

# Children Receiving SSI, 2006

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## Preface

Since 1974, the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program has provided monthly payments for blind and disabled children under the age of 18. Certain provisions are used to determine a child's eligibility and payment amount that differ from those applicable to adults. For children living in the same household with one or more parents, the parents' income and resources must be considered, or *deemed*, in determining the child's eligibility and payment amount. This report provides data on

- applications by and awards to blind and disabled children;
- SSI payments, income, demographic characteristics, geographic distribution, and disability diagnosis groups of SSI child recipients; and
- type, amounts, and deeming status of parental income.

Clark D. Pickett of the Division of SSI Statistics and Analysis programmed and compiled the data. Staff of the Division of Information Resources edited the report and prepared the print and electronic versions for publication. This and other reports on the SSI program are available on the Web at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/policy>.

For questions pertaining to the data, please call Clark Pickett at 410-965-9016 or e-mail [ssi.children@ssa.gov](mailto:ssi.children@ssa.gov). For additional copies, please e-mail [op.publications@ssa.gov](mailto:op.publications@ssa.gov) or call 202-358-6274.

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June 2007

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## Summary and Introduction

In this report, children are defined as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients under age 18. All average SSI payment amounts are based on the amount received in the month of the report, rather than on the amount due in the following month.

In December 2006, almost 1,079,000 blind and disabled children were receiving SSI payments. They made up 14.9 percent of the more than 7 million SSI recipients. The data reflect an increase of more than 42,000 child recipients since December 2005.

To be eligible for SSI payments as a child, an individual must be under age 18 and unmarried and must meet the applicable SSI income, resource, and diagnostic criteria.

The tables present a "snapshot" of selected program and demographic characteristics of children who receive SSI payments. Tables 1–11 are based on 100 percent data. Tables 12–16 are based on 10 percent sample files. The source record for all of the files is the Supplemental Security Record (SSR).

### Applications and Awards

In calendar year 2006, the most recent year for which complete data are available, the Social Security Administration (SSA) received almost 460,000 SSI applications for children. This represents 17 percent of the more than 2.6 million SSI applications received during that period.

More than 170,000 children were awarded SSI payments in calendar year 2006. This was more than 20 percent of the 838,000 persons awarded SSI in that period.

Historically, the percentages of both applications and awards for children have gradually increased. Both rates rose rapidly in the early to mid-1990s, after the *Sullivan v. Zebley* decision. They dropped off somewhat after welfare reform legislation was enacted in 1996. The number of applications for children has continued to increase since then, but their percentage share of all applications has gradually decreased. Both the number and percentage of awards for children steadily increased for several years following welfare reform, but there was a slight decrease in the number in 2005 and 2006 and in the percentage of all awards in 2004, 2005, and 2006.

### Payments

The average SSI payment to children in December 2006 was \$538. This amount includes federally administered state supplementation, where applicable, but does not include any retroactive payments.

The states with the largest numbers of children receiving SSI were California, Texas, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and North Carolina. Together they accounted for 53 percent of all child recipients.

Sixty-three percent of the children received an SSI payment of \$603 in December—the maximum monthly amount of federal SSI payable in 2006 to persons with no countable income.

### Demographic Characteristics

#### Age

In December 2006, 15 percent of the children receiving SSI were younger than 5 years old. The remaining 85 percent were fairly evenly distributed by age.

#### Sex

Child recipients are more likely to be boys than girls, by about three to two. This is generally the same gender pattern found among adult disabled recipients.

### Living Arrangements

Eighty-two percent of the children lived with their parent(s). Of those with other living arrangements, 13 percent were identified as living in their own household for purposes of determining payments. For the most part, these children lived with other relatives; in hospitals, nursing homes, residential schools, and foster care; or independently. Less than 2 percent were patients in a medical facility where more than half of the cost of their care is covered by the Medicaid program.

### Citizenship

Nearly all (99 percent) of the children were U.S. citizens, either by birth or naturalization.

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## Diagnosis

More than 67 percent were disabled because of a mental disorder, and the largest proportion of this group (18 percent) were mentally retarded. The only other sizable diagnostic category was diseases of the nervous system and sense organs (9 percent), which included all of the more than 6,400 blind children on SSI in December 2006.

The incidence of mental retardation as a primary diagnosis increased with age, from 2 percent of those under age 3 to 28 percent of those aged 13–17. A similar pattern appeared among those under age 18 with other mental disorders.

The only diagnostic categories with a significant difference between sexes were other mental disorders (54 percent of the males versus 38 percent of the females) and nervous systems and sense organs (11 percent of the females versus 7 percent of the males). There was no substantial variation between sexes in the other diagnostic categories.

## Adult Recipients Who First Became Eligible for SSI as Children

In addition to the almost 1,079,000 recipients who are currently considered as children for program purposes, the SSI rolls in December 2006 included almost 731,000 adult recipients who first became eligible for SSI payments before age 18. Twenty percent of these recipients first became eligible during the 1974–1980 period and thus have been receiving SSI for much of their lives.

