
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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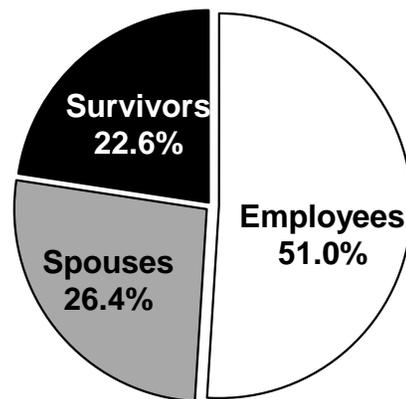
Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **October - December 2015**

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**Railroad Retirement and
Survivor Beneficiaries
on the Rolls, by Type,
December 2015**
(525,000 beneficiaries)



NOTE.—Some 6,000 employees also received spouse annuities and about 2,300 employees also received survivor annuities.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2015**

Period	Employee annuities							
	Total ¹		Age			Supple- mental ³	Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries	Awarded age annuity	Disability converted to age annuity ²	Disability			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
December 2015	657,128	524,789	190,544	43,657	33,594	123,282	139,932	4,706
November 2015	656,729	524,475	190,381	43,464	33,875	123,222	139,664	4,701
October 2015	656,654	524,562	190,198	43,292	34,180	123,070	139,423	4,704
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
December 2015	.....	.....	\$2,635.94	\$2,331.91	\$2,665.17	\$41.56	\$990.54	\$612.50
November 2015	.....	.....	2,632.84	2,328.92	2,665.54	41.57	990.03	613.73
October 2015	.....	.....	2,628.55	2,326.39	2,663.61	41.57	988.65	610.85
Number awarded during period								
December 2015	2,586	2,148	691	.....	123	438	760	59
November 2015	2,981	2,402	839	.....	113	579	866	65
October 2015	2,146	1,618	427	.....	128	528	501	56
10/15 - 12/15	7,713	6,168	1,957	.....	364	1,545	2,127	180
10/14 - 12/14	8,642	7,091	2,320	.....	488	1,551	2,553	162
Average amount awarded during period⁴								
December 2015	.....	.....	\$3,163.61	.....	\$2,271.74	\$41.24	\$1,128.30	\$559.72
November 2015	.....	.....	3,246.23	.....	2,768.41	41.58	1,124.98	603.74
October 2015	.....	.....	3,033.01	.....	2,646.21	41.62	989.06	628.72
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
December 2015	\$1,021,229	.....	\$502,131	\$101,016	\$92,069	\$5,130	\$139,078	\$2,938
November 2015	1,023,824	.....	502,717	100,527	94,262	5,141	138,859	2,943
October 2015	1,020,713	.....	499,644	99,988	95,172	5,131	138,647	3,006
10/15 - 12/15	3,065,765	.....	1,504,492	301,531	281,503	15,402	416,584	8,887
10/14 - 12/14	3,009,050	.....	1,455,919	281,688	305,119	15,278	401,708	8,294

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. ²A disability annuity ends when the retiree attains full retirement age, at which time the annuity converts to an age and service annuity. Consequently, these annuitants are receiving age and service annuities. Full retirement age is age 65 for those born before 1938 and gradually increases to age 67 for those born 1960 and later. ³Excludes partition payments to spouses and divorced spouses where the employee is deceased. Averages are after court-ordered partitions. ⁴Regular 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 2015 -- Continued**

Survivor benefits

Period	Annuities					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments	Partition payments ⁶
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers ⁵	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers				
Number in current-payment status at end of period									
December 2015	93,611	3,709	669	3,328	9,736	8,932	.....	.....	1,403
November 2015	93,724	3,712	667	3,318	9,679	8,900	.....	.....	1,397
October 2015	93,979	3,728	667	3,327	9,722	8,947	.....	.....	1,392
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period									
December 2015	\$1,585.85	\$1,289.56	\$1,844.48	\$1,038.43	\$1,040.83	\$1,060.41	.....	.....	\$306.03
November 2015	1,583.05	1,288.99	1,843.38	1,037.35	1,042.42	1,058.06	.....	.....	305.85
October 2015	1,579.06	1,287.08	1,840.03	1,036.98	1,040.32	1,057.90	.....	.....	307.19
Number awarded during period									
December 2015	403	1	13	13	48	37	242	1	.....
November 2015	416	8	4	11	54	26	193	----	.....
October 2015	398	8	5	7	55	33	218	----	.....
10/15 - 12/15	1,217	17	22	31	157	96	653	1	.....
10/14 - 12/14	1,246	32	13	37	152	87	667	----	.....
Average amount awarded during period⁴									
December 2015	\$2,122.96	\$2,499.94	\$1,997.23	\$1,424.92	\$960.08	\$1,377.36	\$863	\$8,194	.....
November 2015	2,089.02	1,828.96	1,704.31	1,035.73	1,067.06	1,432.45	862	----	.....
October 2015	2,077.17	1,693.30	2,637.40	1,035.14	1,047.88	1,321.10	888	----	.....
Benefit payments during period (thousands)									
December 2015	\$148,612	\$4,787	\$1,341	\$3,465	\$10,141	\$9,838	\$224	\$9	\$427
November 2015	148,932	4,955	1,265	3,466	10,226	9,892	174	----	441
October 2015	148,775	4,922	1,278	3,464	10,176	9,848	213	----	426
10/15 - 12/15	446,319	14,664	3,884	10,395	30,542	29,579	611	9	1,294
10/14 - 12/14	450,417	14,895	3,963	10,655	29,701	29,445	667	----	1,223

