

8/28/2023



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Division of Aging Services

FY23 Data & Public Guardianship

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Assistant Deputy Commissioner



stronger families

FOR A STRONGER GEORGIA



DAS Vision and Mission

Vision

Living Longer, Living Safely, Living Well

Mission

The Georgia Department of Human Services' (DHS) Division of Aging Services (DAS) supports the larger goals of DHS by assisting older individuals, at-risk adults, persons with disabilities and their families and caregivers to achieve safe, healthy, independent, and self-reliant lives.

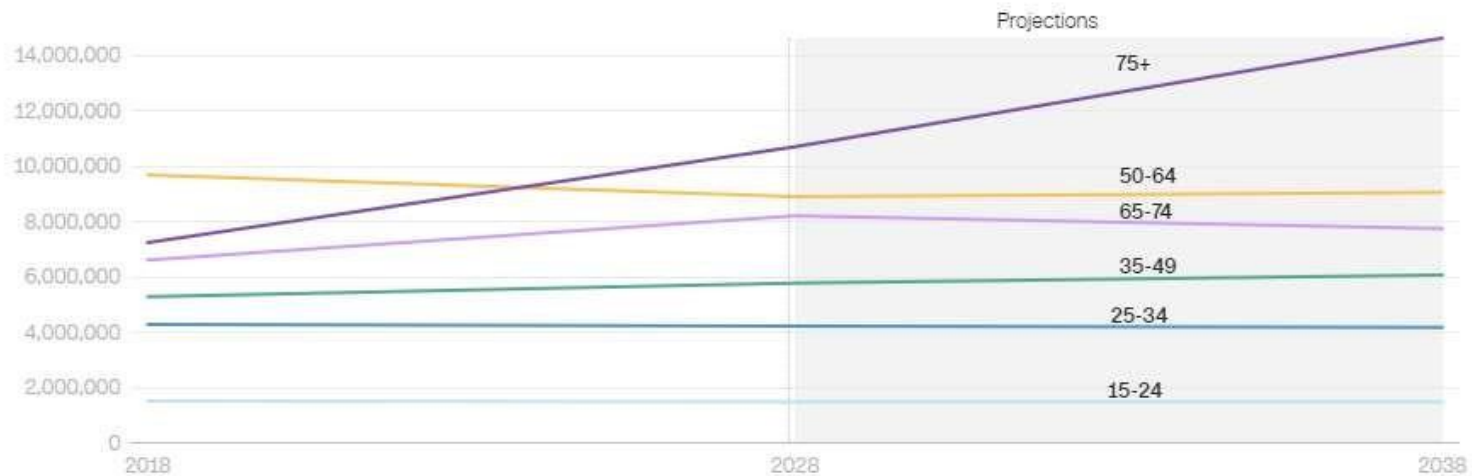


Data that Supports our “Why”

By 2038, most people 75 and older are likely to live alone

More people 75 years and older are projected to live alone than with other people, following a trend of more older Americans living by themselves.