## Income

About 29 percent had income in December 2006, and most of them had only unearned income. The most frequent types of cash unearned income were Social Security benefits (7 percent) or support payments from an absent parent (13 percent). Another 1 percent were receiving income based on need (most commonly from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, formerly known as Aid to Families with Dependent Children, or AFDC), and 9 percent had some type of in-kind income that was considered for SSI purposes. About 72 percent of the children had no income reported on their record.

## Parents in the Household

Almost two-thirds of the children (66 percent) were living with one parent, and 22 percent lived with two par-

ents. Deeming of income from the parent(s) to the child recipient applies to these children. For the 12 percent with no parent in the household, parent-to-child deeming does not apply, and information about parents is not part of the SSI record.

## One-Parent Household

Of the 66 percent of SSI recipient children who lived with only one parent, nearly all (94 percent) lived with their mother. Only 6 percent lived with their father.

For 46 percent of the children in a one-parent household, that parent had no reported income (the SSI payment is not considered as income in this analysis). Over one-third of the children (35 percent) lived with a parent who had earned income, and 23 percent lived with a parent who had unearned income. Mother-headed households showed about the same distribution, but father-headed homes were more likely to have earnings.

Even in households with income, the amounts were small. Nineteen percent of the children were in homes with income under \$200 in December 2006. Only 64 percent of them had income of \$600 or more in that month. Children living with a father were more likely to have higher family income.

## Two-Parent Household

The 22 percent of SSI children who lived with two parents were relatively better off economically than those living with only one parent. Eighteen percent of the former had parents with no reported income, compared with 46 percent of those living with one parent. Also, for 63 percent of children in two-parent households, the parents had income of \$1,000 per month or more, compared with 24 percent of children in one-parent households.

Mothers in two-parent households were less likely to have income than were single mothers. Sixty-four percent of mothers in two-parent households had no income, compared with 46 percent of single mothers.

## Parental Income

Over half of all SSI children (54 percent) lived in a household where the parent(s) received some type of income, which averaged \$1,231 in December. About 38 percent of the children had one or both parents with earnings, averaging \$1,547; 20 percent had some type of unearned income, averaging \$388. The most common type of unearned income was public income-maintenance payments. Such payments include TANF

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payments, Department of Veterans Affairs payments based on need, and payments from other government programs.

### **Parent-to-Child Deeming**

In households where the parent(s) of SSI children receive income, that income must be considered in determining the child's payment amount. This process is called deeming. Certain types of parental income are excluded from deeming (see 20 CFR 416.1161(a)). This includes public income-maintenance payments and any parental income used to determine the amount

of those payments. In addition, allocations and exclusions reduce the amount used in the child's payment computation.

About 61 percent of the children subject to deeming had one or more parents with reported income in December. After all exclusions and allocations were applied, deemed income affected the payment of only 27 percent of these children. Children living with two parents (34 percent) were more likely to have their payment affected by deemed income than were children living with one parent (24 percent).

**Table 1.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of recipients of federally administered SSI payments, by age,**  
**December 1974–2006**

Year	All ages	Under 18		18–64 <sup>a</sup>		65 or older	
		Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total
1974	3,996,064	<sup>b</sup> 70,900	1.8	1,503,155	37.6	2,422,009	60.6
1975	4,314,275	107,026	2.5	1,699,394	39.4	2,507,855	58.1
1976	4,235,939	125,412	3.0	1,713,594	40.5	2,396,933	56.6
1977	4,237,692	147,355	3.5	1,736,879	41.0	2,353,458	55.5
1978	4,216,925	165,899	3.9	1,747,126	41.4	2,303,900	54.6
1979	4,149,575	177,306	4.3	1,726,553	41.6	2,245,716	54.1
1980	4,142,017	190,394	4.6	1,730,847	41.8	2,220,776	53.6
1981	4,018,875	194,890	4.8	1,702,895	42.4	2,121,090	52.8
1982	3,857,590	191,570	5.0	1,655,279	42.9	2,010,741	52.1
1983	3,901,497	198,323	5.1	1,699,774	43.6	2,003,400	51.3
1984	4,029,333	211,587	5.3	1,780,459	44.2	2,037,287	50.6
1985	4,138,021	227,384	5.5	1,879,168	45.4	2,031,469	49.1
1986	4,269,184	241,198	5.6	2,010,458	47.1	2,017,528	47.3
1987	4,384,999	250,902	5.7	2,118,710	48.3	2,015,387	46.0
1988	4,463,869	255,135	5.7	2,202,714	49.3	2,006,020	44.9
1989	4,593,059	264,890	5.8	2,301,926	50.1	2,026,243	44.1
1990	4,817,127	308,589	6.4	2,449,897	50.9	2,058,641	42.7
1991	5,118,470	397,162	7.8	2,641,524	51.6	2,079,784	40.6
1992	5,566,189	556,470	10.0	2,910,016	52.3	2,099,703	37.7
1993	5,984,330	722,678	12.1	3,148,413	52.6	2,113,239	35.3
1994	6,295,786	841,474	13.4	3,335,255	53.0	2,119,057	33.7
1995	6,514,134	917,048	14.1	3,482,256	53.5	2,114,830	32.5
1996	6,613,718	955,174	14.4	3,568,393	54.0	2,090,151	31.6
1997	6,494,985	879,828	13.5	3,561,625	54.8	2,053,532	31.6
1998	6,566,069	887,066	13.5	3,646,020	55.5	2,032,983	31.0
1999	6,556,634	847,063	12.9	3,690,994	56.3	2,018,577	30.8
2000	6,601,686	846,784	12.8	3,744,038	56.7	2,010,864	30.5
2001	6,688,489	881,836	13.2	3,811,494	57.0	1,995,159	29.8
2002	6,787,857	914,821	13.5	3,877,752	57.1	1,995,284	29.4
2003	6,902,364	959,379	13.9	3,953,248	57.3	1,989,737	28.8
2004	6,987,845	993,127	14.2	4,017,108	57.5	1,977,610	28.3
2005	7,113,879	1,036,498	14.6	4,082,870	57.4	1,994,511	28.0
2006	7,235,583	1,078,977	14.9	4,152,130	57.4	2,004,476	27.7

