



ISSUE THREE

ANNUAL

2 0 2 5 H E A L T H R E P O R T



WASHINGTON COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	Pg 4
WCHD Year in Review	Pg 5
Community Snapshot	Pg 12
Our Community	Pg 13
Social Factors	Pg 14
Around our Towns	Pg 16
General Health and Wellness	Pg 27
Physical Health	Pg 28
Leading Causes of Death/Mortality Trends	Pg 29
Health Barriers	Pg 30
Life Satisfaction and Emotional Support	Pg 32
Sleep	Pg 33
Chronic and Preventable Disease	Pg 34
Heart Disease	Pg 35
Diabetes	Pg 36
Cancer	Pg 37
Lung Disease	Pg 39
Infectious Disease	Pg 40
Reportable Diseases	Pg 41
Sexually Transmitted Infections	Pg 43
Influenza	Pg 44
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Pg 45

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Maternal and Infant Health	Pg 46
Births	Pg 47
Prenatal Care	Pg 49
Teen Pregnancy	Pg 50
Preterm Births	Pg 51
Infant and Fetal Mortality	Pg 52
Behavioral Health	Pg 53
Mental Health	Pg 54
Suicide	Pg 55
Substance Use Disorders	Pg 56
Environmental Health	Pg 59
Public Safety	Pg 60
Motor Vehicle Crashes	Pg 61
Air Quality	Pg 62
Extreme Heat	Pg 63
Social Drivers of Health	Pg 64
Housing	Pg 65
Food Insecurity	Pg 67
Transportation	Pg 68
Glossary	Pg 69

INTRODUCTION

The Washington County Health Department (WCHD) is part of the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), as well as an agency of Washington County government. The Washington County Commissioners serve as the official Board of Health. Funding for WCHD is a combination of federal, state and county monies, plus third-party and private-pay reimbursements.

Located at 1302 Pennsylvania Avenue, Hagerstown, MD, the facility houses the administrative headquarters, the Nursing Division, the Environmental Health Division, the Community Health Outreach, Prevention, and Promotion Division, and the Health Planning and Strategic Initiatives Division of the Washington County Health Department. Additionally our Behavioral Health Division is located down the road from the main offices at 925 N. Burhans Blvd.

Our Vision

A healthy community for all

Our Mission

Promote healthy behaviors, prevent disease and injury, and safeguard the environment

Our Values

Our values are the recipe for our success as an organization

Respect

Excellence

Commitment

Integrity

Professionalism

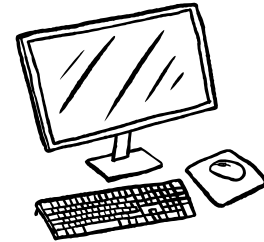
Equity

**2025
WCHD YEAR
IN REVIEW**



2025 WCHD YEAR IN REVIEW

Administration and Human Resources



The Administration and Human Resources divisions house all of the support programs and functions that allow for the health department to achieve its mission and goals. The Administration division oversees the department's interpreting services, the medical transportation program, budget and accounts, manages grant funding, purchasing, and billing for all programs, handles all maintenance, housekeeping, and IT needs, and is responsible for our reception and vital records requests. The Human Resources division handles all tasks involving employment, employee benefits, compensation, performance management, and quality assurance.

Administration

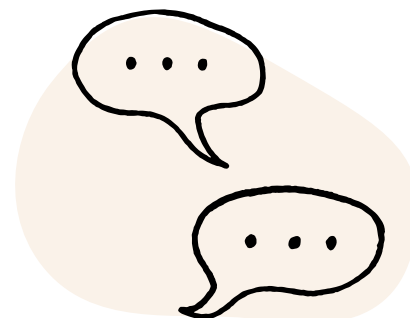
- **1,362**
 - Purchase Orders Processed
- **5,088**
 - Birth Certificates Issued
- **19,028**
 - Medical Assistance Transportation Trips
- **8,793**
 - Death Certificates Issued

Human Resources

- **18**
 - New Hires
- **5**
 - Retired Employees
- **25**
 - Employees with 10+ Years of Service
- **26**
 - Employees with 20+ Years of Service

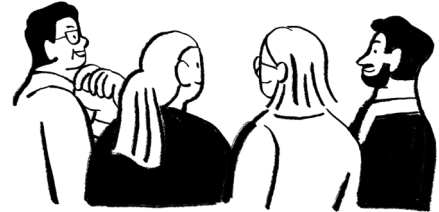
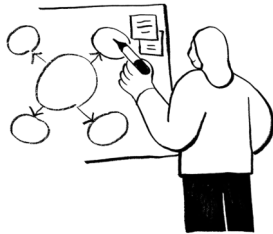
Language Services

- **6,290**
 - LEP Interactions
- **27**
 - Different Languages Requested



2025 WCHD YEAR IN REVIEW

Behavioral Health



The Behavioral Health division is responsible for providing prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery resources to Washington County residents affected by behavioral health issues. Some of the programs and services under this division include Crisis Services and Overdose Response, the Hub City Strong Risk Reduction program, Syringe Pick Up and Disposal, Peer Recovery Services, Washington Goes Purple, the Tobacco Free for Life program, prevention services and education, the Jail Substance Abuse Program, Narcan training, and many more!

Community Outreach and Prevention Education

- **492**
 - Community Outreach and Education Events
- **19,612**
 - Community Members Reached
- **404**
 - Tobacco Free for Life Participants
- **102**
 - Narcan Trainings Held
- **1,307**
 - Individuals Received Narcan Training

Risk Reduction

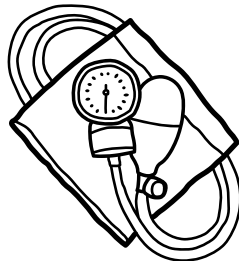
- **607**
 - Risk Reduction Program Participants
- **323**
 - Wound Care Patients
- **129**
 - Individuals Received STI Testing
- **961**
 - Individuals Referred for Medical Consultation
- **5,293**
 - Individuals Seen for Overdose Prevention and Education Sessions
- **726**
 - Sharps Containers Distributed

Peer Support Programs

- **2,578**
 - Individuals Referred for Peer Recovery Services
- **1,058**
 - Individuals Referred for Recovery Activities
- **111**
 - JSAP Program Participants
- **92**
 - TAMAR Program Participants

2025 WCHD YEAR IN REVIEW

Community Health Outreach, Prevention, and Promotion



The Community Health Outreach Prevention and Promotion division focuses on chronic disease prevention and management, health promotion, emergency planning, and public information. Some of the activities and programs this division is responsible for include: Cribs for Kids, the Diabetes Prevention Program, the new Healthy Hearts Ambassador Program, Emergency Preparedness, Stop the Bleed Training, Healthy Washington County, and management of WCHD social media, website, and the Pathfinder site.

Community Education and Outreach

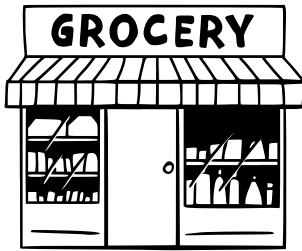
- **65**
 - Health Fairs and Events Attended
- **50**
 - Community Presentations
- **51**
 - Diabetes Risk Screenings Performed
- **26**
 - Diabetes Prevention Program participants
- **46**
 - Cribs Distributed Through Cribs for Kids
- **111**
 - Blood Pressure Screening Events
- **751**
 - Blood Pressure Screenings Performed
- **94**
 - Blood Pressure Cuffs Distributed
- **9**
 - Healthy Hearts Ambassador Program Participants
- **49**
 - Car Seat Checks Performed

Emergency Preparedness

- **15**
 - Stop the Bleed Trainings Held
- **846**
 - Individuals Trained
- **7**
 - Internal Emergency Drills/Exercises
- **788**
 - Emergency Go Bags Distributed
- **15**
 - Partner Emergency Exercises Participated In

2025 WCHD YEAR IN REVIEW

Environmental Health



The Environmental Health Division's mission is to provide pure water, wholesome food, clean air, and safe surroundings for all residents of Washington County by administering and enforcing programs from the Maryland Department of Health and Department of the Environment. Some of the division's responsibilities include: handling food service complaints, inspections, and permits, reviewing and processing well and septic permits, campground, pool, and spa inspections and testing, and infectious disease investigation and control.

Permits and Plans

- **900+**
 - Food Permits Issued
- **578**
 - Temporary Food Permits Issued
- **400+**
 - Property Record Requests
- **330**
 - Perc, Well, and Septic Permits Processed
- **149**
 - Subdivision/Site Plans Reviewed
- **514**
 - Building Permits Reviewed

Inspections and Reports

- **479**
 - Restaurant Inspections
- **282**
 - Environmental Health Complaints Received
- **601**
 - Bite Reports Received
- **52**
 - Pool and Spa Inspections
- **17**
 - Mobile Home Park Inspections
- **11**
 - Campground Inspections
- **50**
 - Sanitary Survey Inspections

2025 WCHD YEAR IN REVIEW

Health Planning and Strategic Initiatives



The Health Planning and Strategic Initiatives division houses our Office of Health Equity and our Epidemiology department. The Office of Health Equity is responsible for developing and implementing equitable strategies to address health disparities throughout the entire community, developing internal policies to promote equitable practices, leading the health equity committee, and promoting staff development through equity related trainings. The Epidemiology department is responsible for data collection and analysis, chronic and infectious disease surveillance, and data reporting and visualization .

Office of Health Equity

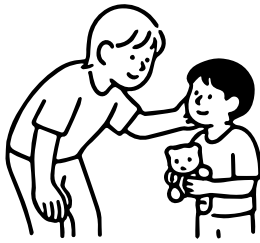
- **11**
 - Health Equity Committee Meetings
- **15**
 - Health Equity Committee Members
- **2**
 - Staff Training Events Held
- **16**
 - Community Outreach Events Attended
- **2**
 - Safe Routes to School Walk Audits Completed
- **2**
 - Crosswalks Painted for Safe Routes to School

Epidemiology

- **1**
 - Community Health Needs Assessment Completed and Published
- **3**
 - Community Health Needs Assessment Presentations
- **1**
 - Public Facing Infectious Disease Dashboard Published
- **1**
 - South End Walk Audit Report Developed and Published

2025 WCHD YEAR IN REVIEW

Nursing



The Nursing division offers many different programs and services in an effort to ensure the health and safety of the community. Some of the programs and services under this division include Administrative Care Coordination and Ombudsman Services, Breast, Cervical, and Colorectal Cancer screening, education, and treatment programs, Refugee Services, Reproductive Health and STI clinical services, HIV case management and prevention, Communicable Disease surveillance, investigation, and intervention, the Healthy Families program, WIC services, the Maryland Children's Health and Medical Assistance for Families program, and many more!

Clinical Services

- **1,136**
 - Family Planning Clinic Visits
- **1,021**
 - Immunization Clinic Clients
- **2,469**
 - Vaccinations Administered

Communicable Disease

- **61**
 - Outbreaks Managed (GI, Flu, Hand, Foot & Mouth)
- **21**
 - Covid Outbreaks Managed

Families and Children

- **3,313**
 - WIC Program Participants
- **63**
 - Families Served by Healthy Families Program
- **4,217**
 - MCHIP Clients Served



COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT



OUR COMMUNITY

2024 Population Estimates

Population	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Total Population	155,709	6,206,011	334,922.499
Female	49.2%	51.3%	50.5%
Male	50.8%	48.7%	49.5%

Race and Ethnicity	Washington County	Maryland	United States
White, alone	74.9%	48.2%	61.0%
Black, alone	11.6%	29.4%	12.2%
Hispanic or Latino	7.9%	12.5%	19.3%
Asian, alone	1.6%	6.6%	6.0%
Two or More Races, alone	9.3%	8.5%	12.6%
Other Race*, alone	2.6%	7.3%	8.2%

*Other Race - Includes American Indian and Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, and Other Race

Age	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Under 18 Years	21.8%	22.2%	22.0%
18 Years and Over	78.2%	77.8%	78.0%
65 Years and Over	18.1%	16.7%	17.2%

SOCIAL FACTORS

2024 Population Estimates

Education	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Less than High School	11.3%	8.8%	10.4%
High School Grad or Higher	88.6%	91.1%	89.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	24.1%	43.4%	35.7%

*Education - Educational attainment amongst population 25 years and over

Income, Employment, and Housing	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Median Household Income	\$77,747	\$103,678	\$80,734
Unemployment Rate*	3.0%	4.3%	4.6%
Homeownership	65.2%	67.6%	66.8%
Monthly Housing Cost Above 25% of Income	32.8%	36.7%	38%

*Unemployment Rate - Among population 16 years and over

Language Spoken at Home	Washington County	Maryland	United States
English Only	90.6%	78.9%	77.7%
Spanish	5.6%	9.6%	13.6%
Other Languages	3.8%	11.5%	8.7%

*Language - For individuals aged 18 and older

Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table S1501, S1901, DP03, DP04, S1601

SOCIAL FACTORS

2024 Population Estimates

Disability Status	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Total Population	15.3%	11.6%	13.3%

Poverty Status	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Individuals Below Poverty Level	12.4%	9.4%	12.5%
Families Below Poverty Level	8.8%	6.4%	8.8%

Household Benefits Status*	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Receiving Food Stamp or SNAP Benefits	15.3%	11.2%	12.1%
Receiving Social Security Income	33.1%	28.5%	31.3%
Receiving Supplemental Security Income	5.8%	4.3%	5.1%

*Count of Households, not individuals

Health Insurance Coverage	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Uninsured	6.3%	6.3%	8.4%
Public Insurance*	43.7%	34.6%	36.7%

*Public Insurance includes: Medicare, Medicaid, VA Health Care, and Children's Health Insurance Program

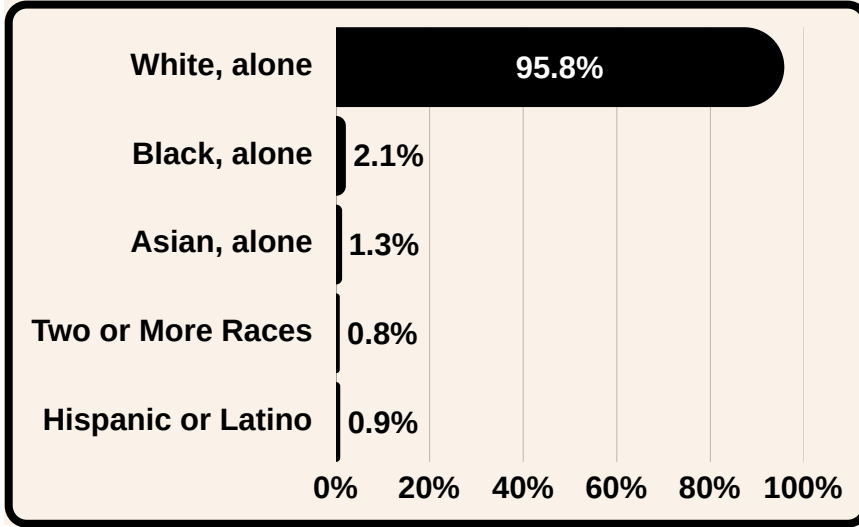
Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table S1801, S1701, S1702, DP03, S2701,

AROUND OUR TOWNS

Boonsboro

Total Population: 6,662

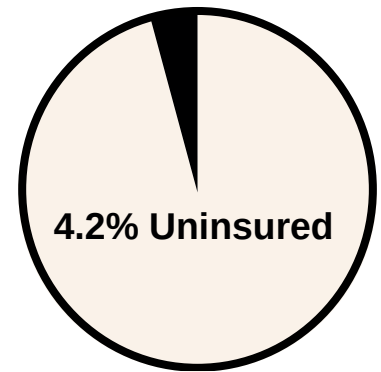
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	42
65 and Older	19.7%
Under 18	24.6%

Health Insurance Coverage

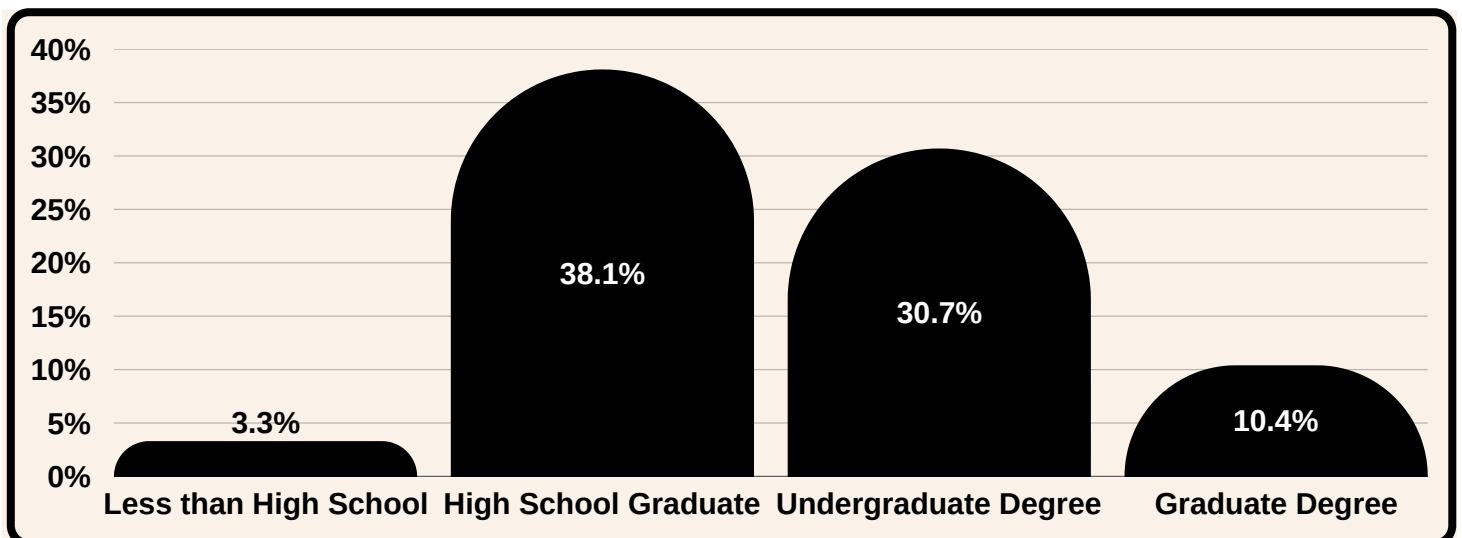


Median Household Income

\$96,056



Education

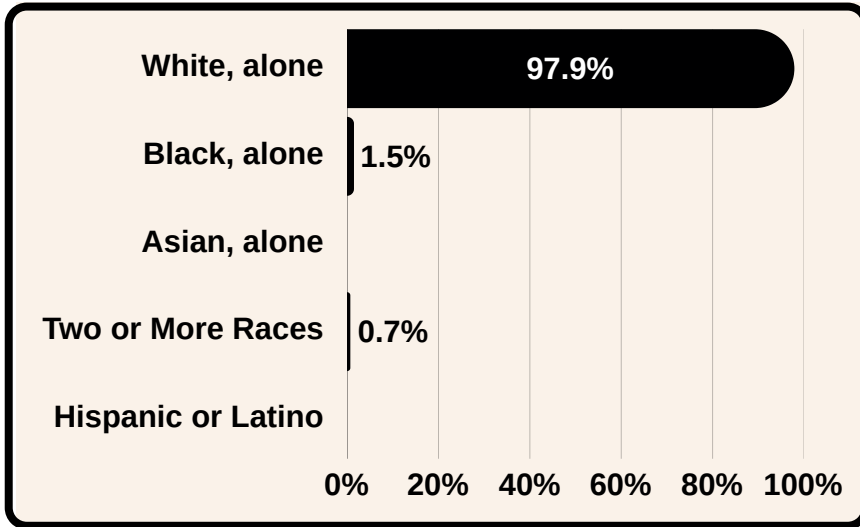


AROUND OUR TOWNS

Cascade/Ringgold

Total Population: 2,275

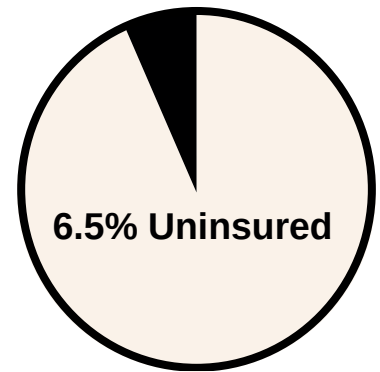
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	52.6
65 and Older	23.5%
Under 18	15.3%

Health Insurance Coverage

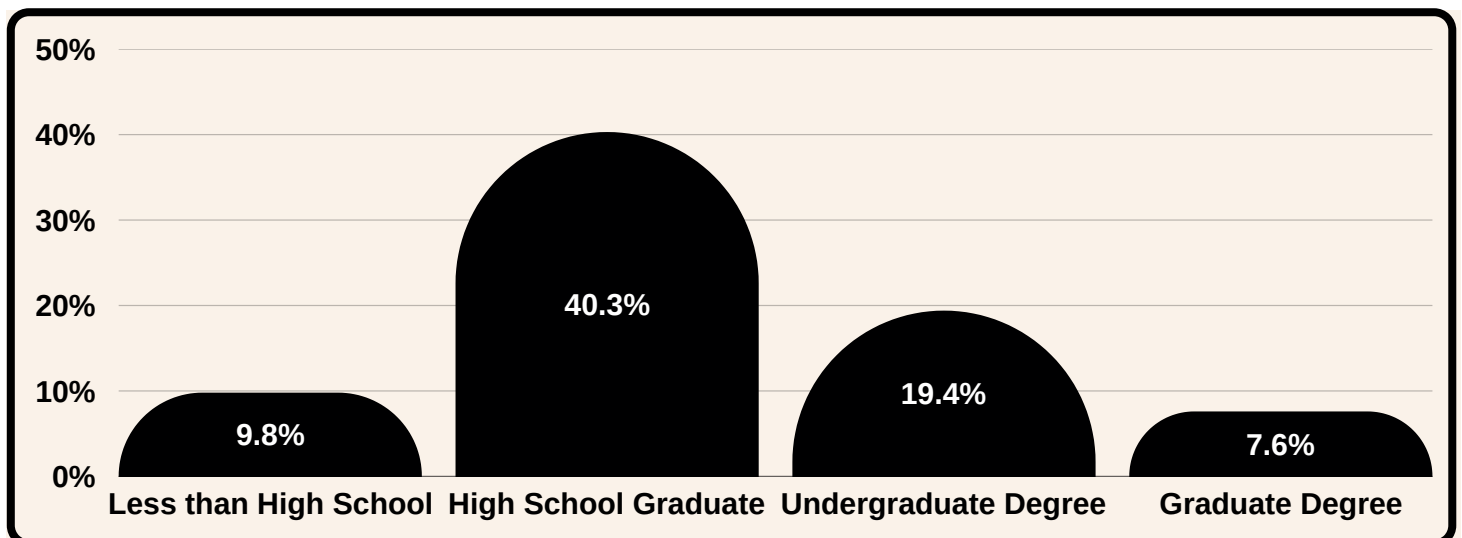


Median Household Income

\$78,229



Education



*Includes Associate's and Bachelor's degrees; Measure of Population aged 25 and older

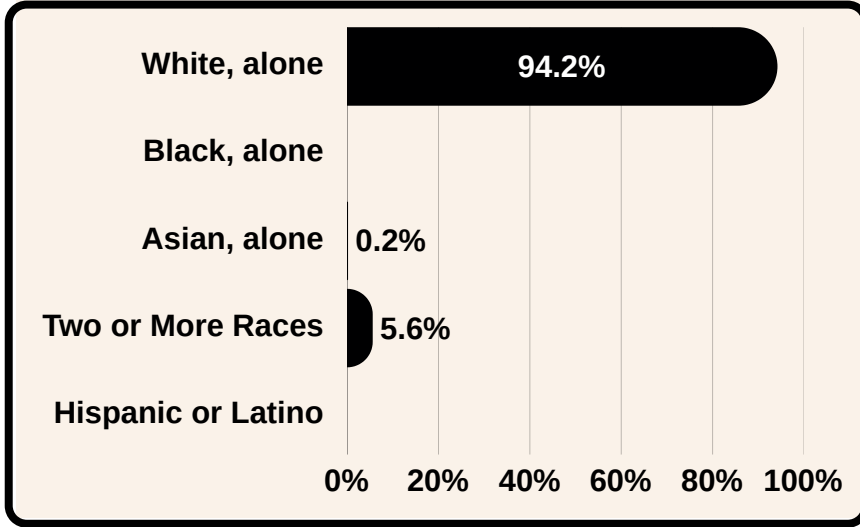
Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05, S1501, S2701, S1901

AROUND OUR TOWNS

Clear Spring

Total Population: 3,567

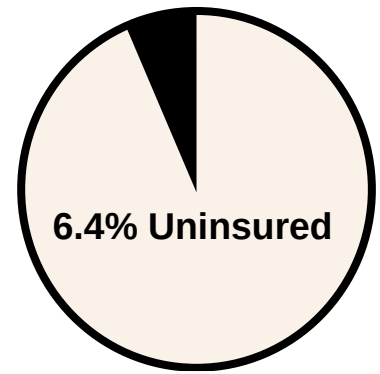
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	40.9
65 and Older	22.0%
Under 18	26.6%

Health Insurance Coverage

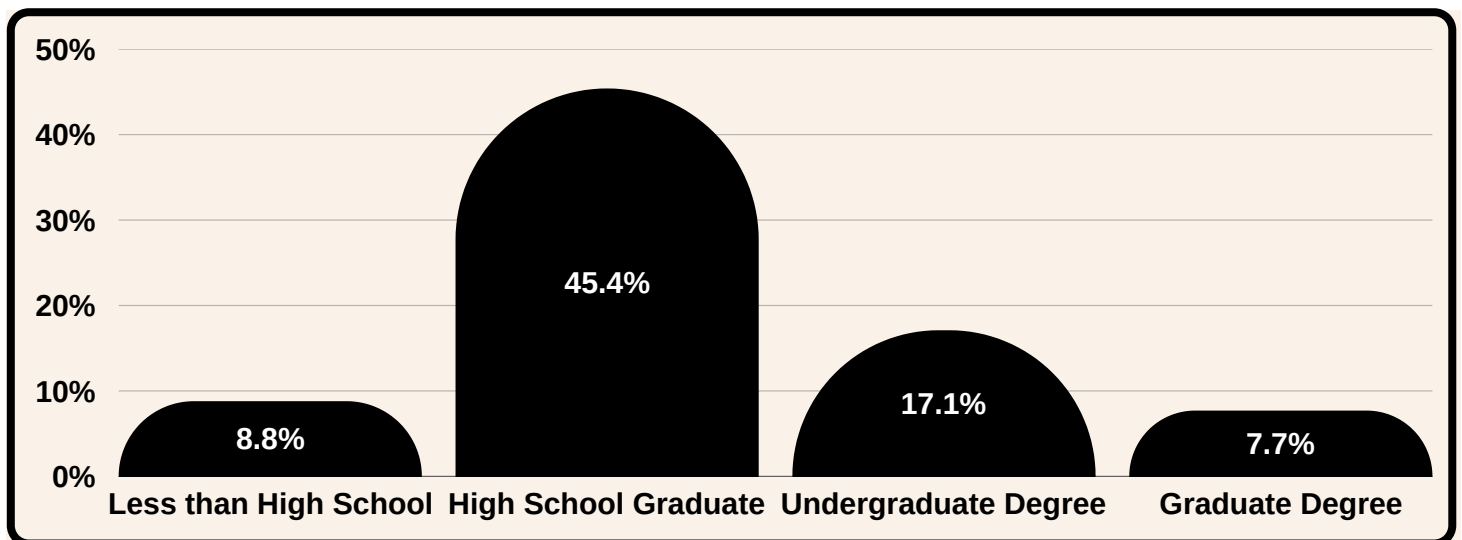


Median Household Income

\$77,576



Education



*Includes Associate's and Bachelor's degrees; Measure of Population aged 25 and older

