Social Security Essentials

Compiled April 2005

Texas

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 Texas.

Who Gets Social Security Benefits in Texas 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	2,792,148	13%	68%	17%	15%	9%
Anderson	8,200	15%	65%	18%	17%	9%
Andrews	2,180	17%	63%	18%	19%	8%
Angelina	14,905	19%	61%	20%	18%	12%
Aransas	5,355	23%	74%	12%	13%	6%
Archer	1,605	18%	69%	17%	13%	7%
Armstrong	430	20%	79%	13%	8%	2%
Atascosa	6,345	15%	59%	18%	22%	13%
Austin	4,535	18%	72%	18%	10%	7%
Bailey	1,260	19%	73%	18%	8%	6%
Bandera	3,640	19%	73%	12%	15%	8%
Bastrop	8,225	13%	68%	16%	16%	9%
Baylor	1,150	29%	71%	17%	12%	6%
Bee	4,245	13%	63%	20%	17%	10%
Bell	28,715	12%	66%	17%	17%	9%
Bexar	195,565	14%	66%	17%	17%	10%
Blanco	1,765	20%	76%	14%	10%	4%
Borden	110	16%	82%	14%	5%	0%
Bosque	4,070	23%	73%	14%	13%	6%
Bowie	15,865	18%	63%	17%	20%	10%
Brazoria	30,575	12%	68%	18%	15%	9%
Brazos	13,725	9%	69%	17%	13%	9%
Brewster	1,615	18%	76%	14%	10%	6%
Briscoe	410	24%	74%	18%	7%	4%
Brooks	1,585	20%	61%	22%	17%	13%
Brown	7,925	21%	68%	16%	16%	9%
Burleson	3,340	20%	70%	16%	13%	7%
Burnet	8,520	23%	76%	14%	9%	6%
Caldwell	5,155	15%	66%	18%	16%	10%
Calhoun	3,635	18%	71%	16%	13%	8%
Callahan	2,985	23%	72%	14%	14%	7%
Cameron	44,335	13%	67%	18%	14%	11%
Camp	2,505	22%	68%	17%	16%	7%

County	Total Number of Recipients	Recipients as % of Population	Percentage of Beneficiaries by Program:			Percentage Beneficiaries that are Children*
			Retired Workers	Survivors	Disabled	
Carson	1,200	18%	74%	15%	11%	6%
Cass	7,235	24%	62%	19%	19%	9%
Castro	1,275	16%	71%	20%	9%	9%
Chambers	3,740	14%	64%	18%	18%	9%
Cherokee	9,130	19%	66%	17%	17%	9%
Childress	1,235	16%	69%	19%	12%	6%
Clay	2,230	20%	72%	15%	13%	6%
Cochran	685	19%	67%	19%	14%	8%
Coke	925	24%	78%	13%	9%	5%
Coleman	2,560	29%	71%	18%	12%	6%
Collin	41,920	7%	72%	15%	13%	9%
Collingsworth	755	24%	69%	19%	12%	7%
Colorado	4,475	22%	72%	18%	10%	6%
Comal	15,520	18%	74%	14%	12%	7%
Comanche	3,365	25%	73%	16%	11%	5%
Concho	605	16%	70%	17%	12%	7%
Cooke	6,665	18%	72%	15%	13%	7%
Coryell	6,755	9%	64%	18%	17%	11%
Cottle	510	29%	74%	18%	9%	3%
Crane	610	16%	63%	22%	15%	7%
Crockett	650	17%	68%	20%	12%	7%
Crosby	1,340	20%	67%	21%	13%	7%
Culberson	460	16%	66%	16%	17%	13%
Dallam	940	15%	70%	19%	11%	7%
Dallas	236,210	10%	68%	16%	16%	9%
Dawson	2,580	18%	69%	19%	12%	7%
Deaf Smith	2,800	15%	69%	16%	14%	8%
Delta	1,170	22%	66%	17%	17%	9%
Denton	35,895	7%	69%	17%	15%	12%
De Witt	4,315	22%	68%	18%	14%	7%
Dickens	605	22%	73%	15%	12%	5%
Dimmit	1,740	17%	62%	22%	17%	12%
Donley	975	25%	74%	15%	11%	6%
Duval	2,450	19%	56%	25%	19%	13%
Eastland	4,555	25%	70%	17%	12%	6%
Ector	18,630	15%	63%	19%	17%	10%
Edwards	500	24%	71%	20%	9%	8%
Ellis	15,765	13%	67%	16%	17%	10%
El Paso	88,945	13%	67%	17%	16%	10%
Erath	5,355	16%	71%	17%	12%	8%
Falls	3,375	19%	65%	17%	18%	10%
Fannin	6,475	20%	70%	15%	15%	7%
Fayette	5,595	25%	74%	17%	9%	6%
Fisher	1,090	26%	74%	17%	9%	6%
Floyd	1,410	19%	71%	20%	9%	6%
Foard	405	26%	68%	22%	10%	9%
Fort Bend	31,410	8%	67%	19%	14%	13%
Franklin	2,365	24%	72%	15%	13%	7%
Freestone	3,630	20%	69%	16%	15%	8%
Frio	2,355	14%	60%	21%	19%	12%
Gaines	1,925	14%	65%	19%	16%	10%
Galveston	37,810	14%	67%	17%	16%	9%

