

Alaska Mental Health Trust

January 24, 2023



Alaska Commission on Aging

Alaska Department of Health

Commission Members

Bob Sivertsen, Public Member, Chair, Ketchikan

Paula Pawlowski, Public Member, Anchorage

Nona Safra, Public Member, Homer

Michael Coons, Public Member, Palmer

Jan Engan, Public Member, Palmer

Bob Pawlowski, Pioneer Home Advisory Board Chair, Anchorage

Pam Samash, Public Member, Nenana

Darlene Supplee, Senior Service Provider, Fairbanks

Anthony Newman, Department of Health, Juneau

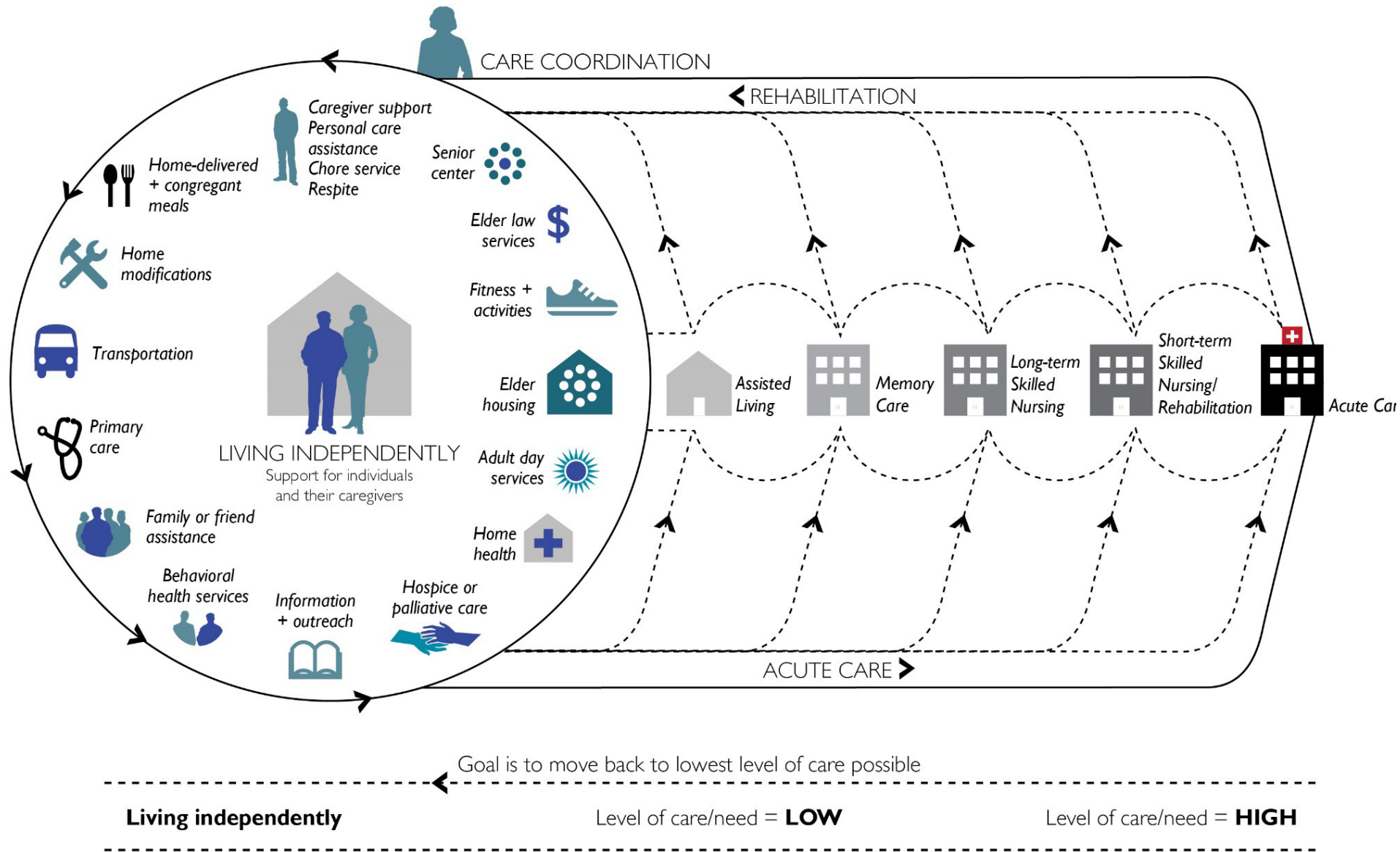
Lisa Von Bargen, Department of Commerce, Anchorage

The Commission on Aging

“The mission of the Alaska Commission on Aging is to ensure the dignity and independence of all older Alaskans, and to assist them to lead useful and meaningful lives through planning, advocacy, education, and interagency cooperation.”