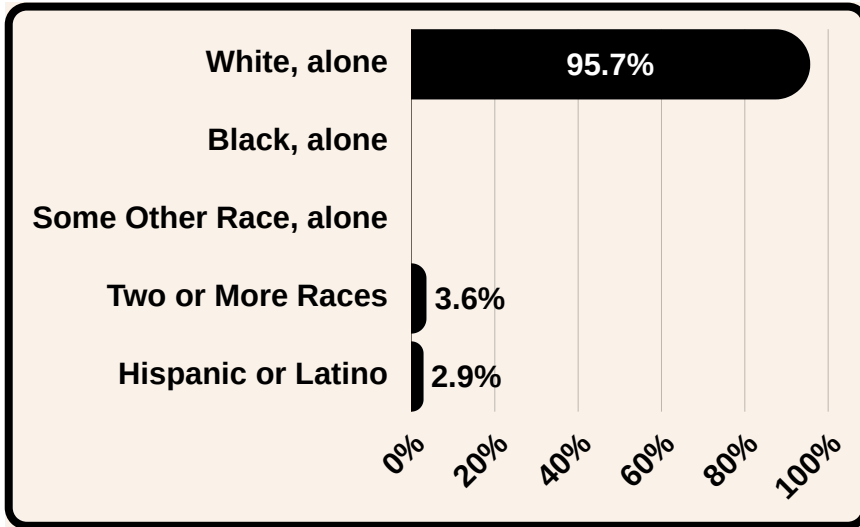
Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05, S1501, S2701, S1901

AROUND OUR TOWNS

Funkstown

Total Population: 1,076

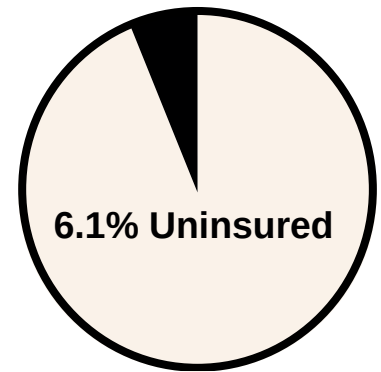
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	52.4
65 and Older	20.6%
Under 18	7.3%

Health Insurance Coverage

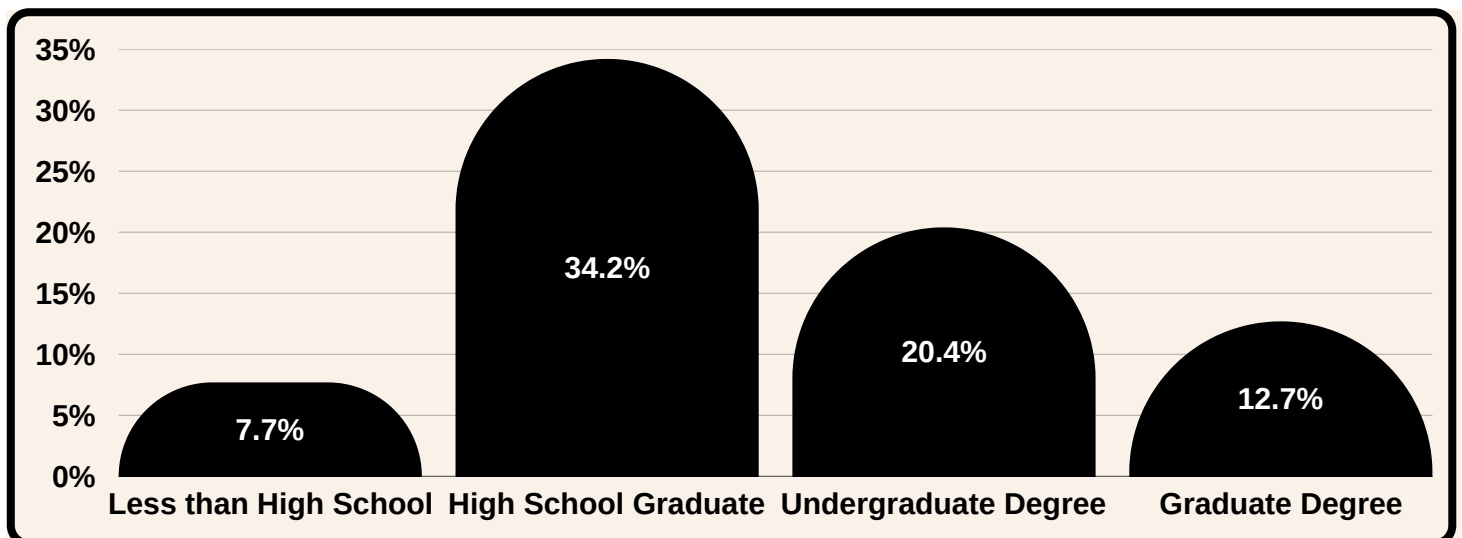


Median Household Income

\$61,932



Education



*Includes Associate's and Bachelor's degrees; Measure of Population aged 25 and older

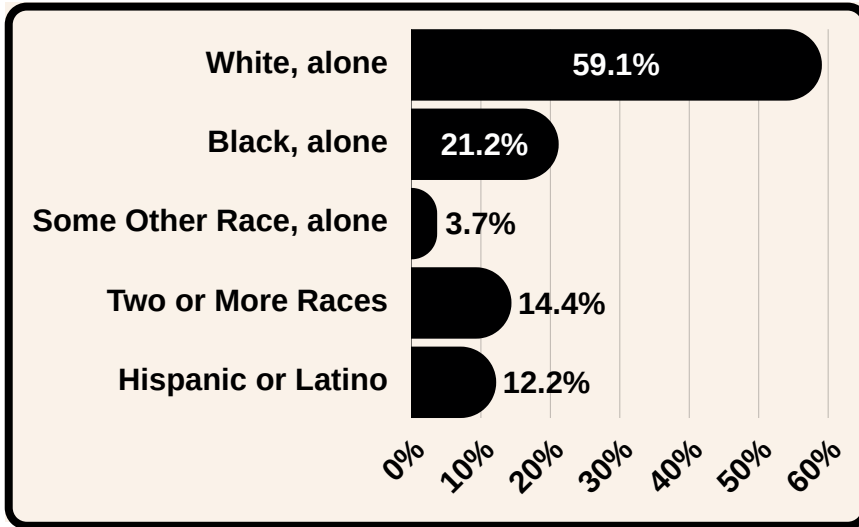
Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05, S1501, S2701, S1901

AROUND OUR TOWNS

Hagerstown

Total Population: 43,665

Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	35.8
65 and Older	14.6%
Under 18	25.8%

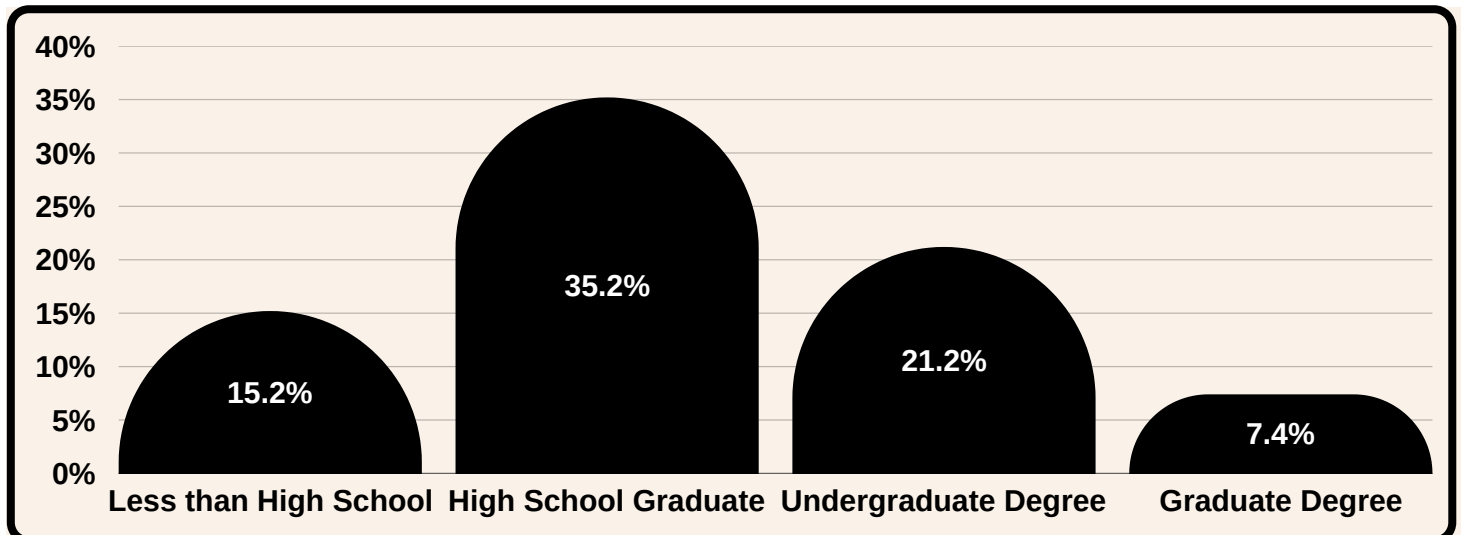
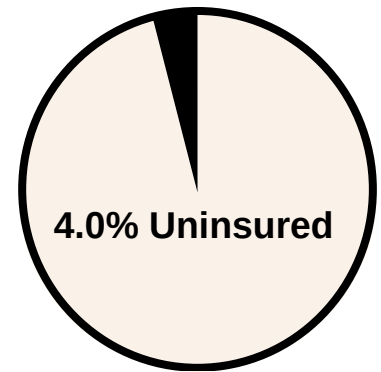
Median Household Income

\$58,330



Education

Health Insurance Coverage

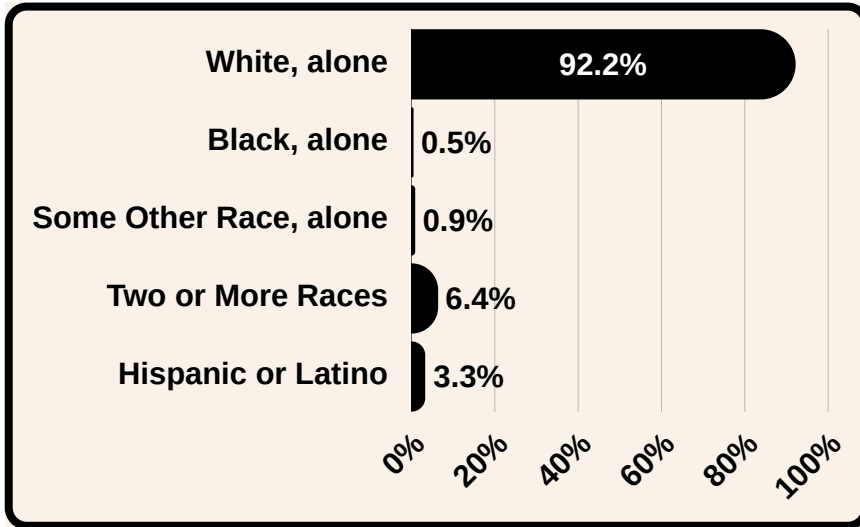


AROUND OUR TOWNS

Hancock

Total Population: 3,148

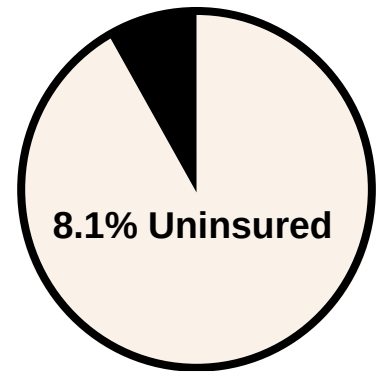
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	49.7
65 and Older	22.9%
Under 18	17.1%

Health Insurance Coverage

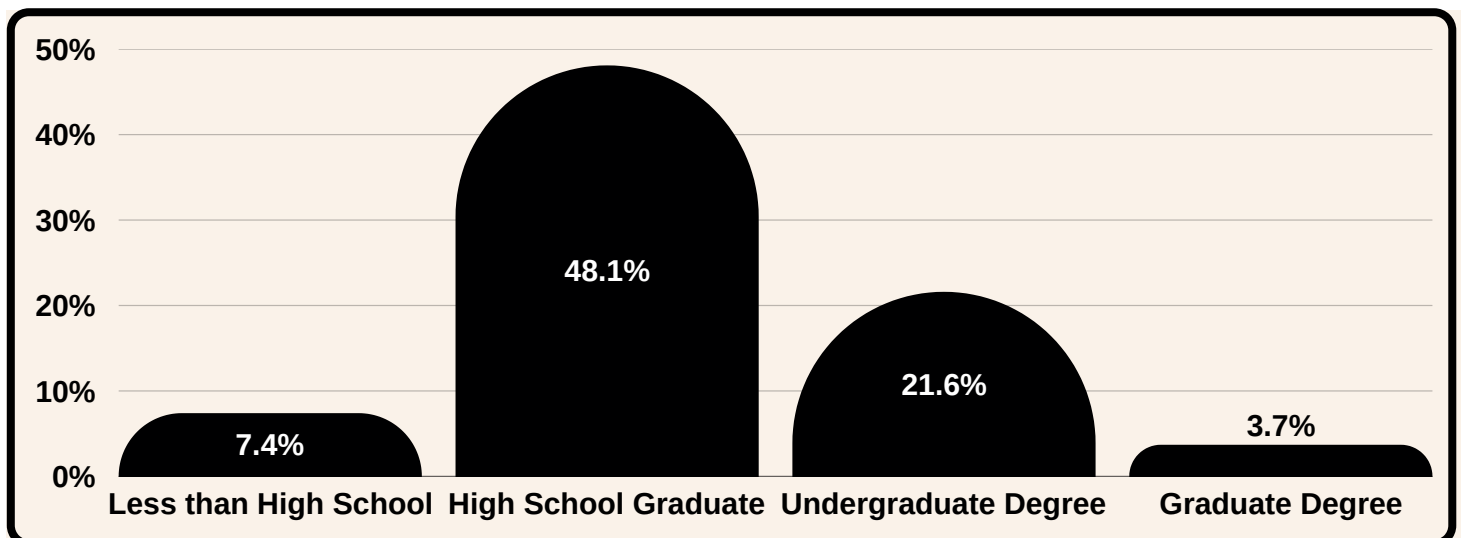


Median Household Income

\$52,221



Education

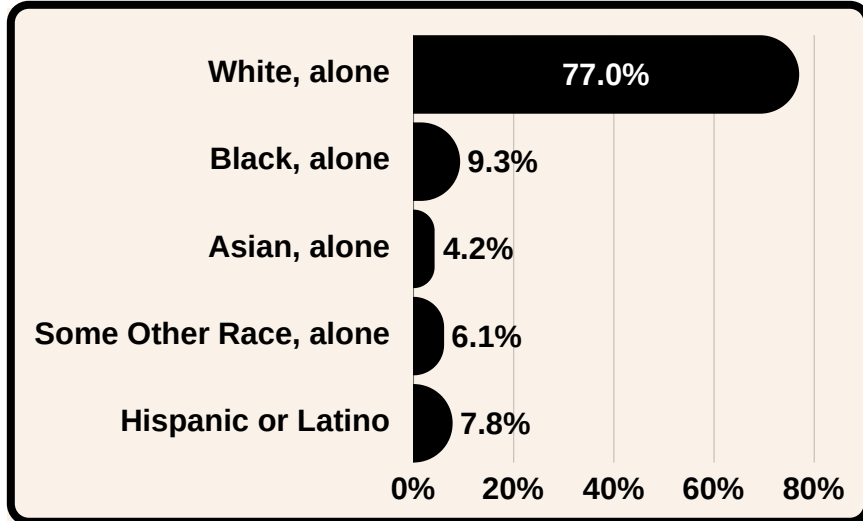


AROUND OUR TOWNS

Maugansville

Total Population: 7,043

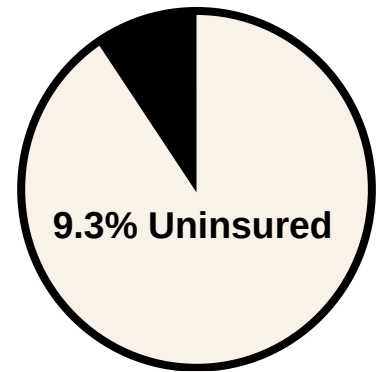
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	47.6
65 and Older	21.8%
Under 18	21.1%

Health Insurance Coverage

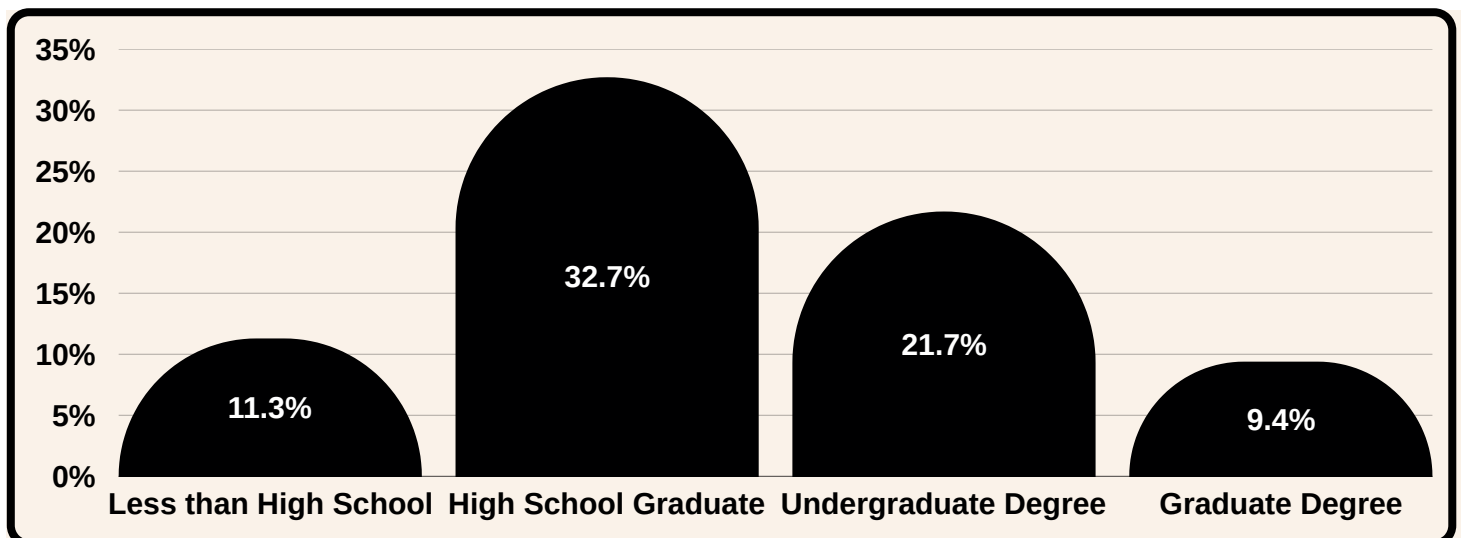


Median Household Income

\$78,675



Education



*Includes Associate's and Bachelor's degrees; Measure of Population aged 25 and older

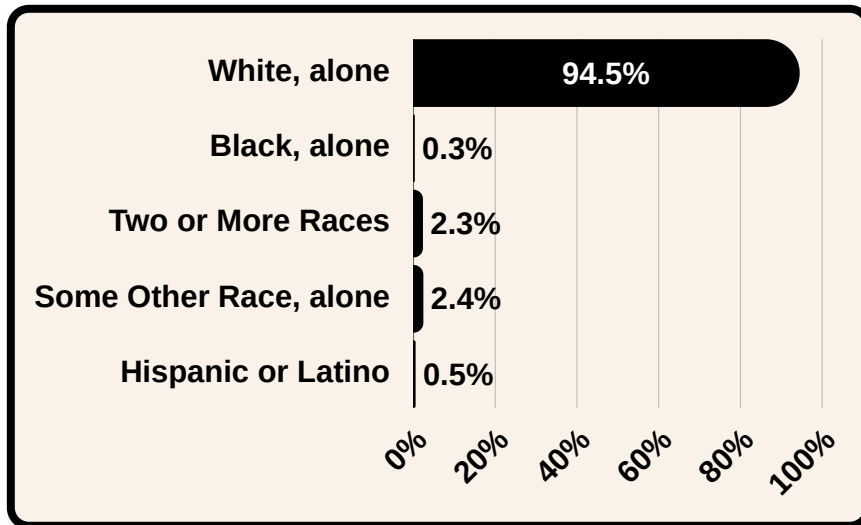
Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05, S1501, S2701, S1901

AROUND OUR TOWNS

Rohrersville

Total Population: 3,159

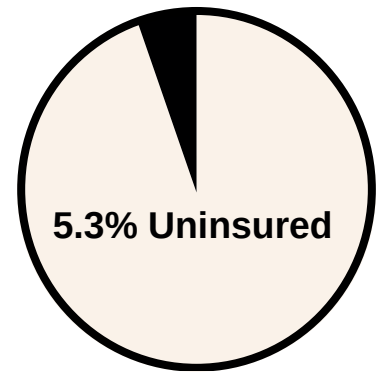
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	41.5
65 and Older	12.7%
Under 18	22.6%

Health Insurance Coverage

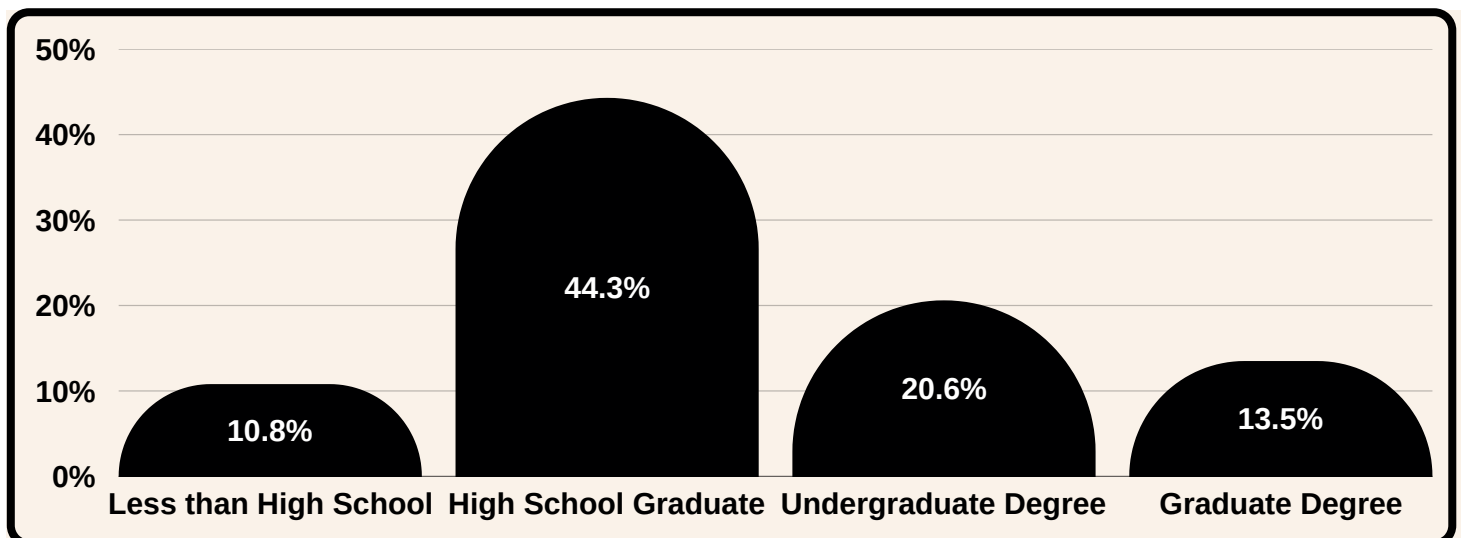


Median Household Income

\$79,406



Education

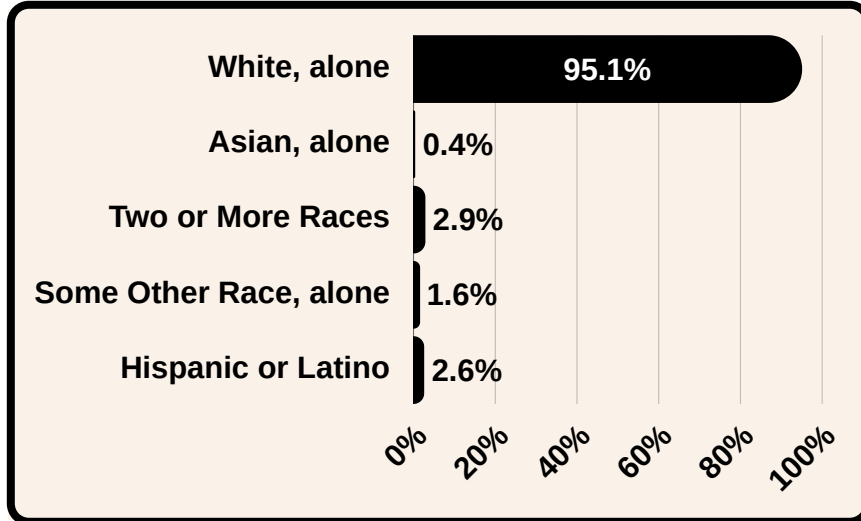


AROUND OUR TOWNS

Sharpsburg

Total Population: 2,759

Race and Ethnicity



Age

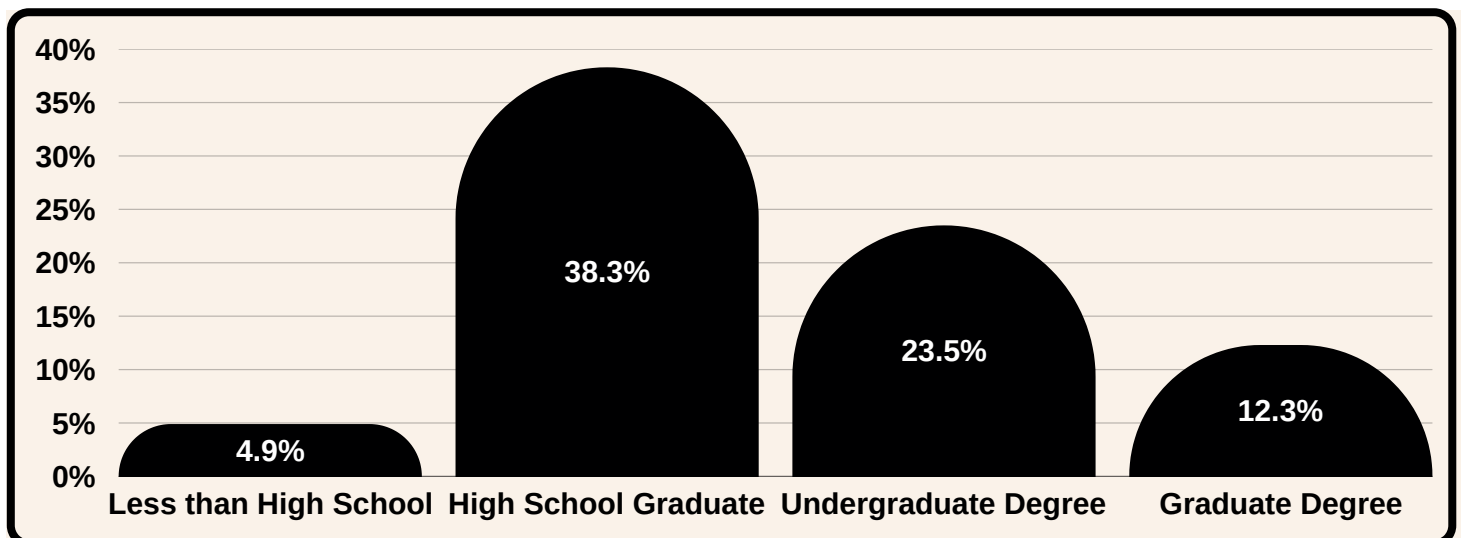
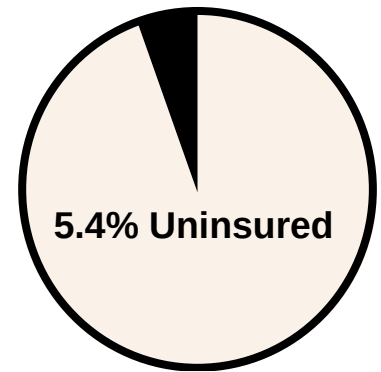
Median Age	51.8
65 and Older	23.1%
Under 18	12.5%

