



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 1

Total Population
723,831

The Military Family Research Institute (MFRI) at Purdue University collaborated with a Purdue University Masters of Public Health student intern to provide a public health-focused snapshot of the veteran, military and civilian population within each congressional district. Data was collected from multiple sources including MFRI's Measuring Communities online data portal. The provided data will help inform district leaders of the characteristics, health and accessibility of constituents residing in their districts and support legislative initiatives. To view congressional districts, visit www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map

43,505

Veterans

6% of total population

According to the Census Bureau, "veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps."

2,882

Military Members

0.4% of total population

Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	91.3%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	8.7%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 1 has **286,012** total households, **40,629** or **14.2%** of those are veteran households.

12,831

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

2,898

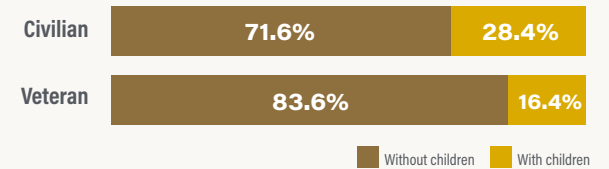
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

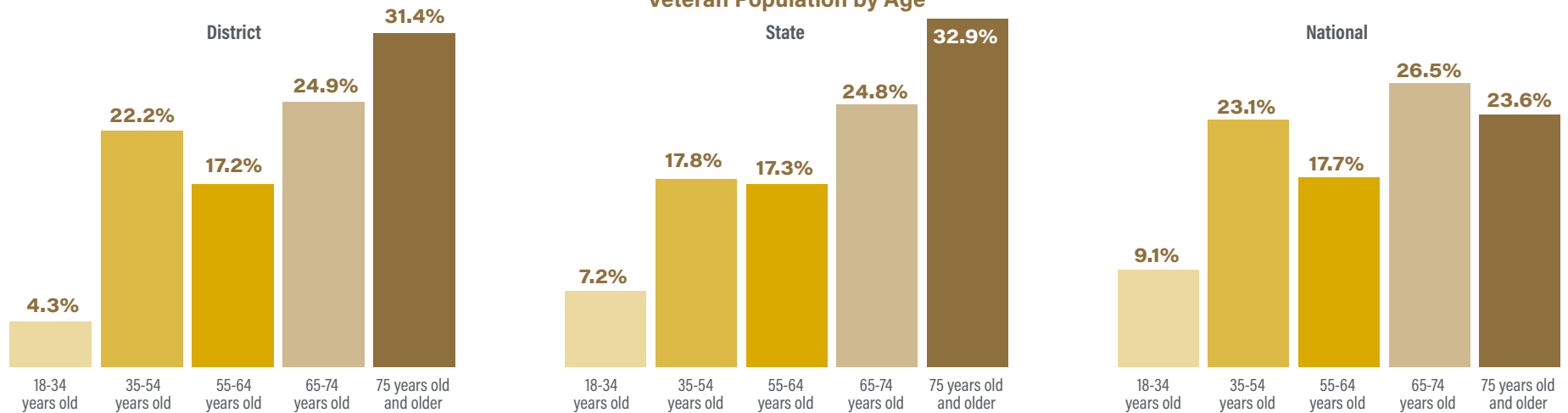
Disability

Civilians	14.7%
Veterans	16.6%

Households and Children



Veteran Population by Age



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Military Family Research Institute
Center for Regional Development



Massachusetts Congressional District 1 Health and Well-Being

Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	12.3%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	6.7%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	21.8%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	1.1%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	4.2%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	16.8%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	27.1%	197,926

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

References

- AARP Livability Index - Great Neighborhoods for All Ages. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/>
- Explore Census Data. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>
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- USDA ERS - Food Access Research Atlas. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/>
- USDA ERS - Rural-Urban Continuum Codes. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes.aspx>

Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, Franklin County in Congressional District 1 is defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
10.51-19.84	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 1, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
49-54	49-62

In Congressional District 1, the counties of Hampden and Worcester have livability scores that are below average. This indicates that these counties have scored lower on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 2

Total Population
759,750

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38,018

Veterans

5% of total population

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2,282

Military Members

0.3% of total population

Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	93.1%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	6.9%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 2 has **280,343** total households, **36,862** or **13.1%** of those are veteran households.

11,885

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

2,204

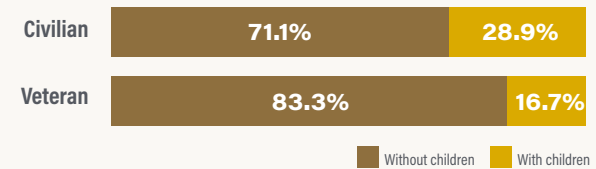
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

