

Fast Facts and Figures about Social Security

Staff of the Office of Research and Statistics (ORS) respond to more than 100 calls per month for data about Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program recipients. The calls come from Social Security staff—both from headquarters and the field—as well as from State agencies, congressional staff, and private organizations.

The data in this compilation are designed to answer the most frequently asked questions, not only about OASDI beneficiaries and SSI recipients, but also about the Medicare, Medicaid, and the AFDC programs.

Most of the data are from the **Annual Statistical Supplement** to the **Social Security Bulletin**, which contains more than 200 detailed statistical tables. Other data are from **Monthly Benefit Statistics** and other ORS publications. Finally, some data have not been previously published; where a source is not identified, the data are from ORS. Reprints of this feature will be available shortly.

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General Information, 1987

OASDI tax rate:

	Total OASDI	HI
Employee and employer, each . . .	7.15%	5.70%
Self-employed*	14.30	11.40
	1.45%	2.90

*In 1986-89, the law provides the self-employed with a credit against their tax liability equal to 2.0 percent of self-employment income.

Maximum earnings subject to Social Security taxes:

\$43,800

Taxes payable:

Average earner	\$1,296.72
Maximum earner	3,131.70
Self-employed maximum earner*	5,387.40

*Effective amount after tax credit.

Quarter of coverage:

\$460 in earnings equals one quarter of coverage

Retirement earnings test:

Age 64-69	\$8,160 annually, \$680 monthly
Under age 65	6,000 annually, 500 monthly

SSI payment standard:

\$340 individual
\$510 couple

Substantial gainful activity:

Earnings of \$300 per month

Benefit formula bend points (for workers who attain age 62, become disabled, or die in 1987):

Primary insurance amount equals
90% of the first \$310 of AIME, plus
32% of AIME over \$310 through \$1,866, plus
15% of AIME over \$1,866

Maximum family benefit:

150% of the first \$396 of PIA, plus
272% of PIA over \$396 through \$571, plus
134% of PIA over \$571 through \$745, plus
175% of PIA over \$745

Average earnings level:

1985	\$16,823
1986	17,418
1987 (est.)*	18,136

*1987 OASDI Trustees Report, alternative II-B assumptions.

Full-time Federal minimum wage level:

1986	\$6,968
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Poverty thresholds:

	1984 (actual)	1985 (actual)	1986 (preliminary)
Aged individual . . .	\$4,979	\$5,156	\$5,270
Couple, aged head of household	6,282	6,503	6,640
Family of four	10,609	10,989	11,230

Trust fund operations (amounts in billions):

Calendar year	Income	Outgo	Fund at end of year
1986 (actual):			
OASI	\$197.4	\$181.0	\$39.1
DI	19.4	20.5	7.8
HI	59.3	50.4	40.0
SMI	24.7	27.3	8.3
1987 (est.):*			
OASI	209.6	188.5	60.1
DI	20.3	21.1	6.9
HI	63.3	49.1	54.1
SMI	28.5	31.7	5.1

*1987 Trustees Reports, alternative II-B assumptions.

OASDI administrative costs as a percent of contributions, fiscal year 1987:

1.2%

Medicare:

	1986	1987
Part A deductible	\$492	\$520
Part A coinsurance (61st to 90th day)	123	130
Part B annual deductible	75	75
Part B monthly premium	15.50	17.90

OASDI and SSI claims filed in fiscal year 1986:

OASI	3.3 million
DI	1.2 million
SSI	1.5 million

Social Security numbers:

Cards in active use (children, workers, and beneficiaries)	205 million
Cards issued since 1936	306 million
Cards issued in fiscal year 1986	5.6 million

OASDI benefit payments as a percent of gross national product:

Fiscal year	Total	OASDI	HI
1985	5.89	4.67	1.21
1986 (est.)	5.84	4.68	1.16



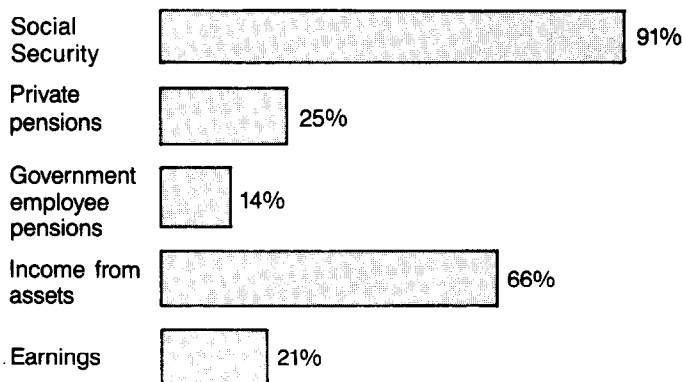
Income of the Aged Population

Receipt of Income by the Aged, 1962 and 1985

A smaller proportion of couples and nonmarried persons aged 65 or older received earnings in 1985 than in 1962. Social Security benefits, which were the most common source of income in 1962, became almost universal by 1985, with 91 percent of the elderly receiving them. The proportion of aged units with asset income, the next most common source, grew from one-half to two-thirds. In 1962, private pensions and government pensions were each received by less than 10 percent of the aged. By 1985, receipt rates for these sources had nearly tripled.