- Established by Alaska statute in 1981
 - *Advocates* for the needs and concerns of older Alaskans to the Governor, Legislature, Congressional delegation, and the public.
 - *Advises* the Governor, Legislature, Congressional delegation and the public on current and potential programs and services for older Alaskans and their caregivers.
 - *Provides recommendations* to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority on programs and services to improve the lives of senior Trust beneficiaries

Long-term Continuum of Care for Seniors



Presentation Outline

- ACoA Updates
- Snapshot
- State Plan
- Survey Data
- Advocacy Priorities



Updates



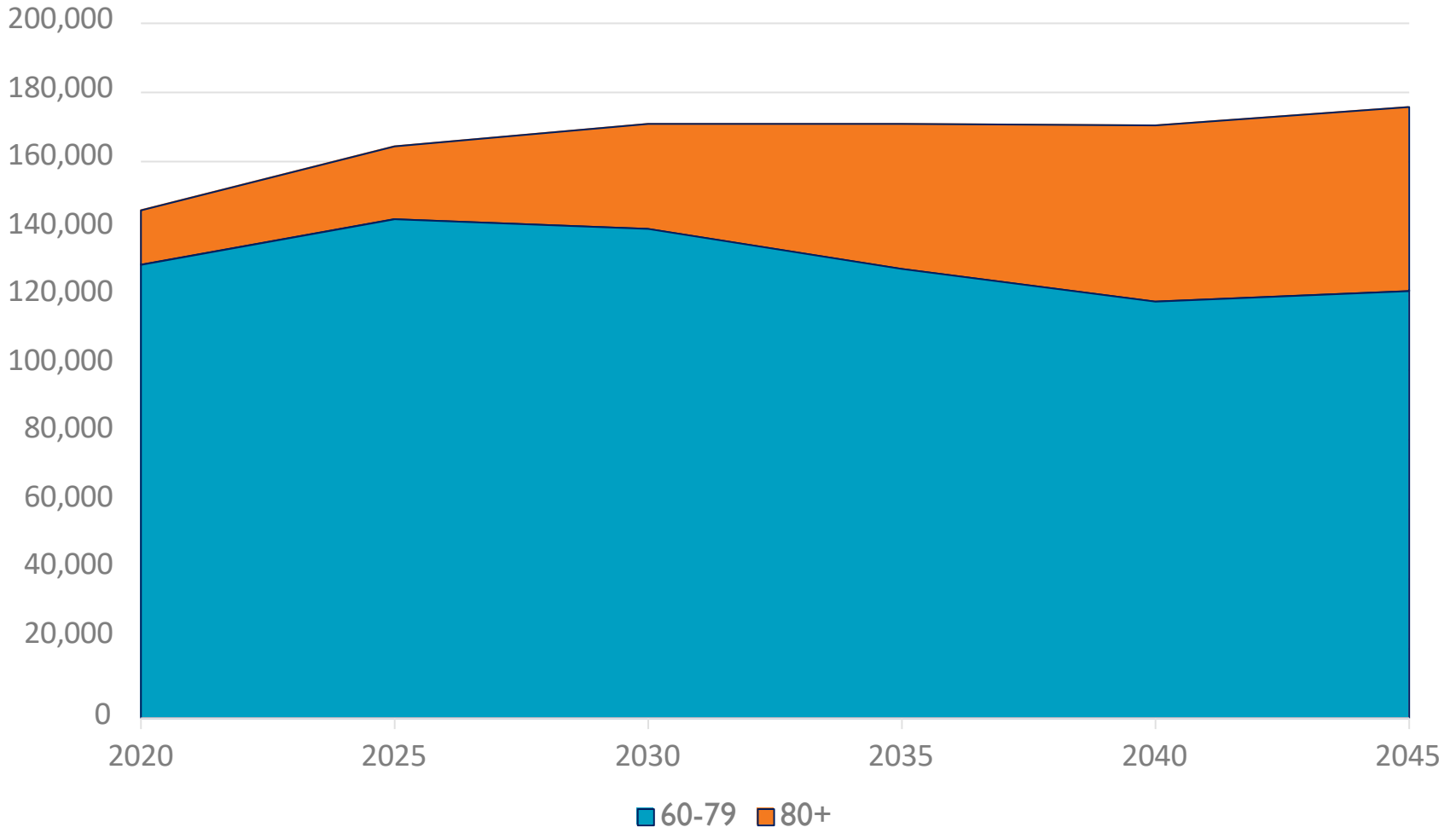
- 2022 Senior Snapshot published on ACoA's website
- Sunset Audit started at ACoA
- Lunch and Learn (Feb 1)
- State Plan Advisory Meeting on February 27, 2023
- Rural Outreach

