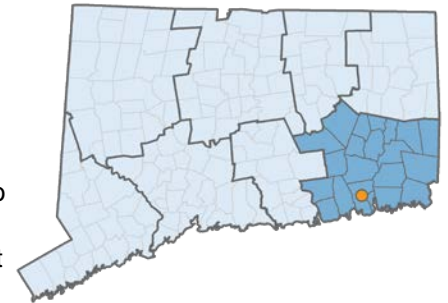


Waterford (New London)

Waterford is a town in New London County with 4,324 residents age 65 or older. Compared to state average rates, older residents fared better on some healthy aging indicators with lower rates of CHF and diabetes. However, they had higher rates of obesity, high cholesterol, anemia, benign prostatic hyperplasia, cataract, COPD, hypertension, ischemic heart disease, liver disease, osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, stroke, substance and tobacco use disorders, depression, anxiety disorder, and hearing impairment. They are less likely to take the health promotion step of having regular mammograms. Community resources to support healthy aging include 86 primary care providers, a hospital, and 5 nursing homes within 5 miles; a caregiver support group, 12 home health agencies, an adult day health center, 6 hospice agencies, a senior center, a university or community college, and a public library.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
Total population all ages		19,052	3,581,504
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		29.8%	23.0%
Total population 60 years or older		5,669	823,529
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		22.7%	16.4%
Total population 65 years or older		4,324	587,580
% 65-74 years	*	48.0%	55.7%
% 75-84 years		33.4%	29.1%
% 85 years or older		18.6%	15.2%
% 65+ population who are female		57.9%	56.8%
% 85+ population who are female		70.0%	66.6%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	95.3%	88.4%
% African American	*	1.8%	6.8%
% Asian		2.0%	2.3%
% Other race		0.9%	2.6%
% Hispanic/Latino	*	1.3%	5.8%
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		55.7%	53.8%
% divorced/separated	*	11.1%	14.9%
% widowed		28.1%	24.2%
% never married		5.1%	7.1%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education	*	6.4%	14.7%
% with high school or some college		57.3%	53.3%
% with college degree		36.3%	32.1%
% with graduate or professional degree		18.8%	16.8%
% of 65+ population who speak only English at home	*	93.2%	84.3%
% of 65+ population who are veterans of military service	*	22.3%	17.4%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS			
% of 60+ who are LGBT (county)		2.7%	2.5%
Median age of females		49.0	42.6
Median age of males		46.7	39.1
Life expectancy at birth (county)		79.9	80.9
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate		4.5%	4.1%
WELLNESS			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep		67.4%	65.2%
% 60+ doing any physical activity within last month		73.0%	75.0%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity		24.0%	27.6%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity		60.3%	58.0%
% 60+ with fair or poor health status		16.7%	17.6%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in last month		12.3%	12.4%
FALLS			
% 60+ who fell within last year		29.2%	26.3%
% 60+ who were injured in a fall within last year		11.8%	9.8%
% 65+ had hip fracture		3.7%	3.7%
PREVENTION			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in last year		88.8%	88.5%
% 60+ flu shot in last year		53.0%	57.5%
% 60+ with pneumonia vaccine		64.8%	63.9%
% 60+ with shingles vaccine		36.7%	33.5%
% 60+ women with a mammogram within last 2 years	W	70.2%	79.7%
% 60+ with colorectal cancer screening		81.5%	78.2%
% 60+ with HIV test		18.1%	16.1%
% 60+ met CDC preventive health screening goals		37.2%	39.6%
NUTRITION & DIET			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruit or vegetables per day		22.5%	19.9%
% 65+ with poor supermarket access		64.0%	32.4%
% 60+ stressed about buying food in last month		7.3%	8.6%
% 60+ self-reported obese		26.8%	26.1%
% 65+ clinically diagnosed obesity	W	24.7%	22.5%
% 65+ with high cholesterol	W	79.3%	77.0%
% 60+ with cholesterol screening		97.4%	97.1%
ORAL HEALTH			
% 60+ with dental insurance		61.4%	59.2%
% 60+ with annual dental exam		79.7%	79.9%
# of dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages)		94.5	75.1
% 60+ with loss of 6 or more teeth		22.0%	23.8%
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias		15.5%	14.4%
% 65+ with anemia	W	56.0%	50.6%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ with asthma		15.0%	14.1%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation		17.5%	16.1%
% 65+ with autism spectrum disorder		0.12%	0.12%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)	W	50.5%	42.7%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		10.1%	11.4%
% 65+ with cataract	W	70.2%	64.8%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease		30.4%	29.9%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	W	25.7%	21.0%
% 65+ with colon cancer		2.6%	2.7%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure	B	20.2%	22.6%
% 65+ with diabetes	B	29.4%	33.8%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		2.1%	2.0%
% 65+ with epilepsy		2.5%	2.9%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic, pain and fatigue		28.1%	26.6%
% 65+ with glaucoma		29.9%	28.3%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack		4.6%	4.5%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.15%	0.21%
% 65+ with hypertension	W	80.3%	76.2%
% 65+ with hypothyroidism		25.5%	25.1%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease	W	43.2%	40.7%
% 65+ with leukemias and lymphomas		3.2%	2.7%
% 65+ with liver disease	W	10.9%	9.5%
% 65+ with lung cancer		1.6%	1.9%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		4.7%	5.2%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis	W	57.3%	54.2%
% 65+ with osteoporosis	W	23.0%	20.2%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease		20.0%	19.9%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		8.6%	9.2%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		13.3%	13.1%
% 65+ with stroke	W	13.5%	11.9%
% 65+ with traumatic brain injury		1.3%	1.3%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions	W	65.3%	61.8%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions	W	4.8%	7.2%
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH			
# of drug overdose deaths (all ages)		18	4,613
% 65+ with opioid use disorder		1.7%	2.2%
% 65+ with substance use disorder	W	8.2%	6.8%
% 60+ who used marijuana in last month		N/A	2.9%
% 60+ excessive drinking		7.9%	9.2%
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder	W	11.6%	10.1%
% 60+ current smokers		6.3%	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		83.7%	78.3%
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in last month		6.5%	6.9%
% 65+ with depression	W	35.3%	30.3%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder	W	30.7%	25.5%
% 65+ with bipolar disorder		3.7%	3.8%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		1.4%	1.2%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder		5.5%	4.6%
% 65+ with personality disorder		2.9%	2.5%
LIVING WITH DISABILITY			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		12.4%	12.4%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of deafness or hearing impairment	W	20.0%	15.7%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		6.3%	4.8%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of blindness or visual impairment		1.0%	1.1%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty	*	4.2%	7.6%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		18.7%	19.1%
% 65+ with clinical diagnosis of mobility impairment		4.2%	4.0%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		7.0%	7.5%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		10.9%	13.6%
CAREGIVING			
# of caregiver support groups		1	127
# of Memory Cafes		0	6
% of 60+ who provide care to a family/friend in last month		22.0%	21.7%
% of grandparents raising grandchildren		0.8%	0.8%
% of grandparents who live with grandchildren		2.8%	2.7%
ACCESS TO CARE			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	18.0%	22.1%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	22.1%	29.9%
% 60+ with a regular doctor		95.2%	96.0%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost		3.3%	4.5%
# of primary care providers within 5 miles		86	10,508
# of hospitals within 5 miles		1	71
# of home health agencies		12	3,124
# of nursing homes within 5 miles		5	419
# of community health centers		0	83
# of adult day health centers		1	55
# of hospice agencies		6	38
SERVICE UTILIZATION			
# physician visits per year		8.4	8.6
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually		675.8	636.7

