Annual Report of the Supplemental Security Income Program

Social Security Administration

May 2001

SOCIAL SECURITY

Office of the Commissioner

May 30, 2001

President George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Richard B. Cheney
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I have the honor of transmitting to you the 2001 Annual Report of the Supplemental Security Income Program (the fifth such report), in compliance with section 231 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

Respectfully,

Larry G. Massanari
Acting Commissioner
of Social Security

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-193), the Congress required the Commissioner of Social Security to report annually to the President and to the Congress on the status of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. A required element of these reports is to provide projections of program participation and costs through at least 25 years. This report is the fifth of such reports, and following are some of its major highlights and findings.

Highlights of the SSI Program

- The SSI program is a nationwide Federal assistance program administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) that guarantees a minimum level of income for needy aged, blind, or disabled individuals.
- In January 2001, 6.4 million individuals received monthly Federal SSI payments averaging $363.
- Federal expenditures for cash payments under the SSI program during calendar year 2000 totaled $28.8 billion, and the cost of administering the SSI program in fiscal year 2000 was $2.4 billion.

Major Findings of the Report

- Throughout the 25-year period ending in 2025, the SSI program is estimated to grow largely due to the overall growth in the U.S. population. By 2025, the Federal SSI recipient population is estimated to reach 7.9 million.
- Expressed as a percentage of the total U.S. population, the number of Federal SSI recipients remained level at 2.21 percent in 2000, and is projected to remain fairly level at 2.2 to 2.3 percent of the population through 2025.
- Federal expenditures for SSI payments in calendar year 2001 are estimated to total $30.5 billion, an increase of $1.7 billion from 2000 levels.
- Growth in SSI program outlays during the next 25 years is projected to remain relatively modest. In constant 2001 dollars, the cost of the program is projected to increase to $39.7 billion in 2025.
- When compared to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Federal SSI expenditures are projected to decline over time, from the current level of 0.29 percent of GDP in 2000 to 0.25 percent of GDP by 2025.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program was established by Congress in 1972,[1] with payments beginning 27 years ago in January 1974, and is administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA). SSI replaced the former Federal-State programs of Old-Age Assistance (OAA), Aid to the Blind (AB), and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD) in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Residents of the Northern Mariana Islands became eligible for SSI in January 1978. Under the SSI program, each eligible person living in his/her own household and having no other countable income is provided in 2001 a monthly Federal cash payment of $531[2] ($796 for a couple if both members are eligible). Since 1975, these Federal SSI benefit rates have been increased to reflect changes in the cost of living at the same time, and by the same percentage, as have benefits under the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program. In addition to setting a Federal benefit standard, the legislation establishing SSI also permitted individual States to supplement the Federal payment with an additional monthly amount. As described in section III, these State supplementation payments can be either voluntary at the option of the individual States or, in certain cases, mandatory under a requirement in the original SSI legislation.

Under section 231 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-193), the Commissioner of Social Security is required to submit a report on the SSI program to the President and Congress. Such report is to be submitted annually no later than May 30 of each year. Pursuant to this legislative mandate, this is the fifth in a series of such annual reports on the SSI program. The legislative mandate is very detailed concerning certain types of information about SSI that should be provided in the report. More specifically, section 231 requires that the report include:

- A comprehensive description of the SSI program;
- Historical and current data relating to (1) claims intake and dispositions at all levels of decision making; (2) demographic information about recipients, including program cost and prior enrollment in other public benefit programs; (3) redeterminations, continuing disability reviews, and utilization of work incentives; (4) administrative costs; and (5) State supplementation program operations;
- 25-year projections of future participation rates and program costs;
- A historical summary of statutory changes to title XVI of the Social Security Act; and
- Summaries of any relevant research on the SSI program by SSA or others.

In addition, the legislation specified that the report may include views of the SSI program by individual members of the Social Security Advisory Board, if so desired by any such Board member, or a joint report if one is agreed upon by the Board.

As discussed in the previous SSI Annual Reports, much of the required information is the subject of extensive ongoing research. In responding to each of the specific requests for information, every effort has been made to provide the best information available at this time. It is expected that in future versions of this annual report improvements will continue to be made upon such information, in order to provide the President and Congress with the input necessary to effectively manage this important part of our society's social safety net.

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[1] Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30, 1972.

[2] Benefits paid to individuals thus far in 2001 are based on a Federal benefit rate of $530. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, enacted December 21, 2000, monthly payments beginning in August 2001 will be effectively based on the higher $531 amount. Lump-sum compensation payments will be made based on an adjusted benefit rate for months prior to August 2001.

In broad outline, the contents of the remainder of this report are as follows:

- Section II presents highlights of recent SSI program experience, a summary of important changes to the program in the last year, a discussion of current issues facing the SSI program, and a summary of the key results from the 25-year forecasts.
- Section III contains a comprehensive description of the SSI program.
- Section IV presents the details of our 25-year forecasts of SSI program participation and expenditures.
- Section V contains a series of technical appendices responding to each of the remaining legislative mandates for information about SSI.

II. HIGHLIGHTS

A brief history of the SSI program is presented in section III, including descriptions of the eligibility criteria and other features of the program, and rationales for why some of those provisions were included in the SSI statute. Another aspect of this picture, however, is an indication of how SSI affects the individuals it is intended to serve and the cost of paying these benefits, along with a discussion of current issues facing SSA in administering the program.

A. RECENT PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

SSI program experience during the past year included the following:

- On average during calendar year 2000, 6.3 million aged, blind, or disabled individuals received Federal SSI benefits on a monthly basis. An estimated 7.1 million aged, blind, or disabled individuals received at least 1 month's Federal SSI benefit during the year.
- Federal expenditures for cash payments under the SSI program during calendar year 2000 totaled $28.8 billion.
- On average during calendar year 2000, 2.5 million aged, blind, or disabled individuals received Federally-administered State supplementary payments on a monthly basis. An estimated 2.8 million individuals received at least 1 month's Federally-administered State supplementary payment during calendar year 2000.
- State expenditures for Federally-administered supplements during calendar year 2000 totaled $3.4 billion, excluding fees for Federal administration.
- The cost of administering the SSI program in fiscal year 2000 was $2.4 billion.

B. SSI LEGISLATION SINCE THE 2000 ANNUAL REPORT

Only a few, relatively minor legislative changes in the SSI program were made in 2000. Public Law 106-246[1] restored the regular payment date for the October 2000 SSI payment. Public Law 106-386[2] adds victims of trafficking to the categories of noncitizens who may be eligible for SSI. Public Law 106-554[3] includes provisions changing the schedule for States remitting SSA for State supplementary payments and the SSI treatment of earnings of certain employees and monies put into Individual Development Accounts.

Public Law 106-246

SSI payment date—Repeals section 5527 of Public Law 105-33, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Section 5527 changed the SSI payment date from September 29, 2000 (Friday) to October 2, 2000 (Monday). The repeal of this section allowed SSI recipients to receive their October payments on the regular SSI payment date of September 29, 2000, which was the last day before the first day of October that was not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

Public Law 106-386

Trafficking victims—Provides that aged, blind, or disabled noncitizens regardless of their immigration status who are victims of "severe forms of trafficking in persons in the United States" are eligible for Federal benefits and services, including SSI, to the same extent that refugees are eligible for such benefits and

[1] The Military Construction FY 2001 Appropriations Act, enacted July 13, 2000.

[2] The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, enacted October 28, 2000.

[3] The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001, enacted December 21, 2000.

services. That is, they could be eligible for SSI for 7 years after the date that they are determined to be victims.

Public Law 106-554

State supplementary payment remittance—Changes the effective date of the provision in the "Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999" (P.L. 106-170) regarding State supplementary remittances from "for months after September 2009" to "for months beginning after September 2001." The provision requires that a State, which has entered into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security for Federal administration of the State's supplementary payments, remit payments and fees no later than the business day preceding the SSI payment date.

SSI treatment of statutory employees—Provides that in the case of an individual who is defined as a Social Security statutory employee, his or her net profit from self-employment, rather than reported wages, would be counted in determining SSI eligibility and benefit amount. There are four categories of statutory employees: certain full-time life insurance sales people; agent drivers or commission drivers; homeworkers; and full-time traveling or city sales people. While these individuals will continue to be treated as statutory employees for Social Security purposes and self-employed for income tax purposes, they now will be treated as self-employed for SSI purposes.

Individual Development Accounts—Excludes, for the purpose of determining means-tested program eligibility and benefit amounts, all funds (including accrued interest) in an individual development account provided for under the "Assets for Independence Act" (P.L. 105-285).

C. CURRENT ISSUES FACING THE SSI PROGRAM

Program integrity remains the most significant issue facing the SSI program. A General Accounting Office (GAO) report issued in January 2001, acknowledged that SSA has stepped up its efforts to better verify individuals' financial eligibility for SSI via enhanced computer matching and other means. The GAO report stated that SSA's initiatives have the potential to significantly improve SSI management and financial integrity, but additional activities still are needed.

In November 2000, SSA issued *The SSI Program at the Millennium*. The report included an update of the plan for strengthening the management of the SSI program outlined in the October 1998 report, *Management of the Supplemental Security Income Program, Today, and in the Future*. The updated report indicates that SSA has made progress in improving the payment accuracy rate from 93.5 percent in FY 1998 to 94.3 percent in FY 1999 [1].

SSA's efforts to improve program integrity encompass a broad range of activities designed to detect and prevent incorrect payments, and to aggressively seek recovery of identified overpayments. The initiatives are designed to ensure proper expenditure of general fund resources for the SSI program. These initiatives are generally estimated to produce program savings that exceed the investment in administrative efforts. Continuing and expanding the successful initiatives outlined in the 1998 management plan and the 2000 update will depend upon the Congress providing sufficient administrative resources.

An example of SSA's program integrity initiatives is the fugitive felon project. Fugitive felons and parole violators are not eligible for SSI under a provision enacted in 1996. The fugitive felon project utilizes a multifaceted approach that requires extensive and cooperative efforts of many law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. SSA protects the integrity of the SSI program by stopping payments to fugitive felons and protects the public by providing information to law enforcement officials that assists in the apprehension of fugitive felons fleeing from justice.

[1] Final results for FY 2000 will be available later this year.

Ensuring that eligible individuals receive their SSI payments is also part of the program integrity issue. SSI recipients who—due to their medical conditions—are unable to handle their own funds are among the most vulnerable individuals in the United States. Last year we identified a number of representative payees who misused or embezzled SSI recipients' funds. In response, SSA established the Representative Payment Task Force to improve the representative payee program. The Task Force undertook a comprehensive review of the features and vulnerabilities of the representative payee program and has made improvements in determining the suitability of payees, monitoring payee performance, and control and consistency in payee accounting.

SSA will continue to explore options to make sure the best possible payees are selected, including options for conducting criminal background and credit checks on fee-for-service organizational payees. We will also further expand our monitoring and oversight activities.

D. KEY RESULTS FROM THE 25-YEAR FORECASTS

The major findings in the 25-year forecasts prepared for this report are summarized below:

- Following recent declines in the SSI recipient population due to the combined impact of Public Law 104-121 and Public Law 104-193, modest growth in the SSI rolls resumed in 1998, and is expected to continue throughout the projection period largely due to the growth in the U.S. population. By 2025, the Federal SSI recipient population is estimated to reach 7.9 million. Expressed as a percentage of the total U.S. population, the number of Federal SSI recipients is projected to remain fairly level at 2.2 to 2.3 percent of the population through 2025.
- Federal expenditures for SSI payments in calendar year 2001 are estimated to total $30.5 billion, an increase of $1.7 billion from 2000 levels. In order to provide estimates of future expenditures under the SSI program over 25 years which can be meaningfully compared, projections of Federal SSI expenditures are presented in constant 2001 dollars. Expressed in these terms, growth in SSI program outlays during the next 25 years is projected to remain relatively modest, roughly in line with overall growth in the U.S. population. In constant 2001 dollars, the cost of the program is projected to increase to $39.7 billion in 2025.
- Furthermore, when compared to the Gross Domestic Product, Federal SSI expenditures are projected to decline over time, from the current level of 0.29 percent of GDP in 2000 to 0.25 percent of GDP by 2025.

III. THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program is a nationwide Federal assistance program administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) that guarantees a minimum level of income for needy aged, blind, or disabled individuals. In January 2001, 6.6 million individuals received Federally-administered monthly SSI benefits [1] averaging $390.

A. BACKGROUND

Entitlement programs for the aged, blind, or disabled have their roots in the original Social Security Act of 1935. That Act established an old-age social insurance program to be administered by the Federal Government and an old-age means-tested assistance program to be administered by the States. Similar programs for the blind or disabled were added to the Act in later years. Means-tested assistance was intended to supplement the incomes of individuals who were either ineligible for Social Security or whose benefits could not provide a basic living.

This means-tested assistance—also known as categorical adult assistance—actually comprised three separate programs—Old-Age Assistance (OAA), Aid to the Blind (AB), and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD). Despite substantial Federal financing, these programs were essentially State programs; Federal law established only broad guidelines and assistance. Federal financing was open-ended in the sense that the Federal Government would provide matching funds to support whatever payment levels the States established. Federal law specified no maximum or minimum standards. Consequently, each State was responsible for setting its own standards for determining who would get assistance and how much they would get. As a result, there were differing eligibility requirements and variations of payment levels from State to State.

Beginning in the early 1960s, this State-operated, Federally-assisted welfare system drew criticism from within and outside of government. Some of the criticism was directed at the “crazy quilt” eligibility requirements and payment levels. Other criticism centered on specific requirements, such as lien laws and provisions that required certain relatives to bear responsibility for the maintenance of needy family members. The disparity in the degree of Federal financial support provided States also was an acknowledged problem.

Responding to these concerns, Congress passed and the President approved the SSI program (Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30, 1972), which reversed the historic Federal and State roles with regard to adult assistance. Under the new arrangement, SSI would provide a uniform Federal income floor while optional State programs supplemented that floor. The new program was historic in that it shifted from the States to the Federal Government the responsibility for determining who would receive assistance and how much assistance they would receive.

B. THE BASIC PLAN

The main objective of the SSI program is to provide the basic cash support of needy aged, blind, or disabled individuals. Congress designed the SSI program based on the following principles:

- Eligibility requirements and benefit standards that are nationally uniform and eligibility determinations based on objective criteria;
- An assistance source of last resort for the aged, blind, or disabled whose income and resources are below specified levels;

[1] Including Federally-administered State supplementary payments.

- Incentives and opportunities for those recipients able to work or to be rehabilitated that would enable them to reduce their dependency on public assistance;
- An efficient and economical method of providing assistance;
- Inducements to encourage States to provide supplementation of the basic Federal benefit and protection for former recipients of State adult assistance programs who were converted to the SSI program; and
- Appropriate coordination of the SSI program with the food stamp, medical assistance, and other programs.

Although SSI has undergone several significant changes since its enactment in 1972, these principles have been retained. The following description of the SSI program is organized according to the originating principles.

C. UNIFORM STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVE CRITERIA

Prior to the SSI program, aged, blind, or disabled individuals may or may not have been eligible for Federally-funded adult assistance depending on the State in which they lived. Benefit amounts also varied from State to State. The SSI program replaced the State-run programs of assistance with a program having nationally uniform standards and objective eligibility criteria. These standards include:

- A uniform limitation on the dollar amount or value of income and resources that an individual can have and still qualify for Federal assistance. The countable income limits for individuals and couples are equal to their respective Federal benefit rates [1] and hence are increased annually according to changes in the cost of living. The resource limit is $2,000 in countable resources for individuals and $3,000 for couples.
- Sixty-five as the minimum age requirement for assistance based on age.
- A uniform definition of disability and blindness. The definitions for individuals 18 or older are the same as those used for the Social Security Disability Insurance program. In order to be considered disabled, an individual must have a medically determinable physical or mental impairment which is expected to last or has lasted at least 12 continuous months or result in death and (1) if 18 or older prevents him/her from doing any substantial gainful activity [2] or (2) if under 18 results in marked and severe functional limitations. [3] However, individuals for whom addiction to drugs or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to the determination of their disabilities are not eligible for benefits. [4] In order to be considered blind, an individual must have central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens or have tunnel vision of 20 degrees or less.

[1] See table IV.A2 for historical and estimated future Federal benefit rates.

[2] "Substantial gainful activity" (SGA) is used to describe a level of work activity that is both substantial—i.e., involves the performance of significant physical and/or mental duties which are productive—and gainful—i.e., performed for remuneration or profit. Generally earnings from work activity of over $740 a month is evidence of ability to engage in SGA. If an SSI *applicant* is earning over $740 a month, he/she generally would not be considered disabled. However, if an SSI *recipient* is earning over $740 a month, he/she could continue to be eligible for SSI. (See "Incentives for Work and Opportunities for Rehabilitation" section III.E.) The SGA level of $740 was increased from $700 effective January 1, 2001 (65 FR 82905). Increases in the SGA level in subsequent years will be based on increases in the national average wage index.

[3] The definition of disability and blindness for individuals under age 18 reflects amendments made by Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. Prior to this, the law required a medically determinable physical or mental impairment of comparable severity to that required for individuals 18 or older.

[4] This provision reflects amendments made by title I of Public Law 104-121, the Senior Citizens' Right to Work Act of 1996, enacted March 29, 1996.

- Uniform standards for citizenship and residency. In order to be eligible for SSI, an individual must be a citizen (or national) of the United States, an American Indian born in Canada who is under section 289 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), an American Indian born outside the United States who is a member of a Federally recognized Indian tribe under section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, a noncitizen who was receiving SSI benefits on August 22, 1996, or be a qualified alien in one of the following categories:[1]

  — Certain noncitizens who are blind or disabled and were lawfully residing in the United States on August 22, 1996;

  — Refugees (eligibility limited to the 7-year period after their arrival in the United States);

  — Asylees (eligibility limited to the 7-year period after the date they are granted asylum);

  — Noncitizens who have had their deportations withheld under section 243(h) of the INA as in effect prior to April 1, 1997, or who have had their removals withheld under section 241(b)(3) of the INA (eligibility limited to the 7-year period after the date that deportation or removal is withheld);

  — Cuban and Haitian entrants under section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (eligibility limited to the 7-year period after the date that entrant status is granted);

  — Amerasian immigrants admitted pursuant to section 584 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988, and subsequent amendments (eligibility limited to the 7-year period after their arrival in the United States);

  — Noncitizen active duty Armed Forces personnel, honorably discharged veterans, and their spouses and dependent children; or

  — Lawful permanent residents who have earned, or can be credited (from their spouses or parents) with, 40 qualifying quarters of earnings.

  Note: Qualified alien status includes noncitizens who have been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the United States by a spouse or parent (or a member of the spouse's or parent's family) with whom they live, and who have an approved petition, or have a petition pending, setting forth a *prima facie* case for adjustment of their immigration status. A complete list of noncitizens who are considered qualified aliens can be found in the Glossary under "Qualified Alien". However, to be eligible to receive SSI benefits, these noncitizens also must be in one of the categories listed above.

  Finally, certain noncitizens may be eligible for SSI regardless of their immigration status if they have been determined to be victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons in the United States[2]. Such individuals are treated for SSI purposes as refugees. That is, they are eligible for SSI for 7 years after a determination is made that they are trafficking victims.[3]

  In addition to having to be a U.S. citizen (or national) or in one of the potentially eligible noncitizen categories, an individual must reside in the 50 States, the District of Columbia or the Northern Mariana Islands. An individual also must be physically present in the United States[4] for 30 consecutive days, if he/she had been outside of the United States for 30 or more consecutive days.

[1] These standards reflect amendments made by Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 as amended by Public Law 104-208, Public Law 105-33 and Public Law 105-306. Prior to this, the law permitted SSI eligibility for individuals who were residents of the United States and—citizens or nationals of the United States; aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States; or aliens permanently residing in the United States under color of law.

[2] Generally defined as the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

[3] Public Law 106-386, the "Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000," enacted October 28, 2000.

[4] Fifty States, the District of Columbia or the Northern Mariana Islands.

There are two exceptions to the residency and physical presence requirements:

— Blind or disabled children who are citizens of the United States may continue to be eligible for payments if they are living outside the United States with a parent who is on duty as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

— Students studying abroad for not more than 1 year also may continue to be eligible for payments if the studies are sponsored by a U.S. educational institution but cannot be conducted in the United States.

D. ASSISTANCE OF LAST RESORT

As a means-tested program, SSI takes into account all income and resources that an individual has or can obtain. The amount of an individual's countable income and resources are the measure of his/her need for assistance.

1. Income

The amount of an individual's income is used to determine both eligibility for, and the amount of, his/her SSI benefit. As countable income increases, an individual's SSI benefit amount decreases. Generally, ineligibility for SSI occurs when countable income equals the Federal benefit rate plus the amount of applicable Federally-administered State supplementary payment (State supplementation is discussed later).

The monthly Federal benefit rate[1] is reduced dollar-for-dollar by the amount of the individual's "countable" income—i.e., income less all applicable exclusions. Countable income is determined on a calendar month basis. The result of this computation determines SSI eligibility and the amount of the benefit payable. These benefit rates are adjusted annually (in January) to reflect changes in the cost of living.

When an individual lives in the household of another and receives support and maintenance in kind (i.e., generally room and board) from the householder, the Federal SSI benefit rate is reduced by one-third in lieu of counting the actual value of the support and maintenance as unearned income. The value of food, clothing, or shelter-related items the individual receives in kind from persons other than the householder (including in-kind assistance from outside the household in which he/she lives) is counted as unearned income. However, the amount that is countable is limited to an amount equal to one-third of the applicable Federal benefit rate plus $20.

SSI law defines two kinds of income—earned and unearned. Earned income is wages, net earnings from self-employment, remuneration for work in a sheltered workshop, royalties on published work, and honoraria for services. All other income is unearned. The distinction between earned and unearned income is significant because different exclusions apply to each type of income.

However, not everything an individual receives is considered to be income. Generally, if the item received cannot be used as, or to obtain, food, clothing, or shelter, it will not be considered as income. For example, if someone pays an individual's medical bills, or offers free medical care, or if the individual receives money from a social services agency that is a repayment of an amount he/she previously spent, that value is not considered income to the individual. In addition, some items that are considered to be income are excluded when determining the amount of an individual's benefit.

Income Exclusions[2]

The principal *earned* income exclusions are:

- The first $65 per month plus one-half of the remainder,

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[1] See table IV.A2 for historical and estimated future Federal benefit rates.

[2] A complete list of the SSI income exclusions can be found in section V.B.

- Impairment-related work expenses of the disabled and work expenses of the blind,
- Income set aside or being used to pursue a plan for achieving self-support by a disabled or blind individual, and
- Infrequent or irregularly received income ($10 or less a month).

The principal *unearned* income exclusions are:

- The first $20 per month,[1]
- Income set aside or being used to pursue a plan for achieving self-support by a disabled or blind individual,
- State or locally funded assistance based on need,
- Rent subsidies under HUD programs and the value of food stamps, and
- Infrequent or irregularly received income ($20 or less a month).

2. Resources

The amount of an individual's resources is used to determine whether he/she is eligible for SSI in any given month. SSI law states that eligibility is restricted to individuals who have countable resources, determined monthly, that do not exceed $2,000 ($3,000 for a couple). The law does not define what resources are, but does stipulate what items are not considered resources.

Regulations stipulate that a resource is cash or other liquid asset or any real or personal property that individuals (or their spouses) own and could convert to cash to be used for their support and maintenance. This definition is consistent with the general philosophy of the SSI program that only items that can be used for an individual's food, clothing or shelter should be used in determining his/her eligibility and benefit amount. Not all resources an individual owns are counted. The value of an item may be totally excluded or counted only to the extent that its value exceeds specified limits.

If an individual disposes of resources at less than fair market value within the 36-month period prior to his/her application for SSI or at any time thereafter, he/she may be penalized. The penalty is a loss of benefits for a number of months (up to a 36-month maximum) obtained by dividing the uncompensated value of disposed-of-resources by the Federal benefit rate plus the maximum State supplementary payment, if any, applicable to the individual's living arrangement. The penalty does not apply if, among other things, the individual can show that the resources were disposed of exclusively for a purpose other than establishing SSI eligibility.

Resource Exclusions[2]

The principal resource exclusions are:

- The home and land appertaining to it, regardless of value;
- Life insurance policies whose total face value does not exceed $1,500;
- Burial funds not in excess of $1,500 each for an individual and spouse (plus accrued interest);
- Household goods and personal effects in which one's equity does not exceed $2,000;
- An automobile depending upon its use, otherwise, the current market value not in excess of $4,500;
- Property essential to self-support; and
- Resources set aside to fulfill a plan to achieve self-support.

[1] Any portion of this $20 amount not used to exclude unearned income may be used to exclude earned income.

[2] A complete list of the SSI resource exclusions can be found in section V.B.

3. Filing for Other Benefits

As the "program of last resort," SSI benefits are provided to eligible individuals only to the extent that their needs are not met by other sources. That is, after evaluating all other income and resources, SSI pays what is necessary to bring an individual to the statutorily prescribed income "floor." In keeping with this principle, SSI law requires that SSI applicants file for other payments for which they may be entitled, such as annuities, pensions, retirement or disability benefits, worker's compensation, and unemployment insurance benefits.

SSA must provide an individual with written notice of potential eligibility for other benefits and of the requirement to take all appropriate steps to pursue these benefits. The individual has 30 days from receipt of the notice to file for the benefits involved.

4. Eligibility Issues for Residents of Public Institutions or Medical Facilities

State and local governments—rather than the Federal Government—traditionally have taken the financial responsibility for residents of their public institutions. The SSI program continues this long-standing public assistance policy. People who are residents of public institutions for a full calendar month are generally ineligible for SSI unless one of the following exceptions applies:

- The public institution is a medical treatment facility and Medicaid pays more than 50 percent of the cost of care, or in the case of a child under age 18, Medicaid and/or private health insurance pays more than 50 percent of the cost of care;
- The public institution is a publicly operated community residence which serves no more than 16 residents;
- The public institution is an emergency shelter for the homeless (payments are limited to no more than 6 months in any 9-month period);
- The recipient was eligible under section 1619(a) or (b) for the month preceding the first full month in the public institution and is permitted by the institution to retain any benefits (payable for up to 2 months); or
- A physician certifies that the recipient's stay in a medical facility is likely not to exceed 3 months and continued SSI eligibility is needed to maintain and provide for the expenses of the home to which the individual will return.

5. Personal Needs Allowance

When individuals enter medical treatment facilities in which more than half of the bill is paid by the Medicaid program, their monthly Federal payment standard is generally reduced to $30, beginning with the first full calendar month they are in the facility. In the case of an individual under age 18, the $30 payment standard is also applicable if more than half of the bill is paid by private insurance or a combination of Medicaid and private insurance. The theory behind this provision is that the individual's basic needs are being met by the medical facility. In these cases, the SSI program provides up to $30 a month, which is intended to take care of small comfort items not provided by the institution.

6. Deeming

In certain situations the income and resources of others are counted in determining whether an individual's income and resources fall below the levels established by law. This process is called "deeming" and is applied in cases where an eligible individual lives with an ineligible spouse, an eligible child lives with an ineligible parent, or an eligible noncitizen has a sponsor.[1] In concept, the practice takes into account the responsibility of the spouse, parent, or sponsor to provide for the basic needs of the eligible individual.

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[1] Deeming also applies to an individual who lives with an essential person (a concept carried over from the former State assistance plans). However, there are fewer than 100 of these cases remaining.

a. Spouse-to-Spouse Deeming

When an eligible individual lives in the same household with a spouse who is not eligible for SSI, the ineligible spouse's income and resources are deemed to be available to the eligible individual. In determining the amount of income and resources available to the eligible individual, all applicable exclusions are used. In addition, a living allowance is provided for the ineligible spouse, as well as any ineligible children under age 18[1] living in the household. The allowance reduces the amount of income to be deemed. Spouse-to-spouse deeming is intended to result in the same amount of income available to the couple as would be available if both members of the couple were aged, blind, or disabled and eligible for SSI.

Deeming does not apply when the eligible individual is not living in the same household as the ineligible spouse. However, if the ineligible spouse's absence is temporary or is due solely to an active duty assignment as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, deeming would continue to apply.

b. Parent-to-Child Deeming

A child under age 18 is subject to deeming from an ineligible natural or adoptive parent (and that parent's spouse, if any) living in the same household. Certain amounts of the parent's income are excluded, living allowances are provided for the parent(s) and an allocation is set aside for each ineligible child under age 18[1] who is living in the household. Deeming from an eligible parent to a child would continue if the parent is absent from the household but the absence is temporary or is due solely to active duty assignment as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces. If a child lives in a household in which all members are receiving public assistance benefits, that child is not considered to be receiving any support and deeming would not apply.

c. Sponsor-to-Alien Deeming

The income and resources of noncitizens are deemed to include those of their sponsors. The way the income and resources are deemed and the length of the deeming period depend on whether the sponsor signed a legally enforceable affidavit of support[2] or the previous version of the affidavit. Generally, individuals who entered the country before 1998 did so under the old version of the affidavit.[3]

Under the old version of the affidavit, deeming of the sponsor's income and resources lasts until the noncitizen has been in the United States for 3 years.[4] Living allowances equal to the Federal benefit rate are provided for the sponsor, and allowances equal to one-half of the Federal benefit rate are provided for each of the sponsor's dependents. Allowances are also provided for the sponsor and his/her family members in determining deemed resources. These allowances reduce the amount of the sponsor's income and resources deemed to the noncitizen.

For noncitizens admitted into the United States under a legally enforceable affidavit of support, deeming generally applies until the noncitizen becomes a U.S. citizen. Deeming ends before citizenship if the noncitizen has earned, or can be credited with, 40 qualifying quarters of earnings. Children and spouses of workers may be credited with quarters earned by the worker. A quarter otherwise earned after 1996 does not count as one of the required 40 if the noncitizen or worker received Federal means-tested public benefits during the relevant period.

[1] Under age 21, if a student.

[2] Legally enforceable affidavits of support are required by Public Law 104-208.

[3] The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) began using the new, legally enforceable affidavits on December 19, 1997. However, if a potential immigrant had a visa issued before that date, the sponsor would sign an old affidavit even if the affidavit was signed after December 19, 1997.

[4] For a temporary period—January 1994 through September 1996—the deeming period was 5 years.

Also for this group of noncitizens, deeming does not apply for specified periods if the noncitizens or their children or parents have been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty while in the United States or if sponsors leave the noncitizens indigent by not providing them with sufficient support.

E. INCENTIVES FOR WORK AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR REHABILITATION

SSI benefits provide a basic level of assistance for individuals who are blind or disabled with limited earnings ability due to their impairments. Nonetheless, for recipients who want to work, the SSI program is designed to encourage and support their work attempts in order to help them achieve greater degrees of independence. The SSI program includes a number of work incentive provisions that enable recipients who are blind or disabled to work and retain benefits or to increase their levels of work activity without the loss of SSI disability status or Medicaid. These incentives provide higher amounts of income or resource exclusions as recognition of the expenses associated with working or as inducements to seek rehabilitation services and support for work efforts.

1. Earned Income Exclusion

The first $65 ($85 if the individual has no income other than earnings) of any monthly earned income plus one-half of remaining earnings are excluded for SSI benefit computation purposes. This general earned income exclusion is intended to help offset expenses incurred when working. It assures that SSI recipients who are working will be rewarded for their efforts by having greater total income than those who do not work.

2. Impairment-Related Work Expense Exclusion

The cost of certain impairment-related services and items that a disabled (but not blind) individual needs in order to work are excluded from earned income in determining SSI eligibility and benefit amounts.

In calculating these expenses, amounts equal to the costs of certain attendant care services, medical devices, equipment, prostheses, vehicle modifications, residential modifications to accommodate wheelchairs and similar items and services are deductible from earnings. The costs of routine drugs and routine medical services are not deductible unless these drugs and services are necessary to control the disabling condition.

3. Work Expenses of the Blind Exclusion

Any expenses relating to work that a blind individual has are excluded from earned income in determining SSI eligibility and benefit amounts. Unlike an impairment-related work expense (described above), a deductible expense need not be directly related to the worker's blindness; it need only be an ordinary and necessary work expense of the worker.

Some frequently excluded work expenses include transportation to and from work, meals consumed during work hours, job equipment, licenses, income or FICA taxes, and costs of job training.

4. Student Earned Income Exclusion

The student earned income exclusion is an additional exclusion for an individual who is under age 22, regularly attending school and neither married nor the head of a household. It is intended to help defray the cost of educational training. Under current regulations, up to $1,290 of earned income per month but no more than $5,200 per year may be excluded. [1]

[1] Increased from $400 and $1,620, respectively, effective January 1, 2001 (65 FR 82905). Under current regulations this exclusion will be increased in subsequent years based on changes in the cost of living.

5. Plan for Achieving Self-Support

A plan for achieving self-support (PASS) allows a disabled or blind individual to set aside income and resources to get a specific type of job or to start a business. This may involve setting aside funds for education or vocational training. Funds can even be set aside to purchase work-related equipment or pay for transportation related to the work goal. The income and resources that are set aside are excluded under the SSI income and resources tests.

The individual must have a feasible work goal, a specific savings or spending plan, and must provide for a clearly identifiable accounting for the funds which are set aside. The PASS is time limited and must be approved by SSA. The individual must then follow the plan and negotiate revisions as needed. SSA monitors the plans once approved by reviewing them periodically to ensure the individual's progress towards attaining the work goal.

6. Special Provisions for Disabled People Who Work

This work incentive generally is referred to by its section number in the Social Security Act, section 1619. Under section 1619(a), disabled individuals who would cease to be eligible because of earnings over the substantial gainful activity level can receive special cash benefits as long as they:

- Continue to have the disabling condition,
- Have income under the amount which would cause ineligibility for any payment under SSI income counting rules, and
- Meet all other nondisability requirements for SSI payment.

In many States, being a recipient of the special benefit permits the individual to be eligible for Medicaid benefits.

Under section 1619(b), "SSI recipient" status for Medicaid eligibility purposes also is provided to individuals:

- Whose earnings preclude any SSI payment but are not sufficient to provide a reasonable equivalent of the SSI, social services, and Medicaid benefits that the individuals would have in the absence of earnings; and
- Whose ability to continue working would be seriously inhibited by the loss of social services and Medicaid benefits.

To qualify for extended Medicaid coverage under section 1619(b) an individual must:

- Have a disabling condition,
- Need Medicaid in order to work,
- Not be able to afford equivalent medical coverage and publicly funded personal or attendant care which would be lost without assistance,
- Meet all nondisability requirements for SSI payment other than earnings, and
- Have received a regular SSI cash payment in a previous month within the current period of eligibility. (In some States, the individual must have qualified for Medicaid the month preceding the first month of 1619 eligibility.)

In determining whether individuals' earnings are not sufficient to provide them with the equivalent benefits they would be eligible for if they stopped working, their earnings are compared to a threshold amount for their State of residence. Section 1619(b) status continues if the earnings are below the threshold. If earnings exceed the State threshold, an individualized assessment of the need for Medicaid is made and 1619(b) status may continue.

7. Vocational Rehabilitation/Ticket to Work Program

Since the beginning of the SSI program, SSA has made provision for blind or disabled individuals who are receiving SSI benefits to be referred to State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies. If the State VR agency does not accept the referral, SSA can refer recipients to an alternate provider to receive vocational rehabilitation services. SSA reimburses the VR agency or alternate provider for services provided in situations where the services result in the individual's working at the substantial gainful activity level for a continuous period of 9 months, and in certain other limited situations.

The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 ("the Ticket legislation") established a Ticket to Work program under which a disabled beneficiary will be able to obtain vocational rehabilitation, employment and other support services from a qualified private or public provider. Providers of such services in this new setting will be referred to as "employment networks" (ENs). In addition, the Ticket legislation provided for a new procedure for compensating the ENs under an outcome or outcome-milestone payment system to be specified under regulations issued by the Commissioner. By expanding the pool of providers and giving the providers incentives for achieving success, this program seeks to expand a disabled beneficiary's access to these services in order to assist the beneficiary in finding, entering, and retaining employment and reducing his/her dependence on cash benefits.

The Ticket to Work program will be implemented on a State-by-State basis over a 3-year period. Once the Ticket to Work program is implemented in a State, the traditional VR referral process described earlier will be eliminated in that State, and SSA will provide eligible individuals who receive SSI benefits due to blindness or disability in such State with a Ticket to Work document ("ticket"). These individuals may use the ticket to obtain the vocational rehabilitation services, employment services and other support services needed to return to work, or go to work for the first time. The Ticket program provides that as long as the beneficiary is "using a ticket" as defined by the Commissioner, SSA will not initiate a continuing disability review.

Until the Ticket to Work program is fully implemented, the State VR agencies and alternate providers under the traditional system can continue to receive compensation under the cost reimbursement system described above. However, once the Ticket to Work program is fully implemented only the State VR agencies will have the option on a case-by-case basis of electing to remain under the traditional VR compensation system. At that time, ENs will be the only other providers of VR services for disabled beneficiaries and will be compensated through the new outcome-based system.

