

Social Security Key Items

Below are a number of important Social Security items. This information is shown in three separate sections which are described as follows:

I. Average of Total Wages, Wage Bases, COL Increases

II. Wages for Coverage, Bend Points

III. Earnings Test Exempt Amounts

I. Average Wages, Wage Bases, COL Increases

Year	Average of Total Wages *	Social Security Wage Base	Medicare Part A Wage Base**	Special "Old Law" Wage Base***	COL Percentage Increase In Benefits #
2012		\$110,100	-	\$81,900	
2011		106,800	-	79,200	3.6%
2010	\$41,673.83	106,800	-	79,200	0.0%
2009	\$40,711.61	\$106,800	-	\$79,200	0.0%
2008	41,334.97	102,000	-	75,900	5.8
2007	40,405.48	97,500	-	72,600	2.3
2006	38,651.41	94,200	-	69,900	3.3
2005	36,952.94	90,000	-	66,900	4.1
2004	35,648.55	87,900	-	65,100	2.7
2003	34,064.95	87,000	-	64,500	2.1
2002	33,252.09	84,900	-	63,000	1.4
2001	32,921.92	80,400	-	59,700	2.6
2000	32,154.82	76,200	-	56,700	3.5
1999	\$30,469.84	\$72,600	-	\$53,700	2.5% ##
1998	28,861.44	68,400	-	50,700	1.3
1997	27,426.00	65,400	-	48,600	2.1
1996	25,913.90	62,700	-	46,500	2.9
1995	24,705.66	61,200	-	45,300	2.6
1994	23,753.53	60,600	-	45,000	2.8
1993	23,132.67	57,600	\$135,000	42,900	2.6
1992	22,935.42	55,500###	130,200	41,400	3.0
1991	21,811.60	53,400###	125,000	39,600	3.7
1990	21,027.98	51,300###	-	38,100	5.4
1989	\$20,099.55	\$48,000	-	\$35,700	4.7%
1988	19,334.04	45,000	-	33,600	4.0

1987	18,426.51	43,800	-	32,700	4.2
1986	17,321.81	42,000	-	31,500	1.3
1985	16,822.51	39,600	-	29,700	3.1
1984	16,135.07	37,800	-	28,200	3.5
1983	15,239.24	35,700	-	26,700	3.5
1982	14,531.34	32,400	-	24,300	7.4
1981	13,773.10	29,700	-	22,200	11.2
1980	12,513.46	25,900	-	20,400	14.3
1979	\$11,479.46	\$22,900	-	\$18,900	9.9%
1978	10,556.03	17,700	-	-	6.5
1977	9,779.44	16,500	-	-	5.9
1976	9,226.48	15,300	-	-	6.4
1975	8,630.92	14,100	-	-	8.0
1974	8,030.76	13,200	-	-	-
1973	7,580.16	10,800	-	-	-
1972	7,133.80	9,000	-	-	-
1971	6,497.08	7,800	-	-	-
1970	6,186.24	7,800	-	-	-
1969	\$5,893.76	\$7,800	-	-	-
1968	5,571.76	7,800	-	-	-
1967	5,213.44	6,600	-	-	-
1966	4,938.36	6,600	-	-	-
1965	4,658.72	4,800	-	-	-
1964	4,576.32	4,800	-	-	-
1963	4,396.64	4,800	-	-	-
1962	4,291.40	4,800	-	-	-
1961	4,086.76	4,800	-	-	-
1960	4,007.12	4,800	-	-	-
1959	\$3,855.80	\$4,800	-	-	-
1958	3,673.80	4,200	-	-	-
1957	3,641.72	4,200	-	-	-
1956	3,532.36	4,200	-	-	-
1955	3,301.44	4,200	-	-	-
1954	3,155.64	3,600	-	-	-
1953	3,139.44	3,600	-	-	-
1952	2,973.32	3,600	-	-	-
1951	2,799.16	3,600	-	-	-

* The numbers in this column are used to determine the Social Security wage bases, and the bend points (shown below in Table II). On November 30, 2010, the SSA issued a notice correcting the 2009 Average of Total Wages (originally it was reported to be

\$40,934.93).

** Beginning in 1990, the wage base for Medicare Part A was set at a different value than for the wage base applicable to OASDI. The OASDI wage base, however, is called the Social Security Wage Base. Beginning in 1994, the limit on the wage base for Medicare Part A was eliminated.

*** The special "old-law" wage base is used for the maximum PBGC guaranteed benefit, Railroad Retirement benefits and the Social Security special minimum benefit.

Through 1982, the entries in this column apply to June benefits, first payable in July. From 1983 on, they apply to December benefits, first payable in January of the next year.

The COLA for December 1999 was originally determined as 2.4% based on the CPIs published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Based on corrected CPIs, the December 1999 COLA has been changed to 2.5%.

For determining the 1990, 1991 and 1992 wage bases a Deemed Average of Total Wages was used to accurately reflect the addition of deferred wages to the wages included in the Average of Total Wages. For 1990, 1991 and 1992 the Deemed Average of Total Wages was \$19,702.57, \$20,486.23 and \$21,341.82, respectively.

