

# **SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL REPORTS**

## **OKLAHOMA STATE PENSION COMMISSION**



**February 21, 2018**

**Mark Cintolo, CFA, CAIA, Senior Research Consultant**

**Lynda Dennen Costello, ASA, EA, Senior Research Consultant**



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# INTRODUCTION

- **NEPC is asked to review the Oklahoma State defined benefit pension plans from an actuarial standpoint on an annual basis**
- **Oklahoma Retirement System is comprised of seven plans:**
  - Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma ("Teachers")
  - Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement ("PERS")
  - Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System ("Firefighters")
  - Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System ("Police")
  - Oklahoma Law Enforcement Retirement System ("Law Enforcement")
  - State of Oklahoma Uniform Retirement System for Justices and Judges ("Judges")
  - Retirement Plan for Full-Time Employees of the Department of Wildlife Conservation ("Wildlife")
- **Information contained in this report is based on July 1, 2017 Actuarial Valuation reports from plan actuaries<sup>1</sup>**
  - Funded status is based on each plan's funding policy
- **The goals of this presentation are:**
  - To present the funded position of the seven pension plans, funding basis and GASB 67
  - To review the comprehensive return performance of both asset and liabilities
  - To assess the actuarial assumptions and methods for reasonability
  - To note changes in legislation that affect the pension plans
  - Comment on trends in COLA provisions in US State plans

1. Conduent Consultants, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, and Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company



# SYSTEM SUMMARY – FUNDED POSITION

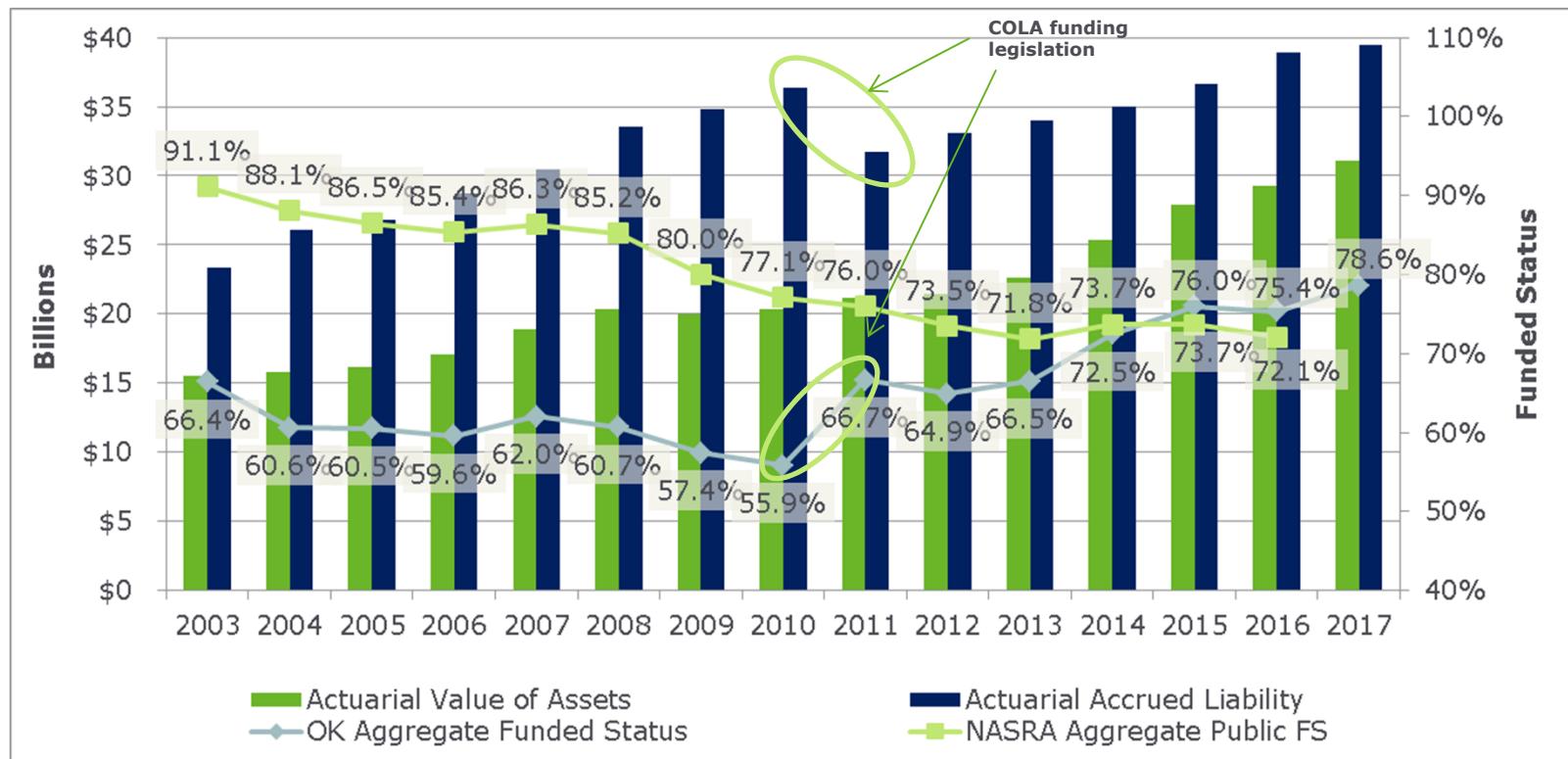
Plan	Actuarial Value of Assets (in millions)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (in millions)	Funded Status as of 7/1/2017	Funded Status as of 7/1/2016
Teachers	\$15,516.3	\$22,054.1	70.4%	65.7%
Public Employees (PERS)	\$9,241.3	\$9,781.6	94.5%	93.2%
Firefighters	\$2,464.6	\$3,767.2	65.4%	65.9%
Police	\$2,447.4	\$2,403.1	101.8%	98.7%
Law Enforcement	\$957.3	\$1,082.1	88.5%	87.4%
Judges	\$321.4	\$285.5	112.6%	110.8%
Wildlife	\$109.5	\$121.4	90.2%	86.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,057.8</b>	<b>\$39,495.1</b>	<b>78.6%</b>	<b>75.4%</b>

