

Characteristics of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries who are parents

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A substantial share of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries are parents of children under age 18. Parent beneficiaries are likely to differ from other beneficiaries not only in terms of their personal characteristics, but also in terms of their income sources and the employment barriers and incentives they face. This brief presents a profile of parent beneficiaries and compares them to nonparents. We find that parent beneficiaries differ significantly from other beneficiaries in terms of their personal characteristics and health, and are more likely to be poor. They are much more likely to report employment goals and expectations, but equally likely as other beneficiaries to be employed. However, those who work typically work and earn more than other employed beneficiaries.

Introduction

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) programs provide vital income support to working-age individuals with significant disabilities. A non-trivial share of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries are parents of children under age 18. Under SSI, no additional payments are provided for recipients with children. Under SSDI, the children of beneficiaries may be eligible to receive auxiliary benefits. Beneficiaries who are parents may face a host of issues that differ from those of other beneficiaries without dependent children and that have implications for their employment and economic well-being.

In this data brief, we present statistics that describe the personal characteristics, employment, and income sources of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries who are parents of minor children, and compare their characteristics with those of other beneficiaries. It is one in a series of data briefs that highlight information from the National Beneficiary Survey (NBS).¹ These data briefs make descriptive statistics available on specific subgroups of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries, to provide a better understanding of the many faces of disability.

Data and methods

We used data from four waves of the NBS fielded in 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010, and pooled these data to obtain a larger sample of beneficiaries who are parents. We classified beneficiaries as parents if they reported having biological, foster, or adopted children under the age of 18, regardless of whether the children lived with them or resided elsewhere. Here, the term “parent” refers only to parents of children under age 18. Beneficiaries who are parents of adult children are included in the nonparent category. We also grouped parent and nonparent beneficiaries into three subgroups based on their disability program participation status at the time of sampling: SSDI-only, concurrent (participating in both SSI and SSDI), and SSI-only.

We report statistics for sample members who were age 18 to 64 (working age) at the time of the NBS interview. Table 1 presents the sample sizes for the subgroups of interest. In the tables, we present statistics overall and by program status for both parent and nonparent beneficiaries. The discussion generally focuses only on the overall statistics. All statistics were derived using the relevant survey weights, and all standard errors used to compute tests of statistical significance account appropriately for the complex NBS sampling design. Monetary variables are inflation-adjusted to 2010 dollars. All noted differences between parents and nonparents are statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

What share of beneficiaries are parents?

Overall, 20 percent of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries are parents (Table 1), with the highest rate of parenthood among SSI-only recipients (24 percent).² About half of all parent beneficiaries (51 percent) have just one child, and about 20 percent have three or more. Most parents (69 percent) live with their minor children and most (61 percent) are unmarried. About one-fifth of parents (21 percent) have children under the age of six (Table 2).

Some differences in personal characteristics between SSI parents (including concurrent beneficiaries) and SSDI-only parents are evident (Table 2). SSI parents are more likely to be age

¹ The NBS was originally developed and implemented to support the evaluation of the Social Security Administration’s Ticket to Work program. The survey collected cross-sectional data from a national sample of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries age 18 to full retirement age. The cross-sectional beneficiary sample sizes ranged from approximately 2,500 to 6,500 across the four rounds. The samples for each round are representative of beneficiaries on the SSI and SSDI rolls as of June of the calendar year before each survey year. The primary purpose of the survey is to provide information on the work-related activities of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries. For more information about the 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS, see Thornton et al. (2006), Stapleton et al. (2008), Livermore et al. (2009), and Wright et al. (2012), respectively. A modified version on the NBS was implemented in 2015, and SSA has plans to continue the survey in 2017 and 2019.

² Statistic is not shown; authors’ calculation based on data in Table 1.

40 or younger, unmarried, and nonwhite, have multiple children, children under age 6, and not reside with their children. Many of these differences are also true for nonparent beneficiaries and partly reflect the characteristics of low income individuals who more generally participate in means-tested programs including SSI.

How do parents differ from other beneficiaries?

