Projections and Characteristics of the 65+ Population in Union County

July 2019

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Characteristics and Projections of the 65+ Population

About this Report

This chartbook illustrates the characteristics of the county's 65-plus population in 2015*, and changes that have occurred since 2000. It also includes population characteristics, such as education, income level, and marital status, that are shown to be associated with the need for long-term services and supports. There are charts that compare the older population of the county to the state as a whole, and charts that illustrate change over time within the county.

The data presented in this chartbook are intended to assist planners, decisions makers, and service providers to understand the growth in numbers and proportion of older adults, particularly those who will likely need assistance.

An online **interactive data center** is available for you to define your own topic, county, and population of interest to see current figures and change over time. Please visit www.ohio-population.org.

*Note: 2015 data represent a 5-year average of data collected from 2013-2017 as part of the American Community Survey (ACS), conducted by the US Census Bureau. See the Ohio Population website for further details on methodology.

Profile of the 65+ Population

The table below compares the characteristics of the 65+ population in Union county, the state of Ohio, and the U.S. overall. Keep in mind that the numbers and percentages represent only the 65+ population in each geographic area.

	County		Ohio		U.S.	
	2000	**2015**	**2000**	**2015**	**2000**	**2015**
Total 65+ Population	3,941	6,185	1,507,757	1,844,642	34,991,753	47,732,389
Median Household Income	26,726	43,052	25,672	38,738	26,814	41,876
Percent of Population Age 65+	9.6	11.3	13.3	15.9	12.4	14.9
Percent Below Poverty Threshold	7.8	8.4	8.1	8.0	9.9	9.3
Percent White Non-Hispanic	98.0	96.6	90.6	88.3	86.9	77.7
Percent Married	58.6	59.6	54.5	54.5	55.0	55.2
Percent with High School Diploma or Higher	68.1	86.1	66.1	84.4	65.5	82.8
Percent Living Alone	26.5	22.9	29.6	28.8	27.8	26.2

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 Census of Population and Housing. 5-Percent Public Use Microdata Sample. U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

Projected 65+ Population as a Percentage of Total Population

The chart below compares the projected proportion of the county's population made up by adults age 65+ through 2050, and compares it with the projected proportion of 65+ individuals in the state of Ohio overall.
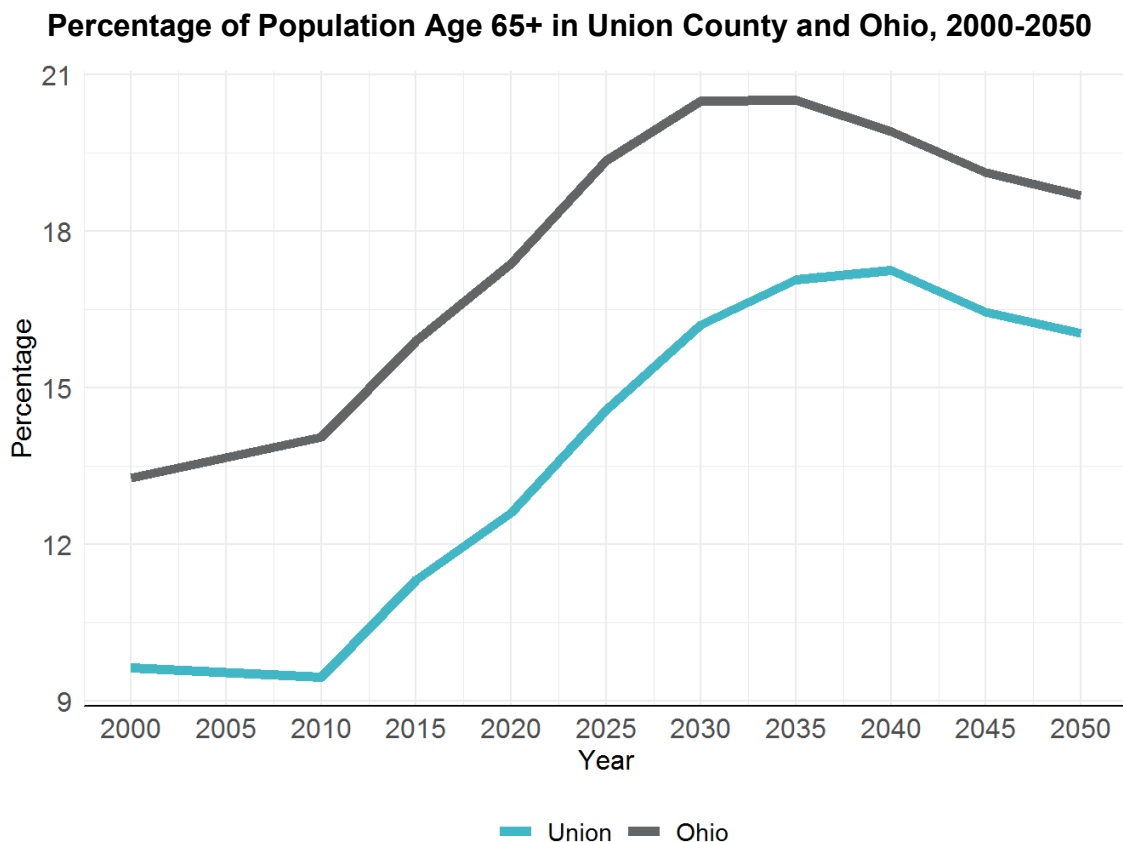
Percentage of Population Age 65+ in Union County and Ohio, 2000-2050

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 Census of Population and Housing. 5-Percent Public Use Microdata Sample. U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org. Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Research. 2018. Population Projections: Ohio and Counties by Sex - 2015 to 2040 (April 2018).

Proportion of Population by Age Group

These charts show age groups within the 65+ population as a proportion of total population. The first chart compares the county with the state of Ohio in 2015, while the second chart looks at change within the county between 2000 and 2015. The table gives the percentage and number of older adults in each age bracket for 2000 and 2015.

Age Group as a Percentage of Total Population in Union County and Ohio, 2015

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

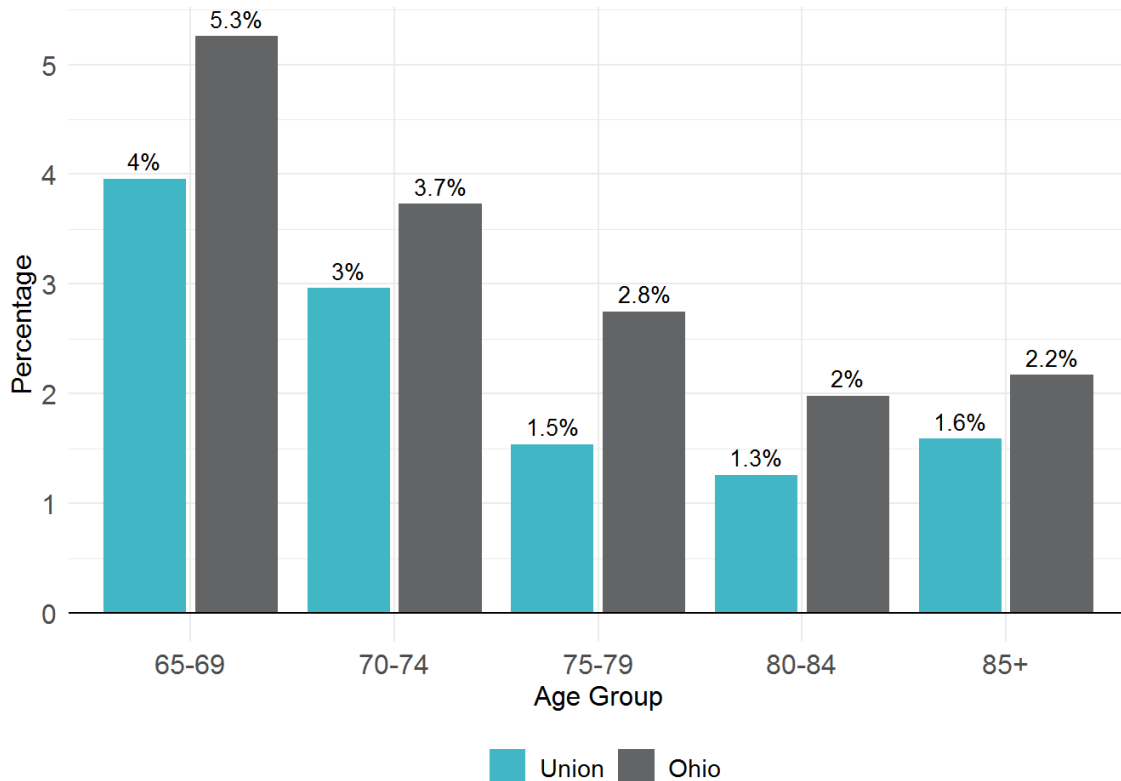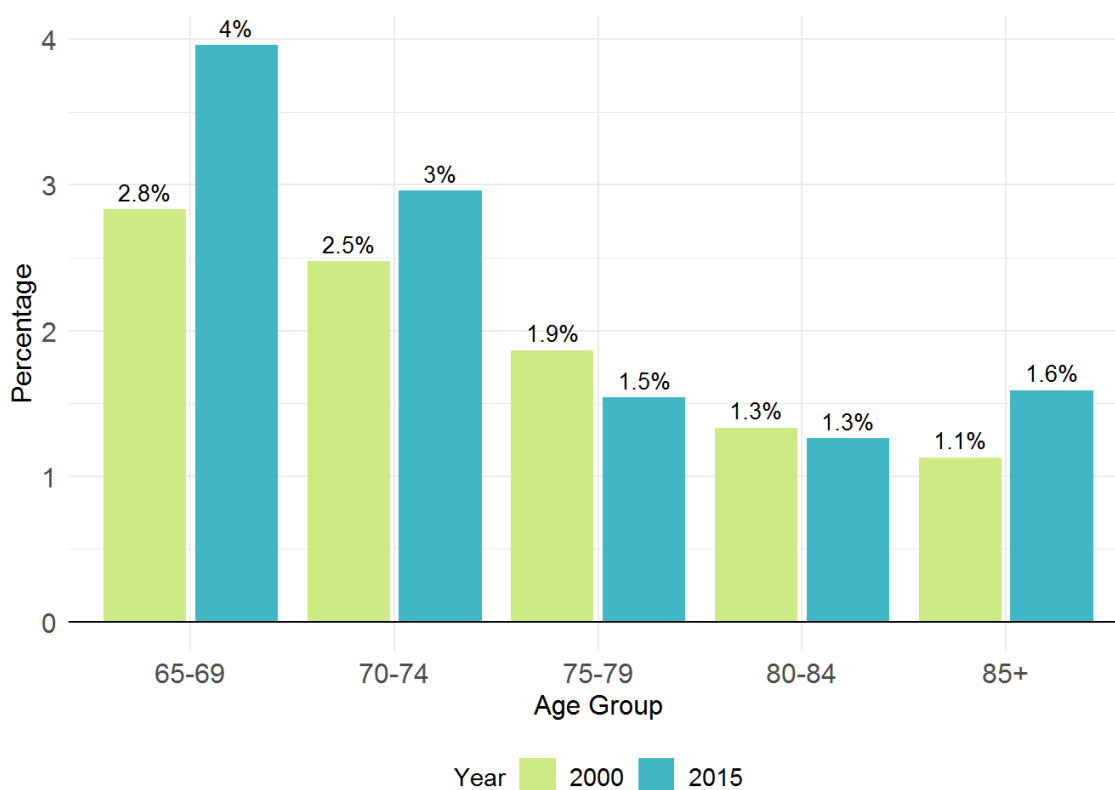## Age Group as a Percentage of Total Population in Union County

