



# REGIONAL SNAPSHOT: EXPLORING AGING TRENDS IN METRO ATLANTA

May 2023

# May is Older Americans Month!

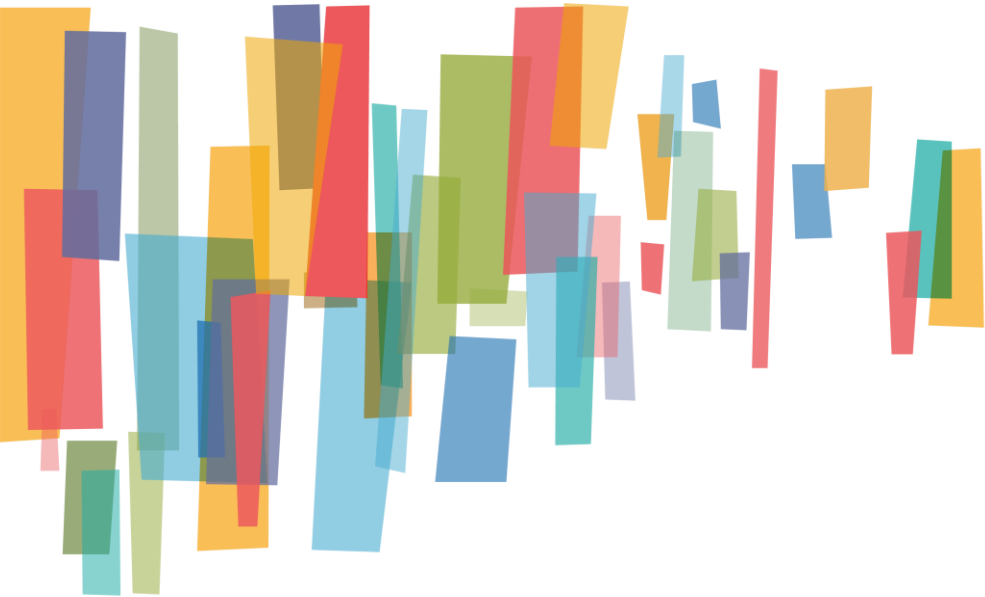
Older Americans Month (OAM) was established in 1963.

Goal of OAM:

- Acknowledge the **contributions** and achievements of older Americans
- Highlight important **trends**
- Strengthen our **commitment** to honoring our older citizens

This May, join us as we recognize the 60th anniversary of OAM!





# THE CONTRIBUTIONS



December 29, 2021 • In [Aging in Place](#), [Your Community](#)

### FaceTime Story Time, and Other Ways to Connect with Technology

I often wonder how people stayed in touch and felt connected with faraway family and friends before email and smartphones became so commonplace. Communications were... [Read More](#)



December 8, 2021 • In [News](#), [Your Community](#)

### An Artist's Journey

I recently visited Fredericka (Freddie) Flynt to learn about her life as an artist. I was particularly intrigued to hear about her traveling the world... [Read More](#)

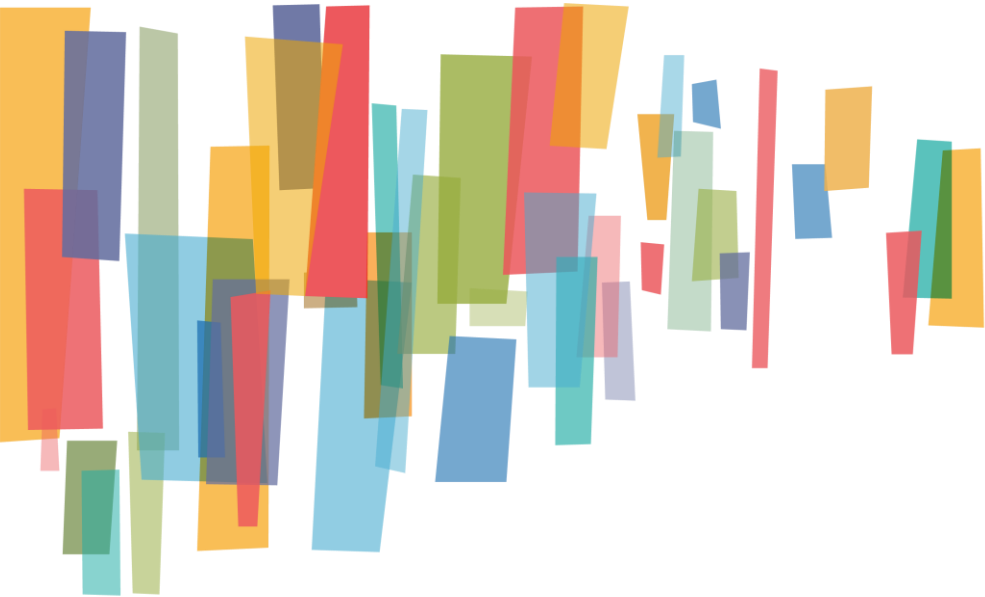


November 17, 2021 • In [Active Aging](#), [Home](#)

### Ginger Finds Joy in Grandparenthood

Ginger Schilling, 71, is a former library aid at St. John's the Evangelist Catholic School in Hapeville, GA. She has dedicated over three decades at... [Read More](#)

