
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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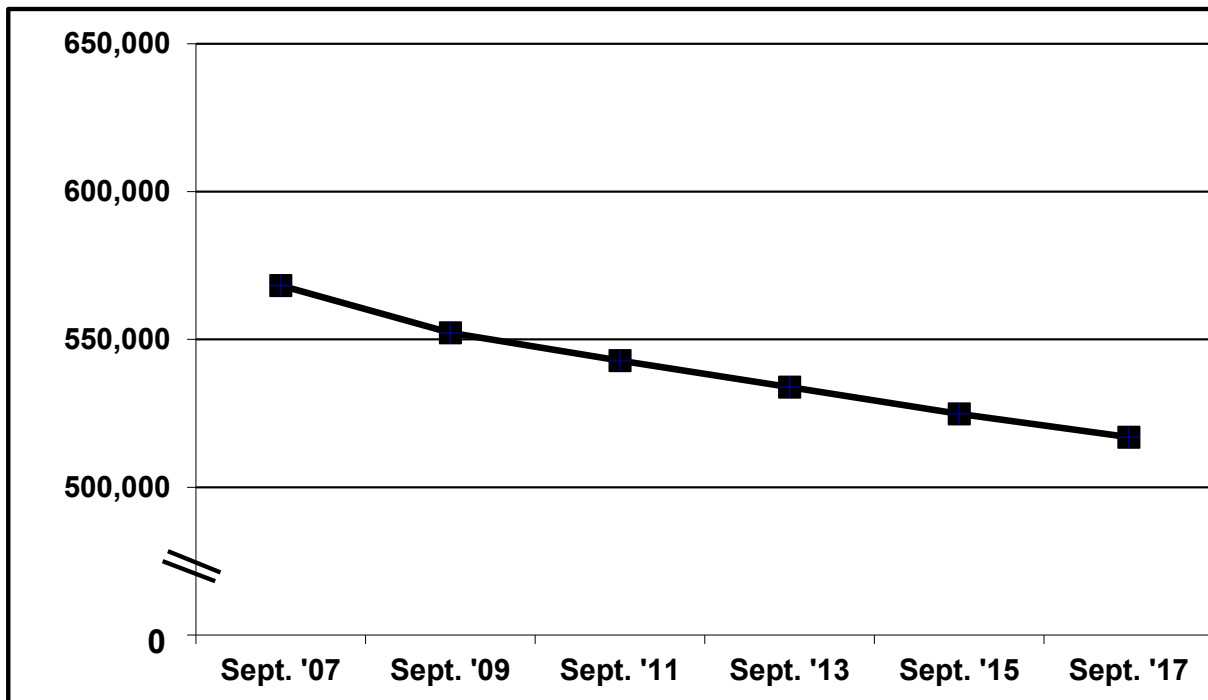
January 18, 2018

Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs Selected Current Statistics for July - September 2017

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Total Monthly Railroad Retirement Beneficiaries, September 2007 through September 2017



**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
July - September 2017**

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								
September 2017	648,277	516,952	190,301	46,180	27,990	122,050	141,795	5,055
August 2017	648,411	517,117	190,221	45,998	28,333	122,025	141,678	5,043
July 2017	648,326	517,097	190,069	45,833	28,611	121,975	141,458	5,028
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
September 2017	.....	.....	\$2,730.68	\$2,401.16	\$2,691.06	\$41.53	\$1,021.58	\$632.18
August 2017	.....	.....	2,726.68	2,397.51	2,689.30	41.54	1,020.29	631.49
July 2017	.....	.....	2,722.30	2,395.28	2,687.28	41.54	1,018.98	631.39
Number awarded during period								
September 2017	2,828	2,378	788	.....	118	450	880	56
August 2017	3,249	2,698	921	.....	164	551	981	62
July 2017	3,203	2,614	996	.....	120	589	913	58
10/16 - 9/17	33,581	28,397	9,182	.....	1,525	5,184	10,082	687
10/15 - 9/16	35,183	29,234	9,866	.....	1,652	5,949	10,198	770
Average amount awarded during period⁴								
September 2017	.....	.....	\$3,167.40	.....	\$2,718.90	\$40.51	\$1,074.93	\$619.12
August 2017	.....	.....	3,201.32	.....	2,804.07	40.83	1,074.10	681.41
July 2017	.....	.....	3,318.49	.....	2,680.51	41.56	1,090.55	590.19
Benefit payments during period (thousands)⁵								
September 2017	\$1,043,391	.....	\$521,222	\$110,054	\$80,683	\$5,085	\$146,173	\$3,280
August 2017	1,045,017	.....	520,337	109,541	83,022	5,087	146,361	3,314
July 2017	1,040,088	.....	519,081	109,001	81,427	5,086	145,148	3,239
10/16 - 9/17	12,469,491	.....	6,198,347	1,291,434	1,015,398	61,201	1,736,142	38,882
10/15 - 9/16	12,347,022	.....	6,081,486	1,227,689	1,106,164	61,567	1,689,120	36,407

