December 2023

BUILDING THE TRUST

Investment Management



Teacher Retirement System of Texas

1000 Red River Street Austin, Texas 78701-2698

TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(Committee Chair and Members: Mr. Corpus, Chair; Mr. Hollingsworth; Mr. Elliott, Ms. Sissney and Mr. Walls, Jr.)

All or part of the December 7, 2023, meeting of the TRS Investment Management Committee and Board of Trustees may be held by telephone or video conference call as authorized under Sections 551.130 and 551.127 of the Texas Government Code. The Board intends to have a quorum and the presiding officer of the meeting physically present at the following location, which will be open to the public during the open portions of the meeting: 1000 Red River, Austin, Texas 78701 in the TRS East Building, 5th Floor, Boardroom.

The open portions of the December 7, 2023, meeting are being broadcast over the Internet. Access to the Internet broadcast and agenda materials of the meeting is provided at www.trs.texas.gov. A recording of the meeting will be available at www.trs.texas.gov.

AGENDA December 7, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.

- 1. Call roll of Committee members.
- 2. Consider the approval of the proposed minutes of the September 2023 committee meeting Committee Chair.
- 3. CIO Update including Fleet Strategy; Talent Management; Accomplishments; Notices, Key Dates and Upcoming Events Jase Auby.
- 4. Discuss the Third Quarter 2023 Performance Review Steve Voss, Mike McCormick and Mike Comstock, AON.
- 5. Review of Investment Operations Kendall Courtney.
- 6. Annual Review of Risk and Portfolio Management and Strategic Asset Allocation Kickoff James Nield, Mark Telschow and Mike Simmons.
- 7. Review of Strategic Asset Allocation best practices and key elements of an effective asset allocation process Steve Voss and Mike McCormick, AON.

NOTE: The Board of Trustees (Board) of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas will not consider or act upon any item before the Investment Management Committee (Committee) at this meeting of the Committee. This meeting is not a regular meeting of the Board. However, because the full Committee constitutes a quorum of the Board, the meeting of the Committee is also being posted as a meeting of the Board out of an abundance of caution.

Minutes of the Investment Management Committee September 14, 2023

The Investment Management Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas met on Thursday, September 14, 2023, in the boardroom located on the Fifth Floor in the East Building of TRS' offices located at 1000 Red River Street, Austin, Texas, 78701.

Committee members present:

Mr. David Corpus, Chair

Mr. John Elliott

Mr. Jarvis V. Hollingsworth

Mrs. Nanette Sissney

Mr. Robert H. Walls, Jr.

Other TRS Board Members present:

Ms. Brittny Allred

Mr. Mike Ball

Mr. James D. Nance

Mr. Elvis Williams

Others present:

Brian Guthrie, TRS

Andrew Roth, TRS

Heather Traeger, TRS

Jase Auby, TRS

Amanda Jenami, TRS

Don Green, TRS

Katy Hoffman, TRS

Mohan Balachandran, TRS

James Nield, TRS

Stephen Kim, TRS

Katherine Farrell, TRS

Suzanne Dugan, Cohen Milstein

Dr. Keith Brown, Board Advisor

Steve Vos, AON

Mike McCormick, AON.

Investment Management Committee Acting-Chair, Ms. Nanette Sissney, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

1. Call roll of Committee members.

Ms. Farrell called the roll. A quorum was present, Mr. Corpus joined later in the meeting.

2. Consider the approval of the proposed minutes of the July 2023, Investment Management Committee meeting – Chair David Corpus.

On a motion by Mr. Walls, seconded by Mr. Elliott, the committee approved the proposed minutes for the July 2023 Investment Management Committee meeting as presented.

3. CIO Update including Fleet Strategy; Talent Management; Accomplishments; Notices; Awards and Key Dates and Upcoming Events and Market Update – Jase Auby and Mohan Balachandran.

Mr. Jase Auby provided a high level review noting the performance into the second quarter of 2023 as positive on absolute returns as well as positive alpha. He reported the attrition levels in the IMD have abated and are normalizing for 2023. He said 64 percent of the asset classes had positive returns, dominated by equity. He said there was quite a lot of variability with U.S. long Treasury bonds with a negative 7 percent return. He said as we continue to emerge from COVID will continue to see quite a lot of volatility in a lot of different asset classes.

Mr. Auby stated this year for TRS was a tough year compared to peers. He reported TRS as having a 4.0 percent return, where the benchmark had 3.5 percent, versus the peer median of 7.1 percent return. There was further discussion over the past year, three years and five as to performance, benchmarks, asset allocation and peers.

Mr. Auby then turned to the special topic, artificial intelligence (AI). Mr. Mohan Balachandran reviewed the AI efforts at TRS. He said it is being used in two different ways on the public market side. One is to identify patterns and the other is to extract sentiment from transcripts on management calls. He said on the private market side there are investments being considered on the real estate and venture capital side. He said with AI the risk is leaking confidential information. He noted the agency was working on an AI policy but concluded with it is a powerful tool that needs to be embraced with safeguards in place.

4. Discuss the Second Quarter 2023 Performance Review – Steve Voss and Mike McCormick, Aon.

Mr. Mike McCormick began by noting equities have driven positive performance for the Trust. He said 70 percent of risk is coming from global equity piece. He reported the Trust had about a \$1 billion a quarter in net cash outflows and over five years, it is about \$20 billion net outflows, offset by almost \$60 billion in investment earnings for the trailing five-year period, ending the period just short of \$190 billion. Mr. Steve Voss said 13 out of 20 of the last quarters, IMD has generated returns on a net-of-fee basis that outperformed the benchmark. He noted all of these returns were generated within the risk tolerance bounds as stated in the IPS.

5. Review of the Semi-annual Risk Report – James Nield and Stephen Kim.

Mr. James Nield began by noting the Trust is operating in compliance with all of the policies and procedures. He provided further review on three of these metrics: drawdown risk, tracking error,

and securities lending. Mr. Stephen Kim reviewed the Trust asset allocation for the core asset groups noting they stayed relatively constant. He highlighted the allocation to stable value at 21.8 percent compared to the benchmark at 19.4 percent. He said the Trust had a net asset allocation leverage of negative 5.2 percent. He reported stable value contributed negative 3.6 percent of Trust VaR, primarily due to government bonds allocation, the strongest diversifying asset class in the Trust.

Mr. Nield reported at the end of the second quarter, securities lending generated \$6.7 million for the Trust. He said the earnings have increased over the last year and a half due to the rising interest rates providing additional yield for the Trust. Mr. Nield then discussed the different uses of the government bonds in the Trust.

There being no more business before the Investment Management Committee, the committee adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Approved by the Investment Management Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas on December __ 2023.

Katherine H. Farrell
Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Teacher Retirement Systems of Texas

CIO Update

Jase Auby, Chief Investment Officer

December 2023



CIO Update

IMD at a Glance



Priorities

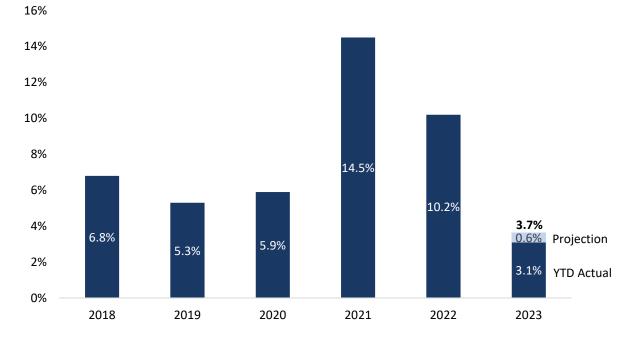
- **Performance.** Trust ended the third quarter of 2023 with a 1-year return of 7.1% and +186 bp of excess return. The 3-year return is 6.1% with +155 bp of excess return.
- **Alpha.** 3-year excess return (+155 bp) is highest alpha achieved in last fifteen years
- Strategic Asset Allocation. Research and analysis underway across internal investment teams and external partners
- Summits. Hosted Strategic Partnership Network (SPN) Public Summit and Legal Summit in Austin
- Annual Planning. Engaged in annual priority-setting and capitalplanning processes in preparation for 2024

Key Dates and Upcoming Events						
Event	Location	Dates				
IMD Town Hall	Austin, TX	January 17, 2024				
TRS Emerging Manager Conference	Virtual	February 28, 2024				
Council of Institutional Investors (CII)	Washington DC	March 4 6 2024				
Spring Conference	Washington, DC	March 4-6, 2024				

People

Snapshot as of November 2023				
IMD FTEs	239			
Contractors	8			
Secondees	5			

Attrition Trend 2018 – 2023 (As of November 2023)



CIO Update

IMD Awards

Institutional Investor: Partnership of the Year Jean-Benoit Daumerie, External Public Markets



With Intelligence Allocator Prizes: Idea of the Year Steven Wilson, External Public Markets



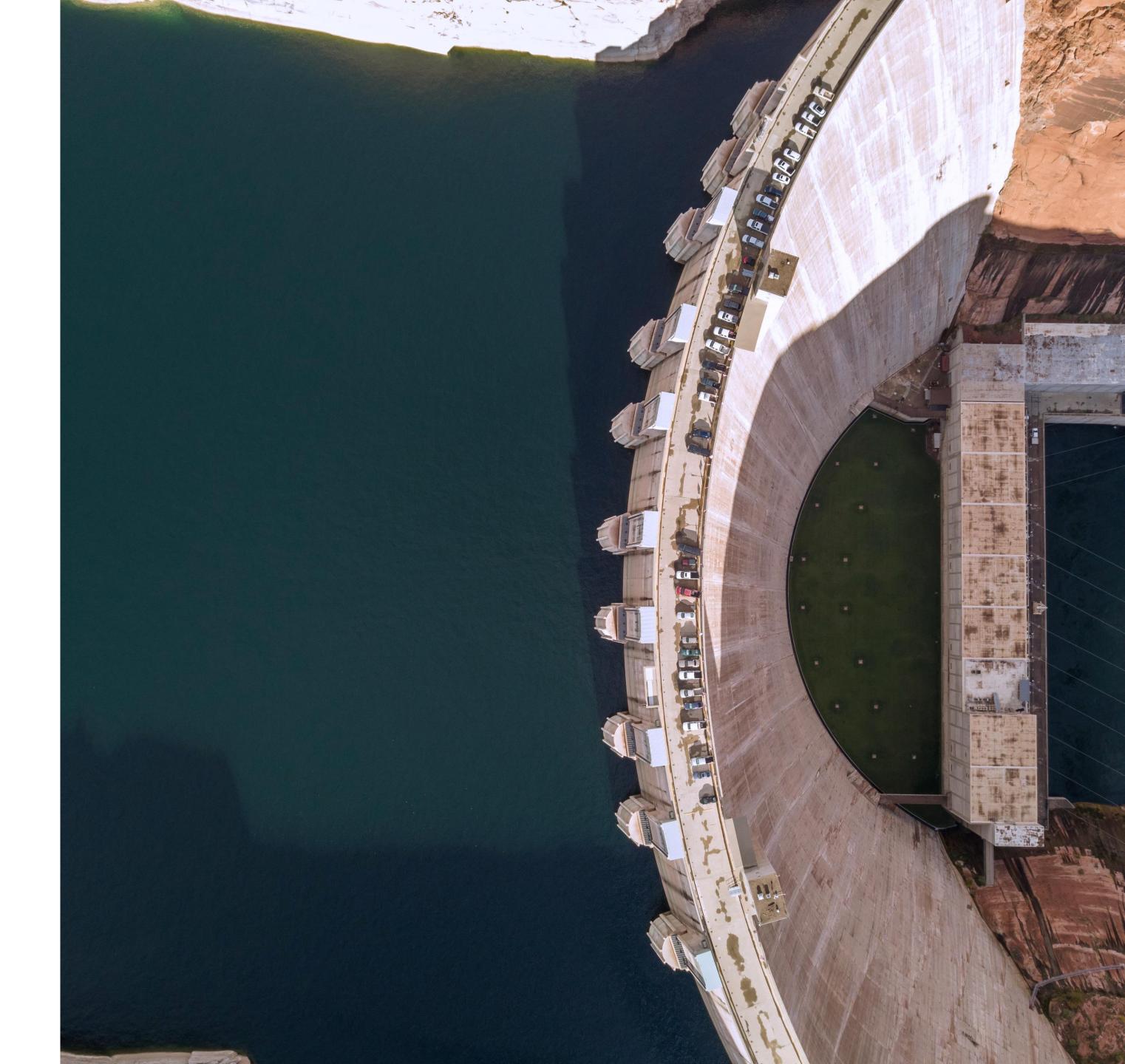




Teacher Retirement System of Texas

Performance Review:

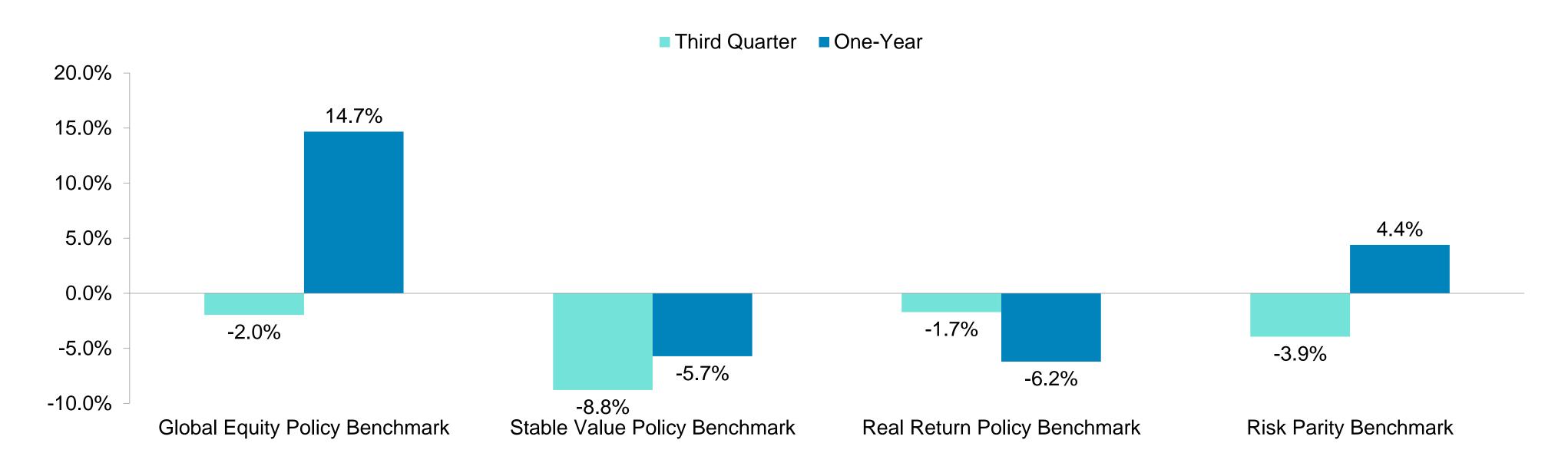
Third Quarter 2023



Investment advice and consulting services provided by Aon Investments USA, Inc.

