

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A8—Factors for indexing earnings, 1951–2018

Year	Annual maximum taxable earnings (dollars)	Average annual wage ^a (dollars)	Factors for workers who were first eligible (attained age 62, became disabled, or died) in ^b —							
			2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1951	3,600	2,799.16	11.7613570	11.8793102	12.1697045	12.7354456	13.2014390	13.8082175	14.4348590	14.7669194
1952	3,600	2,973.32	11.0724443	11.1834885	11.4568731	11.9894764	12.4281746	12.9994114	13.5893479	13.9019581
1953	3,600	3,139.44	10.4865581	10.5917265	10.8506453	11.3550665	11.7705514	12.3115619	12.8702826	13.1663513
1954	3,600	3,155.64	10.4327236	10.5373522	10.7949418	11.2967734	11.7101254	12.2483585	12.8042109	13.0987597
1955	4,200	3,301.44	9.9719880	10.0719959	10.3182096	10.7978791	11.1929764	11.7074398	12.2387443	12.5202851
1956	4,200	3,532.36	9.3200919	9.4135620	9.6436801	10.0919923	10.4612610	10.9420925	11.4386642	11.7017999
1957	4,200	3,641.72	9.0402118	9.1308750	9.3540827	9.7889322	10.1471118	10.6135041	11.0951638	11.3503976
1958	4,200	3,673.80	8.9612717	9.0511432	9.2724019	9.7034542	10.0585062	10.5208258	10.9982797	11.2512848
1959	4,800	3,855.80	8.5382852	8.6239146	8.8347295	9.2454354	9.5837284	10.0242258	10.4791431	10.7202059
1960	4,800	4,007.12	8.2158558	8.2982516	8.5011055	8.8963021	9.2218202	9.6456832	10.0834215	10.3153811
1961	4,800	4,086.76	8.0557508	8.1365409	8.3354418	8.7229370	9.0421116	9.4577147	9.8869226	10.1143620
1962	4,800	4,291.40	7.6716037	7.7485413	7.9379573	8.3069744	8.6109288	9.0067134	9.4154542	9.6320478
1963	4,800	4,396.64	7.4879726	7.5630686	7.7479507	8.1081348	8.4048137	8.7911246	9.1900815	9.4014907
1964	4,800	4,576.32	7.1939724	7.2661199	7.4437430	7.7897852	8.0748156	8.4459588	8.8292515	9.0323601
1965	4,800	4,658.72	7.0667308	7.1376022	7.3120836	7.6520053	7.9319942	8.2965729	8.6730862	8.8726023
1966	6,600	4,938.36	6.6665695	6.7334277	6.8980289	7.2187022	7.4828364	7.8267704	8.1819632	8.3701816
1967	6,600	5,213.44	6.3148171	6.3781476	6.5340639	6.8378173	7.0880148	7.4138016	7.7502532	7.9285405
1968	7,800	5,571.76	5.9087111	5.9679688	6.1138581	6.3980771	6.6321844	6.9370199	7.2518342	7.4186559
1969	7,800	5,893.76	5.5858942	5.6419145	5.7798332	6.0485242	6.2698413	6.5580224	6.8556371	7.0133446
1970	7,800	6,186.24	5.3217981	5.3751697	5.5065678	5.7625553	5.9734087	6.2479648	6.5315086	6.6817598
1971	7,800	6,497.08	5.0671871	5.1180053	5.2431169	5.4868572	5.6876227	5.9490433	6.2190215	6.3620842
1972	9,000	7,133.80	4.6149205	4.6612030	4.7751479	4.9971334	5.1799798	5.4180675	5.6639491	5.7942429
1973	10,800	7,580.16	4.3431695	4.3867267	4.4939619	4.7028757	4.8749551	5.0990230	5.3304257	5.4530472
1974	13,200	8,030.76	4.0994775	4.1405907	4.2418090	4.4390008	4.6014250	4.8129206	5.0313395	5.1470807
1975	14,100	8,630.92	3.8144161	3.8526704	3.9468504	4.1303303	4.2814601	4.4782491	4.6814801	4.7891731
1976	15,300	9,226.48	3.5681994	3.6039844	3.6920852	3.8637216	4.0050962	4.1891827	4.3792952	4.4800368
1977	16,500	9,779.44	3.3664423	3.4002039	3.4833232	3.6452547	3.7786356	3.9523132	4.1316763	4.2267216
1978	17,700	10,556.03	3.1187786	3.1500564	3.2270607	3.3770793	3.5006475	3.6615479	3.8277155	3.9157685
1979	22,900	11,479.46	2.8678980	2.8966598	2.9674697	3.1054205	3.2190486	3.3670059	3.5198067	3.6007765
1980	25,900	12,513.46	2.6309206	2.6573058	2.7222647	2.8488164	2.9530554	3.0887868	3.2289615	3.3032407
1981	29,700	13,773.10	2.3903057	2.4142778	2.4732958	2.5882735	2.6829791	2.8062971	2.9336518	3.0011377
1982	32,400	14,531.34	2.2655805	2.2883017	2.3442401	2.4532184	2.5429823	2.6598655	2.7805750	2.8445395
1983	35,700	15,239.24	2.1603387	2.1820045	2.2353444	2.3392604	2.4248545	2.5363082	2.6514104	2.7124036
1984	37,800	16,135.07	2.0403952	2.0608581	2.1112366	2.2093830	2.2902250	2.3954907	2.5042023	2.5618092
1985	39,600	16,822.51	1.9570159	1.9766426	2.0249624	2.1190982	2.1966365	2.2976007	2.4018699	2.4571226
1986	42,000	17,321.82	1.9006040	1.9196649	1.9665918	2.0580141	2.1333174	2.2313712	2.3326348	2.3862949
1987	43,800	18,426.51	1.7866606	1.8045788	1.8486925	1.9346339	2.0054226	2.0975980	2.1927907	2.2432338
1988	45,000	19,334.04	1.7027957	1.7198728	1.7619158	1.8438231	1.9112891	1.9991378	2.0898622	2.1379375
1989	48,000	20,099.55	1.6379431	1.6543699	1.6948116	1.7735994	1.8384959	1.9229988	2.0102679	2.0565122
1990	51,300	21,027.98	1.5656245	1.5813259	1.6199820	1.6952912	1.7573224	1.8380943	1.9215103	1.9657128
1991	53,400	21,811.60	1.5093767	1.5245140	1.5617813	1.6343849	1.6941875	1.7720575	1.8524767	1.8950911
1992	55,500	22,935.42	1.4354182	1.4498139	1.4852551	1.5543012	1.6111735	1.6852279	1.7617066	1.8022330
1993	57,600	23,132.67	1.4231786	1.4374514	1.4725905	1.5410478	1.5974351	1.6708581	1.7466847	1.7868655
1994	60,600	23,753.53	1.3859801	1.3998799	1.4341005	1.5007685	1.5556820	1.6271859	1.7010305	1.7401611
1995	61,200	24,705.66	1.3325659	1.3459300	1.3788318	1.4429305	1.4957277	1.5644759	1.6354746	1.6730972
1996	62,700	25,913.90	1.2704348	1.2831758	1.3145435	1.3756536	1.4259891	1.4915320	1.5592203	1.5950887
1997	65,400	27,426.00	1.2003909	1.2124294	1.2420677	1.2998086	1.3473689	1.4092981	1.4732546	1.5071454
1998	68,400	28,861.44	1.1406888	1.1521286	1.1802928	1.2351619	1.2803568	1.3392059	1.3999814	1.4321867
1999	72,600	30,469.84	1.0804756	1.0913116	1.1179891	1.1699618	1.2127711	1.2685137	1.3260811	1.3565864

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A8—Factors for indexing earnings, 1951–2018—Continued

Year	Annual maximum taxable earnings (dollars)	Average annual wage ^a (dollars)	Factors for workers who were first eligible (attained age 62, became disabled, or died) in ^b —							
			2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1951	3,600	2,799.16	14.5442240	14.8879771	15.3544671	15.8339180	16.0362966	16.6055245	17.1832371	17.3774097
1952	3,600	2,973.32	13.6923069	14.0159250	14.4550906	14.9064581	15.0969825	15.6328683	16.1767418	16.3595408
1953	3,600	3,139.44	12.9677936	13.2742878	13.6902155	14.1176993	14.2981423	14.8056723	15.3207674	15.4938938
1954	3,600	3,155.64	12.9012213	13.2061420	13.6199345	14.0452238	14.2247405	14.7296650	15.2421157	15.4143533
1955	4,200	3,301.44	12.3314705	12.6229251	13.0184435	13.4249509	13.5965397	14.0791655	14.5689850	14.7336162
1956	4,200	3,532.36	11.5253287	11.7977301	12.1673923	12.5473253	12.7076968	13.1587720	13.6165708	13.7704396
1957	4,200	3,641.72	11.1792258	11.4434471	11.8020084	12.1705321	12.3260877	12.7636172	13.2076684	13.3569165
1958	4,200	3,673.80	11.0816076	11.3435217	11.6989520	12.0642577	12.2184550	12.6521640	13.0923376	13.2402825
1959	4,800	3,855.80	10.5585378	10.8080891	11.1467426	11.4948052	11.6417242	12.0549614	12.4743581	12.6153198
1960	4,800	4,007.12	10.1598180	10.3999456	10.7258106	11.0607294	11.2021003	11.5997325	12.0032916	12.1389302
1961	4,800	4,086.76	9.9618304	10.1972785	10.5167933	10.8451854	10.9838013	11.3736848	11.7693797	11.9023750
1962	4,800	4,291.40	9.4867899	9.7110104	10.0152887	10.3280212	10.4600270	10.8313185	11.2081442	11.3347975
1963	4,800	4,396.64	9.2597097	9.4785632	9.7755582	10.0808049	10.2096510	10.5720550	10.9398609	11.0634826
1964	4,800	4,576.32	8.8961458	9.1064065	9.3917405	9.6850024	9.8087896	10.1569645	10.5103293	10.6290972
1965	4,800	4,658.72	8.7387974	8.9453391	9.2256264	9.5137012	9.6352990	9.9773157	10.3244303	10.4410976
1966	6,600	4,938.36	8.2439535	8.4387995	8.7032152	8.9749775	9.0896897	9.4123393	9.7397982	9.8498591
1967	6,600	5,213.44	7.8089726	7.9935379	8.2440020	8.5014252	8.6100847	8.9157102	9.2258912	9.3301448
1968	7,800	5,571.76	7.3067774	7.4794733	7.7138301	7.9546983	8.0563700	8.3423407	8.6325739	8.7301230
1969	7,800	5,893.76	6.9075785	7.0708393	7.2923923	7.5201009	7.6162178	7.8865648	8.1609414	8.2531610
1970	7,800	6,186.24	6.5809943	6.7365362	6.9476144	7.1645571	7.2561297	7.5136949	7.7750993	7.8629588
1971	7,800	6,497.08	6.2661396	6.4142399	6.6152195	6.8217830	6.9089745	7.1542170	7.4031149	7.4867710
1972	9,000	7,133.80	5.7068617	5.8417435	6.0247848	6.2129118	6.2923211	6.5156747	6.7423575	6.8185469
1973	10,800	7,580.16	5.3708114	5.4977507	5.6700136	5.8470626	5.9217958	6.1319972	6.3453318	6.4170347
1974	13,200	8,030.76	5.0694592	5.1892760	5.3518733	5.5189882	5.5895283	5.7879354	5.9892999	6.0569797
1975	14,100	8,630.92	4.7169491	4.8284343	4.9797252	5.1352197	5.2008546	5.3854653	5.5728277	5.6358013
1976	15,300	9,226.48	4.4124747	4.5167637	4.6582890	4.8037464	4.8651447	5.0378389	5.2131073	5.2720160
1977	16,500	9,779.44	4.1629797	4.2613718	4.3948948	4.5321276	4.5900542	4.7529838	4.9183420	4.9739198
1978	17,700	10,556.03	3.8567160	3.9478696	4.0715695	4.1987063	4.2523714	4.4033145	4.5565075	4.6079966
1979	22,900	11,479.46	3.5464743	3.6302953	3.7440446	3.8609543	3.9103024	4.0491034	4.1899732	4.2373204
1980	25,900	12,513.46	3.2534255	3.3303203	3.4346703	3.5419197	3.5871901	3.7145218	3.8437514	3.8871863
1981	29,700	13,773.10	2.9558785	3.0257408	3.1205473	3.2179880	3.2591181	3.3748045	3.4922153	3.5316777
1982	32,400	14,531.34	2.8016418	2.8678587	2.9577183	3.0500745	3.0890585	3.1987084	3.3099927	3.3473960
1983	35,700	15,239.24	2.6714987	2.7346397	2.8203250	2.9083911	2.9455642	3.0501206	3.1562355	3.1919013
1984	37,800	16,135.07	2.5231753	2.5828106	2.6637387	2.7469153	2.7820245	2.8807759	2.9809992	3.0146848
1985	39,600	16,822.51	2.4200675	2.4772659	2.5548869	2.6346645	2.6683390	2.7630550	2.8591827	2.8914918
1986	42,000	17,321.82	2.3503079	2.4058575	2.4812410	2.5587190	2.5914228	2.6834086	2.7767654	2.8081431
1987	43,800	18,426.51	2.2094043	2.2616236	2.3324878	2.4053209	2.4360641	2.5225352	2.6102952	2.6397918
1988	45,000	19,334.04	2.1056960	2.1554641	2.2230020	2.2924164	2.3217165	2.4041287	2.4877692	2.5158813
1989	48,000	20,099.55	2.0254986	2.0733713	2.1383369	2.2051076	2.2332918	2.3125652	2.3930202	2.4200616
1990	51,300	21,027.98	1.9360685	1.9818275	2.0439248	2.1077474	2.1346872	2.2104605	2.2873633	2.3132108
1991	53,400	21,811.60	1.8665119	1.9106269	1.9704932	2.0320229	2.0579948	2.1310459	2.2051858	2.2301046
1992	55,500	22,935.42	1.7750540	1.8170075	1.8739404	1.9324551	1.9571545	2.0266261	2.0971332	2.1208310
1993	57,600	23,132.67	1.7599183	1.8015140	1.8579615	1.9159773	1.9404660	2.0093452	2.0792511	2.1027469
1994	60,600	23,753.53	1.7139183	1.7544268	1.8093989	1.8658982	1.8897469	1.9568258	2.0249045	2.0477862
1995	61,200	24,705.66	1.6478657	1.6868131	1.7396665	1.7939885	1.8169181	1.8814118	1.9468668	1.9688666
1996	62,700	25,913.90	1.5710337	1.6081651	1.6585543	1.7103435	1.7322040	1.7936906	1.8560938	1.8770679
1997	65,400	27,426.00	1.4844166	1.5195008	1.5671119	1.6160457	1.6367009	1.6947976	1.7537603	1.7735780
1998	68,400	28,861.44	1.4105883	1.4439276	1.4891707	1.5356708	1.5552987	1.6105059	1.6665360	1.6853681
1999	72,600	30,469.84	1.3361281	1.3677075	1.4105624	1.4546079	1.4731997	1.5254927	1.5785652	1.5964032