Income source	1962	1985
Social Security benefits.....	69%	91%
Private pensions.....	9	25
Government employee pensions.....	5	14
Assets.....	54	66
Earnings.....	36	21

Percent of aged receiving income from various sources, 1985

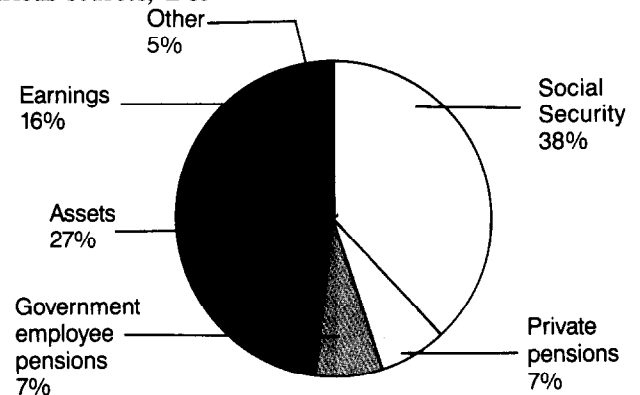


Shares of Aggregate Income of the Aged, 1962 and 1985

In 1962, Social Security, other pensions, and income from assets and earnings comprised only 84 percent of the total income for the aged, compared with 95 percent in 1985. Although they accounted for only a small proportion of total income in 1985, private pensions more than doubled their share in the period. The share from assets increased by three-fourths and from Social Security by almost one-fourth. The share from government pensions changed little and the share from earnings was less than three-fifths as great in 1985 as it was in 1962.

Income source	1962	1985
Social Security benefits.....	31%	38%
Private pensions.....	3	7
Government employee pensions.....	6	7
Assets.....	16	27
Earnings.....	28	16
Other.....	16	5

Percent of aggregate income of the aged from various sources, 1985



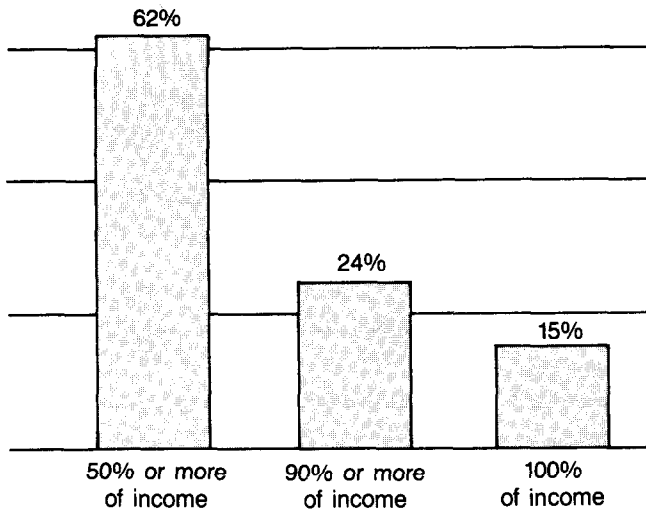
OASDI Program

Reliance on Social Security Benefits, 1985

The Social Security program pays benefits to more than 90 percent of those aged 65 or older. It is the major source of income (providing at least 50 percent of total income) for 62 percent of the beneficiary units, contributes almost all of the income (90 or percent more) for 24 percent, and is the only income for 15 percent.

Proportion of income from Social Security benefits	Percent
50 percent or more.....	62
90 percent or more.....	24
100 percent.....	15

Percent of beneficiary units with Social Security benefits as a major source of income, 1985



Workers and Insured Status

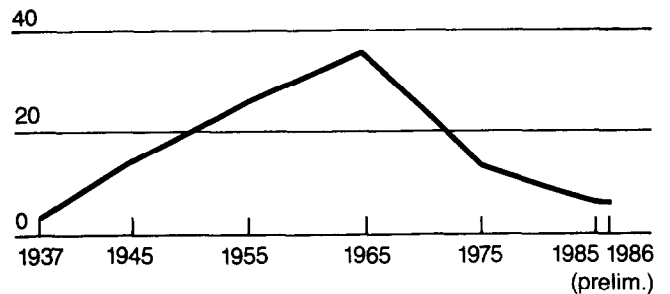
Workers with taxable earnings, 1937-86. In 1986, 124 million workers had earnings in employment covered by the Social Security program. Of those workers, 6 percent had earnings that equaled or exceeded the maximum amount subject to Social Security taxes, compared with 3 percent when the program began and a peak of 36 percent in 1965. About 91 percent of the earnings of workers in covered employment was taxable in 1986, about the same as in 1937.

[Numbers in millions]

Year	Total number	Percent with maximum earnings	Percent of covered earnings taxable
1937.....	32.9	3	92
1945.....	46.4	14	88
1955.....	65.2	26	80
1965.....	80.7	36	71
1975.....	100.2	15	84
1985 (preliminary)	121.8	6	90
1986 (preliminary)	124.2	6	91

Source: *Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986*, table 21, and Office of Research and Statistics, Social Security Administration.

Percent of covered workers with maximum earnings



Insured workers, 1986. Of the 176.0 million persons in the Social Security area population aged 20 or older in 1986, 57 percent were permanently insured for retirement benefits. That is, they had enough covered work experience to qualify for retired-worker benefits at retirement age. In all, 86 percent were fully insured—meaning they had at least one quarter of coverage for each year elapsed after 1950 (or age 21, if later) and before 1986 or the year in which they attained age 62 or became disabled. Some 63 percent were insured in the event of disability—that is, they were fully insured and had at least 20 quarters of coverage during the last 40 quarters.*

*The disability insured-status requirements are somewhat different for persons younger than age 32.

Total population aged 20 or older (in millions).....	176.0
Percent fully insured for retirement and/or survivor benefits.....	86
Percent insured for disabled-worker benefits.....	63
Percent permanently insured.....	57

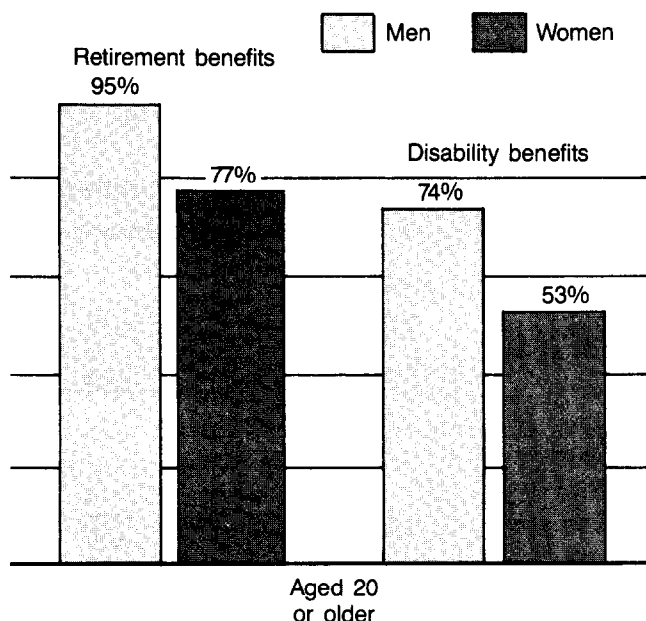
Source: **Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986**, table 32, and Office of the Actuary, Social Security Administration.

