

Eight percent of all recipients are currently employed—12 percent of the male recipients and 3 percent of the female recipients. About one-third of the employed recipients are working full time.

While about 63 percent of the general population live in standard metropolitan statistical areas, only 50 percent of AB recipients do so. In consequence, the recipient rate is much higher in nonmetropolitan areas, where about 10 of every 10,000 persons receive AB, as compared to about 6 in every 10,000 in the metropolitan areas. In the central cities of metropolitan areas the rate is 7 per 10,000, as compared with 4 per 10,000 in the suburban parts of these areas.

Sixty-two percent of all AB recipients were born in the State in which they are now living and receiving assistance; 23 percent moved into the State 10 years or more before first receiving public assistance; 7 percent had lived in the State 5 or more, but less than 10 years; 4 percent had lived in the State less than 5 years; for 4 percent the length of time was unknown.

The median length of time for AB recipients since the most recent opening of the case is 6.1 years. Thirty-two percent of all recipients have received assistance continuously for 10 years or more.

Thirty-four percent of all recipients of AB had received federally aided public assistance at some time prior to the most recent opening of AB; 65 percent had not.

Of the male recipients, 31 percent have never been married, 41 percent are married, 8 percent are separated, 6 percent are divorced, and 14 percent are widowed. Of the female recipients, 22 percent have never been married, 20 percent are married, 9 percent are separated, 7 percent are divorced, and 41 percent are widowed. Four percent of all recipients are married to a blind spouse.

Seventeen percent of the male recipients and 9 percent of the female recipients have one or more children under 18 years of age.

Nearly three-fifths of all recipients maintain their own homes; 17 percent live in the home of a son, daughter, or parent; 9 percent live with other relatives; 4 percent live with other persons; 7 percent live in institutions; and 4 percent live elsewhere.

One-fourth of the AB recipients live in families with one or more other persons receiving public assistance. In 5 percent of the cases there is someone else in the home eligible for aid to the blind by reason of their own need and visual handicap. In more than 9 percent of all AB cases there is a recipient of OAA living in the same home, and in at least 8 percent there are recipients of AFDC.

#### 8. Financial circumstances (based on 1962 study):

Budgeted requirements: Each State establishes its own income and property levels to be used in determining the eligibility of individuals for AB. The income level is defined in terms of money amounts considered necessary to purchase recognized items of need such as food, clothing, shelter, and household supplies. The State usually allows variations in these amounts to take account of the particular living circumstances of the recipient and the existence of special needs.

At the time of the 1962 study, monthly requirements averaged \$94 per recipient. Requirements for AB recipients who receive OASDI benefits averaged \$119; for nonbeneficiary recipients the average was \$88.

Income other than assistance: The Social Security Act, as amended in 1962, provides that "the State agency shall, in determining need, take into consideration any other income and resources of the individual claiming aid to the blind, as well as any expenses reasonably attributable to the earning of any such income; except that, in making such determination, the State shall disregard (A) the first \$85 per month of earned income, plus one-half of earned income in excess of \$85 per month, and (B) for a period not in excess of 12 months, such additional amounts of other income and resources, in the case of an individual who has a plan for achieving self-support approved by the State agency, as may be necessary for the fulfillment of such plan." (Sec. 1002(8)). Of all AB recipients in 1962, 6.7 percent had some disregarded earned income, averaging \$57 per month for recipients with such income.

In late 1962 AB recipients over the Nation had an average of \$15, in monthly income from sources other than public assistance, to apply against budgeted requirements.

Thirty-six percent of all AB recipients had some income (including income in kind with a money value assigned) from sources other than assistance, to be applied to the assistance budget. Applied income averaged \$42 per month for recipients with any such income.

Two percent of all recipients had included in their assistance budgets an average monthly income of \$27 from their own earnings (amounts in excess of the disregarded earned income).