

# Community Health Indicators Report

2022



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Wicomico County  
Health Department



<b>Mission and Vision</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Our Residents</b>	<b>4</b>
Demographics	
Social and Economic Factors	
<b>Access to Care</b>	<b>7</b>
Health Insurance Coverage	
Medicaid Enrollment and Provider Ratios	
<b>Mortality</b>	<b>10</b>
Leading Causes of Death and Life Expectancy	
Trends in Leading Causes of Death	
<b>Cancer and Chronic Disease</b>	<b>13</b>
Cancer Incidence and Mortality	
Chronic Disease	
Risk Factors and Preventative Screening	
<b>Infectious Diseases</b>	<b>19</b>
COVID-19	
Selected Reportable Conditions	
Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV	
<b>Maternal and Child Health</b>	<b>23</b>
Resident Births	
Birth Outcomes and Infant Mortality	
<b>Behavioral Health</b>	<b>26</b>
Mental Health Risk Factors	
Suicide Deaths	
Overdose Deaths	
<b>Physical Safety</b>	<b>29</b>
Motor Vehicle Accidents	



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Wicomico County  
Health Department

# Wicomico County Health Department



## Mission

Healthy people in healthy communities.



## Vision

To maximize the health and wellness of all members of the community through collaborative efforts.



## Guiding Principles

- ❖ Maximize health status through prevention, education, clinical, monitoring, advocacy and regulatory services.
- ❖ Initiate programs in response to identified needs.
- ❖ Strengthen the physical, behavioral and environmental health of all citizens of Wicomico County.
- ❖ Commitment to all populations while striving for health equity.
- ❖ Address social determinants of health.



# Demographics

The population in the county grew modestly over the past decade, up 4.5% since the 2010 Census. Compared to the rest of the state and the U.S., Wicomico County has slightly more women and White, non-Hispanic residents. Although the median age among county residents is younger than other areas, the 65 and older population has grown – up over 30% since 2010.

2020	Wicomico	Maryland	U.S.
<b>Population</b>			
Overall	103,222	6,037,624	326,569,308
Male	47.5%	48.5%	49.2%
Female	52.5%	51.5%	50.8%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, NH*	62.1%	50.2%	60.1%
Black, NH*	25.9%	29.4%	12.2%
Hispanic	5.4%	10.3%	18.2%
Asian, NH*	3.0%	6.3%	5.6%
<b>Age Group</b>			
Under 18 Years	21.9%	22.2%	22.4%
18 Years and Older	78.1%	77.8%	77.6%
65 Years and Older	15.8%	15.4%	16.0%
Median Age (Years)	36.0	38.8	38.2

\*Non-Hispanic

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

# Social and Economic Indicators

The median household income in the county increased almost \$10,000 over the past ten years; however, at a slower rate than the Maryland and the U.S. In 2020, individuals living in the county were more likely to live below the poverty line, as well as to receive supplemental income sources, such as food stamps, compared to the rest of the state. The county also has a growing number of renter-occupied units, with over four in ten of those households paying rental costs that are 35% or more of their household income.

2020	Wicomico	Maryland	U.S.
<b>Income, Benefits and Employment</b>			
Median Household Income	\$60,366	\$87,063	\$64,994
SNAP/Food Stamps	16.8%	10.1%	11.4%
Social Security Income	32.0%	28.5%	31.4%
Unemployed	7.9%	5.2%	5.4%
<b>Poverty</b>			
Individuals in Poverty	15.8%	9.0%	12.8%
Families in Poverty	8.9%	5.9%	9.1%
<b>Housing</b>			
Renters	41.3%	32.9%	35.6%
Mortgage 35%+ of Income	18.0%	19.6%	20.6%
Gross Rent 35%+ of Income	42.6%	40.3%	40.0%
Severe Housing Problems**	18.9%	16.0%	17.3%
<b>Education</b>			
Graduation Rate (2021)	83.1%	87.2%	85.3%
High School Diploma or Higher	87.7%	90.6%	88.5%
Bachelor's Degree Or Higher	28.0%	40.9%	32.9%
<b>Other Social Factors</b>			
With a Disability	12.8%	11.1%	12.7%
Language Other Than English Spoken at Home	10.9%	19.0%	21.5%
Without a Vehicle	8.1%	8.8%	8.5%

\*Non-Hispanic

\*\*Severe housing problems are defined as households with one or more factors: Lack of complete kitchen facilities, lack of complete plumbing facilities, overcrowding and/or severe cost burden.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Maryland State Department of Education. 2021 Maryland Education Report Card; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2018 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy Data.

# Access to Care



# Health Insurance Coverage

	2018	2019	2020
<b>Uninsured by Geographic Area</b>			
Wicomico	6.9%	6.6%	6.7%
Maryland	6.5%	6.1%	5.9%
United States	9.4%	8.8%	8.7%
<b>Uninsured in Wicomico County, by Gender</b>			
Male	8.1%	7.8%	8.4%
Female	5.9%	5.5%	5.1%
<b>Uninsured in Wicomico County, by Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, non-Hispanic	4.4%	4.0%	4.2%
Black	6.7%	6.3%	6.5%
Hispanic	35.5%	34.5%	34.7%
Asian	16.9%	16.3%	11.5%
<b>Uninsured in Wicomico County, by Age Group</b>			
Under 19 Years	3.6%	3.8%	3.1%
19 to 25 Years	9.9%	7.5%	9.0%
26 to 34 Years	15.2%	15.6%	17.5%
35 to 44 Years	13.5%	12.5%	12.2%
45 to 54 Years	7.2%	7.8%	6.8%
55 to 64 Years	4.8%	4.7%	4.5%
65 Years and Older	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%

Although the number of those without health insurance was cut in half since the start of the last decade, over **6,900 county residents remained uninsured** in 2020. Males were more likely than females to lack health insurance, in addition to younger adults exceeding the age limit for coverage under parents or caregivers.

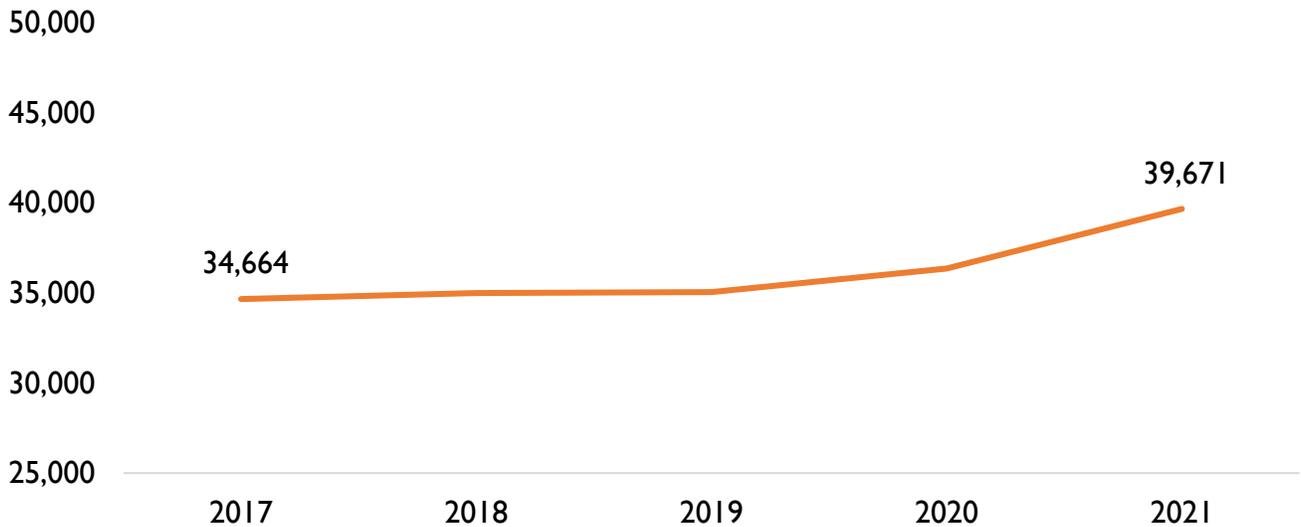


**1 in 3**  
Hispanic residents in Wicomico County is uninsured.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2018-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

