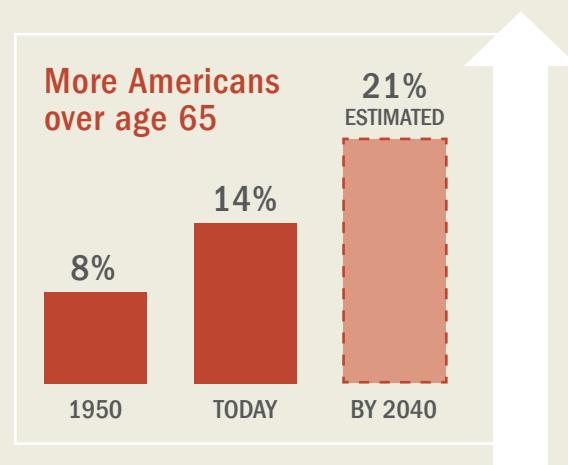


AIR'S CENTER ON AGING

Longer lifespans have moved from conversation topics to hard facts in recent years as the enormous Baby Boom generation ages. In 1950, 8 percent of Americans were over 65. Today, 14 percent are. By 2040, an estimated 21 percent will be.

As seniors live longer, healthier lives, our preconceptions about the retirement age, the relative financial status of seniors versus the young, and family relationships are evolving. Needs for healthcare and home aides, jobs and other productive activities for older workers, and new living arrangements for seniors facing physical or cognitive problems will challenge both our public sector and our economy overall.

As with most sea changes requiring adaptation, time is needed to absorb the implications and to rebalance attitudes and expectations about what this all means. And despite the longstanding anticipation of dealing with an aging society, the U.S. remains relatively unprepared for many of the changes already in motion.



ABOUT AIR

The American Institutes for Research conducts and applies the best behavioral and social science research and evaluation towards improving people's lives, with a special emphasis on the disadvantaged.

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Center on Aging

MAKING RESEARCH RELEVANT

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PRACTICAL. TIMELY. INFORMED.

AIR's new Center on Aging aims to move problem-solving forward by:

- ▶ Correcting misunderstandings about aging and policies to address it
- ▶ Filling in gaps in research and policy debates
- ▶ Synthesizing data to reveal aging's unfolding societal impacts
- ▶ Applying lessons learned from other historical changes to current challenges



TOPICAL.

Our evolving cross-disciplinary work spans medical research, health and labor economics, statistical and survey analysis, and public policy analysis.

We will:

- ▶ Analyze how key statistical trends have changed over time and what that implies for response by both the public and private sectors of our economy.
- ▶ Synthesize research in cognitive decline as people age and evidence on how such changes can be mitigated.
- ▶ Consider how public programs targeted to older Americans affect the inequality of income and economic well-being.
- ▶ Explore how technological change is affecting the labor force for older workers and how responsive they are to such changes.
- ▶ Share information on how early life experiences and achievements—as measured by AIR's Project Talent— influence such outcomes as economic and health status as people age.

TARGETED.

Our work is created mainly for policymakers, researchers, and the media, but in some cases for broader audiences as well. We offer:

- ▶ Original research on medical and economic findings
- ▶ Forums and briefings that frame or reframe policy issues
- ▶ Evidence-based commentary on news and research



PROJECT TALENT

The Center on Aging's unique national longitudinal data base contains voluminous information collected from more than 440,000 Americans starting during their high school years more than half a century ago.

No richer source of information exists on a huge cohort that is now rapidly retiring and testing our social and economic systems' mettle. Already, these survey findings have informed more than 450 reports and books, captured women's changing roles, and revealed influences on student achievement.

How does economic hardship in early life reduce economic and social achievements later? To what extent is inequality transferred across generations? Are early achievers very likely to succeed throughout the lifespan? What factors matter the most? Future Project Talent studies like these promise to enrich research on aging issues for years to come.