

*A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota*

2011

# Comprehensive Annual Financial Report



Teachers  
Retirement  
Association

for fiscal year ended June 30, 2011



Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota

# Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

*for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011*

Retirement Systems of Minnesota Building  
60 Empire Drive  
Suite 400  
Saint Paul, MN 55103-4000  
651.296.2409  
800.657.3669  
TTY 800.627.3529  
[www.minnesotatra.org](http://www.minnesotatra.org)

**Laurie Fiori Hacking**  
**Executive Director**



# Table of Contents

---

## Introduction

GFOA Certificate of Achievement Award .....	1
PPCC Recognition Award .....	2
Letter of Transmittal .....	3
Board of Trustees and Administrative Staff .....	8
Administrative Organization .....	9
Mission Statement and Our Values .....	10

## Financial Section

Auditor's Report .....	12
Management Discussion and Analysis .....	14
Basic Financial Statements	
Statement of Plan Net Assets .....	18
Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets .....	19
Notes to the Financial Statements (an integral part of the financial statements) .....	20
Required Supplementary Information	
Schedule of Funding Progress .....	35
Schedule of Contributions from the Employer and Other Contributing Entities ...	35
Supporting Schedules	
Administrative Expenses .....	38
Schedule of Professional Consultant Expenses ...	39

## Investments Section

State Board of Investment Letter .....	42
Investment Summary .....	44
Combined Funds	
Investment Performance .....	47
Performance of Asset Pools .....	47
Portfolio Distribution .....	48
List of Largest Assets Held .....	49
Schedule of Investment Management Expenses .....	50
Summary of Investments .....	52

## Actuarial Section

Actuary's Certification Letter .....	54
Summary of Actuarial Assumptions and Methods ....	56
Valuation Report Highlights .....	59

Actuary's Selected Commentary .....	60
Selected Tables from Actuarial Valuation .....	64
Solvency Test .....	73
Schedule of Active Member Valuation Data .....	73
Schedule of Retirees and Beneficiaries Added To and Removed From Retirement Rolls .....	74

## Statistical Section

Statistical Summary .....	76
10-Year History of Plan Net Assets .....	77
10-Year History of Contribution Rates .....	77
10-Year History of Changes in Plan Net Assets .....	78
10-Year History of Pension Assets vs. Pension Liabilities .....	78
10-Year History of Benefits and Refunds by Type ....	80
10-Year History of Benefit Recipients by Category .....	80
Schedule of Benefit Amounts Paid .....	82
Schedule of Benefit Recipients by Current Age .....	83
Benefit Recipients by Effective Date of Retirement .....	83
Schedule of New Retirees and Initial Benefit Paid ...	84
Schedule of Benefit Recipients by Type .....	85
Membership Data (with Average Annual Salary) .....	86
10-Year Summary of Membership .....	87
Principal Participating Employers .....	88
Number of Employer Units .....	90
Distribution of TRA Benefits, Mailing Address of Benefit Recipient .....	91
Annual Benefits for Minnesota Benefit Recipients by County .....	92
Projected Benefit Payments .....	94

## Plan Statement

Plan Statement .....	95
----------------------	----



# Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Presented to

## Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association

For its Comprehensive Annual  
Financial Report  
for the Fiscal Year Ended  
June 30, 2010

A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada to government units and public employee retirement systems whose comprehensive annual financial reports (CAFRs) achieve the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting.



*Linda C. Sandson*

President

*Jeffrey R. Emer*

Executive Director



Public Pension Coordinating Council

***Recognition Award for Administration  
2011***

Presented to

***Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association***

In recognition of meeting professional standards for  
plan administration as  
set forth in the Public Pension Standards.

*Presented by the Public Pension Coordinating Council, a confederation of*

National Association of State Retirement Administrators (NASRA)  
National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS)  
National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Alan H. Winkle'.

Alan H. Winkle  
Program Administrator





## Letter of Transmittal



Laurie Fiori Hacking  
Executive Director

December 30, 2011

Members of the Board of Trustees  
Teachers Retirement Association  
60 Empire Drive, Suite 400  
Saint Paul, MN 55103-4000

Dear Trustee:

We are pleased to present this Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of the Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, our 80<sup>th</sup> year of service.

TRA management has implemented a system of internal controls to monitor and safeguard assets, ensure transactions are carried out in accordance with Minnesota statutes, and promote efficient operations. Internal controls are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance regarding the safeguarding of assets against loss. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that a cost-benefit analysis requires estimates and judgments by management. All internal control evaluations occur within this framework.

The independent Office of the Legislative Auditor has issued an unqualified (clean) opinion on TRA's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2011. The independent auditor's report is located at the front of the financial section of this report. Management believes that the accompanying statements, schedules, and tables are fairly presented. We are solely responsible for the content of the report, including its financial statements, which should be useful in understanding information about TRA and comparing our operating results with those of other teacher retirement systems.

Readers are encouraged to refer to the Management Discussion and Analysis on pages 14-17 for an overview of additions to and deductions from the TRA Fund and additional financial reporting detail for the fiscal year.

### TRA Profile

As of June 30, 2011, TRA had 579 reporting units, 76,755 active members and a total of 53,537 retirees, survivors, beneficiaries, and disabilitants who were receiving monthly benefits.

Although the TRA Board of Trustees has a broad scope of authority in the operations and management of TRA, the pension fund is also governed by federal laws and state statutes. For financial reporting purposes, TRA is considered a pension trust fund of the State of Minnesota, and TRA financial results are incorporated into the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the State of Minnesota.

TRA follows the provisions of statements promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) including GASB Statement No. 25, Financial Reporting for Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Note Disclosures for Defined Contribution Plans. TRA's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report also complies with Minnesota Statutes, Section 356.20. Transactions are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Contributions from employers and members are recognized as revenue when earned. Expenses are recorded when corresponding liabilities are incurred, regardless of when payment is made.

We contract for actuarial services from the firm Cavanaugh Macdonald of Bellevue, Nebraska to prepare the annual actuarial valuation report. The Minnesota Office of the Attorney General provides legal counsel to the Board of Trustees. Most financial transactions, including disbursements from the pension fund, are processed through the centralized controls of the Minnesota Accounting and Procurement System (MAPS), under the statutory authority of the Department of Minnesota Management and Budget and the Department of Administration.

## Economic Condition

All TRA assets are invested under the authority and direction of the State Board of Investment (SBI). A listing of the pooled investments in the TRA Fund can be found on page 52. The SBI has developed strategic asset allocation and other investment policies to represent the long-term funding needs of our members and benefit recipients. The SBI, along with its Investment Advisory Council (IAC), continually reviews policies to ensure sufficient assets are available to finance benefits determined under statute. The executive directors of the three statewide retirement systems serve on the seventeen-member IAC and represent their members in advising the SBI on investment-related matters.

## Economic Outlook (from Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB))

Minnesota's economy continued outpacing the U.S. averages during fiscal year 2011. The state's June unemployment rate was 6.7 percent, 0.1 percent below last year's figure and 2.3 percent below the U.S. average. Minnesota's unemployment rate was ranked 12<sup>th</sup> among states at the end of fiscal year 2011. At the close of fiscal year 2011, Minnesota had regained 28 percent of 159,000 jobs lost in the state during the Great Recession.

Minnesota personal income grew by 6.7 percent during fiscal year 2011, considerably faster than the 3.4 percent growth observed during fiscal year 2010. Minnesota personal income also grew faster than the national average of 5.4 percent. Total wages also paid in the state during fiscal year 2011 (5.6 percent) also grew faster than the national average of 4.0 percent.

Minnesota's economy is expected to grow slightly faster in fiscal year 2012 than the U.S. economy. Personal income is expected to grow by 3.5 percent during the fiscal year, 0.8 percent larger than is forecast for the nation. Minnesota payroll employment is expected to grow by 34,000 jobs or 1.2 percent. The national forecast is for 0.8 percent growth.

The number of people who turned 65 in the year 2011 exceeded the number in 2010 by about 30 percent. Between 2010 and 2020, Minnesota will add 250,000 people 65 years and older. At the same time, the number of high school graduates, which peaked with the class of 2008, will decline through the middle of the decade. With more retirees and fewer young people to enter the workforce, labor force growth will slow throughout the decade. Total hours worked will slow even more, as a larger share of the workforce will become older, part-time workers. Slower growth in the overall labor force will put downward pressure on economic growth and government revenues and reduce the number of new jobs needed to cover natural growth in the labor force.

The demographic shifts occurring in Minnesota have a direct impact on Minnesota's economy and budget. Over the long-term, the aging of the population puts upward pressure on health care and long-term care costs. The correlation between Minnesota's demographics and the state's economy and budget cannot be understated.

## Investment Results

The U.S. stock market, as measured by the Russell 3000 index, returned 32.4 percent for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. The continuation of the global economic recovery propelled equity markets higher during late 2010. The returns for the period reflected a diminished fear of a double-dip recession and another round of quantitative easing by the U.S. Federal Reserve. The equity markets declined for six straight weeks in May and early June 2011 prior to the quarter end rally. During the final quarter, economic data was weaker than expected and the sovereign debt problems in the European Zone continued.

The Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) World excluding the United States index, which represents 23 markets located in Europe, Australasia, Far East, and Canada, achieved a 29.7 percent return for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. Emerging markets (as measured by the MSCI Emerging Markets Free index) provided a return of 28.2 percent for the fiscal year. The Emerging Markets Free (EMF) index is compiled by MSCI and measures performance of 21 stock markets in Latin America, Asia, Africa, and Eastern Europe.

The U.S. fixed income market, as measured by the Barclays Capital Aggregate Index, returned 3.9 percent for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. Yields on U.S. Treasuries declined overall, as signs of deteriorating economic conditions and concerns surrounding European Zone sovereign debt boosted demand for U.S. Treasuries. Investment grade corporate bonds also performed well, as corporate balance sheets and fundamentals continued to improve.

Within this investment environment, TRA retirement assets under SBI investment management as part of the Combined Funds, produced an investment return of 23.3 percent for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. Over the latest ten-year period, the funds have experienced an annualized investment return of 5.9 percent. For the ten-year period, the Combined Funds exceeded the composite investment performance of 0.1 percent annualized.

## Legislation/Lawsuit Update

After major pension legislation in the 2010 session, the 2011 legislature did not produce significant changes to TRA's plan structure.

The three statewide pension systems (the Minnesota State Retirement Systems (MSRS), the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) and TRA) conducted a study of alternative public retirement plan designs including defined benefit (DB), defined contribution (DC) and hybrid plans. The study issued in June 2011 recommended that, before altering existing plans, the state legislature should carefully analyze the financial impacts of changes to avoid unintended consequences. Actuarial analysis provided in the study indicated that it would cost the statewide retirement systems about \$2.76 billion over the next decade to transition from the existing DB plans to a DC plan for new hires. The Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR) studied the DB/DC issue during the fall of 2011 and has determined to focus on hybrid plans for future study.

During the 2012 legislative session, we expect active consideration of proposals to lower TRA's current 8.5 percent actuarial interest assumption, which is set in state statute. Over long periods of time, SBI's investment returns have far exceeded 8.5 percent averaging over 10 percent since 1980. Nevertheless, short-term returns for the most recent decade have been lower than 8.5 percent and return expectations for the near term are low. The TRA Board has studied this issue carefully with its actuary and has recommended that the long-term return be maintained at 8.5 percent with the possibility of a lower return in a select period of the next 5 to 10 years.

Note S on page 31 also includes important information on litigation filed against TRA and the other statewide retirement systems in response to a portion of the laws enacted in 2009 and 2010, specifically to changes in the annual benefit adjustments provided to benefit recipients. In a decision issued June 29, 2011, Ramsey County District Court Judge Gregg Johnson upheld the constitutionality of provisions of the pension reform laws, which amended the statutory formula for future pension adjustments for retirees. In his decision, Judge Johnson noted that the pension reforms were a "reasonable response to a fiscal threat that jeopardized the long-term interests of Plan members, the State, and the State's taxpayers." The deadline to file an appeal to the Minnesota State Court of Appeals passed in September 2011, so the decision of the district court stands.

## Actuarial Funding Status/Investment Report

From late 2007 through early March 2009, global investment markets experienced unprecedented adverse events. The events included an expanded global credit crisis and liquidity constraints. By the end of the downturn, TRA investments had sustained an investment loss of approximately 30 percent based on fair value. The results severely impaired TRA's funding condition as reported as of June 30, 2009. Since that tumultuous period, the SBI Combined Funds, of which TRA is one component, have produced two straight years of strong investment performance. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, TRA investments achieved a 15.2 percent return. In the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, the investment performance was 23.3 percent.

The SBI invests TRA assets with a long-term horizon. Since the benefit payments set in law to TRA benefit recipients are not all immediately payable, SBI can maintain a longer-term investment strategy during short-term fluctuations. The SBI intends to stay with its investment strategy since past evidence indicates that long-term diversified investors can weather up and down cycles and thereby fully participate when the market rebounds and performance improves. This strategy during fiscal years 2010 and 2011 was sound as investment performance was well-above the annual assumed earnings rate of 8.5 percent.

Despite the strong investment markets during fiscal year 2011, the actuarial value of TRA assets declined as of June 30, 2011, due to the further recognition of investment losses sustained during the prior investment market declines. For actuarial purposes, investments gains and losses are recognized by using a statutory five-year smoothing of investment gains and losses. On June 30, 2011, the actuarial value of TRA assets was \$17.13 billion, a decline from \$17.32 billion on June 30, 2010. The strong investment performance during fiscal year 2011 eliminated over \$2 billion of deferred investment losses that had existed on June 30, 2010. The five-year smoothing of investment gains and losses resulted in a small deferred investment gain of \$165 million as of June 30, 2011. Thus, despite the decline in the value of actuarial assets for the year, the fiscal year 2011 investment performance represents a significant improvement in the outlook for TRA's long term funding.

TRA's unfunded actuarial liability – the amount for which current assets are not available for statutory benefits earned to date – slightly worsened from a \$4.76 billion deficiency to a \$5.04 billion deficiency, when measured on an actuarial smoothed basis. The recognition of the existing deferred investment losses from 2008-09 were the primary reason for the higher liability. Under statute, the unfunded liability must be paid by June 30, 2037.

Another key measure to assess TRA funding health is the adequacy of employee and employer contributions. As of July 1, 2011, the TRA contribution rate deficiency was 3.88 percent of active member covered payroll. This deficiency does not fully reflect the 3.00 percent total increase to employee and employer contribution rates scheduled in current law.

Beginning July 1, 2011, TRA employee and employer contribution rates, currently 6.00 percent each, are set to rise 0.50 percent each for three consecutive years. Beginning July 1, 2014, the employee and employer contribution rates will be 7.50 percent each. On a market value basis, which incorporates the \$165 million in deferred investment gains, the July 1, 2011, contribution rate deficiency was 3.61 percent. After incorporating the scheduled rate increases and recognizing existing deferred investment losses, a contribution deficiency of 0.61 percent is still present. Should investment markets remain strong, investment earnings would help mitigate some of this deficiency. If investment markets do not perform in accordance with the earnings assumption of 8.50 percent annually or if the investment assumption is lowered, the Board may be required to recommend additional contribution and/or plan changes for legislative consideration. The TRA Board of Trustees and its management will continue to remain vigilant and monitor all key actuarial measures and report funding and plan sustainability issues to the membership, employers and the legislature.

## Major Initiatives

TRA employees, in a team environment, continually work on strategic initiatives to administer and process the retirements of the “Baby Boom Generation.” Major projects for fiscal year 2012 include offering new technology-driven methods to deliver benefit counseling and information to TRA members and employers. The primary project underway is called the “.NET Project,” a comprehensive assessment of current process and rewriting existing applications in a more powerful and structured computer language.

Another initiative includes finishing a business continuation/disaster recovery plan for TRA operations. TRA staff is also planning implementation of a revised method to calculate member service credit reported by employer units. The TRA Member Services Division is experimenting with new technology that will facilitate pre-retirement member counseling to remote locations including employer units and members’ homes. The TRA Board has asked staff to develop strategies to target new and younger members to actively participate and improve awareness of their TRA retirement benefits at earlier career stages.

## Awards and Recognition

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Teachers Retirement Association for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. This was the thirteenth consecutive year that the Association has achieved this prestigious award. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a governmental unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of only one year. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

TRA was also awarded the Public Pension Coordinating Council’s Recognition Award for Administration in 2011. This award recognizes TRA’s meeting of professional standards in plan administration in categories such as benefits, actuarial valuations, financial reporting and communications to members.

The preparation of this report is possible only through the combined efforts of our employees, employer units and professional consultants. It is intended to provide a complete and reliable portrayal of the financial status of the pension fund as a basis for making management decisions and determining responsible stewardship over the assets held in trust for the members of the Association. We have notified members, employer unit officials and other interested persons about the availability of the report on the TRA website. A summary highlighting key elements of the report will be provided to all members in the TRIB, TRA’s periodic newsletter. Copies will be provided upon request.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to all who assisted in and contributed toward the completion of this publication.

Respectfully submitted,



Laurie Fiori Hacking  
Executive Director



John Wicklund  
Assistant Executive Director,  
Administration

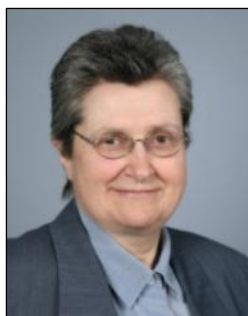


## Board of Trustees

---

As of December 30, 2011

### President



**Martha Lee (Marti) Zins**  
Retiree Representative  
Minnetonka, MN

### Vice President



**Mary L. Broderick**  
Elected Member  
St. Cloud, MN



**Mary B. Supple**  
Elected Member  
Richfield, MN



**Robert J. Gardner**  
Elected Member  
Crystal, MN

No Photo  
Available



**Leighton Fritz**  
Elected Member  
Winona, MN



**Brenda Cassellius**  
Commissioner of Education



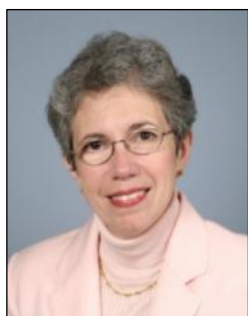
**James Schowalter**  
Commissioner of Minnesota  
Management & Budget

### Bob Lowe

Minnesota School Boards  
Association Representative

## Administrative Staff

---



**Laurie Fiori Hacking**  
Executive Director



**John Wicklund**  
Assistant Executive Director  
of Administration



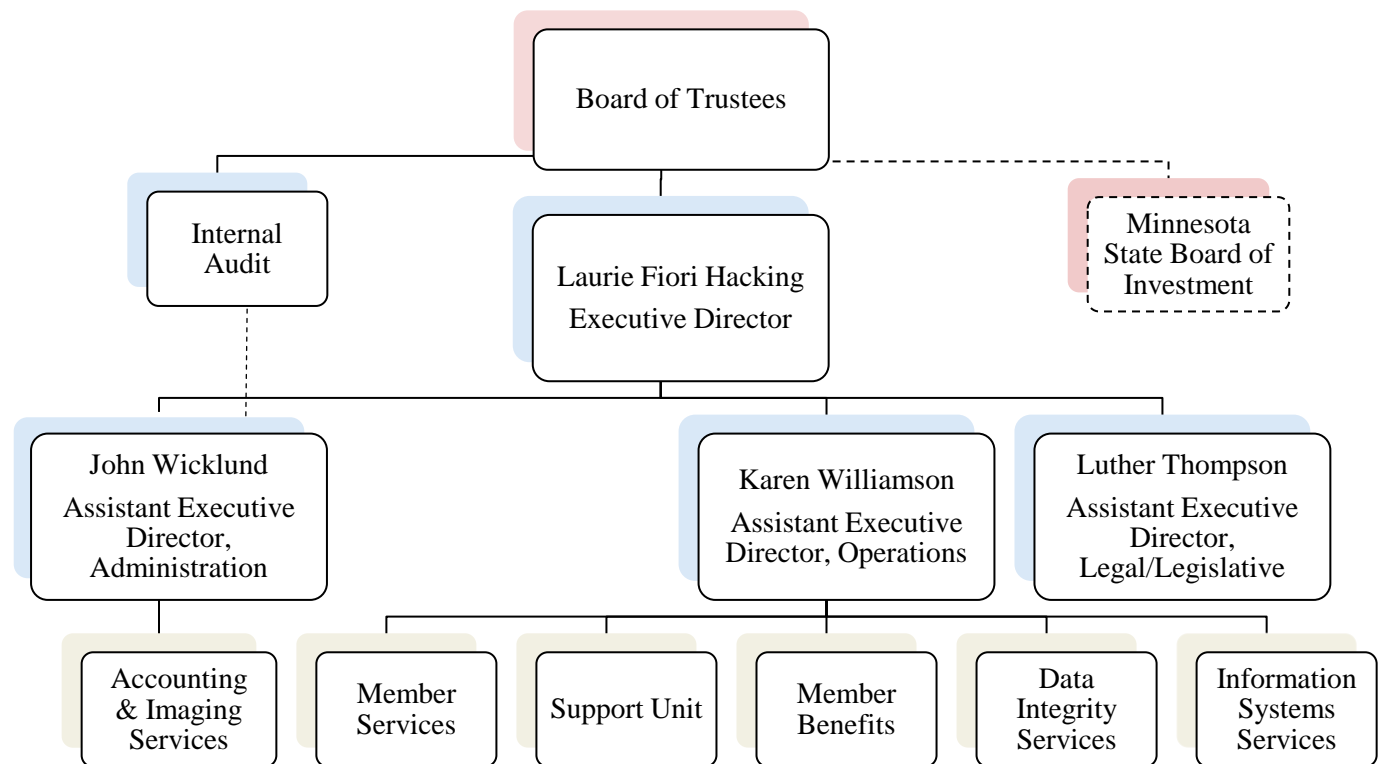
**Karen Williamson**  
Assistant Executive Director  
of Operations



**Luther Thompson**  
Assistant Executive Director  
of Legal and Legislative  
Services

# Administrative Organization

As of December 2011



## Consulting Services

### Actuary

Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC  
Bellevue, Nebraska

### Auditor

Office of the Legislative Auditor  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

### Investment

Minnesota State Board of Investment  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

### Legal Counsel

Office of the Attorney General  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

### Medical Advisor

Minnesota Department of Health  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# Our Mission Statement

---

TRA provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits to Minnesota's public educators assisting them in achieving future income security.

TRA strives to provide benefits that attract and retain competent teachers who serve communities throughout the state, building a stronger education system.

TRA is committed to safeguarding the financial integrity of the fund and takes pride in providing exceptional, innovative services.

## Our Vision

To be an outstanding retirement system pursuing benefits and services that **exceed members' expectations**.

## Goals

**Members and Stakeholders** – Be responsive to the needs of TRA members and stakeholders by providing them with innovative, timely and relevant services and education, and adequate benefits that are properly funded.

**Organizational Effectiveness** – Be a proactive, flexible efficient organization by measuring performance and continuously improving work processes.

**Staff Development** – Make TRA an “employer of choice” for both existing and potential staff by providing a supportive and challenging environment that encourages teamwork and creativity, fosters professional growth and development, and values employee input.

**Finance and Resources** – Safeguard the financial integrity of the fund by ensuring adequate funding, legal compliance and responsibly managing fiscal resources.

**Technology** – Maintain the internal capacity to utilize cutting-edge technologies that continuously improve work processes and enhance service delivery and communication with our members and stakeholders.



Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota



# Financial

Financial

Financial

Financial

Financial

Financial

Financial



OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR  
STATE OF MINNESOTA • James Nobles, Legislative Auditor

## Independent Auditor's Report

Members of the Board of Trustees  
Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association

Ms. Laurie Fiori Hacking, Executive Director  
Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2011, as listed in the Table of Contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of TRA's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the plan net assets of TRA as of June 30, 2011, and the changes in plan net assets for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we will also issue a report on our consideration of TRA's internal control over financial reporting; on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, and contracts; and on other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Room 140 Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1603 • Tel: 651-296-4708 • Fax: 651-296-4712  
E-mail: [auditor@state.mn.us](mailto:auditor@state.mn.us) • Web Site: [www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us](http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us) • Through Minnesota Relay: 1-800-627-3529 or 7-1-1

Members of the Board of Trustees  
Ms. Laurie Fiori Hacking, Executive Director  
Page 2

Management's Discussion and Analysis and the other required supplementary information, as listed in the Table of Contents, are not a required part of TRA's basic financial statements, but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise TRA's basic financial statements. The Supporting Schedules in the Financial Section, and the Introductory, Investment, Actuarial, and Statistical Sections, as listed in the Table of Contents, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The Supporting Schedules in the Financial Section have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The Introductory, Investment, Actuarial, and Statistical Sections have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.



James R. Nobles  
Legislative Auditor



Cecile M. Ferkul, CPA  
Deputy Legislative Auditor

December 16, 2011

# Management Discussion and Analysis

---

June 30, 2011

This discussion and analysis of the Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) of Minnesota provides an overview of TRA financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. We encourage you to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the transmittal letter beginning on page 3 and the additional information presented in the financial statements and required supplementary information.

## Financial Highlights

- The Net Assets Held in Trust for Pension Benefits increased in value by about \$2.36 billion during fiscal year 2011 for a total of about \$17.30 billion. Plan contributions and investment income totaled about \$3.86 billion during the fiscal year. Plan benefits and other expenses totaled about \$1.49 billion during the fiscal year.
- Investment returns for the 2011 fiscal year were 23.3 percent, resulting in investment income of about \$3.39 billion.
- Contributions paid by members and employers during fiscal year 2011 totaled about \$462.3 million. The fiscal year 2010 total was \$457.0 million.
- Pension benefits paid to retirees and beneficiaries during fiscal year 2011 was \$1.46 billion. The fiscal year 2010 total was \$1.42 billion, representing an increase of about \$38 million during the year.
- Refunds of member contributions plus interest during fiscal year 2011 were \$23.81 million. The fiscal year 2010 total was \$11.61 million.
- Administrative expenses of the fund during fiscal year 2011 were \$9.26 million. The fiscal year 2010 total was \$9.59 million, representing a decrease of \$0.33 million during the fiscal year.

## Actuarial Highlights

The Association's funding objective is to meet long-term benefit obligations through the accumulation of contributions and investment income. This funding is structured so that the burden of paying retirement costs is shared equitably by present and future generations of members and taxpayers.

As of June 30, 2011, the accrued liability funding ratio for TRA was 77.27 percent, a decrease from the comparable funding ratio of 78.45 percent as of June 30, 2010. TRA's unfunded actuarial accrued liability on June 30, 2010 was \$4.76 billion. The June 30, 2011, unfunded actuarial liability increased to \$5.04 billion, an increase of \$0.28 billion from the previous year. The recognition of investment losses from fiscal years 2008 and 2009 in the asset smoothing formula was the primary reason for the increase in unfunded actuarial liability and decrease in funding ratio. TRA's unfunded liability, by state law, must be fully paid by June 30, 2037. Key actuarial funding ratios can be seen on page 59.

## Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the financial report of TRA. The financial report consists of:

- the basic financial statements, comprised of the Statement of Plan Net Assets and the Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets;
- the notes to the basic financial statements; and
- required and other supplementary information.

The Statement of Plan Net Assets (page 18) presents information on the assets and liabilities of TRA, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. The net assets of the Association reflect the resources available to pay benefits to members when due. Over time, increases and decreases in net assets measure whether the Association's financial position is improving or deteriorating. It can be thought of as a snapshot of the financial position of TRA at that specific point in time.

The Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets (page 19) presents information detailing the changes in net assets that

occurred during the current fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported on an accrual basis. This means that the revenue or expense is recognized as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of when the actual cash is received or paid. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will not result in cash flows until future fiscal periods. For example, contributions due from a school district, even though not yet paid by fiscal year end, are reflected as revenue. Earned benefits or refund accruals are reflected as an expense, even though they may not have been paid to the member until after fiscal year end.

The notes to the financial statements (pages 20-34) provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

The report also contains required supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves. The Schedule of Funding Progress (page 35) includes historical trend information about the TRA plan from a long-term, ongoing perspective and the progress made in accumulating assets to pay benefits when due. The Schedule of Employer Contributions (page 35) presents historical trend information about the annual required contributions of employers and the actual contributions made by employers.

Two supporting schedules are also presented. The Schedule of TRA Administrative Expenses (page 38) presents the overall cost of administering the Association. The Schedule of Professional Consultant Expenses (page 39) further details this category of administrative expense.

## **Financial Analysis of the TRA Fund**

### **Plan Assets**

Total plan assets of the TRA Fund as of June 30, 2011, were \$18.51 billion and were mostly comprised of cash, investments and contributions due from employers. Total plan assets increased \$2.2 billion (13.5 percent) from the June 30, 2010, total of \$16.31 billion. The primary reason for the increase was the positive investment performance during fiscal year 2011.

### **Plan Liabilities**

Total liabilities as of June 30, 2011, were \$1.21 billion, a decrease of 11.7 percent from the June 30, 2010, liability amount of \$1.37 billion. The primary reason for the decrease was a lower value of liabilities within the securities lending program. In both years, the liability amounts were mostly comprised of obligations under security lending arrangements and long-term bonds payable for the building co-owned by the Association.

### **Net Assets**

Association assets exceeded liabilities on June 30, 2011, by \$17.30 billion. The amount is higher than the June 30, 2010, amount of \$14.94 billion by \$2.36 billion. The increase in the fair value of investments is primarily attributable to the favorable market conditions experienced during fiscal year 2011, as evidenced by the overall fund investment return of approximately 23.3 percent. As a mature public pension plan, TRA relies heavily on investment earnings to help pay benefits and expenses since annual employee and employer contributions are currently less than one-third of the amount needed to fund current cash outflows. As result of its annual expenses, the TRA Fund requires strong investment performance each year to experience an increase in its level of net assets.

### **Revenues — Additions to Plan Net Assets**

Total additions to the TRA Fund during fiscal year 2011 were \$3.86 billion, a \$1.31 billion increase from \$2.55 billion in fiscal year 2010. The increase is due to the higher investment return of 23.3 percent and resulting increase in the fair market value of investments in 2011.

Total retirement contributions for fiscal year 2011 increased about \$5.2 million from the previous fiscal year for a combined fiscal year 2011 total of about \$462.2 million. The increase is attributable to higher salaries for active members reported for fiscal year 2011. Retirement contributions during fiscal year 2011 were calculated at 5.5 percent employee and 5.5 percent employer for Coordinated members of TRA.



## Plan Net Assets

*Dollar Amounts in Thousands*

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change</b>
Cash and Investments	\$ 18,481,669	\$ 16,280,919	\$ 2,200,750
Receivables	15,624	13,960	1,664
Other	<u>11,539</u>	<u>10,343</u>	<u>1,196</u>
Total Assets	18,508,832	16,305,222	2,203,610
Total Liabilities	<u>1,205,256</u>	<u>1,365,682</u>	<u>(160,426)</u>
<b>Plan Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 17,303,576</u>	<u>\$ 14,939,540</u>	<u>\$ 2,364,036</u>

## Changes in Plan Net Assets

*Dollar Amounts in Thousands*

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Additions</b>			
Member Contributions	\$ 218,024	\$ 214,909	\$ 3,115
Employer Contributions	244,233	242,088	2,145
Net Investment Income/(Loss)	3,390,130	2,087,640	1,302,490
Other	<u>5,562</u>	<u>4,850</u>	<u>712</u>
<b>Total Additions</b>	<u>\$ 3,857,949</u>	<u>\$ 2,549,487</u>	<u>\$ 1,308,462</u>
<b>Deductions</b>			
Monthly Benefits	\$ 1,460,836	\$ 1,422,578	\$ 38,258
Refunds of Contributions	23,813	11,607	12,206
Administrative Expenses	<u>9,264</u>	<u>9,588</u>	<u>(324)</u>
<b>Total Deductions</b>	<u>\$ 1,493,913</u>	<u>\$ 1,443,773</u>	<u>\$ 50,140</u>
<b>Change in Plan Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 2,364,036</u>	<u>\$ 1,105,714</u>	<u>\$ 1,258,322</u>

Net Investment Income of \$3.39 billion was recorded for fiscal year 2011. This amount increased by \$1.30 billion from the fiscal year 2010 of \$2.09 billion. The increase is attributable to higher investment returns in fiscal year 2011 than fiscal year 2010. Investment returns were 15.2 percent for fiscal year 2010.

### Expenses — Deductions From Plan Net Assets

The primary expenses of TRA include the payment of pension benefits to members and beneficiaries, refunds of contributions to former members, and the cost of administering the system. Retirement benefit expense increased by about \$38.2 million due to a net increase in the number of benefit recipients during the year. No benefit adjustment was paid to benefit recipients on January 1, 2011, according to Minnesota Statute.

Member refunds of \$23.81 million increased by about \$12.20 million during fiscal year 2011 from the fiscal year

2010 total of \$11.61 million. The increase is due to an increased number of refunds of Earnings Limitation Savings Accounts (ELSA). Beginning January 1, 2011, ELSA accounts no longer accrued interest, thus prompting 871 account holders to request refunds of their balances.

Administrative expenses decreased by 3.4 percent during the fiscal year – from \$9.59 million in fiscal year 2010 to about \$9.26 million for fiscal year 2011. Overall, fund expenses increased about \$50.1 million during fiscal year 2011.

### Actuarial Highlights

The financial health of a public pension plan is not exclusively assessed by analyzing the Basic Financial Statements. These financial statements should also be reviewed in conjunction with the Schedule of Funding Progress (page 35) and the Schedule of Contributions from the Employer and Other Contributing Entities (page 35) to determine if TRA is becoming stronger or weaker over time.

Despite a very strong fiscal year investment performance of 23.3 percent, the actuarial value of assets fell from \$17.32 billion on June 30, 2010, to \$17.13 billion as of June 30, 2011. The actuarial value of assets smoothes investment gains and losses over a five-year period to minimize the volatility associated with any one year of investment performance. On fair value basis, TRA assets were about \$17.30 billion on June 30, 2011.

TRA's actuarial liabilities increased during the year from \$22.08 billion on June 30, 2010 to \$22.17 billion as of June 30, 2011. The actuarial liability amounts are smaller than the \$23.11 billion as of July 1, 2009, due to the benefit reductions enacted by 2010 legislature. A major feature of the benefit reduction package was a two-year suspension of the annual January benefit recipient adjustment. On January 1, 2013, the annual benefit adjustment will resume with 2.0 percent paid.

TRA's funding objective is to meet long-term benefit obligations through the accumulation of contributions and investment income. This funding is structured so that the burden of retirement costs is shared equitably by present and future generations of members and taxpayers. As of June 30, 2011, the accrued liability funding ratio for TRA was 77.27 percent, a decrease from the comparable funding ratio of 78.45 percent as of June 30, 2010. The funding decrease is primarily driven by the further recognition of investment losses deferred from fiscal years 2008 and 2009 under the five-year actuarial asset smoothing method.

TRA's unfunded actuarial liability on June 30, 2010 was \$4.76 billion. The June 30, 2011 unfunded actuarial liability increased to \$5.04 billion, representing an increase of about \$280 million. By law, the unfunded liability must be recovered in full by June 30, 2037.

TRA's statutory contribution rate of 12.69 percent of member covered payroll is currently trailing the required contribution rate calculated by TRA's actuarial consultant. The required contribution rate to fund normal pension costs, amortizing the unfunded actuarial liability, plus TRA administrative costs was calculated as 16.57 percent. The resulting contribution deficiency is 3.88 percent of employee covered payroll. As a result of the 2010 legislation, employee and employer contribution rates will be increased over the next three years by a combined total of 3.00 percent. Employee and employer contribution rates are reviewed and set into law by the Minnesota legislature.

## Summary

Due to the long-term nature of defined benefit plans, one must review the financial performance of TRA over a period of years and not at any one point in time. The funding ratio of the TRA Fund slightly worsened from 78.45 percent to 77.27 percent for fiscal year 2011 due to the five-year investment performance not meeting the annual 8.50 percent investment earnings assumption.

The long-term financial health of the TRA fund, as with all retirement systems, is heavily dependent on two key items: (1) future investment returns and (2) contributions. Changes were made by the 2010 Legislature to strengthen the funding of TRA and enhance its long-term sustainability. A series of employee and employer contribution rate increases were phased in over four years beginning July 1, 2011, and benefit reductions were implemented. These changes, along with strong investment performance in the last two fiscal years, have significantly improved the projected long term funding of the TRA fund. Given the current funded status, the deferred investment experience and scheduled increases in the Statutory Contribution Rate, the funded ratio is expected to improve over the long term, provided all actuarial assumptions are met. While the funded ratio is expected to improve, it is not projected to reach 100% by June 30, 2037, in the absence of contribution increases or some other unanticipated changes or favorable experience. The TRA Board of Trustees and management will continue to monitor actuarial and investment results with the goal of supporting TRA's long-term financial sustainability.

## Request for Information

The financial report is designed to provide the Board of Trustees, members and other users of this financial report a general overview of the Association's finances and to demonstrate its accountability with the money it holds in trust. If you have questions about this report, or require additional financial or actuarial information, please contact

Teachers Retirement Association  
60 Empire Drive, Suite 400  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103

Telephone toll-free, 800-657-3669

Email: [info@MinnesotaTRA.org](mailto:info@MinnesotaTRA.org)

# Teachers Retirement Fund

## Statement of Plan Net Assets

As of June 30, 2011

### Assets

Cash and short-term investments	
Cash .....	\$ 4,276,817
Building Account Cash .....	59,258
Short-term Investments .....	<u>464,404,364</u>
<b>Total Cash and Short-Term Investments</b> .....	\$ 468,740,439
Accounts Receivable .....	\$ 15,624,261
Investments (at fair value)	
Fixed Income Pool .....	\$ 3,821,521,932
Minneapolis Pool .....	195,730
Alternative Investments Pool .....	2,530,477,794
Indexed Equity Pool .....	3,076,747,477
Domestic Equity Pool .....	4,675,143,126
Global Equity Pool .....	<u>2,723,272,261</u>
<b>Total Investments</b> .....	\$ 16,827,358,320
Securities Lending Collateral .....	\$ 1,185,570,029
Building	
Land .....	\$ 171,166
Building & Equipment .....	11,279,089
Reserve for Building Depreciation .....	(2,821,323)
Deferred Bond Charge .....	145,857
Reserve for Deferred Bond Charge Amortization .....	<u>(50,296)</u>
<b>Total Building</b> .....	\$ 8,724,493
Capital Assets Net of Accumulated Depreciation .....	<u>\$ 2,814,762</u>
<b>Total Assets</b> .....	\$ 18,508,832,304

### Liabilities

Current	
Accounts Payable .....	\$ 9,863,330
Accrued Compensated Absences .....	68,499
Accrued Expenses – Building .....	60,649
Bonds Payable .....	264,600
Bond Interest Payable .....	43,348
Securities Lending Collateral .....	<u>1,185,570,029</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b> .....	\$ 1,195,870,455
Long Term	
Accrued Compensated Absences .....	\$ 673,088
Accrued OPEB Liability .....	57,000
Bonds Payable .....	<u>8,656,200</u>
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b> .....	\$ 9,386,288
<b>Total Liabilities</b> .....	\$ 1,205,256,743

**Net Assets Held in Trust for Pension Benefits** ..... \$ 17,303,575,561

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.*



# Teachers Retirement Fund

## Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

### Additions

#### Contributions

Employee .....	\$ 218,023,736
Employer .....	222,722,891
Direct Aid (State/City/County) .....	21,509,820
Earnings Limitation Savings Account (ELSA) .....	<u>1,291,244</u>
<b>Total Contributions</b> .....	<b>\$ 463,547,691</b>

#### Investment Income

Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments .....	\$ 3,409,061,163
Less Investment Expense .....	<u>(24,149,551)</u>
Net Investment Income .....	<b>\$ 3,384,911,612</b>

#### Securities Lending Activities

Securities Lending Income .....	\$ 9,827,479
Securities Lending Expenses	
Borrower Rebates .....	(1,100,788)
Management Fees .....	<u>(3,507,688)</u>
Total Securities Lending Expenses .....	<u>(4,608,476)</u>
Net Income from Securities Lending .....	<u>5,219,003</u>
<b>Total Net Investment Income</b> .....	<b>\$ 3,390,130,615</b>

<b>Other Income</b> .....	<b>\$ 4,271,130</b>
---------------------------	---------------------

<b>Total Additions</b> .....	<b>\$ 3,857,949,436</b>
------------------------------	-------------------------

### Deductions

Retirement Benefits Paid .....	\$ 1,459,549,676
Earnings Limitation Savings Account .....	1,286,716
Refunds of Contributions to Members .....	23,812,985
Administrative Expenses .....	<u>9,264,278</u>
<b>Total Deductions</b> .....	<b>\$ 1,493,913,655</b>

<b>Net Increase (Decrease)</b> .....	<b>\$ 2,364,035,781</b>
--------------------------------------	-------------------------

#### Net Assets Held in Trust for Pension Benefits

Beginning of Year .....	\$ 14,939,539,780
End of Year .....	<u><u>\$ 17,303,575,561</u></u>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.*

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

## I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### A. Organization

The Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) is an administrator of a multiple employer, cost-sharing retirement fund. TRA administers a Basic Plan (without Social Security coverage) and a Coordinated Plan (coordinated with Social Security coverage) in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 354 and 356. Assets of the fund may be used to pay benefits to both Basic and Coordinated members without legal restriction.

### B. Participating Members and Employers

Teachers employed in Minnesota's public elementary and secondary schools, charter schools, and certain educational institutions maintained by the state (except those teachers employed by the cities of Duluth and St. Paul, and by the University of Minnesota system) are required to be TRA members.

State university, community college, and technical college teachers first employed by the Minnesota State College and Universities (MnSCU) may elect TRA coverage within one year of eligible employment. Alternatively, these teachers may elect coverage through the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (DCR) administered by MnSCU. A teacher employed by MnSCU and electing coverage by DCR is not a member of TRA except for purposes of Social Security coverage.

A schedule of employer units and membership is presented in *Figure 1*.

*Figure 1*

<b>Employer Units</b>	
June 30, 2011	
Independent school districts	342
Joint powers units	37
Colleges and universities	39
State agencies	4
Charter schools	155
Professional organizations	<u>2</u>
Total Employer Units	<u>579</u>
<b>Membership</b>	
June 30, 2011	
Retirees, disabilitants and beneficiaries receiving benefits	53,537
Terminated employees with deferred vested benefits	<u>13,237</u>
Total	<u>66,774</u>
Current employees	
Vested	62,121
Non-vested	<u>14,634</u>
Total	<u>76,755</u>

### C. Benefit Provisions

TRA provides retirement benefits, as well as disability benefits to members and benefits to survivors upon the death of eligible members. All benefits vest after three years of eligible service credit. The defined retirement benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any consecutive 60 months of allowable service, age and years of formula service credit at termination of service. TRA members belong to either the Basic or Coordinated Plan.

Two methods are used to compute benefits for TRA's Coordinated and Basic Plan members. Members first employed **before July 1, 1989**, receive the greater of the Tier I or Tier II benefits as described:

<b>Tier I</b>	<b>Step Rate Formula</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Basic	1st ten years of service	2.2 percent per year
	All years after	2.7 percent per year
Coordinated	1st ten years if service years are prior to July 1, 2006	1.2 percent per year
	1st ten years if service years are July 1, 2006 or after	1.4 percent per year
	All other years of service if service years are prior to July 1, 2006	1.7 percent per year
	All other years of service if service years are July 1, 2006 or after	1.9 percent per year

With these provisions:

- (a) Normal retirement age is 65 with less than 30 years of allowable service and age 62 with 30 or more years of allowable service.
- (b) 3 percent per year early retirement reduction factors for all years under normal retirement age.
- (c) Unreduced benefits for early retirement under a Rule-of-90 (age plus allowable service equals 90 or more).

or

#### **Tier II Benefits**

For years of service prior to July 1, 2006, a level formula of 1.7 percent per year for coordinated members and 2.7 percent per year for basic members. For years of service July 1, 2006 and after, a level formula of 1.9 percent per year for Coordinated members and 2.7 for Basic members applies. Actuarially equivalent early retirement reduction factors with augmentation are used for early retirement before the normal age of 65. These reduction factors average approximately 4.0 to 5.5 percent per year.

Members first employed **after June 30, 1989**, receive only the Tier II benefit calculation with a normal retirement age that is their retirement age for full Social Security retirement benefits, but not to exceed age 66.

Former Minneapolis Teachers Retirement Fund Association (MTRFA) members with Basic Program eligibility retain the plan provisions of the Basic Program as defined in the MTRFA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws as they existed at merger on June 30, 2006. Fifty eight former MTRFA active and inactive members retain Basic Program coverage.

The benefit provisions stated in the preceding paragraphs of this section are current provisions and apply to active plan participants. Vested, terminated members who are entitled to benefits, but are not yet receiving them, are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated their public service. Pension benefits are funded from member and employer contributions and income from investment of fund assets.

## **D. Reporting Entity**

TRA functions as a statutory entity created by the Laws of 1931, Chapter 406. The Association maintains rights to sue or be sued in its own name and to hold property in its own name. For financial reporting purposes, TRA is considered a pension trust fund of the State of Minnesota and is included in the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report with its fiduciary funds.

The State of Minnesota acts as a fiduciary and trustee of TRA's funds. The Board of Trustees has significant independence in the operations and management of the Association, though the State Legislature actually determines the contribution rates for members and employers. The Board of Trustees is responsible for TRA's administration, but the State Board of Investment (SBI) is responsible for investing plan assets.

## **E. Basis of Accounting**

TRA financial statements for its defined benefit fund are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Employee and employer contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which they are due pursuant to Minnesota Statute. Expenses including benefit payments and refunds are recorded when the liability is due and payable according to Minnesota Statute.

## F. Investment Policies and Valuation Methodology

1. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 11A, the state's retirement fund assets are commingled in various pooled investment accounts, administered by the State Board of Investment (SBI). As of June 30, 2011, the TRA Fund's share of the Combined Funds administered by SBI at fair value was approximately 36.1 percent (\$17.29 billion – TRA and \$47.92 billion – total). *Figure 2* provides specific totals of TRA investments by category.
2. Minnesota Statutes, section 11A.24, broadly restricts retirement fund investments to obligations and stocks of United States and Canadian governments, their agencies and their registered corporations; short-term obligations of specified high quality; restricted participation as a limited partner in venture capital, real estate or resource equity investments; restricted participation in registered mutual funds; and some qualified foreign instruments.
3. Information about the primary government's (State of Minnesota) investments, including credit risk classification, can be obtained from the Department of Minnesota Management & Budget, 400 Centennial Office Building, 658 Cedar Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155. Information on investment activity, investment management fees and a listing of specific investments owned by the pooled asset accounts can be obtained from SBI, Suite 355, 60 Empire Drive, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103.
4. Investments in the pooled accounts are reported at fair value. *Figure 2* provides a summary of the cost and fair values of the investments as of June 30, 2011, as reported on the Statement of Plan Net Assets. Short-term investments are reported at cost, which approximates fair value. Securities traded on a national or international exchange are valued using the last reported trade price. The fair value of real estate investments is based on independent yearly appraisals. Investments that do not have an

established market are reported at estimated fair value.

The TRA Minneapolis Equity Account was created in 2006 to account for the settlement of investment activity related to the external money managers of the former Minneapolis Teachers Retirement Fund Association (MTRFA). Upon completion of the post-merger investment settlement with the former MTRFA money managers, proceeds will be transferred to other pooled investments in accordance with SBI policies.

*Figure 2*

TRA Investment Portfolio June 30, 2011		
TRA Fund	Cost	Fair Value
<b>Pooled Accounts</b>		
Domestic Equity	\$ 3,234,348,642	\$ 4,675,143,126
Fixed Income	3,502,077,209	3,821,521,932
Indexed Equity	2,495,651,014	3,076,747,477
Global Equity	2,091,706,525	2,723,272,261
Alternative Investments	2,165,945,816	2,530,477,794
TRA Minneapolis Equity	144,956	195,730
Total	<u>\$ 13,489,874,162</u>	<u>\$ 16,827,358,320</u>
<b>Short-Term Pooled Cash</b>		
Total Invested	<u>\$ 13,954,278,526</u>	<u>\$ 17,291,762,684</u>

Investment income is recognized as earned.

Accrued investment income of the pooled investment accounts is included in participation in the accounts. Gains or losses on sales or exchanges are recognized on the transaction date.

Net Investment Income is summarized on the Statement of Changes in Net Plan Assets. The summarized amounts show net investment income of \$3,390,130,615 for fiscal year 2011.

The cost of security transactions is included in the transaction price. Administrative expenses of SBI and investment management fees of the external money managers and the state's master custodian for pension fund assets are allocated to the funds participating in the pooled

investment accounts (page 52). TRA's share of these expenses totaled \$24,149,551 (pages 50-51).

A detailed schedule of fees and commissions by brokerage firm, along with the number of shares traded, total commissions, and commissions per share may be obtained by writing:

Minnesota State Board of Investment  
60 Empire Drive, Suite 355  
St. Paul, MN 55103-3555

## **G. Securities Lending**

### **Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 28 Disclosures**

TRA does not own specific securities, but instead owns shares in pooled funds invested by SBI. The SBI is authorized to use securities lending transactions in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 356A.06, subdivision 7, and has, pursuant to a Custodial Trust Agreement, authorized State Street Bank and Trust Company, Boston, Massachusetts, to act as agent in lending securities to approved borrowers.

During the fiscal year, State Street lent, at the direction of the SBI, certain securities held by State Street as custodian and received cash (United States and foreign currency) or other collateral including securities issued or guaranteed by the United States government. State Street did not have the ability to pledge or sell collateral securities absent a borrower default. Under Minnesota Statutes, section 11A.24, borrowers were required to deliver collateral for each loan in amounts at least equal to the market value of the loaned securities.

SBI did not impose any restrictions during the fiscal year on the amount of the loans that State Street made on its behalf. There were no failures by any borrowers to return loaned securities or pay distributions thereon during the fiscal year. Moreover, there were no losses during the fiscal year resulting from a default of the borrowers or State Street.

During the fiscal year, SBI and the borrowers maintained the right to terminate all securities lending transactions on demand. The cash collateral received on each loan was invested in a separate investment pool. As of June 30, 2011, such investment pool had an average duration of 3.16 days and an average weighted maturity of 49.02 days. Because the loans were terminable at will, their duration did not generally match the duration of the investments made with cash collateral. On June 30, 2011, SBI had no credit risk exposure to borrowers. TRA's portion of the market value of the collateral held and the fair value of securities on loan from SBI as of June 30, 2011, were \$2,482,111,158 and \$2,402,304,971, respectively. Cash collateral is reported on the Statement of Plan Net Assets as an asset. Liabilities resulting from these securities lending transactions are also reported on the Statement of Plan Net Assets.

## **H. Investment Risk**

### **Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 40 Disclosures**

The Minnesota State Board of Investment (SBI) is responsible for the investing of TRA assets under the authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 11A.24. The following disclosures apply to TRA investments. Cash deposit disclosures are included in Note M.

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or counterparty to an investment will be unable to fulfill its obligations. The State Board of Investment (SBI) has policies designed to minimize credit risk. They may invest funds in governmental obligations provided the issue is backed by the full faith and credit of the issuer or the issue is rated among the top four quality rating categories by a nationally recognized rating agency. They may invest funds in corporate obligations provided the issue is rated among the top four quality categories by a nationally recognized rating agency. They may also invest in unrated corporate obligations or in corporate obligations that are not rated among the top four quality categories provided that:

- The aggregate value of these obligations may not exceed 5 percent of the fund for which the state board is investing;
- Participation is limited to 50 percent of a single offering; and
- Participation is limited to 25 percent of an issuer's obligations.

SBI may also invest in bankers acceptances, deposit notes of U.S. banks, certificates of deposit, mortgage securities, and asset backed securities rated in the top four quality categories by a nationally recognized rating agency. Commercial paper must be rated in the top two categories.

TRA's share of the SBI's exposure to credit risk, based on S & P Quality Ratings, is shown in *Figure 3*.

*Figure 3*

<b>Credit Risk Exposure</b>	
<b>Quality Rating</b>	<b>Fair Value (in thousands)</b>
BBB or Better	\$3,407,573
BB or Lower	175,706
Not Rated	633,501

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates of debt instruments could adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The State Board of Investment controls interest rate risk through guidelines developed for each portfolio. TRA's share of the debt securities are held in external investment pools and have the weighted average maturities as shown in *Figure 4*.

*Figure 4*

<b>Interest Rate Risk</b>	
<b>Security</b>	<b>Weighted Average Maturity (in Years)</b>
Mortgage-Backed Securities	4.35
Asset-Backed Securities	4.60
TBA Mortgage-Backed Securities	5.81
U.S. Agencies	5.84
Foreign Country Bonds	6.09
Corporate Debt	8.12
U.S. Treasuries	8.15
Preferred Stock	9.20
State/Local Government Bonds	21.91

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and foreign currencies could adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Under SBI manager guidelines, approved by the Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) and SBI, each money manager may hedge foreign currency transactions at their own option. Government obligations, including guaranteed or insured issues of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the African Development Bank, must pay interest and principal in U.S. dollars. The principal and interest of obligations of corporations, including those corporations incorporated or organized under the laws of the Dominion of Canada or any province thereof, must also be paid in U.S. dollars. TRA's share of investments as of June 30, 2011, was distributed among the currencies as shown in *Figure 5*.

## **I. Derivative Financial Instruments**

### **Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 53 Disclosures**

On behalf of TRA, SBI invests in various types of derivative financial instruments. Derivatives are defined as any financial arrangement between two parties that has value based on or derived from future price fluctuations. The derivative financial instruments that SBI enters into include futures, options, stock warrants and rights, and currency forwards.

Minnesota Statutes, section 11A.24, provides that any agreement for put and call options and futures contracts may only be entered into with a fully offsetting amount of cash or securities. This applies to foreign currency forward contracts used to offset the currency risk of a security. All other derivatives are exchange-traded. The purpose of the SBI's derivative activity is to equitize cash in the portfolio, to adjust the duration of the portfolio, or to offset current futures positions.



