

Disability and Retirement Among Aging Baby Boomers

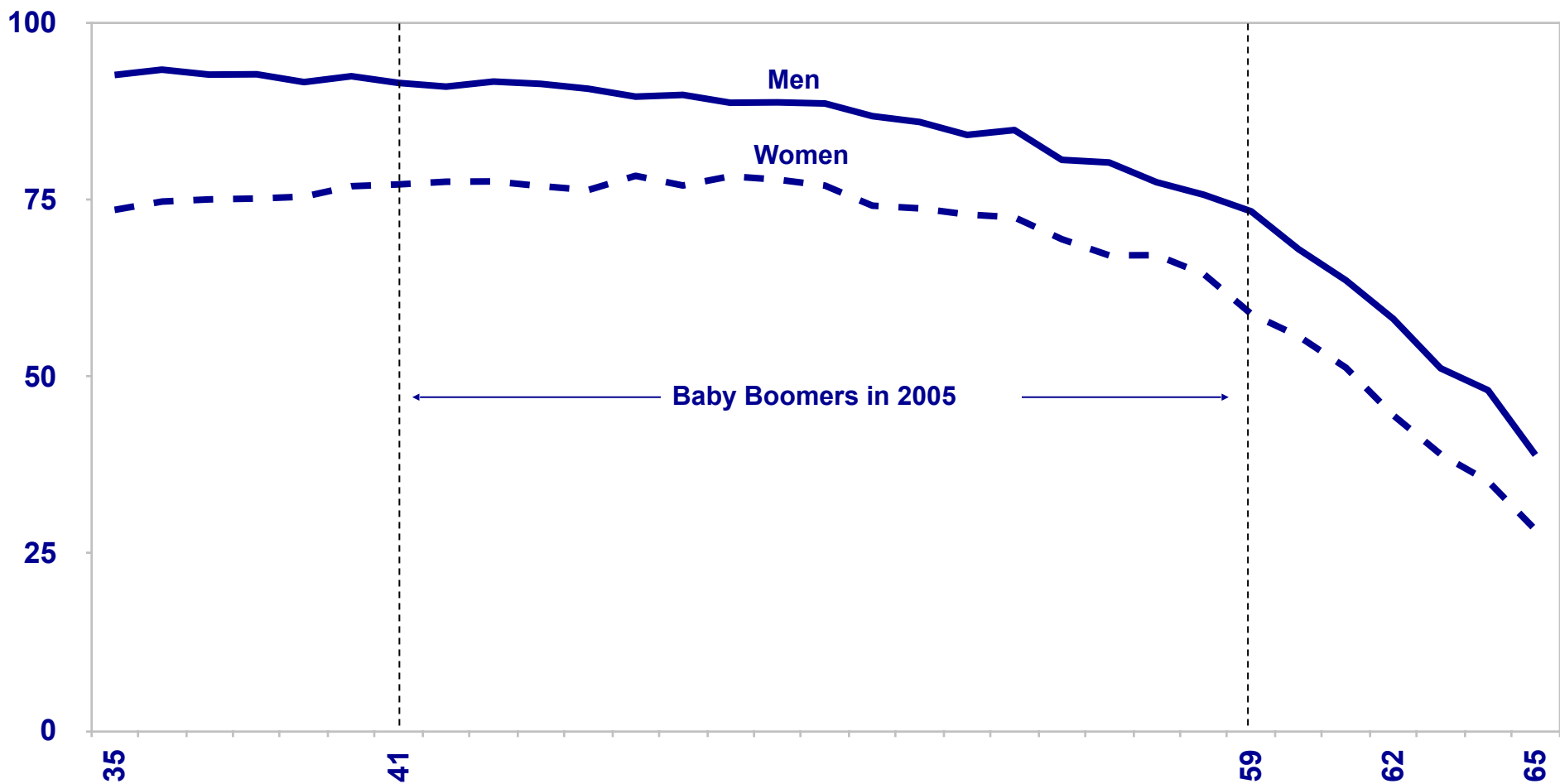
By

Ralph E. Smith
Congressional Budget Office

December 2005

This paper was prepared for presentation at the 18th Annual Policy Research Conference of the National Academy of Social Insurance, Washington, DC, January 20, 2006. The views expressed are those of the author and should not be interpreted as those of the Congressional Budget Office.

