## SSI Disabled Recipients Who Work, 2006

### **Social Security Administration**

Office of Policy Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics 500 E Street, SW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20254

SSA Publication No. 13-11829 Released: April 2007

### **Preface**

Since its implementation in 1974, the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program has included certain provisions to encourage blind and disabled recipients to work while allowing them to retain their eligibility and exclude a portion of their income from counting against their SSI payment. This report provides data on all SSI blind and disabled recipients who work, those who retain eligibility for special cash benefits when their earnings exceed the substantial gainful activity level, those who retain Medicaid eligibility when their earnings make them ineligible for any cash payments, and those who participate under work incentive provisions.

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April 2007

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### Introduction

This report provides information about Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disabled and blind recipients who work and receive earnings. The report presents data on all SSI disabled recipients who work, section 1619 participants, and recipients who benefit from other work incentive provisions. Unless specifically excluded or listed separately, all references to SSI disabled recipients and workers include persons whose eligibility is based on blindness.

Since the beginning of the SSI program, a number of SSI disabled recipients have worked and received SSI payments. Initially, the program contained basic general and earned income exclusions that recognized the additional costs associated with employment. In computing the SSI payment, the first \$20 of income is not counted. In addition, the first \$65 of monthly earnings and one-half of the earnings in excess of \$65 are also excluded.

The law also contained a number of special income exclusions that were intended as work incentives:

- Blind work expenses (BWE) permit the exclusion of any earned income of a blind person that is used to meet any expenses reasonably attributable to earning the income.
- Plans to achieve self-support (PASS) permit a
  recipient with an approved PASS to set aside
  earned or unearned income and resources for a
  work goal. The income or resources set aside are
  used to pay for goods or services needed to reach
  the goal, such as education, vocational training,
  starting a business, or purchasing work-related
  equipment. The income and resources that are set
  aside under a PASS are excluded from SSI income
  and resource tests, but they do not influence the
  determination of ability to engage in substantial
  gainful activity (SGA).
- Student child earned income exclusions allow for the exclusion of certain earnings of child recipients under age 22 who are students regularly attending school.

The 1980 amendments to the Social Security Act established section 1619 and provided additional work incentive provisions to assist SSI recipients in entering the workforce. These provisions included income exclusions for impairment-related work expenses, a change in the treatment of sheltered workshop earnings, and the continuation of SSI payments for some individuals whose disability ceased because of a medical recovery.

- Impairment-related work expenses (IRWE) exclude from earnings the costs of items and services needed to work because of the person's disability and are paid for by the individual. These expenses are excluded from earned income used to compute ongoing SSI monthly payments. Beginning December 1990, the IRWE exclusions are also applied in the determination of income for purposes of initial SSI eligibility. IRWE may also be deducted from earned income when determining SGA.
- A change in the treatment of sheltered workshop earnings provides that remuneration for services performed in sheltered workshops or activity centers is treated as earned income. This change makes it possible to apply the earned income exclusion to earnings that previously were subject to the general income exclusion; that is, the first \$20 and a dollar-for-dollar offset thereafter.
- The provision for continuation of payments allows for SSI (and also Social Security Disability Insurance) payments to disabled individuals to continue after the disability ceases because of a medical recovery, if they are participating in approved vocational rehabilitation plans and the Social Security Administration (SSA) determines that completion of the program will increase the chances of permanent removal from the disability rolls. The provision assists individuals whose medical improvement occurs before completion of vocational training. This provision was extended, effective April 1988, to SSI recipients whose eligibility is based on blindness.

Congress enacted these provisions because it concluded that additional incentives were required to help SSI disabled recipients to become self-supporting. Congress believed that individuals who could work outside of sheltered workshops might have been discouraged from doing so by the fear of losing their benefits before they had established for themselves the capability for continued self-support.

Section 1619(a) provides special SSI cash benefits to disabled individuals who lose eligibility for SSI payments because they have earnings at the level that is ordinarily considered to represent SGA. Section 1619(b) provides special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes to working disabled or blind individuals when their earnings make them ineligible for cash payments.

Under P.L. 99-643, which made section 1619 permanent, disabled individuals on the SSI rolls retain disability status until their medical condition improves. The distinction between a disabled person eligible for regular SSI benefits and a disabled person eligible for 1619(a) benefits is that the latter has several months with gross earnings above the SGA level.

Under previous law, 1619(a) status did not begin until a trial work period had been completed and a determination had been made that subsequent work was SGA. A number of cases were defined as 1619(a)

after June 1987 as a result of this change in the definition, rather than from any change in their work activity.

SSA regulations set the amount of earnings used to determine SGA. This amount is periodically adjusted to reflect increases in the national average wage index. Effective with 2001, the amount is adjusted annually. When these increases occur, the status of a number of recipients changes from 1619(a) to regular eligibility status. The SGA level was increased from \$300 to \$500 in 1990. It was further increased to \$700 in 1999, \$740 in 2001, \$780 in 2002, \$800 in 2003, \$810 in 2004, \$830 in 2005, \$860 in 2006, and \$900 in 2007.

Under section 1619(b), cash payments are not made. However, recipient status for Medicaid purposes continues until earnings reach a plateau that takes into account the person's ability to afford medical care as well as normal living expenses.

An individual may benefit from more than one of the work incentive provisions. For example, he or she may receive special cash payments under section 1619 and have income excluded under a PASS. Other combinations are also possible, but it is not possible to have both IRWE and BWE.

The data in this report are based on the SSI caseload at the end of December 2006.

### Highlights, December 2006

In December 2006, there were 346,309 SSI disabled beneficiaries who were working—5.7 percent of the total SSI disabled caseload. Included in this count were 87,216 section 1619(b) participants who do not receive an SSI payment but have special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes. Over four-fifths (80.3 percent) of the workers had amounts of earned income below the substantial gainful activity (SGA) level of \$900 per month; 22.0 percent earned \$65 or less.

### **Geographic Distribution**

Among the states, the percentage of disabled workers varied from a low of 2.9 percent in Mississippi to a high of 18.8 percent in North Dakota. In general, the percentage of disabled workers was higher in the northern states than in the southern states.

### **Demographic Characteristics**

The majority of these disabled workers were male (53.5 percent). Almost half (49.1 percent) had unearned income; 43.4 percent were receiving Social Security benefits. Comparable figures for all disabled recipients in December 2006 were 45.8 percent male, 38.2 percent with unearned income, and 30.5 percent receiving Social Security benefits.

### Diagnosis

Disabled workers are more likely to have certain impairments than other disabled recipients. Almost two-thirds (66.4 percent) of the workers had a mental disorder, including 40.5 percent who were diagnosed with mental retardation. By comparison, 58.1 percent of all disabled recipients were diagnosed with a mental disorder, including 21.6 percent with mental retardation.

### Section 1619

The greatest use of work incentive provisions was by participants under section 1619—roughly 30.5 percent of disabled workers. This included 5.0 percent under section 1619(a) and 25.6 percent under section 1619(b).

