SECTION 11

Poverty Status of Aged Persons Based on Family Income



Key Terms and Concepts for Section 11 ¹

Age. Age classification is based on the age of the person at his or her last birthday as of March 2013. A married couple's age is defined as the age of the husband—unless he is under age 55 and the wife is 55 or older, in which case it is the age of the wife.

Aged unit. With age 55 as the cutoff, aged units are defined as married couples living together—at least one of whom is 55 or older—and non-married persons 55 or older.

Marital status. Married persons are married and living with their spouse. Nonmarried persons may be divorced, widowed, never married, separated, or married but living apart from their spouse.

Race. The categories White alone, Black alone, and Asian alone reflect respondents who reported only one race. Because of changes to the race category, data on race are not directly comparable to editions prior to 2002. A person's race is his or her reported race. A married couple's race is defined as the race of the husband.

Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. A married couple is of Hispanic origin if the husband is of Hispanic origin.

Family. A family is a group of two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such people (including related subfamily members) are considered as members of one family.

Social Security beneficiary. A beneficiary may be receiving retired-worker benefits, dependents' or survivor benefits, disability benefits, or transitionally insured benefits.

Per capita income. Per capita income is total family income divided by the number of persons in the family.

Poverty. The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation with the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and excludes capital gains and noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and SNAP benefits).

The ratio of Social Security income to total income. This ratio is defined as Social Security income divided by total income. Units and persons in families with less than \$1 of total income or negative earnings or asset income are excluded from these tables.

¹ For more information, consult the Glossary at the front of this publication.

Table 11.1

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2012

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
		All persons			By b	peneficiary status (co Nonbeneficiary	ont.)	
All persons				All persons				
55–61	28,278	10.9	14.3	55–61	25,613	10.1	12.8	
62-64	10,213	10.1	14.4	62–64	6,511	10.2	13.7	
65 or older	43,287	9.1	14.6	65 or older	6,932	20.1	24.2	
Men				Men				
55–61	13,584	10.0	13.2	55–61	12,325	9.3	11.7	
62-64	4,739	9.6	13.3	62–64	3,055	9.0	12.0	
65 or older	19,298	6.6	10.9	65 or older	3,279	18.3	21.5	
Women				Women				
55–61	14,694	11.7	15.4	55–61	13,288	11.0	13.8	
62-64	5,474	10.6	15.3	62–64	3,456	11.2	15.3	
65 or older	23,990	11.0	17.5	65 or older	3,653	21.7	26.6	
	E	By beneficiary status				By marital status		
		Beneficiary		Married				
All persons				All persons				
55–61	2,665	18.0	29.0	55–61	18,242	4.9	6.8	
62-64	3,702	10.1	15.6	62–64	6,616	6.2	9.0	
65 or older	36,355	7.0	12.7	65 or older	24,518	4.4	7.2	
Men				Men				
55–61	1,259	17.3	27.7	55–61	9,287	4.9	6.9	
62-64	1,684	10.6	15.8	62–64	3,273	6.5	9.3	
65 or older	16,018	4.3	8.7	65 or older	13,770	4.5	7.3	
Women				Women				
55–61	1,406	18.5	30.1	55–61	8,955	4.9	6.7	
62-64	2,018	9.6	15.4	62–64	3,343	5.9	8.8	
65 or older	20,337	9.1	15.9	65 or older	10,748	4.3	7.1	

Table 11.1

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2012—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line				
	Ву	marital status (cont Nonmarried	.)		By marital status (cont.) Divorced					
All persons				All persons						
55–61	10,036	21.7	28.0	55–61	4,871	20.3	26.0			
62-64	3,597	17.3	24.2	62–64	1,767	16.3	23.1			
65 or older	18,769	15.2	24.2	65 or older	4,796	15.2	24.1			
Men				Men						
55-61	4,297	20.9	26.7	55–61	2,069	18.8	24.9			
62-64	1,466	16.4	22.3	62–64	756	14.1	20.9			
65 or older	5,527	12.1	19.9	65 or older	1,861	12.2	19.2			
Women				Women						
55–61	5,739	22.3	28.9	55–61	2,801	21.4	26.8			
62-64	2,131	18.0	25.6	62–64	1,011	18.0	24.8			
65 or older	13,242	16.5	26.0	65 or older	2,934	17.1	27.2			
		Widowed		Never married						
All persons				All persons						
55–61	1,268	21.1	29.9	55–61	2,804	24.4	30.3			
62-64	668	12.3	19.6	62–64	858	18.1	24.8			
65 or older	11,064	13.6	22.5	65 or older	1,903	19.8	28.5			
Men				Men						
55-61	290	25.2	29.0	55–61	1,454	25.4	31.0			
62-64	151	17.1	19.3	62–64	439	16.9	23.0			
65 or older	2,327	10.1	17.6	65 or older	873	15.7	23.7			
Women				Women						
55-61	978	19.9	30.1	55–61	1,349	23.2	29.5			
62-64	518	10.9	19.8	62–64	420	19.4	26.6			
65 or older	8,738	14.5	23.8	65 or older	1,030	23.2	32.6			