- **Overall funded status of the plans increased more than 3% since fiscal 2016, from 75.4% to 78.6%**
  - Four plans are over 90% funded, and two plans are now over 100% funded
  - For comparison, the average public pension plan was 72.1% funded in FY 2016<sup>1</sup>
- **Historically high markets in 2017 led to strong asset returns over the past fiscal year for all of the plans**
  - Average return on Market Value of Assets was 13.6%
  - However, return on an Actuarial Value basis was 8.6% due to delayed recognition of prior years' losses
    - This actuarial (smoothed) value used in funded status percentage calculation
  - Meanwhile, total plan liabilities grew by 1.6% over the last year



<sup>1</sup> Public Fund Survey Summary Findings for FY 2016, published November 2017 by the National Association of State Retirement Administrators (NASRA)

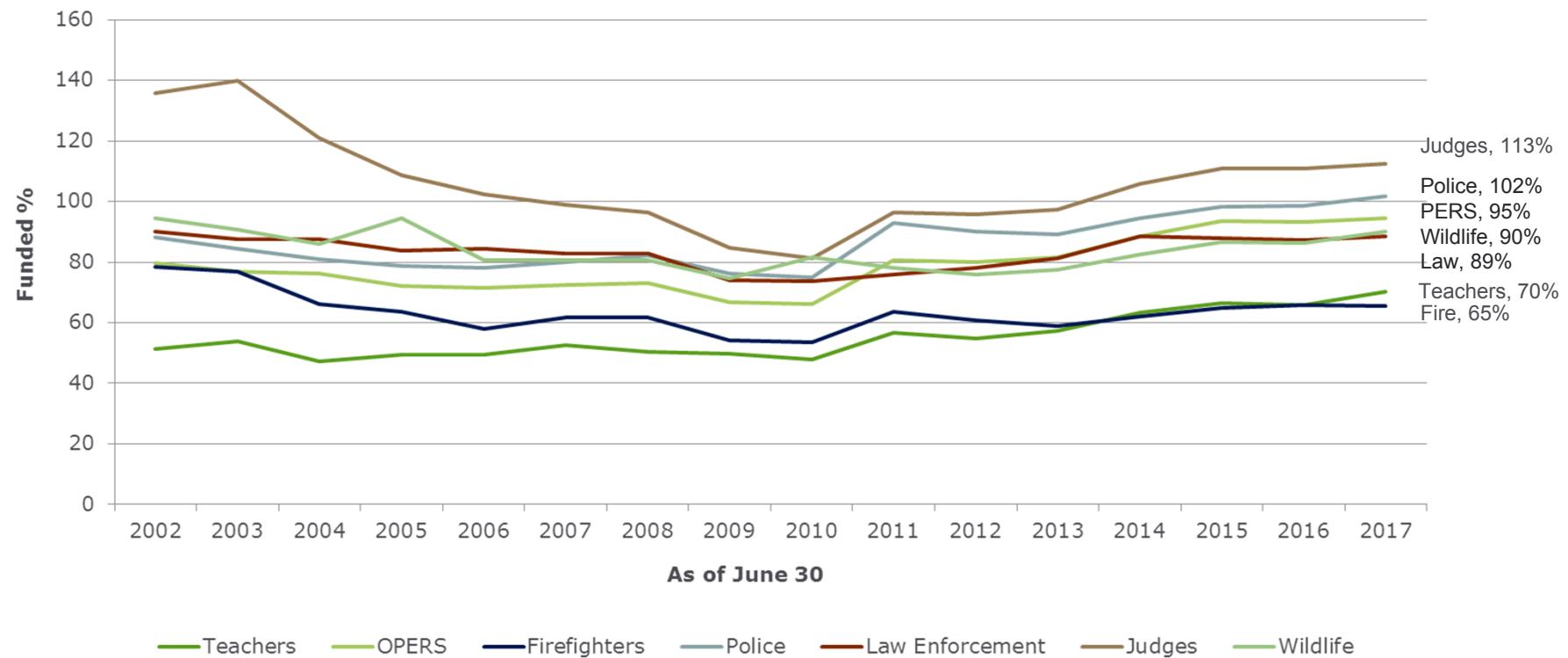
# FUNDED STATUS HISTORY VS. AVERAGE PUBLIC FUND (COMBINED PLANS)



