

Chapter 1: What Demographic Changes Can States Expect?

The United States is on the verge of a dramatic demographic transformation due to the anticipated aging of the population. Over the next 20 years, the older population is expected to grow significantly as the “baby-boom” generation enters old age. Moreover, older people are expected to live longer than they have in the past, furthering the growth in the population age 65 and older.

The older population is growing not only in numbers but in also in diversity. Varying fertility, mortality, and immigration rates among ethnic and racial groups have an impact on the composition of the population. Immigration rates have been increasing steadily since the early 1960s, bringing a stream of younger minority ethnic and racial groups into the United States.

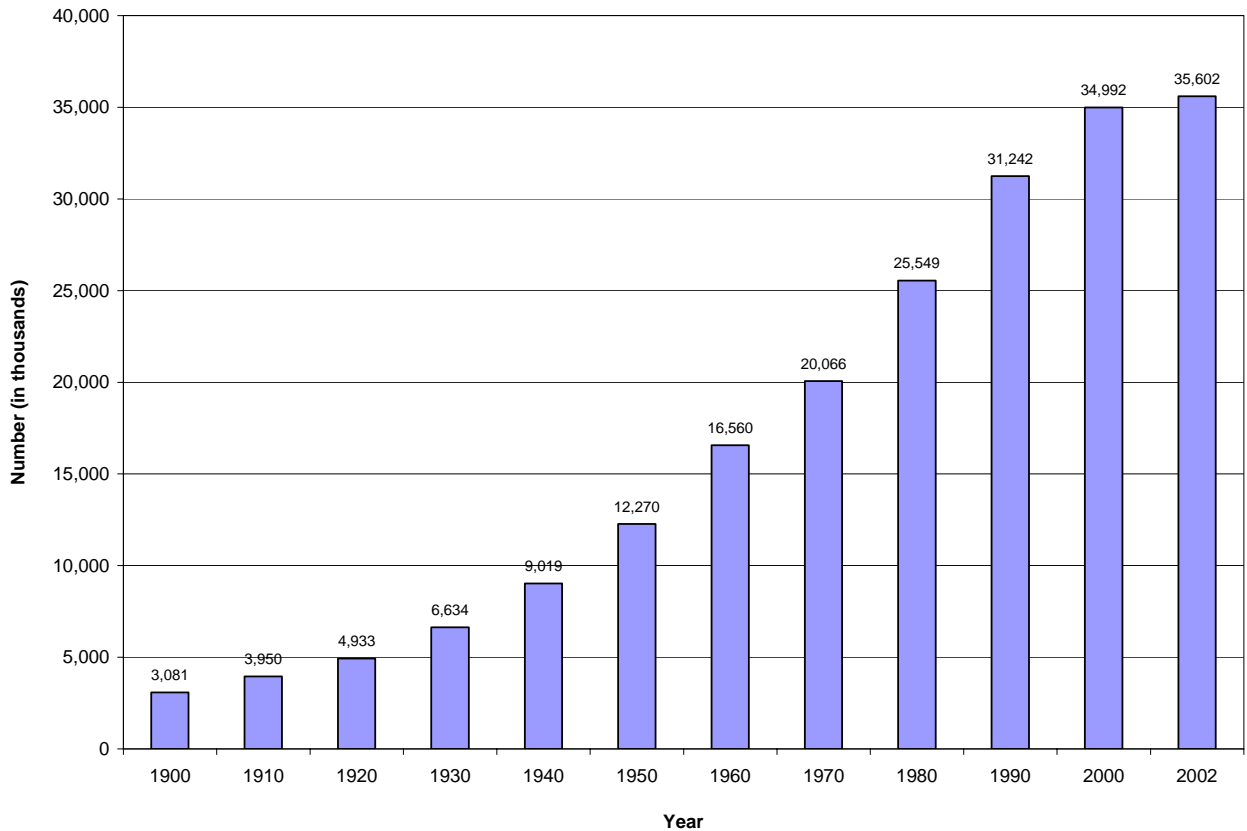
The anticipated older and more diverse population will have tremendous effects on the United States as a whole, but the degree to which change will occur will vary by state. Some states are “older” than others, and some are aging faster than others.

