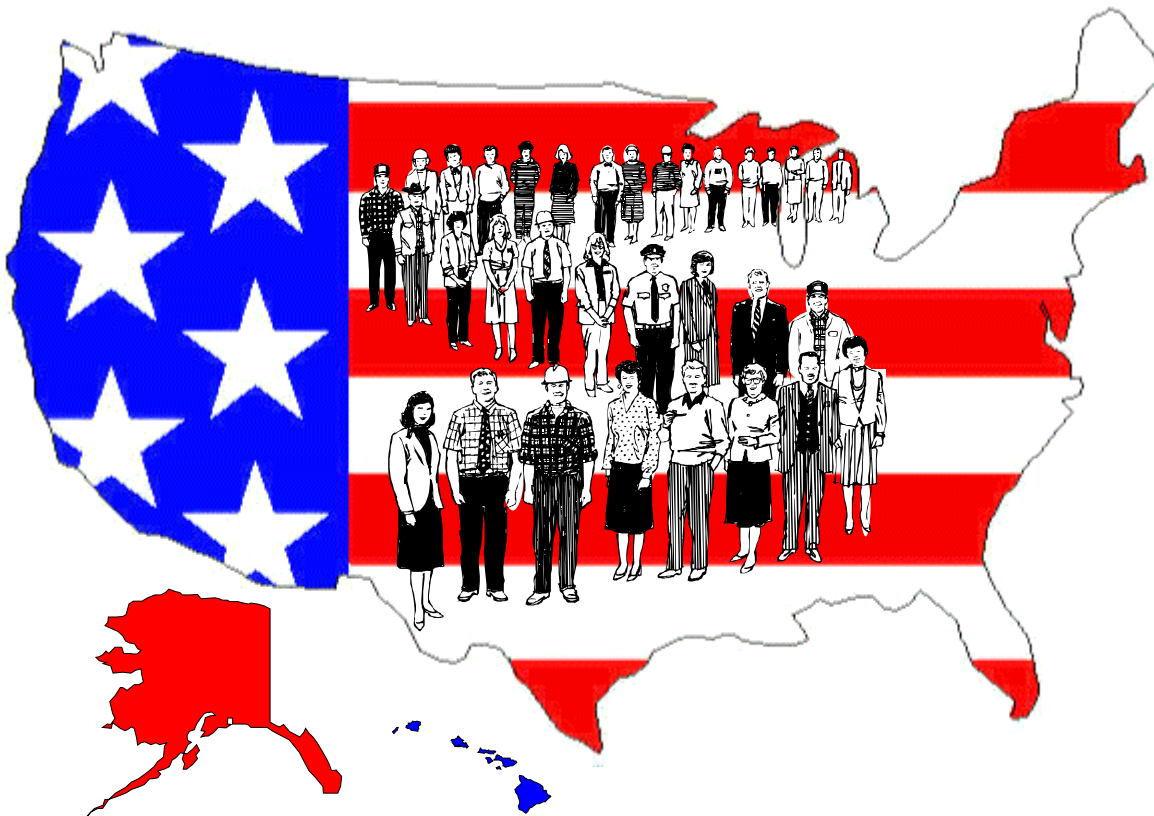


**QUARTERLY REPORT
ON
SSI DISABLED WORKERS
AND
WORK INCENTIVE PROVISIONS**

SEPTEMBER 1999



**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS**

Social Security Administration
Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics
Division of SSI Statistics and Analysis

QUARTERLY REPORT
ON SSI DISABLED WORKERS
AND WORK INCENTIVE PROVISIONS

SEPTEMBER 1999

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This report is also available on the Internet at http://www.ssa.gov/statistics/ores_home.html

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INTRODUCTION

This report provides information about all SSI disabled and blind¹ recipients who work and receive wages. The report has been divided into three sections—all SSI disabled workers, section 1619 participants, and disabled workers who benefit from other work incentive provisions.

Since the beginning of the SSI program, a number of SSI disabled recipients have worked and received SSI payments. Initially, the program contained a basic earned income exclusion that recognized the additional costs associated with employment. In addition, the law contained a number of special income exclusions that were intended as work incentives. Among these provisions were income exclusions for blind work expenses (BWE), plans for achieving self-support (PASS), and student earned income (SEI).

The 1980 amendments to the Social Security Act established section 1619, and provided additional work incentive provisions to assist SSI recipients in entering the workforce. These included income exclusions for impairment-related work expenses (IRWE), a change in the treatment of sheltered workshop earnings, and the continuation of SSI payments for some individuals whose disability ceased due to medical recovery. This provision was extended to SSI blind recipients in the 1988 amendments.²

Congress enacted these provisions because it concluded that additional incentives were required to help SSI disabled recipients to become self-supporting. They believed that individuals who could work outside of sheltered workshops, might have been

discouraged from doing so by the fear of losing their benefits before they had established for themselves the capability for continued self-support.

Section 1619(a) provides special SSI cash benefits to disabled individuals who lose eligibility for SSI payments because they have earnings at the level that is ordinarily considered to represent substantial gainful activity (SGA). Section 1619(b) provides special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes to working disabled or blind individuals when their earnings make them ineligible for cash payments.

Under P.L. 99–643, which made section 1619 permanent, disabled individuals on the SSI rolls retain disability status until they medically improve. The distinction between a disabled person eligible for regular SSI benefits and a disabled person eligible for 1619(a) benefits is that the latter has several months with gross earnings above the SGA level (\$500).

Under previous law, 1619(a) status did not begin until after the completion of a trial work period and a determination was made that subsequent work was SGA. A number of the cases were defined as 1619(a) cases after June 1987 as a result of this change in the definition rather than from any change in their work activity.

Beginning January 1990, a number of recipients went from 1619(a) status to regular eligibility status as a result of the increase in the SGA level from \$300 to \$500. This also

¹ Unless specifically excluded and/or listed separately, all references to SSI disabled recipients and workers in this report include persons whose eligibility is based on blindness.

² For a full description of these provisions, see the Appendix.

occurred effective July 1999, when the SGA level was further increased to \$700.

Under section 1619(b), cash payments are not made. However, recipient status for Medicaid purposes continues until earnings reach a plateau that takes into account the person's ability to afford medical care as well as his or her normal living expenses.

The data in this report are based on the SSI caseload at the end of September 1999.

SUMMARY

SSI DISABLED WORKERS

SEPTEMBER 1999

In September 1999, there were 342,680 SSI disabled beneficiaries who were working (6.4 percent of the total SSI disabled caseload). Included in this count were 70,580 section 1619(b) participants who do not receive an SSI payment, but who have special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes. Almost three-fourths (69.9 percent) of the workers had amounts of earned income below the substantial gainful activity (SGA) level of \$700 per month; 27.7 percent earned \$65 or less.

Among the States, the percentage of disabled workers varied from a low of 2.9 percent in Mississippi to a high of 19.6 percent in Iowa. In general, the percentage of disabled workers was higher in the Northern States than in the Southern States.

The majority of these disabled workers were male (53.6 percent). Almost half (46.4 percent) had unearned income; 39.6 percent were receiving social security benefits. Comparable figures for all disabled recipients in September 1999 were: 44.6 percent male, 37.8 percent with unearned income, and 30.6 percent receiving social security benefits.

Disabled workers are more likely to have certain impairments than other disabled recipients. Almost three-fourths (74.2 percent) of the workers had a mental disorder, including 49.1 percent who were diagnosed with mental retardation. This compares to 57.9 percent of all disabled recipients with a

mental disorder, including 24.4 percent with mental retardation.

The greatest use of work incentive provisions was by participants under section 1619—27.6 percent of disabled workers. This included 7.0 percent under section 1619(a), and 20.6 percent under section 1619(b).

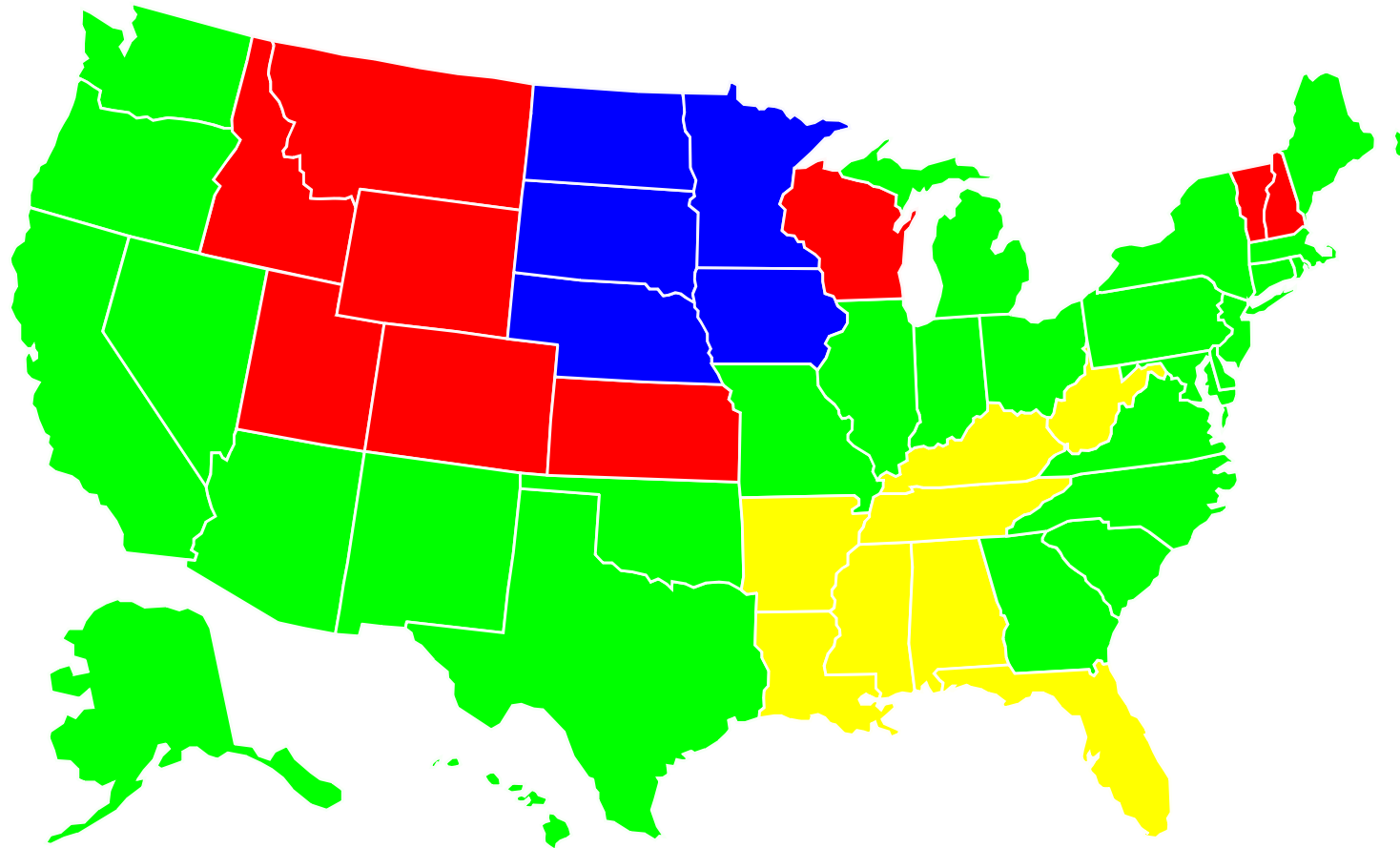
Use of other work incentive provisions continued to have a smaller, but measurable, impact. In September 1999, 4.5 percent of the SSI disabled workers had some of their income excluded under one of these provisions—plan for achieving self support (PASS), (0.3 percent); impairment related work expenses (IRWE), (2.9 percent), or blind work expenses (BWE), (1.2 percent).

