

# THE NEXT FOUR DECADES

## The Older Population in the United States: 2010 to 2050

### *Population Estimates and Projections*

Issued May 2010

P25-1138

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to present information on how the age structure of the overall population and the composition of the older population in terms of age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin are expected to change over the next four decades.<sup>1</sup>

Between 2010 and 2050, the United States is projected to experience rapid growth in its older population.<sup>2</sup> In 2050, the number of Americans aged 65 and older is projected to be 88.5 million, more than double its projected population of 40.2 million in 2010. The baby boomers are largely responsible for this increase in the older population, as they will begin crossing into this category in 2011.<sup>3</sup>

The aging of the population will have wide-ranging implications for the country. As the United States ages over the next several decades, its older population will become more racially and ethnically diverse. Projecting the size and structure, in terms of age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, of the older population is important to public and private interests, both socially and economically. The projected growth of the older population in the United States will present challenges to policy makers and programs, such as

<sup>1</sup> In this report, the "older population" refers to those aged 65 and older.

<sup>2</sup> This report discusses data for the United States, including the 50 states and the District of Columbia; it does not include data for Puerto Rico.

<sup>3</sup> The baby boomer generation consists of people born between 1946 and 1964.

Social Security and Medicare. It will also affect families, businesses, and health care providers.

#### 2008 NATIONAL POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Released in August of 2008, the national population projections are of the resident population, as well as demographic components of change (births, deaths, and net international migration), by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin. The projections are based on Census 2000 and were produced using a cohort-component method. The components of change were projected into the future based on past trends. The projections cover the period 2000–2050.

Between 2010 and 2050, the U.S. population is projected to grow from 310 million to 439 million, an increase of 42 percent. The nation will also become more racially and ethnically diverse, with the aggregate minority population projected to become the majority in 2042.\* The population is also expected to become much older, with nearly one in five U.S. residents aged 65 and older in 2030.

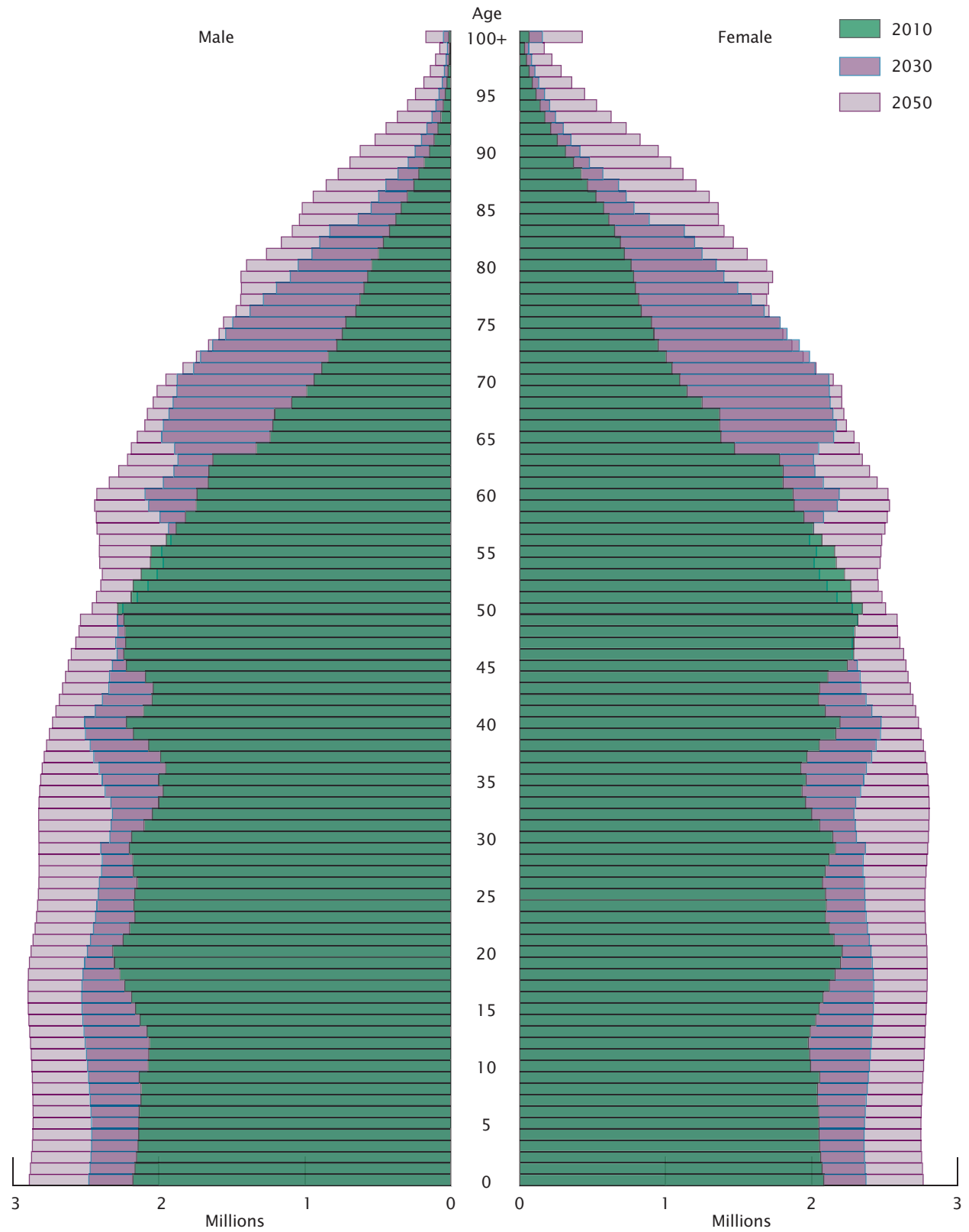
The 2008 National Population Projections, including summary tables, downloadable files, methodology and assumptions, and the press release, can be found at [www.census.gov/population/www/projections/2008projections.html](http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/2008projections.html).

\* In this report, the minority population is considered to be everyone other than the non-Hispanic White alone population.

