



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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# The Retirement Systems of Alabama has a lot to be **proud** of.

In addition to being financially sound with over \$47.9 billion in retirement assets, RSA investments have helped transform the state's economy and image by making Alabama a great place to live, work, and play. Not only has the RSA reshaped the skylines of Montgomery and Mobile, we have also helped to transform the landscape of many other areas around the state by creating the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail and its hotel resort collection. From neighborhoods to office spaces to recreational destinations, we have been an integral force behind progress taking place. The advancements we have made include developing housing for families and retirees in the central and southern regions of the state, elevating the working spaces for state employees and other businesses in and around Montgomery and Mobile, and reimagining world-class recreational amenities for tourists and retirees. By taking a balanced approach to improving the quality of life for our citizens, Alabama is poised to offer more enjoyable experiences for everyone. And as we continue to make thoughtful decisions and move our state forward in all directions, we're creating the type of impact that allows Alabama to be a place people want to visit and are proud to call home.

> Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center

RSA Headquarters

pictured on cover, top to bottom

RTJ Golf Trail

Building

at Highland Oaks

**RSA Van Antwerp** 

Village The Colony at The Grand

National

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# a letter from **DR. BRONNER**

The Boards of Control and the Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA) staff are pleased to present the 47th Annual Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

The RSA currently manages 24 funds with aggregate assets of approximately \$47.9 billion. For fiscal year 2023, the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) assets totaled \$27.4 billion, the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) assets totaled \$14.0 billion, and the Judicial Retirement Fund (JRF) assets totaled \$317.5 million. The annualized return was 13.26% for the TRS, 12.89% for the ERS, and 14.66% for the JRF.

After a tumultuous fiscal year 2022, investor sentiment coming into the new year was very dour. The markets had endured five federal fund rate hikes, taking shortterm rates from near zero to north of 3%. Predictions of a looming recession were very prevalent by most market pundits. With inflation not really abating and labor markets remaining extremely tight, the Federal Reserve continued with their rate hikes. By the end of the current fiscal year, the federal funds rate had been ratcheted up north of 5%. One would usually expect that given the rapid rise in short-term interest rates, something would break. In early spring, it seemed that it was happening when a number of regional banks went into default. The reason was a duration mismatch caused by the banks reaching for yield out of the curve. As depositors started to flee, the losses on the sale of assets on their balance sheets to fund the withdrawals put them under. Fears of a systemic impact to the banking system were quelled as regulators hurriedly put in several stop-gap measures to stop the bank runs. As quickly as the problem arrived, it seemingly went away.

Geopolitical issues also remain a continued focus. The Russia/Ukraine war continues to this day, with seemingly no resolution in sight. China continues saber rattling in regards to Taiwan, and U.S. relations with China remain very cold. Several trade restrictions have been implemented by both parties, indicating that the deglobalization trend that had been a bullish factor for the financial markets over the past few decades is now facing a continuing headwind. To further stoke the geopolitical flames, the Middle East has been thrown into turmoil as Hamas terrorists struck Israel. To date, the market reaction to this event has been muted, but if it is not contained, the ramifications of an all-out war in the Middle East would have significant negative impacts on financial markets.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Dr. David G. Bronner on being named the inaugural **Lifetime Achievement** 

winner by Business Alabama in 2023.

Reviewing the year, we saw quite a reversion to the mean, where one of the worst-performing asset classes in 2022 outperformed all others. Developed international equities were up over 27%, while emerging markets continued their lackluster relative performance, up 12.5%. The domestic equity portfolio in total was up around 19%. Large capitalization proved to be the winner, with the S&P 500 index up 21.6%. Returns diminished as you went down the market cap spectrum, with mid-cap stocks up 15.5% and small-caps up roughly 10%. The equity market returns again were driven primarily by the mega-cap technology stocks like Apple, Nvidia, and so on.

The fixed income segment of the portfolio continued to struggle from a total return perspective but fared better than the benchmark index. The unrelenting rate hikes by the Federal Reserve continued to push the short and long end higher throughout the year. The total return on core fixed income was slightly over 2%. The optimistic view is that now we are reinvesting new money in fixed income at much higher yield levels than we have seen since the middle of the Global Financial Crisis. This has allowed us to take some money out of the equity portfolio and reallocate it back to fixed income.

The real estate portfolio fared very well relative to the benchmark. Because we directly own our real estate and do not employ leverage, volatile periods like the past year in real estate serves as a cushion of sorts. The hotel group did especially well as travel was a big post-COVID beneficiary. It will be interesting to see how long the travel boom lasts. There are minor signs that it has slowed a bit internationally, but domestic travel has remained strong thus far.

The Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail set a record for the third consecutive year for rounds played. *The Trail played 688,477 rounds in 2023, which exceeded 2022's record year by 12%.* The Trail opened in

1992, and this year surpassed the 14 million round mark! On an annual basis, the Trail welcomes golfers and tourists from all 50 states and approximately 30 countries. The Trail continues to be recognized for the quality of its golf courses, as *Golf Week* ranked 7 of the Trail's courses in its top 10 courses you can play in Alabama for 2023.

The RSA-owned hotels & resorts also produced record results in fiscal 2023, which garnered several properties "Best in Class" awards and acknowledgment from Marriott Corporation. The Grand Hotel Golf Resort & Spa, Autograph Collection led the way, finishing #3 out of 140 Autograph properties in guest service excellence. The Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa, Montgomery Marriott Prattville Hotel & Conference Center at Capitol Hill, and Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel each finished in the top 5% of their perspective categories. The Renaissance Birmingham Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa, Auburn Marriott Opelika Resort & Spa at Grand National, and The Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel & Spa each finished in the top 10% of their perspective brands in guest service excellence as well.

The staff will continue to purchase and develop investments that will facilitate the mission of the RSA. Our aim is to serve the interests of our members by preserving the excellent benefits and soundness of the Systems while providing these at the least expense to the state of Alabama and all Alabama taxpayers. With the continued cooperative efforts of the Boards of Control, the RSA staff, and the Alabama Legislature, this goal will be achieved.

ABar

David G. Bronner CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER





# Home sites that are **a sight to see**.

There is a real desire for people to live where multiple recreational amenities are woven into the residential experience. These inclusive environments offer people meaningful social connections and physical and mental health opportunities that they would not otherwise have access to while living in a traditional neighborhood.







#### live NATIONAL VILLAGE

Leveraging our experience in resort development, the RSA was instrumental in creating National Village, which consists of a 700-acre residential community featuring upscale homes with golf courses and lake views set on Lake Saugahatchee in Opelika, near Auburn University. This incredible resort-like setting offers residents 10 miles of walking trails, fishing lakes, an adjacent 54-hole world-class golf complex, an aquatics complex, tennis/pickleball courts, a fitness center, a luxury spa, and a Four-Star Marriott Resort. Opened in 2006, the development is well underway with plans to feature a total of 1,400 homes, a village center that includes shops, restaurants, condos, and 300 acres of green space.





Another RSA residential community is The Colony at The Grand. It is the neighborhood component of our mixed-use development in Fairhope. Located on approximately 300 acres, it is adjacent to the aquatics center at The Lakewood Club and the Grand Hotel Golf Resort & Spa, Autograph Collection and offers 36 golf holes for residents and guests. More than 250 homes have been completed, with 35 still under construction. *The Wall Street Journal* reports that Baldwin County is fast becoming a haven for retirees from across the country, many who have been priced out of Florida. Our efforts to meet the high demand for luxury residences on the Eastern Shore help solidify the future economic success of the area while generating millions in tax revenue, as well as returns for our members.







# Behind the scenes for everything that's **oheod**.



For too long, office spaces for many Alabama state employees were less than desirable. From 1973 to the early 90s, agencies were dispersed throughout Montgomery creating inefficiencies and lack of quality support between departments. In addition to the stressed communication, agencies found themselves paying more in rent for spaces in need of desperate improvement, with one agency even working out of a building originally designed as a bowling alley. State employees were reporting to work in buildings without air conditioning in summer and without heat in the winter. Workers also reported leaky roofs, dysfunctional plumbing, and electrical malfunctions.



#### While these conditions were being ignored, the RSA was committed to improving

working conditions where possible. Beginning in 1977, our organization decided to build office buildings in Montgomery to generate rental fees for income-producing real estate. When the RSA chose to invest in Class A office buildings, the only ones in Alabama doing this were the big banks headquartered in Birmingham. We built a new building for our headquarters and buildings for other state and corporate agencies. We currently lease to Alabama state government agencies as well as to banks, law firms, and corporate headquarters, allowing both private and state money to contribute to our members' pension. As a result of our efforts, we were able to bring efficiency to state government and greatly elevate the quality of office space that included ample parking, which also made working in a state agency more attractive. Examples of our dedication to moving how we work forward can be seen throughout Montgomery–eight office buildings containing 2.7 million square feet of commercial space and 2.15 million square feet of parking decks that transformed 13 blocks of downtown. This in turn fuels investment from other entities like hotels, restaurants, a baseball park, and cultural attractions.



# work DOWNTOWN MOBILE

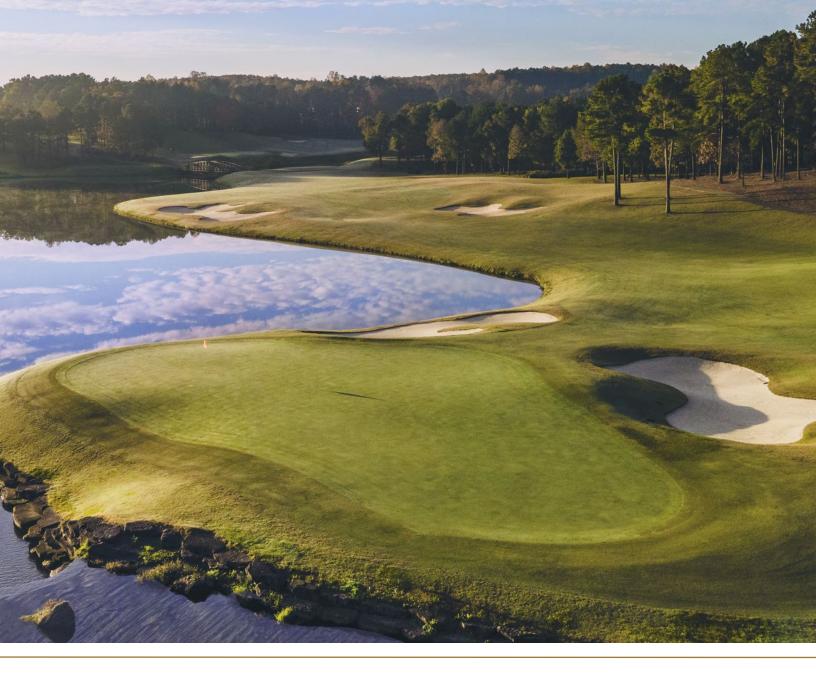
Additionally, the RSA's investments in downtown Mobile have modernized the city center and sparked tens of millions of dollars in private investments. Historic office buildings, hotels, and resorts throughout the Mobile Bay area have been lovingly restored. New commercial space was constructed, including the 35-story RSA Battle House Tower, which is the tallest building between Houston and Atlanta. A 317,000-square-foot river-front convention center anchors lively downtown Mobile and the Alabama Cruise Terminal welcomes passengers with a two-story 66,000-square-foot terminal building. Businesses, conventions, and travelers are eager to experience these first-class facilities that generate jobs for Alabama workers and taxes for the city and the state. The RSA's financial commitment to Mobile and the Eastern Shore not only helped breathe new life into the area, but is also generating returns for our members.



