

# Is Demography Destiny? Population Projections Provide a Sneak Peak into How the Future May Unfold

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*Presentation for the Department of Commerce Research Library's  
Around the Bureaus Speaker Series  
May 21, 2015*

# Overview

- Background
  - What? Why? How?
- Results from the 2014 National Projections
  - An Aging Nation
- How to access projections data

# Non-whites to make up nearly 60 percent of U.S. by 2060: Census

Wed, Dec 12 2012

By Susan Heavey

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A surge in Hispanics and Asians is set to dramatically change the face of the United States over the next 50 years, with no one ethnic group the majority, according to U.S. figures.

## The New York Times

By 20 million Wed The agency Near Asian see I

December 12, 2012

# Census Officials, Citing Increasing Diversity, Say U.S. Will Be a 'Plurality Nation'

By MICHAEL COOPER

The term "minority," at least as used to describe racial and ethnic groups in the United States, may need to be retired or rethought soon: by the end of this decade, according to Census Bureau projections released Wednesday, no single racial or ethnic group will constitute a majority of children under 18. And in about three

## The Washington Post

The Fix

# The most important color in the 2040 presidential race won't be red or blue. It will be gray.



By Philip Bump March 31 at 9:39 AM

A thought-provoking piece at Politico outlines how the American electorate is at a point of inflection. What, if we probably know, are the nation's shifting demographics? It becomes less white and more gray (aka old), and which those two phenomena are mutually exclusive (as noted before.)

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## For U.S. Children, Minorities Will Be The Majority By 2020, Census Says

MARCH 04, 2015 8:05 AM ET

BILL CHAPPELL

America is heading toward the day when whites will no longer make up the majority of the population. And U.S. children will get there soon, according to a new U.S. Census Bureau report. The agency also says the overall U.S. population will grow older — and grow more slowly — in coming years.

# Census: White Population Will Lose Majority In U.S. By 2043

By HOPE YEN 12/12/12 05:41 PM ET EST AP

WASHINGTON -- White people will no longer make up a majority of Americans by 2043, according to new census projections. That's part of a historic shift that already is reshaping the nation's schools, workforce and electorate, and is redefining long-held notions of race.

The official estimates.

America's at the helm immigrant

The count Obama a

There are promising protection the Voting

## The Washington Post

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# Immigration to fuel future population growth

By Carol Morello, Published: May 15

Immigration will be the primary driver of population growth in the United States within a few decades, a milestone not seen in almost two centuries, the Census Bureau projected Wednesday.

The Census Bureau said immigration will outstrip natural increase — the difference between births and deaths for the total population — by as early as 2027, but no later than 2038. The immigrants continue coming to the U.S.

If immigration levels are high, the census said, non-Hispanic white as early as 2041.

In 2012, minorities made up 37 percent of the population. Under a levels, minorities are expected to make up an ever-larger share of

## npr code switch

# Immigrants To Be Largest Driver Of U.S. Population Growth

by HANSI LO WANG

May 15, 2013 3:40 PM



LM Otero/AP

New immigrants will be the main driver of population growth in the U.S. by as early as 2027, according to new Census Bureau projections.

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U.S. DEMOGRAPHICS

# Over 50% of Americans Will Be Nonwhite Within 30 Years

Rachel Janik @rachel\_janik | March 3, 2015

U.S. Census Bureau finds today's minorities will be in the majority by 2044

Half of all children in the U.S. will be nonwhite by 2020, according to new census data released Tuesday, and more than half the entire population by 2044.

The U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 projections looked ahead at the national population up to 2060, making various projections on the



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Economics and Statistics Administration  
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census.gov

# What data do we produce?

## National Projections

- Produced every 2 years this decade (2012, 2014, etc.)
- Demographic detail includes age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and nativity (in 2014)
- Projections for 50-year horizon

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## State Projections

- Less frequently produced
- Fewer series with full demographic detail
- Haven't released full detail state projections since 1997
- Links to states producing their own projections on our website

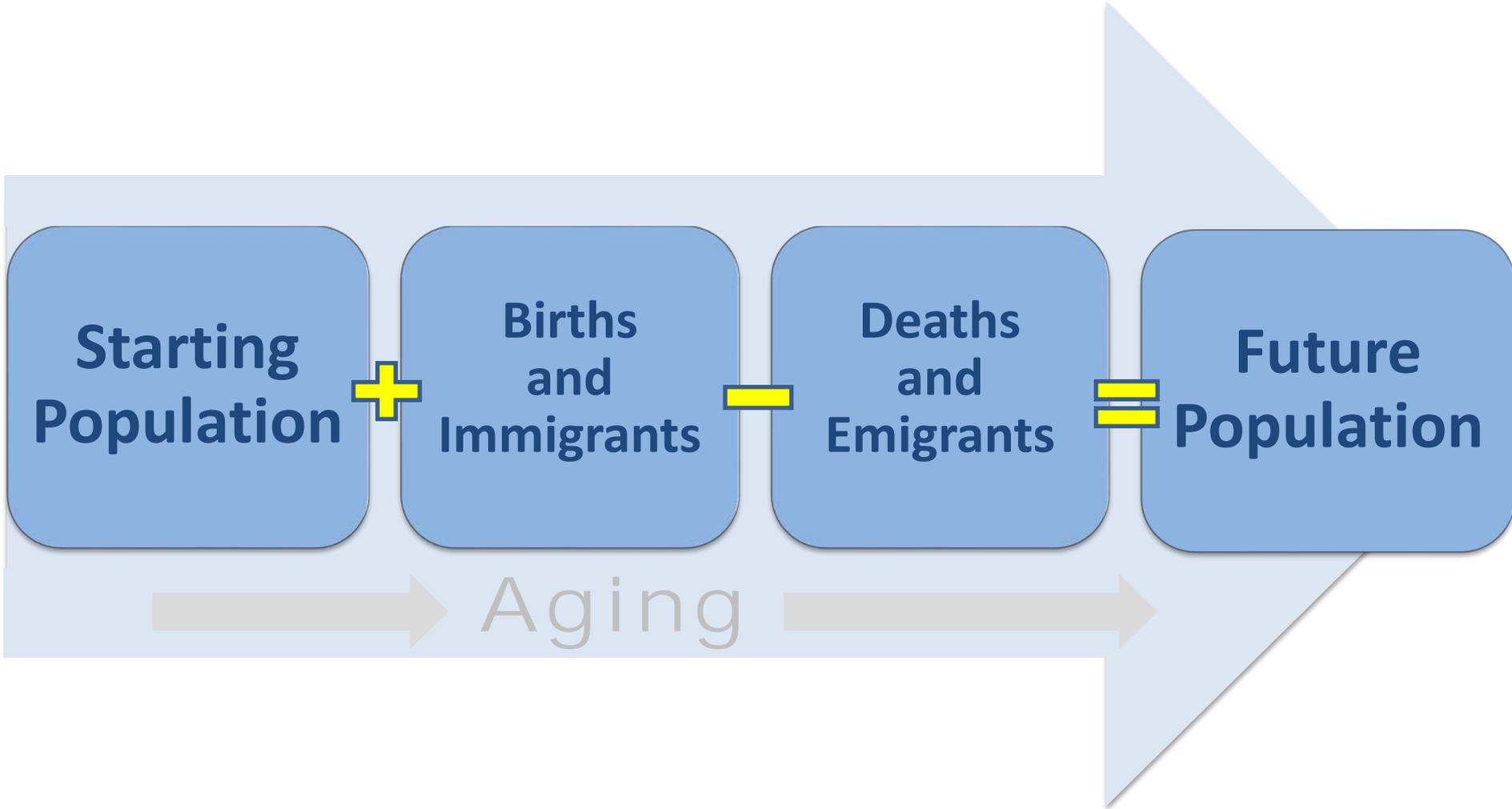
# Why do we produce projections?

