



# Social Security and Medicare: 2025 Facts and Figures

## The Many Faces of Social Security

- Nearly 185 million workers contribute to Social Security through payroll taxes.
- Over 74 million people receive monthly Social Security benefits:
  - Nearly 58 million people receive retirement benefits
  - 5.8 million people receive survivors' benefits
  - 8.4 million people receive disability benefits.
- [Beneficiaries by state](#)

## Average January 2026 Monthly Social Security Benefit

- A retired worker: \$2,071
- A retired couple: \$3,208
- Disabled worker: \$1,588
- Disabled worker with spouse and child: \$2,520
- Widow or widower: \$1,919
- Young widow or widower with two children: \$4,100
- Maximum Monthly Social Security Benefit: \$4,152 (for worker retiring at Full Retirement Age).

## Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2026: 2.8%

## 2026 Social Security and Medicare Contribution Amounts

**Social Security:** 6.2% for both workers and employers. This contribution is paid on earnings up to \$184,500.

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

## Social Security Eligibility

**Full Retirement Age:** Depends on your birth year.

**Early Retirement Age:** 62 (drawing benefits before the full retirement age can reduce Social Security benefits up to 30 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 186 million workers contribute to Medicare through payroll taxes.
- Approximately 69 million people receive Medicare benefits, including:
  - 61 million people age 65 and older
  - 7.6 million people with disabilities under 65
- [Beneficiaries by state](#)

### 2026 Medicare Part A (Hospital Coverage)

**Deductible:** \$1,736 (first 60 days of Medicare-covered inpatient hospital care)

**Coinsurance:** \$0 (Days 1-60), \$434 per day (Days 61-90)

### 2026 Medicare Part B (Physician Coverage)

**For all beneficiaries:** Part B deductible is \$283 and the Part B copayment is 20%.

Individual's income in 2025	Couple's income in 2025	Your 2026 Part B Monthly Premium
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$202.90
\$109,000 - \$137,000	\$218,000 - \$274,000	\$284.10
\$137,000 - \$171,000	\$274,000 - \$342,000	\$405.80
\$171,000 - \$205,000	\$342,000 - \$410,000	\$527.50
\$205,000 - \$500,000	\$410,000 - \$750,000	\$649.20
\$500,000 and above	\$750,000 and above	\$689.90

### 2026 Medicare Part D (Prescription Drug Coverage)

**Monthly Premium:** Varies by plan

**Deductible:** Varies by plan, \$615 maximum

**Doughnut Hole:** Eliminated under the Inflation Reduction Act.

**Cap on out-of-pocket Costs:** \$2,100

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 2025	Couple's income in 2025	Your 2026 Part D Monthly Premium
\$109,000 or less	\$218,000 or less	\$0.00
\$109,000 - \$137,000	\$218,000 - \$274,000	\$14.50
\$137,000 - \$171,000	\$274,000 - \$342,000	\$37.50
\$171,000 - \$205,000	\$342,000 - \$410,000	\$60.40
\$205,000 - \$500,000	\$410,000 - \$750,000	\$83.30
\$500,000 and above	\$750,000 and above	\$91.00

### 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 <https://www.ssa.gov/medicare>. To apply for Medicare, call 1-800-772-1213 or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).