### Fairmont Policemen's Benefit Association



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Annual Actuarial Valuation December 31, 1995

Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company Actuaries and Consultants

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#### **GABRIEL, ROEDER, SMITH & COMPANY**

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May 21, 1996

**Board of Trustees** Fairmont Policemen's Benefit Association Fairmont, Minnesota

Submitted in this report are the results of the December 31, 1995 actuarial valuation of the assets, actuarial values and contribution requirements associated with the benefits provided by the Fairmont Policemen's Benefit Association.

The valuation results contained in Section A provide the actuarial information needed to determine the employer's "minimum obligation" effective January 1, 1997. Section A also contains comments regarding the valuation results.

The valuation was based upon information furnished by the Association concerning benefits, financial transactions, active members, terminated members, retirants and beneficiaries. Data was checked for year to year consistency but was not otherwise audited by us. This information is summarized in Section B.

A description of the actuarial funding method and the risk experience assumptions used is contained in Section C. The economic risk experience assumptions, as well as the actuarial funding method to be used, are established by state law.

Information needed to comply with Statement No. 5 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board is contained in Section D.

The actuarial valuation was prepared using generally accepted actuarial principles and practices based upon the methods, assumptions, summary of plan provisions and the member and financial data described in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

aylan Vitale

J. Daniel Petersen

Mary Ann Vitale

## **SECTION A**

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## Valuation Results

### Comments

#### **Economic Assumptions and Financing Method**

The economic assumptions of 5% annual investment return and 3-1/2% annual salary increases are established by state law. State law also specifies that the annual minimum obligation of the municipality shall be determined by adding (i) the employer normal cost percent times covered payroll to (ii) the level dollar amount required to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability by December 31, 2010.

It is worth noting that when the same assumptions and methods are applied to plans which differ in nature, the valuation results may not be comparable. Caution should be exercised when attempting to assess the financial condition of one Association relative to another on the basis of valuation results produced using the assumptions and methods mandated by state law.

# CONTRIBUTION RATE TO PROVIDE BENEFITS Member portion & Employer portion Effective January 1, 1997

	If Paid Equally Throughout Year					
Contributions for	Normal Cost % of Active					
Contributions for	Payroll for 1997	+	UAAL Dollars			
Normal cost of annuities:						
Age & service: to members	27.38%					
Age & service: to survivors	4.09					
Disability	2.17					
Death before retirement	1.53					
Refunds of member contributions	0.34					
Total Normal Cost	35.51%					
Amortization of unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities (UAAL) (14 year level dollar payment)						
Retired lives Active members Total			\$ 0 <u>78,140</u> 78,140			
Total Cost of Benefits	35.51%	+	\$78,140			
Member contributions	8.00%					
COMPUTED EMPLOYER RATE:						
(a) If Paid Equally Throughout Year	27 51%	+	\$78 140			
(B) IF PAID AT CALENDAR YEAR END	28.19%	+	\$80,070			

### **Present Actuarial Condition**

The Association's accrued actuarial assets were in excess of \$5.2 million on December 31, 1995 -- a considerable sum of money if unencumbered and allocated among a small group of persons. This is not the case with the Association's assets.

The following schedule puts the \$5.2 million into perspective by showing the relationship between accrued actuarial assets, actuarial accrued liabilities, and the number of persons with actual and potential claims on the Association's assets.

	Accrued Actuarial Assets	Actuarial Accrued Liabilities	Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liabilities	Percent Funded
Retirants and Beneficiaries Retired Members (9) Surviving Spouses (4) Surviving Children (0)		\$3,581,856 372,648 0		
Total (13)	\$3,954,504	\$3,954,504	\$0	100.0%
Deferred Members (0)	0	0	0	0.0
Active Members (4)	<u>1,319,239</u>	<u>2,111,899</u>	<u>792,660</u>	62.5
Total	\$5,273,743	\$6,066,403	\$792,660	86.9%

Actuarial accrued liabilities represent the value, computed as of December 31, 1995 of:

- (i) retirement allowances likely to be paid the 13 retirants and beneficiaries; and
- (ii) the contributions assumed to have been made for the 4 active members from entry into the plan until December 31, 1995.

