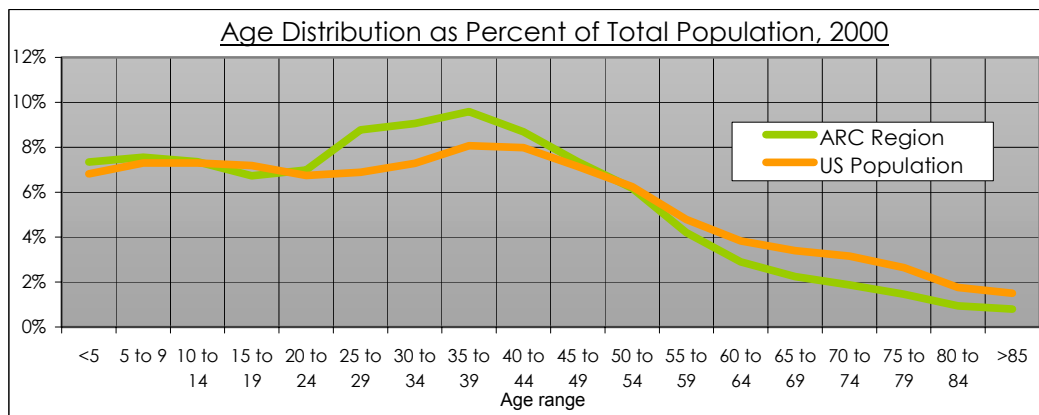
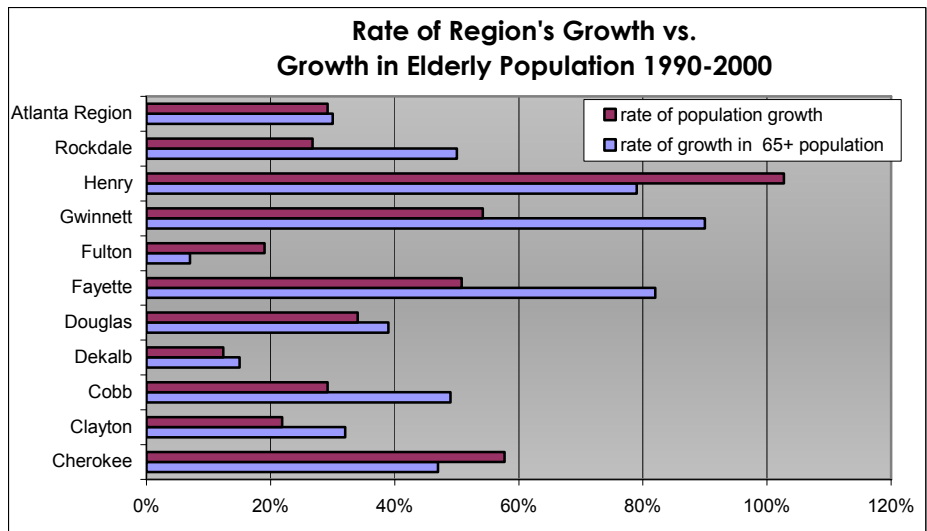


OLDER ADULTS IN THE ATLANTA REGION

GROWTH:

The older adult population in the Atlanta Region has grown over the last decade at a rate slightly higher than the general population. Between 1990 and 2000, the 65+ population in the region increased by 30%. In 6 out of the Region's 10 counties, growth in the older adult population exceeded growth in the general population¹.



Atlanta's population is younger than the US population. The median age in the Atlanta Region is 32, whereas the median age in the United States is 35.3.

GENERAL:

- 15% of the population living in the Atlanta Region is 55 and older.
- 7% of the Region's population is age 65 or older.
- Of those over the age of 65, 11% are over 85 years old.
- 77% of older adults are white.
- 20% are black.
- 2% are Asian.
- The remaining 1% includes: Pacific Islander, Native American and others.

Older Adult Population by County, 2000

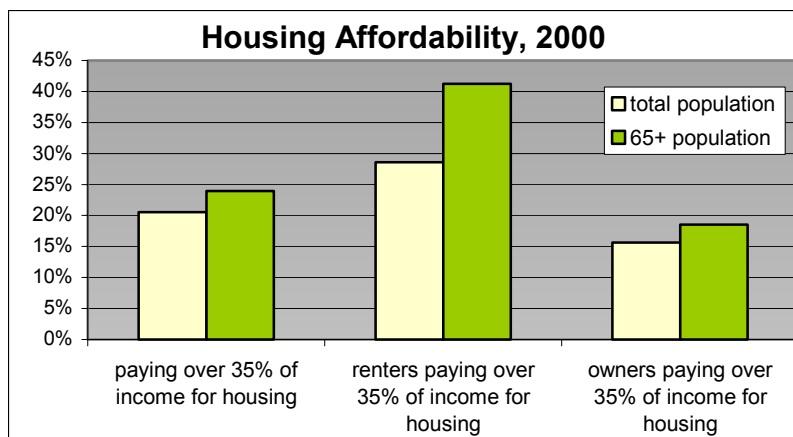
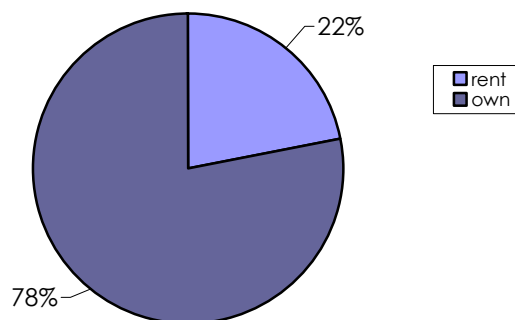
COUNTY	Total population	Total 65+ population	% of population 65+	Total 85+ population	% of population 85+	% of 65+ population that is 85+
Cherokee	141,903	9,349	6.59%	890	0.63%	9.52%
Clayton	236,517	13,840	5.85%	1,024	0.43%	7.40%
Cobb	607,751	42,218	6.95%	4,018	0.66%	9.52%
DeKalb	665,865	53,881	8.09%	6,339	0.95%	11.76%
Douglas	92,174	7,003	7.60%	616	0.67%	8.80%
Fayette	91,263	8,224	9.01%	727	0.80%	8.84%
Fulton	816,006	69,623	8.53%	9,582	1.17%	13.76%
Gwinnett	588,448	29,430	5.00%	9,233	1.57%	31.37%
Henry	119,341	8,777	7.35%	803	0.67%	9.15%
Rockdale	70,111	6,058	8.64%	624	0.89%	10.30%
ARC Region	3,429,379	248,403	7.24%	33,856	0.99%	13.63%

HOUSING:

Housing continues to pose one of the most daunting challenges to older adults in the Atlanta Region. Most seniors want to stay in their communities and homes as long as possible. It is often inadequate or unaffordable housing that forces them to move.

