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THE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FEDERAL OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSURANCE AND FEDERAL DISABILITY INSURANCE TRUST FUNDS

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, FEDERAL OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSURANCE AND FEDERAL DISABILITY INSURANCE TRUST FUNDS

TRANSMITTING

THE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FEDERAL OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSURANCE AND FEDERAL DISABILITY INSURANCE TRUST FUNDS

May 1, 2006.—Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
FEDERAL OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSURANCE AND
FEDERAL DISABILITY INSURANCE TRUST FUNDS,
Washington, D.C., May 1, 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Richard B. Cheney
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

We have the honor of transmitting to you the 2006 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, the 66th such report.

Respectfully,

John W. Snow, *Secretary of the Treasury, and Managing Trustee of the Trust Funds.*

Elaine L. Chao, *Secretary of Labor, and Trustee.*

Michael O. Leavitt, *Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Trustee.*

Jo Anne B. Barnhart, *Commissioner of Social Security, and Trustee.*

John L. Palmer, *Trustee.*

Thomas R. Saving, *Trustee.*

James B. Lockhart III, *Deputy Commissioner of Social Security, and Secretary, Board of Trustees.*

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THE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FEDERAL OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSURANCE AND FEDERAL DISABILITY INSURANCE TRUST FUNDS

I. INTRODUCTION

The Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program in the United States provides protection against the loss of earnings due to retirement, death, or disability. The OASDI program consists of two separate parts which pay monthly benefits to workers and their families—Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) and Disability Insurance (DI). Under OASI, monthly benefits are paid to retired workers and their families and to survivors of deceased workers. Under DI, monthly benefits are paid to disabled workers and their families.

The Board of Trustees was established under the Social Security Act to oversee the financial operations of the OASI and DI Trust Funds. The Board is composed of six members. Four members serve by virtue of their positions in the Federal Government: the Secretary of the Treasury, who is the Managing Trustee; the Secretary of Labor; the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and the Commissioner of Social Security. The other two members, John L. Palmer and Thomas R. Saving, are public representatives initially appointed by the President on October 28, 2000, and reappointed on April 18, 2006. The Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration (SSA) is designated as Secretary of the Board.

The Social Security Act requires that the Board, among other duties, report annually to the Congress on the financial and actuarial status of the OASI and DI Trust Funds. This annual report, for 2006, is the 66th such report.

II. OVERVIEW

A. HIGHLIGHTS

The report's major findings are summarized below.

In 2005

At the end of 2005, 48 million people were receiving benefits: 33 million retired workers and their dependents, 7 million survivors of deceased workers, and 8 million disabled workers and their dependents. During the year an estimated 159 million people had earnings covered by Social Security and paid payroll taxes. Total benefits paid in 2005 were $521 billion. Income was $702 billion, and assets held in special issue U.S. Treasury securities grew to $1.9 trillion.

Short-Range Results

The OASI and DI Trust Funds, individually and combined, are adequately financed over the next 10 years under the intermediate assumptions. The combined assets of the OASI and DI Trust Funds are projected to increase from $1,859 billion at the beginning of 2006, or 329 percent of annual expenditures, to $3,932 billion at the beginning of 2015, or 409 percent of annual expenditures in that year. Combined assets were projected in last year's report to rise to 337 percent of annual expenditures at the beginning of 2006, and 418 percent at the beginning of 2015.

Long-Range Results

Under the intermediate assumptions, OASDI cost will increase rapidly between about 2010 and 2030, due to the retirement of the large baby-boom generation. After 2030, increases in life expectancy and relatively low fertility rates will continue to increase Social Security system costs, but more slowly. Annual cost will exceed tax income starting in 2017 at which time the annual gap will be covered with cash from net redemptions of special obligations of the Treasury, until these assets are exhausted in 2040. Separately, the DI fund is projected to be exhausted in 2025 and the OASI fund in 2042. For the 75-year projection period, the actuarial deficit is 2.02 percent of taxable payroll, 0.09 percentage point larger than in last year's report. The open group unfunded obligation for OASDI over the 75-year period is $4.6 trillion in present value, $0.6 trillion more than the unfunded obligation estimated a year ago. Trust fund exhaustion is sooner and the unfunded obligation increased more than would occur from changing the valuation period

alone in this report largely because of a lower assumed ultimate real interest rate.

The OASDI annual cost rate is projected to increase from 11.22 percent of taxable payroll in 2006, to 16.71 percent in 2030, and to 18.74 percent in 2080, or to a level that is 5.38 percent of taxable payroll more than the projected income rate for 2080. For last year's report the annual cost for 2080 was estimated at 19.12 percent of payroll. Expressed in relation to the projected gross domestic product (GDP), OASDI cost is estimated to rise from the current level of 4.3 percent of GDP, to 6.2 percent in 2030, and to 6.3 percent in 2080. In last year's report OASDI cost was estimated at 6.4 percent of GDP for 2080. Projected cost for 2080 is lower in this year's report as percentages of taxable payroll and GDP largely due to a higher assumed birth rate.

Conclusion

Annual cost will begin to exceed tax income in 2017 for the combined OASDI Trust Funds, which are projected to become exhausted and thus unable to pay scheduled benefits in full on a timely basis in 2040 under the long-range intermediate assumptions. For the trust funds to remain solvent throughout the 75-year projection period, the combined payroll tax rate could be increased during the period in a manner equivalent to an immediate and permanent increase of 2.02 percentage points, benefits could be reduced during the period in a manner equivalent to an immediate and permanent reduction of 13.3 percent, general revenue transfers equivalent to $4.6 trillion (in present value) could be made during the period, or some combination of approaches could be adopted. Significantly larger changes would be required to maintain solvency beyond 75 years.

The projected trust fund deficits should be addressed in a timely way to allow for a gradual phasing in of the necessary changes and to provide advance notice to workers. The sooner adjustments are made the smaller and less abrupt they will have to be. Social Security plays a critical role in the lives of this year's 49 million beneficiaries, and 162 million covered workers and their families. With informed discussion, creative thinking, and timely legislative action, we will ensure that Social Security continues to protect future generations.

B. TRUST FUND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS IN 2005

The table below shows the income, expenditures, and assets for the OASI, the DI and the combined OASDI Trust Funds in calendar year 2005.

Table II.B1.—Summary of 2005 Trust Fund Financial Operations

	Amounts (in billions)		
	OASI	DI	OASDI
Assets at the end of 2004	$1,500.6	$186.2	$1,686.8
Total income in 2005	604.3	97.4	701.8
Net contributions	506.9	86.1	592.9
Taxation of benefits	13.8	1.1	14.9
Interest	84.0	10.3	94.3
Total expenditures in 2005	441.9	88.0	529.9
Benefit payments	435.4	85.4	520.7
Railroad Retirement financial interchange	3.6	.3	3.9
Administrative expenses	3.0	2.3	5.3
Net increase in assets in 2005	162.4	9.4	171.8
Assets at the end of 2005	1,663.0	195.6	1,858.7

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

In 2005, net contributions accounted for 84 percent of total trust fund income. Net contributions consist of taxes paid by employees, employers and the self-employed on earnings covered by Social Security. These taxes were paid on covered earnings up to a specified maximum annual amount, which was $90,000 in 2005 and is increased each year automatically (to $94,200 in 2006) as the average wage increases. The tax rates scheduled under current law for 2005 and later are shown in table II.B2.

Table II.B2.—Tax Rates for 2005 and Later

	OASI	DI	OASDI
Tax rate for employees and employers, each (in percent)	5.30	0.90	6.20
Tax rate for self-employed persons (in percent)	10.60	1.80	12.40

Two percent of OASDI Trust Fund income came from subjecting up to 50 percent of Social Security benefits above a certain level to Federal personal income taxation, and 13 percent of OASDI income came from interest earned on investment of OASDI Trust Fund reserves. Social Security's assets are invested in interest-bearing securities of the U.S. Government. In 2005 the combined trust fund assets earned interest at an effective annual rate of

5.5 percent. More than 98 percent of expenditures from the combined OASDI Trust Funds in 2005 went to pay retirement, survivor, and disability benefits totaling $520.7 billion. The financial interchange with the Railroad Retirement program resulted in a payment of $3.9 billion from the combined OASDI Trust Funds, or about 0.7 percent of total expenditures. The administrative expenses of the Social Security program were $5.3 billion, or about 1.0 percent of total expenditures.

Assets of the trust funds provide a reserve to pay benefits whenever expenditures exceed income. Assets increased by $171.8 billion in 2005 because income to each fund exceeded expenditures. At the end of 2005, the combined assets of the OASI and the DI Trust Funds were 329 percent of estimated expenditures for 2006.

C. ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE

The actual future income and expenditures of the OASI and DI Trust Funds depend on many factors, including the size and characteristics of the population receiving benefits, the level of monthly benefit amounts, the size of the work force, and the level of workers' earnings. These factors will depend in turn upon future birth rates, death rates, immigration, marriage and divorce rates, retirement-age patterns, disability incidence and termination rates, productivity gains, wage increases, inflation, and many other demographic, economic, and program-specific factors.

The intermediate demographic and economic assumptions shown in table II.C1, designated as alternative II, reflect the Trustees' best estimates of future experience, and therefore most of the figures in this overview depict only the outcomes under the intermediate assumptions. Any projection of the future is, of course, uncertain. For this reason, alternatives I (low cost) and III (high cost) are included to provide a range of possible future experience. The assumptions for these two alternatives are also shown in table II.C1, and their implications are highlighted in a separate section on the uncertainty of the projections.

Assumptions are reexamined each year in light of recent experience and new information. This careful review and updating of the assumptions on an annual basis helps ensure that they provide the Trustees' best estimate of future possibilities.

Table II.C1.—Ultimate[1] Values of Key Demographic and Economic Assumptions for the Long-Range (75-year) Projection Period

Ultimate assumptions	Intermediate	Low Cost	High Cost
Total fertility rate (children per woman)	2.0	2.3	1.7
Average annual percentage reduction in total age-sex-adjusted death rates from 2030 to 2080	.70	.33	1.22
Annual net immigration (in thousands)	900	1,300	672.5
Annual percentage change in:			
Productivity (total U.S. economy)	1.7	2.0	1.4
Average wage in covered employment	3.9	3.4	4.4
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	2.8	1.8	3.8
Real-wage differential (percent)	1.1	1.6	.6
Unemployment rate (percent)	5.5	4.5	6.5
Annual trust fund real interest rate (percent)	2.9	3.6	2.1

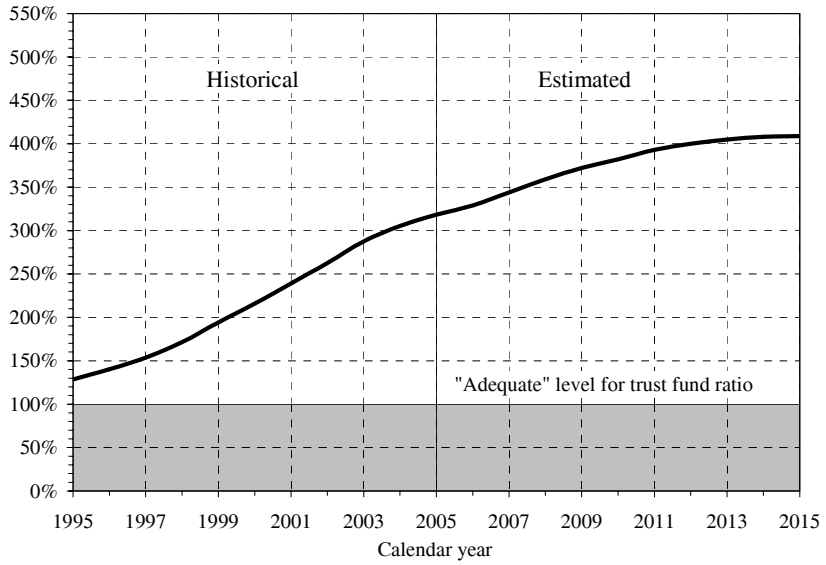
[1] Ultimate values are assumed to be reached within 2 to 25 years. See chapter V for details.

D. PROJECTIONS OF FUTURE FINANCIAL STATUS

Short-Range Actuarial Estimates

For the short range (2006-2015), the Trustees measure trust fund adequacy by comparing assets at the beginning of each year to projected program cost for that year under the intermediate set of assumptions. Having a trust fund ratio of 100 percent or more—that is, assets at the beginning of each year at least equal to projected outgo during the year—is considered a good indication of a trust fund's ability to cover most short-term contingencies. Both the OASI and the DI trust fund ratios under the intermediate assumptions exceed 100 percent throughout the short-range period and therefore satisfy the Trustees' short-term test for financial adequacy. Figure II.D1 below shows the trust fund ratios for the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds for the next 10 years.

Figure II.D1.—Short-Range OASDI Trust Fund Ratios
[Assets as a percentage of annual expenditures]



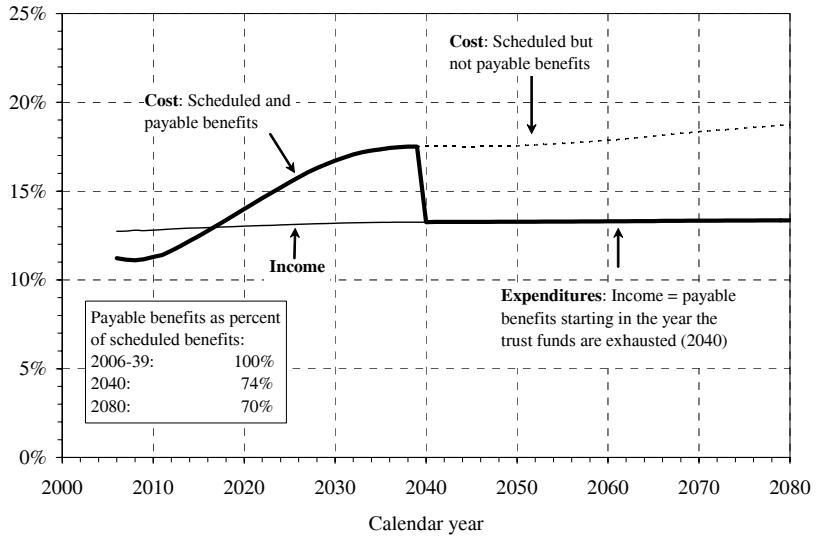
Long-Range Actuarial Estimates

The financial status of the trust funds over the next 75 years is measured in terms of cost and income as a percentage of taxable payroll, trust fund ratios, the actuarial balance (also as a percentage of taxable payroll), and the open group unfunded obligation (expressed in present-value dollars). Considering

Social Security's cost as a percentage of the total U.S. economic output (gross domestic product or GDP) provides an additional perspective.

The year-by-year relationship between income and cost rates shown in figure II.D2 illustrates the expected pattern of cash flow for the OASDI program over the full 75-year period. Under the intermediate assumptions, the OASDI cost rate is projected to decline slightly during 2006 through 2008 and then increase up to the current level within the next 2 years. It then begins to increase rapidly and first exceeds the income rate in 2017, producing cash-flow deficits thereafter. Despite these cash-flow deficits, beginning in 2017, redemption of trust fund assets will allow continuation of full benefit payments on a timely basis until 2040, when the trust funds will become exhausted. This redemption process will require a flow of cash from the General Fund of the Treasury. Pressures on the Federal Budget will thus emerge well before 2040. Even if a trust fund's assets are exhausted, however, tax income will continue to flow into the fund. Present tax rates would be sufficient to pay 74 percent of scheduled benefits after trust fund exhaustion in 2040 and 70 percent of scheduled benefits in 2080.

Figure II.D2.—OASDI Income and Cost Rates Under Intermediate Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

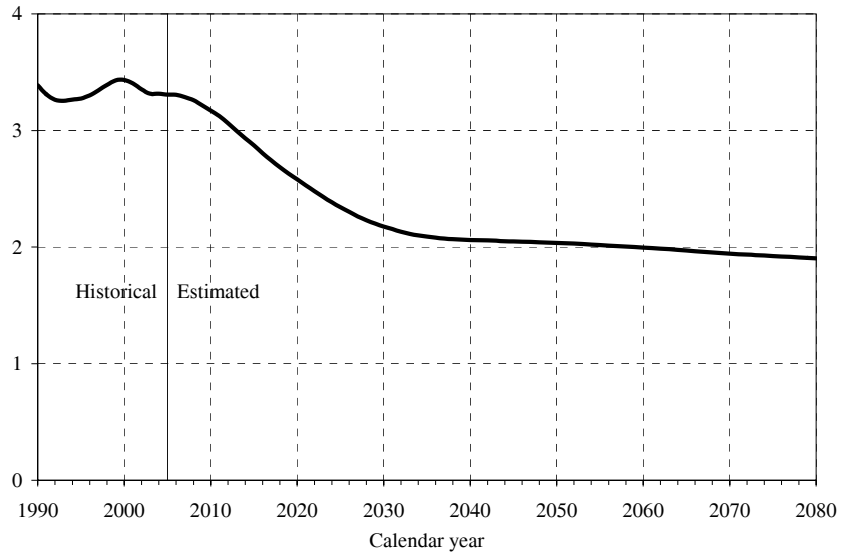


Social Security's cost rate generally will continue rising rapidly through about 2030 as the baby-boom generation reaches retirement age. Thereafter, the cost rate is estimated to rise at a slower rate for about 20 years as the

baby boom ages and decreases in size. Continued reductions in death rates and relatively low birth rates will cause a significant upward shift in the average age of the population and will push the cost rate from 17.6 percent of taxable payroll in 2050 to 18.7 percent by 2080 under the intermediate assumptions. In a pay-as-you-go system (with no trust fund assets or borrowing authority), this 18.7-percent cost rate means the combination of the payroll tax (scheduled to total 12.4 percent) and proceeds from income taxes on benefits (expected to be 1.0 percent of taxable payroll in 2080) would have to equal 18.7 percent of taxable payroll to pay all currently scheduled benefits. After 2080, the upward shift in the average age of the population is likely to continue and to increase the gap between OASDI costs and income.

The primary reason that the OASDI cost rate will increase rapidly between 2010 and 2030 is that, as the large baby-boom generation born in the years 1946 through 1965 retires, the number of beneficiaries will increase much more rapidly than the number of workers. The estimated number of workers per beneficiary is shown in figure II.D3. In 2005, there were about 3.3 workers for every OASDI beneficiary. The baby-boom generation will have largely retired by 2030, and the projected ratio of workers to beneficiaries will be only 2.2 at that time. Thereafter, the number of workers per beneficiary will slowly decline, and the OASDI cost rate will continue to increase largely due to projected reductions in mortality.

Figure II.D3.—Number of Covered Workers Per OASDI Beneficiary



The maximum projected trust fund ratios for the OASI, DI, and combined funds appear in table II.D1. The year in which the maximum projected trust fund ratio is attained and the year in which the assets are projected to be exhausted are shown as well.

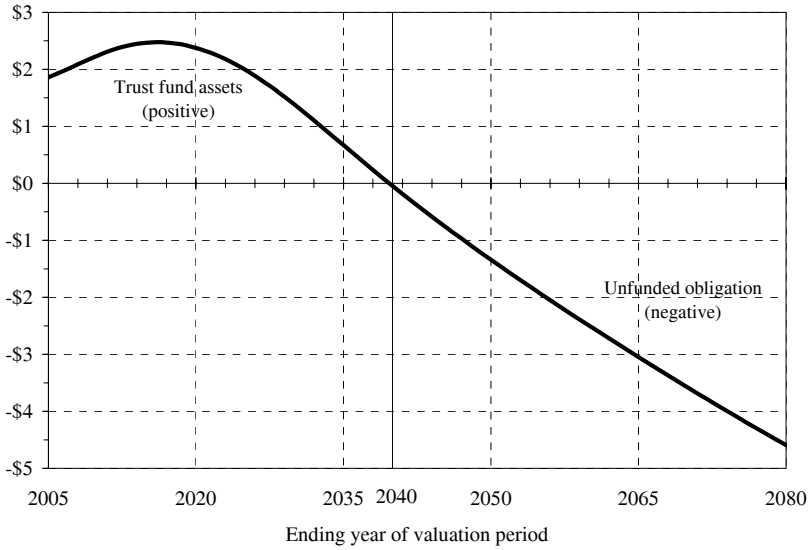
Table II.D1.—Projected Maximum Trust Fund Ratios Attained and Trust Fund Exhaustion Dates Under the Intermediate Assumptions

	OASI	DI	OASDI
Maximum trust fund ratio (percent)	462	203	409
Year attained	2015	2006	2015
Year of trust fund exhaustion	2042	2025	2040

The actuarial balance is a measure of the program's financial status for the 75-year valuation period as a whole. It is essentially the difference between income and cost of the program expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll over the valuation period. This single number summarizes the adequacy of program financing for the period. When the actuarial balance is negative, the actuarial deficit can be interpreted as the percentage that would have to be added to the current law income rate in each of the next 75 years, or subtracted from the cost rate in each year, to bring the funds into actuarial balance. In this report, the actuarial balance under the intermediate assumptions is a deficit of 2.02 percent of taxable payroll for the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds. The actuarial deficit was 1.92 percent in the 2005 report and has been in the range of 1.86 percent to 2.23 percent for the last ten reports.

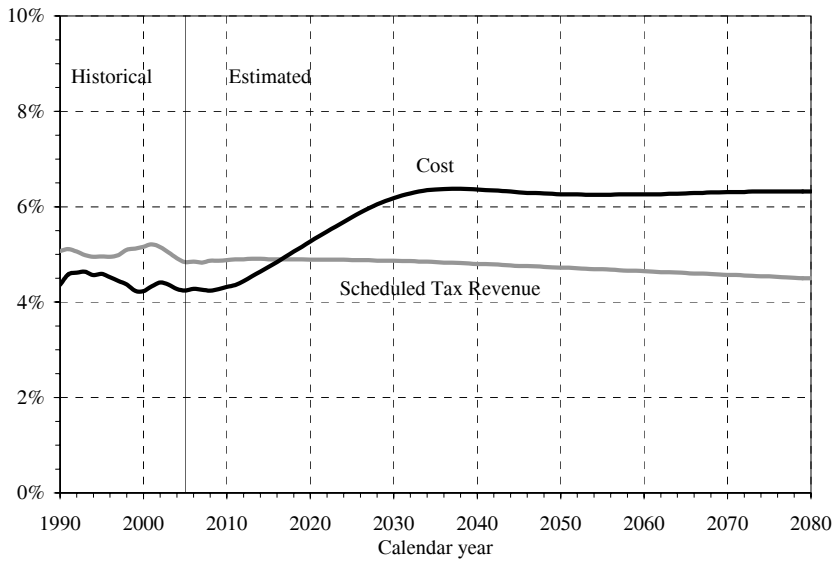
Another way to illustrate the financial shortfall of the OASDI system is to examine the cumulative value of taxes less costs, in present value. Figure II.D4 shows the present value of cumulative OASDI taxes less costs over the next 75 years. The balance of the combined trust funds peaks at $2.5 trillion in 2017 (in present value) and then turns downward. This cumulative amount continues to be positive, indicating trust fund assets, or reserves, through 2039. However, after 2039 this cumulative amount becomes negative, indicating a net unfunded obligation. Through the end of 2080, the combined funds have a present-value unfunded obligation of $4.6 trillion. This unfunded obligation represents 1.9 percent of future taxable payroll and 0.7 percent of future GDP, through the end of the 75-year projection period.

Figure II.D4.—Cumulative OASDI Income Less Cost, Based on Present Law Tax Rates and Scheduled Benefits
[Present value as of January 1, 2006, in trillions]



Still another important way to look at Social Security's future is to view its cost as a share of U.S. economic output. Figure II.D5 shows that Social Security's cost as a percentage of GDP will grow from 4.3 percent in 2006 to 6.2 percent in 2030, and then slightly increase to 6.3 percent in 2080. However, Social Security's scheduled tax income is projected to be about 4.9 percent of GDP in both 2006 and 2030, and then to decrease to 4.5 percent in 2080.

Figure II.D5.—OASDI Cost and Scheduled Tax Revenue as a Percentage of GDP



Even a 75-year period is not long enough to provide a complete picture of Social Security's financial condition. Figures II.D2, II.D4, and II.D5 show that the program's financial condition continues to worsen at the end of the period. Overemphasis on summary measures for a 75-year period can lead to incorrect perceptions and to policy prescriptions that do not achieve sustainable solvency. Thus, careful consideration of the trends in annual deficits and unfunded obligations toward the end of the 75-year period is important. In order to provide a more complete description of Social Security's very long-run financial condition, this report also includes summary measures for a time period that extends to the infinite horizon. These calculations show that extending the horizon beyond 75 years continues to increase the unfunded obligation. Over the infinite horizon, the shortfall (unfunded obligation) is $13.4 trillion in present value, or 3.7 percent of future taxable payroll and 1.3 percent of future GDP. These calculations of the shortfall indicate that much larger changes would be required to achieve solvency over the infinite future

as compared to changes needed to balance 75-year period summary measures. The increase in the measured unfunded obligation over the infinite horizon from $11.1 trillion in last year's report to $13.4 trillion in this report is largely due to the reduction in the real interest rate assumption from 3.0 to 2.9 percent.

Changes From Last Year's Report

The long-range OASDI actuarial deficit of 2.02 percent of taxable payroll for this year's report is somewhat larger than the deficit of 1.92 percent of taxable payroll shown in last year's report under intermediate assumptions. Changing the assumed real interest rate and the valuation period are the main reasons for the increase in the deficit. Changes in data, methods, and other assumptions combine to have a small positive offsetting effect on the actuarial deficit. For a detailed description of the specific changes identified in table II.D2 below, see section IV.B.7 on page 64.

Table II.D2.—Reasons for Change in the 75-Year Actuarial Balance Under Intermediate Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Item	OASI	DI	OASDI
Shown in last year's report:			
Income rate	11.93	1.94	13.87
Cost rate	13.53	2.26	15.79
Actuarial balance	**-1.60**	**-.32**	**-1.92**
Changes in actuarial balance due to changes in:			
Legislation / Regulation	.00	.00	.00
Valuation period[1]	-.05	-.01	-.06
Demographic data and assumptions	+.02	.00	+.03
Economic data and assumptions	-.06	-.01	-.06
Disability data and assumptions	-.04	+.01	-.04
Programmatic data and methods	+.04	.00	+.04
Total change in actuarial balance	-.08	-.01	-.09
Shown in this report:			
Actuarial balance	**-1.68**	**-.33**	**-2.02**
Income rate	11.95	1.93	13.88
Cost rate	13.63	2.27	15.90

[1] In changing from the valuation period of last year's report, which was 2005-79, to the valuation period of this report, 2006-80, the relatively large negative annual balance for 2080 is included. This results in a larger long-range actuarial deficit. The fund balance at the end of 2005, i.e., at the beginning of the projection period, is included in the 75-year actuarial balance.

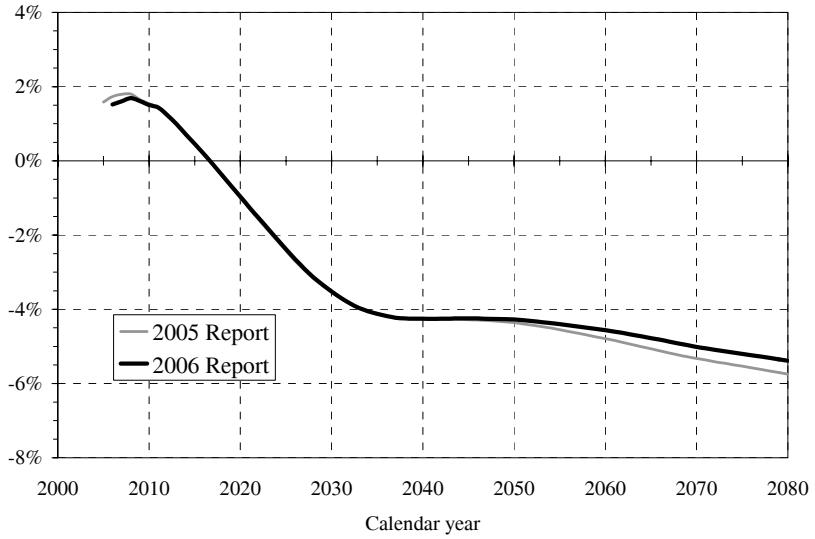
Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

The open group unfunded obligation over the 75-year projection period, has increased from $4.0 trillion (present discounted value as of January 1, 2005) to $4.6 trillion (present discounted value as of January 1, 2006). The negative effects of three factors explain most of the measured increase in the unfunded obligation: lowering the ultimate real interest rate, advancing the

valuation date by 1 year and including the additional year 2080 in the new valuation period.

Figure II.D6 shows that this year's projections of annual balances start at a slightly lower level than those in last year's report principally because the cost of living adjustment of 4.1 percent for December 2005 was larger than had been expected. Over the period 2010 through 2050, annual balances are similar between the two reports. After 2050, the annual shortfall of program income is somewhat smaller than projected last year. The assumed higher ultimate fertility rate is the main reason for this improvement. Section IV.B.7 on page 64 provides a detailed presentation of these changes.

Figure II.D6.—OASDI Annual Balances: 2005 and 2006 Trustees Reports
[As a percentage of taxable payroll under the intermediate assumptions]

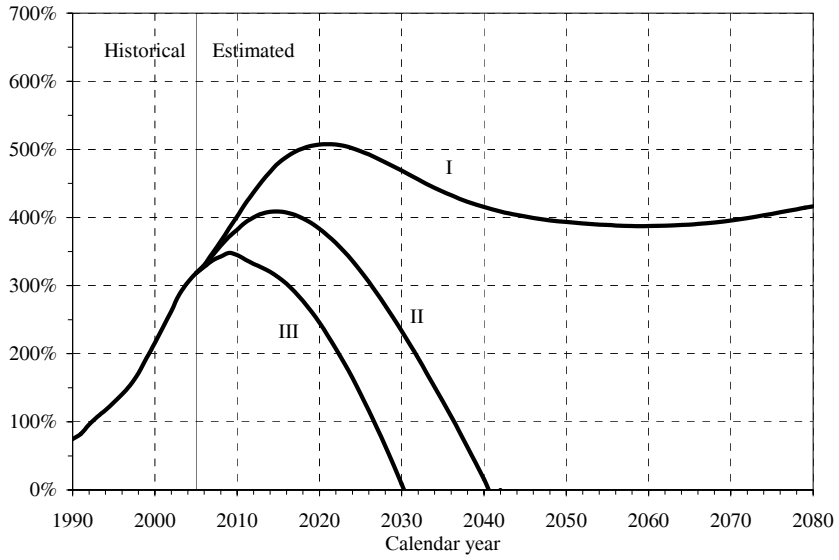


Finally, two changes were made too late to be reflected in the estimates in this year's report. First, a new disability adjudication process was promulgated in final regulations on March 31, 2006. This new process will slightly increase program cost in the first 10 years but is expected to have no significant cost effect thereafter. Second, it was recently discovered that total benefit payments were being over reported due to certain transfers that are made from the trust funds to the General Fund of the Treasury. This led to a small overstatement of total benefits estimated for about 10 years into the projection period. Actual payments made to individual beneficiaries have not been affected by this issue. The transfer process is now correct. The effects of these two changes are small and will be fully reflected in next year's report.

Uncertainty of the Projections

Significant uncertainty surrounds the intermediate assumptions. The Trustees have traditionally used low cost (alternative I) and high cost (alternative III) assumptions to indicate this uncertainty. Figure II.D7 shows the projected trust fund ratios for the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds under the intermediate, low cost, and high cost assumptions. The low cost alternative is characterized by assumptions that improve the financial condition of the trust funds, including a higher fertility rate, slower improvement in mortality, a higher real-wage differential, and lower unemployment. The high cost alternative, in contrast, features a lower fertility rate, more rapid declines in mortality, a lower real-wage differential, and higher unemployment.

Figure II.D7.—Long-Range OASDI Trust Fund Ratios Under Alternative Assumptions
[Assets as a percentage of annual cost]



These three alternatives have traditionally been constructed to provide a reasonable range of possible future experience. However, these alternatives do not address the probability that actual experience will be within or outside the range. As an additional way of illustrating uncertainty, this report includes estimates from a model of the trust funds that provides a probability distribution of possible future outcomes (see appendix E). The results of this model suggest that outcomes better than the traditional low cost alternative and outcomes worse than the high cost alternative have very low probabilities of occurring.

E. CONCLUSION

Under current law the cost of Social Security will soon begin to increase faster than the program's income, because of the aging of the baby-boom generation, expected continuing low fertility, and increasing life expectancy. Based on the Trustees' best estimate, program cost will exceed tax revenues starting in 2017 and throughout the remainder of the 75-year projection period. Social Security's combined trust funds are projected to allow full payment of benefits until they become exhausted in 2040. At that time annual tax income to the trust funds is projected to equal about 74 percent of program costs. Separately, the OASI and DI funds are projected to have sufficient funds to pay full benefits on time until 2042 and 2025, respectively. By 2080, however, annual tax income is projected to be only about 70 percent as large as the annual cost of the OASDI program.

Over the full 75-year projection period the actuarial deficit estimated for the combined trust funds is 2.02 percent of taxable payroll—somewhat higher than the 1.92 percent deficit projected in last year's report. This deficit indicates that financial adequacy of the program for the next 75 years could be restored if the Social Security payroll tax were immediately and permanently increased from its current level of 12.4 percent (for employees and employers combined) to 14.42 percent. Alternatively, all current and future benefits could be immediately reduced by about 13 percent. Other ways of reducing the deficit include making transfers from general revenues or adopting some combination of approaches.

If no action were taken until the combined trust funds become exhausted in 2040, larger changes would be required.

- For example, payroll taxes could be raised to finance scheduled benefits fully in every year starting in 2040. In this case, the payroll tax would be increased to 16.65 percent at the point of trust fund exhaustion in 2040 and continue rising to 17.78 percent in 2080.
- Similarly, benefits could be reduced to the level that is payable with scheduled tax rates in each year beginning in 2040. Under this scenario, benefits would be reduced 26 percent at the point of trust fund exhaustion in 2040, with reductions reaching 30 percent in 2080.

Either of these examples would eliminate annual deficits after trust fund exhaustion. Because of the increasing average age of the population (due to expected improvement in life expectancy and continued low birth rates), Social Security's annual cost will very likely continue to grow faster than scheduled tax revenues after 2080. As a result, ensuring solvency of the sys-

tem beyond 2080 would likely require larger changes than those expected to be needed for 2080.

The projected trust fund deficits should be addressed in a timely way to allow for a gradual phasing in of the necessary changes and to provide advance notice to workers. The sooner adjustments are made the smaller and less abrupt they will have to be. Social Security plays a critical role in the lives of this year's 49 million beneficiaries, and 162 million covered workers and their families. With informed discussion, creative thinking, and timely legislative action, we will ensure that Social Security continues to protect future generations.

For further information related to the contents of this report, see the following websites.

- www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/TR/TR06/index.html
- www.cms.hhs.gov/ReportsTrustFunds/
- www.treas.gov/offices/economic-policy/social_security.html

III. FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF THE TRUST FUNDS AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN THE LAST YEAR

A. OPERATIONS OF THE OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSURANCE (OASI) AND DISABILITY INSURANCE (DI) TRUST FUNDS, IN CALENDAR YEAR 2005

Detailed information on the operations of the OASI and DI Trust Funds[1] during calendar year 2005 is presented in this section. Chapter IV provides projections for calendar years 2006-80.

1. OASI Trust Fund

A statement of the income and disbursements of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund in calendar year 2005, and of the assets of the fund at the beginning and end of the calendar year, is presented in table III.A1. Included in total receipts during calendar year 2005 were $508.7 billion in employment tax contributions. These contributions were partially offset by transfers totaling $1.9 billion to the General Fund of the Treasury for the estimated amount of refunds to employees who worked for more than one employer during a year and paid contributions on total earnings in excess of the contribution and benefit base.

Net contributions thus amounted to $506.9 billion, an increase of 7.2 percent over the amount in the preceding year. The increase in OASI tax contributions from calendar year 2004 to calendar year 2005 is due to increased earnings and the increase in the contribution and benefit base. (Table VI.A1 shows the tax rates and contribution and benefit bases in effect for past years.)

Income based on taxation of benefits amounted to $13.8 billion in 2005. This amount is lower than the receipts for 2004 because a sizable positive adjustment was made in 2004 reflecting updated data for prior years. Nearly 99 percent of this income represented amounts credited to the trust funds, based on estimated Federal personal income taxation of benefits, generally in advance of the actual receipt of taxes by the Treasury. The remaining 1 percent of the total income from taxation of benefits represented amounts withheld from the benefits paid to nonresident aliens.

Transfers among the General Fund of the Treasury and the OASI and DI Trust Funds are made periodically to adjust prior payments for the cost attributable to the granting of noncontributory wage credits for military service prior to 1957. In 2005, $350,000,000 was transferred from the OASI Trust Fund to the general fund.

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[1] Trust fund data are available by month, quarter, or year on the Social Security website at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/ProgData/fundsQuery.html.

Table III.A1.—Operations of the OASI Trust Fund, Calendar Year 2005
[In millions]

Total assets, December 31, 2004		$1,500,622
Receipts:		
Contributions:		
Employment taxes	$508,718	
Payments from the General Fund of the Treasury for contributions subject to refund	-1,855	
Net contributions		506,863
Income based on taxation of benefit payments:		
Withheld from benefit payments to nonresident aliens	145	
All other, not subject to withholding	13,698	
Total income from taxation of benefits		13,843
Transfer from the General Fund of the Treasury to adjust previous determinations of costs attributable to noncontributory wage credits for military service before 1957		-350
Reimbursement from the General Fund of the Treasury for costs of payments to uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968		1/
Investment income and interest adjustments:		
Interest on investments	84,025	
Interest adjustments[2]	-46	
Net investment income and interest adjustments		83,979
Gifts		1/
Total receipts		604,335
Disbursements:		
Benefit payments:		
Gross benefit payments	436,452	
Offset for collected overpayments	-1,079	
Reimbursement from the general fund for unnegotiated checks	-47	
Net benefit payments		435,325
Transfer to the Railroad Retirement "Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account"		3,579
Payment for costs of vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries		58
Administrative expenses:		
Costs incurred by:		
Social Security Administration	2,237	
Department of the Treasury	729	
Offsetting receipts from sales of supplies, materials, etc.	1/	
Miscellaneous reimbursements from the general fund [3]	-8	
Net administrative expenses		2,957
Total disbursements		441,920
Net increase in assets		162,415
Total assets, December 31, 2005		1,663,037

[1] Between -$500,000 and $500,000.

[2] Includes (1) interest on transfers between the trust fund and the general fund account for the Supplemental Security Income program due to adjustments in the allocation of administrative expenses, (2) interest arising from the revised allocation of administrative expenses among the trust funds, (3) interest on certain reimbursements to the trust fund, and (4) interest on a transfer to the DI Trust Fund for the cost of vocational rehabilitation services that had been erroneously charged to that fund.

[3] Reimbursements for costs incurred in performing certain legislatively mandated activities not directly related to administering the OASI program.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Special payments are made to uninsured persons who meet certain requirements. The costs associated with providing such payments are largely reimbursable from the General Fund of the Treasury. Accordingly, transfers totaling $123,236 were made in 2005, reflecting costs incurred in fiscal years 1999-2004.

The OASI Trust Fund was credited with interest netting $84.0 billion, an increase of about 6.3 percent over 2004. Credited interest consisted of (1) interest earned on the investments of the trust fund, (2) interest on transfers between the trust fund and the general fund account for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program due to adjustments in the allocation of administrative expenses, (3) interest arising from the revised allocation of administrative expenses among the trust funds, (4) interest on certain reimbursements to the trust fund (see following discussion of administrative expenses), and (5) interest on a transfer to the DI Trust Fund for the cost of vocational rehabilitation services that had been erroneously charged to that fund. The remaining $2,256 of receipts consisted of gifts received under the provisions authorizing the deposit of money gifts or bequests in the trust funds.

Of the $441.9 billion in total disbursements, $435.3 billion was for net benefit payments. The amount of net benefit payments in calendar year 2005 represents an increase of 4.9 percent over the corresponding amount in calendar year 2004. This increase was due to (1) an increase in the total number of beneficiaries and (2) an increase in the average benefit amount primarily because of the automatic cost-of-living benefit increase of 2.7 percent which became effective for December 2004 under the automatic-adjustment provisions in section 215(i) of the Social Security Act.

Provisions of the Railroad Retirement Act require an annual financial interchange between the Railroad Retirement and OASDI programs. The purpose of such provisions is to put the OASI and DI Trust Funds in the same financial position they would have been had railroad employment always been covered by Social Security. Under those provisions, the Railroad Retirement Board and the Commissioner of Social Security determined that a transfer of $3.6 billion to the Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account from the OASI Trust Fund was required in June 2005.

A disbursement of $58 million was made in 2005 to cover the costs of vocational rehabilitation services furnished to disabled widow(er) beneficiaries and to those children of retired or deceased workers who were receiving benefits on the basis of disabilities that began before age 22. Reimbursement from the trust funds for the costs of vocational rehabilitation services is made only in those cases where the services contributed to the successful rehabilitation of the beneficiaries. The $58 million disbursement consisted of (1) a transfer to the DI Trust Fund of $56 million for costs erroneously charged to that fund over the period of October 1987 through March 2003, and (2) $2 million for current costs.

The remaining $3.0 billion of disbursements from the OASI Trust Fund represented net administrative expenses. The expenses incurred by various Fed-

eral agencies for administering the OASDI and Medicare programs are allocated and charged directly to each of the trust funds through which those programs are financed, on the basis of provisional estimates. Similarly, the expenses allocated for administering the SSI program are charged directly to the General Fund of the Treasury on a provisional basis. Periodically, as actual experience develops and is analyzed, adjustments to the allocations of administrative expenses for prior periods are effected by interfund transfers and transfers between the OASI Trust Fund and the general fund account for the SSI program, with appropriate interest adjustments. As described earlier, the interest adjustments arising from the reallocation of administrative expenses are recorded in the trust fund accounting under investment income.

The vast majority of OASI disbursements recorded as administrative expenses represent the cost of administering the program and are charged to the trust fund by the Social Security Administration ($2.2 billion in 2005). In addition, the Department of the Treasury charges directly to the trust fund certain expenses that it incurs in helping to administer the OASI program ($729 million in 2005). In addition a relatively small adjustment to administrative expenses is an offset ($251,376 in 2005) representing income from the sale of excess supplies and equipment.

Finally, certain net reimbursements are made from the General Fund of the Treasury for administrative costs incurred by the Social Security Administration in performing certain legislatively mandated activities that are not directly related to the OASI program. These reimbursements include the costs associated with union activities related to administering the OASI program and providing information to participants in certain pension plans. Such reimbursements totaled $8 million in 2005.

The assets of the OASI Trust Fund at the end of calendar year 2005 totaled $1,663.0 billion (10.8 percent more than at the end of 2004), consisting of $1,663.7 billion in U.S. Government obligations and, as an offset, an extension of credit amounting to $0.7 billion against securities to be redeemed within the following few days. The effective annual rate of interest earned by the assets of the OASI Trust Fund during calendar year 2005 was 5.4 percent, as compared to 5.7 percent earned during calendar year 2004. A detailed listing of OASI Trust Fund holdings by type of security, interest rate, and year of maturity at the end of each calendar year 2004 and 2005 can be found in appendix A.

All securities held by the trust funds are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government, as required by law. Those currently held by the OASI Trust Fund are special issues (i.e., securities sold only to the trust funds). These are of two types: short-term certificates of indebtedness and long-term bonds. The certificates of indebtedness are issued on a daily basis for the investment of receipts not required to meet current expenditures, and

they mature on the next June 30 following the date of issue. Special-issue bonds, on the other hand, are normally acquired only when special issues of either type mature on June 30. The amount of bonds acquired on June 30 is equal to the amount of special issues maturing, less amounts required to meet expenditures on that day.

Section 201(d) of the Social Security Act provides that the obligations issued for purchase by the OASI and DI Trust Funds shall have maturities fixed with due regard for the needs of the funds. The usual practice has been to spread the holdings of special issues, as of each June 30, so that the amounts maturing in each of the next 15 years are approximately equal. Accordingly, the amounts and maturity dates of the OASI special-issue bonds purchased on June 30, 2005, with an interest rate of 4.125 percent, were selected so that the maturity dates of the total portfolio of special issues were spread evenly over the 15-year period 2006-20. The amount of bonds purchased on June 30, 2005 is shown in table III.A7.

2. DI Trust Fund

A statement of the income and disbursements of the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund in calendar year 2005, and of the assets of the fund at the beginning and end of the calendar year, is presented in table III.A2.

Line entries in the DI statement are similar to those in the OASI statement and the explanations of the OASI entries generally apply to DI as well.

Net contributions amounted to $86.1 billion, an increase of 7.2 percent from the amount in the preceding calendar year. This increase is attributable to the same factors, insofar as they apply to the DI program, that accounted for the change in contributions to the OASI Trust Fund.

Of the $88.0 billion in total disbursements, $85.4 billion was for net benefit payments. This represents an increase of 9.2 percent over the corresponding amount of benefit payments in calendar year 2004. This increase in DI benefit payments is due to the same factors that resulted in the net increase in benefit payments from the OASI Trust Fund. However, the number of persons receiving benefits from the DI Trust Fund increased more rapidly in 2005 than the number receiving benefits from the OASI Trust Fund largely due to a) the current ages of the baby-boom generation, b) the scheduled increase in the normal retirement age (NRA), and c) the special administrative action, undertaken by SSA beginning in 2001, to identify and award benefits from the DI Trust Fund to a substantial number of current and former recipients of SSI benefits whose disability-insured status under the DI program was not previously recognized. Total DI disbursements started to exceed non-interest income in 2005, but were still less than total income, including interest.

Table III.A2.—Operations of the DI Trust Fund, Calendar Year 2005
[In millions]

Total assets, December 31, 2004		$186,217
Receipts:		
Contributions:		
Employment taxes	$86,392	
Payments from the General Fund of the Treasury for contributions subject to refund	-315	
Net contributions		86,077
Income based on taxation of benefit payments:		
Withheld from benefit payments to nonresident aliens	5	
All other, not subject to withholding	1,068	
Total income from taxation of benefits		1,073
Investment income and interest adjustments:		
Interest on investments	10,221	
Interest adjustments[1]	52	
Total investment income and interest adjustments		10,273
Total receipts		97,423
Disbursements:		
Benefit payments:		
Gross benefit payments	85,945	
Offset for collected overpayments	-551	
Reimbursement from the general fund for unnegotiated checks	-21	
Net benefit payments		85,373
Transfer to the Railroad Retirement "Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account"		338
Payment for costs of vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries		-9
Administrative expenses:		
Costs incurred by:		
Social Security Administration	2,190	
Department of the Treasury	127	
Miscellaneous reimbursements from the general fund[2]	-2	
Net administrative expenses		2,315
Total disbursements		88,018
Net increase in assets		9,405
Total assets, December 31, 2005		195,623

[1] Includes (1) interest on transfers between the trust fund and the general fund account for the Supplemental Security Income program due to adjustments in the allocation of administrative expenses, (2) interest arising from the revised allocation of administrative expenses among the trust funds, (3) interest on certain reimbursements to the trust fund, and (4) interest on a transfer to the DI Trust Fund for the cost of vocational rehabilitation services that had been erroneously charged to that fund.
[2] Reimbursements for costs incurred in performing certain legislatively mandated activities not directly related to administering the DI program.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

The assets of the DI Trust Fund at the end of calendar year 2005 totaled $195.6 billion, consisting of $195.7 billion in U.S. Government obligations and, as an offset, an extension of credit amounting to $0.1 billion against securities to be redeemed within the following few days. The effective annual rate of interest earned by the assets of the DI Trust Fund during calendar year 2005 was 5.5 percent, compared to 5.7 percent earned during calendar year 2004. A detailed listing of DI Trust Fund holdings by type of security, interest rate, and year of maturity at the end of each calendar year 2004 and 2005 can be found in appendix A.

3. OASI and DI Trust Funds, Combined

A statement of the operations of the income and disbursements of the OASI and DI Trust Funds, on a combined basis, is presented in table III.A3. The entries in this table represent the sums of the corresponding values from tables III.A1 and III.A2. For a discussion of the nature of these income and expenditure transactions, reference should be made to the two preceding subsections covering OASI and DI separately.

Table III.A3.—Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, Calendar Year 2005
[In millions]

Total assets, December 31, 2004		$1,686,839
Receipts:		
Contributions:		
Employment taxes	$595,110	
Payments from the General Fund of the Treasury for contributions subject to refund	-2,170	
Net contributions		592,940
Income based on taxation of benefit payments:		
Withheld from benefit payments to nonresident aliens	150	
All other, not subject to withholding	14,766	
Total income from taxation of benefits		14,916
Transfer from the General Fund of the Treasury to adjust previous determinations of costs attributable to noncontributory wage credits for military service before 1957		-350
Reimbursement from the General Fund of the Treasury for costs of payments to uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968		1/
Investment income and interest adjustments:		
Interest on investments	94,246	
Interest adjustments[2]	6	
Total investment income and interest adjustments		94,252
Gifts		1/
Total receipts		701,758
Disbursements:		
Benefit payments:		
Gross benefit payments	522,397	
Offset for collected overpayments	-1,630	
Reimbursement from the general fund for unnegotiated checks	-68	
Net benefit payments		520,699
Transfer to the Railroad Retirement "Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account"		3,917
Payment for costs of vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries		50
Administrative expenses:		
Costs incurred by:		
Social Security Administration	4,427	
Department of the Treasury	856	
Offsetting receipts from sales of supplies, materials, etc.	1/	
Miscellaneous reimbursements from the general fund[3]	-10	
Net administrative expenses		5,272
Total disbursements		529,938
Net increase in assets		171,821
Total assets, December 31, 2005		1,858,660

[1] Between -$500,000 and $500,000.

[2] Includes (1) interest on transfers between the trust funds and the general fund account for the Supplemental Security Income program due to adjustments in the allocation of administrative expenses, (2) interest arising from the revised allocation of administrative expenses among the trust funds, and (3) interest on certain reimbursements to the trust funds.

[3] Reimbursements for costs incurred in performing certain legislatively mandated activities not directly related to administering the OASI and DI programs.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

To provide a context for estimates of future trust fund income and expenditures provided later in this report, table III.A4 compares past estimates of contributions and benefit payments for calendar year 2005, as shown in the 2001-05 Annual Reports, with the corresponding actual amounts in 2005.[1]

Table III.A4.—Comparison of Actual Calendar Year 2005 Trust Fund Operations With Estimates Made in Prior Reports[1]
[Amounts in billions]

	Net contributions[2]		Benefit payments[3]	
	Amount	Difference from actual (percent)	Amount	Difference from actual (percent)
OASI Trust Fund:				
Estimate in 2001 report	$540.5	6.6	$449.9	3.3
Estimate in 2002 report	531.2	4.8	436.5	.3
Estimate in 2003 report	514.8	1.6	429.9	-1.3
Estimate in 2004 report	504.2	-.5	427.3	-1.8
Estimate in 2005 report	496.7	-2.0	433.7	-.4
Actual amount	506.9	—	435.4	—
DI Trust Fund:				
Estimate in 2001 report	91.8	6.6	81.4	-4.7
Estimate in 2002 report	90.2	4.8	80.7	-5.4
Estimate in 2003 report	87.4	1.6	84.0	-1.7
Estimate in 2004 report	85.6	-.6	81.4	-4.6
Estimate in 2005 report	84.3	-2.0	83.9	-1.7
Actual amount	86.1	—	85.4	—
OASI and DI Trust Funds, combined:				
Estimate in 2001 report	632.3	6.6	531.2	2.0
Estimate in 2002 report	621.4	4.8	517.3	-.7
Estimate in 2003 report	602.2	1.6	513.8	-1.3
Estimate in 2004 report	589.8	-.5	508.8	-2.3
Estimate in 2005 report	581.0	-2.0	517.6	-.6
Actual amount	592.9	—	520.7	—

[1] The estimates shown are based on the intermediate assumptions.
[2] "Actual" contributions for 2005 reflect adjustments for prior calendar years (see appendix A on page 126 for description of these adjustments). "Estimated" contributions also include such adjustments, but on an estimated basis.
[3] Includes payments, if any, for vocational rehabilitation services furnished to disabled persons receiving benefits because of their disabilities.

A number of factors can contribute to differences between estimates and subsequent actual amounts, including actual values for key demographic, economic, and other variables that differ from previously assumed levels. In addition, new legislation or other administrative initiatives that were unanticipated at the time the earlier estimates were completed can contribute to such differences. For example, in the case of DI benefit payments, the special administrative action, noted in the previous subsection and described in

[1] Estimated amounts used to calculate percentage errors are before rounding to amounts shown in the annual reports.

greater detail in the section on short-range estimates, has affected the estimates. Both the size of the resulting workload and the schedule for the completion of these cases have been revised several times over the past 4 years. The evolving understanding of this special workload played a significant role in the past variation in estimates for DI benefits in 2005.

At the end of calendar year 2005, about 48.4 million persons were receiving monthly benefits under the OASDI program. Of these persons, about 40.1 million and 8.3 million were receiving monthly benefits from the OASI Trust Fund and the DI Trust Fund, respectively. The number of persons receiving benefits from the OASI and DI Trust Funds grew by 1.0 percent and 4.6 percent, respectively, during the calendar year. The estimated distributions of benefit payments in calendar years 2004 and 2005, by type of beneficiary, are shown in table III.A5 for each trust fund separately.

Table III.A5.—Distribution of Benefit Payments by Type of Beneficiary or Payment, Calendar Years 2004 and 2005
[Amounts in millions]

	Calendar year 2004		Calendar year 2005	
	Amount	Percentage of total	Amount	Percentage of total
Total OASDI benefit payments	$493,212	100.0	$520,699	100.0
OASI benefit payments	415,031	84.1	435,325	83.6
DI benefit payments	78,180	15.9	85,373	16.4
OASI benefit payments, total	415,031	100.0	435,325	100.0
Monthly benefits:				
Retired workers and auxiliaries	327,100	78.8	345,056	79.3
Retired workers	304,224	73.3	321,670	73.9
Spouses	20,162	4.9	20,497	4.7
Children	2,714	.7	2,888	.7
Survivors of deceased workers	87,726	21.1	90,064	20.7
Aged widows and widowers	70,096	16.9	71,745	16.5
Disabled widows and widowers	1,555	.4	1,659	.4
Parents	24	1/	24	1/
Children	14,537	3.5	15,101	3.5
Widowed mothers and fathers caring for child beneficiaries	1,515	.4	1,535	.4
Uninsured persons generally aged 72 before 1968	2/	1/	2/	1/
Lump-sum death payments	205	1/	206	1/
DI benefit payments, total	78,180	100.0	85,373	100.0
Disabled workers	71,665	91.7	78,361	91.8
Spouses	454	.6	483	.6
Children	6,061	7.8	6,529	7.6

[1] Less than 0.05 percent.
[2] Less than $500,000.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Net administrative expenses charged to the OASI and DI Trust Funds in calendar year 2005 totaled $5.3 billion. This amount represented 0.9 percent of contribution income and 1.0 percent of expenditures. Corresponding percentages for each trust fund separately and for the OASDI program as a whole are shown in table III.A6 for each of the last 5 years.

Table III.A6.—Administrative Expenses as a Percentage of Contribution Income and of Total Expenditures, Calendar Years 2001-05

	OASI Trust Fund		DI Trust Fund		OASI and DI Trust Funds, combined	
Calendar year	Contribution income	Total expenditures	Contribution income	Total expenditures	Contribution income	Total expenditures
2001	0.4	0.5	2.3	2.8	0.7	0.8
2002	.5	.5	2.7	3.0	.8	.9
2003	.6	.6	2.6	2.7	.9	1.0
2004	.5	.6	2.7	2.7	.8	.9
2005	.6	.7	2.7	2.6	.9	1.0

Changes in the invested assets of the OASI and DI funds between the end of 2004 and the end of 2005 are a result of the acquisition and disposition of securities during calendar year 2005. Table III.A7 presents these investment transactions for each trust fund separately and combined. Tables VI.A5 and VI.A6, presented in appendix A, show the assets of the OASI and DI Trust Funds at the end of calendar years 2004 and 2005.

Table III.A7.—Trust Fund Investment Transactions, Calendar Year 2005
[In millions]

	OASI Trust Fund	DI Trust Fund	OASI and DI Trust Funds, combined
Invested assets, December 31, 2004	$1,500,764	$186,221	$1,686,985
Acquisitions:			
Special issues:			
Certificates of indebtedness	563,120	92,534	655,654
Bonds[1]	253,823	22,395	276,218
Public issues:[2]			
Treasury bonds	—	0	0
Total acquisitions	816,943	114,928	931,872
Dispositions:			
Special issues:			
Certificates of indebtedness	549,922	92,721	642,643
Bonds	104,059	12,684	116,743
Public issues:[2]			
Treasury bonds	—	30	30
Total dispositions	653,982	105,435	759,416
Net increase in invested assets	162,962	9,494	172,456
Invested assets, December 31, 2005	1,663,726	195,715	1,859,441

[1] Amounts shown were purchased on June 30, 2005. The interest rate on such purchases was 4.125 percent.
[2] Dash indicates no holdings at any time during the year; zero indicates holdings during part of the year but no transactions. All public issues held by the DI Trust Fund were redeemed in February 2005.

Note: All investments are shown at par value.

B. SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENTS SINCE THE 2005 REPORT

Since the 2005 Annual Report was transmitted to Congress on March 23, 2005, there has been no legislation enacted that would have a significant effect on the financial status of the OASDI program.

IV. ACTUARIAL ESTIMATES

This chapter presents actuarial estimates of the future financial condition of the Social Security program. These estimates include projected income and cost of the OASI and DI Trust Funds, in dollars over the next 10 years and as a percentage of taxable payroll or in present-value dollars over the full 75-year period, along with a discussion of a variety of measures of the adequacy of current program financing. In this report we carefully distinguish between (1) the cost (or obligations) of the program, which includes, for the future, all benefits scheduled under current law, and (2) expenditures (disbursements or outgo), which include actual payments for the past and only the portion of the cost of the program that is projected to be payable with the financing provisions in current law.

As described in the Overview section of this report, these estimates depend upon a broad set of demographic, economic, and programmatic factors. Since assumptions related to these factors are subject to uncertainty, the estimates presented in this section are prepared under three sets of assumptions, to show a range of possible outcomes. The intermediate set of assumptions, designated as alternative II, reflects the Trustees' best estimate of future experience; the low cost alternative I is more optimistic and the high cost alternative III more pessimistic for the trust funds' future financial outlook. The intermediate estimates are shown first in the tables in this report, followed by the low cost and high cost estimates. These sets of assumptions, along with actuarial methods used to produce the estimates, are described in chapter V. In this chapter, the estimates and measures of trust fund financial adequacy for the short range (2006-15) are presented first, followed by estimates and measures of actuarial status for the long range (2006-80) and for the infinite future. As an additional illustration of uncertainty, estimated probability distributions of certain measures are presented in appendix E.

A. SHORT-RANGE ESTIMATES

In the short range, the adequacy of the trust fund level is generally measured by the "trust fund ratio," which is defined to be the assets at the beginning of the year expressed as a percentage of the projected cost for the year. Thus, the trust fund ratio represents the proportion of a year's cost which can be paid with the funds available at the beginning of the year. During periods when trust fund income exceeds disbursements, the excess is held in the trust funds which serve to advance fund a portion of the Social Security program's future financial obligations. During periods when trust fund disbursements exceed income, as might happen during an economic recession, trust fund assets are used to meet the shortfall. In the event of recurring shortfalls for an extended period, the trust funds can allow time for the development, enactment, and implementation of legislation to restore financial stability to the program.

The test of financial adequacy over the short-range projection period is applicable to the OASI and DI Trust Funds individually and on a combined basis. The requirements of this test are as follows: If the estimated trust fund ratio is at least 100 percent at the beginning of the projection period, then it must be projected to remain at or above 100 percent throughout the 10-year projection period. Alternatively, if the ratio is initially less than 100 percent, then it must be projected to reach a level of at least 100 percent within 5 years and to remain at or above 100 percent throughout the remainder of the 10-year period. In addition, the fund's estimated assets at the beginning of each month of the 10-year period must be sufficient to cover that month's disbursements. This test is applied on the basis of the intermediate estimates. Failure to meet this test by either trust fund is an indication that solvency of the program over the next 10 years is in question and that legislative action is needed to improve the short-range financial adequacy of the program.

1. Operations of the OASI Trust Fund

This subsection presents estimates of the operations and financial status of the OASI Trust Fund for the period 2006-15, based on the assumptions described in chapter V. No changes are assumed to occur in the present statutory provisions and regulations under which the OASDI program operates.[1]

These estimates are shown in table IV.A1 and indicate that the assets of the OASI Trust Fund would continue to increase rapidly throughout the next 10 years under all three sets of assumptions. Also, based on the intermediate assumptions, the assets of the OASI Trust Fund would continue to exceed 100 percent of annual expenditures by a steadily increasing amount through the end of 2015. Consequently, the OASI Trust Fund satisfies the test of short-range financial adequacy by a wide margin. The estimates in table IV.A1 also indicate that the short-range test would be satisfied even under the high cost assumptions (see figure IV.A1 for graphical illustration of these results).

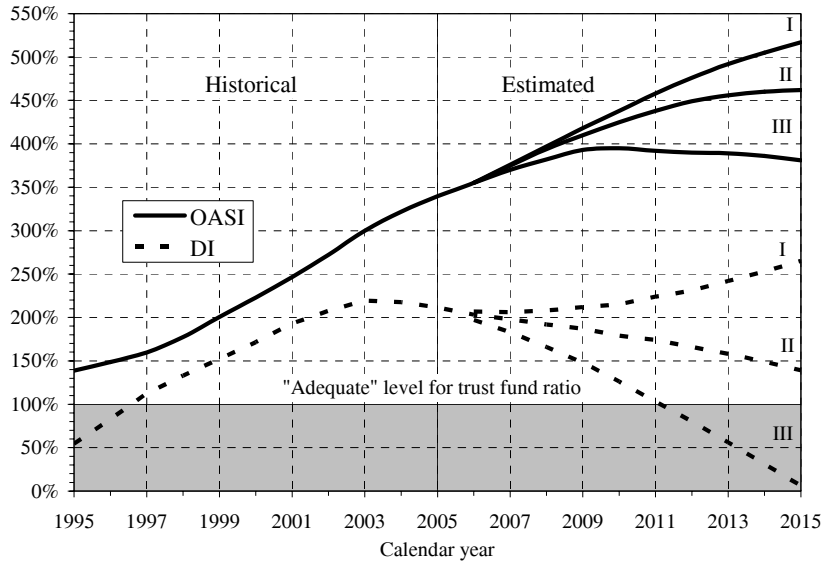
The increases in estimated income shown in table IV.A1 under each set of assumptions reflect increases in estimated OASDI taxable earnings and growth in interest earnings on the invested assets of the trust fund. For each alternative, employment and earnings are assumed to increase in every year through 2015. The number of persons with taxable earnings would increase on the basis of alternatives I, II, and III from 159 million during calendar year 2005 to about 176 million, 172 million, and 169 million, respectively, in 2015. The total annual amount of taxable earnings is projected to increase from $4,770 billion in 2005 to $7,685 billion, $7,733 billion, and

[1] The estimates shown in this subsection reflect 12 months of benefit payments in each year of the short-range projection period. In practice, the actual payment dates have at times been shifted over calendar year boundaries as a result of the statutory requirement that benefit checks be delivered early when the normal check delivery date is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal public holiday. The annual benefit figures are shown as if those benefit checks were delivered on the usual date.