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9. Migration of the older population affects some states more than others
10. Accommodations are needed for non-English-speaking older populations

The population age 65 and older has already grown

Growth in the Number of Elderly



Source: (1900 to 2000 data) U.S. Census Bureau. (2002). *Demographic Trends in the 20th Century, Census 2000 Special Reports*. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html#sr>.

(2002 data) U.S. Census Bureau. (2003). *National Population Estimates - Characteristics (Table NA-EST2002-ASRO-01)* [Date file]. Retrieved from <http://eire.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>.

The population age 65 and older has been growing rapidly throughout the 20th century. Since 1950, the senior population has nearly tripled—from 12.3 million to nearly 35 million people—while the total population has not quite doubled—from 150.7 million to 281.4 million people.¹

¹ Hobbs, F. & Stoops, N. (2002). *Demographic Trends in the 20th Century—Census 2000 Special Reports*. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html#sr>.

Age patterns differ across the United States

Ranking of the Proportion of the Population Age 65 and Older, by State, 2000 and 2025

State	Rank		Proportion	
	2000	2025	2000	2025
Florida	1	1	17.6	26.3
Pennsylvania	2	17	15.6	21.0
West Virginia	3	2	15.3	24.9
Iowa	4	7	14.9	22.6
North Dakota	5	6	14.7	22.8
Rhode Island	6	34	14.5	18.8
Maine	7	12	14.4	21.4
South Dakota	8	9	14.3	21.7
Arkansas	9	5	14.0	23.9
Connecticut	10	38	13.8	17.9
Nebraska	11	16	13.6	21.0
Massachusetts	12	36	13.5	18.1
Missouri	13	25	13.5	20.1
Montana	14	3	13.4	24.4
Ohio	15	28	13.3	19.6
Hawaii	16	48	13.3	15.9
Kansas	17	30	13.3	19.5
New Jersey	18	40	13.2	17.3
Oklahoma	19	8	13.2	21.9
Wisconsin	20	21	13.1	20.5
Alabama	21	20	13.0	20.5
Arizona	22	13	13.0	21.3
Delaware	23	32	13.0	19.2
New York	24	45	12.9	16.5
Oregon	25	4	12.8	24.2
Vermont	26	22	12.7	20.4
Kentucky	27	14	12.5	21.3
Indiana	28	31	12.4	19.2
Tennessee	29	23	12.4	20.3
Michigan	30	37	12.3	18.1
District of Columbia	31	49	12.2	14.0
South Carolina	32	19	12.1	20.7
Minnesota	33	27	12.1	19.9
Illinois	34	44	12.1	16.6
Mississippi	35	29	12.1	19.6
North Carolina	36	11	12.0	21.4
New Hampshire	37	33	12.0	19.0
Wyoming	38	18	11.7	20.9
New Mexico	39	43	11.7	16.9
Louisiana	40	35	11.6	18.4
Maryland	41	46	11.3	16.4
Idaho	42	10	11.3	21.5
Washington	43	24	11.2	20.2
Virginia	44	39	11.2	17.9
Nevada	45	15	11.0	21.0
California	46	50	10.6	13.0
Texas	47	47	9.9	16.1
Colorado	48	26	9.7	20.1
Georgia	49	42	9.6	16.9
Utah	50	41	8.5	17.2
Alaska	51	51	5.7	10.4

Source: (2000 data) U.S. Census Bureau. *Census 2000 Summary File 1* (Table GCT-P15) [Data file]. Retrieved from the American FactFinder Web site, <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