Insured status by sex, 1986. Men are more likely to be insured for Old-Age and Disability Insurance benefits than are women. Among men aged 20 or older in 1986, 95 percent were fully insured, compared with 77 percent of women. Some 74 percent of the men and 53 percent of the women met the insured-status requirements for Disability Insurance benefits.

Insured status	Men	Women
Population aged 20 or older (in millions).....	85.1	91.0
Percent insured for retirement insurance benefits.....	95	77
Percent insured for disability insurance benefits.....	74	53

Source: **Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986**, table 32, and Office of the Actuary, Social Security Administration.

Percent insured for benefits, by sex



Benefit Awards

Benefits awarded, 1986. Benefits were awarded to almost 4 million persons in 1986. Almost half (45 percent) were retired workers and 11 percent were disabled workers. The remaining 44 percent were survivors of workers and auxiliaries—that is, spouses and children of retired or disabled workers who receive benefits based on the worker's earnings record.

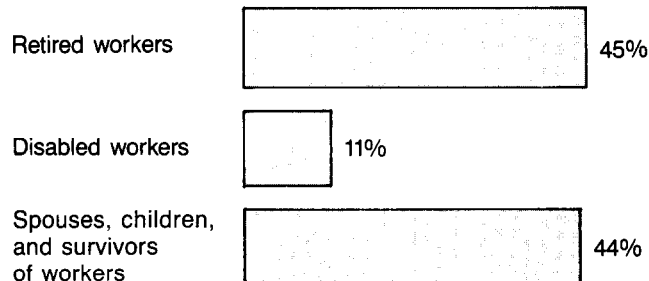
Beneficiary	[Numbers in thousands]	
	Total number	Total percent
New awards.....	3,853	100
Retired workers and auxiliaries.	2,215	57
Workers	1,734	45
Spouses and children.....	481	12
Disabled workers and auxiliaries.....	757	20
Workers	417	11
Spouses and children.....	341	9
Survivors of deceased workers..	881	23
Special age-72 beneficiaries....	*	**

* Less than 500 persons who are now nearing age 90.

** Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: **Monthly Benefit Statistics**, Calendar Year 1986, table 1.

Percent of benefits awarded



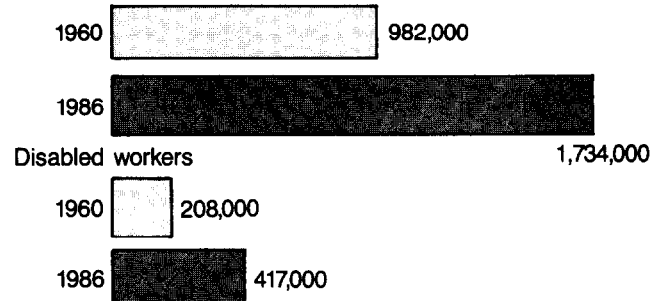
Benefits awarded to workers, 1960-86. The 1.7 million awards to new retired-worker beneficiaries in 1986 represented a continuation of the general trend toward an increase in these awards that has prevailed since the program began. The 417,000 new disabled-worker awards were the largest number during the 1980's but far fewer than the peak in the mid-1970's.

Year	[Numbers in thousands]	
	Retired workers	Disabled workers
1960.....	982	208
1965.....	1,183	253
1970.....	1,338	350
1975.....	1,506	592
1980.....	1,613	397
1985.....	1,690	377
1986.....	1,734	417

Source: **Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986**, table 36, and **Monthly Benefit Statistics**, Calendar Year 1986, table 1.

New awards

Retired workers



Benefits in Current-Payment Status

Hypothetical benefit amounts, 1987. A covered worker who had always earned the Federal minimum wage and who claimed benefits at age 62 in January 1987 would have received a monthly benefit of \$333. One who had always had earnings at or above the maximum amount subject to Social Security taxes and who claimed benefits at age 65 would have received \$789.

Wage status	Claimed benefits in January 1987 at—	
	Age 62	Age 65
Worker who had always earned the —		
Federal minimum wage . . .	\$333	\$391
Amount equal to average wages in covered employment . . .	502	593
Maximum subject to Social Security taxes . . .	662	789

Source: Office of the Actuary, Social Security Administration.

Average amount of newly awarded benefits, 1986.

In 1986, the average monthly benefit amount for a person newly awarded benefits as a retired worker was \$459, compared with \$478 for a newly entitled disabled worker. The amount was \$450 for nondisabled widows and widowers. Children of retired and disabled workers received substantially lower benefits than did children of deceased workers.

Beneficiary	Average monthly benefit amount
Retired workers and auxiliaries:	
Workers	\$459
Spouses	226
Children	206
Disabled workers and auxiliaries:	
Workers	478
Spouses	127
Children	131
Widows and widowers (nondisabled) . . .	450
Disabled widows and widowers	319
Widowed mothers and fathers	324
Surviving children	330

Source: *Monthly Benefit Statistics*, Calendar Year 1986, table 1.

Persons receiving monthly benefits, December 1986.