County	Total Number of Recipients	Recipients as % of Population	Percentage of Beneficiaries by Program:			Percentage Beneficiaries that are Children*
			Retired Workers	Survivors	Disabled	
Garza	860	17%	71%	16%	13%	6%
Gillespie	5,730	26%	80%	13%	7%	4%
Glasscock	155	11%	81%	16%	3%	3%
Goliad	1,420	20%	68%	18%	14%	8%
Gonzales	3,845	20%	68%	18%	14%	9%
Gray	4,790	22%	72%	17%	10%	6%
Grayson	21,415	19%	69%	15%	15%	8%
Gregg	20,785	18%	66%	18%	15%	8%
Grimes	3,830	16%	65%	19%	16%	10%
Guadalupe	14,875	16%	70%	16%	14%	9%
Hale	5,765	16%	68%	19%	13%	8%
Hall	950	25%	71%	19%	11%	5%
Hamilton	2,185	27%	75%	15%	11%	6%
Hansford	930	18%	74%	18%	8%	5%
Hardeman	1,130	25%	68%	20%	12%	9%
Hardin	8,570	17%	64%	20%	16%	9%
Harris	341,605	10%	67%	18%	15%	10%
Harrison	10,730	17%	64%	18%	17%	9%
Hartley	570	11%	75%	18%	7%	4%
Haskell	1,635	28%	71%	19%	10%	5%
Hays	11,565	11%	71%	16%	14%	9%
Hemphill	565	17%	73%	18%	10%	4%
Henderson	17,140	23%	71%	14%	15%	7%
Hidalgo	68,910	11%	67%	17%	16%	12%
Hill	7,390	22%	69%	15%	15%	7%
Hockley	3,790	17%	63%	22%	15%	10%
Hood	10,225	23%	78%	12%	10%	5%
Hopkins	6,290	19%	68%	17%	15%	7%
Houston	5,220	23%	68%	17%	15%	7%
Howard	5,950	18%	66%	18%	16%	9%
Hudspeth	460	14%	71%	16%	13%	10%
Hunt	14,340	18%	66%	15%	18%	9%
Hutchinson	4,605	20%	70%	17%	13%	6%
Irion	320	18%	70%	16%	14%	8%
Jack	1,665	19%	70%	18%	12%	8%
Jackson	2,660	19%	66%	20%	14%	8%
Jasper	7,505	21%	64%	19%	17%	10%
Jeff Davis	465	21%	80%	10%	11%	4%
Jefferson	44,570	18%	64%	19%	17%	10%
Jim Hogg	1,000	19%	65%	21%	15%	11%
Jim Wells	6,950	17%	61%	21%	18%	11%
Johnson	18,280	13%	67%	17%	17%	10%
Jones	3,475	17%	68%	18%	13%	8%
Karnes	2,745	18%	66%	19%	15%	8%
Kaufman	12,385	16%	67%	16%	17%	10%
Kendall	5,005	20%	76%	15%	9%	7%
Kenedy	50	12%	70%	30%	0%	10%
Kent	240	30%	73%	17%	10%	6%
Kerr	12,760	28%	78%	12%	9%	5%
Kimble	1,070	24%	73%	18%	9%	5%
King	25	8%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Kinney	885	26%	76%	14%	10%	6%