### **Other Work Incentives**

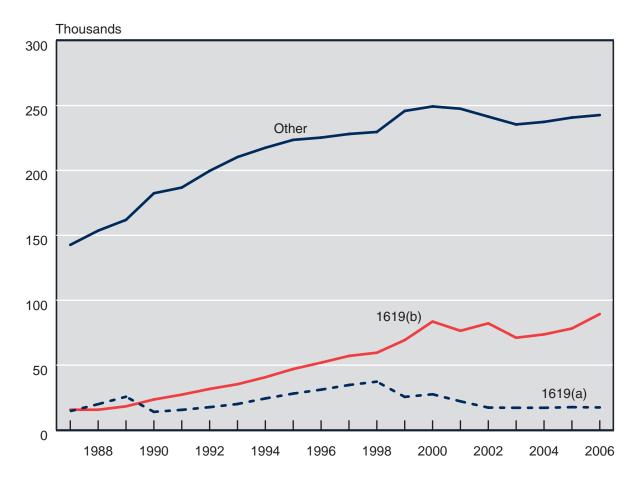
Use of other work incentive provisions continued to have a smaller, but measurable, impact. In December 2006, about 2.7 percent of the SSI disabled workers had some of their income excluded under one of these provisions—plans to achieve self-support (PASS), 0.5 percent; impairment-related work expenses, 1.6 percent; or blind work expenses, 0.7 percent.

Plans to achieve self-support permit an SSI recipient to set aside income and resources to help obtain the training or education necessary for certain specified occupational goals. In December 2006, 409 PASS participants had earnings, which averaged \$792 per month. However, exclusions under a PASS are not limited to earnings. Of the 1,583 disabled recipients with a PASS, 69.4 percent did not have any earnings reported for December 2006. For this group, the PASS excluded unearned income such as Social Security benefits. Out of all PASS participants, 435 had a PASS that excluded only resources.

# **Blind and Disabled** Recipients

Chart 1. Number who work, December 1987-2006

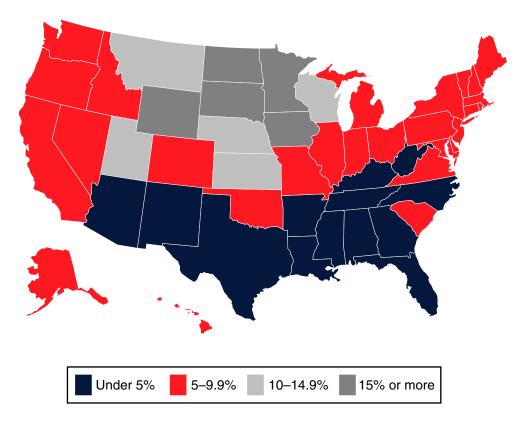
The number of blind and disabled recipients who work more than doubled between 1987 and 2006, from 173,000 to 349,000. Initially, the number of participants under sections 1619(a) and 1619(b) were approximately equal. However, participation under section 1619(b) gradually increased to almost six times the initial total, and it now exceeds participation under section 1619(a) by more than five to one. The number of working recipients not participating under either of these provisions has increased by more than 70 percent.



SOURCE: Tables 1 and 8.

Chart 2. Percentage who work, by state, December 2006

In 13 of the 50 states, mostly in the South and Southeast, less than 5 percent of blind and disabled recipients were working in December 2006. The highest employment rates, 15 percent or more, were in the upper Midwest: lowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming.



SOURCE: Table 2.

Table 1. Number and percentage who work, selected months, 1976-2006

			Recipients	who work	
Month	All blind and disabled recipients <sup>a</sup>	Total	Receiving SSI <sup>b</sup>	Section 1619(b) participants	Total as a percentage of all blind and disabled recipients
	Tecipients	Τοιαι	Tiecelving GOI	participants	recipients
December	0.000.040	70 710	70 710		0.4
1976 1977	2,088,242 2,186,771	70,719 83,697	70,719 83,697	• • •	3.4 3.8
1978	2,249,025	87,697	87,697	•••	3.9
1979	2,277,859	92,270	92,270		4.1
				•••	
1980	2,334,241	99,276	99,276		4.3
1981	2,340,785	102,632	102,632		4.4
1982	2,314,364	107,803	102,288	5,515	4.7
1983	2,391,262	113,899	108,734	5,165	4.8
1984	2,499,046				
1985	2,633,552				
1986	2,795,756				
1987	2,945,244	172,855	157,223	15,632	5.9
1988	3,046,074	189,144	173,519	15,625	6.2
1989	3,172,270	205,837	187,583	18,254	6.5
1990	3,386,603	219,932	196,415	23,517	6.5
1991	3,681,050	229,619	202,355	27,264	6.2
1992	4,126,816	248,917	217,268	31,649	6.0
1993	4,544,777	265,649	230,350	35,299	5.8
1994	4,870,564	282,476	241,793	40,683	5.8
1995	5,115,014	298,635	251,633	47,002	5.8
1996	5,252,991	308,300	256,395	51,905	5.9
1997	5,189,724	319,855	262,766	57,089	6.2
1998	5,293,829	326,475	266,933	59,542	6.2
1999	5,317,861	340,618	271,353	69,265	6.4
2000	5,395,935	360,427	276,855	83,572	6.7
2001	5,500,481	346,110	269,655	76,455	6.3
2002	5,618,506	340,910	258,733	82,177	6.1
2003	5,740,683	323,682	252,585	71,097	5.6
2004	5,850,359	328,204	254,523	73,681	5.6
2005	5,977,788	336,570	258,365	78,205	5.6
2006	6,113,277	349,420	260,070	89,350	5.7
2004					
March	5,796,837	321,030	251,498	69,532	5.5
June	5,834,265	323,624	250,726	72,898	5.5
September	5,869,004	328,831	253,174	75,657	5.6
December	5,850,359	328,204	254,523	73,681	5.6

Table 1. Number and percentage who work, selected months, 1976-2006—Continued

			Recipients v	vho work	
Month	All blind and disabled recipients <sup>a</sup>	Total	Receiving SSI <sup>b</sup>	Section 1619(b) participants	Total as a percentage of all blind and disabled recipients
2005					
March	5,919,765	325,357	251,110	74,247	5.5
June	5,946,966	333,089	253,721	79,368	5.6
September	5,966,290	337,325	257,191	80,134	5.7
December	5,977,788	336,570	258,365	78,205	5.6
2006					
March	6,014,109	336,446	257,536	78,910	5.6
June	6,045,960	341,450	258,360	83,090	5.6
September	6,098,112	346,309	259,093	87,216	5.7
December	6,113,277	349,420	260,070	89,350	5.7

NOTE: ... = not applicable; -- = not available.

a. Includes section 1619(b) participants.

b. Includes section 1619(a) participants and SSI recipients earning less than the substantial gainful activity level (\$900 effective January 2007).