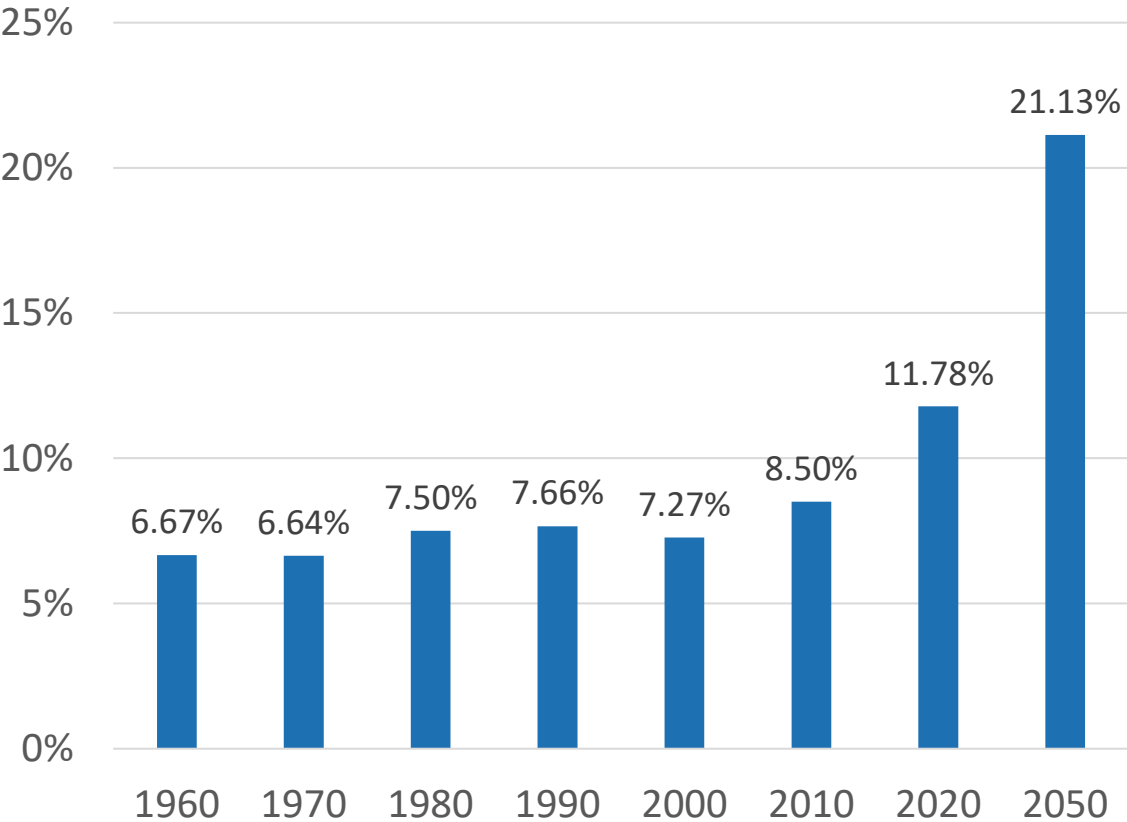
The [Empowerline.org](https://empowerline.org) blog showcases the integral roles older adults play in the Atlanta region.



# THE TRENDS

# Population Then, Now, and Later...

Percent of 11-County Atlanta Region that is 65 or Older



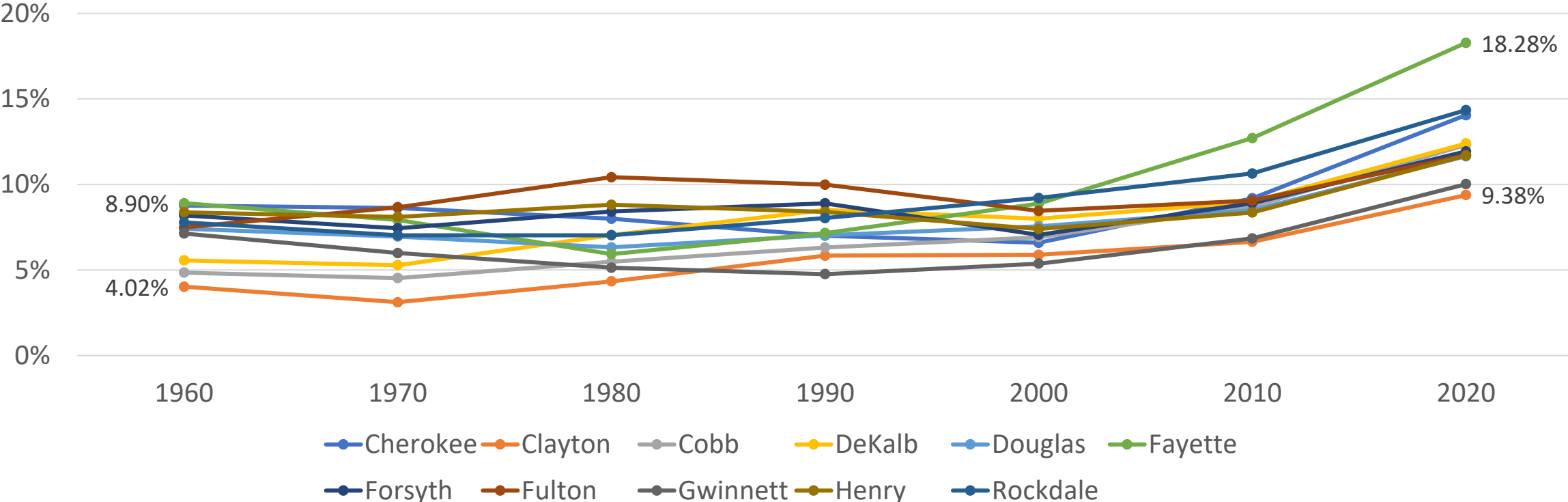
1960: Older adults comprised just over 6 percent of the Atlanta region