- Used as the base for projections of specific populations by other federal agencies
  - *National Institute on Aging*: older population for health planning
  - *Bureau of Labor Statistics*: working-age population for labor force projections
  - *National Cancer Institute*: projection of deaths to project the incidence of cancer
- Also used for resource planning, by businesses, and for academic research

# How are estimates different from projections?

- Estimates
  - For dates in the past and present
  - Based on existing data
- Projections
  - For dates in the future
  - Based on assumptions about future demographic trends
- **When both an estimate and projection are available for the same date, estimates are the preferred data.**

# Making National Projections

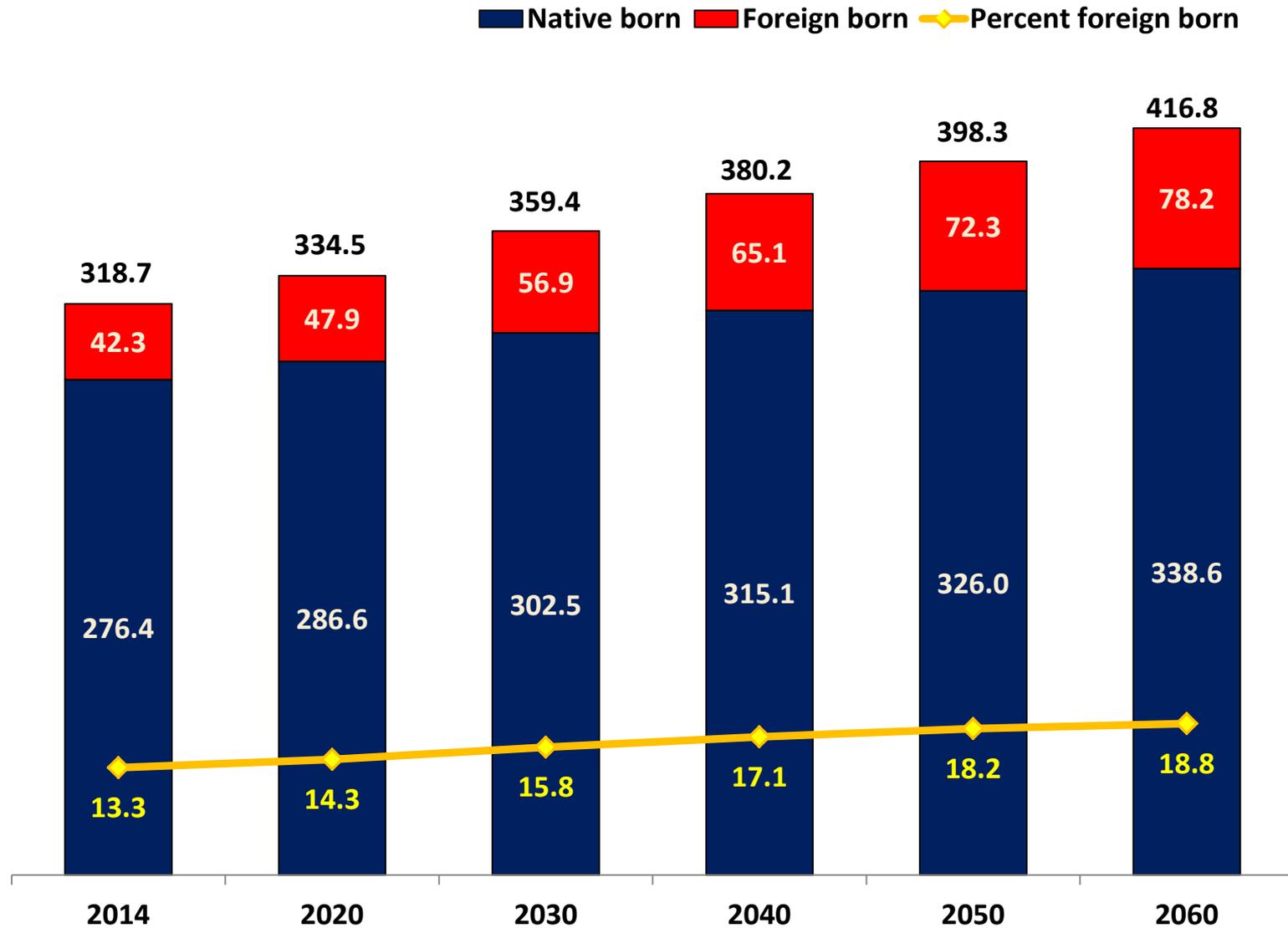


# 2014 National Projections

- Second series of projections based on the 2010 Census
- Projections of the U.S. population by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and nativity
- Covers the period from 2014 to 2060
- First series of projections to incorporate separate assumptions about the fertility of native and foreign-born women

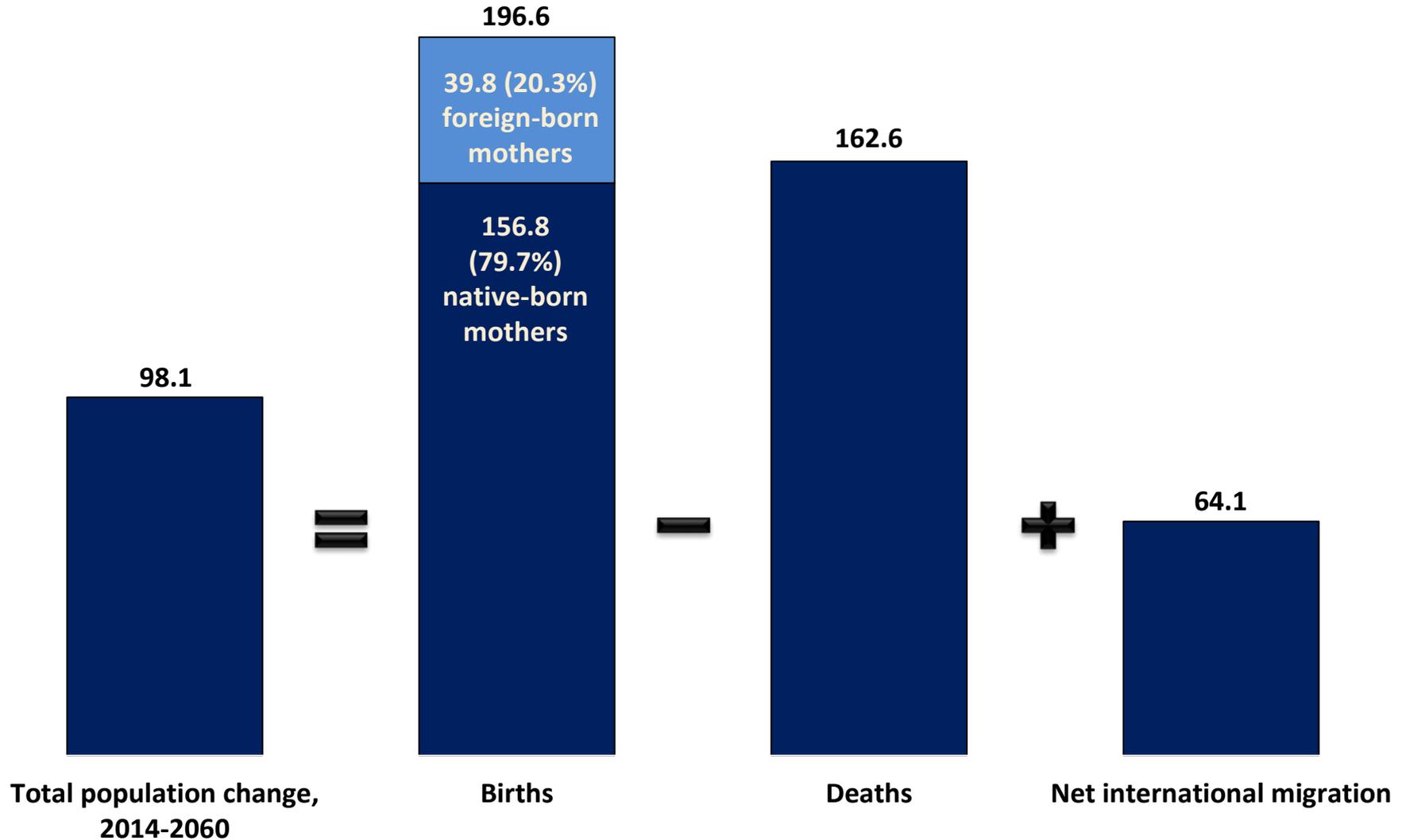
# United States Population by Nativity: 2014 to 2060

(Population in millions)