Parents differ significantly from nonparent beneficiaries in many respects (Tables 2 and 3). For example, they are more likely to: be under age 40 (39 versus 19 percent), have been on the disability rolls for fewer than ten years (63 versus 56 percent), be nonwhite (37 versus 28 percent), have less than a high school education (37 versus 33 percent), be married (39 versus 29 percent), and live in a household with income below the federal poverty threshold (58 versus 46 percent). Parents are significantly less likely than nonparents to: be in excellent or very good health (7 versus 11 percent), be an SSDI-only beneficiary (46 versus 54 percent), and have experienced disability onset during childhood (21 versus 24 percent).

Many of the above differences between parents and nonparents remain statistically significant when other characteristics are held constant in a multivariate regression framework (Table 4). Other characteristics held constant, parents are more likely to be under age 50, female, nonwhite, in poverty, and married. They are also more likely to have ever held a job for pay, to have less than a high school level of education, and to have a sensory impairment. Parents are significantly less likely to be in excellent or very good health, to have experienced the onset of disability in childhood, to be beneficiaries of SSDI only, to have been on the disability rolls for 10 or more years, and to be currently employed. Note that, with the exception of sensory impairments, the differences between parents and nonparents in the percentage with specific conditions or impairments are not statistically significant after controlling other characteristics.

To what extent do parents work and what are their job characteristics?

Parents are significantly more likely than other beneficiaries to have work goals or expect to work in the near future (53 percent versus 39 percent) (Table 5). Although parents are more likely to want to work, they are just as likely as other beneficiaries to have worked during the previous calendar year (12 percent), and about as likely to have been employed at the time of their NBS interview (7 percent versus 9 percent).

Although parents were somewhat less likely to be employed than other beneficiaries, those who were employed worked at notably higher levels (Table 6). Employed parents were about twice as likely as other employed beneficiaries to be working full time (35 hours or more per week)—31 percent versus 16 percent. Relative to other employed beneficiaries, parents also had higher average hourly wages (\$10.63 versus \$7.56) and average monthly earnings (\$1,110 versus \$668). A large share of employed parents were earning above the monthly substantial gainful activity level (44 percent compared with 19 percent of other employed beneficiaries). A proximate reason for higher average earnings among employed parents is that they are markedly less likely to work in sheltered or supported employment settings relative to employed nonparents (16 percent versus 41 percent).

What employment barriers do parents report and how do they differ from those reported by other beneficiaries?

Parents who want to work but are not employed generally report the same reasons for not working that their nonparent counterparts do (Table 7). Among all beneficiaries with work goals, the most common reasons reported include poor health (92 percent), being discouraged by previous attempts to work (40 percent), inaccessible workplaces (34 percent), and inability to find a job for which they are qualified (33 percent). Not surprisingly, parents were markedly more likely than other beneficiaries to report caring for children or others as a reason for not working (25 percent versus 7 percent).

What are the income sources of parents and how does their economic well-being compare with that of other beneficiaries?

Compared with nonparent beneficiaries, parents receive higher average monthly SSA disability (\$945 versus \$893) and non-SSA government (\$244 versus \$186) benefits (Table 8).³ This is not surprising, because children likely qualify parent beneficiaries for additional income assistance. Parents are more likely to receive means-tested support from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (36 percent versus 24 percent) and public cash assistance or welfare (9 percent versus 3 percent). Parents are less likely to receive income from sources typically tied to past employment, including pensions, private disability insurance, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, or retirement (9 percent versus 14 percent).

Despite receiving relatively high levels of government support, and the fact that those who are employed have comparatively high monthly earnings, parents experience poverty at high rates compared with other beneficiaries. The extra income they receive, on average, does not appear to cover the needs, in terms of the federal poverty standard, of the additional family members in the household.

Implications of the findings

A substantial share of disability beneficiaries are parents of minor children, and just over half (54 percent) participate in the means-tested SSI program. There are substantial differences in the characteristics of SSI and SSDI-only beneficiaries who are parents, many of which also exist among nonparents. Some of the differences reflect more general characteristics of low income individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, including low levels of education, which also affect labor market success. The poverty rate among parents, regardless of SSI or SSDI status, is very high; nearly 60 percent of parent beneficiaries live in households with income below the federal poverty level.

