



Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Alabama, benefits were paid to 903,830 persons. This number included 494,700 retired workers, 96,750 widows and widowers, 169,400 disabled workers, 46,250 wives and husbands, and 96,730 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

19.8 percent of the total population of the state and 93.0 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Alabama received an average of \$960 per month; widows and widowers, \$867; disabled workers, \$907; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$474. Average benefits for children were \$482 for children of retired workers, \$620 for children of deceased workers, and \$273 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$778 million. Of this amount, \$500 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$111 million to survivors, and \$167 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Alabama, 163,709 persons—17,872 aged and 145,837 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 35,142 recipients were aged 65 or older, 100,560 were aged 18 to 64, and 28,007 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$70.4 million. The average federal payment was \$386 overall: \$183 for aged recipients and \$411 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 368 persons in Alabama received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$21,000.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Alabama receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,001,735.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Alabama in 2004, an estimated 2.34 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$59.53 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$7.38 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Alabama in 2004, an estimated 2.36 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$67.60 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.96 billion in Medicare taxes.

State Statistics is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy. Angela Y. Harper was responsible for programming, processing, and compiling the data.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states; earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

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SSA Publication No. 13-11709
April 2007



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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Florida, benefits were paid to 3,423,660 persons. This number included 2,326,010 retired workers, 291,940 widows and widowers, 394,700 disabled workers, 176,340 wives and husbands, and 234,670 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

19.3 percent of the total population of the state and 84.4 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Florida received an average of \$999 per month; widows and widowers, \$968; disabled workers, \$943; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$492. Average benefits for children were \$482 for children of retired workers, \$640 for children of deceased workers, and \$281 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$3.2 billion. Of this amount, \$2.4 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$352 million to survivors, and \$400 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Florida, 422,466 persons—98,645 aged and 323,821 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 141,688 recipients were aged 65 or older, 201,135 were aged 18 to 64, and 79,643 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$185.7 million. The average federal payment was \$405 overall: \$329 for aged recipients and \$429 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 14,050 persons in Florida received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$695,000.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Florida receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 3,705,232.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Florida in 2004, an estimated 9.12 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$241.36 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$29.93 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Florida in 2004, an estimated 9.19 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$293.46 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$8.51 billion in Medicare taxes.

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Social Security

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Georgia, benefits were paid to 1,231,430 persons. This number included 735,230 retired workers, 118,390 widows and widowers, 197,150 disabled workers, 55,360 wives and husbands, and 125,300 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

13.6 percent of the total population of the state and 91.8 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Georgia received an average of \$977 per month; widows and widowers, \$881; disabled workers, \$924; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$485. Average benefits for children were \$502 for children of retired workers, \$636 for children of deceased workers, and \$279 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$1.1 billion. Of this amount, \$751 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$145 million to survivors, and \$197 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Georgia, 202,747 persons—27,402 aged and 175,345 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 51,533 recipients were aged 65 or older, 117,922 were aged 18 to 64, and 33,292 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$87.3 million. The average federal payment was \$384 overall: \$219 for aged recipients and \$409 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Georgia receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,357,066.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Georgia in 2004, an estimated 4.58 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$129.88 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$16.11 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Georgia in 2004, an estimated 4.69 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$156.14 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$4.53 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Kentucky, benefits were paid to 798,940 persons. This number included 417,120 retired workers, 90,800 widows and widowers, 159,040 disabled workers, 49,850 wives and husbands, and 82,120 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

19.1 percent of the total population of the state and 93.1 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Kentucky received an average of \$949 per month; widows and widowers, \$856; disabled workers, \$923; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$445. Average benefits for children were \$465 for children of retired workers, \$629 for children of deceased workers, and \$277 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$678 million. Of this amount, \$420 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$98 million to survivors, and \$160 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Kentucky, 180,225 persons—14,162 aged and 166,063 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 33,964 recipients were aged 65 or older, 119,544 were aged 18 to 64, and 26,717 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$77.9 million. The average federal payment was \$404 overall: \$192 for aged recipients and \$422 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 4,433 persons in Kentucky received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$1.7 million.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Kentucky receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 914,878.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Kentucky in 2004, an estimated 2.18 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$54.54 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$6.76 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Kentucky in 2004, an estimated 2.23 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$62.64 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.82 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Mississippi, benefits were paid to 551,860 persons. This number included 292,540 retired workers, 55,970 widows and widowers, 107,510 disabled workers, 24,820 wives and husbands, and 71,020 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

