



***The power to make it better.™***

***Healthcare  
Perspective***

## **What is AARP?**

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- Not an insurance company; not a travel agency
- A nonprofit, nonpartisan membership association with 36 million members
- 2.7 million members in Florida
- Three branches of AARP “family”
- Helping Americans 50+ age with dignity and purpose

# **AARP**

## **Three Branches, One Brand**

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- **AARP** – a nonprofit organization that leads social change and provides value for our members
- **AARP Services, Inc.** – a for-profit corporation whose profits help finance AARP
- **AARP Foundation** – a foundation that raises money and provides grants



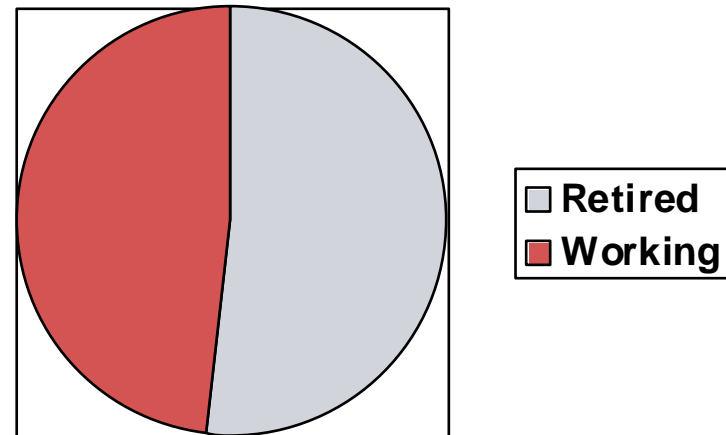
# AARP

***“to serve, not to be served”***

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- Founded by Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus in 1958
- Today, almost half our members are still working; *Name change*
- AARP sees those 50+ as an asset

AARP Membership, 2005



## **What Does AARP Do in Florida?**

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- Leads change in government, policy, society
- 110 chapters across the state
- Links volunteers to communities
- Tax-Aide program: 209,258 people served in 2005
- Driver Safety program: almost 71,000 graduates in 2005
- Senior Community Service Employment Program : helps place and train older workers with low income

# Florida: Unique Challenges and Opportunities

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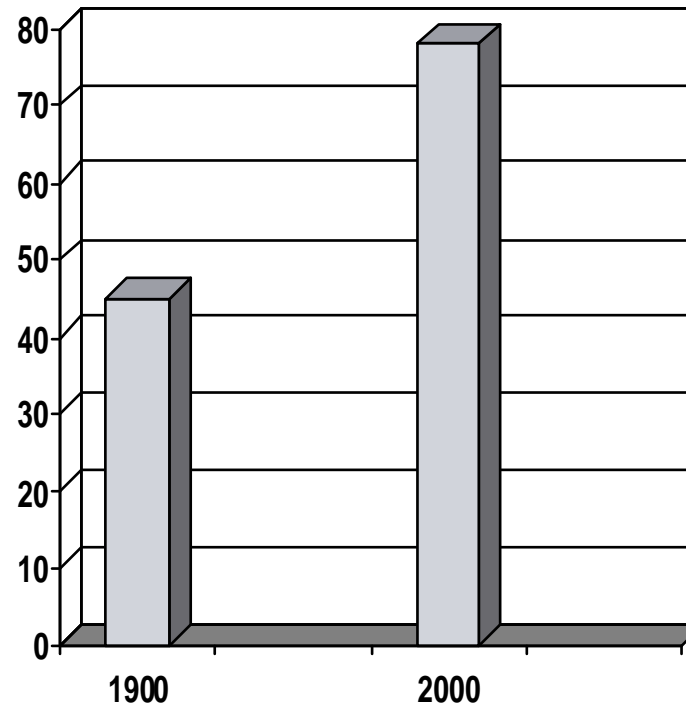
- FL has one of the largest AARP memberships in the U.S.
- FL is better prepared for the age wave than many states
- **Much more progress is needed**



