

SUSPENSIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND DURATION OF ELIGIBILITY



Suspensions, Terminations, and Duration of Eligibility

Table 75.
Payment suspensions, by age of recipient and reason for suspension, 2013–2022

Year	Total	Excess income	In Medicaid facility	Whereabouts unknown	Excess resources	Presumptive disability	No representative payee	In public institution	Failed to furnish report	Outside United States	In transition	No longer disabled	Other
<i>All ages</i>													
2013	1,286,740	630,046	38,015	226,077	63,589	2,592	27,249	95,726	72,217	29,294	5,968	87,859	8,108
2014	1,349,472	611,305	38,441	257,185	69,088	2,254	25,934	95,071	102,523	29,935	5,304	103,238	9,194
2015	1,286,044	563,332	34,941	231,006	59,318	2,361	24,161	88,221	94,925	28,823	5,110	139,054	14,792
2016	1,340,594	554,333	34,706	241,848	63,850	2,104	27,669	83,620	132,651	30,779	5,194	153,578	10,262
2017	1,339,258	532,617	34,500	270,633	66,000	1,750	26,541	79,977	136,359	29,519	5,318	144,239	11,805
2018	1,344,559	520,365	34,990	253,336	71,755	1,557	24,834	76,331	163,668	30,915	4,872	147,073	14,863
2019	1,249,159	505,960	34,949	216,610	71,470	1,599	24,198	74,982	144,472	30,709	4,550	126,084	13,576
2020 ^a	884,816	428,431	26,300	130,455	56,972	3,303	24,286	48,568	69,705	17,818	3,370	67,462	8,146
2021 ^a	1,045,406	413,867	30,348	182,630	80,230	2,711	32,358	46,992	124,085	20,005	3,149	96,792	12,239
2022 ^a	968,740	393,984	30,082	234,959	75,384	2,847	30,908	47,608	12,985	25,000	3,092	99,773	12,118
<i>Under age 18</i>													
2013	262,601	113,285	1,112	60,404	14,840	463	10,639	3,298	28,231	951	381	28,072	925
2014	286,906	103,434	1,038	70,029	16,889	438	9,523	3,273	40,316	924	350	39,705	987
2015	305,580	104,842	948	63,379	14,784	454	8,770	2,938	41,395	913	331	65,858	968
2016	336,057	108,267	857	68,037	15,833	365	9,008	2,705	53,313	910	365	75,342	1,055
2017	322,288	110,194	939	71,178	16,339	307	8,268	2,257	48,397	973	450	61,920	1,066
2018	314,543	107,039	1,264	59,219	16,888	246	7,260	2,080	55,587	912	371	62,611	1,066
2019	279,855	105,891	794	46,434	15,632	252	7,246	1,868	50,005	1,008	348	49,231	1,146
2020 ^a	189,290	85,899	708	27,414	14,478	537	7,055	1,211	25,239	610	265	25,195	679
2021 ^a	245,266	88,203	638	40,193	22,771	514	9,024	1,012	44,816	883	240	36,226	746
2022 ^a	214,945	87,040	537	52,634	21,506	525	8,790	1,070	4,450	844	271	36,251	1,027
<i>Aged 18–64</i>													
2013	851,733	458,311	14,609	131,464	29,774	2,115	15,208	90,160	35,292	5,264	3,916	59,777	5,843
2014	875,130	435,176	15,704	152,082	33,434	1,801	14,965	89,519	53,241	5,403	3,428	63,514	6,863
2015	820,654	403,863	13,518	136,055	30,118	1,897	13,931	82,998	46,943	5,470	3,381	73,178	9,302
2016	841,797	392,173	13,946	142,479	31,600	1,729	16,901	78,710	69,077	6,078	3,458	78,214	7,432
2017	857,461	377,671	13,088	162,187	33,540	1,427	16,581	75,371	77,011	5,726	3,500	82,286	9,073
2018	857,383	366,796	14,221	154,653	35,738	1,303	15,715	71,759	91,997	5,707	3,075	84,418	12,001
2019	798,935	354,825	14,047	132,399	35,693	1,337	15,204	70,265	79,150	5,842	2,785	76,800	10,588
2020 ^a	573,540	302,793	10,558	77,804	27,738	2,742	15,361	45,384	36,328	3,946	2,189	42,222	6,475
2021 ^a	647,589	284,230	12,138	106,735	37,094	2,185	20,930	43,768	63,218	4,689	1,994	60,476	10,132
2022 ^a	605,458	267,672	11,529	138,409	35,506	2,300	19,628	43,943	7,393	4,429	1,879	63,414	9,356
<i>Aged 65 or older</i>													
2013	172,406	58,450	22,294	34,209	18,975	14	1,402	2,268	8,694	23,079	1,671	10	1,340
2014	187,436	72,695	21,699	35,074	18,765	15	1,446	2,279	8,966	23,608	1,526	19	1,344
2015	159,810	54,627	20,475	31,572	14,416	10	1,460	2,285	6,587	22,440	1,398	18	4,522
2016	162,740	53,893	19,903	31,332	16,417	10	1,760	2,205	10,261	23,791	1,371	22	1,775
2017	159,509	44,752	20,473	37,268	16,121	16	1,692	2,349	10,951	22,820	1,368	33	1,666
2018	172,633	46,530	19,505	39,464	19,129	8	1,859	2,492	16,084	24,296	1,426	44	1,796
2019	170,369	45,244	20,108	37,777	20,145	10	1,748	2,849	15,317	23,859	1,417	53	1,842
2020 ^a	121,986	39,739	15,034	25,237	14,756	24	1,870	1,973	8,138	13,262	916	45	992
2021 ^a	152,551	41,434	17,572	35,702	20,365	12	2,404	2,212	16,051	14,433	915	90	1,361
2022 ^a	148,337	39,272	18,016	43,916	18,372	22	2,490	2,595	1,142	19,727	942	108	1,735