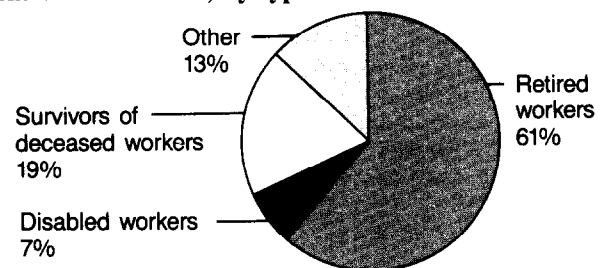
Almost 38 million persons were receiving monthly Social Security benefits in December 1986. Of these, the majority (61 percent) were retired workers and 7 percent were disabled workers. Some 32 percent were spouses or children of retired, disabled, or deceased workers.

Beneficiary	[Numbers in thousands]	
	Total number	Total percent
Total with benefits in current-payment status . . .	37,708	100
Retired workers and auxiliaries	26,525	70
Workers	22,987	61
Spouses and children	3,538	9
Disabled workers and auxiliaries	3,993	11
Workers	2,727	7
Spouses and children	1,266	3
Survivors of deceased workers	7,165	19
Special age-72 beneficiaries	25	*

* Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: *Monthly Benefit Statistics*, No. 12, February 1987, table 1.

Percent of beneficiaries, by type



Average benefit amounts for persons receiving benefits, December 1986. At the end of 1986, the average monthly benefit amount was \$488 for both retired-worker beneficiaries and disabled-worker beneficiaries. Among survivor beneficiaries, nondisabled widows and widowers received an average payment of \$444 monthly.

Beneficiary	Average monthly benefit amount
Retired workers.....	\$488
Spouses	252
Children	204
Disabled workers.....	488
Spouses	131
Children	141
Survivors:	
Widows and widowers (nondisabled).....	444
Disabled widows and widowers	320
Mothers and fathers.....	338
Children.....	337

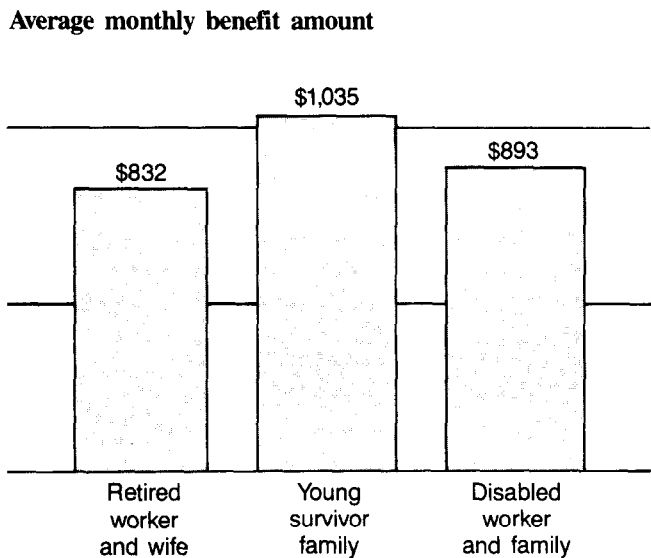
Source: *Monthly Benefit Statistics*, No. 12, February 1987, table 1.

Family benefit amounts, December 1986. The December 1986 average monthly benefit amount for a retired worker and his wife receiving benefits based on his earnings record was \$832. A disabled worker and his or her family received an average of \$893.

Beneficiary unit	Average monthly benefit amount*
Retired worker, alone.....	\$477
Retired worker and wife.....	832
Aged widow or widower.....	444
Young survivor family.....	1,035
Disabled worker, alone.....	488
Disabled worker and family....	893

* Estimates.

Source: Office of the Actuary, Social Security Administration.



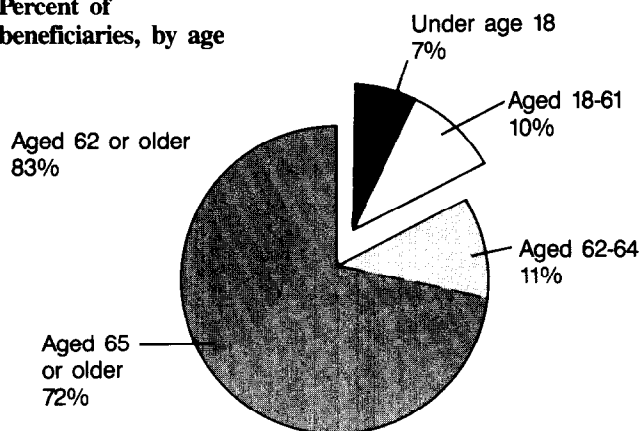
Beneficiaries by Age

Age of persons receiving benefits, December 1986.

Some 83 percent of all those with benefits in current-payment status were aged 62 or older in December 1986—91 percent of those receiving Old-Age and Survivors benefits and 16 percent of those receiving Disability Insurance benefits. About 7 percent were under age 18—5 percent of the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance program beneficiaries and 23 percent of the Disability Insurance program beneficiaries (the latter almost entirely children of disabled workers).

Age	Total	OASI	DI
Total number with benefits in current-payment status (in thousands)...	37,708	33,715	3,993
Total percent.....	100	100	100
Under age 18.....	7	5	23
Aged 18-61.....	10	4	61
Aged 62 or older.....	83	91	16
62-64.....	11	10	15
65 or older.....	72	81	1

