
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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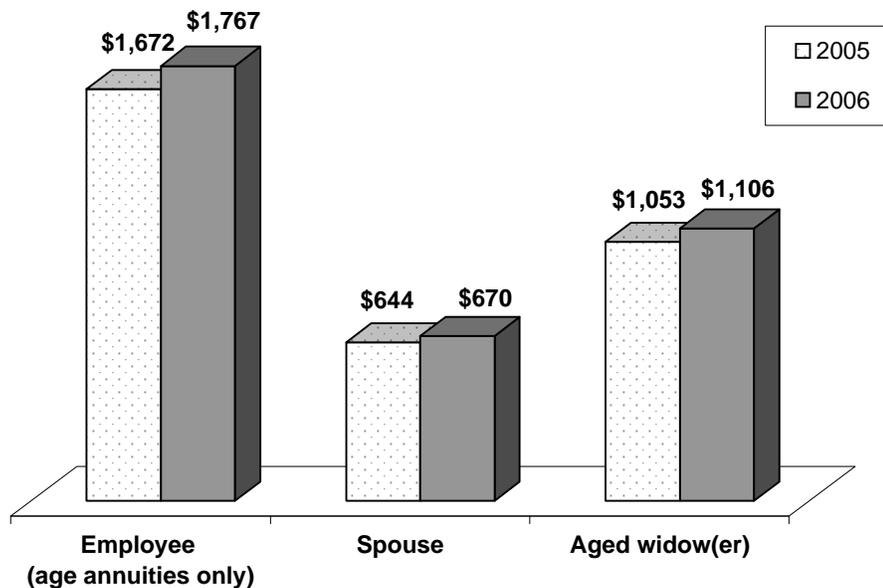
June 1, 2006

Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **January - March 2006**

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Average annuity amounts being paid,
March 2005 and March 2006



Note.--Includes cost-of-living increase payable in January.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
January - March 2006**

Period	Total ¹		Employee annuities			Supplemental	Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries	Age	Disability ²				
				Under full retirement age	Full retirement age and over			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2006	712,362	582,995	197,217	49,440	34,486	122,204	136,261	3,480
February 2006	714,522	584,815	197,839	49,447	34,538	122,557	136,663	3,478
January 2006	715,305	585,476	198,022	49,389	34,561	122,668	136,818	3,466
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2006	.....	.....	\$1,766.71	\$2,105.60	\$1,612.47	\$41.76	\$669.88	\$415.60
February 2006	.....	.....	1,763.58	2,102.59	1,608.77	41.77	668.89	413.46
January 2006	.....	.....	1,760.26	2,100.21	1,605.48	41.77	667.52	413.06
Number awarded during period								
March 2006	2,829	2,409	585	374	.....	420	679	43
February 2006	3,137	2,644	755	330	.....	493	711	43
January 2006	3,264	2,717	815	343	.....	547	748	38
10/05 - 3/06	17,535	14,733	3,923	1,994	.....	2,802	4,292	245
10/04 - 3/05	18,264	15,346	4,019	2,276	.....	2,918	4,304	227
Average amount awarded during period³								
March 2006	.....	.....	\$2,279.69	\$2,322.73	.....	\$41.09	\$760.48	\$474.65
February 2006	.....	.....	2,251.46	2,317.90	.....	41.18	801.15	533.96
January 2006	.....	.....	2,391.69	2,321.96	.....	41.18	818.55	482.28
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
March 2006	\$792,074	.....	\$349,085	\$108,861	\$55,379	\$5,104	\$92,456	\$1,535
February 2006	790,334	.....	349,135	107,597	55,334	5,143	92,117	1,505
January 2006	790,289	.....	349,086	107,304	55,269	5,161	92,360	1,491
10/05 - 3/06	4,682,356	.....	2,064,369	636,411	326,215	30,874	545,772	8,806
10/04 - 3/05	4,569,727	.....	2,012,762	601,816	315,638	31,576	534,048	8,309

¹Includes dependent parents' annuities. Except for benefit payment data, excludes insurance lump-sum and residual payment figures. Benefit payments also include hospital insurance benefits for services in Canada.