II. Wages for Coverage, Bend Points

Year	Wages Required for Quarter of Coverage	First Bend Point *	Second Bend Point *	Family Maximum First Bend Point **	Family Maximum Second Bend Point **	Family Maximum Third Bend Point **
2012	\$1,130	\$767	\$4,624	\$980	\$1,415	\$1,845
2011	1,120	749	4,517	957	1,382	1,803
2010	1,120	761	4,586	972	1,403	1,830
2009	\$1,090	\$744	\$4,483	\$950	\$1,372	\$1,789
2008	1,050	711	4,288	909	1,312	1,711
2007	1,000	680	4,100	869	1,255	1,636
2006	970	656	3,955	838	1,210	1,578
2005	920	627	3,779	801	1,156	1,508
2004	900	612	3,689	782	1,129	1,472
2003	890	606	3,653	774	1,118	1,458
2002	870	592	3,567	756	1,092	1,424
2001	830	561	3,381	717	1,034	1,349
2000	780	531	3,202	679	980	1,278
1999	\$740	\$505	\$3,043	\$645	\$931	\$1,214
1998	700	477	2,875	609	880	1,147
1997	670	455	2,741	581	839	1,094
1996	640	437	2,635	559	806	1,052
1995	630	426	2,567	544	785	1,024
1994	620	422	2,545	539	779	1,016
1993	590	401	2,420	513	740	966
1992	570	387	2,333	495	714	931
1991	540	370	2,230	473	682	890

1990	520	356	2,145	455	656	856
1989	500	339	2,044	433	626	816
1988	470	319	1,922	407	588	767
1987	460	310	1,866	396	571	745
1986	440	297	1,790	379	548	714
1985	410	280	1,691	358	517	675
1984	390	267	1,612	342	493	643
1983	370	254	1,528	324	468	610
1982	340	230	1,388	294	425	554
1981	310	211	1,274	270	390	508
1980	290	194	1,171	248	358	467
1979	260	180	1,085	230	332	433
1978	250	-	-	-	-	-

* Unreduced PIA at 62 equals 90 percent of AIME up to the first bend point plus 32 percent of AIME between the two bend points plus 15 percent of AIME over the second bend point. This applies if the worker was born after 1916 and the special transition PIA does not exceed the PIA calculated on these bases. On November 30, 2010, the SSA issued a notice correcting the 2009 Bend Points (originally they were reported to be \$753 and \$4,542).

** Maximum Family Benefit equals 150 percent of the worker's PIA up to the first bend point plus 272 percent of the worker's PIA between the first two bend points plus 134 percent of the worker's PIA between the second and third bend points plus 175 percent of the worker's PIA over the third bend point. This applies if the worker was born after 1916. In disability cases the family maximum is limited (effective only where first entitlement begins after 6/30/80) to the lesser of (a) 85% of the AIME or 100% of the PIA, if larger, or (b) 150% of the PIA. On November 30, 2010, the SSA issued a notice correcting the 2009 Family Maximum Bend Points (originally they were reported to be \$963, \$1,390, and \$1,812).

III. Earnings Test Exempt Amounts *

Year	Under SSNRA		Year of SSNRA	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
2012	\$1,220	\$14,640	\$3,240	\$38,880
2011	1,180	14,160	3,140	37,680
2010	1,180	14,160	3,140	37,680
2009	\$1,180	\$14,160	\$3,140	\$37,680
2008	1,130	13,560	3,010	36,120
2007	1,080	12,960	2,870	34,440
2006	1,040	12,480	2,770	33,240
2005	1,000	12,000	2,650	31,800
2004	970	11,640	2,590	31,080
2003	960	11,520	2,560	30,720
2002	940	11,280	2,500	30,000
2001	890	10,680	2,084	25,000

	2000	840	10,080	1,417	17,000
Year	Under Age 65		Age 65 and Over		
	Monthly	Annual	Ages	Monthly	Annual
1999	\$800.00	\$9,600	65 through 69	\$1,292.00	\$15,500
1998	760.00	9,120	65 through 69	1,209.00	14,500
1997	720.00	8,640	65 through 69	1,125.00	13,500
1996	690.00	8,280	65 through 69	1,042.00	12,500
1995	680.00	8,160	65 through 69	940.00	11,280
1994	670.00	8,040	65 through 69	930.00	11,160
1993	640.00	7,680	65 through 69	880.00	10,560
1992	620.00	7,440	65 through 69	850.00	10,200
1991	590.00	7,080	65 through 69	810.00	9,720
1990	570.00	6,840	65 through 69	780.00	9,360
1989	540.00	6,480	65 through 69	740.00	8,880
1988	510.00	6,120	65 through 69	700.00	8,400
1987	500.00	6,000	65 through 69	680.00	8,160
1986	480.00	5,760	65 through 69	650.00	7,800
1985	450.00	5,400	65 through 69	610.00	7,320
1984	430.00	5,160	65 through 69	580.00	6,960
1983	410.00	4,920	65 through 69	550.00	6,600
1982	370.00	4,440	65 through 71	500.00	6,000
1981	340.00	4,080	65 through 71	458.33	5,500
1980	310.00	3,720	65 through 71	416.67	5,000
1979	290.00	3,480	65 through 71	375.00	4,500
1978	270.00	3,240	65 through 71	333.33	4,000
1977	250.00	3,000	65 through 71	250.00	3,000

* The Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act of 2000 repealed the Social Security earnings limit retroactively to January 1, 2000 for years after Social Security Normal Retirement Age (SSNRA). The limit prior to the change will continue to apply for ages before SSNRA. For the year a beneficiary reaches SSNRA, the limit is a fixed amount set by law for 2000 through 2002. After 2002, the limit will increase in a manner similar to the increases in the under SSNRA amount.