

Belmont Contributory Retirement System

**Governmental Accounting Standards Board
(GASB) Statements No. 67 and 68
Accounting Valuation Report**

As of December 31, 2020



This report has been prepared at the request of the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board to assist the Board and the member units in preparing their financial reports for their liabilities associated with the Belmont Contributory Retirement System. This valuation report may not otherwise be copied or reproduced in any form without the consent of the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board and may only be provided to other parties in its entirety. The measurements shown in this actuarial valuation may not be applicable for other purposes.

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June 16, 2021

Retirement Board
Belmont Contributory Retirement System
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Dear Board Members:

We are pleased to submit this Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 67 and 68 Accounting Valuation as of December 31, 2020 for the Belmont Contributory Retirement System, a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. It contains the actuarial information that will need to be disclosed in order to comply with GASB 67 and 68. Please refer to the Belmont Contributory Retirement System Actuarial Valuation and Review as of January 1, 2020, dated October 26, 2020, for the data, assumptions and plan of benefits underlying these calculations.

This report was prepared in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices at the request of the Board to assist the Board and the member units in preparing their financial reports for their liabilities associated with the Belmont Contributory Retirement System. The census and financial information on which our calculations were based were provided by the staff of the Belmont Contributory Retirement System. That assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

The measurements shown in this actuarial valuation may not be applicable for other purposes. Future actuarial measurements may differ significantly from the current measurements presented in this report due to such factors as the following: plan experience differing from that anticipated by the economic or demographic assumptions; changes in economic or demographic assumptions; and changes in plan provisions or applicable law.

The actuarial calculations were completed under the supervision of Bridget P. Orr, ASA, FCA, MAAA, Enrolled Actuary. She is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and meets the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion herein. To the best of her knowledge, the information supplied in the actuarial valuation is complete and accurate. Further, in her opinion, the assumptions as approved by the Board are reasonably related to the experience of and expectations for Belmont Contributory Retirement System.

We look forward to reviewing this report with you and to answering any questions.

Sincerely,

Segal



Kathleen A. Riley, FSA, MAAA, EA
Senior Vice President and Actuary



Bridget P. Orr, ASA, FCA, MAAA, EA
Consulting Actuary

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Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

Purpose

This report has been prepared by Segal to present certain disclosure information required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 67 and 68 as of December 31, 2020. This report is based on financial information as of December 31, 2020 and the Belmont Contributory Retirement System Actuarial Valuation and Review as of January 1, 2020, which reflects:

- The benefit provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32;
- The characteristics of covered active participants, inactive participants, and retired participants and beneficiaries as of December 31, 2019, provided by the staff of the Retirement System;
- Economic assumptions regarding future salary increases and investment earnings; and
- Other actuarial assumptions, regarding employee terminations, retirement, death, etc.

Significant issues

The following key findings were the result of this actuarial valuation:

1. The Net Pension Liability (NPL) is equal to the difference between the Total Pension Liability (TPL) and the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position. The Plan Fiduciary Net Position is equal to the market value of assets and therefore, the NPL measure is very similar to an Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) on a market value basis. The NPL decreased from \$76.7 million as of December 31, 2019 to \$69.6 million as of December 31, 2020 and the Plan's Fiduciary Net Position as a percent of the TPL increased from 61.79% to 66.47%.
2. The NPL measured as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 was determined based upon the results of the actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2020.
3. The discount rate used to measure the TPL and NPL as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 was 7.15%.

Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

Important information about actuarial valuations

In order to prepare a valuation, Segal relies on a number of input items. These include:

Plan of benefits:	Plan provisions define the rules that will be used to determine benefit payments, and those rules, or the interpretation of them, may change over time. It is important to keep Segal informed with respect to plan provisions and administrative procedures, and to review the plan description in this report (as well as the plan summary included in our funding valuation report) to confirm that Segal has correctly interpreted the plan of benefits.
Participant data:	An actuarial valuation for a plan is based on data provided to the actuary by the Retirement System. Segal does not audit such data for completeness or accuracy, other than reviewing it for obvious inconsistencies compared to prior data and other information that appears unreasonable. It is important for Segal to receive the best possible data and to be informed about any known incomplete or inaccurate data.
Assets:	The valuation is based on the market value of assets as of the valuation date, as provided by the Retirement System. The Retirement System uses an “actuarial value of assets” that differs from market value to gradually reflect year-to-year changes in the market value of assets in determining the contribution requirements.
Actuarial assumptions:	In preparing an actuarial valuation, Segal projects the benefits to be paid to existing plan participants for the rest of their lives and the lives of their beneficiaries. This projection requires actuarial assumptions as to the probability of death, disability, withdrawal, and retirement of each participant for each year. In addition, the benefits projected to be paid for each of those events in each future year reflect actuarial assumptions as to salary increases and cost-of-living adjustments. The projected benefits are then discounted to a present value, based on the assumed rate of return that is expected to be achieved on the plan’s assets. There is a reasonable range for each assumption used in the projection and the results may vary materially based on which assumptions are selected. It is important for any user of an actuarial valuation to understand this concept. Actuarial assumptions are periodically reviewed to ensure that future valuations reflect emerging plan experience. While future changes in actuarial assumptions may have a significant impact on the reported results, that does not mean that the previous assumptions were unreasonable.
Models:	Segal valuation results are based on proprietary actuarial modeling software. The actuarial valuation models generate a comprehensive set of liability and cost calculations that are presented to meet regulatory, legislative and client requirements. Our Actuarial Technology and Systems unit, comprised of both actuaries and programmers, is responsible for the initial development and maintenance of these models. The models have a modular structure that allows for a high degree of accuracy, flexibility and user control. The client team programs the assumptions and the plan provisions, validates the models, and reviews test lives and results, under the supervision of the responsible actuary.

Section 1: Actuarial Valuation Summary

The user of Segal's actuarial valuation (or other actuarial calculations) should keep the following in mind:

The valuation is prepared at the request of the Retirement Board to assist the Board and the member units in preparing items related to the pension plan in their financial reports. Segal is not responsible for the use or misuse of its report, particularly by any other party.

An actuarial valuation is a measurement of the plan's assets and liabilities at a specific date. Accordingly, except where otherwise noted, Segal did not perform an analysis of the potential range of future financial measures. The actual long-term cost of the plan will be determined by the actual benefits and expenses paid and the actual investment experience of the plan.

Sections of this report may include actuarial results that are not rounded, but that does not imply precision.

If the Retirement Board is aware of any event or trend that was not considered in this valuation that may materially change the results of the valuation, Segal should be advised, so that we can evaluate it.

Segal does not provide investment, legal, accounting, or tax advice. Segal's valuation is based on our understanding of applicable guidance in these areas and of the plan's provisions, but they may be subject to alternative interpretations. The Board should look to their other advisors for expertise in these areas.

As Segal has no discretionary authority with respect to the management or assets of the Retirement System, it is not a fiduciary in its capacity as actuaries and consultants with respect to the Retirement System.

Section 2: GASB Information

General information about the pension plan

Plan membership. At December 31, 2019, pension plan membership consisted of the following:

Retired members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	351
Inactive participants with a vested right to a deferred or immediate benefit	18
Inactive participants entitled to a refund of employee contributions	252
Active members	<u>498</u>
Total	1,119

Section 2: GASB Information

Exhibit 1- Net pension liability

	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Components of the Net Pension Liability		
Total Pension Liability	\$207,612,163	\$200,829,546
Plan Fiduciary Net Position	137,990,529	124,083,281
Net Pension Liability	69,621,634	76,746,265
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total Pension Liability*	66.47%	61.79%

* These funded percentages are not necessarily appropriate for assessing the sufficiency of Plan assets to cover the estimated cost of settling the Plan's benefit obligation or the need for or the amount of future contributions.

Actuarial assumptions. The total pension liability as of December 31, 2020 was measured by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2020, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Salary Increases:	Varies by length of service with ultimate rates of 3.75% for Groups 1 and 2 and 4.25% for Group 4
Wage Inflation:	3.00%
Net Investment Return:	7.15%
Cost of Living Adjustment:	3% of first \$13,000
Mortality Rates:	Pre-Retirement: RP-2014 Blue Collar Employee Mortality Table set forward one year for female participants and projected generationally with Scale MP-2017 Healthy Retiree: RP-2014 Blue Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table set forward one year for female participants and projected generationally with Scale MP-2017 Disabled Retiree: RP-2014 Blue Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table set forward one year and projected generationally with Scale MP-2017

Section 2: GASB Information

Determination of discount rate and investment rates of return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These returns are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage, adding expected inflation and subtracting expected investment expenses and a risk margin. The target allocation (approved by the Board) and projected arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, after deducting inflation, but before investment expenses, used in the derivation of the long-term expected investment rate of return assumption are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic equity	28.00%	6.28%
International developed markets equity	10.00%	7.00%
International emerging markets equity	8.00%	8.82%
Core fixed income	8.00%	0.38%
High-yield fixed income	10.00%	2.97%
Emerging Market Debt	5.00%	3.16%
Real estate	12.00%	3.50%
Hedge fund, GTAA, Risk parity	12.00%	2.35%
Private equity	<u>7.00%</u>	10.11%
Total	100.00%	

Note: Some asset classes included in the pension plan's target asset allocation have been combined.

