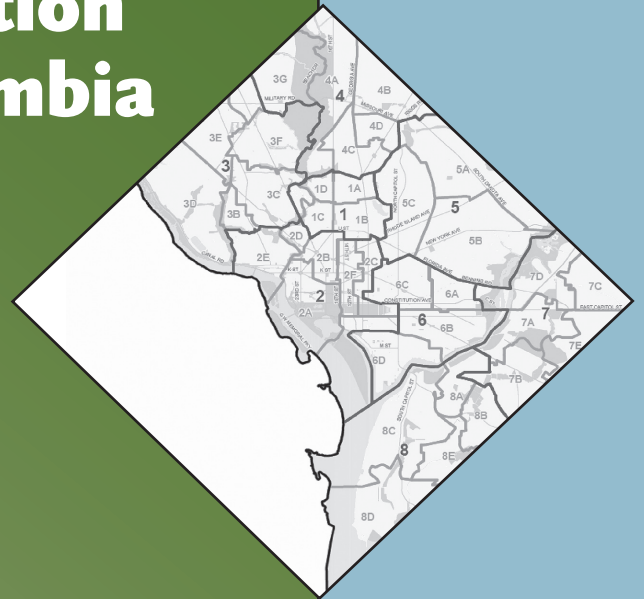


Effects of Migration on the Elderly Population in the District of Columbia

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Prepared by M.A. Lee

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Highlights

By 2030, the population of the Washington Metropolitan region is projected to increase by more than 2 million, according to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Although these projections also indicate that the Washington region's population age 65 and older will double between 2000 and 2030, little is known about the current and future characteristics of the older population. Using custom tabulations of data from the 2000 Census microdata, this report examines the impact of migration on characteristics of the population age 50 and older in 2000. This provides a preliminary understanding of how the District's aging population might change as this group reaches age 65 in 2015, if the migration pattern continues as it has in the recent past.

Based on an analysis of migration reported in the 2000 Decennial Census, just over 13,000 people age 50 and older moved into the District while 20,330 moved out between 1995 and 2000. This represents a considerable amount of geographic movement as the number of elderly moving in and out of D.C. was equal to over one-fifth of the District's 1995 elderly population still living.

As a result of this movement among the elderly, the poverty rate for this age group in Washington, D.C. was nearly 4 percent higher (14.8 percent rather than 14.2 percent) than it would have been if none of these people had moved in or out of the District.

Migration also affected other characteristics of the population age 50 and older in the District (see table on page 4). The employment ratio among the elderly population was significantly higher than it would have been otherwise (42 percent rather than 41 percent). As a result of the movement among the elderly, some indicators of disability also increased by small, but statistically significant, amounts. These include the percent of elderly reporting vision/hearing impairments, limitations in physical activities, and difficulties working at a job.

Among the D.C. wards, there are noticeable differences in how recent D.C. in-migrants compare to long-time residents with respect to the percent reporting impairments and other limitations in 2000. Wards 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 are similar to the District as a whole in one key respect: Long-term residents were more likely to report impairments or other limitations than were in-migrants. In Ward 7, a similar percent of in-migrants and long-term residents reported impairments and limitations. In Ward 4, overall higher percents of in-migrants had impairments or limitations than stayers did. For Ward 8, senior in-migrants were more likely to say they had some difficulties that affect working and personal care while out-migrants were more likely to report vision/hearing impairments and physical limitations.

Changes in characteristics of the population age 50 and older in the District are a result of differences between those moving in (in-migrants) and those moving out (out-migrants). In addition, the size of net out-migration affects these characteristics. For the District as a whole, in-migrants were more likely than out-migrants to be poor and also more likely to be employed. Out-migrants, however, were more likely to report all forms of disability (see definitions on page 4).

Definitions

In-migrants—persons who resided in the District of Columbia at the time of the Decennial Census in 2000 but not 5 years earlier.

Out-migrants—persons who did not reside in the District of Columbia at the time of the Decennial Census in 2000 but said they lived in the District 5 years earlier.

Stayers—persons who resided in the District of Columbia at the time of the Decennial Census in 2000 and were also residents 5 years earlier.

D.C. Residents in 2000—persons living in the District of Columbia at the time of the Decennial Census in 2000.

D.C. Residents in 1995—at the time of the Decennial Census in 2000, persons who report that they lived in the District 5 years earlier, whether or not they lived in the District in 2000.

Elderly—persons age 50 or older.

Tables and Figures

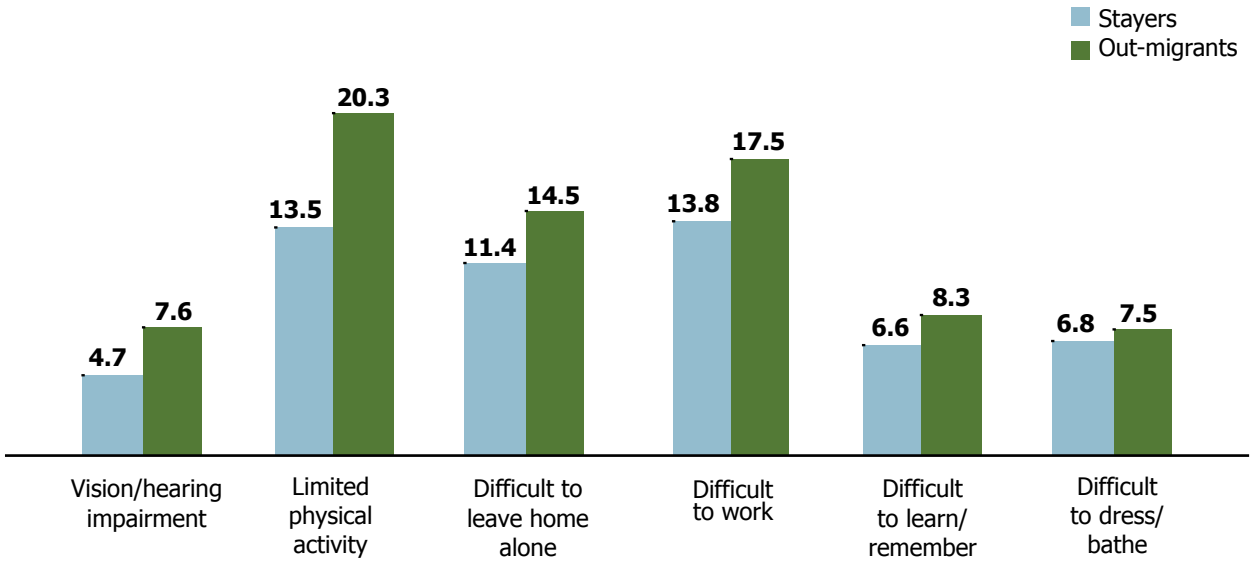
Percent Change in Rate (Ratio) Due to Migration

