

State Health Department Website:

# Summary

## Key Findings

### Drug Deaths

# 35%▲

from 7.9 to 10.7 deaths per 100,000 adults age 65 and older between 2019-2021 and 2022-2024.

### Nursing Home Quality

# 28%▲

from 23.2% to 29.6% of certified nursing home beds between Sept. 2023-Nov. 2023 and Sept. 2025-Nov. 2025.

### Home Health Care Workers

# 5%▼

from 76 to 72 aides per 1,000 adults age 65 and older between 2022 and 2024.

## Strengths

- Low prevalence of frequent mental distress
- Low prevalence of low-care nursing home residents

## Challenges

- High prevalence of food insecurity
- High prevalence of avoiding care due to cost

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>42</b>	<b>-0.441</b>	
<b>Community and Family Safety</b>	Internet Crime (Complaints per 10,000 adults age 60+)*	25	15.7	17.4
	Motor Vehicle Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 adults age 65+)	32	15.7	13.3
<b>Economic Resources</b>	Community Support Expenditures (Dollars per adult age 60+)	43	\$29	\$53
	Food Insecurity (% of adults age 60+)	50	13.6%	9.2%
	Poverty (% of adults age 65+)	42	12.3%	11.2%
	SNAP Reach (Participants per 100 adults age 60+ living in poverty)	26	73.4	86.8
<b>Social Support and Engagement</b>	High-Speed Internet (% of households with adults age 65+)	19	88.6%	88.2%
	Low-Care Nursing Home Residents (% of residents)	10	5.4%	9.0%
	Risk of Social Isolation (Index from 1-100)	32	56	–
	Volunteerism (% of adults age 65+)	35	23.2%	26.3%
<b>Physical Environment</b>		<b>45</b>	<b>-0.093</b>	
<b>Air and Water Quality</b>	Air Pollution (Micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter)	43	9.4	8.8
	Drinking Water Violations (Average violations per community water system)	41	2.6	2.5
<b>Housing</b>	Housing Cost Burden (% of households with adults age 65+)	35	32.2%	33.3%
<b>Clinical Care</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>-0.295</b>	
<b>Access to Care</b>	Avoided Care Due to Cost (% of adults age 65+)	47	5.5%	3.8%
	Geriatric Clinicians (Clinicians per 100,000 adults age 65+)	11	475	41.5
	Home Health Care Workers (Workers per 1,000 adults age 65+)	9	72	65
<b>Preventive Clinical Services</b>	Cancer Screenings (% of adults ages 65-75)	31	75.6%	76.8%
	Flu Vaccination (% of adults age 65+)	43	57.8%	62.5%
	Pneumonia Vaccination (% of adults age 65+)	38	69.3%	69.8%
<b>Quality of Care</b>	Dedicated Health Care Provider (% of adults age 65+)	39	94.7%	96.0%
	Hospice Care (% of Medicare decedents)	9	52.2%	46.9%
	Nursing Home Quality (% of beds rated four or five stars)	38	29.6%	34.0%
	Preventable Hospitalizations (Discharges per 100,000 Medicare beneficiaries ages 65-74)	30	1,537	1,477
<b>Behaviors</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>-0.098</b>	
<b>Nutrition and Physical Activity</b>	Exercise (% of adults age 65+)	29	28.0%	29.0%
	Fruit and Vegetable Consumption (% of adults age 65+)	6	9.3%	7.3%
	Physical Inactivity (% of adults age 65+ in fair or better health)	39	29.6%	26.5%
<b>Sleep Health</b>	Insufficient Sleep (% of adults age 65+)	32	28.3%	28.1%
<b>Tobacco Use</b>	Cigarette Smoking (% of adults age 65+)	29	9.0%	8.3%
<b>Health Outcomes</b>		<b>26</b>	<b>-0.119</b>	
<b>Behavioral Health</b>	Drug Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 adults age 65+)*	14	10.7	13.7
	Excessive Drinking (% of adults age 65+)	24	7.6%	7.6%
	Frequent Mental Distress (% of adults age 65+)	20	8.4%	8.7%
	Suicide (Deaths per 100,000 adults age 65+)	23	17.4	17.6
<b>Mortality</b>	Early Death (Deaths per 100,000 adults ages 65-74)	32	1,861	1,773
<b>Physical Health</b>	Falls (% of adults age 65+)	21	28.1%	27.8%
	Frequent Physical Distress (% of adults age 65+)	33	18.2%	17.6%
	Multiple Chronic Conditions (% of Medicare beneficiaries ages 65-74)	28	54%	53%
	Obesity (% of adults age 65+)	24	30.5%	29.5%
	Teeth Extractions (% of adults age 65+)	31	12.3%	11.4%
<b>Demographics</b>				
	Population - Age 65+ (% of population)*	–	13.9%	18.0%
	Population - Age 65+ - Rural (% of adults age 65+)*	–	22.3%	24.1%
	Functional Disability (% of adults age 65+)*	–	35.2%	32.5%
<b>Overall</b>		<b>38</b>	<b>-0.245</b>	

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