

What Social Security Means for Women and Children in ARKANSAS

- Nearly 20% of the population in Arkansas receives Social Security benefits. Over 272,000 women and nearly 52,000 children rely on Social Security benefits in the state. (Social Security Administration and US Census Bureau)
- Women represent almost 60% of all people 65 or older in Arkansas who rely on Social Security benefits. (Social Security Administration)
- Without Social Security, two-thirds of elderly women in Arkansas would be POOR. (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities)
- Over 40% of Social Security recipients in Arkansas are not retired workers – they receive benefits either as disabled workers or as the spouse, widow, child or parent of a worker. The overwhelming majority of these 226,460 beneficiaries are women and children. (Social Security Administration)
- The typical recipient of a Social Security widow's benefit in Arkansas receives \$754 per month (\$9,048 per year). According to the Congressional Budget Office, under Plan 2 of the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security, today's kindergarteners will receive only 55% of their current-law promised benefits, even including the proceeds from their private account. If such a benefit cut were to take effect currently, the typical widow in Arkansas would receive only \$415 per month (\$4,976 per year). (Social Security Administration and Congressional Budget Office)
- In 2003, \$5.0 billion flowed into the Arkansas economy through Social Security benefits. According to the Congressional Budget Office, under Plan 2 of the President's Commission, today's kindergarteners will receive only 55% of their current law promised benefits, even including the proceeds from their private account. If such a benefit cut were to take effect currently, Arkansas would lose \$2.3 billion per year. (Social Security Administration and Congressional Budget Office)