

#### **SERS Retirement Board Agenda** April 17, 2025

#### Click Link to Join Zoom Meeting:

https://ohsers.zoom.us/j/92072308858?pwd=is0b5qPOJsCSluzYcc3WThv9jY1ySh.1

Meeting ID: 920 7230 8858 Password: 12345

To join by phone, dial: (301) 715-8592 and enter the meeting ID: 920 7230 8858 and password: 12345 when prompted.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

1. Roll Call

#### **CONSENT AGENDA (R)**

- 2. Minutes of the March 20, 2025, Retirement Board meeting
- 3. Summary of Investment Transactions
  - February 1, 2025, to February 28, 2025
- 4. Retirement Report
  - Superannuations, Survivor Benefits & Transfers
- Special Cases

- 5. Disability Report
  - Approval of Disability Benefits
    - Approval of Appeal of Termination on Personal Appearance - Any Occupation
  - Disapproval of Disability Benefits
  - Termination of Disability Benefits -Any Occupation

#### **INVESTMENT REPORT**

- 6. Annual Portfolio Review Real Assets
- 7. Monthly Investment Report & Economic Update As of February 28, 2025

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- 8. Executive Director's Update
- 9. Review of Administrative Expenses
- 10. Review FY2026 Draft Administrative Budget ORSC Submission
- 11. Member Counseling Overview
- 12. Filing of Proposed Amended Administrative Rule (R)
- 13. Filing of Proposed Refiled Amended Administrative Rule (R)
- 14. Ballot Certification Employee Members (R)

#### **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE UPDATE**

15. Executive Session pursuant to R.C. 121.22 (G)(1) to discuss the employment and compensation of a public employee.

#### **HEALTHCARE UPDATE**

16. Healthcare Fund Sustainability and Retiree Participation Discussion

#### RETIREMENT REPORT

17. Executive Session pursuant to R.C. 121.22 (G)(5) to review applications for Disability Retirement Benefits (R) if needed

#### **BOARD COMMUNICATION AND POLICY ISSUES**

- 18. Calendar Dates for Future Board Meetings
- 19. Continued or New Business
  - Board Information Requests and Follow-up Items

#### ADJOURNMENT (R)

### FY2025 SERS Board Roll Call

#### **APRIL 17, 2025 CONSENT AGENDA**

#### 1. Minutes of the:

a. March 20, 2025, Retirement Board meeting

#### 2. Summary of Investment Transactions

a. February 1, 2025, to February 28, 2025

#### 3. Retirement Report

- a. Superannuations and Survivor Benefits and Transfers
- b. Special Cases

#### 4. Disability Report

- a. Approval of Disability Benefits
- b. Disapproval of Disability Benefits
- c. Termination of Disability Benefits Any Occupation
- d. Disapproval of Appeal of Termination on Personal Appearance Any Occupation

#### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

	A: i	NOVAL OF	DONOLINI AGENDA
Agenda for <b>Apr</b>	moved and _ il 17, 2025, which		seconded the motion to approve the Consent following items:
<b>1. Minutes</b> a. N	s <b>of the:</b> March 20, 2025, F	Retirement Boa	ard meeting
	ry of Investment February 1, 2025,		
3. Retirem	ent Report		
a. S	Superannuations	and Survivor E	Benefits and Transfers
	Special Cases		
b. [ c. ] d. [	Approval of Disab Disapproval of Dis Fermination of Dis	sability Benefit sability Benefit peal of Termir	ts ts – Any Occupation nation on Personal Appearance – Any Occupation
ROLL CALL:	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Catherine Moss Jeanine Alexan Jeffrey DeLeon James Haller James Rossler Aimee Russell Frank Weglarz Daniel Wilson Matthew King	der		

The nine hundredth and seventy-seventh meeting of the Retirement Board of the School Employees Retirement System was held in the boardroom at 300 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, and streamed via Zoom videoconferencing on Thursday, March 20, 2025.

#### Pledge of Allegiance

The SERS Retirement Board meeting convened at 8:34 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Roll Call

The roll call was as follows: Matthew King, Catherine Moss, Jeanine Alexander, James Haller, James Rossler, Aimee Russell, Frank Weglarz, and Daniel Wilson. Absent: Jeffrey DeLeone (excused). Also attending was Lisa Reid, representative of the Ohio Attorney General's Office. Various members of the SERS staff attended in person while other SERS staff members and members of the public attended virtually.

#### **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda for March 20, 2025, included:

- Minutes of the February 19, 2025 Annual Board Workshop.
- Minutes of the February 20, 2025, Retirement Board meeting.
- Summary of Investment Transactions for the period of January 1, 2025, to January 31, 2025.
- Retirement Report Superannuations, Survivor Benefits, and Transfers.
- Disability Report Approval of Disability Benefits, Termination of Disability Benefits, Termination of Disability Benefits Any Occupation, Approval of Appeal of Termination Any Occupation

James Haller moved and Jeanine Alexander seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda of the Retirement Board meeting held on Thursday, March 20, 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Yea: Catherine Moss, Jeanine Alexander, James Haller, James Rossler, Aimee Russell, Frank Weglarz, Daniel Wilson, and Matthew King. The motion carried.

#### **Investment Report**

#### Annual Portfolio Review - Private Credit

SERS Chief Investment Officer, Farouki Majeed, introduced Adam Messerschmitt and Brad Carr, SERS Investment staff members, who provided the Board with an overview of SERS' Private Credit investment portfolio.

Mr. Messerschmitt reported the private credit portfolio has a current market value of \$1.2B with 12 managers, 24 funds, and 1 co-investment. The Global Private Credit allocation is currently 6.1% of the total SERS retirement fund.

Mr. Messerschmitt continued, stating the private credit has a net return of 11.3% for the one-year period ending February 28, 2025, which outperformed the policy benchmark by 120 basis points or 1.2%. SERS invests in private credit to provide risk adjusted returns in excess of those provided by publicly traded fixed income securities and to generate a consistent cash yield. The performance objective is to provide returns in excess of the 90-day Treasury bill rate + 4.5%, net of fees. The Global Private Credit allocation is set at 5% with a permissible range of 3% to 7%.

Mr. Carr reported that the objectives for the private credit portfolio for 2025 are to:

- Manage the private credit allocation within the target allocation range while considering the pace of drawdowns for new investments and re-evaluate existing manager performance as new capital is raised.
- Build the private credit allocation in line with the implementation guidelines and ensure appropriate risk and return characteristics are present within the target allocation.
- Evaluate new investments with a cautious approach given the economic outlook and the rising interest rate
  environment, while focusing on increasing the cash yield of the portfolio and income distribution to the total fund.

- Evaluate new investment ideas within Asset Based Lending/Other to build the sub-asset class towards the target allocation.
- Review the appropriateness of the benchmark and recommend changes if necessary.

Following several questions, the Board thanked Mr. Messerschmitt and Mr. Carr for their presentation.

#### Quarterly Risk Report - As of December 31, 2024

SERS Chief Investment Officer, Farouki Majeed, introduced Investments team member Christopher Hyland, who joined Mr. Majeed in providing an update on the SERS Risk Report. Mr. Majeed and Mr. Hyland described the ways that risk is assessed and reported, including the use of standard deviation as the risk metric for individual asset classes and the total portfolio. They also described how different parts of the portfolio contribute different levels of risk and how asset classes taken together can produce lower risk through diversification. Mr. Hyland and Mr. Majeed noted that Public Equity and Private Equity are the largest providers of risk in the total portfolio. They also noted that the Public and Private Equity portfolios are expected to deliver higher returns compared to other asset classes. Mr. Hyland stated that the Total Fund's forecast risk was 10.09% at the end of the fourth quarter.

Mr. Hyland continued, reporting that the composition of the Fund's forecast risk by asset class changed slightly over the quarter. Global Equities' contribution to the Fund's forecast risk declined from 58.6% to 57.1%, mostly due to a 0.9% reduction in Global Equities' allocation from 43.7% to 42.8%. Global Equities and Private Equity together contributed 77.6% of the Fund's forecast risk as of December 31. Fixed Income contributed 2.7% of the Fund's forecast risk, despite making up 13.0% of Fund assets, demonstrating its risk-diversifying effect. The Overlay program reduced the Fund's risk by 4.3% due to its negative correlation with the rest of the Fund. Mr. Hyland also reported that the composition of the Fund's forecast risk by factor changed slightly over the quarter. Equity factors, arising principally in the Global Equities and Private Equity portfolios, contributed 73.3% of the Fund's forecast risk, down from 74.1% on September 30 and up from 72.5% in December 2023. Equity factors remain the largest source of the Fund's total risk.

Mr. Hyland stated that the Fund's active risk was 1.36% as of December 31, well below the policy limit of 3%, up slightly from 1.35% on September 30 and down from 1.47% in December 2023. Mr. Hyland continued, stating that forecast correlations show the expected co-movement of asset market values in the same (positive) or opposite (negative) direction.

Following a few questions, the Board thanked Mr. Hyland for his report.

#### Monthly Investment Report - As of December 31, 2024

Chief Investment Officer, Farouki Majeed, provided a brief update on the investment fund status for the month ending January 31, 2025. Mr. Majeed reported that the US economy growth was 2.3% in Q4, decelerating from 3.1% in Q3. Mr. Majeed continued, stating that the US labor market weakened, adding 143,000 jobs in January, significantly lower than the revised number of 307,000 in December 2024. Inflation continued to tick up to 3.0% in January, 0.1% higher than in December.

Mr. Majeed stated that Equity markets were mixed, and the US Fixed Income market was up to 2.07% in February. After several questions, the board thanked Mr. Majeed for his report.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

#### **ORSC Update**

SERS Executive Director Richard Stensrud reported that the ORSC met in March and Representative Adam Bird was appointed as Chair. SERS provided several ORSC-required reports, including the audit activity report, the pension fund valuation report, the health care program and valuation report, and the Iran/Sudan report.

#### **Advocacy Partners**

Mr. Stensrud reported that two stakeholder events are upcoming, the SERO annual meeting is scheduled to take place on May 5, 2025 and the annual meeting with OASBO will take place on May 23, 2025. Mr. Stensrud noted that a 'state of the union' report on SERS will be provided at those meetings. Mr. Stensrud stated that such meetings are an important way for SERS to provide transparency and assure accountability with SERS' stakeholders.

#### **Ohio General Assembly**

Mr. Stensrud reported that the state legislature reconstituted committees recently and there is no longer a House Pensions Committee. Instead, moving forward, consideration of pensions-related legislation will be done by the House Public Insurance and Pension Committee. Mr. Stensrud reported that meetings are being held with Committee Members to provide a status report on SERS and to discuss the things that differentiate SERS from the other systems.

#### **Federal Legislative Activity**

Mr. Stensrud reported that healthcare is expected to be an area of interest in the new Congress, including pharmacy benefit regulations and potential changes to Medicare and Medicaid. SERS staff will continue to monitor this situation and will keep the Board updated on any developments.

Mr. Stensrud continued noting that the Social Security Administration has been moving more quickly than originally expected to implement the recent legislation repealing the WEP/GPO. Mr. Stensrud noted that Social Security is updating their website with new information as it becomes available. Mr. Stensrud further noted that SERS is updating its retirement preparation presentations and counseling materials to help members understand how the changes might impact members.

#### Member and Employer Engagement

Mr. Stensrud reported on various programs through which SERS was engaging with SERS members and employers. Mr. Stensrud noted that there have been several webinars focused on preparing members for retirement and educational programs for employers.

#### **Review of Administrative Expenses**

Chief Financial Officer, Marni Hall, provided a brief update on SERS administrative expenses. Ms. Hall reported that a draft version of the FY2026 SERS budget will be sent to the ORSC. Ms. Hall noted the Finance team is forecasting the rest of the budget for FY2025 based on the last 9 months of actuals and meetings with each department. Actuals to date are on schedule, but medical and prescription claims are running higher than expected. Ms. Hall also stated that she will be providing expenses by vendor at future meetings. Following several questions, the Board thanked Ms. Hall for her report.

#### Discussion of Salary Growth Information for Preliminary FY2026 Budget

Mr. Stensrud provided the Board with information to assist in the Board in providing guidance on the level of salary budget growth to be incorporated in the upcoming budget.

He noted that annually, CBIZ, a compensation consultant, provides the Board with labor market salary data for the markets against which SERS' positions are benchmarked along with labor market-based recommendations on the annual salary structure adjustment (i.e., the salary ranges for all positions) and total salary budget adjustment. Making these adjustments annually is considered a best practice for maintaining the compensation structure and objectives established in the most recent compensation study.

Mr. Stensrud noted that SERS' employees do not receive automatic step increases or cost of living adjustments and that an annual merit increase was the primary source of salary growth. While CBiZ did not recommend a specific level of merit increase as part of their salary budget adjustment recommendation, they did recommend that the merit growth be approximately 1.2% more than the structure adjustment.

Mr. Stensrud explained that based on the CBiZ recommendations, scenarios were modeled to illustrate the fiscal impact of various combinations of structure, merit and total salary budget growth levels. Mr. Stensrud reviewed the scenarios with the Board and answered several questions. After a robust discussion, it was consensus of the Board that the elements of the third scenario (2.7% structure adjustment, 3.9% merit component, and 4.71% salary budget growth (with a new FTE)) would be used for purposes of developing a draft budget which will then be submitted to the ORSC. Mr. Stensrud advised that the Board would be provided with a copy of the draft budget to be submitted to the ORSC at the next meeting and then presented with a proposed budget for Board consideration in May.

The Board took a break at 9:52 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:03 a.m.

#### **Age Reduction Factor Table Discussion**

Mr. Stensrud reported on the identification, analysis and proposed remediation of a benefit administration issue that has recently been discovered, as well as the steps that are being implemented to assure that similar situations do not occur in the future.

Mr. Stensrud explained that the issue centers on the actuarial-based reduction that is made to a retiree's service retirement benefit when the person retires earlier than reaching eligibility for an unreduced benefit. This actuarial 'age factor' reduction is made pursuant to a table prepared by SERS' actuary, which is built into SERS' pension calculation and administration system. That table is supposed to be reviewed and revised as appropriate by the actuary every five years as part of the guinquennial experience study.

Mr. Stensrud explained that in the case at hand the updated table was not properly submitted and installed in the pension administration system (first in MARS, then in SMART) following the five year experience studies in 2016 and 2021. As a result, from August 1, 2017 to the present, retirees who were subject to the age factor reduction have received a larger reduction to their benefit than they should have.

Mr. Stensrud explained that extensive analysis has been undertaken to identify the retirees who experienced this over-reduction, the level of the over-reduction in each case, and how long the over-reduction has gone on. Through this analysis, the amount necessary to correct for the over-reduction has been identified and will be paid to each impacted benefit recipient. Pursuant to federal tax law requirements, interest will be added to the corrective payment.

Mr. Stensrud reported that the difference between the correct reduction and incorrect reduction was small and the problem was not something that was easily identifiable. As evidence, Mr. Stensrud noted that benefit calculations undergo annual internal and external audit review and had also been subject to an actuarial audit review. That said, the issue was very disappointing and regrettable. Mr. Stensrud noted that a number of measures will be implemented to help assure that a similar situation does not occur in the future.

Mr. Stensrud stated that with the Board's approval of certain elements of the remediation plan, corrective payments will go out in April and May. Most of the recalculated payments are standard but some are more complicated and require manual recalculation. Mr. Stensrud said that payment of all corrections is targeted to be complete by the end of the fiscal year.

Questions and a robust discussion followed including whether some portion of the internal cost incurred by SERS to address the problem, or the interest added to the corrective payments, should be reimbursed by the actuary who failed to provide the updated age reduction tables. Mr. Stensrud advised that the Board will be provided with the number of hours worked to correct this issue and that discussions can follow on what amount SERS

might seek to recover. Mr. Stensrud also advised the Board that they will be provided with a copy of the communication that will go out to affected members regarding this issue.

#### Age Reduction Factor Tables – Implementation of Tables and Adjustment of Benefits

It was moved by James Rossler and seconded by Frank Weglarz that SERS will fully correct operational oversights pursuant to the IRS's Self Correction Program under the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (EPCRS) as follows:

- 1. Implement the age reduction factor table approved by the Board in March 2017, with an effective date of August 1, 2017;
- 2. Adopt effective April 1, 2022, the age reduction factor table recommended by SERS' actuary CavMac and presented at the March 2025 Board meeting, and implement the table;
- 3. Make retirees who are affected by the change in age reduction factor tables whole as required by EPCRS by adjusting their current monthly benefit and remitting retroactive payment for underpaid benefits; and
- 4. Include simple interest at a rate of 3%, a rate recommended by SERS' actuary CavMac, on retroactive payments for retirees with a benefit effective date before July 1, 2024.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Yea: Catherine Moss, Jeanine Alexander, James Haller, James Rossler, Aimee Russell, Frank Weglarz, Daniel Wilson, and Matthew King. The motion carried.

#### Filing of Proposed Amended Administrative Rule

Legal Counsel discussed with the Retirement Board filing with JCARR the following proposed amended rule: 3309-1-29 Purchase of Service Credit; out-of-state and other. James Haller moved and Catherine Moss seconded that proposed amended rule 3309-1-29 be filed with JCARR as discussed. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Yea: Catherine Moss, Jeanine Alexander, James Haller, James Rossler, Aimee Russell, Frank Weglarz, Daniel Wilson, and Matthew King. The motion carried.

#### Final Filing of Proposed New and Amended Administrative Rules

Legal Counsel discussed with the Retirement Board filing with JCARR the following proposed new and amended rules: 3309-1-07 Application for payment of accumulated contributions; 3309-1-09 Federal Taxation; 3309-1-11 Membership determinations; 3309-1-20 Validity of marriage; 3309-1-61 Reemployment covered by section 3309.345; and 3309-1-70 Contribution based benefit cap; that have been reviewed by JCARR and are ready for final adoption by the Board.

Daniel Wilson moved and Jeanine Alexander seconded that proposed new and amended rules 3309-1-07, 3309-1-09, 3309-1-11, 3309-1-20, 3309-1-61 and 3309-1-70 be filed with JCARR as discussed. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Yea: Catherine Moss, Jeanine Alexander, James Haller, James Rossler, Aimee Russell, Frank Weglarz, Daniel Wilson, and Matthew King. The motion carried.

#### Remote Board Meeting Attendance Policy

Mr. Stensrud reported as discussed at the February Board meeting, recently enacted House Bill 257 (HB 257) authorizes Ohio pension system Board members to remotely attend a limited number of Board meetings every year. HB 257 also directs that to take advantage of this authority the Board must adopt a policy that comports with certain attendance and participation requirements. Mr. Stensrud stated that a proposed Remote Board Meeting Attendance Policy is being presented for consideration that tracks the new statute (R.C. 3309.091) created by HB 257.

Mr. Stensrud stated should the Board wish to adopt the Policy, a resolution to do so is included. HB 257 is effective April 9, 2025, so the resolution has that date as the effective date of the Policy. The Policy would then be in effect for the April Board meeting.

It was moved by Catherine Moss and seconded by James Rossler to adopt a Remote Board Meeting Attendance Policy. The Policy shall be effective April 9, 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Yea: Catherine Moss, Jeanine Alexander, James Haller, James Rossler, Aimee Russell, Frank Weglarz, Daniel Wilson, and Matthew King. The motion carried.

#### **Retirement Report**

There was no executive session for the retirement report.

#### **Audit Report**

SERS Chief Audit Officer, Jeff Davis, provided an update on the work being done in the Audit Committee. Several audit projects have been completed and several are in progress. Mr. Davis also reported that there are new audit standards that will be implemented. Those changes have been added to the Audit Charter and that charter is available for review.

#### **SERS Audit Committee Charter Amendments**

It was moved by Catherine Moss and seconded by Jeanine Alexander to accept the recommendation of the SERS Audit Committee and amend the SERS Audit Committee Charter effective March 20, 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Yea: Catherine Moss, Jeanine Alexander, James Haller, James Rossler, Aimee Russell, Frank Weglarz, Daniel Wilson, and Matthew King. The motion carried.

#### **Board Communication and Policy Issues**

#### **Board Information Request & Follow Up Items**

The board also requested that CavMac be contacted regarding reimbursement of work hours and interest cost incurred by SERS due to the Age Factor Reduction Table issue.

#### **Calendar Dates for Future Board Meetings**

The Board members reviewed the 2025 meeting calendar with no further comment.

#### CALENDAR DATES FOR SERS BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2025 \*\*

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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June 17, 2025 – 2:30 p.m. (Tues.) ** Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday **
September 17, 2025 - 2:30 p.m. (Weds.)
December 17, 2025 – 2:30 p.m. (Weds.)
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#### **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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June 18, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Weds.) ** Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday **

July 17, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Thurs.) ** Special Meeting **

September 18, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Thurs.)

December 18, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Thurs.)
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#### TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

June 18, 2025 – 12:30 p.m. (Weds.) \*\* *Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday* \*\* September 19, 2025 – 12:30 p.m. (Thurs.)

December 19, 2025 – 12:30 p.m. (Thurs.)

#### **BOARD MEETINGS**

April 17 – 18, 2025 - 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
May 15 – 16, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
June 18, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Weds.) \*\* Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday \*\*
July 17 – 19, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
September 18 – 19, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
\*\* Board Picture Day \*\*
October 16 – 17, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
November 20 – 21, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
December 18 – 19, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
\*\* Please note that these dates and times are tentative.

#### **Adjournment**

Board Chair, Matthew King, moved to adjourn to meet on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. for the next SERS regularly scheduled Retirement Board meeting.

The SERS board meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.		
Matthew King, Board Chair	Richard Sten	srud, Secretary

#### SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT BOARD OF OHIO

#### Summary of Investment Transactions to be Reported to the Retirement Board for Ratification in April

The following is a summary of the investment transactions made during the period of February 1, 2025, through February 28, 2025. A detailed list of these transactions can be found in the Board Agenda mailed prior to the Retirement Board Meeting.