The value of retirement allowances likely to be paid the 13 retirants and beneficiaries, discounted for investment earnings and mortality, was computed to be \$3,954,504 as of December 31, 1995. To put this amount in perspective, the \$3,954,504, together with investment earnings, will just be sufficient to pay the 13 retirants and beneficiaries their allowances for their remaining lifetimes. This assumes the 13 retirants and beneficiaries live and die according to the assumed mortality and the \$3,954,504 is invested to yield an average annual return of 5.0% over the remaining lifetimes of the retirants and beneficiaries.

With respect to the active members, the actuarial accrued liability of \$2,111,899 represents the amount that would have been accumulated by December 31, 1995. This assumes the normal cost (which is expressed as a level percentage of pay) had been contributed from the date of hire until December 31, 1995 for the 4 actives, and that these amounts had earned 5.0% interest. It also assumes that the members in the past have lived, died, withdrawn, retired and received salary increases according to the actuarial assumptions shown in this report.

### Historical Funding Ratio Schedule (\$ in thousands)

Valuation Date December	Actuarial Accrued Liabilities	Accrued Actuarial Assets	Percent Funded
1986	\$3,528	\$2,185	61.9%
1987	3,660	2,455	67.1
1988	4,055	2,656	65.5
1989#	5,474	2,981	54.5
1990	5,627	3,137	55.7
1991	5,803	3,874	66.8
1992	5,952	4,179	70.2
1993	5,781	4,570	79.0
1994	5,987	4,828	80.6
1995	6,066	5,274	86.9

# After court ruling on definition of prevailing pay.

Year Ended		Total Normal Cost	Contribution For
Decem	iber 31	as a Percent of	Unfunded Actuarial
valuation	Fiscal	Valuation Payroll*	Accrued Liabilities
1986	1988	37.69%	\$ 97,143
1987	1989	37.31	89,312
1988	1990	36.54	106,509
1989	1991#	36.55	195,178
1990	1992	36.40	201,066
1991	1993	36.26	161,011
1992	1994	35.13	153,456
1993	1995	35.13	109,085
1994	1996	35.24	108,913
1995	1997	35.51	78,140

## **Computed Contributions - Comparative Schedule**

\* Includes employee contributions.

# After court ruling on definition of prevailing pay.

### Contribution for Calendar Year Effective January 1, 1997

For any period of time the percent-of-payroll contribution rate is converted to dollars. The amount of dollars for any calendar year depends upon the results of the last actuarial valuation, and the timing of contributions within the year. The later the contribution date, the greater the dollar amount will be.

The municipality's dollar contribution for the year may be determined as follows:

(1)	Estimated covered payroll for 1997		\$	
(2)	Total normal cost % from page A-2		35.51	
(3)	Total normal cost (Line 1 times line 2)			\$
(4)	x 1.035 1995 Administrative expenses paid from the Special Fund			
(5)	Amortization payment on UAAL from page A-2			78,140
(6)	Total contributions required (Line 3 plus line 4 plus line 5)			
(7)	Employee contributions (Line 1 times 8%)		\$	
(8)	<ul> <li>(a) State amortization aid based on 12/31/78 UAAL of \$1,161,771</li> <li>(b) State amortization aid based on 1984 legislation</li> <li>(c) Total State amortization aid</li> </ul>	\$17,485 <u>3,015</u>	20,500	
(9)	Estimated insurance premium aid			
(10)	Estimated total contributions from other sources (Line 7 plus line 8 plus line 9)			
(11)	Employer's Minimum Obligation if payment is made in equal installments throughout the year (Line 6 minus line 10)			\$
(12)	Employer's Minimum Obligation If Payment Is Made At Year End (Line 11 times 1.0247)			\$

## **SECTION B**

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## Valuation Data and

# **Summary of Benefit Provisions**

## Retirants and Beneficiaries December 31, 1995 By Type of Annuity Being Paid

Type of Annuity Being Paid	No.	Monthly Amounts	Computed Actuarial Accrued Liabilities	
Retirants receiving:				
Age & service	9	\$18,997.00	\$3,581,856	
Disability	_0	0.00	0	
Totals	9	18,997.00	3,581,856	
Beneficiaries receiving:				
Spouse	4	3,003.75	372,648	
Child	_0	0.00	0	
Totals	4	3,003.75	372,648	
Totals	13	\$22,000.75	\$3,954,504	



