



## Social Security: 2012 North Carolina Quick Facts

### North Carolina's 65+ population is expanding.

In 2010, North Carolina's population was about 9.5 million, with 13% being age 65 and older (1,226,000 residents).<sup>1</sup> In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 14% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will be 19%.<sup>2,3</sup>

### North Carolina ranks 35<sup>th</sup> in income level in the U.S.

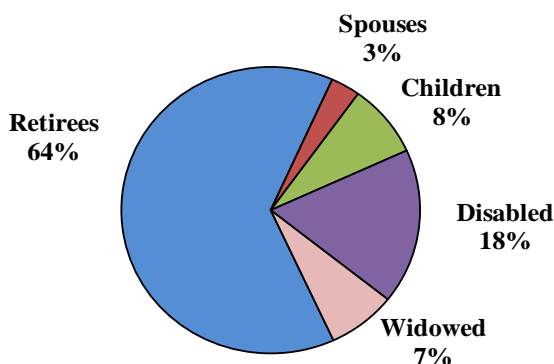
The average personal income in North Carolina was \$35,638 in 2010. North Carolina's per capita income (35<sup>th</sup>) ranks lower than Virginia (7<sup>th</sup>) but higher than South Carolina (45<sup>th</sup>).<sup>4</sup>

### One in five North Carolina 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, 1,757,135 lived in North Carolina.<sup>5</sup>

In 2010, one in five North Carolina residents received Social Security.<sup>1</sup> While 64% of beneficiaries are retirees, 36% are not: 310,399 are people with disabilities; 125,013 are widows and widowers; 142,712 children; and 53,195 spouses.<sup>5</sup>

**North Carolina Social Security Beneficiaries**



### Social Security pumps over 22 billion dollars into North Carolina's economy.

In 2010, North Carolina residents received 22.6 billion dollars from Social Security.<sup>6</sup> The average yearly Social Security benefit for a North Carolina retiree in 2010 was \$13,818—or about \$1,151 a month.<sup>7</sup>

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

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in North Carolina, 19% 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 94% of older North Carolinians receiving it.<sup>1</sup>

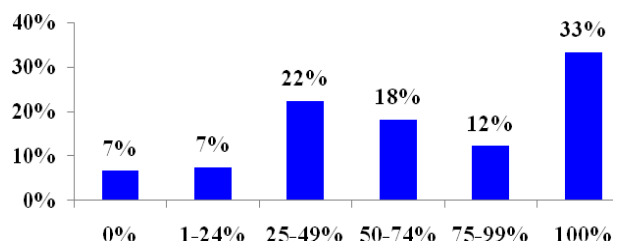
### Social Security lifts more than one-third of retirees from poverty.

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 North Carolina, 44% 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 a third of North Carolina residents age 65+.

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

**Income Percentage from Social Security for North Carolinians 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 the 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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