Figure 1. Labor Force Participation Rates of Men and Women, by Age, 2005
(Percentage of Population)

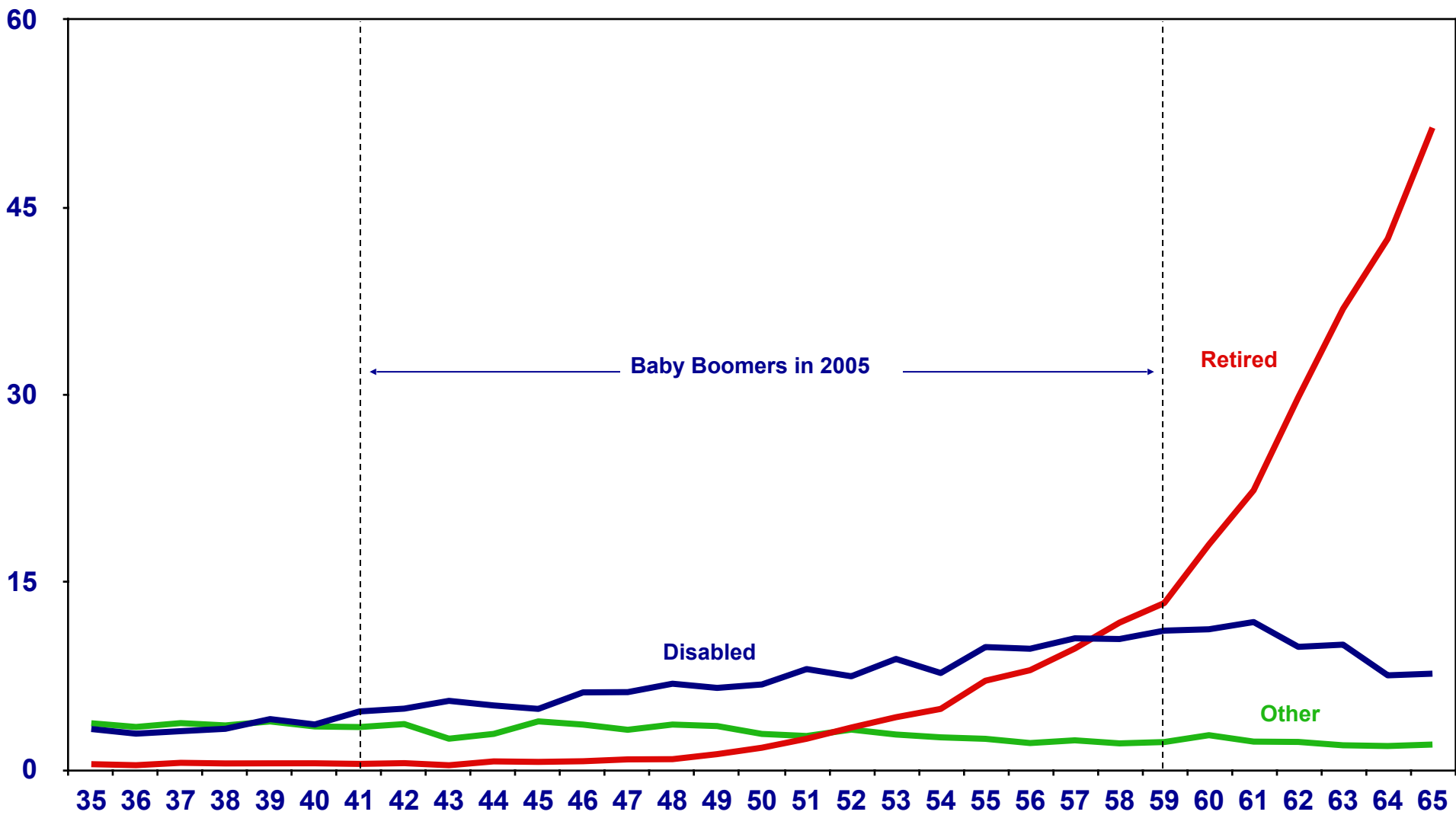


SOURCE: Estimates based on data from the Current Population Survey for the first ten months of 2005.



