

Social Security Administration (SSA) Staffing Levels: Data Brief

September 29, 2025

Congressional Research Service

<https://crsreports.congress.gov>

R48725



Social Security Administration (SSA) Staffing Levels: Data Brief

R48725

September 29, 2025

William R. Morton
Specialist in Income
Security

The Social Security Administration (SSA) is an independent agency in the executive branch headed by the commissioner of Social Security. It is responsible for administering Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), which are the nation's primary income support programs for older adults and individuals with disabilities. SSA is also responsible for supporting the administration of Medicare and certain other non-SSA programs and activities. In FY2024, SSA employed about 58,000 federal workers and funded about 14,000 state disability determination services (DDS) employees to carry out its programs and other administrative responsibilities.

This report provides selected data on SSA's historical and recent staffing levels (including state DDS staffing levels). It includes data on staff on duty, work years, and full-time equivalent (FTE) employment. It also includes data by agency office or component and by state or area.

Contents

Introduction	1
Historical Staffing Levels	1
Recent Staffing Levels by Office or Component	5
Recent Staffing Levels by State or Area.....	7

Figures

Figure 1. SSA Total Staff on Duty at the End of the Fiscal Year.....	1
Figure 2. SSA Full-Time Permanent Staff on Duty at the End of the Fiscal Year.....	2
Figure 3. SSA Total Work Years, by Type	3
Figure 4. State Disability Determination Services (DDS) Total Staff on Duty at the End of the Fiscal Year	4
Figure 5. State DDS Total Work Years	5

Tables

Table 1. Estimated SSA Staff on Duty from Agency Contingency Plans, by Office	5
Table 2. Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Employees, by Component.....	6
Table 3. SSA Total Staff on Duty, by State or Area.....	7
Table A-1. Historical Social Security Administration (SSA) Staffing Data, by Metric	10

Appendixes

Appendix. Data Underlying Figures and FTE Data	10
--	----

Contacts

Author Information.....	13
-------------------------	----

Introduction

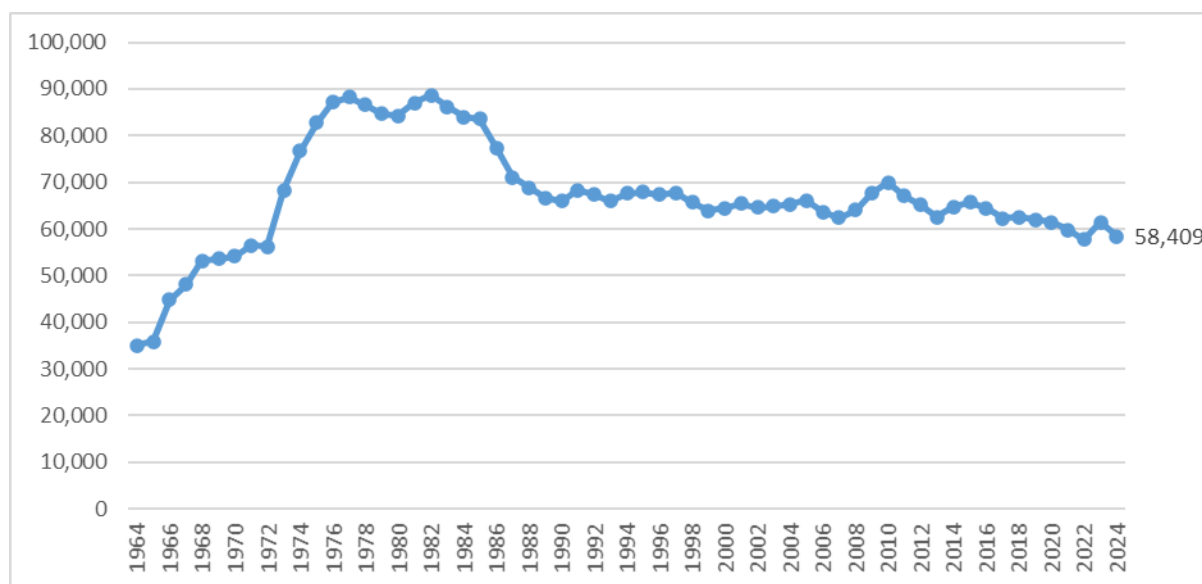
The Social Security Administration (SSA) is an independent agency in the executive branch headed by the commissioner of Social Security. It is responsible for administering Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), which are the nation's primary income support programs for older adults and individuals with disabilities. SSA is also responsible for supporting the administration of a number of non-SSA programs and activities, such as portions of Medicare. In FY2024, SSA employed about 58,000 federal workers and funded about 14,000 state disability determination services (DDS) employees to carry out its programs and other administrative responsibilities.¹ The agency operates more than 1,500 offices across the country and around the world. SSA is headquartered in Woodlawn, MD, outside of Baltimore.

This report provides selected data on SSA's historical and recent staffing levels (including state DDS staffing levels) across a number of different metrics. The historical and recent periods used in this report are based, in part, on the public availability of data for each metric.

