

Older People Projected to Outnumber Children

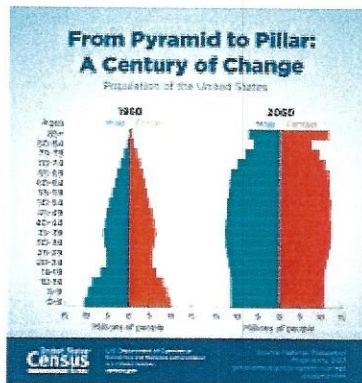
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Older People Projected to Outnumber Children for First Time in U.S. History

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2030 Marks Important Demographic Milestones for U.S. Population



MARCH 13, 2018 — The year 2030 marks an important demographic turning point in U.S. history according to the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2017 National Population Projections. By 2030, all baby boomers will be older than age 65. This will expand the size of the older population so that 1 in every 5 residents will be retirement age.

“The aging of baby boomers means that within just a couple decades, older people are projected to outnumber children for the first time in U.S. history,” said Jonathan Vespa, a demographer with the U.S. Census Bureau. “By 2035, there will be 78.0 million people 65 years and older compared to 76.4 million under the age of 18.”

The 2030s are projected to be a transformative decade for the U.S. population. The population is expected to grow at a slower pace, age considerably and become more racially and ethnically diverse. Net international migration is projected to overtake natural increase in 2030 as the primary driver of population growth in the United States, another demographic first for the United States.

Although births are projected to be nearly four times larger than the level of net international migration in coming decades, a rising number of deaths will increasingly offset how much births are able to contribute to population growth. Between 2020 and 2050, the number of deaths is projected to rise substantially as the population ages and a significant share of the population, the

Table POP2 Children as a percentage of the population: Persons in selected age groups as a percentage of the total U.S. population, and children ages 0-17 as a percentage of the dependent population, 1950-2016 and projected 2017-2050

Age	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Percentage of total population																				
Ages 0-17	31.0	32.0	32.0	33.0	33.0	34.0	34.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	35.0	35.0	35.0
Ages 18-64	61.0	60.0	60.0	59.0	58.0	58.0	57.0	56.0	56.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	54.0	54.0	54.0	54.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	56.0
Age 65 and older	8.0	8.0	8.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Children ages 0-17 as a percentage of the dependent population^a																				
Ages 0-17	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	80.0	80.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0	78.0	78.0
Age																				
1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	
Percentage of total population																				
Ages 0-17	34.0	34.0	33.0	33.0	32.0	31.0	30.0	30.0	29.0	28.0	27.5	27.1	26.8	26.5	26.3	26.2	26.0	25.9	25.9	25.7
Ages 18-64	56.0	56.0	57.0	57.0	58.0	59.0	59.0	60.0	60.0	60.7	61.0	61.3	61.5	61.7	61.7	61.7	61.7	61.7	61.8	61.9
Age 65 and older	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.3	11.4	11.6	11.7	11.8	11.9	12.1	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.4
Children ages 0-17 as a percentage of the dependent population^a																				
Ages 0-17	78.0	77.0	77.0	76.0	76.0	75.0	74.0	73.0	73.0	72.0	70.7	70.1	69.6	69.1	68.8	68.4	68.0	67.7	67.7	67.4
Age																				
1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
Percentage of total population																				
Ages 0-17	25.7	25.8	25.9	26.0	26.1	26.1	26.0	25.9	25.8	25.7	25.5	25.4	25.2	25.0	24.9	24.7	24.6	24.4	24.2	24.2
Ages 18-64	61.8	61.6	61.5	61.3	61.2	61.3	61.4	61.6	61.7	61.9	62.1	62.3	62.4	62.6	62.7	62.8	62.9	62.9	62.9	62.9
Age 65 and older	12.5	12.6	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.6	12.5	12.5	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.5	12.6	12.8	12.9	12.9
Children ages 0-17 as a percentage of the dependent population^a																				
Ages 0-17	67.3	67.2	67.3	67.3	67.3	67.3	67.3	67.4	67.4	67.4	67.3	67.2	67.1	66.9	66.7	66.5	66.2	65.6	65.2	65.2
Age																				
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
Percentage of total population																				
Ages 0-17	24.0	23.7	23.5	23.3	23.1	22.9	22.6	22.4	22.3	22.2	22.1	21.9	21.8	21.7	21.6	21.5	21.4	21.3	21.3	21.3
Ages 18-64	63.0	63.0	62.8	62.6	62.4	62.2	61.8	61.6	61.3	61.0	60.7	60.3	60.0	59.7	59.4	59.1	58.9	58.6	58.4	58.4
Age 65 and older	13.1	13.3	13.7	14.1	14.5	14.9	15.6	16.0	16.4	16.9	17.3	17.7	18.2	18.6	19.0	19.4	19.7	20.0	20.4	20.4
Children ages 0-17 as a percentage of the dependent population^a																				
Ages 0-17	64.7	64.1	63.1	62.2	61.4	60.7	59.9	58.3	57.5	56.8	56.0	55.3	54.6	53.9	53.2	52.6	52.1	51.6	51.1	51.1
Age																				
2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	
Percentage of total population																				
Ages 0-17	21.2	21.2	21.1	21.0	20.9	20.8	20.8	20.7	20.6	20.5	20.4	20.4	20.4	20.3	20.3	20.2	20.2	20.1	20.1	20.1
Ages 18-64	58.2	58.0	57.9	57.9	57.8	57.7	57.6	57.7	57.7	57.8	57.9	57.9	58.0	58.0	58.0	58.0	57.9	57.9	57.9	57.9
Age 65 and older	20.6	20.8	21.0	21.1	21.2	21.4	21.5	21.6	21.6	21.7	21.6	21.6	21.7	21.7	21.8	21.8	21.9	21.9	21.9	22.0
Children ages 0-17 as a percentage of the dependent population^a																				
Ages 0-17	50.7	50.4	50.2	50.0	49.7	49.4	49.2	48.9	48.8	48.7	48.6	48.6	48.5	48.4	48.2	48.1	48.0	47.8	47.8	47.7

↑ TRENDING DOWNWARD