Sources:

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 Census of Population and Housing. 5-Percent Public Use Microdata Sample. U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

Percentage and Number of Older Adults in Union County, by Age Group

	2000			2015		
	% of Population	# in Age Group	Total County Population	% of Population	# in Age Group	Total County Population
65-69	2.8	1,158	40,909	4.0	2,165	54,688
70-74	2.5	1,013	40,909	3.0	1,620	54,688
75-79	1.9	763	40,909	1.5	842	54,688
80-84	1.3	545	40,909	1.3	688	54,688
85+	1.1	462	40,909	1.6	870	54,688

Educational Attainment

These charts show the proportion of the 65+ population at each level of educational attainment. The first chart compares the county with the state of Ohio. The second chart and accompanying table compare men and women within the county.

Educational Attainment of 65+ Population, Union County and Ohio, 2015
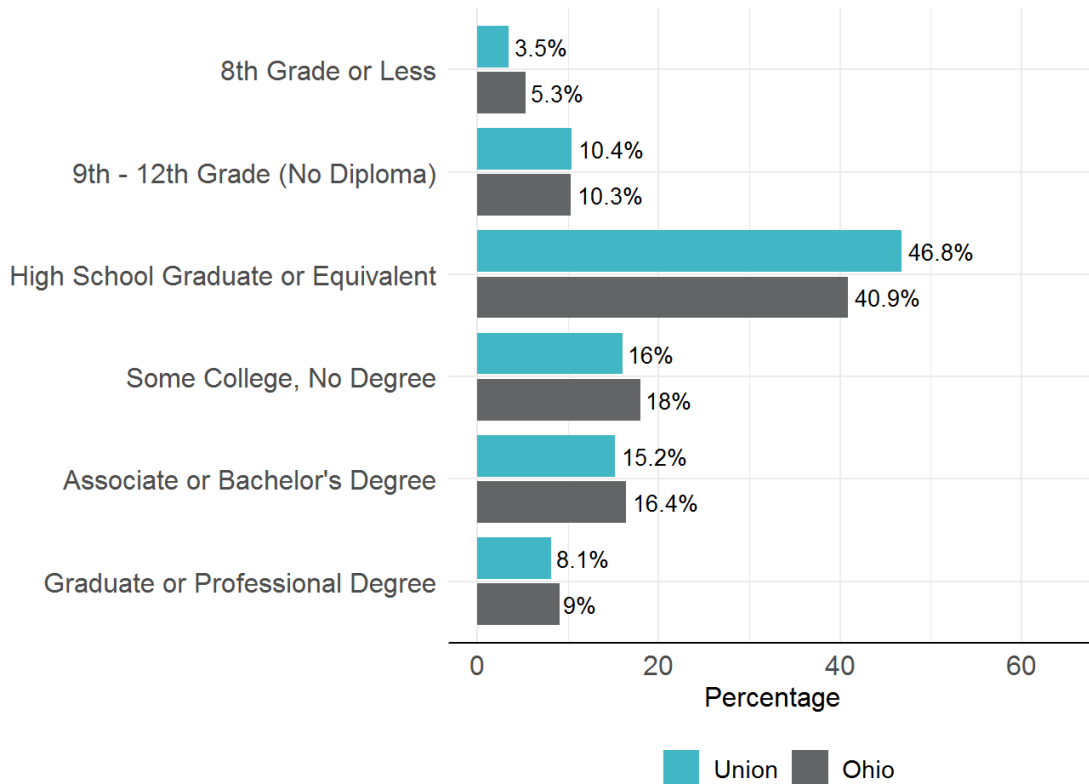
Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

Educational Attainment of 65+ Population by Sex, Union County, 2015

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS). www.nhgis.org
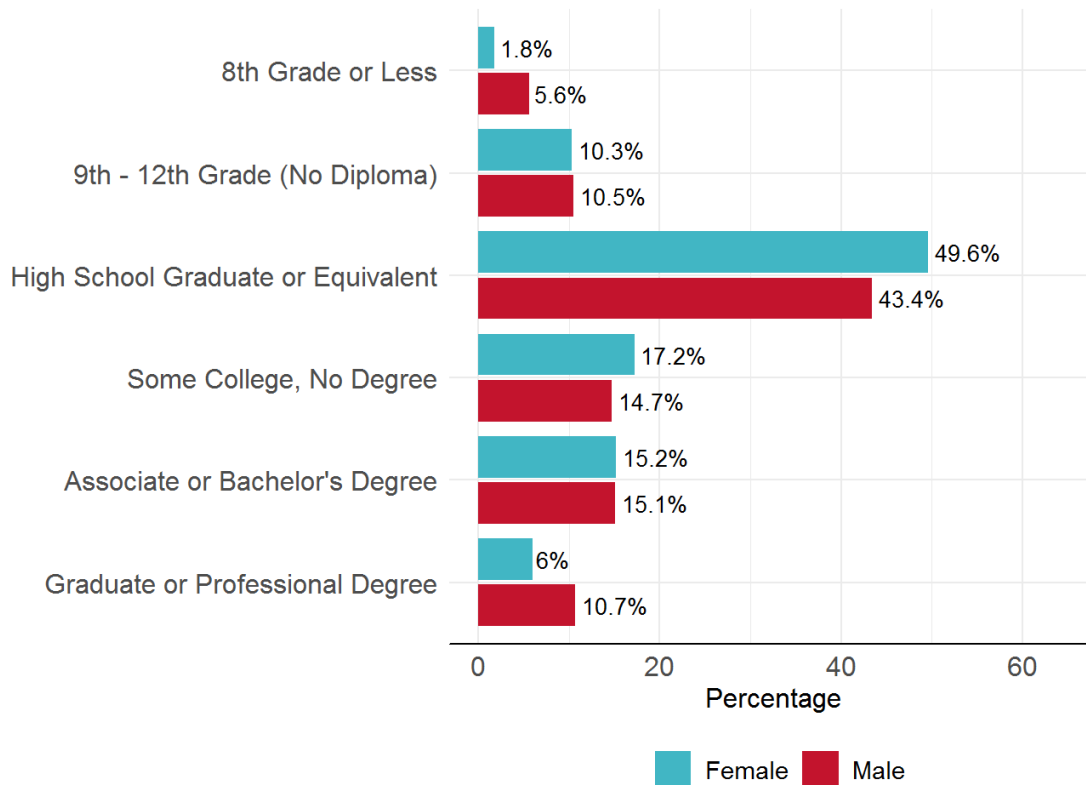
Percentage of 65+ Population at Each Level of Educational Attainment by Sex, County, and State, 2015

	County			Ohio
	Female	**Male**	**Overall**	**Overall**
8th Grade or Less	1.8	5.6	3.5	5.3
9th - 12th Grade (No Diploma)	10.3	10.5	10.4	10.3
High School Graduate or Equivalent	49.6	43.4	46.8	40.9
Some College, No Degree	17.2	14.7	16.0	18.0
Associate or Bachelor's Degree	15.2	15.1	15.2	16.4
Graduate or Professional Degree	6.0	10.7	8.1	9.0

Racial and Ethnic Composition

This chart shows the racial and ethnic distribution of adults age 65+ in the county from 2000 to 2015. The table lists the percentages for the county and the state of Ohio in 2000 and 2015.