Table 2. Number and percentage who work, by state or other area, December 2006

		Recipients who work			
	All blind and		Percentage of all blind		
State or area	disabled recipients	Number	and disabled recipients		
All areas	6,113,277	349,420	5.7		
Alabama	149,300	4,268	2.9		
Alaska	9,439	621	6.6		
Arizona	87,205	4,263	4.9		
Arkansas	84,700	3,858	4.6		
California	876,326	46,849	5.3		
Colorado	49,120	4,102	8.4		
Connecticut	47,747	3,941	8.3		
Delaware	13,041	969	7.4		
District of Columbia	20,021	795	4.0		
Florida	331,835	13,435	4.0		
Georgia	180,879	7,213	4.0		
Hawaii	16,810	926	5.5		
Idaho	21,841	2,007	9.2		
Illinois	234,207	14,242	6.1		
Indiana	96,891	5,911	6.1		
Iowa	41,920	6,985	16.7		
Kansas	37,313	4,282	11.5		
Kentucky	169,732	4,843	2.9		
Louisiana	142,044	5,428	3.8		
Maine	30,857	2,193	7.1		
Maryland	82,612	6,277	7.6		
Massachusetts	132,997	9,812	7.4		
Michigan	211,639	13,664	6.5		
Minnesota	68,020	10,430	15.3		
Mississippi	110,460	3,164	2.9		
Missouri	112,676	7,635	6.8		
Montana	14,577	1,904	13.1		
Nebraska	21,214	3,133	14.8		
Nevada	26,206	1,814	6.9		
New Hampshire	14,003	1,313	9.4		
New Jersey	122,884	7,869	6.4		
New Mexico	47,370	2,316	4.9		
New York	513,648	31,382	6.1		
North Carolina	180,285	8,353	4.6		
North Dakota	7,438	1,396	18.8		
Ohio	242,316	17,170	7.1		
Oklahoma	75,688	4,242	5.6		
Oregon	55,410	4,227	7.6		
Pennsylvania	301,386	16,180	5.4		
Rhode Island	27,265	1,641	6.0		

Table 2. Number and percentage who work, by state or other area, December 2006—Continued

		Recipients v	vho work
	All blind and		Percentage of all blind
State or area	disabled recipients	Number	and disabled recipients
South Carolina	94,643	4,859	5.1
South Dakota	11,626	2,114	18.2
Tennessee	147,892	5,352	3.6
Texas	419,516	15,027	3.6
Utah	21,902	2,517	11.5
Vermont	12,753	1,255	9.8
Virginia	120,819	7,198	6.0
Washington	106,134	6,415	6.0
West Virginia	74,621	2,254	3.0
Wisconsin	87,723	10,488	12.0
Wyoming	5,658	875	15.5
Outlying area			
Northern Mariana Islands	666	13	2.0

NOTE: Includes section 1619(b) participants.

Table 3. Percentage distribution of recipients and those who work aged 18-64, by diagnostic group, December 2006

Diagnostic group	All blind and disabled recipients	Recipients who work <sup>a</sup>
Total	disasted templomer	Trodpione wie work
Number	4.150.100	222 701
	4,152,130	333,701
Percent	100.0	100.0
Congenital anomalies	0.7	1.5
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	3.4	1.2
Infectious and parasitic diseases	1.6	0.9
Injuries	2.6	1.4
Mental disorders		
Retardation	21.6	40.5
Schizophrenia	9.7	7.0
Other	26.8	18.9
Neoplasms	1.2	0.7
Diseases of the—		
Blood and blood-forming organs	0.4	0.4
Circulatory system	4.4	1.3
Digestive system	0.9	0.4
Genitourinary system	1.0	0.6
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	10.3	3.6
Nervous system and sense organs b	7.8	9.0
Respiratory system	2.0	0.7
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	0.2	0.1
Other	0.2	0.3
Unknown	5.2	11.3

a. Includes section 1619(b) participants.

b. Most disabled recipients classified as blind are included in this category. A few blind recipients with a primary impairment other than diseases of the eye are coded in other categories. Also, a few recipients are classified with diseases of the eye, but their impairment does not meet the definition of blindness.

Table 4. Number and percentage of recipients, those who work, and section 1619(b) participants aged 18-64, by age, December 2006

			Recipients v	vho work	Section 1619(b	) participants
	All blind ar disabled recipi	_		Percentage of all blind and disabled		Percentage of all blind and disabled
Age	Number	Percent	Number	recipients	Number	recipients
Total	4,238,519	100.0	333,701	7.9	86,389	2.0
18–21	304,948	7.2	33,863	11.1	3,784	1.2
22-29	539,439	12.7	85,238	15.8	22,558	4.2
30-39	671,409	15.8	76,904	11.5	23,155	3.4
40-49	1,056,432	24.9	73,613	7.0	21,331	2.0
50-59	1,167,963	27.6	49,920	4.3	12,265	1.1
60-64	498,328	11.8	14,163	2.8	3,296	0.7

a. Includes section 1619(b) participants.

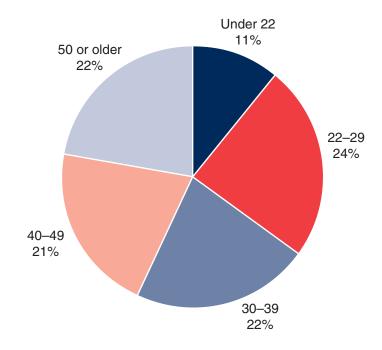
Table 5. Number in December 2005, by program status and earnings in December 2006

						Ν	lot receiving in Decemb			
					Ineligib	e because	of earned in	come		
						Reason	s no longer e	eligible		
			eiving paym December 2			Do not need	Can pay for		Other	
Program status		Section	Have	No	Section	or use	equivalent		excess	Other
in December 2005	Total	1619(a)	earnings	earnings	1619(b)	Medicaid	coverage	Both	income	nonpay
All blind and disabled recipients	5,931,220	16,537	228,838	5,169,888	84,226	355	92	159	120,918	310,207
Receiving payments										
Section 1619(a)	17,694	6,658	2,460	3,921	2,773	33	2	12	734	1,101
Have earnings	241,863	2,835	179,421	32,759	9,077	50	7	11	6,622	11,081
No earnings	5,593,327	5,454	43,099	5,122,983	20,937	113	20	34	107,178	293,509
Not receiving payments Section 1619(b)	78,336	1,590	3,858	10,225	51,439	159	63	102	6,384	4,516

Blind and Disabled Recipients Who Work

Chart 3. Percentage distribution, by age, December 2006

Over one-third of the working recipients in December 2006 were under age 30, and 22 percent were aged 30–39. Only 22 percent were aged 50 or older.

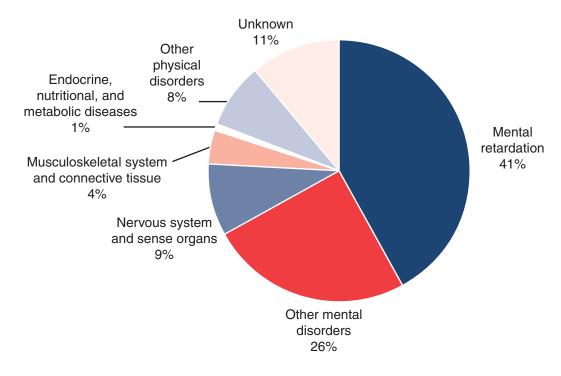


SOURCE: Table 7.

NOTE: Data include section 1619(b) participants.

Chart 4. Percentage distribution, by diagnostic group, December 2006

A large majority of working SSI recipients aged 18–64 in December 2006 were disabled because of a mental impairment. Forty-one percent were diagnosed with mental retardation and 26 percent with other mental disorders. Nine percent had diseases of the nervous system and sense organs, mostly blindness.