- While the vast majority of older adults are homeowners, 22% of older adults are renters.
- The rate of homeownership varies by county. Henry County, with a 90% rate of homeownership among its 65+ population, has the highest in the Region. Fulton County has the lowest rate at 67% homeownership.
- Many older adults have aged in place: 33% of the 65+ population have lived in their current residence since 1970.

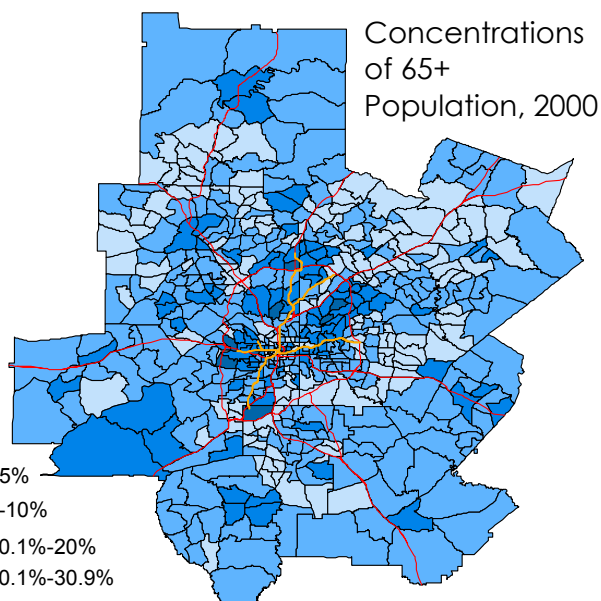
65+ Population Rent v. Own, 2000



- Older adults are living in older homes, increasing the need for home modification and repair: 30% of the population age 65 and over live in homes built before 1950.
- Housing affordability is a particular problem for older adults. Almost 25% of residents over age 65 pay more than 35% of their income for housing. The problem is particularly acute for older renters.

WHERE OLDER ADULTS LIVE

Older Adults reside throughout the Atlanta Region. As individuals age in place, however, some communities have higher concentrations of older adults than others. When the percentage of older adults living in any one neighborhood reaches 25%, the community is commonly referred to as a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC).



INCOME:

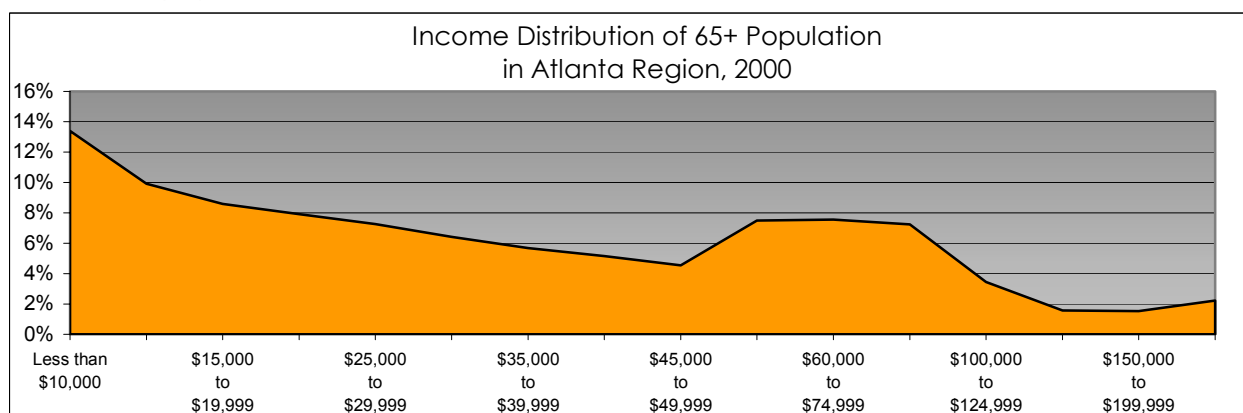
The income distribution of the Region's 65+ population reflects the income distribution of older adults in the United States, peaking at the poverty level and again in the upper middle class. There are some variations between the nation and the Atlanta Region, making Atlanta's older adult population slightly wealthier than the nation's 65+ population.

Atlanta:

47% of older adults have incomes < \$30,000
15% have incomes between \$50,000 and \$75,000

United States:

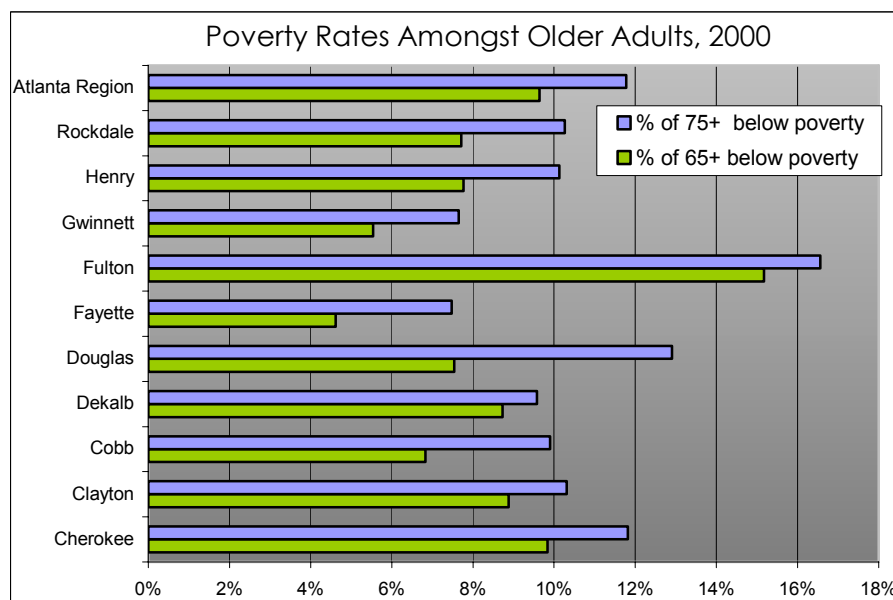
55% of older adults have incomes < \$30,000
11% have incomes between \$50,00 and \$75,000



POVERTY

9.64% of Atlantans over age 65 are living below poverty and **11.77%** of those over age 75 are living below poverty.

Poverty in the Region has a racial dimension as well, 43% of older adults living below poverty in the Atlanta Region are African-American.



