



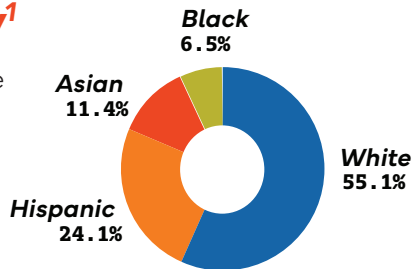
SNAPSHOT OF OLDER ADULTS

in Kern County

California is the state with the most older adults living in poverty. By 2030, older adults will make up one-quarter of California's population, intensifying the need to invest in the critical programs that support them.

Overview¹

Older adults age 60+ account for **20%** of California's population.



Statewide demographics among older adults

In Kern County, **141,000** older adults are 60+.

Medi-Cal & Medicare²

Older adults 65+ who have incomes at or below 138% of the federal poverty level qualify for both Medi-Cal & Medicare for their health care coverage.

In Kern County, there are **39,055** older adults dually eligible.

There are **1,658,539** older adults statewide who are dually eligible.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)³

SSI is a federal income supplement program available to low-income older adults and people with disabilities.

In Kern County, there are **10,832** older adults 65+ receiving SSI payments.

567,486 older adults statewide receive SSI payments.

Poverty Levels Using the Elder Index⁴

A new, more accurate standard of measurement gauges income security among California's older adults and takes into account local cost of living.



35% of older adults 65+ in Kern County don't have enough income to meet their basic needs.

A single older adult who rents in Kern County needs at least

\$20,796

per year to meet their basic needs.

1,547,000

older adults 65+ statewide don't have enough income to meet their basic needs.

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)⁵

IHSS provides in-home assistance to eligible older adults and people with disabilities as an alternative to institutional care and enables recipients to remain safely in their own homes.

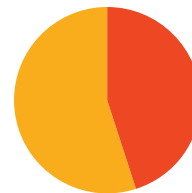
In Kern County,

5,220

older adults 65+ receive IHSS services.

388,736 older adults statewide receive IHSS services.

Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness⁶



45% of homeless individuals in California are age 50+.

In Kern County,

1,219

adults age 55+ interacted with the homeless response system.

57,715 older adults statewide interacted with the homeless response system.

Sources

- 1 Data Dashboard for Aging, [California Population Profile, Adults Age 60 and Older](#)
- 2 CHHS Open Data Portal, [Month of Eligibility, Dual Status, by County, Medi-Cal Certified Eligibility](#)
- 3 Social Security Office of Retirement and Disability Policy, [SSI Recipients by State and County, 2021](#)
- 4 UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, [California Elder Economic Security™ Index \(CEI\)](#)
- 5 California Department of Social Services, [Monthly IHSS Program Data, December 2022](#)
- 6 Homeless Data Integration System, [Demographic Characteristics of People Experiencing Homelessness that California Served](#)