## Notes and Brief Reports

### School Attendance Patterns of Student Beneficiaries\*

At the end of 1969, approximately 562,000 students were on the social security beneficiary rolls. Only 498,000 of them, however, were actually receiving checks. Benefits for the others were being withheld, usually because earnings of the worker or the student himself were sufficiently high to offset benefits otherwise due them. Data in this report are from the claims folders of a sample of student beneficiaries. The methodology of the study is discussed at the end of this note.

#### **DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Data on the number of student beneficiaries by age, race, and basis of entitlement is readily available from social security records. Most of the students-68.3 percent-received their benefits on the basis of the death of an insured parent. Retired parents provided entitlements for 18.0 percent of all student beneficiaries, and the remaining 13.7 percent were sons and daughters of disabled workers. The tabulation that follows shows selected demographic characteristics of the student beneficiaries.

		R	ice	Sex 1		
Age	All students	White	Negro and others	Male	Female	
All ages	100.0	85.5	14.5	54.3	45.7	
18	38. 2 26. 9 19. 9 15. 0	83.5 84.9 87.3 89.4	16.5 15.1 12.7 10.6	(2) (2) (2) (2) (2)	(2) (2) (2) (2) (2)	

Percentages estimated from sample data.
 Data not available by age.

#### TYPES OF SCHOOLS ATTENDED

Overall, 25.8 percent of the students on the beneficiary rolls at the end of 1969 were attending high school, 65.9 percent were attending college, and 8.3 percent were attending a technical or vocational school. The data in tables 1 and 2 show

Table 1.—Student beneficiaries on the rolls, by age, race, and basis of entitlement, by type of school attended, end of

Age, race, and basis of entitlement of student	Total	High school	College	Technical, vocational, and other
		Nun		
Total	561,818	145,123	370,730	45,965
Age:  18.  19.  20.  21.  Race: White. Negro and other.  Basis of entitlement: Retirement of parent. Death of parent. Disability of parent.	214,902 150,874 111,473 84,569 480,575 81,243 101,004 383,720 77,094	94, 240 38, 139 8, 949 3, 795 111, 171 33, 952 24, 503 96, 721 23, 899	100,890 96,691 97,449 75,700 330,587 40,143 67,782 256,184 46,764	19,772 16,044 5,075 5,075 5,074 38,817 7,148 8,719 30,815 6,431
	Pe	on		
Total	100.0	25.8	65.9	8.3
Age: 18 19 20 21	100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0	43.9 25.3 8.0 4.5	46.9 64.1 87.4 89.5	9.2 10.6 4.6 6.0
Race: White	100.0 100.0	23.3 41.8	68.8 49.4	7.9 8.8
Basis of entitlement: Retirement of parent Death of parent Disability of parent	100.0	24.3 25.2 30.9	67.0 66.8 60.6	8.7 8.0 8.5

variations in the type of school attended when age, race, and basis of entitlement are taken into consideration.

Age.—As expected, the percentage of students attending high school was highest at age 18. At that age, nearly as many were attending high school as were attending college. At age 19, the percentage of students attending high school was still substantial but considerably lower: college students outnumbered them by roughly 5 to 2. For student beneficiaries aged 20 and 21, the percentage attending high school was very low, especially for white students; at those ages, almost 90 percent of all student beneficiaries were attending college. The percentage of 18- or 19-year-old student beneficiaries who were attending technical or vocational school, however, was twice as large as the percentage of the 20- and 21-year-old students.

Race.—There were substantial differences in proportions of white students and students of other races who were attending high school and college, both in general and at each age level.

<sup>\*</sup> Prepared by Barbara A. Kirsch, Division of Statistics.

