



Aging: Today and Tomorrow

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Agenda

- Area Agencies on Aging
- Demographics and Statistics
- The Impact of Covid on Older Adults
- What we will need to focus on in the future



Area Agency on Aging: The basics



- **federally mandated** program
- authority and funding through the **Older Americans Act** and **Older Coloradans Act**
- **612** Area Agencies on Aging **nationwide**
- **16** Area Agencies on Aging **in Colorado**



Area Agency on Aging: The basics

Levels of care and associated cost



Area Agencies on Aging

- help people **age better**
- support people to **stay in their homes**
- **Advocate** for and **protect** the health and wellbeing of people living in nursing homes and assisted living
- **Provide** and **fund** services



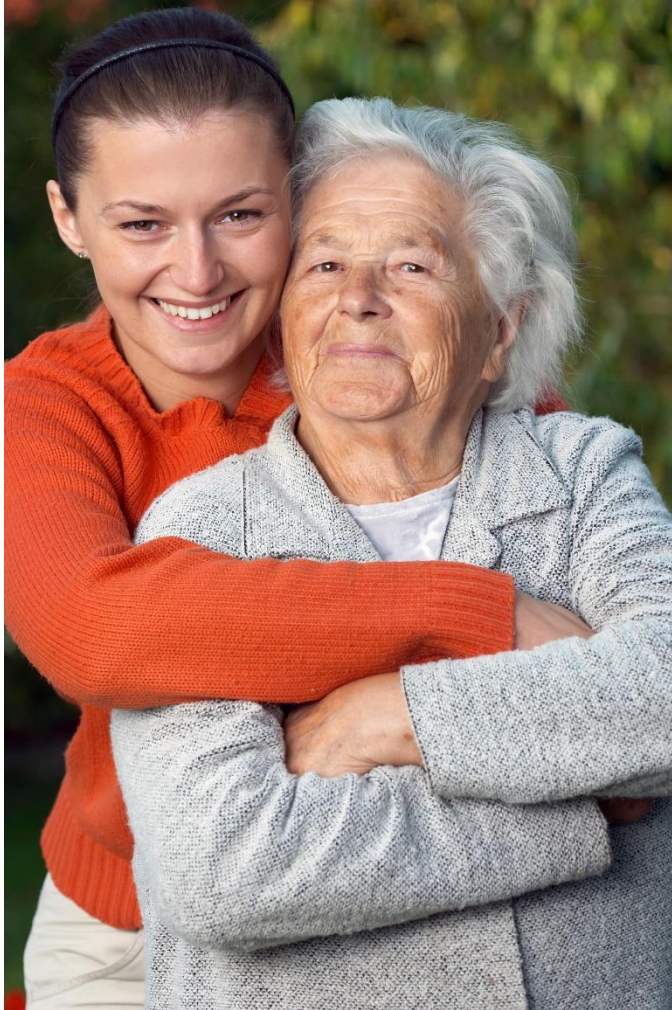
Area Agency on Aging: A Valuable Resource

- AAAs
 - **Provide** information **and connect** with services
 - Food assistance
 - **Transportation**
 - Housing
 - **Help around the house**
 - Support for family caregivers
 - **Financial assistance**
 - Help with benefit programs
 - **Help with personal needs**
 - Grocery shopping
 - Cooking
 - Bathing
 - Dressing





Services offered by DRCOG Area Agency on Aging



- Long-Term Care Ombudsman program
- Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Ombudsman program
- Information and assistance
- Contracts management
- Options counseling
- Case management
- State Health Insurance Assistance Program
- Veteran-Directed Care
- Community transitions
- Evidence-based programs
- Elder refugee services
- Accountable Health Communities