Racial and Ethnic Distribution of the 65+ Population in Union County
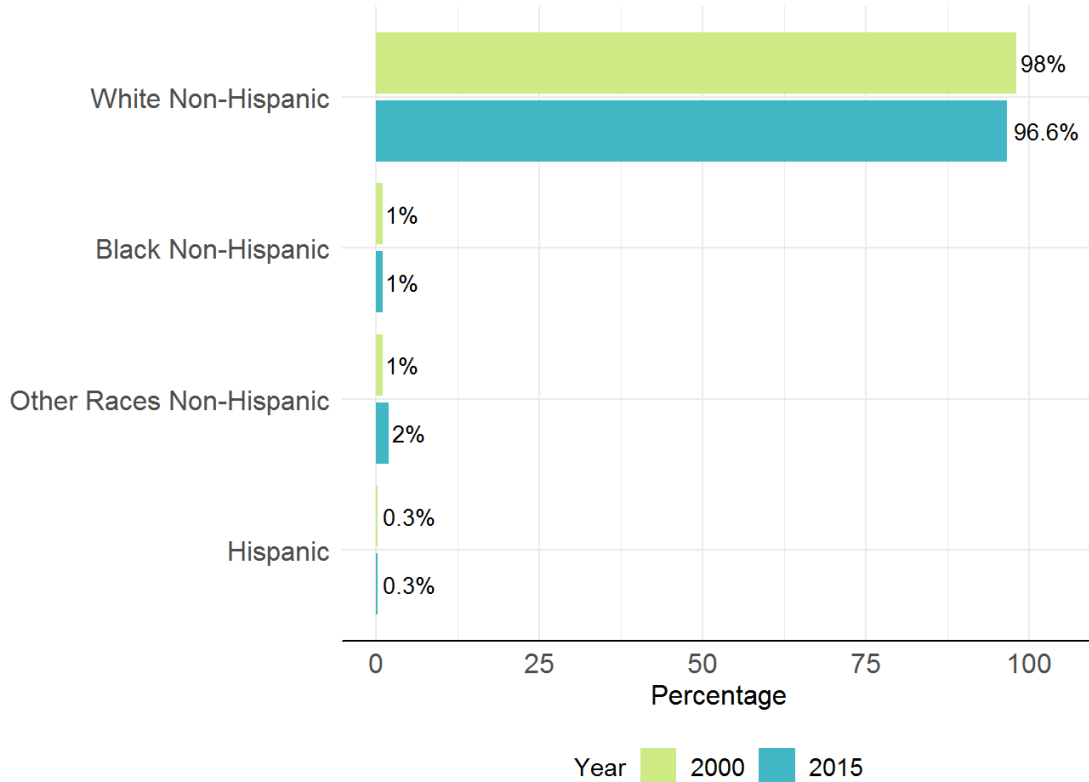
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 Census of Population and Housing. 5-Percent Public Use Microdata Sample. U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS). www.nhgis.org

Racial and Ethnic Distribution of the 65+ Population in Union County and Ohio, 2000-2015

	County		Ohio	
Race	**2000**	**2015**	**2000**	**2015**
Black Non-Hispanic	1.0	1.0	8.2	8.7
Hispanic	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.9
Other Races Non-Hispanic	1.0	2.0	1.2	2.1
White Non-Hispanic	98.0	96.6	90.6	88.3

Marital Status and Living Alone

These charts show the marital status of the 65+ population and the proportion living alone. The first chart and table show the change within the county between 2000 and 2015. The second chart compares the county with the state of Ohio for 2015. The third chart breaks down marital status by sex. The fourth chart plots the proportion of older adults who were never married, married, and widowed/divorced/separated by each age group (65-74, 75-84, and 85+). The final chart illustrates the proportion of 65+ men, women, and combined living alone in the county and in the state.

Marital Status of 65+ Population in Union County
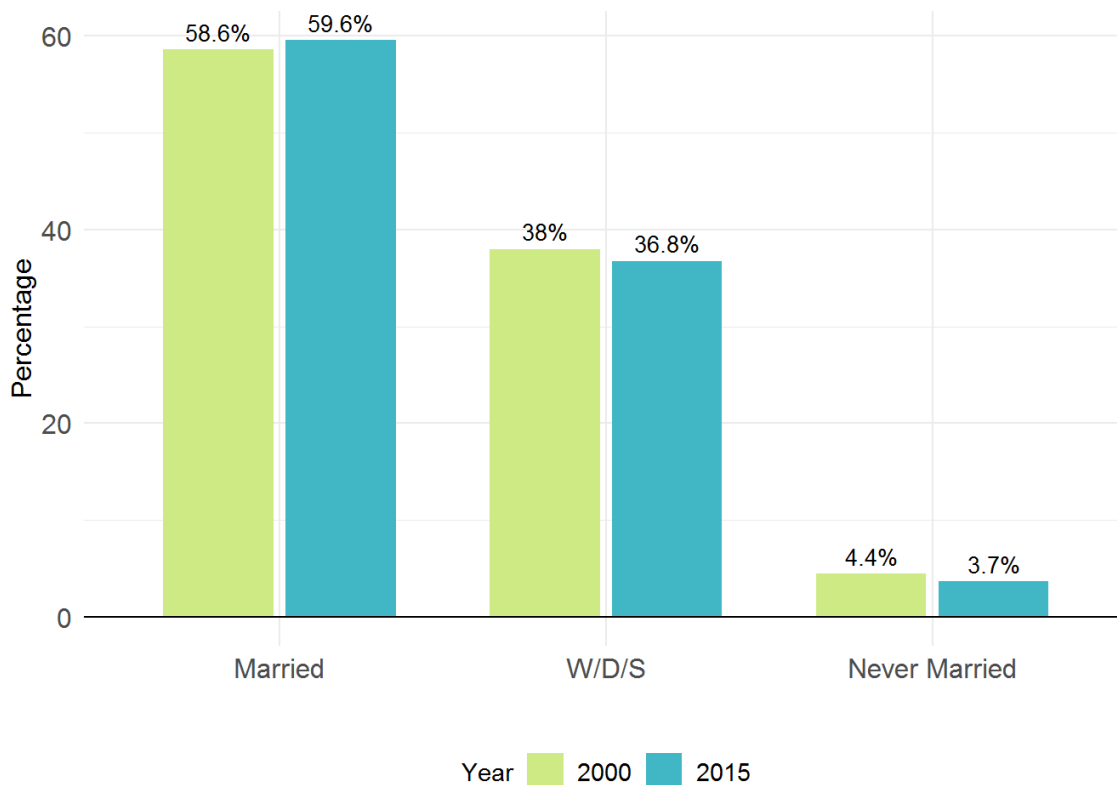
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 Census of Population and Housing. 5-Percent Public Use Microdata Sample. U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

Marital Status of 65+ Population in Union County

	2000	2015
Married	58.6	59.6
Widowed/Divorced/Separated	38.0	36.8
Never Married	4.4	3.7

