

# Conversions to Supplemental Security Income From State Assistance: A Program Records Study

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*In January 1974 payments were made under the new supplemental security income program to about 3 million persons who had been transferred from the previous State assistance programs. This paper presents the results of a study of the conversion population: their income and employment patterns, the amount of State assistance provided, and the impact of the SSI program on them. Over half of the persons converted from State programs had no income other than their assistance payment. For those with some income the predominant source was social security benefits, while only a small proportion reported income from employment or other types of pensions and benefits. One-third of the aged individuals and two-thirds of the disabled were awarded Federal SSI payments at the maximum amount payable in January 1974.*

THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME program (SSI) was established by Congress in 1972 to replace the Federal grants to States for aid to the aged, blind, and disabled in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The grant programs continue in Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

The major objective of the SSI program<sup>1</sup> is to provide, through a federally administered program, positive assurance that the Nation's aged, blind, and disabled people will be provided with a minimum income and to establish basic eligibility requirements and payment standards that are uniform nationally, unlike those under the previously existing State-administered programs of old age assistance (OAA), aid to the blind (AB), and aid to the permanently and totally disabled (APTD). Under the new program the States are permitted to supplement the basic Fed-

eral payment to the extent they choose. From the outset, previous assistance recipients were assured of maintaining their December 1973 income level unless changes in individual circumstances would reduce the payments.

This article presents the results of a study of persons whose former assistance payments were converted to SSI. It describes some of their characteristics at the time of the conversion and presents information on the financial impact of the new program on them. Data are provided on the income and employment patterns of the assistance population, the levels of cash assistance provided in the various States, the relationship between these payments and SSI payments, and the distribution of payments under State programs and the SSI program.

The study file was constructed from reports submitted by the State welfare agencies on their assistance cases that would be converted to the SSI program at its inception on January 1, 1974. As originally constructed the file consisted of the records of approximately 3,150,000 persons. About 145,000 cases were not included in the study as they contained inconsistent data not correctable at the time tabulations were being prepared.

The tables are therefore based on the records of 2,990,000 persons who had been receiving State assistance payments (table 1). Of these, 2,629,000 received Federal SSI payments in January 1974. The remaining 366,000 included about 250,000 who were eligible only for State supplementation under federally administered programs and 50,000 eligible only for State supplementation under State-administered programs. About 65,000 persons included in the State reports during the conversion process had their eligibility terminated before January 1, 1974. The data available do not permit separate breakdowns for these three categories. Data on SSI payments were obtained from the supplemental security record—the basic eligibility and payment file for the new program.

\* Division of Supplemental Security Studies, Office of Research and Statistics. The specifications for the study file were prepared by Myrtle Doser.

<sup>1</sup> For a fuller description of the SSI program, see James C. Callison, "Early Experience Under the Supplemental Security Income Program," *Social Security Bulletin*, June 1974.

TABLE 1.—Conversions from State assistance programs<sup>1</sup> Number of persons reported by State agencies and number eligible for Federal SSI, by reason for eligibility and State<sup>2</sup>

State	Reported by State agencies					Eligible for Federal SSI				
	Total number	Aged 65 and over <sup>3</sup>	Under age 65			Total number	Aged 65 and over <sup>3</sup>	Under age 65		
			Blind	Disabled	Disabled children			Blind	Disabled	Disabled children
Total.....	2,990,241	1,780,398	46,887	1,151,454	2,502	2,629,006	1,544,935	36,753	1,044,902	2,416
Alabama.....	125,104	104,491	1,902	18,703	8	117,383	97,930	1,630	17,815	8
Alaska.....	3,755	2,041	87	1,627	-----	2,620	1,127	75	1,418	-----
Arizona.....	22,465	12,627	300	9,535	3	20,932	11,647	256	9,026	3
Arkansas.....	71,088	56,764	963	13,359	2	67,644	53,945	912	12,785	2
California.....	494,106	287,926	6,861	198,962	357	347,323	181,219	3,427	162,336	341
Colorado.....	39,226	25,773	233	13,205	15	34,664	22,161	172	12,316	15
Connecticut.....	14,598	5,733	149	8,713	3	11,393	4,541	94	6,756	2
Delaware.....	5,393	3,145	179	2,069	-----	4,133	2,285	100	1,748	-----
District of Columbia.....	14,071	5,834	130	8,107	-----	13,427	5,574	124	7,729	-----
Florida.....	93,381	69,800	1,521	22,041	19	89,545	67,415	1,291	20,820	19
Georgia.....	114,116	75,287	2,029	36,693	107	107,197	70,601	1,863	34,630	103
Hawaii.....	6,202	3,271	81	2,846	4	5,626	2,941	67	2,615	3
Idaho.....	6,237	3,075	76	3,083	3	5,739	2,812	65	2,859	3
Illinois.....	119,925	41,119	1,097	76,705	1,004	111,526	38,181	1,016	71,339	990
Indiana.....	24,931	14,822	706	9,232	151	22,324	13,232	616	8,330	146
Iowa.....	14,892	11,129	547	3,211	5	14,117	10,547	478	3,087	5
Kansas.....	14,983	8,690	211	6,069	13	14,442	8,412	176	5,841	13
Kentucky.....	65,119	45,963	1,641	17,483	32	63,304	44,676	1,590	17,007	31
Louisiana.....	127,276	101,022	1,761	24,460	33	119,885	94,511	1,643	23,700	31
Maine.....	19,383	11,628	256	7,593	3	15,933	9,131	213	6,586	3
Maryland.....	33,043	11,806	261	20,968	8	31,339	11,136	246	19,950	7
Massachusetts.....	84,849	55,838	1,605	27,404	2	60,502	36,161	753	23,580	2
Michigan.....	90,402	38,852	1,351	50,060	139	81,213	34,610	1,184	45,284	135
Minnesota.....	28,070	14,532	569	12,955	14	25,494	13,399	471	11,611	13
Mississippi.....	108,384	79,706	1,682	26,987	9	103,486	76,213	1,631	25,733	9
Missouri.....	94,325	71,114	1,278	21,888	45	73,615	54,005	878	18,695	37
Montana.....	5,853	2,766	88	2,999	-----	5,264	2,465	43	2,756	-----
Nebraska.....	10,637	5,799	156	4,682	-----	9,818	5,336	145	4,337	-----
Nevada.....	3,007	2,953	51	3	-----	2,094	2,055	38	1	-----
New Hampshire.....	5,843	4,286	92	1,463	2	3,398	2,146	67	1,183	2
New Jersey.....	41,448	21,485	540	19,417	6	37,593	19,369	315	17,903	6
New Mexico.....	17,465	8,621	274	8,669	1	16,771	8,293	262	8,215	1
New York.....	282,613	110,707	3,137	168,769	10	244,100	89,676	2,264	152,150	10
North Carolina.....	65,736	31,445	2,030	32,249	12	63,689	30,405	1,769	31,503	12
North Dakota.....	5,546	3,609	45	1,892	-----	4,733	2,978	35	1,702	-----
Ohio.....	95,023	42,563	1,739	50,720	1	86,465	38,687	1,576	46,201	1
Oklahoma.....	73,016	50,375	670	21,946	25	71,518	49,479	631	21,383	25
Oregon.....	17,195	7,222	314	9,653	6	15,570	6,325	283	8,956	6
Pennsylvania.....	87,694	45,716	2,305	39,660	13	80,667	41,935	1,252	37,471	9
Rhode Island.....	9,893	5,284	123	4,486	-----	8,225	4,272	95	3,858	-----
South Carolina.....	33,158	18,199	1,077	13,854	28	32,268	17,742	918	13,580	28
South Dakota.....	4,882	3,113	86	1,633	-----	4,588	2,956	62	1,570	-----
Tennessee.....	75,283	44,593	1,349	29,065	276	72,723	43,480	1,217	27,762	264
Texas.....	187,684	155,842	3,331	28,493	18	183,693	152,766	3,176	27,735	16
Utah.....	6,550	2,280	80	4,190	-----	5,812	2,063	54	3,695	-----
Vermont.....	6,226	3,705	69	2,451	1	5,211	2,962	58	2,190	1
Virginia.....	25,974	13,295	805	11,837	37	25,010	12,757	721	11,495	37
Washington.....	47,187	16,910	335	29,890	52	43,517	15,442	281	27,747	47
West Virginia.....	24,375	12,332	360	11,675	8	23,666	11,918	347	11,393	8
Wisconsin.....	20,440	13,376	334	6,703	27	15,879	10,015	261	5,581	22
Wyoming.....	2,189	1,134	21	1,034	-----	1,928	1,001	12	915	-----

<sup>1</sup> Excludes 144,838 cases with inconsistent data  
<sup>2</sup> Includes 22,766 persons classified as "blind" and 65,558, as "disabled."

<sup>3</sup> Includes 13,247 persons classified as "blind" and 58,251, as "disabled"

## PAYMENTS UNDER STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

### Average Payments

The average amounts of cash assistance payable in December 1973 to individuals under OAA, AB, and APTD varied widely, according to both the program and the State of residence. Nationwide,

the averages were about \$83 for those with OAA payments, \$104 for individuals receiving AB, and \$112 for those with APTD (table 2).