Table 2.—Percentage distribution of student beneficiaries, by type of school attended, age, race, and basis of entitlement, end of 1969

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Race, basis of entitlement, and age of student beneficiaries	Number	Total	High school	Col- lege	Technical, vocational, and other
Basis of entitlement by race: White:					
Retirement of parent  Death of parent  Disability of parent  Negro and other:	84,497	100.0	20.7	70.0	9.3
	331,384	100.0	22.4	69.8	7.8
	64,694	100.0	30.0	61.7	8.3
Retirement of parent Death of parent Disability of parent	16,507	100.0	42.4	52.0	5.6
	52,336	100.0	42.9	47.2	9.9
	12,400	100.0	36.2	55.3	8.5
Race by age: White:					
18	179,550	100.0	41.0	50.0	9.0
	128,089	100.0	22.4	66.5	11.1
	97,336	100.0	6.1	90.1	3.8
	75,600	100.0	3.8	90.1	6.1
Negro and other: 18	35,352 22,785 14,137	100.0 100.0 100.0	58.0 41.6 21.0	32.0 50.9 68.8 83.9	10.0 7.5 10.2 5.0
Basis of entitlement by age:	8,969	100.0	11.1	83.9	5.0
Retirement of parent:  18	34,037	100.0	43.7	41.8	14.5
	26,740	100.0	26.3	66.4	7.3
	21,786	100.0	9.8	85.4	4.8
	18,441	100.0	2.6	93.4	4.0
Death of parent:  18	146,869	100.0	43.3	48.8	7.9
	103,414	100.0	23.6	64.9	11.5
	76,329	100.0	7.6	88.3	4.1
	57,108	100.0	5.1	87.3	7.6
Disability of parent: 18	33,996	100.0	46.5	44.9	8.6
	20,720	100.0	32.2	57.1	10.7
	13,358	100.0	7.4	85.5	7.1
	9,020	100.0	4.5	93.5	2.0

Less than one-fourth of the white students were in high school, compared with more than two-fifths of the Negro students and students of other races. Also, more than two-thirds of the white students were attending college, but barely one-half of the other students were. At each age level, a higher proportion of the white students were attending college and, conversely, a higher proportion of the other students were in high school. The proportions in vocational or technical schools were substantially the same for the two racial groups.

Basis of entitlement.—In general, the type of school attended did not differ greatly with the basis of entitlement. Among students with a retired or deceased parent, about one-fourth were attending high school, about two-thirds were attending college, and the remainder were attending vocational or technical schools. Among students with a disabled parent, somewhat more than one-fourth were attending high school, and somewhat less than two-thirds were attending college.

When the data are classified by age of student, a similarity in pattern for all student beneficiaries is maintained except for minor variations for specific groups. For example, the percentage of 18-year-old students from retired-worker families who were attending vocational or technical schools is considerably above the corresponding percentages for students from other types of families.

When race is considered, the difference in the pattern of school attendance between white students and Negro and other students is very marked for students entitled on the basis of retirement or death of parent. This difference, however, is not as marked for students of disabledworker families.

Table 3.—Approximate sampling variability of percentages of student beneficiaries attending high school, college, or technical and vocational school, by age, race, and basis of entitlement, end of 1969