Alaska's Senior Population

Senior Snapshot

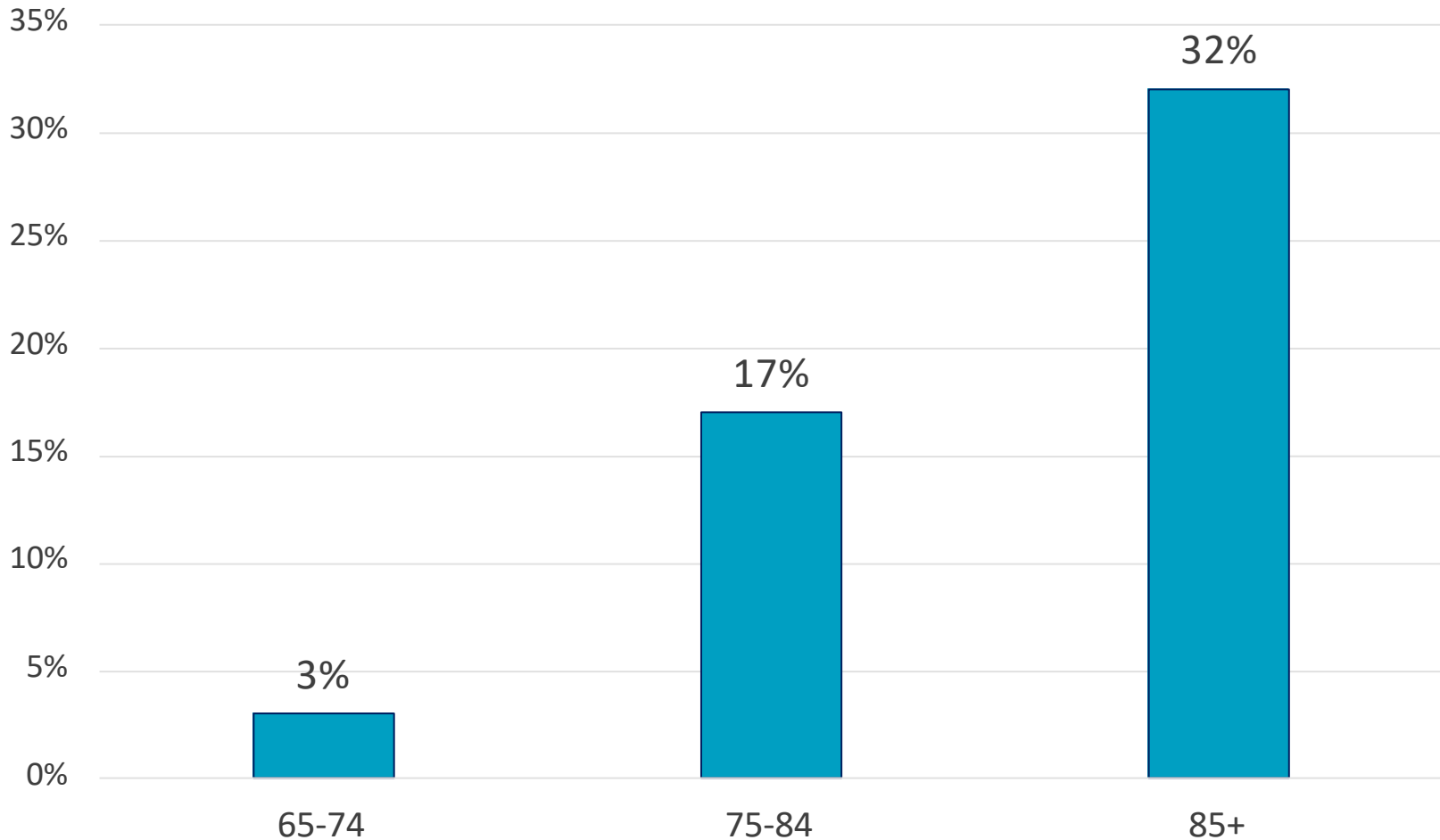
- In 2022, Alaskans age 60+ represent more than 20% of the State's total population.
- Alaska's 60+ population increased by 62% between April 2010 and July of 2021.
- Alaska's 85+ population increased by 87% between April 2010 and July of 2021.
- Alaska's 85+ population is expected to increase by 500% between 2022 and 2050 to 30,000 seniors, of which, 1/3 will experience Alzheimer's and Related Dementia.

Senior Population Projection



Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Population Projections through 2045

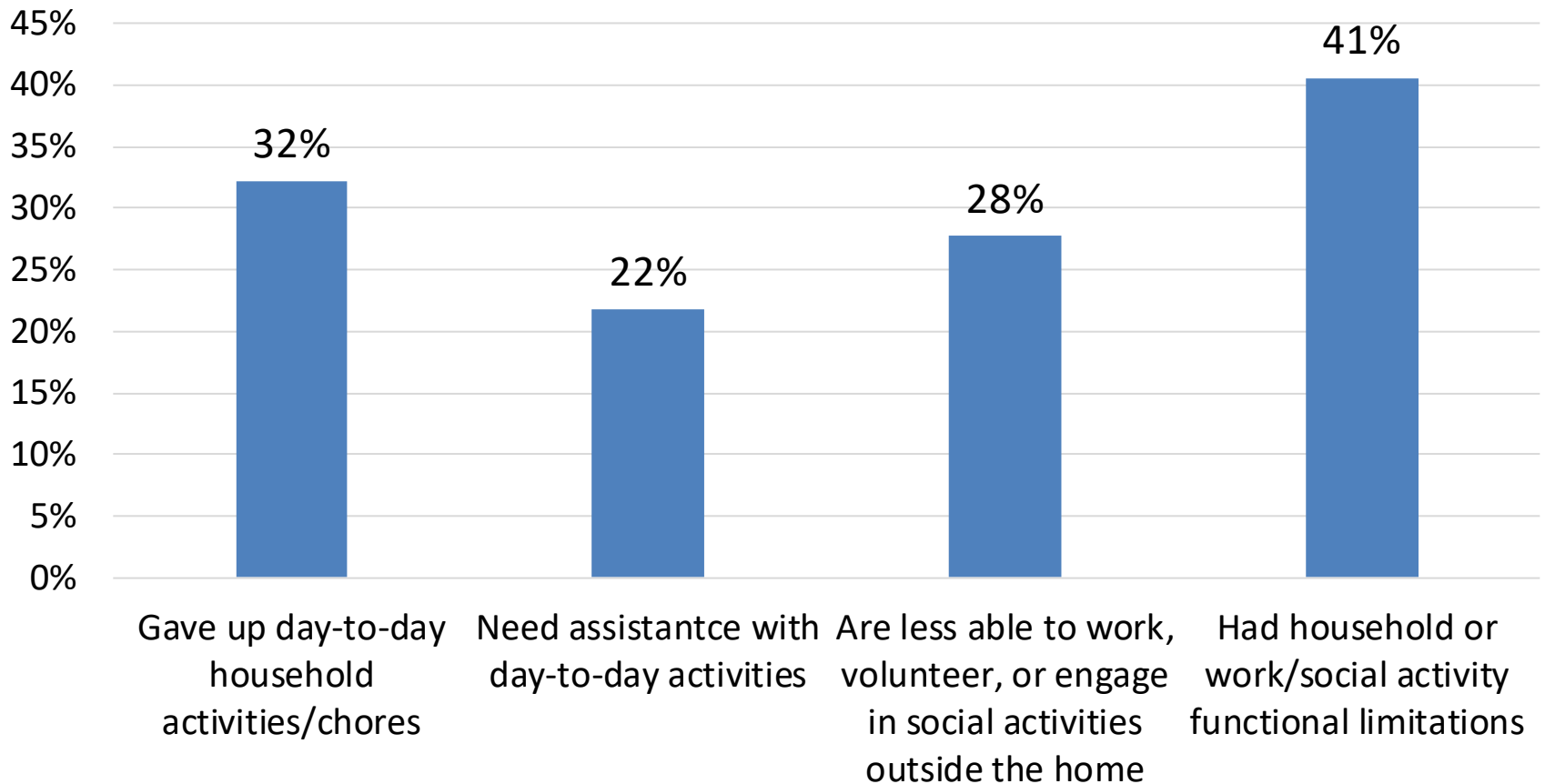
Rates of Alzheimer's Disease Increases with Age