#### Current Population Reports

By  
Grayson K. Vincent  
and  
Victoria A. Velkoff

Figure 1.  
**Age and Sex Structure of the Population for the United States: 2010, 2030, and 2050**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

## CHANGING AGE STRUCTURE

The age structure of the overall population is projected to change greatly over the next four decades (Figure 1). Much of this change is driven by the aging baby boomers and trends in immigration.

Figure 1 illustrates the importance of the baby boom generation in shaping the overall population. In 2010, the baby boom generation will be 46 to 64 years old.<sup>4</sup> The echo of the baby boom is also evident in the 2010 population pyramid for the age groups near 20.<sup>5</sup> By 2030, all of the baby boomers will have moved into the ranks of the older population. This will result in a shift in the age structure, from 13 percent of the population aged 65 and older in 2010 to 19 percent in 2030.

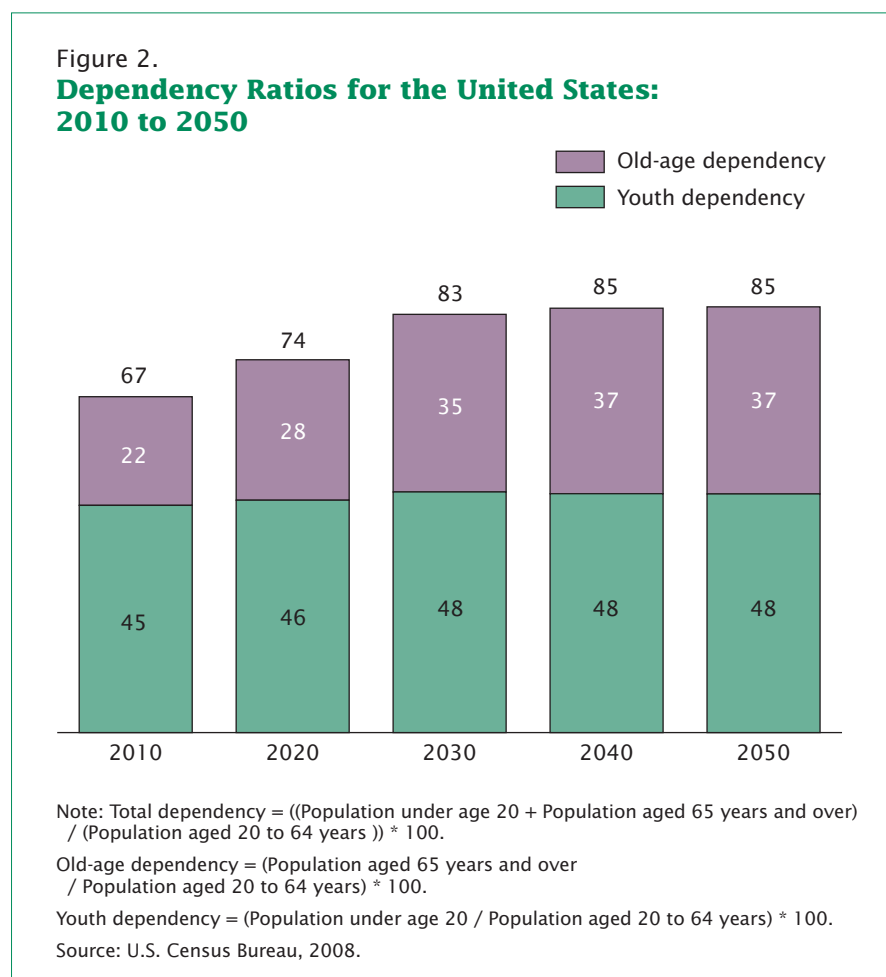
In 2010, 60 percent of the U.S. population will be aged 20–64. By 2030, as the baby boomers age, the proportion in these working ages will drop to 55 percent.

Immigration is expected to play an important role in how the age structure of the United States changes over the next four decades. The aging of the baby boom increases the proportion in the older age groups, but projected immigration into the working age groups tends to mitigate the impact. In other words, the country's aging is slowed somewhat by immigration of younger people.

In 2050, every age group is projected to be larger than it was in 2010. This is not the case between 2010 and 2030 or between 2030 and 2050. For instance, the number

<sup>4</sup> The data shown in Figure 1 represent a July 1 population, and because the baby boom began roughly in July 1946, the start of the baby boom is seen for age 63 rather than age 64, as would be suggested by the difference in the years 1946–2010 (Hogan, Perez, and Bell, 2008, *Who (Really) Are the First Baby Boomers?*, In JSM Proceedings, Social Statistics Section, Alexandria, VA: American Statistical Association, pp. 1009–1016).

<sup>5</sup> The echo of the baby boomers refers to the children born to baby boomers.



of men aged 50–56 and the number of women aged 46–56 in 2030 are projected to be smaller than those in the same age groups in 2010 (Figure 1). This is because large cohorts of baby boomers will be in these age groups in 2010 and by 2030, younger and smaller cohorts will have replaced them. Similarly, the number of women aged 72–75 is projected to be smaller in 2050 than it was in 2030 as the smaller than average birth cohort born in the late 1970s moves into these age groups.

