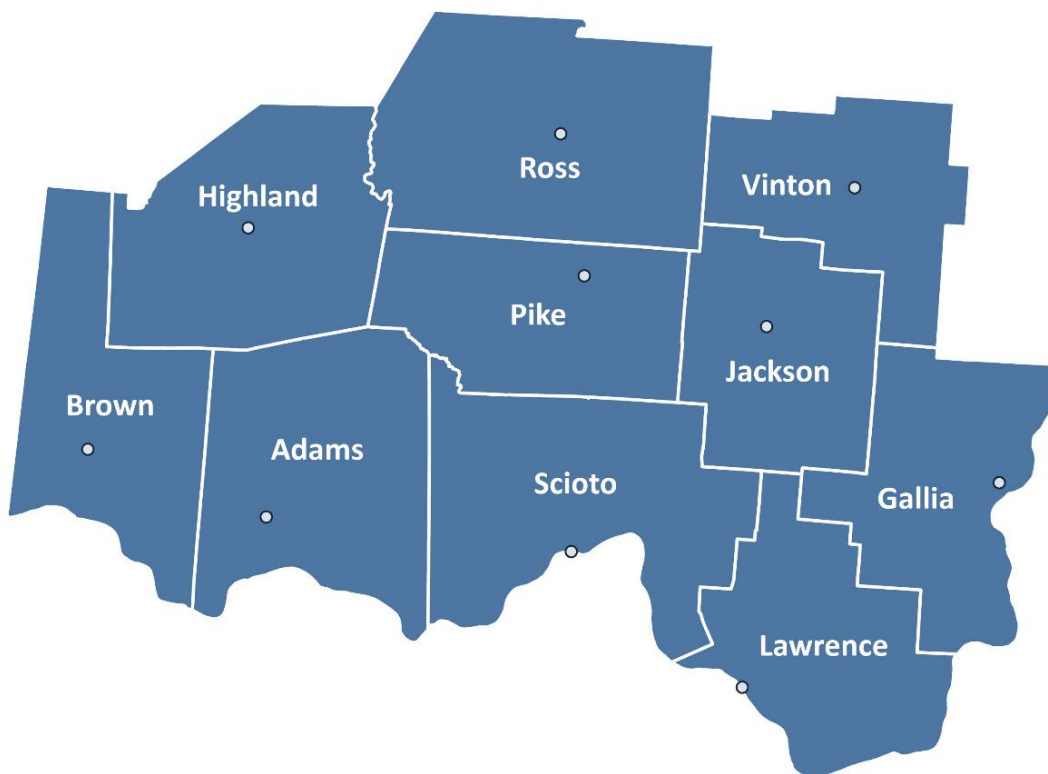


Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. Data Profile

Introduction and Methodology

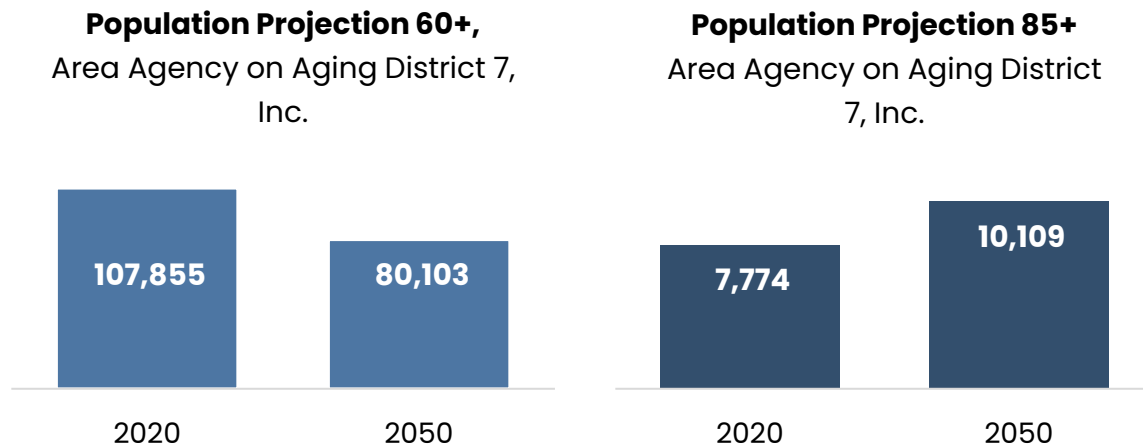
Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc., serving the Ohio Area Agency on Aging PSA7 region, covers an area encompassing ten counties in Ohio: Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton.

Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc., PSA7 Senior Center Locations



The area is home to 107,819 older adults over the age of 60, accounting for 25.5 percent of the total population of the ten counties. Following state and national trends, the number and share of older adults has been growing in the region. Past projections showed this increase to peak around 2025. This increase is the result of generational demographics and the fact that people are living longer lives and remaining in their homes and communities as they age. The growth is particularly pronounced among the population ages 85 and above, which is projected to increase 30 percent by 2050 compared to 2020.