$8,017 billion, in 2015, on the basis of alternatives I, II, and III, respectively.[1] These increases in taxable earnings are due primarily to (1) projected increases in employment levels as the working age (20-64) population increases, (2) increases in average earnings in covered employment (reflecting both real growth and price inflation), and (3) increases in the contribution and benefit base in 2006-15 under the automatic-adjustment provisions.

Growth in interest earnings represents a significant component of the overall increase in trust fund income during this period. Although interest rates payable on trust fund investments are not assumed to change substantially from current levels, the continuing rapid increase in OASI assets will result in a corresponding increase in interest income. By 2015, interest income to the OASI Trust Fund is projected to be about 19.8 percent of total trust fund income on the basis of the intermediate assumptions, as compared to 13.9 percent in 2005.

Figure IV.A1.—Short-Range OASI and DI Trust Fund Ratios
[Assets as a percentage of annual cost]



[1] Note that the pattern, by alternative, of these nominal amounts of total wages is not what might be expected, but the reverse, because of the varying inflation assumptions embedded in the respective estimates.

Table IV.A1.—Operations of the OASI Trust Fund, Calendar Years 2001-15[1]
[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Cost				Assets		
Calendar year	Total[2]	Net contri-butions	Taxa-tion of benefits	Net inter-est	Total	Benefit pay-ments	Admin-istra-tive costs	RRB inter-change	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust fund ratio[3]
Historical data:											
2001 . .	$518.1	$441.5	$11.9	$64.7	$377.5	$372.3	$2.0	$3.3	$140.6	$1,071.5	247
2002 . .	539.7	455.2	12.9	71.2	393.7	388.1	2.1	3.5	146.0	1,217.5	272
2003 . .	543.8	456.1	12.5	75.2	406.0	399.8	2.6	3.6	137.8	1,355.3	300
2004 . .	566.3	472.8	14.6	79.0	421.0	415.0	2.4	3.6	145.3	1,500.6	322
2005 . .	604.3	506.9	13.8	84.0	441.9	435.4	3.0	3.6	162.4	1,663.0	340
Intermediate:											
2006 . .	638.8	532.6	15.7	90.5	468.1	461.7	2.9	3.5	170.7	1,833.7	355
2007 . .	673.5	557.7	17.3	98.5	489.2	482.7	3.0	3.5	184.3	2,018.0	375
2008 . .	719.9	590.4	20.3	109.2	512.8	506.3	3.0	3.6	207.1	2,225.0	394
2009 . .	763.1	620.9	20.2	122.0	542.5	535.9	3.0	3.6	220.7	2,445.7	410
2010 . .	810.4	652.5	22.3	135.7	575.7	569.1	3.0	3.7	234.7	2,680.4	425
2011 . .	861.2	684.8	26.1	150.3	611.7	605.3	3.0	3.4	249.5	2,929.9	438
2012 . .	911.0	716.8	29.0	165.2	653.0	646.1	3.0	3.9	258.0	3,187.9	449
2013 . .	960.0	747.6	32.2	180.3	699.2	692.1	3.1	4.0	260.8	3,448.8	456
2014 . .	1,010.6	780.3	34.6	195.7	749.1	741.8	3.1	4.2	261.4	3,710.2	460
2015 . .	1,062.5	814.7	37.3	210.6	802.5	795.0	3.2	4.3	260.0	3,970.2	462
Low Cost:											
2006 . .	639.4	533.5	15.7	90.3	467.9	461.4	2.9	3.5	171.6	1,834.6	355
2007 . .	674.8	560.1	17.2	97.4	487.8	481.3	3.0	3.5	186.9	2,021.5	376
2008 . .	718.2	591.1	20.2	106.9	509.4	502.9	3.0	3.6	208.8	2,230.4	397
2009 . .	759.5	620.9	19.9	118.7	534.1	527.6	2.9	3.6	225.3	2,455.7	418
2010 . .	804.6	651.3	21.7	131.6	560.8	554.3	2.9	3.6	243.8	2,699.5	438
2011 . .	854.0	682.9	25.2	145.9	589.6	583.4	3.0	3.3	264.4	2,963.9	458
2012 . .	903.8	714.6	27.7	161.5	622.8	616.1	3.0	3.7	281.0	3,244.9	476
2013 . .	953.2	745.5	30.4	177.4	660.0	653.3	3.0	3.7	293.2	3,538.1	492
2014 . .	1,003.2	777.4	32.4	193.4	700.1	693.2	3.1	3.8	303.1	3,841.1	505
2015 . .	1,053.8	809.8	34.5	209.6	742.8	735.7	3.1	4.0	311.1	4,152.2	517
High Cost:											
2006 . .	629.2	524.8	15.7	88.7	468.2	461.8	2.9	3.5	161.0	1,824.0	355
2007 . .	650.2	537.6	17.4	95.3	492.5	485.9	3.0	3.5	157.7	1,981.8	370
2008 . .	699.2	572.9	20.6	105.8	518.4	511.8	3.0	3.6	180.9	2,162.6	382
2009 . .	737.4	598.4	20.5	118.5	550.1	543.4	3.0	3.7	187.3	2,349.9	393
2010 . .	794.6	635.7	23.0	135.8	594.2	587.4	3.1	3.8	200.3	2,550.3	395
2011 . .	874.9	684.9	27.8	162.2	650.3	643.5	3.2	3.6	224.6	2,774.9	392
2012 . .	942.1	728.3	31.6	182.2	710.9	703.4	3.3	4.2	231.3	3,006.1	390
2013 . .	998.7	766.6	35.6	196.5	773.6	765.8	3.3	4.5	225.1	3,231.2	389
2014 . .	1,052.4	805.2	38.7	208.5	836.8	828.6	3.4	4.8	215.6	3,446.8	386
2015 . .	1,106.5	844.3	42.0	220.2	903.7	895.2	3.5	5.1	202.7	3,649.5	381

[1] A detailed description of the components of income and cost, along with complete historical values, is presented in appendix A.

[2] "Total Income" column includes transfers made between the OASI Trust Fund and the General Fund of the Treasury that are not included in the separate components of income shown. These transfers consist of payments for (1) the cost of noncontributory wage credits for military service before 1957, and (2) the cost of benefits to certain uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968. Transfers for the cost of pre-1957 military service noncontributory wage credits were: (1) $414 million from the General Fund of Treasury to the OASI Trust Fund in February 2002, and (2) $350 million from the trust fund to the general fund in December 2005.

[3] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year (which are identical to assets at the end of the prior year shown in the "Amount at end of year" column) as a percentage of cost for the year.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Rising expenditures during 2006-15 reflect automatic benefit increases as well as the upward trend in the number of beneficiaries and in the average monthly earnings underlying benefits payable by the program. The growth in the number of beneficiaries in the past and the expected growth in the future result both from the increase in the aged population and from the increase in the proportion of the population which is eligible for benefits.

The estimates under all three sets of assumptions shown in table IV.A1 indicate that income to the OASI Trust Fund would substantially exceed expenditures in every year of the short-range projection period, and assets are therefore estimated to increase substantially.

The portion of the OASI Trust Fund that is not needed to meet day-to-day expenditures is used to purchase financial securities, generally special public-debt obligations of the U.S. Government. The cash used to make these purchases flows to the General Fund of the Treasury and is used to meet various Federal outlays or to reduce the amount of publicly-held Federal debt. Interest on these securities is paid to the trust fund and, when the securities mature or are redeemed prior to maturity, general fund revenues flow to the trust fund. Thus, the investment operations of the trust fund result in various cash flows between the trust fund and the General Fund of the Treasury.

Currently, the excess of tax income to the OASI Trust Fund over the fund's expenditures is borrowed by the general fund, resulting in a substantial net cash flow to the general fund. As discussed in the following section on page 50, this cash flow will reverse sometime in the next 10-20 years. Thereafter, increasingly larger amounts will be needed from trust fund assets to meet benefit payments and other expenditures. Revenue from the General Fund of the Treasury will be drawn upon to provide the necessary cash. The accumulation and subsequent redemption of substantial trust fund assets has important public policy and economic implications that extend well beyond the operation of the OASDI program itself.

2. Operations of the DI Trust Fund

The estimated operations and financial status of the DI Trust Fund during calendar years 2006-15 under the three sets of assumptions are shown in table IV.A2, together with values for actual experience in 2001-05. Income is generally projected to increase steadily under each alternative, reflecting most of the same factors described previously in connection with the OASI Trust Fund. The estimates indicate that the assets of the DI Trust Fund would also continue to increase throughout the next 10 years under the low cost assumptions, but would peak in 2012 and then begin to decline under the intermediate assumptions. Under the high cost assumptions, DI assets would increase through 2006 and decline steadily thereafter until exhaustion in 2015.

Expenditures are estimated to increase in part due to increases in average benefit levels resulting from (1) automatic benefit increases and (2) projected increases in the amounts of average monthly earnings on which benefits are based. In addition, under all three sets of assumptions, the number of DI beneficiaries in current-payment status is projected to continue increasing throughout the short-range projection period. Over the period 2005-15, the projected annual average growth rate in the number of DI worker beneficiaries is roughly 1.3, 2.7, and 4.1 percent under alternatives I, II, and III, respectively. Growth is largely attributable to the gradual progression of the baby-boom generation through ages 50 to normal retirement age, at which higher rates of disability incidence are experienced.

Annual increases in incidence rates over the period 2001-03 represented a notable departure from the experience of the preceding decade, which generally showed modest annual declines in the age-sex-adjusted disability incidence rate.[1] Over the past two years however, this growth in the incidence rate has subsided, and the rate has remained stable, although at a level somewhat higher than experienced during the late 1990s. The increases in 2001-03 were likely due in large part to the slowdown in economic growth experienced during that period. However, a special administrative activity undertaken by SSA beginning in 2001 has also contributed slightly to the upsurge in disabled worker awards. This special workload was the result of discovering a substantial number of current or former recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits whose disability-insured status under the DI program was not previously recognized. As this special disability workload is processed over the next several years, the resulting disability awards will contribute to temporarily higher incidence rates than would have been expected as part of longer term underlying trends.

Estimates of the total size of this special workload, and the total time required to process these claims, remain roughly the same as assumed for the 2005 report. However, the schedule for processing this workload assumed in this report envisions a somewhat more uniform distribution of cases over the next several years than was assumed in the 2005 report. After the last of the special workload cases is processed, the incidence of disability award projected in this report is estimated to drop back somewhat from recent levels, consistent with an assumed return to faster economic growth. Incidence rates are then expected to return to levels roughly in line with those assumed in last year's report under the three alternative sets of assumptions.

[1] Historical and projected patterns of disability incidence rates are described in greater detail in section V.C.6.

Table IV.A2.—Operations of the DI Trust Fund, Calendar Years 2001-15[1]
[Amounts in billions]

Calendar year	Income: Total[2]	Income: Net contributions	Income: Taxation of benefits	Income: Net interest	Cost: Total	Cost: Benefit payments	Cost: Administrative costs	Cost: RRB interchange	Assets: Net increase during year	Assets: Amount at end of year	Assets: Trust fund ratio[3]
Historical data:											
2001 . .	$83.9	$74.9	$0.8	$8.2	$61.4	$59.6	$1.7	4/	$22.5	$141.0	193
2002 . .	87.4	77.3	.9	9.2	67.9	65.7	2.0	$0.2	19.5	160.5	208
2003 . .	88.1	77.4	.9	9.7	73.1	70.9	2.0	.2	15.0	175.4	219
2004 . .	91.4	80.3	1.1	10.0	80.6	78.2	2.2	.2	10.8	186.2	218
2005 . .	97.4	86.1	1.1	10.3	88.0	85.4	2.3	.3	9.4	195.6	212
Intermediate:											
2006 . .	102.2	90.4	1.3	10.4	96.1	93.5	2.3	.3	6.0	201.6	203
2007 . .	106.7	94.7	1.4	10.6	101.8	99.0	2.5	.3	4.9	206.5	198
2008 . .	112.8	100.3	1.7	10.9	107.3	104.5	2.5	.4	5.5	212.0	192
2009 . .	118.4	105.4	1.7	11.2	113.4	110.4	2.7	.4	4.9	217.0	187
2010 . .	124.2	110.8	2.0	11.4	121.2	117.9	2.8	.4	3.1	220.0	179
2011 . .	130.3	116.3	2.3	11.7	126.6	123.1	3.0	.5	3.7	223.7	174
2012 . .	136.3	121.7	2.7	11.9	135.1	131.5	3.2	.5	1.1	224.9	166
2013 . .	141.9	127.0	3.0	11.9	142.5	138.6	3.4	.5	-0.5	224.3	158
2014 . .	147.6	132.5	3.2	11.9	150.4	146.3	3.5	.5	-2.8	221.5	149
2015 . .	153.5	138.3	3.4	11.7	158.8	154.6	3.7	.5	-5.4	216.2	139
Low Cost:											
2006 . .	102.3	90.6	1.3	10.5	94.6	91.9	2.3	.3	7.7	203.4	207
2007 . .	107.2	95.1	1.4	10.7	98.5	95.7	2.5	.3	8.7	212.0	206
2008 . .	113.2	100.4	1.6	11.1	102.0	99.1	2.5	.4	11.2	223.2	208
2009 . .	118.8	105.4	1.6	11.8	105.4	102.4	2.6	.4	13.4	236.6	212
2010 . .	124.9	110.6	1.8	12.5	109.9	106.6	2.8	.4	15.0	251.6	215
2011 . .	131.5	116.0	2.1	13.5	112.2	108.8	2.9	.4	19.3	271.0	224
2012 . .	138.3	121.3	2.3	14.6	117.1	113.5	3.1	.5	21.2	292.2	231
2013 . .	145.0	126.6	2.6	15.9	120.8	117.1	3.3	.5	24.2	316.4	242
2014 . .	151.9	132.0	2.7	17.2	125.0	121.1	3.4	.5	26.9	343.3	253
2015 . .	159.0	137.5	2.8	18.7	129.5	125.5	3.6	.4	29.5	372.8	265
High Cost:											
2006 . .	100.7	89.1	1.3	10.2	99.2	96.6	2.3	.3	1.4	197.0	197
2007 . .	102.7	91.3	1.5	9.9	107.7	104.9	2.5	.4	-5.0	192.0	183
2008 . .	108.7	97.3	1.9	9.6	115.9	113.1	2.5	.4	-7.2	184.8	166
2009 . .	112.6	101.6	1.9	9.1	124.7	121.6	2.6	.4	-12.0	172.8	148
2010 . .	118.5	108.0	2.3	8.3	137.3	134.0	2.9	.5	-18.8	154.0	126
2011 . .	126.4	116.3	2.8	7.3	149.3	145.6	3.1	.5	-22.9	131.1	103
2012 . .	132.9	123.7	3.3	5.9	164.6	160.7	3.4	.5	-31.7	99.4	80
2013 . .	138.2	130.2	3.8	4.2	177.6	173.4	3.6	.6	-39.4	60.0	56
2014 . .	143.2	136.7	4.1	2.4	190.6	186.3	3.8	.6	-47.4	12.6	31
2015 . .	5/	143.4	4.5	5/	204.5	199.9	4.0	.6	5/	5/	6

[1] A detailed description of the components of income and cost, along with complete historical values, is presented in appendix A.

[2] "Total Income" column includes transfers made between the DI Trust Fund and the General Fund of the Treasury that are not included in the separate components of income shown. These transfers consist of payments for the cost of noncontributory wage credits for military service before 1957. In particular, a transfer is expected to be made in December 2006 in the amount of $7.3 million from the General Fund of the Treasury to the DI Trust Fund. Thereafter such transfers are estimated to be less than $500,000 in each year.

[3] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year (which are identical to assets at the end of the prior year shown in the "Amount at end of year" column) as a percentage of cost for the year.

[4] Less than $50 million.

[5] Under the high cost assumptions, the DI Trust Fund is projected to be exhausted in early 2015. Therefore, certain trust fund operation values for that year are not meaningful under present law and are not shown in this table.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

The proportion of DI beneficiaries whose benefits terminate in a given year has also fluctuated in the past. Over the last 20 years, the rates of benefit termination due to death or conversion to retirement benefits (at attainment of normal retirement age) have declined very gradually. This trend is attributable, in part, to the lower average age of new beneficiaries. However, some recent program changes and health trends have also led to improved mortality experience among the DI disabled worker beneficiaries. The termination rate due to recovery has been much more volatile. Currently, the proportion of disabled beneficiaries whose benefits cease because of their recovery from disability is very low in comparison to levels experienced throughout the 1970s and early 1980s. Projected levels of recovery terminations for this year's report remain consistent with last year's report. The overall termination rate (reflecting all causes) is projected to remain near the 2003 level before increasing back to higher levels in 2009 when the gradual increase in the normal retirement age temporarily ceases.

At the beginning of calendar year 2005, the assets of the DI Trust Fund represented 212 percent of annual expenditures. During 2005, DI expenditures started to exceed non-interest income. However, total DI income exceeded DI expenditures but only by $9.4 billion, contributing to a decrease in the trust fund ratio for the beginning of 2006 to about 203 percent. Under the intermediate set of assumptions, total income is estimated to exceed expenditures through 2012. The excess of expenditures over income beginning in 2013 and the projected decline in the trust fund ratio to 139 percent by the beginning of 2015 are early warnings of the eventual shortfall in available DI Trust Fund assets needed to cover program cost—projected under the intermediate assumptions to occur after the end of the short-range period.

Under the low cost assumptions, the trust fund ratio would increase to 265 percent at the beginning of 2015. Under the high cost assumptions, the assets of the DI Trust Fund would decline steadily, dipping below the level of 1 year's expenditures near the beginning of 2011, and is projected to become completely depleted early in 2015.

Because DI assets were greater than 1 year's expenditures at the beginning of 2006 and would remain above that level throughout 2007-15, the DI Trust Fund satisfies the Trustees' short-range test of financial adequacy under both the intermediate and low cost assumptions. However, under the high cost assumptions the DI Trust Fund fails to meet the short-range test of financial adequacy, because assets fall below 1 year's expenditures by the end of the short-range period, as described above (see also figure IV.A1).

3. Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds

The estimated operations and status of the OASI and DI Trust Funds, combined, during calendar years 2006-15 on the basis of the three alternatives, are shown in table IV.A3, together with figures on actual experience in 2001-05. Because income and cost for the OASI Trust Fund represent over 80 percent of the corresponding amounts for the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, the operations of the OASI Trust Fund tend to dominate the combined operations of the two funds. Consequently, based on the strength of the OASI Trust Fund over the next 10 years, the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds meet the requirements of the short-range test of financial adequacy under all three alternative sets of assumptions.

While combining the operations of the OASI and DI Trust Funds permits an assessment of the short-range test for the two programs on a combined basis, in practice assets from one trust fund cannot be shared with another trust fund without legislative changes to the Social Security Act. For example, under the high cost scenario, table IV.A2 shows that the DI Trust Fund becomes exhausted in 2015. The value of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds in that year shown in table IV.A3 implies that OASI assets could be made available to pay DI benefits once the DI Trust Fund is exhausted.

Table IV.A3.—Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, Calendar Years 2001-15[1]

[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Cost				Assets		
Calendar year	Total[2]	Net contributions	Taxation of benefits	Net interest	Total	Benefit payments	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust fund ratio[3]
Historical data:											
2001 . .	$602.0	$516.4	$12.7	$72.9	$438.9	$431.9	$3.7	$3.3	$163.1	$1,212.5	239
2002 . .	627.1	532.5	13.8	80.4	461.7	453.8	4.2	3.6	165.4	1,378.0	263
2003 . .	631.9	533.5	13.4	84.9	479.1	470.8	4.6	3.7	152.8	1,530.8	288
2004 . .	657.7	553.0	15.7	89.0	501.6	493.3	4.5	3.8	156.1	1,686.8	305
2005 . .	701.8	592.9	14.9	94.3	529.9	520.7	5.3	3.9	171.8	1,858.7	318
Intermediate:											
2006 . .	740.9	623.1	17.0	100.9	564.2	555.2	5.3	3.8	176.7	2,035.3	329
2007 . .	780.1	652.4	18.7	109.1	591.0	581.7	5.5	3.9	189.1	2,224.5	344
2008 . .	832.7	690.6	22.1	120.0	620.1	610.7	5.5	3.9	212.6	2,437.1	359
2009 . .	881.5	726.4	21.9	133.2	655.9	646.2	5.6	4.0	225.6	2,662.7	372
2010 . .	934.7	763.3	24.3	147.1	696.9	687.0	5.8	4.1	237.8	2,900.4	382
2011 . .	991.5	801.1	28.5	162.0	738.3	728.4	6.0	3.9	253.2	3,153.7	393
2012 . .	1,047.3	838.5	31.7	177.0	788.2	777.6	6.2	4.4	259.1	3,412.8	400
2013 . .	1,101.9	874.5	35.2	192.2	841.7	830.7	6.5	4.5	260.3	3,673.1	405
2014 . .	1,158.2	912.8	37.9	207.6	899.5	888.2	6.7	4.7	258.6	3,931.7	408
2015 . .	1,216.0	953.0	40.7	222.3	961.4	949.6	6.9	4.8	254.6	4,186.4	409

Table IV.A3.—Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, Calendar Years 2001-15[1] (Cont.)
[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Cost				Assets		
Calendar year	Total[2]	Net contributions	Taxation of benefits	Net interest	Total	Benefit payments	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust fund ratio[3]
Low Cost:											
2006 . .	$741.7	$624.1	$16.9	$100.7	$562.4	$553.4	$5.3	$3.8	$179.3	$2,038.0	330
2007 . .	781.9	655.2	18.6	108.1	586.3	577.0	5.5	3.9	195.6	2,233.6	348
2008 . .	831.4	691.5	21.9	118.0	611.4	602.0	5.4	3.9	220.0	2,453.6	365
2009 . .	878.3	726.3	21.5	130.5	639.5	630.0	5.6	4.0	238.7	2,692.3	384
2010 . .	929.5	761.9	23.6	144.1	670.7	660.9	5.7	4.0	258.8	2,951.1	401
2011 . .	985.5	798.9	27.3	159.4	701.8	692.2	5.9	3.8	283.7	3,234.8	420
2012 . .	1,042.1	836.0	30.0	176.1	739.9	729.6	6.1	4.1	302.2	3,537.0	437
2013 . .	1,098.3	872.0	32.9	193.3	780.9	770.4	6.3	4.2	317.4	3,854.4	453
2014 . .	1,155.1	909.4	35.0	210.7	825.1	814.4	6.5	4.3	330.0	4,184.4	467
2015 . .	1,212.9	947.3	37.3	228.3	872.3	861.2	6.7	4.4	340.5	4,525.0	480
High Cost:											
2006 . .	729.9	613.9	17.0	99.0	567.5	558.4	5.3	3.8	162.4	2,021.1	328
2007 . .	752.9	628.8	18.9	105.2	600.2	590.8	5.5	3.9	152.7	2,173.8	337
2008 . .	808.0	670.2	22.4	115.4	634.3	624.9	5.4	4.0	173.7	2,347.4	343
2009 . .	850.0	700.0	22.4	127.6	674.8	665.0	5.6	4.1	175.3	2,522.7	348
2010 . .	913.1	743.7	25.3	144.1	731.5	721.4	5.9	4.2	181.5	2,704.3	345
2011 . .	1,001.3	801.3	30.6	169.5	799.5	789.1	6.3	4.1	201.8	2,906.0	338
2012 . .	1,075.0	852.0	34.9	188.1	875.5	864.1	6.6	4.7	199.5	3,105.5	332
2013 . .	1,136.9	896.8	39.4	200.7	951.2	939.2	6.9	5.1	185.6	3,291.2	326
2014 . .	1,195.6	942.0	42.8	210.8	1,027.4	1,014.8	7.2	5.4	168.2	3,459.4	320
2015 . .	1,253.7	987.7	46.4	219.5	1,108.2	1,095.1	7.5	5.7	145.4	3,604.8	312

[1] A detailed description of the components of income and cost, along with complete historical values, is presented in appendix A.
[2] "Total Income" column includes transfers made between the OASI and DI Trust Funds and the General Fund of the Treasury that are not included in the separate components of income shown. These transfers consist of payments for (1) the cost of noncontributory wage credits for military service before 1957, and (2) the cost of benefits to certain uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968.
[3] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year (which are identical to assets at the end of the prior year shown in the "Amount at end of year" column) as a percentage of cost for the year.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

4. Factors Underlying Changes in 10-Year Trust Fund Ratio Estimates From the 2005 Report

The factors underlying the changes in the intermediate estimates for the OASI, DI and the combined funds from last year's annual report to this report are analyzed in table IV.A4. In the 2005 Annual Report, the trust fund ratio for OASI was estimated to reach 468 percent at the beginning of 2014—the tenth projection year from that report. If there had been no changes to the projections, the estimated ratio at the beginning of 2015 would be 1 percentage point higher than at the beginning of 2014, or 469 percent. There were changes, however, to reflect the latest actual data, as well as adjustments to the assumptions for future years. The resulting ratio shown in this report for the tenth projection year (2015) is 462 percent. The net effect of changes in demographic assumptions over the short-range period resulted in essentially no change in the tenth-year trust fund ratio. The

cumulative net effects of changes in economic data and assumptions (including re-estimates of future tax revenue consistent with recent revisions to historical data) resulted in a reduction in the trust fund ratio of 11 percentage points by the beginning of 2015. A partially offsetting increase in the 2015 trust fund ratio was due to the net effect of various factors labeled collectively as "programmatic data and assumptions." Finally there were no changes in the short-range projection methodology since the 2005 report that resulted in significant changes in the ending trust fund ratio.

Corresponding estimates of the factors underlying the changes in the financial projections for the DI Trust Fund, and for the OASI and DI Trust Funds combined, are also shown in table IV.A4. As with OASI, the largest effect on the DI trust fund ratio at the beginning of 2015 was due to revised economic assumptions, although the change in the valuation period and updates for a variety of programmatic assumptions have contributed to the total 23 percentage point reduction.

Table IV.A4.—Reasons for Change in Trust Fund Ratios at the Beginning of the Tenth Year of Projection
[In percent]

Item	OASI Trust Fund	DI Trust Fund	OASI and DI Trust Funds, combined
Trust fund ratio shown in last year's report for calendar year 2014	468	162	417
Change in trust fund ratio due to changes in:			
Legislation	—	—	—
Valuation period	1	-8	-1
Demographic data and assumptions	1/	1/	1/
Economic data and assumptions	-11	-11	-11
Programmatic data and assumptions	4	-4	2
Projection methods and data	1/	1/	1/
Total change in trust fund ratio	-6	-23	-8
Trust fund ratio shown in this report for calendar year 2015	462	139	409

[1] Change in trust fund ratio of less than 0.5 percentage point.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

B. LONG-RANGE ESTIMATES

Three types of financial measures are useful in assessing the actuarial status of the Social Security trust funds under the financing approach specified in current law: (1) annual cash-flow measures, including income and cost rates, and balances, (2) trust fund ratios, and (3) summary measures like actuarial balances and unfunded obligations. The first long-range estimates presented are the series of projected annual balances (or net cash flow), which are the differences between the projected annual income rates and annual cost rates. In assessing the financial condition of the program, particular attention should be paid to the level of the annual balances at the end of the long-range period and the time at which the annual balances may change from positive to negative values.

The next measure discussed is the pattern of projected trust fund ratios. The trust fund ratio represents the proportion of a year's projected cost that can be paid with the funds available at the beginning of the year. Particular attention should be paid to the level and year of maximum trust fund ratio, to the year of exhaustion of the funds, and to stability of the trust fund ratio in cases where the ratio remains positive at the end of the long-range period. When a program has positive trust fund ratios throughout the 75-year projection period and these ratios are stable or rising at the end of the period, the program financing is said to achieve sustainable solvency.

The final measures discussed in this section summarize the total income and cost over valuation periods that extend through 75 years, and to the infinite horizon. These measures indicate whether projected income will be adequate for the period as a whole. The first such measure, actuarial balance, indicates the size of any surplus or shortfall as a percentage of the taxable payroll over the period. The second, open group unfunded obligation, indicates the size of any shortfall in present-value dollars. This section also includes a comparison of covered workers to beneficiaries, a generational decomposition of the infinite future unfunded obligation, the test of long-range close actuarial balance, and the reasons for change in the actuarial balance from the last report.

If the 75-year actuarial balance is zero (or positive), then the trust fund ratio at the end of the period, will be at 100 percent (or greater) and financing for the program is considered to be adequate for the 75-year period as a whole. (Financial adequacy, or solvency, for each year is determined by whether the trust fund is zero or positive throughout the year.) Whether or not financial adequacy is stable in the sense that it is likely to continue for subsequent 75-year periods in succeeding reports is also important when considering the actuarial status of the program. One indication of this stability, or sustainable solvency, is the behavior of the trust fund ratio at the end of the projection

period. If trust fund ratios for the last several years of the long-range period are positive and constant or rising, then it is likely that subsequent Trustees Reports will also show projections of financial adequacy (assuming no changes in demographic and economic assumptions, or the law). The actuarial balance and the open group unfunded obligation for the infinite future provide additional measures of the financial status of the program for the very long range.

1. Annual Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances

Basic to the consideration of the long-range actuarial status of the trust funds are the concepts of income rate and cost rate, each of which is expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll. Other measures of the cash flow of the program are shown in appendix F. The annual income rate is the sum of the tax contribution rate and the ratio of income from taxation of benefits to the OASDI taxable payroll for the year. The OASDI taxable payroll consists of the total earnings which are subject to OASDI taxes, with some relatively small adjustments.[1] As such, it excludes net investment income and reimbursements from the General Fund of the Treasury for the costs associated with special monthly payments to certain uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968 and who have fewer than 3 quarters of coverage.

The annual cost rate is the ratio of the cost of the program to the taxable payroll for the year. The cost is defined to include scheduled benefit payments, special monthly payments to certain uninsured persons who have 3 or more quarters of coverage (and whose payments are therefore not reimbursable from the General Fund of the Treasury), administrative expenses, net transfers from the trust funds to the Railroad Retirement program under the financial-interchange provisions, and payments for vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries. For any year, the income rate minus the cost rate is referred to as the balance for the year. (In this context, the term balance does not represent the assets of the trust funds, which are sometimes referred to as the balance in the trust funds.)

Table IV.B1 presents a comparison of the estimated annual income rates and cost rates by trust fund and alternative. Detailed long-range projections of trust fund operations, in current dollar amounts, are shown in table VI.F8.

The projections for OASI under the intermediate assumptions show the income rate generally rising due to the gradually increasing effect of the tax-

[1] Adjustments are made to include deemed wage credits based on military service for 1983-2001, and to reflect the lower effective tax rates (as compared to the combined employee-employer rate) which apply to multiple-employer "excess wages," and which did apply, before 1984, to net earnings from self-employment and, before 1988, to income from tips.

ation of benefits. The pattern of the cost rate is much different. It is projected to remain fairly stable for the next several years. However, from about 2010 to 2030 the cost rate increases rapidly as the baby-boom generation reaches retirement age. Thereafter, the cost rate rises steadily, but slowly, reflecting projected reductions in death rates and continued relatively low birth rates, reaching 16.27 percent of taxable payroll for 2080. By comparison, the income rate reaches 11.49 percent of taxable payroll for 2080.

Projected income rates under the low cost and high cost sets of assumptions are very similar to those projected for the intermediate assumptions as they are largely a reflection of the tax rates specified in the law. OASI cost rates for the low cost and high cost assumptions differ significantly from those projected for the intermediate assumptions, but follow generally similar patterns. For the low cost assumptions, the cost rate declines somewhat for the first 4 years, and then rises, reaching the current level around 2013 and a peak of 13.16 percent of payroll for 2035. The cost rate then declines gradually, reaching a level of 11.74 percent of payroll for 2080 (at which point the income rate reaches 11.24 percent). For the high cost assumptions, the cost rate rises generally throughout the 75-year period. It rises at a relatively fast pace between 2010 and 2030 because of the aging of the baby-boom generation. Subsequently, the projected cost rate continues rising and reaches 23.35 percent of payroll for 2080 (at which point the income rate reaches 11.88 percent).

The pattern of the projected OASI annual balance is important in the analysis of the financial condition of the program. Under the intermediate assumptions, the annual balance is positive for 12 years (through 2017) and is negative thereafter. This annual deficit rises rapidly, reaching over 2 percent of taxable payroll by 2026, and continues rising thereafter, to a level of 4.78 percent of taxable payroll for 2080.

Under the low cost assumptions, the projected OASI annual balance is positive for 16 years (through 2021) and thereafter is negative. The annual deficit under the low cost assumptions rises to a peak of 1.88 percent of taxable payroll for 2035, but declines over the next 15 years, as the effect of the baby-boom generation diminishes and the assumed higher fertility rates increase the size of the work force. The deficit under the low cost assumptions continues to decline, but at a relatively slow pace over the period 2051 through 2080. Under the high cost assumptions, however, the OASI balance is projected to be positive for only 9 years (through 2014) and to be negative thereafter, with a deficit of 1.74 percent for 2020, 7.08 percent for 2050, and 11.47 percent of payroll for 2080.

Table IV.B1.—Estimated Annual Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances
Calendar Years 1990-2080
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Calendar year	OASI Income rate[1]	OASI Cost rate	OASI Balance	DI Income rate[1]	DI Cost rate	DI Balance	OASDI Income rate[1]	OASDI Cost rate	OASDI Balance
Historical data:									
1990	11.32	9.66	1.66	1.17	1.09	0.09	12.49	10.74	1.75
1991	11.44	10.15	1.29	1.21	1.18	.03	12.65	11.33	1.32
1992	11.43	10.27	1.16	1.21	1.27	-.06	12.64	11.54	1.10
1993	11.40	10.37	1.03	1.21	1.35	-.14	12.61	11.73	.88
1994	10.70	10.22	.48	1.89	1.40	.49	12.59	11.62	.97
1995	10.70	10.22	.48	1.88	1.44	.44	12.59	11.67	.92
1996	10.73	10.06	.68	1.89	1.48	.41	12.62	11.53	1.09
1997	10.93	9.83	1.09	1.71	1.44	.28	12.64	11.27	1.37
1998	10.96	9.45	1.51	1.72	1.42	.30	12.68	10.87	1.81
1999	10.99	9.09	1.90	1.72	1.42	.30	12.71	10.51	2.20
2000	10.89	8.97	1.92	1.80	1.42	.38	12.69	10.40	2.29
2001	10.89	9.08	1.80	1.82	1.48	.34	12.71	10.56	2.14
2002	10.91	9.30	1.62	1.82	1.60	.22	12.74	10.90	1.84
2003	10.89	9.33	1.56	1.82	1.68	.14	12.71	11.01	1.70
2004	10.92	9.30	1.63	1.82	1.78	.05	12.75	11.08	1.67
2005	10.88	9.30	1.59	1.82	1.85	-.03	12.71	11.15	1.56
Intermediate:									
2006	10.91	9.31	1.60	1.83	1.91	-.09	12.74	11.22	1.52
2007	10.93	9.23	1.70	1.83	1.92	-.09	12.75	11.15	1.61
2008	10.96	9.18	1.78	1.83	1.92	-.09	12.80	11.10	1.69
2009	10.94	9.23	1.71	1.83	1.93	-.10	12.77	11.16	1.61
2010	10.96	9.33	1.64	1.83	1.96	-.13	12.79	11.29	1.50
2011	11.00	9.45	1.56	1.84	1.95	-.12	12.84	11.40	1.44
2012	11.03	9.64	1.39	1.84	1.99	-.16	12.87	11.63	1.23
2013	11.05	9.89	1.16	1.84	2.02	-.17	12.90	11.91	.99
2014	11.07	10.15	.92	1.84	2.04	-.19	12.91	12.19	.72
2015	11.08	10.41	.67	1.84	2.06	-.22	12.93	12.48	.45
2020	11.18	11.87	-.70	1.85	2.11	-.27	13.02	13.99	-.97
2025	11.26	13.26	-2.00	1.85	2.24	-.39	13.11	15.50	-2.38
2030	11.34	14.44	-3.10	1.86	2.28	-.42	13.19	16.71	-3.52
2035	11.38	15.09	-3.71	1.86	2.27	-.42	13.24	17.36	-4.12
2040	11.40	15.22	-3.82	1.86	2.29	-.44	13.26	17.51	-4.25
2045	11.40	15.14	-3.74	1.86	2.37	-.51	13.26	17.51	-4.25
2050	11.41	15.15	-3.74	1.86	2.40	-.54	13.27	17.55	-4.28
2055	11.42	15.25	-3.83	1.86	2.43	-.57	13.28	17.68	-4.40
2060	11.43	15.44	-4.00	1.86	2.43	-.56	13.30	17.87	-4.57
2065	11.45	15.65	-4.20	1.87	2.44	-.58	13.31	18.09	-4.78
2070	11.47	15.90	-4.44	1.87	2.44	-.58	13.33	18.35	-5.01
2075	11.48	16.09	-4.61	1.87	2.46	-.59	13.34	18.54	-5.20
2080	11.49	16.27	-4.78	1.87	2.47	-.60	13.36	18.74	-5.38
First year balance becomes negative and remains negative through 2080			2018			2005			2017
Low Cost:									
2006	10.91	9.28	1.63	1.83	1.88	-.05	12.74	11.15	1.58
2007	10.92	9.18	1.75	1.83	1.85	-.03	12.75	11.03	1.72
2008	10.96	9.11	1.85	1.83	1.82	.01	12.79	10.93	1.86
2009	10.94	9.09	1.85	1.83	1.79	.03	12.77	10.89	1.88
2010	10.95	9.10	1.85	1.83	1.78	.05	12.78	10.89	1.90
2011	10.99	9.13	1.86	1.83	1.74	.09	12.82	10.87	1.95
2012	11.01	9.22	1.79	1.83	1.73	.10	12.84	10.96	1.89
2013	11.03	9.36	1.67	1.84	1.71	.12	12.87	11.08	1.79
2014	11.04	9.52	1.52	1.84	1.70	.14	12.88	11.22	1.65
2015	11.05	9.70	1.35	1.84	1.69	.15	12.89	11.39	1.50

Table IV.B1.—Estimated Annual Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances Calendar Years 1990-2080 (Cont.)

[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Calendar year	OASI Income rate[1]	OASI Cost rate	OASI Balance	DI Income rate[1]	DI Cost rate	DI Balance	OASDI Income rate[1]	OASDI Cost rate	OASDI Balance
Low Cost (cont.):									
2020	11.13	10.90	0.23	1.84	1.67	0.17	12.96	12.57	0.39
2025	11.20	12.03	-.83	1.84	1.73	.11	13.04	13.76	-.72
2030	11.25	12.85	-1.60	1.84	1.73	.12	13.09	14.58	-1.49
2035	11.28	13.16	-1.88	1.84	1.70	.14	13.12	14.86	-1.74
2040	11.28	12.98	-1.70	1.84	1.70	.15	13.12	14.67	-1.55
2045	11.27	12.64	-1.38	1.84	1.73	.12	13.11	14.37	-1.26
2050	11.26	12.40	-1.14	1.84	1.72	.12	13.10	14.13	-1.02
2055	11.26	12.24	-.99	1.84	1.72	.12	13.10	13.97	-.86
2060	11.25	12.14	-.89	1.84	1.70	.14	13.10	13.84	-.74
2065	11.25	12.02	-.77	1.85	1.70	.15	13.09	13.72	-.62
2070	11.25	11.90	-.66	1.85	1.70	.15	13.09	13.60	-.51
2075	11.24	11.78	-.54	1.85	1.71	.14	13.09	13.49	-.41
2080	11.24	11.74	-.50	1.85	1.72	.12	13.09	13.47	-.38
First year balance becomes negative and remains negative through 2080			2022			2/			2022
High Cost:									
2006	10.92	9.53	1.38	1.83	2.02	-.19	12.75	11.56	1.19
2007	10.94	9.55	1.39	1.83	2.09	-.26	12.77	11.64	1.13
2008	10.98	9.57	1.41	1.83	2.14	-.31	12.81	11.71	1.11
2009	10.96	9.72	1.24	1.83	2.20	-.37	12.80	11.92	.87
2010	10.98	9.87	1.11	1.84	2.28	-.44	12.82	12.15	.67
2011	11.03	10.03	.99	1.84	2.30	-.46	12.87	12.34	.53
2012	11.06	10.32	.74	1.85	2.39	-.54	12.91	12.71	.20
2013	11.09	10.66	.43	1.85	2.45	-.60	12.94	13.11	-.17
2014	11.11	10.98	.13	1.85	2.50	-.65	12.96	13.48	-.52
2015	11.13	11.31	-.19	1.86	2.56	-.70	12.98	13.87	-.89
2020	11.23	12.98	-1.74	1.86	2.67	-.81	13.09	15.64	-2.55
2025	11.33	14.58	-3.25	1.87	2.82	-.95	13.20	17.40	-4.20
2030	11.43	16.13	-4.70	1.87	2.89	-1.02	13.30	19.02	-5.72
2035	11.50	17.23	-5.73	1.87	2.92	-1.04	13.37	20.14	-6.77
2040	11.54	17.82	-6.28	1.88	2.98	-1.10	13.42	20.80	-7.38
2045	11.57	18.20	-6.63	1.88	3.12	-1.24	13.45	21.32	-7.87
2050	11.60	18.68	-7.08	1.88	3.21	-1.33	13.49	21.89	-8.40
2055	11.64	19.25	-7.61	1.89	3.31	-1.42	13.53	22.56	-9.03
2060	11.68	19.98	-8.30	1.89	3.34	-1.45	13.57	23.33	-9.75
2065	11.73	20.82	-9.09	1.89	3.40	-1.51	13.62	24.22	-10.59
2070	11.79	21.76	-9.97	1.89	3.40	-1.51	13.68	25.16	-11.48
2075	11.84	22.60	-10.77	1.89	3.41	-1.52	13.73	26.01	-12.28
2080	11.88	23.35	-11.47	1.89	3.42	-1.52	13.77	26.76	-12.99
First year balance becomes negative and remains negative through 2080			2015			2005			2013

[1] Historical income rates are modified to include adjustments to the lump-sum payments received in 1983 from the General Fund of the Treasury for the cost of noncontributory wage credits for military service in 1940-56.

[2] After 2007, the annual balance is projected to remain positive throughout the remainder of the projection period.

Notes:
1. The income rate excludes interest income and certain transfers from the General Fund of the Treasury.
2. Some historical values are subject to change due to revisions of taxable payroll.
3. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Under the intermediate assumptions, the cost rate for DI generally increases over the long-range period from 1.91 percent of taxable payroll for 2006, reaching 2.47 for 2080. The income rate increases only very slightly from

1.83 percent of taxable payroll for 2006 to 1.87 percent for 2080. The annual deficit is about 0.09 percent in 2006 and reaches 0.60 percent for 2080.

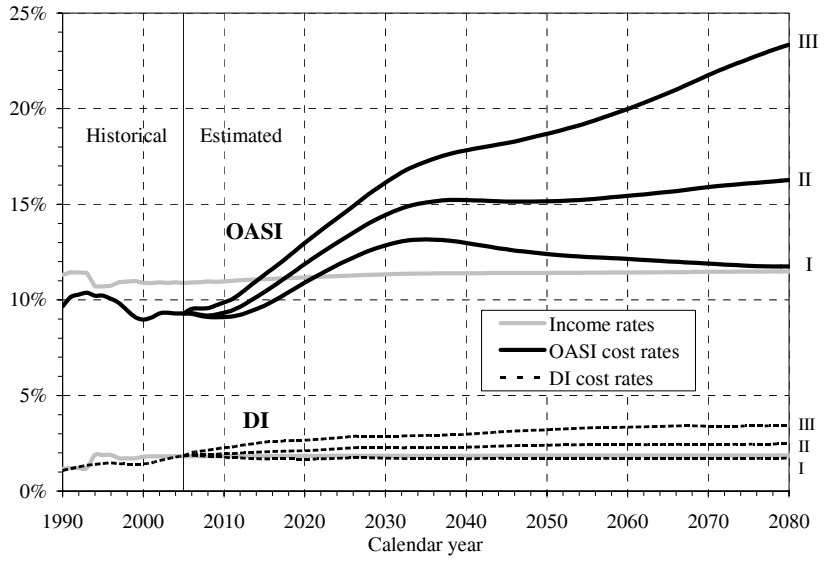
Under the low cost assumptions, the DI cost rate is fairly stable over the long-range period, reaching 1.72 percent for 2080. The annual balance is negative for the first 2 years and is positive throughout the remainder of the long-range period. For the high cost assumptions, DI cost rises much more, reaching 3.42 percent for 2080. Annual deficits began in 2005 and reach 1.52 percent for 2080.

Figure IV.B1 shows in graphical form the patterns of the OASI and DI annual income rates and cost rates. The income rates shown here are only for alternative II in order to simplify the graphical presentation because, as shown in table IV.B1, the variation in the income rates by alternative is very small. Income rates increase generally, but at a slow rate for each of the alternatives over the long-range period. Both increases in the income rate and variation among the alternatives result from the relatively small component of income from taxation of benefits. Increases in income from taxation of benefits reflect increases in the total amount of benefits paid and the fact that an increasing share of individual benefits will be subject to taxation, because benefit taxation threshold amounts are not indexed.

The patterns of the annual balances for OASI and DI are suggested by figure IV.B1. For each alternative, the magnitude of each of the positive balances, as a percentage of taxable payroll, is represented by the distance between the appropriate cost-rate curve and the income-rate curve above it. The magnitude of each of the deficits is represented by the distance between the appropriate cost-rate curve and the income-rate curve below it.

In the future, the cost of OASI, DI and the combined OASDI programs as a percentage of taxable payroll will not necessarily be within the range encompassed by alternatives I and III. Nonetheless, because alternatives I and III define a reasonably wide range of demographic and economic conditions, the resulting estimates delineate a reasonable range for consideration of potential future program costs.

Figure IV.B1.—Long-Range OASI and DI Annual Income Rates and Cost Rates
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]



The cost of the OASDI program has been discussed in this section in relation to taxable payroll, which is a program-related concept that is very useful in analyzing the financial status of the OASDI program. The cost can also be discussed in relation to broader economic concepts, such as the gross domestic product (GDP), which is the total value of goods and services produced during the year in the United States. OASDI cost generally rises from about 4.3 percent of GDP currently to about 6.3 percent of GDP by the end of the 75-year projection period under alternative II. Discussion of both the cost and the taxable payroll of the OASDI program in relation to GDP is presented in appendix VI.F.2 beginning on page 171.

2. Comparison of Workers to Beneficiaries

The primary reason that the estimated OASDI cost rate increases rapidly after 2010 is that the number of beneficiaries is projected to increase more rapidly than the number of covered workers. This occurs because the relatively large number of persons born during the baby-boom will reach retirement age, and begin to receive benefits, while the relatively small number of persons born during the subsequent period of low fertility rates will comprise the labor force. A comparison of the numbers of covered workers and beneficiaries is shown in table IV.B2.

Table IV.B2.—Covered Workers and Beneficiaries, Calendar Years 1945-2080

Calendar year	Covered workers[1] (in thousands)	Beneficiaries[2] (in thousands)			Covered workers per OASDI beneficiary	OASDI beneficiaries per 100 covered workers
		OASI	DI	OASDI		
Historical data:						
1945	46,390	1,106	—	1,106	41.9	2
1950	48,280	2,930	—	2,930	16.5	6
1955	65,200	7,563	—	7,563	8.6	12
1960	72,530	13,740	522	14,262	5.1	20
1965	80,680	18,509	1,648	20,157	4.0	25
1970	93,090	22,618	2,568	25,186	3.7	27
1975	100,200	26,998	4,125	31,123	3.2	31
1980	113,649	30,384	4,734	35,117	3.2	31
1985	120,575	32,776	3,874	36,650	3.3	30
1990	133,692	35,266	4,204	39,471	3.4	30
1991	132,989	35,786	4,388	40,174	3.3	30
1992	133,920	36,313	4,716	41,029	3.3	31
1993	136,137	36,757	5,083	41,840	3.3	31
1994	138,804	37,082	5,435	42,517	3.3	31
1995	141,107	37,376	5,731	43,107	3.3	31
1996	143,576	37,521	5,977	43,498	3.3	30
1997	146,445	37,705	6,087	43,792	3.3	30
1998	149,421	37,825	6,250	44,075	3.4	29
1999	152,152	37,934	6,433	44,366	3.4	29
2000	155,046	38,560	6,606	45,166	3.4	29
2001	155,416	38,888	6,780	45,668	3.4	29
2002	154,818	39,116	7,060	46,176	3.4	30
2003	154,946	39,314	7,438	46,752	3.3	30
2004	156,986	39,557	7,810	47,367	3.3	30
2005	159,147	39,961	8,172	48,133	3.3	30
Intermediate:						
2010	167,774	43,329	9,596	52,925	3.2	32
2015	171,938	49,488	10,406	59,894	2.9	35
2020	176,415	57,219	11,132	68,350	2.6	39
2025	179,417	64,619	12,021	76,640	2.3	43
2030	182,093	71,300	12,410	83,710	2.2	46
2035	185,004	75,906	12,670	88,576	2.1	48
2040	188,119	78,249	13,022	91,271	2.1	49
2045	191,409	79,861	13,618	93,479	2.0	49
2050	194,424	81,568	13,950	95,518	2.0	49
2055	197,329	83,546	14,323	97,869	2.0	50
2060	200,201	85,851	14,509	100,361	2.0	50
2065	203,122	88,302	14,815	103,117	2.0	51
2070	205,908	90,927	15,035	105,963	1.9	51
2075	208,816	93,256	15,334	108,591	1.9	52
2080	211,631	95,581	15,644	111,225	1.9	53
Low Cost:						
2010	168,984	43,310	9,036	52,346	3.2	31
2015	175,593	49,368	9,176	58,544	3.0	33
2020	181,170	56,728	9,424	66,152	2.7	37
2025	185,428	63,707	9,956	73,663	2.5	40
2030	189,840	69,797	10,148	79,945	2.4	42
2035	195,069	73,730	10,334	84,064	2.3	43
2040	201,229	75,422	10,655	86,077	2.3	43
2045	208,157	76,572	11,201	87,773	2.4	42
2050	215,474	77,989	11,559	89,548	2.4	42
2055	223,126	79,863	11,984	91,847	2.4	41
2060	231,201	82,089	12,316	94,406	2.4	41
2065	239,925	84,363	12,805	97,169	2.5	40
2070	249,130	86,779	13,305	100,085	2.5	40
2075	258,778	89,232	13,932	103,164	2.5	40
2080	268,666	92,257	14,578	106,835	2.5	40

Table IV.B2.—Covered Workers and Beneficiaries, Calendar Years 1945-2080 (Cont.)

Calendar year	Covered workers[1] (in thousands)	Beneficiaries[2] (in thousands)			Covered workers per OASDI beneficiary	OASDI beneficiaries per 100 covered workers
		OASI	DI	OASDI		
High Cost:						
2010	163,064	43,366	10,379	53,745	3.0	33
2015	168,855	49,674	11,916	61,589	2.7	36
2020	172,764	57,861	13,014	70,876	2.4	41
2025	175,173	65,775	14,236	80,011	2.2	46
2030	176,892	73,225	14,771	87,996	2.0	50
2035	178,166	78,797	15,094	93,892	1.9	53
2040	179,018	82,174	15,486	97,660	1.8	55
2045	179,523	84,721	16,152	100,873	1.8	56
2050	179,132	87,197	16,465	103,662	1.7	58
2055	178,477	89,776	16,778	106,554	1.7	60
2060	177,391	92,636	16,786	109,422	1.6	62
2065	175,919	95,645	16,858	112,502	1.6	64
2070	174,173	98,816	16,700	115,516	1.5	66
2075	172,279	101,376	16,543	117,919	1.5	68
2080	170,212	103,391	16,398	119,789	1.4	70

[1] Workers who are paid at some time during the year for employment on which OASDI taxes are due.
[2] Beneficiaries with monthly benefits in current-payment status as of June 30.

Notes:
1. The number of beneficiaries does not include uninsured individuals who receive benefits under Section 228 of the Social Security Act. Costs are reimbursed from the General Fund of the Treasury for most of these individuals.
2. Historical covered worker data are subject to revision.
3. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

The impact of the demographic shifts under the three alternatives on the OASDI cost rates is readily seen by considering the projected number of OASDI beneficiaries per 100 covered workers. As compared to the 2005 level of 30 beneficiaries per 100 covered workers, this ratio is estimated to rise significantly by 2080 to 40 under the low cost assumptions, 53 under the intermediate assumptions, and 70 under the high cost assumptions. The significance of these numbers can be seen by comparing figure IV.B1 to figure IV.B2.

For each alternative, the shape of the curve in figure IV.B2, which shows beneficiaries per 100 covered workers, is strikingly similar to that of the corresponding cost-rate curve in figure IV.B1, thereby emphasizing the extent to which the cost of the OASDI program as a percentage of taxable payroll is determined by the age distribution of the population. Because the cost rate is basically the product of the number of beneficiaries and their average benefit, divided by the product of the number of covered workers and their average taxable earnings (and because average benefits rise at about the same rate as average earnings), it is to be expected that the pattern of the annual cost rates is similar to that of the annual ratios of beneficiaries to workers.

Figure IV.B2.—Number of OASDI Beneficiaries Per 100 Covered Workers

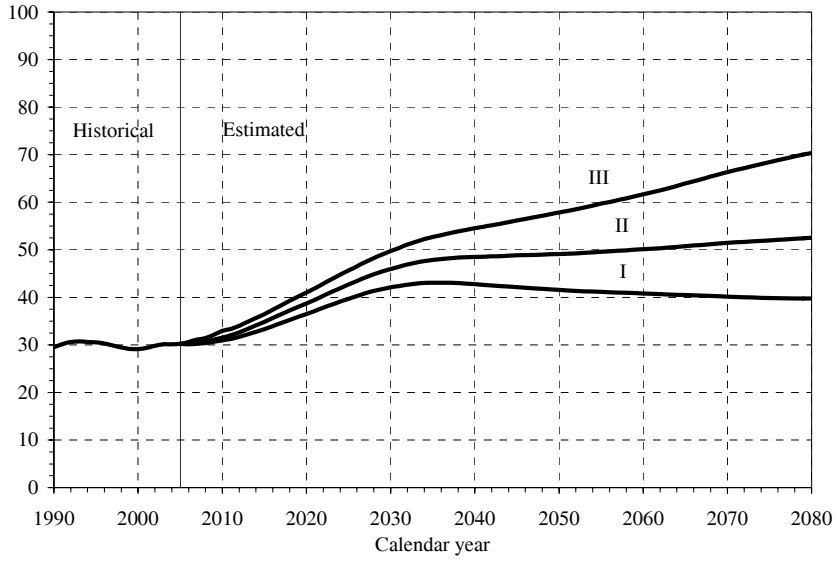


Table IV.B2 also shows that the number of covered workers per OASDI beneficiary, which was about 3.3 in 2005, is estimated to decline in the future. Based on the intermediate assumptions, the ratio declines to 2.1 by 2032, and 1.9 workers per beneficiary by 2069. Based on the low cost assumptions, for which high fertility rates and small reductions in death rates are assumed, the ratio declines to 2.3 by 2032, and then rises back to a level of 2.5 by 2061. Based on the high cost assumptions, for which low fertility rates and large reductions in death rates are assumed, the decline is much greater, reaching 1.8 by 2039, and 1.4 workers per beneficiary by 2077.

3. Trust Fund Ratios

Trust fund ratios are useful indicators of the adequacy of the financial resources of the Social Security program at any point in time. For any year in which the projected trust fund ratio is positive (i.e., the trust fund holds assets at the beginning of the year), but is not positive for the following year the trust fund is projected to become exhausted during the year. Under present law, the OASI and DI Trust Funds do not currently have the authority to borrow. Therefore, exhaustion of the assets in either fund during a year would mean there are no longer sufficient assets in the fund to cover the full amount of benefits scheduled for the year under present law.

The trust fund ratio also serves an additional important purpose in assessing the actuarial status of the program. When the financing is adequate for the

timely payment of full benefits throughout the long-range period, the stability of the trust fund ratio toward the end of the period indicates the likelihood that this projected adequacy will continue for subsequent Trustees Reports. If the trust fund ratio toward the end of the period is level (or increasing), then projected adequacy for the long-range period is likely to continue for subsequent reports.

Table IV.B3 shows, by alternative, the estimated trust fund ratios (without regard to advance tax transfers that would be effected after the end of the 10-year, short-range period) for the separate and combined OASI and DI Trust Funds. Also shown in this table is the year in which a fund is estimated to become exhausted, reflecting the effect of the provision for advance tax transfers.

Based on the intermediate assumptions, the OASI trust fund ratio rises steadily from 355 percent at the beginning of 2006, reaching a peak of 462 percent at the beginning of 2015. This increase in the OASI trust fund ratio results from the fact that the annual income rate (which excludes interest) exceeds annual outgo for several years (see table IV.B1). Thereafter, the OASI trust fund ratio declines steadily, with the OASI Trust Fund becoming exhausted in 2042. The DI trust fund ratio has followed a pattern that is similar but unfolded more rapidly. The DI trust fund ratio is estimated to decline steadily from 203 percent at the beginning of 2006 until becoming exhausted in 2025.

The trust fund ratio for the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds rises from 329 percent for 2006 to a peak of 409 percent at the beginning of 2015. Thereafter, the ratio declines, with the combined funds becoming exhausted in 2040. Based on the intermediate estimates in last year's report, the peak fund ratio for the combined funds was estimated to be 418 percent for 2015 and the year of exhaustion was estimated to be 2041.

The trust fund ratio for the OASDI program first declines in 2016, about 1 year before annual expenditures begin to exceed noninterest income. This occurs because the increase in trust fund assets during 2015, which reflects interest income and a small excess of noninterest income over cost, occurs at a slower rate than does the increase in the annual cost of the program between 2015 and 2016.

After 2015 the dollar amount of assets is projected to continue to rise through the beginning of 2027 because interest income more than offsets the shortfall in noninterest income. Beginning in 2017, the OASDI program is projected to experience increasingly large cash-flow shortfalls that will require the trust funds to redeem special public-debt obligations of the General Fund of the Treasury. This will differ from the experience of recent years when the

trust funds have been net lenders to the General Fund of the Treasury. The change in the cash flow between the trust funds and the general fund is expected to have important public policy and economic implications that go well beyond the operation of the OASDI program itself.

Based on the low cost assumptions, the trust fund ratio for the DI program increases throughout the long-range projection period, reaching the extremely high level of 1,374 percent for 2080. At the end of the long-range period, the DI trust fund ratio is rising by 21 percentage points per year. Thus, subsequent reports are likely to contain projections of adequate long-range financing of the DI program under a similar optimistic set of assumptions. For the OASI program, the trust fund ratio rises to a peak of 535 percent for 2019, dropping thereafter to a level of 276 percent by 2080. At the end of the period the OASI trust fund ratio is declining by 1 percentage point per year. The long-term outlook for the DI program is improved more than for the OASI program largely because lower assumed disability incidence rates have a substantial effect on the DI program but little net effect on the OASI program. For the OASDI program, the trust fund ratio peaks at 508 percent for 2021, falls to 387 percent for 2060, and increases thereafter, reaching 416 percent for 2080. Thus, due to the size of the trust fund ratios and their near stability, subsequent Trustees Reports are likely to contain projections of adequate long-range financing of the OASI and combined OASI and DI program under the low cost assumptions. A stable trust fund ratio at the end of the valuation period indicates that the actuarial balance for Trustees Reports in subsequent years can be expected to remain about the same as long as assumptions are realized.

In contrast, under the high cost assumptions, the OASI trust fund ratio is estimated to peak at 395 percent for 2010, thereafter declining to fund exhaustion by the end of 2033. The DI trust fund ratio is estimated to decline from 197 percent for 2006 to fund exhaustion by the end of 2015. The combined OASDI trust fund ratio is estimated to rise to a peak of 348 percent for 2009, declining thereafter to fund exhaustion by the end of 2030.

Thus, because large ultimate cost rates are projected under all but the low cost assumptions, it is likely that income will eventually need to be increased, and/or program costs will need to be reduced in order to prevent the trust funds from becoming exhausted.

Even under the high cost assumptions, however, the combined OASI and DI funds on hand plus their estimated future income would be able to cover their combined cost for 24 years into the future (until 2030). Under the intermediate assumptions the combined starting funds plus estimated future income would be able to cover cost for about 34 years into the future (until 2040). The program would be able to cover cost for the foreseeable future under the

more optimistic low cost assumptions. In the 2005 report, the combined trust funds were projected to become exhausted in 2030 under the high cost assumptions and in 2041 under the intermediate assumptions.