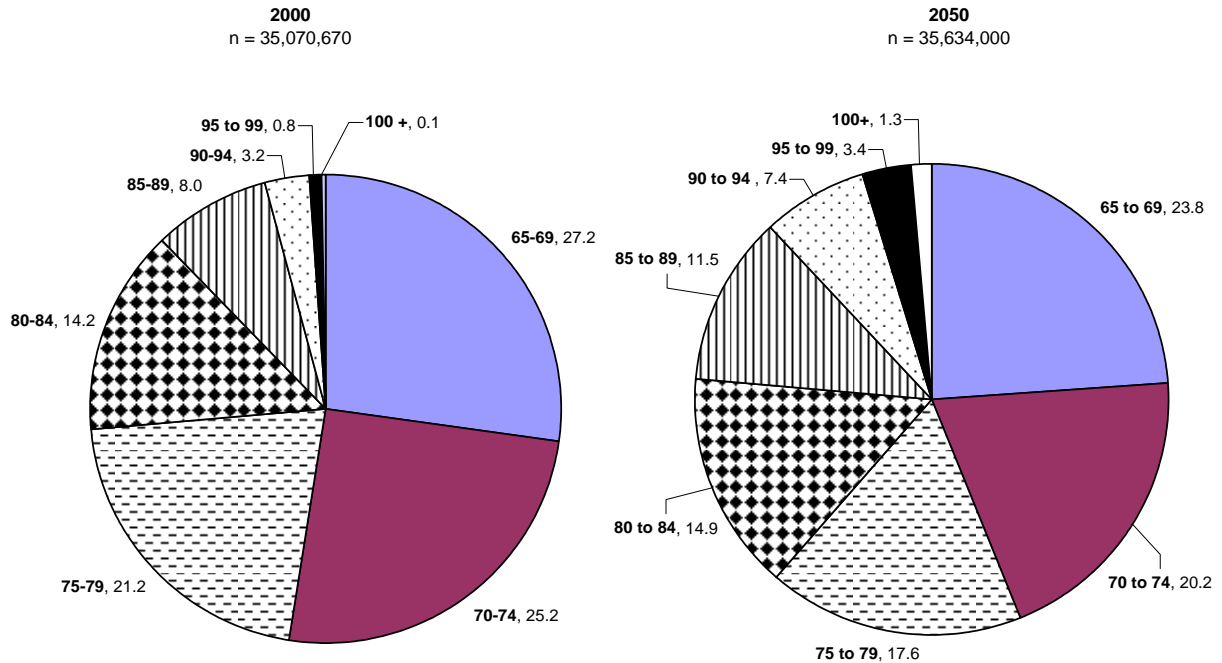
(2025 total population data) U.S. Census Bureau. *Projections of the Total Population of States: 1995 to 2025* [Data file]. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/stproj.html>.

(2025 Age 65 + data) U.S. Census Bureau. *Population Projections for States by Selected Age Groups and Sex: 1995 to 2025* [Data file]. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/stproj.html>.

The group of states that is currently among the “youngest” or “oldest” states will be different in the future. Pennsylvania, for example, ranks 2nd in terms of the proportion of the population that is older, but by 2025, it will rank 17th.

Even the older population will grow older

Elderly Population by Age, 2000 and 2050



Source: (2000 data) U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. (2003) *National Population Estimates-Characteristics*. Available at <http://eire.census.gov/popest/data/national/tables/asro/US-EST2001-ASRO-01.php>.

(2050 data) U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2000) *Projections of the Resident Population by Age, Sex, Race and Ethnicity: 1995 to 2100* (Middle Series). Available at <http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/natdet-D1A.html>.

Currently, the oldest-old—people 85 years of age and over—constitute 12.1 percent of the population age 65 and older. By 2025, this share is expected to be similar, however, by 2050, it will rise to 23.6 percent.

