Overview of the U.S. Population
Age 65 and Over
Overall Size of the U.S. Older Population is Increasing

Population in Millions

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau data from various years.
The Percent of the U.S. Population Age 65 and Over is Increasing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Population (thousands)</th>
<th>Population Age 65 and over (thousands)</th>
<th>Percent of Population age 65 and over</th>
<th>Population age 85 and over (thousands)</th>
<th>Percent of Population age 85 and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>281,422</td>
<td>34,992</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>4,236</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>308,746</td>
<td>40,268</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>5,493</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020 (Projected)</td>
<td>333,896</td>
<td>47,695</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>6,693</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2050 (Projected)</td>
<td>399,803</td>
<td>83,739</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>17,979</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Percent of the U.S. Population Age 65 and Over Will Continue to Increase as Baby Boomers Age

Population Pyramids of the United States

The Diversity of the U.S. Population Age 65 and Over Will Increase Over Time

Percent of Population Age 65 and Over

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2010 Census</th>
<th>2050 Projections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White alone</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
<td>58.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black alone</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian alone</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other races alone or in combination</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic (of any race)</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Numbers may exceed 100% because some individuals may be included in the Hispanic ethnic group and counted as a member of a racial group.

The Population Age 65 and Over is Distributed Throughout the U.S.

The U.S. Population Age 65 and Over is Proportionally Smaller than the Same Age Population of Other Developed Countries

OECD Countries by Population 65 and Over (2000 & 2010)

Characteristics of the U.S. Population Age 65 and Over
U.S. Population Age 65 and Over is Growing More Educated

Educational Attainment of Population Age 65 and Over, Selected Years

High School Graduate or more

Bachelor’s Degree or more

Male Labor Force Participation Has Decreased at All Older Ages

Percentage of Men in the Labor Force

100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%


Female Labor Force Participation Has Increased at All Older Ages

**Percentage of Women in the Labor Force**

- **55-61**
- **62-64**
- **65-69**
- **70 and over**

Poverty Rates for the Population Age 65 and Over Have Declined Over Time

Percentage of Population Living in Poverty

- **65 and Over**
- **Under 18**
- **18-64**


0.0% 5.0% 10.0% 15.0% 20.0% 25.0% 30.0% 35.0% 40.0%

### U.S. Population Age 65 and Over is Less Poor Overall, but Subgroup Differences Exist

#### Percentage of Population Age 65 and Over Living in Poverty, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Characteristics</th>
<th>65 and Over</th>
<th>65 and over, Living Alone</th>
<th>65 and over, Married Couples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic (Any Race)</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources of Retirement Income Differ by Relative Income Level

Percentage of Income by Source for Persons Age 65 and Over, By Income Quintile, 2010

Proportionally Few Age 65 and Over Live in Long-Term Care Facilities Even at Oldest Ages

Percentage of the Medicare-enrolled Population by Age in Selected Residential Settings, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Long-term Care Facilities</th>
<th>Community Housing with Services</th>
<th>Traditional Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65 and Over</td>
<td>93.0%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>97.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-84</td>
<td>93.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 and Over</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey.
Many Age 65 and Over are Living Alone, but Women are More Likely to be Living Alone

Living Arrangements of the Population Age 65 and Over, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alone</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>37.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Nonrelatives</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Other Relatives</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Spouse</td>
<td>71.7%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many Age 65 and Over Live in Close Proximity to Adult Children

- According to the Health and Retirement Study, nearly half live within 10 miles of an adult child.

- Less than 10% live with an adult child, but that percentage increases with age (7.5% of those age 65 to 74; but 9.9% of those age 85 and over).

Health and Functional Status of the U.S. Population Age 65 and Over
Health Status: Differs by Age, Race, and Ethnicity

**Percentage Reporting Good or Excellent Health (2008-2010)**

- **Total**
- Not Hispanic or Latino
  - White Only
- Not Hispanic or Latino
  - Black Only or Latino
- Hispanic or Latino of Any Race

**Percentage Reporting Fair or Poor Health (2008-2010)**

- **Total**
- Not Hispanic or Latino
  - White Only
- Not Hispanic or Latino
  - Black Only or Latino
- Hispanic or Latino of Any Race

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey.
People are Living Longer, but Gender Differences Persist

Additional Years of Life

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System
Leading Causes of Death Have Changed Over Time

Death Rates for Leading Causes of Death Among the Population Age 65 and Over (Per 100,000)

- Heart disease
- Cancer
- Stroke
- Chronic lower respiratory diseases
- Influenza and pneumonia
- Diabetes
- Alzheimer's disease

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System.
People Age 65 and Over Have High Rates of Common Chronic Conditions

Percentage of People age 65 and over, with Chronic Conditions, 2009-2010

Any cancer  Arthritis  Asthma  Chronic bronchitis or emphysema  Diabetes  Heart disease  Hypertension  Stroke

Men  Women

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey.
Overall Women have More Functional Limitations than Men, but Rates of Certain Limitations Have Declined Over Time

Percentage of Medicare Enrollees Age 65 and Over Who are Unable to Perform Certain Physical Functions

- Any of These Five
- Lift 10 lbs.
- Walk 2–3 Blocks
- Write/Grasp Small Objects
- Reach Over Head
- Stoop/Kneel

SOURCE: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey.
Percentage of Population with Trouble Performing Certain Activities of Daily Living is Declining

Percentage of Medicare Enrollees Age 65 and Over Who are Unable to Perform Certain Physical Functions

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, Health Data Interactive, Reporting Data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey.
Most of the graphs and data presented were adapted from the Forum’s 2012 Publication *Older Americans 2012: Key Indicators of Well-Being* at www.agingstats.gov.
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