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

a. Includes students aged 18 to 21, who are considered children for program purposes.

b. In December 1974, includes children aged 18 to 21.

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**Table 2.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of SSI applications received, by age, 1973–2006**

Year	All ages <sup>a</sup>	Under 18		18–64		65 or older	
		Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total
Total	59,723,740	8,548,333	14.3	41,089,040	68.8	10,086,367	16.9
State conversions <sup>b</sup>	3,402,474	3,939	0.1	1,419,041	41.7	1,979,494	58.2
Federal applications							
1973	282,472	5,007	1.8	82,993	29.4	194,472	68.8
1974	2,069,452	125,028	6.0	1,098,373	53.1	846,051	40.9
1975	1,468,610	99,996	6.8	977,209	66.5	391,405	26.7
1976	1,207,448	83,960	7.0	865,790	71.7	257,698	21.3
1977	1,268,462	95,314	7.5	903,618	71.2	269,530	21.2
1978	1,265,436	99,610	7.9	902,756	71.3	263,070	20.8
1979	1,323,113	106,828	8.1	949,087	71.7	267,198	20.2
1980	1,408,034	114,508	8.1	1,013,221	72.0	280,305	19.9
1981	1,148,844	94,246	8.2	864,481	75.2	190,117	16.5
1982	1,015,848	93,872	9.2	775,491	76.3	146,485	14.4
1983	1,131,890	101,087	8.9	834,190	73.7	196,613	17.4
1984	1,264,820	104,748	8.3	868,375	68.7	291,697	23.1
1985	1,399,869	119,021	8.5	1,049,758	75.0	231,090	16.5
1986	1,467,326	124,938	8.5	1,098,832	74.9	243,556	16.6
1987	1,435,024	126,575	8.8	1,069,285	74.5	239,164	16.7
1988	1,365,117	125,953	9.2	1,013,316	74.2	225,848	16.5
1989	1,388,545	130,307	9.4	1,015,483	73.1	242,755	17.5
1990	1,547,230	166,416	10.8	1,133,564	73.3	247,250	16.0
1991	1,807,821	248,325	13.7	1,315,918	72.8	243,578	13.5
1992	2,087,788	378,808	18.1	1,465,039	70.2	243,941	11.7
1993	2,310,005	503,486	21.8	1,571,203	68.0	235,316	10.2
1994	2,260,271	540,124	23.9	1,517,140	67.1	203,007	9.0
1995	2,055,907	500,333	24.3	1,375,696	66.9	179,878	8.7
1996	1,922,472	465,685	24.2	1,289,985	67.1	166,802	8.7
1997	1,601,970	336,074	21.0	1,133,623	70.8	132,273	8.3
1998	1,629,223	339,243	20.8	1,139,825	70.0	150,155	9.2
1999	1,661,448	350,382	21.1	1,153,450	69.4	157,616	9.5
2000	1,744,386	360,329	20.7	1,224,826	70.2	159,231	9.1
2001	1,861,123	376,002	20.2	1,324,057	71.1	161,064	8.7
2002	2,084,828	414,068	19.9	1,490,731	71.5	180,029	8.6
2003	2,224,739	437,492	19.7	1,608,391	72.3	178,856	8.0
2004	2,418,096	458,236	19.0	1,771,003	73.2	188,857	7.8
2005	2,545,079	458,588	18.0	1,850,002	72.7	236,489	9.3
2006	2,648,570	459,805	17.4	1,923,288	72.6	265,477	10.0

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

- a. Totals include applications taken under the abbreviated application process, which was used from 1987 to 1999. Totals do not include reapplications as a result of the *Sullivan v. Zebley* decision. Those reapplications were received from 1991 to 1995.
- b. Persons who were converted to the SSI program in 1973 from the state Old-Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled programs.

