

FACT SHEET ON THE OLD-AGE, SURVIVORS, AND DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM

A. BENEFICIARIES IN CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS, December 31, 2021

Type of benefit	Number of beneficiaries [In thousands]	Monthly rate ^a [In millions]	Average monthly amount ^a
Total	65,228	\$99,805	b/
Retired workers and their family members, total	50,146	80,770	b/
Retired workers	47,293	78,413	\$1,658
Spouses	2,166	1,819	840
Children	687	538	782
Survivors of deceased workers, total	5,864	7,766	b/
Children	1,976	1,933	978
Widowed mothers and fathers with child beneficiaries in their care . . .	114	128	1,126
Aged widow(er)s, and aged parents.	3,550	5,522	1,555
Disabled widow(er)s	224	183	818
Disabled workers and their family members, total	9,218	11,269	b/
Disabled workers	7,877	10,699	1,358
Spouses	96	36	378
Children	1,245	533	428

^a Benefit amounts represent the monthly amount due to beneficiaries in current payment status for December 31, 2021. These amounts exclude any adjustments to benefits for retroactive payments and certain payment withholding that may be attributable to eligibility in prior months. Therefore, these data do not represent total benefits from the trust funds.

^b Because the benefit amounts for workers and for the various types of family members and survivors are based on different proportions of the worker's benefit, average monthly amounts for groups of these different kinds of beneficiaries are not meaningful.

B. SELECTED CATEGORIES OF BENEFICIARIES (INCLUDED ABOVE) IN CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS, December 31, 2021

Type of benefit	Number of beneficiaries [In thousands]	Monthly rate ^a [In millions]
Disabled beneficiaries (OASDI)—Workers, disabled children aged 18 and over, and disabled widow(er)s	9,244	\$11,916
Children (OASDI)	3,908	3,004
Student children	94	84
Disabled children aged 18 and over	1,143	1,033
Children under age 18	2,672	1,886
Survivor children and widowed mothers and fathers	2,090	2,062
Beneficiaries aged 62 and over (OASDI)	55,503	89,321
Beneficiaries aged 65 and over (OASDI)	50,796	83,081

^a See footnote "a" in Table A.

C. AVERAGE MONTHLY FAMILY BENEFITS IN CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS, December 31, 2021

Selected family ^a group	Number of families [In thousands]	Average family benefit ^b	Average number of beneficiaries per family
Retired worker alone	44,644	\$1,646	1.000
Retired worker and spouse, aged 62 and over	2,042	2,739	2.000
Disabled worker, spouse under full retirement age, and 1 or more children	30	2,382	3.895
Widowed parent and 2 children . . .	34	3,168	3.000
Children of deceased worker ^c . . .	1,284	1,272	1.319
Aged widow(er) alone	3,373	1,553	1.000

^a A family means beneficiaries entitled on one worker's account.

^b See footnote "a" in Table A.

^c In most cases, the family includes a widowed parent whose benefits are withheld due to earnings.

D. MEASURES OF PROTECTION

1. Coverage

We estimate that about 178 million people will work in OASDI-covered employment in 2022.

We estimate that about 94 percent of workers in paid employment and self-employment are covered under the OASDI program.

2. Benefit receipt among the elderly

As of December 31, 2021 we estimate that about 88 percent of the population aged 65 and over were receiving benefits.

3. Protection for survivors of young workers

We estimate that about 96 percent of persons aged 20-49 who worked in covered employment in 2021 have acquired survivorship protection for their children under age 18 (and surviving spouses caring for children under age 16).

4. Disability protection

We estimate that about 89 percent of persons aged 21-64 who worked in covered employment in 2021 can count on monthly cash benefits if they suffer a severe and prolonged disability.

E. OPERATIONS OF OASI AND DI TRUST FUNDS, Combined, In 2021

[In billions]

	Calendar year	Fiscal year
Income	\$1,088.3	\$1,080.4
Payroll tax contributions	980.6	972.3
Reimbursement from general revenue	a/	a/
Taxation of benefits	37.6	34.8
Interest and other income	70.1	73.3
Costs	1,144.6	1,134.8
Total benefit payments ^b	1,133.2	1,123.4
OASI	993.1	982.7
DI	140.1	140.7
Railroad retirement transfer	4.9	4.9
Administrative expenditures	6.5	6.4
Assets reserves, end of period^b	2,852.0	2,853.9

^a Less than \$50,000,000.

^b Benefit payments which were scheduled to be paid on January 3, 2021 were actually paid on December 31, 2020 as required by the statutory provision for early delivery of benefit payments when the normal payment delivery date is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal public holiday. The amount of these payments made on an accelerated basis was approximately \$18.7 billion for the OASI Trust Fund and \$6.1 billion for the DI Trust Fund. For comparability with the values for historical years, the trust fund operations and asset reserves presented here reflect the 12 months of benefits scheduled for payment each year.

Note: Totals may not equal the sums of rounded components.

Social Security Administration
Office of the Chief Actuary
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