Percent poor	3.7	
Employed	1.3	
Public assistance	-3.8	not significant
Disability		
-vision/hearing impairment	-3.4	
-limited physical activity	-3.0	
-difficulties leaving home alone	-0.8	not significant
-difficulties working at job	-1.8	
-difficulties learning	-2.0	not significant
-difficulties dressing/bathing	-1.1	not significant

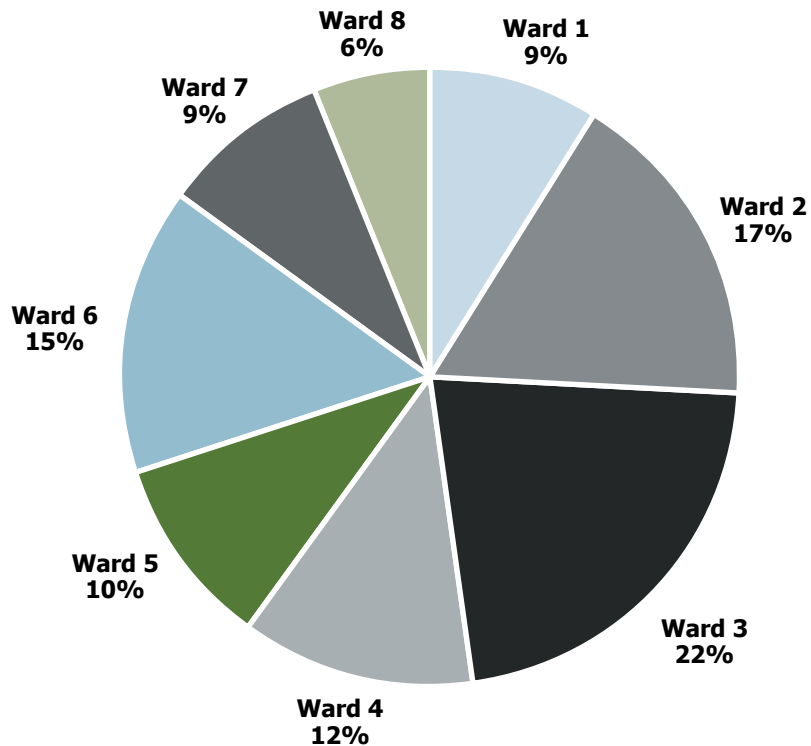
Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Elderly Out-Migrants in Washington, DC Were More Likely to Have Physical Limitations and Other Disabilities Than In-Migrants in 2000.

