



## Program Data

### *Social Security*

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 47,707,330 persons received benefits for December 2004. This number included 29,971,970 retired workers, 4,825,650 widows and widowers, 6,192,210 disabled workers, 2,723,630 wives and husbands, and 3,993,870 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.7 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$955; widows and widowers, \$897 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$920); disabled workers, \$894; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$464. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$466, \$625, and \$265, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$41.6 billion. Of this amount, \$30.1 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.5 billion to survivors, and \$6.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.7 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2004.

In Illinois, benefits were paid to 1,883,750 persons. This number included 1,221,330 retired workers, 195,560 widows and widowers, 210,030 disabled workers, 100,520 wives and husbands, and 156,300 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 14.8 percent of

the total population of the state and 90.2 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Illinois received an average of \$993 per month; widows and widowers, \$960; disabled workers, \$924; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$498. Average benefits for children were \$492 for children of retired workers, \$652 for children of deceased workers, and \$277 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$1.7 billion. Of this amount, \$1.3 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$240 million to survivors, and \$211 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

### *Supplemental Security Income*

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2005, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$579, and for a couple, \$869.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2004, 6,987,845 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,211,167 were aged and 5,776,678 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,977,610 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,017,108 were 18 to 64, and 993,127 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 52,253,851. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.2 billion in December 2004: \$2.9 billion in federal SSI payments and \$362 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$428. Aged persons averaged \$351, and disabled and blind persons, \$445.

In addition, 552,346 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2004 that totaled \$68.8 million.

In Illinois, 255,624 persons—30,522 aged and 225,102 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2004. A total of 57,437 recipients were aged 65 or older, 155,020 were aged 18 to 64, and 43,167 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$115.7 million. The average federal payment was \$427 overall: \$339 for aged recipients and \$439 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 30,501 persons in Illinois received state-administered supplementation in December 2004 that totaled \$2.3 million.

In December 2004, the total number of persons in Illinois receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 2,077,718.

## Earnings and Employment Data

### *Social Security*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.4 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$541 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Illinois in 2003, an estimated 6.59 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$194.43 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$24.11 billion in Social Security taxes.

### *Medicare*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 158.1 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.3 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$153 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Illinois in 2003, an estimated 6.79 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$245.42 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$7.12 billion in Medicare taxes.

*State Statistics* is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy. Angela Y. Harper was responsible for programming, processing, and compiling the data.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states; earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

#### CONTACTS:

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#### **Social Security Administration**

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500 E Street, SW, 8th Floor  
Washington, DC 20254

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A total of 47,707,330 persons received benefits for December 2004. This number included 29,971,970 retired workers, 4,825,650 widows and widowers, 6,192,210 disabled workers, 2,723,630 wives and husbands, and 3,993,870 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.7 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$955; widows and widowers, \$897 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$920); disabled workers, \$894; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$464. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$466, \$625, and \$265, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$41.6 billion. Of this amount, \$30.1 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.5 billion to survivors, and \$6.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.7 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2004.

In Indiana, benefits were paid to 1,038,130 persons. This number included 657,840 retired workers, 105,260 widows and widowers, 134,020 disabled workers, 54,400 wives and husbands, and 86,610 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 16.8 percent of the total

population of the state and 95.2 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Indiana received an average of \$1,003 per month; widows and widowers, \$955; disabled workers, \$899; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$507. Average benefits for children were \$526 for children of retired workers, \$660 for children of deceased workers, and \$259 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$950 million. Of this amount, \$692 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$128 million to survivors, and \$131 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

### *Supplemental Security Income*

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2005, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$579, and for a couple, \$869.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2004, 6,987,845 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,211,167 were aged and 5,776,678 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,977,610 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,017,108 were 18 to 64, and 993,127 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 52,253,851. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.2 billion in December 2004: \$2.9 billion in federal SSI payments and \$362 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$428. Aged persons averaged \$351, and disabled and blind persons, \$445.

In addition, 552,346 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2004 that totaled \$68.8 million.

In Indiana, 96,191 persons—6,106 aged and 90,085 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2004. A total of 12,515 recipients were aged 65 or older, 63,861 were aged 18 to 64, and 19,815 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$42.1 million. The average federal payment was \$398 overall: \$226 for aged recipients and \$409 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 1,140 persons in Indiana received state-administered supplementation in December 2004 that totaled \$297,000.

In December 2004, the total number of persons in Indiana receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,103,317.