Table IV.B3.—Estimated Trust Fund Ratios, Calendar Years 2006-80
[In percent]

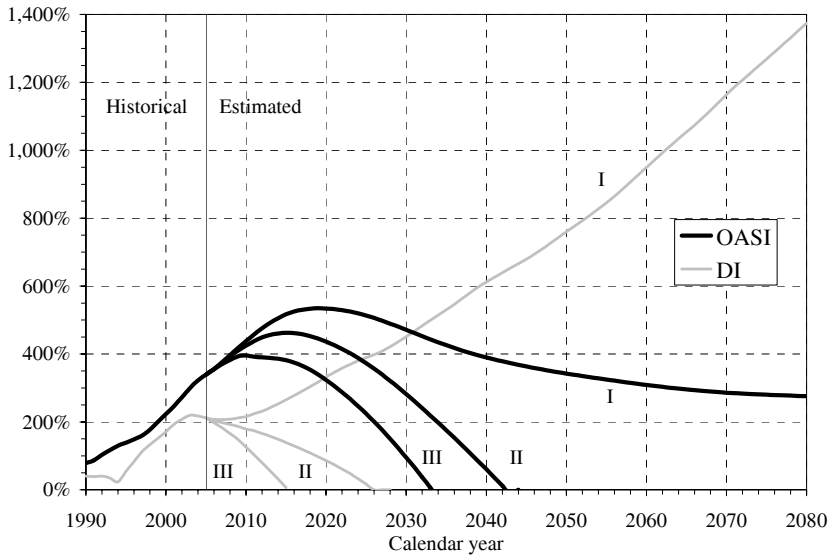
Calendar year	Intermediate			Low Cost			High Cost		
	OASI	DI	OASDI	OASI	DI	OASDI	OASI	DI	OASDI
2006	355	203	329	355	207	330	355	197	328
2007	375	198	344	376	206	348	370	183	337
2008	394	192	359	397	208	365	382	166	343
2009	410	187	372	418	212	384	393	148	348
2010	425	179	382	438	215	401	395	126	345
2011	438	174	393	458	224	420	392	103	338
2012	449	166	400	476	231	437	390	80	332
2013	456	158	405	492	242	453	389	56	326
2014	460	149	408	505	253	467	386	31	320
2015	462	139	409	517	265	480	381	6	312
2020	436	86	383	534	332	507	324	1/	246
2025	373	17	321	513	389	497	224	1/	141
2030	282	1/	233	471	451	469	95	1/	9
2035	176	1/	130	426	530	438	1/	1/	1/
2040	60	1/	16	390	612	415	1/	1/	1/
2045	1/	1/	1/	363	679	401	1/	1/	1/
2050	1/	1/	1/	342	760	393	1/	1/	1/
2055	1/	1/	1/	325	845	389	1/	1/	1/
2060	1/	1/	1/	309	949	387	1/	1/	1/
2065	1/	1/	1/	296	1,054	390	1/	1/	1/
2070	1/	1/	1/	286	1,164	396	1/	1/	1/
2075	1/	1/	1/	280	1,269	405	1/	1/	1/
2080	1/	1/	1/	276	1,374	416	1/	1/	1/
Trust fund is estimated to become exhausted in	2042	2025	2040	2/	2/	2/	2033	2015	2030

[1] The trust fund is estimated to be exhausted by the beginning of this year. The last line of the table shows the specific year of trust fund exhaustion.
[2] The fund is not estimated to be exhausted within the projection period.

Note: See definition of trust fund ratio on page 207. The combined ratios shown for years after the DI fund is estimated to be exhausted are theoretical and are shown for informational purposes only.

A graphical illustration of the trust fund ratios for the separate OASI and DI Trust Funds is shown in figure IV.B3 for each of the alternative sets of assumptions. A graphical illustration of the trust fund ratios for the combined trust funds is shown in figure II.D7 on page 15.

Figure IV.B3.—Long-Range OASI and DI Trust Fund Ratios
[Assets as a percentage of annual expenditures]



4. Summarized Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances

Summarized income and cost rates, along with their components, are presented in table IV.B4 for 25-year, 50-year, and 75-year valuation periods. Income rates reflect the scheduled payroll tax rates and the projected income from the taxation of scheduled benefits expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll. The current combined payroll tax rate of 12.4 is scheduled to remain unchanged in the future. In contrast, the projected income from taxation of benefits, expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll, is expected to generally increase throughout the long-range period. This is because increasing income from taxation of benefits reflects not only rising benefit and income levels, but also the fact that benefit-taxation threshold amounts are not indexed. Summarized income rates also include the starting trust fund balance. Summarized cost rates include the cost of reaching a target trust fund of 100 percent of annual cost at the end of the period in addition to the cost included in the annual cost rates.

It may be noted that the payroll tax income expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll, as shown in table IV.B4, is slightly smaller than the actual tax rates in effect for each period. This results from the fact that all OASDI income and cost dollar amounts presented in this report are computed on a cash basis, i.e., amounts are attributed to the year in which they are intended to be received by, or expended from, the fund, while taxable payroll is attrib-

uted to the year in which earnings are paid. Because earnings are paid to workers before the corresponding payroll taxes are credited to the funds, payroll tax income for a particular year reflects a combination of the taxable payrolls from that year and from prior years, when payroll was smaller. Dividing payroll tax income by taxable payroll for a particular year, or period of years, will thus generally result in an income rate that is slightly less than the applicable tax rate for the period.

Summarized values for the full 75-year period are useful in analyzing the long-range adequacy of financing for the program over the period as a whole under present law and under proposed modifications to the law.

Table IV.B4 shows summarized rates for valuation periods of the first 25, the first 50, and the entire 75 years of the long-range projection period, including the funds on hand at the start of the period and the cost of accumulating a target trust fund balance equal to 100 percent of the following year's annual cost by the end of the period. The actuarial balance for each of these three valuation periods is equal to the difference between the summarized income rate and the summarized cost rate for the corresponding period. An actuarial balance of zero for any period would indicate that estimated cost for the period could be met, on average, with a remaining trust fund balance at the end of the period equal to 100 percent of the following year's cost. A negative actuarial balance indicates that, over the period, the present value of income to the program plus the existing trust fund falls short of the present value of the cost of the program plus the cost of reaching a target trust fund balance of 1 year's cost by the end of the period. Combined with a falling trust fund ratio, this signals the possibility of continuing cash-flow deficits, implying that the current-law level of financing is not sustainable.

The values in table IV.B4 show that the combined OASDI program is expected to operate with a positive actuarial balance over the 25-year valuation period under the low cost and intermediate assumptions. For the 25-year valuation period the summarized values indicate actuarial balances of 1.82 percent of taxable payroll under the low cost assumptions, 0.66 percent under the intermediate assumptions, and -0.82 percent under the high cost assumptions. Thus, the program is more than adequately financed for the 25-year valuation period under all but the high cost projections. For the 50-year valuation period the OASDI program would have a positive actuarial balance of 0.58 percent under the low cost assumptions, but would have deficits of 1.26 percent under the intermediate assumptions and 3.60 percent under the high cost assumptions. Thus, the program is more than adequately financed for the 50-year valuation period under only the low cost set of assumptions.

For the entire 75-year valuation period, the combined OASDI program would again have actuarial deficits except under the low cost set of assumptions. The actuarial balance for this long-range valuation period is projected to be 0.35 percent of taxable payroll under the low cost assumptions, -2.02 percent under the intermediate assumptions, and -5.17 percent under the high cost assumptions.

Assuming the Trustees' intermediate assumptions are realized, the deficit of 2.02 percent of payroll indicates that financial adequacy of the program for the next 75 years could be restored if the Social Security payroll tax rate were increased for current and future earnings from 12.4 percent (combined employee-employer shares) to 14.42 percent. Alternatively, all current and future benefits could be reduced by 13.3 percent (or there could be some combination of tax increases and benefit reductions). Changes of this magnitude would be sufficient to eliminate the actuarial deficit over the 75-year projection period.

However, large annual deficits projected under current law for the end of the long-range period, which exceed 5 percent of payroll under the intermediate assumptions, indicate that the annual cost will very likely continue to exceed tax revenues after 2080. As a result, ensuring continued adequate financing would eventually require larger changes than those needed to restore actuarial balance for the 75-year period. For the infinite future, the actuarial deficit is estimated to be 3.7 percent of taxable payroll under the intermediate assumptions. This means that the projected infinite horizon shortfall could be eliminated with an immediate increase in the combined payroll tax rate from 12.4 percent to about 16.1 percent. This shortfall could also be eliminated if all current and future benefits were immediately reduced by 22 percent.

As may be concluded from table IV.B4, the financial condition of the DI program is substantially weaker than that of the OASI program for the first 25 years. Summarized over the full 75-year period, however, long-range deficits for the OASI and DI programs under intermediate assumptions are more similar, relative to the level of program costs.

Table IV.B4.—Components of Summarized Income Rates and Cost Rates, Calendar Years 2006-80
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Income rate: Payroll tax	Income rate: Taxation of benefits	Income rate: Beginning fund balance	Income rate: Total	Cost rate: Disbursements	Cost rate: Ending fund balance	Cost rate: Total	Actuarial balance
OASI:								
Intermediate:								
2006-30.	10.59	0.52	1.49	12.60	11.28	0.50	11.79	0.81
2006-55.	10.59	.64	.87	12.10	12.87	.21	13.08	-.99
2006-80.	10.59	.68	.68	11.95	13.51	.12	13.63	-1.68
Low Cost:								
2006-30.	10.59	.48	1.49	12.56	10.51	.44	10.95	1.61
2006-55.	10.59	.56	.87	12.02	11.45	.18	11.63	.39
2006-80.	10.59	.58	.67	11.83	11.57	.10	11.67	.17
High Cost:								
2006-30.	10.58	.57	1.50	12.65	12.26	.58	12.84	-.19
2006-55.	10.58	.73	.86	12.18	14.65	.28	14.93	-2.75
2006-80.	10.59	.83	.67	12.08	16.11	.17	16.28	-4.19
DI:								
Intermediate:								
2006-30.	1.80	.04	.18	2.02	2.09	.08	2.17	-.15
2006-55.	1.80	.05	.10	1.95	2.19	.03	2.23	-.27
2006-80.	1.80	.05	.08	1.93	2.25	.02	2.27	-.33
Low Cost:								
2006-30.	1.80	.04	.17	2.01	1.73	.06	1.79	.22
2006-55.	1.80	.04	.10	1.94	1.73	.02	1.75	.19
2006-80.	1.80	.04	.08	1.92	1.72	.01	1.73	.18
High Cost:								
2006-30.	1.80	.05	.18	2.03	2.56	.10	2.66	-.63
2006-55.	1.80	.06	.10	1.96	2.77	.05	2.81	-.85
2006-80.	1.80	.07	.08	1.95	2.90	.02	2.93	-.98
OASDI:								
Intermediate:								
2006-30.	12.38	.57	1.67	14.62	13.37	.58	13.96	.66
2006-55.	12.38	.69	.98	14.05	15.06	.25	15.31	-1.26
2006-80.	12.38	.74	.76	13.88	15.76	.14	15.90	-2.02
Low Cost:								
2006-30.	12.38	.52	1.66	14.57	12.24	.50	12.74	1.82
2006-55.	12.39	.60	.97	13.95	13.18	.20	13.38	.58
2006-80.	12.39	.62	.75	13.75	13.29	.11	13.40	.35
High Cost:								
2006-30.	12.38	.63	1.67	14.68	14.82	.68	15.50	-.82
2006-55.	12.38	.80	.97	14.14	17.42	.32	17.74	-3.60
2006-80.	12.38	.90	.75	14.03	19.01	.19	19.21	-5.17

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table IV.B5 presents the components and the calculation of the long-range (75-year) actuarial balance under the intermediate assumptions. The present value of future cost less future tax income over the long-range period, minus the amount of trust fund assets at the beginning of the projection period, amounts to $4.6 trillion for the OASDI program. This amount is referred to as the 75-year "open group unfunded obligation." The actuarial deficit (i.e., the negative of the actuarial balance) combines this unfunded obligation with the present value of the "ending target trust fund," and expresses the total as a percentage of the present value of the taxable payroll for the period. The

present value of future tax income minus cost, plus starting trust fund assets, minus the present value of the ending target trust fund amounts to -$4.9 trillion for the OASDI program. Expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll for the period, this is the actuarial balance of -2.02 percent.

Table IV.B5.—Components of 75-Year Actuarial Balance Under Intermediate Assumptions (2006-80)

Item	OASI	DI	OASDI
Present value as of January 1, 2006 (in billions):			
a. Payroll tax revenue	$25,903	$4,399	$30,301
b. Taxation of benefits revenue	1,675	132	1,806
c. Tax income (a + b)	27,577	4,530	32,107
d. Cost	33,058	5,499	38,557
e. Cost minus tax income (d - c)	5,481	969	6,449
f. Trust fund assets at start of period	1,663	196	1,859
g. Open group unfunded obligation (e - f)	3,818	773	4,591
h. Ending target trust fund[1]	298	45	343
i. Income minus cost, plus assets at start of period, minus ending target trust fund (c - d + f - h = - g - h)	-4,116	-818	-4,934
j. Taxable payroll	244,670	244,670	244,670
Percent of taxable payroll:			
Actuarial balance (100 × i ÷ j)	-1.68	-.33	-2.02

[1]The calculation of the actuarial balance includes the cost of accumulating a target trust fund balance equal to 100 percent of annual cost by the end of the period.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

5. Additional Measures of OASDI Unfunded Obligations

As shown in the previous section, a negative actuarial balance (or an actuarial deficit) provides one measure of the unfunded obligation of the program over a period of time. Two additional measures of OASDI unfunded obligations under the intermediate assumptions are presented below.

a. Open Group Unfunded Obligations

Consistent with practice since 1965, this report focuses on the 75-year period (from 2006 to 2080 for this report) for the evaluation of the long-run financial status of the OASDI program on an open group basis (i.e., including taxes and cost for past, current and future participants through the year 2080). Table IV.B6, in its second line, shows that the present value of the open group unfunded obligation for the program over that period is $4.6 trillion. The open group measure indicates the adequacy of financing over the period as a whole for a program financed on a pay-as-you-go basis. On this basis, payroll taxes of all participants are included, through the year 2080, but some or all of their future scheduled benefits, for years after 2080, are excluded.

Table IV.B6 also presents the 75-year unfunded obligation as percentages of future OASDI taxable payroll and gross domestic product (GDP) through 2080. The 75-year unfunded obligation as a percentage of taxable payroll is less than the actuarial deficit, because it excludes the ending target trust fund value (see table IV.B5).

However, there are limitations on what can be conveyed using summarized measures alone. For example, overemphasis of summary measures (such as the actuarial balance and open group unfunded obligation) for the 75-year period can lead to incorrect perceptions and policy that fail to address financial sustainability for the more distant future. This can be addressed by considering the trend in trust fund ratios toward the end of the period (see "sustainable solvency" at the beginning of section IV.B).

Another limitation is that continued, and possibly increasing, annual shortfalls after the period are not reflected in the 75-year summarized measures. In order to provide a fuller description of long-run unfunded obligations of the OASDI program, this section presents estimates of obligations that extend to the infinite horizon. The extension assumes that the current-law OASDI program and the demographic and most economic trends used for the 75-year projection continue indefinitely. The one exception is that the ultimate assumed real-wage differential for the long-range period of 1.1 percent is increased to 1.2 percent for each year after 2080. This change essentially maintains consistency with the assumed reduction in the growth of health care expenditures after 2080. (See the Medicare Trustees Report.) The values in table IV.B6 indicate that extending the calculations beyond 2080 adds $8.8 trillion in unfunded obligations to the amount estimated through 2080. That is, over the infinite horizon, the OASDI open group unfunded obligations are projected to be $13.4 trillion. The $8.8 trillion increment reflects a significant financing gap projected for OASDI after 2080. Of course, the degree of uncertainty associated with estimates beyond 2080 is substantial.

In last year's report the unfunded obligation over the infinite horizon was reported as $11.1 trillion in present value as of January 1, 2005. The change to the later valuation date for this report, January 1, 2006, tends to increase the measured deficit by about $0.6 trillion. The change in projected trust fund interest rates, primarily the assumption that ultimate trust fund real interest rates would be 2.9 percent, rather than 3.0 percent, increased the measured deficit by about $1.4 trillion. In addition, the net effects of changes in data, methods, and other assumptions increased the infinite horizon unfunded obligation by approximately $0.3 trillion. See section IV.B.7 for details regarding changes in data, methods, and assumptions.

As noted in the previous section, the $13.4 trillion infinite future open group unfunded obligation may also be expressed as a percentage of the taxable payroll over that period. This actuarial deficit for the infinite future is 3.7 percent of taxable payroll under the intermediate assumptions, 0.2 percent higher than in last year's report. This unfunded obligation can also be expressed as a percentage of GDP over the infinite future and is 1.3 percent on that basis. These relative measures of the unfunded obligation over the infinite future express its magnitude in relation to the resources that are potentially available to finance the shortfall.

Table IV.B6.—Unfunded OASDI Obligations for 1935 (Program Inception) Through the Infinite Horizon

[Present values as of January 1, 2006; dollar amounts in trillions]

		Expressed as a percentage of future payroll and GDP	
	Present value	Taxable payroll	GDP
Unfunded obligation for 1935 through the infinite horizon[1]	$13.4	3.7	1.3
Unfunded obligation for 1935 through 2080[2]	4.6	1.9	.7

[1] Present value of future cost less future taxes, reduced by the amount of trust fund assets at the beginning of 2006. Expressed as percentage of payroll and GDP for the period 2006 through the infinite horizon.
[2] Present value of future cost less future taxes through 2080, reduced by the amount of trust fund assets at the beginning of 2006. Expressed as percentage of payroll and GDP for the period 2006 through 2080.

Notes:
1. The present values of future taxable payroll for 2006-80 and for 2006 through the infinite horizon are $244.7 trillion and $366.6 trillion, respectively.
2. The present values of GDP for 2006-80 and for 2006 through the infinite horizon are $670.1 trillion and $1,057.4 trillion, respectively.

b. Unfunded Obligations for Past, Current, and Future Participants

The future unfunded obligation of the OASDI program may also be viewed from a generational perspective. This perspective is generally associated with assessment of the financial condition of a program that is intended or required to be financed on a fully-advance-funded basis. However, analysis from this perspective can also provide insights into the implications of pay-as-you-go financing, the basis that has been used for the OASDI program.

The first line of table IV.B7 shows that the present value of future cost less future taxes over the next 100 years for all current participants equals $15.1 trillion. For this purpose, current participants are defined as individuals who are age 15 or older at the beginning of 2006. Subtracting the current value of the trust fund (the accumulated value of past OASDI taxes less cost) gives a closed group (excluding all future participants) unfunded obligation of $13.3 trillion. This value represents the shortfall of lifetime contributions for all past and current participants relative to the lifetime costs associated with their generations. For a fully-advance-funded program this value would be equal to zero.

For Social Security benefits to be adequately financed for the infinite future, the scheduled taxes or benefits of current and future participants in the system must be adjusted to fully offset the shortfall due to past and current participants. Future participants, as a whole, are projected to pay, in present value, taxes that are approximately $0.1 trillion less than the cost of providing benefits they are scheduled to receive over the infinite future. For the 2005 report, on a present value basis, future participants were projected to pay about $0.9 trillion more, in taxes, than the total cost of benefits they would receive over the infinite future. This amount changed primarily because of the lower ultimate real trust fund interest rate of 2.9 percent, assumed for this report. This lower ultimate interest rate causes the measured values of all future taxes and benefits to increase. Measured values of more distant transactions increase relatively more. For future participants, the measured present value of scheduled benefits increases relatively more than the present value of scheduled taxes.

Thus, the remaining long run financing gap that program reforms must ultimately close for the infinite future is estimated to be $13.4 trillion in present value. This can be achieved by raising additional revenue or reducing benefits (or some combination) for current and future participants so that the present value of the additional revenue or reduced benefits for the infinite future is equivalent to 3.7 percent of taxable payroll or 1.3 percent of GDP.

Table IV.B7.—Present Values of OASDI Cost Less Tax Revenue and Unfunded Obligations for Program Participants

[Present values as of January 1, 2006; dollar amounts in trillions]

		Expressed as a percentage of future payroll and GDP	
	Present value	Taxable payroll	GDP
Present value of future cost less future taxes for current participants . . .	$15.1	4.1	1.4
Less current trust fund (tax accumulations minus expenditures to date for past and current participants) . . .	1.9	.5	.2
Equals unfunded obligation for past and current participants[1] . . .	13.3	3.6	1.3
Plus present value of cost less taxes for future participants for the infinite future . . .	.1	2/	3/
Equals unfunded obligation for all participants through the infinite horizon . . .	13.4	3.7	1.3

[1] This concept is also referred to as the closed group unfunded obligation.
[2] Less than 0.05 percent of taxable payroll.
[3] Less than 0.05 percent of GDP.

Notes:
1. The present value of future taxable payroll for 2006 through the infinite horizon is $366.6 trillion.
2. The present value of GDP for 2006 through the infinite horizon is $1,057.4 trillion.
3. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

6. Test of Long-Range Close Actuarial Balance

The test of long-range close actuarial balance applies to a set of 66 separate valuation periods beginning with the first 10-year period, and including the periods of the first 11 years, the first 12 years, etc., up through the full 75-year projection period. Under the long-range test, the summarized income rate and cost rate are calculated for each of these valuation periods. The long-range test is met if, for each of the 66 valuation periods, the actuarial balance is not less than zero or is negative by, at most, a specified percentage of the summarized cost rate for the same time period. The percentage allowed for a negative actuarial balance is 5 percent for the full 75-year period. For shorter periods, the allowable percentage begins with zero for the first 10 years and increases uniformly for longer periods, until it reaches the maximum percentage of 5 percent allowed for the 75-year period. The criterion for meeting the test is less stringent for the longer periods in recognition of the greater uncertainty associated with estimates for more distant years.

When a negative actuarial balance in excess of the allowable percentage of the summarized cost rate is projected for one or more of the 66 separate valuation periods, the program fails the test of long-range close actuarial balance. Being out of close actuarial balance indicates that the program is expected to experience financial problems in the future and that ways of improving the financial status of the program should be considered. The sooner the actuarial balance is less than the minimum allowable balance, expressed as a percentage of the summarized cost rate, the more urgent is the need for corrective action. It is recognized that necessary changes in program financing or benefit provisions should not be put off until the last possible moment if future beneficiaries and workers are to effectively plan for their retirement.

Table IV.B8 presents a comparison of the estimated actuarial balances with the minimum allowable balance (or maximum allowable deficit) under the long-range test, each expressed as a percentage of the summarized cost rate, based on the intermediate estimates. Values are shown for only 14 of the valuation periods: those of length 10 years, 15 years, and continuing in 5-year increments through 75 years. However, each of the 66 periods—those of length 10 years, 11 years, and continuing in 1-year increments through 75 years—is considered for the test. These minimum allowable balances are calculated to show the limit for each valuation period resulting from the graduated tolerance scale. The patterns in the estimated balances as a percentage of the summarized cost rates, as well as that for the minimum allowable balance, are presented graphically in figure IV.B4 for the OASI, DI and combined OASDI programs. Values shown for the 25-year, 50-year, and 75-year valuation periods correspond to those presented in table IV.B4.

Actuarial Estimates

For the OASI program, the estimated actuarial balance as a percentage of the summarized cost rate exceeds the minimum allowable for valuation periods of length 10 through 35 years under the intermediate estimates. For valuation periods of length greater than 35 years, the estimated actuarial balance is less than the minimum allowable. For the full 75-year long-range period the estimated actuarial balance reaches -12.34 percent of the summarized cost rate, for a shortfall of 7.34 percent, from the minimum allowable balance of -5.0 percent of the summarized cost rate. Thus, although the OASI program satisfies the test of short-range financial adequacy (as discussed earlier on page 30), it is not in long-range close actuarial balance.

For the DI program, the estimated actuarial balance as a percentage of the summarized cost rate exceeds the minimum allowable balance for valuation periods of length 10 through 13 years under the intermediate estimates. For valuation periods of length greater than 13 years, the estimated actuarial balance is less than the minimum allowable. For the full 75-year long-range period the estimated actuarial balance reaches -14.76 percent of the summarized cost rate, for a shortfall of 9.76 percent, from the minimum allowable balance of -5.0 percent of the summarized cost rate. Thus, the DI program, although meeting the short-range test of financial adequacy, is not in long-range close actuarial balance.

Financing for the DI program is much less adequate than for the OASI program in satisfying the test for long-range actuarial balance even though long-range actuarial deficits are more comparable over the entire 75-year period. This occurs because much more of the increase in the long-range cost due to the aging of the large baby-boom generation occurs earlier for the DI program than for the OASI program. As a result, tax rates that are relatively more adequate for the OASI program during the first 25 years become relatively less adequate later in the long-range period.

For the OASDI program, the estimated actuarial balance as a percentage of the summarized cost rate exceeds the minimum allowable balance for valuation periods of length 10 through 32 years under the intermediate estimates. For valuation periods of length greater than 32 years, the estimated actuarial balance is below the minimum allowable balance. The size of the shortfall from the minimum allowable balance rises gradually, reaching 7.68 percent of the summarized cost rate for the full 75-year long-range valuation period. Thus, although the OASDI program satisfies the short-range test of financial adequacy, it is out of long-range close actuarial balance.

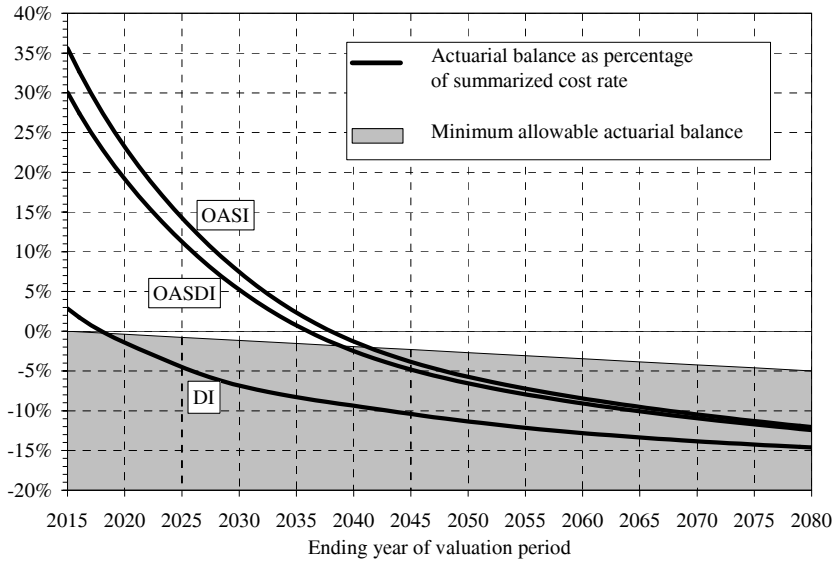
The OASI and DI programs, both separate and combined, were also found to be out of close actuarial balance in last year's report. The estimated deficits for the OASI, DI, and combined OASDI programs in this report are similar to those shown in last year's report.

Table IV.B8.—Comparison of Estimated Long-Range Actuarial Balances With the Minimum Allowable in the Test for Close Actuarial Balance, Based on Intermediate Assumptions

	Rates (percentage of taxable payroll)			Values expressed as a percentage of cost rate	
Valuation period	Summarized income rate	Summarized cost rate	Actuarial balance	Actuarial balance	Minimum allowable actuarial balance
OASI:					
10 years: 2006-2015	14.41	10.63	3.79	35.62	0.00
15 years: 2006-2020	13.37	10.88	2.49	22.86	-.38
20 years: 2006-2025	12.88	11.32	1.56	13.77	-.77
25 years: 2006-2030	12.60	11.79	.81	6.89	-1.15
30 years: 2006-2035	12.43	12.20	.22	1.81	-1.54
35 years: 2006-2040	12.31	12.53	-.22	-1.76	-1.92
40 years: 2006-2045	12.22	12.76	-.54	-4.25	-2.31
45 years: 2006-2050	12.15	12.94	-.79	-6.10	-2.69
50 years: 2006-2055	12.10	13.08	-.99	-7.55	-3.08
55 years: 2006-2060	12.05	13.21	-1.16	-8.77	-3.46
60 years: 2006-2065	12.02	13.33	-1.31	-9.83	-3.85
65 years: 2006-2070	11.99	13.44	-1.45	-10.76	-4.23
70 years: 2006-2075	11.97	13.54	-1.57	-11.60	-4.62
75 years: 2006-2080	11.95	13.63	-1.68	-12.34	-5.00
DI:					
10 years: 2006-2015	2.24	2.17	.06	2.85	.00
15 years: 2006-2020	2.11	2.14	-.03	-1.52	-.38
20 years: 2006-2025	2.05	2.15	-.10	-4.69	-.77
25 years: 2006-2030	2.02	2.17	-.15	-7.00	-1.15
30 years: 2006-2035	1.99	2.18	-.18	-8.45	-1.54
35 years: 2006-2040	1.98	2.19	-.21	-9.54	-1.92
40 years: 2006-2045	1.97	2.20	-.23	-10.60	-2.31
45 years: 2006-2050	1.96	2.21	-.26	-11.53	-2.69
50 years: 2006-2055	1.95	2.23	-.27	-12.33	-3.08
55 years: 2006-2060	1.95	2.24	-.29	-12.98	-3.46
60 years: 2006-2065	1.94	2.24	-.30	-13.53	-3.85
65 years: 2006-2070	1.94	2.25	-.32	-14.00	-4.23
70 years: 2006-2075	1.93	2.26	-.33	-14.40	-4.62
75 years: 2006-2080	1.93	2.27	-.33	-14.76	-5.00
OASDI:					
10 years: 2006-2015	16.65	12.80	3.85	30.05	.00
15 years: 2006-2020	15.48	13.03	2.45	18.84	-.38
20 years: 2006-2025	14.93	13.47	1.46	10.82	-.77
25 years: 2006-2030	14.62	13.96	.66	4.73	-1.15
30 years: 2006-2035	14.42	14.38	.04	.26	-1.54
35 years: 2006-2040	14.28	14.71	-.43	-2.92	-1.92
40 years: 2006-2045	14.18	14.96	-.78	-5.18	-2.31
45 years: 2006-2050	14.11	15.15	-1.04	-6.89	-2.69
50 years: 2006-2055	14.05	15.31	-1.26	-8.25	-3.08
55 years: 2006-2060	14.00	15.45	-1.45	-9.38	-3.46
60 years: 2006-2065	13.96	15.57	-1.61	-10.36	-3.85
65 years: 2006-2070	13.93	15.69	-1.76	-11.23	-4.23
70 years: 2006-2075	13.90	15.80	-1.90	-12.00	-4.62
75 years: 2006-2080	13.88	15.90	-2.02	-12.68	-5.00

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Figure IV.B4.—Test of Long-Range Close Actuarial Balance
[Comparison of estimated long-range actuarial balances with the minimum allowable for close actuarial balance under intermediate assumptions]



7. Reasons for Change in Actuarial Balance From Last Report

The estimated effects of various changes from last year's report to this report on the long-range actuarial balance under the intermediate assumptions are listed (by category) in table IV.B9.

Table IV.B9.—Reasons for Change in the 75-Year Actuarial Balance Under Intermediate Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Item	OASI	DI	OASDI
Shown in last year's report:			
Income rate	11.93	1.94	13.87
Cost rate	13.53	2.26	15.79
Actuarial balance	**-1.60**	**-.32**	**-1.92**
Changes in actuarial balance due to changes in:			
Legislation / Regulation	.00	.00	.00
Valuation period[1]	-.05	-.01	-.06
Demographic data and assumptions	+.02	.00	+.03
Economic data and assumptions	-.06	-.01	-.06
Disability data and assumptions	-.04	+.01	-.04
Programmatic data and methods	+.04	.00	+.04
Total change in actuarial balance	-.08	-.01	-.09
Shown in this report:			
Actuarial balance	**-1.68**	**-.33**	**-2.02**
Income rate	11.95	1.93	13.88
Cost rate	13.63	2.27	15.90

[1] In changing from the valuation period of last year's report, which was 2005-79, to the valuation period of this report, 2006-80, the relatively large negative annual balance for 2079 is included. This results in a larger long-range actuarial deficit. The fund balance at the end of 2005, i.e., at the beginning of the projection period, is included in the 75-year actuarial balance.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

No legislative changes have been enacted since the past report that directly affect the financing of the OASDI program (see section III.B).

In changing from the valuation period of last year's report, which was 2005-79, to the valuation period of this report, 2006-80, the relatively large negative annual balance for 2080 is included. This results in a larger long-range actuarial deficit. (Note that the fund balance at the end of 2005, which includes the cumulative net effects of program financing for all past years, is included in the 75-year actuarial balance.)

Changes in demographic starting values and in the transition to ultimate assumptions, as well as a change in the ultimate total fertility rate, have the overall effect of increasing (improving) the long-range actuarial balance by 0.03 percent of taxable payroll. The ultimate total fertility rate is changed from 1.95 children per woman in last year's report to 2.0. In addition, fertility rates for the first 25 years of the projection period are higher based on newly available birth data from the NCHS and newly revised population data from the Census Bureau for 2000 through 2003. The changes in fertility result in an increase (improvement) in the long-range actuarial balance of about 0.06 percent of taxable payroll. Ultimate mortality assumptions are unchanged from last year's report. However, final mortality data for 2002 indicated a slightly larger than expected decline in death rates at older ages and a slightly smaller decline at younger ages. The updates to the mortality

data result in a decrease (worsening) in the long-range actuarial balance of about 0.03 percent of taxable payroll.

Several changes in the economic assumptions in this year's report (see section IV.B), result in a net reduction (worsening) in the long-range actuarial balance of about 0.06 percent of taxable payroll. First, the ultimate annual real interest rate assumed for long-term U.S. Government securities is decreased from 3.0 percent in last year's report to 2.9 percent in this year's report reflecting lower realized yields on Treasury securities in recent years and the belief that lower yields will persist. This change in the ultimate real interest rate results in a reduction (worsening) in the long-range actuarial balance of about 0.07 percent of taxable payroll. However, the projected annual real interest rates on new trust fund investments during the first 10 years of the projection period are overall slightly higher in this year's report than for the same period in last year's report, offsetting a small portion of the negative effect of the change in the ultimate real interest rate assumption. In addition to changes in the assumed interest rates, the ultimate assumed annual rate of change in labor productivity is increased in this year's report, from 1.6 percent to 1.7 percent. The effect of increased productivity growth, alone, tends to raise the real-wage differential thus increasing (improving) the long-range actuarial balance by about 0.11 percent of taxable payroll. Finally, the ultimate assumed differential between the annual change in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI) and the annual change in the gross domestic product (GDP) deflator is increased from 0.3 to 0.4 percentage point. The effect of this change is to lower the real-wage differential, decreasing (worsening) the long-range actuarial balance by about 0.11 percent of taxable payroll, thus offsetting essentially the entire effect of the ultimate assumed rate of increasing change in labor productivity.

New data on disability result in reducing (worsening) the long-range actuarial balance by 0.04 percent of taxable payroll. More recent data on disability mortality and improvements in the calculations of the historical disability mortality rates at the oldest ages result in a lower proportion of old-age beneficiaries with earlier disability entitlement than was estimated in last year's report. Because retired workers who are converted from disabled worker status have lower average benefit levels than those not converted, these revisions increase the overall average benefit for retirees and thus reduce (worsen) the long-range actuarial balance.

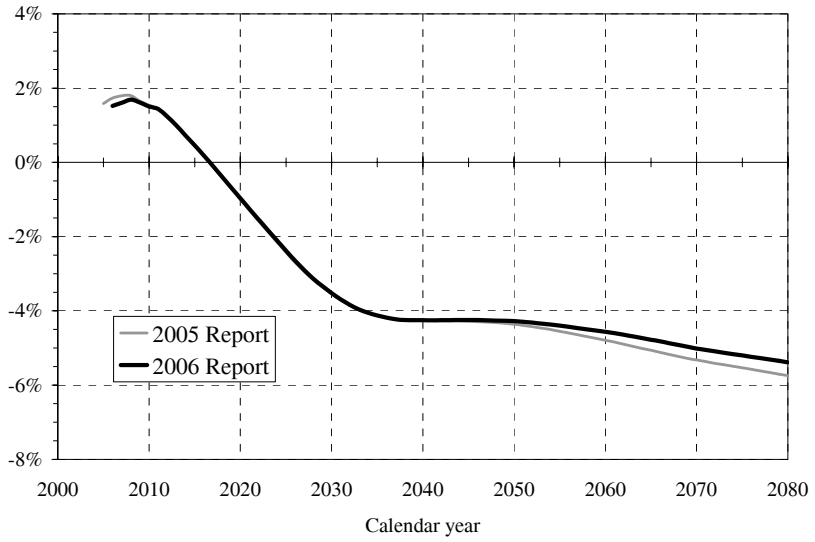
One significant methodological improvement and several updates of program-specific data were made for projections in the 2006 report. These changes to programmatic data and methods result in a combined increase (improvement) in the long-range OASDI actuarial balance of about

0.04 percent of payroll including interaction. The major cause of this positive change in the actuarial balance is the inclusion of an additional year of more recent program-specific data. The one significant change in methodology is a revision in the method for projecting the number of minor children of retired workers to reflect the recent trend toward a lower number of child beneficiaries. This reduction of minor child beneficiaries compared to last year's report results in an increase (improvement) in the OASDI actuarial balance by about 0.01 percent of payroll.

If no changes in assumptions or methods were made for this report and actual experience had met expectations since the last report, the OASDI long-range actuarial deficit would, nonetheless, have increased by 0.06 percent of taxable payroll from the level estimated for last year's report due to the change in the valuation period (see table IV.B9). The changes made in data, assumptions, and methods for this report, together, make the increase in the deficit about 50 percent larger than the increase in the deficit due solely to the new valuation period. This is indicated by the total 0.09 percentage point increase in the deficit, which, after rounding, increases the deficit from 1.92 percent to 2.02 percent of taxable payroll.

The effects of changes made in this report can also be illustrated by comparing the annual (cash-flow) balances for this and the prior year's report. Figure IV.B5 provides this comparison for the combined OASDI program over the long range.

Figure IV.B5.—OASDI Annual Balances: 2005 and 2006 Reports
[As a percentage of taxable payroll under the intermediate assumptions]



The projected annual balances in this report start at a lower level than those in last year's report largely due to worse than expected recent economic experience. Over the period 2010 through 2050, annual balances are similar between the two reports. After 2050, however, the annual balances in this year's report are larger due to the impact of the higher fertility rates. The annual deficit for 2079 is 5.35 percent of taxable payroll in this report compared to 5.70 percent for 2079 in last year's report.

V. ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS UNDERLYING ACTUARIAL ESTIMATES

The future income and cost of the OASDI program will depend on many demographic, economic, and program-specific factors. Trust fund income will depend on how these factors affect the size and composition of the working population and the level and distribution of earnings. Similarly, program cost will depend on how these factors affect the size and composition of the beneficiary population and the general level of benefits.

Basic assumptions are developed for several of these factors based on analysis of historical trends and conditions, and on expected future conditions. These factors include fertility, mortality, immigration, marriage, divorce, productivity, inflation, average earnings, unemployment, retirement, and disability incidence and termination. Other factors are projected using methods that reflect historical and expected future relationships to the basic assumptions. These include total population, life expectancy, labor force, gross domestic product, interest rates, and many program-specific factors. It should be noted that all factors included in any consistent set of assumptions are interrelated directly or indirectly. It is also important to note that these interrelationships can and do change over time.

The assumptions and methods used in this report are reexamined each year in light of recent experience and new information about future conditions, and are revised if warranted.

Because projections of these factors and their interrelationships are inherently uncertain, a range of estimates is shown in this report on the basis of three sets of assumptions, designated as intermediate (alternative II), low cost (alternative I), and high cost (alternative III). The intermediate set represents the Board's best estimate of the future course of the population and the economy. In terms of the net effect on the status of the OASDI program, the low cost is the most optimistic, and the high cost is the most pessimistic. The low and high cost sets of assumptions reflect significant potential changes in the interrelationship among factors, as well as changes in the values for individual factors. The probability is very low that all the assumptions and interactions would differ in the same direction from those expected. Outcomes with overall cost as low as (or lower than) the low cost scenario or as high as (or higher than) the high cost scenario are also very low probability.

Although these three sets of demographic and economic assumptions have been developed to provide a broad range of possible outcomes, the resulting estimates should be interpreted with care. The estimates are not intended to be specific predictions of the future financial status of the OASDI program,

but rather, they are intended to be indicators of the expected trend and a reasonable range of future income and cost, under a variety of plausible demographic and economic conditions.

The values for each of the demographic, economic, and program-specific factors are assumed to move from recently experienced levels or trends, toward long-range ultimate values generally over the next 2 to 25 years. Ultimate values or trends reached by the end of the 75-year long-range period are generally maintained at these levels or trends for extrapolations beyond 75 years. One exception is for real wage growth, as described in section IV.B.5.

The ultimate values assumed after the first 2 to 25 years (and through the end of the 75-year long-range period) for both the demographic and the economic factors are intended to represent average annual experience or growth rates. Actual future values will exhibit fluctuations or cyclical patterns, as in the past.

The following sections discuss in abbreviated form the various assumptions and methods required to make the estimates of trust fund financial status which are the heart of this report.[1] There are, of course, many interrelationships among these factors that make a sequential presentation somewhat misleading. Nevertheless, the following sections roughly follow the order used in building the trust fund estimates presented in chapter IV.

A. DEMOGRAPHIC ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS

The principal demographic assumptions relating to fertility, mortality, and net immigration for the three alternatives are shown in table V.A1. The rationales for selecting these assumptions are discussed in the following three sections.

1. Fertility Assumptions

Fertility (birth rate) assumptions are developed for women by single year of age, from 14 to 49. They are applied to the total number of women in the population at each age, for all marital statuses.

[1] Further details about the assumptions, methods, and actuarial estimates are contained in Actuarial Studies published by the Office of the Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration. A complete list of available studies may be found on the Social Security website at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/NOTES/actstud.html. To obtain copies of such Studies, or of this report, submit a request via our Internet request form; or write to: Office of the Chief Actuary, 700 Altmeyer Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235; or call (410) 965-3015. This entire report, along with supplemental year-by-year tables, may also be found at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/TR/TR06/index.html.

Historically, fertility rates in the United States have fluctuated widely. The total fertility rate[1] decreased from 3.3 children per woman after World War I to 2.1 during the Great Depression, rose to 3.7 in 1957, and then fell to 1.7 in 1976. After 1976, the total fertility rate began to rise again, reaching a level of 2.07 for 1990. Since then, the total fertility rate has remained fairly stable, around 2.0 children per woman.

These variations in fertility rates have resulted from changes in many factors, including social attitudes, economic conditions, and the use of birth-control methods. Future fertility rates may be expected to remain close to recent levels. The recent historical and projected trends in certain population characteristics, such as the rising percentages of women who have never married, of women who are divorced, and of young women who are in the labor force, are consistent with a continued relatively low fertility rate. Based on consideration of these factors, ultimate total fertility rates of 2.3, 2.0 and 1.7 children per woman were selected for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. For each alternative, the total fertility rate is assumed to gradually trend from the estimated level of 2.05 for 2003, reaching the selected ultimate level for 2030 and later.

The ultimate total fertility rates for the intermediate and low cost assumptions are increased from the rates of 1.95 and 2.2 children per woman, respectively, in last year’s report. The ultimate total fertility rate for the high cost assumption is unchanged from last year’s report. The increase in the ultimate total fertility rates for the intermediate and low cost assumptions is based primarily on the persistently higher than previously assumed levels of total fertility rates in recent years. Since 1990, the total fertility rate has been at least 2.0 children per woman in all but three years and never below 1.97 children per woman.

In addition, total fertility rates for years prior to 2030 are slightly higher than in last year's report due to incorporating additional birth data for 2003 and revised population data for 2000-03. These recent birth and population data result in slightly higher starting levels that remain at higher levels through 2029.

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[1] Defined to be the average number of children that would be born to a woman in her lifetime if she were to experience the birth rates by age observed in, or assumed for, the selected year, and if she were to survive the entire childbearing period. A rate of 2.1 would ultimately result in a nearly constant population if net immigration were zero and if death rates were constant.

2. Mortality Assumptions

Mortality (death rate) assumptions are developed by single year of age, sex, and cause of death.

Death rates in the United States since 1900 have declined substantially, but at varying rates. Historical rates (for years 1900-2002) used in preparing this report were calculated for ages below 65 (and for all ages prior to 1968) using data from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).[1] For ages 65 and over, Medicare final data were used for years 1968 through 2002. Also used are death rates by cause of death produced by the NCHS for years 1979-2002.

The total age-sex-adjusted death rate[2] declined at an average rate[3] of 1.05 percent per year between 1900 and 2002. Between 1979 and 2002, the period for which death rates are analyzed by cause, the total age-sex-adjusted death rate (for all causes combined) declined at an average rate of 0.71 percent per year.

Historical death rates have declined more slowly for older ages than for the rest of the population. The age-sex-adjusted death rate for ages 65 and over declined at an average rate of 0.72 percent per year between 1900 and 2002. Between 1979 and 2002 the age-sex-adjusted death rate for these ages declined at an average annual rate of 0.47 percent.

Reductions in death rates have resulted from many factors, including increased medical knowledge and availability of health-care services, and improvements in sanitation and nutrition. Based on consideration of the expected rate of future progress in these and other areas, three alternative sets of ultimate annual percentage reductions in central death rates by age, sex, and cause of death were selected for 2030 and later. The intermediate set, which is used for alternative II, is considered to be the most likely to occur. The average annual percentage reductions used for alternative I are generally smaller than those for alternative II, while those used for alternative III are generally greater. These three sets of ultimate annual percentage reductions are unchanged from those used in last year's report.

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[1] These rates reflect NCHS data on deaths and Census estimates of population.

[2] Calculated here as the crude rate that would occur in the enumerated total population as of April 1, 2000, if that population were to experience the death rates by age and sex for the selected year.

[3] Average rate of decline is calculated as the annual geometric rate of reduction between the first and last years of the period.

After 2002, the reductions in central death rates for alternative II are assumed to change rapidly from the average annual reductions by age, sex, and cause of death observed between 1982 and 2002, to the ultimate annual percentage reductions by age, sex, and cause of death assumed for 2030 and later. The reductions in death rates under alternatives I and III are also assumed to change rapidly to their ultimate levels, but start from levels which are, respectively, 50 or 150 percent of the average annual reductions observed between 1982 and 2002.

Projections of age-sex-adjusted death rates are presented in table V.A1 for the total (all ages), for under age 65, and for ages 65 and over. Under the intermediate assumptions, these projected age-sex-adjusted death rates are slightly higher than the death rates in last year's report. New data for 2002 results in age-sex-adjusted death rates throughout the projection period that are slightly higher than those in last year's report.

After adjustment for changes in the age-sex distribution of the population, the resulting total death rates are projected to decline at ultimate average annual rates of about 0.33 percent, 0.70 percent, and 1.22 percent between 2030 and 2080 for alternatives I, II, and III, respectively. In keeping with the patterns observed in the historical data, future rates of decline are assumed to be greater for younger ages than for older ages, but to a substantially lesser degree than in the past. Accordingly, age-sex-adjusted death rates for ages 65 and over are projected to decline at average annual rates of about 0.29 percent, 0.67 percent, and 1.16 percent between 2030 and 2080 for alternatives I, II, and III, respectively.

There is a wide range of opinion among experts on the likely rate of future decline in death rates. For example, the 2003 Technical Panel on Assumptions and Methods appointed by the Social Security Advisory Board believed that ultimate rates of decline in mortality will be higher than the rates of decline assumed for the intermediate projections in this report. Others believe that biological and social factors may slow future rates of decline in mortality. Evolving mortality trends and developments in health care and life style will be closely monitored to determine what further modifications to the assumed ultimate rates of decline in mortality may be warranted for future reports.

3. Immigration Assumptions

Legal immigration[1] increased after World War II to around 300,000 persons per year and remained around that level until shortly after 1960. With the Immigration Act of 1965 and other related changes, annual legal immigration increased to about 400,000 and remained fairly stable until 1977. Between 1977 and 1990, legal immigration once again increased, averaging about 580,000[2] per year. The Immigration Act of 1990, which took effect in fiscal year 1992, restructured the immigration categories and increased significantly the number of immigrants who may legally enter the United States. Legal immigration averaged about 837,000[2] persons per year during the period 1992 through 2004. The number of legal immigrants in 2004 is estimated to be 946,000 persons.

For 2004, net legal immigration (after considering emigration) is estimated to be about 710,000 persons. Net other immigration is estimated to be 400,000 persons. For 2005, net legal immigration is estimated to be 675,000 for the intermediate, 720,000 for low cost and 630,000 for the high cost assumptions. Net other immigration for 2005 is estimated to be 400,000 persons for all three assumptions.

The ultimate annual net immigration assumptions are unchanged from those in last year's report. After 2005, the annual number of net legal immigrants is projected to reach the ultimate level in 2007. The ultimate level of annual net other immigrants is projected to be reached in 2026 under the intermediate and low cost assumptions and in 2016 under the high cost assumptions.

The total level of net immigration (legal and other, combined) under the intermediate projection is assumed to be 1,075,000 persons in 2006, and 900,000 persons[3] in 2026 and for each year afterward. For the low cost assumptions, net immigration is assumed to increase slightly from a level of 1,270,000 persons in 2006 to an ultimate level of 1,300,000 persons[4] for each year 2026 and later. Under the high cost assumptions, net immigration is assumed to be 810,000 persons in 2006, and 672,500 persons[5] for each year after 2015.

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[1] Consistent with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, legal immigrants are individuals admitted to the U.S. for legal permanent residence.

[2] Excludes those persons admitted under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

[3] 600,000 net legal immigrants plus 300,000 net other immigrants.

[4] 850,000 net legal immigrants plus 450,000 net other immigrants.

[5] 472,500 net legal immigrants plus 200,000 net other immigrants.

There is a very wide range of opinion about the future course of immigration for the United States. Some, like the 2003 Technical Panel mentioned in the previous section, believe that immigration will increase substantially in the future. Others believe that potential immigrants may be attracted to other countries or that the U.S. borders could be tightened in the future.

Table V.A1.—Principal Demographic Assumptions, Calendar Years 1940-2080

Calendar year	Total fertility rate[1]	Age-sex-adjusted death rate[2] per 100,000, by age			Net immigration	
		Total	Under 65	65 and over	Legal[3]	Other[4]
Historical data:						
1940	2.23	1,779.1	673.0	9,569.0	45,950	
1945	2.42	1,586.6	601.8	8,522.4	55,069	
1950	3.03	1,435.6	499.4	8,028.3	170,594	
1955	3.50	1,334.2	442.8	7,612.2	209,779	
1960	3.61	1,330.9	436.9	7,626.7	201,276	
1965	2.88	1,304.6	430.0	7,464.0	232,400	
1970	2.43	1,224.3	422.6	6,870.7	278,928	
1975	1.77	1,099.0	369.5	6,236.4	294,303	
1980	1.82	1,035.9	331.9	5,993.6	410,348	375,000
1985	1.84	984.2	303.6	5,777.6	433,449	375,000
1990	2.07	931.2	289.4	5,451.1	501,065	550,000
1991	2.06	918.8	286.2	5,373.5	548,000	550,000
1992	2.04	906.2	280.2	5,315.3	620,986	550,000
1993	2.02	928.0	283.1	5,470.0	644,696	550,000
1994	2.00	916.2	280.5	5,392.7	583,390	550,000
1995	1.98	913.9	277.3	5,397.5	573,719	550,000
1996	1.98	900.4	266.1	5,367.2	662,284	550,000
1997	1.97	885.1	253.6	5,332.5	571,800	550,000
1998	2.00	878.3	246.9	5,325.2	489,360	550,000
1999	2.01	884.3	245.0	5,386.6	523,037	550,000
2000	2.06	875.6	243.4	5,328.3	677,579	550,000
2001	2.03	867.4	243.6	5,260.7	798,126	550,000
2002	2.02	863.6	242.7	5,236.6	730,689	550,000
2003[5]	2.05	860.6	234.1	5,272.2	574,429	550,000
2004[5]	2.04	856.4	231.3	5,258.7	709,606	400,000
2005[5]	2.03	852.5	228.6	5,246.9	675,000	400,000
Intermediate:						
2010	2.03	829.2	216.4	5,145.1	600,000	400,000
2015	2.02	798.7	205.9	4,974.0	600,000	400,000
2020	2.01	767.1	196.2	4,787.2	600,000	350,000
2025	2.01	736.4	187.3	4,604.0	600,000	350,000
2030	2.00	707.4	178.9	4,429.7	600,000	300,000
2035	2.00	680.1	171.0	4,265.4	600,000	300,000
2040	2.00	654.5	163.6	4,111.7	600,000	300,000
2045	2.00	630.6	156.7	3,967.5	600,000	300,000
2050	2.00	608.0	150.2	3,832.2	600,000	300,000
2055	2.00	586.8	144.1	3,705.0	600,000	300,000
2060	2.00	566.9	138.3	3,585.3	600,000	300,000
2065	2.00	548.1	132.8	3,472.5	600,000	300,000
2070	2.00	530.3	127.6	3,366.1	600,000	300,000
2075	2.00	513.5	122.8	3,265.5	600,000	300,000
2080	2.00	497.6	118.1	3,170.4	600,000	300,000

Table V.A1.—Principal Demographic Assumptions, Calendar Years 1940-2080 (Cont.)

Calendar year	Total fertility rate[1]	Age-sex-adjusted death rate[2] per 100,000, by age			Net immigration	
		Total	Under 65	65 and over	Legal[3]	Other[4]
Low Cost:						
2010	2.11	854.4	223.3	5,298.9	850,000	550,000
2015	2.15	844.5	217.6	5,259.4	850,000	550,000
2020	2.20	830.7	211.9	5,188.8	850,000	500,000
2025	2.25	816.0	206.3	5,109.8	850,000	500,000
2030	2.30	801.3	200.9	5,029.8	850,000	450,000
2035	2.30	787.0	195.8	4,951.1	850,000	450,000
2040	2.30	773.3	190.8	4,875.2	850,000	450,000
2045	2.30	760.0	186.1	4,802.0	850,000	450,000
2050	2.30	747.3	181.6	4,731.4	850,000	450,000
2055	2.30	735.0	177.2	4,663.3	850,000	450,000
2060	2.30	723.2	173.0	4,597.6	850,000	450,000
2065	2.30	711.8	169.0	4,534.1	850,000	450,000
2070	2.30	700.8	165.2	4,472.8	850,000	450,000
2075	2.30	690.2	161.4	4,413.6	850,000	450,000
2080	2.30	679.9	157.9	4,356.3	850,000	450,000
High Cost:						
2010	1.95	803.3	208.7	4,990.5	472,500	250,000
2015	1.89	750.5	191.8	4,685.2	472,500	250,000
2020	1.82	699.5	176.6	4,381.6	472,500	200,000
2025	1.76	652.0	162.9	4,096.4	472,500	200,000
2030	1.70	608.4	150.4	3,833.4	472,500	200,000
2035	1.70	568.4	139.0	3,591.9	472,500	200,000
2040	1.70	531.8	128.7	3,371.1	472,500	200,000
2045	1.70	498.4	119.2	3,168.8	472,500	200,000
2050	1.70	467.7	110.5	2,983.2	472,500	200,000
2055	1.70	439.5	102.5	2,812.7	472,500	200,000
2060	1.70	413.6	95.2	2,655.8	472,500	200,000
2065	1.70	389.8	88.5	2,511.3	472,500	200,000
2070	1.70	367.8	82.3	2,378.0	472,500	200,000
2075	1.70	347.5	76.7	2,254.7	472,500	200,000
2080	1.70	328.7	71.4	2,140.7	472,500	200,000

[1] The total fertility rate for any year is the average number of children who would be born to a woman in her lifetime if she were to experience the birth rates by age observed in, or assumed for, the selected year, and if she were to survive the entire childbearing period. The ultimate total fertility rate is assumed to be reached in 2030.

[2] The age-sex-adjusted death rate is the crude rate that would occur in the enumerated total population as of April 1, 2000, if that population were to experience the death rates by age and sex observed in, or assumed for, the selected year.

[3] Historical estimates of net legal immigration assume a 25 percent reduction in legal immigration due to legal emigration. Estimates do not include persons legalized under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

[4] Net other annual immigration is estimated to have averaged 375,000 persons over the period 1980-89 and 550,000 over the period 1990-99.

[5] Preliminary or estimated.

4. Total Population Estimates

Combining the above assumptions for future fertility, mortality, and net immigration with assumptions on marriage and divorce based on data from the NCHS, projections were made of the population in the Social Security area by age, sex, and marital status as of January 1 of each year 2005 through 2080. The starting Social Security area population for January 1, 2004, is based on the Census Bureau's estimate of the residents of the 50 States and

D.C., and U.S. Armed Forces overseas. The base estimate is adjusted for net census undercount and increased for other U.S. citizens living abroad (including residents of U.S. territories) and for non-citizens living abroad who are insured for Social Security benefits. This starting population was then projected using assumed rates of birth, death, marriage and divorce, and assumed levels of net immigration.

Table V.A2 shows the historical and projected population as of July 1 by broad age group, for the three alternatives. Also shown are aged and total dependency ratios (see table footnotes for definitions).

Table V.A2.—Social Security Area Population as of July 1 and Dependency Ratios, Calendar Years 1950-2080

	Population (in thousands)				Dependency ratio	
Calendar year	Under 20	20-64	65 and over	Total	Aged[1]	Total[2]
Historical data:						
1950	54,466	92,841	12,811	160,118	0.138	0.725
1960	73,076	99,818	17,278	190,172	.173	.905
1965	80,132	104,795	19,091	204,018	.182	.947
1970	80,684	113,158	20,923	214,765	.185	.898
1975	78,437	122,857	23,305	224,599	.190	.828
1980	74,568	134,428	26,237	235,233	.195	.750
1985	73,211	144,957	29,167	247,335	.201	.706
1990	75,060	153,368	32,029	260,458	.209	.698
1995	79,621	160,844	34,322	274,786	.213	.708
2000	82,581	170,275	35,431	288,287	.208	.693
2005[3]	83,963	181,457	36,902	302,323	.203	.666
Intermediate:						
2010	84,895	190,083	39,762	314,741	.209	.656
2015	85,796	195,496	45,910	327,202	.235	.674
2020	87,547	198,213	53,510	339,269	.270	.712
2025	88,597	199,789	62,343	350,729	.312	.755
2030	90,133	200,644	70,017	360,794	.349	.798
2035	91,288	203,518	74,645	369,451	.367	.815
2040	92,268	207,416	77,172	376,856	.372	.817
2045	93,199	211,166	79,014	383,379	.374	.816
2050	94,318	213,935	81,257	389,510	.380	.821
2055	95,550	216,474	83,651	395,675	.386	.828
2060	96,760	218,777	86,543	402,079	.396	.838
2065	97,897	221,816	88,980	408,693	.401	.842
2070	98,968	224,244	92,103	415,315	.411	.852
2075	100,039	227,337	94,451	421,827	.415	.856
2080	101,159	230,137	96,918	428,214	.421	.861

Table V.A2.—Social Security Area Population as of July 1 and Dependency Ratios, Calendar Years 1950-2080 (Cont.)

Calendar year	Population (in thousands)				Dependency ratio	
	Under 20	20-64	65 and over	Total	Aged[1]	Total[2]
Low Cost:						
2010	85,973	191,168	39,692	316,833	0.208	0.657
2015	88,679	197,977	45,601	332,257	.230	.678
2020	92,960	202,147	52,815	347,922	.261	.721
2025	97,235	205,286	61,098	363,618	.298	.771
2030	102,342	208,219	68,059	378,621	.327	.818
2035	107,043	213,877	71,892	392,811	.336	.837
2040	111,418	221,232	73,670	406,320	.333	.837
2045	115,772	229,058	74,965	419,795	.327	.833
2050	120,368	236,575	76,931	433,874	.325	.834
2055	125,278	244,420	79,252	448,950	.324	.837
2060	130,437	252,563	82,088	465,088	.325	.841
2065	135,597	262,150	84,373	482,120	.322	.839
2070	140,681	271,923	87,226	499,830	.321	.838
2075	145,804	282,746	89,634	518,184	.317	.833
2080	151,116	293,433	92,711	537,259	.316	.831
High Cost:						
2010	83,919	189,254	39,854	313,027	.211	.654
2015	83,222	193,753	46,302	323,277	.239	.669
2020	82,716	195,532	54,398	332,646	.278	.701
2025	80,894	196,074	63,956	340,924	.326	.739
2030	79,403	195,523	72,591	347,517	.371	.777
2035	77,668	196,363	78,331	352,363	.399	.794
2040	76,040	197,608	81,995	355,644	.415	.800
2045	74,518	198,124	84,844	357,486	.428	.804
2050	73,323	197,061	87,860	358,244	.446	.818
2055	72,209	195,349	90,799	358,358	.465	.834
2060	70,946	193,039	94,181	358,166	.488	.855
2065	69,654	190,977	97,158	357,790	.509	.873
2070	68,427	187,736	100,942	357,105	.538	.902
2075	67,308	185,048	103,612	355,968	.560	.924
2080	66,274	182,183	105,844	354,301	.581	.945

[1] Population aged 65 and over, divided by population aged 20-64.
[2] Sum of population aged 65 and over, and population under age 20, divided by population aged 20-64.
[3] Preliminary or estimated.

Notes:
1. Historical data are subject to revision.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

5. Life Expectancy Estimates

Life expectancy, or average remaining number of years expected prior to death, is a useful analytical concept. Life expectancy is calculated in two different forms, for two separate purposes.

Period life expectancy is calculated for a given year using the actual or expected death rates at each age for that year. It is a useful summary statistic for illustrating the overall level of the death rates experienced in a single year. It is thus closely related to the age-sex-adjusted death rate that is dis-

cussed in section V.A.2. Period life expectancy for a particular year may be viewed as the expected remaining life at a selected age *only* if it is assumed that there is no change in death rates after that year.

Cohort life expectancy truly answers the question "What is the expected average remaining lifetime for an individual at a selected age in a given year?" Cohort life expectancy is calculated using death rates not from a single year, but from the series of years in which the individual will actually reach each succeeding age if he or she survives. Cohort life expectancy is shown in table V.A4 for those born on January 1 of each calendar year, and for those attaining age 65 on January 1 of each calendar year.

Tables V.A3 and V.A4 present historical and projected life expectancy calculated on both period and cohort bases. Cohort life expectancy is somewhat greater than period life expectancy for the same year. This is because death rates for any given age tend to decline as time passes and the cohort grows older.

