

---

# Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board  
844 North Rush Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092

*Published by Public Affairs  
and the Bureau of the Actuary*

<http://www.rrb.gov>

June 7, 2007

---

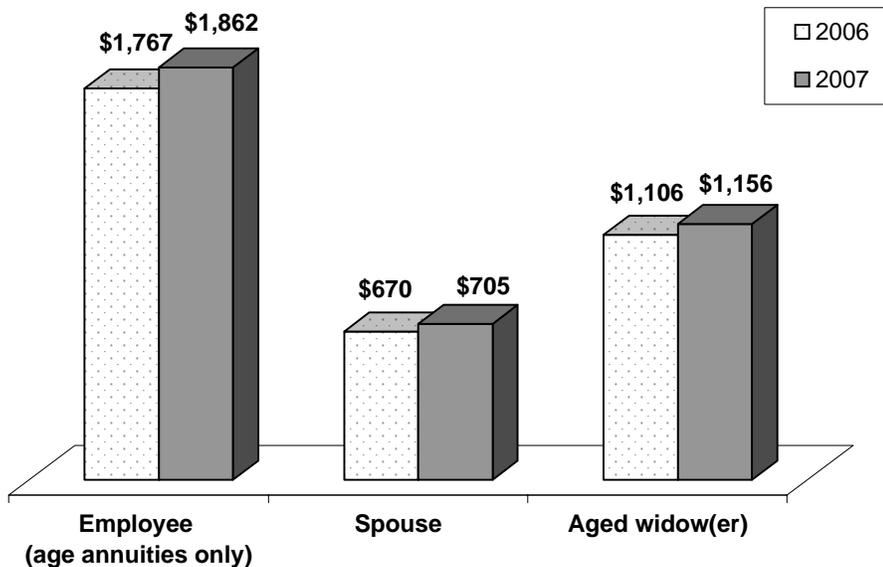
## Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **January - March 2007**

---

- List of Tables:**
- Table 1 - Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
  - Table 2 - Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
  - Table 3 - Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
  - Table 4 - Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
  - Table 5 - Benefits and Beneficiaries
- 

Average annuity amounts being paid,  
March 2006 and March 2007



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

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics  
January - March 2007**

Period	Total <sup>1</sup>		Employee annuities				Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries	Age	Disability <sup>2</sup>		Supplemental		
				Under full retirement age	Full retirement age and over			
<b>Number in current-payment status at end of period</b>								
March 2007	699,390	571,271	193,836	50,106	34,077	121,061	134,046	3,482
February 2007	701,109	572,761	194,283	50,119	34,078	121,271	134,329	3,501
January 2007	701,626	573,262	194,412	50,129	34,046	121,304	134,342	3,501
<b>Average amount in current-payment status at end of period</b>								
March 2007	.....	.....	\$1,861.84	\$2,189.32	\$1,694.30	\$41.71	\$705.36	\$435.67
February 2007	.....	.....	1,857.11	2,187.47	1,690.68	41.71	703.56	433.66
January 2007	.....	.....	1,852.60	2,184.89	1,687.09	41.72	701.93	433.20
<b>Number awarded during period</b>								
March 2007	3,312	2,738	776	372	.....	574	773	38
February 2007	3,506	2,891	894	271	.....	615	861	37
January 2007	3,693	2,951	980	310	.....	742	863	35
10/06 - 3/07	19,400	15,768	4,718	1,832	.....	3,632	4,774	223
10/05 - 3/06	17,535	14,733	3,923	1,994	.....	2,802	4,292	245
<b>Average amount awarded during period<sup>3</sup></b>								
March 2007	.....	.....	\$2,552.13	\$2,408.46	.....	\$41.26	\$919.46	\$551.71
February 2007	.....	.....	2,472.33	2,398.66	.....	41.44	883.34	438.31
January 2007	.....	.....	2,560.76	2,459.58	.....	41.53	912.55	559.93
<b>Benefit payments during period (thousands)<sup>4</sup> Revised</b>								
March 2007	\$833,233	.....	\$367,883	\$118,984	\$59,929	\$5,094	\$98,028	\$1,613
February 2007	813,001	.....	361,023	112,570	57,276	5,038	95,386	1,568
January 2007	811,763	.....	360,282	112,409	57,237	5,107	95,058	1,574
10/06 - 3/07	4,878,889	.....	2,159,964	678,143	352,318	30,494	572,059	9,300
10/05 - 3/06	4,682,356	.....	2,064,369	636,411	326,215	30,874	545,772	8,806

<sup>1</sup>Includes 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.