# Medicaid Eligibility

Average Number of Medicaid Eligible Residents,  
Wicomico County



Medicaid eligibility remained relatively unchanged from 2017-2019, but steadily rose throughout 2020 and 2021. However, insurance coverage is only part of the access to care equation – there also needs to be an adequate number of healthcare providers in a community to serve its residents. Currently, there is one primary care provider for every 1,700 residents in the county, a much larger gap than the rest of the state. Conversely, Wicomico has the **3<sup>rd</sup> best ratio of residents to mental health providers** in Maryland.

## Provider to Resident Ratios

Provider type	Wicomico	Maryland
Primary Care	1,700 residents to 1 PCP	1,120 residents to 1 PCP
Dentist	1,220 residents to 1 Dentist	1,260 residents to 1 Dentist
Mental Health	280 residents to 1 MH Provider	330 residents to 1 MH Provider

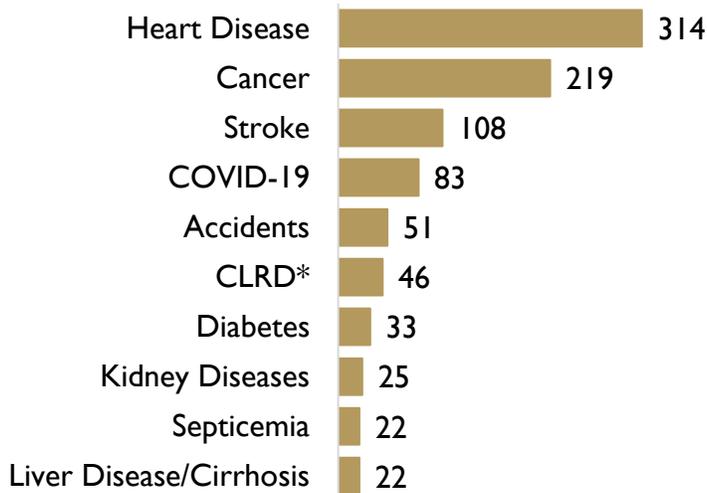
Source: University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. 2022 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps.; Hilltop Institute. Maryland Medicaid eHealth Statistics.

# Mortality



# Leading Causes of Death

Top Ten Causes of Death, Wicomico County, 2020



\*Chronic lower respiratory diseases (CLRD) include chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic bronchitis and asthma.

There were **1,201 deaths** among Wicomico County residents in 2020. Although COVID-19 was a key driver in the number of overall deaths in 2020, heart disease, cancer and stroke remained the leading causes of death, similar to previous years.

Life expectancy at birth for Wicomico residents is 76.6 years, but is higher for county females compared to males.

Death rates from stroke and diabetes have increased over the past four years, while rates from cancer and accidents have decreased (*next page*).

	2018	2019	2020
<b>Deaths</b>			
Overall	1,043	1,050	1,201
Male	516	530	619
Female	527	520	582
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, NH	781	792	873
Black, NH	240	228	291
Hispanic	12	17	21
Asian, NH	**	11	14

# Life Expectancy at Birth

**Male Wicomico Residents**  
74.1 Years

**All Wicomico Residents**  
76.6 Years

**Female Wicomico Residents**  
79.1 Years

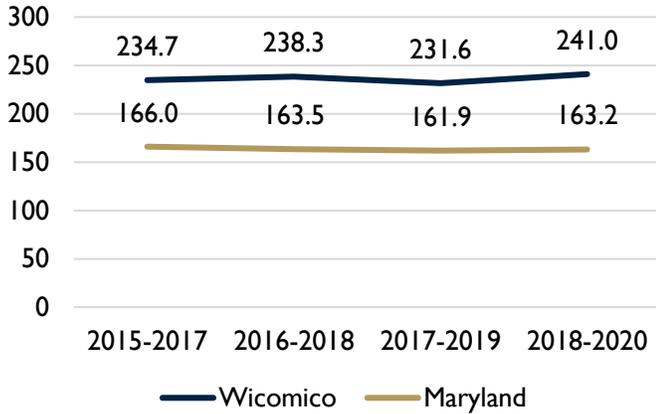


Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *CDC Wonder Database*; Maryland Department of Health Vital Statistics Administration. *2019 Annual Report*.

