
Highlights and Trends

Social Security (OASDI)

Employment and Earnings

Workers in OASDI covered employment, 2001	153.5 million
Average earnings, 2001	\$32,939
Earnings required in 2002 for—	
1 quarter of coverage	\$870
Maximum of 4 quarters of coverage	\$3,480
Earnings test exempt amounts for 2002	
Under full retirement age for entire year	\$11,280
For months before attainment of full retirement age in 2002	\$30,000
Beginning with month of attainment of full retirement age in 2002	Earnings test eliminated

Program Data

Cost-of-living adjustment for December 2001	2.6 percent
Average monthly benefit, December 2001	
Retired workers	\$874
Widows and widowers, nondisabled	\$841
Disabled workers	\$814
Number of beneficiaries, December 2001	
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance	45.9 million
Old-Age Insurance	32.0 million
Retired workers	28.8 million
Survivors Insurance	6.9 million
Widows and widowers, nondisabled	4.6 million
Disability Insurance	6.9 million
Disabled workers	5.3 million
Benefit payments, 2001	
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance	\$431.9 billion
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance	372.3 billion
Disability Insurance	59.6 billion
Administrative expenses, 2001	
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance	\$2.0 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid	0.5 percent
Disability Insurance	\$1.7 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid	2.9 percent

Social Security (OASDI)

Program Trends

- In December 2001, 45.9 million persons were receiving Social Security benefits, an increase of 463,000 (1.0 percent) since December 2000. Seventy percent were retired workers and their spouses and children, and 15 percent were survivors of deceased workers. Fifteen percent were disabled workers and their spouses and children.
- Seventy-one percent of the 28.8 million retired workers received reduced benefits because of entitlement prior to full retirement age. Relatively more women (75 percent) than men (68 percent) received reduced benefits.
- The number of persons aged 65 or older receiving Social Security benefits rose from 31.7 million in 1996 to 32.9 million in 2001 (4.0 percent). Beneficiaries aged 85 or older increased at a greater rate during the 5-year period (11.5 percent) from 3,672,000 in 1996 to 4,095,000 in 2001. In 2001, 39,100 centenarians were receiving Social Security.
- More than 19 million women aged 65 or older were receiving benefits in December 2001. Seven million (36.8 percent) were entitled solely to a retired-worker benefit, and 5.6 million (29.2 percent) were dually entitled to a retired-worker benefit and a wife's or widow's benefit. About 6.5 million (34.0 percent) were receiving wife's or widow's benefits only.
- Almost 3 million children under age 18 were receiving benefits, including 1,346,000 children of deceased workers, 1,385,400 children of disabled workers, and 262,500 children of retired workers.
- In December 2001, 6,215,000 beneficiaries were receiving payments on the basis of disability—5,274,200 disabled workers, 736,500 disabled adult children, and 204,200 disabled widows and widowers. In addition, 156,900 spouses and 1,424,200 minor and student children of disabled workers were receiving benefits.
- The leading causes of disability for disabled workers were mental disorders other than mental retardation (28 percent), and musculoskeletal conditions (24 percent). About 10 percent had circulatory conditions and an additional 10 percent had diseases of the nervous system and sense organs.
- Average monthly benefits for December 2001, including the 2.6 percent COLA increase, were \$874 for retired workers, \$814 for disabled workers, and \$841 for nondisabled widows and widowers. Among retired workers, benefits averaged \$985 for men and \$756 for women. For disabled workers, average benefits were \$914 for men and \$688 for women.
- Average monthly family benefits for December 2001 were \$1,569 for a widowed mother or father and children; \$1,369 for a disabled worker, wife, and children; and \$1,712 for a retired worker, wife, and children.
- Total OASDI benefit payments for calendar year 2001 were \$431.9 billion. Payments from the OASI trust fund were \$372.3 billion—an increase of 5.6 percent from the \$352.7 billion paid in 2000.
- Benefit payments from the DI trust fund, from which benefits are paid to disabled workers, their spouses, and children, increased by 8.4 percent from \$55.0 billion in 2000 to \$59.6 billion in 2001.
- OASDI benefit awards in calendar year 2001 totaled 4,162,000, including 1,779,200 to retired workers, 425,200 to their spouses and children and 839,700 to survivors of insured workers. Benefits were awarded to 691,300 disabled workers and 426,500 of their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Federal benefit rate change, effective January 2002

Cost-of-living adjustment	2.6 percent
Monthly amount for—	
Individual living in his or her own household	\$545
Couple with both members eligible	\$817

Program Data

Total	
Benefits paid in 2001	\$33.1 billion
Number of recipients, December 2001	6.8 million
Average benefit, December 2001	\$400.06
Federally administered payments	
Benefits paid in 2001	\$32.2 billion
Number of recipients, December 2001	6.7 million
Average benefit, December 2001	\$393.96
Federal SSI payments	
Benefits paid in 2001	\$28.7 billion
Number of recipients, December 2001	6.4 million
Average benefit, December 2001	\$366.31
Federally administered state supplementation	
Benefits paid in 2001	\$3.5 billion
Number of recipients, December 2001	¹ 2.5 million
Average benefit, December 2001	\$112.65
State-administered supplementation	
Benefits paid in 2001	\$0.9 billion
Number of recipients, December 2001	² 0.7 million
Average benefit, December 2001	\$109.03

¹ Includes 2.2 million persons receiving federal SSI and state supplementation and 0.3 million persons receiving state supplementation only.

² Includes 87,059 persons receiving state supplementation only.

