



Winchester Community-Wide Needs Assessment

Chapter 1: Community Data Profile

April - 2018



Health Resources in Action
Advancing Public Health and Medical Research

Background and Purpose

In the Fall of 2017, the Town of Winchester embarked on a Community-Wide Needs Assessment. The goal was to identify and prioritize the concerns of Winchester residents, particularly around social services, well-being, and civic engagement.

This chapter (i.e. the Community Data Profile) is one of four chapters that make up the full Community Needs Assessment Report. It provides a portrait of the Winchester community based on a wide range of publicly available data sources. This will allow the Town of Winchester to better understand the changing characteristics of the Town in order to more effectively respond to residents' needs.



Data Sources

The data included in the Community Data Profile represent a range of topic areas:

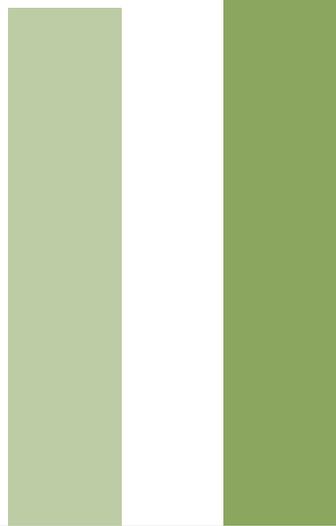
- The U.S. Census Bureau provides a rich source of information about the changing characteristics of Winchester residents.
- The Massachusetts Department of Health makes a range of health-focused data available at the local level, which provides a snapshot into key health concerns in a community.
- Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and Winchester Public Schools provide data related to the school-age population.
- The Middlesex League Youth Risk Behavior Survey provides self-reported data on students' risky health behaviors.
- Agencies such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Federal Bureau of Investigation provide current community level data on employment and crime.



The total Winchester population is growing.

Massachusetts

6,512,227 6,742,143



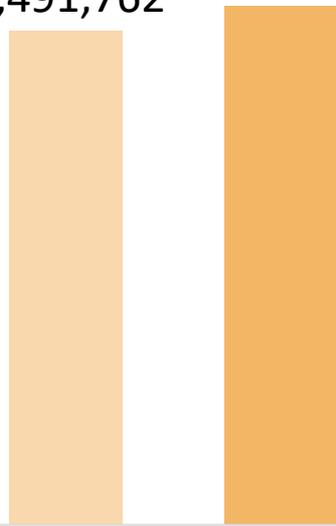
2011 2016



**3.5% increase between
2011 and 2016**

Middlesex County

1,491,762 1,567,610



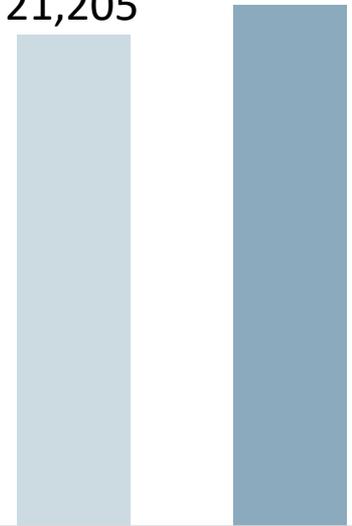
2011 2016



**5.1% increase between
2011 and 2016**

Winchester

21,205 22,491



2011 2016



**6.1% increase between
2011 and 2016**



The student population in Winchester is growing.

