
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
844 North Rush Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092
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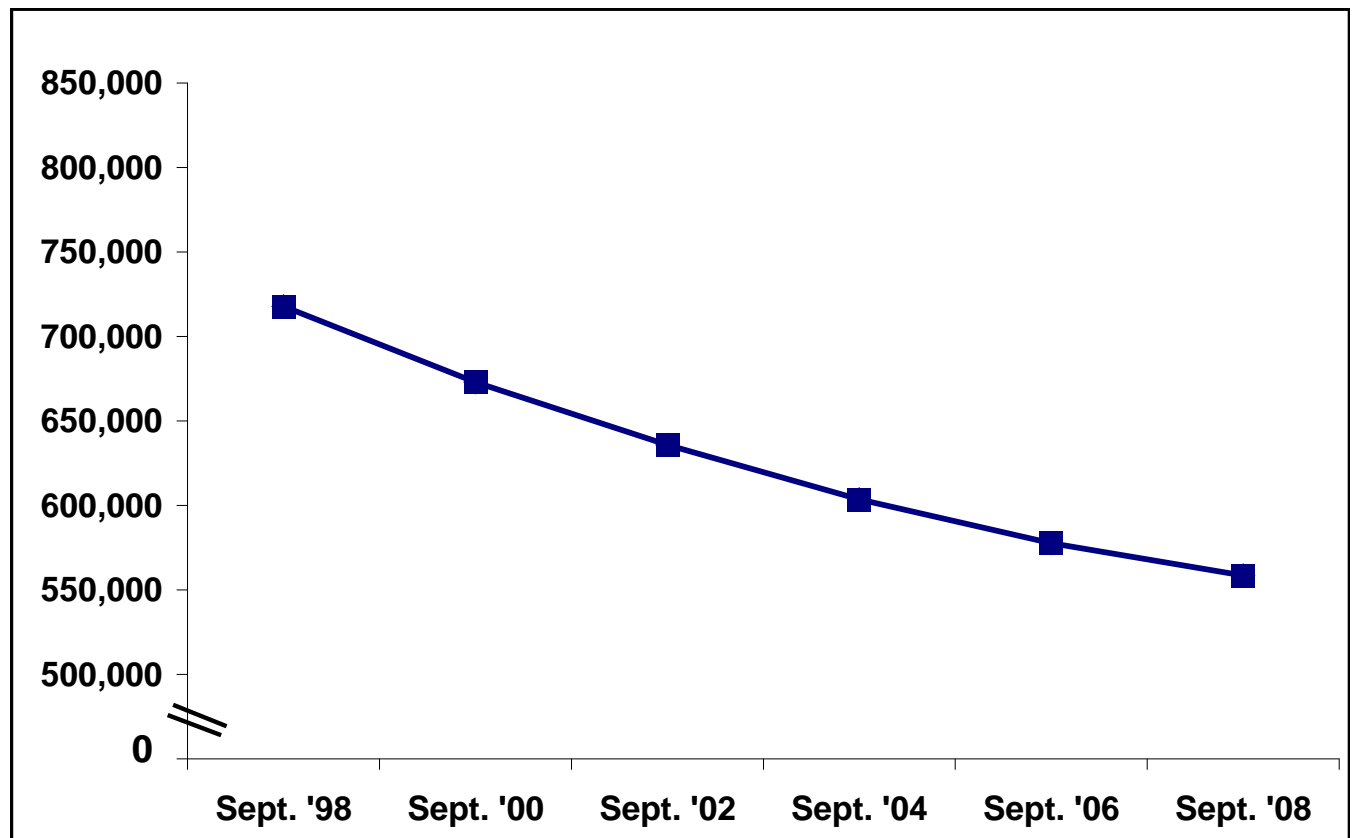
December 11, 2008

Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for July - September 2008

- 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
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Total Monthly Railroad Retirement Beneficiaries, September 1998 through September 2008



