

Disabled Beneficiary Population, 1957-66

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BENEFICIARIES of the Federal disability insurance program make up a large and growing portion of workers and others in the United States who cannot enter or continue in the labor force because of severe and longlasting impairments.

From 1957, when disability benefits were first payable under the social security program, to the end of June 1970, more than 5 million persons have filed applications for these payments. Most of them were workers who had old-age, survivors, and disability insurance coverage and as a result of their labor, had some income protection against loss of wages due to disability. About 350,000 applicants, however, had never worked; their disabilities, largely perinatal in origin, began in childhood and continued into adulthood. These were children of insured workers who were retired or dead or who were themselves seriously disabled.

The presence of a disability severe enough and of sufficient duration to qualify them for benefits was established by medical evidence for more than 3 million former workers. Their disabilities were severe enough to force them into early retirement from the labor force, most of them permanently.

During adjudication of their claims it was established that most applicants, even those who did not qualify for benefits, had some abnormal mental or physical condition, usually chronic, that signaled the need for medical attention. In the years that followed, some of those who had not qualified earlier became able to meet the disability requirements and gain entitlement to benefits.

Of the 3.5 million who qualified for benefits over the years, 1.5 million were still receiving them at the end of 1970. For others, disability benefits had been terminated for one of three major reasons—death, recovery, or attainment of retirement age. About one-half of those whose benefits were terminated died and almost 2 in 5 became entitled to old-age benefits at age 65 (table 1). About 1 in 10 left the rolls because their conditions improved to such an extent that they no longer met medical standards for entitlement

under the program or they had returned to work. Among the reasons for termination of benefits, the disabled person's recovery and return to substantial, gainful employment showed the greatest year-to-year change, increasing from 3 percent of terminations in 1958—the first full year of benefits—to 18 percent in 1967. In 1968 and 1969, however, the proportion recovering declined.

Although the number of benefits in force and the number of terminations rose steadily from 1957 to 1969, the proportion of disabled worker beneficiaries whose benefits were terminated during the year remained relatively constant from 1960 to 1969. As table 2 shows, the proportion with benefits terminated was highest during the first 2½ years of benefit payments, when the beneficiaries were drawn primarily from a backlog of workers who had been severely disabled for many years. In 1959, benefits were terminated for 19.6 percent of the disabled workers in contrast to a low of 13.3 percent in 1966.

Although there was a small overall decrease, the proportion of workers who died before age 65 or who attained age 65 was also relatively constant. On the other hand, the proportion whose

TABLE 1.—Workers with disability benefits terminated, 1957-69: Number and percentage distribution, by reason for termination

Year of termination	Number	Percentage distribution, by reason for termination				
		Total	Death of beneficiary	Attainment of age 65	Recovery ¹	Other
Total number...	1,768,066	-----	865,050	672,440	204,244	26,332
Total percent...	-----	100.0	48.9	38.0	11.5	1.5
1957.....	16,131	100.0	55.4	35.7	.3	8.6
1958.....	52,949	100.0	53.1	43.4	2.6	.9
1959.....	81,982	100.0	52.2	43.5	3.9	.4
1960.....	89,090	100.0	48.9	47.2	3.5	.4
1961.....	115,546	100.0	52.4	44.5	2.5	.6
1962.....	128,299	100.0	52.2	40.0	7.4	.3
1963.....	137,850	100.0	53.2	36.8	9.4	.7
1964.....	138,576	100.0	54.7	32.7	11.9	.7
1965.....	156,648	100.0	51.0	36.4	11.8	.9
1966.....	168,630	100.0	50.0	35.4	13.7	.9
1967.....	208,899	100.0	44.1	36.8	17.8	1.3
1968.....	222,197	100.0	45.0	36.1	17.0	1.9
1969.....	251,269	100.0	43.3	37.2	15.2	4.3

¹ Disabled persons ceased to meet medical standards for disability or continued to meet medical standards for disability but engaged in substantial gainful activity.

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TABLE 2.—Workers with disability benefits awarded and in force during year, 1957–69: Terminations as percent of benefits in force, by reason for termination

Year	Number of benefits		Terminations as percent of benefits in force, by reason for termination				
	Awarded	In force during year	Total	Death of beneficiary	Attainment of age 65	Recovery ¹	Other
1957.....	178,802	178,802	9.0	5.0	3.2	(?)	0.8
1958.....	131,382	294,153	18.0	9.6	7.8	0.5	.2
1959.....	177,811	419,015	19.6	10.2	8.5	.8	.1
1960.....	207,805	544,838	16.4	8.0	7.7	.6	.1
1961.....	279,758	735,506	15.7	8.2	7.0	.4	.1
1962.....	250,634	870,594	14.7	7.7	5.9	1.1	.1
1963.....	223,739	966,034	14.3	7.6	5.2	1.3	.1
1964.....	207,592	1,035,776	13.4	7.3	4.4	1.6	.1
1965.....	253,499	1,150,699	13.6	6.9	5.0	1.6	.1
1966.....	278,345	1,272,396	13.3	6.6	4.7	1.9	.1
1967.....	301,359	1,405,125	14.9	6.5	5.5	2.6	.2
1968.....	323,154	1,521,580	14.6	6.6	5.3	2.5	.3
1969.....	344,741	1,644,124	15.3	6.6	5.7	2.3	.7

¹ Disabled person ceased to meet medical standards for disability or continued to meet medical standards for disability but engaged in substantial gainful activity.

² Less than 0.05 percent.

benefits were terminated because of recovery or improvement in their disabilities showed a small steady decline. The fact remains, however, that in 1969 less than 3 percent of those whose benefits were in payment status during that year had them terminated because of recovery.

A great volume of data about disabled persons is amassed in the records of the social security program during the process of insuring workers, adjudicating their claims for disability benefits, and carrying out postadjudicative responsibilities toward them. These byproducts of the operation of the insurance program can have significant relevance in assessing trends in the social and economic position of the disabled as a group. They are important also in any assessment, for national program purposes, of the magnitude of the therapeutic and rehabilitation needs of the disabled. Termination rates are also important factors in the continuing evaluation of the cost of the disability insurance program.

Who are these workers who qualify for disability benefits? What are their characteristics—their ages, their sex and race? What are the causes of their impairments? How long have they been disabled? What is the relationship between these circumstances and the length of time they stay on the rolls? Why do they leave the rolls? What changes occur over the years in regard to these factors?