Increasing numbers of the oldest residents is expected to increase demand for supportive services including home-delivered meals, housekeeping, home modification, in-home care, and social connectedness. Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. and the entire community will need to adapt to these changes.



Secondary data analysis for this assessment was compiled by The Center for Community Solutions on behalf of Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. We relied on the latest available data for the civilian, non-institutionalized population. Unless otherwise noted, the data source is the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2023 5-Year estimates.

Data was compiled for each county within the region, then aggregated for the region as a whole. When possible, data is reported for ages 60 and older. However, due to data availability, some indicators are for the population ages 65 and older.

In some cases, data is available for all of the counties for the population 60 and older except Vinton, due to its size. Where this is the case, the data is noted with an asterisk to indicate Vinton is not included, while still reporting valuable data for the other nine counties.

All the data carry margins of error. For smaller geographies and subpopulations, margins of error can be substantial, and differences should be interpreted with caution.

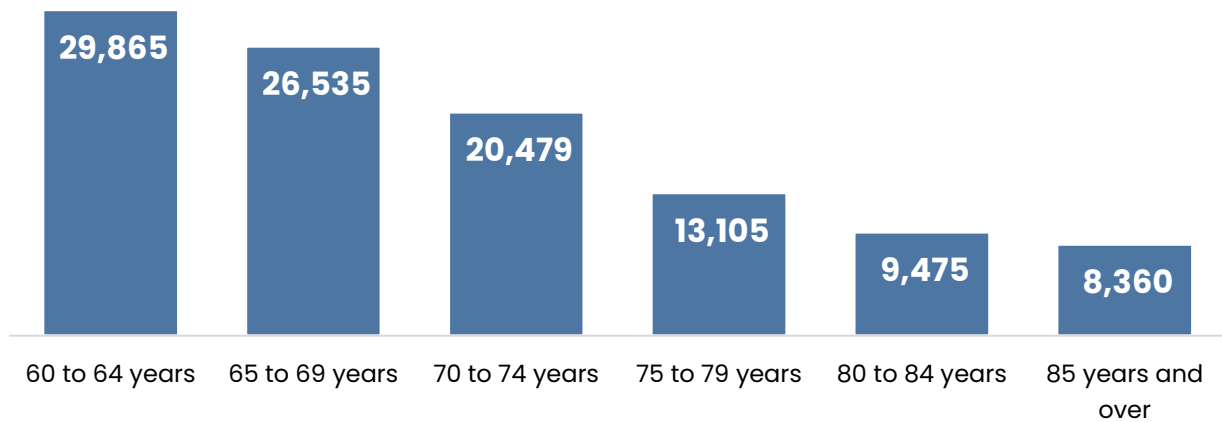
The indicators selected for examination provide an overview of the demographic, social, economic, and health characteristics of the older adult population in the region with special emphasis on older individuals with greatest economic need, greatest social need, low-income minority older individuals, those with limited English proficiency, and/or those living in rural areas.

Demographic and Social Profile

Over 107,819 adults aged 60 and over live in the ten-county area. This includes 8,360 people who are 85 and older, accounting for 7.8 percent of older adults in the region. Around 53 percent of residents over the age of 60 are female.

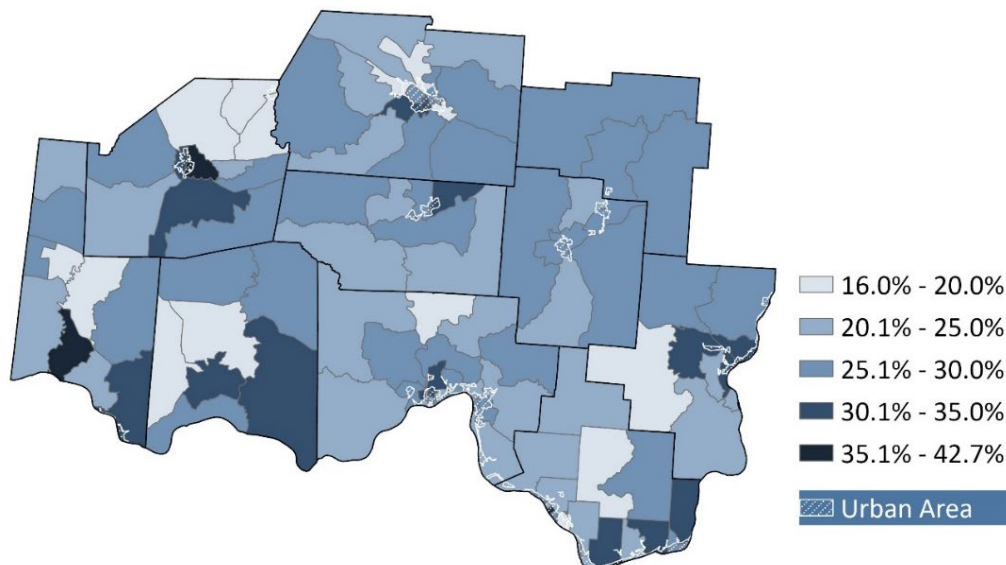
Older Adults by Age

Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



The map below shows the percentage of the population who are over the age of 60.

