

State Health Department Website:

# Summary

## Key Findings

**Poverty**  
**37%**▲

from 8.7% to 11.9% of adults age 65 and older between 2018 and 2024.

## High Health Status

**18%**▲

from 32.3% to 38.0% of adults age 65 and older between 2015 and 2024.

## Physical Inactivity

**17%**▼

from 39.2% to 32.5% of adults age 65 and older in fair or better health between 2022 and 2024.

## Strengths

- High pneumonia vaccination rate
- Low prevalence of excessive drinking

## Challenges

- High early death rate
- High prevalence of low-care nursing home residents

Visit [AmericasHealthRankings.org](https://AmericasHealthRankings.org) for the full list of [measures](#), [source details](#) and [methodologies](#).

## Measures

		State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
<b>Social and Economic Factors</b>		<b>46</b>	<b>-0.927</b>	
<b>Community and Family Safety</b>	Internet Crime (Complaints per 10,000 adults age 60+)*	39	19.8	17.4
	Motor Vehicle Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 adults age 65+)	47	22.1	13.3
<b>Economic Resources</b>	Community Support Expenditures (Dollars per adult age 60+)	44	\$28	\$53
	Food Insecurity (% of adults age 60+)	37	9.9%	9.2%
	Poverty (% of adults age 65+)	39	11.9%	11.2%
	SNAP Reach (Participants per 100 adults age 60+ living in poverty)	29	63.7	86.8
<b>Social Support and Engagement</b>	High-Speed Internet (% of households with adults age 65+)	34	86.0%	88.2%
	Low-Care Nursing Home Residents (% of residents)	49	22.9%	9.0%
	Risk of Social Isolation (Index from 1-100)	42	75	–
	Volunteerism (% of adults age 65+)	39	22.6%	26.3%
<b>Physical Environment</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>0.167</b>	
<b>Air and Water Quality</b>	Air Pollution (Micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter)	37	8.5	8.8
	Drinking Water Violations (Average violations per community water system)	45	3.5	2.5
<b>Housing</b>	Housing Cost Burden (% of households with adults age 65+)	13	26.5%	33.3%
<b>Clinical Care</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>-0.546</b>	
<b>Access to Care</b>	Avoided Care Due to Cost (% of adults age 65+)	38	4.2%	3.8%
	Geriatric Clinicians (Clinicians per 100,000 adults age 65+)	43	25.1	41.5
	Home Health Care Workers (Workers per 1,000 adults age 65+)	40	30	65
<b>Preventive Clinical Services</b>	Cancer Screenings (% of adults ages 65-75)	44	72.6%	76.8%
	Flu Vaccination (% of adults age 65+)	35	60.3%	62.5%
	Pneumonia Vaccination (% of adults age 65+)	22	71.6%	69.8%
<b>Quality of Care</b>	Dedicated Health Care Provider (% of adults age 65+)	28	96.1%	96.0%
	Hospice Care (% of Medicare decedents)	24	47.8%	46.9%
	Nursing Home Quality (% of beds rated four or five stars)	42	27.3%	34.0%
	Preventable Hospitalizations (Discharges per 100,000 Medicare beneficiaries ages 65-74)	43	1,784	1,477
<b>Behaviors</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>-1.222</b>	
<b>Nutrition and Physical Activity</b>	Exercise (% of adults age 65+)	45	20.5%	29.0%
	Fruit and Vegetable Consumption (% of adults age 65+)	49	3.0%	7.3%
	Physical Inactivity (% of adults age 65+ in fair or better health)	45	32.5%	26.5%
<b>Sleep Health</b>	Insufficient Sleep (% of adults age 65+)	19	26.1%	28.1%
<b>Tobacco Use</b>	Cigarette Smoking (% of adults age 65+)	41	11.2%	8.3%
<b>Health Outcomes</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>-0.841</b>	
<b>Behavioral Health</b>	Drug Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 adults age 65+)*	27	13.9	13.7
	Excessive Drinking (% of adults age 65+)	5	5.6%	7.6%
	Frequent Mental Distress (% of adults age 65+)	43	10.2%	8.7%
	Suicide (Deaths per 100,000 adults age 65+)	43	25.7	17.6
<b>Mortality</b>	Early Death (Deaths per 100,000 adults ages 65-74)	48	2,466	1,773
<b>Physical Health</b>	Falls (% of adults age 65+)	33	30.3%	27.8%
	Frequent Physical Distress (% of adults age 65+)	36	18.6%	17.6%
	Multiple Chronic Conditions (% of Medicare beneficiaries ages 65-74)	36	57%	53%
	Obesity (% of adults age 65+)	27	30.9%	29.5%
	Teeth Extractions (% of adults age 65+)	46	17.7%	11.4%
<b>Demographics</b>				
Population - Age 65+ (% of population)*		–	16.9%	18.0%
Population - Age 65+ - Rural (% of adults age 65+)*		–	41.3%	24.1%
Functional Disability (% of adults age 65+)*		–	40.3%	32.5%
<b>Overall</b>		<b>45</b>	<b>-0.834</b>	

\* Additional measure that does not contribute to a state's Overall rank.  
 – Data not available, missing or suppressed.