2020: Population 65 or older nearly doubled to 12 percent

2050: Number of people age 65+ will almost double again, making up over 21 percent of the population

# Population Then...

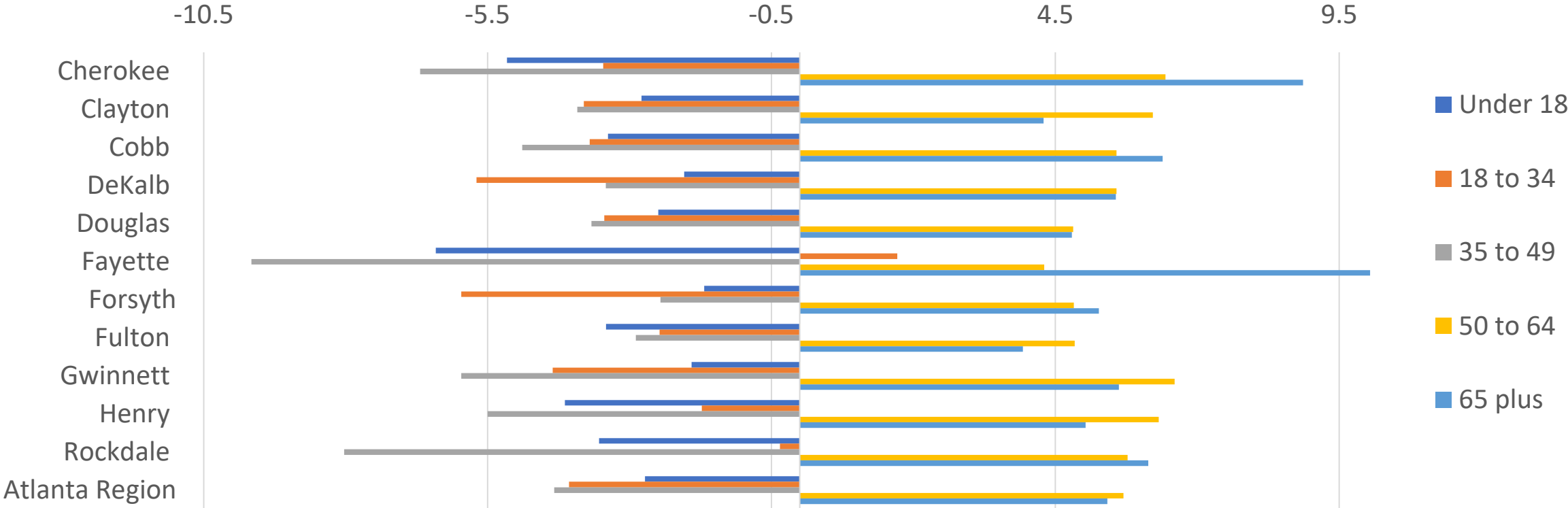
Percent of Population that is 65 or Older



Historically and more recently, Fayette County has had the highest proportion of older people in the region, while Clayton County has had the lowest.

# Population Then...

### Percent Point Change in Age Cohort Shares 2000-2021



However, all 11 counties in the Atlanta Region have seen growth primarily in their populations age 50 or older between 2000 and 2021.



