

Wisconsin Retirement System Actuarial Overview and Projections Executive Summary

October 2015



Cabriel Roeder Smith & Company Consultants & Actuaries www.gabrielroeder.com

Today's Topics

- Wisconsin Retirement System Operation
- Wisconsin Retirement System Overview (assets, contributions, dividends)
- Actuarial Projection Summary





WRS OVERVIEW

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Covered Population at 12/31/2014

			Financial Inf	ormation
	Number	Total \$ Millions	Average	Туре
Retirees	185,605	\$ 4,489	\$ 24,185	Annual Benefit
Active Members	256,100	13,037	50,907	Annual Pay
Inactive Members	154,286	2,093	13,564	Money Purchase Balance
Total	595,991	_		

WRS Investment Funds

- Core Fund
 - Diversified Portfolio
 - 5 Year Smoothing through Market Recognition Account
- Variable Fund
 - Equity Portfolio
 - Marked to Market each year

WRS Benefits

- Hybrid Plan
 - Defined Benefit: 1.6% x FAC x Service (Most participants)
 - Not less than twice value of member account (A form of employer match)
- Adjustments are made to the above for members participating in Variable.

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WRS Contributions

- Four rate Groups: General, Executive, Protective with and without Social Security.
- Actuarial Valuation determines contributions by rate group.
- General and Executive participants split cost equally with employers.
- Protective participants pay the same rate as General participants and employers pay the difference.



WRS Accounts and Reserves

- **Retired Reserve:** Intended to hold exactly the right amount of money so that **IF**
 - each person lives exactly the right number of years,
 - **and** gets exactly the same benefit each year
 - **and** the reserve earns exactly 5% each year,
- **Then** the reserve will be exhausted the day the last person dies.

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Dividend Reserve

- Retirees share in investment gains, but also share in investment losses. Prior dividends can be reduced if less than 5% is credited to the Core Annuity Division.
- Only dividends can be reduced. The original core benefit is protected.
- The present value of the excess of total core benefits over original benefits is called the "Dividend Reserve", although there is no formal definition of such a reserve.

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Dividend Reserve

- A positive dividend reserve means that retirees are getting some inflation protection, but also provides a means by which the effect of investment losses on employer rates can be dampened.
- A \$0 dividend reserve means that retirees have lost all inflation protection and one of the shock absorbers on employer rates is gone.

Dividend Reserve Depletion

- The probability of such an event is low. Even 2008 did not produce depletion.
- But low is not zero, and there are people who believe the stock market is currently in a bubble.
- The following slides explore in general terms what a deficit in the retiree reserve means for the System.



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Dividend Reserve Depletion: Liability Attributable to Dividends

Valuation	Liability for Dividend Remaining (billions)	Liability for Dividend Adjustment (billions)
12/31/2009	\$8.1	\$(0.4)
12/31/2010	7.2	(0.3)
12/31/2011	6.4	(1.7)
12/31/2012	4.5	(1.3)
12/31/2013	3.0	2.0
12/31/2014	4.6	1.3
12/31/2015(est)	5.7	

- Liability for Dividend Remaining represents the value of all previously granted dividends
- If another market event similar to 2008 were to occur again, the complete depletion of the dividend would become a real possibility



WRS PROJECTIONS

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Study Objectives

- Review emerging demographic trends
- Perform stochastic projections
- Perform various deterministic projections
- Evaluate worst case scenarios
- Investigate probability of depleting the dividend reserve
- Investigate probable range of contribution rates

Present & Future Actives



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Projected Core Trust Fund Assets (\$Billions) 2014 2019 2024 2029 2034 2039 2044 2049 2054 2059 2064 Year ■ 2014 Dollars Portion Due to Inflation

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Projected Net External Cash Flow* Valuation Assumptions

		% of	% of
Year	\$ (Millions)	Assets	Payroll
2015	\$ (2,557)	(3.1)%	(18.9)%
2025	(4,828)	(4.0)%	(25.6)%
2035	(7,015)	(4.4)%	(26.6)%
2045	(8,460)	(4.0)%	(23.0)%
2055	(11,185)	(3.9)%	(22.2)%
2065	(15,195)	(3.9)%	(22.0)%

*Contribution income minus benefit payout.