These are some of the questions to which this report is directed. It focuses on the full complement of workers who received disability bene-

fits at some time between July 1957 and the end of 1966, including those who were in institutions when they applied for benefits or at some time in the succeeding years.

The article discusses demographic, diagnostic, and related data on disabled-worker beneficiaries, including both those whose benefits were terminated and those who remained on the rolls at the end of the period under study. Additions to and attrition from the beneficiary rolls in terms of these characteristics are examined, as well as the reasons for termination of benefits—death, “recovery,” attaining age 65 with entitlement to old-age benefits. Also studied are the characteristics of workers who returned to the disability benefit rolls after their benefits were terminated because of recovery.

(The term “recovery,” when it is used as a reason for termination of disability benefits, refers to the level of disability as it applies to work ability rather than to the physical or mental condition that caused the disability. For example, a worker who qualified as disabled under the social security program because of a severely disabling heart condition of extended duration may, after therapy, be considered able to return to work because of a reduction in its severity although a heart abnormality remains. As another example, a beneficiary whose primary diagnosis was pulmonary tuberculosis may experience such improvement in his condition that he regains the ability to work although the level of his disease has progressed only from active to “arrested.” A third beneficiary may have experienced little change in his disability and continue to meet medical standards for disability but may engage in substantial gainful activity, and so be dis-

TABLE 3.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957–66: Number and percentage distribution, by sex and race

Year of entitlement	Total number	Percentage distribution by sex and race				
		Total	Men	Women	White	Negro and other races
Total.....	2,156,196	100.0	78.3	21.7	86.0	14.0
1957.....	282,875	100.0	81.7	18.3	89.1	10.9
1958.....	148,797	100.0	82.4	17.6	87.3	12.7
1959.....	141,079	100.0	81.4	18.6	87.1	12.9
1960.....	320,116	100.0	80.0	20.0	85.6	14.4
1961.....	226,934	100.0	79.4	20.6	85.4	14.6
1962.....	206,870	100.0	77.0	23.0	85.1	14.9
1963.....	225,708	100.0	75.4	24.6	84.9	15.1
1964.....	223,228	100.0	74.3	25.7	84.9	15.1
1965.....	231,884	100.0	75.6	25.4	85.9	15.1
1966.....	148,705	100.0	77.3	22.7	85.3	14.7

qualified for further benefits. In the concept of the social security program a person has recovered from his disability if his physical or mental condition has improved so that he no longer meets the medical standards for disability or has demonstrated, despite the severity of his impairment, an ability to engage in substantial gainful activities.)

The data on which this report is based were obtained from the "termination rate" file developed by the Office of the Actuary. Data from several records were combined into one file. This file provided, on a continuing basis, data not previously available on disabled workers with benefits in force during and at the end of each year, starting with July 1957. The data include demographic characteristics, diagnoses, the date of case adjudication, and other claims information.

As a result of this data linkage, diagnostic and other disability characteristics are readily accessible for analysis on all persons receiving benefits during a particular time period, rather than, as previously, only for disabled workers "allowed" a period of disability. It is now possible, for example, to compare the diagnostic and related characteristics of disabled workers whose benefits were in payment status at the end of any year or who at one time did receive benefits.

It should be pointed out, however, that the data for 1965 and 1966 are incomplete. Applications for benefits processed in 1967 and in 1968 resulted in some retroactive entitlement to benefits for 1966 and 1965. Among workers who were awarded benefits in 1967 about 130,000 had entitlement periods that also began in 1966, and 24,000 workers had entitlement periods that began in 1965. Data processing for the 1957-66 period

described here was cut off at the end of 1966. The data for the calendar years 1966 and 1965 presented here may, therefore, not be truly representative of the characteristics of the disabled workers who were entitled in these years. It should be noted that entitlement can be retroactive and thus precede the date of award and that retroactivity can extend up to 12 months before the date of application for benefits. Differences in the proportional distributions of characteristics for 1955 and 1966 should be reexamined when data on retroactive entitlements become available.

FINDINGS

Most workers who became entitled to disability benefits between July 1957 and December 1966 were white (86 percent) and men (about 78 percent for all races), as table 3 shows. This aggregation represented a gradual increase among beneficiaries in the proportion of workers who were not white—from 11 percent in 1957 to 15 percent in 1966. Similarly, the ratio of women to men increased from 18 percent in 1957 to 25 percent in 1965. At the end of 1966, about 6 in 7 beneficiaries were white and more than 3 in 4 beneficiaries were men.

For women and for workers of races other than white, the upward trend that can be noted in the proportion becoming entitled to benefits each year does not necessarily reflect any changes in the prevalence of qualifying disabilities among these population groups during the 10 years from 1957 to 1966 or in the yearly incidence of physical or mental disabling conditions. Many factors may account for the changes, including increased

TABLE 4.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66: Number and percentage distribution, by age in year of onset and age in year of entitlement

Year	Number	Percentage distribution									
		Total	Age in year of onset					Age in year of entitlement			
			Under 35	35-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	Under 35	35-49	50-59	60-64
Total.....	2,156,196	100.0	6.7	4.9	18.5	46.7	23.1	4.3	19.8	45.2	30.8
1957.....	282,875	100.0	(¹)	.6	15.0	60.6	23.8	(²)	(²)	52.4	47.6
1958.....	148,797	100.0	.1	.7	11.3	55.2	32.7	(²)	(²)	56.3	43.7
1959.....	141,079	100.0	.1	.9	9.9	53.2	35.8	(²)	(²)	58.2	41.8
1960.....	320,116	100.0	19.1	10.8	24.2	27.7	18.3	8.2	40.0	29.9	21.9
1961.....	226,934	100.0	7.2	5.6	19.4	43.4	24.4	5.3	23.8	42.0	28.8
1962.....	206,870	100.0	6.3	5.3	20.0	48.4	20.1	5.4	23.7	46.0	24.8
1963.....	225,708	100.0	7.8	5.7	20.4	47.1	19.0	5.2	24.9	45.7	24.1
1964.....	223,228	100.0	6.5	5.2	20.2	48.6	19.4	5.0	23.7	46.6	24.7
1965.....	231,884	100.0	6.3	5.2	19.8	46.7	22.0	5.3	23.5	44.4	26.8
1966.....	148,705	100.0	5.2	4.3	18.0	46.3	26.3	4.7	20.7	43.3	31.2

¹ Less than 0.05 percent.