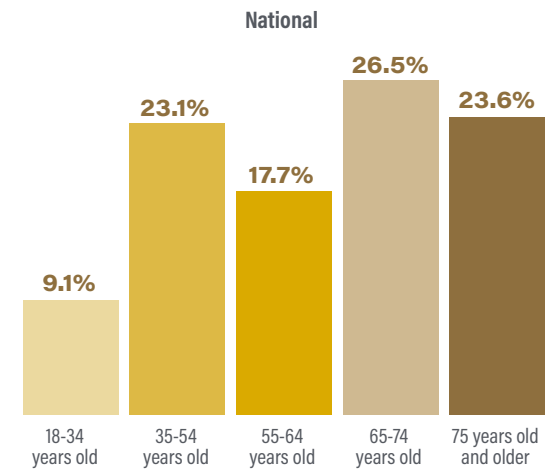
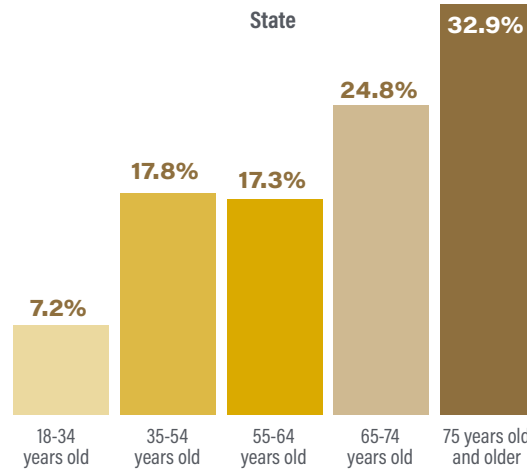
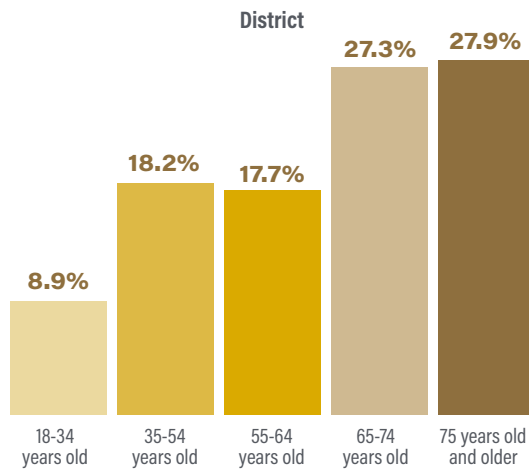
Disability

Civilians	11.9%
Veterans	24.1%

Households and Children



Veteran Population by Age



FIND OUT MORE ONLINE



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Massachusetts Congressional District 2 Health and Well-Being

Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	9.5%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	6.4%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	9.5%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	1.2%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	3.4%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	15.0%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	35.4%	261,866

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

References

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Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, Franklin County in Congressional District 2 is defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
8.37-18.96	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 2, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
49-56	49-62

In Congressional District 2, the counties of Hampden and Worcester have livability scores that are below average. This indicates that these counties have scored lower on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 3

Total Population

771,723

The Military Family Research Institute (MFRI) at Purdue University collaborated with a Purdue University Masters of Public Health student intern to provide a public health-focused snapshot of the veteran, military and civilian population within each congressional district. Data was collected from multiple sources including MFRI's Measuring Communities online data portal. The provided data will help inform district leaders of the characteristics, health and accessibility of constituents residing in their districts and support legislative initiatives.

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32,808

Veterans

4.3% of total population

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1,944

Military Members

0.3% of total population

Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	94.3%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	5.7%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 3 has **276,287** total households, **30,420** or **11%** of those are veteran households.

11,179

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

1,802

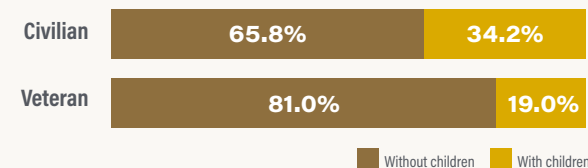
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

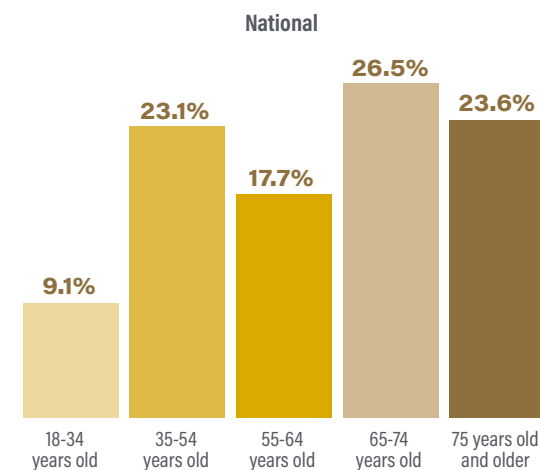
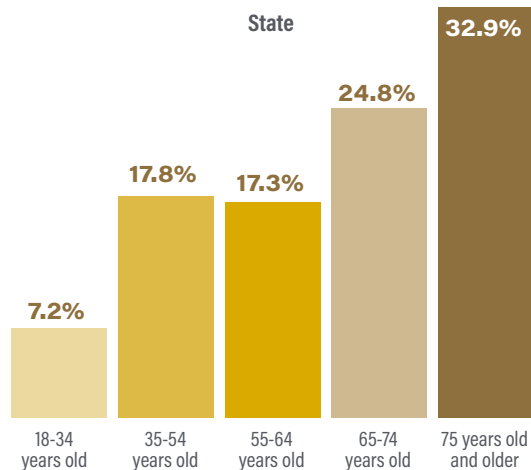
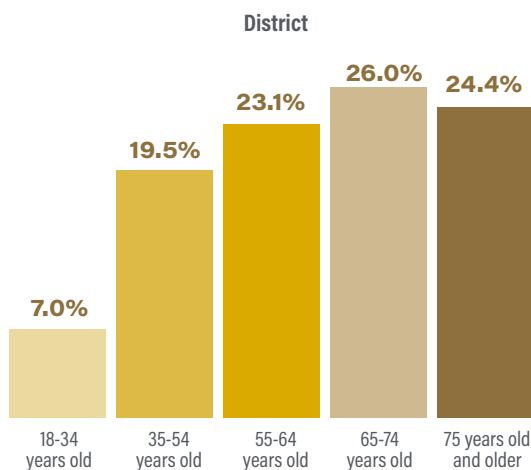
Disability

