

## Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

**Table 61.**  
**Medical decisions at the reconsideration level, by year of application and program,**  
**1992–2006**

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a</sup> (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a</sup> (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a,b</sup> (percent)
<b>All disabled beneficiaries</b>									
1999	398,203	61,143	15.4	210,376	34,724	16.5	187,827	26,419	14.1
2000	408,564	58,590	14.3	215,481	33,233	15.4	193,083	25,357	13.1
2001	435,205	58,417	13.4	222,325	32,590	14.7	212,880	25,827	12.1
2002	502,659	60,482	12.0	250,201	32,881	13.1	252,458	27,601	10.9
2003	542,612	60,471	11.1	258,464	31,725	12.3	284,148	28,746	10.1
2004	555,085	57,711	10.4	253,754	29,625	11.7	301,331	28,086	9.3
2005	503,036	50,226	10.0	223,641	25,960	11.6	279,395	24,266	8.7
2006	449,053	39,508	8.8	196,944	20,575	10.4	252,109	18,933	7.5
<b>Workers</b>									
1992	419,798	53,881	12.8	190,594	25,352	13.3	229,204	28,529	12.4
1993	469,151	58,275	12.4	206,606	27,306	13.2	262,545	30,969	11.8
1994	489,731	62,757	12.8	226,013	31,468	13.9	263,718	31,289	11.9
1995	458,036	60,584	13.2	218,950	31,563	14.4	239,086	29,021	12.1
1996	464,582	65,466	14.1	226,333	33,596	14.8	238,249	31,870	13.4
1997	403,225	59,978	14.9	206,148	33,373	16.2	197,077	26,605	13.5
1998	384,996	61,742	16.0	199,291	34,043	17.1	185,705	27,699	14.9
1999	385,426	57,808	15.0	203,713	33,192	16.3	181,713	24,616	13.5
2000	397,068	55,762	14.0	209,183	31,946	15.3	187,885	23,816	12.7
2001	424,028	55,822	13.2	216,226	31,420	14.5	207,802	24,402	11.7
2002	490,213	57,961	11.8	243,634	31,809	13.1	246,579	26,152	10.6
2003	529,454	57,885	10.9	252,355	30,711	12.2	277,099	27,174	9.8
2004	541,726	55,259	10.2	248,086	28,707	11.6	293,640	26,552	9.0
2005	490,680	48,273	9.8	218,449	25,177	11.5	272,231	23,096	8.5
2006	438,562	38,274	8.7	192,879	20,063	10.4	245,683	18,211	7.4
<b>Widow(er)s</b>									
1999	7,109	1,983	27.9	4,109	917	22.3	3,000	1,066	35.5
2000	6,354	1,574	24.8	3,855	738	19.1	2,499	836	33.5
2001	6,192	1,599	25.8	3,859	741	19.2	2,333	858	36.8
2002	6,415	1,435	22.4	4,014	667	16.6	2,401	768	32.0
2003	6,661	1,443	21.7	3,834	660	17.2	2,827	783	27.7
2004	6,433	1,371	21.3	3,439	583	17.0	2,994	788	26.3
2005	5,875	1,012	17.2	3,137	473	15.1	2,738	539	19.7
2006	4,850	635	13.1	2,397	302	12.6	2,453	333	13.6

(Continued)

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**Medical decisions at the reconsideration level, by year of application and program,**  
**1992–2006—Continued**

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a</sup> (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a</sup> (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate <sup>a,b</sup> (percent)
<b>Adult children</b>									
1999	5,668	1,352	23.9	2,554	615	24.1	3,114	737	23.7
2000	5,142	1,254	24.4	2,443	549	22.5	2,699	705	26.1
2001	4,985	996	20.0	2,240	429	19.2	2,745	567	20.7
2002	6,031	1,086	18.0	2,553	405	15.9	3,478	681	19.6
2003	6,497	1,143	17.6	2,275	354	15.6	4,222	789	18.7
2004	6,926	1,081	15.6	2,229	335	15.0	4,697	746	15.9
2005	6,481	941	14.5	2,055	310	15.1	4,426	631	14.3
2006	5,641	599	10.6	1,668	210	12.6	3,973	389	9.8

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

NOTES: Data are current through August 2007.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the allowance rate will change over time.

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

A revised process was introduced on October 1, 1999, in 10 states, under which initial denials could be appealed directly to the hearing level without a reconsideration.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.

b. Rate for the Social Security portion only.

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