

District of Columbia

# STATE DATA CENTER FACT SHEET



By  
Joy Phillips

These indicators were derived from data produced by the U.S. Census Bureau and may differ from data produced by other entities.

## Older Americans Month: May 2014 Facts on District Residents 65 Years and Older

A meeting with the National Council of Senior Citizens resulted in President John F. Kennedy designating May 1963 as Senior Citizens Month, encouraging the nation to pay tribute to older people across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter's proclamation changed the name to Older Americans Month, a time to celebrate those 65 and older through ceremonies, events and public recognition. The below facts on older Americans in the District of Columbia were obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2012 1-Year data.

### 71,900

The number of people who were 65 and older in the District of Columbia on July 1, 2012. This group accounted for 11.4 percent of the total population.

### 11.9%

The percent of people 65 and older (8,307) who were in poverty in 2012.

### 53.7%

The percent of householders 65 and older living alone.

### 12,223

Estimated number of people 65 and older who were veterans of the armed forces in 2012.

### 23.5%

Labor force participation rate for the 65 and older in 2012, up from 21.6 percent in 2008. Further age group analyses for the 30 plus years since 1990, show the labor force for both the 65-69 years and the 70 and over decreased slightly in 2000 but increase significantly by 2012 (Figure 1).

### 81.3%

Proportion of people 65 and older in 2012 who had completed high school or higher education.

### 37.8%

Percentage of the population 65 and older in 2013 who had earned a bachelor's degree or higher.

### 15.2%

Percentage of people 65 and older who were never married in 2012.

### 26.2%

Percentage of people 65 and older in 2012 who were widowed.

### 62.7%

Percentage of householders 65 and older who owned their homes in 2012.

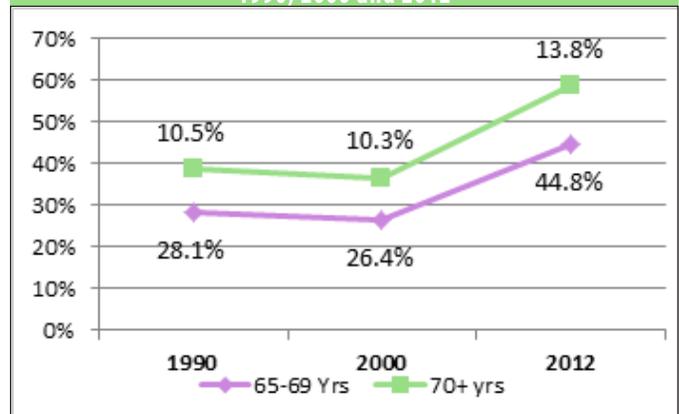
### 33.6%

The percent of people 65 and older with a disability.

### 156

The number of people age 100 and older counted by the 2010 Census. There were 132 females and 24 males

**Figure 1. Working Older: Percentage of the District population 65 years and over who were in the labor force in 1990, 2000 and 2012**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau: Census 1990 and 2000, 2012 ACS 1-year estimates

For more information contact:

D.C. Office of Planning State Data Center  
1100 4th Street SW, Suite E650, Washington, DC 20024  
202.442.7600 ph 202.442.7638 fax  
www.planning.dc.gov

