

# PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS NATIONAL PENSION FUND

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ADMINISTRATOR: WILLIAM T. SWEENEY, JR.

**To:** Participating UA Local Unions and Contributing Employers  
**From:** Board of Trustees of the Plumbers and Pipefitters National Pension Fund  
**Date:** May 11, 2015  
**Re:** Plan Summary Report for the 2013 Plan Year (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014)  
**EIN#:** 52-6152779  
**Plan #:** 001

In accordance with ERISA §104(d), the Trustees of the Plumbers and Pipefitters National Pension Fund (the “Plan”) are providing the following Plan Summary Report to unions that represent Plan participants and to employers obligated to contribute to the Plan. Except as otherwise specified, all information in this report pertains to the 2013 Plan Year, which ran from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. If you have any questions about this report, please contact the Fund office at the above phone number. You may also submit your inquiry via our website at [contactus.ppnpf.org](http://contactus.ppnpf.org).

## 1. Contribution Schedule and Benefit Formula Information

Benefits from the Plumbers and Pipefitters National Pension Fund are based on the amount of credited service earned, the participant’s age at retirement and the contribution rates in effect while the participant is in employment covered by the Plan. There are currently a variety of benefit schedules setting forth benefit amounts attributable to specific contribution rates. Most participants’ current benefit accruals are earned under Benefit Schedule D.

For service earned through December 31, 2004 a “final rate” plan benefit formula, which provides a benefit based upon the highest contribution rate negotiated for the local union/group for which the participant had at least 1500 hours of service, was in effect. Benefit Schedule A was the last benefit schedule in effect for “final rate” benefit determinations for pension credit earned through December 31, 2004. Other benefit schedules were typically in effect for participants who ended their covered employment at an earlier time period or who incurred a separation from employment during an earlier time period.

For service earned on or after January 1, 2005, benefits are earned under Benefit Schedules B, C, D, E, F or G depending upon which is applicable when the hours are worked, and upon the contribution rate(s) made to the Fund on behalf of the participant for those hours of work. The different Benefit Schedules are also applied based on contribution rate increase requests made by the Board to comply with additional funding needs and implementation of the Funding Improvement Plan. The amount of a Participant’s benefits is fixed for each year based on the pension credit earned in covered employment for that year and the contribution rate for the hours of contributions used to determine the pension credit for the particular year. The Benefit Schedules and complete benefit formula rules can be found in the *Full Text of the Plan* and the *Summary Plan Description* both of which are available on the Fund’s website at <http://www.ppnpf.org/>. From the Home Page, click on the *Plan Documents and Information* link.

## 2. Number of Contributing Employers

For the 2013 Plan Year, 4,595 employers were obligated to contribute to the Plan.

## 3. Employers Contributing More Than 5%

During the 2013 Plan Year, the Plumbers and Pipefitters National Pension Fund did not have any employers that contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the Plan.

## 4. Participants for Whom no Pension Contributions were made due to their last Employer’s having withdrawn from the Pension Plan

The chart below identifies the number of participants on whose behalf no contributions were made by the participants’ last employer during the 2013, 2012 and 2011 Plan Years due to the employer’s having withdrawn from the Pension Plan:

	7/1/13–6/30/14 Plan Year	7/1/12–6/30/13 Plan Year	7/1/11–6/30/12 Plan Year
Participants	2,323	2,262	2,061

## 5. Plan's Funding Status

Under the federal law known as the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA), a pension plan generally will be considered to be in "endangered" status if, at the beginning of the plan year, the funded percentage is less than 80%. The Plumbers and Pipefitters National Pension Fund was certified by the Fund actuary as being in endangered status under the PPA as of July 1, 2013 because its funded percentage was 76.85%. The funded status (as shown in the actuarial valuation) as of July 1, 2014 was 78.86%.

To comply with the PPA and improve the Plan's funding status the Trustees adopted and communicated a Funding Improvement Plan (FIP) in April 2010. The FIP is a series of actions formulated to reach PPA benchmarks for increases in the funding percentage within prescribed time periods. The FIP provided bargaining parties with the option of either increasing their contribution rate while maintaining the current level of benefits or having the benefit accrual level reduced. The FIP has been fully implemented, and the Fund's actuary has certified that the Fund is on track to meet the prescribed progress under the FIP.

The FIP is available on the Fund's website, [www.ppnpf.org](http://www.ppnpf.org). From the Home Page, click on the *Plan Documents and Information* link

## 6. Number of Employers that Withdrew in Preceding Plan Years

During the 2012 Plan Year (7/1/12–6/30/13) 26 employers withdrew from the Plan. As reported on Schedule R of the Form 5500, the actual or estimated amount of employer withdrawal liability assessed was \$2,144,875.13.

During the 2011 Plan Year (7/1/11–6/30/12) 25 employers withdrew from the Plan. As reported on Schedule R of the Form 5500, the actual or estimated amount of employer withdrawal liability assessed was \$141,817.32.

## 7. Transaction Information

No pension plans were merged into the Plumbers and Pipefitters National Pension Fund during the 2013 Plan Year.

## 8. Amortization Extension or Shortfall Funding Method Information

The Plan did not use the shortfall funding method (as described in ERISA §305) for the 2013 Plan Year. However, the funded status and minimum funding do reflect an amortization extension adopted by the Board of Trustees for the Plan Year beginning July 1, 2009.

9. **Surcharge:** The Plan is not and has never been in critical status and therefore has never assessed a surcharge to employers.

## 10. Right to Additional Information

Any contributing employer or participating union under the Plan may request from the Plan Administrator, in writing, a copy of the documents listed below, but not more than one time during any one 12-month period. The Administrator may charge a reasonable amount to cover the cost of providing the document requested.

- The Plan's most recent Form 5500
- The Plan's Summary Plan Description (revised October 2012) and/or the full text of the Plan (restated effective January 1, 2014, and amended effective November 5, 2014). Both of those documents are available on the Fund's website, <http://www.ppnpf.org/>. From the Home Page, click on the *Plan Documents and Information* link.