#### A. PURCHASES

Asset Class	Approximate Cost (in millions)
Global Equities	\$174.7
Fixed Income	508.9
Private Equity Capital Calls	17.3
Real Estate Capital Calls	0.3
Infrastructure Capital Calls	9.9
Opportunistic & Tactical	0.1
Global Private Credit	19.9
Cash Equivalents	413.4

#### B. SALES

Asset Class	Approximate Net Proceeds (in millions)	Approximate Gain/(Loss) (in millions)
Global Equities	\$173.2	27.7
Fixed Income	461.7	(12.2)
Private Equity Distributions	15.1	n/a
Real Estate Distributions	n/a	n/a
Infrastructure Distributions	5.4	n/a
Opportunistic & Tactical	6.8	3.2
Global Private Credit	n/a	n/a
Cash Equivalents	418.6	n/a



Presented by Investment Staff

Meeting Date: April 2025

Paul Cheng and Michael Browning

### Real Assets

# **Implementation Guidelines**



#### Role

- Asset Classes: Real Estate, Infrastructure
- Role: 1) Diversification; 2) Inflation protection; 3) Yield (Income Return)

### Objective

- Outperform benchmarks on a net of fees basis
  - Real Estate: NCREIF Property Index (NPI)
  - Infrastructure: Quarterly (4) smoothed CPI + 1.20% per quarter

### Allocation

- Real Estate target allocation is 13% with a range of 10-15%
- Infrastructure target allocation is 7% with a range of 5-10%

### Risk Management

• Focus on (1) Operating and stabilized assets; 2) Moderate leverage; 3) Institutional quality managers and assets

# Real Estate Portfolio Summary



### \$2.17 Billion in Market Value

- Real Estate: 11.0% of Total Fund
- Unfunded commitments: \$153 million
- New commitments: \$54 million in 2024
- Redemptions submitted: \$428 million over past 4 years
- 14 general partners, 23 funds\*, 2 co-investments, 3 listed funds:
  - 2 ranked A
  - 4 ranked B
  - 5 ranked C
  - 3 not ranked Less than 3-year track record

#### Performance

- (2.82)% net return for 1-year period ending February 28, 2025, which outperformed the policy benchmark (NPI) by 7 basis points (bps)
- 2024 Real Estate Income return increased to 4.31%, up from 2.57% in 2023

### Portfolio Changes in 2024

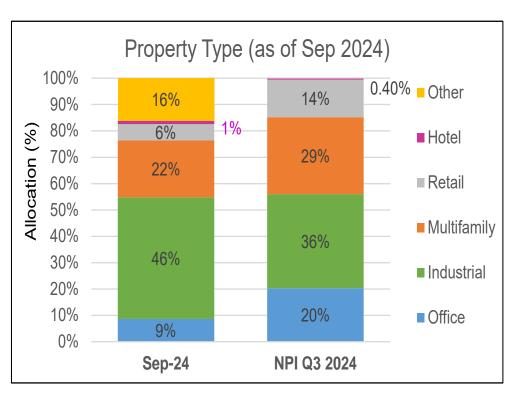
- Redeeming from open-end real estate funds
- New deployments in real estate debt to capitalize on market downturn

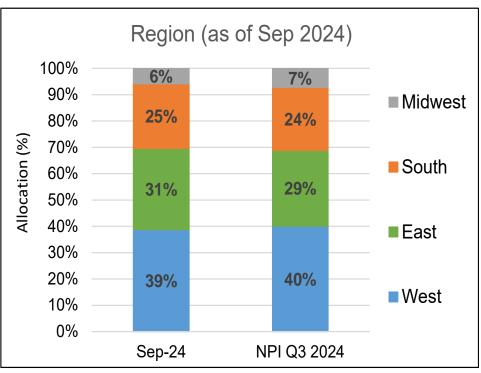


# **Property Type and Geography**



- Fundamentals across most property types have improved over the past 12 months.
- Overweight Industrial and Other (Niche)
  - Underweight Office, Retail, and Multifamily
- Region: SERS' US real estate geographic exposure is relatively inline with the benchmark





# Real Estate Performance



- Challenging 2023-24 period but recovery under way. Outperformance over longer periods
- Total Real Estate: Outperformed policy benchmark (NPI) in 1, 5 and 10-year periods by 7, 110 and 98 bps
- Private Real Estate Core: Outperformed in all periods
- Private Real Estate Non-Core: Outperformed in 10-year period
- Public Real Estate: Outperformed in 1, 3, 5-year periods, but much more volatile

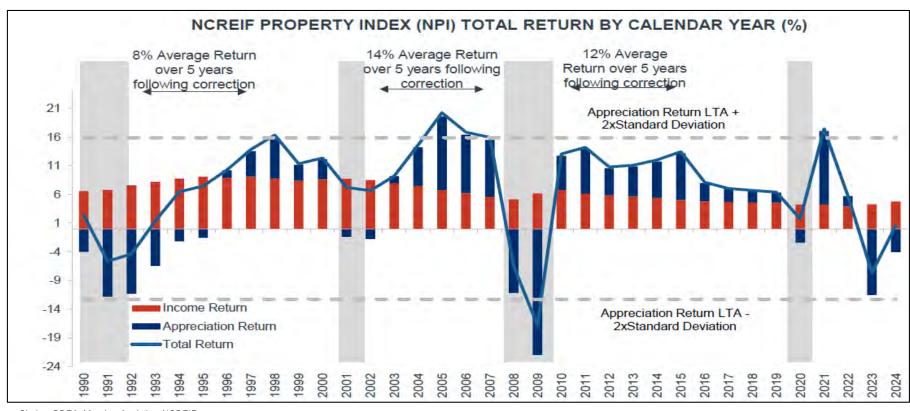
Asset Class / Strategy	Allocation	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Private Real Estate Core	83.4%	(2.38%)	1.83%	5.16%	7.21%
Private Real Estate Non-Core	13.2%	(7.57%)	(2.65%)	0.98%	5.96%
Public Real Estate	2.2%	15.87%	3.08%	6.96%	5.94%
Farmland and Legacy	1.2%	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Real Estate*	100.0%	(2.82%)	1.04%	4.48%	6.92%
Policy Benchmark (NPI)	NA	(2.90%)	1.07%	3.39%	5.95%
Excess Return	NA	0.07%	(0.03%)	1.10%	0.98%

Real asset returns are one quarter in arrears

# Strong Recovery After Past Downturns



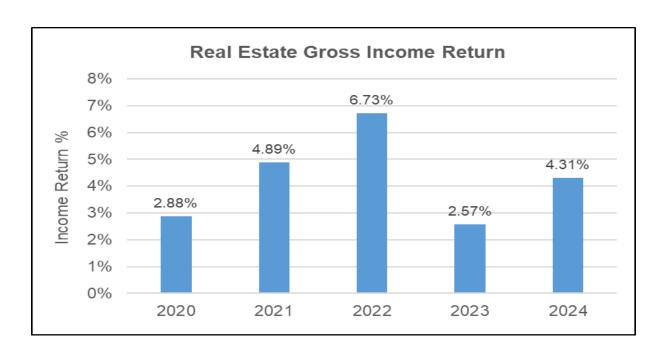
- Strong recovery followed prior market downturns:
  - 1990s: 8% returns for 5 years after early 1990s correction
  - 2000s: 13% returns for 5 years after early 2000s correction
  - 2010s: 12% returns for 5 years after GFC
- PREA NPI forecasts (Q1-2025): Gains of 5.5% in 2025 and 7.3% in 2026





# Real Estate Gross Income Return

- Real Estate gross income return rebounded to 4.31% in 2024
  - More favorable macro tailwinds and managers' refocus on income
  - Portfolio maturation
- Medium and long-term income target of 4.0 4.5% is sustainable due to improved market conditions and focus on investments that can generate cash yield



### Real Estate

# **Real Estate Benchmark Update**



8

- NCREIF created a new real estate benchmark to better reflect the investable universe
  - NPI Classic: Apartment, Industrial, Office, Retail, and Hotel
    - SERS' current policy benchmark
    - Limited details beginning in Q1-2026
  - NPI Expanded: Apartment, Hotel, Industrial, Office, Retail, Self-Storage, Data Center, Student Housing, Senior Housing, and Other
- Evaluate suitability of new benchmark NPI Expanded in Spring 2025

### Performance Comparison: NPI Classic vs NPI Expanded

As of Decem	ber 2024	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	15Y
NPI Classic	Income	4.79%	4.32%	4.28%	4.49%	4.97%
	Appreciation	-4.21%	-4.98%	-1.12%	1.13%	2.71%
	Total	0.43%	-0.82%	3.13%	5.66%	7.78%
NPI Expanded	Income	4.77%	4.33%	4.30%	4.53%	5.01%
	Appreciation	-4.04%	-4.76%	-1.00%	1.20%	2.78%
	Total	0.59%	-0.58%	3.27%	5.77%	7.88%

Source: NCREIF

# Infrastructure Portfolio Summary



### \$1.34 Billion in Market Value

- Infrastructure: 6.8% of Total Fund
- Unfunded commitments: \$664 million
- New commitments: \$515 million in 2024
- 7 general partners, 9 funds, 7 co-investments & continuation funds, 1 ETF portfolio:
  - 4 ranked as A
  - 2 ranked as B
  - 1 not ranked Less than 3-year track record

### Performance

- 9.44% net return for the one-year period ending February 28, 2025, which outperformed the policy benchmark (CPI+) by 121 basis points
- 3 and 5-year net returns were 8.27% and 8.69%, beating benchmark by 486 and 325 bps

### Portfolio Changes in 2024

- Increased deployment pacing to reach near-term 7% target
- Diversified portfolio strategies and managers
- Grew co-investments for improved fee economics

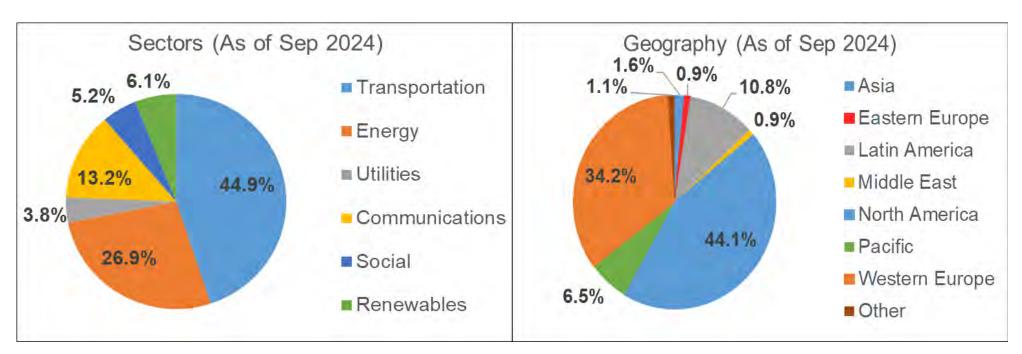
Real asset returns are one quarter in arrears

### Infrastructure

# **Portfolio Overview**



- Sector Allocation: Large exposure to transportation and energy sectors. Communications and renewables allocations have doubled in past 4 years. Diversification is key goal
- Geographical Allocation: Primarily North America (44%) and Western Europe (34%)
- Co-investments / Continuation funds:
  - 2024: 3 new co-investments / continuation funds, and 2 co-investment sidecars
  - Total: 5 co-investments, 2 continuation funds, and 4 co-investment sidecars



<sup>•</sup> Several of the above mentioned sidecars have been IC-approved but have not had legal closing yet.



# Infrastructure Performance



- Total Infrastructure: Outperformed the policy benchmark in all time periods
- Co-Investment & Continuation Funds: Growing part of portfolio
- Public Infrastructure: New addition to portfolio; provides liquidity

	Allocation	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception
Private Infrastructure Core & Non-Core	92.2%	9.51%	8.32%	8.72%	10.06%
Private Infrastructure Co-Invest & CF	5.9%	6.17%	5.64%	NA	5.19%
Public Infrastructure	2.0%	NA	NA	NA	12.56%
Total Infrastructure	100.0%	9.44%	8.27%	8.69%	10.05%
Policy Benchmark (CPI+)	NA	8.23%	3.41%	5.44%	6.47%
Excess Return	NA	1.21%	4.86%	3.25%	3.58%

Note:

CF: Continuation Fund

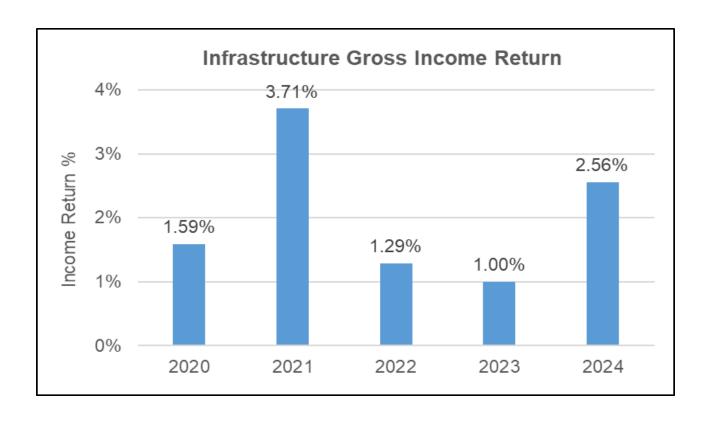
Real asset returns are one quarter in arrears. Infrastructure policy benchmark prior to January 2024 was NPI Since Inception date: 10-1-2015

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# Infrastructure Gross Income Component Return



- Infrastructure gross income return was 2.56% in 2024
- Staff expects income return to grow over time from recent commitments that focus on cash yield
- Long term target of 3-5%

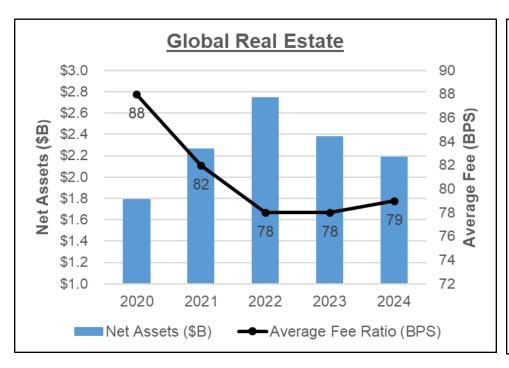


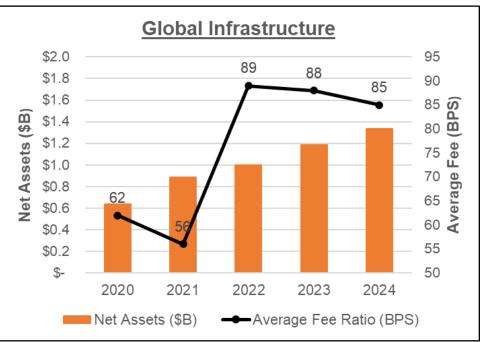
### Real Assets

# **Fees in General Downtrend**



- Overall fee load for Real Assets has declined as a percentage of net assets since 2020
  - Real Estate: Declining from 88 bps in 2020 to 79bps in 2024
  - Infrastructure: After increase in 2021-22, fees have trended down from 89bps in 2022 to 85bps in 2024. Anticipate more economies of scale over time





# Goals for 2025 - 2026



### Real Estate

- Reduce Real Estate allocation to parity with Infrastructure
- Evaluate new strategies that can benefit from market correction
- Explore additional co-investment opportunities
- Evaluate a benchmark change from NPI Classic to NPI Expanded

### Infrastructure

- Grow Infrastructure allocation to 7%, with a long-term goal of parity with Real Estate
- Enhance sector diversification
- Explore additional co-investment opportunities

#### Income and Inflation Protection

- Focus on income component of returns over the long run
- Focus on investments with economic resiliency but with inflation protection characteristics

# **Definitions**



Cap Rate - Net Operating Income divided by Purchase Price or Current Market Value

**Continuation Fund** – Usually a single asset fund that are provides liquidity for specific assets.

**Core** – Substantially leased, institutional quality assets located in major metropolitan markets. Core strategies usually have a focus on income return and use low to moderate amounts of leverage.

**Farmland** – Private land used to grow permanent and annual crops throughout the United States. Core assets will be leased to farmers with scale and expertise on long-term contracts.

**Infrastructure** – The essential facilities and services upon which the economic productivity of society depends. Infrastructure involves the movement of goods, people, water, and energy.

**NCREIF** – The National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries is an industry association that provides the benchmarks industry participants use.

**Niche** – Also referred to as "Other" or "Alternatives". Niche refers to non-traditional property types like data centers, life science (aka lab space), manufactured housing, medical office, senior housing, single family rental, storage, and student housing.

**NPI (NCREIF Property Index)** – An aggregate of United States investment manager members property data. NPI provides benchmark returns for the Real Asset portfolio.

**Non-Core (Value-Add and Opportunistic)** – Assets that require repositioning and optimization, and in the case of Opportunistic, may require significant re-development and ground-up construction. Compared to core strategies, non-core strategies generally use higher amounts of leverage, involve greater risk due to the uncertainty of cash flows, and have higher return expectations.

**REITs** – Publicly-traded real estate companies. REIT securities provide immediate access to real estate assets but exhibit greater volatility than privately-held properties.

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Prepared by Investment and IAD Staff

Farouki Majeed, Chief Investment Officer

Meeting Date: April 2025



# **Investment Agenda**

- Annual Portfolio Review Real Assets
- Monthly Investment Report (February 28, 2025)

# SEIO

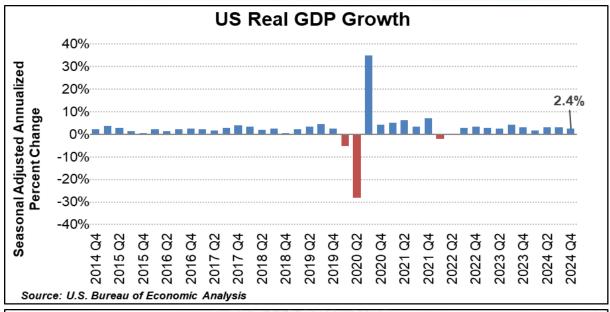
## **Economic and Financial Market Outlook**

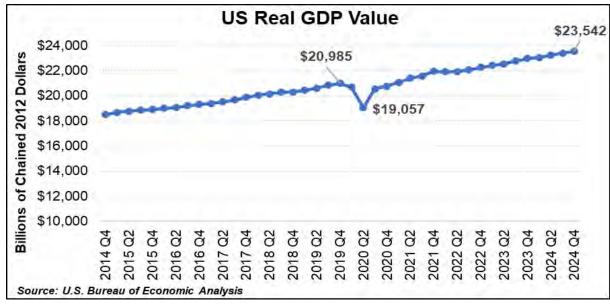
- The US GDP grew 2.4% in Q4 and 2.8% in CY2024. Personal consumption expenditures and government spending, which increased by 4.0% and 3.1% respectively, were the main contributors in Q4. The BCEI's January 2025 consensus projected the GDP growth to decelerate to 2.0% in 2025 amid tariff and sticky inflation concerns. (Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis and Blue Chip Economic Indicators (BCEI)).
- The US labor market added 151,000 jobs in February, slightly lower than expectations. In February, employment increased in health care, finance, transportation, and social assistance sectors while the federal government sector declined. The unemployment rate inched up to 4.1%. The labor force participation was 62.4%, slightly lower than 62.6% in the previous month. (Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Department of Labor).
- US headline inflation was 2.8% in February, 0.2% lower than January, as the energy index declined 0.2% annually. The food index increased 2.6% in the last 12 months. Core inflation decreased by 0.2% to 3.1% and stayed in a tight range of 3.1-3.3% over the previous nine months. Transportation services and rent inflation remained elevated at 6.0% and 4.2%, respectively, for the last 12 months. (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics).
- The 10-year Treasury nominal yield was 4.23% as of March, almost unchanged from the previous month. The January current 10-year real yield, estimated by the gap between the 10-year Treasury nominal yield and current headline inflation, was 1.44%, lower than the historical average by 0.35%. The Fed maintained interest rates in the range of 4.25-4.50%.
- S&P Case-Shiller 20-City home price index was up 0.07% for the month, gaining 4.67% for the last 12 months as of January 2025.
- The Consumer Sentiment Index released by Thomson Reuters and the University of Michigan was 57.0 in March, materially down from the previous month and a year ago by 11.9% and 28.2%, respectively. The US Economic Surprise index was a negative 4.4, while the Global reading improved to a positive 8.0 in March. The January Leading Economic Index (LEI) issued by the Conference Board was 101.1, down 0.3% for the month and 1.0% for the 6-month period.
- In February, US Manufacturing PMI dipped to a contraction level of 49.0 while Service PMI increased to a solid expansion level of 53.5. Global Manufacturing PMI decreased to 50.3 in March, indicating a slower expansion. (Source: Institute for Supply Management and S&P Global).
- Equity markets were mixed in March. The US market (Russell 3000) and Non-US Developed markets (MSCI World ex-USA) were down 5.83% and 0.58%, respectively, while Emerging markets (MSCI EM) were up 0.63%.
- The US fixed income market, Bloomberg US Universal Bond Index, was down 0.02% in March.



## **US Real Gross Domestic Product**



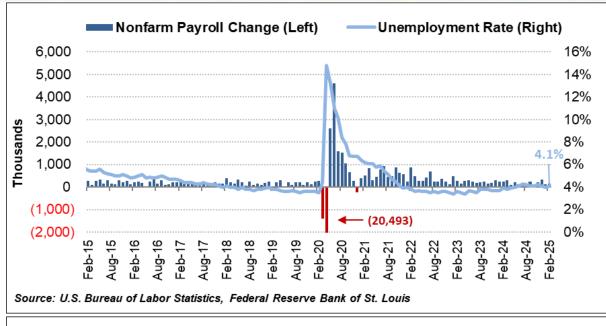


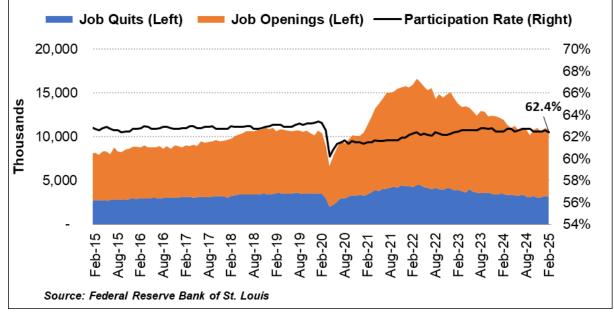




# **US Labor Market**

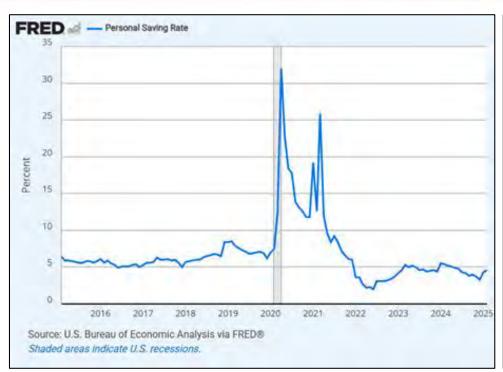


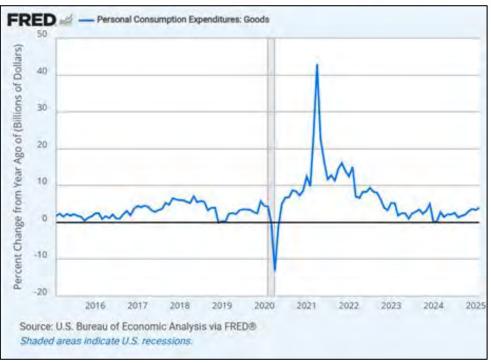




# **Personal Savings Rate & Personal Expenditures: Goods**





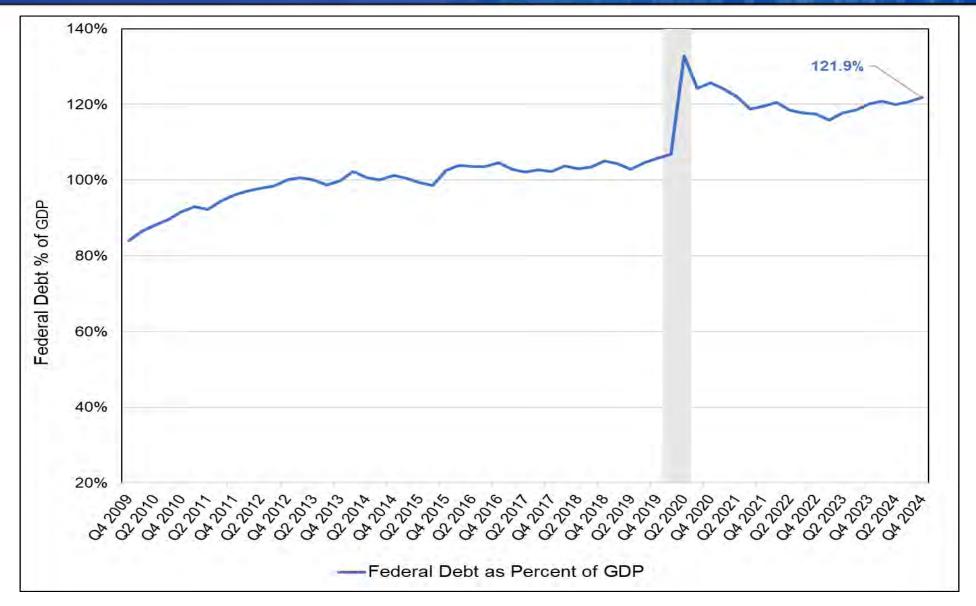


Date	Annual Personal Savings Rate
Jun-21	8.4%
Jun-22	2.0%
Jun-23	5.0%
Jun-24	4.8%
Feb-25	4.6%

Date	Personal Consumption Expenditures: Goods Change from Prior Year
Jun-21	16.5%
Jun-22	8.3%
Jun-23	1.0%
Jun-24	2.1%
Feb-25	4.0%