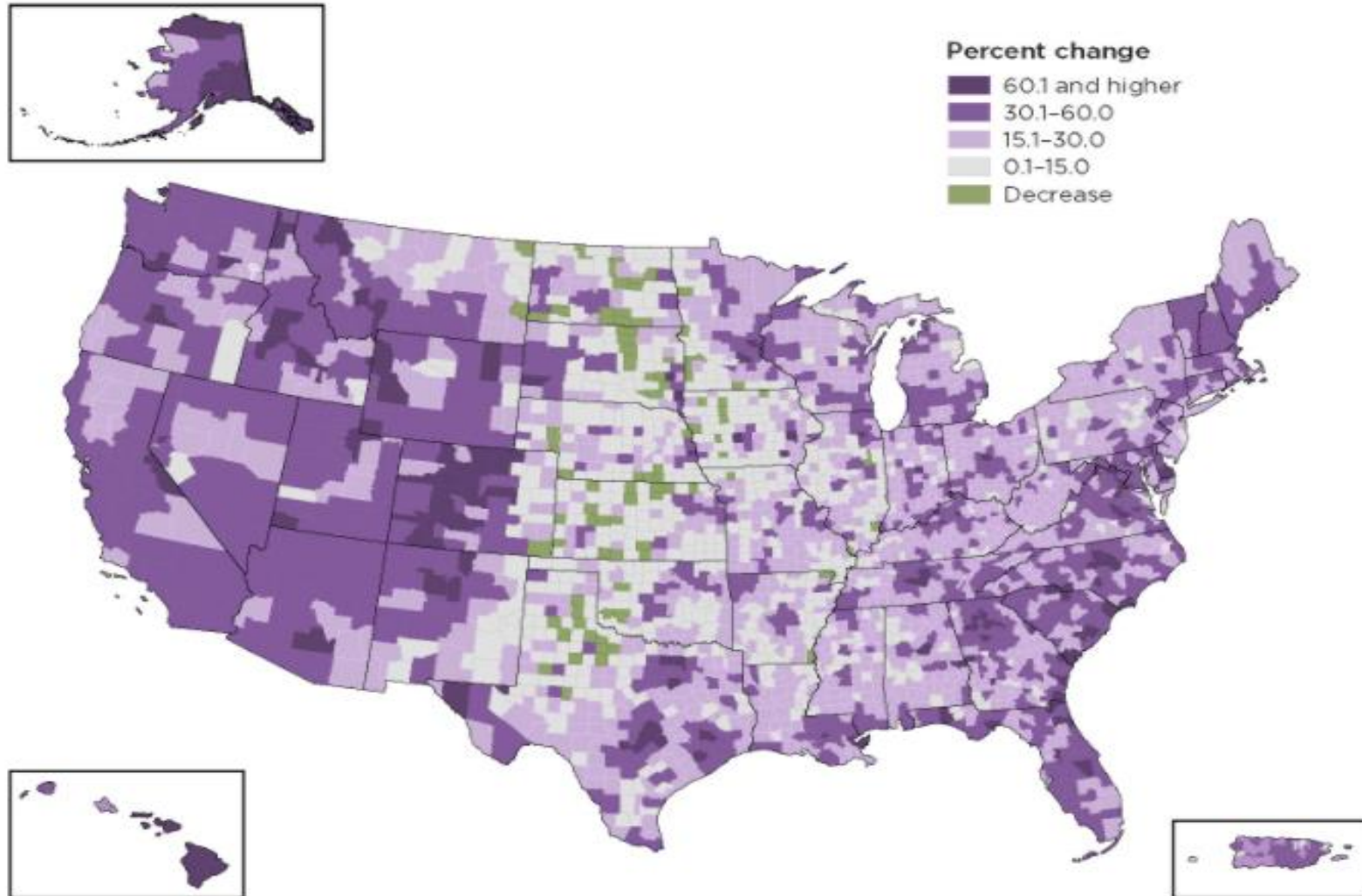
AAA Service Categories

- Transportation
- Nutrition
- In-home care
- In-home assistance
- Yard work
- Caregiver support
- Legal
- Respite
- Grandparent support
- Benefits counseling
- Meal preparation
- Fall prevention
- Chronic disease self-management
- Health promotion
- Education
- Services for the blind and visually impaired
- Home repair or modification
- Hearing aids and glasses
- Mental health service
- Native American services

AGING DEMOGRAPHICS



Americans are Aging: Percent Change 65+ 2010 to 2019

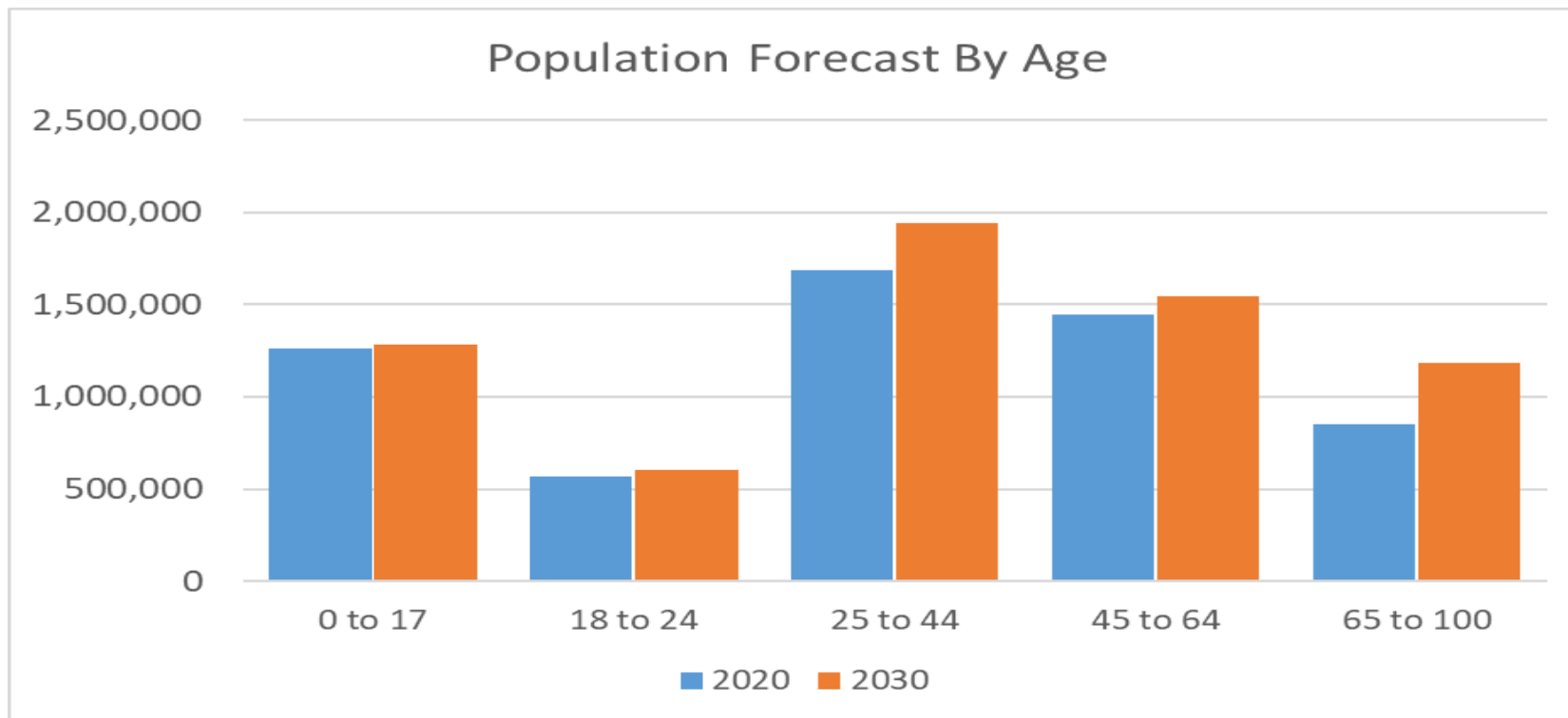


- Nation's 65+ population increased by 34%
- Colorado's 65+ population increased by 53%
- Colorado 2nd fastest growth of 65+ in Nation

