



HEALTH REPORT

WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

20
23



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A Message from our Health Officer

Dear Colleagues, Partners, and Friends,

I am excited to share the Washington County Health Department's 2023 Annual Report. This year's report highlights our accomplishments and ongoing efforts to improve the health and well-being of our community. I would like to extend a heartfelt **Thank You** to our incredibly dedicated staff, and highlight their unrelenting pursuit of ensuring the health, safety, and strong partnerships within the Washington County community.

For many, the idea of public health stems from their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, public health is much more, although outside of pandemic times, the work of public health often goes unseen. With the release of our first annual report, we hope to change that.

Our vision of "A Healthy Community for All" is more than just a statement. As the community's Chief Health Strategist, the Health Department is deliberate in tailoring activities and services to emerging needs, convening and contributing to coalitions, partnering with diverse sectors, striving to move our work more upstream, and using data to guide these practices.

As we look forward, we are committed to implementing evidence-based best practices that improve the physical and behavioral health of the community.

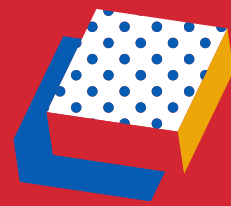
Key themes include:

- Shift of focus from "downstream," reactive approaches to "upstream," prevention/wellness approaches
- Equitable approaches in all activities
- Stronger and broader partnerships
- Larger presence in the community

Although this report is a review of the past year only, I hope you find it informative about the things that our dedicated staff do to improve lives and the community every day.

Sincerely

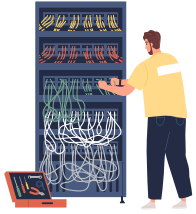
Earl E. Stoner, MPH
Health Officer



WCHD 2023 Year in Review



WCHD 2023 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 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, and performance and policy development and implementation.

HUMAN

RESOURCES

26

New Employees

54

Employees with
10+ Years of
Service

28

Employees with
20+ Years of
Service



GRANTS, ACCOUNTING, AND BILLING

1,295

Purchase Orders
processed



VITAL RECORDS

5,145

Birth Certificates
Issued

8,475

Death Certificates
Issued



MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

18,477

Medical Assistance
Transportation Trips



TRANSLATION SERVICES

4,090

LEP Interactions

25

Different Languages
Requested

WCHD 2023 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 Harm Reduction program, 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!

JAIL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM

95

Program Participants



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

90

Community Outreach Events



NALOXONE TRAINING

256

Naloxone Trainings Performed

18,918

Doses of Narcan Distributed to Community

1,748

Individuals Trained



PEER SUPPORT

2,534

Clients Connected to Peer Support

WCHD 2023 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 relations. Some of the activities and programs this division is responsible for include: Cribs for Kids, the Diabetes Prevention Program, PPE and Covid Test Kit Distribution, Emergency Preparedness, Healthy Washington County, and management of WCHD social media, website, and the Pathfinder site.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

59

Cribs Distributed Through the Cribs for Kids Program

51

Outreach Events and Health Fairs

25

Participants in Diabetes Prevention Program

~10,500

Covid Test Kits and PPE Distributed

100

Blood Pressure Cuffs Distributed to Community Members

278

Diabetes Risk Screenings



SOCIAL MEDIA



WCHD 2023 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 divisions 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

555

Temporary Food
Permits Issued

466

Building Permits
Reviewed

314

Perc Test, Well,
and Septic Permits
Processed

144

Subdivision/Site Plans
Reviewed



INVESTIGATIONS AND INSPECTIONS

431

Bite Reports
Received

295

Environmental Health
Complaints Received

200+

Food Service Facility
Inspections

11

Campground
Inspections

17

Mobile Home Park
Inspections

53

Pool and Spa
Inspections



Health Planning and Strategic Initiatives

The Health Planning and Strategic Initiatives division houses our Office of Health Equity and our Epidemiology department, with the goals of identifying and reducing health disparities, promoting health equity, and improving the well-being of our community. Formed in May 2023, The Office of Health Equity is responsible for developing and implementing equitable strategies to address health disparities throughout the entire community. The OHE also is responsible for 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 analysis, chronic and infectious disease surveillance, and data reporting and visualization .

OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY

89%

of Agency Staff Have
Completed Implicit
Bias Training

80%

of Agency Staff Have
Completed Intro to
Health Equity Training

May 2023

Staff Health Equity
Committee Formed

8

Health Equity Committee
Meetings Held



WCHD 2023 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, the 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!

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

712

Child Vision and
Hearing Screenings
Conducted

5,016

WIC Program
Participants

94

Families served by
the Healthy Families
Program



CLINICAL SERVICES

1,028

Reproductive Health
Clinic Visits

73

PrEP Clinic
Visits

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

132

Covid Outbreaks
Managed



ADULT SERVICES

932

ACCU Program
referrals
successfully
reached

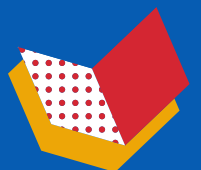
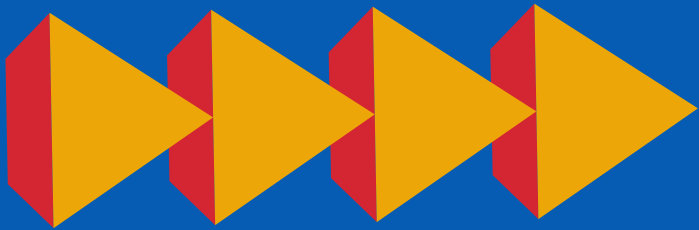
483

AERS
assessments
completed

242

AERS Nurse
Monitoring Program
Clients Served

Community Snapshot



Our Community



2022 POPULATION ESTIMATES

Population	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Total Population	155,590	6,164,660	333,287,562
Female	77,068	3,160,543	168,059,348
Male	78,522	3,004,117	165,228,214

Race and Ethnicity	Washington County	Maryland	United States
White, alone	114,502	2,906,492	192,153,076
Black, alone	18,124	1,800,914	39,582,961
Hispanic or Latino	11,228	705,842	63,553,639
Asian, alone	2,574	401,818	19,415,251
Two or More Races, alone	8,307	291,317	14,329,127
Other Race, alone	855	58,277	4,253,508

Age	Washington County	Maryland	United States
Under 18 Years	33,536	1,346,731	72,325,602
18 Years and Over	122,054	4,817,929	260,961,960
65 Years and Over	28,714	1,042,779	57,822,315

Data Source: 2022 ACS 5-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, Table DP05

Social Factors

2022 POPULATION ESTIMATES



Language Spoken at Home*	Washington County		Maryland	
Speak Only English	109,518	92.7%	3,773,561	85.6%
Spanish	4,048	3.4%	216,604	4.9%
Other Languages	4,550	3.9%	420,466	9.5%

Education*	Washington County		Maryland	
Less than High School/GED	11,954	11.0%	367,917	8.6%
High School Graduate/GED	39,110	36.1%	201,017	23.6%
Some College/Associate's Degree	30,307	27.9%	1,030,006	24.0%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	27,059	25.0%	1,878,705	43.8%

Income, Employment, and Housing	Washington County		Maryland	
Median Household Income	\$69,244		\$94,991	
Unemployment Rate*	5.2%		4.0%	
Home Ownership	63.5%		67.7%	
Monthly Housing Cost Above 25% of Income	32.7%		36.1%	

*Language - For individuals aged 18 and older

*Education - Educational attainment amongst population 25 years and over

*Unemployment - Among population 16 years and over

Data Source: 2022 ACS 1-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, [Tables S1601, S1501, S1901, S2301, DP04](#)

Social Factors

2022 POPULATION ESTIMATES



Disability Status	Washington County		Maryland	
Total Population	26,327	17.6%	724,428	11.9%
Poverty Status	Washington County		Maryland	
Individuals Below Poverty Level	17,212	11.6%	581,748	9.6%
Families Below Poverty Level	38,352	7.4%	1,546,282	6.6%
Household Benefits Status	Washington County		Maryland	
Receiving Food Stamp or SNAP Benefits	10,658	17.9%	285,922	12.0%
Receiving Social Security Income	21,540	36.0%	682,144	28.7%
Receiving Supplemental Security Income	2,766	4.6%	105,266	2,766
Health Insurance Coverage †	Washington County		Maryland	
Private Health Insurance	69,137	46.3%	3,409,581	56.1%
Medicaid Coverage	38,096	25.5%	1,208,518	19.9%
Medicare Coverage	32,702	21.9%	1,070,019	17.6%
Uninsured	11,853	7.9%	368,393	6.1%

†VA health care coverage not included

Data Source: 2022 ACS 1-year Population Estimates, US Census Bureau, [Tables S1810](#), [S1701](#), [S1702](#), [DP03](#), [S2703](#), [S2704](#), [S2701](#)

Town by Town

Washington County is mostly made up of several major towns, with each having their own unique populations and characteristics

Boonsboro

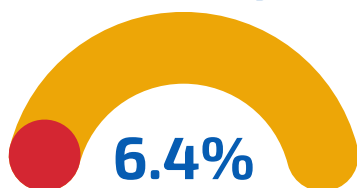
TOTAL POPULATION: 6,482

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	88.2%
Hispanic or Latino	4.3%
Black, alone	2.3%
Asian, alone	1.2%
Two or More Races, alone	6.5%
Other Race, alone	1.7%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	28.2%
Some College, No Degree	22.7%
Associate's Degree	13.6%
Bachelor's Degree	16.6%
Graduate or Professional Degree	12.5%

Individuals in Poverty

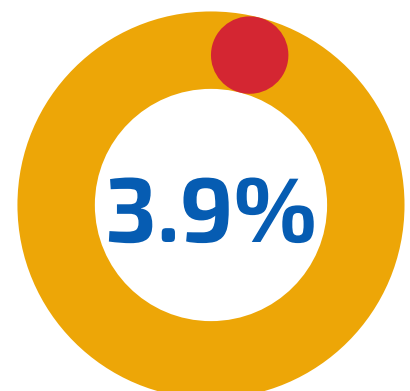


Median Household Income

\$92,955

Age	
Median Age	42.4
65 and Older	17.7%
Under 18	24.3%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Clear Spring

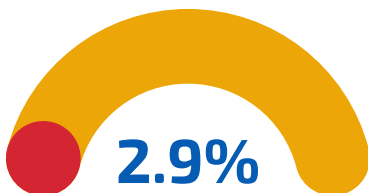
TOTAL POPULATION: 3,062

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	94.6%
Hispanic or Latino	1.4%
Black, alone	0.7%
Asian, alone	0.7%
Two or More Races, alone	3.5%
Other Race, alone	0.4%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	50.7%
Some College, No Degree	14.7%
Associate's Degree	6.3%
Bachelor's Degree	11.4%
Graduate or Professional Degree	6.6%

Individuals in Poverty

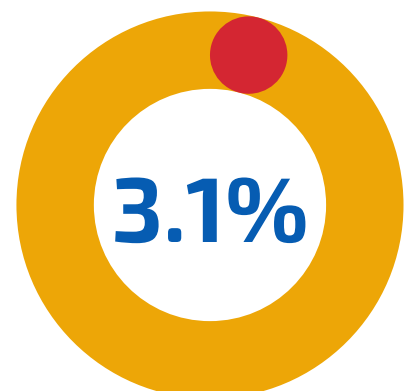


Median Household Income

\$81,625

Age	
Median Age	43.7
65 and Older	21.2%
Under 18	23.4%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Funkstown

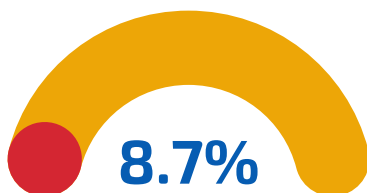
TOTAL POPULATION: 852

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	92.1%
Hispanic or Latino	2.3%
Black, alone	1.8%
Asian, alone	1.2%
Two or More Races, alone	4.2%
Other Race, alone	0.7%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	28.3%
Some College, No Degree	27.0%
Associate's Degree	7.2%
Bachelor's Degree	15.6%
Graduate or Professional Degree	13.6%

Individuals in Poverty

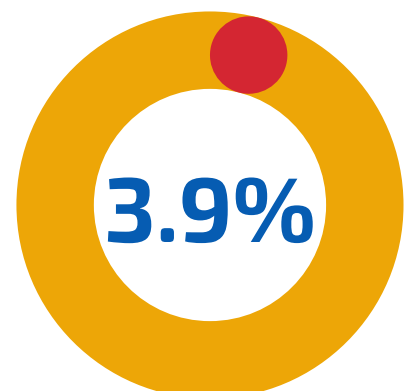


Median Household Income

\$52,794

Age	
Median Age	59.1
65 and Older	29.0%
Under 18	6.6%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Hagerstown

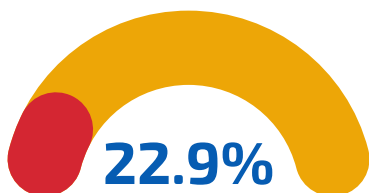
TOTAL POPULATION: 43,537

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	62.7%
Hispanic or Latino	9.8%
Black, alone	19.9%
Asian, alone	2.1%
Two or More Races, alone	10.7%
Other Race, alone	4.9%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	35.6%
Some College, No Degree	21.9%
Associate's Degree	8.0%
Bachelor's Degree	12.2%
Graduate or Professional Degree	7.7%

Individuals in Poverty

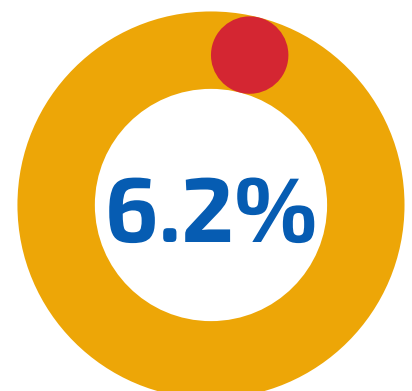


Median Household Income

\$48,481

Age	
Median Age	35.9
65 and Older	14.8%
Under 18	25.8%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Hancock

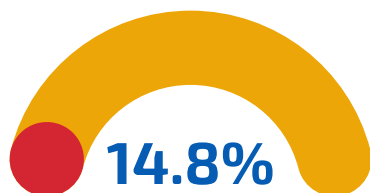
TOTAL POPULATION: 3,308

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	94.4%
Hispanic or Latino	1.0%
Black, alone	0.5%
Asian, alone	0.6%
Two or More Races, alone	3.8%
Other Race, alone	0.7%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	53.2%
Some College, No Degree	19.0%
Associate's Degree	10.3%
Bachelor's Degree	6.8%
Graduate or Professional Degree	3.1%

Individuals in Poverty

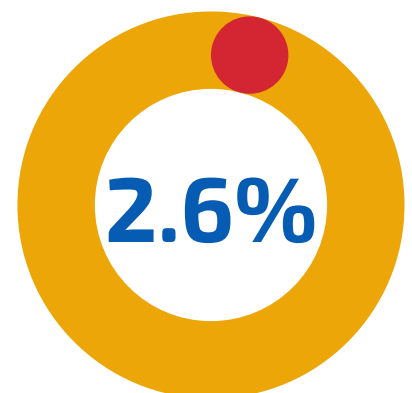


Median Household Income

\$50,598

Age	
Median Age	48.9
65 and Older	22.4%
Under 18	17.3%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Maugansville

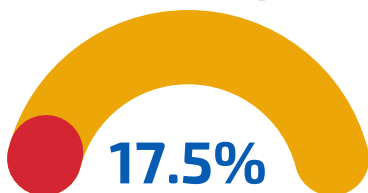
TOTAL POPULATION: 6,429

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	85.3%
Hispanic or Latino	4.3%
Black, alone	5.6%
Asian, alone	1.7%
Two or More Races, alone	5.6%
Other Race, alone	1.8%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	26.5%
Some College, No Degree	22.3%
Associate's Degree	6.4%
Bachelor's Degree	17.9%
Graduate or Professional Degree	14.6%

Individuals in Poverty

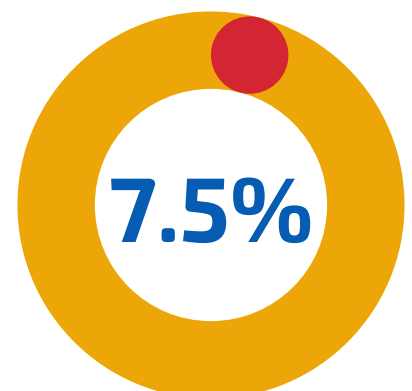


Median Household Income

\$72,858

Age	
Median Age	47.6
65 and Older	18.5%
Under 18	18%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Sharpsburg

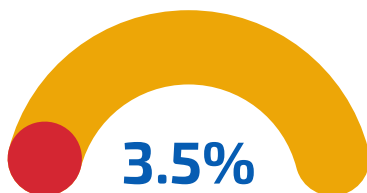
TOTAL POPULATION: 3,109

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	93.7%
Hispanic or Latino	2.3%
Black, alone	0.5%
Asian, alone	0.4%
Two or More Races, alone	4.9%
Other Race, alone	0.5%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	36.6%
Some College, No Degree	22.5%
Associate's Degree	7.0%
Bachelor's Degree	14.7%
Graduate or Professional Degree	10.4%

Individuals in Poverty

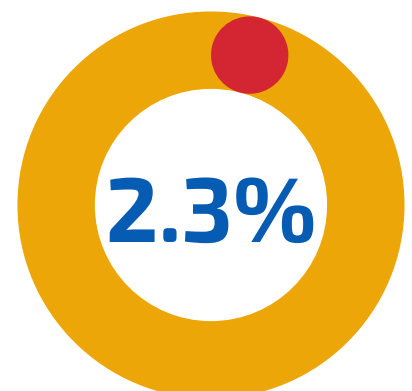


Median Household Income

\$82,153

Age	
Median Age	46.1
65 and Older	21.7%
Under 18	17.3%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Smithsburg

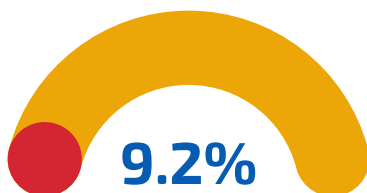
TOTAL POPULATION: 6,267

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	88.7%
Hispanic or Latino	5.0%
Black, alone	2.4%
Asian, alone	0.9%
Two or More Races, alone	6.1%
Other Race, alone	1.9%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	35.1%
Some College, No Degree	19.6%
Associate's Degree	11.8%
Bachelor's Degree	11.6%
Graduate or Professional Degree	9.8%

