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Legislative Division of the Public Employees Retirement Association of New Mexico Annual Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2021



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October 28, 2021

The Retirement Board Public Employees Retirement Association Santa Fe, New Mexico

Members of the Board:

We have conducted the annual actuarial valuation of the Legislative Division of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) of New Mexico as of June 30, 2021; the results of the valuation are contained in the following report. The annual valuation is used to determine the contribution requirement that is necessary to fund the annual normal cost and fully amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability with annual payments over a 25-year period. The results of this valuation apply to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 (FY 2022). Information contained in our report for plan years prior to June 30, 2010 is based upon valuations performed by the association's prior actuary.

In performing the valuation, we relied on data supplied by the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) and performed limited tests on the data for consistency and reasonableness. In determining the Fund's liabilities, future events, such as investment returns, deaths, retirements, etc., are anticipated based upon the set of actuarial assumptions as approved by the Board. Senate Bill 72 established a new COLA structure effective July 1, 2020. Under SB 72, future COLAs beginning at July 1, 2023 are provided through a profit-sharing mechanism using PERA's asset performance. Based on Asset Liability Model (ALM) output, we assume future COLA rates equal the 30-year average COLA rates under the median ALM output, currently 1.60% annually.

Future actuarial results may differ significantly from the current results presented in this report due to such factors as the following: plan experience differing from that anticipated by the economic or demographic assumptions; changes in economic or demographic assumptions; and changes in plan provisions or applicable law. Since the potential impact of such factors is outside the scope of a normal annual actuarial valuation, an analysis of the range of results is not presented herein.

This actuarial valuation was performed to determine the adequacy of statutory contributions to fund the plan. The asset values used to determine unfunded liabilities and funded ratios are not market values but less volatile market related values. A smoothing technique is applied to market values to determine the market related values. The unfunded liability amounts and funded ratios using the market value of assets would be different. The interest rate used for determining liabilities is based on the expected return on assets. Therefore, liability amounts in this report cannot be used to assess a settlement of the obligation.

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Measuring pension obligations and actuarially determined contributions requires the use of assumptions regarding future economic and demographic experience. Whenever assumptions are made about future events, there is risk that actual experience will differ from expected. Appendix D of this report provides a discussion of the risk considerations for this division of PERA in compliance with the guidance provided under Actuarial Standard of Practice Number 51, *Assessment and Disclosure of Risk in Measuring Pension Obligations*, (ASOP 51),

Annual actuarial valuations are performed for PERA which re-measure the assets and liabilities and compute a new actuarially determined contribution. PERA also has experience studies performed every four to five years to analyze the discrepancies between actuarial assumptions and actual experience and determine if the actuarial assumptions need to be changed. Annual actuarial valuations and periodic experience studies are practical ways to monitor and reassess risk.

In order to prepare the results in this report, we have utilized appropriate actuarial models that were developed for this purpose. These models use assumptions about future contingent events along with recognized actuarial approaches to develop the needed results.

We note that as we are preparing this report, the world is in the midst of a pandemic. We have considered available information but do not believe that there is yet sufficient data to warrant the modification of any of our assumptions. We will continue to monitor the situation and advise in the future of any adjustments that we believe would be appropriate.

This is to certify that the undersigned are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and have experience in performing valuations for public retirement systems, that the valuation was prepared in accordance with principles of practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board, and that the actuarial calculations were performed by qualified actuaries in accordance with accepted actuarial procedures, based on the current provisions of the Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Garrett, ASA, FCA, MAAA Principal and Consulting Actuary

Bryan Hoge, FSA, EA, FCA, MAAA Consulting Actuary



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The table below summarizes the results of the June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation as compared with the prior year.

| Valuation Date | June 30, 2021 | June 30, 2020 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) | | |
| Active Members | \$ 11,279,660 | \$ 12,093,273 |
| Deferred Vested Members | 617,886 | 582,597 |
| Retired Members and Survivors | 20,868,986 | 19,470,195 |
| Total | \$ 32,766,532 | \$ 32,146,065 |
| Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA) | \$ 46,180,779 | \$ 44,466,366 |
| Funded Ratio | 140.9% | 138.3% |
| Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) (AAL - AVA) | \$ (13,414,247) | \$ (12,320,301) |
| Calculation of Required Contribution | | |
| (Fiscal Year Ending) | June 30, 2022 | June 30, 2021 |
| Normal Cost | | |
| Retirement | \$ 965,994 | \$ 940,033 |
| Pre-Retirement Survivors | 44,436 | 48,545 |
| Total Normal Cost | \$ 1,010,430 | \$ 988,578 |
| Less Expected Member Contribution | 68,400_ | 70,800_ |
| Employer Normal Cost | \$ 942,030 | \$ 917,778 |
| Expected Administrative Expenses | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| UAAL Amortization Amount (25 Years) | (1,137,339) | (1,044,588) |
| Actuarially Determined Contribution (not less than \$0) | \$- | \$- |

Table I-1: Comparative Summary of Principal Results



Summary of Key Findings

The funding policy for the Plan determines the employer contribution required to fund the annual normal cost plus an amount to fully amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) over 25 years. This resulting contribution amount is compared to the expected statutory contribution amount to assess the sufficiency of the statutory contribution. The Plan has a significant surplus of assets over liabilities and the actuarially determined contribution for the Plan in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 (FY 2022) is \$0. The employer contribution requirement for FY 2021 was also \$0 as determined in the prior valuation.

The normal cost amount increased from \$988,578 to \$1,010,430. Beginning with the June 30, 2020 valuation, the annual expected administrative expenses of \$40,000 are included in the calculation of the actuarially determined contribution. The UAAL decreased from (12.3) million to (13.4) million and results in a decrease to the annual amortization amount from (1,044,588) to (1,137,339). The Plan's funded ratio has increased from 138.3% to 140.9%. We note the following key findings:

- The Plan experienced an actuarial gain on plan assets of \$754,271. This represents a 2.3% increase to the funded ratio. Table III-4 provides the calculation of the actuarial investment loss for this year.
- The Plan experienced a net gain of \$503,083 on plan liabilities due to non-investment related experience, which represents a 2.1% increase to the funded ratio.
- The Plan experienced a net loss of \$116,286 on plan liabilities due to the active legislators' assumed per diem rate increasing by more than the assumed rate. This represents a 0.5% decrease to the funded ratio.

