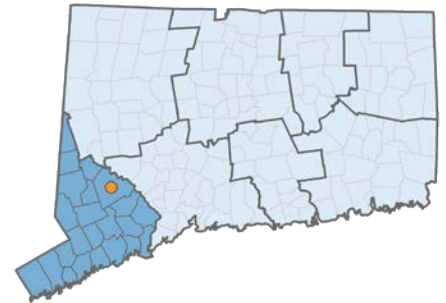


## Newtown (Fairfield)

Newtown is a town in Fairfield County with 4,464 residents age 65 or older. Compared to state average rates, older residents fared better on some healthy aging indicators with lower rates of Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, atrial fibrillation, CHF, diabetes, heart attack, substance and tobacco use disorders, schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders. However, they had higher rates of obesity, asthma, fibromyalgia/chronic pain/fatigue, peripheral vascular disease, prostate cancer, and visual impairment. They are more likely to take the health promotion steps of doing physical activity within last month and not smoke. Community resources to support healthy aging include 13 primary care providers and a nursing home within 5 miles, 20 home health agencies, 9 hospice agencies, 2 caregiver support groups, an assisted living site, a senior center, and a public library. Newtown has been designated an Age-Friendly community.



<b>POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS</b>	<b>Significantly different than STATE RATE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
Total population all ages		27,853	3,581,504
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		23.1%	23.0%
Total population 60 years or older		6,438	823,529
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		16.0%	16.4%
Total population 65 years or older		4,464	587,580
% 65-74 years	*	50.8%	55.7%
% 75-84 years		31.2%	29.1%
% 85 years or older		18.0%	15.2%
% 65+ population who are female		55.6%	56.8%
% 85+ population who are female		68.9%	66.6%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	98.8%	88.4%
% African American	*	0.2%	6.8%
% Asian		1.0%	2.3%
% Other race		0.0%	2.6%
% Hispanic/Latino	*	0.8%	5.8%
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married	*	64.6%	53.8%
% divorced/separated	*	8.1%	14.9%
% widowed		23.0%	24.2%
% never married	*	4.3%	7.1%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education	*	6.4%	14.7%
% with high school or some college		49.9%	53.3%
% with college degree	*	43.6%	32.1%
% with graduate or professional degree	*	22.6%	16.8%
% of 65+ population who speak only English at home	*	93.8%	84.3%
% of 65+ population who are veterans of military service		19.4%	17.4%

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
<b>POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
% of 60+ who are LGBT (county)		2.1%	2.5%
Median age of females		47.4	42.6
Median age of males		44.7	39.1
Life expectancy at birth (county)		82.7	80.9
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate		3.7%	4.1%
<b>WELLNESS</b>			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep		68.3%	65.2%
% 60+ doing any physical activity within last month	B	81.0%	75.0%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity		30.1%	27.6%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity		62.4%	58.0%
% 60+ with fair or poor health status	B	12.9%	17.6%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in last month		10.7%	12.4%
<b>FALLS</b>			
% 60+ who fell within last year		25.4%	26.3%
% 60+ who were injured in a fall within last year		8.5%	9.8%
% 65+ had hip fracture		4.0%	3.7%
<b>PREVENTION</b>			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in last year		84.9%	88.5%
% 60+ flu shot in last year		63.3%	57.5%
% 60+ with pneumonia vaccine		60.5%	63.9%
% 60+ with shingles vaccine		35.4%	33.5%
% 60+ women with a mammogram within last 2 years		78.3%	79.7%
% 60+ with colorectal cancer screening		79.6%	78.2%
% 60+ with HIV test		13.2%	16.1%
% 60+ met CDC preventive health screening goals		36.7%	39.6%
<b>NUTRITION &amp; DIET</b>			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		23.8%	19.9%
% 65+ with poor supermarket access		61.5%	32.4%
% 60+ stressed about buying food in last month		8.1%	8.6%
% 60+ self-reported obese		22.0%	26.1%
% 65+ clinically diagnosed obesity	W	24.6%	22.5%
% 65+ with high cholesterol		78.1%	77.0%
% 60+ with cholesterol screening		97.9%	97.1%
<b>ORAL HEALTH</b>			
% 60+ with dental insurance		58.3%	59.2%
% 60+ with annual dental exam		83.6%	79.9%
# of dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages)		89.8	75.1
% 60+ with loss of 6 or more teeth		21.3%	23.8%
<b>CHRONIC DISEASE</b>			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias	B	13.0%	14.4%
% 65+ with anemia		49.5%	50.6%