## Earnings and Employment Data

### *Social Security*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.4 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$541 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Indiana in 2003, an estimated 3.54 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$94.74 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$11.75 billion in Social Security taxes.

### *Medicare*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 158.1 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.3 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$153 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Indiana in 2003, an estimated 3.56 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$104 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$3.02 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 47,707,330 persons received benefits for December 2004. This number included 29,971,970 retired workers, 4,825,650 widows and widowers, 6,192,210 disabled workers, 2,723,630 wives and husbands, and 3,993,870 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.7 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$955; widows and widowers, \$897 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$920); disabled workers, \$894; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$464. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$466, \$625, and \$265, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$41.6 billion. Of this amount, \$30.1 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.5 billion to survivors, and \$6.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.7 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2004.

In Michigan, benefits were paid to 1,716,290 persons. This number included 1,059,530 retired workers, 179,870 widows and widowers, 226,060 disabled workers, 99,620 wives and husbands, and 151,210 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 17.0 percent of the

total population of the state and 95.6 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Michigan received an average of \$1,029 per month; widows and widowers, \$967; disabled workers, \$950; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$514. Average benefits for children were \$519 for children of retired workers, \$660 for children of deceased workers, and \$277 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$1.6 billion. Of this amount, \$1.1 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$221 million to survivors, and \$233 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

#### *Supplemental Security Income*

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2005, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$579, and for a couple, \$869.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2004, 6,987,845 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,211,167 were aged and 5,776,678 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,977,610 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,017,108 were 18 to 64, and 993,127 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 52,253,851. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.2 billion in December 2004: \$2.9 billion in federal SSI payments and \$362 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$428. Aged persons averaged \$351, and disabled and blind persons, \$445.

In addition, 552,346 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2004 that totaled \$68.8 million.

In Michigan, 219,337 persons—17,131 aged and 202,206 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2004. A total of 36,227 recipients were aged 65 or older, 146,604 were aged 18 to 64, and 36,506 were under the age of 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$100.6 million, of which \$98.5 million was federal SSI and \$2.1 million was state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$424 overall: \$292 for aged recipients and \$435 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2004, the total number of persons in Michigan receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,868,491.

## Earnings and Employment Data

### *Social Security*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.4 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$541 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Michigan in 2003, an estimated 5.49 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$160.55 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$19.91 billion in Social Security taxes.

### *Medicare*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 158.1 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.3 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$153 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Michigan in 2003, an estimated 5.51 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$183.47 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$5.32 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 47,707,330 persons received benefits for December 2004. This number included 29,971,970 retired workers, 4,825,650 widows and widowers, 6,192,210 disabled workers, 2,723,630 wives and husbands, and 3,993,870 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.7 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$955; widows and widowers, \$897 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$920); disabled workers, \$894; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$464. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$466, \$625, and \$265, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$41.6 billion. Of this amount, \$30.1 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.5 billion to survivors, and \$6.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.7 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2004.

In Minnesota, benefits were paid to 775,050 persons. This number included 517,510 retired workers, 76,260 widows and widowers, 84,830 disabled workers, 44,770 wives and husbands, and 51,680 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.2 percent of the total

population of the state and 93.8 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Minnesota received an average of \$955 per month; widows and widowers, \$925; disabled workers, \$879; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$480. Average benefits for children were \$505 for children of retired workers, \$673 for children of deceased workers, and \$260 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$686 million. Of this amount, \$519 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$88 million to survivors, and \$80 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

#### *Supplemental Security Income*

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2005, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$579, and for a couple, \$869.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2004, 6,987,845 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,211,167 were aged and 5,776,678 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,977,610 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,017,108 were 18 to 64, and 993,127 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 52,253,851. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.2 billion in December 2004: \$2.9 billion in federal SSI payments and \$362 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$428. Aged persons averaged \$351, and disabled and blind persons, \$445.

In addition, 552,346 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2004 that totaled \$68.8 million.

In Minnesota, 70,745 persons—9,865 aged and 60,880 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2004. A total of 15,970 recipients were aged 65 or older, 44,793 were aged 18 to 64, and 9,982 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$30.4 million. The average federal payment was \$398 overall: \$312 for aged recipients and \$412 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 40,320 persons in Minnesota received state-administered supplementation in December 2004 that totaled \$7.7 million.

In December 2004, the total number of persons in Minnesota receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 823,088.

## Earnings and Employment Data

### *Social Security*

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In Minnesota in 2003, an estimated 3.06 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$91.04 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$11.29 billion in Social Security taxes.