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**Table 3.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of SSI awards, by age, 1974–2006**

Year	All ages	Under 18		18–64		65 or older	
		Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total
Total	27,226,940	3,534,700	13.0	15,953,361	58.6	7,738,879	28.4
State conversions <sup>a</sup>	3,155,995	2,748	0.1	1,299,343	41.2	1,853,904	58.7
Federal applications							
1974	1,336,164	66,699	5.0	493,511	36.9	775,954	58.1
1975	929,369	63,060	6.8	509,271	54.8	357,038	38.4
1976	667,994	46,114	6.9	400,314	59.9	221,566	33.2
1977	642,712	50,883	7.9	377,454	58.7	214,375	33.4
1978	563,117	46,520	8.3	321,413	57.1	195,184	34.7
1979	517,446	44,911	8.7	293,910	56.8	178,625	34.5
1980	523,758	45,781	8.7	292,080	55.8	185,897	35.5
1981	409,992	39,106	9.5	248,105	60.5	122,781	29.9
1982	343,928	35,410	10.3	203,335	59.1	105,183	30.6
1983	453,789	42,154	9.3	259,042	57.1	152,593	33.6
1984	585,832	45,766	7.8	322,858	55.1	217,208	37.1
1985	526,418	46,362	8.8	324,933	61.7	155,123	29.5
1986	603,989	50,632	8.4	390,499	64.7	162,858	27.0
1987	589,053	48,292	8.2	372,914	63.3	167,847	28.5
1988	578,748	47,798	8.3	362,903	62.7	168,047	29.0
1989	630,486	50,985	8.1	390,703	62.0	188,798	29.9
1990	718,917	77,923	10.8	447,849	62.3	193,145	26.9
1991	821,396	125,874	15.3	506,177	61.6	189,345	23.1
1992	1,054,441	221,362	21.0	641,750	60.9	191,329	18.1
1993	1,052,415	236,564	22.5	629,246	59.8	186,605	17.7
1994	943,889	203,688	21.6	580,253	61.5	159,948	16.9
1995	888,633	175,784	19.8	568,072	63.9	144,777	16.3
1996	797,137	144,404	18.1	525,350	65.9	127,383	16.0
1997	676,444	117,090	17.3	463,444	68.5	95,910	14.2
1998	743,121	136,383	18.4	490,638	66.0	116,100	15.6
1999	758,076	140,520	18.5	494,609	65.2	122,947	16.2
2000	750,163	144,136	19.2	485,798	64.8	120,229	16.0
2001	772,775	156,844	20.3	504,366	65.3	111,565	14.4
2002	820,992	170,048	20.7	535,507	65.2	115,437	14.1
2003	827,029	179,566	21.7	539,127	65.2	108,336	13.1
2004	852,052	183,152	21.5	561,487	65.9	107,413	12.6
2005	852,222	177,688	20.8	560,960	65.8	113,574	13.3
2006	838,448	170,453	20.3	556,140	66.3	111,855	13.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

a. Persons who were converted to the SSI program in 1973 from the state Old-Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled programs.

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**Table 4.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of SSI applications and awards for children, by selected characteristics, 2006**

Characteristic	Applications		Awards	
	Number	Percentage of total	Number	Percentage of total
Total	459,805	100.0	170,453	100.0
Age				
Under 5	156,241	34.0	71,202	41.8
5–12	209,901	45.7	69,746	40.9
13–17	93,663	20.4	29,505	17.3
Sex				
Male	286,975	62.4	109,800	64.4
Female	172,830	37.6	60,653	35.6
Citizenship status				
Citizen	457,610	99.5	169,881	99.7
Noncitizen	2,195	0.5	572	0.3
Living arrangements <sup>a</sup>				
Own household	...	...	17,242	10.1
Another's household	...	...	12,221	7.2
Parent's household	...	...	135,363	79.4
Medicaid institution	...	...	5,627	3.3
Diagnostic group <sup>a</sup>				
Congenital anomalies	...	...	8,065	4.7
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	...	...	1,144	0.7
Infectious and parasitic diseases	...	...	143	0.1
Injuries	...	...	1,061	0.6
Mental disorders				
Retardation	...	...	18,123	10.6
Other	...	...	91,640	53.8
Neoplasms	...	...	2,820	1.7
Diseases of the—				
Blood and blood-forming organs	...	...	1,293	0.8
Circulatory system	...	...	943	0.6
Digestive system	...	...	1,492	0.9
Genitourinary system	...	...	548	0.3
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	...	...	1,235	0.7
Nervous system and sense organs	...	...	10,536	6.2
Respiratory system	...	...	3,604	2.1
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	...	...	271	0.2
Other	...	...	23,894	14.0
Unknown	...	...	3,641	2.1

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

NOTE: ... = not applicable.

a. Determined at award.

