



BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

Housing America's Future: New Directions for National Policy

Report of the Bipartisan Policy Center
Housing Commission

WWW.BIPARTISANPOLICY.ORG

About the Housing Commission

- **Created by the Bipartisan Policy Center, a non-profit organization founded in 2007 by former Senate Majority Leaders Howard Baker, Tom Daschle, Bob Dole and George Mitchell**
- **Launched in October 2011 with four co-chairs:**
 - Christopher S. “Kit” Bond – Former U.S. Senator; Former Governor of Missouri
 - Henry Cisneros – Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
 - Mel Martinez – Former U.S. Senator; Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
 - George J. Mitchell – Former U.S. Senate Majority Leader
- **Composed of 21 members drawn from diverse political and professional backgrounds**
- **Report, *Housing America’s Future: New Directions for National Policy*, issued February 25, 2013**

Housing Commission Principles

- **A healthy, stable housing market is essential for a strong economy and a competitive America.**
- **The nation's housing finance system should promote the uninterrupted availability of affordable housing credit and investment capital while protecting American taxpayers.**
- **The United States should reaffirm a commitment to providing a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family.**
- **The primary focus of federal housing policy should be to help those most in need.**
- **Federal policy should strike an appropriate balance between homeownership and rental subsidies.**

Principal Areas of Recommendations

- **The Continuing Value of Homeownership**
- **Reforming Our Nation's Housing Finance System**
- **Affordable Rental Housing**
- **The Importance of Rural Housing**
- **Aging in Place: A New Frontier in Housing**

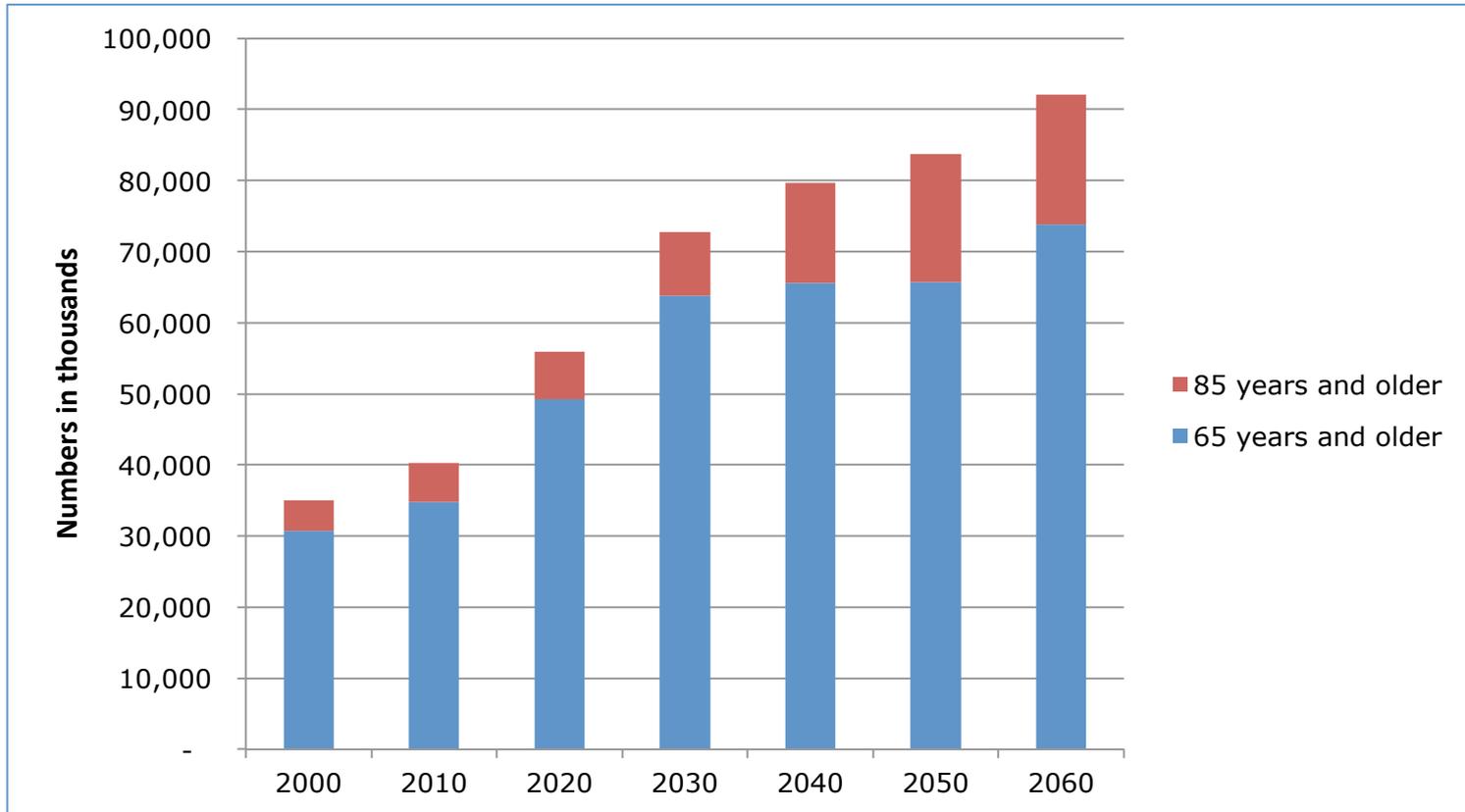
Aim of BPC Report - A Call to Action

- **Provide guidance on how best to respond to challenges, such as -**
 - **Homeownership remaining out of reach for far too many families;**
 - **Limited access to credit impeding the nation's economic growth;**
 - **Rising rental housing costs as demand continues to increase;**
 - **Desire to age in place in one's own home through senior years.**
- **Serve as a catalyst for bipartisan action**
- **Visit www.bipartisanpolicy.org/housing to download the report**

Aging in Place: A New Frontier in Housing

Aging in Place: A New Frontier in Housing

U.S. Population Aged 65 and Older



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Table 2. Projections of the Population by Selected Age Groups and Sex for the United States: 2015 to 2060," *2012 National Population Projections: Summary Tables*. U.S. Census Bureau, "Census 2000 and 2010 Summary File 1, Matrices DP-1: Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000 and 2010."

Aging in Place: Recommendations

- **Identify and remove barriers to allow for better coordination of housing and health care**
- **Support initiatives to retrofit homes and apartments for energy conservation and aging in place**
- **Place greater emphasis on integration of aging-in-place priorities into existing federal programs**
- **Provide reverse mortgage counseling that assures consumers fully understand the financial mechanics of these loans and promote development of alternative, low-cost home equity access products**
- **Convene a White House conference on aging in place**