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually		51.6	50.3
# home health visits annually		4.4	4.1
# durable medical equipment claims annually		1.9	1.9
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		298.9	273.3
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		18.5%	17.2%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		120.1	104.7
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		77.3	42.3
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports		5.6%	5.5%
% 65+ hospice users		3.1%	2.7%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents		41.2%	45.5%
Median hospice days per hospice user (65+, deceased)		10.0	10
Median hospice payment (Medicare + other) per hospice user		\$3,367.33	\$3,741.18
COMMUNITY			
Air pollution: annual # of unhealthy days for 65+ (county)		6	N/A
Age-friendly efforts in community		Not yet	Not yet
# of senior centers		1	165
# of universities and community colleges		1	64
# of public libraries		1	238
# of YMCAs		0	19
% in county with access to broadband (all ages)		98.2%	99.1%
% 60+ who used Internet in last month		75.8%	75.1%
Voter participation rate in 2016 election (age 18+)		80.1%	76.9%
SAFETY & CRIME			
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (county)		2.0	2.0
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (county)		71	932
# 65+ deaths by suicide (county)		5	26
TRANSPORTATION			
% 65+ who own a motor vehicle	*	94.0%	87.3%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt		94.0%	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		1	342
# of fatal crashes involving adult age 60+/county		44	342
HOUSING			
% 65+ population who live alone		28.3%	28.4%
Average household size (all ages)		2.4	2.5
Median house value		\$253,600.00	\$272,700.00
% 60+ own home	*	89.4%	76.9%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage	*	41.6%	47.1%
% 60+ stressed about paying rent/mortgage in last month		13.8%	17.4%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE	COMMUNITY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		44.9%	44.0%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing	*	22.6%	29.5%
% 65+ moved within same county in last year		5.4%	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		0	80
% of vacant homes in community		8.1%	9.6%
ECONOMIC			
% 60+ receiving food benefits in last year	*	5.7%	10.9%
% 65+ employed in last year		24.8%	24.8%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in last year		5.8%	7.0%
Median household income		\$85,438.00	\$76,106.00
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		13.2%	17.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		31.6%	31.0%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		30.6%	27.6%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+		24.5%	24.4%
COST OF LIVING			
	RATIO OF COUNTY TO STATE	\$ COUNTY ESTIMATE	\$ STATE ESTIMATE
Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.90	\$24,240.00	\$26,796.00
Single, renter, good health	0.90	\$25,776.00	\$28,536.00
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.92	\$34,968.00	\$37,920.00
Couple, renter, good health	0.92	\$36,504.00	\$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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