Notes and Brief Reports

Experience of Federal Annuitants Under OASDHI: Age and Sex*

An earlier study of Federal civil-service annuitants, based on a 10-percent sample, showed that more than 4 out of 10 of the nearly 1 million annuitants on the rolls in December 1975 were also receiving cash benefits under the old-age, survivors, disability, and health insurance (OASDHI) program. Most of these "dual beneficiaries" were "primary beneficiaries"—that is, they were entitled to social security benefits on the basis of their own covered earnings. The remainder, made up of dependents, survivors,

and others, were "secondary beneficiaries"—those whose benefits were not based on their own earnings records. In addition, many other annuitants were found to have enough quarters of coverage for insured status under the social security program and thus were potential future beneficiaries. The sex and age characteristics of these groups are presented here to supplement the earlier review and to throw some light on the future benefit status of annuitants not on the social security rolls in December 1975.

Actual and Potential Proportions of Dual Beneficiaries

All Annuitants

Table 1 classifies dual beneficiaries according to the type of benefits they were receiving and nonbeneficiary annuitants by their insured status under the social security program. At the end of 1975, about 443,000 annuitants, or 45

Table 1.—Number and percentage distribution of civil-service annuitants, by OASDI beneficiary status, age, and sex, December 1975

			Beneficiaries ¹								Nonbeneficiaries							
	4.11				Primary													
	All annuitants		Total		Retired worker		Disabled worker		Secondary		Tota	al	Uninsured		Insured ²			
Age and sex	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent		
Total	978,180	100.0	443,300	100.0	376,820	100.0	13,190	100.0	53,290	100.0	534.880	100.0	254,260	100.0	280,620	100.0		
Under age 55	102,260 138,570	10.4 14.2 6.9	5,180 4,190	1.2	0 0 0	0	4,670 3,770	35.4 28.5	510 420	1.0	134,380	18.1 25.1	18,230 34,140	7.2 13.4	78,850 100,240	28.1 35.7		
60 61	67,030 116,380 266,380 287,560	11.9 27.2 29.4	2,890 56,250 182,070 192,720	.6 12.7 41.1 43.5	45,650 161,150 169,980	0 12.7 42.8 45.1	1,690 3,100 0	12.6 23.5 0 0	1,200 7,500 20,920 22,740	2.2 14.1 39.2 42.7	64,140 60,130 84,310 94,840	12.0 11.2 15.8 17.7	17,820 25,920 66,180 91,970	7.0 .2 26.0 36.2	34,210 18,130	16.5 12.2 6.5 1.0		
Men	715,250	100.0	301,120	100.0	286,580	100.0	11,720	100.0	2.820	100.0		100.0	182,340	100.0	231,790	100.0		
Under 55	77,080 112,010 53,610 87,290 188,460 196,800	10.8 15.7 7.5 12.2 26.3 27.5	4,100 3,390 1,590 39,170 123,680 129,190	1.4 1.1 .5 13.0 41.1 42.9	0 0 0 36,360 123,260 126,920	0 0 0 12.7 43.0 44.3	4,080 3,380 1,570 2,730 0	34.8 28.8 13.1 23.3 0	20 10 20 80 420 2,270	.7 .4 .7 2.8 14.9 80.5	72,980 108,620 52,020 48,120 64,780 67,610	17.6 26.2 12.6 11.6 15.6 16.3	11,050 24,300 12,680 19,000 49,960 65,350	6.1 13.3 7.0 10.4 27.4 35.8	61,930 84,320 39,340 29,120 14,820 2,260	26.7 36.4 17.0 12.5 6.4 1.0		
Women	262,930	100.0	142,180	100.0	90,240	100.0	1.470	100.0	50,470	100.0	120,750	100.0	71,920	100.0	48,830	100.0		
Under 55	25,180 26,560 13,420 29,090 77,920 90,760	9.6 10.1 5.1 11.1 29.6 34.5	1,080 800 1,300 17,080 58,390 63,530	.8 .6 .9 12.0 41.1 44.7	0 0 0 9.290 37,890 43,060	0 0 0 10.3 42.0 47.7	590 390 120 370 0	40.1 26.5 8.2 25.2 0	490 410 1,180 7,420 20,500 20,470	1.0 .8 2.3 14.7 40.6 40.6		20.0 21.3 10.0 9.9 16.2 22.6	7,180 9,840 5,140 6,920 16,220 26,620	10.0 13.7 7.1 9.6 22.6 37.0	16,920 15,920 6,980 5,090 3,310 610			

With benefits in force.

