
Highlights and Trends

Social Security (OASDI)

Cost-of-living adjustment for December 2000	3.5 percent
Average monthly benefit, December 2000	
Retired workers	\$845
Widows and widowers, nondisabled	810
Disabled workers	786
Employment and Earnings	
Workers in OASDI covered employment, 2000	152.9 million
Average earnings, 2000	\$31,213
Earnings required in 2001 for—	
1 quarter of coverage	\$830
Maximum of 4 quarters of coverage	3,320
Earnings test exempt amounts for 2001	
Under age 65 for entire year	\$10,680
For months before attainment of age 65 in 2001	25,000
Beginning with month of attainment of age 65 in 2001	Earnings test eliminated
Program Data	
Number of beneficiaries, December 2000	
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance	45.4 million
Old-Age Insurance	31.8 million
Retired workers	28.5 million
Survivors Insurance	7.0 million
Widows and widowers, nondisabled	4.7 million
Disability Insurance	6.7 million
Disabled workers	5.0 million
Benefit payments, 2000	
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance	\$407.6 billion
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance	352.7 billion
Disability Insurance	55.0 billion
Administrative expenses, 2000	
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance	\$2.1 billion
As a percent of total benefits paid	0.6 percent
Disability Insurance	\$1.6 billion
As a percent of total benefits paid	3.0 percent

Social Security (OASDI)

Program Trends

- In December 2000, 45,414,800 persons received Social Security benefits, an increase of 819,200 (1.8 percent) since December 1999, compared with an increase of 0.8 percent in the preceding year. This significant increase is related to the elimination of the earnings test in 2000 for persons who have reached the full retirement age.
- The number of retired workers increased by more than 700,000 in 2000 (2.6 percent), compared with an increase of 1.0 percent in 1999. The 28,499,000 retired workers represented 63 percent of all beneficiaries in December 2000. Another 10 percent were nondisabled widows and widowers (4,700,000).
- Seventy-one percent of the 28.5 million retired-worker beneficiaries received reduced benefits because of retirement prior to age 65. Relatively more women (75 percent) than men (68 percent) received reduced benefits.
- The number of persons aged 65 or older receiving Social Security benefits rose from 31.4 million in 1995 to 32.7 million in 2000 (4.0 percent). Beneficiaries aged 85 or older increased at a greater rate during the 5-year period (12.8 percent) from 3,576,000 in 1995 to 4,034,000 in 2000. In 2000, 39,500 centenarians were receiving Social Security.
- More than 19 million women aged 65 or older were receiving benefits in December 2000. Seven million (36.4 percent) were entitled solely to a retired-worker benefit, and another 5.5 million (28.9 percent) were dually entitled to a retired-worker benefit and a wife's or widow's benefit. About 6.6 million (34.7 percent) were receiving wife's or widow's benefits only.
- Almost 3 million children under age 18 were receiving benefits, including 1,346,100 children of deceased workers, 1,374,400 children of disabled workers, and 255,900 children of retired workers.
- In December 2000, 5,972,400 beneficiaries were receiving payments on the basis of disability—5,042,300 disabled workers, 728,700 disabled adult children, and 201,400 disabled widows and widowers. In addition, 165,100 spouses and 1,409,200 minor and student children of disabled workers were receiving benefits.
- The leading causes of disability for disabled workers were mental disorders other than mental retardation (27 percent), and musculoskeletal conditions (23 percent). About 11 percent had circulatory conditions and an additional 10 percent had diseases of the nervous system and sense organs.
- Average monthly benefits for December 2000, including the 3.5 percent COLA increase, were \$845 for retired workers, \$786 for disabled workers, and \$810 for nondisabled widows and widowers. Among retired workers, benefits averaged \$951 for men and \$730 for women. For disabled workers, average benefits were \$883 for men and \$661 for women.
- Average monthly family benefits for December 2000 were \$1,502 for a widowed mother or father and children; \$1,323 for a disabled worker, wife, and children; and \$1,640 for a retired worker, wife, and children.
- Total OASDI benefit payments for calendar year 2000 were \$407.6 billion. Payments from the OASI trust fund were \$352.7 billion—an increase of 5.5 percent from the \$334.4 billion paid in 1999.
- Benefit payments from the DI trust fund, from which benefits are paid to disabled workers, their spouses, and children, increased by 7.0 percent from \$51.4 billion in 1999 to \$55.0 billion in 2000.
- OASDI benefit awards in calendar year 2000 totaled 4,290,100, including 1,960,600 to retired workers, 456,900 to their spouses and children and 843,300 to survivors of insured workers. Benefits were awarded to 621,600 disabled workers and 407,600 of their spouses and children. Awards to disabled workers were 620,500 in 1999 and 608,100 in 1998.