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Summary



In Q3 2023, global equity markets fell. Sovereign bond yields increased amidst expectations of interest rates staying higher for longer.

Global equities fell -2.0% for the quarter, however they returned 14.7% over a trailing 1-year period

The U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) increased its benchmark interest rate by 25bps to a range of 5.25%-5.5% over the quarter, representing the highest level in more than 22 years. The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) indicated that inflation remained "elevated" and that the economy was growing at a "moderate pace". Fed chair Jerome Powell signaled that future Fed decisions would be based on "careful assessments" on a "meeting by meeting" basis.

TRS returned -2.7% for the quarter which was 0.8 percentage points above its benchmark

-Outperformance at the asset class level for Global Equity, Risk Parity, Stable Value, and Real Return were the primary drivers for relative results.

For the trailing twelve months, TRS returned 7.1% versus the benchmark return of 5.2%

-Outperformance from the Stable Value, Real Return and Risk Parity asset classes were the primary drivers of relative performance



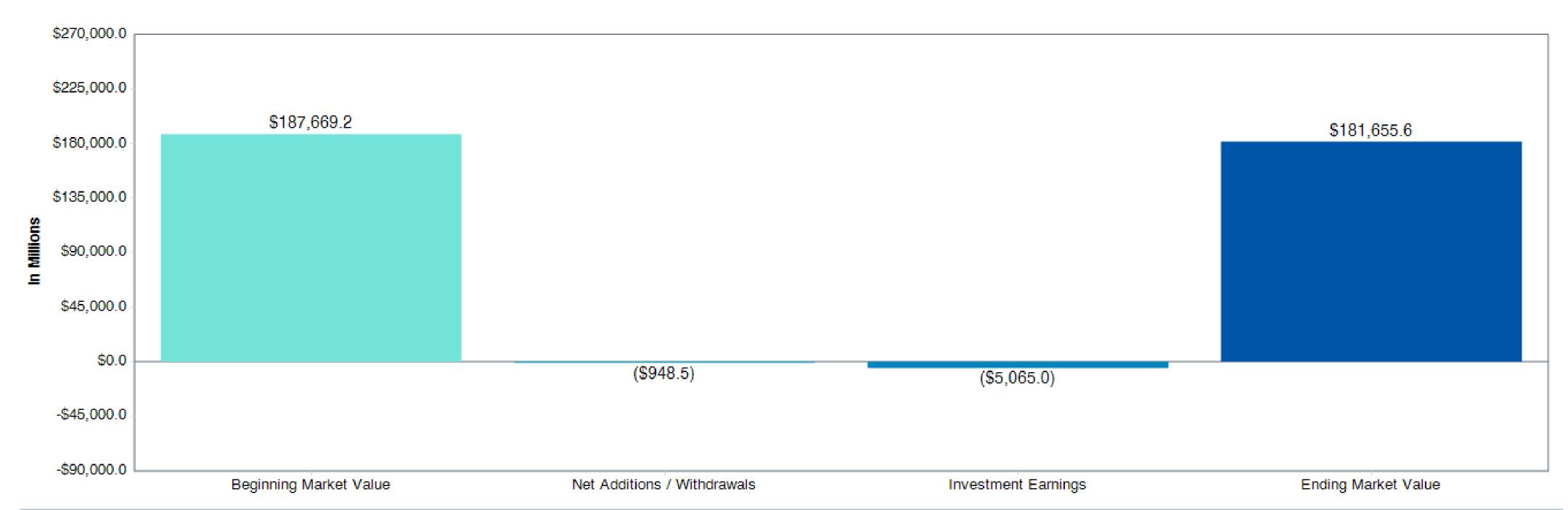
1. Market Summary – Third Quarter 2023

	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years
Global Equity:						
TF USA Benchmark	-3.2%	12.6%	20.7%	9.6%	9.3%	11.4%
TRS Non-US Developed Benchmark	-4.3	6.6	23.7	5.9	3.4	3.8
TRS Emerging Markets Benchmark	-3.1	4.0	11.1	-1.9	0.5	2.0
HFRI Fund of Funds Composite Index	0.5	2.8	4.6	3.8	3.4	3.3
State Street Private Equity Index (quarter lagged)	1.8	5.2	3.8	19.7	14.4	13.3
Global Equity Policy Benchmark	-2.0	7.3	14.7	10.0	8.1	8.4
Stable Value:						
Bloomberg Barclays Long Treasury Index	-11.8%	-8.6%	-9.1%	-15.7%	-2.8%	0.8%
HFRI Fund of Funds Conservative Index	1.5	3.5	5.0	5.7	4.1	3.5
Absolute Return Benchmark	2.4	7.0	9.1	5.4	4.7	3.8
90 Day U.S. Treasury Bill	1.4	3.8	4.7	1.8	1.7	1.1
Stable Value Policy Benchmark	-8.8	-5.7	-5.7	-10.9	-1.1	1.4
Real Return:						
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. TIPS Index	-2.6%	-0.8%	1.2%	-2.0%	2.1%	1.7%
NCREIF ODCE (quarter lagged)	-2.9	-11.0	-10.7	7.0	5.6	7.8
Energy, Natural Resources & Infrastructure Benchmark	1.1	5.3	6.1	14.2	6.9	
Goldman Sachs Commodities Index	16.0	7.2	10.9	29.5	5.6	-2.5
Real Return Policy Benchmark	-1.7	-6.6	-6.2	9.0	6.0	6.6
Risk Parity:						
Risk Parity Benchmark	-3.9%	-0.9%	4.4%	-2.8%	1.0%	2.7%
TRS Policy Benchmark	-3.5%	0.9%	5.2%	4.6%	5.4%	6.5%



2. Market Value Change

From July 1,2023 to September 30,2023



Summary of Cash Flows					
	1	Year to	1	3	5
	Quarter	Date	Year	Years	Years
Total Fund					
Beginning Market Value	187,669,161,066	179,746,129,720	173,277,443,496	162,655,736,486	153,125,720,361
+ Additions / Withdrawals	-948,545,000	-2,865,741,510	-3,849,319,463	-12,529,564,630	-20,344,564,795
+ Investment Earnings	-5,064,994,124	4,775,233,732	12,227,497,909	31,529,450,086	48,874,466,375
= Ending Market Value	181,655,621,941	181,655,621,941	181,655,621,941	181,655,621,941	181,655,621,941



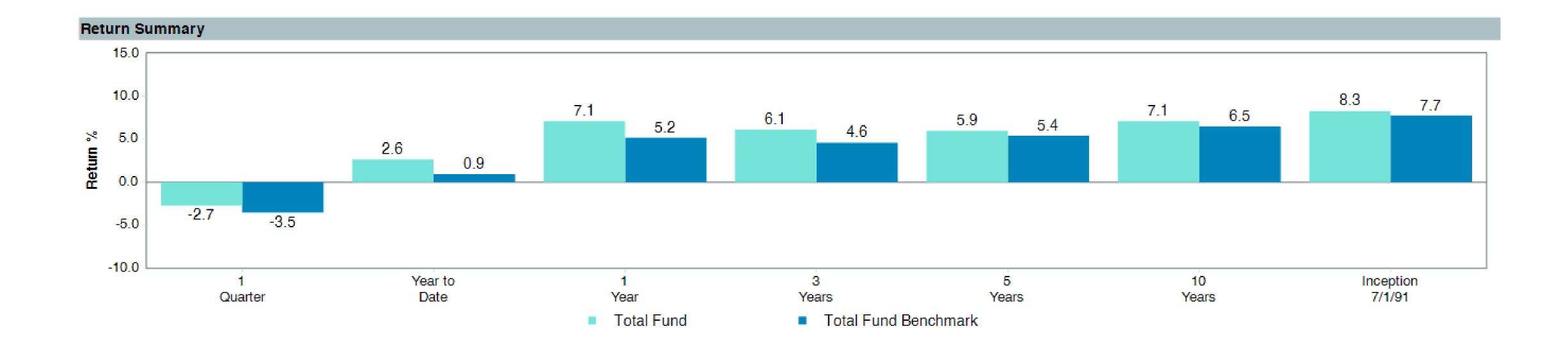
3. Asset Allocation Detail

	Market Value 3 as of 9/3	·	Interim Policy	Relative to Interim	Long Term	Long Term Policy
	(\$)	(%)	Target	Policy Target	Policy Target	Ranges
Investment Exposure		105.9%	104.0%	+1.2%	104.0%	93-115%
Total U.S.A.	\$28,887	15.9%	16.8%	-0.9%	18.0	13-23%
Non-U.S. Developed	\$21,150	11.6%	12.1%	-0.5%	13.0	8-18%
Emerging Markets	\$14,820	8.2%	8.3%	-0.1%	9.0	4-14%
Private Equity	\$32,727	18.0%	17.2%	+0.8%	14.0	9-19%
Global Equity	\$97,584	53.7%	54.3%	-0.6%	54.0	47-61%
Government Bonds	\$23,265	12.8%	14.9%	-2.1%	16.0	0-21%
Stable Value Hedge Funds	\$9,805	5.4%	4.6%	+0.8%	5.0	0-10%
Absolute Return	\$5,815	3.2%	0.0%	+3.2%	0.0	0-20%
Stable Value	\$38,885	21.4%	19.5%	+1.9%	21.0	14-28%
Real Estate	\$30,024	16.5%	16.2%	+0.3%	15.0	10-20%
Energy, Natural Resource and Inf.	\$12,872	7.1%	6.6%	+0.5%	6.0	1-11%
Commodities	\$715	0.4%	0.0%	+0.4%	0.0	0-5%
Real Return	\$43,610	24.0%	22.8%	+1.2%	21.0	14-28%
Risk Parity	\$12,270	6.8%	7.4%	-0.6%	8.0	0-13%
Risk Parity	\$12,270	6.8%	7.4%	-0.6%	8.0	0-13%
Cash	\$4,537	2.5%	2.0%	+0.5%	2.0	0-7%
Asset Allocation Leverage	-\$15,231	-8.4%	-6.0%	-2.4%	-6.0	
Net Asset Allocation	-\$10,694	-5.9%	-4.0%	-1.9%	-4.0	
Total Fund	\$181,656	100.0%			100.0%	



Note: Asset allocation information shown above is based upon MOPAR reporting. The excess returns shown above may not be a perfect difference between the actual and benchmark returns due entirely to rounding.

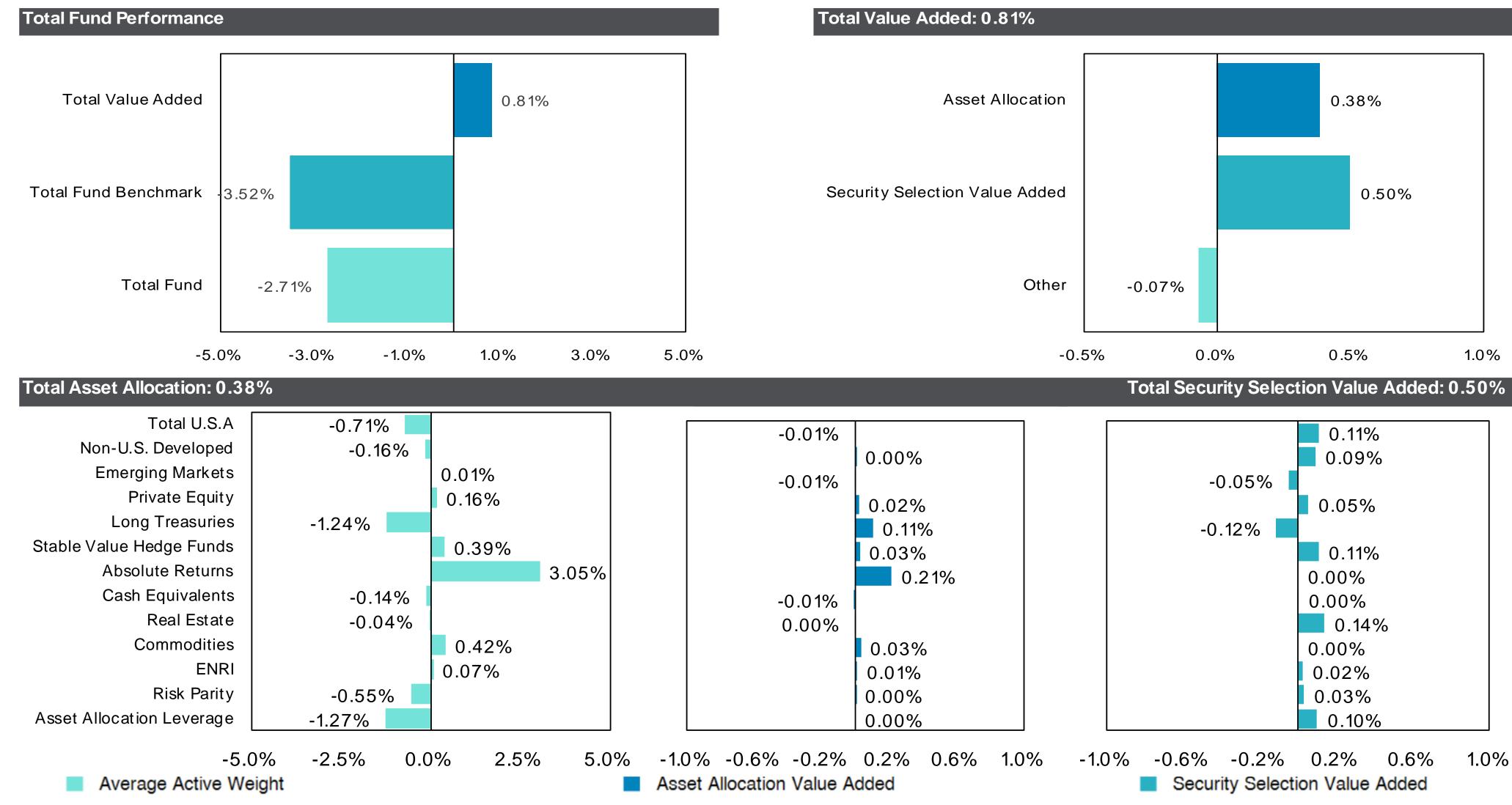
4. Total TRS Performance Ending 9/30/2023