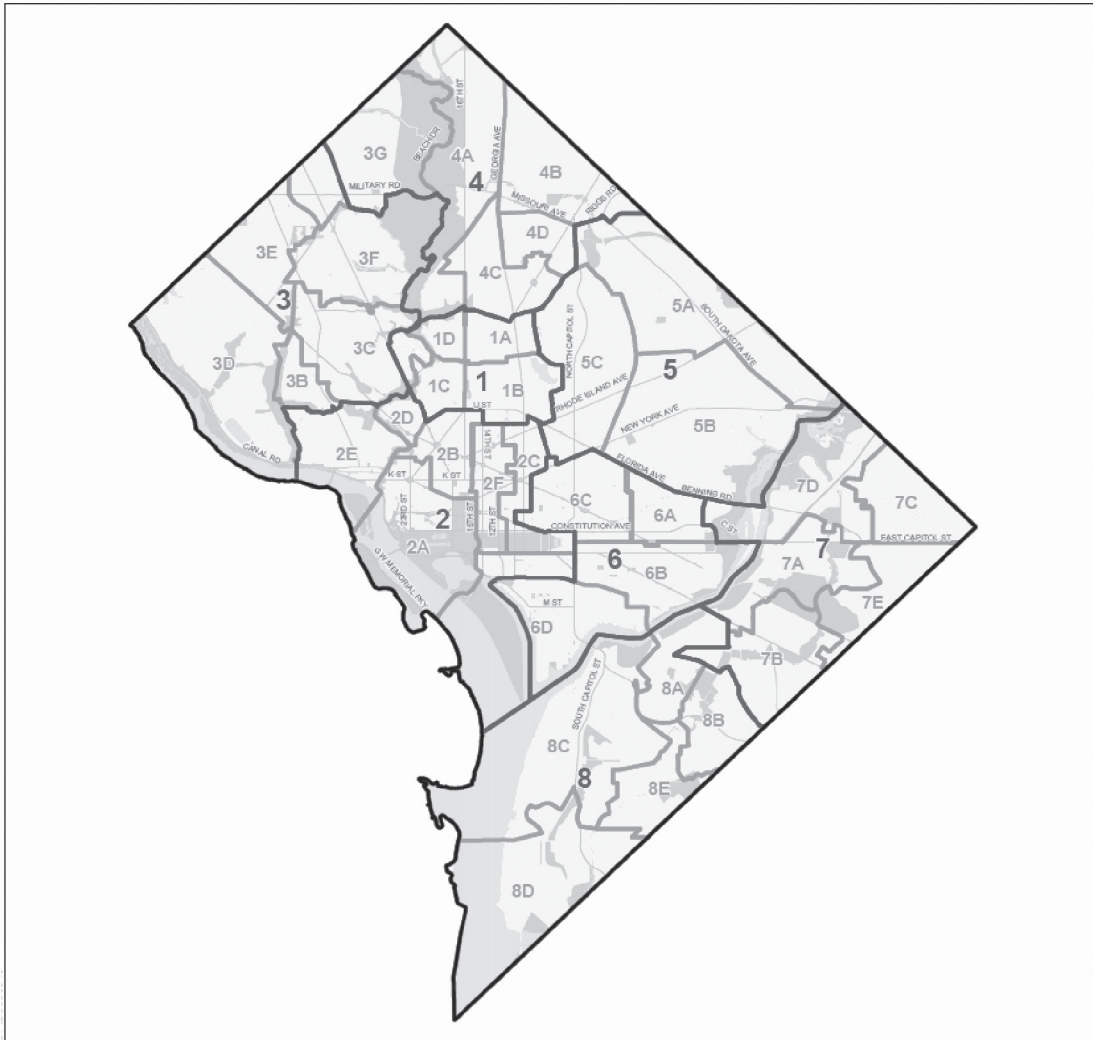
Percent disabled



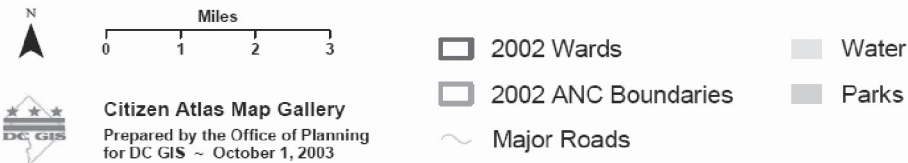
Distribution of Elderly In-Migrants Across D.C. Wards, 2000



Data Tables and Figures for District of Columbia and Its Wards

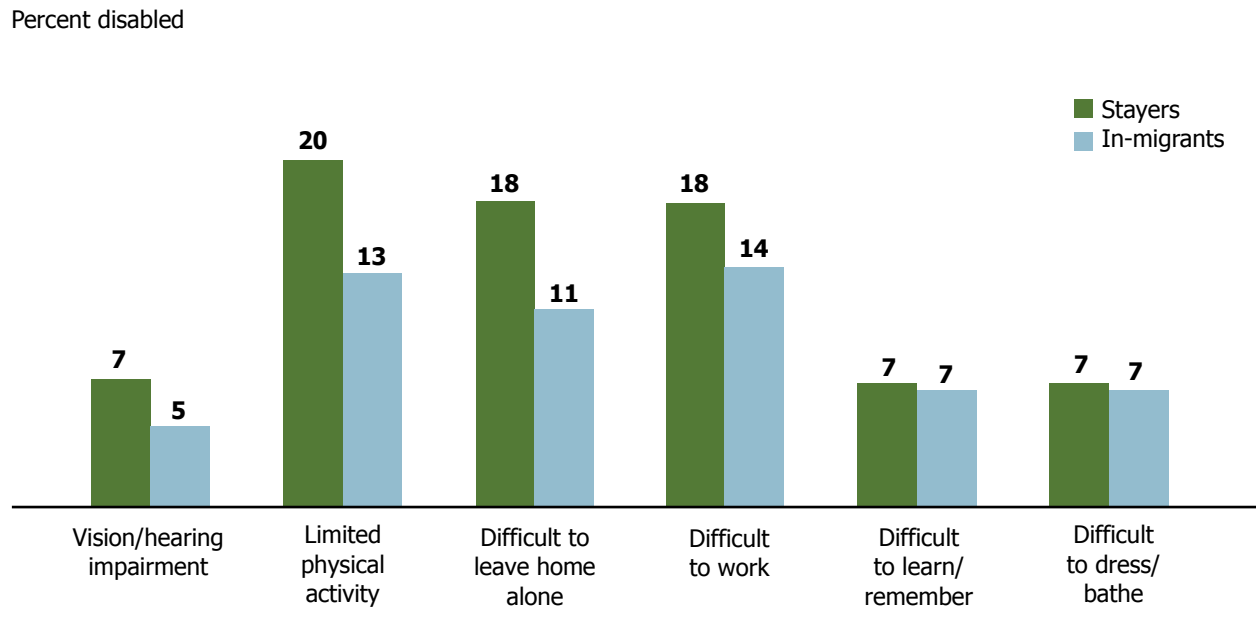


District of Columbia 2002 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions



District of Columbia

Figure 1. In 2000, Elderly Long-Term D.C. Residents Were More Likely Than Recent In-Migrants to Report Impairments That Limit Activities.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 1. Economic Characteristics of the District of Columbia Population age 50+

Overall, elderly newcomers in 2000 were better-off economically than long-time residents.