Source: Alzheimer's Association, 2019 Alzheimer's Statistics Facts and Figures Report. Projections. Note: Estimates do not include the related dementia that is not considered Alzheimer's.

Potential Impacts of ADRD

People 60+ with subjective cognitive decline (SCD) reported that due to their SCD they:

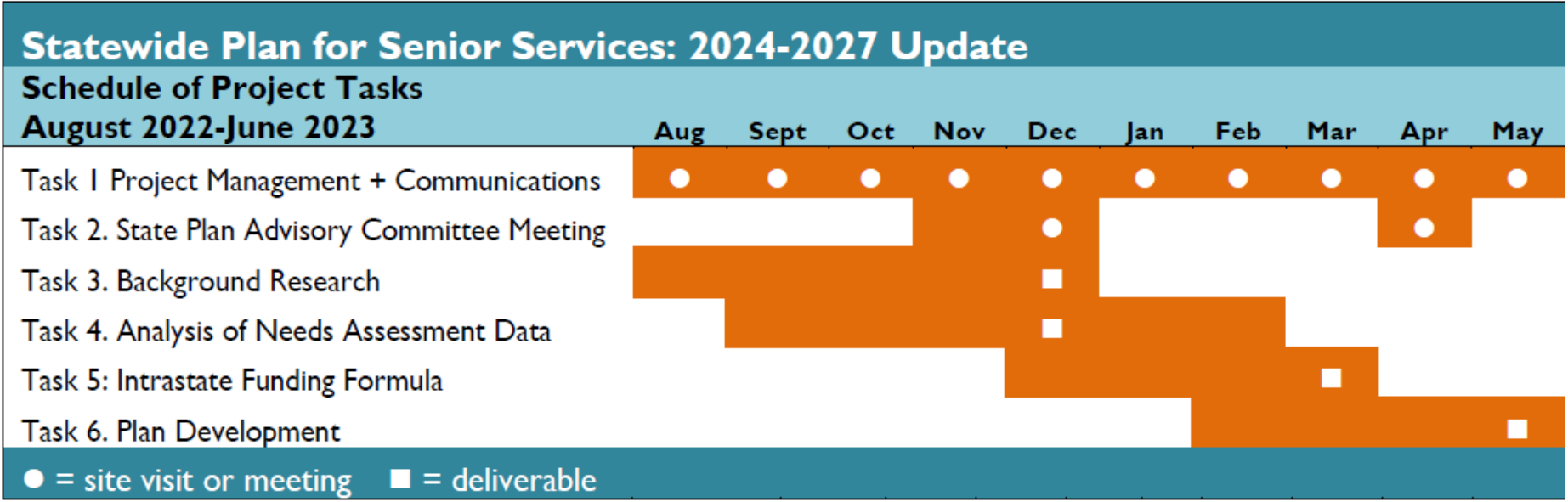


What is the Alaska State Plan for Senior Services?

- Satisfies a federal requirement for all states receiving federal funds under the Older Americans Act for their senior programs and services.
- Vision statement along with a core set of goals, objectives, strategies, performance measures, and an intrastate funding formula.
- Alaska's plan is a four-year comprehensive plan for senior services including: meals, transportation, homemaker and family caregiver, services safety and protection, adult day, senior housing, vocational training, legal assistance, and more.
- The current plan expires on June 30, 2023 in accordance with Biden-Harris priorities

State Plan for Senior Services: FY24-FY27

Timeline



State Plan for Senior Services: FY2024 to 2027

Needs Assessment

Senior Survey

- Targeted survey for Alaskans age 55+
- Used to learn about priorities from a senior perspective

Elder Listening Sessions

- Conversations with Seniors and Public Members
- Targeted questions to identify what is and is not working for seniors in Alaskan Communities.

Provider Survey

- Targeted survey for community-based service provider agencies and community health centers
- Demonstrate the needs and considerations of service providers

Provider Survey 2022 - Key Findings

Top five issues facing seniors and their families:

- Independent living senior housing
- Assisted transportation
- Assisted living services
- Homemaker assistance

Biggest roadblocks to providers:

- Workforce shortages
- Senior population growth
- Lack of sufficient funding
- Overcoming setbacks from the pandemic

Senior Survey Findings

What service(s) do you believe are needed in your community?