County	Total Number of Recipients	Recipients as % of Population	Percentage of Beneficiaries by Program:			Percentage Beneficiaries that are Children*
			Retired Workers	Survivors	Disabled	
Kleberg	4,315	14%	66%	19%	15%	9%
Knox	1,040	26%	70%	21%	9%	7%
Lamar	10,160	21%	67%	16%	16%	8%
Lamb	2,935	20%	68%	20%	12%	7%
Lampasas	3,415	18%	69%	17%	14%	7%
La Salle	1,025	18%	59%	22%	19%	14%
Lavaca	5,095	27%	71%	17%	11%	7%
Lee	2,725	17%	69%	19%	11%	8%
Leon	4,085	26%	72%	16%	12%	7%
Liberty	10,730	15%	59%	22%	19%	11%
Limestone	4,980	22%	64%	19%	17%	17%
Lipscomb	610	20%	74%	17%	9%	6%
Live Oak	1,810	15%	68%	19%	12%	6%
Llano	5,190	29%	78%	13%	9%	4%
Loving	20	31%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Lubbock	35,420	14%	68%	17%	15%	9%
Lynn	1,190	19%	68%	17%	15%	8%
McCulloch	2,030	26%	69%	18%	13%	9%
McLennan	35,450	16%	67%	16%	16%	9%
McMullen	160	19%	75%	19%	6%	3%
Madison	2,200	17%	70%	18%	13%	8%
Marion	2,580	23%	65%	17%	18%	9%
Martin	735	16%	63%	18%	19%	12%
Mason	1,015	27%	77%	15%	8%	3%
Matagorda	6,475	17%	66%	20%	14%	10%
Maverick	7,145	15%	65%	18%	17%	12%
Medina	6,285	15%	67%	17%	16%	10%
Menard	615	26%	76%	15%	10%	5%
Midland	17,410	15%	70%	16%	14%	8%
Milam	5,115	20%	69%	18%	13%	7%
Mills	1,275	25%	74%	16%	11%	5%
Mitchell	1,645	17%	69%	17%	13%	7%
Montague	4,860	25%	69%	17%	14%	7%
Montgomery	41,305	13%	69%	17%	14%	9%
Moore	2,515	12%	68%	20%	11%	8%
Morris	3,365	26%	66%	18%	15%	8%
Motley	365	28%	74%	19%	7%	4%
Nacogdoches	9,265	16%	65%	18%	18%	9%
Navarro	8,710	19%	65%	16%	18%	10%
Newton	2,595	17%	58%	21%	21%	13%
Nolan	3,265	22%	68%	19%	12%	8%
Nueces	46,835	15%	65%	19%	17%	10%
Ochiltree	1,290	14%	69%	22%	10%	6%
Oldham	360	17%	74%	17%	10%	8%
Orange	16,010	19%	63%	18%	18%	9%
Palo Pinto	5,430	20%	69%	17%	14%	7%
Panola	4,620	20%	63%	20%	17%	9%
Parker	14,170	15%	71%	15%	14%	8%
Parmer	1,490	15%	71%	20%	9%	7%
Pecos	2,165	13%	68%	17%	15%	9%
Polk	17,740	40%	78%	10%	12%	5%
Potter	16,695	14%	65%	18%	17%	9%