65+ POPULATION, 2000

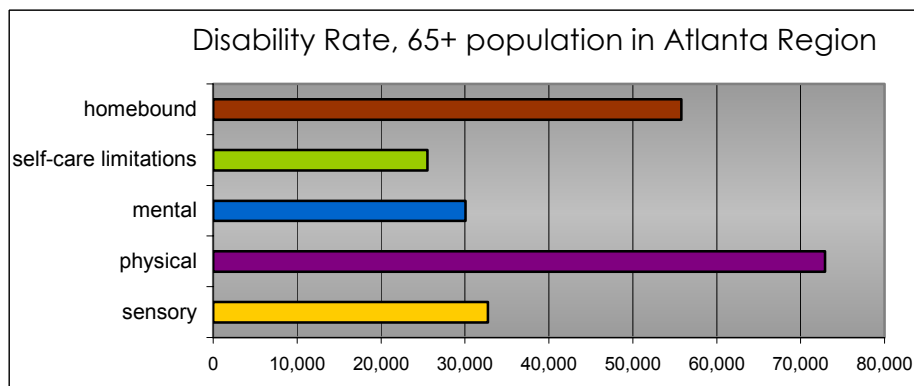
	MALE	FEMALE
married	69,782	52,415
widowed	12,937	72,318
divorced	7,028	14,186
separated	4,968	7,378
never married	3,722	5,824

MARITAL STATUS

The marital status of a 65+ individual in the Atlanta Region is highly dependent on the individual's gender. The majority of women over age 65 are widows and the majority of men over age 65 are married.

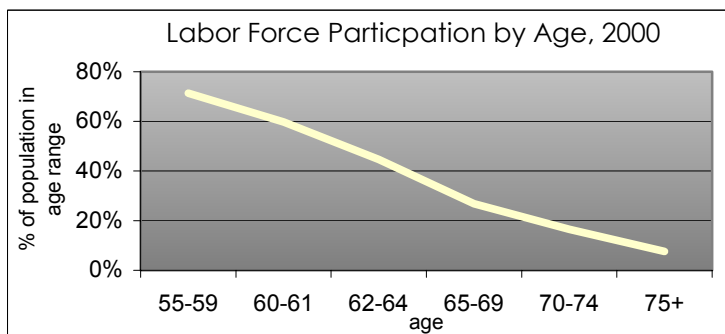
HEALTH:

- 95% of older adults in Georgia are covered under the Medicare program.
- 10% of older adults receive benefits from the Medicaid program.
- 23% of the 65+ population has a disability which impedes their ability to leave their home.
- 6535 older adults in the Atlanta Region, only 3% of the 65+ population, are living in nursing homes.



In fiscal year 2002, the State of Georgia spent \$255,684,877 on Medicaid benefits for the 60+ population in the Atlanta Region. Over half of those dollars were paid to long term care facilities and an additional 30% funded the purchase of prescription drugs.

LABOR FORCE and TRANSPORTATION:

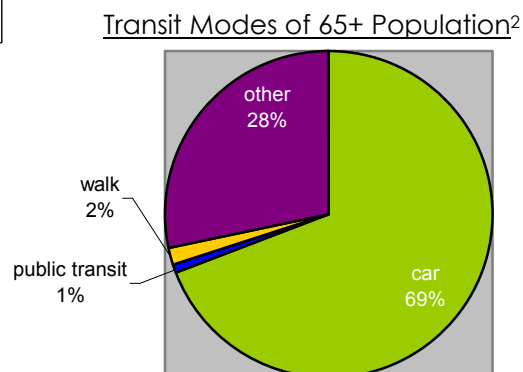


As with most other regions in the country, labor force participation in the Atlanta Region decreases with age. By age 75, almost all older adults in Atlanta are no longer participating in the formal labor force.

Most individuals use private automobiles to get around the Atlanta region—either driving their own car or riding as a passenger in another's vehicle.

MORE ABOUT OLDER ADULTS:³

- * 70% of older adults living in Atlanta were not born in Atlanta
- * 57% originally moved to Atlanta because of a job
- * 83% are satisfied with Atlanta as a place to live
- * 40% report that they stay in Atlanta to be close to their family and friends.



¹ Unless otherwise stated data reported is from the 2000 US Census.

² ARC 2002 Transportation Survey

³ ARC Platforms for Progress Survey

Older Adults in Cherokee County

Population¹

Total population in Cherokee County	141,903
Total population over 65	9,349
% of the population over 65	6.58%
Total population over 85	890
% of the population over 85	.62%
Total population age 50-64	20,173
% of the population age 50-64	14.22%

The 65+ population grew by 48% in Cherokee County from 1990-2000, slightly slower than the total population in the county which increased by 58%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	38.36%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	89.45%
% of 65+ individuals who rent their current residence	10.55%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	24.95% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into current residence before 1970	28.02%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into current residence before 1970	8%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	15.71%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	8.55%

Income

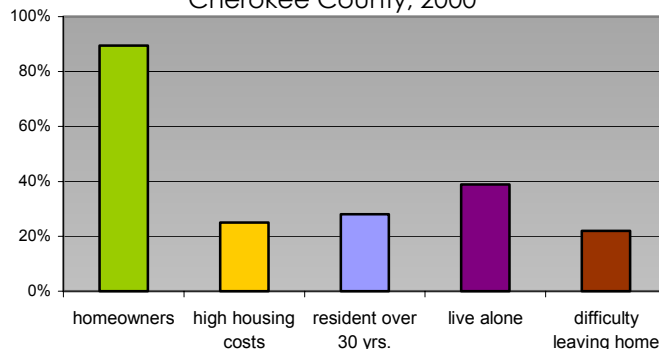
% of 65+ with income below poverty	9.84%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	25.21%

The poverty rate in Cherokee County matches the poverty rate of the 65+ population across the region.

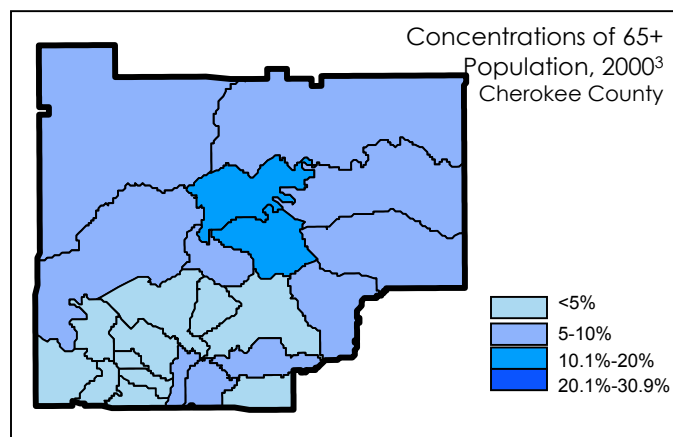
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	854
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	2,051

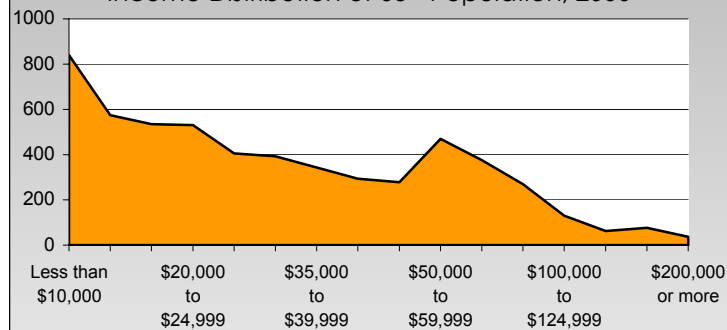
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Cherokee County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000³ Cherokee County



