

Table 5-7. Railroad Unemployment and Sickness Insurance Program Statistics

Selected Years 1970—2011

	Benefit Year Ending ^a									
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	2008	2009	2010	2011	
Insured unemployment (percent) ^b	11	17	9	5	4	4	8	10	5	
Coverage (qualified in thousands)	748	609	349	278	242	255	256	252	239	
Unemployment (average daily benefit)	\$12.61	\$24.94	\$30.16	\$45.51	\$55.26	\$58.40	\$60.66	\$63.42	\$65.23	
Sickness (average daily benefit)	\$12.66	\$24.97	\$30.25	\$45.75	\$55.89	\$58.75	\$60.69	\$63.62	\$65.65	
Number of beneficiaries										
Unemployment (thousands)	79.2	101.6	29.9	13.7	9.3	10.1	21.4	24.8	11.6	
Sickness (thousands)	91.4	76.8	28.2	22.0	20.2	18.4	17.6	17.8	17.4	
Benefit exhaustions, normal										
Unemployment (thousands)	6.3	11.2	5.6	2.1	2.2	2.0	3.1	7.5	2.8	
Sickness (thousands)	16.8	9.5	6.1	4.1	3.9	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1	
Amount paid										
Unemployment (millions) ^c	\$35.0	\$112.7	\$57.2	\$35.6	\$30.2	\$32.2	\$77.8	\$138.2	\$51.4	
Sickness (millions)	\$57.9	\$60.0	\$32.6	\$40.5	\$43.4	\$46.1	\$45.2	\$52.4	\$51.2	
Total tax collection										
Benefit account (millions)	\$122.7	\$173.3	\$192.5	\$68.8	\$81.3	\$66.9	\$69.4	\$70.3	\$119.0	
Administration (millions)	\$8.2	\$12.9	\$17.2	\$18.9	\$21.0	\$23.3	\$23.0	\$22.7	\$23.3	
Outlays										
Benefits (millions)	\$93.0	\$172.7	\$89.8	\$76.1	\$73.6	\$78.3	\$123.0	\$190.5	\$102.6	
Administration (millions)	\$6.6	\$11.2	\$14.6	\$14.1	\$16.8	\$14.9	\$13.3	\$15.7	\$14.5	
Account balance ^d	\$81.3	\$40.8	\$188.4	\$95.7	\$97.4	\$105.9	\$66.8	\$28.8	\$22.3	

Source: U.S. Railroad Retirement Board

Notes: This table was updated on August 9, 2012 for the 2012 version of the House Ways and Means Committee Green Book.

- a. Actual amounts are shown.
- b. Unemployment beneficiaries divided by employees eligible for unemployment insurance; does not include sickness insurance beneficiaries. Employees are eligible for unemployment benefits based on having creditable earnings above a minimum threshold during the “base” year (the year ending before the period of unemployment). New workers must also have at least five months of covered railroad employment to be eligible for unemployment benefits.
- c. Starting in June 2009, includes temporary extended unemployment benefits authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as amended by the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009, the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010, the Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011, and the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012.
- d. Account balances do not reflect amounts due the Railroad Retirement Account. Loans made in 2010 were repaid in entirety by the end of August 2011.