



Supplemental Security Income

Under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, the federal government and the states provide monthly cash assistance to people who are disabled, blind, or aged, and who have low income and few assets. To qualify for SSI, a disabled beneficiary must have a physical or mental impairment that meets the definition of disability under Social Security law. Federal benefits are calculated from the maximum benefit set each year by law, which is reduced for individual beneficiaries on the basis of their existing income. The federal portion of SSI is funded by the general fund of the Treasury (not one of the Social Security trust funds). Several states provide supplemental payments to some or all state residents who receive federal SSI benefits.

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	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2025-2029	2025-2034
BUDGET INFORMATION													
Billions of dollars, by fiscal year													
Estimated Outlays	57	64	66	68	76	67	75	77	79	88	84	341	744
Components of the Supplemental Security Income Program													
Estimated Outlays for Benefits													
Aged	6	7	7	8	9	7	8	9	9	10	9	38	83
Blind and disabled adults	40	45	47	48	54	47	53	55	56	63	60	241	528
Blind and disabled children	9	10	11	11	13	11	12	13	13	14	13	56	121
Estimated Outlays for Vocational Rehabilitation, Research, Demonstration Projects, and Other													
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	10
PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT INFORMATION													
Average Monthly Benefit Per Beneficiary (Dollars)	697	727	746	764	782	800	816	835	853	872	892	n.a.	n.a.
Average Monthly Beneficiaries (Thousands of people)	7,279	7,232	7,234	7,306	7,393	7,455	7,512	7,567	7,616	7,664	7,710	n.a.	n.a.
OTHER INFORMATION													
Maximum Monthly Benefit (Individual, by calendar year)	943	972	996	1,017	1,039	1,062	1,085	1,109	1,133	1,158	1,184	n.a.	n.a.
Percentage Change of Maximum Monthly Benefit	3.2	3.1	2.5	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	n.a.	n.a.
Number of Payments (By fiscal year) ^a	11	12	12	12	13	11	12	12	12	13	12	n.a.	n.a.

SSA = Social Security Administration; SSI = Supplemental Security Income; n.a. = not applicable.

The projections account for the estimated effects of three final rules issued by the SSA in recent months. The first expands the definition of “public assistance household,” the second shortens the period that the SSA uses to determine whether an applicant’s past work is relevant to a disability determination; and the third excludes food from the support that is counted in the calculation of benefits.

See Social Security Administration, “Expand the Definition of a Public Assistance Household,” Final Rule, 89 *Fed. Reg.* 28608 (April 19, 2024), <https://tinyurl.com/m2f7hw64>;

“Intermediate Improvement to the Disability Adjudication Process, Including How We Consider Past Work,” Final Rule, 89 *Fed. Reg.* 275863 (April 18, 2024), <https://tinyurl.com/2p73bjnd>; and

“Omitting Food From In-Kind Support and Maintenance Calculations,” Final Rule, 89 *Fed. Reg.* 21199 (March 27, 2024), <https://tinyurl.com/mt2d9zcr>.

a. SSA is required to make SSI payments on the first day of the month. If that day falls on a holiday or a weekend, SSA will instead make the payments on the preceding business day. As a result, in any given fiscal year there may be 11, 12, or 13 payments.