²Permanently insured.

Includes the transitionally insured and "special age-72" beneficiaries.

^{*}Prepared by Daniel N. Price, Division of Retirement and Survivors Studies, Office of Research and Statistics, Office of Policy, Social Security Administration. The author wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Alvin D. Blake.

¹See Daniel N. Price and Andrea Novotny, "Federal Civil-Service Annuitants and Social Security, December 1975," Social Security Bulletin, November 1977.

percent of all annuitants, were dual beneficiaries. About 40 percent of all annuitants were dual beneficiaries receiving social security benefits on their own earnings records.

As a result of concern in recent years about the relationship between the Federal civil-service and social security systems, how many workers are protected under both systems is a matter of considerable interest. The total number of such individuals consists of (1) those who are dual beneficiaries on the basis of their own earnings record, (2) those whose dual status is based on another worker's earnings record, and (3) those likely to become dual beneficiaries in the future either as a result of their own or another's earnings record.

Table 1 shows that 281,000 annuitants who were nonbeneficiaries in December 1975 were permanently insured. Permanently insured status refers here to those with enough quarters in covered employment to be entitled to benefits without any further employment, including those under age 62 who already had enough quarters of coverage. This group, which took in 29 percent of all annuitants, was made up largely of persons who were not old enough to receive social security retirement benefits. If all the members of this group eventually become dual beneficiaries, a total of 69 percent of all the 1975 Federal annuitants will have received social security benefits on the basis of their own earnings records, during some part of their retirement. Five percent of the annuitants were secondary dual beneficiaries in 1975. Thus, a maximum of about 74 percent of the 1975 annuitants could eventually become dual beneficiaries.

Even among the insured, of course, some persons will receive social security benefits for a relatively short period or not at all because they continue to work until they die. Almost 20 percent of the insured nonbeneficiaries were older than 62, the age at which benefits can first be drawn.

Annuitants Aged 65 and Older

Another estimate of primary dual beneficiaries can be made for the group of annuitants aged 65 years and over. The large majority of Federal workers begin receiving their annuities before age 65. According to unpublished data from the Office of Personnel Management (one of two new agencies that have absorbed the functions of the Civil Service Commission), 85 percent of all annuitants leave Federal service before age 65. Moreover, few annuitants not insured for social security benefits by age 65 become insured at a later time. Table 2 shows that only about 30,000 nonbeneficiaries aged 65 and over had any covered employment after their annuity began. If, as might be expected, this group was drawn largely from the 21,000 insured nonbeneficiaries in that age category, relatively few of the 158,000 noninsured annuitants aged 65 and over had subsequent employment that could have provided insured status (table 1). Thus, with few exceptions, annuitants aged 65 or older are individuals who have completed their work history.

The number of annuitants aged 65 or older who, as a

result of their own covered earnings, were insured nonbeneficiaries (21,000) or dual beneficiaries (331,000) totaled 352,000. Thus, for this age group, 65 percent of all the annuitants were already primary beneficiaries in 1975 or could be expected to achieve that status at some time during their retirement.

Age and the Proportion of Dual Beneficiaries

It is also possible to derive from table 1 the proportion of all annuitants in each age group who were dual beneficiaries (primary and secondary) or insured nonbeneficiaries.² Higher percentages are found for lower age groups: 82 percent for those under age 55 and 76 percent for those aged 55-64, compared with 71 percent for those aged 65 and over. The high percentage for annuitants under age 55 is not, of course, an indicator of the proportion of dual beneficiaries to be expected in the future. It is not suitable to make such projections since information about the completed patterns of OASDHI-covered work and civil-service careers is not available for those workers under age 55 who became annuitants after December 1975. Clearly, their experience would influence the overall proportion of annuitants entitled to social security benefits.

Characteristics of Annuitants

Women represented only about one-fourth of all the annuitants in 1975 but nearly one-third of the dual beneficiaries. The reason for the somewhat higher proportion among dual beneficiaries is that most (95 percent) of the 53,000 persons receiving secondary benefits were women. Note that, as a result of the 1977 amendments to the Social Security Act, most retired-worker annuitants who file for secondary benefits under the social security program in the future will have those benefits reduced by the amount of their civil-service annuity. With respect to annuitants who are not dual beneficiaries, a lower proportion of women was found among annuitants insured under the social security program than among those who were not insured.