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Includes multiple suspensions per person.

a. Suspensions were affected by administrative adjustments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Year-to-year fluctuations in the number of suspensions can be affected by the number of redeterminations and continuing disability reviews conducted by the agency.

CONTACT: statistics@ssa.gov.

Suspensions, Terminations, and Duration of Eligibility

Table 76.
Recipients with payments suspended, by age and reason for suspension, 2013–2022

Year	Total	Excess income	In Medicaid facility	Whereabouts unknown	Excess resources	Presumptive disability	No representative payee	In public institution	Failed to furnish report	Outside United States	In transition	No longer disabled	Other
<i>All ages</i>													
2013	1,165,927	552,116	36,175	210,760	61,238	2,524	25,239	86,980	68,285	28,160	5,668	81,247	7,535
2014	1,230,792	542,584	36,644	239,724	66,503	2,210	24,130	85,979	96,207	28,770	5,006	94,438	8,597
2015	1,165,944	491,654	33,208	215,174	57,060	2,316	22,513	79,795	89,079	27,775	4,804	128,590	13,976
2016	1,214,371	482,469	32,797	224,340	61,395	2,060	25,912	75,974	124,187	29,573	4,924	141,196	9,544
2017	1,211,147	462,946	32,861	250,590	63,286	1,710	24,698	72,238	127,166	28,277	4,992	131,555	10,828
2018	1,215,789	450,302	33,267	235,802	68,918	1,515	23,201	68,547	153,488	29,648	4,509	132,792	13,800
2019	1,130,288	435,964	33,189	202,443	68,857	1,568	22,791	67,608	136,540	29,399	4,267	115,036	12,626
2020 ^a	819,996	382,155	25,331	124,927	55,153	3,205	23,354	45,407	67,137	17,310	3,208	65,024	7,785
2021 ^a	961,698	362,420	29,207	172,364	77,363	2,656	31,013	43,716	118,985	19,252	2,962	90,205	11,555
2022 ^a	894,502	347,623	29,135	223,246	73,138	2,760	29,568	44,273	12,325	24,103	2,911	94,028	11,392
<i>Under age 18</i>													
2013	219,107	81,190	1,021	55,915	13,948	454	9,828	2,970	26,208	906	341	25,484	842
2014	246,169	77,339	945	64,794	15,903	426	8,779	2,944	37,178	871	316	35,765	909
2015	262,424	77,063	872	58,516	13,972	451	8,088	2,646	38,259	867	286	60,533	871
2016	289,461	79,948	792	62,317	14,939	358	8,293	2,414	49,057	850	317	69,225	951
2017	275,529	81,498	858	65,107	15,299	296	7,557	2,006	44,036	903	406	56,632	931
2018	268,177	78,178	1,068	54,624	15,802	240	6,638	1,844	51,149	865	327	56,495	947