# Population Now...

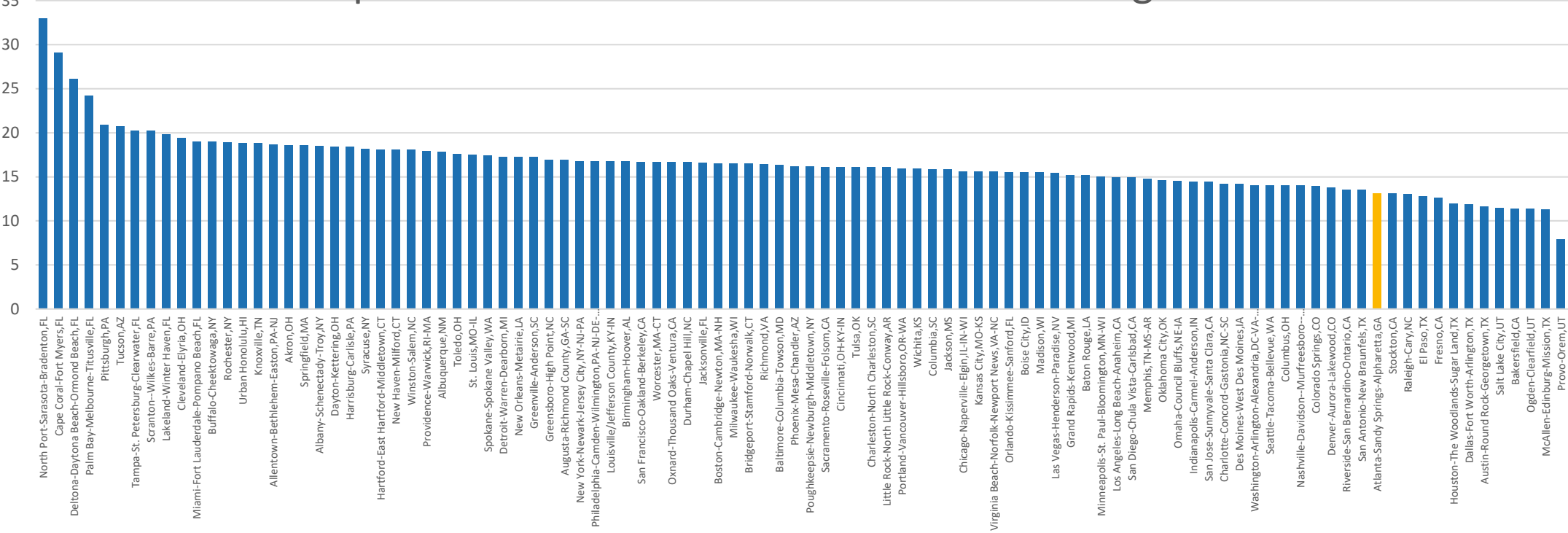


# 585,415

Older Adults Age 65+ Live  
in the 11-County Atlanta Region

# Population Now...

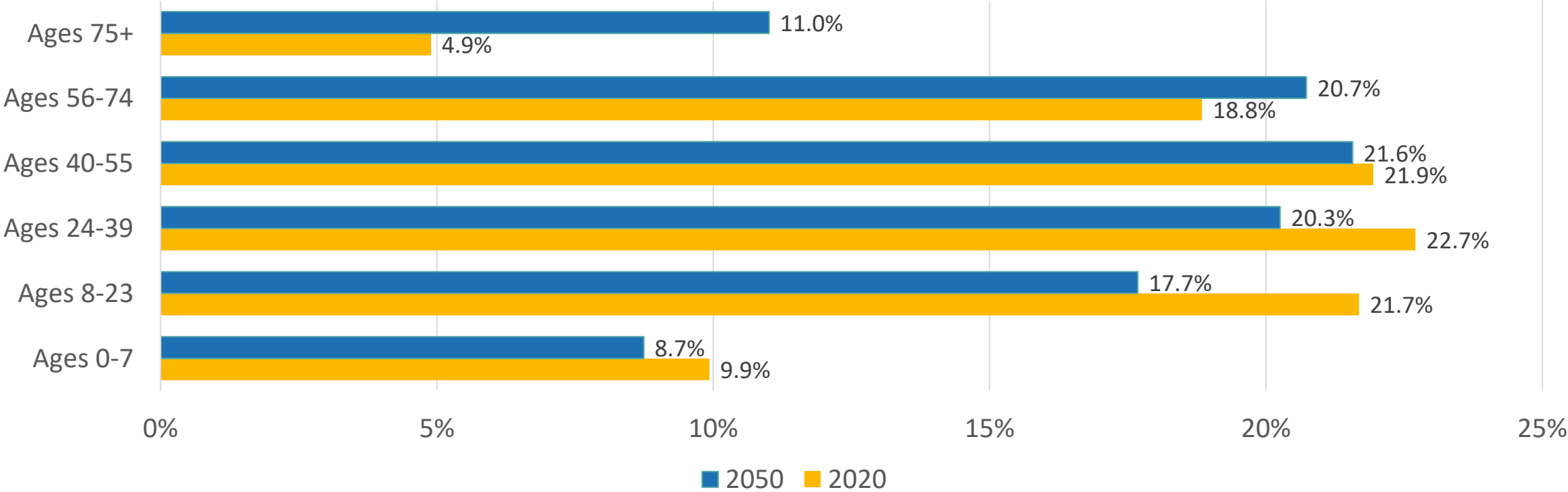
Percent of Population that is 65 or Older in the 100 Largest Metros



The chart above ranks the largest 100 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by the percent of people 65 or older. Metro Atlanta (in yellow) is currently one of the youngest metro areas in the nation.

# Population Later...

Existing and Forecast Percent of Population by Age



Only people ages 56 or older are expected to increase as a share of the population, with the 75+ age cohort growing the fastest.

# Population Later...

By 2050, the Atlanta Regional Commission forecasts there will be approximately

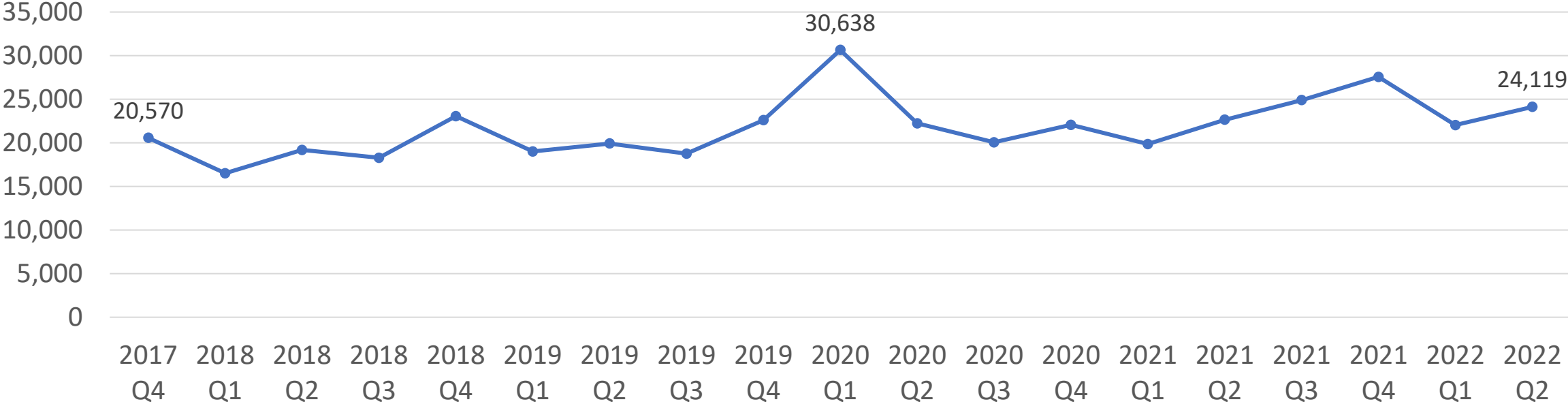
**1,325,745**

older people age 65+ living  
in the 11-county Atlanta Region.