¹Includes dependent parents' annuities. Except for benefit payment data, excludes insurance lump-sum and residual payment figures. Total 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. ⁵Data provided by the Bureau of Fiscal Operations.

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
July - September 2017 -- Continued**

Survivor benefits									
Period	Annuities					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments	Partition payments ⁷
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers ⁶	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers				
Number in current-payment status at end of period									
September 2017	87,817	3,528	623	3,037	9,708	8,478	.....	.....	1,695
August 2017	87,992	3,531	632	3,046	9,719	8,494	.....	.....	1,678
July 2017	88,215	3,541	631	3,059	9,696	8,524	.....	.....	1,665
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period									
September 2017	\$1,664.12	\$1,325.76	\$1,878.15	\$1,070.69	\$1,077.98	\$1,078.10	.....	.....	\$314.60
August 2017	1,660.89	1,325.01	1,876.72	1,067.59	1,076.85	1,077.79	.....	.....	313.25
July 2017	1,657.05	1,323.32	1,874.56	1,066.44	1,074.05	1,076.99	.....	.....	312.11
Number awarded during period									
September 2017	417	9	7	16	46	41	204	----	.....
August 2017	430	10	9	15	75	31	206	1	.....
July 2017	427	7	2	13	57	21	185	1	.....
10/16 - 9/17	5,487	86	84	127	745	390	2,515	3	.....
10/15 - 9/16	5,319	121	94	116	716	380	2,793	3	.....
Average amount awarded during period⁴									
September 2017	\$2,067.36	\$1,733.94	\$1,268.77	\$1,174.56	\$1,144.67	\$1,225.35	\$898	----	.....
August 2017	2,141.19	1,772.86	1,804.27	1,335.49	1,123.20	1,500.41	933	\$797	.....
July 2017	2,168.56	1,971.78	2,298.46	1,302.08	1,247.46	1,413.33	881	1,293	.....
Benefit payments during period (thousands)⁵									
September 2017	\$146,471	\$4,904	\$1,222	\$3,304	\$10,542	\$9,687	\$189	----	\$557
August 2017	146,762	5,006	1,248	3,334	10,610	9,654	199	\$1	522
July 2017	146,797	4,849	1,216	3,281	10,521	9,735	167	1	520
10/16 - 9/17	1,763,425	57,984	14,850	39,769	125,692	117,529	2,363	3	6,219
10/15 - 9/16	1,778,491	59,680	15,225	41,014	123,171	118,602	2,683	18	5,416