2019	236,639	75,769	731	43,048	14,744	249	6,732	1,680	46,404	947	315	44,991	1,029
2020 ^a	164,581	65,904	668	26,101	13,781	517	6,691	1,120	24,052	583	246	24,276	642
2021 ^a	214,338	66,581	598	37,642	21,543	501	8,504	915	42,456	836	214	33,875	673
2022 ^a	187,506	66,480	509	49,718	20,616	509	8,283	977	4,171	800	249	34,246	948
<i>Aged 18–64</i>													
2013	784,237	418,406	13,447	122,076	28,770	2,056	14,074	81,850	33,552	5,075	3,712	55,754	5,465
2014	807,094	398,602	14,512	141,271	32,352	1,770	13,958	80,888	50,268	5,183	3,212	58,656	6,422
2015	753,235	365,894	12,407	126,444	29,055	1,856	13,009	74,994	44,385	5,236	3,178	68,042	8,735
2016	771,541	354,244	12,658	131,988	30,468	1,692	15,919	71,472	65,107	5,820	3,300	71,953	6,920
2017	785,368	341,955	12,036	149,671	32,308	1,398	15,496	68,020	72,498	5,466	3,279	74,892	8,349
2018	784,469	330,972	13,174	143,180	34,458	1,268	14,765	64,343	86,596	5,452	2,837	76,257	11,167
2019	732,709	320,155	12,880	123,113	34,480	1,309	14,380	63,238	75,135	5,552	2,607	70,000	9,860
2020 ^a	538,979	280,234	9,889	74,290	26,885	2,666	14,826	42,383	35,056	3,783	2,075	40,707	6,185
2021 ^a	601,996	258,669	11,341	100,226	35,898	2,143	20,174	40,688	60,720	4,446	1,864	56,248	9,579
2022 ^a	564,810	244,985	10,918	131,027	34,487	2,230	18,857	40,816	7,034	4,211	1,766	59,685	8,794
<i>Aged 65 or older</i>													
2013	162,583	52,520	21,707	32,769	18,520	14	1,337	2,160	8,525	22,179	1,615	9	1,228
2014	177,529	66,643	21,187	33,659	18,248	14	1,393	2,147	8,761	22,716	1,478	17	1,266
2015	150,285	48,697	19,929	30,214	14,033	9	1,416	2,155	6,435	21,672	1,340	15	4,370
2016	153,369	48,277	19,347	30,035	15,988	10	1,700	2,088	10,023	22,903	1,307	18	1,673
2017	150,250	39,493	19,967	35,812	15,679	16	1,645	2,212	10,632	21,908	1,307	31	1,548
2018	163,143	41,152	19,025	37,998	18,658	7	1,798	2,360	15,743	23,331	1,345	40	1,686
2019	160,940	40,040	19,578	36,282	19,633	10	1,679	2,690	15,001	22,900	1,345	45	1,737
2020 ^a	116,436	36,017	14,774	24,536	14,487	22	1,837	1,904	8,029	12,944	887	41	958
2021 ^a	145,364	37,170	17,268	34,496	19,922	12	2,335	2,113	15,809	13,970	884	82	1,303
2022 ^a	142,186	36,158	17,708	42,501	18,035	21	2,428	2,480	1,120	19,092	896	97	1,650

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data.