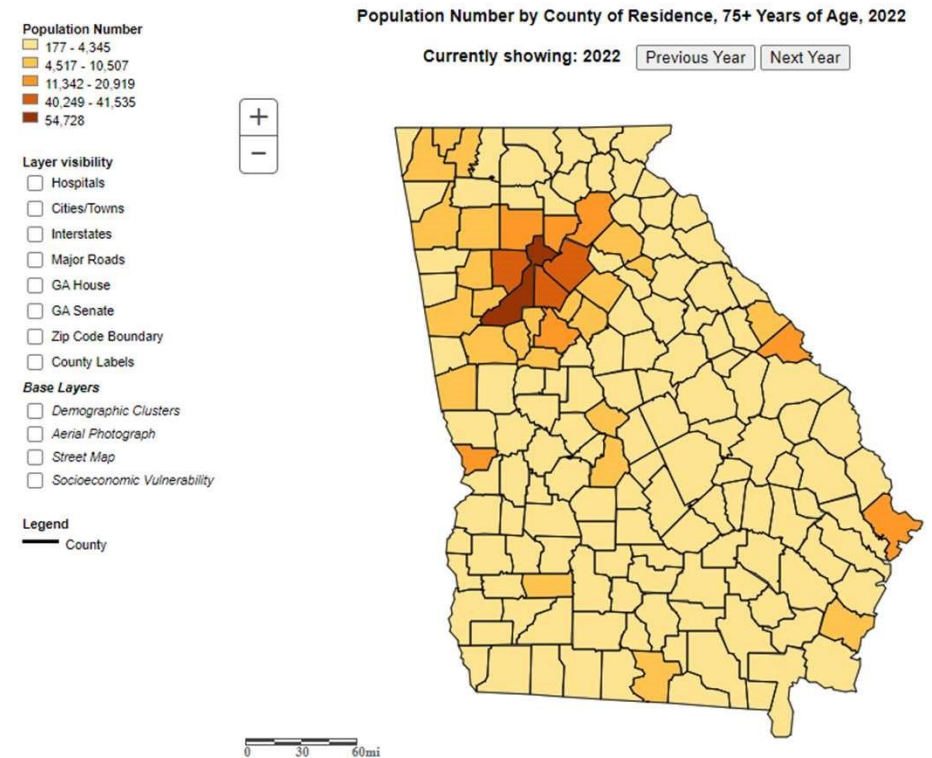
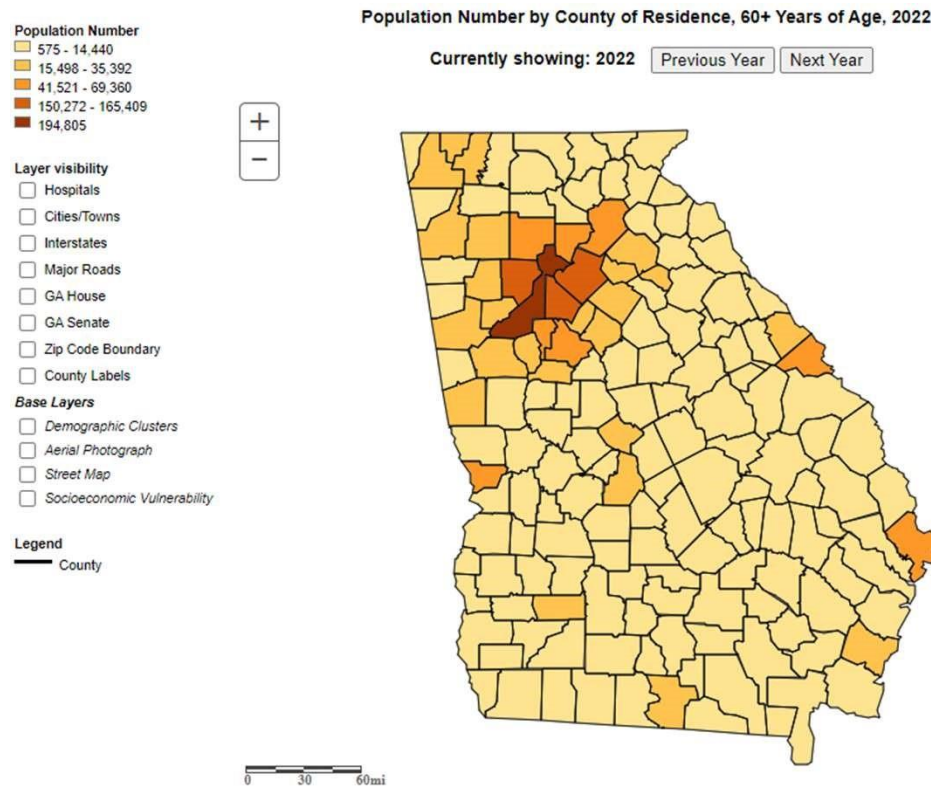
Number of people from each age group living alone