Historical Staffing Levels

Figure 1 shows SSA total staff on duty at the end of the fiscal year for FY1964-FY2024. This metric includes full-time, part-time, and temporary employees.

Figure 1. SSA Total Staff on Duty at the End of the Fiscal Year
FY1964-FY2024



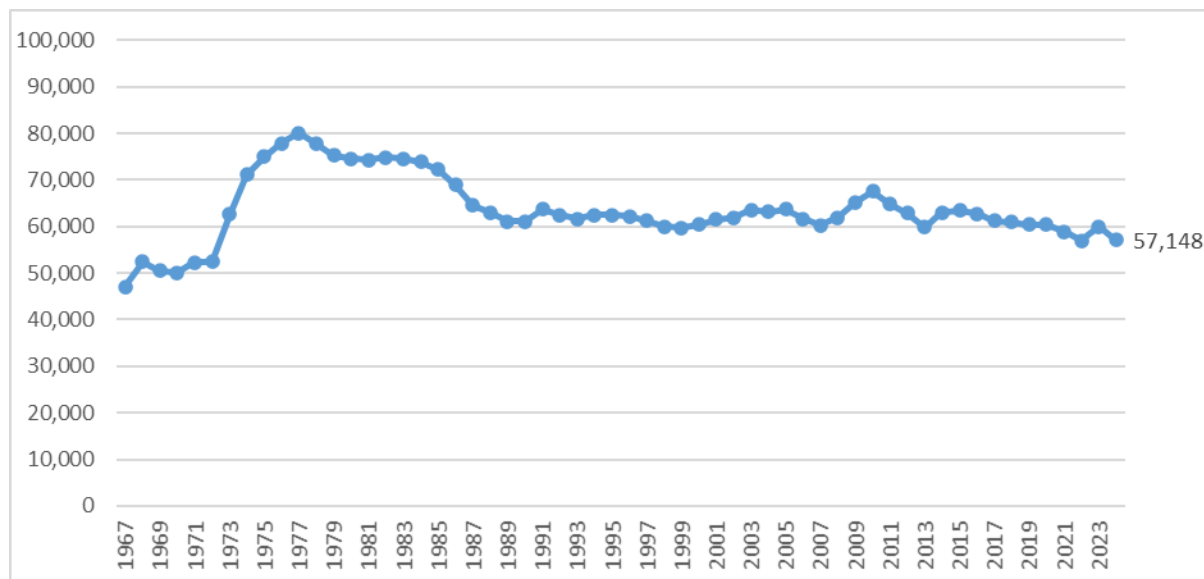
Sources: Office of Personnel Management, "FedScope," <https://www.fedscope.opm.gov/>; Social Security Advisory Board, *How the Social Security Administration Can Improve Its Service to the Public*, September 1999, Table I, p. 22, <https://www.ssab.gov/research/how-the-social-security-administration-can-improve-its-service-to-the-public/>; various Social Security Administration responses to questions for the record; and Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, *Annual Report, 1967*, December 1967, and earlier editions.

Note: See **Table A-I** in the Appendix for the underlying data, as well as additional years of data.

¹ Social Security Administration (SSA), *Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Year 2024*, January 2025, p. 6, https://www.ssa.gov/agency/performance/materials/2024/SSA_FY24_APR.pdf.

Figure 2 shows SSA full-time permanent staff on duty at the end of the fiscal year for FY1967-FY2024.

**Figure 2. SSA Full-Time Permanent Staff on Duty at the End of the Fiscal Year
FY1967-FY2024**



Sources: Social Security Administration (SSA), *Annual Statistical Supplement*, 2024, December 2024, Table 2.F3, <https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/>, and earlier editions; SSA, *Annual Report to the Congress*, 1994, July 1994, and earlier editions; and Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, *Annual Report*, 1970, December 1970.

Note: See **Table A-1** in the Appendix for the underlying data.

Figure 3 shows SSA total work years for FY1964-FY2024. According to SSA, a *work year* “is a measure of time spent doing work or being paid for some element of time (e.g., leave). It is the equivalent of one person working for one year (2,080 hours) and may consist of regular hours, overtime, or lump sum leave, which is payment for unused annual leave upon leaving the agency.”² Work years include work performed by full-time, part-time, and temporary employees. SSA calculates *total work years* as the sum of full-time equivalent (FTE) employment and overtime and lump-sum leave (i.e., the number of FTE employees plus the number of overtime and lump-sum leave work years).

