

INSITE #3: AGE TRENDS

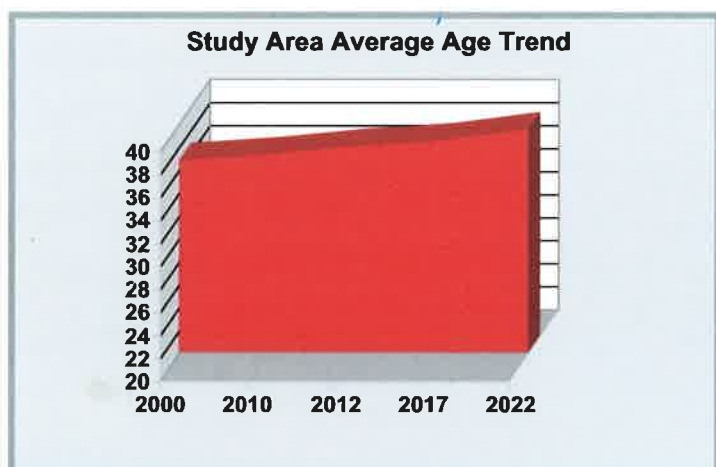
A community's age structure and how it is changing is an important part of its story. Overall, the American Population has been aging as the Baby Boomers progress through each phase of life. This has been abetted by episodes of declining live births. However this picture may particularize differently from community to community. There are communities in the US where the average age is lower than some others. In other cases, there is a clear shift toward senior years as the Boomers enter their retirement years.

The Age Trend Insite explores two variables: Average age and Phase of Life.

Average Age Trends provides five important snapshots of a community from five data points; the 2000 census, the last census, the current year estimate, the five year projection and the ten year forecast. These five numbers will indicate the aging direction of a community.

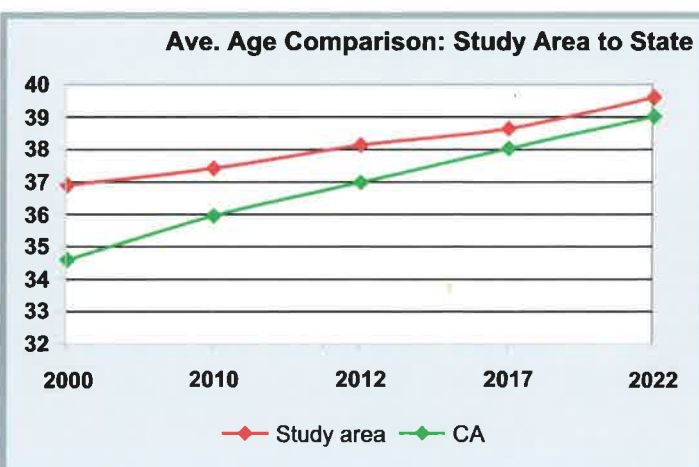
The Phase of Life Trends breaks the population into seven life phases that the population passes through in its life time.

AGE					
<i>Average Age Trends</i>					
	2000	2010	2012	2017	2022
Average Age: Study Area	36.90	37.43	38.14	38.65	39.61
Percent Change		1.4%	1.9%	1.3%	2.5%
Average Age: CA	34.60	35.96	36.99	38.03	39.02
Percent Change		3.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.6%
Comparative Index	107	104	103	102	101
Median Age: Study Area	33	36	37	39	41



Summary of Average Age Findings:

The Average Age Trend chart shows both history and projection of the change in average age in the study area. The average age of the study area has been rising for several years. It is projected to rise over the next five years.



A comparison to the average age of the state helps to contextualize the significance of the average age of the study area and its history and projection. In the graph above, the study area and state are laid out side by side. The state's average age is estimated to be about the same as the study area.