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**Table 5.**  
**Number of children receiving federally administered SSI payments and average monthly payment, by SSA administrative region and state or other area, December 2006**

Region and state or area	Number	Average monthly payment <sup>a</sup> (dollars)
All areas	1,078,977	537.83
Boston	37,439	545.79
Connecticut	6,898	518.60
Maine	3,504	509.12
Massachusetts	19,129	560.69
New Hampshire	1,953	487.22
Rhode Island	4,232	576.64
Vermont	1,723	554.40
New York	96,126	550.67
New Jersey	22,704	530.95
New York	73,422	556.77
Philadelphia	115,787	519.56
Delaware	3,334	507.37
District of Columbia	4,441	533.12
Maryland	15,275	510.66
Pennsylvania	60,991	525.45
Virginia	22,810	506.39
West Virginia	8,936	525.96
Atlanta	275,413	524.38
Alabama	28,672	532.52
Florida	80,608	521.76
Georgia	35,046	523.82
Kentucky	27,797	535.60
Mississippi	22,853	532.95
North Carolina	38,295	512.91
South Carolina	18,731	518.39
Tennessee	23,411	526.19
Chicago	177,249	530.95
Illinois	45,096	533.97
Indiana	21,545	524.05
Michigan	38,719	536.79
Minnesota	11,212	512.17
Ohio	43,565	534.81
Wisconsin	17,112	520.94
Dallas	166,907	526.90
Arkansas	19,501	529.14
Louisiana	29,343	538.04
New Mexico	7,762	533.87
Oklahoma	14,592	524.64
Texas	95,709	522.81
Kansas City	38,228	516.79
Iowa	7,124	498.85
Kansas	7,302	512.29
Missouri	20,269	527.26
Nebraska	3,533	502.20

(Continued)

**Table 5.**  
**Number of children receiving federally administered SSI payments and average monthly payment, by SSA administrative region and state or other area, December 2006—Continued**

Region and state or area	Number	Average monthly payment <sup>a</sup> (dollars)
Denver	17,341	493.20
Colorado	7,161	497.05
Montana	2,091	514.85
North Dakota	989	478.69
South Dakota	2,020	491.01
Utah	4,219	482.51
Wyoming	861	482.76
San Francisco	125,498	615.73
Arizona	17,804	528.67
California	99,711	639.98
Hawaii	1,557	496.88
Nevada	6,193	507.00
Northern Mariana Islands	233	577.52
Seattle	28,989	508.01
Alaska	1,155	475.75
Idaho	4,296	494.23
Oregon	8,321	514.22
Washington	15,217	510.95

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

a. Includes federally administered state supplementation payments.

CONTACT: Clark Pickett (410) 965-9016 or ssi.children@ssa.gov.

**Table 6.**  
**Percentage distribution of children receiving federal SSI payments, by monthly payment, December 2006**

Payment (dollars)	Percentage of total
Total	
Number	1,078,977
Percent	100.0
None <sup>a</sup>	0.2
Under 50	2.0
50–99	0.8
100–199	2.3
200–299	3.2
300–399	4.7
400–499	12.4
500–602	11.5
603	62.9

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

a. Persons receiving only a federally administered state supplementary payment on December 1, 2006.

CONTACT: Clark Pickett (410) 965-9016 or ssi.children@ssa.gov.

**Table 7.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments, by selected characteristics, December 2006**

Characteristic	Number	Percentage of total
Total	1,078,977	100.0
Age		
Under 1 year	19,156	1.8
1	28,710	2.7
2	32,609	3.0
3	38,882	3.6
4	45,893	4.3
5	52,523	4.9
6	57,886	5.4
7	60,591	5.6
8	64,223	6.0
9	65,750	6.1
10	67,375	6.2
11	69,711	6.5
12	73,881	6.8
13	77,972	7.2
14	81,284	7.5
15	82,881	7.7
16	81,693	7.6
17	77,957	7.2
Sex		
Male	707,388	65.6
Female	371,589	34.4
Citizenship status		
Citizen	1,075,906	99.7
Noncitizen	3,071	0.3
Living arrangements		
Own household	138,529	12.8
Another's household	41,025	3.8
Parent's household	885,407	82.1
Medicaid institution	14,016	1.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

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**Table 8.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments, by diagnostic group and age, December 2006**