Supplemental Security Income

Federal benefit rate change, effective January 2001

Cost-of-living adjustment	3.5 percent
Monthly amount for—	
Individual living in his or her own household	\$531
Couple with both members eligible	796

Program Data

Total:

Benefits paid in 2000	\$31.6 billion
Number of recipients, December 2000	6.7 million
Average benefit, December 2000	\$385.52

Federally administered payments:

Benefits paid in 2000	\$30.7 billion
Number of recipients, December 2000	6.6 million
Average benefit, December 2000	\$378.82

Federal SSI payments:

Benefits paid in 2000	\$27.3 billion
Number of recipients, December 2000	6.3 million
Average benefit, December 2000	\$351.48

Federally administered state supplementation:

Benefits paid in 2000	\$3.4 billion
Number of recipients, December 2000	¹ 2.5 million
Average benefit, December 2000	\$112.16

State-administered supplementation:

Benefits paid in 2000	\$0.9 billion
Number of recipients, December 2000	² .7 million
Average benefit, December 2000	\$110.95

¹ Includes 2.2 million persons receiving federal SSI and state supplementation and 0.3 million persons receiving state supplementation only.

² Includes 83,500 persons receiving state supplementation only.

Supplemental Security Income

Program Trends

- In December 2000, 6,601,700 persons received federally administered SSI payments—45,100 more than the previous year. Of the total, 2,010,900 (30 percent) were aged 65 or older; 3,744,000 (57 percent) were blind or disabled aged 18-64; and 846,800 (13 percent) were blind or disabled under age 18.
- The number of blind or disabled aged 18-64 rose by 53,000 (1.4 percent) between December 1999 and December 2000, while the number under age 18 remained virtually unchanged. In comparison, between December 1998 and December 1999, blind or disabled aged 18-64 increased by 1.2 percent, while blind or disabled under age 18 dropped by 4.5 percent.
- During 2000, 747,200 persons were awarded federally administered payments, a decrease of 1.4 percent from the previous year. Of the 2000 awards, 483,200 went to blind or disabled recipients aged 18-64, 144,600 to those blind or disabled under age 18, and 119,400 to recipients aged 65 or older.
- Total SSI payments were \$31.6 billion in 2000, up 2.0 percent from 1999. The 1999 increase over 1998 was 2.5 percent. Federal SSI payments in 2000 were \$27.3 billion (an increase of 1.8 percent over the previous year). Federally administered state supplementation totaled \$3.4 billion and state-administered supplementation \$892.7 million, increasing by 2.4 percent and 4.6 percent, respectively from the previous year's totals.
- In 2000, the leading causes of disability among the blind or disabled between the ages of 18 and 64, and those under age 18 were mental disorders and mental retardation. Among disabled recipients between the ages of 18 and 64, 25.7 percent had mental retardation as the primary diagnosis, and 34.4 percent were diagnosed with another mental disorder. These conditions were also the most frequent diagnoses for blind or disabled under age 18.

