

TRS-Care Retiree Health Care Plan Teacher Retirement System of Texas

GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for
Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans

Actuarial Valuation for Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2024





November 13, 2024

Board of Trustees
Teacher Retirement System of Texas
1000 Red River Street
Austin, TX 78701-2698

Subject: Actuary's Certification of the GASB Statement No. 74 Actuarial Valuation as of August 31, 2024 for TRS-Care

Submitted in this report are the results of an Actuarial Valuation of the liabilities associated with the employer financed retiree health benefits provided through TRS-Care, a benefit program designed to provide post-retirement medical benefits for certain members of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). The date of the valuation was August 31, 2023. Update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability to August 31, 2024. This report was prepared at the request of TRS.

The actuarial calculations were prepared for purposes of complying with the requirements of Statement No. 74 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The calculations reported herein have been made on a basis consistent with our understanding of this accounting standard. Determinations of the liability associated with the benefits described in this report for purposes other than satisfying the financial reporting requirements of TRS-Care and participating employers may produce significantly different results. Actuarial valuations of the post-retirement benefits are performed annually.

The valuation was based upon information, furnished by TRS, concerning retiree health benefits, members' census, and financial data. Data was checked for internal consistency but was not otherwise audited. Certain actuarial assumptions applicable only to the TRS-Care OPEB valuation have changed since the prior report. These changes are disclosed in the assumptions section of this report.

The following Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) schedules were prepared by GRS and can be found in Sections D and E of this report:

1. Actuarial Assumptions and Methods
2. Schedule of Retirees and Beneficiaries Added and Removed from Rolls

GRS is not responsible for any trend data schedules not found in this report.

The current objective is to fund the Trust in order to maintain benefits through individual biennial periods. There is no arrangement into which the participating employers would make contributions to advance-fund the obligation. However, a Trust does exist into which participating employers are making contributions based on the current funding policy.

The Net OPEB Liability (NOL) increased by \$8.21 billion, from \$22.1 billion as of August 31, 2023 to \$30.4 billion as of August 31, 2024. The increase was primarily due to lowering the Medicare retiree premiums effective January 1, 2025 and declines in the discount rate.

Future actuarial measurements may differ significantly from the current measurements presented in this report due to such factors as the following: plan experience differing from that anticipated by the economic or demographic assumptions; changes in economic or demographic assumptions; increases or decreases expected as part of the natural operation of the methodology used for these measurements; and changes in plan provisions or applicable law.

This report was prepared using our proprietary valuation model and related software which in our professional judgment has the capability to provide results that are consistent with the purposes of the valuation and has no material limitations or known weaknesses. We performed tests to ensure that the model reasonably represents that which is intended to be modeled.

To the best of our knowledge, this report is complete and accurate. The assumptions and methods used for financial reporting purposes are reasonable and in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles set by the Actuarial Standards of Practice (ASOPs). Joseph Newton and Blake Orth are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet the Qualification Standards of the Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion herein. The signing individuals are independent of the plan sponsor.

Respectfully submitted,
Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company



Joseph P. Newton, FSA, EA, FCA, MAAA
Pension Market Leader



Blake Orth, FSA, EA, MAAA
Consultant and Actuary



Auditor's Note – This information is intended to assist in preparation of the financial statements of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas. Financial statements are the responsibility of management, subject to the auditor's review. Please let us know if the auditor recommends any changes.



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SECTION A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary as of August 31, 2024

	2024
Actuarial Valuation Date	August 31, 2023
OPEB Plan's Fiscal Year Ending Date (Reporting Date)	August 31, 2024
 Membership*	
Number of	
- Retirees and Beneficiaries	186,935
- Inactive, Nonretired Members	15,276
- Active Members	773,168
- Total	975,379
Covered Payroll	\$ 44,646,883,538
 Net OPEB Liability	
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 35,168,178,563
Plan Fiduciary Net Position	4,816,646,311
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 30,351,532,252
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total OPEB Liability	13.70 %
Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	67.98 %
 Development of the Single Discount Rate	
Single Discount Rate	3.87 %
Long-Term Municipal Bond Rate**	3.87 %

* Membership counts shown above are as of the valuation date.

** Source: Fixed-income municipal bonds with 20 years to maturity that include only federally tax-exempt municipal bonds as reported in the Bond Buyer's "20-Bond GO Index" as of August 31, 2024.



Discussion

Accounting Standard

For post-employment benefit (OPEB) plans that are administered through trusts or equivalent arrangements, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 74, “Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans other than Pension Plans,” establishes standards of financial reporting for separately issued financial reports of state and local government OPEB plans.

Reporting under GASB 74 is effective for plan fiscal years commencing after June 15, 2016.

The following discussion provides a summary of the information that is required to be disclosed under this new accounting standard. A number of these disclosure items are provided in this report. However, certain information, such as notes regarding accounting policies and investments, is not included in this report, and internal staff will be responsible for preparing that information to comply with this accounting standard.

Financial Statements

GASB Statement No. 74 requires defined benefit OPEB plans to present two financial statements: a statement of fiduciary net position and a statement of changes in fiduciary net position.

The *statement of fiduciary net position* presents the following items as of the end of the OPEB plan’s reporting period:

- Assets;
- Receivables and Deferred Outflow of Resources;
- Capital Assets;
- Liabilities and Deferred Inflow of Resources; and
- Fiduciary Net Position (assets, plus deferred outflows, minus liabilities, minus deferred inflows).

The *statement of changes in fiduciary net position* presents the following for the plan’s reporting period:

- Additions, such as contributions and investment income;
- Deductions, such as benefit payments and expenses; and
- Net increase or decrease in the fiduciary net position (the difference between additions and deductions).

Notes to Financial Statements

GASB Statement No. 74 also requires the notes of the plan's financial statements to include additional disclosure information. This disclosure information should include:

- **Plan Description:**
 - The name of the OPEB plan, the administrator of the OPEB plan, and the identification of whether the OPEB plan is a single-employer, agent, or cost-sharing OPEB plan.
 - The number of participating employers (if agent or cost-sharing OPEB plan) and the number of nonemployer contributing entities.
 - The composition of the OPEB plan's Board and the authority under which benefit terms may be amended.
 - The number of plan members by category and if the plan is closed.
 - The authority under which benefit terms are established or may be changed, the types of benefits provided, and the classes of plan members covered. A brief description of the benefits and the description of automatic postemployment benefit changes and the sharing of benefit-related costs with inactive plan members.
 - A brief description of contribution requirements, including (a) identification of the authority under which contribution requirements of employers, nonemployer contributing entities, and plan members are established or may be amended; (b) the contribution rates of the employer, nonemployer contributing entities, and plan members; and (c) legal or contractual maximum contribution rates. If the OPEB plan of the entity that administers the OPEB plan has the authority to establish or amend contribution requirements, disclose the basis for determining contributions.
- **Plan Investments:**
 - A description of investment policies, including procedures for making and amending investment decisions; policies for asset allocation; and description of any significant changes in investment policy occurring during the reporting period.
 - Identification of investments that represent 5% or more of the fiduciary net position.
 - The annual money-weighted rate of return on the OPEB plan investments.
- **Receivables:**
 - The terms of any long-term contracts for contributions to the OPEB plan and the outstanding balance on any such long-term contracts.
- **Allocated insurance contracts excluded from OPEB plan assets.**
- **Reserves:**
 - A description of the policy related to reserves;
 - The authority for the reserve policy;
 - The conditions under which the reserves can be used; and
 - The balances of the reserves.

