

West Warwick (Kent)

West Warwick is a town in Kent County with 4,701 residents age 65 or older. Compared to state average rates, older residents fared better on one healthy aging indicator with a lower rate of asthma. However, they had higher rates of high cholesterol, anemia, chronic kidney disease, CHF, diabetes, hypertension, hypothyroidism, ischemic heart disease, tobacco use disorder, and anxiety disorder. They are more likely to take the health promotion step of having an annual dental exam. Community resources to support healthy aging include 244 primary care providers, a hospital, and 7 nursing homes within 5 miles; 21 home health agencies, 2 community health centers, 8 hospice agencies, a senior center, and a public library.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
Total population all ages		28,955	1,056,611
Median age of females		40.8	41.6
Median age of males		37.3	38.1
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		23.4%	23.0%
Total population 60 years or older		6,782	243,523
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		16.2%	16.5%
Total population 65 years or older		4,701	174,210
% 65-74 years		58.0%	55.6%
% 75-84 years		27.3%	28.9%
% 85 years or older		14.7%	15.5%
% 65+ population who are female		54.4%	57.2%
% 85+ population who are female		60.5%	69.7%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White		96.8%	92.0%
% African American		1.8%	3.2%
% Asian		0.7%	1.6%
% Other race		0.7%	3.3%
% Hispanic/Latino	*	1.4%	4.9%
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		49.2%	51.3%
% divorced/separated		19.8%	15.7%
% widowed		25.8%	25.0%
% never married		5.1%	8.0%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education		16.9%	19.1%
% with high school or some college	*	66.9%	52.9%
% with college degree	*	7.8%	14.2%
% with graduate or professional degree	*	8.4%	13.9%
% of 65+ population who speak only English at home		87.3%	82.9%
% of 65+ population who are veterans of military service		23.2%	19.0%
% of 60+ who are LGBT		2.5%	2.8%
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate		4.7%	4.4%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
WELLNESS			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep		61.9%	63.0%
% 60+ doing any physical activity within last month		71.4%	71.0%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity		22.0%	25.0%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity		53.2%	54.3%
% 60+ with fair or poor health status		19.0%	19.5%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in last month		14.0%	14.5%
FALLS			
% 60+ who fell within last year		26.4%	26.3%
% 60+ who were injured in a fall within last year		9.9%	10.3%
% 65+ had hip fracture		3.6%	3.4%
PREVENTION			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in last year		93.8%	93.0%
% 60+ flu shot in last year		59.9%	60.6%
% 60+ with pneumonia vaccine		71.2%	67.7%
% 60+ with shingles vaccine		34.2%	35.3%
% 60+ women with a mammogram within last 2 years		82.1%	82.0%
% 60+ with colorectal cancer screening		77.1%	77.8%
% 60+ with HIV test		14.2%	15.8%
% 60+ met CDC preventive health screening goals		35.5%	39.2%
NUTRITION & DIET			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		14.6%	18.1%
% 65+ with poor supermarket access		15.9%	23.6%
% 60+ stressed about buying food in last month		12.8%	13.2%
% 60+ self-reported obese		30.1%	26.8%
% 65+ clinically diagnosed obesity		31.0%	29.3%
% 65+ with high cholesterol	W	81.5%	79.1%
% 60+ with cholesterol screening		95.7%	96.9%
ORAL HEALTH			
% 60+ with dental insurance		55.0%	56.3%
% 60+ with annual dental exam	W	69.3%	75.9%
# of dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages)		45.1	64.7
% 60+ with loss of 6 or more teeth		32.9%	29.6%
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias		12.3%	13.1%
% 65+ with anemia	W	53.7%	50.0%
% 65+ with asthma	B	12.9%	14.9%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation		13.4%	15.0%
% 65+ with autism spectrum disorder		N/A	0.04%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)		39.8%	42.2%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		10.8%	11.1%
% 65+ with cataract		66.5%	67.5%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease	W	35.5%	30.7%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease		22.6%	22.9%
% 65+ with colon cancer		3.0%	2.7%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure	W	24.0%	21.6%
% 65+ with diabetes	W	38.3%	34.7%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		2.2%	1.9%
% 65+ with epilepsy		3.4%	2.9%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic pain and fatigue		26.4%	25.4%
% 65+ with glaucoma		25.5%	27.0%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack		5.7%	5.8%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.06%	0.12%
% 65+ with hypertension	W	80.8%	78.0%
% 65+ with hypothyroidism	W	24.7%	22.4%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease	W	49.6%	41.8%
% 65+ with leukemias and lymphomas		2.9%	2.7%
% 65+ with liver disease		10.6%	9.9%
% 65+ with lung cancer		2.3%	2.1%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		6.9%	6.1%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis		58.1%	56.2%
% 65+ with osteoporosis		20.4%	19.6%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease		25.0%	25.6%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		8.6%	8.1%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		12.9%	13.4%
% 65+ with stroke		12.9%	11.9%
% 65+ with traumatic brain injury		0.9%	1.0%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions	W	68.4%	63.8%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions		6.8%	7.0%
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH			
# opioid deaths (all ages)		56	1,654
% 65+ with opioid use disorder		2.4%	1.9%
% 65+ with substance use disorder		7.2%	7.0%
% 60+ who used marijuana in last month		N/A	3.4%
% 60+ excessive drinking		9.8%	9.3%
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder	W	12.8%	10.8%
% 60+ current smokers		9.4%	8.7%
% 60+ ever used E-Cigarettes in last month		7.5%	5.8%
MENTAL HEALTH			
% 60+ who reported receiving adequate emotional support		79.9%	79.7%
% 60+ who reported being satisfied with life		94.9%	95.3%
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in last month		8.4%	7.4%
% 65+ with depression		33.8%	32.9%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder	W	33.5%	29.8%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ with bipolar disorder		4.7%	4.1%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		1.8%	1.7%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder		4.5%	3.8%
% 65+ with personality disorder		3.2%	2.8%
LIVING WITH DISABILITY			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		15.3%	13.9%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of deafness or hearing impairment		16.0%	16.4%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		5.1%	5.5%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of blindness or visual impairment		0.9%	1.1%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		8.9%	8.2%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		25.2%	21.0%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of mobility impairment		4.1%	3.8%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		8.0%	8.0%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		15.5%	14.3%
CAREGIVING			
# of Alzheimer's disease specific support groups		0	16
# of Memory Cafes		0	10
% of 60+ who provide care to a family/friend in last month		27.2%	22.5%
% of grandparents raising grandchildren		1.6%	1.0%
% of grandparents who live with grandchildren		3.3%	3.2%
ACCESS TO CARE			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	12.4%	13.8%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	47.9%	43.8%
% 60+ with a regular doctor		96.7%	96.7%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost		5.1%	5.4%
# of primary care providers within 5 miles		244	1,605
# of hospitals within 5 miles		1	13
# of home health agencies		21	23
# of nursing homes within 5 miles		7	80
# of community health centers		2	43
# of adult day health centers		0	31
# of hospice agencies		8	18
SERVICE UTILIZATION			
# physician visits per year		8.4	8.4
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually		650.0	620.6
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually		52.7	52.2
# home health visits annually		3.3	3.5
# durable medical equipment claims annually		1.8	1.7
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		282.7	286.5
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		20.4%	17.4%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		91.3	98.8

