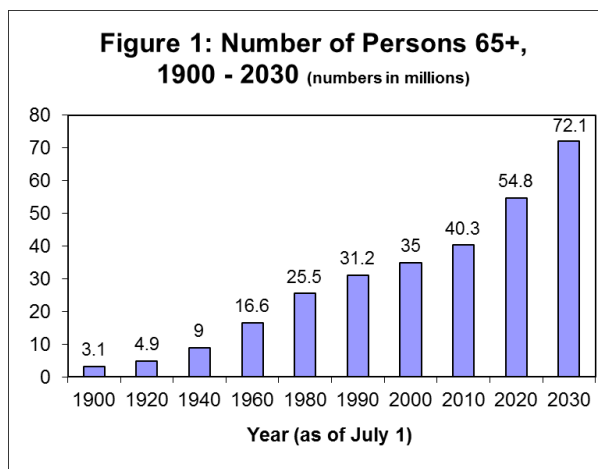




A Statistical Profile of Older Americans Aged 65+

DID YOU KNOW?

- The older population (65+) numbered 40.4 million in 2010, an increase of 5.4 million or 15.3% since 2000.
- The number of Americans aged 45-64 – who will reach 65 over the next two decades – increased by 31% during this decade.
- Since 1900, the percentage of Americans 65+ has more than tripled (from 4.1% in 1900 to 13% in 2010), and the number has increased 13 times (from 3.1 million to 40.3 million).
- Older women outnumber older men at 23 million older women to 17.5 million older men.
- The 85+ population numbered 5.5 million in 2010 and is projected to increase to 6.6 million in 2020.
- In 2009, persons reaching age 65 had an average life expectancy of an additional 18.8 years (20.0 years for females and 17.3 years for males).
- In 2010, approximately 746,000 grandparents (and 275,000 spouses) aged 65 or over maintained households in which their grandchildren lived with them. About 485,000 of these grandparents had primary responsibility for the care of their grandchildren.
- About 1.5 million (4.1%) of the 65+ population lived in nursing homes and other institutions in 2009. The percentage increased dramatically with age, ranging from 1.1% for persons 65-74 years to 3.5% for persons 75-84 years and 13.2% for persons 85+.



- Over one in every eight, or 13.1%, of the population is an older American.
- About 2.6 million persons celebrated their 65th birthday in 2010.

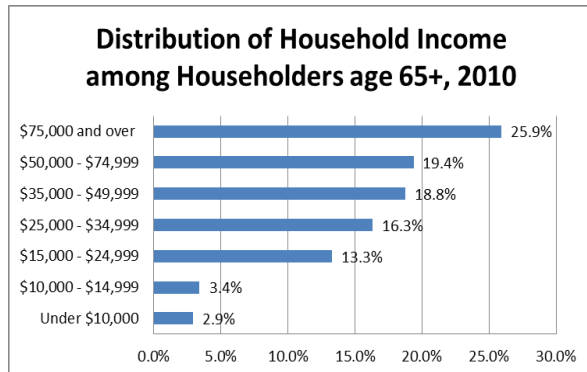
INCOME AND POVERTY

- The median income of older persons in 2010 was \$25,704 for males and \$15,072 for females. From 2009 to 2010, median money income (after adjusting for

FACTS

inflation) of all households headed by older people fell 1.5% but this was not statistically significant.

- Households containing families headed by persons 65+ reported a median income in 2010 of \$45,763 (\$47,584 for non-Hispanic Whites, \$32,338 for Hispanics, \$37,037 for African-Americans, and \$42,986 for Asians). About 6.3% of family households with an elderly householder had incomes less than \$15,000 and 64.1% had incomes of \$35,000 or more.



- The major sources of income as reported by older persons in 2009 were Social Security (reported by 87% of older persons), income from assets (reported by 53%), private pensions (reported by 28%), government employee pensions (reported by 14%), and earnings (reported by 26%).
- In 2009, Social Security benefits accounted for 38% of the aggregate income of the older population. The bulk of the remainder consisted of earnings (29%), asset income (11%), and pensions (19%).
- Almost 3.5 million elderly persons (9.0%) were below the poverty level in 2010. This poverty rate is not statistically different from the poverty rate in 2009 (8.9%).

Another 2.3 million or 5.8% of the elderly were classified as "near-poor" (income between the poverty level and 125% of this level).

- Older women had a higher poverty rate (10.7%) than older men (6.7%) in 2010. Older persons living alone were much more likely to be poor (16.0%) than were older persons living with families (5.3%). The highest poverty rates were experienced among Hispanic women (40.8%) who lived alone and also by older Black women (30.7%) who lived alone.

HEALTH AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS

- In 2007-2009, 40.0% of noninstitutionalized older persons assessed their health as excellent or very good (compared to 64.7% for all persons aged 18-64 years). There was little difference between the sexes on this measure, but older African-Americans (26.0%), older American Indians/Alaska Natives (24.3%) and older Hispanics (28.2%) were less likely to rate their health as excellent or very good than were older Whites (42.8%) or older Asians (35.3%).
- Most older persons have at least one chronic condition and many have multiple conditions. In 2007-2009, the most frequently occurring conditions among older persons were: diagnosed arthritis (50%), uncontrolled hypertension (34%), all types of heart disease (32%), any cancer (23%), diabetes (19%), and sinusitis (14%).

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT AOA

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