

Old-Age (retirement), Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—popularly referred to as Social Security—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when earnings stop or are reduced because the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of benefits received is based on the worker’s level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program.

Table 1.—OASDI in Puerto Rico, December 2002: Number of beneficiaries and monthly benefit amount for benefits in current-payment status

Congressional district	Number of beneficiaries						Monthly benefit amount (thousands of dollars)			Number of OASDI beneficiaries aged 65 or older
	Total	Retired workers ¹	Disabled workers	Widow(er)s ²	Wives and husbands	Children	All beneficiaries	Retired workers	Widow(er)s ²	
United States, total	46,444,240	29,190,150	5,543,981	4,967,155	2,832,767	3,910,187	37,854,411	26,125,087	4,169,125	33,162,456
Puerto Rico	692,470	312,881	130,932	80,967	64,908	102,782	365,284	185,533	41,635	387,570

¹ Includes special age-72 beneficiaries.

² Includes nondisabled widow(er)s, disabled widow(er)s, widowed mothers and fathers, and parents.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, or disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The former federal-state programs of Old-Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled still operate in Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. These programs are administered at the federal level by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.



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