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		23.0	47.1
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports	*	2.5%	4.2%
% 65+ hospice users		3.1%	3.5%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents		54.1%	53.0%
Median hospice days per hospice user (65+, deceased)		13.5	11.0
Median hospice payment (Medicare + other) per hospice user		\$4,157.13	\$3,870.97
COMMUNITY			
Air pollution: annual # of unhealthy days for 65+ (county)		6	N/A
Age-friendly efforts in community		Not yet	Yes
# of senior centers		1	32
# of universities and community colleges		0	19
# of public libraries		1	71
# of YMCAs		0	15
% in county with access to broadband (all ages)		98.7%	98.1%
% 60+ who used Internet in last month		72.8%	71.6%
Voter participation rate in 2016 election (age 18+)		51.5%	55.0%
% 60+ who believe local service orgs understand needs		41.1%	44.1%
% 60+ who believe he/she can make a difference		50.8%	52.2%
% 60+ who believe working together can make a difference		76.8%	81.0%
% 60+ who volunteer at least once per month		18.8%	22.9%
% 60+ who attend community events (church, club) monthly		40.9%	44.4%
SAFETY & CRIME			
Violent crime rate /100,000 persons		228.8	220.3
Homicide rate /100,000 persons (county)		1	2
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (county)		129	895
Property crime rate /100,000 persons		1091.6	1,678.4
# 65+ deaths by suicide (county)		11	57
TRANSPORTATION			
% 65+ who own a motor vehicle		84.2%	85.0%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt		91.1%	91.9%
% 60+ who drove under the influence of drinking in last month		N/A	2.0%
# of fatal crashes involving adult age 60+/town		1	82
# of fatal crashes involving adult age 60+/county		16	82
HOUSING			
% 65+ population who live alone	*	39.2%	31.4%
Average household size (all ages)		2.2	2.5
Median house value		\$189,000.00	\$249,800.00
% 60+ own home		68.5%	70.3%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		53.7%	48.7%
% 60+ stressed about paying rent/mortgage in last month		18.4%	22.1%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		33.0%	39.2%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing	*	32.5%	27.6%
% 65+ moved within same county in last year		2.5%	3.6%
% 65+ moved from different county in last year		2.0%	1.0%
% 65+ moved from different state in last year		0.0%	1.1%
# of assisted living sites		1	62
% of vacant homes in community	*	7.1%	12.1%
ECONOMIC			
% 60+ receiving food benefits in last year		17.6%	15.0%
% 65+ employed in last year		21.6%	21.9%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in last year		11.7%	9.5%
Median household income		\$53,741.00	\$63,296.00
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		30.6%	24.3%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		33.6%	32.2%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		24.1%	24.8%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+	*	11.6%	18.7%
COST OF LIVING			
	RATIO OF COUNTY TO STATE	\$ COUNTY ESTIMATE	\$ STATE ESTIMATE
Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.99	\$23,136.00	\$23,484.00
Single, renter, good health	0.99	\$25,344.00	\$25,560.00
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.99	\$33,636.00	\$33,984.00
Couple, renter, good health	0.99	\$35,844.00	\$36,060.00

