



# George

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS	County rate is significantly different than State rate	COUNTY ESTIMATE	STATE ESTIMATE
Total population all ages		24,098	2,981,835
Population 60 years or older as % of total population		20.6%	22.3%
Total population 60 years or older		4,969	663,581
Population 65 years or older as % of total population		14.8%	15.9%
Total population 65 years or older		3,555	474,270
% 65-74 years		61.7%	59.7%
% 75-84 years		28.8%	29.4%
% 85 years or older		9.5%	10.1%
% 65+ population who are female		53.0%	56.5%
% 85+ population who are female		61.3%	67.4%
Race and ethnicity of the population 65+			
% White	*	91.9%	70.9%
% African American	*	5.2%	26.9%
% Other race(s)		2.9%	2.2%
% Hispanic/Latino		2.0%	1.0%
Marital status of the population 65+			
% married		58.2%	53.1%
% divorced/separated		16.6%	14.5%
% widowed		22.3%	27.1%
% never married		2.9%	5.3%
Education of the population 65+			
% with less than high school education		22.6%	20.1%
% with high school or some college		63.2%	58.7%
% with college degree		9.5%	11.8%
% with graduate or professional degree	*	4.8%	9.4%
% of 65+ population who speak only English at home		96.5%	97.8%
% of 65+ population who are veterans of military service	*	22.1%	15.8%
Life expectancy at birth		73.0	74.6

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE</b>	<b>COUNTY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
<b>COVID-19</b>			
Total COVID-19 cases since March 2020		7,149	797,161
COVID-19 mortality rate per 100,000 people		361.0	417.1
% of county received at least one vaccine dose		45.0%	53.7%
% of county fully vaccinated		40.0%	48.9%
<b>WELLNESS</b>			
% 60+ getting the recommended hours of sleep		64.5%	59.9%
% 60+ doing any physical activity within last month		55.7%	61.3%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for muscle-strengthening activity		18.4%	19.0%
% 60+ met CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity		41.3%	39.8%
% 60+ with fair or poor health status		30.4%	32.5%
% 60+ with 15+ physically unhealthy days in last month		25.4%	18.7%
<b>FALLS</b>			
% 60+ who fell within last year		30.8%	27.8%
% 60+ who were injured in a fall within last year		11.5%	10.6%
<b>PREVENTION</b>			
% 60+ with physical exam/check-up in last year		88.8%	89.0%
% 60+ had flu shot in last year		51.9%	57.6%
% 60+ had pneumonia vaccine		61.5%	58.9%
% 60+ had shingles vaccine		26.5%	24.4%
% 60+ women with a mammogram within last 2 years		60.6%	71.0%
% 60+ with colorectal cancer screening		51.0%	57.1%
% 60+ with HIV test		20.6%	20.8%
% 60+ met CDC preventive health screening goals		24.0%	26.2%
<b>CHRONIC DISEASE</b>			
% 65+ with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias		11.6%	12.9%
% 65+ with arthritis		36.4%	39.8%
% 65+ with asthma		4.4%	3.7%
% 65+ with atrial fibrillation		10.2%	8.9%
% 65+ with cancer (breast, colorectal, lung, prostate)		7.3%	8.8%
% 65+ with chronic kidney disease		25.1%	25.3%
% 65+ with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)		13.0%	12.6%
% 65+ with diabetes		31.5%	30.7%
% 65+ with high cholesterol		49.3%	48.9%
% 65+ with heart failure		19.0%	16.1%
% 65+ with hypertension		66.5%	67.9%
% 65+ with ischemic heart disease		39.4%	31.9%
% 65+ with osteoporosis		N/A	6.4%
% 65+ with stroke		3.9%	4.4%

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE</b>	<b>COUNTY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
<b>NUTRITION &amp; DIET</b>			
% 60+ with 5 or more servings of fruits or vegetables per day		13.2%	11.1%
% 60+ self-reported obese		37.8%	36.0%
% 60+ with cholesterol screening		94.3%	94.7%
<b>ORAL HEALTH</b>			
% 60+ with annual dental exam		49.9%	56.3%
# of dentists per 100,000 persons (all ages)		28.7	42.1
% 60+ with loss of 6 or more teeth	W	59.7%	45.8%
<b>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b>			
# of drug overdose deaths (all ages)		20	2,137
% 60+ current smokers		15.7%	13.1%
% 65+ with alcohol abuse disorder		1.4%	1.3%
% 65+ with drug abuse/substance abuse disorder		2.6%	2.6%
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>			
% 60+ with 15+ days poor mental health in last month		11.3%	9.8%
% 65+ with depression		15.6%	16.4%
% 65+ with schizophrenia & other psychotic disorder		1.3%	2.2%
<b>LIVING WITH DISABILITY</b>			
% 65+ with self-reported hearing difficulty	*	27.7%	15.5%
% 65+ with self-reported vision difficulty	*	15.1%	8.7%
% 65+ with self-reported cognition difficulty		13.4%	11.2%
% 65+ with self-reported ambulatory difficulty	*	36.9%	28.0%
% 65+ with self-reported self-care difficulty		9.4%	10.2%
% 65+ with self-reported independent living difficulty		23.7%	17.3%
<b>CAREGIVING</b>			
% of grandparents raising grandchildren		2.3%	2.4%
% of grandparents who live with grandchildren		3.6%	4.7%
<b>ACCESS TO CARE</b>			
% 60+ with a regular doctor		88.4%	92.0%
% 60+ who did not see a doctor when needed due to cost		8.6%	8.6%
# of primary care providers in county		5	3,571
# of rural health care centers in county		2	191
# of hospitals in county		1	101
# of home health agencies in county		0	45
# of nursing homes in county		2	204
# of community health centers in county		0	20
# of adult day health centers in county		0	8
# of hospice agencies in county		0	94

