



# The Diversity of the Long-Term Care Population: Understanding the Need

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# The Need for Long-Term Care

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“The need for long-term care can occur at **any age** and can be precipitated by diseases, disabling chronic conditions, accidents, or developmental disabilities.”

For example, “a **child** born with cerebral palsy or mental retardation may need long-term care as could an **adult** coping with multiple sclerosis or an **elderly person** with Alzheimer’s disease.”

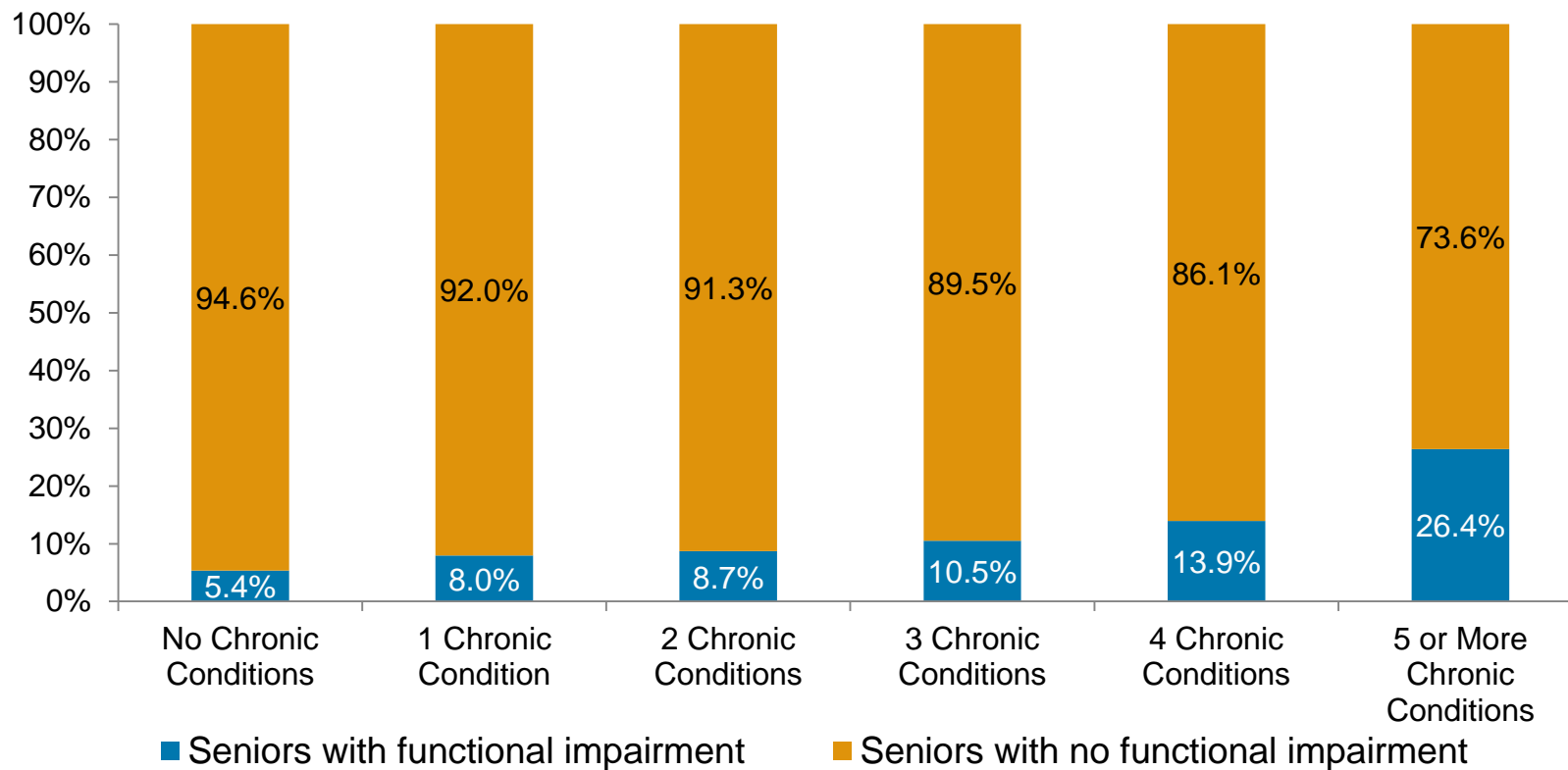
# Defining the Long-Term Care Population