<sup>2</sup>Full 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 1/2/1942-1/1/1943, the normal retirement age is 65 and 10 months.

<sup>3</sup>Regular employee and spouse annuity averages are preliminary estimates. <sup>4</sup> In March 2007, approximately \$9.6 million was paid in annuity adjustments for additional service and earnings credits, resulting in higher than normal benefit payments to employees and spouses. March benefits also reflect a reversal of fiscal year 2007 accounting adjustments to unapplied cash and the corresponding entries to benefit payments.

**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 2007 -- Continued**

Period	Survivor benefits					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
	Annuities							
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers			
<b>Number in current-payment status at end of period</b>								
March 2007	131,510	4,637	844	4,798	9,576	11,369	.....	.....
February 2007	132,202	4,667	844	4,832	9,588	11,347	.....	.....
January 2007	132,548	4,663	833	4,856	9,558	11,386	.....	.....
<b>Average amount in current-payment status at end of period</b>								
March 2007	\$1,156.43	\$975.25	\$1,435.26	\$776.83	\$768.84	\$853.36	.....	.....
February 2007	1,152.76	972.73	1,433.99	774.21	766.30	851.09	.....	.....
January 2007	1,149.66	969.49	1,434.17	774.21	764.56	850.07	.....	.....
<b>Number awarded during period</b>								
March 2007	614	16	11	11	73	54	428	5
February 2007	663	22	12	21	73	36	368	1
January 2007	630	19	6	21	48	39	298	3
10/06 - 3/07	3,358	96	63	98	349	256	2,077	15
10/05 - 3/06	3,456	95	52	98	337	240	2,219	12
<b>Average amount awarded during period<sup>3</sup></b>								
March 2007	\$1,527.80	\$1,442.62	\$920.36	\$936.91	\$867.25	\$1,058.68	\$880	\$1,586
February 2007	1,514.79	1,440.05	1,502.09	792.86	847.98	1,018.01	886	6,479
January 2007	1,486.65	1,383.11	1,035.49	895.03	690.52	968.04	921	867
<b>Benefit payments during period (thousands)<sup>4</sup></b>								
March 2007	\$153,279	\$4,829	\$1,278	\$3,759	\$7,674	\$10,448	\$387	\$8
February 2007	152,528	4,712	1,283	3,772	7,453	10,013	335	6
January 2007	152,556	4,621	1,365	3,767	7,415	10,038	289	3
10/06 - 3/07	912,087	27,876	8,057	22,308	44,338	59,716	1,946	40
10/05 - 3/06	908,491	27,316	8,379	21,871	42,201	59,284	2,076	37