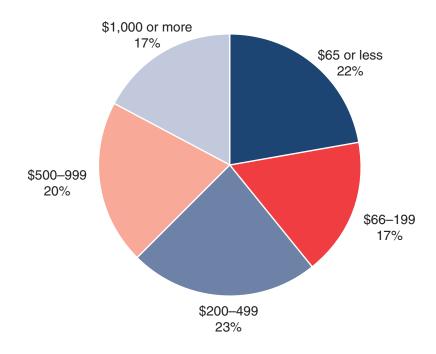


SOURCE: Table 3.

NOTE: Data include section 1619(b) participants.

Chart 5. Percentage distribution, by monthly earnings, December 2006

Two out of three working recipients earned less than \$500 in December 2006. This amount would not affect their status as disabled, since it is less than the substantial gainful activity level of \$860 for 2006. One out of six earned \$1,000 or more. This proportion includes those receiving special cash benefits, or special Medicaid status, under section 1619.



SOURCE: Table 7.

NOTE: Data include section 1619(b) participants.

Table 6. Number participating in section 1619(a) or 1619(b) and others who work, by state or other area, December 2006

Ctate or over	Total	Section 1619(a) participants	Section 1619(b)	Other recipients
State or area	Total		participants	who work
All areas	349,420	17,394	89,350	242,676
Alabama	4,268	284	1,195	2,789
Alaska	621	a	a	388
Arizona	4,263	281	1,424	2,558
Arkansas	3,858	164	897	2,797
California	46,849	4,067	9,945	32,837
Colorado	4,102	156	938	3,008
Connecticut	3,941	132	1,171	2,638
Delaware	969	46	303	620
District of Columbia	795	63	282	450
Florida	13,435	810	4,530	8,095
Georgia	7,213	322	1,839	5,052
Hawaii	926	58	338	530
Idaho	2,007	91	613	1,303
Illinois	14,242	702	3,603	9,937
Indiana	5,911	225	1,589	4,097
Iowa	6,985	159	1,592	5,234
Kansas	4,282	140	1,037	3,105
Kentucky	4,843	225	1,249	3,369
Louisiana	5,428	332	1,539	3,557
Maine	2,193	91	677	1,425
Maryland	6,277	286	1,658	4,333
Massachusetts	9,812	544	3,295	5,973
Michigan	13,664	504	3,159	10,001
Minnesota	10,430	279	2,493	7,658
Mississippi	3,164	188	938	2,038
Missouri	7,635	254	2,100	5,281
Montana	1,904	60	456	1,388
Nebraska	3,133	94	639	2,400
Nevada	1,814	104	561	1,149
New Hampshire	1,313	35	402	876
New Jersey	7,869	333	2,124	5,412
New Mexico	2,316	127	645	1,544
New York	31,382	1,598	7,568	22,216
North Carolina	8,353	310	1,974	6,069
North Dakota	1,396	35	357	1,004
Ohio	17,170	576	3,546	13,048
Oklahoma	4,242	132	1,019	3,091
Oregon	4,227	153	1,079	2,995
Pennsylvania	16,180	728	4,361	11,091
Rhode Island	1,641	63	468	1,110

Table 6. Number participating in section 1619(a) or 1619(b) and others who work, by state or other area, December 2006—Continued

State or area	Total	Section 1619(a) participants	Section 1619(b) participants	Other recipients who work
South Carolina	4,859	153	992	3,714
South Dakota	2,114	44	508	1,562
Tennessee	5,352	223	1,360	3,769
Texas	15,027	737	4,131	10,159
Utah	2,517	100	690	1,727
Vermont	1,255	60	418	777
Virginia	7,198	331	2,018	4,849
Washington	6,415	482	2,197	3,736
West Virginia	2,254	150	654	1,450
Wisconsin	10,488	308	2,284	7,896
Wyoming	875	33	278	564
Outlying area				
Northern Mariana Islands	13	а	a	7

a. Data are not shown to avoid disclosure of information for particular individuals.

Table 7.

Number and percentage who work and their average earnings, by selected characteristics,
December 2006

Characteristic	Number	Percent	Average earnings (dollars)
Total	349,420	100.0	542
Age			
Under 18	3,246	0.9	449
18–21	33,863	9.7	506
22–29	85,238	24.4	589
30–39	76,904	22.0	582
40–49	73,613	21.1	554
50–59	49,920	14.3	500
60–64	14,163	4.1	430
65 or older	12,473	3.6	332
Sex			
Male	186,840	53.5	547
Female	162,580	46.5	536
Earned income <sup>a</sup>			
Wages	329,457	94.3	557
Self-employment	21,565	6.2	351
Earnings (dollars)			
65 or less	76,736	22.0	49
66–99	16,384	4.7	82
100–199	43,182	12.4	137
200–299	32,460	9.3	234
300–399	26,021	7.4	333
400–499	22,472	6.4	433
500–599	21,173	6.1	529
600–699	17,684	5.1	631
700–799	12,951	3.7	733
800–899	11,662	3.3	829
900–999	7,874	2.3	932
1,000 or more	60,821	17.4	1,704
Unearned income <sup>a</sup>			
None	177,891	50.9	644
Social Security	151,486	43.4	408
Other pensions	2,402	0.7	390
Income based on need	201	0.1	775
Asset income	16,300	4.7	461
Other	14,592	4.2	668

Table 7.

Number and percentage who work and their average earnings, by selected characteristics, December 2006—Continued

Characteristic	Number	Percent	Average earnings (dollars)
Work incentives <sup>a</sup>			
Section 1619(a)	17,394	5.0	1,166
Section 1619(b)	89,350	25.6	1,193
Plans to achieve self-support b	409	0.1	792
Impairment-related work expenses	5,650	1.6	551
Blind work expenses	2,370	0.7	1,028

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data. NOTE: Includes section 1619(b) participants.

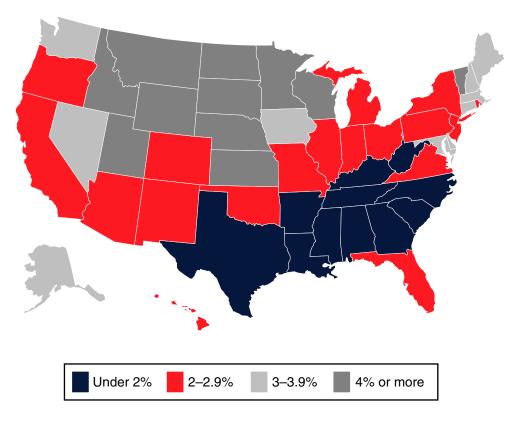
a. The sum of the entries may be greater than the total because some recipients may receive more than one type of earned or unearned income or both earned and unearned income, or they may benefit from more than one work incentive provision.

b. Number of working recipients with a plan to achieve self-support (PASS). See Tables 14–17 for data on all recipients with a PASS. CONTACT: Clark Pickett (410) 965-9016 or ssi.workers@ssa.gov.