Among the States, average payments to aged individuals ranged from \$56 to \$121 monthly. Three States (Alaska, California, and New Hampshire) reported average payments above \$110; payments averaged below \$60 in six States (Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas). In most States, payments

TABLE 2—Adult units reported by State agencies and those eligible for Federal SSI: Number, average monthly amount of State assistance payable in December 1973, average amount of Federal SSI payable January 1, 1974, and percent without income.

Reason for eligibility	Reported by State agencies			Eligible for Federal SSI			Percent without income
	Number	Average amount of State assistance	Percent without income	Number	Average amount of—		
					State assistance	Federal SSI <sup>1</sup>	
Aged							
Individual.....	1,457,973	\$82 86	37 2	1,266,214	\$85 02	\$81 74	41 5
Couple.....	125,393	116 42	19 7	106,881	119 69	101.52	22 7
Blind							
Individual.....	63,957	104 50	57 3	45,985	106 56	107 34	74 9
Couple.....	2,675	158 79	36 1	1,848	161 69	141 86	50 8
Disabled							
Individual.....	1,170,307	112 10	74 7	1,063,712	113 83	109 04	78 6
Couple.....	19,683	151 90	43 2	16,650	159 89	138 96	52 3

<sup>1</sup> Based on Federal SSI payment standard of \$130/195 per month.

for disabled individuals were substantially higher than those for the aged; five States had average APTD payments exceeding \$140, and 19 States had payments averaging less than \$90 (table A, page 30).

For those "eligible for Federal SSI," the nationwide average assistance payments were \$85 for aged individuals, \$107 for the blind, and \$114 for the disabled. Nationally, the assistance payment to aged couples averaged about 40 percent higher than that to individuals (\$116, compared with \$83). The difference in payments for couples and for individuals was about 52 percent among the blind and 36 percent among the disabled. State by State, the individual-couple differences varied widely.

State assistance payments were higher than the maximum Federal payment standards under the new program. In December 1973, 14 percent of the aged individuals and 32 percent of the disabled individuals received State payments higher than \$140—the maximum Federal SSI payable to an individual in January 1974. For couples the maximum Federal payment standard in that month was \$210. An estimated 11 percent of the aged couples and 24 percent of the disabled couples had been receiving more than this amount in assistance from the State programs.

For several States, the proportion with assistance payments above the Federal SSI maximum payment standard were substantially greater than

TABLE 3—Percentage distribution of adult units eligible for Federal SSI, by amount of State cash assistance payment, December 1973

Amount	Aged		Blind		Disabled	
	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple
Total number.....	1,266,215	106,878	45,985	1,848	1,063,712	16,680
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Less than \$10.....	4 0	1 7	1 8	5	2 6	.8
10-19.....	7 1	2 9	3 9	1 3	4 6	1 6
20-29.....	6 9	3 9	2 6	1 3	3 0	2 1
30-39.....	6 1	4 2	2 2	1 7	2 4	2 8
40-49.....	6 7	4 4	2 4	1 8	3 6	2 5
50-59.....	6 3	5 4	3 0	1 7	4 2	2 7
60-69.....	5 1	6 5	3 5	2 4	4 3	3 1
70-79.....	7 6	5 9	7 2	2 9	7 1	3 4
80-89.....	7 8	5 1	6 2	2 9	7 6	3 4
90-99.....	7 2	5 2	7 8	3 5	8 1	5 0
100-119.....	12 3	10 7	17 7	7 4	8 8	6 3
120-139.....	10 2	8 9	13 2	7 5	12 4	7 7
140-159.....	4 3	8 7	3 9	10 3	6 7	13 3
160-179.....	2 6	7 0	3 2	11 4	8 3	10 2
180-199.....	1 6	6 8	2 7	10 2	5 5	8 9
200-239.....	4 0	8 8	7 2	16 9	8 4	12 1
240-299.....	9	2 6	5 1	6 3	2 3	6 8
300 or more.....	3	2 2	3	6 2	.6	8 0
Unknown.....	3	1	7 1	4 6	.6	1
Average monthly amount.....	\$85 02	\$119 69	\$106 56	\$161 69	\$113 83	\$159 89

### Range of Payments

In December 1973, the distribution of cash assistance payments, by amount of payment, among those who became eligible for Federal SSI payments in January 1974, indicates that nearly two-thirds of the aged and half the disabled individuals had payments lower than \$100 per month. Five percent of the aged and 11 percent of the disabled received more than \$200 monthly. Although couples received a higher amount than individuals did, 45 percent of the aged couples and 27 percent of the disabled couples received less than \$100 monthly in cash payments. One aged couple in 8, and 1 disabled couple in 4 had monthly payments of \$200 or more (table 3).

Of particular interest are those persons found eligible for Federal SSI payments whose previous

TABLE 4.—Percent of aged and disabled individuals eligible for Federal SSI whose December 1973 State assistance payment was \$140 or more, by State

State	Aged individual						Disabled individual					
	Total above \$140	\$140-159	\$160-179	\$180-199	\$200-239	\$240 or more	Total above \$140	\$140-159	\$160-179	\$180-199	\$200-239	\$240 or more
Total.....	13.7	4.3	2.6	1.6	4.0	1.2	31.8	6.7	8.3	5.5	8.4	2.9
Alabama.....	2	1	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	2
Alaska.....	64.9	5.7	6.1	36.5	2.8	13.8	77.6	3.0	3.0	34.1	1.0	36.5
Arizona.....	9.3	4	8.7	1	—	1	1.0	2	5	1	—	.2
Arkansas.....	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
California.....	47.9	14.4	6.7	5.5	19.3	2.0	69.5	6.7	15.6	15.1	27.3	4.8
Colorado.....	28.7	28.3	—	1	1	2	61.4	55.5	2.0	9	1.5	1.5
Connecticut.....	22.4	5.7	4.5	3.2	3.6	5.4	45.4	11.9	11.6	9.1	7.4	5.4
Delaware.....	26.5	24.2	1	—	2.2	—	8.8	5	3	4	7.6	—
District of Columbia.....	4.2	2	4.0	—	—	—	7.2	2	7.0	—	—	—
Florida.....	.3	—	1	.1	—	1	5	1	4	—	—	—
Georgia.....	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	.1	.1
Hawaii.....	26.9	5.7	2.9	2.4	5.3	10.6	45.0	13.6	4.7	4.7	7.6	14.4
Idaho.....	14.7	9.9	3.3	1.3	—	—	38.3	22.8	10.6	4.4	5	—
Illinois.....	8.4	3.4	3.2	6	7	5	32.3	11.8	15.3	3.1	1.8	3
Indiana.....	1.8	5	2	3	5	3	1.6	2	2	3	6	3
Iowa.....	6.2	1.7	4	9	2.6	6	13.8	2.1	1.1	2.8	7.0	8
Kansas.....	7.1	3.1	1.4	1.1	1.0	5	16.0	6.4	3.5	2.9	1.6	1.6
Kentucky.....	12.1	5.2	2.7	4.1	.1	—	16.4	6.2	4.8	5.1	1	2
Louisiana.....	2.1	5	1.2	1	1	2	6	1	1	1	1	.2
Maine.....	7.1	9	6	8	3.1	1.7	15.2	1.1	1.1	.9	7.3	4.8
Maryland.....	7.4	1.9	2.1	1.2	2.0	2	5.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.2	.2
Massachusetts.....	39.5	13.3	8.1	3.0	9.4	5.7	58.9	12.8	6.1	10.5	20.7	8.8
Michigan.....	15.6	4.7	3.0	1.8	3.1	3.0	41.7	10.5	9.5	7.1	7.9	6.7
Minnesota.....	9.2	3.6	2.4	1.4	1.0	8	24.8	6.3	5.3	4.7	4.5	4.0
Mississippi.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	.2	—	—	—	—	.1
Missouri.....	12.5	8	2	3	11.1	1	12.1	1.5	.2	.3	10.0	1
Montana.....	5.5	2.1	2	2	3.0	—	11.4	4.3	7	1.3	4.8	3
Nebraska.....	9.8	3.5	2.0	3.2	7	4	31.5	7.9	8.7	10.5	3.0	1.4
Nevada.....	17.1	4.5	9.5	5	2	2.4	(1)	—	—	—	—	—
New Hampshire.....	26.5	7.2	2.8	1.7	2.6	12.2	42.2	12.9	9.7	6.9	7.1	5.6
New Jersey.....	21.0	.7	18.7	1	1.3	2	46.0	5	43.6	1	1.6	.2
New Mexico.....	2	2	—	—	—	—	1.0	8	1	—	—	1
New York.....	31.6	7.8	7.5	5.1	5.7	5.5	54.4	10.4	10.8	11.1	14.0	8.1
North Carolina.....	17.8	3.9	3.2	1.2	6.9	2.6	12.0	2.8	9	6	7.0	7
North Dakota.....	19.9	1.5	6.3	3.3	4.7	4.1	25.2	3.8	9.6	5.6	3.6	2.6
Ohio.....	5.3	3.4	6	5	6	2	3.8	1.5	1.4	6	2	1
Oklahoma.....	2.7	6	1	1.0	1.0	—	10.7	1.3	3	2.8	6.3	—
Oregon.....	23.2	12.8	3.4	4.0	2.7	3	51.6	33.7	6.8	4.7	5.9	5
Pennsylvania.....	3.3	2.2	2	3	4	.2	7.5	4.9	8	7	.8	3
Rhode Island.....	14.6	6.2	3.2	2.4	2.3	5	36.8	8.5	7.0	7.9	10.8	2.6
South Carolina.....	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
South Dakota.....	12.5	5.5	3.0	1.1	2.6	3	23.1	9.3	6.1	4.6	2.3	.8
Tennessee.....	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	.1
Texas.....	2	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	1	1
Utah.....	1.0	8	1	1	—	—	3.3	2.8	.5	—	—	—
Vermont.....	19.1	5.6	6.9	2.2	3.4	1.0	42.3	6.7	20.2	5.1	8.4	1.9
Virginia.....	11.9	3.2	3.1	2.5	1.1	2.0	18.7	8.5	4.4	2.9	1.3	1.6
Washington.....	18.1	7.2	9.4	4	8	3	58.6	15.2	38.4	1.1	2.8	1.1
West Virginia.....	10.3	4.8	4.1	4	7	1	9.4	6.2	2.2	4	3	1
Wisconsin.....	13.2	4.9	3.5	1.7	1.6	1.5	26.2	7.2	6.5	3.8	6.2	2.5
Wyoming.....	9	—	9	—	—	—	1.1	4	7	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> No APTD program