Projected Contributions and Benefits as a % of Active Payroll



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Monte Carlo Simulations

- Based on 10,000 random trials
- Valuation Assumptions held constant
- Assumes seven sets of expected return/standard deviations
 - Scenario 1 5.0%/9.3% Scenario 2 - 6.0%/11.9% Scenario 3 - 7.0%/15.9% Scenario 4 - 7.2%/16.8% Scenario 5 - 8.0%/20.6% Scenario 6 - 9.0%/25.9% Scenario 7 - 10.0%/32.3%

Current Allocation

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Contribution as a % of Payroll Scenario 2 – 6.0%ER,11.9%SD 20% Percentile 15% ■ 5th-25th ■ 25th-50th □ 50th-75th ■ 75th-95th 10% 5% 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025

 Sth Percentile
 13.9%
 13.6%
 14.0%
 14.4%
 14.9%
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 16.4%
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 17.2%
 17.3%

 25th Percentile
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 14.2%
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 75th Percentile
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 13.6%
 13.4%
 12.8%
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 12.7%
 12.9%
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 95th Percentile
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 13.1%
 12.4%
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 10.6%
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 10.6%
 10.6%

Year

23

Dividend Rates Scenario 2 – 6.0%ER,11.9%SD



Contribution rate summary under alternate scenarios - median



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Dividend rate summary under alternate scenarios - median



Discussion of Dividend

Probability that Dividend will be Depleted by Year

		Expected	Standard		_	Year		
		ROR	Deviation	1	5	10	20	50
	1	5.0%	9.3%	0.0%	4.3%	11.4%	18.3%	30.5%
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	0.0%	7.9%	11.1%	8.3%	3.2%
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	0.0%	12.0%	12.2%	6.1%	0.8%
	4	7.2%	16.8%	0.0%	12.8%	12.6%	6.0%	0.7%
	5	8.0%	20.6%	0.1%	15.9%	14.0%	5.9%	0.5%
	6	9.0%	25.9%	0.4%	19.7%	16.4%	6.8%	0.5%
	7	10.0%	32.3%	1.4%	23.2%	19.7%	8.7%	0.8%

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Discussion of Dividend

Probability of Negative Dividend by Year

		Expected	Standard			Year		
		ROR	Deviation	1	5	10	20	50
	1	5.0%	9.3%	7.9%	50.2%	56.0%	54.9%	54.4%
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	13.8%	40.6%	34.0%	30.1%	30.1%
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	18.9%	36.6%	24.6%	19.8%	20.5%
	4	7.2%	16.8%	19.8%	36.1%	23.4%	18.9%	19.5%
	5	8.0%	20.6%	23.5%	35.2%	20.9%	16.1%	16.8%
	6	9.0%	25.9%	26.7%	35.4%	19.5%	14.8%	15.5%
	7	10.0%	32.3%	29.6%	36.6%	20.0%	15.0%	16.0%

Discussion of Dividend

Worst Case Scenario of Cumulative Dividend Percent (% of Floor Benefit that is funded)

		Expected	Standard	Year							
		ROR	Deviation	1	5	10	20	50			
	1	5.0%	9.3%	109%	93%	85%	80%	68%			
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	109%	86%	79%	81%	86%			
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	107%	77%	72%	78%	105%			
	4	7.2%	16.8%	106%	75%	70%	77%	108%			
	5	8.0%	20.6%	105%	66%	61%	72%	118%			
	6	9.0%	25.9%	102%	54%	49%	62%	124%			
	7	10.0%	32.3%	99%	40%	34%	46%	115%			

Worst Case Scenario based on 1st Percentile (i.e. 1% probability)

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Dividend Observations

- The low risk scenarios are actually risky in the sense that, for example, 5% expected return has much higher chance of dividend depletion in later years than higher risk scenarios
- Must balance short and long term volatility
- Consider probability of dividend depletion
- Consider level of worst case scenario that is acceptable

Combination of all Scenarios

					_			Worst Case				
				Sharpe	Leverage	Cont	ribution 1	Rates	Div	idend Ra	ntes	Retiree FS
		ROR	StdDev	Ratio	Ratio	Better	Median	Worse	Better	Median	Worse	
	1	5.0%	9.3%	0.48	1.00	12.6%	15.0%	17.1%	1.8%	-0.2%	-2.3%	68% in year 50
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	0.46	1.03	10.6%	14.3%	17.3%	3.6%	0.8%	-2.2%	79% in year 10
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	0.40	1.38	8.3%	13.6%	17.6%	5.5%	1.7%	-2.2%	72% in year 10
	4	7.2%	16.8%	0.40	1.46	7.7%	13.5%	17.7%	5.9%	1.9%	-2.2%	70% in year 10
	5	8.0%	20.6%	0.36	1.78	5.5%	12.9%	18.2%	7.6%	2.6%	-2.5%	61% in year 10
	6	9.0%	25.9%	0.33	2.25	2.1%	12.3%	19.0%	9.8%	3.5%	-2.9%	49% in year 10
	7	10.0%	32.3%	0.29	2.80	0.0%	11.8%	20.8%	12.2%	4.3%	-3.7%	34% in year 10

