

Hoosier Seniors Are Struggling

Indiana 211 Partnership Community Report—February 2016

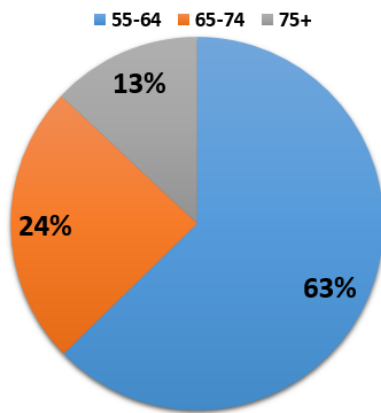


Etta*, a 72 year old Fort Wayne resident, called 2-1-1 needing help paying her gas bill. During the assessment, the 2-1-1 Specialist learned that Etta had a gap in her Medicare coverage, which meant she was spending quite a bit out-of-pocket on her prescriptions, making it difficult to meet her basic needs (including heat for her home). After getting Etta the information on how to apply for energy assistance, the Specialist also connected her to a senior advocacy program that could help her find affordable supplemental insurance options.

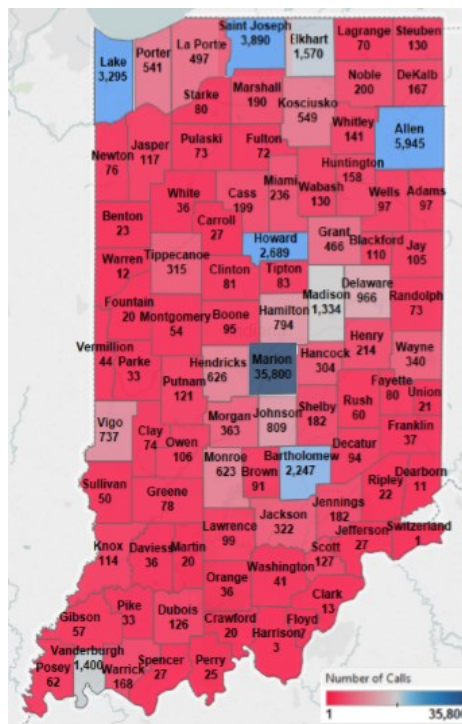
**name changed to protect confidentiality*

Current demographics¹ show that **25%** of Hoosiers are 55 years old or older. Population forecasts² project that by 2040, the **Hoosier senior population (65 and over) will have increased by 90%**. While many look forward to enjoying their Golden Years, too many seniors are finding it's a struggle just to make ends meet. In 2015, **over 72,000 senior Hoosiers** called 2-1-1 looking for help. This accounts for **22%** of 2-1-1 calls, closely mirroring the statewide demographic data. These senior callers reported **over 99,000** needs and were given **116,000** referrals for help. Not all needs were able to met, however; **9%** or **9,300** needs, were marked as unmet, mainly due to lack of programs or capacity to meet the need.

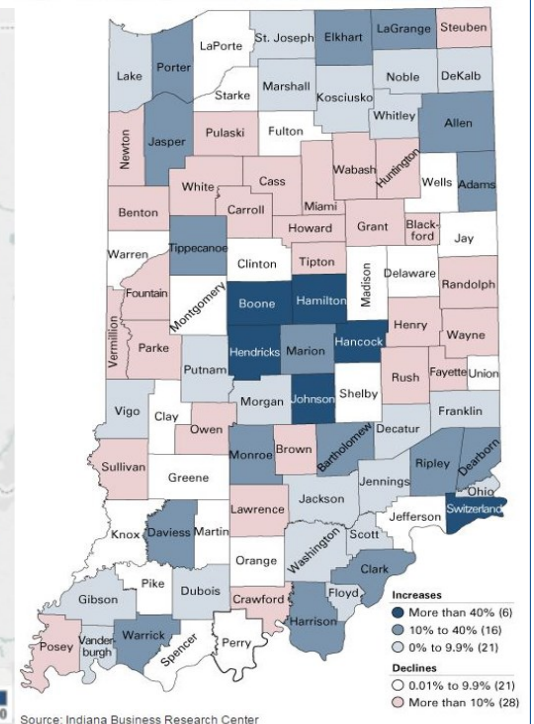
Ages of Senior Callers



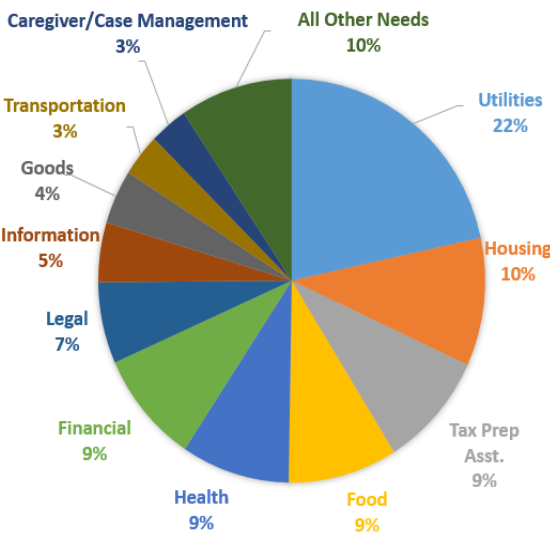
Senior 2-1-1 Calls for 2015



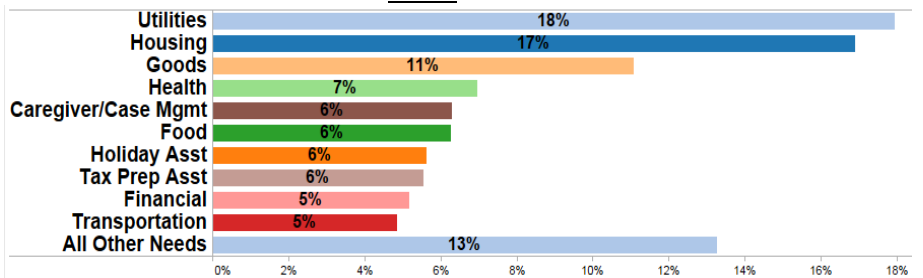
Projected Senior Population Change 2010 to 2050



Seniors' Needs for 2015



Seniors' Unmet Needs for 2015



Call **2-1-1**

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