**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
July - September 2008**

Period	Total ¹		Employee annuities			Supplemental	Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries	Age	Disability ²				
				Under full retirement age	Full retirement age and over			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
September 2008	686,636	558,594	191,146	49,648	34,401	120,824	132,736	3,596
August 2008	686,875	558,913	191,183	49,761	34,348	120,761	132,685	3,585
July 2008	686,761	559,025	191,013	49,901	34,217	120,560	132,556	3,575
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
September 2008	.....	.....	\$1,981.51	\$2,266.74	\$1,787.24	\$41.66	\$750.05	\$457.56
August 2008	.....	.....	1,977.05	2,264.96	1,783.80	41.66	748.00	457.82
July 2008	.....	.....	1,971.78	2,262.88	1,780.09	41.67	746.12	458.26
Number awarded during period								
September 2008	3,332	2,701	869	249	.....	631	867	47
August 2008	3,513	2,797	964	271	.....	716	907	37
July 2008	3,587	2,800	1,066	217	.....	787	819	34
10/07 - 9/08	38,568	31,499	9,760	3,395	.....	7,069	9,629	499
10/06 - 9/07	38,738	31,472	9,654	3,606	.....	7,266	9,592	477
Average amount awarded during period³								
September 2008	.....	.....	\$2,627.37	\$2,494.58	.....	\$41.73	\$960.35	\$442.94
August 2008	.....	.....	2,692.38	2,496.17	.....	41.25	949.73	484.64
July 2008	.....	.....	2,672.34	2,506.60	.....	41.59	946.10	382.78
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
September 2008	\$844,409	.....	\$379,637	\$116,556	\$61,131	\$5,019	\$100,459	\$1,707
August 2008	842,564	.....	378,389	116,878	60,767	5,048	100,255	1,699
July 2008	841,214	.....	377,808	116,752	60,413	5,050	99,804	1,680
10/07 - 9/08	10,035,282	.....	4,490,894	1,400,438	716,282	60,550	1,188,695	20,189
10/06 - 9/07	9,797,447	.....	4,349,095	1,362,277	701,300	60,771	1,148,724	18,906

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

²Full retirement age, also known as normal retirement age, is gradually increasing from age 65 to age 67 over a 22 year period. For those born 1/2/1943-1/1/1955, the normal retirement age is 66. ³Regular 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
July - September 2008 -- Continued**

Survivor benefits									
Period	Annuities					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments	Divorced partition payments ⁴
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers				
Number in current-payment status at end of period									
September 2008	124,089	4,450	832	4,552	9,552	10,692	.....	.....	78
August 2008	124,341	4,454	832	4,553	9,543	10,717	.....	.....	72
July 2008	124,656	4,460	844	4,574	9,518	10,778	.....	.....	67
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period									
September 2008	\$1,221.52	\$1,024.87	\$1,528.71	\$816.03	\$804.11	\$878.78	.....	.....	\$326.90
August 2008	1,219.05	1,021.16	1,518.43	815.30	803.49	878.09	.....	.....	317.99
July 2008	1,215.85	1,019.99	1,514.54	813.90	801.03	877.43	.....	.....	310.59
Number awarded during period									
September 2008	513	15	14	19	66	42	309	5	.....
August 2008	493	17	5	12	56	35	337	4	.....
July 2008	529	17	8	13	54	42	363	2	.....
10/07 - 9/08	6,508	165	143	189	693	515	4,155	45	.....
10/06 - 9/07	6,484	202	113	182	662	498	4,184	26	.....
Average amount awarded during period³									
September 2008	\$1,649.81	\$1,632.33	\$1,919.88	\$1,037.42	\$943.77	\$1,297.23	\$878	\$1,699	.....
August 2008	1,651.13	1,259.69	1,996.16	1,024.58	779.41	1,209.44	910	1,903	.....
July 2008	1,665.34	1,357.00	2,129.70	908.92	956.51	1,225.31	915	2,877	.....
Benefit payments during period (thousands)									
September 2008	\$151,998	\$4,737	\$1,363	\$3,768	\$7,863	\$9,800	\$301	\$9	\$23
August 2008	151,810	4,703	1,320	3,749	7,742	9,816	324	8	20
July 2008	151,866	4,712	1,304	3,748	7,711	9,944	359	6	18
10/07 - 9/08	1,825,186	56,288	15,728	45,004	91,767	119,556	3,975	111	123
10/06 - 9/07	1,825,443	56,305	15,925	44,729	89,427	120,068	3,907	69	.....