Civilians	12.1%
Veterans	24.7%

Households and Children



Veteran Population by Age



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Massachusetts Congressional District 3 Health and Well-Being

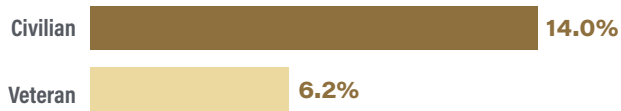
Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	8.1%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	6.8%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	13.1%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	1.0%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	n/a	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	n/a	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	32.6%	244,825

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

References

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Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, there are no counties in Congressional District 3 defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
7.66-11.16	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 3, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
49-58	49-62

In Congressional District 3, Worcester County has a livability score that is below average. This indicates that this county has scored lower on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 4

Total Population

765,466

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32,981

Veterans

4.3% of total population

According to the Census Bureau, "veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps."

1,902

Military Members

0.2% of total population

Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	94.7%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	5.3%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 4 has **278,163** total households, **31,689** or **11.4%** of those are veteran households.

12,526

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

1,688

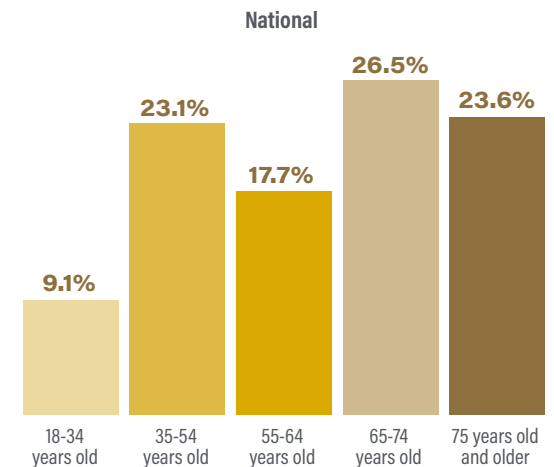
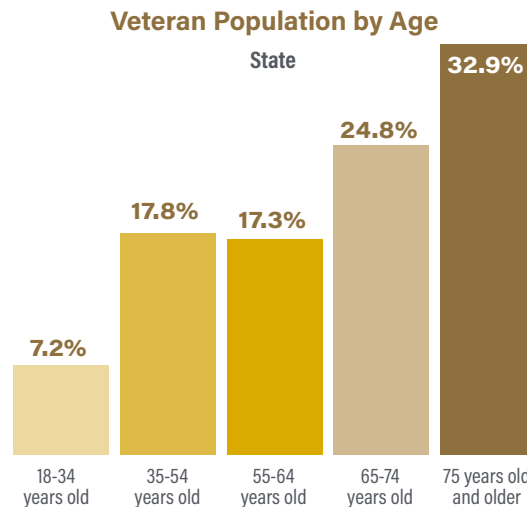
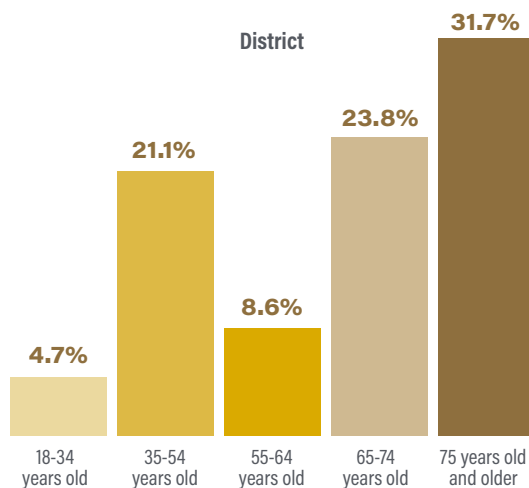
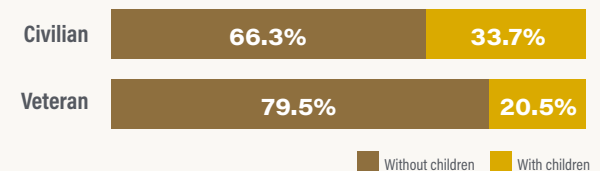
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

Disability

Civilians	10.1%
Veterans	22.9%

Households and Children



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Center for Regional Development