	Stayers	In-migrants	Out-migrants
Percent poor	14.9	13.4	9.8
Percent low-income	14.4	10.0	12.8
Percent employed	40.3	58.4	48.5
Percent with public assistance income	1.8	1.5	2.1
Median household income /a	\$50,210	\$73,439	\$61,738

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

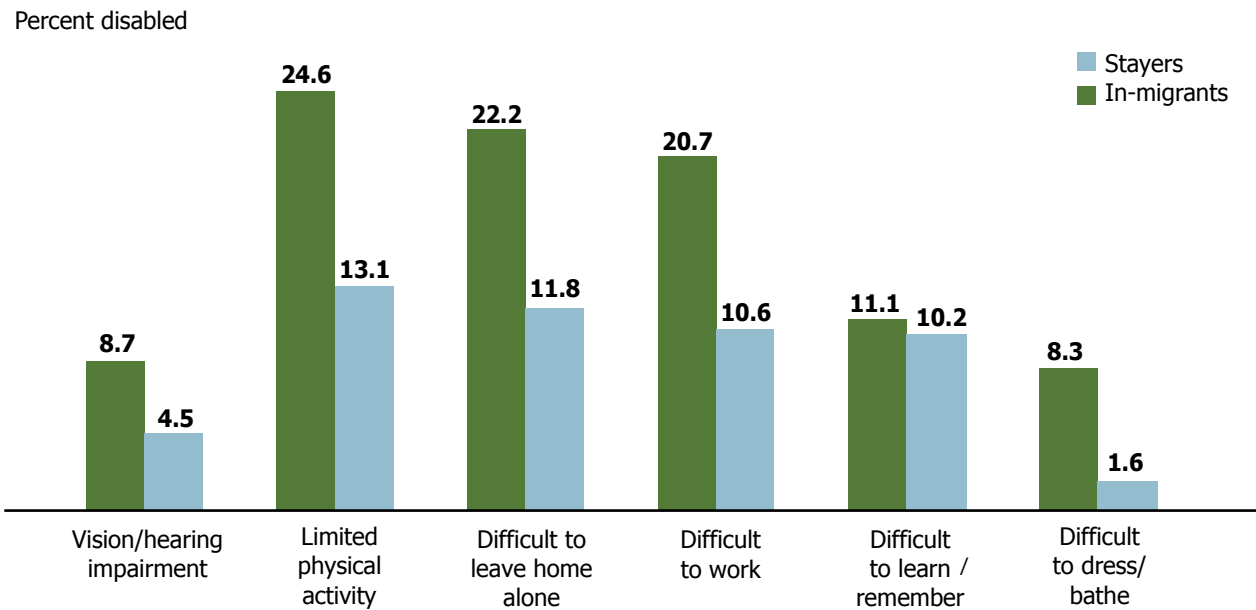
Table 2. Characteristics of the Population Age 50+ in 1995 and 2000 by Ward

	1995 DC	2000 DC	2000 Ward 1	2000 Ward 2	2000 Ward 3	2000 Ward 4	2000 Ward 5	2000 Ward 6	2000 Ward 7	2000 Ward 8
Poverty										
Percent poor (<100% FPL)	14.2	14.7	22.4	14.7	3.6	10.1	15.5	19.1	17.6	23.2
Percent low income (100-200% FPL)	14.2	14.0	18.7	10.5	5.6	13.5	16.7	15.3	15.5	19.8
Percent employed	41.4	41.9	41.7	51.6	57.4	40.7	33.0	42.4	32.9	35.7
Median income HH with a senior	\$41,937	41,450	31,112	54,872	83,882	47,826	34,424	37,966	32,513	26,766
Median income HH with a spouse or head who is a senior	\$51,564	51,953	41,387	70,941	115,296	63,054	45,929	45,859	39,551	34,551
Percent with public assistance income	1.8	1.8	2.7	0.9	0.3	1.1	1.7	2.2	2.4	4.4
Disabilities (%)										
-vision/hearing impairment	7.4	7.1	8.4	7.0	5.3	6.5	7.5	7.6	6.9	9.3
-limited physical activity	20.1	19.5	23.5	13.7	9.5	17.8	24.0	21.8	23.0	25.6
-difficulties leaving home alone	17.3	17.2	21.3	12.1	6.7	15.9	21.6	17.9	22.2	22.7
-difficulties working at job	17.6	17.2	19.8	14.6	9.8	16.8	20.5	16.4	20.0	22.5
-difficulties learning	8.0	7.9	11.0	5.7	3.9	6.4	9.9	10.0	8.6	9.2
-difficulties dressing/bathing	7.2	7.1	7.7	5.7	3.6	6.7	8.6	8.6	8.0	8.8
Race/ethnicity (%)										
-Non-Hispanic white	27.6	27.6	18.8	58.1	81.1	14.4	5.1	31.4	2.6	3.6
-Non-Hispanic black	61.7	61.6	53.6	23.3	4.2	75.4	88.7	61.7	94.8	94.1
-Non-Hispanic Asian or other	1.5	1.7	2.2	5.0	3.3	0.5	0.5	1.5	0.2	0.5
-Non-Hispanic other	5.4	5.4	13.7	7.9	6.3	6.0	3.5	3.5	1.8	1.6
-Hispanic	3.7	3.7	11.7	5.6	5.0	3.6	2.2	1.9	0.6	0.2
Age (%)										
50-64	55.8	56.0	60.6	60.0	58.8	50.0	48.9	59.0	53.5	65.5
65-74	23.4	23.4	22.0	20.9	19.3	25.7	25.7	22.6	25.8	23.8
75+	20.8	20.6	17.4	19.0	21.9	24.4	25.4	18.5	20.7	10.7

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 1

Figure 2. In 2000, Ward 1 Elderly Long-Term Residents Were Almost Twice as Likely as Recent In-Migrants to Report all Types of Impairments Except Difficulty Learning.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 2. Economic Characteristics of the Ward 1 Population Age 50+

In 2000, Ward 1 elderly new to D.C. were more likely to be employed than long-time D.C. residents. On average, those newcomers in households headed by someone 50 or older had higher household incomes than old-timers in similar households.

