

Fully Insured

Just how much credit you must have to be fully insured depends upon the year you reach 65 if you are a man, or 62 if you are a woman, or upon the date of your death or disability if you die or become disabled before reaching that age.

You are fully insured if you have credit for at least as many years as shown on the appropriate line of the following chart.

A worker who reaches 65 (62 for women) or dies

Will need credit for no more than this much work

In 1957 or earlier	1½ years
1958	1¾
1959	2
1960	2¼
1961	2½
1962	2¾
1963	3
1964	3¼
1965	3½
1966	3¾
1967	4
1968	4¼
1969	4½
1970	4¾
1971	5
1975	6
1979	7
1983	8
1987	9
1991 or later	10

If you become disabled or die before reaching 65 (62 if a woman) you are fully insured if you have credit for ¼ year of work (earned at any time after 1936) for each year after 1950 and up to the year of your death or disability. In counting the number of years after 1950, omit the year in which you reached age 21 and all previous years.

No one is fully insured with credit for less than 1½ years of work and no one needs more than 10 years of work to be fully insured. Having a fully insured status, however, means only that you are eligible for benefits—it does not govern the amount of your benefits. The amount will depend on your average earnings.

Currently Insured

You will be currently insured if you have social security credit for at least 1½ years work within the 3 years before you die or become entitled to retirement benefits.

The table on page 14 shows, for each type of social security benefit, whether the worker must be fully insured, currently insured, or both. Your local social security office has copies of a leaflet called "Social Security Benefits." Ask for a copy if you would like more information about how social security credits are earned.

● Chapter 2

OLD-AGE RETIREMENT PAYMENTS

When you have worked long enough to be "fully insured" and have reached 62, you and certain members of your family can be paid monthly social security payments while you are "retired." It is not necessary to stop work completely to get benefits; see page 12 for information about working while you receive payments.

The Amount of Your Payments

The amount of your payments is figured from your average earnings under social security. The more regularly you work under social security and the higher your earnings, the higher your benefit will be.