the national percentage. In California, almost 50 percent of the aged and 70 percent of the disabled individuals had received more than \$140 under OAA and APTD. For Massachusetts the proportions were 40 percent of the aged and 59 percent of the disabled; for New York, 32 percent and 54 percent, respectively (table 4). The comparable figures for Colorado are 29 percent of the aged and 61 percent of the disabled and for Connecticut 22 percent of the aged and 45 percent of the disabled.

California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York also had considerable numbers of persons whose monthly assistance payment was \$200 or greater. Twenty-one percent of California's aged and 32 percent of her disabled individuals had received more than \$200 in December 1973. The corresponding proportions paid at that level had been 15 percent and 29 percent in Massachusetts, 11 percent and 22 percent in New York, and 9 percent and 13 percent in Connecticut. These rates are related to actual payments. For a number

of other recipients, however, the "needs" used in calculating the State payments were greater than \$200 but the payment was reduced below that amount because of other income.

### Development of State Supplementation Plans

To assure that individuals coming from State assistance rolls to the Federal program would not undergo a reduction in their former level of income, Public Law 93-66 (enacted July 1973) established provisions for mandatory State supplementation. These amendments required States to maintain the income of persons receiving OAA, AB, and APTD at the December 1973 level under the terms and conditions of the State plan in effect in June 1973. This legislation guaranteed a State supplementary payment to any individual whose previous State payment plus other income had exceeded the amount he would receive under the basic Federal SSI program plus other income. The States could also provide an optional supplementary payment to increase the total amount payable to persons in all or specific units, regardless of previous State program eligibility.

Thus, those persons coming to SSI from a State assistance program were assured that as long as their circumstances remained the same, their requirements would continue to be met at the previously defined levels. For some persons, assistance payments had included specific allowances for rent on a varying basis, special needs,<sup>2</sup> or the cost of care in domiciliary facilities. For persons awarded SSI payments after January 1, 1974, whose needs were similar to those of the former assistance recipients, the maximum payment would, however, be the Federal SSI payment standard less any countable income, unless their State elected an optional supplementation plan.

Thirteen of the 31 States<sup>3</sup> with Federal admin-

<sup>2</sup> "Special needs" include such items as homemaking services, special diets, laundry allowances, and transportation for medical care.

<sup>3</sup> The 13 States were California, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington, and Wisconsin. In November 1974, 32 States had federally administered programs; Mississippi and Vermont were added in July, and Illinois chose to administer her own payments effective October 1974.

istration of supplementation in January 1974 chose optional plans providing similar payment levels for both converted and new award cases. Iowa paid supplements only to blind recipients until May 1, 1974, when payments were extended to the aged and disabled. The District of Columbia's plan provided for supplementation only to those in foster-care homes. Other States provided differing supplementation levels for those living independently—individuals and couples and those in supervised facilities. Payments to those in congregate-care facilities in New York differed according to geographic area within the State. Some States changed their plans or their payment levels during the initial months of the program. As of July 1, 1974, Delaware provided supplemental payments to persons in adult foster care.

Among the 19 States electing to administer their own supplemental plans, 14 made optional as well as mandatory payments.<sup>4</sup> Texas did not provide supplementary payments because of a State constitutional barrier. Kentucky, Missouri, and North Carolina paid supplementation only to persons in supervised living arrangements. Alaska and Vermont provided two levels of payment to those living independently, depending on geographic area.

The dollar amounts of optional supplementation the States elected to pay demonstrate their recognition of the need for increased income among those newly applying under the SSI program. In the States listed in the tabulation below, for example, an aged individual or couple, living

State	Combined SSI payment		Percent of all cases
	Individuals	Couples	
Federally administered programs			
California.....	\$235	\$440	18.5
Massachusetts.....	269	410	2.8
New York.....	207	295	9.5
Wisconsin.....	216	329	.7
State-administered programs			
Alaska.....	250	350	1
Colorado.....	165	330	1.3
Connecticut.....	238	286	.5
New Hampshire.....	170	235	.2

<sup>4</sup> Alabama, Alaska, Arizona (optional plan only), Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Vermont. See Donald E. Rigby, "State Supplementation Under Federal SSI Program," *Social Security Bulletin*, November 1974.

independently and without other income, would have received in July 1974 the amounts shown as combined SSI payments. The combined amount represents the Federal SSI payment of \$146 (\$219 for a couple) plus the applicable State supplementation amount. The State proportion of the entire conversion population is also indicated.

From a comparison of these figures with the distribution of State payments in table 4 it appears that these States (and others not separately cited) have used optional supplementation as a vehicle to maintain, for newly awarded cases, the assistance levels developed under the previously existing programs or to provide assistance at a higher average level.

#### Payments Under SSI

As originally established, the monthly payment standard under the Federal SSI program was \$130 for an individual living in his own household with no other income and \$195 for a couple with both husband and wife eligible. Effective for January 1974—the first month of SSI operations—these amounts were increased, however, to \$140 and \$210, respectively. The legislation authorizing the increase was approved December 31, 1973, and the added amounts could not be included with the first scheduled payment. A retroactive check reflecting the increase in payment levels was made payable February 1, 1974. Tables 2, 5, 6, chart 1, and table A are based on January payments at the original \$130/\$195 level; table B presents data reflecting the \$140/\$210 level.

Data on the combined amounts of Federal SSI and State supplementary payments received in States with federally administered programs could not be obtained from the conversion study tabulations. This information, which is presented in table B, indicates the amounts payable June 1, 1974, to individuals and couples whose cases were transferred from State assistance rolls and who continued to be eligible under the new program. The 7-percent increase in social security benefits payable April 1974 reduced the amount received under the SSI program by those with such benefits.

TABLE 5—Percentage distribution of adult units eligible for Federal SSI, by amount and reason for eligibility, January 1974<sup>1</sup>

Amount	Aged	Blind	Disabled
	Individual		
Total number.....	1,266,214	45,985	1,063,712
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0
Less than \$10.....	2 8	1 4	1 3
10-19.....	3 7	1 6	1 6
20-29.....	10 3	5 9	7 5
30-39.....	4 7	1 9	1 5
40-49.....	4 5	1 8	1 5
50-59.....	4 8	1 8	1 6
60-69.....	17 1	4 9	3 2
70-79.....	7 7	2 0	1 7
80-89.....	5 3	10 1	8 7
90-99.....	1 8	. 9	. 6
100-109.....	8	1 0	. 8
110-119.....	6	9	. 6
120-129.....	5	9	. 8
130.....	33 3	61 0	66 7
131 or more.....	2 0	4 0	2 1
	Couple		
Total number.....	106,881	1,848	16,680
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0
Less than \$20.....	6 9	4 1	4 7
20-39.....	9 7	4 4	4 9
40-49.....	11 8	5 9	6 6
50-59.....	9 5	5 5	7 4
60-69.....	22 9	8 9	7 4
70-79.....	8 6	6 0	6 2
80-89.....	5 6	6 9	7 5
90-99.....	1 6	3 5	3 2
100-109.....	3	1 5	. 7
110-119.....	4	1 4	. 9
120-129.....	22 7	51 6	49 7
130 or more.....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Based on Federal SSI payment standard of \$130/\$195 per month  
<sup>2</sup> Less than 0.05 percent

#### Federal SSI Payments

In January 1974, under the \$130 payment level for individuals and \$195 for couples, Federal SSI monthly payments to aged individuals transferred from State assistance programs averaged \$82. Blind and disabled individuals received monthly payments of \$107 and \$109, respectively. Aged couples received \$102, on the average, in Federal SSI payments, compared with \$142 for blind couples and \$139 for disabled couples.