Individuals in Poverty

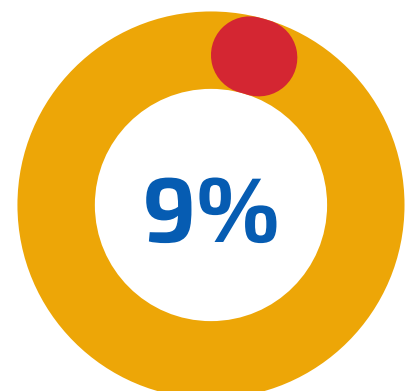


Median Household Income

\$88,980

Age	
Median Age	41.4
65 and Older	16.6%
Under 18	24.5%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



Town by Town

Williamsport

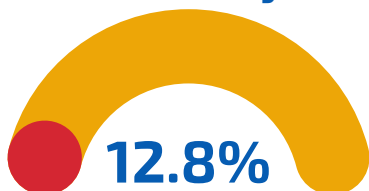
TOTAL POPULATION: 5,086

Community Breakdown

Race/Ethnicity	
White, alone	84.9%
Hispanic or Latino	3.4%
Black, alone	5.1%
Asian, alone	2.9%
Two or More Races, alone	5.4%
Other Race, alone	1.7%

Education	
High School or Equivalent Degree	38.7%
Some College, No Degree	21.2%
Associate's Degree	8.7%
Bachelor's Degree	14.1%
Graduate or Professional Degree	9.0%

Individuals in Poverty

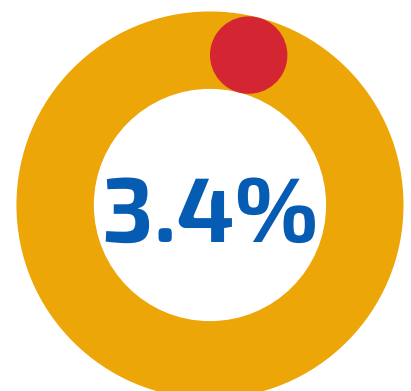


Median Household Income

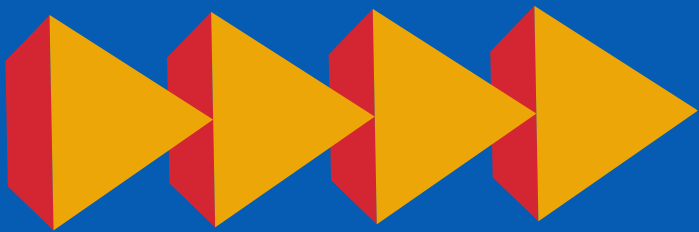
\$80,771

Age	
Median Age	38.8
65 and Older	17.4%
Under 18	21.6%

Individuals Without Health Care Coverage



General Health and Wellness

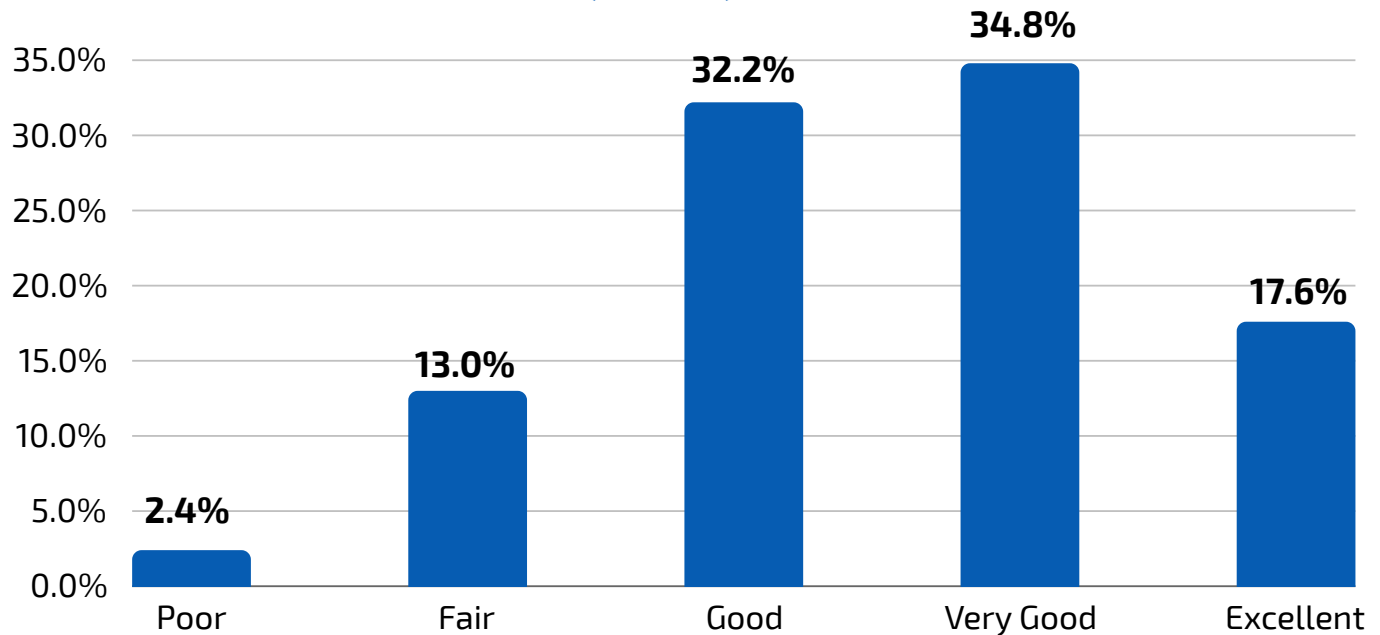


General Health and Wellness

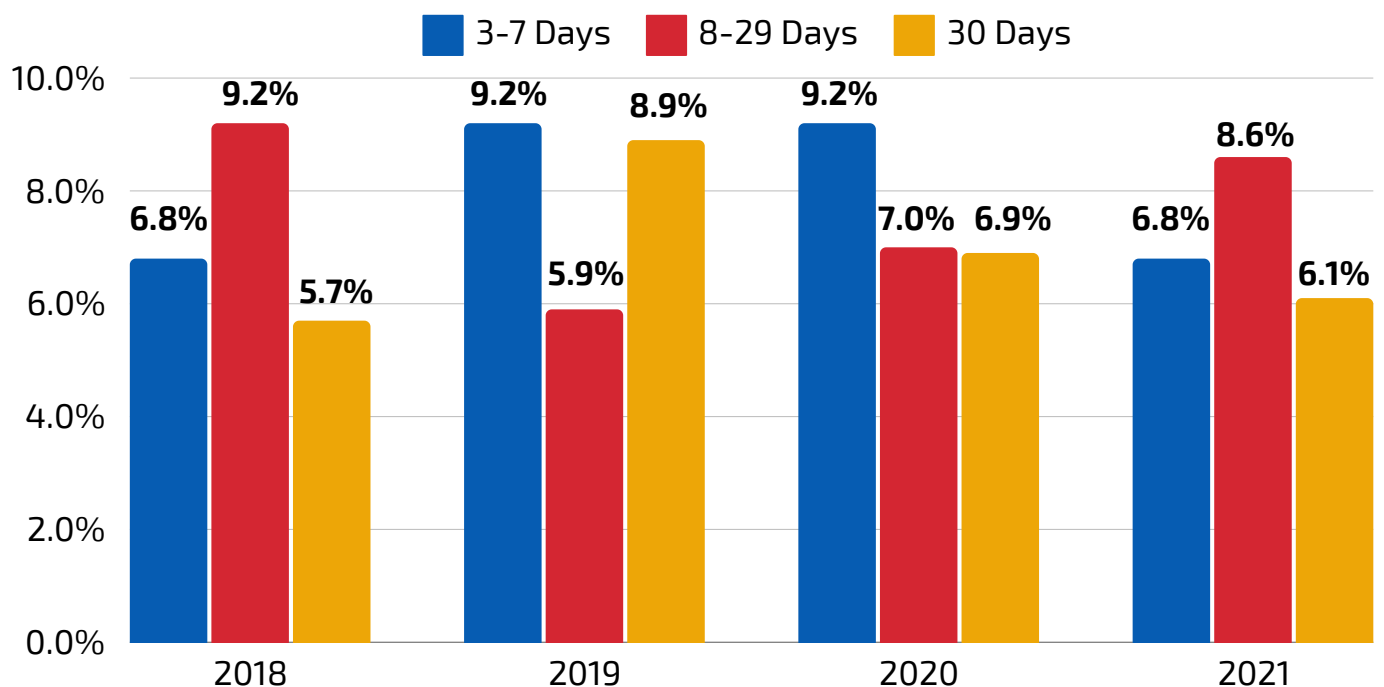
Physical Health (2021)

In 2021, most Washington County residents reported that their overall health was either good, very good, or excellent. In the same year, there was an overall decrease 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)

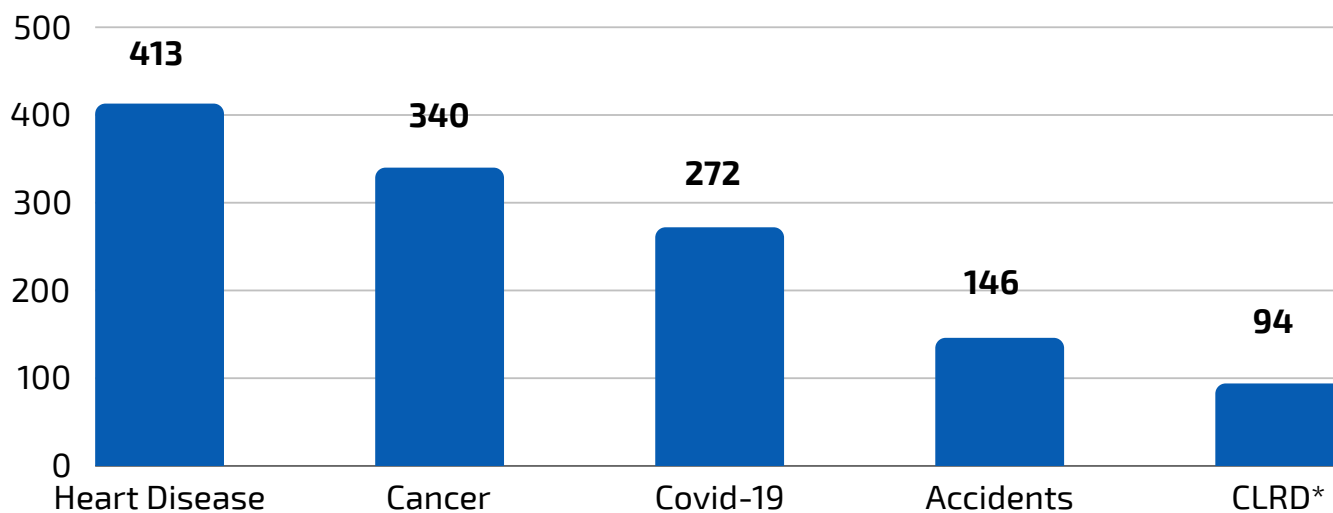


General Health and Wellness

Leading Causes of Death (2021)

There were a total of 2,028 deaths in 2021. Heart disease continued to be the leading cause of death, causing around 20% of deaths overall, with Cancer and Covid-19 following closely behind. The current average life expectancy for Washington County residents is 75.9 years, slightly lower than the US average of 78.5 years.

Top 5 Leading Causes of Death (2021)



Top 5 Leading Causes of Death by Mortality Rate (2021) †

White, Alone	Black, Alone	Hispanic or Latino	Asian, Alone
Heart Disease 326.5	Heart Disease 121.4	Covid-19 58.9	Heart Disease 63.3
Cancer 267.1	Cancer 100.3	Accidents 39.3	Cancer 31.6
Covid-19 213.7	Covid-19 68.6	Cancer 29.5	Diabetes 31.6
Accidents 108.5	Accidents 68.6	Heart Disease 19.6	Suicide 31.6
CLRD* 76.3	Diabetes 21.1	Diabetes 19.6	Parkinson's Disease 31.6

†Deaths per 100,000; *CLRD: Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (Asthma, COPD, etc.)

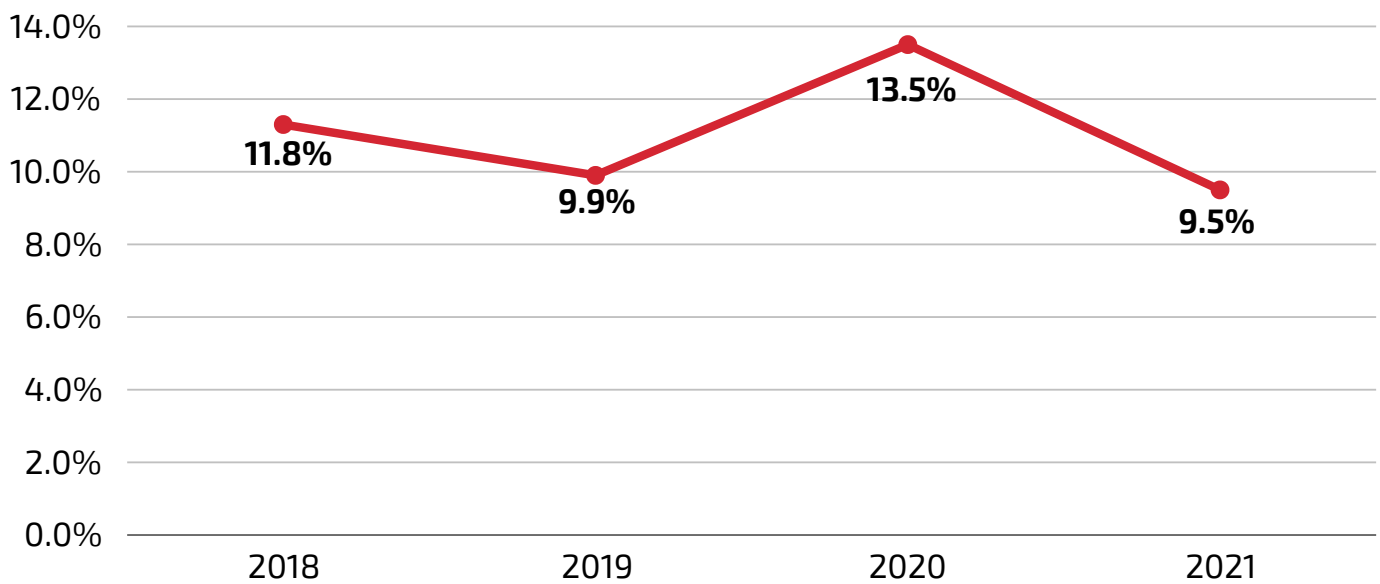
Data Source: 2021 Jurisdictional Deaths Report, Vital Statistics Administration, Maryland Department of Health

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 2021, 9.5% of Washington County residents were unable to see a doctor due to the cost of care. In 2022, around 8% of residents were uninsured, with strong differences between racial/ethnic groups. Non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic/Latino individuals had the highest rates of uninsured individuals compared to their counterparts. 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 (2021)



Uninsured Residents by Race and Ethnicity and Age

Race and Ethnicity	
White, Alone	7.1%
Black, Alone	14.1%
Hispanic or Latino	15.8%
Two or More Races, Alone	8.3%

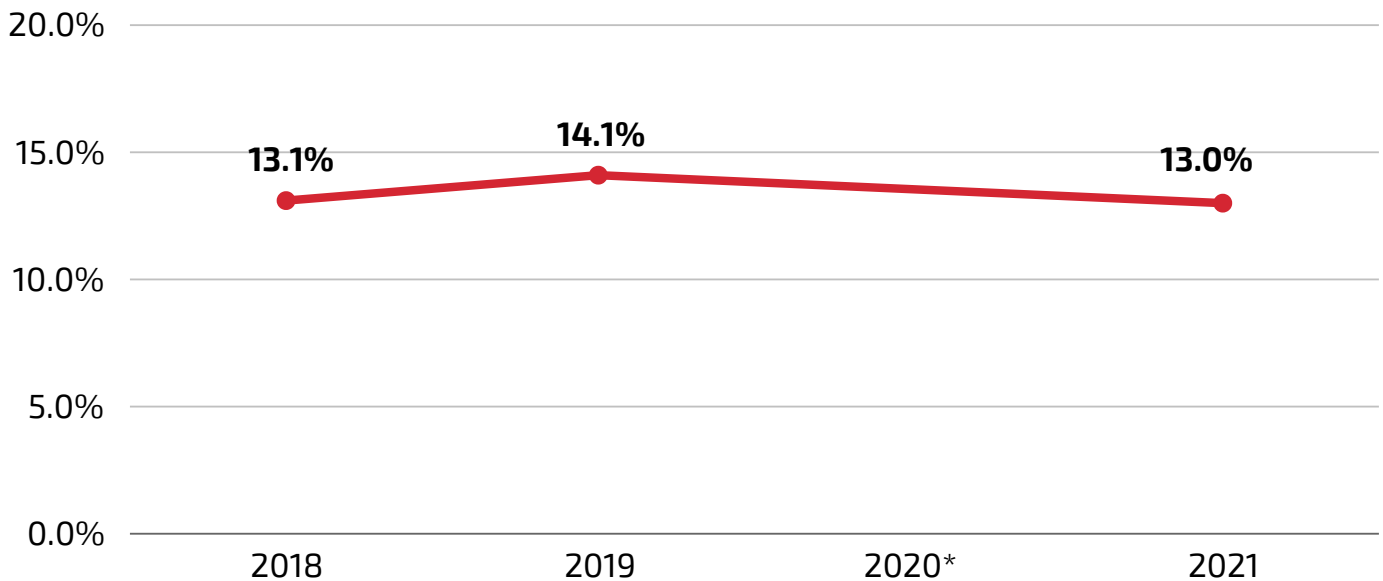
Age	
18 and Under	7.5%
19-64 Years Old	10.6%
65 Years and Older	0.3%

General Health and Wellness

Food Insecurity

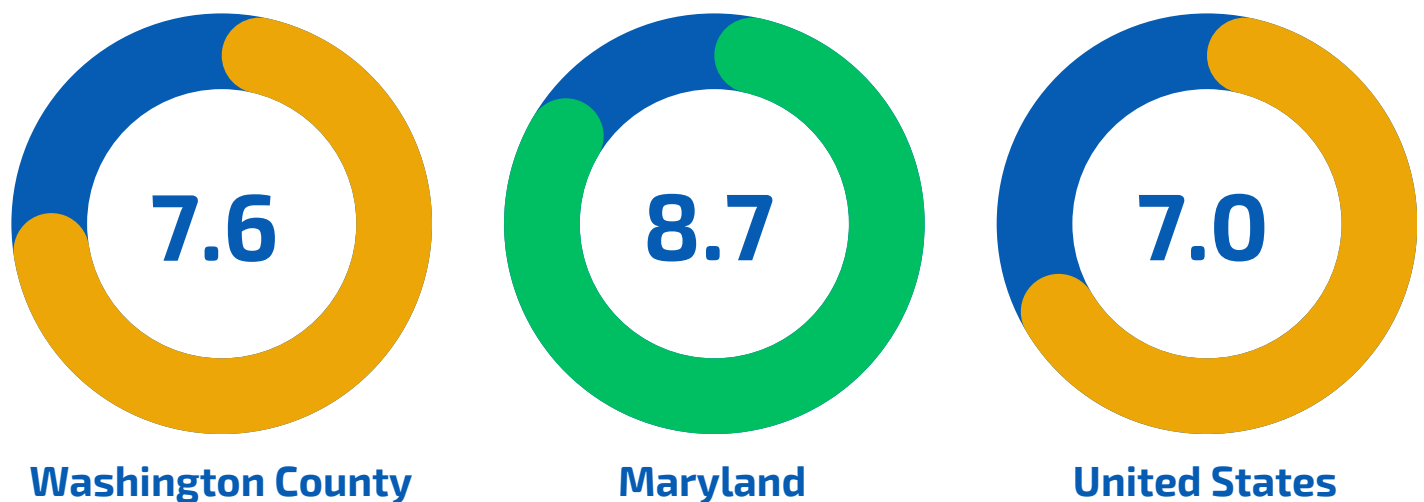
Food insecurity is the lack of access to enough food to live a healthy, active life. This lack of access can have a severe negative impact on health outcomes as food and nutrition are essential to health. In 2021, 13% of the population in Washington County was considered food insecure. Food insecurity is often more common in rural areas, due to lack of access to grocery stores and healthy food sources.

