

**Table 48.**  
**Percentage distribution of final medical denials, by age, year of application,**  
**and reason for denial, 1992–2005**

Year	Total		Impairment did not or is not expected to last 12 months	Impairment is not severe	Impairment does not cause severe functional limitations <sup>a</sup>	Able to do usual past work <sup>b</sup>	Able to do other type of work <sup>b</sup>	Other <sup>c</sup>
	Number	Percent						
<i>All ages <sup>d</sup></i>								
1992	743,395	100.0	7.3	22.1	...	17.5	26.3	26.9
1993	939,357	100.0	6.6	21.2	...	15.4	24.8	31.9
1994	1,043,113	100.0	6.2	20.7	...	13.6	23.3	36.1
1995	996,529	100.0	6.2	19.7	...	12.4	22.4	39.2
1996	940,293	100.0	6.4	20.6	5.8	12.1	22.9	32.2
1997	740,937	100.0	6.8	16.7	16.2	13.0	25.1	22.1
1998	705,280	100.0	6.9	15.0	18.3	14.7	25.4	19.9
1999	690,838	100.0	6.7	14.0	19.1	15.5	24.5	20.2
2000	691,268	100.0	6.4	13.3	18.7	15.8	24.2	21.5
2001	728,099	100.0	6.1	13.2	18.3	16.6	26.1	19.8
2002	808,939	100.0	5.7	13.0	18.3	16.9	26.5	19.7
2003	848,449	100.0	5.1	12.2	18.9	16.9	26.9	20.0
2004	841,210	100.0	4.8	11.3	18.9	16.2	26.4	22.4
2005	819,261	100.0	4.7	10.8	17.7	15.8	26.6	24.3
<i>Under age 18</i>								
1992	148,324	100.0	1.5	22.7	...	...	...	75.8
1993	240,803	100.0	1.3	21.8	...	...	...	76.9
1994	311,284	100.0	1.4	22.4	...	...	...	76.2
1995	306,390	100.0	1.3	21.8	...	...	...	76.9
1996	291,351	100.0	1.4	26.9	18.7	...	...	53.0
1997	195,800	100.0	1.6	19.1	61.4	...	...	18.0
1998	182,673	100.0	1.3	14.4	70.6	...	...	13.7
1999	182,314	100.0	1.1	13.3	72.4	...	...	13.2
2000	179,476	100.0	1.1	13.2	72.1	...	...	13.6
2001	182,012	100.0	1.1	14.0	73.0	...	...	11.9
2002	199,994	100.0	1.0	13.4	73.9	...	...	11.8
2003	211,472	100.0	0.9	12.3	75.7	...	...	11.0
2004	210,157	100.0	0.8	11.1	75.7	...	...	12.4
2005	194,611	100.0	0.9	11.0	74.4	...	...	13.6

(Continued)

## Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

**Table 48.**

**Percentage distribution of final medical denials, by age, year of application, and reason for denial, 1992–2005—Continued**

Year	Total		Impairment did not or is not expected to last 12 months	Impairment is not severe	Impairment does not cause severe functional limitations <sup>a</sup>	Able to do usual past work <sup>b</sup>	Able to do other type of work <sup>b</sup>	Other <sup>c</sup>
	Number	Percent						
<b>Aged 18–64</b>								
1992	594,906	100.0	8.8	21.9	...	21.8	32.8	14.7
1993	698,397	100.0	8.4	21.0	...	20.7	33.4	16.4
1994	731,456	100.0	8.3	20.0	...	19.4	33.2	19.1
1995	689,683	100.0	8.4	18.8	...	17.9	32.4	22.5
1996	648,031	100.0	8.6	17.8	...	17.5	33.3	22.8
1997	543,498	100.0	8.8	15.8	...	17.7	34.2	23.6
1998	518,649	100.0	8.9	14.9	...	19.7	34.4	22.0
1999	504,799	100.0	8.7	14.1	...	21.0	33.5	22.7
2000	508,423	100.0	8.4	13.2	...	21.2	32.9	24.3
2001	543,100	100.0	7.8	12.8	...	22.1	34.9	22.4
2002	605,952	100.0	7.3	12.7	...	22.5	35.3	22.2
2003	634,666	100.0	6.6	12.0	...	22.5	36.0	22.9
2004	629,226	100.0	6.2	11.4	...	21.5	35.2	25.7
2005	623,226	100.0	5.9	10.7	...	20.8	35.0	27.6

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research File, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data for the initial and reconsideration levels are current through June 2006. Data for the hearing level or above are current through August 2006.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the numbers and percentages will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

Includes decisions for SSI-only applications and applications for both Social Security and SSI. Does not include Social Security-only applications.

... = not applicable.

a. Used only for applicants under age 18. Category effective for final determinations made August 1996 or later.

b. Used only for applicants aged 18 or older.

c. Applicant provided insufficient evidence, failed to cooperate, failed to follow prescribed treatment, did not want to continue development of the claim, or returned to substantial work before disability could be established. For final determinations made August 1996 or before for applicants under age 18, also includes claims denied because individual functional assessment showed impairment not of comparable severity.

d. Includes applicants aged 65 or older.

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