The oldest-old are expected to grow in every state

Ranking of the Proportion of the Population Age 85 and Older, 2000 to 2025

State	Rank		Proportion	
	2000	2025	2000	2025
North Dakota	1	2	2.3	3.6
Iowa	2	3	2.2	3.1
South Dakota	3	6	2.1	2.9
Florida	4	5	2.1	3.0
Rhode Island	5	14	2.0	2.5
Nebraska	6	8	2.0	2.8
Pennsylvania	7	16	1.9	2.4
Kansas	8	21	1.9	2.3
Connecticut	9	13	1.9	2.5
Massachusetts	10	19	1.8	2.4
Maine	11	39	1.8	2.0
Wisconsin	12	11	1.8	2.5
Missouri	13	25	1.8	2.2
West Virginia	14	12	1.8	2.5
Minnesota	15	10	1.7	2.5
Arkansas	16	22	1.7	2.3
Montana	17	4	1.7	3.1
Oregon	18	7	1.7	2.9
Oklahoma	19	9	1.7	2.7
Vermont	20	34	1.6	2.1
New York	21	42	1.6	2.0
New Jersey	22	36	1.6	2.0
District of Columbia	23	47	1.6	1.7
Ohio	24	20	1.6	2.4
Illinois	25	38	1.5	2.0
Alabama	26	37	1.5	2.0
Mississippi	27	43	1.5	1.9
Indiana	28	26	1.5	2.2
New Hampshire	29	30	1.5	2.1
Hawaii	30	15	1.4	2.5
Kentucky	31	40	1.4	2.0
Michigan	32	33	1.4	2.1
Tennessee	33	32	1.4	2.1
Washington	34	23	1.4	2.3
Idaho	35	1	1.4	5.8
Wyoming	36	17	1.4	2.4
Delaware	37	29	1.3	2.1
Arizona	38	27	1.3	2.2
Louisiana	39	35	1.3	2.0
North Carolina	40	24	1.3	2.3
New Mexico	41	48	1.3	1.7
Maryland	42	45	1.3	1.8
California	43	50	1.3	1.5
South Carolina	44	28	1.3	2.1
Virginia	45	41	1.2	2.0
Texas	46	46	1.1	1.7
Colorado	47	18	1.1	2.4
Georgia	48	49	1.1	1.6
Utah	49	31	1.0	2.1
Nevada	50	44	0.9	1.8
Alaska	51	51	0.4	0.9

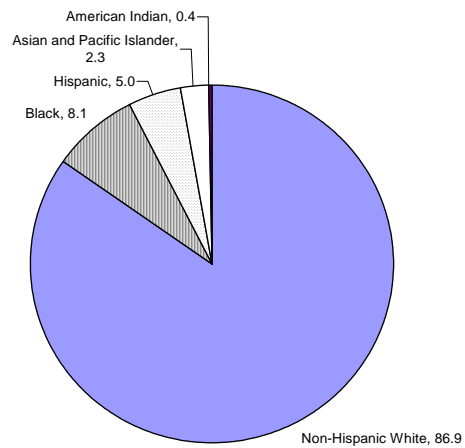
Source: (2000 data) U.S. Census Bureau. *Census 2000 Summary File 1* (Table P12) [Data file]. Retrieved from the American FactFinder Web site, <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

(2025 data) U.S. Census Bureau. *Detailed State Projections by Single Year of Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin: 1995 to 2025* [Data file]. Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/stproj.html>.

The older population will be more racially and ethnically diverse

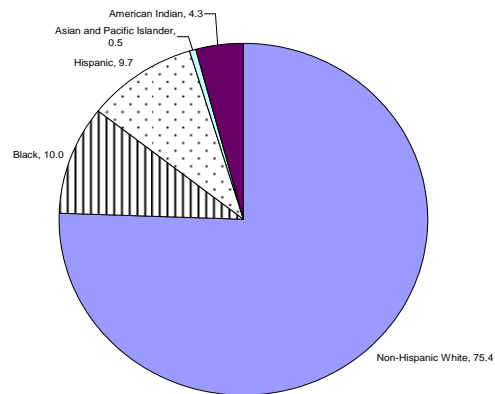
Racial and Ethnic Composition of the Population Age 65 and Over

2000
n = 34,991,753



Source: (2000 data) U.S. Census Bureau. *Census 2000 Rankings and Comparison Population and Housing Tables* (Table PHC-T-8) [Data file] Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/tablist.html>.

