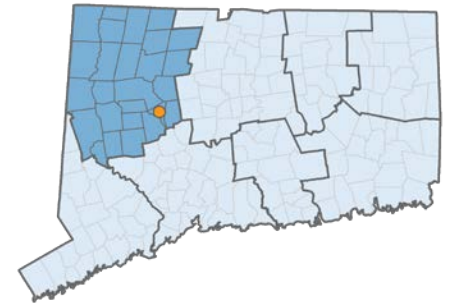


Thomaston (Litchfield)

Thomaston is a town in Litchfield County with 1,310 residents age 65 or older. Compared to state average rates, older residents fared better on some healthy aging indicators with lower rates of asthma, fibromyalgia/chronic pain/fatigue, traumatic brain injury, and schizophrenia or other psychotic disorder. However, they had higher rates of obesity, tooth loss, chronic kidney disease, COPD, and substance use disorder. They are less likely to take the health promotion steps of doing physical activity, always wearing a seatbelt, and meeting the CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity. In addition, they are more likely to be stressed about paying rent/mortgage in the last month. Community resources to support healthy aging include 7 primary care providers and a nursing home within 5 miles, 20 home health agencies, 5 hospice agencies, a senior center, and a public library.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
Total population all ages		7,623	3,581,504
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		25.5%	23.0%
Total population 60 years or older		1,945	823,529
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		17.2%	16.4%
Total population 65 years or older		1,310	587,580
% 65-74 years		61.9%	55.7%
% 75-84 years		27.3%	29.1%
% 85 years or older		10.8%	15.2%
% 65+ population who are female		58.9%	56.8%
% 85+ population who are female		80.1%	66.6%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	100.0%	88.4%
% African American	*	0.0%	6.8%
% Asian		0.0%	2.3%
% Other race		0.0%	2.6%
% Hispanic/Latino	*	0.0%	5.8%
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		48.9%	53.8%
% divorced/separated		23.3%	14.9%
% widowed		21.9%	24.2%
% never married		5.9%	7.1%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education		13.6%	14.7%
% with high school or some college	*	65.7%	53.3%
% with college degree	*	20.7%	32.1%
% with graduate or professional degree	*	9.5%	16.8%
% of 65+ population who speak only English at home	*	97.2%	84.3%
% of 65+ population who are veterans of military service		15.4%	17.4%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS			
% of 60+ who are LGBT (county)		1.8%	2.5%
Median age of females		46.2	42.6
Median age of males		40.0	39.1
Life expectancy at birth (county)		80.4	80.9
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate	W	6.1%	4.1%
WELLNESS			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep		66.6%	65.2%
% 60+ doing any physical activity within last month	W	66.0%	75.0%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity	W	20.1%	27.6%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity		52.4%	58.0%
% 60+ with fair or poor health status		20.5%	17.6%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in last month		13.9%	12.4%
FALLS			
% 60+ who fell within last year		22.6%	26.3%
% 60+ who were injured in a fall within last year		11.1%	9.8%
% 65+ had hip fracture		3.3%	3.7%
PREVENTION			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in last year		90.9%	88.5%
% 60+ flu shot in last year		54.6%	57.5%
% 60+ with pneumonia vaccine		61.5%	63.9%
% 60+ with shingles vaccine		28.8%	33.5%
% 60+ women with a mammogram within last 2 years		79.3%	79.7%
% 60+ with colorectal cancer screening		76.2%	78.2%
% 60+ with HIV test		13.6%	16.1%
% 60+ met CDC preventive health screening goals		39.4%	39.6%
NUTRITION & DIET			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		17.5%	19.9%
% 65+ with poor supermarket access		58.5%	32.4%
% 60+ stressed about buying food in last month		12.3%	8.6%
% 60+ self-reported obese		30.9%	26.1%
% 65+ clinically diagnosed obesity	W	26.7%	22.5%
% 65+ with high cholesterol		79.4%	77.0%
% 60+ with cholesterol screening		97.9%	97.1%
ORAL HEALTH			
% 60+ with dental insurance		57.8%	59.2%
% 60+ with annual dental exam		78.2%	79.9%
# of dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages)		13.1	75.1
% 60+ with loss of 6 or more teeth	W	31.6%	23.8%
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias		13.7%	14.4%
% 65+ with anemia		52.6%	50.6%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ with asthma	B	11.5%	14.1%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation		16.3%	16.1%
% 65+ with autism spectrum disorder		0.09%	0.12%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)		44.8%	42.7%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		9.4%	11.4%
% 65+ with cataract		62.5%	64.8%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease	W	36.6%	29.9%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	W	24.4%	21.0%
% 65+ with colon cancer		2.7%	2.7%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure		24.4%	22.6%
% 65+ with diabetes		35.7%	33.8%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		1.7%	2.0%
% 65+ with epilepsy		3.5%	2.9%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic, pain and fatigue	B	22.5%	26.6%
% 65+ with glaucoma		27.6%	28.3%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack		5.5%	4.5%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.21%	0.21%
% 65+ with hypertension		78.4%	76.2%
% 65+ with hypothyroidism		25.0%	25.1%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease		43.1%	40.7%
% 65+ with leukemias and lymphomas		2.3%	2.7%
% 65+ with liver disease		8.3%	9.5%
% 65+ with lung cancer		2.1%	1.9%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		6.6%	5.2%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis		53.8%	54.2%
% 65+ with osteoporosis		18.9%	20.2%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease		20.8%	19.9%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		11.2%	9.2%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		12.3%	13.1%
% 65+ with stroke		14.2%	11.9%
% 65+ with traumatic brain injury	B	1.0%	1.3%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions		65.3%	61.8%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions		7.1%	7.2%
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH			
# of drug overdose deaths (all ages)		13	4,613
% 65+ with opioid use disorder		2.0%	2.2%
% 65+ with substance use disorder	W	9.4%	6.8%
% 60+ who used marijuana in last month		N/A	2.9%
% 60+ excessive drinking		7.1%	9.2%
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder		11.2%	10.1%
% 60+ current smokers		7.7%	7.7%
% 60+ ever used E-Cigarettes in last month		5.7%	6.3%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
MENTAL HEALTH			
% 60+ who reported receiving adequate emotional support		76.4%	78.3%
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in last month	W	10.9%	6.9%
% 65+ with depression		32.1%	30.3%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder		26.8%	25.5%
% 65+ with bipolar disorder		3.3%	3.8%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		1.2%	1.2%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder	B	3.9%	4.6%
% 65+ with personality disorder		2.2%	2.5%
LIVING WITH DISABILITY			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		12.1%	12.4%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of deafness or hearing impairment		18.0%	15.7%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		4.7%	4.8%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of blindness or visual impairment		0.9%	1.1%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		4.3%	7.6%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		21.1%	19.1%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of mobility impairment		5.2%	4.0%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty	*	3.0%	7.5%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		9.7%	13.6%
CAREGIVING			
# of caregiver support groups		0	127
# of Memory Cafes		0	6
% of 60+ who provide care to a family/friend in last month		19.3%	21.7%
% of grandparents raising grandchildren		0.9%	0.8%
% of grandparents who live with grandchildren		1.7%	2.7%
ACCESS TO CARE			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	25.8%	22.1%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	33.5%	29.9%
% 60+ with a regular doctor		95.7%	96.0%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost		6.3%	4.5%
# of primary care providers within 5 miles		7	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		5	38
SERVICE UTILIZATION			
# physician visits per year		8.8	8.6
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually		655.2	636.7