A PASS permits an SSI recipient to set aside income and resources to help obtain the training or education necessary for certain specified occupational goals. In September 1999, 351 PASS participants had earnings, which averaged \$577 per month. However, exclusions under a PASS are not limited to earnings. Of the 1,069 disabled recipients with a PASS, almost two-thirds (66.4 percent) did not have any earnings reported for September 1999. For this group, the PASS excluded unearned income such as social security benefits. Out of all PASS participants, 70 had a PASS that excluded only resources.

**PART I:
EXHIBITS**

CHART A

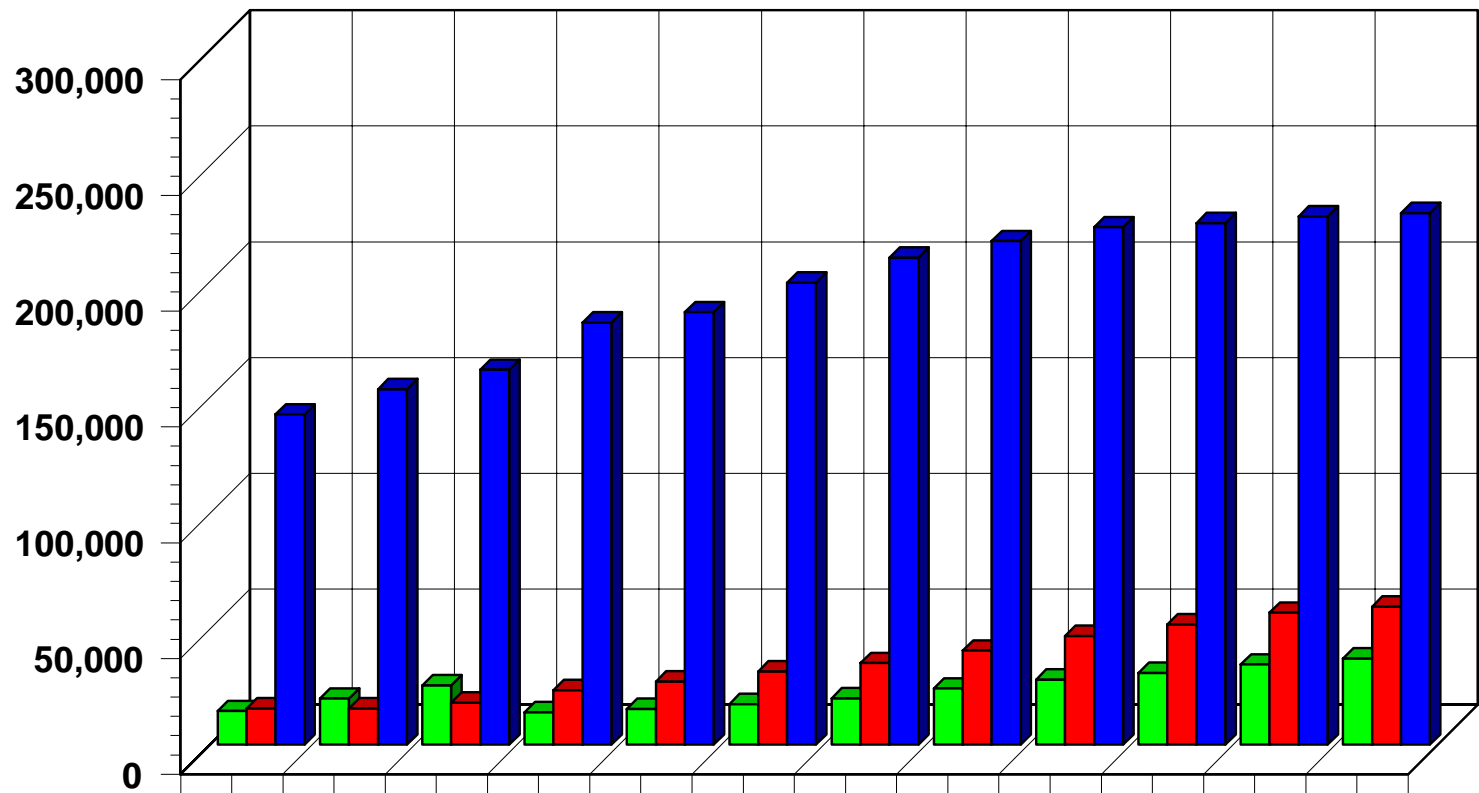
**DISABLED WORKERS AS A PERCENT OF ALL DISABLED RECIPIENTS
SEPTEMBER 1999**



Under 5% **5 - 9.99%** **10 - 14.99%** **15% or more**

CHART B

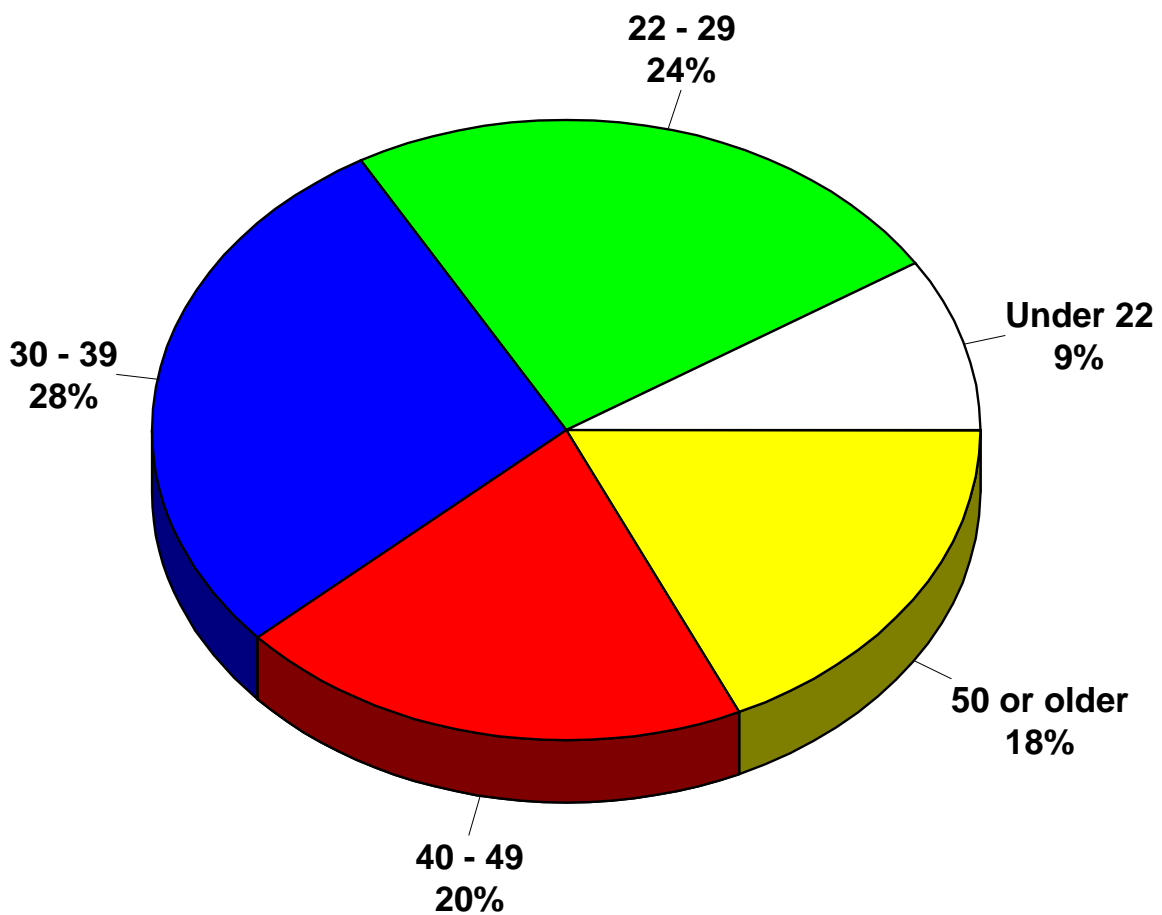
SSI DISABLED WORKERS, DECEMBER 1987 - 1998