# Attractions that draw people from every direction.



Alabama has a rich history of recreation. Capitalizing on weather that permits outdoor activity yearround and the desire to have a positive impact on tourism and elevate the image of the state, the RSA undertook the world's largest golf construction project with the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. Over the past 30 years, thousands of golfers from around the world have come to Alabama to play **450 chollenging holes** and enjoy **559,000 square feet of clubhouse space** at **11 different sites** across the state. As evidenced by the recent recognition from the World Golf Awards, the Trail continues to be a major source of attraction to our state, helping move the tourism impact in Alabama from \$3 billion in 1990 (before the Trail) to **over \$24 billion today.** 



In addition to world-class golf courses, there are also **8 resort hotels** comprising **over 1.7 million square feet** with 2,200 hotel rooms, 6 world-class spas, 20 restaurants, and an 1,800-seat performing arts **center.** The Trail is directly responsible for the development of several million square feet of commercial space near the Trail sites in Prattville, Greenville, and Huntsville. The development of quality golf courses and hotels in Alabama has helped to draw tourists from just about everywhere in the world. The RSA's real estate investments have not only enhanced the state's image and assisted with industrial recruitment, but they have provided an economic impact by greatly increasing tax revenue and job growth–always focused on **moving Alabama forWord.** 



## play > RSA HOTEL & RESORT AWARDS

#### **Recognition for All Hotels**

2022 J.W. Marriott, Jr. Guest Experience Award MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (MINA)

2022 Food & Beverage Excellence Award



The Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel & Spa

#8 Best Historic Hotel in the United States USA TODAY



Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa

2023 Trip Advisor Travelers Choice Award

2023 #1 Hotel in Alabama US NEWS & WORLD REPORT

2022 Travelers Choice Award for 360 Grille

2022 Travelers Choice Award for Swampers Bar & Grille

2022 #5 Top 100 Spas in America for The Spa at the Shoals

2022 Radiant Resorts CONVENTION SOUTH

2022 Readers' Choice Award

2022 Best of Bama Awards Best Fine Dining for 360 Grille



BEST OF AUBURN-OPELIKA AWARDS

**Best Golf Course** 

Best Spa

**Best Hotel** 

**Best Staycation** 



#### The Grand Hotel Golf Resort & Spa, Autograph Collection

2023 #3 Best Historic Hotel in the United States USA TODAY

2023 #3 Best Waterfront Hotel in the United States USA TODAY

Best of the South Award CONVENTION SOUTH

Best Day Spa in Baldwin County NAPPIE AWARD—LAGNIAPPE MAGAZINE

2022 HISTORIC HOTELS OF AMERICA ANNUAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Ambassador of the Year Award Sam Sealy, Director of Engineering

Historian of the Year Award Susan Stein, Historian

HISTORIC HOTELS OF AMERICA AWARDS

- 2023 Most Magnificent Gardens
- 2023 Most Historic Golf Courses
- 2022 Most Magnificent Art Collections
- **2022 Romantic Proposal Destination**
- 2022 Most Magnificent Gardens
- 2022 Most Historic Golf Courses





## investing in Alabama >

- ACON Alabama Energy Investors\* / Tuscaloosa
- ADEM Laboratory\* / Montgomery
- Alabama Cruise Terminal\* / Mobile
- Alabama River Group, Inc.\* / Monroeville
- Alabama River Chip Mill\* / Monroeville
- Alabama River Recycling\* / Monroeville
- Alabama State Bar Building\* / Montgomery
- Barton AL Property / Florence
- Bell Microproducts\* / Montgomery
- CIBA-GEIGY Chemical Company\* / Mobile
- Circle S Industries\* / Selma
- Colony at the Grand / Point Clear, Real Estate and Condo Development
- CNHI, LLC / Montgomery
- Conventional Mortgages\* / Alabama Loans, Residential Funding, MGIC, FBS-were the servicers
- Danberry at Inverness\* / Birmingham
- Daniel Senior Living, LLC\* / Assisted Living Facilities in Huntsville and Birmingham
- Dole Foods\* / Birmingham
- Dominion Senior Living of West Mobile\* / Mobile
- Drummond Company\* / Birmingham
- Dynamit Nobel Chemical Company\* / Mobile
- Embassy Suites\* / Montgomery
- Fairway Outdoor Advertising\* / Statewide
- First Alabama Bancshares\* / Birmingham
- GKN Aerospace\* / Tallassee
- Gordon Persons Building\* / Montgomery
- Gulf Coast Exploration & Science Theatre\* / Mobile
- IDB Southwire Med. Volt Cable Company\* / Heflin
- IPSCO Saskatchewan, Inc.\* / Mobile
- Kay-Fries, Inc.\* / Theodore
- Kvaerner Oilfields Products\* / Mobile
- Mercedes Benz U.S.\* / Tuscaloosa
- National Village / Auburn / Opelika
- Navistar Diesel of Alabama, LLC\* / Huntsville
- Navistar Big Bore Diesels, LLC\* / Huntsville
  - \*Fully Paid +Parking Deck

- Office Buildings and Parking Decks:
- Alabama Center for Commerce<sup>+</sup> / Montgomery
- Alabama Community College System / Montgomery
- RSA Criminal Justice Center<sup>+</sup> / Montgomery
- RSA Dexter Avenue Building (Datacenter)<sup>+</sup> / Montgomery
- RSA Headquarters<sup>+</sup> / Montgomery
- RSA Plaza<sup>+</sup> / Montgomery
- RSA Tower Complex (Includes the RSA Tower, RSA Activity Center, Helen Hunt Early Learning Center, and RSA Pavilion)<sup>+</sup> / Montgomery
- RSA Union<sup>+</sup> / Montgomery
- Royal Street Parking Deck<sup>+</sup> / Mobile
- RSA Battle House Tower<sup>+</sup> / Mobile
- RSA 2 North Royal / Mobile
- RSA Trustmark Building<sup>+</sup> / Mobile
- RSA Van Antwerp Building / Mobile
- PCH Hotels and Resorts / Alabama Real Estate Holdings Management Company / Statewide
- Perdido Beach Hilton\* / Gulf Beach Hotel
- Point Clear Partners, LLC\* / Point Clear, Real Estate and Condo Development
- PPG Industries\* / Huntsville
- Raycom Media\* / Montgomery
- Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail / Golf Courses, Statewide
- Rohr\* / (IDB City of Foley)
- RSA Resort Hotel Properties / Statewide
- Signal International\* / Mobile
- SiO2 Materials Science / Auburn
- Springhill Medical Center\* / Mobile
- SunBelt Golf Corporation Management Company / Statewide
- The Explore Center, Inc.\* / Mobile
- The Shops of Grand River / Leeds
- USB-IDB United Technology\* / Huntsville
- US Steel\* / Fairfield
- Walmart Distribution Center\* / Cullman
- Williamson Commerce Center\* / Anniston
- Wise Metals\* / Florence
- World Marine\* / Mobile



## A legacy of Protecting Our Members' Interests

#### legal

In fiscal year 2023, the RSA Legal Division handled a wide variety of matters involving the many areas of law that pertain to the RSA's operations, including pension law, fiduciary and trust law, constitutional law, health law, securities law, contract law, construction and real estate law, tax law, and employment law.

The RSA legal staff provides legal advice and assistance daily on issues that arise during the course of business. These issues include benefits and administrative operations, contractual and statutory interpretation, and application and implementation of state and federal statutory and regulatory requirements. The RSA legal staff also assisted with issues pertaining to the RSA's real estate holdings and other investments, providing legal advice on general operational issues, investment projects, and ongoing court cases.

Litigation is a mainstay of the RSA legal staff's responsibilities. The legal staff has appeared in court to defend the RSA's and its members' interests in cases involving constitutional, statutory, and administrative issues. Cases litigated during 2023 have involved practice areas including constitutional law, real estate law, and administrative law. The legal staff has also pursued litigation challenging property determinations that affect the RSA's real estate operations.

Legal staff further supported the RSA in drafting, negotiating, and reviewing contracts essential to RSA's operations. The legal staff successfully protected members' interests in negotiating several significant contracts, including a significant agreement for pharmaceutical benefit management services for PEEHIP.

The RSA legal staff continues to offer guidance and representation for PEEHIP in a wide range of matters, including transactions with service providers and plan compliance with governing laws and regulations. Such provisions range from federal court decisions, the Affordable Care Act, and other federal laws that protect the privacy and security of PEEHIP members' health information.

The legal staff also provided support to RSA-1, the Section 457 deferred compensation plan administered by RSA staff. The legal staff assisted RSA-1 in administering the plan, complying with appropriate IRS and other applicable rules and regulations, and resolving legal questions involving plan participants. Notably, the legal staff has provided support and guidance to RSA-1 in its transition to a new IT system with added benefit features.

The RSA legal staff stands ready to assist the RSA in meeting all new challenges that arise for public pensions and health insurance programs, in order to maintain and enhance the RSA's service to its members.



#### legislative

The 2023 Alabama Legislative Session ended on June 6, 2023. As it has always done, the Legislature ensured that the Teachers' Retirement System and the Employees' Retirement System were fully funded at the actuarially set rates. The Legislature reformed the state police retirement benefits by reopening the State Police Plan and improving the State Police Tier II retirement benefits. The State Police Plan was closed in 2013 through legislation that created the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA). Act 2023-73 reopened this plan so that all law enforcement officers employed by ALEA would receive state police retirement benefits. Additionally, the Act modified the State Police Tier II benefit by allowing 25-year retirement and providing hazardous duty service credit. This change should be very beneficial to the state troopers and law enforcement working for the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

Additionally, the Legislature made minor changes to return to work laws. Initially, legislation was filed to temporarily increase the compensation limits for all retirees. This bill was later amended to apply only to retired law enforcement officers and retired correctional officers who return to work as school resource officers or correctional officers and was enacted as amended (Act 2023-334). This exception was expanded during the 2023 Special Session to also allow state police retirees to return to work as school resource officers or correctional officers under the increased compensation limits (Act 2023-564). The exception will expire at the end of 2026.

Finally, the Legislature extended the deadline for local governments to elect to grant the retiree bonus authorized by Act 2022-229. Pursuant to Act 2023-107, the local governments that missed the initial deadline had until the end of October 2023 to authorize the bonus payments for their retirees, which were paid in December.





CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER David G. Bronner, PH.D., J.D.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATION** Jo Moore, J.D.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR INVESTMENTS Marc Green, M.B.A., CFA

# administrative staff

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT AND FINANCIAL OFFICER Diane E. Scott, B.S., CPA, CGMA

GENERAL COUNSEL Jared H. Morris, J.D.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL Neah M. Scott, J.D.

**TEACHERS' RETIREMENT EXECUTIVE** Christopher P. Townes, M.B.A. **EMPLOYEES' & JUDICIAL RETIREMENT EXECUTIVE** William F. Kelley, Jr., J.D.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC EDUCATION EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN J. David Wales, M.B.A., CGBA

**DIRECTOR OF RSA-1** Rhonda H. Peters, B.S.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES Michael T. Baker, B.S.

**EMPLOYER SERVICES** Margaret B. Sellars, B.S.

MEMBER SERVICES Penny K. Wilson, B.S.

COMMUNICATIONS Deborah J. Kirk, B.S.

**FIELD SERVICES** Christopher C. Gallup, B.S.

#### advisors

INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS Carr, Riggs & Ingram CPA and Advisors, LLC INVESTMENT CONSULTANT Regions Bank N.A., Alan McKnight

INVESTMENT CUSTODIAN State Street Bank and Trust Company

CONSULTING ACTUARY Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC Larry Langer

ATTORNEY GENERAL Hon. Steve Marshall

**CHIEF EXAMINER** Hon. Rachel Riddle

#### medical board

CHAIR Glenn Yates, M.D. Gregory Borg, M.D. Malcolm Brown, M.D.



# In 2023, the RSA served a total of

Active & Retired Members from the TRS, ERS, & JRF

| 5     | <b>8</b> % |
|-------|------------|
| AC    | TIVE       |
| TRS   | 142,319    |
| ERS   | 86,811     |
| JRF   | 385        |
| ΤΟΤΑΙ | . 229,515  |



| TOTAL | 164,741 |
|-------|---------|
| JRF   | 470     |
| ERS   | 57,553  |
| TRS   | 106,718 |

 TRS
 249,037

 ERS
 144,364

 JRF
 855

 TOTAL
 394,256

#### Membership Activity

| TRS    | ERS    | JRF | TOTAL  |
|--------|--------|-----|--------|
| 14,300 | 10,502 | 40  | 24,842 |

#### WITHDRAWN MEMBERS

| TRS   | ERS   | JRF | TOTAL |
|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| 3,613 | 5,002 | 2   | 8,617 |

#### SERVICE RETIREMENTS

| TRS   | ERS   | JRF | TOTAL |
|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| 4,088 | 2,463 | 21  | 6,572 |

#### **DISABILITY RETIREMENTS**

| TRS | ERS | JRF | TOTAL |
|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 180 | 141 | 1   | 322   |

#### **NEW BENEFICIARIES**

| TRS | ERS | JRF | TOTAL |
|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 626 | 403 | 7   | 1,036 |

#### Members Remaining in Alabama After Retirement







#### Northwest

| COUNTY     | ACTIVE | RETIRED | BENEFITS |
|------------|--------|---------|----------|
| LAUDERDALE | 3,759  | 2,709   | \$ 65.7  |
| LIMESTONE  | 4,292  | 2,378   | 59.6     |
| COLBERT    | 2,614  | 2,090   | 49.4     |
| FRANKLIN   | 1,466  | 970     | 22.2     |
| LAWRENCE   | 1,126  | 841     | 18.1     |
| MORGAN     | 4,838  | 3,615   | 85.3     |
| MARION     | 1,350  | 894     | 20.0     |
| WINSTON    | 1,100  | 727     | 15.8     |
| CULLMAN    | 3,620  | 2,591   | 61.7     |
| LAMAR      | 661    | 446     | 9.1      |
| FAYETTE    | 888    | 566     | 12.3     |
| WALKER     | 2,725  | 2,094   | 45.4     |

#### Northeast -

| COUNTY    | ACTIVE | RETIRED | BENEFITS |
|-----------|--------|---------|----------|
| MADISON   | 13,971 | 8,646   | \$ 227.3 |
| JACKSON   | 2,344  | 1,650   | 36.4     |
| MARSHALL  | 4,041  | 2,571   | 60.7     |
| DEKALB    | 2,918  | 1,703   | 38.0     |
| BLOUNT    | 1,843  | 1,274   | 28.4     |
| ETOWAH    | 4,590  | 3,471   | 81.1     |
| CHEROKEE  | 759    | 575     | 13.1     |
| ST. CLAIR | 3,519  | 2,170   | 53.5     |
| CALHOUN   | 5,613  | 3,623   | 81.8     |
| CLEBURNE  | 520    | 295     | 6.3      |