Monthly Amount Paid by Benefit

## Retirants and Beneficiaries December 31, 1995 By Attained Ages

	Number						
Attained Ages	Age & Service	Disability	Death Before Retirement				
50-54	2						
55-59	3						
60-64			1				
65-69	1						
70-74	4						
75-79	1						
80-84	1		—				
Totals	12		1				

## Retirants and Beneficiaries Added to and Removed from Rolls Comparative Statement

Valuation			<u>Rolls</u>	<u>End of Year</u>	
Date December 31	No. Added	No. Removed	No	Annual	Discounted Value of
December 51			190.	Allowances	Total Allowances
1986			11	\$115,051	\$1,559,976
1987			11	117,507	1,534,608
1988	3		14	182,167	2,732,532
1989			14	245,520	3,553,860
1990			14	252,417	3,526,812
1991			14	261,491	3,521,472
1992	1		15	287,546	3,944,772
1993		2	13	250,879	3,611,904
1994		1	12	242,682	3,504,876
1995	2	1	13	264,009	3,954,504



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	Years of Service to Valuation Date								Totals
Attained Age	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 Plus	No.	Valuation Payroll
45-49 50-54					2	2		2 2	\$103,376 96,275
Totals					2	2		4	\$199,651

Active Members December 31, 1995

By Attained Age and Years of Service

While not used in the financial computations, the following group averages are computed and shown because of their general interest.

**Group Averages:** 

Age: 49.5 years Service: 24.5 years Annual Pay: \$49,913

Fairmont Policemen's Benefit Association

## Comparative Schedule Of Active Members

Valuation						
Date		Valuation		Ave	rage	
December 31	Active Members	Payroll	Age	Service	Pay	% Incr.
1986	9	\$248,474	44.1 yrs.	17.8 yrs.	\$27,608	3.4%
1987	8	225,791	44.5	18.5	28,224	2.2
1988	6	174,608	43.5	17.8	29,101	3.1
1989	6	238,546	44.5	18.8	39,758*	36.6
1990	6	246,839	45.5	19.8	41,140	3.5
1991	6	254,243	46.5	20.8	42,374	3.0
1992	5	217,830	46.8	21.9	43,566	2.8
1993	5	223,316	47.8	22.9	44,663	2.5
1994	5	243,049	48.8	23.9	48,610	8.8
1995	4	199,651	49.5	24.5	49,913	2.7

\* After court ruling on definition of prevailing pay.



### Brief Summary (12/31/95) of Benefit Provisions Evaluated and/or Considered

#### AGE & SERVICE RETIREMENT

Eligibility. 20 years of service and 50 years of age.

*Amount*. For first 20 years of service, 50% of base pay. For years in excess of 20, an additional 2% is added to a maximum of 60% of base pay for 25 years of service. (Service after attainment of age 55 is not considered for benefit purposes).

PAY USED FOR PLAN PURPOSES. "Base pay" means the prevailing pay of a first class patrolman.

#### **DISABILITY RETIREMENT**

*Eligibility*. Disabled to the extent that unable to perform duties of police officer before being eligible for age & service retirement.

Amount. 50% of base pay.

#### MEMBER'S DEATH WHILE ACTIVE, OR IN DEFERRED STATUS, OR RETIRED

#### Eligibility.

*Spouse*. Legally married to member at separation from service and residing with member at time of death.

*Child*. Younger than age 18.

Amount.

Spouse. 25% of base pay.

*Child.* 6.25% of base pay per child. Children's maximum is 25% of base pay if spouse is receiving or 50% of base pay if no spouse is receiving.

**VESTED DEFERRED.** 20 years of service and separated before age 50. Payment beginning is deferred to attainment of age 50.

**POST-RETIREMENT ADJUSTMENTS ("ESCALATOR").** Each time base pay is changed, payments to all benefit recipients are simultaneously changed by the same percent that base pay is changed.

**MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS.** 8% of base pay. Total member contributions are refundable, without interest, if no monthly benefit is payable upon separation from service.

## **SECTION C**

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Valuation Methods and

Assumptions

### Valuation Methods and Assumptions

The Entry Age Normal Cost method was used to determine the normal cost of all benefits. The rate of investment return (interest) as required by state law used in making the valuation was 5.0 percent per annum, compounded annually. Age & service retirement was assumed to occur at age 53, attained age if older.

