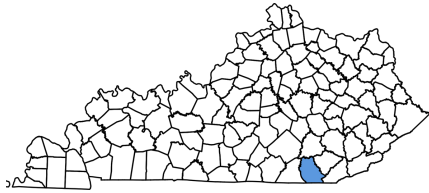


Whitley County

Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Population Factsheet



Kentucky Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

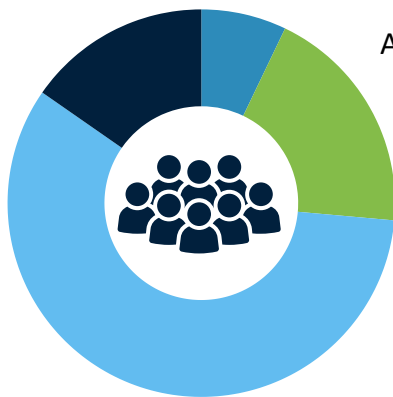


Total Population: 36,254

POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

Over 65 years
15.3%

Ages 5-17
19.3%



Ages 18-64
58.3%

Age and Population Data

The 2023 data was provided through the American Community Survey and is based on 5-year Estimates by the U.S. Census. The percentages shown reflect civilians living in the community, not those living in an institutionalized setting such as assisted living, long-term care, or other skilled nursing facilities.

The health implications vary significantly by age group due to physiological changes, lifestyle factors, and disease susceptibility.

Infants & Young Children (0-5 years)

Common Concerns: Malnutrition, infectious diseases, respiratory issues, and congenital disorders.

Key Risks: Weakened immune system, developmental delays, vaccine-preventable illnesses.

Children & Adolescents (6-18 years)

Common Concerns: Obesity, mental health issues, injuries, infectious diseases.

Key Risks: Poor diet, sedentary lifestyle, peer pressure (substance use, risky behaviors).

Older Adults (65+ years)

Common Concerns: Chronic diseases (arthritis, dementia, osteoporosis, heart disease), fall-related injuries, weakened immune function.

Key Risks: Reduced mobility, cognitive decline, medication side effects, social isolation.

LANGUAGE BARRIERS

78
0.2%

Speaks English less than very well

Non-native English speakers may encounter severe public health consequences affecting communication, response effectiveness, and safety. Key impacts may include delayed or misinformed response, limited access to emergency services, and increased health risks.

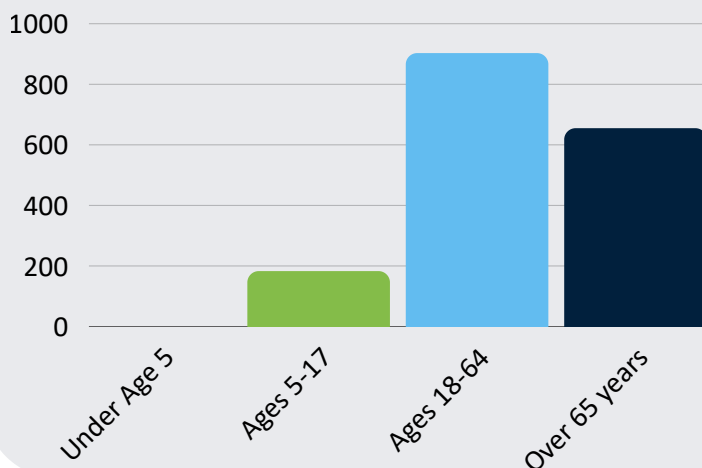
131
0.4%

Speaks Spanish at Home

VISION DIFFICULTIES

Total Affected Population: 1,741 (4.8%)