Individuals receiving SSI benefits who improve medically and, therefore, are no longer considered disabled or blind can continue to receive SSI benefits if they are actively participating in the Ticket to Work program, or another approved VR program, and continuation or completion of the program would increase the likelihood that they will be permanently removed from the SSI rolls. SSI benefits and Medicaid generally continue until the rehabilitation services are completed or until the individual ceases to participate in the program.

8. Expedited Reinstatement

A disabled or blind individual whose eligibility for SSI payments was ended because of earnings can request expedited reinstatement of his/her SSI benefits without filing a new application. To qualify for expedited reinstatement, the individual must make the request within 60 months after his/her eligibility ended and must have a disabling medical condition that (1) is the same as (or related to) the disabling medical condition that led to the previous period of eligibility and (2) prevents him/her from performing substantial gainful activity. In determining whether the individual is disabled or blind, the medical review standard is applied. Normal nonmedical requirements for SSI eligibility still apply.

An individual requesting expedited reinstatement may receive up to 6 months of provisional benefits while his/her request is pending. These benefits generally are not considered an overpayment if the request is denied. Provisional benefits may include Medicaid but do not include any State supplementary payments. Provisional benefits also may be received by the individual's spouse at a couple's rate if the spouse was previously eligible for SSI as a spouse.

F. ADMINISTRATION OF THE SSI PROGRAM

The framers of the SSI program chose SSA to administer the SSI program because the basic system for paying monthly benefits to a large number of individuals was already in place in the form of the Social Security program, and SSA had a long-standing reputation for dealing with the public in a fair and humane manner.

1. Application Process

Individuals can make appointments to apply for SSI benefits at any one of the approximately 1,300 SSA field offices around the country or through SSA teleservice centers. The claims process includes the application interview, the obtaining of necessary evidence and documentation, and the adjudication of the claim. Although the eligibility requirements of the Social Security program and the SSI program are different, the application process is very similar. Many times, individuals file for benefits under both programs at the same time. Potential claimants initially contact SSA by phone, mail or in person. Field office personnel conduct an interview with the claimant and/or his/her representative.

SSA corroborates information provided by applicants for SSI through independent or collateral sources. Generally, the basic responsibility for obtaining evidence lies with the claimant, although SSA often gives advice on ways to obtain the needed information. Because of the special circumstances of the SSI population (for example, financial need, old age, or illness), SSA makes special efforts to assist claimants in obtaining the necessary proofs.

With regard to disability and blindness claims, SSA makes determinations of all of the nonmedical eligibility factors while each State's Disability Determination Service (DDS) makes determinations of the medical eligibility factors.

2. Determinations of Eligibility

SSI applications have no retroactivity and become effective in the month after the month of filing or the month after all eligibility requirements are met, whichever is later. Eligibility for benefits is determined on a current monthly basis. The amount of the monthly benefit generally is determined using income in the second month preceding the month for and in which the benefit is paid (a method called retrospective monthly accounting). However, at the start of a period of eligibility or re-eligibility, the benefits for the first and second months are both determined using the income received in the first month.

SSI recipients are required to have their nonmedical eligibility factors redetermined periodically, generally every 1 to 6 years depending on their specific situation.

In addition to these nonmedical reviews, medical reviews are conducted on disabled or blind recipients in order to determine if they continue to be disabled or blind. For administrative efficiency the medical reviews are done most often on those disabled or blind recipients whose medical conditions are considered likely to improve. Medical reviews are required for disabled or blind recipients, for example, under the following circumstances:

- When earnings of recipients exceed the substantial gainful activity level;
- At least once every 3 years for recipients under age 18 whose medical conditions are considered likely to improve;

- Within 12 months after birth for recipients whose low birth weight is a contributing factor material to the determination of their disability unless the Commissioner determines that the impairment is not expected to improve within 12 months of the child's birth; and
- Within 1 year after attainment of age 18 and using the adult eligibility criteria, for recipients whose eligibility for SSI benefits was established under the disabled child eligibility criteria.

3. Representative Payees

When SSI recipients are incapable of managing their benefits, SSA appoints representative payees for them, and their SSI benefits are sent to the representative payees. In many cases the representative payee is a spouse, a parent, or other close relative who will act in the recipient's best interest. In some cases, an SSA-approved organization may be appointed and some organizations have been authorized by SSA to collect a fee from the benefit for acting as payee. The fee cannot exceed the lesser of 10 percent of the benefit amount or a specified amount ($29 a month in 2001 ($56 a month for disabled recipients who also have a drug addiction or alcoholism condition)).

Representative payees may only use an SSI recipient's benefit for the use and benefit of the recipient and must account for all benefits received. Representative payees also are required to report any changes that may affect SSI recipients' eligibility and payment amount and may be held liable for certain overpayments that occur. In cases in which a child is due a retroactive payment that exceeds six times the Federal benefit rate, the representative payee is required to establish a separate (dedicated) account at a financial institution to maintain the retroactive payment. Expenditures from the account must be used primarily for certain expenses related to the child's impairment.

4. Appeal Rights

Recipients must be informed in writing in advance of adverse actions SSA plans to take and must be given the opportunity to request that their benefits continue pending a decision at the first level of appeal.

5. Attorney Fees

At any time, an individual may appoint a representative in any dealings with the Social Security Administration. If such a representative is an attorney, he/she must be in good standing, have the right to practice law before a court, not be disqualified or suspended from acting as a representative in dealings with Social Security and not be prohibited by any law from acting as a representative. If the individual is not an attorney, he/she must meet qualifications specified by the Commissioner (e.g., be of good character and able to provide valuable service to claimants).

A representative may charge and receive a fee for his/her services, but the Social Security Administration generally decides how much the fee shall be. While the Social Security Act does not establish a maximum fee, most attorneys use an options process that limits their maximum fee to the lesser of 25 percent of the retroactive payment or $4,000. A representative cannot charge or receive more than the fee amount authorized. The SSI program differs from the Social Security program in that amounts cannot be withheld from an individual's SSI benefits to pay for attorney fees. SSI claimants are responsible for paying such fees directly to their attorneys.

6. Advance Payments

The SSI program has provisions which help to respond to the immediate needs of new claimants. These procedures are in addition to State and local programs designed to help those in need pending decisions on their SSI status.

a. *Emergency Advance Payments*

A new claimant who faces a financial emergency, and for whom there is a strong likelihood to be found eligible, may receive up to 1 month's SSI benefits, the Federal payment amount plus any applicable State supplement. The amount paid is recovered from later SSI payments (in full from the first payment or in increments over no more than a 6-month period, depending upon the circumstances). However, if the claim is subsequently not allowed because of not finding disability or blindness, repayment would be waived. If the claim is disallowed for other reasons, the amount paid would be an overpayment and processed as such.

b. *Presumptive Disability or Blindness*

Up to 6 months' payments may be made to an individual applying for benefits based on disability or blindness when the available evidence reflects a high degree of probability that his/her impairment will meet the definition of disability or blindness and he/she is otherwise eligible. These payments are not considered overpayments if the individual is later determined not to be disabled or blind.

G. STATE[1] SUPPLEMENTATION

In designing the SSI program Congress recognized that States, in many instances, would want to provide a higher level of income maintenance than was available under the Federal program. At the same time States were given the option to either provide no supplementation to the Federal assistance payments or to supplement those payments based on their views of the needs of their citizens. They were mandated to assure that their citizens would not receive lower benefits under the Federal program than they had under the former State program. The following paragraphs describe the various forms of State supplementation that currently exist. Table III.H1 summarizes State-specific participation in these programs as well as other programs requiring State and Federal coordination as discussed in section H.

1. Optional State Supplementary Payment Programs

For individuals who first became eligible for SSI in 1974 or later, each State could supplement Federal payments to whatever extent it found appropriate with respect to the needs of its citizens and resources of the State. In 2001, 45 States have optional State supplementary payment programs.

Some States provide supplementary payments to all individuals eligible for SSI benefits, while others may limit them to certain SSI recipients such as the blind or residents of domiciliary-care facilities, or may extend them to persons ineligible for SSI because of excess income. States' flexibility in setting supplementary payments, however, has been significantly restricted by mandatory passalong provisions (described below).

2. Mandatory State Supplementary Payment Programs

States are required[2] to maintain the December 1973 income levels of individuals who were transferred from the former State adult assistance programs to the SSI program in 1974, except for Texas which has a constitutional bar against mandatory State supplementation. Because of the increases in Federal benefits over the years, there are few individuals who continue to receive mandatory State supplementary payments. In December 2000, there were roughly 1,900 such recipients receiving a Federally-administered payment.

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[1] References to State include, in addition to the 50 States, the District of Columbia.

[2] Requirement does not affect West Virginia, since, in 1973, SSI Federal benefit rates exceeded the applicable income standards under the State's adult assistance programs.

3. Administration of State Supplementary Payments

A State may administer its supplementary program or enter into an agreement under which SSA will make eligibility determinations and payments on behalf of the State. Under State administration, the State pays its own program benefits and absorbs the full administrative costs. Under Federal administration States are required to pay SSA a $8.10 fee for each supplementary payment issued in fiscal year 2001. Fees are scheduled to rise in succeeding fiscal years.

States that administer their own supplementary payment programs establish their own eligibility criteria. States with Federally-administered programs must adhere to SSI eligibility criteria in all aspects except that they may establish additional income exclusions.

4. Mandatory Passalong

It was originally Congress' view that increases in the Federal SSI benefit rate eventually would replace State supplementary payments. However, public reaction to States reducing their supplementary payment amounts when SSI payments were increased led Congress to mandate that States pass along SSI benefit increases resulting from cost-of-living adjustments.

To meet the passalong requirement, a State may either maintain each State payment level from year-to-year—the "payment levels" method—or it may spend the same amount of money, in the aggregate, that it spent for supplementary benefits in the 12-month period preceding the increase in the SSI benefit rate—the "total expenditures" method. Currently 40 States use the levels method and 10 use the expenditure method. West Virginia has no optional supplementary plan and was not required to establish a mandatory plan because Federal SSI income standards exceeded all payments made under the State's adult assistance programs in 1973.

H. COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

SSI benefits are not the only form of assistance available to needy aged, blind, or disabled individuals. Medicaid, food stamps, and temporary State assistance also are important in keeping individuals from sliding further into poverty. SSA plays a limited but important role in helping States with regard to administration of Medicaid and food stamp programs, and provisions in the SSI statute assure that payments made by States or under the Social Security program are not duplicated by SSI benefits.

1. Windfall Offset

If a person receives SSI payments, and is later determined to be entitled to retroactive Social Security benefits, such retroactive benefits are reduced by the amount of SSI payments the person would not have been eligible for had the Social Security benefits been paid in the month they were due. This process is called the "windfall offset" and was enacted to prevent windfall payments to individuals when Social Security and SSI payments were paid for the same period.

2. Medicaid Determinations

Generally, SSI recipients are categorically eligible for Medicaid. A State may either use SSI eligibility criteria for determining Medicaid eligibility, or use its own criteria as long as the criteria are no more restrictive than the State's January 1972 medical assistance standards. Forty States use SSI criteria and 11 States use their own criteria.

States also may enter into agreements with SSA for SSA to make Medicaid eligibility determinations on their behalf as long as the eligibility requirements of the State's Medicaid plans are the same as those for the SSI program. Under these agreements, SSA determines only when an individual is eligible for Medicaid; SSA does not determine Medicaid ineligibility. SSA has Medicaid determination agreements with 33 States.

Continued Medicaid eligibility is provided in SSI law for certain Social Security beneficiaries who lose SSI eligibility due to entitlement to Social Security benefits, or due to an increase in Social Security benefits resulting from:

- Cost-of-living adjustments,
- Actuarial increases in widow(er)s benefits,
- Changes in the definition of disability for widow(er)s benefits, or
- Increases in disabled adult child benefits.

3. Food Stamp Applications

SSI recipients in all States, except California,[1] may be eligible for food stamps. Under agreements entered into by the Secretary of Agriculture and SSA, Social Security offices notify Social Security and SSI applicants and recipients of their potential benefits under the Food Stamp program and make food stamp applications available to them.

The law also provides for Social Security offices to take food stamp applications from potentially eligible or eligible SSI households which are not already receiving food stamps and which do not have a food stamp application pending. Food stamp applications from SSI households may be taken in connection with initial SSI claims or at the time of a redetermination. Food stamp applicants have the option of applying at Social Security offices or applying at State food stamp offices if expedited service is required. Social Security offices forward the food stamp applications and any supporting documents to the local food stamp offices within 1 day of taking the application. Eligibility is determined by the food stamp office.

4. Interim Assistance Reimbursement

SSA may enter into agreements under which States or local governments are reimbursed for basic needs assistance provided during the period that either an eligible individual's SSI application for benefits was pending, or the individual's SSI benefits were suspended and subsequently reinstated (the interim period).

Under these interim assistance reimbursement agreements, if the individual has given SSA written authorization, SSA sends an individual's first SSI benefit check relating to the interim period to the State or local jurisdiction that had provided the interim assistance. The State then deducts the amount it is owed and is required to forward the remainder to the claimant within 10 days.[2] Thirty-seven States have interim assistance agreements with SSA.

[1] California "cashes out" food stamps and SSI recipients there receive a cash payment in their State supplementary payment in lieu of food stamps.

[2] Beginning in August, 1996, in certain disabled children's cases, SSA first reimburses the State, then pays the remainder into special dedicated financial institution accounts for the children. In all cases where the retroactive benefits exceed a certain amount, SSA reimburses the State, then pays the remainder in installments to the recipient or his/her representative payee.

Table III.H1.—SSI State Supplementation[1] and Coordination with Other Programs

United States and District of Columbia	Optional State program—Administered by:			Method of mandatory passalong of benefit increases from cost-of-living adjustments		Medicaid eligibility determination—			Interim assistance reimbursement agreement with SSA
						Based on:		Agreement with SSA to determine eligibility	
	State	Federal (SSA)	Federal & State	"Payment levels"	"Total expenditures"	Federal criteria	State criteria		
Alabama [2]	*			*		*		*	
Alaska	*			*		*			*
Arizona	*			*		*		*	*
Arkansas [3]				*		*		*	
California		*		*		*		*	*
Colorado	*				*	*		*	*
Connecticut [2]	*			*			*		*
Delaware		*		*		*		*	
District of Columbia		*			*	*		*	
Florida [3]	*			*		*		*	*
Georgia [3]				*		*		*	*
Hawaii		*		*			*		*
Idaho	*			*		*			
Illinois	*			*			*		*
Indiana	*			*			*		*
Iowa			*		*	*		*	*
Kansas [3]				*		*			*
Kentucky [2]	*			*		*		*	*
Louisiana [4]	*			*		*		*	
Maine	*				*	*		*	*
Maryland [4]	*			*		*		*	*
Massachusetts		*		*		*		*	*
Michigan			*	*		*		*	* [5]
Minnesota	*			*			*		*
Mississippi [3]				*		*		*	
Missouri	*			*			*		*
Montana		*		*		*		*	*
Nebraska	*				*	*			*
Nevada [2]		*		*		*			*
New Hampshire	*			*			*		* [5]
New Jersey		*		*		*		*	*
New Mexico	*			*		*		*	* [5]
New York			*	*		*		*	*
North Carolina	*			*		*		*	*
North Dakota [2]	*			*			*		
Ohio [4]	*			*			*		*
Oklahoma	*				*		*		
Oregon	*				*	*			*
Pennsylvania		*		*		*		*	*
Rhode Island [2]		*		*		*		*	* [5]
South Carolina [2]	*			*		*		*	
South Dakota [4]	*			*		*		*	
Tennessee [3]				*		*		*	*
Texas [6]	*			*		*		*	
Utah [2]		*		*		*			*
Vermont [2]			*	*		*		*	*
Virginia	*				*		*		*
Washington			*		*	*		*	*
West Virginia [6]						*		*	
Wisconsin	*				*	*		*	*
Wyoming	*			*		*		*	
Total number of States	29	11	5	40	10	40	11	33	37

[1] See body of text for description of the various forms of State supplementation.
[2] State no longer has any recipients receiving mandatory minimum State supplementation.
[3] Mandatory minimum State supplementation program is Federally-administered. No optional program.
[4] Mandatory minimum State supplementation program is Federally-administered.
[5] State provides assistance only in initial application cases. No assistance provided during periods that SSI benefits are suspended or terminated.
[6] State does not have a mandatory minimum State supplementation program.

IV. ESTIMATES OF PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AND FEDERAL EXPENDITURES UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM, 2001-25

As described in section III, eligibility for payments under the SSI program depends on a collection of provisions related to the socioeconomic status of the individual, as well as the evaluation of disability or blindness for all persons under age 65, and for certain individuals at ages 65 or older. Consequently, future SSI program participation will depend on a variety of difficult-to-predict factors including the performance of national and local economies, distribution of personal income within that macroeconomic framework, the prevalence of disability in the general population, and the determination of disability as defined by the Social Security Act.

Estimates of expenditures under the SSI program, prior to the issuance of the first SSI Annual Report in May 1997, were of a short-term nature prepared in conjunction with the President's Budget. These short-term projections relied exclusively on the evaluation of recent historical trends in the SSI program, and the extrapolation of such trends into the next few years. The provisions of Public Law 104-193 mandating this report required that such projections of future program participation be prepared for a period of at least 25 years. As was discussed in the 1997 Annual Report, due to the complex interaction between the economy and the SSI program, models for projecting SSI program participation over such an extended time period should incorporate more sophisticated concepts than the trend analysis traditionally used for budget purposes. In the 1998 Annual Report, the Office of the Chief Actuary announced the beginning of a multi-year program of research intended to develop the appropriate data and models to reflect the impact of the relevant cofactors on the future of the SSI program. We expect to incorporate partial improvements to our models on an annual basis, and the estimates presented in this and future reports will reflect such step-wise improvements.

For this fifth annual report, our estimates are based on the revised structural model first introduced in the 1999 Annual Report. As described in that report, the revised model disaggregated the basic population by single year-of-age and gender in order to better understand and forecast the various transitions in and out of payment status. In addition, movements out of payment status were further examined by reason for such movements, although at this stage the analysis was limited to two broad groups: (1) terminations due to death and (2) suspension of payment due to all other reasons.[1] The additional detail in the revised model enabled us to better analyze the transition from disabled child status to status as a disabled adult at age 18, and provided us with an enhanced ability to analyze the age structure of the historical and forecasted disabled adult population. In the 2 years since the 1999 Annual Report, we have analyzed certain age subgroups in greater detail, with the result that our longer term assumptions with respect to the growth in the SSI population better reflect the growth patterns to be expected of the respective age groups. As a consequence, the current forecasts presented in this section suggest slightly slower growth among disabled children, but slightly faster growth among disabled adults. The presentation of forecast results in the remainder of this section corresponds to our new model structure. In particular, all tables present SSI population information by selected age groups, rather than groups based exclusively on SSI recipient categories. Where certain recipient categories have overlapping age distributions, recipient category totals are still shown.

A. ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC ASSUMPTIONS

As in previous annual reports, the estimates presented in this section have been prepared in a manner which accounts for the basic demographic changes expected to occur over the next 25 years. In addition, the indexation of the Federal benefit rate depends on a projection of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over that same 25-year period. For purposes of developing these estimates, we have relied on the demographic projections and CPI assumptions underlying the intermediate estimates prepared for the 2001 Annual

[1] The two main reasons other than death for termination of SSI payments are failure to satisfy income and resource limitations of the SSI program and recovery from a qualifying disability.

Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds.[1] Detailed discussion of these economic and demographic parameters is presented in sections V.A and V.B of that report.[2] The key assumptions utilized directly for the projections presented in this report are summarized in the following two tables. Table IV.A1 presents population projections summarized by certain age subgroups that match the presentation of SSI participant projections discussed in the next section.

Table IV.A1.—Historical and Estimated Population in the Social Security Area as Projected for the Intermediate Assumptions of the 2001 OASDI Trustees Report, as of July 1, 1974-2025

[In thousands]

	Age groups						Total
Year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	all ages
Historical data:							
1974	70,714	60,135	36,339	32,809	13,865	8,871	222,734
1975	69,727	62,097	36,322	33,154	14,164	9,102	224,566
1976	68,736	63,985	36,488	33,425	14,480	9,343	226,457
1977	67,830	65,649	36,897	33,694	14,805	9,595	228,470
1978	67,001	67,227	37,479	33,931	15,127	9,860	230,625
1979	66,271	68,859	38,053	34,102	15,437	10,140	232,861
1980	65,746	70,454	38,557	34,245	15,721	10,428	235,150
1981	65,419	71,564	39,518	34,319	15,991	10,721	237,531
1982	65,213	72,167	41,020	34,275	16,278	11,044	239,997
1983	65,164	72,649	42,550	34,151	16,544	11,370	242,428
1984	65,272	72,990	44,010	34,057	16,793	11,680	244,803
1985	65,527	73,210	45,449	33,959	17,082	11,983	247,210
1986	65,849	73,318	47,030	33,756	17,438	12,277	249,668
1987	66,124	73,382	48,708	33,617	17,752	12,587	252,169
1988	66,358	73,482	50,398	33,595	17,998	12,896	254,726
1989	66,809	73,395	52,167	33,588	18,241	13,209	257,408
1990	67,633	72,868	53,976	33,664	18,441	13,585	260,166
1991	68,640	72,036	55,747	33,904	18,606	13,992	262,924
1992	69,652	71,136	57,412	34,349	18,787	14,381	265,716
1993	70,583	70,262	58,996	34,939	18,931	14,741	268,451
1994	71,398	69,415	60,613	35,526	19,021	15,072	271,045
1995	72,063	68,623	62,302	36,063	19,052	15,419	273,522
1996	72,626	67,953	63,717	36,929	18,982	15,795	276,003
1997	73,071	67,447	64,685	38,280	18,858	16,141	278,483
1998	73,391	67,074	65,484	39,759	18,712	16,438	280,859
1999	73,657	66,803	66,251	41,206	18,585	16,701	283,203
2000	73,886	66,702	66,848	42,688	18,510	16,939	285,573
Estimated:							
2001	74,108	66,783	67,195	44,231	18,471	17,149	287,936
2002	74,337	66,987	67,311	45,863	18,453	17,351	290,302
2003	74,525	67,289	67,275	47,547	18,495	17,546	292,677
2004	74,672	67,584	67,173	49,288	18,603	17,713	295,033
2005	74,800	67,825	67,044	51,083	18,771	17,854	297,376
2006	74,885	68,149	66,788	52,888	19,045	17,955	299,711
2007	74,886	68,749	66,255	54,624	19,529	18,000	302,042
2008	74,800	69,635	65,488	56,243	20,201	18,006	304,374
2009	74,693	70,626	64,637	57,862	20,868	18,020	306,707
2010	74,639	71,573	63,773	59,549	21,440	18,068	309,042
2011	74,668	72,415	62,950	61,022	22,198	18,125	311,378
2012	74,775	73,119	62,236	62,063	23,322	18,198	313,712
2013	74,944	73,691	61,662	62,924	24,502	18,317	316,040
2014	75,158	74,127	61,279	63,729	25,593	18,473	318,359
2015	75,393	74,446	61,145	64,341	26,678	18,663	320,666
2016	75,635	74,715	61,232	64,707	27,754	18,914	322,957
2017	75,870	74,966	61,467	64,847	28,785	19,293	325,228
2018	76,106	75,222	61,742	64,839	29,774	19,794	327,477
2019	76,360	75,472	61,962	64,771	30,833	20,298	329,697
2020	76,623	75,669	62,148	64,682	32,004	20,757	331,884
2021	76,890	75,819	62,401	64,476	33,075	21,372	334,033
2022	77,152	75,946	62,847	64,006	33,907	22,283	336,140
2023	77,402	76,024	63,519	63,313	34,681	23,261	338,199
2024	77,632	76,013	64,349	62,540	35,489	24,183	340,206
2025	77,837	75,911	65,268	61,758	36,273	25,111	342,158

Notes:
1. Historical population data subject to revision.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

[1] House Document 107-55, published March 19, 2001.

[2] *Ibid, Section V.A, Economic Assumptions and Methods and Section V.B, Demographic Assumptions and Methods.*

As described in section III.D.1, the monthly Federal benefit rate is adjusted annually in January to reflect changes in the level of consumer prices. The adjustment factor is based on the year-to-year increase in the CPI for the third quarter of the calendar year. This “cost-of-living” adjustment is identical to the adjustment of Social Security benefits under the OASDI program. In previous years, occasional ad hoc increases were also applied to the Federal benefit rates, either in place of or in addition to such automatic adjustments. The history of legislation affecting the Federal benefit rates is presented in table V.A1. Table IV.A2 presents a complete history of the “cost-of-living” adjustment factors and Federal benefit rates since the inception of the program, along with projections of such amounts consistent with the economic assumptions underlying the SSI expenditure estimates discussed in section IV.C.

Table IV.A2.—Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustments and Federal Benefit Rates Estimated on the Basis of the Intermediate Assumptions of the 2001 OASDI Trustees Report, 1974-2025

Year	Benefit rate increase[1]	Federal benefit rate		
		Individual	Couple	Essential person[2]
Historical data:				
Initial benefit paid January 1, 1974[3]	—	$140.00	$210.00	$70.00
1974	[4] 4.3%	146.00	219.00	73.00
1975	8.0	157.70	236.60	78.90
1976	6.4	167.80	251.80	84.00
1977	5.9	177.80	266.70	89.00
1978	6.5	189.40	284.10	94.80
1979	9.9	208.20	312.30	104.20
1980	14.3	238.00	357.00	119.20
1981	11.2	264.70	397.00	132.60
1982	7.4	284.30	426.40	142.50
1983	[4] 7.0	304.30	456.40	152.50
1984	3.5	314.00	472.00	157.00
1985	3.5	325.00	488.00	163.00
1986	3.1	336.00	504.00	168.00
1987	1.3	340.00	510.00	170.00
1988	4.2	354.00	532.00	177.00
1989	4.0	368.00	553.00	184.00
1990	4.7	386.00	579.00	193.00
1991	5.4	407.00	610.00	204.00
1992	3.7	422.00	633.00	211.00
1993	3.0	434.00	652.00	217.00
1994	2.6	446.00	669.00	223.00
1995	2.8	458.00	687.00	229.00
1996	2.6	470.00	705.00	235.00
1997	2.9	484.00	726.00	242.00
1998	2.1	494.00	741.00	247.00
1999	1.3	500.00	751.00	250.00
2000	[5] 2.5	[6] 513.00	769.00	257.00
2001	3.5	[6] 531.00	796.00	266.00
Estimated:				
2002	2.8	546.00	819.00	273.00
2003	2.9	562.00	842.00	281.00
2004	3.0	578.00	868.00	290.00
2005	3.1	596.00	895.00	299.00
2006	3.2	615.00	923.00	308.00
2007	3.3	636.00	954.00	318.00
2008	3.3	657.00	985.00	329.00
2009	3.3	678.00	1,018.00	340.00
2010	3.3	701.00	1,051.00	351.00
2011	3.3	724.00	1,086.00	363.00
2012	3.3	748.00	1,122.00	375.00
2013	3.3	773.00	1,159.00	387.00
2014	3.3	798.00	1,197.00	400.00
2015	3.3	824.00	1,237.00	413.00
2016	3.3	852.00	1,278.00	427.00
2017	3.3	880.00	1,320.00	441.00
2018	3.3	909.00	1,363.00	455.00
2019	3.3	939.00	1,408.00	470.00
2020	3.3	970.00	1,455.00	486.00
2021	3.3	1,002.00	1,503.00	502.00
2022	3.3	1,035.00	1,553.00	518.00
2023	3.3	1,069.00	1,604.00	536.00
2024	3.3	1,104.00	1,657.00	553.00
2025	3.3	1,141.00	1,711.00	572.00

[1] Increases prior to 1984 were effective for the payment due on July 1 of the year. Increases shown for 1984 and later are effective for the payment due on January 1 of the year.

[2] A concept carried over from the former State assistance plans. There are currently fewer than 100 of those cases remaining.

[3] Benefits paid in January, 1974 were based on the Federal benefit rates established by Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30, 1972: $130.00 for individuals; $195.00 for couples; and $65.00 for essential persons. Retroactive payments were subsequently made to adjust initial payments to the higher Federal benefit rates established by Public Law 93-233, enacted December 31, 1973.

[4] Ad hoc increases as specified in the law.

[5] Originally determined as 2.4 percent, but pursuant to Public Law 106-554, enacted December 21, 2000, is effectively now 2.5 percent.

[6] Benefits paid in 2000 and thus far in 2001 are based on Federal benefit rates of $512.00 and $530.00, respectively. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, monthly payments beginning in August 2001 will be effectively based on the higher $531 amount. Lump-sum compensation payments will be made based on an adjusted benefit rate for months prior to August 2001.

Estimates presented in the sections that follow are based on the assumptions described in this section. Furthermore, for purposes of making these estimates, it is assumed that no changes will occur during the projection period in the present statutory provisions and regulations under which the SSI program operates.

B. NUMBERS OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE SSI PROGRAM

In this section, we present our projections of the various subpopulations which lead to the numbers of persons receiving Federal SSI payments. As described above, the forecasting models that produce these projections were restructured to handle population flows by single-year-of-age. Correspondingly, as in the 2000 Annual Report, the tables in this section present these population totals by selected age groupings. This is in contrast with annual reports prior to 1999 which presented forecast results exclusively by recipient categories of *aged*, *blind or disabled adults*, and *blind or disabled children*. Since these recipient categories are in large part based on age, the additional age breakouts shown in this year's report can be viewed as a refinement of the information presented in the first two SSI Annual Reports. The following paragraphs discuss a few of the subtle points in the translation between the previous recipient categories and current age categories.

- The *aged* category includes those individuals whose eligibility for SSI benefits is established based on meeting the age-65-or-older requirement for assistance, and the income and resource limits applicable for adults. In December 2000, there were 1.289 million aged recipients of Federally-administered SSI payments.
- The *blind or disabled adults* category includes those individuals whose eligibility is established based on meeting the definition of blindness or disability for individuals age 18 or older, and the income and resource limits applicable for adults. After attainment of age 65 these individuals generally continue to be classified as blind or disabled adults (rather than aged). In December 2000, there were 4.452 million blind or disabled adult recipients of Federally-administered SSI payments, including 703 thousand disabled and 19 thousand blind recipients aged 65 or older.
- The *blind or disabled children* category includes those individuals whose initial eligibility is established based on meeting the definition of blindness or disability for individuals under age 18. At age 18 these individuals continue to be eligible for SSI if they meet the definition of blindness or disability for individuals age 18 or older. As a result, blind or disabled children are generally reclassified as blind or disabled adults at age 18. However, students aged 18 to 21 are still classified as blind or disabled children, but only for purposes of applying a special student earned income exclusion.[1] The numbers of students, however, represent a small percentage of the total number of disabled children. For example, in December 2000, there were 860 thousand blind or disabled child recipients of Federally-administered SSI payments, including 13 thousand students aged 18 to 21. Since these students are small in number, and for most purposes treated under the program as disabled adults, most agency management information is moving in the direction of equating disabled children with the age grouping 0 to 17. As in the past two annual reports, our tables showing historical and projected SSI data conform to this new standard.

Much of the historical age-specific information presented in the discussion that follows had to be reconstructed using samples of various sizes. Most age-specific splits prior to 1980 have not yet been developed, but may be constructed for future reports as we develop more complete retrospective data. Historical age breakouts may be revised in future reports as more complete data become available. Unless otherwise indicated, the historical calendar year program totals should agree with those shown in previous SSI Annual Reports.

Table IV.B1 presents historical and projected numbers of persons applying for SSI benefits, by calendar year of application. Figure IV.B1 presents this same information in graphical form. Actual numbers of applications received in 2000 were about 1.2 percent higher than were received in 1999. The actual result

[1] Parent-to-child deeming ends in all cases when an individual turns 18.

for 2000 was about 0.2 percent lower than estimated for 2000 in the 2000 Annual Report. Longer term trends in applications are estimated to continue to grow from current levels roughly in line with overall population growth.

Table IV.B1.—SSI Federally-Administered Applications,[1] Calendar Years 1974-2025

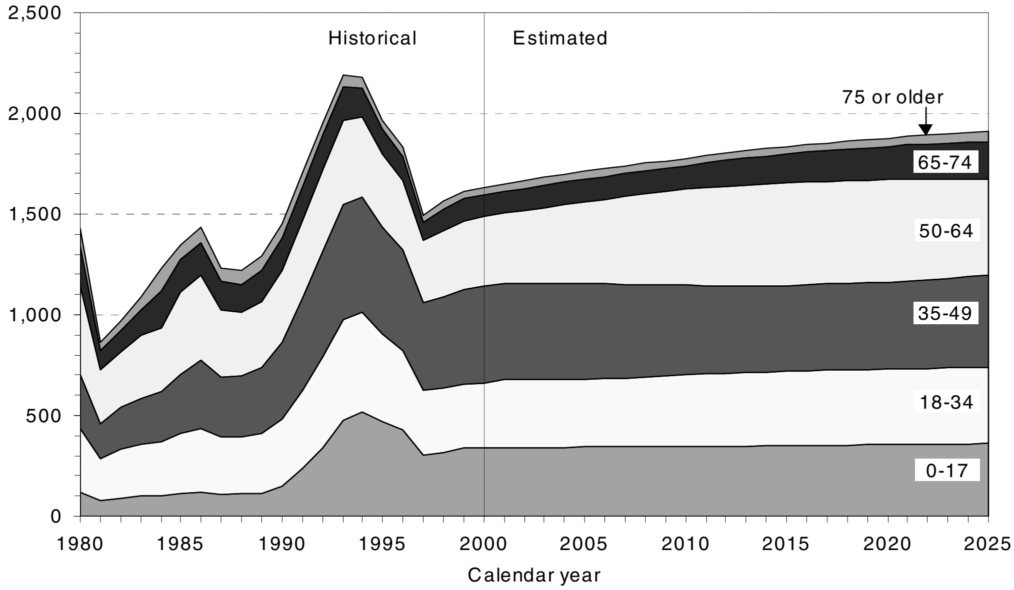
[In thousands]

Calendar year	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1975 [3]....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	1,075	325	1,400
1976.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	984	254	1,239
1977.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	1,040	259	1,298
1978.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	1,046	258	1,304
1979.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	1,090	262	1,352
1980.......	122	310	272	438	8	1	187	89	1,151	276	1,427
1981.......	78	206	173	271	5	(5)	88	42	733	130	864
1982.......	88	246	206	278	11	1	93	48	830	141	971
1983.......	102	258	225	311	5	1	122	68	902	190	1,092
1984.......	103	267	247	321	7	(5)	178	108	944	286	1,230
1985.......	114	294	297	409	7	(5)	151	73	1,122	223	1,345
1986.......	122	316	334	426	7	1	150	81	1,205	231	1,437
1987.......	108	287	299	331	7	1	134	66	1,033	200	1,233
1988.......	114	282	301	317	7	1	131	69	1,021	200	1,221
1989.......	116	297	323	329	7	(5)	146	76	1,072	222	1,294
1990.......	149	335	380	356	6	(5)	156	71	1,226	227	1,454
1991.......	237	391	453	391	7	(5)	159	68	1,479	227	1,706
1992.......	339	453	522	407	8	(5)	163	64	1,728	226	1,955
1993.......	473	506	570	416	7	(5)	158	61	1,973	218	2,191
1994.......	517	492	571	402	6	(5)	136	52	1,989	188	2,177
1995.......	473	435	524	363	6	(5)	121	44	1,801	165	1,966
1996.......	431	393	500	345	9	1	108	44	1,678	153	1,831
1997.......	306	317	438	307	8	1	82	35	1,377	117	1,494
1998.......	318	317	453	331	9	1	96	39	1,428	136	1,563
1999.......	338	317	470	336	6	(5)	107	39	1,468	145	1,614
2000.......	337	321	486	341	6	(5)	102	39	1,493	140	1,633
Estimated:											
2001.......	342	335	477	349	7	(5)	101	39	1,511	140	1,651
2002.......	341	339	476	361	5	(5)	104	40	1,523	144	1,667
2003.......	341	340	476	375	5	(5)	105	40	1,538	146	1,683
2004.......	342	339	475	390	5	(5)	106	40	1,552	146	1,698
2005.......	343	339	473	406	6	(5)	106	40	1,566	146	1,712
2006.......	343	339	470	422	6	(5)	106	39	1,580	146	1,726
2007.......	344	342	464	438	7	(5)	108	38	1,595	146	1,741
2008.......	345	347	457	454	7	(5)	108	37	1,609	145	1,754
2009.......	345	352	451	466	7	(5)	108	37	1,620	145	1,765
2010.......	345	356	445	477	7	(5)	109	36	1,630	145	1,775
2011.......	345	360	439	487	8	(5)	114	36	1,640	150	1,791
2012.......	346	364	435	494	9	(5)	120	36	1,648	157	1,804
2013.......	347	366	431	501	9	(5)	123	36	1,654	160	1,814
2014.......	348	368	428	506	9	(5)	128	37	1,660	165	1,824
2015.......	350	369	427	510	9	(5)	133	37	1,665	170	1,835
2016.......	351	370	428	511	9	(5)	137	37	1,669	175	1,844
2017.......	352	371	429	511	10	(5)	141	38	1,673	179	1,853
2018.......	353	373	431	509	10	(5)	145	39	1,676	185	1,861
2019.......	354	374	432	508	10	(5)	150	40	1,679	191	1,869
2020.......	356	375	433	506	11	(5)	155	41	1,681	197	1,877
2021.......	357	376	435	503	11	(5)	160	43	1,683	203	1,885
2022.......	358	377	439	498	11	(5)	164	45	1,684	209	1,892
2023.......	359	378	445	492	11	(5)	167	47	1,684	214	1,898
2024.......	360	377	451	485	11	(5)	171	48	1,684	219	1,904
2025.......	360	376	458	479	11	(5)	174	50	1,685	224	1,909

[1] Based on data reported in the Integrated Workload Management System (formerly known as the District Office Workload Report).
[2] Consistent data on applications for 1974 (the first year of operation of the program) are not available.
[3] Totals estimated using a 1-percent sample.
[4] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.
[5] Fewer than 500.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Figure IV.B1.—SSI Federally-Administered Applications by Age Group, Calendar Years 1980-2025
[In thousands]



The adjudication of these applications involves an evaluation of levels of income and resources available to the applicants, as well as other eligibility factors including marital and citizenship status and living arrangements. In addition, in over 90 percent of the cases, an evaluation of an alleged impairment must be done by the appropriate State Disability Determination Service. An unfavorable disability determination may then be appealed by the applicant through several administrative levels of appeal. If all administrative levels of appeal are exhausted, the applicant may in turn carry his/her appeal to the Federal courts. Data on recent historical experience for this disability decision process are presented in section V.C.