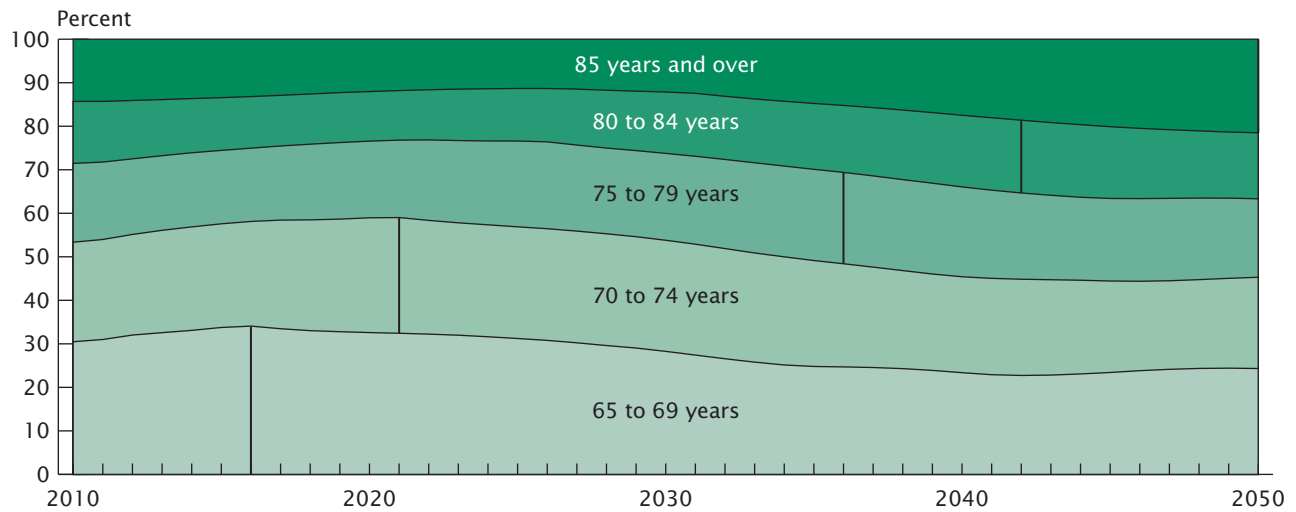
The number of people in the oldest-old age group is projected to grow from 5.8 million in 2010 to 8.7 million in 2030.<sup>6</sup> In 2050, this group is projected to reach 19 million. Even

<sup>6</sup> In this report, the term “oldest old” refers to those aged 85 and older.

as they approach the oldest old, the baby boomers will continue to have an impact on the age structure of the U.S. population. In 2050, those aged 85 and over are projected to account for 4.3 percent of the U.S. population, up from 2.3 percent in 2030.

Another way to examine the changing age structure of the population is to look at dependency ratios. Dependency ratios are an indicator of the potential burden on those in the working-age population. The total dependency ratio is projected to increase from 67 to 85 between 2010 and 2050, the result of a large increase in the old-age dependency ratio (Figure 2). The old-age dependency ratio sees a rapid increase between 2010 and 2030, from 22 to 35, as all of the baby boomers move into the 65 years and over category.

Figure 3.  
**Distribution of the Projected Older Population by Age for the United States: 2010 to 2050**



Note: Line indicates the year that each age group is the largest proportion of the older population.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

After 2030, the old-age dependency ratio continues to increase slightly to 37 by 2050. The youth dependency ratio increases minimally between 2010 and 2030, from 45 to 48, and remains stable until 2050.

### CHANGING AGE STRUCTURE WITHIN THE OLDER POPULATION

The age composition within the older ages is projected to change between 2010 and 2050. As the baby boomers move into the older age groups, beginning in 2011, the proportion aged 65–74 is projected to increase (Figure 3). The majority of the country’s older population is projected to be relatively young, aged 65–74, until around 2034, when all of the baby boomers will be over 70. As the baby boomers move into the oldest-old age category, the age composition of the older population shifts upward. In 2010, slightly more than 14 percent of the older population will be 85 and older. By 2050, that proportion is expected to increase to more than 21 percent.

The aging of the older population is noteworthy, as those in the oldest ages often require additional care giving and support (see Table A-1 for more detailed data on the age distribution).

### RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN<sup>7</sup>

While the older population is not as racially and ethnically diverse as the younger population, it is projected to substantially increase its racial and ethnic diversity over the next

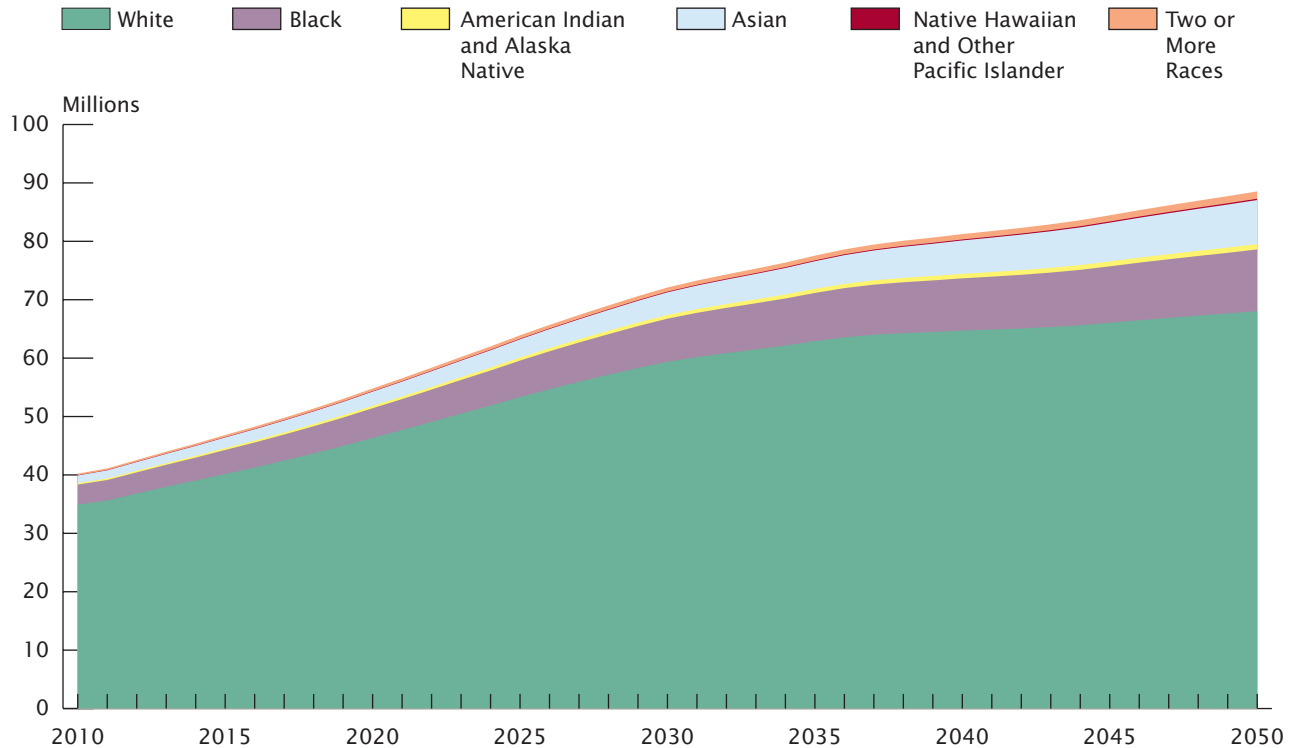
<sup>7</sup> Race and Hispanic origin are collected according to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 1997 guidelines. For further information, see Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity at <[www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/1997standards.html)>. Race and Hispanic origin are treated as two separate and distinct concepts in the federal statistical system. People in each race group may be either Hispanic or non-Hispanic, and people of Hispanic origin may be any race. This report contains projections data for each of five racial categories (White, Black, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander) for the population in the race alone categories and the population that is a race group alone or in combination with other races. Data for the alone or in combination groups appear in Table A-2. All other sections of the report refer to each of the races alone and use the Two or More Races category to represent the population reporting more than one race.