Figure 3 displays two types of work-year metrics across two partially overlapping periods: LAE-only activities (FY1964-FY1997) and all activities (FY1975-FY2024). The metric *LAE-only activities* includes only those work years that are attributable to SSA’s Limitation on Administrative Expenses (LAE) account or equivalent historical account. The LAE account is SSA’s primary administrative appropriations account and funds SSA’s activities related to Social Security, SSI, and portions of Medicare.³ The metric *all activities* includes LAE work years in addition to work years that are attributable to reimbursable work,⁴ SSA’s Office of the Inspector

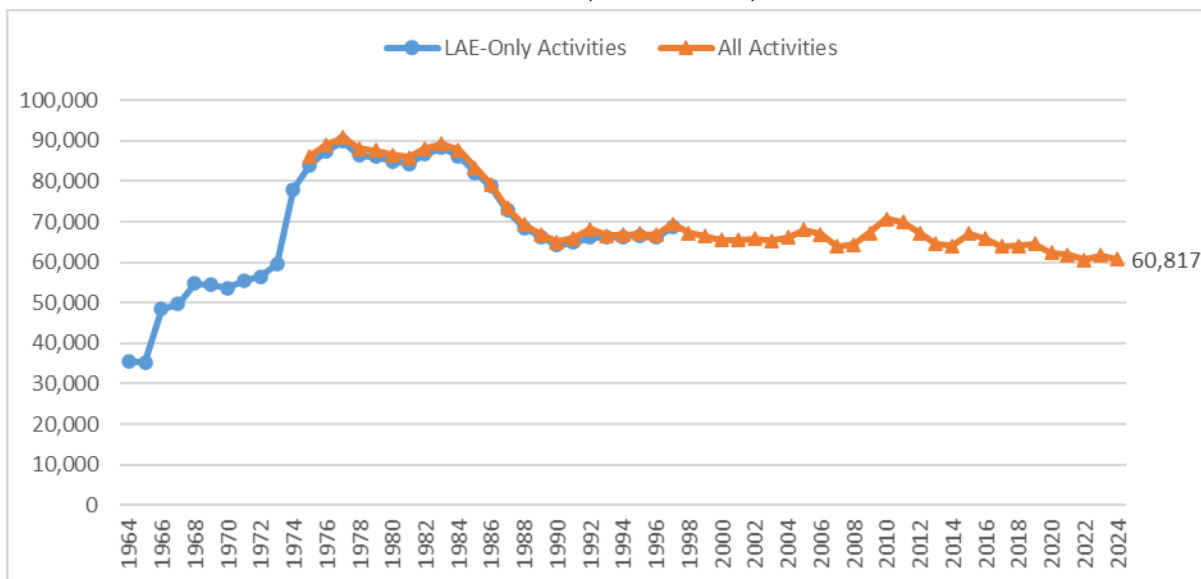
² SSA, *Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees for Fiscal Year 2026*, May 2025, p. 7, <https://www.ssa.gov/budget/assets/materials/2026/FY26-JEAC.pdf>.

³ See CRS Report R47097, *Social Security Administration (SSA): Trends in the Annual Limitation on Administrative Expenses (LAE) Appropriation*.

⁴ *Reimbursable work* is work that SSA performs on behalf of another entity under a reimbursable agreement.

General (OIG),⁵ special temporary workloads,⁶ and, prior to FY1998, certain other programs and activities for which SSA had administrative responsibilities.⁷

Figure 3. SSA Total Work Years, by Type
FY1964-FY2024 (Selected Years)



Sources: Social Security Administration (SSA), *Annual Statistical Supplement*, 2024, Table 2.F3, <https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/supplement/>, and earlier editions; SSA, *Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees for Fiscal Year 2026*, May 2025, <https://www.ssa.gov/budget/>, and earlier editions; SSA, *Annual Report to the Congress*, 1994, and earlier editions; various SSA responses to questions for the record; and Bureau of the Budget, *Appendix, Budget of the United States Government*, Fiscal Year 1966, January 1965.

Notes: LAE = Limitation on Administrative Expenses. See **Table A-1** in the Appendix for the underlying data, as well as additional years of data for LAE-Only Activities.

Figure 4 shows state DDS total staff on duty at the end of the fiscal year for FY2008-FY2024. *State DDSs* are state agencies that conduct disability determinations and reviews on behalf of, and under agreements with, SSA. State DDS personnel are state employees, and their salaries and related activities are fully funded by SSA, subject to certain conditions.⁸

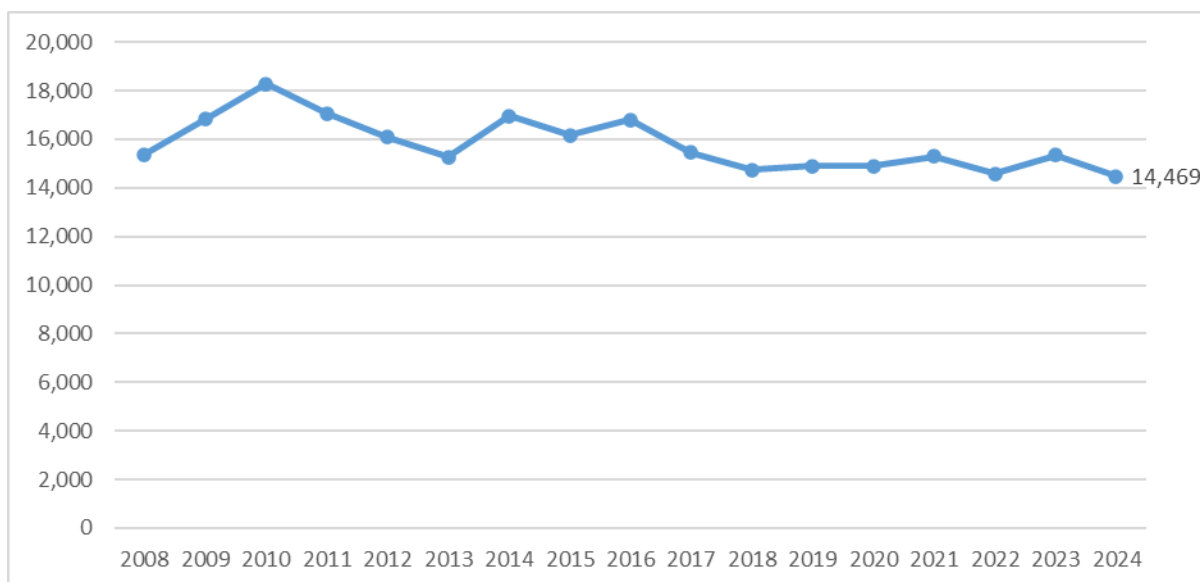
⁵ SSA's OIG is funded primarily by a separate administrative appropriations account.

