



Social Security: 2012 Alaska Quick Facts

Alaska's 65+ population is expanding.

In 2010, Alaska's population was about 709,000, with 8% being age 65 and older (56,000) residents.¹ In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 10% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will be 15%.^{2,3}

Alaska ranks 8th in income level among the states.

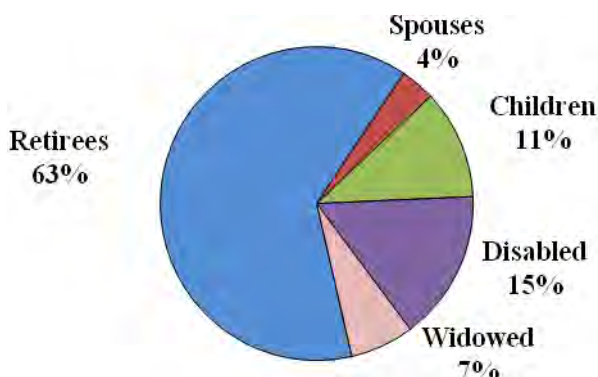
The average personal income in Alaska was \$44,174 in 2010. Alaska's per capita income (8th) ranks higher than California (12th).⁴

One in nine Alaska residents receive 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, 78,208 lived in Alaska.⁵

In 2010, one in nine Alaska residents received Social Security.¹ While 63% of beneficiaries are retirees, 37% are not: 12,119 are people with disabilities; 8,831 are children; 5,164 are widows and widowers; and 2,819 are spouses.⁵

Alaska Social Security Beneficiaries



Social Security pumps over 900 million dollars into Alaska's economy.

In 2010, Alaska residents received 959 million dollars from Social Security.⁶ The average yearly Social Security benefit for an Alaska retiree in 2010 was \$13,356— or about \$1,113 a month.⁷

Nearly all Alaska residents age 65 or older receive Social Security.

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in Alaska, 11% 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 90% of older Alaskans receiving it.¹

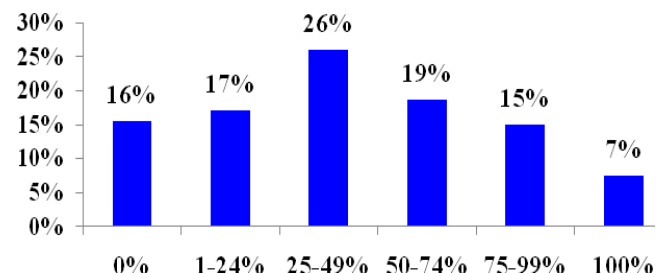
Social Security lifts more than one-third of retirees from poverty.

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 Alaska, 20% of the state's 65+ population would have incomes below the poverty line if they did not receive Social Security.⁸

Social Security is the only source of income for less than one tenth of Alaskans age 65+.

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for four in ten Alaskans age 65 and older. Less than one in ten older Alaskans rely on Social Security as their only source of income.^{9, 10}

Income Percentage from Social Security for Alaskans 65+



End Notes

¹ OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2010. Social Security Administration:

http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2010/table01.html

² 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>

³ 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>

⁴ State Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Factsheet, 2010. U.S. Dept. of Commerce:

<http://www.bea.gov/regional/bearfacts/statebf.cfm>

⁵ OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2010. Social Security Administration:

http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2010/table02.html

⁶ OASDI Estimated Total Benefits Paid, 2010, Social Security Administration:

<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2011/5j.html#table5.j1>

⁷ 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>

⁸ AARP analysis from The March 2010 Annual Social and Economic (ASEC) Supplement from the Current Population Survey (CPS).

⁹ AARP analysis using data from the 2009 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

¹⁰ 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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