Sixty-nine percent of the annuitants were at least 62 years of age. Because the statutory minimum age requirements for retirement under the Federal civil-service and social security programs are sharply different, the age distributions of annuitants with and without social security benefits were also quite different. Only 45 percent of the annuitants who did not also receive benefits were aged 62 or older. Only

²See Robert J. Myers, "Extent of Windfall Social Security Benefits for Civil Service Employees," **Employee Benefits Journal** (International Foundation Of Employee Benefit Plans), summer 1979.

The offset provision does not apply to those eligible for a Federal pension from employment before December 1982 who, at the time of application for social security benefits, could have qualified for spouse's or surviving spouse's benefits if the law as in effect and administered in January 1977 had remained in effect. For husbands and widowers to whom the exception does not apply, the offset became fully effective in December 1977.

those with social security disability benefits (eligibility for which is restricted to those under age 65) were predominantly under age 62. Also, most dual beneficiaries receiving secondary benefits were aged 60 or older, reflecting the minimum age requirements for benefits as survivors or dependents under the social security program. (Few persons qualify for benefits at an earlier age by virtue of having minor dependents in their charge.)

Of the 524,000 nonbeneficiary annuitants, 36 percent had some employment covered under the social security program after their civil-service annuity began (table 2). In contrast, 50 percent of the 427,000 dual beneficiaries engaged in some covered employment after they began to receive their annuity payments. About 33,000 dual beneficiaries had no covered employment under the social security program, which means that about 20,000 of the 53,000

Table 2.—Number and percentage distribution of civil-service annuitants, by first and last year of OASDHI-covered employment and start of civil-service annuity, OASDI beneficiary status, age and sex, December 1975

