

- Because of this change, additional players will now receive NFL disability benefits, and players already receiving social security benefits will not have to be examined by a Plan doctor.
- The NFLPA has suggested other major changes that could eliminate difficult decisions on effective dates and causation for many players, and allow the Plan to process applications faster.

B. DISABILITY ELIGIBILITY AND AWARD STATISTICS

- **Eligibility and Award Statistics:** This has been considerable misinformation reported about the disability award and eligibility statistics, which we would like to clarify below:
 - From 1993 to June 2007, 42.6% of individuals who have applied for NFLPA/NFL disability benefits were awarded disability benefits of some kind. Social security is awarded at roughly 47%
 - As the table below demonstrates, 428 applicants have received disability benefits - of the 1004 who have received a final decisions - which brings the approval rate to 42.6%.
 - There are currently 317 former players who are receiving some kind of disability benefit under the Plan. Since 1993, 41 former players who were awarded disability began receiving their pension when they reached retirement age, and therefore no longer receive disability payments. The remaining players who no longer receive disability have either passed away, or no longer qualify for disability since their initial award because the benefit expired, or because the Plan has determined that they are no longer disabled.
 - Of the 1052 people who applied in this period, many were already receiving a pension or were not vested (had not played 3 or more seasons), and therefore were ineligible when they applied for disability benefits.
 - Currently, there are 4900 vested (3 seasons or more) former players who are eligible to apply for disability benefits under the NFL/NFLPA plan, not 10,000, as has been reported in some media outlets.
 - In addition to the 4900 vested former players who are eligible, there are currently 2100 active players who are *not* eligible to apply for disability because they are actively playing football, and are therefore not disabled.
 - There are additionally close to 3000 former players who are currently receiving a pension from the NFL/NFLPA Retirement Plan, and are also therefore *not* eligible to receive disability. Since pension and disability are both "income replacement" benefits, once a player begins to receive his pension he can no