

**OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS
INSURANCE**

CBO March 2011 baseline
Caseloads in thousands, outlays in billions of dollars

	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Actual 2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
CALENDAR YEAR													
Beneficiaries (December 31)													
Retired workers & families													
Retired workers	33,513	34,592	35,646	36,847	38,234	39,677	41,194	42,802	44,470	46,218	48,039	49,906	51,627
Wives & husbands	2,344	2,315	2,289	2,267	2,245	2,221	2,195	2,169	2,144	2,116	2,086	2,052	2,017
Children	561	579	595	615	640	668	698	721	740	763	788	814	833
Survivors													
Children	1,921	1,913	1,898	1,889	1,881	1,874	1,871	1,868	1,867	1,866	1,867	1,869	1,871
Mothers & fathers	160	159	158	158	158	158	158	158	158	158	158	158	158
Aged widows & widowers	4,089	4,040	3,991	4,025	4,006	3,968	3,917	3,865	3,804	3,727	3,638	3,536	3,451
Disabled widows & widowers	238	245	254	258	264	271	276	281	285	289	292	294	296
Parents	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	42,827	43,845	44,833	46,062	47,431	48,839	50,310	51,866	53,469	55,138	56,868	58,629	60,253
Memo:													
Male retired workers	17,067	17,582	18,080	18,691	19,389	20,095	20,823	21,585	22,364	23,168	23,995	24,832	25,563
Female retired workers													
Dually entitled as wives	2,782	2,827	2,892	2,973	3,052	3,136	3,223	3,314	3,410	3,512	3,620	3,730	3,845
Dually entitled as widows	3,619	3,645	3,684	3,736	3,787	3,836	3,886	3,954	4,037	4,123	4,209	4,298	4,408
Other	10,045	10,538	10,989	11,448	12,006	12,609	13,262	13,949	14,659	15,415	16,215	17,046	17,811
Total, female retired workers	16,446	17,011	17,566	18,157	18,845	19,582	20,371	21,217	22,106	23,050	24,044	25,074	26,064
Average benefit (December 31)													
Retired workers & families													
Retired workers	\$1,164	\$1,175	\$1,200	\$1,226	\$1,258	\$1,294	\$1,332	\$1,374	\$1,422	\$1,470	\$1,519	\$1,570	\$1,621
Wives & husbands	\$574	\$580	\$592	\$604	\$619	\$635	\$653	\$672	\$694	\$715	\$737	\$759	\$780
Children	\$570	\$577	\$588	\$601	\$617	\$636	\$655	\$677	\$701	\$726	\$751	\$778	\$804
Survivors													
Children	\$747	\$752	\$764	\$778	\$795	\$815	\$836	\$860	\$886	\$913	\$940	\$969	\$999
Mothers & fathers	\$842	\$849	\$866	\$884	\$905	\$930	\$956	\$985	\$1,018	\$1,051	\$1,085	\$1,121	\$1,158
Aged widows & widowers	\$1,124	\$1,134	\$1,157	\$1,182	\$1,213	\$1,248	\$1,285	\$1,327	\$1,373	\$1,420	\$1,469	\$1,519	\$1,570
Disabled widows & widowers	\$683	\$681	\$688	\$695	\$705	\$717	\$730	\$744	\$761	\$778	\$795	\$813	\$831
Parents	\$988	\$998	\$1,019	\$1,043	\$1,072	\$1,105	\$1,139	\$1,177	\$1,220	\$1,263	\$1,308	\$1,355	\$1,404
Memo: "excess" benefit													
Dually-entitled widows	\$651	\$659	\$673	\$690	\$710	\$733	\$756	\$782	\$812	\$843	\$874	\$907	\$938
Dually-entitled wives	\$233	\$237	\$243	\$249	\$256	\$265	\$274	\$284	\$296	\$309	\$322	\$336	\$349
FISCAL YEAR													
Benefit outlays													
Retired workers & families													
Retired workers	\$413.7	\$438.9	\$457.7	\$481.6	\$509.9	\$543.0	\$579.5	\$620.3	\$665.8	\$715.9	\$769.7	\$827.3	\$885.1
Wives & husbands	\$23.5	\$24.1	\$24.3	\$24.8	\$25.4	\$26.1	\$26.9	\$27.8	\$28.9	\$30.0	\$31.2	\$32.5	\$33.8
Children	\$3.7	\$4.0	\$4.1	\$4.4	\$4.6	\$4.9	\$5.3	\$5.7	\$6.1	\$6.4	\$6.9	\$7.4	\$7.8

