



# AGE AND AGING

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# Table of Contents

## Points to discuss:

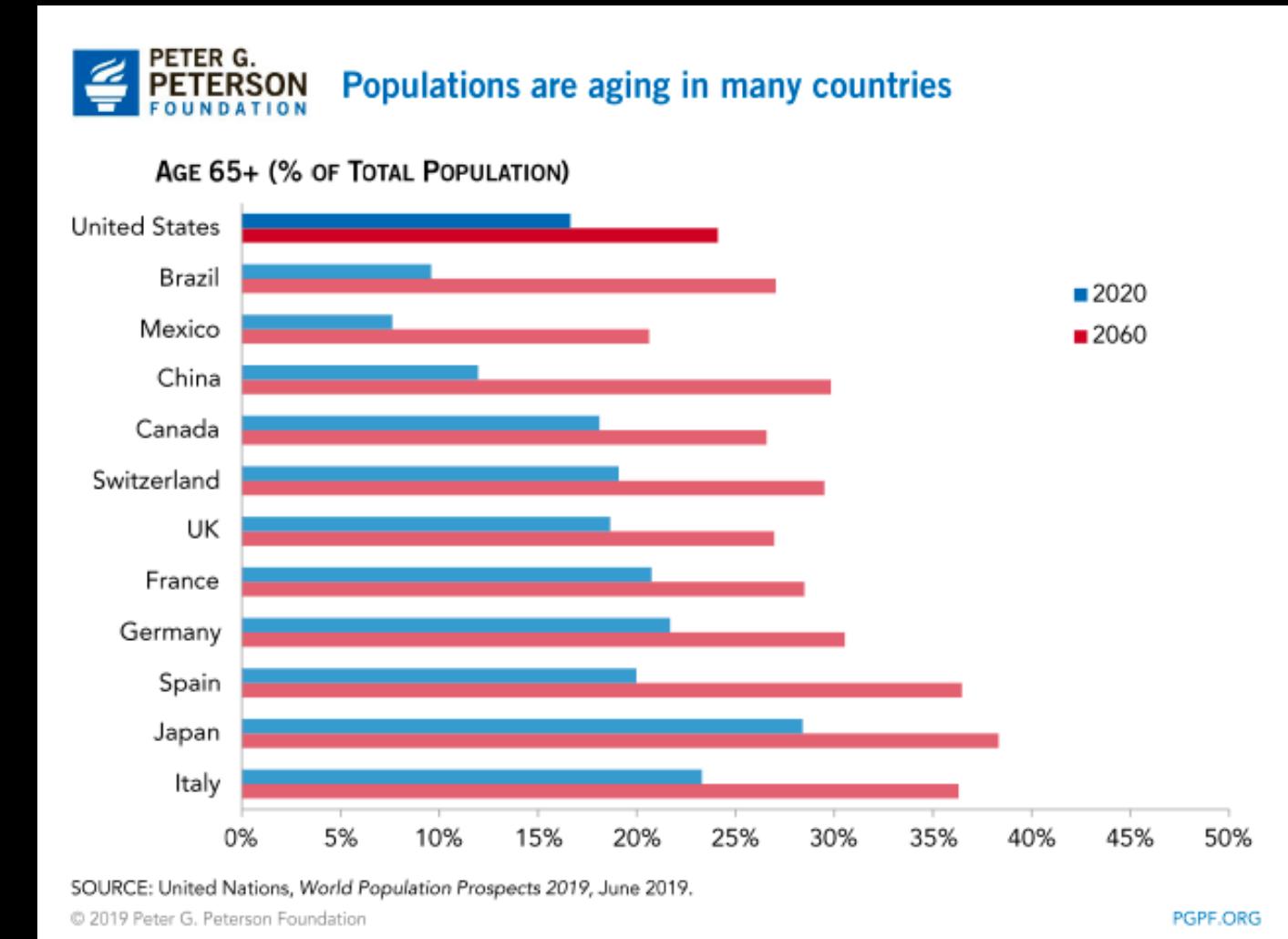
- GLOBAL TRENDS
- The ways that sociologists understand “Aging”.
- AGE STRATIFICATION
- Age and employment
- Retirement
- Death



**WE'RE GETTING  
OLD**

# GLOBAL TRENDS

- The average age of humanity is going up, especially in North America, Europe, and many parts of Asia.
- A report from the United Nations shows that the median age of the world population has risen from 23 in 1950, to 30 as of 2015.
- And by 2050, the median age for the entire world will be 36.



