

Presentation to :The County Welfare
Directors Association of California
THE REALITIES OF THE NEW
AGING: Innovative and
Strategic County Responses to
Growing Vulnerabilities

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Welcome-Acknowledgements-Good to have
you in Monterey County

The Lettuce Curtain-A tale of two counties

A Nobel Cause: CWDA-Leaders, Entrepreneurs and Front line administrations/advocates

- Opportunities and Challenges
- The roles in an era of public service skeptics

The County Challenge-Growing Economic and Social Disparities by SES, Race, Ethnicity, Disability and Age

Societal a national, state and local concern planning for the future

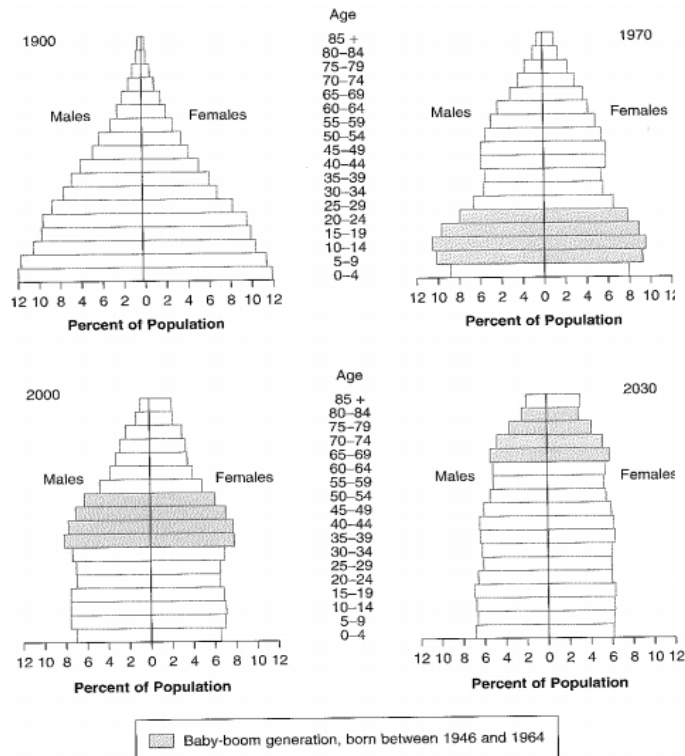
What responsibilities past to the present

Incrementalism vs. Incipient social reform

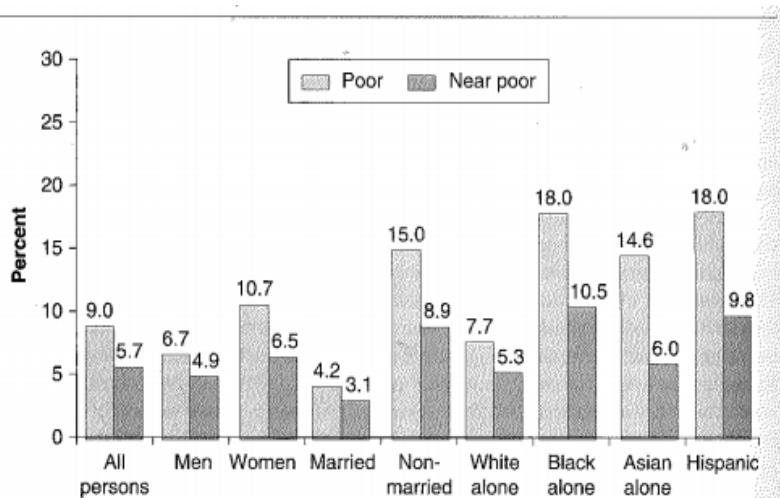
Age and Diversity: the key variables- A quality of life in old age or a return to poverty a la the 1930s

A Demographic Overview: Trends and Projections (Milestones years: 2015, 2030, 2050)

The Dramatic Aging of the United States, 1900-2030

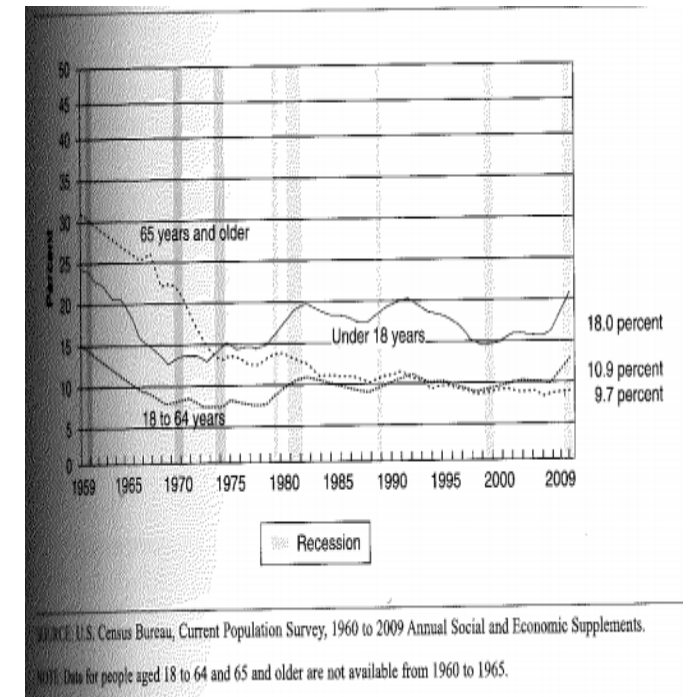


Percentage of People Aged 65 and Older Below Poverty Level, by selected Characteristics, 2010