Median Household Income

\$93,654



Education



*Includes Associate's and Bachelor's degrees; Measure of Population aged 25 and older

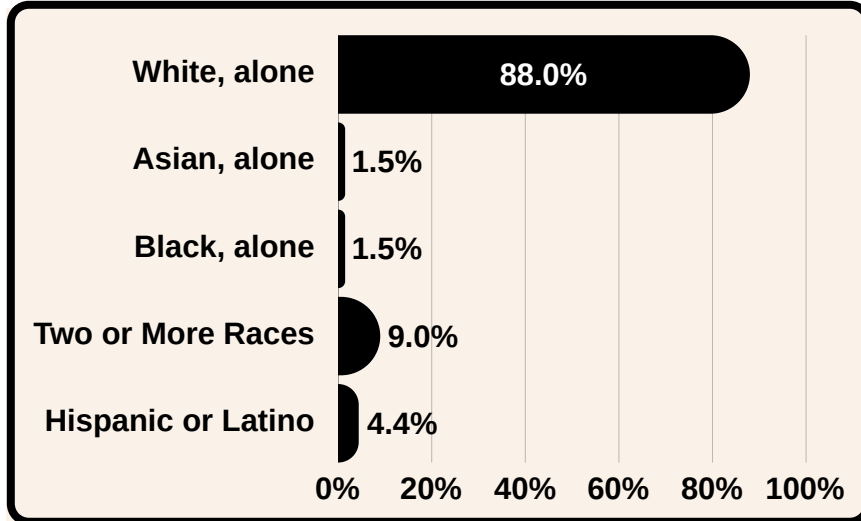
Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05, S1501, S2701, S1901

AROUND OUR TOWNS

Smithsburg

Total Population: 6,027

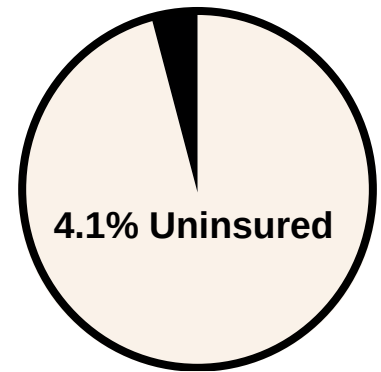
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	42.6
65 and Older	18.8%
Under 18	22.8%

Health Insurance Coverage

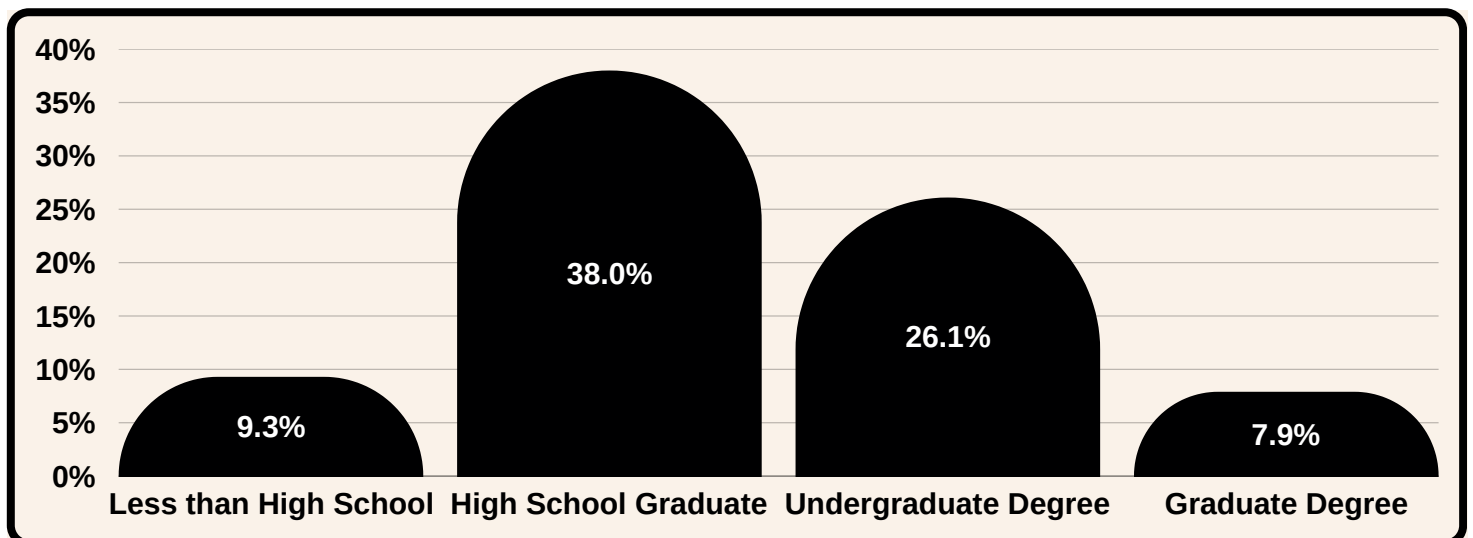


Median Household Income

\$93,728



Education



*Includes Associate's and Bachelor's degrees; Measure of Population aged 25 and older

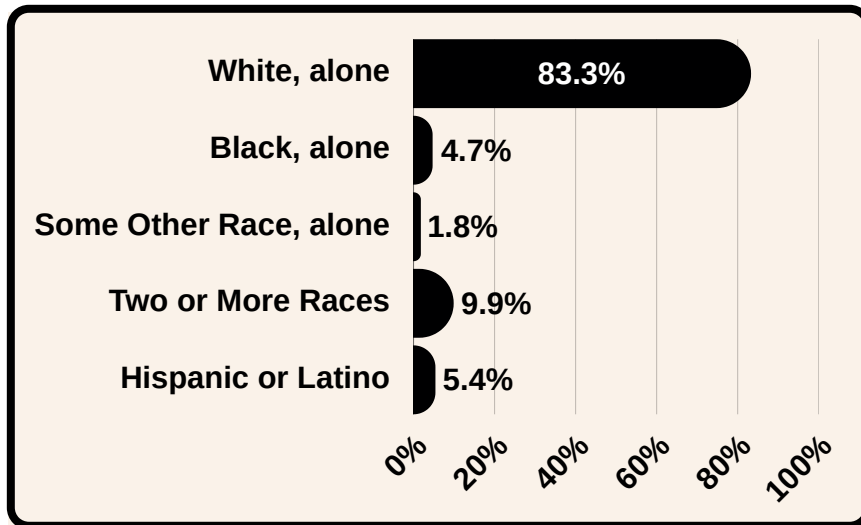
Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05, S1501, S2701, S1901

AROUND OUR TOWNS

Williamsport

Total Population: 4,456

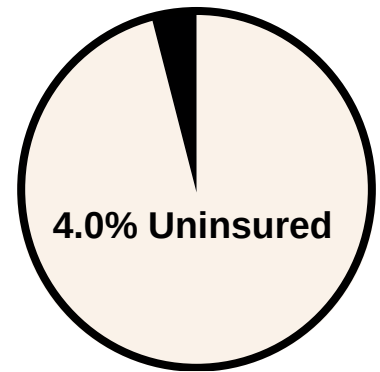
Race and Ethnicity



Age

Median Age	39
65 and Older	18.1%
Under 18	20.2%

Health Insurance Coverage

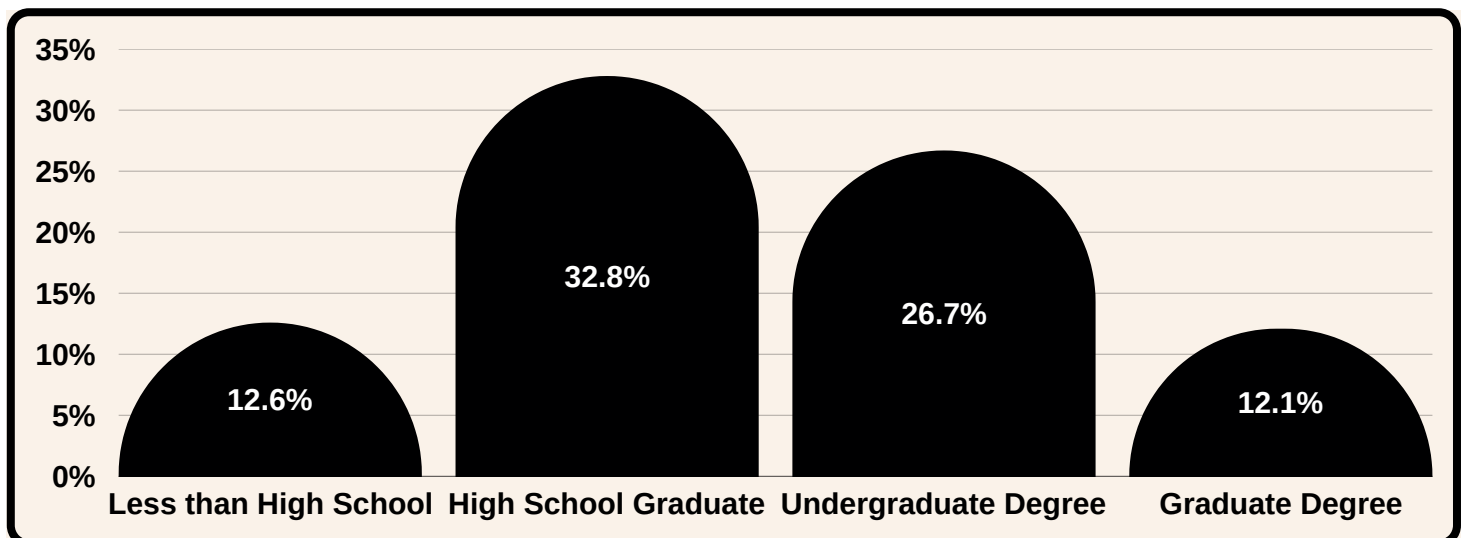


Median Household Income

\$76,367



Education



*Includes Associate's and Bachelor's degrees; Measure of Population aged 25 and older

Data Source: 2024 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05, S1501, S2701, S1901

**GENERAL
HEALTH AND
WELLNESS**

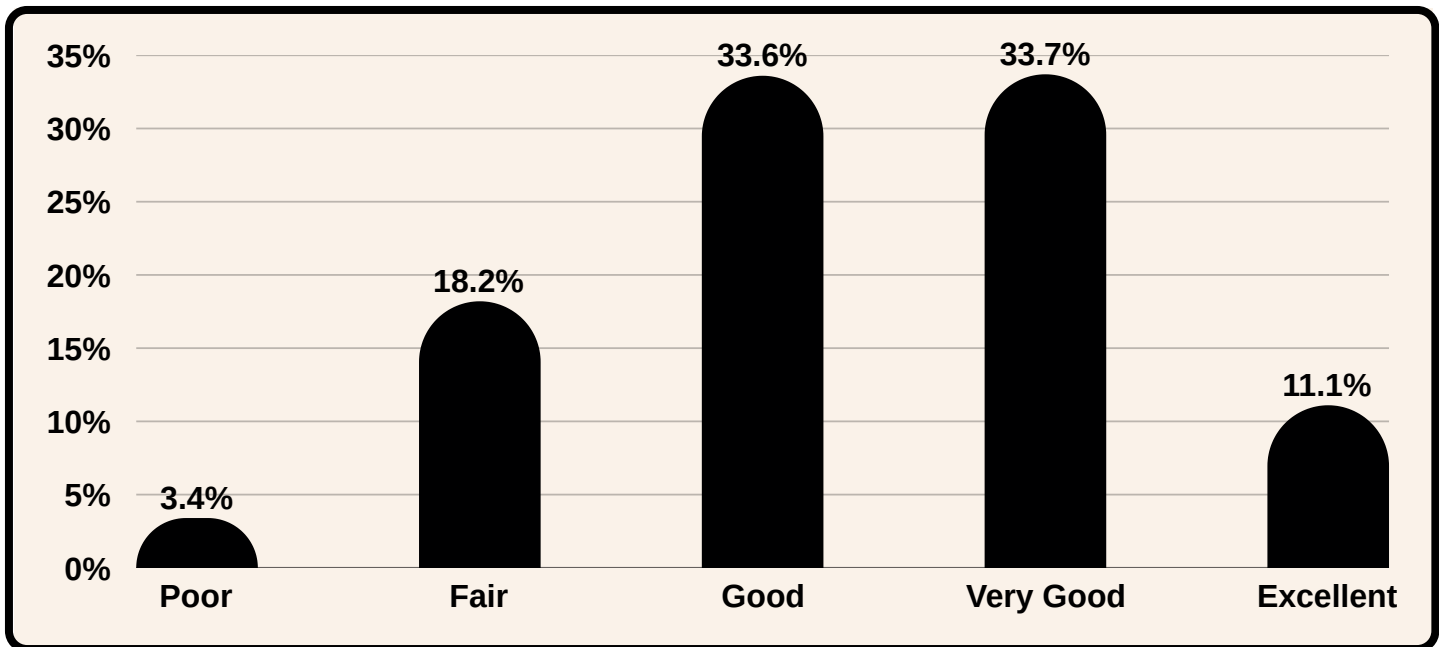


GENERAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

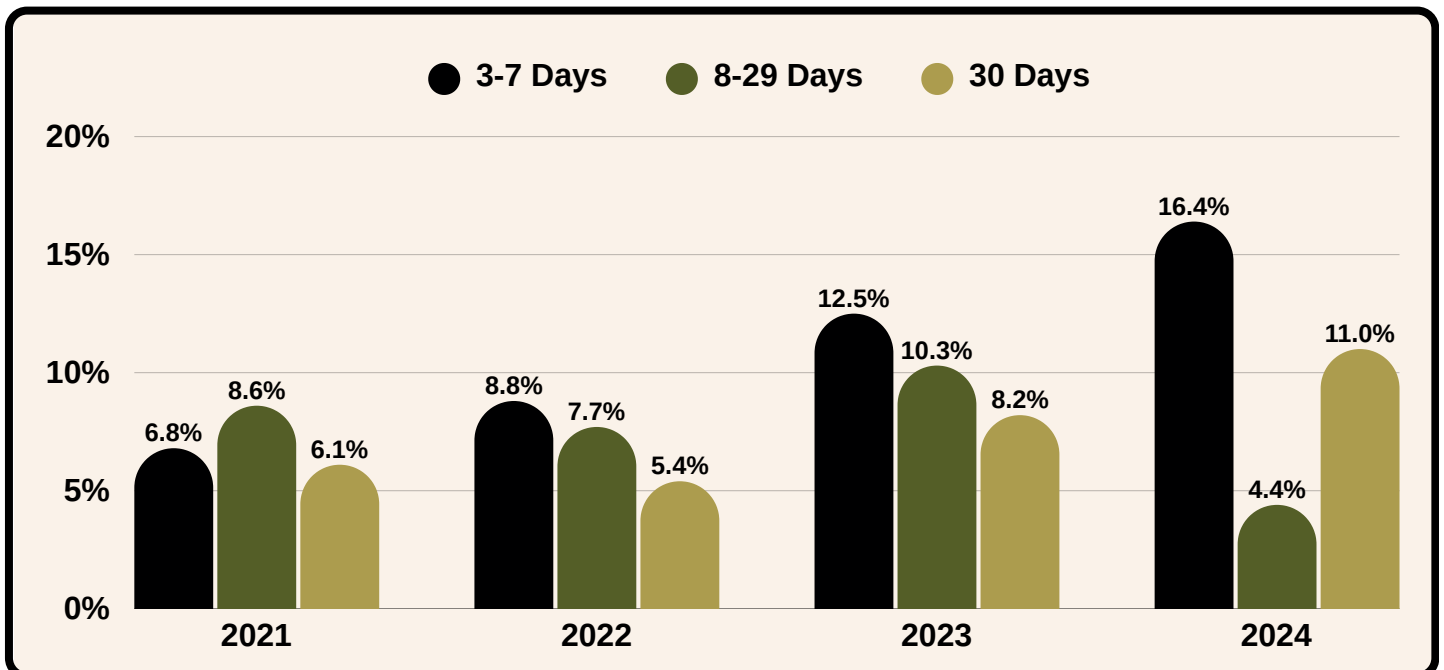
Physical Health

In 2024, most Washington County residents reported that their overall health was either good, very good, or fair. In the same year, there was an overall increase in the amount of short and long-term periods of poor physical health (ex. illness, injury, etc) days reported by residents.

Overall General Health Status (Adults)



Number of Days with Poor Physical Health in Past 30 Days (Adults)

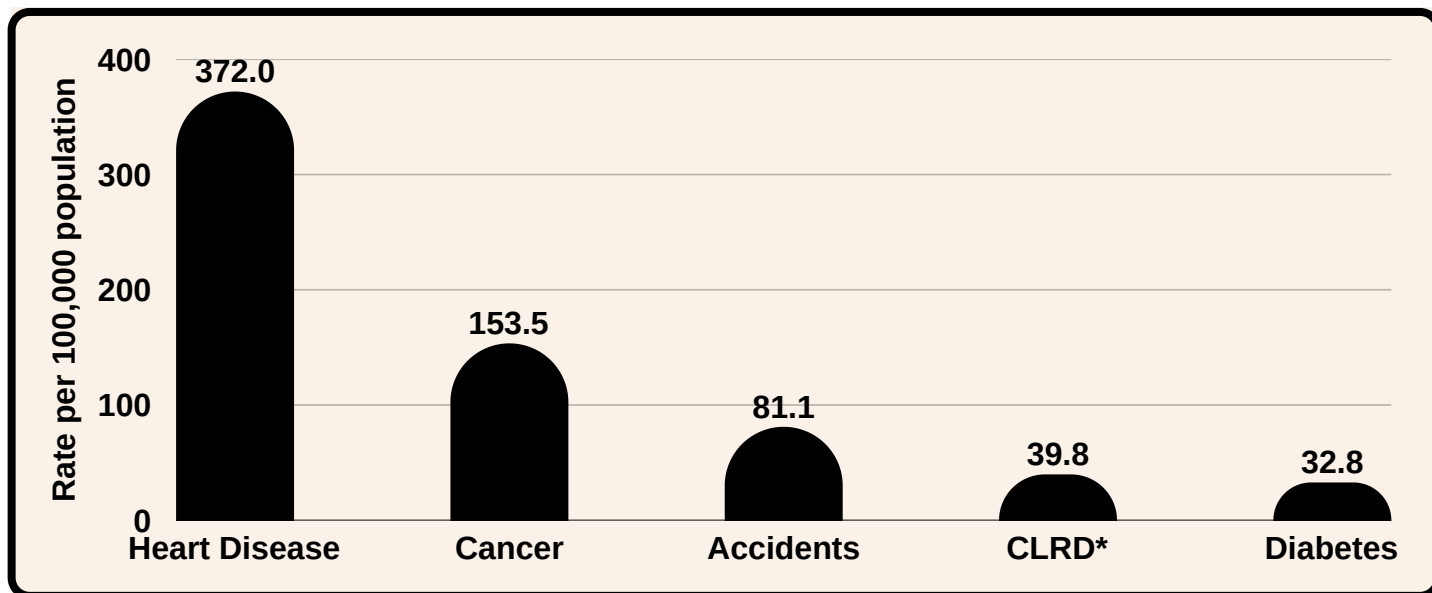


GENERAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Leading Causes of Death (2023)

There were a total of 1,681 deaths in 2023. Heart disease continued to be the leading cause of death, causing around 22% of deaths overall, with Cancer following closely behind followed by accidents. The current average life expectancy for Washington County residents is 75.2 years, slightly lower than the US average of 78.4 years.

Top 5 Leading Causes of Death by Age-Adjusted Rate (2023)



*Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease

Top 4 Leading Causes of Death by Mortality Rate (2023) †

	White, Alone	Black, Alone	Hispanic or Latino	Asian, Alone
Heart Disease	293.2	131.6	76.1	178.0
Cancer	257.1	97.5	68.5	118.7
Accidents	99.5	87.8	22.8	--
CLRD	73.1	24.4	--	--

†Deaths per 100,000

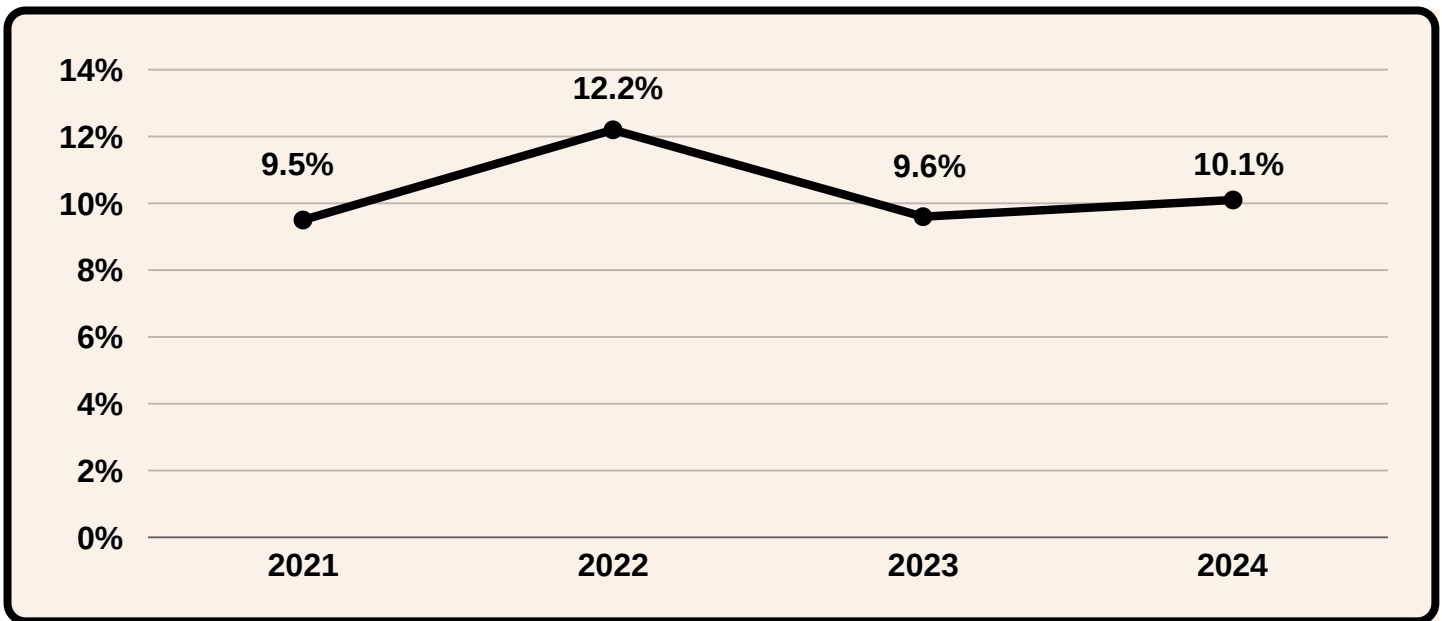
Data Source: 2022 Jurisdictional Deaths Report, Vital Statistics Administration, Maryland Department of Health

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Health Barriers - Healthcare Costs and Coverage

High healthcare costs are often one of the main barriers to care seen in the US. In 2023, 10.1% of Washington County residents were unable to see a doctor due to the cost of care. In 2024, around 6.3% of residents were uninsured, with strong differences between racial/ethnic groups. The highest rates of uninsured individuals were amongst American Indian/Alaskan Native residents. Age can also play a factor in insurance coverage. With the availability of Medicare for many adults over 65, higher percentages of uninsured individuals are seen in those 64 and under.

