
Note

The tables in this section provide data on the outcomes of applications for disability benefits. The data on applications are derived from the Social Security Administration's (SSA's) Disability Research File maintained by the Office of Disability Programs. Each year this file is updated with information about applications for disability benefits that is then used to determine the outcome of those applications. The outcome data in these tables are reported by year of filing and include decisions made through the administrative appeals process.

Table 58 shows the total number of applications filed in a year, the number denied for nonmedical reasons before a medical decision is made (*technical denials*), the number that are pending a final decision, the outcome of applications for which a medical allowance or denial was made, and award and allowance rates. Applications for which a medical allowance or denial decision was made but which were subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons are shown under the medical decision header as *subsequent denials*. The most common nonmedical reason for denying a claim is insufficient number of recent work credits.

The allowance rate is calculated by dividing the number of medical allowances (including subsequent technical denials) by the total number of medical decisions made for a 1-year cohort. The award rate is a broader program measure that is calculated as the number of allowances minus subsequent denials divided by total applications (minus pending claims) filed for a given year.

Claims that remain pending after 6 years are probably the result of imperfect data rather than excessive delays in the decisionmaking process. It is highly probable that decisions have been rendered on most of the older claims. For more recent years, the award and allowance rates will change as decisions are made on pending claims.

Tables 59–61 show the allowance rate for Social Security only and the Social Security portion of *concurrent applications* (which are claims for both Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability benefits). Each table shows a different level in the administrative decisionmaking process, that is, initial adjudicative, reconsideration, and hearing or higher level.

Beginning with 2000, the proportion of claims awarded at each level of the process changed as a result of the Prototype Process being tested in 10 states. Under this test, the reconsideration step of the appeals process was eliminated for applications filed October 1, 1999, or later. Elimination of the reconsideration level in these states results in a decrease in the aggregate proportion of claims awarded at this step.

The next section includes one table that shows the reason for medical allowance and one that shows the reason for medical denial (Tables 62 and 63). The reasons are derived from the sequential evaluation process used by decisionmakers. SSA maintains a list of impairments that are considered disabling under its regulations. An applicant can be found to be disabled if he or she

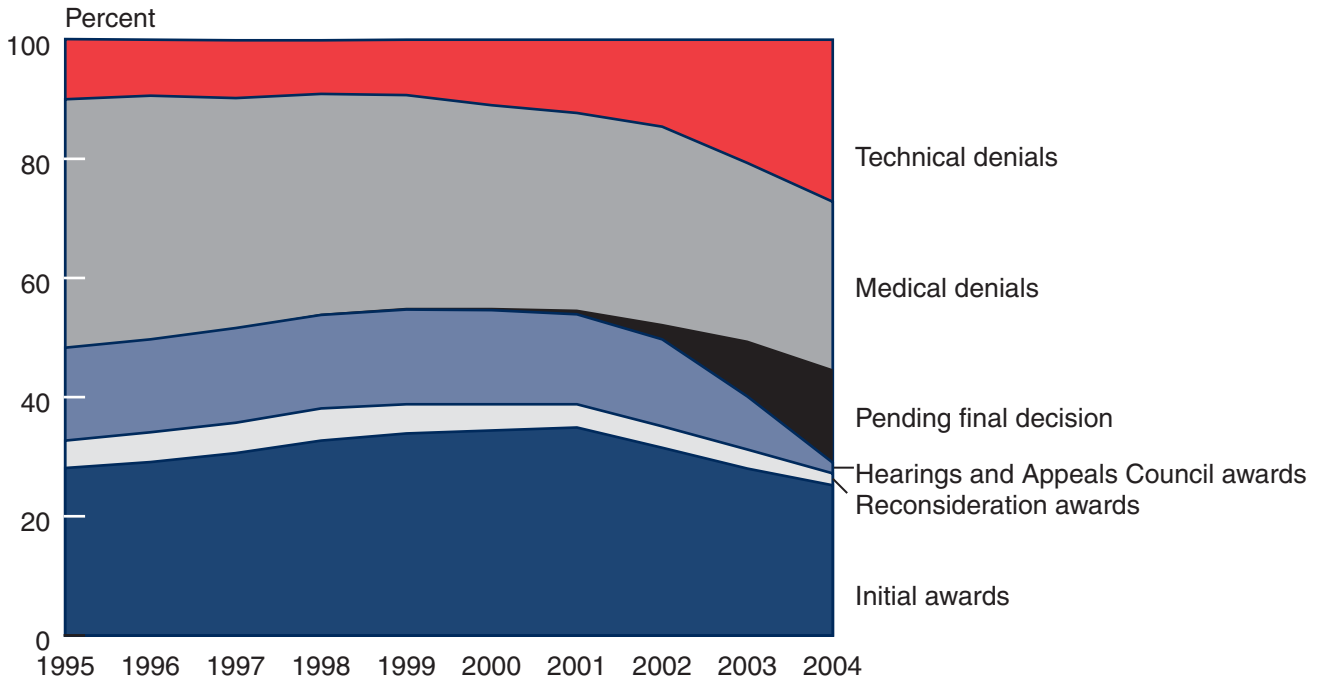
- has a listed impairment,
- has a severe impairment that is equal to a listed impairment,
- has a severe impairment when medical and vocational factors are considered, or
- had previously established entitlement to a disability benefit.