# Employment Trends

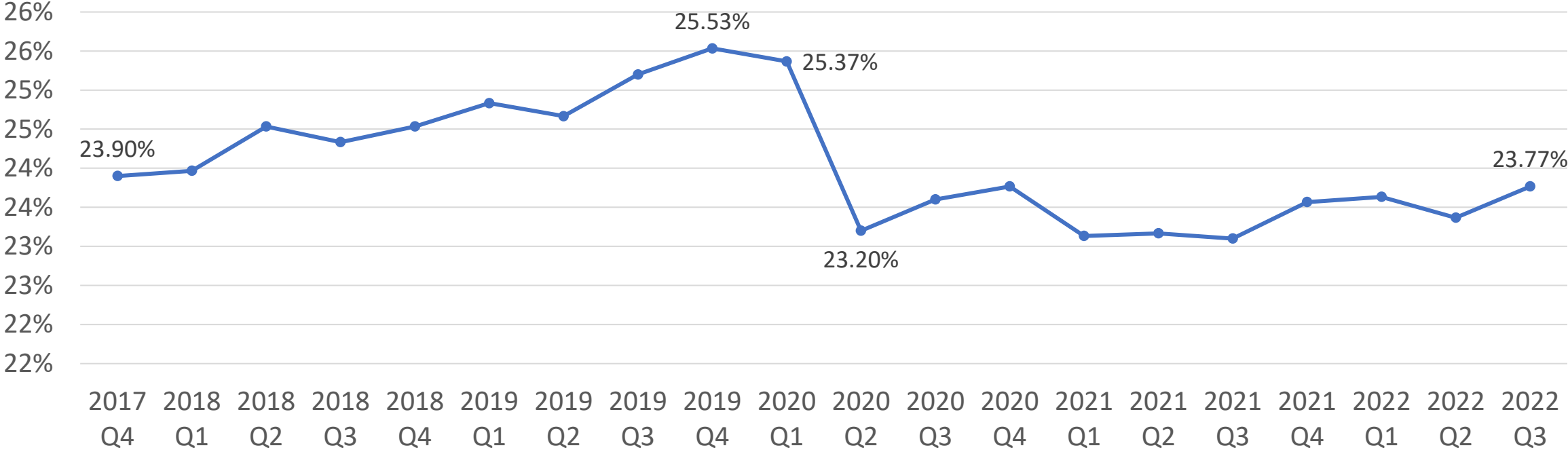
Number of Employees Age 65 or Older in the 11-County Atlanta Region Whose Job Ended



There was a sharp increase in older people leaving their jobs in the first quarter of 2020, coinciding with the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. That metric has also been trending upward more recently.

# Employment Trends

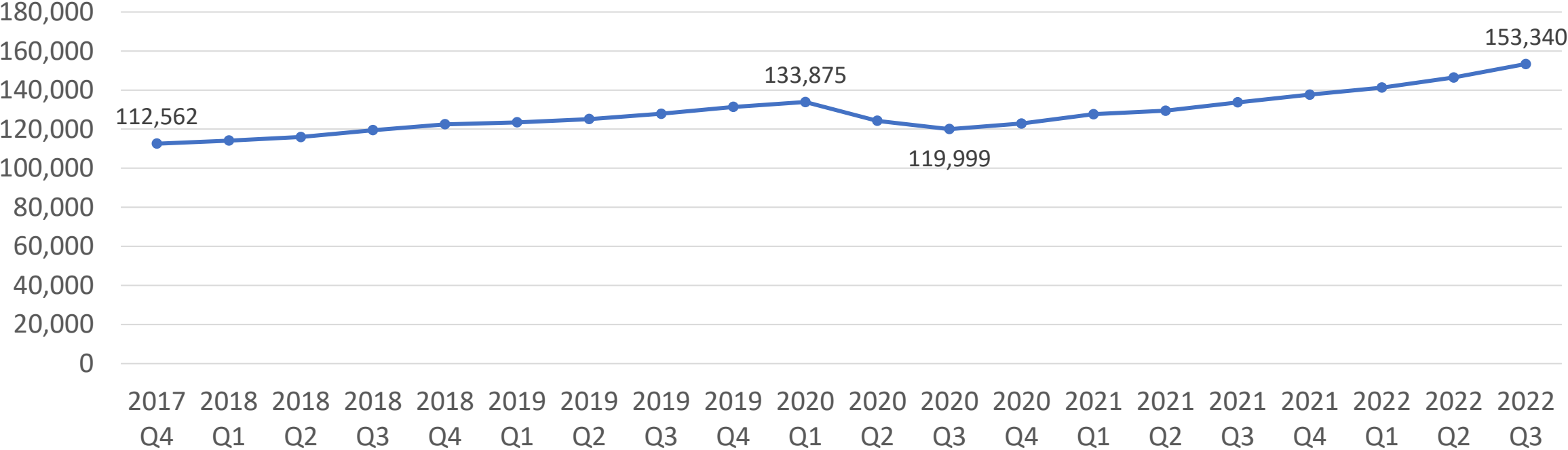
### United States Labor Force Participation Rate No Disability, Age 65 or Older



This employment trend was mirrored by overall labor force participation rates of older people in the United States.