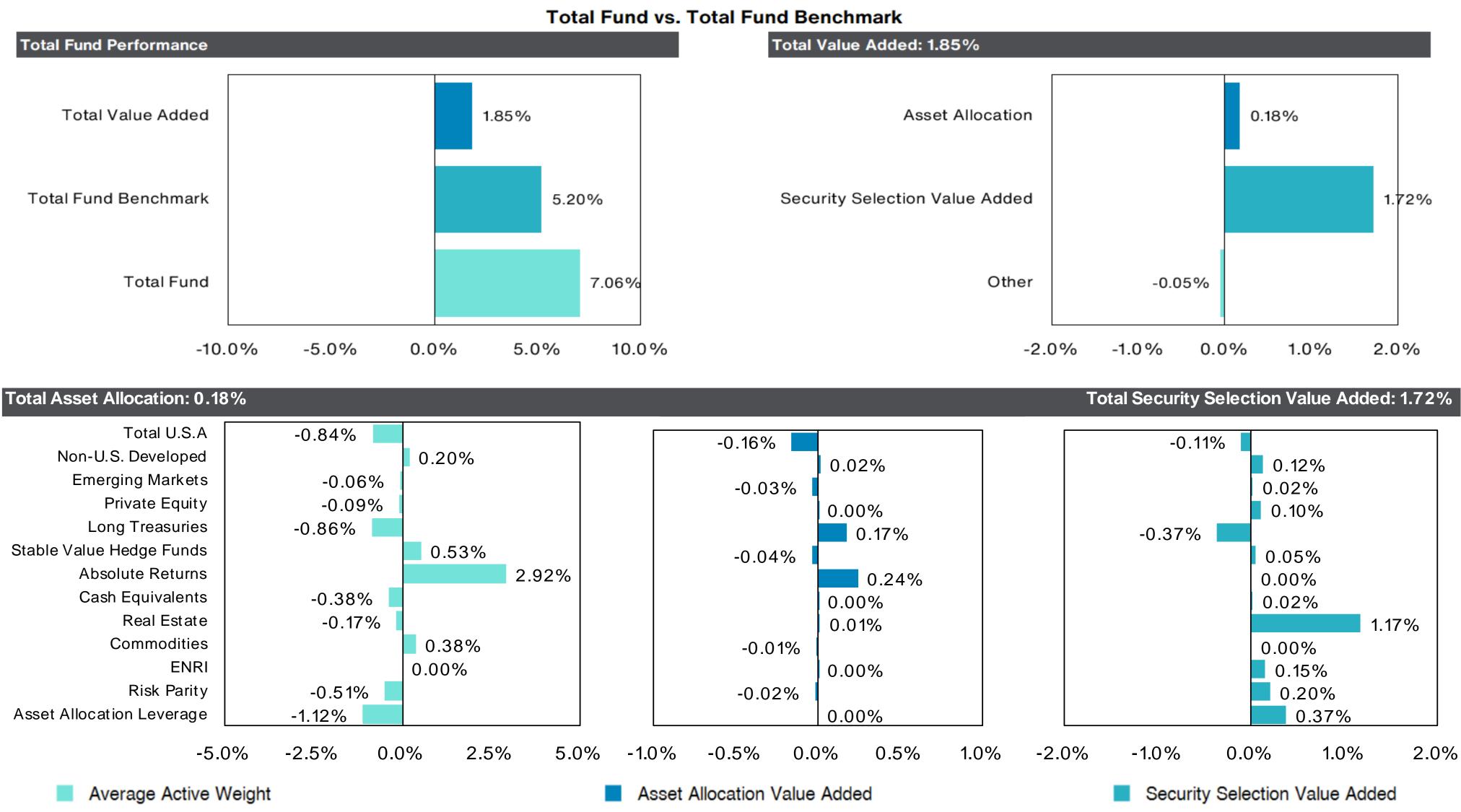
5. Total Fund Attribution – One Quarter Ending 9/30/2023





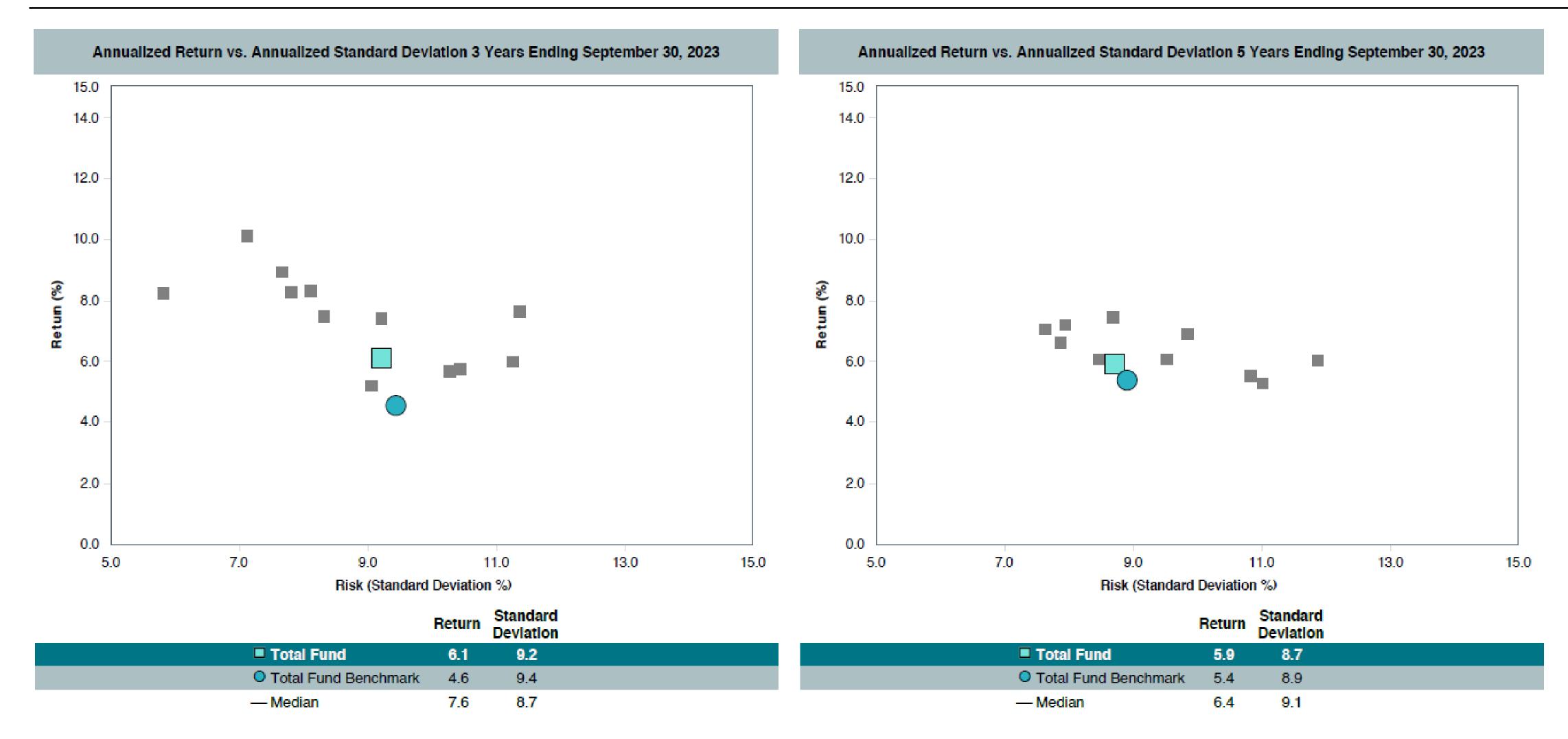


5. Total Fund Attribution – One Year Ending 9/30/2023





6. Risk Profile: Total Fund Risk-Return vs. Peers

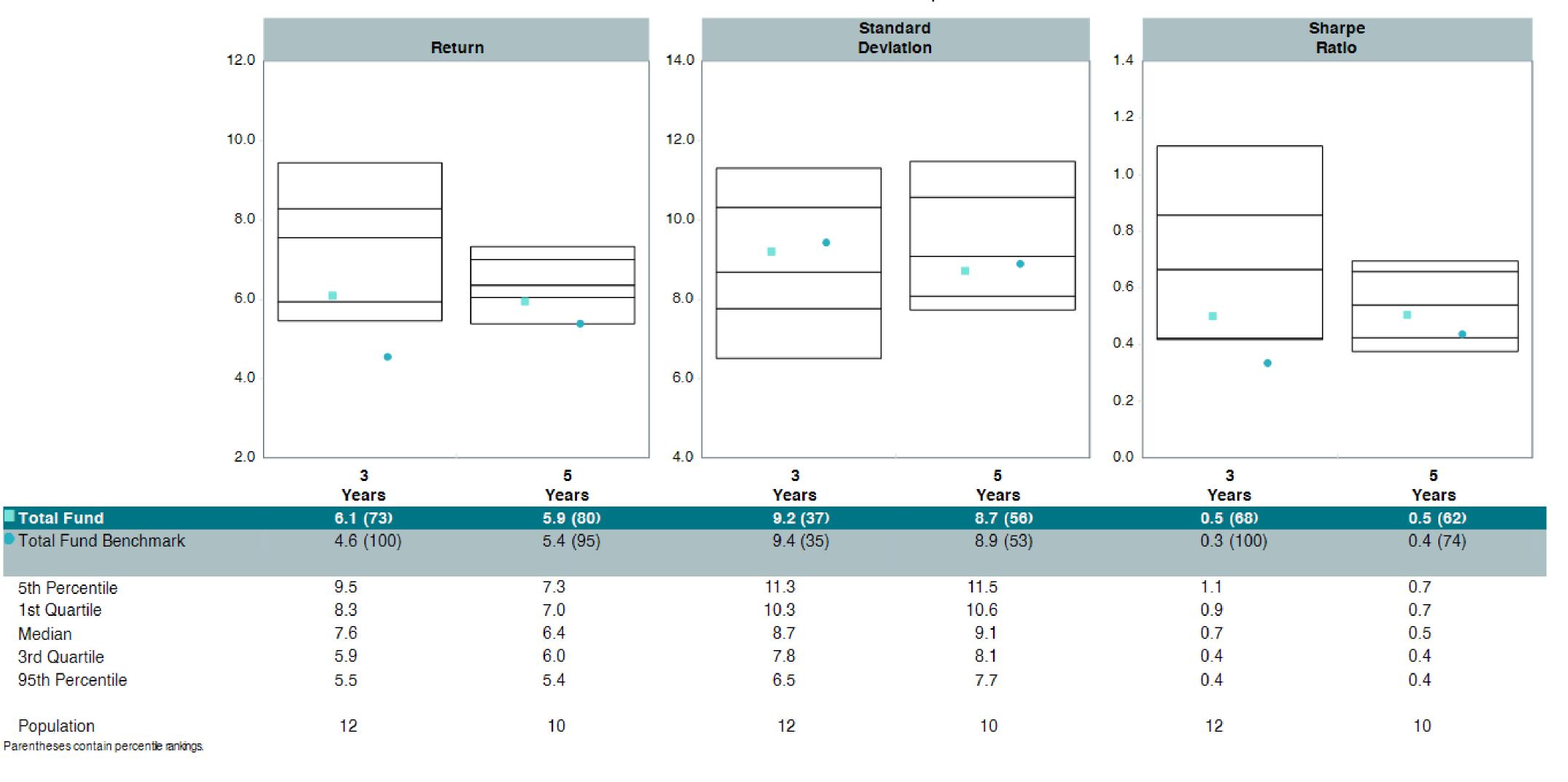


Note: Public Plan peer group composed of 12 and 10 public funds, for 3- and 5-year periods, with total assets in excess of \$10B as of 9/30/2023. An exhibit outlining the asset allocation of the peer portfolios is provided in the appendix of this report.



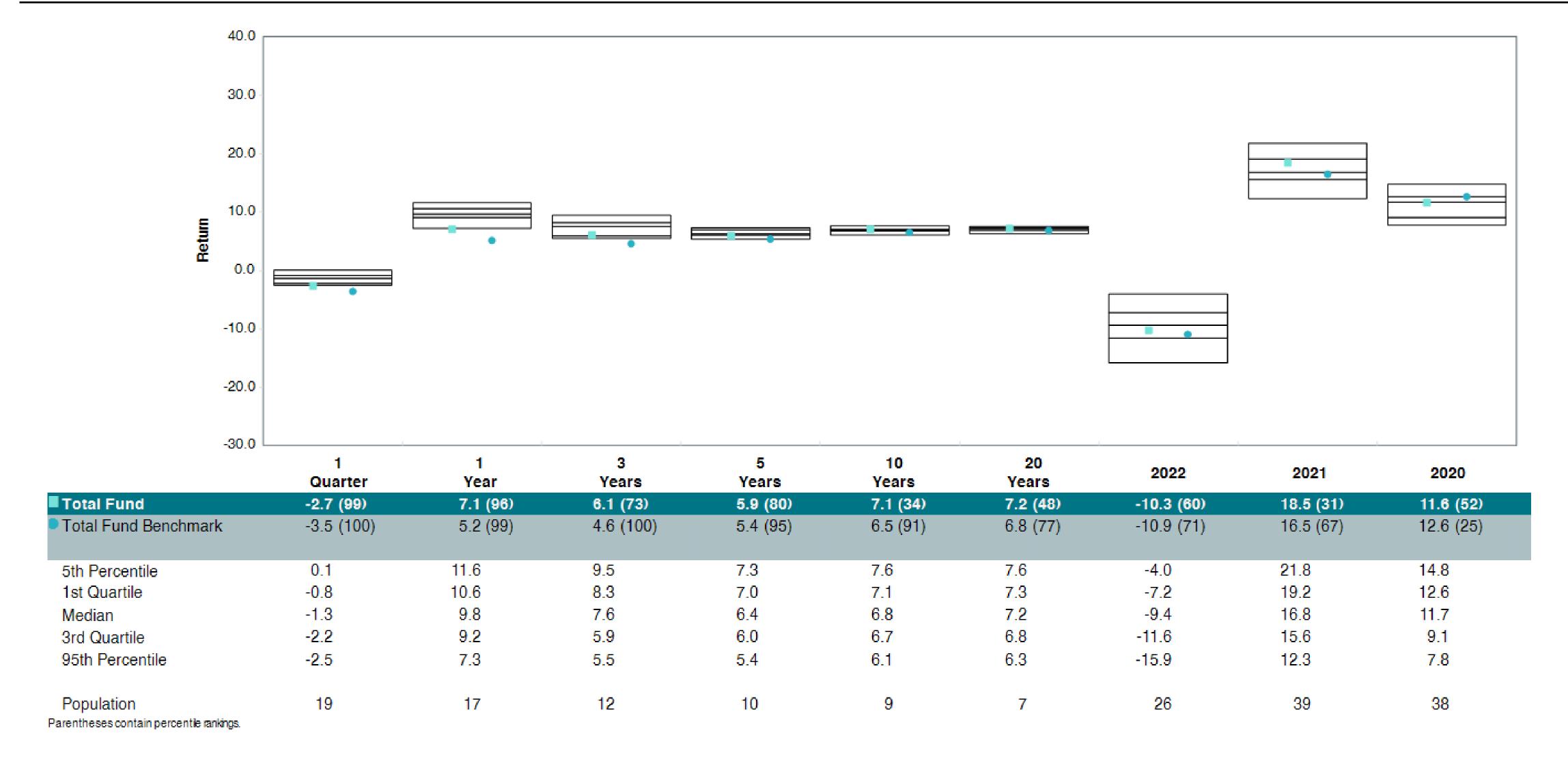
6. Risk Profile: Trailing 3-Year and 5-Year Risk Metrics Peer Comparison