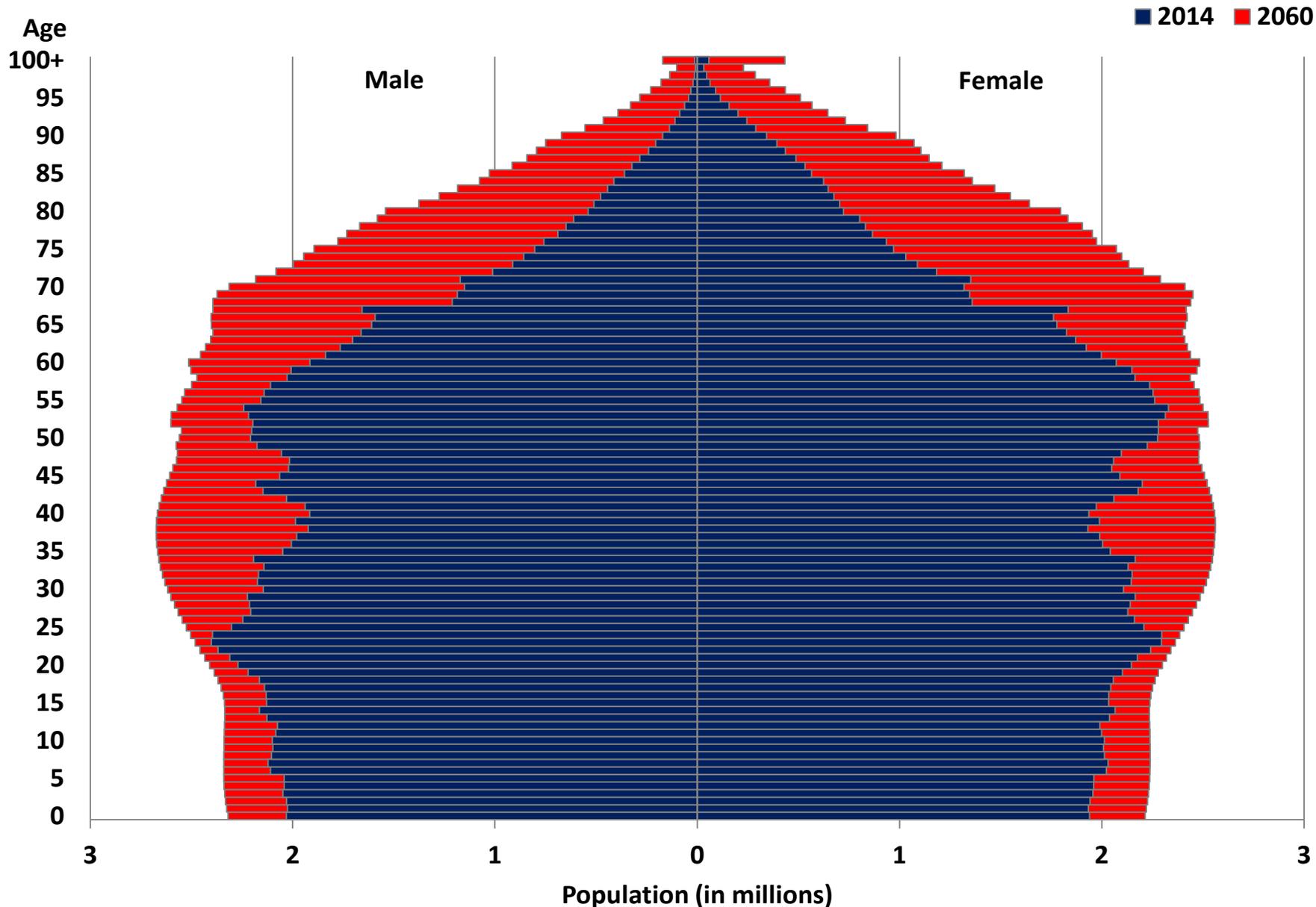


# Numeric Change in Population and Components of Population Change: 2014-2060

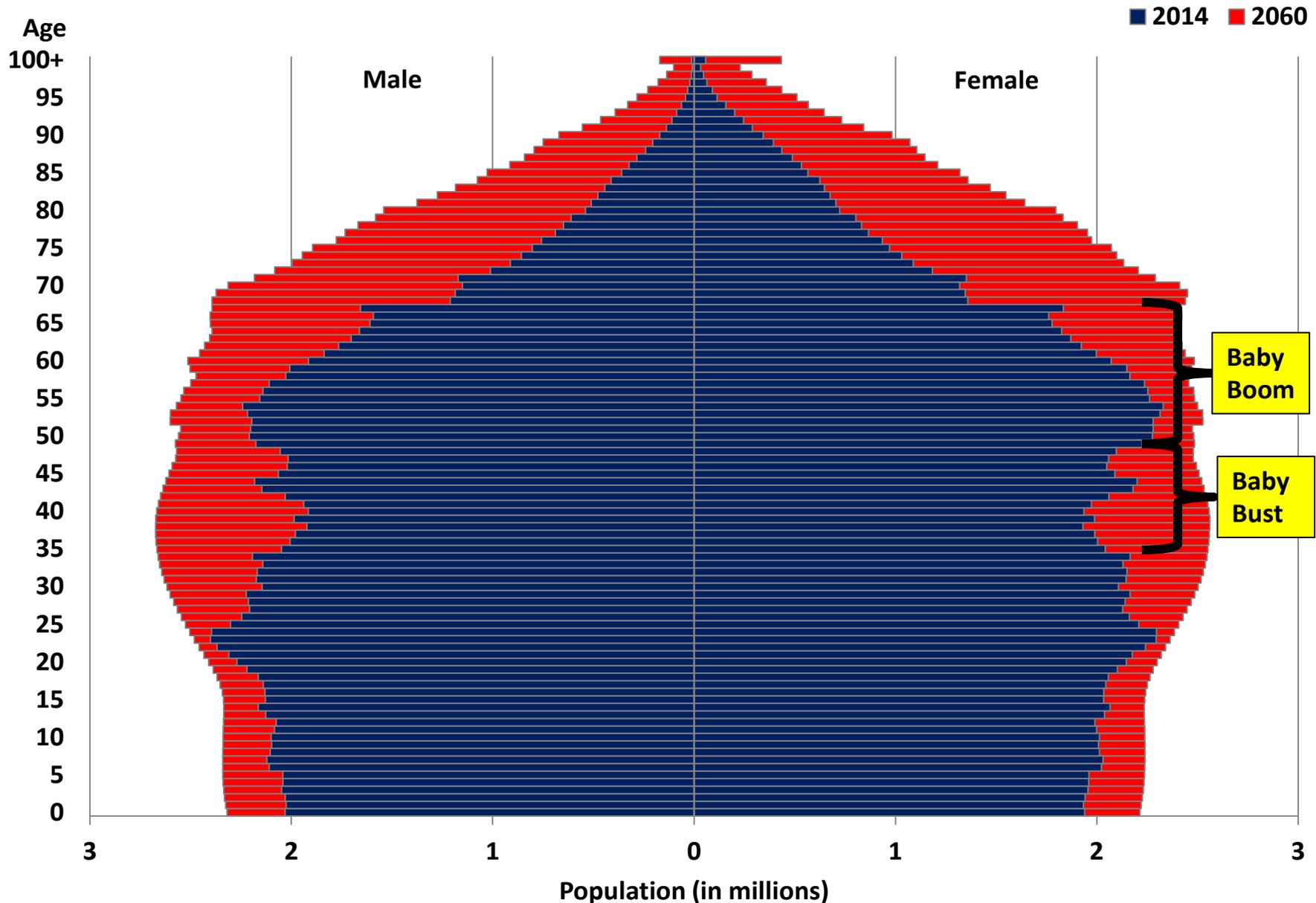
(In millions)



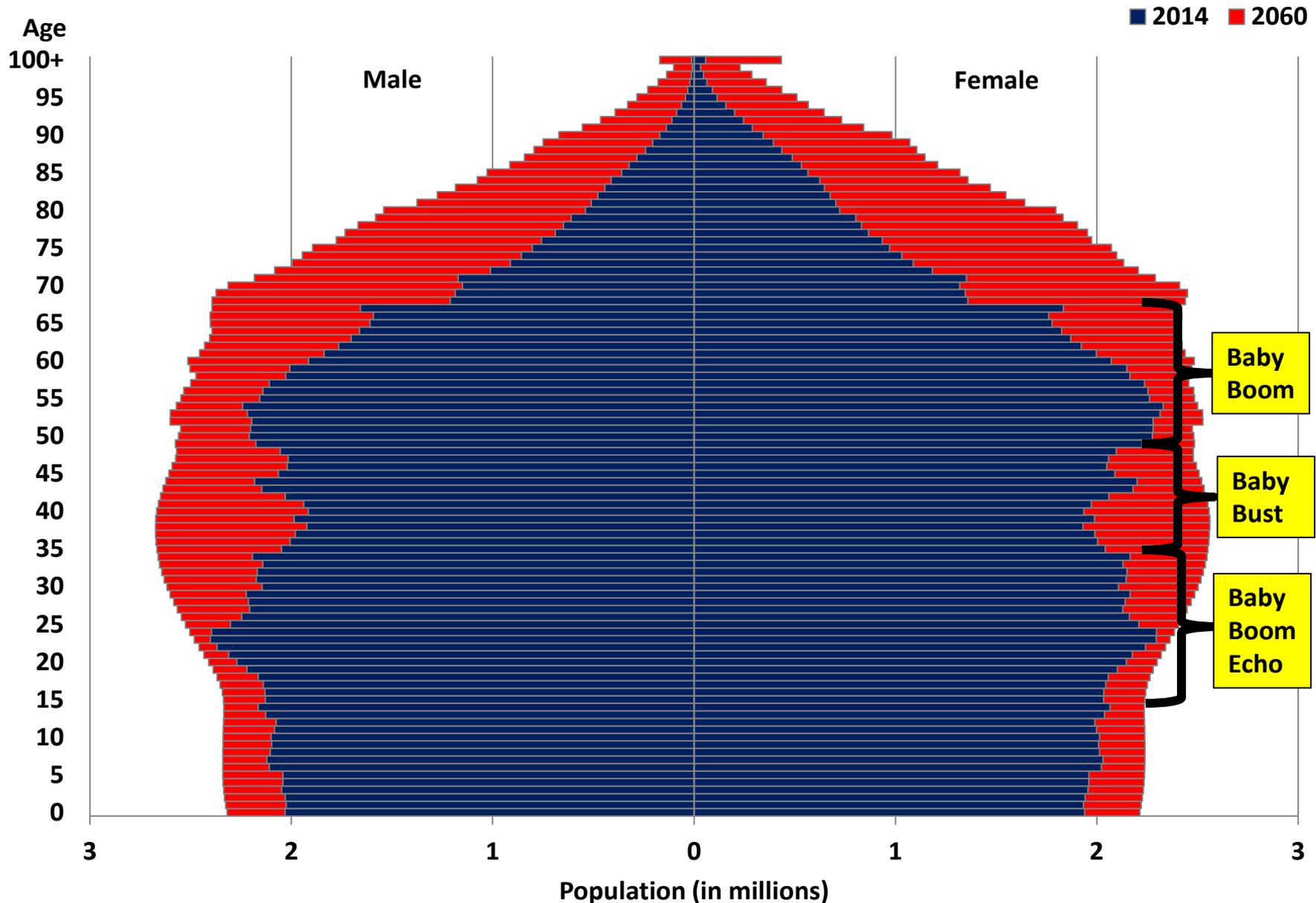
# U.S. Population by Age and Sex: 2014 to 2060



