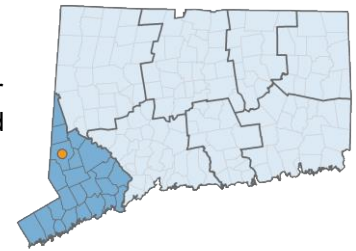


Danbury (Fairfield)

Danbury is a city in Fairfield County with 12,823 residents aged 65 and older. Compared to state average rates, older residents fare better on some healthy aging indicators with lower rates of Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias, anemia, atrial fibrillation, congestive heart failure (CHF), glaucoma, osteoarthritis/rheumatoid arthritis, substance use disorder, depression, and anxiety disorder. However, they have higher rates of asthma, high cholesterol, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, ischemic heart disease, and liver disease. Older residents in Fairfield County varied in obtaining preventive health screenings: residents 18 and older got annual physical exams (73.6%) and annual dental exams (72.4%), while 49.5% of men and 44.9% of women 65 and older completed all CDC recommended vaccinations and cancer screenings. Community resources to support healthy aging include three assisted living facilities, 161 primary care providers, one hospital, one home health agency, five skilled nursing facilities, one hospice agency, nine community health centers, one senior center, three public universities or community colleges, and two public libraries.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
Total population (all ages)		86,456	3,611,317
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		21.2%	24.5%
Total population 60 years and older		18,298	885,046
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		14.8%	17.4%
Total population 65 years and older		12,823	629,108
% 65-74 years		58.8%	57.6%
% 75-84 years		29.9%	28.4%
% 85 years or older	*	11.3%	14.0%
% 65+ population who are female		57.5%	55.7%
% 85+ population who are female		74.6%	66.0%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	79.9%	84.8%
% African American		9.1%	6.7%
% Asian		3.3%	2.6%
% Other race(s)		7.7%	5.9%
% Hispanic		8.6%	6.7%
# 55+ who are Native American / Alaskan		94	1,729
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		51.1%	54.5%
% divorced/separated		17.6%	16.1%
% widowed		20.8%	21.2%
% never married		10.5%	8.2%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education		15.3%	11.9%
% with high school or some college		49.5%	52.4%
% with college degree		15.4%	17.0%
% with graduate or professional degree		19.8%	18.6%
% 65+ population who speak only English at home	*	77.3%	84.4%
% 65+ population who are veterans of military service		12.2%	13.4%

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
HOUSING			
% 65+ population who live alone		29.4%	27.7%
Average household size (all ages)	*	2.6	2.5
Median house value (all ages)	*	\$355,500	\$323,700
% 60+ own home	*	70.3%	76.0%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage	*	54.8%	46.7%
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		48.3%	45.1%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing		27.4%	27.1%
% grandparents who live with grandchildren	*	4.4%	2.6%
# of assisted living sites		3	207

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

COST OF LIVING

Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.12	\$34,320	\$30,552
Single, renter, good health (County)	1.14	\$37,356	\$32,832
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.08	\$46,992	\$43,344
Couple, renter, good health (County)	1.10	\$50,028	\$45,624

ECONOMIC

% 60+ receiving food stamps in past year		11.6%	11.0%
% 65+ employed in past year		22.9%	21.5%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in past year		8.5%	7.9%
Median annual income for households with a householder age 65+		\$63,049	\$65,666
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		16.1%	14.0%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		26.0%	25.6%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		27.7%	28.2%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+		30.2%	32.3%

WELLNESS

% 18+ with less than 7 hours sleep (County)		30.9%	NA
% 18+ without leisure-time physical activity (County)		20.4%	NA
% 18+ with fair or poor self-reported health status (County)		12.0%	NA
% 18+ with 14+ physically unhealthy days (County)		9.5%	NA

COMMUNITY

Annual # unhealthy days due to air pollution for 65+ (County)		19	NA
AARP Age-Friendly Communities		Not yet	Not yet
# of public universities and community colleges		2	38
# of public libraries		2	237
# of senior centers		1	163
# of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI)		0	1
% households with a smartphone (all ages)		88.3%	87.5%
% households with only a smartphone to access the Internet (all ages)		6.4%	7.3%
% households without a computer (all ages)		5.9%	5.9%
% households with access to Broadband (all ages)		89.9%	90.1%
% households without access to the Internet (all ages)		10.0%	9.7%
Voter participation rate in 2020 election (age 18+)		73.1%	82.9%