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually	*	53.1	50.3
# home health visits annually	*	5.7	4.1
# durable medical equipment claims annually		2.4	1.9
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		325.7	273.3
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		21.5%	17.2%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		148.6	104.7
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		0.0	42.3
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports		5.2%	5.5%
% 65+ hospice users	*	4.3%	2.7%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents		43.2%	45.5%
Median hospice days per hospice user (65+, deceased)		8.0	10
Median hospice payment (Medicare + other) per hospice user		\$3,263.81	\$3,741.18
COMMUNITY			
Air pollution: annual # of unhealthy days for 65+ (county)		4	N/A
Age-friendly efforts in community		Not yet	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)		99.7%	99.1%
% 60+ who used Internet in last month	*	68.9%	75.1%
Voter participation rate in 2016 election (age 18+)		84.1%	76.9%
SAFETY & CRIME			
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (county)		1.4	2.0
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (county)		58	932
# 65+ deaths by suicide (county)		6	26
TRANSPORTATION			
% 65+ who own a motor vehicle	*	94.6%	87.3%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt	W	88.8%	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		0	342
# of fatal crashes involving adult age 60+/county		31	342
HOUSING			
% 65+ population who live alone		37.2%	28.4%
Average household size (all ages)		2.4	2.5
Median house value		\$205,000.00	\$272,700.00
% 60+ own home		78.0%	76.9%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		43.4%	47.1%
% 60+ stressed about paying rent/mortgage in last month	W	26.2%	17.4%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		40.9%	44.0%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing	*	18.3%	29.5%
% 65+ moved within same county in last year		1.3%	3.7%
% 65+ moved from different county in last year		0.7%	0.8%
% 65+ moved from different state in last year		0.0%	0.9%
# of assisted living sites		0	80
% of vacant homes in community	*	4.7%	9.6%
ECONOMIC			
% 60+ receiving food benefits in last year		11.8%	10.9%
% 65+ employed in last year		27.3%	24.8%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in last year	*	3.4%	7.0%
Median household income		\$67,862.00	\$76,106.00
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		10.7%	17.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		40.2%	31.0%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		35.2%	27.6%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+	*	13.9%	24.4%
COST OF LIVING			
	RATIO OF COUNTY TO STATE	\$ COUNTY ESTIMATE	\$ STATE ESTIMATE
Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.97	\$26,016.00	\$26,796.00
Single, renter, good health	0.93	\$26,640.00	\$28,536.00
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.98	\$37,236.00	\$37,920.00
Couple, renter, good health	0.95	\$37,860.00	\$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 (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/ (2020), Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging, University of Massachusetts Boston (2019).

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