

# MORE OLDER PEOPLE IN COLOMBIA = greater challenges and opportunities

Population ageing in Colombia poses significant challenges and opportunities across sectors such as pensions, healthcare, caregiving, labor market, and education. These implications are well-documented in *Misión Colombia Envejece - Una Investigación Viva* conducted by Fedesarrollo, Fundación Saldarriaga Concha, PROESA, and DANE.

## COLOMBIA'S AGING POPULATION

Of every 100 Colombians

**14** ARE OVER 60 YEARS OLD

A TWO-FOLD INCREASE SINCE 1985

**7**



Life expectancy in Colombia **IS RISING**. By the end of the century,



Women will live to be **83** YEARS OLD



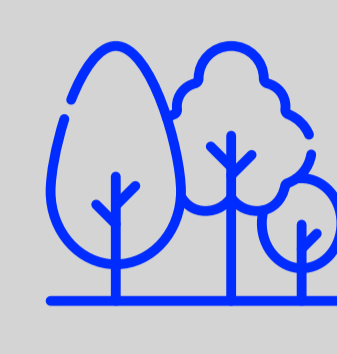
Men will live to be **78** YEARS OLD



Ageing HOUSEHOLDS

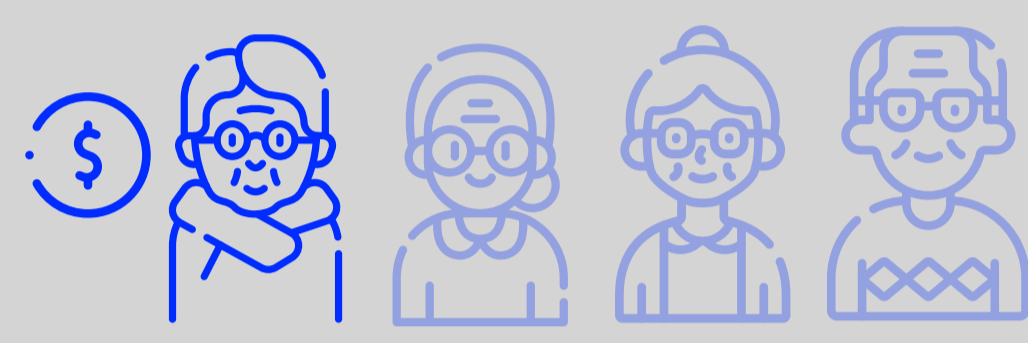


URBAN AREAS **34,4%** OF HOUSEHOLDS have one or more members over 60



RURAL AREAS **35,9%** OF HOUSEHOLDS have one or more members over 60

## LACK OF ECONOMIC PROTECTION



ONLY **1** OF EVERY **4** PEOPLE Receive a pension and coverage is much lower among women



**18%** of the country's micro-businesses are owned by older adults



**43,8%** of individuals aged 60-69 continue working

## HEALTH AND CAREGIVING CRISES

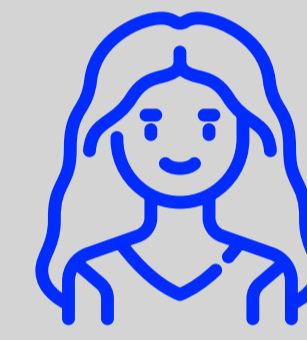
The increase in the number of older people in households + the decrease in the number of children + women entering the labor market = CAREGIVING CRISIS



BETWEEN **60%** AND **80%** of older people have access to preventive health services



HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS PROVIDE **71%** of all unpaid care

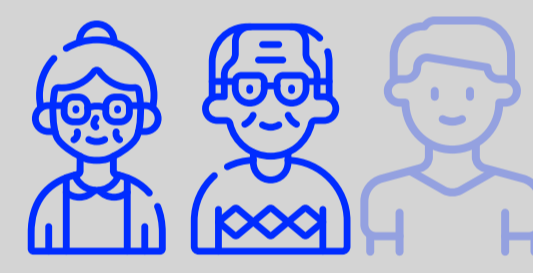


WOMEN PROVIDE **85%** of all caregiving

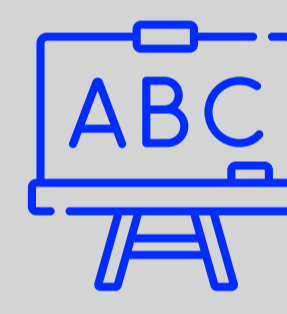


BETWEEN **2%** AND **4%** of older people are not affiliated to the health system

## LOW EDUCATION LEVELS



**2** OUT OF **3** illiterate people are over 60 years old



**48,1%** OF OLDER ADULTS list primary school as their highest level of education completed



**15,2%** received a higher education

## Recommendations



### 1 CLOSING THE CARE COVERAGE GAP AMONG OLDER PEOPLE,

both in terms of quantity and quality of the services provided.



### 2 FOCUSING THE EDUCATION POLICY FOR OLDER ADULTS

on preserving their cognitive capacity,

as this affects individual and collective well-being.



### 3 PROMOTING THE SILVER ECONOMY



### 4 CONSIDERING CAREGIVERS'

socioeconomic, physical and mental health as political and social priorities,

acknowledging that women perform the vast majority of unpaid care work.