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- Points of diversity
  - » Age
  - » Precipitating event or condition
  - » Place of residence
- Point of unification: the need for ongoing assistance with highly personal activities that are essential to everyday life, such as bathing, eating and dressing
- The measurement of long-term care need is in the inability to function (*functional impairment*) without assistance rather than in the underlying physiological presentation, such as chronic condition

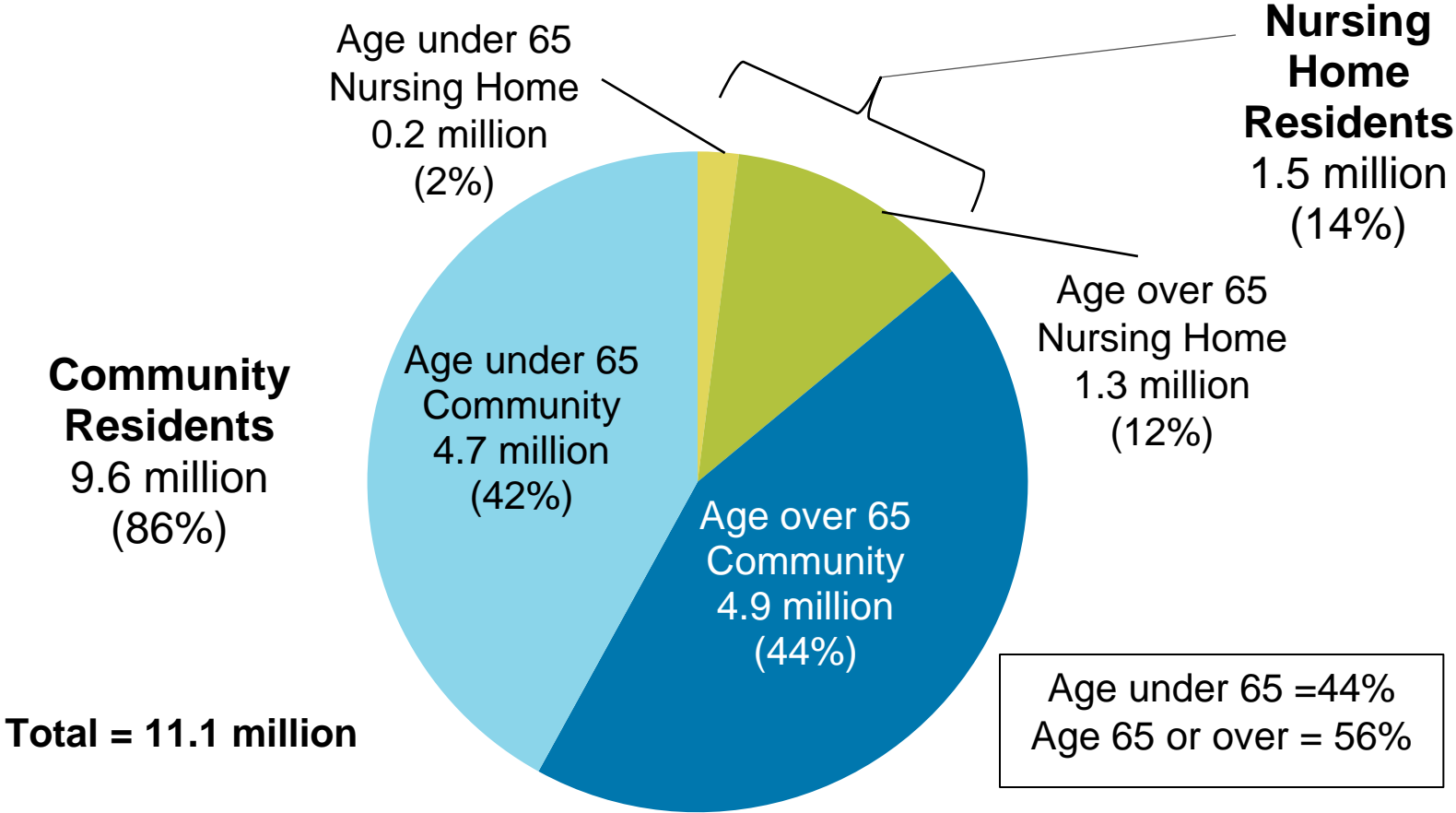
# Long-Term Care Need is Not Defined by Chronic Illness