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

In addition, Single-Employer and Cost-Sharing OPEB plans should disclose the following information in notes to financial statements:

- The components of the net OPEB liability:
 - The total OPEB liability;
 - The fiduciary net position;
 - The net OPEB liability; and
 - The OPEB plan's fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability.
- Significant assumptions and other inputs used to measure the total OPEB liability:
 - Significant assumptions include inflation, healthcare cost trend rates, salary changes, ad hoc postemployment benefit changes, and the sharing of benefit-related costs with inactive plan members.
 - If applicable, the patterns of practice relied upon for projecting the sharing of benefit-related costs with inactive plan members.
 - The source of the assumptions for mortality.
 - The dates of experience studies on which assumption are based.
- Measure of the net OPEB liability using +/- 1% on the healthcare trend rate.
- On the discount rate:
 - The discount rate used and the change in the discount rate since the prior fiscal year-end.
 - Assumptions about projected cash flows.
 - The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB investments and a description of how it was determined.
 - The municipal bond rate used and the source of that rate.
 - The periods of projected benefit payments to which the long-term expected rate of return are used.
 - The assumed asset allocation of the portfolio and the long-term expected real rate of return for each major asset class, and whether the returns are arithmetic or geometric.
 - Measure of the net OPEB liability using +/- 1% on the discount rate.
- The date of the valuation and, if applicable, the fact that update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability.

Required Supplementary Information

For Single-Employer and Cost-Sharing OPEB Plans, GASB Statement No. 74 requires a 10-year fiscal history of:

- Sources of changes in the net OPEB liability;
- Information about the components of the net OPEB liability and related ratios, including the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability, and the net OPEB liability as a percent of covered-employee payroll;
- Comparison of the actual employer contributions to the actuarially determined contributions based on the plan's funding policy along with the significant methods and assumptions used in calculating the actuarially determined contributions; and
- The annual money-weighted rate of return on OPEB plan investments for each year.

For Agent OPEB Plans, GASB Statement No. 74 requires a 10-year history of the annual money-weighted rate of return on OPEB plan investments.

Required Supplementary Information (Continued)

Notes to the required schedules should include factors that significantly affect trends in the amounts reported (for example, changes of benefit terms, changes in the size or composition of the population covered, or the use of different assumptions). Information about investment-related factors that significantly affect trends in the amounts reported should be limited to those factors over which the OPEB plan or the participating governments have influence.

Measurement of the Net OPEB Liability

The net OPEB liability is to be measured as the total OPEB liability, less the amount of the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. In actuarial terms, this will be the accrued liability less the market value of assets (not the smoothed actuarial value of assets that is often encountered in actuarial valuations performed to determine the employer's contribution requirement). The net OPEB liability should be measured as of the OPEB plan's most recent fiscal year end.

Frequency and Timing of the Actuarial Valuation

An actuarial valuation to determine the total OPEB liability is required to be performed at least every two years. If the actuarial valuation is not calculated as of the plan's fiscal year end, the total OPEB liability is required to be rolled forward from the actuarial valuation date to the OPEB plan's fiscal year end. If update procedures are used to roll forward the total OPEB liability, the date of the actuarial valuation must be no more than 24 months earlier than the OPEB plan's most recent fiscal year-end.

The total OPEB liability shown in this report is based on an actuarial valuation performed as of August 31, 2023. Update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability to August 31, 2024.

Single Discount Rate

Projected benefit payments are required to be discounted to their actuarial present values using a Single Discount Rate that reflects (1) a long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments (to the extent that the plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits) and (2) tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate of return are not met).

For the purpose of this valuation, the municipal bond rate is 3.87% (based on the daily rate closest to but not later than the measurement date of the Bond Buyer's "20-Bond GO Index"), and the resulting Single Discount Rate is 3.87%. Because the investments are held in cash and there is no intentional objective to advance fund the benefits, the Single Discount Rate is equal to the prevailing municipal bond rate.

Actuarial Assumptions

The actuarial assumptions used to value the liabilities are outlined in detail in Section I. The assumptions include details on the healthcare trend assumption, the aging factors, as well as the cost method used to develop the OPEB expense. The demographic assumptions were based on the experience study covering the period ending August 31, 2021, as conducted for the retirement plan.

Future Uncertainty or Risk

Future results may differ from those anticipated in this valuation. Reasons include, but are not limited to:

- Actual medical trend differing from expected;
- Changes in the healthcare plan designs offered to active and retired members; and
- Participant behavior differing from expected, e.g.,
 - Elections at retirement;
 - One-person versus two-person coverage elections; and
 - Time of retirement or termination.

Benefits Valued

The benefit provisions that were valued are described in Section F. The valuation is required to be performed on the current benefit terms and existing legal agreements. Consideration is to be given to the written plan document as well as other communications between the employer and plan members and an established pattern of practice for cost sharing. The summary of major plan provisions is designed to outline principal plan benefits. If the plan summary is not in accordance with the actual provisions, please alert the actuaries, so they can both be sure the proper provisions are valued.

SECTION B

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position as of August 31, 2024

	2024
Assets	
Cash and Deposits	\$ 4,467,596,634
Receivables	
Interest and Dividends	\$ 18,796,400
Due from State's General Fund	61,964,612
Due from Employers	46,252,148
Other Receivables	389,873,018
Total Receivables	\$ 516,886,178
Capital Assets	\$ 4,994,207
Total Assets	\$ 4,989,477,019
 Total Deferred Outflow of Resources	 \$ -
Liabilities	
Payables	
Accounts Payable	\$ 3,902,049
Accrued Expenses	42,231,043
Health Care Claims Payable	126,697,616
Total Liabilities	\$ 172,830,708
 Total Deferred Inflow of Resources	 \$ -
 Net Position Restricted for OPEB	 \$ 4,816,646,311

Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position as of August 31, 2024

	2024
Additions	
Contributions	
Employer	
Paid at Employer Contribution Rate	\$ 334,851,497
Paid at State's Contribution Rate (Federal/Private Funding)	52,913,289
Surcharge for Employment after Retirement	16,318,100
Total Employer Contributions	\$ 404,082,886
Nonemployer Contributing Entities	
State of Texas - Paid at State's Contribution Rate	\$ 505,172,755
State of Texas - Supplemental Appropriations	-
Other - Federal Funding	-
Total Nonemployer Contributing Entities	\$ 505,172,755
Active Employees	\$ 290,204,743
Total Contributions	\$ 1,199,460,384
Net Investment Income	\$ 202,197,474
Other	\$ 15,132,300
Total Additions	\$ 1,416,790,158
 Deductions	
Benefit Payments	
Claims and Premiums (net of Rx rebates/discounts)	\$ 1,050,529,599
Retiree Contributions	(583,752,411)
Total Benefit Payments	\$ 466,777,188
OPEB Plan Administrative Expense	\$ 23,131,862
Total Deductions	\$ 489,909,050
Net Increase in Net Position	\$ 926,881,108
 Net Position Restricted for OPEB	
Beginning of Year	\$ 3,889,765,203
End of Year	\$ 4,816,646,311