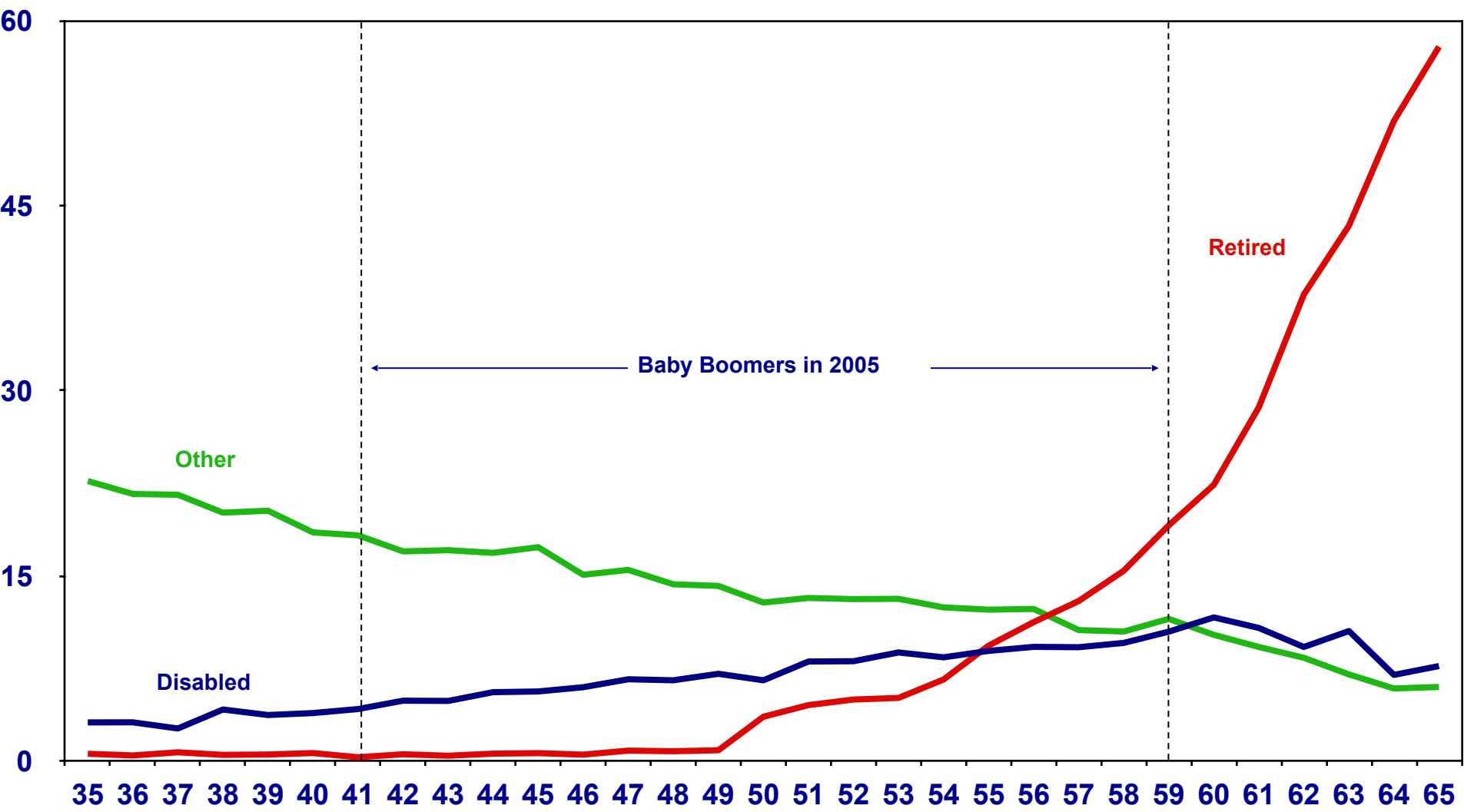
Early Retirement on the Pocomoke River

Figure 2a. Men Not in Labor Force, by Age, 2005
(Percentage of Population)



