

Notes and Links – Social Security and Medicare Maps

Private Enterprise Research Center, Texas A&M University

Social Security and Medicare Maps <http://perc.tamu.edu/Maps-Tools>

Social Security Maps

Social Security Maps are available at the county, ZIP Code, state, and congressional district level. The maps depict Retired Workers', Widowed, and Disable Workers' Average Benefits, Number of Retired Workers, and Disabled Beneficiaries as a Percent of Adult Beneficiaries.

The data on which the maps are based are produced by the Social Security Administration, Office of Retirement and Disability Policy, Office of Research Evaluation, and Statistics.

The link to the 2022 publications are:

OASDI Beneficiaries by State and County, 2021

http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_sc/2021/index.html,

OASDI Beneficiaries by State and ZIP Code, 2021

[1http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_zip/2021/index.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/oasdi_zip/2021/index.html).

Congressional Statistics, December 2021

http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/factsheets/cong_stats/2021/index.html

The links to earlier years are also found on these sites.

Retired Worker, Widowed, and Disabled Worker Average Social Security Benefits

Time series data are available at the county, ZIP Code, and state level. The graphs that appear by clicking on a county, state or ZIP Code depict the average annual benefits for retired workers, widows and widowers, and disabled workers, along with national average benefits. Dollar values are converted to 2022 dollars using the Personal Consumption Expenditures price deflator.

At the congressional district level, the most recent year of data is presented. The districts are based on the 2010 Census. The Social Security Administration allocates beneficiaries to congressional districts based on the beneficiaries' ZIP codes.

Number of Retired Workers

Clicking on a geographic area reveals graphs showing the numbers of retired workers for the area.

Disabled Beneficiaries as a Percent of Adult Beneficiaries – County and ZIP Code

These maps and graphs present the geographic areas' percent of adult Social Security beneficiaries who are disabled.

The county and state level data are available from 1999 to 2021.

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The ZIP Code level data are available from 2003 to 2021. The Social Security Administration notes that data are not presented for ZIP Codes with fewer than 15 beneficiaries and that beneficiary counts are rounded to numbers divisible by five. The rounding produces noise in the data series for counties with small numbers of beneficiaries. Due to data reporting, average benefits are limited to Retired Workers and Widows/Widowers.

Medicare Maps

The Medicare Maps are based on data available from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS): [Medicare Geographic Variation - by National, State & County - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Data \(cms.gov\)](#)

CMS Methodology file <https://data.cms.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/d30ee401-edd4-4d41-a631-69d95356dc2d/Geographic%20Variation%20Public%20Use%20File%20Methods%20Paper.pdf>

County and state level Medicare maps and graphs are available for the years 2007-2021. The maps and graphs depict average Medicare Part A & B Reimbursements, total number of enrollees, fee-for-service enrollees, Medicare Advantage enrollees, the share of enrollees in Medicare Advantage, average risk scores, and the percentage of enrollees who are eligible for Medicaid. Aged and Disabled beneficiaries are grouped together in the maps.

Average Medicare Spending Per Enrollee – State and County

These maps depict the state or county level combined “actual” average Parts A and B spending identified by quintiles in spending. Part D spending (pharmaceuticals) is not included in the average. The data are from the Chronic Conditions Data Warehouse (CCW). The averages represent the fee-for-service actual spending for both aged and disabled beneficiaries. The population on which the average was calculated was restricted to those who were not enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan during the year and who were enrolled in Part A and Part B for the entire year. The state or county level spending amounts shown in the graphs are benchmarked to the national average spending and the dollar values are converted to 2022 dollars using the Personal Consumption Expenditures price deflator.

Enrollee Counts – State and County

The total number of enrollees and the allocation between fee-for-service and Medicare Advantage enrollees are depicted on separate state or county maps. The graphs for each state or county include all three series and refer the enrollees who have both Parts A and B coverage.

Medicare Advantage Participation Rate – State and County

These maps show quintiles based on the Medicare Advantage participation rate by state or county. The graphs benchmark the state or county rate to the national participation rate.

Average Risk Score (Aged and Disabled) – State and County

This map presents the quintiles in the distribution of state or county average risk scores for aged and disabled beneficiaries. The scores are used to adjust payments to Medicare Advantage organizations. The scores are based on a beneficiary's age, sex, eligibility for Medicaid, diagnoses in the prior year, and whether the beneficiary lives in a nursing home or was originally qualified due to a disability. The graphs depict the state or county risk score relative to the national average score that is normalized to 1.

Percent Eligible for Medicaid – State and County

The state or county map depicts the quintiles in the distribution of fee-for-service enrollees who were also eligible for Medicaid for at least one month during the year. The underlying graphs depict the state or county percentage relative to the national average.