SOURCE: O'Brien, Wu, & Baer (2010); AARP Public Policy Institute estimates based on the Current Population Survey, 2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

Poverty Rates by Age, 1959-2009



The Policy and Politics of Aging-a short history

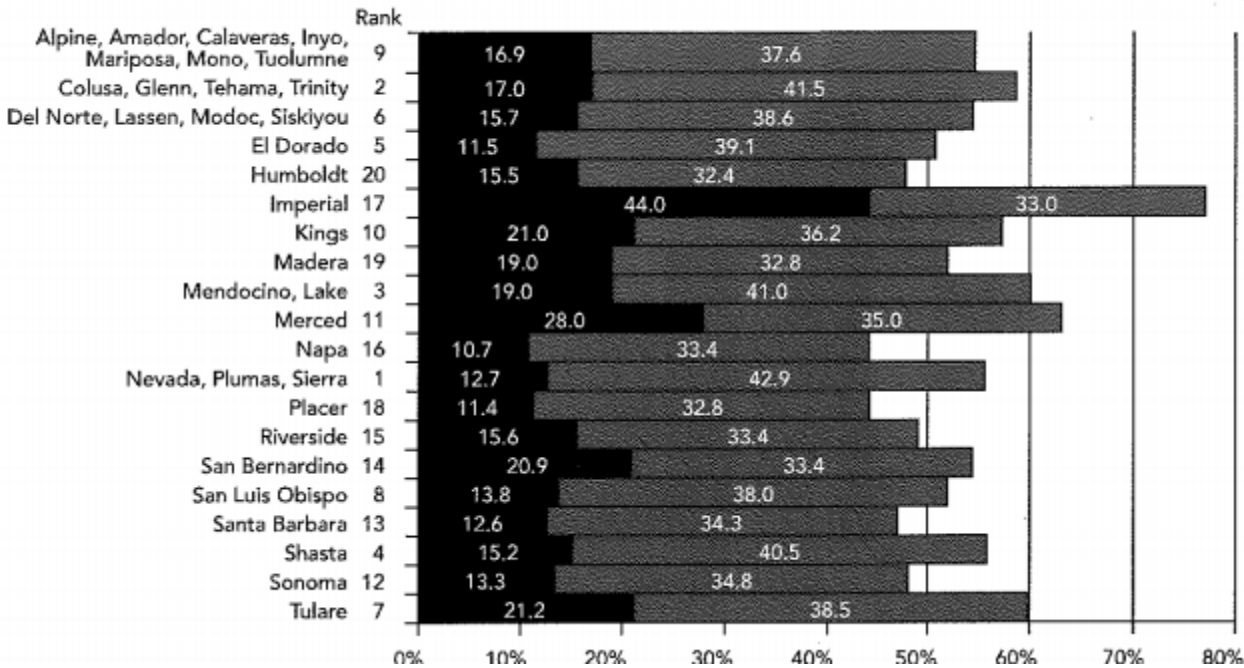
The State of the Nation and State vis a vis aging