² Persons under age 50 were not entitled to disability benefits until November 1960.

knowledge about social security benefits as a resource for disabled men and women and continuing efforts on the part of the Social Security Administration to reach potential beneficiaries.

The program rolls attest to the fact that although long-lasting disability is most often a condition of the middle and upper ages, workers of all ages may be similarly incapacitated and many can be expected to remain so for the rest of their lives. In 1957, for example, when disability benefits were payable only to persons aged 50-64, 16 percent of those who qualified had become disabled before they reached age 50 (table 4). In 1960, when workers under age 50 became eligible to receive benefits, more than half of those newly entitled in that year (54 percent) were disabled before age 50. These figures, of course, do not include the adults who received benefits as disabled "children" because they were sons and daughters of insured disabled, retired, or deceased workers and became disabled before age 18.

As reflected in the data here, the year of onset of the disability refers to the latest rather than the earliest time of onset of the disease or condition that caused or precipitated the disability. As applied by the Social Security Administration, onset pertains to the point in time at which the worker became unable to engage in "substantial gainful work." This onset date may or may not be the same as that of the disease or trauma that initiated the deterioration in the physical or mental condition. In some situations—a severe automobile injury, for example—the date of the trauma and the date of the disability onset may be the same. In other situations, such as tuberculosis cases, the disability may be the result of acceleration in the course of the disease—from

slight deterioration to far advanced, for example.

Although upon entitlement workers were of necessity older than when they became disabled, a significant proportion were still in the younger age groups. In 1966, for example, about 1 in 20 was under age 36 and 1 in 4 under age 50.

Diagnostic Characteristics

The diagnostic data in this report refer only to the condition considered to be the primary cause of disability. All the conditions that may have contributed to the severity of the qualifying impairment are not identified in the records. Yet, the fact that severe disability can result from a wide variety of related and unrelated diseases is demonstrated by the distribution of primary causes of disability among workers who qualified.

More than 700 different disabling conditions were identified, but 12 primary diagnoses accounted for more than half of the conditions reported. As table 5 indicates, arteriosclerotic heart disease, including coronary disease, was by far the most prevalent condition (18.0 percent). Emphysema was the primary cause of disability among 6.3 percent and schizophrenic disorders among 5.8 percent.

Certain differences in the distribution of these conditions were apparent for race and sex. White workers, for example, were only about half as likely as Negroes and those of other races to have pulmonary tuberculosis as a primary diagnosis, and men, regardless of race, were about three times as likely to have pulmonary tuberculosis as their female counterparts. On the other hand, arteriosclerotic heart disease was more frequently

TABLE 5.—Twelve primary diagnoses of disabling conditions occurring most often among workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66: Percent of all diagnoses, by race and sex

Primary diagnosis	International code	Number	Percent of all diagnoses						
			Total	White			Negro and other races		
				Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Arteriosclerotic heart disease, including coronary disease	420	380,134	17.6	18.5	19.7	14.1	12.1	12.0	12.4
Emphysema	528	135,044	6.3	6.8	8.0	2.5	3.1	3.6	1.1
Schizophrenic disorders	300	125,054	5.8	5.8	5.4	7.0	6.0	6.2	5.3
Certain and unspecified hypertensive heart disease	443	97,042	4.5	3.2	2.9	4.2	12.5	11.4	16.6
Pulmonary tuberculosis	002	83,827	3.9	3.4	4.0	1.4	6.6	7.7	2.6
Osteo-arthritis and allied conditions	723	69,278	3.2	3.2	2.9	4.1	3.5	3.4	3.8
Rheumatoid arthritis and allied conditions	722	58,979	2.7	2.9	2.3	4.9	1.7	1.3	3.2
Cerebral haemorrhage	331	57,631	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.1	3.9	3.9	4.0
Cerebral embolism and thrombosis	332	55,348	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.1	2.8	2.9	2.4
Diabetes mellitus	280	53,806	2.5	2.4	2.2	3.0	3.1	2.3	5.9
Displacement of intervertebral disc	735	29,437	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.2	.6
Diseases of the mitral valve	410	25,892	1.2	1.3	2.4	.7	.6	.6	.9

TABLE 6.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66: Number and percentage distribution, by diagnostic group, sex, and race

Diagnostic group	Inter-national code	Number	Percentage distribution by sex and race				
			Total	Men	Women	White	Negro and other races
Total number.....		2,156,196		1,688,112	468,084	1,853,469	302,727
Total percent.....			100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Infective and parasitic diseases.....	1-138	123,148	5.7	6.5	2.9	5.0	10.1
Neoplasms.....	140-239	188,115	8.7	8.1	11.2	9.1	6.2
Allergic, endocrine, metabolic, and nutritional diseases.....	240-289	68,974	3.2	2.7	4.9	3.1	4.0
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs.....	290-299	5,411	.3	.2	.3	.2	.3
Mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders.....	300-329	247,497	11.5	10.7	14.1	11.8	9.8
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs.....	330-398	361,299	16.8	17.2	15.1	16.5	18.3
Diseases of the circulatory system.....	400-468	622,739	28.9	29.1	28.3	28.4	31.8
Diseases of the respiratory system.....	470-529	178,468	8.3	9.6	3.5	8.9	4.6
Diseases of the digestive system.....	530-587	41,056	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.2
Diseases of the genito-urinary system.....	590-637	14,600	.7	.6	.9	.6	.9
Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue.....	690-716	6,973	.3	.3	.5	.3	.4
Diseases of the bones and organs of movement.....	720-749	221,179	10.3	9.5	13.0	10.5	9.0
Congenital malformations.....	750-759	13,897	.6	.6	.8	.7	.5
Symptoms, senility, and ill-defined conditions.....	780-795	2,425	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1
Accidents, poisonings, and violence (alternative classification).....	800-999	40,093	1.9	2.0	1.5	1.8	2.0
All others (including unknown).....		20,324	.9	.9	1.1	.9	1.0

the cause of disability among white workers, and among white men, in particular.

Most pronounced was the difference in the relative position of hypertensive heart disease as a cause of disability (table 6). It was almost four times as likely to be indicated as the primary diagnosis among men and women who were not white as among white workers. For Negroes and those of other races, it was more prevalent among women than men.