2025
n = 62,641,000



Source: (2025) U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. (2003) *Projections of the Resident Population by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin: 1999 to 2100* (Middle Series). Retrieved from <http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/natproj.html>.

Because of differences in immigration and fertility rates, African American, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Hispanic populations are all increasing more rapidly than the non-Hispanic white population.

Some states will have decreasing proportions of non-Hispanic whites age 65 and older while the proportion of minorities will increase

Proportion of the Non-Hispanic White Population Age 65 and Older, 2000 and 2025

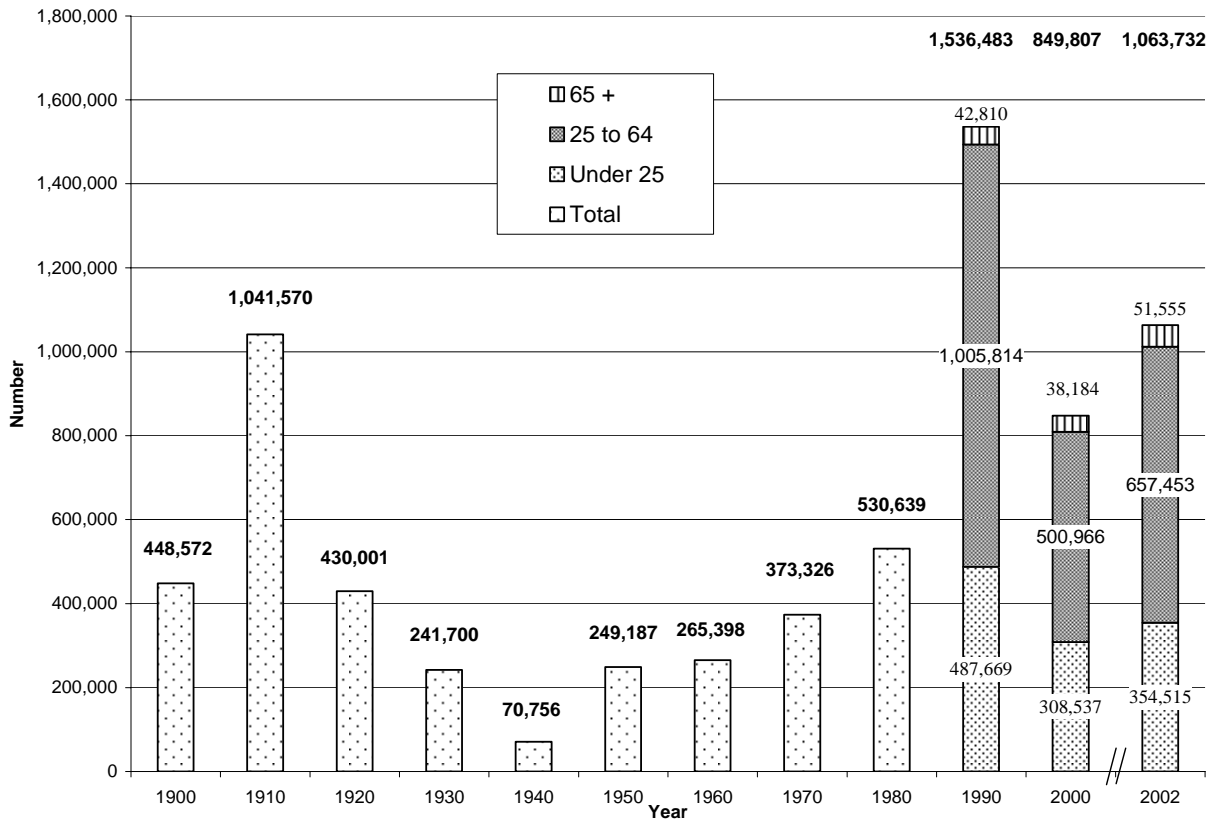
<i>State</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>Difference</i>
California	70.0	51.6	-18.4
New Jersey	83.3	68.8	-14.5
New York	78.7	66.1	-12.6
Maryland	77.3	64.7	-12.6
Nevada	84.7	72.5	-12.1
Florida	82.8	72.0	-10.8
Connecticut	91.3	82.3	-9.0
Arizona	86.7	78.0	-8.8