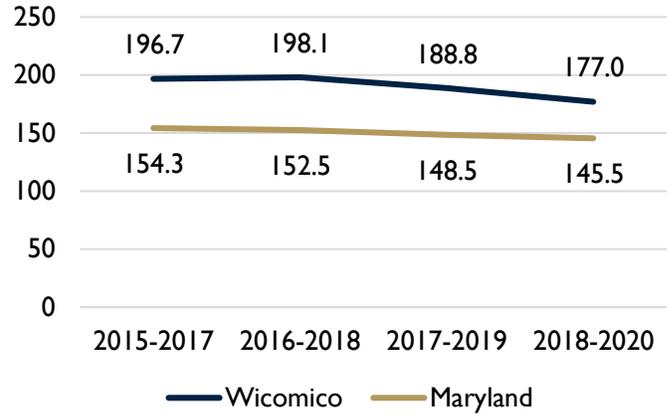
# Trends in Leading Causes of Death

Age-Adjusted Rates per 100,000 Population

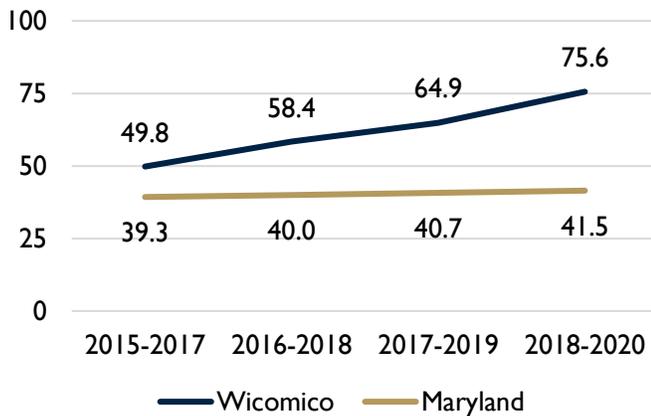
### Heart Disease



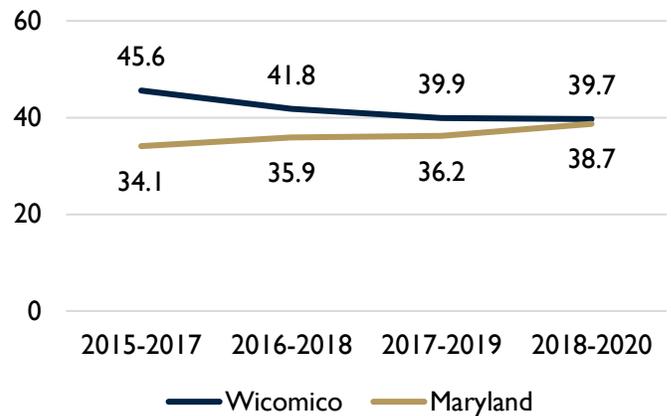
### Cancer



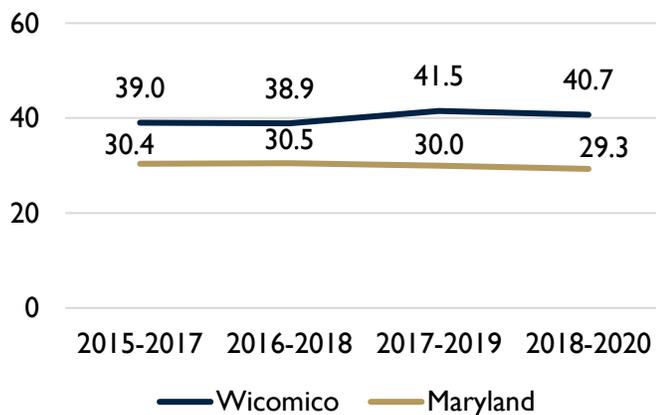
### Stroke



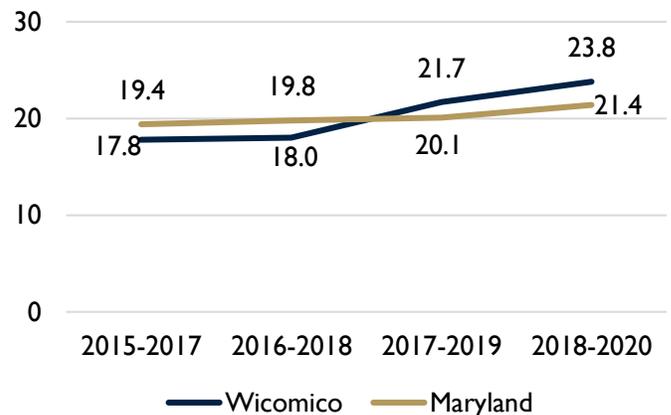
### Accidents



### CLRD

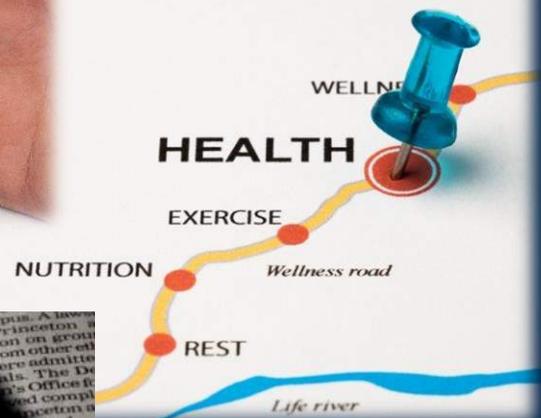


### Diabetes



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC Wonder Database.

# Cancer and Chronic Disease



On average, **622 new cases** of cancer are identified in Wicomico County each year, and **231 residents die annually** from cancer. The age-adjusted rate of new cancer cases remained stable over the last five-year reporting period, but was also the highest in Maryland. The rate of new lung and colorectal cancers decreased but were consistently higher than the rest of the state. Timely screening is critical to detecting many cancers at earlier, more treatable stages. While the detection of new cancer cases is higher in the county, the mortality rate across many cancer sites has decreased.

## Cancer Incidence

 Falling
  Stable
  Rising

### (Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000 Population)

2014-2018	Wicomico	5 Year Trend	Maryland	5 Year Trend
All Sites	529.4		452.5	
Breast (Female)	136.6		132.2	
Cervical	9.7		6.7	
Colorectal	41.4		36.4	
Lung and Bronchus	77.5		55.1	
Melanoma	32.9		24.1	
Ovarian	13.6		10.7	
Pancreatic	13.0		13.7	
Prostate	135.2		128.1	

## Cancer Mortality

### (Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000 Population)

2015-2019	Wicomico	5 Year Trend	Maryland	5 Year Trend
All Sites	190.1		151.5	
Breast (Female)	21.8		21.0	
Cervical	**	**	2.0	
Colorectal	19.0		13.4	
Lung and Bronchus	50.7		35.2	
Melanoma	**	**	1.8	
Ovarian	6.0	**	6.3	
Pancreatic	11.3		11.4	
Prostate	28.1		20.3	

\*\*Counts below data suppression threshold.

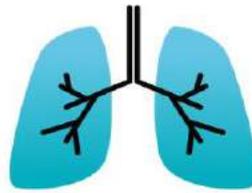
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *State Cancer Profiles*.

# Leading Chronic Diseases



**#1**

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the county.



**Over 2,200**

Average number of COPD ED visits per year by county residents.

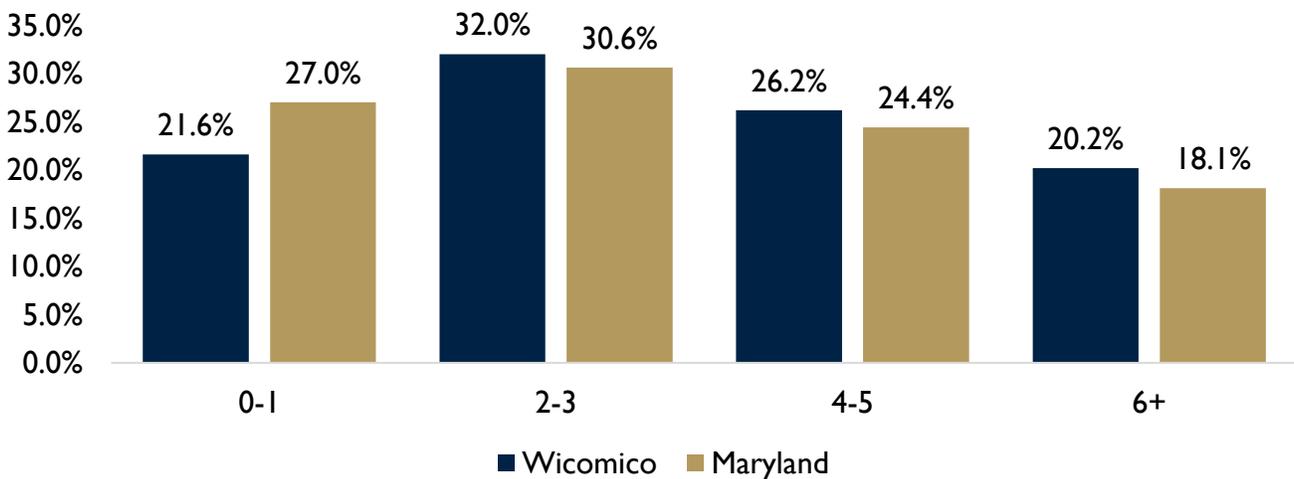


**1 in 10**

Adult county residents are diabetic.

