



## Social Security: 2012 Alabama Quick Facts



### Alabama's 65+ population is expanding.

In 2010, Alabama's population was about 4.7 million, with 14% being age 65 and older (664,000) residents.<sup>1</sup> In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 16% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will be 21%.<sup>2,3</sup>

### Alabama ranks 42<sup>nd</sup> in per capita income.

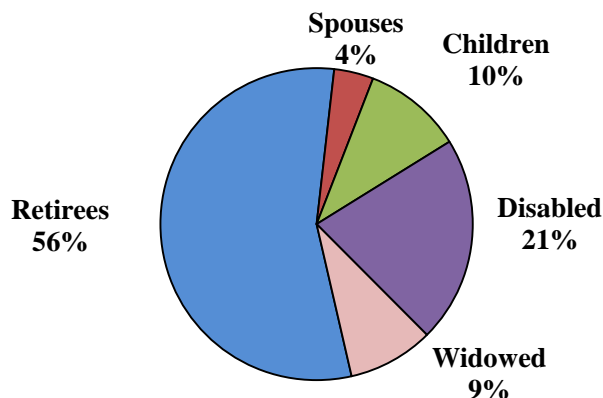
The average personal income in Alabama was \$33,945 in 2011, giving it one of the lowest per capita incomes in the South, and one of lowest rankings in the country (42nd).<sup>4</sup>

### One in five Alabama 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 2010, over 54 million Americans received Social Security benefits; of these, 1,012,056 lived in Alabama.<sup>5</sup>

In 2010, one in five Alabama residents received Social Security.<sup>1</sup> While 56% of beneficiaries are retirees, 44% are not: 216,038 are people with disabilities; 89,755 are widows and widowers; 104,095 are children; and 41,283 are spouses.<sup>5</sup>

Alabama Social Security Beneficiaries



### Social Security pumps over 12 billion dollars into Alabama's economy.

In 2010, Alabama residents received 12.7 billion dollars from Social Security.<sup>6</sup> The average yearly Social Security benefit for an Alabama retiree in 2010 was \$13,411— or about \$1,118 a month.<sup>7</sup>

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

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in Alabama, 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 92% of older Alabamians receiving it.<sup>1</sup>

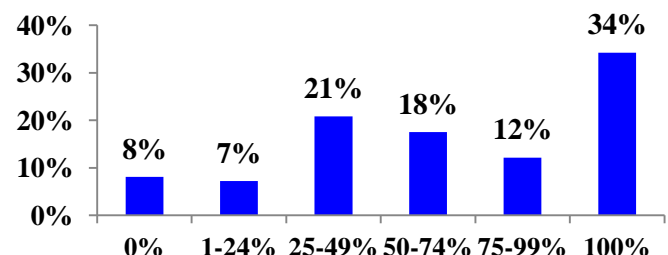
### Social Security lifts more than one-third of retirees from poverty.

In 2009, more than one-third (35%) of the nation's older population would be living in poverty if they were not receiving Social Security. In Alabama the rate is even higher: 37% of the state's 65+ population would have incomes below the poverty line if they did not receive Social Security.<sup>8</sup>

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

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for two-thirds of Alabamians age 65 and older. One in three older Alabamians rely on Social Security as their only source of income.<sup>9, 10</sup>

Income Percentage from Social Security for Alabamians 65+



## End Notes

<sup>1</sup> OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2010. Social Security Administration:  
[http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi\\_sc/2010/table01.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2010/table01.html)

<sup>2</sup> Projections of the Population, By Age and Sex, of States: 1995 to 2025. United States Census Bureau:  
<http://www.census.gov/population/projections/state/stpjage.txt>

<sup>3</sup> Ranking of States by Projected Percent of Population age 65 and Over: 2000, 2010, and 2030. United States Census Bureau:  
<http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/projectionsagesex.html>

<sup>4</sup> State Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Factsheet, 2010. U.S. Dept. of Commerce:  
<http://www.bea.gov/regional/bearfacts/statebf.cfm>

<sup>5</sup> OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2010. Social Security Administration:  
[http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi\\_sc/2010/table02.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2010/table02.html)

<sup>6</sup> OASDI Estimated Total Benefits Paid, 2010, Social Security Administration:  
<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2011/5j.html#table5.j1>

<sup>7</sup> OASDI Number and Total Monthly Benefits for Beneficiaries, age 65 or older, 2010:  
<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2011/5j.html#table5.j3>

<sup>8</sup> AARP analysis from the March 2009 Annual Social and Economic (ASEC) Supplement from the Current Population Survey (CPS).

<sup>9</sup> AARP analysis from the 2009 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS).

<sup>10</sup> For a three-year estimate refer to “Social Security is a Critical Income Source for Older Americans: State-Level Estimates, 2007–2009.” AARP Public Policy Institute:  
<http://www.aarp.org/work/social-security/info-09-2011/fs236-ss.html>

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