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the Total Pension Liability (TPL) was 7.15% as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rates. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits for current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs for future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, the Plan Fiduciary Net Position (FNP) was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the TPL as of both December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019.

Section 2: GASB Information

Discount rate sensitivity

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the Net Pension Liability (NPL) of the Belmont Contributory Retirement System as of December 31, 2020, calculated using the discount rate of 7.15%, as well as what the Belmont Contributory Retirement System's NPL would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.15%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.15%) than the current rate.

Net Pension Liability	1% Decrease (6.15%)	Current Discount Rate (7.15%)	1% Increase (8.15%)
Belmont Contributory Retirement System's net pension liability as of December 31, 2020	\$92,366,341	\$69,621,634	\$50,453,550

Section 2: GASB Information

Exhibit 2 - Schedule of Changes in Net Pension Liability – Last Two Fiscal Years

	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Total Pension Liability		
Service cost	\$4,915,533	\$4,163,252
Interest	14,267,460	13,847,855
Change of benefit terms	0	0
Differences between expected and actual experience	0	662,852
Changes of assumptions	0	4,976,068
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	<u>-12,400,376</u>	<u>-11,580,799</u>
Net change in Total Pension Liability	\$6,782,617	\$12,069,228
Total Pension Liability – beginning	<u>200,829,546</u>	<u>188,760,318</u>
Total Pension Liability – ending	\$207,612,163	\$200,829,546
Plan Fiduciary Net Position		
Contributions – employer	\$10,784,043	\$10,197,676
Contributions – employee	2,907,915	3,005,384
Net investment income	12,965,031	16,768,138
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	<u>-12,400,376</u>	<u>-11,580,799</u>
Administrative expense	<u>-349,365</u>	<u>-315,261</u>
Net change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	\$13,907,248	\$18,075,138
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – beginning	<u>124,083,281</u>	<u>106,008,143</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – ending	\$137,990,529	\$124,083,281
Net Pension Liability – ending	69,621,634	76,746,265
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total Pension Liability	66.47%	61.79%
Covered payroll ¹	\$30,859,703	\$29,659,289
Plan Net Pension Liability as percentage of covered payroll	225.61%	258.76%

¹ Covered employee payroll for 2020 and 2019 as estimated in the January 1, 2020 funding valuation.

Section 2: GASB Information

Notes to schedule:

Changes in Actuarial Assumptions:

Effective January 1, 2020:

- The net investment return assumption was lowered from 7.40% to 7.15%.

Effective January 1, 2021:

- None
-

Changes in Plan Provisions:

None

Section 2: GASB Information

Exhibit 3 - Schedule of contributions – Last Seven Fiscal Years

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contributions	Contribution Deficiency / (Excess)	Covered Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll
2014	\$7,364,523	\$7,364,523	\$0	\$25,142,886	29.29%
2015	7,877,960	7,877,960	0	25,031,508	31.47%
2016	8,427,189	8,432,117	-4,928	26,016,467	32.41%
2017	9,014,711	9,014,711	0	26,395,332	34.15%
2018	9,643,193	9,643,193	0	27,455,996	35.12%
2019	10,197,676	10,197,676	0	29,659,289	34.38%
2020	10,784,043	10,784,043	0	30,859,703	34.95%

Notes to Schedule:

Valuation date:	Actuarial determined contribution for year ended December 31, 2020 is determined with the January 1, 2018 actuarial valuation.	
Actuarial cost method:	Entry Age Normal Cost Method	
Amortization method:	Payments increasing 4.50% for the 2003 ERI liability and remaining liability amortized so that the total payment increases 5.75% per year.	
Remaining amortization period:	As of July 1, 2018, 7 years for the 2003 ERI liability and 11 years for the remaining unfunded liability.	
Asset valuation method:	The difference between the expected return and the actual investment return on a market value basis is recognized over a five-year period. Asset value is adjusted as necessary to be within 20% of the market value.	
Actuarial assumptions:		
• Investment rate of return	7.40%	
• Discount rate	7.40%	
• Wage inflation rate	3.00%	
• Projected salary increases	Varies by length of service with ultimate rates of 3.75% for Groups 1 and 2 and 4.25% for Group 4	
• Cost of living adjustments	3% of first \$13,000	
Plan membership:		
• Retired participants and beneficiaries receiving benefits		354
• Inactive participants entitled to a return of their employee contributions		242
• Inactive participants with a vested right to a deferred or immediate benefit		12
• Active participants		<u>467</u>
• Total		1,075

Section 2: GASB Information

Exhibit 4 - Pension expense

Reporting Date for Employer under GASB 68 Measurement Date for Employer under GASB 68	June 30, 2021 December 31, 2020	June 30, 2020 December 31, 2019
Components of Pension Expense		
Service cost	\$4,915,533	\$4,163,252
Interest on the Total Pension Liability	14,267,460	13,847,855
Current-period benefit changes	0	0
Expensed portion of current-period difference between expected and actual experience in the Total Pension Liability	0	132,572
Expensed portion of current-period changes of assumptions	0	995,212
Member contributions	-2,907,915	-3,005,384
Projected earnings on plan investments	-8,905,639	-7,892,962
Expensed portion of current-period differences between actual and projected earnings on plan investments	-811,880	-1,775,036
Administrative expense	349,365	315,261
Recognition of beginning of year deferred outflows of resources as pension expense	4,622,251	6,005,237
Recognition of beginning of year deferred inflows of resources as pension expense	-3,052,329	-1,739,071
Pension Expense	\$8,476,846	\$11,046,936

Section 2: GASB Information

Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources

Reporting Date for Employer under GASB 68	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
Measurement Date for Employer under GASB 68	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Changes in proportion and differences between employer's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	\$893,504	\$1,329,906
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	3,643,062	5,295,698
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	0	0
Difference between expected and actual experience in the Total Pension Liability	<u>954,290</u>	<u>1,643,440</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$5,490,856	\$8,269,044
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Changes in proportion and differences between employer's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	\$893,504	\$1,329,906
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	0	0
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	5,216,256	2,740,608
Difference between expected and actual experience in the Total Pension Liability	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$6,109,760	\$4,070,514
Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized as follows:		
Reporting Date for Employer under GASB 68 Year Ended June 30:		
2021	N/A	\$1,569,922
2022	\$830,767	1,642,645
2023	821,336	1,633,214
2024	-1,459,129	-647,251
2025	-811,878	0
Thereafter	0	0

Note: Average expected remaining service life as of December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019 is 5 years.

Section 2: GASB Information

Exhibit 5 – Determination of Proportionate Share

Employer Name	FY 2020 Total Appropriation	Percent of FY 2020 Total Appropriation	Share of NPL as of January 1, 2020	FY 2021 Total Appropriation	Percent of FY 2021 Total Appropriation	Share of NPL as of January 1, 2021
Town of Belmont	\$3,293,628	32.297829%	\$24,787,378	\$3,482,321	32.291424%	\$22,481,817
Belmont Housing Authority	121,422	1.190683%	913,804	128,362	1.190296%	828,703
Light Department	1,045,824	10.255513%	7,870,723	1,106,072	10.256561%	7,140,786
Water Department	205,133	2.011566%	1,543,802	216,950	2.011769%	1,400,626
School Department	2,136,923	20.955000%	16,082,180	2,260,027	20.957140%	14,590,703
Police and Fire Departments	<u>3,394,746</u>	<u>33.289408%</u>	<u>25,548,378</u>	<u>3,590,311</u>	<u>33.292810%</u>	<u>23,178,999</u>
Grand Totals	\$10,197,676	100.000000%	\$76,746,265	\$10,784,043	100.000000%	\$69,621,634