		Single Li				
	I	Present Value	of \$1 Month	ly	1	
	Le	vel	Incre	easing	Futu	re Life
Sample	For	Life	3.5%	Yearly	Expectar	icy (Years)
Ages	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
45	\$177.21	\$189.58	\$280.82	\$314.75	29.50	34.00
50	163.12	177.21	246.55	280.82	25.20	29.50
55	147.50	163.12	212.60	246.55	21.16	25.20
60	130.52	147.50	179.49	212.60	17.42	21.16
65	112.87	130.52	149.29	170.40	14.05	17.40
70	05.20	112.97	140.20	1/9.49	14.05	17.42
70	95.20	112.87	119.70	148.28	11.09	14.05
75	77.77	95.20	93.83	119.70	8.52	11.09
80	61.71	77.77	71.69	93.83	6.39	8.52

### **Mortality Table\***

\* UP-1984 Table set forward 2 years for males and set back 3 years for females.

## Sample Rates of Separating from Active Employment Before Retirement, Death or Disability

Sample Ages	% of Active Members Separating within Next Year			
20	1.50%			
25	1.25			
30	1.00			
35	0.75			
40	0.50			
45	0.25			
50+	0.00			

Sample	Present Pay Resulting in Pay of \$1,000 at Age 60	Present Increase in Pay		
Ages	1 ay 01 \$1,000 at Age 00	During Next Year		
20	\$ 253	3.5%		
25	300	3.5		
30	356	3.5		
35	423	3.5		
40	503	3.5		
45	597	3.5		
50	709	3.5		
55	842	3.5		
60	1,000	3.5		

## Pay Adjustment Factor Used To Project Current Pays

Use of the pay adjustment factor illustrated above is required by state law.

### **Anticipated Disability Retirements**

Sample Ages	% of Active Members Becoming Disabled within Next Year				
20	0.08%				
25	0.08				
30	0.08				
35	0.08				
40	0.20				
45	0.26				
50	0.49				
55	0.89				

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### **SECTION D**

The Pension Benefit Obligation and Certain Other Disclosures Required by Statement No. 5 of The Governmental Accounting Standards Board

### **Pension Benefit Obligation**

The amount shown below as the "pension benefit obligation" is a standardized disclosure measure of the present value of pension benefits, adjusted for the effects of projected salary increases, estimated to be payable in the future as a result of employee service to date. The measure is the actuarial present value of credited projected benefits and is intended to (i) help users assess the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis, (ii) assess progress being made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due, and (iii) allow for comparisons among public employee retirement plans. The measure is independent of the actuarial funding method used to determine contributions to the plan.

The pension benefit obligation was determined as part of an actuarial valuation of the plan as of December 31, 1995. Significant actuarial assumptions used in determining the pension benefit obligation include (a) a rate of return on the investment of present and future assets of 5.0% per year compounded annually, (b) projected salary increases of 3.5% per year compounded annually, attributable to inflation, and (c) the assumption that benefits will increase 3.5% per year after retirement.

At December 31, 1995, the unfunded pension benefit obligation was \$786,417 determined as follows:

Pension Benefit Obligation:

Retirants and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits and terminated employees not yet receiving benefits	\$3,954,504	
Current employees		
Accumulated employee contributions including allocated investment income	159,813	
Employer financed	1,892,877	
Total Pension Benefit Obligation	\$6,007,194	
Net assets available for benefits, at cost (market value was \$5,379,674)	<u>5,220,777</u>	
Unfunded Pension Benefit Obligation	\$ <u>786,417</u>	

The total pension benefit obligation as of January 1, 1995 was \$5,903,195. During the year, the plan experienced a net change of \$103,999 in the pension benefit obligation.

### **Contributions Required and Contributions Made**

The Association's funding policy provides for periodic employer contributions at actuarially determined rates that, expressed as percentages of annual covered payroll, are designed to accumulate sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. The normal cost and actuarial accrued liability are determined using an entry age actuarial funding method. Unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities are being amortized as a level dollar amount over a period of 14 years.

During the year ended December 31, 1995, contributions totaling \$220,260 -- \$208,626 employer and \$11,634 employee -- were made in accordance with contribution requirements determined by an actuarial valuation of the plan as of December 31, 1993. The employer contributions consisted of \$60,586 for normal cost and \$148,040 for amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. Employer contributions represented 93.42% of covered payroll.