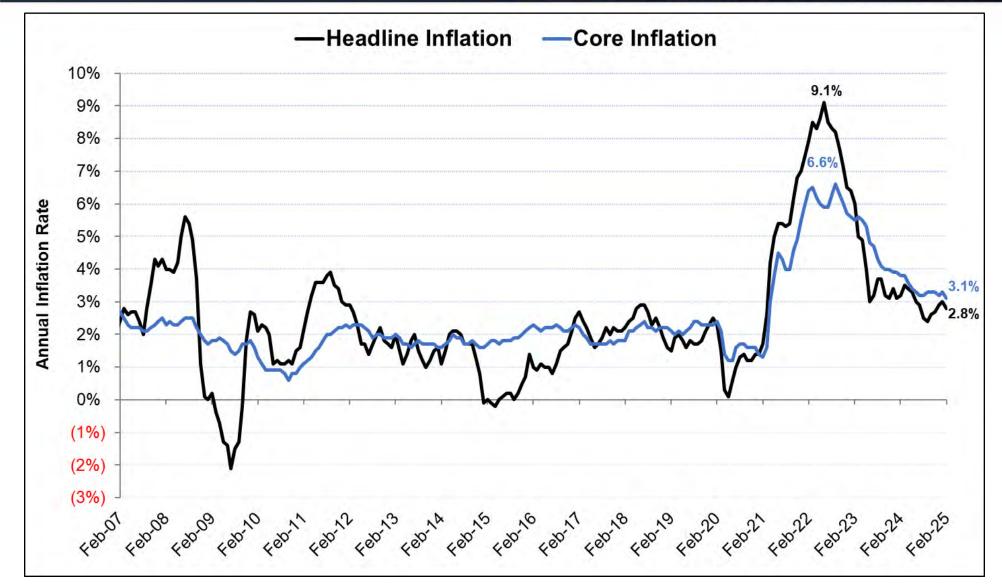
# **Federal Debt as Percent of GDP**





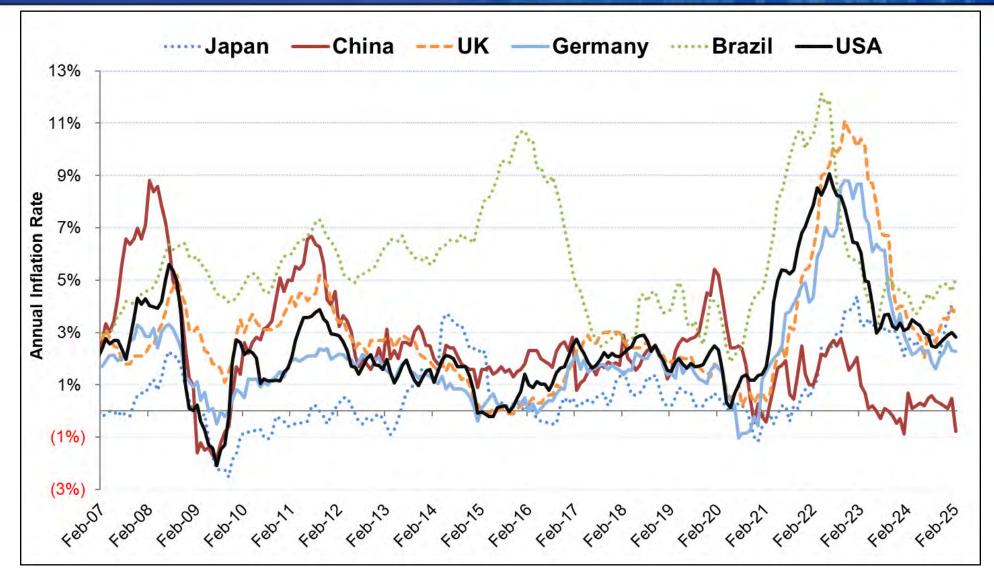
# **US Inflation**





# **Global Headline Inflation**



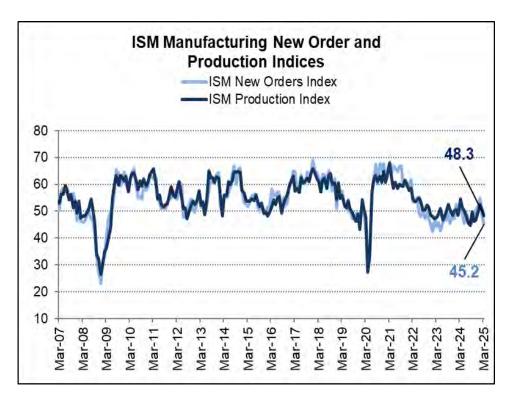


	Japan	China	UK	Germany	Brazil	USA
Feb-25	3.7	-0.8	3.7	2.3	5.1	2.8



#### **US & Global Manufacturing Activities**



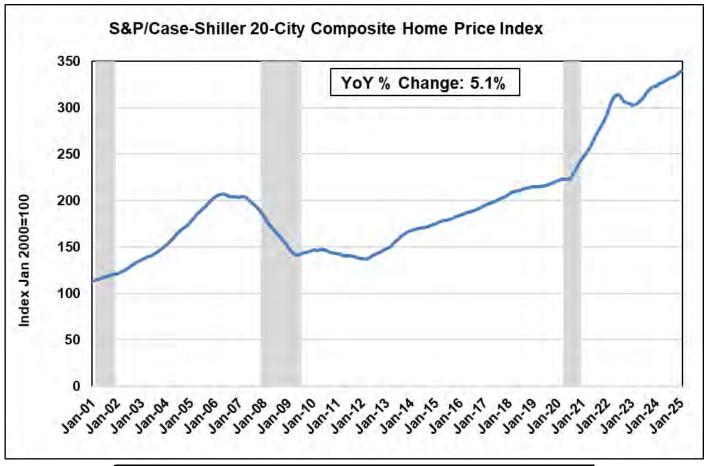






## **US Housing Market**



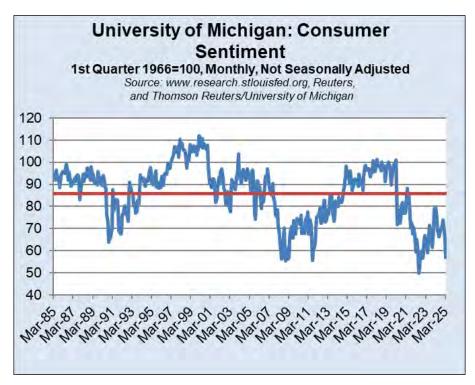


Date	S&P Case-Shiller 20-City Home Price Index January 2000 = 100, Seasonally Adjusted
Jul-21	269.39
Jul-22	312.25
Jul-23	312.64
Jul-24	330.83
Jan-25	339.34

#### **ECONOMY**

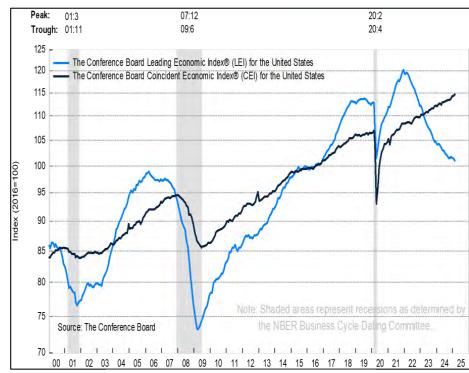


#### **Consumer Sentiment**



Index of Consumer Sentiment							
Mar-24	Feb-25	Mar-25	M-M Change	Y-Y Change			
79.4	64.7	57.0	-11.9%	-28.2%			

#### The Leading Economic Index (LEI)



Shaded areas represent US recessions

ı	Index Jan-25	Feb-25		6-Month Percent	
ı		ouii 20	10020	Percent Change	Change (Sep-Feb)
	LEI	101.4 r	101.1 p	-0.3	-1.0



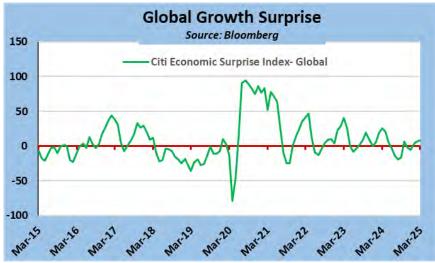




Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis via FRED® Shaded areas indicate U.S. recessions.

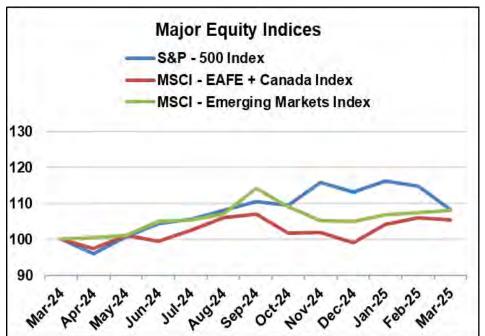


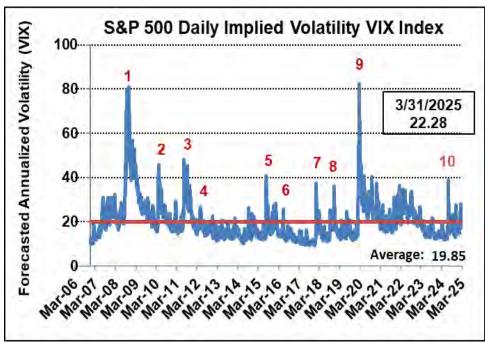




# SETS

### MARKETS **Equity**





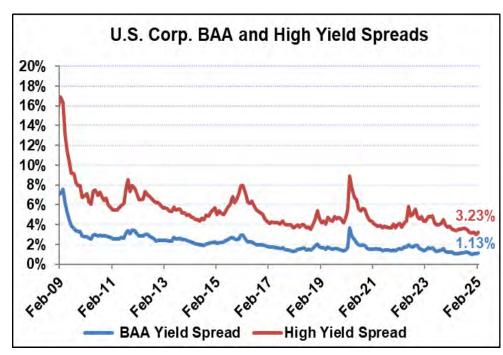
	Return as o	of 3/31/2025
	1 Year	FYTD
S&P 500 Index	8.25	3.80
MSCI - EAFE + Canada Index	5.30	5.94
MSCI - Emerging Markets Index	8.09	2.94

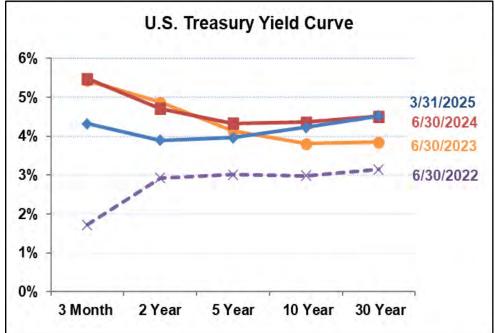
2008 (Nov.) Financial Crisis S&P 500: -48.8%
 2010 (May) Flash crash; Europe/ Greece debt S&P 500: -16%
 2011 (Aug.) US downgrade, Europe periphery S&P 500: -19.4%
 2012 (June) Eurozone double dip S&P 500: -9.9%
 2015 (Aug.) Global slowdown, China, Fed S&P 500: -12.4%
 2016 (Feb.) Oil crash, US recession fear, China S&P 500: -10.5%
 2018 (Feb.) Inflation, trade, tech S&P 500: -10.2%
 2018 (Dec.) Interest rate hike, trade tension, global slowdown S&P 500: -10.5%
 2020 (Mar.) Coronavirus, S&P 500: -23.7%
 2024 (Aug.) Crowded FX (Japanese Yen) trade, recession fear S&P 500: -6.0%

#### **MARKETS**

### **Fixed Income**



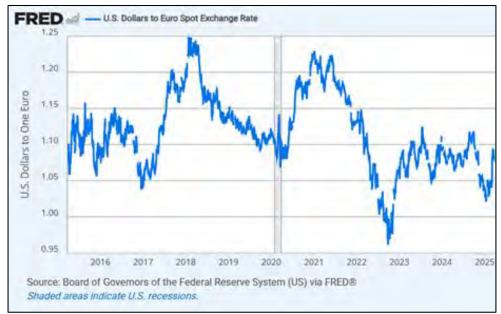


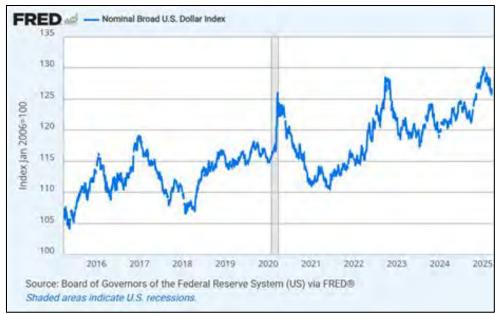


#### **MARKETS**

## **Foreign Exchange**







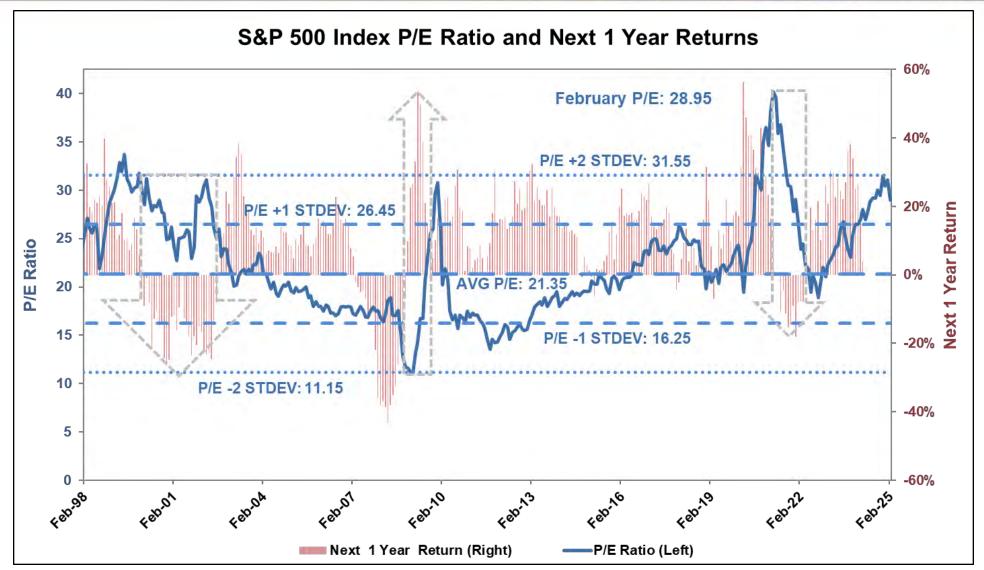
Date	U.S. / Euro Foreign Exchange Rate U.S. Dollars to One Euro
June-21	1.18
June-22	1.05
June-23	1.09
June-24	1.07
March 28, 2025	1.08

	Nominal Broad U.S. Dollar
Date	Index January 2006=100
June-21	112.85
June-22	121.05
June-23	119.89
June-24	124.52
March 28, 2025	126.66

Sources: www.research.stlouisfed.org

## **US Equity**

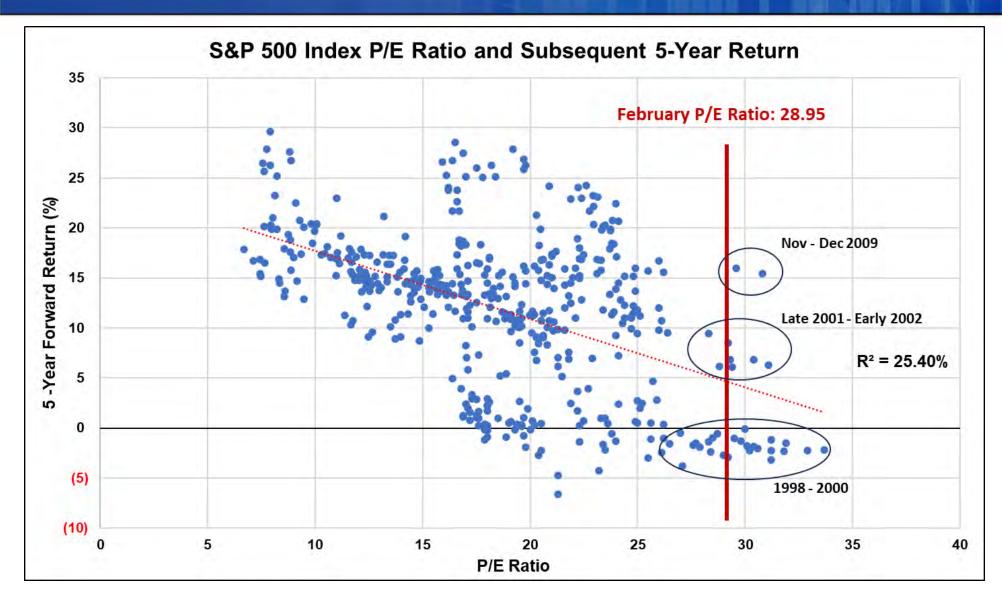




## SELO

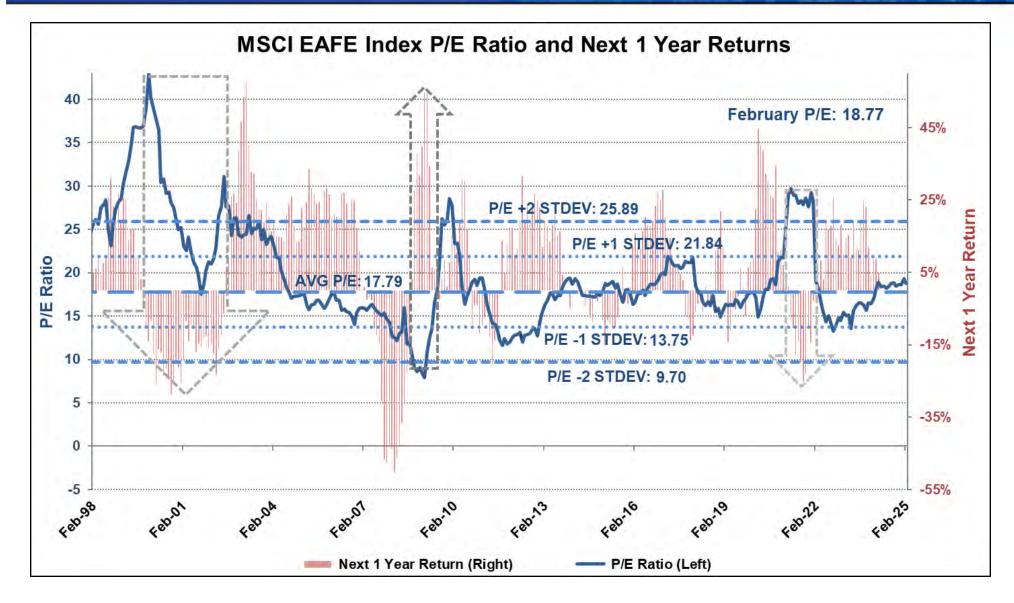
#### VALUATION

## **US Equity**



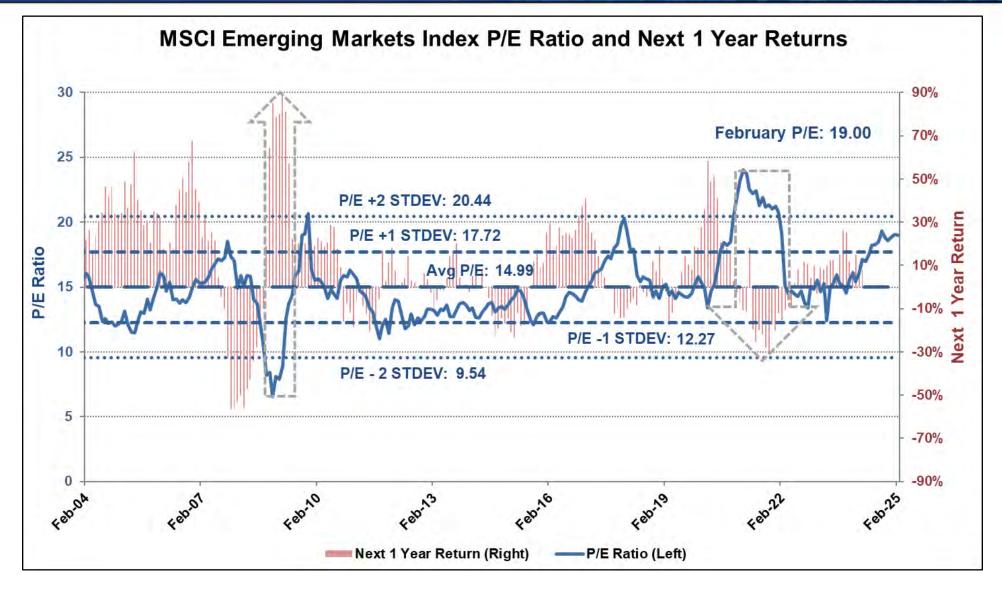
## **Non US Developed Market Equity**





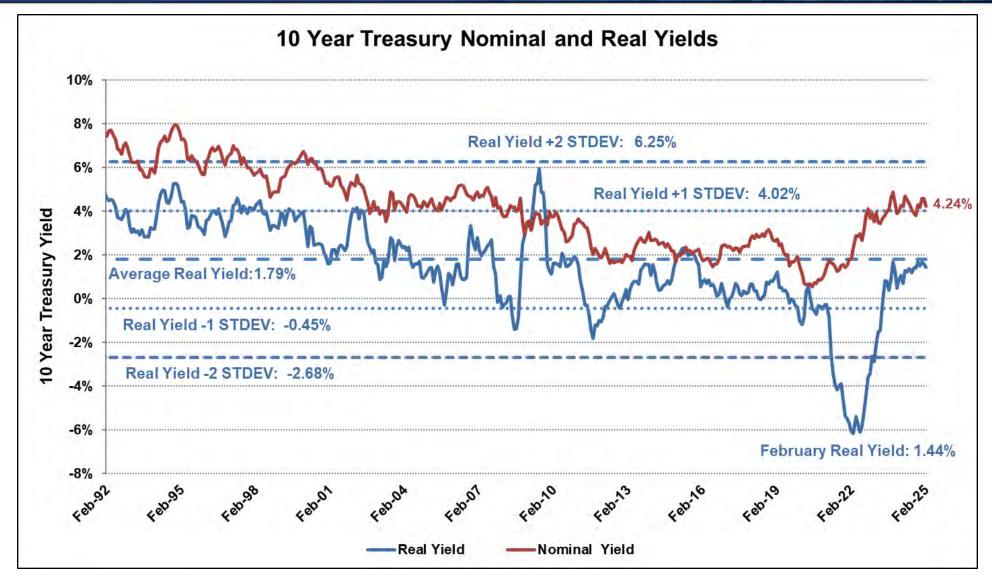
## **Emerging Market Equity**





## **US Treasury Bonds**

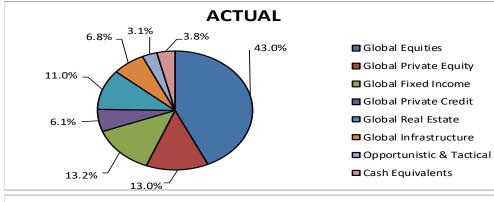


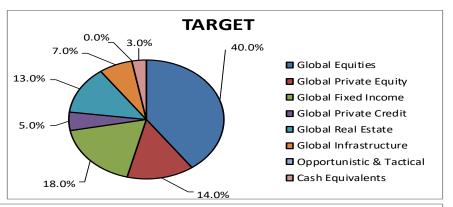




#### **Total Fund Asset Allocation**

Asset Class	Market Value \$	Actual	Target	Range
Global Equities	8,529,226,865	43.0%	40.0%	35% - 45%
Global Private Equity	2,581,805,306	13.0%	14.0%	11% - 17%
Global Fixed Income	2,613,077,092	13.2%	18.0%	13% - 23%
Global Private Credit	1,201,056,004	6.1%	5.0%	3% -7%
Global Real Estate	2,177,556,605	11.0%	13.0%	10% - 15%
Global Infrastructure	1,348,584,598	6.8%	7.0%	5% - 10%
Opportunistic & Tactical	620,165,454	3.1%	0.0%	0% - 5%
Cash Equivalents	748,383,942	3.8%	3.0%	1% - 5%
Short-Term	1,369,357	0.0%	2.0%	
Russell EA Overlay	19,890,330	0.1%	0.0%	
Direct Rebalance Overlay	6,247,702	0.0%	0.0%	
Transition / Operational Account	1,088,731	0.0%	0.0%	
Currency Overlay	32,839,570	0.2%	0.0%	
SERS Cash	686,948,252	3.5%	0.0%	
Total Fund	19,819,855,865	100.0%	100.0%	





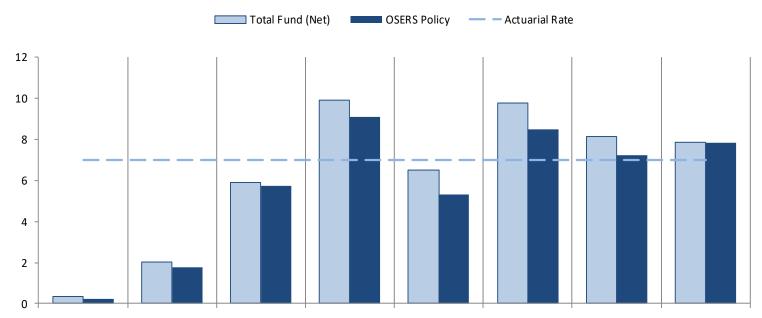


## SEIC

#### **Total Fund Performance**

## **Current Benchmark:** 40% MSCI ACWI (Net Dividends)





#### Actuarial Rate

(7.0% effective 07/01/2021, adopted 04/15/2021)

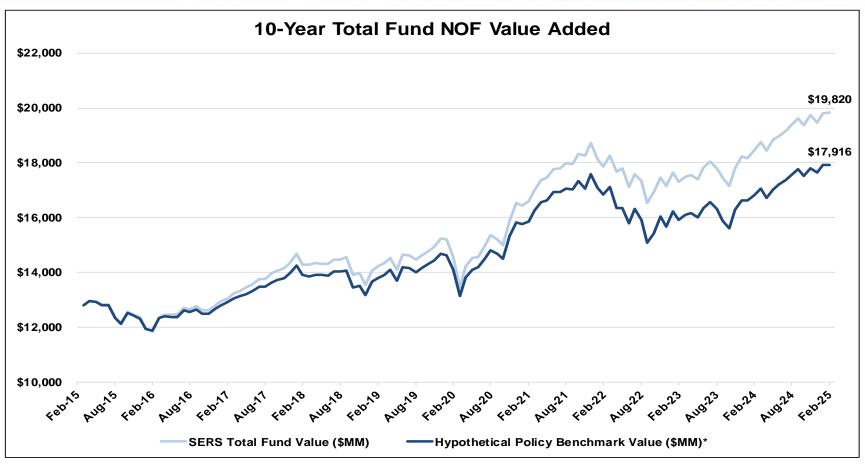
	1 Month	CYTD	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	ITD*
Total Fund (Gross)	0.37	2.05	6.34	10.63	7.27	10.45	8.84	8.45
Total Fund (Net)	0.35	2.02	5.90	9.88	6.50	9.74	8.14	7.90
OSERS Policy	0.22	1.76	5.73	9.11	5.32	8.49	7.21	7.83
Value Added (Net of Fee)	0.13	0.26	0.17	0.77	1.19	1.25	0.93	0.07
Estimated Cumulative Net Value Added (\$MM)**	\$26.1	\$49.6	\$31.4	\$142.0	\$695.8	\$1,202.4	\$1,904.1	]

<sup>\*</sup>ITD is Inception date 10/1/1994 (30 years and 5 months)

<sup>\*\*</sup>For each period, calculated as the difference between the actual change in fund assets and the hypothetical change in fund assets under a benchmark-returns scenario.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Assumes portfolio in benchmark-returns scenario is rebalanced monthly to target weights after deducting calculated net cash flow, with no allowance for fees.

