
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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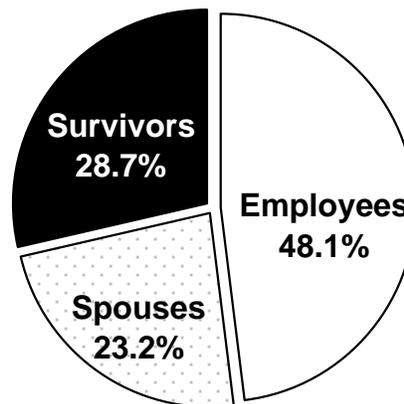
March 7, 2006

Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **October - December 2005**

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**Railroad Retirement and
Survivor Beneficiaries
on the Rolls, by Type,
December 2005**
(589,000 beneficiaries)



NOTE.--About 4,400 employees also received spouse annuities and some 2,800 employees also received survivor annuities.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2005**

Period	Total ¹		Employee annuities				Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
			Age	Disability ²		Supplemental		
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries		Under full retirement age	Full retirement age and over			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
December 2005	718,991	588,638	198,821	49,476	34,663	123,168	137,513	3,479
November 2005	719,594	589,109	199,116	49,386	34,643	123,306	137,545	3,479
October 2005	720,426	589,832	199,400	49,351	34,645	123,387	137,638	3,475
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
December 2005	.....	.....	\$1,755.59	\$2,097.55	\$1,601.72	\$41.78	\$666.13	\$411.76
November 2005	.....	.....	1,700.10	2,027.59	1,548.05	41.78	646.38	394.89
October 2005	.....	.....	1,696.93	2,025.41	1,545.06	41.78	645.56	393.23
Number awarded during period								
December 2005	2,333	2,014	429	331	.....	319	628	35
November 2005	2,861	2,361	646	304	.....	500	721	38
October 2005	3,111	2,588	693	312	.....	523	805	48
10/05 - 12/05	8,305	6,963	1,768	947	.....	1,342	2,154	121
10/04 - 12/04	8,222	6,873	1,777	1,047	.....	1,349	2,007	86
Average amount awarded during period³								
December 2005	.....	.....	\$2,323.31	\$2,428.61	.....	\$40.80	\$797.71	\$460.60
November 2005	.....	.....	2,338.39	2,295.61	.....	41.05	745.73	511.87
October 2005	.....	.....	2,352.13	2,170.36	.....	41.27	722.98	338.12
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
December 2005	\$769,490	.....	\$338,705	\$104,026	\$53,525	\$5,416	\$89,425	\$1,414
November 2005	769,053	.....	338,985	103,977	53,384	4,870	89,569	1,429
October 2005	771,117	.....	339,373	104,646	53,324	5,179	89,845	1,432
10/05 - 12/05	2,309,660	.....	1,017,063	312,649	160,233	15,466	268,839	4,275
10/04 - 12/04	2,262,415	.....	996,688	295,295	155,806	15,810	264,553	4,047

¹Includes dependent parents' and survivor (option) 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 1/2/1940-1/1/1941, the normal retirement age is 65 and 6 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
October - December 2005 -- Continued**

Period	Survivor benefits						Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
	Annuities			Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers	Children		
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers					
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
December 2005	139,480	4,824	998	5,040	9,692	11,786	.....	.....
November 2005	139,722	4,824	1,000	5,049	9,684	11,787	.....	.....
October 2005	140,160	4,833	994	5,061	9,653	11,776	.....	.....
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
December 2005	\$1,097.19	\$926.11	\$1,401.00	\$736.23	\$733.20	\$821.70	.....	.....
November 2005	1,074.72	906.00	1,392.76	706.42	704.06	792.03	.....	.....
October 2005	1,072.25	904.50	1,392.20	704.97	703.32	789.65	.....	.....
Number awarded during period								
December 2005	486	6	5	13	44	36	342	1
November 2005	524	17	6	14	47	44	339	3
October 2005	604	10	12	10	45	49	328	2
10/05 - 12/05	1,614	33	23	37	136	129	1,009	6
10/04 - 12/04	1,518	59	27	50	184	115	1,091	17
Average amount awarded during period³								
December 2005	\$1,444.21	\$1,399.40	\$1,650.54	\$1,027.85	\$711.43	\$1,066.58	\$881	\$3,085
November 2005	1,439.28	1,256.96	1,343.19	811.79	729.13	1,086.07	882	3,337
October 2005	1,440.69	1,548.20	1,524.97	762.40	706.66	947.00	882	1,487
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
December 2005	\$150,573	\$4,437	\$1,425	\$3,591	\$6,926	\$9,640	\$338	\$3
November 2005	150,407	4,506	1,417	3,575	6,866	9,711	306	10
October 2005	150,822	4,493	1,468	3,580	6,894	9,711	304	3
10/05 - 12/05	451,802	13,436	4,310	10,746	20,686	29,062	948	16
10/04 - 12/04	452,020	13,335	4,474	10,679	19,663	28,874	1,000	46