Differences in the average monthly amount of Federal SSI benefits received by aged, blind, and disabled persons, as well as the State-to-State variations, reflect both living-arrangement patterns and the extent of other income such as social security benefits. The proportion receiving monthly social security benefits was substantially higher among the aged (55 percent) than among the blind (14 percent) and the disabled (15 percent).

**TABLE 6.—Comparison of Federal SSI payments, January 1974, and State assistance payments, December 1973, to adult units eligible for Federal SSI<sup>1</sup>**

Relationship and amount of difference	Aged		Blind		Disabled	
	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple
Total number.....	1,266,214	106,881	45,985	1,848	1,063,712	16,680
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
<b>SSI payment—</b>						
<b>Equals assistance</b>						
<b>payment.....</b>	1.1	5	8	5	.8	2
<b>Exceeds assistance</b>						
<b>payment.....</b>	55 3	40 6	60 6	39 6	51 4	46 3
<b>Exceeds by—</b>						
<b>Less than \$5.....</b>	3 2	3.2	2 4	2 5	3 2	2 4
5-14.....	9 9	6 5	11.7	6 0	10 1	5 2
15-24.....	13 7	7.2	11.3	5 0	7.0	5 1
25-34.....	8 5	9.9	7 8	7 4	6 4	7 5
35-44.....	5 9	4 0	5 4	4 5	6 3	6 8
45-54.....	5 5	3 9	5 3	4 8	5 5	6 8
55-64.....	4 4	2 3	5 1	2 8	5 0	3 4
65-74.....	1 3	1 5	2 4	1 1	2 3	2 0
75 or more.....	2.9	2 2	9 2	5 6	5 5	7 2
<b>Assistance payment</b>						
<b>exceeds SSI</b>						
<b>payment.....</b>	43 3	58 9	38 3	55 4	47.3	53 4
<b>Less than \$5.....</b>	5 0	4 2	4 1	3 4	3 4	4 0
5-14.....	6 9	8 9	3 7	6 0	5 4	5 9
15-24.....	4 7	8 4	3 6	4 5	4 2	5 6
25-34.....	4 3	8 9	3 5	10 4	5 6	5 3
35-44.....	2 7	7 7	2 7	5 2	5 0	4 5
45-54.....	2 5	3 9	2 3	3 6	4 8	4 1
55-64.....	2 3	3 1	1 9	4 0	3 6	2 3
65-74.....	3 0	2 1	2 0	1 6	3 9	1 7
75 or more.....	12 1	11.7	14 5	16.7	11.4	20 0
<b>Unknown.....</b>	.3	.....	.3	4 5	.5	.1

<sup>1</sup> Based on Federal SSI payment standard of \$130/195 per month.

### Combined Payments

Data on the combined amounts of Federal SSI and State supplementary payments were available only for individuals and couples in the 31 States with federally administered programs. The averages shown in table B are based on the amounts received in June 1974 by persons with Federal SSI payments only, those with both Federal SSI payments and State supplementation, and recipients with State supplementation only.

In four States—California, Hawaii, New York, and Wisconsin—the average monthly combined amounts received by aged individuals were between \$135 and \$140; in 13 States their benefits ranged from \$75 to \$90. Disabled individuals received relatively higher average monthly payments than those of the aged. In two States—California and New York—the average payment for the disabled was about \$185; in six other States the payments exceeded \$135; they were less than \$110 in nine States. State differences were similar for couples, both the aged and the disabled.

### Range of Federal SSI Payments

One-third of the aged individuals, three-fifths of the blind, and two-thirds of the disabled were awarded a monthly Federal SSI payment of \$130 in January 1974 (table 5). Relatively low proportions received benefits of less than \$20—7 percent of the aged and 3 percent of the blind and disabled.

The presence of an "essential person"—most frequently the spouse of a recipient—accounts for the monthly benefits above \$130 that were paid to 2 percent of aged and disabled individuals and to 4 percent of the blind persons in January. Provision was made in Public Law 93-66 for an increase of up to \$65 per month to persons who, in December 1973, were receiving payments under a State plan, with an essential person in the household who was providing needed care and services for the eligible individual.<sup>5</sup> This amount is added to the payment to which the eligible individual or couple is entitled, and the income and resources of the essential person are considered in its determination.

Nearly one-fourth of the aged couples and one-half the blind and disabled received \$195. Only 7 percent of the aged and about 5 percent of the blind and disabled were awarded less than \$20.

### COMPARISON OF FEDERAL SSI AND STATE ASSISTANCE

#### Payments

At the \$130/\$195 level, 55 percent of the aged individuals, 61 percent of the blind, and 51 percent of the disabled individuals were awarded monthly Federal SSI payments that were higher than their earlier State assistance payments (table 6). The corresponding proportions for couples were smaller: About 40 percent among the aged and blind and 46 percent among the disabled.

The amount of the average monthly OAA and APTD payments in December 1973 to individuals eligible for Federal SSI benefits, however, exceeded the new payments received January 1, 1974, by a small amount—\$3 and \$5, respectively.

<sup>5</sup> When the payment standard was increased to \$140/\$210, the addition for an essential person was raised to \$70.

CHART 1.—Percent of aged and disabled adult units with Federal SSI payments exceeding State assistance payments, by State January 1974<sup>1</sup>

Less than 10 0	10 0-19 9	20 0-29 9	30 0-39 9	40 0-49 9	50 0-59 9	60 0-69 9	70 0-79 9	80 0-89 9	90 0 or more
<b>Aged individuals</b>									
California Delaware Massachusetts	Alaska Colorado	Maine Nevada New Jersey New York Oregon Washington	Missouri New Hamp- shire Rhode Island Vermont Wyoming	Connecticut District of Columbia Hawaii Idaho Wisconsin	Florida Michigan	Alabama Arizona Arkansas Illinois Louisiana Minnesota Nebraska North Da- kota South Da- kota	Indiana Kentucky Montana North Caro- lina Ohio Oklahoma Pennsylvania Virginia West Vir- ginia	Georgia Iowa Kansas Maryland Mississippi Texas Utah	New Mexico South Caro- lina Tennessee
<b>Disabled individuals <sup>2</sup></b>									
Delaware Massachusetts	Alaska California Maine	Colorado New Jersey Washington	Hawaii Michigan New Hamp- shire New York Oregon Rhode Island Vermont	Connecticut Idaho Nebraska	Arizona Florida Illinois Oklahoma Wisconsin	Minnesota Missouri Montana North Da- kota Pennsylvania South Da- kota	Arkansas District of Columbia Kansas Kentucky Virginia Wyoming	Alabama Georgia Indiana Iowa Maryland New Mexico North Caro- lina Texas Utah West Vir- ginia	Louisiana Mississippi Ohio South Caro- lina Tennessee
<b>Aged couples</b>									
Alabama Alaska Arkansas California Colorado Delaware Louisiana Maine Massachusetts Minnesota Nevada	Missouri New Jersey Rhode Island	District of Columbia Mississippi New Hamp- shire New York Washington Wyoming	Connecticut Montana Oregon Vermont Wisconsin	Hawaii Idaho Indiana Nebraska Ohio Oklahoma	Illinois Michigan Utah		Georgia Maryland Pennsylvania South Da- kota Texas Virginia West Vir- ginia	Arizona Florida Iowa Kansas Kentucky North Da- kota Tennessee	New Mexico North Caro- lina South Caro- lina
<b>Disabled couples <sup>2</sup></b>									
Alaska Arkansas California Delaware Iowa Maine Massachusetts Minnesota	Colorado New Jersey Oklahoma Rhode Island Washington	Connecticut District of Columbia Hawaii Missouri Montana New Hamp- shire New York Oregon Vermont Wisconsin Wyoming	Idaho Michigan Nebraska	Illinois Indiana Mississippi	Alabama Texas	South Da- kota Utah	Florida Georgia Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maryland Ohio Pennsylvania Virginia	Arizona North Da- kota Tennessee West Vir- ginia	New Mexico North Caro- lina South Caro- lina

<sup>1</sup> Based on Federal SSI payment standard of \$130/195 per month.

<sup>2</sup> No APTD program in Nevada.

The State assistance payment and the Federal SSI payment to blind individuals were nearly the same. For the three types of couples, their State payments were higher than their average Federal SSI awards by approximately \$20.

Upon implementation of the \$140/\$210 Federal payment level in February 1974, the proportion of persons whose Federal SSI payments were higher than those under OAA, AB, and APTD rose about 5 percentage points.

### State Variations

In 10 States, 80 percent or more of the aged individuals received higher Federal SSI payments than their former State assistance payments. In 18 States, from 60 percent to 80 percent had higher Federal SSI payments; in three States less than 10 percent received Federal SSI payments greater than those under the State program. For disabled individuals, the Federal SSI

payments exceeded State assistance payments for 80 percent or more of the beneficiaries in 15 States (chart 1).