Section II of the report provides summarized information on the membership data used in the valuation. Section III covers the Plan's assets and Section IV covers the Plan's liabilities. The results of the valuation are provided in Section V and the accounting information is in Section VI. The appendices provide additional information on: A) the Plan members, B) the actuarial assumptions and methods, and C) the summary of the benefit provisions of the plan. It is important to note that all information contained in this report for periods prior to June 30, 2010 were produced by a prior actuarial consulting firm.



Data regarding the membership of the Plan for use in the valuation were furnished by PERA. The following table summarizes the membership data as of June 30, 2021 and is compared with that reported for the prior year.

| Group | June 30, 2021 | June 30, 2020 |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Active Members | 114 | 118 |
| Inactive Members* | 22 | 25 |
| Retirees | | |
| Service* | 160 | 155 |
| Disabled | 0 | 0 |
| Beneficiaries | <u>44</u> | <u>40</u> |
| Total Retirees | 204 | 195 |
| Totals | 340 | 338 |

| Table II-1: S | ummary of Mer | mbership Data a | as of June 30, | 2021 |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|------|
| | | | | - |

* As of June 30, 2021, inactive members include 8 non-vested members with contributions on deposit. Service retirees include 4 co-payees.

Table II-2: Deferred Members, Retired Members and Beneficiaries as of June 30, 2021

| Group | Number | Total Annual Benefits | Average Annual Benefits | Average Age |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Deferred Vested | 14 | \$ 90,440 | \$ 6,460 | 55.89 |
| Retirees | | | | |
| Service* | 160 | 1,763,688 | 11,023 | 75.65 |
| Disability | 0 | 0 | N/A | N/A |
| Survivors | <u>44</u> | 499,814 | 11,359 | 80.89 |
| Retiree Totals | 204 | \$2,263,502 | \$ 11,096 | 76.78 |
| Total | 218 | \$2,353,942 | \$ 10,798 | 75.44 |

* Includes 4 co-payees.



The following tables provide information on PERA's market value of assets and the development of the actuarial value of assets. The difference between the Fund's total market and actuarial value is allocated to each Division of PERA in relation to the percent of each Division's market value to the market value of the total Fund.

| | | June 30, 2021 | Ju | me 30, 2020 |
|----------------------------|--|--|--------------|--|
| Be | ginning of Year Market Value | \$ 14,691,984,206 | \$ 15 | 5,507,545,549 |
| Au | dit Adjustment | - | | - |
| Re | vised Beginning of Year Market Value | \$ 14,691,984,206 | \$ 15 | 5,507,545,549 |
| Re | venues: | | | |
| a. b. c. d. e. | Member Contributions Employer Contributions Appropriations Purchases of Service Investment Income 1. Interest, dividends, etc. 2. Realized/Unrealized gains (losses) 3. Security lending and other gains (losses) | \$ 298,572,637 379,184,992 - 10,979,261 404,664,374 3,478,447,098 2,016,817 | \$ | 289,776,597 367,524,721 55,900,000 7,376,041 295,948,452 (457,794,648) 3,072,416 |
| ı. g. h. | Settlement Award Total Revenues | \$ - 4,575,855,868 | \$ | - 563,449,212 |
| Ex | penditures: | | | |
| a. b. c. d. e. | Benefit Payments Refunds of member contributions Investment expenses Administrative expenses Total Expenditures | \$ 1,314,819,963 40,353,832 85,987,601 12,730,398 1,453,891,794 | \$ | 1,255,018,086 44,903,265 64,770,855 14,318,349 1,379,010,555 |
| En | d of Year Market Value | \$ 17,813,948,280 | \$ 14 | 4,691,984,206 |

Table III-1: Total PERA Market Value Reconciliation



The actuarial value of assets represents a "smoothed" value developed with the purpose of dampening the impact of market volatility on the assets used in determining valuation results. The actuarial value is first determined for the total PERA assets and is calculated by spreading the recognition of unexpected investment income over four years. The amount of unexpected investment income in each year is the difference between expected actuarial value investment income and actual market value investment income. Table III-2 provides the calculation of the actuarial value of assets for PERA.

| 11. Actuarial Value as a Percentage of Market Value | | | 92.66 % | |
|---|--|-------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 9. 10. | Difference Between Market & Actuarial Value Rate of Return on Actuarial Value | ues (2 - 8) | \$ | 1,307,556,943 9.07 % |
| 8. | Actuarial Value End of Year (1 + 4f + 5c + 6e + 7) | | \$ 1 | 6,506,391,337 |
| 7. | Audit Adjustment | | \$ | - |
| | e. Total Recognized Investment Gain | | \$ | 281,593,165 |
| | d. Third Prior Year (2017/2018) | \$ (73,898,297) x 25% | | (18,474,574) |
| | c. Second Prior Year (2018/2019) | \$ (150,214,662) x 25% | | (37,553,666) |
| | b. First Prior Year (2019/2020) | \$(1,328,985,588) x 25% | | (332,246,397) |
| 6. | Phased-In Recognition of Investment Income a. Current Year: 0.25 * 5d | | \$ | 669,867,802 |
| | d. Amount for Phased-In Recognition | | | 2,679,471,206 |
| | c. Amount for Immediate Recognition | | | 1,119,669,482 |
| | b. Assumed Rate | | | 7.25 % |
| 5. | Investment Income a. Market Total (2 - 3 - 4f) | | \$ | 3,799,140,688 |
| | f. Net | | \$ | (677,176,614) |
| | e. Other | | | 1,990,689 |
| | d. Administrative Expenses | | | (12,730,398) |
| | c. Benefit Payments and Refunds | | | (1,355,173,795) |
| | b. Service Purchases | | | 10,979,261 |
| 4. | Cash Flow a. Contributions & Appropriations | | \$ | 677.757.629 |
| 3. | Revised Market Value Beginning of Year | | | 14,691,984,206 |
| 2. | Market Value End of Year | | | 17,813,948,280 |
| 1. | Actuarial Value Beginning of Year | | \$ | 15,782,305,304 |