#### **Total Fund Performance**



Source: BNY Mellon GRS

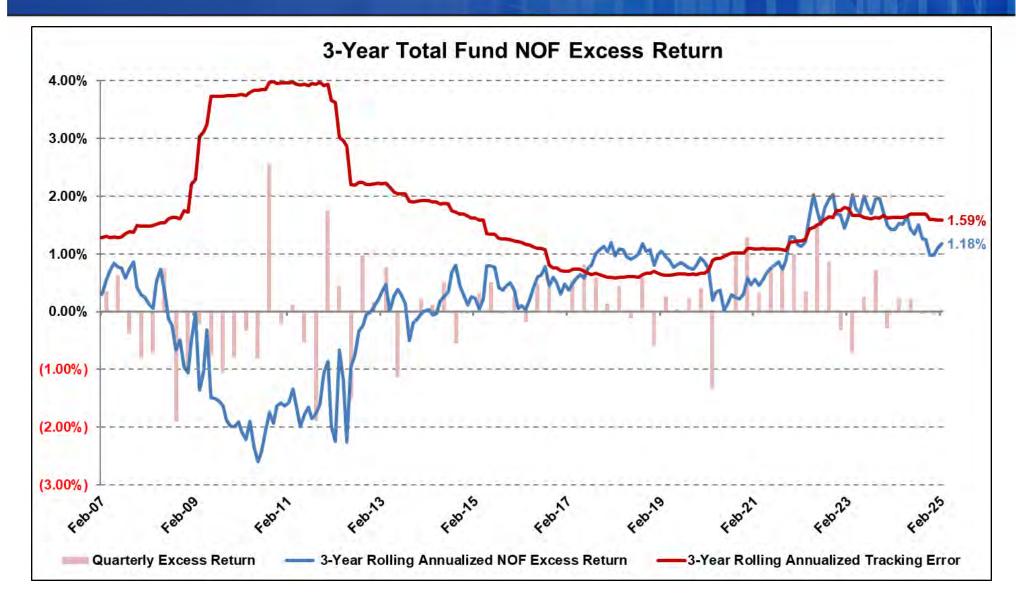
 ${\it *Calculated as the hypothetical change in fund assets under a policy benchmark-returns scenario.}\\$ 

	Fiscal Year Net Excess Return (%)									
FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	
(0.22)	0.33	1.50	0.86	0.06	(0.64)	2.66	3.01	0.23	0.90	

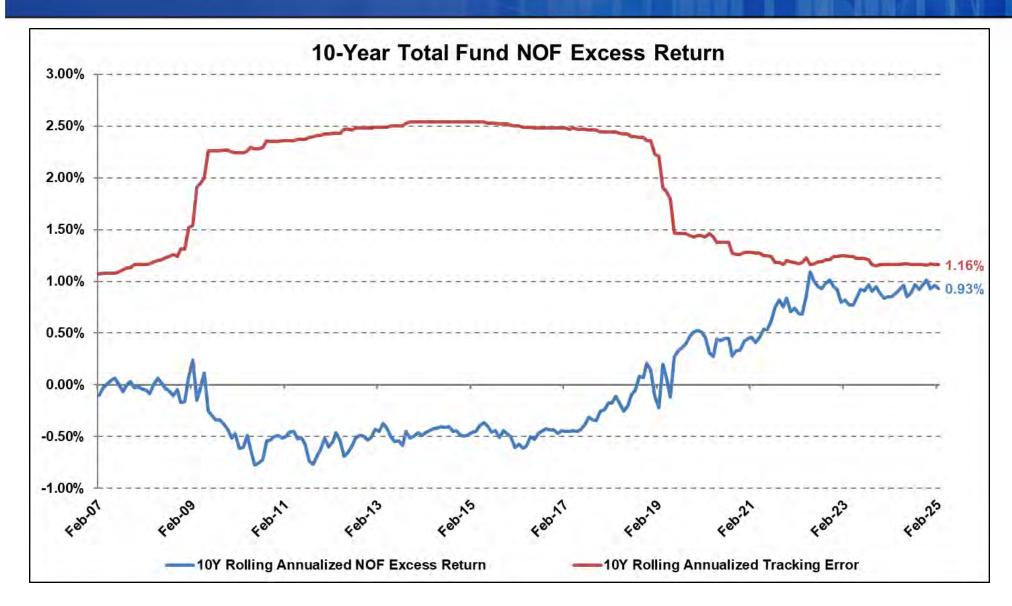
<sup>\*</sup>Calculated as the hypothetical change in fund assets under a policy benchmark-returns scenario.

<sup>\*</sup>Assumes portfolio in benchmark-returns scenario is rebalanced monthly to target weights after deducting calculated net cash flow, with no allowance for fees.

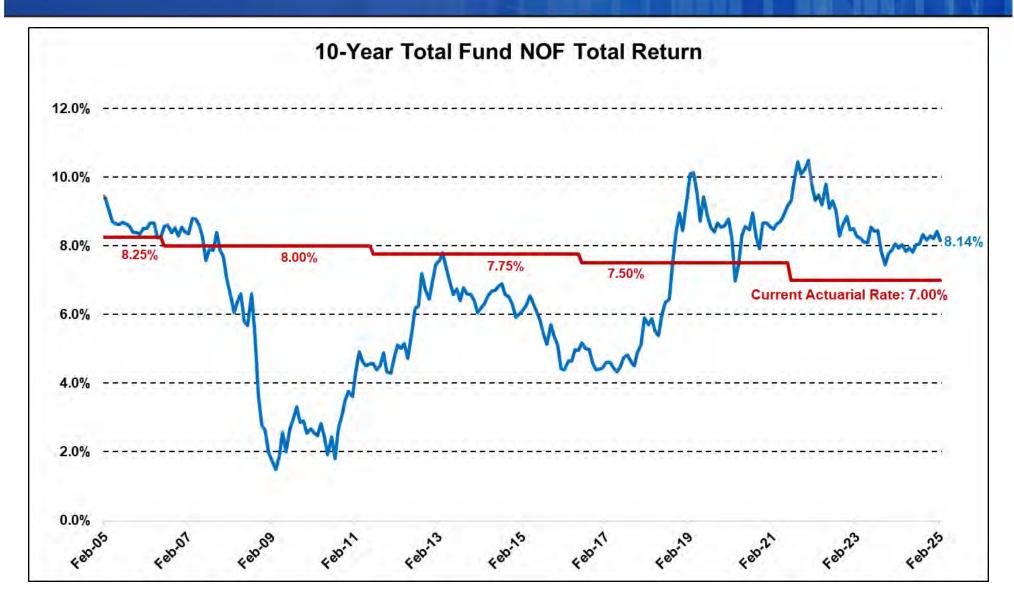
### **Total Fund Performance**



### **Total Fund Performance**

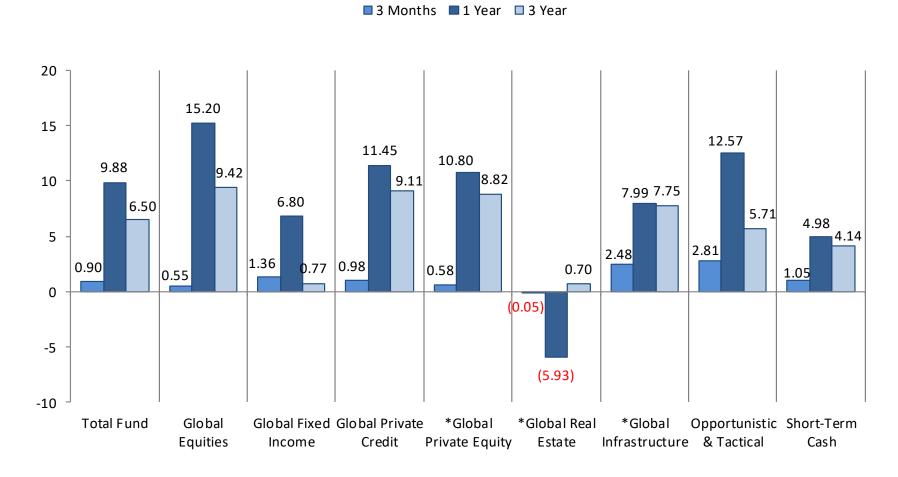


### **Total Fund Performance**





### **Total Fund and Asset Class Performance (Net)**



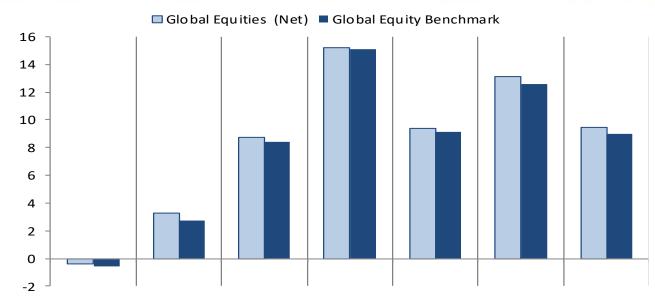
<sup>\*</sup> Global Private Equity, Global Real Estate, and Global Infrastructure results are as of 12/31/2024 Source: BNY Mellon GRS

# SETS

## **Global Equities Performance**

#### **Current Benchmark:**

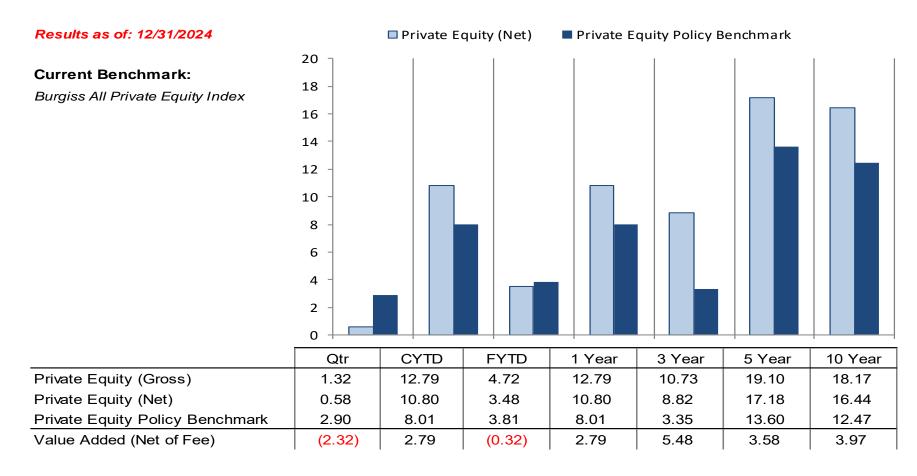
MSCI ACWI (Net Dividends)



	1 Month	CYTD	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Global Equities (Gross)	(0.32)	3.27	8.87	15.49	9.74	13.47	9.78
Global Equities (Net)	(0.36)	3.24	8.71	15.20	9.42	13.14	9.45
Global Equity Benchmark	(0.60)	2.73	8.45	15.06	9.16	12.59	8.97
Value Added (Net of Fee)	0.24	0.51	0.26	0.14	0.26	0.55	0.47
Regional US Equity	(1.89)	1.25	9.94	16.93	10.87	15.40	11.84
Russell 3000 Index	(1.92)	1.18	10.31	17.53	11.59	16.12	12.36
Value Added (Net of Fee)	0.04	0.07	(0.37)	(0.61)	(0.72)	(0.72)	(0.53)
Regional Non-US Equity	0.99	5.34	4.91	9.16	4.79	8.71	6.02
Custom Non-US Equity BM	1.39	5.47	5.32	9.65	4.62	7.50	4.80
Value Added (Net of Fee)	(0.40)	(0.13)	(0.41)	(0.49)	0.16	1.21	1.23



### **Global Private Equity Performance**

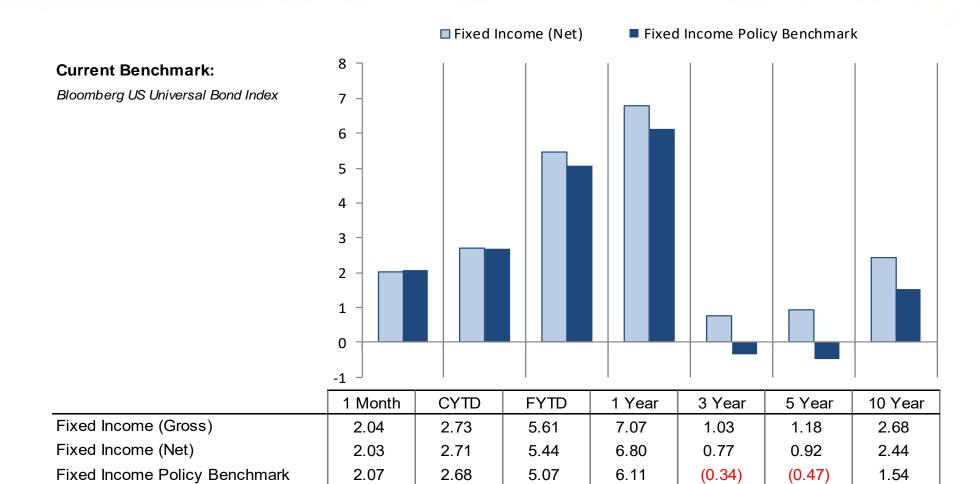


Source: BNY Mellon GRS

The difference between Gross and Net is management fee only. Performance based fees are captured in the Gross return. Global Private Equity performance is reported one quarter in arrears.



#### **Global Fixed Income Performance**



(0.04)

0.02

0.37

0.69

Source: BNY Mellon GRS

Value Added (Net of Fee)

1.38

0.90

1.10

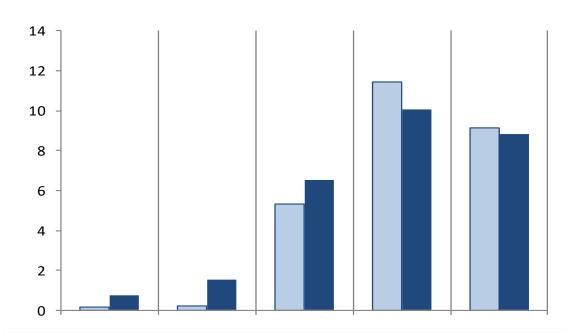


### **Global Private Credit Performance**

☐ Global Private Credit (Net) ☐ Global Private Credit Policy Benchmark

#### **Current Benchmark:**

90 Day T-Bill (1q lag) + 4.5%



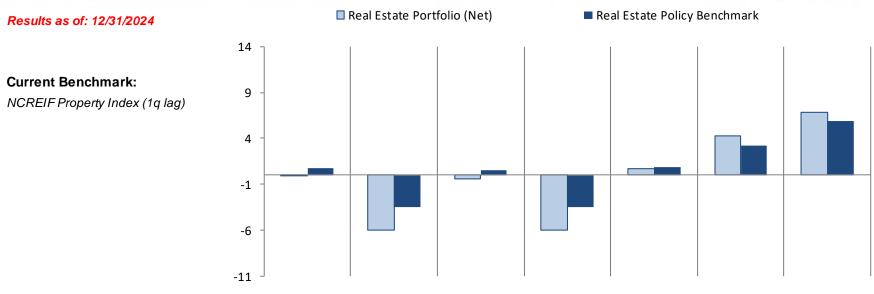
	1 Month	CYTD	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year
Global Private Credit (Gross)	0.18	0.23	6.06	13.00	10.63
Global Private Credit (Net)	0.16	0.22	5.33	11.45	9.11
Global Private Credit Policy Benchmark	0.75	1.53	6.54	10.03	8.85
Value Added (Net of Fee)	(0.59)	(1.32)	(1.21)	1.42	0.26

Source: BNY Mellon GRS

The difference between Gross and Net is management fee only. Performance based fees are captured in the Gross return.



### **Global Real Estate Performance**



	Qtr	CYTD	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Real Estate Portfolio (Gross)	0.14	(5.15)	0.02	(5.15)	1.53	5.15	7.87
Real Estate Portfolio (Net)	(0.05)	(5.93)	(0.40)	(5.93)	0.70	4.26	6.87
Real Estate Policy Benchmark	0.78	(3.47)	0.52	(3.47)	0.87	3.26	5.88
Real Estate Value Added (NOF)	(0.83)	(2.46)	(0.93)	(2.46)	(0.18)	1.00	0.99
Real Estate Core (Net)	0.34	(5.92)	(0.24)	(5.92)	1.64	4.99	7.14
Real Estate Policy Benchmark	0.78	(3.47)	0.52	(3.47)	0.87	3.26	5.88
Real Estate Core Value Added (NOF)	(0.44)	(2.45)	(0.77)	(2.45)	0.77	1.73	1.26
Real Estate Non-Core (Net)	(1.50)	(7.34)	(2.20)	(7.34)	(2.52)	0.93	5.89
Real Estate Policy Benchmark	0.78	(3.47)	0.52	(3.47)	0.87	3.26	5.88
Real Estate Non-Core Value Added (NOF)	(2.29)	(3.87)	(2.73)	(3.87)	(3.40)	(2.33)	0.01

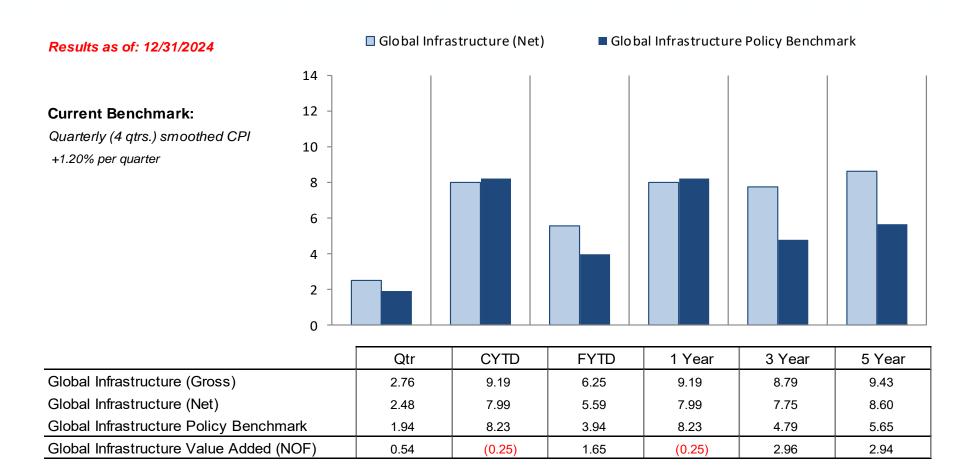
Source: BNY Mellon GRS

The difference between Gross and Net is management fee only. Performance based fees are captured in the Gross return.

Global Real Estate performance is reported one quarter in arrears.



#### **Global Infrastructure Performance**



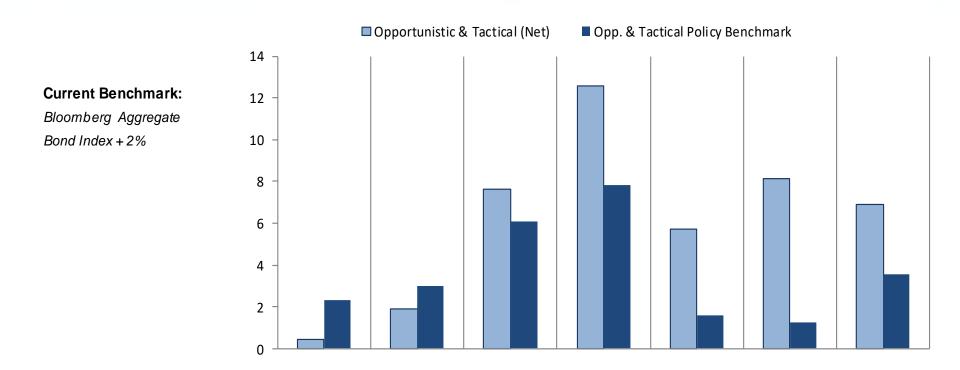
Source: BNY Mellon GRS

The difference between Gross and Net is management fee only. Performance based fees are captured in the Gross return.

Global Infrastructure performance is reported one quarter in arrears.

