

Ontario County - Age Wave

We are living longer. Ontario County, just like the rest of the nation has a growing population of older adults. In 1900 life expectancy in the United States was 47 years; today it is 79 years (76 for men and 81 for women). The largest generation in American history, the Baby Boomers, started turning age 65 in 2011 at the rate of about 8000 per day. This has created an unprecedented age wave. The aging of the population will have wide ranging implications for the country and the county.

The size and structure of the older population is important both socially and economically. The projected growth of the older population in the United States will present challenges to policy makers and programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. It will also affect families, businesses and health care providers.

- The 90% of seniors surveyed want to age in their own homes yet adequate home-based and community-based services are limited in most communities.

One out of every four 65 year olds will live past 90 and one out of every ten will live past age 95!

- 25% of families in America are caring for an older family member, a friend or an individual with a disability.

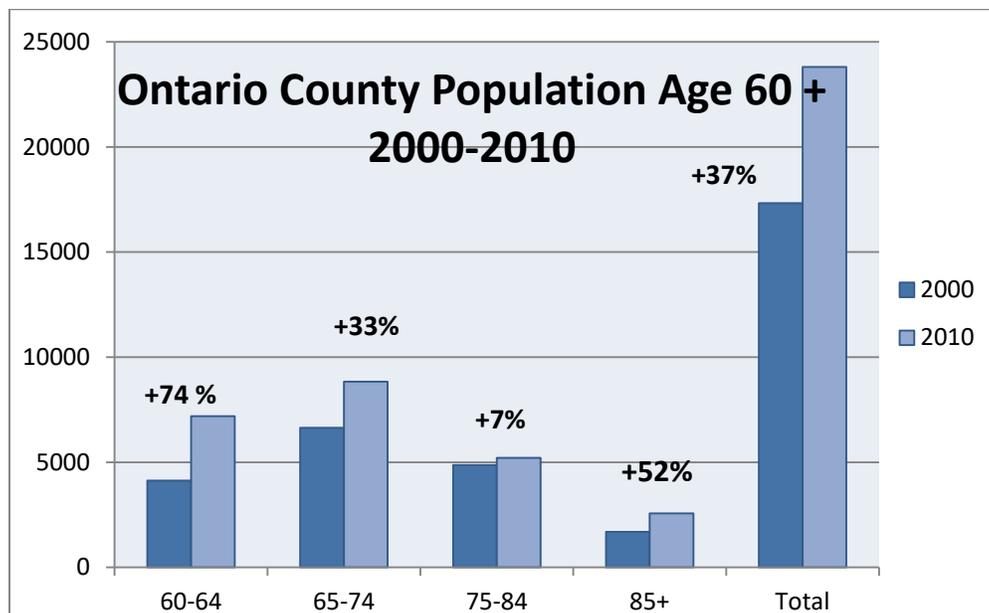
Ontario County

- **About 24,000 or 22% of the county population is age 60 or older**
- **By 2035 about 39,500 or 33% will be over 60**
- **The population age 75 and over is projected to more than double by 2035**
- **The population age 85 and over will increase by about 89%**
- **The number of minority older adults is projected to more than double**
- **The disabled population over age 65 is expected to increase by about 65%**

- More than 50% of family caregivers are between the ages of 35-64 and are balancing work, children, and their caregiving duties.
- Nursing homes and assisted living facilities have become the default option for frail

elders, because no other comprehensive options exist. The National Institute on Aging study published in August 2010 found 53% of those admitted to a nursing home died within 6 months; the mean for males was 3 months.

The number of Americans age 85 or older is increasing faster than any other age group



The number of Americans aged 65 and older is projected to double from 46 million to more than 98 million by 2060. It will be the first time in history that the number of older adults outnumbers children under age 5