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# The Changing Face of Debt and Financial Fragility at Older Ages

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### Article Information

#### Abstract

We investigate changes in older individuals' financial fragility as they stand on the verge of retirement. Using data from the Health and Retirement Study (HRS), we compare how debt has changed for successive cohorts of people age 56–61. Our analysis shows that recent older Americans close to retirement hold more debt and

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## Additional Materials

[Replication Package \(331.34 KB\)](#)

[Author Disclosure Statement\(s\) \(207.50 KB\)](#)

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## JEL Classification

**D14** Household Saving; Personal Finance

**J14** Economics of the Elderly; Economics of the Handicapped; Non-labor Market Discrimination

**J26** Retirement; Retirement Policies

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