Total Fund vs. All Public Plans > \$10B





6. TRS Performance vs. Peers (>\$10 Billion) as of 9/30/2023





7. IPS Stated Trust Return Objectives ending 9/30/2023

	Five Year	Seven Year	Ten Year	Twenty Year
Total Fund	5.9	7.1	7.1	7.2
Total Fund Benchmark	5.4	6.4	6.5	6.8
Difference	+0.5	+0.7	+0.6	+0.4
Total Fund	5.9	7.1	7.1	7.2
Assumed Rate of Return	7.2	7.4	7.6	7.8
Difference	-1.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6
Total Fund	5.9	7.1	7.1	7.2
CPI + 5%	9.2	8.7	7.9	7.7
Difference	-3.3	-1.6	-0.8	-0.5



8. Global Equity: Performance Summary Ending 9/30/2023

	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year	Five Year	Ten Year
Total Global Equity	-1.5	7.5	14.7	10.0	7.5	8.2
Total Global Equity Benchmark	-2.0	7.3	14.7	10.0	8.1	8.4
Difference	+0.5	+0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.6	-0.2
Total U.S. Equity	-2.5	11.0	20.0	11.0	8.3	10.0
Total U.S. Equity Benchmark	-3.2	12.6	20.7	9.6	9.3	11.4
Difference	+0.7	-1.6	-0.7	+1.4	-1.0	+0.6
Non-U.S. Equity	-3.6	6.8	19.5	2.9	2.7	3.8
Non-U.S. Equity Benchmark	-3.8	5.6	18.6	2.8	2.3	3.2
Difference	+0.2	+1.2	+0.9	+0.1	+0.4	+0.6
Non-U.S. Developed	-3.5	8.3	24.9	5.3	3.2	4.4
TRS Non-U.S. Developed Benchmark	-4.3	6.6	23.7	5.9	3.4	3.8
Difference	+0.8	+1.7	+1.2	-0.6	-0.2	+0.6
Emerging Markets	-3.7	4.7	11.5	-0.7	1.7	2.9
TRS Emerging Market Benchmark	-3.1	4.0	11.1	-1.9	0.5	2.0
Difference	-0.6	+0.7	+0.4	+1.2	+1.2	+0.9



8. Global Equity: Performance Summary Ending 9/30/2023 (cont'd)

	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year	Five Year	Ten Year
Total Public Equity	-3.1	8.6	19.8	6.5	5.2	6.4
Public Equity Benchmark	-3.6	8.7	19.7	5.9	5.5	6.7
Difference	+0.5	-0.2	+0.1	+0.6	-0.3	-0.3
Total Private Equity	1.8	5.0	5.1	18.4	13.3	13.7
Private Equity Benchmark	1.4	3.8	4.3	19.5	14.5	13.3
Difference	+0.4	+1.2	+0.8	-1.1	-1.2	+0.4



9. Stable Value: Performance Summary Ending 9/30/2023

	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year	Five Year	Ten Year
Total Stable Value	-6.7	-4.3	-4.2	-7.7	0.4	3.1
Total Stable Value Benchmark	-8.8	-5.7	-5.7	-10.9	-1.1	1.4
Difference	+2.1	+1.4	+1.3	+3.2	+1.5	+1.7
Total Government Bonds	-12.6	-10.5	-11.4	-16.8	-3.3	0.7
Treasury Benchmark	-11.8	-8.6	-9.1	-15.7	-2.8	8.0
Difference	-0.8	-1.9	-2.3	-1.1	-0.5	-0.1
Stable Value Hedge Funds	3.7	5.0	5.9	9.3	6.6	6.1
Hedge Funds Benchmark	1.5	3.5	5.0	5.7	4.1	3.5
Difference	+2.2	+1.5	+0.9	+3.6	+2.5	+2.6
Absolute Return	3.5	10.1	13.2	9.3	7.7	9.3
Absolute Return Benchmark	2.4	7.0	9.1	5.4	4.7	3.8
Difference	+1.1	+3.1	+4.1	+3.9	+3.0	+5.5



10. Real Return: Performance Summary Ending 9/30/2023

	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year	Five Year	Ten Year
Total Real Return	-0.9	-2.1	-0.7	12.6	8.5	8.6
Real Return Benchmark	-1.7	-6.6	-6.2	9.0	6.0	6.6
Difference	+0.8	+4.5	+5.5	+3.6	+2.5	+2.0
Real Estate	-2.1	-5.1	-4.2	11.8	9.1	10.6
Real Estate Benchmark	-2.9	-11.0	-10.7	7.0	5.6	7.8
Difference	+0.8	+5.9	+6.5	+4.8	+3.5	+2.8
Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure	1.6	6.4	8.6	15.1	7.3	
Energy and Natural Res. Benchmark	1.1	5.3	6.1	14.2	6.9	
Difference	+0.5	+1.1	+2.5	+0.9	+0.4	
Commodities	4.3	-6.6	10.0	6.7	-1.6	-3.6
Commodities Benchmark	16.0	7.2	10.9	29.5	5.6	-2.5
Difference	-11.7	-13.8	-0.9	-22.8	-7.2	-6.1



11. Risk Parity: Performance Summary Ending 9/30/2023

	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year	Five Year	Ten Year
Total Risk Parity	-3.5	1.1	7.4	-0.9	0.8	3.4
Risk Parity Benchmark	-3.9	-0.9	4.4	-2.8	1.0	2.7
Difference	+0.4	+2.0	+3.0	+1.9	-0.2	+0.7

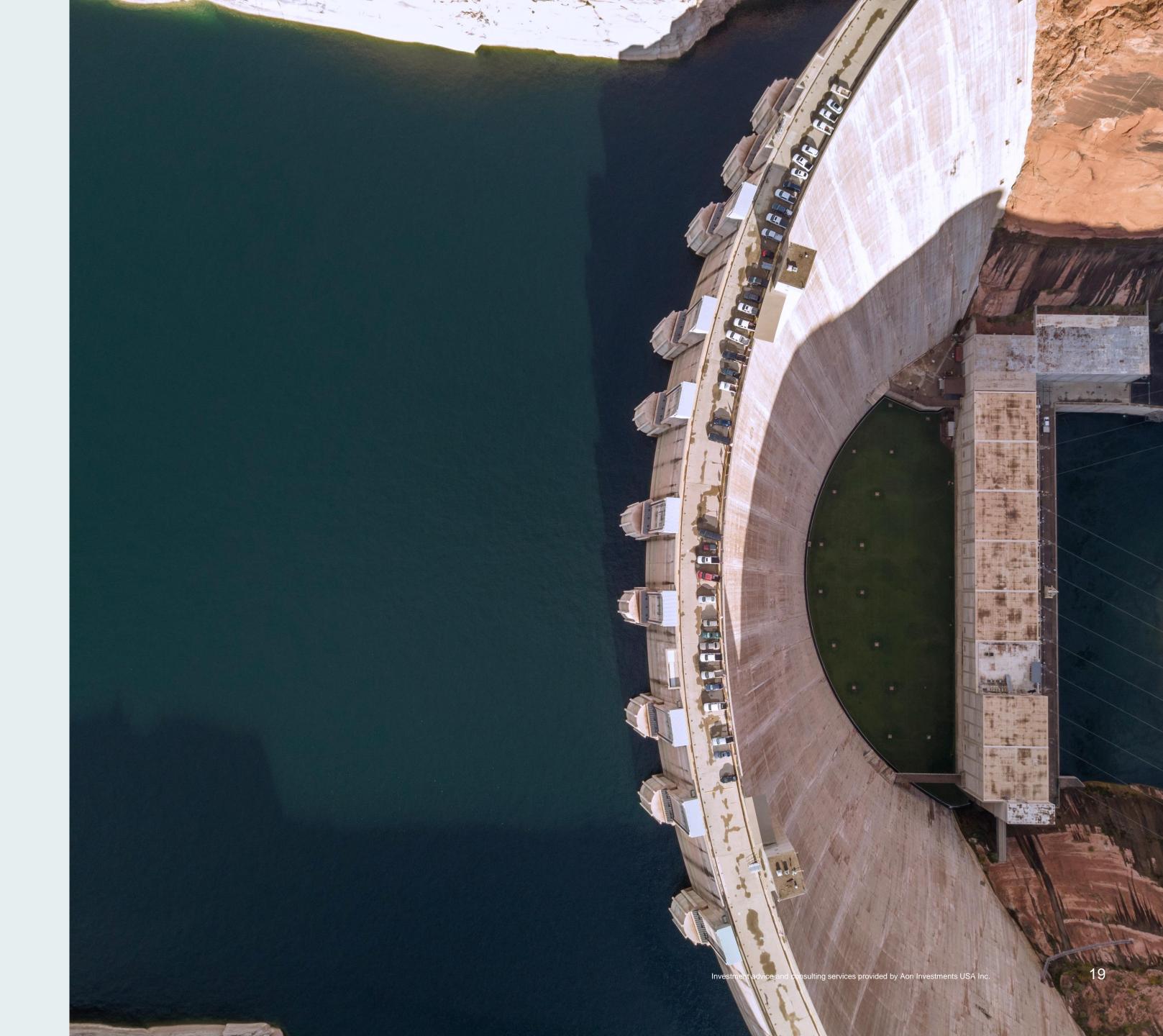


12. Cash Equivalents: Performance Summary Ending 9/30/2023

	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year	Five Year	Ten Year
Cash Equivalents	1.6	4.8	5.8	2.6	2.1	2.4
Cash Benchmark	1.4	3.8	4.7	1.8	1.7	1.1
Difference	+0.2	+1.0	+1.1	+0.8	+0.4	+1.3



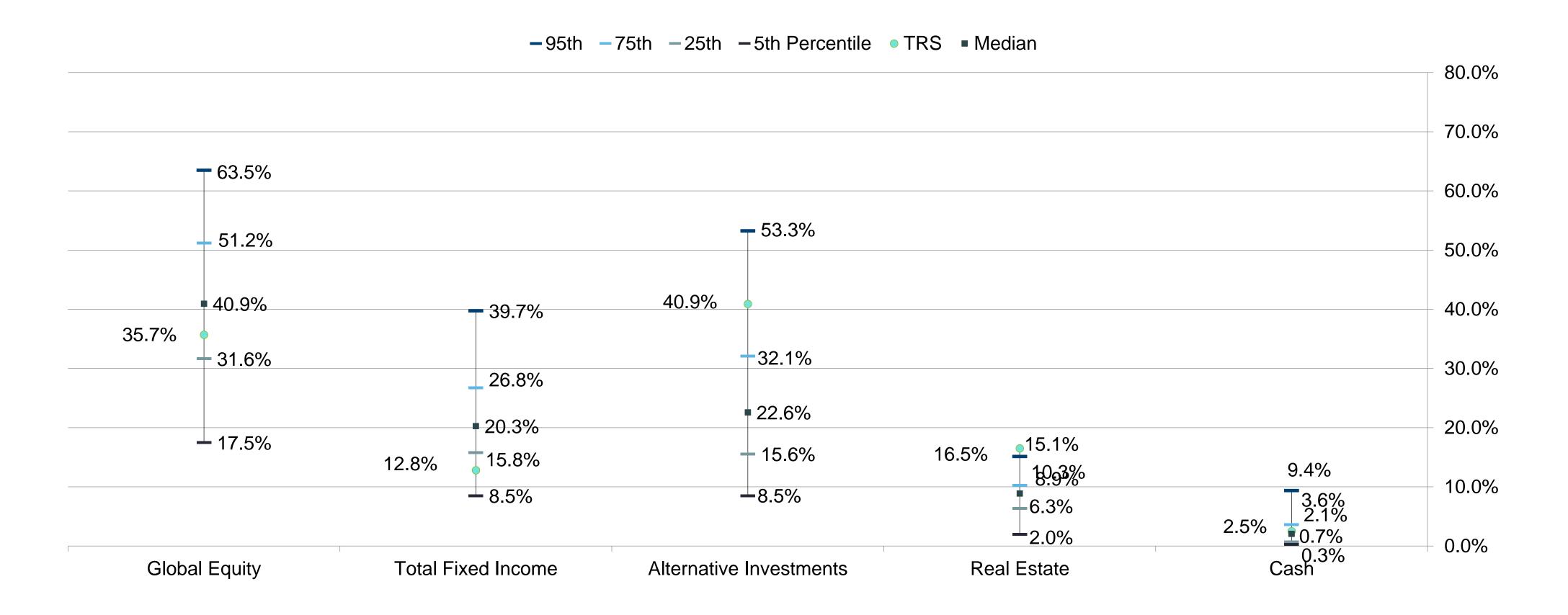
Appendix – Supplemental Reporting





TRS Commitment Levels vs. Peers (>\$10 Billion) as of 9/30/2023

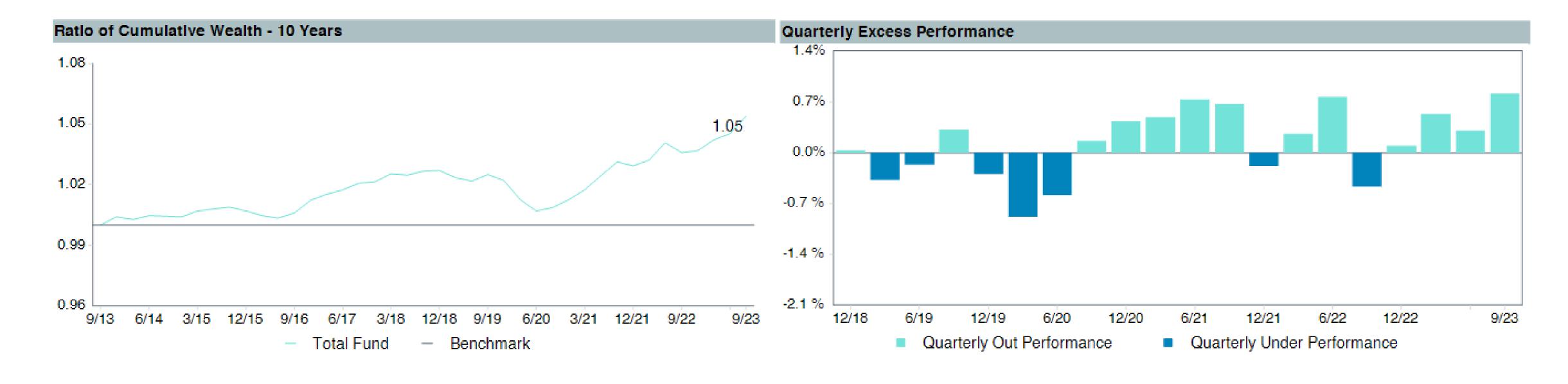
- ■The chart below depicts the asset allocation of peer public funds with assets greater than \$10 billion.
 - The ends of each line represent the 95th and 5th percentile of exposures, the middle light blue and grey lines represent the 25th and 75th percentile of exposures, the purple square represents the median, and the green dot represents TRS exposure.