Massachusetts Congressional District 4 Health and Well-Being

Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	6.6%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	4.5%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	6.8%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	1.1%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	3.5%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	17.1%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

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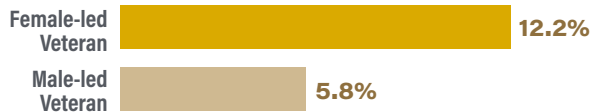
Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	36.2%	268,766

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

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Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, there are no counties in Congressional District 4 defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
7.66-13.53	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 4, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
49-58	49-62

In Congressional District 4, the counties of Bristol, Plymouth, and Worcester have livability scores that are below average. This indicates that these counties have scored lower on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 5

Total Population
768,043

The Military Family Research Institute (MFRI) at Purdue University collaborated with a Purdue University Masters of Public Health student intern to provide a public health-focused snapshot of the veteran, military and civilian population within each congressional district. Data was collected from multiple sources including MFRI's Measuring Communities online data portal. The provided data will help inform district leaders of the characteristics, health and accessibility of constituents residing in their districts and support legislative initiatives. To view congressional districts, visit www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map

26,398

Veterans

3.4% of total population

According to the Census Bureau, "veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps."

2,008

Military Members

0.3% of total population

Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	92.2%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	7.8%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 5 has **296,073** total households, **25,183** or **8.5%** of those are veteran households.

7,091

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

1,922

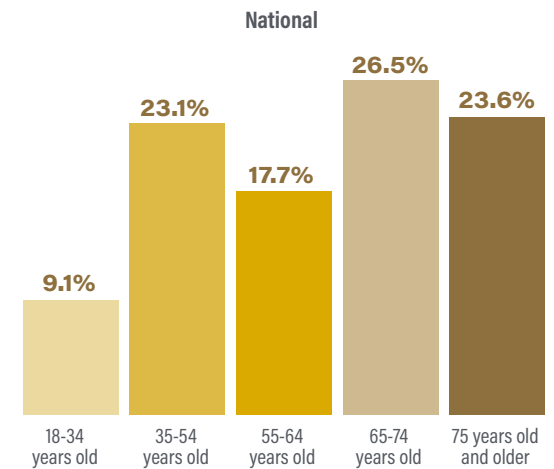
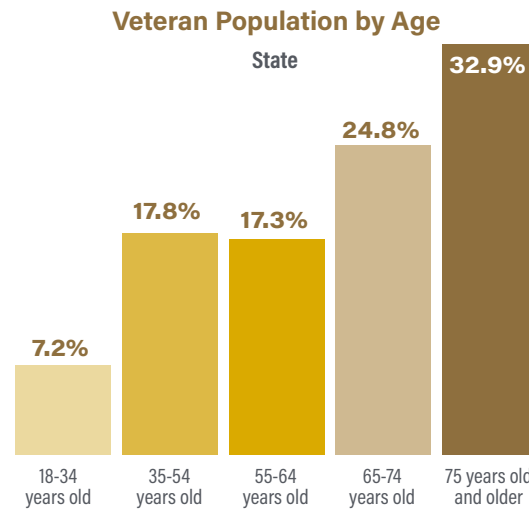
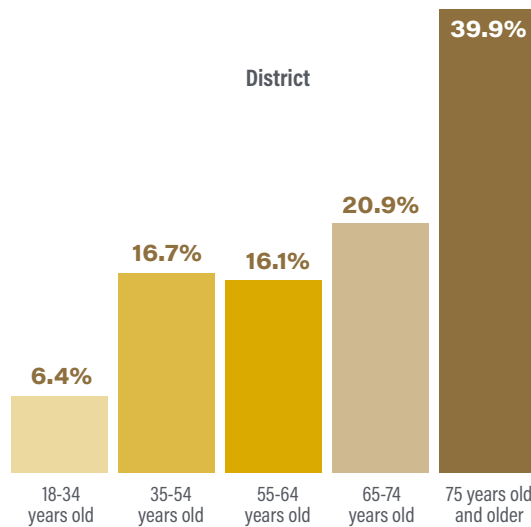
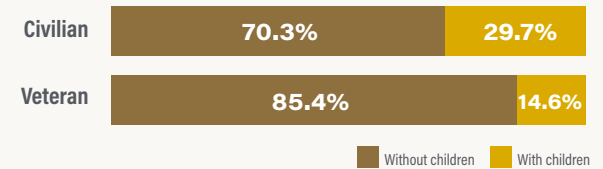
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

Disability

Civilians	9%
Veterans	18.2%

Households and Children



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Military Family Research Institute
Center for Regional Development



Massachusetts Congressional District 5 Health and Well-Being

Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	7.7%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	5.3%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	7.0%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	0.7%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	2.5%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	13.8%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	20.3%	152,268

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

References

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 Explore Census Data. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>
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 USDA ERS - Rural-Urban Continuum Codes. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes.aspx>

Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, there are no counties in Congressional District 5 defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
7.66-16.23	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 5, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
49-62	49-62

In Congressional District 5, Worcester County has a livability score that is below average. This indicates that this county has scored lower on one or more of the measures that is used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 6

Total Population
770,998

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37,199

Veterans

4.8% of total population
According to the Census Bureau, "veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps."

