

Performance and Accountability Report



For Fiscal Year 2001



SSA joins the rest of the nation
in mourning the victims of the
September 11, 2001 tragedies.

*"There are singular moments in history,
dates that divide all that goes before
from all that comes after."*

*President George H.W. Bush
State of the Union Address, 1990*

A Message From the Commissioner

The Social Security Administration's (SSA) Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 shows how SSA managed its finances and how we performed in administering our programs during this past year - a year in which the fabric of our nation has been tested. The events of September 11, 2001 have changed our country forever. Never in our nation's history has the role of public servants been more important. During these trying times SSA, like many other civilian agencies, has been called to perform extraordinary duties. Following the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, SSA undertook an unprecedented outreach effort to contact the survivors and families of the victims to inform them of their eligibility for benefits. It is because of this responsiveness to the changing needs of the American public that Social Security continues to be the most successful domestic government program in our nation's history.



“Performance and accountability were the cornerstones of our efforts and achievements during FY 2001.”

Performance and accountability were the cornerstones of our efforts and achievements during FY 2001. I am pleased to report that this is the eighth consecutive year SSA's financial statements have received an unqualified opinion and the third consecutive year that SSA has produced a combined performance and accountability report. This report demonstrates that although the Agency faces many management challenges in administering the Social Security programs in the 21st century, we maintain our steadfast commitment to our stewardship responsibilities and continue to make strides in meeting our strategic goals and objectives.

For over 60 years, SSA has ranked among the premier agencies in government for service and its “can-do” spirit. During FY 2001, we carried on our tradition of excellence when our web site, SSA Online, was identified as a “Best of the Web” financial site by Forbes Magazine. Also, recently, SSA was one of only five Federal agencies to receive the Association of Government Accountants “Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting” Award for its FY 2000 Performance and Accountability Report. SSA holds the distinction of being the only Federal agency to receive this award for three consecutive years since its inception in 1998.

SSA has a long record of outstanding public service, achieved through the dedication, resourcefulness and commitment of our workforce. We recognize that we live in trying times, but our employees are prepared to face the challenges of the future and will continue to provide the best possible service to the American People.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Anne B. Barnhart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

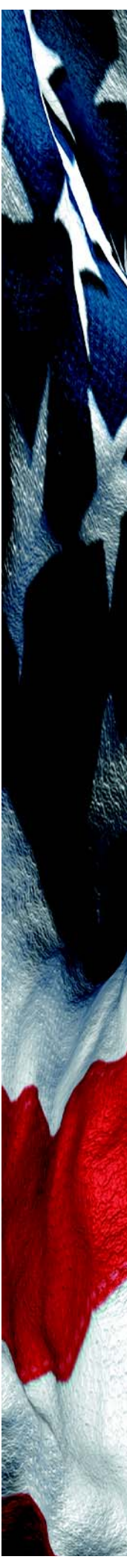
Jo Anne B. Barnhart
Commissioner



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Ten-Year Summary of Financial Highlights

(Data for the FYs ended September 30, unless otherwise noted. Dollars in billions, except for unit costs)

Assets										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Investments	\$319.4	\$365.7	\$419.5	\$483.2	\$549.5	\$631.0	\$730.3	\$854.9	\$1,007.2	\$1,170.0
Total Assets ¹	329.2	376.4	450.1	499.1	565.9	648.6	748.4	874.9	1,029.2	1,198.3

1. See balance sheet on page 65 for breakout of Total Assets.

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Tax Revenues	\$308.2	\$316.5	\$340.8	\$356.2	\$381.2	\$405.3	\$432.0	\$462.7	\$501.7	\$528.2
Interest Income	24.6	27.4	30.1	34.2	37.6	42.5	48.0	53.7	62.2	70.9
Total Exchange Revenue and Financing Sources	363.5	378.0	407.9	427.4	449.5	477.4	510.9	548.2	599.1	626.9