# TRENDS IN THE U.S.

- The median age has increased from 23 in 1900 to 30 in 1950 and finally up to 37 by the time of the 2010 Census.
- The population of elderly Americans, those 64 or older, is expected to more than double by 2060, going from about 46,000 as of 2014 to 98,000 in 2060.

# TRENDS IN INDIA

- According to the World Bank, the median age in India was 28.7 years in 2020, which is an increase from 23.9 years in 1990.
- The population of elderly Indians, those aged 65 or older, is also expected to increase significantly in the coming years. According to a United Nations report, the number of elderly people in India is expected to reach 340 million by 2050, up from 76 million in 2011.

**THAT'S A  
HUGE  
CHANGE!!**



# THE AGING OF THE WORLD POPULATION COMES FROM TWO FACTS

**People are living longer.**

Access to food, water, housing, and medical treatment all have improved, which reduced the number of people who are dying at a young age.

**People are having fewer babies.**

As the probability improves that a child will live into adulthood, families begin having fewer children.

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*"All of this means that we're looking at a future with a few more gray heads in society than past generations have had" ~ "a certain someone"*

# The ways that sociologists understand “Aging”.

## Biological

Aging increases risk factors for many diseases, particularly chronic diseases such as arthritis, heart disease, and diabetes.

## Psychological

Older adults are at a higher risk for dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease, and other types of cognitive impairment than younger adults.

