

# National Beneficiary Survey

## Interesting Facts from SSA's National Beneficiary Survey (NBS)

### **What types of services do SSI and SSDI beneficiaries use? What reasons do beneficiaries report for using these services?\***

- About a third (34%) of beneficiaries used services in 2009.
- The most commonly used services were medical services (74%), personal counseling or group therapy (61%), and occupational, physical, or speech therapy (32%).
- The most commonly cited reasons for using services were to improve health or wellbeing (80%) and to improve ability to do daily activities (28%).

#### Service Use in 2009\*\*

	All Beneficiaries	SSI Only	SSDI Only	Concurrent
<b>Used Services (%)</b>	34.3	30.9	35.9	35.0
<b>Types of Services Used Among Users (%)</b>				
Medical services	74.2	72.2	77.2	67.4
Personal counseling or group therapy	60.8	58.6	59.5	68.3
Occupational, physical, or speech therapy	31.5	28.9	32.2	33.3
Special equipment or devices	23.1	18.1	25.4	22.8
Work assessment or help to find a job	20.3	19.1	17.8	29.8
Training, job modification advice, or on-the-job training	18.4	23.1	14.9	22.9
Other	6.6	4.0	7.2	8.5

#### Reasons for Using Services in 2009\*\*

	All Beneficiaries	SSI Only	SSDI Only	Concurrent
<b>Reasons for Using Services Among Users (%)</b>				
To improve health or wellbeing	79.8	83.2	78.1	80.3
To improve ability to do daily activities	27.9	29.0	27.5	27.6
To find a job or get a better job	7.2	11.2	6.0	5.3
Wanted to access specific services	6.2	4.2	6.0	9.6
To increase income	2.3	3.0	2.4	0.7
Someone pressured respondent to use services	1.8	3.5	0.3	4.0
To avoid a continuing disability review	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.2
Other	7.2	5.6	8.6	5.3

\*Based on data from the 2010 NBS. Additional statistics can be found in the 7th Ticket to Work evaluation report.

\*\*Please note totals may add up to more than 100% because beneficiaries had the option of choosing more than one answer. Estimates are based on a sample of 2,298 beneficiaries and 799 beneficiaries who used services in 2009.

*If you have comments or ideas for future Fact Sheets, please contact us at [NBS.Fact.Sheets@ssa.gov](mailto:NBS.Fact.Sheets@ssa.gov).  
For more information about the NBS, please visit <http://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/nbs.html>.*