Percent of beneficiaries, by age



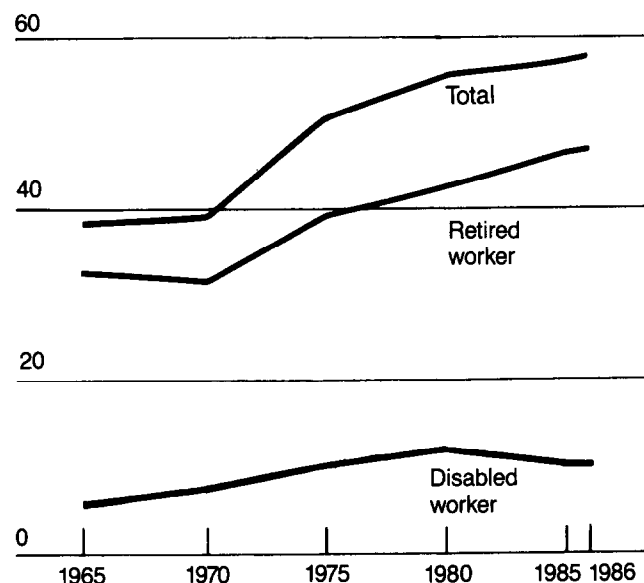
Percent of insured persons aged 62 or older receiving benefits, by age, 1965-86. The proportion of insured persons receiving benefits at ages 62 to 64 has been increasing. In 1986, more than half of those who were insured for retired- or disabled-worker benefits were receiving them at ages 62 to 64. By age 72, virtually all persons who were insured for benefits were receiving them.

Percent of insured with benefits in current-payment status

Year and sex	Total, aged 62-64	Retired workers, aged 62-64	Disabled workers, aged 62-64	Aged 65-71	Aged 72 or older
1965.....	38	32	6	80	100
1970.....	39	31	8	80	100
1975.....	50	39	11	85	99
1980.....	55	42	13	89	99
1985.....	57	46	11	88	99
1986.....	58	47	11	87	99
Men.....	57	44	13	90	100
Women...	58	50	8	85	99

Source: Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986, table 34.

Percent of insured persons receiving benefits at age 62-64



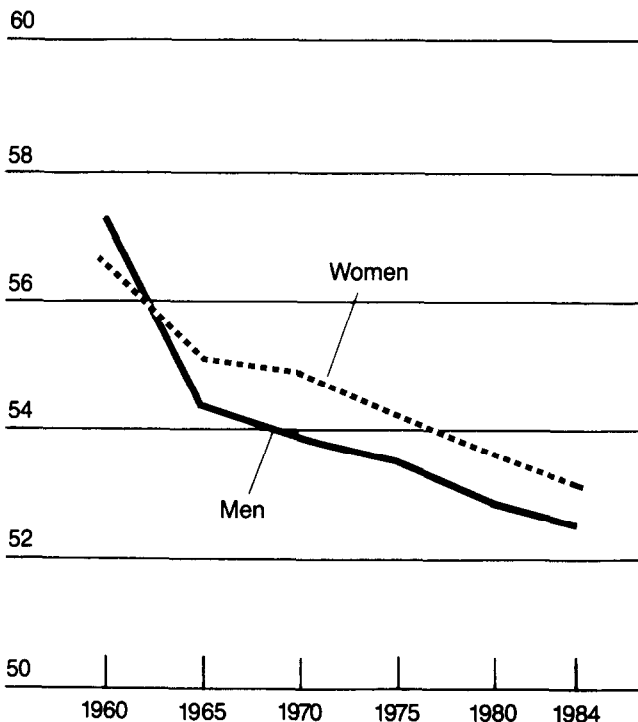
Beneficiaries by Sex

Age of disabled-worker beneficiaries, 1960-84. The average age of disabled-worker beneficiaries has declined somewhat since Disability Insurance benefits became available to persons younger than age 50 in 1960. In that year, the average age of a male disabled worker was 57.3 years. By 1984, the average age had declined to 52.5 years. Among female disabled workers, the average age was 56.7 years in 1960 and 53.2 years in 1984.

Year	Average age	
	Men	Women
1960.....	57.3	56.7
1965.....	54.4	55.2
1970.....	53.9	55.0
1975.....	53.5	54.4
1980.....	52.9	53.7
1984.....	52.5	53.2

Source: Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986, table 98.

Average age of disabled-worker beneficiaries



Sex of persons receiving monthly benefits, December 1986. Of all adults receiving monthly Social Security benefits at the end of 1986, 41 percent were men and 59 percent were women. Fifty-three percent of the retired workers and 67 percent of the disabled workers were men. Among adult survivor beneficiaries and spouses of workers, 99 percent were women.

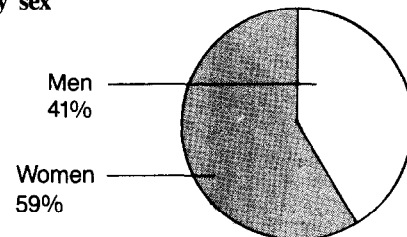
[Numbers in thousands]

Beneficiary	Total number	Total percent	
		Men	Women
Total*	34,963	41	59
Retired workers.....	22,987	53	47
Disabled workers....	2,727	67	33
Spouses of workers..	3,388	1	99
Adult survivors**...	5,290	1	99

*Also includes disabled adult children, parents, and special age-72 beneficiaries.

**Includes aged and disabled widows and widowers and mothers and fathers.

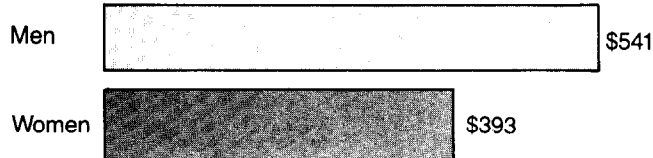
Percent of beneficiaries, by sex



Average monthly benefit amounts for those receiving benefits, December 1986. Monthly benefits for retired workers averaged \$550 for men and \$420 for women in December 1986. Among disabled-worker beneficiaries, men received an average of \$539 and women, \$384.