Chronic diseases, such as heart disease, stroke, chronic lung conditions and diabetes, account for **three-quarters of health care costs** in Maryland. The risk of many chronic diseases increases with age – almost **half of Wicomico residents 65 and older live with four or more chronic conditions**.

Prevalence of Chronic Conditions Among Medicare Beneficiaries (65+ Years), Wicomico County and Maryland, 2018



Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *CDC Wonder Database*. Maryland Department of Health. *Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. *Chronic Conditions Prevalence Tables*; Maryland Department of Health Center for Chronic Disease Control and Prevention. [https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/ccdpc/pages/ccdpc\\_home.aspx](https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/ccdpc/pages/ccdpc_home.aspx)

# Risk Factors and Preventative Screening

## Weight Status and Physical Activity



**2 out of 3**

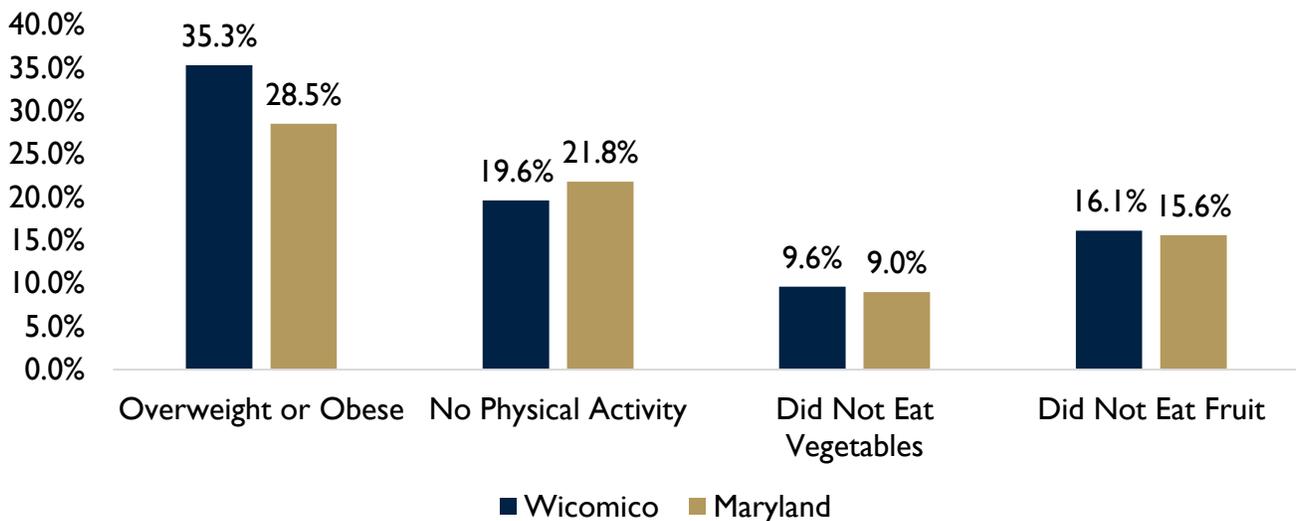
Adult county residents are overweight or obese.



**30%**

Adult county residents have no regular leisure physical activity.

Weight and Activity Factors,  
Wicomico and Maryland High School Students, 2018

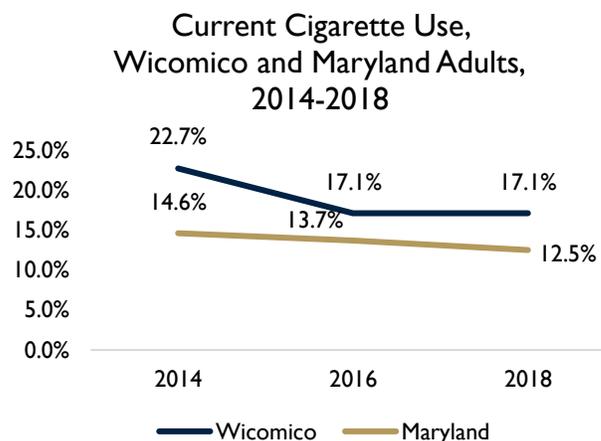
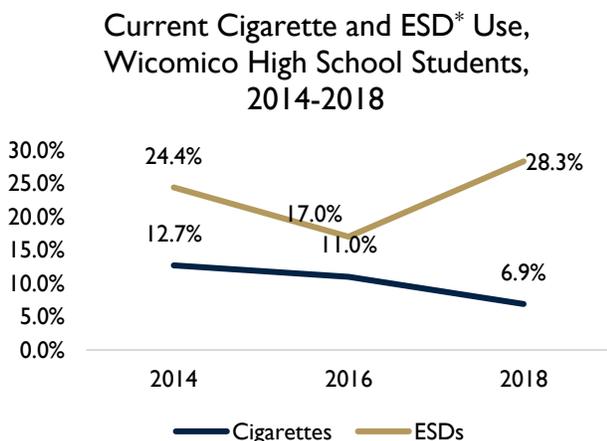


Even though chronic diseases are common, many are also preventable. Leading risk factors for chronic diseases include: **weight status and nutrition, physical activity, tobacco use and alcohol use.** In Wicomico County, **one-third of high school students and two-thirds of adults** are overweight or obese.

Source: Maryland Department of Health. *Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.*

Although **cigarette use decreased by half** among county high school students, over one-quarter reported using electronic smoking devices. About one in ten middle school and 23% of high school students reported current alcohol use – slightly higher among females. More adults in Wicomico County smoke compared to the rest of the state, and almost **15% report binge drinking** in the past year.

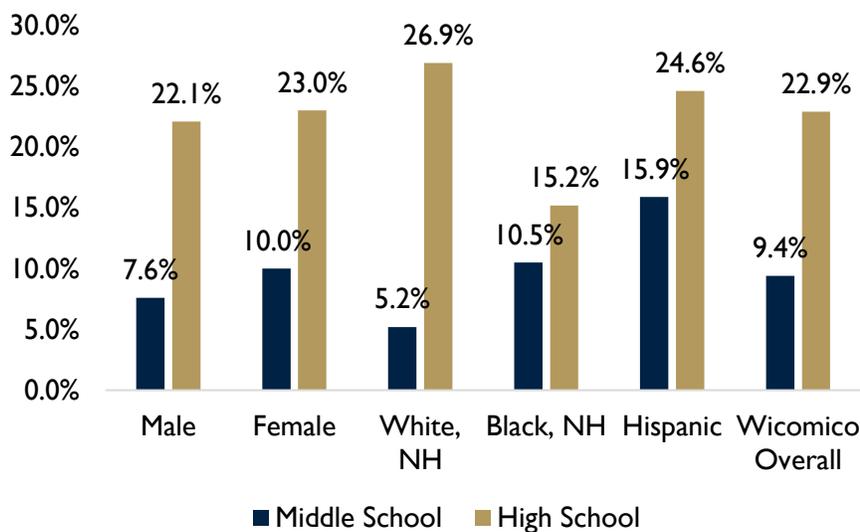
## Tobacco Use



\*Electronic smoking device (includes e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens)

## Alcohol Use

Wicomico Middle and High School Students that Currently\* Drink Alcohol, 2018



**14.7%**  
of Wicomico adults report binge drinking in the past year.

\*At least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

Sources: Maryland Department of Health. *Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. Maryland Department of Health. *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*.