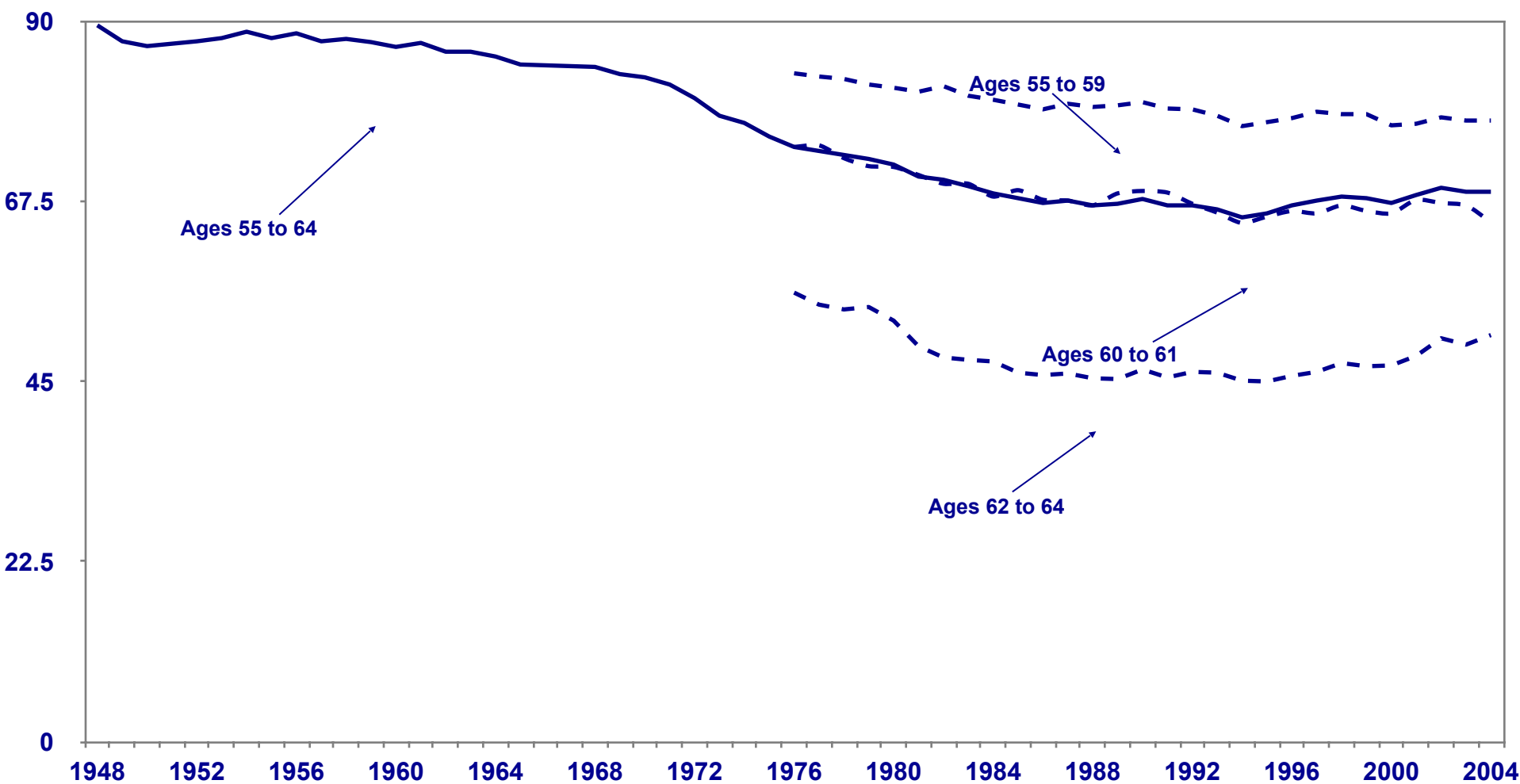
SOURCE: Estimates based on data from the Current Population Survey for the first ten months of 2005.

