## Social Security (OASDI)

### Employment and Earnings

- **Workers in OASDI covered employment, 2002**: 152.8 million
- **Average earnings, 2002**: $32,466
- **Earnings required in 2003 for**—
  - 1 quarter of coverage: $890
  - Maximum of 4 quarters of coverage: $3,560
- **Earnings test exempt amounts for 2003**
  - Under full retirement age for entire year: $11,520
  - For months before reaching full retirement age in 2003: $30,720
  - Beginning with month of reaching full retirement age in 2003: Test eliminated

### Program Data

- **Cost-of-living adjustment for December 2002**: 1.4 percent
- **Average monthly benefit, December 2002**
  - Retired workers: $895
  - Widows and widowers, nondisabled: $861
  - Disabled workers: $834
- **Number of beneficiaries, December 2002**
  - Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance: 46.4 million
  - Old-Age Insurance
    - Total: 32.3 million
    - Retired workers: 29.2 million
  - Survivors Insurance
    - Total: 6.9 million
    - Widows and widowers, nondisabled: 4.6 million
  - Disability Insurance
    - Total: 7.2 million
    - Disabled workers: 5.5 million
- **Benefit payments, 2002**
  - Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance: $453.8 billion
  - Old-Age and Survivors Insurance: $388.1 billion
  - Disability Insurance: $65.7 billion
- **Administrative expenses, 2002**
  - Old-Age and Survivors Insurance
    - Amount: $2.1 billion
    - As a percentage of total benefits paid: 0.6 percent
  - Disability Insurance
    - Amount: $2.0 billion
    - As a percentage of total benefits paid: 3.1 percent
Program Trends

- About 46.4 million persons received Social Security benefits for December 2002, an increase of 567,000 (1.2 percent) since December 2001. Seventy percent were retired workers and their spouses and children, and another 15 percent were survivors of deceased workers. Sixteen percent were disabled workers and their spouses and children.

- Seventy-two percent of the 29.2 million retired workers received reduced benefits because of entitlement prior to full retirement age. Relatively more women (75 percent) than men (69 percent) received reduced benefits.

- The number of beneficiaries aged 65 or older rose from 31.9 million in 1997 to 33.2 million in 2002 (4.1 percent). Beneficiaries aged 85 or older increased at a greater rate during the 5-year period (10.2 percent) from 3,783,000 in 1997 to 4,170,000 in 2002. In 2002, 40,100 centenarians were receiving Social Security.

- More than 19 million women aged 65 or older received benefits for December 2002. About 7.2 million (37.2 percent) were entitled solely to a retired-worker benefit, and another 5.7 million (29.4 percent) were dually entitled to a retired-worker benefit and a wife's or widow's benefit. About 6.4 million (33.3 percent) were receiving wife's or widow's benefits only.

- Over 3 million children under age 18 received benefits, including 1,350,500 children of deceased workers, 1,422,000 children of disabled workers, and 270,200 children of retired workers.

- About 6.5 million persons received benefits based on disability—5,544,000 disabled workers, 744,500 disabled adult children, and 207,400 disabled widows and widowers. In addition, 151,600 spouses and 1,466,200 minors and student children of disabled workers received benefits.

- The leading causes of disability for disabled workers were mental disorders other than mental retardation (28 percent), and musculoskeletal conditions (24 percent). About 10 percent had circulatory conditions, and an additional 10 percent had diseases of the nervous system and sense organs.

- Average monthly benefits for December 2002, including the 1.4 percent COLA increase, were $895 for retired workers, $834 for disabled workers, and $861 for nondisabled widows and widowers. Among retired workers, benefits averaged $1,008 for men and $774 for women. For disabled workers, average benefits were $935 for men and $709 for women.

- Average monthly family benefits for December 2002 were $1,614 for a widowed mother or father and children; $1,401 for a disabled worker, wife, and children; and $1,769 for a retired worker, wife, and children.