⁴Effective August 17, 2007. Limited to post employee death tier II partition payments to divorced spouses.

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 22nd of each month.

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
July - September 2008 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	September 2008	August 2008	July 2008	October 2007 - September 2008	October 2006 - September 2007
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period¹	\$466,585	\$462,759	\$454,423	\$616,854	\$479,392
Income, total	621,854	461,045	363,732	5,342,922	5,458,399
Payroll taxes ²	231,423	207,682	213,545	2,403,491	2,308,829
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	5,000	233,000	329,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	104,041	104,224	104,100	1,247,642	1,229,472
Transfers from National RR Investment Trust ⁴	138,000	148,000	40,000	1,298,000	1,391,000
Transfer from SSEB Account ⁴	147,000	.....	.....	147,000	181,000
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁵	121	-28	-64	297	-608
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁶	33	45	36	571	443
Interest on investments ⁷	1,237	1,123	1,116	12,920	19,264
Outgo, total	456,420	457,219	355,397	5,327,757	5,320,937
Benefit payments-regular	344,759	343,120	341,442	4,061,268	4,012,275
Benefit payments-supplemental	5,019	5,048	5,050	60,550	60,771
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	-100,028	-100,028	-45,677
Payments of SSA benefits	104,078	104,242	104,125	1,247,537	1,229,572
Administrative expenses ⁸	2,380	4,550	4,550	54,794	59,982
Funding for Office of Inspector General	184	258	258	3,636	4,014
Balance at end of period¹	632,019	466,585	462,759	632,019	616,854
NATIONAL RAILROAD RETIREMENT INVESTMENT TRUST					
Cash and investment balance at end of period⁹	\$25,271,540	\$28,108,771	\$28,603,806	\$25,271,540	\$32,631,360
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT¹⁰					
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,287	\$1,242	\$1,198	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹¹	6,177	6,227	9,279	\$78,002	\$82,002
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	-3,000	1,000	6,000
Vested dual benefit payments	6,122	6,182	6,235	77,660	86,489
Balance to be returned to U.S. Treasury	1,342	.....	.....	1,342	1,513
Balance at end of period	.....	1,287	1,242	.....	.....

Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
July - September 2008 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued

Item	September 2008	August 2008	July 2008	October 2007 - September 2008	October 2006 - September 2007
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$886,077	\$886,642	\$941,401	\$744,247	\$717,361
Income, total	541,967	490,095	536,203	10,104,802	9,819,113
Payroll taxes ²	238,927	210,371	213,577	2,523,349	2,406,975
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	23,000	126,000	131,000
Financial interchange advances ¹²	300,786	277,785	297,512	3,385,635	3,232,320
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	4,049,877	4,019,777
Interest on investments ⁷	2,254	1,939	2,114	19,941	29,041
Outgo, total	636,814	490,660	590,962	10,057,819	9,792,227
Benefit payments	488,508	488,214	488,487	5,835,805	5,637,912
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	100,028	100,028	45,677
Repayment of financial interchange advances ¹²	.....	.....	.....	3,410,802	3,418,688
RRB-CMS financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	525,692	483,336
Transfer to Railroad Retirement Account ⁴	147,000	.....	.....	147,000	181,000
Administrative expenses ⁸	1,219	2,314	2,314	36,632	24,033
Funding for Office of Inspector General	87	132	132	1,861	1,580
Balance at end of period	791,230	886,077	886,642	791,230	744,247