## Prevention and Screening



**77.2%**

Adults with a routine checkup in the past year



**61.0%**

Adults on a medication for high blood pressure



**87.1%**

Adults with a recent cholesterol screening



**78.1%**

Women 50-74 with an annual mammogram



**77.8%**

Adults 50+ with at least one sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy



**85.8%**

Women 21-65 with recent cervical cancer screening



**57.7%**

Adults with an annual visit to a dentist



**39.4%**

Adults with insufficient sleep



**1 in 3**

Residents with poor food access

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *PLACES: Local Data for Better Health*. U.S. Department of Agriculture. *Food Access Research Atlas*.

# Infectious Diseases

(Including COVID-19)

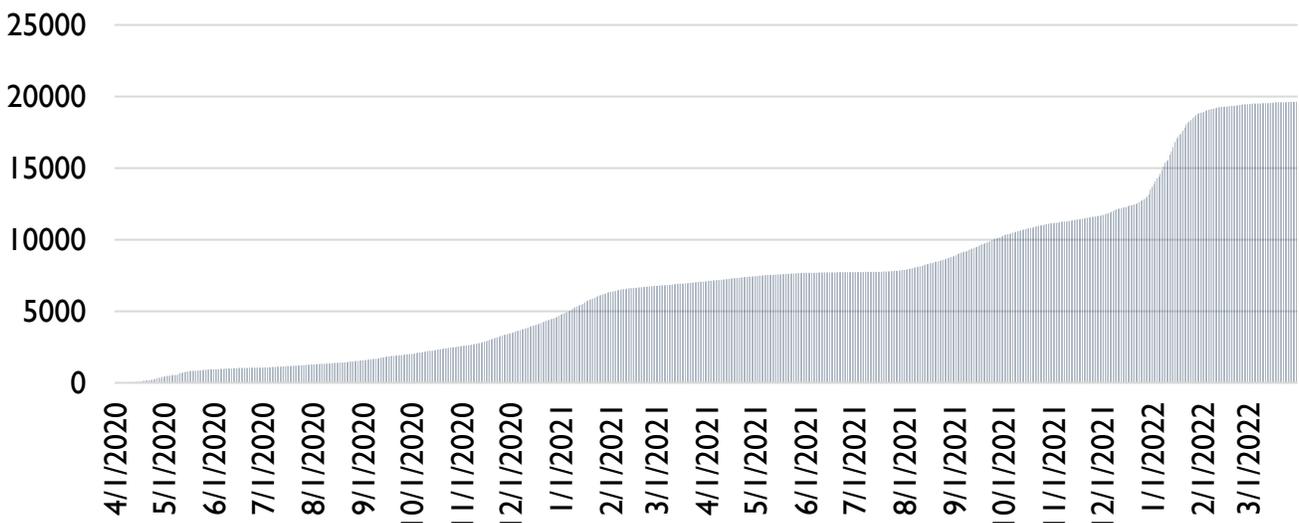


# COVID-19

## Confirmed Cases

As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, Wicomico County reported **19,804 cases of COVID-19**, resulting in **325 confirmed deaths**.

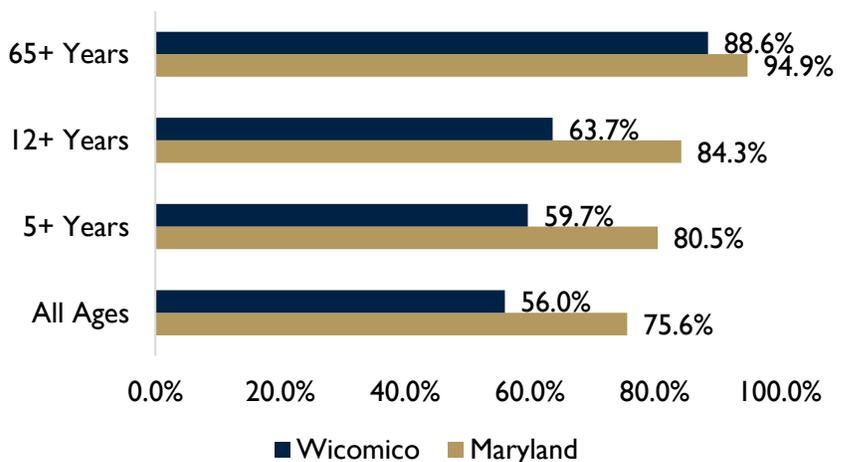
COVID-19 Cases, Wicomico County,  
Reported through 4/30/2022



## Vaccination (as of April 30, 2022)

Currently, vaccines for COVID-19 are approved for those five years and older. Through April 2022, about **60% of Wicomico residents were fully vaccinated**, compared to over 80% throughout the state. However, that gap was considerably smaller for those in the higher risk age group (65 years and older).

Fully Vaccinated Residents by Age Group



Source: Maryland Department of Health. *Coronavirus-19 Data Dashboard*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *COVID-19 Data Tracker*.

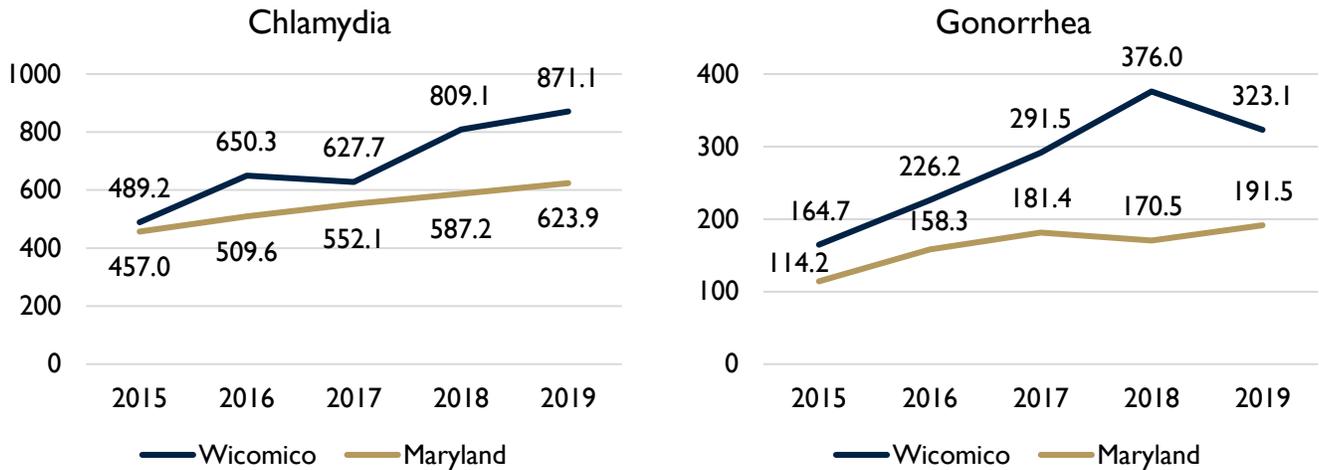
# Selected Reportable Conditions

<b>Wicomico County, Count of Reported Conditions</b>			
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Campylobacteriosis	23	35	19
H. influenzae, invasive	2	1	4
Hepatitis A, acute	0	0	2
Legionellosis	1	5	3
Lyme Disease	29	11	12
Measles	0	0	0
Meningitis, aseptic	12	22	18
Meningitis, meningococcal	0	0	0
Pertussis	3	1	1
Salmonellosis	41	42	41
Shiga-toxin producing E.coli	2	3	5
Shigellosis	4	4	1
Streptococcus Group B	19	17	8
Streptococcus pneumoniae	10	9	15
Tuberculosis	1	2	2
Vibriosis	1	1	5
Animal bites	195	299	357
Animal rabies	5	6	6
Chlamydia	646	835	906
Gonorrhea	300	388	336
Syphilis (primary/secondary)	2	5	5