Percent of Population 60 and Older by Census Tracts



Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2019-2023 5-Year Estimates

Race and Ethnicity

In the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. region 4.5 percent of the population over age 60 are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC)*. More detailed breakdowns of racial and ethnic makeup of the population is provided in the table below. **Note, data for the population over age 60 is not available for Vinton County, which is excluded from these calculations.*

	Region 7		Ohio
Total Number of Older Adults (60+)	104,385		2,904,497
Race/Ethnicity	Number	%	%
White	99,895	95.7%	86.0%
Black/African American	1,822	1.7%	9.5%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	120	0.1%	0.1%
Asian/Asian American	238	0.2%	1.3%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	29	0.0%	0.0%
Other Race	299	0.3%	0.8%
More than One Race	1,983	1.9%	2.2%
Hispanic/Latinx	472	0.5%	1.7%

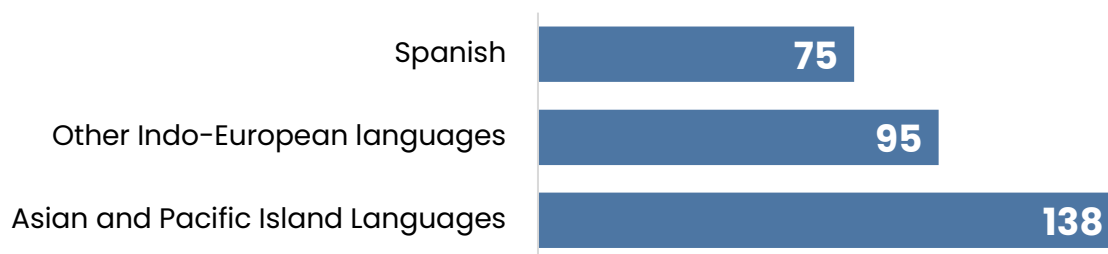
The table below shows the racial and ethnic makeup of the population 65 and older, including all counties in the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. region. Among adults aged 65 and older, 4.3 percent identify as BIPOC.

	Region 7		Ohio
Total Number of Older Adults (65+)	77,954		2,103,043
Race/Ethnicity	Number	%	%
White	74,760	95.9%	86.8%
Black/African American	1,185	1.5%	9.0%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	83	0.1%	0.1%
Asian/Asian American	222	0.3%	1.3%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	6	0.0%	0.0%
Other Race	207	0.3%	0.7%
More than One Race	1,491	1.9%	2.0%
Hispanic/Latinx	319	0.4%	1.6%

Limited English Proficiency

While most older adults over age 60 in the region speak only English (978.9 percent), there are 352 individuals over age 60 in the region who do not speak English at all or do not speak it well*. As shown in the chart below, the most common languages spoken by adults over age 65 who have limited English proficiency are Asian and Pacific Island Languages, Indo-European Languages, and Spanish.

**Language Spoken, Older Adults 65+ who
Speak English Not Well or Not At All**
Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.

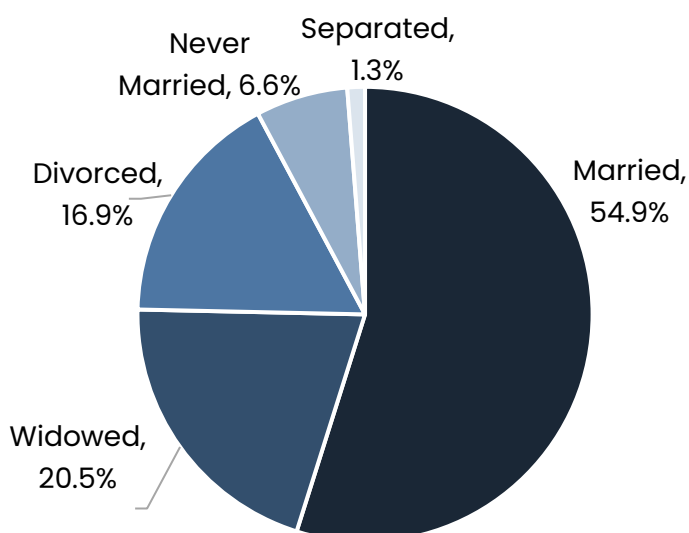


Family Status

In the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. region, 28,182 people (27.0 percent) over the age of 60 live alone*. In terms of households over the age of 60, more than two out of five (43.0 percent) live alone*. Living alone can contribute to social isolation and vulnerability.

