



Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Connecticut, benefits were paid to 585,320 persons. This number included 406,990 retired workers, 47,930 widows and widowers, 64,490 disabled workers, 24,350 wives and husbands, and 41,560 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 16.7 percent

of the total population of the state and 93.2 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Connecticut received an average of \$1,096 per month; widows and widowers, \$1,051; disabled workers, \$981; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$560. Average benefits for children were \$572 for children of retired workers, \$759 for children of deceased workers, and \$302 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$596 million. Of this amount, \$462 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$65 million to survivors, and \$69 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Connecticut, 52,147 persons—6,752 aged and 45,395 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 12,496 recipients were aged 65 or older, 33,064 were aged 18 to 64, and 6,587 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$23.4 million. The average federal payment was \$414 overall: \$336 for aged recipients and \$426 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 15,623 persons in Connecticut received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$6.8 million.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Connecticut receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 621,302.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Connecticut in 2004, an estimated 1.98 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$68.30 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$8.47 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Connecticut in 2004, an estimated 2.02 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$102.79 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.98 billion in Medicare taxes.

State Statistics is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy. Angela Y. Harper was responsible for programming, processing, and compiling the data.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states; earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

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SSA Publication No. 13-11709
April 2007



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Social Security

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Maine, benefits were paid to 269,310 persons. This number included 162,980 retired workers, 24,900 widows and widowers, 45,290 disabled workers, 13,520 wives and husbands, and 22,620 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 20.5 percent

of the total population of the state and 94.5 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Maine received an average of \$926 per month; widows and widowers, \$904; disabled workers, \$863; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$465. Average benefits for children were \$488 for children of retired workers, \$659 for children of deceased workers, and \$240 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$228 million. Of this amount, \$158 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$28 million to survivors, and \$42 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Maine, 31,978 persons—2,449 aged and 29,529 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 5,377 recipients were aged 65 or older, 23,264 were aged 18 to 64, and 3,337 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$13.4 million. The average federal payment was \$375 overall: \$173 for aged recipients and \$392 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 32,557 persons in Maine received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$615,000.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Maine receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 287,396.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Maine in 2004, an estimated 780,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$19.46 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.41 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Maine in 2004, an estimated 810,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$22.93 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$665 million in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Massachusetts, benefits were paid to 1,071,720 persons. This number included 694,340 retired workers, 93,380 widows and widowers, 153,820 disabled workers, 45,920 wives and husbands, and 84,260 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

16.7 percent of the total population of the state and 90.5 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Massachusetts received an average of \$1,009 per month; widows and widowers, \$980; disabled workers, \$924; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$508. Average benefits for children were \$506 for children of retired workers, \$705 for children of deceased workers, and \$283 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$998 million. Of this amount, \$728 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$116 million to survivors, and \$154 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Massachusetts, 171,488 persons—44,653 aged and 126,835 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 47,814 recipients were aged 65 or older, 105,699 were aged 18 to 64, and 17,975 were under the age of 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$82.4 million, of which \$67.5 million was federal SSI and \$14.8 million was state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$448 overall: \$381 for aged recipients and \$471 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Massachusetts receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,178,874.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Massachusetts in 2004, an estimated 3.49 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$116.04 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$14.39 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Massachusetts in 2004, an estimated 3.71 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$155.33 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$4.51 billion in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In New Hampshire, benefits were paid to 225,550 persons. This number included 147,350 retired workers, 17,890 widows and widowers, 32,250 disabled workers, 8,800 wives and husbands, and 19,260 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

16.9 percent of the total population of the state and 94.5 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in New Hampshire received an average of \$1,028 per month; widows and widowers, \$996; disabled workers, \$943; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$529. Average benefits for children were \$549 for children of retired workers, \$725 for children of deceased workers, and \$290 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$214 million. Of this amount, \$157 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$24 million to survivors, and \$33 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In New Hampshire, 13,636 persons—869 aged and 12,767 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 1,785 recipients were aged 65 or older, 10,042 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,809 were under the age of 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$6.0 million. The average federal payment was \$387 overall: \$255 for aged recipients and \$396 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 16,784 persons in New Hampshire received state-administered supplementation in December 2005 that totaled \$873,000.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in New Hampshire receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 234,033.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In New Hampshire in 2004, an estimated 818,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$25.44 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$3.16 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In New Hampshire in 2004, an estimated 829,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$30.23 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$877 million in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Rhode Island, benefits were paid to 191,930 persons. This number included 126,930 retired workers, 14,980 widows and widowers, 28,790 disabled workers, 6,290 wives and husbands, and 14,940 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented

17.9 percent of the total population of the state and 92.4 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Rhode Island received an average of \$1,006 per month; widows and widowers, \$982; disabled workers, \$913; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$493. Average benefits for children were \$477 for children of retired workers, \$704 for children of deceased workers, and \$270 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$179 million. Of this amount, \$131 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$19 million to survivors, and \$28 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Rhode Island, 30,194 persons—3,934 aged and 26,260 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 7,241 recipients were aged 65 or older, 18,884 were aged 18 to 64, and 4,069 were under the age of 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$14.6 million, of which \$12.5 million was federal SSI and \$2.1 million was state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$440 overall: \$320 for aged recipients and \$458 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Rhode Island receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 210,584.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Rhode Island in 2004, an estimated 625,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$18.90 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.34 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Rhode Island in 2004, an estimated 634,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$22.23 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$645 million in Medicare taxes.

State Statistics is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy. Angela Y. Harper was responsible for programming, processing, and compiling the data.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states; earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

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SSA Publication No. 13-11709
April 2007



Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 48,445,900 persons received benefits for December 2005. This number included 30,474,930 retired workers, 4,746,780 widows and widowers, 6,510,420 disabled workers, 2,681,460 wives and husbands, and 4,032,310 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.9 percent of the total population and 90.3 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$1,002; widows and widowers, \$941 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$967); disabled workers, \$938; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$493, \$656, and \$278, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$44.4 billion. Of this amount, \$32.0 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.7 billion to survivors, and \$6.6 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 4.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2005.

In Vermont, benefits were paid to 112,190 persons. This number included 71,700 retired workers, 10,000 widows and widowers, 16,020 disabled workers, 5,470 wives and husbands, and 9,000 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 18.0 percent

of the total population of the state and 95.9 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Vermont received an average of \$995 per month; widows and widowers, \$938; disabled workers, \$889; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$478. Average benefits for children were \$489 for children of retired workers, \$671 for children of deceased workers, and \$250 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2005 totaled \$102 million. Of this amount, \$74 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$12 million to survivors, and \$15 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2006, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$603, and for a couple, \$904.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2005, 7,113,879 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,214,296 were aged and 5,899,583 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,994,511 recipients were aged 65 or older, 4,082,870 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,036,498 were under the age of 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 53,059,074. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.4 billion in December 2005: \$3 billion in federal SSI payments and \$366 million in

state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$439. Aged persons averaged \$360, and disabled and blind persons, \$455.

In addition, 551,814 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2005 that totaled \$69.8 million.

In Vermont, 13,138 persons—1,136 aged and 12,002 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2005. A total of 2,513 recipients were aged 65 or older, 9,009 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,616 were under the age of 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$5.8 million, of which \$5.0 million was federal SSI and \$771,245 was state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$396 overall: \$202 for aged recipients and \$414 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2005, the total number of persons in Vermont receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 119,171.

Earnings and Employment

Social Security

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.0 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.5 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$563 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Vermont in 2004, an estimated 422,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$10.82 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.34 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2004, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 160.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$161 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Vermont in 2004, an estimated 424,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$11.92 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$346 million in Medicare taxes.

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