

Social Security Essentials

Compiled April 2005

New Mexico

With a debate raging over the future of Social Security, it's time to look at some of the facts about what it means for counties in New Mexico.

Who Gets Social Security Benefits in New Mexico by County

County	Total Number of Recipients	Recipients as % of Population	Percentage of Beneficiaries by Program:			Percentage Beneficiaries that are Children*
			Retired Workers	Survivors	Disabled	
State	294,669	16%	68%	15%	17%	10%
Bernalillo	86,920	15%	69%	14%	16%	8%
Catron	995	28%	73%	12%	15%	7%
Chaves	11,790	20%	67%	15%	18%	9%
Cibola	3,935	15%	60%	20%	20%	13%
Colfax	3,155	22%	71%	13%	16%	7%
Curry	6,790	15%	64%	17%	20%	11%
De Baca	570	27%	77%	15%	8%	4%
Dona Ana	25,490	14%	71%	14%	15%	10%
Eddy	10,135	20%	64%	16%	19%	10%
Grant	7,125	24%	69%	14%	17%	8%
Guadalupe	935	20%	63%	16%	22%	11%
Harding	230	31%	80%	9%	11%	4%
Hidalgo	990	19%	71%	15%	15%	10%
Lea	9,230	17%	64%	18%	18%	10%
Lincoln	4,575	23%	76%	12%	12%	6%
Los Alamos	2,365	13%	83%	11%	6%	5%
Luna	5,940	24%	73%	12%	15%	8%
McKinley	7,730	10%	56%	27%	17%	21%
Mora	1,180	23%	60%	15%	25%	11%
Otero	10,025	16%	71%	14%	15%	8%
Quay	2,450	25%	69%	15%	16%	7%
Rio Arriba	7,280	18%	58%	18%	24%	15%
Roosevelt	2,955	16%	66%	17%	16%	8%
Sandoval	14,405	15%	69%	14%	16%	9%
San Juan	15,865	13%	62%	20%	18%	14%
San Miguel	5,200	17%	59%	15%	26%	12%
Santa Fe	19,815	15%	72%	13%	15%	8%
Sierra	4,015	31%	73%	12%	14%	5%
Socorro	2,650	15%	63%	18%	20%	10%
Taos	5,725	19%	67%	15%	19%	9%
Torrance	2,590	16%	59%	16%	25%	13%
Union	990	25%	71%	16%	13%	8%

County	Total Number of Recipients	Recipients as % of Population	Percentage of Beneficiaries by Program:			Percentage Beneficiaries that are Children*
			Retired Workers	Survivors	Disabled	
Valencia	10,610	16%	62%	15%	23%	13%

* This includes minor children and a relatively small number of adult children of beneficiaries who receive benefits. The number and percentage of minor children receiving Social Security is not available on a county basis.

For more information on the Social Security program and the debate over its future, go to
<http://www.epinet.org/socialsecurity>

Notes and Sources:

As of December 2003. Social Security Administration. 2003. *OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County*.
 < http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2003/index.html >

December 2003 beneficiaries as a percentage of County Population. Social Security Administration. 2003. US
 Census Bureau. *Population Estimates by County*.
 < <http://www.census.gov/popest/counties/CO-EST2003-01.html> >