An applicant can be denied benefits if he or she

- has an impairment that is not expected to last 12 months,
 - has an impairment that is not considered severe,
 - is able to perform his or her usual type of work,
 - is able to perform another type of work, or
 - has an impairment resulting from drug addiction or alcoholism, provides insufficient medical evidence, fails to cooperate, fails to follow prescribed treatment, does not want to continue development of the claim, or returns to substantial work before disability can be established.
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Chart 11.
Final outcome of disabled-worker applications, 1995–2004

The final award rate for disabled-worker applicants has varied over time, averaging more than 47 percent for claims filed from 1995 through 2004. The percentage of applicants awarded benefits at the initial claims level averaged 31 percent over the same period and ranged from a high of about 35 percent to a low of 25 percent. The percentage of applicants awarded at the reconsideration and hearing levels are relatively constant, averaging 4 percent and 14 percent, respectively. Denied disability claims have averaged about 49 percent.



SOURCE: Tables 58–63.

NOTES: Awards are calculated as medical allowances minus subsequent technical denials. Technical denials include both nonmedical decision technical denials and medical decisions that were subsequently denied for technical reasons.

The proportion of claims awarded at each level of the process is likely to change as a result of the Prototype Process being tested in 10 states. Under this test, the reconsideration step of the appeals process was eliminated for applications filed October 1, 1999, or later. Elimination of the reconsideration level in these states is likely to result in a decrease in the overall proportion of claims awarded at this step.

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 58.
Outcomes at all adjudicative levels, by year of application, 1992–2004