SECTION C

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Schedule of Changes in Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios Multiyear

Fiscal year ending August 31,	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total OPEB liability								
Service cost	\$ 1,097,420,397	\$ 1,167,928,039	\$ 2,329,443,972	\$ 2,123,507,091	\$ 2,580,691,142	\$ 2,306,960,681	\$ 2,284,418,391	\$ 4,312,406,330
Interest on the total OPEB liability	1,087,982,084	1,070,343,014	818,451,306	951,216,433	1,304,452,406	1,904,512,142	1,524,880,074	2,356,367,107
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(18,610,362,725)
Difference between expected and actual experience	5,756,395,225	(2,155,814,819)	(4,519,113,086)	(4,029,449,914)	(11,973,222,812)	(7,950,584,096)	2,979,259,557	(1,027,633,765)
Changes of assumptions	1,665,087,778	(573,518,685)	(12,067,408,357)	2,553,299,164	64,949,900	2,133,218,962	936,861,770	(19,563,767,793)
Benefit payments	(466,777,188)	(542,809,802)	(613,142,398)	(495,695,506)	(549,284,060)	(540,350,553)	(881,714,310)	(995,486,176)
Net change in total OPEB liability	9,140,108,296	(1,033,872,253)	(14,051,768,563)	1,102,877,268	(8,572,413,424)	(2,146,242,864)	6,843,705,482	(33,528,477,022)
Total OPEB liability - beginning	26,028,070,267	27,061,942,520	41,113,711,083	40,010,833,815	48,583,247,239	50,729,490,103	43,885,784,621	77,414,261,643
Total OPEB liability - ending (a)	\$ 35,168,178,563	\$ 26,028,070,267	\$ 27,061,942,520	\$ 41,113,711,083	\$ 40,010,833,815	\$ 48,583,247,239	\$ 50,729,490,103	\$ 43,885,784,621
Plan fiduciary net position								
Employer contributions	\$ 404,082,886	\$ 393,951,333	\$ 370,735,616	\$ 334,027,999	\$ 324,973,591	\$ 305,363,084	\$ 296,098,420	\$ 215,360,520
Nonemployer contributing entities contributions	505,172,755	495,642,107	534,341,296	452,857,917	666,588,103	482,056,189	789,869,467	324,661,809
Employee contributions	290,204,743	277,468,284	263,328,449	250,413,572	243,532,120	227,338,454	221,325,377	213,241,179
OPEB plan net investment income	202,197,474	130,069,098	13,537,557	9,226,940	25,536,560	25,046,771	10,127,259	4,696,973
Benefit payments	(466,777,188)	(542,809,802)	(613,142,398)	(495,695,506)	(549,284,060)	(540,350,553)	(881,714,310)	(995,486,176)
OPEB plan administrative expense	(23,131,862)	(22,799,515)	(18,465,602)	(7,906,384)	(7,068,610)	(6,006,229)	(6,672,488)	(4,953,492)
Other	15,132,300	40,306,480	28,359,830	-	17,879	-	(29,995,078)	529,020
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	926,881,108	771,827,985	578,694,748	542,924,538	704,295,583	493,447,716	399,038,647	(241,950,167)
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	3,889,765,203	3,117,937,218	2,539,242,470	1,996,317,932	1,292,022,349	798,574,633	399,535,986	641,486,153
Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)	\$ 4,816,646,311	\$ 3,889,765,203	\$ 3,117,937,218	\$ 2,539,242,470	\$ 1,996,317,932	\$ 1,292,022,349	\$ 798,574,633	\$ 399,535,986
Net OPEB liability - ending (a) - (b)	\$ 30,351,532,252	\$ 22,138,305,064	\$ 23,944,005,302	\$ 38,574,468,613	\$ 38,014,515,883	\$ 47,291,224,890	\$ 49,930,915,470	\$ 43,486,248,635
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of total OPEB liability	13.70 %	14.94 %	11.52 %	6.18 %	4.99 %	2.66 %	1.57 %	0.91 %
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 44,646,883,538	\$ 42,687,428,308	\$ 40,512,069,077	\$ 38,525,164,923	\$ 37,466,480,000	\$ 34,975,146,769	\$ 34,050,058,000	\$ 32,806,335,231
Net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	67.98 %	51.86 %	59.10 %	100.13 %	101.46 %	135.21 %	146.64 %	132.55 %
Notes to Schedule:								
Single Discount Rate	3.87%	4.13%	3.91 %	1.95 %	2.33 %	2.63 %	3.69 %	3.42 %

Changes of assumptions reflect the effects of changes in the single discount rate each period. The single discount rate at the beginning of FYE 2017 was 2.98%.

2024 Changes of assumptions - The tables used to model the impact of aging on the underlying claims were revised.

2023 Changes of assumptions - Revised demographic and economic assumptions based on the TRS experience study.

2022 Changes of assumptions - Lower participation rates and updates to the health care trend assumptions.

2020 Changes of assumptions - Lowering the participation rate assumption for employees who retire after the age of 65 and lowering the ultimate health care trend assumption to reflect the repeal of the excise (Cadillac) tax on high-cost employer health plans.

2019 Changes of assumptions - Lower participation rates and updates to the health care trend assumptions.

2018 Changes of assumptions - Updated health care trend assumption and revised demographic and economic assumptions based on the TRS experience study.

2017 Changes of benefit terms - Effective January 1, 2018, only one health plan option will be offered and all retirees will be required to contribute monthly premiums for coverage.

2017 Changes of assumptions - Assuming Medicare Part D reimbursements will continue (removed the phase out assumption).



Schedule of the Net OPEB Liability Multiyear

FY Ending August 31,	Total OPEB Liability	Plan Net Position	Net OPEB Liability	Plan Net Position as a % of Total OPEB Liability	Covered Payroll	Net OPEB Liability as a % of Covered Payroll
2017	\$ 43,885,784,621	\$ 399,535,986	\$ 43,486,248,635	0.91 %	\$ 32,806,335,231	132.55 %
2018	50,729,490,103	798,574,633	49,930,915,470	1.57 %	34,050,058,000	146.64 %
2019	48,583,247,239	1,292,022,349	47,291,224,890	2.66 %	34,975,146,769	135.21 %
2020	40,010,833,815	1,996,317,932	38,014,515,883	4.99 %	37,466,480,000	101.46 %
2021	41,113,711,083	2,539,242,470	38,574,468,613	6.18 %	38,525,164,923	100.13 %
2022	27,061,942,520	3,117,937,218	23,944,005,302	11.52 %	40,512,069,077	59.10 %
2023	26,028,070,267	3,889,765,203	22,138,305,064	14.94 %	42,687,428,308	51.86 %
2024	35,168,178,563	4,816,646,311	30,351,532,252	13.70 %	44,646,883,538	67.98 %