Significant actuarial assumptions used to compute contribution requirements were the same as those used to compute the standardized measure of the pension benefit obligation.

		Contributio	n Rates			
Fiscal	Valuation	Normal Cost		1	Dollar Co	ntribution
Year	Date	% of Valuation	UAAL	Valuation	For Fiscal Year	
December 31	December 31	Payroll	Dollars	Payroll	Computed	Actual
1988	1986	29.69%	\$ 97,143	\$248,474	\$170,915	\$172,551
1989	1987	29.31	89,312	225,791	155,491	154,360
1990	1988	28.54	106,509	174,608	156,342	160,918
1991	1989#	28.55	195,178	238,546	263,283	272.341
1992	1990	28.40	201,066	246,839	271,168	286,563
1993	1991	28.26	161,011	254,243	232.860	243,556
1994	1992	27.13	153,456	217,830	212.553	243.726
1995	1993	27.13	109,085	223,316	169.671	208.626
1996	1994	27.24	108,913	243,049	175,120	
1997	1995	27.51	78,140	199,651	133,064	

### **Computed Contribution Comparative Schedule**

# After court ruling on definition of prevailing pay.

## Required Supplementary Information Analysis of Funding Progress

Valuation Date December 31	(1) Net Assets Available for Benefits	(2) Pension Benefit Obligation (PBO)	(3) Percent Funded (1)/(2)	(4) Unfunded PBO (2)-(1)	(5) Annual Covered Payroll	(5) Unfunded PBO as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (4)/(5)
1987	\$2,312,995	\$3,550,355	65.1%	\$1,237,360	\$225,791	548.0%
1988	2,594,577	3,957,163	65.6	1,362,586	174.608	780.4
1989	2,889,700	5,345,780	54.1	2,456,080	238,546	1.029.6
1990	3,123,288	5,503,018	56.8	2,379,730	246,839	964.1
1991	3,874,968	5,686,291	68.1	1,811,323	254,243	712.4
1992	4,186,637	5,852,662	71.5	1,666,025	217.830	764.8
1993	4,616,421	5,691,610	81.1	1,075,189	223,316	481.5
1994	4,931,757	5,903,195	83.5	971,438	243,049	399.7
1995	5,220,777	6,007,194	86.9	786,417	199,651	393.9

Analysis of the dollar amounts of net assets available for benefits, pension benefit obligation, and unfunded pension benefit obligation in isolation can be misleading. Expressing the net assets available for benefits as a percentage of the pension benefit obligation provides one indication of the plan's funded status on a going-concern basis. Analysis of this percentage over time indicates whether the system is becoming financially stronger or weaker. Generally, the greater this percentage, the stronger the plan. The unfunded pension benefit obligation as a percentage of annual covered payroll are both affected by inflation. Expressing the unfunded pension benefit obligation as a percentage of annual covered payroll approximately adjusts for the effects of inflation and aids analysis of the progress being made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. Generally, the smaller this percentage, the stronger the plan.





### **Appendix I**

### **Financial Principles and Operational Techniques**

*Promises Made, and Eventually Paid.* As each year is completed, the plan in effect hands an "IOU" to each member then acquiring a year of service credit -- the "IOU" says: "The Pension Plan owes you a portion of your retirement benefits, payments to be made in cash, commencing when you qualify for retirement."

The related key financial questions are: Which generation of taxpayers contributes the money to cover the IOU? The present taxpayers, who receive the benefit of the member's present year of service? Or the future taxpayers, who happen to be in town paying taxes at the later time when the IOU becomes a cash demand?

A sound principle of sound retirement plan financing is to have this year's taxpayers contribute the money to cover the IOUs being handed out this year. By following this principle, THE CONTRIBUTION RATE WILL REMAIN APPROXIMATELY LEVEL FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION -- our children and grandchildren will contribute the same percents of active payroll we contribute now.

### **A Pension Plan Becomes Closed**

The diagram in this appendix shows two important activities which occur after a plan has been closed to employees hired in the future.

Cash benefits paid continue to increase for decades, while active member payroll begins to decrease to zero.

Funding Method. A funding method is the long-term, planned pattern for employer contributions.