By disease groups—categories of separate but usually related morbid conditions—diseases of the circulatory system were the most prevalent (28.9 percent). Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs (16.8 percent), mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders (11.5 percent), and diseases of the bones and organs of movement (10.0 percent) were second, third, and fourth in order of frequency.

TABLE 7.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66: Number with benefits terminated as a percent of total, by reason for termination

Year of entitlement	Terminations as percent of total, by reason for termination				
	Total	Attained age 65	Death	Recovery	Other
Total number.....	1,053,011	416,845	556,496	69,474	10,196
Percent.....	48.8	19.3	25.8	3.2	0.5
1957.....	87.5	47.6	36.8	1.4	1.7
1958.....	81.7	41.9	37.4	1.7	.7
1959.....	76.2	38.8	35.3	2.0	.2
1960.....	50.0	18.3	27.2	4.4	.1
1961.....	55.5	21.0	29.6	4.8	.1
1962.....	46.3	12.8	27.8	5.4	.2
1963.....	35.4	7.5	23.4	4.3	.2
1964.....	25.9	3.6	19.1	3.0	.3
1965.....	18.9	2.5	12.8	3.0	.5
1966.....	8.8	1.1	6.8	.3	.5

About a third of the beneficiaries had primary disease conditions that were dispersed throughout the remaining diagnostic groups. Here, too, their distribution differed with sex and race. For example, women were more likely than men to have qualified as disabled because of a neoplastic condition—11.2 compared with 8.1 percent, and white workers were more likely than those who were not white—9.1 percent compared with 6.2 percent. Respiratory conditions were about three times as prevalent among men as among women and about twice as prevalent among white workers as among the others.

Of course, these sex and race differences in the prevalence of the primary diseases do not necessarily reflect the distribution of the same conditions among similar groups in the general population or among all of the severely disabled workers under age 65 who because of ill health are no longer in the labor force. The time and duration of their employment, as well as the

TABLE 8.—Workers with disability benefits in force during year, 1957-66: Benefits terminated as a percent of benefits in force, by sex and race

Year of entitlement	Number of benefits in force during year	Terminations as percent of benefits in force, by sex and race			
		Men	Women	White	Negro and other races
1957.....	282,875	9.3	4.6	8.5	7.3
1958.....	407,901	15.7	7.7	14.6	11.6
1959.....	490,899	16.8	8.0	15.4	12.9
1960.....	737,132	13.7	7.4	12.7	10.6
1961.....	872,754	14.3	8.8	13.4	11.6
1962.....	965,071	13.8	9.2	13.0	11.2
1963.....	1,067,659	13.4	9.5	12.7	11.2
1964.....	1,157,867	12.3	9.2	11.7	10.7
1965.....	1,255,891	12.9	9.9	12.2	11.9
1966.....	1,252,129	12.5	10.0	12.1	10.6

TABLE 9.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957–66, and with benefits in force at end of 1966: Benefits terminated as a percent of benefits in force, by year of termination, sex, and race

Year of entitlement	Number	Percentage distribution												
		Total	With benefits in force at end of 1966	With benefits terminated, by year of termination										
				Total, 1957–66	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
All workers														
Total number.....	2,156,196	1,103,185	1,053,011	23,771	58,081	73,883	91,312	114,553	123,120	133,020	133,860	152,467	148,944	
Total percent.....	100.0	51.2	48.8	1.1	2.7	3.4	4.2	5.3	5.7	6.2	6.2	7.1	6.9	
1957.....	282,875	100.0	12.5	87.5	8.4	16.6	13.7	11.8	9.8	7.7	6.5	5.0	4.7	3.3
1958.....	148,797	100.0	18.3	81.7	-----	7.5	15.9	13.7	11.5	9.6	8.1	6.1	5.6	3.9
1959.....	141,079	100.0	23.8	76.2	-----	-----	8.2	16.0	12.8	10.7	9.5	7.3	6.9	4.8
1960.....	320,116	100.0	50.0	50.0	-----	-----	-----	4.7	10.6	9.3	8.1	6.7	6.2	4.6
1961.....	226,934	100.0	44.5	55.5	-----	-----	-----	-----	7.9	12.5	11.0	8.8	8.9	6.5
1962.....	206,870	100.0	53.7	46.3	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	6.8	11.3	10.0	9.8	8.3
1963.....	225,708	100.0	64.6	35.4	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	6.6	10.3	9.7	8.8
1964.....	223,228	100.0	74.1	25.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	6.8	10.3	8.8
1965.....	231,884	100.0	81.1	18.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	6.9	12.0
1966.....	148,705	100.0	91.2	8.8	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	8.8
Men														
Total number.....	1,688,112	813,308	874,804	21,408	52,299	66,230	80,059	98,093	103,078	108,805	107,345	120,806	116,681	
Total percent.....	100.0	48.2	51.8	1.3	3.1	3.9	4.7	5.8	6.1	6.4	6.4	7.2	6.9	
1957.....	231,107	100.0	10.5	89.5	9.3	18.4	15.0	12.2	9.6	7.3	6.1	4.5	4.2	2.9
1958.....	122,659	100.0	15.6	84.4	-----	8.0	17.5	15.0	12.1	9.5	7.8	5.7	5.2	3.5
1959.....	114,897	100.0	20.7	79.3	-----	-----	8.9	17.6	14.0	11.3	9.4	7.1	6.6	4.4
1960.....	256,021	100.0	47.5	52.5	-----	-----	-----	5.2	11.5	10.0	8.5	6.7	6.2	4.4
1961.....	180,210	100.0	41.7	58.3	-----	-----	-----	-----	8.6	13.6	11.9	9.2	8.8	6.3
1962.....	159,333	100.0	51.4	48.6	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	7.2	12.0	10.8	10.3	8.4
1963.....	170,156	100.0	62.1	37.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	7.1	11.0	10.5	9.3
1964.....	165,768	100.0	72.0	28.0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	7.3	11.1	9.6
1965.....	173,082	100.0	79.7	20.3	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	7.4	12.9
1966.....	114,879	100.0	90.8	9.2	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	9.2
Women														
Total number.....	468,084	289,877	178,207	2,363	5,782	7,653	11,253	16,460	20,042	24,215	26,515	31,661	32,263	
Total percent.....	100.0	61.9	38.1	0.5	1.2	1.6	2.4	3.5	4.3	5.2	5.7	6.8	6.9	
1957.....	51,788	100.0	21.4	78.6	4.6	8.7	7.9	10.0	10.5	9.2	8.5	6.9	6.9	5.3
1958.....	26,138	100.0	30.5	69.5	-----	4.8	8.6	7.3	8.5	10.1	9.2	7.9	7.3	5.8
1959.....	26,132	100.0	37.3	62.7	-----	-----	5.0	8.9	7.4	8.2	10.1	8.3	8.2	6.5
1960.....	64,095	100.0	60.1	39.9	-----	-----	-----	2.9	6.9	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.3	5.1
1961.....	46,724	100.0	55.2	44.8	-----	-----	-----	-----	5.2	8.4	7.6	7.5	9.2	6.9
1962.....	47,537	100.0	61.7	38.3	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	5.4	9.0	7.4	8.3	8.2
1963.....	55,552	100.0	72.1	27.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	5.1	8.3	7.1	7.4
1964.....	57,460	100.0	80.0	20.0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	5.2	8.1	6.7
1965.....	58,802	100.0	85.3	14.7	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	5.4	9.4
1966.....	33,826	100.0	92.5	7.5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	7.5