Diagnostic group	All ages	Under 3	3-5	6-12	13-17
<b>Number</b>					
All recipients under age 18	1,078,977	80,475	137,298	459,417	401,787
Congenital anomalies	54,461	12,850	12,565	19,432	9,614
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	7,061	803	1,274	2,668	2,316
Infectious and parasitic diseases	2,304	80	183	843	1,198
Injuries	5,701	568	938	2,143	2,052
Mental disorders					
Retardation	192,912	1,338	9,321	69,352	112,901
Other	524,425	6,855	57,135	255,973	204,462
Neoplasms	10,972	753	2,527	4,815	2,877
Diseases of the—					
Blood and blood-forming organs	12,647	755	1,940	5,553	4,399
Circulatory system	5,184	1,167	1,289	1,589	1,139
Digestive system	6,623	2,063	1,975	1,742	843
Genitourinary system	2,995	290	471	1,114	1,120
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	7,826	623	1,094	2,882	3,227
Nervous system and sense organs	92,889	6,306	14,611	39,978	31,994
Respiratory system	28,240	3,010	7,694	11,931	5,605
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	1,312	136	299	578	299
Other	96,492	39,088	20,004	28,293	9,107
Unknown	26,933	3,790	3,978	10,531	8,634
<b>Percent</b>					
All recipients under age 18	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Congenital anomalies	5.0	16.0	9.2	4.2	2.4
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.6
Infectious and parasitic diseases	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Injuries	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5
Mental disorders					
Retardation	17.9	1.7	6.8	15.1	28.1
Other	48.6	8.5	41.6	55.7	50.9
Neoplasms	1.0	0.9	1.8	1.0	0.7
Diseases of the—					
Blood and blood-forming organs	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.1
Circulatory system	0.5	1.5	0.9	0.3	0.3
Digestive system	0.6	2.6	1.4	0.4	0.2
Genitourinary system	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8
Nervous system and sense organs	8.6	7.8	10.6	8.7	8.0
Respiratory system	2.6	3.7	5.6	2.6	1.4
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Other	8.9	48.6	14.6	6.2	2.3
Unknown	2.5	4.7	2.9	2.3	2.1

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

CONTACT: Clark Pickett (410) 965-9016 or ssi.children@ssa.gov.

**Table 9.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments, by diagnostic group and sex, December 2006**

Diagnostic group	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All recipients under age 18	1,078,977	100.0	707,388	100.0	371,589	100.0
Congenital anomalies	54,461	5.0	29,259	4.1	25,202	6.8
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	7,061	0.7	3,647	0.5	3,414	0.9
Infectious and parasitic diseases	2,304	0.2	1,155	0.2	1,149	0.3
Injuries	5,701	0.5	3,366	0.5	2,335	0.6
Mental disorders						
Retardation	192,912	17.9	119,256	16.9	73,656	19.8
Other	524,425	48.6	385,132	54.4	139,293	37.5
Neoplasms	10,972	1.0	6,060	0.9	4,912	1.3
Diseases of the—						
Blood and blood-forming organs	12,647	1.2	7,166	1.0	5,481	1.5
Circulatory system	5,184	0.5	2,839	0.4	2,345	0.6
Digestive system	6,623	0.6	3,615	0.5	3,008	0.8
Genitourinary system	2,995	0.3	1,774	0.3	1,221	0.3
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	7,826	0.7	3,823	0.5	4,003	1.1
Nervous system and sense organs	92,889	8.6	51,956	7.3	40,933	11.0
Respiratory system	28,240	2.6	18,170	2.6	10,070	2.7
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	1,312	0.1	675	0.1	637	0.2
Other	96,492	8.9	53,236	7.5	43,256	11.6
Unknown	26,933	2.5	16,259	2.3	10,674	2.9

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

CONTACT: Clark Pickett (410) 965-9016 or ssi.children@ssa.gov.



**Table 10.****Number and percentage distribution of adult recipients who first became eligible for SSI before age 18, by year of first eligibility and age in December 2006**

Year of first eligibility	All ages	Age in December 2006			
		18–21	22–29	30–39	40 or older <sup>a</sup>
Total					
Number	730,772	227,782	270,201	151,725	81,064
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1974–1976	9.8	...	...	15.2	59.7
1977–1980	10.2	...	3.4	25.6	32.7
1981–1984	9.6	...	12.5	19.8	7.6
1985–1989	15.6	12.4	20.0	21.1	...
1990–1994	32.0	37.7	44.4	18.4	...
1995–1999	14.1	25.1	17.0	...	...
2000–2004	7.8	22.0	2.7	...	...
2005–2006	0.9	2.8	...	...	...

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

NOTE: ... = not applicable.

a. Those under the age of 18 in 1974 would be no older than 50 in 2006.

CONTACT: Clark Pickett (410) 965-9016 or ssi.children@ssa.gov.

**Table 11.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments and average monthly amount of child's income, by type of income, December 2006**

Type of income	Number	Percent	Average monthly amount (dollars)
Total	1,078,977	100.0	...
No earned or unearned income <sup>a</sup>	771,501	71.5	...
With income <sup>b</sup>	307,476	28.5	213
Earned income only	1,949	0.2	389
Unearned income only	304,452	28.2	211
Both earned and unearned income	1,075	0.1	558
With unearned income <sup>c</sup>	305,527	28.3	211
Social Security	77,401	7.2	206
Veterans'	1,223	0.1	85
Income based on need	12,200	1.1	233
Support from absent parents	137,274	12.7	205
Asset income	9,733	0.9	1
Other	5,634	0.5	417
In-kind income	91,249	8.5	165

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

NOTE: ... = not applicable.

