

# Illinois Aging Together: A Statewide Movement for Aging Equity

**What:** Illinois Aging Together is a statewide, intergenerational, cross-sector movement for aging equity, promoting the development of a Strategic Action Plan for Aging and reframing of aging in positive terms of value, meaning, and purpose.

**Why:** We are all aging throughout our lives. Aging and caregiving are universal experiences. We all want to continue to be understood and have our needs and preferences met as we go through life. Most of us hope to live long lives in our communities. A long-term plan for aging is needed to support each of us and our families and communities as we age.

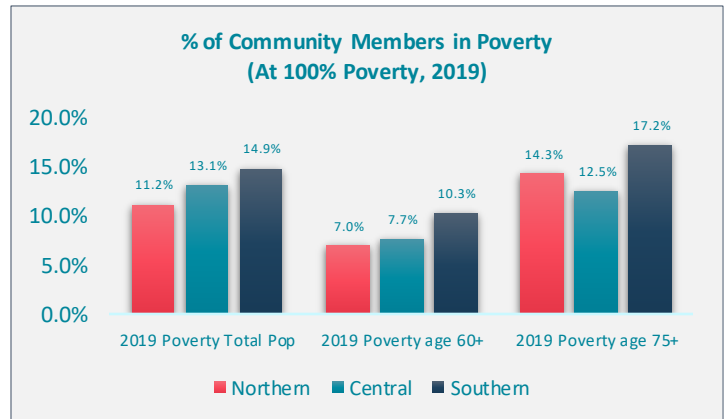
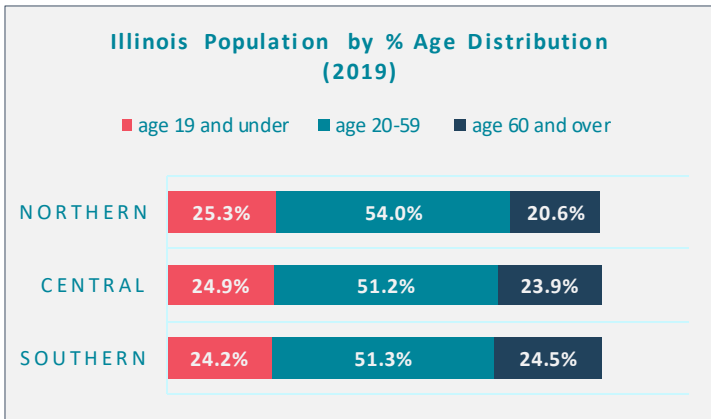
**Join the Campaign:** Illinois needs a Strategic Action Plan for Aging, and we need your support to demand state leaders act through legislation that will create a planning commission. Join Illinois Aging Together by [clicking here](#).

## Illinois Needs a Strategic Action Plan for Aging

With so many hopes, dreams, and questions that people have about aging, now is the time to create a long-term vision for aging equity for the state of Illinois.

**The Illinois Aging Together Campaign:** Through building a people-powered movement for aging equity in Illinois, we are moving our state to better support the needs we all have as we—and the people we care about—age. By gathering perspectives and input from all across the state, Illinois can develop a plan, policies, and programs that help Illinoisans reach their full potential throughout life.

Today, for the first time in history, increased longevity for many along with a low birthrate means there is a monumental demographic shift in terms of our population’s age distribution. As our population and workforce age, there will be wide-ranging effects, challenges, and opportunities across multiple sectors. Aging equity counteracts ageism and other systemic inequities.



11 of Illinois’ 102 counties have 30% or more people who are aged 60 and older. Another 83 counties have more than 20% of their populations aged 60 and older.

Poverty increases with age. Historic and current policies contribute to inequities in neighborhood health, economics, and community connections throughout life.

### Demographic shifts in aging will affect many aspects of our society and economy:

- How families’ and communities’ needs will shift and how we will support one another
- How we work, what job opportunities are available, and relative availability of workers to fulfill them
- Needs for housing, transportation, food, health, and long-term care services and supports
- Opportunities for different learning, recreation, travel, and hospitality services
- How public programs will be funded as the economy, revenue sources, and service needs change

### Get Involved:

- Sign on in support of this campaign as an individual and/or organization: [IllinoisAgingTogether.org](https://illinoisagingtogether.org)
- Learn more about aging policy engagement: Attend an [Illinois Aging Together Policy Academy](#)
- Invite us to talk with your group or organization and stay engaged through campaign events



Illinois Aging Together is a campaign of Health & Medicine Policy Research Group thanks to support from RRF Foundation for Aging and Chicago Community Trust [IllinoisAgingTogether.org](https://illinoisagingtogether.org) • Contact: Sandy Pastore [spastore@hmprg.org](mailto:spastore@hmprg.org)