Massachusetts Public School Enrollment



**5.2% decrease between
2013 and 2017**

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

Winchester Public School Enrollment

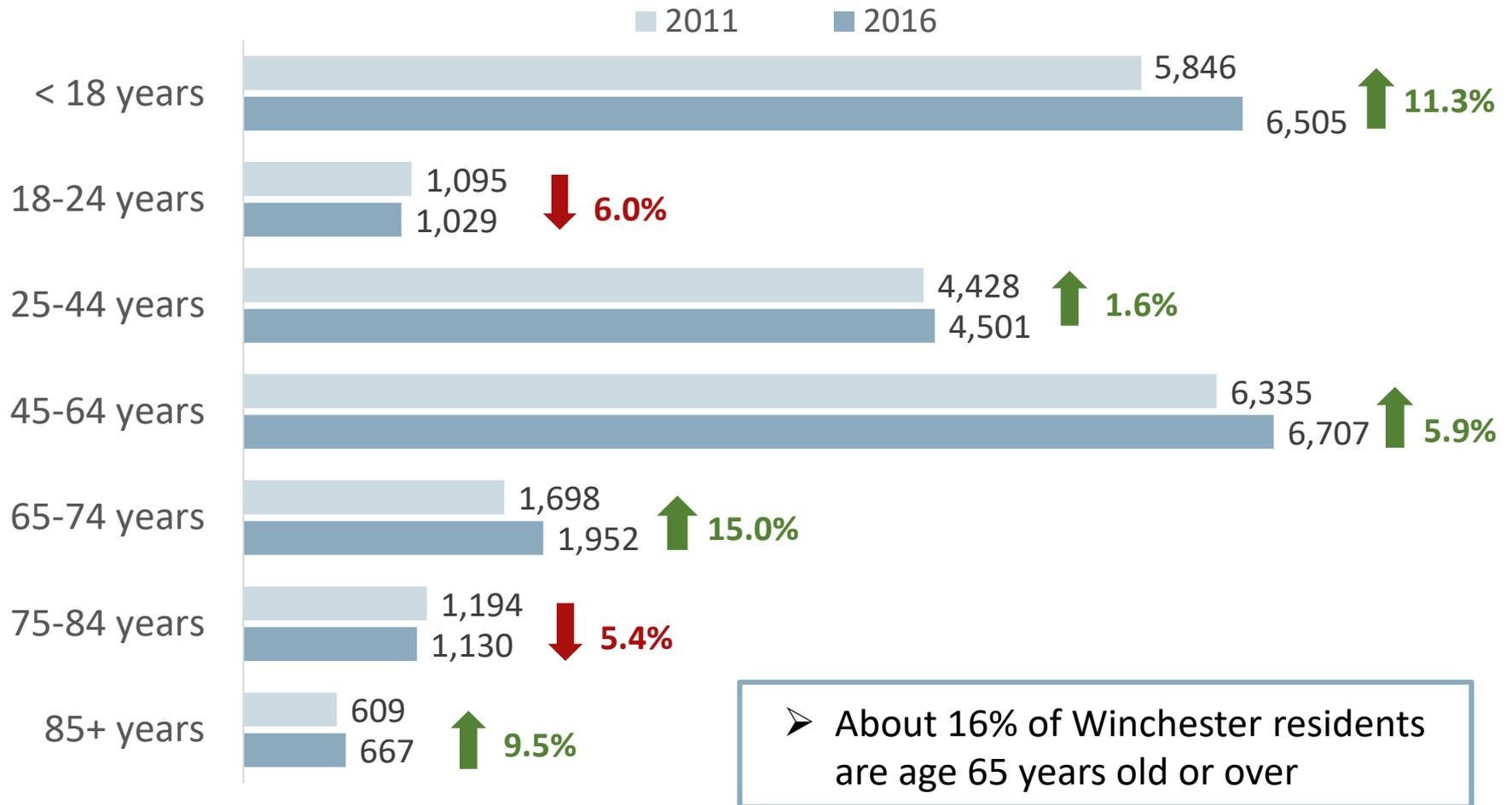


**5.2% increase between
2013 and 2017**

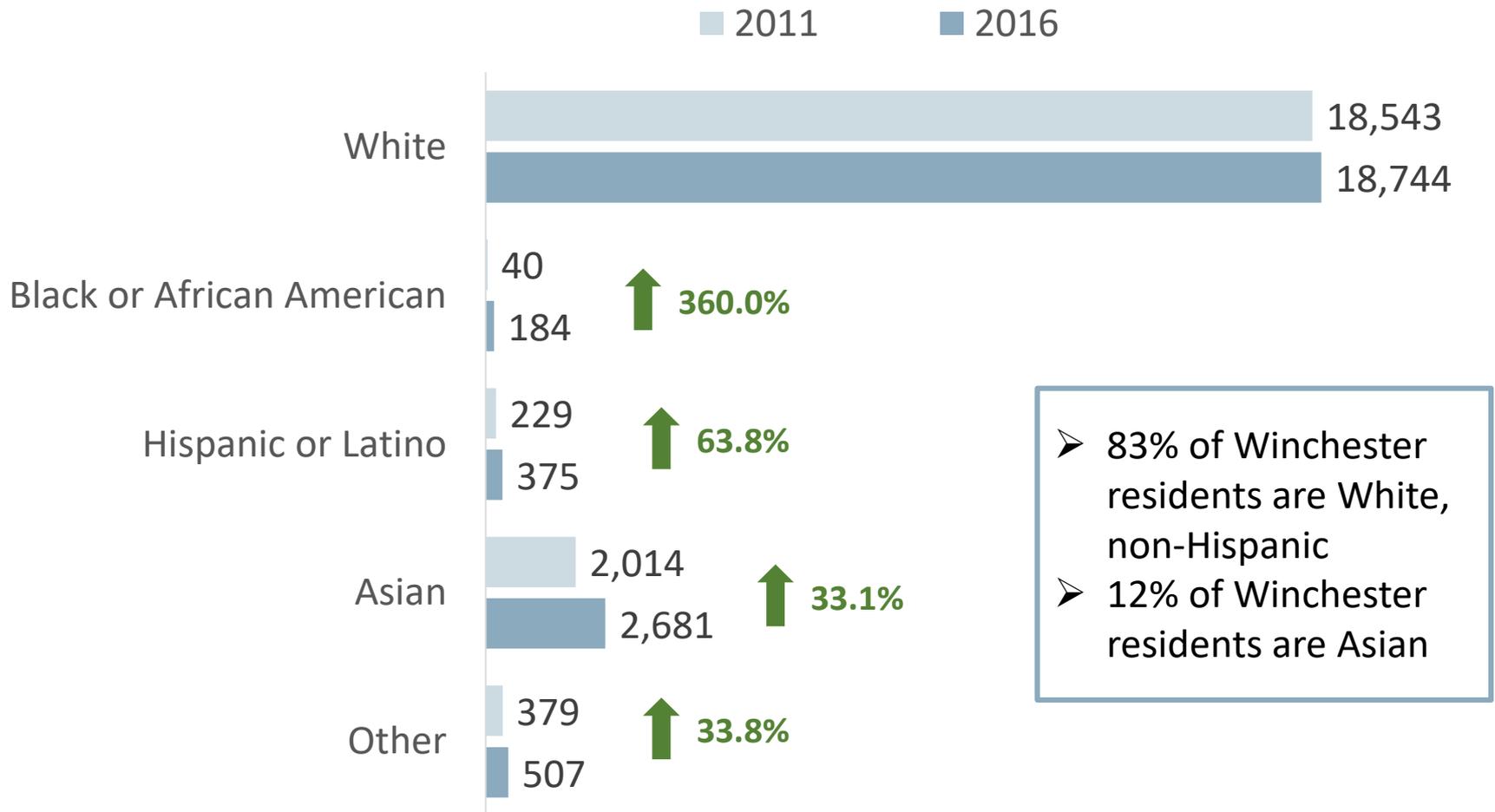
2013 2014 2015 2016 2017



Some age groups in Winchester are growing more than others.

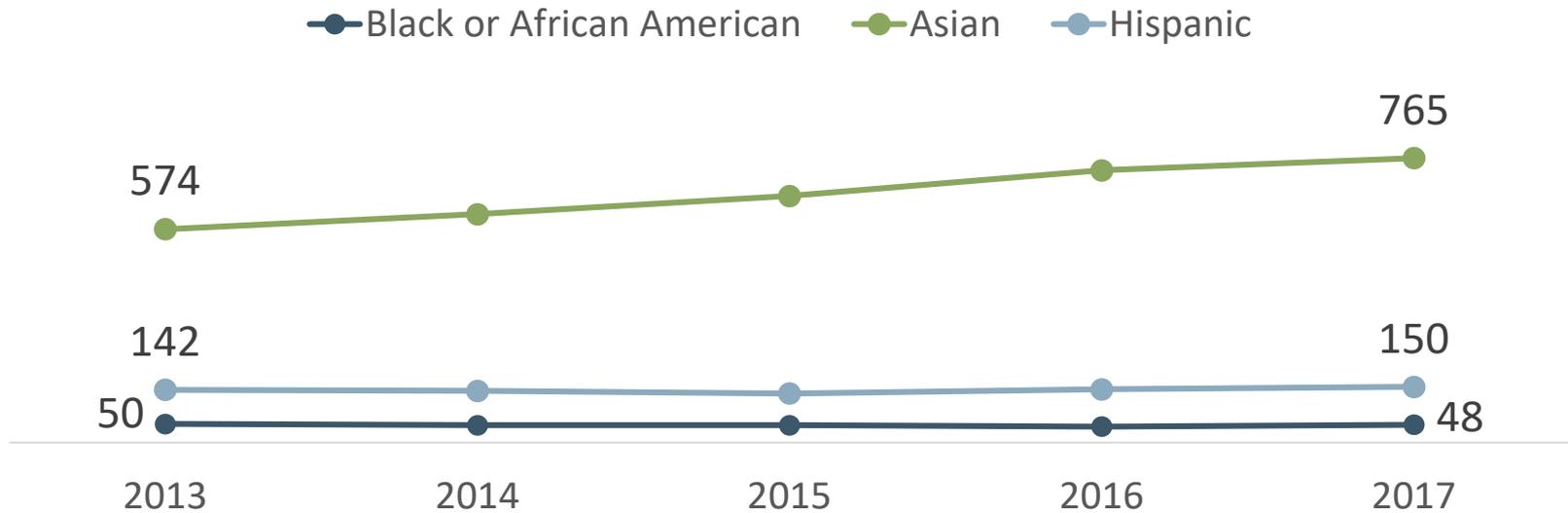


The racial and ethnic diversity of the Winchester population is increasing.



There has been a slight increase in the Asian student population in Winchester.

**Count of Students Enrolled in Winchester Public Schools
by Race/Ethnicity (2016)**

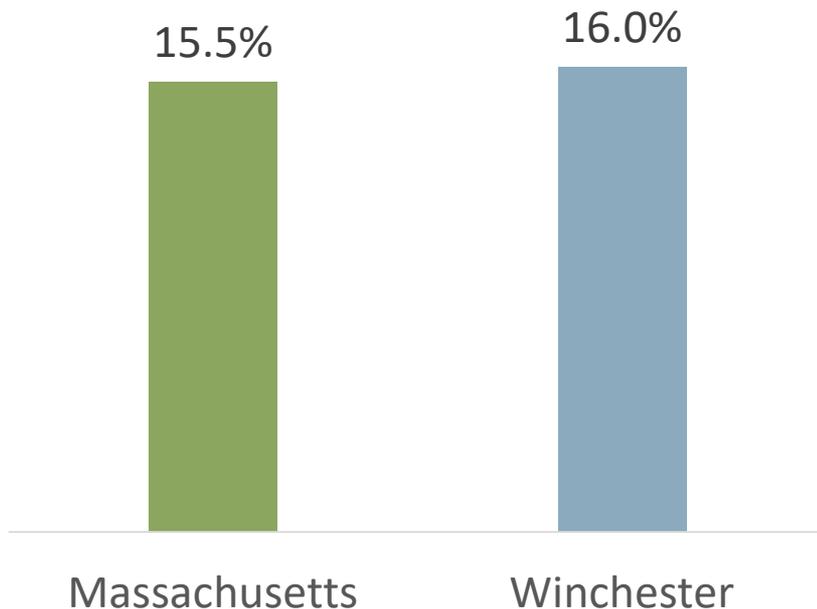


- The overall student population has increased slightly from 4,396 in 2013 to 4,623 in 2017
- The proportion of Winchester students identifying as White, non-Hispanic has declined from 78.8% in 2013 to 73.7% in 2017