Employment is the primary means by which people in our society support their families and avoid impoverishment. Programs and policies that promote human capital development and work

³ The SSA benefits reported include SSDI payments to auxiliary beneficiaries. Presumably, the non-SSA benefits reported by parents include benefits received on behalf of their children, for example, TANF child-only payments. However, it is unclear whether respondents included all benefits paid on behalf of their children in their reports of personal income because the NBS questions about personal income do not contain direct probes about payments received on behalf of children.

for beneficiaries who are parents might therefore be important tools for reducing poverty in this population. Given the health conditions of SSI and SSDI beneficiaries, employment may not be a realistic option for many of them, but it may be for some. Most parents who receive SSI or SSDI have worked at some time in their lives. Further, and in contrast with nonparents, many have work goals and expect to work. However, the difference between their expectations and reality may be partly due to employment barriers that could be addressed with new policies—for example, by providing support for child care and job training. Because parents are younger, on average, than other beneficiaries, investments in human capital development and work supports for members of this population have the potential for long-term disability program savings. Improving the economic well-being of beneficiaries who are parents might also enhance the long-term well-being of their children.

References

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Table 1. Sample sizes

	All Beneficiaries	Parents				Nonparents			
		All	SSDI-only	Concurrent	SSI-only	All	SSDI-only	Concurrent	SSI-only
Unweighted sample age 18 - 64	16,190	4,568	1,705	942	1,921	11,622	4,340	2,530	4,752
Weighted sample age 18 - 64	9,718,619	1,942,415	893,055	336,110	713,250	7,776,203	4,197,577	1,342,757	2,235,870
Weighted percent of subgroup	100.0	100.0	46.0	17.3	36.7	100.0	54.0	17.3	28.8
Weighted percent of sample	100.0	20.0	9.2	3.5	7.3	80.0	43.2	13.8	23.0

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS.

Table 2. Personal characteristics

	All Beneficiaries	Parents				Nonparents			
		All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only
Program participation (%)									
SSDI only	52.4	46.0 ^a	100.0	0.0	0.0	54.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Concurrent	17.3	17.3 ^a	0.0	100.0	0.0	17.3	0.0	100.0	0.0
SSI only	30.3	36.7 ^a	0.0	0.0	100.0	28.8	0.0	0.0	100.0
Male (%)	49.9	47.7 ^a	56.1	48.0 ^b	37.0 ^{a,b}	50.5	53.5	47.6	46.5
Age in years (%)									
18-25	5.8	4.5 ^a	0.4 ^a	5.2 ^{a,b}	9.3 ^{a,b}	6.1	0.9	6.1	16.1
26-40	16.8	34.4 ^a	24.8 ^a	48.4 ^{a,b}	39.7 ^{a,b}	12.5	6.7	21.4	17.9
41-55	38.3	45.3 ^a	52.6 ^a	36.8 ^{a,b}	40.2 ^{a,b}	36.6	35.9	42.3	34.3
56 and over	39.0	15.8 ^a	22.1 ^a	9.6 ^{a,b}	10.8 ^{a,b}	44.9	56.5	30.2	31.7
Nonwhite (%)	29.6	37.3 ^a	27.7 ^a	39.8 ^{a,b}	48.1 ^{a,b}	27.7	21.1	31.9	37.6
Highest grade in school (%)									
Did not complete high school or GED	33.9	37.4 ^a	23.9 ^a	40.2 ^{a,b}	52.9 ^{a,b}	33.0	25.3	36.7	45.4
High school	37.7	37.1 ^a	39.1 ^a	38.8 ^{a,b}	33.8 ^{a,b}	37.9	39.4	36.8	35.7
Some college, postsecondary or vocational	18.0	19.0 ^a	26.8 ^a	17.2 ^{a,b}	10.2 ^{a,b}	17.8	23.0	14.1	10.2
Bachelor's degree or higher	6.8	5.6 ^a	9.6 ^a	2.4 ^{a,b}	2.0 ^{a,b}	7.1	9.9	4.5	3.3
Other	3.6	0.9 ^a	0.5 ^a	1.3 ^{a,b}	1.2 ^{a,b}	4.2	2.4	7.9	5.5
Years since initial SSA award (%)									
Less than 5	28.5	32.3 ^a	33.2 ^a	44.7 ^{a,b}	25.4 ^{a,b}	27.6	28.6	31.9	23.1
5 to 10	28.6	30.5 ^a	33.9 ^a	29.9 ^{a,b}	26.6 ^{a,b}	28.1	33.0	24.9	20.9
More than 10	42.9	37.1 ^a	32.9 ^a	25.4 ^{a,b}	47.9 ^{a,b}	44.3	38.4	43.2	56.0
Married (%)	31.3	39.0 ^a	56.8 ^a	27.2 ^{a,b}	22.3 ^{a,b}	29.3	45.1	12.0	10.3
Number of children under age 18 (%)									
None	78.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
One	10.1	50.7	56.5	46.6 ^b	45.4 ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA
Two	5.8	29.1	28.4	32.4 ^b	28.4 ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA
Three or more	2.7	13.3	10.1	16.5 ^b	15.8 ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA
Unknown	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.3 ^b	0.7 ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lives with all or some of own children under age 18 (%)	13.7	68.8	74.3	65.6 ^b	63.4 ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA
Has children under age 6 (%)	4.3	21.3	14.9	28.5 ^b	25.8 ^b	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS.