For couples, fewer States had proportions with increased payments as a result of conversion that were at the higher ranges than was the case for aged individuals. In 11 States, less than 10 percent of the aged couples received higher monthly payments; for disabled couples in nine States, the proportions with bigger payments was that low.

### Income

Of the nearly 3 million persons who had been eligible for State assistance payments in December 1973, just above half (54 percent) of the individuals and 23 percent of the couples had no reported income other than their assistance payment. The proportion for aged individuals was substantially lower (37 percent) than that for the disabled (75 percent). For aged and disabled couples, the pattern was similar.

Among the converted cases eligible for a Federal SSI payment in January 1974, the ratio without income was higher in every category—the aged, the blind, and the disabled and individuals and couples—than it had been among those receiving assistance in December 1973. This difference reflects the presence in the larger group of persons who had income that exceeded the Federal SSI payment standard and therefore received only State supplementation payments in January.

The States varied widely in the proportions of aged persons eligible for a Federal SSI payment who were without income (table D). Only 12 percent of Nevada's aged individuals had no other income, while 70 percent of those in South Carolina were solely dependent on old-age assistance payments. Eleven States reported that less than one-third of their aged recipients had no other income—Alaska, California, Colorado, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, and Wyoming. Among the disabled the proportions without income were larger and the variations between States smaller.

### Social Security Benefits

For the half of the conversion population that did have some income other than assistance pay-

ments, such income was mainly from social security monthly benefits. Forty-three percent of all persons transferred from State programs received social security benefits; only 7 percent were reported as having other types of unearned income (table 7). Among those eligible for Federal SSI payments in January 1974, the proportion with social security benefits was lower (39 percent).

Among the States, the proportion of assistance recipients who also received social security benefits ranged from 20 percent in Illinois to 68 percent in New Hampshire and 88 percent in Nevada (which had no APTD program). The aged were most likely to have these benefits—60 percent of all those aged 65 or older and a higher percentage in each of 19 States. About one-fourth of the blind and one-fifth of the disabled had both types of payments. Only 11 States reported less than half their OAA population as receiving social security benefits. Among the disabled, the highest rate of concurrent receipt was 40 percent in Maine (table C).

About 8 out of 10 of the conversion cases with social security benefits were eligible for Federal SSI payments in January 1974. The average amount of their social security benefits was \$92. For the aged, the average was \$92; for the disabled it was \$97; and for blind persons, it was \$85.

During the first 6 months of operation of the SSI program, the proportion with dual receipt increased substantially. Of those with federally

TABLE 7.—Number and percent of all persons reported by State agencies and of those eligible for Federal SSI with social security benefits or other unearned income

Reason for eligibility	Reported by State agencies		Eligible for Federal SSI		
	Number	Per- cent of total	Number	Per- cent of total	Average monthly amount
Social security benefits					
Total.....	1,283,437	43 2	1,012,528	38 5	\$92 32
Aged 65 and over.....	1,057,128	59 6	852,734	55 2	91 55
Under age 65.....					
Blind.....	11,310	24 4	5,209	14 2	85 36
Disabled <sup>1</sup> .....	214,999	18 7	154,461	14 8	96 69
Other unearned income					
Total.....	218,665	7 3	166,727	5 6	\$52 04
Aged 65 and over.....	152,971	8 5	113,115	6 3	44 65
Under age 65.....					
Blind.....	2,380	5 1	1,188	1 7	33 90
Disabled <sup>1</sup> .....	63,307	5 5	52,424	4 3	58 31

<sup>1</sup> Includes disabled children.

administered payments in June 1974, 53 percent also had social security benefits, compared with 43 percent at the time of conversion. The proportion of the aged receiving both SSI and social security benefits rose to 70 percent (from 60 percent of converted cases); among the disabled the rise was from 19 percent to 28 percent.

### Other Unearned Income

Only 7 percent of the entire converted group, and less than 6 percent of those eligible for Federal SSI payments in January, had unearned income from sources other than social security benefits. The overall average for this type of income was \$52 monthly. Slightly more of the aged than of the disabled received such income (8 percent, compared with 5 percent), but the aged received less (\$45, compared with \$58).

Although the sources of other income were not specified on the State conversion reports, the largest single item was most probably veterans' compensation and pension payments from the Veterans Administration. According to the 1970 study of OAA and APTD recipients, 2 percent of the aged and 3 percent of the disabled also received veterans' benefits, and the second most frequent source of other income was reported as "other benefits and pensions."<sup>6</sup>

### EMPLOYMENT

In December 1973 more than 60,000 persons receiving State assistance payments were employed. Of these, 56 percent were aged 65 or older, 36 percent were disabled and under age 65; nearly 8 percent were blind and under age 65 (table 8).

The number of working persons represented 2 percent of the total population previously receiving OAA, AB, and APTD from the States. Less than 2 percent of both the aged and disabled under age 65 were employed. A substantially higher proportion of the blind under 65—nearly 10 percent—were working, however. Comparable proportions were found among those eligible for Federal SSI payments.

<sup>6</sup> Social and Rehabilitation Service, *Findings of the 1970 OAA and APTD Studies, Part II*, table 90, September 1972.

TABLE 8.—Persons receiving OAA, AB, and APTD in December 1973, number and percent with employment and average monthly earnings

Reason for eligibility	Number employed	Percent with employment	Average monthly earnings
Reported by State agencies			
Total.....	60,658	2 0	\$66 33
Aged 65 and over.....	33,940	1 9	36 43
Blind under age 65.....	4,555	9 7	214 99
Disabled under age 65.....	22,058	1 9	71 54
Disabled children.....	107	4 3	66 12
Eligible for Federal SSI			
Total.....	54,422	2.1	\$54 74
Aged 65 and over.....	31,211	2 0	37 61
Blind under age 65.....	2,981	8 1	178 67
Disabled under age 65.....	20,128	1 9	69 79
Disabled children.....	104	4 3	44 06

A number of States reported employment for 3 percent or more of the aged and disabled persons under State assistance programs. All five States with this proportion for the aged were in the South—Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Fourteen States had 3 percent or more of disabled persons under age 65 who were working, but these States were not geographically concentrated. Four of the States reported more than 5 percent of the disabled under age 65 as working, with 10.2 percent in Nebraska (chart 2).

California, reporting the largest number of employed recipients (6,600), accounted for 11 percent of the national total with employment. In contrast, that State had 17 percent of the total number of conversion cases. Louisiana had the second largest number with employment—5,700 or 9 percent of the total number employed—and its proportion of all cases reported for conversion was only 4 percent. Mississippi ranked third with 4,900 employed recipients—8 percent of the total but less than 4 percent of the number transferred from OAA, AB, and APTD.

For all employed persons the average amount of monthly earnings received was \$66.33. Average earnings of the employed aged were substantially lower—\$36.43. The disabled earned \$71.54 monthly, on the average; for the blind the figure was \$214.99. Average monthly earnings of employed persons who were eligible for Federal SSI payments amounted to \$54.74.

Under the State assistance plans, the employed

CHART 2.—Persons with employment as a percent of all persons previously receiving OAA and APTD, by State, December 1973

Less than 1 0		1 0-2.9		3 0-4 9		5 0 or more			
Total									
District of Columbia Illinois Maryland Massachusetts New Jersey New Mexico New York South Carolina Texas West Virginia		Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware Florida Idaho Indiana Iowa Kansas Maine Michigan Montana		Nevada New Hampshire North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island Utah Vermont Virginia Washington Wisconsin Wyoming		Alabama Georgia Hawaii Louisiana Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Oklahoma South Dakota Tennessee		Kentucky (6 4) Nebraska (5 5)	
Aged 65 and over									
Arizona California Colorado Connecticut District of Columbia Idaho Illinois Indiana Kansas Maryland Massachusetts Minnesota Montana New Hampshire New Jersey		New Mexico New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oregon Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Texas Utah Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming		Alaska Arkansas Delaware Florida Hawaii Iowa Maine Michigan Missouri Nebraska Nevada Oklahoma Pennsylvania Tennessee Vermont Virginia		Alabama Georgia Louisiana		Kentucky (7 6) Mississippi (5 1)	
Disabled under age 65									
Alabama District of Columbia Illinois Maryland Massachusetts New Jersey New Mexico New York South Carolina Texas West Virginia		Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Connecticut Delaware Florida Georgia Idaho Indiana Iowa Kansas Louisiana Maine Michigan		Mississippi Montana New Hampshire North Carolina Ohio Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island Utah Virginia		Colorado Hawaii Kentucky Missouri North Dakota Tennessee Vermont Washington Wisconsin Wyoming		Minnesota (7.7) Nebraska (10.2) Oklahoma (5.0) South Dakota (7.0)	

blind could retain a higher proportion of their earned income than persons receiving OAA and APTD. The Federal requirement was that the first \$85 per month of a blind individual's earned income plus one-half of the remainder be disregarded. The Federal provision for the exclusion of earned income of the aged and disabled under the State programs was optional with the States and the amounts excluded were lower.

