Social Security (OASDI)

Employment and Earnings

Workers in OASDI covered employment, 2006 161.6 million
Average earnings, 2006 $37,346

Earnings required in 2007 for—
1 quarter of coverage $1,000
Maximum of 4 quarters of coverage $4,000

Earnings test exempt amounts for 2007
Under full retirement age for entire year $12,960
For months before reaching full retirement age in 2007 $34,440
Beginning with month of reaching full retirement age in 2007 Test eliminated

Program Data

Cost-of-living adjustment for December 2006 3.3 percent
Average monthly benefit, December 2006
Retired workers $1,044
Widows and widowers, nondisabled $1,008
Disabled workers $978

Number of beneficiaries, December 2006
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance 49.1 million
Old-Age Insurance
Total 33.9 million
Retired workers 30.9 million
Survivors Insurance
Total 6.6 million
Widows and widowers, nondisabled 4.3 million
Disability Insurance
Total 8.6 million
Disabled workers 6.8 million

Benefit payments, 2006
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance $546.2 billion
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance $454.5 billion
Disability Insurance $91.7 billion

Administrative expenses, 2006
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance
Amount $3.0 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid 0.7 percent
Disability Insurance
Amount $2.3 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid 2.5 percent
Program Trends

- About 49.1 million persons received Social Security benefits for December 2006, an increase of 676,700 (1.4 percent) since December 2005. Sixty-nine percent were retired workers and their spouses and children, 13 percent were survivors of deceased workers, and 18 percent were disabled workers and their spouses and children.

- Seventy-three percent of the 30.9 million retired workers received reduced benefits because of entitlement prior to full retirement age. Relatively more women (76 percent) than men (71 percent) received reduced benefits.

- The number of beneficiaries aged 65 or older rose from 32.9 million in 2001 to 34.5 million in 2006 (4.7 percent). Beneficiaries aged 85 or older increased at a greater rate during the 5-year period (14 percent) from 4,095,000 in 2001 to 4,668,000 in 2006. In 2006, 43,100 centenarians were receiving Social Security.

- About 19.8 million women aged 65 or older received benefits for December 2006. About 7.9 million (40 percent) were entitled solely to a retired-worker benefit, and 5.9 million (29.6 percent) were dually entitled to a retired-worker benefit and a wife's or widow's benefit. About 6 million (30.3 percent) were receiving wife's or widow's benefits only.

- More than 3 million children under age 18 received benefits, including 1,320,900 children of deceased workers, 1,530,300 children of disabled workers, and 282,300 children of retired workers.

- About 7.8 million persons received benefits based on disability—6,807,000 disabled workers, 777,000 disabled adult children, and 220,000 disabled widows and widowers. In addition, 153,500 spouses and 1,579,900 minor and student children of disabled workers received benefits.

- Average monthly benefits for December 2006, including the 3.3 percent cost-of-living adjustment, were $1,044 for retired workers, $978 for disabled workers, and $1,008 for nondisabled widows and widowers. Among retired workers, benefits averaged $1,178 for men and $905 for women. For disabled workers, average benefits were $1,097 for men and $840 for women.

- Average monthly family benefits for December 2006 were $1,955 for a widowed mother or father and children; $1,668 for a disabled worker, wife, and children; and $2,104 for a retired worker, wife, and children.

- Total OASDI benefit payments for calendar year 2006 were $546.2 billion. Payments from the OASI trust fund were $454.5 billion—an increase of 4.4 percent from the $435 billion paid in 2005.

- Benefit payments from the DI trust fund, from which benefits are paid to disabled workers, their spouses, and children, increased by 7.5 percent from $85.4 billion in 2005 to $91.7 billion in 2006.

- OASDI benefit awards in calendar year 2006 totaled 4,621,100, including 1,999,000 to retired workers, 455,300 to their spouses and children and 869,600 to survivors of insured workers. Benefits were awarded to 798,700 disabled workers and to 498,500 of their spouses and children.
Supplemental Security Income

Annual Payment Adjustments

Monthly federal benefit rate, effective January 2007

- Individual living in his or her own household: $623
- Couple with both members eligible: $934

Cost-of-living adjustment: 3.3 percent

Program Data

Federally administered payments

- Benefits paid in 2006: $38.9 billion
- Number of recipients, December 2006: 7.2 million
- Average benefit, December 2006: $454.75

Federal SSI payments

- Benefits paid in 2006: $34.7 billion
- Number of recipients, December 2006: 6.9 million
- Average benefit, December 2006: $423.05

Federally administered state supplementation

- Benefits paid in 2006: $4.2 billion
- Number of recipients, December 2006: a 2.3 million
- Average benefit, December 2006: $156.24

a. Includes 2.0 million persons receiving federal SSI and state supplementation and 0.3 million persons receiving state supplementation only.
Program Trends

- In December 2006, 7,235,583 persons received federally administered SSI payments—121,704 more than the previous year. Of the total, 2,004,476 (27.7 percent) were aged 65 or older; 4,152,130 (57.4 percent) were blind or disabled aged 18–64; and 1,078,977 (14.9 percent) were blind or disabled under age 18.