Table IV.B2 and figure IV.B2 present historical and projected numbers of persons who are ultimately awarded SSI eligibility as a result of this decision process. In that table and graph, we are essentially counting individuals as being awarded in the first month that they move into SSI payment status. For this reason, we refer to these individuals as "new entrants" rather than "awards." [1] The numbers of new entrants into SSI payment status increased in 1998 and again slightly in 1999 following a period of decline ending in 1997. In 2000 the numbers of new entrants experienced a small decrease but are estimated to increase gradually in the future in line with projected growth in applications.

[1] In addition, these counts differ slightly from other similar totals identified as "awards" and published by the Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (ORES) in the *Annual Statistical Supplement to the Social Security Bulletin*. The ORES totals are similar in concept to those used in this report, but differ slightly due to the timing of the action being tabulated. For example, ORES does not count a disability benefit as being awarded until the disability decision is made. Under the procedures used in this report, individuals first coming on the SSI rolls through a finding of presumptive disability would be counted as a "new entrant" in the first month of presumptive disability payment. In contrast, ORES would not count this person as an award until a final disability allowance decision had been rendered.

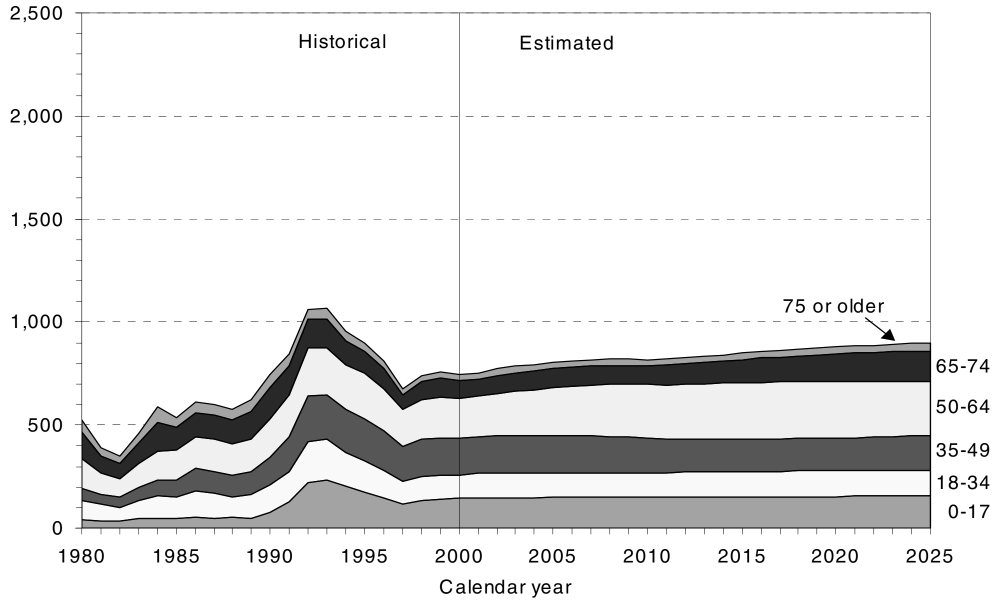
Table IV.B2.—SSI Federally-Administered New Entrants, Calendar Years 1974-2025
[In thousands]

Calendar year [1]	Blind or disabled, by age group: 0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	Aged, by age group: 65-74	75 or older	Totals [2]: Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974 [3]....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	1,919	2,479	4,398
1975.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	584	347	931
1976.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	452	218	669
1977.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	429	209	637
1978.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	370	193	563
1979.......	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	330	169	499
1980.......	41	92	61	142	4	(5)	125	59	341	184	524
1981.......	37	77	49	106	3	(5)	80	37	272	117	389
1982.......	38	63	51	90	4	(5)	72	31	245	103	348
1983.......	47	88	62	117	3	(5)	95	51	317	146	463
1984.......	47	109	78	142	4	(5)	131	78	380	209	589
1985.......	48	104	80	148	4	(5)	106	46	384	152	536
1986.......	55	127	109	153	5	(5)	110	51	449	161	610
1987.......	48	119	106	157	5	(5)	116	52	435	167	602
1988.......	50	101	108	146	5	1	112	56	412	167	579
1989.......	48	113	115	155	5	(5)	127	62	436	189	625
1990.......	76	136	134	182	5	(5)	149	66	533	215	748
1991.......	126	146	172	200	6	(5)	139	54	650	193	844
1992.......	221	199	221	233	6	(5)	133	48	881	181	1,062
1993.......	235	194	221	225	6	(5)	136	49	881	185	1,066
1994.......	204	164	207	215	6	(5)	116	42	796	157	953
1995.......	177	147	207	218	5	(5)	105	36	755	141	895
1996.......	145	134	193	203	6	1	93	35	681	128	809
1997.......	116	111	171	178	4	(5)	68	25	580	93	673
1998.......	135	117	181	194	7	1	78	30	634	108	742
1999.......	140	114	186	195	5	(5)	87	33	640	120	760
2000.......	145	112	180	191	6	(5)	83	31	634	114	748
Estimated:											
2001.......	148	118	178	193	6	(5)	79	30	645	110	754
2002.......	149	120	181	202	5	(5)	84	32	657	117	774
2003.......	148	120	182	211	5	(5)	85	33	667	118	785
2004.......	149	120	182	220	6	(5)	86	33	677	118	795
2005.......	149	120	183	229	6	(5)	86	32	687	118	805
2006.......	149	120	182	238	6	(5)	85	32	695	117	813
2007.......	149	120	178	246	7	(5)	86	31	701	117	818
2008.......	149	121	174	253	7	(5)	86	30	704	116	820
2009.......	149	121	170	257	7	(5)	86	29	703	115	819
2010.......	149	121	166	260	6	(5)	86	29	703	115	818
2011.......	150	121	162	263	7	(5)	90	29	703	119	822
2012.......	150	122	160	266	7	(5)	95	29	705	124	829
2013.......	151	122	158	270	7	(5)	98	29	708	126	835
2014.......	151	123	157	273	7	(5)	101	29	711	130	842
2015.......	152	123	156	275	8	(5)	105	29	714	134	848
2016.......	152	123	156	276	8	(5)	109	30	716	139	855
2017.......	153	124	157	276	8	(5)	112	30	718	142	860
2018.......	153	124	158	276	8	(5)	115	31	719	147	866
2019.......	154	125	158	275	9	(5)	119	32	721	151	872
2020.......	154	125	158	275	9	(5)	123	33	722	156	878
2021.......	154	126	159	274	9	(5)	127	34	722	161	883
2022.......	155	126	161	271	9	(5)	130	36	722	166	888
2023.......	155	126	163	268	9	(5)	133	37	722	170	892
2024.......	155	126	166	265	9	(5)	136	39	722	174	896
2025.......	156	126	168	261	9	(5)	138	40	721	179	900

[1] Represents period in which first payment was made, not date of first eligibility for payments.
[2] Historical totals estimated based on 1-percent or 10-percent sample data.
[3] Totals for 1974 include recipients converted from previous State programs as well as new entrants to the SSI program during 1974.
[4] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.
[5] Fewer than 500.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Figure IV.B2.—SSI Federally-Administered New Entrants by Age Group, Calendar Years 1980-2025
[In thousands]



Some of the persons receiving SSI benefits in a year will be removed from current-payment status during the year because of death or the loss of SSI eligibility. The loss of eligibility can occur either as the result of an evaluation of the individual's nonmedical factors of eligibility, including income and resources, or due to a determination that he/she is no longer disabled as defined under the Social Security Act. For example, disabled children, upon attainment of age 18, lose eligibility if they do not qualify for benefits under the disabled adult eligibility criteria. For purposes of this presentation, we refer to the net reduction in the number of SSI recipients in payment status during a period as the number of SSI terminations for that period.

In the following tables, we have separated the numbers of people moving out of payment status into those leaving due to death (table IV.B3), and those leaving for all other reasons (table IV.B4). Table IV.B5 and figure IV.B3 present historical and projected numbers of total terminations by calendar year.

Actual experience for terminations in 2000 was 3.2 percent lower than anticipated in the 2000 Annual Report. Terminations due to death and terminations due to reasons other than death were both lower than estimated.

Some historical details on income and resource redeterminations and the results of continuing disability reviews are presented in section V.D. Section V.E presents information on certain incentive programs intended to encourage disabled SSI recipients to return to work.

Table IV.B3.—SSI Federally-Administered Terminations Due to Death, Calendar Years 1974-2025
[In thousands]

Calendar year	Blind or disabled, by age group: 0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	Aged, by age group: 65-74	75 or older	Totals[1]: Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1975	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	65	147	212
1976	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	64	137	201
1977	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	65	137	203
1978	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	67	126	193
1979	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	67	121	189
1980	3	5	9	31	22	1	27	100	71	127	198
1981	3	5	8	31	24	2	21	92	73	112	186
1982	3	4	8	28	21	2	16	80	65	96	161
1983	3	6	8	25	21	3	15	79	65	94	158
1984	3	4	9	29	18	5	13	83	67	96	163
1985	2	6	10	29	24	6	17	84	77	101	178
1986	2	8	12	28	22	8	15	83	80	98	178
1987	3	8	13	30	23	10	15	82	87	97	184
1988	5	8	14	31	25	12	16	81	95	97	191
1989	3	8	16	33	23	12	15	78	95	93	187
1990	4	9	18	36	22	14	16	75	103	92	194
1991	4	9	20	39	23	17	17	74	112	91	203
1992	4	11	22	38	22	15	16	69	111	84	195
1993	6	13	27	41	23	17	16	72	127	88	215
1994	6	14	27	41	23	17	16	69	127	85	212
1995	6	13	30	43	24	18	16	65	135	81	216
1996	7	12	30	44	24	18	16	67	135	83	218
1997	5	10	24	43	24	19	15	64	127	79	206
1998	5	9	24	43	25	20	14	64	127	78	205
1999	5	9	25	45	25	21	13	63	131	76	207
2000	5	8	27	46	25	21	12	61	132	73	205
Estimated:											
2001	5	9	27	46	25	20	12	59	133	71	204
2002	5	9	28	48	27	19	11	59	136	70	206
2003	6	9	28	50	27	20	11	59	139	70	209
2004	6	9	28	52	28	20	11	59	142	70	213
2005	6	9	28	54	29	21	11	60	146	70	217
2006	6	9	28	56	30	22	11	60	150	71	221
2007	6	9	28	58	31	23	11	60	154	71	225
2008	6	9	27	60	32	23	11	60	158	71	229
2009	6	9	27	62	33	23	11	59	161	71	231
2010	6	9	26	64	33	24	11	59	163	70	233
2011	6	9	26	66	34	24	11	58	165	69	235
2012	6	10	25	66	36	24	11	57	168	69	236
2013	6	10	25	67	37	24	12	57	170	68	238
2014	6	10	25	68	38	25	12	56	172	68	240
2015	6	10	24	69	39	25	12	55	174	68	241
2016	7	10	24	69	41	26	13	55	176	67	243
2017	7	10	24	69	42	26	13	54	178	67	245
2018	7	10	24	69	43	27	14	54	180	68	247
2019	7	10	24	69	45	27	14	54	182	68	250
2020	7	10	24	69	46	28	15	54	183	68	252
2021	7	10	24	69	47	28	15	54	185	69	254
2022	7	10	24	68	48	29	15	54	187	70	257
2023	7	11	25	67	50	30	16	55	189	71	260
2024	7	11	25	66	51	31	16	56	190	72	262
2025	7	11	25	65	52	32	17	57	191	74	265

[1] Historical totals estimated based on 1-percent or 10-percent sample data.
[2] Data not available.
[3] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table IV.B4.—SSI Federally-Administered Terminations Due to Reasons Other Than Death, Calendar Years 1974-2025
[In thousands]

Calendar year	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals [1]		
	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1975	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	221	180	401
1976	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	306	240	546
1977	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	265	168	433
1978	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	241	150	391
1979	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	234	144	378
1980	19	48	43	80	23	1	44	77	214	121	334
1981	17	43	39	72	21	1	49	86	192	134	326
1982	19	48	43	79	23	1	50	87	212	137	348
1983	18	43	36	63	14	1	25	61	175	86	261
1984	13	51	37	77	21	1	37	60	200	98	298
1985	11	42	37	68	13	2	23	54	172	77	249
1986	18	49	47	73	16	3	34	60	206	94	300
1987	19	51	48	75	17	3	32	57	214	89	302
1988	19	52	51	74	15	5	33	59	216	93	309
1989	19	55	52	72	16	4	33	58	218	91	308
1990	14	52	57	73	17	8	40	68	221	108	330
1991	20	50	70	84	18	5	33	58	248	91	339
1992	39	68	94	103	19	8	34	56	329	90	419
1993	34	73	97	106	22	8	37	55	340	92	433
1994	41	73	101	107	18	8	32	49	348	81	429
1995	47	81	111	115	20	7	32	48	382	80	461
1996	47	89	128	119	21	8	29	49	413	78	491
1997	128	105	147	115	18	8	24	40	522	64	586
1998	67	89	112	110	19	8	22	38	406	61	466
1999	119	111	120	116	20	9	24	43	495	68	563
2000	84	99	112	112	22	9	22	38	438	60	498
Estimated:											
2001	70	99	119	124	22	9	20	38	442	58	500
2002	59	99	117	121	20	8	20	39	425	59	485
2003	68	101	118	126	20	9	20	39	442	59	501
2004	68	98	119	131	21	9	20	39	445	59	504
2005	66	100	119	136	21	9	19	39	451	59	510
2006	64	100	119	142	21	9	19	39	456	58	515
2007	63	102	118	148	22	9	19	39	462	58	520
2008	59	104	117	154	23	9	20	38	465	58	523
2009	56	106	115	159	23	9	20	38	468	58	526
2010	53	107	113	163	24	9	20	37	470	57	527
2011	52	108	111	166	25	9	20	37	471	57	528
2012	53	109	109	168	26	9	21	36	475	57	532
2013	54	110	108	170	27	9	21	36	478	57	535
2014	54	111	106	172	28	10	22	35	481	57	538
2015	55	112	106	173	29	10	23	35	484	57	541
2016	55	113	105	174	30	10	23	34	487	58	545
2017	55	115	105	174	30	10	24	34	489	58	548
2018	56	116	105	173	31	10	25	34	492	59	551
2019	56	117	105	173	32	11	26	34	494	60	554
2020	56	119	105	172	33	11	27	34	496	61	557
2021	56	120	106	171	34	11	28	34	497	62	559
2022	56	120	106	169	35	11	28	35	498	63	562
2023	56	121	108	167	36	12	29	36	500	65	564
2024	56	122	109	165	36	12	30	37	500	66	567
2025	56	123	111	163	37	12	30	37	501	68	569

[1] Historical totals estimated based on 1-percent or 10-percent sample data.
[2] Data not available.
[3] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

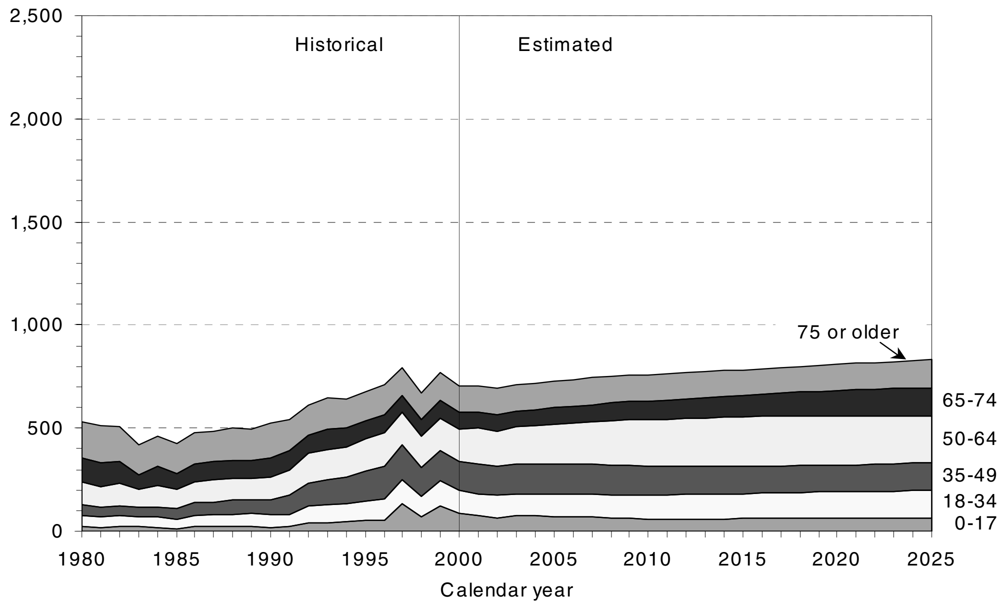
Table IV.B5.—SSI Federally-Administered Terminations for All Reasons, Calendar Years 1974-2025
[In thousands]

Calendar year	Blind or disabled, by age group: 0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	Aged, by age group: 65-74	75 or older	Totals [1]: Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1975......	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	287	326	613
1976......	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	371	377	748
1977......	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	330	305	636
1978......	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	308	276	584
1979......	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	301	265	566
1980......	22	53	52	111	45	2	70	177	284	248	532
1981......	20	48	47	103	45	3	69	177	266	246	512
1982......	21	52	51	107	43	2	65	168	277	233	510
1983......	21	49	44	87	34	4	39	140	240	180	419
1984......	16	55	46	106	39	6	50	144	267	194	461
1985......	13	47	47	97	37	8	40	138	249	178	427
1986......	21	58	59	101	38	11	48	143	287	192	478
1987......	22	59	61	106	40	13	47	138	301	185	486
1988......	24	60	65	105	39	18	49	140	311	189	500
1989......	22	63	69	105	39	15	47	136	312	183	496
1990......	18	61	75	109	39	22	56	144	324	200	524
1991......	25	60	90	123	40	22	50	132	360	182	542
1992......	42	78	115	140	41	23	50	125	440	175	614
1993......	40	86	124	148	45	24	54	127	467	181	648
1994......	47	87	128	148	41	24	48	118	475	166	642
1995......	54	94	142	158	44	25	47	113	517	160	677
1996......	54	101	158	163	45	27	45	116	548	161	710
1997......	133	116	172	159	43	26	39	105	648	143	792
1998......	73	98	136	153	44	29	36	102	533	138	671
1999......	124	120	146	161	45	31	38	106	626	144	770
2000......	90	107	139	159	46	29	34	98	570	133	703
Estimated:											
2001......	75	107	147	170	47	29	32	97	575	129	704
2002......	65	108	145	169	47	28	32	98	561	129	691
2003......	73	110	146	176	47	28	31	98	581	129	710
2004......	73	107	147	183	48	29	31	98	588	129	717
2005......	72	108	147	190	49	30	30	99	597	129	726
2006......	70	109	147	198	51	31	30	99	606	129	735
2007......	69	111	146	206	53	31	30	99	616	129	745
2008......	65	113	145	214	55	32	31	98	623	129	752
2009......	62	115	142	221	56	32	31	97	629	128	757
2010......	59	117	140	227	57	33	31	96	633	127	760
2011......	58	118	137	232	59	33	31	95	637	126	763
2012......	59	119	135	234	62	34	32	93	643	126	768
2013......	60	120	133	237	64	34	33	92	648	125	773
2014......	61	121	131	240	66	34	34	91	653	125	778
2015......	61	122	130	242	68	35	35	90	658	125	783
2016......	62	123	130	243	70	36	36	89	663	125	788
2017......	62	125	130	243	72	36	37	88	667	126	793
2018......	62	126	130	242	75	37	38	88	672	127	798
2019......	62	128	129	242	77	38	40	88	676	128	803
2020......	62	129	129	241	79	38	42	88	679	129	808
2021......	63	130	130	240	82	39	43	88	682	131	813
2022......	63	131	131	237	83	41	44	90	685	133	819
2023......	63	132	132	234	85	42	45	91	688	136	824
2024......	63	133	134	231	87	43	46	93	690	138	829
2025......	63	133	136	228	88	44	47	94	692	141	834

[1] Historical totals estimated based on 1-percent or 10-percent sample data.
[2] Data not available.
[3] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Figure IV.B3.—SSI Federally-Administered Terminations by Age Group, Calendar Years 1980-2025
[In thousands]



Combining the number of persons coming on the SSI payment rolls during a year with the number of those already receiving benefits at the beginning of the year, and subtracting the number leaving the rolls during the year, yields the number of persons receiving Federally-administered SSI payments at the end of the specified period. Individuals receiving Federal SSI payments, who comprise the great majority of Federally-administered recipients, are presented in table IV.B6 and in figure IV.B4. The net effect of actual experience in 2000 was that there were roughly 0.3 percent more Federal SSI recipients at the end of 2000 than estimated for the 2000 Annual Report.

Table IV.B6.—SSI Recipients with Federal Benefits in Current-Payment Status as of December, 1974-2025
[In thousands]

	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974.......	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
1975.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,869	2,025	3,893
1976.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,932	1,867	3,799
1977.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,013	1,765	3,778
1978.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,069	1,686	3,755
1979.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,094	1,593	3,687
1980.......	188	500	351	750	342	17	609	925	2,149	1,533	3,682
1981.......	194	514	349	720	366	17	541	888	2,160	1,430	3,590
1982.......	191	517	346	683	386	21	459	871	2,144	1,329	3,473
1983.......	198	555	366	692	412	28	449	890	2,250	1,339	3,590
1984.......	210	595	393	700	406	48	463	884	2,352	1,347	3,699
1985.......	226	634	426	717	402	72	462	860	2,477	1,322	3,799
1986.......	240	688	475	739	397	91	465	827	2,630	1,291	3,922
1987.......	249	717	524	756	392	113	464	804	2,751	1,268	4,019
1988.......	254	738	564	774	387	127	468	777	2,844	1,245	4,089
1989.......	263	757	613	799	382	145	488	760	2,959	1,247	4,206
1990.......	306	788	677	840	389	156	508	749	3,156	1,257	4,412
1991.......	395	833	769	897	390	166	542	736	3,451	1,279	4,730
1992.......	555	920	877	970	402	173	577	727	3,898	1,304	5,202
1993.......	721	990	979	1,034	410	179	604	720	4,312	1,324	5,636
1994.......	839	1,032	1,071	1,089	425	182	610	716	4,638	1,326	5,965
1995.......	915	1,058	1,150	1,134	435	188	601	713	4,880	1,315	6,194
1996.......	954	1,066	1,198	1,176	444	192	586	711	5,029	1,296	6,326
1997.......	878	1,039	1,196	1,198	457	193	547	704	4,960	1,251	6,212
1998.......	885	1,038	1,238	1,243	464	197	521	705	5,063	1,226	6,289
1999.......	845	1,005	1,274	1,278	474	195	499	704	5,072	1,203	6,275
2000.......	844	994	1,303	1,313	484	196	483	703	5,134	1,186	6,320

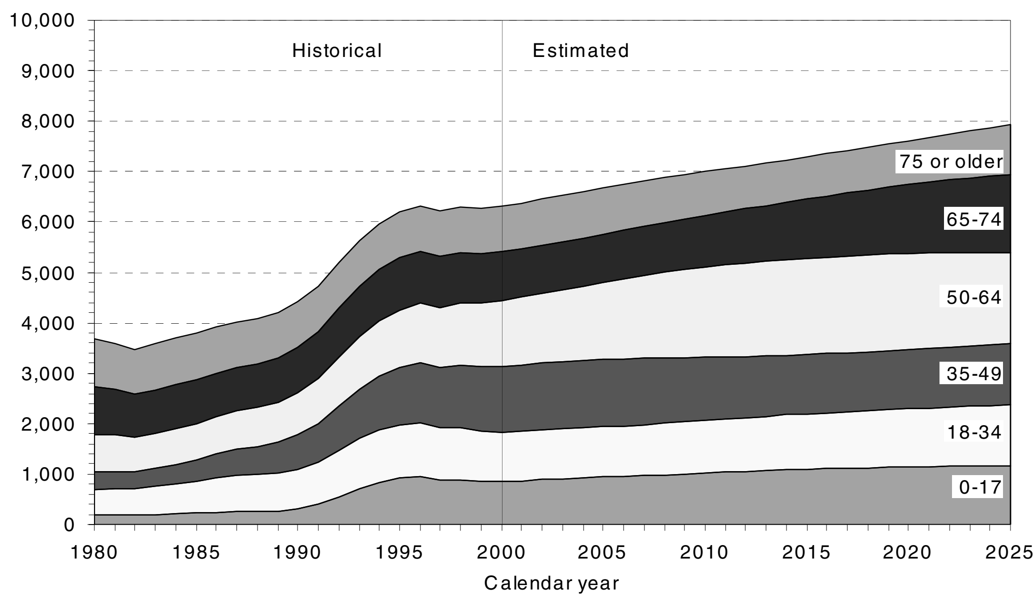
Table IV.B6.—SSI Recipients with Federal Benefits in Current-Payment Status as of December, 1974-2025
[In thousands]

	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Estimated:											
2001.......	865	987	1,315	1,345	492	198	464	705	5,202	1,169	6,371
2002.......	894	987	1,324	1,388	500	202	450	706	5,296	1,157	6,452
2003.......	909	990	1,329	1,435	508	207	439	707	5,379	1,146	6,525
2004.......	924	995	1,332	1,484	517	212	431	705	5,465	1,136	6,600
2005.......	938	998	1,334	1,537	525	217	423	702	5,550	1,125	6,675
2006.......	952	1,005	1,329	1,594	536	219	421	693	5,635	1,114	6,749
2007.......	964	1,017	1,315	1,647	550	222	422	680	5,715	1,102	6,817
2008.......	978	1,031	1,296	1,697	566	223	424	666	5,791	1,090	6,882
2009.......	995	1,043	1,274	1,748	577	225	425	654	5,862	1,078	6,940
2010.......	1,014	1,054	1,251	1,798	584	227	425	642	5,929	1,067	6,996
2011.......	1,034	1,063	1,228	1,833	603	230	432	629	5,992	1,061	7,052
2012.......	1,052	1,071	1,208	1,856	630	233	441	617	6,051	1,059	7,110
2013.......	1,069	1,080	1,192	1,880	651	236	452	608	6,109	1,059	7,168
2014.......	1,085	1,089	1,178	1,901	672	240	465	599	6,165	1,064	7,229
2015.......	1,098	1,099	1,171	1,914	693	244	480	592	6,218	1,072	7,291
2016.......	1,109	1,109	1,168	1,921	715	247	496	587	6,270	1,084	7,354
2017.......	1,119	1,120	1,169	1,922	736	253	511	588	6,318	1,099	7,417
2018.......	1,127	1,132	1,169	1,920	758	259	527	590	6,364	1,117	7,481
2019.......	1,135	1,144	1,168	1,916	782	263	546	592	6,408	1,138	7,546
2020.......	1,143	1,154	1,167	1,911	807	266	569	593	6,448	1,162	7,611
2021.......	1,150	1,164	1,170	1,900	828	274	585	604	6,486	1,189	7,676
2022.......	1,157	1,174	1,179	1,881	847	285	597	622	6,522	1,219	7,741
2023.......	1,163	1,182	1,193	1,859	865	294	612	638	6,555	1,250	7,805
2024.......	1,168	1,188	1,209	1,834	882	303	628	655	6,585	1,283	7,867
2025.......	1,173	1,193	1,227	1,810	898	312	644	673	6,613	1,317	7,929

[1] Data not available.
[2] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Figure IV.B4.—SSI Recipients with Federal Benefits in Current-Payment Status, by Age Group, as of December, 1980-2025
[In thousands]



As illustrated in figure IV.B4, the implementation of Public Law 104-121 and Public Law 104-193 resulted in a decline in the Federal recipient population from 1996 to 1997. From the end of 1997 through the end of 2000, the Federal SSI recipient population grew at an annual rate of less than 1 percent. Our forecasts indicate that this modest growth rate is expected to continue throughout the remainder of the 25-year projection period. In order to place this projected growth in the context of overall population growth, table IV.B7 and figure IV.B5 present Federal SSI recipients as percentages of selected Social Security Area population totals. For the totals shown in this presentation, the percentages are calculated using the population age group totals corresponding to the age groups in the Federal recipient categories. Because the ratios for the separate recipient categories are computed as percentages of differing base populations, the percentage for the total SSI recipient population is not the arithmetic sum of the percentages for the respective recipient categories.

Table IV.B7.—SSI Recipients with Federal Benefits in Current-Payment Status as a Percentage of Selected Social Security Area Population Totals, as of December, 1975-2025

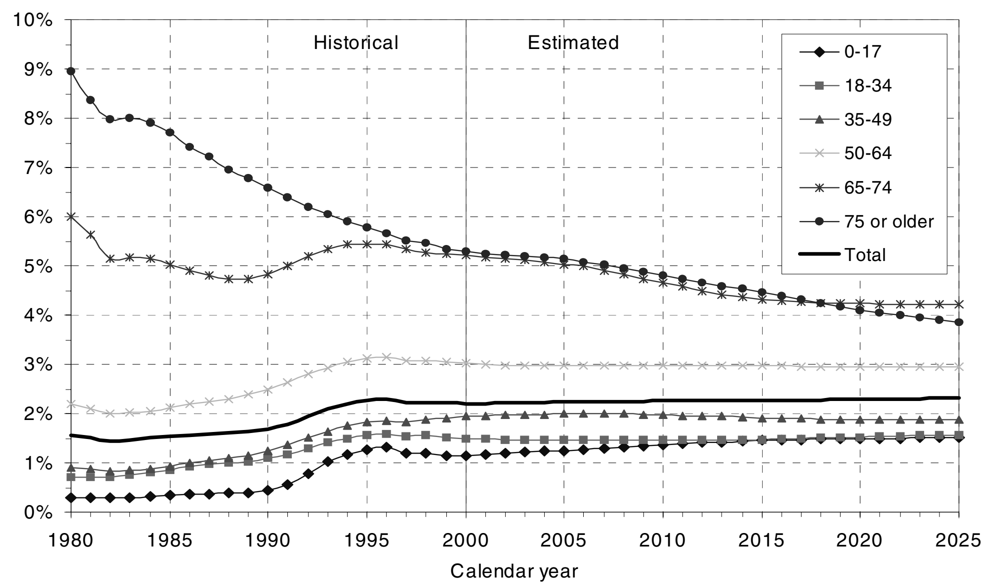
	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled[1]	Aged[2]	All[3]
Historical data:											
1975......	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	0.83	8.62	1.73
1976......	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	.85	7.76	1.67
1977......	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	.88	7.16	1.65
1978......	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	.89	6.68	1.62
1979......	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]	.90	6.17	1.58
1980......	0.29	0.70	0.91	2.19	2.16	0.17	3.84	8.78	.91	5.82	1.56
1981......	.30	.72	.87	2.10	2.27	.16	3.36	8.20	.91	5.31	1.50
1982......	.29	.71	.83	1.99	2.35	.19	2.80	7.79	.89	4.82	1.44
1983......	.30	.76	.85	2.03	2.47	.24	2.70	7.75	.92	4.76	1.47
1984......	.32	.81	.88	2.06	2.40	.40	2.74	7.49	.96	4.69	1.50
1985......	.34	.87	.92	2.11	2.33	.59	2.68	7.11	1.00	4.51	1.53
1986......	.36	.94	1.00	2.20	2.26	.74	2.64	6.67	1.05	4.31	1.56
1987......	.38	.98	1.06	2.25	2.20	.89	2.60	6.33	1.09	4.15	1.59
1988......	.38	1.00	1.10	2.30	2.14	.98	2.59	5.97	1.11	4.00	1.60
1989......	.39	1.03	1.16	2.38	2.08	1.08	2.66	5.70	1.14	3.94	1.63
1990......	.45	1.09	1.24	2.49	2.10	1.13	2.74	5.45	1.21	3.90	1.69
1991......	.57	1.16	1.36	2.63	2.09	1.17	2.90	5.21	1.31	3.90	1.79
1992......	.79	1.30	1.51	2.81	2.13	1.19	3.06	5.01	1.46	3.91	1.95
1993......	1.02	1.42	1.64	2.94	2.16	1.20	3.18	4.84	1.60	3.91	2.09
1994......	1.17	1.49	1.75	3.05	2.23	1.20	3.20	4.71	1.70	3.87	2.19
1995......	1.26	1.55	1.82	3.13	2.29	1.21	3.16	4.58	1.78	3.80	2.26
1996......	1.31	1.57	1.87	3.14	2.34	1.21	3.09	4.46	1.82	3.72	2.28
1997......	1.20	1.54	1.84	3.08	2.43	1.19	2.91	4.33	1.77	3.57	2.22
1998......	1.20	1.55	1.88	3.08	2.49	1.19	2.79	4.26	1.80	3.48	2.23
1999......	1.15	1.51	1.91	3.06	2.56	1.16	2.69	4.19	1.78	3.40	2.21
2000......	1.14	1.49	1.94	3.03	2.61	1.15	2.61	4.13	1.79	3.34	2.21
Estimated:											
2001......	1.17	1.48	1.95	2.99	2.67	1.15	2.51	4.09	1.80	3.28	2.21
2002......	1.20	1.47	1.97	2.98	2.71	1.16	2.44	4.05	1.82	3.22	2.22
2003......	1.22	1.47	1.98	2.97	2.74	1.18	2.37	4.02	1.83	3.17	2.22
2004......	1.24	1.47	1.98	2.97	2.77	1.19	2.31	3.97	1.85	3.12	2.23
2005......	1.25	1.47	1.99	2.97	2.79	1.21	2.24	3.92	1.86	3.06	2.24
2006......	1.27	1.47	1.99	2.97	2.79	1.22	2.20	3.85	1.87	3.00	2.24
2007......	1.29	1.47	1.99	2.98	2.78	1.23	2.13	3.78	1.89	2.92	2.25
2008......	1.31	1.47	1.99	2.98	2.76	1.24	2.07	3.70	1.90	2.83	2.25
2009......	1.33	1.47	1.98	2.99	2.73	1.25	2.01	3.63	1.91	2.75	2.26
2010......	1.36	1.47	1.97	2.98	2.70	1.26	1.96	3.55	1.91	2.68	2.26
2011......	1.38	1.46	1.96	2.98	2.67	1.27	1.91	3.47	1.92	2.60	2.26
2012......	1.41	1.46	1.95	2.97	2.64	1.28	1.85	3.39	1.92	2.52	2.26
2013......	1.43	1.46	1.94	2.97	2.61	1.29	1.81	3.31	1.93	2.45	2.26
2014......	1.44	1.47	1.93	2.97	2.58	1.30	1.78	3.23	1.93	2.39	2.26
2015......	1.45	1.47	1.91	2.97	2.56	1.30	1.77	3.16	1.93	2.34	2.27
2016......	1.46	1.48	1.90	2.96	2.54	1.30	1.76	3.09	1.94	2.29	2.27
2017......	1.47	1.49	1.90	2.96	2.52	1.30	1.75	3.02	1.94	2.26	2.27
2018......	1.48	1.50	1.89	2.96	2.51	1.29	1.74	2.95	1.94	2.22	2.28
2019......	1.48	1.51	1.88	2.96	2.50	1.29	1.75	2.89	1.94	2.20	2.28
2020......	1.49	1.52	1.88	2.96	2.48	1.27	1.75	2.83	1.94	2.17	2.29
2021......	1.49	1.53	1.87	2.95	2.47	1.26	1.75	2.79	1.94	2.16	2.29
2022......	1.50	1.54	1.87	2.95	2.47	1.26	1.74	2.74	1.94	2.14	2.30
2023......	1.50	1.55	1.87	2.95	2.47	1.25	1.75	2.70	1.93	2.13	2.30
2024......	1.50	1.56	1.87	2.95	2.46	1.24	1.75	2.67	1.93	2.12	2.31
2025......	1.51	1.57	1.87	2.95	2.45	1.23	1.76	2.64	1.93	2.12	2.31

[1] Blind or disabled recipients as a percentage of the total Social Security Area population.
[2] Aged recipients as a percentage of the 65 or older Social Security Area population.
[3] Total recipients as a percentage of the total Social Security Area population. Totals do not equal sums of components due to overlapping populations.
[4] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Table IV.B7 indicates that the percentage of the total Social Security Area population who were receiving Federal SSI payments declined from the inception of the program through the early 1980s. In 1983, this percentage started increasing and continued to increase through 1996. Due to factors described previously, the percentage of the total population receiving Federal SSI payments declined in 1997, but has leveled out since and is expected to remain fairly constant throughout the projection period.