Source of map: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Vintage 2019 estimates, September 2020



Colorado's Population Growth from 2020 -2030



	0 to 17	18 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 to 100	Total
Change	23,538	38,701	248,842	99,474	332,431	742,986
Rate	1.9%	6.8%	14.7%	6.9%	39.1%	12.8%



Colorado five fastest growing cohort groups

Five-year cohort	Percent change (2015-2040)	Rank
75 to 79	257%	1
90-plus	219%	2
85 to 89	205%	3
80 to 84	204%	4
70 to 74	88%	5
65 to 69	40%	6

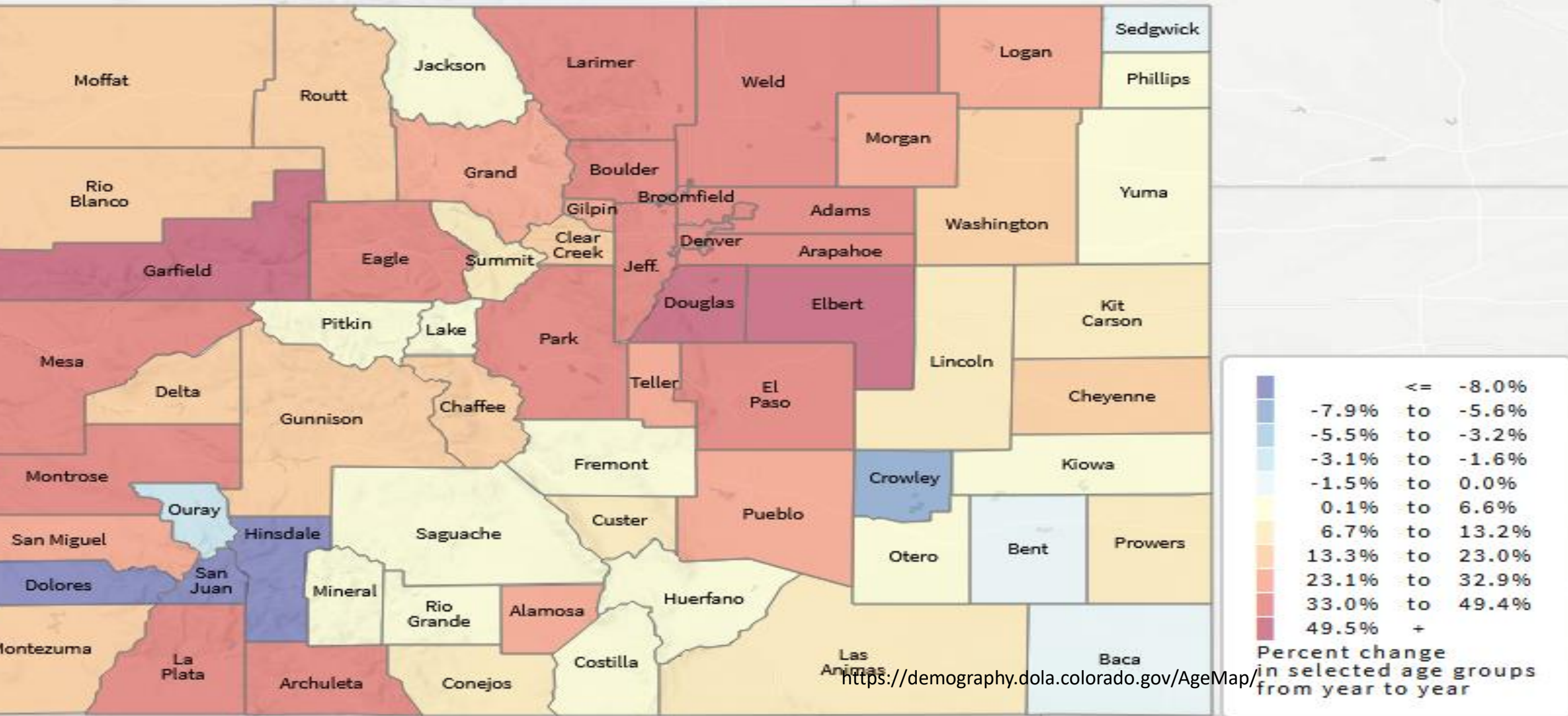


Why is Aging so Important?