Table III-2: Development of Actuarial Value of Assets as of June 30, 2021(Total PERA Fund Balance)



The actuarial valuation adjustment is the difference between the actuarial value of assets, derived in Table III-2, and the total PERA fund balances at market value. The adjustment is allocated to each division of PERA in proportion to the total PERA fund balance at market value. The portion allocated to the Legislative Division was approximately 0.28% of the total PERA fund balance and is calculated in Table III-3.

| \$ 772,206 | \$ 2,851,406,582 |
|------------------|---|
| 36,112,696 | 4,423,360,474 |
| 12,954,096 | 10,539,181,224 |
| \$ 49,838,998 | \$ 17,813,948,280 |
| (3,658,219) | (1,307,556,943) |
| \$ 46,180,779 | \$ 16,506,391,337 |
| \$ \$ \$ | \$ 772,200 36,112,696 12,954,096 \$ 49,838,998 (3,658,219) \$ 46,180,779 |

Table III-3: Allocation of Actuarial Value of PERA Assets as of June 30, 2021

The actuarial valuation assumes the rate of investment return on the assets of the Plan is 7.25%. This assumption is based upon the reasonable long-term expected return on the assets. In each year, the Plan will experience actuarial gains and losses due to the actual investment return of the assets. Table III-4 provides the calculation of the gain or loss due to the investment experience on the actuarial value of assets for the year ended June 30, 2021.

| Table III 4. A stuarial | Investment C. | ain (Laga) | for the | Voor Er | dod Juno | 20 | 2021 |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------|---------|---------|-----------|-------|------|
| Table III-4: Actuaria | investment G | am (Loss) | for the | rear En | laea June | : 30, | 2021 |

| 1. Beginning of Year Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA) | \$ | 44,466,366 |
|--|----|-------------|
| 2. Employee and Employer Contributions | | 111,200 |
| 3. Benefit Payments | | (2,265,611) |
| 4. Administrative Expenses | | (35,645) |
| 5. Other | | 5,574 |
| 6. Interest $[1 \times 7.25\% + (2 + 3 + 4 + 5) \times 7.25\% \times 0.5]$ | | 3,144,624 |
| 7. Expected End of Year AVA | \$ | 45,426,508 |
| 8. Actual End of Year AVA | _ | 46,180,779 |
| 9. Actuarial Investment Gain (Loss) (8 - 7) | \$ | 754,271 |
| | | |



The total actuarial present value of benefits is the value of all future benefits expected to be paid to current members of the Plan as of the valuation date. An actuarial cost method allocates each individual's present value of benefits to past and future years of service. The actuarial accrued liability includes the portion of the active member present value of benefits allocated to past service as well as the entire present value of benefits for retirees, beneficiaries and inactive members. The portion of the actuarial present value allocated to the future service of active members is called the present value of future normal costs. Table IV-1 presents the calculation and allocation of the actuarial present value of benefits.

| | Actuarial Accrued Liability | Present Value of Future Normal Cost | Actuarial Present Value of Benefits |
|---|---|---|---|
| Active Members Service Retirement Disability Retirement | \$ 10,894,710 | \$ 4,679,030 | \$ 15,573,740 |
| Survivor Benefits Total for Active Members | <u>384,950</u> \$ 11,279,660 | <u>180,574</u> \$ 4,859,604 | <u>565,524</u> \$ 16,139,264 |
| Inactive Members | \$ 617,886 | | \$ 617,886 |
| Retirees and Beneficiaries Service Retirements Disability Retirements Beneficiaries Total for Retirees and Beneficiaries | \$ 17,281,778 - <u>3,587,208</u> \$ 20,868,986 | | \$ 17,281,778 - <u>3,587,208</u> \$ 20,868,986 |
| Total | \$32,766,532 | \$4,859,604 | \$37,626,136 |

Table IV-1: Allocation of the Actuarial Present Value of Benefits as of June 30, 2021



Under the valuation funding method, an unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) exists to the extent that the actuarial accrued liability exceeds the actuarial value of assets as presented in Section III. The calculation of the UAAL as of the valuation date is shown in Table IV-2.

| Table IV | -2: Calculation | of the Unfunded | Actuarial A | ccrued Liability a | nd Funded Ratio |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | | |

| | June 30, 2021 | June 30, 2020 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Actuarial Accrued Liability | \$ 32,766,532 | \$ 32,146,065 |
| 2. Actuarial Value of Assets | <u>46,180,779</u> | <u>44,466,366</u> |
| 3. Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (1 - 2) | \$ (13,414,247) | \$(12,320,301) |
| Funded Ratio (2 / 1) | 140.9% | 138.3% |

Although the terminology used to describe the excess of the Plan's actuarial accrued liability over the Plan's actuarial value of assets is call the "unfunded" actuarial accrued liability, the actuarially determined contribution in the valuation includes an amortization payment amount sufficient to fully amortize the UAAL within 25 years.

The funded ratio of the Plan is the ratio of the actuarial value of assets to the actuarial accrued liability as of the valuation date. As of June 30, 2021, the funded ratio of the Plan is 140.9% as compared to a ratio of 138.3% as of June 30, 2020. The ratio is a commonly used measure of the funding progress and can be useful in reviewing the historical trend of a plan's funding progress. Such a review should also consider the impact to this measure over the historical period due to changes to plan benefits, changes to the actuarial assumptions and methods, and significant impact that investment experience can have on the ratio over short-term periods. We caution that no single "point in time" measure can provide a universal basis for comparing one plan's funded status to another.