#### Central -

| COUNTY     | ACTIVE  | RETIRED | BENEFITS |
|------------|---------|---------|----------|
| JEFFERSON  | 27,382  | 18,497  | \$ 489.5 |
| SHELBY     | 10,259  | 5,637   | 157.6    |
| TALLADEGA  | 3,325   | 2,625   | 55.7     |
| BIBB       | 903     | 611     | 13.6     |
| CHILTON    | 2,001   | 1,329   | 29.5     |
| COOSA      | 496     | 386     | 8.4      |
| PERRY      | 474     | 338     | 7.5      |
| DALLAS     | 1,777   | 1,378   | 30.1     |
| AUTAUGA    | 3,458   | 2,130   | 52.7     |
| ELMORE     | 6,094   | 4,115   | 102.7    |
| LOWNDES    | 499     | 420     | 8.6      |
| MONTGOMERY | (13,628 | 9,677   | 247.8    |



County by county figures are listed as millions of benefits paid.

| West —     |        |            |          |
|------------|--------|------------|----------|
| COUNTY     | ACTIVE | RETIRED    | BENEFITS |
| PICKENS    | 833    | 656        | \$ 12.9  |
| TUSCALOOSA | 12,629 | 7,704      | 194.5    |
| GREENE     | 391    | 396        | 7.2      |
| HALE       | 1,036  | 674        | 14.1     |
| SUMTER     | 738    | 493        | 10.8     |
| MARENGO    | 1,000  | 709        | 15.8     |
| CHOCTAW    | 368    | 353        | 6.8      |
| WILCOX     | 662    | 445        | 8.4      |
| East ——    |        |            |          |
| COUNTY     | ACTIVE | RETIRED    | BENEFITS |
| CLAY       | 637    | 511        | \$ 11.1  |
| RANDOLPH   | 849    | 703        | 14.3     |
| TALLAPOOSA | 1,870  | 1,559      | 40.8     |
| CHAMBERS   | 1,323  | 882        | 18.1     |
| LEE        | 10,587 | 5,537      | 164.0    |
| MACON      | 976    | 808        | 17.2     |
| RUSSELL    | 1,444  | 866        | 16.6     |
| BULLOCK    | 494    | 388        | 8.0      |
| Southwes   | st ——  |            |          |
| COUNTY     | ACTIVE | RETIRED    | BENEFITS |
| WASHINGTON | 649    | 637        | \$ 12.7  |
| CLARKE     | 1,181  | 907        | 18.9     |
| MONROE     | 827    | 665        | 14.4     |
| CONECUH    | 585    | 414        | 8.4      |
| BUTLER     | 889    | 681        | 14.8     |
| MOBILE     | 15,757 | 12,330     | 266.5    |
| BALDWIN    | 9,942  | 6,899      | 170.9    |
| ESCAMBIA   | 1,526  | 1,214      | 26.8     |
| Southeas   | t —    |            |          |
| COUNTY     | ACTIVE | RETIRED    | BENEFITS |
| CRENSHAW   | 829    | 595        | \$ 13.2  |
| PIKE       | 2,174  | 1,443      | 37.1     |
| BARBOUR    | 975    | 781        | 16.0     |
| COVINGTON  | 1,736  | 1,265      | 27.8     |
| COFFEE     | 2,240  | 1,417      | 32.6     |
| DALE       | 1,831  | ,<br>1,211 | 26.2     |
| HENRY      | 933    | ,<br>674   | 15.0     |
|            |        |            |          |
| GENEVA     | 1,164  | 727        | 15.4     |

HOUSTON

3,966

2,793

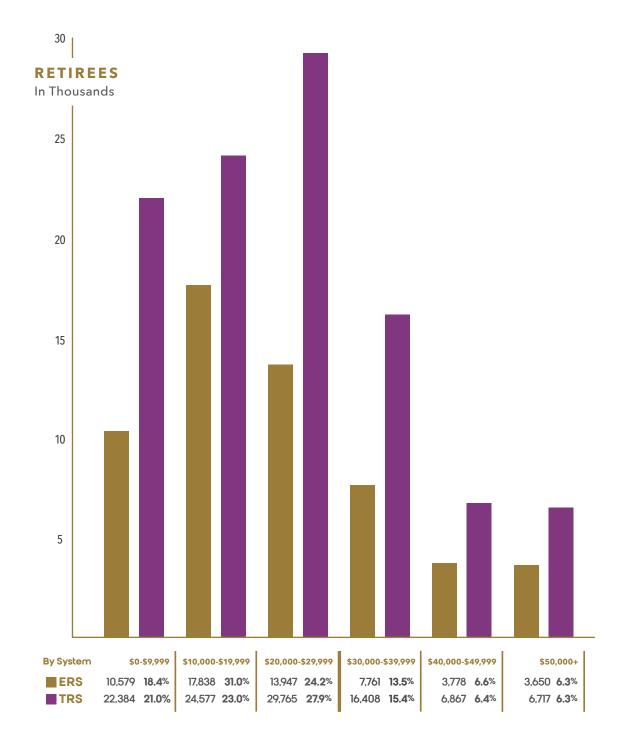
66.4



# \$400 2023 Total Benefits Paid BILLION





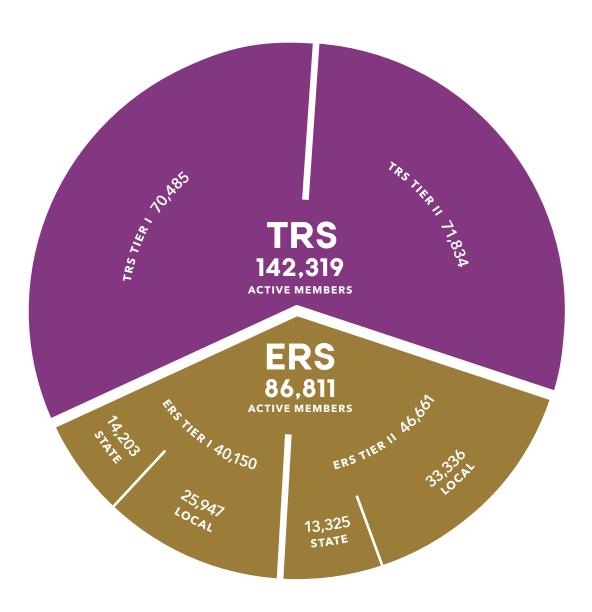


## annual benefits

Paid in Thousands

**DEMOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS** RSA Active Members by Benefit Tier





#### Comparison of Tier I and Tier II Members

In the Combined Systems in 2021, 2022, and 2023



**TIER I MEMBERS** 124.824 \ 56.3%

TIER II MEMBERS 97,046 \ 43.7%



TIER I MEMBERS 116,552 \ 52.3%

TIER II MEMBERS 106,431 \ 47.7%



TIER I MEMBERS 110.635 \ 48.3%

TIER II MEMBERS 118,495 \ 51.7%





# invested assets by system





### revenue sources

employee contributions \$936.3 MILLION / 12.33%

employer contributions

\$1,623.2 MILLION / 21.38%



other income

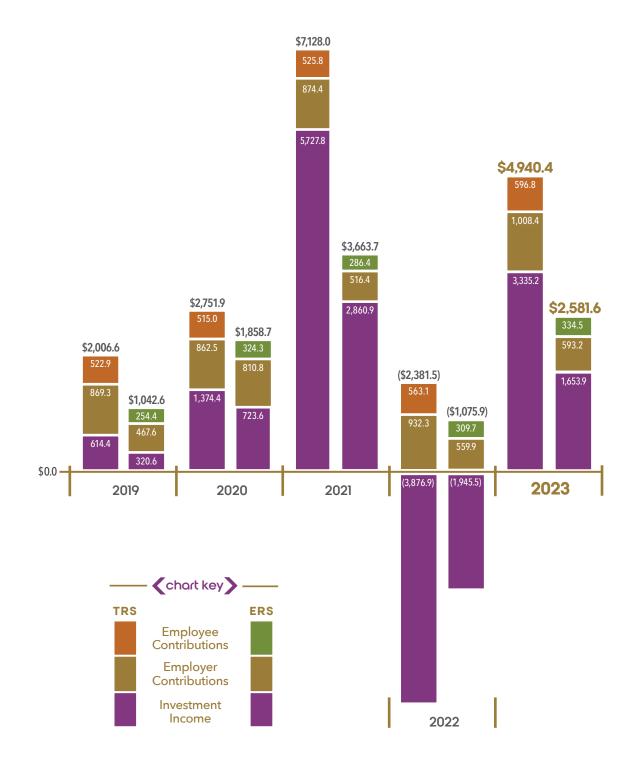
\$0.8 MILLION / .01%



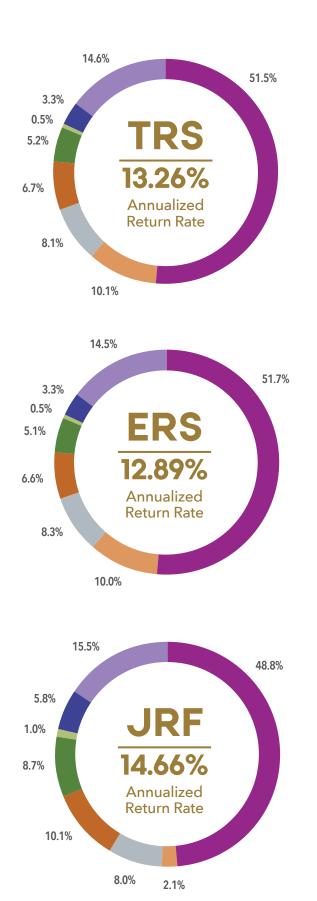


# 5-year highlights

(Dollars in Millions)







## asset allocation

is a strategic long-term decision in the pension investment management process. The RSA is dedicated to preserving the sound financial position it has established over the years through a diversified investment program. The objective of the RSA is to allocate investments in the most effective way that reflects policy standards while maximizing returns.







#### Managed In-House, Keeping Costs Low Compared to Other State Pension Systems

| Total Inv  | ested Assets  | Total Invested Assets                                     |            |
|--|---------------|---|------------|
| Teachers' Retirement System                                    | \$ 27,440,521 | Public Education Employees' Health                        |            |
| Employees' Retirement System                                   | 13,975,066    | Insurance Fund  | \$ 385,912 |
| Judicial Retirement Fund                                       | 317,480       | Alabama Retired Education Employees'<br>Health Care Trust | 1,889,105  |
| Alabama Cultural Resources Preservation Trust Fur              | nd 16,801     | Public Employees' Individual                              |            |
| Alabama Firefighters Annuity and Benefit Fund                  | 743           | Retirement Account Fund                                   | 54,980     |
| Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries                  | 26,766        | Alabama Marine Resources<br>Endowment Trust Fund          | 2,926      |
| Alabama Nongame Wildlife Endowment Trust                       | 18            | Alabama Trust Fund  | 332,411    |
| Alabama Underground and Aboveground<br>Storage Tank Trust Fund | 18,588        | Alabama Treasury Fund                                     | 398,759    |
| Clerks' and Registers' Supernumerary Fund                      | 10,811        | Charlotte Thorn Trust Fund                                | 13,159     |
| Alabama Senior Services Trust Fund                             | 56,195        | County Municipal Trust Fund                               | 121,885    |
| Alabama State Employees' Health                                |               | Alabama State Employees' Retired                          |            |
| Insurance Fund   | 77,312        | Health Care Trust Fund                                    | 242,562    |
| Local Government Health Insurance Fund                         | 120,712       | State Docks Pension Plans                                 | 21,315     |
| PEIRAF-Deferred Compensation Plan (RSA-1)                      | 2,381,173     | Marion Military Institute Foundation                      | 10,096     |

#### Total Invested Assets Under Management

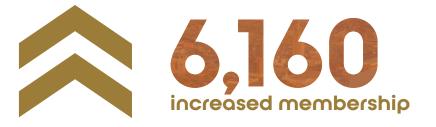
\$ 47,915,296

As of September 30, 2023 (Dollars in thousands)

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM 2023 Highlights TRS

# TRS 2023 highlights

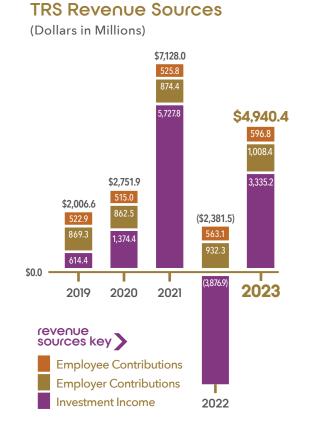






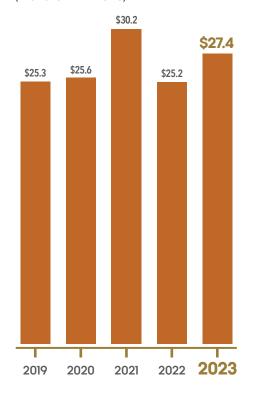
- 13 Universities
- 139 K-12 Systems
  - 9 Charter Schools
- 25 Postsecondary Institutions
- 32 State & Miscellaneous Agencies

**The Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama (TRS)** provides retirement allowances and other specified benefits for qualified persons employed by state-supported educational institutions.