⁵Number and average in current-payment status, and benefit payments during period, include annuities to disabled widow(er)s age 60 and over now payable as aged widow(er)s' annuities. ⁶Limited to partition payments to spouses and divorced spouses where the employee is deceased or not otherwise entitled to an annuity. Partition payments from employees on the rolls are included with the employees' annuities.

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 29th of each month.

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
October - December 2015 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	December 2015	November 2015	October 2015	October 2015 - December 2015	October 2014 - December 2014
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period¹	\$547,382	\$760,950	\$877,301	\$877,301	\$791,771
Income, total	691,562	351,502	445,991	1,489,056	1,340,627
Payroll taxes ²	188,492	221,469	220,157	630,118	652,476
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	97,000	97,000	87,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	126,263	127,713	127,305	381,282	367,225
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust ⁴	376,000	.....	.....	376,000	230,000
Transfer from SSEB Account ⁴	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁵	-414	442	6	34	90
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁶	.....	42	23	65	85
Interest on investments ⁷	1,221	1,836	1,499	4,557	3,752
Outgo, total	561,834	565,070	562,342	1,689,246	1,639,692
Benefit payments	430,452	431,813	429,188	1,291,454	1,258,142
Payments of SSA benefits	125,773	127,297	126,996	380,066	367,150
Administrative expenses ⁸	4,933	5,540	5,724	16,197	13,014
Funding for Office of Inspector General	675	420	434	1,530	1,386
Balance at end of period¹	677,111	547,382	760,950	677,111	492,706
NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST					
Cash and investment balance at end of period⁹	\$24,587,815	\$25,287,772	\$25,492,366	\$24,587,815	\$25,967,276
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT¹⁰					
Balance at beginning of period	-\$4,758	-\$2,396	.....	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹¹	(12)	(12)	.....	(12)	(12)
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vested dual benefit payments	2,183	2,362	\$2,396	\$6,941	\$8,297
Balance at end of period	-6,941	-4,758	-2,396	-6,941	-8,297

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
October - December 2015 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	December 2015	November 2015	October 2015	October 2015 - December 2015	October 2014 - December 2014
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$873,893	\$931,869	\$880,840	\$880,840	\$877,837
Income, total	567,149	534,308	642,879	1,744,335	1,824,687
Payroll taxes ²	212,263	244,560	231,256	688,080	753,364
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	65,000	65,000	63,000
Financial interchange advances ¹³	353,335	288,007	345,125	986,467	1,003,411
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁷	1,550	1,740	1,498	4,788	4,911
Outgo, total	591,069	592,283	591,850	1,775,202	1,749,337
Benefit payments	588,593	589,649	589,128	1,767,370	1,742,611
Repayment of financial interchange advances ¹³	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account ⁴	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses ⁸	2,184	2,452	2,534	7,170	6,084
Funding for Office of Inspector General	292	182	188	662	642
Balance at end of period	849,973	873,893	931,869	849,973	953,187

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of December 2015, liabilities were \$13,922,000. 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. 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 appropriation for fiscal year 2015 was \$34.0 million, including income tax transfers. Funds for October through December 2014 and October through December 2015 were provided under a partial year 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 2015**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
Unemployment¹						
December 2015	2,611	1,248	55	5,509	5,487	31
November 2015	1,201	860	39	4,339	4,332	22
October 2015	1,303	1,122	10	4,216	4,190	51
7/15 - 12/15	11,778	7,375	201	8,466	8,388	289
7/14 - 12/14	5,793	4,224	209	4,777	4,677	331
Sickness						
December 2015	1,311	1,053	67	5,131	5,110	37
November 2015	1,088	992	49	4,890	4,875	27
October 2015	1,297	1,218	12	5,076	5,038	80
7/15 - 12/15	12,373	9,612	313	10,216	10,093	543
7/14 - 12/14	12,147	9,626	305	10,128	10,008	492
Number of payments						
Period	Number of payments			Averages ²		Benefit payments ³ (thousands)
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week ³	
Unemployment¹						
December 2015	10,201	10,140	61	9.0	\$333.95	\$5,394
November 2015	7,290	7,255	35	9.0	334.75	5,661
October 2015	7,754	7,672	82	9.0	332.25	5,010
7/15 - 12/15	40,890	39,729	1,161	8.9	333.05	27,199
7/14 - 12/14	26,630	25,287	1,343	9.1	321.90	16,566
Sickness						
December 2015	10,344	10,247	97	9.0	\$334.05	\$5,986
November 2015	8,748	8,687	61	9.0	334.55	4,730
October 2015	9,935	9,807	128	9.1	333.60	5,421
7/15 - 12/15	54,838	52,559	2,279	8.9	334.20	29,638
7/14 - 12/14	53,808	51,784	2,024	8.9	324.45	26,414

¹ Temporary extended benefits under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 had to begin by December 31, 2009. Temporary extended benefits under the Worker, Homeownership and Business Assistance Act of 2009, as amended, had to begin by December 31, 2013. Current activity primarily reflects recoveries.

² Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week--equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

³ In accordance with the Balanced Budget and Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011, amounts reflect a reduction of 9.2% under sequestration for days of unemployment and sickness after February 28, 2013, a reduction of 7.2% for days after September 30, 2013, 7.3% for days after September 30, 2014, and 6.8% for days after September 30, 2015.

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 2015 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	December 2015	November 2015	October 2015	October 2015 - December 2015	October 2014 - December 2014
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$97,529	\$105,384	\$95,002	\$95,002	\$118,012
Income, total	-440	2,631	20,907	23,098	2,310
Contributions ¹	78	818	20,634	21,529	1,694
Interest on investments	645	11	19	675	771
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ²	-1,163	1,802	254	894	-156
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Outgo, total	11,532	10,486	10,525	32,544	22,737
Unemployment benefit payments ³	5,405	5,669	5,013	16,087	8,769
Sickness benefit payments ³	5,986	4,730	5,421	16,137	13,664
Funding for Office of Inspector General	142	88	91	321	304
Balance at end of period	85,556	97,529	105,384	85,556	97,585
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$18,736	\$19,659	\$13,858	\$13,858	\$10,120
Income, total	40	181	6,942	7,163	6,907
Contributions ¹	-49	181	6,942	7,074	6,830
Interest on investments	89	.....	.....	89	77
Outgo, total	983	1,104	1,141	3,228	2,901
Administrative expenses	983	1,104	1,141	3,228	2,901
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Balance at end of period	17,793	18,736	19,659	17,793	14,126

¹ Amounts reflect quarterly re-allocation of contributions between the RUI Account and the RUI Administration Fund.

² Net of distributed amounts.

³ In accordance with the Balanced Budget and Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011, amounts reflect a reduction of 9.2% under sequestration for days of unemployment and sickness after February 28, 2013, a reduction of 7.2% for days after September 30, 2013, 7.3% for days after September 30, 2014 and 6.8% for days after September 30, 2015.

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 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
October - December 2015 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	December 2015	November 2015	October 2015	October 2015 - December 2015	October 2014 - December 2014
EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT⁴					
Balance at beginning of period	\$9,428	\$9,427	\$9,434	\$9,434	\$9,396
Interest and other income	2	(5)	(5)	2	9
Benefits ⁶	(7)	-1	8	6	-1
Balance at end of period	9,431	9,428	9,427	9,431	9,406
EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, WORKER, HOMEOWNERSHIP, AND BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ACT⁸					
Balance at beginning of period	\$132,751	\$132,738	\$132,725	\$132,725	\$132,332
Interest and other income	7	6	3	17	23
Benefits ⁶	-10	-7	-10	-27	-73
Balance at end of period	132,769	132,751	132,738	132,769	132,428

⁴ The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, signed into law on February 17, 2009, contained an appropriation of \$20,000,000 to provide up to 13 additional weeks of unemployment benefits for certain railroad workers who exhaust their rights to the benefits normally provided under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act. Benefits had to begin by December 31, 2009.

⁵ Less than \$500.

⁶ Negative amounts due to recoveries exceeding benefit payments. Positive disbursements for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act include the write off of bad debt.

⁷ Less than zero but greater than -\$500.

⁸ Enacted on November 6, 2009, the Worker, Homeownership and Business Assistance Act of 2009 contained an appropriation of \$175,000,000 to extend the provisions of the Recovery Act by one year. The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 (enacted December 17, 2010), the Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011 (enacted December 23, 2011), the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (enacted February 22, 2012), and the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (enacted January 2, 2013) each continued the special unemployment benefit provision for periods ranging from two months to one year, for a total extension of three years. Benefits had to begin by December 31, 2013.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- December 2015

RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$1,021,229,000
Regular and Supplemental benefits	1,019,046,000
Vested dual benefits	2,183,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	657,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	268,000	\$2,590
Supplemental	123,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	145,000	978
Aged widows' and widowers'	94,000	1,586
Other benefits	28,000	1,062
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	525,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment¹	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)²	\$5,394,000	\$5,986,000
Beneficiaries	5,500	5,100
Average payment per week²	\$334	\$334

¹ Starting in June 2009, includes temporary extended unemployment benefits authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Benefits had to begin by December 31, 2009. Beginning in November 2009, temporary extended unemployment benefits are also being paid under the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009, as amended. Benefits had to begin by December 31, 2013.

² In accordance with the Balanced Budget and Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011, amounts reflect a reduction of 7.2% under sequestration for days of unemployment and sickness after September 30, 2013, a reduction of 7.3% for days after September 30, 2014, and 6.8% for days after September 30, 2015.