	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT
(c) Health Care Services	84.25% 4,077	12.77% 618	2.23% 108
(e) Affordable and accessible housing	70.36% 3,400	20.36% 984	8.03% 388
(i) Services for seniors with dementia and support for their families	64.76% 3,122	25.22% 1,216	7.53% 363
(j) Senior protection	64.28% 3,084	24.84% 1,192	8.69% 417
(d) Transportation	60.68% 2,923	30.23% 1,456	8.32% 401

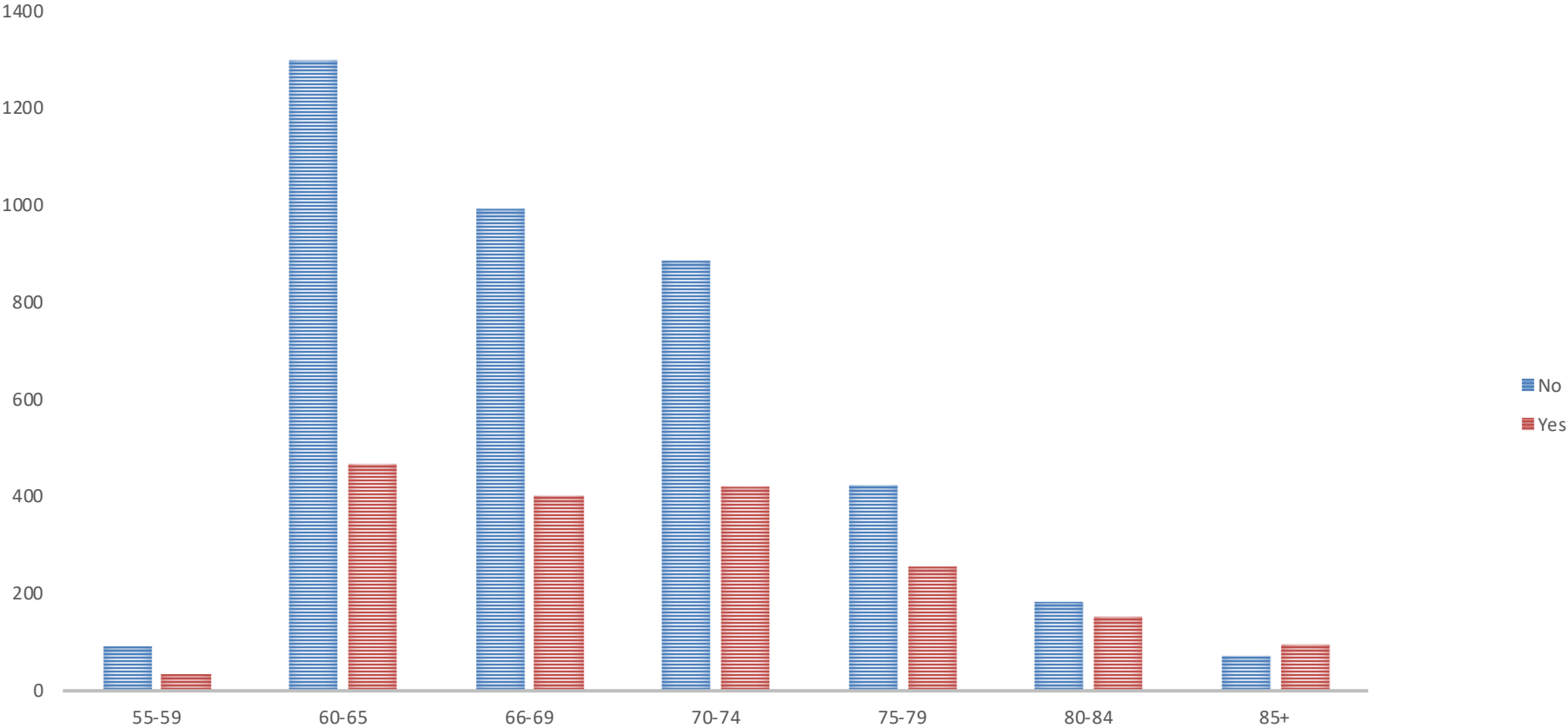
Senior Survey Findings

Please rate the importance of the following concerns based on how much they affect you.

	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT
(c) Maintaining physical health	86.66% 4,457	12.66% 651	0.58% 30
(a) Access to health care	85.05% 4,382	12.97% 668	1.75% 90
(b) Financial security	83.54% 4,279	14.10% 722	2.11% 108
(f) Having enough food to eat	62.50% 3,203	22.95% 1,176	14.40% 738
(d) Fuel costs	60.97% 3,118	28.47% 1,456	10.13% 518
(g) Affordable and accessible housing	58.31% 2,981	21.87% 1,118	18.88% 965