## Medicare beneficiaries age 65 and over by functional impairment and number of chronic conditions, 2006



# Forty-Four Percent of The Long-Term Care Population is Under Age 65

## People with Long-Term Care Needs, 2007



Feder, J, and HL Komisar. The Importance of Federal Financing to the Nation's Long-Term Care Safety Net. February 2012. Authors' estimate based on Kaye, Harrington & LaPlante 2010 analysis of data from the 2007 National Health Interview Survey and the 2004 National Nursing Home Survey.

# Over Age 65 Demographics: Defined by Gender, Marital Status, Income

**Demographic and economic characteristics of the broadly defined LTC population ages 65+, by residential status, 2010**

	LTC population*			People without LTC needs
	Institutional residents	Community residents Households	Group quarters	
<b>Age and sex</b>				
Median age (years)	85	81	84	73
Female (%)	71.1	65.0	68.5	55.7
<b>Marital status (%)</b>				
Married	18.9	37.2	13.6	56.9
Widowed	58.4	45.9	46.8	26.3
Otherwise unmarried	22.8	16.9	39.5	16.9
<b>Educational attainment (%)</b>				
High school graduate	64.0	64.1	64.6	79.6
College graduate	10.5	12.9	16.4	22.4
<b>Income</b>				
Family income < FPL (%)	—	14.2	47.9	8.5
Family income < 200% FPL (%)	—	44.4	84.3	30.2
Median household income (\$)	—	32,800	—	42,000

Source: H. Stephen Kaye, Center for Personal Assistance Services, University of California San Francisco.

Tabulations of public use data from the American Community Survey.

Note: Poverty status is not determined for institutional residents.

\*People with difficulty bathing, dressing, or getting around inside the home.



# Under Age 65 Demographics: Not Defined by Gender – Income Gap Greater

**Demographic and economic characteristics of the broadly defined LTC population ages 5–64, by residential status, 2010**

	LTC population*			People without LTC needs
	Institutional residents	Community residents Households	Group quarters	
<b>Age and sex</b>				
Median age (years)	54	49	49	34
Female (%)	40.3	51.6	41.8	50.0
<b>Marital status (% of those 18+)</b>				
Married	17.0	39.6	2.5	51.1
Widowed	6.7	4.8	1.8	1.7
Otherwise unmarried	76.3	55.6	95.7	47.2
<b>Educational attainment (% of 18+)</b>				
High school graduate	63.6	72.8	38.0	87.2
College graduate	6.9	10.2	3.6	27.0
<b>Income</b>				
Family income < FPL (%)	—	29.0	72.2	15.2
Family income < 200% FPL (%)	—	55.6	96.3	33.3
Median household income (\$)	—	34,900	—	62,000

Source: H. Stephen Kaye, Center for Personal Assistance Services, University of California San Francisco.

Tabulations of public use data from the American Community Survey.

Note: Poverty status is not determined for institutional residents.

\*People with difficulty bathing, dressing, or getting around inside the home.



# Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia Affects Functioning in Over Age 65

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- People with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia represent an important subpopulation of the elderly long-term care population.
- Dementia is a general term for a decline in mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life.
- Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, accounting for 60-80% of cases. It will almost always result in very profound need for long-term care.



