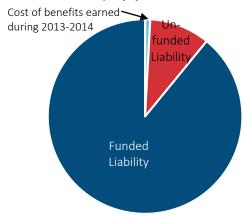# AFTRA Retirement Plan Stats

The AFTRA Retirement Plan has provided pension benefits for actors since 1955. Benefits for each year of service are based on a percentage of compensation, up to the maximum allowed to be recognized for pension benefits under federal law.[1]. The plan considers age 65 to be standard retirement age, but participants may begin receiving retirement benefits as early as age 55 with reductions to reflect that they will probably receive them for a longer time.

Pension Plan Stats[2]

As of Dec. 1, 2013, the most recent publicly available data.

Active participants	18,348
Retirees receiving pension benefits	9,777
Inactive participants[3]	17,159
Total participants	45,284
Average approximate annual pension benefit	$15,500
Total pension benefits paid in 2014	$152 million
Plan assets[4]	$2.3 billion
Plan benefit liabilities[4]	$2.6 billion
Unfunded liability	$0.3 million
Funded ratio	90%
Contributions in 2013	$159 million
Cost of benefits earned in 2014	$ 24 million

Plan Funded Status, 12/1/2013[4]

Cost of benefits earned during 2013-2014

Un-funded Liability

Funded Liability

About Pension Finances

As of Dec. 1, 2013, the plan was 90% funded, with $2.3 billion in assets against accumulated benefit liabilities for retired, active and inactive members of $2.6 billion.[4] In the context of the red-yellow-green (stoplight colors) zone system commonly used with this type of pension plan,[5] this plan is in the green zone.

During 2014, the plan received $159 million in contributions, of which $24 million covered the cost of benefits that active participants earned during 2014, leaving $135 million to be applied toward the funding shortfall of $300 million.

The AFTRA Retirement Plan is a multiemployer pension plan. For more Society of Actuaries' research on multiemployer pension plans: http://www.soa.org/Research/Research-Projects/Pension/research-2015-08-multiemployer-plan-stress-metrics.aspx

For more Society of Actuaries' research on pension plans and retirement issues in general: http://www.soa.org/research/research-projects/pension/default.aspx

About the Society of Actuaries

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[1] Internal Revenue Code section 401(a)(17) limits the amount of compensation that may be used to calculate pension benefits. For 2014 the limit is $260,000.
[2] The source of all data shown is the Department of Labor Form 5500 and its accompanying schedules. Some figures may not add because of rounding.
[3] Former active participants who have not yet started to receive pension benefits.
[4] As calculated by the plan's actuary for funding purposes and documented on the plan's Form 5500 Schedule MB for 2014.
[5] Internal Revenue Code Section 431 defines the funding status zones.

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The SOA supports actuaries and advances knowledge through research and education. As part of its work, the SOA seeks to inform public policy development and public understanding through research. The SOA aspires to be a trusted source of objective, data-driven research and analysis with an actuarial perspective for its members, industry, policymakers and the public. This distinct perspective comes from the SOA as an association of actuaries, who have a rigorous formal education and direct experience as practitioners as they perform applied research. The SOA also welcomes the opportunity to partner with other organizations in our work where appropriate.

The SOA has a history of working with public policymakers and regulators in developing historical experience studies and projection techniques as well as individual reports on health care, retirement and other topics. The SOA's research is intended to aid the work of policymakers and regulators and follows certain core principles:

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