

S U M M A R Y

Older adults in Ramsey County Census 2000 fact sheet

One out of 10 people in Ramsey County is age 65 or older.

- The county has 59,502 older adults.
- Older adults make up 11.6% of the county's total population.

About half the older adults in the county are "young-old."

- 48% are age 65-74.
- 37% are age 75-84.
- 15% are age 85 or older.

Very few have never married.

- 52% are living with their spouse or partner.
- 33% are widowed.
- 9% are divorced or separated.
- 6% never married.

Racial and ethnic diversity is small but growing.

- 93% of Ramsey County older adults are White.
- African Americans and Asians are each about 3% of older adults.
- All other racial/ethnic groups combined are about 1% of older adults.

Cultural diversity is small compared to the younger population.

- About 6% of older adults in the county were born outside the United States (about 3,600 people).
- About 8% of older adults speak a language other than English at home.
- Most of them also speak English "well" or "very well."
- Exception: Of those who speak an Asian language at home, more than half speak English "not well" or "not at all."

- In all, about 3% of older adults in Ramsey County speak English "not well" or "not at all" (about 1,600 people).

Older women have somewhat less education than older men.

- 63% of all older adults have HS education or less (67% of women, 55% of men).
- 19% of all older adults have some college.
- 11% have a 4-year college degree.
- 7% have an advanced degree (12% of men, 4% of women).

One out of four Ramsey County seniors have very limited income

- 25% have income less than 200% of the federal poverty level for their household size (about 13,700 people).
- 15% are under 150% of poverty (about 8,500 people).

Several thousand live in poverty.

- About 7% of all older adults in the county have income under the federal poverty line (about 3,800 people).
- African Americans make up 3% of Ramsey County older adults, and 6% of those in poverty.
- Asian-Americans make up 2.6% of Ramsey County older adults, and 13% of those in poverty.
- Latinos make up 1.3% of Ramsey County older adults, and 3.5% of those in poverty.

See reverse side: Comparing survey groups

Survey of older adults in Ramsey County: Comparing the smaller samples to the full survey group

In addition to a 2003 survey of 499 older adults in Ramsey County, Wilder Research Center conducted three supplemental surveys of African American, Hmong, and Latino older adults. These smaller surveys used a random sampling method, but only in areas of the county where we could expect to find higher

numbers of each cultural group (based on Census 2000).

The low-income subgroup is not a separate survey like the cultural groups, but consists of those older adults in the full survey whose household income was below \$15,000 per year.

	Full survey	Low-income subgroup	African American survey	Hmong survey	Latino survey
Number of respondents	499	91	53	51	45
Average age	75-76	Older	Similar to full survey	Younger	Younger
Living alone	41%	More live alone	Similar to full survey	More live w/ children	Similar to full survey
Income <\$15,000	23%	100%	Twice as likely	Almost all	Twice as likely
Women	68%	More	More	Similar to full survey	Similar to full survey
Homeowners	78%	Fewer	Similar to full survey	Fewer	Similar to full survey

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For more information

This fact sheet is a companion to the research report "Survey of older adults in Ramsey County" and the summary report "Building communities where older adults thrive." Both are found at www.wilder.org/research

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