# **Quarterly Benefit Statistics**

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board 844 North Rush Street Chicago, Illinois 60611-1275 Published by Public Affairs and the Bureau of the Actuary

www.rrb.gov September 13, 2016

## Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for April - June 2016

**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, June 2011 and June 2016

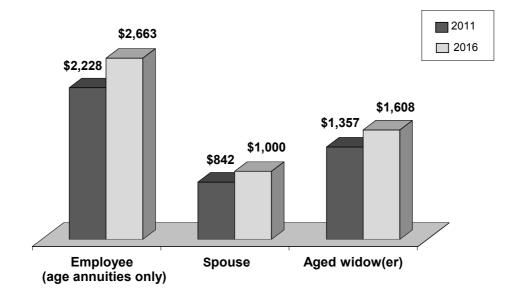


Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
April - June 2016

	Employee annuities							
			A	ge				
		Total <sup>1</sup>		Disability				Divorced
Period	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries	Awarded age annuity	converted to age annuity <sup>2</sup>	Disability	Supple- mental <sup>3</sup>	Spouse annuities	spouse annuities
Number in current-p	ayment status at end	d of period						
June 2016	653,452	521,677	190,161	44,165	32,201	122,659	140,342	4,805
May 2016	654,103	522,250	190,293	44,039	32,453	122,758	140,316	4,788
April 2016	654,643	522,690	190,400	43,959	32,659	122,870	140,222	4,780
Average amount in o	current-payment stat	us at end of period						
June 2016			\$2,662.86	\$2,348.91	\$2,672.59	\$41.56	\$999.89	\$619.95
May 2016			2,656.43	2,345.43	2,670.54	41.56	997.63	618.62
April 2016			2,652.81	2,342.77	2,671.02	41.56	996.45	616.56
Number awarded du	ring period							
June 2016	2,656	2,240	713		151	416	796	60
May 2016	2,498	2,161	623		136	337	773	66
April 2016	2,976	2,549	806		161	427	858	72
10/15 - 6/16	25,494	21,246	6,934		1,235	4,248	7,422	568
10/14 - 6/15	26,434	22,144	7,060		1,360	4,290	7,750	539
Average amount awa	arded during period <sup>4</sup>							
June 2016			\$3,112.82		\$2,655.80	\$41.09	\$1,107.48	\$632.23
May 2016			3,018.84		2,820.19	40.47	1,073.33	648.21
April 2016			3,166.35		2,642.16	41.09	1,088.94	675.83
Benefit payments du	uring period (thousar	nds)						
June 2016	\$1,040,401		\$513,445	\$103,106	\$93,825	\$5,134	\$142,440	\$3,091
May 2016	1,027,989		506,840	102,776	90,867	5,118	140,696	3,032
April 2016	1,030,043		507,619	102,548	93,371	5,134	139,820	2,965
10/15 - 6/16	9,246,929		4,548,345	915,335	838,672	46,187	1,262,156	27,061
10/14 - 6/15	9,111,309		4,424,773	864,217	906,059	45,737	1,221,813	25,625

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
April - June 2016 -- Continued

Survivor benefits									
			Annui	ties					
Period	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers <sup>5</sup>	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers	Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments	Partition payments <sup>6</sup>
Number in current-p	ayment status at en	d of period							
June 2016	91,574	3,664	649	3,227	9,686	8,802			1,493
May 2016	91,863	3,673	640	3,233	9,676	8,876			1,471
April 2016	92,147	3,673	639	3,241	9,676	8,901			1,452
Average amount in	current-payment sta	tus at end of pe	riod						
June 2016	\$1,607.64	\$1,300.65	\$1,853.34	\$1,046.62	\$1,049.46	\$1,065.53			\$305.40
May 2016	1,604.58	1,298.57	1,838.54	1,046.09	1,047.32	1,067.44			305.46
April 2016	1,600.64	1,294.45	1,839.03	1,043.17	1,044.87	1,066.75			304.88
Number awarded du	ıring period								
June 2016	408	10	7	7	61	27	246		
May 2016	455	13	2	12	58	23	236		
April 2016	538	10	12	4	59	29	251		
10/15 - 6/16	4,029	84	69	88	535	281	2,138	2	
10/14 - 6/15	4,282	99	69	121	529	334	2,355	2	
Average amount aw	arded during period	4							
June 2016	\$1,944.04	\$1,578.68	\$1,939.02	\$739.29	\$1,234.60	\$1,445.24	\$879		
May 2016	2,083.63	1,811.24		1,311.17	1,091.80	1,359.94	957		
April 2016	2,088.51	1,613.19	1,309.42	798.25	1,110.34	1,396.13	902		
Benefit payments during period (thousands)									
June 2016	\$148,485	\$5,089	\$1,268	\$3,387	\$10,446	\$9,987	\$224		\$453
May 2016	148,193	5,050	1,166	3,411	10,257	9,882	236		443
April 2016	148,138	4,933	1,250	3,374	10,207	9,977	239		446
10/15 - 6/16	1,334,930	44,543	11,299	30,870	92,043	89,239	2,052	\$14	3,965
10/14 - 6/15	1,348,372	44,956	11,532	31,994	90,202	89,821	2,274	3	3,701