Marital Status of 65+ Population in Union County and Ohio, 2015
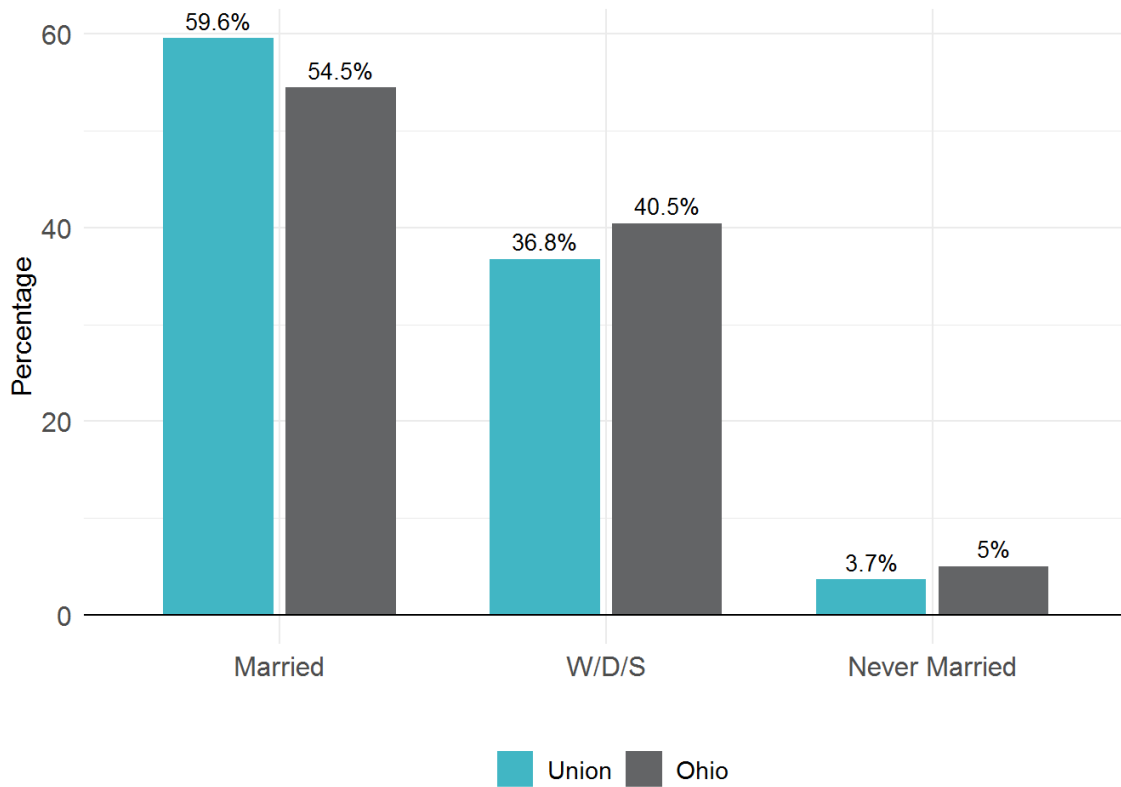
59.6%
54.5%
36.8%
40.5%
3.7%
5%

Percentage

60

40

20

0

Married   W/D/S   Never Married

Union   Ohio

Marital Status of 65+ Population by Sex, Union County, 2015

72.8%
48.8%
47.2%
24%
4%
3.2%

Percentage

60

40

20

0

Married   W/D/S   Never Married

Sex   Female   Male
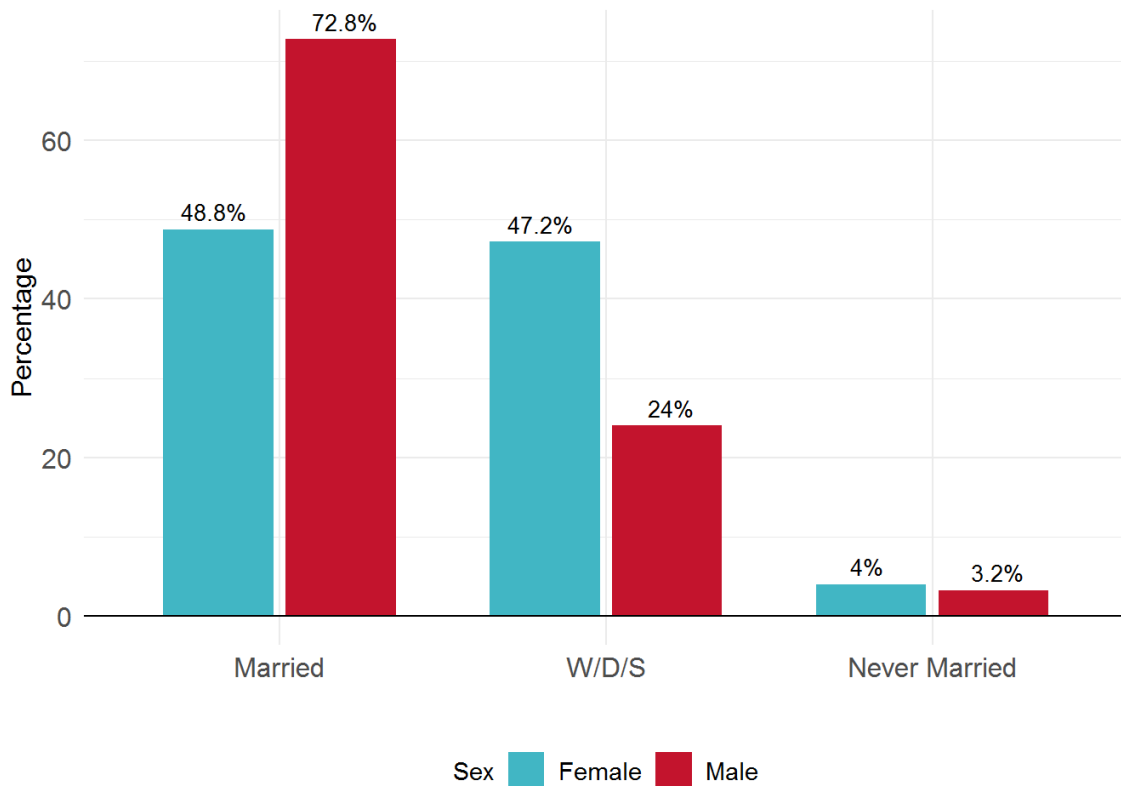
Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

Marital Status by Age Group, Union County, 2015

70.9%

W/D/S
70%

48.6%
44.4%

Married
29.7%

26%

6.9%
Never Married
3.1%
0.3%

65-74   75-84   85+

Age Group
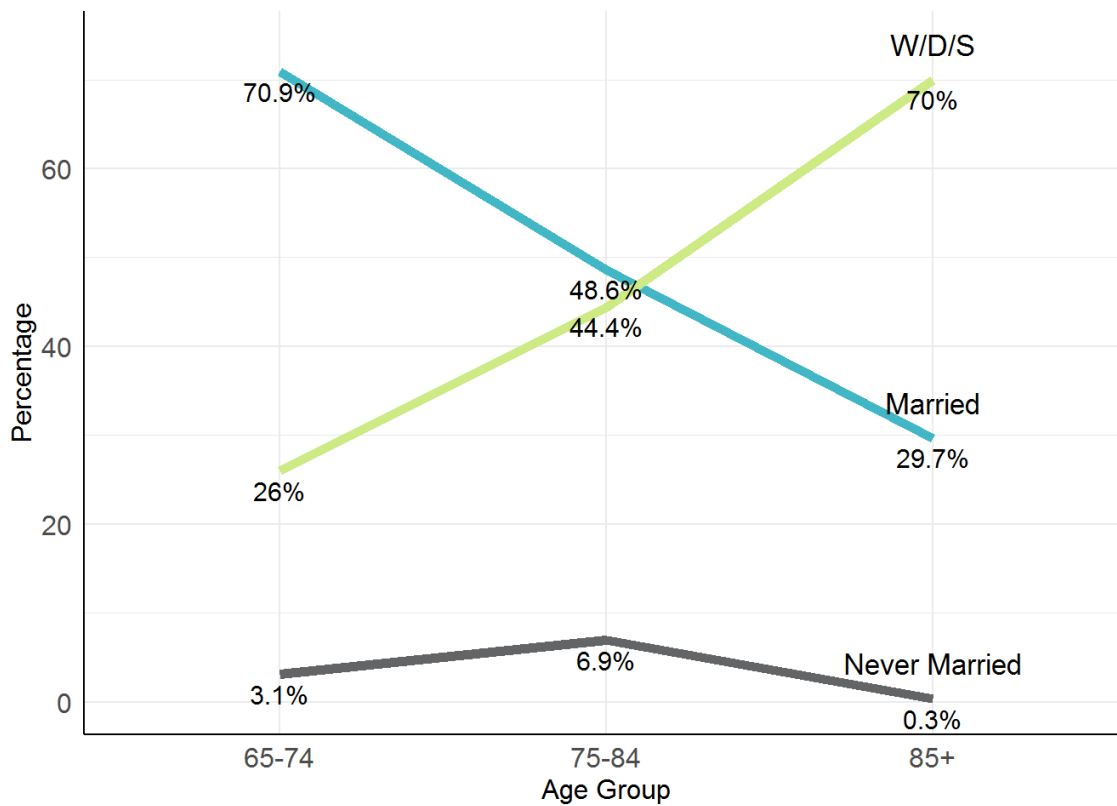
Percentage

Percentage of 65+ Population Living Alone, by Sex and County, 2015

35.1%

28.8%

28.1%

22.9%

20.7%

16.6%

All   Female   Male

Percentage

Union   Ohio

Poverty Status

This chart shows the proportion of older adults* living below or near poverty. The measure used is the income-to-poverty ratio. In 2018, the poverty threshold for a person age 65+ living alone was $12,043. Income below this amount is considered to be below the poverty threshold. A person with annual income between $12,043 and $24,086 would be between 100%-199% of poverty. Individuals with an income of 200% poverty and above have an income that is at least double the poverty threshold (greater than $24,086).

Income-to-Poverty Ratio of 65+ Population in Union County

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 Census of Population and Housing. 5-Percent Public Use Microdata Sample. U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

*The percentage is not of the entire 65+ population, but only those individuals for whom poverty status could be determined. The poverty status is NOT determined for institutionalized persons, persons in military group quarters, or persons in college dormitories.

Medicaid Eligibility

This chart and table show the proportion of older adults whose health insurance is provided by Medicaid or other means-tested coverage.

