

National Football League Players' Pension Plan Stats for 2016

NFL players have been covered by this pension plan since 1962. 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. The plan considers age 55 to be the standard retirement age. If a player waits until later to start his benefit, it is increased to reflect that he will likely receive it for a shorter time.

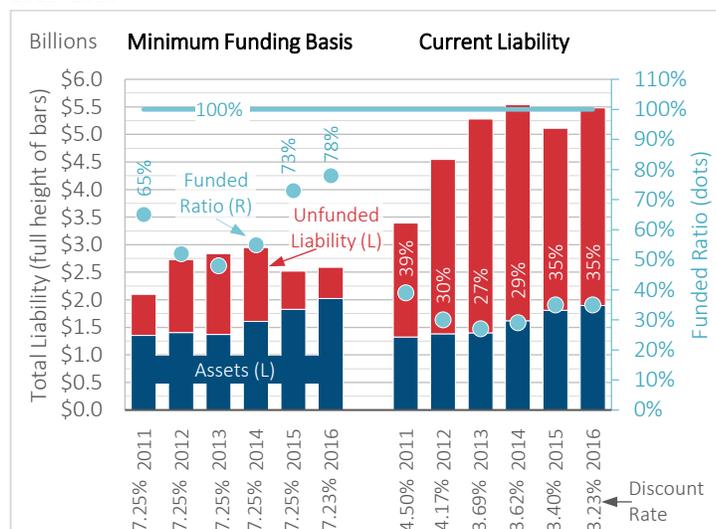
Pension Plan Stats¹

As of April 1, 2016

Active participants	2,220
Retirees receiving pension benefits	4,592
Inactive participants ²	<u>6,095</u>
Total participants	12,907
Average approximate annual pension benefit \$32,000	
Total pension benefits paid for 2016	\$149 million
Contributions for 2016	\$242 million
Assets for minimum required funding ³ \$2.0 billion	
Liability for minimum required funding	\$2.6 billion
Unfunded liability for minimum funding	\$0.6 billion
Funded ratio (based on unrounded values)	78%
Market value of assets \$1.9 billion	
Current Liability ⁴	\$5.5 billion
Unfunded Current Liability	\$3.6 billion
Funded ratio (based on unrounded values)	35%

Plan Funded Status

2011–2016



About Pension Finances

For funding purposes, the discount rate used to compute liabilities represents the long-term expected return on assets; this plan uses 7.23%. In addition, assets may be smoothed. For funding purposes, the plan is 78% funded for 2016.

The discount rate for Current Liability must be based on a 4-year average of 30-year Treasury securities; this plan's rate is 3.23% for 2016. Against the market value of assets, the plan's Current Liability is 35% funded for 2016.



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/>

¹ Based on publicly available Department of Labor Forms 5500 with accompanying schedules. Some figures may not add because of rounding.

² Former active participants who have not yet started to receive pension benefits.

³ 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.

⁴ Current Liability for multiemployer pension plans is defined by Internal Revenue Code §431(c)(6).

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