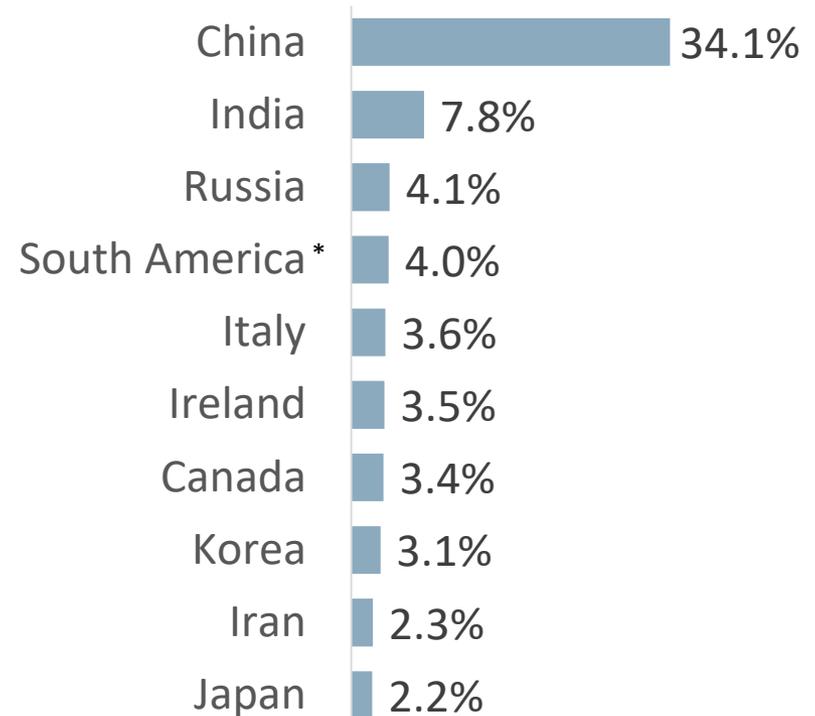
Foreign-born residents of Winchester represent a range of backgrounds.

Percent of Population that is Foreign-born (2016)



➤ A total of 3,264 Winchester residents are foreign born

Top Places of Origin (2016) Among Foreign-born Winchester Residents

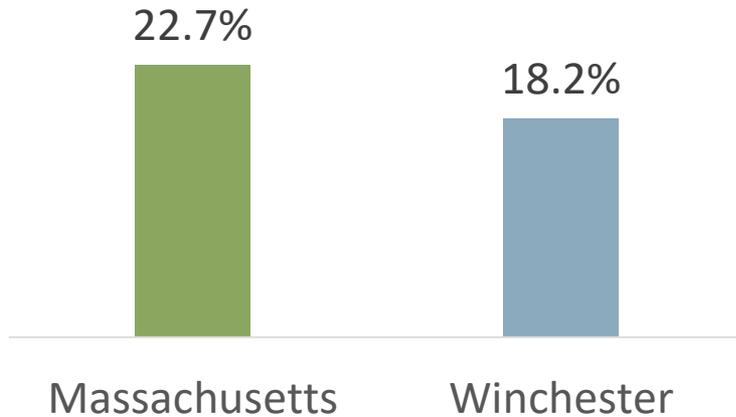


*Includes Brazil, Chile, and Venezuela



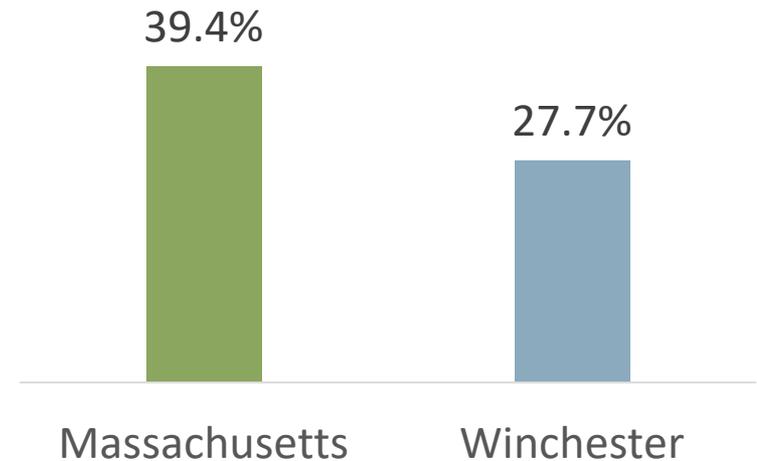
About 1 in 6 Winchester residents speaks a language other than English.

Percent of Population that Speak a Language other than English (2016)



➤ 3,849 Winchester residents speak a language other than English

Percent of non-English speakers who speak English less than “very well” (2016)



➤ 1,067 Winchester residents speak English less than “very well”



A range of languages are spoken in Winchester.

Top Ten Languages Spoken in Winchester (2015)

1	English (16,748 residents)	6	Spanish or Spanish Creole (241 residents)
2	Chinese (1,312 residents)	7	Vietnamese (186 residents)
3	French* (270 residents)	8	Other Asian languages** (186 residents)
4	Italian (255 residents)	9	Other Indo-European languages*** (179 residents)
5	Russian (242 residents)	10	German (162 residents)

* French includes Patois and Cajun

** Other Asian languages include Burmese, Karen, Turkish, Uzbek, etc.

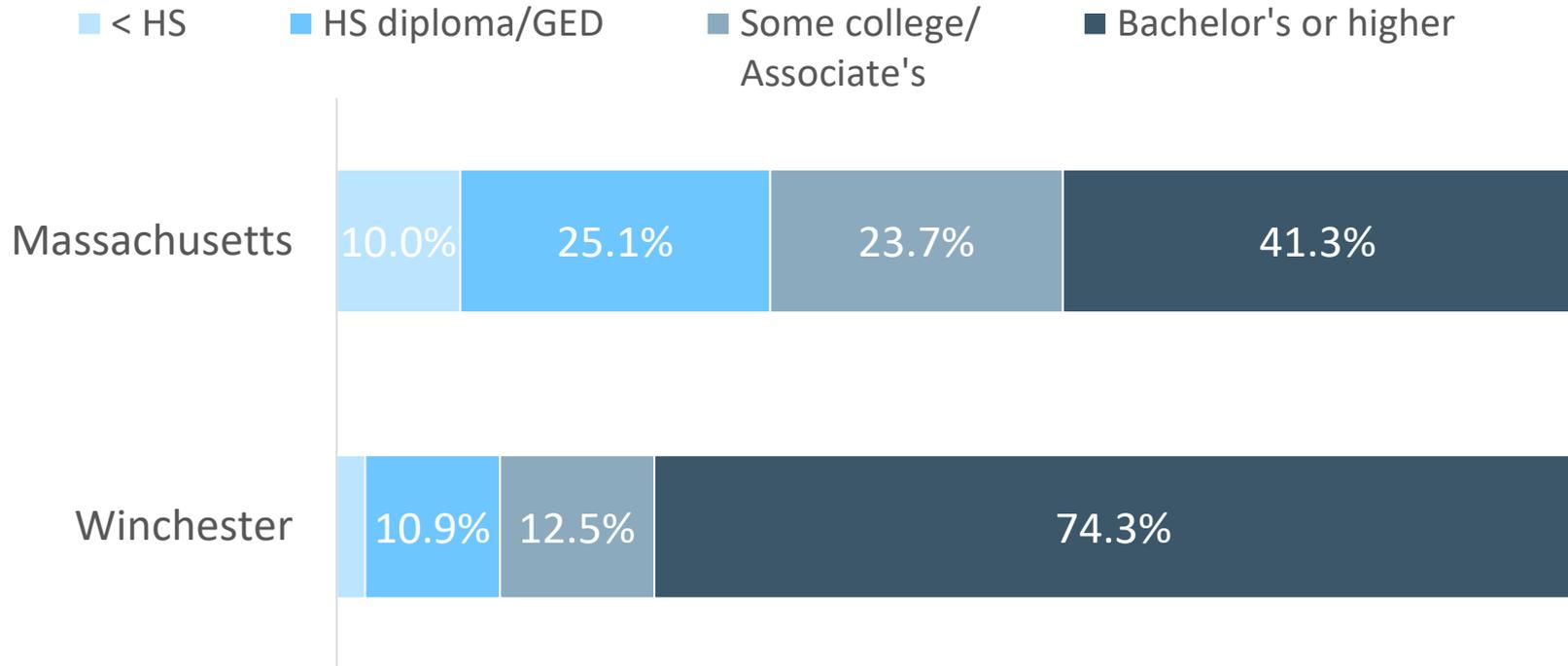
*** Other Indo-European languages include Albanian, Lithuanian, Pashto (Pushto), Romanian, Swedish, etc.