⁶Number and average in current-payment status, and benefit payments during period, includes annuities to disabled widow(er)s age 60 and over now payable as aged widow(er)s' annuities. ⁷Limited 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
July - September 2017 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	September 2017	August 2017	July 2017	October 2016 - September 2017	October 2015 - September 2016
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period¹	\$589,221	\$691,594	\$778,872	\$739,556	\$877,301
Income, total	579,216	572,964	507,192	7,058,121	6,554,140
Payroll taxes ²	243,348	282,085	260,797	3,141,889	3,121,695
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	105,000	421,000	465,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	140,304	140,281	139,937	1,659,262	1,538,584
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust ⁴	194,000	149,000	.....	1,821,000	1,410,000
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁵	.....	.....	.....	-1,758	1,754
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁶	25	16	32	303	321
Interest on investments ⁷	1,540	1,582	1,427	16,425	16,787
Outgo, total	721,782	675,337	594,470	7,351,021	6,691,885
Benefit payments	446,963	447,793	444,104	5,321,367	5,229,037
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	-146,486
Payments of SSA benefits	140,612	139,266	140,207	1,656,994	1,537,069
Transfer to SSEB Account ⁴	126,000	80,000	.....	296,000	.....
Administrative expenses ⁸	7,478	7,527	9,409	70,467	67,101
Funding for Office of Inspector General	728	750	750	6,194	5,165
Balance at end of period¹	446,656	589,221	691,594	446,656	739,556
NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST					
Cash and investment balance at end of period⁹	\$26,389,616	\$26,266,788	\$26,236,588	\$26,389,616	\$25,007,728
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT¹⁰					
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,461	\$1,296	\$1,439	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹¹	1,936	1,958	1,981	\$23,001	\$28,001
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	.....	2,000	1,000
Vested dual benefit payments	2,036	1,793	2,124	23,639	27,549
Balance at end of period¹²	1,362	1,461	1,296	1,362	1,452

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
July - September 2017 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	September 2017	August 2017	July 2017	October 2016 - September 2017	October 2015 - September 2016
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$797,252	\$765,757	\$696,261	\$721,860	\$880,840
Income, total	591,920	550,171	667,337	11,746,542	11,704,880
Payroll taxes ²	213,692	245,273	225,281	2,824,768	2,804,508
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	73,000	289,000	293,000
Financial interchange advances ¹³	376,964	303,674	368,123	4,095,393	3,926,083
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	4,522,486	4,662,650
Interest on investments ⁷	1,265	1,224	934	14,895	18,639
Outgo, total	471,600	518,676	597,842	11,550,830	11,863,860
Benefit payments	594,393	595,431	593,860	7,124,485	7,090,435
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	146,486
Repayment of financial interchange advances ¹³	.....	.....	.....	4,054,505	3,940,091
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	637,383	656,811
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account ⁴	-126,000	-80,000	.....	-296,000	.....
Administrative expenses ⁸	2,916	2,945	3,682	27,927	27,856
Funding for Office of Inspector General	291	300	300	2,530	2,180
Balance at end of period	917,572	797,252	765,757	917,572	721,860

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of September 2017, liabilities were \$14,481,000. 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. In August and September 2017, the RR Account transferred \$80.0 million and \$126.0 million to the SSEB Account to pay current benefits, respectively. 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 2017 was \$25.0 million, including income tax transfers. The appropriation for fiscal year 2016 was \$29.0 million, including income tax transfers. ¹¹Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. ¹²The Dual Benefits Payments Account balance does not carry over to the following fiscal year. 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
July - September 2017**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
Unemployment¹						
September 2017	773	535	4	2,714	2,607	130
August 2017	956	1,620	4	2,820	2,655	203
July 2017	2,779	1,297	108	2,553	2,335	285
7/17 - 9/17	4,508	3,452	116	3,861	3,731	309
7/16 - 9/16	6,952	5,461	323	6,355	6,254	271
Sickness						
September 2017	1,297	1,164	7	5,183	4,995	228
August 2017	2,233	3,262	29	5,301	4,978	405
July 2017	5,609	2,167	204	4,623	4,175	599
7/17 - 9/17	9,139	6,593	240	7,315	7,079	651
7/16 - 9/16	9,105	6,719	208	7,403	7,217	582

Period	Number of payments			Averages ²		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week ³	Benefit payments ^{3,4} (thousands)
Unemployment¹						
September 2017	4,601	4,387	214	9.1	\$331.10	\$3,102
August 2017	5,599	5,181	418	9.1	331.90	3,753
July 2017	4,045	3,518	527	8.6	332.70	2,933
7/17 - 9/17	14,245	13,086	1,159	9.0	332.35	9,789
7/16 - 9/16	23,467	22,440	1,027	8.8	334.35	17,073
Sickness						
September 2017	8,563	8,168	395	9.1	\$333.95	\$5,641
August 2017	10,317	9,452	865	9.0	334.40	3,897
July 2017	7,865	6,647	1,218	8.7	333.55	4,181
7/17 - 9/17	26,745	24,267	2,478	8.9	335.20	13,720
7/16 - 9/16	28,005	25,775	2,230	8.9	335.05	14,733

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 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 Emergency 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, 7.3% for days after September 30, 2014, 6.8% for days after September 30, 2015, and 6.9% for days after September 30, 2016.