65+ Population with Medicaid or Means-Tested Health Insurance Coverage, Union County, 2015
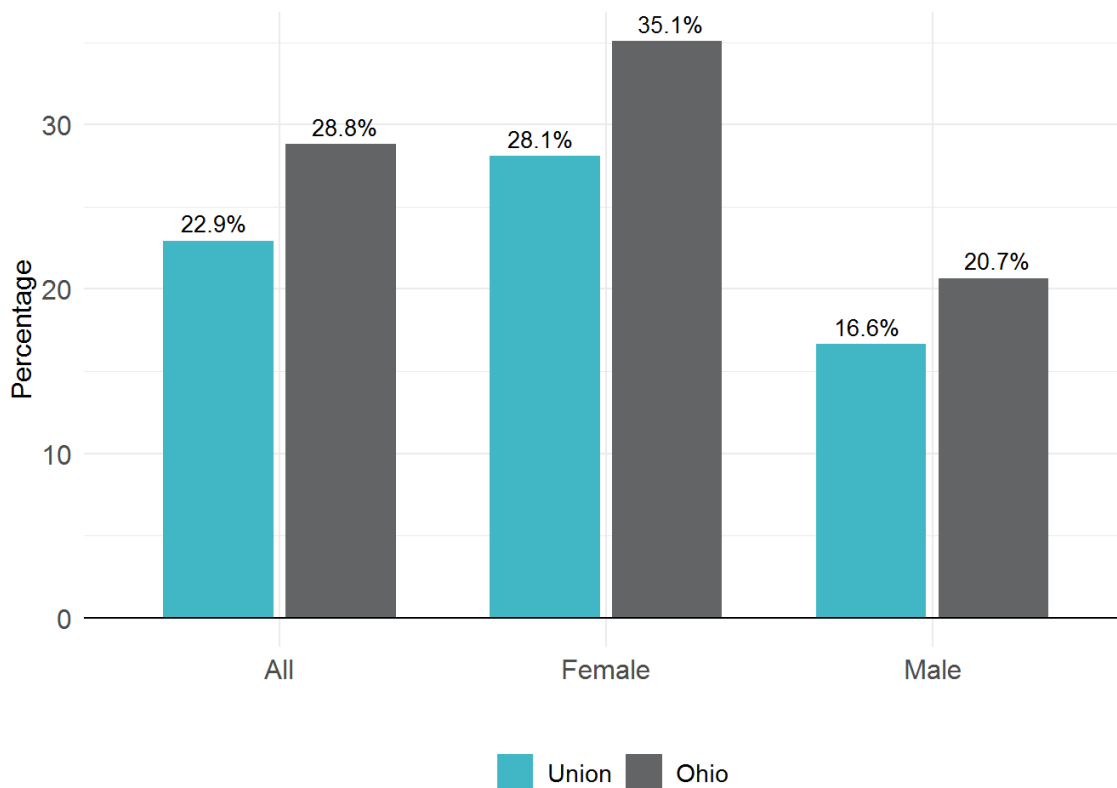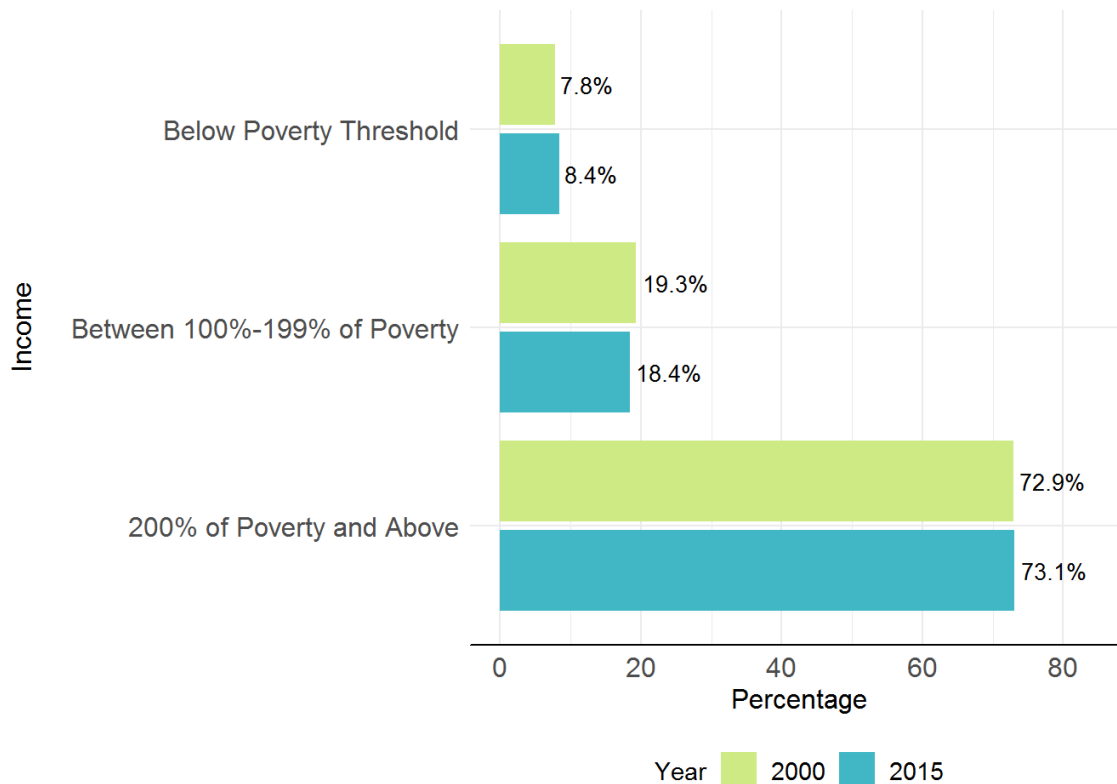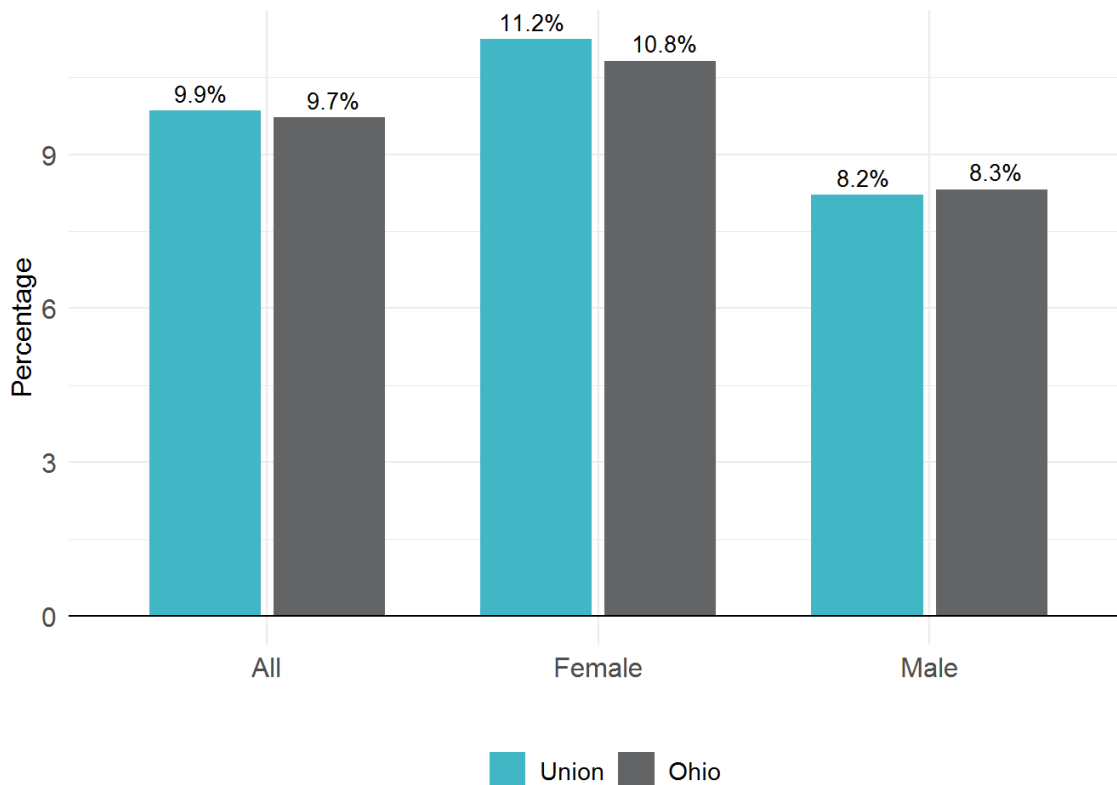

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS). www.nhgis.org

Older Adults with Functional Difficulties

These data measure difficulty and functional impairment to identify individuals who may experience a disability. The charts show the proportion of individuals (all ages includes age 5+ or 18+ as appropriate, age 65-74, and 75+) that have reported a difficulty with one of six functional areas. The final table compares the county to Ohio for age groups 65-74 and 75+. The six areas are:

- Hearing difficulty: deaf or having serious difficulty hearing
- Vision difficulty: blind or having serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses
- Cognitive difficulty: because of a physical, mental, or emotional problem, having difficulty remembering, concentrating, or making decisions (ages 5+ only)
- Ambulatory (mobility) difficulty: having serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs (ages 5+)
- Self-care difficulty: having difficulty bathing or dressing (ages 5+ only)
- Independent living difficulty: because of a physical, mental, or emotional problem, having difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping (ages 18+ only)
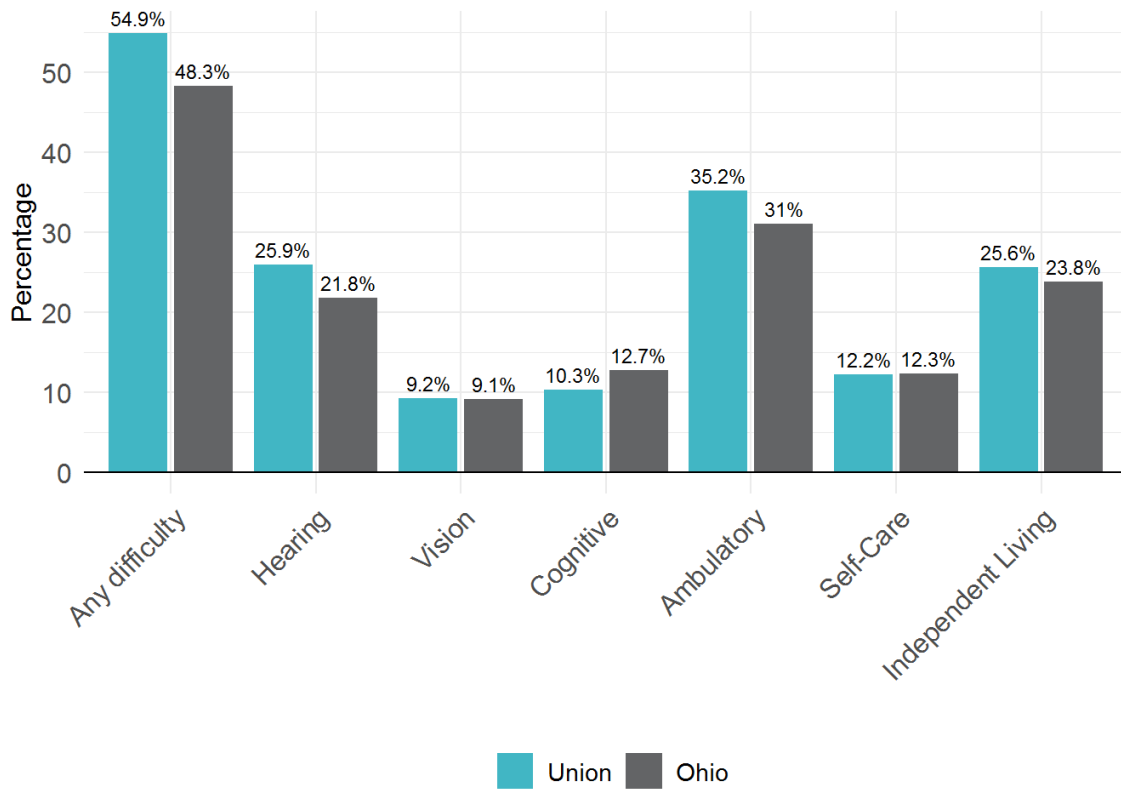- Any functional difficulty: individual reported one or more of the functional limitations listed above

% of Population with Any Functional Difficulty, by Age Group, 2015
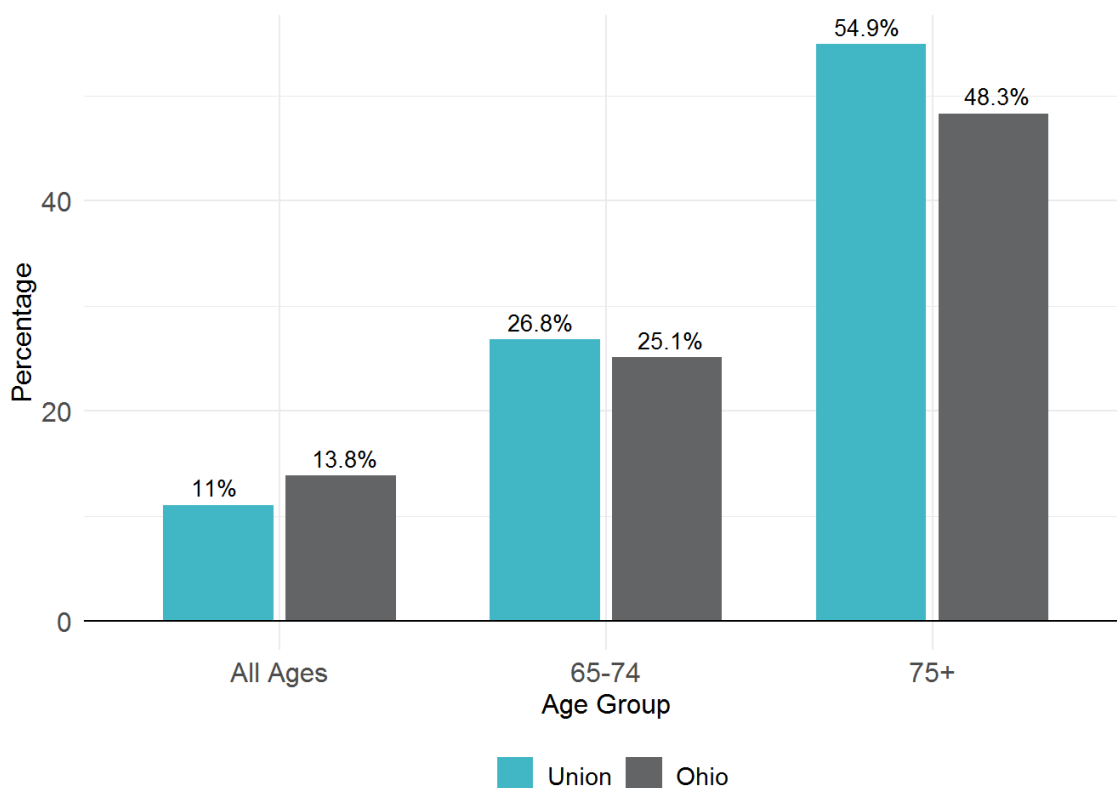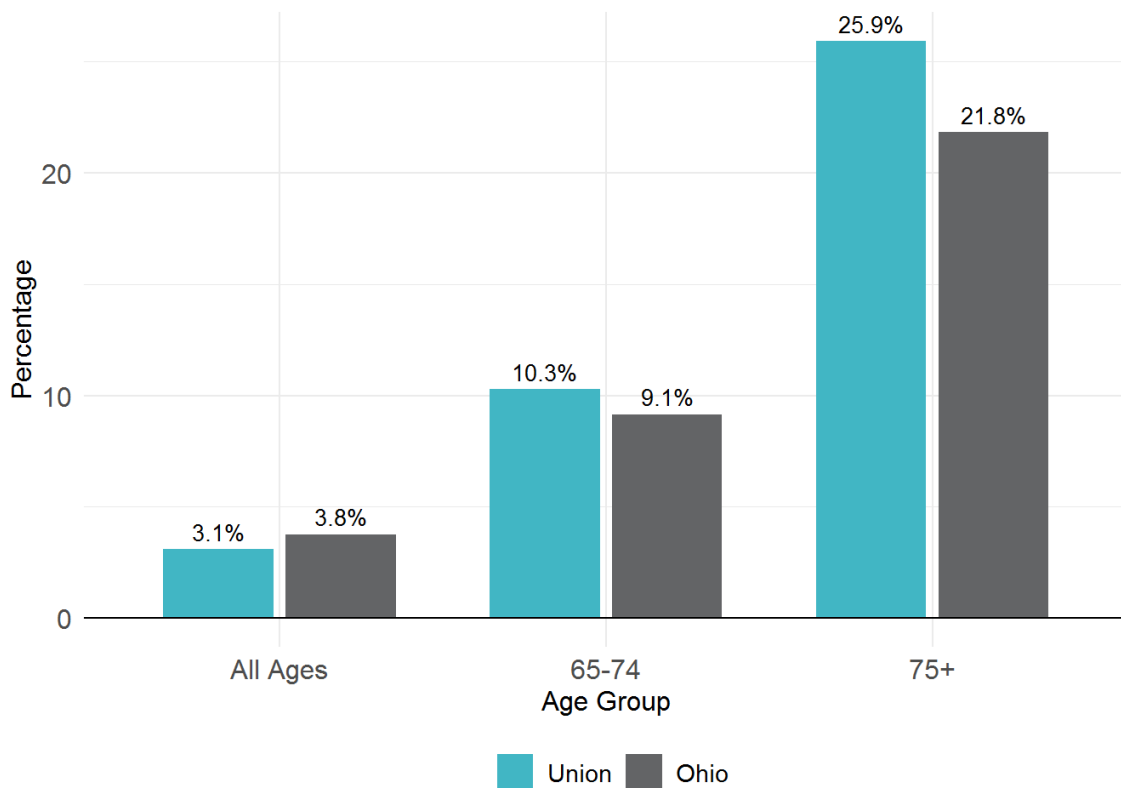