Year	Total	Pending final decision	Technical denials ^a	Medical decisions				Award rate ^b (percent)	Allowance rate ^c (percent)
				Denials		Allowances			
				Medical	Subsequent nonmedical ^d	Awards	Subsequent denials ^e		
All disabled beneficiaries									
1999	1,265,055	3,145	104,340	443,674	4,069	707,969	1,858	56.1	61.4
2000	1,364,396	5,608	136,101	455,393	3,840	761,514	1,940	56.0	62.5
2001	1,513,536	11,461	170,479	492,804	3,601	833,257	1,934	55.5	62.8
2002	1,716,221	42,716	230,816	562,460	4,115	874,011	2,103	52.2	60.8
2003	1,931,283	174,286	374,032	575,613	4,730	800,509	2,113	45.6	58.1
2004	2,159,406	325,846	554,375	611,751	6,442	658,918	2,074	35.9	51.8
Workers									
1992	1,310,004	0	130,885	481,439	5,725	689,111	2,844	52.6	58.8
1993	1,384,501	0	140,314	540,906	5,626	695,007	2,648	50.2	56.2
1994	1,383,092	0	130,240	573,158	5,506	671,791	2,397	48.6	53.9
1995	1,301,472	0	123,711	542,097	5,048	628,380	2,236	48.3	53.6
1996	1,313,818	0	116,988	537,574	5,011	652,129	2,116	49.6	54.8
1997	1,164,680	0	106,882	449,970	4,214	601,755	1,859	51.7	57.2
1998	1,138,101	2,399	96,683	419,923	4,213	612,838	2,045	54.0	59.3
1999	1,167,664	3,045	102,316	417,248	4,021	639,248	1,786	54.9	60.4
2000	1,265,214	5,465	133,996	429,594	3,805	690,481	1,873	54.8	61.6
2001	1,414,598	11,261	168,191	467,094	3,558	762,615	1,879	54.3	62.0
2002	1,609,612	41,992	228,212	533,145	4,058	800,153	2,052	51.0	60.0
2003	1,823,199	172,000	371,059	543,097	4,670	730,333	2,040	44.2	57.3
2004	2,053,014	321,756	550,498	577,102	6,385	595,262	2,011	34.4	50.7
Widow(er)s									
1999	40,055	58	1,173	9,667	17	29,103	37	72.8	75.1
2000	39,996	76	1,257	8,975	11	29,648	29	74.3	76.8
2001	40,238	101	1,344	8,672	13	30,089	19	75.0	77.6
2002	41,325	351	1,537	8,977	19	30,422	19	74.2	77.2
2003	40,760	1,272	1,646	9,681	25	28,091	45	71.1	74.4
2004	39,695	2,252	1,984	10,297	31	25,097	34	67.0	70.9

(Continued)

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 58.
Outcomes at all adjudicative levels, by year of application, 1992–2004—Continued

Year	Total	Pending final decision	Technical denials ^a	Medical decisions				Award rate ^b (percent)	Allowance rate ^c (percent)
				Denials		Allowances			
				Medical	Subsequent nonmedical ^d	Awards	Subsequent denials ^e		
Adult children									
1999	57,336	42	851	16,759	31	39,618	35	69.1	70.3
2000	59,186	67	848	16,824	24	41,385	38	70.0	71.1
2001	58,700	99	944	17,038	30	40,553	36	69.2	70.4
2002	65,284	373	1,067	20,338	38	43,436	32	66.9	68.1
2003	67,324	1,014	1,327	22,835	35	42,085	28	63.5	64.8
2004	66,697	1,838	1,893	24,352	26	38,559	29	59.5	61.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data for the initial and reconsideration levels are current through June 2005. Data for the hearing level or above are current through July 2005.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the award and allowance rates will change over time. Cases can be pending at the initial or appellate levels and can include either medical or technical issues.

Data include decisions for Social Security–only applications and applications for both Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI); they do not include SSI-only applications.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

- a. Applications were denied for nonmedical reasons; therefore no decision was made on severity of impairment.
- b. Rate determined by dividing awards by all applications minus pending claims for that year.
- c. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.
- d. Applications were denied for nonmedical reasons after a decision was made that the applicant did not meet the medical severity criteria for disability benefits.
- e. Applications were denied for nonmedical reasons after a decision was made that the applicant met the medical severity criteria for disability benefits.

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Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 59.
Medical decisions at the initial adjudicative level, by year of application and program, 1992–2004

