

# SECTION 9

## Importance of Social Security Relative to Total Income (Beneficiary Aged Units and Aged Persons in Beneficiary Families Only)





## Key Terms and Concepts for Section 9 <sup>1</sup>

**Age.** Age classification is based on the age of the person at his or her last birthday as of March 2011. 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 sub-family 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.

**Relative Importance of Income Source.** The relative importance of a source is the ratio of the amount of income from a given source to total income for an aged unit or family. These tables are distributions of persons or aged units by the importance of a given source at the individual unit level.

**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 food stamps).

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<sup>1</sup> For more information, consult the Glossary at the front of this publication.

## Relative Importance of Social Security for Beneficiary Aged Units

**Table 9.A1**  
**Percentage distribution of beneficiary units, by age, 2010**

Proportion of income	Aged 55–61	Aged 62–64	Aged 65 or older					
			Total	65–69	70–74	75–79	80 or older	
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	19.2	25.0	9.4	16.7	9.8	6.2	5.4	
20–39	17.7	23.4	16.5	22.5	18.7	15.1	11.1	
40–59	12.3	15.6	16.7	18.0	17.6	17.2	14.8	
60–79	9.6	8.7	14.0	11.7	13.4	16.1	15.0	
80 or more	41.2	27.4	43.4	31.1	40.5	45.4	53.7	
50 or more	56.7	43.6	65.3	50.6	62.2	69.6	76.5	
90 or more	36.9	24.7	36.3	26.2	33.2	37.9	45.2	
100	29.1	18.6	23.7	17.5	22.9	24.2	28.7	
Mean proportion	60.6	50.6	66.0	55.5	63.9	68.9	73.8	
Number (thousands)	2,489	3,067	25,395	6,408	5,870	4,795	8,322	

NOTES: Units with zero total income or with negative total income, earnings, or income from assets are excluded.

The relative importance of a source of income may not accurately reflect the resources available to elderly persons or elderly aged units. The survey on which these data are based does not include some potentially important resources as income, including lump-sum pension payments and capital gains. In addition, these statistics do not take into consideration noncash benefits that supplement money income (housing and energy subsidies or food stamps) or the amount of savings available to supplement monthly income. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for further information.

Relative Importance of Social Security for Beneficiary Aged Units

**Table 9.A2**  
**Percentage distribution of beneficiary units, by marital status and age, 2010**

Proportion of income	Married couples							Nonmarried persons						
	55–61	62–64	65 or older					55–61	62–64	65 or older				
			Total	65–69	70–74	75–79	80 or older			Total	65–69	70–74	75–79	80 or older
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	34.5	37.5	14.2	24.6	13.1	8.2	6.8	4.2	11.0	6.0	8.8	6.7	4.7	4.8
20–39	25.3	30.2	22.5	27.4	24.5	20.0	15.9	10.3	15.7	12.2	17.5	13.2	11.3	9.1
40–59	13.0	14.1	19.3	18.7	20.2	18.4	19.9	11.6	17.2	14.9	17.3	15.2	16.3	12.8
60–79	6.9	5.3	15.0	10.5	14.8	18.9	18.0	12.2	12.5	13.2	12.9	12.0	13.8	13.8
80 or more	20.3	12.8	28.9	18.8	27.4	34.6	39.4	61.7	43.6	53.7	43.5	53.0	53.8	59.5
50 or more	32.8	24.3	53.1	37.4	51.4	62.6	67.8	80.0	65.1	74.1	63.9	72.4	75.2	79.9
90 or more	18.2	10.6	22.5	14.3	21.5	27.6	30.4	55.1	40.4	46.1	38.2	44.4	46.0	51.2
100	14.3	7.3	12.3	8.0	12.4	16.1	14.7	43.5	31.3	31.8	27.1	32.8	30.5	34.3
Mean proportion	42.3	36.3	55.9	45.0	55.4	62.4	65.5	78.5	66.5	73.1	66.2	72.0	74.0	77.1
Number (thousands)	1,232	1,618	10,564	3,224	2,855	2,104	2,381	1,257	1,449	14,831	3,184	3,015	2,691	5,940

NOTES: Units with zero total income or with negative total income, earnings, or income from assets are excluded.