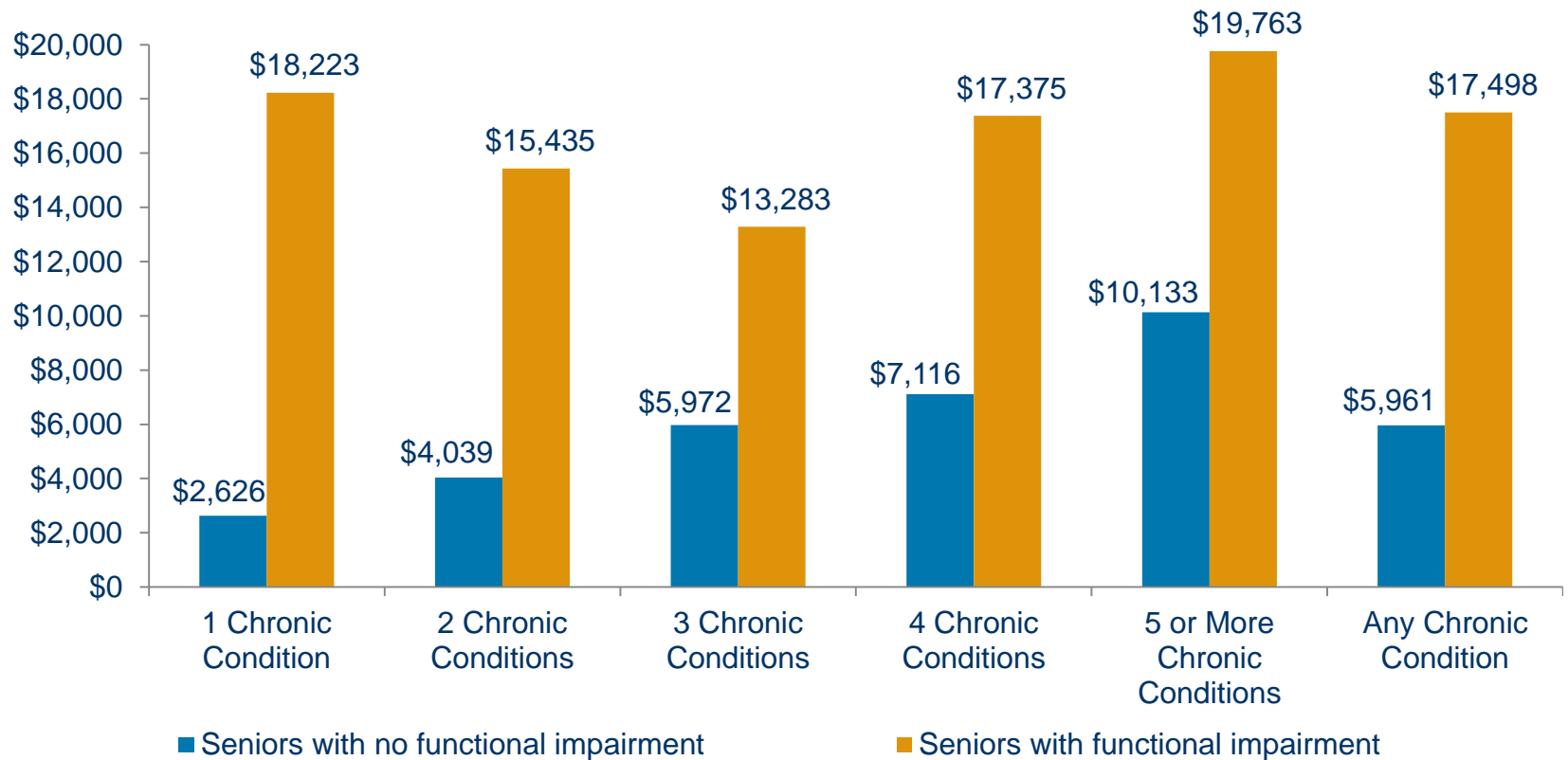
# Developmental Disabilities

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- People with developmental disabilities represent an important subpopulation of the non-elderly long-term care population.
- Developmental disabilities are a group of conditions due to an impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas. These conditions begin during the developmental period, may impact day-to-day functioning, and usually last throughout a person's lifetime.
- Some examples include autism, intellectual disability, cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy.