NOTE: Year-to-year fluctuations in the number of suspensions can be affected by the number of redeterminations and continuing disability reviews conducted by the agency.

a. Suspensions were affected by administrative adjustments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONTACT: statistics@ssa.gov.

Suspensions, Terminations, and Duration of Eligibility

Table 77.
Recipients with payments terminated, by age and reason for termination, 2013–2022

Year	Total	Excess income	Death	Whereabouts unknown	Excess resources	In public institution	Failed to furnish report	Outside United States	No longer disabled	Other
All ages										
2013	800,923	383,908	250,272	10,698	33,772	30,084	12,765	13,127	56,803	9,494
2014	776,769	353,413	247,922	12,475	34,856	31,435	15,107	12,585	59,663	9,313
2015	799,072	354,980	254,736	13,920	35,984	31,091	18,266	12,809	68,904	8,382
2016	764,825	306,977	252,371	13,929	33,747	28,855	19,673	11,589	88,430	9,254
2017	770,968	289,876	256,149	15,014	36,138	27,373	26,125	12,254	100,269	7,770
2018	772,511	287,484	257,942	16,903	38,568	26,641	26,834	11,864	98,824	7,451
2019	768,103	276,258	253,342	18,706	41,611	25,845	32,394	12,762	99,694	7,491
2020 ^a	790,472	273,443	302,249	17,225	37,642	24,900	29,301	12,544	85,885	7,283
2021 ^a	617,070	177,218	312,665	10,385	26,642	13,392	14,230	7,939	47,333	7,266
2022 ^a	432,047	164	288,852	18,651	297	19,793	25,908	10,027	62,547	5,808
Under age 18										
2013	67,082	25,087	4,484	2,999	7,738	869	4,001	505	18,432	2,967
2014	69,487	25,290	4,167	3,561	8,212	834	4,830	468	19,397	2,728
2015	77,785	25,239	4,202	3,955	8,742	922	6,127	453	25,809	2,336
2016	93,078	25,074	4,274	3,976	8,163	798	7,364	375	40,779	2,275
2017	102,444	25,950	3,957	4,402	8,509	664	9,261	395	47,453	1,853
2018	95,858	25,954	3,790	4,540	8,977	630	8,341	381	41,528	1,717
2019	94,942	24,121	3,638	4,505	9,011	558	9,724	457	41,343	1,585
2020 ^a	83,617	23,969	3,520	4,135	8,388	497	8,735	423	32,381	1,569
2021 ^a	50,661	15,490	3,432	2,568	6,706	252	4,537	259	16,052	1,365
2022 ^a	40,255	39	3,489	4,579	86	306	8,234	386	22,049	1,087
Aged 18–64										
2013	533,621	315,961	116,008	4,363	16,093	28,226	6,486	2,446	38,236	5,802
2014	517,189	292,705	116,513	5,314	16,803	29,550	7,884	2,329	40,251	5,840
2015	510,624	279,128	117,504	6,501	17,833	29,086	9,854	2,331	43,073	5,314
2016	481,280	247,278	117,685	6,697	17,111	27,021	10,394	2,170	47,636	5,288
2017	474,412	231,223	117,525	7,468	18,403	25,687	14,226	2,353	52,788	4,739
2018	479,934	230,548	116,075	8,561	19,652	24,937	15,766	2,238	57,266	4,891
2019	472,735	220,875	113,242	9,425	20,934	24,096	18,447	2,302	58,307	5,107
2020 ^a	470,564	215,733	126,969	8,699	19,078	22,994	16,668	2,194	53,454	4,775
2021 ^a	350,459	139,865	134,501	5,052	13,421	12,366	7,860	1,374	31,245	4,775
2022 ^a	211,294	79	124,867	8,853	105	18,211	12,942	2,093	40,424	3,720
Aged 65 or older										
2013	200,220	42,860	129,780	3,336	9,941	989	2,278	10,176	135	725
2014	190,093	35,418	127,242	3,600	9,841	1,051	2,393	9,788	15	745
2015	210,663	50,613	133,030	3,464	9,409	1,083	2,285	10,025	22	732
2016	190,467	34,625	130,412	3,256	8,473	1,036	1,915	9,044	15	1,691
2017	194,112	32,703	134,667	3,144	9,226	1,022	2,638	9,506	28	1,178
2018	196,719	30,982	138,077	3,802	9,939	1,074	2,727	9,245	30	843
2019	200,426	31,262	136,462	4,776	11,666	1,191	4,223	10,003	44	799
2020 ^a	236,291	33,741	171,760	4,391	10,176	1,409	3,898	9,927	50	939
2021 ^a	215,950	21,863	174,732	2,765	6,515	774	1,833	6,306	36	1,126
2022 ^a	180,498	46	160,496	5,219	106	1,276	4,732	7,548	74	1,001