Of adults 60 and older, over half are married*. One-fifth of adults 60 and older are widowed, and an almost equal number are divorced*. An additional six percent have never married, and one percent are separated*.

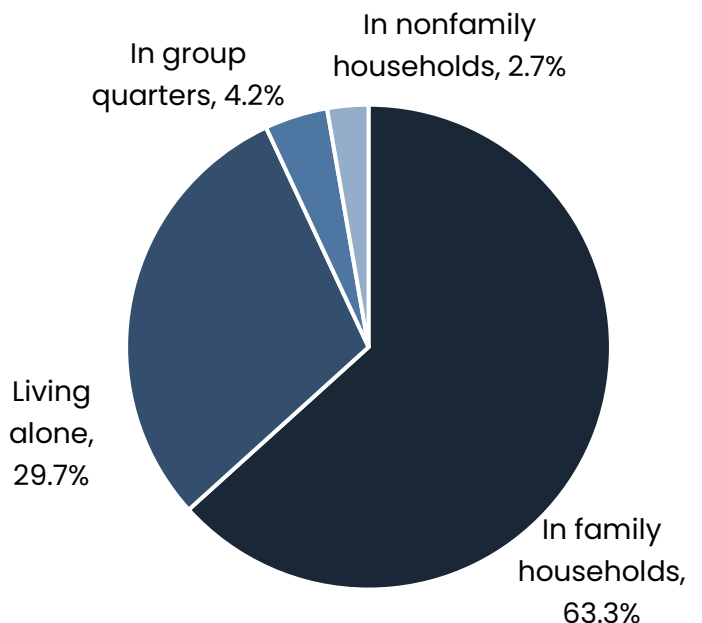
Marital Status, Older Adults (60+)
Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



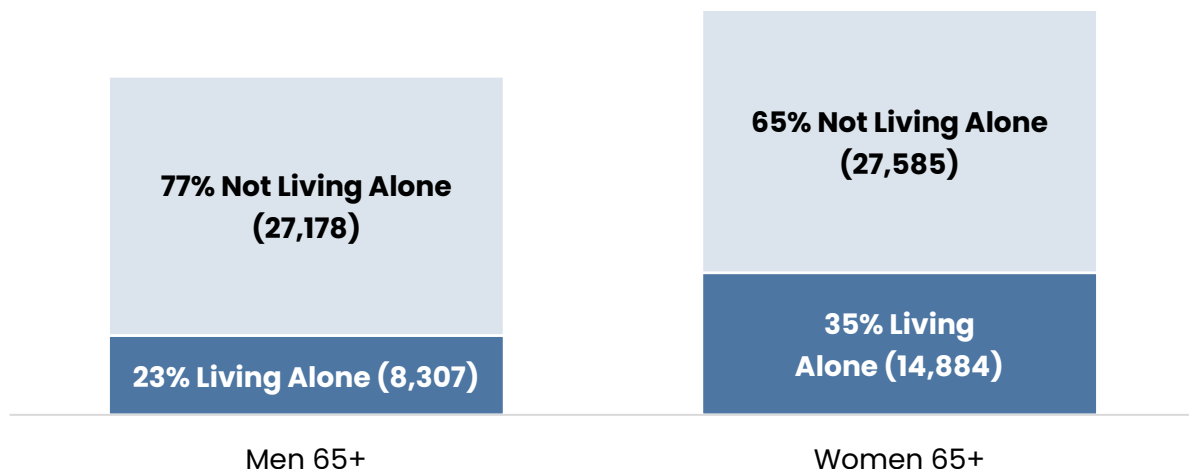
While most older adults in the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. region live in family households, almost a third of adults (29.7 percent) 65 and older are living alone. This is more pronounced for women 65 and older. Thirty-five percent of women 65 and older are living alone, whereas twenty-three percent of men 65 and older are living alone.

Living alone can contribute to social isolation and vulnerability. Four percent of adults 65 and older are living in group quarters.

Household Types for Adults 65+
Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



Adults 65 and Older Living Alone by Sex
Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



In the region as a whole, there are over 5,100 adults over age 60 living with their own grandchildren under 18 years. This is 4.8 percent of adults over age 60 in the region. Of these older adults, 2,078 are responsible for their grandchildren.

Veteran Status

One out of every seven people over the age of 60 in the region are veterans, accounting for 14.3 percent of the total*. Men are much more likely to report having served in the military than women.

