

Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance)

Employment and Earnings

Workers in OASDI covered employment, 2024	183.9 million
Average earnings, 2024	\$66,908
Earnings required in 2025 for—	
1 quarter of coverage	\$1,810
Maximum of 4 quarters of coverage	\$7,240
Earnings test exempt amounts for 2025	
Under full retirement age for entire year	\$23,400
For months before reaching full retirement age in 2025	\$62,160
Beginning with month of reaching full retirement age in 2025	Test eliminated

Program Data

Cost-of-living adjustment for December 2024	2.5 percent
Average monthly benefit, December 2024	
Retired workers	\$1,975
Widows and widowers, nondisabled	\$1,832
Disabled workers	\$1,581
Number of beneficiaries, December 2024	
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance	68.5 million
Old-Age Insurance	
Total	54.3 million
Retired workers	51.8 million
Survivors Insurance	
Total	5.8 million
Widows and widowers, nondisabled	3.4 million
Disability Insurance	
Total	8.3 million
Disabled workers	7.2 million
Benefit payments, 2024	
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance	\$1,471.4 billion
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance	\$1,316.4 billion
Disability Insurance	\$155.0 billion
Administrative expenses, 2024	
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance	
Amount	\$4.9 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid	0.4 percent
Disability Insurance	
Amount	\$2.5 billion
As a percentage of total benefits paid	1.6 percent

Program Trends

- About 68.5 million persons received Social Security benefits for December 2024, an increase of 1,379,007 (2.1 percent) since December 2023. Approximately 79 percent were retired workers and their spouses and children, 8 percent were survivors of deceased workers, and 12 percent were disabled workers and their spouses and children.
- Sixty-two percent of the 51.8 million retired workers received reduced benefits because of entitlement prior to full retirement age. Relatively more women (64.9 percent) than men (59.1 percent) received reduced benefits.
- The number of beneficiaries aged 65 or older rose from about 48.7 million in 2019 to about 55.1 million in 2024 (13.3 percent). The number of beneficiaries aged 85 or older increased by about 5.1 percent during that period, from 5.82 million in 2019 to 6.11 million in 2024. In 2024, 75,522 centenarians were Social Security beneficiaries.
- About 30.3 million women aged 65 or older received benefits for December 2024. About 18.4 million (60.8 percent) were entitled solely to a retired-worker benefit. About 7.3 million (24.0 percent) were dually entitled to a retired-worker benefit and a wife's or widow's benefit, and about 4.6 million (15.2 percent) were receiving wife's or widow's benefits only.
- About 2.5 million children under age 18 received benefits, including 1,297,545 children of deceased workers, 869,165 children of disabled workers, and 322,596 children of retired workers.
- About 8.6 million persons received benefits based on disability—7,231,147 disabled workers, 1,187,404 disabled adult children, and 196,108 disabled widows and widowers. In addition, 85,960 spouses and 896,059 minor and student children of disabled workers received benefits.
- Average monthly benefits for December 2024, including the 2.5 percent cost-of-living adjustment, were \$1,975 for retired workers, \$1,581 for disabled workers, and \$1,832 for nondisabled widows and widowers. Among retired workers, monthly benefits averaged \$2,181 for men and \$1,780 for women. For disabled workers, average monthly benefits were \$1,731 for men and \$1,430 for women.
- Average monthly family benefits for December 2024 were \$3,275 for a widowed mother or father and children; \$2,880 for a disabled worker, wife, and children; and \$3,932 for a retired worker, wife, and children.
- Total OASDI benefit payments for calendar year 2024 were \$1,471.4 billion. Payments from the OASI Trust Fund were \$1,316.4 billion—an increase of 7.3 percent from the \$1,227.4 billion paid in 2023.
- Benefit payments from the DI Trust Fund, from which benefits are paid to disabled workers, their spouses, and children, increased by 2.0 percent from \$151.9 billion in 2023 to \$155.0 billion in 2024.
- OASDI benefit awards in calendar year 2024 totaled 6,015,086, including 3,713,055 to retired workers, 537,927 to their spouses and children, and 933,153 to survivors of insured workers. Benefits were awarded to 594,749 disabled workers and to 236,202 of their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Annual Payment Adjustments

Monthly federal benefit rate, effective January 2025	
Individual living in his or her own household	\$967
Couple with both members eligible	\$1,450
Cost-of-living adjustment	2.5 percent

Program Data

Federally administered payments	
Benefits paid in 2024	\$63.1 billion
Number of recipients, December 2024	7.4 million
Average benefit, December 2024	\$696.70
Federal SSI payments	
Benefits paid in 2024	\$59.7 billion
Number of recipients, December 2024	7.3 million
Average benefit, December 2024	\$670.65
Federally administered state supplementation	
Benefits paid in 2024	\$3.4 billion
Number of recipients, December 2024	^a 1.3 million
Average benefit, December 2024	\$212.86

a. Includes approximately 1.2 million persons receiving federal SSI and state supplementation and 134,013 persons receiving state supplementation only.

Program Trends

- In December 2024, 7,423,856 persons received federally administered SSI payments—1,475 fewer than the previous year. Of the total, 2,469,103 (33.3 percent) were aged 65 or older; 3,951,866 (53.2 percent) were blind or disabled aged 18–64; and 1,002,887 (13.5 percent) were blind or disabled under age 18.
- The number of blind or disabled recipients aged 18–64 declined by 87,453 (2.2 percent) between December 2023 and December 2024, and the number under age 18 increased by 19,718 (2.0 percent).
- During 2024, 651,500 persons were awarded federally administered payments, an increase of 88,842 from the previous year. Of the 2024 awards, 359,360 went to blind or disabled recipients aged 18–64, 163,466 to those blind or disabled under age 18, and 128,674 to recipients aged 65 or older.
- Total federally administered SSI payments were \$63.1 billion in 2024, up 2.8 percent from 2023. Federal SSI payments in 2024 were \$59.7 billion (an increase of 2.5 percent from the previous year). Federally administered state supplementation totaled \$3.4 billion.