

My home county and state is Wood County in Ohio. In Wood County the population is 132,248 amongst 617.2 square miles of land. The median household income reported was \$65,458 with an employment rate of 63.9%. Even though the poverty percentage is 13.7, only 3.9% of the total population is without health care coverage. In comparison to the entire state of Ohio, Wood County is close in comparison. The percentage of poverty in Ohio is 13.4 which is 0.3% less than Wood County. The median household income in Ohio (\$65,720) is only a couple hundred dollars more than Wood County as well, however the employment rate (60.6%) is lower. The entire state of Ohio has a population of 11,799,448 and of that only 5.9% are without health care coverage.

After viewing the interactive map, I found census tract (0224.00) with the lowest life expectancy to be 73.9 years and the census tract (0204.02) with the highest to be 83.4 years. Both of those census tracts are in Wood County. The state average for life expectancy is 77.6 years and the national average is 80.4 years. The area of Wood County with the lowest life expectancy is found in the southern part where the nearest hospital is over 15 miles away and the highest life expectancy area has a hospital only 2 miles away. For my future practice, I believe this signifies how far some people must travel for healthcare. This raises the importance of primary care for those patients because in case of an emergency there is a larger period of time without any intervention. Those who live in urban areas have a great life expectancy by 2 – 2.5 years compared to those who have limited access to healthcare (Hao et al., 2020).

Reference:

Hao, L., Xu, X., Dupre, M. E., Guo, A., Zhang, X., Qiu, L., Zhao, Y., & Gu, D.

(2020). Adequate access to healthcare and added life expectancy among older adults in China. *BMC Geriatrics*, 20(1), 129.

<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12877-020-01524-9>

*Life expectancy data viz.* (2022, February 11). Cdc.gov.

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/life-expectancy/>

(N.d.). Census.gov. Retrieved January 11, 2024, from

[https://data.census.gov/profile/Wood\\_County,\\_Ohio?g=050XX00US39173#income-and-poverty](https://data.census.gov/profile/Wood_County,_Ohio?g=050XX00US39173#income-and-poverty)