# What is the Lifespan Revolution?

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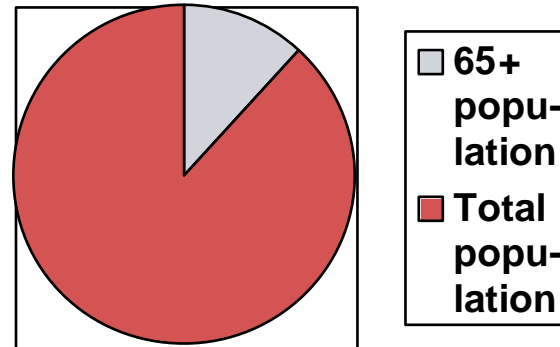
- In 1900, average U.S. lifespan was 45 years
- In 2000, average lifespan was 78 years
- ***Lifespans are increasing 3-5 years per decade***



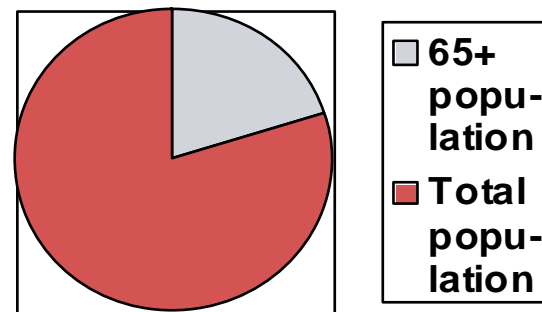
## Florida – Grayer than the Nation

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- In U.S., 65+ population makes up about 12 percent of the total



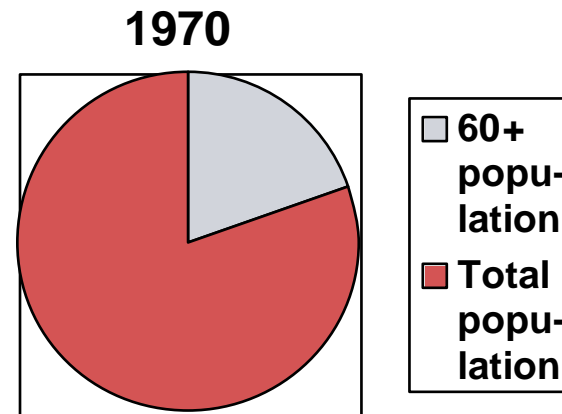
- In Florida, 65+ population is one and a half times the national total: 18 percent



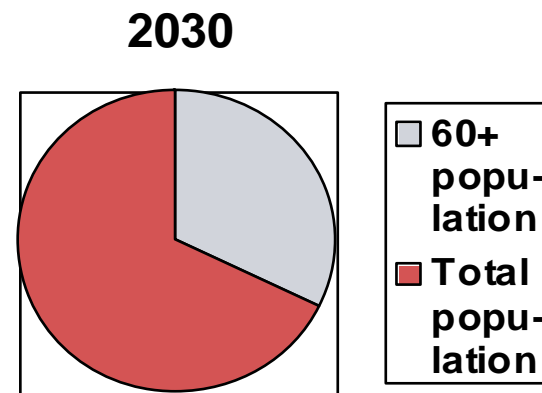
## Florida – Graying Rapidly in the Future

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- In 1970, 60+ population made up 19.7 percent of Florida's total