		With OASDHI-covered employment															
		-	First year							Last	year				With no		
Age and sex	Tota	Total		Before annuity began		During year annuity began		After annuity began		Before annuity began		During year annuity began		After annuity began		OASDHI- covered employ- ment	
	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	
								Dual bei	neficiaries ²	!							
Total	426,660	100.0	351,240	100.0	15,410	100.0	27,040	100.0	168,150	100.0	14,060	100.0	211,480	100.0	32,970	100	
Under 55	5,180	1.2	5,080	1.5	20	.1	40	.1	2,430	1.5	510	3.6	2,200	1.0	40		
55-59	4,190		3,980	1.1		1	60	.2	1,680		450	3.2	1,950				
60-61	2,890	.7	2,550	.7	50	.3	60	.2	1,320		190	1.3	1,150	.5	1	_	
52-64	56,250	13.2	52,000	14.8	1	4.7	750	2.8	27,550		2,560	18.2	23,370	11.1	2,770	8	
55–71	181,980 176,170	42.6 41.3	158,310 129,320	45.1 36.8	4,940 9,630	32.1 62.5	7,730 18,400	28.6 68.1	75,940 59,230		5,940 4,410	42.3 31.4	89,100 93,710	42.1 44.3	1 '	33 57	
Men	288,950	 -	250,250	100.0	<u> </u>	100.0	19,470	100.0	103,880	 	9,710	100.0	168,530	100.0		100	
Under 55	4,100		4,060	1.6	<u> </u>	(3)	30	.1	1,740		450	4.6	1,910	1.1	0,830	0	
5-59	3,390		3,300	1.3	1	.3	30	.1	1,210		400	4.1	1,760	•		,	
0-61	1,590	1	1,490	.6		.3	20	.1	550		180	1.9	820	1.0			
2-64	39,170		37,840	15.1		4.9	540	2.8	17,220	1	1,930	19.9	19,840	11.8	1	2	
55-71	123,620	42.8	112,790	45.1	3,970	32.0	5,440	27.9	46,280	44.5	3,990	41.1	71,930	42.7	1,420	20	
2 and over	117,080	40.5	90,770	36.3	7,730	62.3	13,410	68.9	36,880	35.5	2,760	28.4	72,270	42.9	5,170	75	
Women	137,710	100.0	100,990	100.0	3,010	100.0	7,570	100.0	64,270	100.0	4,350	100.0	42,950	100.0	26,140	100	
Jnder 55	1,080	.8	1,020	1.0		.3	10 30	.1	690	3	60	1.4	290 190	.7	1		
i5–59 0–61	1,300		680 1,060	.7 1.0	1	0 .3	40	.4 .5	470 770	1	50 10	1.1	330	.4 .8			
52–64	17,080	l .	14,160	14.0			210	2.8	10,330		630	14.5	3,530	8.2		ç	
55-71	58,360		45,520	45.1	į.	32.2	2,290	30.3	29,660		1,950	44.8	17,170	40.0		36	
72 and over	59,090		38,550	38.2	1	63.1	4,990	65.9	22,350	1	1,650	37.9	21,440	49.9	13,650	52	
								Nonber	neficiaries								
Total	523,650	100.0	325,040	100.0	11,770	100.0	21,800	100.0	158,680	100.0	13,150	100.0	186,780	100.0	165,040	100	
J nder 55	97,080	ı	84,970	26.1			1,440	6.6	38,700		3,680	28.0	45,280	24.2		5	
55–59	134,380	1	109,560	33.7	-	21.2	2,610	12.0	50,100		4,050	30.8	60,510	32.4	1 '	11	
0-61	64,140	ł .	49,160	15.1	1,770	15.0	2,240	10.3	21,840		1,970	15.0	29,360	15.7	10,970		
62–64 65–71	60,130 84,290		37,460 31,720	11.5		19.8	3,120 6,640	14.3 30.5	17,300 21,290	10.9	1,550 1,150	11.8 8.7	24,060 18,690	12.9	17,220 43,160	10	
2 and over	83,630		12,170	3.7		9.9	5,750	26.4	9,450		750	5.7	8,880	4.8	,	39	
Men	407,000	100.0	263,380	100.0	9,840	100.0	17,070	100.0	117,200	100.0	11,460	100.0	161,630	0.001	116,710	100	
J nder 55	72,980	17.9	65,100	24.7	1,070	10.9	960	5.6	25,410	21.7	3,250	28.4	38,470	23.8	5,850		
55-59	108,620	1	90,870	34.5		21.5	2,030	11.9	37,620		3,600	31.4	53,800	33.3	1	11	
0-61	52,020	1	41,070	15.6		15.6	1,880	11.0	16,950		1,750	15.3	25,790	16.0	1 '	6	
52-64	48,120	1	31,280	11.9	1	19.8	2,480	14.5	13,200	11.3	1,330	11.6	21,180	13.1	12,410	10	
5–71	64,770 60,490		25,430 9,630	9.7 3.7		23.0	5,240 4,480	30.7 26.2	16,650 7,370	1	960 570	8.4 5.0	15,320 7,070	9.5 4.4		27 39	
Women	116,650	 	61,660	0.001		 	4,730	100.0	41,480		1,690	100.0	25,150	100	 	100	
Jnder 55	24,100	 	19,870	32.2		 	480	10.1	13,290		430	25.4	6,810	27.1			
55-59	25,760	1	18,690	30.3			580	12.3	12,480			26.6	1	26.7	1 '	1:	
50-61	12,120		8,090	13.1			360	7.6			220	13.0	3,570			1	
62-64	12,010	1	6,180	10.0	1		640	13.5	4,100	1		13.0	2,880	11.5	1 ' ' '	10	
55-71	19,520	16.7	6,290	10.2			1,400	29.6				11.2	3,370	13.4	11,320	23	
72 and over	23,140	19.8	2,540	4.1	260	13.5	1,270	26.8	2,080	5.0	180	10.6	1,810	7.2	19,070	39	

Excludes those with the year annuity began unknown.

"special age-72" beneficiaries.

3Less than 0.05 percent.

²Annuitants with OASDI benefits in force; includes the transitionally insured and

secondary dual beneficiaries had some covered employment even though they received benefits on the basis of another

Table 3.—Number and percentage distribution of dual beneficiaries, by OASDI benefit-payment status, age, and sex, December 1975

	With benefits											
	To	tal	In curre ment s		Not in current- payment status ³							
Age and sex	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent						
Total	443,300	100.0	432,110	100.0	11,190	100.0						
Under 55	5,180	1.2	5,110	1.2	70	.6						
55-59	4,190	.9	4,150	1.0	40	.4						
60-61	2,890	.6	2,870	.6	20	.2						
62-64	56,250	12.7	55,560	12.9	690	6.2						
65-71	182,070	41.1	174,660	40.4	7,410	66.2						
72 and over	192,720	43.5	189,760	43.9	2,960	26.4						
Men	301,120	100.0	292,170	100.0	8,950	100.0						
Under 55	4,100	1.4	4,060	1.4	40	.4						
55-59	3,390	1.1	3.360	1.2	30	.3						
60-61	1,590	.5	1,590	.5	0	.0						
62-64	39,170	13.0	38,570	13.2	600	6.7						
65-71	123,680	41.1	117,430	40.2	6,250	69.8						
72 and over	129,190	42.9	127,160	43.5	2,030	22.7						
Women	142,180	100.0	139,940	100.0	2,240	100.0						
Under 55	1,080	.8	1,050	.8	30	1.3						
55-59	800	.6	790	.6	10	.4						
60-61	1,300	.9	1,280	.9	20	.9						
62-64	17,080	12.0	16,990	12.1	90	4.0						
65-71	58,390	41.1	57,230	40.9	1,160	51.8						
72 and over	63,530	44.7	62,600	44.7	930	41.5						

¹Annuitants with OASDI benefits in force; includes the transitionally insured and "special age-72" beneficiaries.

person's earnings. Some primary beneficiaries may have had no recorded covered earnings but were entitled to benefits by virtue of military service or railroad employment.

