

Social Security: OASI, DI, and Trust Funds—CBO’s April 2018 Baseline

Social Security has two parts: Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI), which pays benefits to retired workers, their families, and some survivors of deceased workers; and Disability Insurance (DI), which makes payments to disabled workers until those workers reach the age at which they are eligible to receive full retired-worker benefits under OASI and to their families. The program is funded primarily through payroll taxes on employers and workers, who each pay 6.2 percent of earnings; self-employed workers pay the entire 12.4 percent tax.

To receive OASI or DI benefits, workers must have a substantial employment history and meet other criteria. CBO’s projections of outlays for OASI and DI benefits are based on the number of beneficiaries and their average benefits.

Although Social Security is part of the overall federal budget, its benefits are paid from trust funds that are funded mainly from payroll taxes and interest on their balances. Under current law, the Social Security Administration may not pay benefits in excess of the available balances in a trust fund.

Social Security Disability Insurance—CBO's April 2018 Baseline

	Actual 2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
By Calendar Year												
Beneficiaries on December 31 (Thousands)												
Disabled Workers												
Men	4,432	4,371	4,377	4,402	4,468	4,531	4,590	4,653	4,723	4,785	4,788	4,791
Women	4,263	4,238	4,270	4,313	4,391	4,461	4,525	4,591	4,661	4,723	4,728	4,733
All Disabled Workers	8,695	8,609	8,647	8,714	8,859	8,992	9,115	9,244	9,384	9,509	9,516	9,524
Spouses	126	119	115	111	108	106	104	102	101	100	98	96
Children	1,590	1,543	1,519	1,501	1,490	1,486	1,486	1,487	1,490	1,492	1,489	1,486
Total	10,411	10,271	10,280	10,326	10,458	10,584	10,705	10,834	10,976	11,101	11,104	11,106
Average Monthly Benefit on December 31 (Dollars)												
Disabled Workers												
Men	1,320	1,353	1,392	1,433	1,476	1,521	1,568	1,618	1,671	1,727	1,785	1,845
Women	1,069	1,099	1,134	1,172	1,210	1,252	1,295	1,341	1,390	1,441	1,494	1,550
All Disabled Workers	1,197	1,228	1,265	1,304	1,344	1,387	1,432	1,480	1,531	1,585	1,641	1,699
Spouses	335	346	358	371	385	399	415	431	449	467	486	507
Children	366	376	388	400	413	426	440	455	471	488	505	523
Disabled Workers (Thousands)												
Start of Year	8,809	8,695	8,609	8,647	8,714	8,859	8,992	9,115	9,244	9,384	9,509	9,516
Awards	762	772	887	933	927	929	932	944	957	952	949	939
Exits	-875	-858	-849	-865	-782	-796	-809	-814	-817	-828	-941	-932
End of Year	8,695	8,609	8,647	8,714	8,859	8,992	9,115	9,244	9,384	9,509	9,516	9,524
By Fiscal Year												
Benefit Outlays (Billions of Dollars)												
Regular Benefit Outlays												
Disabled Workers	123.4	124.0	126.3	130.7	137.5	144.0	150.8	157.9	164.7	172.9	181.7	186.3
Spouses	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Children	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.6	7.8	8.1	8.4	8.7	9.0
Subtotal	131.0	131.4	133.7	138.2	145.1	151.9	158.9	166.2	173.3	181.8	190.9	195.8
Retroactive Benefit Outlays	11.8	12.6	14.1	15.2	15.4	15.6	16.3	17.1	18.1	18.8	19.4	20.0
Total Benefit Outlays	142.8	143.9	147.8	153.4	160.5	167.4	175.1	183.3	191.4	200.6	210.3	215.7
Key Assumptions												
Average Wage for Indexing	49,552	51,508	53,702	56,040	58,265	60,516	62,657	64,958	67,383	69,903	72,541	75,223
Taxable Maximum	127,200	128,400	130,800	136,200	141,900	148,200	153,900	159,900	165,600	171,600	177,900	184,800
PIA for Hypothetical "Lifelong Average"												
Disabled Worker (Age 50)	1,832	1,859	1,897	1,974	2,058	2,148	2,230	2,316	2,398	2,486	2,579	2,676
Maximum PIA (Age 50)	2,972	3,020	3,082	3,207	3,344	3,487	3,619	3,758	3,892	4,036	4,188	4,345
COLA	2.0%	2.3%	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%
First month for which COLA is effective	12/2017	12/2018	12/2019	12/2020	12/2021	12/2022	12/2023	12/2024	12/2025	12/2026	12/2027	12/2028

Notes: Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

PIA = primary insurance amount; COLA = cost-of-living adjustment.