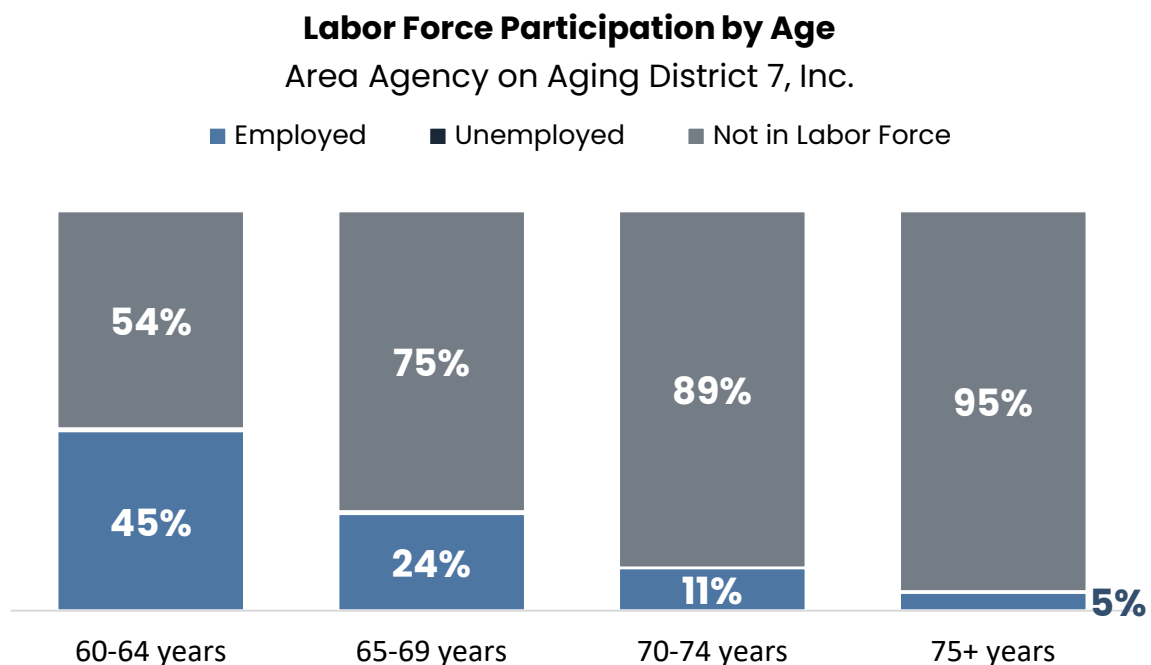
Access to the Internet

In recent years, the number of older adults who have access to the internet has increased. Around 70.2 percent of people over the age of 65 report that they have a broadband subscription. On the other hand, 15,087 adults over the age of 65 have no computer at all.

Economic Indicators

Labor Force Participation

Nationwide trends show that people are delaying retirement and remaining in the workforce longer than in previous generations. In Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.'s region, almost 24,000 people over the age of 60 are in the labor force, including 23,473 who are employed and 386 who are unemployed and actively looking for work. According to this data, less than one percent of older adults are unemployed. As shown in the chart below, labor force participation drops substantially after age 65, as people retire either by choice or by necessity.



In the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. region, most older adult (60+) households receive Social Security, and many have income from earnings or retirement. Public benefits programs such as SSI, cash assistance and SNAP support far fewer households and provide fewer resources on average than private retirement funds and earnings*.

Older Adult (60+) Households

Income Source	Share of Households	Regional Average, Annual Income
Social Security	76.1%	\$21,468
Retirement	51.2%	\$28,027
Earnings	39.1%	\$65,769
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	16.8%	-
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	9.5%	\$10,745
Cash Public Assistance	2.0%	\$3,263

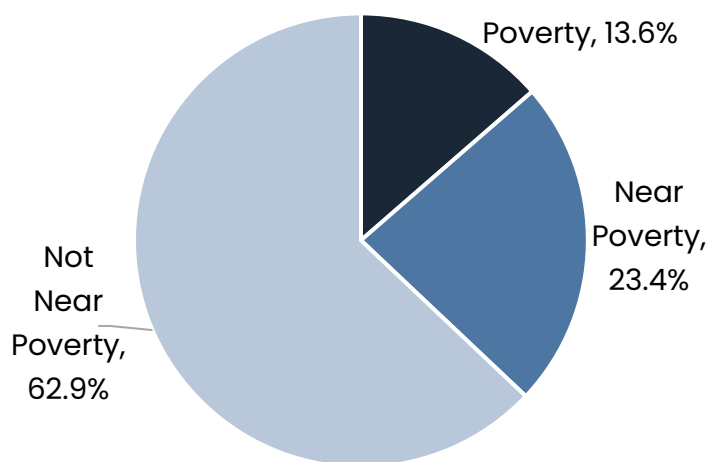
Poverty

Even with the increases in labor force participation, many older adults (60+) in the region still struggle to make ends meet. Over one in six older adults (14.9%) have incomes that officially fall below the poverty threshold meaning that more than 15,500 people over age 60 in the region are living in poverty.

This is similar for adults over 65. Over one in seven adults over age 65 (13.6 percent) are in poverty, and almost twice as many older adults are near poverty, with incomes between 100 and 200 percent of poverty. At 13.6 percent, the poverty rate for adults over the age of 65 in the region is higher than the state average of 9.5 percent.