	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
1619(a) workers	14,559	19,920	25,655	13,994	15,531	17,603	20,028	24,315	28,060	31,085	34,673	37,271
1619(b) workers	15,632	15,625	18,254	23,517	27,264	31,649	35,299	40,683	47,002	51,905	57,089	59,542
Other disabled workers	142,664	153,599	161,928	182,421	186,824	199,665	210,322	217,478	223,573	225,310	228,093	229,662

CHART C

AGE OF SSI DISABLED WORKERS SEPTEMBER 1999

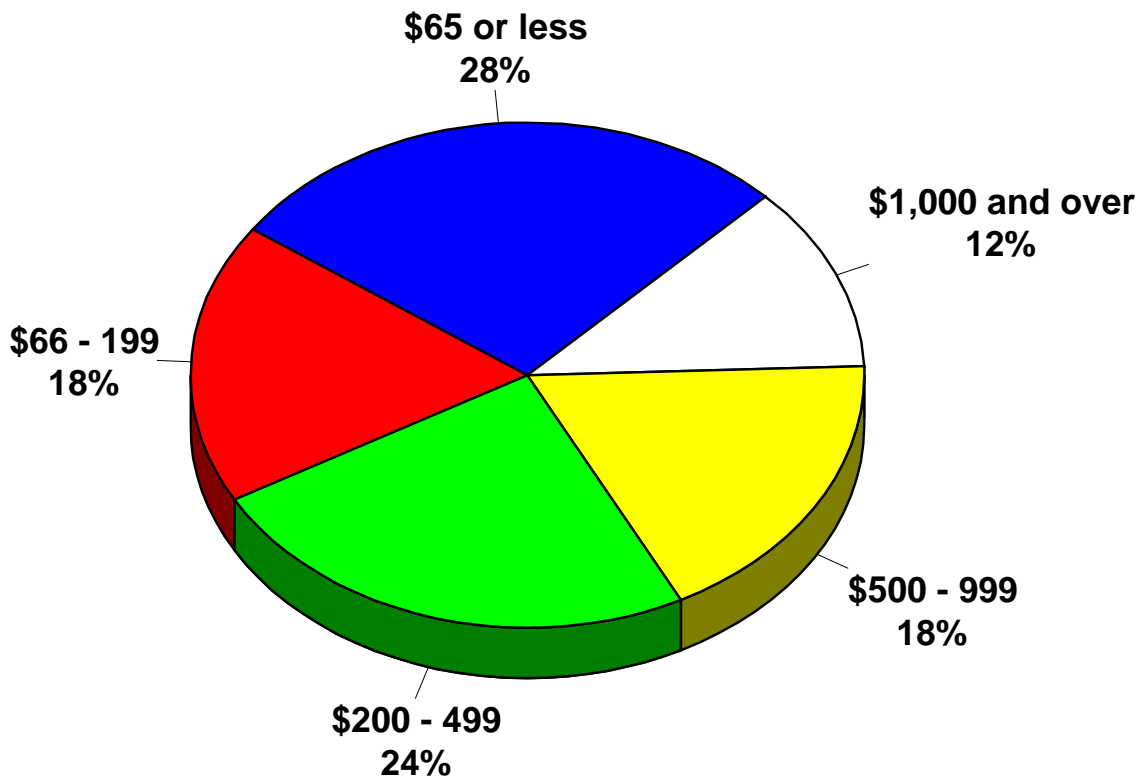


SSI DISABLED WORKERS

Data includes section 1619(b) participants.

CHART D

MONTHLY EARNINGS OF SSI DISABLED WORKERS SEPTEMBER 1999

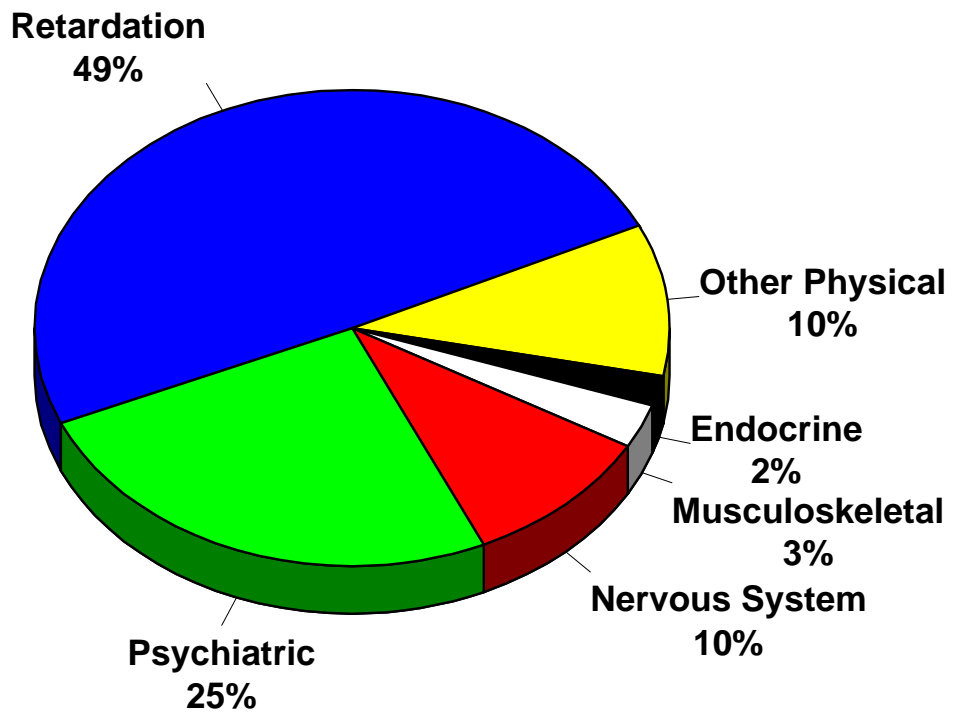


SSI DISABLED WORKERS

Data includes section 1619(b) participants.

CHART E

DIAGNOSIS OF SSI DISABLED WORKERS SEPTEMBER 1999

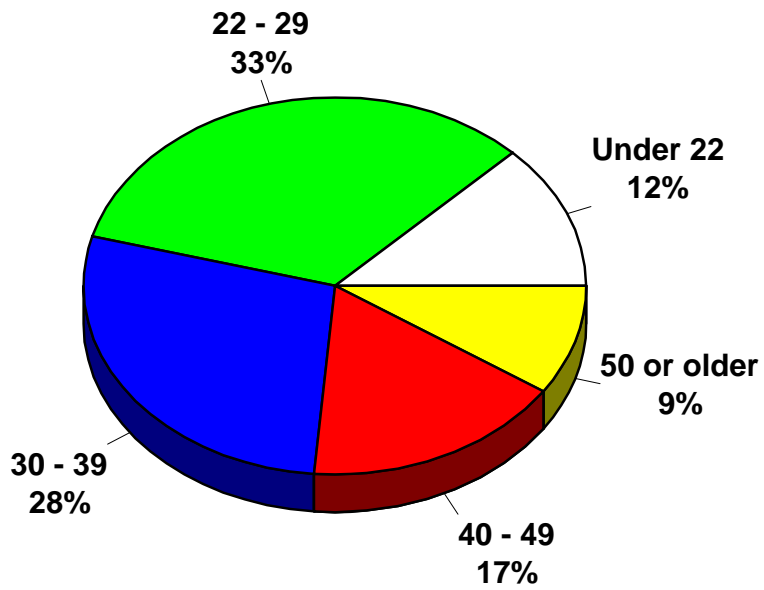


SSI DISABLED WORKERS

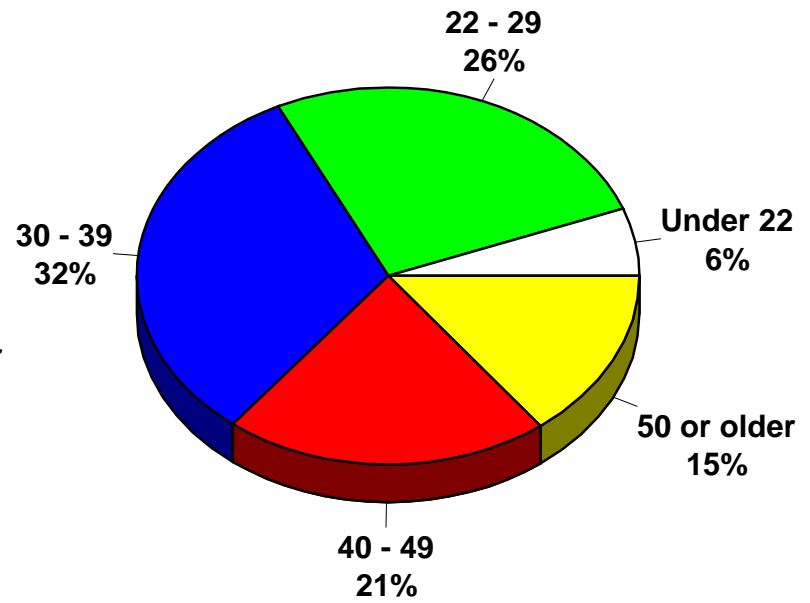
Data includes section 1619(b) participants.