Source: Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University
Graphic: Parker Leipzig, CNN



Data that Supports our “Why”



Dementia in Georgia



GEORGIA

2023 ALZHEIMER'S STATISTICS

UNPAID CAREGIVERS (2022)

343,000 # OF CAREGIVERS

657,000,000 TOTAL HOURS
OF UNPAID CARE

\$9,941,000,000 TOTAL VALUE
OF UNPAID CARE

CAREGIVING 4TH HIGHEST AVERAGE NUMBER
OF HOURS PER CAREGIVER

CAREGIVER HEALTH (2021)

51.6% OF CAREGIVERS
WITH CHRONIC
HEALTH CONDITIONS

25.1% OF CAREGIVERS
WITH DEPRESSION

11.7% OF CAREGIVERS
IN POOR PHYSICAL
HEALTH

NUMBER OF PEOPLE AGED 65 AND OLDER WITH ALZHEIMER'S

YEAR	TOTAL
2020	150,000
2025	190,000

ESTIMATED % INCREASE

26.7%

PREVALENCE



ADRD Data

Number of Deaths

- 0 - 67
- 70 - 153
- 172 - 297
- 547 - 601
- 760

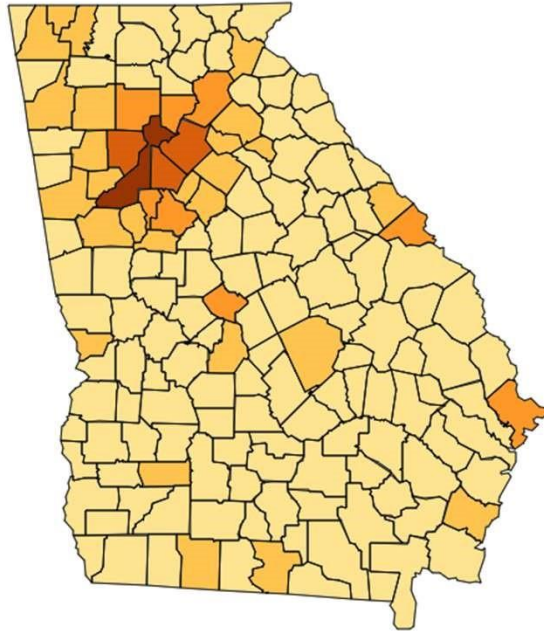
Layer visibility

- ☐ Hospitals
 - ☐ Cities/Towns
 - ☐ Interstates
 - ☐ Major Roads
 - ☐ GA House
 - ☐ GA Senate
 - ☐ Zip Code Boundary
 - ☐ County Labels
- Base Layers
- ☐ Demographic Clusters
 - ☐ Aerial Photograph
 - ☐ Street Map
 - ☐ Socioeconomic Vulnerability

Legend

County

Number of Deaths by County of Residence, Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD), 50+ Years of Age, 2021



0 30 60mi

Zoom In Zoom Out Full Extent Pan Previous Extent Next Extent

Population Number

- 575 - 14,440
- 15,498 - 35,392
- 41,521 - 69,360
- 150,272 - 165,409
- 194,805

Layer visibility

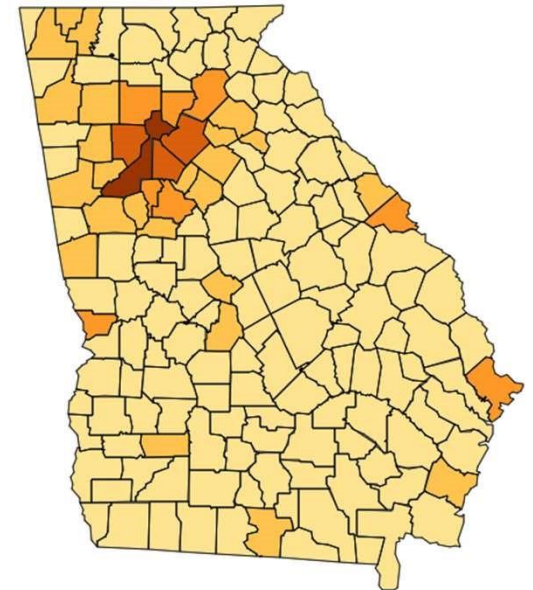
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Legend