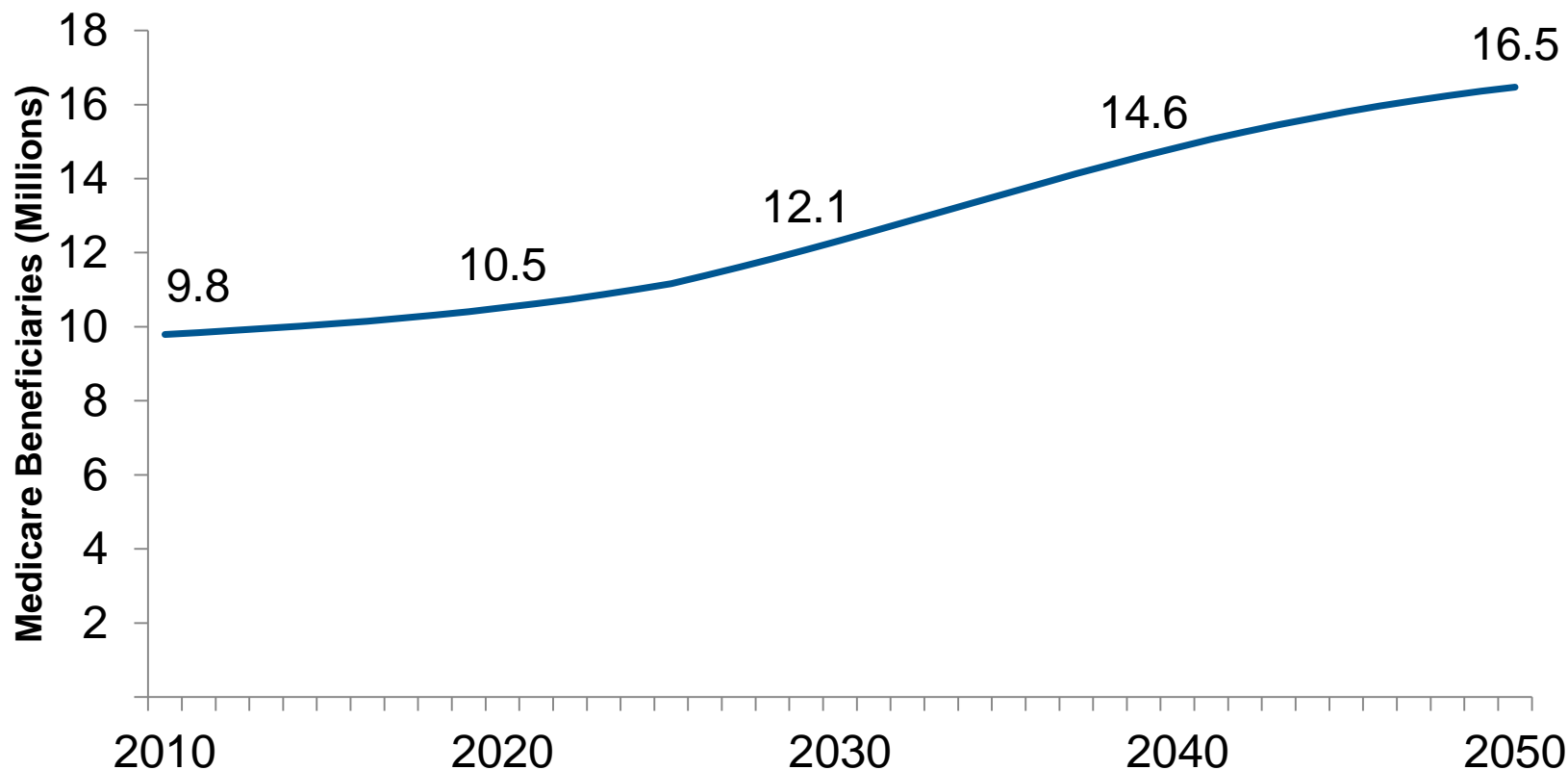
# People with Long-Term Care Need Also Have High Medical Care Use