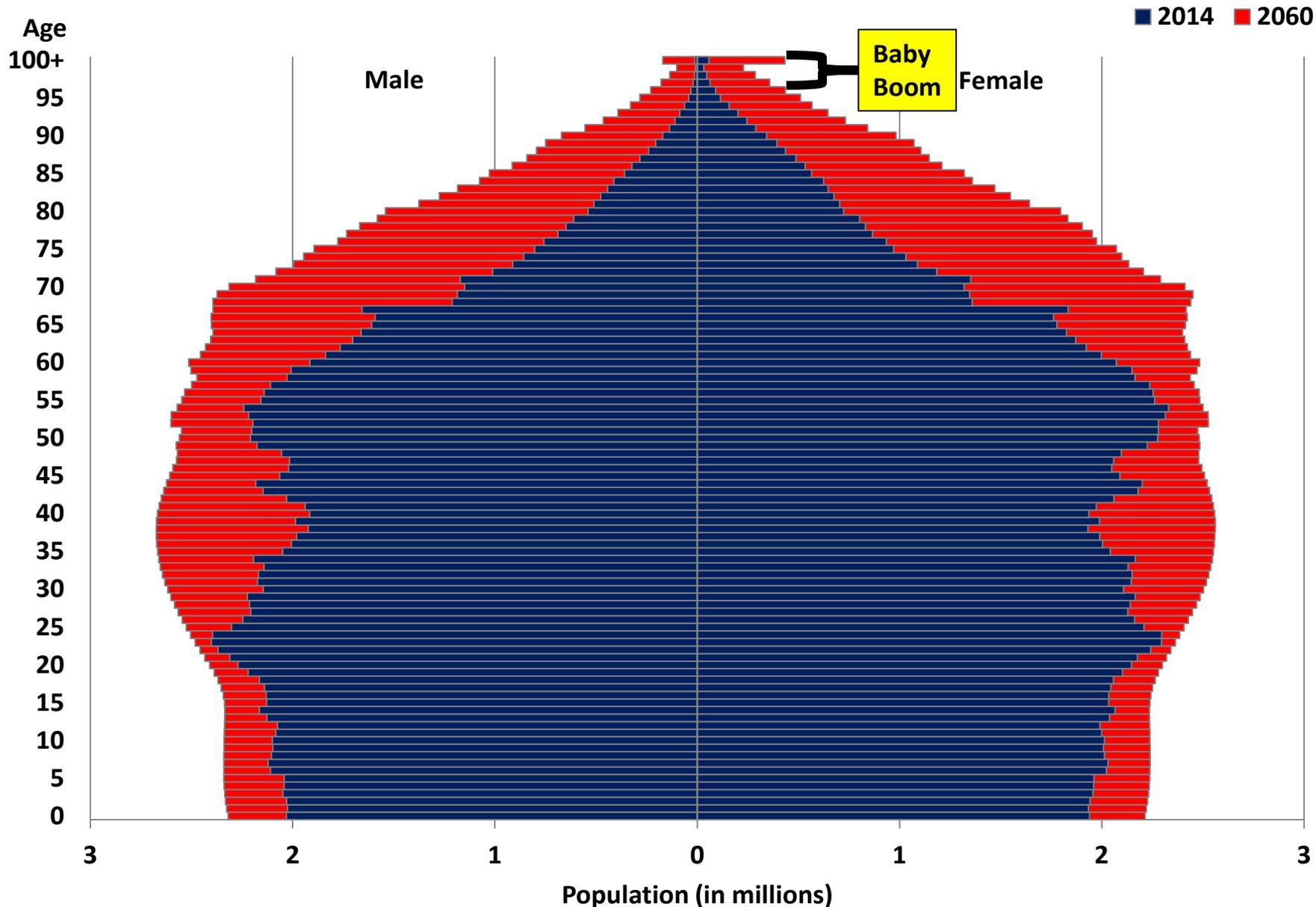
# U.S. Population by Age and Sex: 2014 to 2060



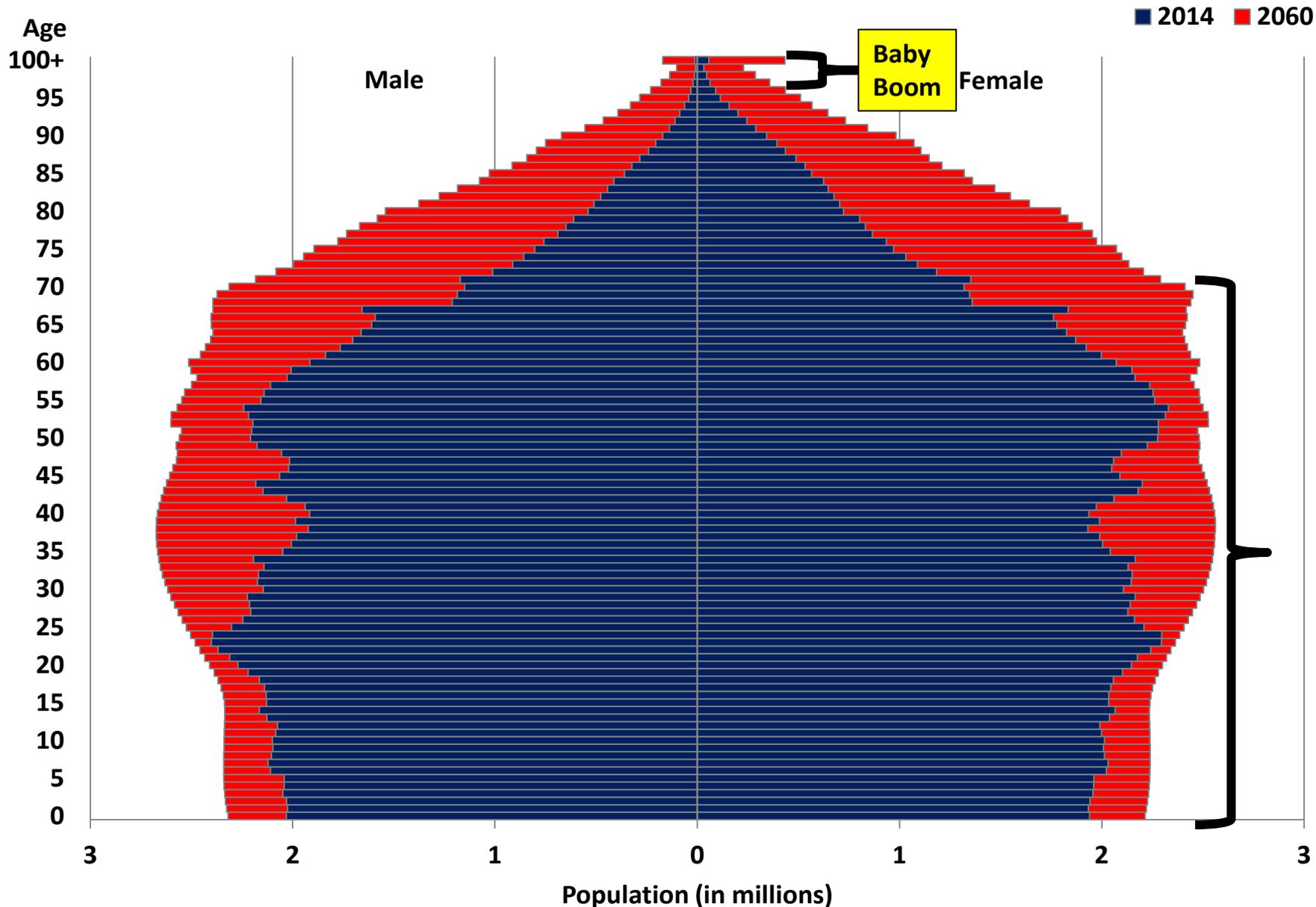
# U.S. Population by Age and Sex: 2014 to 2060