Table 11.1

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2012—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line		
		By race White alone				By race (cont.) Asian alone		
All persons				All persons				
55–61	23,171	9.3	12.5	55–61	1,291	8.7	10.5	
62-64	8,489	8.7	12.4	62–64	488	10.0	14.8	
65 or older	37,039	7.8	12.9	65 or older	1,669	12.3	17.1	
Men				Men				
55–61	11,311	8.5	11.4	55–61	575	8.3	10.1	
62-64	4,013	8.5	11.6	62–64	211	8.9	11.5	
65 or older	16,635	5.6	9.5	65 or older	721	12.3	17.0	
Women				Women				
55–61	11,860	10.2	13.6	55–61	716	9.1	10.9	
62-64	4,476	8.9	13.2	62–64	277	10.9	17.3	
65 or older	20,404	9.6	15.7	65 or older	948	12.2	17.2	
		Black alone		Hispanic origin				
All persons				All persons				
55–61	3,180	22.1	27.9	55–61	2,859	17.9	24.0	
62-64	1,072	19.3	27.6	62–64	877	22.7	28.5	
65 or older	3,893	18.2	27.1	65 or older	3,213	20.6	29.4	
Men				Men				
55–61	1,393	22.8	28.2	55–61	1,392	15.0	20.7	
62-64	441	17.5	26.2	62–64	397	21.4	25.9	
65 or older	1,633	14.0	20.8	65 or older	1,378	19.1	26.6	
Women				Women				
55–61	1,787	21.5	27.7	55–61	1,467	20.6	27.2	
62–64	631	20.6	28.7	62–64	481	23.8	30.7	
65 or older	2,260	21.2	31.6	65 or older	1,835	21.8	31.4	

NOTE: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2012.

Table 11.2

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2012

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
		All persons			By b	eneficiary status (co Nonbeneficiary	ont.)	
All persons				All persons				
65–69	14,437	7.8	11.6	65–69	3,769	13.8	16.6	
70–74	10,264	8.1	12.9	70–74	1,247	22.7	28.2	
75–79	7,598	9.4	16.0	75–79	842	30.1	36.3	
80 or older	10,988	11.4	19.1	80 or older	1,075	31.3	36.8	
Men				Men				
65–69	6,900	6.7	10.0	65–69	1,883	13.1	15.3	
70–74	4,704	6.5	9.9	70–74	581	20.5	25.8	
75–79	3,233	5.4	10.3	75–79	344	24.5	29.5	
80 or older	4,460	7.7	13.7	80 or older	472	31.5	35.4	
Women				Women				
65–69	7,537	8.9	13.0	65–69	1,886	14.4	17.9	
70–74	5,561	9.4	15.5	70–74	666	24.7	30.3	
75–79	4,364	12.4	20.1	75–79	498	33.9	41.0	
80 or older	6,528	13.9	22.8	80 or older	603	31.1	37.9	
	В	y beneficiary status				By marital status		
		Beneficiary		Married				
All persons				All persons				
65–69	10,669	5.7	9.8	65–69	9,429	4.0	6.1	
70–74	9,018	6.0	10.8	70–74	6,503	3.9	6.6	
75–79	6,756	6.8	13.4	75–79	4,446	5.0	8.2	
80 or older	9,913	9.2	17.2	80 or older	4,141	5.4	9.5	
Men				Men				
65–69	5,017	4.3	8.0	65–69	5,108	4.4	6.5	
70–74	4,123	4.5	7.7	70–74	3,587	3.8	6.2	
75–79	2,890	3.1	8.1	75–79	2,419	4.4	7.5	
80 or older	3,989	4.9	11.1	80 or older	2,656	5.6	9.9	
Women				Women				
65–69	5,652	7.1	11.3	65–69	4,321	3.6	5.6	
70–74	4,895	7.3	13.4	70–74	2,916	3.9	7.0	
75–79	3,866	9.6	17.4	75–79	2,027	5.6	9.0	
80 or older	5,925	12.1	21.3	80 or older	1,484	5.0	8.7	