1,668

Military Members

0.2% of total population
Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	93.8%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	6.2%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 6 has **290,506** total households, **33,213** or **11.4%** of those are veteran households.

10,905

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

1,403

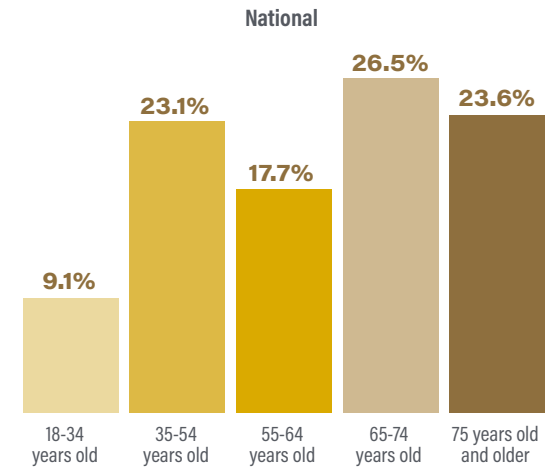
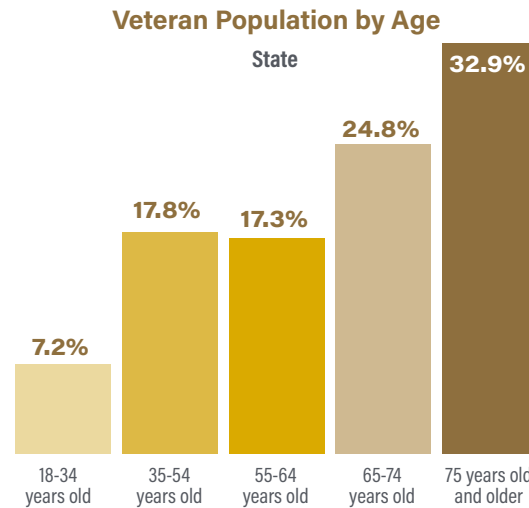
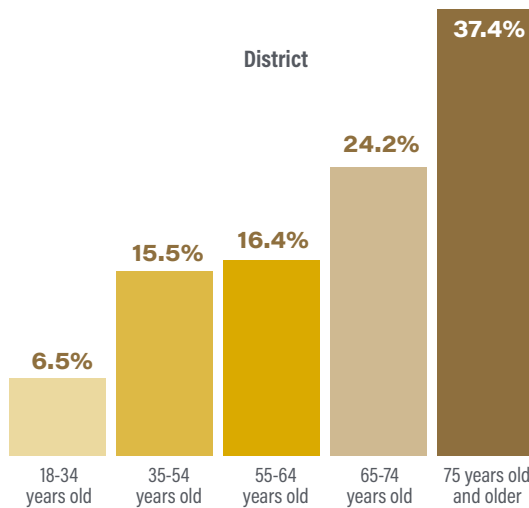
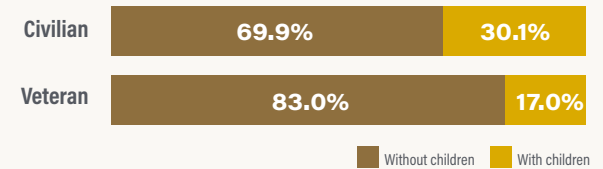
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

Disability

Civilians	11.4%
Veterans	22.7%

Households and Children



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Military Family Research Institute
Center for Regional Development



Massachusetts Congressional District 6 Health and Well-Being

Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	6.6%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	5.0%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	9.3%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	0.3%	0.9%	8.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	3.1%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	16.8%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	33.2%	248,873

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

References

- AARP Livability Index - Great Neighborhoods for All Ages. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/>
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Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, there are no counties in Congressional District 6 defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
7.66-11.16	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 6, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
53-58	49-62

In Congressional District 6, the counties of Essex and Middlesex have livability scores that are above average. This indicates that these counties have scored higher on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 7

Total Population
819,035

The Military Family Research Institute (MFRI) at Purdue University collaborated with a Purdue University Masters of Public Health student intern to provide a public health-focused snapshot of the veteran, military and civilian population within each congressional district. Data was collected from multiple sources including MFRI's Measuring Communities online data portal. The provided data will help inform district leaders of the characteristics, health and accessibility of constituents residing in their districts and support legislative initiatives. To view congressional districts, visit www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map

15,813

Veterans

1.9% of total population

According to the Census Bureau, "veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps."

1,832

Military Members

0.2% of total population

Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	85.2%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	14.8%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 7 has **306,769** total households, **15,569** or **5.1%** of those are veteran households.