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A8—Factors for indexing earnings, 1951–2018—Continued

Year	Annual maximum taxable earnings (dollars)	Average annual wage ^a (dollars)	Factors for workers who were first eligible (attained age 62, became disabled, or died) in ^b —							
			2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
2000	76,200	32,154.82	1.0238565	1.0341246	1.0594042	1.1086534	1.1492193	1.2020409	1.2565917	1.2854984
2001	80,400	32,921.92	1.0000000	1.0100289	1.0347194	1.0828211	1.1224418	1.1740327	1.2273124	1.2555455
2002	84,900	33,252.09	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0244454	1.0720695	1.1112968	1.1623754	1.2151260	1.2430789
2003	87,000	34,064.95	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0464877	1.0847789	1.1346387	1.1861306	1.2134164
2004	87,900	35,648.55	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0365903	1.0842351	1.1334396	1.1595134
2005	90,000	36,952.94	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0459631	1.0934307	1.1185841
2006	94,200	38,651.41	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0453818	1.0694298
2007	97,500	40,405.48	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0230041
2008	102,000	41,334.97	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2009	106,800	40,711.61	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2010	106,800	41,673.83	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2011	106,800	42,979.61	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2012	110,100	44,321.67	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2013	113,700	44,888.16	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2014	117,000	46,481.52	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2015	118,500	48,098.63	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2016	118,500	48,642.15	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2017	127,200	50,321.89	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2018	128,400	--	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A8—Factors for indexing earnings, 1951–2018—Continued

Year	Annual maximum taxable earnings (dollars)	Average annual wage ^a (dollars)	Factors for workers who were first eligible (attained age 62, became disabled, or died) in ^b —							
			2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
2000	76,200	32,154.82	1.2661122	1.2960368	1.3366460	1.3783834	1.3960010	1.4455537	1.4958451	1.5127483
2001	80,400	32,921.92	1.2366110	1.2658384	1.3055013	1.3462663	1.3634733	1.4118715	1.4609910	1.4775004
2002	84,900	33,252.09	1.2243324	1.2532695	1.2925386	1.3328988	1.3499350	1.3978526	1.4464844	1.4628299
2003	87,000	34,064.95	1.1951173	1.2233639	1.2616960	1.3010931	1.3177228	1.3644969	1.4119683	1.4279237
2004	87,900	35,648.55	1.1420271	1.1690189	1.2056482	1.2432952	1.2591861	1.3038825	1.3492451	1.3644917
2005	90,000	36,952.94	1.1017150	1.1277541	1.1630904	1.1994085	1.2147385	1.2578572	1.3016185	1.3163269
2006	94,200	38,651.41	1.0533021	1.0781969	1.1119804	1.1467025	1.1613589	1.2025828	1.2444211	1.2584832
2007	97,500	40,405.48	1.0075764	1.0313905	1.0637074	1.0969222	1.1109424	1.1503766	1.1903987	1.2038503
2008	102,000	41,334.97	0.9849193	1.0081979	1.0397881	1.0722560	1.0859609	1.1245084	1.1636305	1.1767796
2009	106,800	40,711.61	1.0000000	1.0236350	1.0557089	1.0886740	1.1025887	1.1417264	1.1814475	1.1947980
2010	106,800	41,673.83	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0313333	1.0635372	1.0771307	1.1153647	1.1541687	1.1672109
2011	106,800	42,979.61	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0312255	1.0444059	1.0814784	1.1191035	1.1317495
2012	110,100	44,321.67	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0127813	1.0487312	1.0852170	1.0974801
2013	113,700	44,888.16	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0354962	1.0715215	1.0836298
2014	117,000	46,481.52	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0347904	1.0464836
2015	118,500	48,098.63	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0113001
2016	118,500	48,642.15	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2017	127,200	50,321.89	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000
2018	128,400	--	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000	1.0000000

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTE: -- = not available.

- National average wage levels. For years before 1978, average wages were determined from wages earned during the first quarter of the year and reported to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for Social Security tax purposes. These wages were then multiplied by 4 to obtain the average wage for the year. For 1973–1977 from data collected on all taxable wages reported to SSA; for 1957–1972, based on 1 percent statistical sample; for 1951–1956, based on 1/10 of 1 percent statistical sample. For 1978–1984, from wage data collected by the Internal Revenue Service during processing of annual tax returns. For years after 1984, from W-2 data processed by SSA. For years after 1977, the average wage amounts have been adjusted to be consistent with the pre-1978 series.
- The indexing factor for a given year represents the ratio of the average annual wage for the second year before the year of first eligibility to the average annual wage for the year to be indexed. Multiplying a worker's covered earnings, up to the maximum taxable amounts for various years after 1951, by the indicated factors gives the indexed earnings. Earnings in the year before the year of first eligibility, and any earnings thereafter, are not indexed. The actual taxable earnings for those years are considered in calculating the average indexed monthly earnings (AIME).

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A9—Indexed earnings for workers with maximum earnings, 1951–2018 (in dollars)

Year	Annual maximum taxable earnings	Average annual wage ^a	Annual maximum indexed earnings for workers who were first eligible (attained age 62, became disabled, or died) in ^b —							
			2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
			1951	3,600	2,799.16	52,359.21	53,596.72	55,276.08	57,002.10	57,730.67	59,779.89	61,859.65	62,558.67
1952	3,600	2,973.32	49,292.30	50,457.33	52,038.33	53,663.25	54,349.14	56,278.33	58,236.27	58,894.35
1953	3,600	3,139.44	46,684.06	47,787.44	49,284.78	50,823.72	51,473.31	53,300.42	55,154.76	55,778.02
1954	3,600	3,155.64	46,444.40	47,542.11	49,031.76	50,562.81	51,209.07	53,026.79	54,871.62	55,491.67
1955	4,200	3,301.44	51,792.18	53,016.29	54,677.46	56,384.79	57,105.47	59,132.49	61,189.74	61,881.19
1956	4,200	3,532.36	48,406.38	49,550.47	51,103.05	52,698.77	53,372.33	55,266.84	57,189.60	57,835.85
1957	4,200	3,641.72	46,952.75	48,062.48	49,568.44	51,116.23	51,769.57	53,607.19	55,472.21	56,099.05
1958	4,200	3,673.80	46,542.75	47,642.79	49,135.60	50,669.88	51,317.51	53,139.09	54,987.82	55,609.19
1959	4,800	3,855.80	50,680.98	51,878.83	53,504.36	55,175.06	55,880.28	57,863.81	59,876.92	60,553.53
1960	4,800	4,007.12	48,767.13	49,919.74	51,483.89	53,091.50	53,770.08	55,678.72	57,615.80	58,266.86
1961	4,800	4,086.76	47,816.79	48,946.94	50,480.61	52,056.89	52,722.25	54,593.69	56,493.02	57,131.40
1962	4,800	4,291.40	45,536.59	46,612.85	48,073.39	49,574.50	50,208.13	51,990.33	53,799.09	54,407.03
1963	4,800	4,396.64	44,446.61	45,497.10	46,922.68	48,387.86	49,006.32	50,745.86	52,511.33	53,104.72
1964	4,800	4,576.32	42,701.50	43,710.75	45,080.35	46,488.01	47,082.19	48,753.43	50,449.58	51,019.67
1965	4,800	4,658.72	41,946.23	42,937.63	44,283.01	45,665.77	46,249.44	47,891.12	49,557.27	50,117.27
1966	6,600	4,938.36	54,410.09	55,696.08	57,441.22	59,234.85	59,991.95	62,121.44	64,282.67	65,009.07
1967	6,600	5,213.44	51,539.22	52,757.35	54,410.41	56,109.41	56,826.56	58,843.69	60,890.88	61,578.96
1968	7,800	5,571.76	56,992.86	58,339.89	60,167.87	62,046.65	62,839.69	65,070.26	67,334.08	68,094.96
1969	7,800	5,893.76	53,879.11	55,152.55	56,880.66	58,656.79	59,406.50	61,515.21	63,655.34	64,374.66
1970	7,800	6,186.24	51,331.76	52,544.98	54,191.39	55,883.55	56,597.81	58,606.82	60,645.77	61,331.08
1971	7,800	6,497.08	48,875.89	50,031.07	51,598.71	53,209.91	53,890.00	55,802.89	57,744.30	58,396.81
1972	9,000	7,133.80	51,361.76	52,575.69	54,223.06	55,916.21	56,630.89	58,641.07	60,681.22	61,366.92
1973	10,800	7,580.16	58,004.76	59,375.71	61,236.15	63,148.28	63,955.39	66,225.57	68,529.58	69,303.98
1974	13,200	8,030.76	66,916.86	68,498.44	70,644.73	72,850.64	73,781.77	76,400.75	79,058.76	79,952.13
1975	14,100	8,630.92	66,508.98	68,080.92	70,214.13	72,406.60	73,332.05	75,935.06	78,576.87	79,464.80
1976	15,300	9,226.48	67,510.86	69,106.48	71,271.82	73,497.32	74,436.71	77,078.94	79,760.54	80,661.84
1977	16,500	9,779.44	68,689.17	70,312.63	72,515.76	74,780.11	75,735.89	78,424.23	81,152.64	82,069.68
1978	17,700	10,556.03	68,263.87	69,877.29	72,066.78	74,317.10	75,266.97	77,938.67	80,650.18	81,561.54
1979	22,900	11,479.46	81,214.26	83,133.76	85,738.62	88,415.85	89,545.92	92,724.47	95,950.39	97,034.64
1980	25,900	12,513.46	84,263.72	86,255.30	88,957.96	91,735.72	92,908.22	96,206.11	99,553.16	100,678.12
1981	29,700	13,773.10	87,789.59	89,864.50	92,680.25	95,574.24	96,795.81	100,231.69	103,718.79	104,890.83
1982	32,400	14,531.34	90,773.19	92,918.62	95,830.07	98,822.41	100,085.50	103,638.15	107,243.76	108,455.63
1983	35,700	15,239.24	95,372.50	97,626.64	100,685.60	103,829.56	105,156.64	108,889.31	112,677.61	113,950.88
1984	37,800	16,135.07	95,376.03	97,630.24	100,689.32	103,833.40	105,160.53	108,893.33	112,681.77	113,955.08
1985	39,600	16,822.51	95,834.67	98,099.73	101,173.52	104,332.71	105,666.22	109,416.98	113,223.64	114,503.08
1986	42,000	17,321.82	98,712.93	101,046.02	104,212.12	107,466.20	108,839.76	112,703.16	116,624.15	117,942.01
1987	43,800	18,426.51	96,771.91	99,059.11	102,162.97	105,353.06	106,699.61	110,487.04	114,330.93	115,622.88
1988	45,000	19,334.04	94,756.32	96,995.88	100,035.09	103,158.74	104,477.24	108,185.79	111,949.62	113,214.66
1989	48,000	20,099.55	97,223.93	99,521.82	102,640.17	105,845.16	107,198.01	111,003.13	114,864.97	116,162.96
1990	51,300	21,027.98	99,320.31	101,667.75	104,853.34	108,127.44	109,509.45	113,396.63	117,341.74	118,667.71
1991	53,400	21,811.60	99,671.74	102,027.48	105,224.34	108,510.02	109,896.92	113,797.85	117,756.92	119,087.59
1992	55,500	22,935.42	98,515.50	100,843.92	104,003.69	107,251.26	108,622.07	112,477.75	116,390.89	117,706.12
1993	57,600	23,132.67	101,371.29	103,767.21	107,018.58	110,360.29	111,770.84	115,738.28	119,764.86	121,118.22
1994	60,600	23,753.53	103,863.45	106,318.26	109,649.57	113,073.43	114,518.66	118,583.64	122,709.21	124,095.84
1995	61,200	24,705.66	100,849.38	103,232.96	106,467.59	109,792.10	111,195.39	115,142.40	119,148.25	120,494.64
1996	62,700	25,913.90	98,503.81	100,831.95	103,991.35	107,238.54	108,609.19	112,464.40	116,377.08	117,692.16
1997	65,400	27,426.00	97,080.85	99,375.35	102,489.12	105,689.39	107,040.24	110,839.77	114,695.92	115,992.00
1998	68,400	28,861.44	96,484.24	98,764.65	101,859.28	105,039.88	106,382.43	110,158.60	113,991.07	115,279.18
1999	72,600	30,469.84	97,002.90	99,295.56	102,406.83	105,604.53	106,954.30	110,750.77	114,603.84	115,898.87

