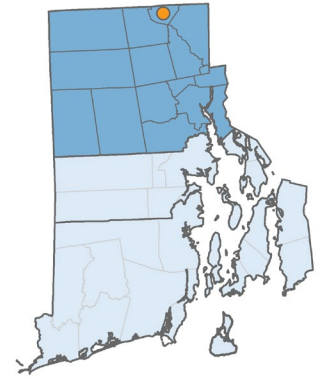


## Woonsocket (Providence)

Woonsocket is a city in Providence County with 6,256 residents aged 65 and older. Compared to state average rates, older residents fare better on some healthy aging indicators with lower rates of benign prostatic hyperplasia, breast cancer, cataract, glaucoma, osteoporosis, and prostate cancer. However, they have higher rates of tooth loss, asthma, chronic kidney disease, COPD, CHF, diabetes, heart attack, hypertension, ischemic heart disease, peripheral vascular disease, and tobacco use disorder. They are less likely to take the health promotion steps of having a flu or shingles vaccine, colorectal cancer screening, having an annual dental exam, engaging in physical activity, or meeting the CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening and aerobic physical activity. They are also more likely to be current smokers, be stressed about buying food, and not seeing a doctor due to cost. Community resources to support healthy aging include one public library, one senior center, one hospital, three adult day health centers, four skilled nursing facilities, four community health centers, and 56 primary care providers



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
Total population (all ages)		43,029	1,094,250
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		21.4%	25.0%
Total population 60 years and older		9,210	273,831
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		14.5%	17.9%
Total population 65 years and older		6,256	195,378
% 65-74 years		59.2%	57.8%
% 75-84 years		30.3%	29.0%
% 85 years or older		10.4%	13.2%
% 65+ population who are female		55.9%	56.3%
% 85+ population who are female		65.5%	67.8%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	84.5%	88.6%
% African American		4.5%	3.1%
% Asian		4.0%	1.8%
% Other race(s)		7.0%	6.5%
% Hispanic		5.6%	5.9%
# 55+ who are Native American / Alaskan		8	832
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married	*	38.1%	51.6%
% divorced/separated	*	23.5%	16.9%
% widowed		27.3%	22.2%
% never married		11.1%	9.3%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education	*	25.8%	14.9%
% with high school or some college		59.5%	53.3%
% with college degree	*	5.6%	15.9%
% with graduate or professional degree	*	9.1%	16.0%
% 65+ population who speak only English at home	*	69.2%	83.3%
% 65+ population who are veterans of military service		17.6%	14.6%
% 60+ LGBT		5.1%	4.3%

<b>POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS</b>	<b>Significantly different than state rate</b>	<b>Community estimate</b>	<b>State estimate</b>
<b>HOUSING</b>			
% 65+ population who live alone		36.4%	29.3%
Average household size (all ages)		2.5	2.4
Median house value (all ages)	*	\$241,000	\$343,100
% 60+ own home	*	46.0%	71.7%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		48.9%	48.4%
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		44.4%	38.9%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing		23.8%	25.2%
% grandparents who live with grandchildren		3.9%	2.8%
# of assisted living sites		3	63
<b>SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH</b>			
<b>COST OF LIVING</b>			
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
<b>ECONOMIC</b>			
% 60+ receiving food stamps in past year	*	28.2%	14.7%
% 65+ employed in past year	*	13.1%	19.2%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in past year	*	16.3%	10.7%
Median annual income for households with a householder age 65+	*	\$33,610	\$56,242
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		32.4%	19.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		31.5%	26.8%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		20.8%	26.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+	*	15.4%	28.0%
<b>WELLNESS</b>			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep		59.0%	63.1%
% 60+ doing any physical activity in past month	W	63.1%	73.5%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity	W	20.1%	26.1%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity	W	46.8%	55.4%
% 60+ with fair or poor self-reported health status	W	24.6%	17.9%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in past month	W	17.7%	13.6%
% 60+ who reported being satisfied with life	W	92.9%	95.5%
<b>COMMUNITY</b>			
Annual # unhealthy days due to air pollution for 65+ (County)		4	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)	*	83.3%	85.8%
% households with only a smartphone to access Internet (all ages)	*	11.9%	8.2%