four decades. Additionally, while all of the race and ethnic groups will become older, the degree of aging that is projected to occur within each group varies greatly.

In terms of race, the share of the population that is White alone is projected to decrease by about 10 percentage points among those 65 years and over and by about 9 percentage points among those 85 years and over between 2010 and 2050. Meanwhile, all other race groups are projected to see an increase in their shares of these populations. The 85 years and over population is less racially diverse than the 65 years and older population, but it is projected to see a similar increase in diversity between 2010 and 2050.

Although the older population is not expected to become majority-minority in the next four decades, it is projected to be 42 percent minority in 2050, up from 20 percent in 2010. Among the 85 years

Figure 4.  
**Projected Population Aged 65 and Over by Race for the United States: 2010 to 2050**



Note: Unless otherwise specified, data refer to the population who reported a race alone. Populations for each race group include both Hispanics and non-Hispanics, as Hispanics may be of any race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

and over population, 33 percent are projected to be minority in 2050, up from 15 percent in 2010.

Among those aged 65 and over in 2050, 77 percent are projected to be White alone, down from 87 percent in 2010. Within the same age group, 12 percent are projected to be Black alone and 9 percent are projected to be Asian alone in 2050, up from 9 percent and 3 percent, respectively, in 2010 (Figure 4).

The smallest race groups are projected to see large growth relative to their populations. Among the population aged 65 and older in 2050, the American Indian and Alaska Native alone population is projected to be 918,000, up from

235,000 in 2010, and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone population is projected to be 219,000, up from 39,000 in 2010. The Two or More Races population is also projected to see relatively large growth among people in this age group, increasing from 278,000 in 2010 to 1.3 million in 2050.

Among those aged 85 and over in 2050, 81 percent are projected to be White alone, down from 90 percent in 2010. Within the same age group, 10 percent are projected to be Black alone and 6 percent are projected to be Asian alone in 2050, up from 7 percent and 2 percent, respectively, in 2010 (Table 1).

As with the 65 years and older group, the smallest race groups are projected to see large relative

increases in the 85 years and older age group. Among those 85 years and older in 2050, the American Indian and Alaska Native alone population is projected to reach 180,000, up from 20,000 in 2010, and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone population is projected to be 35,000, up from 3,000 in 2010. The Two or More Races oldest-old population is also projected to see a relatively large increase, from 29,000 in 2010 to 208,000 in 2050.

The proportion of the older population that is Hispanic is projected to increase quickly over the next four decades. In 2050, 20 percent of the population aged 65 and over is projected to be Hispanic, up from 7 percent in 2010 (Figure 5). The

Table 1.

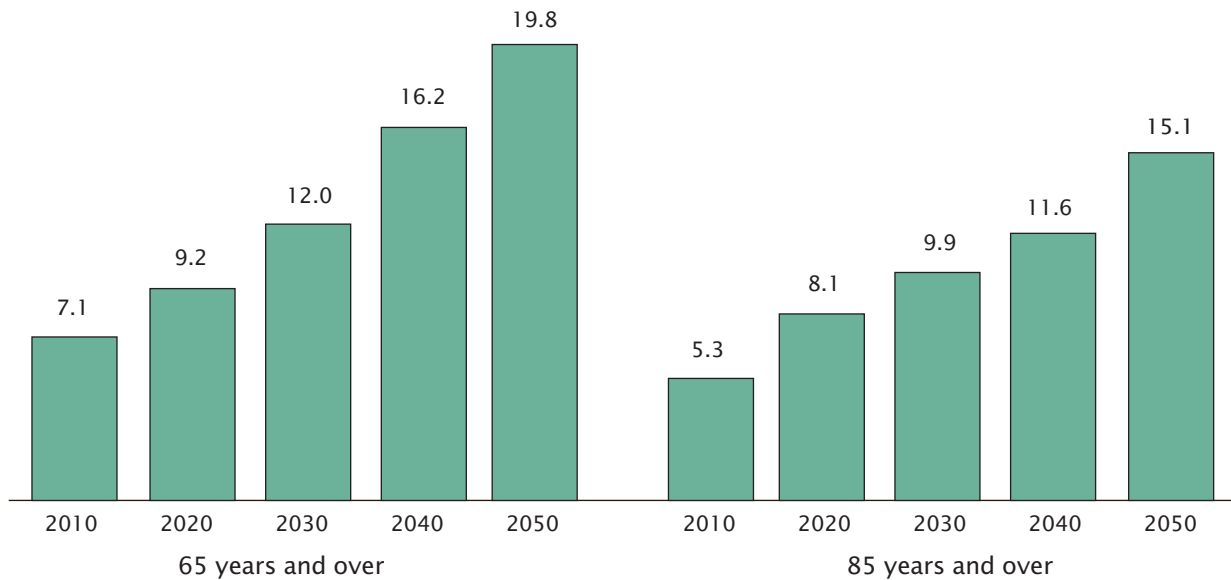
**Projections and Distribution of the Population Aged 85 and Over by Race for the United States: 2010, 2030, and 2050**

