



Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 47,053,140 persons received benefits for December 2003. This number included 29,547,530 retired workers, 4,898,040 widows and widowers, 5,867,460 disabled workers, 2,773,630 wives and husbands, and 3,966,480 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.8 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$922; widows and widowers, \$866 (non-disabled widows and widowers, \$888); disabled workers, \$862; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$450. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$446, \$603, and \$254, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$39.6 billion. Of this amount, \$28.7 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.4 billion to survivors, and \$5.5 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2003.

In Colorado, benefits were paid to 559,130 persons. This number included 356,610 retired workers, 55,650 widows and widowers, 66,740 disabled workers, 36,940 wives and husbands, and 43,190 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 12.2 percent of the

total population of the state and 91.5 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Colorado received an average of \$902 per month; widows and widowers, \$874; disabled workers, \$855; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$455. Average benefits for children were \$475 for children of retired workers, \$632 for children of deceased workers, and \$268 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$465 million. Of this amount, \$340 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$62 million to survivors, and \$62 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2004, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$564, and for a couple, \$846.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2003, 6,902,364 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,232,778 were aged and 5,669,586 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,989,737 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,953,248 were aged 18 to 64, and 959,379 were under 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 51,534,142. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.1 billion in December 2003: \$2.7 billion in federal SSI payments and \$357 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$417. Aged persons averaged \$342, and disabled and blind persons, \$433.

In addition, 551,469 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2003 that totaled \$68.6 million.

In Colorado, 53,988 persons—8,537 aged and 45,451 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2003. A total of 13,643 recipients were aged 65 or older, 33,765 were aged 18 to 64, and 6,580 were under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$21.7 million. The average federal payment was \$371 overall: \$289 for aged recipients and \$386 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 31,292 persons in Colorado received state-administered supplementation in December 2003 that totaled \$6.6 million.

In December 2003, the total number of persons in Colorado receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 593,577.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.8 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.2 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$526 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Colorado in 2002, an estimated 2.4 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$68.73 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$8.52 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$149 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Colorado in 2002, an estimated 2.55 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$87.16 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.53 billion in Medicare taxes.

State Statistics is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy. Angela Y. Harper was responsible for programming, processing, and compiling the data.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states; earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

CONTACTS:

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Social Security

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A total of 47,053,140 persons received benefits for December 2003. This number included 29,547,530 retired workers, 4,898,040 widows and widowers, 5,867,460 disabled workers, 2,773,630 wives and husbands, and 3,966,480 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.8 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$922; widows and widowers, \$866 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$888); disabled workers, \$862; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$450. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$446, \$603, and \$254, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$39.6 billion. Of this amount, \$28.7 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.4 billion to survivors, and \$5.5 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2003.

In Montana, benefits were paid to 163,720 persons. This number included 104,160 retired workers, 17,140 widows and widowers, 18,770 disabled workers, 11,020 wives and husbands, and 12,630 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 17.8 percent of the

total population of the state and 93.5 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Montana received an average of \$885 per month; widows and widowers, \$857; disabled workers, \$832; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$442. Average benefits for children were \$424 for children of retired workers, \$592 for children of deceased workers, and \$233 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$133 million. Of this amount, \$98 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$18 million to survivors, and \$17 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2004, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$564, and for a couple, \$846.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2003, 6,902,364 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,232,778 were aged and 5,669,586 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,989,737 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,953,248 were aged 18 to 64, and 959,379 were under 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 51,534,142. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.1 billion in December 2003: \$2.7 billion in federal SSI payments and \$357 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$417. Aged persons averaged \$342, and disabled and blind persons, \$433.

In addition, 551,469 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2003 that totaled \$68.6 million.

In Montana, 14,356 persons—1,209 aged and 13,147 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2003. A total of 2,474 recipients were aged 65 or older, 10,079 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,803 were under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$5.7 million, of which \$5.6 million was federal SSI and \$76,083 was state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$364 overall: \$182 for aged recipients and \$381 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2003, the total number of persons in Montana receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 172,420.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.8 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.2 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$526 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Montana in 2002, an estimated 509,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$10.64 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.32 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$149 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Montana in 2002, an estimated 513,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$11.62 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$337 million in Medicare taxes.

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Social Security

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A total of 47,053,140 persons received benefits for December 2003. This number included 29,547,530 retired workers, 4,898,040 widows and widowers, 5,867,460 disabled workers, 2,773,630 wives and husbands, and 3,966,480 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.8 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$922; widows and widowers, \$866 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$888); disabled workers, \$862; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$450. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$446, \$603, and \$254, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$39.6 billion. Of this amount, \$28.7 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.4 billion to survivors, and \$5.5 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2003.