### *Medicare*

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In Minnesota in 2003, an estimated 3.08 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$105.68 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$3.06 billion in Medicare taxes.

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In Ohio, benefits were paid to 1,950,740 persons. This number included 1,199,320 retired workers, 236,870 widows and widowers, 230,860 disabled workers, 134,780 wives and husbands, and 148,910 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 17.0 percent of

the total population of the state and 92.6 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Ohio received an average of \$970 per month; widows and widowers, \$933; disabled workers, \$876; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$489. Average benefits for children were \$501 for children of retired workers, \$636 for children of deceased workers, and \$263 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$1.7 billion. Of this amount, \$1.2 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$268 million to survivors, and \$219 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

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The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 52,253,851. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.2 billion in December 2004: \$2.9 billion in federal SSI payments and \$362 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$428. Aged persons averaged \$351, and disabled and blind persons, \$445.

In addition, 552,346 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2004 that totaled \$68.8 million.

In Ohio, 245,401 persons—15,421 aged and 229,980 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2004. A total of 36,069 recipients were aged 65 or older, 167,931 were aged 18 to 64, and 41,401 were under the age of 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$111.5 million, of which all but \$2,399 was federal SSI. The average federally administered payment was \$418 overall: \$268 for aged recipients and \$428 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2004, the total number of persons in Ohio receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 2,126,880.

## Earnings and Employment Data

### *Social Security*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.4 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$541 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Ohio in 2003, an estimated 5.96 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$156.38 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$19.39 billion in Social Security taxes.

### *Medicare*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 158.1 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.3 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$153 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Ohio in 2003, an estimated 6.43 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$196.52 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$5.70 billion in Medicare taxes.

*State Statistics* is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy. Angela Y. Harper was responsible for programming, processing, and compiling the data.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states; earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

#### CONTACTS:

- Social Security data, rona.m.blumenthal@ssa.gov or 410-965-0163.
- SSI data, arthur.l.kahn@ssa.gov or 410-965-0186.
- Earnings and employment data, greg.k.diez@ssa.gov or 410-965-0153.
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#### **Social Security Administration**

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### Program Data

#### *Social Security*

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 47,707,330 persons received benefits for December 2004. This number included 29,971,970 retired workers, 4,825,650 widows and widowers, 6,192,210 disabled workers, 2,723,630 wives and husbands, and 3,993,870 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.7 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$955; widows and widowers, \$897 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$920); disabled workers, \$894; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$464. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$466, \$625, and \$265, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$41.6 billion. Of this amount, \$30.1 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.5 billion to survivors, and \$6.0 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.7 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2004.

In Wisconsin, benefits were paid to 937,490 persons. This number included 629,930 retired workers, 89,810 widows and widowers, 103,460 disabled workers, 49,000 wives and husbands, and 65,290 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 17.1 percent of the total

population of the state and 96.8 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Wisconsin received an average of \$979 per month; widows and widowers, \$952; disabled workers, \$894; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$493. Average benefits for children were \$525 for children of retired workers, \$659 for children of deceased workers, and \$260 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2004 totaled \$850 million. Of this amount, \$644 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$106 million to survivors, and \$100 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

#### *Supplemental Security Income*

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2005, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$579, and for a couple, \$869.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2004, 6,987,845 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,211,167 were aged and 5,776,678 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,977,610 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,017,108 were 18 to 64, and 993,127 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 52,253,851. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.2 billion in December 2004: \$2.9 billion in federal SSI payments and \$362 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$428. Aged persons averaged \$351, and disabled and blind persons, \$445.

In addition, 552,346 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2004 that totaled \$68.8 million.

In Wisconsin, 90,026 persons—8,564 aged and 81,462 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2004. A total of 16,054 recipients were aged 65 or older, 58,128 were aged 18 to 64, and 15,844 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$37.7 million. The average federal payment was \$386 overall: \$235 for aged recipients and \$402 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 95,173 persons in Wisconsin received state-administered supplementation in December 2004 that totaled \$9.6 million.

In December 2004, the total number of persons in Wisconsin receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 995,443.

## Earnings and Employment Data

### *Social Security*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.4 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$541 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Wisconsin in 2003, an estimated 3.21 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$89.78 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$11.13 billion in Social Security taxes.

### *Medicare*

Nationally, in 2003, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 158.1 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.3 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$153 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Wisconsin in 2003, an estimated 3.22 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$100.12 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.90 billion in Medicare taxes.

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