Historical Excess Performance Ending 9/30/2023

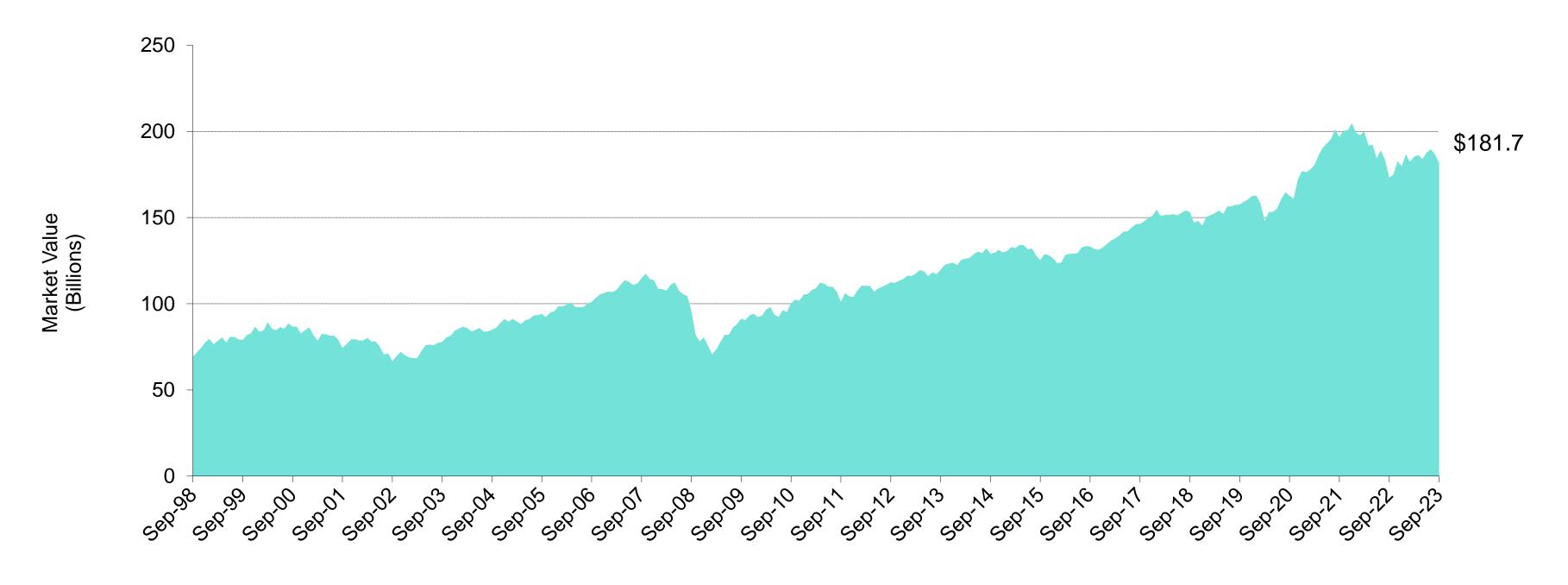
Total Fund vs. Total Fund Benchmark





TRS Asset Growth







External Manager Program: Public Equity Performance as of 9/30/2023

	Allocation (\$ in billions)	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year	Five Year
EP Total Global Equity	\$28.6	-3.0	8.9	19.2	7.9	7.0
EP Global Equity Benchmark		-3.5	9.0	19.4	6.0	5.9
Difference		+0.5	-0.1	-0.2	+1.9	+1.1
EP U.S.A.	\$10.8	-2.1	10.0	17.0	11.7	9.3
EP U.S.A. Benchmark		-3.2	12.6	20.7	9.6	9.3
Difference		+1.1	-2.6	-3.7	+2.1	0.0
EP Non-U.S. Developed	\$6.5	-3.9	10.1	27.9	4.9	4.9
MSCI EAFE + Canada Policy Index		-4.3	6.6	23.7	5.9	3.4
Difference		+0.4	+3.5	+4.2	-1.0	+1.5
EP Emerging Markets	\$5.6	-3.9	4.2	11.2	1.1	3.4
MSCI Emerging Markets Policy Index		-3.1	4.0	11.1	-1.9	0.5
Difference		-0.8	+0.2	+0.1	+3.0	+2.9
EP World Equity	\$5.8	-2.6	10.7	22.7	11.9	9.0
EP World Equity Benchmark		-3.5	10.0	20.4	7.1	6.8
Difference		+0.9	+0.7	+2.3	+4.8	+2.2



External Manager Program: Stable Value/Total Program Performance as of 9/30/2023

	Allocation (\$ in billions)	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year
EP Total Stable Value	\$9.8	3.7	5.0	5.9	9.3
EP Stable Value Benchmark		1.5	3.5	5.0	5.7
Difference		+2.2	+1.5	+0.9	+3.6
Total External Public Program	\$45.3	-2.1	7.1	14.7	7.2
EP External Public Benchmark		-2.8	7.0	14.7	5.0
Difference		+0.7	+0.1	0.0	+2.2



Public Strategic Partnership Program (SPN): Performance as of 9/30/2023

	Allocation (\$ in billions)	Third Quarter	YTD	One Year	Three Year
Public Strategic Partnership	\$6.8	-6.0	2.4	10.4	0.5
Public SPN Benchmark		-5.9	3.5	10.8	-0.6
Difference		-0.1	-1.1	-0.4	+1.1
BlackRock	\$2.4	-5.7	3.8	11.9	1.3
JP Morgan	\$2.4	-6.7	0.9	8.1	0.2
Morgan Stanley	\$2.1	-5.5	2.5	11.3	-0.1



Note: The excess returns shown in this presentation may differ from State Street statements due entirely to rounding. These differences are generally within a few basis points and are not material.

Benchmarks

Total Fund Performance Benchmark – 16.8% MSCI U.S.A. IMI, 12.1% MSCI EAFE plus Canada Index, 8.3% MSCI Emerging Markets Index, 17.2% State Street Private Equity Index (1 quarter lagged), 14.9% Blmb. Barc. Long Term Treasury Index, 4.6% HFRI FoF Conservative Index, 2.0% Citigroup 3 Mo. T-Bill Index, 16.2% NCREIF ODCE Index (1 quarter lagged), 6.6% Energy and Natural Resources Benchmark, 7.4% Risk Parity Benchmark, and -6.0% Asset Allocation Leverage Benchmark.

Global Equity Benchmark – 30.8% MSCI U.S.A. IMI, 22.3% MSCI EAFE plus Canada Index, 15.3% MSCI Emerging Markets Index, and 31.6% State Street Private Equity Index (1 quarter lagged)

- TF U.S. Equity Benchmark MSCI U.S.A. Investable Markets Index (IMI)
- Emerging Markets Equity Benchmark MSCI Emerging Markets Index
- Non-US Developed Equity Benchmark MSCI EAFE + Canada Index
- Private Equity Benchmark State Street Private Equity Index (1 quarter lagged)



Benchmarks (cont'd)

Stable Value Benchmark – 76.3% Blmb. Barc. Long Term Treasury Index and 23.7% HFRI FoF Conservative Index

- US Treasuries Benchmark Bloomberg Barclays Long Term Treasury Index
- Stable Value Hedge Funds HFRI Fund of Funds (FoF) Conservative Index
- Absolute Return Benchmark SOFR + 4%

Real Return Benchmark – 71.0% NCREIF ODCE Index and 29.0% Energy & Natural Resources Benchmark

- Real Estate Benchmark NCREIF ODCE Index (1 quarter lagged)
- Energy and Natural Resources Benchmark 75% Cambridge Associates Natural Resources Index (reweighted) and 25% quarterly Seasonally-Adjusted Consumer Price Index (1 quarter lagged)
- Commodities Benchmark Goldman Sachs Commodity Index
- ■Risk Parity Benchmark 100% HFR Risk Parity Vol 12 Institutional Index



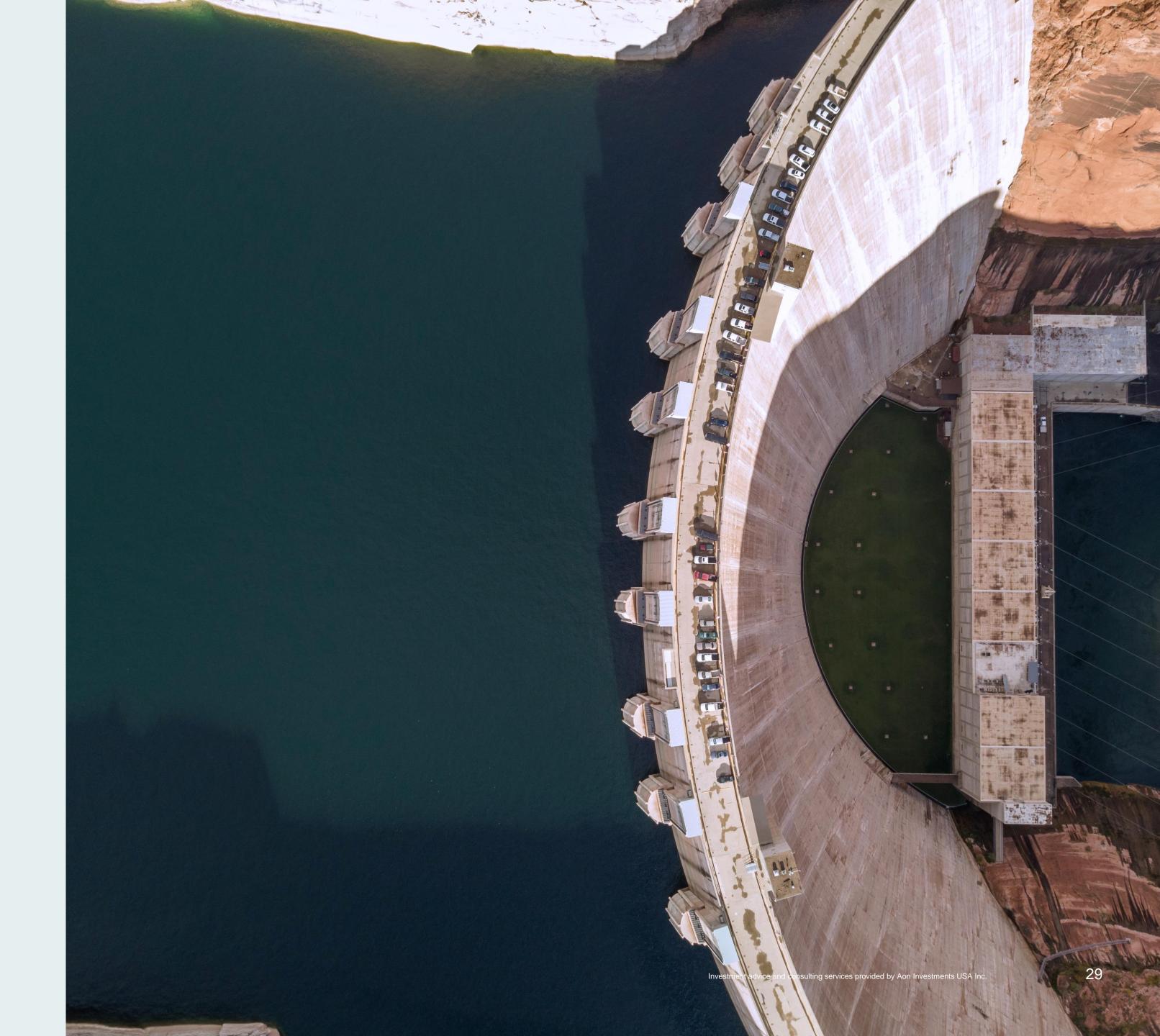
Description of Performance Attribution

- A measure of the source of the deviation of a fund's performance from that of its policy benchmark. Each bar on the attribution graph represents the contribution made by the asset class to the total difference in performance. A positive value for a component indicates a positive contribution to the aggregate relative performance. A negative value indicates a detrimental impact. The magnitude of each component's contribution is a function of (1) the performance of the component relative to its benchmark, and (2) the weight (beginning of period) of the component in the aggregate.
- The individual Asset Class effect, also called Selection Effect, is calculated as
 Actual Weight of Asset Class x (Actual Asset Class Return Asset Class Benchmark Return)
- The bar labeled **Allocation Effect** illustrates the effect that a Total Fund's asset allocation has on its relative performance. Allocation Effect calculation = (Asset Class Benchmark Return –Total Benchmark Return) x (Actual Weight of Asset Class Target Policy Weight of Asset Class).
- The bar labeled Other is a combination of Cash Flow Effect and Benchmark Effect:
 - Cash Flow Effect describes the impact of asset movements on the Total Fund results. Cash Flow Effect calculation = (Total Fund Actual Return Total Fund Policy Return) Current Selection Effect Current Allocation Effect
 - Benchmark Effect results from the weighted average return of the asset classes' benchmarks being different from the Total Funds' policy benchmark return. Benchmark Effect calculation = Total Fund Policy Return (Asset Class Benchmark Return x Target Policy Weight of Asset Class)
- Cumulative Effect

Cumulative Effect calculation = Current Effect t *(1+Cumulative Total Fund Actual Return t-1) + Cumulative Effect t-1*(1+Total Fund Benchmark Return t)



Disclaimers and Notes





Disclaimers and Notes

Disclaimers:

- Please review this report and notify Aon Investments USA Inc. (Aon) with any issues or questions you may have with respect to investment performance or any other matter set forth herein.
- The client portfolio data presented in this report have been obtained from the custodian. Aon has compared this
 information to the investment managers' reported returns and believes the information to be accurate. Aon has not
 conducted additional audits and cannot warrant its accuracy or completeness. This document is not intended to provide,
 and shall not be relied upon for, accounting and legal or tax advice.
- Refer to Hedge Fund Research, Inc. <u>www.hedgefundresearch.com</u> for more information on HFR indices

Notes:

- The rates of return contained in this report are shown on an after-fees basis unless otherwise noted. They are geometric
 and time weighted. Returns for periods longer than one year are annualized.
- Universe percentiles are based upon an ordering system in which 1 is the best ranking and 100 is the worst ranking.
- Due to rounding throughout the report, percentage totals displayed may not sum up to 100.0%. Additionally, individual
 fund totals in dollar terms may not sum up to the plan totals.