18.8 percent of the total population of the state and 91.7 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Mississippi received an average of \$920 per month; widows and widowers, \$806; disabled workers, \$880; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$440. Average benefits for children were \$459 for children of retired workers, \$576 for children of deceased workers, and \$261 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$450 million. Of this amount, \$283 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$63 million to survivors, and \$104 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Mississippi, 124,561 persons—15,161 aged and 109,400 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 30,724 recipients were aged 65 or older, 71,397 were aged 18 to 64, and 22,440 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$52.2 million. The average federal payment was \$381 overall: \$177 for aged recipients and \$410 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Mississippi receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 625,388.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Mississippi in 2004, an estimated 1.40 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$32.70 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$4.06 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Mississippi in 2004, an estimated 1.41 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$35.19 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.02 billion in Medicare taxes.

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Social Security Administration

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SSA Publication No. 13-11709
April 2007



Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In North Carolina, benefits were paid to 1,510,710 persons. This number included 939,680 retired workers, 130,510 widows and widowers, 249,410 disabled workers, 58,340 wives and husbands, and 132,760 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

17.4 percent of the total population of the state and 94.8 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in North Carolina received an average of \$984 per month; widows and widowers, \$873; disabled workers, \$921; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$487. Average benefits for children were \$510 for children of retired workers, \$636 for children of deceased workers, and \$280 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$1.4 billion. Of this amount, \$958 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$153 million to survivors, and \$247 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In North Carolina, 199,270 persons—25,384 aged and 173,886 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 48,584 recipients were aged 65 or older, 113,947 were aged 18 to 64, and 36,739 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$82.6 million. The average federal payment was \$372 overall: \$195 for aged recipients and \$398 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 24,190 persons in North Carolina received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$11.1 million.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in North Carolina receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,627,627.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In North Carolina in 2004, an estimated 4.60 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$124.60 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$15.45 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In North Carolina in 2004, an estimated 4.61 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$141.45 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$4.10 billion in Medicare taxes.

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Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In South Carolina, benefits were paid to 773,700 persons. This number included 470,040 retired workers, 68,920 widows and widowers, 129,160 disabled workers, 31,010 wives and husbands, and 74,570 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

18.3 percent of the total population of the state and 93.9 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in South Carolina received an average of \$982 per month; widows and widowers, \$867; disabled workers, \$932; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$488. Average benefits for children were \$514 for children of retired workers, \$622 for children of deceased workers, and \$286 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$692 million. Of this amount, \$480 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$82 million to survivors, and \$130 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In South Carolina, 105,341 persons—12,303 aged and 93,038 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 24,909 recipients were aged 65 or older, 62,046 were aged 18 to 64, and 18,386 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$44.8 million. The average federal payment was \$380 overall: \$195 for aged recipients and \$405 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 2,981 persons in South Carolina received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$937,000.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in South Carolina receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 837,293.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In South Carolina in 2004, an estimated 2.22 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$56.80 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$7.04 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In South Carolina in 2004, an estimated 2.22 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$62.73 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.82 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Tennessee, benefits were paid to 1,097,610 persons. This number included 646,600 retired workers, 110,280 widows and widowers, 181,130 disabled workers, 55,670 wives and husbands, and 103,930 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

18.3 percent of the total population of the state and 94.6 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Tennessee received an average of \$978 per month; widows and widowers, \$889; disabled workers, \$904; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$482. Average benefits for children were \$499 for children of retired workers, \$618 for children of deceased workers, and \$268 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$968 million. Of this amount, \$663 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$128 million to survivors, and \$177 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Tennessee, 161,099 persons—16,915 aged and 144,184 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 35,760 recipients were aged 65 or older, 102,847 were aged 18 to 64, and 22,492 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$70.6 million. The average federal payment was \$387 overall: \$192 for aged recipients and \$410 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Tennessee receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,195,597.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Tennessee in 2004, an estimated 3.21 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$85.05 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$10.55 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Tennessee in 2004, an estimated 3.23 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$99.56 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.89 billion in Medicare taxes.

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