⁶ Examples of special temporary workloads include SSA's work related to Medicare reform and the implementation of Part D in the mid-2000s, its work related to Medicare replacement cards in the mid-to-late 2010s, and its work related to recovery rebates (also known as economic impact payments or stimulus payments) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

⁷ Examples of SSA's past administrative responsibilities include federal credit unions; all of Medicare; Black Lung (Part B); refugee assistance; Aid to Families with Dependent Children; the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program; child support enforcement; and cash assistance for the aged, blind, and disabled in the territories. For more information, see SSA, "Organizational History," <https://www.ssa.gov/history/orghist.html>; National Archives, "Records of the Social Security Administration [SSA]," <https://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/047.html>; and Rita L. DiSimone, "Social Security Administration Created as an Independent Agency: P.L. 103-296," *Social Security Bulletin*, January 1995, p. 59, <https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/ssb/v58n1/v58n1p57.pdf>.

⁸ For more information on state DDSs, see Social Security Advisory Board, "Social Security: Improving Hiring Processes at State Disability Determination Services," September 2025, <https://www.ssab.gov/announcements/social-security-improving-hiring-processes-at-state-disability-determination-services/>.

Figure 4. State Disability Determination Services (DDS) Total Staff on Duty at the End of the Fiscal Year
FY2008-FY2024

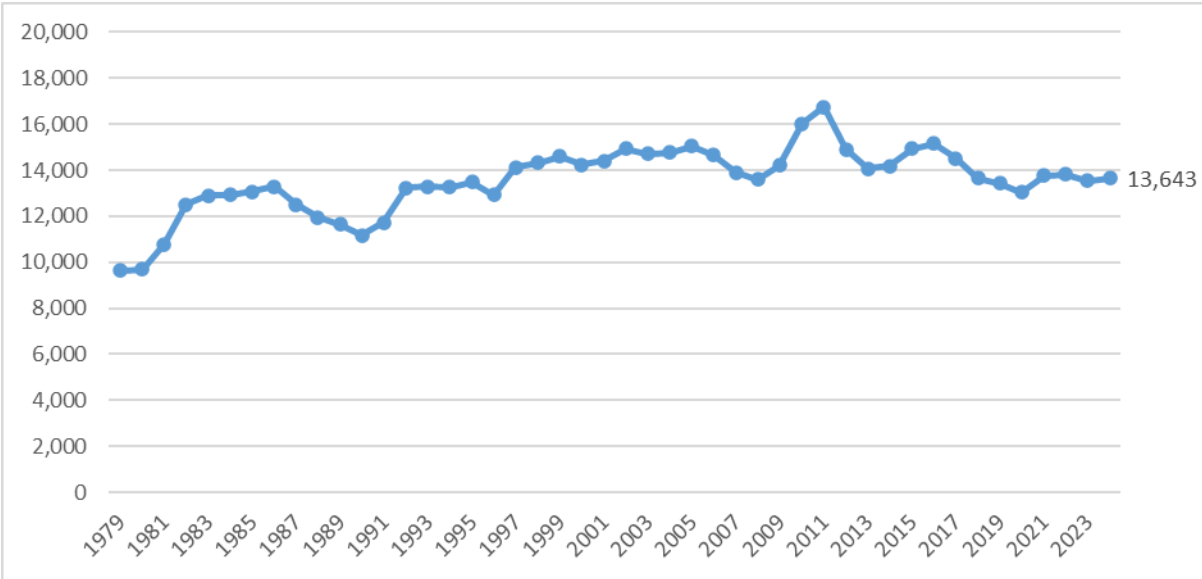


Sources: Social Security Administration (SSA), *SSA Weekly Operational Report Meeting*, April 25, 2025, slide 26, <https://web.archive.org/web/20250429140916/https://www.ssa.gov/news/assets/materials/wor/2025-04-25.pdf>; SSA, "Total State DDS Employees by State FY2010 to FY2023," <https://www.ssa.gov/foia/resources/proactivedisclosure/2025/Total%20State%20DDS%20Employees%20by%20State%20FY2010%20to%20FY2023.xlsx> (Excel spreadsheet); and SSA, Office of the Inspector General, *The Social Security Administration's Progress in Reducing the Initial Disability Claims Backlog*, April 2014, Table I, p. 5, https://oig-files.ssa.gov/audits/full/A-07-13-13073_0.pdf.