➤ English is not the first language for approximately 16% of students enrolled in Winchester Public Schools and about 4% are identified as ‘English Language Learners’ (2017-2018 school year)



The population of Winchester has a high level of educational attainment.

Percent of Population by Highest Level of Education Attained (2016)



➤ 94% of Winchester High School graduates plan to attend a 4-year college (2015-2016 school year)



The Winchester population includes a highly skilled workforce with low unemployment.

Leading Industries of Employment for Winchester Residents* (2016)

1	Educational, healthcare, and social assistance services (27%)
2	Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services (23%)
3	Finance and insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing (14%)
4	Manufacturing (9.5%)
5	Retail trade (5.4%)

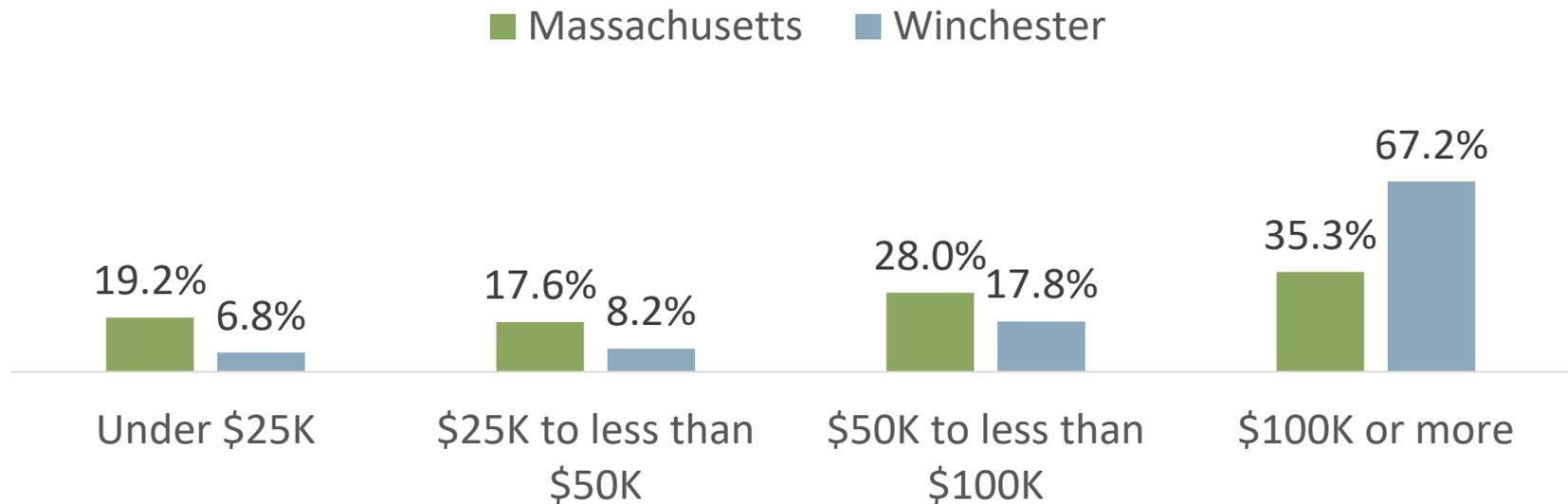
* Based on the employed population, age 16 years and older

- The unemployment rate in Winchester declined from 4.7% in 2012 to 2.6% in 2016, and has been consistently lower than that for Massachusetts as a whole



Household incomes in Winchester are skewed toward the higher end of the distribution.

Percent of Households by Household Income (2016)

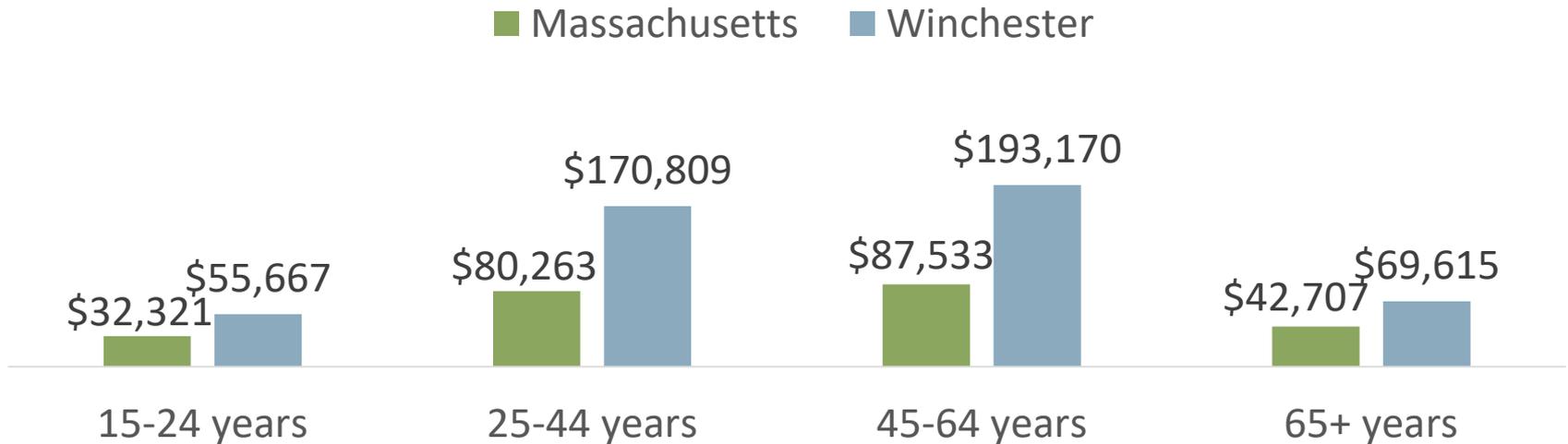


- As of 2016, of the 7,741 households in Winchester:
- 531 households have incomes under \$25k
 - 635 households have incomes of \$25k to less than \$50k
 - 1,376 households have incomes of \$50k to less than \$100k
 - 5,199 households have incomes of \$100k or more



Median household income varies greatly by age of the householder in Winchester.

Median Household Income by Age of Householder (2016)



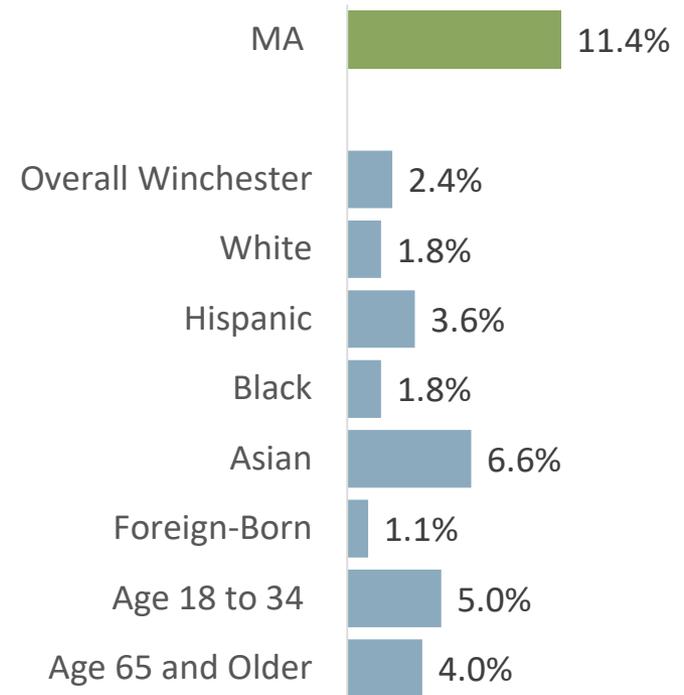
- The overall median household income for Winchester residents is \$149,321 (which is higher than \$70,954 for Massachusetts)
- As of 2016, of the 7,741 households in Winchester:
 - 38 householders are aged 15-24 years
 - 2,056 householders are aged 25-44 years
 - 3,487 householders are aged 45-64 years
 - 2,160 householders are aged 65 years or older



Some segments of the Winchester population are economically vulnerable.