Adults Unable to see a Doctor Due to Cost, Past 12 Months



Uninsured Residents by Race, Ethnicity, and Age (2024)

Race and Ethnicity	
White, alone	5.4%
Black, alone	7.9%
Hispanic or Latino	15.4%
Am. Indian/Alaskan Native, alone	31.3%

Age	
Under 6 Years	6.2
19 and Under	4.1%
19 to 64 Years	8.8%
65 years and Older	1.1%

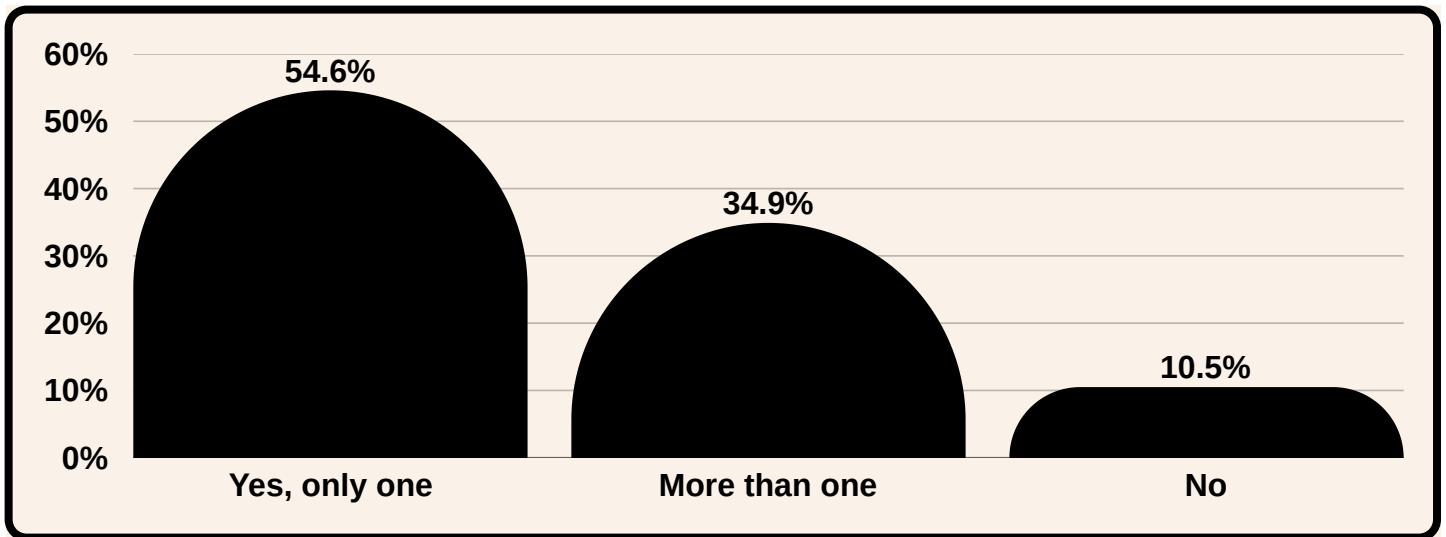
Data Source: 2024 Maryland BRFSS, 2024 ACS 5-Year Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table S2701

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

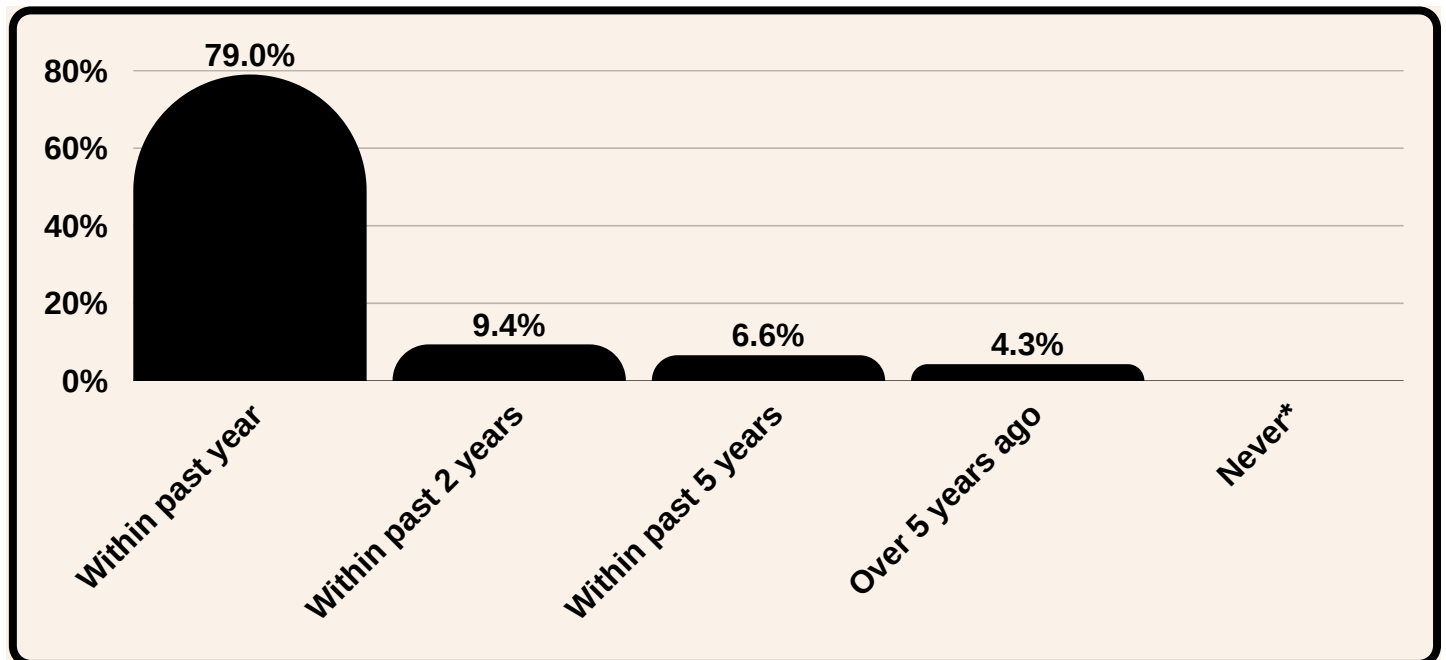
Health Barriers - Access to Regular Medical Care

Lack of access to a primary care provider and difficulty scheduling medical appointments were identified as two major health service gaps in the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment. In 2024, 89.5% of Washington County residents indicated they had at least one primary health care provider, however 20% of residents indicated it had been over a year since their last checkup. Regular health screenings play an essential role in maintaining overall health and wellness and play a critical role in screening and management of chronic disease.

Adults with a Primary Care Provider



Time Since Last Routine Checkup



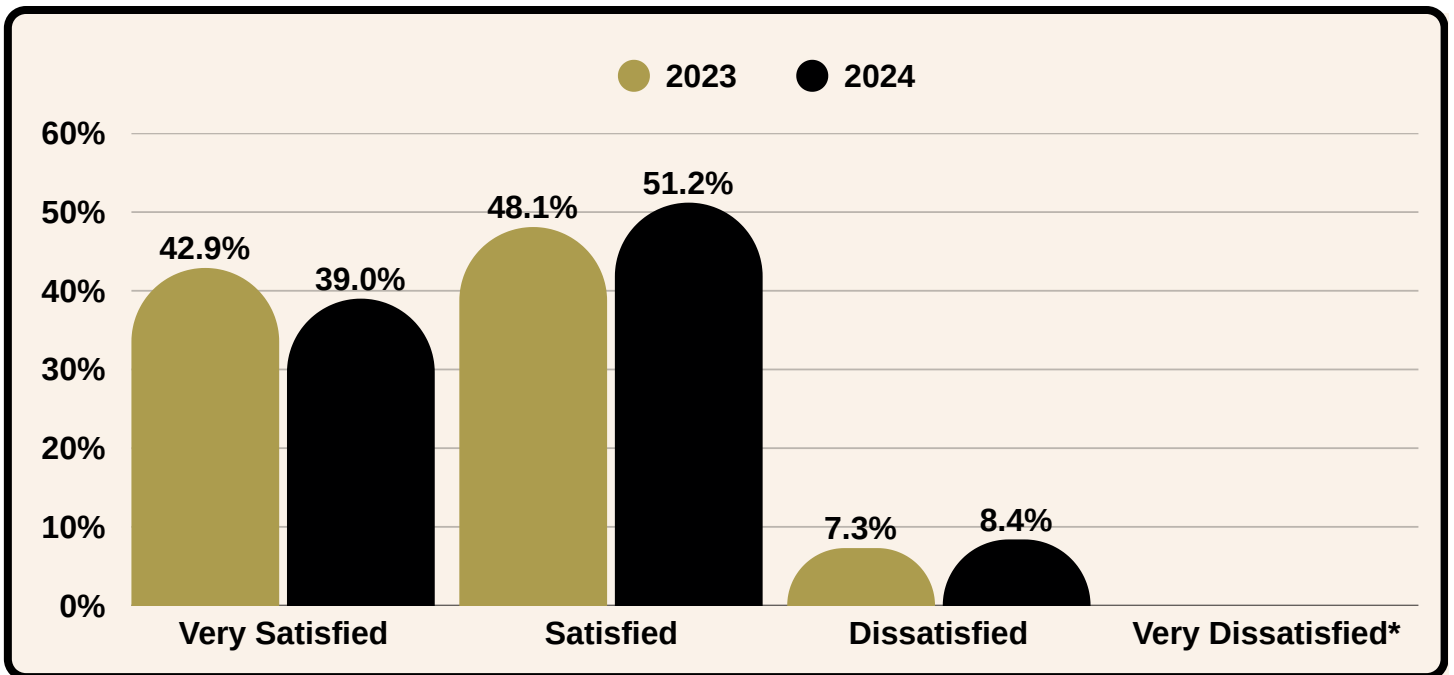
*Suppressed due to low counts
Data Source: 2024 Maryland BRFSS

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Life Satisfaction and Emotional Support

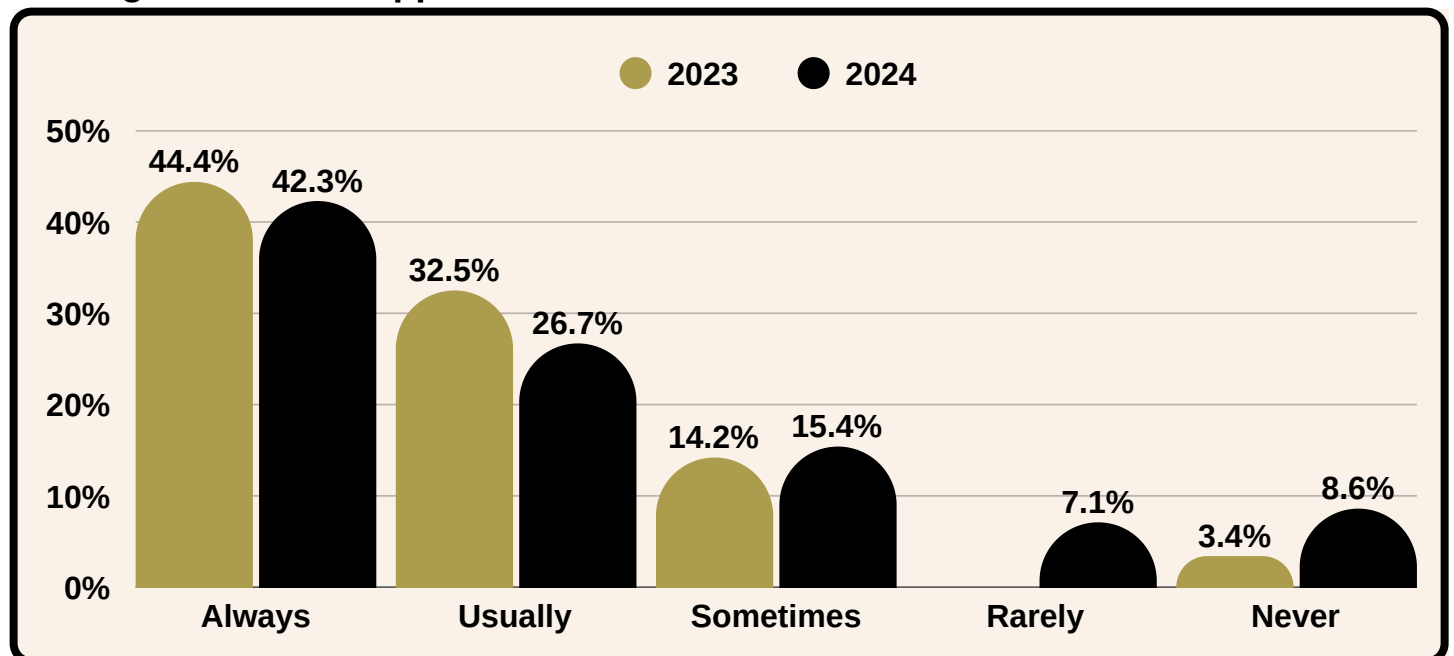
On the 2023 and 2024 BRFSS survey, county residents were asked about their overall life satisfaction and emotional support needs. Life satisfaction is one of the primary measures used to track Overall Health and Well-Being under Healthy People 2030. Emotional support can also be an indicator of well-being, as those in lack of social support have higher rates of stress, chronic illness, and depression.

General Life Satisfaction



*Suppressed due to low counts

Getting Emotional Support Needed

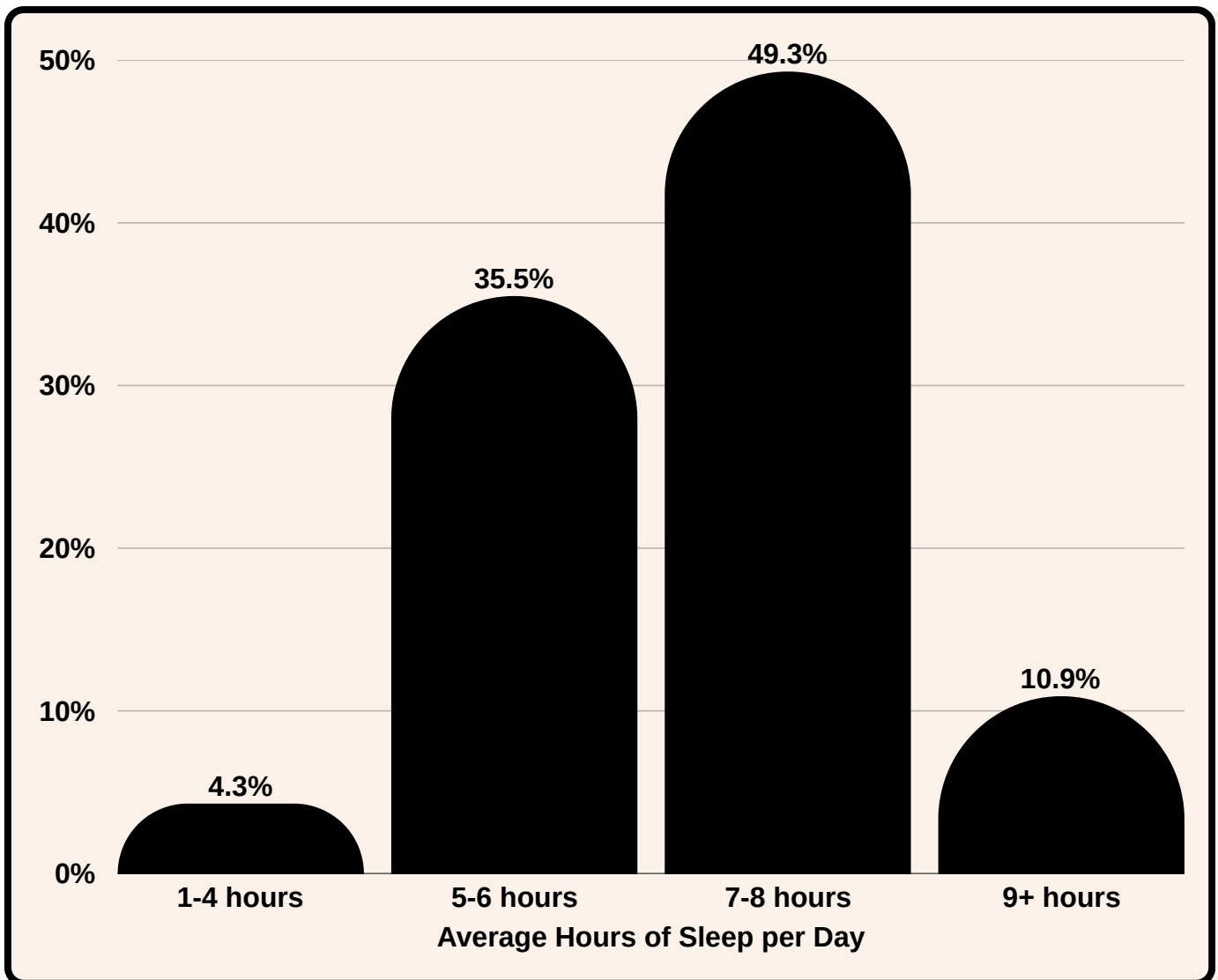


GENERAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Sleep

Lack of sleep was identified as one of the top 10 health concerns for Washington County residents in the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment. The National Sleep Foundation recommends that adults aged 18 and older should get at least 7-9 hours of sleep per day². Lack of proper sleep can negatively affect a person's health in many ways such as, increasing the risk of heart disease, dementia, and diabetes, weakening the immune system, and negatively impacting overall mental wellness³. In 2022, over half of Washington County adults were meeting daily sleep recommendations.

Average Hours of Sleep in a 24-hour Period Amongst Adults (2022)

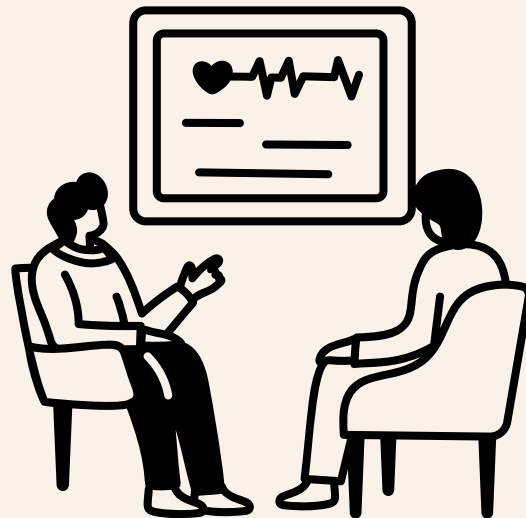


Data Source: 2022 Maryland BRFSS

2. -National Sleep Foundation (2025) <https://www.thensf.org/how-many-hours-of-sleep-do-you-really-need/>

3. Johns Hopkins Medicine (2025) <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/the-effects-of-sleep-deprivation>

CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

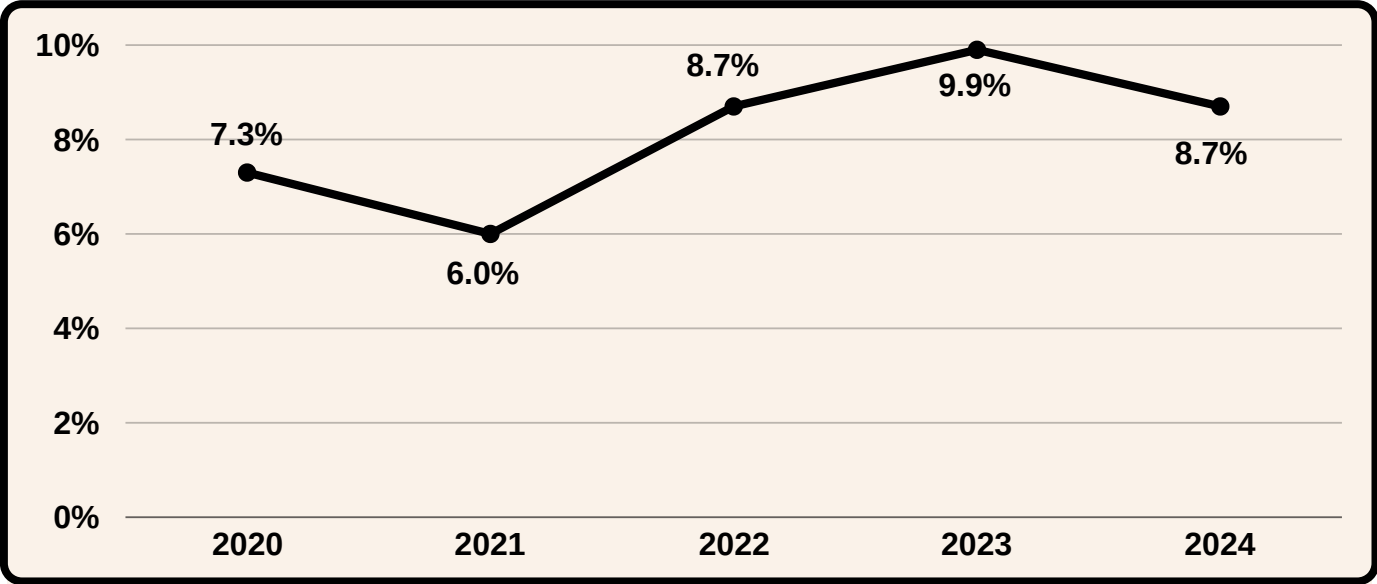


CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

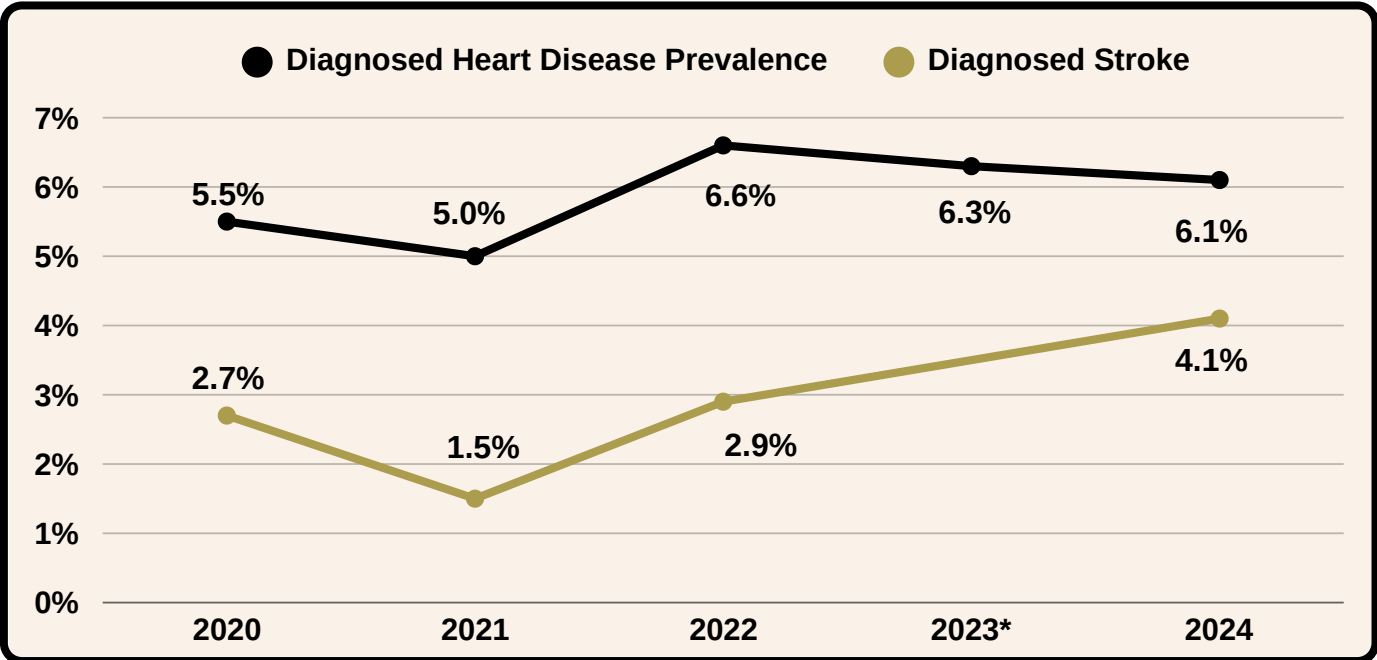
Heart Disease

Heart Disease is the leading cause of death in Washington County. In 2024, 8.7% of Washington County Residents, aged 18 and older reported they had been diagnosed with any form of heart disease. The prevalence of Coronary Heart Disease and/or Heart Attack slightly decreased from 6.6% in 2022 to 6.1% in 2024. The prevalence of Stroke increased in 2024, with 4.1% of adult residents in Washington County reporting they had a stroke.

Age-Adjusted Prevalence of Any Cardiovascular Disease



Prevalence of Heart Disease and Stroke*



*2023 count suppressed due to low numbers

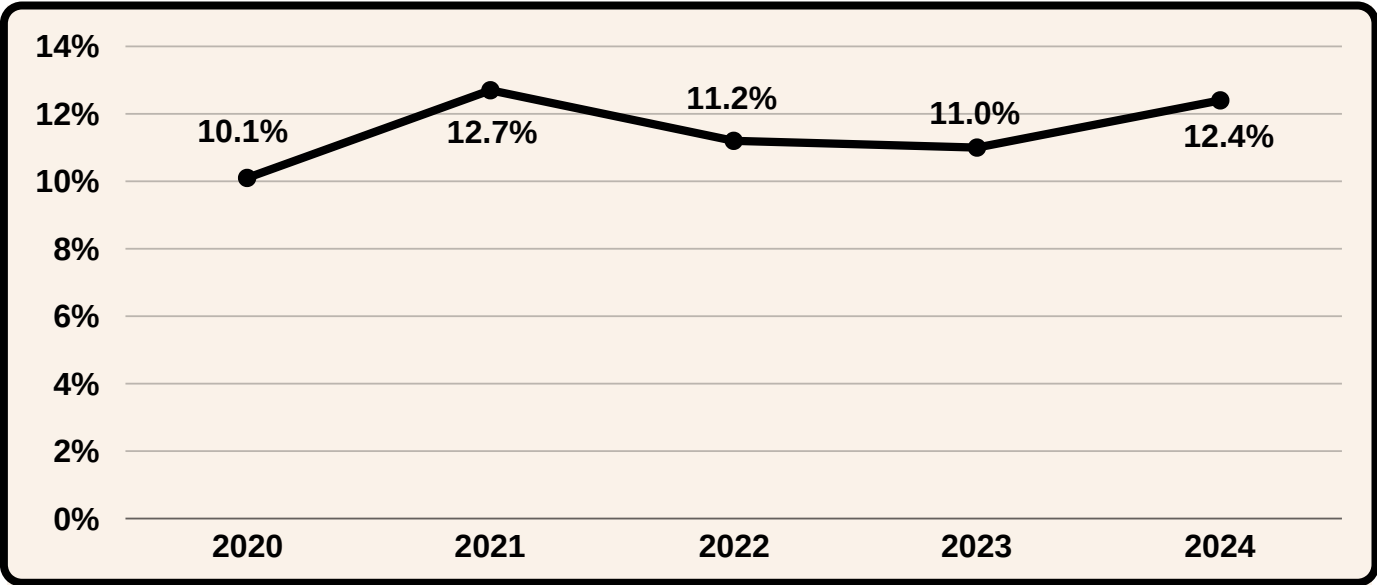
Data Source: 2024 Maryland BRFSS

CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

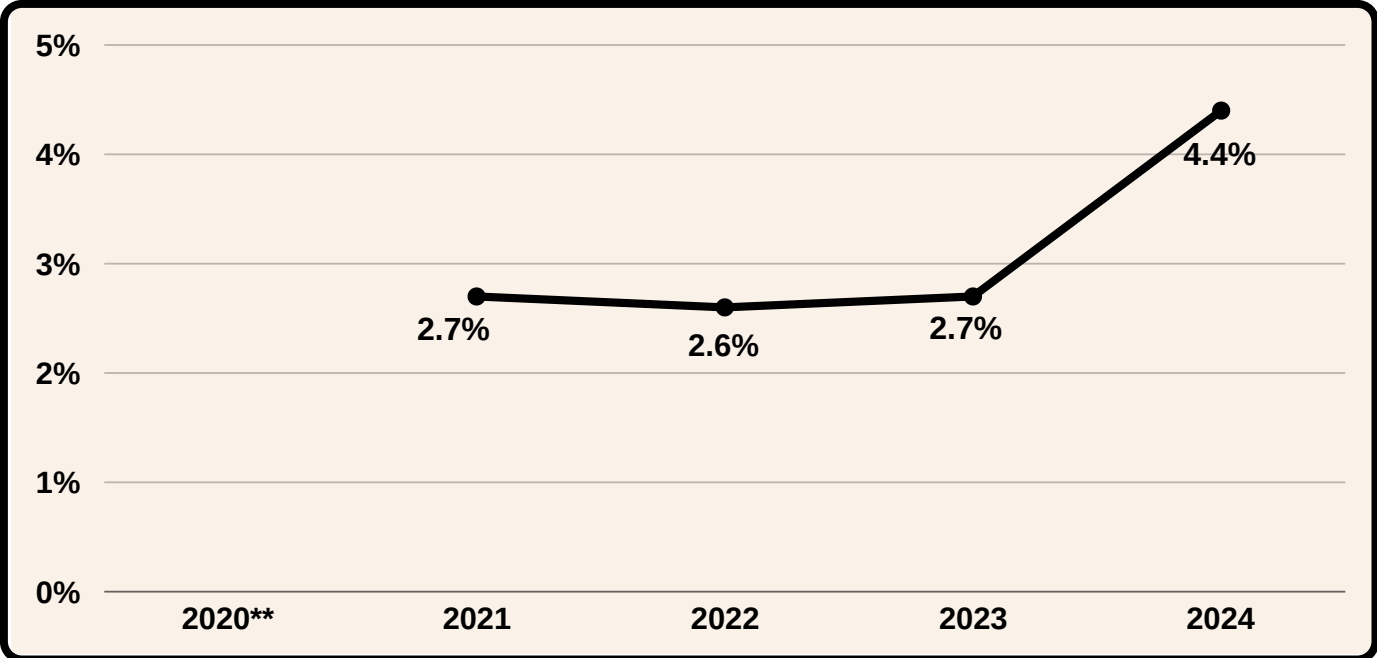
Diabetes

The amount of Washington County residents diagnosed with diabetes saw a slight decrease from 2022-2023, however rates began to rise again in 2024. The rates of adults diagnosed with pre-diabetes also rose significantly in 2024. Pre-diabetes screenings are essential to early intervention and lifestyle changes to prevent diabetes.