Expenses										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Benefit:										
OASI	\$252.6	\$265.9	\$277.3	\$290.0	\$300.6	\$313.7	\$325.0	\$332.3	\$349.9	\$369.1
DI	30.8	34.1	37.9	40.4	43.4	44.5	47.7	50.4	54.7	59.2
SSI	17.5	20.4	24.2	24.5	24.9	26.6	27.5	28.2	30.5	27.7
Administrative	4.9	5.3	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.9	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.3

Ratios										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Return on Trust Fund Investments ²	8.7%	8.3%	8.0%	7.8%	7.6%	7.5%	7.2%	6.9%	6.9%	NA
Long Range OASDI Actuarial Deficit as % of Taxable Payroll by Year of Trustees Report	1.46%	1.46%	2.13%	2.17%	2.19%	2.23%	2.19%	2.07%	1.89%	1.86%
Administrative Expenses as % of Benefit Expenses	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%
% Change in SSA's Overall Productivity	9.7%	7.5%	2.1%	5.2%	2.3%	2.2%	7.4%	1.4%	6.8%	(2.3%)

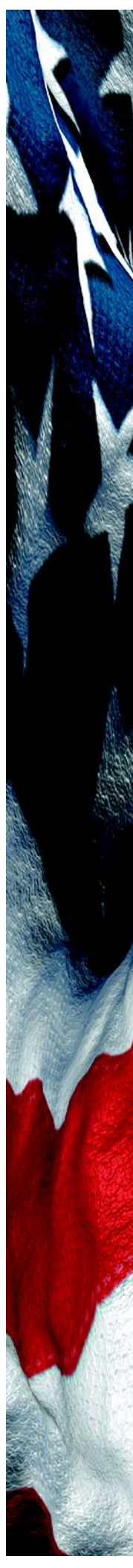
2. Data shown are for calendar year; see <http://www.ssa.gov/OACT/ProgData/effectiveRates.html> for earlier data.

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
OASI	36.5	36.9	37.2	37.5	37.6	37.8	37.9	38.0	38.7	38.9
DI	4.8	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.8
SSI	5.5	5.9	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7

3. Includes individuals receiving benefits from more than one program.

Unit Costs (Current Dollars)										
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Issue Social Security Cards	\$13.77	\$13.90	\$14.36	\$14.19	\$15.46	\$16.70	\$15.86	\$15.55	\$16.10	\$16.26
Process Annual Wage Reports	.60	.63	.70	.65	.56	.47	.40	.33	.26	.23
Issue Earnings Statements ⁴	4.71	4.77	5.63	2.04	1.32	2.07	1.01	.73	.48	.34
Process Initial Claims (Overall Average)	506.84	469.86	473.00	440.47	436.41	450.87	487.35	415.53	391.76	399.21
Maintain Benefit Rolls (Overall Average Per Work Unit)	25.52	23.08	18.48	18.67	19.39	21.71	22.49	25.52	23.08	23.17
Provide Due Process (Overall Average)	839.36	746.28	775.17	801.52	855.16	875.32	888.65	910.70	882.85	1,059.71
Cost to Collect \$1 (all receivables)	.13	.13	.13	.13	.12	.09	.11	.11	.10	.11

4. SSA began issuing legislatively mandated Social Security Statements in FY 1995; those costs are reflected in the FY 1995-2001 unit costs.





CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

Presented to the

*Social Security
Administration*

In recognition of your outstanding
efforts in preparing SSA's Accountability
Report for the fiscal year ended
September 30, 2000.

A Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting
is presented by the Association of Government Accountants
to federal government agencies whose annual
Accountability Reports achieve the highest standards
in presenting their programs and financial affairs.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hummel".

John H. Hummel, CGFM
Chair, Certificate of Excellence
in Accountability Reporting Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles W. Culkin Jr.".

Charles W. Culkin Jr., CGFM
Executive Director