Washington County Food Insecurity Rate



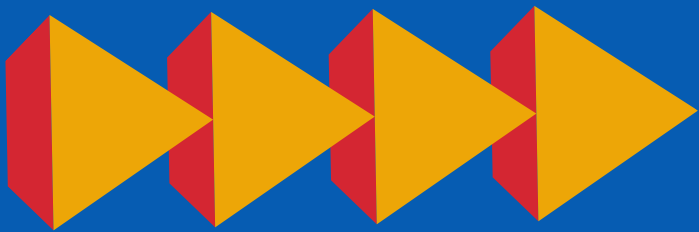
*2020 data unavailable as it cannot be directly compared to current and previous data due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on data collection

Food Environment Index*



*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)

Chronic and Preventable Disease

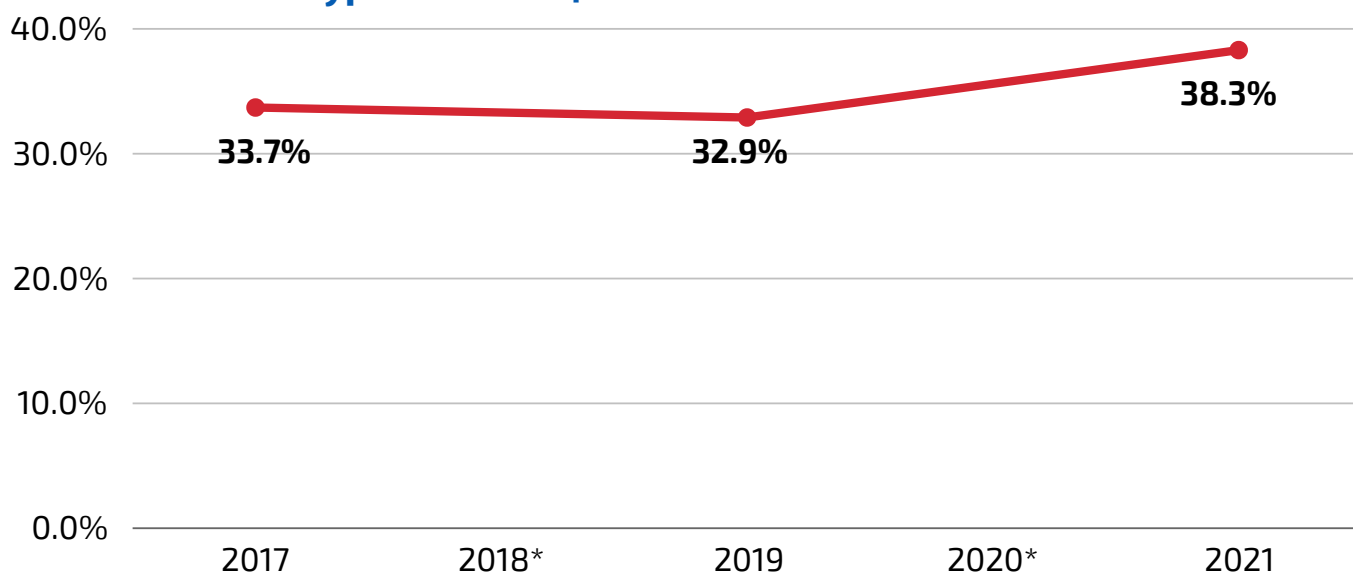


Chronic and Preventable Disease

Heart Disease

Heart Disease was the leading cause of death in Washington County. In 2021, 38.3% of Washington County Residents, aged 18 and older reported that they had high blood pressure. The prevalence of Coronary Heart Disease and/or Heart Attack decreased from 7.1% in 2018 to 5.0% in 2021. The prevalence of Stroke followed a similar downward trend, with 1.5% of adult residents in Washington County reported that they had a stroke.

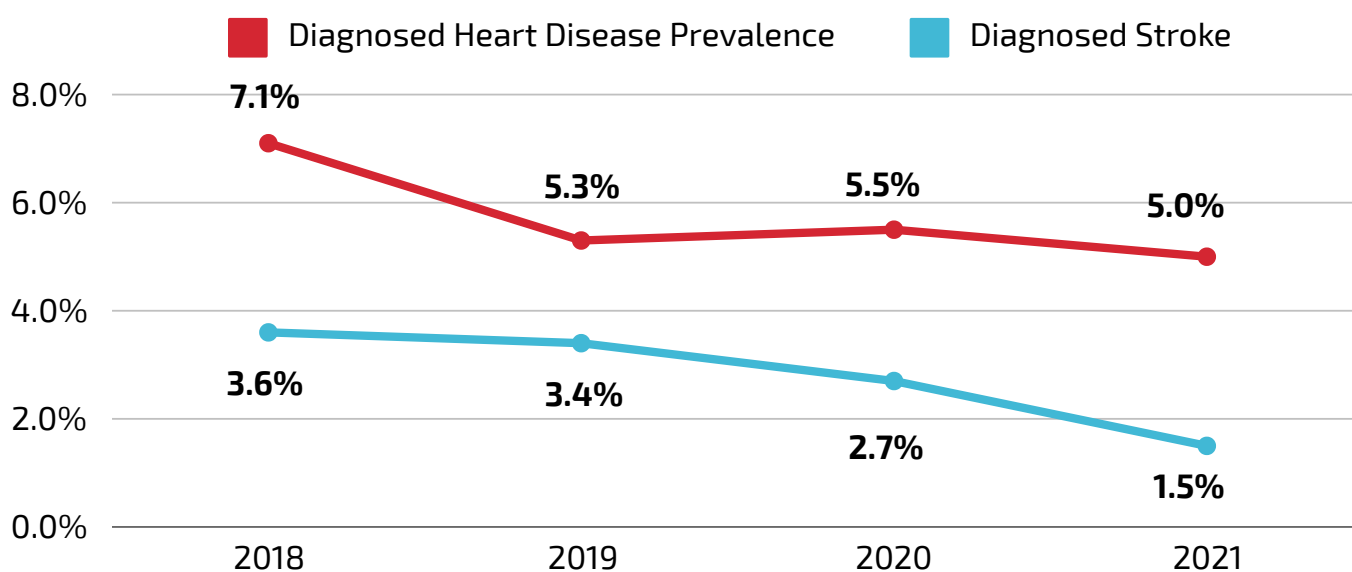
Prevalence of Hypertension †



*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. Hypertension was not measured in the 2018 iteration of BRFSS.

† Excluding individuals told only during pregnancy and diagnosed with borderline hypertension. Adjusted for age.

Prevalence of Heart Disease* and Stroke †



*Heart disease defined as being diagnosed with coronary heart disease and/or heart attack/myocardial infarction

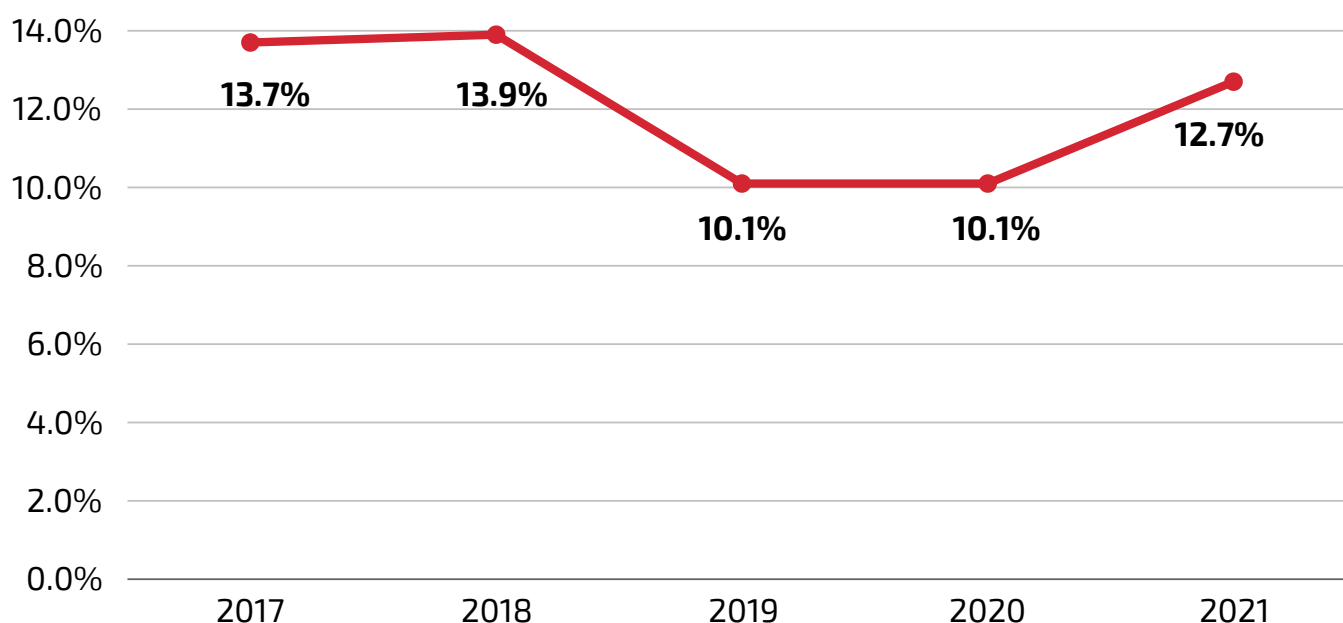
† Adjusted for age.

Chronic and Preventable Disease

Diabetes

The amount of Washington County residents diagnosed with diabetes decreased from 2018 to 2019 and remained unchanged through 2020. In 2021, the prevalence rose to 12.7%, higher than that of both Maryland and the United States overall.

Prevalence of Diabetes †



† Excluding individuals told only during pregnancy and diagnosed with borderline hypertension. Adjusted for age.

Diabetes Prevalence by Race †

Age-Adjusted Diabetes Prevalence	2021
White, Alone	8.4%
Black, Alone	11.7%
Other Race, Alone	12.1%
Asian, Alone	13.4%
Hispanic or Latino	9.1%

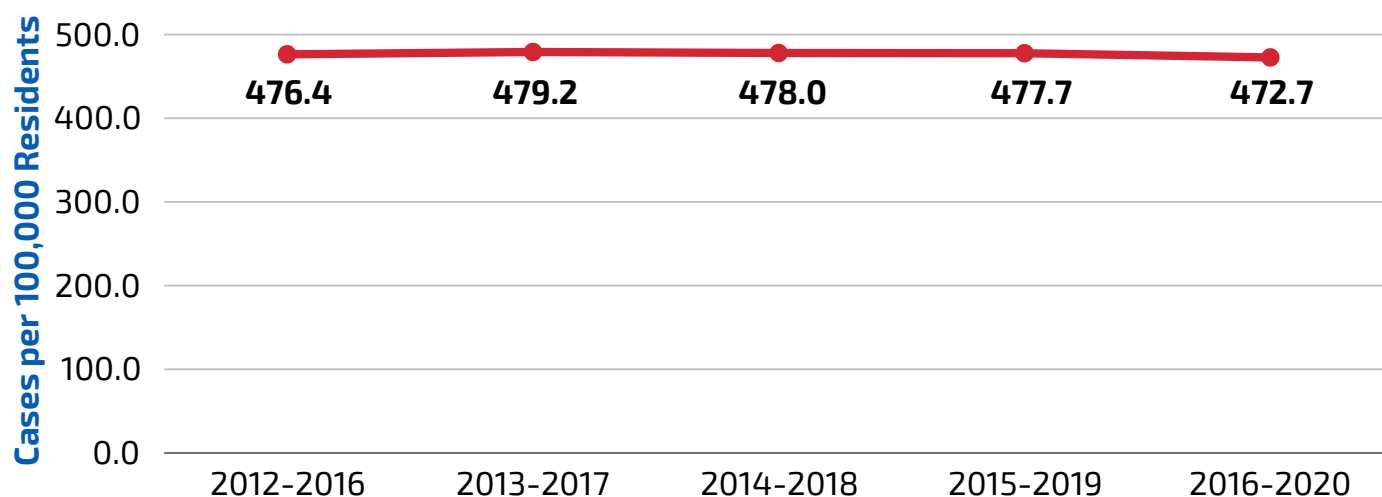
† Excluding individuals told only during pregnancy and diagnosed with borderline hypertension.

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



All Cancer Incidence †

Cancer Incidence by Gender	2016-2020
Female	466.2
Male	491.5
Cancer Incidence by Race/Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	480.7
Non-Hispanic Black	489.0
Hispanic or Latino	218.3
Non-Hispanic Asian	192.0

† Adjusted for age. Cases per 100,000 population

Chronic and Preventable Disease

Cancer Mortality

Cancer was one of the leading causes of death in Washington County. The mortality rate of cancer from 2016 to 2020 was 161.7 deaths per 100,000 residents. Cancer mortality was higher amongst males and Non-Hispanic Whites. Lung and bronchus cancer had the highest mortality rates of all common forms of cancer.

Cancer Mortality †

	2016-2020
Overall Cancer Mortality Rate	161.7
Cancer Mortality by Gender	
Female	139.0
Male	191.7
Cancer Mortality by Race/Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	164.0
Non-Hispanic Black	161.1
Cancer Mortality by Type	
Breast Cancer*	21.5
Colon and Rectum	15.7
Lung and Bronchus	41.0
Pancreas	9.1
Prostate	15.2

† Adjusted for age. Deaths per 100,000 population *Mortality rate calculated only for female breast cancer deaths

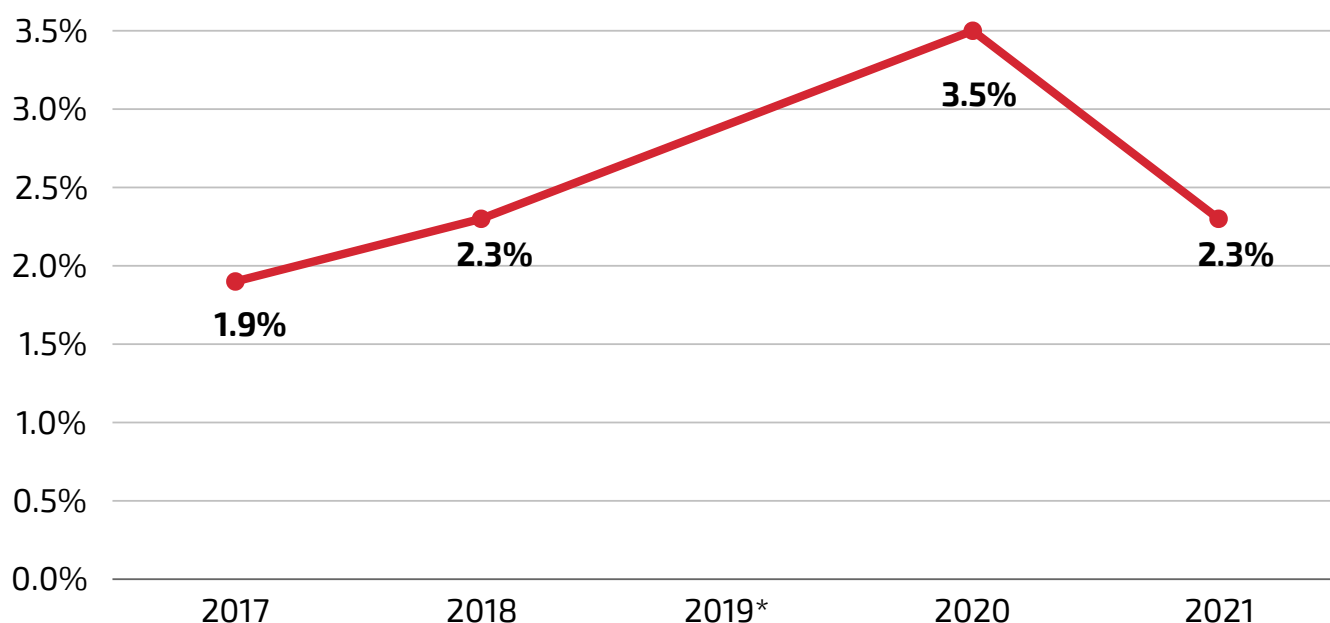
Data Source: [National Cancer Institute, State Cancer Profiles](#)

Chronic and Preventable Disease

Kidney Disease

The number of Washington County residents diagnosed with kidney disease rose steadily from 1.9% in 2017 to 3.5% in 2020. The prevalence of kidney disease in Washington County fell to 2.3% in 2021, similar to that of Maryland and the United States.

