



# Social Security: 2014 Wisconsin Quick Facts



## Wisconsin's 65+ population is 825,000.

In 2012, Wisconsin's population was about 5.7 million, with 825,000 being age 65 and older residents.<sup>1</sup>

## Social Security generates \$28.1 billion dollars in economic output for Wisconsin.

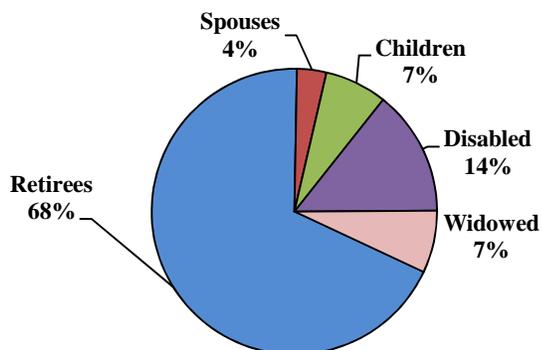
In 2012, Wisconsin residents received \$15.6 billion dollars from Social Security.<sup>4</sup> Every \$1 dollar of Social Security received in Wisconsin generates \$1.91 of economic output. Spending related to Social Security by beneficiaries, businesses and workers on goods and services generates \$28.1 billion in economic output for Wisconsin.<sup>2</sup>

## 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 2012, over 56 million Americans received Social Security benefits; of these, 1,110,160 lived in Wisconsin.<sup>3</sup>

In 2012, one in five Wisconsin residents received Social Security.<sup>1</sup> While 68% of beneficiaries are retirees, 32% are not: 78,231 are widows and widowers; 157,689 are people with disabilities; 37,262 are spouses; and 78,364 are children.<sup>3</sup>

Wisconsin Social Security Beneficiaries



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

Over 18% 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 96% of Wisconsinites receiving it.<sup>1</sup>

## On average, Wisconsin retirees receive about \$1,281 a month from Social Security.

The average yearly Social Security benefit for a Wisconsin retiree in 2012 was \$15,374.<sup>5</sup>

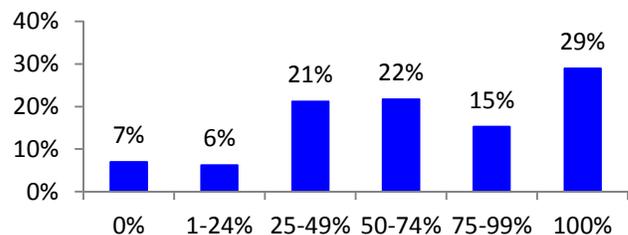
## Social Security lifts 307,000 Wisconsin retirees from poverty.

About 44% of the nation's older population would be living in poverty if they were not receiving Social Security. In Wisconsin, 43% of state's 65+ population would have incomes below the poverty line if they did not receive Social Security.<sup>6</sup>

## Social Security is the only source of income for three in ten Wisconsinites age 65+.

Social Security makes up 50 percent or more of the income for 66 percent of Wisconsinites age 65 and older. Three in ten older Wisconsinites rely on Social Security as their only source of income.<sup>7</sup>

Income Percentage from Social Security for Wisconsin 65+



## End Notes

- <sup>1</sup> OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2012. Social Security Administration:  
[http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi\\_sc/2012/table01.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2012/table01.html)
- <sup>2</sup> Social Security's Impact on the National Economy, AARP Public Policy Institute, 2013:  
<http://www.aarp.org/work/social-security/info-09-2013/social-security-impact-on-the-national-economy-AARP-ppi-econ-sec.html>
- <sup>3</sup> OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2012. Social Security Administration:  
[http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi\\_sc/2012/table02.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2012/table02.html)
- <sup>4</sup> OASDI Estimated Total Benefits Paid, 2013, Social Security Administration:  
<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2013/5j.html#table5.j1>
- <sup>5</sup> OASDI Number and Total Monthly Benefits for Beneficiaries, age 65 or older, 2013:  
<http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/2013/5j.html#table5.j3>
- <sup>6</sup> Effect of Social Security on Poverty Among the Elderly by State, 2009-2011:  
<http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3851>
- <sup>7</sup> 2011 ACS Percent of Income from SS- SPSS calculation by AARP Research:  
[http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data\\_documentation/data\\_main/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/data_main/)

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