Table 11.2
By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2012—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
	Bv	marital status (cont			By	marital status (con	t.)	
	-,	Nonmarried	•	Divorced				
All persons				All persons				
65–69	5,008	15.0	21.8	65–69	2,180	14.8	21.4	
70–74	3,761	15.3	23.9	70–74	1,259	15.5	24.4	
75–79	3,152	15.7	26.9	75–79	702	14.3	27.6	
80 or older	6,847	15.0	24.9	80 or older	656	17.0	28.6	
Men				Men				
65–69	1,792	13.3	20.0	65–69	880	14.2	19.9	
70–74	1,117	14.9	21.9	70–74	476	12.1	19.7	
75–79	814	8.3	18.7	75–79	254	6.4	16.8	
80 or older	1,804	10.8	19.1	80 or older	251	10.8	18.1	
Women				Women				
65–69	3,216	16.0	22.9	65–69	1,300	15.1	22.4	
70–74	2,644	15.5	24.8	70–74	782	17.6	27.3	
75–79	2,338	18.3	29.7	75–79	448	18.7	33.8	
80 or older	5,043	16.5	27.0	80 or older	404	20.9	35.2	
		Widowed		Never married				
All persons				All persons				
65–69	1,657	12.8	18.2	65–69	778	16.0	24.0	
70–74	1,853	12.0	20.7	70–74	421	23.2	31.5	
75–79	2,014	15.6	25.3	75–79	304	15.7	29.2	
80 or older	5,541	13.6	23.3	80 or older	400	26.3	33.8	
Men				Men				
65–69	361	12.8	18.6	65–69	370	10.7	18.6	
70–74	351	15.4	23.2	70–74	201	21.2		
75–79	335	4.4	10.4	75–79	150	15.2	30.2	
80 or older	1,280	9.3	17.6	80 or older	152	21.2	26.8	
Women				Women				
65–69	1,296	12.8	18.1	65–69	407	20.9	28.9	
70–74	1,502	11.3	20.1	70–74	220	25.1	36.7	
75–79	1,679	17.8	28.2	75–79	154	16.3	28.2	
80 or older	4,261	14.9	25.0	80 or older	249	29.5	38.0	

Table 11.2
By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2012—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line
	(By race	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		(**************************************	By race (cont.)	
		White alone				Asian alone	
All persons				All persons			
65–69	12,191	6.7	10.0	65–69	594	9.8	14.0
70–74	8,720	6.8	11.3	70–74	417	8.5	13.5
75–79	6,572	7.9	13.7	75–79	254	17.6	24.6
80 or older	9,555	10.1	17.7	80 or older	404	16.3	20.9
Men				Men			
65–69	5,870	5.6	8.5	65–69	281	9.8	14.7
70–74	4,023	5.4	8.9	70–74	184	8.0	10.5
75–79	2,813	4.1	8.2	75–79	116	18.0	25.9
80 or older	3,929	6.8	12.6	80 or older	140	18.5	22.8
Women				Women			
65–69	6,322	7.8	11.4	65–69	314	9.8	13.3
70–74	4,698	7.9	13.3	70–74	233	9.0	15.9
75–79	3,759	10.6	17.8	75–79	138	17.4	23.5
80 or older	5,626	12.4	21.2	80 or older	264	15.2	19.8
		Black alone				Hispanic origin	
All persons				All persons			
65–69	1,375	15.1	21.6	65–69	1,187	21.3	28.1
70–74	956	17.6	25.3	70–74	729	19.6	27.4
75–79	650	19.9	33.2	75–79	588	18.9	32.2
80 or older	912	22.2	32.7	80 or older	708	21.9	31.1
Men				Men			
65–69	617	14.0	19.6	65–69	553	23.6	28.6
70–74	421	15.6	19.6	70–74	283	14.8	21.0
75–79	247	12.0	23.8	75–79	255	14.7	28.6
80 or older	348	13.4	22.2	80 or older	287	18.5	26.6
Women				Women			
65–69	758	16.1	23.3	65–69	634	19.3	27.7
70–74	535	19.1	29.8	70–74	446	22.6	31.4
75–79	404	24.8	38.9	75–79	334	22.2	35.0
80 or older	564	27.6	39.3	80 or older	421	24.3	34.3

NOTE: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2012.