For an open plan (a plan covering future employees), the level-percent-of-active-member payroll funding method is the basic funding method.

The level-percent funding method can also be applied to a closed plan. However, the resulting contribution percent usually jumps to a high rate, because the number of covered active members is decreasing.

A preferred funding method for a closed plan consists of: level-percent funding for normal cost (the cost of members' service now being rendered); plus a level dollar contribution for unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities over a limited period of years. The period of years must be limited so that plan assets don't become zero while benefits are still payable.

*Computing Contributions To Support Plan Benefits.* From a given schedule of benefits and from the employee data and asset data furnished him, the actuary determines the contribution rates to support the benefits by means of an actuarial valuation and a funding method.

In making an actuarial valuation, assumptions must be made regarding anticipated financial experiences for the next year and for decades in the future. Only the subsequent actual experience of the plan can indicate the degree of accuracy of the assumptions.

*Reconciling Differences Between Assumed Experience and Actual Experience*. Once actual experience has occurred and been observed, it will not coincide exactly with assumed experience, regardless of the wisdom of the assumptions or the skill of the actuary and the millions of calculations he made. The future can be predicted with considerable but not 100% precision, except for inflation which seems to defy reliable prediction.

A well-managed plan copes with these continually changing differences by having periodic actuarial valuations. Each actuarial valuation is a complete recalculation of assumed future experience, taking into account all past differences between assumed and actual experience. The result is continuing adjustment in financial position.

# **A CLOSED PENSION PLAN**



# **YEARS OF TIME**

<u>A plan becomes closed</u> when no new hires are admitted to active membership. The persons covered by the plan at the time of closing continue their normal activities and continue to be covered by the plan, until the last survivor dies.

CASH BENEFITS LINE. After a pension plan becomes closed, the usual pattern is for cash benefits to continue to increase for decades of time. Eventually the cash benefits will peak, and then gradually decrease over more decades of time, ultimately to zero. The last cash benefit is likely to occur a century after the time the plan is closed.

The precise amounts of cash benefits cannot be known now, and must be estimated by assumptions of future experiences in a variety of financial risk areas.

### **Appendix II**

### **Meaning of Unfunded Accrued Liabilities**

Almost every pension plan (public or private) has "unfunded accrued liabilities," so whatever they are, they aren't rare. Since the term is not part of everyday conversation, it needs some definition.

"Accrued liabilities" are the present value \$ of plan promises to pay benefits in the future based upon service already rendered - - - a liability has been established ("accrued") because the service has been rendered, but the resulting monthly cash benefit may not be payable until years in the future. Accrued liabilities \$ are the result of complex mathematical calculations, which are made by the plan's actuary (which is the name given to the specialist who makes such calculations).

If "accrued liabilities" at any time exceed the plan's accrued assets (cash & investments), the difference is "unfunded accrued liabilities." This is the common condition. If the plan's assets equalled the plan's "accrued liabilities," the plan would be termed "fully funded." This is a rare condition.

Each time a plan adds a new benefit which applies to service already rendered, an "accrued liability" is created, which is also an "unfunded accrued liability" because the plan can't print instant cash to cover the accrued liability. Payment for such unfunded accrued liabilities is spread over a period of years, commonly in the 20-40 year range.

Unfunded accrued liabilities can occur in another way: If actual financial experience is less favorable than assumed financial experience, the difference is added to unfunded accrued liabilities. In plans where plan benefits are directly related to an employee's pay near time of retirement (a common plan provision) rather than his average pay throughout his working career, unfunded accrued liabilities have been increasing in recent years because unexpected rates of pay increase have created additional accrued liabilities which could not be matched by reasonable investment results. Some of these unexpected pay increases are the direct result of inflation, which is a very destructive force on financial stability.

The existence of unfunded accrued liabilities is not bad, then (any more than a mortgage on your house is "bad"), but the changes from year to year in amount of unfunded accrued liabilities are important - - - "bad" or "good" or somewhere in between.

Nor are unfunded accrued liabilities a bill payable immediately (your food costs are payable immediately), but it is important that policy-makers prevent the amount from becoming unreasonably high and it is vital that your plan have a sound method for making payments toward them so that they are controlled.

The existence of large amounts of unfunded accrued liabilities indicates that total contributions in past years were less than level - - - an almost certain history if retired life liabilities are not fully funded now.