^a Value or distribution for parents is significantly different from that of their nonparent counterparts at the 0.05 level.^b Value or distribution is significantly different from that of SSDI-only parents at the 0.05 level.

NA = Not applicable.

Table 3. Health and functional characteristics

	All		Parents			Nonparents			
	Beneficiaries	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only
Main self-reported reason for limitation (%)									
Psychiatric condition	20.0	24.1 ^a	19.2 ^a	26.9 ^b	29.0 ^{a,b}	19.0	15.3	23.2	23.3
Intellectual disability	6.8	5.3 ^a	1.7 ^a	8.9 ^b	8.0 ^{a,b}	7.2	3.6	12.3	11.0
Musculoskeletal condition	19.7	17.2 ^a	21.5 ^a	14.7 ^b	13.1 ^{a,b}	20.3	24.1	16.5	15.6
Sensory disorder	3.3	4.2 ^a	4.1 ^a	4.8 ^b	4.2 ^{a,b}	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.0
Other	44.4	42.5 ^a	49.4 ^a	38.1 ^b	36.0 ^{a,b}	44.9	49.6	39.1	39.7
No limitations reported	5.7	6.6 ^a	4.1 ^a	6.6 ^b	9.7 ^{a,b}	5.4	4.3	5.7	7.5
Disability onset before age 18 (%)	23.3	21.3 ^a	7.7 ^a	25.9 ^{a,b}	36.1 ^b	23.8	12.1	36.0	38.6
General health (%)									
Excellent/very good	9.9	6.6 ^a	4.8 ^a	7.5 ^{a,b}	8.4 ^{a,b}	10.8	8.4	12.1	14.4
Good/fair	46.9	49.6 ^a	48.0 ^a	50.5 ^{a,b}	51.1 ^{a,b}	46.2	44.9	50.6	46.2
Poor/very poor	43.1	43.8 ^a	47.2 ^a	42.0 ^{a,b}	40.5 ^{a,b}	43.0	46.7	37.3	39.4
Difficulty with activities of daily living (ADL) (%)^c									
Getting into or out of bed	36.7	36.2	39.7	35.3	32.2 ^b	36.9	40.6	30.0	33.9
Bathing or dressing	29.4	26.4 ^a	30.4	24.9 ^b	22.1 ^{a,b}	30.1	30.7	28.4	30.2
Getting around inside the house	23.2	22.6	24.5	21.5	20.6	23.4	25.4	19.0	22.4
Eating	15.4	13.4 ^a	11.6 ^a	17.0 ^b	13.8	16.0	15.7	16.2	16.3
None of the above	46.7	50.0 ^a	44.8	50.8 ^b	56.2 ^{a,b}	45.8	42.6	50.5	49.1
Difficulty with instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) (%)^c									
Getting around outside of the home	46.9	45.5	49.9	37.6 ^{a,b}	43.8 ^b	47.2	47.7	46.8	46.5
Shopping for personal items	37.5	33.2 ^a	35.1	28.8 ^{a,b}	32.8 ^a	38.6	36.6	40.3	41.1
Preparing meals	36.8	31.9 ^a	34.0	30.1 ^a	30.1 ^a	38.0	35.6	40.0	41.2
None of the above	39.0	43.1 ^a	40.0	48.4 ^{a,b}	44.6 ^a	38.0	38.9	35.3	37.8
Number of ADL or IADL difficulties (%)									
0	27.8	31.4 ^a	26.8	35.5 ^{a,b}	35.1 ^{a,b}	27.0	26.2	26.9	28.4
1-2	32.5	33.0 ^a	34.8	31.8 ^{a,b}	31.2 ^{a,b}	32.4	33.0	34.1	30.4
3 or more	39.6	35.7 ^a	38.3	32.8 ^{a,b}	33.7 ^{a,b}	40.6	40.8	39.1	41.2