The Federal SSI program provides that the first \$20 of earned or unearned income per month, for an individual or couple, be excluded from countable income. An additional \$65 and one-half the remainder of earned income per month is also excluded. Therefore, on the basis of the \$130/\$195

monthly payment standard, an employed individual living in his own household was eligible for a Federal SSI payment if his total income was less than \$345 per month. Under the \$140/\$210 monthly payment standard, eligibility of employed persons for Federal SSI payments was limited to those with income less than \$365 per month.

Approximately one-third of all employed persons received less than \$20 monthly, 20 percent had earnings of \$21-39, and 15 percent received \$40-59. Less than one-fourth, however, had monthly wages of \$80 or more, falling within the range of potentially countable income under the SSI program (table 9).

TABLE 9.—Percentage distribution of all employed persons receiving OAA, AB, and APTD in December 1973, by amount of monthly earnings

Amount of earnings	Employed persons	
	Reported by State agencies	Eligible for Federal SSI
Total number.....	60,658	54,422
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0
Less than \$20.....	32 6	34 5
21-39.....	20 0	21 1
40-59.....	14 8	15 3
60-79.....	9 0	9 2
80-99.....	5 8	5 7
100-149.....	7 3	6 9
150-199.....	3 2	3 0
200-249.....	2 0	1 7
250-299.....	1 5	1 2
300 or more.....	3 8	1 3

## RACE AND SEX

Data on race were not available for 14 percent of the cases reported by State and local welfare agencies for conversion. In addition, information available only for whites and blacks and the distributions that are presented are based on these groups.

Of all persons with State assistance payments, more than 30 percent were black. The proportion of blacks among those aged 65 and over (28.7 percent) exceeded their representation in the elderly population (8.2 percent) and was higher than the proportion they comprised of the aged low-income population (18.7 percent), as reported in the Current Population Survey (tables 10 and 11).<sup>7</sup> The data indicate a lower rate of participation in State old-age assistance programs by whites than by blacks.

About one-third of the blind and disabled under age 65 who had been covered by State assistance programs were black. This distribution appears to relate both to the greater prevalence of disability among blacks and to their limited income.

Data on the prevalence of severe disability among persons aged 18-64, neither institutionalized nor attending school, are available from the

1970 Census of Population. The proportion of blacks unable to work because of disability (7 percent) was considerably higher than the rate for whites (4 percent). In 1973, blacks accounted for 10 percent of the total of all persons aged 22-64, black and white, but they comprised 29 percent of the low-income population in this age category.

TABLE 10.—Number and percentage distribution of persons receiving OAA, AB, and APTD in December 1973, by race and sex

Race and sex	Total	Aged 65 and over	Under age 65	
			Blind	Disabled
Reported by State agencies				
<i>Race</i>				
Number				
Total.....	2,990,241	1,789,398	46,887	1,153,956
Reporting on race.....	2,574,272	1,551,286	41,613	981,473
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
White.....	69 4	71 3	64 9	66 6
Black.....	30 6	28 7	35 1	33 4
Eligible for Federal SSI				
Number				
Total.....	2,629,006	1,544,935	36,753	1,047,318
Reporting on race.....	2,247,332	1,328,073	32,617	886,642
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
White.....	67 7	69 1	62 0	65 7
Black.....	32 3	30 9	38 0	34 3
Reported by State agencies				
<i>Sex</i>				
Number				
Total.....	2,990,241	1,789,398	46,887	1,153,956
Reporting on sex.....	2,944,154	1,764,960	46,364	1,132,830
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Men.....	36 0	30 3	49 6	44 3
Women.....	64 0	69 7	50 4	55 7
Eligible for Federal SSI				
Number				
Total.....	2,629,006	1,544,935	36,753	1,047,318
Reporting on sex.....	2,585,759	1,521,686	36,291	1,027,782
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0	100 0
Men.....	35 2	29 5	48 3	43 2
Women.....	64 8	70 5	51 7	56 8

The ratio of men and women aged 65 and over who were State assistance recipients corresponded closely with their distribution in the low-income population. Men made up 30.3 percent of those under State programs and 31.5 percent of the total at low-income levels.

<sup>7</sup> In 1973, the average weighted low-income thresholds were \$2,119 for a family unit of one person aged 65 and over and \$2,662 for a two-person unit with the head 65 and over. See the Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports: Consumer Income*, "Characteristics of the Low-Income Population: 1973," Series P-60, No. 94, July 1974.

TABLE 11.—Number and percentage distribution of U.S. population, low-income population, and persons with State assistance who are aged 65 and over, by race and sex, 1973

Race and sex	Aged 65 and over		
	United States population <sup>1</sup>	Low-income population <sup>1</sup>	Persons with State assistance payments
	Race		
Total number (in thousands).....	*20,426	*3,318	*1,551
White.....	18,754	2,698	1,106
Black.....	1,672	620	445
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0
White.....	91 8	81 3	71 3
Black.....	8 2	18 7	28 7
	Sex		
Total number (in thousands).....	20,602	3,354	*1,765
Men.....	8,528	1,056	535
Women.....	12,074	2,298	1,230
Total percent.....	100 0	100 0	100 0
Men.....	41 4	31 5	30 3
Women.....	58 6	68 5	69 7

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports Consumer Income*, P-60, No. 94, "Characteristics of the Low-income Population, 1973," July 1974, table 4

<sup>2</sup> Excludes 176,000 persons of other races

<sup>3</sup> Excludes 36,000 persons of other races

<sup>4</sup> Excludes 238,000 persons, race unknown

<sup>5</sup> Excludes 24,000 persons, sex unknown

## LIMITATIONS OF STUDY FILE

Some of the data collected was not available for tabulation because of coding or other technical problems. Blind children were excluded entirely from the study file, although there were about 1,800 blind children eligible for conversion. The file does include approximately 2,500 disabled children.

Race was tabulated as white, black, and other. The "other" category includes persons for whom race was omitted or noted as "unknown" on the conversion record, as well as those whose race was other than white or black. For this reason, the "other" category was not used in the analysis.

Incorrectly submitted data on the number of couples for some States resulted in a substantial underreporting of the number of State assistance recipients classified as "couples." Finally, data on living arrangements was not presented because the codes for "living in another's household" were combined with those for "domiciliary care," and it was thus impossible to describe the distribution correctly.

(Appendix tables A-D follow, beginning on the next page.)

TABLE A—Aged and disabled adult units eligible for Federal SSI payments: Average monthly amount of State assistance payable in December 1973 and average amount of Federal SSI payable January 1, 1974, by State