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
% 65+ with asthma	W	16.8%	14.1%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation	B	14.6%	16.1%
% 65+ with autism spectrum disorder		0.07%	0.12%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)		45.4%	42.7%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		11.2%	11.4%
% 65+ with cataract		64.0%	64.8%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease		28.5%	29.9%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease		19.6%	21.0%
% 65+ with colon cancer		2.2%	2.7%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure	B	16.7%	22.6%
% 65+ with diabetes	B	31.7%	33.8%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		2.0%	2.0%
% 65+ with epilepsy		2.7%	2.9%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic, pain and fatigue	W	31.3%	26.6%
% 65+ with glaucoma		26.6%	28.3%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack	B	3.6%	4.5%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS	*	0.14%	0.21%
% 65+ with hypertension		74.4%	76.2%
% 65+ with hypothyroidism		25.8%	25.1%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease		39.1%	40.7%
% 65+ with leukemias and lymphomas		2.3%	2.7%
% 65+ with liver disease		10.4%	9.5%
% 65+ with lung cancer		1.6%	1.9%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		6.0%	5.2%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis		55.8%	54.2%
% 65+ with osteoporosis		20.7%	20.2%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease	W	23.5%	19.9%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		9.7%	9.2%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)	W	15.2%	13.1%
% 65+ with stroke		11.3%	11.9%
% 65+ with traumatic brain injury		1.5%	1.3%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions		59.8%	61.8%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions		6.9%	7.2%
<b>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b>			
# of drug overdose deaths (all ages)		20	4,613
% 65+ with opioid use disorder		2.8%	2.2%
% 65+ with substance use disorder	B	5.6%	6.8%
% 60+ who used marijuana in last month		N/A	2.9%
% 60+ excessive drinking		8.9%	9.2%
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder	B	8.1%	10.1%
% 60+ current smokers	B	4.3%	7.7%
% 60+ ever used E-Cigarettes in last month		5.5%	6.3%

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>			
% 60+ who reported receiving adequate emotional support		78.2%	78.3%
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in last month		8.3%	6.9%
% 65+ with depression		29.7%	30.3%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder		25.2%	25.5%
% 65+ with bipolar disorder		3.2%	3.8%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		0.8%	1.2%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder	B	2.9%	4.6%
% 65+ with personality disorder		2.3%	2.5%
<b>LIVING WITH DISABILITY</b>			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		13.0%	12.4%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of deafness or hearing impairment		16.8%	15.7%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		3.8%	4.8%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of blindness or visual impairment	W	1.7%	1.1%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		9.1%	7.6%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		16.3%	19.1%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of mobility impairment		4.8%	4.0%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		9.2%	7.5%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		16.6%	13.6%
<b>CAREGIVING</b>			
# of caregiver support groups		2	127
# of Memory Cafes		0	6
% of 60+ who provide care to a family/friend in last month		18.5%	21.7%
% of grandparents raising grandchildren		0.9%	0.8%
% of grandparents who live with grandchildren		2.6%	2.7%
<b>ACCESS TO CARE</b>			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	11.9%	22.1%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	20.4%	29.9%
% 60+ with a regular doctor		95.7%	96.0%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost		6.4%	4.5%
# of primary care providers within 5 miles		13	10,508
# of hospitals within 5 miles		0	71
# of home health agencies		20	3,124
# of nursing homes within 5 miles		1	419
# of community health centers		0	83
# of adult day health centers		0	55
# of hospice agencies		9	38
<b>SERVICE UTILIZATION</b>			
# physician visits per year	*	10.1	8.6
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually	*	445.0	636.7