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data.

a. Terminations were affected by administrative adjustments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONTACT: statistics@ssa.gov.

Suspensions, Terminations, and Duration of Eligibility

Table 78.
Recipients, by selected characteristics and duration of eligibility, December 2022

Characteristic	Total		Years of eligibility									State conversion ^a	
	Number	Percent	Under 5	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 or more		
All recipients													
Number	7,542,222	...	1,645,441	1,689,464	1,432,609	927,950	668,803	491,216	361,397	157,572	146,079	21,691	
Percent	...	100.0	21.8	22.4	19.0	12.3	8.9	6.5	4.8	2.1	1.9	0.3	
Eligibility category													
Aged	1,138,100	100.0	32.8	27.1	18.2	11.1	6.4	3.2	1.1	0.1	(L)	(L)	
Blind	64,393	100.0	20.0	20.5	13.9	10.0	9.3	7.0	6.9	4.7	5.7	2.0	
Disabled	6,339,729	100.0	19.9	21.6	19.2	12.5	9.3	7.1	5.4	2.4	2.2	0.3	
Age at first month of eligibility													
Under 18	1,932,114	100.0	24.2	22.3	16.6	10.6	7.5	6.6	5.6	2.8	3.8	(L)	
18-21	656,214	100.0	20.8	21.1	19.2	12.7	7.9	5.0	4.7	3.4	4.4	0.8	
22-25	288,518	100.0	11.9	16.9	17.6	13.0	9.4	8.9	8.9	6.3	5.0	2.1	
26-29	276,370	100.0	11.3	14.8	16.8	12.2	10.9	11.5	11.2	6.0	3.7	1.6	
30-39	770,232	100.0	10.5	13.9	16.9	14.8	15.1	13.3	9.7	3.5	1.7	0.6	
40-49	927,991	100.0	12.0	18.1	24.5	18.0	12.7	7.8	4.9	1.3	0.5	0.1	
50-59	1,253,724	100.0	26.0	29.5	21.1	10.3	6.4	4.1	2.2	0.4	0.1	(L)	
60-64	302,229	100.0	27.9	26.2	19.5	11.0	8.9	4.3	1.9	0.2	(L)	(L)	
65 or older	1,134,830	100.0	32.9	27.1	18.2	11.1	6.4	3.1	1.1	0.1	(L)	(L)	
Age in December 2022													
Under 18	997,109	100.0	44.2	35.4	17.6	2.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18-21	290,456	100.0	33.9	16.0	24.5	22.0	3.7	...	...	...	...	...	...
22-25	283,433	100.0	26.4	30.3	12.3	15.5	14.5	1.1	...	...	...	...	...
26-29	272,866	100.0	11.9	32.9	21.3	10.6	12.5	10.7	(L)	...	...	...	...
30-39	701,670	100.0	11.2	15.6	25.2	18.5	9.7	9.6	8.4	1.8	(L)	...	...
40-49	662,969	100.0	14.3	17.1	18.3	13.5	12.4	9.4	7.8	4.2	3.0	...	...
50-59	1,176,607	100.0	23.4	20.2	16.9	11.4	8.8	6.8	5.8	3.3	3.4	(L)	...
60-64	807,788	100.0	17.4	25.2	19.5	10.9	8.6	6.7	5.1	2.8	3.7	(L)	...
65 or older	2,349,324	100.0	17.4	19.2	18.6	13.7	11.1	8.3	6.0	2.3	2.4	0.9	...
Sex													
Male	3,628,462	100.0	25.0	24.5	19.2	11.0	7.1	5.2	4.0	2.0	1.9	0.3	
Female	3,913,760	100.0	18.9	20.5	18.8	13.5	10.5	7.8	5.5	2.2	2.0	0.3	