- a. The percentage of children receiving the full federal benefit rate, as shown in Table 6, is smaller than the percentage of those with no income, as shown here, because of the effect of parental deemed income in the payment computation.
- b. Does not include income deemed from parents in the household.
- c. The sum of the entries may be greater than the total because some recipients may receive more than one type of unearned income.

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**Table 12.**  
**Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments, by number of parents in the household, December 2006**

Parents in household	Number	Percentage of total
Total	1,079,320	100.0
No parents <sup>a</sup>	132,610	12.3
One parent	713,070	66.1
Two parents	233,640	21.6

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 10 percent sample.

NOTE: The total of children with one or two parents in the household differs slightly from the number of children living in a parent's household in Table 7. This is because the data in Table 7 represent only households in which a parent is the head of the household, whereas the data in this table include children living with parents who are not the head of the household.

a. Children with no parents in the household reside independently, with other relatives or nonrelatives, or in institutions or in foster care. Deeming does not apply in these situations.

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**Table 13.****Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments with one parent in the household, by type and monthly amount of parental income, December 2006**

Parental income	All children living with one parent		Children living with—			
			Mother only		Father only	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	713,070	100.0	673,420	100.0	39,650	100.0
No parental income	324,220	45.5	309,690	46.0	14,530	36.6
Parental income <sup>a</sup>	388,850	54.5	363,730	54.0	25,120	63.4
Earned income	249,280	35.0	231,650	34.4	17,630	44.5
Unearned income	163,350	22.9	154,660	23.0	8,690	21.9
Total income (dollars)						
None	324,220	45.5	309,690	46.0	14,530	36.6
Under 200	72,620	10.2	70,740	10.5	1,880	4.7
200–399	31,240	4.4	29,760	4.4	1,480	3.7
400–599	35,680	5.0	33,770	5.0	1,910	4.8
600–999	80,820	11.3	75,950	11.3	4,870	12.3
1,000 or more	168,490	23.6	153,510	22.8	14,980	37.8
Earned income (dollars)						
None	463,790	65.0	441,770	65.6	22,020	55.5
Under 200	5,110	0.7	4,860	0.7	250	0.6
200–399	9,960	1.4	9,540	1.4	420	1.1
400–599	18,400	2.6	17,730	2.6	670	1.7
600–999	56,210	7.9	53,800	8.0	2,410	6.1
1,000 or more	159,600	22.4	145,720	21.6	13,880	35.0
Unearned income (dollars)						
None	549,720	77.1	518,760	77.0	30,960	78.1
Under 200	84,510	11.9	82,120	12.2	2,390	6.0
200–399	26,020	3.6	24,710	3.7	1,310	3.3
400–599	19,990	2.8	18,660	2.8	1,330	3.4
600–999	26,970	3.8	24,220	3.6	2,750	6.9
1,000 or more	5,860	0.8	4,950	0.7	910	2.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 10 percent sample.

a. The sum of the entries may be greater than the total because some parents may receive both earned and unearned income.

CONTACT: Clark Pickett (410) 965-9016 or ssi.children@ssa.gov.

**Table 14.****Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments with two parents in the household, by type and monthly amount of parental income, December 2006**

Parental income	All children living with two parents		Mother		Father	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	233,640	100.0	233,640	100.0	233,640	100.0
No parental income	41,300	17.7	150,200	64.3	71,330	30.5
Parental income <sup>a</sup>	192,340	82.3	83,440	35.7	162,310	69.5
Earned income	158,480	67.8	55,940	23.9	129,700	55.5
Unearned income	55,350	23.7	31,800	13.6	40,940	17.5
Total income (dollars)						
None	41,300	17.7	150,200	64.3	71,330	30.5
Under 200	7,970	3.4	17,620	7.5	8,930	3.8
200–399	6,330	2.7	6,950	3.0	4,840	2.1
400–599	7,780	3.3	9,060	3.9	7,990	3.4
600–999	23,280	10.0	16,480	7.1	22,970	9.8
1,000 or more	146,980	62.9	33,330	14.3	117,580	50.3
Earned income (dollars)						
None	75,160	32.2	177,700	76.1	103,940	44.5
Under 200	1,570	0.7	2,430	1.0	1,560	0.7
200–399	2,490	1.1	3,540	1.5	2,040	0.9
400–599	4,140	1.8	5,520	2.4	3,410	1.5
600–999	14,370	6.2	12,340	5.3	11,530	4.9
1,000 or more	135,910	58.2	32,110	13.7	111,160	47.6
Unearned income (dollars)						
None	178,290	76.3	201,840	86.4	192,700	82.5
Under 200	13,750	5.9	18,330	7.8	11,600	5.0
200–399	8,490	3.6	4,190	1.8	4,760	2.0
400–599	7,830	3.4	3,950	1.7	5,510	2.4
600–999	16,120	6.9	4,500	1.9	13,120	5.6
1,000 or more	9,160	3.9	830	0.4	5,950	2.5

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 10 percent sample.

a. The sum of the entries may be greater than the total because some parents may receive both earned and unearned income.