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
All disabled beneficiaries									
1999	1,160,654	459,999	39.6	649,845	313,676	48.3	510,809	146,323	28.6
2000	1,228,203	501,946	40.9	688,188	340,331	49.5	540,015	161,615	29.9
2001	1,342,880	560,106	41.7	742,838	379,872	51.1	600,042	180,234	30.0
2002	1,484,932	576,919	38.9	794,973	386,247	48.6	689,959	190,672	27.6
2003	1,555,430	579,262	37.2	794,442	378,526	47.6	760,988	200,736	26.4
2004	1,600,650	580,287	36.3	782,222	370,287	47.3	818,428	210,000	25.7
Workers									
1992	1,179,119	436,715	37.0	558,741	248,385	44.5	620,378	188,330	30.4
1993	1,244,187	421,560	33.9	571,464	240,839	42.1	672,723	180,721	26.9
1994	1,252,852	390,785	31.2	591,408	233,059	39.4	661,444	157,726	23.8
1995	1,177,761	367,293	31.2	569,963	223,457	39.2	607,798	143,836	23.7
1996	1,196,830	384,167	32.1	593,992	237,474	40.0	602,838	146,693	24.3
1997	1,057,798	357,880	33.8	551,895	228,793	41.5	505,903	129,087	25.5
1998	1,041,363	374,376	36.0	550,774	238,989	43.4	490,589	135,387	27.6
1999	1,065,291	397,335	37.3	578,748	259,910	44.9	486,543	137,425	28.2
2000	1,131,129	436,605	38.6	615,367	284,388	46.2	515,762	152,217	29.5
2001	1,246,235	494,907	39.7	670,543	324,189	48.3	575,692	170,718	29.7
2002	1,380,941	508,659	36.8	718,487	327,949	45.6	662,454	180,710	27.3
2003	1,450,350	513,128	35.4	720,567	322,658	44.8	729,783	190,470	26.1
2004	1,498,219	518,295	34.6	715,182	319,545	44.7	783,037	198,750	25.4
Widow(er)s									
1999	38,881	24,933	64.1	29,601	21,291	71.9	9,280	3,642	39.2
2000	38,737	25,781	66.6	29,879	21,997	73.6	8,858	3,784	42.7
2001	38,894	26,242	67.5	30,284	22,458	74.2	8,610	3,784	43.9
2002	39,785	26,588	66.8	31,067	22,815	73.4	8,718	3,773	43.3
2003	39,109	25,385	64.9	29,683	21,691	73.1	9,426	3,694	39.2
2004	37,685	24,050	63.8	27,085	19,975	73.7	10,600	4,075	38.4
Adult children									
1999	56,482	37,731	66.8	41,496	32,475	78.3	14,986	5,256	35.1
2000	58,337	39,560	67.8	42,942	33,946	79.1	15,395	5,614	36.5
2001	57,751	38,957	67.5	42,011	33,225	79.1	15,740	5,732	36.4
2002	64,206	41,672	64.9	45,419	35,483	78.1	18,787	6,189	32.9
2003	65,971	40,749	61.8	44,192	34,177	77.3	21,779	6,572	30.2
2004	64,746	37,942	58.6	39,955	30,767	77.0	24,791	7,175	28.9

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data are current through June 2005.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the allowance rate will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.

b. Rate for the Social Security portion only.

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Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 60.
Medical decisions at the reconsideration level, by year of application and program,
1992–2004

