

Ageing Facts and Figures in the U.S. 2009

In 2008 – there were 38.4 million people 65 years of age and over in the U.S.
(In 1900 there were only 3 million people 65 years of age and over in the U.S.
and in 2000 there were 35 million people 65 years of age and over in the U.S.)

By 2030 there will be approximately 72 million people in the United States who will be 65 years of age and over.

Aging Population Trends in the U.S.

- 1900 – 4% of the population was 65 years of age and over
40% of the population was children and youth
- 2000 – 12.5% of the population was 65 years of age and over
24% of the population was children and youth
- 2030 – 21% of the population is projected to be 65 years of age and over
19% of the population is projected to be children and youth

In 2004 there were 100 men for every 130 women 65 years of age and over in the U.S.

The median age in the U.S.:

- 1790 – 16 years
- 1860 – 20 years
- 1950 – 30 years
- 2000 – 36 years
- 2030 – 42 years (projected)

Diversity in Aging Population in the U.S. (people 65 years of age and over)

- 2003 – 83% non-Hispanic White
8% African American
6% Hispanic
3% Asian American

Projected 2030 (people 65 years of age and over)

- 72% non-Hispanic White
11% Hispanic
10% African American
5% Asian American

In 2006, life expectancy reached 78 years at birth in the U.S. Persons reaching age 65 have an average additional life expectancy of 18.5 years

Life expectancy:

- Iron Age (thousands of years ago) – 18 years
- Roman Empire – 30 years

1906 – 48 years
2006 – 78 years

In The United Methodist Church

55% of membership is 50 years of age or older
57 years is the average age of UM membership
Nearly 1/3 of membership is 65 years of age or over

Fewer Workers Per Retiree in the U.S.

1950 – 9 workers per retiree
2000 – 3.3 workers per retiree
2030 – 2 workers per retiree (projected)

Nursing Home Residents in the U.S.

7.4% of people 75 years of age and over lived in nursing homes in 2006
(10.2% in 1990)
16% of people 85 years of age and over lived in nursing homes in 2006
(21% in 1985)

In 2009, 34% of people 65 years of age and over in the U.S. survive on Social Security benefits alone (having no pension or savings benefits)

In terms of subjective age, older adults tend to feel about 13 years younger than their chronological age, and many believe that they look 10 years younger than their numerical age.

While people 65 years of age and over represent 13% of the U.S. population, this group as a whole consumes 1/3 of the healthcare services and occupies half of all physicians time.

There are approximately 42,000 pediatricians in the U.S. but only about 7,500 geriatricians.

Internet usage among people 65 years of age and older has increased from
12% in 2000
37% in 2007

There are about 5 million cases of elder financial exploitation annually.

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