<sup>5</sup>Number 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. <sup>6</sup>Limited 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
April - June 2016 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	June 2016	May 2016	April 2016	October 2015 - June 2016	October 2014 June 2015
	RAILROAD RETIR	REMENT ACCOUNT			
Balance at beginning of period <sup>1</sup>	\$580,113	\$707,771	\$693,313	\$877,301	\$791,771
Income, total	554,455	443,031	589,745	4,794,139	4,836,771
Payroll taxes <sup>2</sup>	234,307	273,866	258,478	2,298,502	2,527,930
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>			102,000	360,000	328,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	128,694	128,544	130,670	1,151,324	1,129,446
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust <sup>4</sup>	190,000	39,000	97,000	971,000	840,000
Transfer from SSEB Account <sup>4</sup>					
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments <sup>5</sup>	24	2	-1	56	-1,688
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury <sup>6</sup>	26	57	21	247	282
Interest on investments <sup>7</sup>	1,405	1,562	1,576	13,010	12,800
Outgo, total	575,932	570,690	575,286	5,112,805	4,992,081
Benefit payments	440,626	435,183	436,804	3,908,901	3,824,770
Payments of SSA benefits	128,830	129,031	132,006	1,150,508	1,125,840
Administrative expenses <sup>8</sup>	6,108	6,108	6,108	49,491	37,710
Funding for Office of Inspector General	368	368	368	3,904	3,761
Balance at end of period <sup>1</sup>	558,636	580,113	707,771	558,636	636,460
NATI	ONAL RAILROAD RETI	REMENT INVESTME	NT TRUST		
Cash and investment balance at end of period <sup>9</sup>	\$24,437,781	\$24,644,751	\$24,669,340	\$24,437,781	\$26,074,950
	DUAL BENEFITS PA	YMENTS ACCOUNT	10		
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,035	\$1,021	\$848		
Congressional apportionments <sup>11</sup>	2,325	2,351	1,377	\$21,172	\$23,960
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>			1,000	1,000	2,000
Vested dual benefit payments	2,145	2,338	2,204	20,957	23,814
<del></del>	1,215	1,035	1,021	1,215	2,146

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
April - June 2016 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	June 2016	May 2016	April 2016	October 2015 - June 2016	October 2014 - June 2015			
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT								
Balance at beginning of period	\$767,103	\$836,226	\$821,465	\$880,840	\$877,837			
Income, total	5,224,583	524,021	608,471	9,849,846	10,191,524			
Payroll taxes <sup>2</sup>	194,431	227,833	214,804	2,083,562	2,376,704			
General revenue transfers under payroll tax holiday12					1,286			
Income tax transfers <sup>3</sup>			71,000	223,000	227,000			
Financial interchange advances <sup>13</sup>	366,051	294,715	321,196	2,866,678	2,893,349			
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	4,662,650			4,662,650	4,676,583			
Interest on investments <sup>7</sup>	1,451	1,474	1,471	13,956	16,602			
Outgo, total	5,197,208	593,144	593,710	9,936,208	9,858,843			
Benefit payments	597,631	590,469	591,035	5,317,071	5,262,725			
Repayment of financial interchange advances <sup>13</sup>	3,940,091			3,940,091	3,982,700			
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	656,811			656,811	594,732			
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account <sup>4</sup>								
Administrative expenses <sup>8</sup>	2,521	2,521	2,521	20,582	17,017			
Funding for Office of Inspector General	154	154	154	1,653	1,669			
Balance at end of period	794,478	767,103	836,226	794,478	1,210,518			

Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of June 2016, liabilities were \$14,105,000. <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>Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. <sup>7</sup>Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). <sup>8</sup>Reflects adjustments for prior periods. <sup>9</sup>Source: National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust. <sup>10</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 appropriation for fiscal year 2016 was \$29.0 million, including income tax transfers. <sup>11</sup>Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. <sup>12</sup>Under the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010, the 2011 tax rate for employees and the self-employed was reduced by 2 percentage points. The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 extended the payroll tax holiday through 2012. The SSEB Account was given general revenue equivalent to the lost revenue. The final reconciliation for calendar years 2011-2012 occurred in June 2015. <sup>13</sup>Includes 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
April - June 2016

	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries			
Period	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	
			Unemployment <sup>1</sup>				
June 2016	4,166	623	463	4,708	4,458	304	
May 2016	881	668	391	5,341	5,008	394	
April 2016	929	734	391	6,167	5,685	561	
7/15 - 6/16	24,082	15,365	3,259	16,420	16,345	997	
7/14 - 6/15	11,486	6,775	1,901	7,568	7,469	890	
			Sickness				
June 2016	1,418	948	294	4,311	3,849	622	
May 2016	1,261	879	287	4,384	3,779	745	
April 2016	1,110	937	356	4,720	3,879	1,026	
7/15 - 6/16	19,791	15,282	3,147	15,963	15,853	2,117	
7/14 - 6/15	19,372	14,974	2,769	15,516	15,401	1,821	