Age-Adjusted Prevalence of Diabetes*



Age-Adjusted Prevalence of Pre-Diabetes



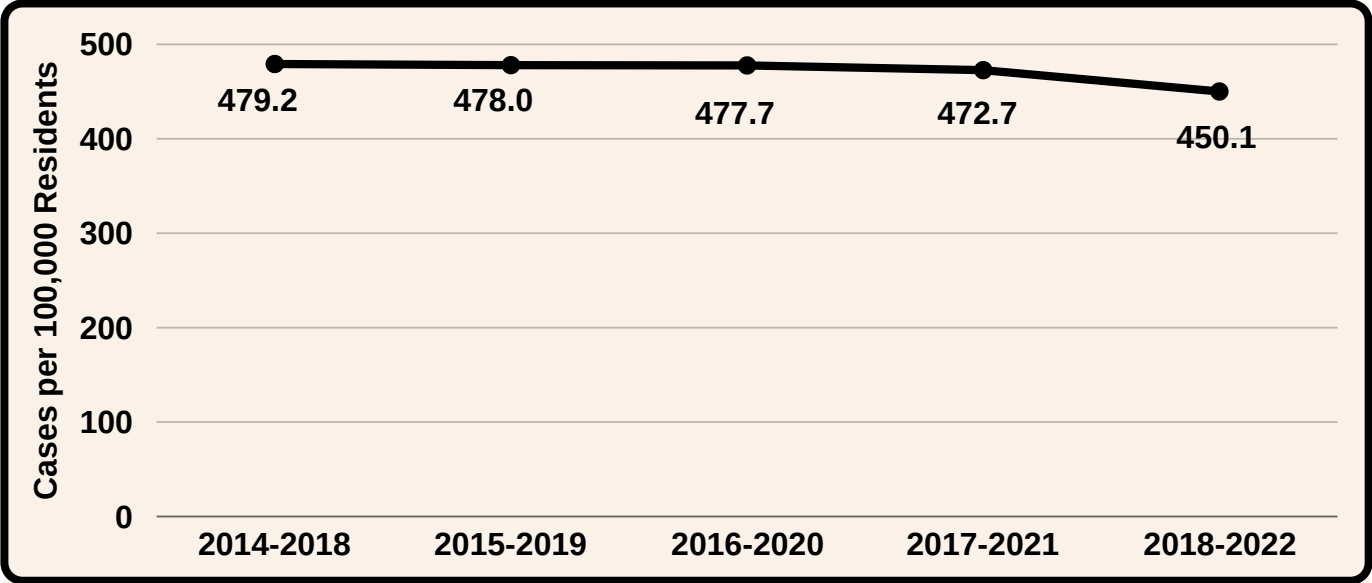
*Excludes pregnant persons diagnosed with gestational diabetes **Suppressed due to low counts
Data Source: 2024 Maryland BRFSS

CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

Cancer

Cancer incidence rates have slightly decreased over the last several years in the county. Cancer incidence was higher amongst males and Non-Hispanic Black individuals, closely followed by Non-Hispanic Whites

Age-Adjusted All Cancer Incidence



Age-Adjusted Cancer Incidence Demographics

Cancer Incidence by Gender	2018-2022
Female	448.5
Male	462.4
Cancer Incidence by Race/Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	459.0
Non-Hispanic Black	494.1
Non-Hispanic Asian	255.9
Hispanic or Latino	212.2

CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

Cancer Mortality



Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in Washington County. The mortality rate of cancer from 2018 to 2022 was 159.7 deaths per 100,000 residents. Cancer mortality was highest amongst males and Non-Hispanic Whites. Lung and bronchus cancer had the highest mortality rates of all common forms of cancer, followed by breast cancer

Age-Adjusted Cancer Mortality

	2018-2022
Overall Cancer Mortality Rate	159.7
Cancer Mortality by Gender	
Female	135.8
Male	193.6
Cancer Mortality by Race/Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	161.9
Non-Hispanic Black	161.0
Hispanic/Latino	91.1
Cancer Mortality by Type	
Breast Cancer*	22.2
Prostate Cancer	17.6
Lung and Bronchus	36.0

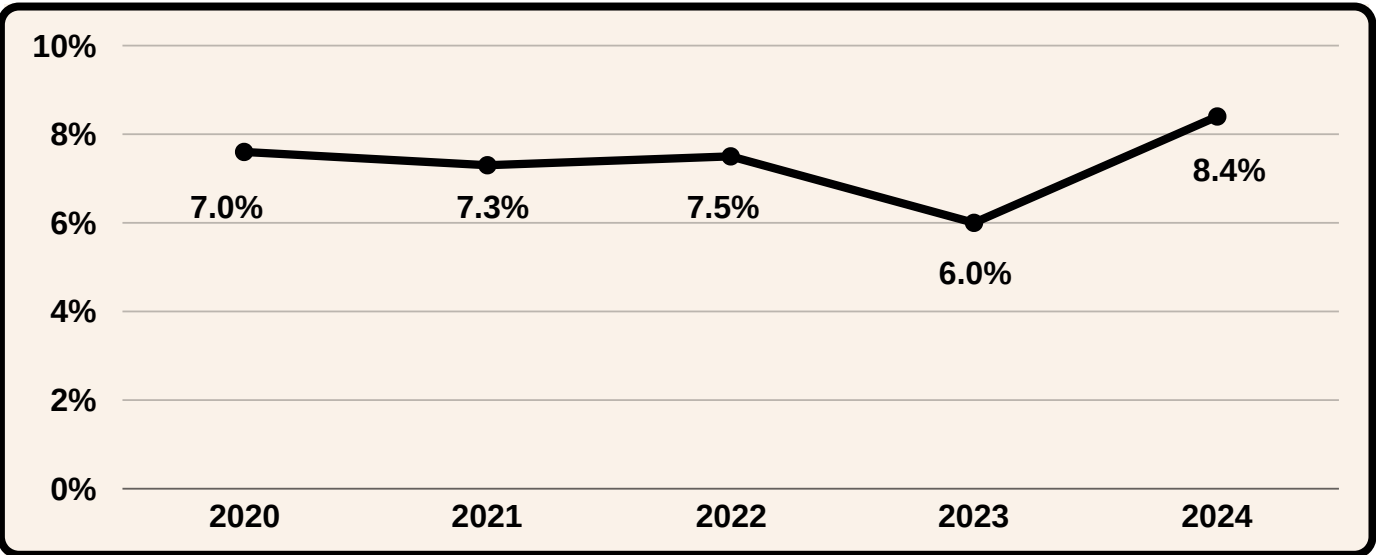
*Mortality rate calculated only for female breast cancer deaths
 Data Source: [National Cancer Institute, State Cancer Profiles](#)

CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

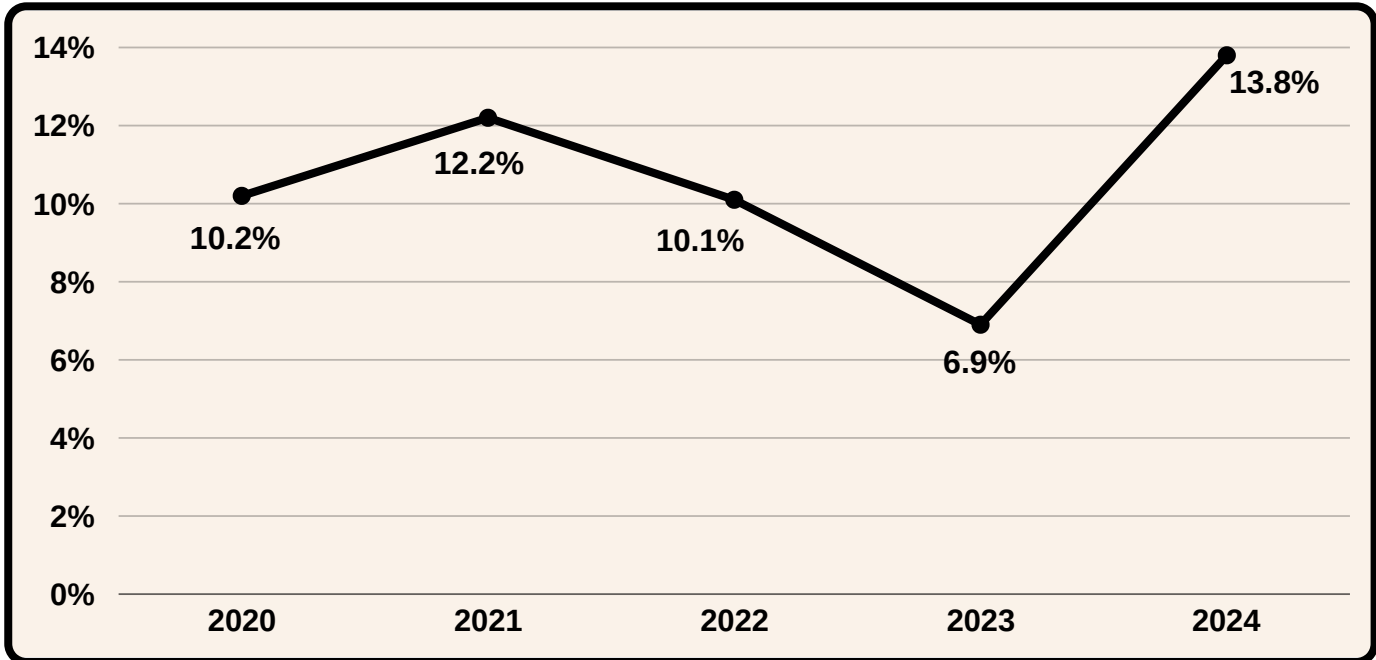
Lung Disease

In 2024, 8.4% of Washington County residents had been diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, which was a slight increase from 6.0% in 2023. COPD is often caused by long-term exposures to respiratory irritants like cigarette smoke and toxic fumes. Rates of Asthma began to significantly decrease in 2021, but sharp increase was seen in 2024. Both COPD and Asthma are illnesses that cannot be cured, but can be controlled by limiting exposures and medical treatment.

Age-Adjusted Prevalence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

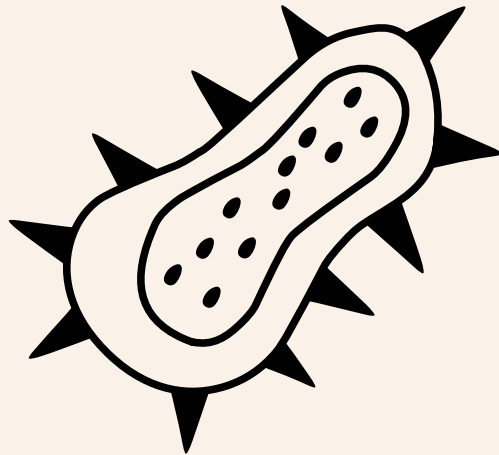


Age-Adjusted Prevalence of Asthma*



*Individuals with a current diagnosis of Asthma
Data Source: 2024 Maryland BRFSS

INFECTIOUS DISEASE



INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Select Reportable Diseases

The following list is made up of conditions and infectious diseases reported to public health authorities in order to ensure proper treatment, identify exposure sources, reduce transmission, and protect the public's health.

Counts of Select Reportable Diseases

	2022	2023	2024
<u>Campylobacteriosis</u>	36	29	41
<u>Giardiasis</u>	<10	<10	<10
<u>Hepatitis B - Acute</u>	<10	<10	11
<u>Hepatitis C - Acute</u>	<10	<10	<10
<u>Hepatitis C - Perinatal</u>	<10	0	0
<u>Legionellosis</u>	<10	<10	<10
<u>Lyme Disease</u>	0	109	108
<u>Malaria</u>	<10	<10	<10
<u>Aseptic/Viral Meningitis</u>	11	10	<5
<u>Mycobacteriosis</u>	13	14	18
<u>Salmonellosis</u>	26	28	19
<u>Shiga toxin producing E.coli</u>	12	6	9
<u>Strep A</u>	34	26	25

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Select Reportable Diseases

.....

The following list is made up of conditions and infectious diseases reported to public health authorities in order to ensure proper treatment, identify exposure sources, reduce transmission, and protect the public's health.

Counts of Select Reportable Diseases (cont.)

	2022	2023	2024
<u>Strep B</u>	13	17	34
<u>Strep pneumoniae</u>	24	21	17
<u>Tuberculosis</u>	<10	<10	<10

Animal Bites and Animal Rabies Cases Reported

	2022	2023	2024
<u>Rabies - Animal</u>	<10	12	<10
Animal Bites	344	365	421

Communicable Disease Outbreaks Reported

	2024
Covid-19	21
Flu, GI, and Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease	61

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

In 2024 there was an increase in cases of gonorrhea, HIV, and primary and secondary syphilis in Washington County. In the same year, a small decrease in cases of sexually acquired syphilis and chlamydia was also seen.

Counts of Select Sexually Transmitted Infections

	2022	2023	2024
Chlamydia	662	677	646
Gonorrhea	241	235	255
HIV*	<10	12	16

*New HIV Diagnoses

HIV Care Outcomes

	2022	2023	2024
Total People Living with Diagnosed HIV	443	480	434
Retention in HIV Care	338	389	349
Viral Suppression	69%	70%	71%

Counts of Syphilis Infections

	2022	2023	2024
Sexually Acquired Syphilis**	36	68	62
Primary and Secondary Syphilis	7	26	32
Congenital Syphilis	<10	<10	<10

**Sexually Acquired Syphilis - Includes primary, secondary, later stages, and unknown durations of syphilis

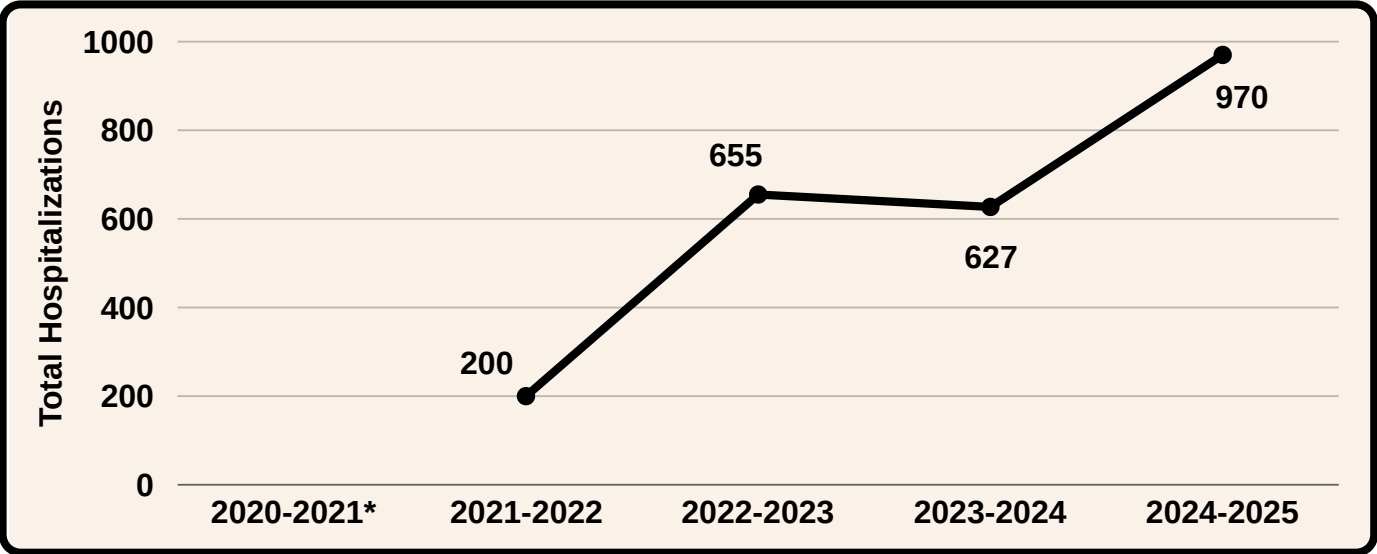
Data Source: MDH Select Notifiable Conditions (2015-2024)

CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

Flu

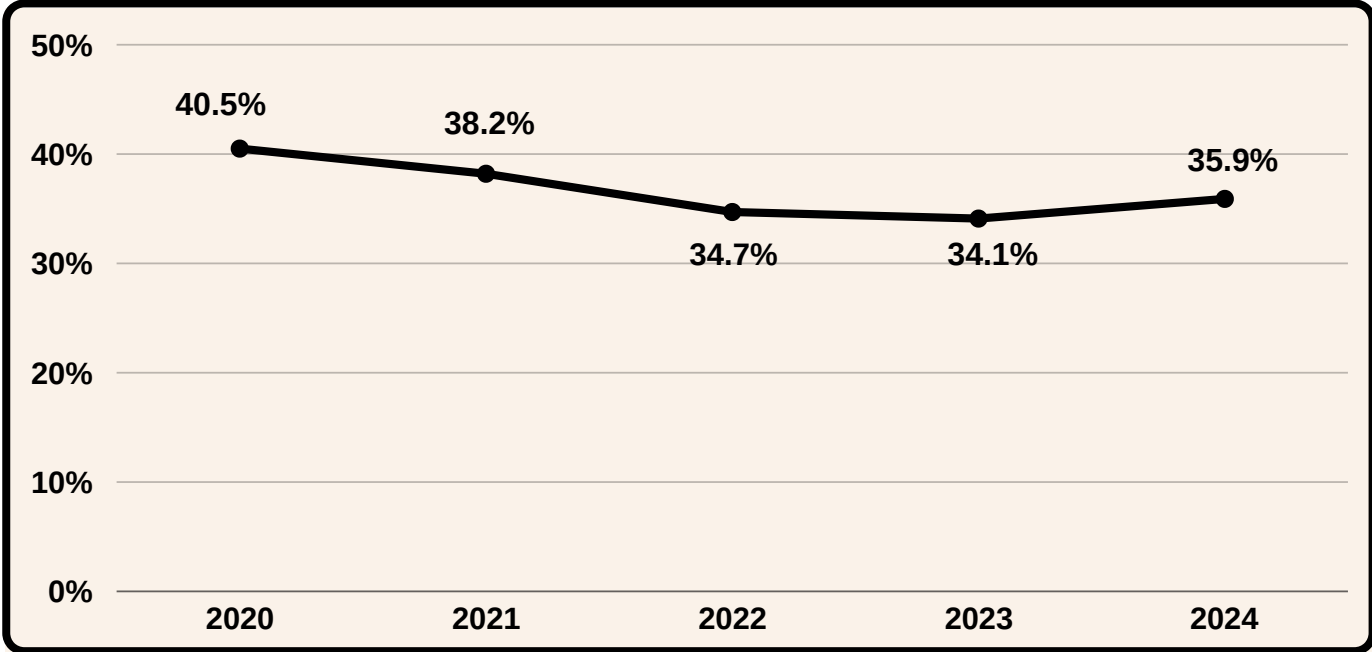
Flu hospitalizations have sharply increased since the 2022-2023 flu season, reaching a high of 970 hospitalizations during the 2024-2025 season. Despite this increase in hospitalizations, flu vaccination rates have steadily decreased since 2020, although a slight increase was seen in 2024 where 35.9% of residents over 18 indicated they had received their annual flu shot.

Flu Hospitalizations



*suppressed due to low counts (<10)

Flu Vaccination Rates

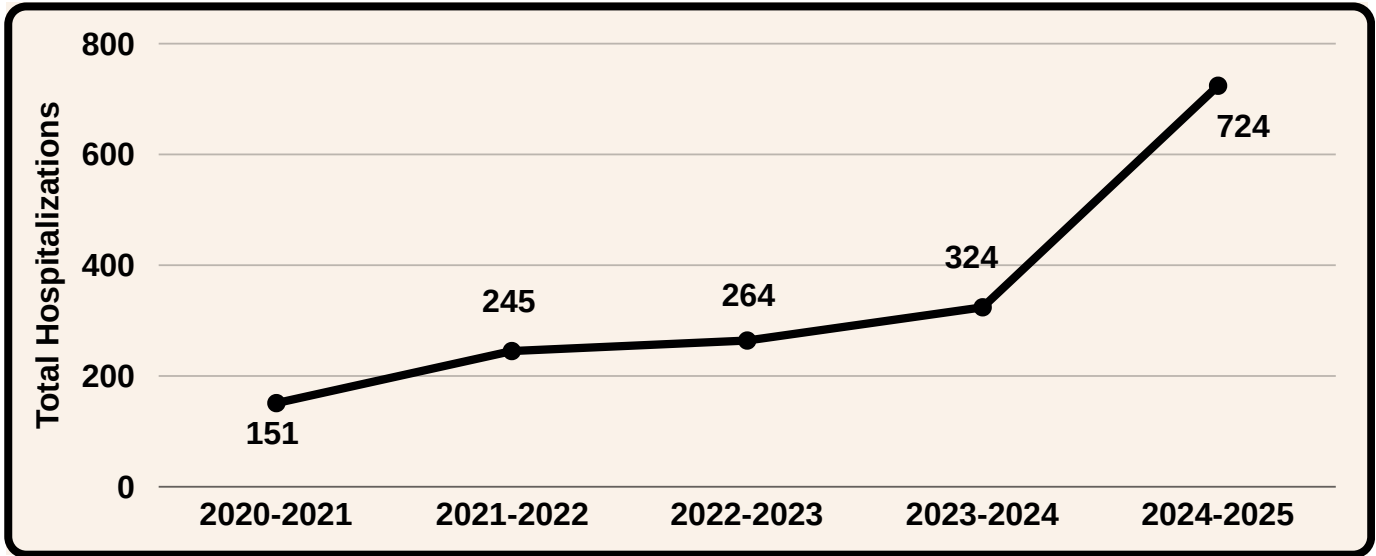


CHRONIC AND PREVENTABLE DISEASE

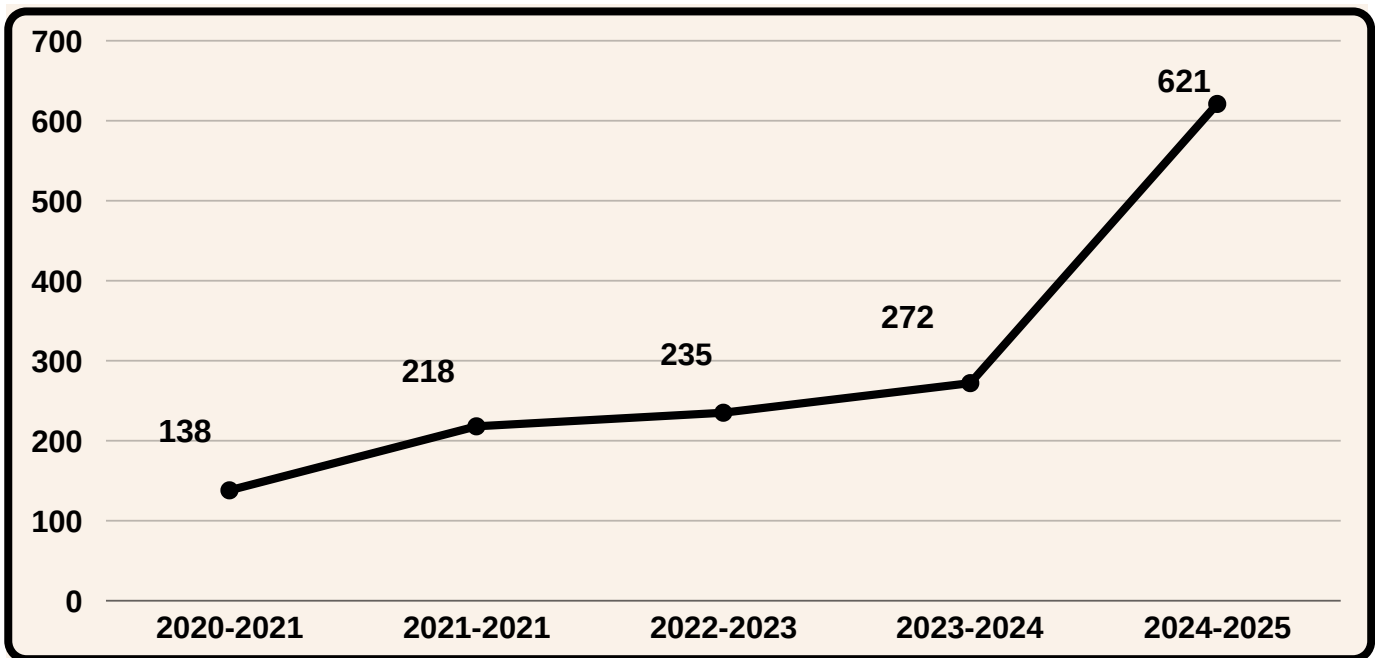
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a common respiratory virus that typically spreads during the fall and winter months. RSV hospitalizations saw a sharp increase starting in the 2023-2024 respiratory illness season. Children under the age of 5 are at the highest risk for severe illness from RSV, and make up a majority of the RSV hospitalizations in Washington County.

Total RSV Urgent Care and ED Visits



RSV Urgent Care and ED visits for Children Aged 0-4



MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH



MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Live Births



In 2023, there were 1,589 live births in Washington County, down from 1,624 in 2022. Of those live births, 1,024 were non-Hispanic White and 243 were non-Hispanic Black. Live births were greatest amongst those aged 25-34, followed by those aged 18-24.

Live Births by Demographics

	2022	2023
Total Live Births	1,624	1,589
Race/Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	1,046	1,024
Non-Hispanic Black	235	243
Non-Hispanic Asian or Pacific Islander	31	31
Non-Hispanic Multirace	81	93
Hispanic or Latino	219	192
Age		
Under 18	22	21
18-24	399	340
25-34	945	951
35-44	254	273
45 and Over	3	4

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Live Births

Maternal education is one of many factors that can affect infant and maternal health. In both 2022 and 2023, a majority of Washington County mothers obtained at least 12 years of education

In 2023, 156 infants born in Washington County were reported to have a low birthweight (<2500 g). The overall percentage of low birthweight infants increased from 2022 to 2023. Non-Hispanic Black infants had the highest rates of low birthweights in 2023.