- 2.4% of all Winchester residents (approx. 529 residents) have incomes that fall below the poverty line
- Residents age 18 to 34, age 65 and older, as well as Hispanic and Asian residents, are more likely to fall below the poverty line
- 5.1% of students in Winchester public schools (approx. 238 students) are categorized as economically disadvantaged*
- Approximately 163 households in Winchester are receiving food stamps or SNAP benefits

Percent of Individuals with Income Below Poverty Level (2016)

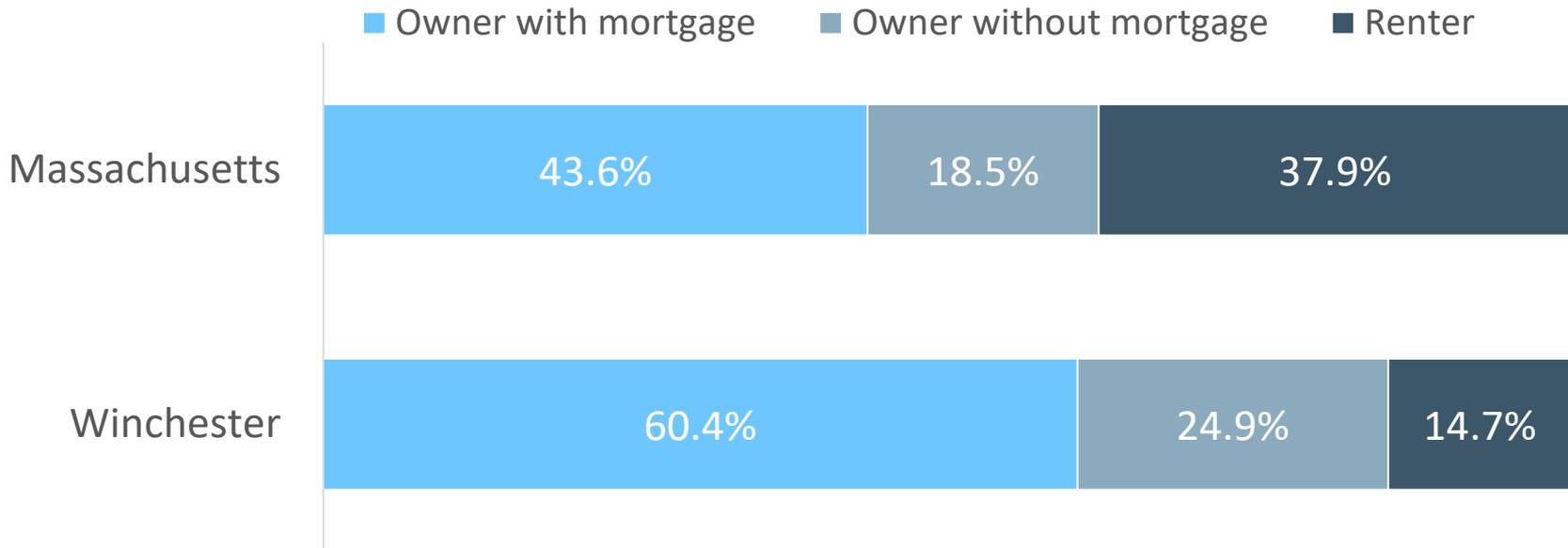


*Determined based on student's participation in at least one state-administered program (e.g., SNAP, TAFDC, DCF foster care program, MassHealth)



Households in Winchester are predominately owner-occupied.

Percent of Households by Housing Status (2016)

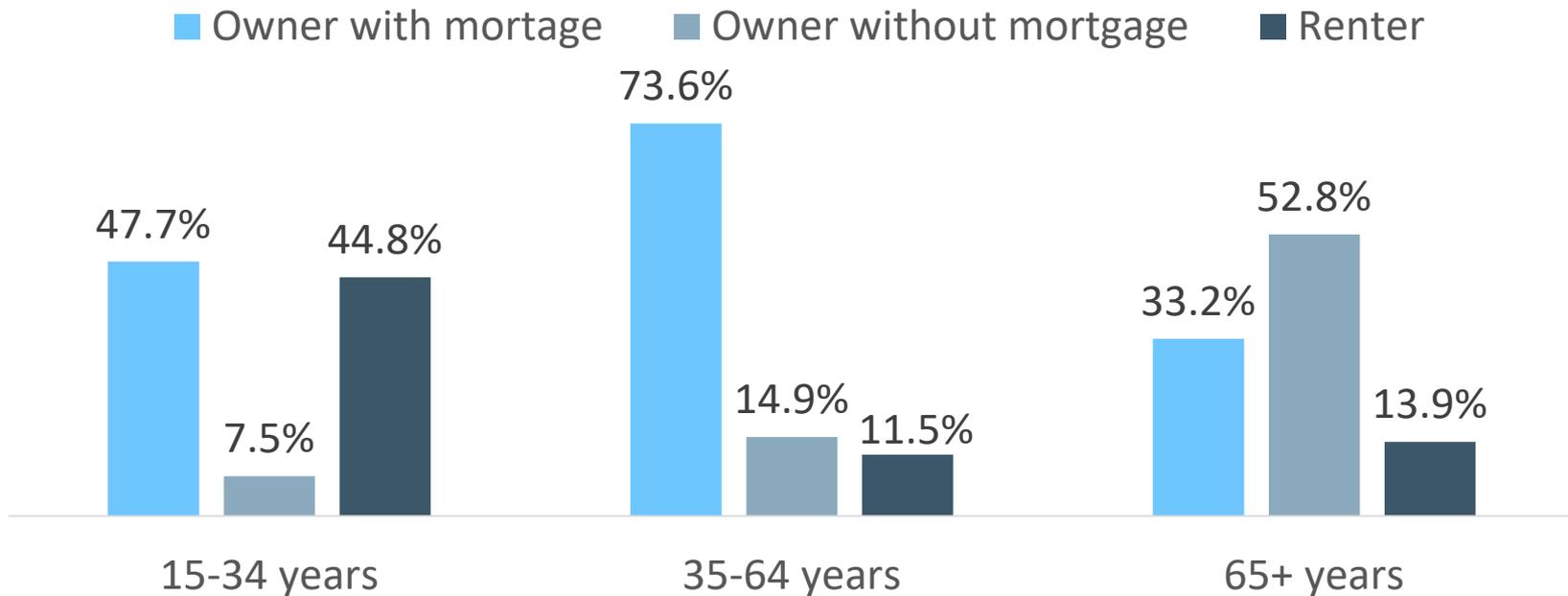


- As of 2016, of the 7,741 households in Winchester:
 - 4,678 are owner-occupied households with a mortgage
 - 1,928 are owner-occupied households without a mortgage
 - 1,135 are renter-occupied households



Housing status varies greatly by age of the householder in Winchester.

Housing Status in Winchester by Age of Householder (2016)

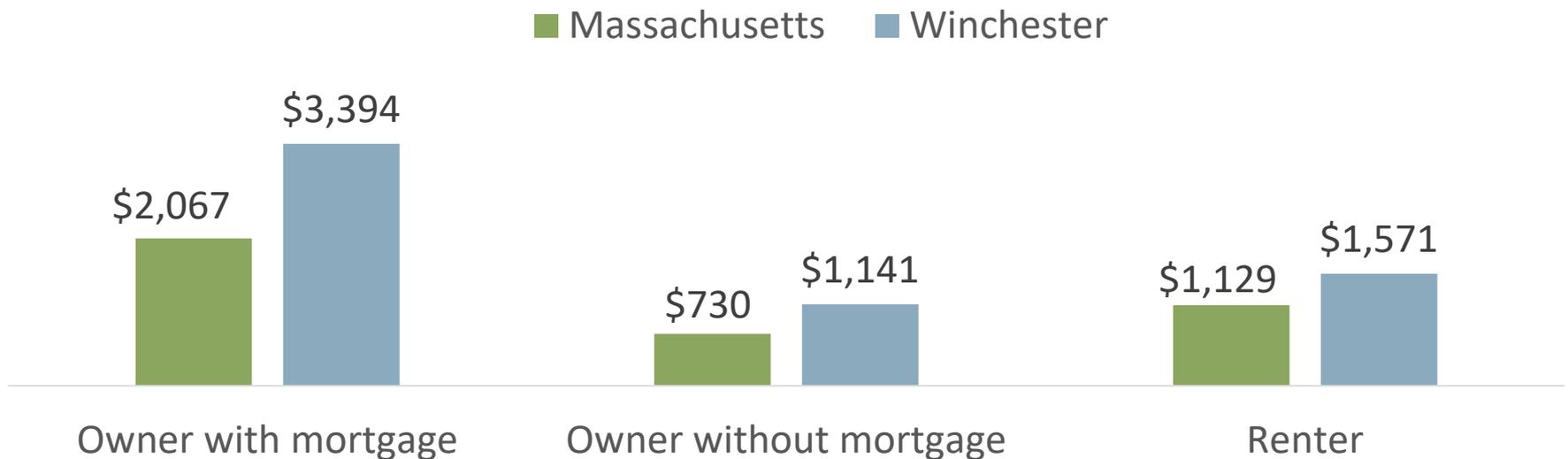


➤ About 11% of householders aged 65 and older in Winchester are living alone



Monthly housing costs are higher in Winchester compared to the State for all housing statuses.