(Numbers in thousands)

Race	2010		2030		2050	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>85 years and over</b> . . . . .	<b>5,751</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,745</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>19,041</b>	<b>100.0</b>
White alone . . . . .	5,189	90.2	7,542	86.2	15,491	81.4
Black alone . . . . .	397	6.9	701	8.0	1,982	10.4
American Indian and Alaska Native alone . . . . .	20	0.4	62	0.7	180	0.9
Asian alone . . . . .	113	2.0	356	4.1	1,145	6.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone . . . . .	3	0.1	11	0.1	35	0.2
Two or More Races . . . . .	29	0.5	74	0.8	208	1.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

Figure 5.  
**Percent Hispanic for the Older Population by Selected Age Groups for the United States: 2010 to 2050**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

proportion of the oldest-old population that is Hispanic is also projected to increase by about 10 percentage points between 2010 and 2050.

In 2050, the non-Hispanic population aged 65 and older is projected to reach 71 million, up from 37.4 million in 2010, almost doubling. In comparison, the Hispanic population aged 65 years and older is projected to grow from 2.9 million

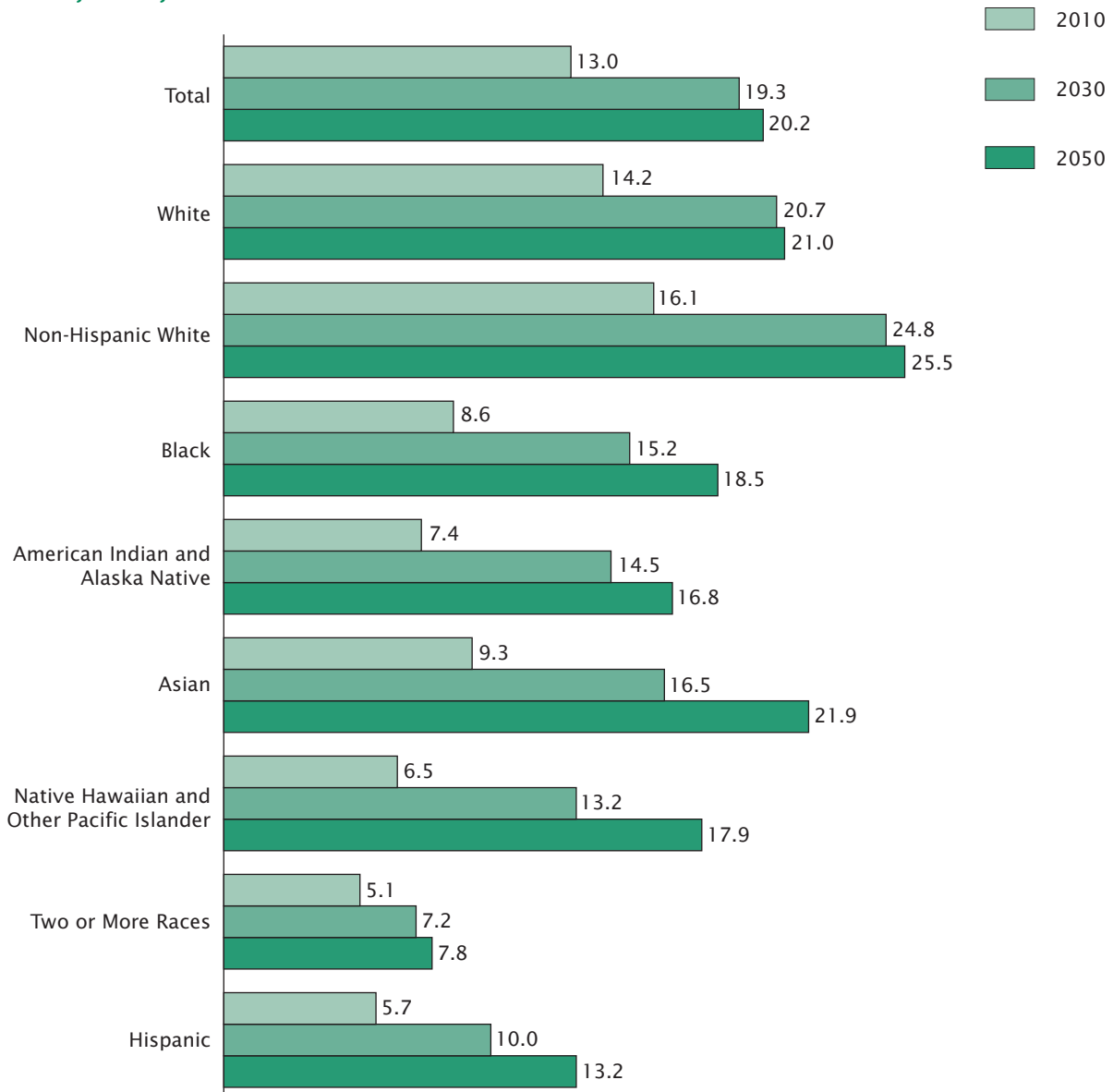
to 17.5 million, a more than sixfold increase.

The 85 years and over population is projected to be 15 percent Hispanic in 2050, up from 5 percent in 2010 (Figure 5). The non-Hispanic population aged 85 and older is projected to nearly triple, from 5.5 million in 2010 to 16.2 million in 2050. In contrast, during this time period, the Hispanic population in this age

group is projected to increase more than ninefold, from 305,000 to 2.9 million (see Table A-2 for more detailed data on race and Hispanic origin).

Although each race and ethnic group is projected to increase in the proportion aged 65 and over between 2010 and 2050, the percent 65 and over varies by race and Hispanic origin. Some groups

Figure 6.  
**Percent Aged 65 and Over by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States:  
 2010, 2030, and 2050**



Note: Unless otherwise specified, data refer to the population who reported a race alone. Populations for each race group include both Hispanics and non-Hispanics, unless otherwise specified. Hispanics may be of any race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

will see increases of nearly 13 percentage points, while others will see increases of less than 3 percentage points.