**Annual Per Capita Medicare Spending in 2006, by Number of Chronic Conditions and Presence of Functional Impairment**



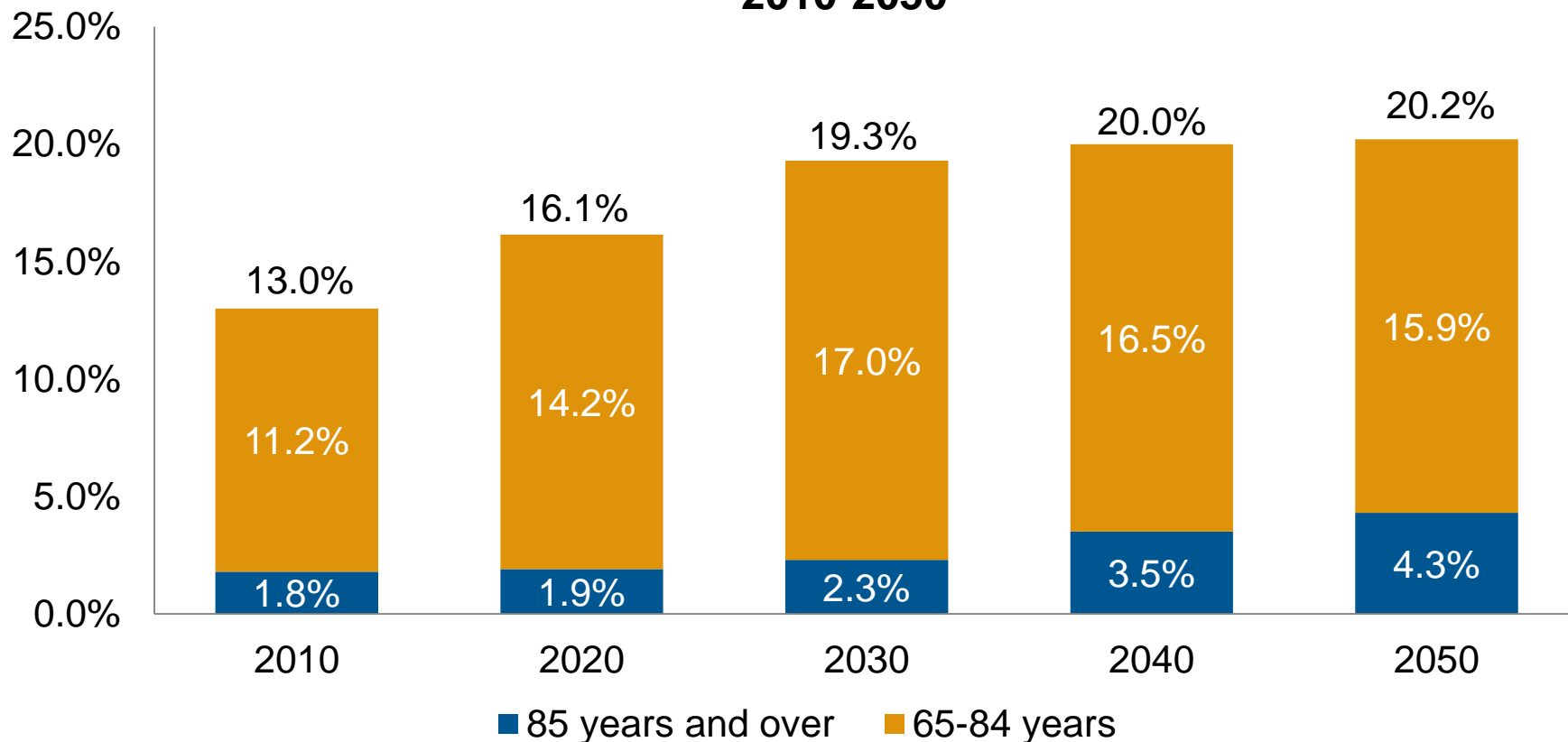
# Avalere Projects that the Size of the Long-Term Care Population will Increase by 70% from 2010 - 2050

**Projected Number of Medicare Beneficiaries with at Least One ADL, Cognitive Impairment, or MR/DD, in Millions, 2010-2050**



# Over-Age 65 Demographics Will Drive Size of Future Long-Term Care Population

## Older Americans as a Percentage of the Total US Population, 2010-2050



Feder J., and H Komisar. The Importance of Federal financing to the Nation's Long-Term Care Safety Net. 2012. Data in this figure are based on C. Werner, The Older Populations: 2010, U.S. Census Bureau, November 2011 and Projections for 2020-2050 from U.S. Census Bureau, "Table 3, Percent distribution of the projected population by selected age groups and sex for the United States: 2010 to 2050." August 14, 2008.