Section 2: GASB Information

Exhibit 6 – Determination of Proportionate Share Amounts by Employer

Employer Name	2021 Share of Cost Allocation (1)	Net Pension Liability (2)	Covered Employee Payroll (3)	Discount Rate Sensitivity		
				1% Decrease (6.15%) (4)	Current Discount Rate (7.15%) (5)	1% Increase (8.15%) (6)
Town of Belmont	32.291424%	\$22,481,817	\$9,328,717	\$29,826,406	\$22,481,817	\$16,292,170
Belmont Housing Authority	1.190296%	828,703	412,385	1,099,433	828,703	600,546
Light Department	10.256561%	7,140,786	3,320,565	9,473,611	7,140,786	5,174,799
Water Department	2.011769%	1,400,626	687,353	1,858,197	1,400,626	1,015,009
School Department	20.957140%	14,590,703	7,345,351	19,357,343	14,590,703	10,573,621
Police and Fire Departments	<u>33.292810%</u>	<u>23,178,999</u>	<u>9,765,332</u>	<u>30,751,351</u>	<u>23,178,999</u>	<u>16,797,405</u>
Grand Totals	100.000000%	\$69,621,634	\$30,859,703	\$92,366,341	\$69,621,634	\$50,453,550

Section 2: GASB Information

Employer Name	Schedule of Contributions				Pension Expense		
	Statutory Required Contribution (7)	Contributions In Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution (8)	Contribution Deficiency/ (Excess) (9)	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll (10)	Proportionate Share of Plan Pension Expense (11)	Net Amortization of Deferred Amounts from Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions (12)	Total Employer Pension Expense (13)
Town of Belmont	\$3,482,321	\$3,482,321	\$0	37.33%	\$2,737,294	-\$193,005	\$2,544,289
Belmont Housing Authority	128,362	128,362	0	31.13%	100,900	-78,321	22,579
Light Department	1,106,072	1,106,072	0	33.31%	869,433	235,688	1,105,121
Water Department	216,950	216,950	0	31.56%	170,535	-90,058	80,477
School Department	2,260,027	2,260,027	0	30.77%	1,776,504	20,468	1,796,972
Police and Fire Departments	3,590,311	3,590,311	0	36.77%	2,822,180	105,228	2,927,408
Grand Totals	\$10,784,043	\$10,784,043	\$0	34.95%	\$8,476,846	\$0	\$8,476,846

Section 2: GASB Information

Employer Name	Deferred Outflows of Resources				Deferred Inflows of Resources				
	Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience (14)	Changes of Assumptions (15)	Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions (16)	Total Deferred Outflows of Resources (17)	Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience (18)	Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on Pension Plan Investments (19)	Changes of Assumptions (20)	Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions (21)	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources (22)
Town of Belmont	\$308,154	\$1,176,396	\$19,121	\$1,503,671	\$0	\$1,684,403	\$0	\$223,389	\$1,907,792
Belmont Housing Authority	11,359	43,363	1,613	56,335	0	62,089	0	196,417	258,506
Light Department	97,877	373,653	472,537	944,067	0	535,009	0	0	535,009
Water Department	19,198	73,290	34,101	126,589	0	104,939	0	369,219	474,158
School Department	199,992	763,482	63,046	1,026,520	0	1,093,178	0	103,083	1,196,261
Police and Fire Departments	<u>317,710</u>	<u>1,212,878</u>	<u>303,086</u>	<u>1,833,674</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,736,638</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,396</u>	<u>1,738,034</u>
Grand Totals	\$954,290	\$3,643,062	\$893,504	\$5,490,856	\$0	\$5,216,256	\$0	\$893,504	\$6,109,760

Section 2: GASB Information

Deferred Inflows/(Outflows) Recognized In Future Pension Expense (Year Ended June 30)

Employer Name	2022 (23)	2023 (24)	2024 (25)	2025 (26)	Thereafter (27)
Town of Belmont	\$75,578	\$264,677	-\$481,279	-\$263,097	\$0
Belmont Housing Authority	-65,734	-67,460	-59,257	-9,720	0
Light Department	320,495	204,630	-32,948	-83,119	0
Water Department	-73,468	-105,401	-152,397	-16,303	0
School Department	193,600	146,338	-339,843	-169,836	0
Police and Fire Departments	<u>380,296</u>	<u>378,552</u>	<u>-393,405</u>	<u>-269,803</u>	<u>0</u>
Grand Totals	\$830,767	\$821,336	-\$1,459,129	-\$811,878	\$0

Section 2: GASB Information

Appendix - Definition of Terms

Definitions of certain terms as they are used in Statement 68. The terms may have different meanings in other contexts.

