Social Security (OASDI)

Employment and Earnings

Workers in OASDI covered employment, 2007 162.5 million
Average earnings, 2007 $39,173

Earnings required in 2008 for—
   1 quarter of coverage $1,050
   Maximum of 4 quarters of coverage $4,200

Earnings test exempt amounts for 2008
   Under full retirement age for entire year $13,560
   For months before reaching full retirement age in 2008 $36,120
   Beginning with month of reaching full retirement age in 2008 Test eliminated

Program Data

Cost-of-living adjustment for December 2007 2.3 percent
Average monthly benefit, December 2007
   Retired workers $1,079
   Widows and widowers, nondisabled $1,040
   Disabled workers $1,004

Number of beneficiaries, December 2007
   Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance 49.9 million
      Old-Age Insurance
         Total 34.5 million
         Retired workers 31.5 million
      Survivors Insurance
         Total 6.5 million
         Widows and widowers, nondisabled 4.2 million
      Disability Insurance
         Total 8.9 million
         Disabled workers 7.1 million

Benefit payments, 2007
   Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance $585.0 billion
   Old-Age and Survivors Insurance $485.9 billion
   Disability Insurance $99.1 billion

Administrative expenses, 2007
   Old-Age and Survivors Insurance $3.1 billion
      As a percentage of total benefits paid 0.6 percent
   Disability Insurance $2.5 billion
      As a percentage of total benefits paid 2.5 percent
Program Trends

- About 49.9 million persons received Social Security benefits for December 2007, an increase of 742,214 (1.5 percent) since December 2006. 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 31.5 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 33.2 million in 2002 to 35.1 million in 2007 (5.7 percent). Beneficiaries aged 85 or older increased at a greater rate during the 5-year period (15.5 percent) from 4,170,000 in 2002 to 4,817,000 in 2007. In 2007, 44,900 centenarians were receiving Social Security.

- About 20.1 million women aged 65 or older received benefits for December 2007. About 8.2 million (41 percent) were entitled solely to a retired-worker benefit. About 5.9 million (29.6 percent) were dually entitled to a retired-worker benefit and a wife’s or widow’s benefit, and about the same number (29.5 percent) were receiving wife’s or widow’s benefits only.

- More than 3 million children under age 18 received benefits, including 1,302,665 children of deceased workers, 1,535,010 children of disabled workers, and 281,848 children of retired workers.

- About 8.1 million persons received benefits based on disability—7,098,723 disabled workers, 794,677 disabled adult children, and 224,982 disabled widows and widowers. In addition, 152,802 spouses and 1,587,343 minor and student children of disabled workers received benefits.

- Average monthly benefits for December 2007, including the 2.3 percent cost-of-living adjustment, were $1,079 for retired workers, $1,004 for disabled workers, and $1,040 for nondisabled widows and widowers. Among retired workers, monthly benefits averaged $1,218 for men and $935 for women. For disabled workers, average monthly benefits were $1,126 for men and $866 for women.

- Average monthly family benefits for December 2007 were $2,021 for a widowed mother or father and children; $1,716 for a disabled worker, wife, and children; and $2,184 for a retired worker, wife, and children.

- Total OASDI benefit payments for calendar year 2007 were $585.0 billion. Payments from the OASI trust fund were $485.9 billion—an increase of 5.5 percent from the $460.5 billion paid in 2006.

- Benefit payments from the DI trust fund, from which benefits are paid to disabled workers, their spouses, and children, increased by 7.3 percent from $92.4 billion in 2006 to $99.1 billion in 2007.

- OASDI benefit awards in calendar year 2007 totaled 4,710,830, including 2,035,781 to retired workers, 443,460 to their spouses and children, and 925,928 to survivors of insured workers. Benefits were awarded to 804,787 disabled workers and to 500,875 of their spouses and children.
Supplemental Security Income

Annual Payment Adjustments

Monthly federal benefit rate, effective January 2008

- Individual living in his or her own household: $637
- Couple with both members eligible: $956

Cost-of-living adjustment: 2.3 percent

Program Data

Federally administered payments

- Benefits paid in 2007: $41.2 billion
- Number of recipients, December 2007: 7.4 million
- Average benefit, December 2007: $468.37

Federal SSI payments

- Benefits paid in 2007: $36.9 billion
- Number of recipients, December 2007: 7.1 million
- Average benefit, December 2007: $437.06

Federally administered state supplementation

- Benefits paid in 2007: $4.3 billion
- Number of recipients, December 2007: \(^a\) 2.3 million
- Average benefit, December 2007: $156.56

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

• In December 2007, 7,359,525 persons received federally administered SSI payments—123,942 more than the previous year. Of the total, 2,016,588 (27.4 percent) were aged 65 or older; 4,221,920 (57.4 percent) were blind or disabled aged 18–64; and 1,121,017 (15.2 percent) were blind or disabled under age 18.

