

Part V: Programs Rated Using OMB’s Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)

OMB announced in April 2002 that a formal effectiveness rating would be performed on a percentage of federal programs. OMB, with advice from the President’s Management Council’s subgroup on Budget Performance and Integration and input from federal agencies, developed the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). While we currently have developed targets through FY 2004, we will provide long-range targets to be achieved by FY 2008 in time for the next PART assessment, scheduled in the May/June 2003 timeframe.

The PART is a diagnostic tool used to examine different aspects of program performance to identify the strengths and weaknesses of a given federal program. OMB decided that management of the DI and SSI aged programs will be assessed.

The performance measures and targets provided by SSA and used by OMB to evaluate the effectiveness of DI program management are:

Average processing time for initial disability claims (DI & SSI) in days	FY03	FY04
	104 days	103 days

Data Definition: This is the fiscal year average processing time for DI and SSI claims combined. Processing time is measured from the application date (or protective filing date) to either the date of the denial notice or the date the system completes processing of an award.

Data Source: Title II MIICR Processing Time and Title XVI SSICR Processing Time Systems

Average processing time for all hearings in days	FY03	FY04
	352 days	336 days

Data Definition: Beginning FY 2000, this indicator was redefined, from the one included in the FY 1999 APP, to represent the average elapsed time, from the hearing request date until the date of the notice of the decision, of all hearings level cases processed during all months of the fiscal year. The FY 1999 APP measure reflected the average elapsed time of hearings level cases processed only in the last month of the FY (September).

Data Source: OHA Monthly Activity Reports and the Hearings Office Tracking System (HOTS)

DDS cases processed per work year (PPWY)	FY03	FY04
	264	268

Data Definition: This indicator represents the average number of DDS cases processed per work year expended for all work. A work year represents both direct and indirect time, including overhead (time spent on training, travel, leave, holidays, etc.). It is inclusive of everyone on the DDS payroll plus doctors under contract to the DDS.

Data Source: National Disability Determinations Service System.

	FY03	FY04
Number of SSA hearings cases processed per work year (PPWY)	101*	104

Data Definition: This indicator represents the average number of hearings cases processed per “direct” work year expended. A direct work year represents actual time spent processing cases. It does not include time spent on training, ALJ travel, leave, holiday, etc.

Data Source: OHA Monthly Activity Reports, the Hearing Office Tracking System (HOTS), Payroll Analysis Recap Report, Time and Attendance Management Information System, OHA Bi-weekly Staffing Report, Training Reports, and Travel Formula.

***Note:** For comparability purposes, the FY 2003 target includes only SSA hearings. The Administration’s plan is to transfer the Medicare hearings function to the Department of Health and Human Services starting with FY 2004. The FY 2003 target including Medicare hearings is 112.

	FY03	FY04
DDS net accuracy rate (allowances and denials combined)	97%	97%

Data Definition: Net accuracy is an alternative method of reporting state agency accuracy that is based upon the “correctness” of the DDS disability determination. Net accuracy is based upon the net error rate that is defined as the number of corrected deficient cases with changed disability decisions, plus the number of deficient cases that are not corrected within 90 days from the end of the period covered by the report. Prior to 2003, we reported allowances and denials as separate numbers.

Data Source: Disability Quality Assurance Databases

The performance measures and targets provided by SSA and used by OMB to evaluate the effectiveness of SSI Aged Program Management are:

	FY03	FY04
Percent of SSI Aged claims processed by the time the first payment is due or within 14 days of the effective filing date	75%	75%

Data Definition: This rate reflects the number of SSI Aged applications completed through the SSA operational system (i.e., award or denial notices are triggered) before the first regular continuing payment is due or not more than 14 days from the effective filing date, if later, divided by the total number of SSI Aged applications processed. The first regular continuing payment due date is based on the first day of the month that all eligibility factors are met and payment is due. This definition is in effect beginning FY 2001.

Data Source: The XVI ODS System

	FY03	FY04
SSI overpayment and underpayment accuracy rate (including both preventable and unpreventable error)	93% o/pmt 98.8% u/pmt	94.7% o/pmt 98.8% u/pmt

Data Definition: The SSI payment accuracy rate *including both preventable and unpreventable* errors is determined by an annual review of a statistically valid sample of the beneficiary rolls. The overpayment accuracy rates and underpayment accuracy rates are determined separately. The overpayment accuracy rate is computed by first subtracting the total amount of overpaid dollars from the total dollars paid for a fiscal year, and then dividing these dollars by the total dollars paid for the fiscal year. This percentage is subtracted from 100 percent to attain the accuracy rate. The underpayment accuracy rate is computed by first subtracting the total amount of underpaid dollars from the total dollars paid for a fiscal year, and then dividing these dollars by the total dollars paid for the fiscal year. This percentage is subtracted from 100 percent to attain the accuracy rate. The current measuring system captures the accuracy rate of the non-medical aspects of eligibility for SSI payment outlays.

Data Source: SSI Stewardship report. Neither actual nor estimated data are available for FY 2002. The FY 2003 actual performance data will not be available for reporting in the FY 2003 Performance and Accountability Report (PAR) because of the length of time required to gather, validate and analyze the data, and then prepare the final report. These data will be reported in the FY 2004 PAR.

	FY03	FY04
SSI Aged claims processed per work year (PPWY)	497	502

Data Definition: The number of SSI Aged Claims processed per workyear (i.e., total SSI Aged claims processed divided by the total workyears expended by field offices on this workload). A workyear represents both direct and indirect time, including overhead (time spent on training, travel, leave, holidays, etc.)

Data Source: Agency Cost Accounting System