The non-Hispanic White alone population is the oldest with 16 percent of its population aged 65 and over in 2010. By 2030, nearly one quarter of non-Hispanic Whites

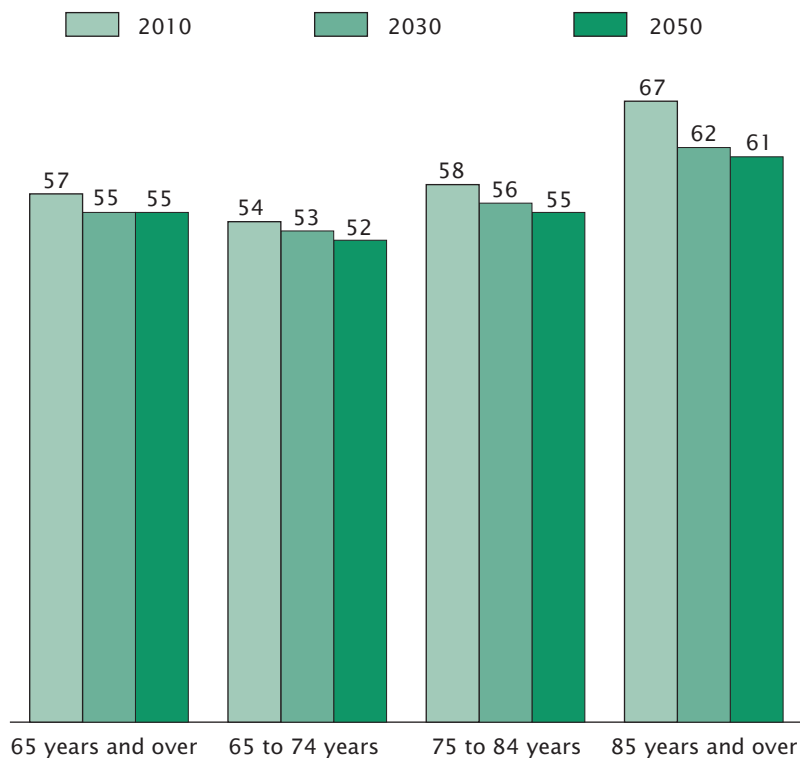
are projected to be aged 65 and over (Figure 6). At the opposite end of the spectrum, the Two or More Races population will continue to be the youngest population, with only

a slight increase in the percentage of its population aged 65 and older, from 5.1 percent in 2010 to 7.8 percent in 2050. While the percent aged 65 and over will more than double for the Hispanic population between 2010 and 2050, it will continue to be a relatively young population with 13 percent aged 65 and older in 2050. This is comparable to the percent aged 65 and over for the total population in 2010. Two groups that see large increases in the proportion older in their populations are the Asian alone and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone groups. By 2050, 22 percent of the Asian alone population is projected to be aged 65 and over making it the second oldest category. The Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone population is expected to jump from 6.5 percent aged 65 and over in 2010 to 18 percent in 2050.

### SEX RATIOS

Female life expectancy has long exceeded male life expectancy, resulting in women outnumbering men in the older age groups. While that trend is projected to continue over the next four decades, the gap between the number of women and men is expected to narrow. This narrowing is due to the more rapid increase in life expectancy for men that is projected over the next several decades. Among those 65 years and over in 2050, 55 percent are projected to be female, down from 57 percent in 2010 (Figure 7). This decline in the female share, or increase in male share, of the population is even more dramatic among the oldest old. Among those 85 years and over, 61 percent are

Figure 7.  
**Percent Female for the Older Population by Age for the United States: 2010, 2030, and 2050**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

projected to be female in 2050, down 6 percentage points from 67 in 2010 (see Table A-3 for more detailed data on the sex distribution). The changing sex ratios at the older ages may have implications on the social and economic well-being of the older population. One implication would be on marital status and living arrangements of the older population. The changing sex ratios could also have an impact on the types of care that are available to the older population.

### CONCLUSION

The population in the United States is projected to grow older over the next several decades. Much of this aging is due to the baby boom generation moving into the ranks of the 65 and older population. As the U.S. population grows older, the racial and ethnic composition of the older population is also expected to change. We expect to see an increase in the proportion of the older population that is Hispanic and an increase in the proportion that is a race other than White. As



---

we near 2050, we expect that the oldest age categories will grow in terms of numbers and proportions. This changing age structure of the population will have an impact on both families and society.

## DATA SOURCE AND METHODOLOGY

This report uses projections of the total U.S. population as of July 1 for the years 2000–2050. The universe is the resident population of the United States (50 states and the District of Columbia). The projections are based on Census 2000 and were produced using a cohort-component method, which uses the components of population change (births, deaths, and net international migration) to project forward. The assumptions for the components of change are based on time series analysis. Historical mortality trends were calculated using the National Center for Health Statistics' data on deaths and the U.S. Census Bureau's population estimates for 1984–2003. Fertility trends were calculated using the National Center for Health Statistics' births data and Census Bureau estimates of the female population. The time series included data from 1980 to 2003. Trends in net international migration were primarily based on data from the Immigration and

Naturalization Service and the Department of Homeland Security on persons obtaining legal permanent residence, as well as Census Bureau population estimates for 1972–2002.

The methodology used to produce the projections used in this report is available at <[www.census.gov/population/www/projections/methodstatement.html#\\_ftn1](http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/methodstatement.html#_ftn1)>.

All derived values were computed using unrounded data. In the text, figures, and tables, most whole numbers were rounded to the nearest thousand or million and most decimal numbers were rounded to the nearest tenth or whole number.

## DATA ACCURACY

These projections are based on Census 2000 and may, therefore, contain nonsampling error due to potential enumeration errors such as differential undercoverage or overcoverage by demographic characteristics. Technical documentation for Census 2000 is available at <[www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf1.pdf)>. Nonsampling error also exists as the assumptions for the components of change were based on time series analysis. Future changes in policy or other factors that might influence levels of the population components and

their directions cannot be predicted. Thus if actual trends or levels in fertility, mortality, or international migration differ radically from the assumed trends and levels, the projected population will be less accurate.