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Clayton County

Population¹

Total population in Clayton County	236,517
Total population over 65	13,840
% of the population over 65	5.85%
Total population over 85	1024
% of the population over 85	.433%
Total population age 50-64	27,303
% of the population age 50-64	11.54%

The 65+ population grew by 30% in Clayton County from 1990-2000, faster than the total population in Clayton County which increased by 22%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	35.43%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	84.98%
% of 65+ individuals who rent their current residence	15.02%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	20.86% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	34.82%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	12.3%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	21.74%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	9.49%

Income

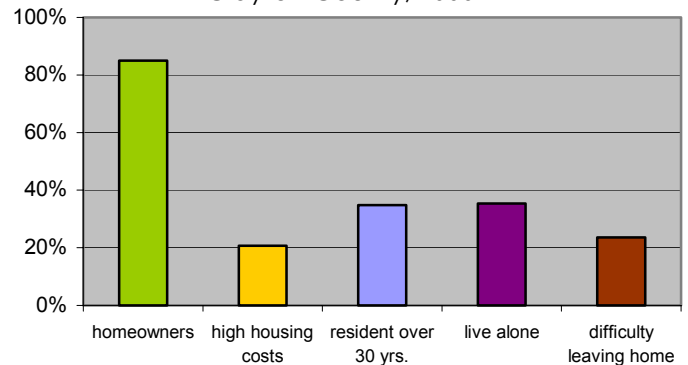
% of 65+ with income below poverty	8.87%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	20.9%

The income distribution of the 65+ population in Clayton County peaks several times: at the poverty level, just above poverty level and in the upper middle class.

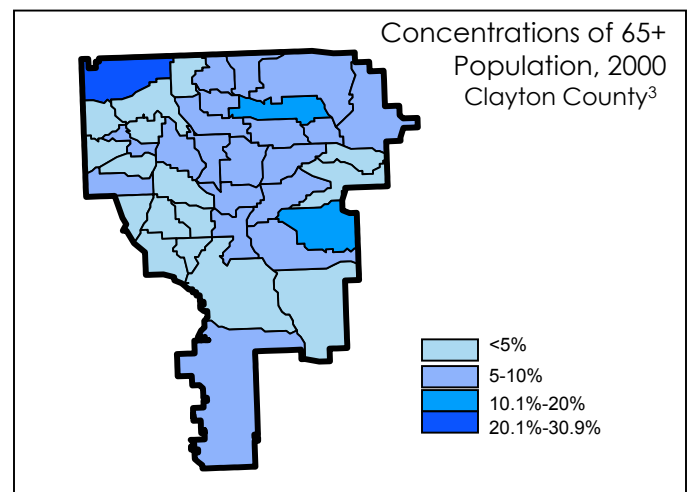
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	1,366
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	3,266

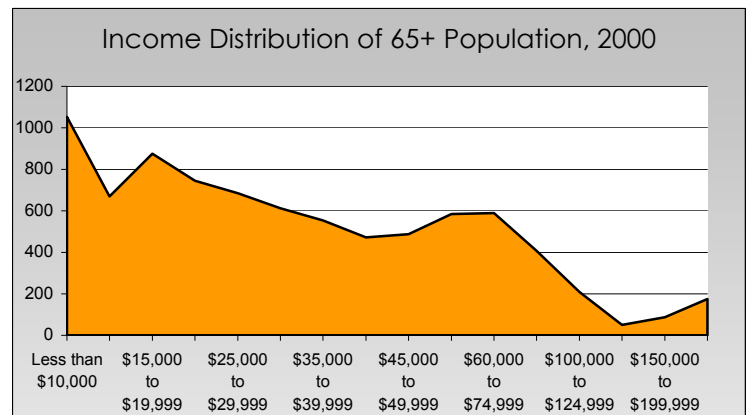
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Clayton County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000 Clayton County³



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



Aging Atlanta

Atlanta Regional Commission
Area Agency on Aging
40 Courtland Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404.463.3224

¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Cobb County

Population¹

Total population in Cobb County	607,751
Total population over 65	42,218
% of the population over 65	6.95%
Total population over 85	4018
% of the population over 85	.66%
Total population age 50-64	112,413
% of the population age 50-64	18.49%

The 65+ population grew by 49% in Cobb County from 1990-2000, higher than the 29% rate of growth in the total population living in Cobb County.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	37.76%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	84.17%
% of 65+ individuals who rent	15.83%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing ²	20.55%
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	28.02%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	8.72%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	24.31%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	7.77%

Income

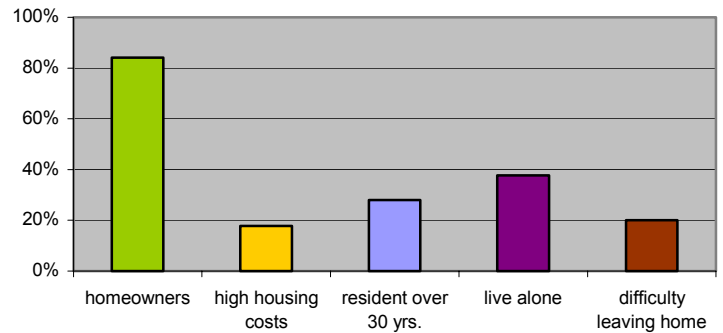
% of 65+ with income below poverty	6.83%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	19.35%

45% of the 65+ renters in Cobb County live in high cost housing compared to only 15.6% of homeowners.

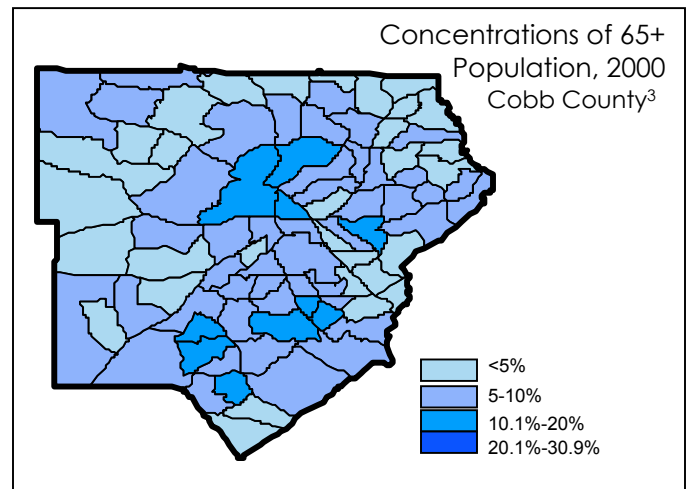
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	3,726
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	8,461

