

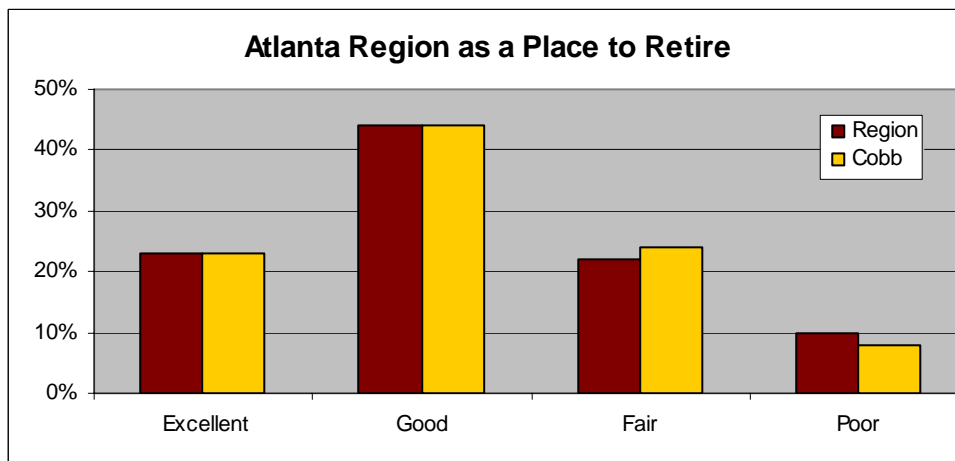
County Profile: COBB

Older Adults in the Atlanta Region: Preferences, Practices and Potential of the 55+ Population

In the Fall of 2006, the UGA Carl Vinson Institute conducted a survey of the 55+ population living in the ten county Atlanta Region. The following tables and charts summarize the survey's findings in Cobb County.

Basic Demographics

	Cobb	Region		Cobb	Region
55+ population (US Census 2005)	116,879	646,620	Average years in home	17.54	18.74
% of total population 55+	17.6%	16.5%	Average years in region	31.88	37.08
% change in 55+ population 2000-2005	35.5%	30.6%	Have family in the Atlanta region	86%	85%
Projected growth 2000-2030 (ARC Estimate)	85%	127%			



Employment

	Cobb	Region
Full time employed	21%	20%
Part time employed	9%	12%
Not working at All	68%	67%
Don't Know/Refused		1%

Of those in Cobb who are not working at all, **73% retired from a full time job.**

Of the working population:

16% plan to continue working full time

33% plan to work part time

36% plan to retire

15% do not know what they will do.

Volunteering

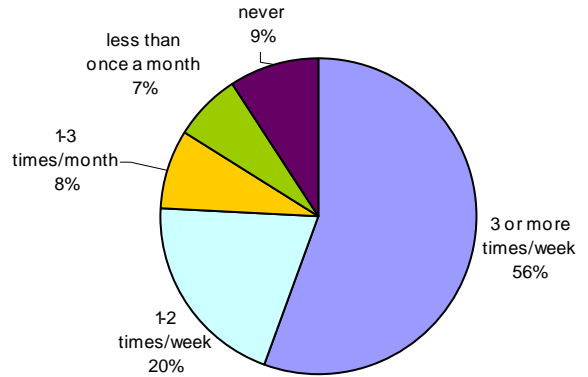
	Cobb	Region
Volunteer	31%	35%
part time/almost part time	97%	94%
full time/nearly full time	3%	6%
Do not volunteer	69%	65%

Of those in Cobb who volunteer, the **majority volunteer weekly (41%)** but many volunteer intermittently (35%) or monthly (10%).