- **Colorado is the second fastest aging state in the nation!**
- **Aging is an economic driver**
- Impacts:
 - Business – what people buy and where they buy
 - Workforce – retirement and older workers
 - Income – retirement, wages/income
 - Tax base – retirement, services vs goods
 - Housing – ownership, household size, type of housing, cost and evictions
 - Transportation – increase disabilities, driving patterns
 - Service – needs and demands will change
 - Health Care
 - Technology



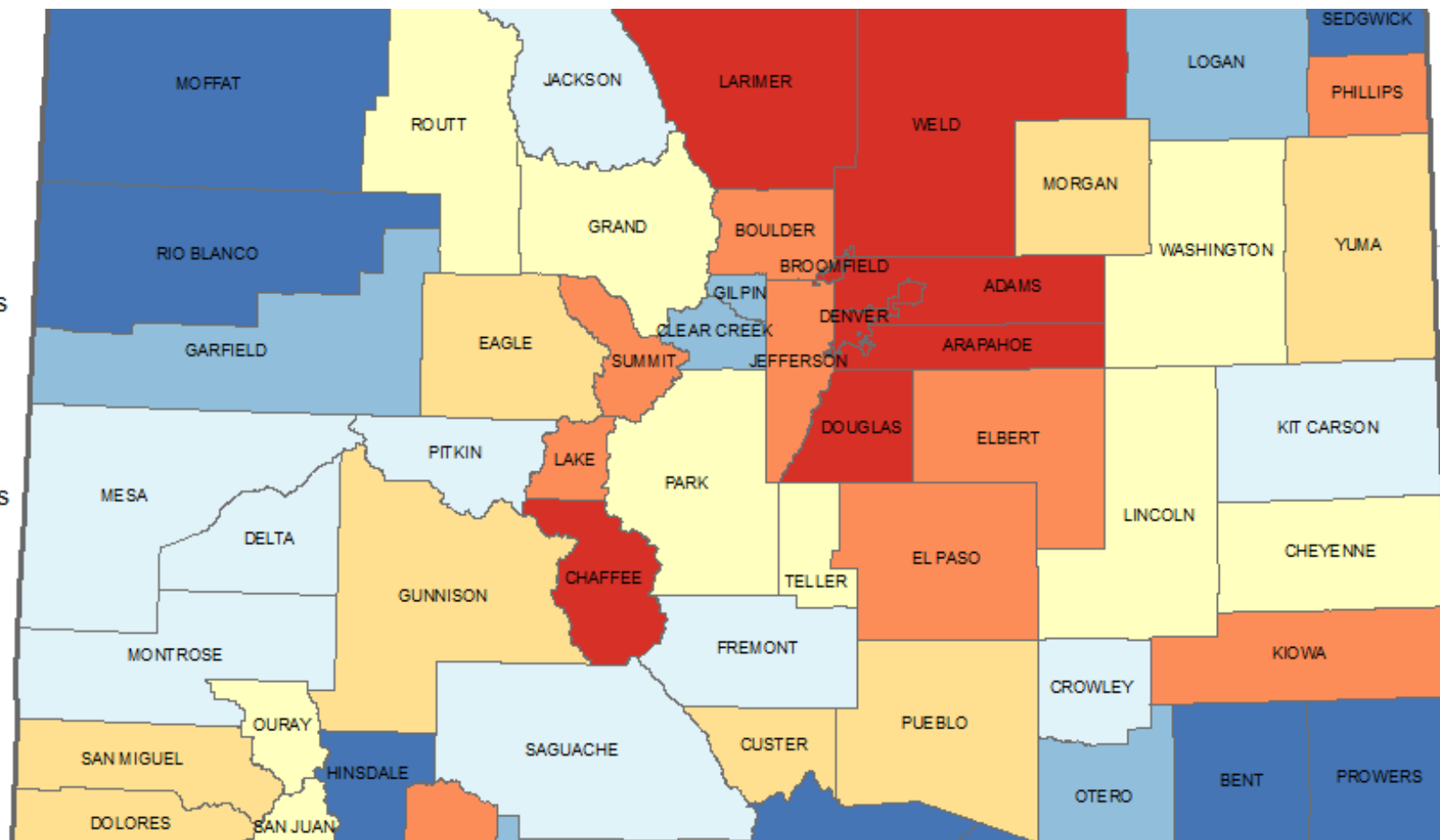
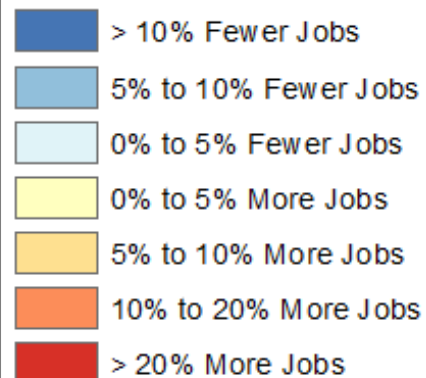
Growth in the 65+ Population from 2020 to 2030