Median Monthly Housing Costs* by Housing Status (2016)



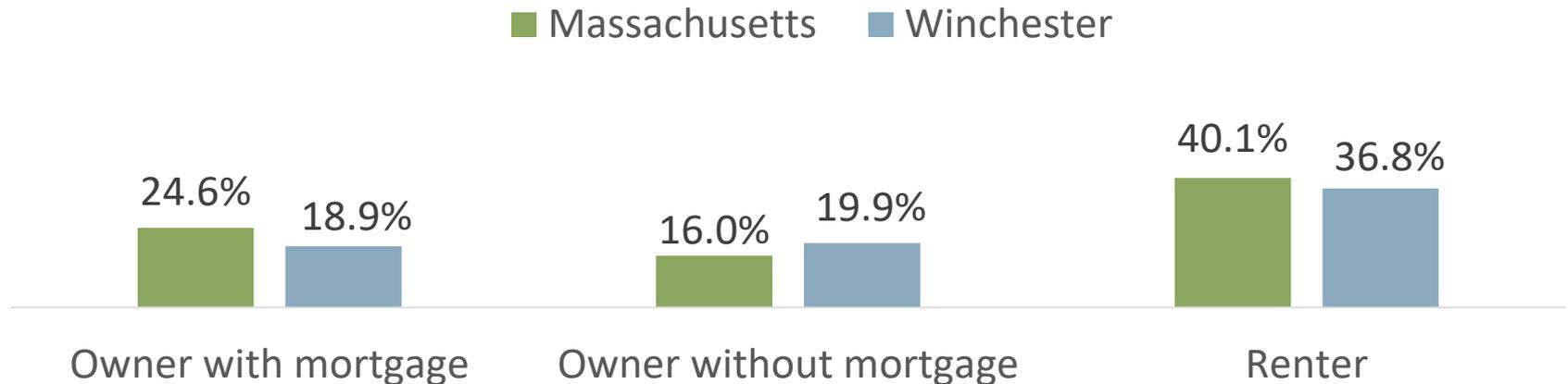
*NOTE: Selected monthly owner costs are calculated from the sum of payment for mortgages, real estate taxes, various insurances, utilities, fuels, mobile home costs, and condominium fees.

DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2012-2016



A sizeable proportion of households in Winchester may be overly burdened by monthly housing costs.

Percent of Households that are Housing Cost Burdened (Costs Exceed 35% of Income) by Housing Status (2016)



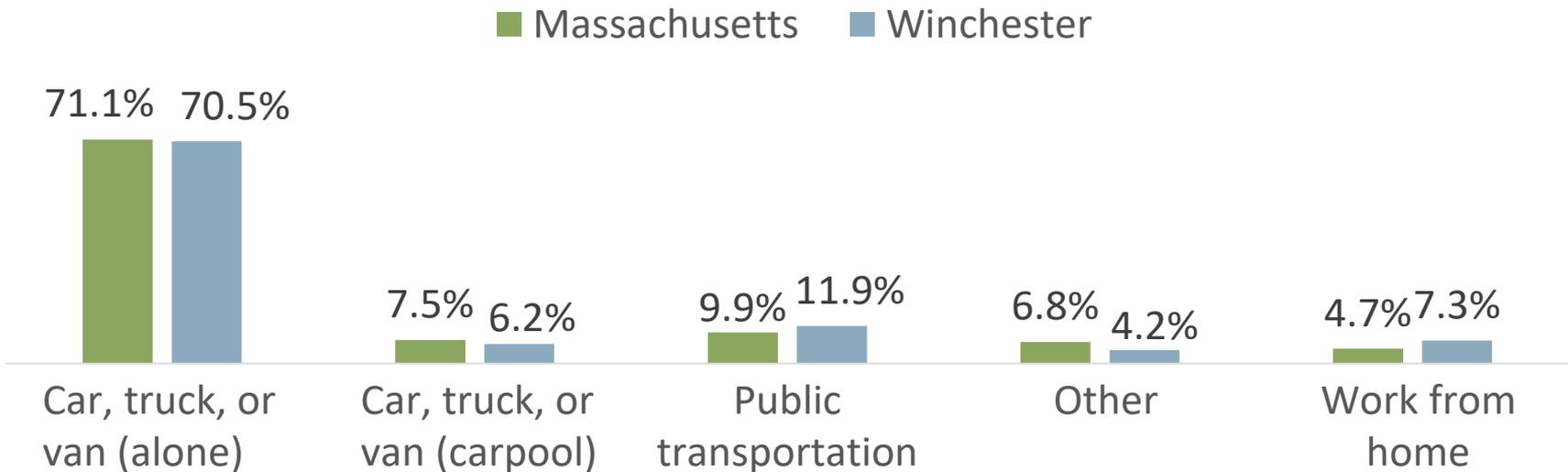
- A total of 1,661 households meet the definition of 'housing cost burdened' (or 21.5% of all households)
 - 884 of 4,678 owner-occupied with a mortgage
 - 382 of 1,928 owner-occupied without a mortgage
 - 395 of 1,135 renter-occupied

NOTE: Selected monthly owner costs are calculated from the sum of payment for mortgages, real estate taxes, various insurances, utilities, fuels, mobile home costs, and condominium fees.
DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2012-2016



The majority of Winchester residents drive to work.

Mode of Transportation to Work Among Employed Population Aged 15+ (2016)



- The length of the commute to work varies by mode:
- 52% of Winchester residents driving alone have a one-way commute of less than 30 minutes
 - 34% of Winchester residents using public transportation have a one-way commute of one hour or more

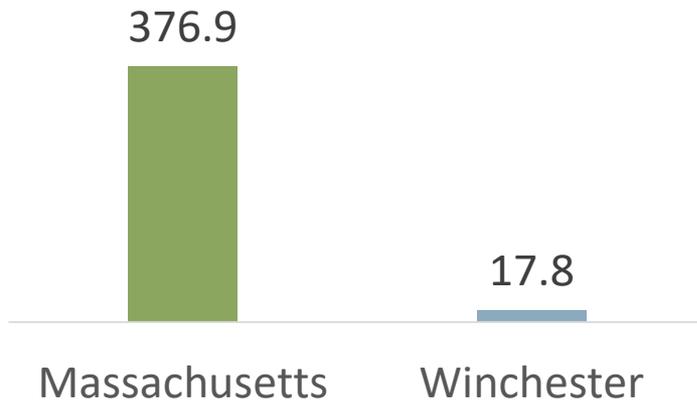
NOTE: Travel time to work is defined as the total number of minutes that it usually took the worker to get from home to work during the employment status reference week.

DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2012-2016

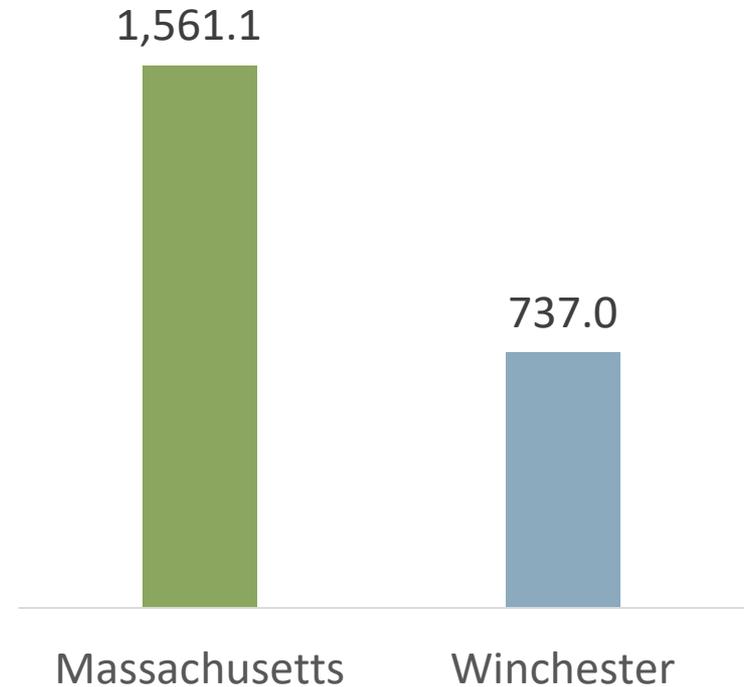


Winchester has notably low rates of crime.