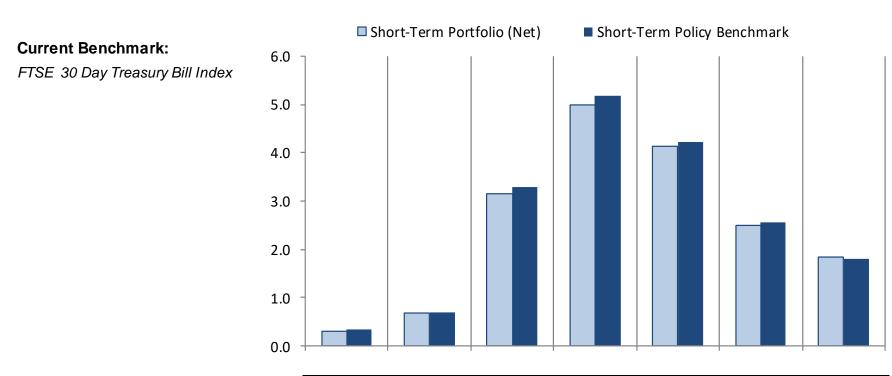


## **Opportunistic & Tactical Performance**



	1 Month	CYTD	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	
Opportunistic & Tactical (Gross)	0.43	1.93	8.15	13.75	6.83	9.34	8.28	
Opportunistic & Tactical (Net)	0.43	1.93	7.61	12.57	5.71	8.12	6.92	
Opp. & Tactical Policy Benchmark	2.32	3.00	6.06	7.81	1.57	1.26	3.58	
	(1.89)	(1.07)	1.55	4.77	4.14	6.86	3.33	

### **Short-Term Performance**



	1 Month	CYTD	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Short-Term Portfolio (Gross)	0.31	0.68	3.16	4.98	4.14	2.49	1.85
Short-Term Portfolio (Net)	0.31	0.68	3.16	4.98	4.14	2.49	1.85
Short-Term Policy Benchmark	0.33	0.70	3.30	5.18	4.22	2.56	1.81
Value Added (Net of Fee)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.14)	(0.20)	(80.0)	(0.07)	0.04



#### Overlay Pertormance

	Qtr	CYTD	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Overlay Cumulative Net Value Added (\$MM)	\$3.9	\$3.9	(\$27.6)	(\$47.9)	(\$76.8)	(\$29.8)	(\$12.5)
Overlay Cumulative Net Value Added (%)	0.01	0.01	(0.17)	(0.41)	(0.16)	(0.05)	(0.02)



### **Proposed Investment Agenda - Next Meeting**

- Wilshire Quarterly Performance Report (March 31, 2025)
- Quarterly Investment Report (March 31, 2025)
- FY26 Annual Investment Plan draft discussion
- FY26 Investment Department Incentive Program (possible vote)

#### School Employees Retirement System

## Memo

To: Retirement Board

From Chris Collins

cc: Richard Stensrud, Karen Roggenkamp

**Date:** April 4, 2025

Re: Federal Legislative Report

### WINDFALL ELIMINATION PROVISION (WEP) AND GOVERNMENT PENSION OFFSET (GPO) UPDATE

Starting in February Social Security began to pay retroactive benefits and increasing monthly benefit payments to people whose benefits have been affected by the WEP and GPO due to the Social Security Fairness Act.

To date over 207,000 Ohioans have received retroactive Social Security payments in the amount of \$1.48 billion. That is the third most of any state behind only California and Texas. Social Security indicates that 75% of total expected benefit adjustments have been made.

The Social Security Administration continues to urge patience as they continue to process retroactive benefit payments. Callers to SSA's National 800 Number hear a message about the Act. This message is intended to help people avoid holding for a representative. However, SSA says more than 6,000 people each day still choose to wait to speak to a representative about the Act. They expect calls, as well as visitors and appointments in local offices, will continue to increase over the coming weeks and months. This uptick is occurring at the same time that the Trump administration is cutting SSA staff and closing local offices.

#### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, President Trump signed an Executive Order declared a national emergency on trade while also implementing "baseline tariffs" of 10 percent on goods from all countries and "reciprocal" import fees for items from countries deemed the "worst offenders" on trade practices. The latter category will be implemented on a country-by-country basis for about 60 countries. These included a new tariff of 34 percent on Chinese goods, on top of the 20 percent levy imposed in February as Trump accused Beijing of not doing enough to stop the flow of fentanyl and its precursors into the United States. It is also in addition to existing tariffs on goods including some appliances, machinery and clothing that were already as high as 45 percent after Trump's first round of tariffs.

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said that retirees worried that their 401(k) accounts could take massive hits had "legitimate concerns." The tariffs are part of Trump's push, she said, "to protect future generations of the senior citizens ... to ensure that there are jobs here In the United States of America for their children."

In response China has said that it will impose an additional 34 percent tariff on U.S. goods, matching the hike in levies targeting China by President Trump that Beijing called "inconsistent with international trade rules."

The development signaled more pain on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones Industrial Average slumped more than 2 percent, roughly 1,000 points, at the opening bell on Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. The S&P 500 and tech-heavy Nasdag also shed well over 2 percent.

China's measures came as stock markets in Asia and Europe fell sharply as well, continuing the steep declines recorded in the United States, amid fears of a full-blown global trade war and an economic recession sparked by Trump's tariff blitz.

#### **DEBT LIMIT UPDATE**

On March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released their estimate stating that if the debt limit remains unchanged, the U.S.' ability to borrow will be exhausted around August or September of this year.

The CBO stated that if borrowing needs between March and July are "significantly greater" than 36 percent of total borrowing, it could exceed the combined \$820 billion in cash and extraordinary measures estimated to be available during this time. As a result, the Treasury would run out of resources before August 1st. If projected borrowing for the year totals 25 percent, or \$500 billion, through July, extraordinary measures "might last through the end of September." The office expressed that if borrowing this year "diverged significantly" from historical patterns, it could result in the exhaustion date being earlier or later than its projection, but any remaining extraordinary measures would "probably" be exhausted after September 30th.

This is because in addition to monthly payments due, the Treasury will have to "issue more than \$150 billion in special-issue securities to the Military Retirement Fund". An extension of the debt limit was included in the House-passed budget resolution to be acted upon later in a budget reconciliation package. The agreement between House and Senate Republicans on their budget approach suggests a debt limit increase will be included in a final joint budget resolution – meaning the debt limit timing could be an action-forcing event for the budget reconciliation, but that deadline may be August.

#### **FEDERAL BUDGET**

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD) and Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) met with Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Director of the National Economic Council Kevin Hasset. Following the meeting, both Majority Leader Thune and Speaker Johnson indicated that the party is moving closer to an agreement for "one big, beautiful bill" including how to increase the debt limit and that it should be included in the bill.

On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Senate Republicans released a 70-page budget resolution including significant measure to permanently extend the 2017 tax cuts, increasing the debt ceiling by up to \$5 trillion, enhancing funding for border security and national defense, and implementing substantial spending reductions across various government sectors. Senate Republicans got over the first procedural hurdle April 3<sup>rd</sup> on their revised budget resolution needed to move forward with a filibuster-proof reconciliation bill. But it wasn't a sure thing going in, raising questions about the simple majority needed for final adoption sometime this weekend. The 52-48 vote on the motion to proceed to the budget blueprint started the clock on up to 50 hours of debate.

While Republicans are getting closer to a compromise joint budget, many obstacles still remain including potential Medicaid cuts.

House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA) has said a final budget vote in the House is not assured before the April recess, even if the Senate passes a budget resolution due to any changes the Senate may make to the current version of the House bill. The joint budget resolution with reconciliation instructions will unlock the ability to act on a tax package later this spring or summer.

#### **HEALTH CARE**

#### Dr. Oz's Nomination Confirmed by Senate

The Senate confirmed Mehmet Oz to lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in a party-line vote of 53-45 Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, placing him in charge of overseeing more than \$1 trillion in annual spending.

During his confirmation hearing before the Senate Finance committee last month, Democrats expressed concern that Dr. Oz would support cuts to Medicaid, particularly given Republican proposals to reduce federal funding, and his responses were noncommittal about defending Medicaid against budget cuts. Senators also raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest, given Dr. Oz's past financial holdings in a Medicare Advantage insurer and other investments in health care and pharmaceutical companies. However, despite some pushback from Democrats, his hearing was relatively uncontentious. The committee voted along party lines to advance Dr. Mehmet Oz's nomination as CMS Administrator to the full Senate.

#### HHS has restructuring plans, including layoffs

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it will be making structural changes, including cutting 10,000 full-time employees across health agencies. The layoffs will reduce the size of HHS from 82,000 to 62,000 full-time employees, saving taxpayers \$1.8 billion per year. Included in the layoffs are 3,500 cuts at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), 2,400 at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1,200 at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and 300 at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

The announcement also includes plans to reduce the number of divisions from 28 to 15 and the number of regional divisions from 10 to five.

In the announcement, HHS shared there will be a new Assistant Secretary for Enforcement who will oversee the Departmental Appeals Board (DAB), Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA), and the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) to combat waste, fraud, and abuse.

The reorganization will also lead to HHS implementing its new priority of ending the chronic disease epidemic by focusing on "wholesome food, clean water, and the elimination of environmental toxins." In a statement, HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. said, "Over time, bureaucracies like HHS become wasteful and inefficient even when most of their staff are dedicated and competent civil servants. This overhaul will be a win-win for taxpayers and for those that HHS serves. That's the entire American public, because our goal is to Make America Healthy Again."

#### FEDERAL LEGISLATION BOARD REPORT 119<sup>th</sup> United States Congress (Prepared by Chris Collins as of April 4, 2025)

#### H.Con.Res.14

SPONSOR: Rep. Arrington, Jodey C. [R-TX-19]

LAST ACTIONS: Senate - 04/02/2025 Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on the

Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 38.

CAPTION: Establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government.

COMMENT: This concurrent resolution establishes the congressional budget for the federal government for FY2025, sets forth budgetary levels for FY2026-FY2034, and provides reconciliation instructions for legislation that increases or decreases the deficit and increases the statutory debt limit by specified amounts.

#### S.526

SPONSOR: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]

LAST ACTIONS: Senate - 02/11/2025 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce,

Science, and Transportation.

CAPTION: Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Transparency Act:

COMMENT: A bill to prevent unfair and deceptive acts or practices and the dissemination of false information related to pharmacy benefit management services for prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

#### H.R.950

SPONSOR: Rep. Landsman, Greg [D-OH-1]

LAST ACTIONS: House - 02/04/2025 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CAPTION: Saving Seniors Money on Prescriptions Act

COMMENT: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish pharmacy benefit manager reporting requirements with respect to prescription drug plans and MA-PD plans under Medicare part D.

### STATE LEGISLATION BOARD REPORT (Prepared by Chris Collins as of April 4, 2025)

#### 136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

**SB69** INTENTION TO REFORM-STATE PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Romanchuk, M) - To declare the General Assembly's intent to enact legislation to reform the law governing the state's public retirement systems.

Current Status: 02/12/2025 Referred to Financial Institutions, Insurance and Technology Committee

**HB96** OPERATING BUDGET (Stewart, B) - To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, to levy taxes, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.

Current Status: 04/02/2025 House Finance, (Eighth Hearing)

**HB116** DIGITAL ASSET MINING, TAXATION, REGULATION (Demetriou, S) - To address mining, taxation, and regulation of digital assets and digital asset investments by the state retirement systems.

Current Status: 03/25/2025 House Technology and Innovation, (Second Hearing)

## Finance Headline News - April 2025



- Budget Administration
  - FY25 SERS administrative expenses are tracking under budget through March 2025
    - Medical and Prescription claims continue to be a concern
    - Expect higher professional services in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter due to Clearwater implementation
  - FY26 detailed draft budget will be presented in May.
- The following detailed reports are attached for further analysis:
  - FY26 Draft Budget Report to ORSC
  - FY25 Budget Administrative expense reports
    - Administrative expense summary for March 2025
    - Administrative expense detail for March 2025
    - Parameters report for March 2025
  - Financial highlights
    - As of February 2025

# School Employees Retirement System of Ohio SERS Detail Admin Expenses Mar 2025

Financial Row	Vendor Bill Name	Amoun
Detail Admin Expenses		
Expense		
53100.0 - Staff Salaries Expense		
53100 - Salaries & Wages	0400 ADD 11.0	<b>44</b> 000 007 F0
Total F0400 Calarina 9 Warran	0133 ADP, LLC	\$1,288,607.56
Total - 53100 - Salaries & Wages 53110 - Salaries & Wages - Overtime		\$1,288,607.56
33110 - Galaries & Wages - Overtime	0133 ADP, LLC	\$2,597.77
Total - 53110 - Salaries & Wages - Overtime	01007.01 , LLO	\$2,597.77
53111 - Vacation Leave Expense		• ,
·	0133 ADP, LLC	\$118,743.00
Total - 53111 - Vacation Leave Expense		\$118,743.00
53112 - Sick Leave Expense		
Total 50440 Ciable and Employee	0133 ADP, LLC	\$53,665.26
Total - 53112 - Sick Leave Expense 53113 - Voluntary Life Insurance Reimbursement		\$53,665.26
33113 - Voluntary Life insurance Reinibursement	0133 ADP, LLC	\$119.58
Total - 53113 - Voluntary Life Insurance Reimbursement	01007001, 220	\$119.58
Total - 53100.0 - Staff Salaries Expense		\$1,463,733.17
53200.0 - Staff Retirement Contribution Expense		
53200 - Employer Contributions - PERS		
	0133 ADP, LLC	\$192,082.71
Total - 53200 - Employer Contributions - PERS		\$192,082.71
Total - 53200.0 - Staff Retirement Contribution Expense		\$192,082.71
53300.0 - Staff Benefit Expenses 53300 - Staff Group Life		
33300 - Stan Group Line	0267 American United Life Insurance Company	\$10,110.17
Total - 53300 - Staff Group Life	Ozor Androan Office Life moduline Company	\$10,110.17
53310 - Staff Long Term Disability		• •,
	0267 American United Life Insurance Company	\$3,643.80
Total - 53310 - Staff Long Term Disability		\$3,643.80
53315 - Staff Short Term Disability		
Total F224F Chaff Chart Town Disability	0267 American United Life Insurance Company	\$3,218.49
Total - 53315 - Staff Short Term Disability 53320 - Staff Group Health Claims		\$3,218.49
33320 - Start Group rieatti Cialilis	3555 Aetna Daily Wires - ESERS	\$391,711.97
Total - 53320 - Staff Group Health Claims	Cooc / Carla Daily 171100 LOCINO	\$391,711.97
53321 - Staff Group Health - Admin Fees		, ,
•	3552 Aetna Admin - ESERS	\$7,986.79
Total - 53321 - Staff Group Health - Admin Fees		\$7,986.79
53322 - Staff Prescription Claims		/ / /
	2811 Express Scripts - ESERS	(\$7,094.09)
Total - 53322 - Staff Prescription Claims	5271 SaveonSP, LLC	\$2,898.16 <b>(\$4,195.93</b> )
53324 - Staff Group Health - Stop Loss Admin		(\$4,135.35)
	3552 Aetna Admin - ESERS	\$24.825.51
Total - 53324 - Staff Group Health - Stop Loss Admin		\$24,825.51
53326 - Staff Vision Claims		
	0266 VSP - (OH)	\$2,344.63
Total - 53326 - Staff Vision Claims		\$2,344.63
53327 - Staff Vision Admin Fees	0366 //CD (OH)	<b>6400.70</b>
Total - 53327 - Staff Vision Admin Fees	0266 VSP - (OH)	\$126.72 <b>\$126.72</b>
53330 - Staff Group Health - Employee Cost		φ120./2
The state of the s	Employee Premiums	(\$38,078.38)
Total - 53330 - Staff Group Health - Employee Cost		(\$38,078.38)
53331 - Staff Group Health - Wellness Incentive		
	0133 ADP, LLC	\$3,630.00
Total - 53331 - Staff Group Health - Wellness Incentive		\$3,630.00

53332 - Staff Group Health - Tobacco Premiums		
	0133 ADP, LLC	(\$560.
Total - 53332 - Staff Group Health - Tobacco Premiums 53340 - Staff Medicare Premium - Employer		(\$560.
33340 - Stail Medicale Fremidin - Employer	0133 ADP, LLC	\$19,135.
Total - 53340 - Staff Medicare Premium - Employer		\$19,135.
53380 - Staff Deferred Compensation Match	0422 ADD 11.0	фг. оог
Total - 53380 - Staff Deferred Compensation Match	0133 ADP, LLC	\$5,025. <b>\$5,025.</b>
Total - 53300.0 - Staff Benefit Expenses		\$428,924.
54100 - Actuarial Services		
Tatal 54400 Astrovial Compless	3241 CavMac	\$34,349.
Total - 54100 - Actuarial Services 54300.0 - Banking Fee Expenses		\$34,349.
54310 - Custodial Fees		
	5482 Fifth Third - Investments	\$21,870
	0273 BNY Mellon Asset Servicing	\$29,744
Total - 54310 - Custodial Fees 54320 - Custodial Banking		\$51,615
34320 - Gustoulai Bariking	0125 Treasurer of State - Warrants	\$34
	0386 Huntington National Bank	\$10,986
Total - 54320 - Custodial Banking		\$11,021
Total - 54300.0 - Banking Fee Expenses		\$62,636
54400.0 - Investment Related Expenses 54410 - Master Recordkeeper Fees		
34410 - Master Necolukeeper i ees	0273 BNY Mellon Asset Servicing	\$95,413
Total - 54410 - Master Recordkeeper Fees	S	\$95,413
54420 - Investment Advisory Admin Fees		
T-t-1 F4400 Investment Advisor Advis F-	0484 Wilshire Advisors, LLC	\$112,500
Total - 54420 - Investment Advisory Admin Fees 54430 - Performance/Analytics Fee		\$112,500
54450 Terrormanoc/Analytics Fee	0484 Wilshire Advisors, LLC	\$4,000
	0273 BNY Mellon Asset Servicing	\$34,667
Total - 54430 - Performance/Analytics Fee		\$38,667
54460 - Bloomberg Terminal Rentals	2700 Bloomberg Finance LP	\$6,645
Total - 54460 - Bloomberg Terminal Rentals	2,00 Discinibility I marios El	\$6,645
Total - 54400.0 - Investment Related Expenses		\$253,226
54520 - Medical Consultant	4004 Olar O Barahama M.D.	¢0.750
Total - 54520 - Medical Consultant	1021 Glen G Borchers, M.D.	\$3,750 <b>\$3,750</b>
54600.0 - Technical Expenses		40,100
54610 - Special Counsel		
	1921 Porter, Wright, Morris,	\$27
	0276 Ice Miller LLP	\$16,253
Total - 54610 - Special Counsel	3361 Seyfarth Shaw LLP	\$43,890 <b>\$60,171</b>
54620 - Technical		400,
	5345 Sigital, LLC	\$4,347
	5215 ComResource	\$8,453
	5613 Revelwood Incorporated	\$1,322
	5648 Oracle America, Inc. 2263 Dell Marketing LP	\$6,000 \$237
	3296 LexisNexis Risk Data Management, Inc	\$3,576
	5208 ForeFront Web	\$3,150
	0354 Merative US L.P.	\$31,000
Total - 54620 - Technical		\$58,088
54630 - Other Professional Services	1005 Crieta Day Calumbus High Cabasi	¢E 000
	4925 Cristo Rey Columbus High School 5031 Vorys Advisors LLC	\$5,000 \$3,666
	5877 Nossaman LLP	\$4,363
	5060 Kimberly Wickert	\$576
	•	\$343
	5907 EFileMyForms.Com	
	5906 Sovos	
	5906 Sovos 5874 Tax Me, LLC	\$75.
Total - 54630 - Other Professional Services	5906 Sovos	\$10. \$75. \$3,000. <b>\$17,034.</b>

55100 -	·Ро	stage
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	0031 Postmaster	\$350.0
	0254 Unishippers Association	\$512.0
	0060 Pitney Bowes Inc.	\$2,457.0
	2489 FedEx	\$33.2
	4906 Quadient	\$35.0
Total - 55100 - Postage 55200 - Telecommunications Services		\$3,387.3
55200 - Telecommunications Services	5555 Everstream Solutions LLC	\$1,376.0
	0277 XO Verizon	\$3,658.6
	5543 Spectrum AWS	\$1,230.0
	1605 AT&T - 7258	\$40.10
	0087 Spectrum	\$252.3
	5665 Total Communication Solutions	\$817.9
	0253 T-Mobile	\$59.3
	4732 Verizon Wireless	\$161.7
Total - 55200 - Telecommunications Services		\$7,596.10
55300 - Member/Employer Education		Ţ.,000.II
· ·	4116 Cameron Vaughan	\$74.9
	4834 Event brite	(\$210.00
Total - 55300 - Member/Employer Education		(\$135.0
55400.0 - Printing & Publication Expenses		••
55400 - Printing Paper	0.407.04 11 10 0	44.500.00
Total 55400 Drinting Donor	0407 Sterling Paper Company	\$1,522.00
Total - 55400 - Printing Paper 55420 - Communications & Publications		\$1,522.00
55420 - Communications & Publications	5204 Tanaian Envolona Corneration	¢2 150 1
	5304 Tension Envelope Corporation 0407 Sterling Paper Company	\$2,159.14 \$2.218.50
	0112 Millcraft Paper Co.	\$9,866.00
Total - 55420 - Communications & Publications	VIIZ IVIIIIGAIL FAPEI GU.	\$9,000.00 \$14,243.64
Total - 55400.0 - Printing & Publication Expenses		\$14,243.64 \$15,765.64
56000.0 - Computer Support Service Expenses		φ13,703.0-
56020 - Hardware Maintenance		
55525 Hardware maintenance	5910 Service Express, LLC	\$23,141.60
Total - 56020 - Hardware Maintenance		\$23,141.60
56030 - Software Maintenance		<del></del> ,
	4615 Open Text, Inc	\$3,225.00
	5601 RoadMunk.com - reclassification	(\$632.10
	2263 Dell Marketing LP	\$483.43
Total - 56030 - Software Maintenance		\$3,076.33
56035 - Software Subscriptions		
	5473 Wellable LLC	\$481.00
	5501 Expedient	\$12,275.58
	5422 WordFence	\$149.00
	5601 RoadMunk.com	\$632.10
	4615 Open Text, Inc - reclassification	(\$3,225.00
	0133 ADP, LLC	\$3,585.4
	5208 ForeFront Web	\$4,000.0
	5409 Amazon Web Services	\$55.80
Total - 56035 - Software Subscriptions 56040 - Hardware < \$5,000		\$17,953.89
550-50 Haluwale < \$5,000	0411 Amazon.com	\$2,390.02
	2263 Dell Marketing LP	\$2,064.19
Total - 56040 - Hardware < \$5,000	3 -	\$4,454.21
Total - 56000.0 - Computer Support Service Expenses		\$48,626.03
56100.0 - Office Equipment & Supply Expenses 56110 - Equipment Repairs & Maintenance		Ţ.5,5 <u>_</u> 0100
22112 Equipment repairs a maintenance	5332 Canon Financial Services, Inc	\$544.00
	4620 Ricoh USA, Inc	\$930.72
	4849 US Bank Equipment Finance	\$2,457.8
	5340 Digital Print Solutions	\$2,437.83 \$1,021.24
Total - 56110 - Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	JUTO DIGITAL I TITL OUGUUTS	\$4,953.8
56130 - Office Supplies & Expenses		ψ-,333.0
	0411 Amazon.com	\$31.1°
Total - 56130 - Office Supplies & Expenses		\$31.11

