

Seven Facts About the Economic Security of Older Adults: Online Appendix

Table I. Demographics of the Older Adults (Quintile of Income as a Share of Poverty)

Poverty Quintile	1 (In Poverty)	1 (Above Poverty)	2	3	4	5
Living Arrangements						
Percent Living Alone (Female)	33.0%	35.2%	24.0%	14.9%	11.1%	7.6%
Percent Living Alone (Male)	16.7%	16.4%	11.6%	8.0%	6.8%	6.6%
Percent Living with Spouse Only	25.2%	24.6%	39.3%	47.5%	53.8%	61.8%
Three Generation Household	3.0%	3.1%	4.4%	5.0%	4.7%	2.5%
Percent with Minor in Household	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%	3.7%	2.9%	2.0%
Percent Living with Adult Child	7.6%	8.1%	9.1%	11.9%	13.7%	13.7%
Percent in Other Living Arrangements	11.5%	9.4%	8.6%	8.9%	7.0%	5.9%
Average Family Size	1.49	1.50	1.74	1.99	2.07	2.04
Average Household Size	1.61	1.59	1.82	2.05	2.13	2.09
Age						
Percent 65-74	54.1%	51.8%	52.8%	58.3%	63.1%	66.7%
Percent 75-84	31.7%	33.4%	34.1%	31.7%	28.9%	26.7%
Percent 85 or Older	14.3%	14.9%	13.1%	10.0%	7.9%	6.7%
Race/Ethnicity						
Percent White Non-Hispanic Only	59.5%	63.8%	73.2%	75.7%	77.6%	83.0%
Percent Black Non-Hispanic Only	16.7%	14.2%	11.2%	8.4%	8.0%	5.6%
Percent Hispanic	15.5%	15.0%	10.6%	9.0%	7.4%	4.5%
Percent Other	8.2%	7.0%	5.0%	6.8%	6.9%	6.9%

Note: Living Arrangements variables are calculated at the household level. The “Percent with Minor in Household” and “Percent Living with Adult Child” categories represent only households that are not a “Three Generation Household.”

Figures in main paper may differ slightly due to rounding.

Source: Authors’ analysis of data from the 2023 CPS ASEC.

BROOKINGS

Table 2. Income and Expenses of the Older Adults (Quintile of Income as a Share of Poverty)

Poverty Quintile	1 (In Poverty)	1 (Above Poverty)	2	3	4	5
Income						
Percent of Families Receiving SS	66.7%	90.2%	91.5%	88.5%	85.4%	79.4%
Average SS Benefit	\$6,061	\$15,803	\$23,409	\$27,448	\$28,222	\$29,839
Percent of Families where SS Represents:						
Over 50% of Income	67.1%	81.4%	73.6%	49.9%	20.4%	2.1%
Over 75% of Income	59.5%	71.9%	52.9%	19.8%	3.0%	0.0%
Over 90% of Income	54.0%	62.0%	38.9%	9.9%	0.7%	0.0%
Percent of Families Receiving SSI	10.7%	7.9%	4.0%	3.0%	1.9%	1.6%
Average SSI Benefit	\$703	\$802	\$388	\$306	\$189	\$191
Percent of Families with Pension, Retirement, or Capital Income	22.1%	28.2%	55.1%	73.9%	84.5%	92.0%
Average Pension, Retirement, or Capital Income	\$653	\$1,276	\$4,574	\$12,520	\$27,062	\$79,784
Percent of Families with Earnings, Business, or Farm Income	8.8%	15.2%	24.7%	42.4%	55.2%	64.7%
Average Earnings, Business, or Farm Income	\$850	\$2,875	\$7,109	\$18,781	\$37,043	\$99,857
Average Other Income	\$306	\$481	\$1,088	\$2,619	\$3,773	\$5,507
Average Income	\$8,575	\$21,240	\$36,571	\$61,677	\$96,293	\$215,181
Average Income as a Share of Poverty Level	0.52	1.26	2.03	3.24	5.01	11.54
Quintile Threshold as a Share of Poverty Level	1.00	1.51	2.59	3.96	6.33	
Means-Tested Benefits						
Percent with Medicaid	29.0%	22.5%	13.6%	10.7%	6.4%	4.1%
Percent with SNAP Benefits	27.5%	21.3%	10.1%	4.3%	2.2%	0.7%
Percent with Housing Benefits	17.0%	14.3%	4.5%	1.1%	0.6%	0.3%
Average Value of SNAP and Housing Benefits	\$1,741	\$1,015	\$284	\$87	\$49	\$14
Medical Expenses						
Premium Payments as a Share of Income	6.6%	2.6%	3.5%	2.9%	2.6%	1.8%
Percent of Families where Out-of-Pocket Costs Represent:						
5% to 10% of Income	9.6%	12.6%	15.6%	14.8%	12.5%	6.8%
Over 10% of Income	35.3%	14.0%	13.9%	9.0%	5.8%	2.4%

Note: Income, poverty, and benefit reciprocity are calculated at the family level. Families whose only Pension, Retirement, or Capital Income is interest income of under \$50 per year are not included in the Percent of Families with Pension, Retirement, or Capital Income variable. Figures in main paper may differ slightly due to rounding. Reporting error may influence some estimates (e.g., high-income families reporting SNAP benefits).

Source: Authors' analysis of data from the 2023 CPS ASEC.

BROOKINGS