<b>SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH</b>	<b>Significantly different than state rate</b>	<b>Community estimate</b>	<b>State estimate</b>
<b>COMMUNITY</b>			
% households without a computer (all ages)		7.0%	7.1%
% households with access to Broadband (all ages)	*	86.4%	89.2%
% households without access to the Internet (all ages)	*	13.6%	10.7%
% 60+ who used Internet in past month	*	58.6%	71.4%
Voter participation rate in 2020 election (age 18+)		49.1%	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	W	5.6%	4.3%
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
% householders 65+ who own a motor vehicle	*	76.1%	86.2%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt		91.4%	92.3%
% 60+ drove under influence		1.5%	1.9%
# fatal crashes involving adult age 60+ (County)		57	94
AllTransit Score		3.8	2.85
<b>HEALTH OUTCOMES</b>			
<b>FALLS</b>			
% 60+ who fell in past year		23.5%	26.0%
% 60+ who were injured by a fall in past year		11.5%	10.0%
% 65+ with hip fracture		2.5%	3.1%
<b>PREVENTION</b>			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in past year		92.1%	93.0%
% 60+ flu shot in past year	W	60.3%	67.8%
% 60+ with pneumonia vaccine		62.7%	64.2%
% 60+ with shingles vaccine	W	31.2%	37.8%
% 60+ women with mammogram in past 2 years		80.8%	82.1%
% 60+ had colorectal cancer screening	W	63.7%	68.7%
% 60+ with HIV test	*	31.8%	23.5%
% 60+ with optimal preventive health		29.2%	32.3%
<b>NUTRITION &amp; DIET</b>			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		16.7%	18.8%
% 60+ stressed about buying food in past month	W	20.7%	12.3%
% 60+ self-reported obese	W	34.0%	27.1%
% 65+ with high cholesterol		77.9%	79.3%
% 60+ with high cholesterol screening		95.9%	97.3%
<b>ORAL HEALTH</b>			
% 60+ with dental insurance		62.6%	65.1%
% 60+ with annual dental exam	W	65.7%	77.5%
# dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages) (County)		46.2	53.0
% 60+ with loss of 6+ teeth	W	38.5%	26.0%

## HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
<b>CHRONIC DISEASE</b>			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias		12.5%	12.0%
% 65+ with anemia		46.3%	47.0%
% 65+ with asthma	W	17.8%	15.0%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation		14.0%	14.3%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)	B	37.9%	43.3%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)	B	8.5%	11.5%
% 65+ with cataract	B	60.3%	65.0%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease	W	40.5%	34.0%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	W	29.9%	20.8%
% 65+ with colon cancer		2.8%	2.4%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure	W	27.7%	20.0%
% 65+ with diabetes	W	36.0%	32.4%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		1.9%	2.3%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic pain, and fatigue		33.1%	33.7%
% 65+ with glaucoma	B	22.9%	26.3%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack	W	7.3%	5.3%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.21%	0.19%
% 65+ with hypertension	W	78.9%	75.8%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease	W	44.1%	39.4%
% 65+ with liver disease		13.0%	13.0%
% 65+ with lung cancer		1.9%	2.0%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		8.3%	8.3%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis		55.2%	57.3%
% 65+ with osteoporosis	B	16.7%	18.9%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease	W	31.0%	23.1%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		7.3%	7.7%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)	B	9.4%	13.4%
% 65+ with stroke		11.8%	11.6%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions	W	66.3%	63.0%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions	B	9.2%	7.2%
<b>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b>			
# drug overdose deaths (all ages) (County)		1,117	1,699
% 65+ with substance use disorder		10.1%	8.4%
% 60+ who used marijuana in past month		3.8%	4.9%
% 60+ excessive drinking		7.6%	10.0%
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder	W	18.9%	12.1%
% 60+ current smokers	W	13.4%	8.8%
% 60+ ever used E-Cigarettes in past month		1.9%	1.6%

## HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>			
% 60+ who reported receiving adequate emotional support	W	66.8%	77.5%
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in past month		11.2%	8.3%
% 65+ with depression		34.2%	34.5%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder		36.0%	34.3%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		2.8%	2.2%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder		4.1%	3.1%
<b>LIVING WITH DISABILITY</b>			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		16.6%	12.2%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		5.2%	5.1%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		7.3%	7.0%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		24.1%	18.7%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		5.6%	7.1%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		15.1%	13.0%
<b>CAREGIVING</b>			
# of Alzheimer's support groups		0	9
% 60+ who provide care to a family/friend in past month		18.2%	22.1%
% grandparents raising grandchildren		0.65%	0.71%
<b>ACCESS TO CARE</b>			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	26.4%	15.0%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	59.2%	51.4%
% 60+ with a regular doctor		95.4%	96.6%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost	W	6.3%	3.9%
# of primary care providers		56	1,176
# of hospitals		1	12
# of home health agencies		0	24
# of skilled nursing facilities		4	75
# of hospice agencies		0	9
# of community health centers		4	52
# of adult day health centers		3	31
<b>SERVICE UTILIZATION</b>			
# physician visits per year	*	7.1	7.8
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually	*	601.1	500.0
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually	*	60.2	54.2
# home health visits annually		2.6	3.0
# durable medical equipment claims annually	*	2.3	1.9
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		264.8	230.9
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		20.9%	17.1%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		87.9	76.0
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		102.8	41.2
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports	*	7.5%	4.0%
% 65+ hospice users		3.7%	3.4%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents	*	40.8%	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](http://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](http://www.healthyagingdatareports.org)

Questions or Ideas? [Beth.dugan@umb.edu](mailto:Beth.dugan@umb.edu)



Point32Health Foundation

In partnership with



Point32Health companies