

## Social Security Disability Insurance Historical Numbers

Year	Covered Workers	Number of Applications	Number of Awards	Awards as Percent of Applications	Workers in Current Pay Status
1995	126,975,000	1,338,137	645,832	48.26%	4,185,263
1996	128,983,000	1,279,228	624,335	48.81%	4,385,623
1997	131,039,000	1,180,235	587,417	49.77%	4,508,134
1998	133,258,000	1,169,255	608,131	52.01%	4,698,319
1999	135,626,000	1,200,087	620,488	51.70%	4,879,455
2000	137,925,000	1,330,558	621,650	46.72%	5,042,334
2001	139,891,000	1,498,559	691,309	46.13%	5,274,183
2002	141,159,000	1,682,454	750,464	44.61%	5,543,981
2003	142,266,000	1,895,521	777,905	41.04%	5,873,673
2004	143,637,000	2,137,531	797,226	37.30%	6,201,362
2005	145,281,000	2,122,109	832,201	39.22%	6,524,582
2006	146,970,000	2,134,088	812,596	38.08%	6,811,679
2007	148,438,000	2,190,196	823,106	37.58%	7,101,355
2008	150,221,000	2,320,396	895,011	38.57%	7,427,203
2009	151,359,000	2,816,244	985,940	35.01%	7,789,113
2010	152,352,000	2,935,798	1,052,551	35.85%	8,204,710
<b>% Increase 1995 to 2010:</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>119.4%</b>	<b>63.0%</b>	<b>(25.7%)</b>	<b>96.0%</b>

### OBSERVATIONS:

- The number of covered workers has grown slowly and steadily for 15 years; the rate of increase slowed in 2009 and 2010, as it did in 2002/2003
- The growth in covered workers has been far exceeded by the growth in applications, awards and workers in current pay status
- Applications for SSDI have increased the most during poor economic times: 2000-2004 and 2007-present
- Applications rose by 4.2% in 2010; the rate of increase slowed from the very large 21.3% increase from 2008 to 2009
- The % of initial applications approved as a % of applications received was 35.85% in 2009, slightly higher than in 2009 but remaining at low levels not seen since the early 1980s
- Ongoing increases in applications, awards and workers in current pay status are caused in part by the aging of the workforce. More recently, the poor economy and high unemployment rate have been factors.
- New awards exceeded 1 million for the first time ever in 2010
- The number of workers in current pay status, exceeded 8 million for the first time ever in 2010
- Over 5% of the US Civilian workforce is currently receiving SSDI benefits

Source: [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)