Active Employees:	Individuals employed at the end of the reporting or measurement period, as applicable.
Actual Contributions:	Cash contributions recognized as additions to a pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position.
Actuarial Present Value of Projected Benefit Payments:	Projected benefit payments discounted to reflect the expected effects of the time value (present value) of money and the probabilities of payment.
Actuarial Valuation:	The determination, as of a point in time (the actuarial valuation date), of the service cost, Total Pension Liability, and related actuarial present value of projected benefit payments for pensions performed in conformity with Actuarial Standards of Practice unless otherwise specified by the GASB.
Actuarial Valuation Date:	The date as of which an actuarial valuation is performed.
Actuarially Determined Contribution:	A target or recommended contribution to a defined benefit pension plan for the reporting period, determined in conformity with Actuarial Standards of Practice based on the most recent measurement available when the contribution for the reporting period was adopted.
Ad Hoc Cost-of-Living Adjustments (Ad Hoc COLAs):	Cost-of-living adjustments that require a decision to grant by the authority responsible for making such decisions.
Ad Hoc Postemployment Benefit Changes:	Postemployment benefit changes that require a decision to grant by the authority responsible for making such decisions.
Agent Employer:	An employer whose employees are provided with pensions through an agent multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan.
Agent Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Agent Pension Plan):	A multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan in which pension plan assets are pooled for investment purposes but separate accounts are maintained for each individual employer so that each employer's share of the pooled assets is legally available to pay the benefits of only its employees.
Allocated Insurance Contract:	A contract with an insurance company under which related payments to the insurance company are currently used to purchase immediate or deferred annuities for individual employees. Also may be referred to as an annuity contract.
Automatic Cost-of-Living Adjustments (Automatic COLAs):	Cost-of-living adjustments that occur without a requirement for a decision to grant by a responsible authority, including those for which the amounts are determined by reference to a specified experience factor (such as the earnings experience of the pension plan) or to another variable (such as an increase in the consumer price index).

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Automatic Postemployment Benefit Changes:	Postemployment benefit changes that occur without a requirement for a decision to grant by a responsible authority, including those for which the amounts are determined by reference to a specified experience factor (such as the earnings experience of the pension plan) or to another variable (such as an increase in the consumer price index).
Closed Period:	A specific number of years that is counted from one date and declines to zero with the passage of time. For example, if the recognition period initially is five years on a closed basis, four years remain after the first year, three years after the second year, and so forth.
Collective Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions:	Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions arising from certain changes in the collective Net Pension Liability.
Collective Net Pension Liability:	The Net Pension Liability for benefits provided through (1) a cost-sharing pension plan or (2) a single-employer or agent pension plan in circumstances in which there is a special funding situation.
Collective Pension Expense:	Pension expense arising from certain changes in the collective Net Pension Liability.
Contributions:	Additions to a pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position for amounts from employers, non-employer contributing entities (for example, state government contributions to a local government pension plan), or employees. Contributions can result from cash receipts by the pension plan or from recognition by the pension plan of a receivable from one of these sources.
Cost-of-Living Adjustments:	Postemployment benefit changes intended to adjust benefit payments for the effects of inflation.
Cost-Sharing Employer:	An employer whose employees are provided with pensions through a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan.
Cost-Sharing Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Cost-Sharing Pension Plan):	A multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan in which the pension obligations to the employees of more than one employer are pooled and pension plan assets can be used to pay the benefits of the employees of any employer that provides pensions through the pension plan.
Covered Payroll:	The payroll of employees that are provided with pensions through the pension plan.
Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP):	A program that permits an employee to elect a calculation of benefit payments based on service credits and salary, as applicable, as of the DROP entry date. The employee continues to provide service to the employer and is paid for that service by the employer after the DROP entry date; however, the pensions that would have been paid to the employee (if the employee had retired and not entered the DROP) are credited to an individual employee account within the defined benefit pension plan until the end of the DROP period.
Defined Benefit Pension Plans:	Pension plans that are used to provide defined benefit pensions.