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A9—Indexed earnings for workers with maximum earnings, 1951–2018 (in dollars)—Continued

Year	Annual maximum taxable earnings	Average annual wage ^a	Annual maximum indexed earnings for workers who were first eligible (attained age 62, became disabled, or died) in ^b —							
			2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
2000	76,200	32,154.82	96,477.75	98,758.00	101,852.43	105,032.81	106,375.27	110,151.19	113,983.40	115,271.42
2001	80,400	32,921.92	99,423.52	101,773.41	104,962.30	108,239.81	109,623.26	113,514.47	117,463.68	118,791.03
2002	84,900	33,252.09	103,945.82	106,402.58	109,736.53	113,163.11	114,609.48	118,677.68	122,806.53	124,194.25
2003	87,000	34,064.95	103,975.21	106,432.66	109,767.55	113,195.10	114,641.88	118,711.23	122,841.24	124,229.36
2004	87,900	35,648.55	100,384.18	102,756.76	105,976.48	109,285.65	110,682.46	114,611.27	118,598.64	119,938.82
2005	90,000	36,952.94	99,154.35	101,497.87	104,678.14	107,946.76	109,326.47	113,207.14	117,145.66	118,469.42
2006	94,200	38,651.41	99,221.06	101,566.15	104,748.55	108,019.38	109,400.01	113,283.30	117,224.47	118,549.12
2007	97,500	40,405.48	98,238.70	100,560.57	103,711.47	106,949.92	108,316.88	112,161.72	116,063.87	117,375.41
2008	102,000	41,334.97	100,461.77	102,836.19	106,058.39	109,370.11	110,768.01	114,699.85	118,690.31	120,031.52
2009	106,800	40,711.61	106,800.00	109,324.22	112,749.71	116,270.38	117,756.47	121,936.38	126,178.59	127,604.43
2010	106,800	41,673.83	106,800.00	106,800.00	110,146.40	113,585.78	115,037.55	119,120.95	123,265.22	124,658.13
2011	106,800	42,979.61	106,800.00	106,800.00	106,800.00	110,134.88	111,542.55	115,501.89	119,520.25	120,870.84
2012	110,100	44,321.67	110,100.00	110,100.00	110,100.00	110,100.00	111,507.22	115,465.31	119,482.39	120,832.56
2013	113,700	44,888.16	113,700.00	113,700.00	113,700.00	113,700.00	113,700.00	117,735.92	121,832.00	123,208.71
2014	117,000	46,481.52	117,000.00	117,000.00	117,000.00	117,000.00	117,000.00	117,000.00	121,070.48	122,438.59
2015	118,500	48,098.63	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	119,839.06
2016	118,500	48,642.15	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00	118,500.00
2017	127,200	50,321.89	127,200.00	127,200.00	127,200.00	127,200.00	127,200.00	127,200.00	127,200.00	127,200.00
2018	128,400	--	128,400.00	128,400.00	128,400.00	128,400.00	128,400.00	128,400.00	128,400.00	128,400.00

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTE: -- = not available.

- a. National average wage levels. For years before 1978, average wages were determined from wages earned during the first quarter of the year and reported to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for Social Security tax purposes. These wages were then multiplied by 4 to obtain the average wage for the year. For 1973–1977 from data collected on all taxable wages reported to SSA; for 1957–1972, based on 1 percent statistical sample; for 1951–1956, based on 1/10 of 1 percent statistical sample. For 1978–1984, from wage data collected by the Internal Revenue Service during processing of annual tax returns. For years after 1984, from W-2 data processed by SSA. For years after 1977, the average wage amounts have been adjusted to be consistent with the pre-1978 series.
- b. A worker's earnings for each year after 1950 and through the second year before the year of first eligibility are indexed by multiplying covered earnings, up to the maximum taxable amounts, by specified indexing factors (see Table 2.A8). The indexing factor for a given year represents the ratio of the average annual wage for the second year before the year of first eligibility to the average annual wage for the year to be indexed. For example, if the year of first eligibility is 2017, the indexing factor for 1982 is $\$48,098.63 \div 14,531.34$ or 3.3099927. Multiplication of maximum taxable earnings of \$32,400 for 1982 by this factor gives maximum indexed earnings of \$107,243.76 for 1982.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A10—Average monthly wage and average indexed monthly earnings provisions, by year enacted

Year enacted	Provision
Average monthly wage (AMW)	
1939	Computed using creditable earnings after 1936 and before year of death or retirement, divided by months after 1936 and before quarter of death or retirement, excluding months before age 22 in quarters not covered.
1950	Alternatively, computed using creditable earnings after 1950 (or year aged 21, if later) and before year of death, year of retirement, or subsequent year (or year age 65 attained if then insured), divided by number of months in those years.
1954	Earnings and months in 4 years may be excluded in all cases; 5 years if worker has 20 quarters of coverage. Period of disability may be excluded.
1956	Earnings and months in 5 years may be excluded in all cases. Computation period may end at age 62 for women then insured.
1960	Earnings may be used for any year after 1950 and before year of retirement but including year of death, with the number of years equal to the years elapsed after 1955 (or year age 26 attained) and before year of death or age 65 attained (62 for women). Same method may be used for earnings after 1936 and years elapsed after 1941.
1972	Number of years for men reaching age 62 after 1972, measured to age 62 or to 1975, if later.
1977	For workers who attain age 62, become disabled, or die after 1978, excludes earnings in year of attainment of age 62 and later, computed using creditable earnings after 1936. For workers who attain age 62 after 1978 and before 1984, excludes earnings in year of attainment of age 62 and later, computed using creditable earnings after 1950.
Average indexed monthly earnings (AIME)	
1977	For workers who attain age 62, become disabled, or die after 1978, AIME is computed by using indexed earnings after 1950 for the same computation period applicable in calculating the AMW. Indexed earnings for a given year equal actual creditable earnings multiplied by the national average wage for the second year before worker attains age 62, becomes disabled, or dies, divided by the national average wage for the given year, except that for years after the second year before the worker attains age 62, becomes disabled, or dies, indexed earnings equal actual creditable earnings.
1980	For disabled workers, the number of years of earnings used equals the number of years elapsed after 1950 (or year age 21 attained, if later) and before year of disability, minus dropout years equal to one-fifth of the number of elapsed years rounded to the next lower integer (to a maximum of 5 dropout years). However, the number of years of earnings used is at least 2. <i>Effective for initial entitlement after June 1980.</i> Disabled workers with computations using fewer than 3 dropout years under the one-fifth rule may be credited with additional dropout years based on child care, up to a total of 3 dropout years. (To receive this credit, a worker must have had no earnings in that year and have been living with his or her child or spouse's child under age 3.) However, the number of years of earnings used is at least 2. <i>Effective July 1981.</i>
1983	For workers who die after 1978 but before attaining age 62, indexed earnings for a given year equal actual creditable earnings, multiplied by the national average wage for the earlier of (1) the year in which the worker reached or would have reached age 60 or (2) the second year before the survivor becomes eligible for aged or disabled widow(er) benefits, and then divided by the national average wage for the given year. This computation method applies only if it results in a higher benefit. <i>Effective for surviving spouses first eligible after 1984.</i>

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A11—Formulas for computing PIA from AIME, cost-of-living adjustments, and minimum PIA for workers who were first eligible in 1979 or later, by year of first eligibility

Eligibility year	Calculation of PIA (based on percentage of AIME) ^a (dollars)			First applicable cost-of-living adjustment		Minimum PIA based on indexed earnings (dollars)
	90 percent of the first	Plus 32 percent of the next	Plus 15 percent of the amount above	Effective date	Percentage increase	
<i>Enacted in 1977^b</i>						
1979	180	905	1,085	June 1979	9.9	^c 122
1980	194	977	1,171	June 1980	14.3	^c 122
<i>Enacted in 1981</i>						
1981	211	1,063	1,274	June 1981	11.2	^c 122
1982	230	1,158	1,388	June 1982	7.4	d
<i>Enacted in 1983</i>						
1983	254	1,274	1,528	December 1983	3.5	d
1984	267	1,345	1,612	December 1984	3.5	d
1985	280	1,411	1,691	December 1985	3.1	d
1986	297	1,493	1,790	December 1986	1.3	d
1987	310	1,556	1,866	December 1987	4.2	d
1988	319	1,603	1,922	December 1988	4.0	d
1989	339	1,705	2,044	December 1989	4.7	d
1990	356	1,789	2,145	December 1990	5.4	d
1991	370	1,860	2,230	December 1991	3.7	d
1992	387	1,946	2,333	December 1992	3.0	d
1993	401	2,019	2,420	December 1993	2.6	d
1994	422	2,123	2,545	December 1994	2.8	d
1995	426	2,141	2,567	December 1995	2.6	d
1996	437	2,198	2,635	December 1996	2.9	d
1997	455	2,286	2,741	December 1997	2.1	d
1998	477	2,398	2,875	December 1998	1.3	d
1999	505	2,538	3,043	December 1999	^e 2.5	d
2000	531	2,671	3,202	December 2000	3.5	d
2001	561	2,820	3,381	December 2001	2.6	d
2002	592	2,975	3,567	December 2002	1.4	d
2003	606	3,047	3,653	December 2003	2.1	d
2004	612	3,077	3,689	December 2004	2.7	d

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A11—Formulas for computing PIA from AIME, cost-of-living adjustments, and minimum PIA for workers who were first eligible in 1979 or later, by year of first eligibility—Continued

Eligibility year	Calculation of PIA (based on percentage of AIME) ^a (dollars)			First applicable cost-of-living adjustment		Minimum PIA based on indexed earnings (dollars)
	90 percent of the first	Plus 32 percent of the next	Plus 15 percent of the amount above	Effective date	Percentage increase	
<i>Enacted in 1983 (cont.)</i>						
2005	627	3,152	3,779	December 2005	4.1	d
2006	656	3,299	3,955	December 2006	3.3	d
2007	680	3,420	4,100	December 2007	2.3	d
2008	711	3,577	4,288	December 2008	5.8	d
2009	744	3,739	4,483	December 2009	0.0	d
2010	761	3,825	4,586	December 2010	0.0	d
2011	749	3,768	4,517	December 2011	3.6	d
2012	767	3,857	4,624	December 2012	1.7	d
2013	791	3,977	4,768	December 2013	1.5	d
2014	816	4,101	4,917	December 2014	1.7	d
2015	826	4,154	4,980	December 2015	0.0	d
2016	856	4,301	5,157	December 2016	0.3	d
2017	885	4,451	5,336	December 2017	2.0	d
2018	895	4,502	5,397	December 2018	--	d

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTES: Eligible workers are those who attained age 62, became disabled, or died in the given year.

AIME = average indexed monthly earnings; AMW = average monthly wage; PIA = primary insurance amount; -- = not available.

- a. For workers who attained age 62 in the 1979–1983 period, the PIA cannot be less than that derived from the PIA table in effect in December 1978 (approximated by the PIA formula in Table 2.A16) in the basis of provisions in effect before 1979 but excluding earnings after year aged 61 in computations of AMW and including any general benefit increase after year aged 61.
- b. The amendments in 1977 provided for annual automatic adjustments of bend points (AIME brackets) in benefit formula in proportion to increases in average wage level. As a result, separate formulas are applicable to workers who were first eligible in successive calendar years. The legislation also froze the minimum PIA at \$122.
- c. Not subject to automatic adjustments until earlier of year of attainment of age 65 or year of first receipt of benefits.
- d. In 1981, legislation eliminated the minimum PIA for workers who attain age 62 or die after 1981 (after 1991 for members of certain religious orders). In August 1981, legislation would have eliminated the minimum PIA effective March 1982 for workers who attained age 62 before November 1981 or who died (before attaining age 62) before March 1982; for all others, the minimum would have been eliminated effective November 1981. This legislation was superseded in December 1981 by legislation that restored the minimum PIA for workers who attained age 62 or died (before attaining age 62) before 1982.
- e. The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for December 1999 was originally determined to be 2.4 percent, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The underlying CPI was later recomputed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; a 2.5 percent COLA would have been consistent with the recomputed CPI. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, benefits were calculated and paid in August 2001 and later as if the COLA for December 1999 had been 2.5 percent. Affected beneficiaries received a one-time payment to cover the shortfall that occurred before August 2001.