At least with respect to the 2025 outcome, there is a much narrower range on the worse results than on the better results, indicating a potential justification for risk above the minimum illustrated. After scenario 4, the worse results degrade at a high rate. Also the worst case scenario for the retiree dividend pool fall below 70% for scenarios 1, 5, 6 and 7. So do 2, 3, and 4 comprise a "Goldilocks Zone?"

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2015 Observations

- 2013 and 2014 results helped rebuild the dividend base somewhat
- 2015 investment results might reduce some of that cushion depending on measured return at December 31
- High expected return/volatility scenarios appear to result in nearer term dividend risk
- Low expected return/volatility scenarios appear to result in longer term dividend risk
- Target 'Goldilocks zone' that provides for positive return with appropriate downside protection





State of Wisconsin Investment Board

Wisconsin Retirement System 50-Year Actuarial Projection

October 2015



Gabriel Roeder Smith & Company Consultants & Actuaries www.gabrielroeder.com

Introduction

August SWIB meeting

- Actuarial overview of WRS
 - Focus: role of investment return in System operation (contribution rates, dividends)
- October SWIB meeting
- Focus: Use stochastic projections to
 - Evaluate worst case scenarios
 - Investigate probability of depleting the dividend reserve
 - Investigate probable range of contribution rates

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Study Objectives

- Review emerging demographic trends
- Perform stochastic projections
- Perform various deterministic projections
- Evaluate worst case scenarios
- Investigate probability of depleting the dividend reserve
- Investigate probable range of contribution rates





Present & Future Actives







- In nominal terms, assets will increase by a factor of 4.7 during the projection period
- In real terms, assets need to grow a little to cover the peak of the baby boom retirements
- They *may* decline slightly after that



Maturing pension plans (like WRS) accumulate substantial assets relative to payroll

- Asset volatility increases dramatically for most plans
- Due to cost sharing nature of WRS, asset changes have been traditionally shared by:
 - Employees (through money purchase benefit)
 - Employers (through contributions)
 - Retirees (through dividends)
- WRS Market Recognition account serves to further filter asset experience

Projected Net External Cash Flow* Valuation Assumptions

		% of	% of
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2055	(11,185)	(3.9)%	(22.2)%
2065	(15,195)	(3.9)%	(22.0)%

*Contribution income minus benefit payout.

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Projected Contributions and Benefits as a % of Active Payroll



Comments

- Liquidity needs (i.e., contributions less benefits) increase to over 4% of fund assets
- Benefit payout peaks at about 40% of payroll more than 3 times the level of contribution income
- Benefits as % of payroll have increased more than expected primarily due to declines in active headcount and low wage inflation
- More than 2/3^{rds} of benefit payout will come from investment return





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 75th Percentile
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 95th Percentile
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Contribution as a % of Payroll Scenario 6 – 9.0%ER,25.9%SD

2021

2022

5.6% 4.2% 3.3%

2023

2024

2.7%

2020

Year

2025

2.1%

25

5%

2015

2016

2017

95th Percentile 13.9% 13.6% 12.5% 10.9% 9.3% 7.5%

2018

2019

 Sth Percentile
 13.6%
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 25th Percentile
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Contribution as a % of Payroll Scenario 7 – 10.0%ER,32.3%SD



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 18.4%
 19.8%
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 20.3%
 20.2%
 20.0%

 25th Percentile
 13.9%
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 15.7%
 16.0%
 16.0%
 16.0%
 15.8%

 Median
 13.9%
 13.6%
 13.5%
 13.1%
 12.9%
 12.8%
 12.6%
 12.5%
 12.3%
 12.1%
 11.8%

 75th Percentile
 13.9%
 13.6%
 12.0%
 11.1%
 10.1%
 9.1%
 8.5%
 8.0%
 7.5%
 6.9%

 95th Percentile
 13.9%
 13.6%
 12.2%
 10.3%
 8.1%
 5.7%
 3.2%
 1.2%
 -0.2%
 -1.2%
 -2.1%