Maternal Education

	2022	2023
0-8 Years	2.5%	2.5%
9-11 Years	11.6%	10.4%
12 Years	29.7%	31.1%
13-15 Years	30.5%	28.7%
16+ Years	25.2%	27.1%

Low Birthweight

	2022		2023	
Overall	141	8.7%	156	9.8%
Race/Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic White	100	9.6%	89	8.7%
Non-Hispanic Black	26	11.1%	34	14.0%
Hispanic	26	11.9%	16	8.3%

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Prenatal Care

Prenatal care is essential to ensuring positive health outcomes among pregnant people and infants and is most effective when started early. There was a slight increase in pregnant people who received care in their first trimester, rising from 1,116 in 2022 to 1,125 in 2023. The prevalence of pregnant people who received late or no prenatal care rose from 5.3% in 2022 to 6.5% in 2023. Racial disparities in prenatal care were also seen, with percentages of Non-Hispanic Black (9.9%) and Hispanic (11.5%) pregnant persons receiving later or no prenatal care.

Trimester of First Prenatal Visit by Race/Ethnicity

	First Trimester Prenatal Visit		Late (Third Trimester) or No Prenatal Care/Visits	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Overall	1,116 (70.1%)	1,125 (70.8%)	85 (5.3%)	103 (6.5%)
Race/Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic White	762 (74.1%)	764 (75.2%)	46 (4.5%)	45 (4.4%)
Non-Hispanic Black	143 (62.7%)	159 (66.5%)	14 (-%)	24 (9.9%)
Hispanic	113 (58.0%)	115 (59.9%)	16 (-%)	22 (11.5%)

*Percentages based on <20 events in the numerator are not presented due to instability

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Teen Pregnancy

Teen pregnancy is measured among individuals aged 15-19 years old. Teen pregnancies are at higher risk of hypertension, preterm birth, and low birthweight. The prevalence of teen pregnancy in Washington County has decreased from 4.6% in 2022 to 4.3% in 2023. When broken down by race and ethnicity, there was a higher prevalence of teen pregnancy among non-Hispanic Multi-Race teens in 2022. There was a slight decline in teen pregnancies amongst Non-Hispanic White and Hispanic teens, and an increase amongst Non-Hispanic Black teens from 2022 to 2023 .

Teen Pregnancy

	2022	2023
Overall	74 (4.6%)	68 (4.3%)
Race/Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	38 (3.6%)	35 (3.4%)
Non-Hispanic Black	8 (-%)*	15 (-%)*
Non-Hispanic Multi-Race	- (-%)**	7 (-%)*
Hispanic	13 (-%)*	10 (-%)*

*Percentages based on <20 events in the numerator are not presented due to instability

**2022 data unavailable

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Preterm Births

In 2022, there was 164 pre-term births in Washington County, which made up 10.1% of the live births. Pre-term births happened at a lower frequency in Washington County compared to Maryland and the United States. The frequency of pre-term births increased among non-Hispanic white, Non-Hispanic black, and Hispanic infants were from 2021 to 2022.

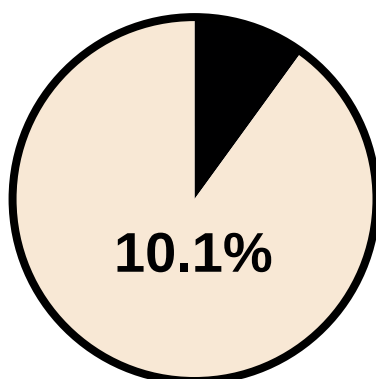
Preterm Births

	2022	2023
Overall	164 (10.1%)	161 (10.1%)
Race/Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	100 (9.6%)	102 (10.0%)
Non-Hispanic Black	26 (11.1%)	26 (10.7%)
Non-Hispanic Multi-Race	- (-)**	10 (-)*
Hispanic	26 (11.9%)	20 (10.4%)

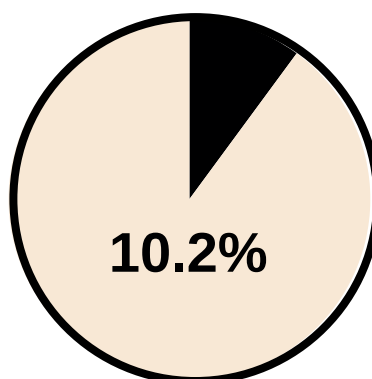
*Percentages based on <20 events in the numerator are not presented due to instability

**2022 data unavailable

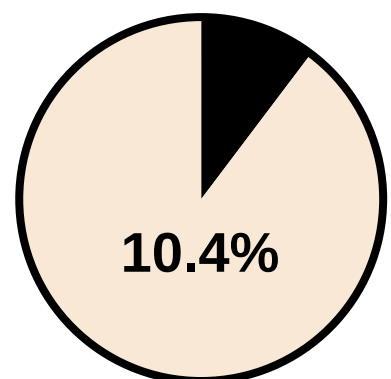
Percentage of Preterm Births in 2023



Washington County



Maryland



United States

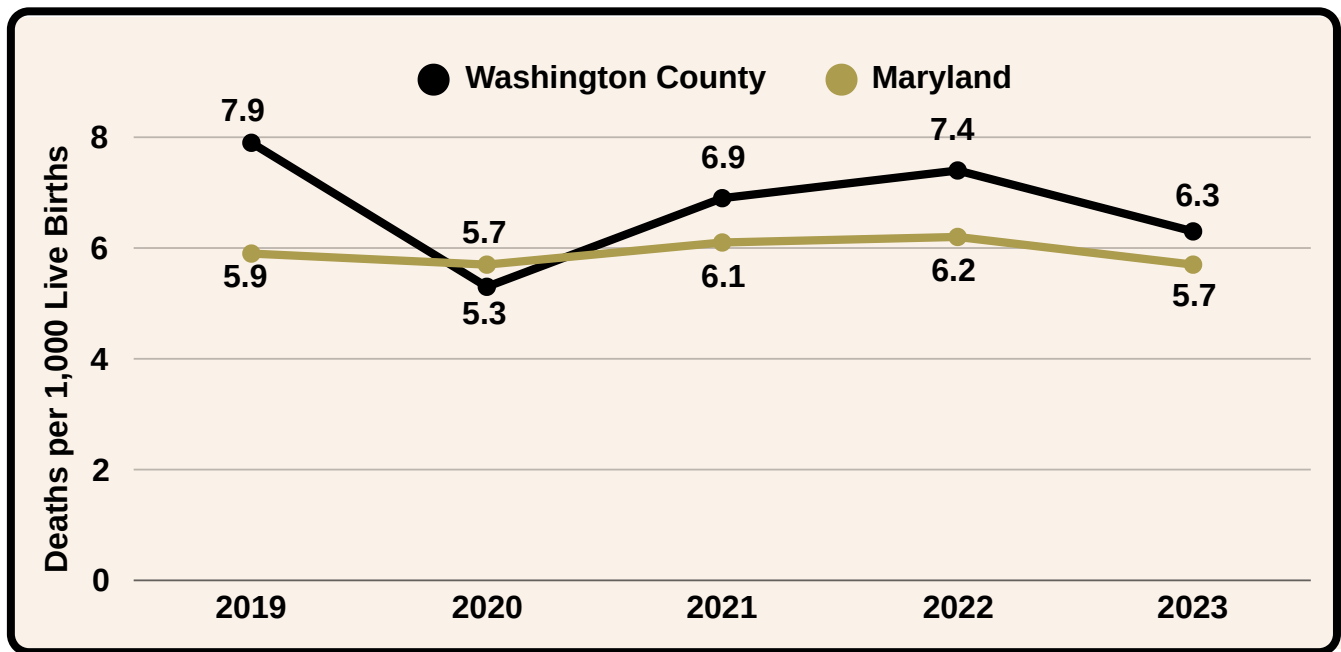
MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Infant and Fetal Mortality

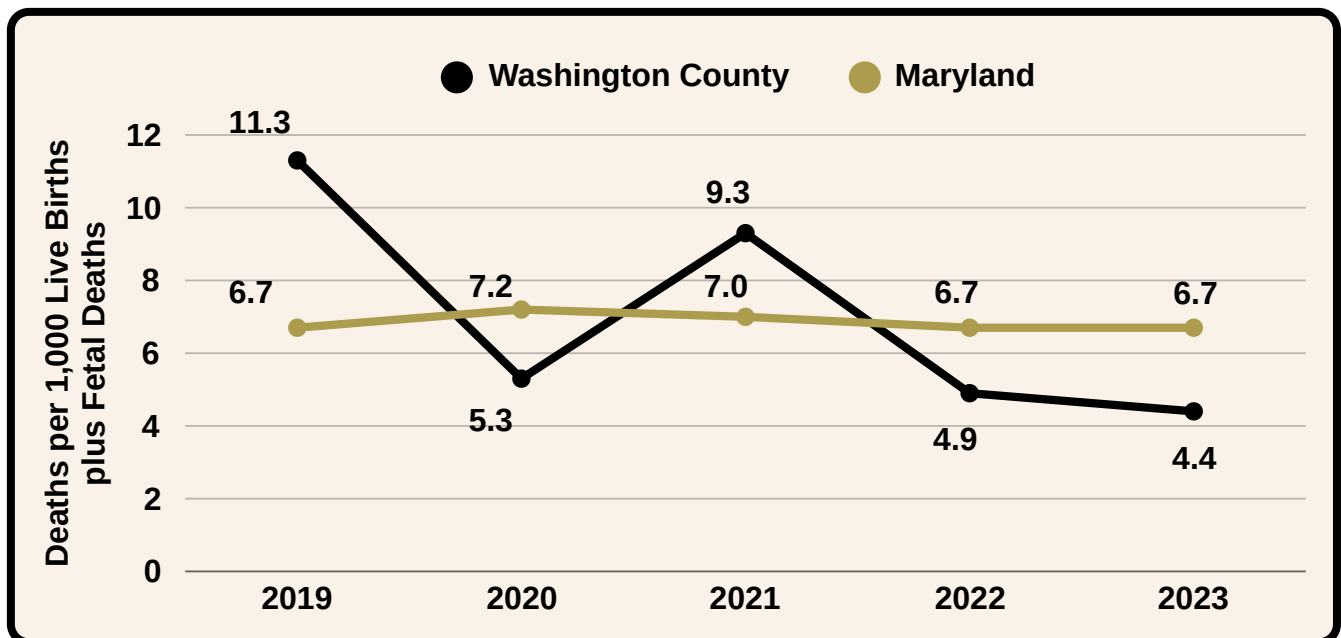
Infant mortality is measured as the death of an infant before its first birthday. After two years of increases, infant mortality in Washington County has started to decline, however the county rate still remains slightly higher than the state's.

Fetal mortality is measured as fetal deaths at 20 or more of gestation. The county's fetal mortality rate has fluctuated over the past 5 years, but has continued to decrease overall since 2021.

Infant Mortality Rate



Fetal Mortality Rate



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



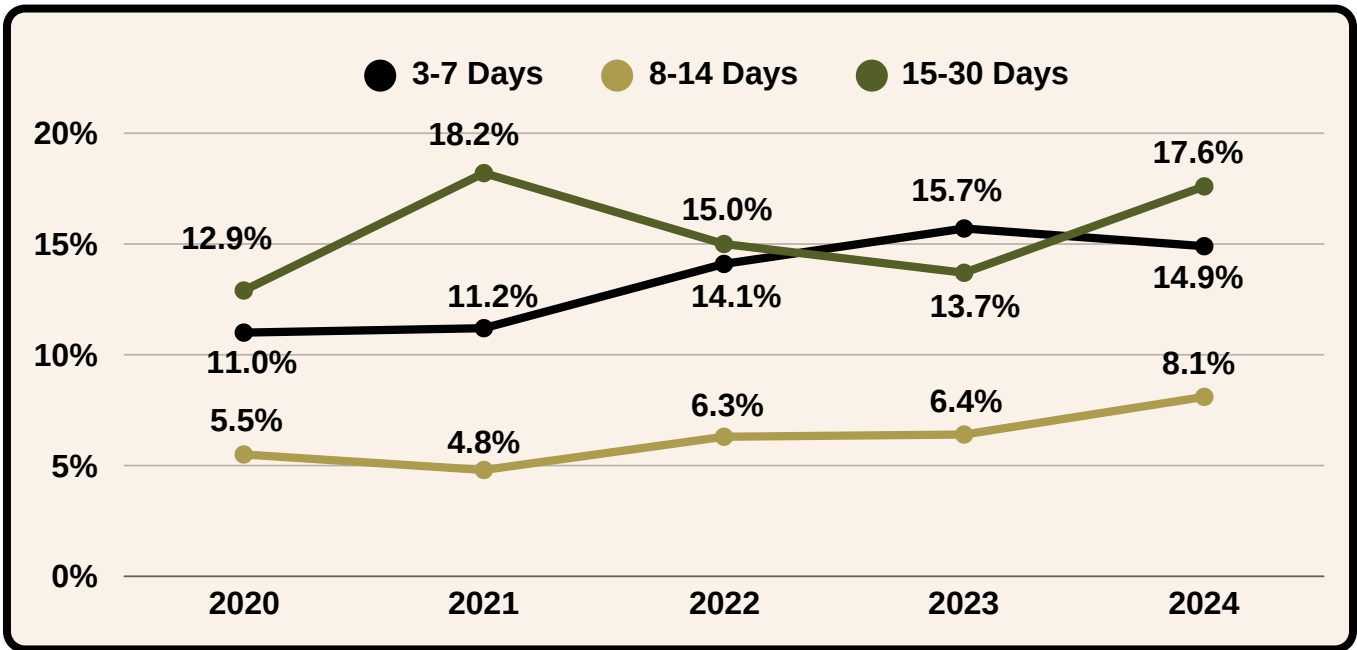
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mental Health

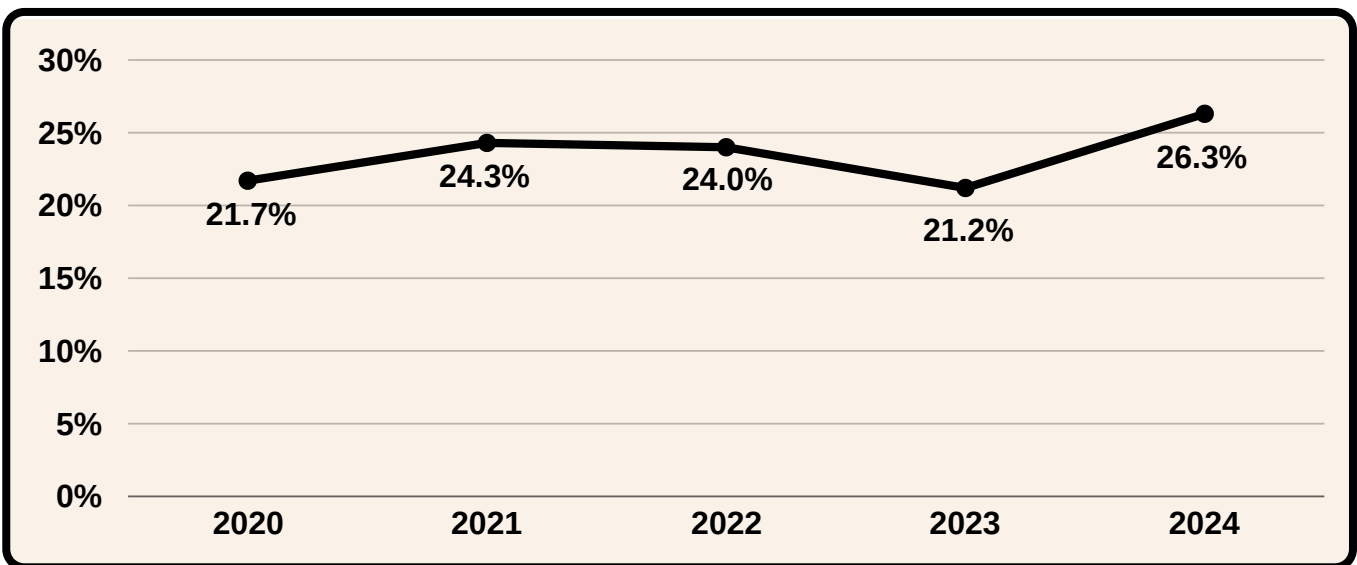
Washington County residents have been reporting increased amounts of poor mental health days from 2020 to 2024. Longer periods of reported poor mental health days have been increasing despite past rate decreases.

Diagnoses of depressive disorders also saw a significant increase in 2024, with the prevalence rising to 26.3% of county residents being diagnosed.

Reported Days of Poor Mental Health



Diagnosed Depressive Disorder



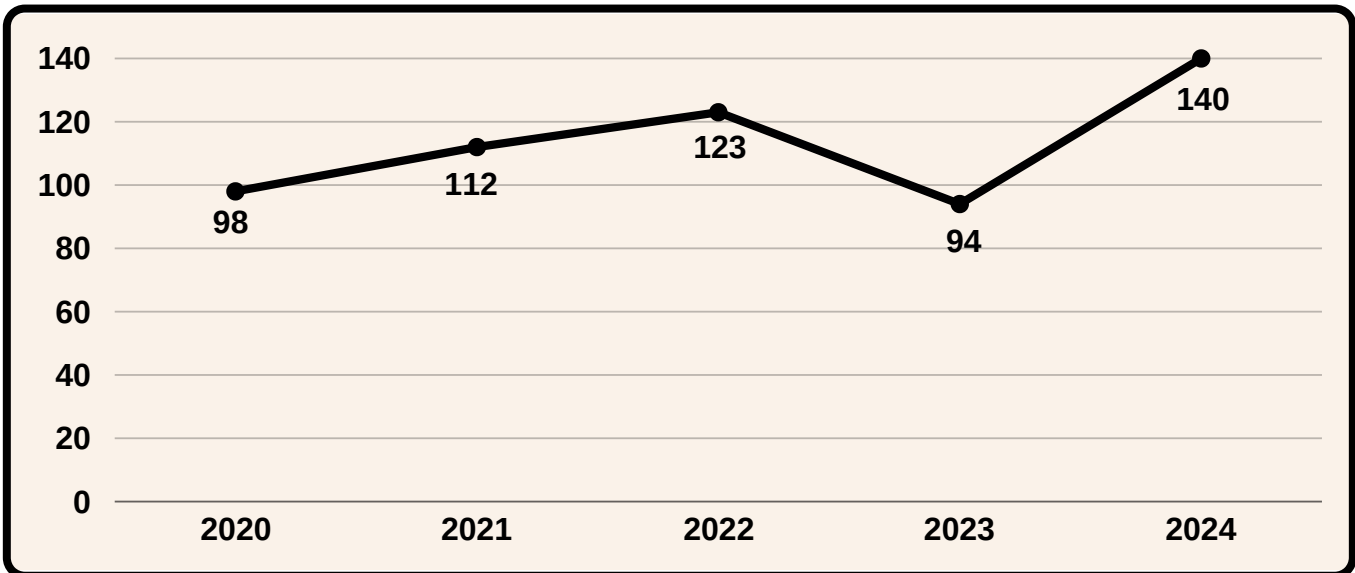
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Suicide

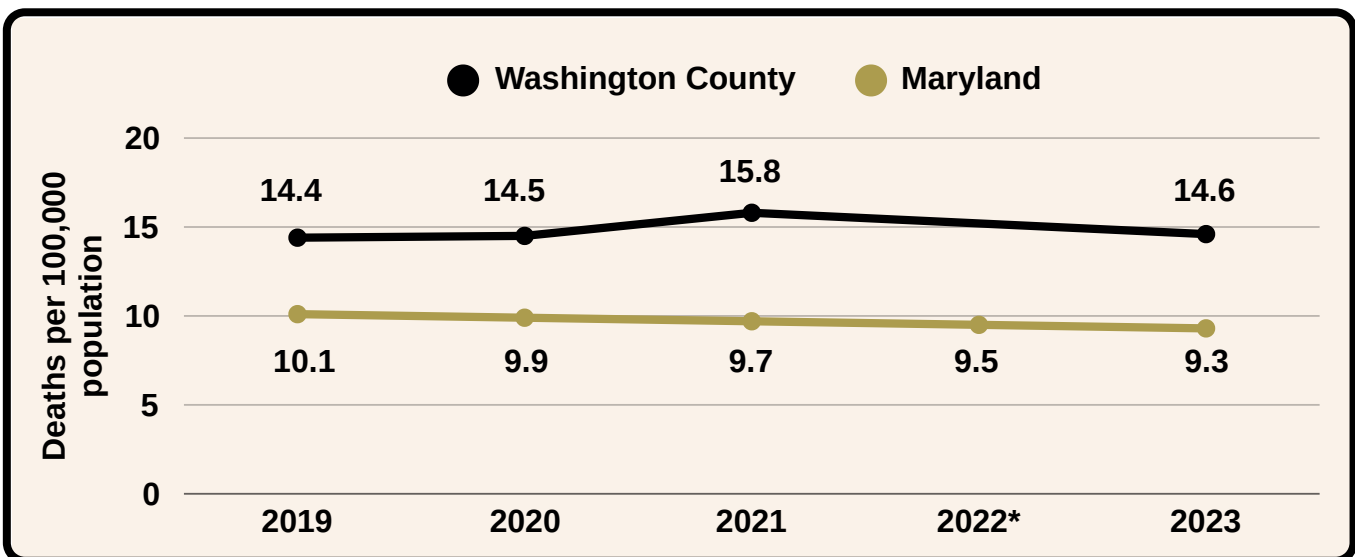
Since 2020, emergency department visits related to attempted suicide have been increasing in the county. Despite a decrease seen in 2023, 2024 yielded the highest amount of visits seen in the last 5 years.

Rates of suicide in Washington County are trending slightly downward, however rates still remain higher than the state's overall rate.

Attempted Suicide Related Emergency Department and Urgent Care Visits



Age-Adjusted Rates of Suicide



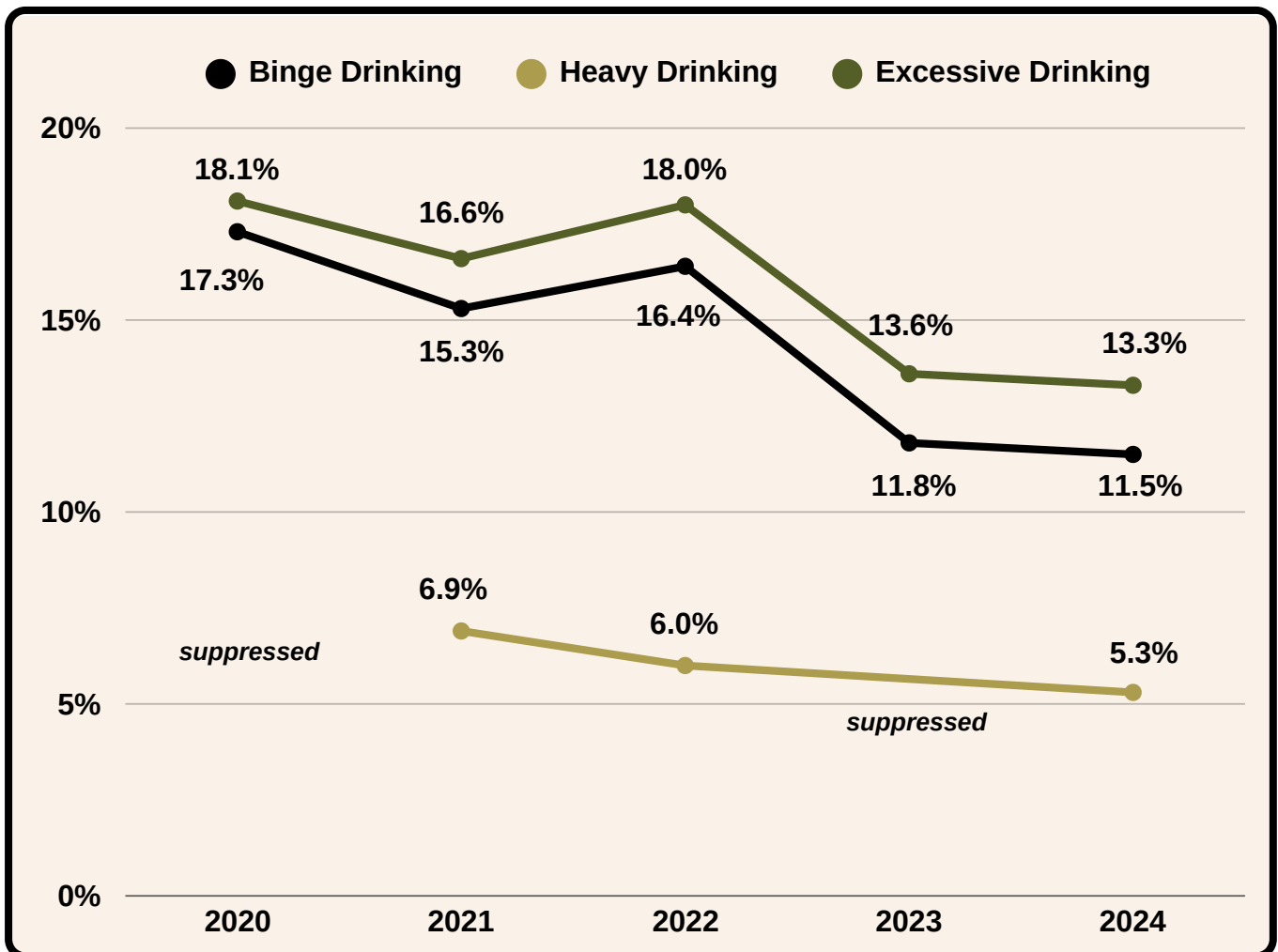
*Washington County data suppressed due to low counts

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Substance Use - Alcohol

Rates of excessive alcohol use in the county have decreased since 2022. Per the CDC, excessive alcohol usage causes around 178,000 deaths each year and 488 deaths per day in the U.S.¹ Excessive alcohol use and increase a person's risk of heart disease, hypertension, liver disease, and stroke and can even increase the risk of several types of cancer²

Age-Adjusted Rates of Alcohol Use



- Binge drinking is defined as consuming 5 or more drinks in a single occasion for men or consuming 4 or more drinks in a single occasion for women in the past 30 days
- Heavy drinking is defined as consuming 8 or more drinks per week for women and 15 or more drinks per week for men
- Excessive alcohol use is defined as binge drinking, heavy drinking, drinking while pregnant, drinking and driving, or drinking underage

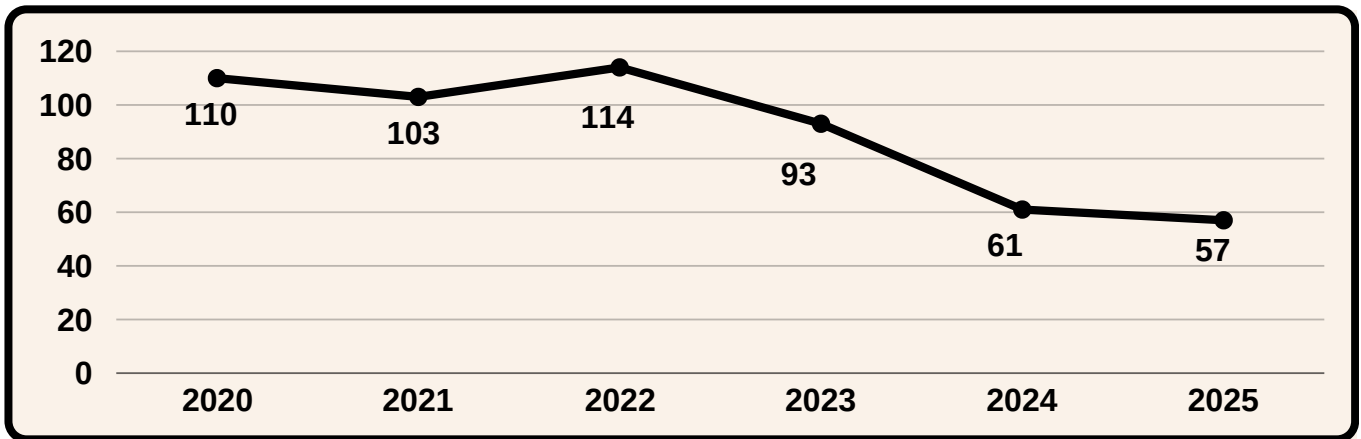
*Rates of heavy drinking for 2020 and 2023 have been suppressed due to low counts

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

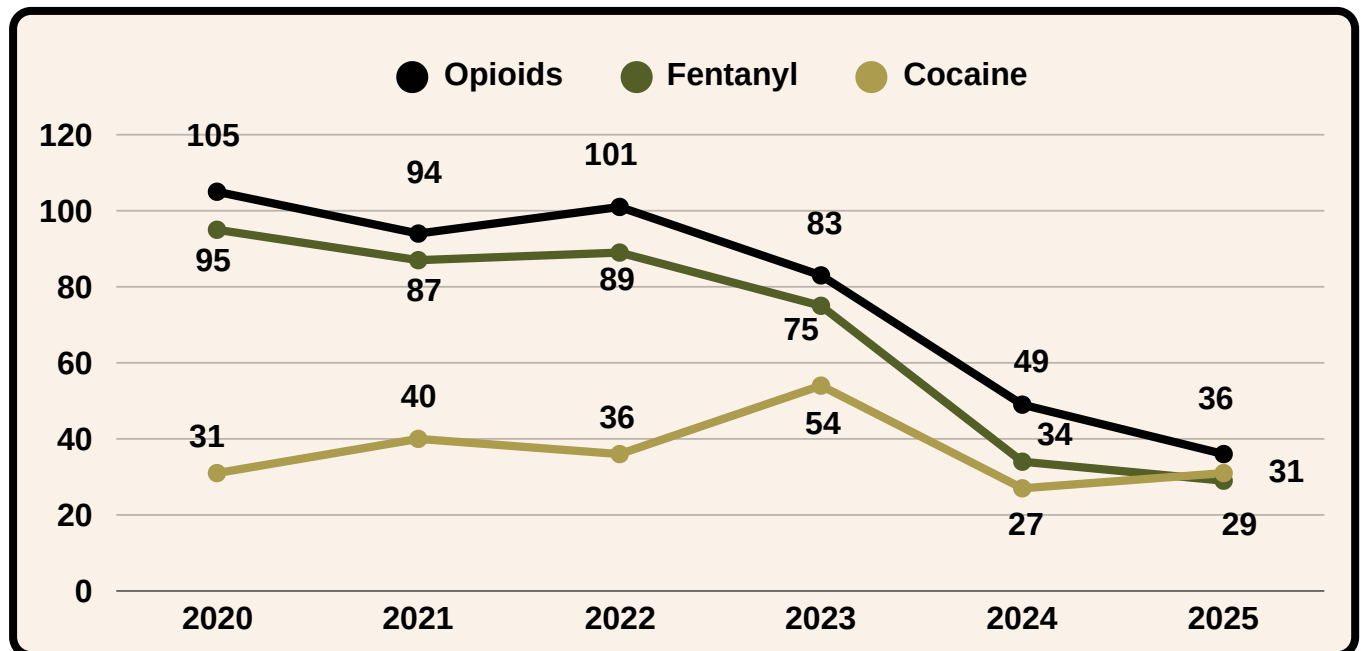
Substance Use - Overdose Deaths

In Washington County, there were 57 drug and alcohol related overdose deaths reported in 2025, a significant decrease from the peak in 2022 of 114 deaths. Overdose deaths involving opioids and fentanyl have followed a similar trend from 2019 to 2025 and have also greatly decreased. Opioid-related overdose deaths have remained the highest in Washington County compared to other substances. Cocaine related deaths have also decreased significantly from 2023 with a small rise in 2025.