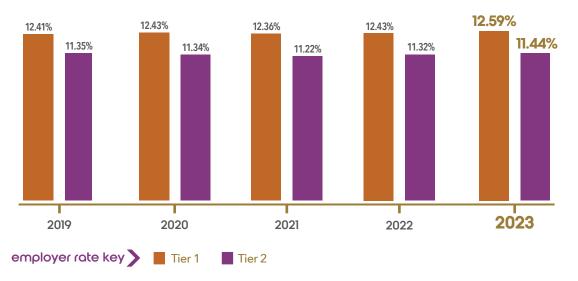


#### Portfolio at Fair Value

(Dollars in Billions)

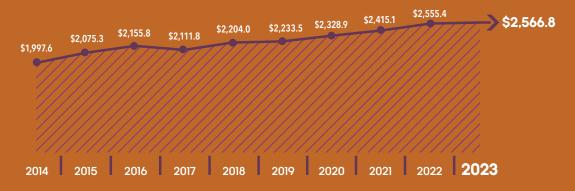


#### Employer Rate (% of Covered Payroll)



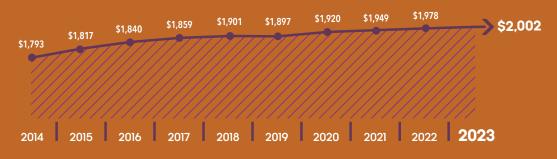
#### **Total Annual Payments**

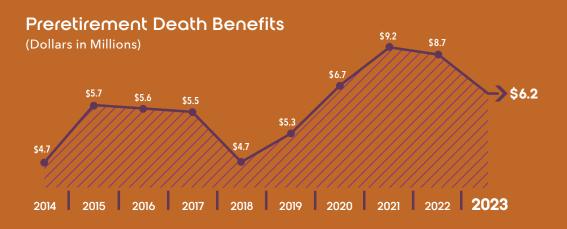
(Dollars in Millions)



#### Average Monthly Benefits

(In Actual Dollars)







MR. LUTHER P. HALLMARK Superintendent Position Chair



MR. JOHN R. WHALEY Teacher Position Vice Chair



HON. YOUNG BOOZER State Treasurer Ex Officio



DR. SUSAN WILLIAMS BROWN Postsecondary Position



MS. AMY KNIGHT FOWLER Support Personnel Position



MS. ANITA GIBSON Retired Position



**MR. THOMAS E. JONES** Principal Position



MRS. SUSAN LOCKRIDGE Support Personnel Position



**DR. ERIC MACKEY** State Superintendent of Education, Ex Officio



MS. AMANDA MILLER Teacher Position



MS. PEGGY MOBLEY Retired Position



MR. BILL POOLE State Finance Director Ex Officio



MS. KELLI D. SHOMAKER Higher Education Position



MS. MARY BETH TATE Teacher Position



**DR. WILLIAM A. WALSH** Higher Education Position

## **TRS** Statement of Fiduciary

Net Position, Unaudited

As of September 30, 2023, and 2022

| As of September 30, 2023, and 2                        |              | THOUSANDS)   |  |
|--|--------------|--------------|--|
| Assets   | 2023         | 2022         |  |
| Cash   | \$ 109,881   | \$ 76,353    |  |
| Receivables  |              |              |  |
| Employee Contributions                                 | 57,657       | 53,159       |  |
| Employer Contributions                                 | 100,293      | 91,103       |  |
| Transfers Receivable from the ERS                      | 1,232        | 1,468        |  |
| Investment Sales Receivable                            |              | 13,819       |  |
| Dividends and Interest                                 | 99,696       | 74,312       |  |
| Miscellaneous Receivable                               | 166          | 121          |  |
| Total Receivables                                      | 259,044      | 233,982      |  |
| Investments, at Fair Value                             |              |              |  |
| Domestic Equity  | 14,135,337   | 14,437,073   |  |
| Domestic Fixed Income                                  | 4,286,135    | 3,374,491    |  |
| International Equities                                 | 4,018,172    | 3,322,273    |  |
| Real Estate  | 2,768,447    | 2,714,552    |  |
| Short-Term   | 2,232,430    | 1,391,695    |  |
| Total Investments                                      | 27,440,521   | 25,240,084   |  |
| Invested Securities<br>Lending Collateral              | 1,423,034    | 910,512      |  |
| Property and Equipment                                 | 00.047       | ~~~~         |  |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation                          | 83,316       | 88,363       |  |
| Total Assets   | 29,315,796   | 26,549,294   |  |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources                         |              |              |  |
| Pensions   | 16,837       | 6,747        |  |
| OPEB   | 1,767        | 1,633        |  |
| Total Assets and Deferred<br>Outflows of Resources     | 29,334,400   | 26,557,674   |  |
| Liabilities  |              |              |  |
| Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities                 | 10,887       | 8,991        |  |
| Transfers Payable to the ERS                           | 321          | 998          |  |
| Investment Purchases Payable                           | _            | 15,560       |  |
| Net OPEB Liability                                     | 5,975        | 5,018        |  |
| Net Pension Liability                                  | 38,435       | 19,723       |  |
| Securities Lending Collateral                          | 1,423,034    | 910,512      |  |
| Total Liabilities                                      | 1,478,652    | 960,802      |  |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources                          |              |              |  |
| Pensions   | 2,410        | 7,810        |  |
| OPEB   | 5,102        | 8,191        |  |
| Total Liabilities and Deferred<br>Inflows of Resources | 1,486,164    | 976,803      |  |
| Net Position Restricted<br>For Pension Benefits        | \$27,848,236 | \$25,580,871 |  |

## **TRS** Statement of Changes in

Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023, and 2022 (\$ IN THOUSANDS)

| Additions   | 2023       | 2022       |
|---|------------|------------|
| Contributions   |            |            |
| Employee  | \$ 588,284 | \$ 553,615 |
| Employer  | 1,008,365  | 932,332    |
| Transfers from the Employees'<br>Retirement System    | 8,526      | 9,517      |
| Transfers from Judicial Retirement Fund               | 23         | _          |
| Marketing & Advertising Revenue                       | 503        | 335        |
| Direct Appropriation from the<br>Education Trust Fund |            | 58,400     |
| <b>Total Contributions</b>                            | 1,605,701  | 1,554,199  |

#### Investment Income

#### FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

| Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fair Value of Investments        | 2,625,411 | (4,500,179) |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| Interest and Dividends                                      | 714,409   | 629,210     |
| Total Investment Income/(Loss)<br>from Investing Activities | 3,339,820 | (3,870,969) |
| Less Investment Expenses, Net                               | 11,696    | 11,573      |
| Net Investment Income/(Loss)<br>from Investing Activities   | 3,328,124 | (3,882,542) |
| FROM SECURITIES LENDING ACTIVITIES                          | 5         |             |
| Securities Lending Income                                   | 63,743    | 12,606      |
| Less Securities Lending Expenses<br>Borrower Rebates        | 52,783    | 4,585       |
| Management Fees   | 3,840     | 2,406       |
| Total Securities<br>Lending Expenses                        | 56,623    | 6,991       |
| Net Income from Securities<br>Lending Activities            | 7,120     | 5,615       |
| Total Net Investment<br>Income/(Loss)                       | 3,335,244 | (3,876,927) |
| Total Additions/(Reductions)                                | 4,940,945 | (2,322,728) |

## **Deductions**

| Retirement Allowance Payments                    | 2,566,776 | 2,555,391   |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| Return of Contributions and<br>Death Benefits    | 65,142    | 68,722      |
| Transfers to the Employees'<br>Retirement System | 6,825     | 6,213       |
| Administrative Expenses                          | 25,694    | 18,945      |
| Depreciation                                     | 9,143     | 9,060       |
| Total Deductions                                 | 2,673,580 | 2,658,331   |
| Change in Net Position                           | 2,267,365 | (4,981,059) |
| Net Position Restricted                          |           |             |

## For Pension Benefits

| Beginning of Year | 25,580,871   | 30,561,930   |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| End of Year       | \$27,848,236 | \$25,580,871 |

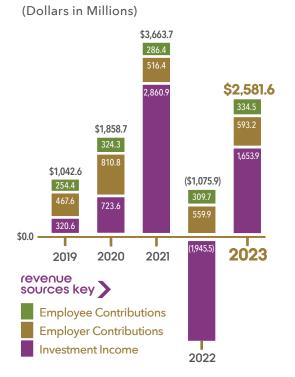




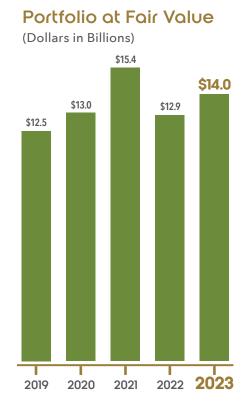


66Counties143State Agencies308Cities510Other Public Entities

**The Employees' Retirement System of Alabama (ERS)** provides retirement allowances and other specified benefits for qualified state employees, state police, and, on an elective basis, employees of cities, counties, towns, and quasi-public organizations.







## **Employer Rate**



## Total Annual Payments

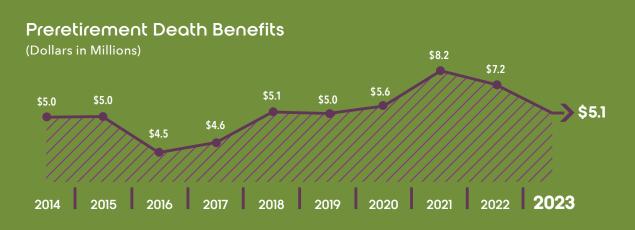
(Dollars in Millions)



## Average Monthly Benefits

(In Actual Dollars)







HON. KAY IVEY Governor Ex Officio, Chair



MR. JAMES FIBBE Retired Local Employee Position, Vice Chair



MR. DAVID J. HARER Active City Employee Position, Vice Chair Pro Tempore



MR. EDWARD N. AUSTIN Governor Appointee



HON. YOUNG BOOZER State Treasurer Ex Officio



**CAPT. DAVID COLSTON** Governor Appointee



MR. MICHAEL GILLESPIE Active or Retired Local Employee Position



MRS. JACKIE B. GRAHAM State Personnel Director Ex Officio



MR. NORRIS GREEN Retired State Employee Position



MR. RICKY HARCROW Active County Employee Position



MR. BILL POOLE State Finance Director Ex Officio



MS. TAMMY ROLLING Governor Appointee



MRS. LISA STATUM Active Other Local Employee Position



MR. DERRICK T. TURNER, SR. Active State Employee Position



MRS. LINDSEY WARD Active State Employee Position

(\$ IN THOUSANDS)

## **ERS** Statement of Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

As of September 30, 2023, and 2022

| Assets  | 2023       | 2022             |
|---|------------|------------------|
| Cash  | \$ 45,322  | <u>\$ 38,943</u> |
| Receivables   |            |                  |
| Employee Contributions                                  | 18,021     | 14,769           |
| Employer Contributions                                  | 34,767     | 29,410           |
| Transfers Receivable from the TRS                       | 321        | 998              |
| Investment Sales Receivable                             |            | 6,111            |
| Dividends and Interest                                  | 51,152     | 38,055           |
| Miscellaneous Receivable                                | 240        | 512              |
| Total Receivables                                       | 104,501    | 89,855           |
| Investments, at Fair Value                              |            |                  |
| Domestic Equity   | 7,229,295  | 7,292,918        |
| Domestic Fixed Income                                   | 2,166,694  | 1,719,690        |
| International Equities                                  | 2,024,607  | 1,679,190        |
| Real Estate   | 1,398,673  | 1,375,316        |
| Short-Term  | 1,155,797  | 799,842          |
| Total Investments                                       | 13,975,066 | 12,866,956       |
| Invested Securities<br>Lending Collateral               | 662,065    | 499,408          |
| Property and Equipment<br>Less Accumulated Depreciation | 37,843     | 39,634           |
| Total Assets  | 14,824,797 | 13,534,796       |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources                          |            |                  |
| Pensions  | 5,372      | 3,073            |
| OPEB  | 632        | 643              |
| Total Assets and Deferred<br>Outflows of Resources      | 14,830,801 | 13,538,512       |

## Liabilities

| 5,201<br>1,232<br>3,485<br>21,349<br>662,065<br><b>693,332</b> | 4,213<br>1,468<br>7,211<br>3,087<br>15,723<br>499,408<br><b>531,110</b> |
|--|---|
| 3,485<br>21,349<br>662,065                                     | 7,211<br>3,087<br>15,723<br>499,408                                     |
| 21,349<br>662,065  | 3,087<br>15,723<br>499,408  |
| 21,349<br>662,065  | 15,723<br>499,408   |
| 662,065  | 499,408   |
| ,  | · · · · ·   |
| 693,332  | 531,110   |
|  |   |
|  |   |
| 615  | 2,631   |
| 3,513  | 5,612   |
| 697,460  | 539,353   |
|  |   |
|  |   |