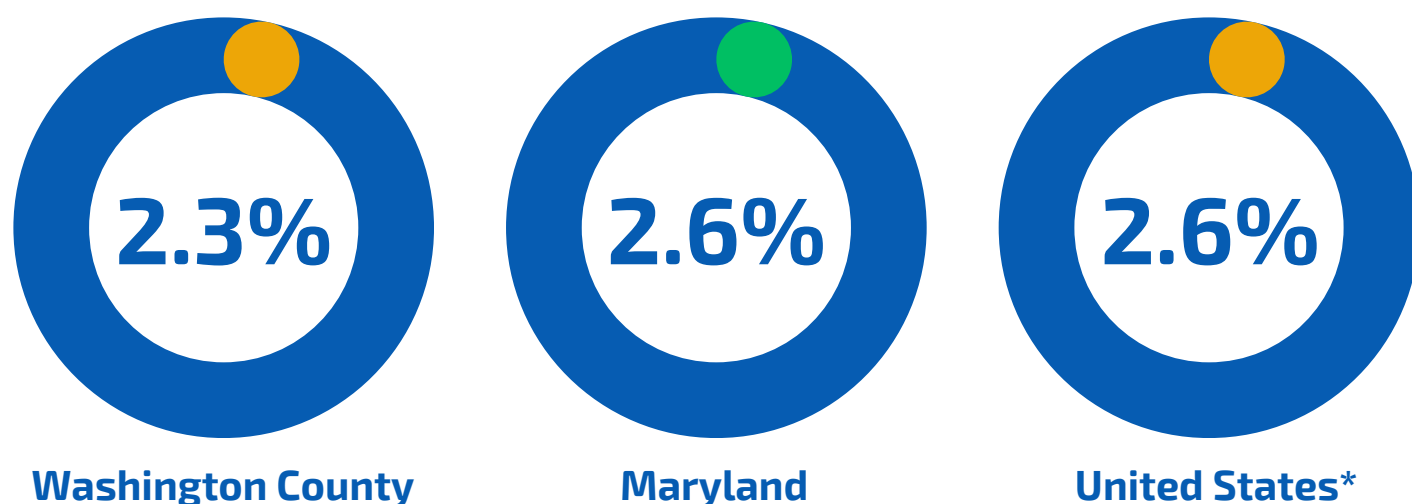
Prevalence of Kidney Disease †



* 2019 data is unavailable due to being suppressed.

† Adjusted for age.

Comparison of 2021 Kidney Disease Prevalence Rates



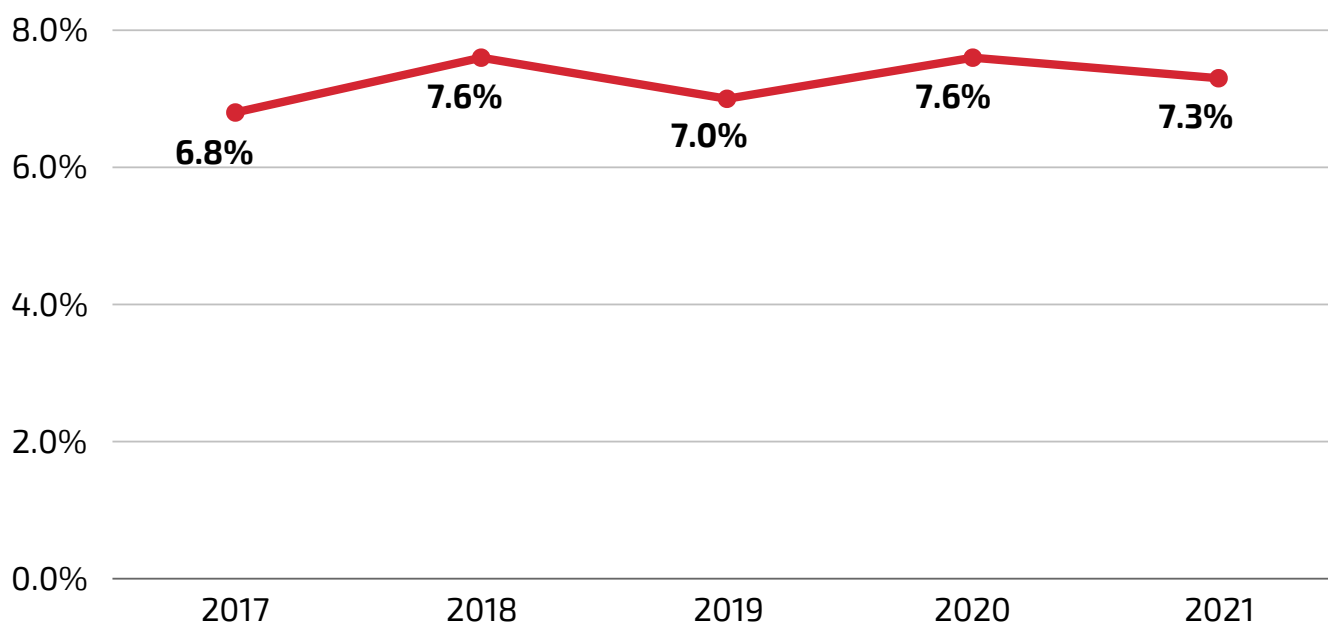
*US estimate/number is based on fewer than 50 states and the District of Columbia

Chronic and Preventable Disease

Lung Disease

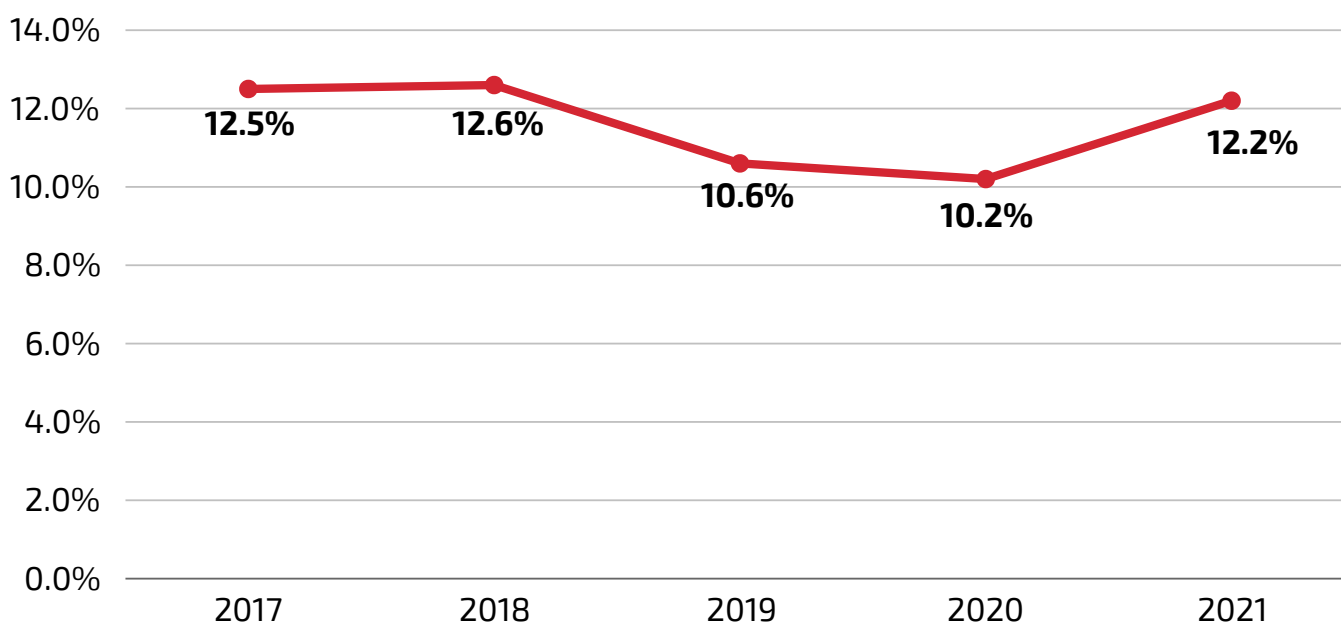
In 2021, 7.3% of Washington County residents had been diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, which was a slight decrease from 7.6% in 2020. COPD is often caused by long-term exposures to respiratory irritants like cigarette smoke and toxic fumes. Rates of Asthma increased by 2% in 2021 compared to 2020. Both COPD and Asthma are illnesses that cannot be cured, but can be controlled by limiting exposures and medical treatment.

Prevalence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease †



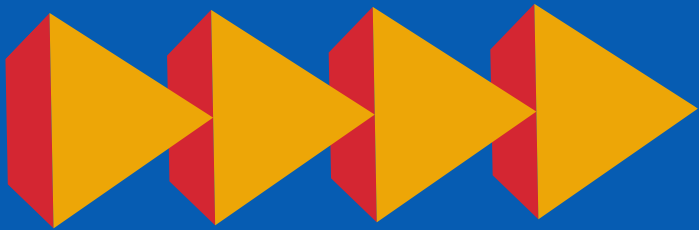
† Excluding individuals told only during pregnancy and diagnosed with borderline hypertension. Adjusted for age.

Prevalence of Asthma †



† Individuals with a current diagnosis of Asthma

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

	2020	2021	2022
<u>Campylobacteriosis</u>	26	45	36
<u>Giardiasis</u>	8	3	1
<u>Hepatitis B - Acute</u>	2	0	0
<u>Hepatitis C - Acute</u>	2	6	0
<u>Hepatitis C - Perinatal</u>	1	3	1
<u>Legionellosis</u>	5	10	8
<u>Lyme Disease</u>	42	38	0
<u>Malaria</u>	1	2	4
<u>Aseptic/Viral Meningitis</u>	3	3	11
<u>Mycobacteriosis</u>	16	19	13
<u>Salmonellosis</u>	20	21	26
<u>Shiga toxin producing E.coli</u>	5	8	12
<u>Strep A</u>	12	17	34

Infectious Disease

Select Reportable Diseases

Outbreaks and animal bites are also included in the conditions and events reported to public health officials. Animal bite incidents in Washington County increased slightly from 2021 to 2022.

Counts of Select Reportable Diseases (cont.)

	2020	2021	2022
<u>Strep B</u>	16	26	13
<u>Strep pneumoniae</u>	13	9	24
<u>Tuberculosis</u>	1	2	3

Total Outbreaks/ Animal Bites

	2020	2021	2022
<u>Rabies - Animal</u>	15	6	6
Animal Bites	435	335	344
Outbreaks			
Covid-19	152	263	280

Infectious Disease

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)

Over the past three years, there has been a decrease in cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and HIV in Washington County. However, cases of congenital syphilis, primary and secondary syphilis have risen, with the highest increases seen in those in late or unknown stages.

Counts of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

	2020	2021*	2022
Chlamydia	709	-	662
Gonorrhea	326	-	241
HIV**	9	12	7
Syphilis			
Total Acquired Syphilis	102	-	37
Congenital	4	-	2
Primary and Secondary	37	-	7
Unknown or Late Duration	41	-	17

*2021 Data unavailable due to Maryland Department of Health network incident

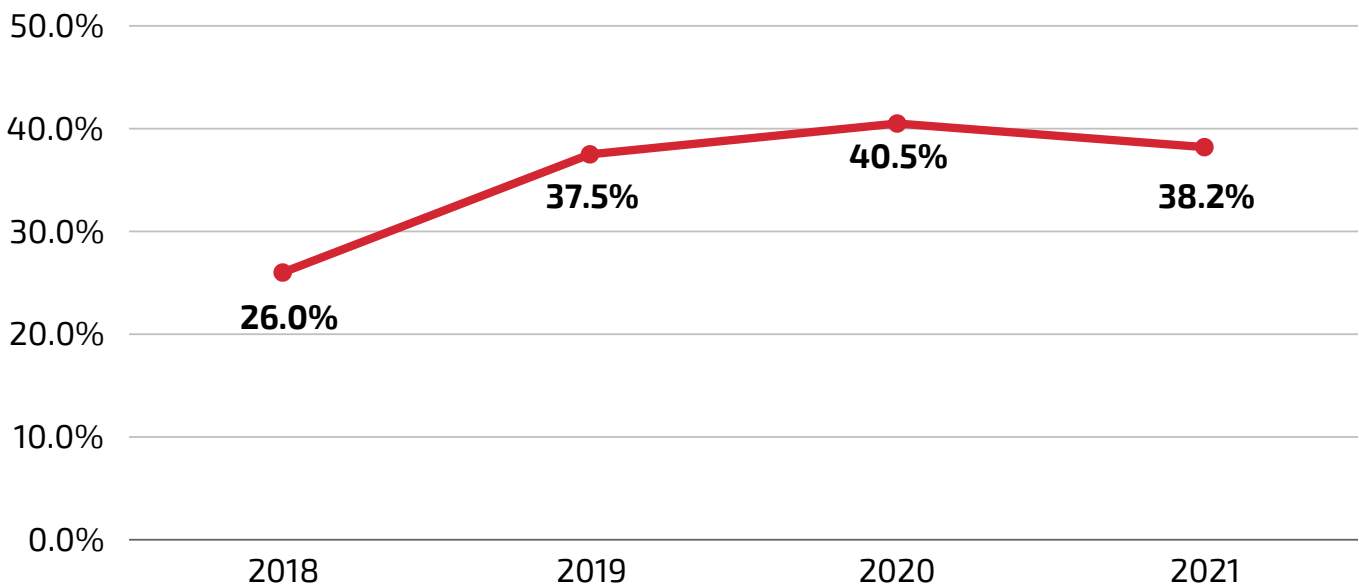
**Count of new HIV diagnoses

Infectious Disease

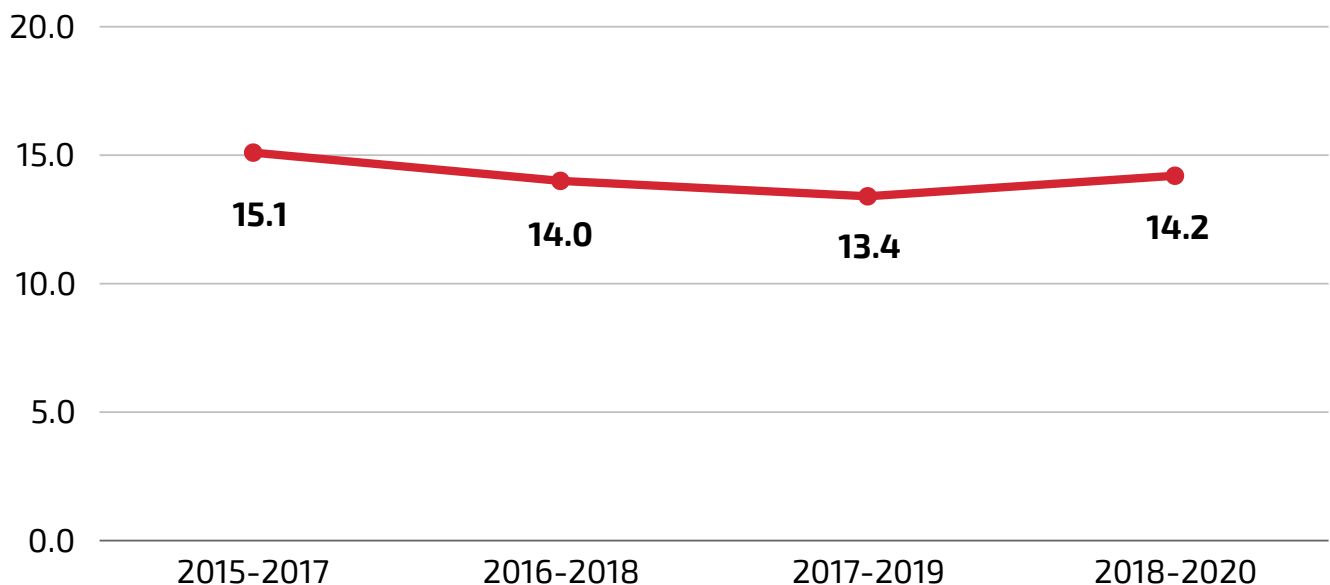
Flu

From 2018 to 2020, the flu vaccination rate rose to 40.5% of Washington County residents until 2021, when it declined to 38.2%. The inverse occurred with the flu death rate, which fell and then increased to 14.2 deaths per 100,000 population from 2018-2020.

Flu Vaccination Rates



Flu Death Rates



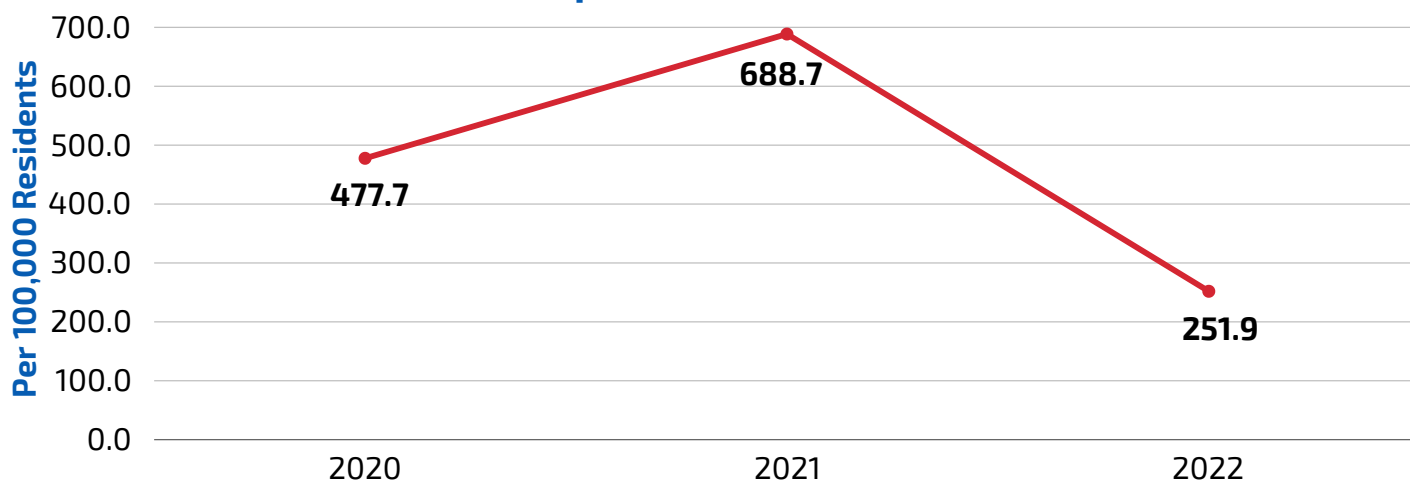
† Death per 100,000 population.