County

Population Number by County of Residence, 60+ Years of Age, 2022

Currently showing: 2022 Previous Year Next Year



0 30 60mi



ADRD Data

The East and Southeast have the highest rates of Alzheimer's disease in the U.S., according to the Alzheimer's Association.

The Alzheimer's Association released the "first-ever county-level estimates of the prevalence of people with Alzheimer's dementia" on July 17.

Data from the Chicago Health and Aging Project and population estimates from the National Center for Health Statistics were used to estimate the prevalence of Alzheimer's in adults 65 years and older in all U.S. counties.

The 10 counties — with a population of at least 10,000 — with the highest prevalence rates:

- Miami-Dade County, Fla. — 16.6 percent
- Baltimore City, Md. — 16.6 percent
- Bronx County, N.Y. — 16.6 percent
- Prince George's County, Md. — 16.1 percent
- Hinds County, Miss. — 15.5 percent
- Orleans Parish, La. — 15.4 percent
- Dougherty County, Ga. — 15.3 percent
- Orangeburg County, S.C. — 15.2 percent
- Imperial County, Calif. — 15 percent
- El Paso County, Texas — 15 percent

Older average age and a high percentage of Black and Hispanic residents can be attributed to higher Alzheimer's prevalence rates, according to the report.

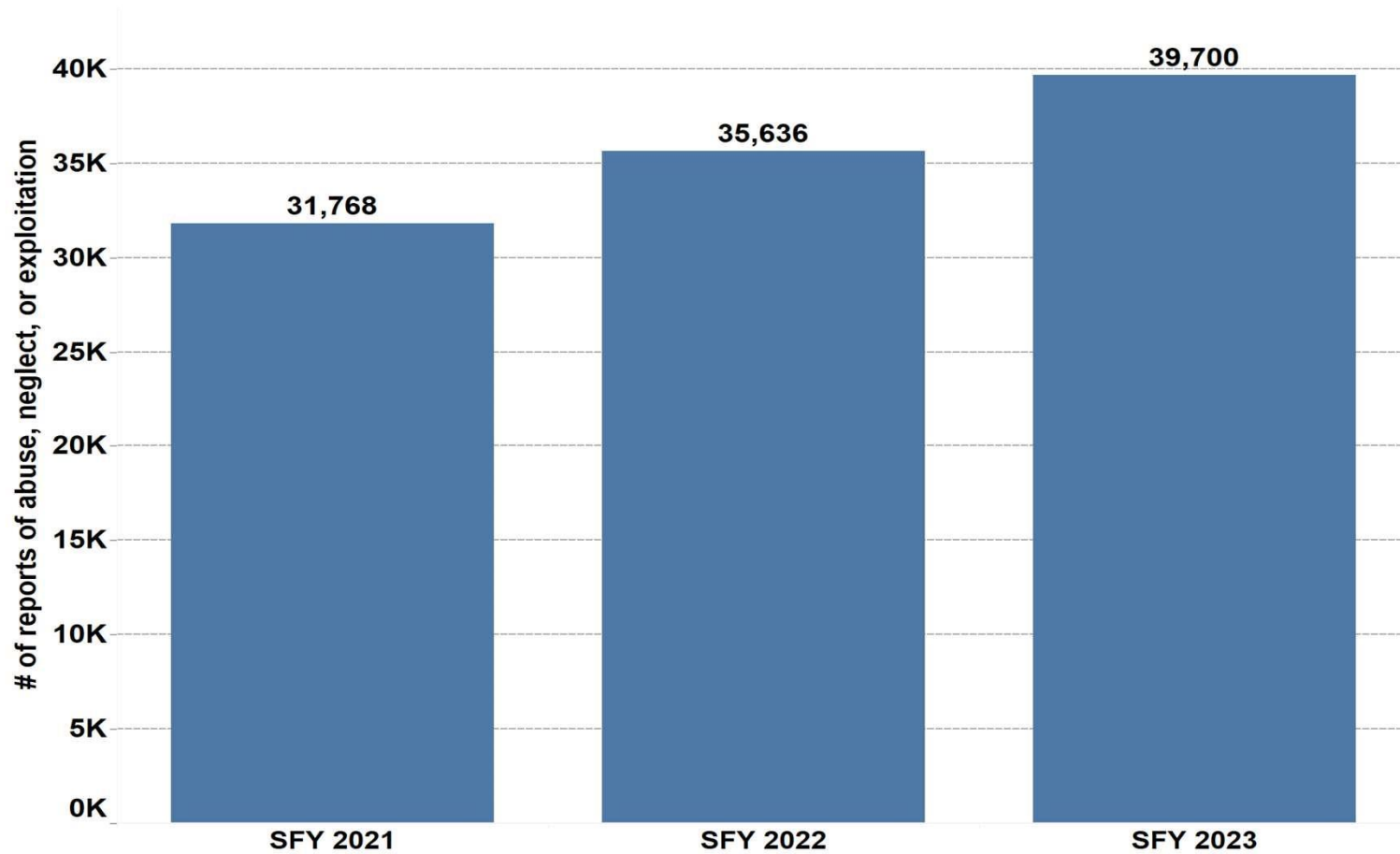


ADRD Data

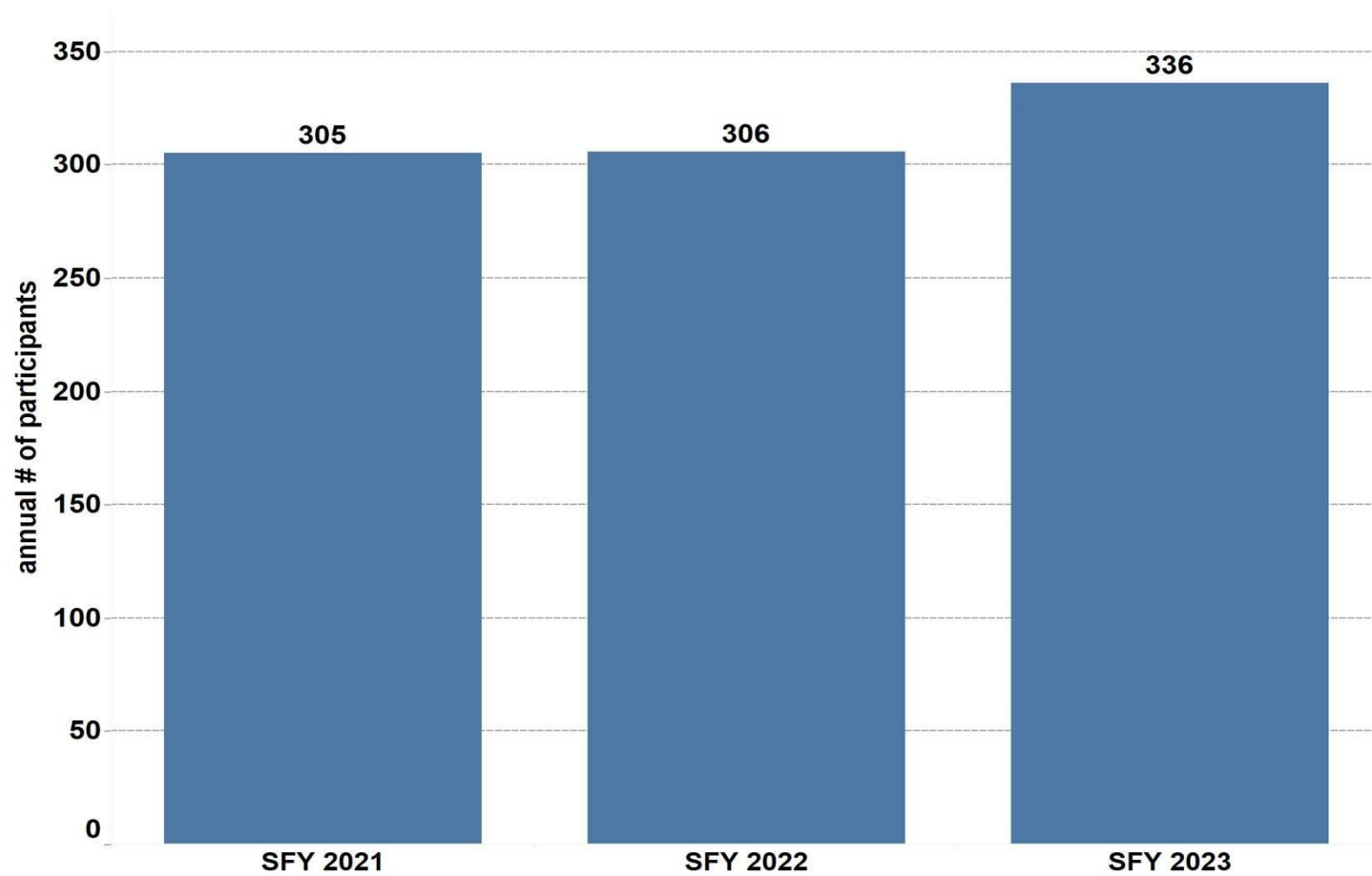
Number of Deaths, Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD),
50+ Years of Age, Georgia, 1999-2021