CHART F

AGE OF SECTION 1619 PARTICIPANTS SEPTEMBER 1999



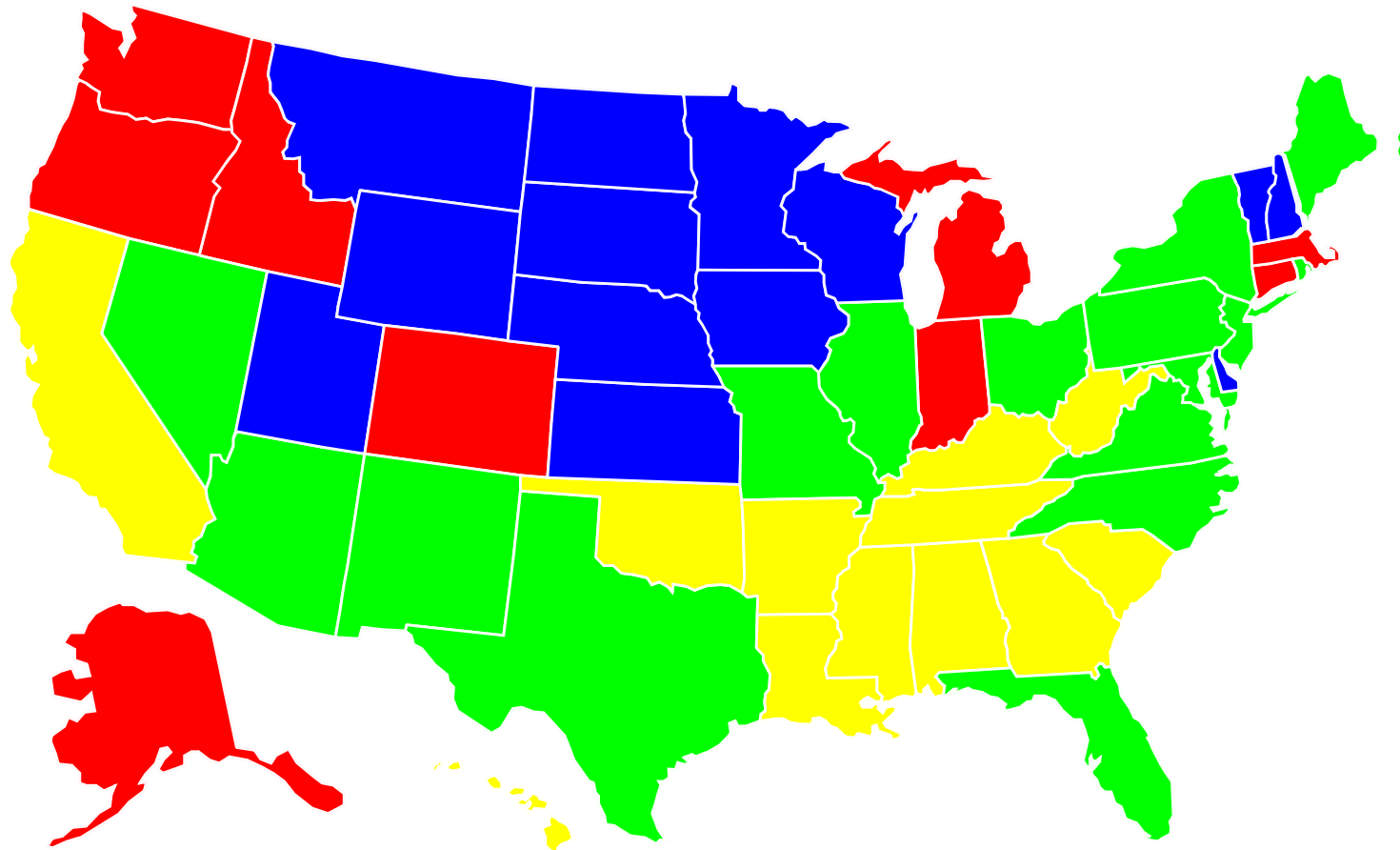
1619(a) PARTICIPANTS



1619(b) PARTICIPANTS

CHART G

SECTION 1619 PARTICIPANTS AS A PERCENT OF ALL DISABLED RECIPIENTS SEPTEMBER 1999






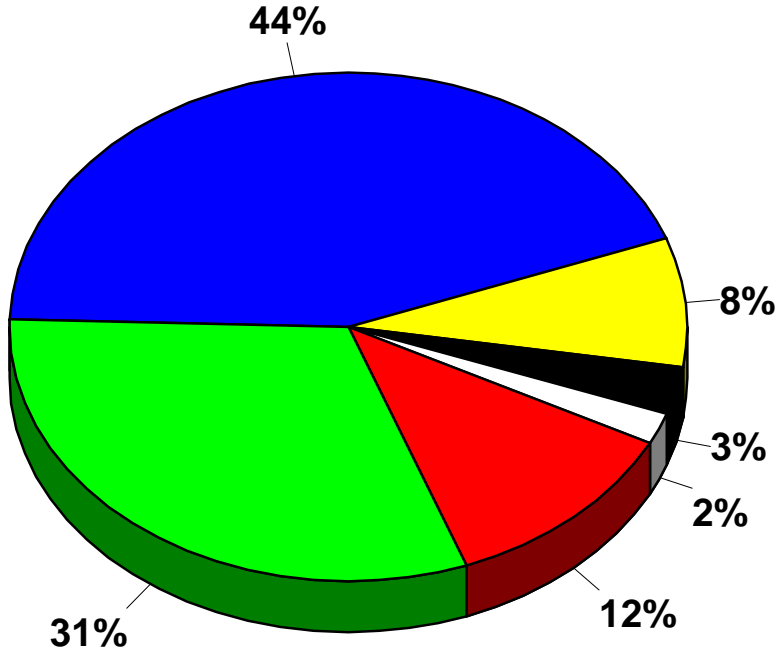
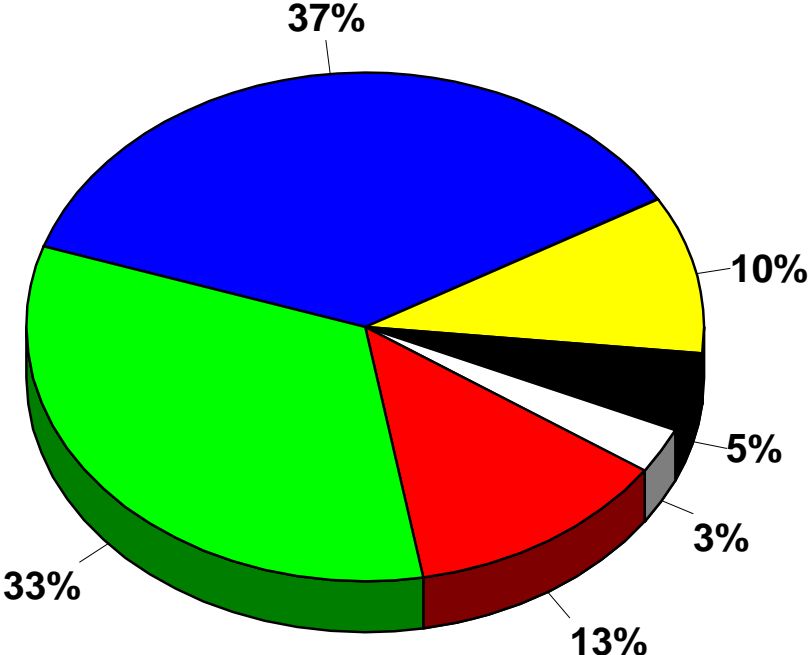
 Under 2%  2 - 2.99%  3 - 3.99%  4% or more

CHART H

DIAGNOSIS OF SECTION 1619 PARTICIPANTS SEPTEMBER 1999



1619(a) PARTICIPANTS

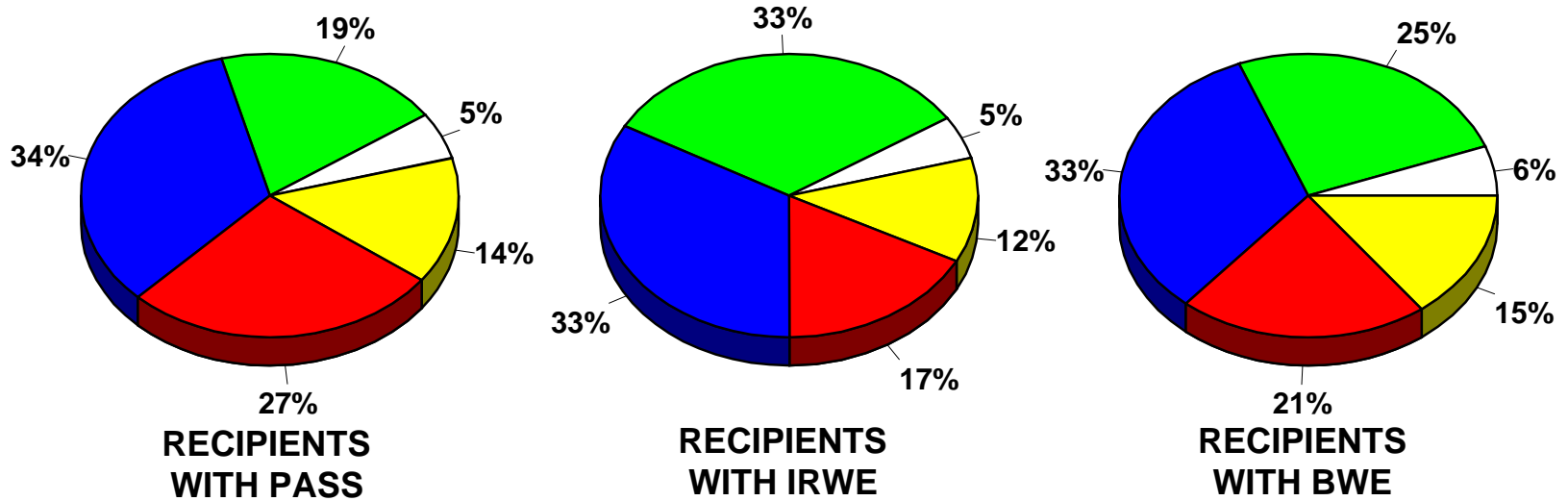


1619(b) PARTICIPANTS

■ Retardation ■ Psychiatric ■ Nervous System □ Musculoskeletal ■ Endocrine ■ Other Physical