CONTACT: (410) 965-0090 or statistics@ssa.gov.

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A11.1—Computation of primary insurance amount (PIA) based on Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), by year enacted

Year effective	Provision																				
	Enacted in 1983																				
1986	Workers first eligible for pensions based on noncovered employment and disability or retired workers after December 31, 1985. ^a The benefit computation formula uses a reduced factor of the usual first average indexed monthly earnings (AIME) bend point.																				
	<table> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Year eligible</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Factor (percent)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1986</td><td>80</td></tr> <tr><td>1987</td><td>70</td></tr> <tr><td>1988</td><td>60</td></tr> <tr><td>1989</td><td>50</td></tr> <tr><td>1990 and later</td><td>40</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Year eligible</i>	<i>Factor (percent)</i>	1986	80	1987	70	1988	60	1989	50	1990 and later	40								
<i>Year eligible</i>	<i>Factor (percent)</i>																				
1986	80																				
1987	70																				
1988	60																				
1989	50																				
1990 and later	40																				
	WEP is not applicable to persons who were federal employees or nonprofit employees on January 1, 1984, and who were covered by Social Security on that date with no Civil Service Retirement System coverage; to persons with Railroad Retirement pensions; or to workers with 30 years of substantial Social Security earnings. Workers with 26–29 years of coverage have less than full WEP applied. ^b For benefits payable before January 1989:																				
	<table> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Years of coverage</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Factor (percent)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>26</td><td>50</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>60</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>70</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>80</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Years of coverage</i>	<i>Factor (percent)</i>	26	50	27	60	28	70	29	80										
<i>Years of coverage</i>	<i>Factor (percent)</i>																				
26	50																				
27	60																				
28	70																				
29	80																				
	Enacted in 1988																				
1989	5 percent added to factor for each year of coverage over 20.																				
	<table> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Years of coverage</i></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Factor (percent)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>21</td><td>45</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>50</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>55</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>60</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>65</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>70</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>75</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>80</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>85</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Years of coverage</i>	<i>Factor (percent)</i>	21	45	22	50	23	55	24	60	25	65	26	70	27	75	28	80	29	85
<i>Years of coverage</i>	<i>Factor (percent)</i>																				
21	45																				
22	50																				
23	55																				
24	60																				
25	65																				
26	70																				
27	75																				
28	80																				
29	85																				

(Continued)																					

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A11.1—Computation of primary insurance amount (PIA) based on Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), by year enacted—Continued

Year effective	Provision
<i>Enacted in 1988 (cont.)</i>	
1991	Earnings required for a year of substantial coverage (decoupled from the definition of a year of coverage for special minimum PIA). ^b
	<i>Year</i> <i>Earnings (dollars)</i>
	1991 9,900
	1992 10,350
	1993 10,725
	1994 11,250
	1995 11,325
	1996 11,625
	1997 12,150
	1998 12,675
	1999 13,425
	2000 14,175
	2001 14,925
	2002 15,750
	2003 16,125
	2004 16,275
	2005 16,725
	2006 17,475
	2007 18,150
	2008 18,975
	2009 19,800
	2010 19,800
	2011 19,800
	2012 20,475
	2013 21,075
	2014 21,750
	2015 22,050
	2016 22,050
	2017 23,625
	2018 23,850

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

- a. Reduction in PIA will not be greater than one-half the amount of the pension based on noncovered employment performed after 1956.
- b. See Table 2.A12a. Before 1991, a year of substantial coverage for WEP was the same amount as for the minimum PIA (25 percent of the "old law" contribution and benefit base). For 1991 and following, a year of substantial coverage under WEP provisions remains 25 percent of the old law base, while the criterion for computing the special minimum PIA was changed to 15 percent of the base.

CONTACT: (410) 965-0090 or statistics@ssa.gov.

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A12a—Special minimum primary insurance amount (PIA): Minimum covered earnings required to qualify for a year of coverage, 1937–2018 (in dollars)

Year	Earnings required to qualify for a year of coverage
<i>Enacted in 1972^a</i>	
1937–1950	b
1951–1954	900
1955–1958	1,050
1959–1965	1,200
1966–1967	1,650
1968–1971	1,950
1972	2,250
1973	2,700
1974	3,300
1975	3,525
1976	3,825
1977	4,125
1978	4,425
<i>Enacted in 1977^c</i>	
1979	4,725
1980	5,100
1981	5,550
1982	6,075
1983	6,675
1984	7,050
1985	7,425
1986	7,875
1987	8,175
1988	8,400
1989	8,925
1990	9,525
<i>Enacted in 1990^d</i>	
1991	5,940
1992	6,210
1993	6,435
1994	6,750
1995	6,795
1996	6,975
1997	7,290
1998	7,605
1999	8,055
2000	8,505
2001	8,955
2002	9,450
2003	9,675
2004	9,765
2005	10,035
2006	10,485
2007	10,890
2008	11,385
2009	11,880

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A12a—Special minimum primary insurance amount (PIA): Minimum covered earnings required to qualify for a year of coverage, 1937–2018 (in dollars)—Continued

Year	Earnings required to qualify for a year of coverage
<i>Enacted in 1990^d (cont.)</i>	
2010	11,880
2011	11,880
2012	12,285
2013	12,645
2014	13,050
2015	13,230
2016	13,230
2017	14,175
2018	14,310

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTE: The special minimum PIA is payable to some persons who have had covered employment or self-employment for many years at low earnings. The formula computes a benefit based on years of coverage rather than earnings, and it applies only if the resulting benefit exceeds the benefit computed by any other method. The usual rates of actuarial reduction apply for retirement before the full retirement age. Although delayed retirement credits are not applicable to the benefit derived from the special minimum PIA, the benefit will be raised if necessary to equal the benefit derived from the regularly computed PIA plus any delayed retirement credits.

- a. For 1951–1978, the amount of Social Security covered earnings needed for a year of coverage is 25 percent of the effective annual maximum taxable earnings.
- b. For 1937–1950, the years of coverage are determined by the number (not exceeding 14) obtained by dividing total creditable wages in 1937–1950 by \$900 (any remainder is disregarded).
- c. For 1979–1990, the amount of Social Security covered earnings needed for a year of coverage is 25 percent of what the annual maximum taxable earnings would have been if the statutory increases in the maximum under the 1977 amendments had not been enacted (the "old law" contribution and benefit base).
- d. For 1991 and following, a year of substantial coverage under the Windfall Elimination Provision remains 25 percent of the old law base, while the criterion for the special minimum PIA was changed to 15 percent of the base.

CONTACT: (410) 965-0090 or statistics@ssa.gov.

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A12b—Computation of special minimum primary insurance amount (PIA), by effective date

Effective date	Amount ^a per year of coverage over 10 years (dollars)	Maximum amount ^a for workers with 30 or more years of coverage (dollars)
	Enacted in 1972	
January 1973	8.50	170.00
	Enacted in 1973	
March 1974	9.00	180.00
	Enacted in 1977 ^b	
January 1979	11.50	230.00
June 1979	12.64	252.80
June 1980	14.45	289.00
June 1981	16.07	321.40
June 1982	17.26	345.10
December 1983	17.86	357.10
December 1984	18.49	369.50
December 1985	19.06	380.90
December 1986	19.31	385.80
December 1987	20.12	402.00
December 1988	20.92	418.00
December 1989	21.90	437.60
December 1990	23.08	461.20
December 1991	23.93	478.20
December 1992	24.65	492.50
December 1993	25.29	505.30
December 1994	26.00	519.40
December 1995	26.68	532.90
December 1996	27.45	548.30
December 1997	28.03	559.80
December 1998	28.39	567.00
December 1999	^c 29.10	^c 581.10
December 2000	30.12	601.40
December 2001	30.90	617.00
December 2002	31.33	625.60
December 2003	31.99	638.70
December 2004	32.85	655.90
December 2005	34.20	682.70
December 2006	35.33	705.20
December 2007	36.14	721.40
December 2008	38.24	763.20
December 2009	38.24	763.20
December 2010	38.24	763.20
December 2011	39.62	790.60
December 2012	40.29	804.00
December 2013	40.89	816.00
December 2014	41.59	829.80
December 2015	41.59	832.20
December 2016	41.71	832.20
December 2017	42.54	848.80

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTE: The special minimum PIA is payable to some persons who have had covered employment or self-employment for many years at low earnings. The formula computes a benefit based on years of coverage rather than earnings, and it applies only if the resulting benefit exceeds the benefit computed by any other method. The usual rates of actuarial reduction apply for retirement before the full retirement age. Although delayed retirement credits are not applicable to the benefit derived from the special minimum PIA, the benefit will be raised if necessary to equal the benefit derived from the regularly computed PIA plus any delayed retirement credits.

- The amount effective for a given month applies, as of that month, to all workers from the date of entitlement to benefits.
- The 1977 Amendments to the Social Security Act established an initial 1979 factor of \$11.50 per year of coverage and automatic annual cost-of-living increases thereafter, beginning with the June 1979 increase. Factors are obtained by applying cost-of-living increases to the previous year's factor and rounding each one to nearest cent. An approximate PIA may be computed by multiplying factor in year of entitlement by the number of years of coverage in excess of 10 with a maximum of 20. Actual PIAs are published yearly in the *Federal Register*.
- The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for December 1999 was originally determined to be 2.4 percent, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The underlying CPI was later recomputed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; a 2.5 percent COLA would have been consistent with the recomputed CPI. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, benefits were calculated and paid in August 2001 and later as if the COLA for December 1999 had been 2.5 percent. Affected beneficiaries received a one-time payment to cover the shortfall that occurred before August 2001.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A13—Formulas enacted in 1977 for computing OASI maximum family benefit from primary insurance amount (PIA) and cost-of-living adjustments for workers who were first eligible in 1979 or later, by year of first eligibility

Eligibility year	Calculation of maximum family benefit (based on percentage of PIA) (dollars)				First applicable cost-of-living adjustment	
	150 percent of the first	Plus 272 percent of the next	Plus 134 percent of the next	Plus 175 percent of the amount above	Effective date	Percentage increase
1979	230	102	101	433	June 1979	9.9
1980	248	110	109	467	June 1980	14.3
1981	270	120	118	508	June 1981	11.2
1982	294	131	129	554	June 1982	7.4
1983	324	144	142	610	December 1983	3.5
1984	342	151	150	643	December 1984	3.5
1985	358	159	158	675	December 1985	3.1
1986	379	169	166	714	December 1986	1.3
1987	396	175	174	745	December 1987	4.2
1988	407	181	179	767	December 1988	4.0
1989	433	193	190	816	December 1989	4.7
1990	455	201	200	856	December 1990	5.4
1991	473	209	208	890	December 1991	3.7
1992	495	219	217	931	December 1992	3.0
1993	513	227	226	966	December 1993	2.6
1994	539	240	237	1,016	December 1994	2.8
1995	544	241	239	1,024	December 1995	2.6
1996	559	247	246	1,052	December 1996	2.9
1997	581	258	255	1,094	December 1997	2.1
1998	609	271	267	1,147	December 1998	1.3
1999	645	286	283	1,214	December 1999	^a 2.5
2000	679	301	298	1,278	December 2000	3.5
2001	717	317	315	1,349	December 2001	2.6
2002	756	336	332	1,424	December 2002	1.4
2003	774	344	340	1,458	December 2003	2.1
2004	782	347	343	1,472	December 2004	2.7
2005	801	355	352	1,508	December 2005	4.1
2006	838	372	368	1,578	December 2006	3.3
2007	869	386	381	1,636	December 2007	2.3
2008	909	403	399	1,711	December 2008	5.8
2009	950	422	417	1,789	December 2009	0.0
2010	972	431	427	1,830	December 2010	0.0
2011	957	425	421	1,803	December 2011	3.6
2012	980	435	430	1,845	December 2012	1.7
2013	1,011	448	444	1,903	December 2013	1.5
2014	1,042	463	457	1,962	December 2014	1.7
2015	1,056	468	463	1,987	December 2015	0.0
2016	1,093	485	480	2,058	December 2016	0.3
2017	1,131	502	497	2,130	December 2017	2.0
2018	1,144	507	503	2,154	December 2018	--

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTES: The 1977 amendments provided for annual automatic adjustments of bend points (PIA brackets) in the maximum family benefit formula in proportion to increases in the average wage level. As a result, separate formulas are applicable to workers first eligible in successive calendar years.

Eligible workers are those who attained age 62 or died in the given year.