Violent Crime (2016)
(Rate per 100, 000)

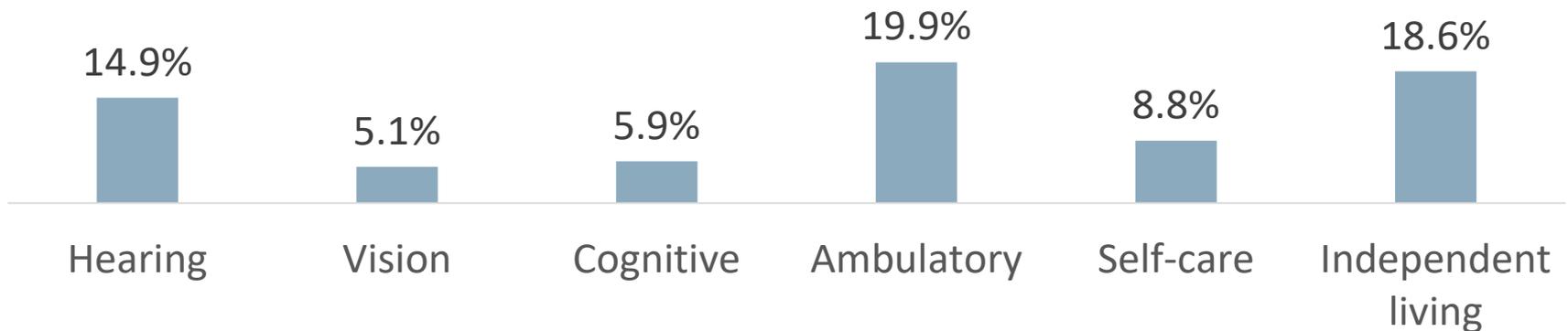


Property Crime (2016)
(Rate per 100, 000)



Disability is more common among Winchester's oldest residents, those age 75 and older.

Percent of the Population aged 75 and older that has a Disability, by type (2016)



- Overall, 35.1% of Winchester residents aged 75 or older have a disability of any type (569 of 1,620 residents age 75 or older)
- Fewer than 3% of Winchester residents under at 75 have a disability of any type (534 of 20,644 residents under age 75)
- Among the 1,107 veterans (of any age) living in Winchester, 13% have some type of disability (2016)

NOTE: Percentages do not include the population residing in skilled nursing facilities and other long-term care living arrangements

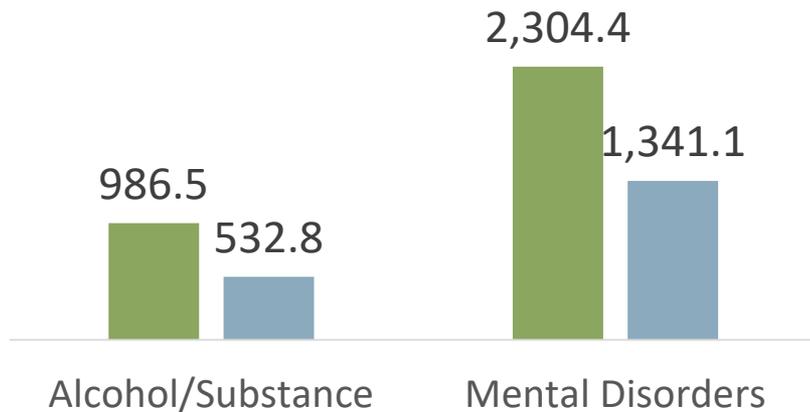
DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2012-2016



Utilization of emergency/hospital services for behavioral health is lower among Winchester residents.

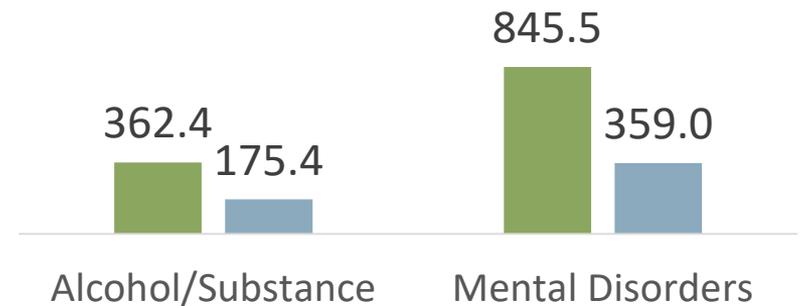
Rate of Emergency Dept. Visits per 100,000 Population (2012)

■ Massachusetts ■ Winchester



Rate of Hospitalizations per 100,000 Population (2012)

■ Massachusetts ■ Winchester

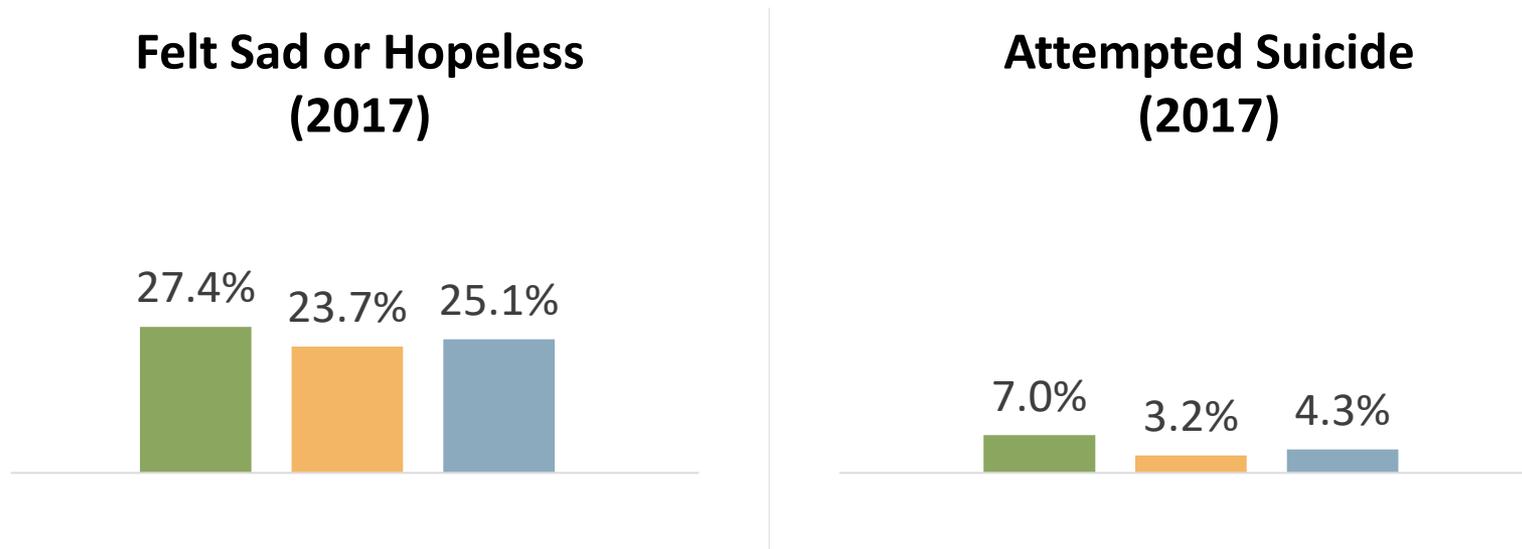


NOTE: Rates shown are age-adjusted rates per 100,000
DATA SOURCE: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, MassCHIP, 2012



Winchester students are more likely to report poor mental health than the Middlesex League overall.