CHART I

AGE OF SSI WORK INCENTIVE RECIPIENTS SEPTEMBER 1999

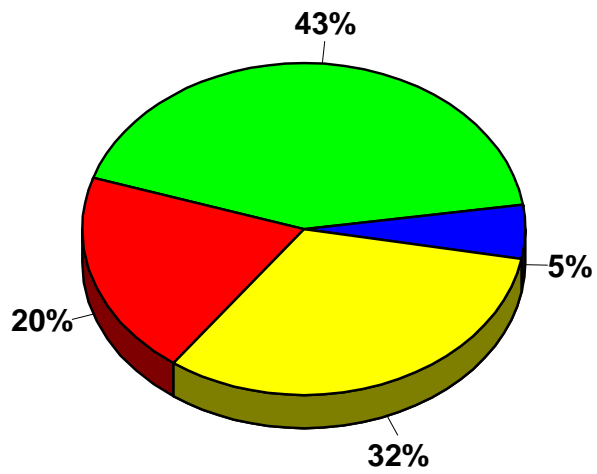


Under 22 22 - 29 30 - 39 40 - 49 50 or older

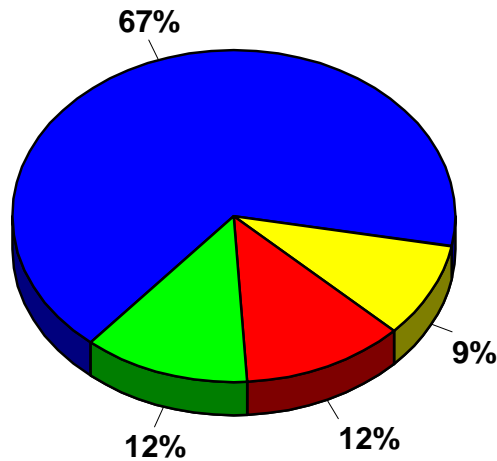
CHART J

DIAGNOSIS OF SSI WORK INCENTIVE RECIPIENTS SEPTEMBER 1999

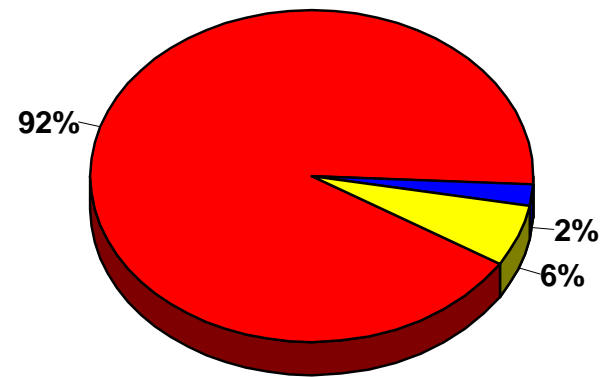
14



**RECIPIENTS
WITH PASS**



**RECIPIENTS
WITH IRWE**



**RECIPIENTS
WITH BWE**

Retardation Psychiatric Nervous System Other Physical

**PART II:
STATISTICAL TABLES**

**SECTION A:
ALL DISABLED WORKERS**

Table 1.—Number of SSI disabled recipients and working recipients, for selected months, 1976–1999

At end of selected month	All disabled SSI recipients ¹	SSI disabled recipients who work ¹		
		Receiving SSI ²	1619(b) earners	Percent of disabled recipients
December: ³				
1976	2,088,242	70,719	—	3.4
1977	2,186,771	83,697	—	3.8
1978	2,249,025	87,697	—	3.9
1979	2,277,859	92,270	—	4.1
1980	2,334,241	99,276	—	4.3
1981	2,340,785	102,632	—	4.4
1982	2,314,364	102,288	5,515	4.7
1983	2,391,262	108,734	5,165	4.8
1987	2,945,244	157,223	15,632	5.9
1988	3,046,074	173,519	15,625	6.2
1989	3,172,270	187,583	18,254	6.5
1990	3,386,603	196,415	23,517	6.5
1991	3,681,050	202,355	27,264	6.2
1992	4,126,816	217,268	31,649	6.0
1993	4,544,777	230,350	35,299	5.8
1994	4,870,564	241,793	40,683	5.8
1995	5,115,014	251,633	47,002	5.8
1996	5,252,991	256,395	51,905	5.9
1997	5,189,724	262,766	57,089	6.2
1998	5,293,829	266,933	59,542	6.2
1997				
March	5,223,023	261,551	48,194	5.9
June.....	5,249,201	263,528	52,646	6.0
September.....	5,234,877	261,856	56,872	6.1
December.....	5,189,724	262,766	57,089	6.2
1998				
March	5,235,042	264,830	54,639	6.1
June.....	5,285,950	268,628	55,761	6.1
September.....	5,312,870	272,079	58,183	6.2
December.....	5,293,829	266,933	59,542	6.2
1999				
March	5,350,722	268,866	63,431	6.2
June.....	5,354,409	270,989	66,939	6.3
September.....	5,357,789	272,100	70,580	6.4

¹ Includes both SSI blind recipients and all section 1619(b) participants.

² Includes 1619(a) participants and SSI recipients earning less than the SGA level, (\$700 effective July 1999).

³ Data not available for December 1984, 1985, 1986.

Table 2.—Number of SSI disabled recipients, and number and percentage of SSI disabled working recipients, by state, September 1999

State	Total SSI disabled ¹	SSI disabled working recipients ¹	
		Number	Percent
Total.....	5,357,789	342,680	6.4
Alabama	133,258	4,047	3.0
Alaska.....	6,957	530	7.6
Arizona	67,070	3,523	5.3
Arkansas	73,814	3,439	4.7
California	741,254	41,864	5.6
Colorado.....	47,513	4,826	10.2
Connecticut	41,683	3,911	9.4
Delaware	10,771	850	7.9
District of Columbia	17,661	726	4.1
Florida	275,463	11,204	4.1
Georgia.....	163,515	8,413	5.1
Hawaii.....	13,148	660	5.0
Idaho	16,425	1,693	10.3
Illinois	223,667	14,154	6.3
Indiana.....	83,659	6,536	7.8
Iowa.....	37,795	7,389	19.6
Kansas	33,819	4,284	12.7
Kentucky.....	154,190	5,151	3.3
Louisiana	145,092	5,245	3.6
Maine.....	26,344	2,129	8.1
Maryland.....	72,480	5,376	7.4
Massachusetts	124,437	11,045	8.9
Michigan	195,795	16,674	8.5
Minnesota	56,438	9,119	16.2
Mississippi.....	108,709	3,195	2.9
Missouri	99,947	7,550	7.6
Montana	12,747	1,680	13.2
Nebraska.....	19,443	3,132	16.1
Nevada.....	17,629	1,157	6.6
New Hampshire.....	10,744	1,323	12.3
New Jersey.....	113,920	7,696	6.8
New Mexico.....	37,422	1,909	5.1
New York.....	476,633	29,602	6.2
North Carolina	158,417	8,441	5.3
North Dakota	7,315	1,405	19.2
Ohio.....	231,466	18,097	7.8
Oklahoma	61,975	3,585	5.8
Oregon	44,206	4,270	9.7
Pennsylvania	244,625	15,223	6.2
Rhode Island	22,508	1,754	7.8
South Carolina.....	91,294	5,317	5.8
South Dakota.....	11,340	2,192	19.3
Tennessee.....	144,587	6,635	4.6
Texas.....	296,293	14,767	5.0
Utah.....	18,599	2,299	12.4
Vermont.....	11,337	1,132	10.0
Virginia	109,125	6,400	5.9
Washington	86,789	6,656	7.7
West Virginia	65,613	1,980	3.0
Wisconsin.....	80,750	11,682	14.5
Wyoming	5,424	798	14.7
Northern Mariana Islands	476	15	3.2
Unknown	6,208	—	—

¹ Includes 1619(b) participants.

Table 3.—Number of SSI disabled working recipients by section 1619 status, by state, September 1999

State	Total	SSI disabled working recipients		
		Section 1619(a)	Section 1619(b)	All other workers
Total.....	342,680	23,914	70,580	248,186
Alabama	4,047	331	907	2,809
Alaska.....	530	40	134	356
Arizona	3,523	267	883	2,373
Arkansas	3,439	210	701	2,528
California	41,864	3,801	5,835	32,228
Colorado.....	4,826	305	1,063	3,458
Connecticut	3,911	214	947	2,750
Delaware	850	56	266	528
District of Columbia	726	63	185	478
Florida	11,204	948	2,809	7,447
Georgia.....	8,413	548	1,573	6,292
Hawaii.....	660	39	92	529
Idaho	1,693	108	391	1,194
Illinois	14,154	1,043	2,880	10,231
Indiana.....	6,536	458	1,704	4,374
Iowa.....	7,389	326	1,648	5,415
Kansas	4,284	266	1,009	3,009
Kentucky.....	5,151	386	1,166	3,599
Louisiana	5,245	533	1,280	3,432
Maine.....	2,129	119	514	1,496
Maryland.....	5,376	352	1,059	3,965
Massachusetts	11,045	886	3,046	7,113
Michigan.....	16,674	1,124	3,625	11,925
Minnesota	9,119	417	2,146	6,556
Mississippi.....	3,195	294	791	2,110
Missouri.....	7,550	374	1,477	5,699
Montana	1,680	69	335	1,276
Nebraska.....	3,132	163	622	2,347
Nevada.....	1,157	83	244	830
New Hampshire	1,323	74	370	879
New Jersey.....	7,696	432	1,490	5,774
New Mexico.....	1,909	139	398	1,372
New York.....	29,602	1,935	5,053	22,614
North Carolina	8,441	450	1,734	6,257
North Dakota	1,405	44	277	1,084
Ohio.....	18,097	1,308	3,532	13,257
Oklahoma.....	3,585	168	555	2,862
Oregon	4,270	183	975	3,112
Pennsylvania	15,223	1,079	3,012	11,132
Rhode Island	1,754	105	345	1,304
South Carolina.....	5,317	301	932	4,084
South Dakota.....	2,192	86	472	1,634
Tennessee.....	6,635	488	1,489	4,658
Texas.....	14,767	1,086	3,392	10,289
Utah.....	2,299	151	428	1,720
Vermont.....	1,132	114	293	725
Virginia	6,400	450	1,334	4,616
Washington	6,656	626	1,826	4,204
West Virginia	1,980	145	390	1,445
Wisconsin.....	11,682	674	2,754	8,254
Wyoming.....	798	52	190	556
Northern Mariana Islands	15	1	7	7

