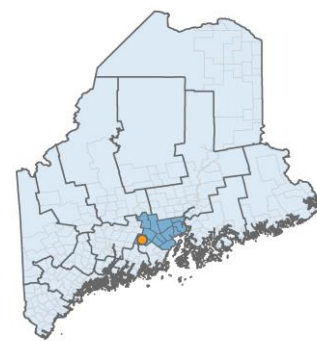


## Liberty, Palermo (Waldo)

The communities of Liberty and Palermo are located in Waldo County. Collectively, these areas are home to 454 residents aged 65 and older. Compared to state average rates, older residents fare better on some healthy aging indicators with lower rates of high cholesterol, Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, anemia, asthma, benign prostatic hyperplasia, glaucoma, osteoporosis, peripheral vascular disease, anxiety disorder, and schizophrenia. Older residents in Waldo County varied in obtaining preventive health screenings: residents 18 and older got annual physical exams (75.5%) and annual dental exams (63.1%), while 46.5% of men and 44.8% of women 65 and older completed all CDC recommended vaccinations and cancer screenings. Community resources to support healthy aging include two public libraries. Liberty and Palermo are designated AARP Age-Friendly Communities.



### POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
Total population (all ages)		2,331	1,366,949
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		30.8%	29.4%
Total population 60 years and older		717	402,170
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		19.5%	21.5%
Total population 65 years and older		454	293,488
% 65-74 years		60.6%	59.9%
% 75-84 years		30.6%	28.5%
% 85 years or older		8.8%	11.6%
% 65+ population who are female		49.1%	54.3%
% 85+ population who are female		55.0%	64.8%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White		98.5%	96.6%
% African American		0.0%	0.3%
% Asian		0.0%	0.5%
% Other race(s)		1.5%	2.5%
% Hispanic		0.7%	0.7%
# 55+ who are Native American / Alaskan		0	1,794
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		70.9%	57.0%
% divorced/separated		13.2%	16.9%
% widowed		14.8%	20.6%
% never married		1.1%	5.6%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education		9.5%	7.6%
% with high school or some college		60.4%	59.0%
% with college degree		17.4%	18.3%
% with graduate or professional degree		12.8%	15.1%
% 65+ population who speak only English at home		97.1%	92.7%
% 65+ population who are veterans of military service		24.0%	18.4%

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
<b>HOUSING</b>			
% 65+ population who live alone		24.7%	28.3%
Average household size (all ages)		2.3	2.3
Median house value (all ages)		\$222,650	\$244,800
% 60+ own home	*	96.8%	80.4%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		44.0%	40.6%
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		0.0%	35.2%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing		15.8%	20.4%
% grandparents who live with grandchildren		2.6%	1.8%
# of assisted living sites		0	21
<b>SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH</b>			
<b>COST OF LIVING</b>			
Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.00	\$24,636	\$24,528
Single, renter, good health (County)	0.98	\$28,068	\$28,704
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.01	\$37,632	\$37,380
Couple, renter, good health (County)	0.99	\$41,064	\$41,556
<b>ECONOMIC</b>			
% 60+ receiving food stamps in past year		7.3%	10.8%
% 65+ employed in past year		22.0%	18.8%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in past year		9.7%	9.0%
Median annual income for households with a householder age 65+		\$49,743	\$49,828
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		23.3%	17.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		27.2%	33.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		31.7%	29.4%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+		17.8%	20.4%
<b>WELLNESS</b>			
% 18+ with less than 7 hours sleep (County)		32.6%	NA
% 18+ without leisure-time physical activity (County)		26.8%	NA
% 18+ with fair or poor self-reported health status (County)		15.3%	NA
% 18+ with 14+ physically unhealthy days (County)		11.5%	NA
<b>COMMUNITY</b>			
Annual # unhealthy days due to air pollution for 65+ (County)		NA	NA
AARP Age-Friendly Communities		Yes	Yes
# of public universities and community colleges		0	42
# of public libraries		2	261
# of senior centers		0	27
# of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI)		0	1
% households with a smartphone (all ages)		85.0%	82.5%
% households with only a smartphone to access the Internet (all ages)		6.0%	6.4%
% households without a computer (all ages)		7.4%	7.1%
% households with access to Broadband (all ages)		86.6%	87.3%
% households without access to the Internet (all ages)		12.5%	12.3%