(Continued)

Suspensions, Terminations, and Duration of Eligibility

Table 78.
Recipients, by selected characteristics and duration of eligibility, December 2022—Continued

Characteristic	Total		Years of eligibility									State conversion ^a
	Number	Percent	Under 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 or more	
Diagnostic group ^b												
Congenital anomalies	118,122	100.0	27.7	24.0	17.9	11.7	6.5	4.4	3.9	2.2	1.5	(L)
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	126,422	100.0	16.3	21.2	21.1	12.3	9.9	11.1	6.3	1.2	0.5	(L)
Infectious and parasitic diseases	55,764	100.0	11.9	15.6	19.5	14.4	13.3	12.8	6.8	2.8	2.6	0.3
Injuries	134,122	100.0	21.2	22.0	20.0	13.0	9.0	6.4	4.9	2.0	1.4	(L)
Mental disorders												
Autism spectrum disorders	441,649	100.0	34.0	29.8	19.9	9.2	4.0	1.9	0.9	0.2	0.1	...
Developmental disorders	251,729	100.0	43.3	31.3	16.4	5.3	1.7	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.2	(L)
Childhood and adolescent disorders not elsewhere classified	29,970	100.0	39.3	36.3	16.6	4.9	1.4	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	(L)
Intellectual disorders	976,409	100.0	8.5	12.3	15.2	13.9	12.4	12.5	11.9	6.4	6.6	0.3
Depressive, bipolar, and related disorders	773,120	100.0	10.1	16.7	22.8	18.2	14.4	9.5	6.1	1.6	0.5	(L)
Neurocognitive disorders	174,877	100.0	12.0	17.9	21.6	17.2	12.3	8.6	6.5	2.4	1.3	0.1
Schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders	433,172	100.0	15.7	18.3	18.0	13.3	10.6	8.2	7.7	5.4	2.6	0.1
Other mental disorders	525,128	100.0	21.1	26.8	20.8	11.1	7.9	5.6	4.3	1.5	0.7	(L)
Neoplasms	73,412	100.0	48.4	24.0	13.2	6.8	3.9	2.0	1.0	0.3	0.2	(L)
Diseases of the—												
Blood and blood-forming organs	23,729	100.0	16.2	19.4	21.7	13.9	9.7	7.7	6.7	2.9	1.9	(L)
Circulatory system	269,227	100.0	26.1	26.5	20.1	11.1	7.4	4.6	2.8	0.8	0.5	(L)
Digestive system	62,974	100.0	36.1	25.9	18.0	9.2	5.7	2.8	1.7	0.4	0.2	(L)
Genitourinary system	52,757	100.0	37.3	26.2	16.6	8.9	5.2	3.0	1.8	0.6	0.4	(L)
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	990,102	100.0	22.1	27.6	22.3	12.2	7.9	4.3	2.6	0.6	0.3	(L)
Nervous system and sense organs	485,790	100.0	18.2	20.9	18.4	12.4	9.0	7.1	6.2	3.6	4.2	0.2
Respiratory system	128,661	100.0	27.5	28.7	20.1	9.6	6.3	3.9	2.6	0.8	0.5	(L)
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	10,644	100.0	22.0	24.8	22.4	11.3	8.2	5.3	3.7	1.3	1.0	(L)
Other	65,925	100.0	61.8	17.9	8.8	4.8	2.8	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.5	(L)
Unknown	200,417	100.0	7.2	8.5	11.3	10.8	14.1	15.4	8.5	3.2	13.0	8.1

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Record, 100 percent data.