Key Federal Legislation on Aging

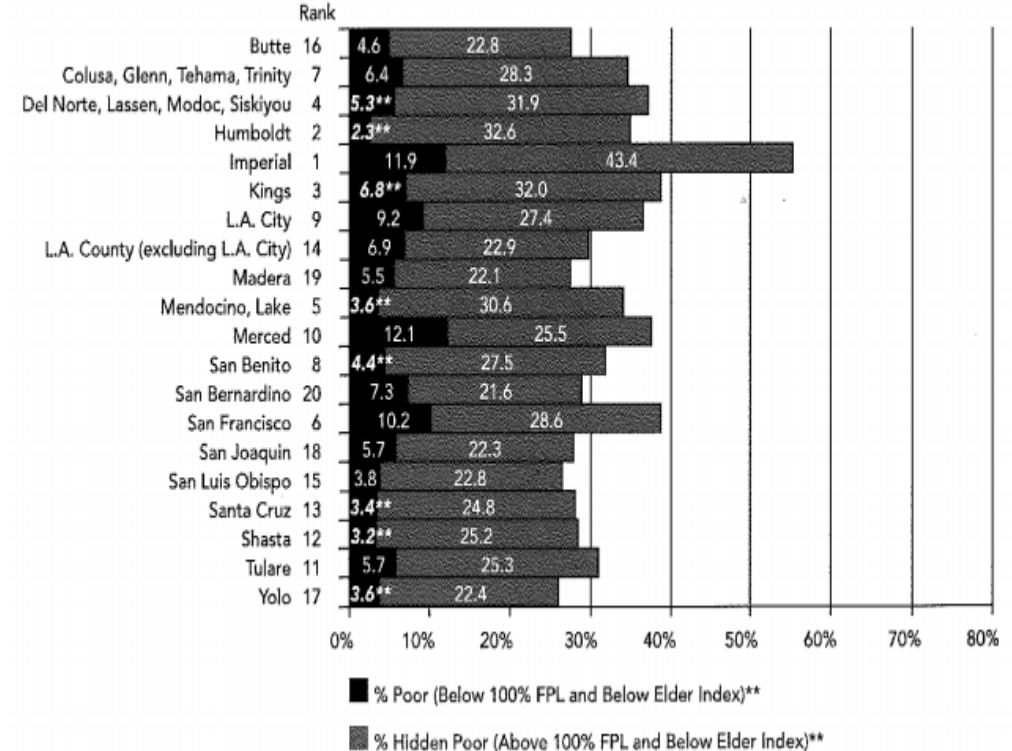
Social Security Act	1935
Expansion of Social Security Benefits (for spouses and children)	1939
Early Retirement Benefits Under Social Security (men added in 1961)	1956
Medicare and Medicaid	1965
Older Americans Act	1965
Age Discrimination in Employment Act	1967
Older Americans Act Amendments (creating the National Aging Network)	1973
Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA, amended 1986)	1974
Congregate Housing Services Act	1978
Social Security Amendments	1983
Medicare Prospective Payment System	1983
Retirement Equity Act	1984
Abolition of Mandatory Retirement	1986
Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act (repealed 1989)	1988
Medicare Modernization Act (prescription drugs)	2003

California : Trendsetter (as always) for good and bad-UCLA Center for Health Policy Research Report-The Hidden Poor: Over Three Quarters of a Million Older Californians Overlooked by Official Poverty Line

Single Elder – Head of Household*



Older Couple – Heads of Household*



The New Poverty and the Hidden Poor

The New Vulnerable : Grandparents raising grandchildren, Older Adults with older kids, single elders, race (White, Black and Latinos).

Geography matter: rural/mountain/northern



Poverty Status of Older Californians: Estimates

	60-64	65-74	75-84	85+	60+
Below 100% FPL	209,271	217,705	146,619	67,770	641,365
At or Above 100% FPL	1,711,569	2,166,516	1,215,557	519,533	5,613,175
Total	1,920,840	2,384,221	1,362,176	587,303	6,254,540

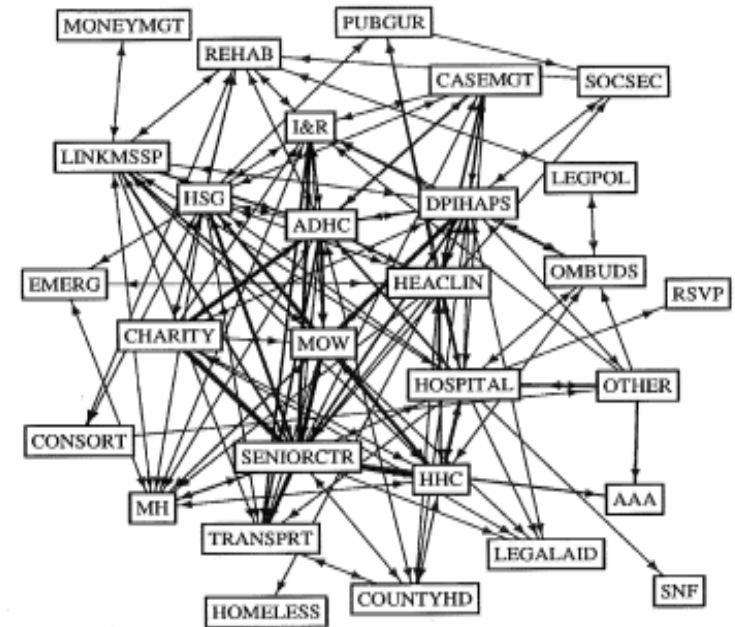
Poverty Status of Older Californians: Percentages

	60-64	65-74	75-84	85+	60+
Below 100% FPL	10.9%	9.1%	10.8%	11.5%	10.3%
At or Above 100% FPL	89.1%	90.9%	89.2%	88.5%	89.7%

Implications for County Government

1. Know your populations
2. Assess migration (by nation and by region) trends
3. Assess infrastructure and capacity to respond
4. Identify strengths and gaps
5. Enlist advocates and partners

How do Consumers Navigate the System?



What to do-at all levels and Next Challenges

Local: Village Movement, age-friendly locates, transportation, technology, housing affordability, Health and long term care

State: Public benefits (IHHS, CDA, the Aging Network), the California Secure Choices lowincome savings

Federal: SSDI, SSI, SS, Medicare/Medicaid, OAA, ACL, HUD/DOT

Aging in a majority-minority state (the politics of immigration and aging)

Gen Z and Millennials: A longevity Plan