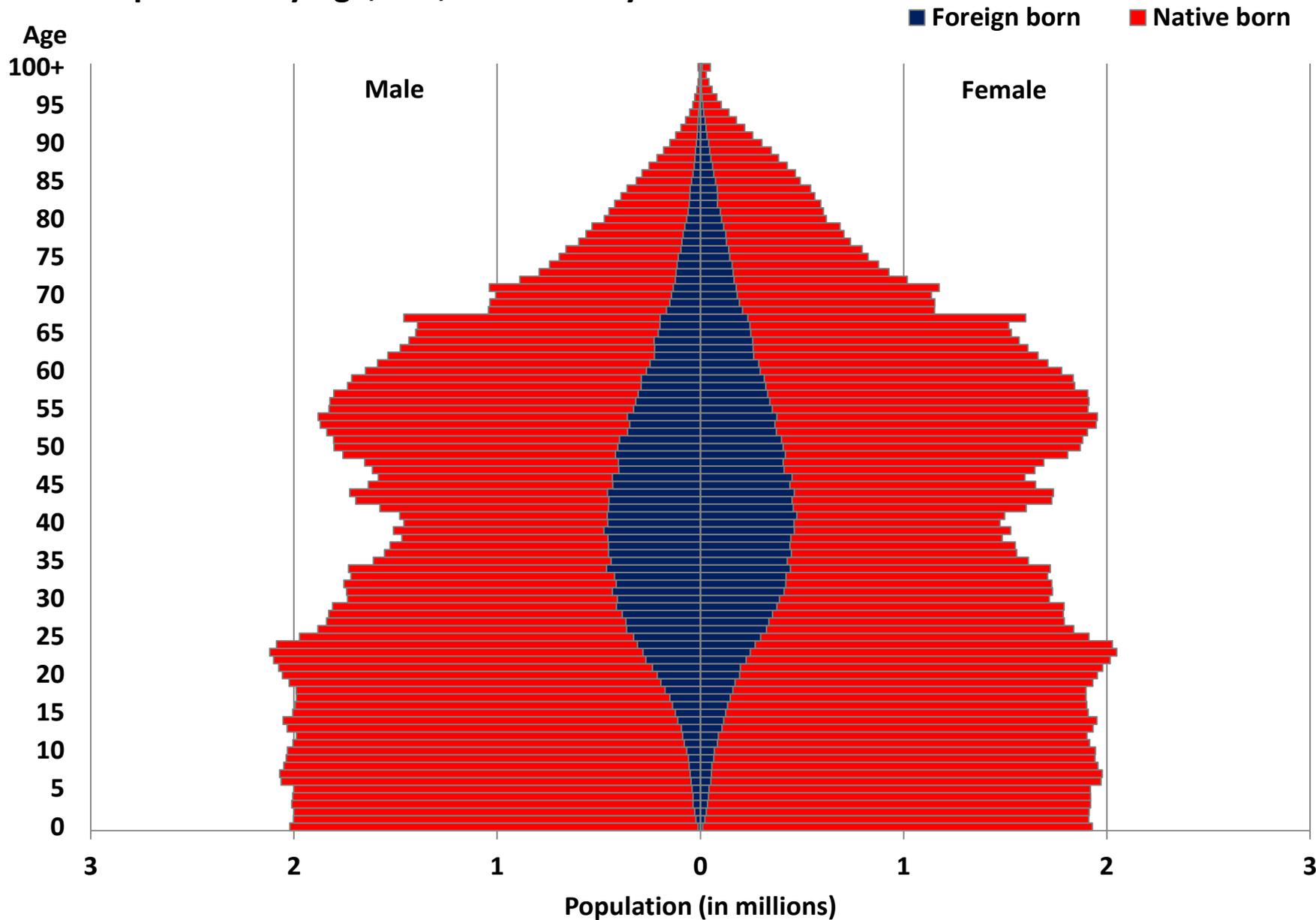
# U.S. Population by Age and Sex: 2014 to 2060



# U.S. Population by Age and Sex: 2014 to 2060



# U.S. Population by Age, Sex, and Nativity: 2014



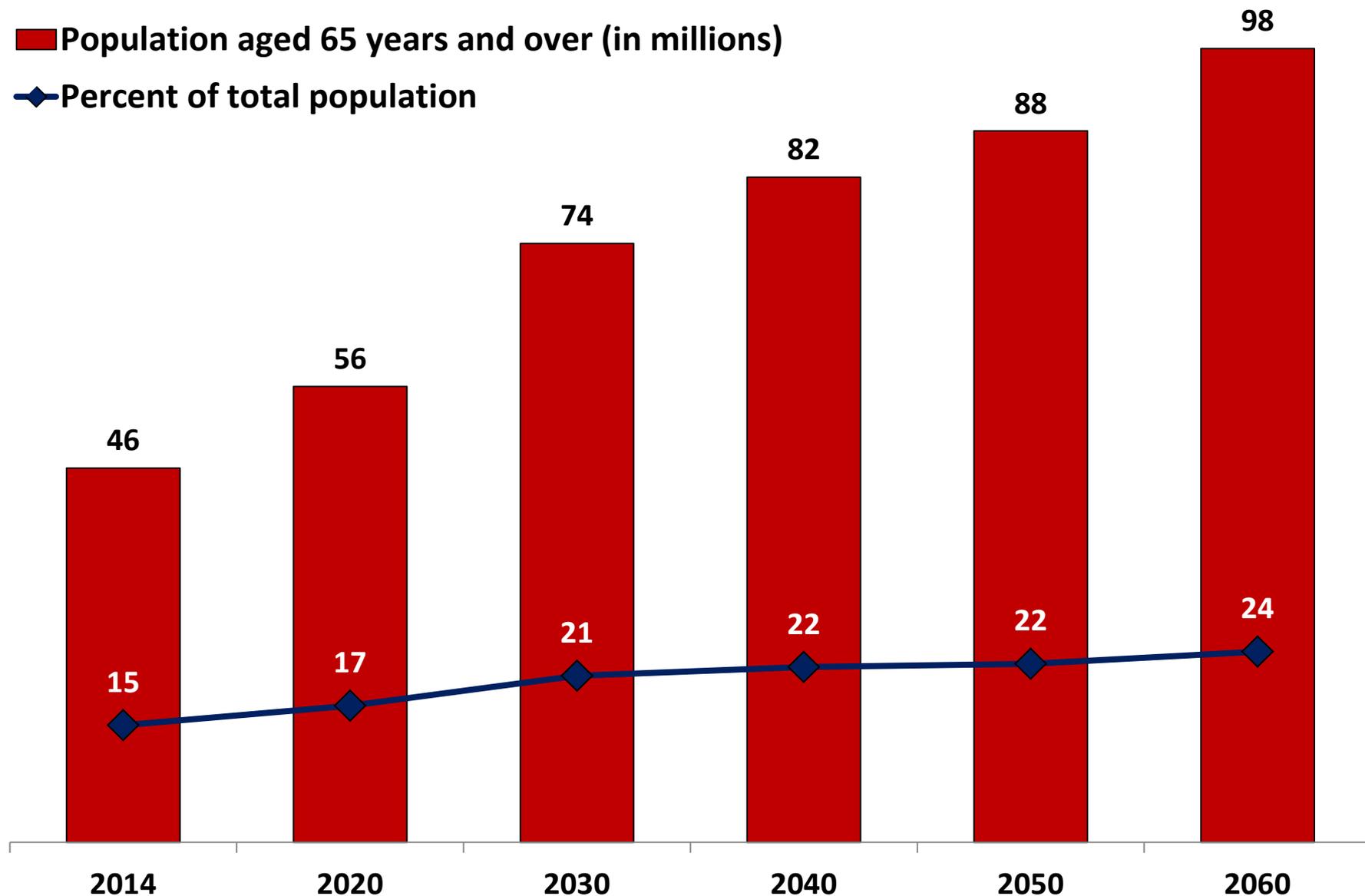
# U.S. Population by Age, Sex, and Nativity: 2060