In North Dakota, benefits were paid to 114,220 persons. This number included 71,190 retired workers, 15,860 widows and widowers, 10,410 disabled workers, 9,770 wives and husbands, and 6,990 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 18 percent of the total

population of the state and 94.4 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in North Dakota received an average of \$859 per month; widows and widowers, \$845; disabled workers, \$814; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$432. Average benefits for children were \$476 for children of retired workers, \$567 for children of deceased workers, and \$261 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$90 million. Of this amount, \$66 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$16 million to survivors, and \$9 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2004, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$564, and for a couple, \$846.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2003, 6,902,364 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,232,778 were aged and 5,669,586 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,989,737 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,953,248 were aged 18 to 64, and 959,379 were under 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 51,534,142. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.1 billion in December 2003: \$2.7 billion in federal SSI payments and \$357 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$417. Aged persons averaged \$342, and disabled and blind persons, \$433.

In addition, 551,469 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2003 that totaled \$68.6 million.

In North Dakota, 8,092 persons—1,144 aged and 6,948 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2003. A total of 1,991 recipients were aged 65 or older, 5,161 were aged 18 to 64, and 940 were under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$2.9 million. The average federal payment was \$328 overall: \$195 for aged recipients and \$350 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 355 persons in North Dakota received state-administered supplementation in December 2003 that totaled \$160,000.

In December 2003, the total number of persons in North Dakota receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 118,602.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.8 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.2 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$526 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In North Dakota in 2002, an estimated 367,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$8.2 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.02 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$149 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In North Dakota in 2002, an estimated 370,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$8.73 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$253 million in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 47,053,140 persons received benefits for December 2003. This number included 29,547,530 retired workers, 4,898,040 widows and widowers, 5,867,460 disabled workers, 2,773,630 wives and husbands, and 3,966,480 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.8 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$922; widows and widowers, \$866 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$888); disabled workers, \$862; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$450. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$446, \$603, and \$254, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$39.6 billion. Of this amount, \$28.7 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.4 billion to survivors, and \$5.5 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2003.

In South Dakota, benefits were paid to 138,570 persons. This number included 88,800 retired workers, 15,770 widows and widowers, 13,220 disabled workers, 10,200 wives and husbands, and 10,580 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 18 percent of the total

population of the state and 96.2 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in South Dakota received an average of \$845 per month; widows and widowers, \$830; disabled workers, \$798; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$426. Average benefits for children were \$400 for children of retired workers, \$555 for children of deceased workers, and \$239 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$108 million. Of this amount, \$80 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$16 million to survivors, and \$11 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2004, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$564, and for a couple, \$846.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2003, 6,902,364 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,232,778 were aged and 5,669,586 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,989,737 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,953,248 were aged 18 to 64, and 959,379 were under 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 51,534,142. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.1 billion in December 2003: \$2.7 billion in federal SSI payments and \$357 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$417. Aged persons averaged \$342, and disabled and blind persons, \$433.

In addition, 551,469 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2003 that totaled \$68.6 million.

In South Dakota, 12,577 persons—1,777 aged and 10,800 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2003. A total of 3,198 recipients were aged 65 or older, 7,500 were aged 18 to 64, and 1,879 were under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$4.6 million. The average federally administered payment was \$343 overall: \$187 for aged recipients and \$369 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 3,614 persons in South Dakota received state-administered supplementation in December 2003 that totaled \$191,000.

In December 2003, the total number of persons in South Dakota receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 145,888.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.8 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.2 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$526 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In South Dakota in 2002, an estimated 448,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$9.59 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.19 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$149 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In South Dakota in 2002, an estimated 452,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$10.37 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$301 million in Medicare taxes.

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A total of 47,053,140 persons received benefits for December 2003. This number included 29,547,530 retired workers, 4,898,040 widows and widowers, 5,867,460 disabled workers, 2,773,630 wives and husbands, and 3,966,480 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.8 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$922; widows and widowers, \$866 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$888); disabled workers, \$862; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$450. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$446, \$603, and \$254, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$39.6 billion. Of this amount, \$28.7 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.4 billion to survivors, and \$5.5 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2003.

In Utah, benefits were paid to 256,610 persons. This number included 166,430 retired workers, 22,720 widows and widowers, 25,670 disabled workers, 17,550 wives and husbands, and 24,240 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 10.9 percent of the total

population of the state and 91.4 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Utah received an average of \$926 per month; widows and widowers, \$923; disabled workers, \$853; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$484. Average benefits for children were \$475 for children of retired workers, \$614 for children of deceased workers, and \$247 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$217 million. Of this amount, \$164 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$29 million to survivors, and \$24 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2004, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$564, and for a couple, \$846.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2003, 6,902,364 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,232,778 were aged and 5,669,586 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,989,737 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,953,248 were aged 18 to 64, and 959,379 were under 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 51,534,142. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.1 billion in December 2003: \$2.7 billion in federal SSI payments and \$357 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$417. Aged persons averaged \$342, and disabled and blind persons, \$433.

