

SSI recipients with disabilities who work and participation in 1619b

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federally funded program that provides cash assistance for basic needs. Individuals with a low-income who are over the age of 65, blind, or have a disability are eligible for assistance. SSI beneficiaries typically also receive health insurance coverage through Medicaid. Losing Medicaid benefits can be of concern for SSI recipients with disabilities who desire to work, or are currently working. Section 1619b of the Social Security Act allows individuals to work and continue to receive Medicaid assistance when their earnings are too high to qualify for SSI cash payments as long as they meet other eligibility requirements for the SSI program and continue to need Medicaid in order to work.

Researchers explored how many SSI recipients with disabilities work and how many participate in 1619b. *Results are displayed in the table found on page 2.* In the U.S. as a whole, 25.7% of working SSI recipients participated in 1619b in 2006. The percentage of working SSI recipients who participate in 1619b varied from state to state. Nebraska (20.4%), South Carolina (20.4%), and Ohio (20.7%) had the lowest, and Hawaii (36.5%), the District of Columbia (33.5%), and Florida (33.7%) had the highest percentage of employed SSI recipients participating in 1619b. Additionally, researchers found a moderate, negative relationship between the number of SSI recipients with disabilities who work within a state, and the percentage that are enrolled in the 1619b program ($r = -.363, p < .01$). In other words, states that have more working SSI recipients with disabilities tend to have fewer participants in the 1619b program. This could be due to a variety of factors, including but not limited to the ability of individuals to access medical insurance through employers, or the capacity of states with large SSI recipient populations to communicate information about 1619b to eligible individuals.

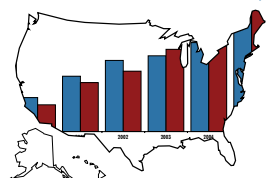
Source:

U.S. Social Security Administration, Office of Policy, *SSI Disabled Recipients Who Work, 2006* (www.ssa.gov)

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SSI Recipients with Disabilities and 1619b Program Participation by State

State	Number of SSI Recipients who work	Number of 1619b participants who work	Percent of SSI Recipients who work participating in 1619b	State	Number of SSI Recipients who work	Number of 1619b participants who work	Percent of SSI Recipients who work participating in 1619b
AK a	621	b	***	MT	1,904	456	23.9%
AL	4,268	1,195	28.0%	NC	8,353	1,974	23.6%
AR	3,858	897	23.3%	ND a	1,396	357	25.6%
AZ	4,263	1,424	33.4%	NE a	3,133	639	20.4%
CA	46,849	9,945	21.2%	NH	1,313	402	30.6%
CO	4,102	938	22.9%	NJ	7,869	2,124	27.0%
CT a	3,941	1,171	29.7%	NM	2,316	645	27.8%
DC	795	282	35.5%	NV a	1,814	561	30.9%
DE	969	303	31.3%	NY	31,382	7,568	24.1%
FL	13,435	4,530	33.7%	OH a	17,170	3,546	20.7%
GA	7,213	1,839	25.5%	OK a	4,242	1,019	24.0%
HI a	926	338	36.5%	OR a	4,227	1,079	25.5%
IA	6,985	1,592	22.8%	PA	16,180	4,361	27.0%
ID a	2,007	613	30.5%	RI	1,641	468	28.5%
IL a	14,242	3,603	25.3%	SC	4,859	992	20.4%
IN a	5,911	1,589	26.9%	SD	2,114	508	24.0%
KS a	4,282	1,037	24.2%	TN	5,352	1,360	25.4%
KY	4,843	1,249	25.8%	TX	15,027	4,131	27.5%
LA	5,428	1,539	28.4%	UT a	2,517	690	27.4%
MA	9,812	3,295	33.6%	VA a	7,198	2,018	28.0%
MD	6,277	1,658	26.4%	VT	1,255	418	33.3%
ME	2,193	677	30.9%	WA	6,415	2,197	34.2%
MI	13,664	3,159	23.1%	WI	10,488	2,284	21.8%
MN a	10,430	2,493	23.9%	WV	2,254	654	29.0%
MO a	7,635	2,100	27.5%	WY	875	278	31.8%
MS	3,164	938	29.6%	US Total	188,113	48,404	25.7%

a. The Social Security Administration identifies persons as potential participants; the state makes final Medicaid determinations.

b. Data are not shown to avoid disclosure of information for particular individuals.