



# American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund Stats for 2015

American Federation of Musicians and Employers' Pension Fund and Subsidiary has provided pension benefits since 1959. Benefits are related to service and compensation (up to the maximum allowed to be recognized for pension benefits under federal law)<sup>1</sup>. In general the plan considers age 65 to be standard retirement age, but musicians with at least 5 years of service may begin receiving retirement benefits as early as age 55 with reductions to reflect that they will probably receive benefits for a longer time.

#### Pension Plan Stats<sup>2</sup>

As of Apr. 1, 2015, the most recent publicly available data.

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Active participants Retirees receiving pension benefits Inactive participants <sup>3</sup> Total participants	20,884 13,555 <u>15,508</u> 49,947
Average approximate annual pension benefit Total pension benefits paid for 2015 Contributions for 2015	\$11,000 \$150 million \$64 million
Assets for minimum required funding <sup>4</sup> Liability for minimum required funding <sup>4</sup> Unfunded liability for minimum funding Funded ratio (based on unrounded values)	\$2.1 billion \$2.7 billion \$0.6 billion 78%
Market value of assets Current Liability Unfunded Current Liability Funded ratio (based on unrounded values)	\$1.8 billion \$4.3 billion \$2.5 billion 42%

### **Plan Funded Status**



## **About Pension Finances**

For funding purposes, the discount rate used to compute liabilities represents the long-term expected return on assets; this plan uses 7.50%. In addition, asset fluctuations may be smoothed for funding purposes. For funding purposes, the plan is 78% funded for 2015.

Current Liability must be determined using a discount rate that is based on a 4-year average of 30-year Treasury securities; this plan's rate is 3.40% for 2015. Against the market value of assets, the plan's Current Liability is 42% funded for 2015.



For more Society of Actuaries' pension plan stats: https://www.soa.org/research-reports/2016/2016-multiemployer-pension-plan-stats/



For more Society of Actuaries' research on pension plans and retirement issues in general:

https://www.soa.org/research/topics/pension-res-report-list/

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Internal Revenue Code section 401(a)(17) limits the amount of compensation that may be used to calculate pension benefits. For 2015 and 2016 the limit is \$265,000; for 2017 it is \$270,000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The data source is the Department of Labor Form 5500 and its accompanying schedules as filed for the plan. Some figures may not add because of rounding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Former active participants who have not yet started to receive pension benefits

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> As reported by the plan's actuary on the plan's Form 5500 Schedule MB. Internal Revenue Code §§431–432 and accompanying regulations define minimum funding requirements for multiemployer pension plans.

 $<sup>^{5}</sup>$  Current liability for multiemployer pension plans is defined by Internal Revenue Code \$431(c)(6).

# 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 more than 28,000 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.

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**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.

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