SECTION D

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Net OPEB Liability as of August 31, 2024

	Total OPEB Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net OPEB Liability
Beginning balance	\$ 26,028,070,267	\$ 3,889,765,203	\$ 22,138,305,064
Service cost	1,097,420,397		1,097,420,397
Interest on the total OPEB liability	1,087,982,084		1,087,982,084
Changes of benefit terms	-		-
Difference between expected and actual experience	5,756,395,225		5,756,395,225
Changes of assumptions	1,665,087,778		1,665,087,778
Employer contributions		404,082,886	(404,082,886)
Nonemployer contributing entities		505,172,755	(505,172,755)
Employee contributions		290,204,743	(290,204,743)
Net investment income		202,197,474	(202,197,474)
Benefit payments	(466,777,188)	(466,777,188)	-
Administrative expense		(23,131,862)	23,131,862
Other		15,132,300	(15,132,300)
Net changes	<u>9,140,108,296</u>	<u>926,881,108</u>	<u>8,213,227,188</u>
Ending balance	<u>\$ 35,168,178,563</u>	<u>\$ 4,816,646,311</u>	<u>\$ 30,351,532,252</u>

Only the components of the ending Net OPEB Liability are required disclosures.

Single Discount Rate

A Single Discount Rate of 3.87% was used to measure the total OPEB liability. Because the investments are held in cash and there is no intentional objective to advance fund the benefits, the Single Discount Rate is equal to the prevailing municipal bond rate.

Roll Forward Disclosure

The actuarial valuation was performed as of August 31, 2023. Update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability to August 31, 2024.



Summary of Membership Information

The following table provides a summary of the number of participants in the plan as of August 31, 2023:

Inactive Plan Members or Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	186,935
Inactive Plan Members Entitled to But Not Yet Receiving Benefits	15,276
Active Plan Members	<u>773,168</u>
Total Plan Members	975,379

Per GASB's guidance, dependents of current retirees receiving benefits are not included in the counts shown above.

Note: Membership information should be disclosed as of the measurement date (August 31, 2024). It is the responsibility of the plan sponsor to disclose the membership counts as of August 31, 2024.

The Average Expected Remaining Service Life (AERSL) of 9.4212 is based on the membership information as of the beginning of the fiscal year. The AERSL of the active employees was 11.8852 years. This calculates to a total remaining service years of $11.8852 * 773,168 = 9,189,256$ years. Divided by the total membership of 975,379 as of August 31, 2023 yields an AERSL of 9.4212.

Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

Valuation Date: August 31, 2023; rolled forward to August 31, 2024

Methods and Assumptions:

Actuarial Cost Method	Individual Entry-Age Normal
Inflation	2.30%
Single Discount Rate	3.87% as of August 31, 2024
Salary Increases	2.95% to 8.95%, including inflation
Demographic Assumptions	The rates of mortality, retirement, termination and disability incidence are identical to the assumptions used to value the pension liabilities of the Teachers Retirement System of Texas (TRS). The demographic assumptions were developed in the experience study performed for TRS for the period ending August 31, 2021.
Mortality Assumption	The post-retirement mortality rates for healthy lives were based on the 2021 TRS of Texas Healthy Pensioner Mortality Tables, with full generational projection using the ultimate rates of Scale MP 2021. The active mortality rates were based on PUB(2010), Amount-Weighted, Below-Median Income, Teacher male and female tables (with a two-year set forward for males), also with full generational mortality using the ultimate rates of Scale MP 2021.
Health Care Trend Rates:	Initial medical trend rate of 6.75% for non-Medicare retirees. For Medicare retirees, trend rates are higher in the first two years due to anticipated growth but thereafter match those of non-Medicare retirees. Initial prescription drug trend rate of 7.25% for all retirees. Initial trend rates decrease to an ultimate trend rate of 4.25% over a period of 11 years.
Election Rates	Normal Retirement: 62% participation prior to age 65 and 25% participation after age 65; 30% of pre-65 retirees are assumed to discontinue coverage at age 65.
Aging Factors	Based on the Society of Actuaries' 2013 Study "Health Care Costs - From Birth to Death".
Expenses	Third party administrative expenses related to the delivery of health care benefits are included in the age-adjusted claims costs.
Ad Hoc Post-Employment Benefit Changes	None
Other Information:	
Notes	Assumption changes include a discount rate change from 4.13% as of August 31, 2023 to 3.87% as of August 31, 2024. Additionally, the tables used to model the impact of aging on the underlying claims were revised.



Sensitivity of Net OPEB Liability to the Single Discount Rate Assumption

Regarding the sensitivity of the net OPEB liability to changes in the Single Discount Rate, the following presents the plan's net OPEB liability, calculated using a Single Discount Rate of 3.87%, as well as what the plan's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a Single Discount Rate that is one percent lower or one percent higher:

1% Decrease	Current Single Discount Rate Assumption	1% Increase
2.87%	3.87%	4.87%
\$ 36,059,038,653	\$ 30,351,532,252	\$ 25,739,781,222

Sensitivity of Net OPEB Liability to the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate Assumption

Regarding the sensitivity of the net OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates, the following presents the plan's net OPEB liability, calculated using the assumed trend rates as well as what the plan's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a trend rate that is one percent lower or one percent higher:

1% Decrease	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate Assumption	1% Increase
\$ 24,716,816,909	\$ 30,351,532,252	\$ 37,694,128,071

SECTION E

ADDITIONAL ACFR SCHEDULES

Schedule of Retirees and Beneficiaries Added and Removed from Rolls

Year August 31,	Added to Rolls		Removed from Rolls		Rolls-End of Year		% Increase in Annual Allowances	Average Annual Allowances
	Number	Annual Allowances	Number	Annual Allowances	Number	Annual Allowances *		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
2008					198,968	\$ 605,932,252	NA	\$ 3,045
2009	12,158	\$ 54,271,769	8,192	\$ 19,365,868	202,934	\$ 694,017,558	14.5%	\$ 3,420
2010	14,996	\$ 71,136,696	7,924	\$ 21,837,784	210,006	\$ 757,979,912	9.2%	\$ 3,609
2011	20,467	\$ 109,331,023	8,019	\$ 24,802,618	222,454	\$ 898,001,599	18.5%	\$ 4,037
2012	19,407	\$ 92,279,848	8,220	\$ 28,700,248	233,641	\$ 768,682,199	(14.4%)	\$ 3,290
2013	19,798	\$ 98,603,255	10,176	\$ 25,946,471	243,263	\$ 824,715,257	7.3%	\$ 3,390
2014	18,916	\$ 97,956,524	10,656	\$ 27,648,497	251,523	\$ 933,885,969	13.2%	\$ 3,713
2015	19,171	\$ 106,177,651	11,116	\$ 31,400,277	259,578	\$ 1,050,329,854	12.5%	\$ 4,046
2016	20,883	\$ 120,035,127	12,250	\$ 48,462,388	268,211	\$ 1,132,169,358	7.8%	\$ 4,221
2017	19,121	\$ 105,535,109	13,113	\$ 59,695,737	274,219	\$ 986,039,302	(12.9%)	\$ 3,596
2018	11,101	\$ 79,394,032	48,958	\$ 150,243,653	236,362	\$ 955,490,192	(3.1%)	\$ 4,042
2019	14,066	\$ 95,931,742	21,253	\$ 69,775,594	229,175	\$ 839,871,317	(12.1%)	\$ 3,665
2020	13,222	\$ 88,444,718	18,420	\$ 55,330,044	223,977	\$ 810,214,242	(3.5%)	\$ 3,617
2021	14,086	\$ 101,038,519	15,596	\$ 47,372,703	222,467	\$ 818,071,372	1.0%	\$ 3,677
2022	16,212	\$ 113,328,143	16,906	\$ 55,044,005	221,773	\$ 806,426,537	(1.4%)	\$ 3,636
2023	12,104	\$ 100,377,443	14,305	\$ 49,149,837	219,572	\$ 816,330,849	1.2%	\$ 3,718
2024	12,878	\$ 109,857,772	13,828	\$ 62,215,089	218,622	\$ 1,022,748,936	25.3%	\$ 4,678