Beneficiary	Men	Women
Total	\$541	\$392
Retired workers.....	550	420
Spouses	170	253
Disabled workers.....	539	384
Spouses	82	132
Survivors:		
Widows and widowers (non-disabled).....	326	445
Disabled widows and widowers	196	321
Mothers and fathers.....	205	345

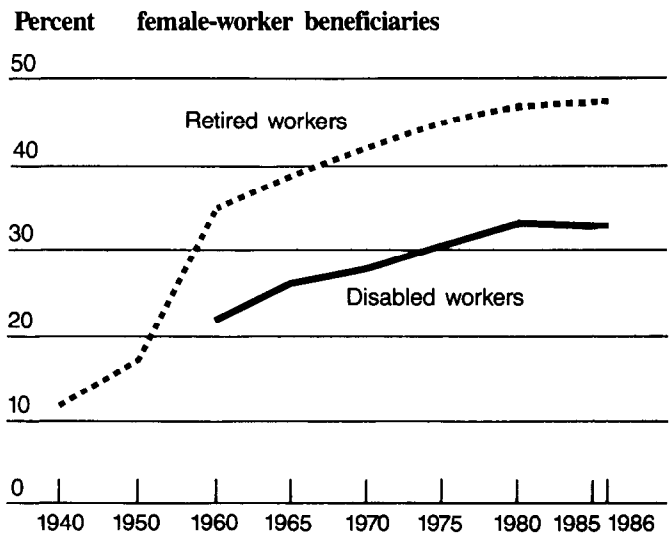
Average monthly benefit amounts for adult men and women



Female-worker beneficiaries, 1940-86. The proportion of women among disabled- and retired-worker beneficiaries has increased substantially. The proportion of women disabled-worker beneficiaries increased from 22 percent in 1960 to 33 percent in 1986, and the proportion of women retired-worker beneficiaries has increased from 12 percent to 47 percent since 1940.

[Numbers in thousands]

Year	Retired workers		Disabled workers	
	Total number	Percent female	Total number	Percent female
1940	112	12
1950	1,771	17
1960	8,061	35	455	22
1965	11,101	39	998	26
1970	13,349	42	1,493	28
1975	16,588	45	2,489	31
1980	19,562	47	2,859	33
1985	22,432	47	2,656	33
1986	22,987	47	2,727	33



Source: Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986, tables 77, 88, 98, and Office of Research and Statistics, Social Security Administration.

Medicare

Dual entitlement, 1960-85. The proportion of women aged 62 or older who are receiving benefits based only on their husband's or deceased husband's earnings has been declining—from 57 percent in 1960 to 41 percent in 1985. At the same time, the proportion of women entitled on the basis of their own earnings record and that of their husband has been increasing—from 5 percent in 1960 to 20 percent in 1985. The proportion entitled only on the basis of their own earnings has been fairly constant since 1960.

Receipt of benefits by women aged 62 or older, 1960-85

Type of entitlement	1960	1970	1980	1985
Total number of beneficiaries (in millions)	6.6	11.4	16.4	18.4
Total percent	100	100	100	100
Worker	43	51	57	59
Worker only	38	42	41	39
Dual	5	9	16	20
Auxiliary only	57	49	43	41

Aged and Disabled Persons Enrolled in Medicare Program, 1984

Of 27.6 million aged persons enrolled for Medicare Hospital Insurance (HI) and/or Supplementary Medical Insurance (SMI) in 1984, 69 percent received services that were reimbursed by the program. Of those enrolled, HI served 24 percent and SMI served 70 percent. In 1984, 3 million disabled persons were enrolled in the Medicare program. Disabled persons were as likely as the aged to receive services from HI (24 percent of the enrollees in each group) but somewhat less likely than the aged (64 percent, compared with 70 percent of the enrollees) to receive services from SMI.

	[Numbers in thousands]		
Medicare program	Persons enrolled	Persons served	Percent served
Aged			
Total	27,589	18,904	69
Hospital Insurance	26,700	6,496	24
Supplementary Medical Insurance	26,600	18,706	70
Disabled			
Total	2,925	1,845	63
Hospital Insurance	2,891	700	24
Supplementary Medical Insurance	2,651	1,812	64

Source: Health Care Financing Administration.

Medicaid

Medicare Reimbursement Amounts, 1984

Medicare reimbursements per person served were higher for disabled beneficiaries (\$3,621) than for aged beneficiaries (\$2,616).

Medicare program	Amounts reimbursed per person served	
	Aged enrollees	Disabled enrollees
Total	\$2,616	\$3,621
Hospital Insurance.....	5,144	5,984
Supplementary Medical Insurance	857	1,374

Source: Health Care Financing Administration (advance data).

Medicaid Recipients, 1985

Close to half of the 21.8 million Medicaid recipients in 1985 were dependent children under age 21. One-fourth were adults in the families of these children. The remainder were primarily aged, blind, or disabled adults.

Total number (in thousands).....	21,808
Total percent.....	*
Aged	14
Blind	**
Disabled	13
Dependent child under age 21.....	45
Adults in families with dependent child...	25
Other	6

* Percents sum to more than 100 because some recipients were in more than one category.

** Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: Health Care Financing Administration.

Medicaid Payments, 1985

Although they accounted for only 29 percent of all Medicaid recipients, the aged, blind, and disabled received 74 percent of the payments in 1985. Dependent children accounted for 12 percent of the payments and adults in their families for 13 percent.

Total amount (in millions).....	\$37,508
Total percent.....	100
Aged	38
Blind	1
Disabled	5
Dependent child under age 21.....	12
Adults in families with dependent child...	13
Other	2

Source: Health Care Financing Administration.

Supplemental Security Income

Federally Administered SSI Payments, 1986

About 4.3 million persons received federally administered Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in 1986. Sixty percent received Federal payments only, 32 percent received both Federal payments and State supplementation, and 8 percent received State supplementation only.

[Numbers in thousands]

Type of payment	Total number	Total percent
Recipients, total*.....	4,269	100
Federal SSI.....	3,922	92
Federal SSI only.....	2,546	60
Federal SSI and State supplement	1,376	32
State supplementation only....	348	8

* In addition, approximately 62,000 persons received State-administered SSI payments.