<b>HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS</b>	<b>BETTER / WORSE STATE RATE</b>	<b>COUNTY ESTIMATE</b>	<b>STATE ESTIMATE</b>
<b>COMMUNITY</b>			
Particulate matter PM2.5		N/A	9.1
Ozone		N/A	0.361
Air pollution: annual # of unhealthy days for 65+		N/A	N/A
Age-friendly efforts in county		Not yet	Not yet
# of senior centers in county		1	115
% households that have smartphone (all ages)		15.1%	15.3%
% households without computer (all ages)	*	19.2%	13.5%
% households with access to Broadband (all ages)	*	68.1%	75.8%
% households without access to Internet (all ages)	*	30.5%	23.9%
Voter participation rate in 2020 presidential election (age 18+)		66.6%	61.2%
<b>SAFETY &amp; CRIME</b>			
Homicide rate/100,000 persons		0.0	14.1
# firearm fatalities (all ages)		16	3,428
# 60+ deaths by suicide		0	562
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
% 65+ who own a motor vehicle		91.1%	91.5%
% 60+ who always drive or ride wearing a seatbelt		91.4%	89.6%
# of fatal crashes involving adult age 60+		9	780
<b>HOUSING</b>			
% 65+ population who live alone		30.1%	28.1%
Average household size (all ages)	*	2.9	2.6
Median house value		\$119,300	\$125,500
% 60+ who own home	*	85.6%	82.7%
% 60+ homeowners who have mortgage	*	18.7%	32.1%
% 65+ households(renter) who spend >35% of income on housing		18.4%	33.5%
% 65+ households(owner) who spend >35% of income on housing		10.7%	15.2%
<b>ECONOMIC</b>			
% 60+ receiving food benefits in last year		10.8%	11.4%
% 65+ employed in last year	*	5.5%	15.6%
% 65+ with income below the poverty line in last year		15.3%	12.8%
65+ median household income	*	\$30,333	\$36,653
% 65+ households with annual income < \$20,000		29.4%	27.4%
% 65+ households with annual income \$20,000-\$49,999		45.3%	35.5%
% 65+ households with annual income \$50,000-\$99,999		20.0%	24.6%
% 65+ households with annual income \$100,000+	*	5.3%	12.5%

HEALTHY AGING INDICATORS	RATIO OF COUNTY TO STATE	\$ COUNTY ESTIMATE	\$ STATE ESTIMATE
<b>Elder Index: COST OF LIVING</b>			
Single, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.99	\$20,616	\$20,760
Single, renter, good health	0.97	\$23,112	\$23,892
Couple, homeowner without mortgage, good health	0.98	\$32,628	\$33,264
Couple, renter, good health	0.97	\$35,124	\$36,396

### TECHNICAL NOTES

*\*See our technical report for more information on data sources, measures, and methodology. For most indicators the county and state values are estimates derived from sample data. Thus, it is possible that some of the differences between state and county estimates may be due to chance associated with population sampling. We use the terms “Better” and “Worse” to highlight differences between county and state estimates that we are confident are not due to chance. “Better” is used where a higher/lower value has positive implications for the health of older residents. “Worse” is used where a higher/lower score has negative implications for the health of older people, and when the implication is unclear, we use an \*. 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 2016-2020) & Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2020).*
- *COVID-19: Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH; 2022).*
- *Wellness, Falls, Prevention: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS; 2013-2020), & Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Area Health Resources Files (AHRF; 2022).*
- *Chronic Disease: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Select Chronic Conditions Database (2018).*
- *Nutrition/Diet, Oral Health: BRFSS (2013-2020) & Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Area Health Resources Files (AHRF; 2022).*
- *Behavioral Health, Mental Health: BRFSS (2013-2020), CMS (2018), & MSDH (2022).*
- *Living with Disability: ACS (2016-2020).*
- *Caregiving: ACS (2016-2020).*
- *Access to Care: BRFSS (2013-2020), CMS (2018), National Adult Day Service Association (June 2022), Community Health Center (Association of Mississippi; June 2022).*
- *Community: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA, 2020), BRFSS (2013-2020), ACS (2016-2020), AARP, & State of Mississippi (May 2022).*
- *Safety & Crime: CDC WONDER (2016-2020).*
- *Transportation: BRFSS (2013-2020), ACS (2016-2020), & Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS; 2016-2020).*
- *Housing & Economic: ACS (2016-2020).*
- *Elder Index: Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging at the University of Massachusetts Boston (2022).*

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