The various subcategories of Federal SSI recipients, however, follow significantly different growth patterns in relationship to their respective population totals. The aged Federal SSI recipient population declines steadily as a percentage of the 65 or older population. In contrast, except for recent decreases due to the eligibility redeterminations and continuing disability reviews mandated by Public Law 104-193, the number of blind or disabled children receiving Federal SSI payments increased steadily as a percentage of the under age 18 population, with the increase being quite steep in the early 1990s. The total blind or disabled Federal SSI recipient population as a percentage of the total population remained fairly level until the early 1980s when it started increasing and continued to increase through 1996. After the recent modest decreases due to the implementation of legislation described in other sections the number of blind or disabled persons receiving Federal SSI payments is estimated to increase very gradually as a percentage of the total population.

Figure IV.B5.—SSI Recipients with Federal Benefits in Current-Payment Status as a Percentage of Selected Social Security Area Population Age Groups, as of December, 1980-2025



Historical and projected numbers of individuals who receive only a Federally-administered State supplement are presented in table IV.B8.

Table IV.B8.—SSI Recipients with Federally-Administered State Supplementary Benefits Only, in Current-Payment Status as of December, 1974-2025

[In thousands]

	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974.......	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
1975.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	139	282	421
1976.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	156	280	437
1977.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	174	286	460
1978.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	180	282	462
1979.......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	184	278	462
1980.......	2	20	26	82	52	2	112	162	185	274	460
1981.......	1	19	26	75	58	2	94	155	181	248	429
1982.......	1	18	23	68	53	2	82	137	165	219	384
1983.......	1	17	19	50	44	4	65	111	136	176	312
1984.......	1	18	23	50	47	7	68	116	147	184	331
1985.......	1	21	28	53	45	8	67	115	157	182	339
1986.......	1	23	31	55	45	11	66	116	166	182	348
1987.......	1	26	36	60	43	12	72	115	178	187	366
1988.......	1	26	42	59	44	14	74	114	187	188	375
1989.......	2	28	45	60	45	16	76	115	195	192	387
1990.......	2	31	54	60	44	17	82	116	208	197	405
1991.......	2	29	54	59	42	17	78	108	203	186	389
1992.......	2	29	55	59	37	16	70	97	197	167	364
1993.......	2	29	58	59	34	15	64	88	197	151	348
1994.......	2	28	59	56	32	14	59	81	192	139	331
1995.......	3	25	59	56	32	14	54	77	188	131	320
1996.......	2	21	54	53	29	13	49	68	172	116	288
1997.......	2	20	55	53	29	13	46	65	172	111	283
1998.......	2	18	54	55	28	13	43	63	171	106	277
1999.......	2	18	57	58	28	13	43	62	177	105	282
2000.......	2	17	57	60	29	13	42	61	179	103	282
Estimated:											
2001.......	2	18	56	62	29	13	41	59	180	101	281
2002.......	2	18	56	64	29	13	41	59	182	101	283
2003.......	2	18	56	66	30	13	41	60	185	100	286
2004.......	2	18	56	69	31	13	40	60	189	100	289
2005.......	3	18	57	72	31	13	40	60	193	99	293
2006.......	3	18	57	75	32	13	40	59	198	99	297
2007.......	3	18	56	79	34	13	40	58	203	98	301
2008.......	3	19	56	82	35	13	40	57	207	97	304
2009.......	3	19	55	85	36	13	40	56	211	96	307
2010.......	3	19	54	89	36	13	40	55	214	95	309
2011.......	3	19	53	91	38	13	41	54	217	95	312
2012.......	3	19	52	92	40	14	42	53	220	95	315
2013.......	3	19	51	93	41	14	43	53	222	96	318
2014.......	3	20	51	95	43	14	44	52	225	96	321
2015.......	3	20	50	95	44	14	46	52	227	98	324
2016.......	3	20	50	96	45	15	48	51	229	99	328
2017.......	3	20	50	96	47	15	49	52	231	101	332
2018.......	3	20	50	96	48	15	51	52	233	103	336
2019.......	3	20	50	96	50	16	53	53	234	105	340
2020.......	3	21	50	96	51	16	55	53	236	108	344
2021.......	3	21	50	95	53	16	56	54	238	111	349
2022.......	3	21	50	94	54	17	58	56	239	114	353
2023.......	3	21	51	93	55	17	59	58	241	117	358
2024.......	3	21	52	92	56	18	61	59	242	120	362
2025.......	3	21	52	91	57	18	62	61	243	123	367

[1] Data not available.

[2] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

The combined numbers of persons receiving either a Federal SSI payment or a Federally-administered State supplement are displayed in table IV.B9.

In examining the recent history of SSI participation and the projections of such participation in the near future, certain patterns are worth noting. The rapid increase in the total number of SSI participants in the early 1990s is a function of the growth in the numbers of disabled adults and children. The growth in the numbers of children receiving SSI resulted in large part from the Supreme Court decision in the case of Sullivan v. Zebley, which greatly expanded the criteria used for determining disability for children. The growth in the numbers of disabled adults is a more complicated phenomenon which is still not completely understood. However, extensive research conducted under contract to SSA and the Department of Health and Human Services suggested that this growth was the result of a combination of factors including (1) demographic trends, (2) a downturn in the economy in the late 1980s and early 1990s, (3) long-term structural changes in the economy, and (4) changes in other support programs (in particular the reduction or elimination of general assistance programs in certain States). The recent modest decline in program participation reflects the combined effects of recent legislation described in previous sections, along with changes in some of the factors mentioned above.

Table IV.B9.—SSI Recipients with Federally-Administered Benefits in Current-Payment Status as of December, 1974-2025

[In thousands]

	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974......	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	1,710	2,286	3,996
1975......	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	2,007	2,307	4,314
1976......	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	2,088	2,148	4,236
1977......	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	2,187	2,051	4,238
1978......	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	2,249	1,968	4,217
1979......	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	2,278	1,872	4,150
1980......	190	521	377	833	393	20	721	1,086	2,334	1,808	4,142
1981......	195	533	375	795	424	19	635	1,043	2,341	1,678	4,019
1982......	192	535	369	751	439	23	541	1,008	2,309	1,549	3,858
1983......	198	572	386	742	456	32	514	1,001	2,386	1,515	3,901
1984......	212	613	417	751	453	54	531	999	2,499	1,530	4,029
1985......	227	655	454	769	447	80	530	975	2,634	1,504	4,138
1986......	241	711	506	794	442	102	531	942	2,796	1,473	4,269
1987......	251	743	560	816	436	124	536	920	2,930	1,455	4,385
1988......	255	764	606	833	431	142	543	891	3,030	1,433	4,464
1989......	265	785	658	859	427	160	564	875	3,154	1,439	4,593
1990......	309	819	731	900	432	172	589	865	3,363	1,454	4,817
1991......	397	863	823	956	432	183	620	845	3,654	1,465	5,118
1992......	556	949	932	1,029	440	189	647	824	4,095	1,471	5,566
1993......	723	1,019	1,036	1,093	445	194	667	808	4,509	1,475	5,984
1994......	841	1,060	1,130	1,146	457	196	669	797	4,830	1,466	6,296
1995......	917	1,083	1,209	1,190	467	202	656	790	5,068	1,446	6,514
1996......	955	1,087	1,252	1,229	472	205	634	778	5,201	1,413	6,614
1997......	880	1,059	1,251	1,252	486	205	593	770	5,133	1,362	6,495
1998......	887	1,056	1,292	1,298	492	209	564	768	5,234	1,332	6,566
1999......	847	1,024	1,331	1,336	503	208	543	765	5,249	1,308	6,557
2000......	847	1,011	1,360	1,373	513	209	525	764	5,312	1,289	6,602
Estimated:											
2001......	867	1,006	1,371	1,406	521	211	506	764	5,382	1,270	6,652
2002......	896	1,005	1,380	1,452	529	215	491	766	5,478	1,257	6,735
2003......	912	1,009	1,385	1,500	539	220	479	767	5,564	1,246	6,811
2004......	927	1,013	1,388	1,553	548	225	471	765	5,654	1,235	6,889
2005......	941	1,016	1,390	1,609	557	230	462	762	5,743	1,224	6,968
2006......	954	1,023	1,386	1,669	568	232	461	751	5,833	1,213	7,045
2007......	966	1,035	1,371	1,726	584	235	462	738	5,918	1,200	7,118
2008......	981	1,049	1,352	1,780	601	236	464	723	5,999	1,187	7,186
2009......	997	1,062	1,329	1,834	612	238	465	710	6,073	1,174	7,248
2010......	1,016	1,073	1,305	1,887	621	241	466	697	6,143	1,163	7,305
2011......	1,037	1,082	1,281	1,924	641	243	473	683	6,209	1,156	7,364
2012......	1,055	1,091	1,261	1,948	670	247	483	670	6,271	1,154	7,425
2013......	1,072	1,099	1,244	1,973	692	250	495	660	6,331	1,155	7,486
2014......	1,087	1,109	1,229	1,995	715	254	509	651	6,389	1,160	7,550
2015......	1,101	1,118	1,221	2,010	737	258	526	644	6,445	1,170	7,615
2016......	1,112	1,129	1,218	2,017	761	262	544	639	6,499	1,183	7,682
2017......	1,122	1,140	1,219	2,018	783	268	560	639	6,549	1,200	7,749
2018......	1,130	1,152	1,219	2,016	806	274	578	642	6,597	1,220	7,817
2019......	1,138	1,165	1,218	2,011	831	279	599	644	6,642	1,243	7,885
2020......	1,146	1,175	1,217	2,006	858	282	624	646	6,684	1,270	7,955
2021......	1,153	1,185	1,220	1,995	881	290	642	658	6,724	1,300	8,024
2022......	1,160	1,195	1,229	1,975	900	302	655	678	6,761	1,333	8,094
2023......	1,166	1,203	1,244	1,952	920	312	671	695	6,796	1,367	8,162
2024......	1,171	1,209	1,261	1,926	938	321	689	714	6,827	1,403	8,230
2025......	1,176	1,214	1,279	1,901	955	331	706	734	6,856	1,440	8,296

[1] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

C. FEDERAL PAYMENTS UNDER SSI

In order to estimate future amounts of Federal expenditures under SSI, the projected Federal benefit rates shown in table IV.A2 are first modified to reflect actual payment levels, taking into account historical and projected levels of adjustments for other actual or deemed income. Combining these actual payment levels with the projected numbers of persons receiving Federal SSI payments yields estimates of the amounts of Federal SSI payments. Historical amounts of such payments on a calendar year basis are shown in table IV.C1. For purposes of this presentation, these payment amounts are computed on a cash-flow basis consistent with the concepts used to define SSI obligations for the Federal Budget. As a result, for months after January 1978, SSI payments due on the first of the month are tabulated in the previous month, if the first of the month falls on a weekend or Federal holiday.[1]

Table IV.C1.—SSI Federal Payments in Current Dollars,[1] Calendar Years 1974-2001

[In millions]

	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Calendar year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
1974.........	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	$2,050	$1,783	$3,833
1975.........	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,471	1,843	4,314
1976.........	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,727	1,785	4,512
1977.........	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	2,966	1,737	4,703
1978 [3]......	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	3,449	1,847	5,296
1979.........	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	3,546	1,760	5,306
1980.........	$397	$931	$731	$1,420	$544	$28	$642	$1,230	4,051	1,872	5,923
1981.........	458	1,079	821	1,542	654	32	643	1,320	4,586	1,963	6,549
1982.........	512	1,211	883	1,590	704	38	630	1,364	4,937	1,994	6,931
1983.........	574	1,372	985	1,704	774	58	624	1,440	5,466	2,064	7,530
1984.........	659	1,576	1,128	1,835	836	102	670	1,512	6,136	2,182	8,318
1985.........	736	1,709	1,250	1,924	833	160	699	1,499	6,611	2,198	8,809
1986.........	831	1,929	1,452	2,043	848	209	731	1,479	7,312	2,210	9,522
1987.........	900	2,081	1,618	2,157	846	259	765	1,444	7,860	2,210	10,069
1988.........	955	2,228	1,818	2,303	874	304	814	1,449	8,481	2,263	10,744
1989.........	1,025	2,431	2,048	2,481	936	366	881	1,479	9,286	2,361	11,647
1990.........	1,201	2,660	2,395	2,792	969	407	987	1,532	10,423	2,519	12,943
1991.........	1,678	3,129	2,966	3,305	1,060	463	1,169	1,637	12,601	2,806	15,407
1992.........	3,154	3,900	3,577	3,790	1,124	487	1,303	1,690	16,033	2,993	19,026
1993.........	3,909	4,465	4,164	4,188	1,208	513	1,471	1,759	18,447	3,230	21,677
1994.........	4,167	4,504	4,666	4,533	1,274	538	1,566	1,814	19,682	3,380	23,063
1995.........	4,657	4,777	5,155	4,896	1,357	565	1,599	1,900	21,407	3,499	24,906
1996.........	4,947	5,004	5,614	5,298	1,427	590	1,643	1,977	22,880	3,621	26,501
1997.........	4,920	5,031	5,564	5,410	1,505	614	1,586	2,046	23,044	3,632	26,675
1998.........	4,965	5,150	5,901	5,777	1,588	635	1,542	2,136	24,017	3,678	27,695
1999.........	4,835	5,132	6,185	6,037	1,660	654	1,503	2,206	24,503	3,709	28,212
2000.........	4,789	5,121	6,404	6,293	1,717	675	1,470	2,309	24,999	3,779	28,778
2001 [4]......	5,083	5,355	6,792	6,819	1,830	709	1,466	2,438	26,588	3,904	30,492

[1] Total historical payments for 1974-77 agree with those presented in the *Annual Statistical Supplement to the Social Security Bulletin*. Total historical payments for 1978-83 are estimated.
[2] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.
[3] Includes 13 months of payments since payments due on January 1, 1978 and January 1, 1979 were both paid in calendar year 1978.
[4] Partially estimated.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Using this cash-flow concept causes these payments to differ from similar amounts shown in other Social Security Administration publications, such as the *Annual Statistical Supplement to the Social Security Bulletin*, in two main ways. First, the payments shown in the *Annual Statistical Supplement* are tabulated for the month the payment is due, while the amounts shown in table IV.C1 are tabulated for the month they are actually paid. In particular, since January 1 of each year is a Federal holiday, SSI payments due on January 1 of years 1979 and later are actually paid in December of the previous year. Thus, for example,

[1] Public Law 95-216, the Social Security Amendments of 1977, enacted December 20, 1977, added a statutory requirement that SSI payments, which are normally due on the first of the month, be delivered early when the normal delivery date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Federal holiday. When the first of the month falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, all payments due on that day are paid in the previous month. Payments presented on a cash-flow basis are tabulated according to the month in which they are actually paid.

the calendar year 2000 payment amounts shown in table IV.C1 reflect payments made in January-December, 2000, and include the payments due on January 1, 2001 (which were actually paid in December, 2000), but not the payments due on January 1, 2000 (which were actually paid in December, 1999). Second, beginning in 1991, SSI obligations as accounted for in the Federal Budget are not reduced for certain recovered overpayments which are remitted directly to the Department of the Treasury. The payments shown in the *Annual Statistical Supplement* continue to report an amount which is reduced by such overpayment recoveries as was done for the Budget prior to 1991.

Corresponding amounts of SSI outlays on a fiscal year[1] basis are presented in table IV.C2 for fiscal years 1978-2001. Fiscal years prior to 1978 are omitted from table IV.C2 since historical SSI payment amounts on a fiscal year basis for years prior to 1978 are not readily available. As with the calendar year figures, these fiscal year amounts are shown on a cash-flow basis. Consequently, fiscal years 1979 and later may contain 11, 12, or 13 months of payments, depending on whether October 1 of the current and succeeding fiscal years falls on a weekend.[2] Fiscal year 1978 contains 13 months of payments.

Table IV.C2.—SSI Federal Payments in Current Dollars, Fiscal Years 1978-2001

[In millions]

	Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Fiscal year	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
1978	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	$3,386	$1,848	$5,234
1979 [2]	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	3,172	1,610	4,782
1980	$372	$877	$698	$1,360	$506	$26	$629	$1,184	3,840	1,813	5,653
1981	442	1,039	797	1,508	625	31	647	1,307	4,442	1,954	6,396
1982	499	1,181	861	1,570	693	36	640	1,356	4,840	1,996	6,836
1983	596	1,416	1,024	1,783	806	56	660	1,510	5,680	2,170	7,850
1984 [2]	588	1,411	1,005	1,665	760	85	613	1,391	5,514	2,004	7,517
1985	713	1,662	1,215	1,895	828	145	691	1,502	6,459	2,193	8,652
1986	800	1,864	1,386	1,995	840	196	723	1,487	7,080	2,209	9,290
1987	880	2,030	1,565	2,119	845	242	755	1,448	7,681	2,203	9,884
1988	1,009	2,356	1,898	2,425	932	316	860	1,559	8,935	2,419	11,354
1989 [2]	1,012	2,378	1,997	2,452	910	345	862	1,473	9,094	2,335	11,430
1990 [2]	1,039	2,378	2,115	2,479	876	362	879	1,394	9,247	2,273	11,521
1991	1,519	2,975	2,772	3,141	1,032	447	1,120	1,608	11,886	2,728	14,614
1992	2,684	3,621	3,398	3,653	1,099	476	1,269	1,680	14,932	2,949	17,881
1993	3,817	4,377	3,977	4,033	1,175	502	1,420	1,730	17,880	3,150	21,029
1994	4,328	4,771	4,866	4,756	1,344	569	1,659	1,930	20,635	3,588	24,223
1995 [2]	4,554	4,719	5,031	4,822	1,341	560	1,596	1,884	21,027	3,480	24,507
1996 [2]	4,543	4,595	5,123	4,830	1,305	540	1,510	1,808	20,936	3,317	24,254
1997	4,933	5,004	5,529	5,340	1,478	606	1,602	2,027	22,890	3,629	26,519
1998	4,915	5,114	5,816	5,688	1,567	630	1,548	2,110	23,729	3,658	27,387
1999	4,901	5,152	6,123	5,975	1,638	648	1,506	2,180	24,438	3,685	28,123
2000	5,152	5,500	6,827	6,692	1,822	718	1,599	2,453	26,710	4,052	30,763
2001 [2,3]	4,607	4,900	6,196	6,180	1,673	652	1,357	2,237	24,208	3,594	27,802

[1] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.
[2] Payment due on October 1 of fiscal year paid in previous fiscal year.
[3] Partially estimated.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

[1] Fiscal years 1977 and later cover the period from October 1 of the previous calendar year to September 30 of the year. For example, fiscal year 2000 payments include payments made from October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000.

[2] Generally, for fiscal years 1979 and later, the number of months of payments included in the fiscal year is:

· 11 months if October 1 of the current, but not the succeeding fiscal year falls on a weekend;

· 12 months if October 1 of both the current and succeeding fiscal years falls during the week (all payments made in the month due);

· 12 months if October 1 of both the current and succeeding fiscal years falls on a weekend (both payments due on October 1 paid in preceding fiscal year); and

· 13 months if October 1 of the succeeding, but not current, fiscal year falls on a weekend.

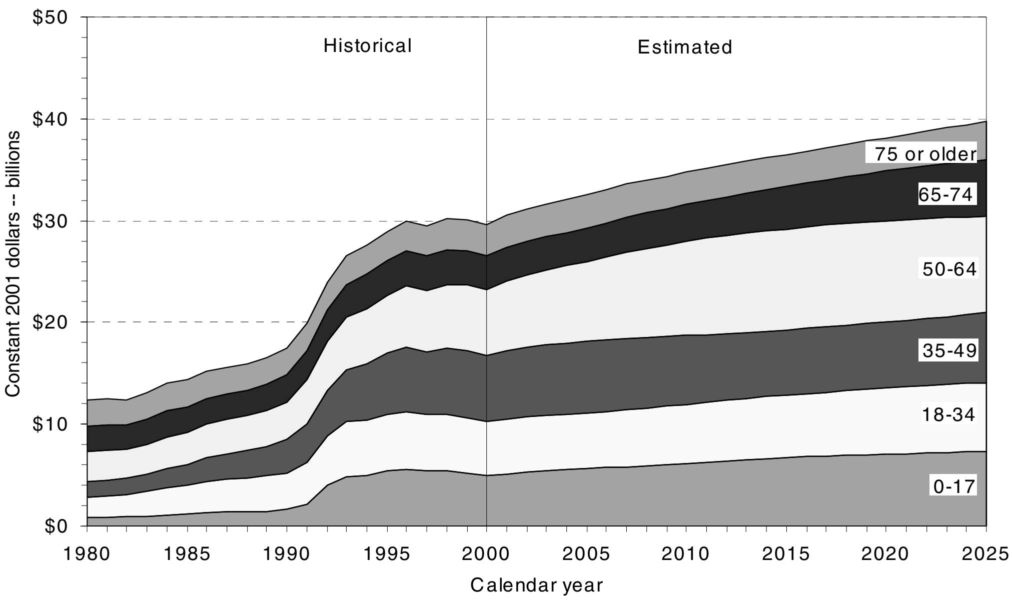
An exception to this general rule for payments due on Sunday, October 1, 2000, was enacted in Public Law 105-33, changing the payment day from Friday, September 29 to Monday, October 2. This exception was eliminated by Public Law 106-246, enacted July 13, 2000.

When projecting dollar amounts over longer periods of time, the changing value of the dollar due to inflation can make meaningful comparisons of such amounts difficult. For this reason, in projecting SSI expenditures for 25 years, some means of removing inflation is generally desirable. Several economic series are available to allow current dollars to be adjusted for changes in prices, wages, and certain other aspects of economic growth during the projection period. The selection of a particular index for adjustment of current dollars depends upon a determination as to which index provides the most useful standard for adjusting dollar amounts over time, to create values that are appropriately comparable.

One of the most common forms of standardization is based on some measure of change in the prices of consumer goods. One such price index is the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is the index used to determine annual increases in the SSI Federal benefit rate as described in table IV.A2, and for this reason is an appropriate means of standardizing projected SSI costs over time. Constant-dollar values of Federal SSI benefit payments (those adjusted by the CPI) are presented in table IV.C3 for both the historical period, calendar years 1974-2000, along with the full 25-year projection period, 2001-25. This same information is presented in graphical form in figure IV.C1.

The future growth in the "constant dollar" estimates is attributable primarily to the underlying growth in the U.S. population as shown in table IV.A1, since, after the spike in terminations in 1997, the SSI recipient population is projected to remain fairly constant as a percentage of the total U.S. population. However, a small part of the growth in estimated payments is due to some underlying real growth in the assumed average SSI benefit. This results from an estimated increase in the disabled child recipients and a decrease in aged recipients as a percentage of the total SSI recipient population, along with the fact that disabled children typically have a much larger SSI benefit than do aged recipients. [1]

Figure IV.C1.—SSI Federal Payments, by Age Group, in Constant 2001 Dollars, Calendar Years 1980-2025
[In billions]



[1] Disabled children typically have higher monthly Federal payment amounts because they have, on average, much lower countable income than do adult recipients.

Table IV.C3.—SSI Federal Payments in Constant 2001 Dollars, Calendar Years 1974-2025

[In millions]

Calendar year	Blind or disabled, by age group: 0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	Aged, by age group: 65-74	75 or older	Totals: Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:											
1974	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	$7,190	$6,251	$13,441
1975	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	7,941	5,924	13,866
1976	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	8,291	5,427	13,718
1977	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	8,471	4,959	13,430
1978 [2]	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	9,143	4,896	14,039
1979	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	8,436	4,187	12,623
1980	$833	$1,953	$1,534	$2,978	$1,142	$58	$1,346	$2,580	8,498	3,927	12,424
1981	872	2,053	1,562	2,934	1,245	60	1,223	2,512	8,725	3,735	12,461
1982	920	2,173	1,584	2,853	1,263	68	1,130	2,448	8,861	3,578	12,439
1983	999	2,391	1,716	2,969	1,348	101	1,087	2,508	9,524	3,596	13,120
1984	1,110	2,653	1,899	3,089	1,407	171	1,128	2,545	10,330	3,674	14,003
1985	1,197	2,779	2,033	3,130	1,355	260	1,137	2,438	10,755	3,575	14,330
1986	1,331	3,089	2,325	3,271	1,357	335	1,170	2,368	11,709	3,538	15,247
1987	1,391	3,216	2,501	3,334	1,308	401	1,183	2,232	12,150	3,416	15,565
1988	1,419	3,312	2,702	3,422	1,299	452	1,210	2,153	12,606	3,364	15,970
1989	1,455	3,448	2,904	3,519	1,328	519	1,250	2,098	13,172	3,348	16,520
1990	1,619	3,586	3,229	3,764	1,306	548	1,331	2,065	14,052	3,396	17,448
1991	2,173	4,051	3,841	4,279	1,373	599	1,513	2,120	16,317	3,634	19,950
1992	3,968	4,908	4,501	4,770	1,414	613	1,639	2,127	20,175	3,766	23,941
1993	4,784	5,464	5,096	5,125	1,479	628	1,800	2,152	22,576	3,953	26,528
1994	4,977	5,380	5,573	5,415	1,522	643	1,871	2,166	23,508	4,037	27,545
1995	5,406	5,545	5,985	5,684	1,575	656	1,856	2,206	24,851	4,062	28,913
1996	5,583	5,647	6,335	5,978	1,611	666	1,855	2,231	25,820	4,086	29,906
1997	5,429	5,551	6,140	5,970	1,660	677	1,750	2,257	25,427	4,007	29,434
1998	5,406	5,608	6,426	6,291	1,729	692	1,679	2,326	26,152	4,005	30,157
1999	5,152	5,447	6,607	6,453	1,753	696	1,590	2,363	26,109	3,953	30,062
2000	4,931	5,272	6,594	6,479	1,768	695	1,513	2,378	25,739	3,891	29,630
Estimated:											
2001	5,083	5,355	6,792	6,819	1,830	709	1,466	2,438	26,588	3,904	30,492
2002	5,301	5,373	6,893	7,066	1,859	725	1,418	2,456	27,217	3,873	31,090
2003	5,450	5,398	6,957	7,317	1,892	742	1,382	2,481	27,756	3,864	31,620
2004	5,551	5,416	6,998	7,580	1,926	760	1,357	2,497	28,230	3,854	32,083
2005	5,645	5,441	7,032	7,868	1,959	779	1,334	2,511	28,724	3,845	32,569
2006	5,735	5,492	7,037	8,175	2,005	789	1,332	2,497	29,233	3,829	33,062
2007	5,822	5,582	7,008	8,482	2,069	802	1,334	2,471	29,766	3,805	33,571
2008	5,911	5,673	6,937	8,761	2,132	809	1,338	2,435	30,223	3,773	33,996
2009	6,009	5,751	6,839	9,027	2,178	818	1,339	2,401	30,622	3,740	34,362
2010	6,134	5,825	6,739	9,294	2,218	831	1,341	2,371	31,041	3,712	34,753
2011	6,266	5,889	6,642	9,488	2,300	844	1,356	2,329	31,428	3,684	35,112
2012	6,396	5,951	6,564	9,628	2,411	859	1,380	2,294	31,808	3,674	35,482
2013	6,515	6,010	6,497	9,766	2,502	874	1,410	2,264	32,164	3,673	35,837
2014	6,621	6,067	6,436	9,871	2,589	890	1,446	2,236	32,474	3,682	36,156
2015	6,714	6,125	6,407	9,936	2,676	906	1,488	2,214	32,765	3,702	36,466
2016	6,805	6,196	6,413	9,979	2,770	924	1,538	2,203	33,086	3,741	36,828
2017	6,875	6,267	6,431	9,984	2,860	949	1,584	2,206	33,367	3,789	37,157
2018	6,940	6,351	6,448	9,978	2,956	973	1,632	2,217	33,646	3,849	37,494
2019	7,002	6,427	6,456	9,963	3,060	993	1,693	2,225	33,900	3,918	37,818
2020	7,061	6,495	6,467	9,943	3,168	1,010	1,762	2,236	34,144	3,998	38,142
2021	7,119	6,561	6,498	9,893	3,262	1,045	1,810	2,279	34,376	4,089	38,465
2022	7,171	6,621	6,561	9,800	3,344	1,091	1,844	2,345	34,589	4,189	38,778
2023	7,221	6,681	6,656	9,696	3,430	1,130	1,890	2,405	34,814	4,295	39,109
2024	7,266	6,727	6,761	9,584	3,512	1,169	1,938	2,469	35,019	4,407	39,426
2025	7,310	6,763	6,870	9,468	3,586	1,208	1,987	2,539	35,205	4,526	39,731

[1] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

[2] Includes 13 months of payments since payments due on January 1, 1978 and January 1, 1979 were both paid in calendar year 1978.

Notes:
1. Historical split among age groups is estimated.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Although detailed projections of SSI State supplementary payments are not prepared, historical information on the amounts of such supplements is presented in tables IV.C4 and IV.C5. These amounts are consistent with those presented in the *Annual Statistical Supplement to the Social Security Bulletin* and are shown only for the two broad recipient categories.

Table IV.C4.—SSI Federally-Administered State Supplementary Payments in Current Dollars, Calendar Years 1974-2000

[In millions]

Calendar year	Aged	Blind or disabled	Total
1974	$631	$632	$1,264
1975	674	729	1,403
1976	635	753	1,388
1977	627	804	1,431
1978	636	855	1,491
1979	661	928	1,590
1980	757	1,091	1,848
1981	731	1,108	1,839
1982	694	1,104	1,798
1983	645	1,066	1,711
1984	645	1,148	1,792
1985	694	1,278	1,973
1986	759	1,484	2,243
1987	849	1,714	2,563
1988	873	1,798	2,671
1989	954	2,001	2,955
1990	1,038	2,201	3,239
1991	999	2,232	3,231
1992	1,023	2,412	3,435
1993	934	2,336	3,270
1994	876	2,240	3,116
1995	864	2,253	3,118
1996	833	2,155	2,988
1997	824	2,090	2,913
1998	838	2,165	3,003
1999	921	2,380	3,301
2000 [1]	942	2,439	3,381

[1] Split between recipient categories is estimated.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table IV.C5.—SSI State-Administered Payments[1] in Current Dollars, Calendar Years 1974-2000

[In millions]

Calendar year	Aged	Blind or disabled	Total [2]
1974	$89	$49	$149
1975	88	74	162
1976	88	77	166
1977	85	87	172
1978	91	88	180
1979	105	100	207
1980	117	106	226
1981	120	113	237
1982	125	119	276
1983	135	132	270
1984	141	152	299
1985	138	165	311
1986	147	185	340
1987	146	205	359
1988	150	224	381
1989	160	251	419
1990	177	281	466
1991	200	310	529
1992	216	323	550
1993	219	341	566
1994	225	354	585
1995	228	356	590
1996	225	307	539
1997	228	303	681
1998	259	429	808
1999	271	461	853
2000 [3]	283	488	893

[1] Data provided by individual States are partially estimated, and may be incomplete.

[2] Includes amounts not distributed by recipient category.

[3] Estimated.

D. FEDERAL SSI PAYMENTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

As mentioned in the previous section, in order to make meaningful comparisons of dollar amounts projected over long periods of time, it is essential to provide some sort of standardization that accounts for various aspects of economic growth over the projection period. In that section, one such set of standardized amounts ("constant dollars") was presented by adjusting for changes in the CPI over time. An alternative approach would be to provide some type of relative measure of these amounts. In the OASDI Trustees Report, such a relative measure of program costs is produced by comparing the nominal annual outgo to the total earnings in the economy subject to taxation under the OASDI program. In the case of SSI, a more appropriate measure is produced by comparing estimated annual SSI costs to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP—the total value of goods and services produced in the United States). In addition to providing an inflation-independent measure of the cost of the SSI program, this provides a useful perspective on the proportion of the total output of the U.S. economy needed to provide Federal SSI benefits. As is shown in table IV.D1 and figure IV.D1, the total cost of the SSI program after 2001 is projected to decline relative to GDP.

Table IV.D1 and figure IV.D1 present a concise summary of Federal expenditures under the SSI program. Following the initial higher costs of the program, total Federal SSI payments during the 1980s were a fairly constant percentage of GDP (0.21 percent). During the early 1990s, SSI experienced rather rapid growth (to 0.34 percent of GDP in 1996) due to a combination of factors discussed earlier in section IV. Welfare reform legislation resulted in a drop in the cost of SSI as a percentage of GDP in 1997. As mentioned earlier, the estimates prepared for this report project total participation in the SSI program to remain a stable proportion of the U.S. population. Federal SSI expenditures, after adjusting for growth in prices, are projected to grow slightly faster than the population due to the estimated small amount of real growth in the SSI average benefit, as discussed previously in section IV.C. Since the real growth projected for GDP under the 2001 Trustees Report intermediate assumptions is greater than the combined effects of increases in SSI participation and the estimated real increase in the SSI average benefit, Federal SSI payments are projected to decline as a percentage of GDP over the next 25 years, reaching 0.25 percent of GDP by 2025.