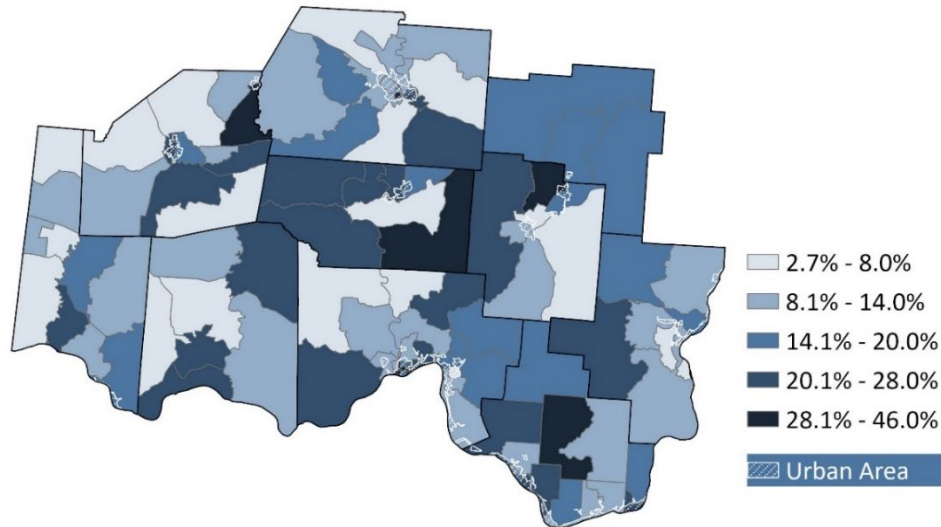
Older Adults (65+) at Specified Levels of Poverty

Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



Poverty is not spread evenly throughout the region. The map below shows the concentration of older adults living in poverty in various parts of the region.

Percent of Population 60 and Older Below Poverty by Census Tracts

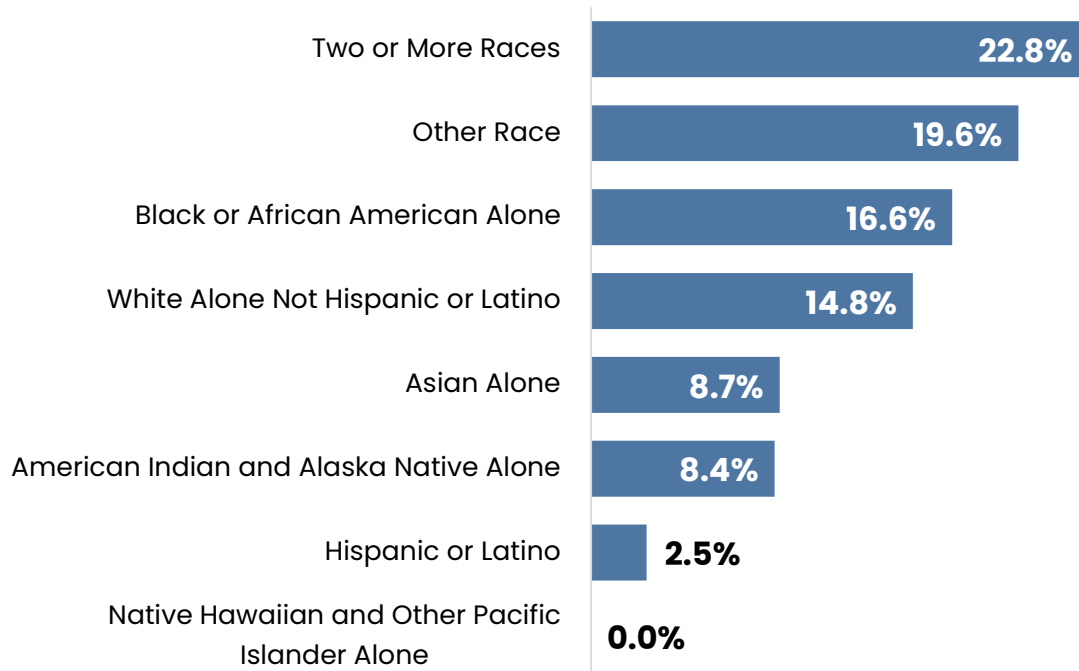


Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2019-2023 5-Year Estimates

There are also racial disparities in poverty*.