	Number of payments			Averages		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week <sup>3</sup>	Benefit payments <sup>3</sup> (thousands)
			Unemployment <sup>1</sup>			
June 2016	9,104	8,508	596	8.8	\$334.80	\$4,950
May 2016	9,606	8,903	703	8.8	334.20	5,981
April 2016	11,249	10,180	1,069	8.8	333.25	6,690
7/15 - 6/16	112,312	106,448	5,864	8.8	334.40	71,655
7/14 - 6/15	52,073	46,967	5,106	8.9	323.25	30,752
			Sickness			
June 2016	8,653	7,323	1,330	8.7	\$334.35	\$3,553
May 2016	8,078	6,612	1,466	8.7	333.90	3,956
April 2016	9,112	7,007	2,105	8.7	334.10	4,098
7/15 - 6/16	109,739	98,132	11,607	8.8	337.45	54,511
7/14 - 6/15	102,677	93,156	9,521	8.7	327.20	48,428

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

**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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Benefit days—average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week-equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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 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.

Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
April - June 2016 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	June 2016	May 2016	April 2016	October 2015 - June 2016	October 2014 - June 2015
RA	AILROAD UNEMPLOY	MENT INSURANC	E ACCOUNT		
Balance at beginning of period	\$83,240	\$91,335	\$79,722	\$95,002	\$118,012
Income, total	-304	1,942	22,499	81,856	39,863
Contributions <sup>1</sup>	0	1,396	22,489	66,481	24,036
Interest on investments	524	28	52	2,093	5,104
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments <sup>2</sup>	-829	519	-42	-93	-615
Transfers from Administration Fund <sup>3</sup>				13,375	11,339
Outgo, total	8,593	10,037	10,886	102,515	59,615
Unemployment benefit payments <sup>4</sup>	4,962	6,003	6,710	60,681	23,135
Sickness benefit payments <sup>4</sup>	3,553	3,956	4,098	41,009	35,678
Funding for Office of Inspector General	78	78	78	825	801
Balance at end of period	74,343	83,240	91,335	74,343	98,261
RAILROA	D UNEMPLOYMENT	INSURANCE ADMI	NISTRATION FUN	D	
Balance at beginning of period	\$10,810	\$11,804	\$7,020	\$13,858	\$10,120
Income, total	79	376	6,154	20,557	21,479
Contributions <sup>1</sup>	25	376	6,154	20,449	21,363
Interest on investments	54			108	116
Outgo, total	1,370	1,370	1,370	24,896	19,161
Administrative expenses	1,370	1,370	1,370	11,522	7,823
Transfers to RUI Account				13,375	11,339
Balance at end of period	9,518	10,810	11,804	9,518	12,437

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Amounts reflect quarterly re-allocation of contributions between the RUI Account and the RUI Administration Fund.

**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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Net of distributed amounts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 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 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, 2015.

Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
April - June 2016 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	June 2016	May 2016	April 2016	October 2015 - June 2016	October 2014 - June 2015
EXTENDED UNE	MPLOYMENT BENEFITS, A	MERICAN RECOV	ERY AND REINVE	STMENT ACT 5	
Balance at beginning of period	\$9,444	\$9,440	\$9,438	\$9,434	\$9,396
Interest and other income	1	(6)	1	9	27
Benefits <sup>7</sup>	-3	-3	-1	-5	-4
Balance at end of period	9,448	9,444	9,440	9,448	9,427
EXTENDED UNEMPLOY	MENT BENEFITS, WORKER	R, HOMEOWNERSH	IIP, AND BUSINES	SS ASSISTANCE ACT	3
Balance at beginning of period	\$132,919	\$132,894	\$132,869	\$132,725	\$132,332
Interest and other income	1	6	6	50	84
Benefits <sup>4, 7</sup>	-8	-19	-19	-154	-251
Balance at end of period	132,929	132,919	132,894	132,929	132,667

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 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.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Less than \$500.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Negative amounts due to recoveries exceeding benefit payments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 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.

## Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- June 2016

#### **RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR**

**Beneficiaries** 

Average payment per week<sup>2</sup>

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$1,040,401,000
Regular and Supplemental benefits	1,038,257,000
Vested dual benefits	2,145,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	653,000	
Retired employees':		
Regular	267,000	\$2,612
Supplemental	123,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	145,000	987
Aged widows' and widowers'	92,000	1,608
Other benefits	28,000	1,066
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	522,000	
UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS		
	Unemployment <sup>1</sup>	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited) <sup>2</sup>	\$4,950,000	\$3,553,000

4,700

\$335

4,300

\$334

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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, and 6.8% for days after September 30, 2015.