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of September 2008, liabilities were \$11,068,000. 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 benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2008 was \$79.0 million, including income tax transfers. The appropriation for fiscal year 2007 was \$88.0 million, including income tax transfers. ¹¹Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks. ¹²Includes 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 2008**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
			Unemployment			
September 2008	786	559	7	2,697	2,633	78
August 2008	774	1,417	5	2,599	2,496	123
July 2008	2,965	1,261	111	2,437	2,292	191
7/08 - 9/08	4,525	3,237	123	3,790	3,696	207
7/07 - 9/07	4,226	3,174	101	3,656	3,586	192
			Sickness			
September 2008	1,648	1,431	5	5,616	5,462	197
August 2008	1,950	2,945	22	5,406	5,117	341
July 2008	5,874	2,803	212	5,035	4,666	546
7/08 - 9/08	9,472	7,179	239	7,997	7,779	591
7/07 - 9/07	10,014	7,588	254	8,514	8,288	642
	Number of payments			Averages ¹		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit ² payments (thousands)
			Unemployment			
September 2008	5,038	4,887	151	9.0	\$302.05	\$2,950
August 2008	4,621	4,390	231	8.9	301.55	1,761
July 2008	3,719	3,326	393	8.4	295.40	2,042
7/08 - 9/08	13,378	12,603	775	8.8	300.45	6,754
7/07 - 9/07	12,605	11,865	740	8.9	290.05	3,837
			Sickness			
September 2008	10,431	10,027	404	9.1	\$301.80	\$4,430
August 2008	9,512	8,819	693	9.0	301.80	4,125
July 2008	9,135	7,977	1,158	8.7	295.65	3,223
7/08 - 9/08	29,078	26,823	2,255	8.9	300.80	11,778
7/07 - 9/07	31,027	28,741	2,286	8.9	290.90	12,952

¹Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week=equal to 5 times average daily benefit. ² For July 2007 - September 2007, unemployment benefit payments reflect a \$3.8 million accounting adjustment.

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 2008 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)

Item	September 2008	August 2008	July 2008	October 2007 - September 2008	October 2006 - September 2007
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$111,592	\$116,558	\$105,913	\$104,316	\$99,606
Income, total	1,151	1,030	16,020	82,589	80,286
Contributions	67	898	16,185	67,074	65,995
Interest on investments	1,294	36	33	6,838	3,963
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ¹	-210	97	-198	-34	1,405
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	.....	8,711	8,923
Outgo, total	7,456	5,996	5,375	81,618	75,577
Unemployment benefit payments	2,950	1,761	2,042	35,129	27,781
Sickness benefit payments	4,430	4,125	3,223	44,940	46,223
Funding for Office of Inspector General	76	110	110	1,550	1,572
Balance at end of period	105,287	111,592	116,558	105,287	104,316
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$10,882	\$11,740	\$7,481	\$9,907	\$10,163
Income, total	140	277	5,394	23,945	23,082
Contributions	24	277	5,394	23,391	22,770
Interest on investments	116	.....	.....	554	312
Outgo, total	595	1,135	1,135	23,425	23,338
Administrative expenses	595	1,135	1,135	14,713	14,415
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	.....	8,711	8,923
Balance at end of period	10,427	10,882	11,740	10,427	9,907

¹Net of distributed amounts.

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 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- September 2008
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RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$844,409,000
Regular benefits	833,267,000
Vested dual benefits	6,122,000
Supplemental annuities	5,019,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	687,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	275,000	\$2,009
Supplemental	121,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	136,000	742
Aged widows' and widowers'	124,000	1,222
Other survivors'	30,000	884
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	559,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$2,950,000	\$4,430,000
Beneficiaries	2,700	5,600
Average payment per week	\$302	\$302