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## Relative Importance of Social Security for Beneficiary Units 65 or Older

**Table 9.A3**  
**Percentage distribution of beneficiary units, by race, Hispanic origin, and marital status, 2010**

Proportion of income	White alone			Black alone			Asian alone			Hispanic origin		
	All units	Married couples	Nonmarried persons	All units	Married couples	Nonmarried persons	All units	Married couples	Nonmarried persons	All units	Married couples	Nonmarried persons
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	9.6	14.2	6.2	6.8	12.5	4.6	11.5	16.4	6.7	5.2	8.7	3.4
20–39	16.9	22.5	12.7	12.8	24.6	8.5	15.9	19.2	12.7	11.2	16.1	8.5
40–59	17.1	19.6	15.2	13.3	14.9	12.7	14.4	16.4	12.4	11.9	15.3	10.1
60–79	14.4	15.3	13.7	12.0	15.7	10.6	9.5	9.5	9.5	11.7	14.9	10.0
80 or more	42.0	28.4	52.2	55.1	32.3	63.6	48.7	38.5	58.7	60.0	44.9	68.0
50 or more	64.5	53.0	73.2	73.6	54.3	80.8	64.5	57.2	71.7	77.1	68.5	81.7
90 or more	34.7	21.9	44.3	49.4	28.2	57.3	41.7	31.6	51.6	55.1	40.5	62.9
100	21.3	11.3	28.9	42.2	22.8	49.5	32.9	23.1	42.6	44.7	30.6	52.2
Mean proportion	65.1	55.7	72.2	73.7	58.4	79.4	67.2	59.6	74.8	77.0	68.2	81.8
Number (thousands)	22,020	9,446	12,574	2,328	632	1,696	664	330	334	1,636	570	1,066

NOTES: Units with zero total income or with negative total income, earnings, or income from assets are excluded.

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Relative Importance of Social Security for Beneficiary Units 65 or Older

**Table 9.A4**  
**Percentage distribution of beneficiary units, by marital status and quintile of total money income, 2010**

Proportion of income	All units					Married couples					Nonmarried persons				
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1-19	0.7	0.9	2.5	7.0	37.4	1.0	1.9	4.6	13.7	53.7	0.5	0.9	0.7	3.8	25.6
20-39	1.3	2.1	7.7	25.6	46.5	3.0	6.0	17.2	46.1	41.7	1.4	0.8	2.5	11.8	46.4
40-59	2.9	5.4	22.4	36.8	13.8	4.8	11.4	39.8	33.6	3.9	2.2	3.3	7.8	36.0	23.2
60-79	6.9	13.3	24.4	21.0	1.7	8.1	28.1	30.3	5.0	0.5	6.9	6.6	18.2	28.4	2.9
80 or more	88.2	78.3	43.0	9.5	0.6	83.0	52.5	8.1	1.6	0.2	89.0	88.5	70.8	20.1	1.9
50 or more	97.1	94.7	80.2	47.4	6.2	94.2	86.8	61.4	17.1	1.8	97.3	97.4	93.3	68.4	11.2
90 or more	82.3	66.0	32.0	4.8	0.4	73.6	36.7	2.8	0.9	0.2	84.2	80.5	55.2	12.7	1.6
100	63.8	42.1	15.4	1.8	0.1	48.3	13.8	0.9	0.4	0	67.3	58.9	31.6	5.4	1.3
Mean proportion	93.9	88.8	71.6	50.2	25.9	90.1	76.9	54.1	36.5	20.0	94.3	93.6	85.5	60.3	31.6
Number (thousands)	4,276	5,566	5,467	5,242	4,844	1,990	2,252	2,235	2,154	1,934	2,233	3,307	3,328	3,191	2,772

NOTES: Units with zero total income or with negative total income, earnings, or income from assets are excluded.

Quintile limits are \$12,554, \$20,145, \$32,602, and \$57,957 for all units; \$24,970, \$36,967, \$54,360, and \$86,754 for married couples; and \$10,037, \$14,525, \$20,433, and \$34,417 for nonmarried persons.