Note: See **Table A-I** in the Appendix for the underlying data.

Figure 5 shows state DDS total work years for FY1979-FY2024.

Figure 5. State DDS Total Work Years
FY1979-FY2024



Sources: Social Security Administration (SSA), *Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees for Fiscal Year 2026*, and earlier editions; various SSA responses to questions for the record; and General Accounting Office (now the Government Accountability Office), *Social Security: Increasing Number of Disability Claims and Deteriorating Service*, HRD-94-11, November 1993, Figure 1.1, p. 9, <https://www.gao.gov/products/hrd-94-11>.

Note: See **Table A-1** in the Appendix for the underlying data.

See **Table A-1** in the Appendix for the data underlying the figures shown in this section, additional years of data for certain metrics, and historical data on FTEs.

Recent Staffing Levels by Office or Component

Table 1 shows estimated SSA staff on duty from agency contingency plans, by office, for 2018-2024. The staff counts are estimated for the end of September or the beginning of October of the year shown using actual staff counts from July or August of that year. Entries for some offices are blank (i.e., —) because the office did not exist at the time. Because SSA underwent several reorganizations in 2025, some of the offices shown in the table may no longer exist, and their staff and functions may have been transferred to other offices.⁹

Table 1. Estimated SSA Staff on Duty from Agency Contingency Plans, by Office
2018-2024

Office	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	61,663	63,203	62,987	62,971	61,757	61,869	59,058
Actuary	57	56	50	51	50	50	51
Analytics, Review, and Oversight	2,086	2,307	1,996	1,939	1,964	1,945	1,920
Budget, Finance, and Management	931	916	880	884	891	870	859

⁹ For more information on SSA’s reorganizations in 2025, see SSA, “Press Releases,” <https://www.ssa.gov/news/en/press/releases/index.html>.

Office	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Commissioner	25	31	27	29	27	28	32
Communications	155	146	142	141	148	150	144
Hearings Operations	9,664	9,386	8,370	8,156	7,675	8,086	7,471
General Counsel	723	747	724	741	758	744	722
Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity (CREO)	—	—	—	—	67	143	148
Human Resources (HR)	412	413	381	420	416	845	854
HR/CREO—Reasonable Accommodations	203	216	212	218	213	213	213
Inspector General	493	529	542	523	529	534	515
Legislation and Congressional Affairs	54	56	58	58	59	60	60
Operations	43,221	44,694	45,927	46,131	45,129	44,316	42,250
Retirement and Disability Policy	533	525	495	489	493	482	504
Systems/Chief Information Officer	3,106	3,181	3,183	3,191	3,338	3,403	3,303
Transformation	—	—	—	—	—	—	12

Source: Social Security Administration agency contingency plans for 2018-2024.

Notes: “—” = not applicable. The office *Operations* includes field offices, teleservice centers, regional offices, program service centers, and the Office of Central Operations.

Table 2 shows FTE employees, by component, for FY2019-FY2024. As discussed earlier, some agency components shown below may no longer exist due to organizational changes in 2025.

Table 2. Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Employees, by Component
FY2019-FY2024

Component	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
SSA Total (Excluding OIG)	60,470	59,573	59,195	57,568	58,485	57,998
Field Offices	27,358	27,230	27,251	26,997	27,673	26,839
Teleservice Centers	4,307	4,567	4,790	4,167	4,078	3,947
Regional Offices	1,348	1,309	1,281	1,347	1,221	1,396
Program Service Centers and Office of Central Operations	9,467	9,463	9,548	9,345	9,348	9,214
Office of Hearings Operations	9,335	8,549	7,970	7,553	7,465	7,512
Office of Systems/Chief Information Officer	3,084	3,048	3,138	3,074	3,285	3,293
Office of Analytics, Review, and Oversight	2,107	2,050	1,928	1,834	1,869	1,923
Office of General Counsel	720	691	721	704	698	713
Headquarters	2,744	2,667	2,567	2,547	2,848	3,161
State DDS	13,149	12,780	13,421	13,462	13,166	13,424
OIG	508	519	499	479	500	508

Source: Social Security Administration (SSA), *Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees for Fiscal Year 2026*, and earlier editions.

Notes: DDS = Disability Determination Services. OIG = Office of the Inspector General. Subtotals may not sum to totals due to rounding. The SSA FTE data for FY2023 and FY2024 include reimbursable work. (The SSA FTE data in **Table A-1** in the Appendix exclude reimbursable work.)

Recent Staffing Levels by State or Area

Table 3 shows SSA total staff on duty, by state or area, for September 2018-2024 and March 2025. The data reflect SSA employees in pay status at the end of the applicable period and are grouped by the state or area in which each employee's official duty station is located (as defined by the Office of Personnel Management). In some cases, the data are suppressed due to small cell size or certain other reasons. In other cases, the data are not reported for a given period.