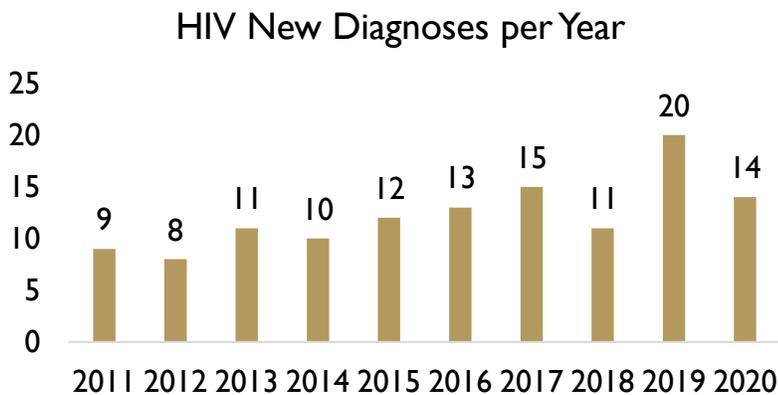
Source: Maryland Department of Health. *Cases of Selected Notifiable Conditions*. Maryland Department of Health.

From 2015 to 2019, the **rate of chlamydia increased by 78%**, and the **rate of gonorrhea doubled** in the county. New STI cases remained highest among younger residents 20-29 years of age.

## Sexually Transmitted Infection Rate per 100,000 Population



## Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)



In 2020, there were **14 cases of HIV diagnosed** in Wicomico County, and a total of **270 residents living with HIV**. Almost two-thirds of residents living with HIV are Black, non-Hispanic, and half are over the age of 50.

### People Living with HIV in Wicomico County, 2020

Age	Race/Ethnicity	Sex
20-29	10.4% White, NH	20.4% Male
30-39	21.5% Black, NH	64.1% Female
40-49	17.0% Hispanic	5.9%
50-59	25.2% Other, NH	9.6%
60+	25.9%	

Sources: Maryland Department of Health. *Cases of Selected Notifiable Conditions*. Maryland Department of Health. *Eastern Region Annual HIV Epidemiological Profile*.

# Maternal and Child Health

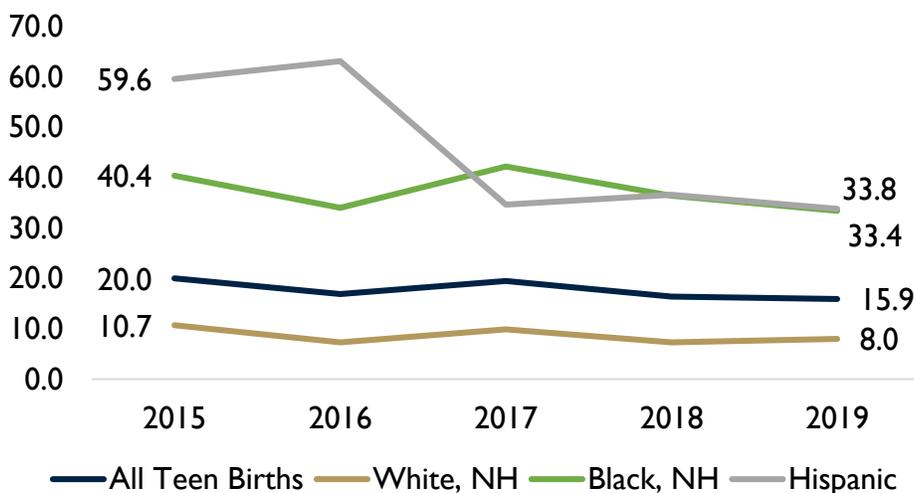


# Births

	2017	2018	2019
<b>Births</b>			
Overall	1,290	1,253	1,255
<b>Race/Ethnicity of Mother</b>			
White, NH	641	616	612
Black, NH	497	484	478
Hispanic	112	118	124
Asian, NH	34	31	37
<b>Age of Mother (in Years)</b>			
Under 18	29	21	23
18-19	66	62	56
20-24	292	245	250
25-29	365	397	386
30-34	329	334	345
35-39	168	164	157
40-44	39	26	37
45+	2	4	1

# Teen Births

Teen Birth Rates\* by Race/Ethnicity, Wicomico County, 2015-2019



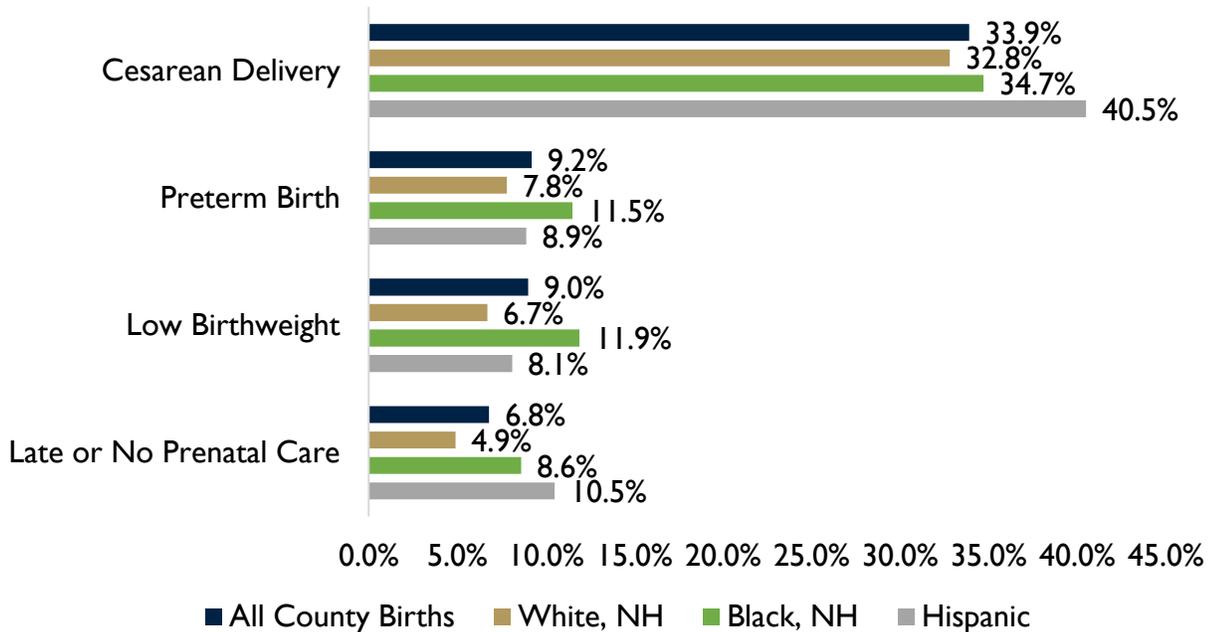
\*Per 1,000 Live Births

The birth rate among teens (15-19 years) in the county declined over the past five years. However, in 2019, the rate of births for Black, non-Hispanic and Hispanic teens remained **four times higher** compared to White, non-Hispanic teens.

