

FIGURE A. Social Security and Expected* Medicare Benefits for a Two-Earner Couple: Average Wage/Low Wage

—Real 2002 Dollars—

Year Cohort Turns 65	Soc. Security Annual Benefits	Soc. Security Lifetime Benefits	Medicare Lifetime Benefits	Total Lifetime Benefits	Soc. Security Lifetime Taxes	Medicare Lifetime Taxes	Total Lifetime Taxes
1960	\$13,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$16,000	\$0	\$16,000
1970	\$15,000	\$220,000	\$80,000	\$300,000	\$44,000	\$1,000	\$45,000
2000	\$20,000	\$330,000	\$240,000	\$570,000	\$210,000	\$40,000	\$250,000
2030	\$30,000	\$470,000	\$490,000	\$960,000	\$360,000	\$100,000	\$460,000

* Expected rather than realized benefits. Notes: The “average” and “low” wage profiles are those hypothetical profiles routinely employed by the Social Security Administration in its analyses. Sums are discounted to present value at age 65 using a 2 percent real interest rate. Table assumes survival to age 65. Projections based on intermediate assumptions of the 2002 OASDI and HI/SMI Trustees Reports. Source: C. Eugene Steuerle and Adam Carasso, The Urban Institute, 2002.

FIGURE B. Social Security and Expected* Medicare Benefits for Average-Wage, Two-Earner Couple

—Real 2002 Dollars—

Year Cohort Turns 65	Soc. Security Annual Benefits	Soc. Security Lifetime Benefits	Medicare Lifetime Benefits	Total Lifetime Benefits	Soc. Security Lifetime Taxes	Medicare Lifetime Taxes	Total Lifetime Taxes
1960	\$15,000	\$160,000	\$0	\$160,000	\$23,000	\$0	\$23,000
1970	\$18,000	\$250,000	\$80,000	\$330,000	\$61,000	\$2,000	\$63,000
2000	\$25,000	\$360,000	\$240,000	\$600,000	\$290,000	\$55,000	\$345,000
2030	\$38,000	\$530,000	\$490,000	\$1,020,000	\$500,000	\$140,000	\$640,000

* Expected rather than realized benefits. Notes: The “average” wage profile is a hypothetical profile routinely employed by the Social Security Administration in its analyses. Data are discounted to present value at age 65 using a 2 percent real interest rate. Table assumes survival to age 65. Projections based on intermediate assumptions of the 2002 OASDI and HI/SMI Trustees Reports. Source: C. Eugene Steuerle and Adam Carasso, The Urban Institute, 2002.

FIGURE C. Social Security and Expected* Medicare Benefits for a Two-Earner Couple: High Wage/Average Wage

—Real 2002 Dollars—

Year Cohort Turns 65	Soc. Security Annual Benefits	Soc. Security Lifetime Benefits	Medicare Lifetime Benefits	Total Lifetime Benefits	Soc. Security Lifetime Taxes	Medicare Lifetime Taxes	Total Lifetime Taxes
1960	\$16,000	\$180,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$26,000	\$0	\$26,000
1970	\$20,000	\$270,000	\$80,000	\$350,000	\$69,000	\$3,000	\$72,000
2000	\$28,000	\$450,000	\$240,000	\$690,000	\$355,000	\$65,000	\$420,000
2030	\$44,000	\$650,000	\$490,000	\$1,140,000	\$650,000	\$170,000	\$820,000

* Expected rather than realized benefits. Notes: The “high” and “average” wage profiles are those hypothetical profiles routinely employed by the Social Security Administration in its analyses. Data are discounted to present value at age 65 using a 2 percent real interest rate. Table assumes survival to age 65. Projections based on intermediate assumptions of the 2002 OASDI and HI/SMI Trustees Reports. Source: C. Eugene Steuerle and Adam Carasso, The Urban Institute, 2002.