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

% of Adults Age 75+ with Functional Difficulties, by Type, 2015

Legend: Union, Ohio

- Any difficulty: Union 54.9%, Ohio 48.3%
- Hearing: Union 25.9%, Ohio 21.8%
- Vision: Union 9.2%, Ohio 9.1%
- Cognitive: Union 10.3%, Ohio 12.7%
- Ambulatory: Union 35.2%, Ohio 31%
- Self-Care: Union 12.2%, Ohio 12.3%
- Independent Living: Union 25.6%, Ohio 23.8%

% of Population with Hearing Difficulties, by Age Group, 2015

Legend: Union, Ohio

- All Ages: Union 3.1%, Ohio 3.8%
- 65-74: Union 10.3%, Ohio 9.1%
- 75+: Union 25.9%, Ohio 21.8%

% of Population with Vision Difficulties, by Age Group, 2015

Percentage

- All Ages: Union 1.5%, Ohio 2.4%
- 65-74: Union 4.1%, Ohio 3.9%
- 75+: Union 9.2%, Ohio 9.1%

Age Group

Union   Ohio
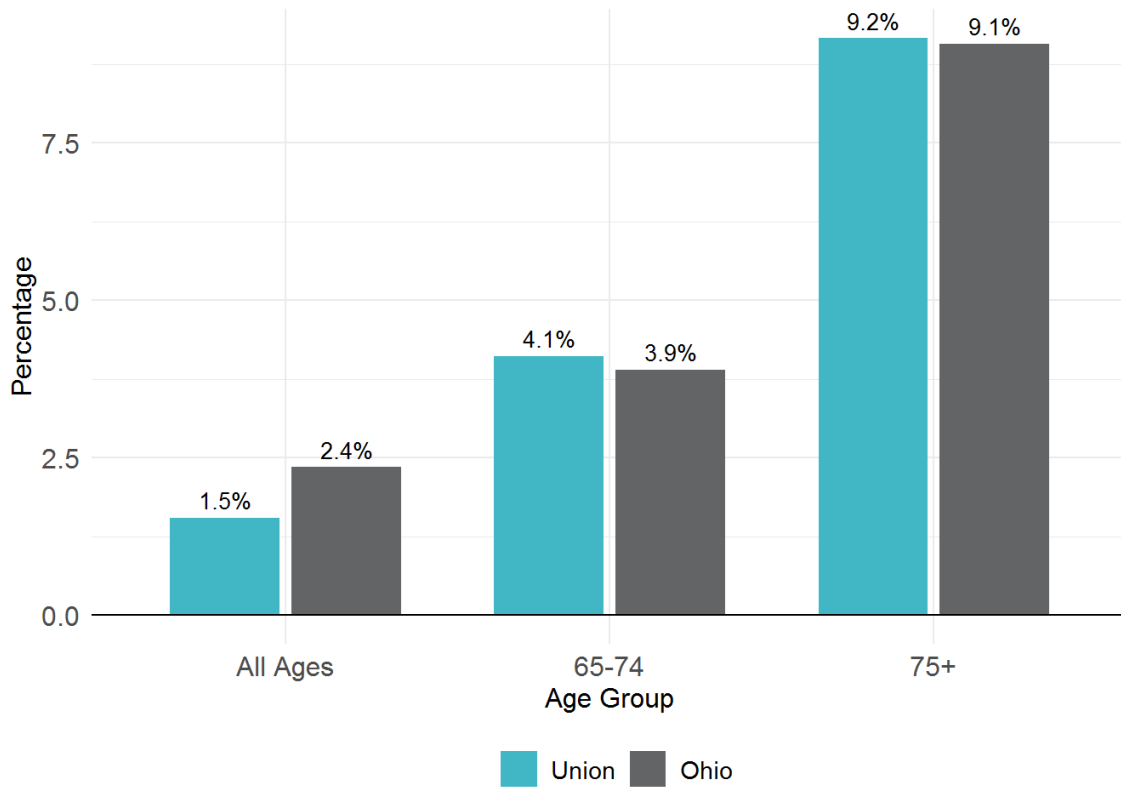
% of Population with Cognitive Difficulties, by Age Group, 2015

Percentage

- All Ages: Union 4.8%, Ohio 5.7%
- 65-74: Union 4.7%, Ohio 4.9%
- 75+: Union 10.3%, Ohio 12.7%

