

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 62.

Percentage distribution of final medical allowances, by year of application and reason for allowance, 1992–2005

Year	Total		Meets level of severity of listings	Equals level of severity of listings	Medical and vocational factors considered	Other ^a
	Number	Percent				
All disabled beneficiaries						
1999	708,290	100.0	33.0	5.9	27.0	34.1
2000	762,442	100.0	31.3	6.2	29.4	33.1
2001	835,920	100.0	30.1	6.1	30.2	33.5
2002	888,988	100.0	28.8	5.4	30.4	35.4
2003	895,883	100.0	28.1	5.3	32.2	34.4
2004	802,501	100.0	31.4	5.9	37.5	25.1
2005	613,873	100.0	37.5	6.5	43.6	12.5
Workers						
1992	689,111	100.0	34.3	11.1	24.3	30.3
1993	695,007	100.0	34.3	8.7	23.6	33.4
1994	671,791	100.0	34.5	6.9	25.6	32.9
1995	628,380	100.0	34.5	6.7	26.8	31.9
1996	652,221	100.0	34.2	7.0	27.4	31.5
1997	601,886	100.0	35.0	7.5	26.4	31.0
1998	613,010	100.0	35.5	6.6	27.0	30.9
1999	639,564	100.0	33.6	6.3	28.3	31.8
2000	691,400	100.0	31.9	6.6	30.8	30.8
2001	765,256	100.0	30.7	6.4	31.6	31.3
2002	814,910	100.0	29.3	5.7	31.8	33.2
2003	821,218	100.0	28.6	5.5	33.8	32.1
2004	730,832	100.0	32.2	6.2	39.6	22.0
2005	549,848	100.0	39.0	6.9	46.7	7.4
Widow(er)s						
1999	29,108	100.0	14.9	2.5	24.6	58.0
2000	29,653	100.0	12.8	2.5	26.3	58.4
2001	30,101	100.0	12.3	2.6	27.0	58.1
2002	30,533	100.0	11.5	2.1	26.6	59.8
2003	29,794	100.0	10.9	2.2	26.4	60.5
2004	28,251	100.0	10.9	2.1	28.2	58.8
2005	24,669	100.0	11.4	1.9	28.8	57.9

(Continued)

Table 62.
Percentage distribution of final medical allowances, by year of application and reason for allowance, 1992–2005—Continued

Year	Total		Meets level of severity of listings	Equals level of severity of listings	Medical and vocational factors considered	Other ^a
	Number	Percent				
<i>Adult children</i>						
1999	39,618	100.0	35.9	3.2	7.4	53.5
2000	41,389	100.0	35.0	3.1	7.3	54.7
2001	40,563	100.0	33.0	3.0	8.0	56.0
2002	43,545	100.0	31.8	2.9	7.6	57.7
2003	44,871	100.0	31.1	2.7	8.2	58.0
2004	43,418	100.0	32.1	2.9	9.1	55.9
2005	39,356	100.0	32.9	2.9	9.2	55.0

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data for the initial and reconsideration levels are current through June 2006. Data for the hearing level or above are current through August 2006.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the numbers and percentages will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

Data include decisions for Social Security–only applications and applications for both Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI); they do not include SSI-only claims.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

a. Includes applications for which the disability was previously established and those for which the basis for the determination is not available. The majority of applications for which the basis of determination is not available are cases allowed at or above the hearing level.

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