The calculation of the Plan's actuarial assets and liabilities requires the use of several assumptions concerning the future experience of the Plan and its members. In each annual valuation, the latest year of actual experience is compared to that expected by the prior valuation. The differences are actuarial gains and losses which decrease or increase the UAAL. Table IV-3 provides the reconciliation of the UAAL.

| | UAAL | Funded Ratio |
|--|--------------------|--------------|
| 1. Beginning of Year | \$ (12,320,301) | 138.3 % |
| 2. Normal Cost | 988,578 | |
| 3. Expected Contributions | (70,800) | |
| 4. Other Income + Expenses | 30,071 | |
| 5. Interest [$1 \times 7.25\% + (2 + 3 + 4) \times 7.25\% \times 0.5$] | (858,862) | |
| 6. Expected End of Year | \$ (12,231,314) | 136.9 % |
| 7. Actuarial Experience (Gain) / Loss | | |
| Additional Contributions (with interest) | \$ (41,865) | 0.1 % |
| Investment Experience | (754,271) | 2.3 % |
| Loss due to Per Diem rate increase more than 3% | 116,286 | (0.5)% |
| Liability Experience | (503,084) | 2.1 % |
| Assumption Changes | - | 0.0 % |
| Total Actuarial Experience (Gain) / Loss | \$ (1,182,933) | |
| 8. Actual End of Year (6 + 7) | \$ (13,414,247) | 140.9 % |

Table IV-3: Reconciliation of the UAAL



Section IV of this report presented the Plan's actuarial accrued liability as the portion of the present value of benefits allocated to past years of service. The portion of the active members' present value of benefits allocated to future years of service is funded through annual normal cost contributions comprised of both active member and employer contributions. The portion of the total annual normal cost amount in excess of the expected amount of active member contributions is the employer portion of the Plan's normal cost. The normal cost amount was developed as of the valuation date and presented in Table V-1.

The employer's minimum contribution necessary to satisfy the funding policy is the dollar amount required to fund the annual normal cost of the Plan and fully amortize the UAAL over 25 years in constant dollar amounts. The calculation of the contribution requirement is provided in Table V-1.

| Present Value of Future Benefits Present Value of Future Normal Costs Actuarial Accrued Liability (1 - 2) Actuarial Value of Assets | \$ \$ | 37,626,136 4,859,604 32,766,532 46,180,779 |
|--|----------|---|
| 5. Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) (3 - 4)6. UAAL Amortization Payment (25 years) | \$ | (13,414,247) (1,137,339) |
| Total Normal Cost Less: Expected Employee Contribution Employer Normal Cost (7-8) Expected Administrative Expenses Actuarially Determined Contribution (6 + 9 + 10, not less than \$0) | | 1,010,430 68,400 942,030 40,000 |

Table V-1: Calculation of Required Employer Contributionfor Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021



The tables provided in this section present information relevant for the annual financial reporting of the Fund. GASB Statement No. 67 required disclosure information will be provided in a separate supplemental report. Additional disclosure information is provided below.

| | | Actuarial | | |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Actuarial | Accrued | | |
| Actuarial | Value of Plan | Liability | Unfunde d | |
| Valuation | Assets | (AAL) | AAL (UAAL) | Funded Ratio |
| Date | (a) | (b) | (b - a) | (a / b) |
| | | | | |
| 6/30/2021 | \$ 46,180,779 | \$32,766,532 | \$(13,414,247) | 140.9 % |
| 6/30/2020 | 44,466,366 | 32,146,065 | (12,320,301) | 138.3 % |
| 6/30/2019 | 43,139,113 | 31,520,834 | (11,618,279) | 136.9 % |
| 6/30/2018 | 42,602,900 | 30,939,745 | (11,663,155) | 137.7 % |
| 6/30/2017 | 42,479,371 | 28,056,686 | (14,422,685) | 151.4 % |
| | | | | |
| 6/30/2016 | 40,450,852 | 27,942,951 | (12,507,901) | 144.8 % |
| 6/30/2015 | 36,868,121 | 26,610,331 | (10,257,790) | 138.5 % |
| 6/30/2014 | 33,392,919 | 25,833,342 | (7,559,577) | 129.3 % |
| 6/30/2013 | 28,939,243 | 25,127,311 | (3,811,932) | 115.2 % |
| 6/30/2012 | 25,168,813 | 27,429,263 | 2,260,450 | 91.8 % |
| | | | | |
| 6/30/2011 | 23,508,201 | 26,347,359 | 2,839,158 | 89.2 % |
| 6/30/2010 | 22,125,806 | 26,675,356 | 4,549,550 | 82.9 % |
| 6/30/2009 | 21,156,210 | 24,345,140 | 3,188,930 | 86.9 % |
| 6/30/2008 | 19,999,435 | 21,414,312 | 1,414,877 | 93.4 % |
| 6/30/2007 | 17,142,953 | 19,591,914 | 2,448,961 | 87.5 % |
| | | | | |

Table VI-1: Schedule of Funding Progress



| Aggregate Accrued Liabilities For | | | | | | | | Po Co | ortion of overed by | Accrued I Actuaria Assets | iabilities l Value of | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----|---|----|--|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Valuation Date | (] Co | l) Active Member ntributions | Su | (2) Retirees, vivors and Inactive Members | | (3) Active Members (Employer Financed Portion) | Act Va A | tuarial lue of ssets | | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| 6/30/2021 | \$ | 772,206 | \$ | 21,486,872 | \$ | 10,507,454 | \$ 40 | 5,180,779 | 10 | 00.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% |
| 6/30/2020 | | 823,365 | | 20,052,792 | | 11,269,908 | 44 | 4,466,366 | 10 | 00.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 6/30/2019 | | 751,334 | | 21,102,594 | | 9,666,906 | 43 | 3,139,113 | 10 | 00.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 6/30/2018 | | 808,527 | | 18,493,679 | | 11,637,539 | 42 | 2,602,900 | 10 | 00.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 6/30/2017 | | 753,758 | | 18,105,164 | | 9,197,764 | 42 | 2,479,371 | 10 | 00.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