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS.

^a Value or distribution for parents is significantly different from that of their nonparent counterparts at the 0.05 level.^b Value or distribution is significantly different from that of SSDI-only parents at the 0.05 level.^c Multiple responses possible.

Table 4. Logit model of the likelihood of being a parent

	Coefficient	Standard error	Odds ratio	P-value	Variable mean
Constant	-2.73	0.18		0.00	
SSI-only	-0.16	0.08	0.85	0.05	0.52
Concurrent	-0.28	0.07	0.76	0.00	0.17
Age 18 - 40	2.50	0.15	12.21	0.00	0.23
Age 41 - 55	1.46	0.13	4.32	0.00	0.38
Education = high school	-0.05	0.07	0.95	0.41	0.38
Education less than high school	0.17	0.08	1.19	0.03	0.34
Male	-0.13	0.05	0.88	0.02	0.50
White	-0.43	0.07	0.65	0.00	0.70
Married	1.00	0.08	2.71	0.00	0.31
Psychiatric	0.11	0.08	1.11	0.17	0.20
Intellectual	-0.18	0.12	0.83	0.14	0.07
Musculoskeletal	-0.06	0.10	0.94	0.57	0.20
Sensory	0.53	0.17	1.71	0.00	0.03
No condition	0.29	0.14	1.34	0.04	0.06
Excellent or very good health	-0.70	0.08	0.50	0.00	0.10
Childhood disability onset	-0.55	0.08	0.58	0.00	0.23
0 - 5 years on the disability rolls	0.25	0.08	1.29	0.00	0.22
5 - 10 years on the disability rolls	0.16	0.08	1.18	0.04	0.24
Income below federal poverty level	0.48	0.08	1.61	0.00	0.48
Employed at interview	-0.41	0.11	0.66	0.00	0.14
Never worked for pay	-0.35	0.10	0.70	0.00	0.08

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS. N=16,190

Note: Bold type indicates statistical significance at the 0.05 level.

Table 5. Employment and work expectations

	All	Parents			Nonparents				
	Beneficiaries	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only
Ever worked for pay (%)	85.9	87.8 ^a	96.1	89.0 ^{a,b}	76.8 ^{a,b}	85.4	94.3	81.9	70.7
Ever used employment services (%)	15.3	14.6	14.9	14.3 ^a	14.4	15.5	13.9	20.5	15.4
Goals include work or sees self working in next five years (%)	41.3	52.7 ^a	50.0 ^a	60.2 ^{a,b}	52.5 ^a	38.5	32.9	45.7	44.6
Recent work-related activities (%)									
Worked in calendar year before interview	12.2	12.2	12.7	13.3	11.0	12.1	11.4	16.1	11.1
Employed at interview	8.4	7.1 ^a	8.5	6.2 ^a	5.8 ^b	8.7	8.6	11.6	7.1
Not employed, looked for work in past four weeks	5.4	7.4 ^a	6.5 ^a	9.6	7.5	5.0	3.4	6.8	6.7
<i>Any of the above recent work-related activities</i>	16.9	18.6 ^a	18.8 ^a	20.9	17.3	16.5	14.5	22.0	16.7
Recent employment service use (%)									
Used employment-specific services in previous year	9.2	9.5	10.2	9.9	8.3	9.2	8.3	12.2	9.0
Used employment or other services in previous year to get a job or increase income	3.0	3.6	3.6 ^a	2.8	3.9	2.8	2.2	3.7	3.3
<i>Any of the above recent employment service activities</i>	9.8	10.4	11.2	10.7	9.2	9.7	8.8	12.5	9.5