2019 Job Growth

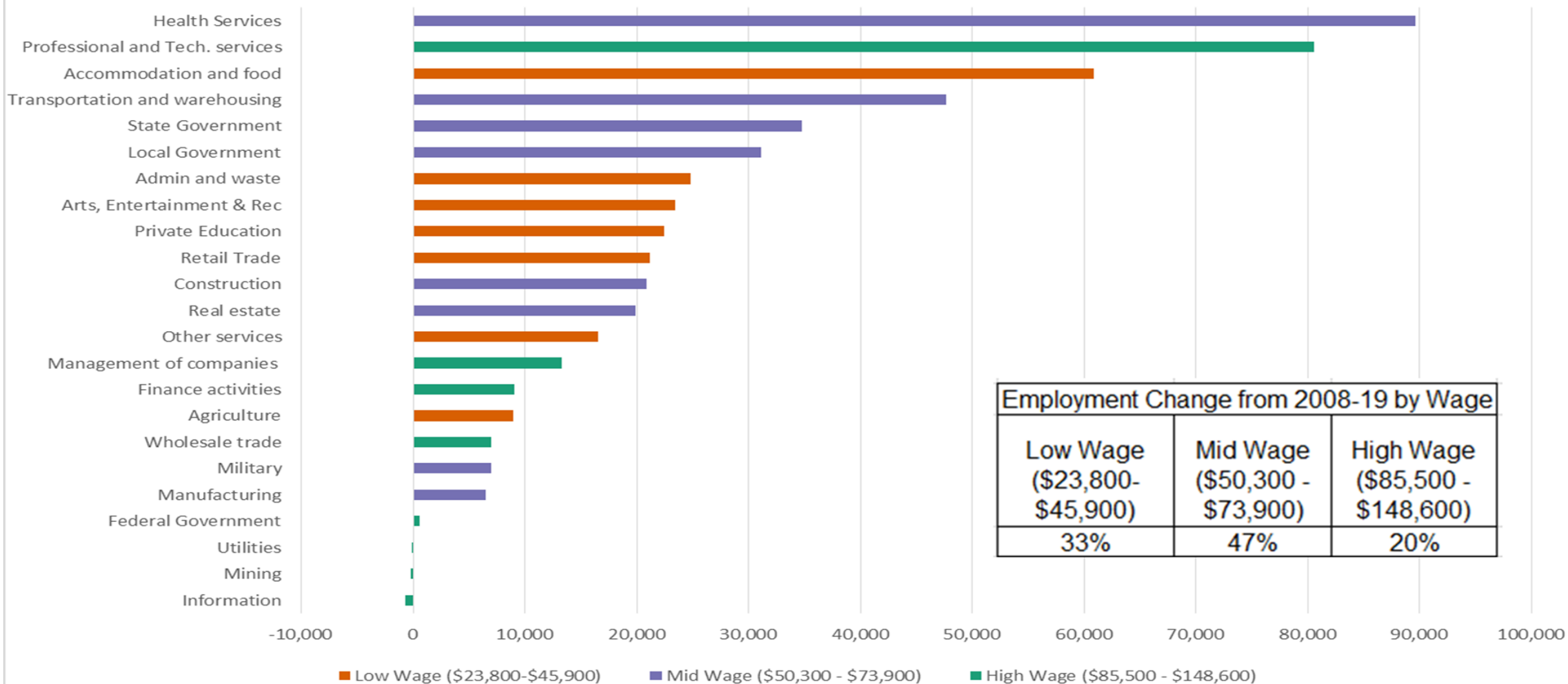
Employment Change





Aging Impacts Labor and Workforce

Colorado Employment Change from 2008 to 2019

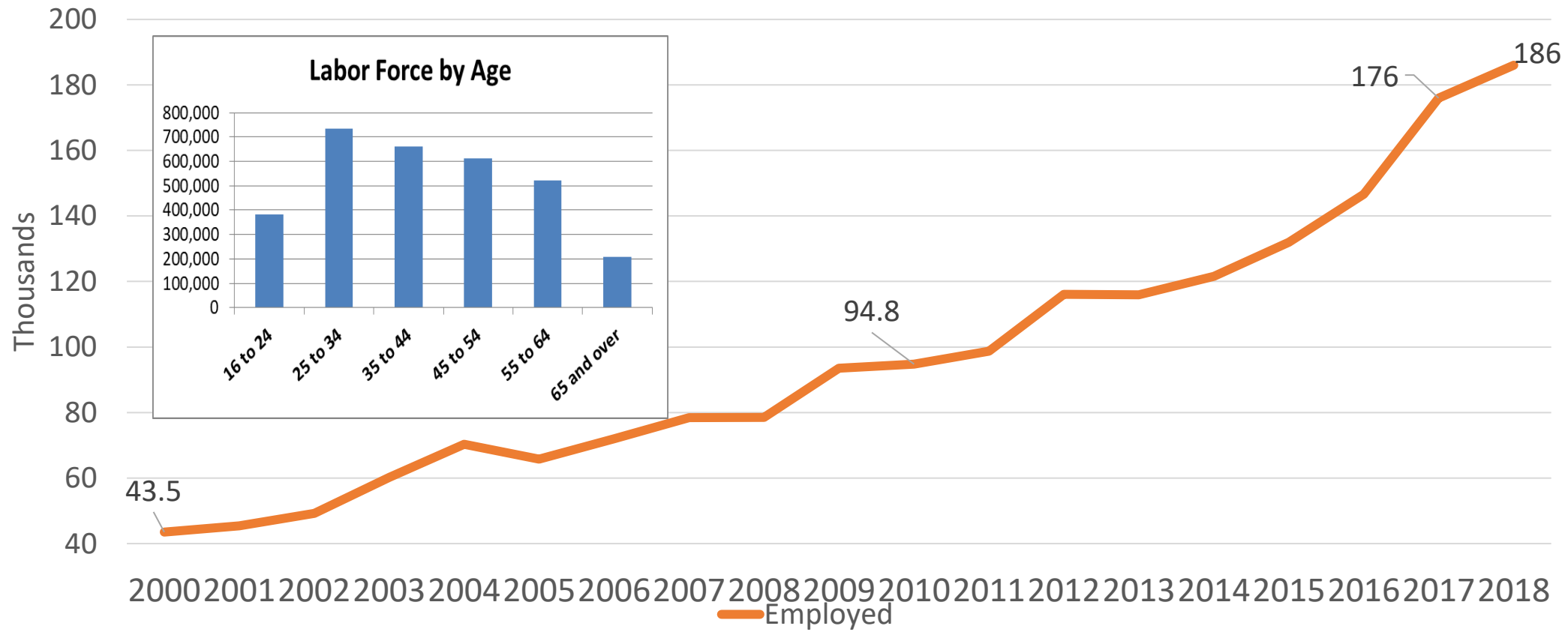




Employed CO Residents 65+

Annual Employment of 65+ Workers in CO 2000 to 2018 (CPS)

