



## Social Security 2012 Rhode Island Quick Facts



### Rhode Island's 65+ population is expanding.

In 2010, Rhode Island's population was about 1,057,000, with 14% being age 65 and older (151,000 residents).<sup>1</sup> In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 15% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will be 21%.<sup>2,3</sup>

### Rhode Island's per capita income ranks 15<sup>th</sup> among the states.

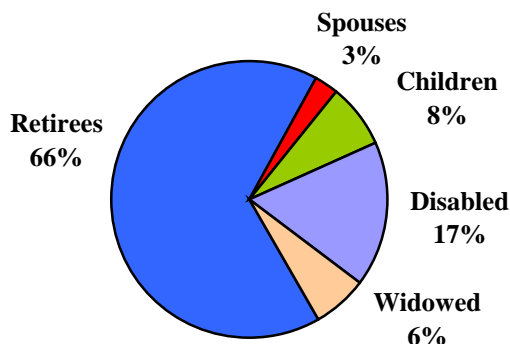
The average personal income in Rhode Island in 2010 was \$42,579, making it the 15<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation. However, Rhode Island's per capita income ranks considerably lower than Connecticut's (1<sup>st</sup>) or Massachusetts's (2<sup>nd</sup>).<sup>4</sup>

### One in five Rhode Island 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, 203,660 lived in Rhode Island.<sup>5</sup>

In 2010, one in five Rhode Island residents received Social Security.<sup>1</sup> While 66% of beneficiaries are retirees, 34% were not: 34,381 were people with disabilities; 13,186 were widows and widowers; 15,449 were children; and 5,447 were spouses.<sup>5</sup>

**Rhode Island Social Security Beneficiaries**



### Social Security pumps over two billion dollars into Rhode Island's economy.

In 2010, Rhode Island residents received 2.7 billion dollars from Social Security.<sup>6</sup> The average yearly Social Security benefit for a Rhode Island retiree in 2010 was \$14,078—or about \$1,173 a month.<sup>7</sup>

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

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in Rhode Island, 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 Rhode Islanders receiving it.<sup>1</sup>

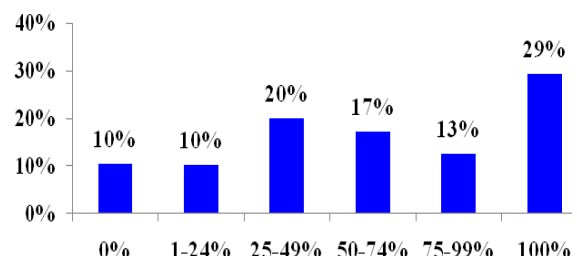
### Social Security lifts more than one-third of retirees from poverty.

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 Rhode Island, 37% 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 of Rhode Islanders age 65+.

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

**Income Percentage from Social Security for Rhode Islanders 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. US Dept. of Commerce:  
<http://www.bea.gov/regional/bearfacts/statebf.cfm>

<sup>5</sup> OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2011. Social Security Administration:  
[http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi\\_sc/2011/table02.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2011/table02.html)

<sup>6</sup> OASDI Estimated Total Benefits Paid, 2011, 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, 2011:  
<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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