nature of their impairments, are among the many personal situations that affect the makeup of the beneficiary groups in comparison with the general population.¹

Changes in Disability Benefit Status

Although severe disability need not always be irreversible, for workers who qualified for disability benefits the likelihood of a marked

¹ For a discussion of major disabling conditions among the general population, see Lawrence D. Haber, *Epidemiological Factors in Disability: Major Disabling Conditions*, Report No. 6, Social Security Survey of the Disabled, 1966, February 1969.

reduction in the level of severity of their impairments seems slight. Their qualifying physical or mental conditions were usually well-established and chronic and had a history of pathological progression to the point where the performance of gainful work was contraindicated. It was to be expected, therefore, that the majority would remain on the rolls until they reached age 65 when their disability benefits would be converted to old-age benefits, or until they died without reaching age 65.

As table 7 shows, most beneficiaries who became entitled in each year left the rolls because they reached age 65—19 percent in the 10-year period—or because they died (26 percent). A small pro-

portion (3 percent) experienced such improvement in their conditions that they were able to work again.

In sum, more than one-half of those who drew benefits during the period 1957-66 were still receiving them at the end of 1966. About a third of those who remained on the rolls first became entitled from 1957-61, the initial years when monthly disability benefits were payable. About 1 in 6 of those who were first entitled in 1957-59, when only persons aged 50-64 could be paid benefits, were still getting benefits at the end of 1966.

In each year except 1966, the number of new entitlements exceeded the number of benefit terminations. The size of the group who had disability benefits in force during any year was therefore greater in successive years. After 1957 workers who had their benefits terminated declined as a proportion of workers with benefits in force during the year, most markedly among men and among white workers (table 8). The proportion of women whose benefits were terminated, however, rose.

The time elapsed between entitlement and termination also varied with sex and race. In each year the proportion of terminations was greater for men than for women. From 1957 to 1966, however, women made up a steadily increasing proportion of workers with benefits terminated.

The pace at which men left the rolls was also more rapid. Among men who became entitled to benefits during 1957 and 1958, for example, about half left the rolls by the end of 1960, a fact consistent with the ages of the first beneficiaries under the revised disability provisions and the severity of their impairments (table 9). Among women the corresponding proportion was one-fourth. Of those who gained entitlement in 1960-63, about two-fifths of the men and less than one-third of the women had their benefits terminated in the 4 years that followed.

For those whose benefits were in payment status at some time during the 10-year period from 1957 to 1966 less than half of the men (48 percent) had benefits in force at the end of 1966, but more than 3 in 5 (62 percent) of the women

TABLE 9.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66, and with benefits in force at end of 1966: Benefits terminated as a percent of benefits in force, by year of termination, sex and race—*Continued*

Year of entitlement	Number	Percentage distribution												
		Total	With benefits in force at end of 1966	With benefits terminated, by year of termination										
				Total, 1957-66	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
White														
Total number.....	1,853,469		934,554	918,915	21,509	52,572	66,124	80,837	100,533	107,710	115,515	115,295	129,892	128,928
Total percent.....	100.0		50.4	49.6	1.2	2.8	3.6	4.4	5.4	5.8	6.2	6.2	7.0	7.0
1957.....	252,073	100.0	12.4	87.6	8.5	16.9	13.7	11.7	9.8	7.7	6.5	4.9	4.5	3.3
1958.....	129,859	100.0	18.1	81.9		7.7	16.2	13.6	11.3	9.6	8.1	6.1	5.4	3.9
1959.....	122,894	100.0	23.3	76.7			8.5	16.3	12.8	10.7	9.6	7.3	6.7	4.8
1960.....	273,870	100.0	49.6	50.4				4.9	10.8	9.3	8.0	6.6	6.1	4.6
1961.....	193,750	100.0	43.9	56.1					8.2	12.8	11.1	8.8	8.7	6.5
1962.....	176,114	100.0	53.2	46.8						7.0	11.6	9.9	9.8	8.5
1963.....	191,707	100.0	64.0	36.0							6.8	10.5	9.7	8.9
1964.....	189,471	100.0	73.7	26.3								7.0	10.5	8.9
1965.....	196,941	100.0	80.7	19.3									7.1	12.2
1966.....	126,790	100.0	90.9	9.1										9.1
Negro and other races														
Total number.....	302,727		168,631	134,096	2,262	5,509	7,759	10,475	14,020	15,410	17,505	18,565	22,575	20,016
Total percent.....	100.0		55.7	44.3	0.7	1.8	2.6	3.5	4.6	5.1	5.8	6.1	7.5	6.6
1957.....	30,802	100.0	13.7	86.3	7.3	14.5	13.1	12.1	10.2	7.8	6.5	5.4	5.9	3.5
1958.....	18,938	100.0	19.0	81.0		5.5	13.8	14.1	12.7	9.7	8.3	6.1	7.0	3.7
1959.....	18,185	100.0	26.7	73.3			6.1	13.9	13.0	10.5	9.2	7.6	8.2	4.9
1960.....	46,246	100.0	52.2	47.8					3.4	9.1	8.9	6.8	6.9	4.6
1961.....	33,184	100.0	47.8	52.2						5.8	10.9	9.1	9.6	6.2
1962.....	30,756	100.0	56.9	43.1							5.2	9.9	10.4	7.7
1963.....	34,001	100.0	67.5	32.5								5.5	9.3	8.0
1964.....	33,757	100.0	76.5	23.5									5.5	8.5
1965.....	34,943	100.0	83.7	16.3										10.6
1966.....	21,915	100.0	93.0	7.0										7.0

were still receiving benefits. This difference between men and women beneficiaries obtained, regardless of race. At the same time, white workers were less likely than the others to have continued on the rolls—50 percent compared with 56 percent (table 9). White workers tended to move off the rolls faster than workers of other races.