Table V.A3.—Period Life Expectancy[1]

Calendar year	Low Cost				Intermediate				High Cost			
	At birth		At age 65		At birth		At age 65		At birth		At age 65	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Historical data:												
1940					61.4	65.7	11.9	13.4				
1945					62.9	68.4	12.6	14.4				
1950					65.6	71.1	12.8	15.1				
1955					66.7	72.8	13.1	15.6				
1960					66.7	73.2	12.9	15.9				
1965					66.8	73.8	12.9	16.3				
1970					67.1	74.9	13.1	17.1				
1975					68.7	76.6	13.7	18.0				
1980					69.9	77.5	14.0	18.4				
1985					71.1	78.2	14.4	18.6				
1990					71.8	78.9	15.1	19.1				
1991					72.0	79.0	15.2	19.2				
1992					72.3	79.2	15.3	19.3				
1993					72.1	79.0	15.2	19.0				
1994					72.3	79.1	15.3	19.1				
1995					72.5	79.1	15.4	19.1				
1996					73.0	79.2	15.5	19.1				
1997					73.4	79.4	15.6	19.1				
1998					73.7	79.4	15.7	19.1				
1999					73.8	79.3	15.7	19.0				
2000					74.0	79.4	15.9	19.0				
2001					74.1	79.5	16.1	19.1				
2002					74.2	79.5	16.2	19.1				
2003[2] . . .					74.5	79.5	16.2	19.0				
2004[2] . . .					74.7	79.6	16.2	19.0				
2005[2] . . .					74.8	79.6	16.3	19.0				
Projected:												
2010	75.1	79.6	16.4	18.9	75.5	79.9	16.6	19.1	75.9	80.2	16.9	19.4
2015	75.4	79.7	16.5	19.0	76.0	80.3	17.0	19.4	76.8	81.0	17.4	19.8
2020	75.6	79.9	16.6	19.1	76.6	80.7	17.3	19.7	77.7	81.7	18.0	20.3
2025	75.9	80.2	16.8	19.2	77.1	81.2	17.6	20.0	78.6	82.4	18.5	20.9
2030	76.2	80.4	16.9	19.3	77.6	81.6	17.9	20.2	79.4	83.1	19.0	21.4
2035	76.4	80.6	17.0	19.4	78.1	82.0	18.2	20.5	80.2	83.8	19.5	21.9
2040	76.7	80.8	17.1	19.5	78.5	82.4	18.4	20.8	80.9	84.5	20.0	22.4
2045	76.9	81.0	17.2	19.6	79.0	82.8	18.7	21.1	81.7	85.1	20.5	22.8
2050	77.2	81.1	17.3	19.8	79.4	83.1	19.0	21.3	82.4	85.8	21.0	23.3
2055	77.4	81.3	17.5	19.9	79.8	83.5	19.3	21.6	83.1	86.4	21.5	23.8
2060	77.6	81.5	17.6	20.0	80.3	83.9	19.5	21.9	83.7	86.9	22.0	24.2
2065	77.8	81.7	17.7	20.1	80.7	84.2	19.8	22.1	84.4	87.5	22.4	24.6
2070	78.0	81.8	17.8	20.2	81.0	84.5	20.0	22.3	85.0	88.0	22.8	25.1
2075	78.2	82.0	17.9	20.3	81.4	84.8	20.3	22.6	85.6	88.6	23.3	25.5
2080	78.4	82.2	18.0	20.4	81.8	85.1	20.5	22.8	86.2	89.1	23.7	25.9

[1] The period life expectancy at a given age for a given year represents the average number of years of life remaining if a group of persons at that age were to experience the mortality rates for that year over the course of their remaining lives.
[2] Preliminary or estimated.

Table V.A4.—Cohort Life Expectancy[1]

Calendar year	Low Cost				Intermediate				High Cost			
	At birth[2]		At age 65[3]		At birth[2]		At age 65[3]		At birth[2]		At age 65[3]	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1940	69.3	75.3	12.7	14.7	69.6	75.7	12.7	14.7	70.0	76.2	12.7	14.7
1945	70.8	76.6	13.0	15.4	71.3	77.2	13.0	15.4	71.9	78.0	13.0	15.4
1950	71.8	77.6	13.1	16.2	72.5	78.4	13.1	16.2	73.4	79.4	13.1	16.2
1955	72.3	78.0	13.1	16.7	73.2	79.0	13.1	16.7	74.4	80.3	13.1	16.7
1960	72.8	78.3	13.2	17.4	73.9	79.5	13.2	17.4	75.4	81.1	13.2	17.4
1965	73.4	78.6	13.5	18.0	74.8	80.1	13.5	18.0	76.6	81.9	13.5	18.0
1970	74.2	79.2	13.8	18.5	75.9	80.8	13.8	18.5	78.0	83.0	13.8	18.5
1975	74.9	79.7	14.2	18.7	76.8	81.5	14.2	18.7	79.2	84.0	14.2	18.7
1980	75.6	80.1	14.7	18.7	77.7	82.2	14.7	18.7	80.5	84.9	14.7	18.7
1985	76.0	80.5	15.2	18.8	78.4	82.7	15.2	18.8	81.5	85.8	15.2	18.9
1990	76.4	80.8	15.6	18.8	79.0	83.2	15.7	19.0	82.4	86.5	15.8	19.1
1991	76.5	80.8	15.7	18.8	79.1	83.3	15.8	19.0	82.6	86.7	15.9	19.1
1992	76.6	80.9	15.8	18.8	79.2	83.4	15.9	19.0	82.8	86.8	16.0	19.2
1993	76.6	80.9	15.9	18.9	79.3	83.5	16.0	19.0	83.0	87.0	16.1	19.2
1994	76.7	81.0	15.9	18.9	79.5	83.6	16.1	19.1	83.2	87.1	16.2	19.3
1995	76.8	81.1	16.0	18.9	79.6	83.7	16.2	19.1	83.4	87.3	16.3	19.4
1996	76.9	81.1	16.1	18.9	79.7	83.8	16.3	19.2	83.6	87.4	16.5	19.4
1997	76.9	81.2	16.2	18.9	79.8	83.9	16.4	19.2	83.7	87.6	16.6	19.5
1998	77.0	81.2	16.2	18.9	79.9	83.9	16.5	19.3	83.9	87.7	16.7	19.6
1999	77.0	81.3	16.3	18.9	80.0	84.0	16.6	19.3	84.0	87.8	16.9	19.7
2000	77.1	81.3	16.4	19.0	80.1	84.1	16.7	19.4	84.2	88.0	17.0	19.8
2001	77.2	81.3	16.4	19.0	80.2	84.2	16.7	19.4	84.3	88.1	17.1	19.9
2002	77.2	81.4	16.4	19.0	80.2	84.2	16.8	19.5	84.5	88.2	17.2	20.0
2003	77.3	81.4	16.5	19.0	80.4	84.3	16.9	19.5	84.6	88.4	17.3	20.1
2004	77.3	81.5	16.5	19.0	80.5	84.4	17.0	19.6	84.8	88.5	17.5	20.2
2005	77.4	81.5	16.5	19.0	80.6	84.5	17.0	19.6	85.0	88.6	17.6	20.3
2010	77.6	81.7	16.7	19.1	81.0	84.9	17.4	19.9	85.7	89.3	18.2	20.8
2015	77.9	81.9	16.8	19.3	81.4	85.2	17.7	20.2	86.4	89.9	18.8	21.3
2020	78.1	82.1	16.9	19.4	81.9	85.5	18.0	20.5	87.1	90.4	19.3	21.9
2025	78.3	82.2	17.0	19.5	82.2	85.9	18.3	20.8	87.7	91.0	19.9	22.4
2030	78.5	82.4	17.2	19.6	82.6	86.2	18.6	21.1	88.3	91.5	20.4	22.9
2035	78.7	82.6	17.3	19.7	83.0	86.5	18.9	21.4	88.9	92.0	21.0	23.4
2040	78.9	82.7	17.4	19.8	83.3	86.8	19.2	21.6	89.5	92.5	21.5	23.9
2045	79.1	82.9	17.5	20.0	83.7	87.1	19.4	21.9	90.0	93.0	22.0	24.4
2050	79.3	83.0	17.6	20.1	84.0	87.4	19.7	22.1	90.6	93.4	22.5	24.9
2055	79.5	83.2	17.7	20.2	84.4	87.6	20.0	22.4	91.1	93.9	22.9	25.3
2060	79.7	83.3	17.8	20.3	84.7	87.9	20.2	22.6	91.6	94.3	23.4	25.8
2065	79.9	83.4	17.9	20.4	85.0	88.1	20.5	22.9	92.1	94.8	23.9	26.2
2070	80.0	83.6	18.0	20.5	85.3	88.4	20.7	23.1	92.5	95.2	24.3	26.6
2075	80.2	83.7	18.1	20.6	85.6	88.6	21.0	23.3	93.0	95.6	24.8	27.1
2080	80.3	83.8	18.2	20.7	85.9	88.9	21.2	23.6	93.5	96.0	25.2	27.5

[1] The cohort life expectancy at a given age for a given year represents the average number of years of life remaining if a group of persons at that age were to experience the mortality rates for the series of years in which they reach each succeeding age.

[2] Cohort life expectancy at birth for those born on January 1 of the calendar year is based on a combination of actual and estimated death rates for birth years prior to 2003. For birth years after 2002, these values are based solely on estimated death rates.

[3] Age 65 cohort life expectancy for those attaining age 65 on January 1 of the calendar years before 1975 is based on actual data. For 1975 through 2002, these values are based on a combination of actual and estimated death rates. After 2002, these values are based solely on estimated death rates.

B. ECONOMIC ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS

The basic economic assumptions are embodied in three alternatives that are designed to provide a reasonable range of effects on Social Security's financial status. The intermediate assumptions reflect the Trustees' consensus expectation of moderate economic growth throughout the projection period. The low cost assumptions represent a more optimistic outlook, with relatively strong economic growth. The high cost assumptions represent a relatively pessimistic scenario, with weak economic growth and two recessions in the short-range period.

Based on the latest data and estimates, the economy is assumed to have been above its sustainable potential level of output and employment during the latter half of 2005. Under all three sets of assumptions the economy is assumed to reach the sustainable, potential level of output by the end of the short-range period. Economic cycles are not included in the assumptions beyond the first 5 to 10 years of the projection period because they have little effect on the long-range estimates of financial status.

This report also includes a stochastic projection that provides a probability distribution of possible future outcomes that is centered around the Trustees' intermediate assumptions. Additional economic assumptions and modeling are required for these projections. These are discussed in appendix E.

The following sections 1 through 4 present the principal economic assumptions for the three alternatives that are summarized in table V.B1. The subsequent sections 5 through 7 present additional economic factors, summarized in table V.B2, that are critical to the projections of the future financial status of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds.

1. Productivity Assumptions

Total U.S. economy productivity is defined as the ratio of real gross domestic product (GDP) to hours worked by all workers.[1] The rate of change in total-economy productivity is a major determinant in the growth of average earnings. For the 40 years from 1964 to 2004, annual increases in total productivity averaged 1.8 percent, the result of average annual increases of 2.1, 1.4, 1.4, and 2.2 percent for the 10-year periods 1964-74, 1974-84, 1984-94, and 1994-2004, respectively. However, it should be noted that this growth rate of

[1] Historical levels of real GDP are from the Bureau of Economic Analysis' (BEA) National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA). Historical total hours worked is an unpublished series provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and is for all civilian and military wage and salary workers and the self-employed.

1.8 percent reflects a shift of employment from low (farm) to high (nonfarm) productivity sectors that is not expected to continue in the future.

Because productivity growth can vary substantially within economic cycles, it is more useful to consider historical average growth rates for complete economic cycles. The annual increase in total productivity averaged 1.6 percent over the last four complete economic cycles (measured from peak to peak), covering the 34-year period from 1966 to 2000. The annual increase in total productivity averaged 2.2, 1.2, 1.3, and 1.6 percent over the economic cycles 1966-73, 1973-78, 1978-89, 1989-2000, respectively.

The ultimate annual increases in productivity are assumed to be 2.0, 1.7, and 1.4 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. These rates of increase are each 0.1 percentage point higher than those used in the 2005 report. The change reflects the belief that recent strong growth in productivity, after the relatively poor performance from 1973 to 1989, is consistent with future long-term growth that mirrors the long-term trends of the past.

For the intermediate assumptions, the annual change in productivity is assumed to average about 2.1 percent over the 2005 to 2007 period, then gradually decline to the ultimate assumed level of 1.7 percent by 2013. For the low cost assumptions, the annual change in productivity decreases gradually from about 2.2 percent over the 2005 to 2011 period to the ultimate assumed level of 2.0 percent by 2013. For the high cost assumptions, the annual change in productivity decreases from 2.0 percent for 2005 to a cyclic low of 0.4 percent for 2006. Thereafter, the annual change in productivity varies with economic cycles until reaching its ultimate growth rate of 1.4 percent for 2015.

2. Price Inflation Assumptions

Future changes in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (hereafter denoted as CPI) will directly affect the OASDI program through the automatic cost-of-living benefit increases. Future changes in the GDP chain-type price index (hereafter, the GDP deflator) affect the nominal levels of GDP, wages, self-employment income, average earnings, and taxable payroll.

Historically, the CPI increased by an average of 4.5 percent for the 40 years from 1964 to 2004, the result of average annual increases of 4.7, 7.6, 3.5, and 2.4 percent for the 10-year periods 1964-74, 1974-84, 1984-94, and 1994-2004, respectively. The GDP deflator increased by 4.1 percent for 1964 to 2004, and by 4.6, 6.9, 2.9, and 1.9 percent annually for the same respective 10-year periods.

The ultimate annual increases in the CPI are assumed to be 1.8, 2.8, and 3.8 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. These rates of increase are the same as those used in the 2005 report, and reflect a belief that future inflationary shocks will likely be offset by succeeding periods of relatively slow inflation due to persistent international competition, and that future monetary policy will be similar to the recent past, with its strong emphasis on holding the growth rate in prices to relatively low levels.

For each alternative, the ultimate annual increase in the GDP deflator is assumed to be equal to the annual increases in the CPI minus a 0.4 percentage point price differential. This differential is based primarily on methodological differences in the construction of the two indices, and is 0.1 percentage point larger than the one used in the 2005 report. The larger differential reflects additional data indicating that the effects of the methodological differences are greater than previously estimated. Hence, for the intermediate assumptions, the ultimate annual increase in the GDP deflator is 2.4 percent, equal to the 2.8 percent assumed ultimate annual increase in the CPI less the 0.4 percentage point price differential. Similarly, the ultimate annual increases in the GDP deflator are 1.4 and 3.4 percent for the low cost and high cost assumptions, respectively.

For the intermediate assumptions, the annual change in the CPI is assumed to decrease from 3.5 percent for 2005 to 2.9 percent for 2006 and 2.3 percent for 2007. The annual change in the CPI increases over the next 2 years to the assumed ultimate rate of 2.8 percent as of 2009. For the low cost assumptions, the annual change in the CPI decreases from 2.7 percent for 2006 to 1.9 percent for 2007, then to the assumed ultimate rate of 1.8 percent for 2008. For the high cost assumptions, the annual change in the CPI mostly increases from 3.4 percent for 2006 to 5.7 percent by 2010, then decreases to its assumed ultimate rate of 3.8 percent as of 2014. The price differential, defined as the percent change in the CPI less the GDP deflator percent change, is estimated to be 0.8 percentage point for 2005. For all three alternatives, the price differential is projected to be approximately 0.7 percentage point for 2006, and 0.4 percentage point for 2007 and later.

3. Average Earnings Assumptions

The level of average (nominal) earnings in OASDI covered employment for each year has a direct effect on the size of the taxable payroll and on the future level of average benefits. In addition, increases in the level of average wages in the U.S. economy directly affect the indexation, under the automatic-adjustment provisions in the law, of the OASDI benefit formulas, the

contribution and benefit base, the exempt amounts under the retirement earnings test, the amount of earnings required for a quarter of coverage, and under certain circumstances, the automatic cost-of-living benefit increases.

Average U.S. earnings is defined as the ratio of the sum of total U.S. wage and salary disbursements and proprietor income to the sum of total U.S. military and total civilian (household) employment. The growth rate in average U.S. earnings for any period is equal to the combined growth rates for total U.S. economy productivity, average hours worked, the ratio of earnings to compensation (which includes fringe benefits), the ratio of compensation to GDP, and the GDP deflator. Assumed future growth rates in productivity and the GDP deflator are discussed in the previous two sections.

The average annual change in average hours worked was -0.2 percent over the last 40 years, and -0.5, -0.3, 0.1, and -0.2 percent for the 10-year periods 1964-74, 1974-84, 1984-94 and 1994-2004, respectively. Though the historical data by 10-year periods suggest that the future trend growth rate in average hours worked may be negative, other evidence indicates differently. Analysis of recent employment and Census data implies that the decline for the most recent 10-year period is overstated.

For the 2006 report, the ultimate annual rates of change for average hours worked are assumed to be 0.1, 0.0, and -0.1 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. These ultimate annual rates of change for average hours worked are the same as those assumed for the 2005 report.

The average annual change in the ratio of earnings to compensation was -0.3 percent from 1964 to 2004. For wage workers, the assumed ultimate annual rates of change are -0.1, -0.2, and -0.3 percent for the ratio of earnings to compensation, for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. Under the intermediate assumptions, the ratio of wages to employee compensation is projected to decline from 0.803 for 2005 to 0.697 for 2080. The ratio of compensation to GDP is assumed to be stable.

Thus, the ultimate projected annual growth rate in average U.S. earnings is about 3.9 percent for the intermediate assumptions. This reflects assumed ultimate annual growth rates of about 1.7, -0.2, 0.0, and 2.4 percent for productivity, the ratio of earnings to compensation, average hours worked, and the GDP deflator, respectively. Similarly, the ultimate projected annual growth rate in average nominal U.S. earnings is 3.4 percent for the low cost assumptions and 4.4 percent for the high cost assumptions.

Over long periods of time the average annual growth rates in average U.S. earnings and average earnings in OASDI covered employment are expected

to be very close to the average annual growth rates in the average wage in OASDI covered employment (henceforth the average covered wage). Thus, the assumed ultimate annual growth rates in the average covered wage are 3.4, 3.9, and 4.4 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. For the intermediate assumptions, the annual rate of change in the average covered wage is estimated to be 4.4 percent for 2005, and assumed to fall to 4.1 percent for 2006 then rise to average about 4.4 percent from 2007 to 2009. Thereafter, the annual rate of change in the average covered wage declines generally until reaching its assumed ultimate annual growth rate of 3.9 percent for 2015 and later.

4. Assumed Real-Wage Differentials

For simplicity, real increases in the average OASDI covered wage have traditionally been expressed in the form of real-wage differentials—i.e., the percentage change in the average covered wage minus the percentage change in the CPI. This differential is closely related to assumed growth rates in average earnings and productivity, which are discussed in the previous sections. Over the 40-year period, 1965-2004, the real-wage differential averaged 0.9 percentage point, the result of averages of 1.1, 0.1, 0.8, and 1.7 percentage points for the 10-year periods 1965-74, 1975-84, 1985-94, and 1995-2004, respectively. The assumed ultimate annual average covered real-wage differentials are 1.6, 1.1, and 0.6 percentage point(s) for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively.

Based on preliminary data, the real-wage differential is estimated to be 1.0 percentage point for 2005. For the intermediate assumptions, the real-wage differential is projected to rise to about 1.2 and 2.2 percentage points in 2006 and 2007, respectively. The real-wage differential is then projected to fall to 1.8 percentage points for 2008, 1.6 percentage points for 2009, and to the ultimate assumed differential of 1.1 percentage points (3.9 percent nominal wage growth less 2.8 percent CPI inflation) by 2015.

For the low cost assumptions, the real-wage differential is assumed to be in the range of 1.0 percentage point to 2.3 percentage points between 2005 and 2014, moving to the ultimate assumed real-wage differential of 1.6 percentage points thereafter. For the high cost assumptions, the real-wage differential for the short-range period is projected to fluctuate between -1.2 and 2.2 percentage points, eventually stabilizing at about 0.6 percentage point after 2015.

Table V.B1.—Principal Economic Assumptions

Calendar year	Annual percentage change[1] in— Productivity (Total U.S. economy)	Earnings as a percent of compensation	Average hours worked	GDP price index	Average annual wage in covered employment	Consumer Price Index	Real-wage differ-ential[2]
Historical data:							
1960 to 1965. . . .	3.2	-0.2	0.2	1.4	3.2	1.2	2.0
1965 to 1970. . . .	2.0	-.4	-.7	4.1	5.8	4.2	1.6
1970 to 1975. . . .	2.1	-.7	-.9	6.7	6.6	6.8	-.2
1975 to 1980. . . .	1.0	-.6	-.2	7.3	8.7	8.9	-.3
1980 to 1985. . . .	1.7	-.2	.0	5.2	6.7	5.2	1.4
1985 to 1990. . . .	1.3	.1	-.1	3.2	4.7	3.8	.9
1990 to 1995. . . .	1.1	-.2	.4	2.5	3.6	3.0	.6
1995 to 2000. . . .	2.1	.4	.1	1.7	5.3	2.4	2.9
2000 to 2005. . . .	2.6	-.6	-.7	2.3	2.8	2.5	.4
1995	.1	.7	1.0	2.0	4.7	2.9	1.8
1996	2.4	1.1	-.2	1.9	4.0	2.9	1.1
1997	1.6	.8	.7	1.7	5.6	2.3	3.3
1998	2.0	.2	.7	1.1	6.1	1.3	4.7
1999	2.4	.1	.4	1.4	4.9	2.2	2.7
2000	2.3	.1	-1.1	2.2	6.1	3.5	2.6
2001	2.0	-.3	-1.3	2.4	2.0	2.7	-.8
2002	3.0	-1.5	-1.0	1.7	.7	1.4	-.7
2003	3.1	-.9	-1.3	2.0	2.7	2.2	.5
2004	3.0	-.2	.1	2.6	4.4	2.6	1.8
2005[3]	2.0	-.3	-.2	2.7	4.4	3.5	1.0
Intermediate:							
2006	2.1	.0	-.4	2.2	4.1	2.9	1.2
2007	2.1	.0	.0	1.9	4.4	2.3	2.2
2008	2.0	.0	.0	2.2	4.4	2.6	1.8
2009	1.9	-.1	.0	2.4	4.4	2.8	1.6
2010	1.9	-.1	.0	2.4	4.3	2.8	1.5
2011	1.8	-.1	.0	2.4	4.2	2.8	1.4
2012	1.8	-.2	.0	2.4	4.2	2.8	1.4
2013	1.7	-.2	.0	2.4	3.9	2.8	1.1
2014	1.7	-.2	.0	2.4	3.8	2.8	1.0
2015	1.7	-.2	.0	2.4	3.9	2.8	1.1
2015 to 2020. . . .	1.7	-.2	.0	2.4	3.8	2.8	1.0
2020 to 2080. . . .	1.7	-.2	.0	2.4	3.9	2.8	1.1
Low Cost:							
2006	2.2	0.0	-0.3	2.0	4.1	2.7	1.4
2007	2.2	.0	.1	1.5	4.2	1.9	2.3
2008	2.2	.0	.1	1.4	3.9	1.8	2.1
2009	2.2	.0	.1	1.4	3.9	1.8	2.1
2010	2.1	-.1	.1	1.4	3.8	1.8	2.0
2011	2.2	-.1	.1	1.4	3.8	1.8	2.0
2012	2.1	-.1	.1	1.4	3.8	1.8	2.0
2013	2.0	-.1	.1	1.4	3.5	1.8	1.7
2014	2.0	-.1	.1	1.4	3.5	1.8	1.7
2015	2.0	-.1	.1	1.4	3.4	1.8	1.6
2015 to 2020. . . .	2.0	-.1	.1	1.4	3.4	1.8	1.6
2020 to 2080. . . .	2.0	-.1	.1	1.4	3.4	1.8	1.6

Table V.B1.—Principal Economic Assumptions (Cont.)

Calendar year	Annual percentage change[1] in— Productivity (Total U.S. economy)	Earnings as a percent of compensation	Average hours worked	GDP price index	Average annual wage in covered employment	Consumer Price Index	Real-wage differential[2]
High Cost:							
2006	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	2.7	2.2	3.4	-1.2
2007	2.6	.0	-.1	2.3	5.0	2.7	2.2
2008	1.9	-.1	-.1	2.4	4.6	2.8	1.8
2009	.2	-.2	-.1	4.0	3.8	4.4	-.6
2010	2.1	-.2	-.1	5.3	6.9	5.7	1.1
2011	2.1	-.3	-.1	5.2	7.4	5.6	1.9
2012	1.3	-.3	-.1	4.3	5.6	4.7	.9
2013	1.3	-.3	-.1	3.5	4.5	3.9	.5
2014	1.3	-.3	-.1	3.4	4.3	3.8	.5
2015	1.4	-.3	-.1	3.4	4.3	3.8	.5
2015 to 2020. . . .	1.4	-.3	-.1	3.4	4.3	3.8	.5
2020 to 2080. . . .	1.4	-.3	-.1	3.4	4.4	3.8	.6

[1] For rows with a single year listed, the value is the annual percentage change from the prior year. For rows with a range of years listed, the value is the compound average annual percentage change.
[2] For rows with a single year listed, the value is the unrounded annual percentage change in the average annual wage in covered employment less the unrounded annual percentage change in the Consumer Price Index. For rows with a range of years listed, the value is the average of unrounded annual values of the differential.
[3] Historical data are not available for the full year. Estimated values vary slightly by alternative and are shown for the intermediate alternative.

5. Labor Force and Unemployment Projections

The civilian labor force is projected by age, sex, marital status, and presence of children. Projections of the labor force participation rates for each subgroup take into account the percentages of the population that are disabled or in the military, the levels of Social Security retirement benefits, the state of the economy, and changes in life expectancy. The projections also include a "lagged-cohort effect" that applies changes in participation rates for a cohort at a specific age (relative to earlier cohorts at the same age) to participation rates for that cohort at older ages.

The annual rate of growth in the size of the labor force decreased from an average of about 2.1 percent during the 1970s and 1980s to about 1.1 percent from 1990 to 2004. Further slowing of labor force growth is projected due to a substantial slowing of growth in the working age population in the future—a natural consequence of the baby-boom generation approaching retirement and the succeeding lower-birth-rate cohorts reaching working age. Under the intermediate assumptions, the labor force is projected to increase by about 0.9 percent per year, on average, through 2015. Thereafter, the labor force is projected to increase much more slowly, averaging 0.5 percent over the 2015 to 2020 period, and 0.3 percent over the remainder of the 75-year projection period.

The ultimate projected labor force participation rates are not basic assumptions. They are derived from a historically-based structural relationship using demographic and economic assumptions specific to each alternative. Little variation in the structural relationship is assumed, and participation rates are not highly sensitive to most of the demographic and economic assumptions. Thus, the ultimate projected labor force participation rates vary modestly into the future, and across alternatives.

Historically, labor force participation rates have been influenced substantially by trends in demographics and pensions. Between the mid-1960s and the mid-1980s, labor force participation rates at ages 50 and over declined for males and were fairly stable for females. These overall declines were facilitated by the large numbers of workers entering the labor force from the baby-boom generation, and from the female population in general, during this period. This increasing supply of labor allowed employers to offer early-retirement options that were attractive. Between the mid-1980s and about 1995, these rates roughly stabilized for males and increased for females. Since 1995, however, participation rates at ages 50 and over have generally risen significantly, reflecting a decrease in early-out options and relatively strong economic growth.

For the future, changes in available benefit levels from Social Security and increases in the normal retirement age, and the effects of modifying the earnings test are expected to encourage work at higher ages. Some of these factors are modeled directly. However, other factors, like the trend away from private defined-benefit pension plans that often provided incentives to retire and toward defined-contribution plans, are expected to provide additional upward pressure on labor force participation rates. In addition to this shift in private pensions, the aging of the population is expected to both increase the demand for workers and, through improved health associated with greater life expectancy, improve the ability of the older population to work. Longer life expectancy will also increase the amount of assets that will be needed to live comfortably through retirement years, also influencing workers to stay employed longer. In order to account for these effects, which are directly or indirectly related to increases in life expectancy, projected participation rates for prime age and older males and females are adjusted upward in relation to assumed increases in life expectancy. For the intermediate projections, this adjustment for changes related to life expectancy adds about 1.5 percent to the total labor force by 2080.

For men age 16 and over, the projected age-adjusted labor force participation rates for 2080 are 72.7, 73.3, and 74.0 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively, compared to the 2004 level of

73.4 percent. (Age-adjusted labor force participation rates are adjusted to the 2004 age distribution of the civilian noninstitutional U.S. population.) These reflect the net effect of increases due to assumed improvements in life expectancy, and decreases due to higher assumed disability prevalence rates and an increasing proportion of males who are never married. For women age 16 and over, the projected age-adjusted labor force participation rates for 2080 are 61.1, 61.3, and 61.3 percent, for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively, compared to the 2004 level of 59.5 percent. These projections are the net effect of decreases due to higher assumed disability prevalence rates, increases due to assumed improvements in life expectancy, and increases due to assumed changes in the proportion of females who are never married, separated, widowed, or divorced.

The unemployment rate presented in table V.B2 is in the most commonly cited form, the civilian rate. For years through 2015, total rates are presented without adjustment for the changing age-sex distribution of the population. For years after 2015, unemployment rates are presented as total age-sex adjusted rates (using the age-sex distribution of the 2004 civilian labor force). Age-sex adjusted rates allow for more meaningful comparisons across longer time periods.

The total unemployment rate reflects the projected levels of unemployment for various age-sex subgroups of the population. The unemployment rate for each subgroup is projected based on a specification (consistent with Okun's Law) relating changes in the unemployment rate to the changes in the economic cycle, as measured by the ratio of the actual to potential GDP. For each alternative, the total unemployment rate is projected to move toward the ultimate assumed rate as the economy moves toward the long-range sustainable growth path.

The ultimate age-sex-adjusted unemployment rate for each alternative is assumed to be reached by 2015. After 2015, the age-sex-adjusted rate is stable because the ratio of actual to potential GDP is assumed to be constant. The ultimate assumed unemployment rates are 4.5, 5.5, and 6.5 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. These are the same values assumed for the 2005 report.

6. Gross Domestic Product Projections

The real growth rate in gross domestic product (GDP) equals the combined growth rates for total employment, productivity, and average hours worked. Total employment is the sum of the U.S. Armed Forces and total civilian employment, which is based on the projected total civilian labor force and

unemployment rates. For the 40-year period from 1964 to 2004, the average growth rate in real GDP was 3.2 percent, combining the approximate growth rates of 1.7, 1.8, and -0.2 percent for its components—total employment, productivity, and average hours worked, respectively.

For the intermediate assumptions, the average annual growth in real GDP is projected to be 2.6 percent from 2005 to 2015, a slower rate than the 3.2 percent average observed over the historical 40-year period from 1964 to 2004. This slowdown is primarily due to slower projected growth in total employment. For the low cost assumptions, annual growth in real GDP is projected to average 3.2 percent over the decade ending in 2015. The relatively faster growth is due mostly to a higher assumed rate of growth in worker productivity. For the high cost assumptions, real GDP is assumed to fall in the first three quarters of 2006, resulting in a total decline in real GDP of 1.1 percent. After 10 quarters of recovery, a second recession, with a total decline in real GDP of 1.7 percent, is assumed to begin in the second quarter of 2009 and last 3 quarters. After the second recession, a moderate economic recovery is assumed through 2012, with continued modest economic growth thereafter. For the high cost assumptions, annual growth in real GDP is projected to average 1.9 percent for the decade ending in 2015.

After 2015, no economic cycles are assumed for the three alternatives. Thus, projected rates of growth in real GDP are determined by the projected full-employment rate of growth for total employment, and the assumed full-employment rates of growth for total U.S. economy productivity and average hours worked. For the intermediate assumptions, the projected rate of growth for real GDP falls toward the assumed productivity growth rate because of the projected decline in labor force growth over the period. By 2080, the growth in real GDP slows to about 1.9 percent, due to the assumed ultimate percent changes of about 0.3, 1.7, and 0.0 for total employment, productivity, and average hours worked, respectively. These projected growth rates are higher than those assumed for the 2005 report, due to the higher (more optimistic) assumptions for the fertility and total productivity growth rates.

7. Interest Rates

The average annual nominal and real interest rates are presented in table V.B2. The nominal rate is the average of the nominal interest rates for special U.S. Government obligations issuable to the trust funds in each of the 12 months of the year. Interest for these securities is generally compounded semiannually. The real interest rate (ex post) is defined to be the annual compound yield rate for investments in these securities divided by the annual rate of growth in the CPI for the first year after issuance. The real rate shown for

each year reflects the actual realized (historical) or expected (future) annual real yield on securities issuable in the prior year.

For 2005, the average annual nominal interest rate for securities newly issuable to the trust funds was 4.3 percent, unchanged from 2004. However, because CPI growth is expected to be lower for 2006 than for 2005, the real interest rate is expected to rise from 0.8 percent for 2005 to 1.4 percent for 2006.

In developing a reasonable range of assumed ultimate future real interest rates for the three alternatives, historical experience was examined for the 40 years, 1965-2004, and for each of the 10-year subperiods, 1965-74, 1975-84, 1985-94, and 1995-2004. For the 40-year period, the real interest rate averaged 2.9 percent per year. For the four 10-year subperiods, the real interest rates averaged 0.9, 1.9, 5.2, and 3.5 percent, respectively. The assumed ultimate real interest rates are 3.6 percent, 2.9 percent, and 2.1 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. The ultimate real yields, which are assumed to be reached by the end of the short-range period, are 0.1 percentage point lower than those assumed in the 2005 report. The lower assumed rates reflect recent low realized rates, particularly on Treasury inflation-protected securities (TIPS), and an expectation that low real interest rates will persist. These ultimate real interest rates, when combined with the ultimate CPI assumptions of 1.8, 2.8, and 3.8 percent, yield ultimate nominal interest rates of about 5.4 percent for the low cost assumptions, about 5.7 percent for the intermediate assumptions, and about 5.9 percent for the high cost assumptions.

For the 10-year short-range projection period, nominal interest rates are projected based on changes in the business cycle and in the CPI. Under the intermediate assumptions, the nominal interest rate is projected to rise from 4.3 percent for 2005 to 5.9 percent for 2009 through 2011, reflecting a recovering economy along with a higher rate of inflation. Thereafter, the nominal interest rate falls to the ultimate assumed level of 5.7 percent for 2014. For the low cost assumptions, the average annual nominal interest rate is assumed to reach an ultimate level of about 5.4 percent for 2013. For the high cost assumptions, it is assumed to peak at 8.9 percent for 2011, and then decline to an ultimate rate of about 5.9 percent for 2014.

Table V.B2.—Additional Economic Factors

Calendar year	Average annual unemployment rate[1]	Annual percentage change[2] in— Labor force[3]	Total employment[4]	Real GDP[5]	Average annual interest rate Nominal[6]	Real[7]
Historical data:						
1960 to 1965	5.5	1.3	1.6	5.0	4.0	2.5
1965 to 1970	3.9	2.2	2.1	3.4	5.9	1.0
1970 to 1975	6.1	2.5	1.5	2.7	6.7	.0
1975 to 1980	6.8	2.7	2.9	3.7	8.5	-.9
1980 to 1985	8.3	1.5	1.5	3.2	12.1	6.9
1985 to 1990	5.9	1.7	2.0	3.3	8.5	5.1
1990 to 1995	6.6	1.0	.9	2.5	7.0	4.3
1995 to 2000	4.6	1.5	1.8	4.1	6.2	3.9
2000 to 2005	5.4	.9	.7	2.6	4.6	2.5
1995	5.6	1.0	1.4	2.5	6.9	4.2
1996	5.4	1.2	1.4	3.7	6.6	4.0
1997	4.9	1.8	2.2	4.5	6.6	4.3
1998	4.5	1.0	1.4	4.2	5.6	5.3
1999	4.2	1.2	1.5	4.4	5.9	3.4
2000	4.0	2.3	2.5	3.7	6.2	2.4
2001	4.8	.8	.0	.8	5.2	3.5
2002	5.8	.8	-.3	1.6	4.9	3.9
2003	6.0	1.1	.9	2.7	4.1	2.6
2004	5.5	.6	1.1	4.2	4.3	1.5
2005[8]	5.1	1.3	1.8	3.6	4.3	.8
Intermediate:						
2006	4.9	1.5	1.7	3.4	4.9	1.4
2007	4.8	1.1	1.2	3.3	5.2	2.6
2008	4.8	1.1	1.0	3.0	5.7	2.6
2009	4.9	.9	.8	2.6	5.9	2.9
2010	5.1	.8	.7	2.6	5.9	3.1
2011	5.2	.8	.7	2.5	5.9	3.1
2012	5.3	.7	.6	2.3	5.8	3.1
2013	5.4	.5	.3	2.0	5.8	3.0
2014	5.5	.5	.4	2.0	5.7	2.9
2015	5.5	.5	.5	2.2	5.7	2.9
2020	5.5	.4	.4	2.1	5.7	2.9
2025	5.5	.3	.3	1.9	5.7	2.9
2030	5.5	.3	.3	1.9	5.7	2.9
2035	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2040	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2045	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2050	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2055	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2060	5.5	.3	.3	1.9	5.7	2.9
2065	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2070	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2075	5.5	.3	.3	2.0	5.7	2.9
2080	5.5	.3	.3	1.9	5.7	2.9
Low Cost:						
2006	4.7	1.5	1.8	3.8	4.8	1.6
2007	4.8	1.2	1.2	3.5	4.8	2.8
2008	4.8	1.2	1.1	3.5	5.2	3.0
2009	4.8	1.0	1.0	3.3	5.5	3.4
2010	4.8	1.0	1.0	3.2	5.5	3.7
2011	4.8	.9	1.0	3.3	5.6	3.7
2012	4.7	.9	.9	3.2	5.6	3.8
2013	4.6	.7	.8	2.9	5.4	3.8
2014	4.5	.6	.7	2.9	5.4	3.7
2015	4.5	.6	.6	2.8	5.4	3.6

Table V.B2.—Additional Economic Factors (Cont.)

Calendar year	Average annual unemployment rate[1]	Annual percentage change[2] in— Labor force[3]	Total employment[4]	Real GDP[5]	Average annual interest rate Nominal[6]	Real[7]
Low Cost: (Cont.)						
2020	4.5	0.6	0.5	2.6	5.4	3.6
2025	4.5	.4	.4	2.5	5.4	3.6
2030	4.5	.4	.4	2.5	5.4	3.6
2035	4.5	.6	.6	2.6	5.4	3.6
2040	4.5	.6	.6	2.7	5.4	3.6
2045	4.5	.7	.7	2.8	5.4	3.6
2050	4.5	.7	.7	2.8	5.4	3.6
2055	4.5	.7	.7	2.8	5.4	3.6
2060	4.5	.7	.7	2.8	5.4	3.6
2065	4.5	.7	.7	2.8	5.4	3.6
2070	4.5	.8	.8	2.9	5.4	3.6
2075	4.5	.8	.8	2.9	5.4	3.6
2080	4.5	.7	.7	2.8	5.4	3.6
High Cost:						
2006	5.8	1.1	.3	.3	4.2	.9
2007	6.2	.7	.3	2.8	5.4	1.5
2008	5.9	1.0	1.3	3.1	5.9	2.5
2009	6.4	.7	.1	.2	6.3	1.6
2010	7.2	.5	-.3	1.6	8.2	.7
2011	6.6	.8	1.5	3.6	8.9	2.7
2012	6.4	.8	.9	2.1	7.3	4.3
2013	6.5	.5	.4	1.6	6.2	3.4
2014	6.5	.5	.5	1.7	5.9	2.4
2015	6.5	.5	.5	1.8	5.9	2.1
2020	6.5	.4	.4	1.7	5.9	2.1
2025	6.5	.2	.2	1.5	5.9	2.1
2030	6.5	.1	.1	1.4	5.9	2.1
2035	6.5	.1	.1	1.4	5.9	2.1
2040	6.5	.1	.1	1.4	5.9	2.1
2045	6.5	.0	.0	1.3	5.9	2.1
2050	6.5	-.1	-.1	1.2	5.9	2.1
2055	6.5	-.1	-.1	1.2	5.9	2.1
2060	6.5	-.2	-.2	1.1	5.9	2.1
2065	6.5	-.2	-.2	1.0	5.9	2.1
2070	6.5	-.2	-.2	1.1	5.9	2.1
2075	6.5	-.3	-.3	1.0	5.9	2.1
2080	6.5	-.2	-.2	1.0	5.9	2.1

[1] The unemployment rates for 2016 and later are adjusted to the age-sex distribution of the civilian labor force in 2004. All other rates are unadjusted.

[2] For rows with a single year listed, the value is the annual percentage change from the prior year. For rows with a range of years listed, the value is the compounded average annual percentage change.

[3] The U.S. civilian labor force concept is used here.

[4] Total of civilian and military employment in the U.S. economy.

[5] The real GDP (gross domestic product) is the value of total output of goods and services in 2000 dollars.

[6] The average annual nominal interest rate is the average of the nominal interest rates, which, in practice, are compounded semiannually, for special public-debt obligations issuable to the trust funds in each of the 12 months of the year.

[7] The average annual real interest rate reflects the realized or expected annual real yield for each year on securities issuable in the prior year.

[8] Historical data are not available for the full year. Estimated values vary slightly by alternative and are shown for the intermediate assumptions.

C. PROGRAM-SPECIFIC ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS

The demographic and economic assumptions and methods described in the previous sections are used in a set of models to project future income and cost under the OASDI program. In some cases, the economic assumptions result in the direct calculation of program parameters as described in the following subsection. These parameters affect the level of payroll taxes collected and the level of benefits paid and are calculated using formulas described explicitly in the Social Security Act. In other cases, the combination of demographic and economic assumptions are used indirectly to drive more complicated models that project the numbers of future workers covered under OASDI and the levels of their covered earnings, and the numbers of future beneficiaries and the expected levels of their benefits. The following subsections provide brief descriptions of the derivations of these program-specific factors.

1. Automatically Adjusted Program Amounts

The Social Security Act specifies that certain program amounts affecting the determination of OASDI benefits are to be adjusted annually, in general, to reflect changes in the economy. The law prescribes specific formulas that, when applied to reported statistics, produce automatic revisions in these program amounts and hence in the benefit-computation procedures. These automatic adjustments are based upon measured changes in the national average wage index (AWI) and the CPI.[1] In this section, values are shown for program amounts that are subject to automatic adjustment, from the time that such adjustments became effective through 2015. Projected values for future years are based on the economic assumptions described in the preceding section of this report.

The following two tables present the historical and projected values of the CPI-based benefit increases, as well as the AWI series and the values of many of the wage-indexed program amounts. In each table, the projections are shown under the three alternative sets of economic assumptions described in the previous section. Table V.C1 includes:

- The annual percentage increases which have been applied to OASDI benefits under automatic cost-of-living adjustment provisions in the Social Security Act, based on increases in the CPI.

[1] Details of these indexation procedures are published annually in the *Federal Register*, and are also available on the Social Security website at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/COLA/index.html.

- The annual levels of and percentage increases in the AWI. Under section 215(b)(3) of the Social Security Act, the AWI for each year after 1950 is used to index the taxable earnings of most workers first becoming eligible for benefits in 1979 or later. This procedure converts a worker's past earnings to approximately their equivalent values near the time of the worker's retirement or other eligibility, and these indexed values are used to calculate the worker's benefit. The AWI is also used to adjust most of the other program amounts that are subject to the automatic-adjustment provisions.
- The OASDI contribution and benefit base—the maximum amount of earnings subject to the OASDI payroll tax in the specified year.
- The retirement earnings test exempt amounts—the annual amount of earnings below which beneficiaries are not subject to benefit withholding. A lower exempt amount applies in years before a beneficiary attains normal retirement age (NRA). A higher amount applies for the year in which the beneficiary attains normal retirement age. The retirement test does not apply beginning with the attainment of normal retirement age.

Table V.C1.—Cost-of-Living Benefit Increases, Average Wage Index, Contribution and Benefit Bases, and Retirement Earnings Test Exempt Amounts, 1975-2015

Calendar year	OASDI benefit increases[1] (percent)	Average wage index (AWI)[2] Amount	Average wage index (AWI)[2] Increase (percent)	OASDI contribution and benefit base[3]	Retirement earnings test exempt amount: Under NRA[4]	Retirement earnings test exempt amount: At NRA[5]
Historical data:						
1975	8.0	$8,630.92	7.5	$14,100	$2,520	$2,520
1976	6.4	9,226.48	6.9	15,300	2,760	2,760
1977	5.9	9,779.44	6.0	16,500	3,000	3,000
1978	6.5	10,556.03	7.9	17,700	3,240	4,000
1979	9.9	11,479.46	8.7	22,900	3,480	4,500
1980	14.3	12,513.46	9.0	25,900	3,720	5,000
1981	11.2	13,773.10	10.1	29,700	4,080	5,500
1982	7.4	14,531.34	5.5	32,400	4,440	6,000
1983	3.5	15,239.24	4.9	35,700	4,920	6,600
1984	3.5	16,135.07	5.9	37,800	5,160	6,960
1985	3.1	16,822.51	4.3	39,600	5,400	7,320
1986	1.3	17,321.82	3.0	42,000	5,760	7,800
1987	4.2	18,426.51	6.4	43,800	6,000	8,160
1988	4.0	19,334.04	4.9	45,000	6,120	8,400
1989	4.7	20,099.55	4.0	48,000	6,480	8,880
1990	5.4	21,027.98	4.6	51,300	6,840	9,360
1991	3.7	21,811.60	3.7	53,400	7,080	9,720
1992	3.0	22,935.42	5.2	55,500	7,440	10,200
1993	2.6	23,132.67	.9	57,600	7,680	10,560
1994	2.8	23,753.53	2.7	60,600	8,040	11,160
1995	2.6	24,705.66	4.0	61,200	8,160	11,280
1996	2.9	25,913.90	4.9	62,700	8,280	12,500
1997	2.1	27,426.00	5.8	65,400	8,640	13,500
1998	1.3	28,861.44	5.2	68,400	9,120	14,500
1999	[6]2.5	30,469.84	5.6	72,600	9,600	15,500
2000	3.5	32,154.82	5.5	76,200	10,080	17,000
2001	2.6	32,921.92	2.4	80,400	10,680	25,000
2002	1.4	33,252.09	1.0	84,900	11,280	30,000
2003	2.1	34,064.95	2.4	87,000	11,520	30,720
2004	2.7	35,648.55	4.6	87,900	11,640	31,080
Intermediate:						
2005	[7]4.1	37,197.43	4.3	[7]90,000	[7]12,000	[7]31,800
2006	2.3	38,695.99	4.0	[7]94,200	[7]12,480	[7]33,240
2007	2.2	40,375.23	4.3	98,400	13,080	34,680
2008	2.6	42,112.24	4.3	102,300	13,560	36,120
2009	2.8	43,916.42	4.3	106,800	14,160	37,680
2010	2.8	45,798.28	4.3	111,300	14,760	39,240
2011	2.8	47,707.59	4.2	116,100	15,360	40,920
2012	2.8	49,695.49	4.2	120,900	16,080	42,720
2013	2.8	51,632.49	3.9	126,000	16,680	44,520
2014	2.8	53,603.73	3.8	131,400	17,400	46,320
2015	2.8	55,677.10	3.9	136,500	18,120	48,120
Low Cost:						
2005	[7]4.1	37,207.16	4.4	[7]90,000	[7]12,000	[7]31,800
2006	2.1	38,717.74	4.1	[7]94,200	[7]12,480	[7]33,240
2007	1.9	40,294.22	4.1	98,400	13,080	34,680
2008	1.8	41,843.44	3.8	102,300	13,560	36,120
2009	1.8	43,431.83	3.8	106,500	14,160	37,560
2010	1.8	45,075.49	3.8	110,700	14,640	39,000
2011	1.8	46,758.63	3.7	114,900	15,240	40,560
2012	1.8	48,513.49	3.8	119,100	15,840	42,000
2013	1.8	50,208.20	3.5	123,600	16,440	43,680
2014	1.8	51,920.30	3.4	128,100	17,040	45,240
2015	1.8	53,679.86	3.4	132,600	17,640	46,800

Table V.C1.—Cost-of-Living Benefit Increases, Average Wage Index, Contribution and Benefit Bases, and Retirement Earnings Test Exempt Amounts, 1975-2015 (Cont.)

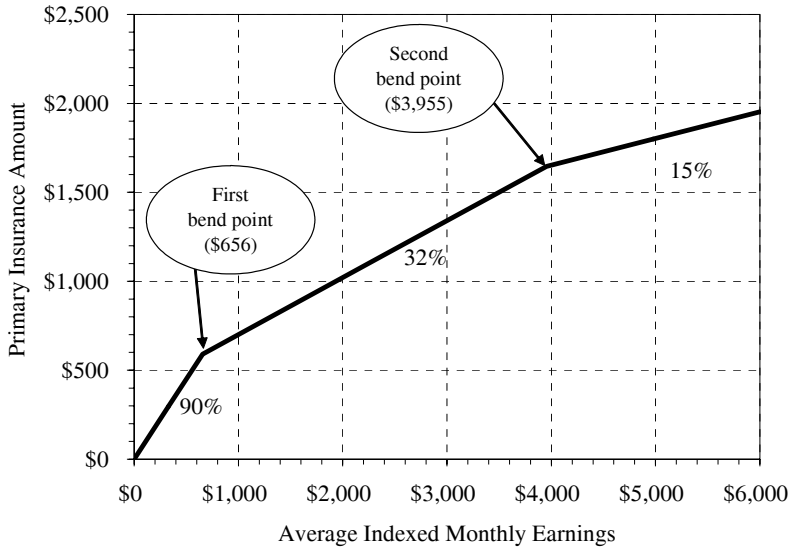
Calendar year	OASDI benefit increases[1] (percent)	Average wage index (AWI)[2]		OASDI contribution and benefit base[3]	Retirement earnings test exempt amount	
		Amount	Increase (percent)		Under NRA[4]	At NRA[5]
High Cost:						
2005	[7]4.1	$37,138.78	4.2	[7]$90,000	[7]$12,000	[7]$31,800
2006	2.9	37,968.14	2.2	[7]94,200	[7]12,480	[7]33,240
2007	2.6	39,792.92	4.8	98,100	12,960	34,680
2008	2.9	41,576.39	4.5	100,200	13,320	35,400
2009	4.6	43,136.48	3.8	105,000	13,920	37,080
2010	5.9	46,029.79	6.7	109,800	14,520	38,760
2011	5.4	49,405.86	7.3	114,000	15,120	40,200
2012	4.6	52,179.65	5.6	121,500	16,080	42,960
2013	3.9	54,531.83	4.5	130,500	17,280	46,080
2014	3.8	56,892.43	4.3	138,000	18,240	48,720
2015	3.8	59,333.06	4.3	144,000	19,080	50,880

[1] Effective with benefits payable for June in each year 1975-82, and for December in each year after 1982.
[2] See table VI.F6 for projected dollar amounts of the AWI beyond 2015.
[3] Amounts for 1979-81 were specified by Public Law 95-216. The bases for years after 1989 were increased slightly by changes to the indexing procedure, as required by Public Law 101-239.
[4] Normal retirement age. See table V.C3 for specific values.
[5] In 1955-82, the retirement earnings test did not apply at ages 72 and over; in 1983-99, the test did not apply at ages 70 and over; beginning in 2000, it does not apply beginning with the month of attainment of NRA. In the year of attainment of NRA, the higher exempt amount applies to earnings in the year prior to the month of NRA attainment. Amounts for 1978-82 specified by Public Law 95-216; for 1996-2002, Public Law 104-121.
[6] Originally determined as 2.4 percent, but pursuant to Public Law 106-554, is effectively 2.5 percent.
[7] Actual amount, as determined under automatic-adjustment provisions.

Other wage-indexed amounts are shown in table V.C2. The table provides historical values from 1978, when the amount of earnings required for a quarter of coverage was first indexed, through 2005, and also shows projected amounts through 2015. These other wage-indexed program amounts are:

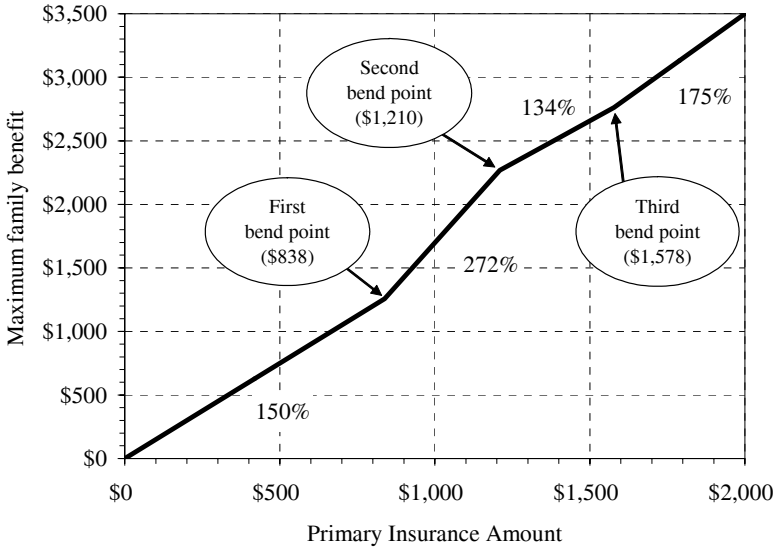
- The bend points in the formula for computing the primary insurance amount (PIA) for workers who reach age 62, become disabled, or die in a given year. These bend points indicate three ranges in a worker's average indexed monthly earnings (AIME) over which a certain percent factor, 90, 32, or 15 percent respectively, is applied to determine the worker's PIA. Figure V.C1 presents the PIA formula for 2006.

Figure V.C1.—Primary-Insurance-Amount Formula for the 2006 Cohort



- Bend points in the formula used to compute the maximum total amount of monthly benefits payable on the basis of the earnings of a retired or deceased worker. This formula is a function of the worker's PIA, and relies on four intervals and percentages. Figure V.C2 presents the maximum-family-benefit formula for 2006.

Figure V.C2.—Maximum-Family-Benefit Formula for the 2006 Cohort



- The amount of earnings required in a year to be credited with a quarter of coverage (QC). The number and timing of QCs earned is used to determine an individual's insured status—the basic requirement for benefit eligibility under OASDI.
- The old-law contribution and benefit base—the OASDI contribution and benefit base that would have been in effect in each year after 1978 under the automatic-adjustment provisions as in effect before the enactment of the 1977 amendments. This old-law base is used in determining special-minimum benefits for certain workers who have many years of low earnings in covered employment. Beginning in 1986, the old-law base is also used in the calculation of OASDI benefits for certain workers who are eligible to receive pensions based on noncovered employment. In addition, it is used for certain purposes under the Railroad Retirement program and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Table V.C2.—Selected Wage-Indexed Program Amounts, Calendar Years 1978-2015

Calendar year	AIME bend points in PIA formula[1]		PIA bend points in maximum-family-benefit formula[2]			Earnings required for a quarter of coverage	Old-law contribution and benefit base[3]
	First	Second	First	Second	Third		
Historical data:							
1978	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	[5] $250	4/
1979	[5] $180	[5] $1,085	[5] $230	[5] $332	[5] $433	260	$18,900
1980	194	1,171	248	358	467	290	20,400
1981	211	1,274	270	390	508	310	22,200
1982	230	1,388	294	425	554	340	24,300
1983	254	1,528	324	468	610	370	26,700
1984	267	1,612	342	493	643	390	28,200
1985	280	1,691	358	517	675	410	29,700
1986	297	1,790	379	548	714	440	31,500
1987	310	1,866	396	571	745	460	32,700
1988	319	1,922	407	588	767	470	33,600
1989	339	2,044	433	626	816	500	35,700
1990	356	2,145	455	656	856	520	38,100
1991	370	2,230	473	682	890	540	39,600
1992	387	2,333	495	714	931	570	41,400
1993	401	2,420	513	740	966	590	42,900
1994	422	2,545	539	779	1,016	620	45,000
1995	426	2,567	544	785	1,024	630	45,300
1996	437	2,635	559	806	1,052	640	46,500
1997	455	2,741	581	839	1,094	670	48,600
1998	477	2,875	609	880	1,147	700	50,700
1999	505	3,043	645	931	1,214	740	53,700
2000	531	3,202	679	980	1,278	780	56,700
2001	561	3,381	717	1,034	1,349	830	59,700
2002	592	3,567	756	1,092	1,424	870	63,000
2003	606	3,653	774	1,118	1,458	890	64,500
2004	612	3,689	782	1,129	1,472	900	65,100
2005	627	3,779	801	1,156	1,508	920	66,900
2006	656	3,955	838	1,210	1,578	970	69,900

Table V.C2.—Selected Wage-Indexed Program Amounts, Calendar Years 1978-2015 (Cont.)

Calendar year	AIME bend points in PIA formula[1]		PIA bend points in maximum-family-benefit formula[2]			Earnings required for a quarter of coverage	Old-law contribution and benefit base[3]
	First	Second	First	Second	Third		
Intermediate:							
2007	$685	$4,127	$875	$1,263	$1,647	$1,010	$72,900
2008	712	4,293	910	1,314	1,713	1,050	75,900
2009	743	4,480	950	1,371	1,788	1,090	79,200
2010	775	4,672	990	1,430	1,865	1,140	82,500
2011	808	4,872	1,033	1,491	1,944	1,190	86,100
2012	843	5,081	1,077	1,555	2,028	1,240	90,000
2013	878	5,293	1,122	1,620	2,112	1,290	93,600
2014	915	5,514	1,169	1,687	2,200	1,350	97,500
2015	950	5,728	1,214	1,753	2,286	1,400	101,400
Low Cost:							
2007	685	4,128	875	1,263	1,647	1,010	72,900
2008	713	4,296	911	1,314	1,714	1,050	75,900
2009	742	4,471	948	1,368	1,784	1,090	79,200
2010	770	4,642	984	1,421	1,853	1,130	82,200
2011	799	4,819	1,021	1,474	1,923	1,180	85,200
2012	830	5,001	1,060	1,530	1,996	1,220	88,500
2013	861	5,188	1,100	1,587	2,070	1,270	91,800
2014	893	5,382	1,141	1,647	2,148	1,310	95,100
2015	924	5,570	1,181	1,705	2,223	1,360	98,400
High Cost:							
2007	684	4,120	873	1,261	1,644	1,010	72,900
2008	699	4,212	893	1,289	1,681	1,030	74,400
2009	732	4,415	936	1,351	1,762	1,080	78,000
2010	765	4,613	978	1,411	1,841	1,130	81,600
2011	794	4,786	1,015	1,464	1,910	1,170	84,600
2012	847	5,107	1,083	1,563	2,038	1,250	90,300
2013	909	5,481	1,162	1,677	2,188	1,340	96,900
2014	960	5,789	1,227	1,771	2,310	1,410	102,300
2015	1,004	6,050	1,283	1,851	2,414	1,480	107,100

[1] The formula to compute a PIA is (1) 90% of AIME below the first bend point, plus (2) 32% of AIME in excess of the first bend point but not in excess of the second, plus (3) 15% of AIME in excess of the second bend point. The bend points pertain to the first year a beneficiary becomes eligible for benefits.

[2] The formula to compute a family maximum is (1) 150% of PIA below the first bend point, plus (2) 272% of PIA in excess of the first bend point but not in excess of the second, plus (3) 134% of PIA in excess of the second bend point but not in excess of the third, plus (4) 175% of PIA in excess of the third bend point.

[3] Contribution and benefit base that would have been determined automatically under the law in effect prior to enactment of the Social Security Amendments of 1977. The bases for years after 1989 were increased slightly by changes to the indexing procedure to determine the base, as required by Public Law 101-239.

[4] No provision in law for this amount in this year.

[5] Amount specified for first year by Social Security Amendments of 1977; amounts for subsequent years subject to automatic-adjustment provisions.

In addition to the program amounts affecting the determination of OASDI benefits that reflect changes in the economy, there are certain legislated changes that have affected, and will affect, benefits. Two such changes are the scheduled increases in the normal retirement age and in the delayed retirement credits. Table V.C3 shows the scheduled changes in these two important items and their effect on benefits expressed as a percentage of PIA.

Table V.C3.—Legislated Changes in Normal Retirement Age and Delayed Retirement Credits, for Persons Reaching Age 62 in Each Year 1986 and Later

Year of birth	Year of attainment of age 62	Normal retirement age (NRA)	Credit for each year of delayed retirement after NRA (percent)	Benefit, as a percentage of PIA, beginning at age —				
				62	65	66	67	70
1924	1986	65	3	80	100	103	106	115
1925	1987	65	3 1/2	80	100	103 1/2	107	117 1/2
1926	1988	65	3 1/2	80	100	103 1/2	107	117 1/2
1927	1989	65	4	80	100	104	108	120
1928	1990	65	4	80	100	104	108	120
1929	1991	65	4 1/2	80	100	104 1/2	109	122 1/2
1930	1992	65	4 1/2	80	100	104 1/2	109	122 1/2
1931	1993	65	5	80	100	105	110	125
1932	1994	65	5	80	100	105	110	125
1933	1995	65	5 1/2	80	100	105 1/2	111	127 1/2
1934	1996	65	5 1/2	80	100	105 1/2	111	127 1/2
1935	1997	65	6	80	100	106	112	130
1936	1998	65	6	80	100	106	112	130
1937	1999	65	6 1/2	80	100	106 1/2	113	132 1/2
1938	2000	65, 2 mo	6 1/2	79 1/6	98 8/9	105 5/12	111 11/12	131 5/12
1939	2001	65, 4 mo	7	78 1/3	97 7/9	104 2/3	111 2/3	132 2/3
1940	2002	65, 6 mo	7	77 1/2	96 2/3	103 1/2	110 1/2	131 1/2
1941	2003	65, 8 mo	7 1/2	76 2/3	95 5/9	102 1/2	110	132 1/2
1942	2004	65, 10 mo	7 1/2	75 5/6	94 4/9	101 1/4	108 3/4	131 1/4
1943-54	2005-16	66	8	75	93 1/3	100	108	132
1955	2017	66, 2 mo	8	74 1/6	92 2/9	98 8/9	106 2/3	130 2/3
1956	2018	66, 4 mo	8	73 1/3	91 1/9	97 7/9	105 1/3	129 1/3
1957	2019	66, 6 mo	8	72 1/2	90	96 2/3	104	128
1958	2020	66, 8 mo	8	71 2/3	88 8/9	95 5/9	102 2/3	126 2/3
1959	2021	66, 10 mo	8	70 5/6	87 7/9	94 4/9	101 1/3	125 1/3
1960 & later	2022 & later	67	8	70	86 2/3	93 1/3	100	124

2. Covered Employment

Projections of the total labor force and unemployment rate are based on Bureau of Labor Statistics definitions from the Current Population Survey (CPS), and thus represent the average weekly number of employed and unemployed persons, aged 16 and over, in the U.S. in a calendar year. Total covered workers in a year are the number of persons who have any OASDI covered earnings at any time during the year. For those aged 16 and over, projected covered employment is the sum of age-sex components, each of

which is projected as a ratio to the CPS concept of employment. For those under age 16, projected covered employment is the sum of age-sex components, each of which is projected as a ratio to the Social Security area population. The projection methodology accounts for changes in the business cycle, the quarterly pattern of growth in employment within each year, changes in non-OASDI covered employment, the increase in coverage of Federal civilian employment as a result of the 1983 Social Security Amendments, and changes in the number of other immigrants estimated to be residing within the Social Security coverage area.