# Employment Trends

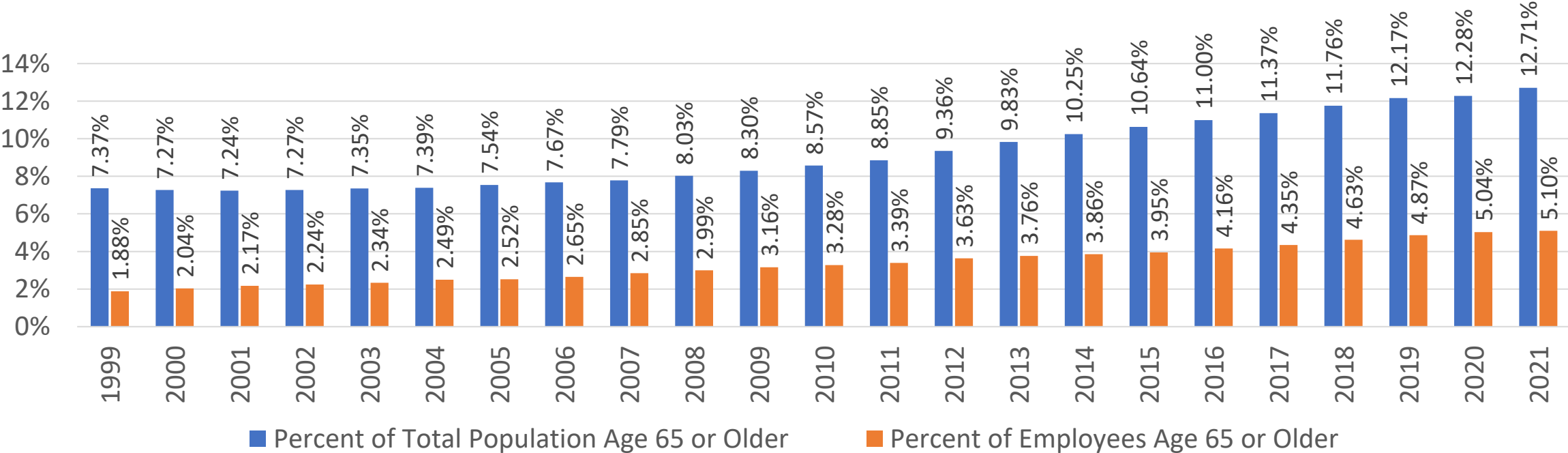
### Number of Employees Age 65 or Older in the 11-County Atlanta Region



However, the number of older people that are employed rebounded to pre-pandemic levels by Q4 of 2021 and is now the highest it's been in 5 years.

# Employment Trends

Percent of Population and Percent of Employees Age 65 or Older in the 11-County Atlanta Region

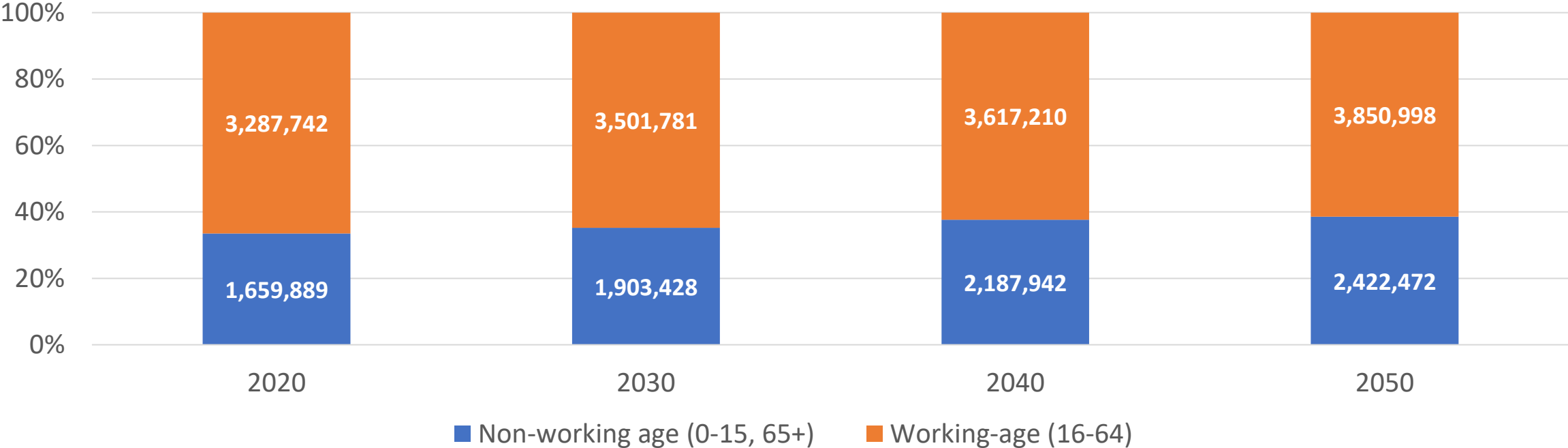


This employment trend is also seen when looking at the percent of the total population and the percent of all employees that are age 65 or older.