Number of APS reports involving abuse, neglect, or exploitation



Number of participants in the Certified At-Risk Crime Tactics Specialist (CACTS) Training Program



8/28/2023



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**

Division of Aging Services

Public Guardianship Office Section

Understanding Guardianship

Dwan Grooms, District Manager

Public Guardianship Office

The Public Guardianship Office (PGO) of the Division of Aging Services (DAS) is assigned oversight and delivery of guardianship case management services on behalf of Department of Human Services (DHS).



What is Guardianship?

Guardianship is a determination that a person needs assistance making decisions due to the lack of capacity in making important decisions about his or her safety.



Probate Court Process

- The probate court determines the guardian when a person is found to lack capacity using the “order of preference” outlined in O.C.G.A. 29-4-3.
- When no one qualifies to serve, the Department of Human Services is appointed as “guardian of last resort” with PGO responsible for carrying out the guardianship duties.



PGO Main Functions

1. Guardian of last resort when DHS is appointed
2. Surrogate decision-maker
3. An advocate
4. Coordinate and monitor services



PGO Practices Surrogate Decision Making

- Involving the person to the greatest extent possible
- Preserving the person's autonomy, values, and beliefs
- The person's input
- Prior communicated wishes, advance directives, etc.



Services Provided To The Client

Case Managers have the responsibility for the person's support, care, comfort, health, and education through:

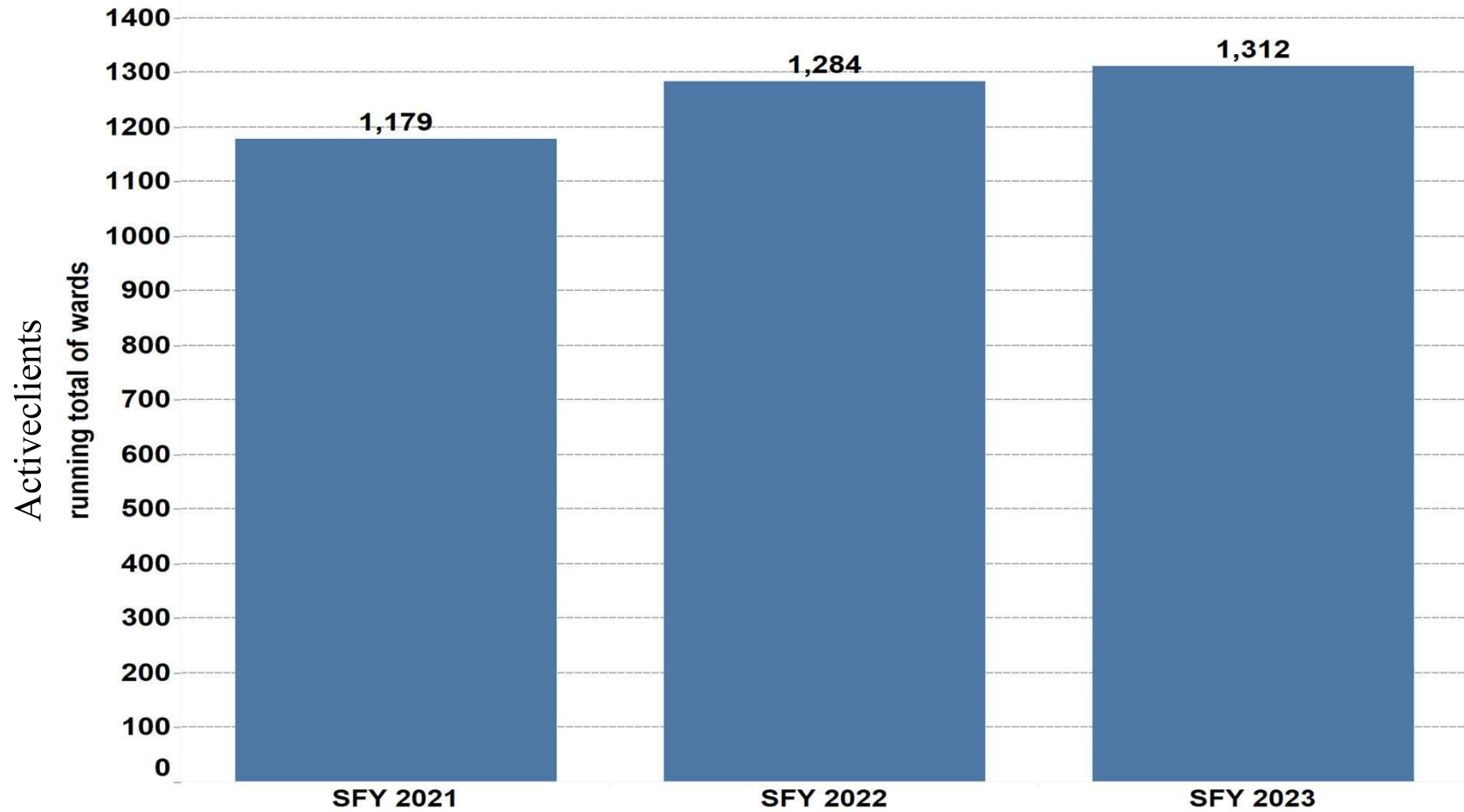
- Assisting with obtaining living arrangements.
- Scheduling and attending medical appointments including consent for treatment.
- Arranging transportation.
- Ensuring needs are met in homes and licensed facilities.
- Exploring and securing needed resources.
- Working with providers and other stakeholders on the person's behalf.

Services Not Provided

- Involuntarily committing a person
- Physically controlling or restraining a person
- Making a person stop abusing drugs or alcohol
- Controlling who the person communicates or visits with
- Locking a person in a facility to keep him or her safe
- Making a person behave or act better
- Forcing a person to take medication or eat



Running total of PGO wards



Division of Aging Services



Things To Remember

- When DHS is appointed guardian, it is DHS who is guardian, not DAS, DFCS, APS, or any employees of DHS.
- Guardianship is all about the client and his or her best interests, not the desires and/or demands of family and/or community.



Questions?



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