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
COMMUNITY			
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (County)		2.8	3.1
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (County)		206	955
# 65+ deaths by suicide (County)		83	404
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate		3.8%	4.0%
TRANSPORTATION			
% householders 65+ who own a motor vehicle		86.9%	88.0%
# fatal crashes involving adult age 60+ (County)		64	349
AllTransit Score		4.00	2.79
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
FALLS			
% 65+ with hip fracture		3.1%	3.5%
PREVENTION			
% 18+ with physical exam/check-up in past year (County)		73.6%	NA
% mammography use among women age 50-74 Years (County)		80.5%	NA
% 50-75 with fecal occult blood test, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy (County)		78.4%	NA
% 65+ men up to date on preventive services (County)		49.5%	NA
% 65+ women up to date on preventive services (County)		44.9%	NA
NUTRITION & DIET			
% 18+ with obesity (County)		25.0%	NA
% 65+ with high cholesterol	W	80.6%	77.9%
% 18+ with cholesterol screening (County)		89.3%	NA
ORAL HEALTH			
% 18+ with annual dental exam (County)		72.4%	NA
# dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages) (County)		78.3	61.4
% 65+ with complete tooth loss (County)		6.8%	NA
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias	B	11.8%	13.9%
% 65+ with anemia	B	47.6%	49.2%
% 65+ with asthma	W	15.3%	14.1%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation	B	14.2%	15.5%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)		43.8%	44.0%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		11.5%	11.8%
% 65+ with cataract		61.1%	61.5%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease	W	35.2%	32.8%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease		19.0%	19.6%
% 65+ with colon cancer		2.2%	2.4%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure	B	18.0%	21.0%
% 65+ with diabetes	W	34.3%	31.8%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		2.1%	2.3%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic pain, and fatigue		34.7%	34.8%
% 65+ with glaucoma	B	21.6%	26.4%
% 65+ ever had a heart attack		3.9%	4.3%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.16%	0.28%

HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with hypertension		74.4%	74.2%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease	W	41.1%	39.1%
% 65+ with liver disease	W	14.6%	11.6%
% 65+ with lung cancer		2.1%	2.0%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		6.7%	7.1%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis	B	53.6%	55.7%
% 65+ with osteoporosis		19.9%	20.2%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease		20.2%	19.1%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		9.5%	9.1%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		12.8%	13.4%
% 65+ with stroke		12.3%	11.5%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions		62.2%	61.6%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions		7.6%	7.7%
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH			
# drug overdose deaths (all ages) (County)		993	5,902
% 65+ with substance use disorder	B	7.3%	8.3%
% 18+ excessive drinking (County)		15.1%	NA
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder		10.9%	11.5%
% 18+ current smokers (County)		11.1%	NA
MENTAL HEALTH			
% 18+ with 14+ days poor mental health (County)		12.9%	NA
% 65+ with depression	B	30.8%	32.3%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder	B	29.4%	30.9%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		2.0%	2.0%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder		4.4%	4.2%
LIVING WITH DISABILITY			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		13.0%	11.4%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		5.3%	4.8%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		10.1%	7.2%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		19.1%	17.8%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		9.1%	6.9%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		16.6%	12.7%
CAREGIVING			
# of Alzheimer's support groups		0	29
% grandparents raising grandchildren		1.36%	0.73%

HEALTH OUTCOMES

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
ACCESS TO CARE			
% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	*	24.7%	22.5%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	*	38.7%	50.1%
% 18-64 who lack health insurance (County)		8.0%	NA
# of primary care providers		161	4,547
# of hospitals		1	36
# of home health agencies		1	80
# of skilled nursing facilities		5	202
# of hospice agencies		1	27
# of community health centers		9	388
# of adult day health centers		0	38
SERVICE UTILIZATION			
# physician visits per year	*	9.2	8.4
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually	*	539.2	586.6
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually		52.6	52.1
# home health visits annually		3.0	3.1
# durable medical equipment claims annually		2.1	2.0
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		237.5	241.8
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		19.2%	17.6%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		89.3	89.9
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		46.9	37.1
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports	*	5.6%	4.4%
% 65+ hospice users	*	2.1%	2.6%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents	*	33.8%	42.4%

NOTES

TECHNICAL NOTES

*For more information on data sources, measures, and methodology used in the 2025 Connecticut Healthy Aging Data Report see our technical documentation at (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.*
- *Housing: ACS, 2018-2022; CT.gov, 2023.*
- *Cost of Living: Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging at the University of Massachusetts Boston, 2023.*
- *Economic: ACS, 2018-2022.*
- *Wellness: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC; Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)), 2020-2021.*
- *Community: AARP, 2023; ACS, 2018-2022; CDC WONDER, 2016-2020; The CMS Master Beneficiary Summary File ABCD/Other (CMS), 2020-2021; CT.gov, 2023; CT State Library, 2023; CT Secretary of State, 2023; NECHE, 2023; OLLI, 2023; U.S. EPA Air Compare, 2023.*
- *Transportation: ACS, 2018-2022; AllTransit™, 2023; NHTSA, 2018-2022.*
- *Falls: CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Prevention: BRFSS, 2020-2021.*
- *Nutrition/Diet: BRFSS, 2020-2021; CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Oral Health: BRFSS, 2020-2021; HRSA, 2023.*
- *Chronic Disease: CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Behavioral Health: BRFSS, 2020-2021; CDC WONDER 2016-2020; CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Mental Health: BRFSS, 2020-2021; CMS, 2020-2021.*
- *Living with Disability: ACS, 2018-2022.*
- *Caregiving: ACS, 2018-2022; Alzheimer’s Association, 2023.*
- *Access to Care: BRFSS, 2020-2021; CMS, 2020-2021; Connecticut Association of Adult Day Services, 2023; HRSA, 2023; Medicare.gov, 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 Connecticut 2025 Healthy Aging Data Report. Retrieved from www.healthyagingdatareports.org

Questions or Ideas? Beth.dugan@umb.edu



Point32Health
Foundation

In partnership with