# Employment Forecast

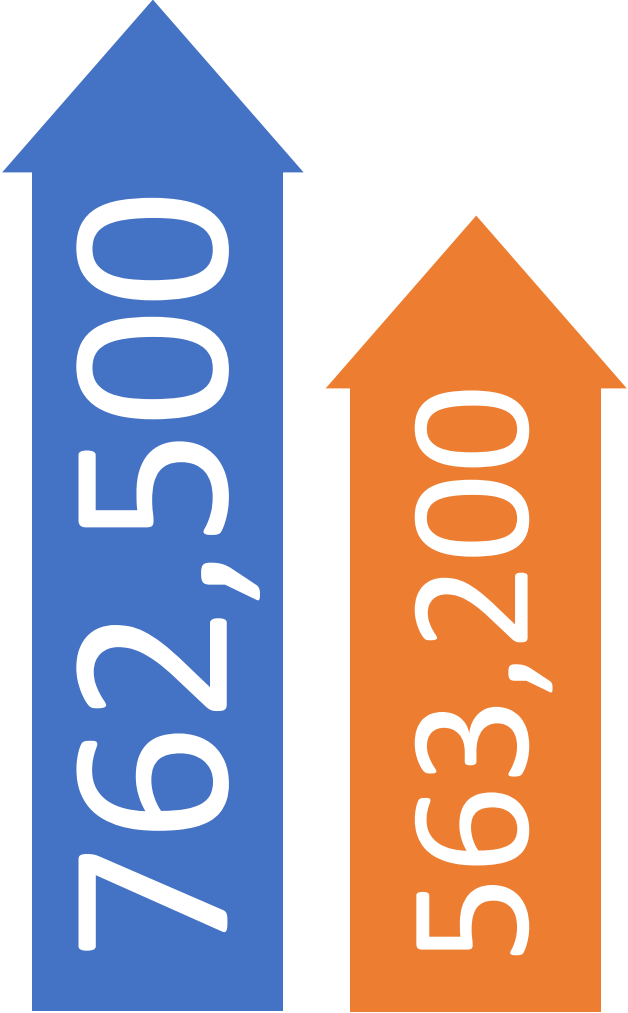
### Forecasted 11-County Atlanta Region Population



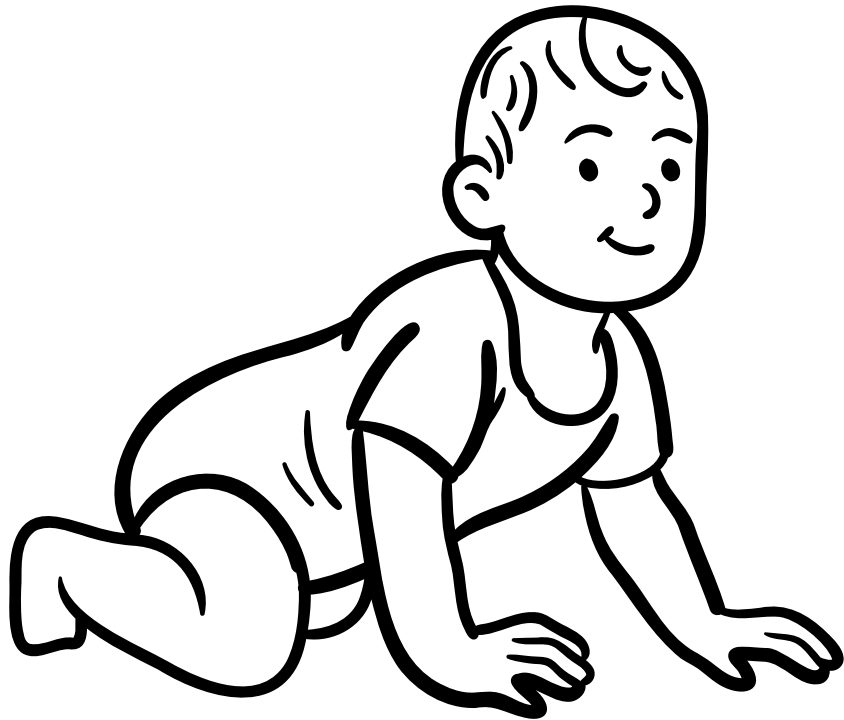
The number of traditional non-working age people is forecast to grow 45.9% between 2020 and 2050, while the working age population is expected to only see an increase of 17.1%

# Employment Forecast

The traditional working age population will increase by only 563,200 people from 2020 to 2050, compared to a forecasted increase of 762,500 people in the non-working age population during the same time period.



# Employment Forecast



In 2020, for every non-working age person there were 1.98 working-age people. This is known as a **dependency ratio**.

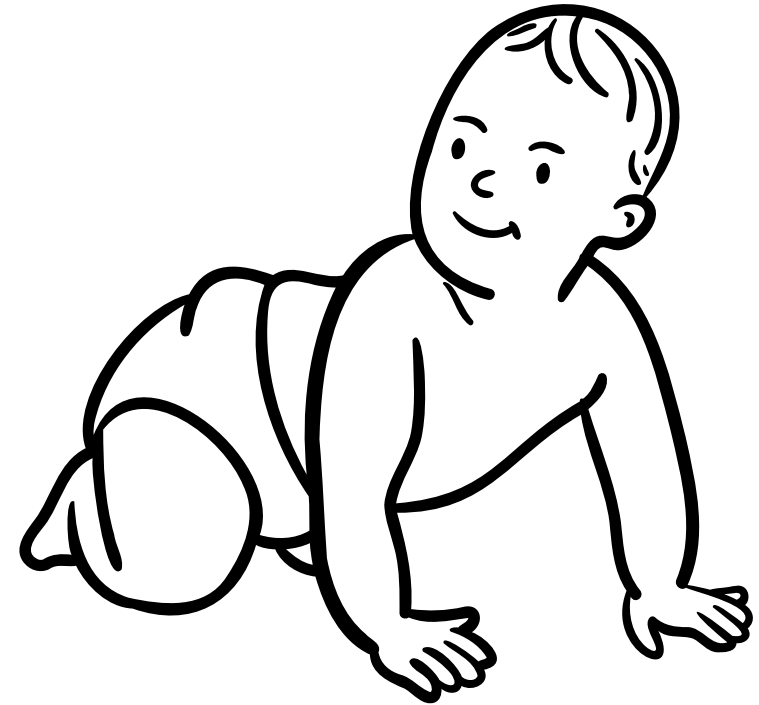
By 2050, there will be only be 1.58 working-age people per 1 non-working age person.