Figure 5

Assessment of Currency Risk International Investment Securities at Fair Value				
Currency	Cash	Debt	Equity	Total
Australian Dollar	\$ 716,998		\$ 151,661,764	\$ 152,378,762
Brazilian Real	54,390		33,131,189	33,185,579
Canadian Dollar	525,654	\$ 7,878,313	201,980,118	210,384,085
Chilean Peso	31,776		2,535,389	2,567,165
Columbian Peso			300,271	300,271
Czech Koruna	37,248		9,421,958	9,459,206
Danish Krone	109,914		28,568,978	28,678,892
Egyptian Pound	11		3,241,764	3,241,775
Euro Currency	2,638,631	22,221,271	623,130,541	647,990,443
Hong Kong Dollar	732,867		147,441,915	148,174,782
Hungarian Forint	152		2,333,764	2,333,916
Indian Rupee	118,797		54,978,402	55,097,199
Indonesian Rupiah	19,191		24,553,916	24,573,107
Israeli Shekel	61,725		6,546,613	6,608,338
Japanese Yen	5,363,270		392,261,295	397,624,565
Malaysian Ringgit	62,500		19,476,641	19,539,141
Mexican Peso	12,379		14,069,166	14,081,545
Moroccan Dirham	13,800			13,800
New Taiwan Dollar	428,505		39,415,110	39,843,615
New Zealand Dollar	33,116		1,805,917	1,839,033
Norwegian Krone	163,051		19,453,059	19,616,110
Philippine Peso			10,217,809	10,217,809
Polish Zloty	6,756		7,095,444	7,102,200
Pound Sterling	2,022,310	12,080,746	404,675,563	418,778,619
Romanian Leu	61			61
Singapore Dollar	320,725		33,801,211	34,121,936
South African Rand	29,268		27,815,474	27,844,742
South Korean Won	444,941		77,543,156	77,988,097
Swedish Krona	624,123		46,191,669	46,815,792
Swiss Franc	366,428		140,266,187	140,632,615
Thailand Baht	5,606		14,561,962	14,567,568
Turkish Lira	9,253		8,583,901	8,593,154
Total	\$ 14,953,446	\$ 42,180,330	\$ 2,547,060,146	\$ 2,604,193,922

Explanations of each derivative instrument type are presented below. The fair value balances and notational amounts (or face value) at June 30, 2011, classified by derivative instrument type (e.g., futures, options, currency forwards, and stock warrants and rights), and the changes in fair value for fiscal year 2011 are shown in *Figure 6*.

- **Futures** are contract commitments to purchase (asset) or sell (liability) at a future date. The net change in the values of futures contracts is settled on a regular basis and

gains and losses are included in investment income.

- **Options** are contracts that give buyers or sellers the right to buy (calls) or sell (puts) a security at a predetermined price on a future date. Gains and losses result from variances in the market value of the security that is the subject of the contract that occur prior to or on the contract specified date. The gains and losses are included in investment income.

- **Currency Forward Contracts** are used to manage portfolio foreign currency risk. The provisions of the contract vary based on what is negotiated between the two parties.
- **Stock Warrants and Rights**, similar to options, are the right to purchase shares of a stock at a certain price by a certain date. They usually have a longer term before expiration, e.g., five years or more. When exercised, new shares are issued by the company. Rights are the same but are issued to current stock owners to enable them to retain their relative ownership share. Gains and losses from the sale or exercise of stock warrants and rights are included in investment income.

contracts that are used to offset the currency risk of a security. TRA's proportionate share of the maximum loss that SBI would have recognized as of June 30, 2011, if all counter parties failed to perform as contracted is \$708,387. These counter parties have S&P ratings of A+ or better. There is no collateral held or any liabilities included in netting arrangements with those counterparties that would have reduced SBI's exposure to credit risk.

SBI is exposed to credit risk through multiple counterparties in foreign currency forward

*Figure 6*

Schedule of Derivative Financial Instruments (in thousands)			
Derivative Investment Type	Changes in Fair Value During FY 2011	Fair Value at June 30, 2011	Notional Amount
Futures			
Equity Futures – Long	\$ 14,906	\$ 0	\$ 205
Equity Futures – Short	\$ (1,306)	\$ 0	\$ (175)
Fixed Income Futures – Long	\$ 484	\$ 0	\$ 160,335
Fixed Income Futures – Short	\$ (3,465)	\$ 0	\$ (88,601)
Options			
Equity Options Bought	\$ (488)	\$ 162	\$ 1,698
Equity Options Written	\$ 1,314	\$ (13)	\$ (1,368)
Foreign Currency Forwards	\$ (1,537)	\$ (167)	\$ 124,279
Stock Warrants and Rights			
Stock Warrants	\$ 239	\$ 1,051	\$ 384
Stock Rights	\$ 909	\$ 184	\$ 398



## J. Accrued Compensated Absences

Employees of TRA accrue vacation leave, sick leave, and compensatory leave at various rates within limits specified in collective bargaining agreements. Accumulated amounts for compensated absences are accrued when incurred. Such leave is liquidated in cash primarily at the time of termination of employment. The total liability at June 30, 2011, is \$741,587. Of this, \$68,499 is considered a short-term liability and \$673,088 is shown as a long-term liability on the Statement of Plan Net Assets. The total decreased by \$27,439 during fiscal year 2011.

## K. Capital Assets

Capital assets are capitalized at the time of acquisition at cost. Assets with a cost in excess of

\$2,000 and internally generated software development costs in excess of \$1,000,000 are capitalized. In fiscal year 2011, software development costs of \$1,248,128 were capitalized. Additional development costs are anticipated over the next two years.

Depreciation is computed on a straight-line method over the useful life of the related assets. The estimated useful lives by major category are: computer equipment (3 years), general office equipment (5 years), modular office furniture (10 years) and internally generated software (10 years).

Capital assets are presented on the June 30, 2011, Statement of Plan Net Assets. The year-end balance plus changes during the year are shown in *Figure 7*.

*Figure 7*

Schedule of Capital Assets				
Description	Balance 7/01/2010	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/2011
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 2,362,410	\$ 552,298	\$ (267,084)	\$ 2,647,624
Internally Developed Software	997,411	1,248,129	0	2,245,540
Reserve for Depreciation	<u>(2,036,215)</u>	<u>(290,830)</u>	<u>248,643</u>	<u>(2,078,402)</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 1,323,606</u>	<u>\$ 1,509,597</u>	<u>\$ (18,441)</u>	<u>\$ 2,814,762</u>

## L. Administrative Expenses and Budget

The annual budget of TRA operations is developed by TRA management and approved by the Board of Trustees. The budget is also sent to the Department of Minnesota Management & Budget for policy analysis and is included in the Governor's Biennial Budget presentation to the legislature. The legislature adopts appropriation and expenditure amounts resulting in an approved budget for the Association.

TRA administrative costs are not financed by any specific type of contribution or other income of the Fund. Administrative costs are budgeted in the annual determination of the actuarial required contribution rate (page 72, line B3).

## M. Cash

Cash on deposit consists of year-end receipts not processed as of the investment cutoff on June 30. TRA cash funds are held in the state treasury where they are commingled with other state funds. Minnesota Statutes, section 9.031, requires that deposits be secured by depository insurance and collateral shall be in amounts sufficient to ensure that deposits do not exceed 90 percent of the sum of the insured amount and the market value of the collateral. Throughout fiscal year 2011, the combined depository insurance and collateral was sufficient to meet legal requirements and secure all TRA deposits.

## N. Accounts Receivable

Amounts classified as accounts receivable consist primarily of member, employer contributions, and employer direct aid payments received after the fiscal year end on salaries earned prior to June 30, 2011. Under Minnesota Statutes, section 354.52, subdivision 4, TRA employers must remit contributions within 14 days after the member is paid.

If contributions are not remitted in a timely manner, interest at a rate of 8.50 percent, compounded annually, is assessed. If contributions are not received within 60 days of notification by TRA, the Commissioner of Minnesota Management & Budget is authorized to deduct the balance due TRA from state aids or

appropriations due to that employer unit. A Schedule of Accounts Receivable as of June 30, 2011, is presented in *Figure 8*.

*Figure 8*

Schedule of Accounts Receivable June 30, 2011	
Description	Amount
Member Contributions	\$ 5,803,110
Employer Contributions	5,803,279
Direct Aid (State/City/School)	3,795,092
Management Fees	90,290
Interest on Investments	131,680
Bond Interest	810
Total Receivables	<u>\$ 15,624,261</u>

## O. Earnings Limitation Savings Account (ELSA)

Teachers under their Social Security normal retirement age who resume teaching service for a TRA-covered employer after retirement are subject to a \$46,000 annual earnings limitation. If a member earns more than the limitation, the annuity payable during the following calendar year will be offset one dollar for each two dollars earned in excess of the limitation.

The pension offset amounts are redirected to a separate individual savings account, called the Earnings Limitation Savings Account (ELSA), and later distributed to the retiree. Six percent interest compounded annually accrued on ELSA accounts up through December 31, 2010. Effective January 1, 2011, ELSA accounts no longer accrue interest. A member may apply for a lump-sum payment of their ELSA, plus interest, as long as it has been at least one year after the last deferred amount was redirected to the ELSA account. Alternatively, the retiree may also choose a rollover of their ELSA account balance into an eligible retirement plan or individual retirement account (IRA) as specified by Section 402(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

As of June 30, 2011, TRA had 514 retirees with an ELSA account established. The total dollar value of ELSA accounts totaled \$6.18 million. The dollar amount of pension benefits withheld due to excess earnings during fiscal year 2011 was \$1.29 million. ELSA assets are invested in the TRA Fund until

distribution. Distributions of ELSA accounts for 871 retirees occurred during fiscal year 2011 and totaled \$14.95 million and are included as a deduction in the Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets as a component of Refund of Contributions to Members.

## P. Participating Pension Plan

All 87 employees of the Teachers Retirement Association are covered by the defined benefit plan administered by TRA. All TRA employees participate in the Coordinated Plan. TRA employees are eligible for the plan provisions described in Note 1, C.

Minnesota Statutes section 354.42 sets the rates for the employee and employer contributions. These statutes are established and amended by the state legislature. During fiscal year 2011, Coordinated members were required to contribute 5.5 percent of their annual covered salary. Employers contributed 5.5 percent of their annual covered salary for Coordinated members. The total covered payroll salaries for all TRA employees during fiscal year 2011 was approximately \$4.4 million. The total covered payroll salaries for the entire membership of TRA for fiscal year 2011 was approximately \$3.84 billion.

Expenses related to employer pension contributions for TRA employees are set by state statute. The contributions are described in *Figure 9*.

*Figure 9*

<b>Schedule of TRA Employer Pension Contributions For TRA Employees For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30</b>		
<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
\$239,869	\$263,169	\$267,444

## Q. Ownership of Office Building

The 1999 Legislature enacted authorization permitting TRA, the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA), and the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS) to purchase land and construct a 130,000 square foot office building to house the administrative offices of these three state entities. Ownership of the facility is prorated based on the amount of square footage each retirement system occupies in the building.

The building is located on 4.3 acres of land at 60 Empire Drive in Saint Paul. TRA has occupied the 4th Floor of the building since September 2001.

In June 2000, the State of Minnesota, under the authority of the Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget, issued 30-year revenue bonds totaling \$29 million to pay for the construction of the facility. Each owner (retirement system) is responsible for principal and interest payments based on its ownership percentage. These bonds are backed by the assets of the three retirement systems. At fiscal year end, TRA's share of the bonds payable is \$8,920,800. The bond payable decreased by \$255,150 during the fiscal year. Interest expected to be paid over the remaining term of the bonds is \$6,177,230. In *Figure 10*, TRA's share of the long-term bond repayment schedule including interest is summarized.

TRA's share of bond issuance costs are shown on the Statement of Plan Net Assets as Deferred Bond Charges and will be amortized over the 30-year life of the bonds.

TRA is depreciating its share of the facility over 40 years. The depreciation schedule, shown in *Figure 11* summarizes the asset valuation of the office building, building equipment and deferred bond charges.

Figure 10

<b>Schedule of Building Debt Service Payments</b> (TRA Share @ 37.8%) June 30, 2011			
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total Principal and Interest</b>
2012	\$ 264,600	\$ 520,180	\$ 784,780
2013	283,500	505,759	789,259
2014	292,950	490,167	783,117
2015	311,850	473,908	785,758
2016	330,750	456,444	787,194
2017	349,650	437,757	787,407
2018	368,550	417,827	786,377
2019	396,900	396,635	793,535
2020	415,800	373,814	789,614
2021	444,150	349,697	793,847
2022	472,500	323,603	796,103
2023	500,850	295,844	796,694
2024	529,200	266,419	795,619
2025	567,000	235,329	802,329
2026	595,350	202,017	797,367
2027	633,150	167,041	800,191
2028	680,400	129,843	810,243
2029	718,200	89,019	807,219
2030	<u>765,450</u>	<u>45,927</u>	<u>811,377</u>
	<u>\$ 8,920,800</u>	<u>\$6,177,230</u>	<u>\$ 15,098,030</u>

## R. Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions

Nearly all TRA employees are covered by the State Employees Group Insurance Plan (SEGIP) administered by the Department of Minnesota Management and Budget. At present, this plan subsidizes the cost of retiree insurance by charging a single premium rate for active employees and retirees, regardless of underwriting experience. As of June 30, 2011, the SEGIP had an unfunded net obligation of \$144,765,000 to be funded on a pay-as-you-go basis. TRA's allocated portion of this liability is \$57,000.

Figure 11

<b>Schedule of Office Building and Equipment Depreciation</b> (TRA Share @ 37.8%) June 30, 2011				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Balance 7/01/2010</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Deletions</b>	<b>Balance 6/30/2011</b>
Land	\$ <u>171,166</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>171,166</u>
Building	\$ 11,168,913	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 11,168,913
Reserve for Building Depreciation	<u>(2,511,818)</u>	<u>(279,216)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(2,791,034)</u>
Net Building	\$ <u>8,657,095</u>	\$ <u>(279,216)</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>8,377,879</u>
Building Equipment	\$ 110,176	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 110,176
Reserve for Building Equipment Depreciation	<u>(20,554)</u>	<u>(9,735)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(30,289)</u>
Net Building Equipment	\$ <u>89,622</u>	\$ <u>(9,735)</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>79,887</u>
Deferred Bond Charge	\$ 145,857	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 145,857
Reserve for Amortization	<u>(45,266)</u>	<u>(5,030)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(50,296)</u>
Net Deferred Bond Charge	\$ <u>100,591</u>	\$ <u>(5,030)</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>95,561</u>

## **S. Litigation: Swanson, et al. v. State of Minnesota, et al. (Ramsey County District Court File No. 62-CV-10-5285)**

A class action lawsuit was filed in May 2010 against the State's pension funds, including TRA, challenging the 2009 and 2010 legislative changes made to the annual cost-of-living adjustment for pension benefits.

The district court granted summary judgment to the State on all issues and dismissed the plaintiffs' complaint. The plaintiffs had until September 6, 2011, to appeal. No appeal was filed by the deadline.

## **II. Contributions Required and Made**

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 354 sets the rates (page 72, Line A4) for employee and employer contributions. These rates, expressed as level percentages of annual covered payroll, are determined to accumulate sufficient assets for paying benefits. Level percentage of payroll contribution rates are calculated using the entry age normal actuarial funding method. TRA also uses the level percentage of payroll method to amortize the fund's unfunded liability over a closed period ending June 30, 2037.

Contributions totaling \$462,256,447 (\$218,023,736 employee and \$244,232,711 employer and employer direct aid) were received in accordance with the statutory contribution rates and amounts. On page 72, Line C, statutory contributions are projected as insufficient to meet the actuarially determined required contributions. The deficiency is 3.88 percent of covered payroll. This translates into a contribution deficiency of about \$159.8 million projected for fiscal year 2012. Under current statute, TRA employee and employer contribution rates are scheduled to increase by a total of 3.00 percent by July 1, 2014. The Minnesota Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR) annually reviews the adequacy of TRA's statutory contributions.

## **III. Funded Status: TRA Plan**

### **A. Results of Most Recent Valuation**

The funded status of the TRA plan as of July 1, 2011, the most recent actuarial valuation date is as follows:

*(Dollars in thousands)*

Actuarial Accrued Liabilities (AAL)	\$	22,171,493
Actuarial Value of Assets	\$	17,132,383
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)	\$	5,039,110
Ratio of Assets to AAL		77.27%
Active Member Payroll	\$	3,838,111
UAAL as a Percentage of Active Member Payroll		131.29%

An actuarial valuation of a pension plan involves estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, levels of pay, and mortality. Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review or modification as actual results are compared with past assumptions and new estimates are made about the future.

### **B. Description of Schedule of Funding Progress (Page 35)**

The funding percentage of the actuarial accrued liability funded ratio is a measure intended to help users assess the plan's funding status using a multi-year trend analysis to gauge progress being made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due.

The laws governing TRA require that actuarial liabilities be amortized over a closed amortization date ending June 30, 2037. If actual financial experiences are less favorable than assumed financial experiences, the difference will be added to the unfunded actuarial accrued liability.

In an inflationary economy, the value of the dollar is decreasing. This environment results in employee pay increasing in dollar amount, with a corresponding increase in unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities. Reviewing the dollar amounts of unfunded liabilities in isolation can be misleading. The ratio of unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities divided by active employee covered salaries (covered payroll) provides an index that adjusts for the effects of inflation. A stronger system will have a smaller ratio of unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities to active member payroll. Observation of this relative index over a period of years will give an indication of whether the system is becoming financially stronger or weaker.

For the past seven years, TRA has had a funding ratio of less than the fully funded status of 100 percent. The actuarial value of TRA assets has fallen for the past six years due to the recognition of investment losses sustained, particularly from those occurring during the deep market declines from mid-2007 through March 2009. Investment gains experienced during fiscal years 2010 and 2011 have slowed the decline in the actuarial value of assets. As of June 30, 2011, TRA had approximately \$165 million (page 68, Line 6e) in deferred investment gains produced by the five-year smoothing of investment gains and losses.

The value of TRA actuarial accrued liabilities for June 30, 2011 (\$22.17 billion) is lower than the actuarial accrued liabilities for June 30, 2009 (\$23.11 billion), two years earlier. The primary reasons for decreased liabilities is due to plan provision changes and revised actuarial assumptions enacted by the 2010 Minnesota Legislature.

In summary, TRA's actuarial funding ratio of 77.27% for June 30, 2011, is slightly lower than the July 1, 2010, funding ratio of 78.45%, primarily due to the decline in the actuarial value of assets generated by the five-year smoothing method. On June 30, 2011, the value of TRA's unfunded actuarial liabilities was about \$5.04 billion.

## **C. Description of the Schedule of Contributions from Employers and Other Contributing Entities (Page 35)**

The amount of required employer contributions and actual percentage contributed are presented in the schedule. Employer contribution rates for TRA are set by Minnesota Statute. Minnesota Statute also specifies direct contribution amounts contributed by the State of Minnesota, the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis School District.

## **D. Actuarial Assumptions and Methods**

### **Actuarial Cost Method**

Liabilities and contributions in this report are computed using the Individual Entry Age Normal Cost Method. This method is prescribed by Minnesota Statutes. The actuarial assumptions used to determine liabilities have been set by the Minnesota legislature.

A fundamental principle in financing the liabilities of a retirement plan is that the cost of its benefits should be related to the period in which benefits are earned, rather than to the period of benefit distribution. An actuarial cost method is a mathematical technique that allocates present value of future benefits into annual costs. In order to perform this allocation, a funding method is necessary to "breakdown" the present value of future benefits into two components:

- That which is attributable to the past and
- That which is attributable to the future.

Under the Entry Age Normal cost method, the actuarial present value of each member's projected benefits allocates on a level basis over the member's compensation between the entry age of the member and the assumed exit ages. The portion of the actuarial present value allocated to the valuation year is called the normal cost. The actuarial present value of benefits allocated to prior years of service is called the actuarial accrued liability. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) represents the difference



between the actuarial accrued liability and the actuarial value of assets as of the valuation date.

The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is calculated each year and reflects plan experience of gains and losses. The UAAL is amortized over a closed period set in Minnesota Statute (June 30, 2037). Required contributions to fund the UAAL are determined as a level percentage of payroll assuming payroll increases of 3.75 percent annually.

### **Asset Valuation Method**

The assets are valued based on a five-year moving average of expected and market values (five-year average actuarial value) determined as follows:

- At the end of each plan year, an average asset value is calculated as the average of the market asset value at the beginning and end of the fiscal year net of investment income for the fiscal year;
- The investment gain or (loss) is taken as the excess of actual investment income over the expected investment income based on the average asset value as calculated above;
- The investment gain or (loss) so determined is recognized over five years at 20 percent per year;
- The asset value is the sum of the market value plus the scheduled recognition of investment gains of (losses) during the current and preceding four fiscal years.

TRA participated in the Minnesota Post Retirement Investment Fund (MPRIF), which was dissolved on June 30, 2009. For the purposes of determining the actuarial value of assets, the MPRIF asset loss for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, is recognized incrementally over five years at 20 percent per year, similar to the smoothing described above. Prior to June 30, 2009, MPRIF asset gains and losses were not smoothed.

### **Decrement Timing**

One actuarial assumption is to specify the timing of when a member status change occurs – for example, a member who may terminate teaching service during the year. Decrement timing is a fundamental part of the actuarial consultant’s computer programming underlying actuarial calculations. The computer systems used by Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting specify the “mid-year” method of decrement timing, the preferred method specified by the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirements, “Standards for Actuarial Work.”

### **Funding Objective**

The fundamental financing objective of the fund is to establish contribution rates that, when expressed as a percentage of active member payroll, will remain approximately level from generation to generation and meet the required deadline for full funding.

### **Significant Actuarial Assumptions**

Assumptions used by the actuary for funding purpose are set by Minnesota Statute. They include:

- Inflation Rate – 3.0 percent
- Investment Return
  - 8.5 percent compounded annually post-retirement for the July 1, 2011, valuation
  - 6.5 percent compounded annually post-retirement thereafter (beginning with July 1, 2012 valuation)
  - 8.5 percent compounded annually pre-retirement (all years)
- Salary Scale – The active member payroll growth was assumed to increase 3.75 percent annually. Individual salary increases were based on a service years-based table, with rates ranging from 3.5 to 12.0 percent, annually.
- Benefit Payments – Annual benefit increases are established in statute by the Minnesota Legislature. No annual increases will be paid to TRA benefit recipients on January 1, 2012. Beginning January 1, 2013, an annual increase of 2.0 percent will be paid.

- **Amortization Method** – The unfunded liability is amortized as a level percentage of covered active member payroll each year to the closed statutory amortization date of June 30, 2037, assuming payroll increases of 3.75 percent per year. If the UAAL is negative, the surplus amount is amortized over 30 years as a level percentage of payroll. If there is an increase in the unfunded accrued liability due to a change in the actuarial assumptions, plan provisions, or actuarial cost method, a new amortization period is determined. This new amortization period is determined by blending the period needed to amortize the prior unfunded actuarial accrued liability over the prior amortization period and the increase in unfunded actuarial accrued liability amortized over 30 years. If there is a decrease in the unfunded accrued liability, no change is made to the amortization period.
- **Remaining Amortization Period** – closed period ending June 30, 2037 (26 years remaining).

## **E. Projection of Benefits**

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the plan provisions contained in Minnesota Statutes. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in the actuarial value of assets for TRA assets. The preparation of the actuarial valuation report is also defined by the Standards for Actuarial Reporting promulgated by the LCPR.



## Required Supplementary Information

### Schedule of Funding Progress (Unaudited)

Dollar Amounts in Thousands

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (A)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (B)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (B - A)	Funded Ratio (A / B)	Actual Covered Payroll (Previous FY) (C)	UAAL as Percentage of Covered Payroll (B - A) / (C)
7/01/02	\$17,378,994	\$16,503,099	\$ (875,895)	105.31%	\$2,873,771	-30.48%
7/01/03	\$17,384,179	\$16,856,379	\$ (527,800)	103.13%	\$2,952,887	-17.87%
7/01/04	\$17,519,909	\$17,518,784	\$ (1,126)	100.01%	\$3,032,483	-0.04%
7/01/05	\$17,752,917	\$18,021,410	\$ 268,493	98.51%	\$3,121,571	8.60%
7/01/06	\$19,035,612	\$20,679,111	\$ 1,643,499	92.05%	\$3,430,645	47.91%
7/01/07	\$18,794,389	\$21,470,314	\$ 2,675,925	87.54%	\$3,532,159	75.76%
7/01/08	\$18,226,985	\$22,230,841	\$ 4,003,856	81.99%	\$3,645,230	109.84%
7/01/09	\$17,882,408	\$23,114,802	\$ 5,232,394	77.36%	\$3,761,484	139.10%
7/01/10	\$17,323,146	\$22,081,634	\$ 4,758,488	78.45%	\$3,787,757	125.63%
7/01/11	\$17,132,383	\$22,171,493	\$ 5,039,110	77.27%	\$3,838,111	131.29%

### Schedule of Contributions From the Employer and Other Contributing Entities (Unaudited)

Dollar Amounts in Thousands

Year End June 30	Actuarially* Required Contribution Rate (a)	Actual Covered Payroll (b)	Actual Member Contributions (c)	ARC Annual Required Contributions [(a) x (b)] - (c)	Actual Employer Contribution	Percentage Contributed
2002	7.85%	\$2,873,771	\$152,331	\$ 73,260	\$142,222	194.13%
2003	7.57%	\$2,952,887	\$155,577	\$ 67,957	\$149,481	219.96%
2004	8.37%	\$3,032,483	\$159,140	\$ 94,679	\$151,029	159.52%
2005	8.46%	\$3,121,571	\$160,982	\$ 103,103	\$157,693	152.95%
2006	9.05%	\$3,430,645	\$177,085	\$ 133,389	\$200,286	150.15%
2007	12.16%	\$3,532,159	\$199,869	\$ 229,642	\$209,219	91.11%
2008	13.44%	\$3,645,230	\$209,592	\$ 280,327	\$231,562	82.60%
2009	15.08%	\$3,761,484	\$212,043	\$ 355,189	\$240,718	67.72%
2010	16.81%	\$3,787,757	\$214,909	\$ 421,813	\$242,088	57.39%
2011	15.71%	\$3,838,111	\$218,024	\$ 384,943	\$244,233	63.45%
2012	16.58%					

\*Actuarially Required Contributions calculated according to parameters of GASB 25.