Only 15 percent of the nonbeneficiaries who had some covered employment after commencement of their civil-service annuities were aged 65 or older. The women nonbeneficiaries who worked from the date of their first annuity payment were older than the men: 21 percent of these women, but only 14 percent of the men, were aged 65 or over

Regardless of age or sex, the overwhelming majority of nonbeneficiary annuitants with any covered employment engaged in at least some of this work before they retired from the Federal service. Overall, 91 percent had such preannuity earnings. The prevalence of preannuity covered employment was considerably less marked, however, for the older groups of nonbeneficiaries. Similar employment patterns according to age and sex were also found for dual beneficiaries.

Tables 3-5 crossclassify duration of covered employment under the social security program, primary insurance amounts, and benefit-payment status by age and sex for dual beneficiaries. Less than 3 percent of the dual beneficiaries had all their benefits withheld because of excess earnings or for other reasons (table 3). Those whose benefits were withheld tended to be much more concentrated in the group aged 65-71 than those whose benefits were in current-payment status.

More dual beneficiaries aged 62 and over than those in younger age groups were concentrated at the minimum

Table 4.—Number and percentage distribution of dual beneficiaries, by OASDI primary insurance amount, age, and sex, December 1975

		Percentage distribution, by OASDI primary insurance amount												
Age and sex	Total number	Total	\$101.40	\$101.50- 129.90	\$130.00- 159.90	\$160.00- 189.90	\$190.00- 249.90	\$250.00- 299.90	\$300.00 or more					
Total	439,470	100.0	27.8	13.5	17.5	12.4	15.5	8.8	4.5					
Under 55	5,180	100.0	4.8	6.9	15.3	19.7	37.3	13.1	2.9					
55-59	4,190	100.0	6.4	10.0	17.4	21.0	29.4	14.1	1.7					
60-61	2,890	100.0	9.0	7.3	18.0	16.3	24.5	20.4	4.5					
62–64	56,250	100.0	28.0	18.0	22.4	11.1	10.2	6.2	4.0					
65–71	182,070	100.0	27.5	15.2	19.3	11.7	12.4	7.9	6.0					
72 and over	188,890	100.0	29.4	10.8	14.4	13.0	19.0	10.1	3.3					
Men	298,650	100.0	27.3	13.9	18.7	12.8	15.3	7.5	4.5					
Under 55	4,100	100.0	3.2	6.1	14.6	19.3	40.2	14.4	2.2					
55-59	3,390	100.0	6.5	9.7	17.7	20.9	31.3	13.0	.9					
60-61	1,590	100.0	8.8	8.8	18.9	18.2	27.0	15.1	3.1					
62-64	39,170	100.0	28.9	18.2	25.3	12.1	9.5	3.5	2.4					
65-71	123,680	100.0	27.3	15.5	20.6	12.5	12.2	5.8	6.1					
72 and over	126,720	100.0	28.5	11.3	15.0	12.9	18.7	9.7	3.9					
Women	140,820	100.0	28.7	12.6	14.8	11.6	16.0	11.8	4.5					
Under 55	1,080	100.0	11.1	10.2	17.6	21.3	25.9	8.3	5.6					
55-59	800	100.0	6.3	11.2	16.3	21.3	21.2	18.7	5.0					
60-61	1,300	100.0	9.2	5.4	16.9	13.9	21.5	26.9	6.1					
62-64	17,080	100.0	25.9	17.5	15.7	8.8	11.8	12.5	7.8					
65-71	58,390	100.0	27.9	14.4	16.4	10.0	12.9	12.3	6.0					
72 and over	62,170	0.001	31.3	9.8	13.0	13.4	19.6	10.7	2.2					

¹Annuitants with OASDI benefits in force; excludes the transitionally insured and

²Benefits actually paid during the month.

³Benefits withheld during the month because of earnings or other reasons.