Dividend Rates

Scenario 1 – 5.0%ER,9.3%SD



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Dividend Rates Scenario 2 – 6.0%ER,11.9%SD



Dividend Rates

Scenario 3 – 7.0%ER,15.9%SD



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Dividend Rates Scenario 4 – 7.2%ER,16.8%SD



Dividend Rates Scenario 5 – 8.0%ER,20.6%SD



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Dividend Rates Scenario 6 – 9.0%ER,25.9%SD



Dividend Rates

Scenario 7 – 10.0%ER,32.3%SD



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Contribution rate summary under alternate scenarios - median



Dividend rate summary under alternate scenarios - median



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Comments on Monte Carlo Simulations

- Based on normal market fluctuations, there is a wide range of probable outcomes – even if the long-term average rate of return is exactly as assumed
- Market returns of last decade have been volatile asset returns my not be normally distributed.
- Maturing plans such as WRS are increasingly exposed to the effects of market volatility.
- The unique benefit structure of WRS enables it to deal with volatility to an extent not feasible in most public sector retirement systems.

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Dividend Discussion

- As of December 31, 2014, the total retiree liability was about \$47.1 billion.
- Of the \$47.1 billion, about \$4.6 billion (or 11%) is attributable to dividends with the remaining \$42.5 billion attributable to the current floor benefit.
- While retirees cannot fall below the floor benefit, it is possible the asset pool could fall below this level.
- Returns above 5% will help increase the 11% dividend pool and returns below 5% will erode it.
- Dividend erosion is not uniform people who retired a long time ago lose a larger share of their current benefit than more recent retirees

Discussion of Dividend

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Discussion of Dividend

Probability that Dividend will be Depleted by Year

		Expected	Standard	Year							
		ROR	Deviation	1	5	10	20	50			
	1	5.0%	9.3%	0.0%	4.3%	11.4%	18.3%	30.5%			
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	0.0%	7.9%	11.1%	8.3%	3.2%			
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	0.0%	12.0%	12.2%	6.1%	0.8%			
	4	7.2%	16.8%	0.0%	12.8%	12.6%	6.0%	0.7%			
	5	8.0%	20.6%	0.1%	15.9%	14.0%	5.9%	0.5%			
	6	9.0%	25.9%	0.4%	19.7%	16.4%	6.8%	0.5%			
	7	10.0%	32.3%	1.4%	23.2%	19.7%	8.7%	0.8%			

Discussion of Dividend

		Expected	Standard			Year		
		ROR	Deviation	1	5	10	20	50
	1	5.0%	9.3%	7.9%	50.2%	56.0%	54.9%	54.4%
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	13.8%	40.6%	34.0%	30.1%	30.1%
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	18.9%	36.6%	24.6%	19.8%	20.5%
	4	7.2%	16.8%	19.8%	36.1%	23.4%	18.9%	19.5%
	5	8.0%	20.6%	23.5%	35.2%	20.9%	16.1%	16.8%
	6	9.0%	25.9%	26.7%	35.4%	19.5%	14.8%	15.5%
	7	10.0%	32.3%	29.6%	36.6%	20.0%	15.0%	16.0%

Probability of Negative Dividend by Year

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Discussion of Dividend

Worst Case Scenario of Cumulative Dividend Percent (% of Floor Benefit that is funded)

		Expected	Standard	Year							
		ROR	Deviation	1	5	10	20	50			
	1	5.0%	9.3%	109%	93%	85%	80%	68%			
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	109%	86%	79%	81%	86%			
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	107%	77%	72%	78%	105%			
	4	7.2%	16.8%	106%	75%	70%	77%	108%			
	5	8.0%	20.6%	105%	66%	61%	72%	118%			
	6	9.0%	25.9%	102%	54%	49%	62%	124%			
	7	10.0%	32.3%	99%	40%	34%	46%	115%			

Worst Case Scenario based on 1st Percentile (i.e. 1% probability)

Dividend Observations

- The low risk scenarios are actually risky in the sense that, for example, 5% expected return has much higher chance of dividend depletion in later years than higher risk scenarios
- Must balance short and long term volatility
- Consider probability of dividend depletion
- Consider level of worst case scenario that is acceptable

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Combination of all Scenarios