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Aon Investments USA Inc.

200 E. Randolph Street

Suite 700

Chicago, IL 60601

ATTN: Aon Investments Compliance Officer

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Investment Operations Update

Kendall Courtney, Managing Director Head of Investment Operations

December 2023



Agenda

- I. Mission
- II. Organization Structure
- III. Role in the Trust
- IV. Priority Updates
- V. Accomplishments



Investment Operations Mission

- Our mission is to manage a scalable operating model to support:
 - Execution of all investment decisions
 - Execution of all investment division business services





Investment Operations Organization

Head of Investment Operations



Kendall Courtney Managing Director BA, Mathematics, University of Texas MBA, St. Edwards University

Leadership Team with 28 Years Average Direct Experience

Head of Multi-Asset Trade Operations



Kerry Skehan Investment Manager BA, Management MS, Management, Southern Nazarene Univ.

 Trade support & settlement for all assets: securities, derivatives, cash and collateral

Head of Middle Office



Kelly Newhall Investment Manager BBA, Marketing, University of Texas

Supports data and services between trade operations and portfolio management

Head of Investment Data & Systems



David Cox Investment Manager BBA, Information Systems, **Baylor University**

• Ensures the IMD has the technology, data and automation for portfolio management

Head of Budget & Accounting



Stephen Machicek, CPA **Investment Manager** BS, Accounting, Univ. of Texas at El Paso

Provides business services for IMD and provides portfolio management services

Head of Events & Facilities



Gay Clifton Associate BS, Advertising, University of Texas

Executes all IMD events, meetings, and facilities management

55 Staff

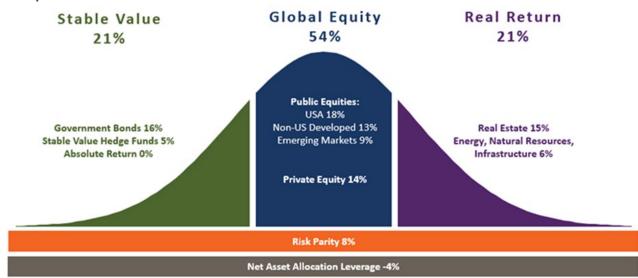
19 **Masters Degrees** **CPAs**

CFAs

Technical Designations

Investment Operations Role in Strategic Asset Allocation

- Provide data needed for inputs
- Develop plan and lead implementation
 - Readies new accounts, benchmarks, markets
 - Implements new asset types, leverage sources, counterparties
 - Coordinates transitions, transfers
 - Confirms testing, controls, readiness
 - Updates and develops new reporting



Strategic Asset Allocation



Global Reach, Breadth, and Impact

Global Reach and Breadth

SETTLE \$754 BILLION

Settled \$754 billion, over **176 thousand** transactions across **56** markets

\$19.1 BILLION

Internal Transition
Management team led
\$19.1 billion in transfers
across **126** different
accounts

DELIVER 293

daily custom reports

MANAGE 9,000+

data fields, **139** technology data feeds

145

145 investment applications and services managed

Impact

\$6.4 MILLION

Collected \$6.4 million in tax reclaims

\$34.7 MILLION in Relief at

in Relief at
Source tax
savings

\$21.3 MILLION

Received in revenue from securities lending program

GENERATED \$135 MILLION

by investing cash in State Street short-term investment fund

\$16.3 MILLION SAVED

by implementing enhanced custody (since inception 2018)



Priority Update: State Street Custody Contract

We executed our custody contract, effective 9/1/23, continuing our 20-year partnership

- Key Contract Changes
 - Enhanced Legal Protections
 - Enhanced Service Rights
 - Decreased Costs
- State Street Dedicated Goals
 - Cost Efficient
 - Risk Controlled
 - Culturally and Strategically Aligned
- Be back in 3 years

- Specific Service Improvements
 - Increased accountability at all levels
 - Enhanced derivative and collateral management services
 - Central security master and account master data map
 - Integration of core platforms
 - Enhanced governance and procedures for middle office
 - Specific investment accounting enhancements to the general ledger interface



Priority Update: Investment Data Modernization (IDM) Program

• The strategic goal of this program is to modernize TRS' data management systems with industry standard solutions that provide reliable data in support of investment decision making.

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Milestone	Original Date	New Date	Status
Investment Data Governance Office Launched	6/31/22	8/1/22	complete
Systems & Platform RFP			
RFP Posted	3/10/23	7/14/23	complete
Proposals Due	4/24/23	8/21/23	complete
Evaluations Due	5/5/23	10/09/23	complete
Demos Complete	5/19/23	12/14/23	on track
Vendor Selected	6/23/23	2/12/24	on track
Contract Negotiation Completed	8/17/23	8/13/24	on track
Full Implementation	Q3 2025	Q4 2026	on track
Professional Managed Advisory Service RFP Completed	4/17/24	2/22/24	on track
Investment Data Hub Implemented	Q4 2025	Q4 2026	on track
Intelligent Document Processing Implemented	Q2 2025	Q2 2026	on track



Accomplishments & Priorities

2023 Accomplishments

- State Street Custody Contract
- Investment Decision Implementations
 - Securities Lending Liquidity Tool
 - New Asset Types/Trade Processes:
 - Interest Rate Swaps
 - Overnight Repos
 - Peer-to-Peer Repos
 - Internal OTC Derivatives
 - Foreign Bonds as Collateral at FCM
- Analytics and Technology Initiatives
 - Power BI Dashboards
 - Cash and Transition Databases
- Tax Service Enhancements
 - Alpha Move

2024 Priorities

- State Street Enhancements
- IDM Vendor Selection, Contract Negotiation and Implementation
- 2024 SAA Implementation
- Process Automation Team Launch
- T+1 Settlement Readiness
- Investment Operations Dashboard
- Data Quality Enhancements
- Investment Practices & Performance Evaluation



APPENDIX



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Investment Data Modernization: The Solution

Based on the strategic assessment, business and technical analysis, industry trends, and peer feedback, the program team is focusing on five key pillars to modernize our investment data platform for asset monitoring and fiduciary oversight.

Master Data Management (MDM)



Summary: Implement a fit-for-purpose Master Data Management (MDM) solution

- Manages gold source data for the enterprise
- Centralizes management of all market data across asset classes with robust mapping and data lineage capabilities
- Enable rapid data ingestion and validation process to deliver consumption ready data to enterprise stakeholder when needed
- Standard and flexible distribution capabilities allows for achieving

Investment Book of Record (IBOR/OMS)



Summary: Implement an Investment Book of Record (IBOR) platform

- Serves as a source for real-time intra-day portfolio views to support investment decision-making
- Optimizes the operating model by automating Middle Office functions leading to enhanced support to the Front Office
- Provides greater transparency across the investment lifecycle to better manage risk and exposure
- Tightly reconciled, IBOR data serves as a central control point across all platforms and service providers (e.g., Accounting, Custody, portfolio management)

Parallel Investment Accounting Book



Summary: Implement a Parallel Investment Accounting Book

- Serves as a valuation source for beginning of day IBOR
- Provides independent verification of Custodian's accounting records
- Can leverage Intelligent Document Management to provide shadow NAV for private markets
- Tightly reconciled, ABOR data serves as a central control point to TRS accounting

Intelligent Document Processing (IDP)



Summary: Leverage automation for ingesting digitized investment documents

- Provides ability to extract and store previously inaccessible investment data (i.e., meta data) and transform it into searchable and consumable formats
- Front Office will leverage semi- and unstructured data sets to gain new investment and risk insights.
- Centralized storage enables stronger governance and enforcement of user access controls and will reduce the risk of operating off varying versions of the same data.
- Allows for better records management with the ability to store and query data about the documents

Data Hub



Summary: Implement a Data Hub design which supports the future investment data solutions as a key element of the overall technology ecosystem strategy

- Provides centralized secure access to tightly integrated, reliable, and aggregated investment data for enterprise consumption
- Utilizes a strong data management and governance foundation to improve data operations and provide fit-for-purpose data
- Enables self-service capabilities and provides for standardization of data delivery

Multi-Asset Trade Operations

Head of Multi-Asset Trade Operations



Kerry Skehan Investment Manager MS, Management, Southern Nazarene University

5 Masters Degrees, 1 CIMA 13 years of average direct experience

Derivative Operations



Vitaliy Klebanov Associate MSFS, Georgetown University



Yohan Skaria Associate BS, Economics, College of Staten Island



Talon Grimm
Sr. Analyst
BA, Finance,
University of Washington



Angela Hyde
Sr. Analyst
MBA,
University of Houston

Cash Operations



Marnesyl Yap, CIMA, CBA Associate BS, Accounting, Xavier University – Ateneo de Cagayan



Geldon Vllahu Associate MS, Mathematics, Fairfield University

Security Operations



Beth Sullivan
Associate
MS, Finance,
Northeastern University



Paige Cook Sr. Analyst BA, International Studies, Washington College



Jonathan Jusino Dejesus Sr. Analyst BS, Finance, SUNY Albany



Brenden Reilly
Analyst
BS, Business Administration
University of NebraskaLincoln



Investment Operations *Middle Office*

Head of Middle Office



Kelly Newhall Investment Manager BBA, Marketing, University of Texas 6 Masters Degrees
1 CFA
1 CPA
12 years of average direct experience

IBOR/ Portfolio Management Services



Jeff Batas Sr. Associate MBA, University of Texas



Maz Rohani Sr. Associate MBA, MIS, Binghamton University



Gideon Bellflower Associate MBA, Texas State University



Associate

BBA, Business Admin,
Loyola University
Maryland

Matthew Napoliello



Account Services

Tina Ding, CPA
Sr. Analyst
MS, Accounting,
Texas A&M University



Jason Jeng, CFA Associate BBA, Finance, University of Texas



Ryker Ford Sr. Analyst MS, Business Analytics, University of Nevada



Anita Wong
IDM Contractor
BS, Actuarial Science,
University of Texas



Vacant – Middle Office, IDM FTE



Hudson Kuczaj Analyst MS, Finance University of Texas *Hire Date: 7/1/2024*



Vacant – Middle Office, IDM FTE



Investment Data & Systems





David Cox Investment Manager BBA, Information Systems, Baylor University 4 Masters Degrees 5 Cert Scrum Master, 2 Cert Product Owners, 2 PMPs, 1 MCP, 1 SAFe 5 19 years of average direct experience

Investment Data, Governance, Quality Assurance, Process Automation, Metadata Management



Lisa Peavy
Sr. Associate
MS, Recreation
Texas State University



Nick Wulff-Gonzalez Associate BA, Econ & Poly Sci., Florida International University



Tom Shields
IDM Contractor
MS, Instructional Design &
Educational Technology
Texas A&M University



Barbara Forssell
Sr. Associate
BS, Business Analysis,
Texas A&M University



Andrea Drummond, CSM
Associate
BS, International
Business,
Oklahoma State
University



Vacant – Data Analyst, IDM FTE



William Herring Analyst BBA, Finance/MIS University of Texas Hire Date: 7/1/2024



Vacant - Data Librarian

Analytics & Product Development

Partner Relationship Management & Enterprise Risk



Peter Parchesky Associate BBA, Finance Technology. Dean College



Yangers Puentes
Sr. Associate
BA, Math/Computer Sci,
BA, Business Admin,
Havana University



Roy I Sr. As MS, 0 Bhara

Roy Kurian Sr. Associate MS, Computer Science, Bharathidasan University



Trading Systems Admin & Support

Vacant – OMS Admin, IDM FTE



Philip Nacamuli Associate MS, Analytics & Data Science Rutgers University



Vacant – BI Developer

Budget & Accounting

Head of Performance & Analytics



Stephen Machicek, CPA Investment Manager BS, Accounting, Univ. of Texas at El Paso

3 Masters Degrees
3 CPAs
1 CFA, 1 CISA
3 CTCMs
14 years of average direct experience

Trust Acct & Private Markets



Kate Rhoden, CFA, CISA, CPA Sr. Associate BBA, Finance & Accounting, University of Texas at San Antonio



Wendy Lorfing, Analyst MS, Accounting, Texas A&M University



Gladys Aurelio-Schuck Analyst BS, Accounting, Loyola Marymount University

Budget, Travel & Public Mkts



Greg Reisman, CPA
Sr. Associate
MPA, Accounting,
University of Texas



Grace Muraida Analyst



Sanchez Salvador Analyst MA, Houston-Tillotson University

Procurement & Contract Management



Kristi Vorce Associate

David Moran

Texas Tech University

Analyst

BS,



Jacqueline Lichtenberger Analyst BSA, Biology, University of Texas



Vacant - Contract Mgmt.
Specialist



Events & Facilities

Head of Performance & Analytics



Gay Clifton
Associate
BS, Advertising,
University of Texas

13 years of average direct experience

Events



Salem Hilton Contractor



Alysia Palladino Contractor

Facilities



Hugo Rangel Assistant



Annual Update to the Board Risk and Portfolio Management

James Nield, Chief Risk Officer
Mark Telschow, Director, RPM Portfolios
Mike Simmons, Director, Trust Strategy

December 2023



Risk and Portfolio Management (RPM) mandates

1. Risk Management

- Risk signals
- Risk monthly
- Battle plans

Board Report



2. RPM Portfolios

- Build repeatable processes
- Create scalable solutions
- Generate alpha

Internalize Portfolios



3. Trust Management

- Rebalance exposure
- Optimize balance sheet

Finance Liquidity



4. Trust Strategy

- Inform decision making
- Research macro environment

Strategize (SAA)





TRS Risk and Portfolio Management Group



James Nield, CFA, FRM Chief Risk Officer MBA, Finance, New York University BS, Finance, Pennsylvania State University



Mark Telschow, CFA Director BS, Civil Engineering, University of Texas



Stephen Kim Director MBA, Finance, University of Texas, BS, Computer Science, Dartmouth College



Mike Simmons, CFA Director MPA, Accounting, University of Texas BBA, Finance, Texas A&M University



Hasim Mardin, FRM Director MS, Economics, University of Texas



Teresa Lwin, PhD Investment Manager PhD, Finance, MBA, Chicago Booth School of Business



Melissa Jerkins, PhD Investment Manager PhD, Physics, University of Texas BS, Abilene Christian University



Chris Pan Investment Manager BBA, Accounting, University of Texas MPA, University of Texas



Steven Lambert Senior Associate MBA, Finance, Northeastern University BS, Business Management, Saint Joseph's College



Andrew Arts
Senior Associate
BA, Economics,
University of Wisconsin-Madison



Alex Zhang, PhD
Associate
PhD, Finance,
University of Kansas
MBA, University of Wisconsin-Madison



