

Gorham

Demographic Indicators		
Indicator	Value	Rank in County*
Population (2008)	15,563	7 th
Population change between 1998 and 2008	+15.0%	13 th
Population per square mile (2008)	307	10 th
Median age (2000)	34.3	25 th
Under 18 (2000)	25.9%	8 th
65 and over (2000)	10.0%	21 st
Racial and ethnic minorities (2000)	2.8%	9 th
Not fluent in English (2000)	0.14%	20 th
Living in poverty (1999)	7.4%	10 th
Less than a high school education (2000)	8.5%	18 th
Single parent households (2000)	8.6%	7 th

*Among 26 municipalities in Cumberland County, from largest to smallest value.

Annual Rate per 100,000 for the Top 10 Causes of Death in Cumberland County (2001-05)			
Disease	Town	County	State
1. Cancer	164	227	242
2. Heart Disease	156	191	237
3. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	50	51	61
4. Cerebrovascular Diseases	43	50	61
5. Alzheimer's Disease	26	48	38
6. Unintentional Injuries	28	36	40
7. Influenza/Pneumonia	24	26	24
8. Diabetes Mellitus	16	24	30
9. Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome, Nephrosis	12	20	19
10. Septicemia	**	11	10
All Causes	695	884	969

Shading indicates a significant difference from the state.
 **Too few to be disclosed.

Gorham has a significant INCREASE in...

Indicator	Current	Prior	% increase
Annual chlamydia cases per 100,000	167 (2005-07)	92 (2002-04)	82%
Annual substance use arrests per 1,000	17.7 (2004-08)	9.7 (1999-03)	82%
Eligibility for free or reduced school lunches	18.9% (2009-10)	16.0% (2008-09)	18%
Hospital visits per 1,000***	137.9 (2007)	126.7 (2006)	9%

Gorham has...

High levels of	Low levels of
Lyme disease	Disabling occupational injuries
Home and nurse visits***	Eligibility for free or reduced school lunches
Substance use arrests	Enteric diseases

Represents the highest and lowest percentages among all significant indicators listed on the next page.

***Among those with private insurance, and by region that includes Westbrook.

GORHAM Indicators HIGHER than the State			
HEALTH ACCESS	Value	State value	% higher
Home and nurse visits per 1,000 (2007)***	44.8	25.9	73%
Hospital visits per 1,000 (2007)***	137.9	126.1	9%

CHRONIC DISEASE	Value	State value	% higher
Asthma per 1,000 (2007)***	34.1	30.2	13%
Depression per 1,000 (2007)***	66.4	59.1	12%

INFECTIOUS DISEASE	Value	State value	% higher
Annual Lyme disease per 100,000 (2005-07)	65	28	130%

SUBSTANCE USE	Value	State value	% higher
Annual substance use arrests per 1,000 (2004-08)	17.7	13.4	32%

GORHAM Indicators LOWER than the State			
HEALTH ACCESS	Value	State value	% lower
Emergency department visits per 1,000 (2007)***	112.8	191.2	41%
Disabled (2000)	14.3%	20.0%	29%

CHRONIC DISEASE	Value	State value	% lower
Breast cancer per 1,000 (2007)***	3.8	5.5	30%

INFECTIOUS DISEASE	Value	State value	% lower
Annual enteric diseases per 100,000 (2005-07)	26	45	42%

SUBSTANCE USE	Value	State value	% lower
Controlled substance prescriptions per person (2008)	1.41	1.76	20%

FAMILY HEALTH	Value	State value	% lower
Eligibility for free or reduced school lunches (2009-10)	18.9%	43.0%	56%
Annual births per 1,000 women 15 to 44 (2002-06)	48.0	52.0	8%

INJURY AND VIOLENCE	Value	State value	% lower
Disabling occupational injuries per 1,000 workers (2008)	12.7	21.0	60%

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	Value	State value	% lower
Housing built before 1950 (2000)	22.8%	35.8%	36%

***Among those with private insurance, and by region that also includes Westbrook.

Note: All data sources and health indicators with values not significantly different from the state at the 5% level are found in the document "Cumberland County Health Indicators by Municipality," which can be downloaded at <http://publichealth.portlandmaine.gov>. Additionally, some health indicators are available at the county level only, so town-level values are unavailable. Questions and comments may be directed to tsoma@portlandmaine.gov or 207-874-8787.

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