SSI Recipients, by Basis for Eligibility and Age, 1986

Slightly more than one-third (34 percent) of the SSI recipients were eligible on the basis of age; 64 percent were eligible on the basis of disability. Less than one-half of all SSI recipients were aged 65 or older. Among those entitled on the basis of disability, 19 percent were aged 65 or older.

[Numbers in thousands]

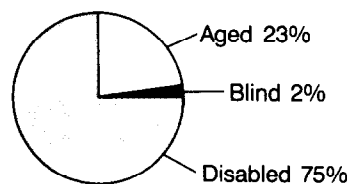
Basis for eligibility	Total number	Total percent	Percent aged 65 or older
Recipients, total ...	4,269	100	47
Aged	1,473	34	100
Blind	83	2	28
Disabled	2,713	64	19

Distribution of SSI Payments, 1986

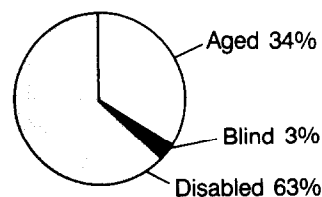
Although persons entitled on the basis of disability accounted for 64 percent of all Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients, they received 73 percent of the \$11.7 billion in federally administered payments in 1986. They received a smaller share (63 percent) of federally administered State supplements than of Federal payments (75 percent).

Basis for eligibility	Total	Federal SSI payment	Federally administered State supplement
Total amount (in millions).....	\$11,741	\$9,498	\$2,243
Total percent.....	100	100	100
Aged.....	25	23	34
Blind	2	2	3
Disabled.....	73	75	63

Federal SSI payments



Federally administered State supplements



Average SSI Payment Amounts, 1986

The disabled received a disproportionately large share of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments because their average payment was higher than that of the aged. Disabled recipients received somewhat higher payments because they are less likely than the aged to receive Social Security benefits or other unearned income. The average federally administered payment for a disabled individual was \$284 a month in 1986, compared with \$176 for an aged individual.

Basis for eligibility	Total	Federal SSI payment	Federally administered State supplement
Aged:			
Individual	\$176	\$151	\$107
Couple	322	246	289
Blind:			
Individual	286	235	159
Couple	438	320	379
Disabled:			
Individual	284	249	118
Couple	370	299	288

SSI Recipients by Age, 1974-86

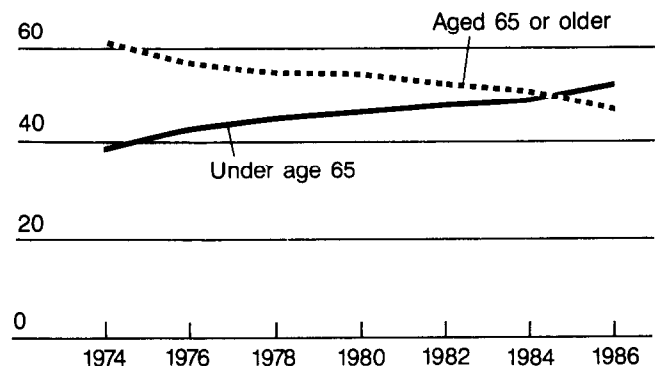
Shortly after the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program began in 1974, the number of persons receiving federally administered payments quickly rose to 4 million. It has remained at about that level throughout the succeeding years. However, the proportion of SSI recipients aged 65 or older has declined from 61 percent in January 1974 to 47 percent in December 1986.

[Numbers in thousands]

Year*	Total number	Total percent	Aged 65 or older	Under age 65
1974	3,216	100	61	39
1976	4,236	100	57	43
1978	4,217	100	55	45
1980	4,142	100	54	46
1982	3,858	100	52	48
1984	4,029	100	51	49
1986	4,269	100	47	53

*Numbers are for January in 1974 and for December in all other years.

Percent of SSI recipients, by age

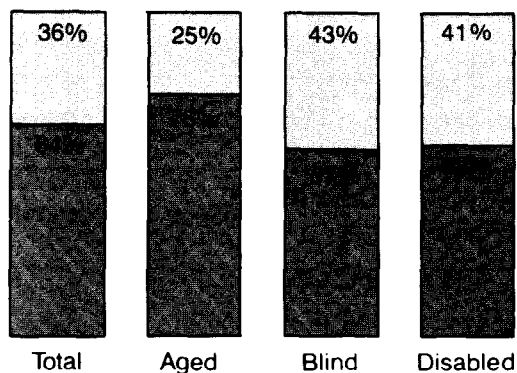


SSI Recipients by Sex, 1986

In 1986, the majority of those receiving federally administered Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments were women (three-fourths of those entitled on the basis of age and three-fifths of those entitled on the basis of disability).

Sex	Total	Basis for eligibility		
		Aged	Blind	Disabled
Total number (in thousands)	4,269	1,473	83	2,713
Total percent	100	100	100	100
Men	36	25	43	41
Women	64	75	57	59

Percent of SSI recipients —



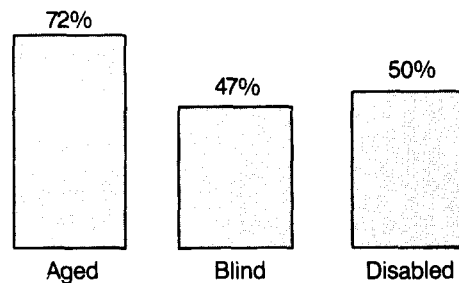
SSI Recipients by Marital Status, 1986

Only 5 percent of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient units are couples in which both spouses receive a payment. The majority—57 percent—are single women.

Unit and marital status	Basis for eligibility			
	Total	Aged	Blind	Disabled
Total number* (in thousands)	4,006	1,328	79	2,598
Total percent	100	100	100	100
Men not living with spouse	25	15	29	30
Women not living with spouse	57	72	47	50
Individuals living with ineligible spouse	6	3	9	7
Couples	5	9	5	3
Children	7	. . .	10	10

* Excluded are persons with recent adult unit classification changes.

