

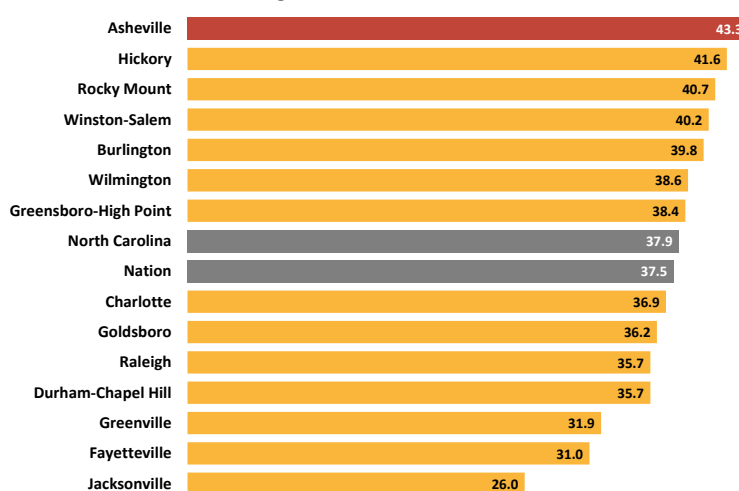
What's Behind Asheville's High Median Age?

At 43.3 years, the Asheville metro holds the highest median age among all metros in the state (see Chart 1). This is more than 17 years above Jacksonville, the North Carolina metro with the lowest median age. And while Jacksonville's low number might be excused due to its sizeable younger military population, Asheville's median is still more than five years above the national and state.

The median is the age in the middle, half the population is older and the other half younger. To get a better understanding of what's behind Asheville's median it is helpful to break out the population into the number of people that fall into specific age groups, information the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau provides of estimated population.

Chart 1

Median Age of North Carolina's Metros



Source: US Census Bureau, 2013

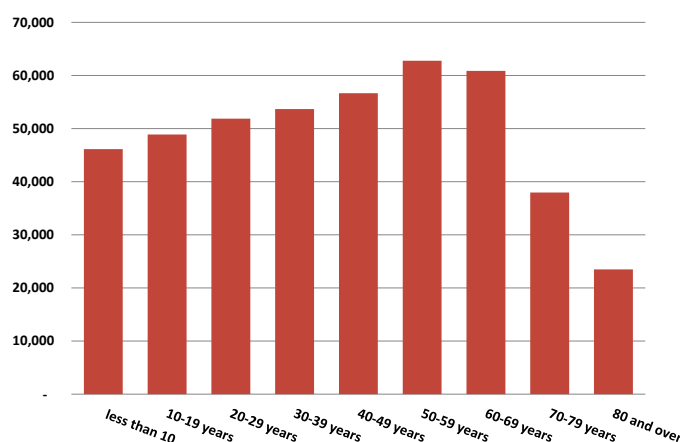
Among nine main age groups, persons between the ages of 50 and 59 total 62,780 in Asheville and comprise the single largest age group (see Chart 2). Worth noting and following closely behind, persons in the second largest group are those between the ages of 60 and 69, totaling 60,861. Asheville's smallest age group are those persons aged 80 and older, numbering just 23,486 in 2014. An examination of the state's other metros and the nation as a whole shows that the 80 plus age group regularly represents the smallest of all age groups.

Looking at the age groups as a percentage of the total population shows how unique Asheville's age distribution is compared to the state's other fourteen metros

and nation (see Chart 3). Asheville has a notably lower relative proportion

Chart 2

Asheville's Total Population by Age Groups

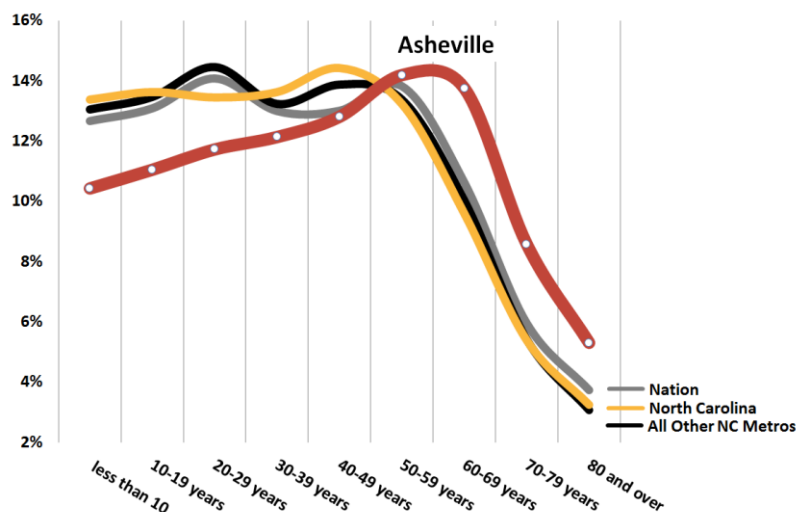


Source: US Census Bureau, 2014

of residents in all groups age 39 and younger. The widest difference is among those less than age ten; more than two percentage points below the state, nation and other North Carolina metros. Similarly, Asheville has a higher proportion of residents in all age groups 60 years and older.

So behind Asheville's higher median age is a very unique distribution of age groups; entirely distinct from the state, nation and North Carolina's other fourteen metros.

Chart 3
Age Groups as a Percentage of Total Population



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business to **Be Greater**

Source: US Census Bureau, 2014

www.jpspa.com

Asheville
828-254-2374

Boone
828-262-0997

Marion
828-652-7044

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