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*Profile
of the
Older
Population
in the
Twin Cities
Metropolitan
Area*

2005



METROPOLITAN
AREA AGENCY
on A·G·I·N·G

The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, which encompasses Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties has experienced significant changes in the older population between 1990 and 2000. This report summarizes the population changes of persons age 60 and older. Some information uses data on persons age 65 and older. This profile is available electronically from the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging's website at www.tcaging.org.

Since 1990, the older population in the Metropolitan Area has increased 11.5% (to 339,174) compared to the under 60 population which increased 16%.*

There is wide variation in the population changes of older adults from 1990 - 2000:

- 60-64 year olds increased 6%
- 65-69 year olds decreased 3.4%
- 70-74 year olds increased 13%
- 75 and older increased 25%

According to the Metropolitan Council population estimates, by 2030, persons age 60 and older are expected to represent 22% of the total Metropolitan Area population.

Older women outnumbered men by 130 to 100. The ratio increased with age. For persons 75 and older it was 184 and persons 85 and older it was 283 women to 100 men.

*From "Twin Cities Age Trends and Forecasts, 1970 to 2030," Metropolitan Council

Table 1: Population Age 60+ Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, 1990 and 2000

Area	1990	2000	Percent Change
Anoka	20,229	30,660	51.6%
Carver	5,470	7,059	29.0%
Dakota	24,823	36,759	48.1%
Hennepin	156,137	158,745	1.7%
Minneapolis	59,660	44,319	-25.7%
Suburban	96,477	114,426	18.6%
Ramsey	78,063	76,192	-2.4%
St. Paul	47,151	37,328	-20.8%
Suburban	30,912	38,864	25.7%
Scott	5,791	7,858	35.7%
Washington	13,775	21,901	59.0%
Metro Total	304,288	339,174	11.5%

Geographic Distribution

In 2000, more than two-thirds (69%) of all older adults in the Metropolitan Area lived in Hennepin (47%) and Ramsey (23%) counties. This is a decrease from 1990, when 77% lived in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

Older adults constituted more than 10% of the total population in six of the seven metropolitan counties: Anoka (10.3%); Carver (10.1%); Dakota (10.3%); Hennepin (14.2%); Ramsey (14.9%); and Washington (10.9%). Scott County's older population was 8.8%.

Unless otherwise noted, all data are from the U.S. Census 2000

Six of the seven counties' older population increased in the 1990s. In three counties, the older population increased by 48% or more between 1990 and 2000: Anoka (51.6%); Dakota (48.1%); and Washington (59.0%). Ramsey County had a slight decrease (-2.4%). This is attributed to a 20% decrease in the older population in St. Paul, which was largely offset by an increase in the suburban areas of the county.

The suburban older population is more than three times larger than the urban older population in Minneapolis and St. Paul. The older population in the central cities dropped from 106,811 to 81,647 during the decade, while the suburban older population rose from 197,547 to 257,527.

*Life Expectancy**

Minnesota's life expectancy in 1990 was the second highest in the nation, outranked by Hawaii.

The average life expectancy of Minnesotans in 2000 was 79.1 years. This was an increase of 1.3 years from the 1990 figure. Men gained more than women during this time: males gained 1.9 years in life expectancy, while women gained 0.6 years.

In 2000, persons reaching age 65 in Minnesota had an average life expectancy of an additional 20 years for women and 17 years for men. For persons reaching age 80, women's additional life expectancy was 9.6 years and men's was 7.7 years.

*From "Minnesota Life Expectancy in 2000," MN State Demographic Center, April 2002.

Living Arrangements

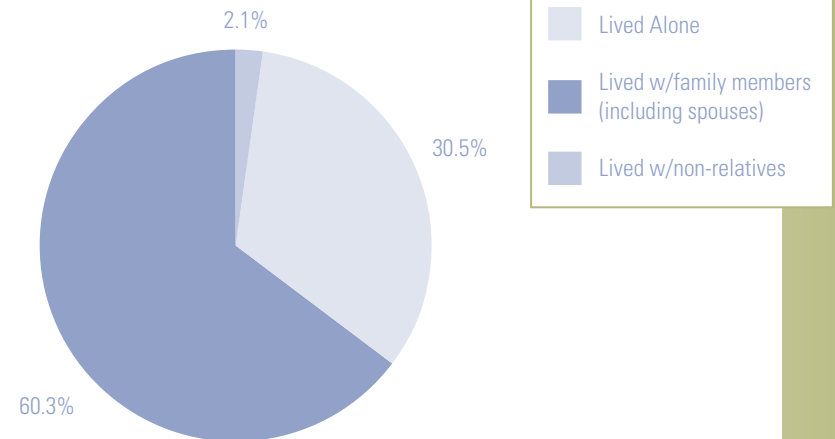
Of the 254,503 individuals age 65 and older, 92.9% lived in households. Of the rest, 5.7% lived in institutions (primarily nursing homes) and another 1.4% lived in other group settings.