(continued)

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	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Actual 2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Benefit outlays (continued)													
Survivors													
Children	\$17.4	\$17.7	\$17.7	\$17.9	\$18.1	\$18.5	\$18.8	\$19.3	\$19.9	\$20.5	\$21.1	\$21.8	\$22.5
Mothers & fathers	\$1.6	\$1.6	\$1.6	\$1.6	\$1.7	\$1.7	\$1.8	\$1.8	\$1.9	\$1.9	\$2.0	\$2.1	\$2.1
Aged widows & widowers	\$82.6	\$84.1	\$84.4	\$86.0	\$88.7	\$91.2	\$93.6	\$96.2	\$99.2	\$102.6	\$105.7	\$108.8	\$111.8
Disabled widows & widowers	\$2.0	\$2.0	\$2.1	\$2.2	\$2.3	\$2.4	\$2.5	\$2.5	\$2.6	\$2.8	\$2.9	\$3.0	\$3.0
Parents	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Lump-sum death	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2	\$0.2
Total	\$544.6	\$572.6	\$592.2	\$618.6	\$650.9	\$688.1	\$728.6	\$773.9	\$824.5	\$880.4	\$939.7	\$1,003.0	\$1,066.2
Plug	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Outlays (OMB Table 13.1)	\$544.6	\$572.5	\$592.2	\$618.6	\$650.9	\$688.1	\$728.6	\$773.9	\$824.5	\$880.4	\$939.7	\$1,003.0	\$1,066.2
Memo:													
Regular benefits	\$541.3	\$569.3	\$588.9	\$615.0	\$647.0	\$684.0	\$724.4	\$769.4	\$819.8	\$875.3	\$934.4	\$997.3	\$1,060.7
Retroactive and death benefits	\$3.3	\$3.2	\$3.3	\$3.6	\$3.9	\$4.1	\$4.2	\$4.5	\$4.7	\$5.1	\$5.3	\$5.7	\$5.5
Average caseload, fiscal year	42,001	43,110	44,108	45,177	46,442	47,822	49,247	50,741	52,311	53,933	55,619	57,359	59,008
KEY ASSUMPTIONS													
Average wage for indexing	\$40,712	\$41,798	\$43,210	\$44,684	\$45,765	\$47,690	\$49,499	\$51,344	\$53,225	\$55,387	\$57,526	\$59,583	\$61,699
Taxable maximum	\$106,800	\$106,800	\$106,800	\$110,400	\$114,300	\$118,200	\$120,900	\$126,000	\$130,800	\$135,600	\$140,700	\$146,400	\$152,100
PIA for mythical "lifelong average" retired worker (age 62)	\$1,510	\$1,543	\$1,540	\$1,583	\$1,643	\$1,702	\$1,747	\$1,824	\$1,897	\$1,966	\$2,038	\$2,120	\$2,202
Maximum PIA (age 62)	\$2,346	\$2,413	\$2,424	\$2,504	\$2,611	\$2,719	\$2,799	\$2,928	\$3,051	\$3,166	\$3,284	\$3,420	\$3,554
NRA for worker reaching 62 this year	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.17	66.33	66.50	66.67	66.83
Percent of PIA paid to age-62 retiree	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	75.0%	74.2%	73.3%	72.5%	71.7%	70.8%
COLA this calendar year	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	1.2%	1.6%	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%	2.4%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%
Date	Dec-09	Dec-10	Dec-11	Dec-12	Dec-13	Dec-14	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20	Dec-21

By convention, most Social Security program statistics are by calendar year. Benefit payments in the federal government's fiscal year (October through September) roughly track figures for the preceding December--for example, regular benefits in fiscal 2010 approximately equal recipients in December 2009 times their average amount, times twelve. COLAs and a rising NRA complicate that relationship, but it remains a useful rule of thumb.

Details may not add to totals because of rounding. A few beneficiaries are not identified by sex.

Outlays reflect benefit costs only and omit other mandatory spending (chiefly the payment to railroad retirement) and discretionary (administrative) costs.

Dually-entitled retired workers are insured based on their own past earnings but qualify for a higher benefit on their spouse's (or deceased spouse's). In those cases, Social Security pays the larger amount--technically, a primary benefit plus a reduced secondary benefit. About 98% are female. They are classified as retired workers, but their benefit payments are pro-rated between the retired-worker and spouse or survivor categories.

COLA=cost-of-living adjustment, PIA=primary insurance amount, NRA="normal retirement age" (when retired worker can collect 100% of PIA).