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS.

^a Value or distribution for parents is significantly different from that of their nonparent counterparts at the 0.05 level.

^b Value or distribution is significantly different from that of SSDI-only parents at the 0.05 level.

Table 6. Characteristics of main job of employed beneficiaries

	All	Parents				Nonparents			
	Beneficiaries	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only
Unweighted number employed	2,029	372	159	81	132	1,657	627	433	597
Weighted number employed	812,966	137,833	75,929	20,739	41,165	675,133	361,466	156,016	157,651
Usual hours per week (%)									
1 - 10	24.2	19.2 ^a	25.6	21.8	5.9 ^{a,b}	25.3	27.0	20.6	25.9
11 - 20	34.4	28.2 ^a	33.2	33.7	16.1 ^{a,b}	35.6	38.8	40.4	23.7
21 - 34	22.6	21.7 ^a	18.2	28.5	24.6 ^{a,b}	22.8	21.5	26.6	21.9
35 or more	18.8	31.0 ^a	22.9	16.0	53.4 ^{a,b}	16.3	12.7	12.5	28.5
Average hours per week	21.4	25.7 ^a	23.3	22.9	31.6 ^{a,b}	20.5	19.3	20.6	23.4
Hourly wage (%)									
Less than \$5.00	22.3	9.8 ^a	8.5 ^a	14.9	9.6 ^a	24.9	17.5	37.0	29.8
\$5.00 - \$6.00	8.0	6.5 ^a	7.4 ^a	3.0	6.5 ^a	8.3	9.1	7.9	7.0
\$6.00 - \$7.25	12.7	9.6 ^a	6.0 ^a	15.1	13.4 ^a	13.4	12.9	14.7	13.0
\$7.26 - \$9.99	33.5	37.4 ^a	36.1 ^a	46.2	35.2 ^a	32.7	35.1	30.2	29.9
\$10.00 - \$14.99	16.2	23.5 ^a	24.6 ^a	16.1	25.2 ^a	14.7	16.6	8.4	16.5
\$15.00 or more	7.3	13.3 ^a	17.4 ^a	4.8	10.1 ^a	6.0	8.8	1.8	3.8
Average hourly wage (\$)	8.08	10.63 ^a	11.28 ^a	8.51 ^{a,b}	10.49 ^a	7.56	8.53	6.00	6.91
Monthly earnings, all jobs (%)									
Less than \$200	19.9	7.7 ^a	7.9 ^a	15.4 ^a	3.5 ^{a,b}	22.4	16.1	28.3	31.0
\$200 - \$800	50.1	43.3 ^a	51.4 ^a	43.4 ^a	28.4 ^{a,b}	51.4	58.4	55.0	32.0
More than \$800	30.0	48.9 ^a	40.6 ^a	41.2 ^a	68.1 ^{a,b}	26.2	25.5	16.7	37.0
Average monthly earnings, all jobs (\$)	743	1,110 ^a	1,022 ^a	927 ^a	1,364 ^{a,b}	668	702	507	750
Monthly earnings above substantial gainful activity level (%)	23.3	43.5 ^a	37.2 ^a	31.8	61.0 ^{a,b}	19.2	18.0	10.9	30.4
Sheltered or supported work (%)	37.0	15.7 ^a	10.2 ^a	18.6 ^a	24.6 ^{a,b}	41.3	35.4	53.6	42.8

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS.