State	State assistance payments to—								Federal SSI payments <sup>1</sup> to—			
	Adult units reported by State agencies				Those eligible for Federal SSI				Aged		Disabled	
	Aged		Disabled		Aged		Disabled					
	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple
Total.....	\$82 86	\$116 42	\$112 10	\$151 90	\$85 02	\$119 69	\$113 83	\$159 89	\$81 74	\$101 52	\$109 04	\$138 96
Alabama.....	73 67	140 75	80 40	159 66	75 49	142 49	81 35	161 32	78 77	99 25	109 72	153 50
Alaska.....	121 14	187 99	167 90	( <sup>2</sup> )	153 89	244 60	179 55	( <sup>2</sup> )	81 15	79 68	116 10	( <sup>2</sup> )
Arizona.....	83 77	92 27	94 20	132 92	81 02	90 67	95 26	134 15	85 52	115 88	115 30	154 12
Arkansas.....	73 27	108 70	82 26	138 70	74 03	115 18	82 72	148 83	85 38	86 83	96 25	116 91
California.....	113 63	187 79	144 91	225 53	141 09	270 54	159 42	281 85	67 36	83 28	103 87	124 64
Colorado.....	77 36	165 42	118 16	218 12	81 04	178 47	119 11	221 20	70 90	87 27	103 92	162 28
Connecticut.....	84 37	176 98	124 37	255 07	87 11	182 85	127 60	235 21	69 99	131 72	107 81	116 74
Delaware.....	91 59	94 56	116 37	128 72	96 05	124 06	119 27	( <sup>2</sup> )	66 95	85 34	103 14	( <sup>2</sup> )
District of Columbia.....	88 39	( <sup>2</sup> )	118 08	( <sup>2</sup> )	90 16	( <sup>2</sup> )	118 97	( <sup>2</sup> )	86 33	( <sup>2</sup> )	115 76	( <sup>2</sup> )
Florida.....	84 66	144 92	92 05	130 48	85 64	147 18	92 89	135 06	89 65	103 01	106 94	145 41
Georgia.....	59 41	82 20	68 09	104 11	60 42	84 95	68 95	109 19	86 24	99 77	100 19	123 06
Hawaii.....	109 22	127 02	142 57	( <sup>2</sup> )	111.05	132 37	145 82	( <sup>2</sup> )	81 59	108 39	107 59	( <sup>2</sup> )
Idaho.....	73 26	87 92	99 36	125 45	76 23	98 71	102 03	135 02	74 74	85 06	98 90	107 57
Illinois.....	63 64	126 23	102 94	172.05	65 05	128 72	103 25	173 19	76 93	133 63	104 31	164 24
Indiana.....	56 28	80 05	58 87	106 44	58 66	87 60	60 50	111 99	73 17	82 62	90 50	106 05
Iowa.....	66 94	118 48	89 34	( <sup>2</sup> )	67 55	119 86	90 39	( <sup>2</sup> )	79 93	118 19	98 12	( <sup>2</sup> )
Kansas.....	64 21	75 58	85 10	( <sup>2</sup> )	64 70	74 20	85 34	( <sup>2</sup> )	78 92	101 65	92 71	( <sup>2</sup> )
Kentucky.....	69 43	108 73	90 51	154 64	69 79	108 24	90 68	155 37	93 25	118 08	118 90	162 88
Louisiana.....	77 54	119 22	57 01	115 39	78 64	130 18	86 93	116 73	85 68	96 60	115 99	151.50
Maine.....	78 98	93 38	112 54	142 00	85 35	125 62	118 60	( <sup>2</sup> )	64 10	60 45	97 14	( <sup>2</sup> )
Maryland.....	70 04	95 50	90 96	128 61	70 33	100 55	91 40	130 67	88 61	126 51	118 60	157 18
Massachusetts.....	108 43	195 37	147.23	230 06	129 08	226 11	156 62	( <sup>2</sup> )	59 45	102 27	99 03	( <sup>2</sup> )
Michigan.....	102 42	74 91	138 86	122 06	79 00	84 29	126 77	147 90	73 67	86 84	103 24	127 95
Minnesota.....	67 88		86 69		68 71		88 28		80 60		92 42	
Mississippi.....	55 98	99 54	66 08	114 37	56 41	103 87	66 37	120 83	89 16	93 61	109 75	125 41
Missouri.....	89 58	119 56	88 25	137 25	92 79	114 86	89 54	153 76	74 69	76 12	102 73	108 19
Montana.....	67 05	92 05	98 33	137 47	67 52	93 70	99 92	153 38	72 17	91 03	106 73	131 30
Nebraska.....	64 38	75 71	98 61	95 11	66 81	79 85	101 09	104 15	69 42	72 30	93 30	89 94
Nevada.....	74 21	106 97	( <sup>2</sup> )		88 72	148 39	( <sup>2</sup> )		61 03	80 44	( <sup>2</sup> )	
New Hampshire.....	111 54	104 30	117 33	( <sup>2</sup> )	111 06	( <sup>2</sup> )	124 90	( <sup>2</sup> )	60.64	( <sup>2</sup> )	92.59	( <sup>2</sup> )
New Jersey.....	80 71	139 98	109 99	154.24	85 72	150 26	114 05	162 94	77.69	132 07	104 36	129.50
New Mexico.....	82 44	79 56	82 11	108 16	62 81	79 98	82 56	107 97	98 48	126 37	111.80	147.69
New York.....	107 41	137 36	144 57	172 41	114 67	155 01	147 47	182 82	84 77	123 08	119 42	144 75
North Carolina.....	86.02	88 29	86 97	108 50	86.11	87 74	87.22	109.11	100.87	137.48	118 99	157.56
North Dakota.....	101.22	112 35	109 42	( <sup>2</sup> )	99 44	104 25	109 55	( <sup>2</sup> )	80.95	103 18	101.43	( <sup>2</sup> )
Ohio.....	61 85	110 37	87 74	146 75	64 50	113 44	88 33	149 88	78 19	110 89	112 98	161 91
Oklahoma.....	71 56	97 45	101 35	148 88	72 01	99 15	101 65	155 65	86 97	100 85	107 81	140 74
Oregon.....	81 67	( <sup>2</sup> )	115 09	( <sup>2</sup> )	87.55	( <sup>2</sup> )	117 74	( <sup>2</sup> )	128 10	( <sup>2</sup> )	157.67	( <sup>2</sup> )
Pennsylvania.....	71.94	96 22	101 54	104 89	72 50	96 76	102 07	106 14	85 52	122 91	111.98	149.32
Rhode Island.....	67 55	104 05	107 01	168 69	74 55	119 96	109 96	185 40	58 59	84 75	87 24	122 81
South Carolina.....	58 38	71 06	66 63	78 03	58 59	71 24	66.75	78 26	103 11	137.40	111.96	156.93
South Dakota.....	70 41	79 81	83 63	( <sup>2</sup> )	70 94	83 54	84 46	( <sup>2</sup> )	81 81	106 86	95 25	( <sup>2</sup> )
Tennessee.....	59 11	75 00	73 33	117 78	59 35	75 68	73 67	121.78	96 96	115 87	114.98	152 64
Texas.....	58 71	84 01	76 57	113 26	59 00	84 72	76 76	116 54	83 11	92 64	101.66	118.38
Utah.....	64 65	114 31	94 04	149 28	65 40	( <sup>2</sup> )	92 83	( <sup>2</sup> )	84.26	( <sup>2</sup> )	106.22	( <sup>2</sup> )
Vermont.....	80 96	77 11	118 79	( <sup>2</sup> )	89 55	( <sup>2</sup> )	123 76	( <sup>2</sup> )	69 13	( <sup>2</sup> )	102 56	( <sup>2</sup> )
Virginia.....	79 96	117 87	94 34	135 49	77 33	116 37	94.93	133 07	93 78	152 14	114 28	159 47
Washington.....	77 88	97 95	124 88	171 88	80 98	105 40	126 74	182 67	69 68	90 86	110 19	155 55
West Virginia.....	75 24	77 32	84 22	108 80	76 12	78 48	84 52	109 23	96 81	110 22	120 89	149 76
Wisconsin.....	104 64	122 27	101 36	( <sup>2</sup> )	82 14	120 62	95 70	( <sup>2</sup> )	75 91	93 61	91 97	( <sup>2</sup> )
Wyoming.....	68 65	( <sup>2</sup> )	83 55	( <sup>2</sup> )	71 34	( <sup>2</sup> )	84 84	( <sup>2</sup> )	70 11	( <sup>2</sup> )	104 88	( <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Based on Federal SSI payment standard of \$130/195 per month.

<sup>2</sup> No APTD program.

<sup>3</sup> Not computed on base of 50 or fewer individuals or couples.

TABLE B.—Average monthly amount of combined Federal SSI and State supplementation payable June 1, 1974, to aged and disabled adult units in States with federally administered State supplementation <sup>1</sup>

State	Aged		Disabled	
	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple
Arkansas.....	\$89 73	\$101 55	\$100 96	\$134 85
California.....	135 18	232 23	186 67	297 51
Delaware.....	86 04	114 08	118 70	138 90
District of Columbia.....	93 98	138 78	125 72	178 09
Florida.....	108 31	178 45	116 39	162 73
Georgia.....	93 85	112 08	105 90	137 91
Hawaii.....	135 92	145 11	168 67	( <sup>2</sup> )
Illinois.....	86 02	150 09	121 65	189 50
Indiana.....	79 70	93 67	93 30	121 66
Iowa.....	86 23	133 25	107 23	( <sup>2</sup> )
Kansas.....	86 83	113 35	103 91	( <sup>2</sup> )
Louisiana.....	93 71	119 58	120 79	170 41
Maine.....	81 90	95 34	118 72	152 27
Maryland.....	99 95	137 21	128 50	181 49
Massachusetts.....	122 51	186 78	173 86	262 30
Michigan.....	102 74	123 65	142 78	163 26
Minnesota.....	88 25	( <sup>2</sup> )	108 43	-----
Montana.....	77 17	103 32	118 18	150 03
Nevada.....	97 32	128 10	<sup>3</sup> 108 01	( <sup>4</sup> )
New Jersey.....	107 20	165 91	138 54	174 56
New York.....	139 99	174 50	184 57	212 33
Ohio.....	84 67	124 21	121 65	176 29
Pennsylvania.....	98 60	154 56	130 26	194 51
Rhode Island.....	86 16	133 39	132 68	187 10
South Carolina.....	111 27	152 44	120 86	175 03
South Dakota.....	91 72	126 30	109 58	( <sup>2</sup> )
Tennessee.....	102 86	124 79	121 90	163 44
Utah.....	89 26	140 68	111 77	182 00
Washington.....	96 46	113 40	147 09	188 20
Wisconsin.....	140 01	197 75	141 86	221 25
Wyoming.....	74 67	( <sup>2</sup> )	103 33	( <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Based on Federal SSI payment standard of \$140/210 per month

<sup>2</sup> Not computed on base of 50 or fewer individuals or couples

<sup>3</sup> Represents payments to 55 disabled individuals who received APTD in other States

<sup>4</sup> No APTD program.