Covered worker rates are defined as the ratio of OASDI covered workers to the Social Security area population. The projected age-adjusted coverage rate for males age 16 and over, changes from its 2004 level of about 72.4 percent to 72.5, 72.5, and 72.6 percent for 2080 for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. (Age-adjusted covered worker rates are adjusted to the 2004 age distribution of the Social Security area population.) For females, the projected age-adjusted coverage rate changes from its 2004 level of 61.9 percent to 63.9, 63.5, and 63.2 percent for 2080 for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively.

3. Taxable Payroll and Payroll Tax Revenue

The OASDI taxable payroll is the amount of earnings in a year which, when multiplied by the combined employee-employer tax rate, yields the total amount of taxes due from wages and self-employed income in the year. Taxable payroll is used in estimating OASDI income and in determining income and cost rates and actuarial balances. (See section IV.B.1, Annual Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances, for definitions of these terms.) Taxable payroll is computed from taxable earnings, defined as the sum of wages and self-employment earnings subject to the Social Security tax. In computing taxable payroll, wages are adjusted to take into account the "excess wages" earned by workers with multiple jobs whose combined wages exceed the contribution and benefit base. Also, from 1983 through 2001, taxable payroll includes deemed wage credits for military service. Prior to 1984, the self-employed tax rate was less than the combined employee-employer rate, thus taxable self-employed earnings were weighted to reflect this. Also, prior to 1988, employers were exempt from Social Security tax on part of their employees' tips; taxable payroll was reduced by half of this exempt amount to take this into account.

The computation of taxable earnings for employees, employers, and the self-employed is based on total earnings in covered employment. Covered earnings are summed from component sectors, each of which is based on the pro-

jected growth of U.S. earnings and a factor that reflects any projected change in coverage (e.g., the increase in coverage in the Federal civilian sector due to mandatory coverage of newly hired employees). The level of taxable earnings reflects only the portion of covered earnings that is at or below the contribution and benefit base. The portion of covered earnings that is taxable (i.e. at or below the base) was about 89.8, 87.0, and 82.9 percent for 1983, 1994, and 2000, respectively. This ratio of taxable earnings to covered earnings rose to about 85.9 in 2002 and 2003. Our preliminary estimate for 2005 is 83.8 percent, about the same as in 1999. The average annual rate of change in the ratio was about -0.3 percent between 1983 and 2005. This decline was mainly due to a relative increase in wages for high wage earners.

However, some of the decline since 1983 is believed to be due to the change in the age-sex distribution of the workforce (as the baby-boom generation moved into ages of higher relative earnings). This and other factors are expected to cause continued declines through 2015 in the intermediate and high cost alternatives. The projected taxable earnings ratios in 2015 are 84.0, 83.2, and 82.4 for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. This represents average annual rates of change from 2006 of 0.0, -0.1, and -0.2 percent. After 2015, the taxable to covered ratio is held approximately constant.

Payroll tax revenue is computed by applying the appropriate tax rates to taxable wages and self-employment income, taking into account the lag between the time the tax liability is incurred and when the taxes are collected. In the case of wages, employers are required to deposit withholding taxes with the Treasury on a schedule determined by the amount of tax liability incurred. (Generally, the higher the amount of liability, the sooner the taxes must be paid—ranging from the middle of the following month to, for companies with very large payrolls, the next banking day after wages are paid.) Self-employed workers are required to make estimated tax payments on their earnings four times during the year, as well as making up any underestimate on their individual income tax return. The pattern of actual receipts by the Treasury is taken into account when estimating self-employed tax collections.

4. Insured Population

Eligibility for benefits under the OASDI program requires some minimal level of work in covered employment. This requirement is established by a worker's accumulation of quarters of coverage (QCs). Prior to 1978, one QC was credited for each calendar quarter in which at least $50 was earned. In 1978, when quarterly reporting of earnings was replaced by annual reporting,

the amount required to earn a QC (up to a maximum of four per year) was set at $250. Since then, this amount has been adjusted each year according to changes in the AWI. Its value in 2006 is $970.

There are three types of insured status which can be acquired by a worker under the OASDI program. Each of these statuses is determined by the number and recency of QCs earned. Fully insured status is acquired by any worker whose total number of QCs is greater than or equal to the number of years elapsed after the year of attainment of age 21 (and at least six). Once a worker has accumulated 40 QCs, he or she remains permanently fully insured. Disability-insured status is acquired by any fully insured worker over age 30 who has accumulated 20 QCs during the 40-quarter period ending with the current quarter; any fully insured worker aged 24-30 who has accumulated QCs during one-half of the quarters elapsed after the quarter of attainment of age 21 and up to and including the current quarter; and any fully insured worker under age 24 who has accumulated six QCs during the 12-quarter period ending with the current quarter. Currently insured status is acquired by any worker who has accumulated six QCs during the 13-quarter period ending with the current quarter. Periods of disability are excluded from the above described QC requirements for insured status (but do not reduce the minimum of six QCs).

There are many types of benefits payable to workers and their family members under the OASDI program. One of the requirements of eligibility for these benefits is the insured status of the worker. A worker must be fully insured to be eligible for a primary retirement benefit, and for his or her spouse or children to be eligible for auxiliary benefits. A deceased worker must have been either currently insured or fully insured at the time of death for his or her children (and their mother or father) to be eligible for benefits. If there are no eligible surviving children, the deceased worker must have been fully insured at the time of death for his or her surviving spouse to be eligible. A worker must be disability insured to be eligible for a primary disability benefit, and for his or her spouse or children to be eligible for auxiliary benefits.

Historical estimates of the fully insured population, as a percentage of the Social Security area population, are made by age and sex for each birth cohort beginning with 1900. These percentages are based on 30,000 simulated work histories for each sex and birth cohort, which are constructed from past coverage rates, median earnings, and amounts required for crediting QCs. These work histories are developed by a model which assumes that persons who have recently been out of covered employment are likely to remain out of covered employment. This model is aligned such that the sim-

ulated fully insured percentages reproduce fairly closely the fully insured percentages estimated from the Continuous Work History Sample from 1970 to date. The fully insured population for future years is projected using this model with the additional inputs of estimated future coverage rates, median earnings, and amounts required for crediting QCs.

Projections of the disability-insured population, as a percentage of the fully insured population, are made by age and sex for each birth cohort beginning with 1900. These percentages are based on the same simulated work histories used to project the fully insured percentages. Additional adjustments are made to bring the simulated disability-insured percentages into close agreement with those estimated from the Continuous Work History Sample. The principal adjustment is for periods of disability (which are not explicitly taken into account in the model). These periods (which reduce the normally applicable QC requirements) have a negligible effect on fully insured status at retirement age, but a substantial effect on disability-insured status.

Projections of the currently insured population are not made. This is because the number of beneficiaries who are entitled to benefits based solely on currently insured status has been very small, and is expected to remain small in the future.

Under this procedure, the percentage of the Social Security area population aged 62 and over that is fully insured is projected to increase from its estimated level of 81.2 for December 31, 2003, to 89.2, 90.1, and 90.8 for December 31, 2080, under alternatives I, II, and III, respectively. The percentage for females is projected to increase significantly, while that for males is projected to decline somewhat. Under alternative II, for example, the percentage for males is projected to decrease slightly during this period from 93.5 to 92.1, while that for females is projected to increase from 72.0 to 88.4.

5. Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Beneficiaries

The number of OASI beneficiaries is projected for each type of benefit separately, by the sex of the worker on whose earnings the benefits are based, and by the age of the beneficiary. For selected types of benefits, the number of beneficiaries is also projected by marital status.

For the short-range period, the number of retired-worker beneficiaries is developed by applying award rates to the aged fully insured population less those insured persons entitled to retired-worker, disabled-worker, aged widow(er)'s, or aged spouse's benefits, and by applying termination rates to the number of persons already receiving retired-worker benefits.

For the long-range period, the number of retired-worker beneficiaries not previously converted from disabled-worker beneficiary status is projected as a percentage of the exposed population, i.e., the aged fully insured population less persons entitled to or converted from disability benefits and insured persons entitled to widow(er)'s benefits. For age 62, a linear regression is developed based on the relationship between the historical exposed percentage and the labor force participation rate. The regression coefficients are then used to project the percentage based on the projected labor force participation rate for age 62. The percentage for ages 70 and over is assumed to be nearly 100, because the retirement earnings test does not apply after normal retirement age and the delayed retirement credit does not apply after age 70. The percentage for each age 63 through 69 is projected from the December 31, 2005 retired-worker beneficiaries data with an adjustment for changes in the portion of the primary insurance amount that is payable at each age of entitlement. As the normal retirement age increases, the number of retired-worker beneficiaries not automatically converted from disabled-worker beneficiary status as a percentage of the exposed population is gradually adjusted downward at each age 63 through 69.

For the long-range period also, the number of retired-worker beneficiaries previously converted from disabled-worker beneficiaries is calculated separately in a manner consistent with the calculation of disabled-worker beneficiaries.

The number of aged-spouse beneficiaries (excluding those who are also receiving a retired-worker benefit) is estimated from the population projected by age and sex. The benefits of aged-spouse beneficiaries are based on the earnings records of their husbands or wives, who are referred to as "wage earners." In the short-range period, insured aged-spouse beneficiaries are projected concurrently with the retired-worker beneficiaries. Uninsured aged-spouse beneficiaries are projected, on the other hand, by applying award rates to the aged uninsured male or female population, and by applying termination rates to the population already receiving such benefits. In the long-range period, aged-spouse beneficiaries are estimated by marital status. To the number of spouses aged 62 and over in the population, a series of factors are applied, representing the probabilities that the spouse and the wage earner meet *all* of the conditions of eligibility—i.e., the probabilities that (1) the wage earner is 62 or over, (2) the wage earner is insured, (3) the wage earner is receiving benefits, (4) the spouse is not receiving a benefit for the care of an entitled child, (5) the spouse is not insured, and (6) the spouse is not eligible to receive a significant government pension based on earnings in noncovered employment. To the resulting number of spouses a projected

prevalence rate is applied to calculate the estimated number of aged-spouse beneficiaries.

In addition, the same factors are applied to the number of divorced persons aged 62 and over in the population, with three differences. First, an additional factor is required to reflect the probability that the person's former wage-earner spouse is still alive (otherwise, the person may be entitled to a divorced widow(er)'s benefit). Second, a factor is required to reflect the probability that the marriage to the wage-earner spouse was at least 10 years in duration. Third, factor (3) above is not applied because, effective for January 1985, a divorced person generally need not wait to receive benefits until the former wage-earner spouse is receiving benefits.

The projected numbers of children under age 18, and students aged 18 and 19, who are eligible for benefits as children of retired-worker beneficiaries, are based on the projected number of children in the population. In the short-range period, the number of entitled children is developed by applying award rates to the number of children in the population where both parents are alive, and by applying termination rates to the number of children already receiving benefits.

In the long-range period, the number of entitled children is projected separately by sex of the wage-earner parent. The number of entitled children is projected for each age under 18 from the latest beneficiary data by reflecting changes in the following: the number of children in the population and the proportion of retired workers age 62 to 71 to the population age 20 to 71. For student beneficiaries, factors are applied to the number of children age 18 and 19 in the population, representing the probabilities that the parent is alive, aged 62 or over, insured, and receiving a retired-worker benefit. Another factor is applied representing the probability that the child is attending a secondary school.

The number of disabled children, age 18 and over, of retired-worker beneficiaries is projected from the adult population. In the short-range period, award rates are applied to the population, and termination rates are applied to the number of disabled children already receiving benefits. In the long-range period, disabled children are projected in a manner similar to that for student children with the inclusion of a factor reflecting the probability of being disabled before age 22. Another factor is applied representing the probability that the disabled chid is entitled to a benefit based on both parents' earnings.

In the short-range period, the number of entitled young-spouse beneficiaries is developed by applying award rates to the number of awards to children of retired workers, where the children are either under age 16 or disabled, and

by applying termination rates to the number of young spouses already receiving benefits. In the long-range period, young-spouse beneficiaries are projected as a proportion of the projected number of child beneficiaries of retired workers, taking into account projected changes in average family size.

The number of aged-widow(er) beneficiaries (excluding those who are also receiving a retired-worker benefit) is projected from the population by age and sex. In the short-range period, insured aged-widow(er) beneficiaries are projected concurrently with the retired-worker beneficiaries. Uninsured aged-widow(er) beneficiaries are projected, on the other hand, by applying award rates to the aged uninsured male or female population, and by applying termination rates to the population already receiving such benefits. In the long-range period, aged-widow(er) beneficiaries are projected by marital status. Four factors are applied to the number of widow(er)s in the population aged 60 and over. These factors represent the probabilities that (1) the deceased wage earner is fully insured at death, (2) the widow(er) is not receiving a benefit for the care of an entitled child, (3) the widow(er) is not fully insured, and (4) the widow(er)'s benefits are not withheld because of receipt of a significant government pension based on earnings in noncovered employment. In addition, some insured widow(er)s who had not applied for their retired-worker benefits are assumed to receive widow(er)'s benefits. Also, the same factors are applied to the number of divorced persons aged 60 and over in the population, with additional factors representing the probability that the person's former wage-earner spouse is deceased and that the marriage was at least 10 years in duration.

In the short-range period, the number of disabled-widow(er) beneficiaries is developed by applying award rates to the uninsured male or female population, and by applying termination rates to the population already receiving a disabled-widow(er) benefit. In the long-range period, the number is projected for each age 50 up to NRA as percentages of the widowed and divorced populations, adjusted for the insured status of the deceased spouse, the prevalence of disability, and the probability that the disabled spouse is not receiving another type of benefit.

The projected numbers of children under age 18, and students aged 18 and 19, who are eligible for benefits as survivors of deceased workers, are based on the projected number of children in the population whose mothers or fathers are deceased. In the short-range period, the number of entitled children is developed by applying award rates to the number of orphaned children, and by applying termination rates to the number of children already receiving benefits.

In the long-range period, the number of child-survivor beneficiaries is projected in a manner analogous to that for student beneficiaries of retired workers, with the factor representing the probability that the parent is aged 62 or over replaced by a factor that represents the probability that the parent is deceased.

In the short-range period, the numbers of entitled mother-survivor and father-survivor beneficiaries are developed by applying award rates to the number of awards to child-survivor beneficiaries, where the children are either under age 16 or disabled, and by applying termination rates to the number of mother-survivors and father-survivors already receiving benefits. In the long-range period, mother-survivor and father-survivor beneficiaries, assuming they are not remarried, are estimated from the number of child-survivor beneficiaries, taking into account projected changes in average family size.

The number of parent-survivor beneficiaries is projected based on the historical pattern of the number of such beneficiaries.

Table V.C4 shows the projected number of beneficiaries under the OASI program by type of benefit. Included among the beneficiaries who receive retired-worker benefits are some persons who also receive a residual benefit consisting of the excess of an auxiliary benefit over their retired-worker benefit. Estimates of the number of such residual payments are made separately for spouses and widow(er)s.

Table V.C4.—OASI Beneficiaries With Benefits in Current-Payment Status at the End of Calendar Years 1945-2080

[In thousands]

	Retired workers and auxiliaries			Survivors				
Calendar year	Worker	Spouse	Child	Widow-widower	Mother-father	Child	Parent	Total
Historical data:								
1945	518	159	13	94	121	377	6	1,288
1950	1,771	508	46	314	169	653	15	3,477
1955	4,474	1,192	122	701	292	1,154	25	7,961
1960	8,061	2,269	268	1,544	401	1,577	36	14,157
1965	11,101	2,614	461	2,371	472	2,074	35	19,128
1970	13,349	2,668	546	3,227	523	2,688	29	23,030
1975	16,589	2,867	643	3,888	582	2,919	21	27,509
1980	19,564	3,018	639	4,415	563	2,610	15	30,823
1985	22,435	3,069	456	4,863	372	1,918	10	33,123
1986	22,985	3,088	450	4,931	350	1,878	9	33,691
1987	23,444	3,090	439	4,984	329	1,837	8	34,130
1988	23,862	3,086	432	5,028	318	1,809	7	34,542
1989	24,331	3,093	422	5,071	312	1,782	6	35,017
1990	24,841	3,101	421	5,111	304	1,777	6	35,562
1991	25,293	3,104	425	5,158	301	1,792	5	36,078
1992	25,762	3,112	431	5,205	294	1,808	5	36,618
1993	26,109	3,094	436	5,224	289	1,837	5	36,994
1994	26,412	3,066	440	5,232	283	1,865	4	37,303
1995	26,679	3,026	441	5,225	275	1,884	4	37,534
1996	26,905	2,970	442	5,211	242	1,898	4	37,672
1997	27,282	2,922	441	5,053	230	1,893	3	37,825
1998	27,518	2,864	439	4,990	221	1,884	3	37,918
1999	27,784	2,811	442	4,944	212	1,885	3	38,081
2000	28,505	2,798	459	4,901	203	1,878	3	38,748
2001	28,843	2,742	467	4,828	197	1,890	3	38,969
2002	29,195	2,681	477	4,770	194	1,908	2	39,226
2003	29,537	2,622	480	4,705	190	1,910	2	39,446
2004	29,952	2,569	482	4,642	184	1,901	2	39,733
2005	30,461	2,524	488	4,569	178	1,903	2	40,126
Intermediate:								
2010	34,363	2,427	559	4,390	164	1,876	1	43,781
2015	40,983	2,392	625	4,277	159	1,897	1	50,332
2020	48,598	2,447	701	4,203	153	1,920	2	58,025
2025	55,636	2,606	748	4,251	157	1,929	2	65,327
2030	62,160	2,552	784	4,283	156	1,936	2	71,872
2035	66,553	2,477	786	4,306	154	1,936	2	76,214
2040	68,807	2,446	783	4,297	150	1,917	2	78,401
2045	70,398	2,510	788	4,282	146	1,889	2	80,015
2050	72,085	2,586	811	4,250	142	1,861	2	81,735
2055	74,021	2,719	818	4,236	138	1,830	2	83,763
2060	76,258	2,807	832	4,241	134	1,798	2	86,072
2065	78,636	2,889	841	4,296	131	1,770	2	88,564
2070	81,162	2,940	858	4,361	127	1,746	2	91,197
2075	83,349	2,997	864	4,425	124	1,723	2	93,482
2080	85,574	3,077	880	4,466	120	1,701	2	95,819

Table V.C4.—OASI Beneficiaries With Benefits in Current-Payment Status at the End of Calendar Years 1945-2080 (Cont.)
[In thousands]

	Retired workers and auxiliaries			Survivors				
Calendar year	Worker	Spouse	Child	Widow-widower	Mother-father	Child	Parent	Total
Low Cost:								
2010	34,326	2,429	562	4,386	165	1,889	1	43,758
2015	40,784	2,403	634	4,259	164	1,947	1	50,193
2020	47,918	2,426	717	4,228	150	2,054	2	57,495
2025	54,400	2,573	778	4,316	150	2,146	2	64,365
2030	60,203	2,492	830	4,387	147	2,242	2	70,302
2035	63,839	2,387	845	4,429	144	2,327	2	73,973
2040	65,394	2,323	854	4,415	142	2,388	2	75,518
2045	66,524	2,343	875	4,375	142	2,431	2	76,691
2050	67,918	2,391	914	4,306	142	2,463	2	78,135
2055	69,764	2,479	938	4,251	143	2,498	2	80,075
2060	71,893	2,529	971	4,217	145	2,541	2	82,297
2065	74,065	2,578	996	4,230	148	2,590	2	84,608
2070	76,346	2,602	1,032	4,260	151	2,639	2	87,032
2075	78,659	2,633	1,062	4,304	153	2,688	2	89,500
2080	81,547	2,688	1,110	4,354	155	2,739	2	92,594
High Cost:								
2010	34,416	2,426	557	4,396	163	1,864	1	43,824
2015	41,234	2,389	617	4,303	153	1,848	1	50,546
2020	49,410	2,509	686	4,175	154	1,782	2	58,718
2025	57,068	2,719	719	4,174	154	1,706	2	66,541
2030	64,486	2,716	743	4,159	150	1,636	2	73,891
2035	69,912	2,691	735	4,158	142	1,564	2	79,205
2040	73,208	2,722	722	4,157	132	1,485	2	82,428
2045	75,691	2,848	715	4,169	121	1,411	2	84,958
2050	78,117	2,959	724	4,169	112	1,348	2	87,431
2055	80,624	3,134	719	4,182	102	1,284	2	90,046
2060	83,428	3,253	717	4,201	94	1,218	2	92,912
2065	86,365	3,381	711	4,261	86	1,159	2	95,965
2070	89,454	3,458	713	4,323	78	1,106	2	99,135
2075	91,846	3,541	701	4,380	72	1,058	2	101,600
2080	93,800	3,607	695	4,388	66	1,013	2	103,570

Notes:
1. The number of beneficiaries does not include uninsured individuals who receive benefits under Section 228 of the Social Security Act. Costs are reimbursed from the General Fund of the Treasury for most of these individuals.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

6. Disability Insurance Beneficiaries

Benefits are paid from the DI Trust Fund to individuals who satisfy the disability-insured requirements, who are unable to engage in substantial gainful activity due to medically determinable physical or mental impairment severe enough to satisfy the requirements of the program, and who have not yet attained normal retirement age. Spouses and children of such disabled workers may also receive DI benefits provided they satisfy certain criteria, mostly depending upon age or the age of a child in the care of the non-disabled spouse. In projecting future benefit outlays from the DI Trust Fund, the number of DI beneficiaries is projected for each type of beneficiary separately, by

the sex of the disabled worker on whose earnings the benefits are based, and the age of the beneficiary. Such projections are accomplished using standard actuarial methods reflecting future additions to the DI rolls through awards of new benefits, and subtractions from the rolls due to death, recovery, or administrative conversion upon attainment of normal retirement age from status as a disabled-worker beneficiary to status as a retired-worker beneficiary. The long-range and short-range models used to make these projections are both constructed from this basic outline, but differ in some details reflecting their respective uses.

The number of new entitlements to disabled-worker benefits during each year is projected by applying assumed age-sex-specific disability incidence rates to the projected disability-exposed population.[1] Long-range ultimate disability incidence rates are selected based on careful analysis of historical patterns and expected future conditions, including the impact of scheduled increases in the normal retirement age.[2] Incidence rates for the first half of the short-range period reflect the most recent actual experience along with consideration of other factors expected to affect the processing of disability claims in the near term. Over the latter half of the short-range period, incidence rates are assumed to trend into levels consistent with the long-range ultimate incidence rate assumptions.

These assumed incidence rates are summarized in figure V.C3 and table V.C5. As illustrated in figure V.C3, incidence rates have varied within a wide range over the past 30 years. Although not completely understood, this variation is attributed in large part to a variety of demographic and economic factors, along with the effects of changes due to legislation and program administration.[3] The solid lines in figure V.C3 illustrate values of the summarized incidence rate, age-sex adjusted to the distribution of the disability-exposed population for 2000. Such adjustment facilitates meaningful comparisons over long periods of time. From a historically high level of about 7.2 awards per thousand insured in 1975, age-sex-adjusted rates declined to about 3.7 per thousand by 1982. Following a gradual trend upward, rates increased to about 5.8 per thousand by 1992, but declined from that point to

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[1] The disability-exposed population is the disability-insured population that is not currently entitled for disabled-worker benefits.

[2] Incidence rates are adjusted upward to account for the additional workers who are expected to file for disability benefits rather than for reduced retirement benefits that are even more reduced when the NRA is greater than age 65.

[3] A more detailed discussion of the recent history of the DI program is presented in Actuarial Study 118, "Social Security Disability Insurance Program Worker Experience", June 2005. This study can be found on the Internet at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/NOTES/as118/DI-WrkerExper_Foreword.html.

about 4.7 per thousand in 2000. As described in chapter IV, in the discussion of the short-range DI estimates, the incidence rate experience for 2001-05, and the projections for 2006-10, are affected by a one-time special workload. In addition to historical values, figure V.C3 displays the age-sex-adjusted short-range incidence rates under the three alternative sets of assumptions. Gross (unadjusted) incidence rates are also shown in figure V.C3 in dashed lines. These unadjusted rates are heavily influenced by the changing age-sex distribution of the exposed population over time. This is especially noticeable in the period after 2000 when the aging baby-boom generation will be concentrated in the ages of highest disability incidence.

Figure V.C3.—DI Disabled Worker Incidence Rates, 1970-2015
[Awards per thousand disability exposed]

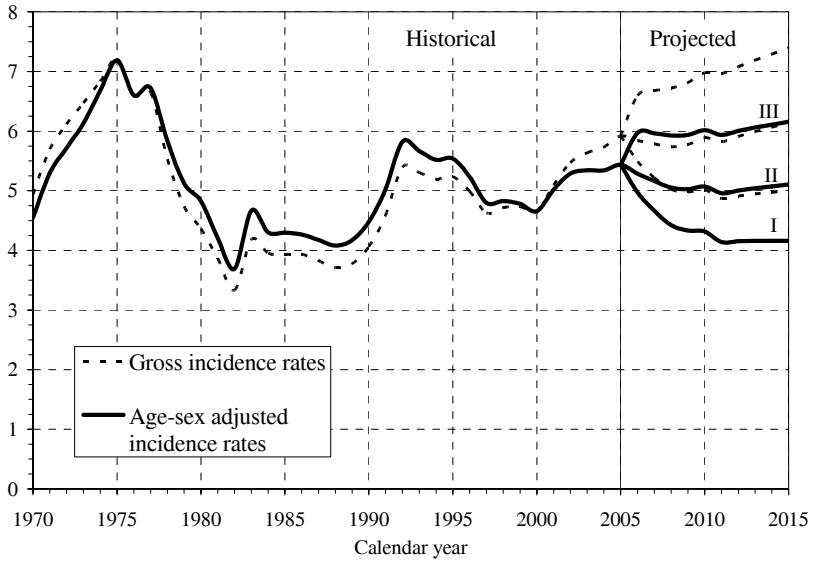

Table V.C5 presents the long-range ultimate incidence rate assumptions age-sex adjusted to the disability-exposed population as of January 1, 2000. The table also indicates the year in which the ultimate values are attained, along with an indication of the relationship between those ultimate rates and the rates for the base period (1994-96) that was used to develop relative levels of disability incidence by age and sex for long-range assumptions.

Table V.C5.—Long-Range Ultimate Disabled Worker Age-Sex-Adjusted Incidence Rates[1]

	Ultimate incidence rate	Year ultimate rate is attained[2]	Percent change from base period[3] to ultimate rate
Intermediate assumption	5.8	2027	+7
Low cost assumption	4.6	2027	-15
High cost assumption.	6.9	2027	+28

[1] Number of annual new disabled-worker entitlements per thousand disability-exposed, age-sex-adjusted to the disability-exposed population as of January 1, 2000.
[2] The transition to ultimate incidence rates is generally completed in 2025. However, for ages 61 through 66 incidence rates are adjusted through 2027 in order to reflect increases in the normal retirement age (NRA) that are scheduled in the law.
[3] Base period rate for long-range incidence rate assumptions is 5.4 per thousand representing the average age-sex-adjusted incidence rate for 1994-96.

The number of disabled-worker beneficiaries having their benefits terminated during each year is projected by applying assumed termination rates to the disabled-worker population. The termination rates are developed by age, sex, and reason for termination.[1] In addition, in the long-range period, termination rates are also assumed to vary by duration of entitlement to disabled-worker benefits. To this number of terminations is added the number of disabled-worker beneficiaries who would be automatically converted to retired-worker beneficiaries upon attainment of the normal retirement age.

In the short-range period, gross death rates under the intermediate assumptions are projected to gradually decline to about 28 deaths per thousand disabled workers. The pattern of projected recovery rates under the intermediate assumptions is consistent with assumed levels of continuing disability reviews required to fulfill the legislative mandate for regular reviews of all disabled beneficiaries. Under low cost (high cost) assumptions, terminations due to death, recovery, and other reasons increase (decrease) to levels roughly 9-10 percent higher (lower) than those under the intermediate assumptions.

For the 2006 Trustees Report the base period for death and recovery rates was updated from 1991-95 to 1996-2000[2]. Projection factors to be applied to the base period were chosen so that the age-adjusted rates for males and females would be roughly equal to the age-adjusted rates in last year's Trustees Report.

[1] Reasons for termination reflected in the projections include death, recovery and (in the short range only) a small residual category of terminations for special administrative reasons.

[2] For an analysis of these two periods see Actuarial Study 118, "Social Security Disability Insurance Program Worker Experience," June 2005. This study can be found on the Social Security website at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/NOTES/as118/DI-WrkerExper_Foreword.html.

For the long-range period, projection of death rates and recovery rates begins with an analysis of such rates split by age, sex, and duration of entitlement over the base period 1996-2000.[1] For all three sets of assumptions the ultimate recovery rates are reached in the twentieth year of the projection period. Under the intermediate assumptions ultimate recovery rates are assumed to be lower than the base period rate by 1 percent for males and higher than the base period rate by 16 percent for females. Death rates over the long-range period are assumed to change gradually, at about the same trend as for death rates in the general population, reaching levels in 2080 which are lower than the base period level by 57 percent for males and 55 percent for females.

Under the low cost assumptions, recovery rates and death rates are assumed to be higher than the corresponding levels assumed for the intermediate assumptions. Ultimate recovery rates are assumed to be higher than the base period rate by 19 percent for males and by 40 percent for females, while death rates are assumed to change gradually reaching levels for 2080 which are lower than the base period level by 40 percent for males and 38 percent for females.

Under the high cost assumptions, recovery rates and death rates are assumed to be lower than the corresponding levels assumed for the intermediate assumptions. Ultimate recovery rates are assumed to be lower than the base period rate by 21 percent for males and by 7 percent for females, while death rates are assumed to change gradually reaching levels for 2080 which are lower than the base period level by 74 percent for both males and females.

These detailed projections of disabled-worker entitlements and terminations are combined using standard multiple decrement techniques to produce numbers of disabled workers in current-payment status over the 75-year projection period. The projection is presented in table V.C6. As indicated in that table, the number of disabled workers in current-payment status is projected to grow from 6.5 million at the end of 2005, to 11.4 million, 12.6 million, or 13.7 million at the end of 2080, under the low cost, intermediate, or high cost assumptions, respectively. Of course, much of this growth is a direct result of the growth and aging of the population described earlier in this chapter.

Another way to view this projected growth in disabled workers is to compare the size of the projected disabled-worker population to the size of the under-

[1] The termination rate analysis was based on work presented in Actuarial Study 118, "Social Security Disability Insurance Program Worker Experience," June 2005. This study can be found on the Social Security website at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/NOTES/as118/DI-WrkerExper_Foreword.html.

lying disability-insured population reflecting the age-sex distribution of the insured population as of January 1, 2000. Such a ratio eliminates the effects of the aging population and is referred to as the disabled worker age-sex-adjusted prevalence rate. Expressed in these terms, the prevalence of disability is projected to grow from 38.5 per thousand disability insured at the beginning of 2005, to 47.4 per thousand, and 60.4 per thousand at the beginning of 2080, under the intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. Under the low cost assumptions, the disability prevalence rate is projected to decrease to 35.8 per thousand.

Table V.C6 also presents projections of the numbers of auxiliary beneficiaries paid from the DI Trust Fund. As indicated at the beginning of this subsection, such auxiliary beneficiaries consist of qualifying spouses and children of disabled workers. In the case of children, the child must be either (1) under age 18, (2) age 18 or 19 and still a student in high school, or (3) over age 18 and disabled prior to age 22. In the case of spouses, the spouse must either be at least age 62, or have an eligible child beneficiary who is either under age 16 or disabled in his or her care.

In general, such auxiliary beneficiaries are projected in a manner that is related to the projected number of disabled-worker beneficiaries. In the short-range period, this is accomplished for family members of disabled-worker beneficiaries by projecting incidence and termination rates for each category of auxiliary beneficiary. In the long-range period, the child beneficiaries at ages 18 and under are projected in relation to the projected number of children in the population, by applying factors representing the probability that either of their parents is insured and disabled. Spouses eligible because they have an eligible child in care are projected relative to the projected number of such children. The remaining categories of children and spouses are projected in relation to the projected number of disabled-worker beneficiaries.

Table V.C6.—DI Beneficiaries With Benefits in Current-Payment Status at the End of Calendar Years 1960-2080
[In thousands]

Calendar year	Disabled worker	Auxiliaries		Total
		Spouse	Child	
Historical data:				
1960	455	77	155	687
1965	988	193	558	1,739
1970	1,493	283	889	2,665
1975	2,488	453	1,411	4,351
1980	2,856	462	1,359	4,677
1985	2,653	306	945	3,904
1986	2,725	301	965	3,991
1987	2,782	291	968	4,041
1988	2,826	281	963	4,070
1989	2,891	271	962	4,124
1990	3,007	266	989	4,261
1991	3,191	266	1,052	4,509
1992	3,464	271	1,151	4,886
1993	3,721	273	1,255	5,249
1994	3,958	271	1,350	5,579
1995	4,179	264	1,409	5,852
1996	4,378	224	1,463	6,065
1997	4,501	207	1,438	6,146
1998	4,691	190	1,446	6,327
1999	4,870	176	1,468	6,514
2000	5,036	165	1,466	6,667
2001	5,268	157	1,482	6,907
2002	5,539	152	1,526	7,217
2003	5,869	151	1,571	7,590
2004	6,198	153	1,599	7,950
2005	6,519	157	1,633	8,309
Intermediate:				
2010	7,757	183	1,753	9,693
2015	8,475	183	1,807	10,465
2020	9,090	192	1,896	11,178
2025	9,852	231	2,031	12,114
2030	10,011	233	2,177	12,422
2035	10,187	238	2,284	12,709
2040	10,474	251	2,358	13,083
2045	10,992	269	2,408	13,670
2050	11,261	278	2,450	13,989
2055	11,570	289	2,495	14,354
2060	11,701	290	2,541	14,532
2065	11,966	299	2,589	14,854
2070	12,113	299	2,632	15,044
2075	12,387	308	2,672	15,367
2080	12,645	315	2,713	15,673

Table V.C6.—DI Beneficiaries With Benefits in Current-Payment Status at the End of Calendar Years 1960-2080 (Cont.)
[In thousands]

Calendar year	Disabled worker	Auxiliaries		Total
		Spouse	Child	
Low Cost:				
2010	7,272	167	1,626	9,064
2015	7,445	157	1,577	9,178
2020	7,662	155	1,619	9,437
2025	8,096	178	1,741	10,015
2030	8,088	170	1,892	10,151
2035	8,176	166	2,025	10,367
2040	8,402	169	2,138	10,709
2045	8,838	180	2,232	11,251
2050	9,101	186	2,315	11,601
2055	9,418	192	2,413	12,024
2060	9,639	193	2,525	12,356
2065	10,019	200	2,645	12,864
2070	10,385	202	2,763	13,350
2075	10,907	211	2,879	13,997
2080	11,425	220	2,996	14,641
High Cost:				
2010	8,423	206	1,928	10,557
2015	9,742	214	2,078	12,033
2020	10,682	241	2,170	13,093
2025	11,762	301	2,294	14,358
2030	12,065	316	2,408	14,789
2035	12,346	331	2,463	15,140
2040	12,723	355	2,478	15,555
2045	13,357	382	2,469	16,208
2050	13,647	390	2,464	16,502
2055	13,946	402	2,452	16,799
2060	13,963	397	2,427	16,788
2065	14,062	408	2,401	16,870
2070	13,891	400	2,368	16,659
2075	13,791	403	2,336	16,530
2080	13,673	401	2,308	16,382

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

7. Average Benefits

Average benefits are projected by type of benefit based on recent historical averages, projected average primary insurance amounts (PIAs), and projected ratios of average benefits to average PIAs. Average PIAs are calculated from projected distributions of beneficiaries by duration from year of award, average awarded PIAs, and increases thereto since the year of award, reflecting automatic benefit increases, recomputations to reflect additional covered earnings, and other factors. Average awarded PIAs are calculated from projected earnings histories, which are developed using a combination of the actual earnings histories associated with a sample of awards made in 2003, and more recent actual earnings levels by age and sex for covered workers.

For several types of benefits—retired-worker, aged-spouse, and aged-widow(er) benefits—the percentage of the PIA that is payable depends on the age at initial entitlement to benefits. Projected ratios of average benefits to average PIAs for these types of benefits are based on projections of age distributions at initial entitlement.

8. Benefit Payments

For each type of benefit, benefit payments are calculated as the product of a number of beneficiaries and a corresponding average monthly benefit. In the short-range period, benefit payments are calculated on a quarterly basis. In the long-range period, all benefit payments are calculated on an annual basis, using the number of beneficiaries on December 31. These amounts are adjusted to include retroactive payments to newly awarded beneficiaries, and other amounts not reflected in the regular monthly benefit payments.

Lump-sum death payments are calculated as the product of (1) the number of such payments, which is projected on the basis of the assumed death rates, the projected fully insured population, and the estimated percentage of the fully insured population that would qualify for benefits, and (2) the amount of the lump-sum death payment, which is $255 (not indexed in future years).

9. Administrative Expenses

The projection of administrative expenses through 2015 is based on historical experience and the expected growth in average wages. Additionally, estimates for the first several years of the projection are provided by the Office of Budget. For years after 2015, administrative expenses are assumed to increase because of increases in the number of beneficiaries and increases in the average wage which will more than offset assumed improvements in administrative productivity.

10. Railroad Retirement Financial Interchange

Railroad workers are covered under a separate multi-tiered plan, the first tier being very similar to OASDI coverage. An annual financial interchange between the Railroad Retirement fund and the OASI and DI funds is made reflecting the difference between (1) the amount of OASDI benefits that would be paid to railroad workers and their families if railroad employment had been covered under the OASDI program and administrative expenses associated with these benefits, and (2) the amount of OASDI payroll tax and income tax that would be received with allowances for interest from railroad workers.

The effect of the financial interchange with the Railroad Retirement program is evaluated on the basis of trends similar to those used in estimating the cost of OASDI benefits. The resulting effect is annual short-range costs of about $4-5 billion and a long-range summarized cost of 0.03 percent of taxable payroll to the OASDI program.

11. Benefits to Uninsured Persons

Some older persons had little or no chance to become fully insured for Social Security benefits during their working lifetimes. Special payments from the OASI Trust Fund may be granted to uninsured persons who either: (1) attained age 72 before 1968, or (2) attained age 72 in 1968 or later and had 3 quarters of coverage for each year after 1966 and before the year of attainment of age 72. Benefits and costs associated with uninsured persons of the first type above are reimbursable from the General Fund of the Treasury. All projected costs associated with reimbursable and non-reimbursable payments to uninsured persons are insignificant.

12. Military-Service Transfers

Beginning in 1966, the OASI and DI Trust Funds were reimbursed annually for the cost (including administrative expenses) of providing additional benefit payments resulting from noncontributory wage credits for military service performed prior to 1957. The 1983 amendments modified the reimbursement mechanism and the timing of the reimbursements, and required a transfer in 1983 to include all future costs attributable to the wage credits. The amendments also require adjustments to that 1983 transfer every fifth year, beginning with 1985, to account for actual data.

13. Income From Taxation of Benefits

Under present law, the OASI and DI Trust Funds are credited with the additional income taxes attributable to the taxation of up to the first 50 percent of OASI and DI benefit payments. (The remainder of the income taxes attributable to the taxation of up to 85 percent of OASI and DI benefit payments is credited to the HI Trust Fund.)

For the short-range period, income to the trust funds from such taxation is estimated by applying the following two factors to total OASI and DI benefit payments: (1) the percentage of benefit payments (limited to 50 percent) that is taxable, and (2) the average marginal tax rate applicable to those benefits.

For the long-range period, income to the trust funds from such taxation is estimated by applying projected ratios of taxation of OASI and DI benefits to

total OASI and DI benefit payments. Because the income thresholds used for benefit taxation are, by law, constant in the future, their values in relation to future income and benefit levels will decline. Thus, ratios of income from taxation of benefits to the amount of benefits are projected to increase gradually. Ultimate tax ratios for OASI and DI benefits are estimated by eliminating the current threshold amounts for taxation of OASDI benefits completely and adjusting the OASDI beneficiary distribution in a recent Current Population Survey for the projected 75th year age-sex distribution of the SSA beneficiary population.

VI. APPENDICES

A. HISTORY OF OASI AND DI TRUST FUND OPERATIONS

The Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) Trust Fund was established on January 1, 1940, as a separate account in the United States Treasury. The Federal Disability Insurance (DI) Trust Fund, another separate account in the United States Treasury was established on August 1, 1956. All the financial operations of the OASI and DI programs are handled through these respective funds. The Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing the financial operations of these funds. The following paragraphs describe the various components of trust fund income and outgo. The tables at the end of this section present the historical operations of the separate trust funds since their inception, as well as the operations of the combined trust funds during the period when they have co-existed.

The primary receipts of these two funds are amounts appropriated to each of them under permanent authority on the basis of contributions payable by workers, their employers, and individuals with self-employment income, in work covered by the OASDI program. All employees, and their employers, in covered employment are required to pay contributions with respect to their wages. Employees, and their employers, are also required to pay contributions with respect to cash tips, if the individual's monthly cash tips amount to at least $20. All self-employed persons are required to pay contributions with respect to their covered net earnings from self-employment. In addition to paying the required employer contributions on the wages of covered Federal employees, the Federal Government also pays amounts equivalent to the combined employer and employee contributions that would be paid on deemed wage credits attributable to military service performed between 1957 and 2001 if such wage credits were covered wages.

In general, an individual's contributions, or taxes, are computed on wages or net earnings from self-employment, or both wages and net self-employment earnings combined, up to a specified maximum annual amount. The contributions are determined first on the wages and then on any net self-employment earnings, such that the total does not exceed the annual maximum amount. An employee who pays contributions on wages in excess of the annual maximum amount (because of employment with two or more employers) is eligible for a refund of the excess employee contributions.

The monthly benefit amount to which an individual (or his or her spouse and children) may become entitled under the OASDI program is based on the individual's taxable earnings during his or her lifetime. For almost all per-

sons who first become eligible to receive benefits in 1979 or later, the earnings used in the computation of benefits are indexed to reflect increases in average wage levels.

The contribution, or tax, rates applicable under current law in each calendar year and the allocation of these rates between the OASI and DI Trust Funds are shown in table VI.A1.[1] The maximum amount of earnings on which OASDI contributions are payable in a year, which is also the maximum amount of earnings creditable in that year for benefit-computation purposes, is called the contribution and benefit base. The contribution and benefit base for each year through 2006 is also shown in table VI.A1.

Table VI.A1.—Contribution and Benefit Base and Contribution Rates

Calendar years	Contribution and benefit base	Contribution rates (percent)					
		Employees and employers, each			Self-employed		
		OASDI	OASI	DI	OASDI	OASI	DI
1937-49	$3,000	1.000	1.000	—	—	—	—
1950	3,000	1.500	1.500	—	—	—	—
1951-53	3,600	1.500	1.500	—	2.2500	2.2500	—
1954	3,600	2.000	2.000	—	3.0000	3.0000	—
1955-56	4,200	2.000	2.000	—	3.0000	3.0000	—
1957-58	4,200	2.250	2.000	0.250	3.3750	3.0000	0.3750
1959	4,800	2.500	2.250	.250	3.7500	3.3750	.3750
1960-61	4,800	3.000	2.750	.250	4.5000	4.1250	.3750
1962	4,800	3.125	2.875	.250	4.7000	4.3250	.3750
1963-65	4,800	3.625	3.375	.250	5.4000	5.0250	.3750
1966	6,600	3.850	3.500	.350	5.8000	5.2750	.5250
1967	6,600	3.900	3.550	.350	5.9000	5.3750	.5250
1968	7,800	3.800	3.325	.475	5.8000	5.0875	.7125
1969	7,800	4.200	3.725	.475	6.3000	5.5875	.7125
1970	7,800	4.200	3.650	.550	6.3000	5.4750	.8250
1971	7,800	4.600	4.050	.550	6.9000	6.0750	.8250
1972	9,000	4.600	4.050	.550	6.9000	6.0750	.8250
1973	10,800	4.850	4.300	.550	7.0000	6.2050	.7950
1974	13,200	4.950	4.375	.575	7.0000	6.1850	.8150
1975	14,100	4.950	4.375	.575	7.0000	6.1850	.8150
1976	15,300	4.950	4.375	.575	7.0000	6.1850	.8150
1977	16,500	4.950	4.375	.575	7.0000	6.1850	.8150
1978	17,700	5.050	4.275	.775	7.1000	6.0100	1.0900
1979	22,900	5.080	4.330	.750	7.0500	6.0100	1.0400
1980	25,900	5.080	4.520	.560	7.0500	6.2725	.7775
1981	29,700	5.350	4.700	.650	8.0000	7.0250	.9750
1982	32,400	5.400	4.575	.825	8.0500	6.8125	1.2375
1983	35,700	5.400	4.775	.625	8.0500	7.1125	.9375
1984[1]	37,800	5.700	5.200	.500	11.4000	10.4000	1.0000
1985[1]	39,600	5.700	5.200	.500	11.4000	10.4000	1.0000
1986[1]	42,000	5.700	5.200	.500	11.4000	10.4000	1.0000
1987[1]	43,800	5.700	5.200	.500	11.4000	10.4000	1.0000
1988[1]	45,000	6.060	5.530	.530	12.1200	11.0600	1.0600

[1] The contribution rates for the Hospital Insurance (HI) program, and for the OASDI and HI programs combined, are shown in table VI.F1.

Table VI.A1.—Contribution and Benefit Base and Contribution Rates (Cont.)

Calendar years	Contribution and benefit base	Contribution rates (percent)					
		Employees and employers, each			Self-employed		
		OASDI	OASI	DI	OASDI	OASI	DI
1989[1]	$48,000	6.060	5.530	0.530	12.1200	11.0600	1.0600
1990	51,300	6.200	5.600	.600	12.4000	11.2000	1.2000
1991	53,400	6.200	5.600	.600	12.4000	11.2000	1.2000
1992	55,500	6.200	5.600	.600	12.4000	11.2000	1.2000
1993	57,600	6.200	5.600	.600	12.4000	11.2000	1.2000
1994	60,600	6.200	5.260	.940	12.4000	10.5200	1.8800
1995	61,200	6.200	5.260	.940	12.4000	10.5200	1.8800
1996	62,700	6.200	5.260	.940	12.4000	10.5200	1.8800
1997	65,400	6.200	5.350	.850	12.4000	10.7000	1.7000
1998	68,400	6.200	5.350	.850	12.4000	10.7000	1.7000
1999	72,600	6.200	5.350	.850	12.4000	10.7000	1.7000
2000	76,200	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000
2001	80,400	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000
2002	84,900	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000
2003	87,000	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000
2004	87,900	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000
2005	90,000	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000
2006	94,200	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000
2007 and later	[2]	6.200	5.300	.900	12.4000	10.6000	1.8000

[1] In 1984 only, an immediate credit of 0.3 percent of taxable wages was allowed against the OASDI contributions paid by employees, which resulted in an effective contribution rate of 5.4 percent. The appropriations of contributions to the trust funds, however, were based on the combined employee-employer rate of 11.4 percent, as if the credit for employees did not apply. Similar credits of 2.7 percent, 2.3 percent, and 2.0 percent were allowed against the combined OASDI and Hospital Insurance (HI) contributions on net earnings from self-employment in 1984, 1985, and 1986-89, respectively. Beginning in 1990, self-employed persons are allowed a deduction, for purposes of computing their net earnings, equal to half of the combined OASDI and HI contributions that would be payable without regard to the contribution and benefit base. The OASDI contribution rate is then applied to net earnings after this deduction, but subject to the OASDI base.
[2] Subject to automatic adjustment based on increases in average wages.

All contributions are collected by the Internal Revenue Service and deposited in the General Fund of the Treasury. The contributions are immediately and automatically appropriated to the trust funds on an estimated basis. The exact amount of contributions received is not known initially because the OASDI and HI contributions and individual income taxes are not separately identified in collection reports received by the Internal Revenue Service. Periodic adjustments are subsequently made to the extent that the estimates are found to differ from the amounts of contributions actually payable as determined from reported earnings. Adjustments are also made to account for any refunds to employees (with more than one employer) who paid contributions on wages in excess of the contribution and benefit base.

Beginning in 1984, up to one-half of an individual's or couple's OASDI benefits was subject to Federal income taxation under certain circumstances. Effective for taxable years beginning after 1993, the maximum percentage of benefits subject to taxation was increased from 50 percent to 85 percent. The proceeds from taxation of up to 50 percent of benefits are credited to the

OASI and DI Trust Funds in advance, on an estimated basis, at the beginning of each calendar quarter, with no reimbursement to the general fund for interest costs attributable to the advance transfers.[1] Subsequent adjustments are made based on the actual amounts as shown on annual income tax records. The amounts appropriated from the General Fund of the Treasury are allocated to the OASI and DI Trust Funds on the basis of the income taxes paid on the benefits from each fund.[2]

Another source of income to the trust funds is interest received on investments held by the trust funds. That portion of each trust fund which is not required to meet the current cost of benefits and administration is invested, on a daily basis, primarily in interest-bearing obligations of the U.S. Government (including special public-debt obligations described below). Investments may also be made in obligations guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States, including certain Federally sponsored agency obligations that are designated in the laws authorizing their issuance as lawful investments for fiduciary and trust funds under the control and authority of the United States or any officer of the United States. These obligations may be acquired on original issue at the issue price or by purchase of outstanding obligations at their market price.

The Social Security Act authorizes the issuance of special public-debt obligations for purchase exclusively by the trust funds. The Act provides that the interest rate on new special obligations will be the average market yield, as of the last business day of a month, on all of the outstanding marketable U.S. obligations that are due or callable more than 4 years in the future. The rate so calculated is rounded to the nearest one-eighth of one percent and applies to new issues in the following month. Beginning January 1999, in calculating the average market yield rate for this purpose, the Treasury incorporates the yield to the call date when a callable bond's market price is above par.

Although the special issues cannot be bought or sold in the open market, they are nonetheless redeemable at any time at par value and thus bear no risk of fluctuations in principal value due to changes in market yield rates. Just as in the case of marketable Treasury securities held by the public, all of the investments held by the trust funds are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government.

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[1] The additional tax revenues resulting from the increase to 85 percent are transferred to the HI Trust Fund.

[2] A special provision applies to benefits paid to nonresident aliens. Under Public Law 103-465, effective for taxable years beginning after 1994, a flat-rate tax, usually 25.5 percent, is withheld from the benefits before they are paid and, therefore, remains in the trust funds. From 1984 to 1994 the flat-rate tax that was withheld was usually 15 percent.

Income is also affected by provisions of the Social Security Act for (1) transfers between the General Fund of the Treasury and the OASI and DI Trust Funds for any adjustments to prior payments for the cost arising from the granting of noncontributory wage credits for military service prior to 1957, according to periodic determinations; (2) annual reimbursements from the General Fund of the Treasury to the OASI Trust Fund for any costs arising from the special monthly cash payments to certain uninsured persons—i.e., those who attained age 72 before 1968 and who generally are not eligible for cash benefits under other provisions of the OASDI program; and (3) the receipt of unconditional money gifts or bequests made for the benefit of the trust funds or any activity financed through the funds.

The primary expenditures of the OASI and DI Trust Funds are for (1) OASDI benefit payments, net of any reimbursements from the General Fund of the Treasury for unnegotiated benefit checks, and (2) expenses incurred by the Social Security Administration and the Department of the Treasury in administering the OASDI program and the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code relating to the collection of contributions. Such administrative expenses include expenditures for construction, rental and lease, or purchase of office buildings and related facilities for the Social Security Administration. The Social Security Act does not permit expenditures from the OASI and DI Trust Funds for any purpose not related to the payment of benefits or administrative costs for the OASDI program.

The expenditures of the trust funds also include (1) the costs of vocational rehabilitation services furnished as an additional benefit to disabled persons receiving cash benefits because of their disabilities where such services contributed to their successful rehabilitation, and (2) net costs resulting from the provisions of the Railroad Retirement Act which provide for a system of coordination and financial interchange between the Railroad Retirement program and the Social Security program. Under the latter provisions, transfers between the Railroad Retirement program's Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account and the trust funds are made on an annual basis in order to place each trust fund in the same position in which it would have been if railroad employment had always been covered under Social Security.

The net worth of facilities and other fixed capital assets is not carried in the statements of the operations of the trust funds presented in this report. This is because the value of fixed capital assets is not available in the form of a financial asset redeemable for the payment of benefits or administrative expenditures, and therefore is not considered in assessing the actuarial status of the trust funds.

Table VI.A2.—Historical Operations of the OASI Trust Fund, Calendar Years 1937-2005
[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Expenditures				Assets		
Calendar year	Total[1]	Net contributions[2]	Taxation of benefits	Net interest[3]	Total	Benefit payments[4]	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust Fund ratio[5]
1937 . . .	$0.8	$0.8	—	6/	6/	6/	—	—	$0.8	$0.8	100
1938 . . .	.4	.4	—	6/	6/	6/	—	—	.4	1.1	7,660
1939 . . .	.6	.6	—	6/	6/	6/	—	—	.6	1.7	8,086
1940 . . .	.4	.3	—	6/	$0.1	6/	6/	—	.3	2.0	2,781
1941 . . .	.8	.8	—	$0.1	.1	$0.1	6/	—	.7	2.8	1,782
1942 . . .	1.1	1.0	—	.1	.2	.1	6/	—	.9	3.7	1,737
1943 . . .	1.3	1.2	—	.1	.2	.2	6/	—	1.1	4.8	1,891
1944 . . .	1.4	1.3	—	.1	.2	.2	6/	—	1.2	6.0	2,025
1945 . . .	1.4	1.3	—	.1	.3	.3	6/	—	1.1	7.1	1,975
1946 . . .	1.4	1.3	—	.2	.4	.4	6/	—	1.0	8.2	1,704
1947 . . .	1.7	1.6	—	.2	.5	.5	6/	—	1.2	9.4	1,592
1948 . . .	2.0	1.7	—	.3	.6	.6	$0.1	—	1.4	10.7	1,542
1949 . . .	1.8	1.7	—	.1	.7	.7	.1	—	1.1	11.8	1,487
1950 . . .	2.9	2.7	—	.3	1.0	1.0	.1	—	1.9	13.7	1,156
1951 . . .	3.8	3.4	—	.4	2.0	1.9	.1	—	1.8	15.5	698
1952 . . .	4.2	3.8	—	.4	2.3	2.2	.1	—	1.9	17.4	681
1953 . . .	4.4	3.9	—	.4	3.1	3.0	.1	—	1.3	18.7	564
1954 . . .	5.6	5.2	—	.4	3.7	3.7	.1	6/	1.9	20.6	500
1955 . . .	6.2	5.7	—	.5	5.1	5.0	.1	6/	1.1	21.7	405
1956 . . .	6.7	6.2	—	.5	5.8	5.7	.1	6/	.9	22.5	371
1957 . . .	7.4	6.8	—	.6	7.5	7.3	.2	6/	-.1	22.4	300
1958 . . .	8.1	7.6	—	.6	8.6	8.3	.2	$0.1	-.5	21.9	259
1959 . . .	8.6	8.1	—	.5	10.3	9.8	.2	.3	-1.7	20.1	212
1960 . . .	11.4	10.9	—	.5	11.2	10.7	.2	.3	.2	20.3	180
1961 . . .	11.8	11.3	—	.5	12.4	11.9	.2	.3	-.6	19.7	163
1962 . . .	12.6	12.1	—	.5	14.0	13.4	.3	.4	-1.4	18.3	141
1963 . . .	15.1	14.5	—	.5	14.9	14.2	.3	.4	.1	18.5	123
1964 . . .	16.3	15.7	—	.6	15.6	14.9	.3	.4	.6	19.1	118
1965 . . .	16.6	16.0	—	.6	17.5	16.7	.3	.4	-.9	18.2	109
1966 . . .	21.3	20.6	—	.6	19.0	18.3	.3	.4	2.3	20.6	96
1967 . . .	24.0	23.1	—	.8	20.4	19.5	.4	.5	3.7	24.2	101
1968 . . .	25.0	23.7	—	.9	23.6	22.6	.5	.4	1.5	25.7	103
1969 . . .	29.6	27.9	—	1.2	25.2	24.2	.5	.5	4.4	30.1	102
1970 . . .	32.2	30.3	—	1.5	29.8	28.8	.5	.6	2.4	32.5	101
1971 . . .	35.9	33.7	—	1.7	34.5	33.4	.5	.6	1.3	33.8	94
1972 . . .	40.1	37.8	—	1.8	38.5	37.1	.7	.7	1.5	35.3	88
1973 . . .	48.3	46.0	—	1.9	47.2	45.7	.6	.8	1.2	36.5	75
1974 . . .	54.7	52.1	—	2.2	53.4	51.6	.9	.9	1.3	37.8	68
1975 . . .	59.6	56.8	—	2.4	60.4	58.5	.9	1.0	-.8	37.0	63
1976 . . .	66.3	63.4	—	2.3	67.9	65.7	1.0	1.2	-1.6	35.4	54
1977 . . .	72.4	69.6	—	2.2	75.3	73.1	1.0	1.2	-2.9	32.5	47
1978 . . .	78.1	75.5	—	2.0	83.1	80.4	1.1	1.6	-5.0	27.5	39
1979 . . .	90.3	87.9	—	1.8	93.1	90.6	1.1	1.4	-2.9	24.7	30

Table VI.A2.—Historical Operations of the OASI Trust Fund, Calendar Years 1937-2005 (Cont.)

[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Expenditures				Assets		
Calendar year	Total[1]	Net contributions[2]	Taxation of benefits	Net interest[3]	Total	Benefit payments[4]	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust Fund ratio[5]
1980 . . .	$105.8	$103.5	—	$1.8	$107.7	$105.1	$1.2	$1.4	-$1.8	$22.8	23
1981 . . .	125.4	122.6	—	2.1	126.7	123.8	1.3	1.6	-1.3	21.5	18
1982 . . .	125.2	123.7	—	.8	142.1	138.8	1.5	1.8	.6	22.1	15
1983 . . .	150.6	138.3	—	6.7	153.0	149.2	1.5	2.3	-2.4	19.7	14
1984 . . .	169.3	164.1	$2.8	2.3	161.9	157.8	1.6	2.4	7.4	27.1	20
1985 . . .	184.2	177.0	3.2	1.9	171.2	167.2	1.6	2.3	[7]8.7	35.8	24
1986 . . .	197.4	190.7	3.4	3.1	181.0	176.8	1.6	2.6	[7] 3.2	39.1	28
1987 . . .	210.7	202.7	3.3	4.7	187.7	183.6	1.5	2.6	23.1	62.1	30
1988 . . .	240.8	229.8	3.4	7.6	200.0	195.5	1.8	2.8	40.8	102.9	41
1989 . . .	264.7	250.2	2.4	12.0	212.5	208.0	1.7	2.8	52.2	155.1	59
1990 . . .	286.7	267.5	4.8	16.4	227.5	223.0	1.6	3.0	59.1	214.2	78
1991 . . .	299.3	272.6	5.9	20.8	245.6	240.5	1.8	3.4	53.7	267.8	87
1992 . . .	311.2	281.0	5.9	24.3	259.9	254.9	1.8	3.1	51.3	319.2	103
1993 . . .	323.3	290.9	5.3	27.0	273.1	267.8	2.0	3.4	50.2	369.3	117
1994 . . .	328.3	293.3	5.0	29.9	284.1	279.1	1.6	3.4	44.1	413.5	130
1995 . . .	342.8	304.6	5.5	32.8	297.8	291.6	2.1	4.1	45.0	458.5	139
1996 . . .	363.7	321.6	6.5	35.7	308.2	302.9	1.8	3.6	55.5	514.0	149
1997 . . .	397.2	349.9	7.4	39.8	322.1	316.3	2.1	3.7	75.1	589.1	160
1998 . . .	424.8	371.2	9.1	44.5	332.3	326.8	1.9	3.7	92.5	681.6	177
1999 . . .	457.0	396.4	10.9	49.8	339.9	334.4	1.8	3.7	117.2	798.8	201
2000 . . .	490.5	421.4	11.6	57.5	358.3	352.7	2.1	3.5	132.2	931.0	223
2001 . . .	518.1	441.5	11.9	64.7	377.5	372.3	2.0	3.3	140.6	1,071.5	247
2002 . . .	539.7	455.2	12.9	71.2	393.7	388.1	2.1	3.5	146.0	1,217.5	272
2003 . . .	543.8	456.1	12.5	75.2	406.0	399.8	2.6	3.6	137.8	1,355.3	300
2004 . . .	566.3	472.8	14.6	79.0	421.0	415.0	2.4	3.6	145.3	1,500.6	322
2005 . . .	604.3	506.9	13.8	84.0	441.9	435.4	3.0	3.6	162.4	1,663.0	340

[1] Includes payments from the General Fund of the Treasury to the trust funds (1) in 1947-51 and in 1966 and later, costs of noncontributory wage credits for military service performed before 1957; (2) in 1971-82, costs of deemed wage credits for military service performed after 1956; and (3) in 1968 and later, costs of benefits to certain uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968. Differences in past year total income and sum of individual column amounts are due to these payments. OASI historical payments from the General Fund of the Treasury may be found on the Internet at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/STATS/t4a1Income.html.

[2] Beginning in 1983, includes transfers from the General Fund of the Treasury representing contributions that would have been paid on deemed wage credits for military service in 1957 through 2001, if such credits were considered to be covered wages.

[3] Net interest includes net profits or losses on marketable investments. Beginning in 1967, administrative expenses are charged to the trust fund on an estimated basis, with a final adjustment, including interest, made in the following fiscal year. The amounts of these interest adjustments are included in net interest. For years prior to 1967, a description of the method of accounting for administrative expenses is contained in the 1970 Annual Report. Beginning in October 1973, the figures shown include relatively small amounts of gifts to the fund. Net interest for 1983-86 reflects payments from a borrowing trust fund to a lending trust fund for interest on amounts owed under the interfund borrowing provisions. During 1983-90, interest paid from the trust fund to the general fund on advance tax transfers is reflected. The amount shown for 1985 includes an interest adjustment of $88 million on unnegotiated checks issued before April 1985.

[4] Beginning in 1966, includes payments for vocational rehabilitation services furnished to disabled persons receiving benefits because of their disabilities. Beginning in 1983, amounts are reduced by amount of reimbursement for unnegotiated benefit checks.

[5] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year as a percentage of expenditures during the year. For years 1984-90, assets at the beginning of a year include January advance tax transfers.

[6] Less than $50 million.