Total Unintentional Drug and Alcohol Related Overdose Deaths*



Unintentional Drug-Related Overdose Deaths by Substance*



* Overdose deaths may involve more than one substance.

** By place of occurrence, may include non-Washington County residents.

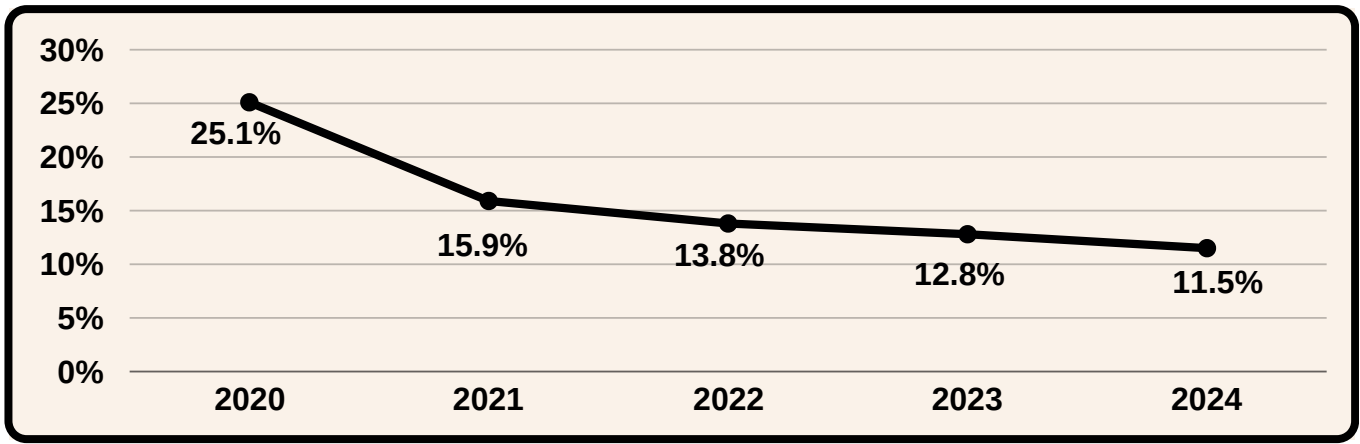
*** 2022-2025 number of deaths are not final and subject to change due to OCME death investigations.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

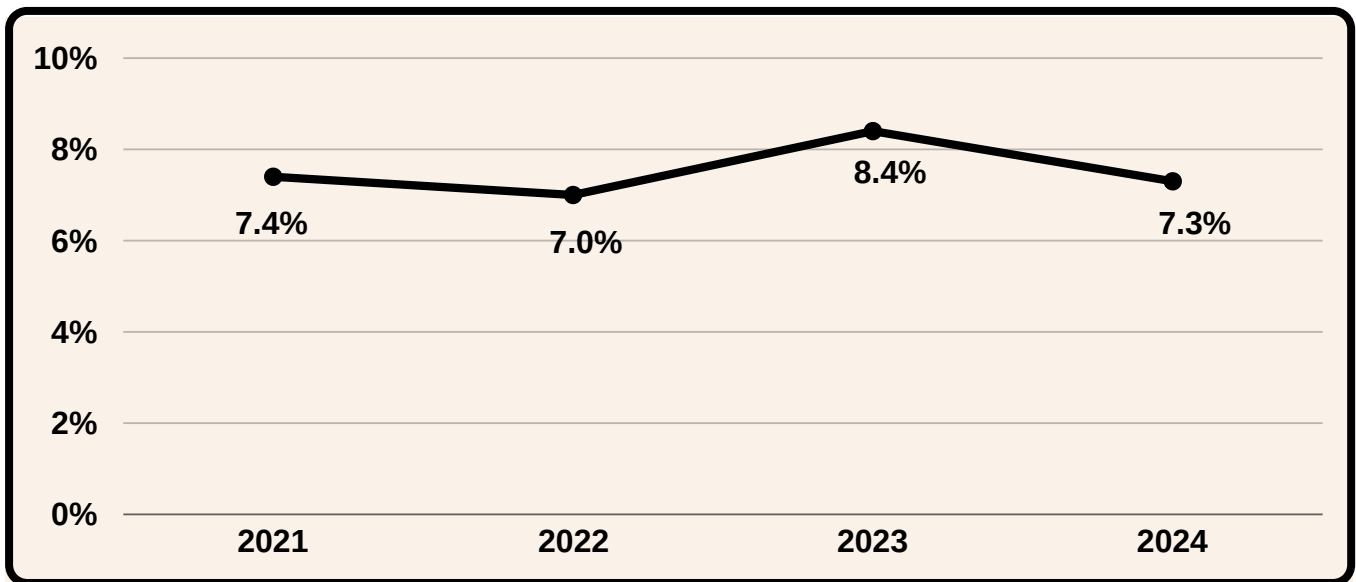
Tobacco and Nicotine Use

Tobacco smoking rates in Washington County have continuously decreased since 2020, with 2024 having the lowest rates in the last 5 years. E-cigarette usage rates have slightly varied in the last 4 years, however a decrease in usage was seen from 2023 to 2024.

Age-Adjusted Rates of Current Smokers



Age-Adjusted Rates of Current E-Cigarette/Vape Users



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

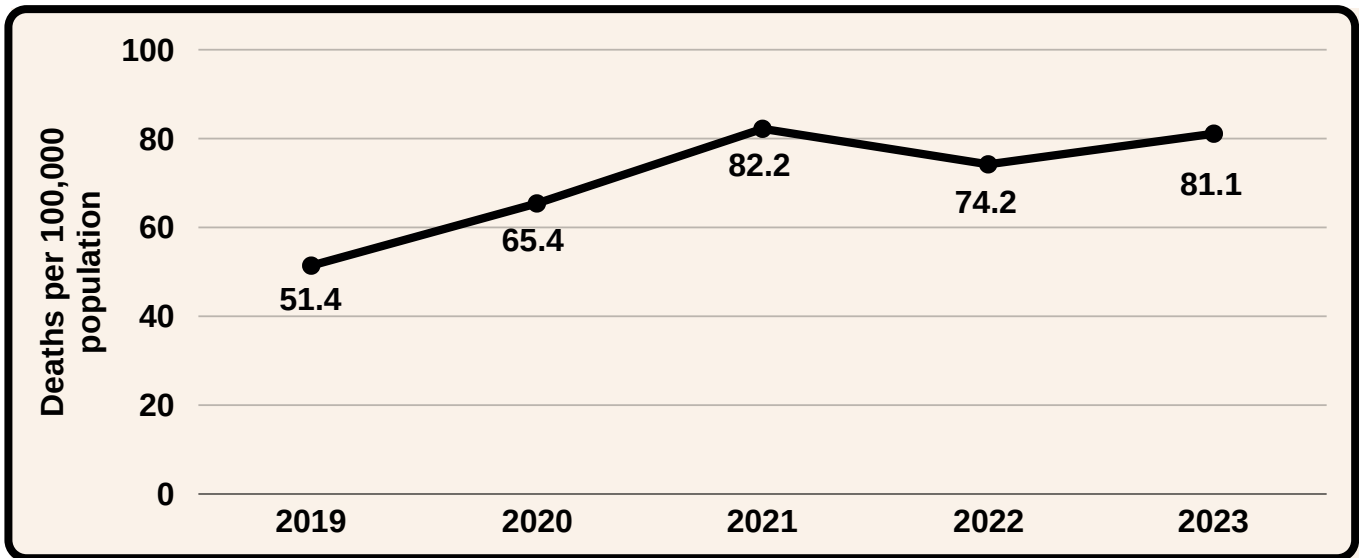


ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Public Safety

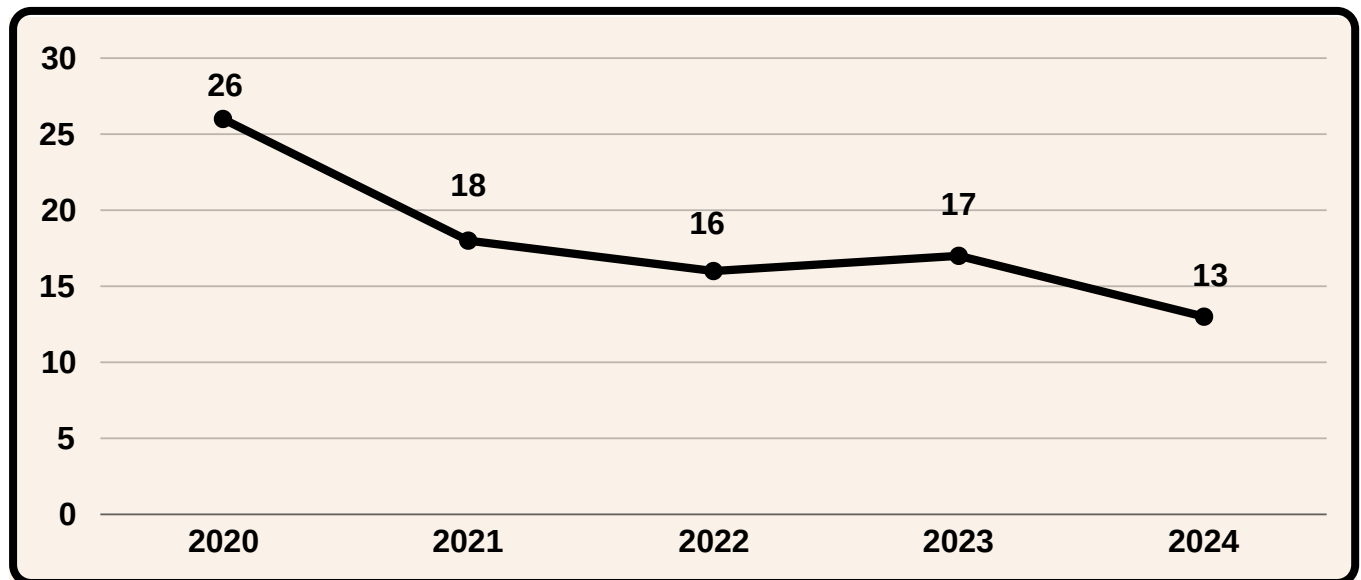
Accidental deaths in Washington County slightly decreased in 2022, but rose again in 2023. Firearm related deaths saw an increase in 2020, however total deaths have continued to decrease, with the lowest number in five years seen in 2023.

Age-Adjusted Accidental Death Mortality Rates



Accidental deaths are defined as deaths due to unintentional injuries including motor vehicle collisions, poisonings, falls, etc.

Firearm Related Deaths



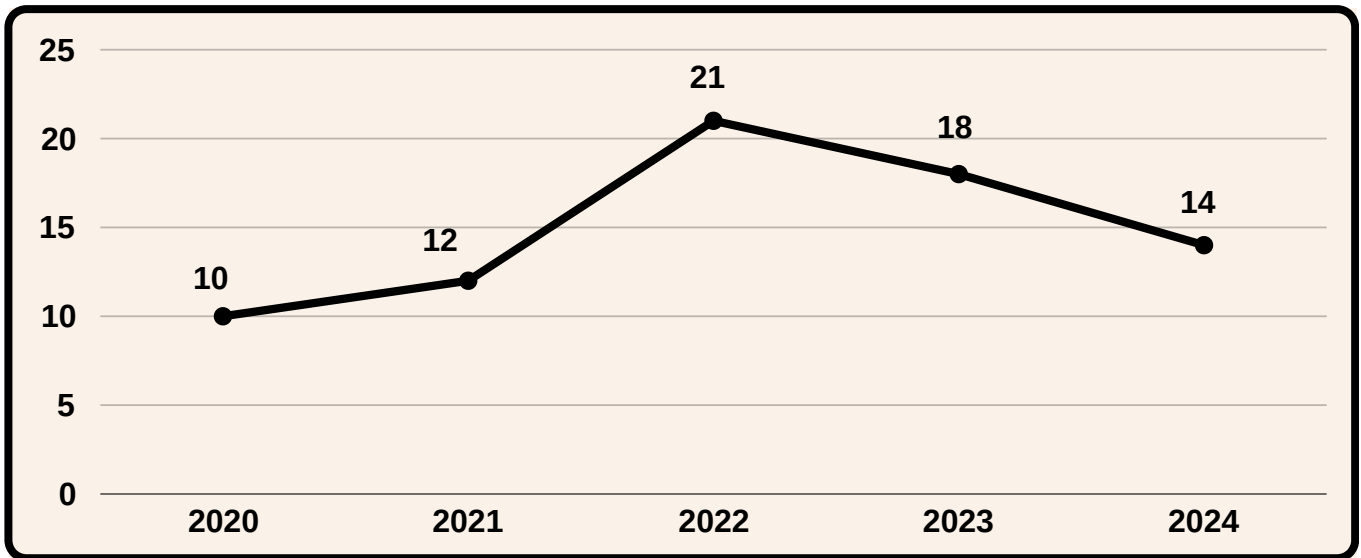
Firearm related deaths are defined as any death related to the discharge of a firearm including suicide, homicide, and accidental discharge

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Motor Vehicle Crashes

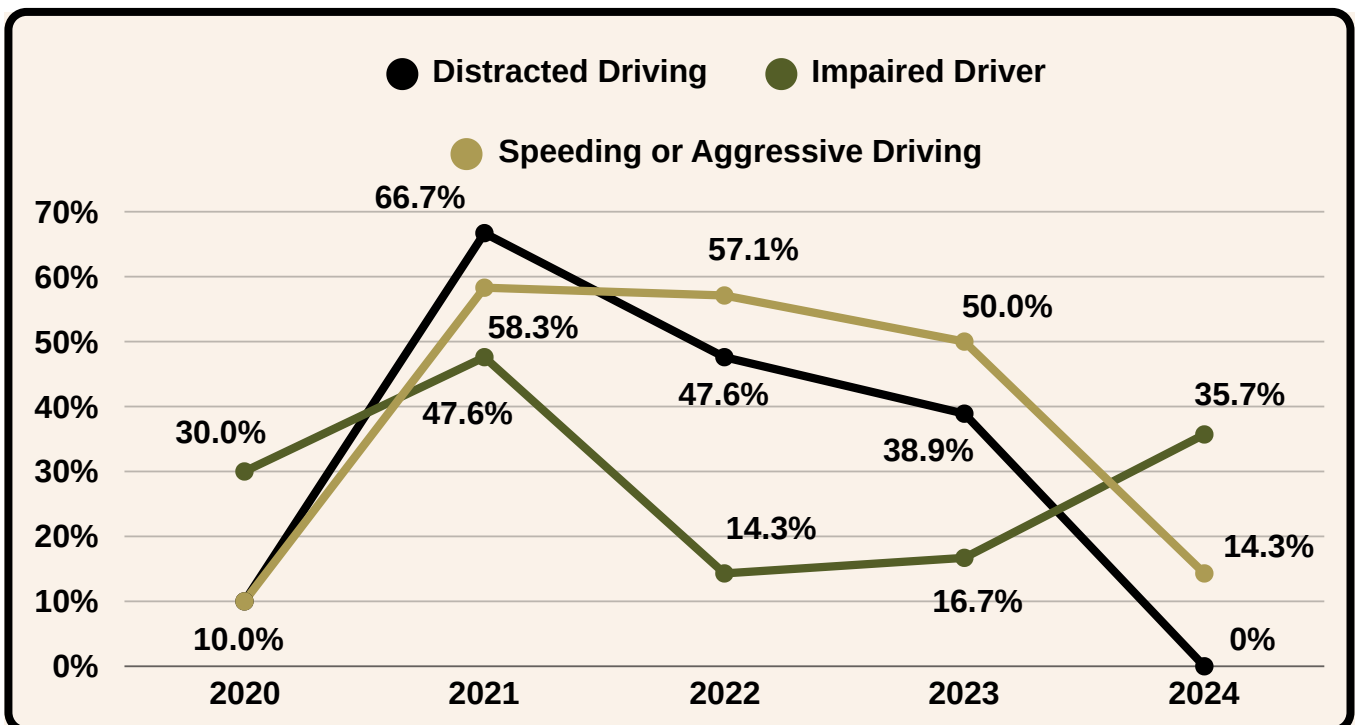
The number of fatal crashes began to increase until 2022 and have slightly decreased over the last two years. Impaired driving was the most common cause for fatal motor vehicle crashes in 2023. Fatal crashes caused by distracted driving and speeding both saw significant decreases in 2023.

Motor Vehicle Fatalities



Accidental deaths are defined as deaths due to unintentional injuries including motor vehicle collisions, poisonings, falls, etc.

Causes of Motor Vehicle Fatalities

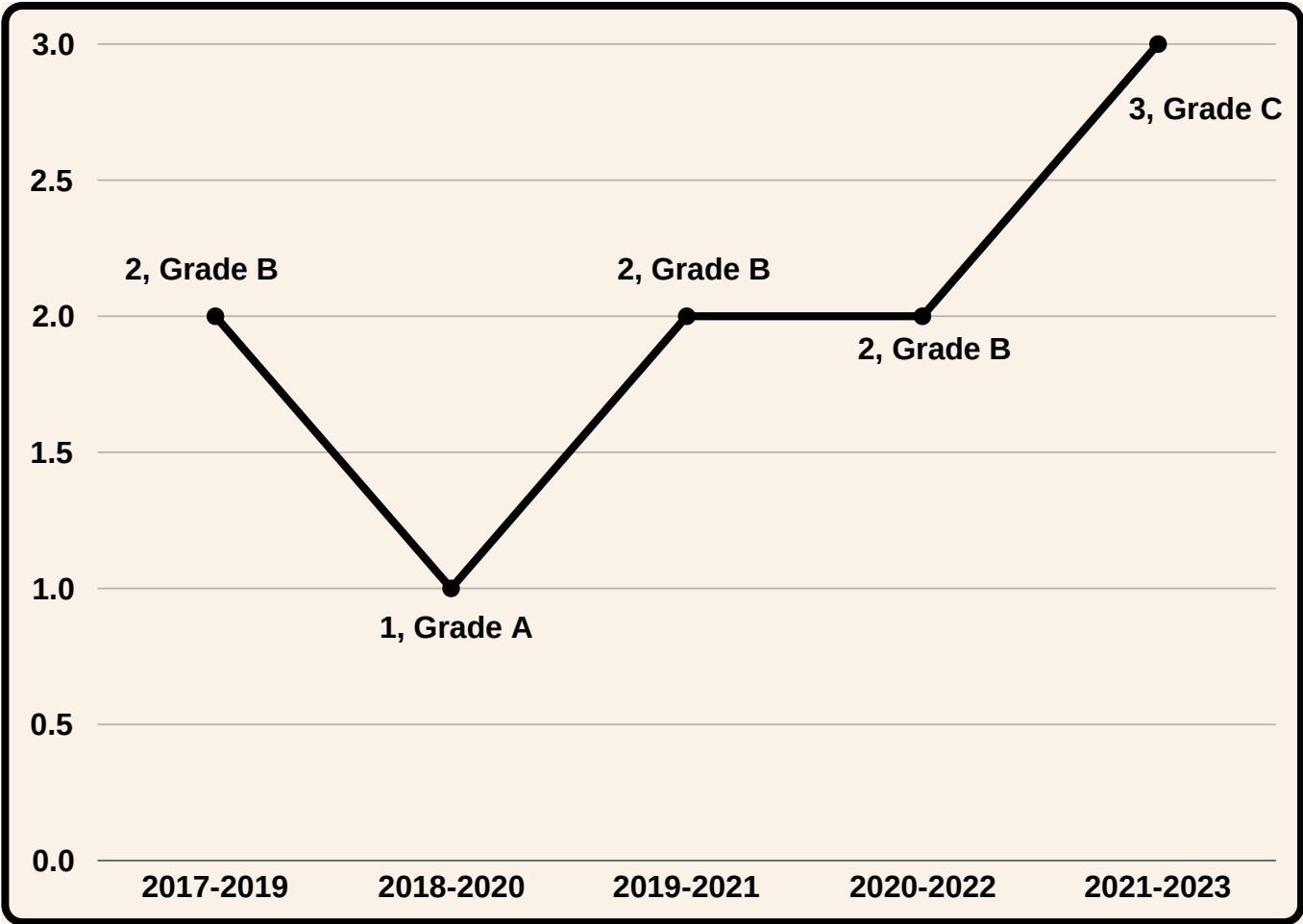


ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Air Quality

Ground-level ozone and particulate matter can both have negative effects on health, particularly with one's respiratory health, and can worsen or cause asthma, lung irritation, or cardiovascular issues. Air quality in Washington County steadily remained in higher grades from 2019-2021, however lower grades were seen on average from 2021-2023. Air quality grades are based on EPA data assessed by the American Lung Association.

Annual Ozone Air Quality Grade

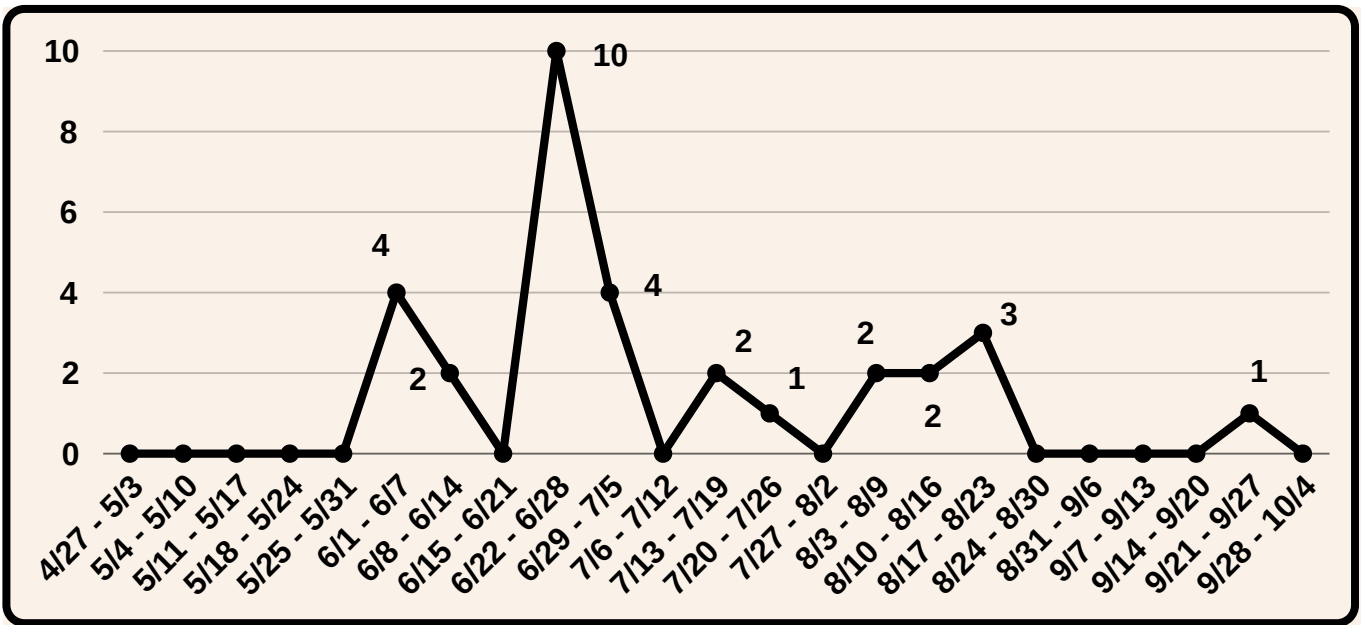


ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

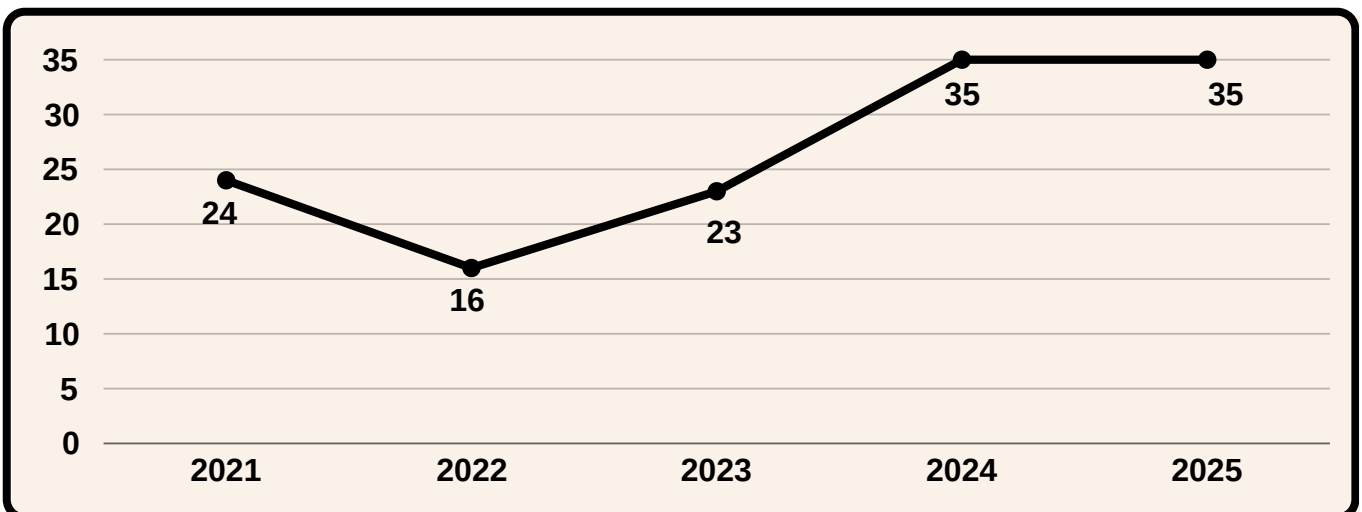
Extreme Heat

As summer temperatures rise, reports of heat-related illnesses have increased as well. In the 2025 heat season, there were a total of 35 heat-related ED and Urgent Care visits, with cases reaching their peak in July. 31 of those visits occurred during the 2025 heat season (April-October 25). For the overall 2025 heat season, two heat-related deaths were reported in Washington County.