Table 3. SSA Total Staff on Duty, by State or Area

September 2018-2024 and March 2025

State or Area	Sept. 2018	Sept. 2019	Sept. 2020	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2023	Sept. 2024	Mar. 2025
All Areas	62,519	61,991	61,447	59,808	57,754	61,410	58,409	56,263
50 States and DC	62,092	61,576	61,053	59,423	57,368	60,960	57,898	55,776
Alabama	2,494	2,433	2,554	2,525	2,341	2,600	2,545	2,459
Alaska	47	45	42	37	42	40	39	37
Arizona	709	707	699	669	647	694	635	634
Arkansas	451	448	436	433	432	445	422	410
California	6,138	6,175	6,126	5,892	5,774	6,199	5,773	5,600
Colorado	695	671	681	662	628	670	628	600
Connecticut	343	339	338	327	320	359	289	278
Delaware	105	101	105	100	104	113	107	101
District of Columbia	227	220	212	207	195	231	951	904
Florida	2,660	2,703	2,669	2,604	2,547	2,860	2,694	2,621
Georgia	1,727	1,679	1,667	1,620	1,615	1,680	1,634	1,605
Hawaii	137	136	128	124	130	144	137	127
Idaho	148	153	146	141	141	149	140	135
Illinois	2,896	2,825	2,758	2,728	2,667	2,772	2,596	2,452
Indiana	774	757	738	722	698	747	695	669
Iowa	259	252	254	246	257	269	253	236
Kansas	268	262	257	258	259	254	234	227
Kentucky	760	750	725	705	681	756	724	704
Louisiana	663	646	633	612	594	650	607	580
Maine	175	175	178	168	171	178	169	170
Maryland	10,589	10,466	10,411	10,176	9,736	10,307	9,751	9,480

State or Area	Sept. 2018	Sept. 2019	Sept. 2020	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2023	Sept. 2024	Mar. 2025
Massachusetts	1,055	1,050	1,034	1,016	979	1,010	983	950
Michigan	1,305	1,322	1,286	1,281	1,259	1,303	1,241	1,199
Minnesota	426	432	420	417	398	429	404	390
Mississippi	563	546	542	520	508	552	537	520
Missouri	2,559	2,540	2,510	2,511	2,353	2,539	2,401	2,311
Montana	118	114	114	113	108	117	110	101
Nebraska	147	148	143	144	148	153	146	150
Nevada	280	284	269	261	252	274	267	255
New Hampshire	135	139	136	129	138	144	143	140
New Jersey	854	877	843	801	778	862	840	822
New Mexico	884	892	821	784	703	753	722	672
New York	3,655	3,770	3,730	3,611	3,539	3,666	3,468	3,381
North Carolina	1,374	1,343	1,314	1,310	1,263	1,377	1,319	1,278
North Dakota	98	93	93	87	83	89	77	80
Ohio	1,475	1,460	1,439	1,400	1,349	1,411	1,341	1,286
Oklahoma	483	473	468	458	474	498	469	455
Oregon	399	391	394	389	360	374	345	339
Pennsylvania	3,937	3,891	4,107	3,926	3,766	3,886	3,791	3,654
Rhode Island	155	141	143	143	141	152	143	142
South Carolina	628	607	609	606	594	632	604	583
South Dakota	83	84	83	85	85	88	78	80
Tennessee	1,020	992	960	936	928	968	927	908
Texas	3,294	3,291	3,271	3,277	3,134	3,352	3,291	3,185
Utah	173	173	179	176	173	191	176	167
Vermont	54	49	53	52	51	59	54	55
Virginia	1,919	1,855	1,742	1,632	1,526	1,520	719	678
Washington	1,489	1,435	1,381	1,269	1,165	1,257	1,149	1,110
West Virginia	361	347	331	303	310	337	309	300
Wisconsin	600	586	575	556	553	562	541	524
Wyoming	36	38	42	39	38	40	35	32
Suppressed	268	270	264	235	233	248	245	a
U.S. Territories	396	382	363	354	357	419	437	a
American Samoa	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	a
Guam	14	14	NA	15	16	17	17	a
Northern Mariana Islands	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	a

State or Area	Sept. 2018	Sept. 2019	Sept. 2020	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2023	Sept. 2024	Mar. 2025
Puerto Rico	364	347	331	318	320	378	398	a
U.S. Virgin Islands	b	b	b	b	b	13	b	a
Foreign Countries	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	a
Unspecified	31	33	31	31	29	31	74	a

Source: Office of Personnel Management, “FedScope,” <https://www.fedscope.opm.gov/>.

Notes: DC = District of Columbia. Data for March 2025 are preliminary.

- a. FedScope’s preliminary March 2025 dataset does not report data for the rows suppressed, U.S. territories, foreign countries, and unspecified. Instead, the dataset includes an entry titled “Redacted,” which was 487.
- b. The data for this area are suppressed (i.e., FedScope reports “NA” for this area).