#### 56200.0 - Staff Training Expenses

53370 - Staff Tuition

53370 - Starr Tuition		
	5647 Darin Hartsell	\$3,212
	5905 Ericka Tribune	\$6,362
Total - 53370 - Staff Tuition		\$9,574
56210 - Seminars & Conferences	0303 NASRA	\$1,730
	5908 INR Seminars	\$84.
	0397 Project Management Institute	\$425
	5362 1105 Media Inc.	\$3,875
	1535 Ohio State University	\$250
Total - 56210 - Seminars & Conferences		\$6,364
56220 - In House Training		
	5892 BookShop.org	\$343
	0411 Amazon.com	\$43
	0133 ADP, LLC	\$592
	1535 Ohio State University	\$4,150
Total 56220 In Hayes Training	5611 Steven R Edwards	\$600
Total - 56220 - In House Training Total - 56200.0 - Staff Training Expenses		\$5,729 \$21,668
56300.0 - Transportation & Travel Expenses		φ21,000
56310 - Travel & Transportation		
	5100 James Haller	\$757
	5199 Richard Stensrud	\$268
	4283 Potbelly Sandwich Works	\$182
	4891 Tim Horton's	\$43
	4736 Hills Market	\$3
	5418 Matt King	\$323
	5380 Chris Collins	\$1,086
	4246 Sam's Club	\$72
	5639 Aimee Russell	\$341
	0564 Kroger	\$103
	5538 Corporate Caterers	\$592
	0024 James Rossler	\$292
	5419 David McGary	\$1,438
	0017 Daniel L Wilson	\$131
	0009 Catherine Moss	\$277
	5889 Jeanine Alexander 4824 Frank Weglarz	\$262 \$167
Total - 56310 - Travel & Transportation	4024 FIGUR WEGIGIZ	\$6,344
56311 - Mileage		**,***
	5100 James Haller	\$271
	5380 Chris Collins	\$25
	5889 Jeanine Alexander	\$275
	0009 Catherine Moss	\$242
	5639 Aimee Russell	\$114
	5418 Matt King	\$168
	0024 James Rossler	\$198
	0017 Daniel L Wilson	\$208
Total - 56311 - Mileage	4824 Frank Weglarz	\$228 \$1, <b>732</b>
Total - 56300.0 - Transportation & Travel Expenses		\$8,077
56400.0 - Membership & Subscription Expenses 56410 - Subscriptions		
	4547 Constant Contact	\$545
	0305 Columbus Dispatch	\$35
	0304 Wall Street Journal	\$125
	5865 Cleveland.Com	\$10
	5511 Toledo Blade	\$12
	4810 Shutterstock, Inc.	\$29
	5873 Ned Davis Research	\$3,125
	0571 Thomson Reuters credit	(\$287
Total - 56410 - Subscriptions		\$3,594

#### 56420 - Memberships

56420 - Memberships		
	0302 Coalition to Preserve Retirement Security	\$10,600.0
	0381 Public Relations Society of America	\$267.0
	5029 Capital Square Review and Advisory Board	\$25.0
	5810 Dun & Bradstreet	\$150.4
	0473 Public Pension Financial Forum	\$1,200.0
	0825 Ohio Ethics Commission	\$1,380.0
Total - 56420 - Memberships		\$13,622.4
Total - 56400.0 - Membership & Subscription Expenses		\$17,217.4
56600.0 - Maintenance Expenses		
56630 - Interior Landscaping		
	3039 Ambius Inc. (05)	\$1,396.3
Total - 56630 - Interior Landscaping		\$1,396.3
56640 - Vehicle Expense		
	5069 Moo Moo Car Wash	\$36.0
Total - 56640 - Vehicle Expense		\$36.0
Total - 56600.0 - Maintenance Expenses		\$1,432.3
56650.0 - Staff Support Expenses		
56620 - Staff Support		
	5574 Aetna Behavioral Health, LLC	\$282.6
	0133 ADP, LLC	\$2,215.0
	0411 Amazon.com	\$808.2
	1683 Premier ProduceOne	\$181.1
	4637 Buckeye Donuts	\$101.4
	0259 Cuyahoga Franklin Group	\$1,470.3
	4750 Inspira Financial	\$346.5
	5303 Culligan Bottled Water of Columbus	\$60.9
	1683 Premier ProduceOne	\$98.1
	3990 Acorn Distributors Inc.	\$663.2
Total - 56620 - Staff Support		\$6,227.5
56621 - Recruiting Expenses		
	5430 ADP Screening & Selection Services	\$299.1
	5460 Indeed	\$497.1
Total - 56621 - Recruiting Expenses		\$796.2
Total - 56650.0 - Staff Support Expenses		\$7,023.7
56700.0 - School District Board Member Reimbursement Expense		
56710 - Board Member - School Reimb.		
	1049 Ashland City School District	\$1,384.5
Total - 56710 - Board Member - School Reimb.		\$1,384.5
Total - 56700.0 - School District Board Member Reimbursement Exper	nse	\$1,384.5
56900 - Reimbursement of Leased Svcs from OSERS Broad St		
	Reimbursement of leased services	(\$25,416.6
Total - 56900 - Reimbursement of Leased Svcs from OSERS Broad St		(\$25,416.6
Total - Expense		\$2,685,609.3
otal Admin Expenses		\$2,685,609.3

# School Employees Retirement System of Ohio SERS Summary Admin Expenses Mar 2025

ancial Row	Amou
nmary Admin Expenses	
xpense	
53100.0 - Staff Salaries Expense	<b>#</b> 4 000 007 F
53100 - Salaries & Wages	\$1,288,607.5
53110 - Salaries & Wages - Overtime	\$2,597.7
53111 - Vacation Leave Expense	\$118,743.0
53112 - Sick Leave Expense	\$53,665.2
53113 - Voluntary Life Insurance Reimbursement	\$119.5
Total - 53100.0 - Staff Salaries Expense	\$1,463,733.1
53200.0 - Staff Retirement Contribution Expense	<b>#</b> 400,000 7
53200 - Employer Contributions - PERS	\$192,082.7
Total - 53200.0 - Staff Retirement Contribution Expense	\$192,082.7
53300.0 - Staff Benefit Expenses	<b>*</b> • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
53300 - Staff Group Life	\$10,110.1
53310 - Staff Long Term Disability	\$3,643.8
53315 - Staff Short Term Disability	\$3,218.4
53320 - Staff Group Health Claims	\$391,711.9
53321 - Staff Group Health - Admin Fees	\$7,986.7
53322 - Staff Prescription Claims	(\$4,195.9
53324 - Staff Group Health - Stop Loss Admin	\$24,825.5
53326 - Staff Vision Claims	\$2,344.6
53327 - Staff Vision Admin Fees	\$126.7
53330 - Staff Group Health - Employee Cost	(\$38,078.3
53331 - Staff Group Health - Wellness Incentive	\$3,630.0
53332 - Staff Group Health - Tobacco Premiums	(\$560.0
53340 - Staff Medicare Premium - Employer	\$19,135.5
53380 - Staff Deferred Compensation Match	\$5,025.0
Total - 53300.0 - Staff Benefit Expenses	\$428,924.3
54100 - Actuarial Services	\$34,349.5
54300.0 - Banking Fee Expenses	
54310 - Custodial Fees	\$51,615.3
54320 - Custodial Banking	\$11,021.5
Total - 54300.0 - Banking Fee Expenses	\$62,636.9
54400.0 - Investment Related Expenses	<b>*</b> 05.440.4
54410 - Master Recordkeeper Fees	\$95,413.4
54420 - Investment Advisory Admin Fees	\$112,500.0
54430 - Performance/Analytics Fee	\$38,667.6
54460 - Bloomberg Terminal Rentals	\$6,645.0
Total - 54400.0 - Investment Related Expenses	\$253,226.0
54520 - Medical Consultant	\$3,750.0
54600.0 - Technical Expenses	000 474
54610 - Special Counsel	\$60,171.6
54620 - Technical 54630 - Other Professional Services	\$58,088.3
	\$17,034.6
Total - 54600.0 - Technical Expenses	\$135,294.6
55100 - Postage	\$3,387.3
55200 - Telecommunications Services	\$7,596.1
55300 - Member/Employer Education	(\$135.0
55400.0 - Printing & Publication Expenses	<b>44</b> 500 0
55400 - Printing Paper	\$1,522.0
55420 - Communications & Publications	\$14,243.6

56000.0 - Computer Support Service Expenses	
56020 - Hardware Maintenance	\$23,141.60
56030 - Software Maintenance	\$3,076.33
56035 - Software Subscriptions	\$17,953.89
56040 - Hardware < \$5,000	\$4,454.21
Total - 56000.0 - Computer Support Service Expenses	\$48,626.03
56100.0 - Office Equipment & Supply Expenses	<b>*</b> 4.050.04
56110 - Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	\$4,953.81
56130 - Office Supplies & Expenses	\$31.11
Total - 56100.0 - Office Equipment & Supply Expenses	\$4,984.92
56200.0 - Staff Training Expenses	
53370 - Staff Tuition	\$9,574.77
56210 - Seminars & Conferences	\$6,364.00
56220 - In House Training	\$5,729.25
Total - 56200.0 - Staff Training Expenses	\$21,668.02
56300.0 - Transportation & Travel Expenses	
56310 - Travel & Transportation	\$6,344.72
56311 - Mileage	\$1,732.85
Total - 56300.0 - Transportation & Travel Expenses	\$8,077.57
56400.0 - Membership & Subscription Expenses	
56410 - Subscriptions	\$3,594.95
56420 - Memberships	\$13,622.49
Total - 56400.0 - Membership & Subscription Expenses	\$17,217.44
56600.0 - Maintenance Expenses	
56630 - Interior Landscaping	\$1,396.37
56640 - Vehicle Expense	\$36.00
Total - 56600.0 - Maintenance Expenses	\$1,432.37
56650.0 - Staff Support Expenses	
56620 - Staff Support	\$6,227.55
56621 - Recruiting Expenses	\$796.21
Total - 56650.0 - Staff Support Expenses	\$7,023.76
56700.0 - School District Board Member Reimbursement Expense	
56710 - Board Member - School Reimb.	\$1,384.50
Total - 56700.0 - School District Board Member Reimbursement Expense	\$1,384.50
56900 - Reimbursement of Leased Svcs from OSERS Broad St	(\$25,416.67)
Total - Expense	\$2,685,609.39
otal Admin Expenses	\$2,685,609.39

#### School Employees Retirement System of Ohio Broad Street Detail Admin Expenses Mar 2025

Financial Davi	Vanday Bill Nama	A
Financial Row Ordinary Income/Expense	Vendor Bill Name	Amount
Income		
41010 - Suite Income - OSERS Broad St		\$38,126.92
41205.0 - Parking Income		\$1,725.00
41210 - Parking Income - Other - OSERS Broad St		\$22,000.00
Total - 41205.0 - Parking Income		\$23,725.00
41600 - Miscellaneous Income - OSERS Broad St		\$150.00
Total - Income		\$62,001.92
Gross Profit		\$62,001.92
Expense		
50110.0 - Property Management & Labor 50110 - Admin. Service Contracts - OSERS Broad St		
	0041 SERS	\$25,416.67
Total - 50110 - Admin. Service Contracts - OSERS Broad St		\$25,416.67
Total - 50110.0 - Property Management & Labor		\$25,416.67
50200.0 - Administrative Expenses 50241 - Bank Fees - OSERS Broad St		
	Park National Bank	\$103.65
Total - 50241 - Bank Fees - OSERS Broad St		\$103.65
Total - 50200.0 - Administrative Expenses 50300.0 - Building Operations		\$103.65
50301 - Floor Mats - OSERS Broad St		
	5043 Cintas Corporation	\$2,111.72
Total - 50301 - Floor Mats - OSERS Broad St 50305 - HVAC Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St		\$2,111.72
	5698 Metro Group, Inc.	\$533.07
	3545 eBay	\$1,329.98
	5769 DeBra-Kuempel	\$725.60
Total - 50305 - HVAC Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St 50306 - Electrical Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St		\$2,588.65
	0391 Grainger	\$212.50
Total - 50306 - Electrical Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St 50307 - Plumbing Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St		\$212.50
	0391 Grainger	\$51.64
Total - 50307 - Plumbing Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St 50308 - Paint, Wallcovering, Refinish - OSERS Broad St		\$51.64
	5775 Midwest Floor Restore	\$8,093.00
Total - 50308 - Paint, Wallcovering, Refinish - OSERS Broad St 50312 - Equip & Tools < \$5,000 - OSERS Broad St		\$8,093.00
	0391 Grainger	\$22.56
Total - 50312 - Equip & Tools < \$5,000 - OSERS Broad St 50317 - Janitorial Services - OSERS Broad St		\$22.56
	3990 Acorn Distributors Inc.	\$3,019.66
	0411 Amazon.com	\$256.13
	5811 Harvard Maintenance, Inc	\$15,636.55
Total - 50317 - Janitorial Services - OSERS Broad St 50321 - Generator Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St		\$18,912.34
	5699 Ohio CAT	\$1,343.91
Total - 50321 - Generator Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St 50325 - Security - OSERS Broad St		\$1,343.91
	5778 Joshua Milstead	\$1,620.00
	5754 Stephen Galentine Jr.	\$3,037.50
	5749 Remus Borcila	\$1,890.00
	5751 Kyle Kincade	\$1,215.00
	5879 Joel George	\$1,620.00
	5677 Allied Universal Security Services	\$33,867.69
	5748 Oliver George	\$202.50
	5883 Trenton Kincade	\$202.50
Tatal F020F Cassurity OCFDC Bergel Of	5856 Shayne McAndrew	\$675.00
Total - 50325 - Security - OSERS Broad St		\$44,330.19

50327 - Elevator Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St		
	5690 Fujitec America, Inc.	\$6,320.57
Total - 50327 - Elevator Repairs & Maintenance - OSERS Broad St 50328 - Pest Control - OSERS Broad St		\$6,320.57
	5689 Terminix International Company, LP	\$143.10
Total - 50328 - Pest Control - OSERS Broad St 50329 - Life Safety - OSERS Broad St		\$143.10
•	5771 The Door Company	\$3,086.00
	5693 T. P. Mechanical Contractors	\$195.00
	5723 Securitas Technology	\$171.72
Total - 50329 - Life Safety - OSERS Broad St 50330 - Trash & Refuse - OSERS Broad St		\$3,452.72
	5770 Rumpke of Ohio Inc	\$564.44
	5241 Royal Document Destruction	\$256.12
Total - 50330 - Trash & Refuse - OSERS Broad St		\$820.56
50350 - Landscaping & Grounds - OSERS Broad St		•
J J	0411 Amazon.com	\$55.56
Total - 50350 - Landscaping & Grounds - OSERS Broad St		\$55.56
50370 - Licenses & Permits - OSERS Broad St		<b>‡30.00</b>
	5687 CT Corporation System	\$527.00
Total - 50370 - Licenses & Permits - OSERS Broad St		\$527.00
Total - 50300.0 - Building Operations		\$88,986.02
50400.0 - Utilities		+,
50400 - Telephone - OSERS Broad St		
	5715 AT&T - 8836	\$384.01
Total - 50400 - Telephone - OSERS Broad St	01.07.11.61.	\$384.01
50405 - Heat & Gas - OSERS Broad St		*******
	5686 Columbia Gas	\$9.307.01
Total - 50405 - Heat & Gas - OSERS Broad St		\$9,307.01
50410 - Electricity - OSERS Broad St		1.7
•	5794 American Electric Power - 87617	\$180.01
	5795 American Electric Power - 16108	\$259.96
	5678 American Electric Power - 23018	\$20.726.51
Total - 50410 - Electricity - OSERS Broad St		\$21,166.48
50415 - Water & Sewer - OSERS Broad St		• ,
	5681 Columbus City Treasurer	\$3,479.31
Total - 50415 - Water & Sewer - OSERS Broad St		\$3,479.31
Total - 50400.0 - Utilities		\$34,336.81
51000 - Lease Commission Fees - OSERS Broad St		, . ,
	5707 CBRE, Inc	\$3,415.50
Total - 51000 - Lease Commission Fees - OSERS Broad St		\$3,415.50
51010.0 - Other Fees		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
51010 - Special Counsel - OSERS Broad St		
•	3514 Bailey Cavalieri, LLC	\$1,937.50
Total - 51010 - Special Counsel - OSERS Broad St		\$1,937.50
51013 - Building Remodeling - OSERS Broad St		Ţ.,IJI.00
	5704 Genesis Planning & Design	\$22,207,70
Total - 51013 - Building Remodeling - OSERS Broad St		\$22,207.70
Total - 51010.0 - Other Fees		\$24,145.20
Total - Expense		\$176,403.85
et Budgeted Expenses		\$176,403.83 \$114,401.93
<del>-</del>		·
et Building Occupancy		\$88,985.26

#### FY2025 Administrative Budget Board Expense to Budget Reporting Year-to-Date Through March 31, 2025

Major Category/Sub-Major Category	Line Item	Vendor	FY2025	Budget Approved	Year to Date Expense	Additional Information
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			\$	6,493,858.00	\$ 4,718,055.03	
ACTUARIAL ADVISORS			\$	425,500.00	\$ 244,529.75	
	Actuarial	Cavanaugh Macdonald	\$	325,500.00	\$ 234,573.50	Actuarial Consultant
	Actuarial	Audit PTA/KMS/Bolton		100,000.00	9,956.25	Actuarial Audit
AUDITING			\$	220,000.00	\$ 152,888.00	
	Auditing	Plante Moran		180,000.00	151,880.00	External Auditor
BANKING FEES			\$	1,213,380.00	\$ 906,975.21	
	Custodial Banking			1,020,000.00	813,284.06	
		Fifth Third		360,000.00	267,344.04	Domestic Custodian
		BNYM		660,000.00	545,940.02	International Custodian
	Administrative Banking	Huntington National Bank/ TOS		193,380.00	93,691.15	Banking Services
INVESTMENT RELATED			\$	2,530,364.00		
	Master Recordkeeper	BNYM		1,056,000.00	831,573.78	
	Investment Consulting & Advisory Services			525,000.00	337,500.05	
		Wilshire		450,000.00	337,500.05	Investment Consulting
	Performance Analytics Services			704,765.00	431,746.69	
		Barra-One Risk Mgmt Sys		238,445.00	178,833.75	Investment Risk Analytics
		BNY Mellon GRS		412,820.00	309,614.94	Investment Performance Analystics
TECHNICAL			\$	2,059,614.00		
	Special Counsel			301,000.00	470,463.55	
	Technical			1,285,720.00	770,586.74	
		Merative		124,000.00	93,000.00	Data Warehouse
		Sagitec		573,440.00	361,247.00	SMART Development Resources
		Board Initiative		100,000.00	-	Board Initiatives
	Other Professional Services			472,894.00	370,453.21	
		Gartner		109,230.00	101,359.00	Management Consulting
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE			\$	4,350,782.00		
COMPUTER SUPPORT SERVICES			\$	3,003,345.00	\$ 2,011,102.33	
	Software Maintenance			1,013,621.00	757,559.25	
		Dell		300,000.00	248,976.58	Microsoft Enterprise Agreement/ True Up
		Sagitec		420,000.00	315,000.00	SMART Silver Support
		Hyland		119,061.00	121,454.36	ImageNow
	Software Subscriptions			1,732,520.00	1,176,670.76	
		DRaaS		163,332.00	117,906.92	Expedient
		Dynamo		207,686.00	224,477.76	Dynamo Software, INC
		Carahsoft		163,830.00	135,266.32	ServiceNow System
		Zoom		100,000.00	101,553.59	Telecommunication Services
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LIABILITY INSURANCE			\$	566,375.00		
	Management Liability Insurance			566,375.00	512,467.00	
		Cyber Liability Insurance		166,805.00	152,374.75	ARC Excess & Surplus, LLC
		Crime Fiduciary D&O Insurance		372,182.00	360,092.25	ARC Excess & Surplus, LLC

		PROJECT ITEMS			
Major Category/Sub-Major Category	Line Item	Project	FY2025 Budget	YTD Expense	Additional Information
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES					
TECHNICAL					

SERS

		UNBUDGETED PROJECT ITEMS				
Major Category/Sub-Major Category	Line Item	Project		FY2025 Budget	YTD Expense	Additional Information
Professional Services Professional Services	Other Professional Services Other Professional Services	Chief Risk Officer recruiting Member Account Fraud Assessment	\$ \$	- \$ - \$	35,450.00 20,000.00	Hudepohl & Associates Inc. Linea Solutions, Inc.

UNBUDGETED PROJECT ITEMS

OSERS BROAD STREET, LLC

Major Category Line Item Project FY2025 Budget YTD Expense

#### SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO

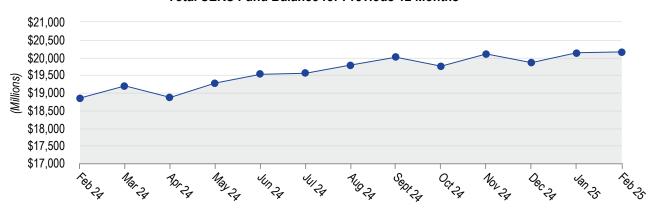
#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

#### As of February 28, 2025 and February 29, 2024

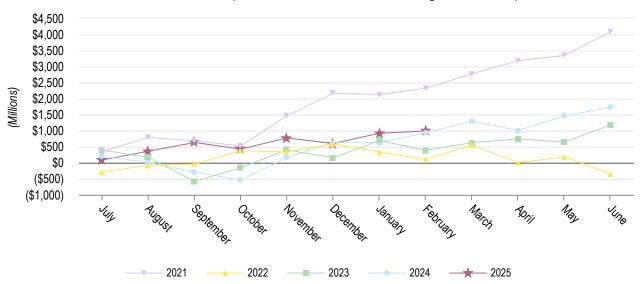
(unaudited)

SERS (All Funds)	2/28/25 YTD	2/29/24 YTD	Comparative Difference	% Difference
<u>ADDITIONS</u>				
Employer Contributions	\$445,858,683	\$423,361,462	\$22,497,221	5%
Member Contributions	290,484,257	276,465,314	14,018,943	5
Other Income	92,519,283	79,038,752	13,480,531	17
Total Investment Income, Net	990,734,789	935,295,681	55,439,108	6
TOTAL ADDITIONS	1,819,597,012	1,714,161,209	105,435,803	6
<u>DEDUCTIONS</u>				
Retirement, Disability, Survivor & Death Benefits	985,123,042	944,087,157	41,035,885	4
Health Care Expenses	117,572,565	104,063,069	13,509,496	13
Refunds & Transfers	60,146,408	63,562,634	(3,416,226)	(5)
Administrative Expenses (excluding Investments)	22,110,854	20,004,693	2,106,161	11
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	1,184,952,869	1,131,717,553	53,235,316	5
Changes in Net Position	634,644,143	582,443,656	52,200,487	(9)
Net Position - Beginning	19,521,138,893	18,265,722,222	1,255,416,671	7
SERS Net Position - Ending	\$20,155,783,036	\$18,848,165,878	\$1,307,617,158	7%
HEALTH CARE FUND				
HEALTH CARE ADDITIONS				
Employer Contributions	\$39,999,990	\$37,598,923	\$2,401,067	6%
Health Care Premiums	37,940,292	39,131,192	(1,190,900)	(3)
Federal Subsidies & Other Receipts	54,552,838	39,870,211	14,682,627	37
Total Investment Income, Net	35,376,229	31,457,026	3,919,203	12
TOTAL HEALTH CARE ADDITIONS	167,869,349	148,057,352	19,811,997	13
TOTAL HEALTH CARE DEDUCTIONS	119,696,818	105,982,277	13,714,541	13
Changes in Net Position	48,172,531	42,075,075	6,097,456	14
Net Position - Beginning	816,468,867	706,785,561	109,683,306	16
SERS Health Care Fund Net Position - Ending	\$864,641,398	\$748,860,636	\$115,780,762	15%

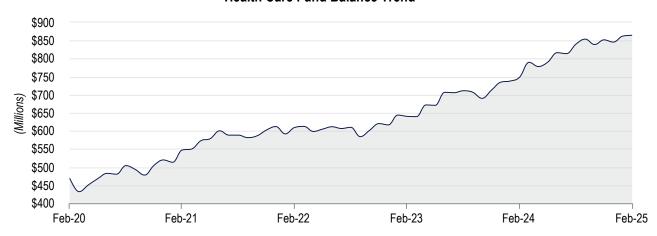
#### **Total SERS Fund Balance for Previous 12 Months**