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**Table 15.****Number of children receiving federally administered SSI payments with one or more parents who have income and average monthly amount of parental income, by type of income, December 2006**

Type of income	All children with parental income		Children with parental income from—			
	Number	Average monthly amount (dollars)	Mother		Father	
			Number	Average monthly amount (dollars)	Number	Average monthly amount (dollars)
Total <sup>a</sup>	581,190	1,231	447,170	925	187,430	1,611
Earned income	407,760	1,547	287,590	1,240	147,330	1,860
Unearned income <sup>b</sup>	218,700	388	186,460	305	49,630	563
Social Security	75,660	609	58,940	501	23,810	696
Other pensions	5,310	405	3,040	328	3,010	383
Public income-maintenance	97,900	137	92,750	125	11,350	154
Asset income	15,080	45	11,730	35	4,750	55
Other	37,280	607	27,870	516	9,900	832

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 10 percent sample.

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

b. The sum of the entries may be greater than the total because some parents may receive more than one type of unearned income.

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**Table 16.****Number and percentage distribution of children receiving federally administered SSI payments subject to deeming, by factors affecting parental deemed income, December 2006**

Deeming factors	All children living with parent(s)		Children living with—			
			One parent		Two parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	946,710	100.0	713,070	75.3	233,640	24.7
<b><i>No deemed income used in child's payment computation</i></b>						
Subtotal	788,040	100.0	619,230	100.0	168,810	100.0
No parental income	365,520	46.4	324,220	52.4	41,300	24.5
Parent(s) receive public income-maintenance payments	97,900	12.4	84,060	13.6	13,840	8.2
Income less than deeming allocations <sup>a</sup>	31,820	4.0	23,810	3.8	8,010	4.7
Income less than exclusions <sup>b</sup>	292,800	37.2	187,140	30.2	105,660	62.6
<b><i>Deemed income used in child's payment computation</i></b>						
Subtotal	158,670	100.0	93,840	100.0	64,830	100.0
Parent(s) with—						
Earned income only	119,470	75.3	69,990	74.6	49,480	76.3
Unearned income only	21,720	13.7	16,710	17.8	5,010	7.7
Both earned and unearned income	14,610	9.2	5,130	5.5	9,480	14.6
Manually computed deemed income	2,870	1.8	2,010	2.1	860	1.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 10 percent sample.

a. Includes allocations for ineligible children and SSI-eligible aliens sponsored by parents.

b. Includes the general income exclusion (\$20), the earned income exclusion (\$65 plus one-half of the remaining earned income), and the parental living allowance.

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## Appendix: Sampling Variability

Estimates based on sample data may differ from the figures that would have been obtained had all, rather than specified samples, of the records been used. These differences are termed sampling variability. The standard error is a measure of the sampling variability. About 68 percent of all possible probability samples selected with the same specifications will give estimates within one standard error of the figure obtained from a compilation of all records. Similarly, approximately 90 percent will give estimates within 1.645 standard errors, about 95 percent will give estimates within two standard errors, and about 99 percent will give estimates within two and one-half standard errors. The standard error of an estimate depends on the design elements such as the method of sampling, sample size, and the estimation process.

Because of the large number of data cells tabulated from the sample files, it is not practical to calculate the standard error for every possible cell. However, standard errors for a large number of cells were estimated. These estimates were used to fit regression curves to provide estimates of approximate standard errors associated with tabulated counts and proportions.

The tables showing the sampling variability provide a general order of magnitude for similar estimates from the various sample files. Table A-1 presents approximate standard errors for the estimated number of persons from a 10 percent file. The reliability of an estimated percentage depends on both the size of the percentage and on the size of the total on which the percentage is based. Data in Table A-2 provide approximations of the standard errors of the estimated percentage of persons from a 10 percent file. The standard errors are expressed in percentage points, and the bases shown are in terms of inflated data.

**Table A-1.**  
**Approximations of standard errors of estimated number of persons from a 10 percent file**

Size of estimate (inflated)	Standard error
100	30
500	70
1,000	100
5,000	225
10,000	300
50,000	700
100,000	1,000
500,000	2,200
1,000,000	3,200
2,000,000	4,300
3,000,000	5,300
5,000,000	6,500
10,000,000	8,500
20,000,000	9,300

**Table A-2.**  
**Approximations of standard errors of estimated percentage of persons from a 10 percent file**

Size of base (inflated)	2 or 98	5 or 95	10 or 90	25 or 75	50
500	1.9	3.0	4.1	5.9	6.8
1,000	1.3	2.1	2.9	4.1	4.8
2,500	0.8	1.3	1.8	2.6	3.0
10,000	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.5
50,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7
100,000	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
500,000	a	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
1,000,000	a	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
5,000,000	a	a	a	a	0.1
10,000,000	a	a	a	a	a
50,000,000	a	a	a	a	a

a. Less than 0.05 percent.