OASI = Old-Age and Survivors Insurance; -- = not available.

a. The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for December 1999 was originally determined to be 2.4 percent, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The underlying CPI was later recomputed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; a 2.5 percent COLA would have been consistent with the recomputed CPI. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, benefits were calculated and paid in August 2001 and later as if the COLA for December 1999 had been 2.5 percent. Affected beneficiaries received a one-time payment to cover the shortfall that occurred before August 2001.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A14—Formulas for computing maximum family benefit and cost-of-living adjustments for workers first eligible for disability benefits in 1979 or later, by year of enactment

Eligibility year	Formula
<i>Enacted in 1977^a</i>	
1979 ^b	150% of first \$230 of PIA + 272% of next \$102 of PIA + 134% of next \$101 of PIA + 175% of PIA over \$433 ^c
1980 ^b	150% of first \$248 of PIA + 272% of next \$110 of PIA + 134% of next \$109 of PIA + 175% of PIA over \$467 ^c
<i>Enacted in 1980^d</i>	
1979 or later	Smaller of (1) 85% of the AIME (or 100% of PIA, if larger) and (2) 150% of PIA ^e

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTES: PIA = primary insurance amount; AIME = average indexed monthly earnings.

- a. The 1977 amendments provided for annual automatic adjustments of bend points (PIA brackets) in maximum family benefit formula in proportion to increases in average wage level. As a result, separate formulas are applicable to workers first eligible in successive calendar years.
- b. Applicability of formula limited to workers with initial entitlement before July 1980, as a result of 1980 amendments.
- c. Calculated amount subject to cost-of-living adjustments beginning with the one effective for June of the year of first eligibility.
- d. Formula for computing maximum family benefit revised effective for workers with initial entitlement in or after July 1980. New formula remains unchanged for workers eligible in successive calendar years because it has no bend points requiring adjustments.
- e. Calculated amount subject to cost-of-living adjustments beginning with the one effective in year of first eligibility (or in 1981, if later).

CONTACT: (410) 965-0090 or statistics@ssa.gov.

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A16—Percentage of average monthly wage (AMW) applicable to primary insurance amount (PIA) based on formula for computing PIA from AMW, and percentage increases in PIA

AMW (dollars)	April 1952	Sept. 1952	Sept. 1954	Jan. 1959	Jan. 1965	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1970	Jan. 1971	Sept. 1972	June 1974	June 1975	June 1976	June 1977
First 110	^a 50.00	^a 55.00	55.00	58.85	62.97	71.16	81.83	90.01	108.01	119.89	129.48	137.77	145.90
Next 290	^b 15.00	^b 15.00	^c 20.00	21.40	22.90	25.88	29.76	32.74	39.29	43.61	47.10	50.10	53.06
Next 150	21.40	24.18	27.81	30.59	36.71	40.75	44.01	46.82	49.58
Next 100	28.43	32.69	35.96	43.15	47.90	51.73	55.05	58.30
Next 100	20.00	24.00	26.64	28.77	30.61	32.42
Next 250	^d 20.00	22.20	23.98	25.51	27.02
Next 175	^e 20.00	21.60	22.98	24.34
Next 100	20.00	21.28	22.54
Next 100	20.00	21.18
Next 100	20.00
Next 435
Next 250
Next 315
Next 225
Next 275
Next 175
Next 150
Next 200
Next 150
Next 100
Next 250
Next 275
Next 175
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Next 225
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Next 350
Next 300
Next 350
Next 375
Next 175
Next 75
Next 175
Next 350
Next 275
Next 375
Next 400
Next 275
Next 300
Next 275
Next 125
Next 725
Next 100
Percentage increase in PIA	^f 77.0	^g 12.5	^h 13.0	ⁱ 7.0	^j 7.0	13.0	15.0	10.0	20.0	^k 11.0	^l 8.0	6.4	5.9

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A16—Percentage of average monthly wage (AMW) applicable to primary insurance amount (PIA) based on formula for computing PIA from AMW, and percentage increases in PIA—Continued

AMW (dollars)	June 1978	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981	June 1982	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1989	Dec. 1990
First 110	155.38	170.76	195.18	217.04	233.10	241.26	249.70	257.44	260.79	271.74	282.61	295.89	311.87
Next 290	56.51	62.10	70.98	78.93	84.77	87.74	90.81	93.62	94.84	98.82	102.77	107.60	113.42
Next 150	52.81	58.04	66.34	73.77	79.23	82.00	84.87	87.50	88.64	92.36	96.05	100.56	105.99
Next 100	62.09	68.24	78.00	86.74	93.16	96.42	99.79	102.88	104.22	108.60	112.94	118.25	124.64
Next 100	34.53	37.95	43.38	48.24	51.81	53.62	55.50	57.22	57.96	60.39	62.81	65.76	69.31
Next 250	28.78	31.63	36.15	40.20	43.17	44.68	46.24	47.67	48.29	50.32	52.33	54.79	57.75
Next 175	25.92	28.49	32.56	36.21	38.89	40.25	41.66	42.95	43.51	45.34	47.15	49.37	52.04
Next 100	24.01	26.39	30.16	33.54	36.02	37.28	38.58	39.78	40.30	41.99	43.67	45.72	48.19
Next 100	22.56	24.79	28.33	31.50	33.83	35.01	36.24	37.36	37.85	39.44	41.02	42.95	45.27
Next 100	21.30	23.41	26.76	29.76	31.96	33.08	34.24	35.30	35.76	37.26	38.75	40.57	42.76
Next 435	20.00	21.98	25.12	27.93	30.00	31.05	32.14	33.14	33.57	34.98	36.38	38.09	40.15
Next 250	...	20.00	22.86	25.42	27.30	28.26	29.25	30.16	30.55	31.83	33.10	34.66	36.53
Next 315	...	...	20.00	22.24	23.89	24.73	25.60	26.39	26.73	27.85	28.96	30.32	31.96
Next 225	...	...	...	20.00	21.48	22.23	23.01	23.72	24.03	25.04	26.04	27.26	28.73
Next 275	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.70	21.42	22.08	22.37	23.31	24.24	25.38	26.75
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.70	21.34	21.62	22.53	23.43	24.53	25.85
Next 150	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.63	20.90	21.78	22.65	23.71	24.99
Next 200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.26	21.11	21.95	22.98	24.22
Next 150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.84	21.67	22.69	23.92
Next 100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.80	21.78	22.96
Next 250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.94	22.07
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	21.08
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 125	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 225	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 375	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 375	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 125	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 725	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage increase in PIA	6.5	9.9	14.3	11.2	7.4	3.5	3.5	3.1	1.3	4.2	4.0	4.7	5.4

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A16—Percentage of average monthly wage (AMW) applicable to primary insurance amount (PIA) based on formula for computing PIA from AMW, and percentage increases in PIA—Continued

AMW (dollars)	Dec. 1991	Dec. 1992	Dec. 1993	Dec. 1994	Dec. 1995	Dec. 1996	Dec. 1997	Dec. 1998	Dec. 1999	Dec. 2000	Dec. 2001	Dec. 2002	Dec. 2003
First 110	323.41	333.11	341.77	351.34	360.47	370.93	378.72	383.64	393.23	407.00	417.58	423.43	432.32
Next 290	117.62	121.15	124.30	127.78	131.10	134.90	137.73	139.52	143.01	148.02	151.87	153.99	157.23
Next 150	109.91	113.21	116.15	119.40	122.50	126.06	128.71	130.38	133.64	138.32	141.91	143.90	146.92
Next 100	129.25	133.13	136.59	140.41	144.06	148.24	151.35	153.32	157.15	162.65	166.88	169.22	172.77
Next 100	71.87	74.03	75.95	78.08	80.11	82.43	84.16	85.26	87.39	90.45	92.80	94.10	96.07
Next 250	59.89	61.69	63.29	65.06	66.75	68.69	70.13	71.04	72.82	75.37	77.33	78.41	80.06
Next 175	53.97	55.59	57.04	58.64	60.16	61.91	63.21	64.03	65.63	67.93	69.70	70.67	72.16
Next 100	49.97	51.47	52.81	54.29	55.70	57.32	58.52	59.28	60.77	62.89	64.53	65.43	66.81
Next 100	46.94	48.35	49.61	51.00	52.33	53.84	54.97	55.69	57.08	59.08	60.61	61.46	62.75
Next 100	44.34	45.67	46.86	48.17	49.42	50.86	51.93	52.60	53.92	55.81	57.26	58.06	59.28
Next 435	41.64	42.89	44.01	45.24	46.42	47.76	48.76	49.40	50.63	52.40	53.77	54.52	55.66
Next 250	37.88	39.02	40.03	41.15	42.22	43.44	44.35	44.93	46.05	47.66	48.90	49.59	50.63
Next 315	33.14	34.13	35.02	36.00	36.94	38.01	38.81	39.31	40.30	41.71	42.79	43.39	44.30
Next 225	29.79	30.68	31.48	32.36	33.20	34.16	34.88	35.33	36.21	37.48	38.46	38.99	39.81
Next 275	27.74	28.57	29.31	30.13	30.91	31.81	32.48	32.90	33.72	34.90	35.81	36.31	37.07
Next 175	26.81	27.61	28.33	29.12	29.88	30.74	31.39	31.79	32.59	33.73	34.61	35.09	35.83
Next 150	25.91	26.69	27.38	28.15	28.88	29.72	30.34	30.74	31.51	32.61	33.46	33.93	34.64
Next 200	25.12	25.87	26.54	27.28	27.99	28.80	29.40	29.79	30.53	31.60	32.42	32.88	33.57
Next 150	24.81	25.55	26.21	26.94	27.64	28.44	29.04	29.41	30.15	31.21	32.02	32.46	33.15
Next 100	23.81	24.52	25.16	25.86	26.53	27.30	27.87	28.24	28.94	29.95	30.73	31.16	31.82
Next 250	22.89	23.58	24.19	24.87	25.52	26.26	26.81	27.16	27.84	28.81	29.56	29.98	30.61
Next 275	21.86	22.52	23.11	23.76	24.38	25.08	25.61	25.94	26.59	27.52	28.23	28.63	29.23
Next 175	20.74	21.36	21.92	22.53	23.12	23.79	24.29	24.61	25.22	26.10	26.78	27.16	27.73
Next 175	20.00	20.60	21.14	21.73	22.29	22.94	23.42	23.73	24.32	25.17	25.82	26.19	26.74
Next 175	...	20.00	20.52	21.09	21.64	22.27	22.74	23.03	23.61	24.44	25.07	25.42	25.96
Next 250	...	...	20.00	20.56	21.09	21.71	22.17	22.45	23.02	23.82	24.44	24.78	25.30
Next 50	...	...	...	20.00	20.52	21.12	21.56	21.84	22.39	23.17	23.78	24.11	24.62
Next 125	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.58	21.01	21.29	21.82	22.58	23.17	23.49	23.99
Next 225	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.42	20.69	21.20	21.94	22.52	22.83	23.31
Next 250	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.26	20.77	21.49	22.05	22.36	22.83
Next 350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.50	21.22	21.77	22.07	22.54
Next 300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.70	21.24	21.54	21.99
Next 350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.52	20.81	21.24
Next 375	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.28	20.71
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.42
Next 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00
Next 175	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 375	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 125	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 725	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Next 100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage increase in PIA	3.7	3.0	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.1	1.3	^m 2.5	3.5	2.6	1.4	2.1

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A16—Percentage of average monthly wage (AMW) applicable to primary insurance amount (PIA) based on formula for computing PIA from AMW, and percentage increases in PIA—Continued

