Solutions, Strategies, Answers

Newsletter of the 18 Social Security Administration offices in
Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, and Philadelphia counties

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What's in a Name? That Which We Call a Baby by Any Other Name Would Smell as Sweet

So yes, we've altered Juliet's famous sentiment from the 14th century when she downplayed the significance of family surnames. That's because here at SSA we like to focus on first names, specifically for newborns. But like Juliet, we acknowledge that it's the person the infant grows up to be that matters much more than their name. Still, it's fun to look at the top choices of U.S. baby names over the last 100 years.

For girls, there are three names that dominate the all-time list. Emily has been the top choice in 12 of the years since 1926. Jennifer has taken the top spot for 15 of the years. And even though her most recent appearance at the top was way back in 1961, Mary has been the number one choice in 30 of the last 100 years!

For boys, 86 percent of the number one choices are divided among four names. James was first in 13 years, while Jacob was the leader in 14 years. And Robert was first in 15 of the years. But move over, guys, the definitive record-holder, with 44 years, is Michael.

And what of those Shakespearean characters? **Juliet** hit her high point in 2017 when she was ranked 228th. **Romeo** had his best showing in 2024, when he came in at 283. As for that most sweet-smelling flower, **Rose** ranked her highest in 1913, the year she came in 14th.

Find your name and its all-time ranking at
Popular Baby Names | SSA

How Ever Will You Manage? Very Well, Thank You, with a *my* Social Security Account

In football, when a quarterback is termed a "Game Manager," it is often viewed as a backhanded compliment. It's reserved for someone who gets the job done, not in an exciting or flashy manner, but who does so without critical mistakes. In other words, he just wins!

You too can "manage" a variety of Social Security items in a most winning fashion, with no missteps. You do that with a personal online *my* **Social Security** account. Let's call a few audibles from your play chart:

Get a benefit letter to show that you do/do not receive benefits, or proof that you filed an application.

Download a copy of your 1099 tax form so you can report your Social Security income on your tax return.

Complete forms online and upload paperwork that you need to get to us.

Update your bank information. Make sure your monthly benefits go to the right account.

Request to withhold taxes. Submit a request to pay taxes on your Social Security benefit throughout the year instead of paying a large bill at tax time.

Pause your retirement benefit. If you are receiving a reduced retirement benefit, you can stop it when you reach your full age. This will result in a higher benefit percentage when you tell us to restart the benefit.

Manage Social Security benefits | SSA

A Day Unlike Any Other

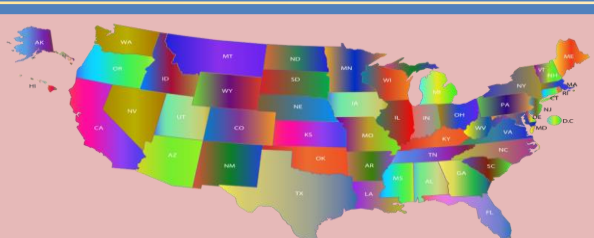
This summer you probably will happily "hit the beach" somewhere along the Delaware or New Jersey shorelines. Rehoboth, Atlantic City, Ocean City, Wildwood. All familiar names, and a fun time will be had by all.

But 82 years ago, different beach names were in the news. Gold, Juno, Omaha, Sword, and Utah. Landing spots for the Allied military invasion against Nazi forces at Normandy, France. It was D-Day - June 6, 1944.

On the eve of the invasion, Allied Commander Dwight Eisenhower had a letter distributed to the troops. "The eyes of the world are upon you," it read. "The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you ... I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle." Over 156,000 ground troops from Britian, Canada and the U.S. would storm the five beaches. Proving Eisenhower prophetic, by day's end the Allied forces controlled all the beach heads. Alas, the fierce fighting left the pristine coastline smeared with blood. An estimated 4,415 Allied troops lost their lives, with thousands more wounded. D-Day was a vital military victory, but it came at war's awful price.

So, on those upcoming lazy, hazy days, let's all look up from our beach reads and take a moment to remember what happened on a far-off coastline, on a June day 82 years ago. RIP, courageous ones, RIP.

The National D-Day Memorial (dday.org)



US Population	**342 mil**
Soc. Sec. Beneficiaries	**71 mil**

To subscribe to *Solutions, Strategies, Answers*, contact Richard.Gaudiosi@ssa.gov or Jessica.M.Silvent@ssa.gov

School's Out Soon ... Here's Your Summer Reading List

Recognize these book titles? *Project Hail Mary. Theo of Golden. King of Gluttony. Yesteryear. The Correspondent.* All current best sellers. But note we said "sellers," which of course means you pay! Well, here at SSA we have reading assignments for you that all come gratis. Check out our newest publications:

Disability Benefits – Booklet explains who can get Social Security disability, how to apply, who makes the decision, family benefits, Ticket to Work and ABLE accounts

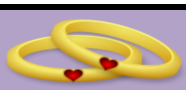
How To File An Unfair Treatment Complaint Concerning An Administrative Law Judge - Think the ALJ who conducted your hearing treated you unfairly? This booklet tells you what to do.

Overpayments – This fact sheet covers both appeal and waiver rights, as well as how to make repayments.

Who Do I Contact – Social Security or Medicare? Go to the right federal agency from the outset. This booklet shows who has jurisdiction.

Understanding Supplemental Security Income – This comprehensive booklet has 116 pages on all things SSI. A great resource regarding the program.

You can find all our publications at Publications | SSA



The Higher of the Two

Since June is a popular wedding month, we thought it OK if we magically move a marriage forward a few years and review the rules governing spousal benefits for someone who is also due their own retirement.

Suppose you are due a $1,200 retirement benefit, and your spousal benefit based on your husband/wife's earnings would be $1,350. Sorry, but you do not receive both benefits in full. You are entitled to your $1,200 plus $150 as a spouse, for a total of $1,350. **You receive the higher amount of the two figures.** Likewise, if your own benefit was $1,400, you would not receive any spousal benefit at this time. If your spouse later passes away, you may be entitled to a surviving spouse benefit, as that computation is completely different.