## SUGGESTED CITATION

Vincent, Grayson K. and Victoria A. Velkoff, 2010, *THE NEXT FOUR DECADES, The Older Population in the United States: 2010 to 2050*, Current Population Reports, P25-1138, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC.

## CONTACTS

U.S. Census Bureau  
Demographic Call Center Staff  
301-763-2422 or 1-866-758-1060 (toll-free) or visit <[ask.census.gov](http://ask.census.gov)> for further information.

Population Projections Branch  
301-763-2428

## USER COMMENTS

The Census Bureau welcomes the comments and advice of users of our data and reports. Please send suggestions or comments to:

Chief, Population Division  
U.S. Census Bureau  
Washington, DC 20233-8800

Appendix Table A-1.

**Projections and Distribution of the Total Population by Age for the United States: 2010 to 2050**

(Numbers in thousands)

Age	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
<b>NUMBER</b>					
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>310,233</b>	<b>341,387</b>	<b>373,504</b>	<b>405,655</b>	<b>439,010</b>
Under 20 years .....	84,150	90,703	97,682	104,616	112,940
20 to 64 years .....	185,854	195,880	203,729	219,801	237,523
65 years and over .....	40,229	54,804	72,092	81,238	88,547
65 to 69 years .....	12,261	17,861	20,381	18,989	21,543
70 to 74 years .....	9,202	14,452	18,404	17,906	18,570
75 to 79 years .....	7,282	9,656	14,390	16,771	15,964
80 to 84 years .....	5,733	6,239	10,173	13,375	13,429
85 to 89 years .....	3,650	3,817	5,383	8,450	10,303
90 years and over .....	2,101	2,780	3,362	5,748	8,738
<b>PERCENT</b>					
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Under 20 years .....	27.1	26.6	26.2	25.8	25.7
20 to 64 years .....	59.9	57.4	54.5	54.2	54.1
65 years and over .....	13.0	16.1	19.3	20.0	20.2
65 to 69 years .....	4.0	5.2	5.5	4.7	4.9
70 to 74 years .....	3.0	4.2	4.9	4.4	4.2
75 to 79 years .....	2.3	2.8	3.9	4.1	3.6
80 to 84 years .....	1.8	1.8	2.7	3.3	3.1
85 to 89 years .....	1.2	1.1	1.4	2.1	2.3
90 years and over .....	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.4	2.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

Appendix Table A-2.

## Projections and Distribution of the Older Population by Selected Age Group, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2010 to 2050

(Numbers in thousands)

Age, race, and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup>	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
<b>NUMBER</b>					
<b>65 years and over</b> .....	<b>40,229</b>	<b>54,804</b>	<b>72,092</b>	<b>81,238</b>	<b>88,547</b>
One race .....	39,951	54,338	71,385	80,316	87,287
White .....	34,926	46,347	59,363	64,710	68,055
Non-Hispanic White .....	32,243	41,667	51,334	52,469	51,772
Black .....	3,418	5,072	7,395	8,949	10,553
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	235	411	627	769	918
Asian .....	1,333	2,438	3,882	5,722	7,541
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	39	71	117	166	219
Two or More Races .....	278	467	707	923	1,260
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White .....	35,155	46,724	59,930	65,447	69,078
Black .....	3,482	5,185	7,577	9,214	10,960
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	410	693	1,011	1,185	1,396
Asian .....	1,412	2,582	4,135	6,103	8,096
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	73	131	214	298	397
Hispanic .....	2,858	5,019	8,631	13,150	17,515
<b>65 to 74 years</b> .....	<b>21,463</b>	<b>32,312</b>	<b>38,784</b>	<b>36,895</b>	<b>40,113</b>
One race .....	21,294	32,017	38,380	36,429	39,436
White .....	18,312	26,893	31,315	28,409	29,931
Non-Hispanic White .....	16,735	23,981	26,451	21,651	21,854
Black .....	1,975	3,232	4,379	4,407	5,170
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	148	265	362	366	446
Asian .....	833	1,581	2,254	3,159	3,778
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	25	46	70	89	111
Two or More Races .....	168	296	404	466	677
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White .....	18,451	27,130	31,639	28,783	30,489
Black .....	2,014	3,305	4,485	4,551	5,402
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	255	441	565	543	677
Asian .....	881	1,675	2,409	3,369	4,080
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	46	83	126	155	202
Hispanic .....	1,685	3,133	5,230	7,252	8,698
<b>75 to 84 years</b> .....	<b>13,015</b>	<b>15,895</b>	<b>24,563</b>	<b>30,145</b>	<b>29,393</b>
One race .....	12,934	15,768	24,334	29,828	29,018
White .....	11,424	13,631	20,506	24,393	22,633
Non-Hispanic White .....	10,607	12,362	18,151	20,437	17,093
Black .....	1,046	1,341	2,316	3,256	3,402
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	66	112	204	284	293
Asian .....	387	665	1,272	1,839	2,618
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	11	19	36	56	72
Two or More Races .....	81	127	228	318	375
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White .....	11,491	13,735	20,690	24,647	22,934
Black .....	1,064	1,370	2,372	3,340	3,519
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	116	191	339	442	434
Asian .....	410	702	1,346	1,963	2,788
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	21	35	66	100	126
Hispanic .....	868	1,355	2,534	4,254	5,945

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table A-2.

## Projections and Distribution of the Older Population by Selected Age Group, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2010 to 2050—Con.