- Total OASDI benefit payments for calendar year 2002 were $453.8 billion. Payments from the OASI trust fund were $388.1 billion—an increase of 4.2 percent from the $372.3 billion paid in 2001.

- Benefit payments from the DI trust fund, from which benefits are paid to disabled workers, their spouses, and children, increased by 10.2 percent from $59.6 billion in 2001 to $65.7 billion in 2002.

- OASDI benefit awards in calendar year 2002 totaled 4,335,700, including 1,812,600 to retired workers, 433,900 to their spouses and children and 873,900 to survivors of insured workers. Benefits were awarded to 750,000 disabled workers and to 465,400 of their spouses and children.
Supplemental Security Income

Annual Payment Adjustments

Monthly federal benefit rate, effective January 2003

- Individual living in his or her own household $552
- Couple with both members eligible $829

Cost-of-living adjustment

1.4 percent

Program Trends

- In December 2002, 6,787,900 persons received federally administered SSI payments—99,400 more than the previous year. Of the total, 1,995,300 (29.4 percent) were aged 65 or older; 3,877,800 (57.1 percent) were blind or disabled aged 18-64; and 914,800 (13.5 percent) were blind or disabled under age 18.

- The number of blind or disabled aged 18-64 rose by 66,300 (1.7 percent) between December 2001 and December 2002, while the number under age 18 increased by 33,000 (3.7 percent).

- During 2002, 818,100 persons were awarded federally administered payments, an increase of 6.2 percent from the previous year. Of the 2002 awards, 533,500 went to blind or disabled recipients aged 18-64, 169,100 to those blind or disabled under age 18, and 115,500 to recipients aged 65 or older.

- Total SSI payments were $34.6 billion in 2002, up 4.6 percent from 2001. Federal SSI payments in 2002 were $29.9 billion (an increase of 4.2 percent over the previous year). Federally administered state supplementation totaled $3.8 billion (an increase of 10.4 percent); state-administered supplementation totaled $848.0 million, a decrease of 5.3 percent from the previous year’s totals.

- In 2002, the leading causes of disability among the blind or disabled between the ages of 18 and 64 and those under age 18 were mental disorders and mental retardation. Among recipients between the ages of 18 and 64, 22.8 percent had mental retardation as the primary diagnosis, and 34 percent were diagnosed with another mental disorder. These conditions were also the most frequent diagnoses for blind or disabled under age 18.

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Program Data

Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits paid in 2002</th>
<th>$34.6 billion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of recipients, December 2002</td>
<td>6.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average benefit, December 2002</td>
<td>$408.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Federally administered payments

Benefits paid in 2002 $33.7 billion
Number of recipients, December 2002 6.8 million
Average benefit, December 2002 $407.42

Federal SSI payments

Benefits paid in 2002 $29.9 billion
Number of recipients, December 2002 6.5 million
Average benefit, December 2002 $376.76

Federally administered state supplementation

Benefits paid in 2002 $3.8 billion
Number of recipients, December 2002 a 2.5 million
Average benefit, December 2002 $127.53

State-administered supplementation

Benefits paid in 2002 $0.8 billion
Number of recipients, December 2002 b 0.6 million
Average benefit, December 2002 $110.62

a. Includes 2.2 million persons receiving federal SSI and state supplementation and 0.3 million persons receiving state supplementation only.
b. Includes 151,989 persons receiving state supplementation only.
Health Care

Medicare

Total benefits paid in calendar year 2002
- Hospital Insurance (Part A) $149.9 billion
- Supplementary Medical Insurance (Part B) $111.0 billion

Number of enrollees in July 2002 (one or both of Parts A and B)
- Aged 34.7 million
- Disabled 5.8 million

Administrative costs, 2002
- Hospital Insurance Amount $2.6 billion
  As a percentage of total benefits paid 1.7 percent
- Supplementary Medical Insurance Amount $2.2 billion
  As a percentage of total benefits paid 2.0 percent