AMW (dollars)	Dec. 2004	Dec. 2005	Dec. 2006	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2008	Dec. 2009	Dec. 2010	Dec. 2011	Dec. 2012	Dec. 2013	Dec. 2014	Dec. 2015	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017
First 110	443.99	462.19	477.45	488.43	516.76	516.76	516.76	535.36	544.46	552.63	562.02	562.02	563.71	574.98
Next 290	161.47	168.09	173.64	177.63	187.93	187.93	187.93	194.70	198.01	200.98	204.40	204.40	205.01	209.11
Next 150	150.89	157.08	162.26	165.99	175.62	175.62	175.62	181.94	185.03	187.81	191.00	191.00	191.57	195.40
Next 100	177.44	184.71	190.81	195.20	206.52	206.52	206.52	213.95	217.59	220.85	224.60	224.60	225.27	229.78
Next 100	98.67	102.71	106.10	108.54	114.84	114.84	114.84	118.97	120.99	122.80	124.89	124.89	125.26	127.77
Next 250	82.22	85.59	88.41	90.45	95.69	95.69	95.69	99.13	100.82	102.33	104.07	104.07	104.38	106.47
Next 175	74.10	77.14	79.69	81.52	86.25	86.25	86.25	89.36	90.88	92.24	93.81	93.81	94.09	95.97
Next 100	68.61	71.42	73.78	75.48	79.85	79.85	79.85	82.72	84.13	85.39	86.84	86.84	87.10	88.84
Next 100	64.44	67.09	69.30	70.89	75.01	75.01	75.01	77.71	79.03	80.22	81.58	81.58	81.82	83.46
Next 100	60.88	63.37	65.46	66.97	70.85	70.85	70.85	73.40	74.65	75.77	77.06	77.06	77.29	78.84
Next 435	57.17	59.51	61.47	62.89	66.54	66.54	66.54	68.94	70.11	71.16	72.37	72.37	72.59	74.04
Next 250	52.00	54.13	55.91	57.20	60.52	60.52	60.52	62.70	63.77	64.73	65.83	65.83	66.03	67.35
Next 315	45.50	47.36	48.92	50.05	52.95	52.95	52.95	54.86	55.79	56.63	57.59	57.59	57.76	58.92
Next 225	40.89	42.56	43.97	44.98	47.59	47.59	47.59	49.30	50.14	50.89	51.76	51.76	51.92	52.96
Next 275	38.08	39.64	40.94	41.89	44.32	44.32	44.32	45.92	46.70	47.40	48.21	48.21	48.35	49.32
Next 175	36.79	38.30	39.57	40.48	42.82	42.82	42.82	44.36	45.11	45.79	46.57	46.57	46.71	47.64
Next 150	35.57	37.03	38.25	39.13	41.40	41.40	41.40	42.89	43.62	44.27	45.02	45.02	45.16	46.06
Next 200	34.47	35.89	37.07	37.92	40.12	40.12	40.12	41.56	42.27	42.90	43.63	43.63	43.76	44.64
Next 150	34.04	35.44	36.61	37.45	39.62	39.62	39.62	41.05	41.75	42.38	43.10	43.10	43.23	44.09
Next 100	32.68	34.02	35.14	35.95	38.03	38.03	38.03	39.40	40.07	40.67	41.36	41.36	41.48	42.31
Next 250	31.43	32.72	33.80	34.58	36.58	36.58	36.58	37.90	38.54	39.12	39.79	39.79	39.91	40.71
Next 275	30.02	31.25	32.28	33.02	34.94	34.94	34.94	36.20	36.82	37.37	38.01	38.01	38.12	38.88
Next 175	28.48	29.64	30.62	31.33	33.14	33.14	33.14	34.33	34.91	35.43	36.03	36.03	36.14	36.86
Next 175	27.46	28.58	29.53	30.21	31.96	31.96	31.96	33.11	33.67	34.18	34.76	34.76	34.86	35.56
Next 175	26.66	27.75	28.67	29.32	31.03	31.03	31.03	32.15	32.70	33.19	33.75	33.75	33.85	34.53
Next 250	25.99	27.05	27.94	28.59	30.24	30.24	30.24	31.33	31.86	32.34	32.89	32.89	32.99	33.65
Next 50	25.28	26.32	27.18	27.81	29.42	29.42	29.42	30.48	31.00	31.47	32.00	32.00	32.10	32.74
Next 125	24.63	25.64	26.49	27.10	28.67	28.67	28.67	29.70	30.20	30.65	31.17	31.17	31.26	31.89
Next 225	23.94	24.92	25.74	26.34	27.86	27.86	27.86	28.86	29.35	29.79	30.30	30.30	30.39	31.00
Next 250	23.45	24.41	25.21	25.79	27.29	27.29	27.29	28.27	28.75	29.18	29.68	29.68	29.77	30.37
Next 350	23.15	24.09	24.89	25.46	26.94	26.94	26.94	27.91	28.38	28.81	29.30	29.30	29.39	29.98
Next 300	22.58	23.51	24.28	24.84	26.28	26.28	26.28	27.23	27.69	28.11	28.59	28.59	28.68	29.25
Next 350	21.82	22.71	23.46	24.00	25.39	25.39	25.39	26.30	26.75	27.15	27.61	27.61	27.69	28.24
Next 375	21.26	22.14	22.87	23.39	24.75	24.75	24.75	25.64	26.08	26.47	26.92	26.92	27.00	27.54
Next 175	20.97	21.83	22.55	23.07	24.41	24.41	24.41	25.29	25.72	26.11	26.55	26.55	26.63	27.16
Next 75	20.54	21.38	22.09	22.60	23.91	23.91	23.91	24.77	25.19	25.57	26.00	26.00	26.08	26.60
Next 175	20.00	20.82	21.51	22.00	23.28	23.28	23.28	24.12	24.53	24.90	25.32	25.32	25.40	25.91
Next 350	...	20.00	20.66	21.14	22.36	22.36	22.36	23.16	23.55	23.90	24.31	24.31	24.38	24.87
Next 275	...	...	20.00	20.46	21.65	21.65	21.65	22.43	22.81	23.15	23.54	23.54	23.61	24.08
Next 375	...	...	...	20.00	21.16	21.16	21.16	21.92	22.29	22.62	23.00	23.00	23.07	23.53
Next 400	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.72	21.07	21.39	21.75	21.75	21.82	22.26
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.34	20.65	21.00	21.00	21.06	21.48
Next 300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.30	20.65	20.65	20.71	21.12
Next 275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.34	20.34	20.40	20.81
Next 125	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.00	20.06	20.46
Next 725	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00	20.40
Next 100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00
Percentage increase in PIA	2.7	4.1	3.3	2.3	5.8	0.0	0.0	3.6	1.7	1.5	1.7	0.0	0.3	2.0

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTES: The AMW computation is based on earnings after 1950. The amounts shown in the table are percentages of the AMW computed using unrounded data.

... = not applicable.

- a. Applied to first \$100 of AMW.
- b. Applied to next \$200 of AMW.
- c. Applied to next \$190 before 1955 and to next \$240 effective for January 1955.
- d. Applied to next \$150 effective for January 1973 and to next \$350 effective for January 1974.
- e. Applied to next \$100 before January 1975.
- f. Average increase in benefits of about 77 percent—from 100 percent at the lowest level to 50 percent at the highest level.
- g. Increase of 12.5 percent or \$5, if larger.
- h. Average increase of about 13 percent, with minimum increase of \$5.

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A16—Percentage of average monthly wage (AMW) applicable to primary insurance amount (PIA) based on formula for computing PIA from AMW, and percentage increases in PIA—Continued

- i. Increase of 7 percent or \$3, if larger.
- j. Increase of 7 percent or \$4, if larger.
- k. Increase effective in two steps: 7 percent for March–May and 4 percent for June.
- l. Beginning June 1975, all benefit increases are based on automatic cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs).
- m. The COLA for December 1999 was originally determined to be 2.4 percent, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The underlying CPI was later recomputed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; a 2.5 percent COLA would have been consistent with the recomputed CPI. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, benefits were calculated and paid in August 2001 and later as if the COLA for December 1999 had been 2.5 percent. Affected beneficiaries received a one-time payment to cover the shortfall that occurred before August 2001.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A17—Minimum primary insurance amount (PIA) and maximum family benefit for workers who attained age 62, were first eligible for disabled-worker benefits, or died before 1979

Year enacted	Effective date	Minimum PIA ^a (dollars)	Maximum family benefit	
			Percentage of AMW	Not less than—
1935	...	10.00	...	...
1939	...	...	Lesser of 80%, \$85, or 200% of PIA	20
1950	September 1950	20.00	80% of first \$187.50	40
1952	September 1952	25.00	80% of first \$210.93	45
1954	September 1954	30.00	80% of first \$250	\$50.00 or 150% of PIA
1958	January 1959	33.00	80% of first \$317.50	\$20.00 + PIA or 150% of PIA
1961	August 1961	40.00	80% of first \$317.50	150% of PIA
1965	January 1965	44.00	80% of first \$370 + 40% of next \$180	150% of PIA
1967	February 1968	55.00	80% of first \$436 + 40% of next \$214	150% of PIA
1969	January 1970	64.00	80% of first \$436 + 40% of next \$180	150% of PIA
1971	January 1971	70.40	88% of first \$436 + 44% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
1972	September 1972	84.50	105.6% of first \$436 + 52.8% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
1973 ^c	June 1974	89.50	111.8% of first \$436 + 55.9% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
1973 ^d	March 1974	90.50	113.0% of first \$436 + 56.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1974	93.80	117.2% of first \$436 + 58.6% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1975	101.40	126.6% of first \$436 + 63.3% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1976	107.90	134.7% of first \$436 + 67.3% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1977	114.30	142.6% of first \$436 + 71.3% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1978	121.80	151.9% of first \$436 + 76.0% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1979	133.90	167.0% of first \$436 + 83.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1980	153.10	190.9% of first \$436 + 95.4% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	June 1981	170.30	212.2% of first \$436 + 106.1% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A17—Minimum primary insurance amount (PIA) and maximum family benefit for workers who attained age 62, were first eligible for disabled-worker benefits, or died before 1979—Continued

Year enacted	Effective date	Minimum PIA ^a (dollars)	Maximum family benefit	
			Percentage of AMW	Not less than—
1981 ^e	March 1982	f	190.9% of first \$436 + 106.1% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
1981	June 1982	182.90	227.9% of first \$436 + 114.0% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1983	189.30	235.9% of first \$436 + 118.0% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1984	195.90	244.2% of first \$436 + 122.1% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1985	201.90	251.8% of first \$436 + 125.9% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1986	204.50	255.1% of first \$436 + 127.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1987	213.00	265.8% of first \$436 + 132.9% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1988	221.50	276.4% of first \$436 + 138.2% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1989	231.90	289.4% of first \$436 + 144.7% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1990	244.40	305.0% of first \$436 + 152.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1991	253.40	316.3% of first \$436 + 158.1% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1992	261.00	325.8% of first \$436 + 162.8% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1993	267.70	334.3% of first \$436 + 167.0% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1994	275.10	343.7% of first \$436 + 171.7% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1995	282.20	352.6% of first \$436 + 176.2% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1996	290.30	362.8% of first \$436 + 181.3% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1997	296.30	370.4% of first \$436 + 185.1% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1998	300.10	375.2% of first \$436 + 187.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 1999 ^g	307.60	384.6% of first \$436 + 192.2% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2000	318.30	398.1% of first \$436 + 198.9% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2001	326.50	408.5% of first \$436 + 204.1% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2002	331.00	414.2% of first \$436 + 206.9% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2003	337.90	422.9% of first \$436 + 211.2% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2004	347.00	434.3% of first \$436 + 216.9% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2005	361.20	452.1% of first \$436 + 225.8% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2006	373.10	467.0% of first \$436 + 233.3% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2007	381.60	477.7% of first \$436 + 238.7% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2008	403.70	505.4% of first \$436 + 252.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2009	403.70	505.4% of first \$436 + 252.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2010	403.70	505.4% of first \$436 + 252.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
	December 2011	418.20	523.6% of first \$436 + 261.6% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA
December 2012	425.30	532.5% of first \$436 + 266.0% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA	
December 2013	431.70	540.5% of first \$436 + 265.5% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA	
December 2014	439.00	549.7% of first \$436 + 274.6% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA	
December 2015	439.00	549.7% of first \$436 + 274.6% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA	
December 2016	440.30	551.3% of first \$436 + 275.4% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA	
December 2017	449.10	562.3% of first \$436 + 280.9% of next \$191 ^b	150% of PIA	

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTE: AMW = average monthly wage; . . . = not applicable.

- a. Based on earnings; subject to reduction if claimed before age 65.
- b. For AMW of \$628 or more, 175 percent of PIA.
- c. Superseded by legislation in 1973.
- d. Beginning in 1975, minimum PIA and percentages in maximum family benefit formula are subject to automatic cost-of-living increases. (Superseded legislation in 1972 for automatic increases beginning in 1974.)
- e. Superseded by legislation in 1981 that restored the minimum PIA for these groups.
- f. Minimum PIA eliminated by legislation in 1981.
- g. The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for December 1999 was originally determined to be 2.4 percent, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The underlying CPI was later recomputed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; a 2.5 percent COLA would have been consistent with the recomputed CPI. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, benefits were calculated and paid in August 2001 and later as if the COLA for December 1999 had been 2.5 percent. Affected beneficiaries received a one-time payment to cover the shortfall that occurred before August 2001.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A17.1—Full retirement age and maximum reduction of retired-worker benefits, by year of birth

Year of birth ^a	Year of attainment of age 62	Year of attainment of age 65	Full retirement age	Maximum reduction months	Maximum reduction at age 62 ^b
1935	1997	2000	65 years	36	0.2000000
1936	1998	2001	65 years	36	0.2000000
1937	1999	2002	65 years	36	0.2000000
1938	2000	2003	65 years and 2 months	38	0.2083333
1939	2001	2004	65 years and 4 months	40	0.2166667
1940	2002	2005	65 years and 6 months	42	0.2250000
1941	2003	2006	65 years and 8 months	44	0.2333333
1942	2004	2007	65 years and 10 months	46	0.2416667
1943–1954	2005–2016	2008–2019	66 years	48	0.2500000
1955	2017	2020	66 years and 2 months	50	0.2583333
1956	2018	2021	66 years and 4 months	52	0.2666667
1957	2019	2022	66 years and 6 months	54	0.2750000
1958	2020	2023	66 years and 8 months	56	0.2833333
1959	2021	2024	66 years and 10 months	58	0.2916667
1960 or later	2022 and later	2025 and later	67 years	60	0.3000000

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

a. If birthday is January 1, refer to previous year.

b. The monthly reduction factor is 0.0055556 for the 36 months immediately preceding full retirement age and 0.0041667 for prior months.

CONTACT: (410) 965-0090 or statistics@ssa.gov.