Source: Maryland Department of Health Vital Statistics Administration. 2019 Annual Report.

# Birth Outcomes

Wicomico County Birth Outcomes by Race/Ethnicity, 2019

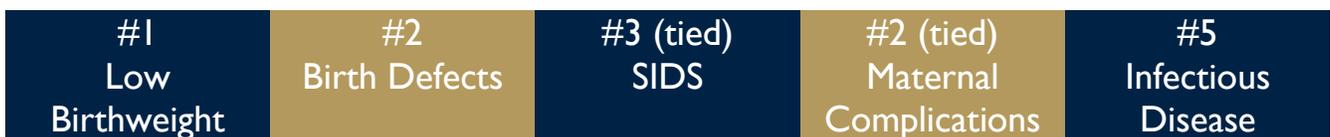


# Infant Mortality

Infant mortality rates remained level from 2018 to 2019 in the county. The leading causes of infant mortality throughout the state included low birthweight from short gestation, birth defects and sudden infant death syndrome.

	2017	2018	2019
<b>Deaths</b>			
Overall	14	9	9
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White, NH	8	6	4
Black, NH	6	3	3
Hispanic	0	0	2
<b>Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births</b>			
Wicomico	10.9	7.2	7.2
Maryland	6.5	6.1	5.9
U.S.	5.8	5.7	5.6

# Leading Causes of Infant Mortality in Maryland, 2019



Sources: Maryland Department of Health Vital Statistics Administration. 2019 Annual Report; 2019 Infant Mortality in Maryland.

# Behavioral Health

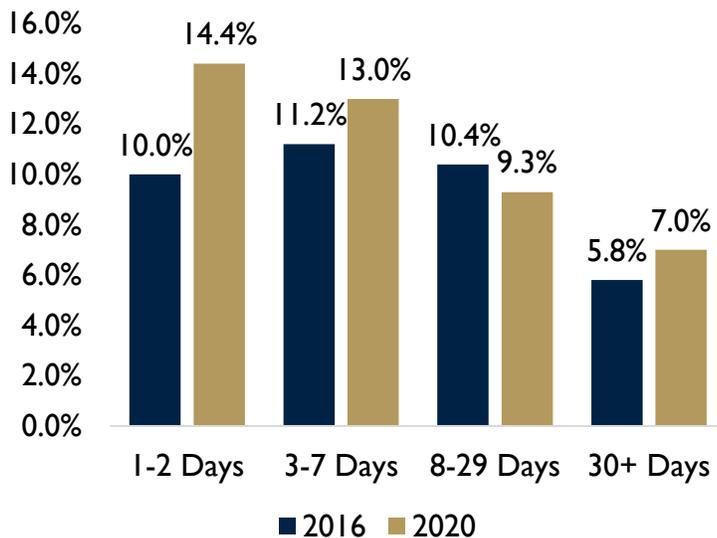


# Mental Health

## Risk Factors Among Selected Populations

Mental Health Risk Factors Among Wicomico County High School Students, 2014-2018			
Risk Factor	2014	2016	2018
Felt Sad or Hopeless Almost Every Day	27.8%	27.1%	30.5%
Considered Attempting Suicide	17.8%	18.1%	19.6%
Made a Plan to Attempt Suicide	14.3%	14.0%	16.9%

Adults (18+ Years) Reporting Poor Mental Health Days, Wicomico County, 2016 vs 2020



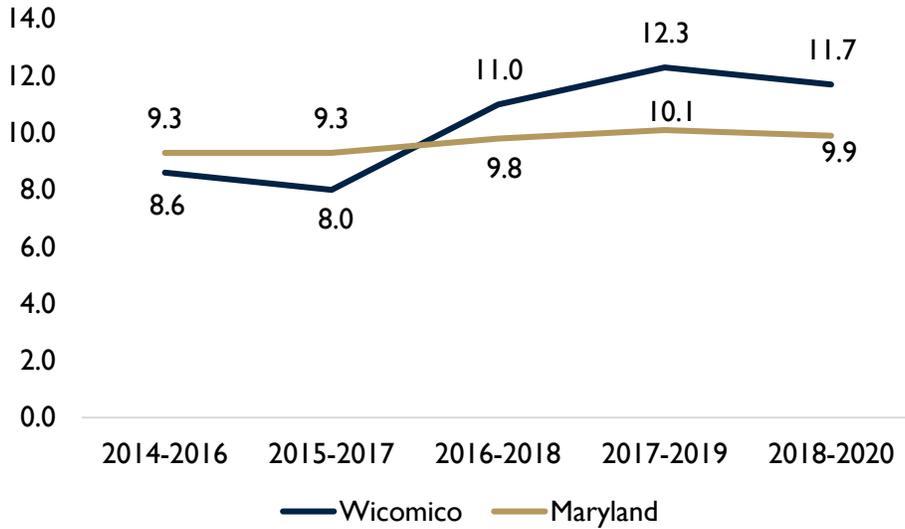
**15.2%**  
Prevalence of depression among Medicare beneficiaries (65 and older)

Mental health includes a person’s emotional, psychological and social well-being and is impacted by a variety of factors, such as behaviors, environment and genetics. Wicomico high school students reporting poor mental health risk factors, adults reporting poor mental health days, and Medicare beneficiaries with depression have all increased in recent years.

Sources: Maryland Department of Health. *Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey*; *Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*; Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. *Chronic Disease Prevalence Tables*.