# Population 65 and Over: 2014 to 2060

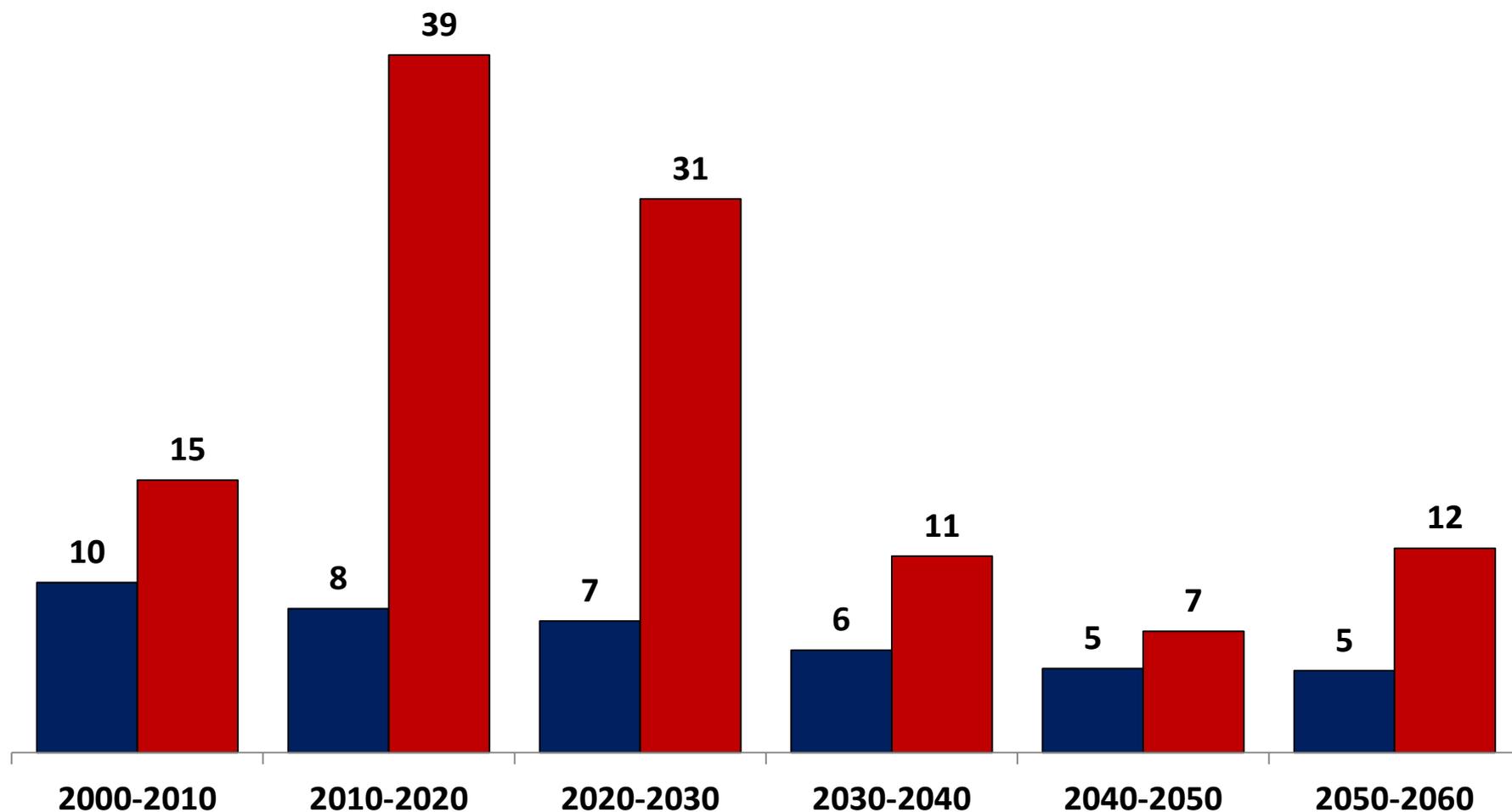
■ Population aged 65 years and over (in millions)

◆ Percent of total population



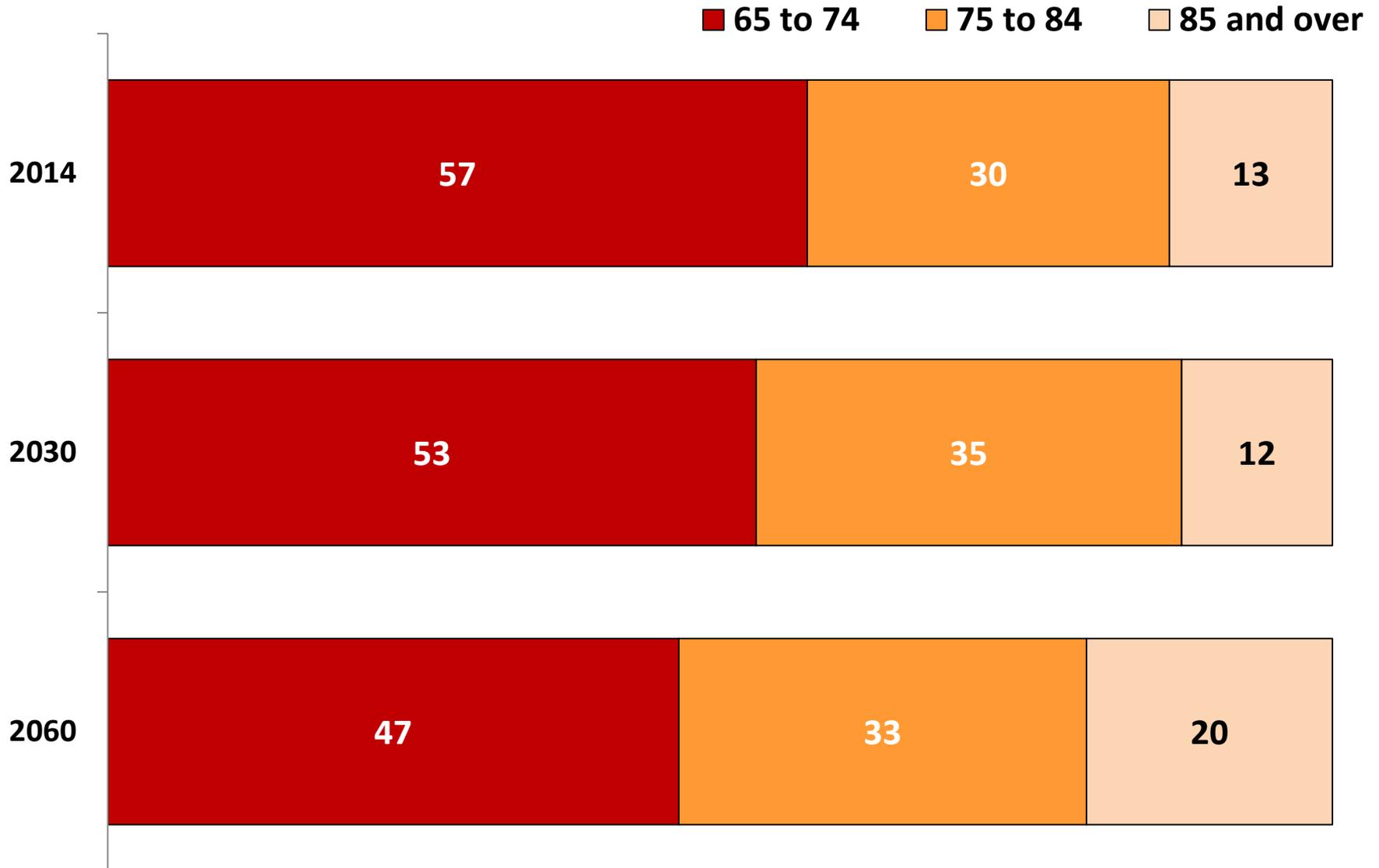
# Percent Change in Population Size by Decade: 2000-2010 to 2050-2060