Medicaid

Medical service expenditures in fiscal year 2000 $168.3 billion

Number of unduplicated recipients, fiscal year 2000 42.8 million

Average 2000 vendor payment per unduplicated recipient
- Persons aged 65 or older $11,929
- Permanently and totally disabled persons $10,559
- Dependent children under age 21 $1,358

Average 2000 vendor payment for medical services
- Nursing facility services $20,220
- Inpatient general hospital care $4,919
- Prescribed drugs $975
- Physicians services $356
### Other Social Insurance Programs and Veterans’ Benefits

#### Unemployment Insurance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total payments, 2002</td>
<td>$42.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly benefit amount (regular programs)</td>
<td>$257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of benefits</td>
<td>16.5 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly insured unemployment</td>
<td>3.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covered employment</td>
<td>126.5 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Workers’ Compensation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benefit payments, 2001</td>
<td>$49.4 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation payments</td>
<td>$27.4 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and hospitalization</td>
<td>$22.0 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits paid by—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private insurance carriers</td>
<td>$27.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State and federal funds</td>
<td>$11.0 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employers’ self-insurance</td>
<td>$11.3 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covered workers per month</td>
<td>127.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs as a percentage of covered payroll</td>
<td>1.39 percent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Temporary Disability Insurance a

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average weekly benefit, 2000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State fund</td>
<td>$256</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private plans</td>
<td>$399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State fund</td>
<td>$146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private plans</td>
<td>$185</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Notes:
- Programs in effect in California, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Puerto Rico, and the railroad industry.
- Accounts for half of the workers participating in Temporary Disability Insurance.
### Black Lung Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic benefit to miner or widow</td>
<td>$534.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum family benefit</td>
<td>$1,069.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part B (claims filed before July 1, 1973)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of monthly benefits to miners, widows, and dependents, December 2002</td>
<td>71,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total benefits paid, calendar year 2002</td>
<td>$439.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part C (claims filed July 1, 1973, or later)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total benefits paid, fiscal year 2002</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability and survivors benefits</td>
<td>$320.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical benefits</td>
<td>$64.2 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Veterans' Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of veterans with disability compensation or pension, 2002</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service-connected disability</td>
<td>2,398,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-service-connected disability</td>
<td>347,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly payment in 2003 for—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service-connected disability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 percent disability</td>
<td>$104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total disability</td>
<td>$2,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-service-connected disability (maximum payment)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without dependent</td>
<td>$807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With one dependent and in need of aid and attendance</td>
<td>$1,597</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Assistance Programs

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Total payments, 2002 $10.1 billion

Average monthly number of—
Recipients 5.1 million
Families 2.1 million

Average monthly payment
Per recipient $167
Per family $412

Food Stamps

Monthly benefits, beginning October 1, 2003
Four-person household with no income $471
Standard deduction (one-person to four-person households) $134

Fiscal year 2002
Average number of participants 19.1 million
Total benefits $18.3 billion

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance
(Contents issued by the Department of Health and Human Services in fiscal year 2001.)

Block grants to—
50 states and the District of Columbia $1.36 billion
Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and Northern Mariana Islands $1.9 million

Direct block grants to 128 Indian tribes and tribal organizations $12.5 million

Leveraging incentive awards to—
37 states $19.2 million
30 Indian tribes and tribal organizations $1.4 million

Residential Emergency Assistance Challenge (REACH) program awards to—
5 states $4.5 million
8 Indian tribes and tribal organizations $1.2 million

Emergency contingency funds to—
50 states and the District of Columbia $451 million
128 Indian tribes and tribal organizations $4.0 million

Poverty Data

Weighted average poverty thresholds, 2002
Individual, aged 65 or older $8,628
Couple, householder aged 65 or older $10,885
Family of four $18,392

Percentage of population with income below poverty level, 2001
All ages 11.7 percent
Children under age 18 living in families 15.7 percent
Persons aged 65 or older 10.1 percent