⁴ Data provided by the Bureau of Fiscal Operations.

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
July - September 2017 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	September 2017	August 2017	July 2017	October 2016 - September 2017	October 2015 - September 2016
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$82,023	\$89,485	\$70,851	\$69,019	\$95,002
Income, total	494	355	25,907	111,466	108,588
Contributions ¹	46	367	25,926	100,030	90,241
Interest on investments	452	10	18	1,945	2,514
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ²	-4	-22	-37	-2,866	2,458
Transfers from RUI Administration Fund ³	.....	.....	.....	12,357	13,375
Outgo, total	8,907	7,816	7,273	106,875	134,572
Unemployment benefit payments ⁴	3,135	3,770	2,942	46,804	77,750
Sickness benefit payments ⁴	5,641	3,897	4,181	58,811	55,742
Funding for Office of Inspector General	130	150	150	1,260	1,080
Balance at end of period	73,610	82,023	89,485	73,610	69,019
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$12,993	\$14,396	\$9,763	\$12,132	\$13,858
Income, total	20	123	6,542	26,551	27,146
Contributions ¹	-45	123	6,542	26,389	26,970
Interest on investments	65	.....	.....	162	176
Outgo, total	1,529	1,527	1,909	27,200	28,872
Administrative expenses	1,529	1,527	1,909	14,842	15,498
Transfers to RUI Account ³	.....	.....	.....	12,357	13,375
Balance at end of period	11,483	12,993	14,396	11,483	12,132

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 Section 11(d) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, the RUI Administration Fund transfers the balance in excess of \$6 million (on an accrual basis of accounting) at the end of the prior fiscal year to the RUI Account. The attributable interest is also transferred.

⁴ In accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency 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, 7.3% for days after September 30, 2014, 6.8% for days after September 30, 2015, and 6.9% for days after September 30, 2016.

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 because of rounding.

Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
July - September 2017 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	September 2017	August 2017	July 2017	October 2016 - September 2017	October 2015 - September 2016
EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT⁵					
Balance at beginning of period	\$9,473	\$9,471	\$9,470	\$9,448	\$9,434
Interest and other income	1	1	(6)	5	9
Benefits ⁸	-4	-1	-1	-24	-5
Balance at end of period	9,477	9,473	9,471	9,477	9,448
EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, WORKER, HOMEOWNERSHIP, AND BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ACT⁷					
Balance at beginning of period	\$133,136	\$133,119	\$133,109	\$132,929	\$132,725
Interest and other income	1	2	2	33	55
Benefits ⁸	-29	-15	-7	-205	-149
Balance at end of period	133,167	133,136	133,119	133,167	132,929

⁵ The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), 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.

⁶ Less than \$500.

⁷ 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.

⁸ Current activity reflects recoveries.

Source: Bureau of Fiscal Operations

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- September 2017

RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)¹	\$1,043,391,000
Regular and Supplemental benefits	1,041,356,000
Vested dual benefits	2,036,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	648,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	264,000	\$2,669
Supplemental	122,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	147,000	1,008
Aged widows' and widowers'	88,000	1,664
Other benefits	27,000	1,080
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	517,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment²	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)^{1,3}	\$3,102,000	\$5,641,000
Beneficiaries	2,700	5,200
Average payment per week³	\$331	\$334

¹ Data provided by the Bureau of Fiscal Operations.

² 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. No additional payments were made this period. Current activity only reflects recoveries.

³ In accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency 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, 7.3% for days after September 30, 2014, 6.8% for days after September 30, 2015, and 6.9% for days after September 30, 2016.