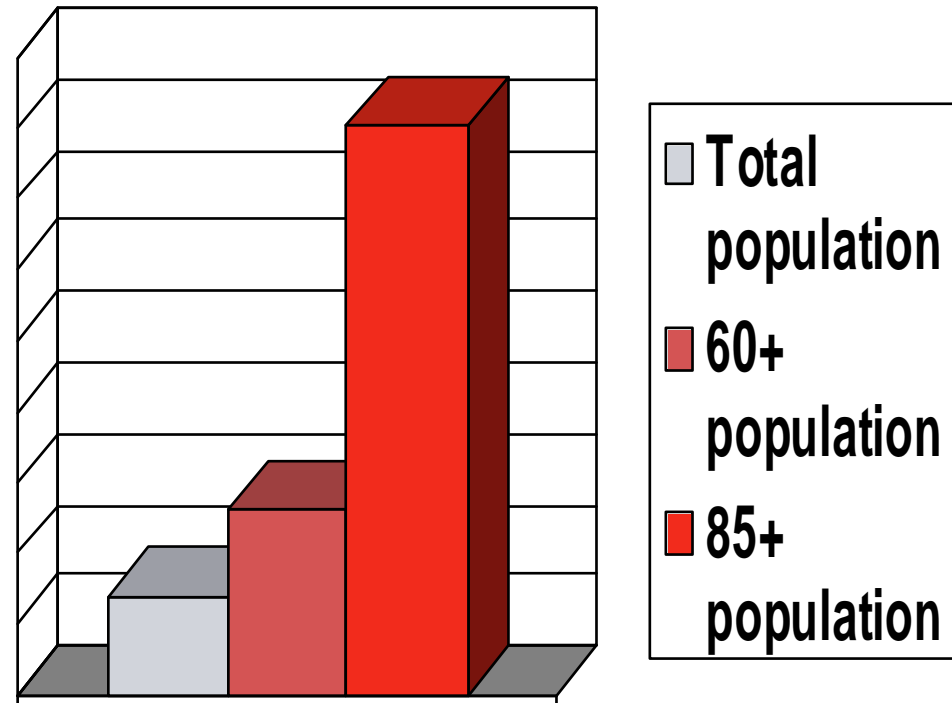
- In 2030, 60+ population will be 32.3 percent of state total





## Growth of the “Old Old”

- *1970 – 2030 total population growth:*  
**281 percent**
- *60+ population growth:*  
**526 percent**
- *85+ population growth:*  
**1,609 percent**



## **What is AARP Florida's Agenda?**

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- Economic Security – Strengthening Social Security, Preparing Florida for a Maturing Workforce
- Health – Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage, Medicaid Reform
- Livable Communities – Maintaining Mobility for an Aging Population

# Strengthening Social Security

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- AARP opposed private carve-outs plan in 2005
- Social Security solvency still must be addressed



## **Helping Workers 50+ and Their Employers**

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- Best Employers – including three in Florida
- Featured Employers – serving as a model for other employers
- Job Fairs
- Symposium on *Trends in a Changing Workforce*



## **Health Coverage Initiatives on National Levels**

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- AARP supported the Medicare Prescription Drug benefit
- Action still needed to make prescription drugs more affordable
- Advocate for safe, legal and regulated drug importation from Canada
- Watchdog Report

## **Medicare Rx Update**

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- 727 million people on Medicare enrolled in Part D as of March 2006
- AARP working to allow HHS to negotiate drug prices with pharmaceutical companies



## **What is Medicaid?**

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- *Federal and state funded safety net that provides health insurance to one in every six Americans including:*
  - **children in poverty**
  - **older adults in nursing homes**
  - **those with disabilities**

## **State Medicaid Reform No Proven Benefits, Serious Risks**

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- Plan is to force Medicaid recipients into HMOs in order to cut health-care costs
- No clear evidence that this approach saves money
- Quality of care may suffer; patients will lose choice

## **Fund Increased Staffing in Nursing Homes in Florida**

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- Currently patients in nursing homes receive on average 2.6 hours of CNA care per day
- Fund 2.9 hours of CNA care per patient per day as promised in 2001
- *Call your legislator and let your voice be heard! [www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com)*

## **Mobility: A Vital Issue for Florida**

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- Like all Floridians, aging population is “auto dependent”
- Alternative transportation is limited in Florida
- We need better choices to ensure that all people can get where they need to go

## **Improving Life for Floridians 50+**

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- **Get involved!**
- **[www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org)**
- **Call 866-595-7678 toll - free**
- ***Thank you ~***