Infectious Disease

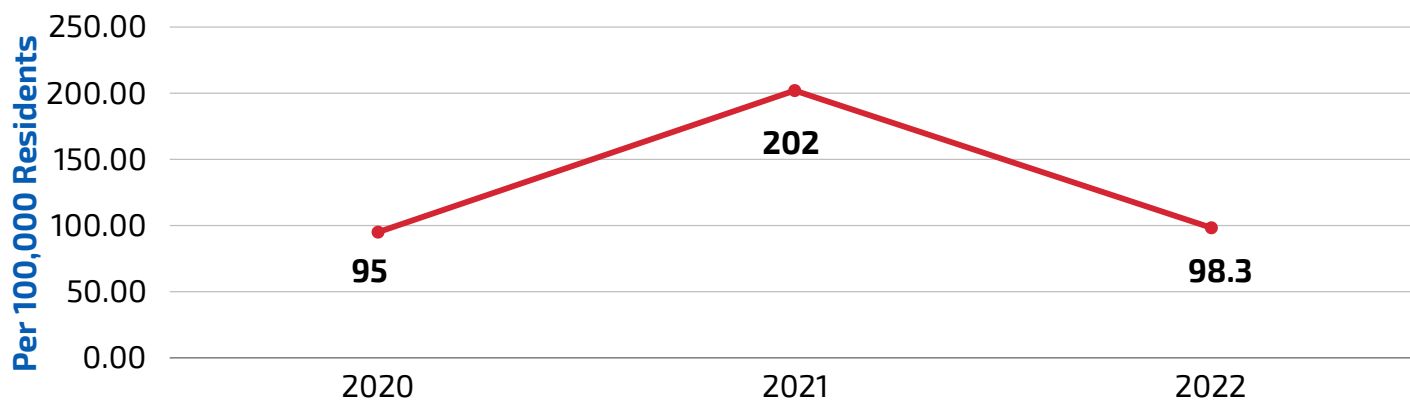
COVID-19

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, there have been 2,369 hospitalizations of Covid-19 positive residents and 673 deaths in our county. Hospitalizations and deaths sharply increased in 2021, mostly amongst older adults, with the introduction of more transmissible Covid variants. However, these numbers have since decreased due to the wide availability of Covid-19 vaccinations and therapeutics to prevent severe illness.

Crude Rate of COVID-19 Hospitalizations



Crude Rate of COVID-19 Deaths



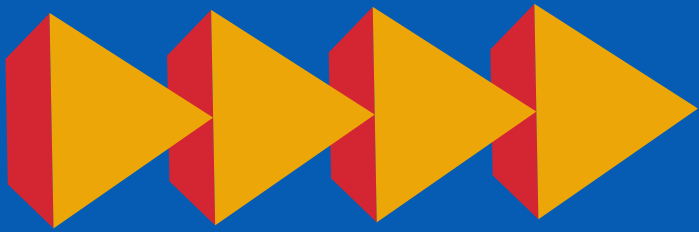
COVID-19 Vaccination Rates*

	Overall	5 and older	18 and older	65 and older
At least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine	69.3%	73.1%	80%	95%
Completed their primary vaccination series	62.1%	65.7%	71.8%	90.3%

*Data as of May 11, 2023

Data Source: CRISP Covid-19 Dashboard, [Maryland Department of Health Infectious Disease Bureau](#), [CDC Covid Data Tracker](#)

Maternal and Infant Health



Maternal and Infant Health

Live Births

In 2021, there were 1,591 live births in Washington County, down from 1,686 in 2020. Of those live births, 1,222 were non-Hispanic White and 257 were non-Hispanic Black. Live births were greatest amongst those aged 25-34, followed by those aged 18-24.

Live Births by Demographics

	2020	2021
Live Births	1,686	1,591
Race/Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	1,222	1,045
Non-Hispanic Black	257	225
Non-Hispanic American Indian	0	1
Non-Hispanic Asian	29	42
Hispanic or Latino	176	197
Age		
Under 18	17	18
18-24	447	392
25-34	970	923
35-44	245	257
45 and Over	7	1

Maternal and Infant Health

Live Births

Maternal education is one of many factors that can affect infant and maternal health. In Washington County, mothers' most frequently obtained between 13-15 years of education.

In 2021, 165 infants born in Washington County were reported to have a low birthweight (<2500 g). The overall percentage of low birthweight infants went unchanged from 2020 to 2021. Non-Hispanic Black infants were more frequently born at a low birthweight in 2021.

Maternal Education

	2021
0-8 years	30
9-11 years	166
12 years	491
13-15 years	501
16+ years:	401

Low Birthweight

	2020		2021	
Overall	176	10.4%	165	10.4%
Race/Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic White	119	9.7%	103	9.9%
Non-Hispanic Black	37	14.4%	29	12.9%
Non-Hispanic Asian	5	-%	1	-%
Hispanic	15,	-%	19	-%*

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

Data Source: 2021 MDH Vital Statistics Data - Washington, 2020 MDH Annual Vital Statistics Report

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 decrease in pregnant people who received care in their first trimester, dropping from 1,184 in 2020 to 1,089 in 2021.

Trimester of Prenatal Care by Race/Ethnicity

	First Trimester Prenatal Care		Late (Third Trimester) or No Prenatal Care	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
Overall	1,184	1,089 (69.5%)	104	90 (5.7%)
Race/Ethnicity				
White, NH	887	751 (72.9%)	62	44 (4.3%)
Black, NH	164	145 (65.6%)	27	14 (6.3%)
Asian, NH	21	31 (68.9%)	1	3 (6.6%)
Hispanic	111	110 (56.7%)	14	21 (10.8%)

Maternal and Infant Health

Live Births

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 declined from 4.8% of live births in 2020 to 4.5% in 2021. When broken down by race and ethnicity, there was a higher prevalence of teen pregnancy among non-Hispanic Black teens than non-Hispanic White teens in both 2020 and 2021. Both groups saw a decline in teen pregnancies from 2020 to 2021.

Teen Pregnancy

	2020	2021
Overall	81, 4.8%	72, 4.5%
Non-Hispanic White	46, 3.8%	38, 3.6%
Non-Hispanic Black	23, 8.9%	14, 6.2%*
Non-Hispanic Asian	1, -%*	0, 0%
Hispanic or Latino	11, 6.3%*	12, 6.1%*

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

Maternal and Infant Health

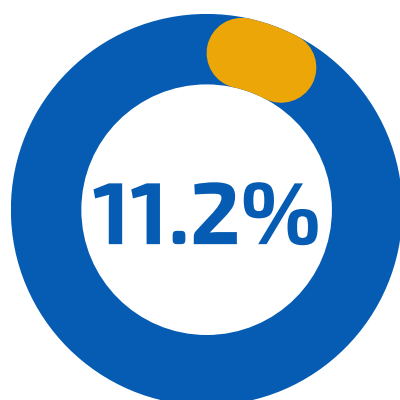
Live Births

In 2021, there was 72 pre-term births in Washington County, which made up 11.2% of the live births. Pre-term births happened at a greater frequency in Washington County compared to Maryland and the United States. 11% of live births amongst non-Hispanic white infants were pre-term and pre-term births occurred more frequently compared to other racial/ethnic groups.

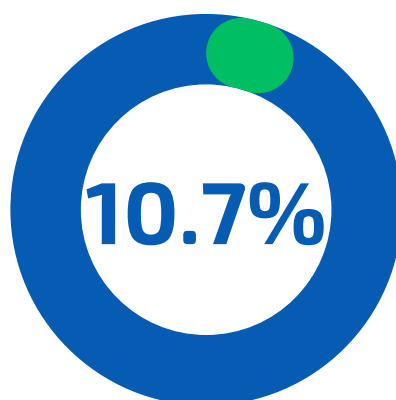
Preterm Births (before 37 weeks)

	2021	
Overall	72	11.2%
Race/Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	115	11.0%
Non-Hispanic Black	22	9.8%
Non-Hispanic Asian	5	-%
Hispanic or Latino	22	11.2%

Percentage of Pre-Term Births



Washington County



Maryland



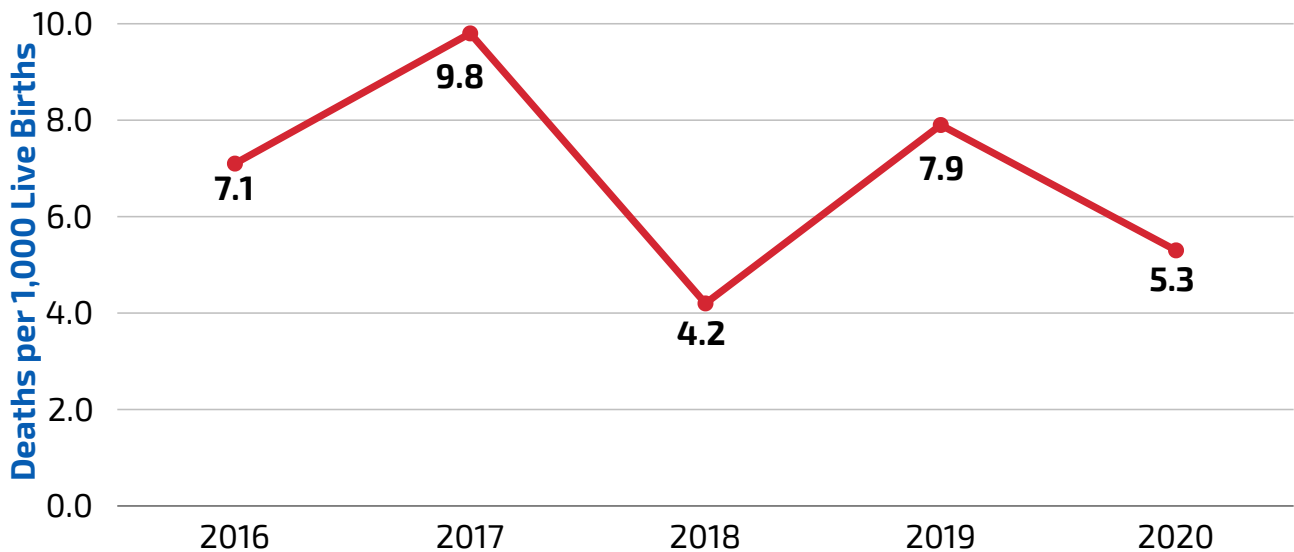
United States

Maternal and Infant Health

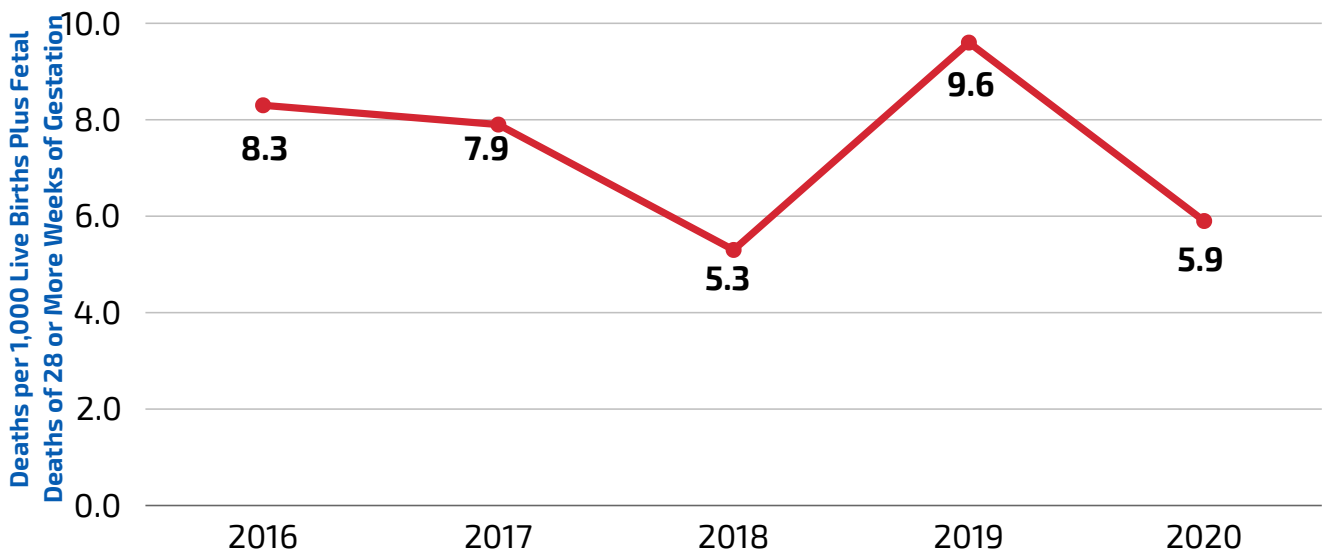
Infant and Perinatal Mortality

Infant mortality is measured as the death of an infant before their first birthday. Over the past three years, infant mortality has declined in Washington County. Perinatal mortality is measured as late fetal deaths at 28+ weeks of gestation and early newborns under age 7 days. The county perinatal mortality rate has followed trends similar to infant mortality, and significantly decreased in 2020.

Infant Mortality Rate



Perinatal Mortality Rate



Maternal and Infant Health

Maternal Vulnerability

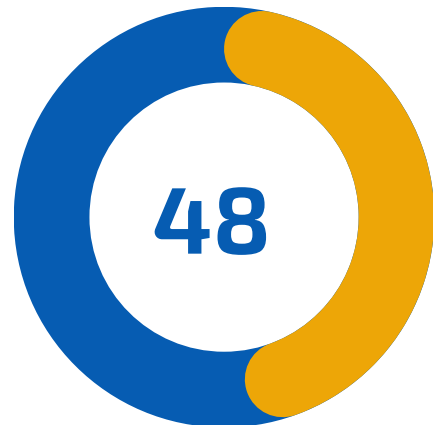
The Maternal Vulnerability Index (MVI) was created to reduce maternal mortality and address racial health disparities in the United States. The MVI ranks counties and states' vulnerability to poor pregnancy outcomes. A higher score on the MVI correlates to an increased risk of maternal death.

Washington County scored a 38.2 on the index, which was based on reproductive healthcare, physical health, mental health and substance abuse, general healthcare, socioeconomic determinants, and physical environment. Compared to Maryland, vulnerability to poor pregnancy outcomes are lower in Washington County.

Maternal Vulnerability Index

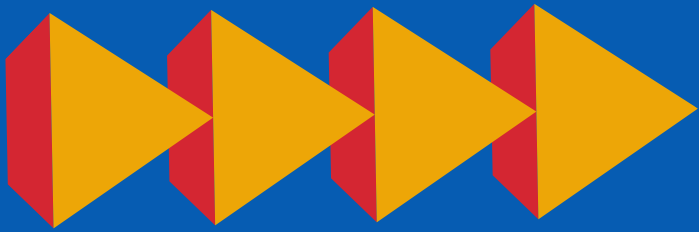


Washington County



Maryland

Behavioral Health



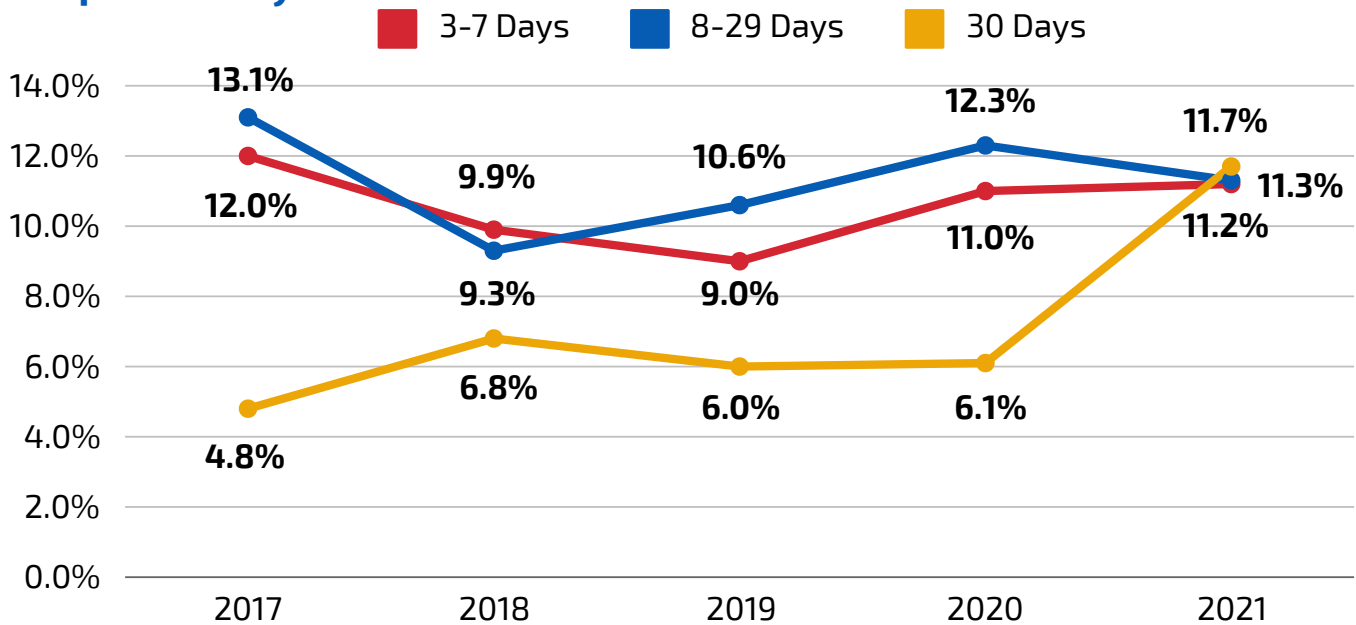
Behavioral Health

Mental Health

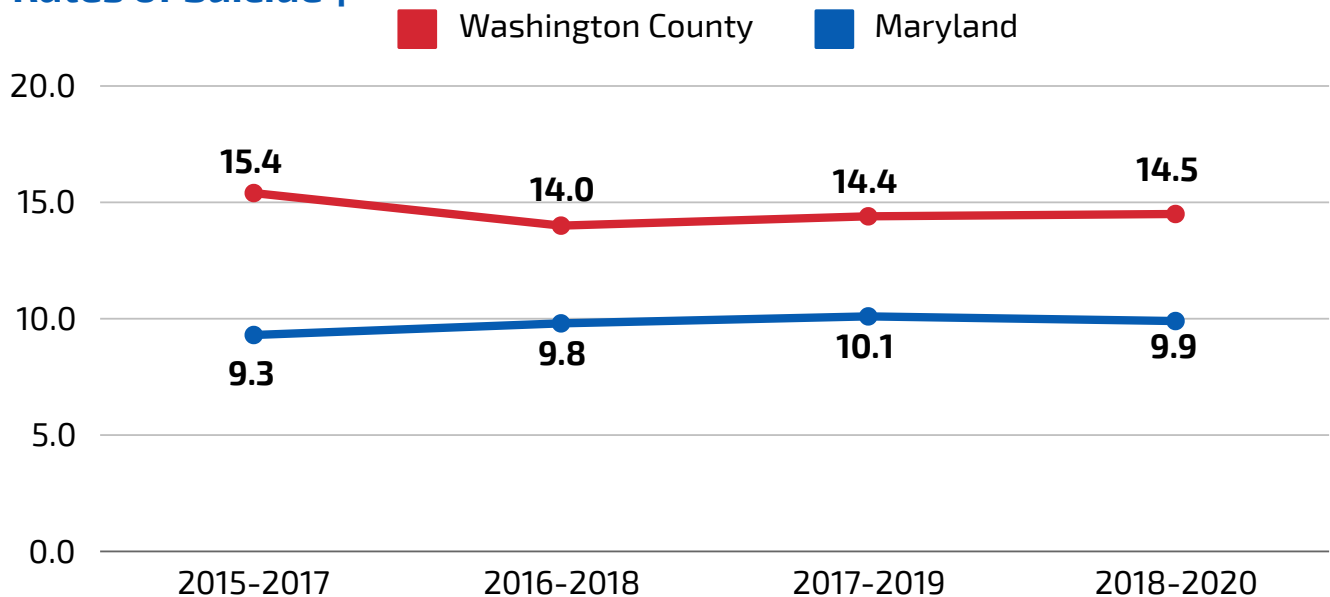
Washington County residents have been reporting increased amounts of poor mental health days. From 2020 to 2021, reports of 30 days of poor mental health increased from 6.1% to 11.7%.