During the years 1957-66, about 3.2 percent of the disability beneficiaries recovered. Not all who recovered remained off the benefit rolls, however. About 1 in 8 returned to the rolls because their impairments again reached the level of severity necessary for reentitlement; one-fourth of these disabled persons became entitled to benefits before 1960 (table 10). More than two-thirds of the 8,733 persons in this group continued to receive benefits past 1966.

Age, as shown earlier, was the second most frequent reason for termination of disability benefits and their conversion to old-age benefits. In the 10 years covered in this report, more than 400,000 disabled-worker beneficiaries were added to the old-age beneficiary rolls. Their problems, attendant on the usual circumstances of aging, were further complicated by those resulting from a history of chronic and severe disabilities.

For younger beneficiaries, age was also a factor in the extent to which they left the rolls because of return to work or improved health or death. About one-half of those whose benefits were terminated because of recovery (52 percent) were under age 50, but only 13 percent of those who died were that young (table 11). Deaths

TABLE 10.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66: Number who recovered and percent with second entitlement after recovery, by year of first entitlement

Year of first entitlement	Number who recovered	Percent recovered with second entitlement after recovery		
		Total	With second termination	With benefits in force at end of 1966
Total number.....	69,474	8,733	2,661	6,072
Total percent.....	100.0	12.6	3.8	8.7
1957.....	3,972	27.1	15.6	11.5
1958.....	2,588	27.1	11.7	15.4
1959.....	2,776	25.0	10.7	14.3
1960.....	14,214	17.4	4.3	13.1
1961.....	10,835	14.4	3.8	10.7
1962.....	11,271	10.4	2.3	8.1
1963.....	9,802	7.5	1.3	6.1
1964.....	6,586	4.3	.6	3.7
1965.....	7,023	.6	(¹)	.6
1966.....	407	.2		.2

¹ Less than 0.05 percent.

TABLE 11.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66, whose benefits were terminated: Number and percentage distribution of terminations, by reason for termination, age, sex, and race

Age in year of termination	Number	Percentage distribution by reason for latest termination				
		Total	Attainment of age 65	Death	Recovery	Other
All workers						
Total number.....	1,053,011	416,845	556,496	69,474	10,196	
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Under 29.....	5,312	.5	.4	4.0	.7	
30-34.....	11,047	1.0	.9	8.5	1.2	
35-39.....	18,800	1.8	1.9	12.0	1.6	
40-44.....	29,813	2.8	3.6	14.0	2.5	
45-49.....	45,760	4.3	6.4	14.0	3.6	
50-54.....	101,895	9.7	16.0	17.1	9.7	
55-59.....	166,286	15.8	27.6	16.2	15.0	
60 and over.....	674,098	64.0	100.0	43.2	14.3	
Men						
Total number.....	874,804	350,992	456,892	58,134	8,786	
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Under 29.....	4,545	.5	.5	4.1	.1	
30-34.....	9,134	1.0	.9	8.6	1.2	
35-39.....	15,396	1.8	1.8	12.1	1.5	
40-44.....	24,019	2.7	3.4	14.2	2.5	
45-49.....	36,216	4.1	6.1	13.8	3.4	
50-54.....	81,078	9.3	15.4	16.8	9.3	
55-59.....	134,489	15.4	27.1	16.1	14.3	
60 and over.....	569,927	65.1	100.0	44.8	14.4	
Women						
Total number.....	178,207	65,853	99,604	11,340	1,410	
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Under 29.....	767	.4	.4	3.2	.6	
30-34.....	1,913	1.1	1.0	7.9	1.6	
35-39.....	3,404	1.9	2.1	11.4	1.7	
40-44.....	5,794	3.3	4.2	13.5	2.6	
45-49.....	9,544	5.4	7.8	14.7	5.2	
50-54.....	20,817	11.7	18.6	18.4	12.8	
55-59.....	31,797	17.8	29.1	17.0	19.0	
60 and over.....	104,171	58.5	100.0	36.1	13.9	
White						
Total number.....	918,915	371,153	480,785	58,024	8,953	
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Under 29.....	4,433	.5	.4	3.8	.7	
30-34.....	8,911	1.0	.9	8.0	1.2	
35-39.....	15,161	1.6	1.8	11.3	1.5	
40-44.....	24,407	2.7	3.4	13.6	2.3	
45-49.....	38,024	4.1	6.2	13.8	3.4	
50-54.....	86,439	9.4	15.7	17.4	9.2	
55-59.....	143,176	15.6	27.5	16.9	14.3	
60 and over.....	598,364	65.1	100.0	44.2	15.2	
Negro and other races						
Total number.....	134,096	45,692	75,711	11,450	1,243	
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Under 29.....	879	.7	.4	4.7	1.0	
30-34.....	2,136	1.6	1.1	11.0	1.8	
35-39.....	3,639	2.7	2.5	15.1	2.1	
40-44.....	5,406	4.0	4.6	16.3	3.8	
45-49.....	7,736	5.8	7.9	14.7	5.6	
50-54.....	15,456	11.5	17.9	15.4	13.6	
55-59.....	23,110	17.2	28.2	12.9	19.7	
60 and over.....	75,734	56.5	100.0	37.3	52.6	

among women occurred at somewhat lower ages than among men—16 percent were under age 50 when they died, compared with 13 percent for men. Among both men and women who recovered, about half were under age 50.

This general age pattern held whether or not the disabled workers were white. Among those who recovered, half of the white workers were under age 50, compared with somewhat less than two-thirds of those of other races. About 14 percent of those who recovered were aged 60 and older when their benefits were terminated—an indication that even among these severely disabled workers a potential for regaining an ability to work may exist at any age.