Table VI-3: Schedule of Retirants Added to and Removed from Rolls

| | Addeo | l to Rolls | Removed from Rolls Rolls End of Year | | Rolls End of Year | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Valuation Date | Number Added | Annual Allowances | Number Removed | Annual Allowances | Number | Annual Allowances | % Increase in Annual Allowances | Average Annual Allowances |
| 6/30/2021 | 17 | \$ 285,334 | 8 | \$ 139,483 | 204 | \$ 2,263,502 | 6.89 % | \$ 11,096 |
| 6/30/2020 | 6 | 87,219 | 5 | 44,912 | 195 | 2,117,651 | 2.04 % | 10,860 |
| 6/30/2019 | 17 | 255,728 | 6 | 48,710 | 194 | 2,075,344 | 11.08 % | 10,698 |
| 6/30/2018 | 5 | 95,699 | 8 | 112,239 | 183 | 1,868,326 | (0.88)% | 10,209 |
| 6/30/2017 | 14 | 218,597 | 10 | 83,281 | 186 | 1,884,866 | 7.73 % | 10,134 |



| Valuation Date | June 30, 2021 |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Actuarial cost method | Entry Age Normal |
| Amortization method | Level Dollar, Open |
| Remaining amortization period | 25 years |
| Asset valuation method | 4-year Smoothed Market |
| Actuarial assumptions: | |
| Investment rate of return* | 7.25% |
| Adminstrative Expenses | \$40,000 annually |
| Projected increase in per diem rate | 3.00% |
| Post-retirement benefit increases | 1.60% compounded annually, based upon 30 year average of median COLA output from latest Asset Liabiltiy Model. |
| * Includes inflation at 2.50% | (2.50% for certain retirees and disabled participants age 75 or older or with annual benefits less than \$25,000 and at least 25 years of service at retirement) |

Table VI-4: Summary of Actuarial Methods and Assumptions



| Nearest | Completed Years of Service | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----|-------|--|--|--|
| Age | Under 5 | 5 to 9 | 10 to 14 | 15 to 19 | 20 to 24 | 25 to 29 | 30+ | Total | | | |
| Under 30 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| 30 to 34 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 3 | | | |
| 35 to 39 | 4 | 1 | | | | | | 5 | | | |
| 40 to 44 | 8 | 2 | | | | | | 10 | | | |
| 45 to 49 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | | | 12 | | | |
| 50 to 54 | 3 | 4 | 3 | | | | | 10 | | | |
| 55 to 59 | 5 | 4 | 2 | | | 1 | | 12 | | | |
| 60 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | 3 | | | |
| 61 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | 4 | | | |
| 62 | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | | | 4 | | | |
| 63 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | 5 | | | |
| 64 | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | | | 4 | | | |
| 65 | | 2 | | | | 1 | | 3 | | | |
| 66 | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| 67 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 3 | | | |
| 68 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 6 | | | |
| 69 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | 5 | | | |
| 70 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | 2 | | | |
| 71 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | | 8 | | | |
| 72 | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | | | 4 | | | |
| 73 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 74 | 2 | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 5 | | | |
| 75 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 76 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| 77 | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| 78 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 79 | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| 80 & Over | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Total | 48 | 29 | 14 | 10 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 114 | | | |

Table A-1: Schedule of Active Participant Data as of June 30, 2021

| Average Age: | 58.25 |
|------------------|-------|
| Average Service: | 8.44 |



| | | Total Annual | Average | | |
|--|--------|--------------|----------------|--|--|
| Type of Pension | Number | Benefits | Annual Pension | | |
| Normal Retirement Pensions | | | | | |
| Single Life Pension Terminating Upon Death | 99 | \$ 1,020,780 | \$ 10,311 | | |
| Two Life 100% Survivor Pension | | | | | |
| Retired Member Recipient | 52 | 642,416 | 12,354 | | |
| Survivor Recipient | 25 | 276,249 | 11,050 | | |
| Two Life 50% Survivor Pension | | | | | |
| Retired Member Recipient | 11 | 134,556 | 12,232 | | |
| Survivor Recipient | 6 | 30,735 | 5,123 | | |
| Total Normal Retirement Pensions | 193 | \$ 2,104,736 | \$ 10,905 | | |
| Pre-Retirement Survivor Pensions | | | | | |
| Spouse Recipient | 11 | \$ 158,766 | \$ 14,433 | | |
| Total Pre-Retirement Survivor Pensions | 11 | \$ 158,766 | \$ 14,433 | | |
| Total Pensions Being Paid | 204 | \$ 2,263,502 | \$ 11,096 | | |

Table A-2: Number of Annual Retirement Allowances of Benefit Recipientsas of June 30, 2021



| | Retired Member | | | Survivor | Survivor Beneficiaries | | | Totals | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------|------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------------|--|--|
| Attained Age | Number | umber Annual Pensions | | Number | A Pe | Annual ensions | Number | Annual Pensions | | |
| Under 40 | | | | 1 | \$ | 5,352 | 1 | \$ 5,352 | | |
| 40 to 44 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 45 to 49 | 2 | \$ | 22,315 | | | | 2 | 22,315 | | |
| 50 to 54 | 4 | | 43,032 | 1 | | 6,982 | 5 | 50,014 | | |
| 55 to 59 | 7 | | 97,329 | 1 | | 7,586 | 8 | 104,915 | | |
| 60 to 64 | 7 | | 72,796 | | | | 7 | 72,796 | | |
| 65 to 69 | 23 | | 277,043 | 3 | | 59,075 | 26 | 336,118 | | |
| 70 to 74 | 36 | | 405,867 | 4 | | 59,477 | 40 | 465,344 | | |
| 75 to 79 | 28 | | 343,715 | 6 | | 61,948 | 34 | 405,663 | | |
| 80 to 84 | 20 | | 183,220 | 9 | | 106,311 | 29 | 289,531 | | |
| 85 to 89 | 24 | | 234,489 | 8 | | 44,142 | 32 | 278,631 | | |
| 90 to 94 | 8 | | 67,838 | 9 | | 141,523 | 17 | 209,361 | | |
| 95 to 99 | | | | 2 | | 7,418 | 2 | 7,418 | | |
| 100 & Over | 1 | | 16,044 | | | | 1 | 16,044 | | |
| Total | 160 | \$ | 1,763,688 | 44 | \$ | 499,814 | 204 | \$ 2,263,502 | | |

Table A-3: Distribution of Participants Receiving Benefits as of June 30, 2021

Table A-4: Distribution of Retirees by Years of Service at Retirement (not including Disabled Members, Beneficiaries, and Co-Payees)

| | | Years of Credited Service at Retirement | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--|--|
| | Under 5 | 5 to 9 | 10 to 14 | 15 to 19 | 20 to 24 | 25 to 29 | 30+ | Total | | |
| A verage Monthly Benefit* Number of Retirees* | \$540 9 | \$465 34 | \$848 47 | \$1,117 24 | \$1,387 20 | \$1,166 7 | \$1,707 10 | \$929 151 | | |

* Does not include 5 retirees with missing years of service at retirement.