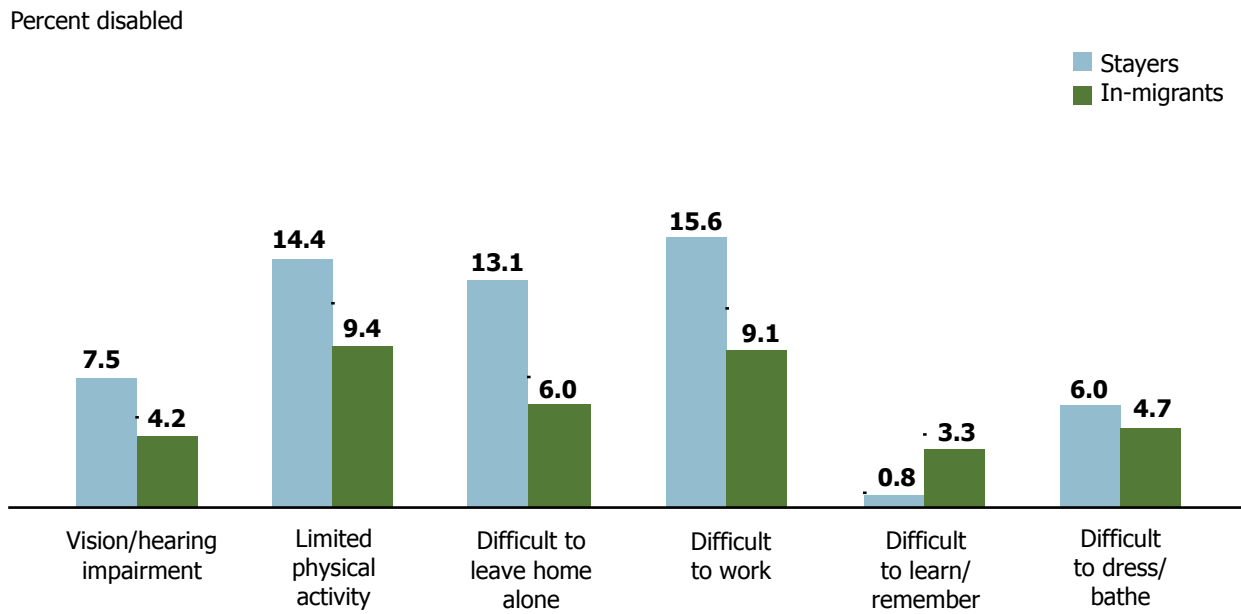
	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	22.8	18.0
Percent low-income	18.8	17.6
Percent employed	40.1	57.6
Percent with public assistance income	2.6	4.1
Median household income /a	\$40,296	\$58,302

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 2

Figure 3. Compared to Recent Elderly In-Migrants in 2000, Ward 2 Long-Term Residents Had Significantly Higher Prevalence of Impairment and Physical Limitations.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 3. Economic Characteristics of the Ward 2 Population Age 50+

In Ward 2, elderly residents who were newcomers to D.C. were less likely to live in a poor or low-income family.

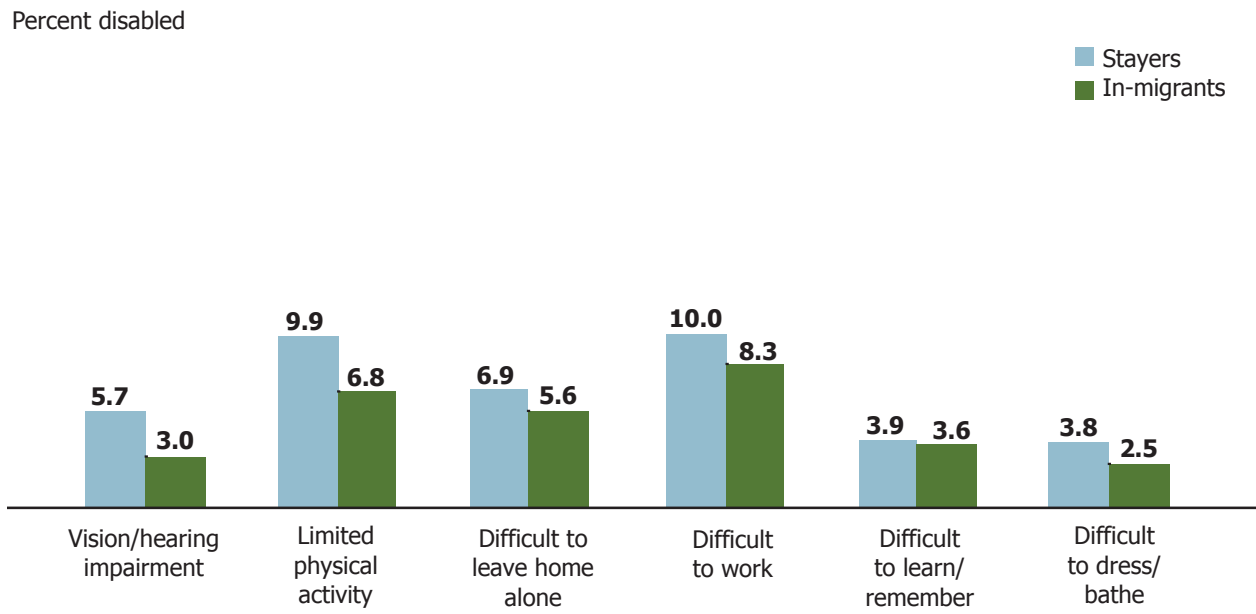
	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	15.4	10.7
Percent low-income	26.3	19.0
Percent employed	10.9	8.3
Percent with public assistance income	n/a	n/a
Median household income /a	\$83,477	\$86,964

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 3

Figure 4. Compared to Recent Elderly In-Migrants in 2000, Ward 3 Long-Term Residents Had a Small but Significantly Higher Prevalence of Vision Impairment and Physical Limitations.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 4. Economic Characteristics of the Ward 3 Population Age 50+

In 2000, Ward 3 elderly new to D.C. were more likely to be employed than long-time D.C. residents living in the ward.