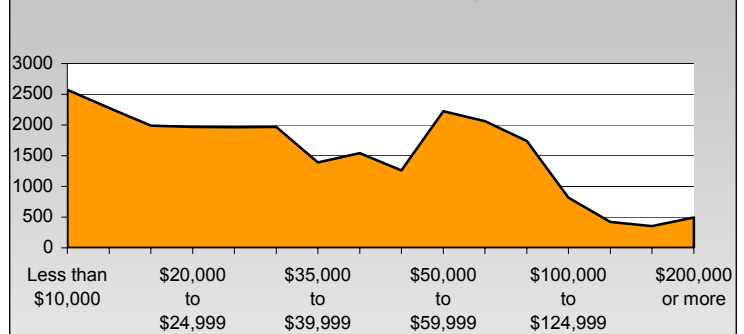
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Cobb County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000 Cobb County³



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in DeKalb County

Population¹

Total population in DeKalb County	665,865
Total population over 65	53,881
% of the population over 65	8.09%
Total population over 85	6339
% of the population over 85	.95%
Total population age 50-64	83,123
% of the population age 50-64	12.48%

The 65+ population grew by 16% in DeKalb County from 1990-2000, faster than the total population in DeKalb County which increased by 12.3%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	40.67%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	77.52%
% of 65+ individuals who rent	22.48%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	23.74% ²
<hr/>	
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	42.99%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	9.82%
<hr/>	
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	39.27%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	24.12%

Income

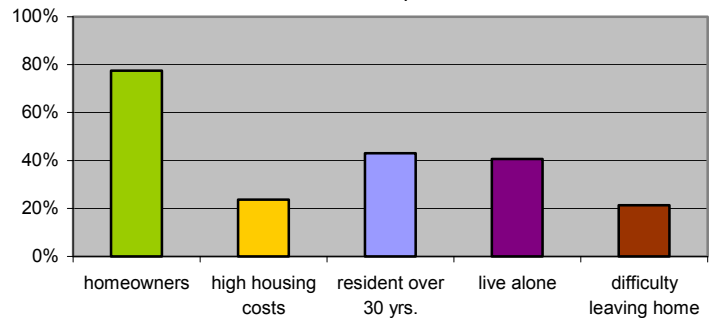
% of 65+ with income below poverty	8.72%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	19.74%

Compared to some counties in the Region, DeKalb has a much higher percentage of older adults living in older housing, increasing the need for repair and modification.

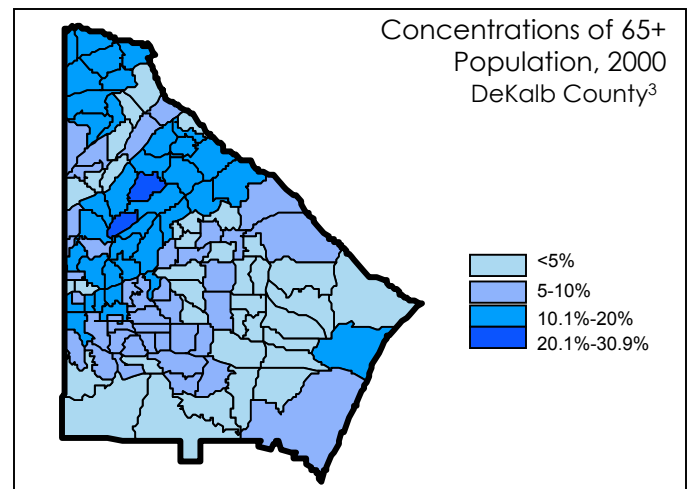
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	4,997
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	11,491

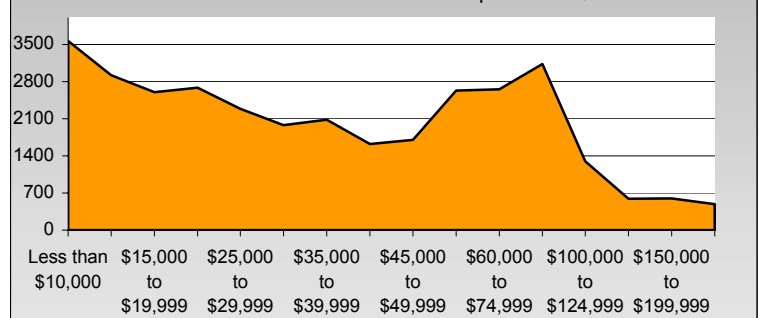
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in DeKalb County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000 DeKalb County³



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



Aging Atlanta

Atlanta Regional Commission
40 Courtland Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404.463.3224

¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Douglas County

Population¹

Total population in Douglas County	92,174
Total population over 65	7,003
% of the population over 65	7.60%
Total population over 85	616
% of the population over 85	.67%
Total population age 50-64	13,609
% of the population age 50-64	14.76%

The 65+ population grew by 39% in Douglas County from 1990-2000, slightly faster than the total population in Douglas County which increased by 36%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	38.26%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	83.58%
% of 65+ individuals who rent	16.42%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	18.84% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	28.42%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	9.89%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	23.96%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	7.77%

Income

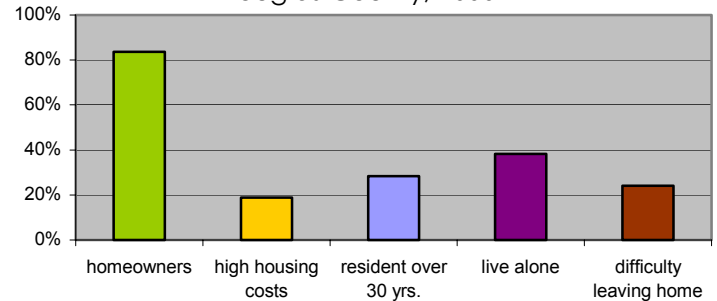
% of 65+ with income below poverty	7.54%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	24.58%

Douglas County has one of the Region's highest rates of homeownership among its 65+ population.

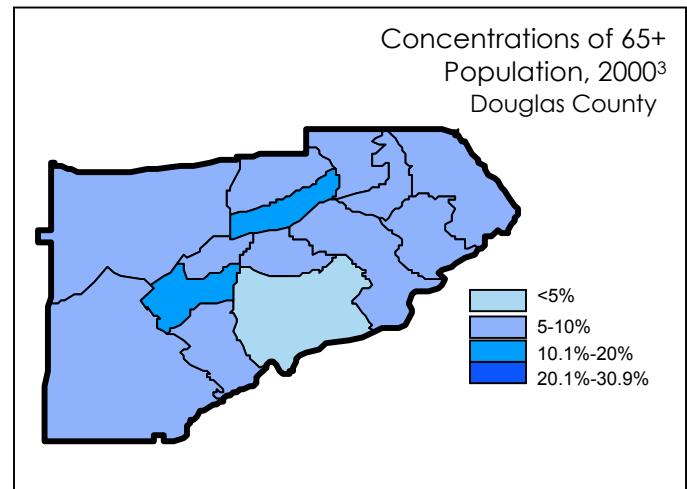
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	751
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	1,688