Table A-5: Distribution of Recent Retiree Ages at Retirement (not including Disabled Members, Beneficiaries, and Co-Payees)

| | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | All Current |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| | Retirees | Retirees | Retirees | Retirees | Retirees | Retirees |
| | | | | | | |
| Number | 11 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 11 | 156 |
| Average Monthly Benefit at Retirement | \$1,117 | \$1,435 | \$1,648 | \$5,293 | \$1,449 | \$1,039 |
| Average Attained Age at Retirement | 67.70 | 68.33 | 64.42 | 56.42 | 71.18 | 64.06 |
| | | | | | | |

Table A-6: Status Reconciliation

| | | | P | ension Recipie | ents | |
|----------------------------|---------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------|
| | Active | Terminated | Service Potirod** | Disability Potirod | All | Total |
| | Members | Wreinders* | Kettleu | Kettieu | Denenciaries | Total |
| June 30, 2020 | 118 | 25 | 155 | 0 | 40 | 338 |
| | | | | | | |
| Increase (Decrease) From: | | | | | | |
| Service Retirement | (11) | | 11 | | | |
| Disability Retirement | | | | | | |
| Deaths | (1) | | (8) | | | (9) |
| Survivors | | | | | 4 | 4 |
| Co-Payee | | | 2 | | | 2 |
| Other Pension Terminations | | | | | | |
| Vested Terminations | | | | | | |
| Non-Vested Terminations | | (3) | | | | (3) |
| New Entrants/Rehires | 8 | | | | | 8 |
| Data Adjustments | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| June 30, 2021 | 114 | 22 | 160 | 0 | 44 | 340 |

* Includes 14 deferred vested members, 8 terminated members with contributions on deposit at June 30, 2021.

** Includes 4 co-payees.



Actuarial Cost Methods Used for the Valuation

An actuarial cost method is a procedure for allocating the actuarial present value of benefits and expenses to time periods. The method used for this valuation is known as the entry age normal level dollar cost method and has the following characteristics:

- The total present value of projected benefits of each individual is allocated on a level basis over service from entry age to retirement age. The portion of this present value allocated to the valuation year is the normal cost.
- ii) The actuarial liability is the accumulation of past normal costs on the valuation date.

Board Funding Policy: Amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability (the difference between the actuarial accrued liability and accrued assets) over an open 30-year period. This is done in accordance with PERA Board funding objectives adopted October 1996. As of June 30, 2021, funding value of assets exceeded accrued liabilities. The excess was amortized over 25 years and applied as a credit to the computed employer normal cost and expected administrative expenses.

The actuarial value of assets used for funding purposes is derived as follows: prior year total actuarial value of assets for each PERA division is increased by contributions and expected investment income and reduced by refunds, benefit payments and expenses. To this amount 25% of the difference between expected and actual investment income for each of the previous four years is added. The actuarial value of assets for each division is allocated in proportion to the total PERA Fund balance at market value.



Actuarial Assumptions Used for the Valuation

The rate of investment return (effective June 30, 2018): 7.25% per annum net of investment expenses.

Annual Post-retirement Cost of Living Adjustment rate: 1.60% per year beginning 7/1/2023.

Administrative expenses: \$40,000.

The rates of separation from active membership: None.

The rates of active member disability: None.

The rate of increase in the per diem was 3.0% per annum. This assumption was first used in the June 30, 2004 valuation and was based on an observed trend in the per diem rate prior to that valuation. The current assumed per diem rate is \$194.

The rate of retirement from active membership (effective with the June 30, 2020 valuation): 50% of members were assumed to retire immediately upon satisfying age and service requirements, with 100% assumed to retire at age 80.

It was assumed that any service rendered by a legislator prior to the valuation date and not already purchased would not be purchased.



Mortality Assumption: RPH-2014 Blue Collar mortality table with female ages set forward one year. Future improvement in mortality rates is assumed using 60% of the MP-2017 projection scale generationally.

| | Sample Mortality Rates (Base Rates) | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|---------------------|----------|--|--|
| P | re-Commen | cement | Post-Commencement | | | Post-Commencement | | | | |
| Age | Male | Female | Age | Male | Female | Age | Male | Female | | |
| 25 | 0.000733 | 0.000244 | 35 | 0.001793 | 0.001169 | 80 | 0.053460 | 0.042932 | | |
| 30 | 0.000717 | 0.000317 | 40 | 0.002156 | 0.001611 | 85 | 0.088524 | 0.072752 | | |
| 35 | 0.000797 | 0.000417 | 45 | 0.003275 | 0.002671 | 90 | 0.146859 | 0.125111 | | |
| 40 | 0.000958 | 0.000598 | 50 | 0.005604 | 0.004235 | 95 | 0.223428 | 0.197901 | | |
| 45 | 0.001455 | 0.001013 | 55 | 0.007342 | 0.005165 | 100 | 0.313988 | 0.291040 | | |
| 50 | 0.002490 | 0.001685 | 60 | 0.009893 | 0.006890 | 105 | D : 11 1 . | | | |
| 55 | 0.004071 | 0.002510 | 65 | 0.014089 | 0.010092 | 110 | the same assumption | | | |
| 60 | 0.006743 | 0.003606 | 70 | 0.021101 | 0.016038 | 115 | | | | |
| 65 | 0.011612 | 0.005456 | 75 | 0.032952 | 0.026199 | 120 | as nearry lives. | | | |