[&]quot;special age-72" beneficiaries.

Table 5.—Number and percentage distribution of dual beneficiaries, by years of OASDHI-covered employment, age, and sex. December 1975

			Years of OASDHI-covered employment												
	Total		0-2		3–6		7-10		11-14		15-20		20 or more		
Age and sex	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	439,470	100.0	56,960	100.0	98,390	100.0	100,330	100.0	68,090	100.0	65,470	100.0	50,410	100.0	
Under 55	5,180	1.2	110	.2	320	.3			1,190	1.8	1,870	2.9	1,140	2.3	
55-59	4,190	.9	160	.3	240	.2	460	.5	1,040	1.5	1,160	1.7	1,130	2.2	
60-61	2,890	.7	390	.7	500	.5	530	.5	340	.5	510	.8	620	1.2	
62-64	56,250	12.8	4,760	8.4	8,950	9.1	15,680	15.6	10,510	15.4	9,550	14.6	6,800	13.5	
65–71	182,070	41.4	18,480	32.4	35,640	36.2	45,190	45.0	29,000	42.6	28,380	43.3	25,380	50.4	
72 and over	188,890	43.0	33,060	58.0	52,740	53.6	37,920	37.8	26,010	38.2	24,000	36.7	15,340	30.4	
Men	298,650	100.0	14,660	100.0	61,410	100.0	72,800	100.0	52,380	100.0	52,870	100.0	44,670	100.0	
Under 55	4,100	1.4	10	.1	120	.2	310	.4	950	1.8	1,620	3.1	1,090	2.4	
55-59	3,390	1.1	20	.1	110	.2	320	.4	880	1.7	970	1.8	1,090	2.4	
60-61	1,590	.5	40	.3	40	.1	270	.4	240	.5	420	.8	580	1.3	
62-64	39,170	13.1	480	3.3	5,150	8.4	11,420	15.7	8,020	15.3	7,870	14.9	6,230	13.9	
65-71	123,680	41.4	2,880	19.6	20,780	33.8	32,880	45.2	22,010	42.0	22,700	42.9	22,430	50.2	
72 and over	126,720	42.4	11,230	76.6	35,210	57.3	27,600	37.9	20,280	38.7	19,290	36.5	13,250	29.7	
Women	140,820	100.0	42,300	100.0	36,980	100.0	27,530	100.0	15,710	100.0	12,600	100.0	5,740	100.0	
Under 55	1,080	.8	100	.2	200	.5	240	.9	240	1.5	250	2.0	50	.9	
55-59	800	.6	140	.3	130	.4	140	.5	160	1.0	190	1.5	40	.7	
60-61	1,300	.9	350	.8	460	1.2	260	.9	100	.6	90	.7	40	7.7	
62-64	17,080	12.1	4,280	10.1	3,800	10.3	4,260	15.5	2,490	15.8	1,680	13.3	570	9.9	
65-71	58,390	41.5	15,600	36.9	14,860	40.2	12,310	44.7	6,990	44.5	5,680	1	2,950	51.4	
72 and over	62,170	44.1	21,830	51.6	17,530	47.4	10,320	37.5	5,730	36.5	4,710		2,090	36.4	

¹Annuitants with OASDI benefits in force; excludes the transitionally insured and "special age-72" beneficiaries.

primary insurance amount of \$101.40 (table 4). This difference in benefit levels is attributable to the fact that the younger beneficiaries were predominantly receiving disability insurance benefits, which tend to be higher than retirement benefits.

Table 5 reveals marked differences related to age in the number of years of covered employment under the social security program. Dual beneficiaries aged 72 and over had fewer years of covered work than did those aged 65-71.

Only 54,000 or 30 percent of those aged 65-71 had 6 or fewer years of covered employment, but 86,000 or 45 percent of those aged 72 and over had this little covered employment. In part, at least, this pattern reflects changes in coverage provisions under the social security program in the 1950's. Older beneficiaries in occupations and industries to which coverage was extended during that time were more likely than younger beneficiaries to have had a reduced opportunity to engage in covered employment.

Antecedents of Mortality

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on the surrounding circumstances of the isolated terminally ill population. Although isolation appears to be an important defining aspect of risk, it is evident that it is only a necessary and not a sufficient condition in the mortality equation.

What are the types of support systems available at the community level for populations in declining health? How are previous living arrangements associated with mortality? What types of support systems might be implemented for the socially isolated with terminal illness? Other useful longitudinal information would help provide answers to these and other questions that have both policy as well as methodological significance.