#### Investment Income (includes realized and unrealized gains & losses)



#### **Health Care Fund Balance Trend**



#### School Employees Retirement System of Ohio System Year-to-Date Budget Analysis Through February 28, 2025

FYTD25

	FYTD24 Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual to Budget %	Budget to Actual Under/(Over)	Notes
PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$ 17,195,700	\$ 18,352,488	\$ 18,093,841	101.4%	\$ (258,647)	
Salaries & Wages		13,357,411	13,440,247	99.4%	82,836	
PERS Retirement Contributions		1,783,475	1,787,933	99.8%	4,458	
Benefits		3,211,602	2,865,661	112.1%	(345,941)	Note 1
					,	11010 1
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	3,697,096	4,224,797	4,239,733	99.6%	14,936	
Actuarial Advisors	175,645	210,180	189,584	110.9%	(20,596)	Note 2
Audit Services	,	152,888	180,000	84.9%	27,112	
Banking Fees		844,338	808,920	104.4%	(35,418)	Note 3
Investment Related	1,675,241	1,515,182	1,556,935	97.3%	41,753	
Medical	30,000	30,000	30,000	100.0%	-	
Technical	946,242	1,472,209	1,474,294	99.9%	2,085	
COMMUNICATIONS EXPENSE	544,466	675,629	776,520	87.0%	100,891	
Postage	333,867	531,750	542,350	98.0%	10,600	
Telecommunications Services	127,178	46,484	88,920	52.3%	42,436	Note 4
Member/Employer Education	5,007	17,934	20,200	88.8%	2,266	
Printing & Publications	78,414	79,461	125,050	63.5%	45,589	Note 5
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	2,588,405	3,106,751	3,715,745	83.6%	608,994	
Computer Support Services	1,489,298	1,962,476	2,347,696	83.6%	385,220	Note 6
Office Equipment & Supplies	118,495	113,325	114,320	99.1%	995	
Training	81,510	100,993	184,137	54.8%	83,144	Note 7
Transportation & Travel	104,511	115,273	159,338	72.3%	44,065	
Memberships Subscriptions	137,707	167,490	173,670	96.4%	6,180	
Property & Mgmt. Liability Insurance	504,501	512,467	566,375	90.5%	53,908	
Maintenance	21,051	22,432	28,525	78.6%	6,093	
Staff Support	77,937	62,946	82,989	75.8%	20,043	
School District Reimbursement	5,776	3,515	7,695	45.7%	4,180	
Mandatory Costs- ORSC	47,619	45,834	51,000	89.9%	5,166	
TOTAL DEPARTMENT EXPENSES	24,025,667	26,359,665	26,825,839	98.3%	466,174	
TOTAL SERS ADMIN EXPENSES	24,025,667	26,359,665	26,825,839	98.3%	466,174	
NET BUILDING EXPENSE	656,385	1,096,637	1,423,539	77.0%	326,902	Note 8
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$ 24,682,052	\$ 27,456,302	\$ 28,249,378	97.2%	\$ 793,076	

See notes on following page

FYTD = Fiscal Year To Date

## Notes to System Year-to-Date Budget Analysis Year to Date FY2025 February 28, 2025

- Note 1: **Benefits** continue to trend over budget in both Group Health Claims and Prescription Claims throughout the month of February. Stop Loss Claims have helped offset the overage slightly.
- Note 2: **Actuarial** is over budget due to timing. The risk report and actuarial audit are being billed incrementally, and both were budgeted in total in March and May respectively.
- Note 3: **Banking Fees** consist of investment and DDA custodial fees. Investment custodial fees are based on a combination of investment values and transaction volume, and they are trending higher this fiscal year than originally estimated. The domestic and global investment custodial fees increased this year after the completion of a recent RFP cycle completed by the Treasurer of State.
- Note 4: **Telecommunication Services** decreased due to timing and contract negotiations. The full year for Zoom phone carrier was budgeted for July but expenses are billed monthly. Additionally, building internet services were renegotiated and are less than budgeted.
- Note 5: **Printing & Publications** consists of printing paper, printing supplies, and other publication materials. The variance is due to timing. Some envelopes and other publication materials that were budgeted earlier in the fiscal year have not been purchased yet.
- Note 6: **Computer Support Services** are under due to timing and realized savings. There are several hardware maintenance, software maintenance, and software subscriptions that will not be renewed this fiscal year. Additionally, there were several software subscriptions budgeted for February that have not been expensed yet. The Microsoft enterprise agreement and true up and Zoom enterprise agreement and true up came in under budget.
- Note 7: **Training and Travel** are budgeted evenly throughout the fiscal year and the timing of staff training and travel can vary.
- Note 8: **Net Building Occupancy** is under budget year to date. Projects budgeted to date, such as the garage charging station refresh and building remodeling, have been delayed or are still in process. The tenant improvement and SERS consolidation projects won't be fully invoiced until after the projects are completed. Additionally, the fitness equipment that was budgeted has not yet been purchased. The timing of invoices for utilities and security has resulted in temporary budget savings.

#### OSERS Broad Street, LLC Year-to-Date Budget Analysis Through February 28, 2025

**FYTD 2025 Budget to** FY2024 FY2025 Actual **Actuals Actuals** Under/(Over) **Budget** Budget Notes **OPERATING INCOME** 346,225 Suite Income \$ 537,291 430,400 346,227 2 Parking Income 236,265 228,480 155,520 185,175 (29,655)Note 1 Miscellaneous Income 2,314 775,870 658,880 501,747 531,400 (29,653)**OPERATING EXPENSES** 305.000 305.000 203.333 203.333 Property Management & Labor Administrative Services 7,062 6,900 950 704 246 **Building Maintenance** 1,018,992 1,231,822 831,281 712,425 118,856 Note 2 Note 3 Utilities 354,728 409,060 273,373 226,171 47,202 **Building & Equipment Insurance** 75,496 78,000 78,000 73,057 4,943 Real Estate Taxes 280,811 287,550 151,550 150,297 1,253 2,042,089 2,318,332 172,500 1,538,487 1,365,987 **NON-OPERATING EXPENSES** Lease Commission Fees 2,657 125,131 60,131 62,137 (2,006)Special Counsel Fees 213 5,000 5,000 3,313 1,687 525,000 **Building Remodeling** 14,718 750,000 125,067 399,933 Note 4 17,588 880,131 590,131 124,748 465,383 **CAPITAL** Leasehold Improvements 58,798 58.798 TOTAL \$ 1,342,605 \$ 2,539,583 \$ 1,626,871 \$ 1,299,970 326,901

**FY** - Fiscal Year **FYTD** - Fiscal Year To Date

# Notes to OSERS Broad Street, LLC Year-to-Date Budget Analysis Through February 28, 2025

- Note 1: **Parking Income** is higher for FY2025 due to an increase in parking tenants.
- Note 2: **Building Operations & Maintenance** are under budget mainly due to timing. The garage charging station refresh project is delayed. Fitness equipment was budgeted but has not been purchased yet. A floor refinishing project was budgeted for February but completed in March. The timing of security invoices has created a variance year to date. Additionally, janitorial and several other maintenance accounts have been under budget year to date.
- Note 3: **Utilities** are below budget mainly due to timing. The electricity invoice for February was received and paid in March.
- Note 4: **Building Remodeling** is under due to timing. The remodeling project has begun but will not be fully billed until the project is complete. The expense represents the cost of plans, permits, and completed work to date.

### School Employees Retirement System

# Memo

To: Retirement Board

From: Richard Stensrud

cc: Marni Hall

**Date:** April 7, 2025

Re: FY2026 Draft Budget Presentation- ORSC Format

At the April Board meeting, Marni Hall will present the FY2026 Draft Budget information in the standard format required by the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC). We are currently in the process of finalizing the budget for FY2026, therefore, the expanded budget document will be presented and discussed in greater detail at the May Board meeting. We are not seeking approval for this draft presentation.

The ORSC required documents include FY2025 and FY2026 operating, capital, staff training and travel budget comparisons, investment expenses obtained from the ACFR, and a ten-year categorization of Board expenses and membership statistics.

I look forward to reviewing this document with you and answering any questions that may arise.

### CHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO

300 E. BROAD ST., SUITE 100 • COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3746 614-222-5853 • Toll-Free 800-878-5853 • www.ohsers.org

RICHARD STENSRUD
Executive Director

KAREN D. ROGGENKAMP
Deputy Executive Director

April 21, 2025

Bethany Rhodes, Director/General Counsel Ohio Retirement Study Council 30 East Broad Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Ms. Rhodes:

In accordance with Section 3309.041 of the Ohio Revised Code, enclosed please find SERS' proposed FY2026 operating budget presented in the ORSC's required format. SERS budgeting practices are aligned with our Mission, Vision, and Values, while continuously evaluating the long-range needs of our membership. For FY2026 SERS' total operating budget increased by 4.5% (\$41,233,165 to \$43,087,488). The significant drivers of this change are a budgeted 3.9% salary merit pool, and salary adjustments based on compensation consultant recommendations to align with current market conditions, a transition to a new Master Recordkeeper vendor, cyclical professional services, and additional security software.

<u>Personnel</u> increase of 5.5% is attributed to an additional full-time employee; salary adjustments and a performance-based merit pool of 3.9% as recommended by our compensation consultant. An increase is also expected in employee health care expenses based on actuarial rates derived from actual plan claims and health care cost trends provided by our actuary.

<u>Professional Services</u> category increase of 8.5% is a result of a change in master recordkeeper vendor which creates provisional transitory duplicate fees, an increase in investment related special counsel fees, cyclical technical resources for security testing and website enhancements, renewed consulting for federal government affairs, and placement fees associated with a new Chief Audit Officer search. Additional notable increases include consulting for an information governance project, leadership development, and an increase in medical prescription consulting.

<u>Communications Expense</u> category decreased by 13%, due to the absence of a board election this fiscal year. Additionally, recent contract negotiations led to savings on telecommunications services.

Other Operating Expense increase of 4.3% is a result of increased costs for software licenses and the expansion of cyber security tools to protect hardware, systems, and data on SERS networks. The expansion of tools will improve SERS posture against fraud, require additional authentication, improve threat monitoring, and manage vulnerabilities.

Capital Expenses include the replacement of an end-of-life digital scanner used for record retention.

SERS will be in the fourth year of the Technology Enhancement Project Budget. The five-year plan will improve digital, mobile, and electronic service delivery for employers and members, add pension administration enhancements, and expand business tools. Projects planned for FY2026 include

identity and fraud prevention enhancements, improved vendor self service capabilities, disaster recovery evaluation, and network and server infrastructure improvements.

Net Building Occupancy expense budget decreased by 11.8% due to the completion of several building remodeling projects designed to expand tenant income. Market conditions continue to be a challenge, but FY2025 investments in tenant space should result in future reductions in net building expenses. The budget for FY2026 includes the replacement of the chiller towers which are part of the HVAC system.

I look forward to reviewing the draft budget with you and answering any questions that you may have. Please feel free to contact me at 614-222-5801.

Sincerely,

Richard Stensrud Executive Director

### FY2025 to FY2026 Operating Budget and Increase (Decrease)

Budget Category	T:	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	025 Estimated Actual	Increase/	Average Annual %
	<u>—</u>				(Decrease) as %	Change (FY22-FY26)
Personnel	\$	28,396,413	\$ 26,904,494	\$ 27,299,875	5.5%	5.1%
Salaries and Wages	\$	21,090,567	\$ 19,925,657	\$ 19,665,932	5.8%	5.8%
PERS Contributions	\$	2,791,047	\$ 2,683,322	\$ 2,650,213	4.0%	5.3%
Health Insurance	\$	4,514,799	\$ 4,295,515	\$ 4,983,730	5.1%	2.1%
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Professional Services	\$	6,985,066	\$ 6,440,168	\$ 6,718,721	8.5%	0.9%
Actuarial	\$	357,700	\$ 425,500	\$ 447,155	-15.9%	5.3%
Audit	\$	220,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 207,528	0.0%	-0.4%
Custodial Banking Fees	\$	1,188,000	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 1,090,784	16.5%	2.1%
Investment Consulting	\$	2,694,215	\$ 2,530,364	\$ 2,715,592	6.5%	1.5%
Other Consulting	\$	2,374,551	\$ 2,056,264	\$ 2,117,824	15.5%	1.4%
Banking Expenses	\$	150,600	\$ 188,040	\$ 139,838	-19.9%	-5.4%
Communications Expense	\$	821,240	\$ 944,448	\$ 867,816	-13.0%	-3.4%
Printing and Postage	\$	718,610	\$ 801,150	\$ 772,676	-10.3%	-1.0%
Telecommunications	\$	90,040	\$ 120,868	\$ 74,091	-25.5%	-12.2%
Member/Employer Education	\$	12,590	\$ 22,430	\$ 21,049	-43.9%	-8.9%
Other Operating Expenses	\$	4,913,145	\$ 4,709,472	\$ 4,191,542	4.3%	8.8%
Conferences and Education	\$	266,409	\$ 257,030	\$ 144,536	3.6%	1.9%
Travel	\$	231,120	\$ 240,360	\$ 165,130	-3.8%	8.8%
Computer Technology	\$	3,195,613	\$ 3,003,345	\$ 2,765,014	6.4%	12.1%
Other Operating	\$	1,091,603	\$ 1,087,047	\$ 983,941	0.4%	3.1%
Ohio Retirement Study Council	\$	69,000	\$ 68,000	\$ 61,112	1.5%	8.8%
TOS Warrant Clearing Charges	\$	4,400	\$ 5,340	\$ 2,113	-17.6%	-10.1%
Attorney General Charges	\$	55,000	\$ 48,350	\$ 69,696	13.8%	7.8%
Net Building Expense	\$	1,958,624	\$ 2,234,583	\$ 1,973,882	-12.3%	12.9%
Total Operating Budget	\$	43,074,488	\$ 41,233,165	\$ 41,051,836	4.5%	4.7%
Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Associates	5	185	184			

<sup>\*</sup>Please note that SERS reports TOS Warrant Clearing Charges and Attorney General Fees under Professional Services for budget reporting.

These have been reported under Other Operating Expenses in compliance with the OSRC approved budget form.

### FY2025 to FY2026 Capital Budget

	2026 Budget (does not include carryover from previous years)	2025 Budget	2025 Estimate	
Total Capital Budget				
Computer Hardware > \$5,000	\$ 13,000	\$ -	\$ -	
Computer Software > \$25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Furniture and Equipment > \$5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

## **Technology Infrastructure Project**

	FY23 to FY27	FY25 Budget	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Budget
Total Project Budget	\$ 8,283,054	\$ 2,298,417	\$ 1,367,210	\$ 1,896,250

### **Investment Expenses**

#### **Net Fidicuary Position Change**

	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	Percent Change in Net Fiduciary Position (FY23- FY24) <sup>1</sup>	5-Year Percent Change in Net Fiduciary Position (FY20-FY24) <sup>1</sup>
Total Investment Assets	\$ 19,092,880,107	\$ 17,895,114,604		
Total Internally Managed Assets	\$ 521,668,094	\$ 438,529,436	6.87%	30.99%
Total Externally Managed Assets	\$ 18,571,212,013	\$ 17,456,585,168		

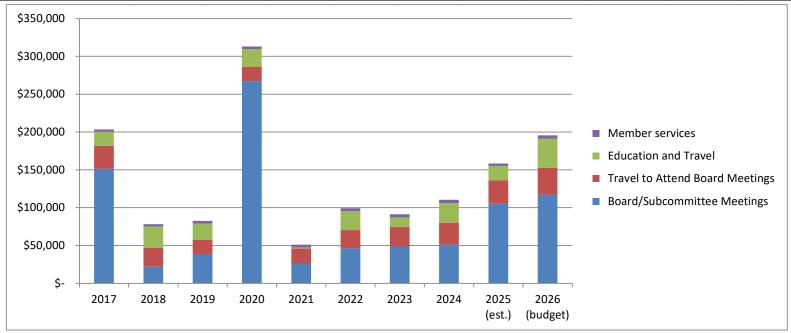
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Net fiduciary position includes more than investment earnings or losses. This figure includes contributions made by employers and employees, investment earning or losses, and benefit payments, among other expenses or earnings. The figure provides a view of the overall change in fund assets across time.

losses, and benefit payments, among other expen	ses or earnings. The figure provides	a view of the overall change in fund assets across time.	
			Percent Change
			(2023 to 2024)
Investment Expenses	\$ 115,519,494	\$ 115,906,614	-0.334%
Internal Investment Expenses	\$ 8,497,575	\$ 7,845,200	8.316%
External Investment Expenses	\$ 107,021,919	\$ 108,061,414	-0.962%
Total Investment Expenses as a % of			
Total Investment Assets	0.61%	0.65%	
Internal Investment Expenses as % of	0.0170	0.05%	
_	1.639/	1 700/	
Internally Managed Assets	1.63%	1.79%	
External Investment Expenses as % of		0.600	
Externally Managed Assets	0.58%	0.62%	
ORSC Requested Supplemental			
Information			
Investment Consulting <sup>2</sup>	\$ 2,376,240.00	\$ 2,550,641.00	-6.838%
Custodian Fees <sup>2</sup>	\$ 974,890.00	\$ 1,019,206.00	-4.348%
Brokerage/Commissions-Internal	\$ 8,565.00	\$ -	100%
Brokerage/Commissions-External	\$ 1,191,799.00	\$ 1,173,989.00	1.517%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Included in "Internal Investment Expenses."

### Fiscal Year Board Member Expenses

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (est.)	2026 (budget)
<b>Total Board Expenses</b>	\$ 203,406	\$ 78,112	\$ 82,534	\$ 313,113	\$ 50,974	\$ 99,198	\$ 91,311	\$ 110,368	\$ 158,399	\$ 195,660
Board/Subcommittee										
Meetings	\$ 151,328	\$ 21,861	\$ 38,065	\$ 267,297	\$ 26,168	\$ 46,437	\$ 48,742	\$ 51,026	\$ 105,133	\$ 117,050
Travel to Attend Board										
Meetings	\$ 30,363	\$ 25,183	\$ 19,244	\$ 19,021	\$ 19,784	\$ 23,893	\$ 25,617	\$ 29,023	\$ 31,202	\$ 35,580
Education and Travel	\$ 18,675	\$ 28,083	\$ 21,533	\$ 23,093	\$ 1,500	\$ 25,149	\$ 12,774	\$ 26,014	\$ 18,874	\$ 38,720
Member services	\$ 3,040	\$ 2,985	\$ 3,692	\$ 3,702	\$ 3,522	\$ 3,719	\$ 4,178	\$ 4,305	\$ 3,190	\$ 4,310



Board expenses include the cost of the Internal Auditor search in FY2020, as well as, and Executive Director search in FY2017.

FY2020 includes costs for a consultant to facilitate pension and health care plan design work.

Beginning in FY2023, Board expenses include software to support Board meetings.

The increase in FY2025 includes training for two new board members, as well as, renewal of Board Smart, a training tool for all board members.

The increase in FY2026 includes the cost of an Internal Auditor search and training for new board members.

### **Staff Training and Travel (Budget to Budget)**

Year (current+1) Year (current)

	2026		2025		Increase (Decrease)		% Increase (Decrease)
Administration							
Conferences, Seminars & Travel	\$	50,070	\$	51,720	\$	(1,650)	-3.2
In-House Training	\$	24,040	\$	27,920	\$	(3,880)	-13.9
#FTE		35		35			
Expense per FTE	\$	2,117	\$	2,275			

	2026		2025		Increase (Decrease)		% Increase (Decrease)	
Finance and Benefits								
Conferences, Seminars & Travel	\$	38,200	\$	47,000	\$	(8,800)	-18.7	
In-House Training	\$	-	\$	1	\$	1	0	
#FTE		25.5		25.5				
Expense per FTE	\$	1,498	\$	1,843				

	2026	2025	crease ecrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
Investments				
Conferences, Seminars & Travel	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$ -	0
In-House Training	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ -	0
#FTE	13	13		
Expense per FTE	\$ 6,538	\$ 6,538		

	2026		2025	Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
Information Technology/Information	on Services				
Conferences, Seminars & Travel	\$ 153,42	5   \$	155,700	\$ (2,275)	-1.5
In-House Training	\$	- \$	-	\$ -	0
#FTE	4	<b>1</b> 5	44		
Expense per FTE	\$ 3,40	9 \$	3,539		

	2026	2025	Increase Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
Member Services				
Conferences, Seminars & Travel	\$ 20,200	\$ 21,500	\$ (1,300)	-6.0
In-House Training	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ -	0
#FTE	66.5	66.5		
Expense per FTE	\$ 304	\$ 323		

<sup>\*</sup> Travel costs for Investment and Finance include costs attributed to due diligence visits

## **Supplementary Statistical Information**

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Active Members	146,646	155,063	159,873	163,350	NA
Inactive Members	284,631	282,998	280,693	283,701	NA
Benefit Recipeint (Age, Dis.,					
Survivor)	68,518	68,481	68,923	69,319	NA
Re-employed Retirees	12,203	12,670	12,910	13,171	NA
Total Membership	511,998	519,212	522,399	529,541	NA
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	

Members Per FTE	2,829	2,869	2,870	2,894	NA

### School Employees Retirement System

## Memo

To: Retirement Board

From Richard Stensrud

cc: Karen Roggenkamp

**Date:** April 11, 2025

Re: Member Counseling Overview

Following up on Board interest, on the April Board agenda is a presentation from our Member Services team. The PowerPoint slide deck is attached.

Director of Member Services John Grumney and Stephanie Thompson, Supervisor of Counseling and Member Outreach will provide an overview of how we educate and counsel our members with their retirement decisions. They will also share a brief video of Cameron Vaughn 'in action' at a previous Lunch and Learn educational presentation.

I hope that you will find this information helpful particularly since we are experiencing elevated member retirement interest.

Staff will be ready to answer any questions you might have.



## **Background – Who is Counseling?**



The Counseling team is responsible for providing retirement counseling and conducting member education events.

Their roles include serving members who have scheduled appointments, as well as walk-ins, and assisting with miscellaneous department tasks, such as income verification, updates to member records including beneficiary or power of attorney, and processing estimate requests. This team has six staff members, who report to Stephanie Thompson – Supervisor.



## **Personalized Counseling Sessions**



Members may choose to be counseled in person, by phone, or by video conference.

Fiscal Year 2024		
Scheduled In Office	1,906	43.3%
Walk-In Office	692	15.7%
Phone	1,081	24.5%
Video	725	16.5%
Total:	4,404	

Each member, regardless of choice, is scheduled for a one-hour personalized session with a counselor.

## **Member Education Events**



#### **Benefit Fairs**

Upon request of employers, a SERS representative travels to a school to meet with staff and answer general questions about SERS membership and benefits.

### **Member Meetings**

Upon request of employers or employee representatives, a SERS representative provides a presentation to members regarding retirement. Topics covered include the basics of retirement, any current topics of interest (CBBC, Social Security, etc.). These may be presented in person or virtually.

#### **Essentials for Retirement Success Webinar**

Designed for members within three to five years of retirement, this webinar covers a variety of topics they should consider now, so that they can feel fully prepared when the time comes to apply for service retirement. These include plans of payment, health care options, post retirement, and re-employment considerations.

#### **Virtual Retirement Conferences**

Designed for members within two years of retirement, SERS conducts virtual Retirement Conferences in the spring and fall of each year. Members have the opportunity to ask questions of staff members in a live chat and learn the latest information on retirement issues.

#### **Lunch Break Webinar**

This short webinar series is designed to focus on a few select topics that are important for SERS members to know. The webinar runs for 30 minutes, providing a short educational session along with the opportunity to ask questions. The initial webinars have been targeted towards members who are new to SERS.

## **Member Education By the Numbers**



Fiscal Year 2024	Events Held	Attendees
Benefit Fairs	10	589
Virtual Member Meetings	6	395
In-Person Member Meetings	30	1,770
Essentials for Retirement Success Webinar	9	637
Virtual Retirement Conference	6	988
Lunch Break Webinar	3	98
Totals	64	4,477





SERS conducts monthly Member Satisfaction Surveys following their counseling session.