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A17.2—Full retirement age and maximum reduction of widow(er)s' benefits, by year of birth

Year of birth ^a	Year of attainment of age 60	Year of attainment of age 65	Full retirement age	Maximum reduction months	Monthly reduction ^b
1939 or earlier	1999 and earlier	2004 and earlier	65 years	60	0.475
1940	2000	2005	65 years and 2 months	62	0.460
1941	2001	2006	65 years and 4 months	64	0.445
1942	2002	2007	65 years and 6 months	66	0.432
1943	2003	2008	65 years and 8 months	68	0.419
1944	2004	2009	65 years and 10 months	70	0.407
1945–1956	2005–2016	2010–2021	66 years	72	0.396
1957	2017	2022	66 years and 2 months	74	0.385
1958	2018	2023	66 years and 4 months	76	0.375
1959	2019	2024	66 years and 6 months	78	0.365
1960	2020	2025	66 years and 8 months	80	0.356
1961	2021	2026	66 years and 10 months	82	0.348
1962 or later	2022 and later	2027 and later	67 years	84	0.339

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTES: Widows and widowers can elect reduced monthly benefits at age 60 or, if disabled, as early as age 50. Surviving divorced spouses can also receive benefits if married to the worker for at least 10 years and not remarried before age 60 (age 50 if disabled).

a. If birthday is January 1, refer to previous year.

b. Monthly reduction percentages are approximate due to rounding. For survivors whose full retirement age (FRA) is 65, the monthly rate of reduction for the first 60 months immediately preceding FRA is 19/40 of 1 percent of the worker's primary insurance amount (PIA), with a maximum reduction of 28.5 percent at age 60. For survivors whose FRA is older than 65, the amount of reduction for each month prior to FRA is adjusted accordingly to ensure that the maximum reduction at age 60 remains 28.5 percent of the worker's PIA.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A18—Automatic adjustment provisions

Year enacted	Provision
Quarter of coverage	
1977	Mandatory annual determination, beginning in 1978, as to whether an adjustment is required in the amount of wages and self-employment earnings an individual needs in order to be credited with a quarter of coverage (QC) in the succeeding year. The amount required for a QC is the product of \$250 (in effect in 1978) multiplied by the following quotient: the national average wage for the year before the year of determination, divided by the average wage for 1976 (see Table 2.A8 for average annual wages after 1950). The resulting product, rounded to the nearest multiple of \$10, is the new amount required for a QC. In no case, however, is the new amount reduced below the amount in effect in the year of determination.
Maximum amount of taxable and creditable earnings	
1972	The 1972 Act (as modified by the legislation in 1973) mandated a determination in 1974, and in every subsequent year in which a cost-of-living benefit increase is established, as to whether an adjustment is required in the maximum amount of annual earnings that will be taxed and credited toward benefits. The determination in the years after 1975 is made by multiplying the "maximum" in effect in the year of determination by the following quotient: the national average wage for the year before the year of determination, divided by the average wage for the year before the most recent year in which an automatic determination was made that resulted in an increase or in which an increase in the maximum was enacted. (See Table 2.A8 for annual amounts of the average wage after 1950). The resulting product, rounded to the nearest multiple of \$300, is the new maximum amount of taxable and creditable earnings, effective with respect to remuneration paid after the year of determination and with respect to taxable years beginning after that year. In no case, however, is the maximum reduced to an amount below the maximum in the year of determination.
1976	In the 1974 and 1975 determinations, the quotient was the average wage for the year of determination, estimated from data for the first calendar quarter, divided by the corresponding amount for the year before the year of determination. Public Law (P.L.) 94-202 (signed January 2, 1976) revised the adjustment method by increasing by a year the lag in average wages used in the computation. Thus, for example, the determination in 1976 was based on the percentage increase in the average wage from 1974 to 1975.
1977	Statutory in lieu of automatic increases in the maximum instituted for 1979, 1980, and 1981. Also, for purposes of establishing a "year of coverage" used in the computation of the special minimum primary insurance amount PIA, annual maximum taxable and creditable earnings after 1978 are the amounts that would have been determined under the automatic adjustment provisions if the statutory increases in the maximum under the 1977 Act had not been enacted (see Table 2.A12a).
1989	Automatic increases in the maximum for 1990, 1991, and 1992 determined under a transitional rule, specified by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, for computing "deemed" average annual wage for 1988, 1989, and 1990. The purpose of the legislation was to include contributions to certain "deferred compensation" plans, most importantly section 401(k) pension plans, in the average annual average wage.
1994	The determination for years after 1994 is made by multiplying \$60,600, the "maximum" for 1994, by the following quotient: the national average wage index for the year before the year in which the determination is made, divided by the national average wage index for 1992. (See Table 2.A8 for annual amounts of the national average wage index.) The resulting product, rounded to the nearest \$300, is the new maximum amount of taxable and creditable earnings, effective with respect to remuneration paid in (and taxable years beginning in) the year following the year the determination is made. In no case, however, is the new maximum reduced to an amount below the maximum in the year of determination.
Benefits	
<i>Computation</i>	
1977	New benefit computation method based on average indexed monthly earnings (AIME) after 1950, effective for workers first eligible after 1978. Provision for automatic adjustment of the dollar amounts, or bend points, defining (1) the AIME brackets in the PIA formula (see Table 2.A11) and (2) the PIA brackets in the maximum family benefit formula (see Table 2.A13). New bend points are established by multiplying the bend points in effect in 1979—\$180 and \$1,085 for the PIA formula and \$230, \$332, and \$433 for the maximum family benefit formula—by the following quotient: the national average wage for the second year before the year for which the determination was made, divided by the average wage for 1977 (see Table 2.A8 for average annual wages after 1950). The resulting products, rounded to the nearest dollar, are the new bend points.
1980	Modified maximum family benefit formula applicable to workers with initial entitlement to disability benefits in or after July 1980 (see Table 2.A14). New formula for disabled workers has no bend points subject to automatic adjustment.
<i>Cost-of-living increase</i>	
1972	Under the original provisions (based on 1972 and 1973 legislation), the arithmetical mean of the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for January, February, and March in the year of determination was compared with the arithmetical mean of the CPI for the later of (a) January, February, and March of the year in which the last effective cost-of-living increase was established or (b) the 3 months of the calendar quarter in which the effective month of the last general benefit increase occurred. (Before the introduction, in 1977, of the alternative CPI series for "all urban consumers," or the CPI-U, the CPI-W was referred to as the CPI.) If the percentage increase in the CPI, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of 1 percent, was at least 3.0 (the triggering requirement), a cost-of-living benefit increase was established and the level of benefits was increased by the same percentage, effective for June of the year in which the determination was made.

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A18—Automatic adjustment provisions—Continued

Year enacted	Provision
	<i>Benefits (cont.)</i> <i>Cost-of-living increase (cont.)</i>
1983	<p>The 1983 Act moved the effective date for a cost-of-living benefit increase from June to December, beginning in 1983, and eliminated the "triggering requirement" for the 1983 increase only. Effective with the determination made in 1984, the two periods used in calculating the CPI-W percentage increase were shifted from the first to the third quarter.</p> <p>The 1983 Act also introduced an alternative method for determining the size of a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This method, called the stabilizer provision, is applied when the ratio of the combined OASDI trust fund assets to estimated outgo falls below a certain percentage. The "triggering" percentage is 15 percent for 1985–1988 and 20 percent for years after 1988. Under these circumstances, the COLA is based on the lesser of the CPI-W percentage increase determined above or the increase in average wages. The latter increase is the percentage, rounded to the nearest one-tenth of 1 percent by which the national average wage for the year before the year of determination exceeds the average wage for the year before the most recent year in which either a cost-of-living increase or a general benefit increase occurred. (See Table 2.A8 for the annual amount of the average wage after 1950 and footnote a in that table for the underlying data sources.)</p> <p>The 1983 legislation also included a provision for making up any benefit increases that are based on a lower wage increase rather than on the increase in the cost of living. When the fund ratio is greater than 32 percent, additional increases will be provided so that benefits are increased to the level at which they would have been if all increases had been based on the CPI-W. (See Table 2.A19 for the cumulative effect of statutory and automatic increases in benefits.)</p>
1986	Triggering requirement eliminated for cost-of-living increases in and after 1986 by P.L. 99-509 (signed October 21, 1986).
2001	The COLA for December 1999 was originally determined to be 2.4 percent, based on the CPI. The underlying CPI was later recomputed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); a 2.5 percent COLA would have been consistent with the recomputed CPI. Pursuant to P.L. 106-554, benefits were calculated and paid in August 2001 and later as if the COLA for December 1999 had been 2.5 percent. Affected beneficiaries received a one-time payment to cover the shortfall that occurred before August 2001.
2007	The rules for calculating automatic cost-of-living increases to PIAs under title II of the Social Security Act (the Act) were revised. The arithmetical mean of the CPI for each month is computed for the beginning and ending quarters of the measuring period, and the result is rounded to the same number of decimal places as the published CPI figures. Through December 2006, BLS published CPI figures rounded to the nearest one-tenth of 1 percent. BLS began publishing CPI figures rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of 1 percent in January 2007.
	<i>Earnings test</i>
1972	<p>The 1972 Act (as modified by the 1973 Acts) mandated a determination in 1974, and in every subsequent year in which a cost-of-living increase is established, as to whether an adjustment in the exempt amount—the amount of earnings permitted without reduction in benefits—is required.</p> <p>The determination in the years after 1975 is made by multiplying the monthly exempt amount in effect in the year of determination by the following quotient: the national average wage for the year before the year of determination, divided by the average wage for the year before the most recent year in which an automatic determination was made that resulted in an increase or in which an increase in the exempt amount was enacted. (See Table 2.A8 for annual amounts of the average wage after 1950.) The resulting product, rounded to the nearest multiple of \$10, is the new monthly exempt amount, effective with respect to remuneration paid after the year of determination and with respect to taxable year beginning after that year. In no case, however, is the new exempt amount reduced below the exempt amount in the year of determination. The new annual exempt amount is determined by multiplying the new monthly amount by 12.</p>
1976	In the 1974 and 1975 determinations, the quotient was the average wage for the year of determination, estimated from data for the first calendar quarter, divided by the corresponding amount for the year before the year of determination. P.L. 94-202 (signed January 2, 1976) revised the adjustment method by increasing by a year the lag in average wages used in the computation. Thus, for example, the 1976 determination was based on the percentage increase in the average wage from 1974 to 1975.
1994	The determination for years after 1994 is made by multiplying the monthly exempt amounts in effect for 1994 (\$930 for beneficiaries who have, \$670 for beneficiaries who have not yet, reached "full retirement age"; see footnote f in Table 2.A29) by the following quotient: the national average wage for the year before the year in which the determination is made, divided by the national average wage for 1992. (See Table 2.A8 for annual amounts of the national average wage.) The resulting products, rounded to the nearest \$10, are the new monthly exempt amounts effective for the year following the year the determination is made. The new annual exempt amounts are determined by multiplying the new monthly amounts by 12.
1996	P.L. 104-121, enacted March 29, 1996, suspended the automatic indexing of the exempt amounts through the year 2002 for workers aged–65–69. It legislated ad hoc increases in the annual exempt amounts to \$12,500 in 1996; \$13,500 in 1997; \$14,500 in 1998; \$15,500 in 1999; \$17,000 in 2000; \$25,000 in 2001; and \$30,000 in 2002. Thereafter, the exempt amounts will increase automatically based on the annual increase in the national average wage as under the 1994 legislation.
2000	P.L. 106-182, enacted April 7, 2000, eliminated the earnings test beginning with the month a beneficiary reaches full retirement age (FRA). The annual earnings test that applies in the year of attainment of FRA is based on the annual limits established under P.L. 104-121 (including the \$1 for \$3 withholding rate). In determining annual earnings for purposes of the annual earnings test under this legislation, only earnings before the month of attainment of FRA will be considered. P.L. 106-182 did not change the annual exempt amount for beneficiaries who are under FRA throughout the year, which continues to be pegged to increases in the average wage.

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTE: OASDI = Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance.

