

The Cole Camp Service Area has a population of 5,316 according to the 2000 Census of Population and Housing. The area is 51.0 percent female and 49.0 percent male. Almost a quarter of the population is 60 and older (compared to 17.6 percent statewide and 21.2 percent in the 13-county Care Connection Area).

The area's seniors age 55 and older are primarily Caucasian (97.9%). The area also has 112 persons age 55 and older of other races. The area is also home to 42 Hispanics age 55 and older.

More than half (57.9%) of the households with householder age 65 and older reside in family households. This is just slightly under the state percentage of 61.3 percent. The Cole Camp Service Area has about the same proportion of persons 65 and older living alone – 30.5 percent compared to 30.2 percent both statewide and for the 13-county Care Connection Area.

The Cole Camp Service Area has a slightly higher rate of seniors living below poverty. The poverty rate of persons 65 and older is 11.8 percent compared to 9.9 percent statewide and 11.7 percent in the 13-county area. Likewise, for persons 75 and older the rate is 18.0 percent compared to 12.3 percent statewide and 14.7 percent in the overall Care Connection Area.

There are 2,218 occupied housing units in this service area in which the occupant is age 55 and older. The most likely seniors to be owners are ages 65 to 74 (87.7%). Those least likely to own are persons age 75 and older (82.0%). According to the 2000 Census, the a rather large proportion of the housing stock in this service area was built before 1960 (39.2%). Only 12.2 percent of housing stock was built between 1995 and 2000.

Disabilities are tallied per disability, i.e., a person with multiple disabilities would be counted multiple times – one for each disability. The ratio of disabilities per population age 65 and older is 70.3 in the Cole Camp Area. The most common disability tallied was physical disability (24.8%) followed by “go-outside-home” disability (18.0%), sensory disability (13.3%), mental disability (7.7%), and self-care disability (6.4%).

More than half of persons age 65 and older in this area reported being married-couples in the 2000 Census (53.5%). Another 34.0 percent reported being widowed. As would be expected, the most likely to report being widowed are those age 85 and older (64.4%). This is slightly higher than the state rate of 63.2 percent and the 13-county area rate of 60.5 percent.

The Cole Camp Service Area had a slightly lower percentage of persons 65 and older who had completed high school (30.9%) than the state (33.9%) or the 13-county area (38.3%). Almost four percent of Cole Camp area citizens reported having a Bachelor's Degree according to the 2000 Census.