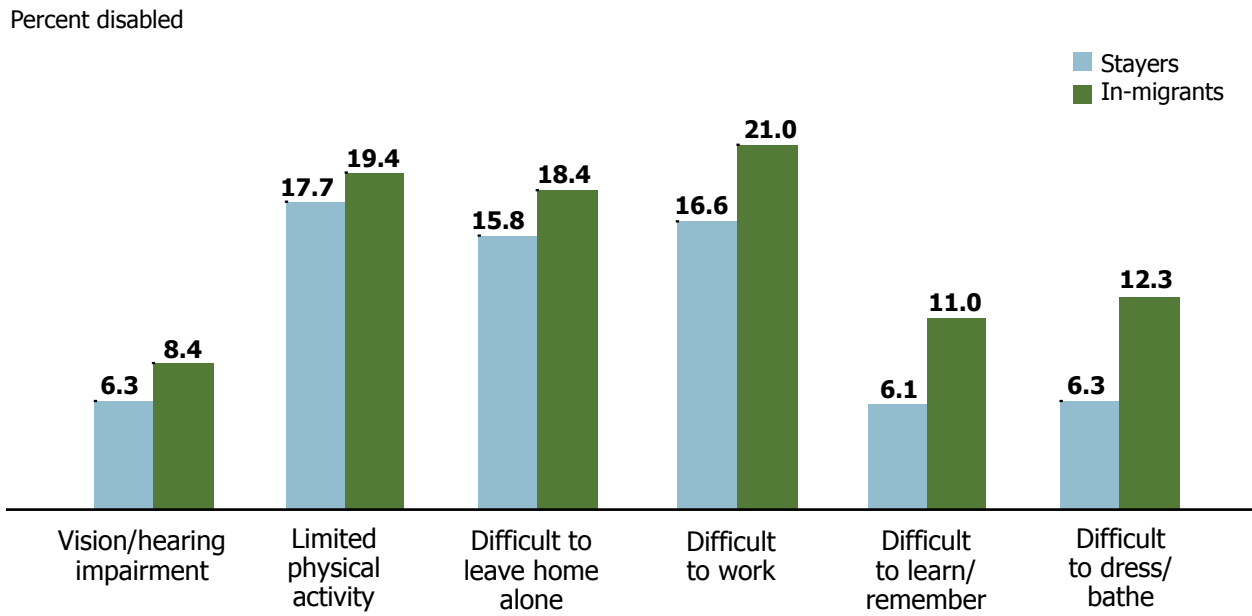
	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	3.3	5.6
Percent low-income	5.8	4.8
Percent employed	55.4	70.0
Percent with public assistance income	n/a	n/a
Median household income /a	\$114,864	\$115,998

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 4

Figure 5. Elderly In-Migrants in Ward 4 Tended to Have Significantly Higher Rates of Disability Than Long-Term Residents Had in 2000.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 5. Economic Characteristics of the Ward 4 Population Age 50+

Compared to elderly long-time D.C. residents living in Ward 4 in 2000, a higher percent of elderly residents new to D.C. lived in poor families. But among elderly who were heads of households, in-migrants have a higher household income, on average.

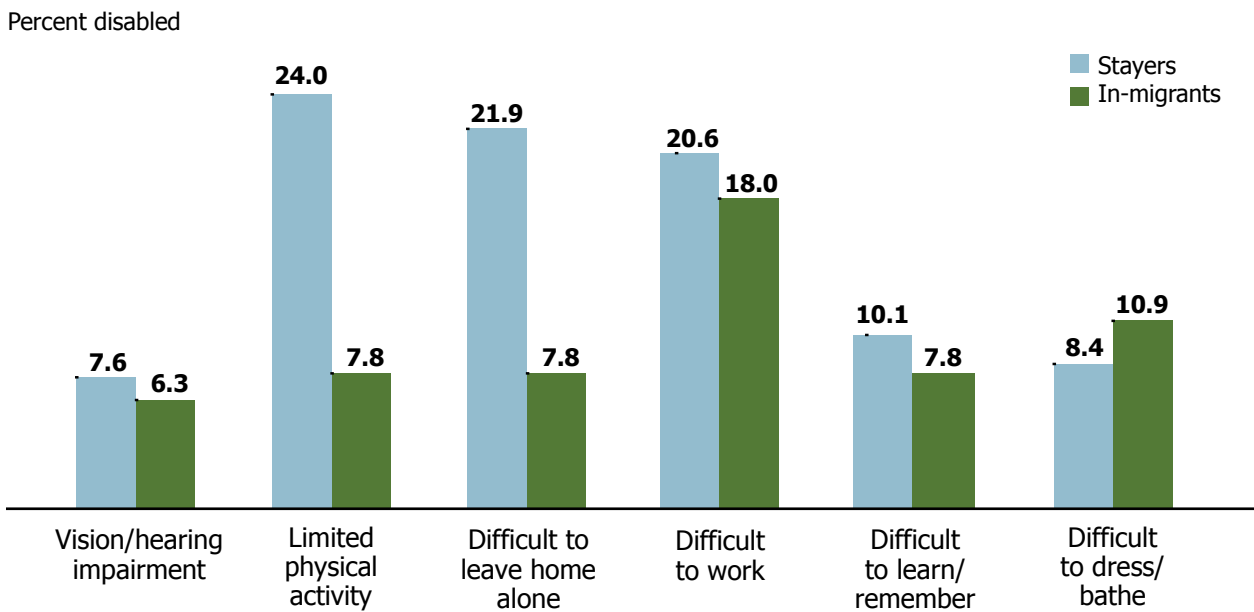
	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	9.8	14.8
Percent low-income	14	10
Percent employed	39.8	53.2
Percent with public assistance income	n/a	n/a
Median household income /a	\$61,371	\$74,265