In terms of the primary disease conditions with which they were identified, the workers' experience was marked by wide variation in the proportions that were removed from the rolls and in the reasons for termination of their benefits. When a neoplastic condition was the primary cause of the disability, for example, 7 out of 10 beneficiaries went off the rolls before age 65 because of early death, and only 1 percent regained the ability to work (table 12).

Beneficiaries with diseases of the bones and organs of movement and with mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders were least likely to have their benefits terminated in the 10-year period—about one-third of the former and one-fourth of the latter.

Of those with circulatory and respiratory diseases, more than half had their benefits terminated. About one-fourth of these beneficiaries

reached age 65 while they were on the rolls, and about one-fourth died.

Recovery was the exception rather than the rule and some conditions were more susceptible than others to recovery. Disabled persons with infective or parasitic diseases had the highest frequency of recovery: 16 percent had benefits terminated for this reason. Next in terms of recovery were the mentally and psychoneurotically ill: 8 percent.

Table 13 shows that, among the 12 specific diseases occurring most often as primary causes of disability and affecting more than one-half the beneficiary group, those who had been disabled by pulmonary tuberculosis were by far the most likely to have their benefits terminated because of improvement in their ability to work (22 percent). Benefits were terminated for about half this proportion among workers who had primary schizophrenic disorders. The least sanguine as to prognosis were those who were disabled as a result of a disease of the mitral valve or of diabetes mellitus—45 percent and 34 percent, respectively, died.

Data on current disability beneficiaries similar to that for workers who qualified during the first 10 years of the disability benefit program are not yet available. It is likely, however, that those who now receive benefits differ little as a group with respect to overall characteristics from the 1.2 million workers who received benefits during 1966—the final year covered by this report—or the 2.2 million whose benefits were in payment status some time between 1957 and 1966.

TABLE 12.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66: Number and percent with benefits terminated, by diagnostic group and reason for termination

Diagnostic group	International code	Number	Reason for termination				
			Total	Attained age 65	Death	Recovery	Other
Total number		2,156,196	1,053,011	416,845	556,496	69,474	10,196
Total percent			48.8	19.3	25.8	3.2	0.5
Neoplasms	140-239	188,155	79.9	7.4	70.4	.9	1.1
Infective and parasitic diseases	1-138	123,148	56.0	15.5	24.2	15.9	.4
Diseases of the circulatory system	400-468	622,737	55.2	26.2	27.9	1.5	.6
Diseases of the genito-urinary system	500-637	14,600	53.8	14.0	36.9	2.3	.6
Diseases of the digestive system	530-587	41,056	53.7	16.9	33.3	3.1	.4
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs	290-299	5,411	53.4	18.4	32.7	1.9	.4
Diseases of the respiratory system	470-529	178,468	52.1	24.9	26.2	.7	.4
Allergic, endocrine system, metabolic, and nutritional diseases	240-289	68,974	48.9	17.4	29.7	1.3	.4
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs	330-398	361,299	46.5	22.8	21.9	1.4	.4
Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue	690-716	6,973	37.5	11.7	21.1	4.3	.4
Diseases of the bones and organs of movement	720-749	221,179	36.0	22.5	10.4	2.8	.3
Congenital malformations	750-759	13,897	28.0	8.9	15.4	3.4	.2
Mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders	300-329	247,497	26.5	9.5	9.2	7.6	.2
Accidents, poisonings, and violence (alternative classification)	800-999	40,093	14.3	3.8	4.0	6.4	.1
All others (including unknown)		22,749	20.9	4.9	8.1	5.6	2.2

Each year since 1957, changes in the distribution of such characteristics as age, sex, and race were gradual and relatively limited in scope among disabled workers who became newly entitled to benefits. A profile view of the 1.1 million with benefits in force at the end of December 1966 would show that for the most part they were men, white, and middle-aged. Women made up about one-fourth of the beneficiaries regardless of race. Three out of 4 were aged 50-64 and the median age was 57. White men tended to be slightly older than the others.

More than three-fourths of these beneficiaries came on the rolls after 1960 when disability benefits became payable to persons under age 50. One-third of the total began drawing benefits in 1960-62. There was little difference in this respect by sex or race (table 14).

As tables 6 and 15 show, the primary causes of disability among workers receiving benefits at the end of 1966 were approximately in the same order of rank as among 1957-66 beneficiaries as a whole. Diseases of the circulatory system continued to account for a fourth of the disabilities. The proportion declined by the end of 1966 when it was a nervous or sensory condition that precipitated the application for benefits (from 17 percent to 13.5 percent) and it rose for mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders (from 11.5 to 16.5 percent). About one in 8 were severely disabled because of a disorder of the bones and organs of movement—an increase from 1 in 10 of all beneficiaries.

Deaths were particularly high among persons with neoplastic diseases: 70 percent of those who came on the rolls with this diagnosis died within the 10-year period. Only 3.4 percent of all who

received benefits at the end of 1966 had these conditions.

For the most part, the proportion of workers with disabling conditions in the several disease groups was similar for men and women and for white workers and those of other races. As table 15 shows, exceptions were found within some of the diagnostic groups when the proportions with these diseases were smaller. Four percent of the women had respiratory diseases, for example, in contrast to 9 percent of the men. Similarly, twice as many white workers (8 percent) as the others (4 percent) had this diagnosis. On the other hand, 8 percent of the workers other than white had infective and parasitic diseases, but the proportion was half as large for those who were white (4 percent).

Summary

Between 1957 and 1966, the first 10 years in which disability benefits were payable under the Social Security Act, more than 4 million workers who considered themselves too disabled to work applied for these monthly benefits. This study of data on the 2,200,000 workers who qualified reveals that:

Eighty-six percent of those who drew benefits during the 10 years were white and 78 percent were men. The proportions both of Negroes and other races and of women increased by about one-third between 1957 and 1966: about 6 in 7 beneficiaries were white and 3 in 4 were men at the end of 1966. Although long-lasting disability was primarily a condition of the middle and upper ages, and the great majority of workers became disabled after they reached age 50, about 3 in 10 were under age 50 at onset.

