



## Social Security: 2014 Tennessee Quick Facts

### Tennessee's 65+ population is 919,000.

In 2012, Tennessee's population was about 6.5 million, with 919,000 being age 65 and older residents.<sup>1</sup>

### Social Security generates \$33 billion dollars in economic output for Tennessee.

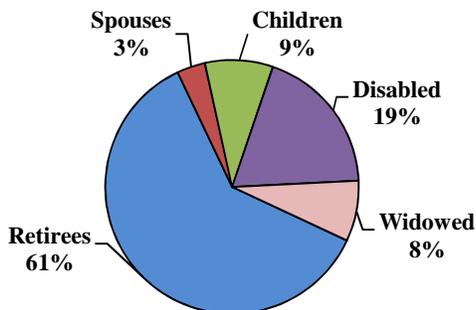
In 2012, Tennessee residents received \$17.7 billion dollars from Social Security.<sup>4</sup> Every \$1 dollar of Social Security received in Tennessee generates \$1.96 of economic output. Spending related to Social Security by beneficiaries, businesses and workers on goods and services generates \$33 billion in economic output for Tennessee.<sup>2</sup>

### One in five Tennessee residents receives Social Security.

The Social Security program not only provides monthly benefits to retired workers, but also to families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. In 2012, over 56 million Americans received Social Security benefits; of these, 1,322,096 lived in Tennessee.<sup>3</sup>

In 2012, one in five Tennessee residents received Social Security.<sup>1</sup> While 61% of beneficiaries are retirees, 39% are not: 250,888 are people with disabilities; 102,240 are widows and widowers; 114,552 are children; and 48,055 are spouses.<sup>3</sup>

Tennessee Social Security Beneficiaries



### Nearly all Tennessee residents age 65 or older receive Social Security.

Over 18% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in Tennessee, 21% of residents do. However, older people are more likely to receive the benefit, with 92% of those ages 65 and over receiving it nationwide, and 94% of older Tennesseans receiving it.<sup>1</sup>

### On average, Tennessee retirees receive about \$1,230 a month from Social Security.

The average yearly Social Security benefit for a Tennessee retiree in 2012 was \$14,765.<sup>5</sup>

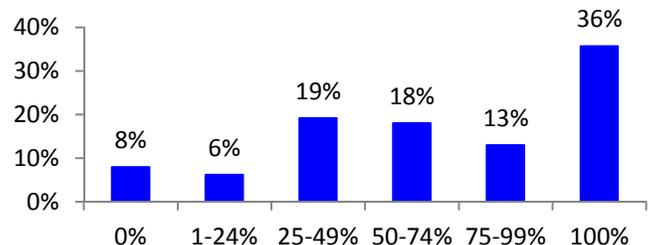
### Social Security lifts 361,000 Tennessee retirees from poverty.

About 44% of the nation's older population would be living in poverty if they were not receiving Social Security. In Tennessee, 55% of state's 65+ population would have incomes below the poverty line if they did not receive Social Security.<sup>6</sup>

### Social Security is the only source of income for one in three Tennesseans age 65+.

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for 67 percent of Tennesseans age 65 and older. One in three older Tennesseans rely on Social Security as their only source of income.<sup>7</sup>

Income Percentage from Social Security for Tennesseans 65+



## End Notes

<sup>1</sup> OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2012. Social Security Administration:  
[http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi\\_sc/2012/table01.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2012/table01.html)

<sup>2</sup> Social Security's Impact on the National Economy, AARP Public Policy Institute, 2013:  
<http://www.aarp.org/work/social-security/info-09-2013/social-security-impact-on-the-national-economy-AARP-ppi-econ-sec.html>

<sup>3</sup> OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2012. Social Security Administration:  
[http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi\\_sc/2012/table02.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2012/table02.html)

<sup>4</sup> OASDI Estimated Total Benefits Paid, 2013, Social Security Administration:  
<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2013/5j.html#table5.j1>

<sup>5</sup> OASDI Number and Total Monthly Benefits for Beneficiaries, age 65 or older, 2013:  
<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2013/5j.html#table5.j3>

<sup>6</sup> Effect of Social Security on Poverty Among the Elderly by State, 2009-2011:  
<http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3851>

<sup>7</sup> 2011 ACS Percent of Income from SS- SPSS calculation by AARP Research:  
[http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data\\_documentation/data\\_main/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/data_main/)

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