Figure IV.D1.—SSI Federal Payments, by Age Group, as a Percentage of GDP, Calendar Years 1980-2025

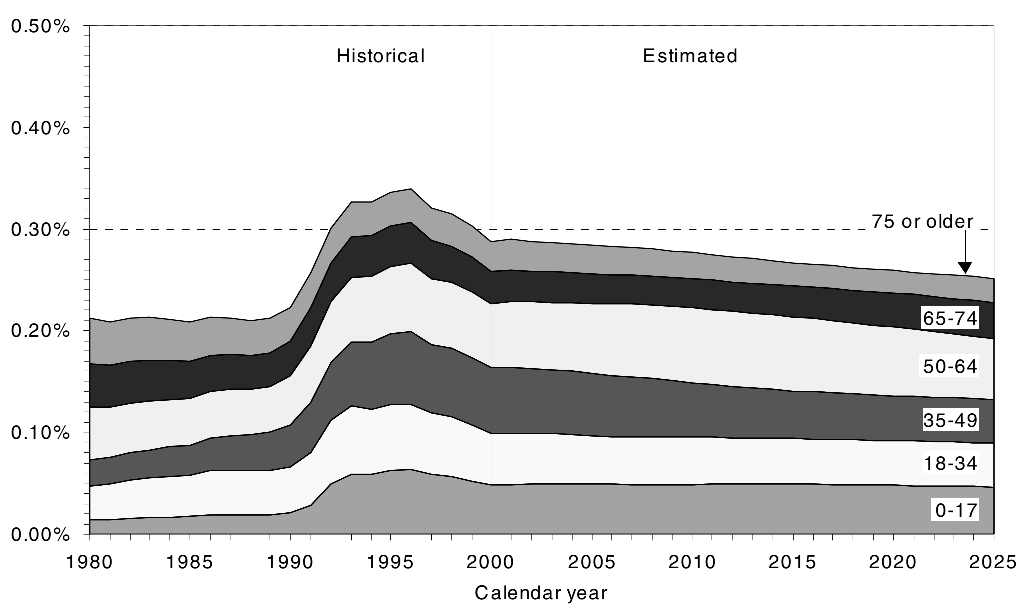


Table IV.D1.—SSI Federal Payments as a Percentage of GDP, Calendar Years 1974-2025

		Blind or disabled, by age group						Aged, by age group		Totals		
Calendar year	GDP (In billions)	0-17	18-34	35-49	50-64	65-74	75 or older	65-74	75 or older	Blind or disabled	Aged	All
Historical data:												
1974	$1,501	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	0.137	0.119	0.255
1975	1,635	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	.151	.113	.264
1976	1,824	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	.150	.098	.247
1977	2,031	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	.146	.085	.232
1978	2,296	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	.150	.080	.231
1979	2,566	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]	.138	.069	.207
1980	2,796	0.014	0.033	0.026	0.051	0.019	0.001	0.023	0.044	.145	.067	.212
1981	3,131	.015	.034	.026	.049	.021	.001	.021	.042	.146	.063	.209
1982	3,259	.016	.037	.027	.049	.022	.001	.019	.042	.151	.061	.213
1983	3,535	.016	.039	.028	.048	.022	.002	.018	.041	.155	.058	.213
1984	3,933	.017	.040	.029	.047	.021	.003	.017	.038	.156	.055	.212
1985	4,213	.017	.041	.030	.046	.020	.004	.017	.036	.157	.052	.209
1986	4,453	.019	.043	.033	.046	.019	.005	.016	.033	.164	.050	.214
1987	4,743	.019	.044	.034	.045	.018	.005	.016	.030	.166	.047	.212
1988	5,108	.019	.044	.036	.045	.017	.006	.016	.028	.166	.044	.210
1989	5,489	.019	.044	.037	.045	.017	.007	.016	.027	.169	.043	.212
1990	5,803	.021	.046	.041	.048	.017	.007	.017	.026	.180	.043	.223
1991	5,986	.028	.052	.050	.055	.018	.008	.020	.027	.211	.047	.257
1992	6,319	.050	.062	.057	.060	.018	.008	.021	.027	.254	.047	.301
1993	6,642	.059	.067	.063	.063	.018	.008	.022	.026	.278	.049	.326
1994	7,054	.059	.064	.066	.064	.018	.008	.022	.026	.279	.048	.327
1995	7,401	.063	.065	.070	.066	.018	.008	.022	.026	.289	.047	.337
1996	7,813	.063	.064	.072	.068	.018	.008	.021	.025	.293	.046	.339
1997	8,318	.059	.060	.067	.065	.018	.007	.019	.025	.277	.044	.321
1998	8,790	.056	.059	.067	.066	.018	.007	.018	.024	.273	.042	.315
1999	9,299	.052	.055	.067	.065	.018	.007	.016	.024	.263	.040	.303
2000	9,982	.048	.051	.064	.063	.017	.007	.015	.023	.250	.038	.288
Estimated:												
2001	10,528	.048	.051	.065	.065	.017	.007	.014	.023	.253	.037	.290
2002	11,104	.049	.050	.064	.065	.017	.007	.013	.023	.252	.036	.288
2003	11,669	.049	.049	.063	.066	.017	.007	.013	.023	.252	.035	.287
2004	12,270	.049	.048	.062	.067	.017	.007	.012	.022	.251	.034	.286
2005	12,920	.049	.047	.061	.069	.017	.007	.012	.022	.251	.034	.284
2006	13,610	.049	.047	.060	.070	.017	.007	.011	.021	.250	.033	.283
2007	14,313	.049	.047	.059	.071	.017	.007	.011	.021	.250	.032	.282
2008	15,054	.049	.047	.057	.072	.018	.007	.011	.020	.249	.031	.281
2009	15,832	.049	.047	.055	.073	.018	.007	.011	.019	.248	.030	.278
2010	16,646	.049	.046	.054	.074	.018	.007	.011	.019	.247	.030	.277
2011	17,529	.049	.046	.052	.074	.018	.007	.011	.018	.245	.029	.274
2012	18,422	.049	.046	.050	.074	.019	.007	.011	.018	.244	.028	.272
2013	19,345	.049	.045	.049	.074	.019	.007	.011	.017	.243	.028	.271
2014	20,304	.049	.045	.048	.073	.019	.007	.011	.017	.241	.027	.269
2015	21,302	.049	.045	.047	.073	.020	.007	.011	.016	.240	.027	.267
2016	22,345	.049	.045	.046	.072	.020	.007	.011	.016	.238	.027	.265
2017	23,431	.049	.044	.046	.071	.020	.007	.011	.016	.237	.027	.264
2018	24,567	.049	.044	.045	.070	.021	.007	.011	.016	.235	.027	.262
2019	25,752	.048	.044	.045	.069	.021	.007	.012	.015	.234	.027	.261
2020	26,989	.048	.044	.044	.068	.022	.007	.012	.015	.232	.027	.259
2021	28,280	.048	.044	.044	.066	.022	.007	.012	.015	.230	.027	.258
2022	29,628	.047	.044	.043	.065	.022	.007	.012	.015	.228	.028	.256
2023	31,038	.047	.044	.043	.063	.022	.007	.012	.016	.227	.028	.255
2024	32,518	.047	.043	.043	.062	.023	.008	.012	.016	.225	.028	.253
2025	34,068	.046	.043	.043	.060	.023	.008	.013	.016	.223	.029	.252

[1] Age-specific information for these years not yet available.

Notes:
1. Historical GDP amounts subject to revision.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

E. THE SSI PROGRAM'S SHARE OF SSA'S ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND BENEFICIARY SERVICES COSTS

The SSI program is administered by the Social Security Administration. Section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act provides that administrative expenses for the SSI program, including Federal administration of State supplementation payments, may be financed from the OASDI Trust Funds. The trust funds are reimbursed from the General Fund of the Treasury for any such SSI administrative expenditures. These reimbursements include adjustments for any interest losses the trust funds may have incurred as a result of such expenditures. The legislative history of the 1972 amendments (which established this funding mechanism) indicates a desire to obtain economy of administration by giving SSA the responsibility for the SSI program because of its existing field office network and its administrative and automated data processing facilities. Because of the integration of the administration of the SSI and OASDI programs, it was desirable to fund them from a single source, with reimbursement to the trust funds based on a General Accounting Office-approved method of cost analysis of the respective expenses of the SSI and OASDI programs, and a final settlement by the end of the subsequent fiscal year required by law. Table IV.E1 provides historical data on selected administrative costs of the SSI program.

Table IV.E1.—Selected SSI Administrative Costs, Fiscal Years 1978-2001

[Outlays in millions]

Fiscal year	Payments to the trust funds [1]	Beneficiary services [2]
1978	$539	$31.6
1979	611	57.0
1980	668	33.1
1981	717	37.3
1982	780	12.0
1983	846	8.0
1984	864	[3] 84.0
1985	956	3.0
1986	1,023	7.2
1987	977	9.5
1988	976	12.9
1989	1,052	20.0
1990	1,075	28.3
1991	1,230	33.1
1992	1,426	36.0
1993	1,468	32.3
1994	1,780	33.8
1995	1,978	48.2
1996	1,953	71.8
1997	2,055	77.3
1998	2,304	46.0
1999	2,493	52.0
2000	2,321	53.7
2001 (estimated)	2,559	71.0

[1] This activity funds the reimbursement to the OASI and DI Trust Funds from the General Fund of the Treasury for the SSI program's share of SSA's administrative expenses.

[2] Includes payments to State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies for VR services and payments for referral and monitoring services for Drug Addicts and Alcoholics, which terminated effective January, 1997.

[3] Reflects a one-time payment to State VR agencies for prior year expenses.

V. APPENDICES

A. HISTORY OF PROVISIONS

Act

1. Basic Eligibility Requirements

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

An individual may qualify for payments on the basis of age, blindness, or disability.

Aged: Any person aged 65 or older.

Blind: Any person with 20/200 or less vision in the better eye with the use of correcting lenses, or with tunnel vision of 20 degrees or less. An individual transferred from a State Aid to the Blind (AB) program is eligible if he/she received such State aid in December 1973 and continues to meet the October 1972 State definition of blindness.

Disabled: Any person unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment expected to result in death or that has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of at least 12 months. For a child under age 18, eligibility is based on disability of severity comparable with that of an adult. An individual transferred from a State Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD) program to SSI is also eligible if he/she received such State aid in December 1973 and continues to meet the October 1972 State definition of disability.

1973
Public Law 93-233, enacted December 31

Only persons who had received APTD before July 1973 and were on the rolls in December 1973 may receive SSI on the basis of the State definition of disability; those who became eligible for State aid from July to December 1973 must meet the Federal definition of disability.

1980
Public Law 96-265, enacted June 9

A disabled recipient who loses Federal SSI eligibility because of earnings at the substantial gainful activity level may continue to receive a special benefit under section 1619 and retain eligibility for Medicaid under title XIX of the Social Security Act. This special benefit status may continue as long as the recipient has the disabling impairment and meets all nondisability SSI eligibility criteria. States have the option of supplementing this special benefit.

This provision of the law was in effect from January 1, 1981, through December 31, 1983. Beginning in January 1984, under a 1-year demonstration project, this provision was continued for persons already eligible for either regular SSI payments or special monthly benefits.

1984
Public Law 98-460, enacted October 9

The special benefit and Medicaid provisions of the 1980 legislation were extended through June 30, 1987 (retroactive to January 1, 1984).

1986
Public Law 99-643, enacted November 10

The special benefit and Medicaid provisions of the 1980 amendments are made permanent. The provisions were amended effective July 1, 1987, with significant modifications to simplify administration and to allow free movement between regular SSI disability payments and either the special cash benefit or Medicaid eligibility under section 1619. The distinction between a disabled person eligible for regular SSI payments and one eligible for 1619(a) is that the latter has several months with gross earnings above the SGA level. Previously, section 1619(a) status required completion of a trial work period and the determination that the work was SGA.

Act

1996
Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22

For individuals under age 18, the "comparable severity" standard is eliminated and replaced with a requirement that a child be considered disabled if he/she has a medically determinable impairment that results in "marked and severe functional limitations," and meets the existing statutory duration requirement. The law also eliminates references to "maladaptive behaviors" in the Listing of Impairments for children, and discontinues the use of individualized functional assessments for children.

SSI eligibility is prohibited for an individual in any month during which such an individual is a fugitive felon, fleeing prosecution, or violating State or Federal conditions of probation or parole. In addition, SSI eligibility is prohibited for 10 years for those convicted of fraudulently claiming residence to obtain benefits simultaneously in two or more States. [1]

2. Other Eligibility Provisions

a. Citizenship and Residence

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

The individual must reside within one of the 50 States or the District of Columbia and be a citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence or permanently residing in the United States under color of law. Persons living outside the United States for an entire calendar month lose their eligibility for such a month.

1976
Public Law 94-241, enacted March 24

Eligibility for SSI is extended to residents of the Northern Mariana Islands, effective January 9, 1978.

1980
Public Law 96-265, enacted June 9

The income and resources of the immigration sponsors of aliens applying for SSI are considered in determining eligibility for and the amount of payment. After allowances for the needs of the sponsor and his/her family, the remainder is deemed available for the support of the alien applicant for a 3-year period after admission to the United States for permanent residence. This provision does not apply to those who become blind or disabled after admission, to refugees, or to persons granted political asylum. (See section 2.g. for subsequent changes to sponsor-to-alien deeming provisions.)

1989
Public Law 101-239, enacted December 19

SSI eligibility is continued for a disabled or blind child who was receiving SSI benefits while living in the United States and is now living with a parent who is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces assigned to permanent duty ashore outside the United States, but not where the parent is stationed in Puerto Rico or the territories and possessions of the United States.

1993
Public Law 103-66, enacted August 10

Above provision made applicable where the parent is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and stationed in Puerto Rico or the territories and possessions of the United States.

[1] This last provision was repealed in 1999 by Public Law 106-169 and replaced with a provision providing for nonpayment of benefits for up to 24 months for making false or misleading statements regarding material facts.

Act

1996

Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22 — Prohibits SSI eligibility for anyone who is not a U.S. citizen or national unless they are in a "qualified alien" category and meet one of certain exceptions such as lawful permanent residents who earn or can be credited with 40 qualifying quarters of earnings, certain refugee type categories eligible for up to 5 years of time limited eligibility, or active duty U.S. military or veterans and their spouses and children. Extends eligibility for aliens receiving SSI as of August 22, 1996 (the enactment date of the law) for 1 year after the enactment date for those aliens found ineligible under the new standards.

Public Law 104-208, enacted September 30 — Amends Public Law 104-193 to add to the list of "qualified aliens" certain noncitizens (and their children) who have been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty by a spouse or parent or a member of the spouse's or parent's family living in the same household.

1997

Public Law 105-18, enacted June 12 — Extends eligibility for aliens receiving SSI as of August 22, 1996, until September 30, 1997, for those found ineligible under the new alien standards of Public Law 104-193.

Public Law 105-33, enacted August 5 — Further amends Public Law 104-193 to add Cuban and Haitian entrants, and the child of a parent who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty, to the list of qualified aliens. Provides that Cuban and Haitian entrants and Amerasian immigrants qualify for time limited eligibility, and increases the time limit from 5 to 7 years for all categories. Additional exceptions are added for qualified aliens: (1) lawfully residing in the United States and receiving SSI benefits on August 22, 1996; and (2) lawfully residing in the United States on August 22, 1996 and meeting the definition of blind or disabled in the Social Security Act.

Certain noncitizen American Indians are excepted from the alien nonpayment provisions of Public Law 104-193.

Extends eligibility for "nonqualified aliens" receiving SSI as of August 22, 1996, until September 30, 1998.

1998

Public Law 105-306, enacted October 28 — Permanently extends eligibility of all remaining "nonqualified aliens" who were receiving SSI benefits when Public Law 104-193 was enacted on August 22, 1996.

2000

Public Law 106-386, enacted October 28 — Noncitizens, regardless of their immigration status, may be eligible for SSI as refugees, if they are determined to be victims of "severe forms of trafficking in persons."

b. Other Benefits

1980

Public Law 96-272, enacted June 17 — SSI applicants and recipients are not required as a condition of eligibility to elect to receive Veterans Administration pensions under the Veterans and Survivors' Pension Improvement Act of 1978 if the State of residence lacks a medically-needy program under title XIX.

Act

c. Drug Addiction and Alcoholism (DA&A)

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

Any disabled individual who has been medically determined to be an alcoholic or drug addict must accept appropriate treatment, if available, in an approved facility and demonstrate compliance with conditions and requirements for treatment.

SSI payments are required to be made through a representative payee—another person or public or private agency designated by SSA to manage the recipient's benefit on his/her behalf.

1994
Public Law 103-296, enacted August 15

Any individual who is receiving SSI based on a disability where drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to the finding of disability must comply with the DA&A treatment requirements. The individual must accept appropriate treatment when it is available and comply with the conditions and terms of treatment. Instances of noncompliance with the requirements result in progressively longer payment suspensions. Before payments can resume, the individual must demonstrate compliance for specific periods; 2 months, 3 months, and 6 months, respectively, for the first, second, third and subsequent instances of noncompliance. An individual who is not in compliance with the DA&A treatment requirements for 12 consecutive months shall not be eligible for payments; however, this does not prevent such individuals from reapplying and again becoming eligible for payments.

SSI disability payments based on DA&A are also limited to a total of 36 benefit months (beginning March 1995) regardless of whether appropriate treatment is available. Months for which benefits are not due and received do not count towards the 36-month limit.

Payments based on DA&A must be made to a representative payee. Preference is required to be given to community based nonprofit social service agencies and Federal, State, or local government agencies in representative payee selection. These agencies when serving as payees for individuals receiving payments based on DA&A may retain the lesser of 10 percent of the monthly benefit or $56 (indexed to the Consumer Price Index (CPI)) as compensation for their services.

Establishment of one or more referral and monitoring agencies for each State is required.

1996
Public Law 104-121, enacted March 29

An individual is not considered disabled if DA&A is a contributing factor material to a finding of disability.

Applies DA&A representative payee requirements enacted under Public Law 103-296 to disabled SSI recipients who have a DA&A condition and are incapable of managing their benefits. In addition, these recipients shall be referred to the appropriate State agency administering the State plan for substance abuse treatment.

d. Institutionalization

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

An individual who is an inmate of a public institution is ineligible for SSI payments unless the institution is a facility approved for Medicaid payments and is receiving such payments on behalf of the person. Under *regulations*, the Medicaid payment must represent more than 50 percent of the cost of services provided by the facility to the individual.

Act

1976
Public Law 94-566, enacted October 20

An inmate of a publicly operated community residence serving no more than 16 persons may, if otherwise eligible, receive SSI.

1983
Public Law 98-21, enacted April 20

Payments may be made to persons who are residents of public emergency shelters for the homeless for a period of up to 3 months in any 12-month period.

1986
Public Law 99-643, enacted November 10

Effective July 1, 1987, disabled or blind recipients who were receiving special SSI payments or had special SSI recipient status under section 1619 in the month preceding the first full month of institutionalization, may receive payments based on the full Federal benefit rate for the initial 2 full months of institutionalization, if they reside in certain public medical, psychiatric or Medicaid facilities, or in private Medicaid facilities.

1987
Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22

Effective January 1, 1988, payments may be made to persons who are residents of public emergency shelters for the homeless, for up to 6 months in a 9-month period.

Effective July 1, 1988, continued payment of SSI benefits for up to 3 months is permitted, at the rate that was applicable in the month prior to the first full month of institutionalization, for individuals whose expected institutional stay on admission is not likely to exceed 3 months, as certified by a physician, and for whom the receipt of benefits is necessary to maintain living arrangements to which they may return.

1996
Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22

Effective December 1996, institutionalized children under age 18 whose private health insurance is making payments to the institution may receive no more than $30 per month in Federal SSI.

e. Vocational Rehabilitation and Treatment

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

Blind or disabled individuals receiving Federal SSI benefits who are under age 65, must be referred to the State agency providing services under the Vocational Rehabilitation Act and must accept the services offered. States are reimbursed for the cost of services.

1976
Public Law 94-566, enacted October 20

Blind or disabled children under age 16 must be referred to the State agency administering crippled children's services or to another agency designated by the State. States are reimbursed for the cost of services.

Of funds provided for these services, at least 90 percent must be used for children under age 6 or for those who have never attended public schools.

1980
Public Law 96-265, enacted June 9

Disabled SSI recipients who medically recover while enrolled in approved vocational rehabilitation programs of State VR agencies, may continue to receive benefits during their participation in such programs if the Commissioner of Social Security determines that continuation in the program will increase the probability that they leave the rolls permanently.

1981
Public Law 97-35, enacted August 13

Funding no longer provided under title XVI for medical, social, developmental and rehabilitative services to disabled or blind children.

Reimbursement for the cost of rehabilitation services will be made if the services result in the recipient's return to work.

Act

1984
Public Law 98-460, enacted October 9

Authorizes the reimbursement of States for the cost of VR services provided to individuals who (1) continue to receive benefits after medical recovery because they are participating in a State VR program or (2) refuse, without good cause, to continue in or cooperate with the VR program in which they had been participating.

1987
Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22

Provision for continuation of payments to SSI recipients who have medically recovered while enrolled in an approved vocational rehabilitation program extended to blind SSI recipients.

1990
Public Law 101-508, enacted November 5

Reimbursement authorized for the cost of vocational rehabilitation services provided in months in which the individual was not receiving Federal SSI payments, if:

- SSI recipient status for Medicaid eligibility purposes was retained under work incentive provisions, or
- Benefits were in suspense[1] status (for a reason other than cessation of disability or blindness), or
- Federally-administered State supplementation was received.

Extends the provision providing for benefit continuation to SSI recipients who medically recover while participating in a State VR program to include SSI recipients participating in a non-State VR program.

1999
Public Law 106-170, enacted December 17

Establishes a program which will provide SSI (and OASDI) disability beneficiaries with a ticket that can be used to obtain vocational rehabilitation services, employment services, or other support services, from an employment network of their choice.

f. Continuing Disability Reviews and Eligibility Redeterminations

1994
Public Law 103-296, enacted August 15

During each of fiscal years 1996, 1997, and 1998, requires SSA to conduct continuing disability reviews (CDRs) on a minimum of 100,000 SSI recipients. In addition, during the same period, requires SSA to redetermine the SSI eligibility of at least one-third of all childhood SSI recipients who reach age 18 after April 1995 during the 1-year period following attainment of age 18. Redeterminations for persons turning age 18 could count toward the 100,000 CDR requirement.

1996
Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22

Repeals the requirement that SSA redetermine the eligibility of at least one-third of all childhood SSI recipients who reach age 18 after April 1995 during the 1-year period following attainment of age 18.

Requires a CDR:

- At least once every 3 years for SSI recipients under age 18 who are eligible by reason of an impairment which is likely to improve, and
- Not later than 12 months after birth for recipients whose low birth weight is a contributing factor material to the determination of their disability.

[1] Recipients who have lost eligibility for SSI benefits for fewer than 13 consecutive months are in suspended payment status.

Act

Requires eligibility redetermination for all childhood SSI recipients eligible for the month before the month in which they attain age 18.

Requires redetermination of eligibility for children considered disabled based on an individual functional assessment and/or consideration of maladaptive behavior.

Requires the representative payee of a childhood disability recipient whose continuing eligibility is being reviewed to present evidence that the recipient is receiving treatment which is considered medically necessary and available for the condition which was the basis for providing SSI benefits.

1997
Public Law 105-33, enacted August 5

Modifies provision of Public Law 104-193 to extend from 12 to 18 months the period for redetermining the disability of children under age 18 under the new childhood disability standard.

Modifies provision of Public Law 104-193 to permit SSA to schedule a CDR for a disabled child for whom low birth weight is a contributing factor material to the determination of disability, at a date after the child's first birthday if the Commissioner determines the impairment is not expected to improve within 12 months of the child's birth.

Modifies provision of Public Law 104-193 to provide SSA the authority to make redeterminations of disabled childhood recipients who attain age 18, more than 1 year after the date such recipient attains age 18.

1999
Public Law 106-170, enacted December 17

Prohibits the initiation of a CDR during the period that a recipient is using a "ticket" to work.

g. Deeming of Income and Resources

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

Deeming occurs when the income and resources of certain family members living in the same household with the SSI recipient are considered in determining the amount of the SSI payment. These family members are the ineligible spouse of an adult recipient and the ineligible parents of a child recipient under age 21.

After deduction of personal allocations for the spouse (or parents) and for ineligible children in the home, and after application of income exclusions, any remaining income of the spouse (or parents) is added to the income of the eligible person.

1980
Public Law 96-265, enacted June 9

Children aged 18 or older are not subject to parental deeming.

Sponsor's income and resources deemed to an alien for 3 years.

1989
Public Law 101-239, enacted December 19

Disabled children receiving home care services under State Medicaid programs, who are ineligible for SSI because of deeming of parental income, and who received SSI benefits limited to $30 while in a medical treatment facility may receive the $30 monthly allowance that would be payable if the recipient were institutionalized.

1993
Public Law 103-152, enacted November 24

Sponsor-to-alien deeming period extended from 3 years to 5 years, effective January 1, 1994, through September 30, 1996.

Considers an ineligible spouse or parent who is absent from the household due to active military service to be a member of the household for deeming purposes.

Act

1996
Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22

Deeming of income and resources from an immigration sponsor to a noncitizen continues until citizenship, with exceptions for those who earn, or can be credited with, 40 qualifying quarters of earnings. Effective for those whose sponsor signs a new legally enforceable affidavit of support.

Public Law 104-208, enacted September 30

Amends Public Law 104-193 to add two exceptions to the sponsor-to-alien deeming:

- Provides that if the noncitizen is indigent and would be unable to obtain food and shelter without SSI benefits even after receiving support from the sponsor, then only the amount of income and resources actually provided by the sponsor will be counted for a 12-month period after a determination of indigence; and
- Provides that in certain cases, deeming would not apply for a 12-month period (with some options for extension) if the noncitizen (or his/her children) has been battered, or subjected to extreme cruelty by family members.

1997
Public Law 105-33, enacted August 5

Amends Public Law 104-208 to add an additional exception to sponsor-to-alien deeming when the parent of a noncitizen has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty by family members.

3. Federal Benefit Payments

a. Windfall Offset

1980
Public Law 96-265, enacted June 9

Offset (by reduction of retroactive Social Security benefits) to prevent persons whose initial OASDI payment is retroactive from receiving more in total benefits for the same period than if they were paid the benefits when regularly due.

1984
Public Law 98-617, enacted November 8

Offset provision expanded to allow for reduction of retroactive SSI benefits and to apply in cases of OASDI benefit reinstatement.

b. Proration of Benefit

1982
Public Law 97-248, enacted September 3

Benefit for first month of eligibility to be prorated by the number of days in the month for which an application has been filed and there is eligibility.

1996
Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22

Changes the effective date of an SSI application to the first day of the month following the date on which the application was filed or on which the individual first becomes eligible, whichever is later. This, in effect, eliminates prorated payments in initial claims.

c. Retrospective Monthly Accounting

1981
Public Law 97-35, enacted August 13

Changes the method of computing the SSI benefit to one under which the benefit amount is computed on a monthly basis and is based on income and other characteristics in the previous (or second previous) month.

Act

1984
Public Law 98-369, enacted July 18

Changes the method of computing the SSI benefit to persons receiving title II payments. The effect of the increased title II income at the time of the cost-of-living increase is not delayed as it otherwise would be.

1987
Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22

Provides an exception to retrospective monthly accounting so that amounts received under Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC), foster care, refugee cash assistance, Cuban-Haitian entrant assistance, or general and child welfare assistance provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs are counted only in the month received.

1993
Public Law 103-66, enacted August 10

Changes the method of computing the SSI benefit to persons receiving the value of the one-third reduction. The effect of the increased value at the time of the cost-of-living increase is not delayed as it otherwise would be. Effective January 1995.

d. Uncashed Checks

1981
Public Law 97-35, enacted August 13

States that have Federally-administered supplements to be credited their share of SSI checks that remain unnegotiated for 180 days.

1987
Public Law 100-86, enacted August 10

SSI checks now unnegotiable after 1 year. States are credited their share of SSI checks after 1 year rather than 180 days.

e. Rounding of Payment Amounts

1982
Public Law 97-248, enacted September 3

Cost-of-living adjustments in the Federal SSI benefit and income eligibility levels are to be rounded to the next lower whole dollar, after the adjustment is calculated. Subsequent cost-of-living adjustments will be calculated on the previous year's benefit standard before rounding.

f. Penalties Resulting in Nonpayment of Benefits

1999
Public Law 106-169, enacted December 14

Provides a penalty under the SSI program for the disposal of resources at less than fair market value. The penalty is a loss of benefits for up to 36 months. A formula is provided to determine the number of months.

Provides for the nonpayment of OASDI and SSI benefits (6, 12 and 24 months, respectively, for the first, second, and third or subsequent violations) for individuals found to have made a statement or representation of material fact for use in determining eligibility for benefits that the individual knew, or should have known, was false or misleading or omitted a material fact.

4. Federal Benefit Rates

Basic benefit standards are used in computing the amount of Federal SSI payments. Benefit levels differ for individuals and couples living in households and for persons in Medicaid institutions. Individuals or couples living in their own households receive the full Federal benefit. If an individual or couple is living in another person's household and receiving support and maintenance there, the Federal benefit is reduced by one-third. The Federal benefit rates for persons in households are increased annually to reflect increases in the cost of living. Legislation affecting the level of Federal benefit rates since the inception of the SSI program are summarized in table V.A1.

Table V.A1.—Federal Benefit Rates Set by Legislation

Act	Living arrangements [1]	Amount [2]		Conditions
		Individual	Couple	
1972[3]	Own household [4]	$130.00	$195.00	Was to be effective January 1, 1974; superseded by Public Law 93-233.
1973[5]	—	140.00	210.00	Was to be effective January 1, 1974; superseded by Public Law 93-233.
1973[6]	—	140.00	210.00	Effective January 1, 1974.
1973[6]	—	146.00	219.00	Effective July 1, 1974.
1974[7]	—	—	—	Mechanism established for providing cost-of-living adjustments coordinated with earlier legislation applying to OASDI cash benefits. SSI payments to be increased by the same percentage as OASDI benefits and at the same time.
	—	[8]157.70	[8]236.60	Effective July 1, 1975.
1983[9]	—	304.30	456.40	Effective July 1, 1983 (general benefit increase).
	—	[8]314.00	[8]472.00	Effective January 1, 1984.
1973[5]	Increment for "essential person" in household	65.00	—	Was to be effective January 1, 1974. For persons transferred from OAA, AB, or APTD programs who were receiving payments in December 1973 under a State plan that took account of "essential persons" in the household.
	—	70.00	—	Was to be effective July 1, 1974.
1973[6]	—	70.00	—	Effective January 1, 1974.
	—	73.00	—	Effective July 1, 1974.
1974[7]	—	—	—	Mechanism established for providing cost-of-living adjustments.
	—	[8]78.90	—	Effective July 1, 1975.
1983[9]	—	152.50	—	Effective July 1, 1983 (general benefit increase).
	—	[8]157.00	—	Effective January 1, 1984.
1972[3]	Receiving institutional care covered by Medicaid	25.00	50.00	Effective January 1, 1974. Must be receiving more than 50 percent of the cost of the care from Medicaid (title XIX of the Social Security Act).
1987[10]	—	30.00	60.00	Effective July 1, 1988. Must be receiving more than 50 percent of the cost of the care from Medicaid (title XIX of the Social Security Act).

[1] For those in another person's household receiving support and maintenance there, the Federal benefit rate is reduced by one-third.
[2] For those without countable income. These payments are reduced by the amount of countable income of the individual or couple.
[3] Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30, 1972.
[4] Includes persons in private institutions whose care in not provided by Medicaid.
[5] Public Law 93-66, enacted July 9, 1973.
[6] Public Law 93-233, enacted December 31, 1973.
[7] Public Law 93-368, enacted August 7, 1974.
[8] Subject to automatic provisions, see table IV.A2.
[9] Public Law 98-21, enacted April 20, 1983.
[10] Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22, 1987.

Act

5. Exclusions from Income

a. General Exclusions

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

The first $60 of earned or unearned income per calendar quarter for an individual or couple; the next $195 and one-half the remainder of quarterly earned income. Unearned income includes Social Security benefits, other government or private pensions, veterans' benefits, and workers' compensation.

1981
Public Law 97-35, enacted August 13

The first $20 of earned or unearned income per month for an individual or couple; the next $65 and one-half the remainder of monthly earned income. Unearned income includes Social Security benefits, other government or private pensions, veterans' benefits, and workers' compensation.

2000
Public Law 106-554, enacted December 21

Earnings of persons defined as Social Security statutory employees are treated as self-employment income for SSI purposes.

b. Special Exclusions

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

Any amount of tax rebate issued to an individual by any public agency that is based on either real property or food purchase taxes.

Grants, scholarships, and fellowships used to pay tuition and fees at an educational institution.

Income required for achieving an approved self-support plan for blind or disabled persons.

Work expenses of blind persons.

For blind persons transferred from State programs to SSI, income exclusions equal to the maximum amount permitted as of October 1972 under the State programs.

Irregularly or infrequently received income totaling $60 or less of unearned income and $30 of earned income in a calendar quarter.

Payment for foster care of ineligible child residing in recipient's home through placement by a public or private nonprofit child care agency.

One-third of any payment received from an absent parent for the support of a child eligible for SSI.

Certain earnings of a blind or disabled child under age 22 regularly attending an educational institution.

State or local government cash payments based on need and designed to supplement SSI payments.

1976
Public Law 94-331, enacted June 30

Disaster assistance from income for 9 months and application of one-third reduction for 6 months for certain victims of disasters.

Public Law 94-566, enacted October 20

Any assistance based on need (including vendor payments) made to or on behalf of SSI recipients, which is paid and wholly funded by State or local governments.

The value of assistance provided under certain Federal housing programs.

Act

1977

Public Law 95-113, enacted September 29

Food stamps, Federally donated food, and the value of free or reduced price food for women and children under the Child Nutrition Act and National School Lunch Act.

Public Law 95-171, enacted November 12

Provisions for exclusions for support and maintenance under the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 extended on a permanent basis. Effective January 1, 1978.

1980

Public Law 96-222, enacted April 1

Earned income tax credit treated as earned income (temporarily excluded from 1975 through 1980).

Public Law 96-265, enacted June 9

Remunerations received in sheltered workshops and work activity centers are considered earned income and qualify for earned income exclusions.

Impairment-related work expenses paid by the individual (including cost for attendant care, medical equipment, drugs, and services necessary to control an impairment) are deducted from earnings when determining if an individual is engaging in substantial gainful activity. Impairment-related work expenses are excluded in calculating income for benefit purposes if initial eligibility for benefits exists on the basis of countable income without applying this exclusion.

1981

Public Law 97-35, enacted August 13

Modifies provision under which irregularly or infrequently received income is excluded to conform to change from quarterly to monthly accounting; amounts excludable: $20 or less of unearned income and $10 of earned income in a month.

1982

Public Law 97-377, enacted December 21

From December 18, 1982, to September 30, 1983, certain home energy assistance payments are excluded if a State agency certified that they are based on need.

1983

Public Law 97-424, enacted January 6

Support or maintenance assistance (including home energy assistance) provided in kind by a nonprofit organization or in cash or in kind by certain providers of home energy is excluded if the State determines that the assistance is based on need. Provision is applicable through September 1984.

Certain home energy assistance payments are excluded if a State agency certified that the assistance is based on need. Provision is applicable through June 1985.

1984

Public Law 98-369, enacted July 18

The 1983 provisions for support and maintenance and home energy assistance continue to October 1, 1987.

1986

Public Law 99-498, enacted October 17

Educational assistance used for educational expenses under the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended.

Act	
1987	
Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22	The 1983 provisions for support and maintenance and home energy assistance made permanent. Death payments (for example, proceeds from life insurance) from SSI income determinations to the extent they were spent on last illness and burial. Modifies the 1982 resource exclusion for burial funds to extend the exclusion to any burial fund of $1,500 or less maintained separately from all other assets, thereby allowing the interest on the funds to be excluded from income if retained in the fund.
1988	
Public Law 100-383, enacted August 10	Restitution payments made to Japanese internees and relocated Aleutians.
1989	
Public Law 101-239, enacted December 19	Interest on agreements representing the purchase of an excluded burial space. Payments from the Agent Orange Settlement. Value of a ticket for domestic travel received as a gift and not cashed.
1990	
Public Law 101-508, enacted November 5	Earned income tax credit (including the child health insurance portion). Payments received from a State-administered fund established to aid victims of crime. Impairment-related work expenses excluded from income in determining initial eligibility for benefits. Payments received as State or local government relocation assistance. Payments received under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act. Redefines as earned income, royalties earned in connection with any publication of the individual's work, and honoraria received for services rendered (previously defined as unearned income).
1993	
Public Law 103-66, enacted August 10	Hostile fire pay to members of the uniformed services. Payments received as State or local government relocation assistance made permanent.
1994	
Public Law 103-286, enacted August 1	Payments to victims of Nazi persecution.
1998	
Public Law 105-285, enacted October 27	Funds made available to an SSI recipient by a State or local government or a nonprofit organization as part of the Individual Development Account demonstration project.
Public Law 105-306, enacted October 28	In-kind gifts to children with life-threatening conditions by tax-exempt organizations not converted to cash. The first $2,000 annually of cash gifts by tax-exempt organizations to, or for the benefit of, individuals under age 18 with life-threatening conditions.
Public Law 105-369, enacted November 12	Payments made under the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998.

Act

2000
Public Law 106-554, enacted December 21

Interest on funds deposited in an Individual Development Account.

Any adjustments made to prior payments from other Federal programs to account for the error in the computation of the Consumer Price Index during 1999.

6. Limits and Exclusions from Resources

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

Countable resources limited to $1,500 or less for an individual and to $2,250 or less for a couple.

1984
Public Law 98-369, enacted July 18

Limit on countable resources raised by $100 a year for individuals and $150 a year for couples, beginning in calendar year 1985 through 1989. The respective limits would become $2,000 for an individual and $3,000 for a couple in 1989 and thereafter.

1999
Public Law 106-169, enacted December 14

Includes generally in the countable resources of an individual the assets of a trust which could be used for the benefit of the individual or spouse.

a. General Exclusions

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

A home of reasonable value—established *by regulation* as not exceeding a fair-market value of $25,000 ($35,000 in Alaska and Hawaii).

Personal effects and household goods of reasonable value established by *regulation* as not exceeding a total market value of $1,500.

An automobile of reasonable value—established *by regulation* as not exceeding a market value of $1,200.

An automobile may be excluded, regardless of value, if the individual's household uses it for employment or medical treatment, or if it is modified to be operated by or for transportation of a handicapped person.

Life insurance with face value of $1,500 or less.

1976
Public Law 94-569, enacted October 20

The recipient's home, regardless of value, is excluded from consideration in determining resources.

1977
Public Law 95-171, enacted November 12

Assistance received under the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 for 9 months following receipt.

1979

Reasonable value for an automobile increased *by regulation* to $4,500 of current-market value; personal goods and household effects increased to $2,000 of equity value.