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE</b>	<b>COMMUNITY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually	*	47.2	50.3
# home health visits annually		4.1	4.1
# durable medical equipment claims annually	*	1.6	1.9
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually	*	223.4	273.3
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)	*	13.7%	17.2%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		94.2	104.7
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		34.4	42.3
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports	*	3.1%	5.5%
% 65+ hospice users		2.6%	2.7%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents		47.9%	45.5%
Median hospice days per hospice user (65+, deceased)		11.0	10
Median hospice payment (Medicare + other) per hospice user		\$3,409.92	\$3,741.18
<b>COMMUNITY</b>			
Air pollution: annual # of unhealthy days for 65+ (county)		21	N/A
Age-friendly efforts in community		Yes	Not yet
# of senior centers		1	165
# of universities and community colleges		0	64
# of public libraries		1	238
# of YMCAs		0	19
% in county with access to broadband (all ages)		99.9%	99.1%
% 60+ who used Internet in last month	*	85.5%	75.1%
Voter participation rate in 2016 election (age 18+)		85.5%	76.9%
<b>SAFETY &amp; CRIME</b>			
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (county)		3.1	2.0
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (county)		200	932
# 65+ deaths by suicide (county)		15	26
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
% 65+ who own a motor vehicle	*	92.1%	87.3%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt		94.7%	93.0%
% 60+ who drove under the influence of drinking in last month		N/A	2.2%
# of fatal crashes involving adult age 60+/town		3	342
# of fatal crashes involving adult age 60+/county		61	342
<b>HOUSING</b>			
% 65+ population who live alone		25.8%	28.4%
Average household size (all ages)		2.8	2.5
Median house value		\$403,800.00	\$272,700.00
% 60+ own home	*	83.6%	76.9%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		44.7%	47.1%
% 60+ stressed about paying rent/mortgage in last month		17.3%	17.4%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		60.9%	44.0%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing		29.3%	29.5%
% 65+ moved within same county in last year		2.3%	3.7%
% 65+ moved from different county in last year		0.4%	0.8%
% 65+ moved from different state in last year		1.2%	0.9%
# of assisted living sites		1	80
% of vacant homes in community	*	6.4%	9.6%
<b>ECONOMIC</b>			
% 60+ receiving food benefits in last year	*	2.8%	10.9%
% 65+ employed in last year		21.7%	24.8%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in last year		4.5%	7.0%
Median household income		\$123,974.00	\$76,106.00
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000	*	10.3%	17.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		34.3%	31.0%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		22.6%	27.6%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+	*	32.8%	24.4%
<b>COST OF LIVING</b>			
	RATIO OF COUNTY TO STATE	\$ COUNTY ESTIMATE	\$ STATE ESTIMATE
<b>Elder Index</b>			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health	1.11	\$29,664.00	\$26,796.00
Single, renter, good health	1.11	\$31,560.00	\$28,536.00
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health	1.07	\$40,692.00	\$37,920.00
Couple, renter, good health	1.07	\$42,588.00	\$39,660.00

#### TECHNICAL NOTES

\*See our technical report (online at <https://healthyagingdatareports.org>) for more information on data sources, measures, geographic units, margins of error, and statistical methodology. 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. "Better" is used where a higher/lower value has positive implications for the health of older residents. "Worse" is used where a higher/lower score has negative implications for the health of older people, and when the implication is unclear, we use an \*.

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 2014-2018), The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2012-2018), Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2020), The CMS Master Beneficiary Summary File ABCD/Other (2016-2017).
- Wellness, Falls, Prevention, Nutrition/Diet, Oral Health: BRFSS (2012-2018), CMS (2016-2017), the USDA Food Atlas (2017), CT Dept. of Public Health (DPH) (2020).
- Chronic Disease: CMS (2016-2017).
- Behavioral Health, Mental Health: CT DPH (2020), CMS (2016-2017), BRFSS (2012-2018), CDC Wonder (2014-2018).
- Living with Disability: CMS (2016-2017), ACS (2014-2018).
- Caregiving: CT Dept. of Aging (2020), [memorycafedirectory.com](http://memorycafedirectory.com) (2020), BRFSS (2012-2018), ACS (2014-2018).
- Access to Care: CMS (2016-2017), BRFSS (2012-2018), Medicare.gov (Sep. 2020), Community Health Center Association of CT (2020), National Adult Day Services Association (2020).
- Service Utilization: CMS (2016-2017), Medicare.gov (Sep. 2020).
- Community: U.S. EPA Air Compare (2020), AARP (2020), CT Health and Human Services (2020), New England Commission of Higher Education (2020), CT State Library, Division of Library Development (2021), CT YMCA (2020), the FCC (2018), BRFSS (2012-2018), CT Secretary of State (2020).
- Safety & Crime: CDC Wonder (2014-2018).
- Transportation: ACS (2014-2018), BRFSS (2012-2018), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (2014-2018).
- Housing, Economic, Cost of Living: BRFSS (2012-2018), ACS (2014-2018), [www.seniorcare.com/assisted-living/](http://www.seniorcare.com/assisted-living/) (2020), Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging, University of Massachusetts Boston (2019).

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