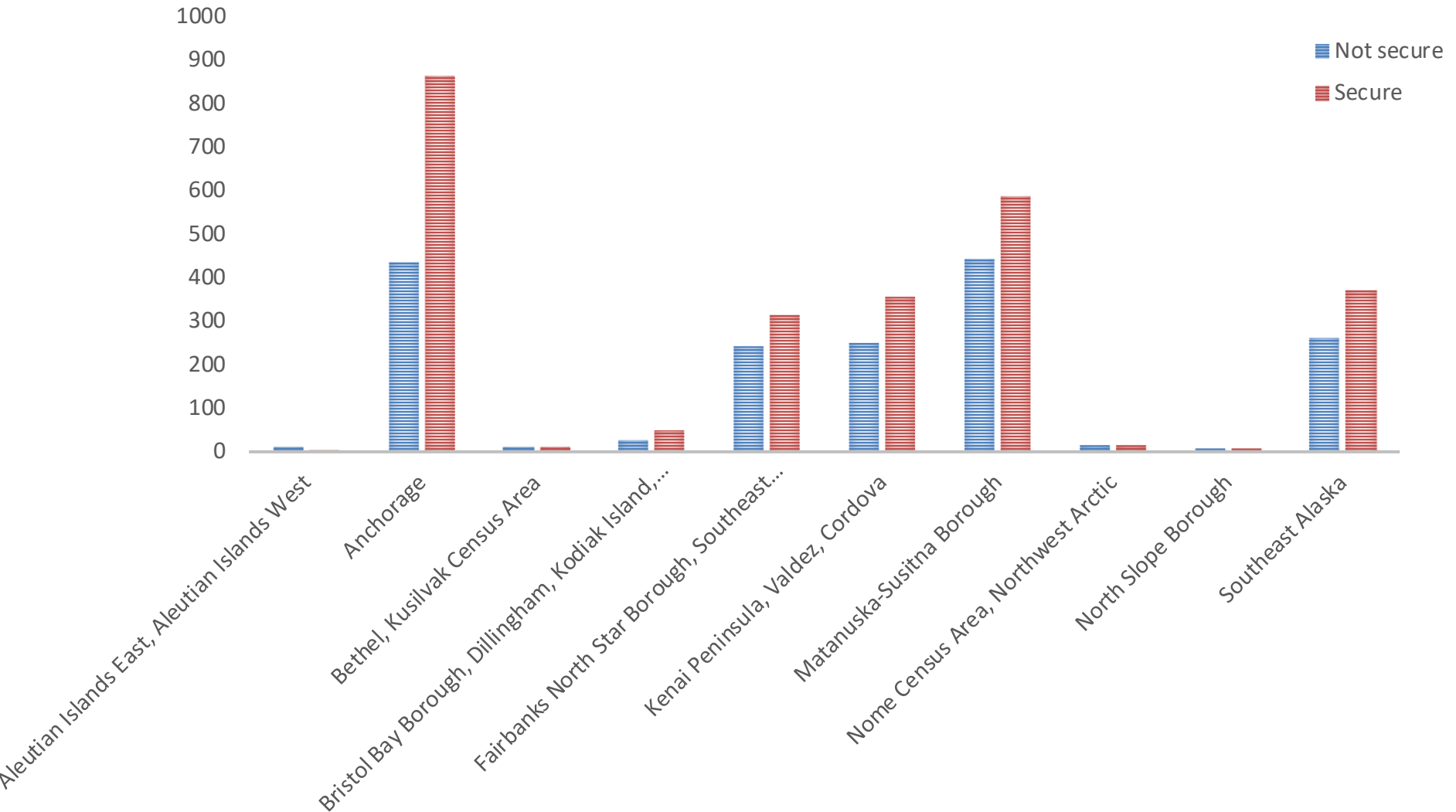
Senior Survey Findings

Do you live alone?