Illinois	83.8	75.3	-8.6
Massachusetts	93.1	84.8	-8.3
Texas	72.6	64.5	-8.2
Rhode Island	93.9	86.3	-7.6
Delaware	86.4	79.7	-6.8
Virginia	80.8	75.4	-5.3
Washington	91.2	86.1	-5.1
Georgia	77.9	73.1	-4.8
Oregon	94.7	90.1	-4.6
Wisconsin	95.9	91.5	-4.4
Oklahoma	87.5	83.2	-4.3
Louisiana	74.3	70.2	-4.1
Kansas	93.3	89.2	-4.1
New Mexico	64.1	60.1	-4.0
Minnesota	96.9	93.4	-3.5
Michigan	87.5	84.0	-3.5
Colorado	86.8	83.3	-3.5
Nebraska	96.0	92.6	-3.4
Pennsylvania	91.8	88.6	-3.2
Idaho	96.3	93.1	-3.2
Utah	94.1	91.4	-2.8
Ohio	90.1	87.4	-2.7
Iowa	98.0	95.8	-2.2
North Carolina	82.1	80.0	-2.1
Indiana	92.4	90.6	-1.8
North Dakota	97.8	96.0	-1.8
Missouri	91.0	89.6	-1.4
Tennessee	87.9	86.6	-1.3
Wyoming	94.5	93.1	-1.3
South Carolina	77.2	76.4	-0.8
Vermont	98.4	97.7	-0.8
New Hampshire	98.3	97.6	-0.8
Montana	96.0	95.3	-0.7
South Dakota	96.4	95.8	-0.6
Mississippi	73.7	73.1	-0.5
Arkansas	88.3	87.8	-0.4
Maine	98.8	98.5	-0.3
West Virginia	96.2	96.0	-0.3
Kentucky	93.5	93.2	-0.2
Alabama	79.7	80.1	0.4
Alaska	73.1	73.9	0.8
District of Columbia	26.0	32.7	6.7
Hawaii	21.9	32.7	10.7

