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The Graying Of Michigan Is Tied To The State's Economic Decline: Aging Together

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By WDET Staff

A new study predicts that Michigan's senior population will grow significantly over the next few years. The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments says senior populations are increasing throughout the U.S. but the growth is especially pronounced in Michigan. The associate research director at Wayne State University's Institutes for Gerontology, Thomas Jankowski, says the graying of Michigan is tied to the state's economic decline.

"Because Michigan has lost population due to the economy, it looks like the older population, as a proportion of the overall population, is actually going to be higher than they initially thought it was, mostly because many working age people have left the state."

The graying of Michigan is tied to the state's economic decline by WDET

Jankowski says counties will have to adapt to a shift towards an older workforce. Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan says he wants to establish a senior's service department but cannot until the city's finances are under control.



Aging Together is a summer-long project between *MLive Detroit*, *WDET 101.9FM Detroit* and

Model D Media that explores the issues of older adults in Detroit, Southeast Michigan and the state.



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