■ Total population ■ 65 and over

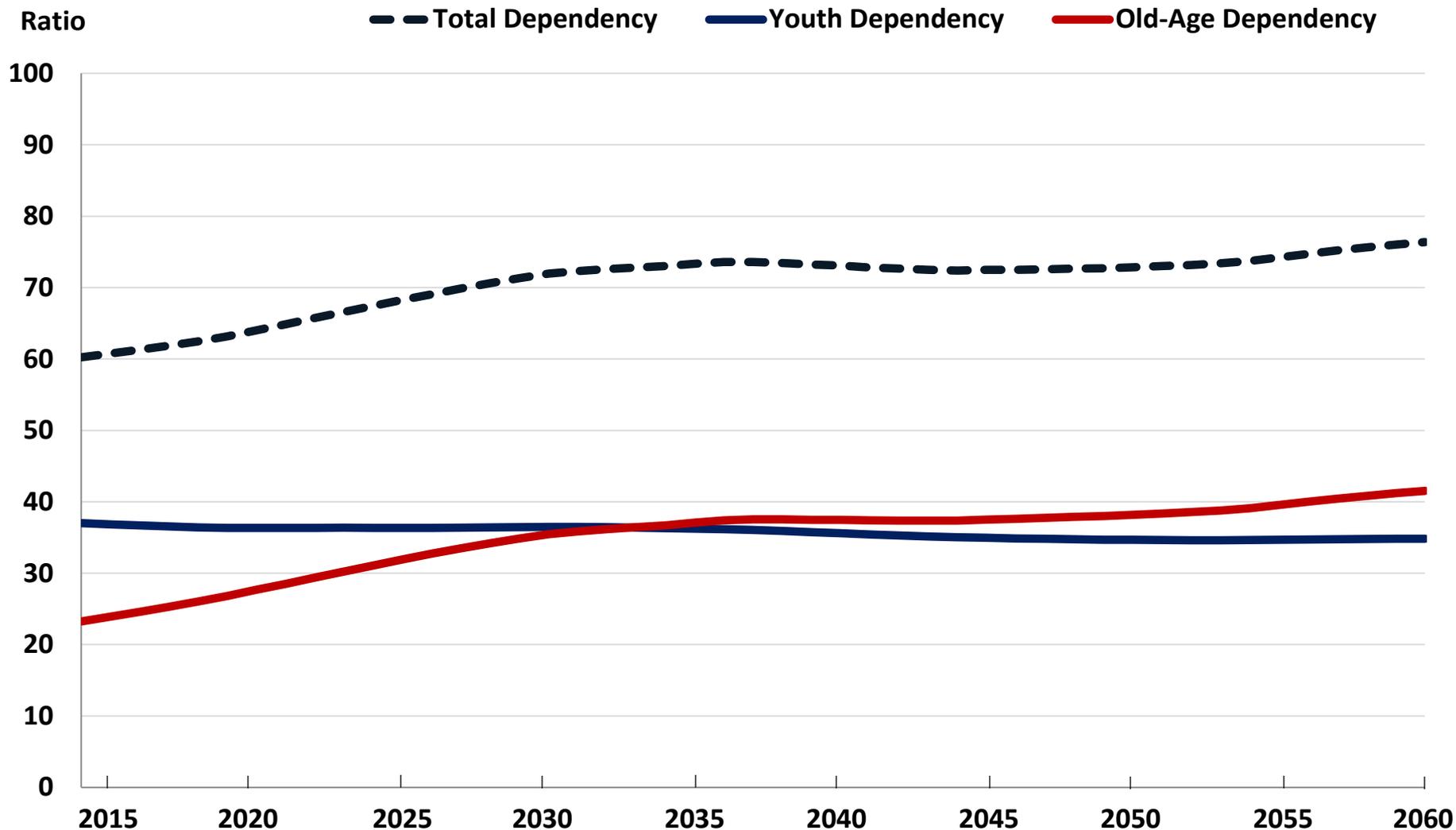


# Distribution of the Older Population by Age Group: 2014 to 2060

(Percent of population 65 and over)



# Projected Dependency Ratios: 2014 to 2060



Note: Old-age dependency = (Population aged 65 and over/Population aged 18 to 64)\*100.

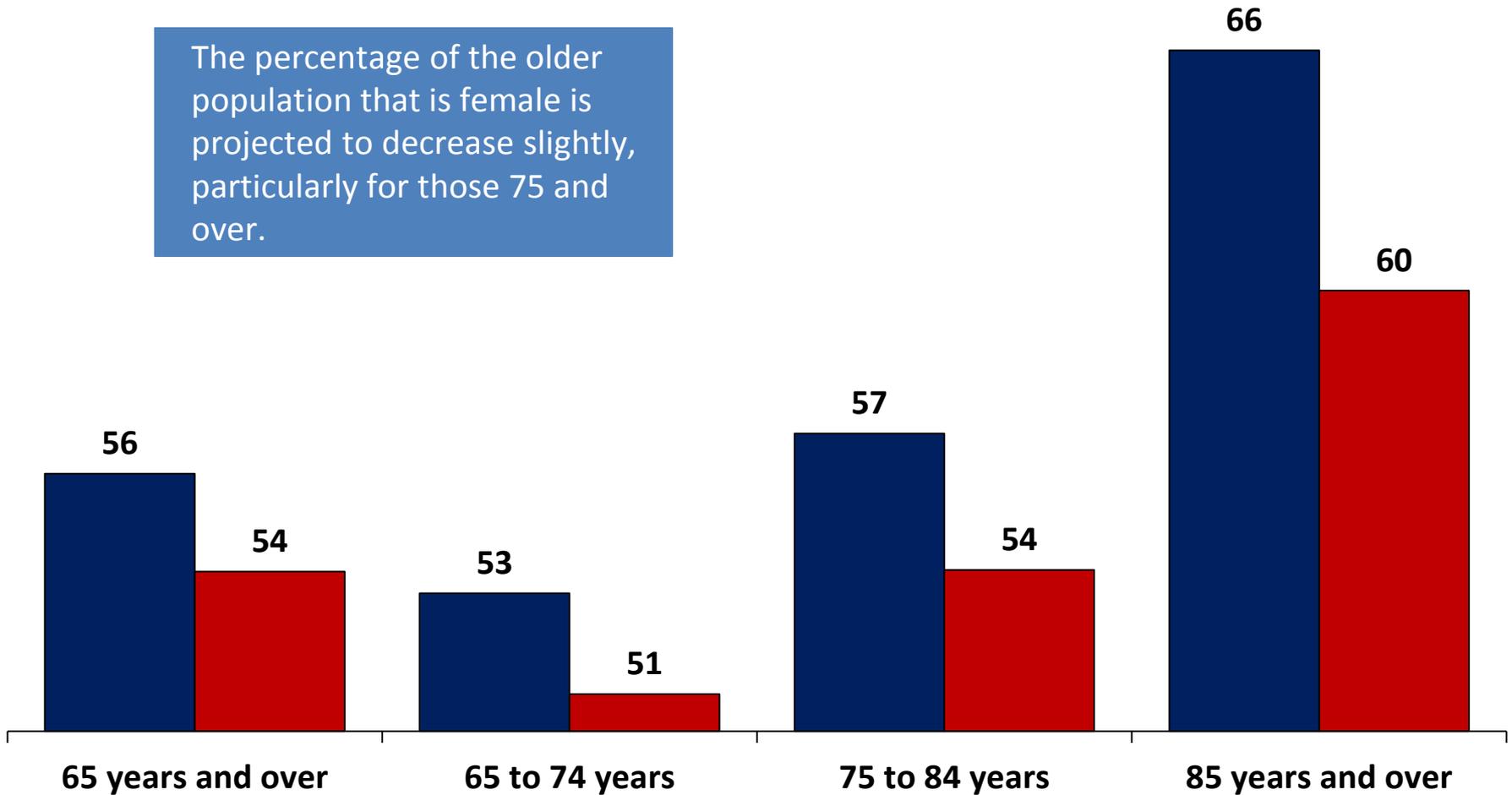
Youth dependency = (Population under 18/Population aged 18 to 64)\*100.

