

Research Report

Profile of Older Philadelphians



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Data taken from 2019 Public Use File of the American Community Survey IPUMS USA, University of Minnesota, www.ipums.org . All persons ages 60 and older living in Philadelphia were included in the individual level statistics. All households that included persons ages 60 and older were included in household level statistics.

Individual Level Statistics (Includes Institutionalized Persons)

Total number of older adults in the city	311,808
As percent of total city population	19.7%
As percent of total older persons in state	9.4%

Demographic Characteristics

Women	58.8%
Men	41.2%
Age 65+	71.4%
Age 75+	30.7%
Veteran (including Reserves and National Guard)	12.3%

Health Characteristics

Has cognitive difficulty	13.5%
Has ambulatory difficulty	29.9%
Has IADL type difficulty	23.3%
Has ADL type difficulty	13.6%
Vision difficulty	9.2%
Hearing difficulty	12.1%

Economic Characteristics

In labor force	25.7%
Less than 50% Federal Poverty Level	9.5%
Less than 100% Federal Poverty Level	24.3%
Less than 200% Federal Poverty Level	43.4%
Medicaid recipient	30.1%
Median personal income	\$19,200

Education

Less than high school graduate	17.2%
High school graduate	46.0%
1 year or more of college	36.8%

Race/Ethnicity

White non-Hispanic	43.3%
Black non-Hispanic	40.8%
Hispanic/Latino	8.1%
Asian	6.0%
Other/Mixed	1.9%

Household

Moved in current home 20+ years	51.8% (of those who answered)
In household with grandchildren	5.5%
Married (spouse present)	35.9%

National Origin/Language

Limited English proficiency	14.6%
Foreign born	15.1%
Foreign born, minority or both	62.5%
English primary language	79.8%
Median number of years in US (for foreign born)	31

Household Level Statistics (Excludes Institutionalized Persons)

Number of households with at least one older adult	295,653
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Living Arrangements

Percent living alone	32.3%
Percent living with one other person	42.2%
Percent living with 3 or more persons	25.5%

Home Ownership

Owned free and clear	41.6%
Owned with mortgage or loan	29.2%
No cash rent	1.3%
With cash rent	27.9%

SNAP (food stamp) recipient in household	30.3%
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Linguistically isolated (no one over age of 14 fluent in English)	8.3%
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Structure built 1950 or earlier	71.1%
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No internet access	21.3%
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No vehicle available in household	28.9%
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Number of Generations in Household

One	67.7%
Two (adjacent or not adjacent)	24.7%
Three	7.6%

Average Home Value

Median home value	\$176,000
25% of homes worth \$100,000 or less	

Average Household Income

Median household income	\$42,600
25% of households have incomes of \$21,000 or less	