

Danforth, North Washington, Vanceboro (Washington)

The communities of Danforth, North Washington, and Vanceboro are located in Washington County. Collectively, these areas are home to 396 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 and osteoporosis. However, they have higher rates of anemia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), colon cancer, diabetes, heart attack, hypertension, ischemic heart disease, and tobacco use disorder. Older residents in Washington County varied in obtaining preventive health screenings: residents 18 and older got annual physical exams (80%) and annual dental exams (57.5%), while 51.6% of men and 42.1% of women 65 and older completed all CDC recommended vaccinations and cancer screenings. Community resources to support healthy aging include one community health center, one senior center, and one public library. Danforth is a designated AARP Age-Friendly Community.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
Total population (all ages)		1,344	1,366,949
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		38.2%	29.4%
Total population 60 years and older		513	402,170
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		29.5%	21.5%
Total population 65 years and older		396	293,488
% 65-74 years		52.0%	59.9%
% 75-84 years		30.1%	28.5%
% 85 years or older		17.9%	11.6%
% 65+ population who are female		59.1%	54.3%
% 85+ population who are female		76.1%	64.8%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White		99.2%	96.6%
% African American		0.0%	0.3%
% Asian		0.3%	0.5%
% Other race(s)		0.5%	2.5%
% Hispanic		0.0%	0.7%
# 55+ who are Native American / Alaskan		19	1,794
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		62.6%	57.0%
% divorced/separated		10.6%	16.9%
% widowed		17.2%	20.6%
% never married		9.6%	5.6%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education		6.3%	7.6%
% with high school or some college		66.7%	59.0%
% with college degree		15.4%	18.3%
% with graduate or professional degree		11.6%	15.1%
% 65+ population who speak only English at home		95.7%	92.7%
% 65+ population who are veterans of military service		20.2%	18.4%

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
HOUSING			
% 65+ population who live alone		25.0%	28.3%
Average household size (all ages)		2.1	2.3
Median house value (all ages)	*	\$107,867	\$244,800
% 60+ own home		86.9%	80.4%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage		27.3%	40.6%
% 65+ households (renter) spend >35% of income on housing		10.7%	35.2%
% 65+ households (owner) spend >35% of income on housing	*	9.4%	20.4%
% grandparents who live with grandchildren		1.3%	1.8%
# of assisted living sites		0	21
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH			
COST OF LIVING			
Elder Index			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.02	\$24,972	\$24,528
Single, renter, good health (County)	0.96	\$27,552	\$28,704
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health (County)	1.08	\$40,368	\$37,380
Couple, renter, good health (County)	1.03	\$42,948	\$41,556
ECONOMIC			
% 60+ receiving food stamps in past year		13.8%	10.8%
% 65+ employed in past year		13.9%	18.8%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in past year		5.8%	9.0%
Median annual income for households with a householder age 65+		\$42,929	\$49,828
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		13.5%	17.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		39.8%	33.1%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		40.2%	29.4%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+		6.4%	20.4%
WELLNESS			
% 18+ with less than 7 hours sleep (County)		34.5%	NA
% 18+ without leisure-time physical activity (County)		32.8%	NA
% 18+ with fair or poor self-reported health status (County)		18.9%	NA
% 18+ with 14+ physically unhealthy days (County)		14.3%	NA
COMMUNITY			
Annual # unhealthy days due to air pollution for 65+ (County)		0	NA
AARP Age-Friendly Communities		Yes	Yes
# of public universities and community colleges		0	42
# of public libraries		1	261
# of senior centers		1	27
# of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLI)		0	1
% households with a smartphone (all ages)		65.8%	82.5%
% households with only a smartphone to access the Internet (all ages)		15.5%	6.4%
% households without a computer (all ages)		17.5%	7.1%
% households with access to Broadband (all ages)		80.7%	87.3%
% households without access to the Internet (all ages)		18.8%	12.3%