Table 4.—Number of SSI disabled working recipients, percentage and average earnings, by selected characteristics, September 1999

Selected characteristics	SSI disabled working recipients ¹		
	Number	Percent	Average earnings
Total.....	342,680	100.0	\$418
Age:			
Under 18	3,996	1.2	\$450
18–21	26,728	7.8	443
22–29	82,930	24.2	501
30–39	97,508	28.5	429
40–49	69,027	20.1	394
50–59	38,329	11.2	340
60–64	11,839	3.5	285
65 or older	12,323	3.6	207
Sex:			
Male	183,723	53.6	\$433
Female	158,957	46.4	400
Earned Income: ²			
Wages	325,522	95.0	\$430
Self-employment	18,420	5.4	213
Earning Levels:			
\$65 or less.....	95,089	27.7	\$54
\$66–\$99	17,460	5.1	82
\$100–\$199	43,722	12.8	139
\$200–\$299	32,494	9.5	235
\$300–\$399	26,175	7.6	335
\$400–\$499	24,622	7.2	435
\$500–\$599	19,789	5.8	526
\$600–\$699	14,602	4.3	631
\$700–\$799	10,293	3.0	734
\$800–\$899	9,845	2.9	831
\$900–\$999	7,550	2.2	934
\$1,000 or more.....	41,039	12.0	1,487
Unearned Income: ²			
None.....	183,680	53.6	\$480
Social security	135,743	39.6	321
Other pensions.....	3,237	0.9	250
Assistance based on need.....	86	0.0	758
Interest, dividends, etc	25,481	7.4	380
Other	11,773	3.4	513
Work Incentives: ²			
Section 1619(a).....	23,914	7.0	\$918
Section 1619(b).....	70,580	20.6	1,002
PASS ³	351	0.1	577
IRWE	9,601	2.8	432
BWE	4,036	1.2	875

¹ Includes section 1619(b) participants.

² Persons with more than one type are shown under each type.

³ Number of working recipients with a PASS. Data on all recipients with a PASS are in Tables 14–17.

Table 5.—Percent of SSI disabled recipients and workers age 18–64, by diagnosis, September 1999 ¹

Diagnosis	All disabled recipients	SSI disabled working recipients
Total number	3,645,995	326,361
Total percent ²	100.0	100.0
Infectious and parasitic diseases	2.9	3.0
Neoplasms	1.3	0.8
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic	5.5	2.1
Mental Disorders:		
Schizophrenia	10.9	9.9
Other psychiatric	22.6	15.2
Mental retardation	24.4	49.1
Diseases of the:		
Nervous system and sense organs ³	8.2	10.2
Circulatory system	5.8	1.5
Respiratory system	2.6	0.8
Digestive system	0.9	0.3
Genito-urinary system	1.2	0.8
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissues	9.4	3.1
Congenital anomalies	0.4	0.9
Injury and poisoning	2.9	1.7
Other	0.9	0.7

¹ Information on diagnosis of all SSI disabled recipients is based on universe counts for December 1998. Information on diagnosis for section 1619 participants is available from SSI source files.

² Includes only recipients whose diagnosis information is specifically identified on the source files.

³ Most of the disabled workers who are classified as blind individuals are included in this category. A few blind recipients have a primary impairment other than diseases of the eye and are coded in other categories in this table. Also, there are a few recipients classified as having diseases of the eye who are not blind, whose impairment does not meet the definition of blindness.

Table 6.—Number of SSI disabled recipients age 18–64, percent with earnings, and percent in 1619(b) status, by age, September 1999

Age	Total SSI disabled (18–64) ¹		With earnings		In 1619(b) status	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	3,781,871	100.0	326,361	8.6	68,358	1.8
18–21	235,932	6.2	26,728	11.3	3,515	1.5
22–29	492,260	13.0	82,930	16.8	18,625	3.8
30–39	789,308	20.9	97,508	12.4	22,813	2.9
40–49	920,761	24.3	69,027	7.5	14,751	1.6
50–59	899,320	23.8	38,329	4.3	6,618	0.7
60–64	444,290	11.7	11,839	2.7	2,036	0.5

¹ Includes section 1619(b) participants.

Table 7.—Number of SSI disabled recipients age 18–64, and number and percentage of section 1619 participants, by state, September 1999

State ranking	State	Total SSI disabled (18–64) ¹	Section 1619 participants	
			Number	Percent
	Total	² 3,781,871	91,893	2.43
1	South Dakota	7,927	548	6.91
2	Iowa	28,833	1,930	6.69
3	Minnesota.....	42,353	2,519	5.95
4	Wisconsin.....	57,443	3,360	5.85
5	North Dakota.....	5,389	315	5.85
6	Wyoming.....	4,126	237	5.74
7	Nebraska.....	14,224	761	5.35
8	New Hampshire.....	8,249	430	5.21
9	Kansas	24,593	1,239	5.04
10	Vermont.....	8,692	401	4.61
11	Delaware.....	7,121	307	4.31
12	Utah.....	13,681	566	4.14
13	Montana	9,730	400	4.11
14	Idaho	12,162	485	3.99
15	Colorado	35,095	1,327	3.78
16	Massachusetts	105,231	3,859	3.67
17	Connecticut	31,378	1,140	3.63
18	Washington	66,424	2,394	3.60
19	Indiana	60,247	2,111	3.50
20	Oregon	33,679	1,129	3.35
21	Michigan.....	142,315	4,629	3.25
22	Alaska	5,417	170	3.14
23	Maine	20,637	611	2.96
24	Northern Mariana Islands.....	285	8	2.81
25	Ohio	168,347	4,712	2.80
26	Maryland	50,335	1,371	2.72
27	Rhode Island.....	16,562	442	2.67
28	Missouri.....	72,917	1,796	2.46
29	New Jersey	78,166	1,883	2.41
30	Illinois	159,070	3,815	2.40
31	Arizona	46,610	1,112	2.39
32	Virginia	74,371	1,741	2.34
33	Nevada.....	13,631	311	2.28
34	Pennsylvania.....	176,788	3,968	2.24
35	Texas.....	201,858	4,325	2.14
36	Florida	176,689	3,639	2.06
37	New York.....	331,550	6,818	2.06
38	North Carolina.....	104,210	2,117	2.03
39	New Mexico	25,813	524	2.03
40	District of Columbia	12,057	238	1.97
41	South Carolina	60,674	1,197	1.97
42	Tennessee.....	103,439	1,927	1.86
43	Georgia	111,482	2,054	1.84
44	Louisiana.....	96,626	1,766	1.83
45	Arkansas	48,167	867	1.80
46	California.....	524,711	9,271	1.77
47	Oklahoma	42,960	713	1.66
48	Mississippi.....	72,117	1,050	1.46
49	Kentucky	113,274	1,507	1.33
50	Alabama.....	89,987	1,194	1.33
51	Hawaii	10,203	130	1.27
52	West Virginia	50,483	529	1.05

¹ Includes both SSI blind recipients and section 1619(b) participants.

² Includes 3,543 recipients whose state is not identified.

Table 8.—Number of SSI disabled recipients in June 1999, by program status and earnings in September 1999 ¹

Program status in June 1999	Total	Program status in September 1999								
		Receiving payments			Not receiving payments					
		Section 1619(a)	Have earnings	No earnings	Ineligible because of earned income			Other excess income	Other non-pay	
					Section 1619(b)	No longer eligible				
			Does not need/use Medicaid	Can pay for equivalent coverage		Both reasons				
Total.....	5,186,560	23,210	241,280	4,670,580	68,760	1,080	120	520	53,220	127,790
Receiving payments:										
Section 1619(a).....	23,870	13,810	2,680	3,140	2,730	80	0	20	240	1,170
Have earnings.....	245,940	3,170	215,710	15,770	4,590	70	10	20	2,110	4,490
No earnings.....	4,850,720	4,470	20,320	4,646,200	11,430	350	0	40	49,240	118,670
Not receiving payments:										
Section 1619(b).....	66,030	1,760	2,570	5,470	50,010	580	110	440	1,630	3,460

¹ Based on 10-percent sample files.

**SECTION B:
SECTION 1619 PARTICIPANTS**

Table 9.—Number of section 1619(a) and 1619(b) participants for selected months, 1982–1999

At end of selected month	1619(a) participants		1619(b) participants ¹	
	Number	Percentage change over prior period	Number	Percentage change over prior period
December: ²				
1982	287	—	5,515	—
1983	392	—	5,165	—
1987	14,559	—	15,632	—
1988	19,920	36.8	15,625	0.0
1989	25,655	28.8	18,254	16.8
1990	13,994	-45.5	23,517	28.8
1991	15,531	11.0	27,264	15.9
1992	17,603	13.3	31,649	16.1
1993	20,028	13.8	35,299	11.5
1994	24,315	21.4	40,683	15.3
1995	28,060	15.4	47,002	15.5
1996	31,085	10.8	51,905	10.4
1997	34,673	11.5	57,089	10.0
1998	37,271	7.5	59,542	4.3
1997				
March	31,146	0.2	48,194	-7.1
June.....	32,954	5.8	52,646	9.2
September.....	33,496	1.6	56,872	8.0
December.....	34,673	3.5	57,089	0.4
1998				
March	34,637	-0.1	54,639	-4.3
June.....	35,528	2.6	55,761	2.1
September.....	37,216	4.8	58,183	4.3
December.....	37,271	0.1	59,542	2.3
1999				
March	39,457	5.9	63,431	6.5
June.....	23,304	-40.9	66,939	5.5
September.....	23,914	2.6	70,580	5.4

¹ Includes blind participants. For September 1999, of the 70,580 participants, 1,289 were blind.

