,176
# of hospitals		5	12
# of home health agencies		6	24
# of skilled nursing facilities		8	75
# of hospice agencies		3	9
# of community health centers		15	52
# of adult day health centers		6	31
SERVICE UTILIZATION			
# physician visits per year	*	6.7	7.8
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually		512.4	500.0
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually	*	55.8	54.2
# home health visits annually		2.9	3.0
# durable medical equipment claims annually	*	1.5	1.9
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		217.2	230.9
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		18.0%	17.1%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		79.6	76.0
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		57.4	41.2
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports	*	7.6%	4.0%
% 65+ hospice users		3.1%	3.4%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents	*	40.7%	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