**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 2007 (In thousands)**  
**Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	March 2007	February 2007	January 2007	October 2006 - March 2007	October 2005 - March 2006
<b>RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period<sup>1</sup></b>	\$500,876	\$472,279	\$358,043	\$479,392	\$591,081
<b>Income, total</b>	457,410	467,032	552,013	2,688,851	2,503,415
Payroll taxes <sup>2</sup>	194,241	259,092	196,089	1,118,967	1,130,347
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>	.....	.....	82,000	160,000	156,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	105,454	101,338	104,120	611,502	598,749
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust <sup>4</sup>	149,000	105,000	170,000	783,000	610,000
Transfer from SSEB Account <sup>4</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments <sup>5, 6</sup>	7,131	5	-1,440	6,381	-84
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury <sup>7</sup>	38	54	38	190	101
Interest on investments <sup>8</sup>	1,546	1,543	1,207	8,811	8,302
<b>Outgo, total</b>	458,573	438,436	437,776	2,668,532	2,516,772
Benefit payments-regular <sup>6, 9</sup>	344,703	325,501	323,878	1,993,568	1,850,082
Benefit payments-supplemental <sup>9</sup>	5,094	5,038	5,107	30,494	30,874
Payments of SSA benefits	103,875	102,907	104,113	611,572	598,768
Administrative expenses <sup>10</sup>	4,676	4,677	4,365	30,764	34,812
Funding for Office of Inspector General	226	313	313	2,133	2,236
<b>Balance at end of period<sup>1</sup></b>	499,712	500,876	472,279	499,712	577,725
<b>NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST</b>					
<b>Cash and investment balance at end of period<sup>11</sup></b>	\$31,255,544	\$30,973,098	\$31,027,535	\$31,255,544	\$28,827,111
<b>DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT<sup>12</sup></b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	-\$37,228	-\$29,876	-\$22,507	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments <sup>13</sup>	45,860	(14)	-1,000	\$42,861	\$46,643
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>	.....	.....	1,000	3,000	3,000
Vested dual benefit payments	7,235	7,352	7,370	44,464	49,340
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	1,397	-37,228	-29,876	1,397	303

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics**  
**January - March 2007 (In thousands)**  
**Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued**

Item	March 2007	February 2007	January 2007	October 2006 - March 2007	October 2005 - March 2006
<b>SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	\$788,416	\$775,845	\$736,485	\$717,361	\$714,828
<b>Income, total</b>	460,010	489,528	516,500	2,876,500	2,875,412
Payroll taxes <sup>2</sup>	188,580	253,202	201,356	1,201,252	1,190,832
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>	.....	.....	35,000	65,000	60,000
Financial interchange advances <sup>15</sup>	269,297	233,968	278,034	1,597,368	1,612,148
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments <sup>8</sup>	2,133	2,358	2,110	12,880	12,433
<b>Outgo, total</b>	478,019	476,958	477,139	2,823,454	2,764,172
Benefit payments	476,201	475,110	475,407	2,810,362	2,752,060
Repayment of financial interchange advances <sup>15</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account <sup>4</sup>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses <sup>10</sup>	1,732	1,732	1,616	12,301	11,334
Funding for Office of Inspector General	86	116	116	792	777
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	770,407	788,416	775,845	770,407	826,069

<sup>1</sup>Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of March 2007, liabilities were \$10,244,000. <sup>2</sup>Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. <sup>3</sup>Amounts include U.S. Treasury adjustments for prior period income tax reconciliations. <sup>4</sup>Under 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. <sup>5</sup>Net of amounts distributed by account. <sup>6</sup>March amount reflects a reversal of fiscal year 2007 accounting adjustments to unapplied cash and the corresponding entries to benefit payments. <sup>7</sup>Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. <sup>8</sup>Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). <sup>9</sup>March regular and supplemental benefits include approximately \$9.6 million and \$12,000, respectively, in accrual payments related to wages and compensation previously excluded from benefit computations. <sup>10</sup>Reflects adjustments for prior periods. <sup>11</sup>Source: National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust. <sup>12</sup>Total 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 2007 was \$88.0 million, including income tax transfers. The appropriation for fiscal year 2006 was \$97.0 million, including income tax transfers and \$1 million from the contingency reserve. Funds for January and February 2007 were provided under a partial year continuing resolution. <sup>13</sup>Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. <sup>14</sup>Less than \$500. <sup>15</sup>Includes interest.