Figure 2b. Women Not in Labor Force, by Age, 2005
(Percentage of Population)



SOURCE: Estimates based on data from the Current Population Survey for the first ten months of 2005.

Figure 3a. Labor Force Participation Rates of Men Ages 55 to 64, 1948 to 2004
(Percent)



SOURCE: Estimates based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 1. Labor Force Status, Income, and Assets of Men and Women Ages 50 to 61 and the Main Reason for Nonparticipation, 2001

	<u>Not in Labor Force During 2001, By Reason</u>				In Labor Force at Any Time During 2001
	Retired	Disabled	Other*	Total	
Men					
Size of Group					
Percentage of total	4	9	1	14	86
Percentage of total not in labor force	32	64	4	100	n.a.
Income and Assets					
Median family income	30,000	20,000	**	23,000	62,000
Median net worth, including home equity	231,000	19,000	**	61,000	148,000
Median net worth, excluding home equity	89,000	2,000	**	8,000	55,000
Percentage poor	15	24	**	21	3

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

**Not available because of the small sample size

Table 1. Labor Force Status, Income, and Assets of Men and Women Ages 50 to 61 and the Main Reason for Nonparticipation, 2001

	<u>Not in Labor Force During 2001, By Reason</u>				In Labor Force at Any Time During 2001
	Retired	Disabled	Other*	Total	
Women					
Size of Group					
Percentage of total	6	10	8	24	76
Percentage of total not in labor force	26	40	34	100	n.a.
Income and Assets					
Median family income	34,000	19,000	43,000	30,000	54,000
Median net worth, including home equity	218,000	14,000	120,000	82,000	132,000
Median net worth, excluding home equity	90,000	1,000	27,000	13,000	42,000
Percentage poor	14	34	10	21	3

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

Table 3. Sources of Income for Men Ages 50 to 61 Not Participating in the Labor Force, 2001

Income Source	Percentage Receiving Income from Designated Source	Average Annual Amount (Dollars)	
		For Recipients of Income from Designated Source	For All in Group
Retired			
All Available Sources*	99	33,800	33,400
Earnings of Spouse or Other Family Members	38	26,100	9,800
Pension Own	73	19,300	14,100
Spouse Social Security	10	6,500	700
Own	4	7,100	300
Spouse or Other Family Members	11	8,100	900
Property	82	5,400	4,400
Supplemental Security Income	5	7,800	400
Veterans' Benefits	5	10,800	500
Workers Compensation	2	6,200	100

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

Table 3. Sources of Income for Men Ages 50 to 61 Not Participating in the Labor Force, 2001

Income Source	Percentage Receiving Income from Designated Source	Average Annual Amount (Dollars)	
		For Recipients of Income from Designated Source	For All in Group
Disabled			
All Available Sources*	99	28,700	28,300
Earnings of Spouse or Other Family Members	44	24,900	11,100
Pension Own	21	10,300	2,100
Spouse Social Security	3	10,800	300
Own	64	8,600	5,500
Spouse or Other Family Members	24	8,100	1,900
Property	43	1,100	500
Supplemental Security Income	37	6,100	2,300
Veterans' Benefits	15	11,400	1,700
Workers Compensation	6	8,800	500

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

Table 4. Sources of Income for Women Ages 50 to 61 Not Participating in the Labor Force, 2001

Income Source	Percentage Receiving Income from Designated Source	Average Annual Amount (Dollars)	
		For Recipients of Income from Designated Source	For All in Group
Retired			
All Available Sources*	100	44,300	44,300
Earnings of Spouse or Other Family Members	46	46,400	21,400
Pension			
Own	35	13,600	4,800
Spouse	44	16,900	7,500
Social Security			
Own	15	4,000	600
Spouse or other family members	34	10,500	3,600
Property	82	5,200	4,300
Supplemental Security Income	6	5,800	400
Veterans' Benefits	6	7,200	500