²Full retirement age, also known as normal retirement age, is gradually increasing from age 65 to age 67 over a 22 year period. For those born 1/2/1941-1/1/1942, the normal retirement age is 65 and 8 months.

³Regular employee and spouse annuity averages are preliminary estimates.

NOTE.--MONTHLY BENEFITS in CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS at the end of month include all benefits awarded to date and payable for the month.

BENEFITS AWARDED consist of those certified for the first time on either a partial or final basis.

BENEFIT PAYMENTS for a month, shown in both the benefit and financial statistics, consist of recurrent monthly checks dated the first of the month, plus retroactive and lump-sum payments made during the month, less returned checks (excluding those not yet distributed by Account), refunds of benefits paid previously, etc. Data are on a cash basis (unaudited) and are partly estimated.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
January - March 2006 -- Continued**

Period	Survivor benefits						Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
	Annuities			Children	Divorced widows and widowers	Remarried widows and widowers		
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers					
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2006	137,215	4,765	924	4,983	9,606	11,732	.....	.....
February 2006	137,914	4,788	906	4,995	9,603	11,744	.....	.....
January 2006	138,303	4,799	890	5,004	9,570	11,765	.....	.....
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2006	\$1,105.85	\$933.95	\$1,394.54	\$741.05	\$733.74	\$825.69	.....	.....
February 2006	1,102.58	931.43	1,382.40	738.55	733.78	822.98	.....	.....
January 2006	1,099.17	928.16	1,372.47	737.08	730.77	822.93	.....	.....
Number awarded during period								
March 2006	562	18	14	18	72	44	468	3
February 2006	631	23	6	27	82	36	396	3
January 2006	649	21	9	16	47	31	346	----
10/05 - 3/06	3,456	95	52	98	337	240	2,219	12
10/04 - 3/05	3,529	126	81	95	396	287	2,329	22
Average amount awarded during period³								
March 2006	\$1,484.86	\$1,381.97	\$1,286.40	\$937.89	\$687.40	\$1,088.95	\$893	\$2,030
February 2006	1,465.10	1,253.58	1,280.33	875.22	883.11	1,069.34	905	5,053
January 2006	1,469.13	1,307.00	1,506.87	849.94	759.00	1,046.66	872	----
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
March 2006	\$152,040	\$4,639	\$1,363	\$3,705	\$7,177	\$10,248	\$431	\$6
February 2006	152,204	4,652	1,255	3,720	7,206	10,042	369	15
January 2006	152,445	4,589	1,451	3,700	7,132	9,932	328	----
10/05 - 3/06	908,491	27,316	8,379	21,871	42,201	59,284	2,076	37
10/04 - 3/05	906,715	27,093	9,004	21,541	40,060	58,712	2,126	65

NOTE --(Continued from previous page.)

FOR WIDOWS and WIDOWERS aged 60 and over and WIDOWED MOTHERS and FATHERS, the number of benefits being paid and benefit payments include benefits temporarily being continued at spouse annuity rates, pending award of survivor annuities.

INSURANCE LUMP SUMS and RESIDUAL PAYMENTS are each counted only once with respect to an employee's death even though divided among 2 or more persons. Award data for insurance lump sums exclude deferred benefits, i.e., those payable a year after the employee's death.

Data on benefit payments are for CALENDAR MONTHS; all other data are for ACCOUNTING MONTHS ending on approximately the 22nd of each month