3,953

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

1,466

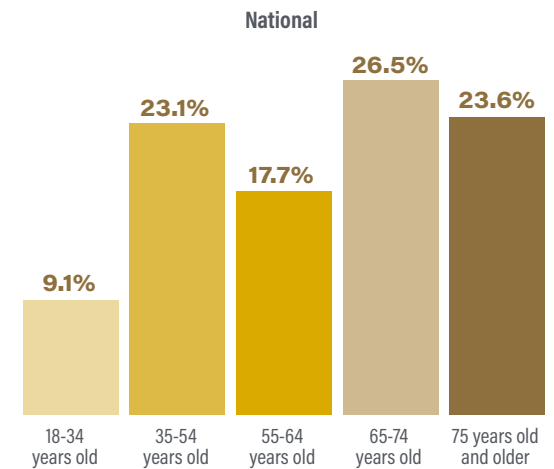
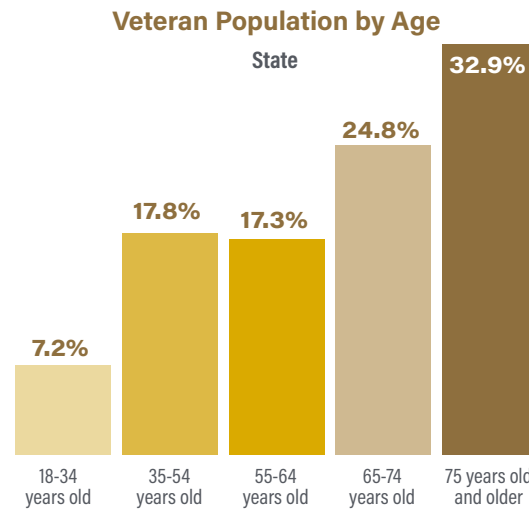
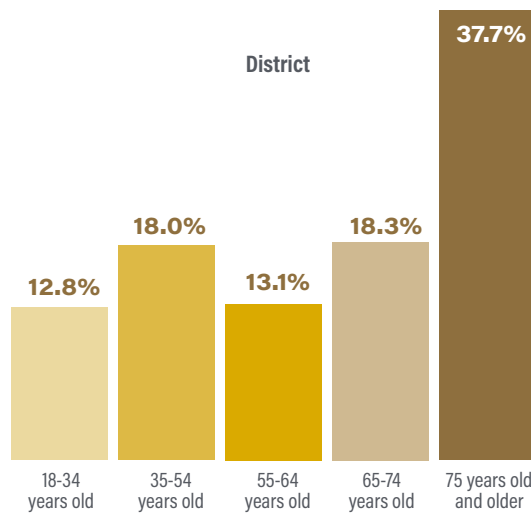
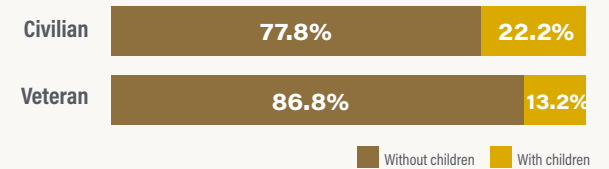
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

Disability

Civilians	11.3%
Veterans	19.5%

Households and Children



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Massachusetts Congressional District 7 Health and Well-Being

Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	17.0%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	14.8%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	25.2%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	1.5%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	2.6%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	16.4%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	1.3%	10,065

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

References

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 USDA ERS - Rural-Urban Continuum Codes. (n.d.). Retrieved July 9, 2020, from <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes.aspx>

Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, there are no counties in Congressional District 7 defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
7.66-16.23	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 7, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
56-62	49-62

In Congressional District 7, the counties of Middlesex, Norfolk, and Suffolk have livability scores that are above average. This indicates that these counties have scored higher on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 8

Total Population
765,516

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34,009

Veterans

4.4% of total population
According to the Census Bureau, "veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps."

1,852

Military Members

0.2% of total population
Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	95%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	5%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 8 has **292,129** total households, **30,885** or **10.6%** of those are veteran households.