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Defined Benefit Pensions:	Pensions for which the income or other benefits that the employee will receive at or after separation from employment are defined by the benefit terms. The pensions may be stated as a specified dollar amount or as an amount that is calculated based on one or more factors such as age, years of service, and compensation. (A pension that does not meet the criteria of a defined contribution pension is classified as a defined benefit pension for purposes of Statement 68.)
Defined Contribution Pension Plans:	Pension plans that are used to provide defined contribution pensions.
Defined Contribution Pensions:	Pensions having terms that (1) provide an individual account for each employee; (2) define the contributions that an employer is required to make (or the credits that it is required to provide) to an active employee's account for periods in which that employee renders service; and (3) provide that the pensions an employee will receive will depend only on the contributions (or credits) to the employee's account, actual earnings on investments of those contributions (or credits), and the effects of forfeitures of contributions (or credits) made for other employees, as well as pension plan administrative costs, that are allocated to the employee's account.
Discount Rate:	<p>The single rate of return that, when applied to all projected benefit payments, results in an actuarial present value of projected benefit payments equal to the total of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The actuarial present value of benefit payments projected to be made in future periods in which (a) the amount of the pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position is projected (under the requirements of Statement 68) to be greater than the benefit payments that are projected to be made in that period and (b) pension plan assets up to that point are expected to be invested using a strategy to achieve the long-term expected rate of return, calculated using the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments.2. The actuarial present value of projected benefit payments not included in (1), calculated using the municipal bond rate.
Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method:	A method under which the actuarial present value of the projected benefits of each individual included in an actuarial valuation is allocated on a level basis over the earnings or service of the individual between entry age and assumed exit age(s). The portion of this actuarial present value allocated to a valuation year is called the normal cost. The portion of this actuarial present value not provided for at a valuation date by the actuarial present value of future normal costs is called the actuarial accrued liability.
Inactive Employees:	Terminated individuals that have accumulated benefits but are not yet receiving them, and retirees or their beneficiaries currently receiving benefits.
Measurement Period:	The period between the prior and the current measurement dates.
Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan:	A defined benefit pension plan that is used to provide pensions to the employees of more than one employer.

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Net Pension Liability (NPL):	The liability of employers and non-employer contributing entities to employees for benefits provided through a defined benefit pension plan.
Non-Employer Contributing Entities:	Entities that make contributions to a pension plan that is used to provide pensions to the employees of other entities. For purposes of Statement 68, employees are not considered non-employer contributing entities.
Other Postemployment Benefits:	All postemployment benefits other than retirement income (such as death benefits, life insurance, disability, and long-term care) that are provided separately from a pension plan, as well as postemployment healthcare benefits, regardless of the manner in which they are provided. Other postemployment benefits do not include termination benefits.
Pension Plans:	Arrangements through which pensions are determined, assets dedicated for pensions are accumulated and managed and benefits are paid as they come due.
Pensions:	Retirement income and, if provided through a pension plan, postemployment benefits other than retirement income (such as death benefits, life insurance, and disability benefits). Pensions do not include postemployment healthcare benefits and termination benefits.
Plan Members:	Individuals that are covered under the terms of a pension plan. Plan members generally include (1) employees in active service (active plan members) and (2) terminated employees who have accumulated benefits but are not yet receiving them and retirees or their beneficiaries currently receiving benefits (inactive plan members).
Postemployment:	The period after employment.
Postemployment Benefit Changes:	Adjustments to the pension of an inactive employee.
Postemployment Healthcare Benefits:	Medical, dental, vision, and other health-related benefits paid subsequent to the termination of employment.
Projected Benefit Payments:	All benefits estimated to be payable through the pension plan to current active and inactive employees as a result of their past service and their expected future service.
Public Employee Retirement System:	A special-purpose government that administers one or more pension plans; also may administer other types of employee benefit plans, including postemployment healthcare plans and deferred compensation plans.
Real Rate of Return:	The rate of return on an investment after adjustment to eliminate inflation.
Service Costs:	The portions of the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that are attributed to valuation years.
Single Employer:	An employer whose employees are provided with pensions through a single-employer defined benefit pension plan.

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Single-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plan (Single-Employer Pension Plan):	A defined benefit pension plan that is used to provide pensions to employees of only one employer.
Special Funding Situations:	Circumstances in which a non-employer entity is legally responsible for making contributions directly to a pension plan that is used to provide pensions to the employees of another entity or entities and either of the following conditions exists: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The amount of contributions for which the non-employer entity legally is responsible is not dependent upon one or more events or circumstances unrelated to the pensions.2. The non-employer entity is the only entity with a legal obligation to make contributions directly to a pension plan.
Termination Benefits:	Inducements offered by employers to active employees to hasten the termination of services, or payments made in consequence of the early termination of services. Termination benefits include early-retirement incentives, severance benefits, and other termination-related benefits.
Total Pension Liability (TPL):	The portion of the actuarial present value of projected benefit payments that is attributed to past periods of employee service in conformity with the requirements of Statement 68.