

**Table 2.—Estimated number of families and beneficiaries in receipt of benefits and average monthly benefit in current-payment status, June 30, 1951, for selected family groups, by eligibility status<sup>1</sup> of retired worker**

[In thousands, except for average benefit; data corrected to Oct. 31, 1951]

Family classification of beneficiaries in current-payment status	Total			1939 eligibles			New eligibles		
	Number of families	Number of beneficiaries	Average monthly amount per family	Number of families	Number of beneficiaries	Average monthly amount per family	Number of families	Number of beneficiaries	Average monthly amount per family
Worker only.....	1,478.8	1,478.8	\$40.90	1,113.0	1,113.0	\$46.20	365.8	365.8	\$24.70
Male.....	1,091.1	1,091.1	43.50	854.2	854.2	48.30	236.9	236.9	26.10
Female.....	387.7	387.7	33.60	258.8	258.8	39.30	128.9	128.9	22.10
Worker and wife aged 65 or over.....	568.5	1,137.0	70.40	509.1	1,018.2	74.00	59.4	118.8	39.00
Worker, wife under age 65, and 1 or more children.....	24.0	86.5	73.10	13.8	48.9	91.60	10.2	37.6	48.10

<sup>1</sup> "1939 eligibles" are persons who had sufficient quarters of coverage to qualify for old-age benefits under the insured-status provisions in the 1939 amendments; "new eligibles" are persons who qual-

ified for old-age benefits solely as a result of the liberalized insured-status provisions in the 1950 amendments.

**Table 3.—Estimated percentage distribution of old-age benefits in current-payment status on June 30, 1951, by eligibility status,<sup>1</sup> amount of monthly benefit, and sex of beneficiary**

[Number in thousands; data corrected to Nov. 7, 1951]

Old-age benefit amount	Total			Male			Female		
	Total	1939 eligibles	New eligibles	Total	1939 eligibles	New eligibles	Total	1939 eligibles	New eligibles
Total number.....	2,090.7	1,651.9	438.8	1,700.6	1,391.0	309.6	390.1	260.9	129.2
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
\$20.00.....	17.0	6.0	58.2	13.5	5.0	51.8	32.2	11.6	73.7
20.10-24.00.....	4.5	3.1	10.0	3.9	2.5	10.2	7.3	6.3	9.4
25.00-29.90.....	4.4	3.5	7.9	3.9	2.9	8.6	6.6	6.8	6.1
30.00-34.90.....	5.6	5.1	7.7	5.1	4.3	8.9	8.0	9.5	5.0
35.00-39.90.....	8.2	8.4	7.3	7.9	7.6	9.0	9.4	12.5	3.2
40.00-44.90.....	11.7	13.4	5.4	11.4	12.4	7.0	13.0	18.6	1.7
45.00-49.90.....	11.1	13.6	1.6	11.4	13.4	2.1	9.9	14.6	.5
50.00-54.90.....	12.3	15.3	.7	13.3	16.1	.9	7.7	11.3	.3
55.00-59.90.....	11.6	14.5	.5	13.4	16.2	.6	3.7	5.5	.1
60.00-64.90.....	8.3	10.5	.4	9.9	12.0	.5	1.5	2.2	( <sup>2</sup> )
65.00-68.50.....	5.3	6.6	.3	6.3	7.6	.4	.7	1.1	( <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> "1939 eligibles" are persons who had sufficient quarters of coverage to qualify for old-age benefits under the insured-status provisions in the 1939 amendments; "new eligibles" are persons who qual-

ified for old-age benefits solely as a result of the liberalized insured-status provisions in the 1950 amendments.

<sup>2</sup> Less than 0.5 percent.

June 30, 1951, to a widowed mother and two children exceeded the average payment to a widowed mother and three children for the following reasons. For any given primary insurance amount less than \$56, the 80-percent-of-average-wage maximum provision results in identical family benefits for both family groups. The distribution of primary insurance amounts underlying the family benefits as of June 30, 1951, showed greater concentrations, however, at the lower amounts for the larger families than for the smaller families. Thus the average family benefit for all widow and three-

child families whose benefits were based on a primary insurance amount less than \$56 was lower than the corresponding average family benefit for the widow and two-child families. When benefits are based on primary insurance amounts in excess of \$56, the benefits payable to the larger families are greater than those payable to the smaller families. These larger families were insufficient in number, however, for their higher benefits to raise the over-all average for all widow and three-child families above that for widow and two-child families.