The relative importance of a source of income may not accurately reflect the resources available to elderly persons or elderly aged units. The survey on which these data are based does not include some potentially important resources as income, including lump-sum pension payments and capital gains. In addition, these statistics do not take into consideration noncash benefits that supplement money income (housing and energy subsidies or food stamps) or the amount of savings available to supplement monthly income. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for further information.

## Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons in Beneficiary Families

**Table 9.B1**  
**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by sex and age, 2010**

Proportion of family income	All persons			Men			Women		
	Aged 55–61	Aged 62–64	Aged 65 or older	55–61	62–64	65 or older	55–61	62–64	65 or older
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	33.0	31.0	14.2	32.8	35.5	15.6	33.2	27.5	13.1
20–39	27.1	26.3	20.9	23.5	27.0	23.1	29.4	25.8	19.2
40–59	12.3	15.8	17.8	12.0	14.8	19.1	12.5	16.4	16.8
60–79	7.2	8.5	13.9	7.3	7.1	13.5	7.1	9.6	14.2
80 or more	20.4	18.5	33.2	24.3	15.6	28.7	17.8	20.6	36.6
50 or more	32.9	34.0	55.3	36.9	29.1	51.0	30.3	37.7	58.5
90 or more	17.2	15.7	26.6	21.4	13.5	22.9	14.5	17.3	29.4
100	13.1	11.0	15.4	16.3	9.5	13.2	11.0	12.2	17.1
Mean proportion	42.4	42.8	58.2	45.3	39.6	55.0	40.5	45.3	60.6
Number (thousands)	5,545	5,178	34,192	2,163	2,236	14,786	3,382	2,942	19,407

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

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**Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families**

**Table 9.B2**  
**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by sex and age, 2010**

Proportion of family income	All persons				Men				Women			
	65-69	70-74	75-79	80 or older	65-69	70-74	75-79	80 or older	65-69	70-74	75-79	80 or older
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1-19	20.8	12.9	11.2	10.8	23.1	13.8	11.2	11.9	18.8	12.2	11.2	10.0
20-39	25.6	22.8	19.3	15.8	26.8	25.2	21.4	18.1	24.5	20.7	17.7	14.4
40-59	18.4	18.4	19.0	15.8	19.0	18.9	19.3	19.2	17.9	18.0	18.7	13.7
60-79	11.6	14.0	14.7	15.6	10.0	14.1	15.2	15.7	13.0	14.0	14.3	15.5
80 or more	23.7	31.9	35.9	42.0	21.1	28.0	33.0	35.2	25.8	35.1	38.1	46.4
50 or more	43.0	54.7	59.1	65.4	39.0	51.2	57.1	60.4	46.4	57.7	60.6	68.5
90 or more	19.1	24.9	28.8	33.9	16.8	22.3	26.6	28.0	21.1	27.1	30.4	37.7
100	11.0	15.8	16.5	18.7	10.0	13.8	16.0	14.2	11.8	17.6	16.9	21.6
Mean proportion	49.7	57.8	61.1	65.0	46.8	55.3	59.6	61.0	52.1	59.9	62.3	67.6
Number (thousands)	9,680	8,277	6,429	9,807	4,420	3,757	2,797	3,812	5,260	4,520	3,632	5,995

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

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## Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families