10,241

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

1,545

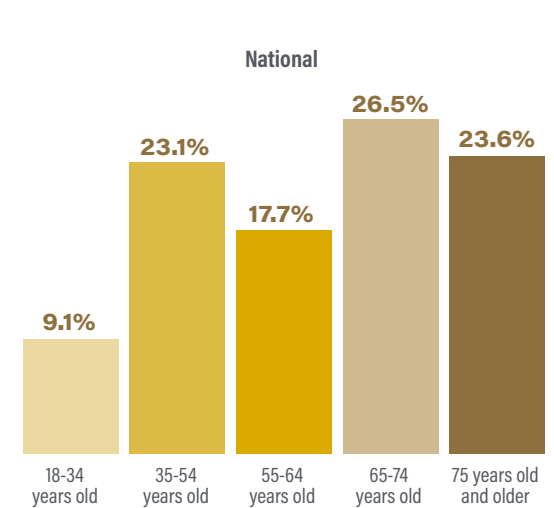
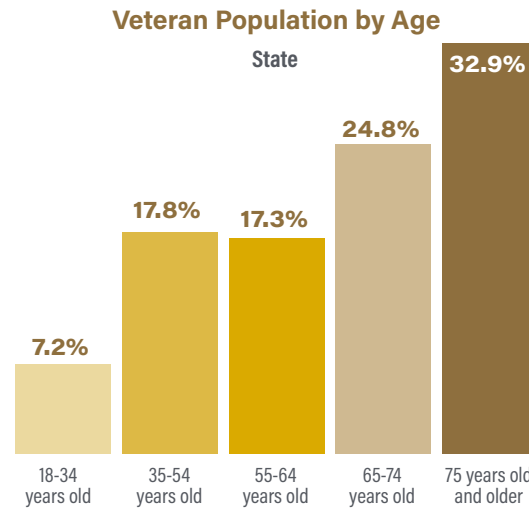
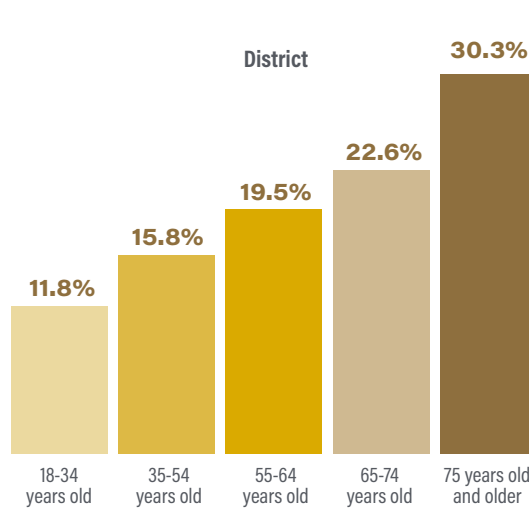
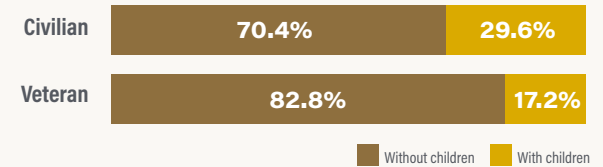
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

Disability

Civilians	10.2%
Veterans	28.8%

Households and Children



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Military Family Research Institute
Center for Regional Development



Massachusetts Congressional District 8 Health and Well-Being

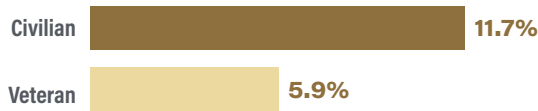
Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	7.8%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	4.5%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	8.0%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	0.8%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	3.0%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	17.0%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	23.9%	179,694

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

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Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, there are no counties in Congressional District 8 defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
8.37-16.23	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 8, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
49-62	49-62

In Congressional District 8, the counties of Bristol and Plymouth have livability scores that are below average. This indicates that these counties have scored lower on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

According to the AARP Livability Index, an average community livability score is 50, an above-average score is over 50, and a below-average score is below 50.



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Massachusetts Congressional District 9

Total Population
748,141

The Military Family Research Institute (MFRI) at Purdue University collaborated with a Purdue University Masters of Public Health student intern to provide a public health-focused snapshot of the veteran, military and civilian population within each congressional district. Data was collected from multiple sources including MFRI's Measuring Communities online data portal. The provided data will help inform district leaders of the characteristics, health and accessibility of constituents residing in their districts and support legislative initiatives. To view congressional districts, visit www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map

47,605

Veterans

6.4% of total population

According to the Census Bureau, "veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps."

2,209

Military Members

0.3% of total population

Active Duty and Selected Reserve 2019

Veteran Population by Gender

Gender	District	State	National
Male	94.9%	93.2%	91.0%
Female	5.1%	6.8%	9.0%



Congressional District 9 has **295,627** total households, **45,256** or **15.3%** of those are veteran households.

12,433

Veteran Dependents

Number of estimated dependents under 18 years old who rely on the financial support of the veteran in their household.

2,166

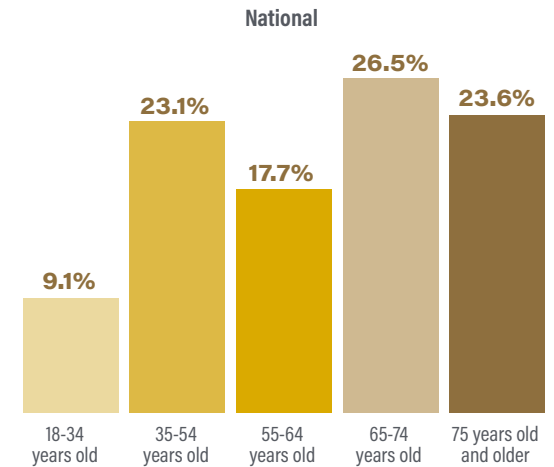
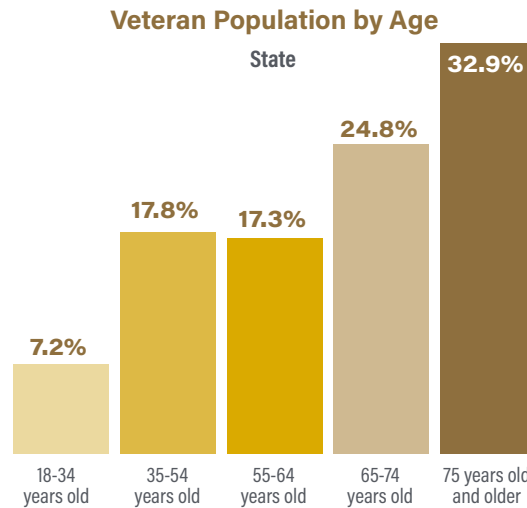
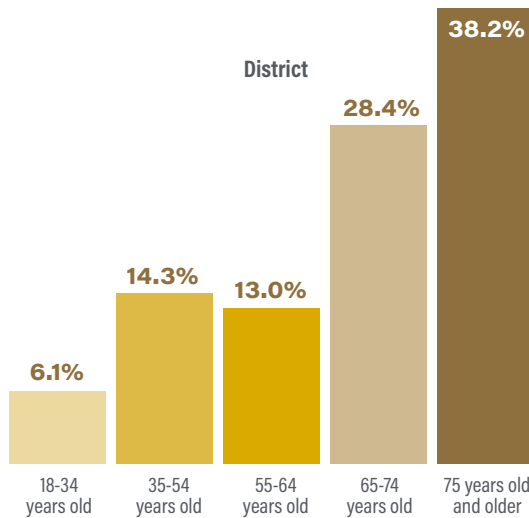
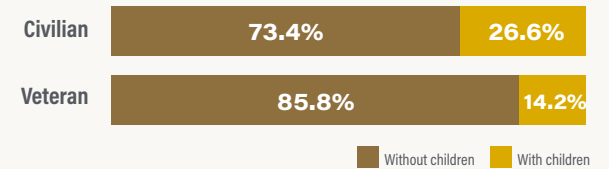
Military Dependents