Note: Monetary values are expressed in 2010 dollars.

^a Value or distribution for parents is significantly different from that of their nonparent counterparts at the 0.05 level.

^b Value or distribution is significantly different from that of SSDI-only parents at the 0.05 level.

Table 7. Reasons for not working among work-oriented beneficiaries who were not employed at interview

	All Beneficiaries	Parents				Nonparents			
		All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only
Unweighted number work-oriented, not working and not seeking employment at interview	5,547	1,918	645	437	836	3,629	1,116	809	1,704
Weighted number work-oriented, not working and not seeking employment at interview	2,746,137	757,125	321,358	150,415	285,352	1,989,012	902,924	382,405	703,683
Weighted percent work-oriented, not working and not seeking employment at interview	28.3	39.0 ^a	36.0 ^a	44.8 ^{a,b}	40.0 ^a	25.6	21.5	28.5	31.5
Reasons for not working (%)									
Physical or mental condition prevents work	92.3	94.2 ^a	96.4 ^a	93.2	92.3 ^{a,b}	91.5	93.1	92.2	89.2
Discouraged by previous work attempts	40.0	43.6 ^a	43.1	45.7	42.9 ^a	38.7	39.3	43.0	35.5
Others do not think he/she can work	30.1	27.6	26.1	31.2	27.4	31.0	30.5	36.6	28.7
Workplaces are not accessible	33.5	33.0	30.2	31.7 ^a	36.8	33.7	30.3	40.1	34.5
Cannot find a job for which he/she is qualified	32.9	31.7	28.9	29.5 ^a	36.1	33.3	27.0	42.8	36.3
Lacks reliable transportation to/from work	25.1	22.2 ^a	16.2	18.7 ^a	30.7 ^b	26.2	17.1	33.9	33.6
Doesn't want to lose cash/health insurance benefits	17.8	15.7	13.9	16.2	17.5	18.6	16.2	21.4	20.3
Employers will not give her/him a chance	25.1	25.3	21.7	28.4	27.7	25.0	23.0	28.7	25.6
Cannot find a job he/she wants	19.8	17.5 ^a	13.7	19.6	20.7 ^b	20.7	17.6	24.1	22.8
Is caring for children or others	12.0	24.6 ^a	19.5 ^a	30.4 ^{a,b}	27.3 ^{a,b}	7.2	7.4	6.9	7.2
Waiting to finish school/training program	9.3	8.3	5.7	12.4 ^b	9.1 ^{a,b}	9.6	4.9	12.1	14.3
Other reason	3.6	3.2	2.3	4.8	3.4	3.8	3.6	6.5	2.5

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS.

^a Value or distribution for parents is significantly different from that of their nonparent counterparts at the 0.05 level.

^b Value or distribution is significantly different from that of SSDI-only parents at the 0.05 level.