The majority of older adults (55.8%) lived with their spouse in 2000. About 91.3% of older men and 43.6% of older women lived with their spouse.

The proportion living with a spouse decreased with age, especially among women. Only 23.3% of women age 75 and older lived with their spouse compared to 71.0% of men age 75 and older.

About 32.8% of community living individuals age 65 and older lived alone. About 64.9% lived with other family members including spouses. About 2.3% lived in households with non-relatives.

Figure 1: Percent Living Alone



Racial and Ethnic Composition

In 2000, about 94.6% of older adults were white. 2.3% were black, 2.0% were Asians/Pacific Islanders, 0.3% were American Indians, and 0.9% were of other races. Persons of Hispanic origin, who may be of any race, represented approximately 0.9% of the population age 60 and older in the Metropolitan Area.

The proportion of older adults varies considerably within different races and categories of ethnic origin. The proportion of white older adults in the Metropolitan Area was higher than other races at 14.3%. Approximately 4.9% of blacks, 5.5% of American Indians, 5.4% of Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 3.2% of Hispanics were age 60 and older. 3.3% of persons who were of two or more races were age 60 and older.

The majority of persons of color age 60 and older in the Metropolitan Area reside in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

Table 2: Persons of Color Age 60+, Metropolitan Area Counties 2000

Area	Anoka	Carver	Dakota	Hennepin	Ramsey	Scott	Washington	Total
Black	115	8	278	4,963	2,189	12	96	7,661
American Indian	101	8	58	634	238	45	39	1,123
Asian or Pacific Islander	351	44	582	3,032	2,275	91	209	6,584
Hispanic	167	34	368	1,149	1,160	53	148	3,079
Other*	222	35	289	1,341	987	51	129	3,054

*Includes Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, Some Other Race Alone, and Two or More Races

Disability

Of older adults that reported some type of disability, physical disability was reported as the most common (22.5%). Mobility outside the home affected 16.0%.

Self-care disability and mental disability affected nearly 8% of the population age 65 and older.

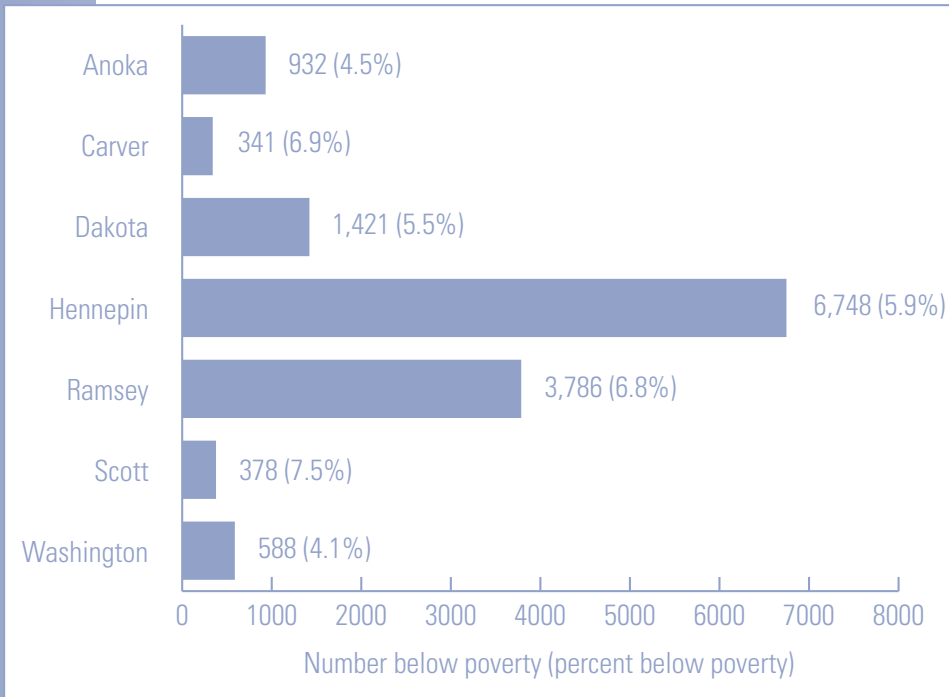
Table 3: People 65+ with Disabilities, Seven County Metro Area