In addition, 551,469 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2003 that totaled \$68.6 million.

In Utah, 21,357 persons—2,131 aged and 19,226 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2003. A total of 3,703 recipients were aged 65 or older, 13,815 were aged 18 to 64, and 3,839 were under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$9 million, of which all but \$9,542 was federal SSI. The average federally administered payment was \$383 overall: \$314 for aged recipients and \$391 for disabled and blind recipients.

In December 2003, the total number of persons in Utah receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 271,564.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.8 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.2 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$526 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Utah in 2002, an estimated 1.21 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$29.17 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$3.62 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$149 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Utah in 2002, an estimated 1.23 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$32.47 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$942 million in Medicare taxes.

State Statistics is an annual publication of the Social Security Administration's Office of Policy. Angela Y. Harper was responsible for programming, processing, and compiling the data.

SOURCE: The data are from the Social Security Administration's administrative files. Program data for Social Security are from the Master Beneficiary Record, 10 percent sample; data for SSI are from the Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data, and data reported by individual states; earnings and employment data are from the Master Earnings File, 1 percent sample.

CONTACTS:

- Social Security data, rona.m.blumenthal@ssa.gov or 410-965-0163.
- SSI data, arthur.l.kahn@ssa.gov or 410-965-0186.
- Earnings and employment data, greg.k.diez@ssa.gov or 410-965-0153.
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Program Data

Social Security

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 62 (with reduced benefits) or to disabled workers at any age. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, disability, or child care requirement.

A total of 47,053,140 persons received benefits for December 2003. This number included 29,547,530 retired workers, 4,898,040 widows and widowers, 5,867,460 disabled workers, 2,773,630 wives and husbands, and 3,966,480 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.8 percent of the total population and 90.8 percent of the population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers received an average monthly benefit of \$922; widows and widowers, \$866 (nondisabled widows and widowers, \$888); disabled workers, \$862; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$450. Average benefits for children of retired, deceased, and disabled workers were \$446, \$603, and \$254, respectively.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$39.6 billion. Of this amount, \$28.7 billion was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$5.4 billion to survivors, and \$5.5 billion to disabled workers and their spouses and children. Average and total monthly benefits include the 2.1 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2003.

In Wyoming, benefits were paid to 80,650 persons. This number included 53,630 retired workers, 7,180 widows and widowers, 8,760 disabled workers, 4,800 wives and husbands, and 6,280 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total

population of the state and 94.8 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Wyoming received an average of \$920 per month; widows and widowers, \$897; disabled workers, \$869; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$473. Average benefits for children were \$508 for children of retired workers, \$626 for children of deceased workers, and \$261 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly benefits for December 2003 totaled \$69 million. Of this amount, \$52 million was paid to retired workers and their spouses and children, \$9 million to survivors, and \$8 million to disabled workers and their spouses and children.

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2004, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$564, and for a couple, \$846.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2003, 6,902,364 persons received federally administered SSI payments: 1,232,778 were aged and 5,669,586 were disabled or blind. A total of 1,989,737 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,953,248 were aged 18 to 64, and 959,379 were under 18.

The total number of persons receiving a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 51,534,142. Federally administered payments totaled \$3.1 billion in December 2003: \$2.7 billion in federal SSI payments and \$357 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$417. Aged persons averaged \$342, and disabled and blind persons, \$433.

In addition, 551,469 persons in 31 states received state-administered payments in December 2003 that totaled \$68.6 million.

In Wyoming, 5,660 persons—482 aged and 5,178 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2003. A total of 917 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,926 were aged 18 to 64, and 817 were under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$2.3 million. The average federal payment was \$358 overall: \$167 for aged recipients and \$376 for disabled and blind recipients. In addition, 2,746 persons in Wyoming received state-administered supplementation in December 2003 that totaled \$55,000.

In December 2003, the total number of persons in Wyoming receiving a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 84,115.

Earnings and Employment Data

Social Security

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 153.8 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI)) program. They earned \$4.2 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$526 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI trust funds.

In Wyoming in 2002, an estimated 296,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$7.05 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$874 million in Social Security taxes.

Medicare

Nationally, in 2002, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 157.5 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance, or HI) program. They earned \$5.1 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$149 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI trust fund.

In Wyoming in 2002, an estimated 299,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$7.75 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$225 million in Medicare taxes.

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