Poverty Rate (60+) by Race/Ethnicity

Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



Food Insecurity

Many older adults experience food insecurity, the condition that leads to hunger. Across Ohio, 8.3 percent of older adults (60+) are food insecure according to the latest data from Feeding America.¹ Applying the state average to the population of the region, The Center for Community Solutions estimates that nearly 8,700 older adults are food insecure, defined as having “a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food.”² Many older adults rely on benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to meet their basic needs. **Over 13,000 households with at least one older adult in the region reported receiving SNAP.**

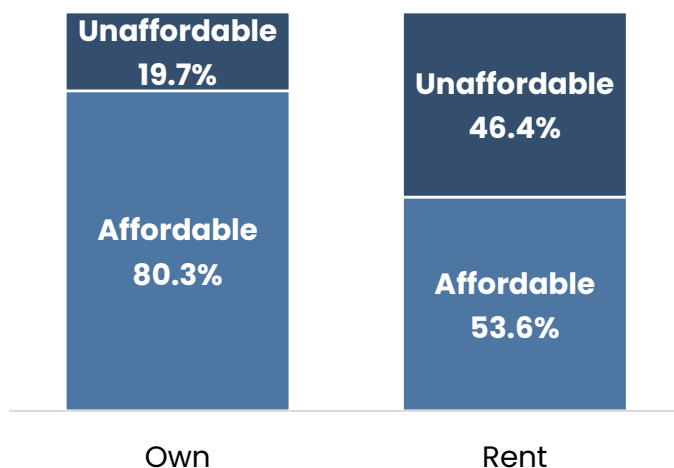
Housing

According to data from the 2020 Decennial Census, there were 3,270 people in the region of all ages living in nursing facilities or skilled nursing facilities. Among older adults living in the community, most own their homes. Around 80 percent are owners and 20 percent are renters*. In fact, although people ages 60 and above make up 26 percent of the population, 46 percent of all people who own their homes in the ten-county area are older adults.

Although they are fewer in number, older adults who rent are more likely to struggle to afford their housing. Nearly half (46.4 percent) of renters over age 60 pay 30 percent or more of their total income for housing costs, compared to 19.7 percent of owners*. In total, at least 16,400 older adult (60+) households in the region are in unaffordable housing situations*. When housing costs account for a large portion of a household’s total income, it is more difficult for them to afford other necessities.

Housing Affordability by Tenure (60+)

Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



¹ “Food Insecurity among the Senior Population in Ohio”, Feeding America, <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2023/senior-60-plus/ohio>

² “Definitions of Food Security”, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/definitions-of-food-security>

Rural vs. Urban

Of all people in the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. region, 76,418 individuals aged 60 and older live in rural areas, accounting for 73 percent of the older adult population. The population living in rural areas was calculated by The Center for Community Solutions based on guidance from the U.S. Census Bureau. The Center for Community Solutions applied the percentage of the 2020 Decennial Census population count designated as living in rural areas to the American Community Survey 2019-2023 5-Year Estimates. The percentage of the population in each county living in areas defined as rural is shown in the table.

County	Percent of Population living in areas defined as rural
Adams	100.0%
Brown	95.8%
Gallia	80.4%
Highland	73.7%
Jackson	64.2%
Lawrence	45.3%
Pike	81.7%
Ross	58.9%
Scioto	55.3%
Vinton	94.3%

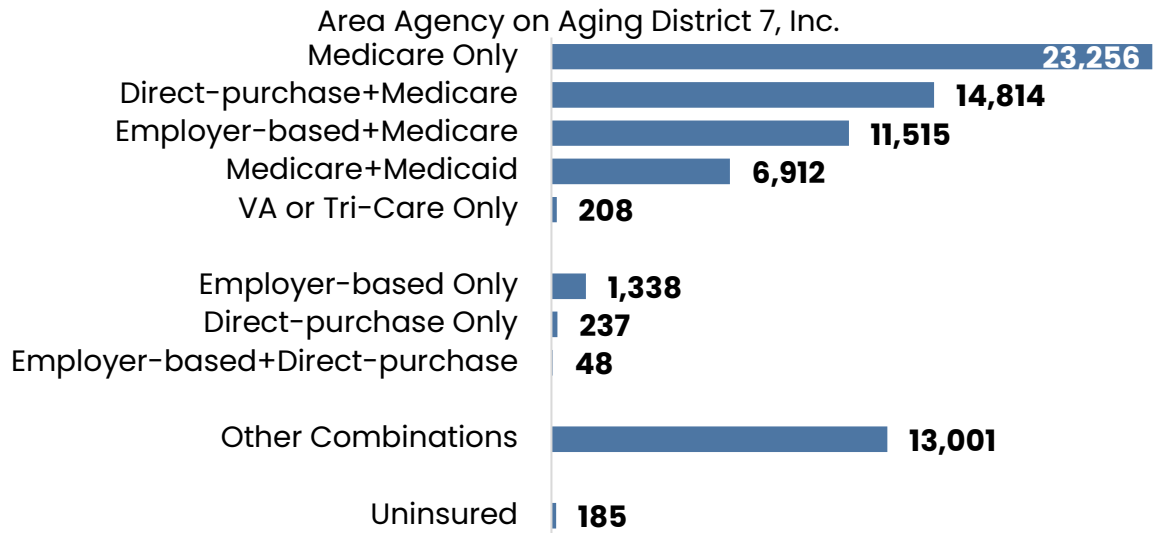
Health Indicators

Health Coverage

The vast majority of adults over the age of 65 in the region have at least some health insurance coverage, but 185 older adults over the age of 65 are uninsured. Over 97 percent of non-institutionalized insured older adults have at least some public coverage. As shown below, Medicare is the most common source, either alone or in combination with other types of insurance.