Age Group
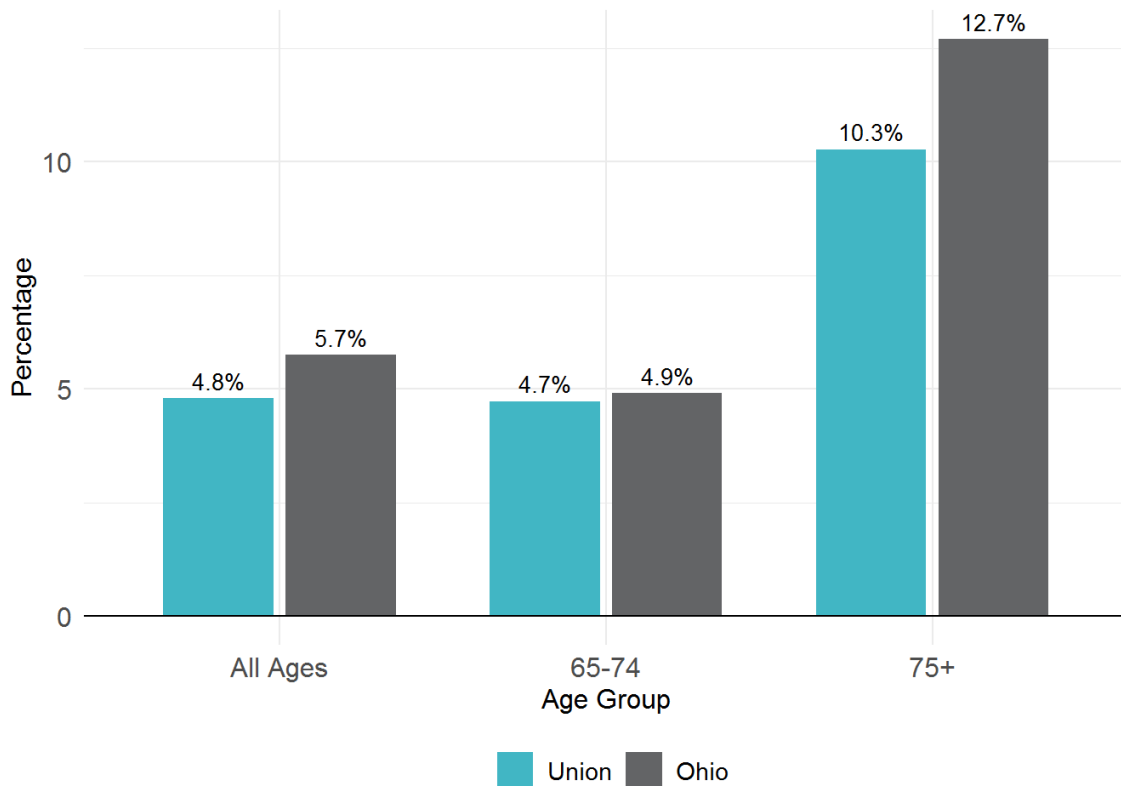
Union   Ohio

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

% of Population with Ambulatory Difficulty, by Age Group, 2015

Percentage

	All Ages	65-74	75+
Union	5.3%	16.7%	35.2%
Ohio	7.6%	15.4%	31%

Age Group

Union   Ohio

% of Population with Self-Care Difficulties, by Age Group, 2015

Percentage

	All Ages	65-74	75+
Union	2.1%	5.5%	12.2%
Ohio	2.8%	4.4%	12.3%

Age Group

Union   Ohio

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.
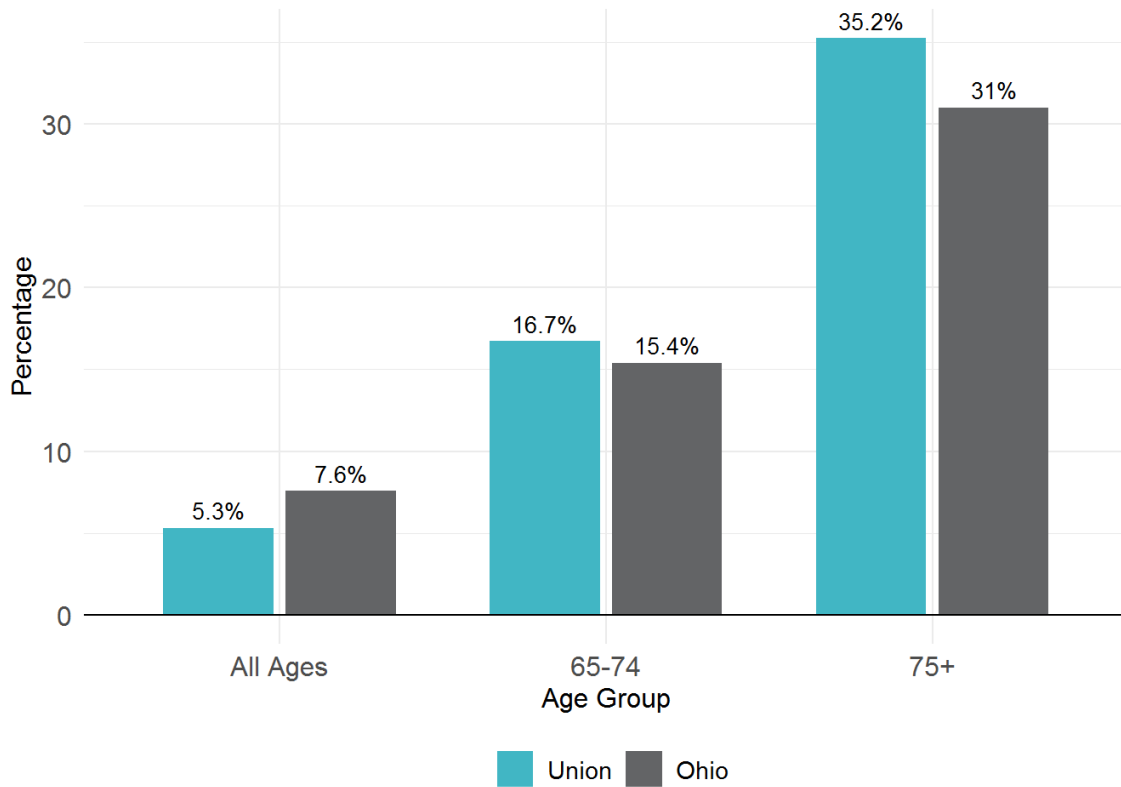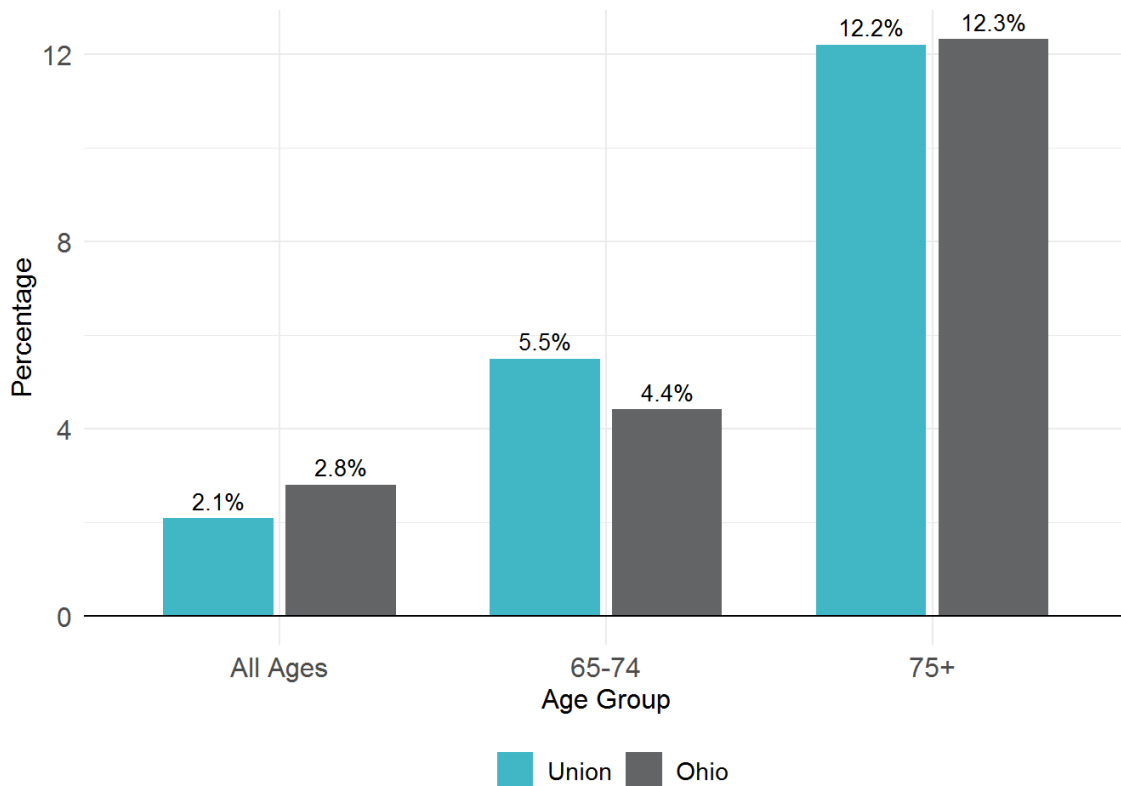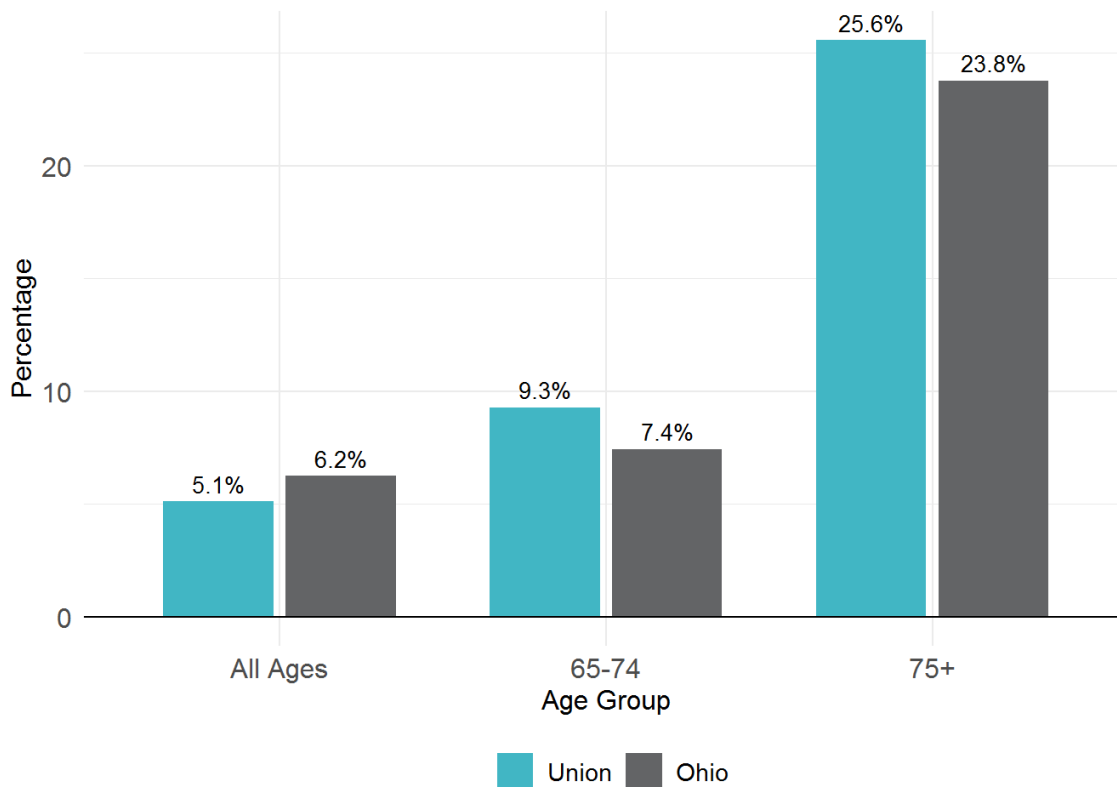
% of Population with Independent Living Difficulties, by Age Group, 2015

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Summary File. Integrated Public Use Microdata Sample, National Historical Geographic Information Systems (IPUMS NHGIS), www.nhgis.org.

Percentage and Number of Older Adults with Functional Difficulties in Union County and Ohio, 2015

	County				Ohio			
	Age 65-74		Age 75+		Age 65-74		Age 75+	
	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Any difficulty	26.8	1,009	54.9	1,192	25.1	258,117	48.3	360,547
Hearing	10.3	387	25.9	563	9.1	94,133	21.8	162,901
Vision	4.1	155	9.2	199	3.9	40,088	9.1	67,763
Cognitive	4.7	178	10.3	223	4.9	50,487	12.7	94,856
Ambulatory	16.7	630	35.2	765	15.4	158,393	31.0	231,393
Self-Care	5.5	207	12.2	265	4.4	45,377	12.3	92,037
Independent Living	9.3	350	25.6	555	7.4	76,462	23.8	177,349

Summary

These county population trends reveal important indicators of current and future need for long-term services and supports. The share of the population that is 65 years and older will continue to grow over the next 10 years. A higher percentage of the older population experiences poverty, compared to other adults. In addition, those at very advanced ages are mostly women who have outlived their spouses and most likely live alone. The combination of lower income, living alone, and higher prevalence of disability are all contributors to the need for long-term services and supports.

Additional county- and state-level data are available online at ohio-population.org, part of the Scripps Gerontology Center website.

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