Supplemental Security Income (SSI): 2024

Survey of Income and Program Participation Snapshots

By Adrianne R. Brown
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8.8 **million people received SSI benefits.**

Working-age adults ages 18 to 64 accounted for the largest share of SSI recipients (61 percent), followed by adults age 65 and over (28 percent) and children under the age of 18 (12 percent).

$766 **was the average monthly SSI payment received.**

Adults age 65 and over had lower average payments than working-age adults: $712 compared with $785.

35% **of SSI recipient households had income below their poverty threshold.**

Another 26 percent of SSI recipient households had income above poverty but below 200 percent of their poverty threshold.

82% **of SSI recipient households were also covered by Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).**

Other benefits commonly received by SSI recipient households included the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; 63 percent), rental subsidies (24 percent), and energy assistance (16 percent).

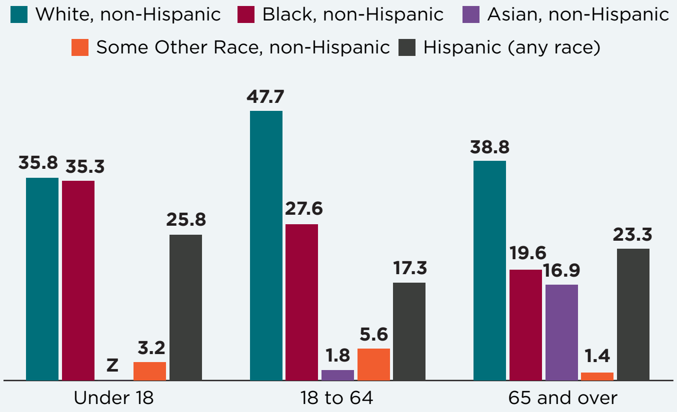
What Is SSI?

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a means-tested, cash assistance program. To qualify for benefits, a person must have limited income and resources. Children under the age of 18 and working-age recipients must also be either blind or disabled, as defined by the Social Security Administration's (SSA) eligibility guidelines. Individuals age 65 and over do not need to be blind or have a disability to qualify for SSI benefits.

More information on SSI and other social safety net programs is available in fact sheets, detailed program participation tables, data visualizations, and reports.

Race and Ethnicity of SSI Recipients by Age: 2024

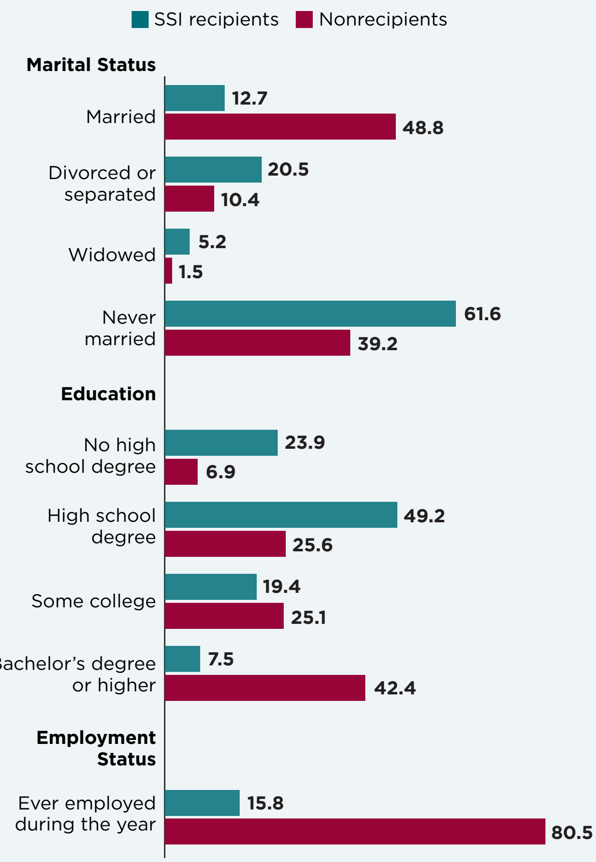
(In percent)



Z Rounds to zero.

Characteristics of Adults Ages 18 to 64 by SSI Receipt: 2024

(In percent)



Note: Education results restricted to adults ages 25 to 64.

United States Census Bureau
U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

Source: 2025 Survey of Income and Program Participation public-use file, Data Management System Number: P-7516454, <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp.html>.