Act	
1980	
Public Law 96-611, enacted December 28	Assets transferred for less than fair market value for the purpose of establishing eligibility for benefits under the Social Security Act are counted as resources for 24 months after transfer.
1982	
Public Law 97-248, enacted September 3	The value, within prescribed limits, of a burial space for the recipient, spouse, and immediate family is excluded. In addition, $1,500 each (less the value of already excluded life insurance and any amount in an irrevocable burial arrangement) may be set aside for the burial of the recipient and spouse, if held in separately identifiable burial funds and if inclusion of any of the burial funds in countable resources would cause the resource limit to be exceeded.
1984	
Public Law 98-369, enacted July 18	The unspent portion of any retroactive title II or title XVI payment is excluded for 6 months following its receipt, and the individual must be given written notice of the time limit on the exclusion.
1985	*Regulations* permit exclusion, regardless of value, of an automobile needed for essential transportation or modified for a handicapped person. The $4,500 current market value limit applies only if no automobile could be excluded based on the nature of its use.
1987	
Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22	Provides for suspension of the 1980 transfer of assets provision, in any month that it is determined that undue hardship would result.
	Real property that cannot be sold because it is jointly owned; its sale would cause the other owner(s) undue hardship due to loss of housing; its sale is barred by a legal impediment; or, the owner's reasonable efforts to sell have been unsuccessful.
	Temporarily extends the 1984 exclusion of retroactive title II and title XVI benefits from 6 months to 9 months (the longer exclusion applies to benefits paid in fiscal years 1988 and 1989).
	Allows the exclusion of burial funds, as described above, regardless of whether or not counting any portion of those funds would result in excess resources.
1988	
Public Law 100-360, enacted July 1	Removes the transfer-of-assets penalty for transfers made July 1, 1988, or later.
Public Law 100-707, enacted November 23	Removes the time limit for exclusion of disaster assistance.
	b. Special Exclusions
1972	
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30	Assets of a blind or disabled individual that are necessary to an approved plan of self-support.
	Tools and other property essential to self-support (PESS), within reasonable limits. Shares of nonnegotiable stock in regional or village corporations held by natives of Alaska.
	For persons transferred from State programs to SSI, resource exclusions equal to the maximum amount permitted as of October 1972 under the State program.
1988	
Public Law 100-383, enacted August 10	Restitution payments made to Japanese internees and relocated Aleutians.

Act

1989

Public Law 101-239, enacted December 19

Specifies that no limitation can be placed on property essential to self-support used in a trade or business, or by an individual as an employee (including the tools of a tradesperson and the machinery and livestock of a farmer).

Payments from the Agent Orange Settlement.

1990

Public Law 101-508, enacted November 5

Earned income tax credit excluded for the month following the month the credit is received.

Payments received from a State-administered fund established to aid victims of crime excluded for a 9-month period. Individual not required to file for such benefits.

Payments received as State or local government relocation assistance excluded for a 9-month period. (The provision expired 3 years after its effective date.)

Payments received under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

1993

Public Law 103-66, enacted August 10

Makes permanent the 9-month exclusion of payments received as State or local government relocation assistance.

1994

Public Law 103-286, enacted August 1

Payments to victims of Nazi persecution.

1996

Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22

Dedicated financial institution accounts required to be established for large past-due benefits for disabled individuals under age 18 with a representative payee.

1998

Public Law 105-285, enacted October 27

Funds made available to an SSI recipient by a State or local government or a nonprofit organization as part of the Individual Development Account demonstration project.

Public Law 105-306, enacted October 28

In-kind gifts to children with life-threatening conditions by tax-exempt organizations not converted to cash.

The first $2,000 annually of cash gifts by tax-exempt organizations to, or for the benefit of, individuals under age 18 with life-threatening conditions.

Public Law 105-369, enacted November 12

Payments made under the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998.

2000

Public Law 106-554, enacted December 21

Funds deposited by an individual in an Individual Development Account and the interest on those funds.

7. Presumptive and Emergency Payments and Interim Assistance Reimbursement

a. Presumptive Payments

1972

Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

A person applying on the basis of disability who meets all other criteria of eligibility, and is likely to be disabled, may receive payments for 3 months pending the disability determination.

Act	
1976 *Public Law 94-569, enacted October 20*	Presumptive payment provision was extended to persons applying on the basis of blindness.
1990 *Public Law 101-508, enacted November 5*	Extends the period for receipt of payments to 6 months.

b. Emergency Advance Payments

1972 *Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30*	Any applicant who can be presumed to meet the criteria of eligibility, but has not yet been determined eligible, and who is faced with a financial emergency may receive an immediate cash advance of up to $100.
1987 *Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22*	Increases the maximum emergency advance payment amount to the maximum amount of the regular Federal SSI monthly benefit rate, plus, if any, the Federally-administered State supplementary payment.
1996 *Public Law 104-193, enacted August 22*	Applicants who have a financial emergency may receive an emergency advance payment in the month of application, which, effective with this law, is always prior to the first month of eligibility. These advance payments are recouped by proportional reductions in the recipient's first 6 months of SSI benefits.

c. Interim Assistance Reimbursement

1974 *Public Law 93-368, enacted August 7*	SSA may enter into agreements with the States to repay them directly for assistance payments made to an SSI applicant while his/her claim is being adjudicated. The repayment is made from the first check due to the individual. This legislation expires June 30, 1976.
1976 *Public Law 94-365, enacted July 14*	The authority to repay the State for interim assistance is made permanent.
1987 *Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22*	Extends interim assistance reimbursement to situations in which payments are made by States or political subdivisions to persons whose SSI payments were suspended or terminated and who subsequently are found to be eligible for such benefits. Also clarifies that the payment from which the interim assistance reimbursement is paid must be the first payment of benefits relating to the interim period.

8. Medicaid Eligibility

1972 *Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30*	States can provide Medicaid coverage to all recipients of SSI payments. Alternatively, they can limit coverage by applying more restrictive criteria from the State Medicaid plan in effect on January 1, 1972. States can accept SSA determination of eligibility, or make their own determination.
1976 *Public Law 94-566, enacted October 20*	Preserves the Medicaid eligibility of recipients who become ineligible for cash SSI payments due to the cost-of-living increases in Social Security benefits.

Act

1980

Public Law 96-265, enacted June 9

Blind or disabled recipients under age 65 no longer eligible for either regular or special SSI payments because of their earnings may retain SSI recipient status for Medicaid eligibility purposes under the following conditions: (1) they continue to have the disabling impairment, (2) they meet all nondisability eligibility criteria except for earned income, (3) they would be seriously inhibited from continuing employment without Medicaid services, and (4) their earnings are insufficient to provide a reasonable equivalent of SSI payments and Medicaid.

In States that do not provide Medicaid coverage categorically to all SSI recipients, qualification for Medicaid benefits depends on the State's specific eligibility and program requirements.

The Medicaid provision of the 1980 legislation was in effect from January 1, 1981, through December 31, 1983. Under a 1-year demonstration project, beginning January 1, 1984, this provision was continued for persons already eligible for regular or special SSI payments or for retention of Medicaid eligibility.

1984

Public Law 98-460, enacted October 9

Medicaid provision of 1980 legislation extended through June 30, 1987 (retroactive to January 1, 1984).

1986

Public Law 99-272, enacted April 7

Restores Medicaid eligibility for some disabled widow(er)s who became ineligible for SSI when their title II benefits increased in 1984 because of a change in the Social Security disabled widow(er)s benefits reduction factor.

Public Law 99-643, enacted November 10

The SSI recipient status for Medicaid eligibility provision of the 1980 amendments is made permanent.

Effective July 1, 1987, certain expenses are excluded from earnings when determining sufficiency of earnings to establish SSI recipient status eligibility for Medicaid purposes:

- Impairment-related work expenses of disabled persons,
- Work expenses of blind persons,
- Income required for achieving an approved self-support plan, and
- The value of publicly funded attendant care services.

Effective July 1, 1987, preserves the Medicaid eligibility of recipients who become ineligible for SSI payments because of entitlement to, or an increase in, Social Security disabled adult child benefits on or after the effective date.

Effective July 1, 1987, requires all States to provide Medicaid coverage for recipients in special SSI status (either receiving special SSI payments or in the special recipient status described for 1980) if they received Medicaid coverage the month before special SSI status.

1987

Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22

Effective July 1, 1988, restores or preserves the Medicaid eligibility of persons aged 60 or older who are eligible for Social Security benefits as widows or widowers (but not eligible for Medicare) and who become ineligible for SSI payments or State supplementation because of the receipt of old-age or survivors insurance benefits under Social Security.

Act

1990
Public Law 101-508, enacted November 5

Age limit for retention of SSI recipient status for Medicaid eligibility purposes is (1980 and subsequent work incentive provisions, above) eliminated.

Preserves the Medicaid eligibility of SSI recipients who become ineligible for payments when they become entitled to Social Security disabled widow(er)s benefits following the revised definition used for their disability.

1997
Public Law 105-33, enacted August 5

Requires States to continue Medicaid coverage for disabled children who were receiving SSI payments as of August 22, 1996 and would have continued to be eligible for such payments except that their eligibility terminated because they did not meet the revised SSI childhood disability standard established under Public Law 104-193.

9. State Supplementation

1972
Public Law 92-603, enacted October 30

States are given the option of providing supplementary payments both to recipients transferred from the State program and to those newly eligible for SSI.

States may either administer the payments themselves or have the Social Security Administration make payments on their behalf. When State supplementary payments are Federally-administered, the Social Security Administration makes eligibility and payment determinations for the State and assumes administrative costs.

"Hold harmless" protection, which limits a State's fiscal liability to its share of OAA, AB, and APTD expenditures for calendar year 1972, is provided to States electing Federal administration of their supplementary plans. This provision applies only to supplementary payments that do not, on the average, exceed a State's "adjusted payment level." (The adjusted payment level is the average of the payments that individuals with no other income received in January 1972; it may include the bonus value of food stamps. Adjustments are provided for payments that had been below State standards.)

1973
Public Law 93-66, enacted July 9

Provision is made for mandatory State supplementation as assurance against reduction of income for persons who received State assistance in December 1973 and were transferred to SSI. These supplementary payments must equal the difference between (1) the amount of the State assistance payment that the individual received in December 1973 plus other income and (2) his/her Federal SSI payment plus other income.

1976
Public Law 94-585, enacted October 21

After June 30, 1977, when the Federal SSI payment level is increased by a cost-of-living increase, such an increase will be excluded in calculating the "hold harmless" amount.

Requires States to maintain State supplementation payments at the level of December 1976 ("maintenance of payments") or to continue to pay in supplements the same total annual amounts ("maintenance of expenditures") when the Federal SSI payment level is increased and thereby pass through any increases in Federal benefits without reducing State supplements.

1982
Public Law 97-248, enacted September 3

Begins a 3-year phase out of "hold harmless" protection. Effective with fiscal year 1985, Wisconsin and Hawaii (the only remaining "hold harmless" States) assumed the full cost of their supplementary payments.

Act

1983
Public Law 98-21, enacted April 20

Federal pass-through law is adjusted (1) by substituting the State supplementary payment levels in effect in March 1983 for those in effect in December 1976 as the levels that States must maintain in complying with the pass-through requirements, and (2) with regard to the $20 (individual) and $30 (couple) increase in the Federal SSI standard in July 1983, by requiring States to pass through only as much as would have been required if the SSI cost-of-living adjustment had been made in July 1983.

1987
Public Law 100-203, enacted December 22

Provides for Federal administration of State supplements to residents of medical institutions.

Provides for required pass through of $5 increase in Federal rate for persons whose care in institutions is paid in substantial part by Medicaid.

1993
Public Law 103-66, enacted August 10

Requires States to pay fees for Federal administration of their State supplementation payments. The fees are $1.67 for each monthly supplementary payment in fiscal year 1994, $3.33 in fiscal year 1995, and $5.00 in fiscal year 1996. Fees for subsequent fiscal years will be $5.00 or another amount determined by the Commissioner to be appropriate. The Commissioner may charge the States additional fees for services they request that are beyond the level customarily provided in administering State supplementary payments.

1997
Public Law 105-33, enacted August 5

Revises the schedule of per-payment fees for Federal administration of State supplementation for fiscal years 1998 ($6.20) through 2002 ($8.50) and provides a formula for determining the fee beyond fiscal year 2002. The scheduled fees for fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001, are: $7.60; $7.80; and $8.10, respectively.

1999
Public Law 106-170, enacted December 17

A State which has an agreement with SSA to administer its supplementation payments, must remit both payments and fees prior to the SSI payment date.

2000
Public Law 106-554, enacted December 21

Changes the effective date of above provision from 2009 to 2001.

10. Overpayment Recovery

1984
Public Law 98-369, enacted July 18

Limits the rate of recovering overpayments from monthly payments to the lesser of: (1) the monthly payment, or (2) 10 percent of a recipient's monthly income. Permits a higher or lower adjustment at the request of the recipient subject to the agreement of the Commissioner. The limit does not apply if fraud, willful misrepresentation, or concealment of material information was involved on the part of the recipient or spouse in connection with the overpayment.

Waives recovery of certain overpayments due to amount of excess resources of $50 or less.

Provides for the recovery of overpayments from tax refunds.

1988
Public Law 100-485, enacted October 13

Extends the authority to recover overpayments from tax refunds.

Act	
1998	
Public Law 105-306, enacted October 28	Authorizes SSA to collect SSI overpayments by offsetting Social Security benefits, with a maximum monthly offset of no more than 10 percent of the Social Security benefit.
1999	
Public Law 106-169, enacted December 14	Makes representative payees liable for an SSI overpayment caused by a payment made to a recipient who has died, and requires SSA to establish an overpayment control record under the representative payee's Social Security number. Requires SSA to recover SSI overpayments from SSI lump-sum amounts by withholding at least 50 percent of the lump-sum payment or the amount of the overpayment, whichever is less. Extends all of the debt collection authorities currently available for the collection of overpayments under the OASDI program to the SSI program.

B. INCOME AND RESOURCE EXCLUSIONS

1. Earned Income Exclusions

- Any refund of Federal income taxes received under section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code (relating to earned income tax credit) and any payment received under section 3507 of the Internal Revenue Code (relating to advance payment of earned income tax credit);
- Up to $10 of earned income in a month if it is infrequent or irregular, that is, if it is received only once in a calendar quarter from a single source or if its receipt cannot reasonably be expected (If the total amount of the infrequent or irregular income exceeds $10, this exclusion cannot be used.);
- Up to $1,290 per month but not more than $5,200 in a calendar year received by a blind or disabled child who is a student regularly attending school;
- Any portion of the monthly $20 exclusion for unearned income that has not been used;
- $65 of earned income in a month;
- Amounts used to pay impairment-related work expenses if a recipient is disabled (but not blind) and under age 65 or is disabled (but not blind) and receiving SSI (or disability payments under a former State plan) before age 65;
- One-half of remaining earned income in a month;
- Earned income used to meet any expenses reasonably attributable to the earning of the income if the recipient is blind and under age 65 or if he/she received SSI as a blind person prior to age 65;
- Any earned income received and used to fulfill an approved plan to achieve self-support if the recipient is blind or disabled and under age 65 or is blind or disabled and received SSI as a blind or disabled individual in the month before he/she attained age 65; and
- Some Federal laws other than the Social Security Act provide for the exclusion of earned income for SSI purposes. For the most part, the income received under these laws relates to assistance received in the form of food, housing and utilities, educational and employment benefits or benefits derived from being a member of a Native American tribe. A complete list of laws which exclude earned income under SSI can be found in the Federal Regulations Appendix to Subpart K 20 CFR 416.

2. Unearned Income Exclusions

- Any public agency's refund of taxes on real property or food;
- Assistance based on need which is wholly funded by a State or one of its political subdivisions. This includes State supplementation of Federal SSI benefits but does not include payments under a Federal/State grant program such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF);
- Any portion of a grant, scholarship or fellowship used for paying tuition, fees or other necessary educational expenses. Portions set aside for food, clothing or shelter are counted;
- Food raised by a household if it is consumed by that household;
- Assistance received under the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and assistance provided under any Federal statute because of a catastrophe which the President of the United States declares to be a major disaster;
- Up to $20 of unearned income in a month if it is infrequent or irregular; that is, if a type of unearned income is received only once during a calendar quarter from a single source or if it cannot reasonably be expected;

- Any unearned income received and used to fulfill an approved plan to achieve self-support if the recipient is blind or disabled and under age 65 or is blind or disabled and received SSI as a blind or disabled individual in the month before he/she attained age 65;
- Periodic payments made by a State under a program established before July 1, 1973, and based solely on the recipient's length of residence and attainment of age 65;
- Payments for providing foster care to an ineligible child who was placed in the recipient's home by a public or private nonprofit child placement or child care agency;
- Any interest earned on excluded burial funds and any appreciation in the value of an excluded burial arrangement which are left to accumulate and become part of the separately identifiable burial fund;
- Certain support and maintenance assistance provided in the form of home energy assistance;
- One-third of support payments made by an absent parent if the recipient is a child;
- The first $20 of unearned income in a month other than income in the form of in-kind support and maintenance received in the household of another and income based on need;
- The value of any assistance paid with respect to a dwelling unit under the United States Housing Act of 1937, the National Housing Act, section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, title V of the Housing Act of 1949, or section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959;
- Any interest accrued on and left to accumulate as part of the value of an excluded burial space purchase agreement (after April 1, 1990);
- The value of any commercial transportation ticket, for travel by a recipient or his/her spouse among the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands, which is received as a gift and is not converted to cash;
- Payments received from a fund established by a State to aid victims of crime;
- Relocation assistance provided by a State or local government that is comparable to assistance provided under title II of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970;
- Hostile fire pay received from one of the uniformed services pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 310;
- Interest or other earnings on a dedicated account excluded from resources;
- In-kind gifts not converted to cash and the first $2,000 annually of cash gifts made by tax-exempt organizations, such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation, to, or for the benefit of, individuals under age 18 with life-threatening conditions;
- Payments made under the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998;
- TANF funds made available to an SSI recipient as part of an Individual Development Account (IDA);
- Deposits made by a participating individual or a sponsoring nonprofit organization or State or local government into an IDA under the "Assets for Independence Act" IDA demonstration project and interest earned on these deposits; and
- Unearned income excluded by other Federal laws. See Federal Regulations Appendix to Subpart K 20 CFR 416.

3. Resource Exclusions

- The home (including the land appertaining thereto);
- Household goods and personal effects to the extent that their total value does not exceed $2,000;
- An automobile may be totally excluded if: (1) it is necessary for employment; (2) it is necessary for the medical treatment of a specific or regular medical problem; (3) it is modified for the operation by or transportation of, a handicapped individual; or (4) it is necessary to perform essential daily activities. If the automobile does not meet any of the above requirements, it may be excluded to the extent that its current-market value does not exceed $4,500;
- Property of a trade or business which is essential to the means of self-support;
- Nonbusiness property which is essential to the means of self-support;
- Resources of a blind or disabled individual which are necessary to fulfill an approved plan for achieving self-support;
- Stock in regional or village corporations held by natives of Alaska during the 20-year period in which the stock is inalienable pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act;
- Life insurance owned by an individual (and spouse, if any) provided that all life insurance on any person does not exceed a face value of $1,500;
- Restricted allotted Indian lands;
- Disaster relief assistance;
- Burial spaces and certain funds up to $1,500 for burial expenses;
- Title XVI or title II retroactive payments (for 6 months following receipt);
- Housing assistance;
- Refunds of Federal income taxes and advances made by an employer relating to an earned income tax credit, (for the month following receipt);
- Payments received as compensation for expenses incurred or losses suffered as a result of a crime (for 9 months);
- Relocation assistance from a State or local government (for 9 months);
- Dedicated financial institution accounts for disabled children;
- In-kind gifts not converted to cash and the first $2,000 annually of cash gifts made by tax-exempt organizations, such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation, to, or for the benefit of, individuals under age 18 with life-threatening conditions;
- Payments made under the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998;
- TANF funds made available to an SSI recipient as part of an IDA;
- Amounts deposited in an IDA by a participating individual or a sponsoring nonprofit organization or State or local government under the “Assets for Independence Act” IDA demonstration project and interest earned on these deposits;
- Certain trusts (e.g., those established by will or certain Medicaid trusts that will repay the State, upon the death of the beneficiary, for the costs of medical assistance provided to that individual); and
- Payments or benefits provided under a Federal statute other than title XVI of the Social Security Act where exclusion is provided by such statute.

C. HISTORICAL ALLOWANCE DATA

At the end of 2000, 80 percent of SSI recipients were receiving benefits based on a determination of disability. Claims are filed at a local Social Security office and claims requiring an evaluation of disability are sent to the State Disability Determination Service (DDS) for a decision. Initial DDS decisions that are unfavorable to the applicant may be appealed. Until recently, all appeals were initiated at the DDS level with a request for reconsideration of that initial denial. Persons denied at the reconsideration level could then apply to the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), and if dissatisfied with the hearing decision could request a review by the Appeals Council. Those dissatisfied with the Appeals Council's action could seek further relief via the Federal court system. This appeals process is still in effect for the majority of new applicants. However, in recent years SSA has conducted small pilots testing revisions to this process and introduced a modification of this process in 10 States for applications filed October 1, 1999 and later. Under this revised process appeals of initial denials are made directly to OHA, thereby eliminating the reconsideration step. The options for appeal beyond the OHA level are unchanged.

Such a process of application and appeal can, in some cases, span several years. However, before 1993, the only data available on the disability determination process resided in files compiled at each separate stage of the process and only captured various point-in-time snapshots. A complete picture of the disability determination process can be fully understood only by compiling a longitudinal database from administrative records at all levels of appeal. Beginning in 1993, such a longitudinal database (the "Disability Research File") was constructed by the Division of Disability Program Information and Studies within SSA's Office of Disability to assist the agency in understanding and managing this process. In the process of constructing this database, some problems were encountered due to inconsistencies in the data collected from all the respective levels of appeal. The following sections present some additional details and qualifications essential to a complete understanding of the resulting data. Following these technical notes are tables based on the Disability Research File which show the latest available summary of results on disability determinations under title XVI.

1. Technical Notes on the Disability Research File

Methods used to build the title XVI Disability Research File—The "base" file for the title XVI research file is the Supplemental Security Record (SSR). This "base" file is matched against records from various other administrative sources, including transactions from the disability determination (SSA-831) files, Social Security number identification records and earnings data, and OHA case control data.

The process used to build this research file is cumbersome, involving more than 170 steps, and generally requiring about 4 months to complete. Much of this complexity flows from the fact that the file is assembled based on filing date cohorts, even though many of the source files do not contain a filing date. The three most recent calendar year cohorts are completely reassembled from the basic data sources. Older calendar year cohorts are updated to reflect activity since the last time the file was built. Since the process is so time consuming, the research file is updated only annually (usually beginning in July). Therefore, research file data are not yet available for claims filed in 2000.

Methods used for estimating results (through February 2001) for claims filed in 2000—Although decision counts are available for 2000 filers (from many of the "source" files), those counts do not translate directly into the claims/appeals counts included in the following tables, due to the consolidation of multiple transactions (and application of claims-based tolerance rules) which occurs when the research file is built.

To prepare preliminary estimates of results (through February 2001) for 2000 filers, we started from the latest available transaction data, such as the SSA-831 data, and took into account recent years' experience of the relationship between corresponding earlier transaction data and the resulting claims/appeals data in completed research files. We also considered claims counts from an extract file from the SSR. While we believe that the methods used are reasonable, it must be emphasized that the resulting estimates may prove to be of limited reliability, especially in light of the fact that the estimates give results only through February 2001, whereas the final research files will reflect information through June 2001. Actual data for 2000 will be available to replace these estimates in the 2002 Annual Report.

2. General Considerations

Some general points that apply to tables V.C1 and V.C2 are as follows:

- Data for 1988-99 filers are as of June 2000. Results for those years' filers have been updated to include OHA results through August 2000.
- Data for 2000 filers are preliminary estimates as of February 2001, and reflect larger numbers of claims still pending. February 2001 data on number of claims appealed may be too low because larger numbers of claimants are still within the period allowed for filing an appeal (i.e., larger numbers of recently denied claimants who have not yet filed an appeal may appeal before the time limit runs out).
- Remaining appeals will affect the results. Since allowances are generally processed more quickly than denials, we expect that the percent allowed will ultimately be lower as all cases are processed.
- Computations of overall allowance rates exclude cases which have been appealed and for which a decision is pending.
- In certain pilot activities and under the revised process introduced October 1, 1999 in 10 States, initial denials can be appealed directly to OHA without a separate reconsideration step. As a result the appeals of initial denials shown in these tables include cases which will not receive a decision at the reconsideration level.

Table V.C1.—Disabled Adult Claims: ***Disposition of Applications for SSI Disability Benefits by Year of Filing [1] and Level of Decision***

Calendar year of filing	Total claims filed	Initial decisions: Pending	Allowances: Number	Allowances: Percent [2]	Denials	Appeals of initial denials: Number [3]	Appeals of initial denials: Percent [4]
1988	946,603	—	272,204	28.8	674,399	265,151	39.3
1989	969,218	—	292,044	30.1	677,174	274,823	40.6
1990	1,099,805	—	347,823	31.6	751,982	320,207	42.6
1991	1,288,331	—	415,336	32.2	872,995	383,669	43.9
1992	1,415,624	—	436,888	30.9	978,736	433,244	44.3
1993	1,503,278	—	416,300	27.7	1,086,978	485,166	44.6
1994	1,436,958	—	353,995	24.6	1,082,963	482,533	44.6
1995	1,318,416	—	323,084	24.5	995,332	439,166	44.1
1996	1,247,926	—	305,351	24.5	942,575	406,425	43.1
1997	1,110,898	—	292,839	26.4	818,059	357,999	43.8
1998	1,107,428	—	317,520	28.7	789,908	341,677	43.3
1999	1,099,795	14,643	316,398	29.2	768,754	310,346	40.4
2000	1,189,500	196,000	332,900	33.5	660,600	198,980	30.1

Calendar year of filing	Reconsiderations: Pending	Allowances: Number	Allowances: Percent [2]	Denials	Appeals of reconsideration denials: Number [6]	Appeals of reconsideration denials: Percent [4]	Appeals beyond reconsideration [5]: Pending [7]	Allowances: Number	Allowances: Percent [8]	Denials [9]
1988	—	38,385	14.5	226,766	140,663	62.0	—	82,414	58.6	58,249
1989	—	43,505	15.8	231,318	146,082	63.2	—	90,169	61.7	55,913
1990	—	52,055	16.3	268,152	175,520	65.5	—	109,098	62.2	66,422
1991	—	59,157	15.4	324,512	221,794	68.3	—	139,685	63.0	82,109
1992	—	58,819	13.6	374,425	260,363	69.5	—	158,999	61.1	101,364
1993	—	57,938	11.9	427,228	297,164	69.6	3,301	169,992	57.8	123,871
1994	—	55,822	11.6	426,711	295,714	69.3	4,316	163,621	56.2	127,777
1995	—	51,697	11.8	387,469	266,241	68.7	6,237	141,725	54.5	118,279
1996	—	49,263	12.1	357,162	244,209	68.4	12,342	129,161	55.7	102,706
1997	—	47,573	13.4	306,561	215,414	70.3	24,587	114,202	58.7	80,490
1998	—	49,049	14.4	292,142	202,966	69.5	44,991	98,624	62.2	59,837
1999	24,015	32,998	12.1	239,420	162,941	68.1	113,749	40,091	63.5	23,014
2000	42,300	18,800	14.5	111,000	46,460	41.9	65,860	5,085	68.0	2,395

Calendar year of filing	Selected summary totals: Allowances at all levels: Number	Allowances at all levels: Percent [10]	Allowances at all appeal levels: Number	Allowances at all appeal levels: Percent [11]	Denials after all appeals: Number	Denials after all appeals: Percent [11]
1988	393,003	41.5	120,799	17.9	553,600	82.1
1989	425,718	43.9	133,674	19.7	543,500	80.3
1990	508,976	46.3	161,153	21.4	590,829	78.6
1991	614,178	47.7	198,842	22.8	674,153	77.2
1992	654,706	46.2	217,818	22.3	760,918	77.7
1993	644,230	42.9	227,930	21.0	855,747	78.7
1994	573,438	40.0	219,443	20.3	859,204	79.3
1995	516,506	39.4	193,422	19.4	795,673	79.9
1996	483,775	39.2	178,424	18.9	751,809	79.8
1997	454,614	41.8	161,775	19.8	631,697	77.2
1998	465,193	43.8	147,673	18.7	597,244	75.6
1999	389,487	41.1	73,089	9.5	557,901	72.6
2000	356,785	40.3	23,885	3.6	528,555	80.0

[1] Data for claims filed in 1988-99 reflect results as of June 2000. The numbers of total claims filed for 1998 and 1999 are subject to change. Data for claims filed in 2000 are preliminary estimates as of February 2001. The ultimate number of allowances and denials are subject to change until all initial decisions have been completed and all appeals are final.

[2] Percentage of decisions at this level.

[3] Includes certain cases which can be appealed directly to OHA.

[4] Percentage of denials at this level appealed to next level.

[5] Includes cases appealed to OHA, as well as beyond OHA to the Federal courts.

[6] Number of persons appealing beyond the reconsideration level.

[7] Includes cases remanded to OHA from the Federal courts.

[8] Percentage of decisions at this level. For years where decisions are still pending, the preliminary percentage shown will ultimately be lower as all cases are processed. This is true since allowances are generally processed more quickly than denials.

[9] Includes denied claims where the final administrative action was a dismissal of an appeal request (e.g., the appeal was not filed timely or the applicant failed to appear at the scheduled hearing).

[10] Percentage of initial decisions excluding appealed cases pending decisions.

[11] Percentage of initial denials.

Table V.C2.—Disabled Child Claims: ***Disposition of Applications for SSI Disability Benefits by Year of Filing [1] and Level of Decision***

Calendar year of filing	Total claims filed	Initial decisions: Pending	Allowances: Number	Allowances: Percent [2]	Denials	Appeals of initial denials: Number[3]	Appeals of initial denials: Percent [4]
1991	250,962	—	148,220	59.1	102,742	24,702	24.0
1992	372,971	—	189,079	50.7	183,892	49,297	26.8
1993	496,131	—	212,268	42.8	283,863	75,967	26.8
1994	525,013	—	172,219	32.8	352,794	92,093	26.1
1995	487,730	—	144,231	29.6	343,499	86,841	25.3
1996	453,473	—	127,416	28.1	326,057	75,013	23.0
1997	332,032	—	106,528	32.1	225,504	51,496	22.8
1998	335,903	—	123,222	36.7	212,681	50,111	23.6
1999	342,458	4,377	127,417	37.7	210,664	46,588	22.1
2000	354,500	61,900	127,300	43.5	165,300	27,990	16.9

Calendar year of filing	Reconsiderations: Pending	Allowances: Number	Allowances: Percent [2]	Denials	Appeals of reconsideration denials: Number [6]	Appeals of reconsideration denials: Percent [4]	Appeals beyond reconsideration [5]: Pending [7]	Allowances: Number	Allowances: Percent [8]	Denials [9]
1991	—	5,605	22.7	19,097	9,196	48.2	—	3,884	42.2	5,312
1992	—	9,463	19.2	39,834	19,763	49.6	—	7,521	38.1	12,242
1993	—	11,338	14.9	64,629	31,499	48.7	390	10,618	34.1	20,491
1994	—	11,332	12.3	80,761	38,680	47.9	508	12,886	33.8	25,286
1995	—	10,287	11.8	76,554	35,776	46.7	732	10,759	30.7	24,285
1996	—	9,355	12.5	65,658	28,070	42.8	1,200	8,606	32.0	18,264
1997	—	8,266	16.2	42,705	19,028	44.6	2,131	6,643	38.1	10,779
1998	—	7,987	16.0	42,052	18,580	44.2	4,430	5,918	41.6	8,304
1999	3,521	5,973	14.8	34,361	15,178	44.2	12,140	2,351	40.7	3,420
2000	5,500	2,700	15.5	14,700	3,810	25.9	7,940	360	37.5	600

Calendar year of filing	Selected summary totals: Allowances at all levels: Number	Allowances at all levels: Percent [10]	Allowances at all appeal levels: Number	Allowances at all appeal levels: Percent [11]	Denials after all appeals: Number	Denials after all appeals: Percent [11]
1991	157,709	62.8	9,489	9.2	93,253	90.8
1992	206,063	55.2	16,984	9.2	166,908	90.8
1993	234,224	47.2	21,956	7.7	261,517	92.1
1994	196,437	37.5	24,218	6.9	328,068	93.0
1995	165,277	33.9	21,046	6.1	321,721	93.7
1996	145,377	32.1	17,961	5.5	306,896	94.1
1997	121,437	36.8	14,909	6.6	208,464	92.4
1998	137,127	41.4	13,905	6.5	194,346	91.4
1999	135,741	42.1	8,324	4.0	186,679	88.6
2000	130,360	46.7	3,060	1.9	148,800	90.0

[1] Data for claims filed in 1991-99 reflect results as of June 2000. The numbers of total claims filed for 1998 and 1999 are subject to change. Data for claims filed in 2000 are preliminary estimates as of February 2001. The ultimate number of allowances and denials are subject to change until all initial decisions have been completed and all appeals are final.

[2] Percentage of decisions at this level.

[3] Includes certain cases which can be appealed directly to OHA.

[4] Percentage of denials at this level appealed to next level.

[5] Includes cases appealed to OHA, as well as beyond OHA to the Federal courts.

[6] Number of persons appealing beyond the reconsideration level.

[7] Includes cases remanded to OHA from the Federal courts.

[8] Percentage of decisions at this level. For years where decisions are still pending, the preliminary percentage shown will ultimately be lower as all cases are processed. This is true since allowances are generally processed more quickly than denials.

[9] Includes denied claims where the final administrative action was a dismissal of an appeal request (e.g., the appeal was not filed timely or the applicant failed to appear at the scheduled hearing).

[10] Percentage of initial decisions excluding appealed cases pending decisions.

[11] Percentage of initial denials.

D. HISTORICAL REDETERMINATION AND CONTINUING DISABILITY REVIEW DATA

1. Redeterminations

Redeterminations are reviews of all of the nonmedical factors of eligibility to determine whether a recipient is still eligible for SSI and still receiving the correct payment amount. There are two types of redeterminations: scheduled and unscheduled. Scheduled redeterminations are selected annually or once every 6 years depending on the likelihood of payment error in the case. Except for certain institutionalized individuals, all recipients are periodically scheduled for a redetermination. Unscheduled redeterminations are completed on an as needed basis when recipients report, or we discover, certain changes in circumstances that could affect the continuing SSI payment amount. The numbers of redeterminations completed are subject to some year-to-year fluctuation because of variation in the numbers of unscheduled redeterminations completed and in the numbers of scheduled redeterminations that were selected but not completed during the fiscal year due to the impact of other workload requirements on the field offices. When redeterminations cannot be completed in the fiscal year scheduled, they are carried over into the next fiscal year. Table V.D1 provides historical data on numbers of redeterminations completed by fiscal year.

Table V.D1.—SSI Redeterminations Completed, Fiscal Years 1986-2000

[In thousands]

Fiscal year	Number of redeterminations
1986	2,278
1987	2,244
1988	1,997
1989	2,226
1990	2,103
1991	2,138
1992	2,321
1993	2,223
1994	[1] 1,900
1995	[2] 1,597
1996	1,763
1997	1,773
1998	1,853
1999	2,122
2000	2,182

[1] Decrease in number of redeterminations completed in fiscal year 1994 due to low-error profile redeterminations not being completed from January through September 1994.

[2] Effective fiscal year 1995, approximately 200,000 fewer redeterminations were selected annually due to a change from a 3-year to a 6-year redetermination cycle for low-error profile cases.

During periods between scheduled redeterminations, SSA uses the limited issue process to detect situations that have the potential to affect the continuing eligibility of SSI recipients and SSI payment amounts. SSA conducts periodic computer matches between its own systems and the systems of other Federal and State agencies to determine if the income and resources information on SSI recipients' records is in conflict with data obtained from the other systems. Matches detecting conflicting information usually result in the posting of an identifier to the Supplemental Security Record of the SSI recipient. The case is then selected and scheduled for a field office review of the issue for which the indicator was posted. In fiscal year 2000, SSA released over 600,000 limited issue cases for development by field offices.

2. Continuing Disability Reviews

Following enactment of the Social Security Disability Amendments of 1980, section 221(i) of the Social Security Act generally requires SSA to review the continuing eligibility of title II disabled beneficiaries at least every 3 years. A similar requirement was not put in place at that time for disabled title XVI recipients. Although the Committee on Finance of the Senate stated in its report on this legislation that the same continuing disability reviews (CDRs) procedures should be applied with respect to both the title II and title XVI programs, title XVI was not amended to accomplish this. In 1994 and again in 1996 legislation was enacted adding some mandates for the performance of CDRs under the SSI program.

Public Law 103-296 specified that during each of fiscal years 1996, 1997, and 1998, SSA was required to conduct CDRs on a minimum of 100,000 SSI recipients. In addition, during the same period, SSA was required to redetermine the SSI eligibility of at least one-third of all SSI child recipients who reach age 18 after April 1995 during the 1-year period following attainment of age 18. Such redeterminations for persons turning age 18 could count toward the 100,000 CDR requirement.

Public Law 104-193 extended the requirement of redetermination of SSI eligibility to all SSI child recipients who reach age 18, with such redetermination being based on an adult eligibility criteria. This law also added the requirement that a CDR be performed:

- At least once every 3 years for SSI recipients under age 18 who are eligible by reason of an impairment which is likely to improve, and
- Not later than 12 months after birth for recipients whose low birth weight is a contributing factor material to the determination of their disability unless the Commissioner determines that the impairment is not expected to improve within 12 months of the child's birth.

Public Law 105-33 gave SSA some additional flexibility in the scheduling of these categories of CDRs.