*Expected employer provided claims and expenses (net of retiree premiums)

Headcounts include dependents. Annual allowances in Column (7) include increases due to health care inflation and the impact of plan changes. As a result, the annual allowances are not equal to the beginning of year allowances plus the "Added to rolls" allowances minus the "Removed from Rolls" allowances.

SECTION F

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

Summary of Benefits

Plan Participants

Members of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas are eligible to receive retiree health care benefits.

Benefit Eligibility

Eligibility conditions for retiree health care benefits are as follows:

A retiree cannot be eligible for health care coverage as an employee or retiree of the State of Texas, or a public college or university in the State of Texas.

Service Retirees Who Retire after September 1, 2005: to be eligible for TRS-Care, the member must have at least 10 years of service credit in the system. This service credit may include up to five years of military service credit, but it may not include any other special or equivalent service credit purchased.

Additionally, the member must meet one of the following requirements: the sum of the retiree's age and years of service credit in the system equals or exceeds 80 at the time of retirement, regardless of whether the retiree had a reduction in the retirement annuity for early age (years of service credit can include all purchased service); or the retiree has 30 or more years of service credit in the retirement system at the time of retirement (years of service credit can include all purchased service).

Vested Terminated participants are eligible for TRS-Care if they meet the eligibility requirements for TRS-Care at the time of retirement.

Health Care Benefit Provided by Plan

Member: Beginning January 1, 2018, all members (except certain disabled retirees) must contribute toward the cost of coverage. Prior to this date, retirees could elect basic coverage at no cost for themselves.

Spouse: Members must contribute towards cost of spouse coverage.

Dependent: Members must contribute towards cost of coverage for dependent children.

Surviving Spouse Retirement Benefits

Surviving Spouses are eligible to elect coverage if they were married to the retiree of TRS at the time of the retiree's death and the retiree qualified, or would have qualified, for coverage under the following:

Surviving Spouses of active TRS members are eligible if the member had 10 or more years of actual service credit in Texas public schools and made contributions to the Texas Public Retired Employees Group Insurance Fund.



Summary of Benefits

Disabled Retirement Benefits

Health Care Benefit Eligibility Conditions:

Any age with 10 years of service.

With less than 10 years of service, coverage ends when the disability retirement benefit ends.

Health Care Benefit Provided by Plan:

Member: For non-Medicare retirees who have taken disability retirement under the TRS pension on or before January 1, 2017 and are taking disability retirement benefits from the TRS pension, TRS pays 100% of the coverage. All other members must contribute towards the cost of coverage.

Spouse: Members must contribute towards cost of spouse coverage.

Dependent: Members must contribute towards cost of coverage for dependent children.

TRS-Care Benefit Levels

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Plan	Deductible		Maximum Out-of-Pocket	
	Individual	Family	Individual	Family
TRS-Care Standard				
Retirees or Surviving Spouses not eligible for Medicare	\$1,650 In-Network \$3,300 Out-of-Network	\$3,300 In-Network \$6,600 Out-of-Network	\$5,650 In-Network \$11,300 Out-of-Network	\$11,300 In-Network \$22,600 Out-of-Network
TRS-Care Alternative Medical Plan				
Retirees or Surviving Spouses Enrolled in Medicare Part A and eligible for Part B	\$1,300	\$2,600	\$7,150	\$14,300
Retirees or Surviving Spouses not enrolled in Medicare Part A but eligible for Part B	\$1,300	\$2,600	\$7,150	\$14,300
Medicare Advantage for TRS-Care				
All	\$400	N/A	\$3,500	N/A

Maximum Out-of-Pocket includes deductibles, coinsurance, co-pays and out-of-pocket expenses.



TRS-Care Monthly Retiree Contribution Rates

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Coverage Tier	Non-Medicare Retiree Premiums	Non-Medicare Disability and Retiree Premiums*	Medicare Retiree Premiums
Retiree/Surviving Spouse Only	\$200	\$0	\$75
Retiree and Spouse	\$689	\$489	\$280
Retiree/Surviving Spouse and Child(ren)	\$408	\$208	\$408
Retiree and Family	\$999	\$799	\$613

*\$0 retiree contribution for disability retirees who: (1) retired as a disability retiree on or before 1/1/2017; (2) are currently receiving disability retirement benefits; and (3) are not eligible to enroll in Medicare.

SECTION G

DEVELOPMENT OF BASELINE CLAIMS COSTS

Development of Baseline Claims Cost

Data Source

TRS-Care maintains a substantial amount of data for all its covered members for many years of coverage. Claims and exposures during the period from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, were used for the development of the Baseline Costs. These were compared to industry data for reasonableness. The actual claims and exposures were available by age, sex, status, member type, plan coverage, etc. The actual claims and exposure data were reliable and credible for the development of reasonable Baseline Costs.

Baseline Costs

An OPEB Valuation is a projection of long-term benefit costs. As a starting point, baseline costs must be developed for the initial year of the projection. Projections of future costs, many years ahead, are based upon these initial year costs. Care must be taken to ensure that reasonable Baseline Costs are developed for each relevant Costing Variable.

Baseline Costs for this OPEB Valuation take the form of tables of current costs of benefits for retirees (and their dependents and survivors), separately by:

- Age (20 through 110)
- Sex (M and F)
- Benefit type (medical, prescription drug)

Costing Variables

Baseline Costs vary depending on many different factors or characteristics of each member. For example, age is possibly the most obvious variable that affects the cost of medical coverage, but they may have different patterns based on the benefit package chosen. For the purpose of the OPEB valuation, membership status and disability status were deemed not to be necessary Costing Variables, and the claims for all retirees and spouses were combined. Separate claims estimates were developed for children.

Methodology

Administration Expenses

Administration expenses are included in the monthly per capita costs based on expected expenses per member in the separate cost categories based on the following table:

Monthly Fee Per Member	Non-Medicare Retirees	Medicare Retirees
Medical Administrative Fees	\$17.56	\$0.00
Rx Administrative Fee*	2.50	7.30
Other Admin Fee	8.88	8.88
PCORI Fee	0.26	0.00
Total	\$29.20	\$16.18

*Includes \$0.25 drug savings review fee for Non-Medicare retirees.