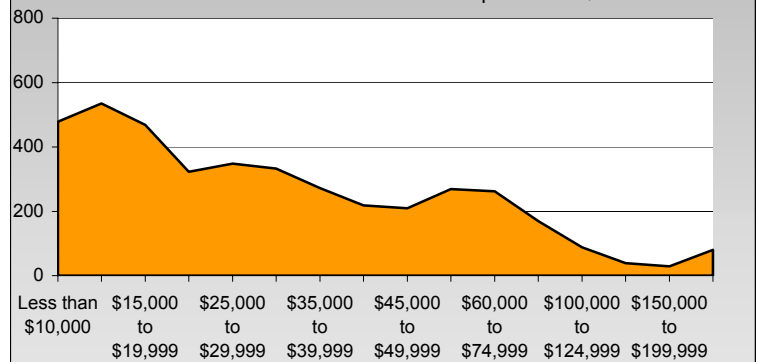
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Douglas County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000³
Douglas County



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Fayette County

Population¹

Total population in Fayette County	91,263
Total population over 65	8,224
% of the population over 65	9.01%
Total population over 85	727
% of the population over 85	.8%
Total population age 50-64	16,560
% of the population age 50-64	18.15%

The 65+ population grew by 82% in Fayette County from 1990-2000, a faster than the total population in Fayette County which increased by 51%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	35.17%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	87.91%
% of 65+ individuals who rent their current residence	12.09%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	21.05% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	10.76%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	3.21%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	8.69%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	2.07%

Income

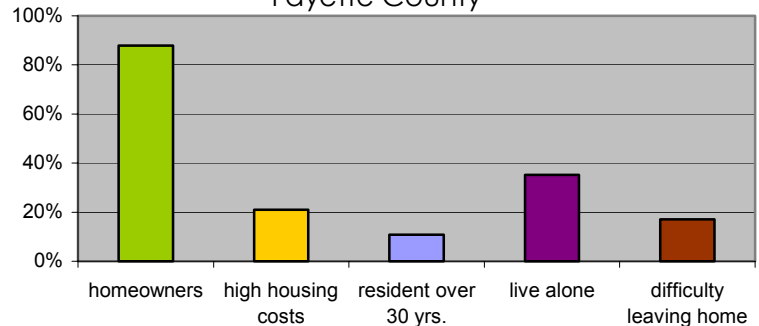
% of 65+ with income below poverty	4.62%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	16.08%

Compared to the other nine counties in the Atlanta Region, Fayette County has the lowest rate of poverty among its 65+ population.

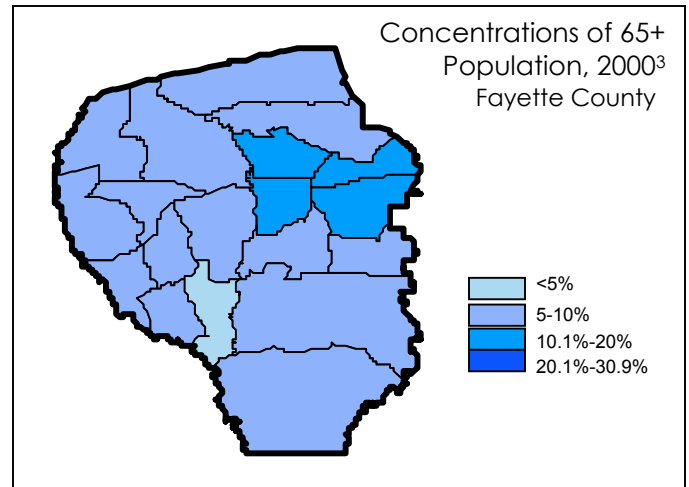
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	735
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	1,404

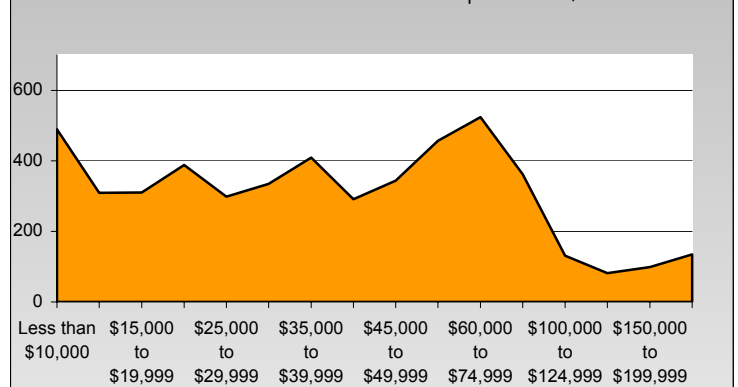
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Fayette County²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000³
Fayette County



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



Aging Atlanta

Atlanta Regional Commission
40 Courtland Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404.463.3224

¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Fulton County

Population¹

Total population in Fulton County	816,006
Total population over 65	69,623
% of the population over 65	8.53%
Total population over 85	9582
% of the population over 85	1.17%
Total population age 50-64	108,731
% of the population age 50-64	13.32%

The 65+ population grew by 7.5% in Fulton County from 1990-2000, slower than the total population in Fulton County which increased by 19%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	47.95%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	66.43%
% of 65+ individuals who rent their current residence	33.57%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	28.89% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	41.24%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	9.75%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	44.90%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	28.19%

Income

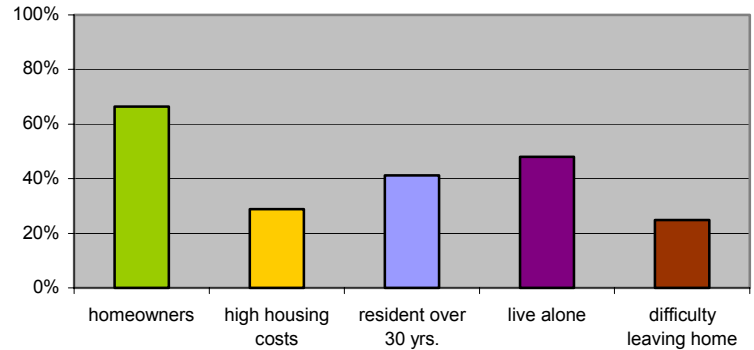
% of 65+ with income below poverty	15.71%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	31.14%

Compared to the other nine counties in the Atlanta Region, Fulton County has the highest rate of poverty and the highest percent of 65+ individuals with annual incomes below \$15,000/year.

