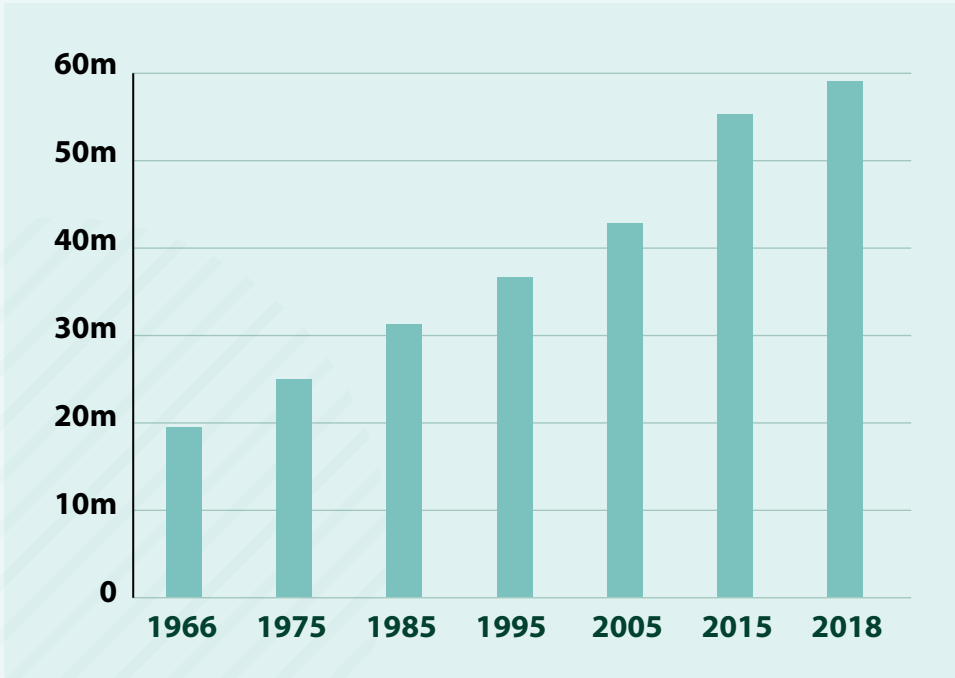


# Overview of the Medicare Program

The Medicare program was signed into law in 1965 to provide health coverage and increase financial security for older Americans. Today, the program has achieved near universal enrollment of the over 65 population, with beneficiaries having relatively comprehensive coverage and access to care.

## Enrollment Growth Over Time



### Current Beneficiaries

In 2018, 60 million individuals were enrolled in Medicare, 51.2 million ages 65 and older, and 8.8 million persons with disabilities.

## The Medicare Program Today



**Part A: Hospital Insurance:** inpatient hospital stays, skilled nursing facility care, hospice health care, and home health care



**Part C: Medicare Advantage:** combines Part A and Part B coverage

In 2018, 21.3 million (35.6%) of Medicare beneficiaries were enrolled in MA plans.



**Part B: Supplemental Medical Insurance:** physician care, outpatient medical services, preventative care, and durable medical equipment



**Part D: Prescription drug coverage**

In 2018, **45.8 million** beneficiaries were enrolled in prescription drug coverage (PDP) plans.