
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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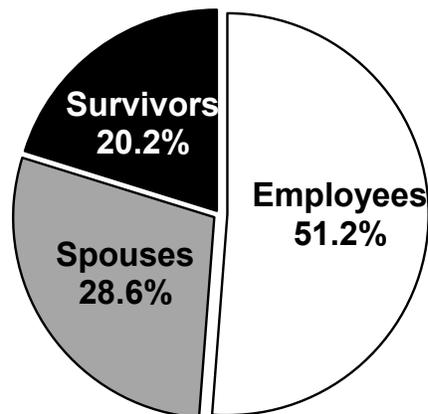
February 26, 2026

Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **October - December 2024**

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**Railroad Retirement and
Survivor Beneficiaries
on the Rolls, by Type,
December 2024**
(456,000 beneficiaries)



NOTE.--Some 4,900 employees also received spouse annuities and approximately 2,000 employees also received survivor annuities.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2024**

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 2024	560,431	456,350	172,964	46,137	14,744	95,451	130,863	4,568
November 2024	560,694	456,384	172,984	46,118	14,759	95,670	130,914	4,569
October 2024	561,883	457,241	173,234	46,178	14,843	95,990	131,081	4,586
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
December 2024	.....	.....	\$3,624.74	\$3,231.26	\$3,544.41	\$41.48	\$1,297.35	\$880.82
November 2024	.....	.....	3,553.95	3,163.91	3,468.22	41.48	1,274.18	859.44
October 2024	.....	.....	3,552.19	3,161.97	3,464.45	41.48	1,274.70	860.75
Number awarded during period								
December 2024	1,328	1,296	343	.....	139	32	399	30
November 2024	1,418	1,365	391	.....	115	53	412	20
October 2024	1,615	1,559	472	.....	150	56	458	36
10/24 - 12/24	4,361	4,220	1,206	.....	404	141	1,269	86
10/23 - 12/23	4,381	4,267	1,208	.....	301	114	1,241	131
Average amount awarded during period⁴								
December 2024	.....	.....	\$3,745.31	.....	\$3,754.10	\$38.01	\$1,170.09	\$952.89
November 2024	.....	.....	3,687.31	.....	3,824.48	39.43	1,216.57	760.08
October 2024	.....	.....	3,524.12	.....	3,716.18	34.87	1,190.58	1,038.25
Benefit payments during period (thousands)⁵								
December 2024	\$1,190,063	.....	\$615,748	\$146,181	\$59,316	\$4,002	\$168,200	\$3,969
November 2024	1,190,473	.....	616,374	146,415	57,860	4,017	168,620	3,979
October 2024	1,195,663	.....	617,773	146,625	60,474	4,031	169,404	3,997
10/24 - 12/24	3,576,199	.....	1,849,895	439,221	177,650	12,050	506,224	11,945
10/23 - 12/23	3,531,247	.....	1,824,282	434,179	174,033	12,604	505,966	12,207

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 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. 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. ⁵Beginning in July 2019, data is from the Monthly Treasury Statement. Prior to July 2019, data was 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.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2024 -- 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										
December 2024	70,928	2,551	554	2,050	9,756	6,745	.....	.....	3,111
November 2024	70,951	2,560	553	2,050	9,715	6,744	.....	.....	3,098
October 2024	71,184	2,577	555	2,050	9,753	6,751	.....	.....	3,092
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period										
December 2024	\$2,241.60	\$1,717.85	\$2,344.80	\$1,550.58	\$1,568.33	\$1,549.59	.....	.....	\$353.93
November 2024	2,209.74	1,684.75	2,325.28	1,511.04	1,532.40	1,513.65	.....	.....	351.21
October 2024	2,205.21	1,683.82	2,323.49	1,511.69	1,528.50	1,510.74	.....	.....	350.33
Number awarded during period										
December 2024	314	⁽⁸⁾	5	8	35	20	83	----	.....
November 2024	339	⁽⁸⁾	5	10	46	26	99	----	.....
October 2024	334	⁽⁸⁾	6	6	56	37	118	----	.....
10/24 - 12/24	987	8	16	24	137	83	300	----	.....
10/23 - 12/23	1,109	15	19	22	149	72	282	----	.....
Average amount awarded during period⁴										
December 2024	\$2,958.18	\$2,397.44	\$2,319.92	\$1,793.50	\$1,391.51	\$1,793.45	\$950	----	.....
November 2024	2,841.79	568.73	751.15	1,807.90	1,818.85	2,095.11	834	----	.....
October 2024	2,899.99	1,896.10	1,848.97	1,994.83	1,669.13	1,890.96	928	----	.....
Benefit payments during period (thousands)⁵										
December 2024	\$156,883	\$4,504	\$1,353	\$3,102	\$15,047	\$10,558	\$83	----	\$1,105	
November 2024	157,118	4,393	1,317	3,095	15,389	10,704	88	----	1,092	
October 2024	157,248	4,430	1,351	3,106	15,021	10,956	113	----	1,124	
10/24 - 12/24	471,249	13,327	4,021	9,303	45,457	32,218	284	----	3,321	
10/23 - 12/23	462,211	13,944	4,200	9,378	43,487	31,456	257	----	3,013	

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. ⁸Number awarded is greater than zero but less than five.