**This page intentionally left blank.**

Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota



## Supporting Schedules to Financial Section

# Teachers Retirement Fund

## Administrative Expenses

---

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

### Personnel Services

Salaries .....	\$ 4,425,986
Employer Contributions to Teachers Retirement Association .....	239,869
Employer Contributions to Social Security .....	319,269
Insurance Contributions .....	888,227
Employee Training .....	46,048
Workers' Compensation .....	<u>2,893</u>
<b>Subtotal</b> .....	<b>\$ 5,922,292</b>

### Communication

Duplicating and Printing Expense .....	\$ 62,305
Postage .....	213,421
Telephone .....	<u>81,681</u>
<b>Subtotal</b> .....	<b>\$ 357,407</b>

### Office Building Maintenance

Lease of Office and Storage Space .....	\$ 32,602
Building Operating Expenses .....	482,353
Rental of Office Machines/Furnishings .....	30,856
Repairs and Maintenance .....	118,899
Building Equipment Depreciation .....	9,735
Building Depreciation .....	279,216
Deferred Bond Charge Amortization .....	5,030
Bond Interest Expense .....	<u>532,810</u>
<b>Subtotal</b> .....	<b>\$ 1,491,501</b>

### Professional Services

Actuarial Services .....	\$ 199,878
Audit Fees .....	140,758
Computer Support Services .....	326,960
Legal Fees.....	58,454
Management Consultant Services .....	77,240
Medical Services .....	<u>46,567</u>
<b>Subtotal</b> .....	<b>\$ 849,857</b>

### Other Operating Expenses

Department Head Expenses .....	\$ 1,276
Depreciation of Office Furniture and Equipment .....	298,011
Dues and Subscriptions .....	25,294
Insurance Expense .....	5,005
Miscellaneous Administrative Expenses .....	14,018
State Indirect Costs .....	107,526
Stationery and Office Supplies .....	121,127
Travel-Director and Staff .....	32,138
Travel-Trustees .....	33,048
Board Substitute Teachers .....	1,245
Loss on Disposal of Equipment .....	<u>4,533</u>
<b>Subtotal</b> .....	<b>\$ 643,221</b>

**Total Administrative Expenses** ..... **\$ 9,264,278**

# Teachers Retirement Fund

## Schedule of Professional Consultant Expenses

---

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

### Investment Pool Managers

Domestic Equity Pool Managers .....	\$ 6,977,773
Financial Control Systems .....	155,448
Fixed Income Pool Managers.....	3,555,089
Global Pool Managers.....	9,062,956
Investment Board .....	1,044,710
Callan Associates. ....	134,871
Passive Equity Pool Managers .....	316,825
Pension Consulting Alliance .....	13,123
Semi-Passive Equity Pool Managers.....	<u>2,888,756</u>
Total Investment Pool Managers.....	\$ 24,149,551

### Actuarial

Mercer HR Consulting .....	\$ 199,878
Total Actuarial Expenses.....	\$ 199,878

### Audit

Berwyn Group.....	\$ 8,428
Legislative Auditor.....	132,165
Minnesota Department of Health .....	<u>165</u>
Total Audit Expenses .....	\$ 140,758

### Computer Support Services

Fulcrum Consulting .....	\$ 505,299
NetSPI .....	<u>23,400</u>
Total Computer Support Services Expenses .....	\$ 528,699

### Legal

Attorney General .....	\$ 56,732
Pension Lawsuit .....	<u>1,722</u>
Total Legal Expenses .....	\$ 58,454

### Management Consulting

Survey & Ballot Systems .....	\$ 20,005
UpNorth-Vet, Inc .....	<u>57,235</u>
Total Management Consulting .....	\$ 77,240

### Medical

ExamWorks, Inc.....	\$ 1,435
Minnesota Department of Health .....	43,600
Stubbe & Associates .....	<u>1,532</u>
Total Medical Expenses .....	\$ 46,567

<b>Total Consultant Expenses .....</b>	<b><u>\$ 25,201,147</u></b>
--	-----------------------------

**This page intentionally left blank.**



Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota



# Investments

Investments

Investments

Investments

Investments

Investments

Investments

# State Board of Investment Letter

## MINNESOTA STATE BOARD OF INVESTMENT



### Board Members:

Governor  
Mark Dayton

State Auditor  
Rebecca Otto

Secretary of State  
Mark Ritchie

Attorney General  
Lori Swanson

### Executive Director:

Howard J. Bicker

60 Empire Drive  
Suite 355  
St. Paul, MN 55103  
(651) 296-3328  
FAX (651) 296-9572  
E-mail:

[minn.sbi@state.mn.us](mailto:minn.sbi@state.mn.us)  
[www.sbi.state.mn.us](http://www.sbi.state.mn.us)

*An Equal Opportunity  
Employer*

## INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

The assets of the Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) are invested along with the assets of the Public Employees Retirement Association and the Minnesota State Retirement System under the direction and authority of the State Board of Investment (SBI) in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 11A and 356A. The SBI includes Minnesota's governor, auditor, secretary of state and attorney general. The Legislature has established a 17-member Investment Advisory Council to advise the SBI and its staff on investment related matters. TRA's executive director is a member of the Council.

## INVESTMENT POLICY

Investment policy states that the SBI will operate within standard investment practices of the prudent person. The SBI is to "exercise that degree of judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived therefrom." (See M.S., section 11A.09.) The SBI is authorized to own government obligations, corporate obligations, various short-term obligations, corporate stocks, venture capital interests, resource investments, and real estate interests subject to specific constraints. (See M.S., section 11A.24.) In particular, pension fund assets are to be invested for the exclusive benefit of the members of the fund.

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES & PERFORMANCE

TRA's pension contributions from employees and employers are invested in the Combined Funds. The Combined Funds include the assets of active and retired public employees who participate in the defined benefit plans administered by TRA, the Minnesota State Retirement System, and the Public Employees Retirement Association. TRA does not own any underlying assets, but instead owns a participation in the pooled Combined Funds. Because these assets normally accumulate for thirty to forty years, SBI's objective is to take advantage of the long investment time horizon offered by equities and alternative assets in order to meet its actuarial return target of 8.5 percent per year and ensure that sufficient funds are available to finance promised benefits at the time of retirement.

The long term objectives of the Combined Funds are:

- Provide returns that are 3-5 percentage points greater than inflation over the latest 20-year period; and
- Outperform a composite market index weighted in a manner that reflects the actual asset mix of the Combined Funds over the latest 10-year period.

Consistent with these objectives, the SBI maintains a long-term asset allocation for the Combined Funds as follows:

- |                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| • Domestic Equity      | 45% |
| • International Equity | 15% |
| • Alternatives         | 20% |
| • Fixed Income         | 18% |
| • Cash                 | 2%  |

Assets uninvested in alternatives are invested in fixed income.

Based on values on June 30, 2011, the Combined Funds returned 6.3% percentage points above the CPI over the last 20 years and returned 0.1 percentage point above the composite index over the past 10 years. Investment returns ranked in the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile over the past five years and in the 44<sup>th</sup> percentile over the past 10 years, compared to similar funds in the Trust Universe Comparison Service.

#### INVESTMENT PRESENTATION

Investment returns were prepared using time-weighted rate of return methodology based upon fair market value, net of investment expenses.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard Bicker  
Executive Director  
State Board of Investment

# Investment Summary

---

Prepared by TRA management with data obtained from the State Board of Investment's Fiscal Year 2011 Quarterly Investment Reports

The assets of the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) are invested under the direction and authority of the State Board of Investment (SBI). The investment portfolio of TRA had a fair value of approximately \$17.29 billion as of June 30, 2011.

The four-member SBI Board consists of Governor Mark Dayton (Chair), Attorney General Lori Swanson, Secretary of State Mark Ritchie, and State Auditor Rebecca Otto. Howard Bicker serves as SBI's Executive Director.

The Legislature has established a 17-member Investment Advisory Council (IAC) to advise the SBI and its staff on investment-related matters.

- The mission statement of the Investment Advisory Council is: The IAC fulfills its statutory duty to the SBI by providing advice and independent due diligence review of the investment policy and implementation recommendations that guide the SBI's investment of assets.
- SBI appoints ten members experienced in finance and investment. These members traditionally have come from the Minneapolis and Saint Paul corporate investment community.
- The Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) and the executive directors of TRA, the Minnesota State Retirement System and the Public Employees Retirement Association are permanent members of the Council.
- Two active employee representatives and one retiree representative are appointed to the Council by the Governor.
- All proposed investment policies are reviewed by the full Council before they are presented to SBI for action.

## Investment Advisory Council

As of December 2011

**Jeffery Bailey, Chair**  
Director, Benefits Finance  
Target Corporation

**Malcolm W. McDonald,**  
**Vice Chair**  
Director and Corporate Secretary  
(Retired)  
Space Center, Inc.

**Denise Anderson**  
Governor's Appointee  
Active Employee Representative

**David Bergstrom**  
Executive Director  
MN State Retirement System

**John E. Bohan**  
Vice Pres., Pension Investments  
(Retired)  
Grand Metropolitan-Pillsbury

**Kerry Brick**  
Manager, Pension Investments  
Cargill, Inc.

**Dennis Duerst**  
Director, Benefit Funds Investment  
3M Company

**Douglas Gorence**  
Chief Investment Officer  
U of M Foundation Investment  
Advisors

**Laurie Fiori Hacking**  
Executive Director  
Teachers Retirement Association

**P. Jay Kiedrowski**  
Senior Fellow  
Humphrey Institute  
University of Minnesota

**Judith W. Mares**  
Chief Investment Officer  
Alliant Techsystems, Inc.

**Gary Martin**  
Vice President, Pension Investments  
SUPERVALU, Inc.

**Gary R. Norstrom**  
Treasurer (Retired)  
City of Saint Paul

**Jim Schowalter**  
Commissioner  
Minnesota Management & Budget

**LeaAnn Stagg**  
Governor's Appointee  
Active Employee Representative

**Mary Vanek**  
Executive Director  
Public Employees Retirement  
Association

**Elaine Voss**  
Governor's Appointee  
Retiree Representative

Callan Associates, of Chicago are general consultants to the SBI. Pension Consulting Alliance of Studio City, California, serves as a special project consultant. Investment performance methodology is reported in compliance with the mandatory requirements of the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute. All investments made by SBI are governed by the prudent person rule and other standards codified in Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 11A and 356.

## Combined Retirement Funds

### Investment Objectives

All TRA assets are accounted for within the Combined Funds managed by the Minnesota State Board of Investment (SBI). The Combined Funds consist not only of the TRA Fund, but also the assets of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) and the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS). The SBI has one primary responsibility with respect to its management of the Combined Funds: to ensure that sufficient funds are available to finance pension benefits at the time of retirement. All assets in the Combined Funds, including TRA, are managed externally by outside money management firms retained by contract.

The Combined Funds include the pension contributions of most Minnesota public employees, including TRA members, during their working years. Employee and employer contribution rates are specified in state law as a percentage of an employee's salary. The rates are set so that contributions plus expected investment earnings cover the projected cost of promised pension benefits. In order to meet these projected pension costs, the Combined Funds need to generate investment returns of at least 8.5 percent on an annualized basis over time.

While an active member is working, employee and employer contributions are placed into the TRA Fund. The pre-funding of future pension benefits provides the SBI with a long investment time horizon to take advantage of long run return opportunities offered by equities and other investments, in order to meet its actuarial return target.

SBI measures the performance of the Combined Funds relative to a composite of market indices that is weighted in a manner that reflects their long-term asset allocation policy. The Combined Funds are expected to match or exceed the composite index over a ten-year period. The Combined Funds are also expected to match or exceed returns that are 3 to 5 percent greater than inflation over the latest 20 year period. Investment returns are prepared using a time-weighted rate of return methodology, based upon fair values, net of investment expenses. Performance is measured net of all fees and costs to assure that SBI's focus is on the Combined Funds' true net return.

### Asset Allocation

The allocation of assets among equities, fixed income (bonds) and alternative investments can have a dramatic impact on investment results. In fact, asset allocation decisions overwhelm the impact of individual security selection within a total portfolio. Consequently, SBI focuses considerable attention on the selection of an appropriate long-term asset allocation policy for the Combined Funds. The asset allocation policy in place as of June 30, 2011, was:

<b>Combined Funds Asset Mix</b>		
June 30, 2011		
	<b>Policy Mix</b>	<b>Actual Mix</b>
Domestic Equity	45.0%	45.0%
International Equity	15.0%	15.8%
Fixed Income (Bonds)	18.0%	22.2%
Alternative Assets*	20.0%	14.6%
Unallocated Cash	<u>2.0%</u>	<u>2.4%</u>
Total	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

\*Any uninvested allocation is held in bonds.

### Total Return Vehicles

SBI invested the majority of the Combined Funds' assets in common stocks (both domestic and international equities). A large allocation is consistent with the investment time horizon of the Combined Funds and the advantageous long-term risk-return characteristics of common stocks. Including international equities in the asset mix allowed SBI to diversify its holdings across world markets, offered the opportunity to enhance returns and reduced the risk/volatility of the total portfolio. The rationale underlying the inclusion of private equity alternative assets (e.g., venture capital) is similar.

SBI recognized that this sizable policy allocation to common stock and private equity likely produced more volatile portfolio returns than a more conservative policy focused on fixed income securities. It is understood that this policy may result in quarters or even years of disappointing results. Nevertheless, the long run return benefits of this policy are expected to compensate for the additional volatility.



## Diversification Vehicles

Other asset classes are included in the Combined Funds both to provide some insulation against highly inflationary or deflationary environments and to diversify the portfolio sufficiently to avoid excessive return volatility.

Real estate and resource (oil and gas) investments provide an inflation hedge that other financial assets do not offer. In periods of rapidly rising prices, these “hard” assets have appreciated in value at a rate at least equal to the inflation rate. Further, even under more normal financial conditions, such as low to moderate inflation, the returns on these assets were not highly correlated with common stocks. As a result, their inclusion in the Combined Funds served to dampen return volatility.

Yield oriented alternative investments provided the opportunity for higher long-term returns than those typically available from bonds yet still generated sufficient current income. Typically, these investments, including subordinated debt, mezzanine or resource income investments such as producing properties, are structured more like fixed income securities with the opportunity to participate in the appreciation of the underlying assets. While these investments may have an equity component, they display a return pattern more like a bond. As such, they helped reduce the volatility of the total portfolio, while generating higher returns relative to more traditional bond investments.

The allocation to fixed income (bonds) acts as a hedge against a deflationary economic environment. In the event of a major deflation, high-quality fixed income assets, particularly long-term bonds, are expected to protect principal and generate significant capital gains. And, like real estate and resource funds, under normal financial conditions, bonds help diversify the Combined Funds and thereby control return volatility.

## Rate of Return Results

The Combined Funds produced a total rate of return for fiscal year 2011 of 23.3 percent. Over the last five years, the Combined Funds generated an annualized return of 5.3 percent.

As stated earlier, the Combined Funds are expected to exceed the return of a composite of market indices over a ten-year period. Performance relative to this standard measured two effects:

- The ability of the managers selected by SBI, in aggregate, to add value to the returns available from the broad capital markets.
- The impact of SBI’s rebalancing activity. (SBI rebalances the total fund when market movements take the stock or bond segments measurably above or below their long-term asset allocation targets. The policy imposes a low risk buy low-sell high discipline among asset classes on a total fund basis.)

### Combined Funds Performance vs. Composite Index

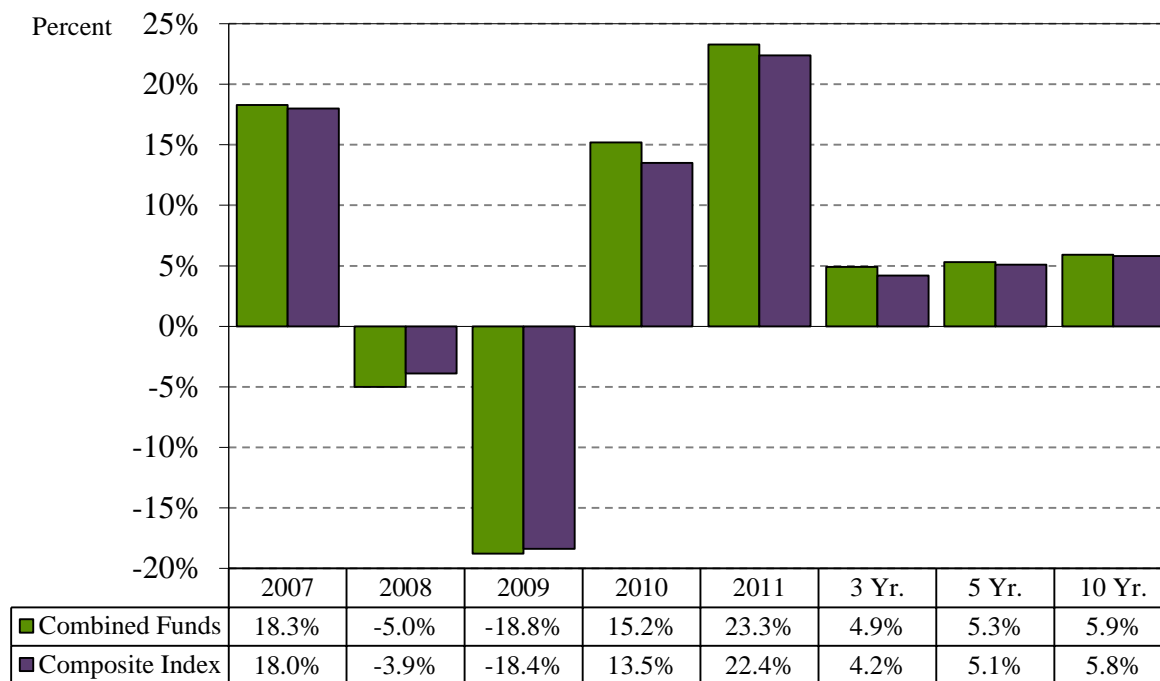
For the ten-year period ending June 30, 2011, the Combined Funds exceeded the composite index investment performance by 0.1 percent annualized. The Funds outperformed the composite index by 0.2 percentage point over the last five years, and outperformed the index over the most recent fiscal year by 0.9 percentage point. Actual returns relative to the total fund composite index over the last five years are shown in the graph on the following page.



# Combined Funds

## Investment Performance

Combined Funds Performance vs. Composite Index FY 2007 – 2011



## Combined Funds

### Performance of Asset Pools (Net of Fees)

June 30, 2011 — Combined Funds

	Rates of Return (Annualized)			
	FY 2011	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
<b>Domestic Equity Pool</b> .....	<b>33.1%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
Asset Class Target .....	32.4%	4.0%	3.4%	3.4%
(Russell 3000 – effective 10-1-03)				
<b>Fixed Income (Bond) Pool</b> .....	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>
Asset Class Target .....	3.9%	6.5%	6.5%	5.7%
(Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index)				
<b>International Equity Pool</b> .....	<b>29.6%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
Asset Class Target .....	29.7%	-0.3%	3.7%	7.4%
(Morgan Stanley Capital International All-Country World Index – since 6-1-08)				
<b>Alternative Assets</b> .....	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>
(Real Estate, Private Equity, Resource Pool and Yield Oriented Pool)				
CPI-U Inflation (No Established Index for Alternative Assets) ..	3.6%	1.0%	2.2%	2.3%

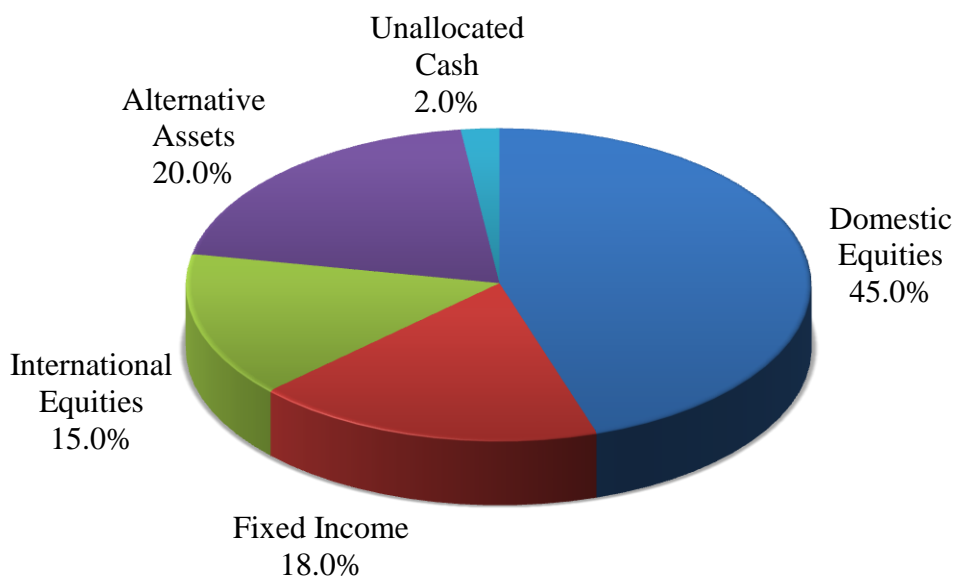
All investment performance methodology is reported in compliance with the mandatory requirements of the Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA) Institute, as described on page 45.

## Combined Funds

### Portfolio Distribution: Policy Asset Mix

---

As of June 30, 2011

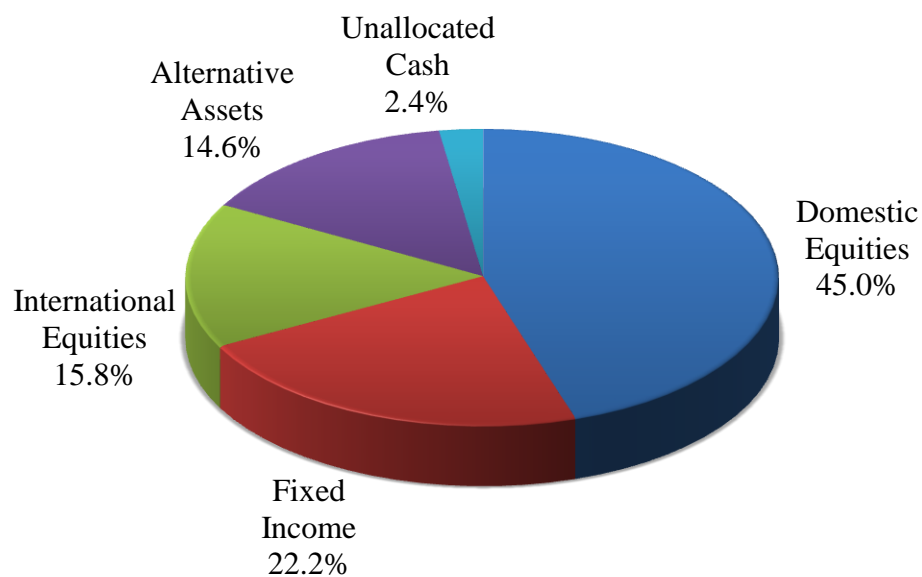


## Combined Funds

### Portfolio Distribution: Actual Asset Mix

---

As of June 30, 2011



TRA Fund fair value equals \$17.29 billion.

# Teachers Retirement Fund

## List of Largest Assets Held

June 30, 2011

### Composite Holdings of Top Ten Equities

By Fair Value

Security	\$ Fair Value (Millions)	% of Portfolio
EXXON MOBIL CORP	\$203.7	1.18%
APPLE INC	\$176.8	1.02%
CHEVRON CORP	\$108.7	0.63%
INTL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP	\$104.3	0.60%
MICROSOFT CORP	\$99.0	0.57%
JPMORGAN CHASE & CO	\$93.7	0.54%
AT&T INC	\$89.9	0.52%
GENERAL ELECTRIC CO	\$86.9	0.50%
PFIZER INC	\$80.7	0.47%
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	\$75.8	0.44%

### Composite Holdings of Top Ten Bond Holdings

By Fair Value

Security	% Coupon	\$ Fair Value (Millions)	% of Portfolio
FNMA TBA JUL 30 SINGLE FAM	6.000	\$49.6	0.29%
GNMA II TBA JUL 30 4.5PCT	4.500	\$45.8	0.27%
US TREASURY N/B	4.750	\$45.4	0.26%
FNMA TBA JUL 30YR SINGLE FAM	4.000	\$40.3	0.23%
FNMA TBA JUL 30 SINGLE FAM	4.500	\$37.3	0.22%
US TREASURY	2.375	\$37.2	0.22%
WI TREASURY SEC	0.500	\$34.6	0.20%
US TREASURY N/B	2.000	\$33.3	0.19%
FNMA TBA JUL 30 SINGLE FAM	5.500	\$30.5	0.18%
US TREASURY N/B	0.625	\$30.1	0.17%

TRA's assets are commingled in various pooled investment accounts administered by the State Board of Investment (SBI). TRA does not own specific values of the underlying assets. The percentages and fair value shown are those attributable to the TRA Fund based on TRA's participation in the SBI's Combined Funds. Information on investment activity, a listing of specific investments owned by the pooled accounts and a schedule of fees and commissions can be obtained from SBI.

# Teachers Retirement Fund

## Schedule of Investment Management Fees

---

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

### Global Pool Managers

Acadian Asset .....	\$ 447,633
AllianceBernstein .....	416,684
AQR Capital Management .....	521,212
Capital Intern .....	2,071,508
Pyramis Global Advisors (Trust) .....	486,888
Pyramis Global Advisors .....	292,208
Invesco Global Assets .....	280,390
JP Morgan Fleming .....	390,398
Marathon Asset Management .....	643,019
McKinley Capital Management .....	382,673
Morgan Stanley Dean .....	2,214,685
Columbia Investments .....	319,592
State Street Alpha .....	430,799
State Street .....	<u>165,267</u>
Total Global Pool Managers .....	<u>\$ 9,062,956</u>

### Passive Equity Pool Managers

Blackrock .....	<u>\$ 316,825</u>
Total Passive Equity Pool Managers .....	<u>\$ 316,825</u>

### Semi-Passive Equity Pool Managers

Blackrock .....	\$ 916,479
Intech .....	523,469
JP Morgan .....	965,637
Mellon Capital .....	<u>483,171</u>
Total Semi-Passive Equity Pool Managers .....	<u>\$ 2,888,756</u>

### Domestic Fixed Income Pool Managers

Aberdeen Asset Management .....	\$ 531,059
Blackrock Financial Mgmt .....	328,162
Columbia Invest .....	349,019
Dodge & Cox .....	389,295
Goldman .....	463,306
Neuberger .....	204,271
PIMCO .....	854,700
Western Asset Management .....	<u>435,277</u>
Total Domestic Fixed Income Pool Managers .....	<u>\$ 3,555,089</u>

Page Subtotal ..... \$ 15,823,626

# Teachers Retirement Fund

## Schedule of Investment Management Fees (cont.)

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

Subtotal from Previous Page ..... \$ 15,823,626

### Domestic Equity Pool Managers

AllianceBernstein L.P. ....	\$ (196,328)
Barrow, Hanley .....	311,450
EARNEST Partners .....	168,850
INTECH Investment .....	381,606
Goldman Equity .....	438,876
Hotchkis & Wiley .....	506,760
Jacobs Levy Equity .....	354,918
Knelman Asset Mgmt .....	120,756
Lord, Abbett & Co. ....	(35,482)
LSV Asset .....	317,940
Martingale .....	237,764
Mckinley Capital .....	367,740
New Amsterdam .....	187,183
Next Century Growth Investors .....	844,475
Peregrine Capital .....	539,172
Sands Capital .....	441,616
Systematic Financial .....	353,475
Turner Investments .....	616,239
UBS Global Asset .....	230,457
Winslow Capital .....	224,166
Zevenbergen Capital .....	566,140
Total Domestic Equity Pool Managers .....	\$ 6,977,773
Total Investment Pool Management Fees .....	\$ 22,801,399

### Other Investment Management Fees

Financial Control Systems .....	\$ 155,448
Callan Associates .....	134,871
Pension Consulting Alliance .....	13,123
State Board of Investment .....	1,044,710
Total Other Investment Management Fees .....	\$ 1,348,152
Total Investment Management Fees .....	\$ 24,149,551

# Teachers Retirement Fund

## Summary of Investments

As of June 30, 2011

	Cost Value	Fair Value	% of Investments at Fair Value
<b>Fixed Income Investments</b>			
Fixed Income Pool	\$ 3,502,077,209	\$ 3,821,521,932	22.1%
<b>Equity Investments</b>			
TRA Minneapolis Pool	\$ 144,956	\$ 195,730	0.0%
External Indexed Equity Pool	2,495,651,014	3,076,747,477	17.8%
Global Equity Pool	2,091,706,525	2,723,272,261	15.7%
External Domestic Equity Pool	<u>3,234,348,642</u>	<u>4,675,143,126</u>	<u>27.0%</u>
Total Equity Investments	\$ 7,821,851,137	\$ 10,475,358,594	60.6%
<b>Alternative Investments</b>			
Alternative Investment Pool	\$ 2,165,945,816	\$ 2,530,477,794	14.6%
<b>Short Term Investment</b>			
Short Term Cash Equivalents	\$ 464,404,364	\$ 464,404,364	2.7%
<b>Total Investments</b>	<u>\$ 13,954,278,526</u>	<u>\$ 17,291,762,684</u>	100.0%

### General Information Regarding Investment of Funds

TRA's investments are made by SBI and external managers as prescribed by law, and are made only in such securities as are duly authorized legal investments in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 11A.24. State Street Bank and Trust of Boston acts as custodian of securities for the Combined Funds. Wells Fargo, Saint Paul, Minnesota, is the current custodian of short term investments of SBI. Examination and verification of securities held by the custodians is performed periodically by the Minnesota Office of the Legislative Auditor. Investment returns are prepared using a time-weighted rate of return methodology, based upon fair values, net of investment expenses.

Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota



# Actuarial

Actuarial

Actuarial

Actuarial

Actuarial

Actuarial

Actuarial



# Actuary's Certification Letter



**Cavanaugh Macdonald**  
CONSULTING, LLC  
*The experience and dedication you deserve*

December 5, 2011

Board of Trustees  
Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
60 Empire Drive, Suite 400  
St. Paul, MN 55103

Dear Board Members:

At your request, we have prepared an actuarial valuation of the Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota (TRA or System) as of July 1, 2011 for the plan year ending June 30, 2012. To the best of our knowledge and belief, the valuation was performed in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 356.215, and the requirements of the Standards for Actuarial work established by the State of Minnesota Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR). These valuation results reflect the benefit provisions in place on July 1, 2011. There was no change to the actuarial methods or the plan provisions from the prior valuation. There were two changes in the actuarial assumptions used in the valuation. The salary increase assumption was changed to a service based assumption and the payroll growth assumption was decreased from 4.50% to 3.75%.

This is the first valuation prepared by Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, LLC (CMC). As part of our transition work, we replicated the July 1, 2010 actuarial valuation. While results were well within acceptable limits, there was some difference in the key valuation measurements. Based on our experience in replicating valuation results from other software programs, these differences are neither unusual nor significant.

As described in the valuation report, the results of the valuation indicate that the System is 77.3% funded and the current statutory contribution rates are deficient by 3.88% of payroll to meet the target of full funding by 2037. The deficiency does not reflect the member and employer contribution increases that will be phased in over the next three years beginning on July 1, 2012. After the contribution increases are fully phased in the statutory contributions will be 3.00% of payroll higher than they are today. This report was prepared exclusively for TRA and the LCPR to determine the annual required contribution and to present accounting results required under GASB No. 25, as amended by GASB 50.

In preparing this report, we relied, without audit, on information (some oral and some in writing) supplied by TRA staff. This information includes, but is not limited to, statutory provisions, member data and financial information. We found this information to be reasonable and comparable to information used in last year's valuation. The valuation results depend on the integrity of this information. If any of this information is inaccurate or incomplete, our results may be different and our calculations may need to be revised.

3906 Raynor Pkwy, Suite 106, Bellevue, NE 68123  
Phone (402) 905-4461 • Fax (402) 905-4464  
[www.CavMacConsulting.com](http://www.CavMacConsulting.com)

Offices in Englewood, CO • Kennesaw, GA • Bellevue, NE • Hilton Head Island, SC



Board of Trustees  
December 5, 2011  
Page 2

The actuarial contribution rates are developed using the Entry Age Normal (EAN) cost method. An asset smoothing method, which is defined in statute, is used for actuarial valuation purposes. Gains and losses are reflected in the unfunded actuarial accrued liability and are amortized as a level percent of payroll over a closed period set in state statutes. Actuarial assumptions, including discount rates, mortality tables and others identified in this report are prescribed by Minnesota Statutes Section 356.215, the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR), and the Trustees. These parties are responsible for selecting the plan's funding policy, actuarial valuation methods, asset valuation method, and actuarial assumptions. The policies, methods and assumptions used in this valuation are those that have been so prescribed and are described in Appendix C of the valuation report. The assumptions and methods used for funding purposes meet the parameters set for the disclosures presented in the financial section by GASB Statement No. 25.

Future actuarial results may differ significantly from the current results presented in this report due to factors such 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 (such as the end of an amortization period or additional cost or contribution requirements based on the plan's funded status); and changes in plan provisions or applicable law. Since the potential impact of such factors is outside the scope of a normal annual actuarial valuation, an analysis of the range of results is not presented herein.

The calculations presented in this report have been made on a basis consistent with our understanding of the System's funding requirements and goals, and on a basis consistent with our understanding of the plan provisions described in Appendix B of the valuation report, and of GASB Statement No. 25. Determinations for purposes other than meeting these requirements may be significantly different from the results contained in this report. Accordingly, additional determinations may be needed for other purposes.

On the basis of the foregoing, we hereby certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, this report is complete and accurate and that the valuation was prepared in accordance with principles of practice prescribed by the Actuarial Standards Board, and that the actuarial calculations were performed by qualified actuaries in accordance with accepted actuarial procedures, based on the current provisions of the retirement System. We are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet the Qualification Standards to render the actuarial opinion contained herein. Also, we meet the requirements of "approved actuary" under Minnesota Statutes, Section 356.215, Subdivision 1, Paragraph (c).

Respectfully submitted,

Patrice A. Beckham, FSA, EA, FCA, MAAA  
Consulting Actuary

Brent Banister PhD, FSA, EA, FCA, MAAA  
Senior Actuary

# Summary of Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

## Summary of Actuarial Assumptions

The following assumptions were used in valuing the liabilities and benefits under the plan. All assumptions are prescribed by Statute, the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR), or the Board of Trustees. The LCPR enacted actuarial assumption changes on July 8, 2010.

<b>Investment return</b>	8.5% compounded annually post-retirement for first 2 years 6.5% compounded annually post-retirement thereafter 8.5% compounded annually pre-retirement Assumption set by Minnesota Statute.			
<b>Benefit increases after retirement</b>	Payments of 2.0% annual benefit increases after retirement are accounted for by using a 6.5% post-retirement assumption, as required by statute. Assumption set by Minnesota Statute.			
<b>Salary increases</b>	Reported salary for prior fiscal year, with new hires annualized, increased according to the salary increase table shown in the rate table to current fiscal year end annually for each future year. See table of sample rates (page 58). Assumption set by Minnesota Statute.			
<b>Payroll growth</b>	Total TRA covered member payroll increases at 3.75 percent per year. Assumption set by Minnesota Statute.			
<b>Future service</b>	Members are assumed to earn future service at a full-time rate.			
<b>Mortality: Pre-retirement</b>	RP 2000 non-annuitant generational mortality, white collar adjustment, male rates set back 5 years and female rates set back 7 years			
<b>Post-retirement</b>	RP 2000 annuitant generational mortality, white collar adjustment, male rates set back 2 years and female rates set back 3 years			
<b>Post-disability</b>	RP 2000 disabled retiree mortality, without adjustment			
<b>Disability</b>	Age-related rates based on experience; see table of sample rates (page 58).			
<b>Withdrawal</b>	Select and ultimate rates based on actual plan experience. Ultimate rates after the third year are shown in the rate table. Select rates are as follows:			
		<b>First Year</b>	<b>Second Year</b>	<b>Third Year</b>
	Male	45%	12%	6%
	Female	40%	10%	8%
<b>Expenses</b>	Prior year administrative expenses expressed as percentage of prior year payroll.			
<b>Retirement age</b>	Graded rates beginning at age 55 as shown in rate table (page 58). Members who have attained the highest assumed retirement age will retire in one year.			
<b>Percentage married</b>	85% of male members and 65% of female members are assumed to be married. Members are assumed to have no children.			
<b>Age difference</b>	Females 2 years younger than males.			

<b>Allowance for Combined Service Annuity</b>	Liabilities for active members are increased by 1.40% and liabilities for former members are increased by 4.00% to account for the effect of some participants having eligibility for a Combined Service Annuity.
<b>Refund of contributions</b>	All employees withdrawing after becoming eligible for a deferred benefit are assumed to take the larger of their contributions accumulated with interest or the value of their deferred benefit.
<b>Commencement of deferred benefits</b>	Members receiving deferred annuities (including current terminated deferred members) are assumed to begin receiving benefits at unreduced retirement age.
<b>Interest on member contributions</b>	Members and former members who are eligible for the money purchase annuity are assumed to receive interest credits equal to the Pre-Retirement interest rate. All other members and former members receive the interest crediting rate as specified in statutes.
<b>Form of payment</b>	<p>Married members are assumed to elect subsidized joint and survivor form of annuity as follows:</p> <p>Males:                    10% elect 50% J&amp;S option  15% elect 75% J&amp;S option  70% elect 100% J&amp;S option</p> <p>Females:                20% elect 50% J&amp;S option  10% elect 75% J&amp;S option  50% elect 100% J&amp;S option</p> <p>Members eligible for deferred annuities (including current terminated deferred members) are assumed to elect a life annuity.</p>
<b>Unknown data for members</b>	<p>We used membership data as supplied by the plan sponsor as of July 1, 2011. Customarily, this information would not be verified by a plan's actuary. We have reviewed the information for internal consistency and we have no reason to doubt its substantial accuracy. In the small number of cases where submitted data was missing or incomplete, the following assumptions were applied:</p> <p>Data for active members:</p> <p>Salary                            \$50,600  Date of birth                    July 1, 1967  Gender                            Female</p> <p>Data for terminated members:</p> <p>Date of birth                    July 1, 1962  Average salary                \$29,000  Age at termination            Age 40, or current age if younger than 40</p> <p>Data for in-pay members:</p> <p>Beneficiary date of birth    Wife two years younger than husband  Gender                            Based on first name  Form of payment                Life annuity</p>
<b>Changes in actuarial assumptions since the previous valuation</b>	The salary increase assumption was changed to a service-based assumption and the payroll growth assumption was lowered from 4.50 percent to 3.75 percent. Also, the decrement timing was changed from beginning of year to mid-year.

## Summary of Actuarial Assumptions *(continued)*

### Sample Rates at Select Ages

Age	Pre-Retirement *		Mortality Rates (%)		Post-Disability	
	Male	Female	Post-Retirement**		Male	Female
20	0.0269	0.0155	0.0316	0.0184	2.2571	0.7450
25	0.0345	0.0188	0.0373	0.0194	2.2571	0.7450
30	0.0376	0.0197	0.0393	0.0223	2.2571	0.7450
35	0.0353	0.0235	0.0481	0.0363	2.2571	0.7450
40	0.0588	0.0401	0.0766	0.0527	2.2571	0.7450
45	0.0874	0.0562	0.1124	0.0763	2.2571	0.7450
50	0.1323	0.0837	0.1711	0.1229	2.8975	1.1535
55	0.1976	0.1344	0.5716	0.2681	3.5442	1.6544
60	0.2759	0.2015	0.5688	0.4253	4.2042	2.1839
65	0.4293	0.3107	0.9232	0.6736	5.0174	2.8026
70	0.6642	0.4979	1.5834	1.1211	6.2583	3.7635
75	0.9565	0.7591	2.6710	1.8784	8.2067	5.2230

\* Rates shown are RP 2000 non-annuitant mortality (base), white collar adjustment, set back 5 years for males and 7 years for females.

\*\* Rates shown are RP 2000 annuitant mortality (base), white collar adjustment, set back 2 years for males and 3 years for females.

Rates (%)					Coordinated Retirement Rates (%)		
Age	Ultimate Withdrawal		Disability**		Age	Rule of 90	Retirement
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Eligible	Other
20	3.70	4.50	0.00	0.00	55 and Under	50	7
25	3.20	4.50	0.00	0.00	56	55	7
30	2.70	4.50	0.00	0.00	57	45	7
35	2.50	3.90	0.01	0.01	58	45	8
40	2.35	2.75	0.03	0.03	59	45	10
45	2.10	2.10	0.05	0.05	60	40	12
50	1.85	1.85	0.10	0.10	61	45	16
55	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.16	62	45	20
60	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25	63	40	18
65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	64	45	20
70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65	40	40
75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66	35	35
					67	30	30
					68	30	30
					69	30	30
					70	35	35
					71 & Over	100	100

Salary Scale	
Service (Yrs)	Salary Increase
1	12.00%
2	9.00%
3	8.00%
5	7.25%
10	6.40%
15	5.25%
20	4.00%
25 or more	3.50%



# Valuation Report Highlights

## Summary of Key Valuation Results

	Actuarial Valuation as of	
	July 1, 2011	July 1, 2010
<b>Participant Data</b>		
Active members		
Number	76,755	77,356
Projected annual earnings for fiscal year (000s)	\$ 4,106,922	\$ 4,047,547
Average projected annual earnings for fiscal year 2012	\$ 53,507	\$ 52,324
Average age	43.5	43.5
Average service	12.0	11.9
Service retirements	49,079	47,517
Survivors	3,856	3,682
Disability retirements	602	654
Deferred retirements	13,237	12,756
Terminated other non-vested	25,196	23,651
<b>Total</b>	<b>168,725</b>	<b>165,616</b>

## Liabilities and Funding Ratios (dollars in thousands)

Accrued Benefit Funding Ratio		
Current assets (AVA)	\$ 17,132,383	\$ 17,323,146
Current benefit obligations	\$ 21,054,036	\$ 21,159,773
Funding ratio	81.37%	81.87%
Accrued Liability Funding Ratio		
Current assets (AVA)	\$ 17,132,383	\$ 17,323,146
Market value of assets (MVA)	\$ 17,297,392	\$ 14,917,240
Actuarial accrued liability	\$ 22,171,493	\$ 22,081,634
Unfunded actuarial accrued liability	\$ 5,039,110	\$ 4,758,488
Funding ratio (AVA)	77.27%	78.45%
Funding ratio (MVA)	78.02%	67.55%
Projected Benefit Funding Ratio		
Current and expected future assets	\$ 22,686,711	\$ 22,305,013
Current and expected future benefit obligations	\$ 25,083,218	\$ 24,981,006
Funding ratio	90.45%	89.29%

## Contributions (% of payroll)

Normal Cost Rate	8.17%	8.36%
UAAL Amortization Payment	8.16%	7.11%
Expenses	0.24%	0.24%
Total Required Contribution (Chapter 356)	16.57%	15.71%
Statutory Contribution (Chapter 354)	12.69%	11.71%
Contribution (Deficiency)/Sufficiency	(3.88%)	(4.00%)

The Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to the Minnesota public school teachers, administrators, and college faculty. This report presents the results of the July 1, 2011, actuarial valuation. The primary purposes of performing the actuarial valuation are to:

- determine the Required Contribution Rate as set forth in Chapter 356 of the Minnesota statutes;
- determine the sufficiency of the Statutory Contribution Rate as set forth in Chapter 354 of the Minnesota statutes;
- determine the experience of the fund since the last valuation date;
- disclose asset and liability measures as of the valuation date; and
- analyze and report on trends in contributions, assets, and liabilities over the past several years.

There were no changes in the actuarial methods used in the actuarial valuation or in the benefit provisions since the last valuation. However, there were two changes in the actuarial assumptions used in the valuation: (1) the salary increase assumption was changed to a service-based assumption and (2) the payroll growth assumption was decreased from 4.50 percent to 3.75 percent. The decrement timing assumption was also changed from the beginning of year method to the mid-year method. The assumption and decrement timing changes decreased the unfunded actuarial accrued liability by \$315 million, decreased the normal cost rate by 0.24 percent of payroll (from 8.41 percent to 8.17 percent), and decreased the Required Contribution Rate by 0.34 percent of payroll.

The actuarial valuation results provide a “snapshot” view of TRA’s financial condition on July 1, 2011. The results reflect net unfavorable experience for the past plan year as demonstrated by an unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) that was higher than expected. The UAAL on July 1, 2011, is \$5.04 billion as compared to an expected UAAL of \$4.49 billion. The unfavorable experience was the combination of an experience loss of \$601 million on the actuarial value of assets and a small experience gain of about \$51 million on liabilities. While there was a loss on

the actuarial value of assets, it is worth noting that the investment return on a market value basis was strong enough that the fund moved from a deferred loss of \$2.4 billion to a deferred gain of \$165 million. This is a significant improvement and offsets the losses that would otherwise have been recognized over the next two years.

A summary of the key results from the July 1, 2011, actuarial valuation is shown below. Further detail on the valuation results can be found in the following schedules. The contribution deficiency does not reflect the member and employer contribution increases scheduled to occur on July 1, 2012, through July 1, 2014. After the scheduled contribution increases are fully phased in, the statutory contribution rates will be 3 percent of payroll higher than they are in the current year.

	Actuarial Valuation as of	
	July 1, 2011	July 1, 2010
Total Required Contribution Rate (Chapter 356)	16.57%	15.71%
Statutory Contribution Rate (Chapter 354)	12.69%	11.71%
Sufficiency/(Deficiency)	(3.88%)	(4.00%)
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (\$M)	\$5,039	\$4,758
Funded Ratio (Actuarial Assets)	77.27%	78.45%

The contribution deficiency decreased from 4.00 percent of payroll in last year’s valuation to 3.88 percent in the 2011 valuation. The reduction in the deficiency was due to the increase in employee and employer contribution rates, but partially offset by the increase in the UAAL due to the recognition of part of the remaining investment loss from fiscal year 2009, coupled with contributions below the full actuarial rate. However, the investment return in fiscal year 2011 mitigated the impact of the deferred loss and the market value of assets is now slightly higher than the actuarial value of assets.



## Assets

As of June 30, 2011, TRA had net assets of \$17.3 billion, when measured on a market value basis. This was an increase of \$2.4 billion from the prior year.

The market value of assets is not used directly in the calculation of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) and the Required Contribution Rate (actuarial contribution rate). An asset valuation method, which smoothes the effect of market fluctuations, is used to determine the value of assets used in the valuation. The resulting amount is called the “actuarial value of assets”. In this year’s valuation, the actuarial value of assets as of June 30, 2011, was \$17.1 billion, a decrease of \$200 million from the value in the prior year. The components of change in the asset values are shown in the following table.

(dollars in millions)

	Market Value	Actuarial Value
<b>Net Assets, June 30, 2010</b>	<b>\$14,917</b>	<b>\$17,323</b>
Employer & Member Contributions	+ \$463	+ \$463
Benefit Payments and Administrative Expenses	- \$1,493	- \$1,493
Investment Income	+ \$3,410	+ \$839
<b>Net Assets, June 30, 2011</b>	<b>\$17,297</b>	<b>\$17,132</b>

In last year’s valuation, there was \$2.4 billion in deferred (unrecognized) investment losses. With the favorable investment experience during fiscal year 2011 the deferred loss has been eliminated and a small deferred gain of about \$165 million now exists. The deferred investment experience will be recognized in the asset smoothing method over the next four years.

## Liabilities

The actuarial liability is that portion of the present value of future benefits that will not be paid by future normal costs. The difference between this liability and the actuarial value of assets at the same date is called the unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL). The dollar amount of unfunded actuarial accrued liability is reduced if the contributions exceed the normal cost for the year plus interest on the prior year’s UAAL.

The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is shown as of June 30, 2011, in the following table.

(dollars in millions)

	Actuarial Value of Assets	Market Value of Assets
Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$22,171	\$22,171
Value of Assets	\$17,132	\$17,297
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$ 5,039	\$ 4,874
Funded Ratio	77.27%	78.02%

Changes in the UAAL occur for various reasons. The net change in the UAAL from July 1, 2010, to July 1, 2011, was \$230 million. The components of this net change are shown in the following table.

(dollars in millions)

<b>Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability, July 1, 2010</b>	<b>\$ 4,758</b>
Expected increase from amortization method	105
Expected increase from contributions below Required Rate	179
Investment experience	601
Liability experience	(51)
Change in actuarial valuation software	(238)
Change in assumptions	(315)
<b>Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability, July 1, 2011</b>	<b>\$ 5,039</b>

As shown in the previous table, various components impacted the UAAL. The two most significant factors were (1) the increase in the UAAL due to the loss on the actuarial value of assets (\$601 million), and (2) the decrease due to changes in the salary increase assumption and decrement timing (\$315 million). Without the strong investment return in fiscal year 2011, and salary gain on liabilities the UAAL would have increased even more due to the deferred investment loss that still existed in the 2010 valuation.

## Contribution Rate

Under the Entry Age Normal cost method, the actuarial contribution rate consists of two components:

- a "normal cost" for the portion of projected liabilities allocated by the actuarial cost method to service of members during the year following the valuation date, and
- an "unfunded actuarial accrued liability contribution" for the excess of the portion of projected liabilities allocated to service to date over the actuarial value of assets.

Contribution Rates	July 1, 2011	July 1, 2010
Statutory Contribution Rate	12.69%	11.71%
Normal Cost Rate	8.17%	8.36%
UAAL Contribution Rate	8.16%	7.11%
Expenses	0.24%	0.24%
Total Required Contribution	16.57%	15.71%
Deficiency	(3.88%)	(4.00%)

As discussed earlier, there were two assumption changes first reflected in this valuation: (1) the salary increase assumption was changed to a service-based assumption and (2) the payroll growth assumption was lowered from 4.50 percent to 3.75 percent. The change in decrement timing from beginning of year to mid-year is also included with the assumption change. The impact on the valuation results is summarized in the following table. All calculations are based on the actuarial value of assets.

<i>(dollars in billions)</i>	Assumption Changes	
	Before	After
Projected Benefit Funding Ratio	89.9%	90.4%
Accrued Liability Funding Ratio (AVA)	76.2%	77.3%
Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA)	\$17.13	\$17.13
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)	\$5.35	\$5.04
Normal Cost Rate (percent of pay)	8.41%	8.17%
Amortization of UAAL (percent of pay)	8.26%	8.16%
Administrative Expenses (percent of pay)	0.24%	0.24%
Total Required Contribution (percent of pay)	16.91%	16.57%
Contribution Deficiency (percent of pay)	(4.22%)	(3.88%)

When the Statutory Contribution Rate is less than the Required Contribution Rate, the contribution deficiency creates an increase in the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. For the plan year ending June 30, 2011, the contribution deficiency increased the UAAL by \$179 million.

The actuarial contribution rate (Required Contribution Rate) is determined based on the snapshot of the System taken on the valuation date, July 1, 2011. The actuarial contribution rate in future years will change each year as the deferred actuarial investment experience is recognized and other experience (both investment and demographic) impacts the System. Both the employer and employee contribution rates are scheduled to increase in future years. The rate will increase a total of 1% (0.5% employee and 0.5% employer) each year from July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2014, an increase of 3% of payroll from the current contribution rate. Even when these increases are considered a contribution deficiency still exists, indicating the UAAL will not be amortized by 2037 if all actuarial assumptions are met. It should be noted, however, that the Board will have the option to increase contribution rates further (the "stabilizer" provisions of the 2010 law), and that if rates are changed, the UAAL may then be amortized by 2037.

## Summary

The investment return on the market value of assets for fiscal year 2011 was 23.3 percent as reported by the State Board of Investment (SBI), but due to the deferred investment loss from fiscal year 2009, the return on the actuarial value of assets was only 4.9 percent. However, because of the strong return in fiscal year 2011, the actuarial value of assets is now slightly less than the market value of assets, compared to last year when the actuarial value exceeded the market value by \$2.4 billion. With the lower return on the actuarial value of assets, the funded ratio decreased slightly from 78.45 percent in last year's valuation to 77.27 percent for fiscal year 2011.

As mentioned earlier, TRA utilizes an asset smoothing method in the valuation process. While this is a common procedure for public retirement systems, it is important to identify the potential impact of the deferred investment experience. The asset smoothing method impacts only the timing of when the actual market experience is recognized in the valuation process. Despite a return of 23 percent on the market value of assets, the return on the actuarial value of assets was only 5 percent. This is due to the impact of the remaining deferred investment experience from fiscal year 2009. However, the elimination of \$2.4 billion in deferred investment losses represents a significant improvement in the outlook for TRA's long-term funding. There is no significant difference in the actuarial and market value of assets in this year's valuation.

The key valuation results from the July 1, 2011, actuarial valuation are shown in the following table, using both actuarial and market value of assets.

(dollars in billions)

	Actuarial Value	Market Value
<b>Statutory Rate</b>	12.69%	12.69%
<b>Required Contribution</b>		
Normal Cost	8.18%	8.17%
UAAL Contribution	8.16%	7.89%
Expenses	0.24%	0.24%
Total Required Contribution	16.57%	16.30%
Deficiency	(3.88%)	(3.61%)
UAAL (billions)	\$5.04	\$4.87
Funded Ratio	77.27%	78.02%

The long-term financial health of TRA, as with all retirement systems, is heavily dependent on two key items: (1) future investment returns and (2) contributions. Changes were made by the 2010 Legislature to strengthen the funding of TRA and enhance its long-term sustainability. Contributions were increased by a total of 4.00 percent, to be phased in over four years beginning July 1, 2011, and benefit reductions were implemented. These changes, along with strong investment performance in the last two fiscal years, have significantly improved the projected long-term funding. Given the current funded status, the deferred investment experience and scheduled increases in the Statutory Contribution Rate, TRA's funded ratio is expected to improve over the long term, provided all actuarial assumptions are met. While the funded ratio is expected to improve, it is not projected to reach 100% by June 30, 2037, in the absence of contribution increases or some other unanticipated changes or favorable experience.

The complete *Actuarial Valuation Report* is available on the TRA website at [www.MinnesotaTRA.org/formspub/2011annualrpt.html](http://www.MinnesotaTRA.org/formspub/2011annualrpt.html)

# Reconciliation of Member Data\*

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

	Active** Members	Former*** Members	Benefit Recipients****			Total
			Service Retirements	Disability Retirements	Survivors	
Members on July 1, 2010	77,919	36,407	47,556	615	3,682	166,179
New hires	4,302	-	-	-	-	4,302
Return from inactive	1,419	(1,419)	-	-	-	0
Return from zero balance	376	-	-	-	-	376
Transfer to inactive	(4,410)	4,410	-	-	-	0
Refunded	(256)	(700)	-	-	-	(956)
Restored writeoff	-	128	-	-	-	128
Repay refunds	-	50	-	-	-	50
Transfer from non-status	-	19	-	-	-	19
Retirements	(1,945)	(594)	2,544	(51)		(46)
Benefits began	-	-	-	63	368	431
Benefits ended	-	-	-	(3)	(61)	(64)
Deaths	(47)	(26)	(1,018)	(17)	(133)	(1,241)
Adjustments for disabilitants	(602)	-	-	-	-	(602)
Adjustments (other)	(1)	135	(3)	(5)	-	126
Net changes	(1,164)	2,003	1,523	(13)	174	2,523
<b>Members on June 30, 2011</b>	<b>76,755</b>	<b>38,410</b>	<b>49,079</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>166,702</b>

\* All figures in this chart were provided by the Teachers Retirement Association. Recipient counts include all pensions in force, including double counting of multiple benefit types. Service Retirements include Supplemental and Variable optional joint annuitants.

\*\* Active members include 24 Basic and 77,308 Coordinated members.