Health and Healthcare

Health Status		
	Cobb	Region
Excellent/very good	47%	48%
Good	33%	29%
Fair	16%	17%
Poor	3%	5%
Health compared to a year ago		
Much better	4%	8%
Somewhat better	14%	12%
Same	68%	67%
Somewhat worse	13%	11%
Much worse	0%	2%
Emotional Health		
Excellent/very good	50%	53%
Good	35%	32%
Fair	12%	10%
Poor	3%	3%
Don't know/refused	1%	1%

Physical Activity- Cobb



Knowledge/Concern about Long Term Care		
	Cobb	Region
Believe that Medicare funds long term care		
Yes	17%	18%
No	55%	49%
Don't know/refused	28%	33%
Own long term care insurance policy		
Yes	17%	21%
No	80%	77%
Concerned about financing long term care		
Very concerned	14%	17%
Somewhat concerned	30%	28%
Not too concerned	26%	27%
Not at all concerned	29%	26%

Preventive Health Care- Cobb

Most older adults in Cobb are accessing basic preventive health services:

95% had their blood pressure checked recently

85% had their cholesterol tested

86% of men have had a prostate exam

However **many forgo necessary services**, only:

38% of older adults had a flu shot

41% have had a the pneumonia vaccine

56% of women had a mammogram in the past year

56% of women had a pap test in the past year

40% have had a colorectal cancer screening

While older adults are healthier and living longer than ever before, **many in the community still need assistance with basic needs.**

Need for Assistance with Meals		
	Cobb	Region
Always	6%	9%
Often	4%	2%
Seldom	8%	8%
Never	81%	81%
Don't know/refused	1%	1%

Housing and Transportation

Most older adults in Cobb County **own their own home (88%)**. Of those who do not own their own home, 62% are paying rent and 38% are living with another family member.

Planning to live in current house		
	Cobb	Region
less than 1 year	11%	7%
1-3 more years	9%	9%
4-6 years	3%	6%
6-10 years	4%	5%
more than 10 years	1%	2%
until I retire	1%	1%
as long as I live	65%	64%
Don't know/refused	7%	6%

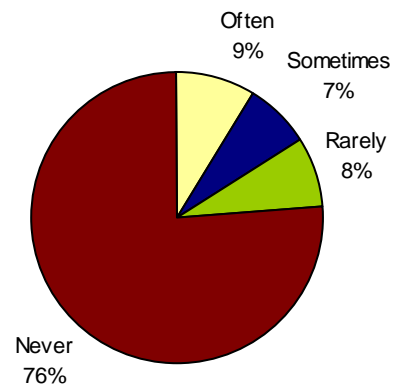
Factors choosing where to live		
	Cobb	Region
To be near family	47.8%	42.6%
Affordable cost of housing	14.6%	19.5%
To be near doctor/good doctors	25.2%	25.1%
Proximity of entertainment venues	18.5%	16.7%
To be around other people my age	10.7%	12.7%
To be in a quiet community	31.6%	28.8%
Other	29.7%	29.9%
Don't know/refused	2%	4.3%

Most older adults in Cobb County said if they did move, they would **move to another location in the region (54%)**. 17% would move to other locations in Georgia, 19% would move outside the state and 9% said they did not know where they would move.

Transportation		
	Cobb	Region
Primary mode of transportation		
Use own car	91%	88%
Driven by others	7%	7%
Use public transportation	1%	4%
Some other means	0%	1%
How often do you currently use public transportation?		
Several times/week	3%	4%
Once a week	1%	2%
Once a month	0%	3%
Just on occasion	25%	33%
Never	71%	59%

When asked how they will get around when they can no longer drive, **57% of older adults in Cobb County plan to be driven around by others**, 11% will use public transportation, 8% plan to find some other means and **24% do not know how they will get around**.

Difficulty with Transportation- Cobb



Methodology: The Carl Vinson Institute of the University of Georgia drew 11 independent samples for each of 10 counties and the City of Atlanta within the Atlanta region. In total, 1,651 individuals 55 and over were interviewed between September 15 and October 14 of 2006. The maximum sampling error for any single county is +/- eight %, while the sampling error for the entire region is +/- four %.