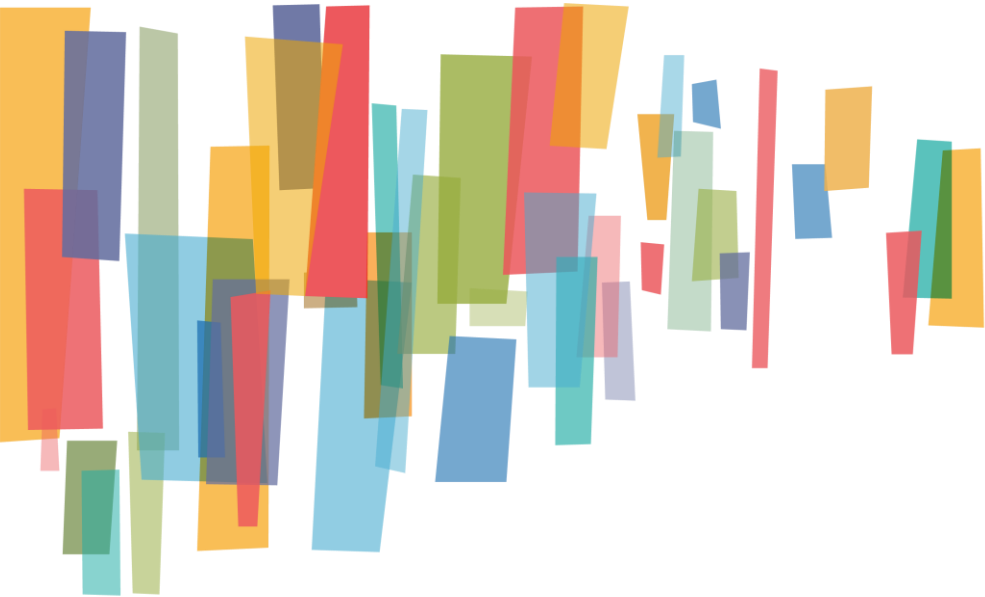
# Employment Forecast

Traditional non-working age  
people (age 0-15 and 65+)  
will comprise

**38.6%**

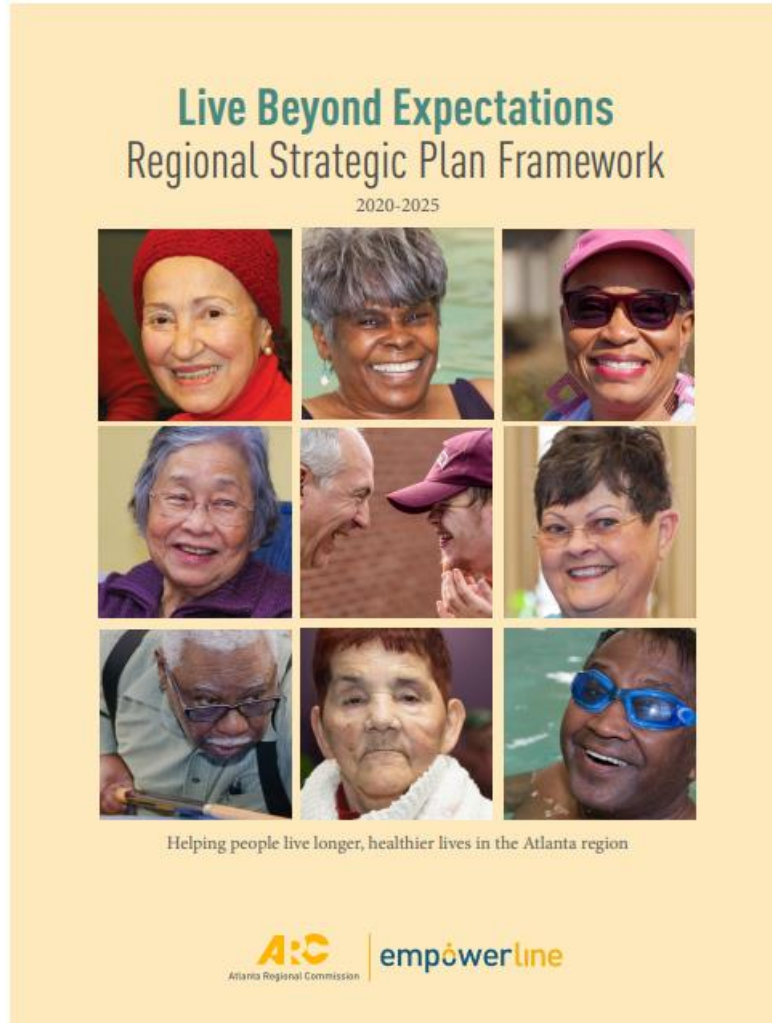
of all persons in 2050,  
compared to just **33.5%** of all  
people in 2020.








# THE COMMITMENT

# Live Beyond Expectations



-  In 2020, ARC's Aging & Independence Services Group launched a five-year strategic plan that aims to improve longevity for residents of our region.
-  Current Phase: Identifying and addressing the inequities that create disparities in life expectancy.
-  Get involved! More information available at: <https://atlantaregional.org/lbe-2020-2025>



# QUESTIONS?

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