Disability	Total
Sensory disability	28,794
Physical disability	57,622
Mental disability	19,757
Self-care disability	17,428
Go-outside-home disability	41,676
Total unduplicated persons with one or more disabilities	86,214

Income and Poverty

About 5.9% of the non-institutionalized population age 65 and older had incomes below the poverty level (\$8,240 for an individual and \$11,060 for a couple). This is a significant decrease from 1990, when 8% lived below the poverty level.

Figure 2: Percent Below Poverty by County



In 1990 the percentage of older adults living in poverty ranged from 7% in Anoka, Dakota, and Washington counties to 12% in Scott County. In contrast, by 2000 the percentage of older adults in poverty by county ranged from a low of 4.1% in Washington County to a high of 6.9% in Carver County.

Though poverty rates decreased for older adults in 2000, householders age 65 and older were still more likely to have lower incomes than householders under age 65. Nearly 10% of households headed by older adults reported incomes of less than \$10,000 compared to 4.6% of households headed by younger people.

Table 4: Percent of Low Income Households by Age

	Under 65	Over 65
Percent of households < than \$10,000 year income	4.2%	9.6%
Percent of households < than \$20,000 year income	10.2%	30%

Approximately 85.6% of all persons age 65 of older below the poverty level in the Metropolitan Area were white and 14.4% were racial/ethnic minorities. This represents an increase in the percentage who were racial/ethnic minorities from 1990, when 92% were white and 8% were ethnic minorities.

Table 5: Percent of Population Aged 65+ Below Poverty Level by Racial/Ethnic Group

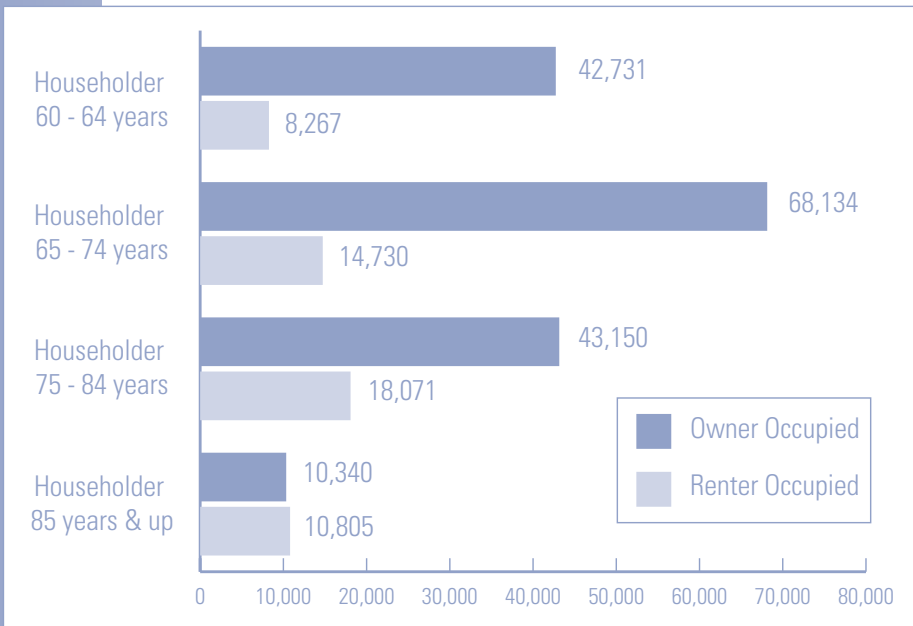
Racial/ Ethnic Group	% Below Poverty
White	5.3%
Black	18.9%
American Indian	13.5%
Asian or Pacific Islander	19.3%
Hispanic	15.4%
Total in poverty, all races	5.9%

Housing

Approximately 48% of households headed by someone age 60 and older lived in owner occupied housing. 15% lived in rental housing.

The number of householders age 85 and older was evenly divided between those who lived in owned housing and rental housing.

Figure 3: Housing Tenure by Age



Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
 1600 University Avenue West, Suite 300
 St. Paul, MN 55104
 651-641-8612
www.tcaging.org
maaa@tcaging.org

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1600 University Avenue West
Suite 300
Saint Paul, MN 55104