## Suicide Deaths

Age-Adjusted Suicide Mortality Rates, Wicomico County and Maryland, 2016-2020

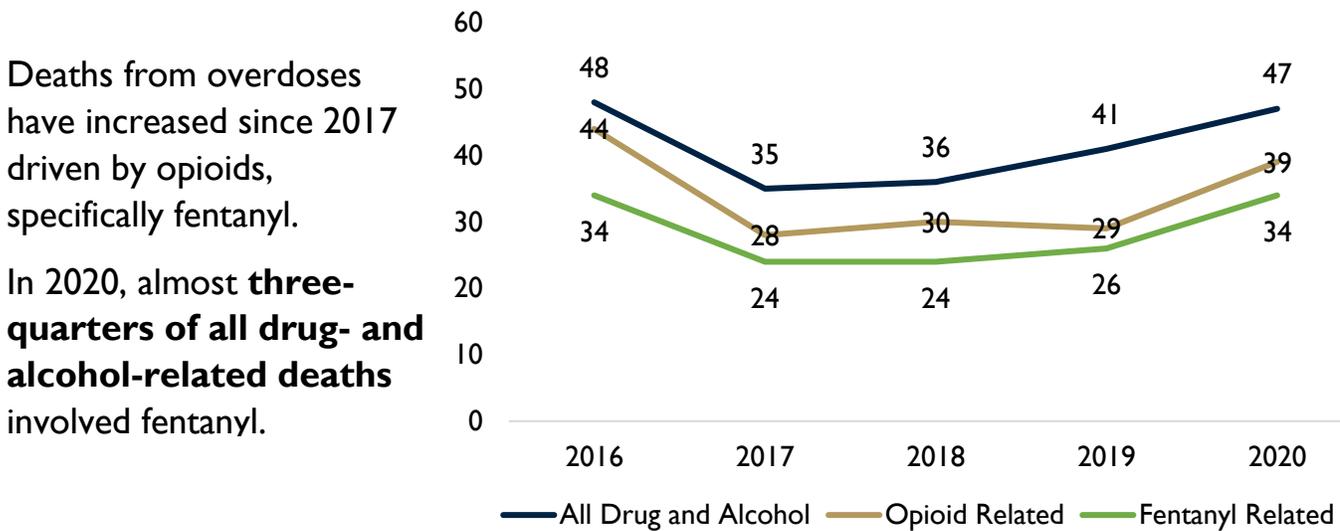


Suicide was the **15<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death** in the county in 2020. The suicide mortality rate increased in 2018 and 2019, but fell slightly in 2020.

## Substance Use

### Overdose Deaths

Intoxication Deaths Occurring in Wicomico County, 2016-2020



Deaths from overdoses have increased since 2017 driven by opioids, specifically fentanyl.

In 2020, almost **three-quarters of all drug- and alcohol-related deaths** involved fentanyl.

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *CDC Wonder Database*. Maryland Department of Health. *2020 Annual Drug- and Alcohol-Intoxication Deaths Report*.

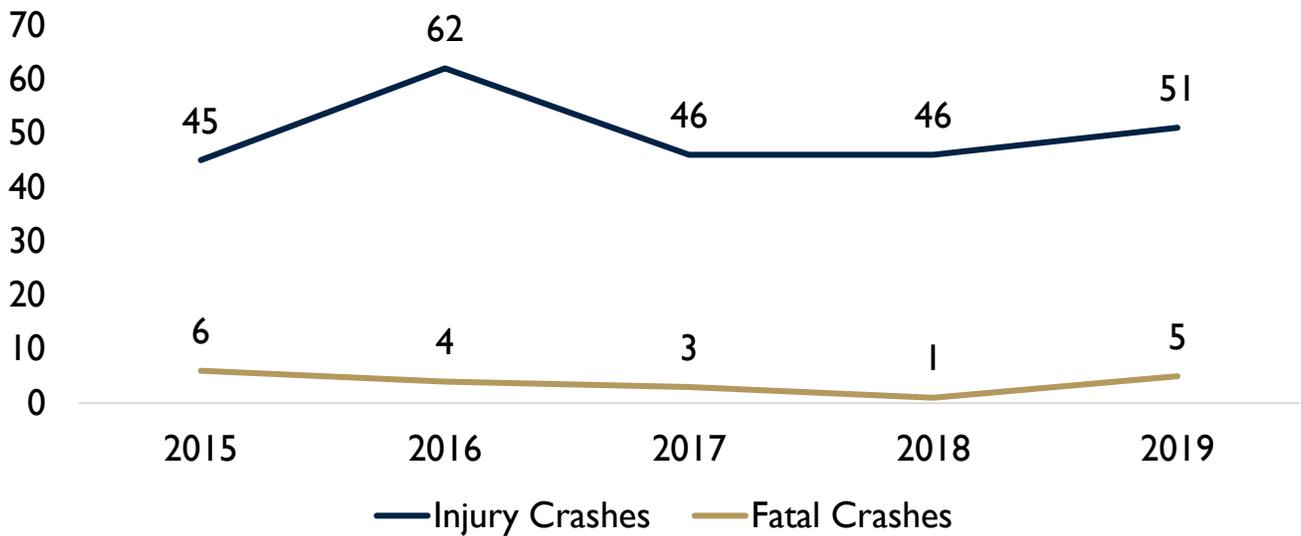
# Physical Safety



# Motor Vehicle Accidents

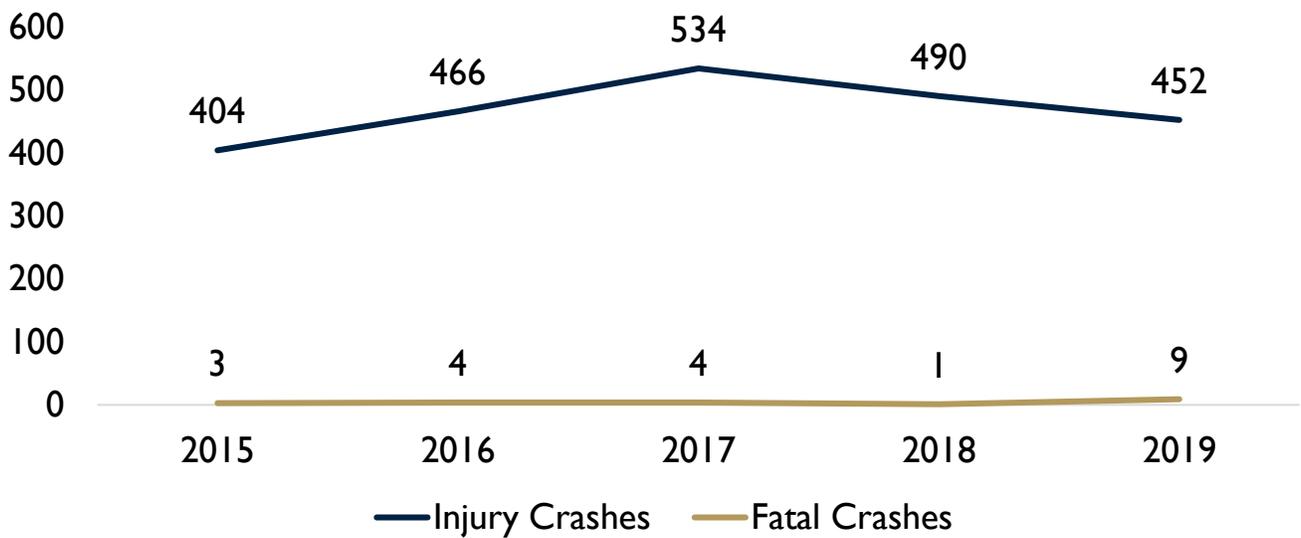
## Drug and Alcohol-Impaired Drivers

Crashes Resulting in Injury or Death Involving Drugs and/or Alcohol, Wicomico County, 2015-2019



## Distracted Drivers

Crashes Resulting in Injury or Death Involving Distracted Driving, Wicomico County, 2015-2019



Source: Maryland Highway Safety Office. Annual Benchmark Reports.

## Find Us on Social Media:



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Wicomico County  
Health Department

### Our Locations:

E.S. Adkins Building  
801 N. Salisbury Blvd.  
Salisbury, MD 21801

Fritz Building  
300 W. Carroll St.  
Salisbury, MD 21801

Hurdle Building  
108 East Main St.  
Salisbury, MD 21801

Village Dental Center  
705 N. Salisbury Blvd.  
Salisbury, MD 21801