



Social Security: 2012 New Mexico Quick Facts

New Mexico's 65+ population is expanding.

In 2010, New Mexico's population was about 2 million, with 13% being age 65 and older (270,000 residents).¹ In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 15% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will be 20%.^{2,3}

New Mexico ranks 43rd in income level among the states.

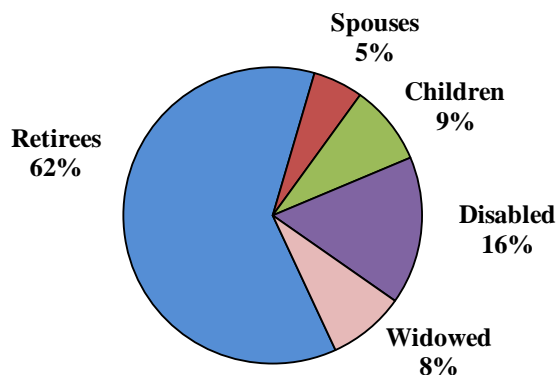
The average personal income in New Mexico was \$33,837 in 2010. New Mexico's per capita income (43rd) ranks lower than any other Southwestern state except Arkansas (46th) or Mississippi (50th).⁴

One in six New Mexico 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, 360,242 lived in New Mexico.⁵

In 2010, one in six New Mexico residents received Social Security.¹ While 62% of beneficiaries are retirees, 38% are not: 28,839 are widows and widowers; 58,641 are people with disabilities; 18,702 are spouses; and 31,045 are children.⁵

New Mexico Social Security Beneficiaries



Social Security pumps over four billion dollars into New Mexico's economy.

In 2010, New Mexico residents received an estimated 4.4 billion dollars from Social Security.⁶ The average yearly Social Security benefit for a New Mexico retiree in 2010 was \$12,887—or about \$1,074 a month.⁷

Nearly all New Mexico residents age 65 or older receive Social Security.

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits, and 18% of New Mexico residents receive benefits. However, older people are more likely to receive Social Security, with 92% of those ages 65 and over receiving it nationwide, and 83% of older New Mexicans receiving it.¹

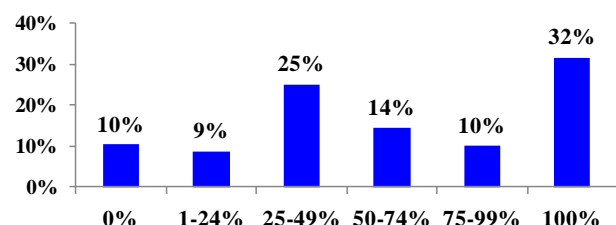
Social Security lifts more than one-third of retirees from poverty.

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 New Mexico, 34% 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 in three New Mexicans age 65+.

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for over half of New Mexicans age 65 and older. One in three older New Mexicans rely on Social Security as their only source of income.^{9,10}

Income Percentage from Social Security for New Mexicans 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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