[7] Reflects offset for repayment from the OASI Trust Fund of amounts borrowed from the DI and HI Trust Funds in 1982. The amount repaid in 1985 was $4.4 billion; in 1986, the amount was $13.2 billion.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.A3.—Historical Operations of the DI Trust Fund, Calendar Years 1957-2005
[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Expenditures				Assets		
Calendar year	Total [1]	Net contributions[2]	Taxation of benefits	Net interest[3]	Total	Benefit payments[4]	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust Fund ratio[5]
1957...	$0.7	$0.7	—	6/	$0.1	$0.1	6/	—	$0.6	$0.6	100
1958...	1.0	1.0	—	6/	.3	.2	6/	—	.7	1.4	249
1959...	.9	.9	—	6/	.5	.5	$0.1	6/	.4	1.8	284
1960...	1.1	1.0	—	$0.1	.6	.6	6/	6/	.5	2.3	304
1961...	1.1	1.0	—	.1	1.0	.9	.1	6/	.1	2.4	239
1962...	1.1	1.0	—	.1	1.2	1.1	.1	6/	-.1	2.4	206
1963...	1.2	1.1	—	.1	1.3	1.2	.1	6/	-.1	2.2	183
1964...	1.2	1.2	—	.1	1.4	1.3	.1	6/	-.2	2.0	159
1965...	1.2	1.2	—	.1	1.7	1.6	.1	6/	-.4	1.6	121
1966...	2.1	2.0	—	.1	1.9	1.8	.1	6/	.1	1.7	82
1967...	2.4	2.3	—	.1	2.1	2.0	.1	6/	.3	2.0	83
1968...	3.5	3.3	—	.1	2.5	2.3	.1	6/	1.0	3.0	83
1969...	3.8	3.6	—	.2	2.7	2.6	.1	6/	1.1	4.1	111
1970...	4.8	4.5	—	.3	3.3	3.1	.2	6/	1.5	5.6	126
1971...	5.0	4.6	—	.4	4.0	3.8	.2	6/	1.0	6.6	140
1972...	5.6	5.1	—	.4	4.8	4.5	.2	6/	.8	7.5	140
1973...	6.4	5.9	—	.5	6.0	5.8	.2	6/	.5	7.9	125
1974...	7.4	6.8	—	.5	7.2	7.0	.2	6/	.2	8.1	110
1975...	8.0	7.4	—	.5	8.8	8.5	.3	6/	-.8	7.4	92
1976...	8.8	8.2	—	.4	10.4	10.1	.3	6/	-1.6	5.7	71
1977...	9.6	9.1	—	.3	11.9	11.5	.4	6/	-2.4	3.4	48
1978...	13.8	13.4	—	.3	13.0	12.6	.3	6/	.9	4.2	26
1979...	15.6	15.1	—	.4	14.2	13.8	.4	6/	1.4	5.6	30
1980...	13.9	13.3	—	.5	15.9	15.5	.4	6/	-2.0	3.6	35
1981...	17.1	16.7	—	.2	17.7	17.2	.4	6/	-.6	3.0	21
1982...	22.7	22.0	—	.5	18.0	17.4	.6	6/	-.4	2.7	17
1983...	20.7	18.0	—	1.6	18.2	17.5	.6	6/	2.5	5.2	15
1984...	17.3	15.9	$0.2	1.2	18.5	17.9	.6	6/	-1.2	4.0	35
1985...	19.3	17.2	.2	.9	19.5	18.8	.6	6/	[7]2.4	6.3	27
1986...	19.4	18.4	.2	.8	20.5	19.9	.6	$0.1	[7]1.5	7.8	38
1987...	20.3	19.7	6/	.6	21.4	20.5	.8	.1	-1.1	6.7	44
1988...	22.7	22.0	.1	.6	22.5	21.7	.7	.1	.2	6.9	38
1989...	24.8	24.0	.1	.7	23.8	22.9	.8	.1	1.0	7.9	38
1990...	28.8	28.5	.1	.9	25.6	24.8	.7	.1	3.2	11.1	40
1991...	30.4	29.1	.2	1.1	28.6	27.7	.8	.1	1.8	12.9	39
1992...	31.4	30.1	.2	1.1	32.0	31.1	.8	.1	-.6	12.3	40
1993...	32.3	31.2	.3	.8	35.7	34.6	1.0	.1	-3.4	9.0	35
1994...	52.8	51.4	.3	1.2	38.9	37.7	1.0	.1	14.0	22.9	23
1995...	56.7	54.4	.3	2.2	42.1	40.9	1.1	.1	14.6	37.6	55
1996...	60.7	57.3	.4	3.0	45.4	44.2	1.2	6/	15.4	52.9	83
1997...	60.5	56.0	.5	4.0	47.0	45.7	1.3	.1	13.5	66.4	113
1998...	64.4	59.0	.6	4.8	49.9	48.2	1.6	.2	14.4	80.8	133
1999...	69.5	63.2	.7	5.7	53.0	51.4	1.5	.1	16.5	97.3	152
2000...	77.9	71.1	.7	6.9	56.8	55.0	1.6	.2	21.1	118.5	171
2001...	83.9	74.9	.8	8.2	61.4	59.6	1.7	6/	22.5	141.0	193
2002...	87.4	77.3	.9	9.2	67.9	65.7	2.0	.2	19.5	160.5	208
2003...	88.1	77.4	.9	9.7	73.1	70.9	2.0	.2	15.0	175.4	219
2004...	91.4	80.3	1.1	10.0	80.6	78.2	2.2	.2	10.8	186.2	218
2005...	97.4	86.1	1.1	10.3	88.0	85.4	2.3	.3	9.4	195.6	212

[1] Includes payments from the General Fund of the Treasury to the trust funds (1) beginning in 1966 and later, costs of noncontributory wage credits for military service performed before 1957 and (2) in 1971-82, costs of deemed wage credits for military service performed after 1956. Differences in past year total income and sum of individual column amounts are due to these payments. DI historical payments from the General Fund of the Treasury may be found on the Internet at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/STATS/t4a2Income.html.
[2] Beginning in 1983, includes transfers from the General Fund of the Treasury representing contributions that would have been paid on deemed wage credits for military service in 1957 through 2001, if such credits were considered to be covered wages.
[3] Net interest includes net profits or losses on marketable investments. Beginning in 1967, administrative expenses are charged to the trust fund on an estimated basis, with a final adjustment, including interest, made in the following fiscal year. The amounts of these interest adjustments are included in net interest. For years prior to 1967, a description of the method of accounting for administrative expenses is contained in the 1970 Annual Report. Beginning in July 1974, the figures shown include relatively small amounts of gifts to the fund. Net interest for 1983-86 reflects payments from a borrowing trust fund to a lending trust fund for interest on amounts owed under the interfund borrowing provisions. During 1983-90, interest paid from the trust fund to the general fund on advance tax transfers is reflected. The amount shown for 1985 includes an interest adjustment of $14.8 million on unnegotiated checks issued before April 1985.
[4] Beginning in 1966, includes payments for vocational rehabilitation services furnished to disabled persons receiving benefits because of their disabilities. Beginning in 1983, amounts are reduced by amount of reimbursement for unnegotiated benefit checks.
[5] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year as a percentage of expenditures during the year. For years 1984-90, assets at the beginning of a year include January advance tax transfers.
[6] Less than $50 million.
[7] Reflects offset for repayment from the OASI Trust Fund of amounts borrowed from the DI Trust Fund in 1982. An amount of $2.5 billion was repaid in each year 1985 and 1986.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.A4.—Historical Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, Calendar Years 1957-2005

[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Expenditures				Assets		
Calendar year	Total[1]	Net contributions[2]	Taxation of benefits	Net interest[3]	Total	Benefit payments[4]	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust Fund ratio[5]
1957 . . .	$8.1	$7.5	—	$0.6	$7.6	$7.4	$0.2	6/	$0.5	$23.0	298
1958 . . .	9.1	8.5	—	.6	8.9	8.6	.2	$0.1	.2	23.2	259
1959 . . .	9.5	8.9	—	.6	10.8	10.3	.2	.3	-1.3	22.0	215
1960 . . .	12.4	11.9	—	.6	11.8	11.2	.2	.3	.6	22.6	186
1961 . . .	12.9	12.3	—	.6	13.4	12.7	.3	.3	-.5	22.2	169
1962 . . .	13.7	13.1	—	.6	15.2	14.5	.3	.4	-1.5	20.7	146
1963 . . .	16.2	15.6	—	.6	16.2	15.4	.3	.4	6/	20.7	128
1964 . . .	17.5	16.8	—	.6	17.0	16.2	.4	.4	.5	21.2	122
1965 . . .	17.9	17.2	—	.7	19.2	18.3	.4	.5	-1.3	19.8	110
1966 . . .	23.4	22.6	—	.7	20.9	20.1	.4	.5	2.5	22.3	95
1967 . . .	26.4	25.4	—	.9	22.5	21.4	.5	.5	3.9	26.3	99
1968 . . .	28.5	27.0	—	1.0	26.0	25.0	.6	.5	2.5	28.7	101
1969 . . .	33.3	31.5	—	1.3	27.9	26.8	.6	.5	5.5	34.2	103
1970 . . .	37.0	34.7	—	1.8	33.1	31.9	.6	.6	3.9	38.1	103
1971 . . .	40.9	38.3	—	2.0	38.5	37.2	.7	.6	2.4	40.4	99
1972 . . .	45.6	42.9	—	2.2	43.3	41.6	.9	.7	2.3	42.8	93
1973 . . .	54.8	51.9	—	2.4	53.1	51.5	.8	.8	1.6	44.4	80
1974 . . .	62.1	58.9	—	2.7	60.6	58.6	1.1	.9	1.5	45.9	73
1975 . . .	67.6	64.3	—	2.9	69.2	67.0	1.2	1.0	-1.5	44.3	66
1976 . . .	75.0	71.6	—	2.7	78.2	75.8	1.2	1.2	-3.2	41.1	57
1977 . . .	82.0	78.7	—	2.5	87.3	84.7	1.4	1.2	-5.3	35.9	47
1978 . . .	91.9	88.9	—	2.3	96.0	93.0	1.4	1.6	-4.1	31.7	37
1979 . . .	105.9	103.0	—	2.2	107.3	104.4	1.5	1.5	-1.5	30.3	30
1980 . . .	119.7	116.7	—	2.3	123.6	120.6	1.5	1.4	-3.8	26.5	25
1981 . . .	142.4	139.4	—	2.2	144.4	141.0	1.7	1.6	-1.9	24.5	18
1982 . . .	147.9	145.7	—	1.4	160.1	156.2	2.1	1.8	.2	24.8	15
1983 . . .	171.3	156.3	—	8.3	171.2	166.7	2.2	2.3	.1	24.9	14
1984 . . .	186.6	180.1	$3.0	3.4	180.4	175.7	2.3	2.4	6.2	31.1	21
1985 . . .	203.5	194.1	3.4	2.7	190.6	186.1	2.2	2.4	[7]11.1	42.2	24
1986 . . .	216.8	209.1	3.7	3.9	201.5	196.7	2.2	2.7	[7]4.7	46.9	29
1987 . . .	231.0	222.4	3.2	5.3	209.1	204.1	2.4	2.6	21.9	68.8	31
1988 . . .	263.5	251.8	3.4	8.2	222.5	217.1	2.5	2.9	41.0	109.8	41
1989 . . .	289.4	274.2	2.5	12.7	236.2	230.9	2.4	2.9	53.2	163.0	57
1990 . . .	315.4	296.1	5.0	17.2	253.1	247.8	2.3	3.0	62.3	225.3	75
1991 . . .	329.7	301.7	6.1	21.9	274.2	268.2	2.6	3.5	55.5	280.7	82
1992 . . .	342.6	311.1	6.1	25.4	291.9	286.0	2.7	3.2	50.7	331.5	96
1993 . . .	355.6	322.1	5.6	27.9	308.8	302.4	3.0	3.4	46.8	378.3	107
1994 . . .	381.1	344.7	5.3	31.1	323.0	316.8	2.7	3.5	58.1	436.4	117
1995 . . .	399.5	359.0	5.8	35.0	339.8	332.6	3.1	4.1	59.7	496.1	128
1996 . . .	424.5	378.9	6.8	38.7	353.6	347.1	3.0	3.6	70.9	567.0	140
1997 . . .	457.7	406.0	7.9	43.8	369.1	362.0	3.4	3.7	88.6	655.5	154
1998 . . .	489.2	430.2	9.7	49.3	382.3	375.0	3.5	3.8	107.0	762.5	171
1999 . . .	526.6	459.6	11.6	55.5	392.9	385.8	3.3	3.8	133.7	896.1	194
2000 . . .	568.4	492.5	12.3	64.5	415.1	407.6	3.8	3.7	153.3	1,049.4	216
2001 . . .	602.0	516.4	12.7	72.9	438.9	431.9	3.7	3.3	163.1	1,212.5	239
2002 . . .	627.1	532.5	13.8	80.4	461.7	453.8	4.2	3.6	165.4	1,378.0	263
2003 . . .	631.9	533.5	13.4	84.9	479.1	470.8	4.6	3.7	152.8	1,530.8	288
2004 . . .	657.7	553.0	15.7	89.0	501.6	493.3	4.5	3.8	156.1	1,686.8	305
2005 . . .	701.8	592.9	14.9	94.3	529.9	520.7	5.3	3.9	171.8	1,858.7	318

[1] Includes payments from the General Fund of the Treasury to the trust funds (1) beginning in 1966 and later, costs of noncontributory wage credits for military service performed before 1957; (2) in 1971-82, costs of deemed wage credits for military service performed after 1956; and (3) in 1968 and later, costs of benefits to certain uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968. Differences in past year total income and sum of individual column amounts are due to these payments. OASDI historical payments from the General Fund of the Treasury may be found on the Internet at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/STATS/t4a3Income.html.
[2] Beginning in 1983, includes transfers from the General Fund of the Treasury representing contributions that would have been paid on deemed wage credits for military service in 1957 through 2001, if such credits were considered to be covered wages.
[3] Net interest includes net profits or losses on marketable investments. Beginning in 1967, administrative expenses are charged to the trust funds on an estimated basis, with a final adjustment, including interest, made in the following fiscal year. The amounts of these interest adjustments are included in net interest. For years prior to 1967, a description of the method of accounting for administrative expenses is contained in the 1970 Annual Report. Beginning in October 1973, the figures shown include relatively small amounts of gifts to the funds. Net interest for 1983-86 reflects payments from a borrowing trust fund to a lending trust fund for interest on amounts owed under the interfund borrowing provisions. During 1983-90, interest paid from the trust funds to the general fund on advance tax transfers is reflected. The amount shown for 1985 includes an interest adjustment of $102.8 million on unnegotiated checks issued before April 1985.
[4] Beginning in 1966, includes payments for vocational rehabilitation services furnished to disabled persons receiving benefits because of their disabilities. Beginning in 1983, amounts are reduced by amount of reimbursement for unnegotiated benefit checks.
[5] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year as a percentage of expenditures during the year. For years 1984-90, assets at the beginning of a year include January advance tax transfers.
[6] Less than $50 million.
[7] Reflects offset for repayment from the OASI Trust Fund of amounts borrowed from the HI Trust Fund in 1982. The amount repaid in 1985 was $1.8 billion; in 1986, the amount was $10.6 billion.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Tables VI.A5 and VI.A6 show the total assets of the OASI Trust Fund and the DI Trust Fund, respectively, at the end of each calendar year 2004 and 2005. These assets are separated by interest rate and year of maturity. Assets grouped with multiple years of maturity are distributed evenly across those years. Bonds issued to the trust funds in 2005 had an interest rate of 4.125 percent, compared with an interest rate of 4.625 percent for bonds issued in 2004.

Table VI.A5.—Assets of the OASI Trust Fund, End of Calendar Years 2004 and 2005
[In thousands]

	December 31, 2004	December 31, 2005
Obligations sold only to the trust funds (special issues):		
Certificates of indebtedness:		
4.375 percent, 2005	$71,489,553	—
4.625 percent, 2005	9,452,489	—
4.625 percent, 2006	—	$94,140,199
Bonds:		
3.5 percent, 2006	9,513,752	—
3.5 percent, 2007-15	85,623,759	85,623,759
3.5 percent, 2016-17	19,027,504	19,027,504
3.5 percent, 2018	86,900,994	86,900,994
4.125 percent, 2007	—	10,516,947
4.125 percent, 2008-19	—	126,203,352
4.125 percent, 2020	—	106,585,700
4.625 percent, 2006	9,167,662	—
4.625 percent, 2007	9,167,662	9,167,662
4.625 percent, 2008-15	73,341,312	73,341,312
4.625 percent, 2016-18	27,502,989	27,502,989
4.625 percent, 2019	96,068,657	96,068,657
5.250 percent, 2005	6,709,768	—
5.250 percent, 2006	9,235,911	9,235,911
5.250 percent, 2007-15	83,123,208	83,123,208
5.250 percent, 2016	9,235,911	9,235,911
5.250 percent, 2017	77,387,242	77,387,242
5.625 percent, 2005	9,621,438	—
5.625 percent, 2006-11	57,728,628	57,728,628
5.625 percent, 2012-15	38,485,748	38,485,748
5.625 percent, 2016	68,151,331	68,151,331
5.875 percent, 2005	6,169,273	—
5.875 percent, 2006-12	43,184,911	43,184,911
5.875 percent, 2013	43,258,869	43,258,869
6 percent, 2005	6,693,627	—
6 percent, 2006-11	40,161,762	40,161,762
6 percent, 2012-13	13,387,256	13,387,256
6 percent, 2014	49,952,497	49,952,497
6.25 percent, 2005	3,150,975	—
6.25 percent, 2006	3,150,975	3,150,975
6.25 percent, 2007	3,150,974	3,150,974
6.25 percent, 2008	23,350,034	23,350,034
6.5 percent, 2005	11,008,650	—
6.5 percent, 2006-09	44,034,600	44,034,600
6.5 percent, 2010	38,320,240	38,320,240
6.5 percent, 2011-14	34,309,584	34,309,584
6.5 percent, 2015	58,529,893	58,529,893
6.875 percent, 2005	3,975,271	—
6.875 percent, 2006-09	15,901,084	15,901,084
6.875 percent, 2010-11	7,950,544	7,950,544
6.875 percent, 2012	37,089,596	37,089,596
7 percent, 2005	3,371,480	—
7 percent, 2006-10	16,857,400	16,857,400
7 percent, 2011	33,114,324	33,114,324
7.25 percent, 2005	3,961,556	—
7.25 percent, 2006	3,961,556	3,961,556
7.25 percent, 2007-08	7,923,114	7,923,114
7.25 percent, 2009	27,311,591	27,311,591
7.375 percent, 2005	3,575,474	—
7.375 percent, 2006	3,575,474	3,575,474
7.375 percent, 2007	20,199,060	20,199,060
8.125 percent, 2005	3,611,348	—
8.125 percent, 2006	16,623,586	16,623,586
8.75 percent, 2005	13,012,238	—
Total investments	1,500,764,334	1,663,725,978
Undisbursed balances[1]	-142,184	-688,652
Total assets	1,500,622,150	1,663,037,326

[1] Negative figures represent an extension of credit against securities to be redeemed within the following few days.

Note: Special issues are always purchased at par value. Therefore, book value and par value are the same for each special issue, and the common value is shown above. Where the maturity years are grouped, the amount maturing in each year is the amount shown divided by the number of years.

Table VI.A6.—Assets of the DI Trust Fund, End of Calendar Years 2004 and 2005
[In thousands]

	December 31, 2004	December 31, 2005
Investments in public-debt obligations:		
Obligations sold only to the trust funds (special issues):		
Certificates of indebtedness:		
4.375 percent, 2005	$8,525,861	—
4.625 percent, 2006	—	$8,339,100
Bonds:		
3.5 percent, 2006	1,115,128	—
3.5 percent, 2007-11	5,575,640	5,575,640
3.5 percent, 2012-15	4,460,508	4,460,508
3.5 percent, 2016-17	2,230,256	2,230,256
3.5 percent, 2018	11,378,384	11,378,384
4.125 percent, 2007-11	—	3,386,930
4.125 percent, 2012-17	—	4,064,310
4.125 percent, 2018-19	—	1,354,772
4.125 percent, 2020	—	12,911,283
4.625 percent, 2006	855,496	—
4.625 percent, 2007-08	1,710,992	1,710,992
4.625 percent, 2009-11	2,566,491	2,566,491
4.625 percent, 2012-15	3,421,992	3,421,992
4.625 percent, 2016-18	2,566,491	2,566,491
4.625 percent, 2019	12,233,881	12,233,881
5.250 percent, 2006	1,363,408	—
5.250 percent, 2007-11	6,817,035	6,817,035
5.250 percent, 2012-16	6,817,040	6,817,040
5.250 percent, 2017	10,263,256	10,263,256
5.625 percent, 2006	1,524,967	—
5.625 percent, 2007-13	10,674,776	10,674,776
5.625 percent, 2014-15	3,049,934	3,049,934
5.625 percent, 2016	8,899,848	8,899,848
5.875 percent, 2006	916,286	159,252
5.875 percent, 2007-12	5,497,716	5,497,716
5.875 percent, 2013	5,361,805	5,361,805
6 percent, 2005	627,727	—
6 percent, 2006	695,965	695,965
6 percent, 2007-12	4,175,796	4,175,796
6 percent, 2013	695,967	695,967
6 percent, 2014	6,057,772	6,057,772
6.5 percent, 2005	3,464,768	—
6.5 percent, 2006	3,464,768	3,464,768
6.5 percent, 2007	3,464,767	3,464,767
6.5 percent, 2008	4,381,228	4,381,228
6.5 percent, 2009-13	6,585,540	6,585,540
6.5 percent, 2014	1,317,109	1,317,109
6.5 percent, 2015	7,374,881	7,374,881
6.875 percent, 2005	265,250	—
6.875 percent, 2006-07	530,500	530,500
6.875 percent, 2008-09	530,498	530,498
6.875 percent, 2010-12	13,336,560	13,336,560
7 percent, 2005	1,116,151	—
7 percent, 2006-08	3,348,453	3,348,453
7 percent, 2009	4,180,271	4,180,271
7.375 percent, 2005	47,601	—
7.375 percent, 2006	47,601	47,601
7.375 percent, 2007	916,460	916,460
8.125 percent, 2005	150,161	—
8.125 percent, 2006	868,859	868,859
8.75 percent, 2005	718,698	—
Total obligations sold only to the trust funds (special issues)	186,190,542	195,714,687

Table VI.A6.—Assets of the DI Trust Fund, End of Calendar Years 2004 and 2005 (Cont.)

[In thousands]

	December 31, 2004	December 31, 2005
Public issues:		
Treasury bond:		
11.75 percent, 2010	$30,250	—
Total investments in public issues at par value, as shown above	30,250	—
Unamortized premium or discount, net	-106	—
Total investments in public issues at book value	30,144	—
Total investments in public-debt obligations (book value [1])	186,220,686	$195,714,687
Undisbursed balances[2]	-3,381	-91,890
Total assets (book value [1])	186,217,305	195,622,797

[1] Par value, plus unamortized premium or less discount outstanding.

[2] Negative figures represent an extension of credit against securities to be redeemed within the following few days.

Note: Special issues are always purchased at par value. Therefore, book value and par value are the same for each special issue, and the common value is shown above. Where the maturity years are grouped for special issues, the amount maturing in each year is the amount shown divided by the number of years.

B. HISTORY OF ACTUARIAL BALANCE ESTIMATES

This appendix chronicles the history of the principal summary measure of long-range actuarial status, namely the actuarial balance, since 1983. The 1983 report was the last report for which the actuarial balance was positive. Actuarial balance is defined in detail in section IV.B.4 Summarized Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances. Conceptually, the two basic components of actuarial balance are the summarized income rate and the summarized cost rate. Both rates are expressed as percentages of taxable payroll. For any given period, the actuarial balance is the difference between the present value of tax income for the period, and the present value of the cost for the period, each divided by the present value of taxable payroll for all years in the period. Also included in the calculation of the actuarial balance are:

- The amount of the trust fund balances on hand at the beginning of the valuation period, as shown in the reports for 1988 and later, and
- The present value of a target trust fund balance equal to 100 percent of the amount of annual cost to be reached and maintained by the end of the valuation period, as shown in the reports for 1991 and later.

It should be noted that the current method of calculating the actuarial balance based on present values, though used prior to the 1973 Annual Report, was not used for the annual reports of 1973-87. Instead, a simpler method that approximates the results of the present-value approach, called the average-cost method, was used during that period. Under the average-cost method, the sum of the annual cost rates (which are expressed as percentages of taxable payroll) over the 75-year projection period was divided by the total number of years, 75, to obtain the average cost rate per year. The average income rate was similarly calculated, and the difference between the average income rate and the average cost rate was called the actuarial balance.

In 1973, when the average-cost method was first used, the long-range financing of the program was more nearly on a pay-as-you-go basis. Also, based on the long-range demographic and economic assumptions then being used, the annual rate of growth in taxable payroll was about the same as the annual rate at which the trust funds earned interest. In either situation (i.e., pay-as-you-go financing, where the annual income rate is the same as the annual cost rate, or an annual rate of growth in taxable payroll equal to the annual interest rate), the average-cost method produces the same result as the present-value method. However, by 1988, neither of these situations still existed.

As a result of legislation enacted in 1977 and in 1983, substantial increases in the trust funds were estimated to occur well into the 21st century, so that the program was partially advance funded, rather than being funded on a pay-as-you-go basis. Also, because of reductions in long-range fertility rates and average real-wage growth that were assumed in the annual reports over the period 1973-87, the annual rate of growth in taxable earnings assumed for the long range became significantly lower than the assumed interest rate. Therefore, during the period 1973-87, the results of the average-cost method and the present-value method began to diverge, and by 1988 they were quite different. While the average-cost method still accounted for most of the effects of the assumed interest rate, it no longer accounted for all of the interest effects. The present-value method, of course, does account for the full effect of the assumed interest rates. So, in 1988, the present-value method of calculating the actuarial balance was reintroduced.

A positive actuarial balance indicates that estimated income is more than sufficient to meet estimated trust fund obligations for the period as a whole. A negative actuarial balance indicates that estimated income is insufficient to meet estimated trust fund obligations for the entire period. An actuarial balance of zero indicates that the estimated income exactly matches estimated trust fund obligations for the period.

Table VI.B1 shows the estimated OASDI actuarial balances, as well as the summarized income and cost rates, for the annual reports 1982-2005, along with the estimates for the current report. The values shown are based on the alternative II assumptions, or alternative II-B for years prior to 1991.

Table VI.B1.—Long-Range OASDI Actuarial Balances [1] as Shown in the Trustees Reports for 1982-2006
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Year of report	Summarized income rate	Summarized cost rate	Actuarial balance	Change from previous year
1982	12.27	14.09	-1.82	2/
1983	12.87	12.84	+.02	+1.84
1984	12.90	12.95	-.06	-.08
1985	12.94	13.35	-.41	-.35
1986	12.96	13.40	-.44	-.03
1987	12.89	13.51	-.62	-.18
1988	12.94	13.52	-.58	+.04
1989	13.02	13.72	-.70	-.13
1990	13.04	13.95	-.91	-.21
1991	13.11	14.19	-1.08	-.17
1992	13.16	14.63	-1.46	-.38
1993	13.21	14.67	-1.46	2/
1994	13.24	15.37	-2.13	-.66
1995	13.27	15.44	-2.17	-.04
1996	13.33	15.52	-2.19	-.02
1997	13.37	15.60	-2.23	-.03
1998	13.45	15.64	-2.19	+.04
1999	13.49	15.56	-2.07	+.12
2000	13.51	15.40	-1.89	+.17
2001	13.58	15.44	-1.86	+.03
2002	13.72	15.59	-1.87	-.01
2003	13.78	15.70	-1.92	-.04
2004	13.84	15.73	-1.89	+.03
2005	13.87	15.79	-1.92	-.04
2006	13.88	15.90	-2.02	-.09

[1] Values shown are based on the alternative II assumptions for 1991-2006, and on the alternative II-B assumptions for 1982-90.
[2] Between -0.005 and 0.005 percent of taxable payroll.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

For several of the years included in the table, significant legislative changes or definitional changes affected the estimated actuarial balance. The Social Security Amendments of 1983 accounted for the largest single change in recent history. The actuarial balance of -1.82 for the 1982 report improved to +0.02 for the 1983 report. In 1985, the estimated actuarial balance changed largely because of an adjustment made to the method for estimating the age distribution of immigrants.

Rebenchmarking of the National Income and Product Accounts and changes in demographic assumptions contributed to the change in the actuarial balance for 1987. Various changes in assumptions and methods for the 1988 report had roughly offsetting effects on the actuarial balance. In 1989 and 1990, changes in economic assumptions accounted for most of the changes in the estimated actuarial balance.

In 1991, the effect of legislation, changes in economic assumptions, and the introduction of the cost of reaching and maintaining an ending trust fund target combined to produce the change in the actuarial balance. In 1992, changes in disability assumptions and the method for projecting average benefit levels accounted for most of the change in the actuarial balance. In 1993, numerous small changes in assumptions and methods had offsetting effects on the actuarial balance. In 1994, changes in the real-wage assumptions, disability rates, and the earnings sample used for projecting average benefit levels accounted for most of the change in the actuarial balance. In 1995, numerous small changes had largely offsetting effects on the actuarial balance, including a substantial reallocation of the payroll tax rate, which reduced the OASI actuarial balance, but increased the DI actuarial balance.

In 1996, a change in the method of projecting dually-entitled beneficiaries produced a large increase in the actuarial balance, which almost totally offset decreases produced by changes in the valuation period and in the demographic and economic assumptions. Various changes in assumptions and methods for the 1997 report had roughly offsetting effects on the actuarial balance. In 1998, increases caused by changes in the economic assumptions, although partially offset by decreases produced by changes in the valuation period and in the demographic assumptions, accounted for most of the changes in the estimated actuarial balance. In 1999, increases caused by changes in the economic assumptions (related to improvements in the CPI by the Bureau of Labor Statistics) accounted for most of the changes in the estimated actuarial balance. For the 2000 report, changes in the actuarial balance resulted from changes in economic assumptions and methodology; however, these increases in the balance were partially offset by reductions caused by the change in valuation period and changes in demographic assumptions.

For the 2001 report, increases caused by changes in the demographic starting values, although partially offset by a decrease produced by the change in the valuation period, accounted for most of the changes in the estimated actuarial balance. For the 2002 report, the changes in the valuation period and the demographic assumptions—both decreases in the actuarial balance—were offset by changes in the economic assumptions, while the increase due to disability assumptions was slightly more than offset by the decrease due to changes in the projection methods and data. For the 2003 report, the increase due to the change in program assumptions was more than offset by decreases due to the change in valuation period and changes in demographic assumptions. For the 2004 report, increases due to changing the method of projecting benefit levels for higher earners more than offset decreases in the actuarial balance arising from the change in the valuation period and the net

effect of other changes in programmatic data and methods. For the 2005 report, the increase due to changing the method of projecting future average benefit levels was more than offset by decreases due to changes in the valuation period, updated starting values for the economic assumptions, and other methodological changes.

Changes affecting the actuarial balance shown for the 2006 report are described in section IV.B.7 Reasons for Change in Actuarial Balance From Last Report.

C. FISCAL YEAR HISTORICAL DATA AND PROJECTIONS THROUGH 2015

Tables VI.C1, VI.C2, and VI.C3 present detailed operations of the OASI, DI, and the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, respectively, for fiscal year 2005, the most recent fiscal year for which complete actual information is available. These tables are similar to the calendar year operations tables in section III.A. Please see that section for a description of the various items of income and outgo.

Table VI.C1.—Operations of the OASI Trust Fund, Fiscal Year 2005
[In millions]

Total assets, September 30, 2004		$1,452,550
Receipts:		
Contributions:		
Employment taxes	$505,212	
Payments from the General Fund of the Treasury for contributions subject to refund	-2,213	
Net contributions		502,998
Income based on taxation of benefit payments:		
Withheld from benefit payments to nonresident aliens	146	
All other, not subject to withholding	15,186	
Total income from taxation of benefits		15,332
Reimbursement from the general fund for costs of payments to uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968		1/
Investment income and interest adjustments:		
Interest on investments	81,708	
Interest adjustments[2]	-46	
Net investment income and interest adjustments		81,662
Gifts		1/
Total receipts		599,992
Disbursements:		
Benefit payments:		
Gross benefit payments	431,469	
Offset for collected overpayments	-1,041	
Reimbursement from the general fund for unnegotiated checks	-48	
Net benefit payments		430,381
Transfer to the Railroad Retirement "Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account"		3,579
Payment for costs of vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries		58
Administrative expenses:		
Costs incurred by:		
Social Security Administration	2,348	
Department of the Treasury	566	
Offsetting receipts from sales of supplies, materials, etc.	-5	
Miscellaneous reimbursements from the general fund [3]	-8	
Net administrative expenses		2,900
Total disbursements		436,919
Net increase in assets		163,073
Total assets, September 30, 2005		1,615,623

[1] Less than $500,000.
[2] Includes (1) interest on transfers between the trust fund and the general fund account for the Supplemental Security Income program due to adjustments in the allocation of administrative expenses, (2) interest arising from the revised allocation of administrative expenses among the trust funds, (3) interest on certain reimbursements to the trust fund, and (4) interest on a transfer to the DI Trust Fund for the cost of vocational rehabilitation services that had been erroneously charged to that fund.
[3] Reimbursements for costs incurred in performing certain legislatively mandated activities not directly related to administering the OASI program.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.C2.—Operations of the DI Trust Fund, Fiscal Year 2005
[In millions]

Total assets, September 30, 2004		$182,893
Receipts:		
Contributions:		
Employment taxes	$85,790	
Payments from the General Fund of the Treasury for contributions subject to refund	-372	
Net contributions		85,418
Income based on taxation of benefit payments:		
Withheld from benefit payments to nonresident aliens	5	
All other, not subject to withholding	1,159	
Total income from taxation of benefits		1,164
Investment income and interest adjustments:		
Interest on investments	10,128	
Interest adjustments[1]	55	
Total investment income and interest adjustments		10,183
Total receipts		96,765
Disbursements:		
Benefit payments:		
Gross benefit payments	84,293	
Offset for collected overpayments	-539	
Reimbursement from the general fund for unnegotiated checks	-21	
Net benefit payments		83,733
Transfer to the Railroad Retirement "Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account"		338
Payment for costs of vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries		-12
Administrative expenses:		
Costs incurred by:		
Social Security Administration	2,204	
Department of the Treasury	99	
Miscellaneous reimbursements from the general fund[2]	-2	
Net administrative expenses		2,301
Total disbursements		86,360
Net increase in assets		10,405
Total assets, September 30, 2005		193,298

[1] Includes (1) interest on transfers between the trust fund and the general fund account for the Supplemental Security Income program due to adjustments in the allocation of administrative expenses, (2) interest arising from the revised allocation of administrative expenses among the trust funds, (3) interest on certain reimbursements to the trust fund, and (4) interest on a transfer to the DI Trust Fund for the cost of vocational rehabilitation services that had been erroneously charged to that fund.

[2] Reimbursements for costs incurred in performing certain legislatively mandated activities not directly related to administering the DI program.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.C3.—Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, Fiscal Year 2005
[In millions]

Total assets, September 30, 2004		$1,635,443
Receipts:		
Contributions:		
Employment taxes	$591,002	
Payments from the General Fund of the Treasury for contributions subject to refund	-2,585	
Net contributions		588,417
Income based on taxation of benefit payments:		
Withheld from benefit payments to nonresident aliens	150	
All other, not subject to withholding	16,345	
Total income from taxation of benefits		16,495
Reimbursement from the general fund for costs of payments to uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968		1/
Investment income and interest adjustments:		
Interest on investments	91,837	
Interest adjustments[2]	9	
Total investment income and interest adjustments		91,845
Gifts		1/
Total receipts		696,757
Disbursements:		
Benefit payments:		
Gross benefit payments	515,762	
Offset for collected overpayments	-1,580	
Reimbursement from the general fund for unnegotiated checks	-68	
Net benefit payments		514,114
Transfer to the Railroad Retirement "Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account"		3,917
Payment for costs of vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries		47
Administrative expenses:		
Costs incurred by:		
Social Security Administration	4,553	
Department of the Treasury	665	
Offsetting receipts from sales of supplies, materials, etc.	-5	
Miscellaneous reimbursements from the general fund[3]	-11	
Net administrative expenses		5,201
Total disbursements		523,279
Net increase in assets		173,478
Total assets, September 30, 2005		1,808,922

[1] Less than $500,000.
[2] Includes (1) interest on transfers between the trust funds and the general fund account for the Supplemental Security Income program due to adjustments in the allocation of administrative expenses, (2) interest arising from the revised allocation of administrative expenses among the trust funds, and (3) interest on certain reimbursements to the trust funds.
[3] Reimbursements for costs incurred in performing certain legislatively mandated activities not directly related to administering the OASI and DI programs.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Estimates of the operations and status of the OASI, DI and the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds during fiscal years (12 months ending on September 30) 2001-15 are presented in tables VI.C4, VI.C5 and VI.C6, respectively.

Table VI.C4.—Operations of the OASI Trust Fund in Fiscal Years 2001-15
[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Cost				Assets		
Fiscal year	Total[1]	Net contributions	Taxation of benefits	Net interest	Total	Benefit payments	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust fund ratio[2]
Historical data:											
2001 . .	$513.8	$440.8	$11.8	$61.2	$373.0	$367.7	$2.1	$3.3	$140.8	$1,033.8	239
2002 . .	529.3	448.1	12.6	68.1	389.5	383.9	2.1	3.5	139.7	1,173.6	265
2003 . .	542.3	456.0	12.3	74.0	402.8	396.7	2.5	3.6	139.5	1,313.1	291
2004 . .	556.5	466.8	13.3	76.4	417.1	411.2	2.3	3.6	139.5	1,452.6	315
2005 . .	600.0	503.0	15.3	81.7	436.9	430.4	2.9	3.6	163.1	1,615.6	332
Intermediate:											
2006 . .	629.8	528.1	15.2	86.9	461.5	455.1	3.0	3.5	168.3	1,783.9	350
2007 . .	660.4	549.2	16.9	94.3	483.8	477.3	3.0	3.5	176.6	1,960.5	369
2008 . .	706.0	583.2	19.6	103.3	506.7	500.1	3.0	3.6	199.4	2,159.9	387
2009 . .	747.7	612.0	20.2	115.5	534.7	528.2	3.0	3.6	213.0	2,372.9	404
2010 . .	796.8	646.4	21.8	128.7	567.2	560.6	3.0	3.7	229.6	2,602.5	418
2011 . .	848.1	680.0	25.2	142.9	602.4	596.0	3.0	3.4	245.7	2,848.2	432
2012 . .	895.9	709.8	28.3	157.8	642.4	635.5	3.0	3.9	253.5	3,101.7	443
2013 . .	944.6	740.6	31.4	172.6	687.4	680.3	3.1	4.0	257.2	3,358.9	451
2014 . .	993.7	771.7	34.0	188.0	736.5	729.3	3.1	4.2	257.1	3,616.0	456
2015 . .	1,044.1	804.1	36.6	203.4	789.0	781.5	3.2	4.3	255.2	3,871.2	458
Low Cost:											
2006 . .	630.1	528.4	15.1	86.9	461.4	454.9	3.0	3.5	168.7	1,784.3	350
2007 . .	662.7	552.1	16.8	93.8	482.8	476.2	3.0	3.5	179.9	1,964.2	370
2008 . .	704.9	583.8	19.5	101.7	503.8	497.3	3.0	3.6	201.1	2,165.3	390
2009 . .	744.8	612.1	20.0	112.7	527.6	521.1	2.9	3.6	217.1	2,382.5	410
2010 . .	791.6	645.3	21.3	125.0	554.0	547.5	2.9	3.6	237.7	2,620.1	430
2011 . .	841.0	678.2	24.3	138.5	582.2	575.9	2.9	3.3	258.9	2,879.0	450
2012 . .	888.3	707.6	27.1	153.7	614.2	607.5	3.0	3.7	274.1	3,153.1	469
2013 . .	937.5	738.4	29.7	169.4	650.4	643.7	3.0	3.7	287.1	3,440.2	485
2014 . .	986.5	769.3	31.9	185.4	690.0	683.1	3.0	3.8	296.6	3,736.7	499
2015 . .	1,035.2	799.7	33.9	201.5	731.9	724.9	3.1	4.0	303.3	4,040.0	511
High Cost:											
2006 . .	625.6	524.2	15.2	86.6	461.6	455.1	3.0	3.5	164.1	1,779.7	350
2007 . .	636.4	528.5	16.9	91.0	486.3	479.8	3.0	3.5	150.1	1,929.8	366
2008 . .	686.4	566.2	19.8	100.4	511.7	505.1	3.0	3.6	174.7	2,104.5	377
2009 . .	724.9	592.2	20.5	112.2	541.8	535.2	2.9	3.7	183.1	2,287.6	388
2010 . .	772.1	624.9	22.4	124.9	583.0	576.2	3.0	3.8	189.1	2,476.8	392
2011 . .	855.1	678.6	26.6	149.9	636.0	629.3	3.1	3.6	219.1	2,695.8	389
2012 . .	923.3	719.4	30.6	173.3	695.4	687.9	3.2	4.2	227.9	2,923.7	388
2013 . .	981.9	757.4	34.6	190.0	757.6	749.8	3.3	4.5	224.3	3,148.0	386
2014 . .	1,035.2	795.0	37.9	202.4	820.9	812.7	3.4	4.8	214.3	3,362.4	383
2015 . .	1,088.3	832.8	41.1	214.4	886.8	878.3	3.4	5.1	201.5	3,563.9	379

[1] "Total Income" column includes transfers made between the OASI Trust Fund and the General Fund of the Treasury that are not included in the separate components of income shown. Transfers for the cost of pre-1957 military service noncontributory wage credits were: (1) $414 million from the General Fund of the Treasury to the OASI Trust Fund in February 2002, and (2) $350 million from the trust fund to the general fund in December 2005. Such transfers are estimated to be less than $500,000 in each year after fiscal year 2006.

[2] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year (which are identical to assets at the end of the prior year shown in the "Amount at end of year" column) as a percentage of cost for the year.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.C5.—Operations of the DI Trust Fund in Fiscal Years 2001-15
[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Cost				Assets		
Fiscal year	Total[1]	Net contributions	Taxation of benefits	Net interest	Total	Benefit payments	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust fund ratio[2]
Historical data:											
2001 . .	$82.1	$74.6	$0.7	$7.6	$59.9	$58.2	$1.8	3/	$22.1	$135.9	190
2002 . .	85.7	76.1	.9	8.7	66.4	64.2	2.0	$0.2	19.4	155.3	205
2003 . .	87.9	77.4	.9	9.6	71.9	69.8	2.0	.2	16.0	171.3	216
2004 . .	90.1	79.3	1.0	9.8	78.5	76.2	2.1	.2	11.6	182.9	218
2005 . .	96.8	85.4	1.2	10.2	86.4	83.7	2.3	.3	10.4	193.3	212
Intermediate:											
2006 . .	101.2	89.7	1.2	10.3	94.0	91.4	2.3	.3	7.2	200.5	206
2007 . .	105.1	93.2	1.4	10.5	100.4	97.6	2.5	.3	4.7	205.2	200
2008 . .	111.4	99.0	1.7	10.7	105.9	103.1	2.4	.4	5.4	210.7	194
2009 . .	116.7	103.9	1.7	11.0	112.0	108.9	2.6	.4	4.7	215.4	188
2010 . .	123.0	109.8	1.9	11.3	119.2	116.0	2.8	.4	3.8	219.2	181
2011 . .	129.3	115.5	2.3	11.6	125.2	121.8	3.0	.5	4.1	223.3	175
2012 . .	134.9	120.5	2.6	11.8	133.1	129.4	3.1	.5	1.9	225.1	168
2013 . .	140.6	125.8	2.9	11.9	140.7	136.8	3.3	.5	3/	225.1	160
2014 . .	146.1	131.0	3.2	11.9	148.4	144.4	3.5	.5	-2.2	222.9	152
2015 . .	151.8	136.6	3.4	11.8	156.7	152.5	3.7	.5	-4.9	217.9	142
Low Cost:											
2006 . .	101.3	89.7	1.2	10.3	93.0	90.3	2.3	.3	8.3	201.6	208
2007 . .	105.6	93.7	1.3	10.6	97.5	94.7	2.5	.3	8.1	209.7	207
2008 . .	111.6	99.1	1.6	10.9	101.1	98.3	2.4	.4	10.5	220.2	207
2009 . .	117.0	103.9	1.6	11.4	104.6	101.6	2.6	.4	12.4	232.6	210
2010 . .	123.5	109.6	1.8	12.1	108.7	105.5	2.8	.4	14.8	247.3	214
2011 . .	130.1	115.2	2.0	13.0	111.6	108.3	2.9	.4	18.5	265.8	222
2012 . .	136.5	120.2	2.3	14.1	115.9	112.4	3.1	.5	20.6	286.4	229
2013 . .	143.1	125.4	2.5	15.2	119.9	116.2	3.2	.5	23.2	309.6	239
2014 . .	149.8	130.6	2.6	16.6	123.9	120.1	3.4	.5	25.9	335.5	250
2015 . .	156.5	135.8	2.8	18.0	128.4	124.4	3.6	.4	28.2	363.7	261
High Cost:											
2006 . .	100.6	89.0	1.2	10.3	96.1	93.5	2.3	.3	4.5	197.8	201
2007 . .	101.2	89.7	1.5	10.0	105.7	102.9	2.5	.4	-4.4	193.3	187
2008 . .	107.7	96.2	1.8	9.8	113.9	111.0	2.4	.4	-6.2	187.1	170
2009 . .	111.9	100.6	1.9	9.4	122.6	119.5	2.6	.4	-10.7	176.5	153
2010 . .	117.0	106.1	2.2	8.7	134.1	130.8	2.8	.5	-17.1	159.4	132
2011 . .	125.7	115.2	2.6	7.9	146.3	142.7	3.1	.5	-20.5	138.8	109
2012 . .	132.0	122.2	3.2	6.7	160.9	157.0	3.3	.5	-28.8	110.0	86
2013 . .	137.3	128.6	3.7	5.0	174.4	170.3	3.5	.6	-37.1	72.9	63
2014 . .	142.4	135.0	4.0	3.4	187.3	183.0	3.7	.6	-44.9	28.0	39
2015 . .	4/	141.4	4.4	4/	201.0	196.5	4.0	.6	4/	4/	14

[1] "Total Income" column includes transfers made between the DI Trust Fund and the General Fund of the Treasury that are not included in the separate components of income shown. In particular, a transfer is expected to be made in December 2006 in the amount of $7.3 million from the General Fund of the Treasury to the DI Trust Fund. Such transfers are estimated to be less than $500,000 in each year after fiscal year 2007.
[2] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year (which are identical to assets at the end of the prior year shown in the "Amount at end of year" column) as a percentage of cost for the year.
[3] Between -$50 million and $50 million.
[4] Under the high cost assumptions, the DI Trust Fund is projected to be exhausted in 2015. Therefore, certain trust fund operation values for that year are not meaningful under present law and are not shown in this table.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.C6.—Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds in Fiscal Years 2001-15

[Amounts in billions]

	Income				Cost				Assets		
Fiscal year	Total[1]	Net contributions	Taxation of benefits	Net interest	Total	Benefit payments	Administrative costs	RRB interchange	Net increase during year	Amount at end of year	Trust fund ratio[2]
Historical data:											
2001..	$595.9	$515.4	$12.5	$68.8	$432.9	$425.8	$3.8	$3.3	$163.0	$1,169.7	233
2002..	615.0	524.2	13.5	76.8	455.9	448.1	4.1	3.6	159.1	1,328.8	257
2003..	630.3	533.4	13.3	83.5	474.7	466.5	4.5	3.7	155.5	1,484.3	280
2004..	646.6	546.1	14.3	86.2	495.5	487.3	4.3	3.8	151.1	1,635.4	300
2005..	696.8	588.4	16.5	91.8	523.3	514.2	5.2	3.9	173.5	1,808.9	313
Intermediate:											
2006..	731.0	617.8	16.4	97.3	555.5	546.4	5.3	3.8	175.5	1,984.4	326
2007..	765.5	642.5	18.2	104.8	584.3	574.9	5.5	3.9	181.3	2,165.7	340
2008..	817.4	682.2	21.2	114.0	612.6	603.3	5.4	3.9	204.8	2,370.5	354
2009..	864.4	715.9	22.0	126.6	646.7	637.1	5.6	4.0	217.8	2,588.3	367
2010..	919.8	756.1	23.7	140.0	686.5	676.6	5.8	4.1	233.4	2,821.7	377
2011..	977.4	795.5	27.4	154.5	727.6	717.8	6.0	3.9	249.7	3,071.4	388
2012..	1,030.8	830.3	30.9	169.6	775.4	764.9	6.2	4.4	255.4	3,326.8	396
2013..	1,085.2	866.4	34.3	184.5	828.0	817.1	6.4	4.5	257.2	3,584.0	402
2014..	1,139.8	902.7	37.2	199.9	884.9	873.6	6.6	4.7	254.9	3,838.9	405
2015..	1,195.9	940.7	40.0	215.3	945.7	934.0	6.9	4.8	250.2	4,089.1	406
Low Cost:											
2006..	731.3	618.2	16.4	97.2	554.3	545.2	5.3	3.8	177.0	1,985.9	326
2007..	768.3	645.8	18.2	104.3	580.3	570.9	5.5	3.9	188.0	2,174.0	342
2008..	816.5	683.0	21.0	112.5	605.0	595.6	5.4	3.9	211.6	2,385.5	359
2009..	861.8	716.0	21.6	124.1	632.3	622.7	5.5	4.0	229.5	2,615.0	377
2010..	915.1	754.9	23.0	137.1	662.7	653.0	5.7	4.0	252.4	2,867.4	395
2011..	971.2	793.4	26.3	151.5	693.8	684.2	5.9	3.8	277.4	3,144.8	413
2012..	1,024.8	827.7	29.3	167.7	730.1	719.9	6.0	4.1	294.7	3,439.5	431
2013..	1,080.6	863.8	32.2	184.7	770.4	759.9	6.2	4.2	310.3	3,749.8	446
2014..	1,136.4	899.9	34.5	202.0	813.9	803.2	6.4	4.3	322.5	4,072.3	461
2015..	1,191.8	935.5	36.7	219.5	860.3	849.3	6.6	4.4	331.4	4,403.7	473
High Cost:											
2006..	726.2	613.2	16.4	96.9	557.7	548.6	5.3	3.8	168.5	1,977.4	324
2007..	737.7	618.3	18.4	101.0	592.0	582.6	5.5	3.9	145.7	2,123.1	334
2008..	794.1	662.4	21.5	110.2	625.5	616.1	5.4	4.0	168.6	2,291.7	339
2009..	836.8	692.8	22.4	121.5	664.3	654.7	5.5	4.1	172.4	2,464.1	345
2010..	889.2	731.0	24.6	133.6	717.1	707.0	5.8	4.2	172.0	2,636.1	344
2011..	980.8	793.8	29.2	157.7	782.3	771.9	6.2	4.1	198.5	2,834.7	337
2012..	1,055.3	841.5	33.8	180.0	856.2	844.9	6.6	4.7	199.1	3,033.7	331
2013..	1,119.2	886.0	38.2	195.0	932.0	920.1	6.8	5.1	187.2	3,220.9	326
2014..	1,177.6	930.0	41.9	205.7	1,008.2	995.7	7.1	5.4	169.4	3,390.3	319
2015..	1,235.1	974.2	45.5	215.4	1,087.8	1,074.7	7.4	5.7	147.3	3,537.7	312

[1] "Total Income" column includes transfers made between the OASI and DI Trust Funds and the General Fund of the Treasury that are not included in the separate components of income shown. These transfers consist of payments for (1) the cost of noncontributory wage credits for military service before 1957, and (2) the cost of benefits to certain uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968.

[2] The "Trust fund ratio" column represents assets at the beginning of a year (which are identical to assets at the end of the prior year shown in the "Amount at end of year" column) as a percentage of cost for the year.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

D. LONG-RANGE SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

This appendix presents estimates which illustrate the sensitivity of the long-range actuarial status of the OASDI program to changes in selected individual assumptions. The estimates based on the three alternative sets of assumptions (see sections IV.B, V.A, V.B, and V.C) illustrate the effects of varying all of the principal assumptions simultaneously in order to portray a generally more optimistic or pessimistic future, in terms of the financial status of the OASDI program. In the sensitivity analysis presented in this appendix, the intermediate alternative II projection is used as the reference point, and one assumption at a time is varied within that alternative. The variation used for each individual assumption reflects the levels used for that assumption in the low cost alternative I and high cost alternative III projections. Similar variations in the selected assumptions within the other alternatives would result in similar relative variations in the long-range estimates.

Each table in this section shows the effects of changing a particular assumption on the OASDI summarized income rates, summarized cost rates, and actuarial balances for 25-year, 50-year, and 75-year valuation periods. Because the annual payroll tax rate is constant for the entire 75-year valuation period, the income rate varies only slightly with changes in assumptions and, therefore, is not considered in the discussion of the tables. The change in each of the actuarial balances is approximately equal to the change in the corresponding cost rate, but in the opposite direction.

1. Total Fertility Rate

Table VI.D1 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, on the basis of alternative II with various assumptions about the ultimate total fertility rate. These assumptions are that the ultimate total fertility rate will be 1.7, 2.0, and 2.3 children per woman as assumed for alternatives III, II, and I, respectively. The rate is assumed to change gradually from its current level and to reach the various ultimate values in 2030.

Table VI.D1.—Sensitivity to Varying Fertility Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Ultimate total fertility rate[1,2]		
	1.7	2.0	2.3
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.61	14.62	14.62
50-year: 2006-55	14.06	14.05	14.04
75-year: 2006-80	13.92	13.88	13.84
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	13.93	13.96	13.99
50-year: 2006-55	15.42	15.31	15.22
75-year: 2006-80	16.31	15.90	15.51
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.68	+.66	+.63
50-year: 2006-55	-1.36	-1.26	-1.18
75-year: 2006-80	-2.38	-2.02	-1.67
Annual balance for 2080	-7.88	-5.38	-3.37
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2040	2040	2040

[1] The total fertility rate for any year is the average number of children who would be born to a woman in her lifetime if she were to experience the birth rates by age observed in, or assumed for, the selected year, and if she were to survive the entire childbearing period. The ultimate total fertility rate is assumed to be reached in 2030.
[2] Ultimate total fertility rates used for this analysis are 1.7 from the alternative III assumptions, 2.0 from the alternative II assumptions, and 2.3 from the alternative I assumptions. All other assumptions used for this analysis are from alternative II.

For the 25-year period, the cost rate for the three fertility assumptions varies by only about 0.06 percent of taxable payroll. In contrast, the 75-year cost rate varies over a wide range, decreasing from 16.31 to 15.51 percent, as the assumed ultimate total fertility rate increases from 1.7 to 2.3. Similarly, while the 25-year actuarial balance varies by only 0.05 percent of taxable payroll, the 75-year actuarial balance varies over a much wider range, from -2.38 to -1.67 percent.

During the 25-year period, the very slight increases in the working population resulting from increases in fertility are more than offset by decreases in the female labor force and increases in the number of child beneficiaries. Hence, the program cost slightly increases with higher fertility. For the 75-year long-range period, however, changes in fertility have a relatively greater impact on the labor force than on the beneficiary population. As a result, an increase in fertility significantly reduces the cost rate. Each increase of 0.1 in the ultimate total fertility rate increases the long-range actuarial balance by about 0.12 percent of taxable payroll.

2. Death Rates

Table VI.D2 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, on the basis of alternative II with various assumptions about

future reductions in death rates for the period 2005-80. These assumptions are the same as those used for alternatives I, II, and III, which are described in section V.A.2. The age-sex-adjusted death rates decline at average annual rates of 0.30 percent, 0.72 percent, and 1.26 percent for alternatives I, II, and III, respectively.

Table VI.D2.—Sensitivity to Varying Death-Rate Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Average annual death-rate reduction[1, 2]		
	0.30 percent	0.72 percent	1.26 percent
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.62	14.62	14.62
50-year: 2006-55	14.03	14.05	14.06
75-year: 2006-80	13.86	13.88	13.91
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	13.81	13.96	14.12
50-year: 2006-55	14.89	15.31	15.78
75-year: 2006-80	15.28	15.90	16.63
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.81	+.66	+.50
50-year: 2006-55	-.86	-1.26	-1.72
75-year: 2006-80	-1.42	-2.02	-2.72
Annual balance for 2080	-3.88	-5.38	-7.19
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2043	2040	2038

[1] The average annual death-rate reduction is the average annual geometric rate of decline in the age-sex-adjusted death rate between 2005 and 2080. The overall decreases from the age-sex-adjusted death rate in 2005 to the corresponding rate in 2080 are, in order, 20 percent, 42 percent, and 61 percent.
[2] The average annual death-rate reductions used for this analysis are 0.30 percent from the alternative I assumptions, 0.72 percent from the alternative II assumptions, and 1.26 percent from the alternative III assumptions. All other assumptions used for this analysis are from alternative II.

The variation in cost for the 25-year period is less pronounced than the variation for the 75-year period because the decreases in death rates are assumed to occur gradually. The 25-year cost rate increases from 13.81 percent (for an average annual death-rate reduction of 0.30 percent) to 14.12 percent (for an average annual death-rate reduction of 1.26 percent). The 75-year cost rate increases from 15.28 to 16.63 percent. The actuarial balance decreases from +0.81 to +0.50 percent for the 25-year period, and from -1.42 to -2.72 percent for the 75-year period.

Lower death rates cause both the income (through increased taxable payroll) and the cost of the OASDI program to be higher than they would otherwise be. The relative increase in cost, however, exceeds the relative increase in taxable payroll. For any given year, reductions in the death rates for people who are age 62 and over (ages where death rates are the highest) increase the number of retired-worker beneficiaries (and, therefore, the amount of retirement benefits paid) without adding significantly to the number of covered

workers (and, therefore, to the taxable payroll). Although reductions for people at ages 50 to retirement eligibility age do result in significant increases to the taxable payroll, those increases are not large enough to offset the sum of the additional retirement benefits mentioned above and the disability benefits paid to additional beneficiaries at these pre-retirement ages, which are ages of high disability incidence. At ages under 50, death rates are so low that even substantial reductions would not result in significant increases in the numbers of covered workers or beneficiaries. Consequently, if death rates for all ages are lowered by about the same relative amount, cost increases at a rate greater than the rate of growth in payroll, thereby resulting in higher cost rates and, therefore, lower actuarial balances. Each additional 0.1-percentage-point reduction in the average annual death-rate reduction decreases the long-range actuarial balance by about 0.14 percent of taxable payroll.

3. Net Immigration

Table VI.D3 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, under alternative II with various assumptions about the magnitude of net immigration. These assumptions are that the annual net immigration will be 672,500 persons, 900,000 persons, and 1,300,000 persons as assumed for alternatives III, II, and I, respectively.

Table VI.D3.—Sensitivity to Varying Net-Immigration Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Ultimate net immigration per year[1, 2]		
	672,500	900,000	1,300,000
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.64	14.62	14.58
50-year: 2006-55	14.08	14.05	14.00
75-year: 2006-80	13.91	13.88	13.84
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.08	13.96	13.79
50-year: 2006-55	15.51	15.31	15.03
75-year: 2006-80	16.12	15.90	15.60
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.56	+.66	+.79
50-year: 2006-55	-1.44	-1.26	-1.03
75-year: 2006-80	-2.21	-2.02	-1.76
Annual balance for 2080	-5.75	-5.38	-4.88
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2039	2040	2042

[1] Net immigration per year is the assumed annual net immigration to the Social Security area, including both legal and other immigration.
[2] The ultimate net immigration per year assumptions used for this analysis are 672,500 from the alternative III assumptions, 900,000 from the alternative II assumptions, and 1,300,000 from the alternative I assumptions. All other assumptions used for this analysis are from alternative II.

For all three periods, the cost rate decreases with increasing rates of net immigration. For the 25-year period, the cost rate decreases from 14.08 percent of taxable payroll (for annual net immigration of 672,500 persons) to 13.79 percent (for annual net immigration of 1,300,000 persons). For the 50-year period, it decreases from 15.51 percent to 15.03 percent, and for the 75-year period, it decreases from 16.12 percent to 15.60 percent. The actuarial balance increases from +0.56 to +0.79 percent for the 25-year period, from -1.44 to -1.03 for the 50-year period, and from -2.21 to -1.76 percent for the 75-year period.

The cost rate decreases with increasing rates of net immigration because immigration occurs at relatively young ages, thereby increasing the numbers of covered workers earlier than the numbers of beneficiaries. Each additional 100,000 net immigrants increases the long-range actuarial balance by about 0.07 percent of taxable payroll.

4. Real-Wage Differential

Table VI.D4 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, on the basis of alternative II with various assumptions about the real-wage differential. These assumptions are that the ultimate real-wage differential will be 0.6 percentage point, 1.1 percentage points, and 1.6 percentage points as assumed for alternatives III, II, and I, respectively. In each case, the ultimate annual increase in the CPI is assumed to be 2.8 percent (as assumed for alternative II), yielding ultimate percentage increases in average annual wages in covered employment of 3.4, 3.9, and 4.4 percent.

For the 25-year period, the cost rate decreases from 14.38 percent (for a real-wage differential of 0.6 percentage point) to 13.54 percent (for a differential of 1.6 percentage points). For the 50-year period, it decreases from 15.95 to 14.69 percent, and for the 75-year period it decreases from 16.59 to 15.22 percent. The actuarial balance increases from +0.34 to +0.98 percent for the 25-year period, from -1.77 to -0.76 for the 50-year period, and from -2.57 to -1.47 percent for the 75-year period.

Table VI.D4.—Sensitivity to Varying Real-Wage Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Ultimate percentage increase in wages-CPI[1, 2]		
	3.4-2.8	3.9-2.8	4.4-2.8
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.72	14.62	14.52
50-year: 2006-55	14.17	14.05	13.93
75-year: 2006-80	14.02	13.88	13.75
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.38	13.96	13.54
50-year: 2006-55	15.95	15.31	14.69
75-year: 2006-80	16.59	15.90	15.22
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.34	+.66	+.98
50-year: 2006-55	-1.77	-1.26	-.76
75-year: 2006-80	-2.57	-2.02	-1.47
Annual balance for 2080	-6.87	-5.38	-4.07
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2036	2040	2046

[1] The first value in each pair is the assumed ultimate annual percentage increase in average wages in covered employment. The second value is the assumed ultimate annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index. The difference between the two values is the ultimate real-wage differential.
[2] The ultimate real-wage differentials of 0.6, 1.1, and 1.6 percentage points are the same as in alternatives III, II, and I, respectively. All other assumptions used for this analysis are from alternative II.

The cost rate decreases with increasing real-wage differentials because higher wages affect the taxable payroll immediately, but increase benefit levels only gradually as new beneficiaries become entitled. In addition, cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) to benefits are not affected by changes in wages, but only in prices. Each 0.5-percentage-point increase in the assumed real-wage differential increases the long-range actuarial balance by about 0.55 percent of taxable payroll.