(Numbers in thousands)

Age, race, and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup>	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
<b>85 years and over</b> .....	<b>5,751</b>	<b>6,597</b>	<b>8,745</b>	<b>14,198</b>	<b>19,041</b>
One race .....	5,722	6,553	8,671	14,059	18,833
White .....	5,189	5,823	7,542	11,908	15,491
Non-Hispanic White .....	4,902	5,324	6,731	10,381	12,825
Black .....	397	499	701	1,287	1,982
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	20	34	62	119	180
Asian .....	113	191	356	724	1,145
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	3	6	11	21	35
Two or More Races .....	29	44	74	139	208
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White .....	5,213	5,859	7,601	12,017	15,655
Black .....	404	510	720	1,323	2,039
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	39	61	108	201	285
Asian .....	121	205	379	772	1,228
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	7	12	22	43	69
Hispanic .....	305	531	868	1,645	2,871
<b>PERCENT</b>					
<b>65 years and over</b> .....	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
One race .....	99.3	99.1	99.0	98.9	98.6
White .....	86.8	84.6	82.3	79.7	76.9
Non-Hispanic White .....	80.2	76.0	71.2	64.6	58.5
Black .....	8.5	9.3	10.3	11.0	11.9
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0
Asian .....	3.3	4.4	5.4	7.0	8.5
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Two or More Races .....	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.4
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White .....	87.4	85.3	83.1	80.6	78.0
Black .....	8.7	9.5	10.5	11.3	12.4
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6
Asian .....	3.5	4.7	5.7	7.5	9.1
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
Hispanic .....	7.1	9.2	12.0	16.2	19.8
<b>65 to 74 years</b> .....	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
One race .....	99.2	99.1	99.0	98.7	98.3
White .....	85.3	83.2	80.7	77.0	74.6
Non-Hispanic White .....	78.0	74.2	68.2	58.7	54.5
Black .....	9.2	10.0	11.3	11.9	12.9
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1
Asian .....	3.9	4.9	5.8	8.6	9.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
Two or More Races .....	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.3	1.7
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White .....	86.0	84.0	81.6	78.0	76.0
Black .....	9.4	10.2	11.6	12.3	13.5
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7
Asian .....	4.1	5.2	6.2	9.1	10.2
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5
Hispanic .....	7.9	9.7	13.5	19.7	21.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table A-2.

## Projections and Distribution of the Older Population by Selected Age Group, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2010 to 2050—Con.

(Numbers in thousands)

Age, race, and Hispanic origin <sup>1</sup>	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
<b>75 to 84 years.....</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
One race .....	99.4	99.2	99.1	98.9	98.7
White.....	87.8	85.8	83.5	80.9	77.0
Non-Hispanic White .....	81.5	77.8	73.9	67.8	58.2
Black.....	8.0	8.4	9.4	10.8	11.6
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0
Asian.....	3.0	4.2	5.2	6.1	8.9
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Two or More Races .....	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.3
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White.....	88.3	86.4	84.2	81.8	78.0
Black.....	8.2	8.6	9.7	11.1	12.0
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5
Asian.....	3.2	4.4	5.5	6.5	9.5
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
Hispanic.....	6.7	8.5	10.3	14.1	20.2
<b>85 years and over .....</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
One race .....	99.5	99.3	99.2	99.0	98.9
White.....	90.2	88.3	86.2	83.9	81.4
Non-Hispanic White .....	85.2	80.7	77.0	73.1	67.4
Black.....	6.9	7.6	8.0	9.1	10.4
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9
Asian.....	2.0	2.9	4.1	5.1	6.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Two or More Races .....	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1
Race alone or in combination: <sup>2</sup>					
White.....	90.6	88.8	86.9	84.6	82.2
Black.....	7.0	7.7	8.2	9.3	10.7
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.5
Asian.....	2.1	3.1	4.3	5.4	6.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander .....	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
Hispanic.....	5.3	8.1	9.9	11.6	15.1

<sup>1</sup> Hispanics may be of any race.<sup>2</sup> In combination means in combination with one or more other races. The sum of the five race groups adds to more than the total population, and 100 percent, because individuals may report more than one race.Note: The original race data from Census 2000 are modified to eliminate the "Some Other Race" category. This modification is used for all Census Bureau projections products. For more information see <[www.census.gov/popest/archives/files/MRSF-01-US1.html](http://www.census.gov/popest/archives/files/MRSF-01-US1.html)>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.

Appendix Table A-3.

### Projections of the Older Population by Selected Age Group and Sex, and Sex Ratios for the United States: 2010 to 2050

(Numbers in thousands)

Sex, age, and sex ratios	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
<b>MALE</b>					
<b>65 years and over</b> .....	<b>17,292</b>	<b>24,323</b>	<b>32,294</b>	<b>36,396</b>	<b>39,917</b>
65 to 69 years .....	5,747	8,412	9,665	9,090	10,380
70 to 74 years .....	4,191	6,660	8,529	8,406	8,782
75 to 79 years .....	3,159	4,285	6,452	7,610	7,345
80 to 84 years .....	2,302	2,622	4,363	5,810	5,952
85 to 89 years .....	1,297	1,466	2,144	3,437	4,282
90 years and over .....	596	878	1,140	2,044	3,176
<b>FEMALE</b>					
<b>65 years and over</b> .....	<b>22,937</b>	<b>30,481</b>	<b>39,798</b>	<b>44,842</b>	<b>48,630</b>
65 to 69 years .....	6,514	9,449	10,715	9,899	11,163
70 to 74 years .....	5,011	7,791	9,875	9,500	9,788
75 to 79 years .....	4,123	5,371	7,937	9,161	8,619
80 to 84 years .....	3,431	3,618	5,810	7,565	7,477
85 to 89 years .....	2,353	2,351	3,239	5,013	6,021
90 years and over .....	1,506	1,902	2,222	3,703	5,562
<b>SEX RATIO<sup>1</sup></b>					
<b>65 years and over</b> .....	<b>75.4</b>	<b>79.8</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>82.1</b>
65 to 69 years .....	88.2	89.0	90.2	91.8	93.0
70 to 74 years .....	83.6	85.5	86.4	88.5	89.7
75 to 79 years .....	76.6	79.8	81.3	83.1	85.2
80 to 84 years .....	67.1	72.5	75.1	76.8	79.6
85 to 89 years .....	55.1	62.4	66.2	68.6	71.1
90 years and over .....	39.5	46.2	51.3	55.2	57.1

<sup>1</sup> Sex ratios are equal to the number of men per hundred women.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008.



**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
Washington, DC 20233

---

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

Penalty for Private Use \$300

FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
U.S. Census Bureau  
Permit No. G-58