NOTES: "Duration of eligibility" refers to the number of years elapsed between a person's first month of eligibility and December of the reporting year. The first month of eligibility is the later of (1) the date of application for SSI and (2) the date of attainment of age 65 (for aged applicants) or onset of disability or blindness (for disabled or blind applicants). For persons who have applied for SSI more than once, this definition refers to the most recent application.

... = not applicable; (L) = less than 0.05 percent.

a. Persons who were converted to the SSI program in 1973 from the state Old-Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled programs.

b. Does not include aged recipients.

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GLOSSARY



Glossary

abbreviated application. An SSI application that is formally denied for nonmedical reasons when the applicant alleges information that clearly results in ineligibility.

adult. A person who is older than age 21, is aged 18–21 but is not a student, is under 21 and married, or is the head of a household.

aged person. A person aged 65 or older.

allowance. A determination by the Disability Determination Service, an administrative law judge, or the Appeals Council that an applicant meets the medical definition of disability under the law.

auxiliary benefit. Monthly Social Security benefit payable to a spouse or a child of a retired or disabled worker or to a survivor of a deceased worker.

award. An administrative determination that an individual is entitled to receive monthly benefits.

blind. “Blindness,” for Social Security purposes, means either central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens or a limitation in the fields of vision so that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle of 20 degrees or less (tunnel vision).

blind work expenses (BWE). Any earned income of a blind person which is used to meet any expenses reasonably attributable to earning the income. The amount of the expenses is deducted from the earned income used in computing the SSI monthly payment amount.

child. An unmarried blind or disabled person who is not the head of a household and who is either under age 18 or aged 18–21 and a student.

concurrent application. An application for both Title II (Social Security) and Title XVI (Supplemental Security Income) benefits at the same time.

deeming. Counting part of the income and resources of certain persons who live with an SSI recipient when determining the amount of the payment. These persons include the ineligible spouses of adult recipients, the ineligible parents of child recipients under age 18, and the immigration sponsor for certain noncitizens.

diagnostic group. Classification of impairments, by body system, that identifies the medical condition(s) on which disability-related benefits are based. Before 1985, the coding of the primary and secondary diagnoses for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income applicants was in accordance with the *International Classification of Diseases: 9th revision, Clinical Modification, 4th ed.*, using 4-digit ICD-9 codes. In 1985, the Social Security Administration (SSA) implemented a revised method to determine and enter impairment codes in administrative records. This revised approach generally uses 3 digits (followed by zero), loosely based on the ICD-9 codes. For research purposes, the ICD-9 codes and SSA impairment codes are, typically, identical. However, the diagnostic groupings shown in the statistical tables closely parallel the major ICD-9 disease classifications.

disability. The inability to engage in substantial gainful activity (SGA) by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. (Special rules apply for workers aged 55 or older whose disability is based on blindness. The 12-month requirement does not apply to SSI recipients who are blind.)

Individuals are considered to be disabled only if their physical or mental impairment(s) is of such severity that they are not only unable to do their previous work but cannot—because of their age, education, or work experience—engage in any other kind of substantial gainful activity that exists in the national economy, regardless of whether such work exists in the immediate area in which they live, or whether a specific job vacancy exists for them, or whether they would be hired if they applied for work.

The SGA criterion does not apply to children under age 18 in the Supplemental Security Income program. The standard for them is a medically determinable physical or mental impairment that results in marked and severe functional limitations.