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
<i>All disabled beneficiaries</i>									
1999	398,181	61,143	15.4	210,354	34,724	16.5	187,827	26,419	14.1
2000	408,520	58,590	14.3	215,437	33,233	15.4	193,083	25,357	13.1
2001	435,135	58,417	13.4	222,255	32,590	14.7	212,880	25,827	12.1
2002	502,507	60,482	12.0	250,049	32,881	13.1	252,458	27,601	10.9
2003	532,676	59,727	11.2	251,825	31,705	12.6	280,851	28,022	10.0
2004	452,642	43,283	9.6	205,719	22,701	11.0	246,923	20,582	8.3
<i>Workers</i>									
1992	419,798	53,881	12.8	190,594	25,352	13.3	229,204	28,529	12.4
1993	469,151	58,275	12.4	206,606	27,306	13.2	262,545	30,969	11.8
1994	489,731	62,757	12.8	226,013	31,468	13.9	263,718	31,289	11.9
1995	458,036	60,584	13.2	218,950	31,563	14.4	239,086	29,021	12.1
1996	464,582	65,466	14.1	226,333	33,596	14.8	238,249	31,870	13.4
1997	403,211	59,978	14.9	206,134	33,373	16.2	197,077	26,605	13.5
1998	384,977	61,742	16.0	199,272	34,043	17.1	185,705	27,699	14.9
1999	385,406	57,808	15.0	203,693	33,192	16.3	181,713	24,616	13.5
2000	397,025	55,762	14.0	209,140	31,946	15.3	187,885	23,816	12.7
2001	423,960	55,822	13.2	216,158	31,420	14.5	207,802	24,402	11.7
2002	490,064	57,961	11.8	243,485	31,809	13.1	246,579	26,152	10.6
2003	519,936	57,594	11.1	246,009	30,792	12.5	273,927	26,802	9.8
2004	442,867	42,017	9.5	201,648	22,171	11.0	241,219	19,846	8.2
<i>Widow(er)s</i>									
1999	7,108	1,983	27.9	4,108	917	22.3	3,000	1,066	35.5
2000	6,353	1,574	24.8	3,854	738	19.1	2,499	836	33.5
2001	6,192	1,599	25.8	3,859	741	19.2	2,333	858	36.8
2002	6,415	1,435	22.4	4,014	667	16.6	2,401	768	32.0
2003	6,452	1,178	18.3	3,649	592	16.2	2,803	586	20.9
2004	4,769	685	14.4	2,472	335	13.6	2,297	350	15.2

(Continued)

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 60.
Medical decisions at the reconsideration level, by year of application and program,
1992–2004—Continued

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
Adult children									
1999	5,667	1,352	23.9	2,553	615	24.1	3,114	737	23.7
2000	5,142	1,254	24.4	2,443	549	22.5	2,699	705	26.1
2001	4,983	996	20.0	2,238	429	19.2	2,745	567	20.7
2002	6,028	1,086	18.0	2,550	405	15.9	3,478	681	19.6
2003	6,288	955	15.2	2,167	321	14.8	4,121	634	15.4
2004	5,006	581	11.6	1,599	195	12.2	3,407	386	11.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data are current through June 2005.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the allowance rate will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

A revised process was introduced on October 1, 1999, in 10 states, under which initial denials could be appealed directly to the hearing level without a reconsideration.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.

b. Rate for the Social Security portion only.

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Table 61.
Medical decisions at the hearing level or above, by year of application and program,
1992–2004

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
All disabled beneficiaries									
1999	260,693	188,685	72.4	142,698	111,850	78.4	117,995	76,835	65.1
2000	282,310	202,917	71.9	153,119	119,387	78.0	129,191	83,530	64.7
2001	300,747	216,668	72.0	158,710	124,765	78.6	142,037	91,903	64.7
2002	324,727	238,713	73.5	170,201	136,992	80.5	154,526	101,721	65.8
2003	215,931	163,633	75.8	113,243	93,557	82.6	102,688	70,076	68.2
2004	45,435	37,422	82.4	25,986	23,013	88.6	19,449	14,409	74.1
Workers									
1992	275,863	201,359	73.0	131,624	105,371	80.1	144,239	95,988	66.5
1993	310,655	217,816	70.1	143,997	112,593	78.2	166,658	105,223	63.1
1994	323,607	220,645	68.2	156,458	119,338	76.3	167,149	101,307	60.6
1995	301,917	202,739	67.2	150,882	113,781	75.4	151,035	88,958	58.9
1996	306,245	204,612	66.8	157,790	116,256	73.7	148,455	88,356	59.5
1997	267,274	185,756	69.5	141,007	107,310	76.1	126,267	78,446	62.1
1998	249,106	178,765	71.8	133,808	104,596	78.2	115,298	74,169	64.3
1999	256,657	185,891	72.4	139,632	109,669	78.5	117,025	76,222	65.1
2000	278,054	199,986	71.9	149,888	117,099	78.1	128,166	82,887	64.7
2001	296,558	213,765	72.1	155,504	122,479	78.8	141,054	91,286	64.7
2002	320,311	235,585	73.5	166,832	134,509	80.6	153,479	101,076	65.9
2003	213,209	161,651	75.8	111,328	92,114	82.7	101,881	69,537	68.3
2004	44,869	36,961	82.4	25,599	22,687	88.6	19,270	14,274	74.1
Widow(er)s									
1999	2,920	2,224	76.2	2,253	1,740	77.2	667	484	72.6
2000	3,030	2,322	76.6	2,339	1,816	77.6	691	506	73.2
2001	2,901	2,267	78.1	2,295	1,811	78.9	606	456	75.2
2002	3,037	2,418	79.6	2,399	1,942	81.0	638	476	74.6
2003	1,965	1,573	80.1	1,425	1,156	81.1	540	417	77.2
2004	454	396	87.2	319	282	88.4	135	114	84.4

