

Benefits and Beneficiaries Under the Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Systems - December 2023

Benefit payments ¹	<u>December 2023</u>	<u>December 2022</u>
Total	\$1,173,429,000	\$1,119,399,000
Retired employees	811,896,000	771,690,000
Spouses and divorced spouses	172,222,000	165,264,000
Widow(er)s - aged and disabled	158,668,000	153,604,000
Other benefits	30,642,000	28,840,000

**Retirement and Survivor
Benefits, Including
Supplemental Annuities**

Monthly benefits	Being paid end of month		Awarded in month		Average under Social Security December 2023	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Average²</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Average²</u>	<u>Being Paid</u>	<u>Awarded</u>
Total, regular annuities	474,400	.....	1,300	.....	.....	.....
Regular employee annuities, total	238,300	\$3,453	500	\$3,440	.....	.....
Awarded age annuity	175,700	3,536	³ 200	³ 4,441	\$1,905	⁴ \$2,596
Disability converted to age annuity ⁵	47,200	3,145	.....	.....	.....	.....
Disability	15,400	3,445	100	3,545	1,537	1,718
Spouses and divorced spouses	138,300	1,261	400	1,044	890	744
Widow(er)s--aged and disabled	75,400	2,134	300	2,945	1,728	1,635
Widowed mothers and fathers	600	2,288	<u>6/</u>	2,975	1,278	1,205
Widow(er)s--remarried and divorced	11,900	1,515	100	1,727	<u>7/</u>	<u>7/</u>
Children	7,000	1,496	<u>6/</u>	1,916	1,103	1,094
Other survivors	2,900	344	.....	.....	.....	.....
Employee supplemental annuities⁸	99,800	41	<u>6/</u>	38	.....	.....

¹ Data provided by the Bureau of Fiscal Operations.

² Railroad retirement benefits shown are net of reduction for social security benefit entitlement.

³ For employees retiring directly from the railroad industry with full age annuity (their years of service averaged 30); some 200 other age annuities were awarded in the month.

⁴ For men full retirement age or over.

⁵ A 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 gradually increases, from age 65 to 67, for those born between 1937 and 1960. It is age 67 for those born after 1959 and age 65 for those born before 1938.

⁶ Fewer than 50.

⁷ Remarried and divorced widow(er)s included with aged and disabled widow(er)s and widowed mothers and fathers.

⁸ Excludes partition payments to spouses and divorced spouses where the employee is deceased. Number and averages are for employee annuitants only and reflect court-ordered partitions.

Note. --Data are on a cash basis (unaudited) and are partly estimated. Detail may not add to totals due to rounding. Regular retirement and survivor benefit payments total includes hospital insurance benefits for services in Canada.

(Over)

**Benefits and Beneficiaries Under the Railroad Retirement
and Unemployment Insurance Systems - (Continued)
December 2023**

Unemployment and Sickness Benefits

	Number of beneficiaries during month	Average payment¹	
		Per 2-week registration period	Per full week
Unemployment	1,400	\$753	\$409
Sickness	3,700	741	408
		Benefit payments¹	
		December 2023	December 2022
Total		\$8,194,000	\$9,683,000
Unemployment		2,135,000	1,988,000
Sickness		6,059,000	7,695,000

¹ In accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, amounts reflect a reduction of 5.7% under sequestration for days of unemployment and sickness after September 30, 2020, and before January 3, 2021. Beginning January 3, 2021, the Continued Assistance to Rail Workers Act of 2020 (CARWA) temporarily suspended sequestration through May 9, 2023, 30 days after the Presidential declaration of an end to the national emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic. Benefits are currently sequestered at 5.7% through fiscal year 2031.

Notes: - Data are on a cash basis (unaudited). Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.