## Section 1619 Participants

Chart 6. Percentage distribution, by state, December 2006

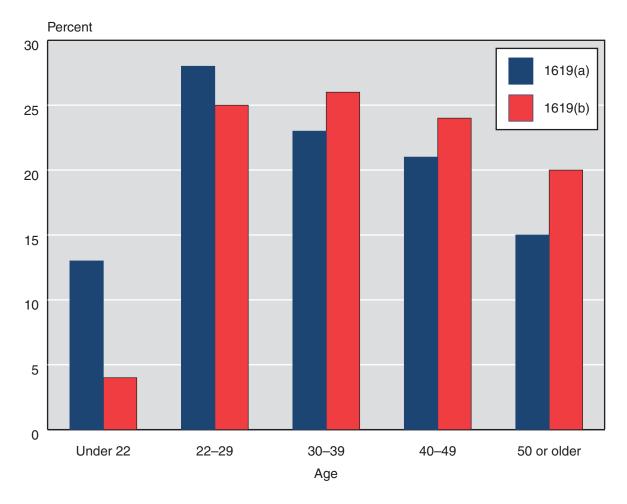
The state distribution of section 1619 cases mirrors that for all working recipients in Chart 2. Proportions of section 1619 cases were higher in the Midwest and lower in the South.



SOURCE: Table 9.

Chart 7. Percentage distribution, by age, December 2006

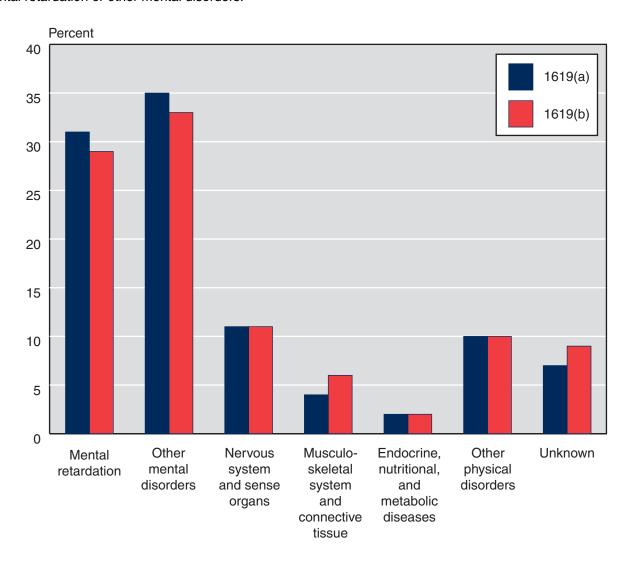
Recipients who benefit from section 1619(a) are younger than those who benefit from 1619(b).



SOURCE: Table 12.

Chart 8. Percentage distribution, by diagnostic group, December 2006

As with all working recipients, the majority of the section 1619 participants were diagnosed with a mental disorder. Two-thirds of participants under section 1619(a) and three-fifths of participants under section 1619(b) had either mental retardation or other mental disorders.



SOURCE: Table 13.

Table 8. Number and percentage change from prior period, selected months, 1982–2006

	Section 1619(a	) participants	Section 1619(b) participants <sup>a</sup>	
Month	Number	Percentage change from prior period	Number	Percentage change from prior period
December				
1982	287		5,515	
1983	392	36.6	5,165	-6.3
1984				
1985				
1986				
1987	14,559		15,632	
1988	19,920	36.8	15,625	0
1989	25,655	28.8	18,254	16.8
1990	13,994	-45.5	23,517	28.8
1991	15,531	11.0	27,264	15.9
1992	17,603	13.3	31,649	16.1
1993	20,028	13.8	35,299	11.5
1994	24,315	21.4	40,683	15.3
1995	28,060	15.4	47,002	15.5
1996	31,085	10.8	51,905	10.4
1997	34,673	11.5	57,089	10.0
1998	37,271	7.5	59,542	4.3
1999	25,528	-31.5	69,265	16.3
2000	27,542	7.9	83,572	20.7
2001	22,100	-19.8	76,455	-8.5
2002	17,271	-21.9	82,177	7.5
2003	17,130	-0.8	71,097	-13.5
2004	17,115	-0.1	73,681	3.6
2005	17,621	3.0	78,205	6.1
2006	17,394	-1.3	89,350	14.3
2004				
March	16,879	-1.5	69,532	-2.2
June	16,587	-1.7	72,898	4.8
September	16,891	1.8	75,657	3.8
December	17,115	1.3	73,681	-2.6

Table 8. Number and percentage change from prior period, selected months, 1982–2006—Continued

	Section 1619(a	a) participants	Section 1619(b) participants <sup>a</sup>	
Month	Number	Percentage change from prior period	Number	Percentage change from prior period
2005				
March	17,082	-0.2	74,247	0.8
June	17,655	3.4	79,368	6.9
September	17,874	1.2	80,134	1.0
December	17,621	-1.4	78,205	-2.4
2006				
March	17,597	-0.1	78,910	0.9
June	18,159	3.2	83,090	5.3
September	18,670	2.8	87,216	5.0
December	17,394	-6.8	89,350	2.4

NOTES: When the substantial gainful activity (SGA) level is periodically raised, SSI recipients with earnings below the increased SGA level become eligible for regular SSI benefits rather than the special cash payments under section 1619(a). This can lead to decreases in the number of 1619(a) participants.

<sup>... =</sup> not applicable; -- = not available.

a. Includes blind participants. Of the 89,350 participants in December 2006, 1,444 were blind.

Table 9.

Ranking of state or other area, by section 1619 participants as a percentage of all blind and disabled recipients in state aged 18–64, December 2006

		All blind and	Section 1619 pa	articipants
State or area	Ranking	disabled recipients <sup>a</sup>	Number	Percent
All areas		4,238,519	103,553	2.44
Wyoming	1	4,356	306	7.02
North Dakota	2	5,591	385	6.89
South Dakota	3	8,179	540	6.60
lowa	4	31,315	1,729	5.52
Minnesota	5	50,035	2,714	5.42
Vermont	6	9,637	469	4.87
Utah	7	15,940	771	4.84
Nebraska	8	15,795	722	4.57
Montana	9	11,114	501	4.51
Idaho	10	16,073	695	4.32
Kansas	11	26,782	1,147	4.28
Wisconsin	12	62,891	2,536	4.03
Delaware	13	8,568	342	3.99
New Hampshire	14	11,076	431	3.89
Connecticut	15	34,878	1,276	3.66
Massachusetts	16	110,553	3,730	3.37
Washington	17	78,555	2,611	3.32
Nevada	18	19,419	639	3.29
Maryland	19	57,804	1,900	3.29
Maine	20	24,384	752	3.08
Alaska	21	7,333	226	3.08
Hawaii	22	13,144	389	2.96
Colorado	23	36,476	1,074	2.94
New Jersey	24	82,515	2,381	2.89
Oregon	25	41,686	1,194	2.86
Missouri	26	81,828	2,278	2.78
Arizona	27	59,147	1,642	2.78
Virginia	28	83,462	2,292	2.75
Rhode Island	29	19,677	516	2.62
New York	30	344,700	8,910	2.58
Illinois	31	161,294	4,164	2.58
Indiana	32	68,732	1,774	2.58
Florida	33	207,534	5,149	2.48
District of Columbia	34	13,314	328	2.46
Pennsylvania	35	208,306	4,951	2.38
Michigan	36	153,051	3,550	2.32
New Mexico	37	32,265	739	2.29
Ohio	38	176,942	4,011	2.27
California	39	605,127	13,393	2.21
Oklahoma	40	53,324	1,125	2.11

Table 9.