Table 11.3 Social Security beneficiaries, by marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex and age, 2012

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
		By marital status Married			Ву	marital status (cont Widowed	t.)	
		iviarrieu				widowed		
All persons 65 or	20,289	2.4	5.0	All persons 65 or	10,002	11.5	20.8	
65–69	6,889	2.2	4.2	65–69	1,375	10.0	16.2	
70–74	5,729	2.3	4.5	70–74	1,658	9.9	19.0	
75–79	3,967	2.4	5.4	75–79	1,846	12.8	22.8	
80 or older	3,704	2.9	6.9	80 or older	5,123	11.9	21.9	
Men 65 or older	11,434	2.4	5.1	Men 65 or older	2,054	7.1	15.2	
65–69	3,679	2.1	4.3	65–69	292	9.0	16.1	
70–74	3,159	2.5	4.4	70–74	298	11.6	19.5	
75–79	2,185	2.0	4.9	75–79	307	2.6	8.6	
80 or older	2,411	3.1	7.4	80 or older	1,157	6.6	15.6	
Women 65 or older	8,855	2.3	4.8	Women 65 or older	7,948	12.6	22.3	
65–69	3,210	2.2	4.0	65–69	1,083	10.3	16.2	
70–74	2,570	2.0	4.6	70–74	1,360	9.5	18.9	
75–79	1,782	2.9	5.9	75–79	1,539	14.8	25.6	
80 or older	1,292	2.5	6.1	80 or older	3,966	13.4	23.8	
		Nonmarried		Divorced				
All persons 65 or	16,066	12.8	22.5	All persons 65 or	3,923	13.0	22.9	
65–69	3,780	12.3	20.0	65–69	1,625	13.3	20.5	
70–74	3,288	12.6	21.9	70–74	1,133	12.3	22.1	
75–79	2,789	13.2	24.9	75–79	601	11.7	26.5	
80 or older	6,210	13.0	23.3	80 or older	563	14.9	27.6	
Men 65 or older	4,585	8.9	17.7	Men 65 or older	1,518	8.6	16.6	
65–69	1,338	10.1	18.1	65–69	665	11.1	17.4	
70–74	964	11.1	18.7	70–74	439	7.9	16.2	
75–79	705	6.5	17.7	75–79	213	3.4	15.8	
80 or older	1,577	7.6	16.7	80 or older	200	7.4	15.9	
Women 65 or older	11,482	14.3	24.4	Women 65 or older	2,405	15.8	26.9	
65–69	2,441	13.5	21.0	65–69	960	14.9	22.7	
70–74	2,324	13.2	23.2	70–74	694	15.1	25.8	
75–79	2,084	15.4	27.3	75–79	388	16.3	32.4	
80 or older	4,632	14.8	25.5	80 or older	363	19.1	34.0	

Table 11.3 Social Security beneficiaries, by marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex and age, 2012—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line
	Ву	marital status (cont Never married	.)			By race (cont.) Black alone	
All persons 65 or	1,411	16.3	26.4	All persons 65 or	3,042	15.7	25.2
65–69	541	12.9	21.9	65–69	962	11.7	19.4
70–74	332	19.1	28.5	70–74	790	15.2	23.5
75–79	228	13.6	29.0	75–79	537	16.5	29.8
80 or older	310	21.1	30.0	80 or older	752	20.7	31.0
Men 65 or older	653	13.9	23.9	Men 65 or older	1,258	9.6	17.2
65–69	256	9.9	20.2	65–69	418	8.0	15.3
70–74	164	19.4	24.7	70–74	359	11.9	15.9
75–79	123	15.1	33.3	75–79	207	9.6	22.0
80 or older	110	13.4	21.1	80 or older	274	9.0	18.3
Women 65 or older	758	18.3	28.5	Women 65 or older	1,784	20.0	30.8
65–69	286	15.5	23.4	65–69	544	14.6	22.5
70–74	168	18.8	32.2	70–74	432	17.9	29.9
75–79	104	11.8	24.0	75–79	330	20.9	34.6
80 or older	200	25.3	35.0	80 or older	478	27.4	38.2
		By race					
		White alone				Asian alone	
All persons 65 or	31,655	6.0	11.4	All persons 65 or	1,106	7.9	12.3
65–69	9,183	4.9	8.5	65–69	333	7.0	9.3
70–74	7,777	5.1	9.4	70–74	302	3.2	9.1
75–79	5,930	5.7	11.7	75–79	180	11.4	16.6
80 or older	8,764	8.1	16.0	80 or older	291	11.4	16.4
Men 65 or older	14,041	3.6	7.7	Men 65 or older	473	7.6	11.2
65–69	4,353	3.6	6.9	65–69	160	8.4	12.4
70–74	3,548	3.8	6.9	70–74	143	3.3	5.6
75–79	2,557	2.4	6.5	75–79	75	8.3	15.1
80 or older	3,583	4.4	10.5	80 or older	94	12.2	14.5
Women 65 or older	17,613	7.8	14.3	Women 65 or older	633	8.1	13.1
65–69	4,830	6.0	9.9	65–69	173	5.7	6.4
70–74	4,229	6.2	11.5	70–74	159	3.2	12.3
75–79	3,373	8.2	15.6	75–79	105	13.7	17.6
80 or older	5,181	10.7	19.8	80 or older	196	11.1	17.3

