



HEALTH
PLANNING
COUNCIL
OF SOUTHWEST FL

HEALTH FOCUSED COMMUNITY DRIVEN

Aging in DeSoto County

24%

In 2024, approximately **24%** (8,286) of the population in DeSoto County was 65 years and older. Of those, 1,104 are 85 years of age or older.¹

ACCESS TO CARE



When compared to Florida, DeSoto County has fewer nursing home beds (336.3 vs. 357.5 rate per 100,00) in 2024.²

In 2024 there was **7,801** seniors in DeSoto County that enrolled in Medicare³



About **38%** of seniors 65+ in DeSoto County are living with a disability.⁴

FALLS



Falls among those 65+ were the leading fatal unintentional injury.⁴



In 2024, the rate of seniors aged 65 and older who visited the emergency department for a fall was 5,877.4 per 100,000, higher than the Florida average (5,587.5 per 100,000).²



SOCIAL & HEALTH FACTORS



About **22%** of seniors in DeSoto County live alone. Senior isolation is a major public health concern. This could negatively affect a person's physical and mental health.⁴



The average monthly Social Security income for seniors in DeSoto County in 2023 was **\$1,740.00**.⁵



About **42%** of people aged 65 and older in DeSoto County live below 200% of the poverty level.⁴



Approximately **40%** of seniors 80+ in DeSoto County in 2023 do not have a drivers license.⁶



SOURCES

¹ Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research, ² Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, ³ Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, ⁴ Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, ⁵ United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, ⁶ Social Security Administration ⁶ Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Local Resources for Seniors

- Area Agency on Aging Southwest Florida
 - Aaaswfl.org
- Senior Friendship Center
 - Friendshipcenters.org
- Safety Tips for Seniors
 - Desotosherrif.com

National and State Resources

- Alzheimer's Association
 - Alz.org
- Elder Helpline Local Number Finder
 - Elderaffairs.org/elder-helpline
- Florida Department on Elder Affairs
 - Elderaffairs.org
- Falls Prevention, National Council on Aging
 - Ncoa.org
- Progame of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Program Finder
 - Npaonline.org

Get Data

- [Aging in Florida Dashboard](#)
- [FL Charts](#)

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Hpcswf.com