Ranking of state or other area, by section 1619 participants as a percentage of all blind and disabled recipients in state aged 18–64, December 2006—*Continued* 

		All blind and	Section 1619 parti	cipants
State or area	Ranking	disabled recipients <sup>a</sup>	Number	Percent
Louisiana	41	95,526	1,831	1.92
North Carolina	42	118,818	2,232	1.88
Arkansas	43	55,838	1,021	1.83
Texas	44	269,469	4,718	1.75
South Carolina	45	63,338	1,107	1.75
Georgia	46	121,663	2,097	1.72
Northern Mariana Islands	47	393	6	1.53
Mississippi	48	72,176	1,088	1.51
Tennessee	49	105,736	1,522	1.44
Alabama	50	103,393	1,437	1.39
West Virginia	51	57,583	788	1.37
Kentucky	52	121,784	1,424	1.17

a. Includes section 1619(b) participants.

Table 10.
Section 1619(a) participants and their average earnings, by state or other area, selected months, 2005–2006

	December	2005	Septembe	er 2006	December 2006	
		Average		Average		Average
		earnings		earnings		earnings
State or area	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)
All areas	17,621	1,111	18,670	1,119	17,394	1,166
Alabama	290	1,074	310	1,075	284	1,120
Alaska	25	1,039	а	1,066	а	1,131
Arizona	260	1,084	265	1,082	281	1,144
Arkansas	147	1,083	176	1,061	164	1,115
California	3,970	1,221	4,515	1,235	4,067	1,279
Colorado	171	1,060	158	1,097	156	1,155
Connecticut	135	1,054	140	1,052	132	1,135
Delaware	43	1,076	46	1,103	46	1,129
District of Columbia	68	1,050	77	1,055	63	1,104
Florida	865	1,065	899	1,065	810	1,115
Georgia	332	1,068	370	1,066	322	1,105
Hawaii	62	1,085	69	1,100	58	1,162
Idaho	95	1,085	127	1,094	91	1,178
Illinois	753	1,058	695	1,064	702	1,110
Indiana	229	1,066	230	1,056	225	1,107
lowa	177	1,076	174	1,090	159	1,120
Kansas	128	1,077	139	1,076	140	1,129
Kentucky	275	1,088	246	1,091	225	1,153
Louisiana	329	1,083	331	1,073	332	1,118
Maine	98	1,095	100	1,086	91	1,138
Maryland	305	1,082	287	1,091	286	1,134
Massachusetts	601	1,130	614	1,128	544	1,183
Michigan	535	1,057	526	1,068	504	1,126
Minnesota	261	1,066	274	1,064	279	1,106
Mississippi	208	1,050	219	1,068	188	1,114
Missouri	260	1,074	250	1,088	254	1,134
Montana	48	1,086	57	1,077	60	1,153
Nebraska	95	1,117	102	1,080	94	1,123
Nevada	95	1,063	120	1,078	104	1,120
New Hampshire	45	1,097	44	1,053	35	1,153
New Jersey	315	1,086	326	1,101	333	1,136
New Mexico	114	1,065	124	1,102	127	1,148
New York	1,585	1,121	1,691	1,122	1,598	1,172
North Carolina	323	1,052	316	1,058	310	1,102
North Dakota	29	1,048	40	1,059	35	1,126
Ohio	602	1,070	615	1,067	576	1,109
Oklahoma	150	1,066	144	1,071	132	1,132
Oregon	129	1,098	160	1,069	153	1,153
Pennsylvania	745	1,064	773	1,068	728	1,120
Rhode Island	77	1,102	75	1,124	63	1,152

Table 10. Section 1619(a) participants and their average earnings, by state or other area, selected months, 2005-2006—*Continued* 

	December	2005	Septembe	er 2006	December	r 2006
State or area	Number	Average earnings (dollars)	Number	Average earnings (dollars)	Number	Average earnings (dollars)
State of area	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)
South Carolina	171	1,071	167	1,083	153	1,119
South Dakota	52	1,052	63	1,069	44	1,130
Tennessee	237	1,079	247	1,086	223	1,119
Texas	705	1,062	797	1,062	737	1,115
Utah	81	1,105	103	1,071	100	1,119
Vermont	64	1,097	60	1,130	60	1,150
Virginia	362	1,069	349	1,075	331	1,128
Washington	481	1,081	530	1,089	482	1,138
West Virginia	141	1,093	138	1,087	150	1,130
Wisconsin	319	1,080	328	1,079	308	1,117
Wyoming	31	1,053	41	1,069	33	1,079
Outlying area						
Northern Mariana Islands	3	1,018	а	964	а	964

a. Data are not shown to avoid disclosure of information for particular individuals.

Table 11. Section 1619(b) participants and their average earnings, by state or other area, selected months, 2005-2006

	Decembe	r 2005	Septemb	er 2006	Decembe	er 2006
		Average earnings		Average earnings		Average earnings
State or area	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)
All areas	78,205	1,118	87,216	1,173	89,350	1,193
Alabama	1,002	1,121	1,170	1,185	1,195	1,224
Alaska <sup>a</sup>	186	1,222	229	1,358	b	1,304
Arizona	1,126	1,171	1,405	1,252	1,424	1,280
Arkansas	785	1,052	900	1,109	897	1,147
California	8,254	1,420	9,345	1,527	9,945	1,549
Colorado	848	1,148	903	1,166	938	1,177
Connecticut <sup>a</sup>	1,051	1,043	1,188	1,114	1,171	1,130
Delaware	251	1,224	286	1,258	303	1,244
District of Columbia	251	1,429	267	1,431	282	1,443
Florida	3,836	1,161	4,481	1,198	4,530	1,233
Georgia	1,640	1,110	1,828	1,146	1,839	1,153
Hawaii <sup>a</sup>	272	1,246	338	1,248	338	1,311
ldaho <sup>a</sup>	520	980	610	1,019	613	1,078
Illinois <sup>a</sup>	3,044	1,095	3,496	1,175	3,603	1,182
Indiana <sup>a</sup>	1,462	973	1,532	1,035	1,589	1,057
lowa	1,496	843	1,605	860	1,592	891
Kansas <sup>a</sup>	949	951	1,002	998	1,037	1,015
Kentucky	1,150	1,155	1,243	1,249	1,249	1,280
Louisiana	1,370	1,071	1,424	1,159	1,539	1,187
Maine	636	1,000	702	1,037	677	1,056
Maryland	1,429	1,189	1,637	1,225	1,658	1,257
Massachusetts	2,957	1,240	3,235	1,278	3,295	1,288
Michigan	3,042	1,024	3,176	1,059	3,159	1,064
Minnesota <sup>a</sup>	2,215	935	2,469	975	2,493	973
Mississippi	805	1,125	917	1,157	938	1,202
Missouri <sup>a</sup>	1,774	917	2,079	961	2,100	986
Montana	405	906	475	926	456	928
Nebraska <sup>a</sup>	590	919	633	961	639	979
Nevada <sup>a</sup>	428	1,278	511	1,371	561	1,377
New Hampshire <sup>a</sup>	367	1,023	395	1,055	402	1,064
New Jersey	1,868	1,182	2,029	1,211	2,124	1,249
New Mexico	626	1,089	649	1,131	645	1,124
New York	6,731	1,270	7,341	1,301	7,568	1,325
North Carolina	1,792	1,054	1,949	1,082	1,974	1,073
North Dakota <sup>a</sup>	330	879	345	872	357	867
Ohio <sup>a</sup>	3,120	965	3,490	1,002	3,546	1,027
Oklahoma <sup>a</sup>	798	900	1,000	987	1,019	1,002
Oregon <sup>a</sup>	1,005	916	1,060	1,017	1,079	1,026
Pennsylvania	3,844	1,082	4,234	1,125	4,361	1,136
Rhode Island	402	1,112	427	1,224	468	1,216