In order to handle the large CDR workload mandated under these various provisions, SSA developed, beginning in 1993, a process by which certain title II cases scheduled for a CDR would be screened using the results of a profiling process which included a mailer interview for some cases. In 1996 the profiling process was extended to title XVI adults who were scheduled for a CDR. The screening process resulted in the deferral of full medical reviews for 261,129 cases for which a scheduled title XVI CDR was processed in 2000.

For cases involving individuals who receive both title II and title XVI benefits, CDRs are typically initiated as title II CDRs with the results of the review affecting eligibility for benefits under both programs. Tables V.D2 and V.D3 present the latest available summary of results on CDRs of title XVI recipients performed under titles II and XVI since 1993. These tables include only cases for which a full medical review was conducted. In particular they do not include:

- Cases for which a mailer was completed, but for which a full medical review was deferred;
- CDRs initiated as the result of work activity on the part of the beneficiary/recipient; and
- Miscellaneous other CDRs processed by the State Disability Determination Services but not as part of the normal CDR scheduling process (such as voluntary and third party reports of medical improvement, post-transplant end-stage renal disease cases, and vocational rehabilitation reports).

In contrast with the allowance data presented in section V.C, the CDR data is tabulated on a cohort basis by the date of initial decision.

Table V.D2.—SSI Disabled Adult Reviews: ***Disposition of Continuing Disability Medical Reviews by Fiscal Year of Initial Decision [1] and Level of Decision***

Fiscal year of initial DDS decision	Initial decisions: Total initial DDS decisions [2]	Continuations [2]: Number	Continuations [2]: Percent [3]	Cessations	Appeals to reconsideration: Number	Appeals to reconsideration: Percent [4]
Reviews of concurrent title II/XVI cases initiated under title II						
1993	1,143	1,083	94.8	60	52	86.7
1994	10,945	9,127	83.4	1,818	1,253	68.9
1995	16,736	12,484	74.6	4,252	2,905	68.3
1996	26,884	20,636	76.8	6,248	4,119	65.9
1997	51,466	40,741	79.2	10,725	7,436	69.3
1998	81,185	68,533	84.4	12,652	8,811	69.6
1999	80,816	70,353	87.1	10,463	6,379	61.0
2000	105,787	93,962	88.8	11,825	6,623	56.0
Title XVI initiated reviews						
1993	—	—	—	—	—	—
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	4,287	3,277	76.4	1,010	665	65.8
1996	55,025	46,273	84.1	8,752	6,146	70.2
1997	69,557	57,662	82.9	11,895	8,837	74.3
1998	75,071	64,829	86.4	10,242	7,363	71.9
1999	140,429	125,079	89.1	15,350	10,518	68.5
2000	173,470	156,065	90.0	17,405	10,710	61.5
Total reviews, SSI disabled adults						
1993	1,143	1,083	94.8	60	52	86.7
1994	10,945	9,127	83.4	1,818	1,253	68.9
1995	21,023	15,761	75.0	5,262	3,570	67.8
1996	81,909	66,909	81.7	15,000	10,265	68.4
1997	121,023	98,403	81.3	22,620	16,273	71.9
1998	156,256	133,362	85.3	22,894	16,174	70.6
1999	221,245	195,432	88.3	25,813	16,897	65.5
2000	279,257	250,027	89.5	29,230	17,333	59.3

Fiscal year of initial DDS decision	Reconsiderations: Pending	Continuations: Number	Continuations: Percent [3]	Cessations	Appeals to beyond reconsideration: Number [6]	Appeals to beyond reconsideration: Percent [4]	Appeals beyond reconsideration [5]: Pending [7]	Continuations: Number	Continuations: Percent	Cessations
Reviews of concurrent title II/XVI cases initiated under title II										
1993	—	22	42.3	30	14	46.7	—	9	64.3	5
1994	—	541	43.2	712	399	56.0	—	177	44.4	222
1995	—	1,245	42.9	1,660	1,007	60.7	—	382	37.9	625
1996	—	1,875	45.5	2,244	1,313	58.5	—	427	32.5	886
1997	95	4,297	58.5	3,044	2,290	75.2	78	867	39.2	1,345
1998	113	5,509	63.3	3,189	2,362	74.1	203	915	42.4	1,244
1999	304	3,930	64.7	2,145	1,353	63.1	396	395	41.3	562
2000	1,481	3,517	68.4	1,625	719	44.2	600	48	40.3	71
Title XVI initiated reviews										
1993	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	—	241	36.2	424	267	63.0	—	87	32.6	180
1996	—	3,289	53.5	2,857	1,946	68.1	—	623	32.0	1,323
1997	123	5,272	60.5	3,442	2,650	77.0	108	909	35.8	1,633
1998	154	4,527	62.8	2,682	2,020	75.3	168	639	34.5	1,213
1999	379	6,519	64.3	3,620	2,360	65.2	740	582	35.9	1,038
2000	1,810	5,761	64.7	3,139	1,550	49.4	1,247	108	35.6	195
Total reviews, SSI disabled adults										
1993	—	22	42.3	30	14	46.7	—	9	64.3	5
1994	—	541	43.2	712	399	56.0	—	177	44.4	222
1995	—	1,486	41.6	2,084	1,274	61.1	—	469	36.8	805
1996	—	5,164	50.3	5,101	3,259	63.9	—	1,050	32.2	2,209
1997	218	9,569	59.6	6,486	4,940	76.2	186	1,776	37.4	2,978
1998	267	10,036	63.1	5,871	4,382	74.6	371	1,554	38.7	2,457
1999	683	10,449	64.4	5,765	3,713	64.4	1,136	977	37.9	1,600
2000	3,291	9,278	66.1	4,764	2,269	47.6	1,847	156	37.0	266

Table V.D2.—SSI Disabled Adult Reviews: ***Disposition of Continuing Disability Medical Reviews by Fiscal Year of Initial Decision*** [1] ***and Level of Decision (Cont.)***

Fiscal year of initial DDS decision	Selected summary totals					
	Continuations at all levels		Cessations at initial level		Cessations after all appeals	
	Number	Percent [8]	Number	Percent [9]	Number	Percent [8]
Reviews of concurrent title II/XVI cases initiated under title II						
1993	1,114	97.5	60	5.2	29	2.5
1994	9,845	89.9	1,818	16.6	1,100	10.1
1995	14,111	84.3	4,252	25.4	2,625	15.7
1996	22,938	85.3	6,248	23.2	3,946	14.7
1997	45,905	89.5	10,725	20.8	5,388	10.5
1998	74,957	92.7	12,652	15.6	5,912	7.3
1999	74,678	93.2	10,463	12.9	5,438	6.8
2000	97,527	94.0	11,825	11.2	6,179	6.0
Title XVI initiated reviews						
1993	—	—	—	—	—	—
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	3,605	84.1	1,010	23.6	682	15.9
1996	50,185	91.2	8,752	15.9	4,840	8.8
1997	63,843	92.1	11,895	17.1	5,483	7.9
1998	69,995	93.6	10,242	13.6	4,754	6.4
1999	132,180	94.9	15,350	10.9	7,130	5.1
2000	161,934	95.0	17,405	10.0	8,479	5.0
Total reviews, SSI disabled adults						
1993	1,114	97.5	60	5.2	29	2.5
1994	9,845	89.9	1,818	16.6	1,100	10.1
1995	17,716	84.3	5,262	25.0	3,307	15.7
1996	73,123	89.3	15,000	18.3	8,786	10.7
1997	109,748	91.0	22,620	18.7	10,871	9.0
1998	144,952	93.1	22,894	14.7	10,666	6.9
1999	206,858	94.3	25,813	11.7	12,568	5.7
2000	259,461	94.7	29,230	10.5	14,658	5.3

[1] Data reflect results as of February 2001. The ultimate number of continuations and cessations are subject to change until all appeals are final.

[2] The numbers of fiscal year 1999 decisions and continuations at the initial decision level may differ from totals reported in the 2000 SSI Annual Report due to subsequent updates to administrative data.

[3] Percentage of decisions at this level.

[4] Percentage of cessations at this level appealed to next level.

[5] Includes cases appealed to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, but not cases appealed beyond OHA to the Federal courts. These excluded cases have a minimal impact on the number of continuations.

[6] Number of persons appealing beyond the reconsideration level.

[7] Includes cases remanded to OHA from the Federal courts.

[8] Percentage of initial decisions excluding appealed cases pending decisions.

[9] Percentage of initial decisions.

Table V.D3.—SSI Disabled Child Reviews: ***Disposition of Continuing Disability Medical Reviews by Fiscal Year of Initial Decision [1] and Level of Decision***

Fiscal year of initial DDS decision	Initial decisions: Total initial DDS decisions [2]	Continuations [2]: Number	Continuations [2]: Percent [3]	Cessations	Appeals to reconsideration: Number	Appeals to reconsideration: Percent [4]
Reviews of low-birth-weight children						
1994	1,225	771	62.9	454	159	35.0
1995	4,231	2,083	49.2	2,148	665	31.0
1996	5,709	2,491	43.6	3,218	904	28.1
1997	7,091	4,482	63.2	2,609	842	32.3
1998	17,620	6,092	34.6	11,528	3,689	32.0
1999	9,773	4,114	42.1	5,659	1,656	29.3
2000	10,178	4,566	44.9	5,612	1,546	27.5
Redeterminations at age 18						
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	71	64	90.1	7	5	71.4
1996	12,640	8,158	64.5	4,482	2,055	45.9
1997	48,834	22,431	45.9	26,403	16,991	64.4
1998	40,945	21,453	52.4	19,492	11,070	56.8
1999	49,557	27,413	55.3	22,144	10,982	49.6
2000	51,713	28,863	55.8	22,850	10,769	47.1
All other reviews of SSI disabled children						
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	3,535	2,501	70.7	1,034	541	52.3
1996	789	399	50.6	390	210	53.8
1997	14	8	57.1	6	4	66.7
1998	91,157	67,203	73.7	23,954	13,370	55.8
1999	183,211	129,420	70.6	53,791	28,859	53.7
2000	140,699	106,583	75.8	34,116	16,911	49.6
Total reviews, SSI disabled children						
1994	1,225	771	62.9	454	159	35.0
1995	7,837	4,648	59.3	3,189	1,211	38.0
1996	19,138	11,048	57.7	8,090	3,169	39.2
1997	55,939	26,921	48.1	29,018	17,837	61.5
1998	149,722	94,748	63.3	54,974	28,129	51.2
1999	242,541	160,947	66.4	81,594	41,497	50.9
2000	202,590	140,012	69.1	62,578	29,226	46.7

Fiscal year of initial DDS decision	Reconsiderations: Pending	Continuations: Number	Continuations: Percent [3]	Cessations	Appeals to beyond reconsideration: Number [6]	Appeals to beyond reconsideration: Percent [4]	Appeals beyond reconsideration [5]: Pending [7]	Continuations: Number	Continuations: Percent	Cessations
Reviews of low-birth-weight children										
1994	—	44	27.7	115	51	44.3	—	15	29.4	36
1995	—	184	27.7	481	219	45.5	—	53	24.2	166
1996	—	329	36.4	575	232	40.3	—	44	19.0	188
1997	21	292	35.6	529	236	44.6	4	45	19.4	187
1998	51	1,234	33.9	2,404	1,131	47.0	52	217	20.1	862
1999	42	600	37.2	1,014	470	46.4	146	49	15.1	275
2000	515	442	42.9	589	212	36.0	184	6	21.4	22
Redeterminations at age 18										
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	—	2	40.0	3	2	66.7	—	1	50.0	1
1996	—	707	34.4	1,348	584	43.3	—	119	20.4	465
1997	265	4,590	27.4	12,136	6,421	52.9	162	1,301	20.8	4,958
1998	184	3,072	28.2	7,814	4,294	55.0	206	821	20.1	3,267
1999	287	3,340	31.2	7,355	4,093	55.6	1,258	648	22.9	2,187
2000	2,467	2,932	35.3	5,370	2,229	41.5	1,824	119	29.4	286
All other reviews of SSI disabled children										
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	—	177	32.7	364	202	55.5	—	52	25.7	150
1996	—	69	32.9	141	55	39.0	—	17	30.9	38
1997	1	1	33.3	2	1	50.0	—	—	0.0	1
1998	128	4,456	33.7	8,786	5,461	62.2	367	1,101	21.6	3,993
1999	1,053	9,218	33.2	18,588	11,288	60.7	3,346	1,711	21.5	6,231
2000	4,928	5,079	42.4	6,904	3,435	49.8	2,965	111	23.6	359
Total reviews, SSI disabled children										
1994	—	44	27.7	115	51	44.3	—	15	29.4	36
1995	—	363	30.0	848	423	49.9	—	106	25.1	317
1996	—	1,105	34.9	2,064	871	42.2	—	180	20.7	691
1997	287	4,883	27.8	12,667	6,658	52.6	166	1,346	20.7	5,146
1998	363	8,762	31.6	19,004	10,886	57.3	625	2,139	20.8	8,122
1999	1,382	13,158	32.8	26,957	15,851	58.8	4,750	2,408	21.7	8,693
2000	7,910	8,453	39.7	12,863	5,876	45.7	4,973	236	26.1	667

Table V.D3.—SSI Disabled Child Reviews: ***Disposition of Continuing Disability Medical Reviews by Fiscal Year of Initial Decision [1] and Level of Decision (Cont.)***

Fiscal year of initial DDS decision	Selected summary totals					
	Continuations at all levels		Cessations at initial level		Cessations after all appeals	
	Number	Percent [8]	Number	Percent [9]	Number	Percent [8]
Reviews of low-birth-weight children						
1994	830	67.8	454	37.1	395	32.2
1995	2,320	54.8	2,148	50.8	1,911	45.2
1996	2,864	50.2	3,218	56.4	2,845	49.8
1997	4,819	68.2	2,609	36.8	2,247	31.8
1998	7,543	43.1	11,528	65.4	9,974	56.9
1999	4,763	49.7	5,659	57.9	4,822	50.3
2000	5,014	52.9	5,612	55.1	4,465	47.1
Redeterminations at age 18						
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	67	94.4	7	9.9	4	5.6
1996	8,984	71.1	4,482	35.5	3,656	28.9
1997	28,322	58.5	26,403	54.1	20,085	41.5
1998	25,346	62.5	19,492	47.6	15,209	37.5
1999	31,401	65.4	22,144	44.7	16,611	34.6
2000	31,914	67.3	22,850	44.2	15,508	32.7
All other reviews of SSI disabled children						
1994	—	—	—	—	—	—
1995	2,730	77.2	1,034	29.3	805	22.8
1996	485	61.5	390	49.4	304	38.5
1997	9	69.2	6	42.9	4	30.8
1998	72,760	80.3	23,954	26.3	17,902	19.7
1999	140,349	78.5	53,791	29.4	38,463	21.5
2000	111,773	84.2	34,116	24.2	21,033	15.8
Total reviews, SSI disabled children						
1994	830	67.8	454	37.1	395	32.2
1995	5,117	65.3	3,189	40.7	2,720	34.7
1996	12,333	64.4	8,090	42.3	6,805	35.6
1997	33,150	59.7	29,018	51.9	22,336	40.3
1998	105,649	71.0	54,974	36.7	43,085	29.0
1999	176,513	74.7	81,594	33.6	59,896	25.3
2000	148,701	78.4	62,578	30.9	41,006	21.6

[1] Data reflect results as of February 2001. The ultimate number of continuations and cessations are subject to change until all appeals are final.

[2] The numbers of fiscal year 1999 decisions and continuations at the initial decision level may differ from totals reported in the 2000 SSI Annual Report due to subsequent updates to administrative data.

[3] Percentage of decisions at this level.

[4] Percentage of cessations at this level appealed to next level.

[5] Includes cases appealed to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, but not cases appealed beyond OHA to the Federal courts. These excluded cases have a minimal impact on the number of continuations.

[6] Number of persons appealing beyond the reconsideration level.

[7] Includes cases remanded to OHA from the Federal courts.

[8] Percentage of initial decisions excluding appealed cases pending decisions.

[9] Percentage of initial decisions.

E. INCENTIVES FOR WORK AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR REHABILITATION

1. Work Incentives

Since the beginning of the SSI program, a number of disabled recipients have worked and received SSI payments. Initially, the program contained a basic earned income exclusion that recognized the additional costs associated with employment. In addition, the law contained a number of special income exclusions which were intended as work incentives. Among these provisions were the income exclusion for blind work expenses (BWE), plans for achieving self-support (PASS), and student earned income exclusion (SEIE).

In the 1980 amendments to the Social Security Act, Congress provided additional incentives to help SSI disabled recipients become self-supporting. These incentives included:

- Providing for an earned income exclusion for impairment-related work expenses (IRWE);
- Changing the treatment of sheltered workshop earnings from unearned income to earned income, thereby qualifying sheltered workshop earnings for the earned income exclusion;
- Providing for the continuation of SSI payments for certain disabled individuals enrolled in vocational rehabilitation programs whose disability ceased due to medical recovery (extended to SSI blind recipients, effective April, 1988);
- Establishing section 1619 which provided:
  - — In subsection 1619(a), special SSI cash benefits to disabled individuals who lose eligibility for SSI payments because they have earnings exceeding the level that is ordinarily considered to represent substantial gainful activity (SGA), and
  - — In subsection 1619(b), special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes to working disabled or blind individuals when their earnings make them ineligible for cash payments.

The incentives for work and opportunities for rehabilitation are discussed in more detail in section III.E. In the tables that follow we provide historical information on participation by SSI recipients in work incentive programs. [1]

a. Numbers of Participants in Work Incentive Programs

In this section, we present historical data on participation by SSI recipients in work incentive programs. Table V.E1 presents historical numbers of SSI recipients categorized according to their section 1619 status. Figure V.E1 presents the same information in graphical form.

[1] More detailed information on participation by SSI recipients in work incentive programs is provided in the *Quarterly Report on SSI Disabled Workers and Work Incentive Provisions* prepared by the Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics, Social Security Administration.

Table V.E1.—SSI Federally-Administered Blind or Disabled Working Recipients as of December, 1987-2000

Year	In current-payment status: 1619(a) workers [1]	In current-payment status: Other workers [2]	1619(b) workers [3]	Total workers
1987	14,559	142,664	15,632	172,855
1988	19,920	153,599	15,625	189,144
1989	25,655	161,928	18,254	205,837
1990	13,994	182,421	23,517	219,932
1991	15,531	186,824	27,264	229,619
1992	17,603	199,665	31,649	248,917
1993	20,028	210,322	35,299	265,649
1994	24,315	217,478	40,683	282,476
1995	28,060	223,573	47,002	298,635
1996	31,085	225,310	51,905	308,300
1997	34,673	228,093	57,089	319,855
1998	37,271	229,662	59,542	326,475
1999	25,528	245,825	69,265	340,618
2000	27,542	249,313	83,572	360,427

[1] In January, 1990, the SGA level was raised from $300 to $500 and section 1619(a) participants with earnings at or below $500 became eligible for regular SSI benefits rather than the special cash payments under section 1619(a). The SGA level was further increased to $700 in July 1999 and $740 in January 2001. Increases in the SGA level in subsequent years will be based on increases in the national average wage index.

[2] Workers' earnings are at or below the SGA level.

[3] 1619(b) recipients are not in current-payment status but retain SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Figure V.E1.—SSI Federally-Administered Blind or Disabled Working Recipients as of December, 1987-2000
[In thousands]

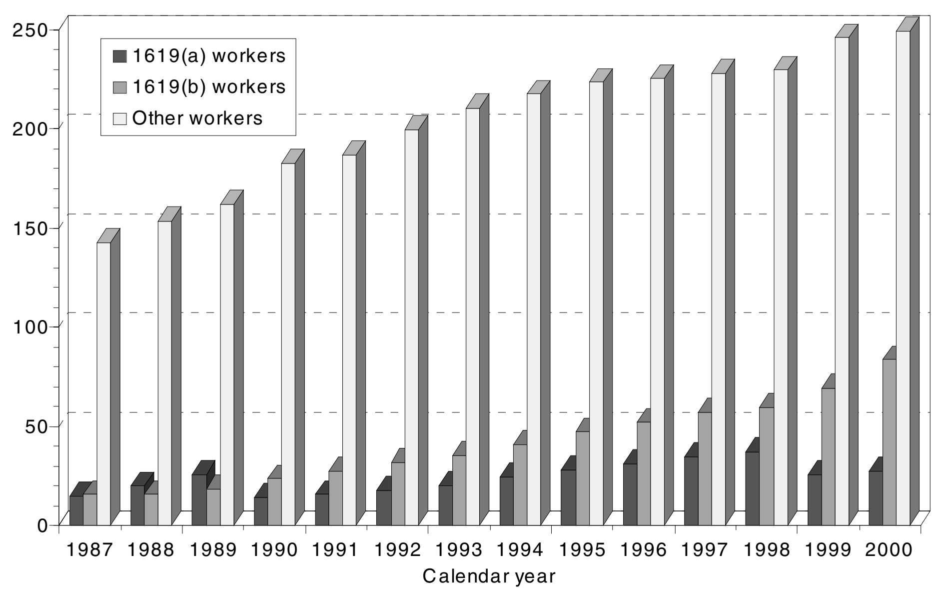


Table V.E2 presents historical numbers of SSI recipients who benefit from other selected work incentive provisions: (1) plan for achieving self-support (PASS), (2) impairment-related work expense exclusion (IRWE), and (3) blind work expense exclusion (BWE). These recipients may be benefiting from more than one of these selected work incentive provisions. This information is available only for calendar years 1990 and later.

Table V.E2.—SSI Federally-Administered Blind or Disabled Individuals with SSI Recipient Status Participating in Other Work Incentives as of December, 1990-2000

	PASS [1]				
Year	Non-workers	Workers	Total	IRWE	BWE
1990	1,215	1,040	2,255	5,384	4,385
1991	1,969	1,601	3,570	6,546	4,330
1992	3,189	2,658	5,847	7,813	4,454
1993	4,528	3,602	8,130	8,629	4,406
1994	5,842	4,487	10,329	9,484	4,380
1995	5,719	4,603	10,322	9,940	4,433
1996	2,760	1,944	4,704	9,799	4,230
1997	1,290	708	1,998	9,637	4,116
1998	712	362	1,074	9,301	3,802
1999	698	347	1,045	9,520	3,971
2000	862	520	1,382	9,422	3,895

[1] For years 1990 through 1996, data do not include PASS plans which exclude only resources.

Note: Working recipients participating in these other work incentives may be 1619(a) recipients, 1619(b) recipients or working recipients whose earnings are at or below the SGA level.

b. *Average Earnings of Participants in Work Incentive Programs*

In this section, we present historical data on average earnings of SSI working recipients. Table V.E3 presents average earnings of SSI recipients categorized according to their section 1619 status.

Table V.E3.—Average Monthly Earnings of SSI Federally-Administered Blind or Disabled Working Recipients, as of December, 1987-2000

	Blind or disabled workers with SSI recipient status			
	In current-payment status		1619(b)	Total
Year	1619(a) workers [1]	Other workers [2]	workers [3]	workers
1987	$494	[4] $124	$739	[4] $211
1988	522	[4] 127	721	[4] 218
1989	518	[4] 131	712	[4] 231
1990	712	145	746	245
1991	724	148	780	262
1992	726	150	781	271
1993	728	153	784	280
1994	746	157	803	301
1995	754	160	834	322
1996	764	162	881	344
1997	772	164	932	367
1998	772	182	954	390
1999	926	207	980	418
2000	945	239	1,048	481

[1] In January, 1990, the SGA level was raised from $300 to $500 and section 1619(a) participants with earnings at or below $500 became eligible for regular SSI benefits rather than the special cash payments under section 1619(a). The SGA level was further increased to $700 in July 1999 and $740 in January 2001. Increases in the SGA level in subsequent years will be based on increases in the national average wage index.

[2] Workers' earnings are at or below the SGA level.

[3] 1619(b) recipients are not in current-payment status but retain SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes.

[4] Estimated.

2. Vocational Rehabilitation/Ticket to Work Program

Since the inception of the SSI program, SSA has made provision for blind or disabled individuals who are receiving SSI benefits to be referred to State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies. The 1980 amendments provided for the continuation of SSI payments for certain disabled individuals enrolled in VR programs whose disability ceased due to medical recovery. This benefit continuation provision applied only if the VR program was approved by SSA and SSA determined that continuation or completion of such program would increase the likelihood that the individual will be permanently removed from the SSI rolls. This provision was extended to SSI blind recipients effective April, 1988. In 1994, regulations were amended to provide access to alternate private and non-State public VR providers when a State VR agency does not serve an SSI recipient whom SSA refers for services.

From the beginning of the SSI program through 1981, SSA made block grants to VR agencies to fund services to disabled beneficiaries. The 1981 amendments established reimbursement provisions so that VR agencies would be reimbursed for the cost of VR services furnished to blind or disabled SSI recipients only if the services result in the recipient returning to work.[1] In 1994, these reimbursement procedures were amended by regulation to include reimbursement of alternate providers. For reimbursement purposes, recipients are considered to have returned to work if they have had earnings exceeding the SGA level for 9 continuous months. Effective with the 1990 amendments, reimbursement for the cost of VR services was authorized for services provided in months in which the individual was not receiving Federal SSI benefits if the individual:

- Had special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes under subsection 1619(b) of the Social Security Act,
- Received a Federally-administered State supplementary payment, or
- Had SSI benefits suspended for fewer than 13 consecutive months for a reason other than cessation of disability or blindness.

The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 ("the Ticket legislation") established a Ticket to Work program under which a disabled beneficiary will be able to obtain vocational rehabilitation, employment and other support services from a qualified private or public provider. Providers of such services in this new setting will be referred to as "employment networks" (ENs). In addition, the Ticket legislation provided for a new procedure for compensating the ENs under an outcome or outcome-milestone payment system to be specified under regulations issued by the Commissioner. By expanding the pool of providers and giving the providers incentives for achieving success, this program seeks to expand a disabled beneficiary's access to these services in order to assist the beneficiary in finding, entering, and retaining employment and reducing his/her dependence on cash benefits.

The Ticket to Work program will be implemented on a State-by-State basis over a 3-year period. Once the Ticket to Work program is implemented in a State, the traditional VR referral process described earlier will be eliminated in that State, and SSA will provide eligible individuals who receive SSI benefits due to blindness or disability in such State with a Ticket to Work document ("ticket"). These individuals may use the ticket to obtain the vocational rehabilitation services, employment services and other support services needed to return to work, or go to work for the first time.

Until the Ticket to Work program is fully implemented, the State VR agencies and alternate providers under the traditional system can continue to receive compensation under the cost reimbursement system described above. However, once the Ticket to Work program is fully implemented only the State VR agencies will have the option on a case-by-case basis of electing to remain under the traditional VR compensa-

[1] Reimbursement may be made in cases where the recipient medically recovers while engaged in a program of rehabilitation services approved by SSA and SSA determines that continuation or completion of such program increases the likelihood the individual will be permanently removed from the rolls.

tion system. At that time, ENs will be the only other providers of VR services for disabled beneficiaries and will be compensated through the new outcome-based system.

Pursuant to the Ticket legislation requirement that SSA establish a corps of work incentives specialists to disseminate accurate information with respect to work incentives, SSA has created the Employment Support Representative (ESR) position. ESRs will provide information about SSA's employment support programs to (1) disabled beneficiaries who want to work, (2) applicants for disability benefits and their families, (3) providers of vocational rehabilitation and employment support services, and (4) potential employers. SSA is currently "piloting" this position in 50 sites across the country and will use the results from the pilot study to help determine how best to implement this ESR position on a national basis.

Table V.E4 provides historical data on the number of reimbursement claims allowed and the amount of such awards for SSI recipients.

Table V.E4.—Vocational Rehabilitation Reimbursement Claims Allowed, Fiscal Years 1987-2000

	Concurrent title II/XVI claims		Title XVI only claims		Total claims	
Fiscal year	Number	Amount [1] (in thousands)	Number	Amount (in thousands)	Number	Amount [1] (in thousands)
1987	(2)	(2)	1,493	$10,010	(2)	(2)
1988	(2)	(2)	1,720	14,831	(2)	(2)
1989	(2)	(2)	1,871	18,366	(2)	(2)
1990	1,267	$3,290	2,819	22,832	4,086	$26,122
1991	1,445	4,325	2,171	20,615	3,616	24,940
1992	1,634	5,312	2,834	28,276	4,468	33,588
1993	1,928	6,670	2,158	22,264	4,086	28,934
1994	1,880	7,057	2,074	23,400	3,954	30,457
1995	2,140	7,761	2,229	26,402	4,369	34,162
1996	2,033	6,518	2,138	24,334	4,171	30,852
1997	2,735	8,541	2,914	31,532	5,649	40,073
1998	3,329	10,089	3,446	36,313	6,775	46,402
1999	3,572	11,403	4,046	42,281	7,618	53,684
2000	3,260	11,357	3,589	40,793	6,849	52,150

[1] For concurrent title II/XVI claims, amounts shown represent title XVI portion of claim.

[2] For fiscal years 1987-89, data on title II reimbursement claims involving concurrent title XVI reimbursement claims are not available.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

F. INVOLVEMENT OF SSI RECIPIENTS IN OTHER PROGRAMS

In this appendix we present data on participation by SSI recipients in other programs. Certain information is available from the Supplemental Security Record (SSR), the main administrative file for the SSI program. Data summarized from the SSR are very representative of the overall SSI recipient population since the information is based on a 100-percent extract or, for certain information, on a 10-percent extract from the SSR. Data from the SSR are presented in section 1 below.

There are other potential sources for information on SSI recipients that are not available on the SSI administrative files. One source in particular is the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)[1], a U.S. Census Bureau sample survey that collects information such as the source and amount of income, program participation and general demographic characteristics for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population. Data from the SIPP are presented in section 2.

1. Program Participation Data from the Supplemental Security Record (SSR)

Since the amount of an individual's income is used to determine both the eligibility for, and the amount of his/her SSI benefit, it is necessary for the SSR to contain information on participation by SSI recipients in certain other programs which may provide countable income to the SSI recipient. A significant number of SSI recipients are Social Security beneficiaries whose total countable income, including OASDI benefits, is less than the Federal benefit rate plus the amount of applicable Federally-administered State supplementary payment. A smaller number of SSI recipients participate in other programs and receive income such as Worker's Compensation benefits or disability cash benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SSA does not maintain complete information in its administrative files concerning the involvement of SSI recipients in other assistance programs because under the law payments from such programs are excluded from countable income attributable to the individual. We do, however, have some data with regard to entitlement to benefits under two other programs—Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) (which replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)) and State Interim Assistance Reimbursement—at the point that the individual applied for SSI benefits. TANF (and AFDC previously) is a State program funded under Part A of title IV of the Social Security Act. Interim assistance is assistance a State gives to SSI applicants in cash or vendor payments for meeting basic needs while they are awaiting the outcome of the SSI eligibility determination process.

Table V.F1 presents percentages of SSI recipients who (1) concurrently receive payments from certain other selected programs or (2) have previously been enrolled in TANF/AFDC or received Interim Assistance Reimbursement.

[1] The SIPP is a sample survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, which collects data on the civilian noninstitutionalized U.S. population. The SIPP is comprised of a continuous series of national panels which are identified by the year in which interviewing began for that panel. The participants in the panel are divided into four groups, with each group being interviewed monthly on a rotating basis concerning the 4 months prior to the month of interview. The data are released in waves, where 4 months of interviews comprise a wave. Due to the design of the survey, in each wave there is only 1 month for which the data are collected for all participants. For 3 out of 4 months for which data are collected, the information for the month will be collected by interviews conducted under two separate waves. The data presented here are for December 1998 which was included in interview months of both Waves 9 and 10 of the 1996 Panel.

Table V.F1.—Percentage of SSI Federally-Administered Recipients in Current-Payment Status with Participation[1] in Selected Programs Based on SSA Administrative Records, December, 2000

	Male			Female			
	0-17	18-64	65 or older	0-17	18-64	65 or older	All
Number of Federally-administered recipients, December, 2000 (in thousands)	539	1,627	570	308	2,117	1,440	6,602
Program	(In percent)						
Program participation by SSI recipients, December, 2000							
Federal SSI	99.7	95.6	91.8	99.7	97.0	93.2	95.7
Federally-administered State SSI supplementation	28.5	36.9	50.4	27.8	34.5	43.3	37.6
OASDI	7.3	31.8	55.9	7.2	29.1	60.4	36.1
Black Lung	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Railroad Retirement	(2)	(2)	0.1	(2)	(2)	0.1	0.1
Veterans Affairs disability cash benefits	0.2	0.6	1.1	0.2	0.8	3.8	1.4
Worker's Compensation	(2)	0.1	0.1	(2)	0.1	(2)	0.1
Previous program participation by SSI recipients, December, 2000							
TANF/AFDC	50.7	16.3	7.0	47.7	32.0	7.7	22.9
Interim Assistance Reimbursement	0.4	17.4	8.1	0.4	14.7	7.7	11.4

[1] SSI recipients or the households of SSI recipients may participate in more than one of these programs.

[2] Less than 0.05 percent of SSI recipients in this gender/age grouping participate in the program.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

2. Program Participation Data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

In this section we present information on program participation by SSI recipients or households of SSI recipients which is not available from SSA administrative files. This information is based on data collected by interviews conducted under Waves 9 and 10 of the 1996 SIPP and then matched to SSA administrative records. The reference month of December, 1998 is used since that is the most recent December for which data are available. Since the 1996 Panel consists of 36,700 households, the sample of households including SSI recipients is small. The individuals in the sample represent only 0.02 percent of SSI noninstitutionalized recipients in December, 1998. Therefore great care should be taken in using this information to make generalizations about the overall SSI recipient population. The data are presented in table V.F2.

Table V.F2.—Percentage of Noninstitutionalized SSI Federally-Administered Recipients in Current-Payment Status with Participation[1] in Selected Programs Based on Data Collected Under Waves 9 and 10 of the Survey of Income and Program Participation, December, 1998

	Male			Female			
	0-17	18-64	65 or older	0-17	18-64	65 or older	All
Number of surveyed individuals reporting SSI Income, December, 1998	107	335	133	76	491	405	1,547
Number of surveyed individuals as a percentage of noninstitutionalized Federally-administered recipients, December, 1998 (in percent)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
Program	(In percent)						
Program participation by SSI recipients, December, 1998							
General assistance	(2)	0.5	0.8	(2)	2.3	0.4	1.0
Medicaid	79.6	89.9	91.9	78.4	90.8	92.3	89.4
Medicare	(2)	32.2	77.7	(2)	27.8	88.0	41.4
School breakfast/lunch	78.6	0.8	(2)	75.9	0.5	(2)	10.8
TANF	(2)	1.9	0.5	1.2	11.8	1.0	4.5
Unemployment insurance	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	4.4	(2)	1.4
Program participation by households of SSI recipients, December, 1998							
Energy assistance	11.7	10.9	9.4	7.3	13.6	10.3	11.4
Housing assistance	9.8	6.6	6.6	11.9	12.4	8.6	9.4
Food stamps	37.0	39.3	31.2	36.2	50.9	42.5	42.6

[1] SSI recipients or the households of SSI recipients may participate in more than one of these programs.

[2] Less than 0.05 percent of SSI recipients in this gender/age grouping participate in the program.

G. BIBLIOGRAPHY OF RESEARCH ON RELATED TOPICS

The legislative mandate for this report requires inclusion of summaries of "relevant research on the SSI program by the Social Security Administration (SSA) and others." Given the volume of research that has been done since the inception of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, we concluded that we could most effectively optimize interested readers' access to this information by developing a comprehensive bibliography, rather than by attempting to synopsize numerous, sometimes lengthy and complex documents. In addition, in this and future reports, we expect to provide summary information on certain current research projects related to the SSI program. Section 1 below presents information on six external projects commissioned by SSA and one internal policy research project. Publicly available versions of the results of these studies will be published on the Internet at http://www.ssa.gov/policy.

Section 2 presents a list of reference sources that include studies and reports regarding various aspects of the SSI program prepared by, or under contract for, the Social Security Administration. The list also includes information gleaned from the extensive holdings of the Library of Congress regarding studies that have been conducted by public and private entities regarding SSI payment levels, recipients, and reform proposals. It is not intended to be an exhaustive compilation of relevant studies.

1. Research Topics

a. Policy Evaluation of the Effects of the 1996 Welfare Reform Legislation on SSI Benefits for Children with Disabilities

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 substantially tightened the childhood SSI eligibility criteria. This legislation also requires that all SSI children be redetermined based on the adult disability criteria after turning 18 years of age. SSA has awarded a policy evaluation task order contract to the RAND Corporation to design a study of both the net effect of this legislation on SSA's caseloads and program costs and the impact of losing SSI benefits on the children affected by the law. Through this contract, SSA sought to obtain answers to the following questions:

- What are the characteristics of the children who are affected by the legislation?
- What is the impact of the legislation on children with disabilities who were receiving SSI benefits prior to welfare reform?
- What is the overall net impact of welfare reform on SSI caseloads and costs, taking into account both terminations and new allowances?