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH		Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
COMMUNITY				
Voter participation rate in 2020 election (age 18+)			75.9%	74.1%
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (County)			NA	1.5
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (County)			29	770
# 65+ deaths by suicide (County)			11	290
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate			3.6%	4.2%
TRANSPORTATION				
% householders 65+ who own a motor vehicle			92.7%	91.0%
# fatal crashes involving adult age 60+ (County)			12	251
AllTransit Score			NA	0.51
HEALTH OUTCOMES				
FALLS				
% 65+ with hip fracture			2.1%	3.1%
PREVENTION				
% 18+ with physical exam/check-up in past year (County)			75.5%	NA
% mammography use among women age 50-74 Years (County)			72.9%	NA
% 50-75 with fecal occult blood test, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy (County)			75.2%	NA
% 65+ men up to date on preventive services (County)			46.5%	NA
% 65+ women up to date on preventive services (County)			44.8%	NA
NUTRITION & DIET				
% 18+ with obesity (County)			36.4%	NA
% 65+ with high cholesterol		B	63.5%	69.5%
% 18+ with cholesterol screening (County)			63.5%	NA
ORAL HEALTH				
% 18+ with annual dental exam (County)			63.1%	NA
# dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages) (County)			25.1	47.2
% 65+ with complete tooth loss (County)			15.3%	NA
CHRONIC DISEASE				
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias		B	6.8%	11.0%
% 65+ with anemia		B	28.8%	38.1%
% 65+ with asthma		B	7.7%	11.8%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation			13.4%	14.3%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)		B	22.9%	35.2%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)			8.6%	9.6%
% 65+ with cataract			59.4%	60.4%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease			26.3%	29.4%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease			19.5%	20.9%
% 65+ with colon cancer			2.2%	2.1%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure			16.6%	18.1%
% 65+ with diabetes			25.3%	26.2%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)			2.2%	2.2%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic pain, and fatigue			33.3%	34.8%
% 65+ with glaucoma		B	18.4%	23.3%

HEALTH OUTCOMES	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
<b>CHRONIC DISEASE</b>			
% 65+ ever had a heart attack		4.6%	6.1%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.26%	0.17%
% 65+ with hypertension		62.7%	67.1%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease		40.1%	35.3%
% 65+ with liver disease		8.4%	10.2%
% 65+ with lung cancer		1.8%	1.8%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		8.3%	7.1%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis		48.8%	51.5%
% 65+ with osteoporosis	B	10.1%	15.7%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease	B	11.0%	15.3%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		5.5%	6.8%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		12.0%	10.3%
% 65+ with stroke		9.0%	10.0%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions		52.3%	55.5%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions		14.2%	12.4%
<b>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b>			
# drug overdose deaths (all ages) (County)		42	2,080
% 65+ with substance use disorder		6.8%	8.7%
% 18+ excessive drinking (County)		15.6%	NA
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder		10.4%	13.6%
% 18+ current smokers (County)		17.2%	NA
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>			
% 18+ with 14+ days poor mental health (County)		15.1%	NA
% 65+ with depression		32.4%	34.8%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder	B	24.0%	30.7%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		4.3%	3.9%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder	B	2.4%	3.2%
<b>LIVING WITH DISABILITY</b>			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		18.3%	15.5%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		4.0%	4.6%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		4.8%	7.5%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		17.2%	17.8%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		3.7%	5.2%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		8.1%	10.5%
<b>CAREGIVING</b>			
# of Alzheimer's support groups		0	11
% grandparents raising grandchildren		0.00%	0.55%

HEALTH OUTCOMES	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
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HEALTH OUTCOMES	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
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HEALTH OUTCOMES	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
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HEALTH OUTCOMES	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
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## ACCESS TO CARE

% 65+ dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid	18.0%	18.7%
% 65+ Medicare managed care enrollees	53.1%	50.3%
% 18-64 who lack health insurance (County)	8.1%	NA
# of primary care providers	0	2,199
# of hospitals	0	37
# of home health agencies	0	20
# of skilled nursing facilities	0	87
# of hospice agencies	0	14
# of community health centers	0	164
# of adult day health centers	0	33

SERVICE UTILIZATION	
1. How often do you use the service?	
2. How satisfied are you with the service?	
3. How likely are you to recommend the service to others?	
4. How easy is it to use the service?	
5. How much do you value the service?	
6. How often do you use the service?	
7. How satisfied are you with the service?	
8. How likely are you to recommend the service to others?	
9. How easy is it to use the service?	
10. How much do you value the service?	

# physician visits per year	*	3.1	4.7
# emergency room visits/1000 persons 65+ years annually		458.0	556.1
# Part D monthly prescription fills per person annually	*	44.3	49.8
# home health visits annually	*	0.9	1.7
# durable medical equipment claims annually		2.0	2.0
# inpatient hospital stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually		140.3	169.8
% Medicare inpatient hospital readmissions (as % of admissions)		10.0%	14.3%
# skilled nursing facility stays/1000 persons 65+ years annually	*	18.2	43.3
# skilled nursing home Medicare beds/1000 persons 65+ years		0.0	20.0
% 65+ getting Medicaid long term services and supports		1.5%	2.1%
% 65+ hospice users		2.5%	3.0%
% 65+ hospice users as % of decedents		49.2%	49.7%

**NOTES**

## TECHNICAL NOTES

\*For more information on data sources, measures, and methodology used in the 2025 Maine Healthy Aging Data Report see our technical documentation at ([healthyagingdatareports.org](https://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; Maine Home Care Association (MEHCA), 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; NECHE, 2023; State of Maine, 2023; Maine State Library, 2023; Maine Secretary of State, 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; HRSA, 2023; Medicare.gov, 2023; Maine.gov, 2023.*
- *Service Utilization: CMS, 2020-2021.*

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Suggested citation: Dugan E, Lee CM, Jansen T, Su YJ, Silverstein NM, & Song Q. (2025). The Maine 2025 Healthy Aging Data Report. Retrieved from [www.healthyagingdatareports.org](https://www.healthyagingdatareports.org)

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