SNAPSHOT OF OLDER ADULTS in Orange 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.

Overview

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

In Orange County, 675,000 older adults are 60+.

Medi-Cal & Medicare

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 Orange County, there are 114,780 older adults dually eligible.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

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

In Orange County, there are 44,037 older adults 65+ receiving SSI payments.

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

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 Orange County, 25,808 older adults 65+ receive IHSS services.

Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness

In Orange County, 2,959 adults age 55+ interacted with the homeless response system.

Poverty Levels Using the Elder Index

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

A single older adult who rents in Orange County needs at least $31,392 per year to meet their basic needs.

1,547,000 older adults 65+ statewide don’t have enough income to meet their basic needs.

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Sources

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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