Table 8. Income support, other assistance, and poverty

	All Beneficiaries	Parents				Nonparents			
		All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only	All	SSDI only	Concurrent	SSI only
Types of personal income or assistance received in month before interview (%)									
SSA disability benefits	94.8	93.9	96.8	97.0	88.8 ^b	95.0	97.0	95.4	91.2
Medicare	67.4	61.4 ^a	83.4 ^a	78.7	25.6 ^b	68.9	87.4	82.8	25.9
Medicaid	52.7	56.0 ^a	31.2 ^a	73.5 ^{a,b}	78.8 ^b	51.9	26.7	80.4	82.2
Pension, retirement, private disability, workers' compensation, or unemployment insurance	12.5	8.5 ^a	16.1 ^a	1.7 ^b	2.1 ^b	13.6	23.7	2.4	1.3
Food assistance (SNAP)	26.6	35.5 ^a	17.5 ^a	48.2 ^{a,b}	52.1 ^{a,b}	24.3	11.8	36.9	40.3
Veteran's benefits	3.6	3.4	6.6	0.7 ^b	0.6 ^b	3.7	5.9	1.1	1.2
Public cash assistance/welfare	3.6	7.8 ^a	1.5	9.4 ^{a,b}	14.9 ^{a,b}	2.5	0.7	4.3	4.9
Housing, energy, or food assistance	5.4	5.9	3.9	7.9 ^b	7.5 ^b	5.2	3.4	9.1	6.4
Other	4.8	6.0 ^a	6.0	6.1	6.1	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.1
Monthly SSA benefits (%)									
No benefits	4.6	5.1 ^a	2.7 ^a	2.2 ^{a,b}	9.5 ^{a,b}	4.5	2.8	1.9	9.1
Less than \$500	6.5	5.1 ^a	2.3 ^a	5.5 ^{a,b}	8.4 ^{a,b}	6.9	3.5	7.5	12.9
\$500 - \$1000	53.3	51.2 ^a	22.0 ^a	68.1 ^{a,b}	79.6 ^{a,b}	53.9	35.2	78.5	74.2
\$1000-\$1,499	21.3	18.9 ^a	34.2 ^a	13.8 ^{a,b}	2.3 ^{a,b}	21.9	35.4	10.5	3.4
\$1,500 or more	14.3	19.7 ^a	38.8 ^a	10.4 ^{a,b}	0.3 ^{a,b}	12.9	23.2	1.6	0.5
Mean monthly SSA benefit	903	945 ^a	1,243 ^a	848 ^{a,b}	619 ^b	893	1,087	749	613
Monthly non-SSA benefits (%)									
No benefits	62.4	54.2 ^a	63.2 ^a	50.9 ^{a,b}	44.6 ^{a,b}	64.4	68.8	60.1	58.7
\$1-\$199	18.0	18.0 ^a	12.2 ^a	21.9 ^{a,b}	23.3 ^{a,b}	18.1	10.8	24.2	28.1
\$200-\$499	8.2	13.6 ^a	8.9 ^a	16.5 ^{a,b}	18.1 ^{a,b}	6.8	5.1	10.2	8.0
\$500 or more	11.4	14.2 ^a	15.6 ^a	10.7 ^{a,b}	14.0 ^{a,b}	10.7	15.3	5.6	5.2
Mean monthly non-SSA benefits (\$)	198	244 ^a	310	165 ^{a,b}	200 ^{a,b}	186	266	99	89
Total monthly government benefits (%)^c									
No benefits	3.1	3.1 ^a	1.8 ^a	1.6 ^{a,b}	5.5 ^{a,b}	3.0	2.5	1.0	5.2
Less than \$500	6.5	5.3 ^a	2.7 ^a	5.0 ^{a,b}	8.7 ^{a,b}	6.7	3.2	7.0	13.2
\$500 - \$999	50.5	45.0 ^a	19.9 ^a	58.2 ^{a,b}	70.1 ^{a,b}	51.9	33.9	74.7	72.1
\$1000 - \$1,499	23.3	23.3 ^a	33.1 ^a	21.5 ^{a,b}	12.0 ^{a,b}	23.3	34.2	14.4	8.3
\$1,500 or more	16.7	23.3 ^a	42.4 ^a	13.7 ^{a,b}	3.8 ^{a,b}	15.0	26.2	2.9	1.2
Household income relative to the federal poverty level (%)									
Less than 100	48.5	57.7 ^a	36.2 ^a	72.7 ^{a,b}	77.4 ^{a,b}	46.2	26.3	67.8	70.5
100 - 299	39.7	35.1 ^a	50.8 ^a	25.1 ^{a,b}	20.2 ^{a,b}	40.8	53.8	28.1	24.1
300 or more	11.9	7.3 ^a	13.0 ^a	2.2 ^{a,b}	2.4 ^{a,b}	13.0	19.9	4.1	5.4

Source: 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2010 NBS. N= 16,190.

Note: Dollar values are expressed in 2010 dollars.

^a Value or distribution for parents is significantly different from that of their nonparent counterparts at the 0.05 level.

^b Value or distribution is significantly different from that of SSDI-only parents at the 0.05 level.

^c Includes SSA benefits, food stamps, veterans' benefits, cash welfare, and other government cash benefits.