Since 2015, suicide rates in Washington County have been greater than the overall rate in Maryland. Compared to 2017-2019 rates, suicide rates in the county have increased slightly.

Reported Days of Poor Mental Health



Rates of Suicide †



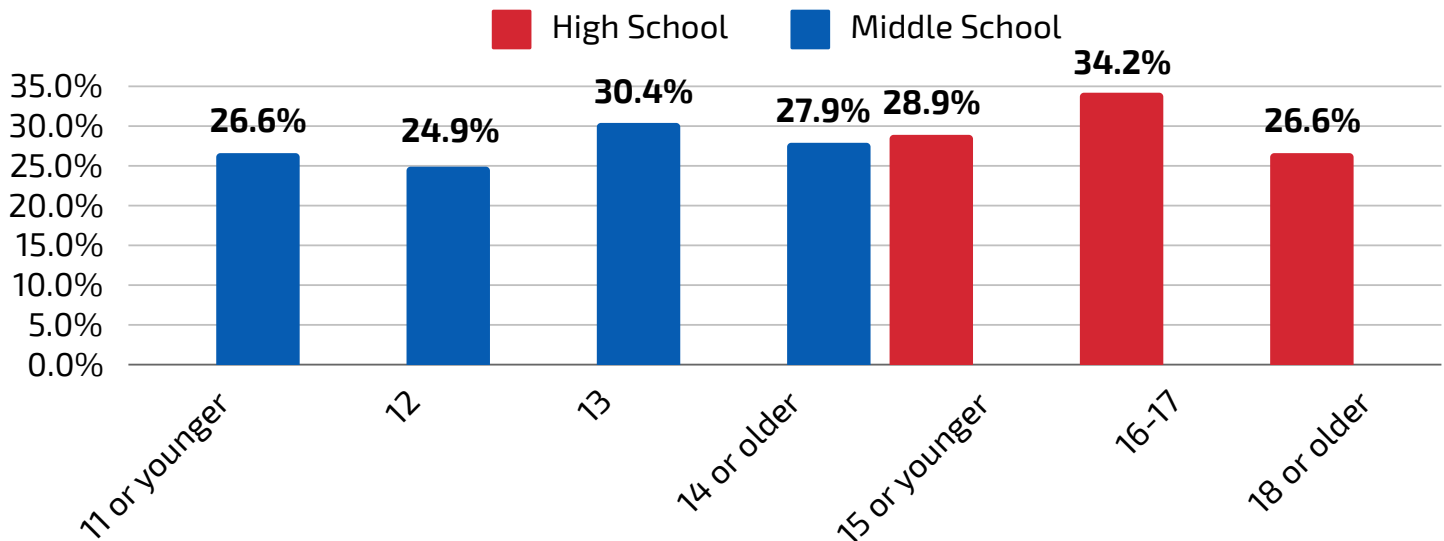
† Adjusted for age. Deaths per 100,000 population

Behavioral Health

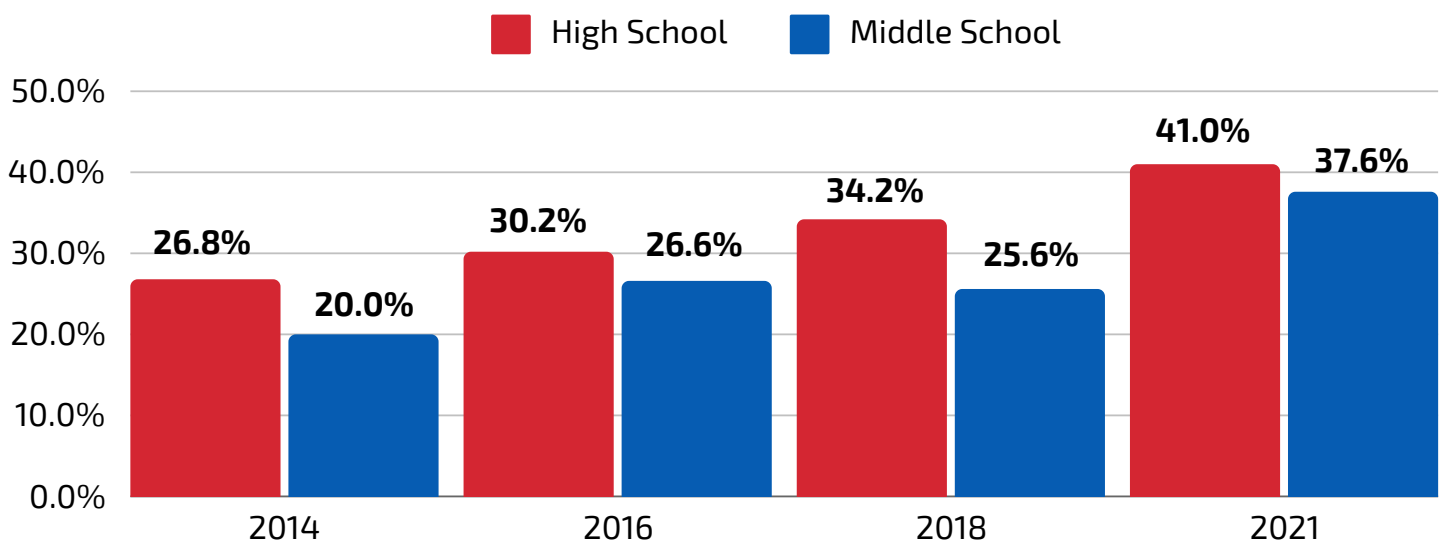
Adolescent Mental Health

Amongst middle school students, 30.4% of children aged 13 had reported they experienced poor mental health most days or always. The highest prevalence of this occurred amongst high school students aged 16-17 at 34.2%. For both middle and high school students in Washington County, reports of feeling sad or hopeless were at their greatest since 2014.

Percentage of students who reported that their mental health was most of the time or always not good (including stress, anxiety, and depression, during the 30 days before the survey) in 2021



Percentage of students who felt sad or hopeless almost every day for greater than 2 weeks in 2021

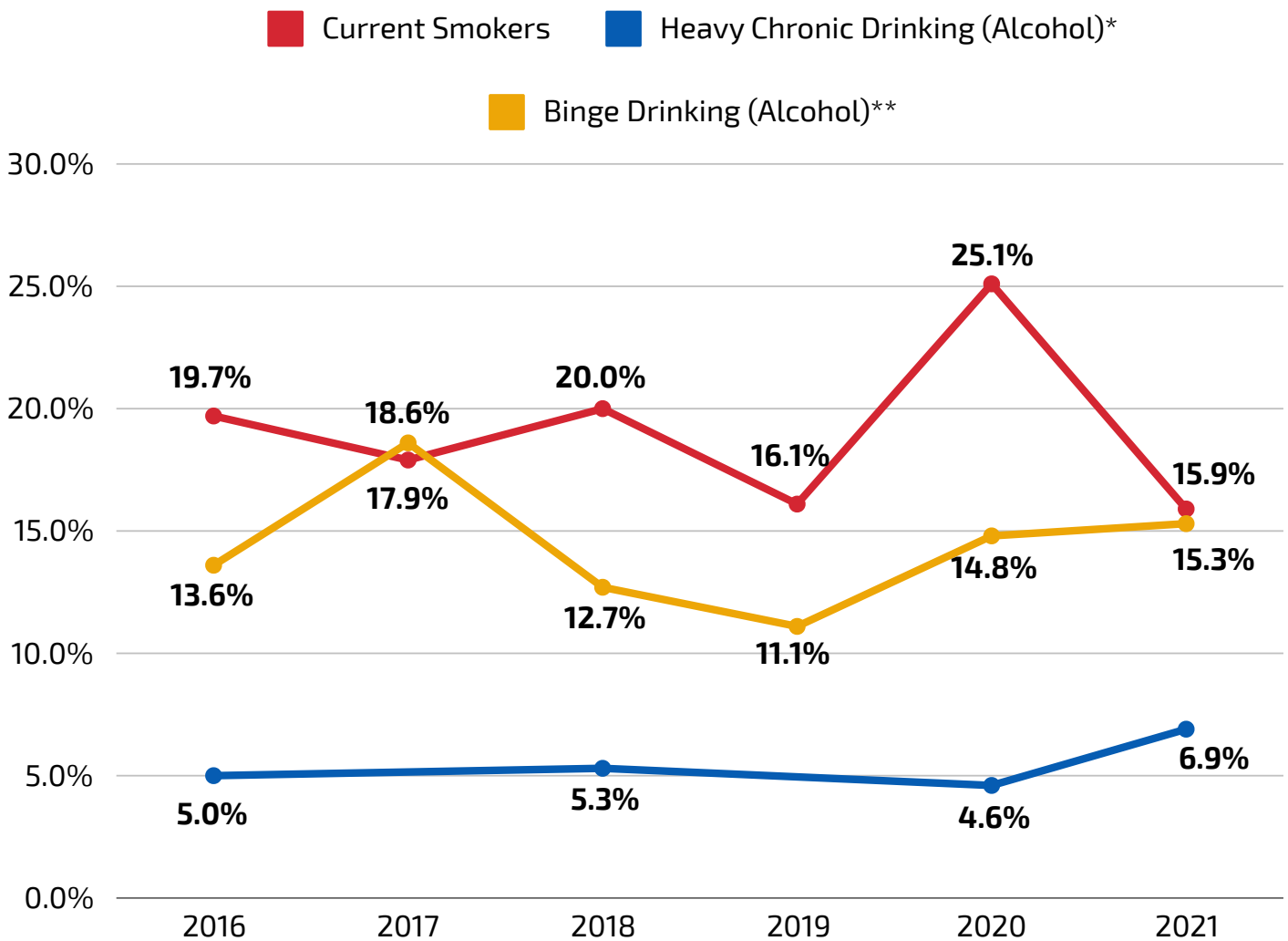


Behavioral Health

Substance Use

After a sharp increase in 2020, the amount of Washington County residents that reported they were current smokers fell to 15.9% in 2021. The prevalence of heavy chronic drinking has increased to 15.3%. Binge drinking has also increased to 6.9% since 2016.

Prevalence of Substance Use †



† Adjusted for age.

* Chronic drinking defined as 14 drinks per week for men, 7 drinks per week for women.

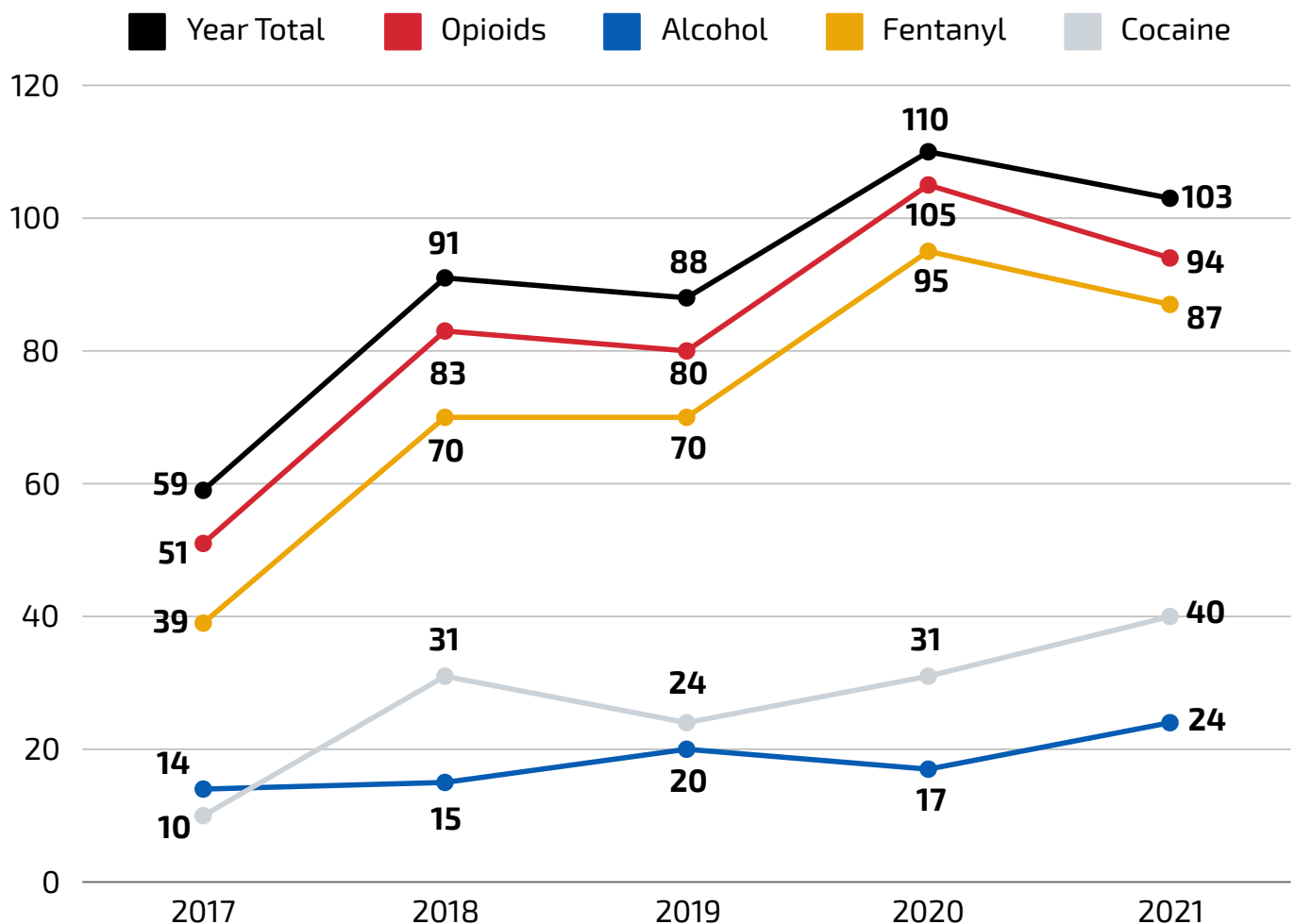
** Binge drinking defined as 5 or more drinks for in 30 days for men or 4 or more drinks in 30 days for women.

Behavioral Health

Overdoses

In Washington County, there were 103 drug and alcohol related deaths reported in 2021. Overdose deaths involving to opioids and fentanyl have followed a similar trend from 2017 to 2021 and have decreased in 2021. Opioid-related overdose deaths have remained the highest in Washington County compared to other substances. Cocaine and alcohol-related overdose deaths have increased since 2020.

Unintentional Drug and Alcohol Related Overdose Deaths**



* Overdose deaths may involve more than one substance.

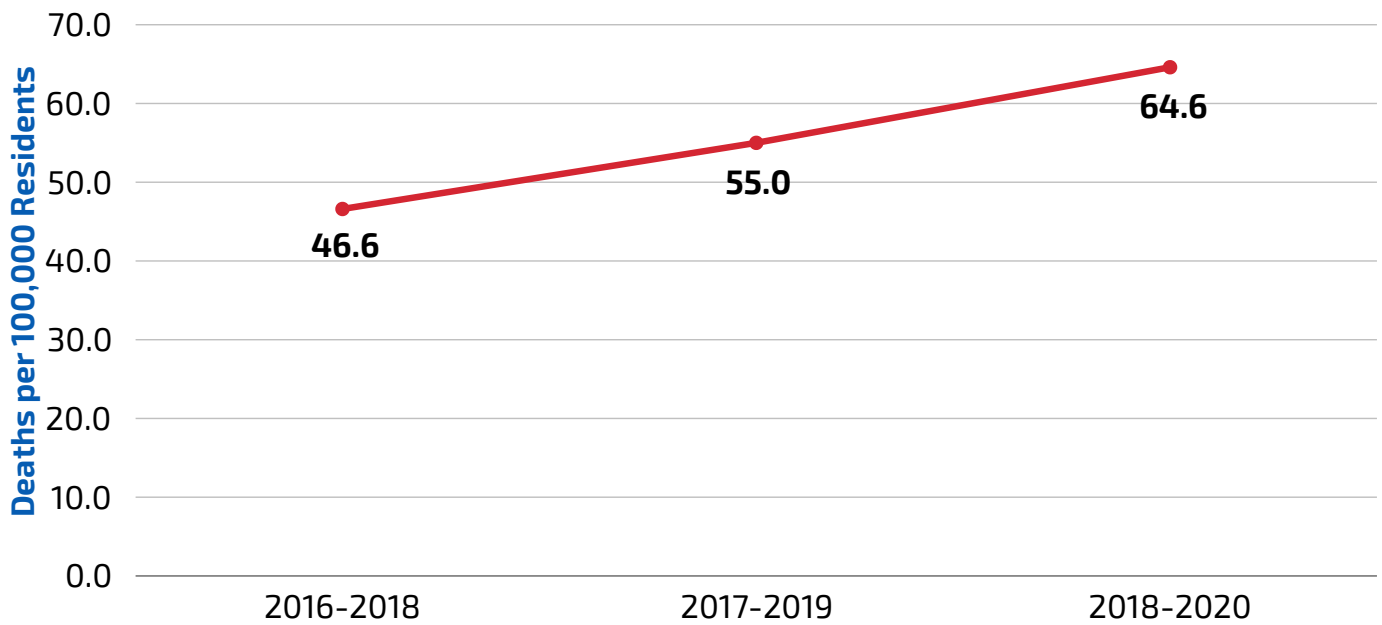
** By place of occurrence, may include non-Washington County residents.