## **ERS** Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023, and 2022 (\$ IN THOUSANDS)

| Additions   | 2023          |    | 2022      |
|---|---------------|----|-----------|
| Contributions   |               |    |           |
| Employee  | \$<br>327,631 | \$ | 303,507   |
| Employer  | 593,211       |    | 559,869   |
| New Units   | _             |    | 2,679     |
| Transfers from the Teachers'<br>Retirement System               | 6,825         |    | 6,213     |
| Marketing & Advertising Revenue                                 | 248           |    | 165       |
| Total Contributions   | 927,915       |    | 872,433   |
| FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fair Value |               |    |           |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fair Value                           |               |    |           |
| of Investments  | <br>1,283,045 | (  | 2,274,633 |
| Interest and Dividends  | <br>370,837   | _  | 329,97    |
| Total Investment Income/(Loss)<br>from Investing Activities     | 1,653,882     | (  | 1,944,658 |
| Less Investment Expenses, Net                                   | 3,611         |    | 3,544     |
| Net Investment Income/(Loss)<br>from Investing Activities       | 1,650,271     | (  | 1,948,202 |
| FROM SECURITIES LENDING ACTIVITIES                              |               |    |           |
| Securities Lending Income                                       | 34,364        |    | 6,284     |
|   | <br>          |    |           |

| Securities Lending Income                            | 34,364    | 6,284       |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| Less Securities Lending Expenses<br>Borrower Rebates | 28,834    | 2,367       |
| Management Fees                                      | 1,907     | 1,175       |
| Total Securities<br>Lending Expenses                 | 30,741    | 3,542       |
| Net Income from Securities<br>Lending Activities     | 3,623     | 2,742       |
| Total Net Investment<br>Income/(Loss)                | 1,653,894 | (1,945,460) |
| Total Additions/(Reductions)                         | 2,581,809 | (1,073,027) |

## **Deductions**

End of Year

| Retirement Allowance Payments                   | 1,366,602  | 1,323,657   |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Return of Contributions and<br>Death Benefits   | 55,427     | 58,978      |
| Unit Withdrawals                                | _          | 53          |
| Transfers to the Teachers'<br>Retirement System | 8,526      | 9,517       |
| Transfers to the Judicial Retirement Fund       | 249        | 228         |
| Administrative Expenses                         | 13,285     | 11,306      |
| Depreciation                                    | 3,538      | 3,551       |
| Total Deductions                                | 1,447,627  | 1,407,290   |
| Change in Net Position                          | 1,134,182  | (2,480,317) |
| Net Position Restricted<br>For Pension Benefits |            |             |
| Beginning of Year                               | 12,999,159 | 15,479,476  |

\$14,133,341

\$12,999,159

JUDICIAL RETIREMENT FUND 2023 Highlights

JRF

## JRF 2023 highlights

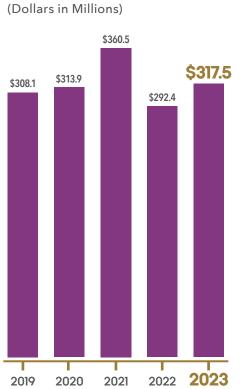




**The Judicial Retirement Fund of Alabama (JRF)** provides retirement allowances and other specified benefits for supreme court justices, court of appeals judges, circuit court judges, district court judges, circuit clerks, district attorneys, and probate judges. Responsibility for the management and administration of the JRF is vested in the ERS Board of Control.

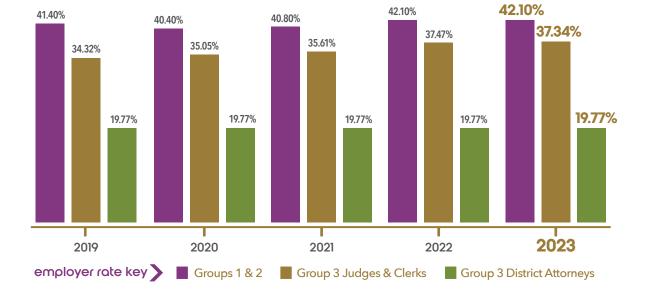
\$86.3 4.3 \$69.4 5.0 \$45.5 4.2 42.8 \$33.1 4.1 (\$26.5) 4.7 11.0 \$0.0 Т Т Т (51.8) 2023 2019 2020 2021 revenue sources key **Employee Contributions Employer Contributions** Investment Income 2022

## JRF Revenue Sources (Dollars in Millions)



## Portfolio at Fair Value

**Employer Rate** 



(% of Covered Payroll)



## **Total Annual Payments**

(Dollars in Millions)

## Average Monthly Benefits

(In Actual Dollars)



#### JRF Statement of Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

As of September 30, 2023, and 2022

-IRF

|   | (\$ IN T | (\$ IN THOUSANDS) |  |  |
|---|----------|-------------------|--|--|
| Assets                                    | 2023     | 2022              |  |  |
| Cash                                      | \$ 4,056 | \$ 3,815          |  |  |
| Receivables                               |          |                   |  |  |
| Employee Contributions                    | 202      | 183               |  |  |
| Employer Contributions                    | 790      | 756               |  |  |
| Investment Sales Receivable               |          | 182               |  |  |
| Dividends and Interest                    | 1,328    | 993               |  |  |
| Miscellaneous Receivable                  | 230      | _                 |  |  |
| Total Receivables                         | 2,550    | 2,114             |  |  |
| Investments, at Fair Value                |          |                   |  |  |
| Domestic Equity                           | 155,019  | 158,117           |  |  |
| Domestic Fixed Income                     | 81,356   | 71,062            |  |  |
| International Equities                    | 49,075   | 40,495            |  |  |
| Real Estate                               | 6,744    | 6,905             |  |  |
| Short-Term                                | 25,286   | 15,783            |  |  |
| Total Investments                         | 317,480  | 292,362           |  |  |
| Invested Securities<br>Lending Collateral | 10,737   | 5,238             |  |  |
| Total Assets                              | 334,823  | 303,529           |  |  |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources            |          |                   |  |  |
| Pensions                                  | 246      | 95                |  |  |
| OPEB                                      | 7        | 4                 |  |  |
| Total Assets and Deferred                 | 225.07/  | 202 (20           |  |  |

## Liabilities

**Outflows of Resources** 

| Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities                 | 122        | 109        |
|--|------------|------------|
| Investment Purchases Payable                           |            | 269        |
| Net OPEB Liability                                     | 32         | 26         |
| Net Pension Liability                                  | 628        | 342        |
| Securities Lending Collateral                          | 10,737     | 5,238      |
| Total Liabilities                                      | 11,519     | 5,984      |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources                          |            |            |
| Pensions   | 3          | 51         |
| OPEB   | 28         | 44         |
| Total Liabilities and Deferred<br>Inflows of Resources | 11,550     | 6,079      |
| Net Position Restricted<br>For Pension Benefits        | \$ 323,526 | \$ 297,549 |

335,076

303,628

## JRF Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023, and 2022 (\$ IN THOUSANDS)

| Additions   | 2023       | 2022     |
|---|------------|----------|
| Contributions   |            |          |
| Employee  | \$ \$4,770 | \$ 4,464 |
| Employer  | 21,609     | 20,617   |
| Transfers from the Employees'<br>Retirement System          | 249        | 228      |
| Total Contributions   | 26,628     | 25,309   |
| Investment Income   |            |          |
| FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES                                   |            |          |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fair Value<br>of Investments     | 34,443     | (59,058) |
| Interest and Dividends                                      | 8,312      | 7,229    |
| Total Investment Income/(Loss)<br>from Investing Activities | 42,755     | (51,829) |
| FROM SECURITIES LENDING ACTIVITIES                          |            |          |
| Securities Lending Income                                   | 380        | 94       |
| Less Securities Lending Expenses<br>Borrower Rebates        | 281        | 23       |
| Management Fees   | 34         | 21       |
| Total Securities<br>Lending Expenses                        | 315        | 44       |
| Net Income from Securities<br>Lending Activities            | 65         | 50       |
| Total Net Investment<br>Income/(Loss)                       | 42,820     | (51,779) |
| Total Additions/(Reductions)                                | 69,448     | (26,470) |
|   |            |          |

## **Deductions**

| Retirement Allowance Payments                   | 42,580     | 40,542     |
|---|------------|------------|
| Return of Contributions and<br>Death Benefits   | 341        | 325        |
| Transfers to the Teachers'<br>Retirement System | 23         | _          |
| Administrative Expenses                         | 527        | 443        |
| Total Deductions                                | 43,471     | 41,310     |
| Change in Net Position                          | 25,977     | (67,780)   |
| Net Position Restricted<br>For Pension Benefits |            |            |
| Beginning of Year                               | 297,549    | 365,329    |
| End of Year                                     | \$ 323,526 | \$ 297,549 |

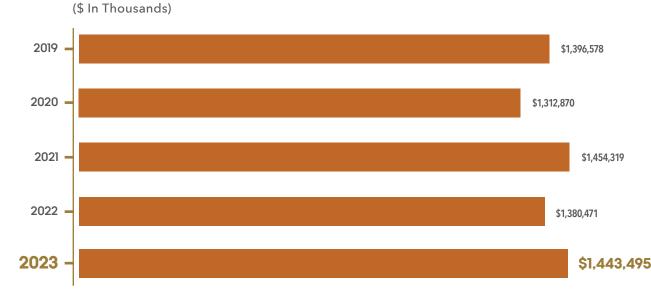
PUBLIC EDUCATION EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN 2023 Highlights PEEHIP

# PERF 2023 highlights



**The Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Plan (PEEHIP)** was established in 1983 to provide quality healthcare insurance benefits for the health and well-being of our members.

## Total Claims Expense Active and Retired



|   | 2022                  |                       |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|   | (\$ IN                | THOUSAND              |
| Assets  | 2023                  | 2022                  |
| Current   |                       |                       |
| Cash  | \$ 7,236              | \$ 314                |
| Premiums Receivable                                     | 4,441                 | 4,107                 |
| Rebates Receivable                                      | 38,115                | 26,890                |
| Miscellaneous Receivable                                | 9,894                 | 7,186                 |
| Interest Receivable                                     | 755                   | 61                    |
| Deposit with Claims-Paying Agent                        | 1,674                 | 1,523                 |
| Total Current Assets                                    | 62,115                | 40,081                |
| Noncurrent  |                       |                       |
| Investments, at Fair Value                              | 385,912               | 293,717               |
| Total Assets  | 448,027               | 333,798               |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources<br>Net Pension Liability | 3,714                 | 4,115                 |
| Net Other Post Employment<br>Benefit (OPEB) Liability   | 180                   | 222                   |
| Total Deferred Outflows<br>of Resources                 | 3,894                 | 4,337                 |
| Total Assets and Deferred<br>Outflows of Resources      | 451,921               | 338,135               |
| Liabilities   |                       |                       |
| Current   |                       |                       |
| Accounts Payable  | 1,205                 | 1,432                 |
| Due to Other Governments                                | 452                   | 415                   |
| Compensated Absences, Current                           | 17                    | 18                    |
| Reported Claims Payable                                 | 61,940                | 61,178                |
| Claims Incurred But Not Reported                        | 92,646                | 74,663                |
| P. ( 19   | 7,980                 | 3,545                 |
| Deferred Revenue  |                       |                       |
| Total Current Liabilities                               | 164,240               | 141,251               |
|   | 164,240               | 141,251               |
| Total Current Liabilities                               | <b>164,240</b><br>450 | <b>141,251</b><br>568 |

934

6,320

3,190

1,182

4,372

174,932

276,989

\$ 451,921

170,560

848

7,782

1,875

1,798

3,673

152,706

185,429

\$ 338,135

149,033

#### **PEEHIP** Statement of Revenues, Expenses, & Changes in Fund Net Position, Unaudited

For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023, and 2022 (\$ IN THOUSANDS)

## Operating Revenues 2023 2022

| Premiums   | \$ 1,143,410 | \$ 1,078,983 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Transfers from Internal Service Fund                               | 40,000       | 794          |
| Transfers from Education Trust Fund–<br>Supplemental Appropriation | 59,179       | _            |
| Total Operating Revenues   | 1,242,589    | 1,079,777    |

## **Operating Expenses**

| Claims                   | 1,163,103 | 1,042,658 |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Fees and Assessments     | 456       | 417       |
| Administrative           | 3,494     | 3,539     |
| Total Operating Expenses | 1,167,053 | 1,046,614 |
| Operating Income         | 75,536    | 33,163    |

## **Investment Revenues**

| Interest Income                              | 15,144 | 2,647  |  |
|--|--------|--------|--|
| Net Increase in Fair Value<br>of Investments | 880    | _      |  |
| Total Investment Revenues                    | 16,024 | 2,647  |  |
| Change in Net Position                       | 91,560 | 35,810 |  |

## **Net Position**

| <b>Beginning Net Position</b> | 185,429       | 149,619       |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ending Net Position           | \$<br>276,989 | \$<br>185,429 |

Net OPEB Liability

**Total Liabilities** 

Net OPEB Liability

**Net Position** 

Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position

Net Pension Liability

**Total Noncurrent Liabilities** 

**Deferred Inflows of Resources** 

Total Deferred Inflows of Resources

Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources

PEE



The Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust is an irrevocable trust created by the Legislature in 2007 to begin funding post-employment healthcare benefits for retired education employees and their dependents in advance to address and ultimately offset the state's accrued liabilities for such benefits.