\*\*\* Former members include 34 Basic members and 38,376 Coordinated members.

\*\*\*\* Benefit recipients include 5,131 Basic members and 47,398 Coordinated members.

Former Member Statistics	Vested	Non-Vested	Total
Number	13,237	25,196	38,433
Average Age	48.7	43.2	45.1
Average Service (years)	7.4	0.8	3.1
Average annual benefits, with augmentation to Normal Retirement Date and 4 percent Combined Service Annuity load	\$9,280	N/A	N/A
Average refund value, with 4 percent Combined Service Annuity load	\$27,399	\$1,887	\$10,674

# Statement of Plan Net Assets

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

(Dollars in Thousands)

Assets	Market Value
Cash and short term investments	
Cash .....	\$ 4,277
Building account cash .....	59
Short-term investments .....	<u>464,404</u>
Total cash and short-term investments .....	\$ 468,740
Receivables .....	15,624
Investments (at fair value)	
Fixed income pool.....	\$ 3,821,522
Minneapolis pool .....	196
Alternative investments pool .....	2,530,478
Indexed equity pool.....	3,076,747
Domestic equity pool .....	4,675,143
Global equity pool.....	<u>2,723,272</u>
Total investments.....	\$ 16,827,358
Securities lending collateral.....	1,185,570
Building	
Land .....	\$ 171
Building and equipment .....	11,279
Reserve for building depreciation .....	(2,821)
Deferred bond charge.....	146
Reserve for deferred bond charge amortization .....	<u>(50)</u>
Total building.....	\$ 8,725
Fixed assets net of accumulated depreciation .....	<u>\$ 2,815</u>
<b>Total Assets.....</b>	<b><u>\$ 18,508,832</u></b>

# Statement of Plan Net Assets *(continued)*

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

*(Dollars in Thousands)*

Liabilities	Market Value
Current	
Accounts payable.....	\$ 9,863
Accrued compensated absences.....	68
Accrued expenses - building.....	61
Bonds payable.....	265
Bonds interest payable.....	43
Securities lending collateral.....	<u>1,185,570</u>
Total current liabilities.....	\$ 1,195,870
Long term	
Accrued compensated absences.....	\$ 673
Accrued other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability.....	57
Bonds payable.....	<u>8,656</u>
Total long-term liabilities.....	\$ <u>9,386</u>
<b>Total Liabilities.....</b>	<b>\$ 1,205,256</b>
 Net assets held in trust for pension benefits.....	 \$ 17,303,576
Earnings Limitation Savings Account (ELSA) accounts payable* .....	<u>(6,184)</u>
<b>Net assets held in trust, after adjustment for ELSA accounts.....</b>	<b>\$ <u>17,297,392</u></b>

\* Not calculated by Cavanaugh Macdonald, TRA determined.

# Reconciliation of Plan Assets

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

The following exhibit shows the revenue, expenses and resulting assets of the Fund as reported by the Teachers Retirement Association for the Plan's fiscal year July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

(Dollars in Thousands)

Change in Assets	Market Value
<b>1. Fund balance at market value at July 1, 2010</b> .....	<b>\$ 14,917,240</b>
<b>2. Contributions</b>	
a. Member .....	\$ 218,024
b. Employer .....	222,723
c. Direct aid (state/city/county) .....	21,510
d. Earnings Limitation Savings Account (ELSA) .....	<u>1,291</u>
e. Total contributions .....	<b>\$ 463,548</b>
<b>3. Investment income</b>	
a. Investment income/(loss) .....	\$ 3,414,280
b. Investment expenses .....	<u>(24,150)</u>
c. Total investment income/(loss) .....	<b>\$ 3,390,130</b>
<b>4. Other</b> .....	<u>4,271</u>
<b>5. Total income</b> (2.e + 3.c + 4.) .....	<b>\$ 3,857,949</b>
<b>6. Benefits Paid</b>	
a. Annuity benefits .....	\$ (1,459,550)
b. Refunds .....	<u>(23,813)</u>
c. Total benefits paid .....	<b>\$ (1,483,363)</b>
<b>7. Administrative Expenses</b> .....	<u>(9,264)</u>
<b>8. Total disbursements</b> (6.c. + 7) .....	<b>\$ (1,492,627)</b>
<b>9. Increase in ELSA account value</b> .....	<u>14,830</u>
<b>10. Fund balance at market value at July 1, 2011</b> .....	<b><u>\$ 17,297,392</u></b>



# Actuarial Asset Value

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

(Dollars in Thousands)

<b>1. Market value of assets available for benefits .....</b>	<b>\$ 17,297,392</b>
<b>2. Determination of average balance</b>	
a. Assets available at July 1, 2010* .....	14,939,540
b. Assets available at June 30, 2011* .....	17,303,576
c. Net investment income for fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 .....	3,390,130
d. Average balance $[a. + b. - c.] / 2$ .....	\$ 14,426,493
<b>3. Expected return <math>[8.5 \text{ percent} * 2.d.]</math> .....</b>	<b>1,226,252</b>
<b>4. Actual return .....</b>	<b>3,390,130</b>
<b>5. Current year unrecognized asset return .....</b>	<b>2,163,878</b>
<b>6. Unrecognized asset returns**</b>	

	<b>Original Amount</b>	<b>% Not Recognized</b>	
a. Year ended June 30, 2011	\$ 2,163,878	80%	\$ 1,731,102
b. Year ended June 30, 2010	953,497	60%	572,098
c. Year ended June 30, 2009	(4,812,478)	40%	(1,924,991)
d. Year ended June 30, 2008	(1,066,002)	20%	<u>(213,200)</u>
e. Total return not yet recognized			<u>\$ 165,009</u>
<b>7. Actuarial value at June 30, 2011 (1. - 6.e.)</b>			<b><u>\$ 17,132,383</u></b>

\* Before recognition of ELSA accounts payable.

\*\* Prior to the year ending June 30, 2009, unrecognized asset returns do not include MPRIF gains or losses (pages 32-33).

# Actuarial Valuation Balance Sheet

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

The actuarial balance sheet is based on the fundamental equation that at any given time the present value of benefits to be paid in the future must be equal to the assets on hand plus the present value of future contributions to be received. The total rate of contribution is determined as that amount which will make the total present and potential assets balance with the total present value of future benefits. The members' rate of contribution is fixed at the current schedule of compensation. The employer's rate of contribution is the balance required to cover the total rate of contribution.

The contributions made in excess of amounts required for current benefit payments are accumulated as a reserve to help meet benefit payments in later years. This reserve system enables the establishment of a level rate of contribution each year.

(Dollars in Thousands)

A. Actuarial Value of Assets .....				\$ 17,132,383
B. Expected Future Assets				
1. Present value of expected future statutory supplemental contributions* .....				\$ 2,642,603
2. Present value of expected future normal cost contributions.....				<u>2,911,725</u>
3. Total expected future assets (1. + 2.).....				\$ 5,554,328
C. Total Current and Expected Future Assets** .....				\$ 22,686,711
D. Current Benefit Obligations	Non-Vested	Vested	Total	
1. Benefit recipients				
a. Service retirements	\$ 0	\$ 13,024,543	\$ 13,024,543	
b. Disability	0	149,341	149,341	
c. Survivors	0	790,668	790,668	
2. Deferred retirements with augmentation to Normal Retirement Date	0	540,453	540,453	
3. Former members without vested rights***	47,550	0	47,550	
4. Active members	<u>33,270</u>	<u>6,468,211</u>	<u>6,501,481</u>	
5. Total current benefit obligations	\$ 80,820	\$ 20,973,216	\$ 21,054,035	
E. Expected Future Benefit Obligations				\$ 4,029,183
F. Total Current and Expected Future Benefit Obligations				\$ 25,083,218
G. Unfunded Current Benefit Obligations (D.5 – A)				\$ 3,921,653
H. Unfunded Current and Future Benefit Obligations (F. – C.)				\$ 2,396,507

\* Under LCPR guidelines, this amount does not include supplemental payments which could occur after the expiration of the remaining 26 year amortization period.

\*\* Does not reflect deferred investment experience in the asset smoothing method. Total expected future assets on a market value basis are \$22,851,720.

\*\*\* Former members with less than three years of service that have not collected a refund of member contributions as of the valuation date.

# Determination of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) and Supplemental Contribution Rate

July 1, 2011

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actuarial Present Value of Projected Benefits	Actuarial Present Value of Future Normal Costs	Actuarial Accrued Liability
<b>A. Determination of Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)</b>			
1. Active Members			
a. Retirement annuities .....	\$ 9,660,829	\$ (2,241,978)	\$ 7,418,851
b. Disability benefits .....	178,246	(69,199)	109,047
c. Survivor benefits .....	83,243	(25,248)	57,995
d. Deferred retirements .....	602,516	(469,997)	132,519
e. Refunds .....	5,829	(105,303)	(99,474)
f. Total .....	\$ 10,530,663	\$ (2,911,725)	\$ 7,618,938
2. Deferred retirements with future augmentation to Normal Retirement Age .....	540,453	0	540,453
3. Former members without vested rights .....	47,550	0	47,550
4. Benefit recipients .....	13,964,552	0	13,964,552
5. Total .....	\$ 25,083,218	\$ (2,911,725)	\$ 22,171,493
<b>B. Determination of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)*</b>			
1. Actuarial accrued liability .....		\$	22,171,493
2. Actuarial value of assets .....			<u>17,132,383</u>
3. Unfunded actuarial accrued liability .....		\$	<u>5,039,110</u>
<b>C. Determination of Supplemental Contribution Rate*</b>			
1. Present value of future payrolls through the amortization date of June 30, 2037 .....	\$		61,743,070
2. Supplemental contribution rate (A.3/B.1)** .....			8.16%

\* On a market value of assets basis, the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is \$4,874,101 and the supplemental contribution rate is 7.89 percent of payroll.

\*\* The amortization factor as of July 1, 2011 is 15.0339.

# Changes in Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

(Dollars in Thousands)	Year Ending June 30, 2011
A. Unfunded actuarial accrued liability at beginning of year .....	\$ 4,758,488
B. Changes due to interest requirements and current rate of funding*	
1. Normal cost and actual administrative expenses .....	\$ 347,738
2. Contributions .....	(463,548)
3. Interest on A., B.1 and B.2.....	<u>399,650</u>
4. Total (B.1. + B.2. + B.3.).....	\$ 283,840
C. Expected unfunded actuarial accrued liability at end of year (A. + B.4.) .....	\$ 5,042,328
D. Increase (decrease) due to actuarial losses (gains) because of experience deviations from expected	
1. Salary increases.....	\$ (173,337)
2. Investment return (AVA).....	600,957
3. Mortality of benefit recipients.....	(74,936)
4. Other items.....	<u>197,024</u>
5. Total .....	<u>\$ 549,708</u>
E. Unfunded actuarial accrued liability at end of year before plan amendments and changes in actuarial assumptions (C. + D.5.) .....	\$ 5,592,036
F. Change in unfunded actuarial accrued liability due to changes in plan provisions .....	0
G. Change in unfunded actuarial accrued liability due to changes in actuarial assumptions**.....	(315,414)
H. Change in unfunded actuarial accrued liability due to change in actuarial software.....	<u>(237,512)</u>
I. Unfunded actuarial accrued liability at end of year (E. + F. + G + H.).....	<u><u>\$ 5,039,110</u></u>

\* The amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) using the current amortization method results in initial payments less than the "interest only" payment on the UAAL. Payments less than the interest only amount will result in the UAAL increasing in the absence of actuarial gains.

\*\* The effect of the changes in the salary increase assumption and decrement timing..

# Determination of Contribution Sufficiency/(Deficiency) — Total

July 1, 2011

The annual required contribution (ARC) is the sum of the normal cost, a supplemental contribution to amortize the UAAL, and an allowance for expenses.

<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>	<b>Percent of Payroll</b>	<b>Dollar Amount</b>
<b>A. Statutory Contributions - Chapter 354*</b>		
1. Employee contributions .....	6.00%	\$ 246,490
2. Employer contributions** .....	6.16%	252,854
3. Supplemental contributions***		
a. 1993 Legislation.....	0.12%	4,984
b. 1996 Legislation.....	0.09%	3,572
c. 1997 Legislation.....	<u>0.32%</u>	<u>12,954</u>
4. Total.....	12.69%	\$ 520,854
<b>B. Required Contributions - Chapter 356</b>		
1. Normal Cost		
a. Retirement benefits .....	6.44%	\$ 264,572
b. Disability benefits .....	0.18%	7,398
c. Survivor.....	0.07%	2,881
d. Deferred retirement benefits .....	1.18%	48,473
e. Refunds .....	<u>0.30%</u>	<u>12,325</u>
f. Total .....	8.17%	\$ 335,649
2. Supplemental contribution amortization by July 1, 2037 of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability .....	8.16%	\$ 335,125
3. Allowance for expenses .....	<u>0.24%</u>	<u>9,857</u>
4. Total annual contribution for fiscal year ending June 30, 2012**** .....	<u>16.57%</u>	<u>\$ 680,631</u>
<b>C. Contribution Sufficiency/(Deficiency) (A.4 - B.4)**** .....</b>	<u>(3.88%)</u>	<u>\$ (159,777)</u>
Note: Projected annual payroll for fiscal year beginning on the valuation date .....		\$ 4,106,922

\* The statutory contribution rates do not reflect the scheduled increases for July 1, 2012 through July 1, 2014.

\*\* Employer contribution rate is blended to reflect rates of 13.14 percent of pay for Basic members, 6.00 percent for pay for Coordinated members not employed by Special School District #1, and 9.64 percent of pay for Coordinated members who are employed by Special School District #1.

\*\*\* Includes contributions from Special School District #1, the City of Minneapolis and matching state contributions.

\*\*\*\* On a market value of assets basis, the total required contribution is 16.30 percent of payroll and the contribution deficiency is 3.61 percent of payroll.

## Solvency Test

(Dollars in Thousands)

Aggregate Accrued Liabilities							
Valuation as of June 30	(1) Member Contributions	(2) Retirees and Beneficiaries	(3) Members (Employer Financed Portion)	Valuation Assets	Portion of Actuarial Accrued Liabilities Covered by Reported Assets		
					(1)	(2)	(3)
2002	\$ 1,483,243	\$ 9,555,364	\$ 5,464,492	\$ 17,378,994	100%	100%	100.0%
2003	\$ 1,561,048	\$ 9,713,507	\$ 5,581,824	\$ 17,384,179	100%	100%	100.0%
2004	\$ 1,632,995	\$ 10,092,955	\$ 5,792,834	\$ 17,519,909	100%	100%	100.0%
2005	\$ 1,704,913	\$ 10,438,051	\$ 5,878,446	\$ 17,752,917	100%	100%	95.4%
2006	\$ 1,765,117	\$ 12,526,588	\$ 6,387,406	\$ 19,035,612	100%	100%	74.3%
2007	\$ 1,799,910	\$ 13,112,891	\$ 6,557,513	\$ 18,794,389	100%	100%	59.2%
2008	\$ 1,883,371	\$ 13,567,065	\$ 6,780,405	\$ 18,226,985	100%	100%	40.9%
2009	\$ 2,038,749	\$ 14,203,926	\$ 6,872,127	\$ 17,882,408	100%	100%	23.9%
2010	\$ 2,128,600	\$ 13,650,631	\$ 6,302,403	\$ 17,323,146	100%	100%	24.5%
2011	\$ 2,308,427	\$ 13,964,552	\$ 5,898,514	\$ 17,132,383	100%	100%	14.6%

## Schedule of Active Member Valuation Data

Year Ended June 30	Active Members	(\$ in thousands) Annual Covered Payroll	% Increase in Covered Payroll	\$ Annual Average
2002	71,690	\$2,873,771	2.2%	\$40,086
2003	71,916	\$2,952,887	2.8%	\$41,060
2004	72,008	\$3,032,483	2.7%	\$42,113
2005	74,552	\$3,121,571	2.9%	\$41,871
2006	79,164	\$3,430,645	9.9%	\$43,336
2007	77,694	\$3,532,159	3.0%	\$45,462
2008	76,515	\$3,645,230	3.2%	\$47,641
2009	77,162	\$3,761,484	3.2%	\$48,748
2010	77,356	\$3,787,757	0.7%	\$48,965
2011	76,755	\$3,838,111	1.3%	\$50,005

# Schedule of Retirees and Beneficiaries Added To and Removed From Retirement Rolls

Through June 1, 2011 – End of Budget Year for Benefit Payments – Prepared by TRA

	Added To Rolls		Removed From Rolls		June 1, 2011 Payment			
		Annual		Annual		Annual	Avg. Annual	
Fiscal Year	Number	Allowances	Number	Allowances	Number	Allowances	Allowances	
2011								
Retirement	2,573	\$ 71,896,835	1,012	\$ 30,381,621	48,463	\$ 1,320,885,728	\$ 27,256	
Disability	59	\$ 1,365,130	72	\$ 1,841,934	605	\$ 11,896,607	\$ 19,664	
Beneficiaries	400	\$ 9,199,307	224	\$ 4,179,950	4,121	\$ 104,083,869	\$ 25,257	
2010								
Retirement	2,034	\$ 57,221,454	922	\$ 28,024,798	46,902	\$ 1,296,882,008	\$ 27,651	
Disability	51	\$ 1,283,512	67	\$ 1,578,194	618	\$ 12,400,315	\$ 20,065	
Beneficiaries	391	\$ 9,945,588	193	\$ 4,237,320	3,945	\$ 100,367,532	\$ 25,442	
2009								
Retirement	2,282	\$ 65,082,777	874	\$ 25,678,679	45,790	\$ 1,271,277,327	\$ 27,763	
Disability	48	\$ 959,551	26	\$ 507,524	634	\$ 12,364,085	\$ 19,502	
Beneficiaries	343	\$ 7,938,855	213	\$ 2,997,929	3,747	\$ 94,308,262	\$ 25,169	
2008*								
Retirement	7,757	\$267,146,737	1,580	\$ 95,109,782	44,382	\$ 1,231,768,186	\$ 27,754	
Disability	105	\$ 2,596,324	93	\$ 2,408,229	612	\$ 11,635,841	\$ 19,011	
Beneficiaries	585	\$ 24,054,314	398	\$ 10,168,388	3,617	\$ 93,067,932	\$ 25,730	
2007								
Retirement	2,222	\$ 62,734,162	767	\$ 20,372,241	38,205	\$ 1,059,731,231	\$ 27,738	
Disability	59	\$ 998,126	63	\$ 1,347,548	600	\$ 11,447,746	\$ 19,080	
Beneficiaries	355	\$ 8,269,118	141	\$ 2,933,302	3,430	\$ 79,182,006	\$ 23,085	
2006								
Retirement	2,300	\$ 62,956,636	670	\$ 18,431,998	36,750	\$ 1,016,543,840	\$ 27,661	
Disability	83	\$ 1,363,524	66	\$ 1,427,682	604	\$ 11,586,536	\$ 19,183	
Beneficiaries	337	\$ 7,296,282	149	\$ 2,867,820	3,216	\$ 72,667,165	\$ 22,596	
2005								
Retirement	2,106	\$ 57,668,914	661	\$ 16,831,656	35,120	\$ 971,477,075	\$ 27,661	
Disability	58	\$ 1,011,616	59	\$ 1,288,335	587	\$ 11,409,732	\$ 19,437	
Beneficiaries	297	\$ 6,475,987	154	\$ 3,016,273	3,028	\$ 67,280,901	\$ 22,219	
2004								
Retirement	1,726	\$ 48,266,626	689	\$ 17,942,943	33,675	\$ 933,150,918	\$ 27,710	
Disability	74	\$ 1,431,398	45	\$ 943,335	588	\$ 11,462,253	\$ 19,494	
Beneficiaries	299	\$ 6,196,059	137	\$ 2,506,367	2,885	\$ 62,690,339	\$ 21,730	
2003								
Retirement	1,752	\$ 45,213,170	681	\$ 16,595,867	32,638	\$ 905,702,949	\$ 27,751	
Disability	60	\$ 838,012	54	\$ 1,199,063	559	\$ 10,839,002	\$ 19,355	
Beneficiaries	278	\$ 6,006,648	136	\$ 2,022,035	2,723	\$ 58,540,855	\$ 21,499	
2002 - Total Benefit Recipients				34,974		\$ 946,344,333		

\* 2008 data reflects higher additions, removals and fiscal year 2009 data adjustments associated with the conversion of former MTRFA benefit recipient rolls into TRA benefit payment systems.

Note: Detailed data on retirees and beneficiaries added to and removed from rolls is not available prior to fiscal year 2003.



Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota



# Statistical

Statistical

Statistical

Statistical

Statistical

Statistical

Statistical

# Statistical Summary

---

TRA complies with GASB Statement No. 44, Economic Condition Reporting: The Statistical Section, issued in May 2004. The pronouncement establishes and modifies requirements related to the supplementary information presented in this section of the report. This section of the report provides detailed information about TRA as a context for understanding what the information in the financial statement note disclosures and required supplementary information indicates about the Association's overall financial condition.

The schedules and graphs beginning on page 77 show trend information about the growth of TRA assets over the past 10 years. These schedules, and others, provide detailed information about the trends of key sources of additions and deductions to plan assets.

The Contribution Rate chart on page 77 provides historical information on the total member and employer contribution rates.

The schedule of Pension Assets Compared to Pension Liabilities, found on pages 78-79, show the funding progress of the plan for the past 10 years on accumulating assets to cover projected pension liabilities which will ultimately be due at retirement.

The schedules on pages 80-85 and 91-93 include detailed information regarding the number and type of benefit recipients, and information as to the benefit amount.

The chart on page 86 provides a profile of TRA active members on June 30, 2011, by age and service credit totals.

The chart on page 87 contains information on the total number of members by type.

The schedules on page 88-90 detail the largest TRA employer units by covered employees and by types of employer.

All data is derived from TRA internal sources and the actuarial consultant.

The projected benefit payments (page 94) for the next 25 years has been supplied by TRA's actuarial advisor, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting.

## 10-Year History of Plan Net Assets

June 30 Fiscal Year End	Plan Net Assets	% Change From Prior Year
2002	\$13,997,762,175	-12.0%
2003	\$13,061,606,463	-6.7%
2004	\$15,095,803,651	15.6%
2005	\$15,928,603,867	5.5%
2006	\$17,764,526,441	11.5%
2007	\$19,938,881,872	12.2%
2008	\$18,106,965,760	-9.2%
2009	\$13,833,825,733	-23.6%
2010	\$14,939,539,780	8.0%
2011	\$17,303,575,561	15.8%

## 10-Year History of Contribution Rates

Year	Basic Program Employee Contribution Rate	Basic Program Employer Contribution Rate	Basic Program Total Contribution Rate	Coordinated Employee Contribution Rate	Coordinated Employer Contribution Rate	Coordinated Total Contribution Rate
2002	9.00%	9.00%	18.00%	5.0%	5.0%	10.00%
2003	9.00%	9.00%	18.00%	5.0%	5.0%	10.00%
2004	9.00%	9.00%	18.00%	5.0%	5.0%	10.00%
2005	9.00%	9.00%	18.00%	5.0%	5.0%	10.00%
2006	9.00%	9.00%	18.00%	5.0%	5.0%	10.00%
2007	9.00%	9.00%	18.00%	5.5%	5.0%	10.50%
2008	9.00%	9.50%	18.50%	5.5%	5.5%	11.00%
2009	9.00%	9.50%	18.50%	5.5%	5.5%	11.00%
2010	9.00%	9.50%	18.50%	5.5%	5.5%	11.00%
2011	9.00%	9.50%	18.50%	5.5%	5.5%	11.00%

# Teachers Retirement Association

## 10-Year History of Changes in Plan Net Assets

	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Additions</b>				
Member Contributions	\$ 152,331,067	\$ 155,577,148	\$ 159,139,548	\$ 160,982,004
Employer Contributions	142,221,589	149,480,510	151,028,911	157,693,090
Net Income (Loss) From Investing Activity	(1,236,187,539)	293,085,074	2,204,787,495	1,575,519,541
Other Income, Net	<u>4,488,404</u>	<u>4,416,909</u>	<u>7,266,004</u>	<u>6,295,759</u>
Total Additions to Plan Net Assets	<u>\$ (937,146,479)</u>	<u>\$ 602,559,641</u>	<u>\$ 2,522,221,958</u>	<u>\$ 1,900,490,394</u>
<b>Deductions</b>				
Pension Benefits	\$ 946,344,333	\$ 978,466,617	\$ 1,008,410,471	\$ 1,048,440,525
Refunds	7,353,363	6,656,191	6,861,708	6,744,116
Administrative Expenses	12,911,651	13,158,348	12,179,212	10,883,151
Other	<u>817,961</u>	<u>434,197</u>	<u>573,379</u>	<u>1,622,386</u>
Total Deductions from Plan Net Assets	<u>\$ 967,427,308</u>	<u>\$ 998,715,353</u>	<u>\$ 1,028,024,770</u>	<u>\$ 1,067,690,178</u>
Net Increase (Decrease)	<u>\$ (1,904,573,787)</u>	<u>\$ (396,155,712)</u>	<u>\$ 1,494,197,188</u>	<u>\$ 832,800,216</u>
Net Assets Held in Trust, Beginning of Year	<u>\$ 15,902,335,962</u>	<u>\$ 13,997,762,175</u>	<u>\$ 13,601,606,463</u>	<u>\$ 15,095,803,651</u>
Net Assets Held in Trust, End of Year	<u>\$ 13,997,762,175</u>	<u>\$ 3,601,606,463</u>	<u>\$ 15,095,803,651</u>	<u>\$ 15,928,603,867</u>

*\*\*Net assets held in trust, beginning of year" were restated to reflect \$745,214,858 of assets assumed as a result of merger with MTRFA.*

## 10-Year History of Pension Assets vs. Pension Liabilities

	2002	2003	2004	2005
Pension Assets (Actuarial Value)	\$ 17,378,994,000	\$ 17,384,179,000	\$ 17,519,909,000	\$ 17,752,917,000
Accrued Liabilities	<u>\$ 16,503,099,000</u>	<u>\$ 16,856,379,000</u>	<u>\$ 17,518,784,000</u>	<u>\$ 18,021,410,000</u>
Unfunded Liabilities (Sufficiency)	<u>\$ (875,895,000)</u>	<u>\$ (527,800,000)</u>	<u>\$ (1,125,000)</u>	<u>\$ 268,493,000</u>
Funded Ratio	105.3%	103.1%	100.0%	98.5%