7% of Labor
Force

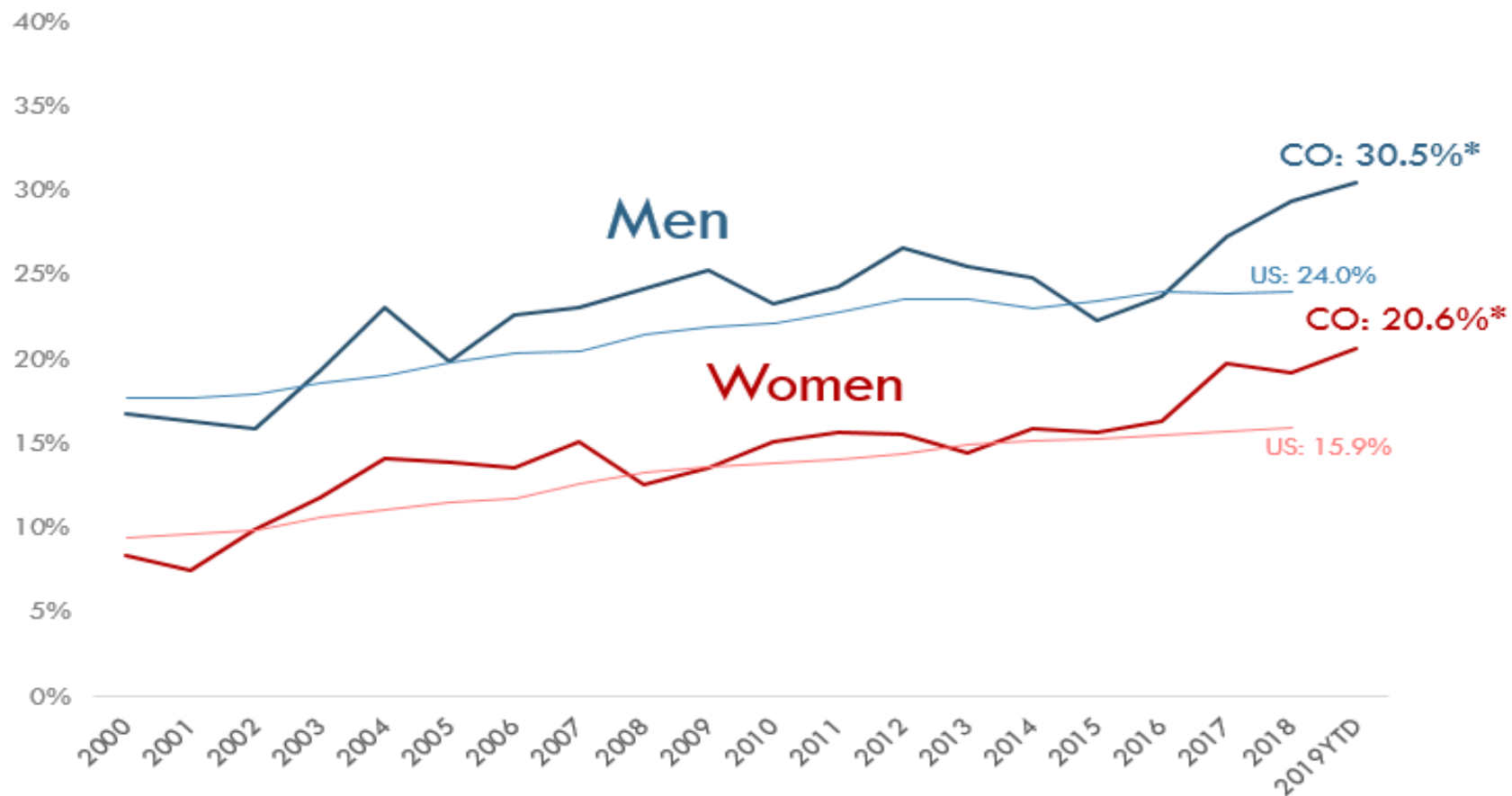




Labor Force 65+

Labor force participation among seniors is on the rise

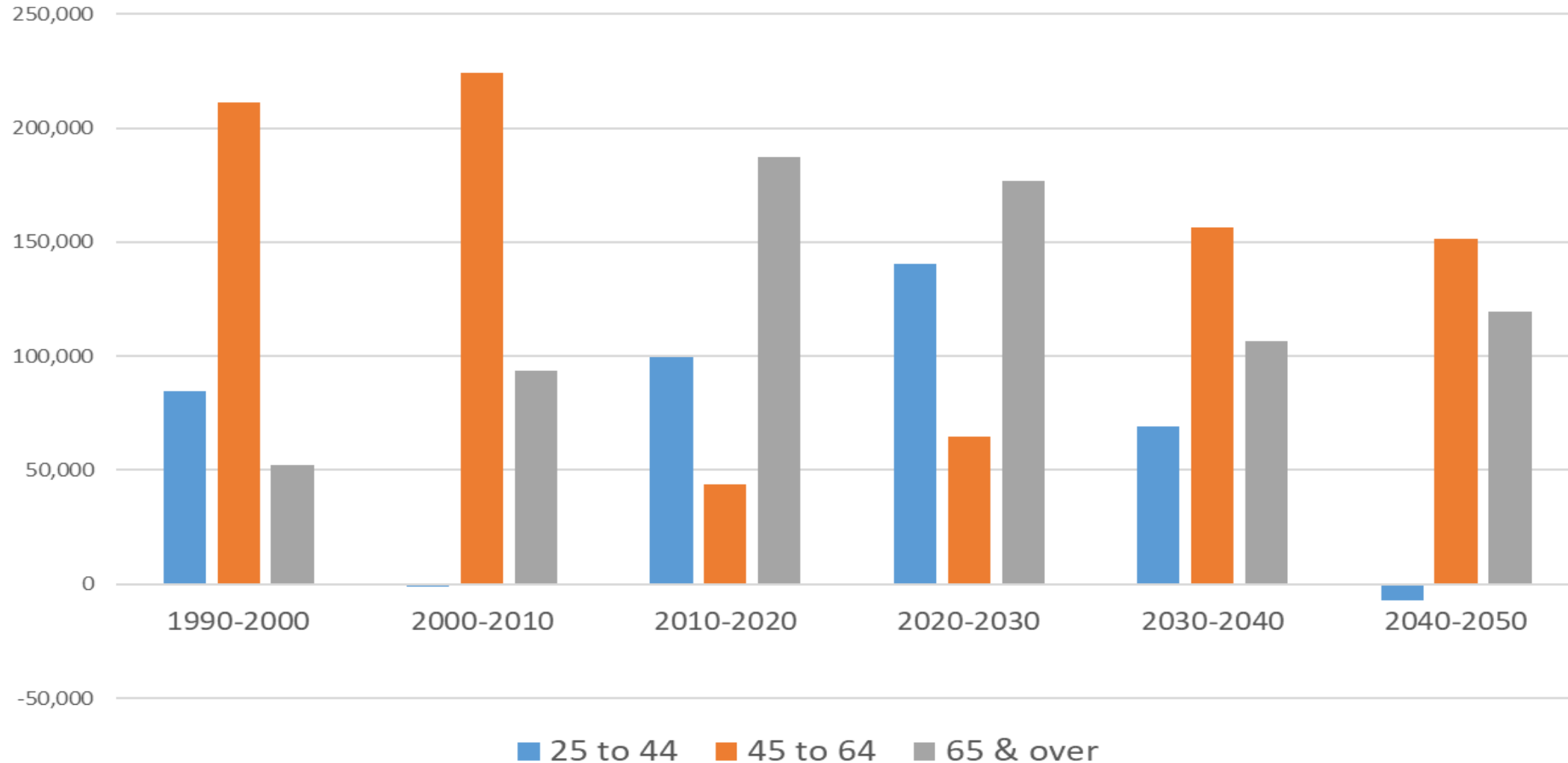
Share of the Population Aged 65+ in the Labor Force