Most people covered by Medicare supplement it with private coverage, either purchased directly or through their employer. There are also 6,912 dually enrolled individuals who are covered by both Medicare and Medicaid.

Type of Health Insurance Coverage (65+)



Disabilities

Forty-one percent of all non-institutionalized adults over age 60, or 41,390 people, had one or more disabilities. This percentage increases to 44.1 percent of adults over age 65, or 33,039 people. This includes 35.3 percent of those ages 65-74 and 58.2 percent who are 75 and older. As shown below, ambulatory difficulties, defined as having serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs, were most common, followed by hearing difficulty, and independent living difficulties, where a person has difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping.³

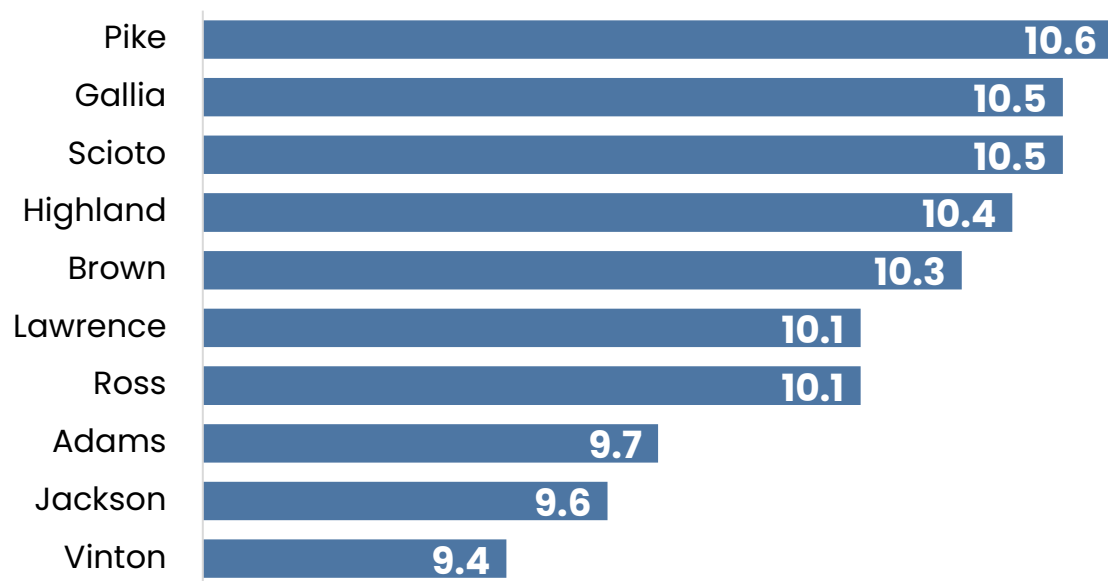
Older Adults 65+ With One or More Disabilities	#	%
With a Hearing Difficulty: <i>Deafness or serious difficulty hearing</i>	14,053	18.8%
With a Vision Difficulty: <i>Blindness or serious difficulty seeing, even with glasses</i>	6,777	9.1%
With a Cognitive Difficulty: <i>Serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions</i>	8,537	11.4%
With an Ambulatory Difficulty: <i>Serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs</i>	21,905	29.3%
With a Self-Care Difficulty: <i>Difficulty bathing or dressing</i>	6,319	8.4%
With an Independent Living Difficulty: <i>Difficulty doing errands alone, such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping</i>	12,233	16.3%

³ "How Disability Data are Collected from The American Community Survey", U.S. Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/topics/health/disability/guidance/data-collection-acrs.html>

Alzheimer's Prevalence

It is estimated that **10.2 percent of adults 65 and older in the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. region have Alzheimer's Disease.** This is an estimate of over 8,000 older adults across the region. Alzheimer's Disease prevalence estimates vary across the ten counties, with Pike County having the highest estimated prevalence of 10.6 percent of the population 65 and older.⁴

**Percent of Population 65 and older with
Alzheimer's Disease Estimate**
Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.



Data indicates that there are thousands of older adults in the region served by Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. who have great economic and social needs. It is these individuals, as well as low-income minority older adults and those with limited English proficiency that Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. seeks to serve.

⁴ Dhana K, Beck T, Desai P, Wilson RS, Evans DA, Rajan KB. Prevalence of Alzheimer's disease dementia in the 50 US states and 3142 counties: A population estimate using the 2020 bridged-race postcensal from the National Center for Health Statistics. *Alzheimer's Dement.* 2023;19:4388–4395.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/alz.13081>