								Worst Case				
				Sharpe Leverage		Cont	ribution l	Rates	Dividend Rates			Retiree FS
		ROR	StdDev	Ratio	Ratio	Better	Median	Worse	Better	Median	Worse	
	1	5.0%	9.3%	0.48	1.00	12.6%	15.0%	17.1%	1.8%	-0.2%	-2.3%	68% in year 50
Current	2	6.0%	11.9%	0.46	1.03	10.6%	14.3%	17.3%	3.6%	0.8%	-2.2%	79% in year 10
Allocation	3	7.0%	15.9%	0.40	1.38	8.3%	13.6%	17.6%	5.5%	1.7%	-2.2%	72% in year 10
	4	7.2%	16.8%	0.40	1.46	7.7%	13.5%	17.7%	5.9%	1.9%	-2.2%	70% in year 10
	5	8.0%	20.6%	0.36	1.78	5.5%	12.9%	18.2%	7.6%	2.6%	-2.5%	61% in year 10
	6	9.0%	25.9%	0.33	2.25	2.1%	12.3%	19.0%	9.8%	3.5%	-2.9%	49% in year 10
	7	10.0%	32.3%	0.29	2.80	0.0%	11.8%	20.8%	12.2%	4.3%	-3.7%	34% in year 10

At least with respect to the 2025 outcome, there is a much narrower range on the worse results than on the better results, indicating a potential justification for risk above the minimum illustrated. After scenario 4, the worse results degrade at a high rate. Also the worst case scenario for the retiree dividend pool fall below 70% for scenarios 1, 5, 6 and 7. So do 2, 3, and 4 comprise a "Goldilocks Zone?"

2013 Observations

- WRS is still a maturing system
- Dividend base for retirees has declined rapidly and is very close to being depleted
- 2013 and 2014 are pivotal years to rebuild the dividend base to a broader cohort of retirees
- Few systems can withstand another '2008' market year in the near future without large increases in contributions
- Continue to investigate strategies to reduce downside risk – may involve a statutory change

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2015 Observations

- 2013 and 2014 results helped rebuild the dividend base somewhat
- 2015 investment results might reduce some of that cushion depending on measured return at December 31
- High expected return/volatility scenarios appear to result in nearer term dividend risk
- Low expected return/volatility scenarios appear to result in longer term dividend risk
- Target 'Goldilocks zone' that provides for positive return with appropriate downside protection



Present & Future Actives

Year by Year results

Year	Present Actives	Future Actives	Year	Present Actives	Future Actives
2014	256,100	-	2039	33,616	222,484
2015	236,966	19,134	2040	29,437	226,663
2016	221,275	34,825	2041	25,495	230,605
2017	207,222	48,878	2042	21,768	234,332
2018	194,271	61,829	2043	18,248	237,852
2019	182,137	73,963	2044	14,952	241,148
2020	170,707	85,393	2045	12,060	244,040
2021	159,888	96,212	2046	9,566	246,534
2022	149,629	106,471	2047	7,474	248,626
2023	139,905	116,195	2048	5,769	250,331
2024	130,676	125,424	2049	4,417	251,683
2025	121,838	134,262	2050	3,360	252,740
2026	113,380	142,720	2051	2,534	253,566
2027	105,305	150,795	2052	1,893	254,207
2028	97,603	158,497	2053	1,406	254,694
2029	90,257	165,843	2054	1,038	255,062
2030	83,275	172,825	2055	763	255,337
2031	76,621	179,479	2056	558	255,542
2032	70,255	185,845	2057	406	255,694
2033	64,217	191,883	2058	295	255,805
2034	58,462	197,638	2059	213	255,887
2035	52,969	203,131	2060	150	255,950
2036	47,746	208,354	2061	104	255,996
2037	42,781	213,319	2062	70	256,030
2038	38,067	218,033	2063	46	256,054

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Retiree Population – Present and Future Year by Year Results