Source: (2000 data) U.S. Census Bureau, *Census 2000 Summary File 1* (Table P12) [Data file]. Retrieved from the American FactFinder Web site, <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

(2025 data) U.S. Census Bureau. *Population Projections for States by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1995 to 2025*. Available at <http://www.census.gov/population/projections/state/stpjtage.txt>.

Immigration affects the age distribution

Immigration to the United States, 1900 to 2002



Source: (1900 to 1980, and 2002 data) Office of Immigration Statistics. (2003). *2002 Year of Immigration Statistics (Tables 1 and 6)*. Retrieved from <http://uscis.gov/graphics/shared/aboutus/statistics/index.html>.

(1990 and 2000 data) U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. (2003). *2000 Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (Tables 12 and 14)*. Retrieved from the Office of Immigration Statistics Web site, <http://uscis.gov/graphics/shared/aboutus/statistics/index.html>.

Note: The total number of immigrants admitted to the United States in 1990, 2000, 2001, and 2002 do not equal the sum of the number of immigrants by age groups because the age of some immigrants admitted during those years is unknown.

The number of immigrants to the United States has generally increased since the early 1940s. Most immigrants are under age 65, and many are under age 25.

Some states have much higher proportions of foreign-born residents

Percent Distribution of the Total Foreign-Born by State, 2000

<i>State</i>	<i>Distribution of the Total Foreign-Born by State</i>
California	28.50
New York	12.43
Texas	9.32
Florida	8.59
Illinois	4.92
New Jersey	4.75
Massachusetts	2.48
Arizona	2.11
Washington	1.98
Georgia	1.86
Virginia	1.83
Michigan	1.68
Maryland	1.67
Pennsylvania	1.63
North Carolina	1.38
Connecticut	1.19
Colorado	1.19
Ohio	1.09
Nevada	1.02
Oregon	0.93
Minnesota	0.84
Hawaii	0.68
Wisconsin	0.62
Indiana	0.60
Tennessee	0.51
Utah	0.51
Missouri	0.49
New Mexico	0.48
Kansas	0.43
Oklahoma	0.42
Rhode Island	0.38
South Carolina	0.37
Louisiana	0.37
Iowa	0.29
Alabama	0.28
Kentucky	0.26
Nebraska	0.24
Arkansas	0.24
District of Columbia	0.24
Idaho	0.21
New Hampshire	0.17
Delaware	0.14
Mississippi	0.13
Alaska	0.12
Maine	0.12
Vermont	0.07
West Virginia	0.06
Montana	0.05
South Dakota	0.04
North Dakota	0.04
Wyoming	0.04

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. *Census 2000 Summary File 3 (Table P21)*. [Data file] Retrieved from the American FactFinder Web site, <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

Percent Distribution of the Older Foreign-Born by Region, 2000

	<i>Older Foreign Born (%)</i>
West	34.7
Midwest	10.3
Northeast	27.6
South	27.5

Source: He, W. (2002). *The Older Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 2000*. Retrieved from Census Bureau.
<http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/p23-211.pdf>

Migration of the older population affects some states more than others

Net Internal Migration of the Population Age 65 and Older, 1995 to 2000

<i>State</i>	<i>Net Internal Migration</i>
Florida	149,440
Arizona	53,241
Nevada	22,189
North Carolina	20,922
Texas	17,957
South Carolina	15,760
Georgia	13,926
Tennessee	10,499
Virginia	6,937
Alabama	3,031
Idaho	2,795
Delaware	2,679
New Mexico	2,500
Arkansas	2,496
Mississippi	2,433
Utah	2,096
Colorado	1,994
Maine	1,650
Oregon	1,340
Washington	1,170
Oklahoma	1,074
Montana	891
New Hampshire	720
Missouri	513
Vermont	19
Wyoming	-29
South Dakota	-246
Kansas	-435
Rhode Island	-748
West Virginia	-931
Hawaii	-952
Kentucky	-1,397
Alaska	-1,428
North Dakota	-1,546
Nebraska	-1,889
Louisiana	-2,472
Wisconsin	-3,962
Maryland	-4,388
Iowa	-4,927
District of Columbia	-5,187
Minnesota	-6,137
Indiana	-6,315
Connecticut	-9,493
Massachusetts	-14,434
Pennsylvania	-15,884
Ohio	-18,589
Michigan	-21,949
New Jersey	-23,151
California	-34,171
Illinois	-43,119
New York	-114,171

Source: He, W. & Schacter, J.P. (2003). *Internal Migration of the Older Population: 1995 to 2000*. Retrieved from the U.S. Census Bureau Web site, <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/migration.html>.

The 25 states that gained older residents had a greater net gain (338,272) compared to the overall loss (337,950).

Accommodations are needed for non-English-speaking older populations

Proportion of the Population Age 65 and Older Who Speak
A Language Other than English At Home, 2000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. *Census 2000 Summary File 3 (Table P19)* [Data file]. Retrieved from the American FactFinder Web site, <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

The proportion of state residents whose primary language is not English ranges from 1.7 percent in Kentucky to 38.8 percent in Hawaii. As the older population becomes more diverse, the proportions are expected to increase.