Women not living with spouse as a percent of adult SSI recipients



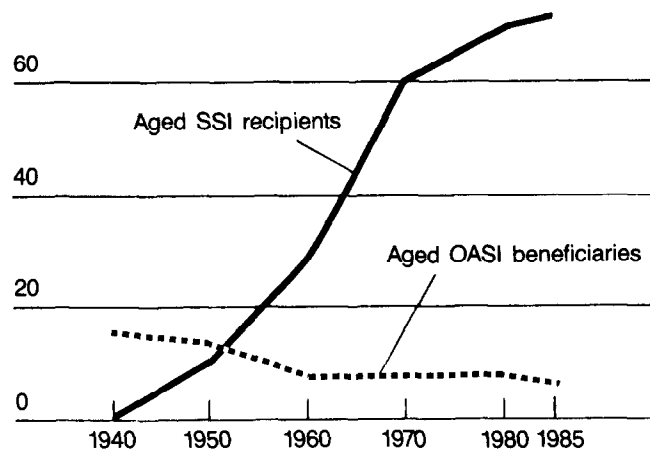
Aged Persons Receiving Both SSI and Social Security Payments, 1940-85

As an increasing proportion of aged persons receives OASI benefits, a declining proportion receives means-tested old-age payments. In 1940, only 7 in 1,000 persons aged 65 or older received OASI benefits and 217 in 1,000 received Old-Age Assistance. In 1985, 915 out of every 1,000 aged persons received OASI benefits, but only 71 in 1,000 received Supplemental Security Income payments. The proportion of aged recipients of means-tested payments who also received OASI benefits increased from less than 1 percent in 1940 to 71 percent in 1984.

Year	Number per 1,000 receiving—		Receiving both SSI and OASI as a percent of—	
	OASI	SSI*	OASI beneficiaries	SSI recipients
1940.....	7	217	14	**
1950.....	164	224	13	10
1960.....	616	141	7	28
1970.....	855	104	7	60
1980.....	914	87	7	70
1985.....	915	71	6	71

* Data for 1940-74 refer to the Old-Age Assistance program.
 ** Less than 1 percent.

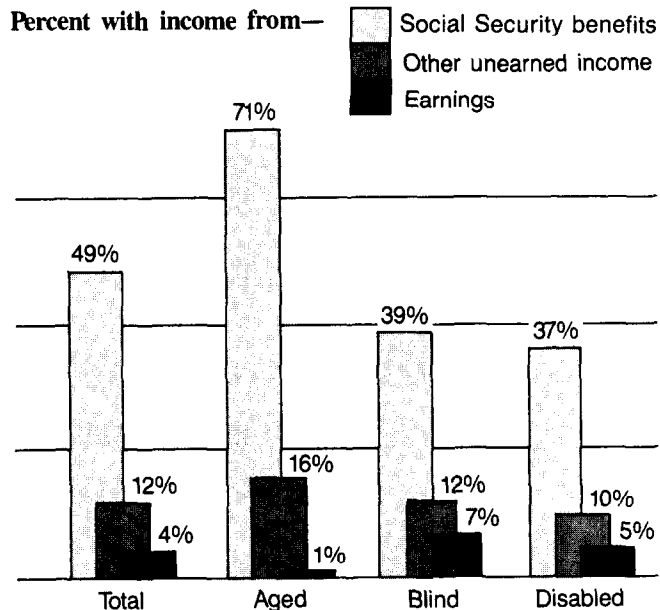
Recipients of both payments as a percent of—



Receipt of Other Income by SSI Recipients, 1986

Although almost half of all Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients also received Social Security benefits, most did not have any other income in 1985. For 4 percent of the recipients, earnings were the source of additional income, and 12 percent had income from other sources, such as veterans' pensions or assets.

Income source	Total	Basis for eligibility		
		Aged	Blind	
Percent with income from—				
Social Security benefits.....	49	71	39	37
Other unearned income.....	12	16	12	10
Earnings.....	4	1	7	5



Aid to Families with Dependent Children

AFDC Recipients, 1960-86

The number of families receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) grew from 787,000 in 1960 to almost 3.8 million in December 1986. The total number of recipients rose from 3.0 million to 11.0 million during the same period.

Year	[Numbers in thousands]		
	Recipients		
	Total	Families	Children
1960	3,005	787	2,314
1970	8,466	2,208	6,214
1980	10,774	3,712	7,419
December 1986...	11,042	3,770	7,424

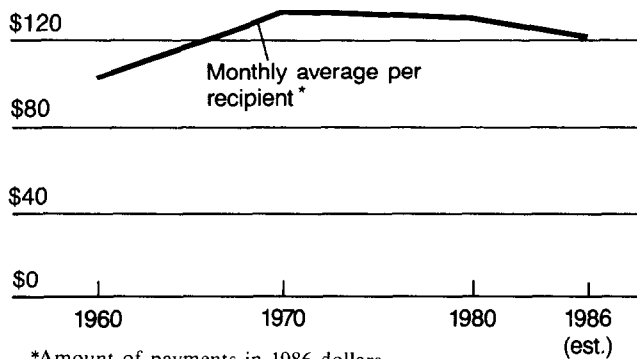
Source: **Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986**, table 204, and Office of Family Assistance, Family Support Administration.

AFDC Payment Amounts, 1960-86

Payments under the program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) totaled \$15,960 million in 1986. The average monthly payment amount per family was \$354; the amount per recipient was \$121.

Year	[Amount of payments in 1986 dollars]		
	Monthly average per—		
	Total (in millions)	Family	Recipient
1960	\$3,717	\$393	\$103
1970	13,749	520	135
1980	16,655	374	129
1986 (est.)...	15,960	354	121

Source: Derived from **Annual Statistical Supplement, 1986**, table 204, and Office of Family Assistance, Family Support Administration.



*Amount of payments in 1986 dollars.