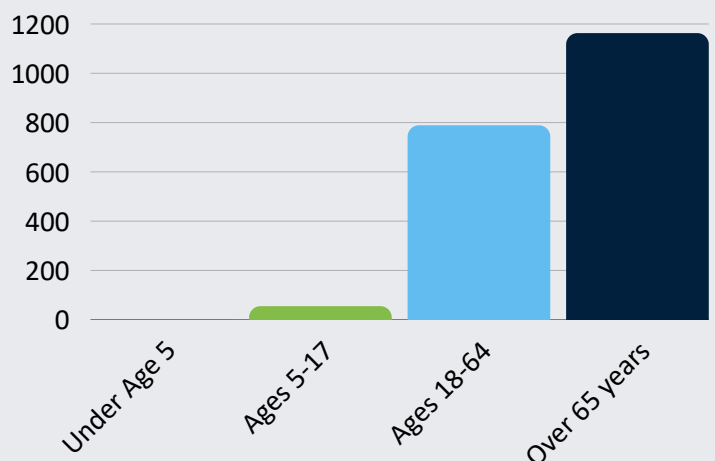
Under Age 5 Ages 5-17
Ages 18-64 Over 65 years



HEARING DIFFICULTIES

Total Affected Population: 2,008 (5.5%)

Under Age 5 Ages 5-17
Ages 18-64 Over 65 years



Updated: November 2025

Whitley County

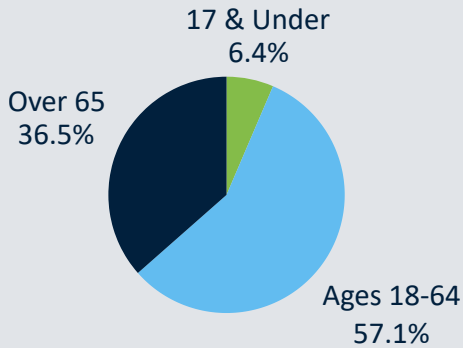
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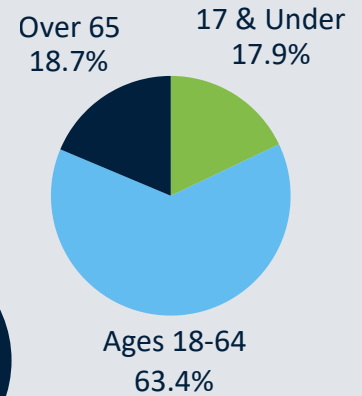
AMBULATORY DISABILITIES

Total Affected Population: 4,102 (12.2%)



COGNITIVE DISABILITIES

Total Affected Population: 3,546 (10.5%)



ALL DISABILITY TYPES

Total civilian non-institutionalized population with a disability

7,632
(21.1%)

Ambulatory Considerations:

- **Increased Risk of Injury** - Debris and mud may pose a high risk of falls and injuries to elderly individuals or those using assistive devices, such as wheelchairs or walkers.
- **Evacuation and Transportation Barriers** - At-risk populations may require assistance with relocation or accessing resources, necessitating coordinated support and accessible transportation.

Cognitive Considerations:

- **Pre-existing Conditions** - Individuals with dementia, Alzheimer's disease, intellectual disabilities, brain injuries, or mental health disorders may struggle with understanding warnings and evacuation orders.
- **Medical Care Disruption** - Changing information and chaotic environments can impede caregiver check-ins and overwhelming survivors, affecting their decision-making abilities.

DIABETES

Medication Access and Storage:

- Insulin and other medications may be compromised if refrigeration is lost.
- Insulin can be stored up 86°F/30°C for 28 days, but extreme heat can cause it to spoil faster.
- Glucose meters, test strips, and continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) might be damaged by water or humidity.



3,351
(11.4%)

Adults 20+
years of age with
Diabetes

LACK OF TRANSPORTATION

Health and Medical Considerations:

Impacted survivors may require specific accommodations (e.g., lifts or ramps) to access resources following a significant disruption. The following should be considered:

- Transportation must prioritize individuals with chronic illnesses or those with critical medication needs.
- Some individuals may require oxygen tanks, dialysis, or other forms of medical support during transport.
- Safe, alternate evacuation routes must be mapped ahead of time.
- Rural and low-income areas often have limited access to formal transportation networks.



13,570

Total number of
occupied households

19.2%

Percentage of
households with no
vehicles available