Adjustments to Historical Claims

The claims data used to develop the baseline costs consisted of claims incurred during the period from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. These claims were increased by trend to develop the expected claims that will be incurred in the year beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025.

Rx Rebates and Medicare Part D Reimbursements

The projected prescription drug claims are net of all expected rebates and reimbursements. Effective January 1, 2017, all Medicare enrolled retirees are required to participate in the Medicare Part D Plan.

Medicare Advantage Plan

Medical benefits for Medicare enrolled retirees are provided through a fully-insured Medicare Advantage plan. The age-adjusted medical costs for Medicare retirees were based on the demographics of the covered population and the Medicare Advantage premiums. Also, beginning January 1, 2018, enrollees with Medicare Part B only were transitioned to a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan.

Monthly Per Capita Costs

Baseline Costs for Pre-65 Retirees and Spouses Calendar Year 2025

Age	Medical		Prescription Drug	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
55	\$770.98	\$841.79	\$194.34	\$212.19
57	\$856.44	\$890.91	\$215.89	\$224.57
60	\$995.75	\$980.47	\$251.00	\$247.15
62	\$1,098.16	\$1,055.47	\$276.82	\$266.06
64	\$1,210.87	\$1,142.73	\$305.22	\$288.05

Baseline Costs for Post-65 Retirees and Spouses Calendar Year 2025

Age	Medicare A&B				B Only			
	Medical*		Prescription Drug		Medical		Prescription Drug	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
65	\$33.80	\$31.88	\$227.84	\$214.90	\$362.46	\$341.88	\$227.84	\$214.90
70	\$36.82	\$35.63	\$248.19	\$240.16	\$394.86	\$382.08	\$248.19	\$240.16
75	\$39.54	\$38.59	\$266.56	\$260.11	\$424.08	\$413.81	\$266.56	\$260.11
80	\$41.52	\$40.79	\$279.84	\$274.95	\$445.20	\$437.42	\$279.84	\$274.95
85	\$41.82	\$42.31	\$281.87	\$285.19	\$448.44	\$453.72	\$281.87	\$285.19
90	\$41.04	\$42.73	\$276.66	\$288.06	\$440.13	\$458.27	\$276.66	\$288.06

*Blended per-capita medical claims for retirees who are enrolled in either the fully-insured Medicare Advantage plan or the self-insured Alternative and Part A Only options.

Baseline Costs for Children Calendar Year 2025

Medical		Prescription Drug	
Medicare	Non-Medicare	Medicare	Non-Medicare
\$9.50	\$310.17	\$437.14	\$103.39

SECTION H

SUMMARY OF PARTICIPANT DATA

Summary of Participant Data

Counts of Retirees and Beneficiaries by Age as of August 31, 2023

Age	Retirees	Survivors	Spouses	Children	Total
Under 25	0	25	3	5,528	5,556
25-29	0	10	0	1,169	1,179
30-34	2	3	2	109	116
35-39	17	7	8	140	172
40-44	58	9	27	100	194
45-49	142	18	76	64	300
50-54	2,493	54	470	33	3,050
55-59	12,054	127	1,549	27	13,757
60-64	28,994	346	4,913	6	34,259
65-69	30,650	501	3,881	7	35,039
70-74	37,138	821	4,907	2	42,868
75-79	32,897	1,085	5,032	1	39,015
80-84	19,998	1,140	3,011	1	24,150
85-89	10,624	1,032	1,274	0	12,930
90-94	4,569	534	267	0	5,370
95-99	1,253	155	29	0	1,437
100 and over	159	20	1	0	180
Total	181,048	5,887	25,450	7,187	219,572

Counts of Terminated Vested Participants by Age as of August 31, 2023

Age	Total
Under 35	0
35-39	153
40-44	1,638
45-49	2,897
50-54	3,816
55-59	3,386
60-64	2,300
65 and over	1,086
Total	15,276

The total OPEB liability as of August 31, 2024 was based on a roll forward of the August 31, 2023 valuation.



**Counts of Active Members by Age and by Years of Service
As of August 31, 2023**

Attained Age	Years of Credited Service											Total	
	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35 +		
Under 25	14,128	6,039	1,596	705	259								22,727
25-29	16,973	16,255	12,617	10,459	14,370	78							70,752
30-34	11,997	9,672	7,188	7,951	40,903	9,210	70						86,991
35-39	10,578	7,960	5,539	6,203	28,209	29,189	8,059	52					95,789
40-44	9,415	6,945	4,813	5,710	24,329	20,198	29,241	6,332	71				107,054
45-49	7,402	5,510	3,817	4,680	20,473	15,564	19,939	22,392	5,251	51			105,079
50-54	6,147	4,729	3,406	3,928	17,771	14,729	17,630	16,858	18,176	3,204	30		106,608
55-59	4,734	3,634	2,442	3,047	13,140	11,010	14,422	12,763	8,735	7,288	1,220		82,435
60-64	3,403	2,508	1,658	2,139	9,665	7,805	10,412	8,415	6,018	3,334	2,685		58,042
65 +	2,701	1,890	1,244	1,665	7,027	5,209	5,373	4,579	3,539	2,315	2,149		37,691
Total	87,478	65,142	44,320	46,487	176,146	112,992	105,146	71,391	41,790	16,192	6,084		773,168

The total OPEB liability as of August 31, 2024 was based on a roll forward of the August 31, 2023 valuation.

SECTION I

VALUATION METHODS AND ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS

Valuation Methods and Actuarial Assumptions

Valuation Methods

Actuarial Cost Method – Normal cost and the allocation of benefit values between service rendered before and after the valuation date were determined using the **Individual Entry Age Normal Actuarial Cost Method** having the following characteristics:

- (i) the annual normal cost for each individual active member, payable from the date of employment to the date of retirement, is sufficient to accumulate the value of the member's benefit at the time of retirement; and
- (ii) each annual normal cost is a constant percentage of the member's year by year projected covered pay.

Actuarial gains/(losses), as they occur, reduce/(increase) the Net OPEB Liability.

Actuarial Assumptions

This actuarial valuation of the OPEB offered through TRS-Care is similar to the actuarial valuations performed for the Teacher Retirement System of Texas, except that the OPEB valuation is more complex. All the demographic assumptions (rates of retirement, termination, and disability) and most of the economic assumptions (general inflation and salary increases) used in this OPEB Valuation were identical to those used in the respective TRS valuation. Since the assumptions were based upon a recent actuarial experience study and they were reasonable for this OPEB Valuation, they were employed in this report.

The following assumptions used for members of TRS are identical to the assumptions employed in the August 31, 2023 TRS annual actuarial valuation:

- Rates of Mortality
- Rates of Retirement
- Rates of Termination
- Rates of Disability Incidence
- General Inflation
- Wage Inflation
- Salary Increases

Economic Assumptions

The discount rate assumption was 3.87% as of the reporting date.