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
January - March 2006 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	March 2006	February 2006	January 2006	October 2005 - March 2006	October 2004 - March 2005
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period¹	\$506,824	\$478,072	\$362,081	\$591,081	\$625,621
Income, total	495,213	449,274	542,601	2,503,415	2,353,942
Payroll taxes ²	204,882	247,460	209,851	1,130,347	1,104,295
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	78,000	156,000	173,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	101,960	101,367	102,653	598,749	588,566
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust ⁴	187,000	99,000	151,000	610,000	484,000
Transfer from SSEB Account ⁴	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁵	-65	73	-206	-84	-20
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁶	-26	23	25	101	188
Interest on investments ⁷	1,461	1,350	1,278	8,302	3,914
Outgo, total	424,312	420,521	426,610	2,516,772	2,471,412
Benefit payments-regular	312,370	311,219	311,237	1,850,082	1,809,153
Benefit payments-supplemental	5,104	5,143	5,161	30,874	31,576
Payments of SSA benefits	102,007	101,414	102,590	598,768	588,491
Administrative expenses ⁸	4,432	2,542	7,053	34,812	40,025
Funding for Office of Inspector General	398	203	569	2,236	2,167
Balance at end of period¹	577,725	506,824	478,072	577,725	508,150
NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST					
Cash and investment balance at end of period⁹	\$28,827,111	\$28,664,029	\$28,783,900	\$28,827,111	\$26,317,712
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT¹⁰					
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,335	\$1,441	-\$24,951	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹¹	7,002	8,043	32,597	\$46,643	\$50,409
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	2,000	3,000	5,000
Vested dual benefit payments	8,034	8,148	8,205	49,340	54,589
Balance at end of period	303	1,335	1,441	303	820

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
January - March 2006 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	March 2006	February 2006	January 2006	October 2005 - March 2006	October 2004 - March 2005
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$829,680	\$824,200	\$777,141	\$714,828	\$698,189
Income, total	464,743	472,106	515,566	2,875,412	2,820,417
Payroll taxes ²	188,818	228,190	199,762	1,190,832	1,126,418
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	32,000	60,000	61,000
Financial interchange advances ¹²	273,819	241,646	281,438	1,612,148	1,626,749
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁷	2,105	2,270	2,366	12,433	6,251
Outgo, total	468,354	466,625	468,508	2,764,172	2,688,413
Benefit payments	466,565	465,823	465,685	2,752,060	2,674,409
Repayment of financial interchange advances ¹²	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account ⁴	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses ⁸	1,641	727	2,611	11,334	13,311
Funding for Office of Inspector General	148	75	211	777	693
Balance at end of period	826,069	829,680	824,200	826,069	830,194

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of March 2006, liabilities were \$9,846,000. ²Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. ³Amounts include U.S. Treasury adjustments for prior period income tax reconciliations. ⁴Under the Railroad Retirement and Survivors' Improvement Act of 2001, as amended, the portion of the RR Account not needed to pay current administrative expenses is to be transferred to the National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust (Trust). The Trust may transfer funds back to the RR Account for payment of benefits. The balance of the SSEB Account not needed to pay current benefits and administrative expenses is to be transferred to the Trust or to the RR Account. ⁵Net of amounts distributed by account. ⁶Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. ⁷Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). ⁸Reflects adjustments for prior periods. February amount reflects adjustment to reallocate fiscal years 2001-2005 administrative expenses between the Railroad Retirement Act and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act programs. RR Account: \$862,000, SSEB Account: \$99,000. ⁹Source: National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust. ¹⁰Total vested dual benefits paid during a fiscal year are limited to the amount appropriated to the Dual Benefits Payments Account for that year. Any amounts not spent are returned to the U.S. Treasury. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2006 was \$96.0 million, including income tax transfers. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2005 was \$107.1 million. ¹¹Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. ¹²Includes interest.

NOTE.--Data relate to CALENDAR month.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

**Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
January - March 2006**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
Unemployment						
March 2006	583	471	231	3,271	2,939	423
February 2006	539	944	229	3,375	3,082	366
January 2006	1,363	1,073	654	3,768	3,706	278
7/05 - 3/06	8,671	6,689	1,409	7,695	7,620	703
7/04 - 3/05	9,055	7,362	1,655	8,228	8,158	813
Sickness						
March 2006	1,659	1,254	503	6,043	5,172	1,190
February 2006	1,288	1,099	690	5,899	5,325	989
January 2006	1,476	1,085	990	6,128	6,070	475
7/05 - 3/06	19,815	15,528	2,630	16,479	16,298	2,049
7/04 - 3/05	20,175	15,850	2,801	16,811	16,570	2,134
Number of payments						
Period	Number of payments			Averages ¹		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit payments (thousands)
Unemployment						
March 2006	6,488	5,561	927	8.9	\$277.25	\$3,645
February 2006	5,853	5,185	668	8.9	276.80	3,248
January 2006	6,007	5,586	421	8.5	275.65	3,254
7/05 - 3/06	42,827	39,428	3,399	8.9	276.90	22,755
7/04 - 3/05	50,074	45,975	4,099	8.9	276.35	24,847
Sickness						
March 2006	12,368	9,747	2,621	8.8	\$278.05	\$3,415
February 2006	11,203	9,328	1,875	8.7	278.05	3,061
January 2006	12,120	11,493	627	8.8	277.05	4,757
7/05 - 3/06	105,102	96,976	8,126	8.9	279.55	35,887
7/04 - 3/05	108,699	100,028	8,671	8.9	279.15	34,676