Health Care

Medicare

Hospital Insurance (Part A):	
Total benefits paid in calendar year 2000	\$128.5 billion
Supplementary Medical Insurance (Part B):	
Total benefits paid in calendar year 2000	\$88.9 billion
Number of enrollees in July 2000, (one or both of Parts A and B)	39.6 million
Aged	34.3 million
Disabled	5.3 million
Administrative costs, 2000:	
Hospital Insurance	\$2.6 billion
As a percent of total benefits paid	2.1 percent
Supplementary Medical Insurance	\$1.8 billion
As a percent of total benefits paid	2.0 percent

Medicaid

Medical service expenditures in fiscal year 1998	\$142.3 billion
Number of unduplicated recipients, fiscal year 1998	40.7 million
Average 1998 vendor payment per unduplicated recipient:	
Persons aged 65 or older	\$10,242
Permanently and totally disabled persons	9,095
Dependent children under age 21	1,203
Average 1998 vendor payment for medical services:	
Nursing facility services	\$19,379
Inpatient general hospital care	5,031
Prescribed drugs	699
Physician's services	327

Unemployment Insurance

2000	
Total payments	\$20.3 billion
Average—	
Weekly benefit amount (regular programs)	\$221
Duration of benefits	13.7 weeks
Weekly insured unemployment	2.1 million
Covered employment	127.9 million

Workers' Compensation

1999	
Benefit payments:	
Total	\$43.4 billion
Compensation payments	25.3 billion
Medical and hospitalization	18.0 billion
Benefits paid by—	
Private insurance carriers	23.8 billion
State and federal funds	10.2 billion
Employers' self-insurance	9.3 billion
Covered workers per month	123.9 million
Costs as a percent of covered payroll	1.29 percent

Temporary Disability Insurance

Programs in effect in—
California, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Puerto Rico, and the railroad industry.

	Average weekly benefit, 1998	
	State fund	Private plans
California*	\$230	\$352
New York	\$147	\$185

*Accounts for half of the workers participating in TDI.

Black Lung

Basic benefit, miner or widow	\$500.50
Maximum family benefit	1,001.00
Part B (claims filed before July 1, 1973)	
Number of monthly benefits to miners, widows, and dependents, December 2000	89,400
Average monthly benefit, December 2000	\$518.60
Total benefits paid, calendar year 2000	\$509.3 million
Part C (claims filed before July 1, 1973 or later)	
Number of monthly benefits to miners and survivors, September 2000	51,700
Total benefits paid, fiscal year 2000	
Disability and survivors benefits	\$350.3 million
Medical benefits	75.6 million

Veterans' Benefits

Disability compensation or pension, 2000

Number of veterans with—

Service-connected disability	2,308,000
Non-service-connected disability	364,000

Monthly payment in 2001 for—

Service-connected disability	
10 percent disability	\$101
Total disability	2,107

Non-service-connected disability (maximum payment)

Without dependent	775
With one dependent and in need of aid and attendance	1,533

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Total payments, 1999 \$22.8 billion

Average monthly number of—

Recipients	6.8 million
Families	2.6 million

Average monthly payment

Per recipient	\$277
Per family	742

Food Stamps

Monthly benefits, beginning Oct. 1, 2000:

Four-person household with no income	\$434
Standard deduction	134

Fiscal year 2000

Average number of participants	17.2 million
Total benefits	\$15.0 billion

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance

In fiscal year 1999 the Department of Health and Human Services issued—

- \$1.06 billion in block grants to the 50 states and the District of Columbia;
- \$9.6 million in direct block grants to 130 Indian tribes and tribal organizations;
- \$1.5 million in block grants to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, America Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and
- \$20.6 million in leveraging incentive awards to 33 states, 23 tribes;
- \$5.6 million for Residential Emergency Assistance Challenge (REACH) program awards to 5 states; \$681,000 to 6 Indian tribes and tribal organizations; \$124,000 to 1 insular area; and \$512,000 for states' second and third year REACH administrative costs;
- \$174.6 million in emergency contingency funds to 26 states and \$699,000 to 18 Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Poverty

2000 weighted average poverty thresholds:

Individual, aged 65 or older	\$8,259
Couple, householder aged 65 or older	10,414
Family of four	17,601

Percent of population with income below poverty level, 1999:

All ages	11.8 percent
Children under age 18 living in families	16.3 percent
Persons aged 65 or older	9.7 percent