Appendix. Data Underlying Figures and FTE Data

Table A-1 provides the data underlying the figures shown in the body of the report. The table includes additional years of data for SSA total staff on duty and SSA total work years (LAE-only activities), as well as data on SSA FTEs and OIG FTEs. Data for some metrics are not available for all years shown below, because CRS was unable to find publicly available data for certain years. In some cases, the entries for certain metrics are blank (i.e., —) because the particular metric was not captured or produced by SSA at that time or the particular entity did not exist at that time (e.g., SSA’s OIG was established in the second half of FY1995).

Table A-1. Historical Social Security Administration (SSA) Staffing Data, by Metric
FY1936-FY2024 (Selected Years)

Fiscal Year	SSA Total Staff on Duty	SSA Full-Time Permanent Staff on Duty	SSA Total Work Years		State DDS Total Staff on Duty	State DDS Total Work Years	SSA FTEs (Excluding OIG)	OIG FTEs
			LAE-Only Activities	All Activities				
1936	634	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1937	5,748	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1938	9,612	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1939	9,661	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1940	12,164	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1941	12,682	—	9,037	—	—	—	—	—
1942	13,297	—	9,853	—	—	—	—	—
1943	10,585	—	9,502	—	—	—	—	—
1944	10,045	—	8,268	—	—	—	—	—
1945	10,629	—	8,269	—	—	—	—	—
1946	11,261	—	9,624	—	—	—	—	—
1947	12,830	—	10,616	—	—	—	—	—
1948	12,889	—	11,450	—	—	—	—	—
1949	12,854	—	11,069	—	—	—	—	—
1950	11,899	—	11,137	—	—	—	—	—
1951	14,821	—	13,301	—	—	—	—	—
1952	14,814	—	13,853	—	—	—	—	—
1953	14,623	—	14,402	—	—	—	—	—
1954	14,634	—	13,983	—	—	—	—	—
1955	18,514	—	16,363	—	—	—	—	—
1956	18,591	—	17,729	—	—	—	—	—
1957	22,472	—	21,984	—	—	—	—	—
1958	23,540	—	23,297	—	—	—	—	—
1959	26,322	—	25,207	—	—	—	—	—
1960	26,071	—	25,829	—	—	—	—	—

Fiscal Year	SSA Total Staff on Duty	SSA Full-Time Permanent Staff on Duty	SSA Total Work Years		State DDS Total Staff on Duty	State DDS Total Work Years	SSA FTEs (Excluding OIG)	OIG FTEs
			LAE-Only Activities	All Activities				
1961	32,100	—	30,063	—	—	—	—	—
1962	35,304	—	34,741	—	—	—	—	—
1963	34,796	—	34,959	—	—	—	—	—
1964	35,056	—	35,448	—	—	—	—	—
1965	35,897	—	35,345	—	—	—	—	—
1966	44,774	—	48,473	—	—	—	—	—
1967	48,092	47,004	49,650	—	—	—	—	—
1968	53,142	52,459	54,770	—	—	—	—	—
1969	53,543	50,488	54,405	—	—	—	—	—
1970	54,164	50,048	53,648	—	—	—	—	—
1971	56,443	52,225	55,438	—	—	—	—	—
1972	56,260	52,485	56,443	—	—	—	—	—
1973	68,340	62,609	59,542	—	—	—	—	—
1974	76,762	71,187	77,956	—	—	—	—	—
1975	82,791	74,993	84,037	86,168	—	—	—	—
1976	87,125	77,920	87,487	89,045	—	—	—	—
1977	88,257	80,054	89,848	90,835	—	—	—	—
1978	86,563	77,684	86,449	88,088	—	—	—	—
1979	84,629	75,230	85,996	87,725	—	9,625	—	—
1980	84,269	74,498	84,937	86,539	—	9,701	—	—
1981	86,948	74,330	84,262	85,958	—	10,794	78,842	—
1982	88,611	74,880	86,640	88,163	—	12,513	82,000	—
1983	86,131	74,604	88,254	89,299	—	12,887	82,483	—
1984	83,980	73,944	86,185	87,864	—	12,924	79,951	—
1985	83,505	72,225	82,131	83,406	—	13,074	77,741	—
1986	77,358	68,962	78,746	79,225	—	13,302	75,494	—
1987	71,024	64,529	72,721	73,408	—	12,502	70,784	—
1988	68,908	63,029	68,558	69,286	—	11,963	66,835	—
1989	66,597	61,131	66,311	66,931	—	11,634	64,621	—
1990	65,978	61,067	64,155	65,025	—	11,177	62,836	—
1991	68,270	63,715	64,844	66,040	—	11,738	62,850	—
1992	67,398	62,398	66,164	68,135	—	13,225	64,324	—
1993	65,906	61,640	66,202	66,623	—	13,298	63,771	—
1994	67,590	62,434	66,259	66,741	—	13,267	64,017	—
1995	67,925	62,504	66,537	67,063	—	13,478	64,135	109