Total dependency = ((Population aged 65 and over + Population under 18)/Population aged 18 to 64)\*100

# Percent Female for the Older Population by Age: 2014 and 2060

■ 2014 ■ 2060

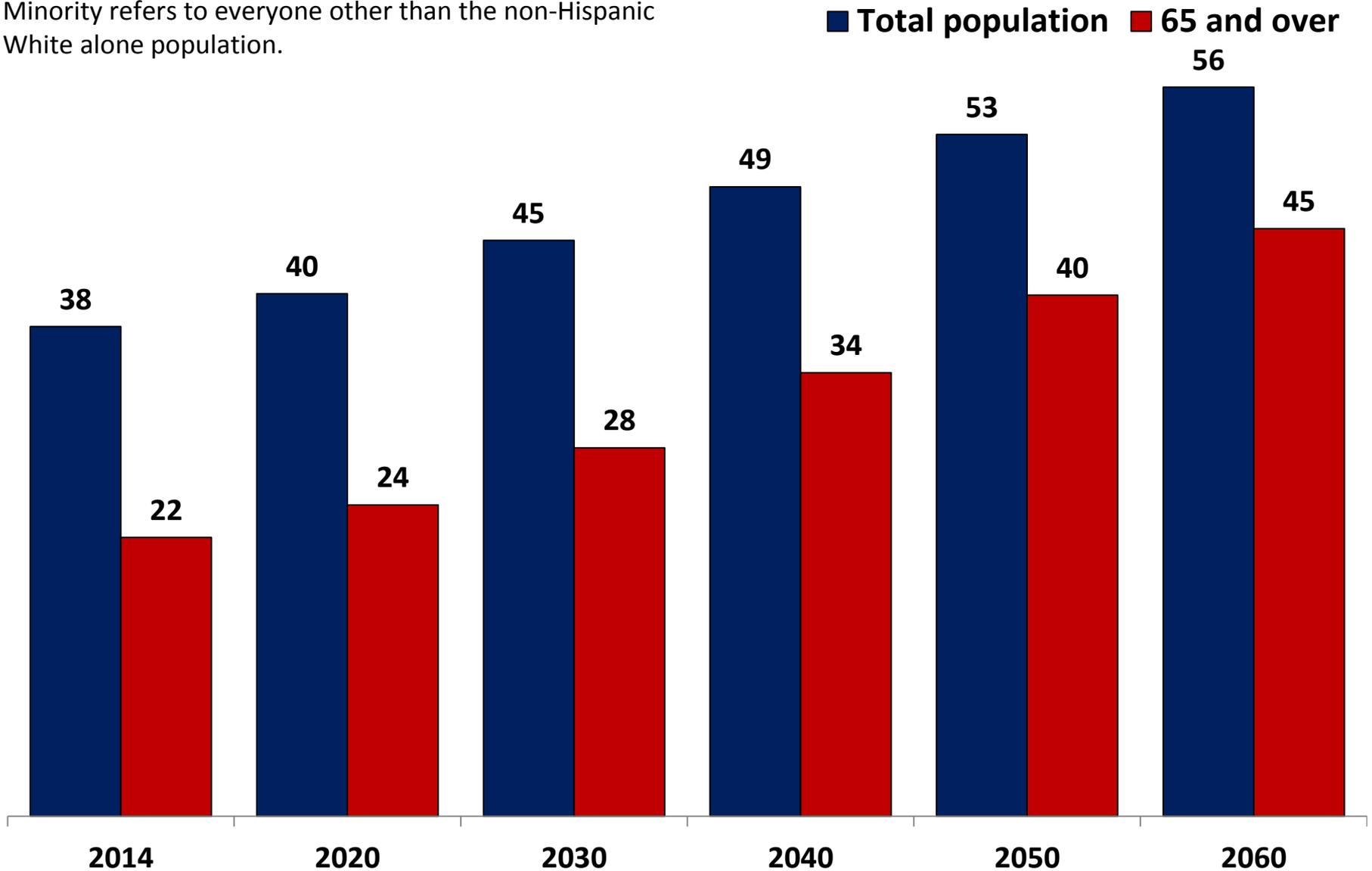
The percentage of the older population that is female is projected to decrease slightly, particularly for those 75 and over.



Note: The scale begins at 50 percent, rather than zero.

# Percent Minority: 2014 to 2060

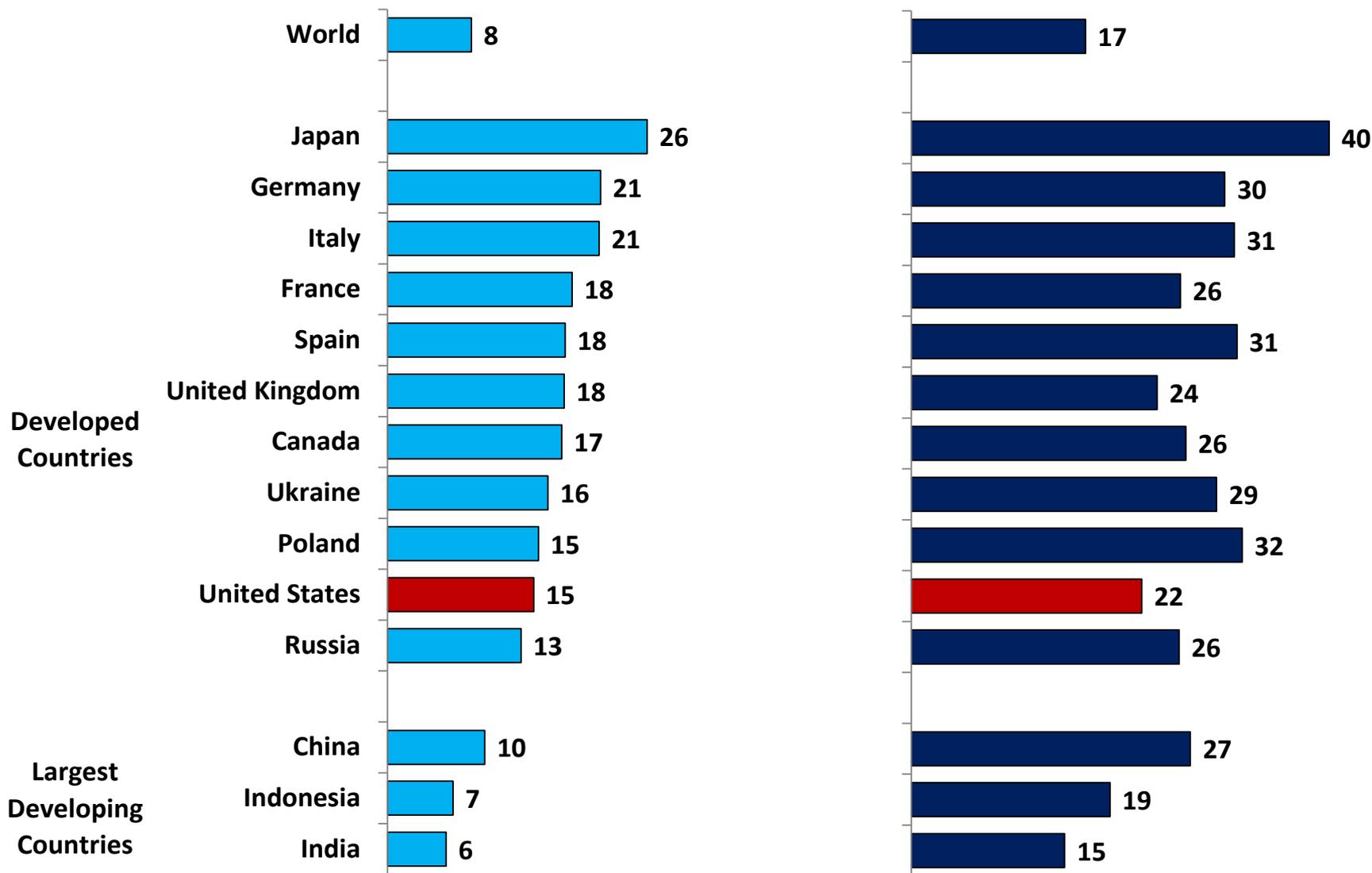
Minority refers to everyone other than the non-Hispanic White alone population.



# Percent 65 Years and Over in Selected Countries: 2014 and 2050

2014

2050



# Summary

- The U.S. population is projected to increase from 319 million to 417 million between 2014 and 2060, growing more slowly in future decades than in the recent past.
- By 2060, nearly one-in-five of the nation's total population is projected to be foreign born.

# Summary (continued)

- The older population is projected to more than double, growing from 46 million in 2014 to 98 million in 2060.
- Growth in the older population will be driven by the aging of the baby boomers over the next two decades.
  - By 2030, one in five people living in the United States will be 65 years or older.

# Summary (continued)

- Despite the increase in the share of the U.S. population that is in the older ages, the nation is projected to remain one of the youngest developed countries in the world.

# Accessing U.S. Projections Data

<http://www.census.gov/topics/population/population-projections.html>

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Population projections are estimates of the population for future dates. They are typically based on an estimated population consistent with the most recent decennial census and are produced using the cohort-component method.

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### New Census Bureau Report Analyzes U.S. Population Projections

March 03, 2015

A new report provides an in-depth analysis of the nation's population looking forward to 2060.



### Census Bureau Projects U.S. and World Populations on New Year's Day

December 29, 2014

As our nation prepares to ring in the new year, the U.S. Census Bureau today projected the United States population will be 320,090,857 on Jan. 1, 2015.



### U.S. Population Projections: 2014-2060

December 10, 2014

Projections of the U.S. resident population by sex, race, and Hispanic...

# Accessing International Projections Data

<http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/>

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### International Data Base

Last Updated: December 2013

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Antigua and Barbuda  
Argentina  
Armenia

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World  
More Developed Countries  
Less Developed Countries (LDCs)  
LDCs, without Least Developed Countries  
Least Developed Countries  
Africa  
Eastern Africa  
Middle Africa  
Northern Africa  
Southern Africa

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