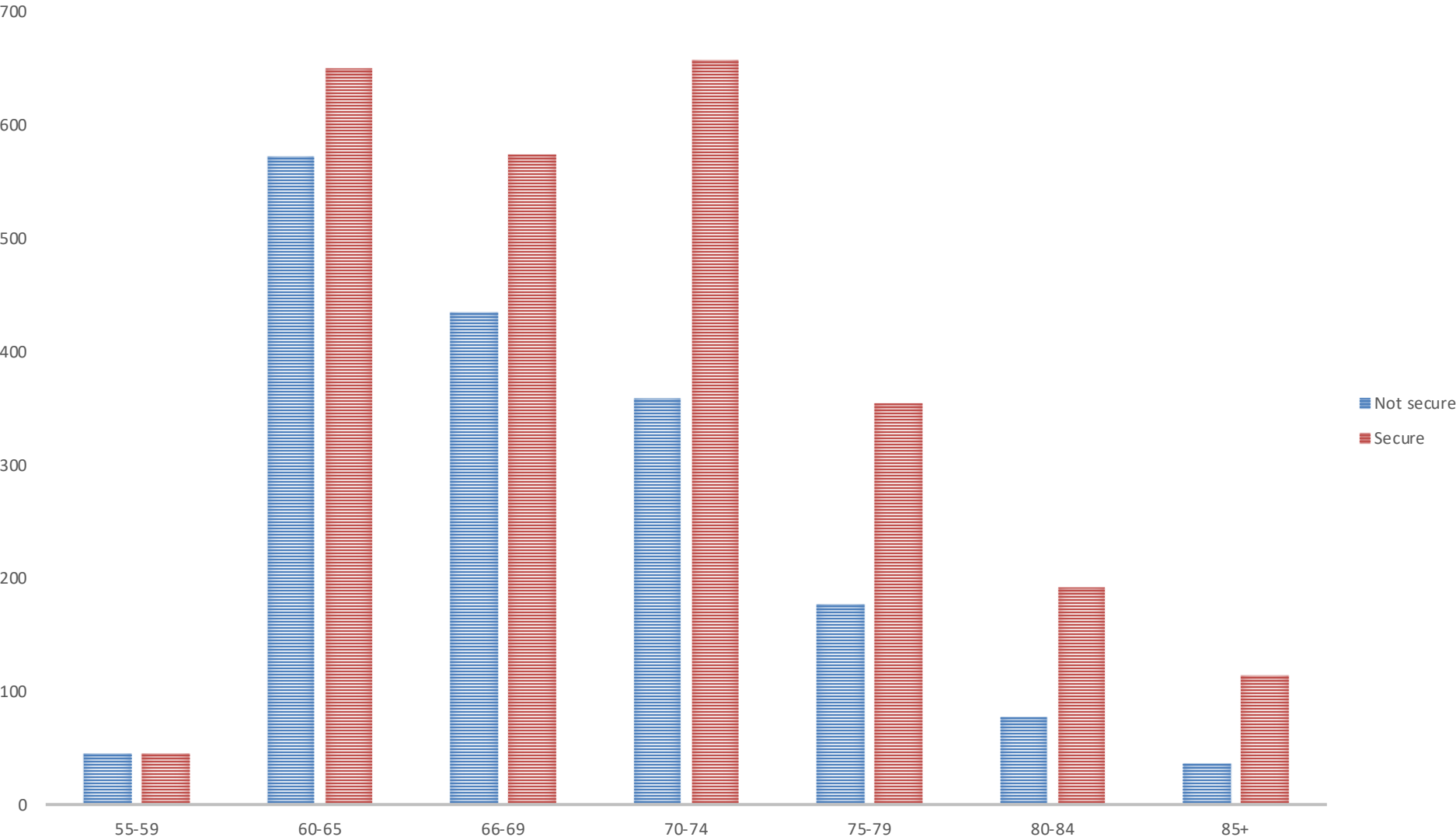
Senior Survey Findings

How secure are you in handling unanticipated expenses? By region.



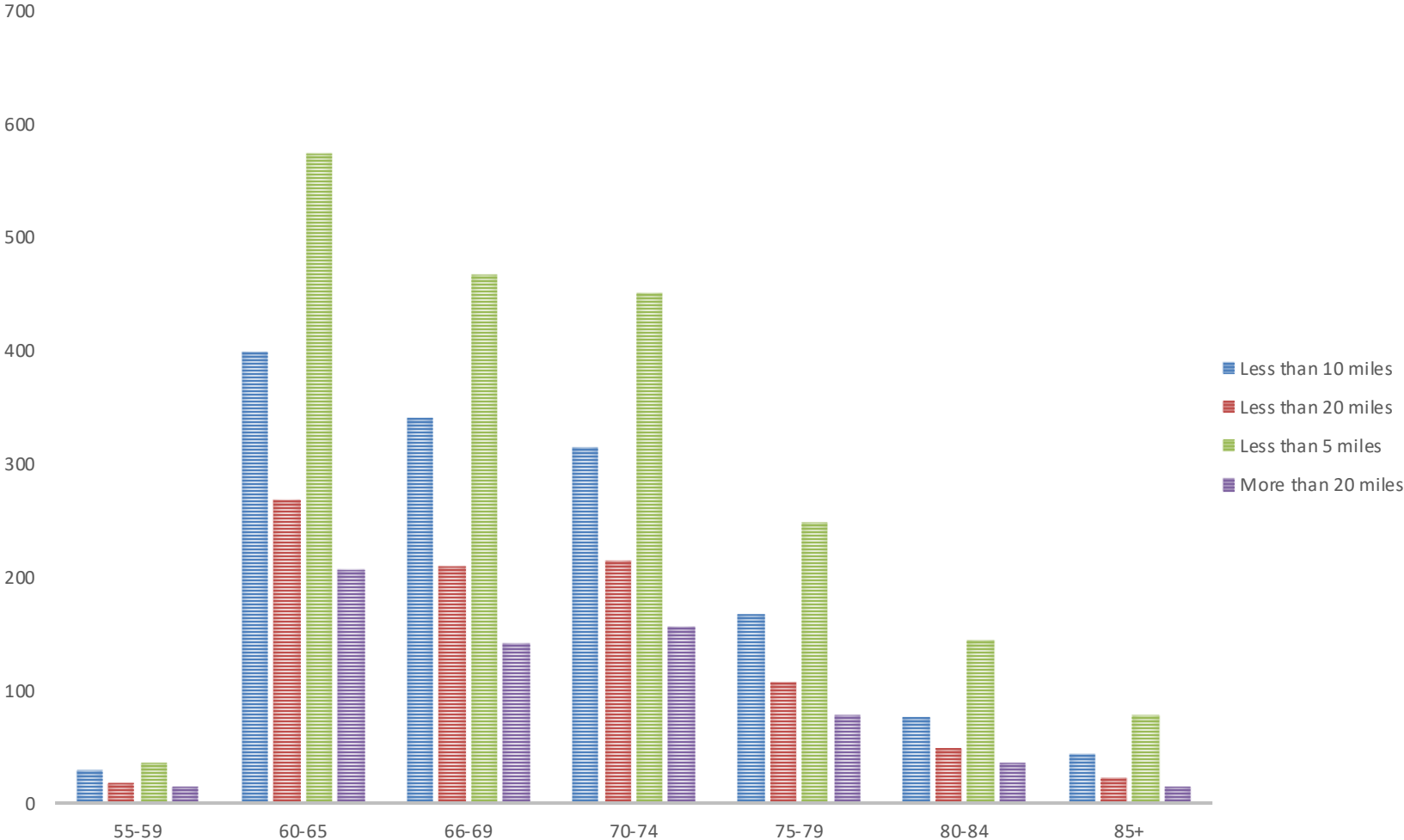
Senior Survey Findings

How secure are you in handling unanticipated expenses? By age group.