Age, race, and basis of entitlement	Percent	Confidence interval		
of student	at school	68 percent	95 percent	
	1	High school		
Total	25.8	24.1-27.5	22.4-29.2	
Age: 18. 19. 20. 21.	43.9 25.3 8.0 4.5	40.3-47.5 22.1-28.5 6.1-9.9 2.9-6.1	36.7-51.1 18.9-31.7 4.2-11.8 1.3-7.7	
Race: White: Negro and other. Basis of entitlement:	23.3 41.8	21.4-25.2 39.7-43.9	19.5-27.1 37.6-46.0	
Retirement of parent.  Death of parent.  Disability of parent.	25.2	22.2-26.4 22.9-27.5 28.2-33.6	20.1-28.5 20.6-29.8 25.5-36.3	
	<del></del>	College		
Total	65.9	64.1-67.7	62.3-69.5	
Age: 18. 19. 20. 21.	46.9 64.1 87.4 89.5	43.2-50.6 60.5-67.7 85.2-89.6 87.0-92.0	39.5-54.3 56.9-71.3 83.0-91.8 84.5-94.5	
Race: White Negro and other Basis of entitlement:	68.8 49.4	66.7-70.9 47.3-51.5	64.6-73.0 45.2-53.6	
Retirement of parent Death of parent Disability of parent	66.8	64.7-69.3 64.3-69.3 57.8-63.4	62.4-71.6 61.8-71.8 55.0-66.2	
	Technical,	vocational, and other		
Total	8.3	7.2-9.4	6.1-10.5	
Age: 18	9.2 10.6 4.6 6.0	7.2-11.2 8.1-13.1 3.3-5.9 4.0-8.0	5.2-13.2 5.6-15.6 2.0-7.5 2.0-10.0	
White	7.9 8.8	6.6-9.2 7. <i>5</i> -10.1	5.3-10.5 6.2-11.4	
Retirement of parent  Death of parent  Disability of parent	8.0	7.7-9.7 6.5-9.5 6.8-10.2	6.7-10.7 5.0-11.0 5.1-11.9	

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The data in this note were extracted from claims folders for a sample of student beneficiaries by systematic sampling with a random start from each of 24 student beneficiary strata. These strata reflected 4 age groupings within 2 race groupings within 3 basis-of-entitlement groupings. In each stratum, the student beneficiary population was arranged by social security number, a random start was selected, and every *nth* record was selected for the sample, *n* being determined in such a way as to yield approximately 75 records per stratum.

The sample selection process called for examining 1,934 claims folders. Actually, only 1,689 claims folders were examined because the remaining folders were in operational use at the time. A later analysis of the characteristics of those student beneficiaries whose claims folders were not available for examination, however, did not point to an unusual concentration of any characteristic. Consequently, it was assumed that the

nonavailabality of folders was random and that no bias situation was created.

The data shown in tables 1 and 2 are, of course, weighted sample data where the sample data from each stratum was weighted by the ratio of total number of student beneficiaries in the stratum to the sample number of student beneficiaries for that stratum.

Since the percentages presented in this note are based on sample data, they may differ somewhat from percentages that would have been obtained from a survey of the entire population of student beneficiaries. To obtain an indication of the sampling variability for the percentages shown in tables 1 and 2, confidence intervals were computed, both at the 68-percent and 95-percent levels. Those for the percentages in table 1 are shown in table 3. For example, the percentage of 18-year-olds attending college is shown in table 1 as being 46.9 percent. According to table 3, the chances are 95 out of 100 that the true population percentage would be between 39.5 percent and 54.3 percent.

## Social Security Abroad

# Special Retirement Programs for Farmers: New Japanese Law\*

The Japanese Diet passed the Farmers Pension Fund law in May 1970, and the collection of contributions began on January 1, 1971. The special pension program for Japanese farmers is an interesting example of the conception and use of a social insurance plan as an instrument of economic policy—in this case, to modernize the agricultural sector by promoting early retirement. The new program is also important for several other reasons, the most obvious being the attempt to provide farmers with old-age protection at a level approximating that enjoyed by employees in industry and commerce.

In addition to the question of "parity" of social security protection between farmers and employed workers, an important social issue in several

countries, the farmers pension law presents some interesting aspects from the standpoint of social security policy. The new pension will supplement the old-age benefits farmers already receive under the National Pension Insurance program. The coordination of these two programs shows the difficulty of combining a special program with a more general system in order to meet the needs of a particular socio-economic group.

The Japanese farmers retirement program has several significant features in common with the pension programs for farmers in France, Poland, Germany, and Austria (as discussed below). Thus the new Japanese law has clearly shown how the social policy of one country may be influenced by the techniques other countries have implemented to meet particular problems.

#### BACKGROUND

In Japan, as in most other countries, farmers began to participate in a compulsory old-age insurance program at a much later date than work-

<sup>\*</sup> Prepared by Dalmer D. Hoskins, International Staff.