Heat-Related Illness Emergency Department and Urgent Care Visits (April - October 2025)



Heat-Related Illness Emergency Department and Urgent Care Visits per Year



SOCIAL DRIVERS
OF HEALTH

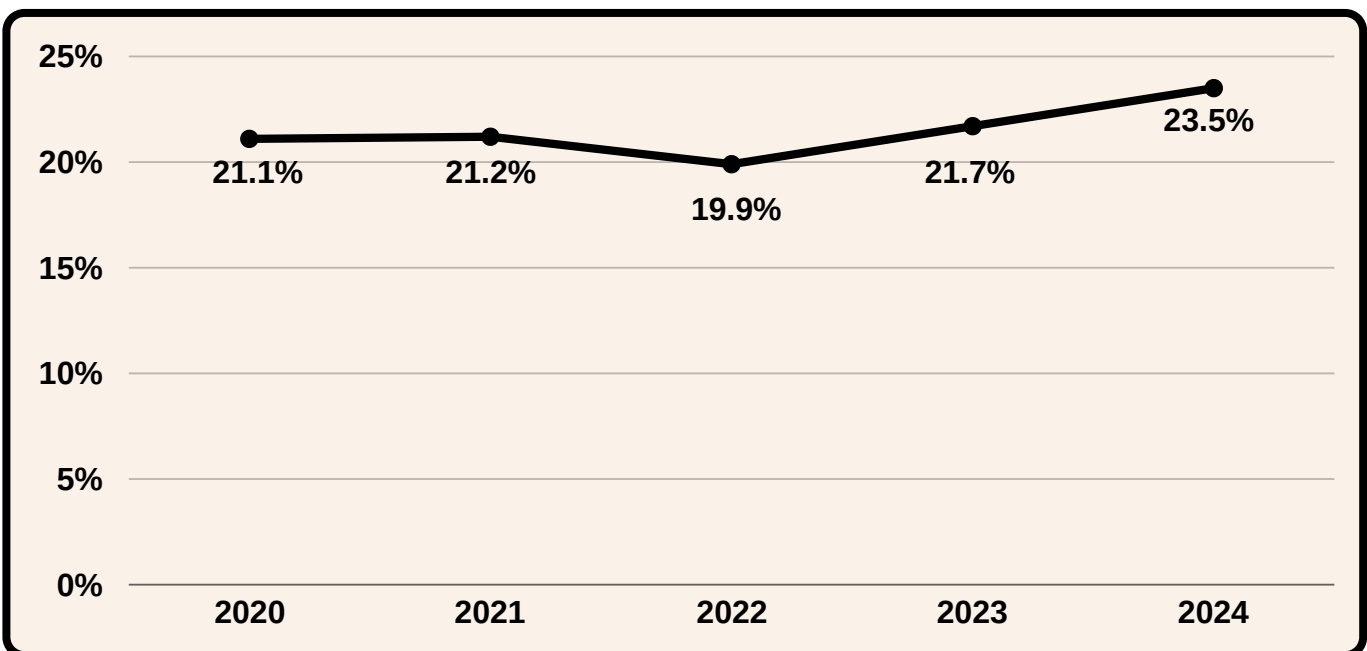


SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH

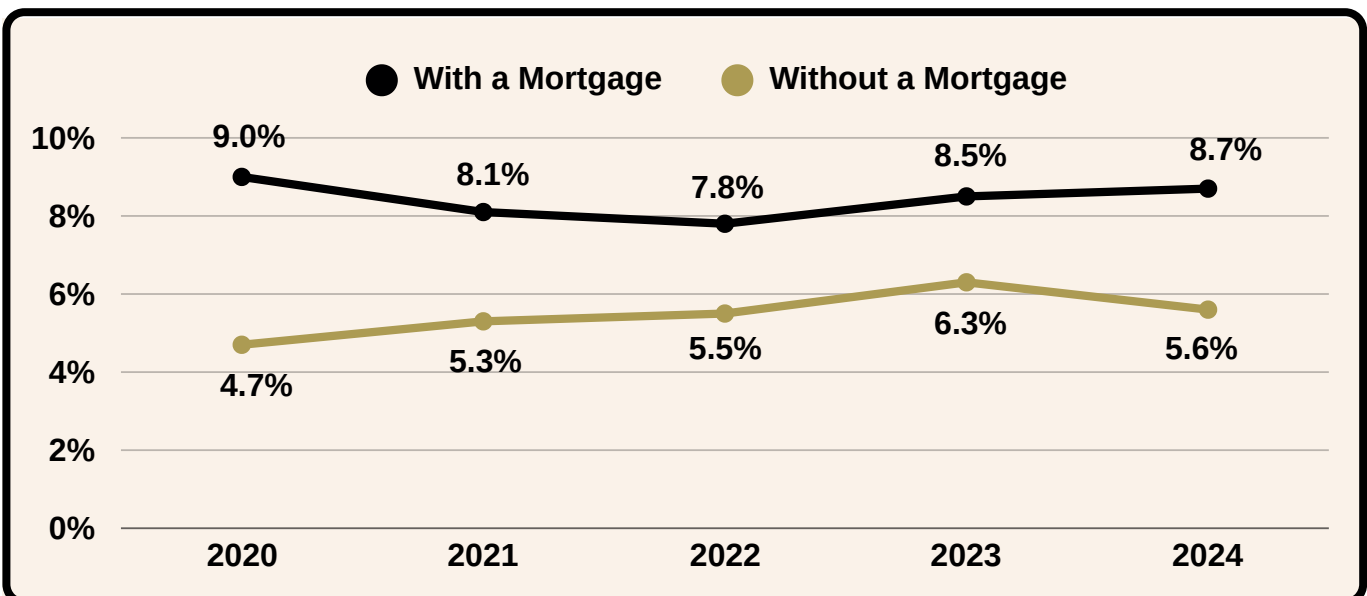
Severe Housing Cost Burden

A severe housing cost burden is when a household spends more than 50% of their household income on housing costs including rent, mortgage, and household upkeep. Renters were more likely to experience housing cost burdens, and housing cost burdens for homeowners remained mostly stable in 2024, most likely due to rising housing costs in the county and across the US.

Severe Housing Cost Burden Amongst Renters



Severe Housing Cost Burden Amongst Homeowners

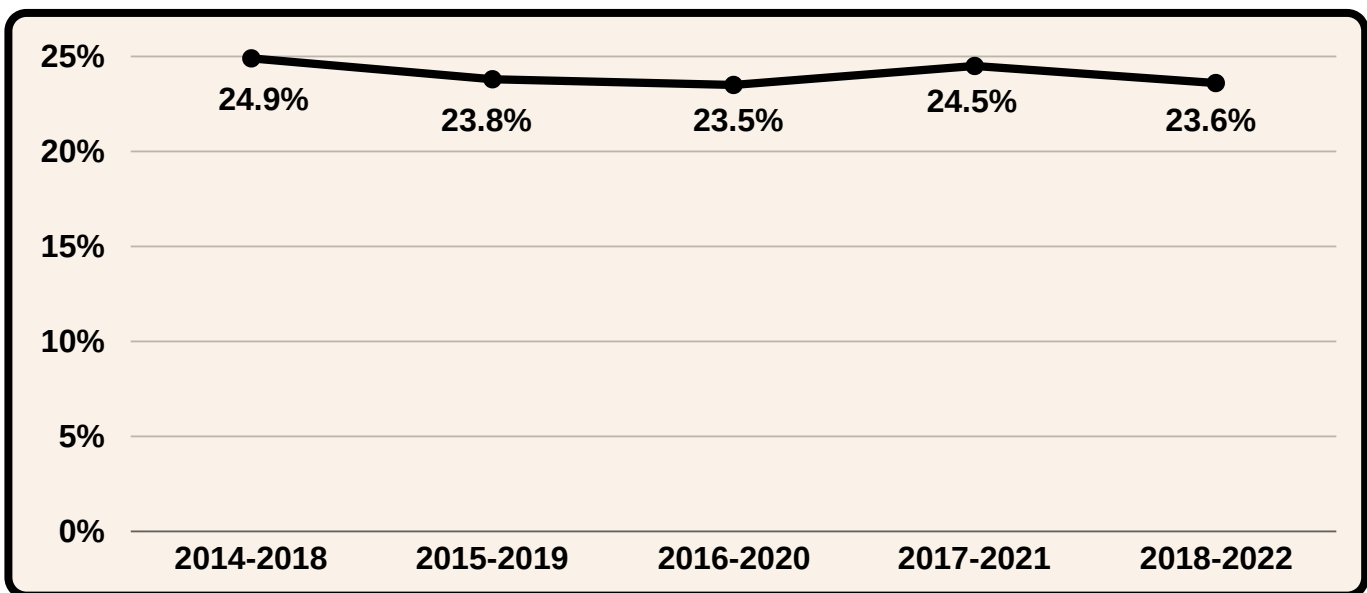


SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH

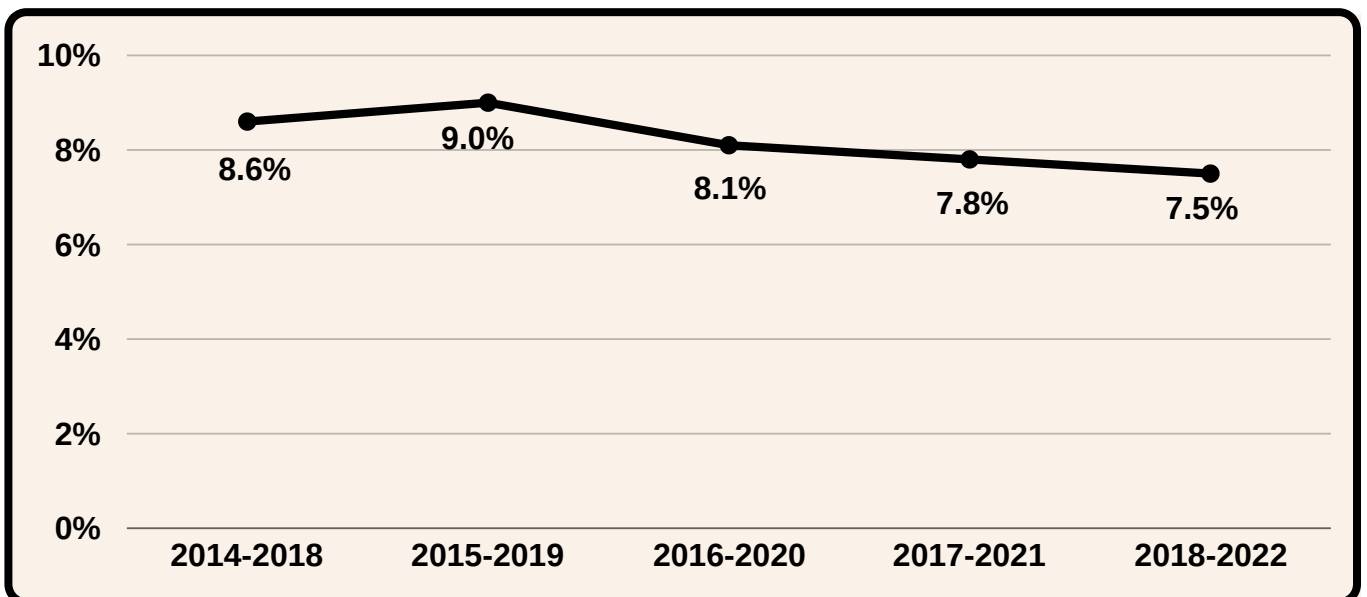
Severe Housing Problems

A severe housing problem is when a household is experiencing at least one of 4 housing problems: lack of plumbing facilities, lack of kitchen facilities, overcrowding, or high housing costs. The number of homeowners experiencing severe housing problems has decreased over several years, however for renters, the number of households has been mostly stable.

Severe Housing Problems Amongst Renters



Severe Housing Problems Among Homeowners

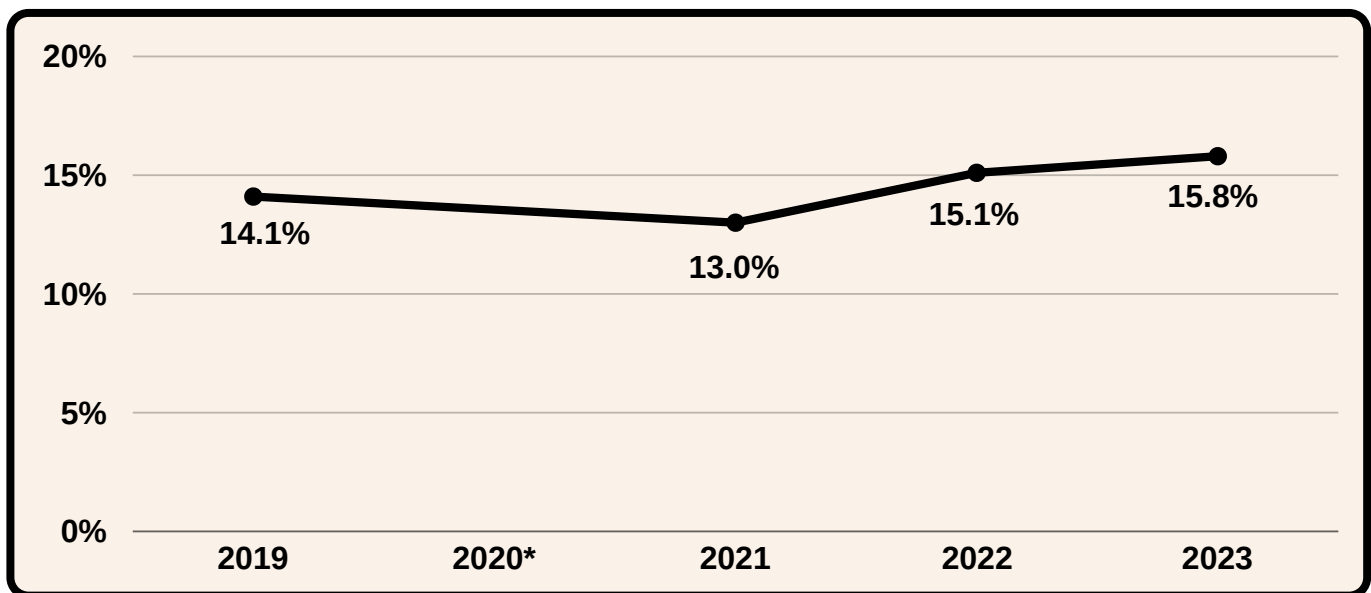


SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH

Food Insecurity

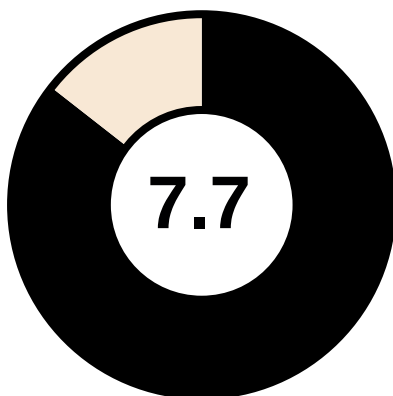
Food insecurity is the lack of access to enough food to live a healthy, active life. This lack of access can have a severe negative impact on health outcomes as food and nutrition are essential to health. In 2023, 15.8% of the population in Washington County was considered food insecure. Food insecurity is often more common in rural areas, due to lack of access to grocery stores and healthy food sources.

Washington County Food Insecurity Rate

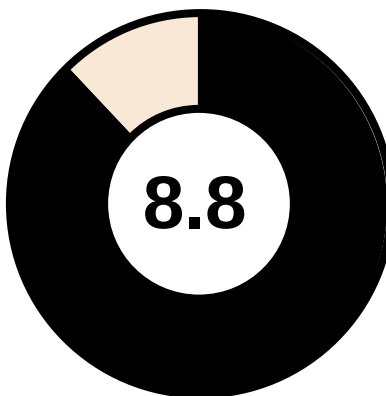


*2020 data unavailable as it cannot be directly compared to current and previous data due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on data collection

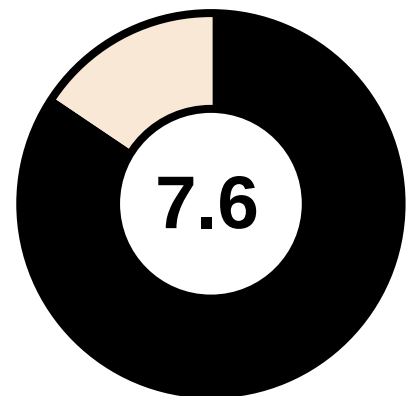
Food Environment Index*



Washington County



Maryland



United States

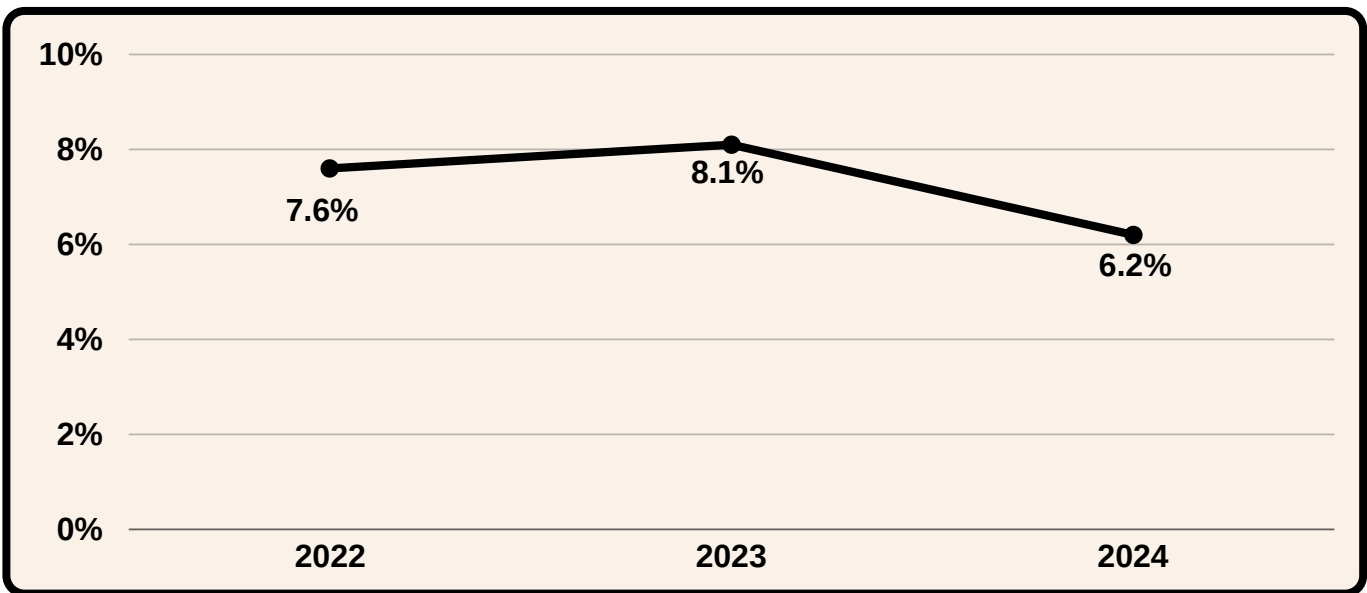
*Index of factors that contribute to a healthy food environment, such as access to healthy foods, food insecurity, etc.), from 0 (worst) to 10 (best)

SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH

Transportation

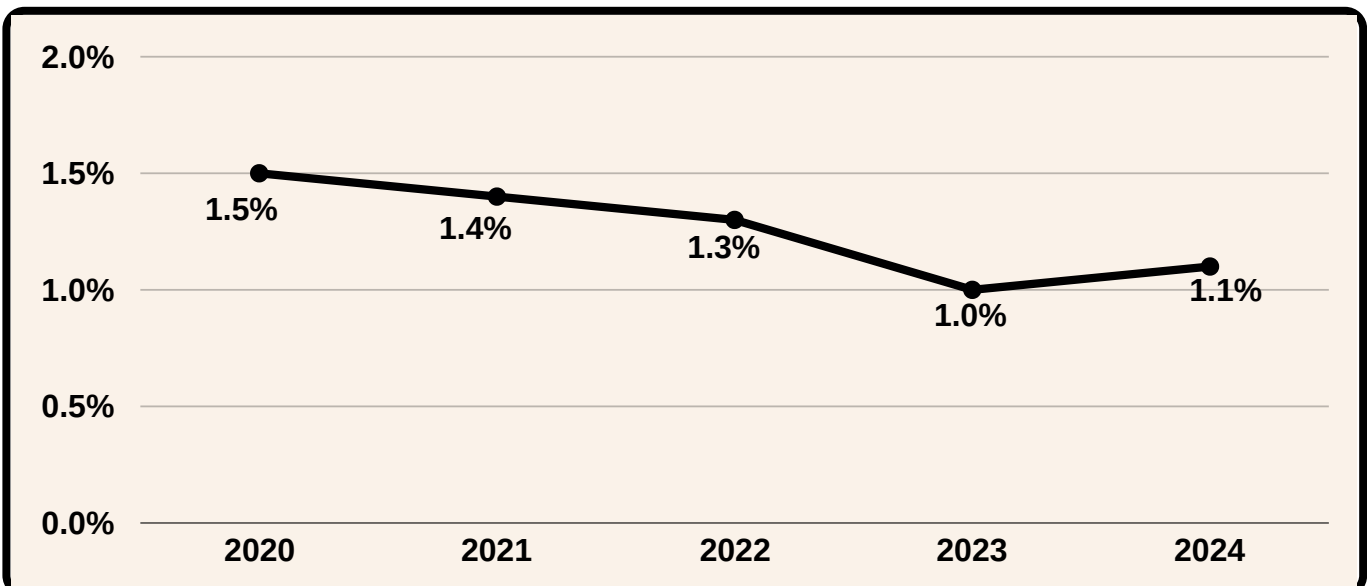
Transportation access plays a major role in a community's overall health and wellbeing. Access to reliable transportation, especially in rural areas, can aid in access to medical care, healthy food, social opportunities, and physical activity. Public transportation can also be a valuable resource for those with no personal means of transportation, however access is often limited in rural areas.

Lack of Reliable Transportation*



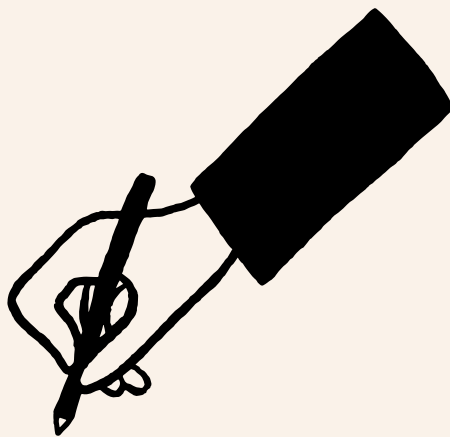
*In last 12 months

Workers Commuting by Public Transportation*



*Workers aged 16 and older. Excludes taxi services

GLOSSARY



GLOSSARY

Age-Adjusted Rate	A rate that has been adjusted to account for differences in population age distribution per 100,000 residents	29
Barriers to Care	Factors that prevent people from obtaining the healthcare they need	30
Chronic Disease	Conditions that last a year or more and require continuous medical care	8
Congenital	Medical condition present from birth	43
Ground Level Ozone	Harmful air pollutant, primary component of smog	62
Health Disparity	Preventable differences between populations in rates of disease, injury, and violence	10
Incidence Rate	New cases of a disease or condition in a specific time period per 100,000 residents	37
Infectious Disease	Illness caused by pathogens such as bacteria, virus, fungi, or parasites	9
JSAP	Jail Substance Abuse Program. This program provides daytime group and individual counseling sessions for incarcerated adults at the Washington County Detention Center	7
Life Expectancy	Average length of lifetime of an individual in a population	29
LEP	Limited English Proficiency	6
Mortality Rate	Deaths due to a specific illness or event per 1,000 or 100,000 residents	29
Narcan	A specific brand name of Naloxone, a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose	7

GLOSSARY

Outbreak	Increase of disease among a specific population in a geographic area during a specific period of time	11
Particulate Matter	Solid particles and liquid droplets in the air that make air pollution	62
Prevalence Rate	Total cases of a disease or condition in a specific time period per 100,000 residents	35
Socioeconomic/Social Drivers	Conditions in which individuals, are born, grow up, live, work and age. Includes economic stability, physical and built environment, education access and quality, social and community context, and healthcare access and quality	64
TAMAR	Trauma, Addiction, Mental Health, and Recovery Program. This program is offered to incarcerated individuals at the Washington County Detention Center	7
Transmission	The spread of disease	41
Trimester	A period of three months	49
WIC	Women, Infants, and Children program. Provides supplemental foods, nutrition counseling, and health care/social service referrals to eligible pregnant and postpartum people, infants, and children	11



Washington County Health Department

Health Planning and Strategic Initiatives Division

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