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 5

Figure 6. In 2000, Elderly Long-Term Residents in Ward 5 Were Three Times as Likely as In-Migrants to Report Impairments That Limit Physical Activity and Make It Difficult to Leave Home.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 6. Economic Characteristics of the Ward 5 Population Age 50+

In 2000, elderly in-migrants living in Ward 5 were more likely to live in poor families than long-time D.C. residents living in Ward 5. But among those elderly who are heads of households, elderly in-migrants have higher household incomes than long-time residents.

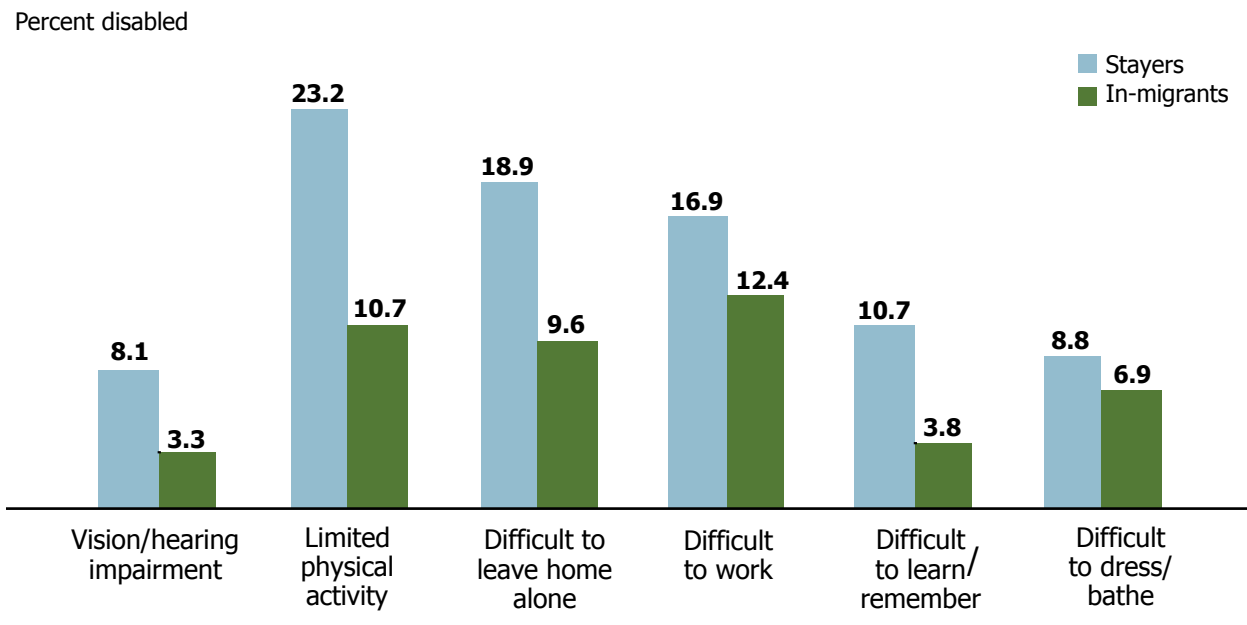
	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	14.5	31.6
Percent low-income	17.1	9.8
Percent employed	32.9	33.2
Percent with public assistance income	n/a	n/a
Median household income /a	\$44,960	\$64,655

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 6

Figure 7. Elderly Long-Term Residents in Ward 6 Were More Likely Than In-Migrants to Report All Types of Impairments in 2000.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 7. Economic Characteristics of the Ward 6 Population Age 50+

In 2000, elderly newcomers to D.C. living in Ward 6 were less likely to live in poor or low-income families than were long-time elderly residents. These newcomers were also more likely to be employed. In-migrant household heads had higher income, on average.

