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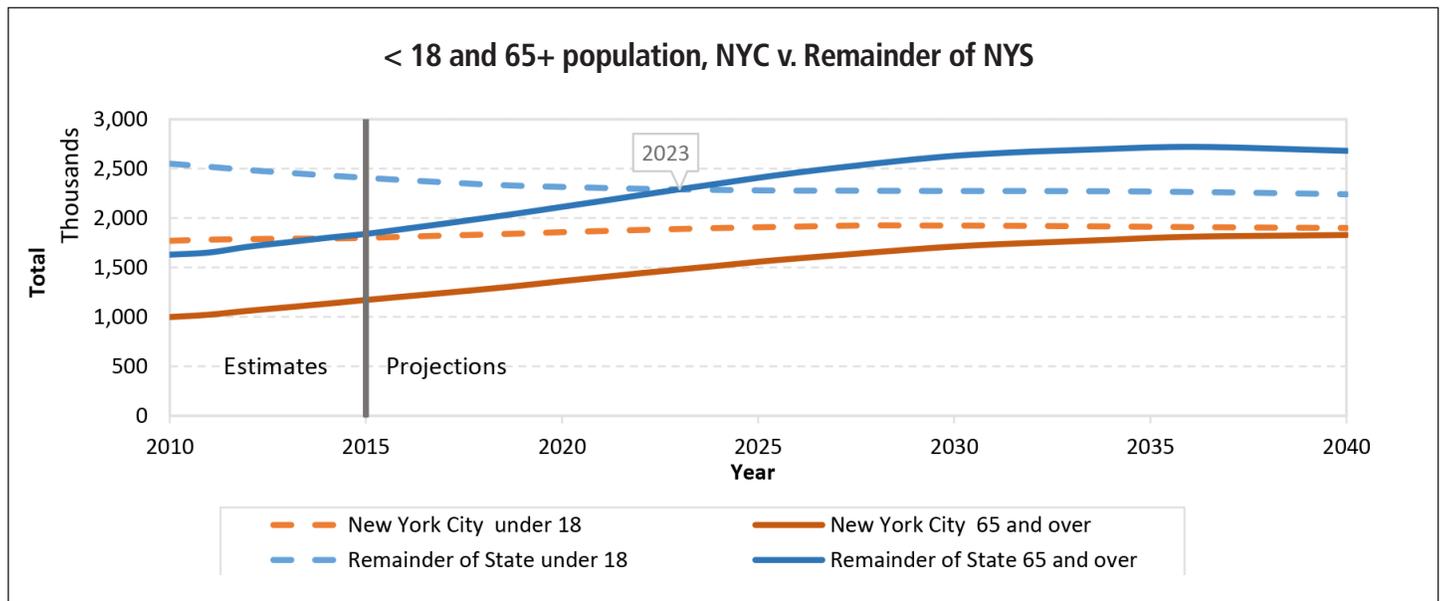
Trends among older and younger populations in New York State

By Adriana Hernandez, Jan Vink and Robin Blakely-Armitage, Cornell University

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released a tip sheet with the headline “Older People Projected to Outnumber Children for the First Time in U.S. History.”¹ This turning point is projected to occur by 2035, largely due to the decline in natural increase (births-deaths). Along with concerns about the long-term fiscal stability of the Social Security system, the graying of our society raises important health care issues, along with other economic and social challenges and opportunities.

In New York State, recently released projections through 2040² vary dramatically for New York City (NYC) compared to the rest of the state. NYC has a significantly larger population aged under 18

compared to age 65 and over. And while the city’s older population is expected to increase over time (from 12% to 19% of the total population), it is not projected to overtake the under 18 population before mid-century. Looking at the projections for the remainder of the state is another story; the number of persons age 65+ is projected to overtake the under 18 population by 2023, well ahead of the U.S. trend of 2035. The remainder of the state’s 65 and older population increases from just under 15% of the total in 2010 to almost 24% by the year 2040. The real (and relative) decline of younger people outside of NYC will impact schools and future labor markets, as just two examples.



¹<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2018/cb18-41-population-projections.html>
²<https://pad.human.cornell.edu/counties/projections.cfm>

Additional Resources:

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2018/cb18-41-population-projections.html>
<https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2016/06/the-graying-of-rural-america/485159/>



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