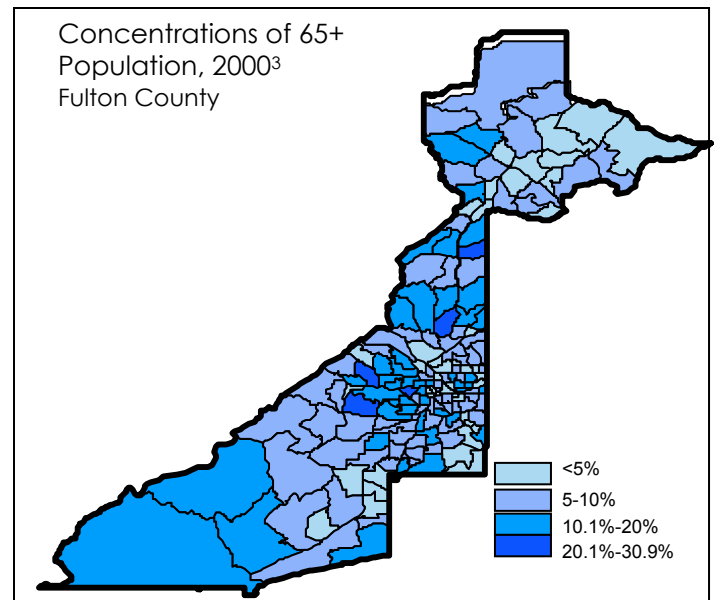
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	9,135
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	17,361

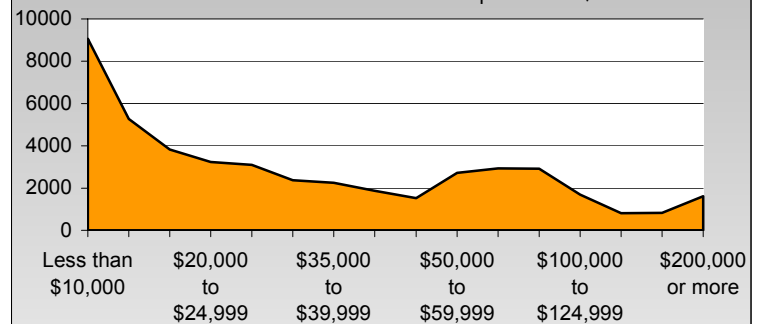
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Fulton County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000³
Fulton County



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Gwinnett County

Population¹

Total population in Gwinnett County	588,448
Total population over 65	29,430
% of the population over 65	5%
Total population over 85	9,233
% of the population over 85	1.57%
Total population age 50-64	74,092
% of the population age 50-64	12.59%

The 65+ population grew by 74.42% in Gwinnett County from 1990-2000, significantly more than the total population in Gwinnett County which increased by 54.22%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	36.87%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	85.18%
% of 65+ individuals who rent	14.82%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	21.34% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their housing before 1970	17.31%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their housing before 1970	4.64%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	11.19%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	3.37%

Income

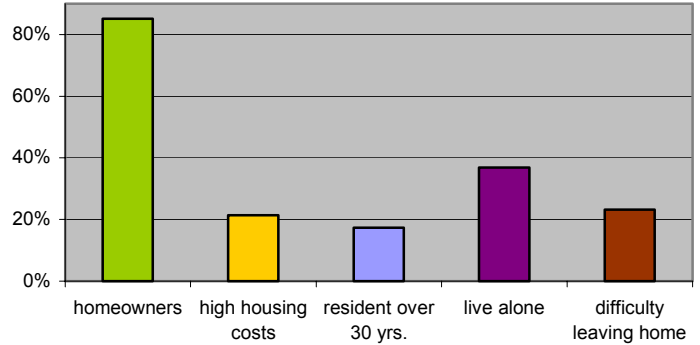
% of 65+ with income below poverty	5.53%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	19.34%

Compared to the other nine counties in the Region, a relatively low percentage of older adults have been long-term residents of Gwinnett County.

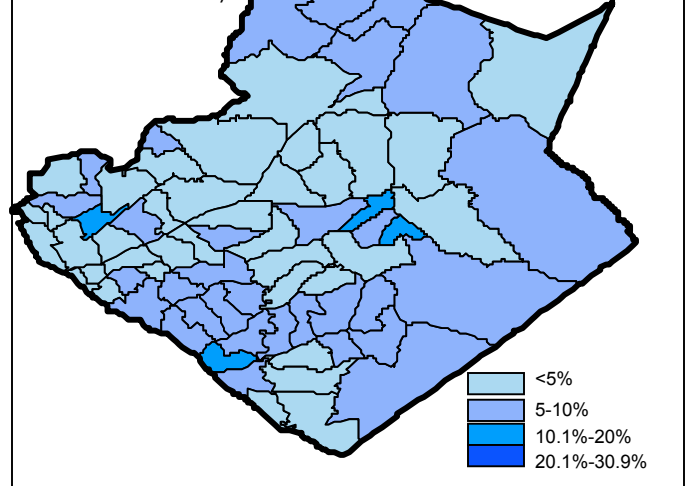
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	3,180
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	6,846

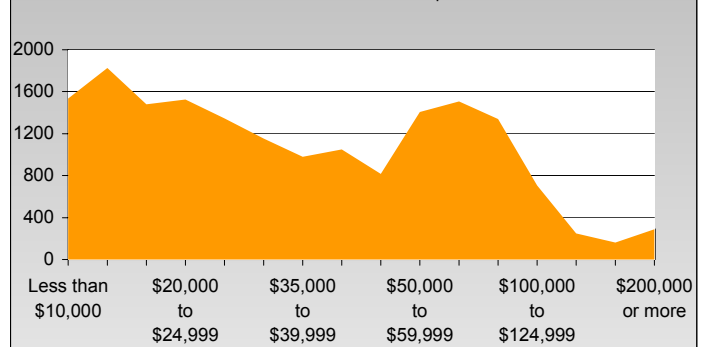
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Gwinnett County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000³
Gwinnett County



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Henry County

Population¹

Total population in Henry County	119,341
Total population over 65	8,777
% of the population over 65	7.35%
Total population over 85	803
% of the population over 85	.67%
Total population age 50-64	16,364
% of the population age 50-64	13.71%

The 65+ population grew by 78% in Henry County from 1990-2000, less than the total population in Henry County which increased by 102%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	32.55%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	90.55%
% of 65+ individuals who rent their current residence	9.45%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	21.64% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	18.67%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	5.42%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	14.56%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	4.98%

Income

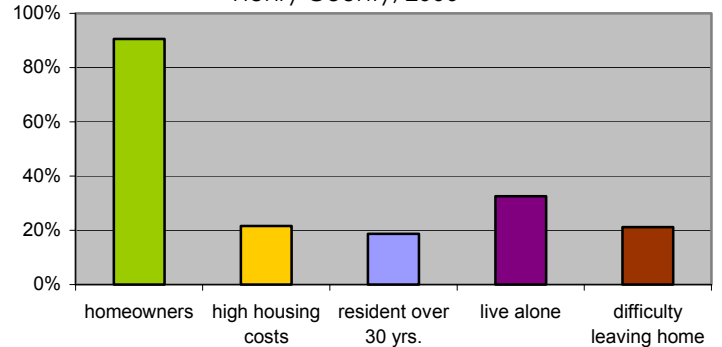
% of 65+ with income below poverty	7.77%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	19.84%

Compared to the other nine counties in the Region, the 65+ population residing in Henry County has the highest rate of homeownership.

