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Social Security and Medicare: Current Facts and Figures

The Many Faces of Social Security

- Nearly 180 million workers contribute to Social Security through payroll taxes.
- Nearly 65 million people receive monthly Social Security benefits:
 - 49.4 million people receive retirement benefits
 - 5.8 million people receive survivors' benefits
 - 9.6 million people receive disability benefits.

Average 2021 Monthly Social Security Benefit

- A retired worker: \$1,543
- A retired couple: \$2,596
- Disabled worker: \$1,277
- Disabled worker with spouse and child: \$2,224
- Widow or widower: \$1,453
- Young widow or widower with two children: \$3,001
- Maximum Monthly Social Security Benefit: \$3,148 (for worker retiring at Full Retirement Age).

Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2021: 1.3%

2021 Social Security and Medicare Contribution Amounts

Social Security: 6.2% for both workers and employers. This contribution is paid on earnings up to \$142,800.

Medicare: 1.45% for both workers and employers on all wages.

2020 Social Security Eligibility

Full Retirement Age: 66

Early Retirement Age: 62 (taking early retirement can reduce Social Security benefits up to 29.2 percent)

Social Security: When and How to Apply for Benefits

Generally, you should apply for Social Security benefits four months before the date you want your benefits to begin. Click here for more information on when you can apply for Social Security: <https://www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/>. You can apply in one of the following ways:

- Visit your local Social Security office. Call 1-800-772-1213 to find the nearest office.
- Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you can call Social Security at TTY 1-800-325-0778.
- Online: <https://secure.ssa.gov/iClaim/rib>

The Many Faces of Medicare

- Nearly 180 million workers contribute to Medicare through payroll taxes.
- Approximately 62.7 million people receive Medicare benefits, including:
 - 54.3 million people age 65 and older
 - 8.4 million people with disabilities

2021 Medicare Part A (Hospital Coverage)

Deductible: \$1,484 (first 60 days of Medicare-covered inpatient hospital care)

Coinsurance: \$0 (Days 1-60), \$371 per day (Days 61-90)

2021 Medicare Part B (Physician Coverage)

For all beneficiaries: Part B deductible is \$203 and the Part B copayment is 20%.

Individual's Income in 2019	Couple's Income in 2019	Your 2021 Part B Monthly Premium
\$88,000 or less	\$176,000 or less	\$148.50
\$88,001-\$111,000	\$176,001-\$222,000	\$207.90
\$111,001-\$138,000	\$222,001-\$276,000	\$297.00
\$138,001-\$165,000	\$276,001-\$330,000	\$386.10
\$165,001-\$499,999	\$330,001-\$749,999	\$475.20
\$500,000 and Above	\$750,000 and Above	\$504.90

2021 Medicare Part D (Prescription Drug Coverage)

Monthly Premium: Varies by plan (higher-income consumers may pay more)

Deductible: Varies by plan, \$445 maximum

Doughnut Hole: \$4,130 - \$6,550. Beneficiaries in the doughnut hole will receive a 75% discount for both brand-name and generic drugs.

Cap on Out-of-pocket Costs: \$6,550 (prior to catastrophic, includes discounts)

In addition to a monthly plan premium, high-income individuals will pay an income-related monthly adjustment amount as noted below:

Individual's Income in 2019	Couple's Income in 2019	Income-related monthly adjustment amount
\$88,000 or below	\$176,000 or below	\$0.00
\$88,001 - \$111,000	\$176,001 - \$222,000	\$12.30
\$111,001 - \$138,000	\$222,001 - \$276,000	\$31.80
\$138,001 - \$165,000	\$276,001 - \$330,000	\$51.20
\$165,001 - \$499,999	\$330,001 - \$749,999	\$70.70
\$500,000 and Above	\$750,000 and Above	\$77.10

Medicare: When and How to Apply for Benefits

Medicare is available for people age 65 or older, younger people with disabilities and people with End Stage Renal Disease. If you sign up after you turn 65, you may be penalized unless you have other coverage.

For information about when to apply for Medicare go to www.medicare.gov. To apply for Medicare, call 1-800-772-1213 or visit www.medicare.gov.