Supplemental Security Income

Program Trends

- In December 2001, 6,688,500 persons received federally administered SSI payments—86,800 more than the previous year. Of the total, 1,995,200 (30 percent) were aged 65 or older; 3,811,500 (57 percent) were blind or disabled aged 18-64; and 881,800 (13 percent) were blind or disabled under age 18.
- The number of blind or disabled aged 18-64 rose by 67,500 (1.8 percent) between December 2000 and December 2001, while the number under age 18 increased by 35,100 (4.1 percent).
- During 2001, 770,500 persons were awarded federally administered payments, a increase of 3.1 percent from the previous year. Of the 2001 awards, 502,800 went to blind or disabled recipients aged 18-64, 157,000 to those blind or disabled under age 18, and 110,800 to recipients aged 65 or older.
- Total SSI payments were \$33.1 billion in 2001, up 4.7 percent from 2000. Federal SSI payments in 2001 were \$28.7 billion (an increase of 5.2 percent over the previous year). Federally administered state supplementation totaled \$3.5 billion and state-administered supplementation \$895.0 million, increasing by 2.3 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively from the previous year's totals.
- In 2001, the leading causes of disability among the blind or disabled between the ages of 18 and 64, and those under age 18 were mental disorders and mental retardation. Among disabled recipients between the ages of 18 and 64, 25 percent had mental retardation as the primary diagnosis, and 35 percent were diagnosed with another mental disorder. These conditions were also the most frequent diagnoses for blind or disabled under age 18.

Health Care

Medicare

Hospital Insurance (Part A)	
Total benefits paid in calendar year 2001	\$141.2 billion
Supplementary Medical Insurance (Part B)	
Total benefits paid in calendar year 2001	\$99.7 billion
Number of enrollees in July 2001, (one or both of Parts A and B)	40.0 million
Aged	34.4 million
Disabled	5.5 million
Administrative costs, 2001	
Hospital Insurance	\$2.2 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid	1.6 percent
Supplementary Medical Insurance	\$1.7 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid	1.7 percent

Medicaid

Medical service expenditures in fiscal year 1998	\$142.3 billion
Number of unduplicated recipients, fiscal year 1998	40.7 million
Average 1998 vendor payment per unduplicated recipient	
Persons aged 65 or older	\$10,242
Permanently and totally disabled persons	\$9,095
Dependent children under age 21	\$1,203
Average 1998 vendor payment for medical services	
Nursing facility services	\$19,379
Inpatient general hospital care	\$5,031
Prescribed drugs	\$699
Physicians services	\$327

Unemployment Insurance

2001	
Total payments	\$31.6 billion
Average—	
Weekly benefit amount (regular programs)	\$238
Duration of benefits	13.8 weeks
Weekly insured unemployment	3.0 million
Covered employment	127.9 billion

Workers' Compensation

2000	
Benefit payments	
Total	\$45.9 billion
Compensation payments	25.9 billion
Medical and hospitalization	20.0 billion
Benefits paid by—	
Private insurance carriers	25.7 billion
State and federal funds	10.4 billion
Employers' self-insurance	9.8 billion
Covered workers per month	126.6 million
Costs as a percentage of covered payroll	1.25 percent

Temporary Disability Insurance

Programs in effect in—
 California, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Puerto Rico, and the railroad industry.

	Average weekly benefit, 1999	
	State fund	Private plans
California*	\$234	\$396
New York	\$186	\$149

*Accounts for half of the workers participating in TDI.

Black Lung Benefits

Basic benefit, miner or widow	\$518.50
Maximum family benefit	\$1,037.00
Part B (claims filed before July 1, 1973)	
Number of monthly benefits to miners, widows, and dependents, December 2001	79,500
Total benefits paid, calendar year 2001	\$470.4 million
Part C (claims filed July 1, 1973 or later)	
Total benefits paid, fiscal year 2001	
Disability and survivors benefits	\$336.8 million
Medical benefits	\$60.1 million

Veterans' Benefits

Disability compensation or pension, 2001

Number of veterans with—	
Service-connected disability	2,321,000
Non-service-connected disability	348,000
Monthly payment in 2002 for—	
Service-connected disability	
10 percent disability	\$103
Total disability	\$2,163
Non-service-connected disability (maximum payment)	
Without dependent	\$796
With one dependent and in need of aid and attendance	\$1,575

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Total payments, 2001	\$10.1 billion
Average monthly number of—	
Recipients	5.4 million
Families	2.1 million
Average monthly payment	
Per recipient	\$157
Per family	\$401

Food Stamps

Monthly benefits, beginning October 1, 2002	
Four-person household with no income	\$465
Standard deduction (one-person to four-person households)	\$134
Fiscal year 2001	
Average number of participants	17.3 million
Total benefits	\$15.6 billion

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance

In fiscal year 2000 the Department of Health and Human Services issued—

- \$1.06 billion in block grants to the 50 states and the District of Columbia;
- \$11.0 million in direct block grants to 128 Indian tribes and tribal organizations;
- \$1.5 million in block grants to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, America Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and
- \$20.6 million in leveraging incentive awards to 37 states, 29 tribes;
- \$5.5 million for Residential Emergency Assistance Challenge (REACH) program awards to 5 states; \$845,000 to 6 Indian tribes and tribal organizations;
- \$732 million in emergency contingency funds to 50 states and the District of Columbia, and \$12.3 million to 128 Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Poverty

2001 weighted average poverty thresholds

Individual, aged 65 or older	\$8,494
Couple, householder aged 65 or older	\$10,715
Family of four	\$18,104

Percentage of population with income below poverty level, 2000

All ages	11.3 percent
Children under age 18 living in families	15.7 percent
Persons aged 65 or older	10.2 percent