## **February 2025 Results:**

What type of appointment did you have?					
In Person	35	39%			
Phone Call	32	36%			
Video Session	21	23%			

How satisfied are you with your counseling appointment?					
1 (Dissatisfied)	0	0%			
2	0	0%			
3	1	1.5%			
4	1	1.5%			
5 (Satisfied)	86	97%			
Mean	4.97				
Median	5				

# **Satisfaction Survey**



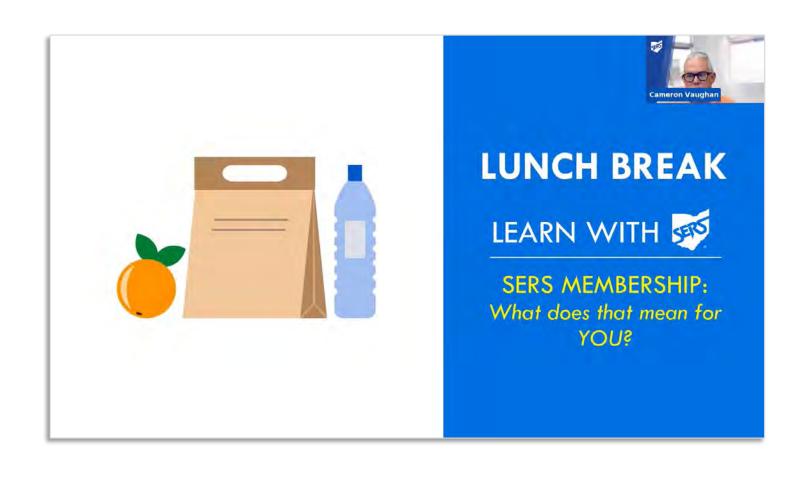
Do you feel the counselor adequately answered your questions and was helpful?						
Yes	87	98%				
No	1	2%				

Did you register for a secure online account on Account Login (available from the SERS website)?						
Yes	69	79%				
No	18	21%				

<sup>\*</sup>SERS survey, February 2025

## **Education in Action**





## What is the Process?



- ➤ The member may schedule an appointment of their choice (in-person, virtual, or phone) by calling SERS or by using the member portal.
- ➤ A retirement packet is mailed 2-4 weeks in advance of the counseling appointment, which includes:
  - Estimate of Benefits
  - Service Retirement Guide
  - Member Health Care Guide
- ➤ The Retirement Counselor goes through a Retirement Checklist and addresses specific questions the member may have based upon their individual scenario.
- ➤ Member may file for retirement during this appointment if they wish.

## **Retirement Checklist**



NCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETURENES	
MEMBER IN OFFICE COUNSELING	CHECKLIST
Retirement  Review estimate, plans of payment, pop-up and pop-down Review number of paid days required: Other Systems: OPERS, STRS, or P&F S.B. 42 PLOP Death benefit Social Security penalties: Offset/Windfall if SERS pension is effective to the penalties of the	
☐ Partially completed application sent home with member to com-	
Health Care Coverage  Future retiree – discussed health care basics  Waived health care and rescind waiver rules  Health care eligibility  Premiums  Review plans of coverage: Medicare/Non-Medicare  WRAP  Timely receipt of Medicare information (15th of month prior to enrollment)  Dental and vision plans  Wellness  Contact information for health, dental, vision, and prescription  ID cards: mailed a few weeks prior to retirement date  Open enrollment	Required Documents  Birth certificate - member Birth certificate - spouse Birth certificate - other Marriage certificate Medicare card - member Medicare card - spouse Medicare card - other Direct deposit form
IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEN	BER
:	
Member Name (plesse print)	Date
Member's Signature	
Counselor's Signature	

## **Counseling and SERS Strategic Plan**



### Strategic Goal #2 - Service Delivery & Operations

The Counseling team supports Strategic Goal #2 in the following ways:

### 1. Satisfaction Survey

Helps to manage service and address concerns as well as ways to innovate

### 2. Member Portal

Discussions around portal and importance of creating an account

### 3. Education

Contribution Based Benefit Cap (CBBC) and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) development

# **Questions?**





#### **SERS**

## Memo

To: Retirement Board

From: SERS Legal Department

CC: Richard Stensrud

Date: April 4, 2025

Re: Administrative Rules

Two categories of resolutions on Administrative Rules are on the April Board Agenda.

#### I. Approval to file with JCARR the following proposed amended rule:

#### • 3309-1- 46 Retirement-option section

This rule explains the circumstances under which spousal consent is required or can be waived when a member, married at the time of applying for retirement, chooses a payment plan other than "Plan A." The proposed amendment waives the requirement for spousal consent when the member elects "Plan D" and designates the current spouse as beneficiary under the plan. "Plan D" provides a lower monthly payment to the retiree, which continues to be paid in the same amount to the surviving spouse after the retiree's death.

### II. Approval to file with JCARR the following proposed refiled amended administrative rule:

#### 3309-1-20 Validity of marriage

This rule specifies the documents necessary to validate a marriage for a spouse to qualify for or receive a benefit. During the Board meeting last month, the Board approved an amended version for final filing. Amendments included a requirement that SERS be provided a certified copy of a marriage certificate or an abstract of marriage in order for a spouse to qualify for or receive a benefit, and removal of paragraph 3309-1-20(C). Before the amended rule was final filed with JCARR, additional changes were identified as necessary by staff.

Proposed amendments before the Board this month include a requirement that SERS receive a valid marriage certificate, abstract of marriage or marriage record in order for

a spouse to qualify for or receive a benefit, as well as clarification that SERS will no longer accept a marriage license as proof of marriage. The amendment removing 3309-1-20(C) has not changed. If approved, the refiled amended rule will be filed with JCARR and remain under its jurisdiction for 30 days. Once JCARR jurisdiction has ended, the refiled amended rule can be final filed following Board approval at a future Board meeting.

Please call Britani Galloway at 614-222-5924 if you have any questions before the meeting.

#### FILING OF PROPOSED AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

Legal Counsel discussed with the Retirement Board filing with	JCARR the following proposed
amended rule: 3309-1-46 Retirement – option selection.	
moved and	seconded that proposed
amended rule 3309-1-46 be filed with JCARR as discussed.	

#### 3309-1-46 Retirement - option selection.

- (A) If an applicant is married at the time of filing an application for retirement, the applicant shall receive a retirement allowance designated as "Plan A" under division (B)(1) of section 3309.46 of the Revised Code, unless:
  - (1) The spouse consents on a form provided by the school employees retirement system to the applicant's election to receive an annuity or payment pursuant to an optional plan under division (B)(3) or (B)(4) of section 3309.46 of the Revised Code; or
  - (2) The school employees retirement board waives the requirement of a spousal consent upon receipt of one of the following:
    - (a) The written statement of the spouse's physician certifying that the spouse is medically incapable of consenting to the plan of payment elected by the applicant; or
    - (b) A certified copy of a probate court order appointing a guardian for the spouse due to a finding of incompetence; or
    - (c) The affidavits of the applicant and at least two other persons, one of whom must be unrelated to the applicant, attesting that the whereabouts of the spouse is unknown; or-
    - (d) An application for retirement in which the applicant elects a plan of payment specified as "Plan D" and designates the applicant's current spouse as beneficiary under the plan.
  - (3) The applicant is required to elect a plan of payment providing a specified amount to a former spouse after the applicant's death pursuant to a court order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code or the laws of another state regarding the division of marital property, and
    - (a) The applicant elects a plan of payment designated as "Plan F" under division (B)(3)(e) of section 3309.46 of the Revised Code that is in accordance with the court order and also designates the applicant's current spouse as a beneficiary under the plan; or
    - (b) The total amount required by court order, or orders, is equal to or greater than

one hundred per cent of the applicant's lesser allowance.

(B) An applicant's current spouse must also consent to the election of a plan of payment described in division (B)(3)(e) of section 3309.46 of the Revised Code if the applicant is required to elect a plan of payment providing a specified amount to a former spouse after the applicant's death pursuant to a court order issued under section 3105.171 or 3105.65 of the Revised Code or the laws of another state regarding the division of marital property and also designates a beneficiary under the plan other than the former spouse and current spouse.

HISTORY: 3/31/11, 5/4/07, 10/27/06, 1/2/03, 11/9/98, 9/20/90

Promulgated Under: 111.15 Statutory Authority: 3309.04 Rule Amplifies: 3309.46 Review Date: 2/1/29

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

ROLL CALL:	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Catherine Moss			<del></del>
Jeanine Alexander			<del></del>
Jeffrey DeLeone			
James Haller			
James Rossler			
Aimee Russell			
Frank Weglarz			
Daniel Wilson			
Matthew King			
9			

#### FILING OF PROPOSED REFILED AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

refiled amended rule: 3309-1-20 Validity of marriage.	with JCARR the following proposed
moved and	seconded that the proposed
refiled amended rule be filed with JCARR as discussed.	

#### 3309-1-20 Validity of marriage.

- (A) For purposes of this rule, "age and service retirant" and "disability benefit recipient" have the same meaning as defined in rule 3309-1-35 of the Administrative Code, and "retirant" has the same meaning as defined in division (G) of section 3309.01 of the Revised Code.
- (B) For the purpose of qualifying for, or receiving, any benefit as a spouse under Chapter 3309. of the Revised Code, the member's or retirant's marriage must be recognized by the state of Ohio. The school employees retirement board shall accept the following as proof of marriage:
  - (1) A valid marriage certificate, abstract of marriage or marriage record; or
  - (2) In the absence of a <u>valid</u> marriage certificate, <u>abstract of marriage or marriage</u> <u>record</u>, a decision rendered by a court, having jurisdiction in the state in which the member or retirant was domiciled at the time of death, that the relationship constituted a valid marriage at time of death, or the "spouse" would have the same status as a widow or widower for purposes of sharing in the distribution of the member's or retirant's intestate personal property if not otherwise prohibited by section 3105.12 of the Revised Code.
- (C) For purposes of this rule, the school employees retirement board shall not accept marriage licenses as proof of marriage.
- (C) For any retirant or disability benefit recipient legally married in another state before June 26, 2015 whose marriage became recognized in the state of Ohio beginning on that date, the following rules apply:
  - (1) If a retirant makes an election under division (E)(3) of section 3309.46 of the Revised Code, the election must be made before June 26, 2016;
  - (2) An eligible age and service retirant or disability benefit recipient may enroll themself and may enroll a spouse in the system's health care plan at any time between August 1, 2015 and November 30, 2015.
  - (3) The surviving spouse of a deceased age and service retirant who is receiving a benefit pursuant to section 3309.46 of the Revised Code may enroll in the system's health care plan at any time between August 1, 2015 and November 30, 2015.

HISTORY: 10/4/15, 4/10/14,4/3/09, 8/14/04, 5/8/04, 12/24/76

Promulgated Under: Statutory Authority: Rule Amplifies: 111.15 3309.04

3309.44, 3309.45

Review Date: 1/31/25

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Catherine Moss			
Jeanine Alexander	<del></del>	<del></del>	
Jeffrey DeLeone James Haller	<del></del>	<del></del>	<del></del>
James Rossler	<del></del>		
Aimee Russell			
Frank Weglarz			
Daniel Wilson			
Matthew King		<del></del>	<del></del>

### **BALLOT CERTIFICATION – EMPLOYEE MEMBERS**

The Executive Director submitted the following certification of the Judges on the canvass of the vote for the election of two employee members to the Retirement Board for terms beginning July 1, 2025:

odiy 1, 2020.					
March 4, 2025					W
To the Retirement Board School Employees Retire		Ohio:			
This is to certify that we Retirement System, me employee-member boar beginning July 1, 2025.	t in the office of the	Retirement System	on March 4, 2025, for	the election of two	0
J V E	ecky Roe ames Haller eanine Alexander Vrite-In Blank/Invalid Abstain	Total	4,281 2,760 3,825 11 25		
		Name: Henriq Office: Ohio A Name: Jacquie Office: Ohio A	Itorney General  MCKee	1	
	record and th	nat Jeanine A	lexander and B	Becky Roe b	on be accepted and be declared elected as beginning July 1,
Upon roll call, the vo	ote was as follo	ows:			
ROLL CALL: Catherine Moss Jeanine Alexander Jeffrey DeLeone James Haller James Rossler Aimee Russell Frank Weglarz Daniel Wilson	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>		
Matthew King					

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

moved ar convene in Executive Se employment and comper	ssion pursuant	to R.C. 121.22	tion that the Retirement Board 2 (G)(1) to discuss the
Upon roll call, the vote wa	as as follows:		
ROLL CALL:	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Catherine Moss Jeanine Alexander Jeffrey DeLeone James Haller James Rossler Aimee Russell Frank Weglarz Daniel Wilson Matthew King			
CONVENED IN EXECUTIVE	E SESSION A	т	A.M./P.M.
RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION AT			AM/PM

### School Employees Retirement System

# Memo

To: Retirement Board

From Michael Steiner, PhD

cc: Richard Stensrud and Karen Roggenkamp

**Date:** April 11, 2025

Re: Healthcare Fund Sustainability and Retiree Participation Discussion

Following up on a recent Board request, Michael Steiner, PhD, will provide the board with a presentation on the Health Care Fund Sustainability and the Medicare Plan Premium Surcharge.

Dr. Steiner will update the board on the current strategies being utilized to maintain the health care fund as well as risks to the Health Care Fund.

Dr. Steiner will also update the board on the Health Care Premium Surcharge and the estimated impact of premium surcharge reduction and Dr. Steiner will be available to answer any questions you might have.



Michael Steiner, PhD

Director - Health Care Services

### **Strategies**



- 1. Continuously monitor and assess pension fund risks and identify measures to mitigate them.
- 2. Continuously monitor and assess health care fund risks and identify measures to mitigate them.
- 3. Maintain an investment program that meets or exceeds investment objectives over the long term.
- 4. Maintain a governance model that reflects industry best practices.
- 5. Continuously engage with and educate stakeholders and policymakers regarding the SERS' financial status of and risks to sustainability.

### Strategy 2: Continuously monitor and assess health care fund risks and identify measures to mitigate them.



Actions	Tactics
1.2.1: Maximize available health care resources to support a strong health care program	Explore Medicare plan pricing and potential for increasing the enrollment rate for new retirees.
1.2.2: Continue to explore opportunities to improve affordability	<ol> <li>Increase engagement with national partners to help steer health care policy.</li> <li>Continue to assess whether our model for providing health care benefits is the best for our members and the most sustainable approach.</li> </ol>
1.2.3: Advocate for and support health care policies that provide a sustainable, affordable, high-quality health care benefit	<ol> <li>Work with consultants to assess health plan / Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) model and parties in those roles.</li> <li>Monitor potential state-level changes to PBM operations.</li> </ol>

### **Risks to the Health Care Fund**



Risks	Responses
Decline in Medicare revenue	<ol> <li>Federal revenue is considered in rate setting; losses will be mitigated by a higher base premium.</li> <li>Pivot to other models of delivering a Medicare plan (e.g., switching from Retiree Drug Subsidy to Part D, Medicare Cost to MA)</li> <li>Advocacy and education efforts</li> </ol>
Increased claims expenses	<ol> <li>Unlike a commercial plan, Medicare revenue is based on expected costs and will increase in reaction to blockbuster drugs and rising hospital fees.</li> <li>Claims increases will be mitigated by a higher base premium.</li> </ol>
Prolonged economic downturn	<ol> <li>The Health Care Fund is better positioned to weather a downturn compared to 2008:</li> <li>Downturns and recoveries are expected as a component of Actuarial Assumed Rate of Return (AARR).</li> <li>In FY 2022 HC income offset a negative investment return, fund grew year over year.</li> <li>Investment return sensitivity analysis demonstrates that the Board has time to react to a downturn severe enough to impact AARR.</li> </ol>



### **Agenda**



- Summarize February 2025 analysis on premium surcharge reduction or elimination
- Surcharge reduction and elimination scenarios with lower Actuarial Assumed Rate of Return (AARR)
- Assumed participation rates for new retirees
- Guidance for draft premiums in May 2025

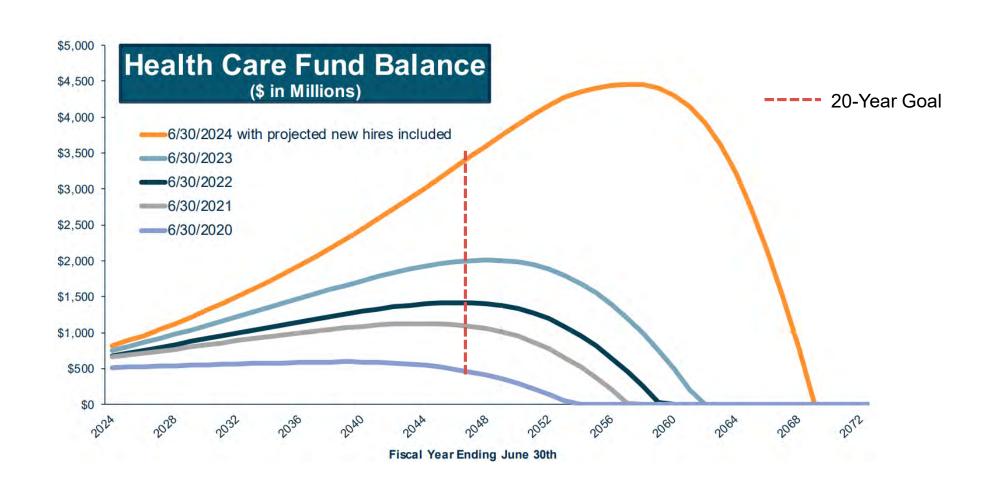
### **HC Premium Surcharge**



- \$35 premium surcharge added in 2011.
  - Replace employer pension contributions that were typically allocated to the Health Care Fund.
  - Two other fees were added and then removed by 2016.
- The fund has grown from a low of \$325 million (6/30/2010) to nearly \$864 million (2/28/2025).
- Projected solvency period is 45 years. The last five valuations project the solvency period to be beyond the 20-year goal.
- Total Medicare plan size and new retiree uptake are declining.
  - 2024 Member Survey suggests plan premium is the main reason retirees pick another option.

# **Solvency Chart: FY 2024**





# **Estimated Impact of Premium Surcharge Reduction**



2026 Premium Surcharge	Reduction from Current	Reduction to Solvency Period	Solvency Projection End Date (FY)	Projected Years of Solvency
\$35 (Current)	\$0	0	2069	45
\$25	\$10	1	2068	44
\$15	\$20	2	2067	43
\$10	\$25	3	2066	42
\$0	\$35	5	2064	40

### **Actuarial Assumed Rate of Return**



- SERS' actuary uses a 7% AARR.
  - Economic cycles are assumed to average out to 7% annual return over time.
  - Using 6% ARR for estimating the solvency period is a stress test simulating a severe downturn, sluggish recovery, and/or chronic under performance.
- Health Care Fund returns are not smoothed; gains and losses are experienced as they happen.
  - In FY 2022, the negative investment returns were fully incorporated in the valuation. Even with negative returns the fund grew, and the solvency period increased.

# **Premium Surcharge**



Premium Surcharge	Reduction from Current	Reduction to Solvency Period	Solvency Projection End Date (FY)	Projected Years of Solvency w/ 7% AARR	Projected Years of Solvency w/ 6% AARR
\$35 (Current)	\$0	0	2069	45	41
\$25	\$10	1	2068	44	
\$15	\$20	2	2067	43	38
\$10	\$25	3	2066	42	
\$0	\$35	5	2064	40	36

### **Fund Solvency and AARR:**



**Current Surcharge, Reduced Surcharge, Eliminated Surcharge** 

- Full elimination of surcharge paired with lower assumed rate of return shortens the solvency period from 45 to 36 years.
  - This scenario exceeds the Board's 20-year goal by 16 years.
- Lower AARR decreases the solvency period by four to five years.
  - The Board will have time to consider alternative strategies if the fund begins to fall short of expectations.

### **Declining Participation Rate**



- Participation rates below actuarial assumptions will extend the solvency period, rates above the assumptions shorten the solvency period.
  - SERS' Medicare plan assumed participation rate is higher than actual participation rate.
  - SERS' actual participation rate has declined over time.
  - Catching up to the assumed participation rate does not shorten the solvency period.
  - 2019 premium cut increased participation by 5%.

Enrollment Rate for Service Retirees 30 to 34 YOS, Age 65+				
Actuarial Assumption (FY 20)	Actual 2020	Actuarial Assumption (FY 25)	Actual 2025	
80%	74%	75%	68%	

# **Premium Surcharge**



Premium Surcharge	Solvency Projection End Date w/ Current Assumptions	Projected Years of Solvency			
		7% AARR	6% AARR	Higher Participation & 7% AARR	Higher Participation & 6% AARR
\$35 (Current)	2069	45	41		
\$25	2068	44			
\$15	2067	43	38	40	36
\$10	2066	42			
\$0	2064	40	36	37	34

Higher Participation: 7.5% above current assumptions, capped at 95% assumed uptake.

# Fund Solvency: Current Surcharge, Reduced Surcharge, Eliminated Surcharge



- Full elimination of surcharge paired with lower AARR and a large increase in participation shortens the solvency period from 45 to 34 years.
  - This scenario exceeds the Board's 20-year goal by 14 years.
- Lower AARR decreases the solvency period by 4 to 5 years.
- Participation exceeding current assumptions by 7.5% could shorten the solvency by 2 to 3 years.
  - The sensitivity analysis uses a large increase, more than doubling the increase in 2019.
  - An increase like 2019 would keep the participation rate below the current assumption.

### **2025 Premiums with Surcharge Changes**



Years of Service	\$35 Surcharge	\$25 Surcharge	\$15 Surcharge	\$10 Surcharge	No Surcharge
10 to 19.999	\$198	\$188	\$178	\$173	\$163
20 to 29.999	\$117	\$107	\$97	\$92	\$82
25 to 29.999	\$84	\$74	\$64	\$59	\$49
30 to 34.999	\$68	\$58	\$48	\$43	\$33
35 Years	\$60	\$50	\$40	\$35	\$25
% Premium Reduction	n/a	15%	29%	37%	51%

\$45.50 Medicare Part B reimbursement.

Most Common

- Most retirees will qualify for this reimbursement.
- Net deduction for a service retiree with 30 to 34.999 HC YOS and a \$15 surcharge:

\$48.00 Premium Deduction

- \$45.50 Medicare Part B Reimbursement
- = \$2.50 total monthly benefit deduction

### Reducing Medicare Plan Surcharge



- Lowering the premium is expected to increase participation rate of new retirees
- Improves the plan's value to members
- Consistent with strategic plan goals

Premium Surcharge	Solvency Projection End Date	Projected Years of Solvency
\$35 (Current)	2069	45
\$15	2067	43
\$0	2064	40

### **ONLY IF NEEDED**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

moved and _	se	conded the m	otion that the Board go in	to Executive
Session pursuant to R.C. 12	21.22 (G)(5)	to review app	lications for Disability Ret	rement
Benefits.				
ROLL CALL:	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	
Catherine Moss Jeanine Alexander Jeffrey DeLeone James Haller James Rossler Aimee Russell Frank Weglarz Daniel Wilson Matthew King				
CONVENED IN EXECUTIVE	E SESSION	AT	A.M./P.M.	
RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION AT			A.M. / P.M.	

#### CALENDAR DATES FOR SERS BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2025 \*\*

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

June 17, 2025 – 2:30 p.m. (Tues.) \*\* Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday \*\*
September 17, 2025 - 2:30 p.m. (Weds.)
December 17, 2025 – 2:30 p.m. (Weds.)

#### **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

June 18, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Weds.) \*\* Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday \*\*

July 17, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Thurs.) \*\* Special Meeting \*\*

September 18, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Thurs.)

December 18, 2025 – 7:30 a.m. (Thurs.)

#### **TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

June 18, 2025 – 12:30 p.m. (Weds.) \*\* Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday \*\*
September 19, 2025 – 12:30 p.m. (Thurs.)
December 19, 2025 – 12:30 p.m. (Thurs.)

#### **BOARD MEETINGS**

May 15 – 16, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)
June 18, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Weds.) \*\* Moved due to Juneteenth Holiday \*\*

July 17 – 19, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)

September 18 – 19, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.) \*\* Board Picture Day \*\*

October 16 – 17, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)

November 20 – 21, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)

December 18 – 19, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. (Thurs. and Fri.)

<sup>\*\*</sup> Please note that these dates and times are tentative.

### **CONTINUED OR NEW BUSINESS**

**Board Information Requested** 

#### **BOARD INFORMATION REQUESTS AND FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

1.			
2.			
3.			
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#### ADJOURNMENT(R)

moved that the SERS Retirement board adjourn to meet on Thursday, May 15, 2025, for the next regularly scheduled meeting.	
The meeting adjourned at a.m./p.m.	
Matthew King – Chair	
Richard Stensrud Secretary	