Health Care Trend Assumptions

Health cost increases are displayed in the following table:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pre-65 Medical</i>	<i>Post-65 Medical</i>	<i>Rx</i>	<i>Pre-65 Retiree Premiums</i>	<i>Post-65 Retiree Premiums</i>
2026	6.75%	52.45%*	7.25%	6.85%	12.00%
2027	6.50%	6.75%	6.75%	6.55%	6.75%
2028	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%
2029	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%	6.05%	6.05%
2030	5.75%	5.75%	5.75%	5.75%	5.75%
2031	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.55%	5.55%
2032	5.25%	5.25%	5.25%	5.25%	5.25%
2033	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.05%	5.05%
2034	4.75%	4.75%	4.75%	4.75%	4.75%
2035	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%
2036	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%
2037 & Beyond	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%

Baseline claims were developed for calendar year 2025. Trend increases are assumed to occur January 1 of each year beginning January 1, 2026. Trend for retiree premiums is based on weighting of medical and Rx trend. Short-term trend is based on expectations of GRS healthcare actuaries and TRS staff. The ultimate trend assumption of 4.25% is based on 2.30% inflation assumption plus 1.95% long-term real GDP growth.

*The 52.45% increase in 2026 is due to the expected growth of the fully-insured Medicare Advantage premiums, which are currently very low dollar amounts.

Aging Factors

In any given year, the cost of medical and pharmacy benefits varies by age. As the ages of employees and retirees in the covered population increase so does the cost of benefits. Morbidity tables are employed to develop Per Capita Costs at every relevant age. The following table represents the percent by which the cost of benefits for non-disabled lives at one age is higher than the cost for the previous age. For example, according to the following table, the cost of benefits for a male age 55 is 5.50% higher than for one age 54. As discussed previously, disabled lives exhibited minimal variation by age and sex. These percentages below are separate from the annual Health Care Trend, which operates to increase costs independent of and in addition to the Aging Factors shown below. The aging factors are from the Society of Actuaries' 2013 Study "Health Care Costs – From Birth to Death".

Sample Ages	Cost Increase by Age			
	Medical		Rx	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
45	4.66%	1.88%	4.66%	1.88%
50	5.83%	3.53%	5.83%	3.53%
55	5.50%	2.85%	5.50%	2.85%
60	5.06%	3.45%	5.06%	3.45%
65	3.34%	3.28%	3.34%	3.28%
70	1.77%	2.02%	1.77%	2.02%
75	1.15%	1.32%	1.15%	1.32%
80	0.82%	1.05%	0.82%	1.05%
85	-0.27%	0.49%	-0.27%	0.49%
90	-0.32%	0.03%	-0.32%	0.03%

Election Percentages

Normal Retirement: It was assumed that 62% of members retiring prior to attainment of age 65 and 25% of members retiring after attainment of age 65 would choose to receive retiree health care benefits. 30% of pre-65 retirees were assumed to discontinue their coverage at age 65.

Disability Retirement: It was assumed that 100% of members retiring through disability retirement would choose to receive retiree health care benefits.

Death while Active: It was assumed that 15% of the eligible spouses of employees who die while actively employed would choose to receive retiree health care benefits.

Two-Person Coverage: Of those assumed to elect coverage, 15% were assumed to elect two-person coverage, if eligible. For those that elect two-person coverage, it was assumed that coverage would continue to the spouse upon death of the retiree, if eligible.

Benefit Election of Vested Terminated Members

Vested terminated members were assumed to commence their retirement at the earliest age the member is eligible for unreduced retirement. The assumed rates of participation and two-person coverage were the same as those used for Normal Retirement. Because vested terminated members with less than 15 years of coverage would need to delay their retirement past the age of 65 in order to be eligible for TRS-Care, only vested terminated members with at least 15 years of service are assumed to participate in TRS-Care.

Medicare Part D Reimbursements

Medicare eligible members participate in an Employer Group Waiver Plan (EGWP) with a “Wrap” feature. The key components which are expected to reduce costs include:

1. Under a standard or model Medicare Part D program, a member is responsible for 100 percent of the prescription costs from the initial coverage limit to the catastrophic coverage limit. This coverage gap is also known as the “donut hole”. The discount is also applied to the member’s true out of pocket costs which allows federal catastrophic coverage to be reached sooner. The “donut hole” coverage gap is reduced incrementally between 2011 and 2020.
2. As the coverage gap diminishes, the sponsor’s “Wrap” supplemental benefits within the “donut hole” decreases.
3. Federal prescription drug subsidies must be used to reduce the cost of providing benefits to Medicare eligible members, resulting in lower premium rates. This feature allows the sponsor to reflect certain EGWP-Wrap savings in the GASB 75 valuation.

In order to reflect the substantive plan, the age-rated prescription drug claims shown in Section G are net of EGWP related reimbursements. Per paragraph B47 from Appendix B of GASB Statement No. 75, “In contrast, the Board concluded that Medicare benefits that an employer is providing as a conduit for the federal government, such as through an Employer Group Waiver Plan in which eligible employees are enrolled in Medicare Part D, are not part of the substantive OPEB plan offered by the employer because the federal government is primarily responsible for and has assumed the risks associated with providing the benefits.” By adjusting the claims downward by the EGWP related reimbursements, the projected future benefits reflect the risks borne by TRS-Care.

Miscellaneous and Technical Assumptions

Administrative Expenses	Third party administrative expenses related to the delivery of health care benefits are included in the age-adjusted claims discussed in Section G.
Rx Rebates	The age-rated prescription drug claims shown in Section G are net of expected pharmaceutical manufacturer rebates.
Pay Increase Timing	Beginning of (fiscal year). This is equivalent to assuming that reported pays represent amounts paid to members during the year ended on the valuation date.
Decrement Timing	Retirement decrements are assumed to occur 9 months after the valuation date. Termination decrements are assumed to occur at the beginning of the year. All other decrements are assumed to occur mid-year.
Decrement Operation	Disability is added to the retirement decrement during retirement eligibility. The withdrawal decrement ends at normal retirement eligibility.
Eligibility Testing	Eligibility for benefits is determined based upon the age nearest birthday and service nearest whole year on the date the decrement is assumed to occur.
Spousal Age Difference	Male spouses are assumed to be three years older than female spouses.
Medicare Coverage	90% of members hired before 1986 and 100% of members hired after 1986 were assumed to be eligible for Medicare on attainment of age 65. All future disabled retirees were assumed to be eligible for Medicare at age 65. For disabled retirees who are younger than 65, 25% were assumed to be eligible for Medicare coverage at time of disability.
Experience Studies	<p>The demographic assumptions were based on the experience study performed for the Teachers Retirement System of Texas for the period ending August 31, 2021.</p> <p>The OPEB specific assumptions (health care trend, plan participation, etc.) are reviewed during each OPEB valuation and updated as needed.</p>

Assumption Changes and Plan Experience

Assumption, Method, and Plan Changes

1. The discount rate changed from 4.13% as of August 31, 2023 to 3.87% as of August 31, 2024. This change increased the Total OPEB Liability.
2. The tables used to model the impact of aging on the underlying claims were updated based on the Society of Actuaries' 2013 Study "Health Care Costs – From Birth to Death". This change increased the Total OPEB Liability.