**NOTE**.--Data relate to CALENDAR month.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

**The published NRRIT balance for April 2006 was \$29,230,945,000. It should have been \$29,320,945,000.**

**Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics  
January - March 2007**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
<b>Unemployment</b>						
March 2007	629	565	194	3,457	3,180	357
February 2007	662	1,024	217	3,761	3,519	305
January 2007	1,527	1,332	634	4,318	4,294	209
7/06 - 3/07	9,296	7,303	1,318	8,172	8,105	625
7/05 - 3/06	8,671	6,689	1,409	7,695	7,620	703
<b>Sickness</b>						
March 2007	1,519	1,240	469	5,682	4,926	1,028
February 2007	1,356	1,016	613	5,464	4,970	855
January 2007	1,361	1,086	938	5,924	5,874	431
7/06 - 3/07	18,791	14,822	2,466	15,799	15,597	1,846
7/05 - 3/06	19,815	15,528	2,630	16,479	16,298	2,049
Period	Number of payments			Averages <sup>1</sup>		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit <sup>2</sup> payments (thousands)
<b>Unemployment</b>						
March 2007	6,574	5,777	797	8.9	\$279.60	(\$5,135)
February 2007	6,435	5,870	565	8.9	282.25	5,165
January 2007	7,310	7,043	267	8.6	281.55	7,710
7/06 - 3/07	44,608	41,703	2,905	8.9	281.20	23,013
7/05 - 3/06	42,827	39,428	3,399	8.9	276.90	22,755
<b>Sickness</b>						
March 2007	11,614	9,363	2,251	8.8	\$282.20	\$2,321
February 2007	9,768	8,189	1,579	8.7	281.35	2,793
January 2007	12,337	11,793	544	8.8	282.60	4,920
7/06 - 3/07	99,103	91,717	7,386	8.9	283.85	34,547
7/05 - 3/06	105,102	96,976	8,126	8.9	279.55	35,887

<sup>1</sup> Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week--equal to 5 times average daily benefit. <sup>2</sup> March amount reflects a reversal of fiscal year 2007 accounting adjustments to unapplied cash and the corresponding entries to benefit payments.

**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 2007 (In thousands)**  
**Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	March 2007	February 2007	January 2007	October 2006 - March 2007	October 2005 - March 2006
<b>RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	\$98,747	\$105,455	\$92,016	\$99,606	\$97,183
<b>Income, total</b>	-6,852	1,370	26,191	37,454	41,601
Contributions	190	1,265	15,166	32,683	33,039
Interest on investments	763	49	27	2,077	2,479
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments <sup>1, 2</sup>	-7,805	56	2,075	-6,229	-580
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	8,923	8,923	6,664
<b>Outgo, total</b>	-2,726	8,078	12,752	42,440	41,973
Unemployment benefit payments <sup>2</sup>	-5,135	5,165	7,710	17,329	17,240
Sickness benefit payments	2,321	2,793	4,920	24,285	23,882
Funding for Office of Inspector General	88	121	121	825	852
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	94,620	98,747	105,455	94,620	96,811
<b>RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND</b>					
<b>Balance at beginning of period</b>	\$6,190	\$6,903	\$11,611	\$10,163	\$5,457
<b>Income, total</b>	155	379	5,234	11,449	10,891
Contributions	65	379	5,234	11,224	10,679
Interest on investments	90	.....	.....	225	212
<b>Outgo, total</b>	1,092	1,092	9,942	16,358	10,087
Administrative expenses	1,092	1,092	1,019	7,435	3,423
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	8,923	8,923	6,664
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	5,253	6,190	6,903	5,253	6,262

<sup>1</sup> Net of distributed amounts. <sup>2</sup> March amount reflects a reversal of fiscal year 2007 accounting adjustments to unapplied cash and the corresponding entries to benefit payments.

**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.**

<b>Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- March 2007</b>
--

**RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR**

<b>Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)</b>	\$833,233,000
Regular benefits	820,904,000
Vested dual benefits	7,235,000
Supplemental annuities	5,094,000

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>Total benefits being paid at end of month</b>	699,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	278,000	\$1,900
Supplemental	121,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	138,000	699
Aged widows' and widowers'	132,000	1,156
Other survivors'	31,000	849
<b>Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month</b>	571,000	.....

**UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS**

	<b>Unemployment</b>	<b>Sickness</b>
<b>Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)</b>	-\$5,135,000	\$2,321,000
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	3,500	5,700
<b>Average payment per week</b>	\$280	\$282

---

**NOTE:** Approximately \$9.6 million was paid in annuity adjustments for additional service and earnings credits, resulting in higher than normal retirement benefit payments. In addition, retirement-survivor and unemployment benefits also reflect a reversal of fiscal year 2007 accounting adjustments to unapplied cash and the corresponding entries to benefit payments.