■ Massachusetts ■ Middlesex League ■ Winchester



➤ About 15.1% of Winchester high school students (or 120 students) report they are currently taking medicine or receiving treatment for a behavioral or mental health condition or emotional problem

NOTE: Middlesex League includes the school districts of Arlington, Belmont, Burlington, Lexington, Melrose, Stoneham, Reading, Wakefield, Watertown, Wilmington, Winchester, and Woburn.

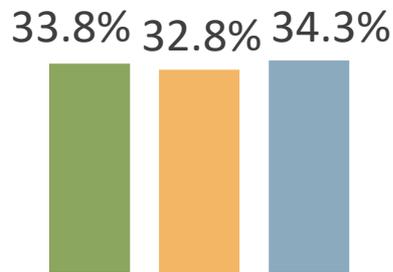
DATA SOURCE: Middlesex League Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Winchester Report, analysis by John Snow, Inc., 2017



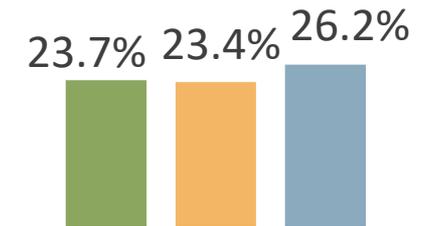
Winchester students are more likely to report drinking and vaping than the Middlesex League overall.

■ Massachusetts ■ Middlesex League ■ Winchester

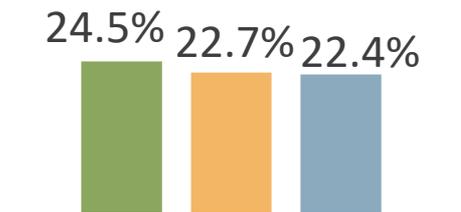
Current Alcohol Use (2017)



Current Electronic Vapor Product Use (2017)



Current Marijuana Use (2017)



➤ Over a third of Winchester high school students (or 240 students) report they are currently consume alcohol

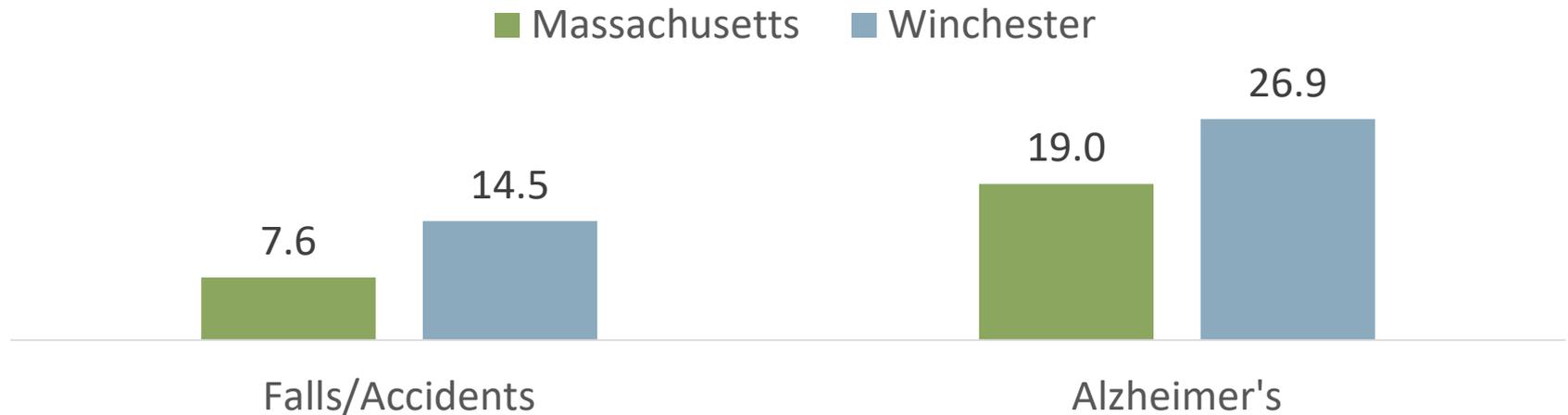
NOTE: Middlesex League includes the school districts of Arlington, Belmont, Burlington, Lexington, Melrose, Stoneham, Reading, Wakefield, Watertown, Wilmington, Winchester, and Woburn.

DATA SOURCE: Middlesex League Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Winchester Report, analysis by John Snow, Inc., 2017



Winchester has higher mortality rates than the State for two key age-related causes.

Mortality Rate per 100,000 Population (2014)



- Mortality due to falls/accidents and Alzheimer's disease are higher for Winchester residents compared to the State
- The mortality rates for other leading causes of mortality in Winchester are all lower than those for the State:
 - *Heart Disease: 102.5 per 100,000 in Winchester vs. 137.4 per 100,000 in MA*
 - *Cancer: 103.7 per 100,000 in Winchester vs. 155.6 per 100,000 in MA*

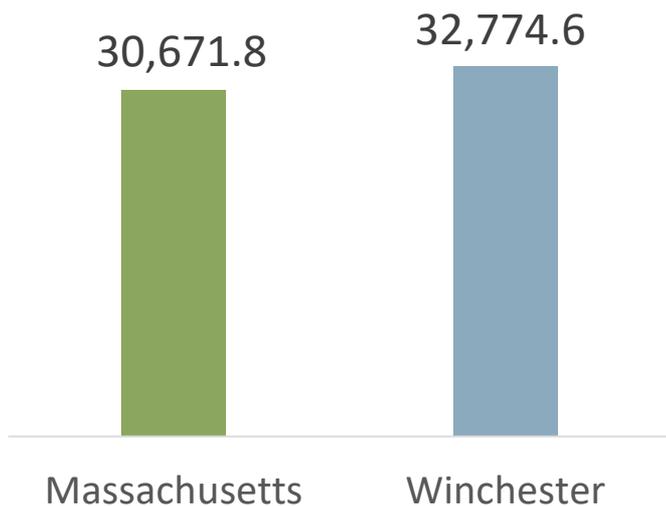
NOTE: Rates shown are age-adjusted rates per 100,000

DATA SOURCE: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, 2014

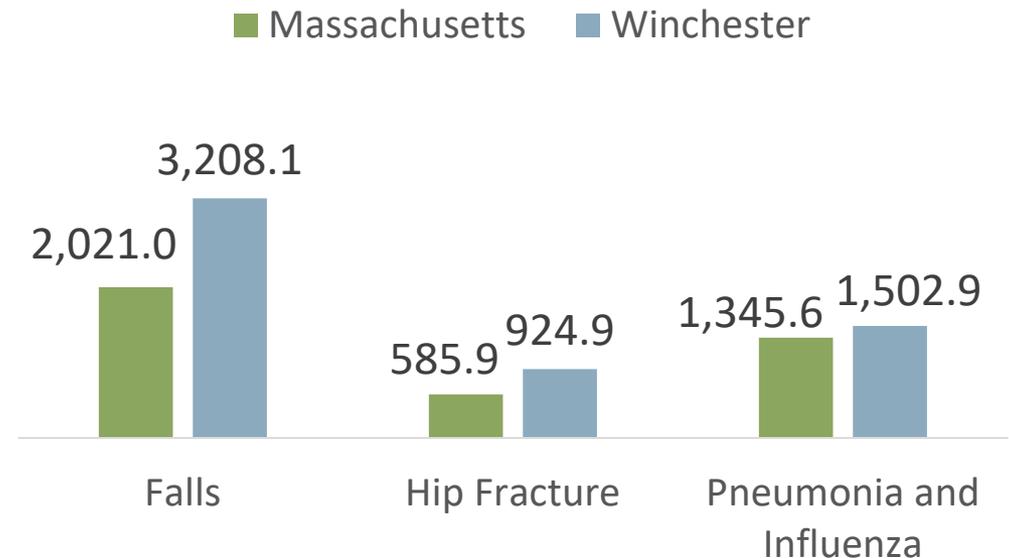


Adults age 65 and older in Winchester experience more Hospitalizations than for the State overall.

Rate of All-Cause Hospitalizations among Residents age 65+ (2012)



Rate of Hospitalizations among Residents age 65+ by Specific Cause (2012)



➤ For the population age 65+, hospitalizations due to all-causes, falls, hip fracture, and pneumonia/influenza are higher in Winchester compared to the State



For More Information



Health Resources in Action
Advancing Public Health and Medical Research

Data Analyses and Reporting

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