Difference Between Expected and Actual Experience

The primary driver of the \$5.8 billion experience loss was the lowering of Medicare retiree premiums, which shifted a greater share of the health care costs for Medicare-eligible retirees to TRS.

SECTION J

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Glossary of Terms

Accrued Service	Service credited under the system that was rendered before the date of the actuarial valuation.
Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)	The AAL is the difference between the actuarial present value of all benefits and the actuarial value of future normal costs. The definition comes from the fundamental equation of funding which states that the present value of all benefits is the sum of the Actuarial Accrued Liability and the present value of future normal costs. The AAL may also be referred to as "accrued liability" or "actuarial liability."
Actuarial Assumptions	These assumptions are estimates of future experience with respect to rates of mortality, disability, turnover, retirement, rate or rates of investment income and compensation increases. Actuarial assumptions are generally based on past experience, often modified for projected changes in conditions. Economic assumptions (compensation increases, payroll growth, inflation and investment return) consist of an underlying real rate of return plus an assumption for a long-term average rate of inflation.
Actuarial Cost Method	A mathematical budgeting procedure for allocating the dollar amount of the actuarial present value of the OPEB trust benefits between future normal cost and actuarial accrued liability. The actuarial cost method may also be referred to as the actuarial funding method.
Actuarial Equivalent	A single amount or series of amounts of equal actuarial value to another single amount or series of amounts, computed on the basis of appropriate actuarial assumptions.
Actuarial Gain/(Loss)	The difference in liabilities between actual experience and expected experience during the period between two actuarial valuations is the gain (loss) on the accrued liabilities.
Actuarial Present Value (APV)	The amount of funds currently required to provide a payment or series of payments in the future. The present value is determined by discounting future payments at predetermined rates of interest and probabilities of payment.
Actuarial Valuation	The actuarial valuation report determines, as of the actuarial valuation date, the service cost, total OPEB liability, and related actuarial present value of projected benefit payments for OPEB.
Actuarial Valuation Date	The date as of which an actuarial valuation is performed.

Glossary of Terms

Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) or Annual Required Contribution (ARC)	A calculated contribution into an OPEB plan for the reporting period, most often determined based on the funding policy of the plan. Typically the Actuarially Determined Contribution has a normal cost payment and an amortization payment.
Amortization Method	The method used to determine the periodic amortization payment may be a level dollar amount, or a level percent of pay amount. The period will typically be expressed in years, and the method will either be “open” (meaning, reset each year) or “closed” (the number of years remaining will decline each year).
Amortization Payment	The amortization payment is the periodic payment required to pay off an interest-discounted amount with payments of interest and principal.
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	Postemployment benefit changes intended to adjust benefit payments for the effects of inflation.
Cost-Sharing Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit OPEB Plan (cost-sharing OPEB plan)	A multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan in which the OPEB obligations to the employees of more than one employer are pooled and OPEB plan assets can be used to pay the benefits of the employees of any employer that provides benefits through the OPEB plan.
Covered-Employee Payroll	The payroll of employees that are provided with benefits through the OPEB plan.
Deferred Inflows and Outflows	The deferred inflows and outflows of OPEB resources are amounts used under GASB Statement No. 75 in developing the annual OPEB expense. Deferred inflows and outflows arise with differences between expected and actual experiences; changes of assumptions. The portion of these amounts not included in the OPEB expense should be included in the deferred inflows or outflows of resources.
Discount Rate	For GASB purposes, the discount rate is the single rate of return that results in the present value of all projected benefit payments to be equal to the sum of the funded and unfunded projected benefit payments, specifically: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The benefit payments to be made while the OPEB plans’ fiduciary net position is projected to be greater than the benefit payments that are projected to be made in the period; and2. The present value of the benefit payments not in (1) above, discounted using the municipal bond rate.

Glossary of Terms

Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method (EAN)

The EAN is a cost method for allocating the costs of the plan between the normal cost and the accrued liability. The actuarial present value of the projected benefits of each individual included in an actuarial valuation is allocated on a level basis (either level dollar or level percent of pay) over the earnings or service of the individual between entry age and assumed exit ages(s). The portion of the actuarial present value allocated to a valuation year is the normal cost. The portion of this actuarial present value not provided for at a valuation date by the actuarial present value of future normal costs is the actuarial accrued liability. The sum of the accrued liability plus the present value of all future normal costs is the present value of all benefits.

Fiduciary Net Position

The fiduciary net position is the market value of the assets of the trust dedicated to the defined benefit provisions.

GASB

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board is an organization that exists in order to promulgate accounting standards for governmental entities.

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term rate of return is the expected return to be earned over the entire trust portfolio based on the asset allocation of the portfolio.

Money-Weighted Rate of Return

The money-weighted rate of return is a method of calculating the returns that adjusts for the changing amounts actually invested. For purposes of GASB Statement No. 74, the money-weighted rate of return is calculated as the internal rate of return on OPEB plan investments, net of OPEB plan investment expense.

Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit OPEB Plan

A multiple-employer plan is a defined benefit OPEB plan that is used to provide OPEB payments to the employees of more than one employer.

Municipal Bond Rate

The Municipal Bond Rate is the discount rate to be used for those benefit payments that occur after the assets of the trust have been depleted.

Net OPEB Liability (NOL)

The NOL is the liability of employers and non-employer contributing entities to plan members for benefits provided through a defined benefit OPEB plan.

Non-Employer Contributing Entities

Non-employer contributing entities are entities that make contributions to an OPEB plan that is used to provide OPEB payments to the employees of other entities. For purposes of the GASB accounting statements, plan members are not considered non-employer contributing entities.

Glossary of Terms

Normal Cost	The portion of the actuarial present value allocated to a valuation year is called the normal cost. For purposes of application to the requirements of this Statement, the term normal cost is the equivalent of service cost.
Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)	All postemployment benefits other than retirement income (such as death benefits, life insurance, disability, and long-term care) that are provided separately from a pension plan, as well as postemployment healthcare benefits regardless of the manner in which they are provided. Other post-employment benefits do not include termination benefits.
Real Rate of Return	The real rate of return is the rate of return on an investment after adjustment to eliminate inflation.
Service Cost	The service cost is the portion of the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that is attributed to a valuation year.
Total OPEB Expense	The total OPEB expense is the sum of the following items that are recognized at the end of the employer's fiscal year: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Service Cost2. Interest on the Total OPEB Liability3. Current-Period Benefit Changes4. Employee Contributions (made negative for addition here)5. Projected Earnings on Plan Investments (made negative for addition here)6. OPEB Plan Administrative Expense7. Other Changes in Plan Fiduciary Net Position8. Recognition of Outflow (Inflow) of Resources due to Liabilities9. Recognition of Outflow (Inflow) of Resources due to Assets
Total OPEB Liability (TOL)	The TOL is the portion of the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that is attributed to past periods of member service.
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)	The UAAL is the difference between actuarial accrued liability and valuation assets.
Valuation Assets	The valuation assets are the assets used in determining the unfunded liability of the plan. For purposes of GASB Statement Nos. 74 and 75, the valuation assets are equal to the market value of assets.