2006*	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
\$ 177,084,906	\$ 199,868,969	\$ 209,592,461	\$ 212,042,535	\$ 214,908,960	\$ 218,023,736
200,285,886	209,219,130	231,561,322	240,718,200	242,087,985	244,232,711
1,951,778,366	3,056,492,094	(926,044,140)	(3,318,368,290)	2,087,639,841	3,390,130,615
<u>11,412,062</u>	<u>7,901,279</u>	<u>7,529,753</u>	<u>6,526,400</u>	<u>4,850,206</u>	<u>5,562,374</u>
<u>\$ 2,340,561,220</u>	<u>\$ 3,473,481,472</u>	<u>\$ (477,360,604)</u>	<u>\$ (2,859,081,155)</u>	<u>\$ 2,549,486,992</u>	<u>\$ 3,857,949,436</u>
\$ 1,224,212,024	\$ 1,273,093,384	\$ 1,330,836,947	\$ 1,383,667,466	\$ 1,422,578,335	\$ 1,460,836,392
11,872,504	12,088,193	11,770,086	14,429,351	11,607,086	23,812,985
11,912,701	10,635,365	10,261,139	10,608,003	9,587,524	9,264,278
<u>1,856,275</u>	<u>3,309,099</u>	<u>1,687,335</u>	<u>5,354,052</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>\$ 1,249,853,504</u>	<u>\$ 1,299,126,041</u>	<u>\$ 1,354,555,508</u>	<u>\$ 1,414,058,872</u>	<u>\$ 1,443,772,945</u>	<u>\$ 1,493,913,655</u>
<u>\$ 1,090,707,716</u>	<u>\$ 2,174,355,431</u>	<u>\$ (1,831,916,112)</u>	<u>\$ (4,273,140,027)</u>	<u>\$ 1,105,714,047</u>	<u>\$ 2,364,035,781</u>
<u>\$ 16,673,818,725</u>	<u>\$ 17,764,526,441</u>	<u>\$ 19,938,881,872</u>	<u>\$ 18,106,965,760</u>	<u>\$ 13,833,825,733</u>	<u>\$ 14,939,539,780</u>
<u>\$ 17,764,526,441</u>	<u>\$ 19,938,881,872</u>	<u>\$ 18,106,965,760</u>	<u>\$ 13,833,825,733</u>	<u>\$ 14,939,539,780</u>	<u>\$ 17,303,575,561</u>

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
\$ 19,035,612,000	\$ 18,794,389,076	\$ 18,226,985,000	\$ 17,882,408,000	\$ 17,323,146,000	\$ 17,132,383,000
<u>\$ 20,679,111,000</u>	<u>\$ 21,470,314,497</u>	<u>\$ 22,230,841,000</u>	<u>\$ 23,114,802,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,081,634,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,171,493,000</u>
<u>\$ 1,643,499,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,675,925,421</u>	<u>\$ (4,003,856,000)</u>	<u>\$ (5,232,394,000)</u>	<u>\$ (4,758,488,000)</u>	<u>\$ (5,039,110,000)</u>
92.0%	87.5%	82.0%	77.4%	78.5%	77.3%

## 10-Year History of Benefits and Refunds by Type

Pension Benefits	2002	2003	2004	2005
Annuities	\$ 919,648,266	\$ 952,017,588	\$ 979,108,590	\$1,019,776,085
Disabilities	11,477,973	11,346,039	11,734,673	11,810,137
Survivor Benefits	<u>14,096,110</u>	<u>13,613,284</u>	<u>14,201,212</u>	<u>13,869,225</u>
Total Pension Benefits	<u>\$ 945,222,349</u>	<u>\$ 976,976,911</u>	<u>\$1,005,044,475</u>	<u>\$1,045,455,447</u>
Annuities Redirected to Earnings Limitation Savings Account (ELSA)	\$ <u>1,121,984</u>	\$ <u>1,489,708</u>	\$ <u>3,365,997</u>	\$ <u>2,985,078</u>
Refunds	\$ <u>7,353,363</u>	\$ <u>6,656,191</u>	\$ <u>6,861,707</u>	\$ <u>6,744,116</u>
Total Benefits and Refunds	<u>\$ 953,697,696</u>	<u>\$ 985,122,810</u>	<u>\$1,015,272,179</u>	<u>\$1,055,184,641</u>

## 10-Year History of Benefit Recipients by Category

As of June 30, 2011

Year	Annuitants	Disabilitants	Survivors	Total
2002	32,231	551	2,192	34,974
2003	33,290	558	2,351	36,199
2004	34,581	589	2,479	37,649
2005	35,779	581	2,597	38,957
2006	40,973	630	3,080	44,683
2007	42,679	636	3,223	46,538
2008	43,041	641	3,299	46,981
2009	46,009	624	3,575	50,208
2010	47,556	615	3,682	51,853
2011	49,079	602	3,856	53,537

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
\$ 1,190,295,077	\$ 1,241,862,723	\$ 1,297,772,858	\$ 1,352,741,935	\$ 1,391,181,476	\$ 1,429,842,960
13,118,722	11,923,494	12,049,579	12,076,621	13,075,898	12,468,933
<u>17,616,002</u>	<u>15,774,162</u>	<u>17,460,466</u>	<u>16,547,705</u>	<u>17,124,339</u>	<u>17,237,783</u>
<u>\$ 1,221,029,801</u>	<u>\$ 1,269,560,379</u>	<u>\$ 1,327,282,903</u>	<u>\$ 1,381,366,261</u>	<u>\$ 1,421,381,713</u>	<u>\$ 1,459,549,676</u>
<u>\$ 3,182,223</u>	<u>\$ 3,533,005</u>	<u>\$ 3,554,045</u>	<u>\$ 2,301,205</u>	<u>\$ 1,196,622</u>	<u>\$ 1,286,716</u>
<u>\$ 11,872,504</u>	<u>\$ 12,088,193</u>	<u>\$ 11,770,086</u>	<u>\$ 14,429,351</u>	<u>\$ 11,607,086</u>	<u>\$ 23,812,985</u>
<u>\$ 1,236,084,528</u>	<u>\$ 1,285,181,577</u>	<u>\$ 1,342,607,034</u>	<u>\$ 1,398,096,817</u>	<u>\$ 1,434,185,421</u>	<u>\$ 1,484,649,377</u>



## Schedule of Benefit Amounts Paid

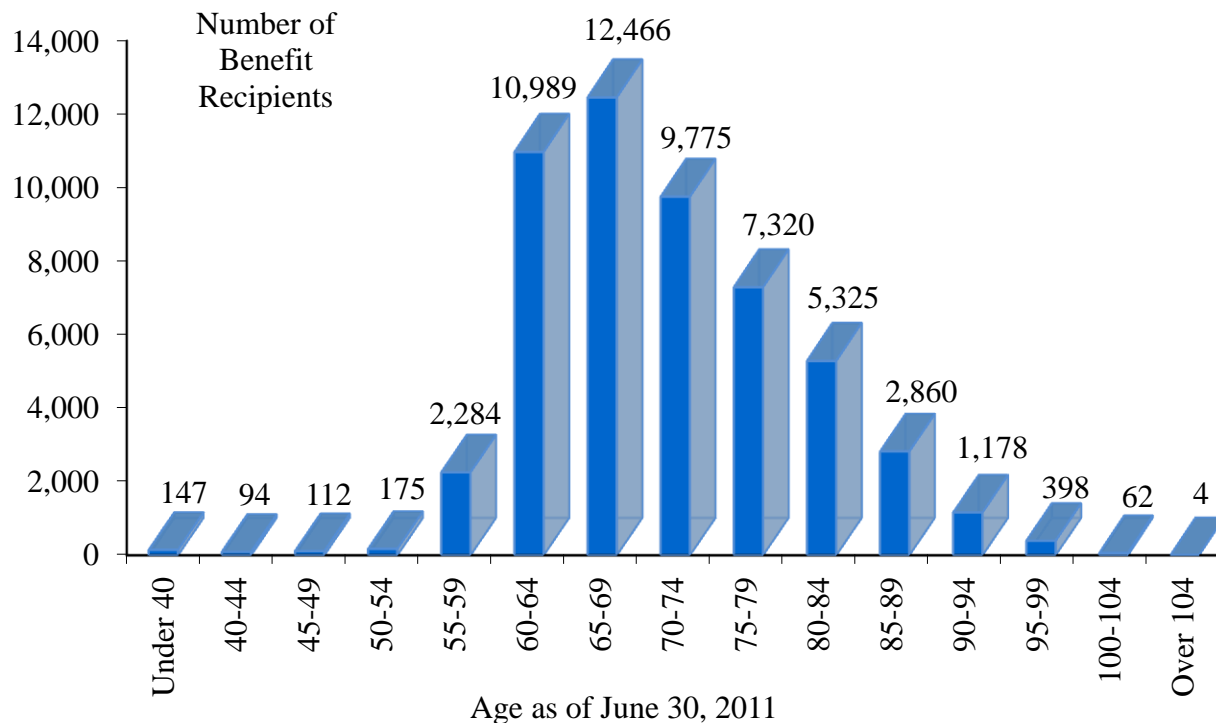
For Month of June 2011 – Payment Made June 1, 2011

Monthly Benefit Amount	Number of Recipients	Cumulative Total	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Under \$100 - 499	7,223	7,223	13.58	13.58
\$ 500 - 999	5,657	12,880	10.64	24.22
\$ 1,000 - 1,499	5,754	18,634	10.82	35.04
\$ 1,500 - 1,999	7,117	25,751	13.38	48.42
\$ 2,000 - 2,499	7,434	33,185	13.98	62.40
\$ 2,500 - 2,999	6,048	39,233	11.37	73.77
\$ 3,000 - 3,499	4,201	43,434	7.90	81.67
\$ 3,500 - 3,999	2,924	46,358	5.50	87.17
\$ 4,000 - 4,499	2,091	48,449	3.93	91.10
\$ 4,500 - 4,999	1,538	49,987	2.89	93.99
\$ 5,000 - 5,499	1,008	50,995	1.90	95.89
\$ 5,500 - 5,999	689	51,684	1.30	97.19
\$ 6,000 - 6,499	495	52,179	.93	98.12
\$ 6,500 - 6,999	339	52,518	.64	98.76
\$ 7,000 - 7,499	236	52,754	.44	99.20
\$ 7,500 - 7,999	150	52,904	.28	99.48
\$ 8,000 - 8,499	110	53,014	.20	99.68
\$ 8,500 - 8,999	55	53,069	.10	99.78
\$ 9,000 - 9,499	36	53,105	.06	99.84
\$ 9,500 - 9,999	31	53,136	.06	99.90
\$10,000 - 10,499	17	53,153	.03	99.93
\$10,500 - 10,999	10	53,163	.02	99.95
\$11,000 - 11,499	10	53,173	.02	99.97
\$11,500 - 11,999	6	53,179	.01	99.98
\$12,000 - 12,499	4	53,183	.01	99.99
\$12,500 and over	6	53,189	.01	100.00

## Schedule of Benefit Recipients by Current Age

For Month of June 2011 – Payment Made June 1, 2011

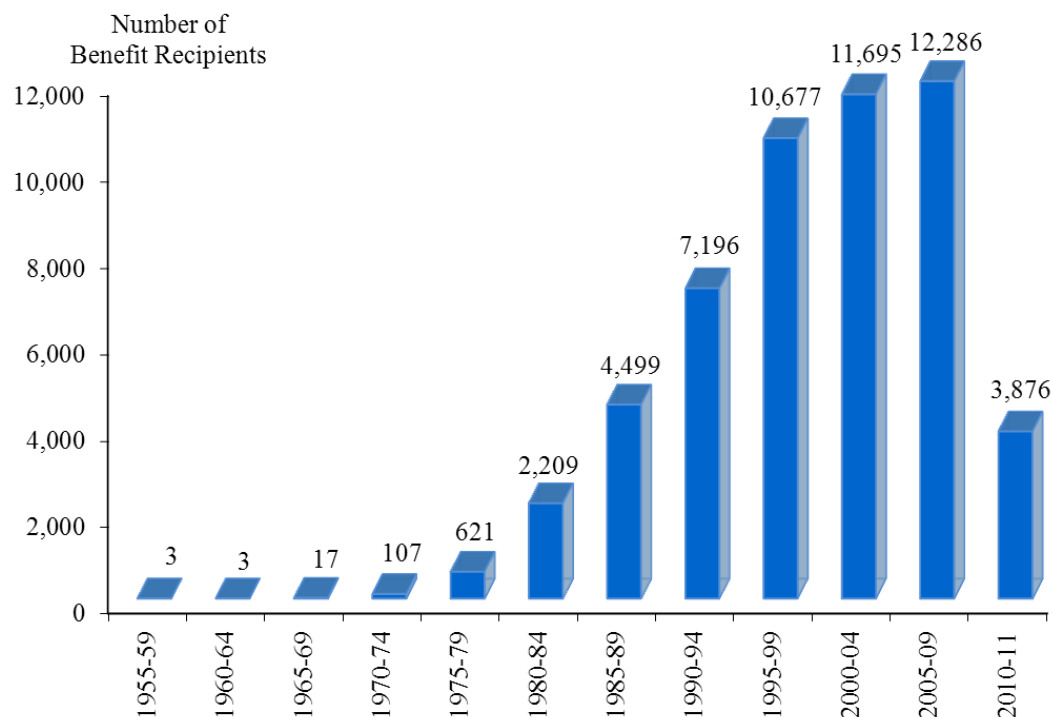
Total Recipients: 53,189



## Benefit Recipients by Effective Date of Retirement

For Month of June 2011 – Payment Made June 1, 2011

Total Recipients: 53,189



# Schedule of New Retirees and Initial Benefit Paid

For the Ten Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2011

Fiscal Year	Years of Formula Service						>35	Total
	<10	10-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	>30		
						(FY 2000-2008) 31-35 (FY 2009)		
<b>2002</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$242	\$777	\$1,247	\$1,638	\$2,298	\$3,137		\$2,089
Number of Retirees	249	172	138	203	201	813		1,776
<b>2003</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$249	\$7,589	\$1,242	\$1,605	\$2,451	\$3,204		\$2,266
Number of Retirees	213	147	129	162	191	911		1,753
<b>2004</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$260	\$738	\$1,155	\$1,832	\$2,393	\$3,227		\$2,324
Number of Retirees	258	162	119	158	157	1,102		1,956
<b>2005</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$267	\$768	\$1,235	\$1,688	\$2,515	\$3,224		\$2,424
Final Average Salary	\$28,747	\$35,240	\$44,812	\$52,867	\$58,063	\$60,069		\$53,257
Number of Retirees	204	110	118	132	169	1,055		1,788
<b>2006</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$239	\$843	\$1,349	\$1,820	\$2,523	\$3,320		\$2,422
Final Average Salary	\$21,194	\$37,339	\$50,455	\$36,045	\$58,519	\$62,537		\$54,018
Number of Retirees	230	144	170	151	207	1,094		1,996
<b>2007</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$257	\$781	\$1,455	\$1,932	\$2,608	\$3,548		\$2,465
Final Average Salary	\$22,846	\$38,717	\$50,770	\$58,606	\$61,332	\$63,080		\$55,098
Number of Retirees	256	162	183	181	190	1,238		2,210
<b>2008</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$284	\$917	\$1,471	\$1,943	\$2,663	\$3,474		\$2,524
Final Average Salary	\$23,542	\$42,298	\$52,288	\$58,998	\$62,353	\$65,360		\$56,822
Number of Retirees	252	147	150	216	237	1,107		2,109
<b>2009</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$295	\$885	\$1,319	\$1,975	\$2,670	\$3,463	\$3,859	\$2,507
Final Average Salary	\$25,301	\$39,270	\$50,616	\$59,550	\$63,268	\$66,179	\$69,949	\$56,972
Number of Retirees	285	139	160	180	223	793	257	2,037
<b>2010</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$299	\$919	\$1,497	\$1,911	\$2,636	\$3,447	\$3,884	\$2,441
Final Average Salary	\$24,488	\$43,105	\$54,513	\$60,302	\$64,611	\$67,443	\$70,941	\$57,729
Number of Retirees	326	162	205	224	276	733	323	2,249
<b>2011</b>								
Avg. Monthly Benefit	\$318	\$883	\$1,458	\$2,076	\$2,777	\$3,576	\$3,941	\$2,410
Final Average Salary	\$24,106	\$43,245	\$56,574	\$63,832	\$68,358	\$71,541	\$73,031	\$58,957
Number of Retirees	431	212	240	270	278	685	428	2,544

Note: Final Average Salary by years of service is unavailable for years prior to fiscal year 2005.

## Schedule of Benefit Recipients by Type

For Month of June 2011 – Payment Made June 1, 2011

Monthly Benefit Amount	Number of Recipients	Type of Retirement		
		Regular	Disability	Beneficiary
\$ 0 - \$ 1,000	12,888	11,571	183	1,134
\$ 1,001 - \$ 2,000	12,877	11,493	217	1,167
\$ 2,001 - \$ 3,000	13,504	12,464	156	884
\$ 3,001 - \$ 4,000	7,133	6,642	37	454
\$ 4,001 - \$ 5,000	3,601	3,345	5	251
\$ 5,001 - \$ 6,000	1,688	1,572	4	112
\$ 6,001 - \$ 7,000	828	760	3	65
\$ 7,001 - \$ 8,000	385	359	0	26
\$ 8,001 - \$ 9,000	165	149	0	16
\$ 9,001 - \$ 10,000	68	61	0	7
\$10,001 - \$ 11,000	26	23	0	3
\$11,001 - \$ 12,000	16	15	0	1
\$12,001 - \$ 13,000	7	6	0	1
\$13,001 - \$ 14,000	1	1	0	0
\$14,001 - \$ 15,000	2	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,189</b>	<b>48,463</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>4,121</b>

# Membership Data

June 30, 2011

Distribution of Active Members\*

Average Earnings in Dollars

Years of Service as of June 30, 2011\*\*

Age	<3**	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 +	Total
<25	2,182	27	1								2,210
Avg. Earnings	20,162	38,248	43,755								20,394
25-29	4,250	2,805	1,780	1							8,836
Avg. Earnings	23,532	39,008	45,593	39,491							32,891
30-34	1,860	1,587	5,444	1,500							10,391
Avg. Earnings	21,636	38,669	48,065	58,985							43,475
35-39	1,347	714	2,312	4,632	841						9,846
Avg. Earnings	19,647	37,631	47,632	60,557	67,999						50,898
40-44	1,343	701	1,688	2,750	3,768	664					10,914
Avg. Earnings	16,902	35,968	45,032	59,578	67,301	70,778					53,908
45-49	1,088	585	1,310	1,641	2,036	2,432	646	1			9,739
Avg. Earnings	15,008	32,496	44,968	57,943	65,863	70,458	72,626	48,019			55,627
50-54	949	435	1,082	1,423	1,463	1,693	1,893	801	1		9,740
Avg. Earnings	15,105	30,312	43,282	56,927	64,463	68,877	71,314	70,382	49,593		57,259
55-59	694	299	751	1,096	1,320	1,373	1,278	1,962	450		9,223
Avg. Earnings	11,220	28,109	40,436	55,938	63,079	68,886	71,642	72,822	74,123		60,013
60-64	547	180	448	558	724	754	609	425	457	101	4,803
Avg. Earnings	7,166	22,653	37,394	52,458	61,367	68,369	73,062	77,862	76,273	74,336	56,205
65-69	252	45	88	90	81	96	59	36	31	45	823
Avg. Earnings	4,068	13,213	24,820	48,930	62,332	68,058	77,277	82,673	95,714	83,857	41,393
70 +	122	21	23	8	8	11	7	8	5	17	230
Avg. Earnings	4,552	7,021	22,660	39,893	63,043	67,900	88,791	75,459	106,428	84,959	26,070
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,634</b>	<b>7,399</b>	<b>14,927</b>	<b>13,699</b>	<b>10,241</b>	<b>7,023</b>	<b>4,492</b>	<b>3,233</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>76,755</b>
<b>Avg. Earnings</b>	<b>18,953</b>	<b>36,400</b>	<b>45,861</b>	<b>58,709</b>	<b>65,661</b>	<b>69,539</b>	<b>71,939</b>	<b>72,988</b>	<b>76,018</b>	<b>78,073</b>	<b>50,028</b>

\* Unlike the exhibit on page 64, the counts in this exhibit do not include disabled members. Active members include 24 Basic and 76,731 coordinated members.

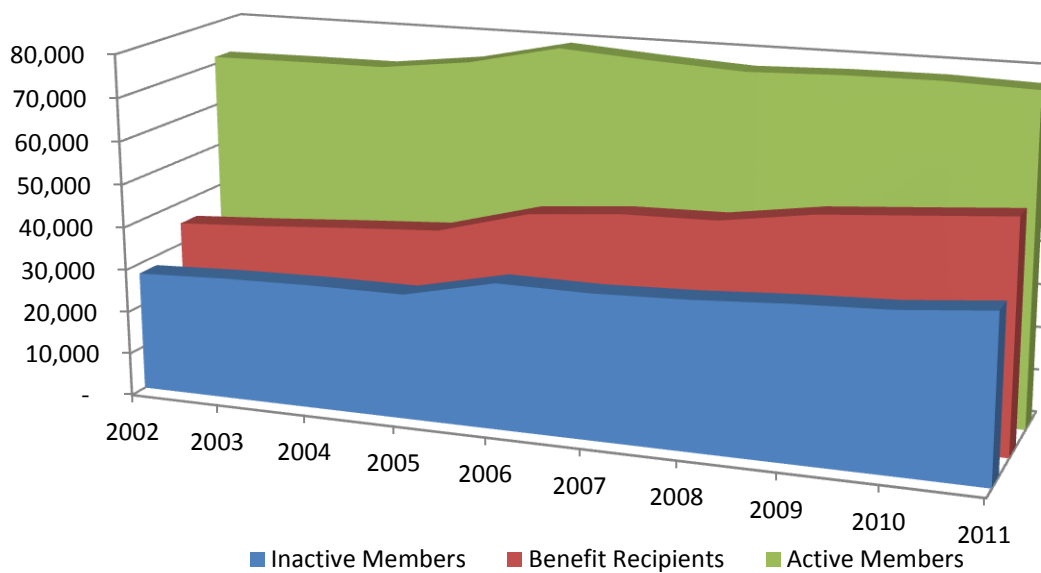
\*\* This exhibit does not reflect service earned in Combined Service Annuity benefits. It should not be relied upon as an indicator of non-vested status.

In each cell, the top number is the count of active members for the age/service combination and the bottom number is the amount of average annual earnings. Earnings shown in this exhibit are actual salaries earned during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, as reported by the Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota.

## 10-Year Summary of Membership

Year Ended June 30	Active Members	Inactive Members	Benefit Recipients
2002	71,690	27,702	34,974
2003	71,916	28,560	36,199
2004	72,008	28,990	37,649
2005	74,552	29,031	38,957
2006	79,164	33,729	44,683
2007	77,694	35,550	46,538
2008	76,515	34,283	46,981
2009	77,162	35,563	50,208
2010	77,356	36,407	51,853
2011	76,755	38,433	53,537

## 10-Year Summary of Membership



# Principal Participating Employers

As of June 30, 2011

Employer Unit Name	2011			2010			2009			2008		
	Covered Employees	Rank	% of Active Membership	Covered Employees	Rank	% of Active Membership	Covered Employees	Rank	% of Membership	Covered Employees	Rank	% of Active Membership
Minneapolis - Special School District #1	3,757	1	4.89	3,772	1	4.87	3,473	1	4.50	3,406	2	4.45
Anoka-Hennepin - ISD #11	3,158	2	4.11	3,309	2	4.28	3,466	2	4.49	3,487	1	4.56
MnSCU (MN State Colleges & Universities)	2,757	3	3.59	2,876	3	3.72	3,019	3	3.91	3,146	3	4.11
Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan - ISD #196	2,554	4	3.33	2,711	4	3.50	2,741	4	3.55	2,679	4	3.50
Osseo - ISD #279	1,743	5	2.27	1,724	5	2.23	1,745	5	2.26	1,923	5	2.52
South Washington County - ISD #833	1,559	6	2.03	1,532	6	1.98	1,476	7	1.91	1,461	6	1.91
Rochester - ISD #535	1,434	7	1.87	1,435	7	1.86	1,483	6	1.92	1,457	7	1.91
Robbinsdale - ISD #281	1,057	8	1.38	1,101	8	1.42	1,086	8	1.41	1,181	8	1.54
Bloomington - ISD #271	1,041	9	1.36	1,030	9	1.33	1,033	9	1.34	1,020	9	1.33
St. Cloud - ISD #742	1,021	10	1.33	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	967	10	1.26
Burnsville - ISD #191	NA	NA	NA	973	10	1.26	976	10	1.26	NA	NA	NA
Lakeville - ISD #194	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
All Other	<u>56,674</u>		<u>73.84</u>	<u>56,893</u>		<u>73.55</u>	<u>56,664</u>		<u>73.45</u>	<u>55,788</u>		<u>72.91</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>76,755</u>		<u>100.00</u>	<u>77,356</u>		<u>100.00</u>	<u>77,162</u>		<u>100.00</u>	<u>76,515</u>		<u>100.00</u>

\*Information not available prior to 2007.