Appendix B: Summary of Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

Miscellaneous and Technical Assumptions

| Marriage Assumption: | 100% of males and 100% of females are assumed to be married for purposes of death-in-service benefits. Male spouses are assumed to be three years older than female spouses. |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Pay Increase Timing: | N/A. |
| Decrement Timing: | Decrements are assumed to occur at the beginning of the year. |
| Eligibility Testing: | Eligibility for benefits is determined based upon the age nearest birthday and service nearest whole year on the date the decrement is assumed to occur. |
| Decrement Relativity: | Decrement rates are used directly from the experience study without adjustment for multiple decrement table effects. |
| Incidence of Contributions: | Contributions are assumed to be received at the beginning of the year. |
| Normal Form of Benefit: | Straight life. |
| Credited Service: | Service nearest the whole year is used to determine the amount of benefit payable. |



Appendix B: Summary of Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

Definitions of Technical Terms

Actuarial Accrued Liability. The difference between the actuarial present value of future benefit payments and the actuarial present value of future normal costs.

Actuarial Cost Method. A mathematical procedure for allocating the dollar amount of the "actuarial present value of future benefit payments" between future normal cost and actuarial accrued liability.

Actuarial Present Value. The amount of funds currently required to provide a payment or series of payments in the future. It is determined by discounting future payments at predetermined rates of interest and by probabilities of payment.

Amortization. Paying off an amount with periodic payments of interest and principal – as opposed to paying off with a lump sum payment.

Experience Gain (Loss). The difference between actual actuarial costs and anticipated actuarial costs – during the period between two valuation dates.

Normal Cost. The actuarial cost allocated to the current year by the actuarial cost method.

Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability. The difference between the actuarial accrued liability and the actuarial value of assets. Sometimes referred to as "unfunded accrued liability."



Voluntary Retirement

Plan 1 and Plan 1 Enhanced:

Age 65 with 5 or more years of credited service; age 64 with 8 or more years of credited service; age 63 with 11 or more years of credited service; age 60 with 12 or more years of credited service; or any age with 14 or more years of credited service.

Plan 2:

Age 65 with 5 or more years of credited service or any age with 10 or more years of credited service.

Superannuation Annuity

| Plan 1: | \$250 a year times credited service. |
|------------------|---|
| Plan 1 Enhanced: | \$500 a year times credited service. |
| Plan 2: | 11% of the per diem rate in effect, pursuant to Section 2-1-8 NMSA on the |
| | January 1 of the calendar year that the member retires multiplied by 60 and |
| | further multiplied by credited service. |

Deferred Annuity

A Legislative member who terminates with 5 or more years of credited service may apply for a superannuation annuity upon reaching voluntary retirement date, provided accumulated contributions are not withdrawn. The annuity is based upon Legislative service credit at time of termination.

Survivor Pensions – Death in the Line of Duty

Pensions are paid to the eligible spouse and eligible children if survivor coverage has not been elected under the Elective Survivor Pension Beneficiary provision. The amount of pension payable for life to an eligible spouse is 80% of the accrued normal retirement pension.



Appendix C: Summary of Plan Provisions

Survivor Pensions – Death Not In the Line of Duty

Requires 5 years of credited service. Benefit applies to members and vested former members who have not elected coverage under the Elective Survivor Pension Beneficiary provision. Pensions are paid to an eligible spouse OR eligible children. The amount of pension payable for the life of an eligible spouse is up to 80% of accrued normal retirement pension. An eligible child pension is paid if there is not an eligible spouse or following the death of an eligible spouse. The amount of pension payable to each eligible child is an equal share of 50% of accrued normal retirement pension. An eligible child is an unmarried natural or adopted child who is under age 18. A child's pension terminates upon death, marriage or reaching age 18. The pension of any remaining eligible children is recalculated whenever a child's pension is terminated.

Member's Contributions

| Plan 1: | \$100 for each year of credited service. |
|------------------|--|
| Plan 1 Enhanced: | \$200 for each year of credited service |
| Plan 2: | \$600 for each year of credited service. |

Elective Survivor Beneficiary Pension

Applicable to members with 5 or more years of credited service and vested former members who have elected option B and designated a survivor pension beneficiary who has an insurable interest. The amount of pension is the amount of accrued normal retirement pension under optional form of payment B (100% continuation to beneficiary).

Disability Retirement

Applicable to members and vested former members with 5 or more years of credited service. The 5 year credited service requirement is waived if the disability is incurred in the line of duty. The amount of disability pension is the accrued normal retirement pension at time of disability retirement. If the disability is in the line of duty, the credited service used is the amount that would have been acquired when first eligible for normal retirement.

State's Contributions

Annual appropriations to finance portions of benefits not financed by members' contributions, determined by actuarial valuation.



Appendix C: Summary of Plan Provisions

Cost-of-Living Increases

Effective July 1, 2020, there will be no COLA increases for fiscal years 2021, 2022, and 2023 (July 1, 2020, July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022). In lieu of these COLAs, an annual non-compounding additional payment equal to 2% of annual benefit as of June 30, 2020 (inclusive of all past COLAs) will be payable.

Beginning July 1, 2023 and each July 1 thereafter, the COLA increase will be determined as an amount equal to the smoothed investment rate of return on the actuarial value of assets on June 30 of the preceding calendar year, less the COLA "hurdle rate,*" multiplied by the funded ratio on June 30 of the preceding calendar year; or 0.5%, whichever is greater, subject to the following:

- If the funded ratio of the fund is less than 100% on June 30 of the preceding calendar year, the COLA amount shall not exceed 3.0%.
- If the funded ratio of the fund is greater than or equal to 100% on June 30 of the preceding calendar year, the COLA amount shall not exceed 5.0%.
- The minimum COLA amount for any year will be 0.5%.

Pensions are increased by the COLA amount determined above each July 1 subject to the following eligibility periods:

- Retirees who have been retired for at least 2 full calendar years.
- Retirees who attained at least age 65 and have been retired for at least 1 full calendar year.
- Disabled retirees who have been retired for at least 1 full calendar year.
- Survivor beneficiaries who have received a survivor pension for at least 2 full calendar years.
- Survivor beneficiaries of a deceased retiree who otherwise would have been retired for at least 2 full calendar years.