(Continued)

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 61.
Medical decisions at the hearing level or above, by year of application and program,
1992–2004—Continued

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
Adult children									
1999	1,116	570	51.1	813	441	54.2	303	129	42.6
2000	1,226	609	49.7	892	472	52.9	334	137	41.0
2001	1,288	636	49.4	911	475	52.1	377	161	42.7
2002	1,379	710	51.5	970	541	55.8	409	169	41.3
2003	757	409	54.0	490	287	58.6	267	122	45.7
2004	112	65	58.0	68	44	64.7	44	21	47.7

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data are current through July 2005.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the allowance rate will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

A revised process was introduced on October 1, 1999, in 10 states, under which initial denials could be appealed directly to the hearing level without a reconsideration.

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SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.

b. Rate for the Social Security portion only.

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Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 62.
Percentage distribution of final medical allowances, by year of application and reason for allowance, 1992–2004

Year	Total		Meets level of severity of listings	Equals level of severity of listings	Medical and vocational factors considered	Other ^a
	Number	Percent				
All disabled beneficiaries						
1999	707,969	100.0	33.0	5.9	27.0	34.0
2000	761,514	100.0	31.3	6.2	29.4	33.1
2001	833,257	100.0	30.2	6.1	30.3	33.3
2002	874,011	100.0	29.3	5.5	31.0	34.2
2003	800,509	100.0	31.3	5.9	35.9	26.9
2004	658,918	100.0	37.1	6.9	43.6	12.3
Workers						
1992	689,111	100.0	34.3	11.1	24.3	30.3
1993	695,007	100.0	34.3	8.7	23.6	33.4
1994	671,791	100.0	34.5	6.9	25.6	32.9
1995	628,380	100.0	34.5	6.7	26.8	31.9
1996	652,129	100.0	34.2	7.0	27.4	31.5
1997	601,755	100.0	35.0	7.6	26.4	31.0
1998	612,838	100.0	35.5	6.6	27.0	30.9
1999	639,248	100.0	33.7	6.3	28.3	31.7
2000	690,481	100.0	31.9	6.6	30.9	30.7
2001	762,615	100.0	30.8	6.4	31.7	31.1
2002	800,153	100.0	29.8	5.8	32.4	32.0
2003	730,333	100.0	32.0	6.2	37.8	24.0
2004	595,262	100.0	38.3	7.4	46.4	7.9
Widow(er)s						
1999	29,103	100.0	14.9	2.5	24.6	58.0
2000	29,648	100.0	12.8	2.5	26.3	58.4
2001	30,089	100.0	12.3	2.6	27.0	58.0
2002	30,422	100.0	11.5	2.1	26.7	59.7
2003	28,091	100.0	11.5	2.4	27.8	58.4
2004	25,097	100.0	11.8	2.2	30.1	56.0
Adult children						
1999	39,618	100.0	35.9	3.2	7.4	53.5
2000	41,385	100.0	35.0	3.1	7.3	54.7
2001	40,553	100.0	33.0	3.0	8.0	56.0
2002	43,436	100.0	31.8	2.9	7.7	57.6
2003	42,085	100.0	32.8	2.8	8.6	55.7
2004	38,559	100.0	34.7	3.2	9.5	52.6