- The number of blind or disabled aged 18–64 rose by 69,260 (1.7 percent) between December 2005 and December 2006, and the number under age 18 increased by 42,479 (4.1 percent).

- During 2006, 838,448 persons were awarded federally administered payments, a decrease of 13,800 from the previous year. Of the 2006 awards, 556,140 went to blind or disabled recipients aged 18–64, 170,453 to those blind or disabled under age 18, and 111,855 to recipients aged 65 or older.

- Total federally administered SSI payments were $38.9 billion in 2006, up 4.4 percent from 2005. Federal SSI payments in 2006 were $34.7 billion (an increase of 5.1 percent over the previous year). Federally administered state supplementation totaled $4.2 billion.
## Health Care

### Medicare

Total benefits paid in calendar year 2006
- Hospital Insurance (Part A) $189.0 billion
- Supplementary Medical Insurance (Part B) $213.0 billion

Number of enrollees in July 2006 (one or both of Parts A and B)
- Aged 36.3 million
- Disabled 7.0 million

Administrative costs, 2006
- Hospital Insurance Amount $2.9 billion, as a percentage of total benefits paid 1.6 percent
- Supplementary Medical Insurance Amount $3.4 billion, as a percentage of total benefits paid 1.6 percent

### Medicaid

Medical service expenditures in fiscal year 2004 $257.7 billion
Number of unduplicated recipients, fiscal year 2004 55.0 million

Average 2004 vendor payment per unduplicated recipient
- Persons aged 65 or older $13,790
- Permanently and totally disabled persons $14,070
- Dependent children under age 21 $1,530

Average 2004 vendor payment for medical services
- Nursing facility services $24,585
- Inpatient general hospital care $6,435
- Prescribed drugs $1,433
- Physicians services $426
Other Social Insurance Programs and Veterans’ Benefits

Unemployment Insurance

Total payments, 2006 $34.0 billion
Average—
  Weekly benefit amount (regular programs) $277.20
  Duration of benefits 15.2 weeks
  Weekly insured unemployment 2.5 million
Covered employment 132.2 million

Workers’ Compensation

Benefit payments, 2005 $55.3 billion
  Compensation payments $29.1 billion
  Medical and hospitalization $26.2 billion
Benefits paid by—
  Private insurance carriers $28.1 billion
  State and federal funds $14.0 billion
  Employers’ self-insurance $13.1 billion
Covered workers per month 128.1 million
Costs as a percentage of covered payroll 1.70 percent

Temporary Disability Insurance

Average weekly benefit, 2004
  California
    State fund $338
    Private plans $489
  New York
    Private plans $185

NOTE: Programs in effect in California, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Puerto Rico, and the railroad industry.

Black Lung Benefits

Basic benefit to miner or widow $584.00
Maximum family benefit $1,168.00
Part B (claims filed before July 1, 1973)
  Number of monthly benefits to miners, widows, and dependents, December 2006 40,018
  Total benefits paid, calendar year 2006 $312.5 million
Part C (claims filed July 1, 1973, or later)
  Total benefits paid, fiscal year 2006
    Disability and survivors benefits $304.4 million
    Medical benefits $40 million
**Veterans' Benefits**

Number of veterans with disability compensation or pension, 2006

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Disability</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service-connected disability</td>
<td>2,726,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-service-connected disability</td>
<td>330,000</td>
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Monthly payment in 2007 for—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Disability</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service-connected disability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 percent disability</td>
<td>$115</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total disability</td>
<td>$2,471</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-service-connected disability (maximum payment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Without dependent</td>
<td>$911</td>
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<tr>
<td>With one dependent and in need of aid and attendance</td>
<td>$1,801</td>
</tr>
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Poverty Data

Weighted average poverty thresholds, 2006
- Individual, aged 65 or older $9,669
- Couple, householder aged 65 or older $12,201
- Family of four $20,614

Percentage of population with income below poverty level, 2005
- All ages 12.6 percent
- Children under the age of 18 living in families 17.1 percent
- Persons aged 65 or older 10.1 percent