This study will provide descriptive and quantitative estimates of the effects of the legislation on the children who were on the rolls prior to the enactment of the legislation through analyses of SSA administrative data and currently available survey data. In addition, the study will provide estimates of the net effect of the legislation on the number of children on the SSI rolls, total benefit years, and program cost, accounting for both terminations and new allowances. Qualitative data are collected through a limited number of case studies of affected children, their families, and service providers in four States. The study by the RAND Corporation is expected to be completed soon. After internal review of the results, findings of the study will be available on SSA's website.

b. Design and Implementation of Survey of Children with Disabilities

Due to the widely acknowledged shortcomings of existing data sources for evaluating the effects of welfare reform on SSI children and for tracking SSI children unaffected by welfare reform, SSA has undertaken to design and implement a national survey of children with disabilities. The last formal, nationally representative survey of SSI children was conducted for SSA in 1978 by Urban Systems Research & Engineering, Inc. Among the questions the survey will be designed to answer are the following:

- What is the cost of caring for a disabled child?
- What are the uses of SSI benefits?
- What alternative sources of care are available to disabled children who lose SSI benefits?
- How is quality of life and utilization of medical services impacted by gaining or losing SSI benefits?
- What is the impact of receiving childhood SSI benefits on parental labor force participation?

The goal is to collect data that will allow SSA to further evaluate the effects of welfare reform on SSI children and their families, as well as to evaluate future changes to the SSI program that may affect children. This project consists of two broad activities: survey design and survey implementation. SSA has awarded a survey design task order contract to Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. Mathematica's tasks include designing the sampling plan, developing the survey instrument, pre-testing the survey instrument, and drafting an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance package. SSA competitively awarded a contract to Mathematica to conduct the survey. Data collection will begin in Summer, 2001, and should be completed in Spring, 2002.

c. Policy Evaluation of the Overall Effects of Welfare Reform on SSA Programs

Future cutbacks in non-SSA welfare programs may result in increased applications among some groups of people. Awards to such applicants would increase the growth of SSA's disability programs and program costs. Thus, while some aspects of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (such as provisions restricting the eligibility of children) are expected to decrease SSA caseloads and program costs, other changes (most notably the replacement of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program by block grants for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) may work in the opposite direction. Therefore, a comprehensive and unbiased evaluation of the overall net effects of the welfare reform legislation must take account of the effect of non-SSA welfare reform provisions on SSA's programs. A task order contract was awarded to the Lewin Group to propose an evaluation design for the Welfare Reform Act's effect on non-SSA programs that might affect applications and awards for SSA programs. The study proposes that the effects should be measured in combination with specific State demonstrations in selected States. The report reviews the characteristics of many State demonstrations and highlights State evaluation projects in California, Connecticut, Florida, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Using nationally representative data before welfare reform and State-to-State variations before welfare reform, the study assesses the likely magnitude and direction of indirect welfare reform effects on SSA caseloads in the future. The study concludes that they cannot be precisely measured with national level survey data matched to SSA records or with State-to-State differences across time. As part of the analysis, the project provides descriptive survey data of SSI participants by age and gender and statistically analyzes the transition onto SSI with these data. In addition, it develops an analytic framework and methodology for future retrospective studies of the overall effects of welfare reform on SSA caseloads, and includes a systematic assessment of existing and potential new data collection necessary to track the longer-term effects of welfare reform on SSA caseloads.

d. Project NetWork

The Project NetWork demonstration was SSA's first large-scale initiative to assist DI beneficiaries and SSI applicants and recipients in returning to employment through a combination of intensive outreach and case management services. A rigorous evaluation component based on a randomized field experiment design has been an integral part of the demonstration design. Under contract with SSA, Abt Associates, Inc. is conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the Project NetWork demonstration. Because of their richness, the databases that are potentially available from the demonstration can be utilized to conduct studies focusing on issues relevant for targeting future SSA return-to-work initiatives. The narrower objectives of the project focus on the Project NetWork case management approach. With help from contractors, a comprehensive administrative records database has been developed by SSA staff containing detailed information on:

- 8,248 Project NetWork participants randomly assigned to receive case management services or to a control group, and
- 138,613 eligible nonparticipants living in the demonstration areas.

The database includes information on the receipt of SSI and DI benefits and earnings, prior to the demonstration period through the post-demonstration period, and a set of demographic and diagnostic variables. A wide array of survey data has been collected on a random sample of project eligibles—covering all DI beneficiaries and SSI applicants and recipients—living in the demonstration areas. Both project participants who volunteered for the demonstration and nonparticipants have been interviewed at baseline. The survey data file contains information on both economic and non-economic variables affecting the decision to volunteer for return-to-work programs that is not available from SSA administrative record systems; for example, the survey has detailed information on functional limitations, health (including mental health status), cognitive functioning, motivation, and substance abuse. Study findings focus on the feasibility of applying case management on a large scale, the feasibility of reaching out to hard-to-serve segments of beneficiaries and applicants, and measures of project outcomes.

The core of the evaluation was the measurement of the net effects of case management on participant earnings, benefit receipt and other outcomes based on a randomized field experiment design. The results show that Project NetWork produced modest net benefits to persons with disabilities and net costs to taxpayers. Persons with disabilities gained mainly because the increases in their earnings easily outweighed the small (if any) reduction in average SSI and SSDI benefits. For the Social Security Administration and the Federal Government as a whole, the costs borne by Project NetWork were not sufficiently offset by increases in tax receipts from increased earnings or by reductions in average SSI and SSDI benefits. While the results cannot be directly generalized to other case management interventions, they are nevertheless instructive for planning new initiatives. This comprehensive experimental analysis has shown the benefits of using an experimental design to derive realistic net outcome estimates and has provided numerous other lessons for the design of future demonstrations.

e. State Partnership Return-to-Work Demonstrations—Design and Implementation of the Net Outcomes Evaluation

In the fall of 1998, the Social Security Administration's Office of Disability and Income Security Programs (SSA/ODISP) and the Department of Education's Rehabilitation Services Administration (ED/RSA) announced the award of 12 SSA and 6 RSA projects with annual funding (renewable for 5 years) under State Partnership agreements and grants. These projects are designed to assist States in developing alternative program structures and service delivery systems that increase the successful employment of persons with disabilities who are receiving SSI and SSDI. A technical assistance, monitoring and data collection contract was also awarded by SSA/ODISP at that time to facilitate consistent cross-site data collection from these demonstrations.

In the Spring of 1999, SSA's Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (SSA/ORES) awarded Mathematica an 18-month task-order contract to evaluate the net impact of these projects. Mathematica designed a two-part comprehensive evaluation of the net-outcomes produced by the State demonstrations. The Core net-outcome evaluation will rely primarily on SSA administrative data and will use appropriate statistical methods to define comparison groups and determine the net impact of the State demonstrations on participants. To the extent made possible by the quality of additional demonstration data from the States, Mathematica will also implement a Supplemental net-outcome evaluation. Both of these aspects of the contract will focus primarily on the evaluation designs, but the contractor will be required to test and implement these evaluations for participants through the term of the task order. Formal descriptions of State projects have been reviewed and accepted for the State Partnership demonstrations. Based on this review, all 12 projects will continue to receive SSA funding. The descriptions identify the specifics of the demonstration activity and evaluation of outcomes.

f. Ticket to Work

The evaluation of the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency program will examine the following:

- Total and net costs of the program,
- The impact of the program on beneficiary work outcomes and reliance on SSA benefits,
- The individual and service provision characteristics of service providers and provider networks,
- The appeal of the program among the eligible population, and
- The satisfaction of participants with the program in general.

To the degree possible, the evaluation will utilize information from SSA administrative data and from the Ticket to Work implementation process. Such data will be insufficient, however, to cover many of the evaluation topics required under the legislation. This will be especially true for eligible non-participants and comparison individuals in areas where the Ticket program is not fully implemented. A significant survey effort will therefore be required to supply the necessary supplemental information to meet these evaluation requirements. Due to the relatively short implementation time line of the program, the evaluation will have two components. The first phase involves a task order contract to provide data development from existing sources, design of the supplemental data survey, and design of the specific evaluation components to meet the legislative requirements. SSA awarded an evaluation design contract to the Lewin Group which had a meeting with a technical support group to discuss a preliminary design proposal. The contractor will prepare a design for evaluating outcomes from the Ticket to Work provision of the law. The second phase will utilize a multiyear contract to carry out the supplemental data survey and evaluation design, and provide the congressional evaluation reports mandated in the law.

g. Modeling Participation in SSI and Simulating the Effects of Policy Options Utilizing SSA's Financial Eligibility Model

Using Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) data matched to administrative records, SSA researchers developed a model of financial eligibility which has been used to estimate the rate of participation among eligible elderly and the effects of various policy options to modify the parameters of the SSI program. The model suggests that the rate of participation among eligible elderly was about 63 percent in 1991. The model was also utilized to simulate the potential effects of several approaches to expand the SSI program to fight poverty among the elderly. The proposals involved alternatives to the current income and asset eligibility rules. The model has several advantages over previous studies. The model improves the modeling of the decision to participate in SSI because administrative records on participation are utilized rather than less reliable survey self-reports. Also, a methodology has been developed which allows for the assessment of the alternatives in a directly comparable, cost-equivalent manner. For an additional amount of proposed program spending, the potential impact of each policy alternative has been evaluated. The estimates suggest that a number of relatively low-cost options are available to provide greater income support to the economically most vulnerable elderly. Approaches focusing on incremental changes in the Federal benefit rate (FBR), the general income exclusion (GIE), and the asset test appear roughly equally effective in reducing the poverty gap among the elderly on a cost-equivalent basis, while two approaches focusing on relaxing the earned income exclusion appear to be clearly inferior as a means of reducing the poverty gap among the elderly.

The financial eligibility model has been utilized to study eligibility for other Federal programs, specifically for Medicare buy-in programs. Current work on SSI focuses on evaluating the effect of alternative policy interventions on economically vulnerable elderly women, on the updating of the model to more recent SIPP panels, and on utilizing various indices of poverty to better measure the effectiveness of SSI policy options in reducing poverty.

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H. GLOSSARY

Administrative Expenses (or Costs). Expenses incurred by the Social Security Administration (SSA) in administering the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. Such administrative expenses are initially paid from the OASI and DI Trust Funds as provided for in section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act. The trust funds are subsequently reimbursed for such expenditures from the General Fund of the Treasury.

Affidavit of Support. A contract under which a United States citizen or legal resident agrees to provide support to maintain (i.e., to sponsor) an immigrant as a condition of the immigrant's admission into the United States.

Aged. Individuals aged 65 or older.

Aid—Old-Age Assistance (OAA), Aid to the Blind (AB), and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD). The former Federal-State programs of adult cash assistance under titles I, X, and XVI respectively, that were replaced in the 50 States and the District of Columbia by the SSI program in 1974. These programs still operate in Guam, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico and are administered at the Federal level by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Alien Lawfully Admitted for Permanent Residence. A noncitizen lawfully accorded the privilege of residing permanently in the United States. Such individuals may be issued immigrant visas overseas by the Department of State, or adjusted to permanent resident status while living in the United States by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Appeal Rights Process. The administrative review process followed by SSA in determining an individual's rights under the Social Security Act. The administrative review process consists of several steps, which must be requested after the initial determination of eligibility, within certain time periods and in the following order: (1) reconsideration, (2) hearing before an administrative law judge, and (3) an Appeals Council review. SSA introduced a modification of this process in 10 States for disability applications filed October 1, 1999 and later. Under this revised process appeals of initial disability denials are made directly to the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA), thereby eliminating the reconsideration step. The options for appeal beyond the OHA level are unchanged.

Assistance Based on Need. Assistance that is provided by certain programs which use income as a factor of eligibility. The assistance must be funded wholly by a State, a political subdivision of a State, or a combination of such jurisdictions.

Assumptions. Values relating to future trends in certain key factors which affect the eligibility for SSI benefits and the level of such SSI payments. Demographic assumptions include fertility, mortality, net immigration, marriage, divorce, retirement patterns, disability incidence and termination rates, and changes in the labor force. Economic assumptions include unemployment, average earnings, inflation, interest rates, and productivity. The assumptions underlying the projections presented in this report are consistent with the intermediate assumptions of the 2001 OASDI Trustees Report.

Asylee. A noncitizen already in the United States or at a port-of-entry who is granted asylum in the United States. Asylum may be granted to an individual who is unable or unwilling to return to his/her country of nationality, or to seek the protection of that country, because of persecution (or a well-founded fear of persecution) based on the noncitizen's race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion.

Attendant Care Services. Services (including personal care assistance) that are paid for from Federal, State or local funds and which are provided by a paid attendant required to assist with work related and/or personal functions.

Automatic Cost-of-Living Increase. The annual increase in SSI Federal benefit rates, effective for January, reflecting the change in the cost of living. The increase equals the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers measured from the average over July, August, and September of the preceding year to the average for the same 3 months in the current year. If the increase is less than one-tenth of 1 percent, when rounded, there is no automatic increase for the current year; the increase for the next year would reflect the increase in the cost of living over a 2-year period.

Award. An administrative determination that an individual is eligible for an SSI benefit.

Blind. For purposes of the SSI program, an individual is considered to be blind if he/she has 20/200 or less vision in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens, has tunnel vision of 20 degrees or less, or met the October 1972 State definition of blindness and received benefits under the State's former program of Aid to the Blind in December 1973.

Blind Work Expenses (BWE). Any expenses incurred by a blind individual that are reasonably attributable to earning income. The BWE provision permits the exclusion of these expenses from the earned income of a blind individual. (See "Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE)" for the related exclusions for disabled individuals.)

Burial Funds. A comprehensive term that for SSI purposes includes revocable burial contracts, trusts and other burial arrangements (including amounts paid on installment sales contracts for burial spaces), cash, accounts, or other financial instruments with a definite cash value clearly designated for the individual's burial expenses.

Child. An unmarried blind or disabled individual who is not the head of a household and who is either under age 18 or aged 18-21 and regularly attending school.

Comparable Severity. The phrase in the Social Security Act that defined disability for children prior to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-193). Under prior law, an individual under age 18 would have been considered disabled if he/she had an impairment of comparable severity to that required for individuals 18 or older.

Constant Dollars. Dollar amounts adjusted by the CPI to the value of the dollar in a particular year.

Consumer Price Index—CPI. Relative measure of inflation. In this report, all references to the CPI relate to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

Continuing Disability Review (CDR). An evaluation of an individual's impairment(s) to determine whether the person is still disabled within the meaning of the law for purposes of eligibility for SSI and OASDI benefits.

Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA). See "Automatic Cost-of-Living Increase."

Countable Income. An individual's income less all-applicable exclusions. This amount is used to determine SSI eligibility.

Countable Resources. The amount of resources after all exclusions. This amount is used in determining an individual's or couple's SSI eligibility. A resource may be cash or other liquid assets or any real or personal property that an individual (or his/her spouse) owns and could convert to cash to be used for their support and maintenance. SSI law stipulates what items are to be excluded from resources.

Current Dollars. Amounts expressed in nominal dollars with no adjustment for inflationary changes in the value of the dollar over time.

Current-Payment Status. Status of an SSI recipient to whom a benefit is being paid for a given month. SSI benefits for a month are usually payable on the first day of that month.

Dedicated Account. A bank account established for a disabled or blind child to contain retroactive SSI payments that exceed six times the Federal benefit rate (FBR) plus State supplementation (certain smaller retroactive payments may be placed in the account once it is established). Funds may be used for:

- Education,
- Personal needs assistance,
- Special equipment or housing modifications,
- Medical treatment,
- Therapy or rehabilitation, or
- Other items or services that the Commissioner deems appropriate—

provided that the expense benefits the child and, in the case of the last four items, is related to the child's impairment. Money from a dedicated account which is misapplied must be repaid. These accounts are excluded from resources and the interest earned is excluded from income.

Deeming. The process by which the income and resources of an ineligible individual are considered to be available to a recipient when determining eligibility or payment amount. Deeming applies only between:

- The living-with ineligible spouse and the eligible spouse,
- The living-with ineligible parent(s) and eligible child(ren) under age 18, and
- The immigration sponsors of some noncitizens and the noncitizen(s).

Demographic Assumptions. See "Assumptions."

Disability. For individuals aged 18 or older, the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity (SGA) by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or that has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of at least 12 months. An individual under age 18 must have a medically determinable physical or mental impairment, which results in marked and severe functional limitations and which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.

Disability Determination Services (DDS). Federally funded State agencies that make disability determinations for SSA.

Disaster Assistance. Assistance from Federal programs and agencies, joint Federal and State programs, State or local government programs, and private organizations (e.g., the Red Cross) provided to victims of a Presidentially declared disaster.

Disposal of Resources for Less Than Fair Market Value. Transferring resources, either liquid, real, or personal property, for less than the resources are worth.

Earned Income. For SSI purposes, wages, net earnings from self-employment, remuneration for work in a sheltered workshop, royalties on published work, and honoraria for services rendered are considered earned income. The distinction between earned and unearned income is significant because more liberal exclusions are applied to earned income.

Earned Income Exclusion. The first $65 of a recipient's monthly earnings and one-half of the earnings in excess of $65 are excluded in computing the SSI benefit payable.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). A special tax credit that reduces the Federal tax liability of certain low-income working taxpayers. This tax credit may or may not result in a payment to the taxpayer.

Effective Date of Application. An application for SSI benefits is effective on the first day of the month following the date on which the application is filed, or on which the individual first becomes eligible, whichever is later.

Eligible Couple. Two persons married and living together in the same household or living together as married, both being aged, blind, or disabled and eligible for SSI.

Eligible Individual. An aged, blind or disabled person who meets all the requirements for eligibility under the SSI program, including filing an application.

Emergency Advance Payments (EAP). Special SSI payments that are available only at the time of initial application for eligible individuals who face financial emergencies and need assistance before their first benefits would otherwise be received. The amount of the EAP an individual receives is recovered from subsequent benefit payments.

Federal Benefit Rate (FBR). The basic standard used in computing the amount of Federal SSI benefits for individuals and couples. The FBRs are increased annually to reflect increases in the cost of living. (See table IV.A2.)

Fiscal Year (FY). The accounting year of the United States Government. Since 1976, a fiscal year is the 12-month period ending September 30. For example, fiscal year 2001 began October 1, 2000 and will end September 30, 2001.

Food Stamps. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), under cooperative Federal-State agreements, issues Food Stamp Program benefits in the form of paper food coupons (commonly known as food stamps) and through electronic benefit transfer, to provide nutrition for low-income families. Food stamps can be used only to buy food at stores authorized by USDA to accept them.

General Fund of the Treasury. Funds held by the Treasury of the United States, other than receipts collected for a specific purpose (such as Social Security) and maintained in a separate account for that purpose.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The total market value of goods and services produced by labor and property located in the United States, regardless of who supplies the labor or property.

Holding-Out Marriage. A situation in which a man and woman who are not legally married to each other are living together in the same household and holding out to the community that they are husband and wife and, as such, are treated as a couple for purposes of determining eligibility and payment amount under SSI.

Home Energy Assistance. A Federal Government block grant program that provides funds to States for energy assistance (including weatherization) to low-income households. This assistance may be provided by a variety of agencies (e.g., State or local welfare offices, community action agencies, special energy offices, etc.) and may be known by a variety of names (e.g., Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Project Safe, etc.).

Household. A group of two or more individuals who use a single dwelling unit as primary quarters for living and eating separate from other individuals' living units.

Household of Another. An individual is considered to be living in the household of another when the individual lives with others, does not own or rent the shelter, and does not pay a pro rata share of the household's food and shelter expenses. An individual who provides all of his/her own food, or lives in a public assistance household or in noninstitutional care, is not considered to be living in the household of another. An individual who is determined to be living in the household of another is considered to be receiving in-kind support and maintenance from that household, and his/her SSI benefit is reduced by one-third of the FBR.

Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE). The provision that permits the exclusion from earnings of the costs of items and services which are needed in order for a disabled individual to work, which are paid for by the individual, and which are necessarily incurred by that individual because of a physical or mental impairment. These IRWE's are excluded from earnings when determining substantial gainful activity (SGA) or computing eligibility and ongoing SSI monthly payments. (See "Blind Work Expenses (BWE)" for the related exclusions for blind individuals.)

Income. See—"Earned Income," "In-Kind Income" and "Unearned Income."

Individual Development Account (IDA). A savings account which low-income individuals, including SSI recipients, may establish in order to save for purchasing a first home, meeting the costs of post-secondary education, or capitalizing a business. An individual's deposits into an IDA are matched by a sponsoring nonprofit organization, or State or local government participating in the program.

Ineligible Spouse. The husband or wife of an eligible individual who is not eligible for SSI benefits.

Inflation. An increase in the volume of money and credit relative to available goods, resulting in an increase in the general price level.

Infrequent or Irregular Income. Income that is received either infrequently or irregularly that can be excluded from the determination of an individual's income, provided that the total of this income does not exceed $10 per month of earned income and $20 per month of unearned income. Infrequent means that it is not received more than once in a calendar quarter from a single source. Irregular means that an individual could not reasonably expect to receive the income.

Initial Determination. A determination SSA makes about an individual's eligibility for benefits or about any other matter that gives that person a right to further administrative and/or judicial review.

In-Kind Income. Income that is not cash, but is food, clothing or shelter or something an individual can use to obtain food, clothing or shelter.

In-Kind Support and Maintenance (ISM). Unearned income in the form of food, clothing, or shelter or any combination of these.

Interim Assistance Reimbursement (IAR). The process used for reimbursing for basic assistance provided by a State to an individual either while the individual's application for SSI was pending or during the period in which an individual's SSI benefits were suspended. SSA may reimburse a State that has provided this assistance. The individual's retroactive SSI payment is sent to the State as reimbursement if: (1) the State has an agreement with SSA to participate in IAR, (2) the individual has given SSA written authorization to have his/her retroactive payment sent to the State as reimbursement, and (3) the individual is found eligible for SSI benefits or has had his/her benefits reinstated for the same period of suspense.

Under IAR, after States reimburse themselves from an individual's retroactive benefit, they must forward any remainder to the individual within 10 days.

Living With. A required condition for parent-to-child and spouse-to-spouse deeming. Deeming of income and resources occurs if an eligible child lives with his/her ineligible parent(s) or an eligible individual lives with his/her ineligible spouse.

Maintenance-of-Effort. See "Passalong."

Mandatory State Supplementation. See "State Supplementation."

Means-Testing. The measuring of income and resources against specified amounts as eligibility factors for certain assistance benefits. SSI is a means-tested benefit program.

Medicaid. The program authorized under title XIX of the Social Security Act, which provides medical assistance to certain low-income individuals and families and certain disabled and medically needy individuals. Medicaid is administered by the States with support from the Federal Government in the form of matching grants. The Federal Government provides guidelines to the States for formulating their programs. Because these guidelines afford great leeway, Medicaid programs vary widely among the States.

Medicaid Facility. A medical treatment facility such as a hospital, extended care facility, nursing home, or intermediate care facility, where Medicaid pays more than 50 percent of the cost of a person's care.

Medical Facility. An establishment that makes available some treatment or services in addition to food and shelter to four or more persons who are not related to the proprietor.

New Entrant. An SSI recipient in the first month of SSI payment receipt.

Noncitizen. An individual who is not a United States citizen. Also referred to in welfare and immigration law as an alien. (See "Alien Lawfully Admitted for Permanent Residence," "Asylee," "Parolee" and "Refugee.")

Nonqualified Alien. A noncitizen who is not in a qualified alien category for SSI eligibility purposes. Public Law 105-306, the Noncitizen Benefit Clarification and Other Technical Amendments Act of 1998, permanently extended SSI eligibility of all nonqualified aliens who were receiving SSI benefits on August 22, 1996 provided all other eligibility requirements continue to be met.

OASDI. The Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance programs established under title II of the Social Security Act.

One-Third Reduction. The reduction of an individual's SSI payment that occurs when an individual is living in the household of another. Instead of determining the actual dollar value of in-kind support and maintenance, one-third of the Federal benefit rate is counted as additional income to an individual living in another person's household for a full calendar month and receiving both food and shelter from the household.

Optional State Supplementation. See "State Supplementation."

Overpayment. The payment of more than the amount due for any period, including any amounts of Federally-administered State supplementary payments.

Parent. For SSI purposes, the natural mother or father of the child, or the person who legally adopted the child, or the stepparent who lives in the same household as the child.

Parolee. A noncitizen, who appears to be inadmissible to the inspecting INS officer, but is allowed to enter the United States under emergency humanitarian conditions or when the noncitizen's entry is determined to be in the public interest. Parole does not constitute a formal admission to the United States and confers temporary admission status only, requiring parolees to leave when the conditions supporting their parole cease to exist.

Passalong. A requirement that States must meet in order to be eligible for Medicaid reimbursement. Any State making supplementary payments (see "State Supplementation") after June 30, 1977, must continue making such payments and must pass along any cost-of-living increase to the Federal benefit rate. Two methods are available to ensure that cost-of-living increases are passed on to the recipients.

- *Total Expenditures Method*—State expenditures for supplementary payments in the current calendar year must at least equal expenditures in the preceding calendar year. If expenditures are less in the current year (shortfall), the State must increase expenditures in the next calendar year by an amount at least equal to the shortfall.

- *Payment Levels Method*—States may not lower their supplementary payment for any of the living arrangement categories below their adjusted March 1983 levels. The adjusted level is the State's March 1983 payment level minus that portion of the July 1983 increase in the Federal benefit rate that was not attributable to the increase in the cost of living (i.e., $10.30 per individual and $15.40 per couple).

Payment Accuracy. The accuracy rate reflects the percent of dollars in SSI benefits that are paid correctly. One measure of the quality of the SSI program and SSA's stewardship of it, based on reviews conducted by SSA to determine the accuracy of the payment and compliance with national instructions and goals.

Personal Needs Allowance. The amount allowed for an institutionalized recipient's personal needs (currently $30). If an SSI recipient is in a Medicaid facility, the law requires that the SSI benefit be used only for the recipient's personal needs (i.e., that the institution cannot retain the benefit in repayment of the cost of the individual's care).

Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS). A plan that permits a disabled or blind SSI recipient to set aside earned or unearned income and resources for a work goal. The income or resources set aside under a PASS are used to pay for goods or services needed to reach that goal, such as education, vocational training, starting a business, or purchasing work-related equipment. Income and resources set aside under a PASS are excluded from SSI income and resources. SSA must approve an individual's PASS.

Population in the Social Security Area. The population comprised of (i) residents of the 50 States and the District of Columbia (adjusted for net census undercount); (ii) civilian residents of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands; (iii) Federal civilian employees and persons in the Armed Forces abroad and their dependents; (iv) crew members of merchant vessels; and (v) all other U.S. citizens abroad.

Presumptive Disability or Blindness. A finding that SSI payments may be made before SSA makes a formal determination as to whether or not the individual is disabled or blind. The individual's impairment must be apparent and meet specified criteria. In addition, the individual must meet all other requirements for eligibility. These payments may be made for no more than 6 months. The presumptive payments will not be considered overpayments if SSA later finds that the individual is not blind or disabled.

Property Essential for Self-Support (PESS). The real and personal property used in a trade or business, non-business income-producing property and property used to produce goods or services essential to the individual's daily activities. PESS may be excluded from resources under certain conditions.

Proration of Benefits. The method of computing benefit amounts in months in which the individual reacquires eligibility after a month or more of ineligibility. In such months, an individual's SSI benefit will be paid according to the number of days in the month that he/she is eligible, beginning with the first day in the month on which all eligibility requirements are met. In order to determine the benefit payable in a prorated month SSA counts the number of days an individual is eligible in the month. The amount of the individual's regular monthly payment is multiplied by the number of days for which he/she is eligible for benefits. That figure is divided by the number of days in the month for which the benefit is being determined. The resulting amount is the amount due for the prorated month. After 1996, proration for months of initial eligibility was eliminated.

Public Educational Institution. An institution that is operated by or controlled by the Federal Government, a State, or a political subdivision of a State such as a city or county for the primary purpose of providing educational or vocational training.

Public Emergency Shelter. A shelter for individuals whose homelessness poses a threat to their life or health.

Public Institution. An institution that is operated by or controlled by the Federal Government, a State, or a political subdivision of a State such as a city or county.

Publicly Operated Community Residence. A facility that provides food and shelter and some other service such as social services, help with personal living activities, training in socialization and life skills, or occasional or incidental medical or remedial care. In order to be publicly operated it must be operated or controlled by the Federal Government, a State, or a political subdivision of a State such as a city or county. The facility must serve no more than 16 residents and must be located in a community setting.

Qualified Alien. An individual who is:

- Lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA);
- A refugee under section 207 of the INA;
- An asylee under section 208 of the INA;
- A person whose deportation is withheld under section 243(h) of the INA as in effect prior to April 1, 1997, or whose removal has been withheld under section 241(b)(3) of the INA;
- A parolee under section 212(d)(5) of the INA for at least one year;
- A person granted conditional entry under section 203(a)(7) of the INA as in effect prior to April 1, 1980;
- A Cuban or Haitian entrant as defined in section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980; or
- A certain alien, or an alien parent of a child, or an alien child of a parent who has:
  - — Been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the United States by a spouse, parent, or certain other family members the alien, parent and/or child lived with;
  - — Been determined to need SSI because of this abuse; and
  - — A determination from the INS for a certain change in status.

Qualifying Quarter of Earnings. Credit for a requisite amount of earnings assigned to a calendar quarter for the purpose of determining the SSI eligibility of a lawfully admitted permanent resident.

Quarter of Coverage. The crediting of coverage needed for insured status under the Social Security program. In 2001, a worker receives one quarter of coverage (up to four a year) for each $830 of annual earnings reported from employment or self-employment. This dollar amount is subject to annual automatic increases in proportion to increases in average earnings.

Recipient. A person who has been awarded SSI payments based on an evaluation of his/her own countable income and resources, age, and disability status.

Reconsideration. The first step in the administrative review process if an individual is dissatisfied with SSA's initial determination.

Redetermination. A periodic review of eligibility for SSI recipients to assure that requirements for eligibility continue to be met and that payment levels are in the proper amount. Income, resources, living arrangements and other factors are reviewed. The redetermination process does not review the determination of disability.

Refugee. A noncitizen outside of his/her country of nationality who is unable or unwilling to return to his/her country of nationality or to seek the protection of that country because of persecution (or a well-founded fear of persecution) based on the noncitizen's race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. Unlike asylees, refugees apply for and receive this status prior to entry into the United States.

Relocation Assistance. A type of assistance provided to persons displaced by projects that acquire real property. Examples of types of reimbursement, allowances, and help provided are:

- Moving expenses,
- Reimbursement for losses of tangible property,
- Displacement allowances,
- Amounts required to replace a dwelling which exceed the agency's acquisition cost for the prior dwelling,
- Rental expenses for displaced tenants,
- Amounts for down payments on replacement housing for tenants who decide to buy,
- Mortgage insurance through Federal programs with waiver of requirements that borrowers must usually meet, and
- Replacement housing.

Representative Payee. A person who receives SSI payments on behalf of an SSI recipient. SSA will pay benefits to a representative payee on behalf of an individual 18 years old or older when it appears that such method of payment will be in the interest of the individual. A representative payee will be appointed if the individual is legally incompetent or mentally or physically incapable of managing or directing the management of his/her benefits. Also, in general, if the individual is under the age of 18, a representative payee will be appointed.

Resident of a Public Institution. An individual who can receive substantially all of his/her food and shelter while living in a public institution is considered a resident of the public institution. Generally, an individual who is a resident of a public institution throughout a month is ineligible for SSI.

Resident of the United States. A person who has established an actual dwelling place within the geographical limits of the United States with the intent to continue to live in the United States. (See "United States.")

Resource. The cash or other liquid assets or any real or personal property of an individual (or his/her spouse, if any) that he/she could use or could convert to cash to be used for his/her support and maintenance.

Retroactive Payments. The SSI payments made in a month later than the month or months in which they were due. Also referred to as "past-due" benefits.

Retrospective Monthly Accounting (RMA). The calculation method used in the SSI program to determine an individual's eligibility for each month. RMA has two parts: an eligibility determination and a payment computation. If the individual is ineligible based on the current month's factors (including the current month's countable income), no payment is due and none is paid. If the individual is eligible based on the current month's factors, payment is computed. The benefit for a month is generally based on the countable income from the second month before the current month. The basic formula is to subtract the countable income from 2 months previous from the current month's Federal benefit rate.

Section 1619(a) Status. The special SSI cash benefits provided to disabled individuals who lose eligibility for SSI benefits under the regular rules because they have earnings at the level that is ordinarily considered to represent substantial gainful activity.

Section 1619(b) Status. The special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes provided to working disabled or blind individuals when their earnings make them ineligible for regular or special cash payments.

Sponsor. An individual who has signed an affidavit of support for a noncitizen entering the country.

State Supplementation. The payments made by a State or one of its political subdivisions to aged, blind, or disabled individuals.

- *Administration*—The governmental unit responsible for administering State supplementary payments may be either a State or local agency or SSA. Under State administration, the State must absorb both program benefits and administrative costs. Under Federal administration, the State is responsible for the program benefits and, as of January 1, 2001, pays $8.10 for each benefit paid for the administrative costs.
- *Mandatory Supplementation*—The supplementary payments that are made only to beneficiaries who were converted to the SSI program from former State assistance programs at the inception of the SSI program. Mandatory minimum State supplementary payments are required to maintain the December 1972 payment levels that these beneficiaries received under the former State assistance programs. States are required to provide the supplementation to maintain their Federal matching funds for Medicaid.
- *Optional Supplementation*—The payments made by States to help persons meet needs not fully covered by Federal SSI benefits. The State determines whether it will make a payment, to whom, and in what amount. These supplements, paid on a regular monthly basis, are intended to cover such items as food, shelter, clothing, utilities, and other daily necessities. Some States provide optional supplementary payments to all persons eligible for SSI benefits, while others may limit them to certain SSI recipients such as the blind or residents of domiciliary-care facilities, or they may extend payments to persons ineligible for SSI because of SSI income.

Statutory Blindness. See "Blind."

Student Earned Income Exclusion (SEIE). An earned income exclusion for an individual who is under age 22, regularly attending school and neither married nor the head of a household, with certain limitations established by regulations. Currently, up to $1,290 earned income in a month, but no more than $5,200 per year, may be excluded.

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA). The level of work activity used to establish disability. A finding of disability requires that a person be unable to engage in SGA. Under current regulations, a person who is not statutorily blind and is earning more than $740 a month (net of impairment-related work expenses) is ordinarily considered to be engaging in substantial gainful activity.

Supplemental Security Record (SSR). The computerized database maintained by SSA and containing identifying information, income, resources and other eligibility factors, for all SSI recipients. The SSR includes the history of SSI payments made to an individual.

Suspension. An ineligibility status which causes the nonpayment of benefits for a period of anywhere from 1 to 12 months for any of a number of reasons such as income or resources over allowable levels, absence from the United States, residence in a public institution, etc. Benefits can resume without reapplication, when all requirements for entitlement are again met. Suspense that lasts more than 12 months results in a termination of the SSI record. (Once a record is terminated, reapplication is necessary.)

TANF. See "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)."

Temporary Absence. An individual's physical move from his/her permanent place of residence that does not constitute a change in living arrangement. In general, a temporary absence is an absence from a permanent residence which is not intended to, and does not, exceed a full calendar month.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The State grant program of assistance for needy families established by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-193). TANF replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program.

Termination. For an individual, cessation of benefits, which can occur for a number of reasons, including death, medical improvement, or a period of suspension lasting longer than 12 months.

Terminations. As used in section IV, the net reduction (after accounting for new entrants) in the number of SSI recipients in current-payment status during a period.

Trusts. A legal arrangement involving property and ownership interests. Generally, property held in a trust will be considered a resource for SSI purposes if the assets of the trust could be used for the benefit of the individual or spouse.

Unearned Income. The income that is not earned income. Unearned income may be in cash or in-kind. Some examples of unearned income are:

- Annuities, pensions, and other periodic payments;
- Retirement and disability benefits;
- Veterans', workers' and unemployment compensation;
- Alimony and support payments;
- Dividends, interest and certain royalties; and
- Rents.

United States. For purposes of the SSI program, the United States consists of the 50 States, District of Columbia and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). The services provided to blind or disabled individuals to help enable them to work. SSA makes provisions for blind or disabled recipients to be referred to a State VR agency, or to an alternate provider if the State agency does not accept the referral. SSA reimburses the VR agency for services provided in situations where the services result in the individual's working at the substantial gainful activity level for a continuous period of 9 months, and in certain other limited situations.

Windfall Offset. A provision to prevent a person from receiving monthly SSI and OASDI benefits in excess of the total amount which would have been paid if the OASDI benefits had been paid when they were due rather than retroactively.

Work Incentives. Provisions in the SSI program that are intended to act as incentives for disabled or blind individuals to work. Examples of work incentives under the SSI program are:

- Earned income exclusions,
- Impairment related work expenses,
- Blind work expenses,
- PASS, and
- Section 1619 benefits.