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2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A19—Illustrative benefit growth: Cumulative effect of statutory and automatic increases in benefits using a 100 dollar base benefit

Base date	Aug. 1950	Sept. 1950	Sept. 1952	Sept. 1954	Jan. 1959	Jan. 1965	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1970	Jan. 1971	Sept. 1972	June 1974	June 1975	June 1976	June 1977	June 1978	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981
Aug. 1950	100	177	199	225	241	258	291	335	368	442	491	530	564	597	636	699	799	888
Sept. 1950	...	100	113	127	136	146	164	189	208	250	277	299	318	337	359	395	451	502
Sept. 1952	100	113	121	129	146	168	185	222	246	266	283	300	319	351	401	446
Sept. 1954	100	107	114	129	149	164	196	218	235	250	265	283	310	355	395
Jan. 1959	100	107	121	139	153	184	204	220	234	248	264	290	332	369
Jan. 1965	100	113	130	143	172	190	206	219	232	247	271	310	345
Feb. 1968	100	115	127	152	168	182	194	205	218	240	274	305
Jan. 1970	100	110	132	147	158	168	178	190	209	239	265
Jan. 1971	100	120	133	144	153	162	173	190	217	241
Sept. 1972	100	111	120	128	135	144	158	181	201
June 1974	100	108	115	122	130	142	163	181
June 1975	100	106	113	120	132	151	168
June 1976	100	106	113	124	142	158
June 1977	100	107	117	134	149
June 1978	100	110	126	140
June 1979	100	114	127
June 1980	100	111
June 1981	100
June 1982
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Dec. 2009

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A19—Illustrative benefit growth: Cumulative effect of statutory and automatic increases in benefits using a 100 dollar base benefit—Continued

Base date	June 1982	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1989	Dec. 1990	Dec. 1991	Dec. 1992	Dec. 1993	Dec. 1994	Dec. 1995	Dec. 1996	Dec. 1997	Dec. 1998	Dec. 1999
Aug. 1950	954	987	1,022	1,053	1,067	1,112	1,156	1,211	1,276	1,323	1,363	1,398	1,437	1,475	1,518	1,549	1,570	1,609
Sept. 1950	539	558	577	595	603	628	653	684	721	748	770	790	812	833	857	875	887	909
Sept. 1952	479	496	513	529	536	558	581	608	641	665	684	702	722	741	762	778	788	808
Sept. 1954	424	439	454	468	474	494	514	538	567	588	606	621	639	655	674	689	698	715
Jan. 1959	396	410	424	437	443	462	480	503	530	550	566	581	597	613	630	644	652	668
Jan. 1965	370	383	397	409	414	432	449	470	495	514	529	543	558	573	589	601	609	625
Feb. 1968	328	339	351	362	367	382	397	416	438	455	468	480	494	507	521	532	539	553
Jan. 1970	285	295	305	315	319	332	345	362	381	395	407	418	429	441	453	463	469	481
Jan. 1971	259	268	277	286	290	302	314	329	347	359	370	380	390	401	412	421	426	437
Sept. 1972	216	223	231	238	241	252	262	274	289	299	308	316	325	334	343	351	355	364
June 1974	194	201	208	215	218	227	236	247	260	270	278	285	293	301	309	316	320	328
June 1975	180	186	193	199	201	210	218	229	241	250	257	264	271	278	286	292	296	304
June 1976	169	175	181	187	189	197	205	215	226	235	242	248	255	262	269	275	278	285
June 1977	160	165	171	176	179	186	194	203	214	222	228	234	241	247	254	260	263	270
June 1978	150	155	161	166	168	175	182	190	201	208	214	220	226	232	239	244	247	253
June 1979	137	141	146	151	153	159	166	173	183	189	195	200	206	211	217	222	225	230
June 1980	119	124	128	132	134	139	145	152	160	166	171	175	180	185	190	194	197	201
June 1981	107	111	115	119	120	125	130	136	144	149	153	157	162	166	171	174	177	181
June 1982	100	104	107	110	112	117	121	127	134	139	143	147	151	155	159	162	165	169
Dec. 1983	...	100	104	107	108	113	117	123	129	134	138	142	146	149	154	157	159	163
Dec. 1984	...	...	100	103	104	109	113	118	125	130	133	137	141	144	149	152	154	157
Dec. 1985	...	...	...	100	101	106	110	115	121	126	129	133	136	140	144	147	149	153
Dec. 1986	...	...	...	...	100	104	108	113	120	124	128	131	135	138	142	145	147	151
Dec. 1987	...	...	...	...	...	100	104	109	115	119	123	126	129	133	137	139	141	145
Dec. 1988	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	105	110	114	118	121	124	128	131	134	136	139
Dec. 1989	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	105	109	113	116	119	122	125	128	130	133
Dec. 1990	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	104	107	110	113	116	119	121	123	126
Dec. 1991	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	103	106	109	111	115	117	119	122
Dec. 1992	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	103	105	108	111	114	115	118
Dec. 1993	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	103	105	109	111	112	115
Dec. 1994	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	103	106	108	109	112
Dec. 1995	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	103	105	106	109
Dec. 1996	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	102	103	106
Dec. 1997	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	101	104
Dec. 1998	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	103
Dec. 1999	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Dec. 2000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2001	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2002	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2003	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2004	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2005	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2006	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2007	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2008	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec. 2009	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A19—Illustrative benefit growth: Cumulative effect of statutory and automatic increases in benefits using a 100 dollar base benefit—Continued

Base date	Dec. 2000	Dec. 2001	Dec. 2002	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2004	Dec. 2005	Dec. 2006	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2008	Dec. 2009	Dec. 2010	Dec. 2011	Dec. 2012	Dec. 2013	Dec. 2014	Dec. 2015	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017
Aug. 1950	1,665	1,708	1,732	1,769	1,817	1,890	1,953	1,997	2,112	2,112	2,112	2,188	2,225	2,258	2,296	2,296	2,302	2,348
Sept. 1950	941	965	979	999	1,026	1,067	1,102	1,127	1,192	1,192	1,192	1,234	1,254	1,272	1,293	1,293	1,296	1,321
Sept. 1952	836	858	870	888	912	949	981	1,003	1,061	1,061	1,061	1,099	1,117	1,133	1,152	1,152	1,155	1,178
Sept. 1954	740	759	770	786	807	839	867	886	937	937	937	970	986	1,000	1,017	1,017	1,020	1,040
Jan. 1959	692	710	720	735	754	785	811	829	877	877	877	908	923	936	951	951	953	972
Jan. 1965	646	663	672	687	705	733	758	775	819	819	819	848	862	874	888	888	890	907
Feb. 1968	572	587	595	608	624	649	670	685	724	724	724	750	762	773	786	786	788	803
Jan. 1970	497	510	517	528	543	563	582	595	629	629	629	651	662	671	682	682	684	697
Jan. 1971	452	464	470	480	493	512	529	541	572	572	572	592	602	611	621	621	622	634
Sept. 1972	377	387	392	400	411	428	442	451	477	477	477	494	502	509	517	517	518	528
June 1974	339	348	353	361	370	385	398	406	429	429	429	444	451	457	464	464	465	474
June 1975	314	323	327	334	343	356	368	376	397	397	397	411	417	423	430	430	431	439
June 1976	295	303	307	314	322	335	346	353	373	373	373	386	392	397	403	403	404	412
June 1977	279	286	290	296	304	316	327	334	353	353	353	365	371	376	382	382	383	390
June 1978	262	269	273	278	286	296	306	312	330	330	330	341	346	351	356	356	357	364
June 1979	238	245	248	253	260	269	278	284	300	300	300	310	315	319	324	324	324	330
June 1980	209	214	217	222	227	235	243	248	262	262	262	271	275	279	283	283	283	288
June 1981	188	192	195	199	205	213	220	224	236	236	236	244	248	251	255	255	255	260
June 1982	175	179	182	185	190	197	203	207	219	219	219	226	229	232	235	235	235	239
Dec. 1983	169	173	176	179	184	190	197	201	212	212	212	219	222	225	228	228	228	232
Dec. 1984	163	167	170	173	178	184	190	194	205	205	205	212	215	218	221	221	221	225
Dec. 1985	158	162	164	168	172	179	184	188	198	198	198	205	208	211	214	214	214	218
Dec. 1986	156	160	162	166	170	176	182	186	196	196	196	203	206	209	212	212	212	216
Dec. 1987	150	154	156	159	163	169	174	178	188	188	188	194	197	199	202	202	202	206
Dec. 1988	144	148	150	153	157	163	168	171	180	180	180	186	189	191	194	194	194	197
Dec. 1989	138	141	143	146	150	156	161	164	173	173	173	179	182	184	187	187	187	190
Dec. 1990	131	134	136	139	142	148	152	155	163	163	163	168	170	172	174	174	174	177
Dec. 1991	126	129	131	134	137	142	147	150	158	158	158	163	165	167	169	169	169	172
Dec. 1992	122	125	127	130	133	138	142	145	153	153	153	158	160	162	164	164	164	167
Dec. 1993	119	122	124	126	130	135	139	142	150	150	150	155	157	159	161	161	161	164
Dec. 1994	116	119	121	123	126	131	136	138	146	146	146	151	153	155	157	157	157	160
Dec. 1995	113	116	117	120	123	127	131	134	141	141	141	146	148	150	152	152	152	155
Dec. 1996	110	113	114	117	120	124	128	131	138	138	138	142	144	146	148	148	148	150
Dec. 1997	107	110	112	114	117	122	126	128	135	135	135	139	141	143	145	145	145	147
Dec. 1998	106	109	110	113	116	120	124	126	133	133	133	137	139	141	143	143	143	145
Dec. 1999	104	106	108	110	113	116	120	123	130	130	130	134	136	138	140	140	140	142
Dec. 2000	100	103	104	106	109	113	117	119	125	125	125	129	131	132	134	134	134	136
Dec. 2001	...	100	101	104	106	110	114	116	122	122	122	126	128	129	131	131	131	133
Dec. 2002	...	...	100	102	105	109	113	115	121	121	121	125	127	128	130	130	130	132
Dec. 2003	...	...	...	100	103	107	110	112	118	118	118	122	124	125	127	127	127	129
Dec. 2004	...	...	...	...	100	104	108	110	116	116	116	120	122	123	125	125	125	127
Dec. 2005	...	...	...	...	...	100	103	105	111	111	111	114	115	116	117	117	117	119
Dec. 2006	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	102	107	107	107	110	111	112	113	113	113	115
Dec. 2007	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	105	105	105	108	109	110	111	111	111	113
Dec. 2008	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	100	100	103	104	105	106	106	106	108
Dec. 2009	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	100	103	104	105	106	106	106	108

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A19—Illustrative benefit growth: Cumulative effect of statutory and automatic increases in benefits using a 100 dollar base benefit—Continued

Base date	Aug. 1950	Sept. 1950	Sept. 1952	Sept. 1954	Jan. 1959	Jan. 1965	Feb. 1968	Jan. 1970	Jan. 1971	Sept. 1972	June 1974	June 1975	June 1976	June 1977	June 1978	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981
Dec. 2010
Dec. 2011
Dec. 2012
Dec. 2013
Dec. 2014
Dec. 2015
Dec. 2016
Dec. 2017
Cost-of-living adjustment	...	^a 77.0	12.5	13.0	7.0	7.0	13.0	15.0	10.0	20.0	11.0	8.0	6.4	5.9	6.5	9.9	14.3	11.2

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A19—Illustrative benefit growth: Cumulative effect of statutory and automatic increases in benefits using a 100 dollar base benefit—Continued

Base date	June 1982	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1985	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1987	Dec. 1988	Dec. 1989	Dec. 1990	Dec. 1991	Dec. 1992	Dec. 1993	Dec. 1994	Dec. 1995	Dec. 1996	Dec. 1997	Dec. 1998	Dec. 1999
Dec. 2010
Dec. 2011
Dec. 2012
Dec. 2013
Dec. 2014
Dec. 2015
Dec. 2016
Dec. 2017
Cost-of-living adjustment	7.4	3.5	3.5	3.1	1.3	4.2	4.0	4.7	5.4	3.7	3.0	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.9	2.1	1.3	^b 2.5

(Continued)

2.A OASDI: Benefit Computation and Automatic Adjustments

Table 2.A19—Illustrative benefit growth: Cumulative effect of statutory and automatic increases in benefits using a 100 dollar base benefit—Continued

Base date	Dec. 2000	Dec. 2001	Dec. 2002	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2004	Dec. 2005	Dec. 2006	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2008	Dec. 2009	Dec. 2010	Dec. 2011	Dec. 2012	Dec. 2013	Dec. 2014	Dec. 2015	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017
Dec. 2010	100	103	104	105	106	106	106	108
Dec. 2011	100	101	102	103	103	103	105
Dec. 2012	100	101	102	102	102	104
Dec. 2013	100	101	101	101	103
Dec. 2014	100	100	100	102
Dec. 2015	100	100	102
Dec. 2016	100	102
Dec. 2017	100
Cost-of-living adjustment	3.5	2.6	1.4	2.1	2.7	4.1	3.3	2.3	5.8	0.0	0.0	3.6	1.7	1.5	1.7	0.0	0.3	2.0

SOURCES: Social Security Act of 1935 (the Act), as amended through December 31, 2017; regulations issued under the Act; and precedential case decisions (rulings). Social Security Administration, "Cost-of-Living Increase and Other Determinations for 2018," *Federal Register*, vol. 82, no. 240 (December 15, 2017). See the Social Security Program Rules page (<https://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>) for specific laws, regulations, rulings, legislation, and a link to the *Federal Register*.

NOTES: Growth reflects cost-of-living adjustments only. The amounts shown in the table are computed using unrounded data, with results rounded to the nearest dollar.

... = not applicable.

- a. Average increase in benefits of about 77 percent—from 100 percent at the lowest level to 50 percent at the highest level.
- b. The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for December 1999 was originally determined to be 2.4 percent, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The underlying CPI was later recomputed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; a 2.5 percent COLA would have been consistent with the recomputed CPI. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, benefits were calculated and paid in August 2001 and later as if the COLA for December 1999 had been 2.5 percent. Affected beneficiaries received a one-time payment to cover the shortfall that occurred before August 2001.

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