#### HEALTH CARE TRUST Statement of Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited As of September 30, 2023, and 2022

3, and 2022 (\$ IN THOUSANDS)

| Assets  | 2023         | 2022         |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Receivables   |              |              |
| Rebates Receivable  | \$ 4,544     | \$ 5,550     |
| Miscellaneous Receivable  | 1,150        | 1,537        |
| Interest and Dividends  | 5,588        | 4,322        |
| Investment Sales Receivable                                     |              | 1,462        |
| Total Receivables   | 11,282       | 12,871       |
| Deposit with Claims-Paying Agent                                | 1,205        | 1,077        |
| Investments, at Fair Value                                      |              |              |
| Commercial Paper  | 45,300       | 45,972       |
| Money Market Funds  | 100,158      | 80,049       |
| U.S. Government Guaranteed Bonds                                | 139,687      | 118,431      |
| U.S. Agency Securities  | 15,923       | 18,036       |
| Mortgage-Backed Securities                                      | 98,166       | 75,820       |
| Corporate Bonds   | 198,885      | 187,782      |
| International Securities  | 244,737      | 202,968      |
| Common Stocks   | 1,042,720    | 914,445      |
| Preferred Stocks  | 3,529        | 3,525        |
| Total Investments   | 1,889,105    | 1,647,028    |
| Invested Securities<br>Lending Collateral                       | 84,908       | 73,658       |
| Total Assets  | 1,986,500    | 1,734,634    |
| Liabilities   |              |              |
| Securities Lending Collateral                                   | 84,908       | 73,658       |
| Reported Claims Payable   | 7,243        | 10,880       |
| Claims Incurred But Not Reported                                | 16,506       | 14,479       |
| Investment Purchases Payable                                    |              | 1,844        |
| Due to Other Governments  | 53           | 52           |
| Total Liabilities   | 108,710      | 100,913      |
| Net Position Restricted For<br>Other Postemployment<br>Benefits | \$ 1,877,790 | \$ 1,633,721 |

#### HEALTH CARE TRUST Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023, and 2022 (\$ IN THOUSANDS)

|   | (\$ IN     | ihousands) |
|---|------------|------------|
| Additions   | 2023       | 2022       |
| Contributions   |            |            |
| Employee Contributions                                      | \$ 125,753 | \$ 151,126 |
| Employer Contributions                                      | 155,663    | 191,109    |
| Employer Group Waiver Plan (EGWP)                           | 293        | 434        |
| Total Contributions   | 281,709    | 342,669    |
| Investment Income   |            |            |
| FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES                                   |            |            |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fair Value of Investments        | 199,198    | (328,789)  |
| Interest and Dividends                                      | 44,070     | 36,443     |
| Total Investment Income/(Loss)<br>from Investing Activities | 243,268    | (292,346)  |
| FROM SECURITIES LENDING ACTIVITIES                          |            |            |
| Securities Lending Income                                   | 3,789      | 798        |
| Less Securities Lending Expenses<br>Borrower Rebates        | 3,092      | 335        |
| Management Fees   | 240        | 139        |
| Total Securities Lending Expenses                           | 3,332      | 474        |
| Net Income from Securities<br>Lending Activities            | 457        | 324        |
| Total Net Investment<br>Income/(Loss)                       | 243,725    | (292,022)  |
| Total Additions   | 525,434    | 50,647     |
| Deductions  |            |            |
| Benefits  | 280,392    | 337,813    |
| Fees and Assessments  | 50         | 50         |
| Administrative Expenses                                     | 923        | 1,161      |
| Total Deductions  | 281,365    | 339,024    |
| Change in Net Position                                      | 244,069    | (288,377)  |

**Net Position Restricted For** 

#### **Other Postemployment Benefits**

| Beginning of Year | 1,633,721    | 1,922,098    |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| End of Year       | \$ 1,877,790 | \$ 1,633,721 |



## 2023 net asset value







## \$2.4 BILLION total net asset value

**The RSA-1 Deferred Compensation Plan** was established in 1986 to allow members of the RSA and certain other eligible public employees to defer receipt of a percentage of their salary for retirement, thereby deferring payment of taxes on that income.



## RSA-1 rates of returns by fund option

| 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING         | INCOME<br>YIELD<br>(IN %) | MARKET<br>VALUE<br>CHANGE | TOTAL<br>RETURN<br>(IN %) | TOTAL NET<br>ASSET VALUE<br>(\$ IN MILLIONS) | PARTICIPATING<br>MEMBERS |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| September 30, 2019             |                           |                           |                           |  |                          |
| FIXED INCOME INVESTMENT OPTION | 3.33                      | 5.97                      | 9.30                      | 1,274.2                                      | 33,814                   |
| EQUITY INVESTMENT OPTION       | 2.10                      | 2.17                      | 4.27                      | 851.9  | 23,843                   |
| STIF INVESTMENT OPTION         | 2.44                      | 0.00                      | 2.44                      | 81.4   | 3,615                    |
| September 30, 2020             |                           |                           |                           |  |                          |
| FIXED INCOME INVESTMENT OPTION | 3.08                      | 4.14                      | 7.22                      | 1,331.0                                      | 33,973                   |
| EQUITY INVESTMENT OPTION       | 2.00                      | 13.07                     | 15.07                     | 957.6  | 24,778                   |
| STIF INVESTMENT OPTION         | 1.05                      | 0.00                      | 1.05                      | 97.6   | 4,391                    |
| September 30, 2021             |                           |                           |                           |  |                          |
| FIXED INCOME INVESTMENT OPTION | 2.79                      | -2.68                     | 0.12                      | 1,274.8                                      | 33,976                   |
| EQUITY INVESTMENT OPTION       | 1.58                      | 28.54                     | 30.12                     | 1,238.6                                      | 26,064                   |
| STIF INVESTMENT OPTION         | 0.07                      | 0.00                      | 0.07                      | 107.4  | 4,980                    |
| September 30, 2022             |                           |                           |                           |  |                          |
| FIXED INCOME INVESTMENT OPTION | 3.03                      | -15.78                    | -12.75                    | 1,014.0                                      | 33,440                   |
| EQUITY INVESTMENT OPTION       | 1.56                      | -16.99                    | -15.43                    | 1,002.8                                      | 27,042                   |
| STIF INVESTMENT OPTION         | 0.81                      | 0.00                      | 0.81                      | 1809.1                                       | 6,439                    |
| September 30, 2023             |                           |                           |                           |  |                          |
| FIXED INCOME INVESTMENT OPTION | 3.52                      | -1.26                     | 2.26                      | 965.4  | 33,052                   |
| EQUITY INVESTMENT OPTION       | 1.71                      | 19.90                     | 21.61                     | 1,210.9                                      | 27,794                   |
| STIF INVESTMENT OPTION         | 4.91                      | 0.00                      | 4.91                      | 213.9  | 7,522                    |



RSA-1 offers three fund options for its members to invest. RSA-1 offers a short-term investment fund, equity fund, and fixed income fund. The member chooses his or her own allocations.

## **RSA-1** asset allocation by fund option

|   |                          | FIXED<br>INCOME FUND    |               | EQUITY<br>FUND |                | -TERM<br>ENT FUND |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
|   | 2023                     | 2022                    | 2023          | 2022           | 2023           | 2022              |
| MONEY<br>MARKET                           | <b>1.8</b> %             | <b>2.2</b> <sup>%</sup> | 0.1%          | 0.2%           | <b>100.0</b> % | 100.0%            |
| COMMON<br>STOCK                           |                          |                         | <b>99.9</b> % | <b>99.8</b> %  |                |                   |
| CORPORATE<br>BONDS                        | <b>42.3</b> <sup>%</sup> | <b>42.0</b> %           |               |                | -              |                   |
| U.S. GOVERNMENT<br>GUARANTEED             | <b>31.4</b> <sup>%</sup> | 30.0%                   |               |                |                |                   |
| COLLATERALIZED<br>MORTGAGE<br>OBLIGATIONS | <b>15.6</b> %            | 15.7%                   |               |                |                |                   |
| GNMA                                      | <b>3.8</b> <sup>%</sup>  | <b>4.2</b> <sup>%</sup> |               |                |                |                   |
| U.S. AGENCY<br>SECURITIES                 | <b>3.5</b> <sup>%</sup>  | <b>4.4</b> %            |               |                |                |                   |
| PREFERRED<br>STOCK                        | <b>1.2</b> <sup>%</sup>  | 1.1%                    |               |                |                |                   |
| PRIVATE<br>PLACEMENTS                     | <b>0.4</b> <sup>%</sup>  | 0.4%                    |               |                |                |                   |

All Numbers as of September 30, 2023, and September 30, 2022

## **RSA-1** Statement of Fiduciary Net

Position, Unaudited

As of September 30, 2023, and 2022 (IN ACTUAL DOLLARS)

|   | (IN ACTO      | JAL DOLLARS)  |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Assets                                    | 2023          | 2022          |
| Cash                                      | \$ 500,334    | \$ -          |
| Receivables                               |               |               |
| Interest and Dividends Receivable         | 9,034,444     | 8,254,804     |
| Investments, at Fair Value                |               |               |
| Money Market Funds                        | 232,274,138   | 213,820,466   |
| U.S. Treasuries                           | 300,865,674   | 301,440,111   |
| U.S. Agency Securities                    | 32,992,438    | 44,011,973    |
| GNMAs                                     | 36,580,465    | 42,343,922    |
| CMOs                                      | 149,675,943   | 157,915,368   |
| Corporate Bonds                           | 405,624,877   | 423,121,156   |
| Private Placements                        | 3,474,119     | 4,147,449     |
| Common and Preferred Stocks               | 1,219,684,944 | 1,012,061,428 |
| Total Investments                         | 2,381,172,598 | 2,198,861,873 |
| Invested Securities<br>Lending Collateral | 50,981,666    | 46,531,106    |
| Total Assets                              | 2,441,689,042 | ∠,253,647,783 |

## Liabilities

| Investment Purchases Payable                                     | _               | 1,184,736       |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Securities Lending Collateral                                    | 50,981,666      | 46,531,106      |
| Total Liabilities  | 50,981,666      | 47,715,842      |
| Net Position<br>Restricted For Deferred<br>Compensation Benefits | \$2,390,707,376 | \$2,205,931,941 |

## **RSA-1** Statement of Changes in

Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023, and 2022 (IN ACTUAL DOLLARS) 

| Additions   | 2023         | 2022          |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Member Contributions  | \$76,754,777 | \$76,934,041  |
| Investment Income   |              |               |
| FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES                                   |              |               |
| Interest and Dividends                                      | 64,152,347   | 54,753,884    |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in<br>Fair Value of Investments     | 183,152,743  | (391,789,179) |
| Total Investment Income/(Loss)<br>from Investing Activities | 247,305,090  | (337,035,295) |
| FROM SECURITIES LENDING ACTIVITIES                          |              |               |
| Securities Lending Income                                   | 2,012,610    | 720,445       |
| Less Securities Lending Expenses                            |              |               |
| Borrower Rebates  | 1,463,980    | 321,045       |
| Management Fees   | 185,888      | 119,796       |
| Total Securities<br>Lending Expenses                        | 1,649,868    | 440,841       |
| Net Income from Securities<br>Lending Activities            | 362,742      | 279,604       |
| Total Net Investment<br>Income/(Loss)                       | 247,667,832  | (336,755,691) |
| Total Additions/(Reductions)                                | 324,422,609  | (259,821,650) |

## **Deductions**

| Normal Distributions   | 139,379,927 | 154,686,963   |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Emergency Withdrawals  | 267,247     | 317,190       |
| Total Deductions       | 139,647,174 | 155,004,153   |
| Change in Net Position | 184,775,435 | (414,825,803) |

#### Net Position **Restricted For Deferred**

**Compensation Benefits** 

| Beginning of Year | 2,205,931,941   | 2,620,757,744   |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| End of Year       | \$2,390,707,376 | \$2,205,931,941 |

# 

## The Public Employees' Individual Retirement Account Fund (PEIRAF)

was established to allow public employees to conveniently and economically receive the fullest benefits offered by the Economic Recovery Tax Act (ERTA) of 1981 as it relates to individual retirement accounts. Upon its creation in 1982, PEIRAF operated as a fixed-income portfolio. Funds were invested in fixed-income investments such as corporate bonds, U.S. agency obligations, government national mortgage association securities, and commercial paper. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 prohibited contributions to deductible voluntary employee contribution plans, such as PEIRAF, for years after 1986. Accordingly, the PEIRAF Board of Control discontinued receiving contributions to this plan after December 31, 1986. However, the PEIRAF continues to reinvest the interest earnings of existing PEIRAF member accounts.

As of 2022, PEIRAF offers three fund options for its members to invest. PEIRAF offers a short-term investment fund, equity fund, and fixed income fund. The member chooses his or her own allocations.