Behavioral Health

Overdoses

From 2018 to 2020, the overdose death rate in Washington County was 64.6 deaths per 100,000 population - the highest reported rate since 2016. The overdose rate among non-Hispanic White residents was greater than that of non-Hispanic Black residents and the overall overdose rate for Washington County. The overdose rate amongst male residents was 87.9 deaths per 100,000 population and was also greater than the county rate.

Drug and Opioid-Involved Overdose Death Rates †

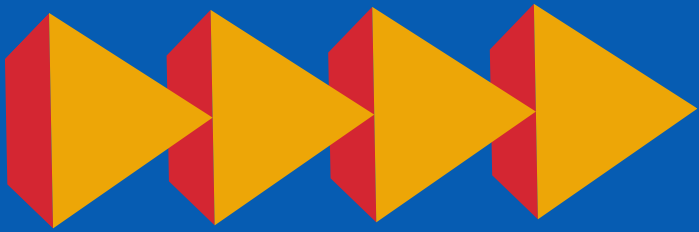


Drug and Opioid-Involved Overdose Death Rates by Race and Gender †

Race/Ethnicity	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020
Non-Hispanic White	48.6	57.2	69.4
Non-Hispanic Black	52.7	58.5	54.1
Gender			
Male	58.1	71.5	87.9
Female	33.3	36.3	37.7

† Adjusted for age. Deaths per 100,000 population.

Environmental Health

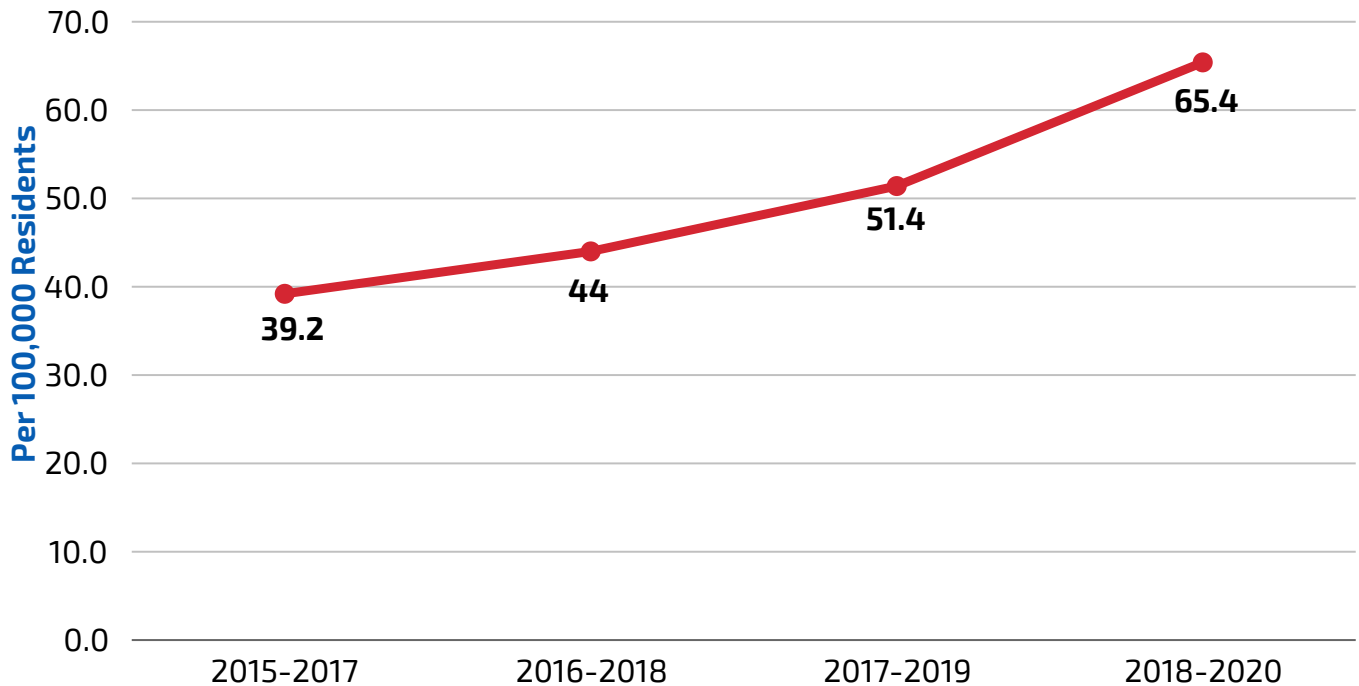


Environmental Health

Public Safety

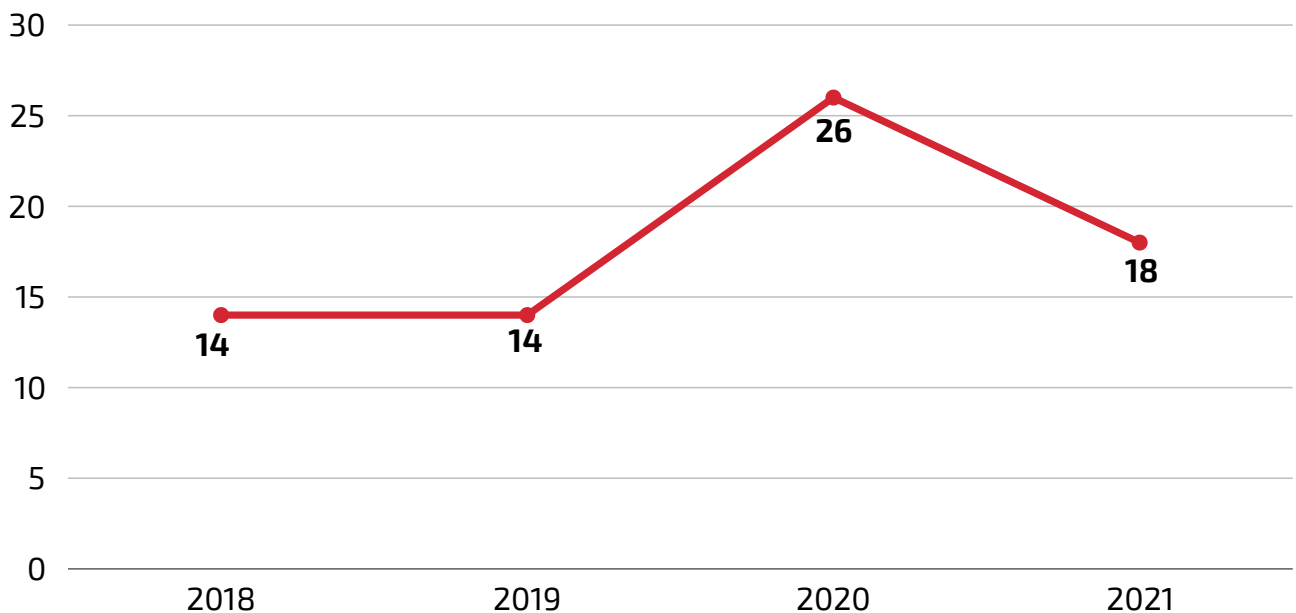
Accidental deaths have steadily increased since 2015, with the average mortality rate at it's highest from 2018-2020. Firearm related deaths saw an increase in 2020, however the total number began to decline in 2021.

Accidental Deaths - Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates †



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

Firearm Related Deaths †



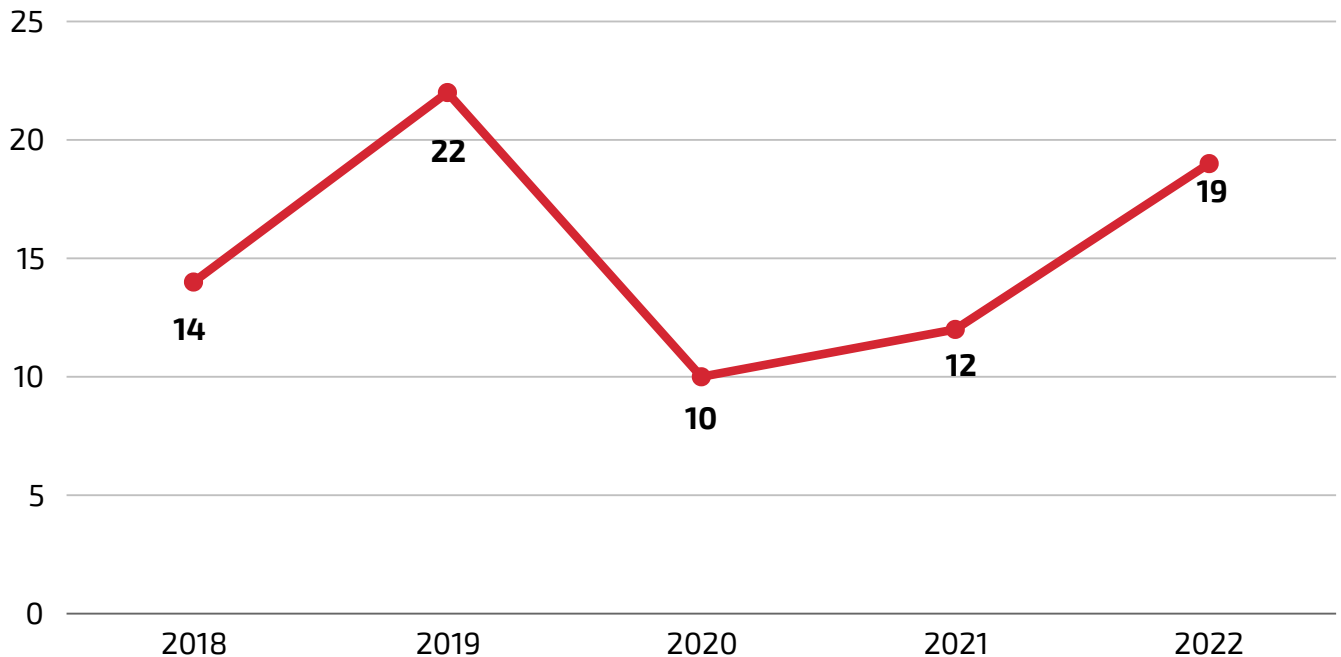
†Firearm related deaths are defined as any death related to the discharge of a firearm

Environmental Health

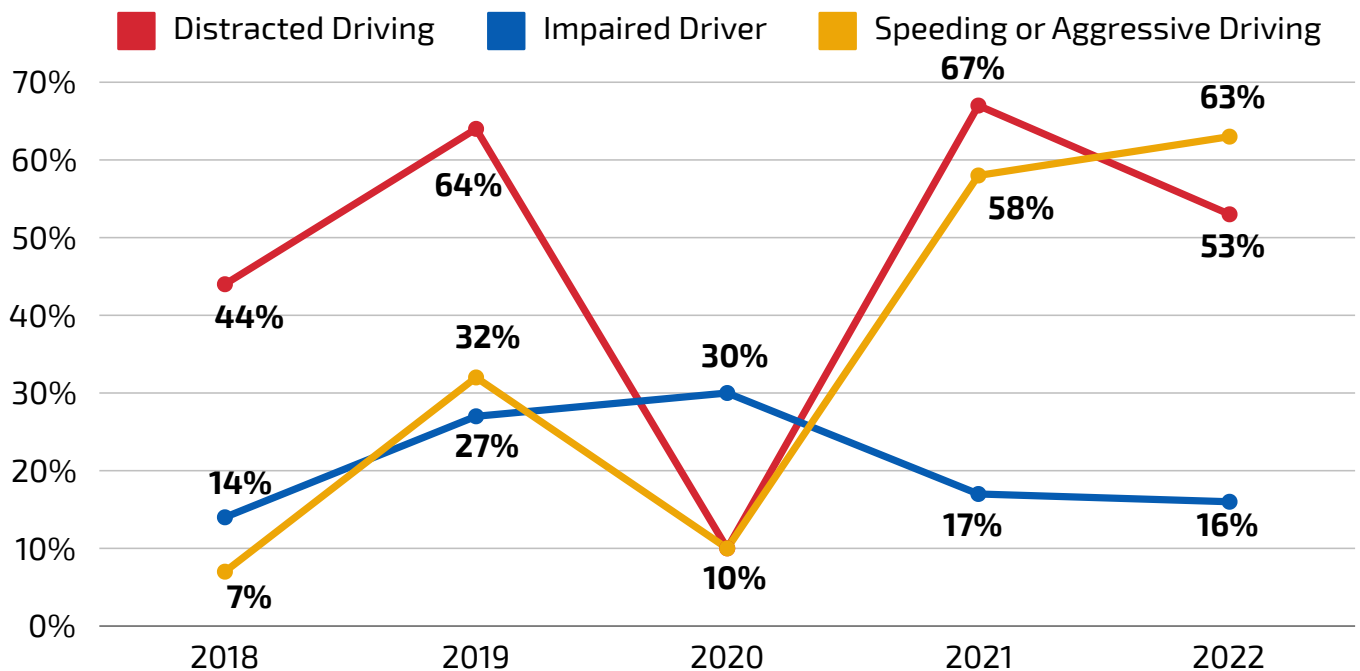
Motor Vehicle Crashes

While pandemic shutdowns most likely led to a sharp decline in motor vehicle crashes in 2020, the number of fatal crashes began to increase again in 2021 and 2022. Distracted driving was the most common cause for fatal motor vehicle crashes, closely followed by speeding or aggressive driving, with speeding or aggressive driving becoming the most common causes in 2022.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes



Causes of Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes



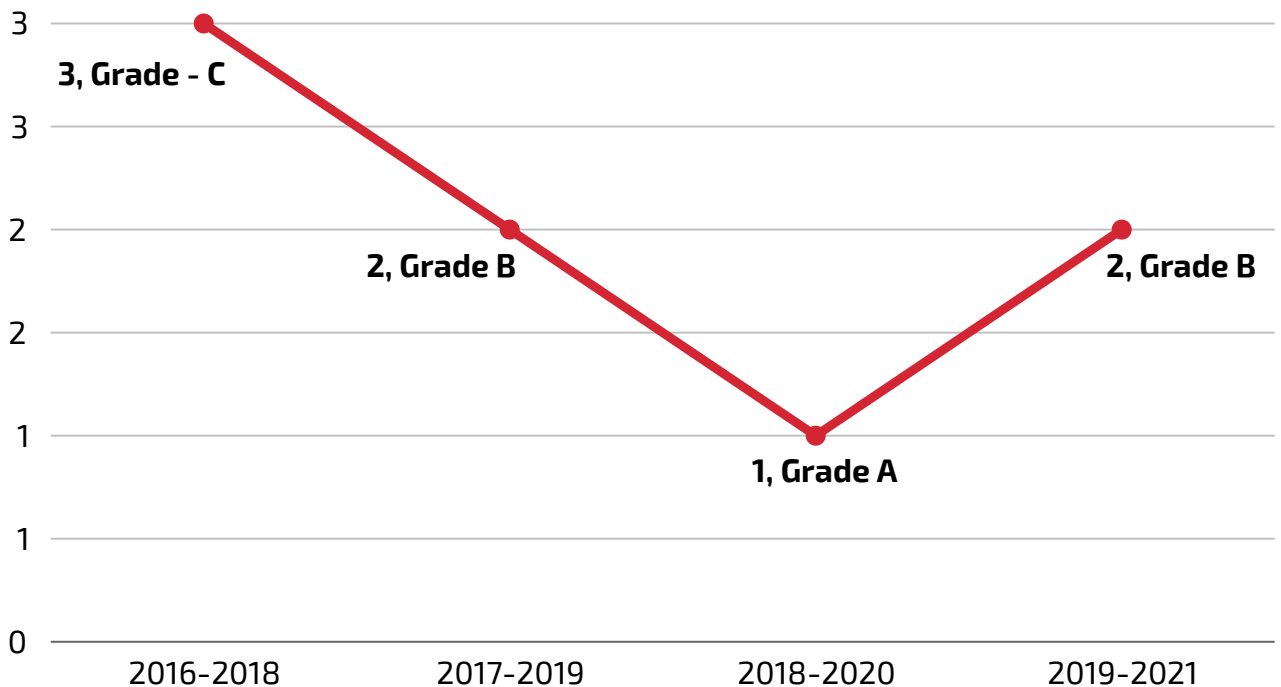
Data Source: Maryland Department of Transportation, MVA, Highway Safety Office, Fatal Crash Data

Environmental Health

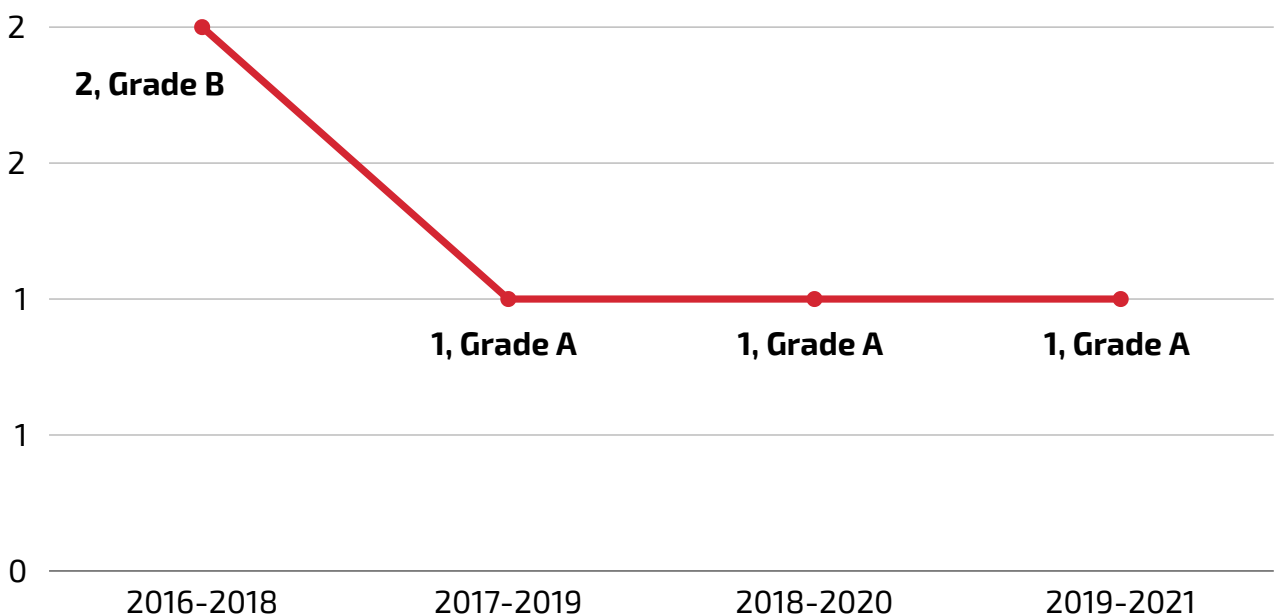
Air Quality

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 has steadily remained in higher grades based on EPA data assessed by the American Lung Association.