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data for the initial and reconsideration levels are current through June 2005. Data for the hearing level or above are current through July 2005.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the numbers and percentages will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

Data include decisions for Social Security–only applications and applications for both Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI); they do not include SSI-only claims.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

a. Includes applications for which the disability was previously established and those for which the basis for the determination is not available. The majority of applications for which the basis of determination is not available are cases allowed at or above the hearing level.

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Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 63.

Percentage distribution of final medical denials, by year of application and reason for denial, 1992–2004

Year	Total		Impairment did not or is not expected to last 12 months	Impairment is not severe	Able to do usual past work	Able to do other type of work	Other ^a
	Number	Percent					
All disabled beneficiaries							
1999	447,743	100.0	10.3	17.8	28.3	30.8	12.8
2000	459,233	100.0	10.1	17.2	28.3	30.4	14.0
2001	496,405	100.0	9.3	16.7	28.0	31.0	14.9
2002	566,575	100.0	8.6	17.2	28.1	31.0	15.1
2003	580,343	100.0	7.8	17.7	27.9	30.9	15.7
2004	618,193	100.0	7.3	17.7	27.8	30.9	16.4
Workers							
1992	487,164	100.0	10.7	22.9	28.4	29.6	8.4
1993	546,532	100.0	10.4	22.7	27.6	29.8	9.5
1994	578,664	100.0	10.2	21.5	25.9	28.8	13.6
1995	547,145	100.0	10.6	20.8	25.4	29.4	13.8
1996	542,585	100.0	10.2	19.6	24.7	30.6	14.8
1997	454,184	100.0	10.6	18.5	25.7	30.5	14.7
1998	424,136	100.0	10.8	18.3	27.8	30.8	12.2
1999	421,269	100.0	10.7	17.4	29.3	30.1	12.5
2000	433,399	100.0	10.5	16.7	29.3	29.7	13.7
2001	470,652	100.0	9.6	16.4	29.0	30.4	14.6
2002	537,203	100.0	8.9	16.9	29.1	30.2	14.9
2003	547,767	100.0	8.1	17.4	29.0	30.0	15.5
2004	583,487	100.0	7.5	17.4	28.8	30.1	16.1
Widow(er)s							
1999	9,684	100.0	5.6	29.1	31.8	22.7	10.8
2000	8,986	100.0	5.3	29.0	31.4	22.4	12.0
2001	8,685	100.0	4.7	27.6	31.2	22.9	13.7
2002	8,996	100.0	4.8	26.2	32.4	23.6	13.1
2003	9,706	100.0	4.3	25.8	32.9	23.7	13.3
2004	10,328	100.0	3.9	24.9	32.6	24.4	14.3
Adult children							
1999	16,790	100.0	3.1	22.7	0.7	53.3	20.2
2000	16,848	100.0	2.9	22.9	0.7	51.9	21.7
2001	17,068	100.0	2.5	21.3	0.9	52.9	22.3
2002	20,376	100.0	2.3	21.6	0.8	53.5	21.8
2003	22,870	100.0	2.0	21.7	0.7	53.7	21.9
2004	24,378	100.0	2.1	21.6	0.5	52.3	23.5

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data for the initial and reconsideration levels are current through June 2005. Data for the hearing level or above are current through July 2005.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the numbers and percentages will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

Data include decisions for Social Security–only applications and applications for both Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI); they do not include SSI-only claims.

Data from 1992 to 1998 are available for disabled workers only.

a. Applicant has an impairment resulting from drug addiction or alcoholism, provided insufficient medical evidence, failed to cooperate, failed to follow prescribed treatment, did not want to continue development of the claim, or returned to substantial work before disability could be established. Also includes cases denied at or above the hearing level for which the basis of determination is not available.

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