



Social Security: 2012 Maine Quick Facts

Maine is the oldest state in New England.

In 2010, Maine's population was 1.3 million, with 16% being age 65 and older (210,000 residents).¹ In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 15% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will make up 21%.^{2,3}

Maine ranks 29th in per capita income—the lowest ranking state in New England.

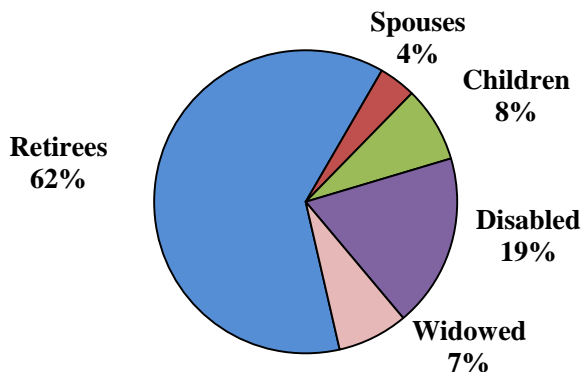
The average personal income in Maine was \$37,300 in 2010, giving it the lowest per capita income in New England (29th in the U.S.).⁴

Nearly one in four Maine 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, 299,875 lived in Maine.⁵

In 2010, nearly one in four Maine residents received Social Security.¹ While 62% of beneficiaries are retirees, 38% are not: 55,525 are people with disabilities; 22,473 are widows and widowers; 24,150 are children; and 11,878 are spouses.⁵

Maine Social Security Beneficiaries



Social Security pumps over three billion dollars into Maine's economy.

In 2010, Maine residents received 3.6 billion dollars from Social Security.⁶ The average yearly Social Security benefit for a Maine retiree in 2010 was \$12,916—or about \$1,076 a month.⁷

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

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in Maine, 23% 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 95% of older Mainers receiving it.¹

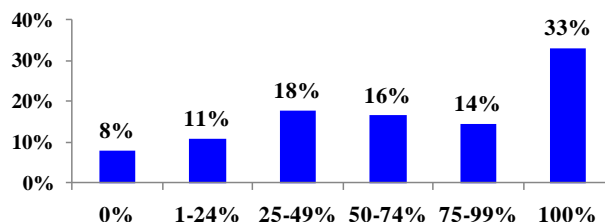
Social Security lifts more than one-third of retirees from poverty.

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 Maine, 38% 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 one-third of Mainers age 65+.

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for nearly two-thirds of Maine residents age 65 and older. One-third of older Mainers rely on Social Security as their only source of income.^{9,10}

Income Percentage from Social Security for Mainers 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 2009 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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