

This update provides information about Social Security taxes, benefits, and costs for 2022. By law, some numbers change automatically each year to keep up with changes in price and wage levels.

Information for people who are working

Social Security and Medicare taxes		
Social Security taxes	2021	2022
Employee/employer (each)	6.2% on earnings up to \$142,800	6.2% on earnings up to \$147,000
Self-employed *Can be offset by income tax provisions	12.4%* on earnings up to \$142,800	12.4%* on earnings up to \$147,000
Medicare taxes	2021	2022
Employee/employer (each)	1.45% on all earnings	1.45% on all earnings
Self-employed *Can be offset by income tax provisions	2.9%* on all earnings	2.9%* on all earnings

High-income earners also pay an additional 0.9% in Medicare taxes on earnings above certain amounts. Check with the Internal Revenue Service for more details.

Work credits

When you work, you earn credits toward Social Security benefits. The number of credits you need to be eligible for Social Security benefits depends on your age and the type of benefit for which you are applying. You can earn a maximum of four credits each year. Most people need 40 credits to qualify for retirement benefits.

2021	2022
\$1,470 earns one credit	\$1,510 earns one credit

Information for people who receive Social Security benefits

Earnings limits

Under federal law, people who are receiving Social Security benefits, and who have not reached full retirement age, are entitled to receive all of their benefits as long as their earnings are under the limits indicated below. For people born in 1943 through 1954, the full retirement age is 66. The full retirement age increases gradually each year until it reaches age 67 for people born in 1960 or later.

	2021	2022
At full retirement age or older	No limit on earnings	No limit on earnings
Under full retirement age	\$18,960 For every \$2 over the limit, \$1 is withheld from benefits.	\$19,560 For every \$2 over the limit, \$1 is withheld from benefits.
In the year you reach full retirement age	\$50,520 For every \$3 over the limit, \$1 is withheld from benefits until the month you reach full retirement age.	\$51,960 For every \$3 over the limit, \$1 is withheld from benefits until the month you reach full retirement age.

Disability beneficiaries' earnings limits: If you work while receiving disability benefits, you must tell us about your earnings no matter how little you earn. You may have unlimited earnings during a trial work period of up to nine months (not necessarily in a row) and still receive full benefits. Once you have completed your nine-month trial work period, we will determine if you are still entitled to disability benefits. You also may be eligible for other work incentives to help you make the transition back to work.

	2021	2022
Substantial Gainful Activity (non-blind)	\$1,310 per month	\$1,350 per month
Substantial Gainful Activity (blind)	\$2,190 per month	\$2,260 per month
Trial work period month	\$940 per month	\$970 per month

Information for people who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Monthly federal SSI payment (maximum)		
	2021	2022
Individual	\$794	\$841
Couple	\$1,191	\$1,261
Monthly income limits	2021	2022
Individual whose income is only from wages	\$1,673	\$1,767
Individual whose income is not from wages	\$814	\$861
Couple whose income is only from wages	\$2,467	\$2,607
Couple whose income is not from wages	\$1,211	\$1,281

NOTE: If you have income, your monthly benefit generally will be lower than the maximum federal SSI payment. Remember, you must report all of your income to us. Some states add money to the federal SSI payment. If you live in one of these states, you may qualify for a higher payment. Your income can be greater than the limits indicated and you still may qualify.

Information for people on Medicare

Most Medicare costs are increasing this year to keep up with the rise in health care costs.		
	2021	2022
Hospital Insurance (Part A)		
For first 60 days in a hospital, patient pays	\$1,484	\$1,556
For 61st through 90th days in a hospital, patient pays	\$371 per day	\$389 per day
Beyond 90 days in a hospital, patient pays (for up to 60 more days)	\$742 per day	\$778 per day
For first 20 days in a skilled nursing facility, patient pays	\$0	\$0
For 21st through 100th days in a skilled nursing facility, patient pays	\$185.50 per day	\$194.50 per day

Part A Premium Buy-In: The amount of the premium you pay to buy Medicare Part A depends on the number of Social Security credits you have earned. If you have:

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40 credits	\$0	\$0
30-39 credits	\$259 per month	\$274 per month
less than 30 credits	\$471 per month	\$499 per month
Medical Insurance (Part B)	2021	2022
Premium	\$148.50 per month	\$170.10 per month**
Deductible	\$203 per year	\$233 per year
	After the patient has paid the deductible, Part B pays for 80% of covered services.	

NOTE: If you get Medicare and your income is low, your state may pay your Medicare premiums and, in some cases, your deductibles and other out-of-pocket medical expenses. Contact your local medical assistance (Medicaid) agency, social services, or welfare office for more information.

^{**}Standard monthly premium is \$170.10. Some people with higher incomes pay higher premiums.