Table 11.3 Social Security beneficiaries, by marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex and age, 2012—*Continued*

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line
		Hispanic origin	
All persons 65 or	2,359	16.1	25.9
65–69	771	16.3	24.2
70–74	582	15.7	24.2
75–79	449	14.2	29.0
80 or older	557	17.7	27.4
Men 65 or older	1,038	14.0	22.5
65–69	380	18.7	24.0
70–74	228	10.5	18.2
75–79	205	10.9	25.4
80 or older	225	12.4	21.4
Women 65 or older	1,321	17.8	28.6
65–69	391	14.1	24.3
70–74	354	19.0	28.1
75–79	244	17.1	31.9
80 or older	333	21.4	31.5

NOTE: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2012.

Table 11.4
Persons in Social Security beneficiary families, by proportion of family from Social Security, sex, and age, 2012

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
		lies receiving less the				es receiving 90 to 99 from Social Security		
All persons 65 or older	16,598	1.0	2.1	All persons 65 or older	3,979	11.8	23.8	
65–69	6,499	0.9	1.7	65–69	690	11.9	21.3	
70–74	4,061	1.4	2.5	70–74	925	8.9	17.6	
75–79	2,630	0.4	1.7	75–79	860	12.3	25.2	
80 or older	3,408	1.1	2.7	80 or older	1,504	13.3	27.9	
Men 65 or older	7,920	0.7	1.4	Men 65 or older	1,551	7.6	17.2	
65–69	3,232	0.7	1.2	65–69	293	11.6	24.4	
70–74	1,994	0.9	2.0	70–74	409	5.2	12.5	
75–79	1,236	0.1	0.7	75–79	299	6.9	13.6	
80 or older	1,458	0.8	1.8	80 or older	550	7.7	18.7	
Women 65 or older	8,678	1.3	2.7	Women 65 or older	2,428	14.5	28.0	
65–69	3,267	1.1	2.2	65–69	397	12.1	19.0	
70–74	2,068	1.9	3.0	70–74	516	11.8	21.5	
75–79	1,394	0.7	2.6	75–79	561	15.2	31.4	
80 or older	1,949	1.3	3.4	80 or older	954	16.5	33.3	
		s receiving 50 to 89		Persons in families receiving 100 percent of income from				
	i	from Social Security	•	Social Security				
All persons 65 or older	10,977	4.1	7.8	All persons 65 or older	6,086	25.1	42.6	
65–69	2,969	4.8	8.8	65–69	1,373	27.1	42.7	
70–74	2,747	3.2	6.8	70–74	1,425	23.1	39.1	
75–79	2,163	3.8	6.9	75–79	1,226	23.0	41.8	
80 or older	3,098	4.6	8.5	80 or older	2,061	26.4	45.6	
Men 65 or older	4,798	2.8	5.4	Men 65 or older	2,258	18.3	35.5	
65–69	1,282	3.2	6.9	65–69	557	24.1	40.5	
70–74	1,202	3.2	5.2	70–74	579	18.9	31.1	
75–79	952	2.4	5.1	75–79	441	12.3	32.1	
80 or older	1,362	2.4	4.4	80 or older	682	16.8	37.3	
Women 65 or older	6,179	5.1	9.7	Women 65 or older	3,827	29.1	46.9	
65–69	1,688	6.0	10.2	65–69	817	29.0	44.3	
70–74	1,544	3.2	8.0	70–74	846	26.0	44.5	
75–79	1,211	4.8	8.4	75–79	785	29.1	47.3	
80 or older	1,736	6.3	11.7	80 or older	1,379	31.1	49.7	

NOTES: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2012.

Persons in families with zero total income or with negative total income, earnings, or income from assets are excluded.