² Data not available for December 1984, 1985, 1986.

NOTE: In January 1990, the SGA level was raised from \$300 to \$500 and section 1619(a) participants with earnings below \$500 became eligible for regular SSI benefits rather than the special cash payments under section 1619(a). This is reflected in the decrease shown for 1990. In July 1999, the SGA level was further increased to \$700, resulting in the decrease shown for June 1999.

Table 10.—Number of section 1619(a) participants and average earnings, by state, for selected months, 1998–1999

State	September 1998		June 1999		September 1999	
	Number	Average earnings	Number	Average earnings	Number	Average earnings
Total.....	37,216	\$772	23,304	\$916	23,914	\$918
Alabama	500	\$775	330	\$893	331	\$895
Alaska.....	63	768	36	890	40	926
Arizona	429	748	270	901	267	887
Arkansas	332	782	213	874	210	878
California	5,242	828	3,587	1,003	3,801	1,003
Colorado.....	437	759	278	887	305	897
Connecticut	369	712	205	870	214	872
Delaware	94	751	68	894	56	904
District of Columbia	77	725	49	860	63	877
Florida	1,543	751	993	880	948	889
Georgia.....	918	757	577	889	548	885
Hawaii.....	68	744	33	914	39	919
Idaho	189	762	107	893	108	889
Illinois	1,757	764	1,021	892	1,043	889
Indiana.....	779	760	463	903	458	904
Iowa.....	590	745	321	888	326	886
Kansas	424	770	277	895	266	900
Kentucky.....	603	778	347	915	386	913
Louisiana	667	770	487	882	533	888
Maine.....	192	767	106	904	119	908
Maryland.....	540	739	330	873	352	880
Massachusetts	1,389	782	854	935	886	934
Michigan	1,766	771	1,108	899	1,124	907
Minnesota	680	760	402	887	417	884
Mississippi.....	443	795	287	905	294	894
Missouri	668	756	369	894	374	899
Montana	112	746	61	893	69	905
Nebraska.....	279	742	140	901	163	890
Nevada.....	116	778	80	898	83	885
New Hampshire	130	776	85	895	74	900
New Jersey.....	640	757	436	913	432	918
New Mexico.....	236	750	131	899	139	879
New York	3,067	768	1,903	936	1,935	929
North Carolina	784	757	455	890	450	881
North Dakota	80	728	44	877	44	851
Ohio.....	2,011	757	1,222	888	1,308	892
Oklahoma	342	736	173	885	168	890
Oregon	379	770	188	895	183	888
Pennsylvania	1,648	770	1,057	912	1,079	911
Rhode Island	140	804	102	934	105	937
South Carolina.....	457	756	293	887	301	889
South Dakota.....	144	746	99	881	86	895
Tennessee.....	764	772	482	889	488	896
Texas.....	1,655	763	1,089	894	1,086	893
Utah.....	233	721	144	890	151	886
Vermont.....	153	792	99	949	114	962
Virginia	721	746	418	892	450	900
Washington	1,032	790	615	909	626	917
West Virginia	217	787	149	915	145	910
Wisconsin.....	1,048	763	660	902	674	908
Wyoming	66	742	58	916	52	884
Northern Mariana Islands	3	960	3	755	1	1,029

Table 11.—Number of section 1619(b) participants and average earnings, by state, for selected months, 1998–1999

State	September 1998		June 1999		September 1999	
	Number	Average earnings	Number	Average earnings	Number	Average earnings
Total.....	58,183	\$957	66,939	\$997	70,580	\$1,002
Alabama.....	724	\$1,117	871	1,098	907	1,109
Alaska ¹	109	1,047	139	962	134	1,001
Arizona.....	720	948	856	1,019	883	1,036
Arkansas.....	624	941	678	905	701	938
California.....	5,144	1,134	5,431	1,215	5,835	1,249
Colorado.....	935	941	962	997	1,063	994
Connecticut ¹	762	864	899	878	947	908
Delaware.....	187	1,015	233	1,044	266	1,051
District of Columbia.....	131	1,057	141	1,204	185	1,143
Florida.....	2,130	999	2,644	1,100	2,809	1,054
Georgia.....	1,237	953	1,647	1,041	1,573	992
Hawaii ¹	74	817	90	882	92	857
Idaho ¹	346	914	372	820	391	844
Illinois ¹	2,308	1,003	2,623	1,006	2,880	1,024
Indiana ¹	1,341	881	1,617	909	1,704	918
Iowa.....	1,457	752	1,536	778	1,648	787
Kansas ¹	862	859	949	888	1,009	893
Kentucky.....	980	1,035	1,039	1,074	1,166	1,102
Louisiana.....	969	929	1,225	991	1,280	950
Maine.....	445	818	472	833	514	868
Maryland.....	750	980	962	1,015	1,059	1,039
Massachusetts.....	2,499	1,056	2,956	1,080	3,046	1,076
Michigan.....	2,919	948	3,453	975	3,625	994
Minnesota ¹	1,796	827	2,048	889	2,146	867
Mississippi.....	717	1,105	759	1,164	791	1,147
Missouri ¹	1,242	796	1,398	855	1,477	861
Montana.....	292	687	321	723	335	752
Nebraska ¹	533	781	578	810	622	822
Nevada ¹	212	1,029	266	990	244	1,001
New Hampshire ¹	330	818	343	845	370	841
New Jersey.....	1,109	1,073	1,469	1,184	1,490	1,167
New Mexico.....	352	864	368	878	398	910
New York.....	4,012	1,097	4,742	1,111	5,053	1,110
North Carolina.....	1,393	908	1,661	975	1,734	965
North Dakota ¹	229	796	267	842	277	849
Ohio ¹	2,777	931	3,328	966	3,532	964
Oklahoma ¹	511	888	568	806	555	829
Oregon ¹	879	829	946	831	975	852
Pennsylvania.....	2,369	882	2,838	919	3,012	940
Rhode Island.....	265	964	305	1,026	345	1,033
South Carolina.....	660	859	975	993	932	976
South Dakota.....	438	743	444	787	472	774
Tennessee.....	1,298	1,087	1,467	1,072	1,489	1,073
Texas.....	2,802	924	3,256	961	3,392	960
Utah ¹	428	900	442	915	428	849
Vermont.....	250	835	261	775	293	829
Virginia ¹	1,202	899	1,262	910	1,334	904
Washington.....	1,537	945	1,743	999	1,826	1,014
West Virginia.....	324	996	337	1,057	390	1,116
Wisconsin.....	2,412	871	2,573	897	2,754	898
Wyoming.....	157	668	173	684	190	769
Northern Mariana Islands.....	4	964	6	1,103	7	875

¹ The Social Security Administration identifies persons as potential participants, final Medicaid determinations are made by the State.

Table 12.—Number and average earnings of section 1619(a) and 1619(b) participants, by selected characteristics of participants, September 1999

Selected characteristics	1619(a) participants		1619(b) participants	
	Number	Average earnings	Number	Average earnings
Total.....	23,914	\$918	70,580	\$1,002
Age:				
Under 18	277	\$860	525	¹
18–21	2,712	893	3,515	\$1,179
22–29	7,987	909	18,625	1,109
30–39	6,653	927	22,813	967
40–49	4,046	935	14,751	951
50–59	1,801	925	6,618	943
60–64	336	934	2,036	793
65 or older	102	932	1,697	770
Sex:				
Male	13,477	\$924	39,045	\$1,032
Female	10,437	910	31,535	965
Earned Income: ²				
Wages	23,604	\$918	69,334	\$1,005
Self-employment	437	902	1,730	923
Earning Levels:				
Less than \$400.....	—	—	11,057	\$267
\$400–\$499	—	—	7,075	438
\$500–\$599	—	—	6,578	526
\$600–\$699	—	—	4,737	630
\$700–\$899	11,409	795	6,342	783
\$900–\$1,199	11,020	993	9,546	1,047
\$1,200 or more	1,429	1,329	25,245	1,713
Unearned Income: ²				
None.....	21,232	\$921	25,830	\$1,438
Social security	669	850	40,815	691
Other pensions.....	35	920	549	785
Assistance based on need.....	6	881	23	1,913
Interest, dividends, etc	1,498	916	4,957	893
Other	597	871	3,218	1,133
Work Incentives: ²				
PASS ³	102	\$1,163	0	\$0
IRWE	868	959	1,661	891
BWE	11	1,444	778	1,263

¹ Data not available.

² Persons with more than one type are shown under each type.

³ Includes 3 persons with PASS plans which exclude only resources.

Table 13.—Percent of SSI disabled recipients and section 1619(a) and 1619(b) participants age 18–64, by diagnosis, September 1999 ¹

Diagnosis	All disabled recipients	1619(a) participants	1619(b) participants
Total number	3,645,995	23,535	68,358
Total percent ²	100.0	100.0	100.0
Infectious and parasitic diseases	2.9	1.6	2.6
Neoplasms	1.3	1.2	1.3
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic	5.5	2.4	2.8
Mental Disorders:			
Schizophrenia	10.9	9.7	11.3
Other psychiatric	22.6	20.9	21.3
Mental retardation	24.4	43.6	37.4
Diseases of the:			
Nervous system and sense organs ³	8.2	12.2	12.6
Circulatory system	5.8	1.6	2.1
Respiratory system	2.6	1.0	1.0
Digestive system	0.9	0.4	0.6
Genito-urinary system	1.2	1.2	1.6
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissues	9.4	3.5	4.8
Congenital anomalies	0.4	0.9	0.8
Injury and poisoning	2.9	2.1	2.9
Other	0.9	1.2	1.2

¹ Information on diagnosis of all SSI disabled recipients is based on universe counts for December 1998. Information on diagnosis for section 1619 participants is available from SSI source files.