2007			Employer Unit Name
Covered Employees	Rank	% of Active Membership	
4,217	1	5.43	Minneapolis - Special School District #1
3,506	2	4.51	Anoka-Hennepin - ISD #11
3,253	3	4.19	MnSCU (MN State Colleges & Universities)
2,685	4	3.46	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan - ISD #196
1,973	5	2.54	Osseo - ISD #279
1,454	6	1.87	South Washington County - ISD #833
1,412	7	1.81	Rochester - ISD #535
1,245	8	1.60	Robbinsdale - ISD #281
994	10	1.28	Bloomington - ISD #271
NA	NA	NA	Burnsville - ISD #191
NA	NA	NA	St. Cloud - ISD #742
1,078	9	1.39	Lakeville - ISD #194
<u>55,877</u>		<u>71.92</u>	All Other
<u>77,694</u>		<u>100.00</u>	<b>Total</b>

# Number of Employer Units

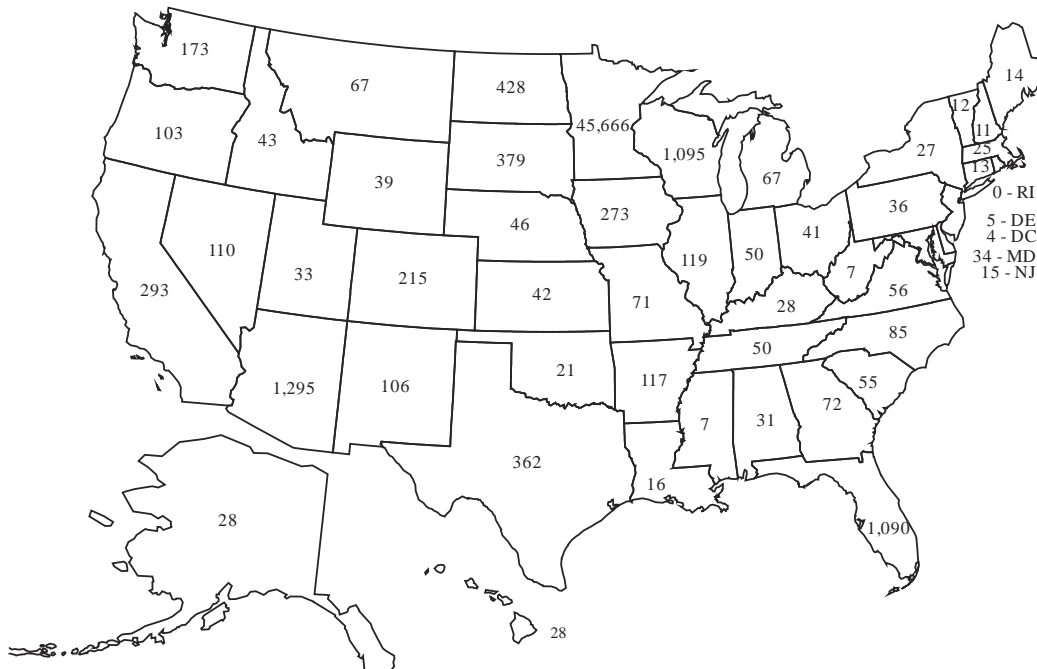
As of June 30, 2011

Year	Independent School Districts	Joint Power Units	MN State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU)	Charter Schools	State Agencies	Others	Total
2002	340	39	40	32	11	1	463
2003	340	38	40	88	8	1	515
2004	345	37	39	110	6	1	538
2005	345	38	39	136	6	1	565
2006	348	37	39	142	6	1	573
2007	343	37	39	139	7	1	566
2008	344	33	39	157	5	2	580
2009	347	34	39	156	5	2	583
2010	342	37	39	154	4	2	578
2011	342	37	39	155	4	2	579

# Distribution of TRA Benefits

## Mailing Address of Benefit Recipient

February 1, 2011

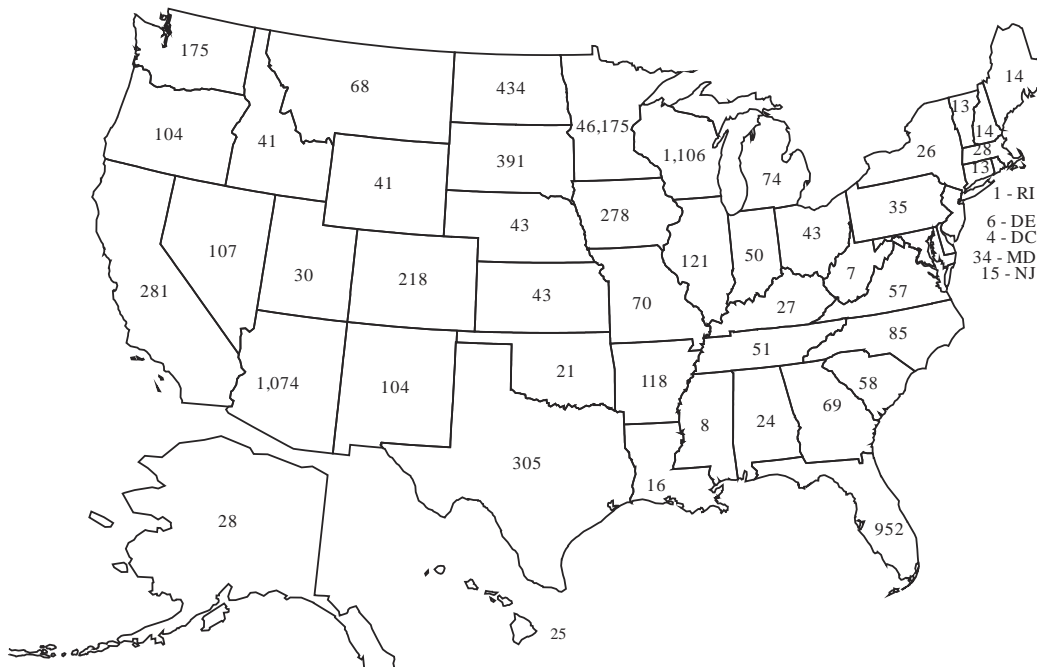


Total Recipients: 53,067

Note: 64 recipients reside outside the United States

Minnesota Recipients = 86.05 percent

June 1, 2011

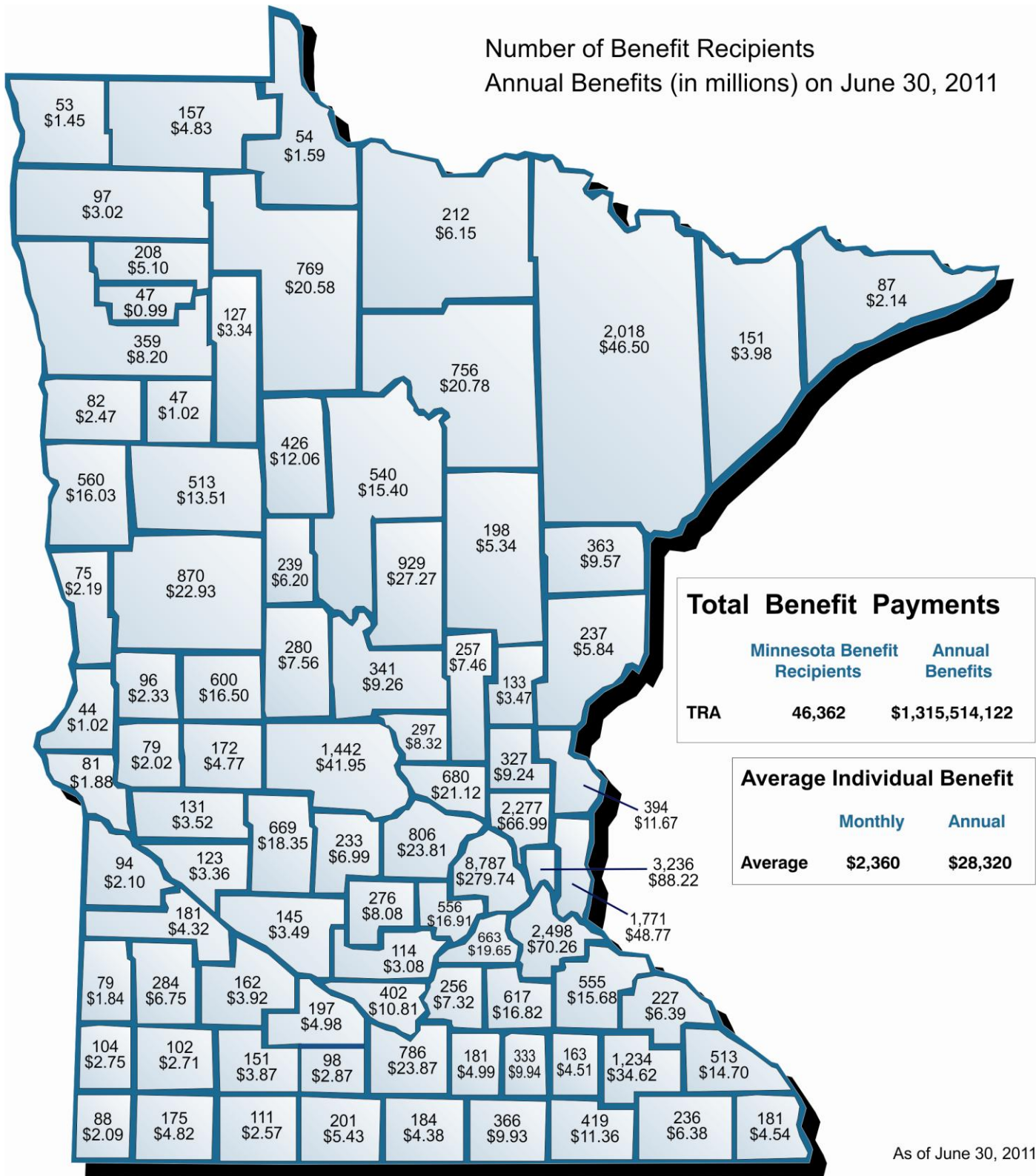


Total Recipients: 53,189

Note: 64 recipients reside outside the United States

Minnesota Recipients = 86.81 percent

# Annual Benefits for Minnesota Benefit Recipients by County



## Annual Benefits and Recipients by County for the Teachers Retirement Association (TRA)

As of June 30, 2011

County	No. of Members	Annual Benefit
Aitkin	198	\$5,343,302
Anoka	2,277	\$66,985,473
Becker	513	\$13,511,623
Beltrami	769	\$20,583,029
Benton	297	\$8,316,511
Big Stone	81	\$1,879,934
Blue Earth	786	\$23,874,396
Brown	197	\$4,982,598
Carlton	363	\$9,567,087
Carver	556	\$16,908,126
Cass	540	\$15,401,033
Chippewa	123	\$3,363,411
Chisago	394	\$11,674,402
Clay	560	\$16,026,258
Clearwater	127	\$3,341,717
Cook	87	\$2,139,955
Cottonwood	151	\$3,874,024
Crow Wing	929	\$27,265,946
Dakota	2,498	\$70,257,684
Dodge	163	\$4,514,435
Douglas	600	\$16,501,221
Faribault	184	\$4,384,217
Fillmore	236	\$6,383,364
Freeborn	366	\$9,932,748
Goodhue	555	\$15,682,081
Grant	96	\$2,331,985
Hennepin	8,787	\$279,741,466
Houston	181	\$4,544,326
Hubbard	426	\$12,056,680
Isanti	327	\$9,240,995
Itasca	756	\$20,779,561
Jackson	111	\$2,567,829
Kanabec	133	\$3,470,999
Kandiyohi	669	\$18,354,447
Kittson	53	\$1,446,268
Koochiching	212	\$6,146,680
Lac Qui Parle	94	\$2,095,074
Lake	151	\$3,978,012
Lake of The Woods	54	\$1,593,621
Le Sueur	256	\$7,317,071
Lincoln	79	\$1,839,048
Lyon	284	\$6,754,929
Mahnomen	47	\$1,019,098
Marshall	97	\$3,019,067

County	No. of Members	Annual Benefit
Martin	201	\$5,429,433
McLeod	276	\$8,075,672
Meeker	233	\$6,987,789
Mille Lacs	257	\$7,464,221
Morrison	341	\$9,261,720
Mower	419	\$11,361,909
Murray	102	\$2,714,200
Nicollet	402	\$10,812,221
Nobles	175	\$4,815,805
Norman	82	\$2,471,935
Olmsted	1,234	\$34,623,743
Otter Tail	870	\$22,929,025
Pennington	208	\$5,096,323
Pine	237	\$5,840,109
Pipestone	104	\$2,746,041
Polk	359	\$8,196,478
Pope	172	\$4,769,550
Ramsey	3,236	\$88,223,948
Red Lake	47	\$986,053
Redwood	162	\$3,918,110
Renville	145	\$3,491,147
Rice	617	\$16,816,941
Rock	88	\$2,089,799
Roseau	157	\$4,832,780
Saint Louis	2,018	\$46,497,236
Scott	663	\$19,650,673
Sherburne	680	\$21,120,654
Sibley	114	\$3,077,156
Stearns	1,442	\$41,945,394
Steele	333	\$9,935,273
Stevens	79	\$2,015,516
Swift	131	\$3,515,108
Todd	280	\$7,559,204
Traverse	44	\$1,024,550
Wabasha	227	\$6,385,296
Wadena	239	\$6,202,526
Waseca	181	\$4,985,175
Washington	1,771	\$48,765,023
Watsonwan	98	\$2,874,950
Wilkin	75	\$2,188,041
Winona	513	\$14,699,169
Wright	806	\$23,805,159
Yellow Medicine	181	\$4,321,330
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>46,362</b>	<b>\$1,315,514,122</b>

# Projected Benefit Payments

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

The table below shows estimated benefits expected to be paid over the next ten years, based on the assumptions used in the valuation. The “Actives” column shows benefits expected to be paid to members currently active on July 1, 2011. The “Retirees” column shows benefits expected to be paid to all other members. This includes those who, as of July 1, 2011, are receiving benefit payments or who terminated employment and are entitled to a deferred benefit.

*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	Active	Retirees	Total
2012	\$105,124	\$1,411,355	\$1,516,479
2013	170,152	1,392,416	1,562,568
2014	234,841	1,372,125	1,606,966
2015	298,817	1,355,996	1,654,813
2016	361,714	1,340,146	1,701,860
2017	424,633	1,325,695	1,750,328
2018	489,301	1,310,421	1,799,722
2019	556,116	1,293,386	1,849,502
2020	623,520	1,274,792	1,898,312
2021	690,434	1,253,819	1,944,253
2022	756,323	1,230,705	1,987,028
2023	820,424	1,205,310	2,025,734
2024	884,669	1,177,575	2,062,244
2025	951,876	1,147,024	2,098,900
2026	1,023,864	1,114,295	2,138,159
2027	1,101,191	1,079,866	2,181,057
2028	1,184,530	1,043,090	2,227,620
2029	1,273,902	1,004,157	2,278,059
2030	1,370,262	963,068	2,333,330
2031	1,473,248	920,093	2,393,341
2032	1,582,422	875,307	2,457,729
2033	1,697,141	828,754	2,525,895
2034	1,816,774	780,630	2,597,404
2035	1,940,636	731,174	2,671,810
2036	2,065,571	680,668	2,746,239
2037	2,188,324	629,435	2,817,759

Teachers Retirement Association of Minnesota  
A Pension Trust Fund of the State of Minnesota



# Plan Statement



# Plan Statement

---

June 30, 2011

## Purpose

The Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) was established on July 1, 1931, by the state legislature. Its purpose is to improve educational service and better compensate teachers in order to make the occupation of teaching in Minnesota more attractive to qualified persons by providing a retirement benefit schedule that rewards faithful and continued service.

## Administration

TRA is managed by eight trustees – three are statutorily appointed and five are elected. The statutory trustees are the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Management and Budget (MMB) and a representative of the Minnesota School Boards Association. Four of the five elected trustees are active members and one is a retiree. Administrative management of the fund is vested in an Executive Director who is appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Board also contracts with an actuary and uses legal counsel provided by the office of the Attorney General.

## Membership

All teachers employed in public elementary and secondary schools, joint powers, charter schools and all other educational institutions maintained by the State of Minnesota (except those teachers employed by the cities of St. Paul and Duluth, or by the University of Minnesota) are required to be members of TRA.

Teachers employed by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) may elect TRA coverage within one year of their eligible employment. Newly-tenured MnSCU members also have a one-year period to elect TRA coverage. If electing TRA, the individual must pay for the past service covered by TRA, and the cost of past service is based on full actuarial cost. No Minnesota state college or university teacher is a member except for purposes of Social Security coverage if that teacher has coverage by the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan administered by the MnSCU Board.

## Retirement Service Credit

Service credit for benefits is earned from teaching service performed on a full-time, part-time or substitute basis up to a maximum of 170 full days per fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). Service credit may also be obtained by using paid accumulated sick leave or by purchasing service for a qualified leave of absence. If a teacher teaches less than 170 full days, fractional service credit is given as the ratio of the number of full days taught to 170. If a teacher teaches only a fractional part of a day, the service credit earned is the actual hours taught divided by a five-hour standard for the day. Even though a teacher may teach more than five hours per day, not more than one day of service credit can be earned on any day. Service credit for MnSCU members is based on a full-time equivalence method. No more than one year of service credit may be earned during any fiscal year.

## Financing

Benefits are financed by employee contributions, employer contributions, investment earnings and turnover gains. Turnover gains are employer contributions retained by the fund when members take refunds of their employee contributions.

## Vesting

In a pension plan, vesting means a member has earned sufficient service credit to be eligible for a monthly benefit.

TRA members who have performed covered service after May 15, 1989, are vested after three years of teaching service. TRA members who last worked prior to May 16, 1989, require five years or, in some cases, ten years of service credit earned in order to be eligible for a monthly annuity benefit.

## Employee Contributions

TRA members pay a percentage of their gross annual salary as determined by their membership plan. Basic Plan members (without Social Security coverage) contribute 9.0 percent of their annual salary, while Coordinated Plan members (coordinated with Social Security coverage) contribute 5.5 percent of their annual salary.

On July 1, 2011, the employee contribution will be raised annually by 0.50 percent for four years. On July 1, 2014, the employee contribution rate for Coordinated members will be 7.5 percent.

Percent Contribution Rate on July 1				
Member Type	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Basic</b> (without Social Security coverage)	9.5	10.0	10.5	11.0
<b>Coordinated</b> (with Social Security coverage)	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5

## Employer Contributions

Local school districts and other TRA-covered employer units provide contributions of 9.5 percent of total salary for members in the Basic Plan and 5.5 percent of total salary for members in the Coordinated Plan. For Coordinated Plan members the employer unit also makes the required matching contribution to the Social Security Administration.

Beginning July 1, 2011, the employer contribution will be raised annually by 0.50 percent for four years. On July 1, 2014, the employer contribution rate for Coordinated members will be 7.5 percent.

Percent Contribution Rate on July 1				
Member Type	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Basic</b> (without Social Security coverage)	10.0	10.5	11.0	11.5
<b>Coordinated</b> (with Social Security coverage)	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5

Minneapolis Special School District #1 pays an employer additional contribution of 3.64 percent of annual salary for TRA members employed by that school district.

TRA also receives approximately \$21.5 million annually in state and local direct aid. The aid payments are designed to offset unfunded liabilities assumed with the 2006 merger of the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Fund Association (MTRFA).

## Retirement Benefit

The retirement benefit is determined by a formula based on the average of the member's highest five successive annual salaries, an accumulated percentage factor based on the

total years of service credit, and the member's age at retirement. The retirement benefits for members who were first hired before July 1, 1989, are different from the retirement benefits for members who were first hired after June 30, 1989.

### Coordinated Members First Hired *Before* July 1, 1989

For members first hired before July 1, 1989, the retirement benefits (with average salary defined as the average of the highest five successive annual salaries) are the greater of:

The sum of:

- 1.20 percent of average salary for the first 10 years of allowable service;
- 1.70 percent of average salary for each subsequent year prior to July 1, 2006; and
- 1.90 percent of average salary for each year of allowable service July 1, 2006 and after.
- No actuarial reduction if age plus years of service totals 90. Otherwise, reduction of 0.25 percent for each month the member is under age 65 (or age 62 if 30 years of allowable service) at the time of retirement.

or

The sum of:

- 1.70 percent of average salary for each year of allowable service prior to July 1, 2006; and
- 1.90 percent of average salary for each year of allowable service beginning July 1, 2006.
- Actuarial reduction (averaging 4.0 percent to 5.5 percent per year) applies if the member is under full Social Security benefit retirement age, but not to exceed age 65.

or

- For certain eligible members first hired prior to July 1, 1969, a money purchase annuity equal to the actuarial equivalent of 220.00 percent of the member's accumulated deductions plus interest thereon.

### Coordinated Members First Hired *After* June 30, 1989

For members first hired after June 30, 1989, the retirement benefits (with average salary defined as the average of the highest five successive annual salaries) are the sum of:

- 1.70 percent of average salary for each year of allowable service prior to July 1, 2006; and

- 1.90 percent of average salary for each year of allowable service beginning July 1, 2006.

Actuarial reduction (averaging 4.0 percent to 5.5 percent per year) applies if the member is under full Social Security benefit retirement age, but not to exceed age 66.

### Basic Members (Former MTRFA)

TRA has 58 active and inactive Basic members from the former Minneapolis Teachers Retirement Fund Association (MTRFA) who were transferred to TRA effective June 30, 2006. Under the merger legislation, this group of former MTRFA members retains eligibility for the benefit provisions as provided by the MTRFA Articles of Incorporation and by-laws as they existed on June 30, 2006.

The retirement benefits for these members (with average salary defined as the average of the highest five successive annual salaries) are:

- 2.50 percent of average salary for each year of teaching service.
- No actuarial reduction applies if the retiring member is age 60 or any age with 30 years of teaching service.

If the member is age 55 with less than 30 years of teaching service, the retirement benefit is the greater of:

- 2.25 percent of average salary for each year of teaching service with reduction of 0.25 percent for each month the member is under the age first eligible for a normal retirement benefit.

or

- 2.50 percent of average salary for each year of teaching service assuming augmentation to the age first eligible for a normal retirement benefit at 3.00 percent per year, and actuarial reduction for each month the member is under the age first eligible for a normal retirement benefit.

An alternative benefit is available to members who are at least age 50 and have seven years of teaching service. The benefit is based on the accumulation of the 6.50 percent "city deposits" to the Retirement Fund. Other benefits are also provided under this alternative benefit, depending on the member's age and teaching service.

### Basic Members (Non-MTRFA)

As of June 30, 2011, TRA had six inactive members who retain eligibility for the Basic Plan and who do not have eligibility for the provisions for former MTRFA Basic

members. The retirement benefits (with average salary defined as the average of the highest five successive annual salaries) are the greater of:

- 2.20 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years of allowable service and 2.70 percent of average salary for each subsequent year with reduction of 0.25 percent for each month the member is under age 65 at time of retirement, or under age 62 if 30 years of allowable service. No reduction if age plus years of allowable service totals 90.
- 2.70 percent of average salary for each year of allowable service assuming augmentation to age 65 at 3.00 percent per year, and actuarial reduction for each month the member is under age 65.

or

- For eligible members, a money purchase annuity equal to the actuarial equivalent of 220.00 percent of the member's accumulated deductions plus interest thereon

All members in this group have reached normal retirement age and are no longer subject to early retirement penalties.

## Deferred Retirement

Members with three or more years of allowable service (ten or more years of allowable service if termination of teaching service occurs before July 1, 1987, and five or more years of allowable service if termination of teaching service occurs after June 30, 1987, but before May 16, 1989) who terminate teaching service in schools covered by the association may have their retirement benefit deferred until they attain age 55 or older.

Members who defer their benefits will receive a deferral increase as follows:

Members hired prior to July 1, 2006	Prior to July 1, 2012: 3.0 percent annually through December 31 of the year in which the member would have reached 55 and 5.0 percent annually thereafter each year the benefit is deferred After July 1, 2012: 2.0 percent
Members hired on or after July 1, 2006	Prior to July 1, 2012: 2.5 percent After July 1, 2012: 2.0 percent

The deferral period must be at least three months. If on a leave of absence, the member is not eligible for the deferral

increase on a deferred annuity for any portion of time on leave.

## **Annuity Plan Options**

Six different annuity plan options are available to TRA members that provide monthly benefit payments for as long as the annuitant lives. The No Refund Plan provides the highest possible monthly benefit, but terminates upon the member's death. A member may choose to provide survivor benefits to a designated beneficiary(ies) by selecting one of the five plans that have survivorship features.

A married member must choose one of the three survivorship plans (plans 4 through 6) listed below at retirement, unless the member's spouse waives the right to this type of annuity.

1. No Refund, For Life of Member
2. Guaranteed Refund
3. 15-Years Guaranteed
4. 100% Survivorship with Bounceback
5. 50% Survivorship with Bounceback
6. 75% Survivorship with Bounceback

## **Annual Post-Retirement Increases**

Once retired, each January, if specified by law, a post-retirement increase may be made to a member's monthly benefit.

The annual post-retirement increases for benefit recipients have been suspended for 2011 and 2012. Beginning January 1, 2013, annual post-retirement increases will be 2.0 percent. Once the TRA Fund reaches a market value funding ratio of 90 percent, the annual post-retirement increase would be restored to 2.5 percent.

When an increase is granted, members who have been receiving a benefit for at least 18 months will receive the full increase. Members who have been receiving a benefit for at least 6 months, but less than 18 months, will receive a prorated increase.

## **Combined Service Annuity**

Any vested member having combined service credit with any two or more Minnesota public retirement funds that participates in the combined service annuity program, may elect to receive a combined service annuity upon compliance with eligibility requirements for retirement.

## **Refunds**

Upon termination of teaching service and application, TRA will issue a refund of a member's accumulated contributions plus 5 percent interest compounded annually if termination occurred before May 16, 1989, and 6 percent interest compounded annually if termination occurred on or after May 16, 1989. Effective July 1, 2011, account balances accrue interest at a rate of 4 percent annually.

A refund will be issued only if the member has officially resigned from employment and the official refund application form is submitted no sooner than 30 days after termination of teaching service.

## **Repayment of Refunds**

Members who return to teaching service after previously withdrawing their contributions may repay these contributions upon completing two years of allowable service. The repayment must include interest of 8.5 percent, compounded annually from the date of the refund. If a member has more than two years of refunded service, they may repay a minimum portion, which is at least 1/3 of the total service credit period for all refunds previously taken.

## **Disability Benefits**

An active member who becomes disabled after at least three years of allowable service is eligible to apply for a total and permanent disability benefit provided at least two of the required three years of allowable service are performed after last becoming a member. State statute defines total and permanent disability as the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to be of a long, continued and indefinite duration. An indefinite duration is a period of at least one year.

## **Survivor Benefits of Members Prior to Retirement**

Certain benefits are available to the survivor(s) of members who die before officially retiring with TRA. Beneficiary designation options vary for single members and married members.

### **Single Members**

#### **Non-Vested**

- A lump-sum death benefit equal to a member's accumulated deductions plus interest to the date of

death is payable to either the designated beneficiary or estate, whichever is applicable. Interest is compounded annually at 6 percent prior to July 1, 2011, and 4 percent annually beginning July 1, 2011. Contributions made by the employer are not included in this benefit. A member may designate any person(s), trust, or organization(s) as a beneficiary.

### Vested

- For a member without a surviving spouse at the time of death, survivor benefits will *automatically* be paid for a period certain to all dependent children under the age of 20, *unless* the member has chosen the lifetime monthly benefit option explained in the next paragraph. These payments are made from the date of death to the date each dependent child attains age 20 if the child is under age 15 on the date of death. If the dependent child is 15 years or older on the date of death, payments will be made for five years. Payments for children under the age of 18 would be made to a custodial parent or court-appointed guardian. A dependent child is a biological or adopted child who is under 20 years of age and who is dependent on the member for more than one-half of his or her financial support.
- A member may designate payment of lifetime monthly benefits for *either* former spouse(s), *or* dependent and non-dependent, biological or adopted child(ren), *instead* of the above described surviving dependent child(ren) benefits being paid.
- For a member without a former spouse or dependent child(ren) at the time of death, either the designated beneficiary or estate, whichever is applicable, is entitled to a lump-sum death benefit equal to accumulated deductions plus interest to the date of death. Interest on account balances is compounded annually at 6 percent prior to July 1, 2011, and 4 percent annually beginning July 1, 2011. Contributions made by the employer are not included in this benefit. A member may designate any person(s), trust, or organization(s) as a beneficiary.

## Married Members

A surviving spouse has precedence over any designated beneficiary.

### Non-Vested

- A member's spouse is entitled to a lump-sum death benefit equal to the accumulated deductions plus interest to the date of death. Interest on account balances is compounded annually at 6 percent prior to July 1, 2011, and 4 percent annually beginning July 1, 2011. Contributions made by the employer are not included in this benefit.

### Vested

- A member's surviving spouse may elect to receive a lifetime annuity in lieu of a lump-sum benefit. The lifetime annuity is payable on a monthly basis for the lifetime of the spouse. Payments terminate upon the death of the spouse with no benefits remaining for other beneficiaries.
- Instead of a lifetime annuity, a member's spouse may elect to receive actuarially equivalent payments for a term certain annuity of 5, 10, 15 or 20 years. The amount of the annuity is based upon a formula, the member's age at the time of death and the age of the spouse when benefits begin to accrue, although monthly benefit payments cannot exceed 75 percent of the member's average High-5 monthly salary.
- A member and their spouse may *jointly* make a specification to waive the spouse's benefits so that designated beneficiary(ies) will receive a lifetime survivor annuity benefit. The designated beneficiary may be *either* the member's former spouse(s) *or* the member's biological or adopted child(ren). Under a joint specification, a designated beneficiary cannot elect a term certain annuity of 5, 10, 15 or 20 years. If a joint specification is not on file, the annuity is payable only to the surviving spouse.

### Non-Vested or Vested

- A member and their spouse may *jointly* make a specification to waive the spouse's benefits so that any person, trust or organization will receive a lump-sum death benefit equal to the accumulated deductions plus interest to the date of death.

This page intentionally left blank.

## **Teachers Retirement Association**

60 Empire Drive, Suite 400

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103-4000

651.296.2409

800.657.3669

800.627.3529 TTY