



## Social Security: 2012 Colorado Quick Facts



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

In 2010, Colorado's population was about 5.1 million, with 11% being age 65 and older (559,000) residents.<sup>1</sup> In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 12% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will be 17%.<sup>2,3</sup>

### Colorado ranks 14<sup>th</sup> in income level in the U.S.

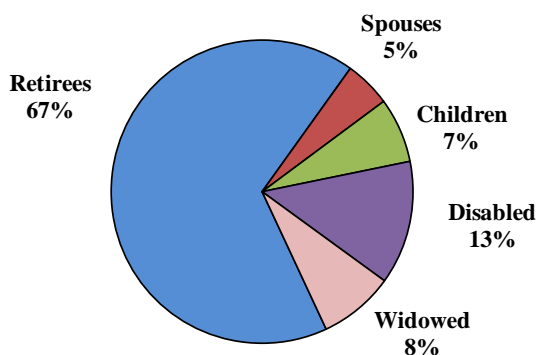
The average personal income in Colorado was \$42,802 in 2010. Colorado's per capita income rank is higher (14<sup>th</sup>) than any other Southwestern state.<sup>4</sup>

### One in seven Colorado 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, 693,341 lived in Colorado.<sup>5</sup>

In 2010, one in seven Colorado residents received Social Security.<sup>1</sup> While 67% of beneficiaries are retirees, 33% are not: 53,330 are widows and widowers; 94,404 are people with disabilities; 32,352 are spouses; and 47,630 are children.<sup>5</sup>

Colorado Social Security Beneficiaries



### Social Security pumps nearly nine billion dollars into Colorado's economy.

In 2010, Colorado residents received an estimated 8.9 billion dollars from Social Security.<sup>6</sup> The average yearly Social Security benefit for a Colorado retiree in 2010 was \$13,713—or about \$1,143 a month.<sup>7</sup>

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

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in Colorado, 14% of residents also receive benefits. However, older people are more likely to receive Social Security, with 92% of those ages 65 or older receiving it nationwide, and 88% of older Coloradans receiving it.<sup>1</sup>

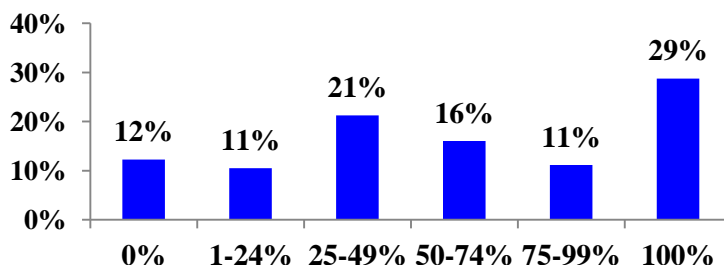
### Social Security lifts more than one quarter of Coloradan retirees from poverty.

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 Colorado, 27% 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 three in ten Coloradans age 65+.

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for over half of Coloradans age 65 and older. Three in ten Coloradans rely on Social Security as their only source of income.<sup>9,10</sup>

Income Percentage from Social Security for Coloradans 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 using data from 2009 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

<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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