² Includes only recipients whose diagnosis information is specifically identified on the source files.

³ Most of the section 1619(b) participants who are classified as blind individuals are included in this category. A few section 1619(b) blind participants have a primary impairment other than diseases of the eye and are coded in other categories in this table. Also, there are a few participants classified as having diseases of the eye who are not blind, whose impairment does not meet the definition of blindness, and are classified as disabled.

**SECTION C:
OTHER WORK INCENTIVE
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

Table 14.—Number of SSI disabled recipients benefiting from specified work incentive provisions, by state, September 1999

State	Plans for achieving self-support (PASS) ¹	Impairment related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
Total.....	1,069	9,601	4,037
Alabama.....	13	181	46
Alaska.....	3	23	1
Arizona.....	8	96	38
Arkansas.....	10	88	55
California.....	193	747	539
Colorado.....	22	40	49
Connecticut.....	9	147	43
Delaware.....	0	39	7
District of Columbia.....	3	3	7
Florida.....	28	452	137
Georgia.....	26	485	89
Hawaii.....	3	16	10
Idaho.....	3	16	10
Illinois.....	12	372	102
Indiana.....	6	187	63
Iowa.....	23	63	94
Kansas.....	19	321	42
Kentucky.....	36	141	67
Louisiana.....	2	126	75
Maine.....	13	51	21
Maryland.....	34	313	43
Massachusetts.....	43	271	306
Michigan.....	27	318	133
Minnesota.....	52	183	100
Mississippi.....	4	52	80
Missouri.....	17	261	77
Montana.....	21	12	12
Nebraska.....	11	65	18
Nevada.....	6	29	19
New Hampshire.....	8	38	6
New Jersey.....	36	221	66
New Mexico.....	7	144	14
New York.....	75	709	315
North Carolina.....	17	415	144
North Dakota.....	2	7	3
Ohio.....	51	210	166
Oklahoma.....	0	105	18
Oregon.....	9	50	54
Pennsylvania.....	24	524	206
Rhode Island.....	6	14	16
South Carolina.....	8	134	77
South Dakota.....	9	28	3
Tennessee.....	6	216	83
Texas.....	33	380	242
Utah.....	2	61	17
Vermont.....	16	11	6
Virginia.....	30	625	103
Washington.....	8	132	80
West Virginia.....	5	31	23
Wisconsin.....	67	439	108
Wyoming.....	3	9	4
Northern Mariana Islands.....	0	0	0

¹ Includes 70 persons with PASS plans which exclude only resources.

Table 15.—Number of SSI disabled recipients benefiting from specified work incentive provisions, by selected characteristics of the worker, September 1999

Selected characteristics	Plans for achieving self-support (PASS) ¹	Impairment related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
Total.....	1,069	9,601	4,037
Age:			
Under 18	7	16	9
18–21	51	461	214
22–29	208	3,146	1,023
30–39	360	3,178	1,330
40–49	291	1,671	864
50–59	138	764	413
60–64	9	227	101
65 or older	5	138	83
Sex:			
Male	501	5,176	2,249
Female	568	4,425	1,788
Earned Income: ²			
Wages	317	9,544	3,901
Self-employment	49	90	162
Earning Levels:			
\$65 or less	710	0	1
\$66–\$99	29	989	254
\$100–\$199	15	529	115
\$200–\$299	23	1,671	366
\$300–\$399	41	1,371	292
\$400–\$499	38	1,080	263
\$500–\$599	41	968	260
\$600–\$699	37	761	234
\$700–\$799	29	539	213
\$800–\$899	15	343	181
\$900–\$999	25	532	374
\$1,000 or more	66	818	1,484
Unearned Income: ²			
None	190	4,679	2,137
Social security	831	4,244	1,557
Other pensions	12	84	21
Assistance based on need	0	0	0
Interest, dividends, etc	82	888	393
Other	54	282	166

¹ Includes 70 persons with PASS plans which exclude only resources.

² Persons with more than one type are shown under each type.

Table 16.—Percent of SSI disabled recipients benefiting from specified work incentive provisions, by diagnosis, September 1999

Diagnosis	Plans for achieving self-support (PASS) ¹	Impairment related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
Total number	1,069	9,601	4,037
Total percent ²	100.0	100.0	100.0
Infectious and parasitic diseases	1.1	2.1	0.8
Neoplasms	1.1	0.3	0.4
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic	2.4	0.6	0.9
Mental Disorders:			
Schizophrenia	9.5	4.5	0.0
Other psychiatric	33.4	7.6	0.3
Mental retardation	5.0	66.6	2.2
Diseases of the:			
Nervous system and sense organs ³	20.0	12.0	91.7
Circulatory system	2.5	0.9	0.8
Respiratory system	0.8	0.2	0.0
Digestive system	0.8	0.1	0.1
Genito-urinary system	1.7	0.3	0.1
Musculoskeletal system and connective tissues	5.8	0.8	0.1
Congenital anomalies	0.7	1.6	1.9
Injury and poisoning	14.4	2.2	0.4
Other	0.8	0.3	0.2

¹ Includes 70 persons with PASS plans which exclude only resources.

² Includes only recipients whose diagnosis information is specifically identified on the source files.

³ Most of the disabled workers who are classified as blind individuals are included in this category. A few blind participants have a primary impairment other than diseases of the eye and are coded in other categories in this table. Also, there are a few participants classified as having diseases of the eye who are not blind, whose impairment does not meet the definition of blindness.

Table 17.—Percent distribution of persons with income excluded under specified work incentive provisions, by amount excluded, September 1999

Amount excluded	Plans for achieving self-support (PASS) ¹	Impairment related work expenses (IRWE)	Blind work expenses (BWE)
Total number	999	9,601	4,037
Total percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under \$25.....	0.6	21.9	15.3
\$25-\$49	1.7	28.1	9.4
\$50-\$99	3.5	29.6	16.2
\$100-\$199	9.2	13.8	18.1
\$200-\$299	14.3	3.5	12.9
\$300-\$499	34.8	2.0	14.3
\$500-\$999	32.6	0.9	11.3
\$1,000 and Over.....	3.2	0.2	2.5

¹ Data does not include PASS plans which exclude only resources.

APPENDIX

Blind Work Expense Exclusion (BWE):	(Public Law 92–603, effective January 1974)—Permits the exclusion of any earned income of a blind person which is used to meet any expenses reasonably attributable to earning the income.
Continuation of Payments:	(Public Law 96–265, effective December 1980)—Provides for the continuation of SSI (also SSDI) payments to disabled individuals after their disability ceased, due to medical recovery, if they are participating in approved vocational rehabilitation plans and SSA determines that completion of the program will increase the chances of permanent removal from the disability rolls. The provision assists individuals whose medical improvement occurs before completion of vocational training. This provision was extended to SSI recipients whose eligibility was based on blindness by Public Law 100–203, effective April 1988.
Earned Income Exclusion:	(Public Law 92–603, effective January 1974)—The first \$65 of a recipient's monthly earnings and one-half of the earnings in excess of \$65 are excluded in computing the SSI benefit payable.
Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWE):	(Public Law 96–265, effective December 1980)—Provides for the exclusion from earnings of the costs of items and services which are needed in order to work and are paid for by the individual. These IRWE's are excluded from earnings used in the determination of SGA and earned income used to compute ongoing SSI monthly payments. Beginning December 1990, the IRWE exclusions are also applied in the determination of income for purposes of initial SSI eligibility.
Plan for Achieving Self-support (PASS):	(Public Law 92–603, effective January 1974)—Permits a disabled or blind SSI recipient who has an approved PASS to set aside earned or unearned income and resources for a work goal. The income or resources set aside are used to pay for goods or services needed to reach the goal, such as education, vocational training, starting a business, or purchasing work related equipment. Income and resources set aside under a PASS are excluded from SSI income and resources tests but do not influence the determination of ability to engage in SGA.
Section 1619(a):	(Public Law 96–265, effective January 1981; made permanent by Public Law 99–643, effective July 1987)—Provides special SSI cash benefits to disabled individuals who lose eligibility for SSI payments under the regular rules because they have earnings at the level that is ordinarily considered to represent substantial gainful activity.

Section 1619(b): (Public Law 96–265, effective January 1981; made permanent by Public Law 99–643, effective July 1987)—Provides special SSI recipient status for Medicaid purposes to working disabled or blind individuals when their earnings make them ineligible for cash payments.

Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA): (Public Law 92–603, effective January 1974)—Is the performance of significant physical and/or mental activities in work for pay or profit, or in work of a type generally performed for pay or profit. Because earnings provide an objective and feasible measure of work, an employee's earnings and a self-employed individual's earnings and/or activity are used as the measure of SGA. The current SGA level is \$700.

Treatment of Sheltered Workshop Earnings: (Public Law 96–265, effective September 1980)—Provides that remuneration for services performed in sheltered workshops or activities centers would be treated as earned income. This change made it possible to apply the earned income exclusion to earnings that previously were subject to the general income exclusion i.e., the first \$20 and a dollar-for-dollar offset thereafter.

Use of Multiple Provisions: An individual may benefit from more than one of the work incentive provisions. For example, he or she may receive special cash payments under Section 1619 and have income excluded under a PASS. Other combinations are also possible, but it is not possible to have both IRWE and BWE.