TABLE C.—Percent of all persons reported by State agencies who were receiving social security benefits, by reason for eligibility and State

State	Total	Aged 65 and over	Under age 65		Disabled children
			Blind	Disabled	
Total.....	43 2	59 6	24 4	18 7	6 1
Alabama.....	57 2	64 8	24 5	18 5	( <sup>1</sup> )
Alaska.....	42 0	61 4	21 8	19 6	-----
Arizona.....	37 5	57 1	16 3	12 1	( <sup>1</sup> )
Arkansas.....	57 2	64 7	26 5	27 8	( <sup>1</sup> )
California.....	55 4	75 3	31 6	28 1	8 1
Colorado.....	47 7	67 8	13 9	9 6	( <sup>1</sup> )
Connecticut.....	31 1	61 3	25 7	15 4	( <sup>1</sup> )
Delaware.....	56 8	76 9	42 0	28 1	-----
District of Columbia.....	25 7	43 0	17 7	13 4	-----
Florida.....	35 2	38 5	23 1	25 6	( <sup>1</sup> )
Georgia.....	45 9	57 3	24 8	23 8	9 3
Hawaii.....	41 1	59 3	19 0	20 9	( <sup>1</sup> )
Idaho.....	45 2	66 2	29 3	24 7	( <sup>1</sup> )
Illinois.....	20 3	44 7	12 3	7 5	-----
Indiana.....	47 9	62 4	24 6	27 3	6 6
Iowa.....	51 9	61 1	27 8	24 4	( <sup>1</sup> )
Kansas.....	39 6	56 4	24 4	17 3	( <sup>1</sup> )
Kentucky.....	40 5	55 3	3 3	5 9	( <sup>1</sup> )
Louisiana.....	50 1	59 7	18 4	13 0	( <sup>1</sup> )
Maine.....	62 6	78 2	42 0	40 0	( <sup>1</sup> )
Maryland.....	22 6	40 4	15 3	9 3	( <sup>1</sup> )
Massachusetts.....	58 6	74 5	42 2	27 3	-----
Michigan.....	37 3	58 4	23 5	21 5	6 5
Minnesota.....	35 2	52 1	20 6	17 0	-----
Mississippi.....	55 7	65 3	23 7	29 7	( <sup>1</sup> )
Missouri.....	65 5	75 9	45 8	36 6	( <sup>1</sup> )
Montana.....	42 9	66 5	27 1	21 7	-----
Nebraska.....	46 9	65 0	24 4	25 1	-----
Nevada.....	88 3	89 1	45 1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
New Hampshire.....	67 8	79 5	30 4	35 8	( <sup>1</sup> )
New Jersey.....	37 9	52 0	36 3	3 6	( <sup>1</sup> )
New Mexico.....	27 8	41 6	14 2	14 6	( <sup>1</sup> )
New York.....	26 3	50 3	21 1	10 7	( <sup>1</sup> )
North Carolina.....	26 6	38 6	22 2	15 2	( <sup>1</sup> )
North Dakota.....	45 8	57 7	( <sup>1</sup> )	24 1	-----
Ohio.....	31 4	54 4	19 0	12 5	( <sup>1</sup> )
Oklahoma.....	41 1	50 7	14 4	19 9	( <sup>1</sup> )
Oregon.....	33 2	55 3	13 4	17 4	( <sup>1</sup> )
Pennsylvania.....	30 4	43 0	33 9	15 6	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rhode Island.....	43 4	62 5	27 1	21 1	-----
South Carolina.....	22 1	30 3	16 8	11 9	( <sup>1</sup> )
South Dakota.....	40 1	50 0	23 3	22 7	-----
Tennessee.....	37 5	50 2	16 6	19 3	8 0
Texas.....	50 5	56 1	20 7	23 4	( <sup>1</sup> )
Utah.....	20 7	45 4	18 2	7 3	-----
Vermont.....	52 5	66 3	42 0	32 1	( <sup>1</sup> )
Virginia.....	32 0	45 8	22 5	17 1	( <sup>1</sup> )
Washington.....	31 2	64 9	17 8	12 2	13 5
West Virginia.....	24 8	39 7	11 4	9 6	( <sup>1</sup> )
Wisconsin.....	48 7	58 1	24 6	31 5	( <sup>1</sup> )
Wyoming.....	45 3	67 1	( <sup>1</sup> )	21 8	-----

<sup>1</sup> Not computed on base of 50 or fewer persons.

<sup>2</sup> No APTD program.

TABLE D—Number of aged and disabled adult units eligible for Federal SSI and percent without income, by State, January 1974

State	Number eligible for Federal SSI				Percent eligible for Federal SSI who had no reported income			
	Aged		Disabled		Aged		Disabled	
	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple	Individual	Couple
Total.....	1,266,214	106,681	1,063,712	16,680	41 5	22 7	78 6	52 3
Alabama.....	76,760	10,473	17,238	376	34 2	16 5	79 2	53 5
Alaska.....	941	84	1,405	14	27 0	7 1	83 7	(1)
Arizona.....	9,748	766	8,648	340	40 5	27 9	82 3	57 4
Arkansas.....	38,256	7,303	12,486	341	37 6	14 0	68 5	32 0
California.....	159,367	5,594	167,005	2,268	29 8	21 5	73 8	44 9
Colorado.....	18,882	1,608	11,916	228	32 8	17 6	84 7	64 9
Connecticut.....	4,266	82	6,696	79	49 3	45 1	82 6	77 2
Delaware.....	2,045	72	1,709	42	26 6	11 1	72 3	(1)
District of Columbia.....	4,039	25	9,130	13	49 2	(1)	80 5	(1)
Florida.....	53,655	5,412	22,641	340	56 2	67 6	69 5	52 1
Georgia.....	55,555	6,798	33,221	1,109	42 2	18 3	73 8	36 1
Hawaii.....	2,693	132	2,641	25	41 0	26 5	75 0	(1)
Idaho.....	2,344	185	2,626	159	36 6	13 0	69 9	30 2
Illinois.....	26,820	836	78,598	976	54 9	51 2	89 2	74 4
Indiana.....	10,884	553	8,913	158	38 2	15 2	70 9	32 9
Iowa.....	9,645	276	3,146	2	34 3	24 6	71 4	(1)
Kansas.....	7,166	320	6,292	41	43 3	20 3	77 6	(1)
Kentucky.....	37,434	3,403	16,869	275	40 6	21 6	86 9	48 4
Louisiana.....	72,005	10,767	23,429	168	36 9	20 1	82 5	58 3
Maine.....	8,326	323	6,646	45	24 6	6 2	58 6	(1)
Maryland.....	9,488	114	21,007	131	52 9	31 6	87 9	68 7
Massachusetts.....	34,776	84	24,294	45	31 9	29 8	75 3	(1)
Michigan.....	30,611	938	45,751	772	44 4	14 9	77 9	47 3
Minnesota.....	10,819	0	14,005	0	44 9	-----	73 2	-----
Mississippi.....	52,226	11,833	23,128	1,440	28 7	10 7	51 1	28 3
Missouri.....	45,623	3,550	18,443	230	26 4	11 7	61 3	27 8
Montana.....	2,153	84	2,733	68	32 8	17 9	73 9	52 9
Nebraska.....	4,686	282	4,211	82	36 2	9 9	66 7	19 5
Nevada.....	1,929	51	1	0	12 0	7 8	(1)	-----
New Hampshire.....	2,006	37	1,170	9	36 1	(1)	67 6	(1)
New Jersey.....	17,588	669	18,021	121	45 2	46 2	76 0	57 0
New Mexico.....	5,533	753	8,735	315	58 6	36 4	78 9	51 7
New York.....	78,144	1,894	157,181	1,104	51 3	46 3	87 2	61 1
North Carolina.....	24,248	1,703	31,134	774	61 2	39 3	81 8	58 5
North Dakota.....	2,560	186	1,744	10	46 6	25 3	72 5	(1)
Ohio.....	35,518	1,112	44,741	921	46 4	28 5	85 0	70 1
Oklahoma.....	39,120	4,994	21,276	105	47 9	24 5	71 2	50 5
Oregon.....	5,895	24	9,087	47	46 0	(1)	79 5	(1)
Pennsylvania.....	36,630	408	40,159	367	53 5	45 8	78 2	75 5
Rhode Island.....	2,706	119	4,700	228	37 7	24 4	68 2	46 1
South Carolina.....	14,287	1,184	13,031	530	70 6	41 3	85 9	65 1
South Dakota.....	2,516	138	1,644	41	43 4	15 2	64 2	(1)
Tennessee.....	33,955	4,245	27,312	680	46 9	21 3	73 2	55 7
Texas.....	121,044	15,692	26,776	693	45 8	17 2	74 4	28 0
Utah.....	1,930	43	3,710	6	54 7	(1)	87 8	(1)
Vermont.....	2,712	44	2,327	10	33 8	(1)	65 5	(1)
Virginia.....	11,816	142	11,713	66	50 0	57 8	77 4	60 6
Washington.....	13,952	631	25,346	776	35 3	19 3	81 1	65 7
West Virginia.....	9,883	698	11,572	150	60 6	35 0	87 6	60 7
Wisconsin.....	9,410	187	5,621	36	46 9	20 9	69 4	(1)
Wyoming.....	919	30	885	24	28 0	(1)	68 7	(1)