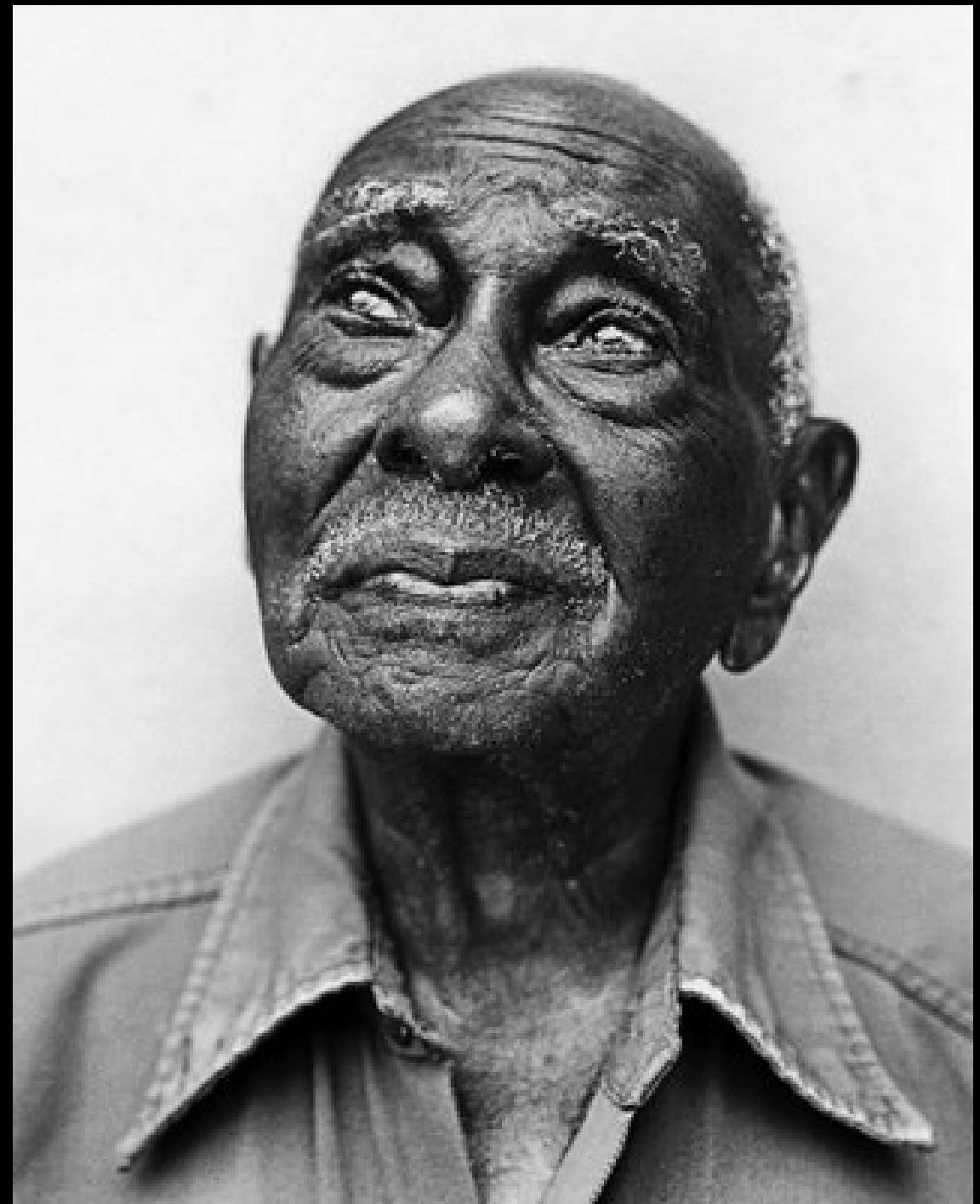
## Cultural

Most cultures agree that aging reduces physical attractiveness, everyday abilities, and learning, but increases knowledge, wisdom, and respect.

**How is Aging perceived by  
society?**

# AGE STRATIFICATION

- Like race or gender, age is a trait that influences a person's social position in the world.
- In Hunter-gatherer societies – where survival relied on physical strength –the elderly may be more likely to be seen as a burden.
- But once it's possible to build up wealth, accumulation of wealth can lead to an unequal distribution of money and power, favoring the elderly over the young.
- A gerontocracy is a form of social organization in which the oldest members of society have the most wealth, power, and prestige.



# AGE STRATIFICATION IN INDIA

- Even in our country Age discrimination is quite prevalent.
- Particularly against older adults who may face challenges in areas such as employment, healthcare, and social status.
- However, India is also experiencing a demographic shift towards an aging population, which has resulted in a growing need for policies and programs to support the elderly and promote intergenerational equity.



# **AGE AND EMPLOYMENT**

- As nations industrialize, the main source of income shifts from land ownership to income from work.
- And many older people move out of paid labor – whether it's by choice or because it becomes more difficult to find a job as you age.
- Nowadays, rapidly changing **technology** means that many older workers are finding it harder to compete with younger workers.
- Some of this is simply due to changes in what types of jobs are available, which may make the job experience of older workers less relevant in today's economy.
- But companies may also be less willing to hire older workers because of ageism, or prejudice and discrimination based on age.
- Employers may unfairly generalize about the abilities of older workers, thinking that all older workers will be less productive or less up to date on the skills needed for the job.

## IN USA

- Only about 18% of Americans over the age of 65 report being employed either full or part time.
- They're much more vulnerable to poverty, with 8.8% of Americans over the age of 65 living in poverty.

## IN INDIA

- Only about 5.6% of people aged 60 years or older are employed either full or part-time, according to a 2018 report by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- Older adults in India are also more vulnerable to poverty, with an estimated 21.9% of people aged 60 years or older living below the poverty line, according to the World Population Ageing 2019 report.

# RETIREMENT

- While many countries provide some kind of income support for the elderly, like **Social Security** in the US, **Pension** in India.
- Retirement is generally only feasible for those who save enough during their working years to live comfortably after they've stopped working.
- But even for those who are able to retire, retirement can still be a difficult **life transition**. It's a difficult transition for both financial and cultural reasons.

# Work And Aging

- Many feel that their identity and self-worth is tied up with their profession.
- Retiring can result in less social prestige as well as a loss of purpose.



# DEATH

- Just as **aging** plays a specific cultural role, so does death.
- Observing how **death plays out** in a society helps us understand the **values** and **beliefs** of a society.
- Death in modern society tends to be culturally removed from our day-to-day life, partially due to our longer life spans.

**WHAT IS  
CONSIDERED  
A "GOOD"  
DEATH?**

**"HOW ONE ANSWERS  
THIS HELPS US  
UNDERSTAND THEIR  
VIEW ON DEATH AND  
LIFE"**

**Understanding** how we as people process **death** and **aging** will only take on more importance in coming years, as the number of **older people** in society increases.

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- UN World Population Prospects, 2015 Revision
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- 2010 Census Shows Nation's Population is Aging
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**THANK YOU!!**