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
COMMUNITY			
Voter participation rate in 2020 election (age 18+)		81.6%	74.1%
Homicide rate/100,000 persons (County)		NA	1.5
# firearm fatalities (all ages) (County)		27	770
# 65+ deaths by suicide (County)		13	290
Age-sex adjusted 1-year mortality rate		5.8%	4.2%
TRANSPORTATION			
% householders 65+ who own a motor vehicle		92.8%	91.0%
# fatal crashes involving adult age 60+ (County)		4	251
AllTransit Score		NA	0.51
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
FALLS			
% 65+ with hip fracture		3.1%	3.1%
PREVENTION			
% 18+ with physical exam/check-up in past year (County)		80.0%	NA
% mammography use among women age 50-74 Years (County)		75.4%	NA
% 50-75 with fecal occult blood test, sigmoidoscopy, or colonoscopy (County)		76.2%	NA
% 65+ men up to date on preventive services (County)		51.6%	NA
% 65+ women up to date on preventive services (County)		42.1%	NA
NUTRITION & DIET			
% 18+ with obesity (County)		37.1%	NA
% 65+ with high cholesterol		70.2%	69.5%
% 18+ with cholesterol screening (County)		64.2%	NA
ORAL HEALTH			
% 18+ with annual dental exam (County)		57.5%	NA
# dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages) (County)		35.4	47.2
% 65+ with complete tooth loss (County)		17.3%	NA
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias	B	7.9%	11.0%
% 65+ with anemia	W	45.0%	38.1%
% 65+ with asthma		9.5%	11.8%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation		15.6%	14.3%
% 65+ with benign prostatic hyperplasia (men)		41.4%	35.2%
% 65+ with breast cancer (women)		7.4%	9.6%
% 65+ with cataract		57.0%	60.4%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease		32.8%	29.4%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	W	33.5%	20.9%
% 65+ with colon cancer	W	2.6%	2.1%
% 65+ with congestive heart failure		20.3%	18.1%
% 65+ with diabetes	W	36.9%	26.2%
% 65+ with endometrial cancer (women)		1.7%	2.2%
% 65+ with fibromyalgia, chronic pain, and fatigue		37.3%	34.8%
% 65+ with glaucoma		24.4%	23.3%

HEALTH OUTCOMES	Significantly different than state rate	Community estimate	State estimate
CHRONIC DISEASE			
% 65+ ever had a heart attack	W	11.1%	6.1%
% 65+ with HIV/AIDS		0.13%	0.17%
% 65+ with hypertension	W	77.8%	67.1%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease	W	45.5%	35.3%
% 65+ with liver disease		9.7%	10.2%
% 65+ with lung cancer		1.8%	1.8%
% 65+ with migraine and other chronic headache		5.7%	7.1%
% 65+ with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis		48.6%	51.5%
% 65+ with osteoporosis	B	10.8%	15.7%
% 65+ with peripheral vascular disease		16.5%	15.3%
% 65+ with pressure ulcer or chronic ulcer		5.4%	6.8%
% 65+ with prostate cancer (men)		7.1%	10.3%
% 65+ with stroke		7.7%	10.0%
% 65+ with 4+ (out of 15) chronic conditions	W	63.4%	55.5%
% 65+ with 0 chronic conditions		11.2%	12.4%
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH			
# drug overdose deaths (all ages) (County)		83	2,080
% 65+ with substance use disorder		8.8%	8.7%
% 18+ excessive drinking (County)		14.4%	NA
% 65+ with tobacco use disorder	W	20.7%	13.6%
% 18+ current smokers (County)		20.2%	NA
MENTAL HEALTH			
% 18+ with 14+ days poor mental health (County)		17.2%	NA
% 65+ with depression		36.3%	34.8%
% 65+ with anxiety disorder		29.4%	30.7%
% 65+ with post-traumatic stress disorder		4.1%	3.9%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder		3.3%	3.2%
LIVING WITH DISABILITY			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty		19.7%	15.5%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty		8.8%	4.6%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		7.6%	7.5%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty		26.0%	17.8%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		5.1%	5.2%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		17.7%	10.5%
CAREGIVING			
# of Alzheimer's support groups		0	11
% grandparents raising grandchildren		0.31%	0.55%

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). 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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