Table 11. Section 1619(b) participants and their average earnings, by state or other area, selected months, 2005-2006-Continued

	Decembe	er 2005	Septemb	September 2006		December 2006	
State or area	Number	Average earnings (dollars)	Number	Average earnings (dollars)	Number	Average earnings (dollars)	
State of area	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)	
South Carolina	879	984	963	1,008	992	1,013	
South Dakota	457	849	480	839	508	863	
Tennessee	1,182	1,101	1,330	1,143	1,360	1,160	
Texas	3,559	1,054	4,040	1,128	4,131	1,139	
Utah <sup>a</sup>	519	980	652	982	690	1,038	
Vermont	379	1,083	416	1,130	418	1,090	
Virginia <sup>a</sup>	1,700	1,113	1,936	1,174	2,018	1,192	
Washington	1,902	1,163	2,197	1,219	2,197	1,242	
West Virginia	549	1,197	655	1,301	654	1,332	
Wisconsin	2,199	925	2,271	951	2,284	962	
Wyoming	220	887	267	979	278	999	
Outlying area							
Northern Mariana Islands	3	808	4	859	b	1,103	

a. The Social Security Administration identifies persons as potential participants; the state makes final Medicaid determinations.

b. Data are not shown to avoid disclosure of information for particular individuals.

Table 12.

Number and average earnings, by selected characteristics, December 2006

	Section 1619(a) participants		Section 1619(b) participants		
		Average earnings		Average earnings	
Characteristic	Number	(dollars)	Number	(dollars)	
All participants	17,394	1,166	89,350	1,193	
Age					
Under 18	119	1,083	235		
18–21	2,162	1,134	3,784	1,363	
22–29	4,877	1,155	22,558	1,253	
30–39	3,952	1,173	23,155	1,196	
40–49	3,681	1,180	21,331	1,161	
50–59	2,091	1,183	12,265	1,164	
60–64	401	1,193	3,296	1,051	
65 or older	111	1,225	2,726	955	
Sex					
Male	9,582	1,176	46,968	1,227	
Female	7,812	1,154	42,382	1,156	
Earned income <sup>a</sup>					
Wages	16,948	1,168	86,788	1,201	
Self-employment	542	1,111	3,376	1,079	
Earnings (dollars)					
Less than 400			10,523	268	
400–499			6,288	436	
500-599			7,582	530	
600–699			7,547	631	
700–899			10,901	777	
900–1,199	9,952	1,033	8,830	1,012	
1,200 or more	7,442	1,343	37,679	1,987	
Unearned income <sup>a</sup>					
None	15,776	1,168	30,470	1,877	
Social Security	484	1,119	54,688	771	
Other pensions	32	1,137	540	1,128	
Income based on need	10	1,040	64	1,401	
Assetincome	610	1,166	3,752	1,095	
Other	535	1,138	4,328	1,363	
Work incentives <sup>a</sup>					
Plans to achieve self-support b	141	1,513	0	0	
Impairment-related work expenses	359	1,229	1,461	1,023	
Blind work expenses	2	2,047	588	1,646	

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data. NOTE: -- = not available; . . . = not applicable.

a. The sum of the entries may be greater than the total because some recipients may receive more than one type of earned or unearned income or both earned and unearned income, or they may benefit from more than one work incentive provision.

b. Includes 22 persons with a PASS that excludes only resources.

Table 13.

Percentage distribution of participants aged 18–64, by diagnostic group, December 2006

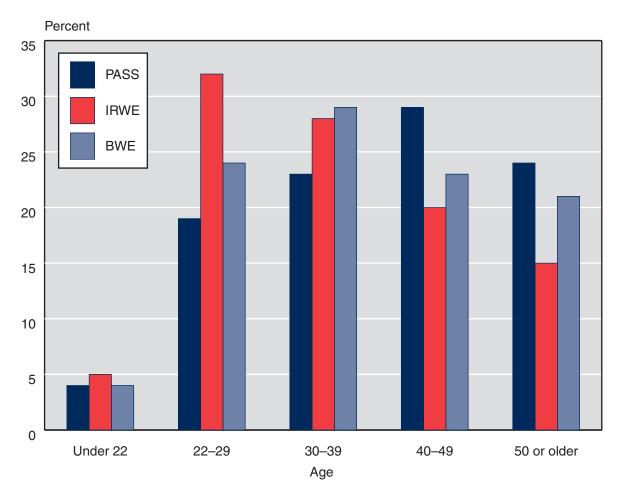
Diagnostic group	All blind and disabled recipients	Section 1619(a) participants	Section 1619(b) participants
Total			
Number	4,152,130	17,164	86,389
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Congenital anomalies	0.7	0.8	0.8
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	3.4	1.7	1.8
Infectious and parasitic diseases	1.6	1.6	1.7
Injuries	2.6	1.9	2.3
Mental disorders			
Retardation	21.6	30.8	29.4
Schizophrenia	9.7	8.1	8.4
Other	26.8	27.1	24.2
Neoplasms	1.2	1.0	1.2
Diseases of the—			
Blood and blood-forming organs	0.4	0.7	0.7
Circulatory system	4.4	1.4	1.7
Digestive system	0.9	0.5	0.6
Genitourinary system	1.0	1.0	1.2
Musculoskeletal system and			
connective tissue	10.3	4.3	5.5
Nervous system and sense organs <sup>a</sup>	7.8	10.8	10.5
Respiratory system	2.0	1.0	0.9
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	0.2	0.1	0.1
Other	0.2	0.4	0.3
Unknown	5.2	6.6	8.5

a. Most disabled recipients classified as blind are included in this category. A few blind recipients with a primary impairment other than diseases of the eye are coded in other categories. Also, a few recipients are classified with diseases of the eye, but their impairment does not meet the definition of blindness.