A distribution of all retired workers receiving old-age benefits as of June 30, 1951, by amount of benefit and by eligibility status, is shown in table 3. The proportion of old-age beneficiaries receiving the \$20 minimum was 17 percent, double the proportion receiving the \$10 minimum a year earlier. This increase reflects the fact that 58 percent of the 450,000 new eligibles receiving old-age benefits on June 30, 1951, were receiving the \$20 minimum.

## Economic Status of Aged Persons and Dependent Survivors, June 1951

An increase in the number of persons with social insurance benefits and a decline in the number receiving public assistance were the most important developments between June 1950 and June 1951 in the economic status of aged persons and of dependent survivors. The number of aged beneficiaries of old-age and survivors insurance rose 44 percent, while the number of widowed mothers and survivor children receiving benefits under that program increased 23 and 15 percent, respectively. At the same time the number of old-age assistance recipients declined 2 percent, and the number of widows and paternal orphans in families receiving aid to dependent children dropped an estimated 4 percent. Old-age assistance recipients per 100 aged beneficiaries of old-age and survivors insurance numbered 133 in June 1950 and 90 a year later. For every 100 widowed mothers with old-age and survivors insurance benefits, an estimated 88 were in families receiving aid to dependent children in June 1950; an estimated 68 per 100 were in families receiving such aid in June 1951. The corresponding ratios for survivor children were an estimated 61 and 50 per 100 receiving insurance benefits.

Estimates for June 1951 of the number with income from employment, from social insurance and related programs, and from public assistance appear in the accompanying table. Similar estimates for June 1950 appeared in the BULLETIN for December 1950.

Not much is known about the size of

**Estimated number of aged persons and dependent survivors receiving income from specified source, June 1951<sup>1</sup>**

[In millions]

Source of income	Persons aged 65 and over			Widows under age 65		Paternal orphans under age 18 <sup>3</sup>
	Total	Men	Women	Total <sup>2</sup>	With 1 or more children under age 18	
Total in population <sup>4</sup> .....	12.7	6.0	6.7	3.6	0.8	2.0
Employment.....	3.9	2.4	1.4	1.9	.4	.1
Earners.....	2.9	2.4	.5	1.9	.4	.1
Wives of earners.....	.9		.9			
Social insurance and related programs						
Old-age and survivors insurance.....	3.0	1.7	1.3	.2	.2	.7
Railroad retirement.....	.3	.2	.1	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Federal employee retirement programs.....	.2	.1	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Veterans' compensation and pension program.....	.3	.2	.1	.4	.1	.3
Other <sup>6</sup> .....	.4	.1	.3	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Public assistance.....	2.7	1.3	1.4	3.1	1.1	3.4

<sup>1</sup> Continental United States only.  
<sup>2</sup> Excludes widows who have remarried.  
<sup>3</sup> Includes children not living with widowed mother.  
<sup>4</sup> Includes person with no income and with income from sources other than those specified. Some persons received income from more than one of the sources listed.  
<sup>5</sup> Less than 50,000.  
<sup>6</sup> Beneficiaries of State and local government programs and wives of male beneficiaries of programs other than old-age and survivors insurance.  
<sup>7</sup> Old-age assistance.  
<sup>8</sup> Aid to dependent children.

the groups with income from sources other than those listed in the table—that is, persons with income from investments, industrial pensions, individually purchased annuities, and contributions from relatives and friends. It is estimated that perhaps a quarter of a million persons aged 65 and over were in receipt of industrial pensions in 1950, that about 400,000 aged persons, including some industrial pensioners, were receiving annuities under insurance company contracts; and that about 300,000 aged survivors of insured persons were drawing periodic payments from insurance companies under life insurance contracts.

Reports from State public assistance agencies to the Social Security Administration for August 1951 indicate that about 1 in 8 aged beneficiaries of old-age and survivors insurance and about 1 in every 10 child beneficiaries were receiving supplementary assistance in that month.

**Workmen's Compensation Payments, 1950**

Compensation payments and medical benefits under workmen's compensation programs during 1950 have been estimated at \$618 million, 8.5

Source: Earners aged 65 and over estimated by the Bureau of the Census. Population aged 65 and over, number of widows in population, number of earners among widows and paternal orphans, number of wives of earners, and number of wives of male beneficiaries of programs other than old-age and survivors insurance estimated from Bureau of the Census data. Number of paternal orphans under age 18 based on October 1949 estimate prepared by the Social Security Administration. Number of persons in receipt of payments under social insurance and related programs and from public assistance, reported by administrative agencies, partly estimated.

percent more than for the preceding year. The relative increase was somewhat greater than that in 1949, when payments were 6.1 percent above the total for 1948.