## **PEIRAF** asset allocation by fund option

All numbers as of September 30, 2023, and September 30, 2022

|   | FIXED EQUITY<br>INCOME FUND FUND |                         | SHORT<br>INVESTME |               |                |        |  |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|--------|--|
|   | 2023                             | 2022                    | 2023              | 2022          | 2023           | 2022   |  |
| MONEY<br>MARKET                           | <b>2.1</b> <sup>%</sup>          | 1.1%                    | 0.1%              | 0.1%          | <b>100.0</b> % | 100.0% |  |
| COMMON<br>STOCK                           |                                  |                         | <b>99.9</b> %     | <b>99.9</b> % |                |        |  |
| CORPORATE<br>BONDS                        | <b>42.7</b> <sup>%</sup>         | <b>43.3</b> %           |                   |               |                |        |  |
| U.S. GOVERNMENT<br>GUARANTEED             | <b>31.1</b> %                    | <b>28.8</b> %           |                   |               |                |        |  |
| COLLATERALIZED<br>MORTGAGE<br>OBLIGATIONS | <b>15.7</b> <sup>%</sup>         | 16.2%                   |                   |               |                |        |  |
| GNMA                                      | <b>4.8</b> <sup>%</sup>          | <b>5.2</b> <sup>%</sup> |                   |               |                |        |  |
| U.S. AGENCY<br>SECURITIES                 | <b>3.6</b> <sup>%</sup>          | <b>4.0</b> %            |                   |               |                |        |  |
| PREFERRED<br>STOCK                        | _                                | 1.4%                    |                   |               |                |        |  |

## **PEIRAF** Statement of Fiduciary

Net Position, Unaudited

As of September 30, 2023, and 2022  $\,$ 

| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·     | (IN ACTUAL DOLL |            |  |  |
|---|-----------------|------------|--|--|
| Assets                                    | 2023            | 2022       |  |  |
| Cash                                      | \$ -            | \$ -       |  |  |
| Interest Receivable                       | 409,422         | 413,567    |  |  |
| Investments, at Fair Value                |                 |            |  |  |
| Money Market and Mutual Funds             | 3,820,080       | 2,946,443  |  |  |
| U.S. Government Guaranteed Bonds          | 14,646,726      | 14,686,716 |  |  |
| U.S. Agency Securities                    | 1,671,728       | 2,060,719  |  |  |
| GNMAs                                     | 2,279,591       | 2,639,137  |  |  |
| CMOs                                      | 7,408,120       | 8,278,514  |  |  |
| Corporate Bonds                           | 20,132,418      | 22,090,417 |  |  |
| Common Stocks                             | 5,021,062       | 4,284,883  |  |  |
| Total Investments                         | 54,979,725      | 56,986,829 |  |  |
| Invested Securities<br>Lending Collateral | 7,089,892       | 4,017,163  |  |  |
| Total Assets                              | 62,479,039      | 61,417,559 |  |  |
| Liabilities                               |                 |            |  |  |

## Liabilities

| Securities Lending Collateral | 7,089,892     | 4,017,163     |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total Liabilities             | 7,089,892     | 4,017,163     |
| Net Position Restricted       |               |               |
| For PEIRAF Benefits           | \$ 55,389,147 | \$ 57,400,396 |

## **PEIRAF** Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position, Unaudited

For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023, and 2022

(IN ACTUAL DOLLARS)

|   | (114)/(010)  | NE DOLL/MO)  |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Additions   | 2023         | 2022         |
| Investment Income   |              |              |
| FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES   |              |              |
| Interest and Dividends  | \$ 1,996,237 | \$ 1,972,265 |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fair<br>Value of Investments           | 84,446       | (11,432,948) |
| Total Investment Increase/(Decrease)<br>from Investing Activities | 2,080,683    | (9,460,683)  |
| FROM SECURITIES LENDING ACTIVITIES                                |              |              |
| Securities Lending Income   | 165,678      | 36,789       |
| Less Securities Lending Expenses                                  |              |              |
| Borrower Rebates  | 117,428      | 10,497       |
| Management Fees   | 16,064       | 7,885        |
| Total Securities<br>Lending Expenses                              | 133,492      | 18,382       |
| Net Income from Securities<br>Lending Activities                  | 32,186       | 18,407       |
| Total Net Investment<br>Income/(Loss)                             | 2,112,869    | (9,442,276)  |
| Total Additions/(Reductions)                                      | 2,112,869    | (9,442,276)  |

## **Deductions**

| Normal Distributions                           | 4,124,118     | 4,589,630    |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| Total Deductions                               | 4,124,118     | 4,589,630    |
| Change in Net Position                         | (2,011,249)   | (14,031,906) |
| Net Position Restricted<br>For PEIRAF Benefits |               |              |
| Beginning of Year                              | 57,400,396    | 71,432,302   |
| End of Year                                    | \$ 55,389,147 | \$57,400,396 |

**54** THE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS OF ALABAMA

# Retirement Systems of Alabama

2023 highlights

# A legacy of prudent

investment management.

Providing outstanding results with some of the lowest investment expenses in the industry.



## fixed income activity

At the beginning of the fiscal year, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) had just raised rates by 75 basis points with Chairman Jay Powell proclaiming that "restoring price stability will likely require maintaining a restrictive policy for some time." Global central banks were also hiking rates amid a troublesome inflationary backdrop, and the era of negative-yielding sovereign debt had finally come to pass. Corporate credit appeared stable in the face of economic uncertainty with cash alternatives providing sufficient yield for those unwilling to put capital to work. The fiscal year ended on a sour note with Treasury and corporate bond losses eclipsing 3.45% and 5.25%, respectively, in September. However, the RSA believed that incrementally adding to the fixed-income portfolio as opportunities arose would prove beneficial over the long term.

A strong September jobs report and a higher-thanexpected print of headline inflation provided a material shift higher in interest rates. The core component of the index reached its fastest pace of the cycle with a 6.6% increase. Weak consumer sentiment and Treasury auction demand pushed rates further, with the long end of the yield curve bearing the brunt of the punishment. Policymakers provided a hawkish tone at the November FOMC meeting as they opted to raise rates by 75bps for the fourth consecutive time. However, the following week provided the market with what it had been longing for with the release of a better-than-expected CPI print. Treasury yields collapsed 40-45bps across the curve, further emboldened by the release of the FOMC minutes affirming a slower pace of monetary tightening going forward. This resulted in positive returns across all fixedincome sectors, with investment-grade corporates leading the way after spreads tightened approximately 25bps during November. The FOMC followed through on that assessment, lifting the Federal Funds rate by only 50bps in December as 10-year Treasury yields fell to 3.5%, approximately 75bps lower than peak levels of late October.

Treasury yields continued their descent in the new calendar year, with inflation levels coming in line with market expectations. Investment grade and high-yield securities outperformed during this time as credit spreads tightened, boosting total returns.

Monetary policymakers followed suit, only lifting shortterm interest rates by 25bps at its February meeting. The yield declines came to a halt as the unemployment rate dropped to 3.4% after 500,000 new jobs were added during January. The market was now fully pricing in a 25bp rate increase in June, following the expected 25bp moves at the March and May FOMC meetings. The abrupt move higher in rates quickly reversed as stress within the regional banking system took hold. Regulators ultimately took over Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, and Credit Suisse succumbed, as well, being forced into a marriage with UBS. The Federal Reserve ultimately created a new funding facility, providing loans up to one year pledged by quality assets that would be valued at par. The yield curve transformed materially during this time as 2-year yields dropped over 150bps in a matter of weeks.

The following months were consumed with regional bank volatility, debt ceiling drama, strong economic data, and a steady climb in interest rates. A debt ceiling deal ultimately passed, and the Federal Reserve continued to incrementally push short-term interest rates higher. Ending the stretch of ten consecutive rate hikes, the FOMC delivered the expected "hawkish pause" at its June meeting while still forecasting two additional rate hikes for the remainder of the year. Economic strength, coupled with the hawkish stance of policymakers, resulted in a significant bear flattening of the curve. Ten-year Treasury securities at one point were yielding 105bps less than their two-year counterparts. The Fed followed through with the market's expectation of a 25bp increase at the July FOMC meeting. In August, Fitch Ratings stripped the U.S. government

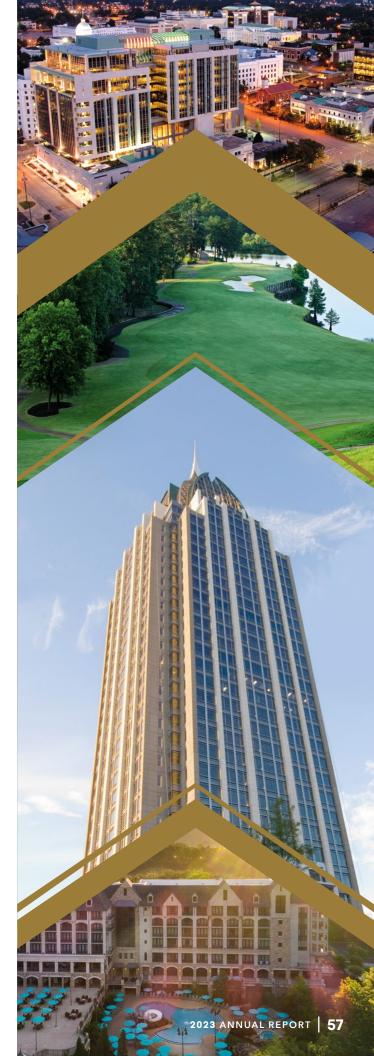
of its AAA status ahead of the Treasury's refunding announcement, where it released details on its \$1 trillion borrowing estimate for the third quarter. The downgrade cited the "expected fiscal deterioration, growing general government debt burden, and the erosion of governance" in its reasoning for removal.

Historically, September has always provided fireworks to close out the fund's fiscal year, and 2023 proved no exception. Relatively tame to begin with, but the hawkish tone at the September FOMC meeting pushed rates meaningfully higher. The curve also steepened substantially, with the long end rising approximately 50bps. The Chairman's lack of confidence that rates were sufficiently restrictive upended all asset classes. Looking back, the market, time and again this year, positioned itself for a potential recession that never came. While underlying inflation has steadily fallen, economic growth and the labor market always provided a bounce just when the market looked to be rolling over. The volatility within the fixed-income market was unprecedented. The Bloomberg Aggregate posted gains and losses in excess of 2.5% in five of the twelve months, yet only culminated in a paltry 0.65% total return. The RSA proactively added to its Treasury and mortgagebacked portfolios as rates fluctuated throughout the fiscal year. The RSA will continue to take advantage of opportunities within fixed income, as yields have approached attractive levels.

For the fiscal year, the total annual returns for the public domestic fixed-income portfolios were 2.03% for the TRS, 2.01% for the ERS, and 2.08% for the JRF. The five-year annualized returns were 0.97% for the TRS, 0.95% for the ERS, and 0.91% for the JRF. The ten-year annualized returns were 1.84% for the TRS, 1.83% for the ERS, and 1.74% for the JRF.

pictured on right, top to bottom

RSA Dexter Avenue Building RTJ Golf Trail at Capitol Hilll RSA Battle House Tower Renaissance Birmingham Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa





## equity activity

The past fiscal year felt awfully like the prior year with the exception that returns across the funds were up about the same amount as they were down in 2022. The long list of issues plaguing markets was still pervasive throughout fiscal 2023. First and foremost was the lingering inverted yield curve that has proved very prescient in predicting recessions. With the Federal Reserve keeping the pedal to the metal on rate hikes, The Fed Funds rate went from basically zero to over 5% in 18 months. Most market historians would expect that this scale of rate hikes would inevitably cause a recession. The question the whole way through was could they orchestrate a soft landing, or would they break the financial system and cause a deep recession? Looking back, there were several factors that could point you towards a recession. The global economy was in a funk, with the number two economy in the world, China, struggling on several fronts. Europe had a nice rebound, only to start faltering throughout the summer. The Russia/Ukraine war continues with seemingly no end in sight. The one driving force that held markets together was corporate earnings, which continued to hold strong despite all these headwinds.

Last year, we wrote that it was not a great time to de-risk the portfolio considering what had happened across the capital markets universe. Fast forward to today, and we have begun to reposition the portfolio more

**defensively.** We have used the equity rally to pare back on stocks and increase the weightings in both our short-term investments (cash) as well as core fixed income. For the first time since the Global Financial Crisis, yields on fixed income are looking relatively attractive, with the average yield more than tripling from the low at the end of fiscal year 2021. This is not to say the coast is totally clear on fixed income, but at least you are finally getting paid to take credit risk at current levels. As for the stock market, it reverted to megacap technology stocks being responsible for a large part of returns. It is really a tale of two markets, with that subsegment trading at very rich valuations, and the rest at more modest valuation levels. Most of our selling has been out of the S&P 500, which is dominated by the more expensive megacap stocks. At the end of the fiscal year, equities accounted for roughly 60% of the portfolios on average. We also continued our hedging program that we have in place to dampen equity volatility. It had minimal impact this year as market returns fell within the collar bands of the hedge. With all the macroeconomic and geopolitical events in play now, we expect another year of volatility in equity markets.