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 2024 (In thousands)
Cash Basis

Item	December 2024	November 2024	October 2024	October 2024 - December 2024	October 2023 - December 2023
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Income					
Payroll taxes ¹	\$281,609	\$254,798	\$303,666	\$840,073	\$743,603
Income tax transfers ²	.....	.....	94,000	94,000	91,000
Financial interchange advances ³	447,957	379,261	468,497	1,295,715	1,293,429
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁴	3,278	2,763	2,290	8,331	8,098
Outgo					
Benefit payments	\$707,992	\$709,385	\$711,343	\$2,128,720	\$2,095,979
Repayment of financial interchange advances ³	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account ⁵	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses	1,714	1,670	1,725	5,109	4,604
Funding for Office of Inspector General	190	186	192	568	503
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Income					
Payroll taxes ¹	\$284,375	\$262,889	\$318,638	\$865,902	\$723,678
Income tax transfers ²	.....	.....	114,000	114,000	116,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	215,331	217,258	218,211	650,800	617,513
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust ⁵	170,000	34,000	43,000	247,000	.....
Transfer from SSEB Account ⁵	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁴	1,814	1,975	1,560	5,349	7,202
Outgo					
Benefit payments	\$481,641	\$480,650	\$483,872	\$1,446,164	\$1,433,639
Payments of SSA benefits	215,648	216,728	218,074	650,450	617,130
Administrative expenses	7,448	7,202	7,442	22,092	22,671
Funding for Office of Inspector General	827	800	827	2,455	2,480
NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST					
Cash and investment balance at end of period⁶	\$26,999,192	\$27,625,796	\$26,998,789	\$26,999,192	\$25,929,531
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT ⁷					
Vested dual benefit payments	\$430	\$437	\$447	\$1,315	\$1,630

¹Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. ²Amounts include U.S. Treasury adjustments for prior period income tax reconciliations. ³Includes interest. ⁴Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 1). ⁵Under 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. ⁶Source: National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust. ⁷Total 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, including income tax transfers, was \$8.0 million for fiscal year 2024 and \$7.0 million for fiscal year 2025.

NOTE.--This Table has been revised to only include information from the Monthly Treasury Statements and other resources within the Railroad Retirement Board's Bureau of the Actuary and Research.

**Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
October - December 2024**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
Unemployment						
December 2024	536	286	27	1,674	1,666	11
November 2024	405	259	14	1,510	1,507	6
October 2024	550	300	6	1,510	1,496	22
7/24 - 12/24	4,687	2,708	88	2,979	2,940	130
7/23 - 12/23	3,602	2,040	79	2,257	2,214	142
Sickness						
December 2024	773	799	75	3,801	3,760	71
November 2024	843	617	45	3,635	3,616	27
October 2024	1,020	920	31	3,837	3,803	65
7/24 - 12/24	9,294	6,885	312	7,240	7,098	569
7/23 - 12/23	9,506	6,794	334	7,245	7,091	603

Period	Number of payments			Averages ¹		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week ²	Benefit payments ² (thousands)
Unemployment						
December 2024	3,412	3,389	23	9.4	\$445.80	\$3,150
November 2024	2,595	2,584	11	9.4	439.10	2,379
October 2024	2,973	2,938	35	9.3	439.95	2,739
7/24 - 12/24	16,707	16,207	500	9.2	439.30	15,393
7/23 - 12/23	11,739	11,158	581	9.2	407.90	10,084
Sickness						
December 2024	8,164	7,991	173	9.2	\$446.35	\$7,423
November 2024	6,247	6,184	63	9.2	440.50	5,688
October 2024	8,095	7,986	109	9.1	440.55	7,396
7/24 - 12/24	42,211	39,961	2,250	9.0	441.00	38,339
7/23 - 12/23	40,420	38,055	2,365	9.0	408.80	34,240

¹ Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week--equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

² 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. The Railroad Employee Equity and Fairness Act of 2024 (REEF Act), enacted December 23, 2024, ended sequestration retroactively to May 9, 2023, but benefit amounts reflect the provisions in place at time of payment. Repayment of benefit amounts will be included in the month in which they are repaid.

NOTE --Additional unemployment and sickness benefits were also paid under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020 (CARES Act). CARWA and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) reduced the enhanced benefit payments from \$1,200 to \$600 per registration period while extending all benefits through registration periods beginning September 6, 2021.

GENERAL NOTES --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.

Table 4: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- December 2024

RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)¹	\$1,190,063,000
Regular and Supplemental benefits	1,189,633,000
Vested dual benefits	430,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	560,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	234,000	\$3,542
Supplemental	95,000	41
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	135,000	1,283
Aged widows' and widowers'	71,000	2,242
Other benefits	25,000	1,442
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	456,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT - SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Gross benefit payments¹	\$3,150,000	\$7,423,000
Beneficiaries	1,700	3,800
Average payment per week¹	\$446	\$446

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 May 9, 2023. The Railroad Employee Equity and Fairness Act of 2024 (REEF Act), enacted December 23, 2024, ended sequestration retroactively to May 9, 2023, but benefit amounts reflect legislation in place at time of payment. Repayment of benefit amounts will be included in the month in which they are repaid.