The slight acceleration in the rate of increase accompanied an upturn in the number of work injuries, as estimated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. After dropping to a 10-year low in 1949, the volume of all disabling work injuries—compensable and noncompensable—increased about 4 percent between 1949 and 1950. Compensation payments during 1950 reflect the high wages on which benefits are based as well as this increase in the number of workers injured in on-the-job accidents.

The increase was very uneven among the States. Under 10 programs, payments in 1950 were at least 15 percent higher than in 1949. For some of these programs, notably that for Federal employees, the greater rate of increase was associated with a statutory liberalization in the maximum on the weekly benefit amount; for several others, however, the increase was a continuation of a rise that had been significantly greater than the national increase during the past few years.

Of the total of \$618 million, 62 per-

**Estimates of workmen's compensation payments, by State, 1949 and 1950<sup>1</sup>**

[In thousands]

State	1949	1950	Percent-age change, 1950 from 1949
Total.....	\$569, 538	\$618, 489	+8.5
Alabama.....	2, 659	2, 137	-19.6
Arizona.....	8, 218	7, 500	-8.7
Arkansas.....	3, 501	3, 705	+5.8
California.....	52, 672	57, 070	+8.3
Colorado.....	3, 154	3, 568	+13.1
Connecticut.....	9, 438	9, 500	+7
Delaware.....	670	720	+7.5
District of Columbia.....	2, 279	2, 360	+3.6
Florida.....	6, 815	7, 418	+8.8
Georgia.....	3, 806	4, 287	+12.6
Idaho.....	1, 920	1, 950	+1.6
Illinois.....	29, 941	31, 370	+4.8
Indiana.....	8, 604	8, 920	+2.6
Iowa.....	4, 192	4, 985	+18.9
Kansas.....	3, 682	4, 260	+15.7
Kentucky.....	6, 508	6, 767	+4.0
Louisiana.....	9, 915	11, 400	+15.0
Maine.....	1, 854	1, 600	-13.7
Maryland.....	6, 506	6, 920	+6.4
Massachusetts.....	20, 916	24, 100	+15.2
Michigan.....	20, 007	23, 243	+16.2
Minnesota.....	9, 302	9, 662	+3.9
Mississippi.....	1, 383	2, 420	+75.0
Missouri.....	10, 170	10, 520	+3.4
Montana.....	2, 422	2, 544	+5.0
Nebraska.....	2, 178	2, 360	+8.4
Nevada.....	1, 571	1, 500	-4.5
New Hampshire.....	1, 546	1, 670	+8.0
New Jersey.....	27, 681	29, 010	+4.8
New Mexico.....	1, 760	2, 330	+32.4
New York.....	112, 051	119, 188	+6.4
North Carolina.....	5, 812	6, 430	+10.6
North Dakota.....	1, 060	1, 100	+3.8
Ohio.....	38, 065	40, 000	+5.1
Oklahoma.....	7, 525	8, 044	+6.9
Oregon.....	7, 923	8, 983	+13.4
Pennsylvania.....	29, 138	30, 530	+5.8
Rhode Island.....	3, 516	3, 800	+8.1
South Carolina.....	3, 968	4, 000	+8
South Dakota.....	802	950	+18.5
Tennessee.....	4, 721	5, 429	+15.0
Texas.....	30, 437	33, 380	+9.7
Utah.....	1, 781	1, 880	+5.6
Vermont.....	842	900	+6.9
Virginia.....	5, 256	5, 640	+7.3
Washington.....	14, 656	14, 770	+1.8
West Virginia.....	9, 423	9, 632	+2.2
Wisconsin.....	12, 362	13, 376	+8.0
Wyoming.....	936	1, 011	+8.7
Federal employees.....	14, 210	23, 370	+64.5

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. Payments represent cash and medical benefits and include insurance losses paid by private insurance carriers (1949 data compiled from the *Spectator: Premiums and Losses by States of Casualty, Surety and Miscellaneous Lines*, 78th annual issue; 1950 data from the *Spectator: Insurance by States of Fire, Marine, Casualty, Surety and Miscellaneous Lines*, 79th annual issue), net disbursements of State funds (data from the *Spectator, the Argus Casualty and Surety Chart*, 52nd annual edition, and State reports and estimates for some States), and self-insurance payments (estimated from available State data). Data for calendar years except for Montana and West Virginia, for Federal employees, and for State fund disbursements in Maryland, North Dakota, Oregon, and Utah, for which data for fiscal years ended in 1949 and 1950 were used. Includes benefit payments under the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and the Defense Bases Compensation Act for the States in which such payments are made.

cent was paid by private insurance carriers, 24 percent by State funds, and 14 percent by self-insurers. Esti-

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