TABLE 13.—Twelve primary diagnoses of disabling conditions occurring most often among workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957-66: Percent with benefits terminated, by reason for termination

Primary diagnosis	International code	Number	Percent with benefits terminated, by reason for termination				
			Total	Attained age 65	Death	Recovery	Other
Arteriosclerotic heart disease, including coronary disease.....	420	380,134	55.5	26.9	26.4	1.7	0.5
Emphysema.....	528	135,044	52.5	24.2	27.3	.6	.4
Schizophrenic disorders.....	300	125,054	20.5	3.7	6.1	10.5	.2
Certain and unspecified hypertensive heart disease.....	443	97,042	56.5	26.6	28.7	.8	.4
Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	002	83,827	59.5	13.2	24.3	21.6	.4
Osteo-arthritis and allied conditions.....	723	69,278	42.0	32.4	8.0	1.2	.4
Rheumatoid arthritis and allied conditions.....	722	58,979	36.8	19.5	15.6	1.2	.4
Cerebral haemorrhage.....	331	57,631	56.9	26.7	29.0	.7	.5
Cerebral embolism and thrombosis.....	332	55,348	56.1	26.5	28.2	.9	.5
Diabetes mellitus.....	260	53,806	54.4	18.8	34.0	1.1	.5
Displacement of intervertebral disc.....	735	29,437	20.6	9.8	4.8	5.7	.3
Diseases of the mitral valve.....	410	25,892	61.4	14.3	45.2	1.5	.4

TABLE 14.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1956–66, and with benefits in force at end of 1966: Number and percentage distribution, by year of entitlement, sex, and race

Year of entitlement	Total number	Percentage distribution by sex and race				
		Total	Men	Women	White	Negro and other races
Total number.....	1,103,185	831,308	289,877	934,554	168,631	
Total percent.....		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1957-59.....	96,122	8.7	8.2	9.9	8.9	7.5
1960.....	180,090	14.5	14.9	13.3	14.5	14.3
1961.....	100,874	9.1	9.2	8.9	9.1	9.4
1962.....	111,186	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.0	10.4
1963.....	145,708	13.2	13.0	13.8	13.1	13.6
1964.....	165,421	15.0	14.7	15.9	14.9	15.3
1965.....	188,167	17.1	17.0	17.3	17.0	17.3
1966.....	135,617	12.3	12.8	10.8	12.3	12.1

Of the conditions identified as primary causes of disability among beneficiaries, arteriosclerotic heart disease represented the highest proportion; the proportion having emphysema was next highest, followed by schizophrenic disorders. Diseases of the circulatory system were the most prevalent group. Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs, mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders, and diseases of the bones and organs of movement ranked second, third, and fourth.

The benefits of about half the 2.2 million workers who came on the disability rolls in the 10-year period were terminated by the end of 1966. About one-fourth died before age 65, and 1 in 5 became entitled to old-age benefits at age 65. As would be expected, the benefits of early entrants—those whose benefits began before 1960—were more likely than the others to be terminated because they reached age 65: these workers were all aged 50 or over when they came on the rolls. Death accounted for a larger proportion of benefit terminations for those who were entitled in 1960 and thereafter. For younger workers, age was also a factor in determining the extent to which they returned to work or died. More than half

who recovered were under age 50, but only 13 percent who died were this young.

In spite of the gravity of their impairments, the condition of some beneficiaries—about 1 in 30—improved to such an extent that they could no longer be considered disabled under the definition in the Social Security Act and so their benefits were terminated. About 1 in 8 of these, however, returned to the rolls.

As expected, the primary causative condition also influenced the worker's continuance on the beneficiary rolls, as well as the reasons for the termination of his benefits. Seven out of 10 beneficiaries with a neoplastic condition left the rolls before age 65 because of early death. Only 1 percent regained the ability to work. When the diagnosis was a respiratory disease, more than half of the disabled workers had their benefits terminated because of age or death—in approximately equal proportions. Recovery occurred most frequently among beneficiaries who had infective and parasitic diseases or who were mentally or psychoneurotically ill.

This study does not answer the question of the extent to which the economic needs of disabled workers are met by disability benefits.² It does point up the fact that these benefits are reaching a steadily increasing number of workers—more than 3 million in 10 years—who had social insurance coverage which provided some protection against a loss of income resulting from disability.

² For a discussion of social insurance and other sources of income of the disabled in the general population see Idella G. Swisher, *Family Income of the Disabled*, Report No. 13, The Social Security Survey of the Disabled, 1966, October 1970, and Idella G. Swisher, *Sources and Size of Income of the Disabled*, Report No. 16, Social Security Survey of the Disabled, 1966, June 1971.

TABLE 15.—Workers entitled to disability benefits, 1957–66, and with benefits in force at end of 1966: Number and percentage distribution, by diagnostic group, sex, and race

Diagnostic group	International code	Number	With benefits in force, end of 1966				
			Percentage distribution by sex and race				
			Total	Men	Women	White	Negro and other races
Total number.....		1,103,185	813,308	289,877	934,554	168,631	
Total percent.....			100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Infective and parasitic disease.....	1-138	54,219	4.9	5.6	2.8	4.3	8.4
Neoplasms.....	140-239	37,863	3.4	3.0	4.6	3.6	2.6
Allergic, endocrine system, metabolic, and nutritional diseases.....	240-289	35,214	3.2	2.6	4.9	3.0	4.2
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs.....	290-299	2,522	.2	.2	.3	.2	.3
Mental, psychoneurotic, and personality disorders.....	300-329	181,825	16.5	16.1	17.5	16.9	13.9
Diseases of the nervous system and sense organs.....	330-398	193,187	13.5	18.1	15.8	17.3	18.7
Diseases of the circulatory system.....	400-468	279,183	25.3	24.7	27.0	24.7	28.7
Diseases of the respiratory system.....	470-529	85,411	7.7	9.1	3.9	8.3	4.4
Diseases of the digestive system.....	530-587	19,021	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.1
Diseases of the genito-urinary system.....	590-637	6,746	.6	.5	.9	.6	.7
Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue.....	690-716	4,358	.4	.3	.6	.4	.5
Diseases of the bones and organs of movement.....	720-749	141,479	12.8	12.0	15.2	13.1	11.0
Congenital malformations.....	750-759	10,007	.9	.9	1.0	1.0	.6
Accidents, poisonings, and violence (alternative classification).....	800-999	34,354	3.1	3.5	2.1	3.1	3.1
All others (including unknown).....		17,796	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5