**Table 9.B3**

**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by sex and marital status, 2010**

Proportion of family income	All persons					Men					Women				
	Married	Nonmarried				Married	Nonmarried				Married	Nonmarried			
		Total	Widowed	Divorced	Never married		Total	Widowed	Divorced	Never married		Total	Widowed	Divorced	Never married
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1-19	14.8	13.4	13.4	11.9	15.3	16.0	14.7	16.9	10.6	16.9	13.4	12.9	12.6	12.7	14.0
20-39	23.8	17.2	15.8	20.1	19.9	24.9	18.8	19.5	20.1	15.4	22.5	16.6	15.0	20.1	23.7
40-59	19.7	15.3	14.4	17.7	15.6	19.4	18.2	17.8	19.5	17.3	20.1	14.1	13.6	16.4	14.2
60-79	15.0	12.6	13.3	11.5	12.3	14.3	11.3	12.5	9.8	12.5	15.7	13.0	13.5	12.7	12.2
80 or more	26.7	41.5	43.0	38.9	36.9	25.4	37.0	33.3	40.1	37.9	28.3	43.3	45.4	38.1	36.0
50 or more	50.7	61.1	63.2	58.0	57.2	48.6	57.0	54.4	59.0	60.7	53.3	62.7	65.3	57.3	54.3
90 or more	20.5	34.3	35.2	32.6	29.7	19.5	31.5	27.3	34.5	33.9	21.9	35.3	37.2	31.3	26.2
100	10.4	21.8	21.7	21.7	20.0	10.0	21.1	17.5	23.6	20.2	10.9	22.1	22.7	20.4	19.9
Mean proportion	54.4	63.0	64.2	61.7	59.6	53.0	60.2	57.6	62.7	61.1	56.2	64.2	65.8	61.0	58.4
Number (thousands)	19,178	15,014	9,590	3,456	1,253	10,549	4,237	1,887	1,387	577	8,629	10,778	7,703	2,069	676

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

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**Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families**

**Table 9.B4**  
**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by race, Hispanic origin, and sex, 2010**

Proportion of family income	White alone			Black alone			Asian alone			Hispanic origin		
	All persons	Men	Women	All persons	Men	Women	All persons	Men	Women	All persons	Men	Women
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	13.7	15.3	12.5	13.7	12.9	14.2	27.1	30.2	25.0	19.3	18.9	19.6
20–39	20.9	23.1	19.2	19.6	22.3	17.9	23.1	23.6	22.7	19.4	20.4	18.6
40–59	18.1	19.3	17.2	16.1	18.4	14.6	12.4	13.8	11.3	14.6	15.3	14.0
60–79	14.3	13.7	14.7	12.4	13.0	12.1	9.0	9.4	8.7	10.9	11.4	10.6
80 or more	33.0	28.6	36.4	38.2	33.5	41.2	28.4	22.9	32.2	35.8	34.1	37.1
50 or more	55.5	51.1	58.9	58.6	56.0	60.3	42.6	38.6	45.5	53.5	53.2	53.7
90 or more	26.1	22.6	28.9	33.1	29.4	35.4	22.7	18.3	25.9	32.0	29.9	33.6
100	14.3	12.4	15.8	26.6	22.8	29.0	15.4	12.1	17.7	24.2	22.7	25.3
Mean proportion	58.3	55.0	60.8	61.4	59.1	62.9	49.3	45.6	51.9	57.9	57.4	58.2
Number (thousands)	29,921	13,078	16,844	2,819	1,095	1,724	970	401	569	2,179	929	1,250

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

The relative importance of a source of income may not accurately reflect the resources available to elderly persons or elderly aged units. The survey on which these data are based does not include some potentially important resources as income, including lump-sum pension payments and capital gains. In addition, these statistics do not take into consideration noncash benefits that supplement money income (housing and energy subsidies or food stamps) or the amount of savings available to supplement monthly income. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for further information.

## Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families

**Table 9.B5**

**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by race, Hispanic origin, sex, and marital status, 2010**

Proportion of family income	White alone				Black alone				Asian alone				Hispanic origin			
	Men		Women		Men		Women		Men		Women		Men		Women	
	Married	Non-married	Married	Non-married	Married	Non-married	Married	Non-married	Married	Non-married	Married	Non-married	Married	Non-married	Married	Non-married
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	a	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	15.4	15.0	12.8	12.3	15.0	10.0	13.3	14.6	30.4	a	25.9	24.1	16.7	22.5	14.5	23.0
20–39	24.7	19.2	22.6	16.3	27.2	15.5	20.1	17.1	24.7	a	22.7	22.8	22.2	17.4	19.4	18.1
40–59	19.6	18.3	20.5	14.4	18.3	18.5	19.8	12.7	13.5	a	13.6	8.8	17.2	12.1	19.6	10.4
60–79	14.6	11.3	15.9	13.7	14.9	10.3	16.5	10.5	8.8	a	10.2	7.1	12.2	10.0	12.8	9.1
80 or more	25.7	36.1	28.2	43.4	24.6	45.8	30.3	45.1	22.6	a	27.6	37.2	31.7	38.0	33.6	39.4
50 or more	49.3	55.9	53.5	63.5	47.7	67.5	57.4	61.4	37.6	a	43.7	47.5	53.0	53.6	56.5	51.8
90 or more	19.5	30.4	21.7	35.1	20.1	42.2	25.9	38.8	17.2	a	21.5	30.6	27.6	33.7	29.7	36.2
100	9.6	19.5	10.3	20.6	15.5	32.9	20.0	32.2	10.1	a	11.9	24.0	20.9	25.8	21.7	27.8
Mean proportion	53.3	59.5	56.3	64.6	53.1	67.4	58.7	64.4	45.0	a	49.7	54.3	56.8	58.4	59.0	57.7
Number (thousands)	9,431	3,647	7,781	9,062	635	461	454	1,270	329	72	295	274	576	354	497	753

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

The relative importance of a source of income may not accurately reflect the resources available to elderly persons or elderly aged units. The survey on which these data are based does not include some potentially important resources as income, including lump-sum pension payments and capital gains. In addition, these statistics do not take into consideration noncash benefits that supplement money income (housing and energy subsidies or food stamps) or the amount of savings available to supplement monthly income. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for further information.

**Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families**

**Table 9.B6**

**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by quintile of per-capita total family money income, 2010**

Proportion of family income	Total	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	14.2	2.6	3.8	6.9	15.7	43.6
20–39	20.9	6.2	8.4	14.7	30.7	45.5
40–59	17.8	7.4	9.7	22.9	37.7	9.3
60–79	13.9	10.3	16.2	28.0	12.0	0.8
80 or more	33.2	73.5	61.8	27.4	3.9	0.8
50 or more	55.3	87.4	83.5	68.9	31.1	3.6
90 or more	26.6	65.4	49.2	18.0	1.8	0.5
100	15.4	45.3	25.7	7.3	0.7	0.4
Mean proportion	58.2	84.8	78.7	62.1	41.3	23.6
Number (thousands)	34,192	6,172	7,267	7,287	7,014	6,452

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

Per-capita family total money income quintile limits are \$11,417, \$16,710, \$24,007, and \$38,237.

The relative importance of a source of income may not accurately reflect the resources available to elderly persons or elderly aged units. The survey on which these data are based does not include some potentially important resources as income, including lump-sum pension payments and capital gains. In addition, these statistics do not take into consideration noncash benefits that supplement money income (housing and energy subsidies or food stamps) or the amount of savings available to supplement monthly income. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for further information.

## Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families

**Table 9.B7**

**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by number of persons in family and quintile of per-capita family total money income, 2010**

Proportion of family income	Total	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
<i>Persons in 1-person families</i>						
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	6.8	0.6	1.0	1.5	4.5	29.8
20–39	13.2	1.3	1.3	2.6	18.6	49.2
40–59	16.2	3.6	4.6	14.5	44.7	17.8
60–79	13.8	7.4	10.8	25.5	22.3	1.4
80 or more	50.0	87.1	82.3	56.0	9.9	1.8
50 or more	71.5	96.6	96.3	89.6	54.8	7.1
90 or more	41.7	80.5	70.6	40.8	4.7	1.5
100	26.1	59.3	43.4	19.6	1.7	1.3
Mean proportion	70.8	93.1	90.5	79.2	52.9	29.1
Number (thousands)	10,968	2,027	2,606	2,389	1,997	1,948
<i>Persons in 2-person families</i>						
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	13.6	1.0	1.8	3.6	12.6	45.0
20–39	22.9	4.0	7.0	15.7	33.5	47.9
40–59	19.2	4.6	9.8	28.7	42.2	6.2
60–79	15.5	9.9	21.2	35.4	9.7	0.6
80 or more	28.8	80.5	60.2	16.7	2.0	0.4
50 or more	53.4	93.5	87.6	70.3	26.8	2.4
90 or more	22.4	71.6	45.4	8.3	0.8	0.2
100	11.9	48.7	18.9	1.7	0.3	0
Mean proportion	56.2	89.1	79.6	59.7	40.5	22.5
Number (thousands)	18,424	2,914	3,682	3,883	4,002	3,942