5. Consumer Price Index

Table VI.D5 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, on the basis of alternative II with various assumptions about the rate of increase for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). These assumptions are that the ultimate annual increase in the CPI will be 1.8 percent, 2.8 percent, and 3.8 percent as assumed for alternatives I, II, and III, respectively. In each case, the ultimate real-wage differential is assumed to be 1.1 percentage points (as assumed for alternative II), yielding ultimate percentage increases in average annual wages in covered employment of 2.9, 3.9, and 4.9 percent.

Table VI.D5.—Sensitivity to Varying CPI-Increase Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Ultimate percentage increase in wages-CPI[1, 2]		
	2.9-1.8	3.9-2.8	4.9-3.8
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.66	14.62	14.58
50-year: 2006-55	14.08	14.05	14.02
75-year: 2006-80	13.91	13.88	13.85
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.11	13.96	13.81
50-year: 2006-55	15.53	15.31	15.10
75-year: 2006-80	16.15	15.90	15.66
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.54	+.66	+.77
50-year: 2006-55	-1.45	-1.26	-1.08
75-year: 2006-80	-2.23	-2.02	-1.81
Annual balance for 2080	-5.72	-5.38	-5.06
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2039	2040	2042

[1] The first value in each pair is the assumed ultimate annual percentage increase in average wages in covered employment. The second value is the assumed ultimate annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index. The difference between the two values is the ultimate real-wage differential.
[2] The ultimate CPI increases of 1.8, 2.8, and 3.8 percent are the same as in alternatives I, II, and III, respectively. The ultimate real-wage differential of 1.1 percentage points is the same as in alternative II. All other assumptions used for this analysis are also from alternative II.

For all three periods, the cost rate decreases with greater assumed rates of increase in the CPI. For the 25-year period, the cost rate decreases from 14.11 (for CPI increases of 1.8 percent) to 13.81 percent (for CPI increases of 3.8 percent). For the 50-year period, it decreases from 15.53 to 15.10 percent, and for the 75-year period, it decreases from 16.15 to 15.66 percent. The actuarial balance increases from +0.54 to +0.77 percent for the 25-year period, from -1.45 to -1.08 for the 50-year period, and from -2.23 to -1.81 percent for the 75-year period.

The patterns described above result primarily from the time lag between the effects of the CPI changes on taxable payroll and on benefit payments. When assuming a greater rate of increase in the CPI (in combination with a constant real-wage differential), the effect on taxable payroll due to a greater rate of increase in average wages is experienced immediately, while the effect on benefits due to a larger COLA is experienced with a lag of about 1 year. Thus, the higher taxable payrolls have a stronger effect than the higher benefits, thereby resulting in lower cost rates. The effect of each 1.0-percentage-point increase in the rate of change assumed for the CPI is an increase in the long-range actuarial balance of about 0.21 percent of taxable payroll.

6. Real Interest Rate

Table VI.D6 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, on the basis of alternative II with various assumptions about the annual real interest rate for special public-debt obligations issuable to the trust funds, which are compounded semiannually. These assumptions are that the ultimate annual real interest rate will be 2.1 percent, 2.9 percent, and 3.6 percent as assumed for alternatives III, II, and I, respectively. In each case, the ultimate annual increase in the CPI is assumed to be 2.8 percent (as assumed for alternative II), resulting in ultimate annual yields of 5.0, 5.8, and 6.5 percent.

Table VI.D6.—Sensitivity to Varying Real-Interest Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Ultimate annual real interest rate[1, 2]		
	2.1 percent	2.9 percent	3.6 percent
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.52	14.62	14.70
50-year: 2006-55	13.93	14.05	14.15
75-year: 2006-80	13.76	13.88	14.00
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.11	13.96	13.83
50-year: 2006-55	15.61	15.31	15.06
75-year: 2006-80	16.31	15.90	15.55
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.42	+.66	+.87
50-year: 2006-55	-1.68	-1.26	-.90
75-year: 2006-80	-2.55	-2.02	-1.55
Annual balance for 2080	-5.38	-5.38	-5.38
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2038	2040	2043

[1] The ultimate real interest rate is defined to be the effective annual yield on assets held by the trust funds divided by the annual rate of growth in the CPI.
[2] The ultimate annual real interest rates used for this analysis are 2.1 percent from the alternative III assumptions, 2.9 percent from the alternative II assumptions, and 3.6 percent from the alternative I assumptions. All other assumptions used for this analysis are from alternative II.

For the 25-year period, the cost rate decreases slightly with increasing real interest rates from 14.11 percent (for an ultimate real interest rate of 2.1 percent) to 13.83 percent (for an ultimate real interest rate of 3.6 percent). For the 50-year period, it decreases from 15.61 to 15.06 percent, and for the 75-year period, it decreases from 16.31 to 15.55 percent. The actuarial balance increases from +0.42 to +0.87 percent for the 25-year period, from -1.68 to -0.90 percent for the 50-year period, and from -2.55 to -1.55 percent for the 75-year period. Each 0.5-percentage-point increase in the assumed real interest rate increases the long-range actuarial balance by about 0.33 percent of taxable payroll.

7. Disability Incidence Rates

Table VI.D7 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, on the basis of alternative II with various assumptions concerning future disability incidence rates. For all three alternatives, incidence rates by age and sex are assumed to vary during the early years of the projection period before attaining ultimate levels in 2027. The ultimate levels attained vary by sex. In comparison to the corresponding annual rates experienced during the base period 1994-96, the ultimate rates for men are about 15 percent lower for alternative I, about 7 percent higher for alternative II, and about 28 percent higher for alternative III. For women they are about 19 percent lower for alternative I, 1 percent higher for alternative II, and 21 percent higher for alternative III.

Table VI.D7.—Sensitivity to Varying Disability Incidence Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Disability incidence rates based on alternative—		
	I	II	III
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.61	14.62	14.62
50-year: 2006-55	14.04	14.05	14.05
75-year: 2006-80	13.88	13.88	13.89
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	13.73	13.96	14.21
50-year: 2006-55	15.03	15.31	15.60
75-year: 2006-80	15.61	15.90	16.20
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.88	+.66	+.41
50-year: 2006-55	-.99	-1.26	-1.55
75-year: 2006-80	-1.73	-2.02	-2.31
Annual balance for 2080	-5.05	-5.38	-5.71
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2043	2040	2038

For the 25-year period, the cost rate increases with increasing disability incidence rates from 13.73 percent (for the relatively low rates assumed for alternative I) to 14.21 percent (for the relatively high rates assumed for alternative III). For the 50-year period, it increases from 15.03 to 15.60 percent, and for the 75-year period, it increases from 15.61 to 16.20 percent. The actuarial balance decreases from +0.88 to +0.41 percent for the 25-year period, from -0.99 to -1.55 percent for the 50-year period, and from -1.73 to -2.31 percent for the 75-year period.

8. Disability Termination Rates

Table VI.D8 shows the estimated OASDI income rates, cost rates, and actuarial balances, on the basis of alternative II with various assumptions about future disability termination rates. For alternative II, death-termination rates by age and sex are assumed to decline until they reach levels by the end of the 75-year period that, for men and women, respectively, are about 57 percent and 55 percent lower than those experienced during the base period 1996-2000. For the other alternatives, the rates are assumed to spread gradually from the rates for alternative II. By the end of the projection period, for alternatives I and III, respectively, the rates for men are about 40 percent and 74 percent lower than those experienced during the base period; for women the corresponding rates are about 38 percent and 74 percent lower than those experienced during the base period.

For all three alternatives, ultimate recovery-termination rates by age and sex are assumed to be attained in the twentieth year of the projection period. For alternative II, such rates are assumed to be 1 percent lower for men and 16 percent higher for women than those experienced in the base period, 1996-2000. The ultimate rates for alternative I are assumed to be 19 percent higher for men and 40 percent higher for women than those experienced in the base period. The ultimate rates for alternative III are assumed to be 21 percent lower for men and 7 percent lower for women than those experienced in the base period.

Table VI.D8.—Sensitivity to Varying Disability Termination Assumptions
[As a percentage of taxable payroll]

Valuation period	Disability termination rates based on alternative— I	II	III
Summarized income rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	14.62	14.62	14.62
50-year: 2006-55	14.05	14.05	14.05
75-year: 2006-80	13.88	13.88	13.88
Summarized cost rate:			
25-year: 2006-30	13.91	13.96	13.99
50-year: 2006-55	15.27	15.31	15.35
75-year: 2006-80	15.86	15.90	15.93
Actuarial balance:			
25-year: 2006-30	+.70	+.66	+.63
50-year: 2006-55	-1.22	-1.26	-1.30
75-year: 2006-80	-1.98	-2.02	-2.05
Annual balance for 2080	-5.36	-5.38	-5.38
Year of combined trust fund exhaustion	2041	2040	2040

For the 25-year period, the cost rate increases with decreasing disability termination rates from 13.91 percent (for the relatively high rates assumed for alternative I) to 13.99 percent (for the relatively low rates assumed for alternative III). For the 50-year period, it increases from 15.27 to 15.35 percent, and for the 75-year period, it increases from 15.86 to 15.93 percent. The actuarial balance decreases from +0.70 to +0.63 percent for the 25-year period, from -1.22 to -1.30 percent for the 50-year period, and from -1.98 to -2.05 percent for the 75-year period.

E. STOCHASTIC PROJECTIONS

Significant uncertainty surrounds the estimates under the intermediate assumptions, especially for a period as long as 75 years. This appendix presents a way to illustrate the uncertainty of these estimates. It is intended to supplement the traditional methods of examining such uncertainty and to illustrate the potential value of new techniques.

1. Background

The Trustees Report has traditionally shown additional estimates using the low cost and high cost sets of specified assumptions to reflect the presence of uncertainty. These additional estimates provide a range of possible outcomes for the projections. However, they provide no indication of the probability that actual future experience will be inside or outside the range of these estimates. This appendix presents the results of a model, based on stochastic modeling techniques, that estimates a probability distribution of future outcomes of the financial status of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds.

It should be noted that this model is subject to further development. Future improvements and refinements are expected to be more likely to expand rather than reduce the indicated range of uncertainty.

2. Methodology

Other sections of this report provide estimates of the financial status of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds using a "deterministic" model. For the deterministic model, certain assumptions are made regarding levels of fertility, changes in mortality, immigration levels, emigration levels, net other immigration levels, the Consumer Price Index, average real wages, unemployment rates, trust fund real yield rates, and disability incidence and recovery rates. Each of these variables will reach an assumed ultimate value at a specific point during the long-range period and will maintain that value throughout the remainder of the period. As mentioned above, three deterministic scenarios are developed assuming separate, specified values for each of these variables.

In contrast, the results of 5,000 independent stochastic simulations are presented in this appendix. Each of the 5,000 simulations is determined by allowing the above variables to vary throughout the long-range period. The fluctuation in each variable is projected by using standard time-series modeling, a method designed to help make inferences based on historical data. Generally, each variable is modeled by an equation that captures a relationship between current and prior years' values of the variable and introduces year-by-year random variation, as reflected in the historical period. For some

variables, the equations additionally reflect relationships with other variables. Parameters for the equations are estimated using historical data for periods between 20 years and 110 years depending on the nature and quality of data available. Each time-series equation is designed such that, in the absence of random variation, the value of the variable would equal the value assumed under the intermediate set of assumptions. More detail on this model, and stochastic modeling in general, is available on the Social Security website.[1]

For each simulation of the model, values of the variables listed above are determined by using Monte Carlo techniques to randomly assign the year-by-year variations. Each simulation produces an estimate of the financial status of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds. Results shown in this section, based on the 5,000 simulations of the model, reflect the distribution of results.

The results from this model should be interpreted with caution and with a full understanding of the inherent limitations. Results are very sensitive to equation specifications, degrees of interdependence among variables, and the historical periods used for the estimates. For some variables, using the variations exhibited in a relatively recent historical period may not provide a realistic representation of the potential variation for the future. In addition, results would differ if random variations had been applied to additional variables other than those mentioned above (such as labor force participation rates, retirement rates, marriage rates, and divorce rates). Furthermore, additional variability could result from incorporating statistical approaches that would more fully model change in the long-range central tendencies of the variables. The historical period available for most variables is relatively homogeneous and does not reflect many substantial shifts. The time-series modeling reflects what occurred in the historical period. As a result, the variation indicated in this appendix should be viewed as the minimum plausible variation for the future. Substantial shifts, as predicted by many experts and as seen in prior centuries, are not fully reflected in the current model.

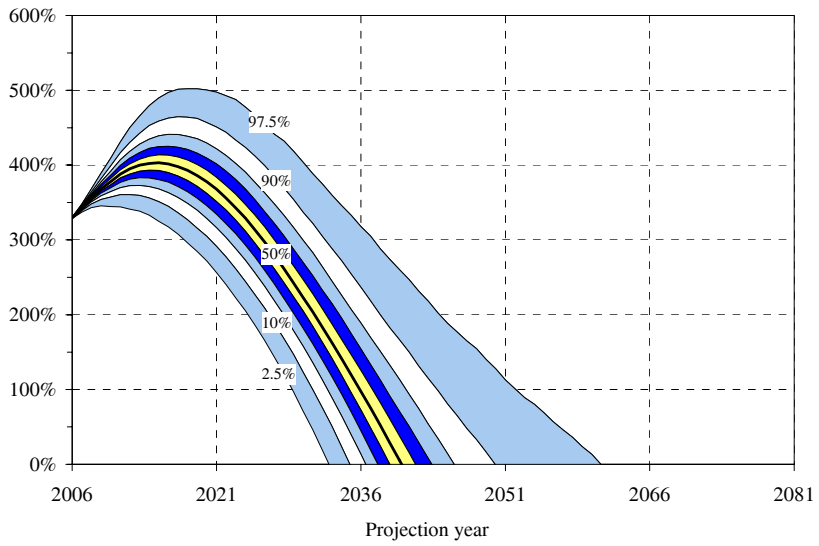
[1] The website address is: www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/stochastic/index.html.

3. Results

Simulated probability distributions of the annual trust fund ratios for the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds are shown in figure VI.E1. The two extreme lines in this figure illustrate the range within which future annual trust fund ratios are estimated to occur 95 percent of the time (i.e., a 95-percent confidence interval). In other words, actual future trust fund ratios in a given year would be expected to exceed the upper bound only 2.5 percent of the time or to fall below the lower bound 2.5 percent of the time. Other lines in the figure display additional confidence intervals (80-percent, 60-percent, 40-percent, and 20-percent) around future annual trust fund ratios. The median estimate for each year indicates the trust fund ratio which is projected by this model to fall exactly in the middle of possible outcomes for that year. It is important to note that these lines do not represent the results of individual stochastic simulations. Instead, for each given year, they represent the percentile distribution of trust fund ratios based on all stochastic simulations for that year.

The median estimate for each year indicates that the assets of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds would be exhausted by the end of 2040 with a probability of 50 percent. This exhaustion date is the same as the year of exhaustion projected under the intermediate assumptions. Figure VI.E1 shows that the 95-percent confidence interval for the trust fund ratio in 2030 ranges from 404 to 71 percent of annual cost. In comparison, the 2030 trust fund ratios for the low cost and high cost alternatives are each outside this range, at 469 and 9 percent, respectively. By 2080, the range represented by the low cost and high cost projections increases substantially beyond the boundaries of the 95-percent stochastic confidence interval, as seen from the values for the open group unfunded obligation in table VI.E1. This increased variation of the alternatives relative to the stochastic confidence interval is also seen in the positive trust fund ratio for the low cost scenario for 2080.

Figure VI.E1.—Annual Trust Fund Ratios



The probability distribution of the year-by-year OASDI cost rates (i.e., cost as a percentage of taxable payroll) is shown in figure VI.E2. The range of the cost rates widens as the projections move further into the future, reflecting increasing uncertainty. The income rate under the intermediate assumptions is also included in the figure in order to give some indication of the patterns of cash flow for the OASDI program. Only this income rate is included because of the relatively small variation in income rates throughout the projection period. The lines in figure VI.E2 display the median set (50th percentile) of estimated annual cost rates and the 95-percent, 80-percent, 60-percent, 40-percent, and 20-percent confidence intervals expected for future annual cost rates. It is important to note that these lines do not represent the results of individual stochastic simulations. Instead, for each given year, they represent the percentile distribution of cost rates based on all stochastic simulations for that year. The projected cost rates for the year 2035 for the low cost and high cost alternatives described earlier are 14.86 percent of payroll and 20.14 percent of payroll, respectively. These are quite close to the limits of the 95-percent confidence interval, as can be seen in figure VI.E2. By 2080, the cost rates for these alternatives, 13.47 and 26.76 percent of payroll, are still fairly close to the limits of the 95-percent confidence interval (14.11 and 27.57 percent of payroll).

Figure VI.E2.—Annual Cost Rates

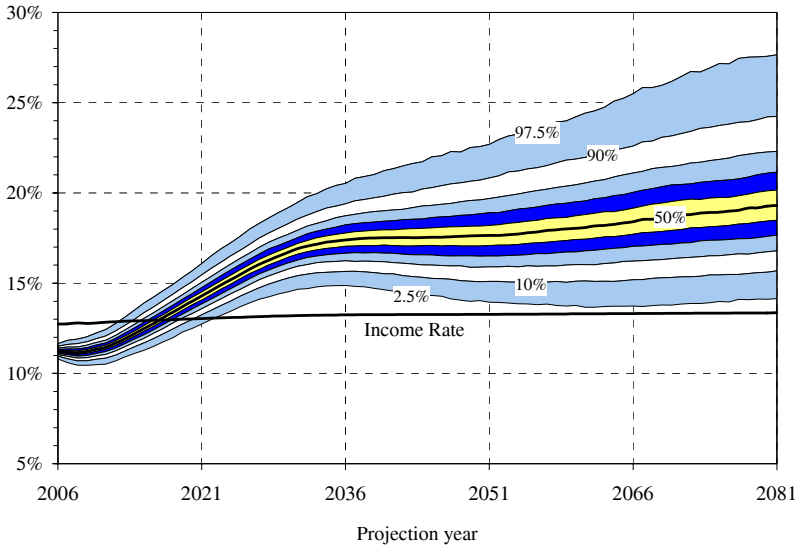


Table VI.E1 displays long-range actuarial estimates that illustrate uncertainty for the combined OASDI program using both the deterministic and stochastic approaches. Actuarial estimates included in the table are for the long-range period, 2006-80. Stochastic estimates are shown for the median (50th percentile) and for the 95-percent and 80-percent confidence intervals. For comparison, deterministic estimates are shown for the intermediate, low cost, and high cost assumptions. Each individual stochastic estimate displayed in the table represents the level at that percentile from the distribution of the 5,000 simulations. However, for each given percentile, the stochastic estimates shown for the different long-range actuarial measures are generally not from the same stochastic simulation.

Median stochastic estimates for the actuarial measures displayed in table VI.E1 are the same or slightly more pessimistic for the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds than those projected under the intermediate assumptions. The median estimate of the long-range actuarial balance is -2.11 percent of taxable payroll, about 0.09 percentage point lower than projected under the intermediate assumptions. The median estimate for the first year cost exceeds tax income is 2017 and for the year assets first become exhausted is 2040. These are the same as those projected under the intermediate assumptions. The median estimate for the annual cost in the 75th year of the projection period is 19.27 as a percentage of taxable payroll and 6.50 as a

percentage of GDP. The comparable estimates using the intermediate assumptions are 18.74 and 6.32, respectively.

The 95-percent confidence interval determined by the stochastic modeling projections can be compared to the range of variation defined by the traditional low cost and high cost alternatives. For three of the measures in table VI.E1 (the actuarial balance, the open group unfunded obligation, and the year assets become exhausted), the 95-percent stochastic projection range is narrower than the range defined by the low cost and high cost alternatives. That is, for these measures, the estimates under the low cost and high cost alternatives fall outside the 95-percent confidence interval determined by the stochastic modeling projections. In contrast, for two other measures in the table (the first year cost exceeds tax income and the annual cost in the 75th year of the projection period expressed as a percentage of GDP), the 95-percent stochastic projection range includes the estimates under the low cost and high cost alternatives. For the remaining measure in the table (the annual cost in the 75th year of the projection period expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll), the 95-percent stochastic projection range includes the estimate under the high cost alternative, but does not include the low cost estimate.

Table VI.E1.—Long-Range Estimates Relating to the Actuarial Status of the Combined OASDI Program

[Comparison of deterministic and stochastic results]

	Traditional deterministic model			Stochastic model				
					80-Percent confidence interval		95-Percent confidence interval	
	Interme-diate	Low Cost	High Cost	Median 50th percentile	10th percentile	90th percentile	2.5th percentile	97.5th percentile
Actuarial balance	-2.02	0.35	-5.17	-2.11	-3.33	-1.05	-4.08	-0.52
Open group unfunded obligation (in trillions)	$4.6	-$1.1	$12.3	$4.9	$8.0	$2.3	$10.2	$1.0
First year cost exceeds tax income	2017	2022	2013	2017	2014	2020	2013	2022
Year assets become exhausted	2040	1/	2030	2040	2034	2049	2032	2060
Annual cost in 75th year (percent of taxable payroll)	18.74	13.47	26.76	19.27	15.62	24.21	14.11	27.57
Annual cost in 75th year (percent of GDP)	6.32	4.90	8.31	6.50	5.27	8.17	4.76	9.30

[1] The fund is not estimated to be exhausted within the projection period.

F. ESTIMATES FOR OASDI AND HI, SEPARATE AND COMBINED

In this appendix, long-range actuarial estimates for the OASDI and Hospital Insurance (HI) programs are presented separately and on a combined basis. These estimates facilitate analysis of the adequacy of the income and assets of these programs relative to their cost under current law. Estimates for the Supplementary Medical Insurance (SMI) program are not included in this appendix because adequate financing is guaranteed in the law, and because the SMI program is not financed through a payroll tax.

The emphasis in this appendix on combined operations, while significant, should not obscure the analysis of the financial status of the individual trust funds, which are legally separate and cannot be commingled. In addition, the factors which determine the costs of the OASI, DI, and HI programs differ substantially.

1. Estimates as a Percentage of Taxable Payroll

Comparing and combining cost and income rates for the OASDI and HI programs as percentages of taxable payroll require a note of caution. The taxable payrolls for the HI program are larger than those estimated for the OASDI program because (1) a larger maximum taxable amount was established for the HI program in 1991, with the maximum being eliminated altogether for the HI program in 1994, (2) a larger proportion of Federal, State, and local government employees have their wages covered under the HI program, and (3) the earnings of railroad workers are included directly in the HI taxable payroll but not in the OASDI taxable payroll (railroad contributions for the equivalent of OASDI benefits are accounted for in a net interchange that occurs annually between the OASDI and Railroad Retirement programs). As a result, the HI taxable payroll is about 25 percent larger than the OASDI taxable payroll throughout the long-range period. Nonetheless, combined OASDI and HI rates shown in this section are computed by adding the separately derived rates for the programs. The resulting combined rates may be interpreted as those applicable to the taxable payroll in the amount of the OASDI payroll, with the separate HI rates being additionally applicable to the excess of the HI payroll over the OASDI payroll.

As with the OASI and DI Trust Funds, income to the HI Trust Fund comes primarily from contributions paid by employees, employers, and self-employed persons. The combined OASDI and HI contribution rate for employees and their employers is often referred to as the FICA tax, because it is authorized by the Federal Insurance Contributions Act. Contribution rates for the OASDI and HI programs are shown in table VI.F1.

Table VI.F1.—Contribution Rates for the OASDI and HI Programs
[In percent]

Calendar years	Employees and employers, each			Self employed		
	OASDI	HI	Combined	OASDI	HI	Combined
1966	3.85	0.35	4.20	5.80	0.35	6.15
1967	3.90	.50	4.40	5.90	.50	6.40
1968	3.80	.60	4.40	5.80	.60	6.40
1969-70	4.20	.60	4.80	6.30	.60	6.90
1971-72	4.60	.60	5.20	6.90	.60	7.50
1973	4.85	1.00	5.85	7.00	1.00	8.00
1974-77	4.95	.90	5.85	7.00	.90	7.90
1978	5.05	1.00	6.05	7.10	1.00	8.10
1979-80	5.08	1.05	6.13	7.05	1.05	8.10
1981	5.35	1.30	6.65	8.00	1.30	9.30
1982-83	5.40	1.30	6.70	8.05	1.30	9.35
1984[1]	5.70	1.30	7.00	11.40	2.60	14.00
1985	5.70	1.35	7.05	11.40	2.70	14.10
1986-87	5.70	1.45	7.15	11.40	2.90	14.30
1988-89	6.06	1.45	7.51	12.12	2.90	15.02
1990 and later	6.20	1.45	7.65	12.40	2.90	15.30

[1] See footnote 1 under table VI.A1 in the appendix titled "History of OASI and DI Trust Fund Operations" for a description of tax credits allowed against the combined OASDI and HI taxes on net earnings from self-employment in 1984-89.

Table VI.F2 shows estimated annual income rates and cost rates for the OASDI program, the HI program, and the combined OASDI and HI programs, based on the low cost, intermediate, and high cost sets of assumptions (alternatives I, II, and III) described earlier in this report. These annual rates are intended to indicate the cash-flow operation of the programs. Therefore, income rates exclude interest earned on trust fund assets, and cost rates exclude the cost of accumulating ending target trust fund balances. Table VI.F2 also shows the differences between income rates and cost rates, called balances. Estimates shown for the combined trust funds are theoretical because no authority currently exists for borrowing by or transfers among these trust funds.

Under all three sets of assumptions, the combined OASDI and HI cost rate is projected to rise above current levels, with the sharpest increase occurring during the period 2010-30. Under the high cost set of assumptions, annual deficits are projected to occur beginning in 2011, and to continue for the remainder of the 75-year projection period. The cost rate is projected to rise to about three and a half times its current level by the end of the projection period. Under the intermediate assumptions, annual deficits begin in 2015, with the cost rate more than doubling by the end of the projection period. Under the low cost assumptions, the cost rate is projected to increase by about 34 percent, by the end of the period, with annual deficits beginning in 2022.

Table VI.F2.—Estimated OASDI and HI Annual Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances, Calendar Years 2006-80

[As a percentage of taxable payroll[1]]

	OASDI			HI			Combined		
Calendar year	Income rate	Cost rate	Balance	Income rate	Cost rate	Balance	Income rate	Cost rate	Balance
Intermediate:									
2006	12.74	11.22	1.52	3.08	3.13	-0.05	15.82	14.35	1.46
2007	12.75	11.15	1.61	3.09	3.18	-.09	15.84	14.32	1.52
2008	12.80	11.10	1.69	3.12	3.22	-.10	15.91	14.32	1.59
2009	12.77	11.16	1.61	3.10	3.27	-.17	15.88	14.43	1.44
2010	12.79	11.29	1.50	3.12	3.32	-.20	15.91	14.61	1.30
2011	12.84	11.40	1.44	3.14	3.38	-.24	15.98	14.78	1.20
2012	12.87	11.63	1.23	3.16	3.45	-.30	16.02	15.09	.94
2013	12.90	11.91	.99	3.17	3.55	-.37	16.07	15.45	.62
2014	12.91	12.19	.72	3.18	3.63	-.45	16.10	15.82	.28
2015	12.93	12.48	.45	3.19	3.72	-.53	16.12	16.20	-.08
2020	13.02	13.99	-.97	3.25	4.28	-1.03	16.27	18.27	-2.00
2025	13.11	15.50	-2.38	3.29	5.06	-1.77	16.41	20.56	-4.15
2030	13.19	16.71	-3.52	3.33	5.99	-2.66	16.53	22.71	-6.18
2035	13.24	17.36	-4.12	3.36	6.92	-3.56	16.60	24.29	-7.69
2040	13.26	17.51	-4.25	3.37	7.71	-4.34	16.63	25.22	-8.59
2045	13.26	17.51	-4.25	3.37	8.34	-4.97	16.63	25.85	-9.22
2050	13.27	17.55	-4.28	3.37	8.88	-5.50	16.65	26.43	-9.78
2055	13.28	17.68	-4.40	3.38	9.35	-5.97	16.66	27.03	-10.36
2060	13.30	17.87	-4.57	3.39	9.83	-6.44	16.69	27.70	-11.01
2065	13.31	18.09	-4.78	3.39	10.31	-6.92	16.71	28.40	-11.69
2070	13.33	18.35	-5.01	3.40	10.80	-7.39	16.73	29.14	-12.41
2075	13.34	18.54	-5.20	3.41	11.21	-7.80	16.75	29.76	-13.00
2080	13.36	18.74	-5.38	3.42	11.59	-8.17	16.77	30.33	-13.56
Low Cost:									
2006	12.74	11.15	1.58	3.08	3.06	.02	15.81	14.21	1.61
2007	12.75	11.03	1.72	3.09	3.04	.04	15.84	14.07	1.76
2008	12.79	10.93	1.86	3.12	3.03	.09	15.91	13.96	1.95
2009	12.77	10.89	1.88	3.10	3.02	.08	15.87	13.91	1.96
2010	12.78	10.89	1.90	3.11	3.01	.10	15.89	13.89	2.00
2011	12.82	10.87	1.95	3.13	3.00	.13	15.95	13.87	2.08
2012	12.84	10.96	1.89	3.15	3.01	.14	15.99	13.97	2.02
2013	12.87	11.08	1.79	3.16	3.03	.13	16.03	14.11	1.92
2014	12.88	11.22	1.65	3.17	3.04	.12	16.04	14.27	1.78
2015	12.89	11.39	1.50	3.17	3.06	.11	16.06	14.45	1.61
2020	12.96	12.57	.39	3.22	3.20	.02	16.18	15.77	.41
2025	13.04	13.76	-.72	3.26	3.44	-.19	16.29	17.20	-.90
2030	13.09	14.58	-1.49	3.29	3.69	-.40	16.38	18.27	-1.89
2035	13.12	14.86	-1.74	3.30	3.88	-.58	16.42	18.75	-2.33
2040	13.12	14.67	-1.55	3.30	4.02	-.73	16.42	18.70	-2.28
2045	13.11	14.37	-1.26	3.29	4.14	-.85	16.40	18.52	-2.11
2050	13.10	14.13	-1.02	3.29	4.28	-.99	16.39	18.40	-2.01
2055	13.10	13.97	-.86	3.28	4.46	-1.18	16.38	18.43	-2.04
2060	13.10	13.84	-.74	3.28	4.69	-1.41	16.38	18.54	-2.16
2065	13.09	13.72	-.62	3.28	4.92	-1.64	16.38	18.64	-2.26
2070	13.09	13.60	-.51	3.28	5.16	-1.88	16.37	18.76	-2.39
2075	13.09	13.49	-.41	3.28	5.36	-2.08	16.36	18.85	-2.49
2080	13.09	13.47	-.38	3.27	5.53	-2.26	16.36	19.00	-2.64

Table VI.F2.—Estimated OASDI and HI Annual Income Rates, Cost Rates, and Balances, Calendar Years 2006-80 (Cont.)
[As a percentage of taxable payroll[1]]

	OASDI			HI			Combined		
Calendar year	Income rate	Cost rate	Balance	Income rate	Cost rate	Balance	Income rate	Cost rate	Balance
High Cost:									
2006	12.75	11.56	1.19	3.08	3.29	-0.20	15.83	14.84	0.99
2007	12.77	11.64	1.13	3.10	3.39	-.29	15.86	15.02	.84
2008	12.81	11.71	1.11	3.13	3.49	-.36	15.94	15.19	.75
2009	12.80	11.92	.87	3.11	3.64	-.52	15.91	15.56	.35
2010	12.82	12.15	.67	3.13	3.76	-.63	15.95	15.91	.04
2011	12.87	12.34	.53	3.15	3.87	-.71	16.02	16.21	-.18
2012	12.91	12.71	.20	3.17	4.04	-.86	16.08	16.75	-.67
2013	12.94	13.11	-.17	3.19	4.23	-1.04	16.14	17.34	-1.20
2014	12.96	13.48	-.52	3.21	4.42	-1.21	16.17	17.90	-1.73
2015	12.98	13.87	-.89	3.22	4.62	-1.40	16.20	18.49	-2.29
2020	13.09	15.64	-2.55	3.28	5.85	-2.57	16.37	21.49	-5.12
2025	13.20	17.40	-4.20	3.33	7.63	-4.30	16.53	25.03	-8.50
2030	13.30	19.02	-5.72	3.39	9.94	-6.55	16.69	28.96	-12.27
2035	13.37	20.14	-6.77	3.43	12.57	-9.15	16.80	32.72	-15.92
2040	13.42	20.80	-7.38	3.45	15.02	-11.57	16.87	35.82	-18.95
2045	13.45	21.32	-7.87	3.47	17.09	-13.62	16.92	38.41	-21.49
2050	13.49	21.89	-8.40	3.48	18.73	-15.25	16.97	40.63	-23.65
2055	13.53	22.56	-9.03	3.50	19.90	-16.40	17.03	42.46	-25.43
2060	13.57	23.33	-9.75	3.53	20.93	-17.40	17.10	44.26	-27.16
2065	13.62	24.22	-10.59	3.55	21.95	-18.40	17.18	46.17	-28.99
2070	13.68	25.16	-11.48	3.58	22.99	-19.41	17.26	48.15	-30.89
2075	13.73	26.01	-12.28	3.61	23.88	-20.27	17.33	49.89	-32.55
2080	13.77	26.76	-12.99	3.63	24.67	-21.04	17.40	51.43	-34.03

[1] The taxable payroll for HI is significantly larger than the taxable payroll for OASDI because the HI taxable maximum amount was eliminated beginning in 1994, and because HI covers all Federal civilian employees, including those hired before 1984, all State and local government employees hired after April 1, 1986, and railroad employees. Combined OASDI and HI rates are computed as the sum of the separately derived rates for each program.

Notes:
1. The income rate excludes interest income and certain transfers from the General Fund of the Treasury.
2. Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

In table VI.F3 values are summarized over the 25-year, 50-year, and 75-year valuation periods (for which beginning fund balances are included in the summarized income rates, and the cost of accumulating an ending fund balance equal to 100 percent of annual cost by the end of the period is included in the summarized cost rates). Estimates shown for the combined trust funds are theoretical because no authority currently exists for borrowing by or transfers among these trust funds.

Table VI.F3.—Summarized OASDI and HI Income Rates and Cost Rates for Valuation Periods,[1] Calendar Years 2006-80

[As a percentage of taxable payroll[2]]

Valuation period	OASDI			HI			Combined		
	Income rate	Cost rate	Actuarial balance	Income rate	Cost rate	Actuarial balance	Income rate	Cost rate	Actuarial balance
Intermediate:									
25-years:									
2006-30	14.62	13.96	0.66	3.41	4.39	-0.98	18.03	18.35	-0.32
50-years:									
2006-55	14.05	15.31	-1.26	3.39	5.87	-2.48	17.44	21.18	-3.74
75-years:									
2006-80	13.88	15.90	-2.02	3.39	6.90	-3.51	17.27	22.80	-5.53
Low Cost:									
25-years:									
2006-30	14.57	12.74	1.82	3.40	3.33	.07	17.96	16.08	1.89
50-years:									
2006-55	13.95	13.38	.58	3.35	3.63	-.28	17.31	17.01	.30
75-years:									
2006-80	13.75	13.40	.35	3.34	3.95	-.61	17.09	17.35	-.26
High Cost:									
25-years:									
2006-30	14.68	15.50	-.82	3.43	6.08	-2.65	18.11	21.58	-3.47
50-years:									
2006-55	14.14	17.74	-3.60	3.44	10.25	-6.81	17.58	27.99	-10.41
75-years:									
2006-80	14.03	19.21	-5.17	3.47	12.93	-9.47	17.50	32.14	-14.64

[1] Income rates include beginning trust fund balances and cost rates include the cost of reaching an ending fund target equal to 100 percent of annual cost by the end of the period.

[2] The taxable payroll for HI is significantly larger than the taxable payroll for OASDI because the HI taxable maximum amount was eliminated beginning 1994, and because HI covers all Federal civilian employees, including those hired before 1984, all State and local government employees hired after April 1, 1986, and railroad employees. Combined OASDI and HI rates are computed as the sum of the separately derived rates for each program.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Under the high cost assumptions, the combined OASDI and HI system is projected to experience large actuarial deficits for the 25-year, 50-year, and 75-year valuation periods (table VI.F3, including beginning trust fund balances and the cost of ending fund targets). Under the intermediate assumptions, actuarial deficits smaller than those for the high cost assumptions are projected for all three valuation periods. Under the low cost assumptions, the combined OASDI and HI system is projected to have positive actuarial balances for the 25-year and the 50-year valuation periods, and a very small negative actuarial balance for the 75-year valuation period.

2. Estimates as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product

This section presents long-range projections of the operations of the combined Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance (OASI and DI) Trust Funds and of the Hospital Insurance (HI) Trust Fund expressed as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). While expressing these fund operations as a percentage of taxable payroll is the most useful approach for assessing the financial status of the programs (see table IV.B1 and section IV.B.1), analyzing them as a percentage of GDP provides an additional perspective on these fund operations in relation to the total value of goods and services produced in the United States.

Table VI.F4 shows estimated income excluding interest, total cost, and the resulting balance of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, of the HI Trust Fund, and of the combined OASI, DI, and HI Trust Funds, expressed as percentages of GDP on the basis of each of the three alternative sets of assumptions. The estimated GDP on which these percentages are based is also shown in table VI.F4. For OASDI, income excluding interest consists of payroll-tax contributions, proceeds from taxation of benefits, and various reimbursements from the General Fund of the Treasury. Total cost consists of benefit payments, administrative expenses, net transfers from the trust funds to the Railroad Retirement program, and payments for vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries. For HI, income excluding interest consists of payroll-tax contributions (including contributions from railroad employment) and proceeds from taxation of OASDI benefits. Total cost consists of outlays (benefits and administrative expenses) for insured beneficiaries. Both the HI income and cost are on an incurred basis.

The OASDI annual balance (income excluding interest, less cost) as a percentage of GDP is projected to be positive on the basis of the low cost assumptions until 2022. After 2021, deficits increase to a peak in about 2035, and decrease thereafter. The OASDI balance is projected to be positive until 2017 on the basis of the intermediate assumptions and until 2013 on the basis of the high cost assumptions, at which time balances become permanently negative, with generally increasing deficits. The projected HI balance as a percentage of GDP, is positive through 2020 on the basis of the low cost assumptions. The HI balance is projected to be negative in the first projection year under the intermediate and high cost assumptions, with deficits increasing steadily thereafter. The combined OASDI and HI balance as a percentage of GDP is projected to be positive through 2021 under the low cost assumptions, through 2014 under the intermediate assumptions, and through 2009 under the high cost assumptions. Between 2010 and about 2035, under all three sets of assumptions, both the OASDI and HI balances as percentages of GDP are projected to decline (or deficits increase) substantially

because the baby-boom generation reaches retirement age during these years. After balances cease to be positive under the intermediate and high cost assumptions, the annual deficits increase fairly steadily for the combined OASDI and HI programs.

By 2080, the combined OASDI and HI balances as percentages of GDP, are projected to range from a deficit of 1.17 percent for the low cost assumptions to a deficit of 12.33 percent for the high cost assumptions. Projected balances differ by a much smaller amount for the tenth year, 2015, ranging from a positive balance of 0.62 percent for the low cost assumptions to a deficit of 1.00 percent for the high cost assumptions.

The summarized long-range (75-year) balance as a percentage of GDP for the combined OASDI and HI programs varies among the three alternatives, by a relatively large amount (from a deficit of 0.15 percent, based on the low cost assumptions, to a deficit of 5.99 percent, based on the high cost assumptions). The 25-year summarized balance varies by a smaller amount (from a positive balance of 0.73 percent to a deficit of 1.55 percent). Summarized rates are calculated on the present-value basis including the trust fund balances on January 1, 2006 and the cost of reaching a target trust fund level equal to 100 percent of the following year's annual cost at the end of the period. (See section IV.B.4 for further explanation.)

Table VI.F4.—OASDI and HI Annual and Summarized Income, Cost, and Balance as a Percentage of GDP, Calendar Years 2006-80

	Percentage of GDP									
	OASDI			HI			Combined			GDP in dollars
Calendar year	Income[1]	Cost	Balance	Income[1]	Cost	Balance	Income[1]	Cost	Balance	(billions)
Intermediate:										
2006	4.85	4.28	0.57	1.46	1.48	-0.02	6.31	5.76	0.55	$13,191
2007	4.83	4.26	.58	1.47	1.51	-.04	6.30	5.76	.54	13,886
2008	4.87	4.24	.63	1.48	1.53	-.05	6.36	5.77	.59	14,620
2009	4.87	4.27	.60	1.48	1.56	-.08	6.35	5.82	.52	15,366
2010	4.88	4.32	.56	1.48	1.58	-.10	6.36	5.90	.46	16,141
2011	4.90	4.36	.54	1.50	1.61	-.11	6.39	5.97	.43	16,937
2012	4.90	4.44	.46	1.50	1.64	-.14	6.41	6.09	.32	17,748
2013	4.91	4.54	.37	1.51	1.69	-.18	6.42	6.23	.19	18,544
2014	4.91	4.64	.26	1.51	1.72	-.21	6.42	6.37	.05	19,378
2015	4.90	4.74	.16	1.51	1.77	-.25	6.42	6.51	-.09	20,274
2020	4.89	5.27	-.38	1.53	2.01	-.49	6.42	7.28	-.86	25,369
2025	4.88	5.78	-.90	1.53	2.36	-.82	6.42	8.14	-1.73	31,536
2030	4.87	6.18	-1.31	1.54	2.77	-1.23	6.41	8.95	-2.54	39,112
2035	4.84	6.36	-1.52	1.54	3.17	-1.63	6.38	9.53	-3.15	48,593
2040	4.80	6.36	-1.56	1.53	3.50	-1.97	6.33	9.86	-3.53	60,423
2045	4.76	6.30	-1.54	1.52	3.75	-2.24	6.28	10.06	-3.78	75,174
2050	4.72	6.26	-1.54	1.50	3.96	-2.45	6.23	10.22	-3.99	93,329
2055	4.69	6.25	-1.57	1.49	4.13	-2.64	6.18	10.38	-4.20	115,752
2060	4.65	6.26	-1.61	1.48	4.31	-2.82	6.13	10.57	-4.43	143,534
2065	4.61	6.28	-1.67	1.47	4.48	-3.00	6.08	10.76	-4.67	178,018
2070	4.57	6.31	-1.74	1.46	4.65	-3.18	6.04	10.95	-4.92	220,656
2075	4.54	6.32	-1.78	1.45	4.78	-3.33	5.99	11.10	-5.11	273,678
2080	4.50	6.32	-1.83	1.44	4.90	-3.45	5.94	11.22	-5.28	339,249
Summarized rates:[2]										
25-year:										
2006-30 . . .	5.52	5.27	.25	1.61	2.07	-.46	7.13	7.34	-.21	
50-year:										
2006-55 . . .	5.21	5.68	-.47	1.57	2.72	-1.15	6.78	8.40	-1.62	
75-year										
2006-80 . . .	5.07	5.81	-.74	1.55	3.14	-1.60	6.62	8.95	-2.33	
Low Cost:										
2006	4.85	4.25	.59	1.45	1.44	.01	6.30	5.70	.60	13,226
2007	4.85	4.22	.63	1.46	1.44	.02	6.31	5.66	.65	13,898
2008	4.89	4.19	.70	1.48	1.44	.04	6.37	5.63	.74	14,584
2009	4.89	4.19	.71	1.48	1.44	.04	6.37	5.62	.75	15,281
2010	4.91	4.19	.72	1.48	1.43	.05	6.39	5.63	.77	15,995
2011	4.93	4.19	.74	1.49	1.43	.06	6.43	5.62	.80	16,749
2012	4.94	4.22	.72	1.50	1.44	.06	6.44	5.66	.78	17,523
2013	4.95	4.27	.68	1.51	1.45	.06	6.46	5.72	.74	18,290
2014	4.95	4.33	.63	1.51	1.45	.06	6.46	5.78	.68	19,075
2015	4.95	4.39	.56	1.51	1.46	.05	6.47	5.85	.62	19,874
2020	4.96	4.82	.14	1.53	1.52	.01	6.49	6.34	.15	24,310
2025	4.96	5.25	-.29	1.54	1.62	-.09	6.50	6.87	-.37	29,555
2030	4.96	5.54	-.58	1.54	1.73	-.19	6.50	7.27	-.77	35,906
2035	4.95	5.62	-.67	1.54	1.82	-.27	6.49	7.43	-.94	43,802
2040	4.93	5.52	-.60	1.54	1.87	-.34	6.46	7.40	-.93	53,656
2045	4.90	5.39	-.48	1.53	1.92	-.40	6.43	7.31	-.88	65,897
2050	4.88	5.27	-.39	1.52	1.98	-.46	6.40	7.25	-.85	80,951
2055	4.86	5.19	-.33	1.51	2.05	-.54	6.37	7.24	-.88	99,512
2060	4.84	5.12	-.29	1.50	2.15	-.65	6.34	7.27	-.93	122,427
2065	4.82	5.06	-.24	1.50	2.25	-.75	6.31	7.30	-.99	150,864
2070	4.79	4.99	-.20	1.49	2.34	-.85	6.28	7.33	-1.05	186,069
2075	4.77	4.93	-.16	1.48	2.42	-.94	6.25	7.35	-1.10	229,632
2080	4.75	4.90	-.15	1.48	2.49	-1.02	6.23	7.39	-1.17	283,241

Table VI.F4.—OASDI and HI Annual and Summarized Income, Cost, and Balance as a Percentage of GDP, Calendar Years 2006-80 (Cont.)

	Percentage of GDP									GDP in dollars
	OASDI			HI			Combined			
Calendar year	Income[1]	Cost	Balance	Income[1]	Cost	Balance	Income[1]	Cost	Balance	(billions)
Low Cost (cont.):										
Summarized rates: [2]										
25-year:										
2006-30 . . .	5.59	4.89	0.70	1.61	1.58	0.03	7.20	6.47	0.73	
50-year:										
2006-55 . . .	5.31	5.09	.22	1.58	1.71	-.13	6.88	6.79	.09	
75-year										
2006-80 . . .	5.19	5.06	.13	1.56	1.84	-.29	6.75	6.90	-.15	
High Cost:										
2006	4.92	4.42	.49	1.46	1.55	-.10	6.37	5.98	.40	$12,828
2007	4.80	4.45	.35	1.47	1.60	-.14	6.26	6.05	.21	13,501
2008	4.86	4.45	.41	1.48	1.65	-.17	6.34	6.10	.24	14,252
2009	4.86	4.54	.32	1.48	1.72	-.25	6.34	6.27	.07	14,855
2010	4.84	4.60	.24	1.48	1.78	-.30	6.32	6.38	-.06	15,901
2011	4.80	4.62	.19	1.49	1.83	-.34	6.29	6.45	-.15	17,315
2012	4.81	4.75	.06	1.50	1.91	-.41	6.31	6.65	-.35	18,439
2013	4.83	4.91	-.08	1.51	1.99	-.49	6.33	6.90	-.57	19,390
2014	4.83	5.04	-.21	1.51	2.08	-.57	6.34	7.12	-.78	20,389
2015	4.82	5.17	-.35	1.51	2.17	-.66	6.33	7.33	-1.00	21,456
2020	4.80	5.75	-.95	1.52	2.71	-1.19	6.32	8.46	-2.14	27,536
2025	4.77	6.31	-1.54	1.52	3.49	-1.96	6.30	9.80	-3.50	35,124
2030	4.74	6.80	-2.06	1.53	4.48	-2.95	6.27	11.29	-5.01	44,645
2035	4.71	7.11	-2.40	1.52	5.60	-4.07	6.23	12.71	-6.47	56,647
2040	4.66	7.24	-2.58	1.52	6.60	-5.08	6.18	13.84	-7.67	71,695
2045	4.61	7.32	-2.71	1.50	7.41	-5.91	6.11	14.74	-8.62	90,543
2050	4.56	7.42	-2.86	1.49	8.02	-6.53	6.05	15.43	-9.38	113,732
2055	4.51	7.53	-3.03	1.48	8.40	-6.92	5.99	15.93	-9.95	142,554
2060	4.46	7.68	-3.22	1.47	8.71	-7.25	5.93	16.39	-10.47	178,219
2065	4.41	7.86	-3.45	1.46	9.02	-7.56	5.87	16.87	-11.00	222,292
2070	4.36	8.05	-3.68	1.45	9.31	-7.86	5.82	17.36	-11.54	276,940
2075	4.32	8.20	-3.88	1.44	9.54	-8.10	5.76	17.74	-11.98	344,722
2080	4.27	8.31	-4.05	1.43	9.72	-8.29	5.70	18.03	-12.33	428,728
Summarized rates: [2]										
25-year:										
2006-30 . . .	5.43	5.74	-.30	1.59	2.83	-1.23	7.02	8.57	-1.55	
50-year:										
2006-55 . . .	5.09	6.38	-1.29	1.56	4.63	-3.08	6.65	11.01	-4.36	
75-year										
2006-80 . . .	4.92	6.73	-1.81	1.53	5.71	-4.18	6.45	12.44	-5.99	

[1] Income for individual years excludes interest on the trust funds. Interest is implicitly reflected in all summarized values.

[2] Summarized rates are calculated on the present-value basis including the value of the trust funds on January 1, 2006 and the cost of reaching a target trust fund level equal to 100 percent of annual cost at the end of the period.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

The difference between trust fund operations expressed as percentages of taxable payroll and those expressed as percentages of GDP can be understood by analyzing the estimated ratios of OASDI taxable payroll to GDP, which are presented in table VI.F5. HI taxable payroll is about 25 percent larger than the OASDI taxable payroll throughout the long-range period (see appendix VI.F.1 for a detailed description of the difference). The cost as a

percentage of GDP is equal to the cost as a percentage of taxable payroll multiplied by the ratio of taxable payroll to GDP.

Table VI.F5.—Ratio of OASDI Taxable Payroll to GDP, Calendar Years 2006-80

Calendar year	Intermediate	Low Cost	High Cost
2006	0.381	0.381	0.383
2007	.382	.383	.382
2008	.382	.383	.380
2009	.382	.384	.381
2010	.382	.385	.379
2011	.382	.385	.374
2012	.382	.385	.374
2013	.381	.385	.374
2014	.381	.385	.374
2015	.380	.385	.372
2020	.377	.384	.367
2025	.373	.382	.363
2030	.370	.380	.358
2035	.366	.378	.353
2040	.363	.376	.348
2045	.360	.375	.343
2050	.357	.373	.339
2055	.354	.372	.334
2060	.350	.370	.329
2065	.347	.369	.324
2070	.344	.367	.320
2075	.341	.366	.315
2080	.337	.364	.311

Projections of GDP are based on the projected increases in U.S. employment, labor productivity, average hours worked, and the GDP implicit price deflator. Projections of taxable payroll reflect the projected growth in GDP, along with assumed changes in the ratio of worker compensation to GDP, the ratio of earnings to worker compensation, the ratio of OASDI covered earnings to total earnings, and the ratio of taxable to total covered earnings.

Over the long-range period, projected growth in taxable payroll differs from projected growth in GDP primarily due to the assumed trend in the ratio of wages to total employee compensation—i.e., wages plus fringe benefits. The ratio of earnings to total worker compensation declined at an average annual rate of 0.27 percent for the 40 years from 1964 to 2004. For the 10-year periods 1964-74, 1974-84, and 1984-94 the average annual rates of decline were 0.45, 0.50, and 0.13 percent, respectively. For the 10-year period 1994-2004 the average annual rate of change was essentially zero. Ultimate future annual rates of decline in the ratio of earnings to employee compensation are assumed to be 0.1, 0.2, and 0.3 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. An additional factor that has made the overall ratio of taxable payroll to GDP decline in recent years is the decline in the ratio of taxable wages to covered wages, as a result of the relatively greater increases in wages for persons earning above the contribution and benefit base. This decline in the taxable ratio is assumed to continue at a slower pace through 2015, with no further decline thereafter.

3. Estimates in Dollars

This section presents long-range projections in dollars of the operations of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds and in some cases the HI Trust Fund. Meaningful comparison of current dollar values over long periods of time can be difficult because of the effect of inflation. Some means of removing inflation is thus generally desirable. Several economic series or indices are provided to allow current dollars to be adjusted for changes in prices, wages, and certain other aspects of economic growth during the projection period.

The selection of a particular index for adjustment of current dollars depends upon the analyst's decision as to which index provides the most useful standard for adjusting dollar amounts, over time, to create values that are appropriately comparable. Table VI.F6 presents five such indices for adjustment. Adjustment of any series of values is accomplished by dividing the value for each year by the corresponding index values for the year. This adjustment removes the inflation in the index from the series of values.

One of the most common forms of standardization is based on some measure of change in the prices of consumer goods. One such price index is the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W, hereafter referred to as CPI) which is published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor. This is the index used to determine annual increases in OASDI monthly benefits payable after the year of initial eligibility. The CPI is assumed to increase ultimately at annual rates of 1.8, 2.8, and 3.8 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost sets of assumptions, respectively. Constant-dollar values (those calculated by dividing by the adjusted CPI in table VI.F6) indicate the relative purchasing power of the values over time. Constant-dollar values are provided in table VI.F7.

Another type of standardization combines the effects of price inflation and real-wage growth. The wage index presented here is the national average wage index, as defined in section 215(i)(1)(G) of the Social Security Act. This index is used to make annual adjustments to many earnings-related quantities embodied in the Social Security Act, such as the contribution and benefit base. The average annual wage is assumed to increase ultimately by 3.4, 3.9, and 4.4 percent under the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively. Wage-indexed values indicate the level of a series relative to the standard-of-living of workers over time.

The taxable payroll index adjusts for the effects of changes in the number of workers and changes in the proportion of earnings that are taxable, as well as

for the effects of price inflation and real-wage growth. The OASDI taxable payroll consists of all earnings subject to OASDI taxation, adjusted for the lower effective tax rate on multiple-employer excess wages. Values adjusted by dividing by the taxable payroll indicate the percentage of payroll that each value represents, and thus the extent to which the series of values increases or decreases as a percent of payroll over time.

The GDP index adjusts for the growth in the aggregate amount of goods and services produced in the United States. Values adjusted by GDP (see appendix VI.F.2) indicate their relative share of the total output of the economy. No explicit assumptions are made about growth in taxable payroll or GDP. These series are computed reflecting the other more basic demographic and economic assumptions, as discussed in sections V.A and V.B, respectively.

Discounting at the rate of interest is another way of adjusting current dollars. The series of interest-rate factors included here is based on the average of the assumed annual interest rates for special public-debt obligations issuable to the trust funds for each year. This series is slightly different from the interest rates used to create summarized values elsewhere in this report, where the actual yield on currently-held trust fund assets is used for each year. Ultimate nominal interest rates, which, in practice, are compounded semiannually, are assumed to be approximately 5.4, 5.7, and 5.9 percent for the low cost, intermediate, and high cost assumptions, respectively.

Table VI.F6.—Selected Economic Variables, Calendar Years 2005-80
[GDP and taxable payroll in billions]

Calendar year	Adjusted CPI[1]	Average wage index[2]	Taxable payroll[3]	Gross domestic product	Compound interest-rate factor[4]
Intermediate:					
2005	97.19	$37,197.43	$4,754	$12,485	0.9527
2006	100.00	38,695.99	5,028	13,191	1.0000
2007	102.28	40,375.23	5,302	13,886	1.0528
2008	104.94	42,112.24	5,585	14,620	1.1132
2009	107.86	43,916.42	5,875	15,366	1.1795
2010	110.89	45,798.28	6,173	16,141	1.2498
2011	114.00	47,707.59	6,475	16,937	1.3242
2012	117.20	49,695.49	6,775	17,748	1.4014
2013	120.47	51,632.49	7,069	18,544	1.4832
2014	123.85	53,603.73	7,379	19,378	1.5690
2015	127.31	55,677.10	7,706	20,274	1.6599
2020	146.16	67,207.92	9,556	25,369	2.1985
2025	167.80	81,352.86	11,770	31,536	2.9118
2030	192.64	98,468.99	14,463	39,112	3.8566
2035	221.17	119,326.16	17,807	48,593	5.1080
2040	253.91	144,701.05	21,948	60,423	6.7654
2045	291.51	175,442.24	27,067	75,174	8.9605
2050	334.67	212,549.47	33,302	93,329	11.8679
2055	384.22	257,395.55	40,927	115,752	15.7188
2060	441.11	311,720.91	50,285	143,534	20.8190
2065	506.42	377,517.46	61,791	178,018	27.5742
2070	581.41	457,258.39	75,880	220,656	36.5212
2075	667.49	553,902.85	93,235	273,678	48.3713
2080	766.32	670,953.75	114,488	339,249	64.0664
Low Cost:					
2005	97.35	37,207.16	4,756	12,492	.9539
2006	100.00	38,717.74	5,043	13,226	1.0000
2007	101.93	40,294.22	5,316	13,898	1.0487
2008	103.75	41,843.44	5,592	14,584	1.1037
2009	105.63	43,431.83	5,874	15,281	1.1649
2010	107.54	45,075.49	6,161	15,995	1.2298
2011	109.47	46,758.63	6,456	16,749	1.2997
2012	111.44	48,513.49	6,753	17,523	1.3737
2013	113.45	50,208.20	7,049	18,290	1.4494
2014	115.48	51,920.30	7,351	19,075	1.5284
2015	117.56	53,679.86	7,659	19,874	1.6116
2020	128.53	63,241.93	9,324	24,310	2.1028
2025	140.52	74,684.59	11,280	29,555	2.7437
2030	153.63	88,136.78	13,637	35,906	3.5800
2035	167.96	104,133.07	16,559	43,802	4.6711
2040	183.64	123,172.28	20,198	53,656	6.0947
2045	200.77	145,707.16	24,703	65,897	7.9523
2050	219.50	172,282.35	30,220	80,951	10.3760
2055	239.98	203,785.66	36,995	99,512	13.5384
2060	262.37	241,084.38	45,325	122,427	17.6647
2065	286.85	285,231.67	55,620	150,864	23.0486
2070	313.61	337,524.44	68,310	186,069	30.0733
2075	342.87	399,474.46	83,944	229,632	39.2391
2080	374.86	472,712.26	103,094	283,241	51.1985

Table VI.F6.—Selected Economic Variables, Calendar Years 2005-80 (Cont.)
[GDP and taxable payroll in billions]

Calendar year	Adjusted CPI[1]	Average wage index[2]	Taxable payroll[3]	Gross domestic product	Compound interest-rate factor[4]
High Cost:					
2005	96.71	$37,138.78	$4,746	$12,458	0.9596
2006	100.00	37,968.14	4,911	12,828	1.0000
2007	102.72	39,792.92	5,158	13,501	1.0543
2008	105.61	41,576.39	5,418	14,252	1.1179
2009	110.25	43,136.48	5,660	14,855	1.1899
2010	116.55	46,029.79	6,022	15,901	1.2900
2011	123.02	49,405.86	6,480	17,315	1.4080
2012	128.79	52,179.65	6,888	18,439	1.5132
2013	133.85	54,531.83	7,255	19,390	1.6082
2014	138.93	56,892.43	7,619	20,389	1.7048
2015	144.21	59,333.06	7,989	21,456	1.8064
2020	173.78	73,390.05	10,119	27,536	2.4151
2025	209.40	91,089.22	12,735	35,124	3.2289
2030	252.33	113,110.09	15,969	44,645	4.3168
2035	304.06	140,585.94	19,989	56,647	5.7714
2040	366.39	174,789.75	24,962	71,695	7.7161
2045	441.50	217,185.28	31,099	90,543	10.3160
2050	532.00	269,556.63	38,523	113,732	13.7920
2055	641.06	334,166.86	47,605	142,554	18.4393
2060	772.48	414,095.73	58,668	178,219	24.6524
2065	930.84	513,006.08	72,131	222,292	32.9591
2070	1,121.66	635,745.68	88,572	276,940	44.0647
2075	1,351.60	787,844.86	108,662	344,722	58.9123
2080	1,628.68	976,583.40	133,194	428,728	78.7629

[1] The adjusted CPI is the CPI-W indexed to calendar year 2006.
[2] The average wage index is used to automatically adjust the contribution and benefit base and other wage-indexed program amounts. (See "Average wage index" in the glossary.)
[3] Taxable payroll consists of total earnings subject to OASDI contribution rates, adjusted to include deemed wages based on military service through calendar year 2001 and to reflect the lower effective contribution rates (compared to the combined employee-employer rate) which apply to multiple-employer "excess wages."
[4] The compound interest-rate factor is based on the average of the assumed annual interest rates for special public-debt obligations issuable to the trust funds in the 12 months of the year, under each alternative.

Table VI.F7 shows estimated operations of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds in constant 2006 dollars (i.e., adjusted by the CPI indexing series as discussed above). Items included in the table are: income excluding interest, interest income, total income, total cost, and assets at the end of the year. Income excluding interest consists of payroll-tax contributions, income from taxation of benefits, and miscellaneous reimbursements from the General Fund of the Treasury. Cost consists of benefit payments, administrative expenses, net transfers from the OASI and DI Trust Funds to the Railroad Retirement program under the financial-interchange provisions, and payments for vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries. These estimates are based on the low cost, intermediate, and high cost sets of assumptions.