TECHNICAL NOTES

*See our technical report (online at <https://healthyagingdatareports.org>) for more information on data sources, measures, and 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).
- Wellness, Falls, Prevention, Nutrition/Diet, Oral Health: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2012-2017), the USDA Food Atlas (2017), CMS (2016-2017).
- Chronic Disease: The CMS Master Beneficiary Summary File ABCD/Other (2016-2017).
- Behavioral Health, Mental Health: BRFSS (2012-2017), CMS (2016-2017), CDC Wonder website (2016-2020).
- Living with Disability: CMS (2016-2017) and ACS (2014-2018).
- Caregiving: BRFSS (2012-2017), memorycafedirectory.com (2020), and the Alzheimer's Assoc. (May 2018).
- Access to Care: BRFSS (2012-2017), CMS (2017), Medicare.gov (May 2020), and RI Health Center Association (2020), and RI Department of Health.
- Service Utilization: CMS (2017), and Medicare Nursing Home Compare (May 2020).
- Community: BRFSS (2012-2017), AARP (2020 update; <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/network-age-friendly-communities/info-2014/member-list.html>), New England Commission of Higher Education (2020), Office of Library and Information Services (2021), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Air Compare (2018), RI YMCA (May 2020), the Federal Communications Commission (2018), and BRFSS (2012-2017).
- Safety & Crime: U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation (2017-2018), the County Health Rankings (2016-2020).
- Transportation: BRFSS (2012-2017), ACS (2014-2018), and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (2014-2018).
- Housing & Economic: BRFSS (2012-2017), ACS (2014-2018).
- Cost of Living: Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging at the University of Massachusetts Boston (2019).

Healthy Aging Data Report Team: Many people contributed to this research. The 2020 research team: Beth Dugan PhD, Nina Silverstein PhD, Chae Man Lee PhD, Frank Porell PhD, ShuangShuang Wang PhD, Haowei Wang PhD, Xiao Joyce Wang, Richard Chunga, Taylor Jansen, & Shu Xu from the Gerontology Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston. The Tufts Health Plan Foundation supported the research and provided important guidance. Questions? Beth.dugan@umb.edu (Revised 1/5/2021)