Planning for California’s Growing Senior Population

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California’s senior population is growing and changing

- Projected to grow by 4 million people by 2030
- Will be more racially and ethnically diverse
- More than one million will require some assistance with daily activities
  - Only 10% of this group will require nursing home care
- Large increases likely in the number of seniors needing support to age in place, at home
This population will nearly double by 2030 …

Source: California Department of Finance, December 2014.
... with strong growth in every ethnic group

Source: California Department of Finance.
More will be divorced/separated or have never married

Source: Author calculations based on the American Community Survey and Decennial Census.
These changes point to new and different needs

- Racial and ethnic diversity creates a need for culturally competent care
- Seniors living alone are more likely to require assistance with daily life
  - Never married adults less likely to have children, so may have fewer care resources
- Nursing home usage has fallen across age groups since 1990
  - Greater preference among providers and patients for aging in place
The number of seniors facing difficulties with self care will almost double.

Source: ACS and Decennial Census and author calculations.
Most seniors with self-care difficulties will be living at home

Source: ACS and Decennial Census and author calculations.
How can California prepare to support our seniors?

- There will be a greater need for services and workers to support seniors at home
- Medi-Cal is a major payer for nursing homes, as well as home and community-based services
- The In-Home Supportive services program can supplement the workforce and address the need for cultural competency
- Educational institutions will play an important role in training health care workers
Notes on the use of these slides

These slides were created to accompany a presentation. They do not include full documentation of sources, data samples, methods, and interpretations. To avoid misinterpretations, please contact:

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Thank you for your interest in this work.