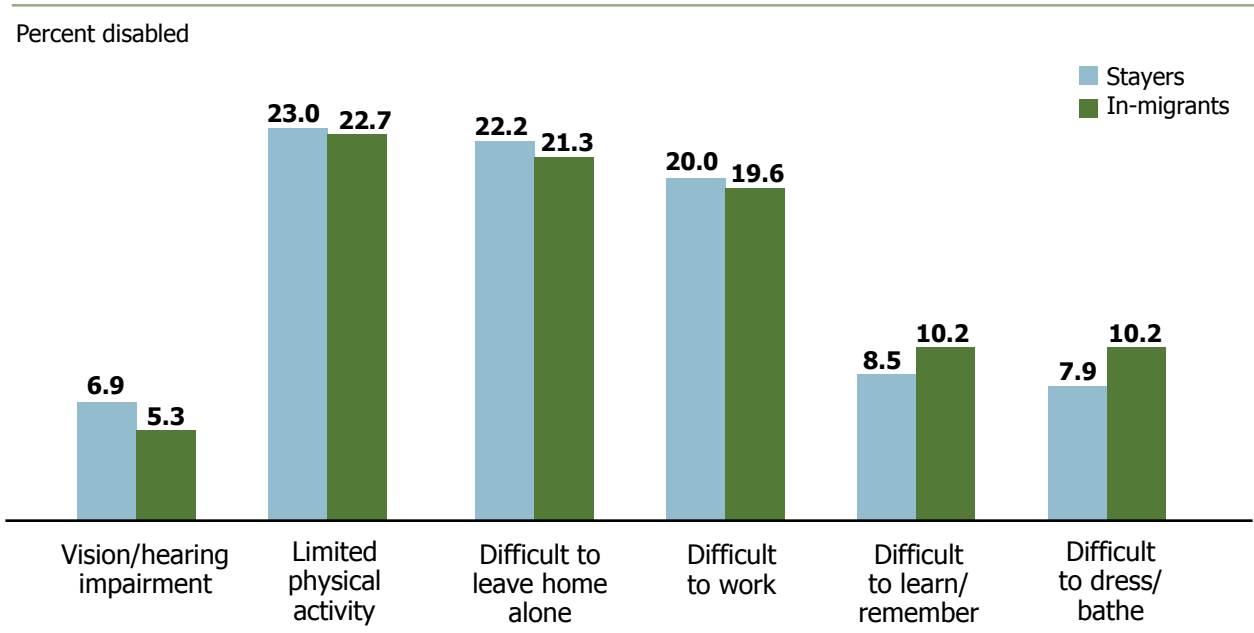
	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	20.3	9.4
Percent low-income	16.1	8.4
Percent employed	39.5	66.7
Percent with public assistance income	2.2	1.8
Median household income /a	\$41,748	\$74,450

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 7

Figure 8. In Ward 7, Elderly Long-Term Residents and In-Migrants in 2000 Reported Similar Rates of Impairment That Limit Physical Activity and Make It Difficult to Leave Home or to Work.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

Table 8. Economic Characteristics of District of the Ward 7 Population Age 50+

In 2000, elderly new to D.C. and residing in Ward 7 were more likely to be employed. In Ward 7, elderly in-migrants who headed households also had higher incomes, on average, than long-time D.C. elderly residing in Ward 7.

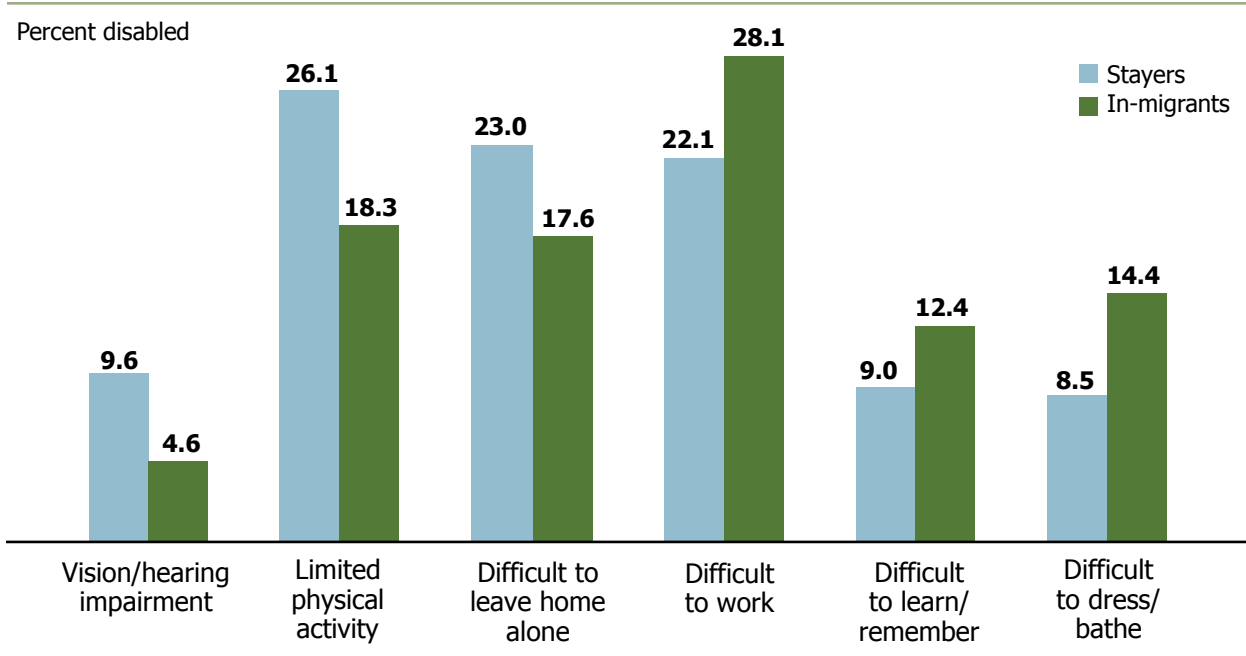
	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	17.9	11.6
Percent low-income	15.5	15.7
Percent employed	32.4	42.0
Percent with public assistance income	2.3	3.1
Median household income /a	\$38,788	\$50,430

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older.

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.

District of Columbia—Ward 8

Figure 9. In 2000, Elderly Individuals New to D.C. and Living in Ward 8 Were More Likely Than Long-Term Residents to Have an Impairment That Makes It Difficult to Work.



Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau

Table 9. Economic Characteristics of the Ward 8 Population Age 50+

In 2000, long-time D.C. elderly residents living in Ward 8 were less likely to be employed than Ward 8 elderly newly resident in D.C.

	Stayers	In-migrants
Percent poor	23.2	23.5
Percent low-income	19.8	19.6
Percent employed	34.8	49.7
Percent with public assistance income	4.3	5.2
Median household income /a	\$34,356	\$38,906

Note: /a for households with a head or spouse age 50 or older

Source: Analysis of the 2000 Decennial Census by the Population Reference Bureau.