For certain retirees, pensions are increased each July 1 by 2.5% subject to the eligibility periods listed above, provided the conditions below are met:

- Retirees who retired with at least 25 years of service and whose annual pension is \$25,000 or less.
- Disabled retirees whose annual pension is \$25,000 or less.
- Retirees and survivor beneficiaries who attained at least age 75 prior to July 1, 2020.

*The COLA "hurdle rate" is the investment rate of return required to fund a COLA in excess of 0.5% as determined by the fund's actuaries.



Appendix D: Risk Considerations

Actuarial Standards of Practice are issued by the Actuarial Standards Board and are binding on credentialed actuaries practicing in the United States. These standards generally identify what the actuary should consider, document and disclose when performing an actuarial assignment. In September, 2017, Actuarial Standard of Practice Number 51, *Assessment and Disclosure of Risk in Measuring Pension Obligations*, (ASOP 51) was issued as final with application to measurement dates on or after November 1, 2018. This ASOP, which applies to funding valuations, actuarial projections, and actuarial cost studies of proposed plan changes, was first applicable for the June 30, 2019 actuarial valuation.

A typical retirement plan faces many different risks, but the greatest risk is the inability to make benefit payments when due. The term "risk" is most commonly associated with an outcome with undesirable results. However, in the actuarial world, risk can be translated as uncertainty. The actuarial valuation process uses many actuarial assumptions to project how future contributions and investment returns will meet the cash flow needs for future benefit payments. Of course, we know that actual experience will not unfold exactly as anticipated by the assumptions and that uncertainty, whether favorable or unfavorable, creates risk. ASOP 51 defines risk as the potential of actual future measurements to deviate from expected results due to actual experience that is different than the actuarial assumptions.

There are a number of risks inherent in the funding of a defined benefit plan. These include:

- economic risks, such as investment return and price inflation;
- demographic risks such as mortality, payroll growth, aging population including impact of baby boomers, and retirement ages;
- external risks such as the regulatory and political environment.

The various risk factors for a given plan can have a significant impact – positive or negative – on the actuarial projection of liability and contribution rates. The following discussion includes a few exhibits which summarize some historical information to help indicate how certain key risk metrics have changed over time. Many are due to the maturing of the retirement system.

The investment return on assets is the most obvious risk – and usually the primary risk – to funding a pension plan.



HISTORICAL CASH FLOWS

Plans with negative cash flows will experience increased sensitivity to investment return volatility. Cash flows, for this purpose, are measured as contributions less benefit payments. If the System has negative cash flows and then experiences returns below the assumed rate, there are fewer assets to be reinvested to earn the higher returns that typically follow. While any negative cash flow will produce such a result, it is typically a negative cash flow of more than 5% of MVA that may cause significant concerns. This is a metric the investment consultants usually focus on when evaluating the asset allocation. The maturity of the system is the main contributor to the situation.

| | | | | | | | Net Cash |
|---|-----------|----|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| | Actuarial | | | | Benefit | | Flow as a |
| | Valuation | Μ | larket Value | | Payments and | Net Cash | Percent of |
| _ | Date | | of Assets | Contributions | Expenses | Flow | MVA |
| | 6/30/2010 | \$ | 18,067,287 | 2,041,200 | 1,238,536 | 802,664 | 4.44% |
| | 6/30/2011 | \$ | 23,737,231 | 2,646,327 | 1,282,394 | 1,363,933 | 5.75% |
| | 6/30/2012 | \$ | 25,088,375 | 2,891,627 | 1,320,655 | 1,570,972 | 6.26% |
| | 6/30/2013 | \$ | 29,497,852 | 2,466,600 | 1,478,775 | 987,825 | 3.35% |
| | 6/30/2014 | \$ | 35,646,813 | 2,466,800 | 1,617,774 | 849,026 | 2.38% |
| | 6/30/2015 | \$ | 37,243,656 | 2,462,500 | 1,634,020 | 828,480 | 2.22% |
| | 6/30/2016 | \$ | 38,059,885 | 2,463,400 | 1,778,396 | 685,004 | 1.80% |
| | 6/30/2017 | \$ | 41,449,421 | 1,057,700 | 1,897,287 | (839,587) | -2.03% |
| | 6/30/2018 | \$ | 42,366,200 | 49,600 | 1,930,078 | (1,880,478) | -4.44% |
| | 6/30/2019 | \$ | 43,039,409 | 96,650 | 2,020,264 | (1,923,614) | -4.47% |
| | 6/30/2020 | \$ | 41,394,406 | 1,171,586 | 2,187,495 | (1,015,909) | -2.45% |
| | 6/30/2021 | \$ | 49,838,998 | 111,200 | 2,295,682 | (2,184,482) | -4.38% |

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Appendix D: Risk Considerations

There is a direct correlation between healthy, well-funded retirement plans and consistent contributions equal to the full actuarial contribution rate each year. Historically, the Fund has been funded with fixed contributions by both employees and the employer. The Fund has maintained a significant surplus of assets over liabilities for the last ten years.

Funding a retirement system with fixed contribution rates creates some unique funding challenges. Given the extreme volatility associated with the underlying investments of the portfolio, wide variations in the actual return on the market value of assets is expected. However, when it occurs it can change the long-term funding outlook from positive to negative or vice versa. By the time a trend has been identified, it is possible for the funded status of the System to have seriously declined, requiring more substantive resources to compensate for the investment losses

A key demographic risk for all retirement systems is improvements in mortality (longevity) greater than anticipated. While the actuarial assumptions reflect small, continuous improvements in mortality experience over time and these assumptions are refined every experience study, the risk arises because there is a possibility of some sudden shift, perhaps from a significant medical breakthrough that could quickly increase liabilities. Likewise, there is some possibility of a significant public health crisis that could result in a significant number of additional deaths in a short time period, as experienced with the COVID-19 pandemic. This type of event is also significant, although more easily absorbed. While either of these events could happen, it represents a small probability and thus represents much less risk than the volatility associated with investment returns.