Fiscal Year	SSA Total Staff on Duty	SSA Full-Time Permanent Staff on Duty	SSA Total Work Years		State DDS Total Staff on Duty	State DDS Total Work Years	SSA FTEs (Excluding OIG)	OIG FTEs
			LAE-Only Activities	All Activities				
1996	67,398	62,133	66,154	66,726	—	12,938	63,418	247
1997	67,750	61,224	68,710	69,378	—	14,118	64,574	314
1998	65,629	59,943	—	67,210	—	14,330	63,339	388
1999	63,957	59,752	65,760	66,459	—	14,611	62,312	428
2000	64,521	60,434	—	65,521	—	14,231	61,698	517
2001	65,377	61,490	—	65,562	—	14,397	61,743	559
2002	64,648	61,914	—	65,742	—	14,947	62,214	564
2003	64,903	63,569	—	65,343	—	14,700	62,264	566
2004	65,258	63,186	—	66,154	—	14,772	62,513	594
2005	66,147	63,696	—	68,026	—	15,038	61,790	610
2006	63,647	61,692	—	66,878	—	14,653	61,468	608
2007	62,407	60,206	—	63,939	—	13,916	60,814	597
2008	63,990	61,920	—	64,358	15,361	13,605	60,456	583
2009	67,632	65,203	—	67,170	16,814	14,224	63,187	576
2010	69,963	67,548	—	70,758	18,268	16,021	66,398	583
2011	67,136	64,744	—	69,936	17,064	16,739	66,749	574
2012	65,113	62,943	—	67,208	16,075	14,913	63,760	569
2013	62,543	59,823	—	64,601	15,279	14,081	61,627	558
2014	64,684	62,956	—	64,006	16,966	14,187	60,105	539
2015	65,717	63,466	—	67,004	16,168	14,925	63,170	528
2016	64,394	62,685	—	65,798	16,797	15,152	62,949	522
2017	62,297	61,250	—	63,957	15,458	14,522	60,664	512
2018	62,519	61,011	—	64,095	14,750	13,665	60,160	496
2019	61,991	60,450	63,828	64,576	14,906	13,429	60,470	508
2020	61,447	60,364	61,553	62,291	14,891	13,028	59,574	519
2021	59,808	58,952	61,112	61,830	15,297	13,758	59,195	499
2022	57,754	56,907	59,903	60,570	14,571	13,825	57,568	479
2023	61,410	60,026	61,225	61,771	15,343	13,554	58,293	500
2024	58,409	57,148	60,127	60,817	14,469	13,643	57,820	508

Sources: Office of Personnel Management, “FedScope,” <https://www.fedscope.opm.gov/>; Social Security Advisory Board, *How the Social Security Administration Can Improve Its Service to the Public*, September 1999, <https://www.ssab.gov/research/how-the-social-security-administration-can-improve-its-service-to-the-public/>; various SSA responses to questions for the record; Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, *Annual Report, 1970*, and earlier editions; Federal Security Agency, *Annual Report of the Federal Security Agency, 1952*, and earlier editions; Social Security Board, *Annual Report of the Social Security Board, 1945*, and earlier editions; SSA, *Annual Statistical Supplement, 2024*, and earlier editions; SSA, *Annual Report to the Congress, 1994*, and earlier editions; SSA, *Justification of Estimates for Appropriations Committees for Fiscal Year 2026*, and earlier editions; Office

of Management and Budget, *Appendix, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1996*, February 1995, and earlier editions; SSA, *SSA Weekly Operational Report Meeting*, April 25, 2025, <https://web.archive.org/web/20250429140916/https://www.ssa.gov/news/assets/materials/wor/2025-04-25.pdf>; SSA, “Total State DDS Employees by State FY2010 to FY2023”; SSA, Office of the Inspector General, *The Social Security Administration’s Progress in Reducing the Initial Disability Claims Backlog*, April 2014, https://oig-files.ssa.gov/audits/full/A-07-13-13073_0.pdf; and General Accounting Office (now the Government Accountability Office), *Social Security: Increasing Number of Disability Claims and Deteriorating Service*, HRD-94-11, November 1993, <https://www.gao.gov/products/hrd-94-11>.

Notes: “—” = not available or not applicable. Data for *SSA Total Staff on Duty* for FY1936-FY1946 are for the Social Security Board, which was replaced by SSA in July 1946. Data for *LAE-Only Activities* for FY1941-FY1962 are for the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance. Prior to FY1979, the President’s budget referred to the LAE account as the Limitation on Salaries and Expenses account, the Salaries and Expenses account, or the Salaries account. Data for *LAE-Only Activities* and *SSA FTEs* exclude reimbursable work. (The SSA FTE data for FY2023 and FY2024 in **Table 2** include reimbursable work.)

Author Information

William R. Morton
Specialist in Income Security

Disclaimer

This document was prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). CRS serves as nonpartisan shared staff to congressional committees and Members of Congress. It operates solely at the behest of and under the direction of Congress. Information in a CRS Report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to Members of Congress in connection with CRS’s institutional role. CRS Reports, as a work of the United States Government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS Report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS Report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain the permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.