• The number of blind or disabled aged 18–64 rose by 69,790 (1.7 percent) between December 2006 and December 2007, and the number under age 18 increased by 42,040 (3.9 percent).

• During 2007, 836,642 persons were awarded federally administered payments, a decrease of 1,806 from the previous year. Of the 2007 awards, 563,094 went to blind or disabled recipients aged 18–64, 169,375 to those blind or disabled under age 18, and 104,173 to recipients aged 65 or older.

• Total federally administered SSI payments were $41.2 billion in 2007, up 6.0 percent from 2006. Federal SSI payments in 2007 were $36.9 billion (an increase of 6.2 percent over the previous year). Federally administered state supplementation totaled $4.3 billion.
Health Care

Medicare

Total benefits paid in calendar year 2007
- Hospital Insurance (Part A) $200.2 billion
- Supplementary Medical Insurance (Part B) $225.1 billion

Number of enrollees in July 2007 (one or both of Parts A and B)
- Aged 37.0 million
- Disabled 7.3 million

Administrative costs, 2007
- Hospital Insurance
  - Amount $2.9 billion
  - As a percentage of total benefits paid 1.5 percent
- Supplementary Medical Insurance
  - Amount $3.4 billion
  - As a percentage of total benefits paid 1.5 percent

Medicaid

Medical service expenditures in fiscal year 2006 $268.5 billion

Number of unduplicated recipients, fiscal year 2006 57.7 million

Average 2006 vendor payment per unduplicated recipient
- Persons aged 65 or older $13,283
- Permanently and totally disabled persons $13,947
- Dependent children under age 21 $1,668

Average 2006 vendor payment for medical services
- Nursing facility services $26,519
- Inpatient general hospital care $5,818
- Prescribed drugs $1,034
- Physicians services $455
Unemployment Insurance

Total payments, 2007 $32.2 billion
Average—
  Weekly benefit amount (regular programs) $287.70
  Duration of benefits 15.2 weeks
  Weekly insured unemployment 2.6 million
Covered employment 133.6 million

Workers' Compensation

Benefit payments, 2006 $54.7 billion
  Compensation payments $28.2 billion
  Medical and hospitalization $26.5 billion
Benefits paid by—
  Private insurance carriers $27.5 billion
  State and federal funds $14.0 billion
  Employers' self-insurance $13.1 billion
Covered workers per month 130.3 million
Costs as a percentage of covered payroll 1.58 percent

Temporary Disability Insurance

Average weekly benefit, 2005
  California
    State fund $365
    Private plans $521
  New York
    Private plans $188

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 2007 36,231
  Total benefits paid, calendar year 2007 $282.4 million
Part C (claims filed July 1, 1973, or later)
  Total benefits paid, fiscal year 2007 $254.7 million
    Disability and survivors benefits
    Medical benefits $38.8 million

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

Number of veterans with disability compensation or pension, 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service-connected disability</td>
<td>3,167,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-service-connected disability</td>
<td>323,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monthly payment in 2008 for—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability Type</th>
<th>Monthly Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service-connected disability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 percent disability</td>
<td>$117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total disability</td>
<td>$2,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-service-connected disability (maximum payment)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without dependent</td>
<td>$932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With one dependent and in need of aid and attendance</td>
<td>$1,801</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Poverty Data

Weighted average poverty thresholds, 2007

- Individual, aged 65 or older: $9,944
- Couple, householder aged 65 or older: $12,550
- Family of four: $21,203

Percentage of population with income below poverty level, 2006

- All ages: 12.3 percent
- Children under the age of 18 living in families: 16.9 percent
- Persons aged 65 or older: 9.4 percent