Aging Impacts Housing

Colorado Household Growth by Age of Householder

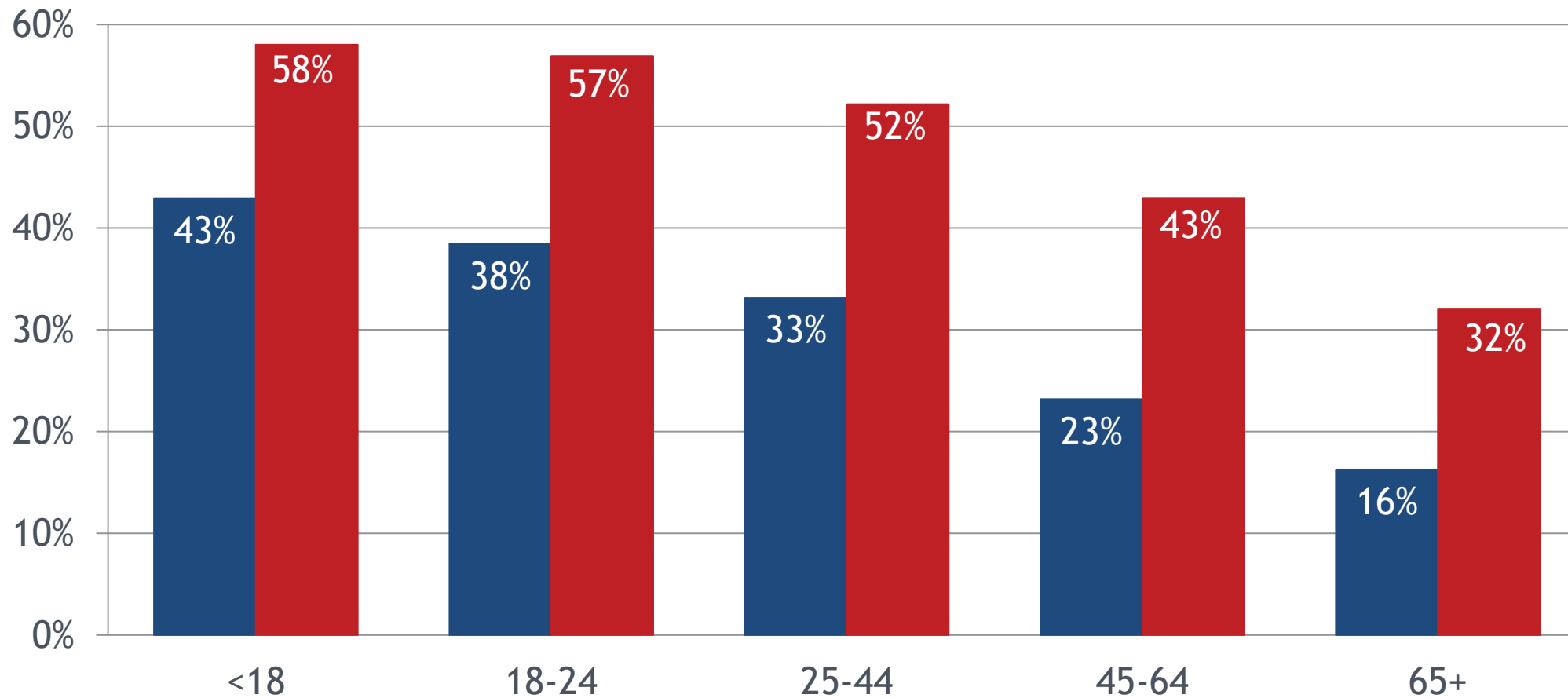




Diversity By Age

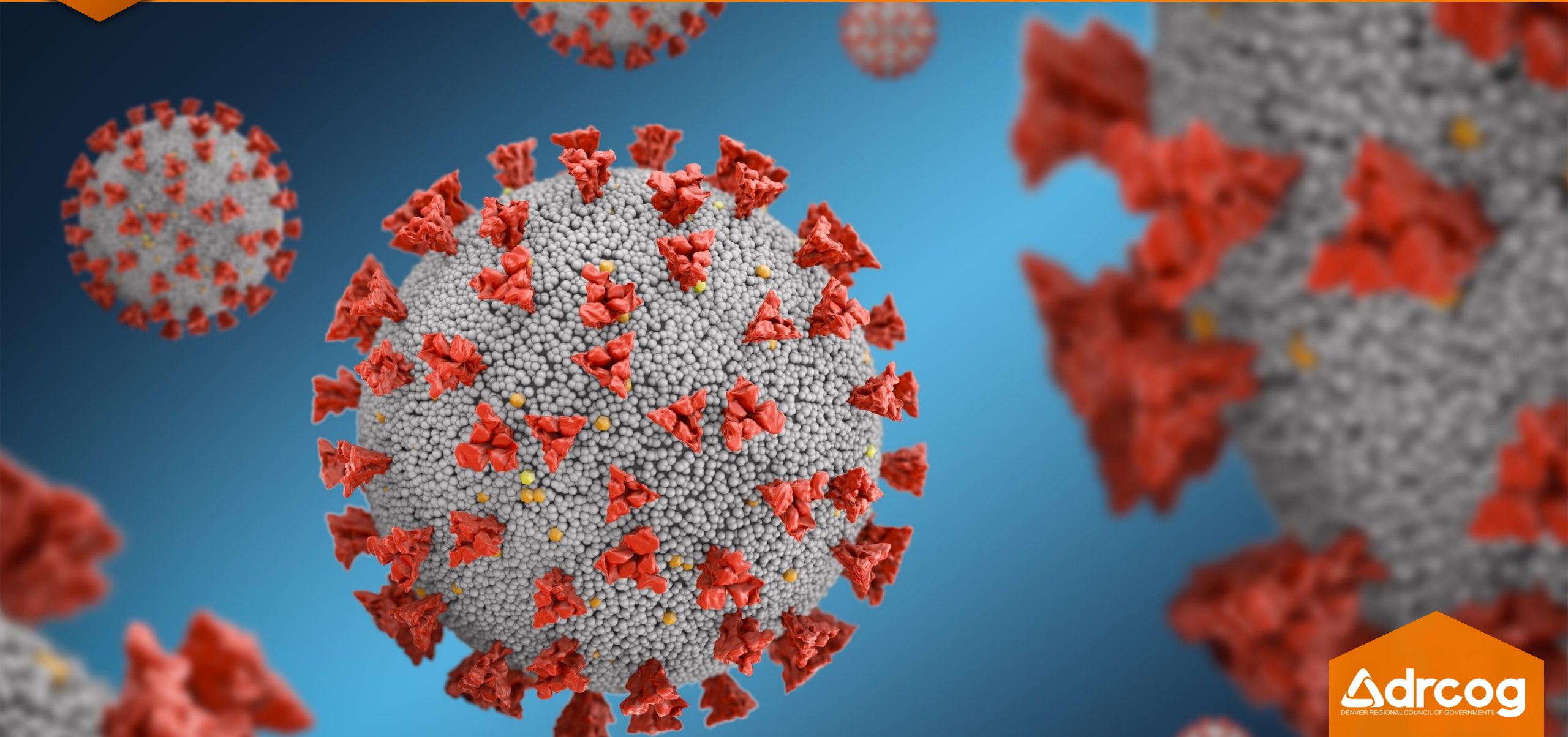
Hispanic, Black, Asian, and other minority share

■ 2015 ■ 2050





The Impact of COVID-19





Impact of COVID: a time of quick and constant change

- Adapt and change quickly if needed
- Develop new ways to connect to each other and those we serve
- Modify services to meet need
- Pay service providers differently
- Add new services
- Provide information and reassurance a lot!!
- Understand impact to community based service providers
- Communicate, Communicate, communicate!





Short term goals

Funding

- COVID relief funding
- Support **community** partners
- Sustain and expand essential services
- Develop **new** partnerships
- Fund **infrastructure** and **one-time** needs

COVID Relief

- Work with county departments of health, health systems and others to:
 - **Identify** hard to serve older adults and **outreach** about COVID vaccine
 - Fund vaccine rides for those who can't drive

Needs

- **Assess** changing needs
- Work to **fill gaps**
- **Adapt** or change services as needed





Thing we have learned from COVID

- Increased flexibility in state and federal regulations allows service providers to respond to needs in the community more effectively.
- Family matters – we need to support family caregivers
- Isolation damages health and cause death
- Technology is an essential tool
 - Tele-health
 - Counseling and support groups
 - Education, information and connection
 - Access to technology is a big challenge for some





Other things we learned

- We Are Resilient!
- We have caring and creative partners out there who found ways to serve
- So many people care... they volunteered, donated money and food and time.
- Older adults relied on their experience and the resiliency they have developed over the years and most are doing well during COVID.





A Better Future for Older Adults

- Learn from the lessons of COVID
- Build back stronger
- Areas of Focus
 - Caregiver support
 - Expanding technology and access
 - Nursing home/Assisted living reform
 - Transportation
 - Isolation
 - Housing
 - Nutrition
 - Diversity/Inclusion





Thank you!

QUESTIONS?

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