Disability Determination Service (DDS). The state agency responsible for developing medical evidence and rendering the initial determination and reconsideration on whether a claimant is disabled or a recipient continues to be disabled within the meaning of the law.

federal benefit rate (FBR). The basic benefit standard used in computing the amount of federal SSI payments. Benefit levels differ for individuals and couples living in households and for persons in Medicaid institutions. Individuals or couples living in their own household receive the full federal benefit. The federal benefit is reduced by one-third if an individual or couple is living in another person's household and receiving support and maintenance there. The federal benefit rate is increased annually to reflect increases in the cost of living.

impairment-related work expenses (IRWE). Expenses for items or services which are directly related to enabling a person with a disability to work and which are necessarily incurred by that individual because of a physical or mental impairment. The costs are paid for in cash by the individual and are not reimbursable from another source. These expenses are excluded from earned income used to compute ongoing SSI monthly payments. Since December 1990, they may also be applied in the determination of income for purposes of initial SSI eligibility. They are also deducted from the individual's gross earnings when determining if the work is considered substantial gainful activity.

Medicaid institution. Living arrangement for persons in public or private institutions when more than 50 percent of the cost of care is met by the Medicaid program. In these situations, the monthly federal SSI payment is limited to \$30.

own household. Used to determine the federal benefit rate. Applies to adults who own their living quarters, are liable for the rent, pay their pro rata shares of household expenses, are living in households composed only of recipients of public income-maintenance payments, and are placed by agencies in private households. Also applies to children living in their parent's household. See **federal benefit rate**.

plan to achieve self-support (PASS). A formal plan, requiring SSA approval, for attaining a specific work goal. With a PASS, an SSI recipient may set aside earned or unearned income and resources to pay for goods or services needed to reach the goal, such as education, vocational training, starting a business, or purchasing work-related equipment. Income and resources set aside are excluded from SSI income and resource tests, but they do not influence the determination of ability to engage in substantial gainful activity.

presumptive disability or blindness. For certain diagnoses, where there is high probability of a favorable medical determination of disability or blindness, payments may be made for up to 6 months before the formal determination, if the applicant meets the nonmedical eligibility requirements.

representative payee. A person designated by the Social Security Administration to receive monthly benefit checks on behalf of an adult recipient who is unable to manage his or her own funds. A recipient under age 18 is generally considered incapable of managing benefit payments, and a representative payee will be selected to receive benefits on the recipient's behalf.

Section 1619(a). Continuing cash benefits for disabled individuals whose gross earned income is at the amount designated as the substantial gainful activity level. The person must continue to be disabled and meet all other eligibility rules. Also known as special cash payment.

Section 1619(b). For Medicaid purposes, provides special status to working disabled or blind individuals when their earnings make them ineligible for cash payments. Also known as special recipient status.

Social Security Administration (SSA) administrative regions.

Boston: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

New York: New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands

Philadelphia: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia

Atlanta: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee

Chicago: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin

Dallas: Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas

Kansas City: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska

Denver: Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming

San Francisco: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam, and Northern Mariana Islands

Seattle: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington

NOTE: The SSI program does not cover American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands.

state conversions. Persons who were eligible for payments under the federal and state adult assistance programs in December 1973 were automatically eligible for SSI payments beginning January 1974.

state supplementation. Payments to eligible persons made under state provisions. These payments may vary by the recipient's living situation and by geographic area within the state. The payments may be administered by the Social Security Administration or the state.

substantial gainful activity (SGA). Describes a level of work activity that is productive and yields or usually yields remuneration or profit. The Social Security Administration's regulations establish a dollar amount to indicate whether a person's work is substantial.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI). A federal program for low-income aged, blind, and disabled individuals who meet income and resource requirements. Beginning in 1974, SSI replaced the former federal and state programs of Old-Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled. SSI is funded by general tax revenues, not Social Security taxes.

suspension. When SSI payments have been temporarily stopped because the recipient is not currently eligible, or they were interrupted for other reasons. Payments can resume if the recipient reestablishes eligibility during the suspension reinstatement period, which is generally 12 months after the effective date of the suspension.

termination. When a recipient's current eligibility for SSI payments has ended. Termination events include death, no longer having a disabling impairment, and voluntary termination from the SSI program. In addition, when a recipient's SSI payments have been suspended longer than the suspension reinstatement period and certain other conditions are not met, the record is terminated.