Paul Waclawsky, CFA Associate BS, Accounting, University of Maryland



Emily Lu Senior Analyst BS, Statistics & Data Science, UC Santa Barbara



Emalee Jimenez
Senior Analyst
MS, Applied & Computational
Mathematics, Johns Hopkins University
BS, Mathematical Finance,
Hofstra University



Deral Robison Analyst BS, Finance, Analytics & Technology, Trinity University



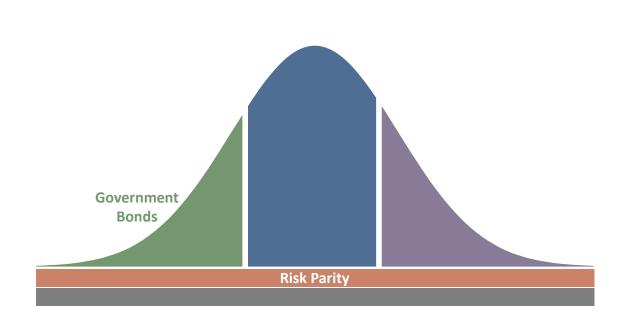
Melissa Juranek Assistant BBA, Management, University of Texas



18Advanced degrees and certifications



Positive alpha for RPM Portfolios



- Government Bonds (\$21.5b): Passively managed U.S. Treasury portfolio
- **Risk Parity** (\$12.3b): Balanced risk exposure implemented both internally and via external managers

Portfolio Returns

	1-Year		3-Year	
	Return	Excess	Return	Excess
Gov Bonds ex-Repo Costs	-9.0%	0.1%	-15.7%	0.0%
Government Bonds	-11.2	-2.1	-16.5	-0.8
Risk Parity	7.4%	3.0%	-0.9%	1.9%
Internal Risk Parity	8.3	3.9	-1.3	1.5
External Risk Parity	5.8	1.4	0.3	3.1

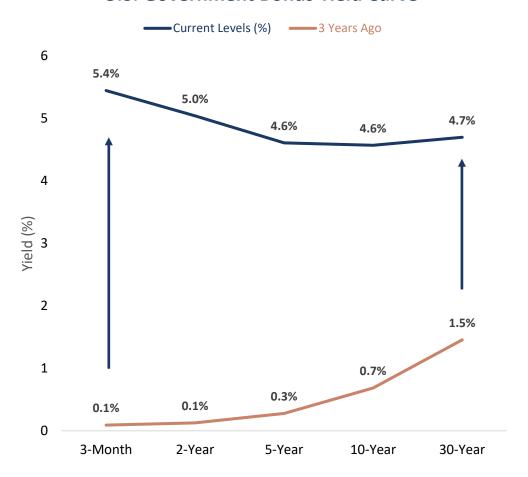
Internal Risk	External Risk
Parity (\$7.9b)	Parity (\$4.4b)

 Risk Parity assets are primarily managed internally to save on fees and to enhance liquidity

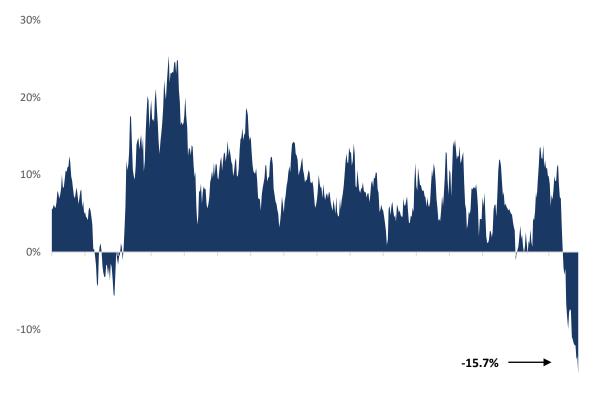


Government Bonds struggled as rates have risen

U.S. Government Bonds Yield Curve



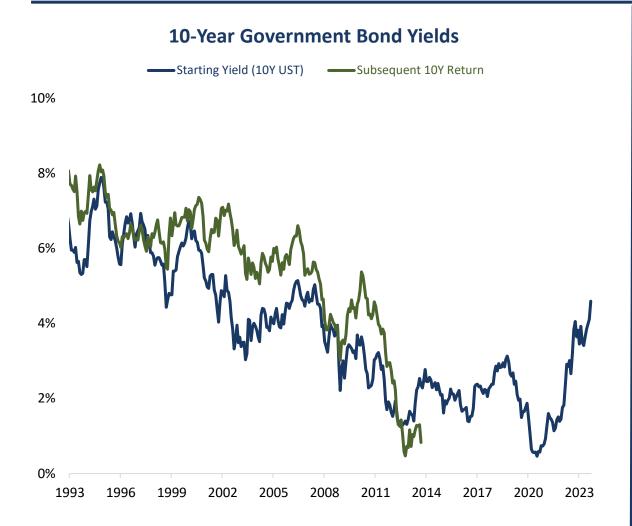
Government Bonds Benchmark Rolling 3 Year Returns



-20% 1976 1979 1982 1985 1988 1991 1994 1997 2000 2003 2006 2009 2012 2015 2018 2021



Government Bonds outlook has improved



SAA Considerations: Government Bonds

Provide an expected return over cash

Offer lower expected return than other assets

Serve as a source of liquidity

Face an inverted yield curve

Enable cost-efficient financing

Add volatility with increased duration

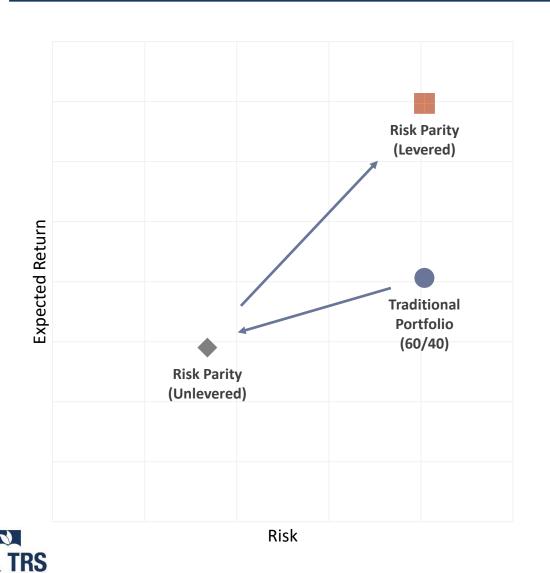
Act as a diversifier during many stress periods

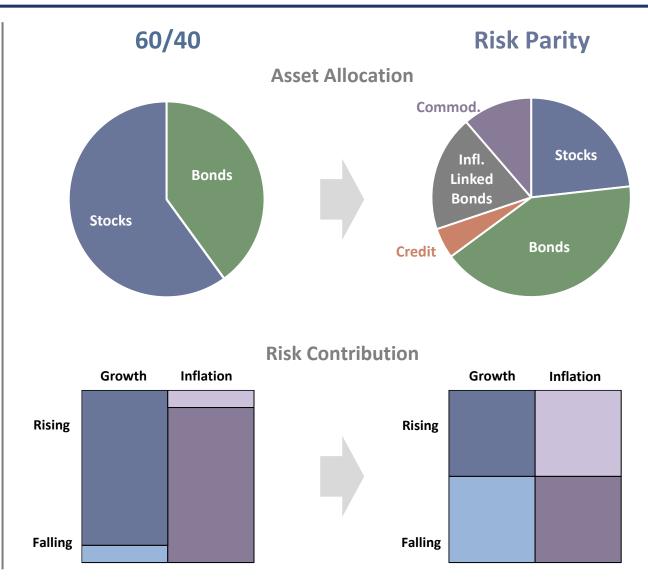
React negatively to rising _____ inflation



Source: Bloomberg

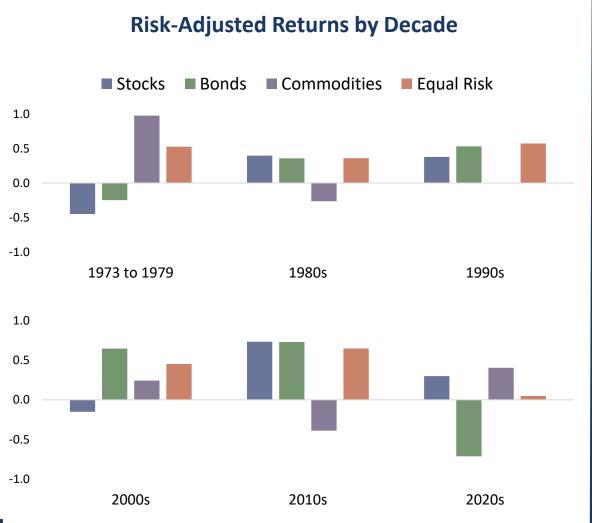
Risk Parity uses diversification to enhance risk and return profile





Source: Risk Contribution: Bridgewater Associates

Risk Parity provides structural benefits



SAA Considerations

Provides exposure to additional asset classes

Experiences losses when risk premiums widen

Diversifies across environmental regimes

Struggles to keep up with best performing asset

Serves as a secondary asset allocation

Reduces risk at potentially inopportune times

Offers source of efficient, liquid capital

Requires use of leverage



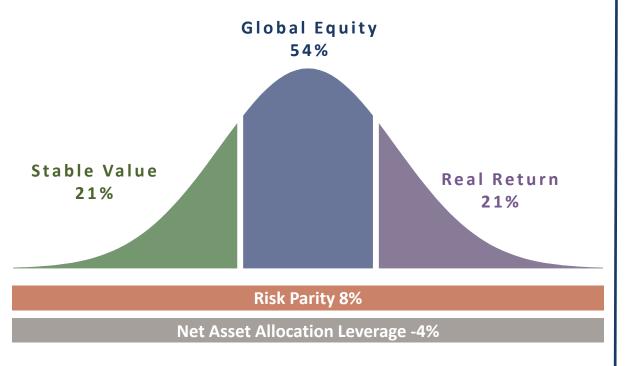
Trust Strategy and Strategic Asset Allocation (SAA)



Review of 2019 Strategic Asset Allocation Study recommendation

2019 SAA three themes:

- 1. Increase Allocation to Private Markets
- 2. More Efficient
- 3. More Balance

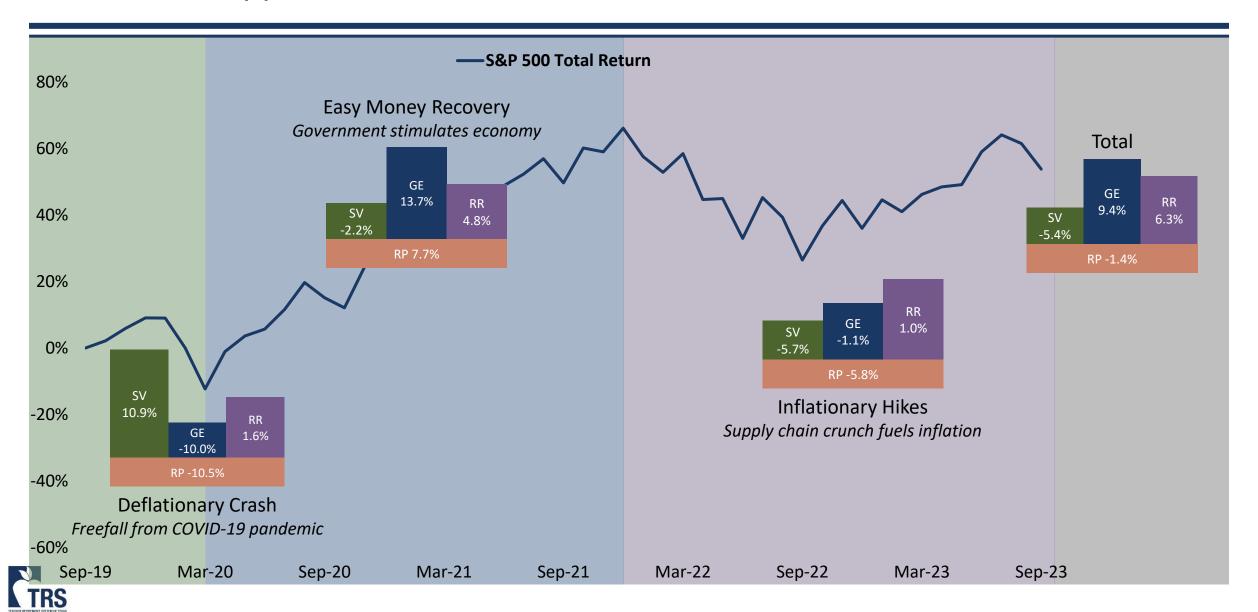


Strategic Asset Allocation		Change
USA	18%	-
Non-US Developed	13%	-
Emerging Markets	9%	-
Directional Hedge Funds	0%	-4%*
Private Equity	14%	+1%
Total Global Equity	54%	-3%
US Treasuries – Long	16%	+5%
Stable Value Hedge Funds	5%	+1%
Total Stable Value	21%	+6%
Real Estate	15%	+1%
US TIPS	0%	-3%
ENRI	6%	+1%
Total Real Return	21%	-1%
Risk Parity	8%	+3%
Investment Exposure	104%	+5%
Cash	2%	+1%
Asset Allocation Leverage	-6%	-6%
Net Asset Allocation Leverage	-4%	-5%

^{*}Directional Hedge Funds were moved into other asset classes



A lot has happened since the last SAA



What else has changed?

		Sept 2019	Sept 2023	Change
S&P		2,976	4,288	+44%
Cash Rate	•••	1.8%	5.5%	+3.7%
СРІ		256	307	+20%
Milk		2.25	3.58	+59%
Eggs	0	1.40	5.43	+288%
Gasoline		2.59	3.60	+39%
Median Home		269,100	351,500	+31%
IMD FTEs	-	176	236	+60

Where do things stand today?