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

Table 4. Sources of Income for Women Ages 50 to 61 Not Participating in the Labor Force, 2001

Income Source	Percentage Receiving Income from Designated Source	Average Annual Amount (Dollars)	
		For Recipients of Income from Designated Source	For All in Group
		Disabled	
All Available Sources*	99	25,900	25,800
Earnings of Spouse or Other Family Members	48	26,100	12,500
Pension			
Own	9	7,700	700
Spouse	13	11,600	1,500
Social Security			
Own	58	5,800	3,400
Spouse or other family members	30	8,100	2,400
Property	38	1,900	700
Supplemental Security Income	44	5,000	2,200
Veterans' Benefits	4	5,600	200
Workers Compensation	4	6,000	300

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

**Table 5. Poverty Rates of Labor Force Participants and Nonparticipants
Ages 50 to 61, 2001 (Percent)**

	<u>Not in Labor Force During 2001 and Reason</u>				In Labor Force at Any Time During 2001
	Retired	Disabled	Other*	Total	
Based on Cash Income					
Men	15	24	**	21	3
Women	14	34	10	21	3
Based on Cash Income Plus Annuity Value of Net Worth (Excluding Home Equity)					
Men	11	24	**	20	3
Women	11	33	9	19	3
Based on Cash Income Plus Annuity Value of Net Worth (Including Home Equity)					
Men	5	23	**	17	2
Women	9	31	8	17	3

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

**Not available because of the small sample size

Table 6. Health Insurance Coverage Among Labor Force Participants and Nonparticipants Ages 50 to 61, 2001 (Percent)

Source of Coverage	Not in Labor Force During 2001 and Reason				In Labor Force at Any Time During 2001
	Retired	Disabled	Other*	Total	
Men					
Employer-Sponsored	76	33	**	47	82
Medicare, Medicaid	4	52	**	35	1
Other Coverage	11	4	**	7	6
Uninsured	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>	**	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100		100	100
Women					
Employer-Sponsored	73	27	64	52	82
Medicare, Medicaid	4	53	6	24	2
Other Coverage	14	7	11	10	7
Uninsured	<u>9</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

**Not available because of the small sample size.

Table 7. Characteristics of Men Ages 50 to 61, 2001 (Percent)

	Not in Labor Force During 2001 and Reason				In Labor Force at Any Time During 2001
	Retired	Disabled	Other*	Total	
Education					
Did not finish high school	11	34	**	26	11
High school diploma	33	37	**	35	26
Some college	26	24	**	25	28
College graduate	<u>30</u>	<u>5</u>	**	<u>13</u>	<u>34</u>
	100	100		100	100
Marital Status					
Married	70	49	**	55	74
Divorced, separated, widowed	23	36	**	31	20
Never married	8	15	**	14	5
Origin					
Native born	96	91	**	93	89
Foreign born	4	9	**	7	11
Age Last Worked					
50 or later	84	32	**	49	100
Before 50	15	64	**	48	0
Never employed	1	4	**	3	0
Disability Status					
Work-limiting disability	28	100	**	25	16
None	72	0	**	75	84

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

** Not available because of the small size of the sample.

Table 8. Characteristics of Women Ages 50 to 61, 2001 (Percent)

	Not in Labor Force During 2001 and Reason				In Labor Force at Any Time During 2001
	Retired	Disabled	Other*	Total	
Education					
Did not finish high school	15	40	26	29	8
High school diploma	32	34	34	34	33
Some college	24	22	24	23	31
College graduate	29	4	15	14	28
	100	100	100	100	100
Marital Status					
Married	75	46	83	66	65
Divorced, separated, widowed	19	46	13	28	29
Never married	6	8	3	6	7
Origin					
Native born	88	91	81	87	90
Foreign born	12	9	19	13	10
Age Last Worked					
50 or later	60	25	29	35	100
Before 50	32	64	55	53	0
Never employed	8	11	16	12	0
Disability Status					
Work-limiting disability	28	99	26	55	15
None	72	1	74	45	85

Source: Estimates based on data from the 2001 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).