County	Total Number of Recipients	Recipients as % of Population	Percentage of Beneficiaries by Program:			Percentage Beneficiaries that are Children*
			Retired Workers	Survivors	Disabled	
Presidio	1,470	20%	71%	15%	14%	10%
Rains	2,160	21%	71%	13%	16%	7%
Randall	15,250	14%	74%	15%	11%	7%
Reagan	460	15%	64%	18%	17%	11%
Real	940	32%	74%	13%	13%	5%
Red River	3,330	24%	67%	18%	16%	8%
Reeves	2,150	17%	67%	17%	16%	10%
Refugio	1,705	22%	67%	19%	13%	8%
Roberts	150	17%	73%	20%	7%	3%
Robertson	3,335	21%	66%	21%	13%	8%
Rockwall	5,760	11%	73%	15%	12%	8%
Runnels	2,605	23%	69%	19%	12%	7%
Rusk	8,850	19%	66%	18%	16%	7%
Sabine	3,475	33%	69%	16%	15%	6%
San Augustine	2,425	27%	64%	20%	16%	10%
San Jacinto	4,775	21%	67%	16%	17%	8%
San Patricio	10,610	16%	63%	20%	17%	10%
San Saba	1,340	22%	73%	19%	8%	8%
Schleicher	545	19%	66%	19%	15%	8%
Scurry	3,000	19%	69%	18%	13%	6%
Shackelford	755	23%	72%	19%	10%	5%
Shelby	5,340	21%	62%	21%	17%	10%
Sherman	360	11%	76%	19%	4%	4%
Smith	32,965	18%	70%	15%	15%	8%
Somervell	1,170	16%	73%	15%	12%	7%
Starr	7,185	13%	61%	22%	18%	13%
Stephens	2,135	23%	71%	16%	13%	5%
Sterling	200	15%	75%	15%	10%	5%
Stonewall	440	29%	72%	22%	7%	6%
Sutton	615	15%	72%	17%	11%	6%
Swisher	1,645	20%	71%	18%	11%	6%
Tarrant	165,360	11%	69%	17%	15%	9%
Taylor	21,155	17%	69%	17%	14%	10%
Terrell	230	23%	78%	13%	9%	7%
Terry	2,330	19%	67%	21%	12%	8%
Throckmorton	425	25%	69%	21%	9%	2%
Titus	4,235	15%	66%	19%	14%	9%
Tom Green	18,315	18%	69%	17%	14%	9%
Travis	75,080	9%	69%	15%	16%	9%
Trinity	4,000	28%	69%	16%	15%	6%
Tyler	4,720	23%	66%	17%	17%	9%
Upshur	7,475	20%	65%	18%	17%	9%
Upton	645	20%	64%	18%	18%	9%
Uvalde	4,450	17%	69%	18%	13%	9%
Val Verde	6,460	14%	69%	19%	12%	9%
Van Zandt	10,300	21%	73%	14%	14%	7%
Victoria	14,020	16%	67%	17%	16%	9%
Walker	7,030	11%	71%	17%	13%	8%
Waller	4,185	12%	67%	18%	15%	9%
Ward	2,090	20%	63%	19%	18%	9%
Washington	6,280	20%	73%	19%	9%	11%
Webb	21,105	10%	66%	20%	14%	12%

County	Total Number of Recipients	Recipients as % of Population	Percentage of Beneficiaries by Program:			Percentage Beneficiaries that are Children*
			Retired Workers	Survivors	Disabled	
Wharton	7,295	18%	68%	20%	12%	8%
Wheeler	1,250	25%	70%	20%	11%	5%
Wichita	21,245	16%	68%	17%	15%	7%
Wilbarger	2,835	20%	68%	17%	15%	8%
Willacy	3,100	15%	65%	19%	17%	10%
Williamson	28,605	10%	72%	15%	13%	9%
Wilson	4,960	14%	66%	17%	16%	9%
Winkler	1,280	18%	62%	22%	16%	10%
Wise	7,430	14%	67%	17%	15%	9%
Wood	10,220	27%	74%	13%	13%	5%
Yoakum	1,200	17%	67%	19%	15%	10%
Young	4,325	24%	71%	16%	13%	6%
Zapata	1,585	12%	66%	19%	15%	10%
Zavala	1,935	17%	62%	19%	19%	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>