

Growing Demand for Long-Term Care in California

In 2011, the largest generation in history – Baby Boomers – will begin turning 65, resulting in a rapid increase in the number of older adults nationally as well as in California specifically. In addition, the aging population is living longer, often with chronic illness and disabling conditions. Given these demographic trends, we can anticipate significant growth in the demand for long-term care within the state.

This fact sheet is one in a series that provides basic information on the “who, what, where, when, why, and how” of long-term care in California. All the references accessed to produce this fact sheet are provided for further review.

- The number of Californians age 65 and older is projected to increase by **100%** from 2010 to 2030.¹
 - The number of Californians age 65 to 84 is projected to increase by **about 105%**, from **3.78 million** in 2010 to **7.75 million** in 2030 as the Baby Boomer generation turns 65 years old.¹
 - The number of Californians age 85 and older is projected to increase by **about 72%**, from over **628,000** in 2010 to about **1.08 million** in 2030.¹
- By 2030, it is estimated that **about 18%** of California’s population or **8.84 million** individuals will be 65 and older. This is up from 11.3% in 2010.¹
- Between 2005 and 2007, an estimated **38,000** individuals age 60 and older migrated to California from other states and **27,000** migrated from abroad.²
- By 2030, the following California counties will have seen the largest increases in the population of individuals age 60 and older: Madera (+153%) and Imperial (+140%), Kings (+119%), San Bernardino (108%+), Kern (+107%), San Benito (+107%), Riverside(+104%), and Merced (+101%) counties. In comparison, the population of individuals age 60 and older in Los Angeles and San Francisco counties—which are home to about two-thirds of California’s aged population— is expected to increase by 74% and 56%, respectively during this period.²
- The number of Californians age 65 and older with Alzheimer’s disease is expected to increase by **38%**, from **480,000** in 2010 to **660,000** in 2025.³
- Currently there are approximately **480,000** working age adults with disabilities in California. This population is anticipated to increase by **20%** to **550,000** by 2030.⁴

Sources

1. California Department of Finance. Population Projections by Race / Ethnicity, Gender and Age for California and Its Counties 2000–2050. 2007; <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/projections/p-3/>. Accessed October 1, 2010.
2. Schwarzenegger A, Bekshe K, Daucher L. California State Plan on Aging 2009-2013. http://www.aging.ca.gov/legislation/California_State_Plan_on_Aging_AoA_2009-2013_06-30-2009.pdf. Accessed September 18, 2010.
3. Alzheimer's Association. California Alzheimer Statistics. 2010; http://alz.org/documents_custom/ALZ_FF_California.pdf?type=interior_map. Accessed October 11, 2010.
4. California HealthCare Foundation. California Health Care Almanac: Long Term Care Facts and Figures. 2009; <http://www.chcf.org/~media/Files/PDF/L/LTCFactsFigures09.pdf>. Accessed September 18, 2010.



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