- Inflation is still elevated and moderating
- Fed nearing end of hiking cycle
- Growth is strong
- Positive real rates
- Rise of the retail investor
- Generative artificial intelligence
- Rising geopolitical risk
- Hybrid work environment



Looking forward, SAA objectives remain the same

Achieve Trust Primary Goals

- Control risk through proper diversification of asset classes and by establishing long-term risk and return expectations; and
- As applicable to the pension plan, achieve a long-term rate of return that:
 - Exceeds the assumed actuarial rate of return of 7% adopted by the Board;
 - Exceeds the long-term rate of inflation by an annualized 5%; and
 - Exceeds the return of the Fund Policy Benchmark



2024 SAA Process Map

Background Work Board Process <u>Input</u> **Solicit Views IMD SAA Topics** 44 IMD Groups **SPNs Public Equity** Leverage Trust Strategy Infrastructure Regional Tolerance by Mix Allocation Asset Allocation External Board Committee **Partners** Advisors **Board** Decision Illiquidity **Yield Curve** Premium **Dynamics** Drivers **Gather Data IMD** Expected SAA **Expected Risk** Role of Return Team Role of Risk Stable Value Parity Hedge External Peer Data **Funds** Research



Proposed Board Timeline

July February April September December

- Best practices
- Long term objectives
- What has changed?
- Timeline

- Risk tolerance
- Capital Market **Assumptions**
- Peer review
- Review of asset classes

- Alternative allocations
- Risk analysis
- Benchmark review

- Final recommendation
- Policy review
- Risk budget
- Asset-liability considerations

- Board decision
- Policy update
- Implementation plan





Overview of the Strategic Asset Allocation Process

Teacher Retirement System of Texas

December 2023



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The Importance of Asset Allocation

- Asset allocation is one of the most important decisions the Board of Trustees will make, as it is the primary determinant of
 the risk and return that will be experienced into the future
- Widely cited research attesting to this include
 - An article published in Financial Analysts Journal in 1986, Gary Brinson, Randolph Hood, and Gilbert Beebower
 - —In terms of return variation, they found that more than 90% (i.e., 93.6%) of that variation could be explained by the initial strategic asset allocation decision
 - o An article published in Financial Analysts Journal in 2000, Roger Ibbotson and Paul Kaplan
 - —They found that asset allocation explains over 90% of fund variation, 40% of variation among funds, and roughly 100% of nominal return
- The process employed by TRS, which we consider to be best practice, where the IMD—working in conjunction with advisors, consultants, strategic partners, and others—proposes a target allocation, which the Board may accept, with or without modifications



The Importance of Regular Reviews of Asset Allocation

Since asset allocation is such an important decision, a thorough review of long term targets is necessary from time to time.

Our clients typically review asset allocation formally on average every 3 - 5 years

(or when circumstances change)

Per section 1.6 of the TRS investment policy: The Investment Division will assist the Board in engaging in an asset-liability study for the pension plan at least once every five (5) years to review asset classes, returnrisk assumptions, and correlation of returns with applicable benchmarks and across asset classes.

Previous reviews of asset allocation took place in 2007, 2009, 2014, and 2019

The Investment Policy Statement, which includes the allocation targets and ranges, is reviewed biennially, but major changes in allocation targets have not been common



Factors that Influence Asset Allocation Decisions

Factors that may influence differences in asset allocation across institutional investors





Best Practices in Reviewing Strategic Asset Allocation Overview

In our experience, we would consider as best practice a review of asset allocation that followed the steps listed below. The following slides provide additional detail of each step, as well as IMD's process for considering each item





Beyond Best Practice: What is Necessary for a Successful Outcome?



Documentation Thorough documentation before, during, and after the strategic asset allocation process is complete



Transparency Internal investment teams / consultants need to provide open access to assumptions, research, models and other critical inputs



Education Know contemporary best practices; conduct independent research; hold educational sessions throughout process



Active Participation All key stakeholders need to actively participate: Board members; internal investment teams; the executive office; consultants

At the end of the process the Board will need to opine on a new / modified strategic asset allocation

Following the key elements outlined in this presentation should provide the Board what it needs to make an informed, well reasoned decision

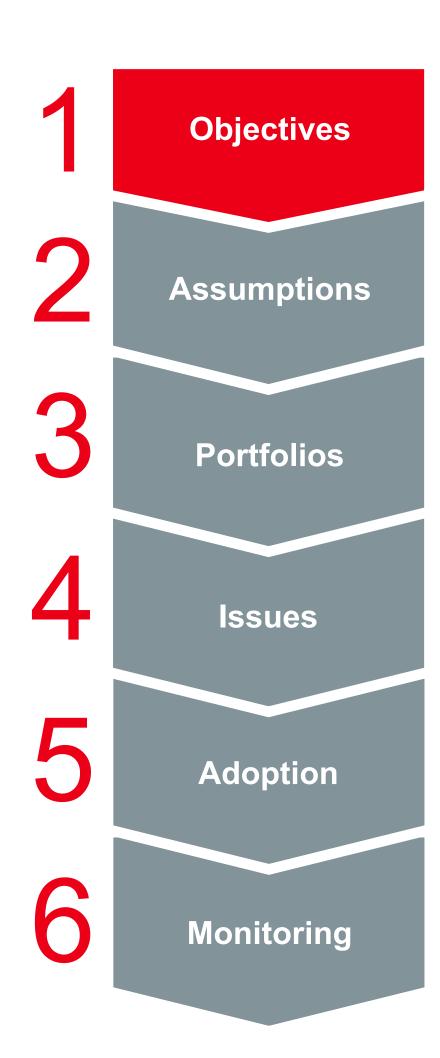


Appendix





Step 1: Best Practices in Reviewing Strategic Asset Allocation



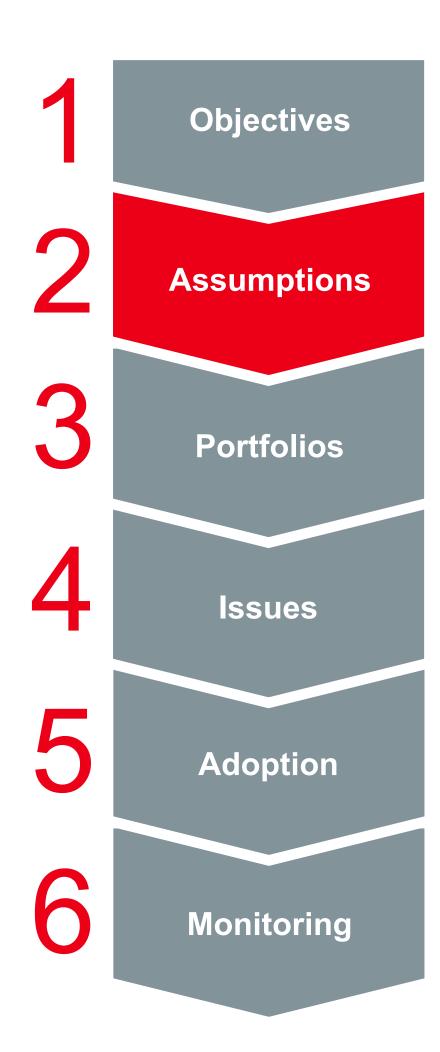
We have conducted reviews of investor asset allocation for many institutions and the following steps are generally indicative of a process we would consider a best in class and thorough review of asset allocation.

1) Update/Review Long-Term Objectives

- What circumstances have changed since the last AA review?
- What are the long term goals and objectives of the plan?
- What level of risk can the investor tolerate?
- What does the liability stream look like and what are the contribution levels?
- What are the current actuarial assumptions?
- What changes in circumstances may be on the horizon?
- How might we define reward and risk of a portfolio?
 - Weigh the average outcome vs. the impact of very bad outcomes?
 - Sharpe ratio?
 - Total return?
 - Actual long-term return vs. actuarial assumed return?



Step 2: Best Practices in Reviewing Strategic Asset Allocation

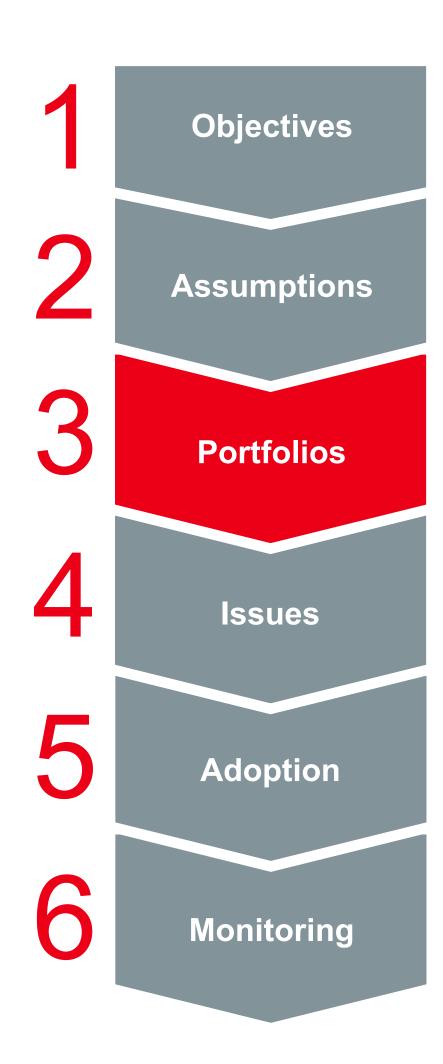


2) Develop Forward Looking Capital Market Assumptions

- What current asset classes should be evaluated?
- Which asset classes should be considered for addition or subtraction?
- Develop / Determine set of expected returns, risk, and correlations for various asset classes
- Test reasonableness of assumptions and explore alternatives



Step 3: Best Practices in Reviewing Strategic Asset Allocation

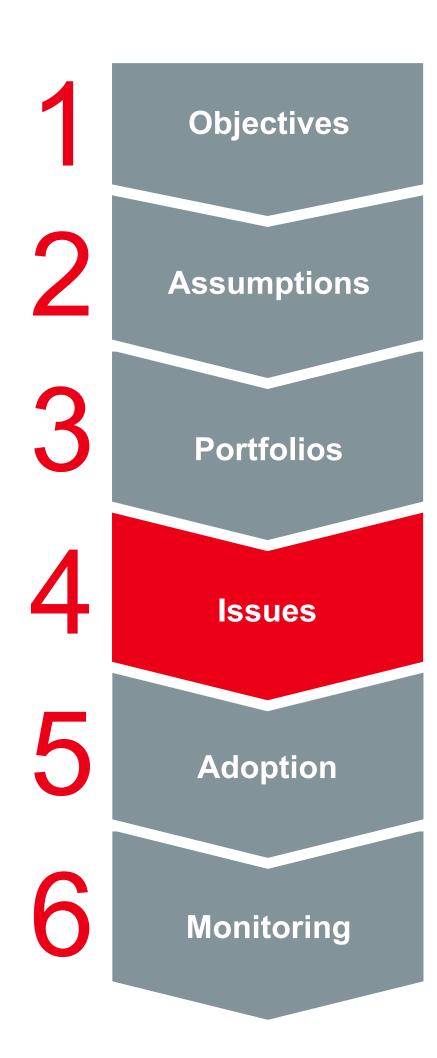


3) Evaluate Alternative Portfolios / Model Results

- Determine metrics for comparing alternative portfolios (risk adjusted returns, median expected return, downside risk, etc.)
- Determine liquidity tolerance
- Ensure diversification across a number of different compensated risks
- Consider alternate asset allocation targets
- Evaluate interaction of the assets and liabilities through stochastic analysis
- Review asset class benchmarks
- Review ranges around asset class targets
- Review allocation targets and strategies used by peer investors
- Model impact of various economic scenarios on both asset portfolios and projected benefit payments
- Consider alternative portfolio construction approaches (risk based, etc.)



Step 4: Best Practices in Reviewing Strategic Asset Allocation

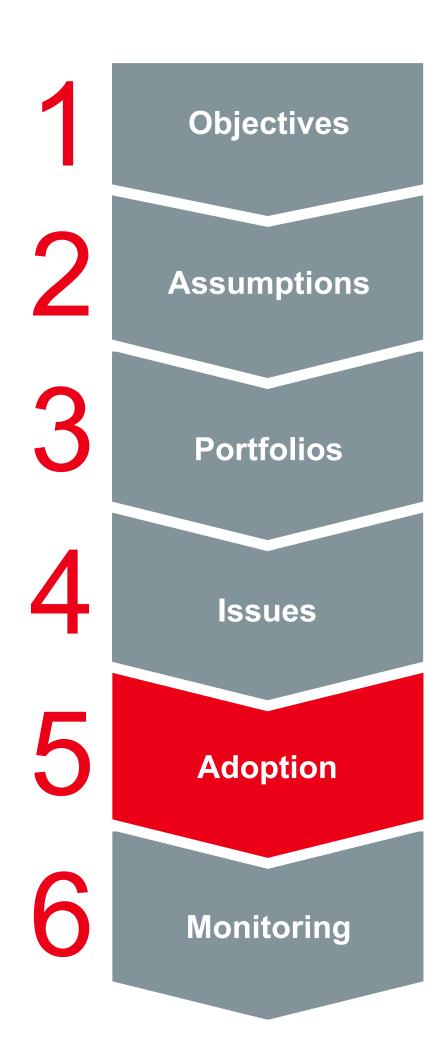


4) Consider Implementation Issues

- Use of active versus passive strategies
- Risk targets / budgeting
- Mix of internal and external management
- Ability to access the asset class (investible market size, manager access issues)
- Exploit competitive advantages



Step 5: Best Practices in Reviewing Strategic Asset Allocation



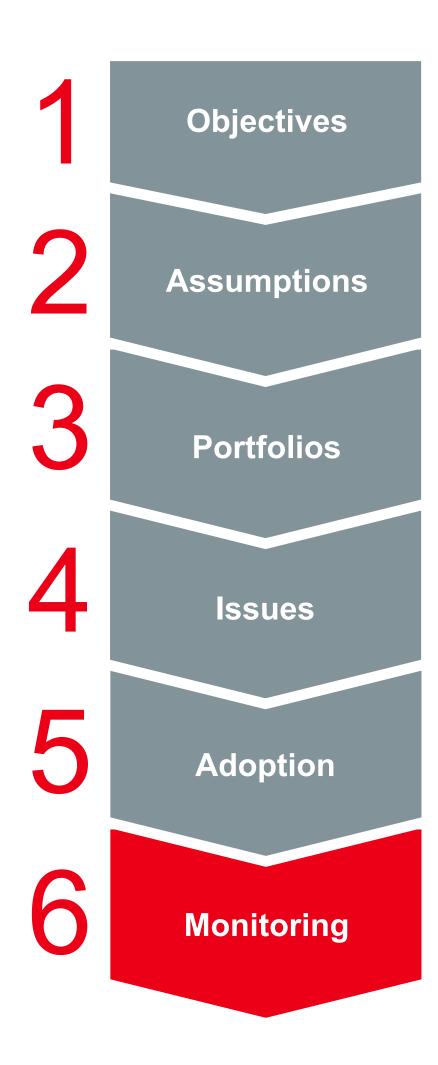
5) Adopt a New Target Asset Allocation

- Review current allocation target relative to suitable alternatives
- Adopt a new target allocation (or keep previous targets)
- Review plan for implementation of any changes
- Update IPS to reflect any changes in asset allocation targets, ranges, benchmarks, or risk budgets



12

Step 6: Best Practices in Reviewing Strategic Asset Allocation



6) Implementation and Monitoring

- Execute on plan (time horizon for implementation will vary significantly based on liquidity of asset classes involved and magnitude of changes)
- Monitor actual portfolio to ensure compliance with policy targets



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