Number of spouses, children under 18, and others who rely on service member for more than half of their financial support (based on DEERS enrollment of Active Duty and Selected Reserve in 2018).

Disability

Civilians	13.3%
Veterans	21%

Households and Children



FIND OUT MORE ONLINE



www.measuringcommunities.org



mcinfo@purdue.edu



[MFRIPurdue](https://twitter.com/MFRIPurdue)



[MFRIPurdue](https://www.facebook.com/MFRIPurdue)



Military Family Research Institute
Center for Regional Development



Massachusetts Congressional District 9 Health and Well-Being

Poverty, Insurance Coverage and Unemployment

	District	State	National
Civilian Poverty Rate	8.9%	9.4%	11.8%
Veteran Poverty Rate	5.5%	6.1%	6.7%
Child Poverty Rate (18 and younger)	10.6%	12.2%	18.0%
Veteran Uninsured	0.9%	0.9%	3.2%
Unemployment (Feb. 2020)	4.8%	2.8%	3.5%
Unemployment (May 2020)	18.9%	16.3%	13.3%

Those uninsured face greater barriers to care. In light of COVID-19, those living in poverty and whom are uninsured may be at a greater risk of exposure and complications from the virus.

Due to COVID-19 and the nature of the virus, unemployment rates have sharply increased between February and May of 2020. These rates may continue to be impacted over the coming months, and should be further monitored throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

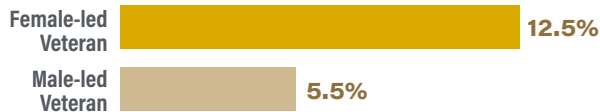
Households on SNAP benefits



Food Desert

	Percentage	Number
Low income civilian population living a mile or more from a supermarket	37.3%	273,484

Households with Food Insecurity and Access



The standard definition of a food desert is defined as a low-income census tract with a substantial share of residents with low levels of access to retail outlets selling healthy and affordable foods. Low-access areas have at least 500 persons and/or at least 33 percent of the population lives more than one mile from a supermarket or large grocery store. Residents with a lack of access to adequate food sources have been shown to have poorer health outcomes. Living in a food desert creates a health disparity among residents that impacts quality-of-life and overall health.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy foods and move towards self-sufficiency.

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Rural-Urban Continuum

According to the Rural-Urban Continuum, the counties of Dukes and Nantucket in Congressional District 9 are defined as rural.

Codes are determined on a 1 to 9 scale, 1 being the least rural and 9 being the most rural. Rural areas often have a higher poverty rate when comparing to their urban counterparts. Poverty in rural areas may contribute to poor housing conditions and health among residents.

Digital Divide Index Range

District	State
9.24-15.92	7.66-19.84

In Congressional District 9, there are no areas of concern. The digital divide index is a value ranging from 0 to 100, 100 indicating the highest digital divide. A higher digital divide score is associated with limited broadband infrastructure, digital literacy, and exposure to technology benefits. In areas with higher digital divide scores, individuals may face barriers that limit their ability to obtain health information, stay informed, access online education, or secure employment options.

According to the Purdue Center for Regional Development, a digital divide score of 30 and above presents significant socioeconomic, broadband infrastructure, and adoption challenges that may limit motivation, skills, and usage of technology.

AARP Livability Index Range

District	State
49-51	49-62

In Congressional District 9, the counties of Bristol and Plymouth have livability scores that are below average. This indicates that these counties have scored lower on one or more of the measures that are used to assess community livability. The AARP Livability Index takes a holistic approach measuring housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. Each metric is scored on a measure of 0 to 100, 0 being the lowest and 100 being the highest. Because health is deeply related to quality of life, higher livability scores are associated with healthier communities due to an increased access to health-related resources and quality healthcare.

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