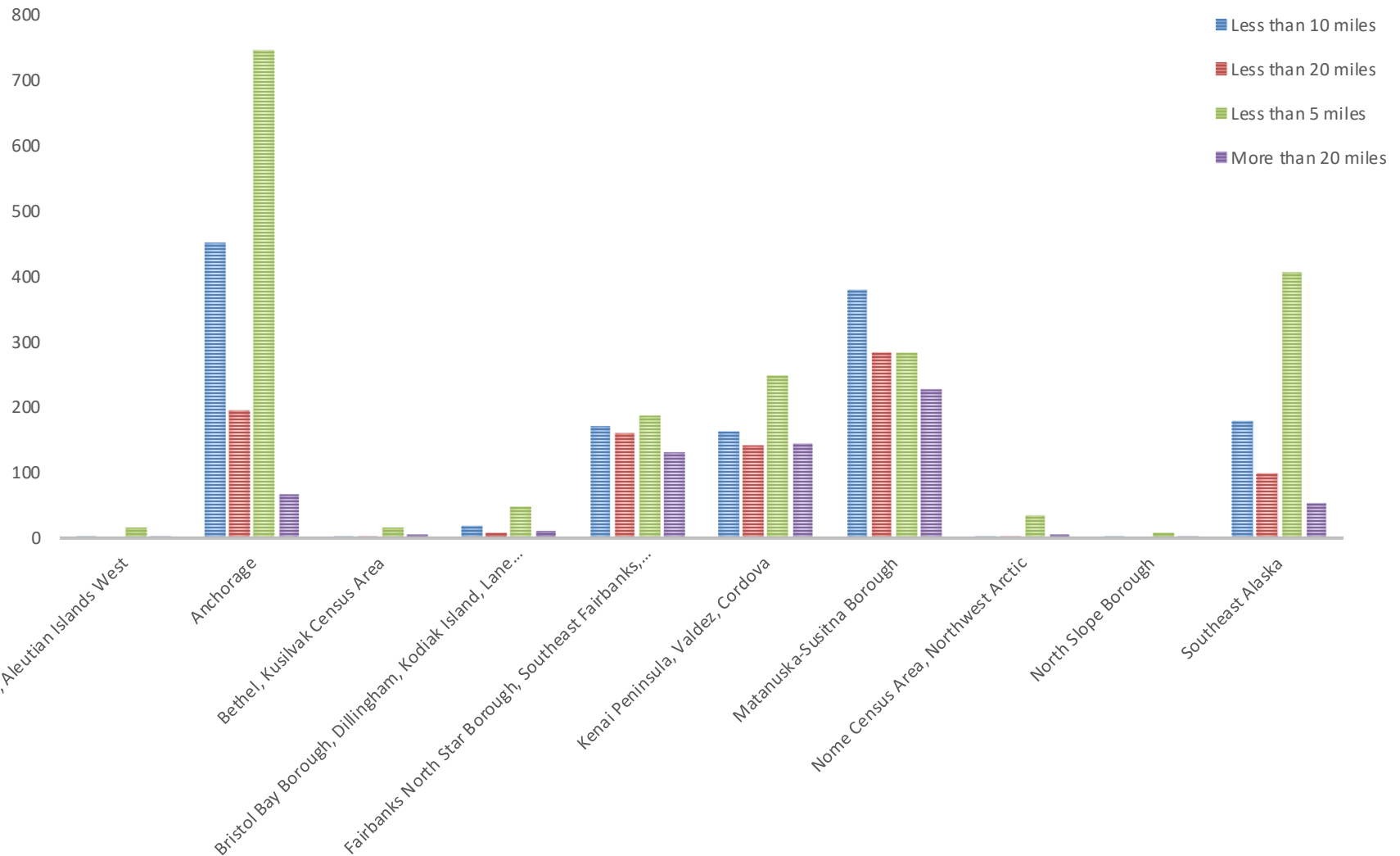
Senior Survey Findings

How far do you have to travel?



Senior Survey Findings

How far do you have to travel?



Moving Forward

Identify SPA Advisory Committee Members

Set Meeting Schedule

Senior Needs Assessment

Develop recommendations for Needs Assessment

Approval of Needs Assessment

Distribution and Data Collection

Input Data

Analyze Data

Present Data from Listening Sessions & Needs Assessments

Develop Goals and Objectives

Address Strategies and Performance Outcomes

Funding Formula

Review Current Funding Formula: Census Data, Regions, Definition for various Factors, Assign Weights to Factors, Distribution of Federal and State Funds

Advocacy Priorities

Increase funding directed at Alaska's senior population:

to ensure that older Alaskans have access to critical services to meet their living needs.

to help providers and seniors curb the impacts of rising prices.

Advocacy Priorities

Ensure Older Alaskans have access to critical home and community-based services:

to meet their basic needs by matching the growth in services to the growth in the senior population.

to provide core services such as congregate and home delivered meals, transportation, health promotion, caregiver support and other support services.

to support Medicaid Waiver and Community First Choice programs.

to provide assistance with home modification.

Advocacy Priorities

Support Capital Funding for Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's Senior Housing Development Fund

Housing remains a top concern for seniors.

Advocacy Priorities

Improve access to transportation services

Advocacy Priorities

Expand services for the growing population impacted by Alzheimer's and Related Dementia (ARD):

as prevalence is anticipated to grow substantially due to growth in the populations of seniors 85+.

as medical professionals are sparse across Alaska.

to address future demand day-to-day services.

Questions?