Chart 9. Percentage distribution, by age and provision, December 2006

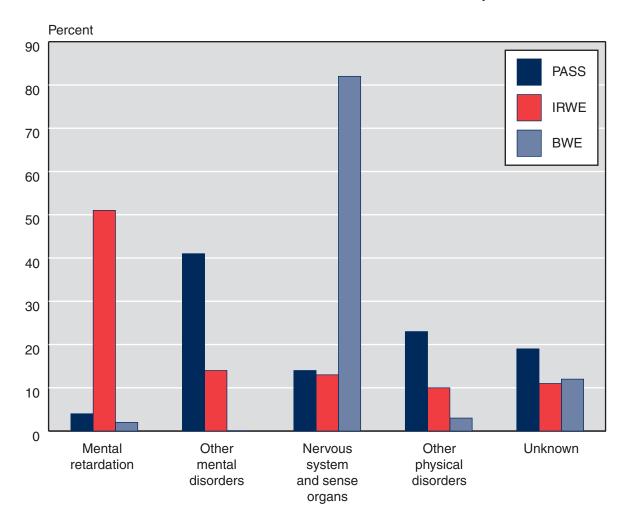
Recipients with income excluded under plans to achieve self-support (PASS), impairment-related work expenses (IRWE), or blind work expenses (BWE) were similar in age to all working recipients (Chart 3). PASS participants were somewhat older—53 percent were aged 40 or older, compared with 35 percent of those with IRWE and 44 percent of those with BWE.



SOURCE: Table 15.

Chart 10.
Percentage distribution, by diagnostic group and provision, December 2006

The most frequently identified diagnosis varied among recipients who had income excluded under plans to achieve self-support (PASS), impairment-related work expenses (IRWE), or blind work expenses (BWE). Over half of the recipients who had some income excluded under IRWE were mentally retarded, and 41 percent of those with a PASS had other mental disorders. Over four-fifths of those with BWE had a nervous system disorder.



SOURCE: Table 16.

Table 14. Number, by state or other area and provision, December 2006

State or area	Plans to achieve self-support (PASS) <sup>a</sup>	Impairment-related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
All areas	1,583	5,650	2,370
Alabama	23	143	28
Alaska	4	b	b
Arizona	7	59	27
Arkansas	16	48	20
California	371	366	391
Colorado	13	27	24
Connecticut	9	108	32
Delaware	0	27	9
District of Columbia	b	0	3
Florida	39	306	82
Georgia	26	194	48
Hawaii	5	7	8
ldaho	23	8	4
Illinois	43	191	57
Indiana	30	94	38
lowa	53	50	47
Kansas	25	286	30
Kentucky	64	81	34
Louisiana	b	96	34
Maine	46	27	10
Maryland	18	161	34
Massachusetts	100	147	211
Michigan	43	95	78
Minnesota	52	113	44
Mississippi	7	36	22
Missouri	34	104	29
Montana	17	9	9
Nebraska	17	19	8
Nevada	b	19	13
New Hampshire	12	19	6
New Jersey	3	201	44
New Mexico	0	56	15
New York	86	477	185
North Carolina	73	293	93
North Dakota	b	7	3
Ohio	26	106	80
Oklahoma	6	65	21
Oregon	31	36	20
Pennsylvania	13	242	88
Rhode Island	10	10	8

Table 14. Number, by state or other area and provision, December 2006—*Continued* 

State or area	Plans to achieve self-support (PASS) <sup>a</sup>	Impairment-related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
South Carolina	20	60	31
South Dakota	7	12	6
Tennessee	20	101	36
Texas	22	284	156
Utah	b	36	13
Vermont	30	9	4
Virginia	7	465	58
Washington	33	89	45
West Virginia	11	25	13
Wisconsin	78	234	64
Wyoming	b	b	3
Outlying area	L	L	
Northern Mariana Islands	b	b	b

a. Includes 435 persons with a PASS that excludes only resources.

b. Data are not shown to avoid disclosure of information for particular individuals.

Table 15.

Number, by selected characteristics and provision, December 2006

Characteristic	Plans to achieve self-support (PASS) <sup>a</sup>	Impairment-related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
Total	1,583	5,650	2,370
Age			
Under 18	1	4	4
18–21	69	276	84
22–29	308	1,813	579
30–39	364	1,608	678
40–49	461	1,102	536
50–59	313	601	364
60–64	57	145	67
65 or older	10	101	58
Sex			
Male	643	3,106	1,273
Female	940	2,544	1,097
Earned income <sup>b</sup>			
Wages	393	5,556	2,296
Self-employment	101	117	91
Earnings (dollars)			
None	1,098	0	0
65 or less	33	469	150
66–99	9	227	78
100–199	32	798	229
200–299	26	696	188
300–399	40	663	154
400–499	36	493	117
500–599	40	497	116
600–699	44	364	99
700–799	45	269	103
800–899	29	231	94
900–999	23	141	86
1,000 or more	128	802	956
Unearned income <sup>b</sup>			
None	317	2,367	1,217
Social Security	1,228	2,978	1,023
Other pensions	18	30	6
Income based on need	0	1	0
Asset income	58	345	153
Other	54	195	63

a. Includes 435 persons with a PASS that excludes only resources.

b. The sum of the entries may be greater than the total because some recipients may receive more than one type of earned or unearned income or both earned and unearned income.

Table 16.
Percentage distribution, by diagnostic group and provision, December 2006

Diagnostic group	All blind and disabled recipients	Plans to achieve self-support (PASS) <sup>a</sup>	Impairment- related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
Total				
Number	4,152,130	1,583	5,650	2,370
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Congenital anomalies	0.7	0.9	2.8	1.0
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	3.4	1.7	0.5	0.3
Infectious and parasitic diseases	1.6	1.9	0.7	0.1
Injuries	2.6	5.9	1.8	0.1
Mental disorders				
Retardation	21.6	3.9	51.5	2.4
Schizophrenia	9.7	9.7	3.5	0
Other	26.8	31.0	10.8	0.4
Neoplasms	1.2	8.0	0.4	0.2
Diseases of the—				
Blood and blood-forming organs	0.4	0.6	0.1	0
Circulatory system	4.4	1.5	8.0	1.2
Digestive system	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.1
Genitourinary system	1.0	8.0	0.3	0.1
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	10.3	7.8	1.5	0.1
Nervous system and sense organs <sup>b</sup>	7.8	13.8	13.2	81.9
Respiratory system	2.0	0.5	0.4	0
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	0.2	0	0	0
Other	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1
Unknown	5.2	18.5	10.9	12.2

a. Includes 435 persons with a PASS that excludes only resources.

b. Most disabled recipients classified as blind are included in this category. A few blind recipients with a primary impairment other than diseases of the eye are coded in other categories. Also, a few recipients are classified with diseases of the eye, but their impairment does not meet the definition of blindness.

Table 17.

Percentage distribution of persons with income excluded, by amount excluded and provision, December 2006

Amount excluded (dollars)	Plans to achieve self-support (PASS) <sup>a</sup>	Impairment-related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
Total			
Number	1,148	5,650	2,370
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 25	0.3	18.5	18.7
25-49	1.1	24.1	10.8
50-99	1.1	31.8	14.8
100-199	5.9	15.6	16.6
200-299	7.3	4.8	11.9
300-499	20.7	3.2	13.0
500-999	49.7	1.8	11.0
1,000 or more	13.8	0.3	3.1

a. Data do not include plans to achieve self-support that exclude only resources.