



Social Security: 2012 Wisconsin Quick Facts

Wisconsin's 65+ population is expanding.

In 2010, Wisconsin's population was about 5.6 million, with 14% being age 65 and older (773,000) residents.¹ In 2015, the 65+ population will make up 15% of the state's population, and in 2030, it will be 21%.^{2,3}

Wisconsin ranks 27th in income level among the states.

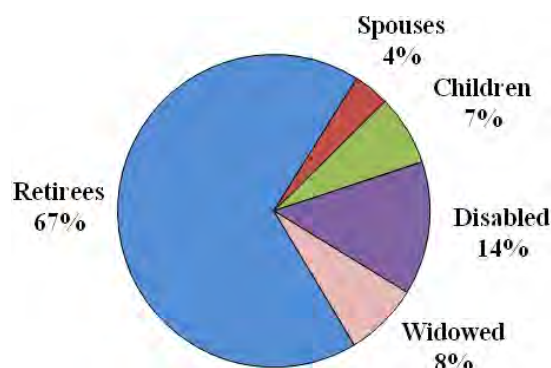
The average personal income in Wisconsin was \$38,432 in 2010. Among the Midwest states, Wisconsin's per capita income (27th) ranks higher than Iowa (28th) or Ohio (34th) but lower than Minnesota (13th).⁴

One in five Wisconsin 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, 1,061,501 lived in Wisconsin.⁵

In 2010, one in five Wisconsin residents received Social Security.¹ While 68% of beneficiaries are retirees, 32% are not: 81,266 are widows and widowers; 146,516 are people with disabilities; 39,770 are spouses; and 77,143 are children.⁵

Wisconsin Social Security Beneficiaries



Social Security pumps over 14 billion dollars into Wisconsin's economy.

In 2010, Wisconsin residents received 14.2 billion dollars from Social Security.⁶ The average yearly Social Security benefit for a Wisconsin retiree in 2010 was \$14,251—or about \$1,188 a month.⁷

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

Over 17% of all people receive Social Security benefits; in Wisconsin, 19% of residents also receive benefits. However, older people are more likely to receive Social Security, with 92% of those ages 65 and over receiving it nationwide, and 97% of Wisconsinites receiving it.¹

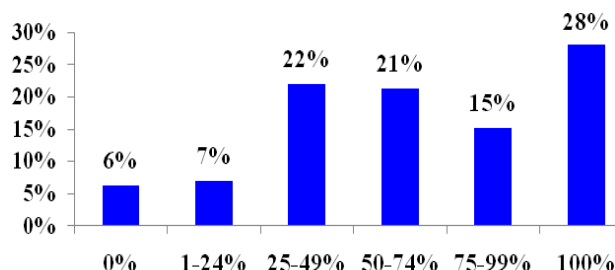
Social Security lifts more than one-third of retirees from poverty.

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 Wisconsin, 42% of 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 more than a quarter of Wisconsinites age 65+.

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for two in three Wisconsinites age 65 and older. More than a quarter of older Wisconsinites rely on Social Security as their only source of income.^{9,10}

Income Percentage from Social Security for Wisconsin 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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