For the year, the RSA domestic equity portfolios returned 18.82%, 19.11%, and 19.65% for TRS, ERS, and JRF funds, respectively. International equity returns were led by developed markets, while emerging markets continued to lag most other indices. Total international equity returns were 24.80% for TRS, 24.37% for ERS, and 25.24% for JRF. The combined total returns for the overall equity portfolios were 19.95%, 20.10%, and 20.68% for TRS, ERS, and JRF, respectively. Three-, five-, and ten-year annualized global equity returns were 9.39%, 7.27%, and 9.37% for TRS, 9.30%, 7.32%, and 9.42% for ERS, and 9.31%, 7.62%, and 9.64% for JRF, respectively.





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KAYLEE QUINN MACC Fixed Income Analyst

## returns

| For the Period Ended September 30, 2023 (in 9 | %) Net Asset Value | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|---|--------------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| Total Portfolio                               |                    |        |         |         |          |
| TRS   | \$27,537,146,183   | 13.26  | 6.44    | 5.50    | 7.18     |
| ERS   | 14,024,221,096     | 12.89  | 6.26    | 5.47    | 7.22     |
| JRF   | 318,783,356        | 14.66  | 5.56    | 5.67    | 7.18     |
| Total Domestic Equity                         |                    |        |         |         |          |
| TRS   | 12,562,458,654     | 18.82  | 10.61   | 8.38    | 10.83    |
| ERS   | 6,365,019,838      | 19.11  | 10.59   | 8.49    | 10.87    |
| JRF   | 153,293,592        | 19.65  | 10.45   | 8.84    | 11.19    |
| Domestic Equity Benchmarks                    |                    |        |         |         |          |
| S&P 500                                       |                    | 21.62  | 10.15   | 9.92    | 11.91    |
| Mid Cap 400                                   |                    | 15.51  | 12.05   | 6.06    | 8.94     |
| Small Cap 600                                 |                    | 10.08  | 12.10   | 3.21    | 8.15     |
| Total International Equity                    |                    |        |         |         |          |
| TRS   | 4,045,204,787      | 24.80  | 5.23    | 3.39    | 4.12     |
| ERS   | 2,037,603,012      | 24.37  | 5.00    | 3.27    | 4.03     |
| JRF   | 49,418,747         | 25.24  | 5.50    | 3.45    | 4.16     |
| International Equity Benchmarks               |                    |        |         |         |          |
| Morgan Stanley EAFE                           |                    | 25.65  | 5.75    | 3.24    | 3.82     |
| MSCI Emerging Markets                         |                    | 11.70  | (1.73)  | 0.55    | 2.07     |
| STOXX Europe 600 Optimised Cyclicals          |                    | 30.15  | 4.95    | 0.61    | 0.70     |
| Total Fixed Income and Alternatives           |                    |        |         |         |          |
| TRS   | 8,680,645,389      | 0.55   | 0.25    | 1.70    | 3.12     |
| ERS   | 4,457,184,845      | (0.09) | 0.21    | 1.70    | 3.41     |
| JRF   | 90,332,483         | 1.90   | (3.08)  | 1.17    | 1.85     |
| Fixed Income Benchmarks                       |                    |        |         |         |          |
| Bloomberg Aggregate                           |                    | 0.64   | (5.21)  | 0.10    | 1.13     |

## maturity structure

The management of maturities for the bond portfolio is an integral part of the RSA's objective of providing a stable cash flow to meet retirement benefit needs. The RSA has historically structured its purchases in longerterm securities with intermediate call protection or average lives in order to meet its retirement obligations.

#### Maturity Structure (in %)

|                   | TRS ERS |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Years to Maturity | 2023    | 2022 | 2021 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
| <1                | 6       | 7    | 10   | 6    | 7    | 10   |
| 1 to <5           | 37      | 37   | 29   | 38   | 37   | 29   |
| 5 to <10          | 20      | 20   | 20   | 20   | 20   | 20   |
| 10 to <30         | 36      | 35   | 40   | 35   | 35   | 40   |
| = or >30          | 1       | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
|                   |         |      |      |      |      |      |

## quality evaluation

The RSA continued its long-standing policy of investing in high-quality, fixed-income products. Bond ratings, however, provide only a starting point in the evaluation of the relative investment qualities of a bond. Times have changed dramatically over the past decade, and few companies today have a rating of AAA to A. Many companies are now rated BAA or lower.

#### Quality Evaluation (in %)

|           |      | · · · · |      |      |      |      |
|-----------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
|           |      | TRS     |      |      | ERS  |      |
| Rating    | 2023 | 2022    | 2021 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
| AAA*      | 58   | 52      | 45   | 58   | 52   | 46   |
| AA        | 1    | 1       | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Α         | 12   | 12      | 13   | 12   | 12   | 12   |
| BAA       | 19   | 23      | 24   | 19   | 23   | 24   |
| BA        | 1    | 1       | 2    | 1    | 1    | 2    |
| В         | -    | -       | 1    | -    | -    | 1    |
| Not Rated | 9    | 11      | 14   | 9    | 11   | 14   |
|           | -    |         |      |      |      |      |

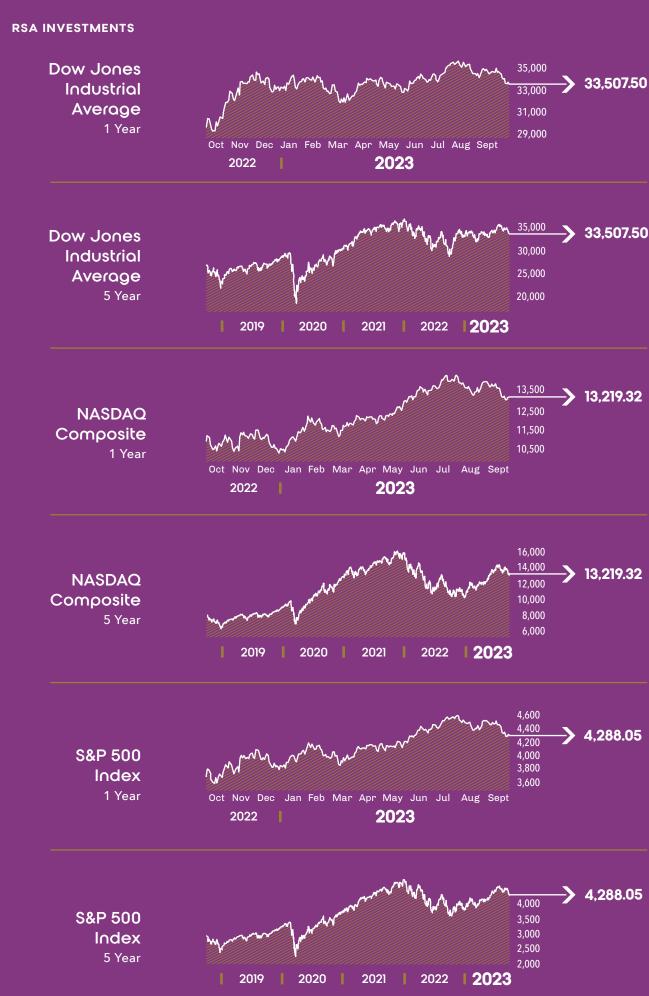
\*Treasury, Agency, and Agency MBS Securities



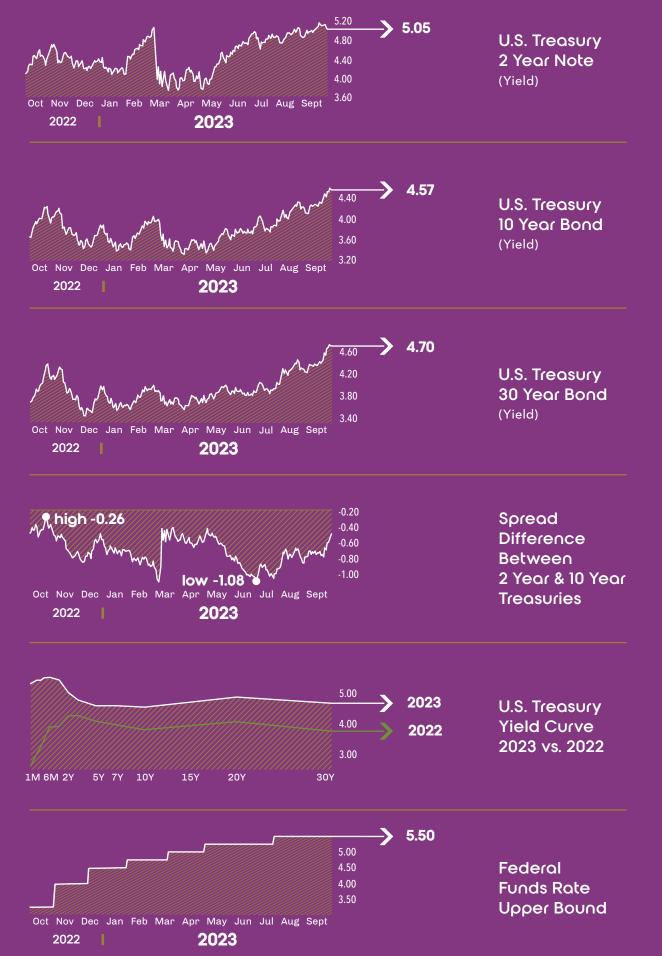
## broker commissions paid

|                                       | Commissions<br>Stock Transactions<br>(\$ In thousands) | Fixed Securities<br>Commissions<br>(\$ In thousands) |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| BANK OF AMERICA / MERRILL LYNCH       | 188  | 177  |
| BAIRD                                 |  | 35   |
| BARCLAYS                              |  | 50   |
| BERNSTEIN                             | 214  |  |
| CITIGROUP                             | 64   | 133  |
| CONVERGEX                             | 450  |  |
| COWEN                                 | 147  |  |
| CREDIT SUISSE                         | 26   | 6  |
| GOLDMAN SACHS                         | 156  | 146  |
| INSTINET                              | 149  |  |
| INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT | ISI 241  |  |
| ISSUER DESIGNATED                     |  | 476  |
| JEFFERIES                             | 55   |  |
| JP MORGAN CHASE                       | 121  | 121  |
| LEERINK SWANN                         | 1  |  |
| MARBLE WEALTH                         | 27   |  |
| MORGAN STANLEY                        | 441  | 286  |
| NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE SECURITIES  | 75   |  |
| PIPER SANDLER                         | 64   |  |
| RAYMOND JAMES & ASSOCIATES            | 160  |  |
| RENAISSANCE SECURITIES                | 175  |  |
| ROYAL BANK OF CANADA—RBC              | 127  | 144  |
| SECURITIES CAPITAL                    | 36   |  |
| STIFEL NICOLAUS                       | 329  | 7  |
| STRATEGAS                             | 219  |  |
| TRUIST                                |  | 78   |
| WELLS FARGO                           | 310  | 223  |
| WILLIAM BLAIR                         | 27   |  |
|                                       |  |  |

total \$3,802 \$1,882









## Member Services Contact Center

Take advantage of Member Services' personalized assistance concerning your retirement and healthcare benefits by contacting the Member Services Contact Center at **877.517.0020** or **334.517.7000**. You may also send an email to **member.services@rso-ol.gov.** 

**rso-ol.gov** Please visit the Retirement Systems of Alabama website. All RSA members can register and easily view their address online, and add or update their phone number and email address. In addition, TRS, ERS, JRF, and RSA-1 members can view their account information online. PEEHIP members can also view their current PEEHIP coverages, change coverages, enroll in new coverages, and/or enroll or reenroll in flexible spending accounts during Open Enrollment.

## to visit Member Services

#### RSA HEADQUARTERS, 201 SOUTH UNION STREET, MONTGOMERY, AL 36104

from the **north** 

Follow I-65 South into Montgomery. Take the I-85 North exit to the right to Atlanta. Stay in the right-hand lane and take the first exit on I-85, which is the Court Street exit. Stay on the service road until you reach Union Street. Turn left on Union Street. Continue on Union Street through two traffic lights. The RSA Headquarters is on the right before Adams Avenue. Members may park in the open lot in front of the parking deck.

from the **east** 

Follow I-85 South to downtown Montgomery and take the Union Street exit on the right. Take the first right on the service road onto Union Street. Continue on Union Street through one traffic light. The RSA Headquarters is on the right before Adams Avenue. Members may park in the open lot in front of the parking deck.

## from the **south**

Follow I-65 North to Montgomery. Approaching Montgomery, stay in the right-hand lane and exit onto I-85 North to Atlanta. Continue in the right-hand lane, then take the first exit, which is Court Street. Stay on the service road until you reach Union Street. Turn left on Union Street. Continue on Union Street through two traffic lights. The RSA Headquarters is on the right-hand side before Adams Avenue. Members may park in the open lot in front of the parking deck.

from the **west** 

Follow Highway 80 to 1-65. Follow 1-65 North to Montgomery. Approaching Montgomery, stay in the right-hand lane and exit onto 1-85 North to Atlanta. Continue in the right-hand lane, then take the first exit, which is Court Street. Stay on the service road until you reach Union Street. Turn left on Union Street. Continue on Union Street through two traffic lights. The RSA Headquarters is on the right-hand side before Adams Avenue. Members may park in the open lot in front of the parking deck.



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