¹Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week=equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

NOTE--An unemployment claimant files only one APPLICATION for a benefit year. A sickness claimant files an APPLICATION at the beginning of each period of continuing sickness.

NORMAL BENEFIT ACCOUNTS are opened when the first payment is made.

The number of BENEFICIARIES is the count of persons receiving unemployment or sickness benefits in the period. Those receiving both normal and extended benefits for unemployment or sickness are counted only once in the total for each type.

PAYMENTS generally cover 14-day registration periods. Benefits are payable for days over 7 during an employee's first 14-day registration period. Sickness benefits are paid for days of sickness after the 4th consecutive day of sickness in the first claim in each period of continuing sickness; for subsequent registration periods in the same period of continuing sickness, payments are made for all days of sickness over 4 whether or not consecutive. Unemployment benefits are paid for days of unemployment over 4. However, in the case of unemployment benefits due to a legal authorized strike, unemployment benefits are not paid until after a 14-day waiting period. Non-strikers unemployed due to an illegal strike must also serve a 14-day waiting period.

(Continued on next page.)

Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
January - March 2006 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	March 2006	February 2006	January 2006	October 2005 - March 2006	October 2004 - March 2005
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$96,236	\$100,154	\$94,868	\$97,183	\$83,537
Income, total	7,790	2,470	13,516	41,601	45,480
Contributions	262	2,360	13,998	33,039	43,884
Interest on investments	1,163	22	52	2,479	1,564
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ¹	-299	88	-534	-580	32
Transfers from Administration Fund	6,664	.....	.....	6,664	.....
Outgo, total	7,215	6,388	8,231	41,973	42,241
Unemployment benefit payments	3,645	3,248	3,254	17,240	18,330
Sickness benefit payments	3,415	3,061	4,757	23,882	22,950
Funding for Office of Inspector General	154	79	220	852	961
Balance at end of period	96,811	96,236	100,154	96,811	86,776
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$13,807	\$12,393	\$9,534	\$5,457	\$6,637
Income, total	146	845	4,494	10,891	10,614
Contributions	20	845	4,494	10,679	10,506
Interest on investments	126	.....	.....	212	109
Outgo, total	7,691	-569	1,635	10,087	9,256
Administrative expenses ²	1,027	-569	1,635	3,423	9,256
Transfers to RUI Account	6,664	.....	.....	6,664	.....
Balance at end of period	6,262	13,807	12,393	6,262	7,995

¹ Net of distributed amounts. ² February amount reflects a -\$960,436 adjustment to reallocate a portion of fiscal years 2001-2005 administrative expenses between the Railroad Retirement Act and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act programs.

NOTE.-(Continued from previous page.)

BENEFIT PAYMENTS are on a cash basis (unaudited) and represent amounts paid during the period including retroactive payments, less recoveries distributed to beneficiary accounts, refunds, and cancellations of previous payments.

ADMINISTRATION FUND balances reflect current adjustments to income and disbursements for previous years.

All unemployment and sickness data relate to CALENDAR MONTHS.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- March 2006
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RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$792,074,000
Regular benefits	778,935,000
Vested dual benefits	8,034,000
Supplemental annuities	5,104,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	712,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	281,000	\$1,807
Supplemental	122,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	140,000	664
Aged widows' and widowers'	137,000	1,106
Other survivors'	32,000	817
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	583,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$3,645,000	\$3,415,000
Beneficiaries	3,300	6,000
Average payment per week	\$277	\$278
