

National Football League Players' Pension Plan Stats

2014

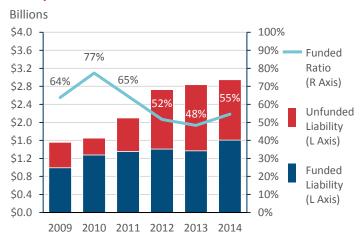
NFL players have been covered by this pension plan since 1962. The plan considers age 55 to be the standard retirement age. If a player waits until later to start his benefit, his benefit is actuarially increased accordingly. Players are fully vested after 3 credited seasons or 5 years of service in other capacities (for example, as a coach), but the amount of retirement benefits is based on the number of credited seasons.

Pension Plan Stats¹

As of April 1, 2014, the most recent publicly available data.

Active players Retirees receiving pension benefits Inactive players ² Total participants	2,182 4,246 <u>5,917</u> 12,345
Average approx. annual pension benefit	\$43,000
Total pension benefits paid in 2014	\$181 million
Plan assets ³ Plan benefit liabilities ³ Unfunded liability Funded ratio	\$1.6 billion \$2.9 billion \$1.3 billion 55%
NFL club contributions for 2014	\$306 million
Cost of benefits earned in 2014	\$35 million

Liability and Funded Status³



About Pension Finances

At the start of April 2014, the plan was 55% funded, with \$1.6 billion in assets against projected benefit liabilities for retired, active and inactive members of \$2.9 billion.³ In the context of the red-yellow-green (stoplight colors) zone system commonly used with this type of pension plan,⁴ the NFL plan is in the yellow zone and working toward the green zone.

During 2014, NFL clubs collectively contributed \$306 million, slightly more than \$300 million for 2013. Of the \$306 million contributed for 2014, \$35 million covered the cost of benefits that active players earned during 2013, leaving \$271 million to be applied toward the funding shortfall of \$1.3 billion.



The Bert Bell / Pete Rozelle NFL Player Retirement Plan is a multiemployer pension plan. For more Society of Actuaries' research on pension plans and retirement issues in general: https://www.soa.org/research/research-projects/pension/default.aspx

Caveat and Disclaimer

This study is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as professional or financial advice. The SOA does not recommend or endorse any particular use of the information provided in this study. The SOA makes no warranty, express or implied, or representation whatsoever and assumes no liability in connection with the use or misuse of this study.

¹ The source of all data shown is the Department of Labor Form 5500 for the 2013 plan year as filed for the Bert Bell / Pete Rozelle NFL Player Retirement Plan. Some figures may not add because of rounding.

² Vested former active members who have not yet started to receive pension benefits; they may begin to receive monthly benefits at age 45.

³ As calculated as of the start of the plan year by the plan's actuary for funding purposes and reported on the plan's Form 5500. Liabilities are computed using a 7.25% discount rate and the RP2000 Mortality Table projected to 2020; the projection scale used is not reported.

⁴ Internal Revenue Code Section 431 defines the funding status zones

About the Society of Actuaries

The Society of Actuaries (SOA), formed in 1949, is one of the largest actuarial professional organizations in the world, dedicated to serving 24,000 actuarial members and the public in the United States, Canada and worldwide. In line with the SOA Vision Statement, actuaries act as business leaders who develop and use mathematical models to measure and manage risk in support of financial security for individuals, organizations and the public.

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:

Objectivity: The SOA's research informs and provides analysis that can be relied upon by other individuals or organizations involved in public policy discussions. The SOA does not take advocacy positions or lobby specific policy proposals.

Quality: The SOA aspires to the highest ethical and quality standards in all of its research and analysis. Our research process is overseen by experienced actuaries and non-actuaries from a range of industry sectors and organizations. A rigorous peer-review process ensures the quality and integrity of our work.

Relevance: The SOA provides timely research on public policy issues. Our research advances actuarial knowledge while providing critical insights on key policy issues, and thereby provides value to stakeholders and decision makers.

Quantification: The SOA leverages the diverse skill sets of actuaries to provide research and findings that are driven by the best available data and methods. Actuaries use detailed modeling to analyze financial risk and provide distinct insight and quantification. Further, actuarial standards require transparency and the disclosure of the assumptions and analytic approach underlying the work.

SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES 475 N. Martingale Road, Suite 600 Schaumburg, Illinois 60173 www.SOA.org