Table VI.F7.—Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, in Constant 2006 Dollars,[1] Calendar Years 2006-80

[In billions]

Calendar year	Income excluding interest	Interest income	Total income	Cost	Assets at end of year
Intermediate:					
2006	$640.0	$100.9	$740.9	$564.2	$2,035.3
2007	656.1	106.6	762.7	577.8	2,174.8
2008	679.2	114.4	793.5	591.0	2,322.4
2009	693.8	123.5	817.2	608.1	2,468.6
2010	710.2	132.6	842.9	628.5	2,615.6
2011	727.6	142.1	869.7	647.6	2,766.3
2012	742.6	151.0	893.6	672.5	2,912.0
2013	755.1	159.5	914.7	698.6	3,048.9
2014	767.5	167.6	935.1	726.3	3,174.6
2015	780.6	174.6	955.1	755.1	3,288.3
2020	849.4	201.8	1,051.3	914.7	3,642.8
2025	917.7	198.3	1,116.0	1,087.0	3,523.1
2030	988.0	162.8	1,150.9	1,254.7	2,823.4
2035[2]	1,063.4	96.6	1,159.9	1,397.9	1,575.0
Low Cost:					
2006	641.0	100.7	741.7	562.4	2,038.0
2007	661.1	106.1	767.2	575.3	2,191.4
2008	687.6	113.7	801.3	589.3	2,364.8
2009	707.9	123.5	831.5	605.5	2,548.9
2010	730.4	134.0	864.4	623.7	2,744.3
2011	754.7	145.6	900.3	641.1	2,955.0
2012	777.1	158.0	935.1	663.9	3,174.0
2013	797.7	170.4	968.1	688.3	3,397.6
2014	817.8	182.4	1,000.3	714.5	3,623.4
2015	837.5	194.2	1,031.7	742.0	3,849.1
2020	938.3	254.5	1,192.8	912.0	4,905.2
2025	1,044.1	299.8	1,343.9	1,104.2	5,731.9
2030	1,159.5	329.4	1,488.9	1,293.9	6,263.1
2035	1,290.4	347.5	1,637.9	1,465.2	6,588.5
2040	1,439.6	363.5	1,803.0	1,613.7	6,893.4
2045	1,609.3	385.6	1,994.9	1,768.3	7,324.5
2050	1,799.8	416.4	2,216.2	1,944.8	7,921.0
2055	2,014.7	456.4	2,471.2	2,152.9	8,691.9
2060	2,257.4	505.5	2,762.9	2,391.3	9,635.7
2065	2,533.0	566.1	3,099.1	2,659.5	10,802.0
2070	2,844.6	640.8	3,485.4	2,962.2	12,239.8
2075	3,196.4	733.0	3,929.4	3,303.3	14,017.3
2080	3,590.5	844.3	4,434.9	3,703.3	16,153.2
High Cost:					
2006	630.9	99.0	729.9	567.5	2,021.1
2007	630.6	102.4	732.9	584.3	2,116.2
2008	655.8	109.2	765.0	600.6	2,222.7
2009	655.3	115.7	771.0	612.0	2,288.2
2010	659.8	123.6	783.4	627.7	2,320.2
2011	676.2	137.8	813.9	649.9	2,362.2
2012	688.7	146.0	834.7	679.8	2,411.4
2013	699.4	149.9	849.3	710.6	2,458.8
2014	708.8	151.7	860.5	739.5	2,489.9
2015	717.1	152.2	869.3	768.5	2,499.6
2020	760.3	130.2	890.5	910.9	2,216.1
2025 [2]	800.6	82.6	883.1	1,058.1	1,317.4

[1] The adjustment from current to constant dollars is by the adjusted CPI indexing series shown in table VI.F6.

[2] Estimates for later years are not shown because the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds are estimated to become exhausted in 2040 under the intermediate assumptions and in 2030 under the high cost assumptions.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Figure VI.F1 provides a comparison of annual cost with total annual income (including interest) and annual income excluding interest, for the OASDI program under intermediate assumptions. All values are expressed in constant dollars, as shown in table VI.F7. The difference between the income values for each year is equal to the trust fund interest earnings. Thus the figure illustrates the fact that, under intermediate assumptions, combined OASDI cost will be payable from (1) current tax income alone through 2016, (2) current tax income plus amounts from the trust funds that are less than annual interest income for years 2017 through 2026, and (3) current tax income plus amounts from the trust funds that are greater than annual interest income for years 2027 through 2039, i.e., through the year preceding the year of trust fund exhaustion.

Figure VI.F1.—Estimated OASDI Income and Cost in Constant Dollars, Based on Intermediate Assumptions
[In billions]

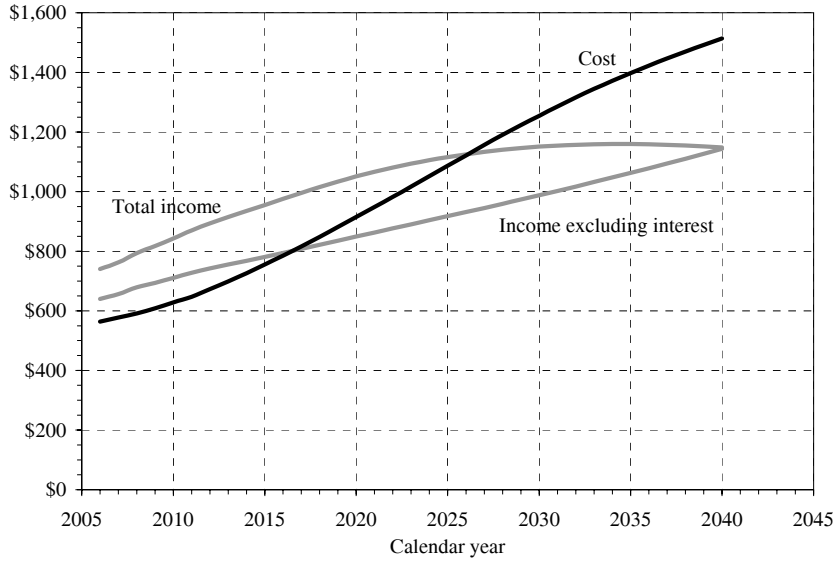


Table VI.F8 shows estimated operations of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds in current dollars—that is in dollars unadjusted for price inflation. Items included in the table are: income excluding interest, interest income, total income, total cost, and assets at the end of the year. These estimates, based on the low cost, intermediate, and high cost sets of demographic and economic assumptions, are presented to facilitate independent analysis.

Table VI.F8.—Operations of the Combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, in Current Dollars, Calendar Years 2006-80

[In billions]

Calendar year	Income excluding interest	Interest income	Total income	Cost	Assets at end of year
Intermediate:					
2006	$640.0	$100.9	$740.9	$564.2	$2,035.3
2007	671.1	109.1	780.1	591.0	2,224.5
2008	712.7	120.0	832.7	620.1	2,437.1
2009	748.3	133.2	881.5	655.9	2,662.7
2010	787.6	147.1	934.7	696.9	2,900.4
2011	829.6	162.0	991.5	738.3	3,153.7
2012	870.3	177.0	1,047.3	788.2	3,412.8
2013	909.7	192.2	1,101.9	841.7	3,673.1
2014	950.6	207.6	1,158.2	899.5	3,931.7
2015	993.7	222.3	1,216.0	961.4	4,186.4
2020	1,241.5	295.0	1,536.5	1,336.9	5,324.2
2025	1,539.8	332.7	1,872.6	1,824.0	5,911.7
2030	1,903.4	313.7	2,217.1	2,417.1	5,439.0
2035[1]	2,351.8	213.6	2,565.4	3,091.7	3,483.3
Low Cost:					
2006	641.0	100.7	741.7	562.4	2,038.0
2007	673.8	108.1	781.9	586.3	2,233.6
2008	713.4	118.0	831.4	611.4	2,453.6
2009	747.8	130.5	878.3	639.5	2,692.3
2010	785.4	144.1	929.5	670.7	2,951.1
2011	826.1	159.4	985.5	701.8	3,234.8
2012	866.0	176.1	1,042.1	739.9	3,537.0
2013	905.0	193.3	1,098.3	780.9	3,854.4
2014	944.5	210.7	1,155.1	825.1	4,184.4
2015	984.5	228.3	1,212.9	872.3	4,525.0
2020	1,206.0	327.1	1,533.2	1,172.2	6,304.6
2025	1,467.2	421.3	1,888.4	1,551.6	8,054.5
2030	1,781.3	506.1	2,287.4	1,987.9	9,622.0
2035	2,167.4	583.7	2,751.0	2,461.0	11,066.3
2040	2,643.6	667.4	3,311.0	2,963.3	12,658.7
2045	3,231.0	774.2	4,005.2	3,550.1	14,705.3
2050	3,950.5	914.0	4,864.5	4,268.8	17,386.5
2055	4,834.9	1,095.3	5,930.3	5,166.4	20,858.6
2060	5,922.7	1,326.3	7,249.1	6,274.0	25,281.1
2065	7,265.8	1,623.9	8,889.7	7,628.7	30,985.2
2070	8,921.0	2,009.5	10,930.5	9,289.7	38,385.3
2075	10,959.4	2,513.3	13,472.8	11,326.1	48,061.1
2080	13,459.5	3,165.1	16,624.6	13,882.2	60,551.7
High Cost:					
2006	$630.9	$99.0	$729.9	$567.5	$2,021.1
2007	647.7	105.2	752.9	600.2	2,173.8
2008	692.6	115.4	808.0	634.3	2,347.4
2009	722.4	127.6	850.0	674.8	2,522.7
2010	769.0	144.1	913.1	731.5	2,704.3
2011	831.8	169.5	1,001.3	799.5	2,906.0
2012	886.9	188.1	1,075.0	875.5	3,105.5
2013	936.2	200.7	1,136.9	951.2	3,291.2
2014	984.8	210.8	1,195.6	1,027.4	3,459.4
2015	1,034.1	219.5	1,253.7	1,108.2	3,604.8
2020	1,321.2	226.2	1,547.4	1,582.9	3,851.1
2025 [1]	1,676.4	172.9	1,849.3	2,215.8	2,758.7

[1] Estimates for later years are not shown because the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds are estimated to become exhausted in 2040 under the intermediate assumptions and in 2030 under the high cost assumptions.

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.F9 shows, in current dollars, estimated income (excluding interest) and estimated total cost (excluding the cost of accumulating target trust fund balances) of the combined OASI and DI Trust Funds, of the HI Trust Fund, and of the combined OASI, DI, and HI Trust Funds, based on the low cost, intermediate, and high cost sets of assumptions described earlier in this report. For OASDI, income excluding interest consists of payroll-tax contributions, proceeds from taxation of OASDI benefits, and miscellaneous transfers from the General Fund of the Treasury. Cost consists of benefit payments, administrative expenses, net transfers from the trust funds to the Railroad Retirement program, and payments for vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries. For HI, income excluding interest consists of payroll-tax contributions (including contributions from railroad employment) and proceeds from the taxation of OASDI benefits. Total cost consists of outlays (scheduled benefits and administrative expenses) for insured beneficiaries. Income and cost estimates are shown on a cash basis for the OASDI program and on an incurred basis for the HI program.

Table VI.F9 also shows the difference between income excluding interest and cost, which is called the balance. The balance indicates the size of the difference between tax income and cost.

Table VI.F9.—OASDI and HI Annual Income Excluding Interest, Cost, and Balance in Current Dollars, Calendar Years 2006-80

[In billions]

Calendar year	OASDI			HI			Combined		
	Income excluding interest	Cost	Balance	Income excluding interest	Cost	Balance	Income excluding interest	Cost	Balance
Intermediate:									
2006	$640	$564	$76	$192	$195	-$3	$832	$759	$73
2007	671	591	80	203	209	-6	875	800	74
2008	713	620	93	217	224	-7	929	844	86
2009	748	656	92	227	239	-12	975	895	80
2010	788	697	91	240	255	-16	1,027	952	75
2011	830	738	91	253	273	-19	1,083	1,011	72
2012	870	788	82	267	292	-25	1,137	1,080	57
2013	910	842	68	280	313	-33	1,190	1,154	35
2014	951	900	51	293	334	-41	1,244	1,234	10
2015	994	961	32	307	358	-51	1,301	1,319	-18
2020	1,242	1,337	-95	387	510	-123	1,629	1,847	-219
2025	1,540	1,824	-284	484	744	-260	2,024	2,568	-544
2030	1,903	2,417	-514	602	1,082	-480	2,505	3,500	-994
2035	2,352	3,092	-740	747	1,540	-793	3,099	4,631	-1,533
2040	2,903	3,844	-941	923	2,113	-1,190	3,826	5,956	-2,130
2045	3,582	4,739	-1,158	1,140	2,822	-1,682	4,721	7,561	-2,840
2050	4,410	5,844	-1,435	1,404	3,695	-2,290	5,814	9,539	-3,725
2055	5,424	7,237	-1,813	1,729	4,782	-3,053	7,153	12,019	-4,866
2060	6,672	8,984	-2,312	2,130	6,181	-4,051	8,801	15,165	-6,364
2065	8,208	11,178	-2,971	2,624	7,969	-5,346	10,831	19,148	-8,316
2070	10,092	13,921	-3,829	3,231	10,251	-7,020	13,323	24,172	-10,849
2075	12,412	17,290	-4,878	3,979	13,087	-9,108	16,391	30,377	-13,986
2080	15,256	21,456	-6,200	4,896	16,610	-11,714	20,152	38,066	-17,914
Low Cost:									
2006	641	562	79	192	191	1	833	753	80
2007	674	586	87	203	201	3	877	787	90
2008	713	611	102	216	210	6	929	821	108
2009	748	640	108	225	219	6	973	859	114
2010	785	671	115	237	229	8	1,023	900	123
2011	826	702	124	250	240	10	1,076	942	135
2012	866	740	126	263	252	11	1,129	992	137
2013	905	781	124	276	265	11	1,181	1,045	135
2014	944	825	119	288	277	11	1,232	1,102	130
2015	985	872	112	301	290	11	1,285	1,162	123
2020	1,206	1,172	34	371	368	2	1,577	1,541	36
2025	1,467	1,552	-84	454	480	-26	1,921	2,031	-110
2030	1,781	1,988	-207	554	622	-68	2,335	2,610	-275
2035	2,167	2,461	-294	675	795	-120	2,843	3,256	-413
2040	2,644	2,963	-320	824	1,005	-182	3,467	3,968	-501
2045	3,231	3,550	-319	1,006	1,266	-260	4,237	4,816	-579
2050	3,951	4,269	-318	1,229	1,599	-370	5,179	5,868	-689
2055	4,835	5,166	-331	1,503	2,043	-540	6,338	7,209	-871
2060	5,923	6,274	-351	1,841	2,632	-791	7,763	8,906	-1,143
2065	7,266	7,629	-363	2,257	3,388	-1,131	9,523	11,017	-1,494
2070	8,921	9,290	-369	2,771	4,358	-1,587	11,692	13,648	-1,956
2075	10,959	11,326	-367	3,402	5,563	-2,161	14,362	16,889	-2,528
2080	13,459	13,882	-423	4,178	7,060	-2,882	17,638	20,942	-3,304

Table VI.F9.—OASDI and HI Annual Income Excluding Interest, Cost, and Balance in Current Dollars, Calendar Years 2006-80 (Cont.)
[In billions]

Calendar year	OASDI			HI			Combined		
	Income excluding interest	Cost	Balance	Income excluding interest	Cost	Balance	Income excluding interest	Cost	Balance
High Cost:									
2006	$631	$567	$63	$187	$199	-$12	$818	$767	$51
2007	648	600	48	198	216	-19	846	817	29
2008	693	634	58	211	236	-24	904	870	34
2009	722	675	48	219	256	-37	942	931	11
2010	769	732	37	235	283	-48	1,004	1,015	-10
2011	832	800	32	258	317	-59	1,090	1,116	-26
2012	887	875	11	276	351	-75	1,163	1,227	-64
2013	936	951	-15	292	387	-95	1,228	1,338	-110
2014	985	1,027	-43	307	424	-116	1,292	1,451	-159
2015	1,034	1,108	-74	324	465	-141	1,358	1,573	-215
2020	1,321	1,583	-262	418	746	-328	1,739	2,329	-589
2025	1,676	2,216	-539	535	1,225	-690	2,212	3,441	-1,230
2030	2,118	3,038	-919	682	2,001	-1,319	2,800	5,039	-2,239
2035	2,666	4,027	-1,360	864	3,171	-2,307	3,530	7,197	-3,668
2040	3,341	5,193	-1,852	1,087	4,732	-3,645	4,428	9,925	-5,497
2045	4,173	6,630	-2,457	1,361	6,711	-5,350	5,534	13,342	-7,808
2050	5,183	8,434	-3,250	1,695	9,118	-7,422	6,879	17,551	-10,672
2055	6,425	10,739	-4,315	2,108	11,976	-9,868	8,533	22,716	-14,183
2060	7,945	13,687	-5,742	2,617	15,531	-12,914	10,562	29,217	-18,655
2065	9,805	17,469	-7,664	3,244	20,040	-16,797	13,048	37,509	-24,460
2070	12,088	22,284	-10,197	4,017	25,784	-21,767	16,105	48,068	-31,963
2075	14,883	28,263	-13,380	4,966	32,876	-27,909	19,849	61,139	-41,290
2080	18,300	35,648	-17,348	6,128	41,663	-35,535	24,428	77,311	-52,883

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Table VI.F10 shows projected future benefit amounts payable upon retirement at either the normal retirement age (NRA) or age 65, for workers attaining age 65 in 2006 and subsequent years. Illustrative benefit levels are shown for workers with four separate pre-retirement earnings patterns. All estimates are based on the intermediate assumptions in this report. The benefit amounts are shown in constant 2006 dollars (adjusted to 2006 levels by the CPI indexing series shown in table VI.F6). Benefit amounts are also shown as percentages of the career-average relative earnings level for each case, wage indexed to the year prior to retirement. These percentages thus represent the benefit "replacement rate" of the career-average level of earnings.

The normal retirement age is 65 for individuals who reached age 62 before 2000, was increased to age 66 during the period 2000-05 (at a rate of 2 months per year as workers attained age 62) and is scheduled to increase to age 67 during the period 2017-22 (also by 2 months per year as workers attain age 62). Thus, for illustrative cases attaining age 65 after 2002, benefit levels shown for retirement at 65 are lower than the levels shown for retire-

ment at NRA, primarily because of the actuarial reduction for "early" (pre-NRA) retirement.

Four different pre-retirement earnings patterns are represented in table VI.F10. Three of these patterns are for workers with scaled-earnings patterns,[1] reflecting low, medium, and high career-average levels of pre-retirement earnings starting at age 21. The fourth case is the steady maximum earner. The three scaled-earnings cases have earnings patterns that reflect differences by age in the probability of work and in average earnings levels experienced by insured workers during the period 1991-2002. The general, career-average level of earnings for the scaled cases is set relative to the national average wage index (AWI) so that benefit levels are consistent with levels for "steady-earnings" cases that were shown in the 2000 and earlier Trustees Reports. For the scaled medium earner, the general, career-average earnings level is about equal to the AWI. For the scaled low and high earners, the general, career-average earnings level is set at about 45 percent and 160 percent of the AWI, respectively. The steady maximum earner is assumed to have earnings at (or above) the OASDI contribution and benefit base for each year prior to retirement starting at age 22.

As noted above, the scaled-earnings cases were constructed so that their career-average earnings levels are consistent with those of the corresponding steady low, average, and high earners that were illustrated in the 2000 and earlier Trustees Reports. As a result, values in this table for benefits under the present-law Social Security benefit formula are essentially comparable to those in earlier reports. Scaled-earnings cases are now being used instead of steady-earnings cases because they more accurately illustrate the differences in benefit levels under the wide variety of reform proposals considered in recent years.

[1] More details are provided on scaled-earnings patterns in the Social Security Administration Actuarial Note Number 2005.3, located at the following internet address: www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/NOTES/ran3/an2005-3.html.

Table VI.F10.—Estimated Annual Scheduled Benefit Amounts[1] for Retired Workers With Various Pre-Retirement Earnings Patterns Based on Intermediate Assumptions, Calendar Years 2006-80

	Retirement at normal retirement age			Retirement at age 65		
Year attain age 65[2]	Age at retirement	Constant 2006 dollars[3]	Percent of earnings	Age at retirement	Constant 2006 dollars[3]	Percent of earnings
Scaled low earnings:[4]						
2006	65:8	$9,791	57.8	65:0	$9,354	55.9
2010	66:0	9,865	54.6	65:0	9,209	51.7
2015	66:0	10,661	55.7	65:0	9,958	52.6
2020	66:2	11,289	56.0	65:0	10,411	52.2
2025	67:0	11,877	55.4	65:0	10,293	49.0
2030	67:0	12,519	55.4	65:0	10,851	49.0
2035	67:0	13,200	55.3	65:0	11,437	48.9
2040	67:0	13,932	55.3	65:0	12,075	48.9
2045	67:0	14,716	55.3	65:0	12,754	48.9
2050	67:0	15,545	55.3	65:0	13,470	49.0
2055	67:0	16,405	55.4	65:0	14,215	49.0
2060	67:0	17,305	55.4	65:0	14,997	49.0
2065	67:0	18,254	55.3	65:0	15,821	49.0
2070	67:0	19,257	55.3	65:0	16,689	49.0
2075	67:0	20,315	55.3	65:0	17,607	49.0
2080	67:0	21,436	55.3	65:0	18,578	49.0
Scaled medium earnings:[5]						
2006	65:8	16,127	42.9	65:0	15,413	41.4
2010	66:0	16,258	40.5	65:0	15,174	38.3
2015	66:0	17,572	41.3	65:0	16,401	39.0
2020	66:2	18,605	41.5	65:0	17,158	38.7
2025	67:0	19,562	41.1	65:0	16,953	36.3
2030	67:0	20,625	41.1	65:0	17,875	36.3
2035	67:0	21,748	41.0	65:0	18,850	36.3
2040	67:0	22,959	41.0	65:0	19,896	36.3
2045	67:0	24,250	41.0	65:0	21,014	36.3
2050	67:0	25,609	41.0	65:0	22,196	36.3
2055	67:0	27,025	41.0	65:0	23,422	36.3
2060	67:0	28,509	41.0	65:0	24,707	36.3
2065	67:0	30,073	41.0	65:0	26,064	36.3
2070	67:0	31,725	41.0	65:0	27,494	36.3
2075	67:0	33,470	41.0	65:0	29,006	36.3
2080	67:0	35,316	41.0	65:0	30,607	36.3
Scaled high earnings:[6]						
2006	65:8	21,313	35.8	65:0	20,367	34.6
2010	66:0	21,555	33.5	65:0	20,121	31.8
2015	66:0	23,298	34.2	65:0	21,740	32.3
2020	66:2	24,673	34.4	65:0	22,754	32.1
2025	67:0	25,938	34.0	65:0	22,479	30.1
2030	67:0	27,349	34.0	65:0	23,701	30.1
2035	67:0	28,834	34.0	65:0	24,990	30.1
2040	67:0	30,441	34.0	65:0	26,381	30.1
2045	67:0	32,149	34.0	65:0	27,864	30.1
2050	67:0	33,954	34.0	65:0	29,427	30.1
2055	67:0	35,832	34.0	65:0	31,054	30.1
2060	67:0	37,798	34.0	65:0	32,757	30.1
2065	67:0	39,872	34.0	65:0	34,555	30.1
2070	67:0	42,061	34.0	65:0	36,452	30.1
2075	67:0	44,375	34.0	65:0	38,458	30.1
2080	67:0	46,821	34.0	65:0	40,578	30.1

Table VI.F10.—Estimated Annual Scheduled Benefit Amounts[1] for Retired Workers With Various Pre-Retirement Earnings Patterns Based on Intermediate Assumptions, Calendar Years 2006-80 (Cont.)

	Retirement at normal retirement age			Retirement at age 65		
Year attain age 65[2]	Age at retirement	Constant 2006 dollars[3]	Percent of earnings	Age at retirement	Constant 2006 dollars[3]	Percent of earnings
Steady maximum earnings:[7]						
2006	65:8	$24,685	29.7	65:0	$23,578	28.9
2010	66:0	25,732	27.5	65:0	23,820	26.1
2015	66:0	28,325	27.6	65:0	26,294	26.0
2020	66:2	30,134	27.6	65:0	27,692	25.7
2025	67:0	31,887	27.3	65:0	27,432	24.0
2030	67:0	33,653	27.3	65:0	28,964	24.0
2035	67:0	35,498	27.2	65:0	30,553	23.9
2040	67:0	37,438	27.2	65:0	32,221	24.0
2045	67:0	39,552	27.2	65:0	34,045	24.0
2050	67:0	41,715	27.3	65:0	35,908	24.0
2055	67:0	44,022	27.3	65:0	37,894	24.0
2060	67:0	46,434	27.3	65:0	39,971	24.0
2065	67:0	48,979	27.3	65:0	42,162	24.0
2070	67:0	51,667	27.3	65:0	44,475	24.0
2075	67:0	54,508	27.3	65:0	46,920	24.0
2080	67:0	57,513	27.3	65:0	49,507	24.0

[1] Annual scheduled benefit amounts are the total for the 12-month period starting with the month of retirement.
[2] Assumed to attain age 65 in January of the year.
[3] The adjustment for constant dollars is made using the adjusted CPI indexing series shown in table VI.F6.
[4] Career-average earnings at about 45 percent of the national average wage index (AWI).
[5] Career-average earnings at about 100 percent of the AWI.
[6] Career-average earnings at about 160 percent of the AWI.
[7] Earnings for each year equal to the OASDI contribution and benefit base.

G. ANALYSIS OF BENEFIT DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE OASI TRUST FUND WITH RESPECT TO DISABLED BENEFICIARIES

(Required by section 201(c) of the Social Security Act)

Effective January 1957, monthly benefits have been payable from the OASI Trust Fund to disabled children aged 18 and over of retired and deceased workers in those cases for which the disability began before age 18. The age before which disability is required to have begun was subsequently changed to age 22. Effective February 1968, reduced monthly benefits have been payable from this trust fund to disabled widows and widowers at ages 50 and over. Effective January 1991, the requirements for the disability of the widow or widower were made less restrictive.

On December 31, 2005, about 835,000 persons were receiving monthly benefits from the OASI Trust Fund because of their disabilities or the disabilities of children. This total includes 28,000 mothers and fathers (wives or husbands under age 65 of retired-worker beneficiaries and widows or widowers of deceased insured workers) who met all other qualifying requirements and were receiving unreduced benefits solely because they had disabled-child beneficiaries (or disabled children aged 16 or 17) in their care. Benefits paid from this trust fund to the persons described above totaled $6,288 million in calendar year 2005. Table VI.G1 shows these and similar figures for selected calendar years during 1960-2005, and estimated experience for 2006-15 based on the intermediate set of assumptions.

Table VI.G1.—Benefit Disbursements From the OASI Trust Fund With Respect to Disabled Beneficiaries

[Beneficiaries in thousands; benefit payments in millions]

Calendar year	Disabled beneficiaries, end of year			Amount of benefit payments[1]		
	Total	Children[2]	Widows-widowers[3]	Total	Children[2]	Widows-widowers[4]
Historical data:						
1960	117	117	—	$59	$59	—
1965	214	214	—	134	134	—
1970	316	281	36	301	260	$41
1975	435	376	58	664	560	104
1980	519	460	59	1,223	1,097	126
1985	594	547	47	2,072	1,885	187
1986	614	565	49	2,219	2,022	197
1987	629	580	49	2,331	2,128	203
1988	640	591	48	2,518	2,307	211
1989	651	602	49	2,680	2,459	221
1990	662	613	49	2,882	2,649	233
1991	687	627	61	3,179	2,875	304
1992	715	643	72	3,459	3,079	380
1993	740	659	81	3,752	3,296	456
1994	758	671	86	3,973	3,481	492
1995	772	681	91	4,202	3,672	531
1996	782	687	94	4,410	3,846	565
1997	789	693	96	4,646	4,050	596
1998	797	698	99	4,838	4,210	627
1999	805	702	102	4,991	4,336	655
2000	811	707	104	5,203	4,523	680
2001	817	712	105	5,520	4,802	718
2002	823	717	106	5,773	5,024	749
2003	826	721	105	5,746	4,979	764
2004	828	723	105	5,945	5,162	781
2005	835	727	108	6,288	5,386	843
Estimates:						
2006	846	739	108	6,572	5,701	863
2007	857	751	106	6,847	5,966	874
2008	870	765	105	7,151	6,251	892
2009	884	780	104	7,511	6,585	918
2010	900	796	104	7,905	6,946	949
2011	915	811	104	8,327	7,326	989
2012	929	825	104	8,768	7,721	1,034
2013	944	839	105	9,226	8,128	1,084
2014	957	852	105	9,684	8,547	1,121
2015	968	865	104	10,155	8,982	1,156

[1] Beginning in 1966, includes payments for vocational rehabilitation services.

[2] Also includes certain mothers and fathers (see text).

[3] In 1984 and later years, only disabled widows and widowers aged 50-59 are included because disabled widows and widowers aged 60-64 would be eligible for the same benefit as a nondisabled aged widow or widower; therefore, they are not receiving benefits solely because of a disability.

[4] In 1983 and prior years, reflects the offsetting effect of lower benefits payable to disabled widows and widowers who continued to receive benefits after attaining age 60 (62, for disabled widowers, prior to 1973) as compared to the higher nondisabled widow's and widower's benefits that would otherwise be payable. In 1984 and later years, only benefit payments to disabled widows and widowers aged 50-59 are included (see footnote 3).

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

Total benefit payments from the OASI Trust Fund with respect to disabled beneficiaries are estimated to increase from $6,572 million in calendar year 2006 to $10,155 million in calendar year 2015, based on the intermediate assumptions.

In calendar year 2005, benefit payments (including expenditures for vocational rehabilitation services) with respect to disabled persons from the OASI Trust Fund and from the DI Trust Fund (including payments from the latter fund to all children and spouses of disabled-worker beneficiaries) totaled $91,674 million. Of this amount, $6,288 million or 6.9 percent represented payments from the OASI Trust Fund. These and similar figures for selected calendar years during 1960-2005 and estimates for calendar years 2006-15 are presented in table VI.G2.

Table VI.G2.—Benefit Disbursements Under the OASDI Program With Respect to Disabled Beneficiaries
[Amounts in millions]

Calendar year	Total [1]	DI Trust Fund [2]	OASI Trust Fund	
			Amount [3]	Percentage of total
Historical data:				
1960	$627	$568	$59	9.4
1965	1,707	1,573	134	7.9
1970	3,386	3,085	301	8.9
1975	9,169	8,505	664	7.2
1980	16,738	15,515	1,223	7.3
1985	20,908	18,836	2,072	9.9
1986	22,075	19,856	2,219	10.1
1987	22,858	20,527	2,331	10.2
1988	24,226	21,708	2,518	10.4
1989	25,591	22,911	2,680	10.5
1990	27,717	24,835	2,882	10.4
1991	30,877	27,698	3,179	10.3
1992	34,583	31,124	3,459	10.0
1993	38,378	34,626	3,752	9.8
1994	41,730	37,757	3,973	9.5
1995	45,140	40,937	4,202	9.3
1996	48,615	44,205	4,410	9.1
1997	50,358	45,712	4,646	9.2
1998	53,062	48,224	4,838	9.1
1999	56,390	51,399	4,991	8.9
2000	60,204	55,001	5,203	8.6
2001	65,157	59,637	5,520	8.5
2002	71,493	65,721	5,773	8.1
2003	76,698	70,952	5,746	7.5
2004	84,197	78,251	5,945	7.1
2005	91,674	85,386	6,288	6.9
Estimates:				
2006	100,107	93,535	6,572	6.6
2007	105,888	99,042	6,847	6.5
2008	111,661	104,509	7,151	6.4
2009	117,894	110,382	7,511	6.4
2010	125,832	117,927	7,905	6.3
2011	131,480	123,153	8,327	6.3
2012	140,268	131,500	8,768	6.3
2013	147,855	138,629	9,226	6.2
2014	156,069	146,384	9,684	6.2
2015	164,807	154,651	10,155	6.2

[1] Beginning in 1966, includes payments for vocational rehabilitation services.
[2] Benefit payments to disabled workers and their children and spouses.
[3] Benefit payments to disabled children aged 18 and over, to certain mothers and fathers (see text), and to disabled widows and widowers (see footnote 4, table VI.G1).

Note: Totals do not necessarily equal the sums of rounded components.

H. GLOSSARY

Actuarial balance. The difference between the summarized income rate and the summarized cost rate over a given valuation period.

Actuarial deficit. A negative actuarial balance.

Administrative expenses. Expenses incurred by the Social Security Administration and the Department of the Treasury in administering the OASDI program and the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code relating to the collection of contributions. Such administrative expenses are paid from the OASI and DI Trust Funds.

Advance tax transfers. Amounts representing the estimated total OASDI tax contributions for a given month. From May 1983 through November 1990, such amounts were credited to the OASI and DI Trust Funds at the beginning of each month. Reimbursements were made from the trust funds to the General Fund of the Treasury for the associated loss of interest. Advance tax transfers are no longer made unless needed in order to pay benefits.

Alternatives I, II, or III. See "Assumptions."

Annual balance. The difference between the income rate and the cost rate in a given year.

Assets. Treasury notes and bonds, other securities guaranteed by the Federal Government, certain Federally sponsored agency obligations, and cash, held by the trust funds for investment purposes.

Assumptions. Values relating to future trends in certain key factors which affect the balance in the trust funds. Demographic assumptions include fertility, mortality, net immigration, marriage, and divorce. Economic assumptions include unemployment rates, average earnings, inflation, interest rates, and productivity. Program-specific assumptions include retirement patterns, and disability incidence and termination rates. Three sets of demographic, economic, and program-specific assumptions are presented in this report—

- Alternative II is the intermediate set of assumptions, and represents the Trustees' best estimates of likely future demographic, economic, and program-specific conditions.
- Alternative I is characterized as a low cost set—it assumes relatively rapid economic growth, low inflation, and favorable (from the standpoint of program financing) demographic conditions.
- Alternative III is characterized as a high cost set—it assumes relatively slow economic growth, high inflation, and unfavorable (from the standpoint of program financing) demographic conditions.

See tables V.A1, V.B1, and V.B2.

Automatic cost-of-living benefit increase. The annual increase in benefits, effective for December, reflecting the increase in the cost of living. The benefit increase equals the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) measured from the average over July, August, and September of the preceding year to the average for the same 3 months in the current year. If the increase is less than one-tenth of 1 percent, when rounded, there is no automatic increase for the current year; the increase for the next year would reflect the net increase in the CPI over a 2-year period. See table V.C1.

Auxiliary benefits. Monthly benefits payable to a spouse or child of a retired or disabled worker, or to a survivor of a deceased worker.

Average indexed monthly earnings—AIME. The amount of earnings used in determining the primary insurance amount (PIA) for most workers who attain age 62, become disabled, or die after 1978. A worker's actual past earnings are adjusted by changes in the average wage index, in order to bring them up to their approximately equivalent value at the time of retirement or other eligibility for benefits.

Average wage index—AWI. The average amount of total wages for each year after 1950, including wages in noncovered employment and wages in covered employment in excess of the OASDI contribution and benefit base. (See Title 20, Chapter III, section 404.211(c) of the Code of Federal Regulations for a more precise definition.) These average wage amounts are used to index the taxable earnings of most workers first becoming eligible for benefits in 1979 or later, and for automatic adjustments in the contribution and benefit base, bend points, earnings test exempt amounts, and other wage-indexed amounts. See table V.C1.

Award. An administrative determination that an individual is entitled to receive a specified type of OASDI benefit. Awards can represent not only new entrants to the benefit rolls but also persons already on the rolls who become entitled to a different type of benefit. Awards usually result in the immediate payment of benefits, although payments may be deferred or withheld depending on the individual's particular circumstances.

Baby boom. The period from the end of World War II through the mid-1960s marked by unusually high birth rates.

Bend points. The dollar amounts defining the AIME or PIA brackets in the benefit formulas. For the bend points for years 1979 and later, see table V.C2.

Beneficiary. A person who has been awarded benefits on the basis of his or her own or another's earnings record. The benefits may be either in current-payment status or withheld.

Benefit award. See "Award."

Benefit payments. The amounts disbursed for OASI and DI benefits by the Department of the Treasury in specified periods.

Benefit termination. See "Termination."

Best estimate assumptions. See "Assumptions."

Board of Trustees. A Board established by the Social Security Act to oversee the financial operations of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund. The Board is composed of six members, four of whom serve automatically by virtue of their positions in the Federal Government: the Secretary of the Treasury, who is the Managing Trustee, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Commissioner of Social Security. The other two members are appointed by the President to serve as public representatives.

Book value. A bond's value between its price at purchase and its value at maturity. Book value is calculated as par value plus unamortized premium, if purchased at a price above its par value, or less unamortized discount, if purchased below par.

Closed group unfunded obligation. This measure is computed like the open group unfunded obligation except that individuals under the age of 15 (or not yet born) are excluded. In other words, only persons who are 15 years or older as of the valuation date are included in the calculations.

Constant dollars. Amounts adjusted by the CPI to the value of the dollar in a particular year.

Consumer Price Index—CPI. An official measure of inflation in consumer prices. In this report, all references to the CPI relate to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Historical values for the CPI-W are published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor.

Contribution and benefit base. Annual dollar amount above which earnings in employment covered under the OASDI program are neither taxable nor creditable for benefit computation purposes. (Also referred to as maximum contribution and benefit base, annual creditable maximum, taxable maximum, and maximum taxable.) See tables V.C1 and VI.A1. See "HI contribution base."

Contributions. The amount based on a percent of earnings, up to an annual maximum, that must be paid by—

- employers and employees on wages from employment under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act,
- the self-employed on net earnings from self-employment under the Self-Employment Contributions Act, and

- States on the wages of State and local government employees covered under the Social Security Act through voluntary agreements under section 218 of the Act.

Generally, employers withhold contributions from wages, add an equal amount of contributions, and pay both on a current basis. Also referred to as taxes.

Cost-of-living adjustment. See "Automatic cost-of-living benefit increase."

Cost rate. The cost rate for a year is the ratio of the cost of the program to the taxable payroll for the year. In this context, the cost is defined to include scheduled benefit payments, special monthly payments to certain uninsured persons who have 3 or more quarters of coverage (and whose payments are therefore not reimbursable from the General Fund of the Treasury), administrative expenses, net transfers from the trust funds to the Railroad Retirement program under the financial-interchange provisions, and payments for vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries; it excludes special monthly payments to certain uninsured persons whose payments are reimbursable from the General Fund of the Treasury (as described above), and transfers under the interfund borrowing provisions.

Covered earnings. Earnings in employment covered by the OASDI program.

Covered employment. All employment for which earnings are creditable for Social Security purposes. Almost all employment is covered under the program. Some exceptions are:

- State and local government employees whose employer has not elected to be covered under Social Security and who are participating in an employer-provided pension plan.
- Current Federal civilian workers hired before 1984 who have not elected to be covered.
- Self-employed workers earning less than $400 in a calendar year.

Covered worker. A person who has earnings creditable for Social Security purposes on the basis of services for wages in covered employment and/or on the basis of income from covered self-employment.

Creditable earnings. Wage or self-employment earnings posted to a worker's earnings record, upon which eligibility for and amount of benefits on that worker's record is based. The maximum amount of creditable earnings for each worker in a calendar year is determined by the contribution and benefit base.

Current-cost financing. See "Pay-as-you-go financing."

Current dollars. Amounts expressed in nominal dollars with no adjustment for inflationary changes in the value of the dollar over time.

Current-payment status. Status of a beneficiary to whom a benefit is being paid for a given month (with or without deductions, provided the deductions add to less than a full month's benefit).

Deemed wage credit. See "Military service wage credits."

Delayed Retirement Credit. Increases the benefit amount for certain individuals who did not receive benefits for months after attainment of the normal retirement age but before age 70. Delayed retirement credits are applicable for January benefits of the year following the year they are earned or for the month of attainment of age 70, whichever comes first. See table V.C3.

Demographic assumptions. See "Assumptions."

Deterministic model. A model with specified assumptions for and relationships among variables. Under such a model, any specified set of assumptions determines a single outcome directly reflecting the specifications.

Disability. For Social Security purposes, the inability to engage in substantial gainful activity (see "Substantial gainful activity—SGA") by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. Special rules apply for workers at ages 55 and over whose disability is based on blindness.

The law generally requires that a person be disabled continuously for 5 months before he or she can qualify for a disabled-worker benefit.

Disability incidence rate. The proportion of workers in a given year, insured for but not receiving disability benefits, who apply for and are awarded disability benefits.

Disability Insurance (DI) Trust Fund. See "Trust fund."

Disability termination rate. The proportion of disabled-worker beneficiaries in a given year whose disability benefits terminate as a result of the individual's recovery, death, or attainment of normal retirement age.

Disabled-worker benefit. A monthly benefit payable to a disabled worker under normal retirement age and insured for disability. Before November 1960, disability benefits were limited to disabled workers aged 50-64.

Disbursements. Actual expenditures (outgo) made or expected to be made under current law, including benefits paid or payable, special monthly payments to certain uninsured persons who have 3 or more quarters of coverage (and whose payments are therefore not reimbursable from the General Fund of the Treasury), administrative expenses, net transfers from the trust funds to the Railroad Retirement program under the financial-interchange provisions, and payments for vocational rehabilitation services for disabled beneficiaries; it excludes special monthly payments to certain uninsured persons

whose payments are reimbursable from the General Fund of the Treasury (as described above), and transfers under the interfund borrowing provisions.

Earnings. Unless otherwise qualified, all wages from employment and net earnings from self-employment, whether or not taxable or covered.

Earnings test. The provision requiring the withholding of benefits if beneficiaries under normal retirement age have earnings in excess of certain exempt amounts. See table V.C1.

Economic assumptions. See "Assumptions."

Effective interest rate. See "Interest rate."

Excess wages. Wages in excess of the contribution and benefit base on which a worker initially pays taxes (usually as a result of working for more than one employer during a year). Employee taxes on excess wages are refundable to affected employees, while the employer taxes are not refundable.

Expenditures. See "Disbursements."

Federal Insurance Contributions Act—FICA. Provision authorizing taxes on the wages of employed persons to provide for Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance, and for Hospital Insurance. The tax is paid in equal amounts by workers and their employers.

Financial interchange. Provisions of the Railroad Retirement Act providing for transfers between the trust funds and the Social Security Equivalent Benefit Account of the Railroad Retirement program in order to place each trust fund in the same position it would have been in if railroad employment had always been covered under Social Security.

Fiscal year. The accounting year of the United States Government. Since 1976, a fiscal year is the 12-month period ending September 30. For example, fiscal year 2006 began October 1, 2005 and will end September 30, 2006.

Full advance funding. A financing scheme where taxes or contributions are established to match the full cost of future benefits as these costs are incurred through current service. Such financing methods also provide for amortization over a fixed period of any financial liability that is incurred at the beginning of the program (or subsequent modification) as a result of granting credit for past service.

General Fund of the Treasury. Funds held by the Treasury of the United States, other than receipts collected for a specific purpose (such as Social Security) and maintained in a separate account for that purpose.

General fund reimbursements. Transfers from the General Fund of the Treasury to the trust funds for specific purposes defined in the law, such as:

- The costs associated with providing special payments made to uninsured persons who attained age 72 before 1968, and who had fewer than 3 quarters of coverage.
- Payments corresponding to the employee-employer taxes on deemed wage credits for military personnel.
- Interest on checks which are not negotiated 6 months after the month of issue. (For checks issued before October, 1989, the principal was returned to the trust funds as a general fund reimbursement; since that time, the principal amount is automatically returned to the issuing fund when the check is uncashed after a year.)
- Administrative expenses incurred as a result of furnishing information on deferred vested benefits to pension plan participants, as required by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-406).

Gross domestic product—GDP. The total dollar value of all goods and services produced by labor and property located in the United States, regardless of who supplies the labor or property.

HI contribution base. Annual dollar amount above which earnings in employment covered under the HI program are not taxable. (Also referred to as maximum contribution base, taxable maximum, and maximum taxable.) Beginning in 1994, the HI contribution base was eliminated.

High cost assumptions. See "Assumptions."

Hospital Insurance (HI) Trust Fund. See "Trust fund."

Immigration. See "Legal immigration" and "Other immigration."

Income rate. Ratio of income from tax revenues on a liability basis (payroll-tax contributions and income from the taxation of scheduled benefits) to the OASDI taxable payroll for the year.

Inflation. An increase in the volume of money and credit relative to available goods, resulting in an increase in the general price level.

Insured status. The state or condition of having sufficient quarters of coverage to meet the eligibility requirements for retired-worker or disabled-worker benefits, or to permit the worker's spouse and children or survivors to establish eligibility for benefits in the event of his or her disability, retirement, or death. See "Quarters of coverage."

Interest. A payment in exchange for the use of money during a specified period.

Interest rate. Interest rates on new public-debt obligations issuable to Federal trust funds (see "Special public-debt obligation") are determined monthly. Such rates are set equal to the average market yield on all outstanding marketable U.S. securities not due or callable until after 4 years from the date the rate is determined. See table V.B2 for historical and assumed future

interest rates on new special-issue securities. The effective interest rate for a trust fund is the ratio of the interest earned by the fund over a given period of time to the average level of assets held by the fund during the period. The effective rate of interest thus represents a measure of the overall average interest earnings on the fund's portfolio of assets.

Interfund borrowing. The borrowing of assets by a trust fund (OASI, DI, or HI) from another of the trust funds when the first fund is in danger of exhaustion. Interfund borrowing was permitted by the Social Security Act only during 1982 through 1987; all amounts borrowed were to be repaid prior to the end of 1989. The only exercise of this authority occurred in 1982, when the OASI Trust Fund borrowed assets from the DI and HI Trust Funds. The final repayment of borrowed amounts occurred in 1986.

Intermediate assumptions. See "Assumptions."

Legal immigration. Consistent with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, legal immigrants are individuals who are admitted to the United States for legal permanent residence.

Life expectancy. Average remaining number of years expected prior to death. Period life expectancy is calculated for a given year using the actual or expected death rates at each age for that year. Cohort life expectancy, sometimes referred to as generational life expectancy, is calculated for individuals at a specific age in a given year using actual or expected death rates from the years in which the individuals would actually reach each succeeding age if he or she survives.

Long range. The next 75 years. Long-range actuarial estimates are made for this period because it is approximately the maximum remaining lifetime of current Social Security participants.

Low cost assumptions

See "Assumptions."

Lump-sum death benefit. A lump sum, generally $255, payable on the death of a fully or currently insured worker. The lump sum is payable to the surviving spouse of the worker, under most circumstances, or to the worker's children.

Maximum family benefit. The maximum monthly amount that can be paid on a worker's earnings record. Whenever the total of the individual monthly benefits payable to all the beneficiaries entitled on one earnings record exceeds the maximum, each dependent's or survivor's benefit is proportionately reduced to bring the total within the maximum. Benefits payable to divorced spouses or surviving divorced spouses are not reduced under the family maximum provision.

Medicare. A nationwide, Federally administered health insurance program authorized in 1965 to cover the cost of hospitalization, medical care, and

some related services for most people age 65 and over. In 1972, coverage was extended to people receiving Social Security Disability Insurance payments for 2 years, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease. In 2006, prescription drug coverage was also added. Medicare consists of two separate but coordinated programs—Hospital Insurance (HI, Part A) and Supplementary Medical Insurance (SMI). The SMI program is composed of three separate accounts—the Part B Account, the Part D Account, and the Transitional Assistance Account. Almost all persons who are aged 65 and over or disabled and who are entitled to HI are eligible to enroll in Part B and Part D on a voluntary basis by paying monthly premiums. Health insurance protection is available to Medicare beneficiaries without regard to income.

Military service wage credits. Credits recognizing that military personnel receive wages in kind (such as food and shelter) in addition to their basic pay and other cash payments. Noncontributory wage credits of $160 were provided for each month of active military service from September 16, 1940, through December 31, 1956. For years after 1956, the basic pay of military personnel is covered under the Social Security program on a contributory basis. In addition to the contributory credits for basic pay, noncontributory wage credits of $300 were granted for each calendar quarter, from January 1957 through December 1977, in which a person received pay for military service. Noncontributory wage credits of $100 were granted for each $300 of military wages, up to a maximum credit of $1,200 per calendar year, from January 1978 through December 2001.

National average wage index—AWI. See "Average wage index—AWI."

Normal retirement age. The age at which a person may first become entitled to unreduced retirement benefits. For persons reaching age 62 before 2000, the normal retirement age is 65. It will increase gradually to 67 for persons reaching that age in 2027 or later, beginning with an increase to 65 years and 2 months for persons reaching age 65 in 2003. See table V.C3.

Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) Trust Fund. See "Trust fund."

Old-law base. Amount the contribution and benefit base would have been if the discretionary increases in the base under the 1977 amendments had not been enacted. The Social Security Amendments of 1972 provided for automatic annual indexing of the contribution and benefit base. The Social Security Amendments of 1977 provided ad hoc increases to the bases for 1979-81, with subsequent bases updated in accordance with the normal indexing procedure. See table V.C2.

Open group unfunded obligation. This measure is computed as the excess of the present value of the projected cost of the program over a specified time period (for example the next 75 years or the infinite future) over the sum of (1) the value of trust fund assets at the beginning of the period and (2)

the present value of the projected tax income of the program, assuming scheduled tax rates and benefit levels.

Other immigration. Individuals who enter the United States and are not admitted for legal permanent residence. This includes individuals who are legally admitted, but not seeking permanent residence as well as those who are unauthorized.

Outgo. See "Disbursements."

Par value. The value printed on the face of a bond. For both public and special issues held by the trust funds, par value is also the redemption value at maturity.

Partial advance funding. A financing scheme where taxes are scheduled to provide a substantial accumulation of trust fund assets, thereby generating additional interest income to the trust funds and reducing the need for payroll tax increases in periods when costs are relatively high. (Higher general taxes or additional borrowing may be required, however, to support the payment of such interest.) While substantial, the trust fund buildup under partial advance funding is much smaller than it would be with full advance funding.

Pay-as-you-go financing. A financing scheme where taxes are scheduled to produce just as much income as required to pay current benefits, with trust fund assets built up only to the extent needed to prevent exhaustion of the fund by random economic fluctuations.

Payment cycling. Beneficiaries on the rolls before May 1, 1997, are paid on the third of the month. Persons applying for OASDI benefits after April 1997, however, generally are paid on the second, third, or fourth Wednesday of the month following the month for which payment is due. The particular Wednesday payment date is based on the wage earner's date of birth. For those born on the first through tenth, the benefit payment day is the second Wednesday of the month; for those born on the eleventh through the twentieth, the benefit payment day is the third Wednesday of the month; and for those born after the twentieth of the month, the payment day is the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Payroll taxes. A tax levied on the gross wages of workers. See tables VI.A1 and VI.F1.

Population in the Social Security area. The population comprised of (i) residents of the 50 States and the District of Columbia (adjusted for net census undercount); (ii) civilian residents of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands; (iii) Federal civilian employees and persons in the U.S. Armed Forces abroad and their dependents; (iv) crew members of merchant vessels; and (v) all other U.S. citizens abroad.

Present value. The equivalent value, at the present time, of a future stream of payments (either income or cost). The present value of a future stream of payments may be thought of as the lump-sum amount that, if invested today, together with interest earnings would be just enough to meet each of the payments as they fell due. Present values are widely used in calculations involving financial transactions over long periods of time to account for the time value of money (interest). For the purpose of present-value calculations for this report, values are discounted by the effective yield on trust fund assets.

Primary insurance amount—PIA. The monthly amount payable to a retired worker who begins to receive benefits at normal retirement age or (generally) to a disabled worker. This amount, which is related to the worker's average monthly wage or average indexed monthly earnings, is also the amount used as a base for computing all types of benefits payable on the basis of one individual's earnings record.

Primary-insurance-amount formula. The mathematical formula relating the PIA to the AIME for workers who attain age 62, become disabled, or die after 1978. The PIA is equal to the sum of 90 percent of AIME up to the first bend point, plus 32 percent of AIME above the first bend point up to the second bend point, plus 15 percent of AIME in excess of the second bend point. Automatic benefit increases are applied beginning with the year of eligibility. See table V.C2 for historical and assumed future bend points and table V.C1 for historical and assumed future benefit increases.

Quarters of coverage. Basic unit of measurement for determining insured status. In 2006, a worker receives one quarter of coverage (up to a total of four) for each $970 of annual covered earnings. The amount of earnings required for a quarter of coverage is subject to annual automatic increases in proportion to increases in average wages. For amounts applicable for years after 1978, see table V.C2.

Railroad retirement. A Federal insurance program, somewhat similar to Social Security, designed for workers in the railroad industry. The provisions of the Railroad Retirement Act provide for a system of coordination and financial interchange between the Railroad Retirement program and the Social Security program.

Reallocation of tax rates. An increase in the tax rate payable to either the OASI or DI Trust Fund, with a corresponding reduction in the rate for the other fund, so that the total OASDI tax rate is not changed.

Real-wage differential. The difference between the percentage increases in (1) the average annual wage in covered employment and (2) the average annual Consumer Price Index. See table V.B1.

Recession. A period of adverse economic conditions; in particular, two or more successive calendar quarters of negative growth in gross domestic product.

Retired-worker benefit. A monthly benefit payable to a fully insured retired worker aged 62 or older or to a person entitled under the transitionally insured status provision in the law. Retired-worker benefit data do not include special age-72 benefits.

Retirement age. The age at which an individual establishes entitlement to retirement benefits. See "Normal retirement age."

Retirement earnings test. See "Earnings test."

Retirement test. See "Earnings test."

Self-employment. Operation of a trade or business by an individual or by a partnership in which an individual is a member.

Self-Employment Contributions Act–SECA. Provision authorizing Social Security taxes on the net earnings of most self-employed persons.

Short range. The next 10 years. Short-range actuarial estimates are prepared for this period because of the short-range test of financial adequacy. The Social Security Act requires estimates for 5 years; estimates are prepared for an additional 5 years to help clarify trends which are only starting to develop in the mandated first 5-year period.

Social Security Act. Provisions of the law governing most operations of the Social Security program. Original Social Security Act is Public Law 74-271, enacted August 14, 1935. With subsequent amendments, the Social Security Act consists of 20 titles, of which four have been repealed. The Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance program is authorized by title II of the Social Security Act.

Solvency. A program is solvent at a point in time if it is able to pay scheduled benefits when due with scheduled financing. For example, the OASDI program is considered solvent over any period for which the trust funds maintain a positive balance throughout the period.

Special public-debt obligation. Securities of the United States Government issued exclusively to the OASI, DI, HI, and SMI Trust Funds and other Federal trust funds. Section 201(d) of the Social Security Act provides that the public-debt obligations issued for purchase by the OASI and DI Trust Funds shall have maturities fixed with due regard for the needs of the funds. The usual practice has been to spread the holdings of special issues, as of each June 30, so that the amounts maturing in each of the next 15 years are approximately equal. Special public-debt obligations are redeemable at par value at any time and carry interest rates determined by law (see "Interest rate"). See tables VI.A5 and VI.A6 for a listing of the obligations held by the OASI and DI Trust Funds, respectively.

Statutory blindness. Central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens or tunnel vision of 20° or less.

Stochastic model. A model used for projecting a probability distribution of potential outcomes. Such models allow for random variation in one or more variables through time. The random variation is generally based on fluctuations observed in historical data for a selected period. Distributions of potential outcomes are derived from a large number of simulations, each of which reflects random variation in the variable(s).

Substantial gainful activity—SGA. The level of work activity used to establish disability. A finding of disability requires that a person be unable to engage in substantial gainful activity. A person who is earning more than a certain monthly amount (net of impairment-related work expenses) is ordinarily considered to be engaging in SGA. The amount of monthly earnings considered as SGA depends on the nature of a person's disability. The Social Security Act specifies a higher SGA amount for statutorily blind individuals; Federal regulations specify a lower SGA amount for non-blind individuals. Both SGA amounts increase with increases in the national average wage index.

Summarized balance. The difference between the summarized cost rate and the summarized income rate, expressed as a percentage of taxable payroll.

Summarized cost rate. The ratio of the present value of cost to the present value of the taxable payroll for the years in a given period, expressed as a percentage. This percentage can be used as a measure of the relative level of cost during the period in question. For purposes of evaluating the financial adequacy of the program, the summarized cost rate is adjusted to include the cost of reaching and maintaining a target trust fund level. Because a trust fund level of about 1 year's cost is considered to be an adequate reserve for unforeseen contingencies, the targeted trust fund ratio used in determining summarized cost rates is 100 percent of annual cost. Accordingly, the adjusted summarized cost rate is equal to the ratio of (a) the sum of the present value of the cost during the period plus the present value of the targeted ending trust fund level, to (b) the present value of the taxable payroll during the projection period.

Summarized income rate. The ratio of the present value of scheduled tax income to the present value of taxable payroll for the years in a given period, expressed as a percentage. This percentage can be used as a measure of the relative level of income during the period in question. For purposes of evaluating the financial adequacy of the program, the summarized income rate is adjusted to include assets on hand at the beginning of the period. Accordingly, the adjusted summarized income rate equals the ratio of (a) the sum of the trust fund balance at the beginning of the period plus the present value of the total income from taxes during the period, to (b) the present value of the taxable payroll for the years in the period.

Supplemental Security Income—SSI. A Federally administered program (often with State supplementation) of cash assistance for needy aged, blind, or disabled persons. SSI is funded through the General Fund of the Treasury and administered by the Social Security Administration.

Supplementary Medical Insurance (SMI) Trust Fund. See "Trust fund."

Survivor benefit. Benefit payable to a survivor of a deceased worker.

Sustainable solvency. Sustainable solvency for the financing of the program is achieved when the program has positive trust fund ratios throughout the 75-year projection period and these ratios are stable or rising at the end of the period.

Taxable earnings. Wages and/or self-employment income, in employment covered by the OASDI and/or HI programs, that is under the applicable annual maximum taxable limit. For 1994 and later, no maximum taxable limit applies to the HI program.

Taxable payroll. A weighted average of taxable wages and taxable self-employment income. When multiplied by the combined employee-employer tax rate, it yields the total amount of taxes incurred by employees, employers, and the self-employed for work during the period.

Taxable self-employment income. The maximum amount of net earnings from self employment by an earner which, when added to any taxable wages, does not exceed the contribution and benefit base. For HI beginning in 1994, all of net earnings from self employment.

Taxable wages. See "Taxable earnings."

Taxation of benefits. During 1984-93, up to one-half of an individual's or a couple's OASDI benefits was potentially subject to Federal income taxation under certain circumstances. The revenue derived from this provision was allocated to the OASI and DI Trust Funds on the basis of the income taxes paid on the benefits from each fund. Beginning in 1994, the maximum portion of OASDI benefits potentially subject to taxation was increased to 85 percent. The additional revenue derived from taxation of benefits in excess of one-half, up to 85 percent, is allocated to the HI Trust Fund.

Taxes. See "Contributions."

Termination. Cessation of payment of a specific type of benefit because the beneficiary is no longer entitled to receive it. For example, benefits might terminate as a result of the death of the beneficiary, the recovery of a disabled beneficiary, or the attainment of age 18 by a child beneficiary. In some cases, the individual may become immediately entitled to another type of benefit (such as the conversion of a disabled-worker beneficiary at normal retirement age to a retired-worker beneficiary).

Test of long-range close actuarial balance. Summarized income rates and cost rates are calculated for each of 66 valuation periods within the full 75-

year long-range projection period. The first of these periods consists of the next 10 years. Each succeeding period becomes longer by 1 year, culminating with the period consisting of the next 75 years. The long-range test is met if, for each of the 66 valuation periods, the actuarial balance is not less than zero or is negative by, at most, a specified percentage of the summarized cost rate for the same time period. The percentage allowed for a negative actuarial balance is 0 percent for the 10-year period, grading uniformly to 5 percent for the full 75-year period. The criterion for meeting the test is less stringent for the longer periods in recognition of the greater uncertainty associated with estimates for more distant years. The test is applied to OASI and DI separately, as well as combined, based on the intermediate set of assumptions.

Test of short-range financial adequacy. The conditions required to meet this test are as follows:

- If the trust fund ratio for a fund exceeds 100 percent at the beginning of the projection period, then it must be projected to remain at or above 100 percent throughout the 10-year projection period;
- Alternatively, if the fund ratio is initially less than 100 percent, it must be projected to reach a level of at least 100 percent within 5 years (and not be depleted at any time during this period) and then remain at or above 100 percent throughout the remainder of the 10-year period.

These conditions apply to each trust fund separately, as well as to the combined funds, and are evaluated based on the intermediate set of assumptions.

Total fertility rate. The average number of children who would be born to a woman in her lifetime if she were to experience the birth rates by age observed in, or assumed for, a specified year, and if she were to survive the entire childbearing period.

Trust fund. Separate accounts in the United States Treasury in which are deposited the taxes received under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act and the Self-Employment Contributions Act, as well as taxes resulting from coverage of State and local government employees; any sums received under the financial interchange with the railroad retirement account; voluntary hospital and medical insurance premiums; and transfers of Federal general revenues. Funds not withdrawn for current monthly or service benefits, the financial interchange, and administrative expenses are invested in interest-bearing Federal securities, as required by law; the interest earned is also deposited in the trust funds.

- **Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI).** The trust fund used for paying monthly benefits to retired-worker (old-age) beneficiaries and their spouses and children and to survivors of deceased insured workers.

- **Disability Insurance (DI).** The trust fund used for paying monthly benefits to disabled-worker beneficiaries and their spouses and children and for providing rehabilitation services to the disabled.
- **Hospital Insurance (HI).** The trust fund used for paying part of the costs of inpatient hospital services and related care for aged and disabled individuals who meet the eligibility requirements. Also known as Medicare Part A.
- **Supplementary Medical Insurance (SMI).** The Medicare trust fund composed of the Part B Account, the Part D Account, and the Transitional Assistance Account. The Part B Account pays for a portion of the costs of physicians' services, outpatient hospital services, and other related medical and health services for voluntarily enrolled aged and disabled individuals. The Part D Account pays private plans to provide prescription drug coverage, beginning in 2006. The Transitional Assistance Account paid for transitional assistance under the prescription drug card program in 2004 and 2005.

Trust fund ratio. A measure of the adequacy of the trust fund level. Defined as the assets at the beginning of the year, including advance tax transfers (if any), expressed as a percentage of the cost during the year. The trust fund ratio represents the proportion of a year's cost which could be paid with the funds available at the beginning of the year.

Unfunded obligation. See "Open group unfunded obligation" and "Closed group unfunded obligation".

Unnegotiated check. A check which has not been cashed 6 months after the end of the month in which the check was issued. When a check has been outstanding for a year (i) the check is administratively cancelled by the Department of the Treasury and (ii) the issuing trust fund is reimbursed separately for the amount of the check and interest for the period the check was outstanding. The appropriate trust fund also receives an interest adjustment for the time the check was outstanding if it is cashed 6-12 months after the month of issue. If a check is presented for payment after it is administratively cancelled, a replacement check is issued.

Valuation period. A period of years which is considered as a unit for purposes of calculating the financial status of a trust fund.

Vocational rehabilitation. Services provided to disabled persons to help enable them to return to gainful employment. Reimbursement from the trust funds for the costs of such services is made only in those cases where the services contributed to the successful rehabilitation of the beneficiaries.

Year of exhaustion. The year in which a trust fund would become unable to pay benefits when due because the assets of the fund were exhausted.

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STATEMENT OF ACTUARIAL OPINION

It is my opinion that (1) the techniques and methodology used herein to evaluate the financial and actuarial status of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds are based upon sound principles of actuarial practice and are generally accepted within the actuarial profession; and (2) the assumptions used and the resulting actuarial estimates are, individually and in the aggregate, reasonable for the purpose of evaluating the financial and actuarial status of the trust funds, taking into consideration the past experience and future expectations for the population, the economy, and the program.

Stephen C. Goss,

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