

Social Security helps not only older Americans, but workers who become disabled and families in which a spouse or parent dies, as well. Today, about 164 million people work and pay Social Security taxes, and about 50 million people receive monthly Social Security benefits. The current Social Security system works by employees paying taxes into Social Security, and that money being paid to:

- People who have already retired
- People who are disabled
- Survivors of workers who have died
- Dependents of beneficiaries