



# Fact Sheet

## SOCIAL SECURITY

### 2021 SOCIAL SECURITY CHANGES

**Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA):**

Based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) from the third quarter of 2019 through the third quarter of 2020, Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries will receive a 1.3 percent COLA for 2021. Other important 2021 Social Security information is as follows:

Tax Rate	2020	2021
Employee	7.65%	7.65%
Self-Employed	15.30%	15.30%

**NOTE:** The 7.65% tax rate is the combined rate for Social Security and Medicare. The Social Security portion (OASDI) is 6.20% on earnings up to the applicable taxable maximum amount (see below). The Medicare portion (HI) is 1.45% on all earnings. Also, as of January 2013, individuals with earned income of more than \$200,000 (\$250,000 for married couples filing jointly) pay an additional 0.9 percent in Medicare taxes. The tax rates shown above do not include the 0.9 percent.

	2020	2021
<b>Maximum Taxable Earnings</b>		
Social Security (OASDI only)	\$137,700	\$142,800
Medicare (HI only)	No Limit	
<b>Quarter of Coverage</b>		
	\$1,410	\$1,470
<b>Retirement Earnings Test Exempt Amounts</b>		
Under full retirement age	\$18,240/yr. (\$1,520/mo.)	\$18,960/yr. (\$1,580/mo.)
NOTE: One dollar in benefits will be withheld for every \$2 in earnings above the limit.		

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The year an individual reaches full retirement age	\$48,600/yr. (\$4,050/mo.)	\$50,520/yr. (\$4,210/mo.)
NOTE: Applies only to earnings for months prior to attaining full retirement age. One dollar in benefits will be withheld for every \$3 in earnings above the limit.		
Beginning the month an individual attains full retirement age	None	

	2020	2021
<b>Social Security Disability Thresholds</b>		
Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)		
Non-Blind	\$1,260/mo.	\$1,310/mo.
Blind	\$2,110/mo.	\$2,190/mo.
Trial Work Period (TWP)	\$ 910/mo.	\$ 940/mo.
<b>Maximum Social Security Benefit: Worker Retiring at Full Retirement Age</b>		
	\$3,011/mo.	\$3,148/mo.
<b>SSI Federal Payment Standard</b>		
Individual	\$ 783/mo.	\$ 794/mo.
Couple	\$1,175/mo.	\$1,191/mo.
<b>SSI Resource Limits</b>		
Individual	\$2,000	\$2,000
Couple	\$3,000	\$3,000
<b>SSI Student Exclusion</b>		
Monthly limit	\$1,900	\$1,930
Annual limit	\$7,670	\$7,770
<b>Estimated Average Monthly Social Security Benefits Payable in January 2021</b>		
	<b>Before 1.3% COLA</b>	<b>After 1.3% COLA</b>
All Retired Workers	\$1,523	\$1,543
Aged Couple, Both Receiving Benefits	\$2,563	\$2,596
Widowed Mother and Two Children	\$2,962	\$3,001
Aged Widow(er) Alone	\$1,434	\$1,453
Disabled Worker, Spouse and One or More Children	\$2,195	\$2,224
All Disabled Workers	\$1,261	\$1,277

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