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
October - December 2005 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	December 2005	November 2005	October 2005	October 2005 - December 2005	October 2004 - December 2004
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period ¹	\$370,502	\$507,105	\$591,081	\$591,081	\$625,621
Income, total	405,830	276,367	334,131	1,016,328	943,565
Payroll taxes ²	145,173	166,256	156,724	468,153	454,092
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	78,000	78,000	100,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits ⁴	96,365	98,451	97,953	292,769	289,569
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust ⁴	163,000	10,000	.....	173,000	99,000
Transfer from SSEB Account	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁵	27	102	-14	115	-23
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁶	12	40	26	79	99
Interest on investments	1,252	1,518	1,442	4,212	828
Outgo, total	414,252	412,969	418,107	1,245,328	1,228,806
Benefit payments-regular	305,241	304,597	305,417	915,255	899,958
Benefit payments-supplemental	5,416	4,870	5,179	15,466	15,810
Payments of SSA benefits ⁸	96,457	98,408	97,892	292,757	289,603
Administrative expenses	6,879	4,858	9,048	20,785	22,492
Funding for Office of Inspector General	260	236	570	1,065	943
Balance at end of period ¹	362,081	370,502	507,105	362,081	340,379
NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST					
Cash and investment balance at end of period ⁹	\$28,032,842	\$27,799,821	\$27,101,722	\$28,032,842	\$27,007,744
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT ¹⁰					
Balance at beginning of period	-\$16,706	-\$8,382	.....	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹¹	(12)	(12)	-\$1,000	-\$999	-\$2,999
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	1,000	1,000	3,000
Vested dual benefit payments	8,245	8,325	8,382	24,952	27,589
Balance at end of period	-24,951	-16,706	-8,382	-24,951	-27,589

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
October - December 2005 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

	December 2005	November 2005	October 2005	October 2005 - December 2005	October 2004 - December 2004
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$753,451	\$748,629	\$714,828	\$714,828	\$698,189
Income, total	476,260	457,716	489,023	1,422,998	1,377,276
Payroll taxes ²	191,158	201,006	181,899	574,062	526,093
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	28,000	28,000	30,000
Financial interchange advances ¹³	283,022	254,770	277,452	815,244	820,209
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer ⁷	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments	2,080	1,940	1,672	5,692	975
Outgo, total	452,570	452,893	455,222	1,360,685	1,327,012
Benefit payments	450,589	451,260	452,138	1,353,987	1,319,058
Repayment of financial interchange advances ¹³	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer ⁴	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account ⁸	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses	1,898	1,557	2,900	6,355	7,655
Funding for Office of Inspector General	84	76	183	343	299
Balance at end of period	777,141	753,451	748,629	777,141	748,454

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of December 2005, liabilities were \$9,824,000. 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. December amount reflects adjustment to reallocate fiscal years 2003-2005 administrative expenses between the Railroad Retirement Act and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act programs. RR Account: \$2,345,000, SSEB Account: \$445,000. 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 appropriation for fiscal year 2005 was \$107.1 million. Funds for October through December 2004 and 2005 were provided under a continuing resolution. ¹¹Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. ¹²Less than \$500. ¹³Includes 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
October - December 2005**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
			Unemployment			
December 2005	1,219	533	77	2,737	2,687	81
November 2005	722	479	79	2,452	2,440	52
October 2005	643	585	34	2,465	2,428	64
7/05 - 12/05	6,186	4,201	295	5,069	4,993	335
7/04 - 12/04	6,330	4,540	396	5,448	5,372	372
			Sickness			
December 2005	1,362	1,209	102	6,398	6,362	77
November 2005	1,644	1,336	57	6,472	6,451	49
October 2005	1,470	1,398	24	6,370	6,313	99
7/05 - 12/05	15,392	12,090	447	12,963	12,773	767
7/04 - 12/04	15,644	12,425	510	13,321	13,075	874
	Number of payments			Averages ¹		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit payments (thousands)
			Unemployment			
December 2005	4,865	4,698	167	9.0	\$276.25	\$2,198
November 2005	4,274	4,180	94	9.0	277.35	2,321
October 2005	4,301	4,203	98	9.0	276.80	2,574
7/05 - 12/05	24,479	23,096	1,383	9.0	276.65	12,609
7/04 - 12/04	28,123	26,503	1,620	9.0	275.40	14,381
			Sickness			
December 2005	12,599	12,434	165	9.0	\$277.85	\$4,174
November 2005	11,435	11,354	81	9.1	278.20	4,161
October 2005	11,441	11,280	161	9.2	277.95	4,312
7/05 - 12/05	69,411	66,408	3,003	9.0	279.25	24,653
7/04 - 12/04	72,959	69,464	3,495	9.0	279.10	24,350

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
October - December 2005 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	December 2005	November 2005	October 2005	October 2005 - December 2005	October 2004 - December 2004
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$100,385	\$104,161	\$97,183	\$97,183	\$83,537
Income, total	953	2,794	14,079	17,825	23,353
Contributions	17	2,535	13,866	16,418	22,029
Interest on investments	1,219	6	17	1,242	1,389
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ¹	-284	253	196	165	-65
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Outgo, total	6,469	6,570	7,101	20,140	20,990
Unemployment benefit payments	2,198	2,321	2,574	7,093	7,864
Sickness benefit payments	4,174	4,161	4,312	12,648	12,624
Funding for Office of Inspector General	97	88	214	399	502
Balance at end of period	94,868	100,385	104,161	94,868	85,901
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$7,666	\$7,882	\$5,457	\$5,457	\$6,637
Income, total	92	869	4,445	5,406	5,379
Contributions	6	869	4,445	5,320	5,270
Interest on investments	86	.....	.....	86	109
Outgo, total	-1,777	1,085	2,020	1,329	5,383
Administrative expenses ²	-1,777	1,085	2,020	1,329	5,383
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Balance at end of period	9,534	7,666	7,882	9,534	6,633

¹Net of distributed amounts. ²December amount reflects a -\$2,789,000 adjustment to reallocate a portion of fiscal years 2003-2005 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 -- December 2005

RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$769,490,000
Regular benefits	755,829,000
Vested dual benefits	8,245,000
Supplemental annuities	5,416,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	719,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	283,000	\$1,797
Supplemental	123,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	141,000	660
Aged widows' and widowers'	139,000	1,097
Other survivors'	32,000	815
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	589,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$2,198,000	\$4,174,000
Beneficiaries	2,700	6,400
Average payment per week	\$276	\$278
