



Old-Age (retirement), Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—popularly referred to as Social Security—provides monthly benefits to an eligible worker and family members when the worker elects to start receiving retirement benefits or when the worker dies or becomes disabled. The amount of benefits received is based on the worker’s level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program.

Table 1.
Number of OASDI beneficiaries in current-payment status and total monthly benefits, December 2008

Congressional district	Number of beneficiaries						Total monthly benefits (thousands of dollars)			Number of beneficiaries aged 65 or older
	Total	Retired workers	Disabled workers	Widow(er)s ^a	Spouses ^b	Children ^c	All beneficiaries	Retired workers	Widow(er)s ^a	
Alaska	71,145	43,862	10,964	5,076	2,810	8,433	71,226	48,253	5,179	45,710
All areas ^d	50,898,244	32,273,651	7,426,691	4,541,467	2,524,841	4,131,594	53,666,109	37,207,910	4,908,428	35,818,757

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Master Beneficiary Record, 100 percent data.

- a. Includes nondisabled widow(er)s, disabled widow(er)s, widowed mothers and fathers, and parents receiving payment on the record of a worker who is deceased.
- b. These beneficiaries receive payment on the record of a worker who is retired or disabled.
- c. These beneficiaries receive payment on the record of a worker who is retired, deceased, or disabled.
- d. Includes beneficiaries in the 50 states, District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and foreign countries.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, or disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Table 2.
Number of recipients of federally administered SSI payments and total monthly payments, December 2008

Congressional district	Number of recipients				Total monthly payments (thousands of dollars)				Number of recipients	
	Total	Aged	Blind	Disabled	Total	Aged	Blind	Disabled	With OASDI ^a	Aged 65 or older
Alaska	11,669	2,019	101	9,549	5,391	616	53	4,723	4,022	3,069
All areas ^b	7,519,593	1,203,089	70,311	6,246,193	3,880,019	475,824	36,376	3,367,820	2,612,149	2,033,285

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record (Characteristic Extract Record format), 100 percent data.

- a. Includes persons who are receiving both SSI payments and Social Security benefits.
- b. Includes recipients in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Northern Mariana Islands.

For technical information about the data processing, call Linnea Green at (410) 966-8517, or e-mail cong.stats@ssa.gov.

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