	Present	Future from	Future from		Present	Future from	Future from	
Year	Retirees	Deferred	Actives	Year	Retirees	Deferred	Actives	
2014	185,605	-	-	2039	46,543	104,581	176,576	
2015	175,108	17,031	8,890	2040	41,159	105,140	180,927	
2016	169,893	20,754	17,396	2041	36,049	105,553	185,074	
2017	164,850	24,677	26,011	2042	31,256	105,695	189,113	
2018	159,906	28,969	34,646	2043	26,818	105,605	193,002	
2019	155,027	33,195	43,289	2044	22,769	105,196	196,764	
2020	150,296	37,541	51,828	2045	19,130	104,329	200,405	
2021	145,613	42,367	60,220	2046	15,907	103,154	203,851	
2022	140,962	47,078	68,432	2047	13,097	101,392	207,106	
2023	136,228	52,157	76,424	2048	10,681	99,378	210,150	
2024	131,365	57,626	84,182	2049	8,633	97,151	213,032	
2025	126,379	62,820	91,722	2050	6,917	94,561	215,757	
2026	121,266	67,653	99,108	2051	5,498	91,669	218,276	
2027	116,027	72,286	106,310	2052	4,339	88,448	220,639	
2028	110,659	76,449	113,323	2053	3,402	84,877	222,842	
2029	105,150	80,286	120,149	2054	2,656	80,955	224,922	
2030	99,504	83,892	126,747	2055	2,067	76,736	226,858	
2031	93,735	87,251	133,159	2056	1,606	72,370	228,659	
2032	87,859	90,489	139,364	2057	1,249	67,967	230,323	
2033	81,899	93,457	145,330	2058	974	63,587	231,860	
2034	75,888	96,497	151,099	2059	762	59,265	233,284	
2035	69,863	98,999	156,726	2060	599	55,030	234,596	
2036	63,867	100,813	162,079	2061	474	50,917	235,794	
2037	57,947	102,236	167,132	2062	378	46,936	236,883	
2038	52,156	103,592	171,945	2063	304	43,094	237,863	



Dividend Reserve Depletion – What to Do?

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Approach	Theory	Impact on Dividends	Who Bears Cost?			
Do Nothing	"Short Term" deficit will be made up by future Investment Return > 5%	No dividends paid until the "deficit" has been filled	Current and near retirees			
Let Depletion Flow Through EAR	Fully fund retiree reserve with special reserve transfer, paid over EAR financing period	Dividends may resume very quickly	Participants and employers			
Special Amortization	Amortize deficit over 5 years, charge interest at 5% credit (retiree reserve earnings) > 5%	No dividends paid until the "deficit" has been filled	Participants and employers			

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Unfunded Dividend Analysis

Do Nothing

- This course of action assumes that the deficit is a short-term phenomenon that will be made up by investment gains above 5% in the future.
- No dividends would be paid until the "deficit" has been filled.
- This method applies the full cost of the loss to present and near-term future retirees.
- Of course, the conditions that produced the deficit probably affected employer and participant contributions anyway.

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Let It Flow Through the EAR

- This method fully funds the retiree reserve with a special reserve transfer.
- The deficit is thereby transferred to the active reserves and is financed over the EAR financing period.
- The method transfers almost the entire cost of the deficit to participants and employers.
- Dividends might resume very rapidly in such a circumstance, perhaps even the next year.



- Set up a 5-year amortization of the deficit.
- Will affect both participant and employer rates.
- Charge the deficit with 5% interest.
- Credit the deficit with employer and participant amortization contributions and earnings on the retiree reserve above 5%.
- No dividends paid until deficit is paid off.
- This method shifts a portion, but not all of the cost back to employers and active participants.

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Deficit Analysis

- Suppose the retiree core fund initially has \$40 billion in assets and liabilities and
- The entire dividend reserve has previously been used up and
- At the end of the year the fund has \$36 billion in assets and \$40 billion in liabilities and
- Going forward all assets earn 7.2%
- How long will it take the assets to catch back up to the liabilities?

Deficit Analysis

- In this case, the fund would have \$36 billion in assets earnings 7.2% each year, 2.2% more than required interest.
- So, an annual payment of 2.2% x \$36 billion, which is \$720 Million, could be applied to the \$4 billion deficit.
- Of course, the deficit is also a debt bearing interest at 5%.
- The payoff schedule looks like this.

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Deficit Payoff Schedule

Year	Beginning Balance	Interest (5%)	Payment	Ending Balance
1	\$ 4,000	\$ 200	\$ 792	\$ 3,408
2	3,408	170	792	2,786
3	2,786	139	792	2,134
4	2,134	107	792	1,448
5	1,448	72	792	729
6	729	36	792	(27)

In this example, the deficit would be extinguished during the sixth year

Discussion
The payoff schedule is perhaps oversimplified.
It assumes that reserve transfers and regular interest on the existing reserve assets covers benefit payments from the reserve.
But for deficits on the order of 10%, it might not be too far off.

More Discussion

- If there were a 25% deficit, a similar calculation would suggest potential payoff in 30 years.
- That might be true, but the assumptions become questionable over such a time horizon.
- More sophisticated modeling would be required to provide a reliable answer.

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