(Continued)

**Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families**

**Table 9.B7**

**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by number of persons in family and quintile of per-capita family total money income, 2010—Continued**

Proportion of family income	Total	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
<i>Persons in families of 3 or more</i>						
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	33.4	9.9	19.1	32.5	49.9	81.6
20–39	31.1	19.4	33.0	39.3	43.2	16.8
40–59	15.7	20.2	22.9	20.8	5.9	1.6
60–79	8.0	16.1	11.7	6.0	1.0	0
80 or more	11.9	34.5	13.3	1.4	0	0
50 or more	25.3	58.0	34.1	14.5	1.7	0.1
90 or more	8.3	25.7	6.8	1.4	0	0
100	4.5	14.0	4.3	0.2	0	0
Mean proportion	37.2	61.1	44.0	30.7	21.7	12.6
Number (thousands)	4,801	1,231	978	1,015	1,015	562

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

Per-capita family total money income quintile limits are \$11,417, \$16,710, \$24,007, and \$38,237.

The relative importance of a source of income may not accurately reflect the resources available to elderly persons or elderly aged units. The survey on which these data are based does not include some potentially important resources as income, including lump-sum pension payments and capital gains. In addition, these statistics do not take into consideration noncash benefits that supplement money income (housing and energy subsidies or food stamps) or the amount of savings available to supplement monthly income. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for further information.

## Relative Importance of Social Security for Persons 65 or Older in Beneficiary Families

**Table 9.B8**

**Percentage distribution of persons in beneficiary families, by sex and ratio of family total money income to the poverty threshold, 2010**

Proportion of family income	All persons					Men					Women				
	Under 1.00	1.00–1.24	1.25–1.49	1.50–1.99	2.00 or more	Under 1.00	1.00–1.24	1.25–1.49	1.50–1.99	2.00 or more	Under 1.00	1.00–1.24	1.25–1.49	1.50–1.99	2.00 or more
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1–19	1.0	1.3	2.0	2.0	20.7	1.2	1.0	3.2	1.8	20.7	0.9	1.5	1.5	2.1	20.6
20–39	2.4	3.2	3.3	5.8	29.6	2.2	3.2	2.6	5.9	30.3	2.4	3.2	3.7	5.8	29.0
40–59	4.3	5.0	6.0	11.1	23.0	5.7	6.0	6.7	11.8	22.9	3.8	4.4	5.7	10.8	23.1
60–79	9.3	12.0	10.2	14.9	14.8	9.0	13.0	10.0	11.5	14.4	9.4	11.5	10.3	17.0	15.1
80 or more	83.0	78.5	78.4	66.1	11.9	81.8	76.9	77.5	69.0	11.7	83.5	79.4	78.8	64.4	12.1
50 or more	94.9	93.0	92.6	86.6	37.0	94.5	92.6	92.2	87.0	36.3	95.1	93.2	92.8	86.4	37.5
90 or more	76.3	69.7	67.3	52.7	7.4	75.4	70.1	69.1	55.8	7.4	76.7	69.5	66.4	50.7	7.4
100	57.5	46.7	43.0	26.6	2.7	58.5	49.1	46.2	29.0	2.7	57.0	45.4	41.4	25.1	2.7
Mean proportion	91.0	88.9	87.7	81.4	43.8	90.4	88.5	87.4	82.3	43.5	91.2	89.1	87.9	80.8	44.1
Number (thousands)	2,417	2,021	2,525	4,687	22,543	706	721	824	1,772	10,762	1,710	1,300	1,701	2,914	11,780

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

The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2010.

The relative importance of a source of income may not accurately reflect the resources available to elderly persons or elderly aged units. The survey on which these data are based does not include some potentially important resources as income, including lump-sum pension payments and capital gains. In addition, these statistics do not take into consideration noncash benefits that supplement money income (housing and energy subsidies or food stamps) or the amount of savings available to supplement monthly income. Consult the Frequently Asked Questions for further information.