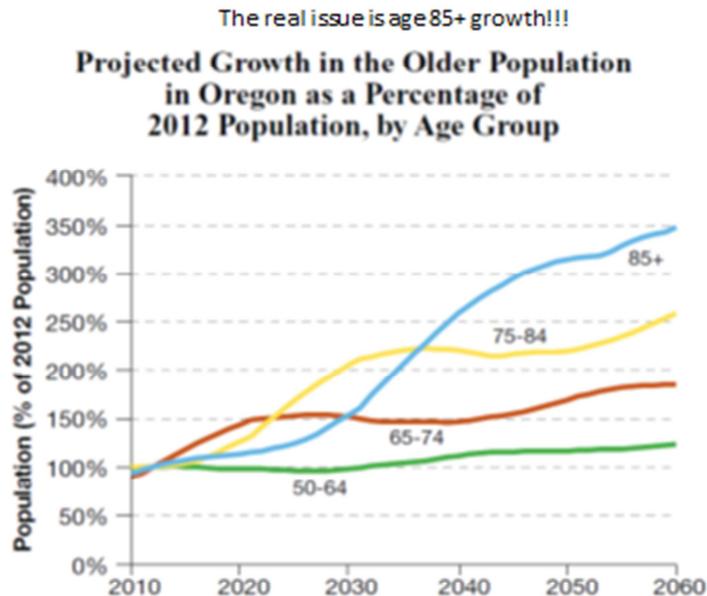


Profiles, Scorecards & Statistics: What is the Bottom Line?

Presented January 15, 2013 by AARP Oregon State Director,

Jerry Cohen, J.D., M.P.A.

- **AARP Public Policy Institute's 2012 Across the States: Profiles of Long Term Services & Supports (LTSS)**



- There are some who decry age 65 as “the wave”, but real challenge to LTSS hits as we hit 2025 and especially 2040.
 - Good news is that OR Disability rates are much lower than national average, too. So the role an “aging” cohort of “baby boomers” provides opportunities.
 - The % OR spends via Medicaid (federal/state) for LTSS (home & community-based rather than Skilled Nursing) ranks us #4 in nation (about 59% as of 2009).
 - Choice for community options other than Skilled Nursing ranks OR #2 in nation for Assisted Living/Residential Care units
- **AARP Fact Sheet for Oregon: But for Social Security (and Medicare), over 40% of older Oregonians would be living below the poverty level. Also, the unpaid time and care provided by family caregivers was valued in 2011 as \$4.8 BILLION for that year! We have over 620,000 Oregonians providing care for loved ones.**

- ***Raising Expectations: A State Scorecard on Long-Term Services and Supports for Older Adults, People with Physical Disabilities, and Family Caregivers (issued September 2011 by AARP, The SCAN Foundation and The Commonwealth Fund)***
 - The report establishes for the first time a baseline by which states and the nation can start moving towards strong public policies and actions which assure greater accountability and outcomes for public and private long-term services & supports.
 - The 25 initial indicators established address 4 domains:
 - Affordability & Accessibility to LTSS
 - Quality of Life & Quality of Care
 - Choice of Consumer for LTSS including of provider
 - Support for Family Caregivers
 - Good news: OR rates # 3 overall, nationally....although previous studies on some aspects of these domains over previous decades used to rate OR as #1 or #2!
 - Misleading item: OR rates #1 under family caregiving support, but this was rated based on paper policies (having created an array of lifelong respite programs and supports that have since been cut over the past decade).
 - Challenge/Opportunity: IF under each domain, OR was to improve performance to the highest levels attainable under each, we would experience:
 - 11,890 more low/moderate income (<250% poverty) of adults age 21+ covered under Medicaid to help on activities of daily living.
 - 1,041 more Oregonians entering our Medicaid-funded system (eligible, often after depleting assets) could be supported at home or with LTSS.
 - At least 135 unnecessary hospitalizations of skilled nursing facilities might be avoided.
- **The Bottom Line: Nationally, we rank near the top for how effectively and efficiently our LTSS system works. But by remaining complacent and failing to both invest in and enhance our successful system, we place current and future Oregonians and their families at risk of failing to deliver the promise of our ORS Chapter 410.**