Annual Ozone Air Quality Grade



Annual Particle Pollution (PM2.5) Grade

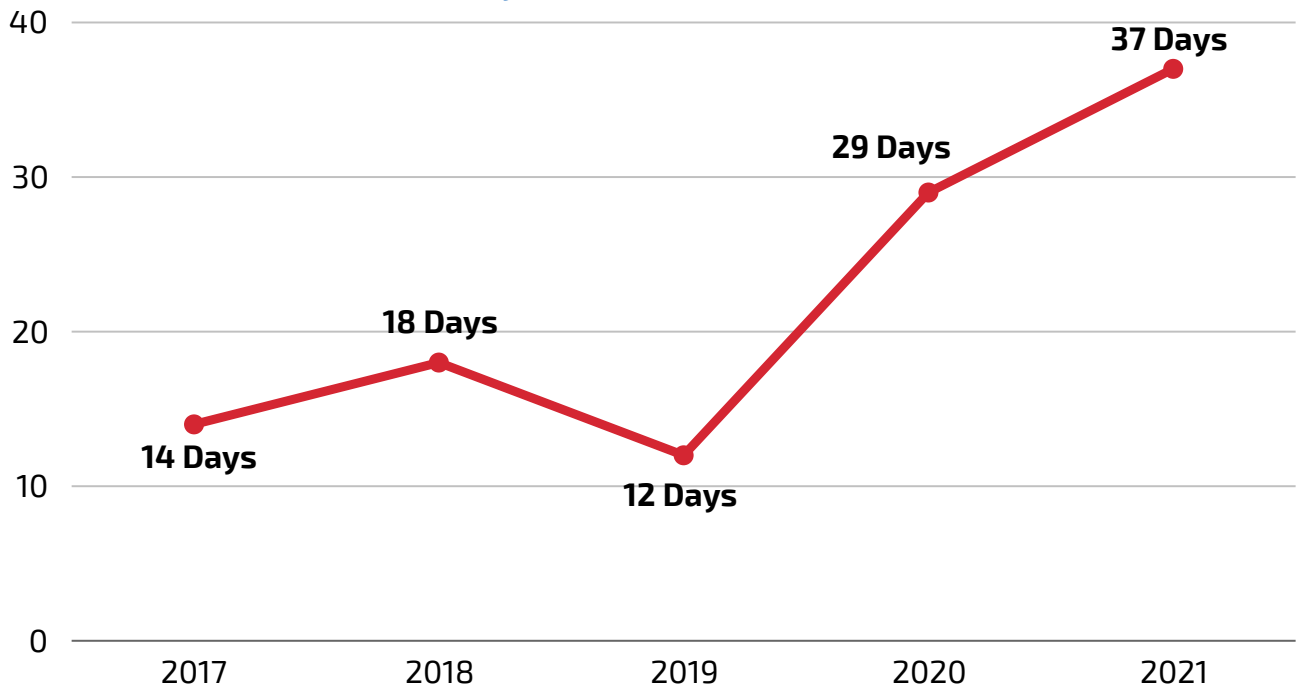


Environmental Health

Extreme Heat

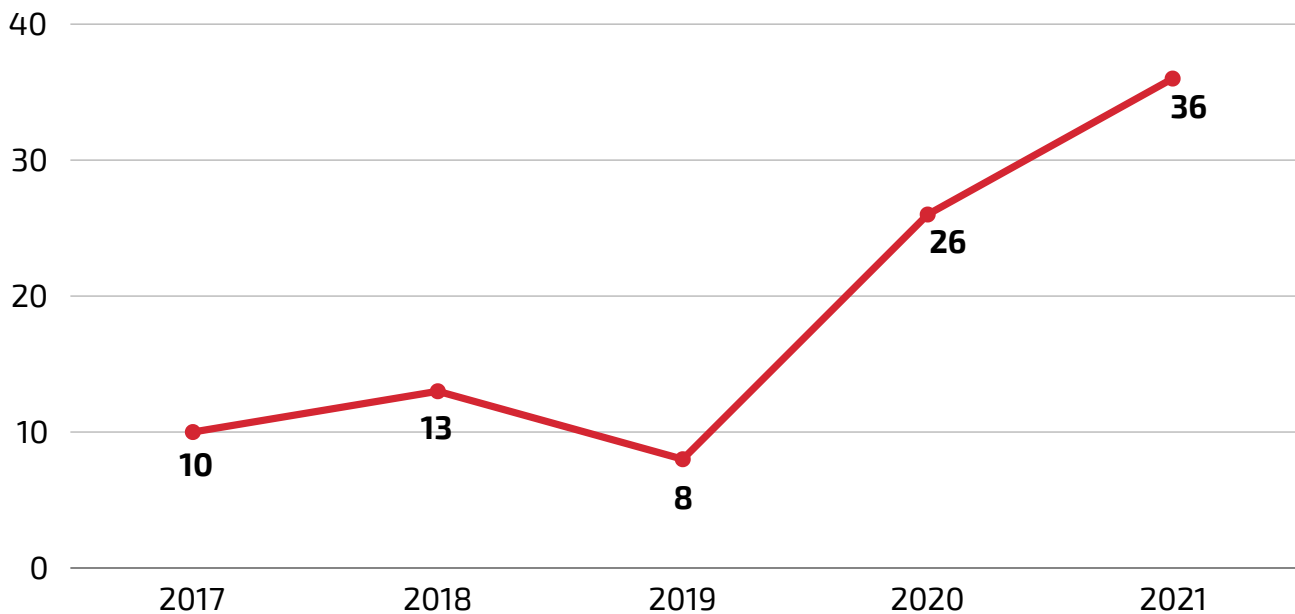
As a result of our warming climate, extreme heat days and events are becoming more prevalent in Washington County. The number of extreme heat days and waves per year have steadily increased since 2019, with highs of 37 extreme heat days and 36 extreme heat events in 2021.

Number of Extreme Heat Days*



*Extreme heat days are defined as days in which the daily max temperature exceeded the 90th percentile threshold of average daily maximum temperature. This measure is calculated using data from May-September each year

Number of Extreme Heat Events



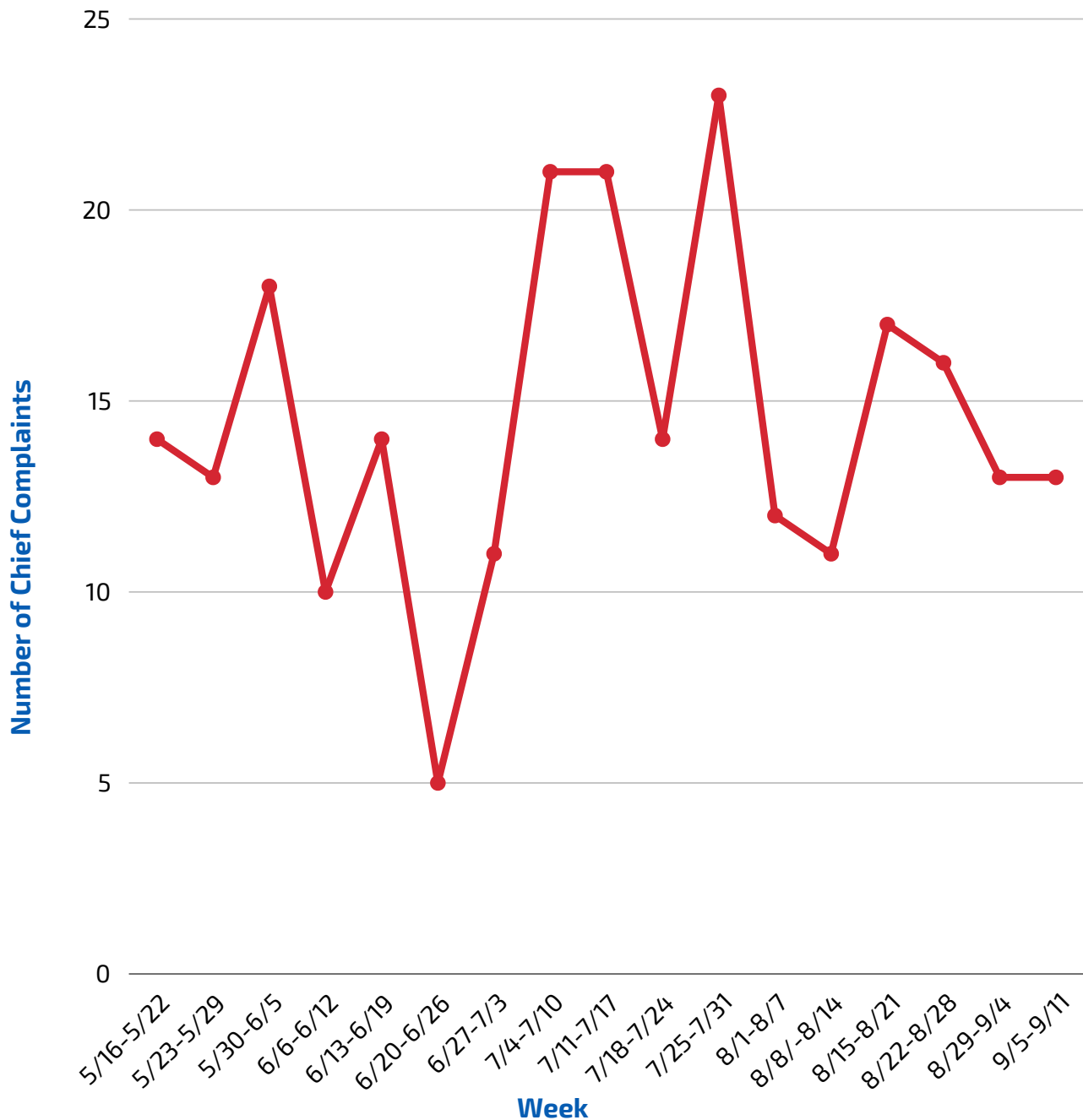
*Extreme heat events are defined as a minimum of two consecutive days in which the daily max temperature exceeded the 90th percentile threshold of average daily maximum temperature. This measure is calculated using data from May-September each year

Environmental Health

Extreme Heat

As summer temperatures rise, reports of heat-related illnesses have increased as well. In the 2023 heat season, there were a total of 246 heat-related ED and Urgent Care visits, with cases reaching their peak in July. For the overall 2023 heat season, only one heat-related death was reported in Washington County.

Emergency Department and Urgent Care Heat-Related Illness Chief Complaints* (May - September 2023)



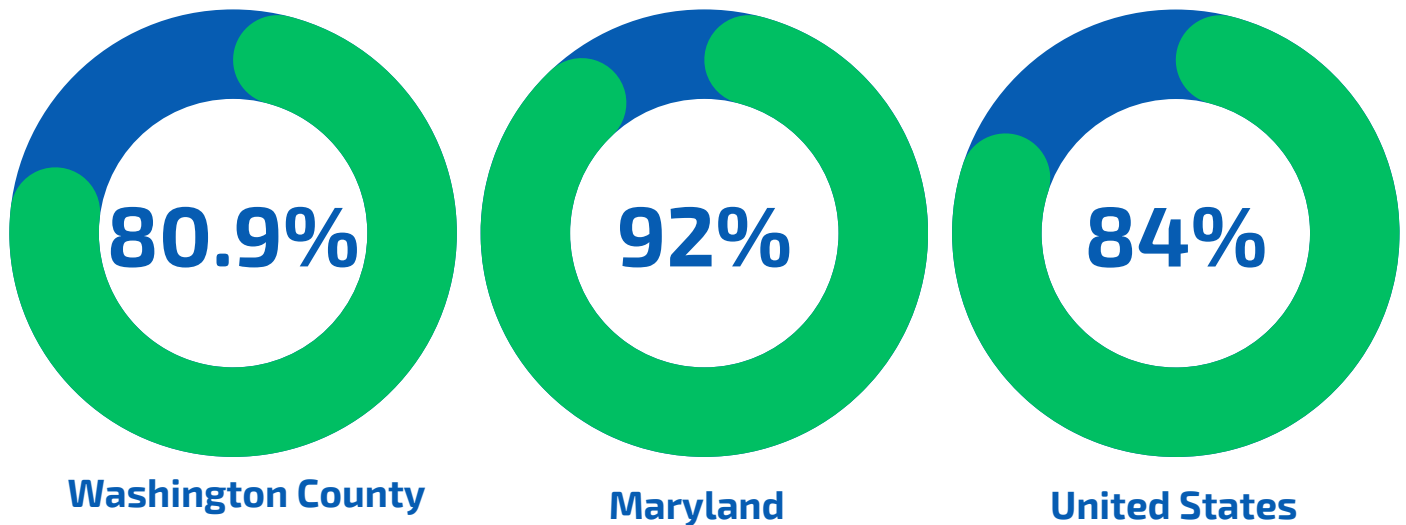
*Chief complaints are defined as the primary reason a patient seeks medical care as interpreted by ED registration staff.

Environmental Health

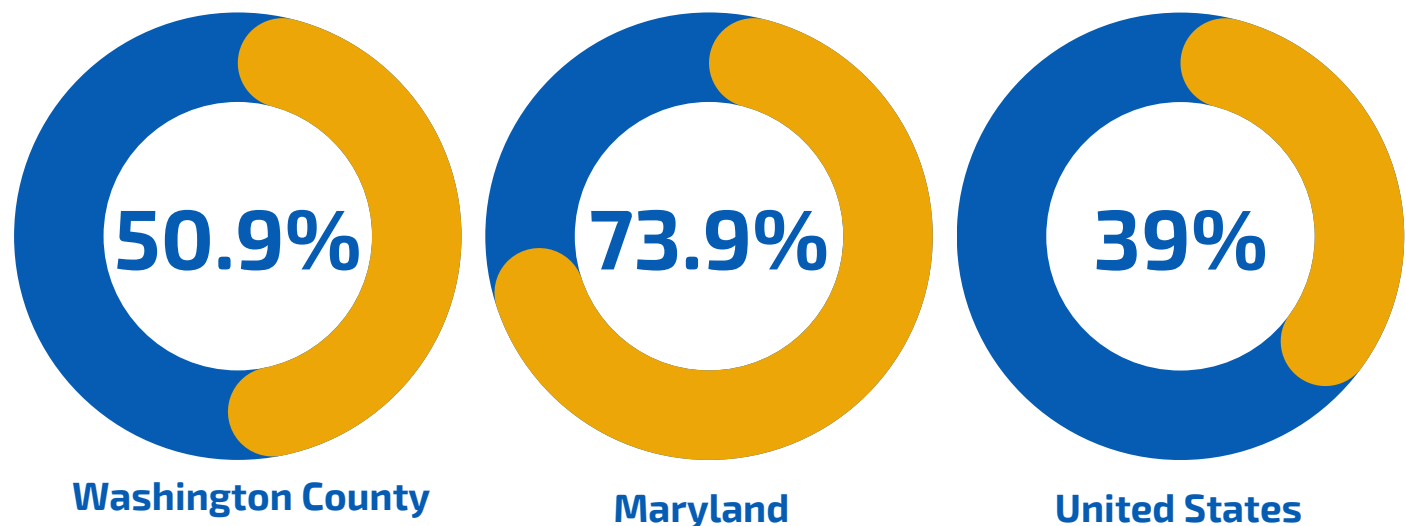
Physical Environment

Access to exercise opportunities and parks is important for not only physical health, but can also improve mental health and overall wellbeing. Parks and green spaces are also important for the environment and climate, as they preserve natural resources, provide clean air and water, and reduce heat islands in urban areas.

Access to Exercise Opportunities (Recreation Facilities and/or Parks)

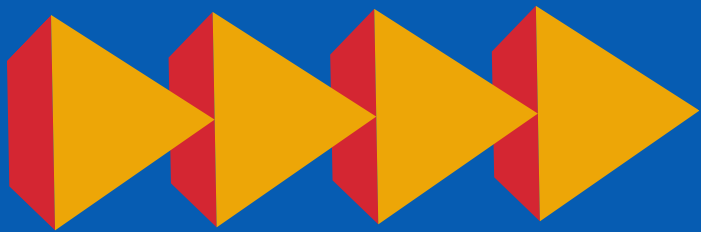


Access to Parks*



*Percentage of individuals that live within 1/2 mile of a public park

Glossary



Glossary

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Page</u>
ACCU	Administrative Care Coordination Unit. Helps Medicaid recipients navigate available resources and services	X
AERS	Adult Evaluation and Review Services. Helps identify effective long-term care options and linkage to resources for functionally limited individuals.	X
Age-Adjusted Rate	A rate that has been adjusted to account for differences in population age distribution per 100,000 residents	27, 52
Barriers to Care	Factors that prevent people from obtaining the healthcare they need	22
Chronic Disease	Conditions that last a year or more and require continuous medical care	24-30
Congenital	Medical condition present from birth	34
Crude Rate	An unadjusted rate of illness, hospitalizations, or deaths per 100,000 residents	35
Ground Level Ozone	Harmful air pollutant, primary component of smog	54
Health Disparity	Preventable differences between populations in rates of disease, injury, and violence	44, 63
Incidence Rate	New cases of a disease or condition in a specific time period per 100,000 residents	27
Infectious Disease	Illness caused by pathogens such as bacteria, virus, fungi, or parasites	31-36
Life Expectancy	Average length of lifetime of an individual in a population	21

Glossary

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Page</u>
Mortality Rate	Deaths due to a specific illness or event per 1,000 or 100,000 residents	21, 28, 45, 52
Naloxone	A medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose	X
Narcan	A specific brand name of naloxone	X
Outbreak	Increase of disease among a specific population in a geographic area during a specific period of time	33
Particulate Matter	Solid particles and liquid droplets in the air that make air pollution	54
PrEP	Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis is a medical program that offers daily medication to prevent HIV among people without HIV	X
Prevalence Rate	Total cases of a disease or condition in a specific time period per 100,000 residents	25, 26, 29, 30, 48
Socioeconomic/Social Determinants	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	44
Transmission	The spread of disease	32,35
Trimester	A period of three months	39
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	X



WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HEALTH PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES DIVISION

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