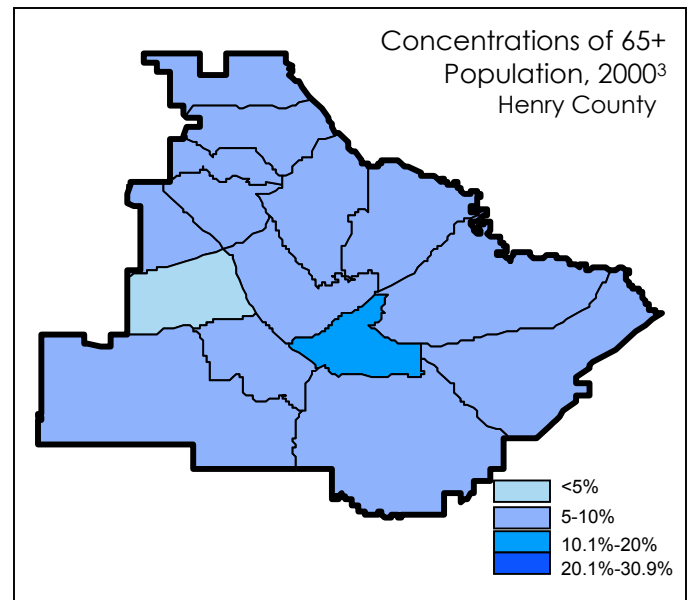
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	830
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	1,862

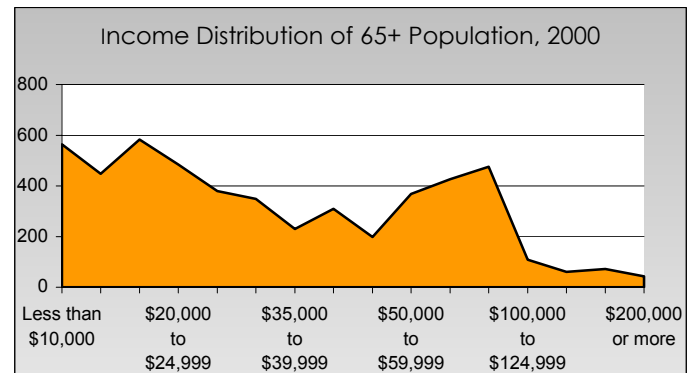
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Henry County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000³ Henry County



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).

Older Adults in Rockdale County

Population¹

Total population in Rockdale County	70,111
Total population over 65	6,058
% of the population over 65	8.64%
Total population over 85	624
% of the population over 85	.89%
Total population age 50-64	11,171
% of the population age 50-64	15.93%

The 65+ population grew by 39.45% in Rockdale County from 1990-2000, faster than the total population in Rockdale County which increased by 26.78%.

Housing

% of 65+ individuals living alone	29.15%
% of 65+ individuals who own their home	85.83%
% of 65+ individuals who rent their current residence	14.17%
% of 65+ individuals in high cost housing	16.74% ²
% of 65+ individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	24.84%
% of 55-64 individuals who moved into their current residence before 1970	10.20%
% of 65+ individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	14.31%
% of 55-64 individuals living in housing built prior to 1950	6.33%

Income

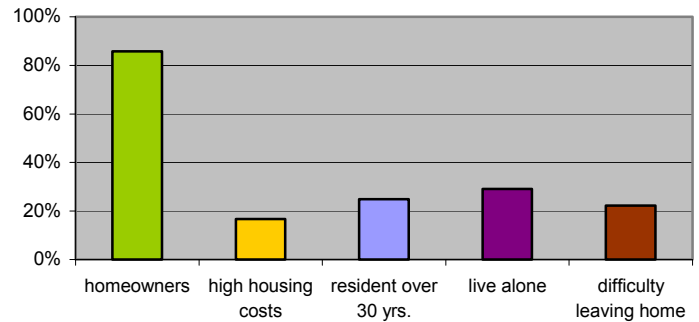
% of 65+ with income below poverty	7.72%
% of 65+ with income below \$15,000/yr	18.42%

The income distribution of the 65+ population in Rockdale County peaks several times. The highest percentage of older adults has incomes between \$15,000 and \$20,000 each year.

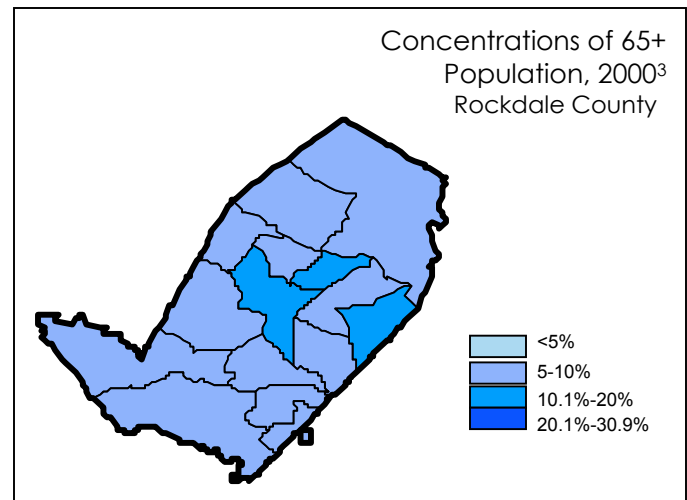
Disability

65+ individuals with self-care limitation	597
65+ individuals with disabilities that prevent them from leaving the home	1,346

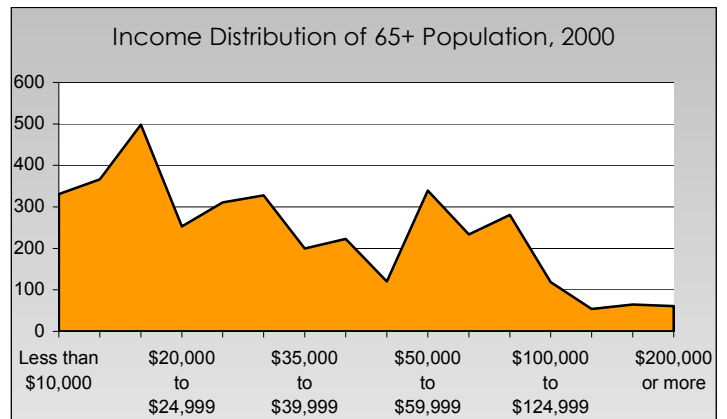
Housing Characteristics of 65+ Population in Rockdale County, 2000²



Concentrations of 65+ Population, 2000³
Rockdale County



Income Distribution of 65+ Population, 2000



¹ All data comes from the 2000 US Census.

² High cost housing is defined as a total monthly housing expense (either rent or mortgage payment) that exceeds 35% of an individual's monthly income.

³ Map demonstrates percent of population in each census tract over the age of 65 (ARC Research).