- **The Oklahoma plans' aggregate funded status has seen continued improvement and has surpassed the funded status of the average public plan<sup>1</sup>**
  - Legislative changes made in 2011 regarding COLA funding had a significant effect
  - Equity markets have had consistently strong returns

1. Average public plan results from the Public Fund Survey Summary Findings by the National Association of State Retirement Administrators, representing 85% of the state/local government pension community

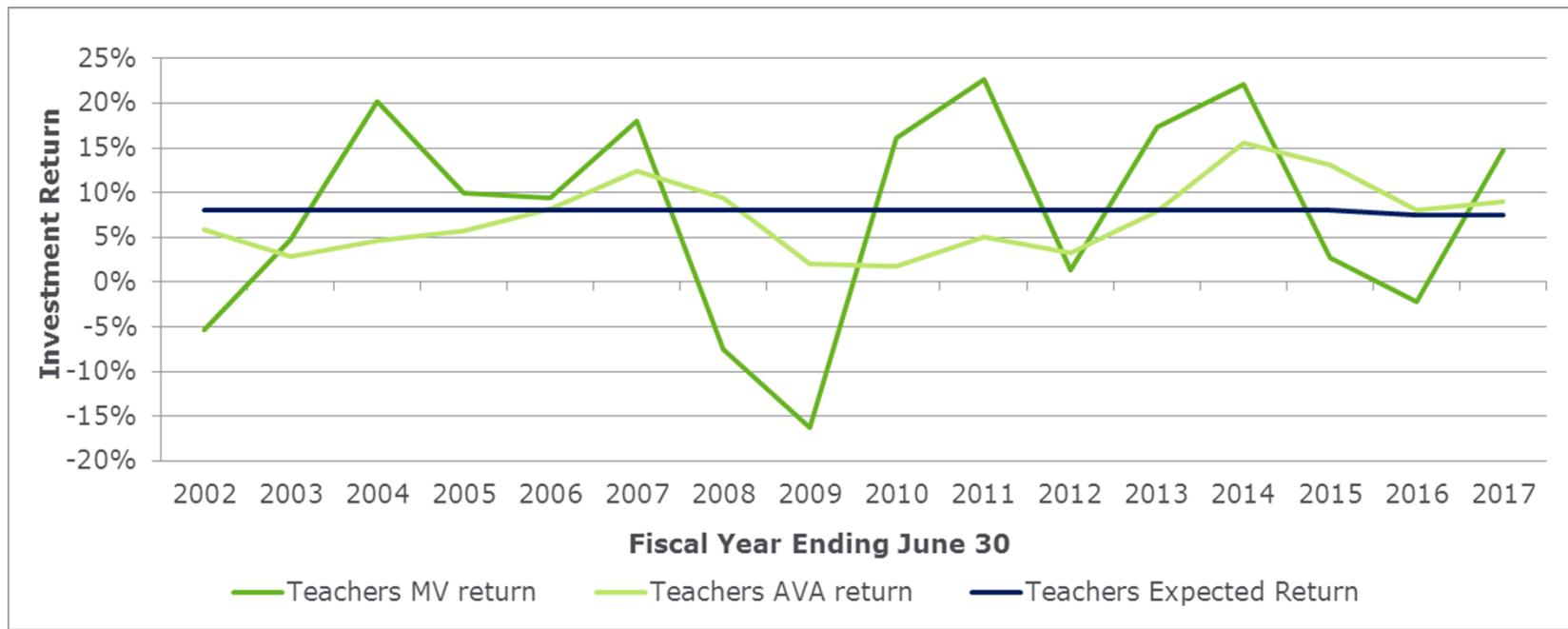
# FUNDED STATUS HISTORY – INDIVIDUAL PLAN BASIS



Sources: 2000 to 2009: Buck Consultants, Milliman Consultants and Actuaries, and Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company  
 2010 to 2016: Buck Consultants, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, and Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company  
 2017: Conduent Consultants, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, and Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company



# EXPECTED RETURN – TEACHERS PLAN

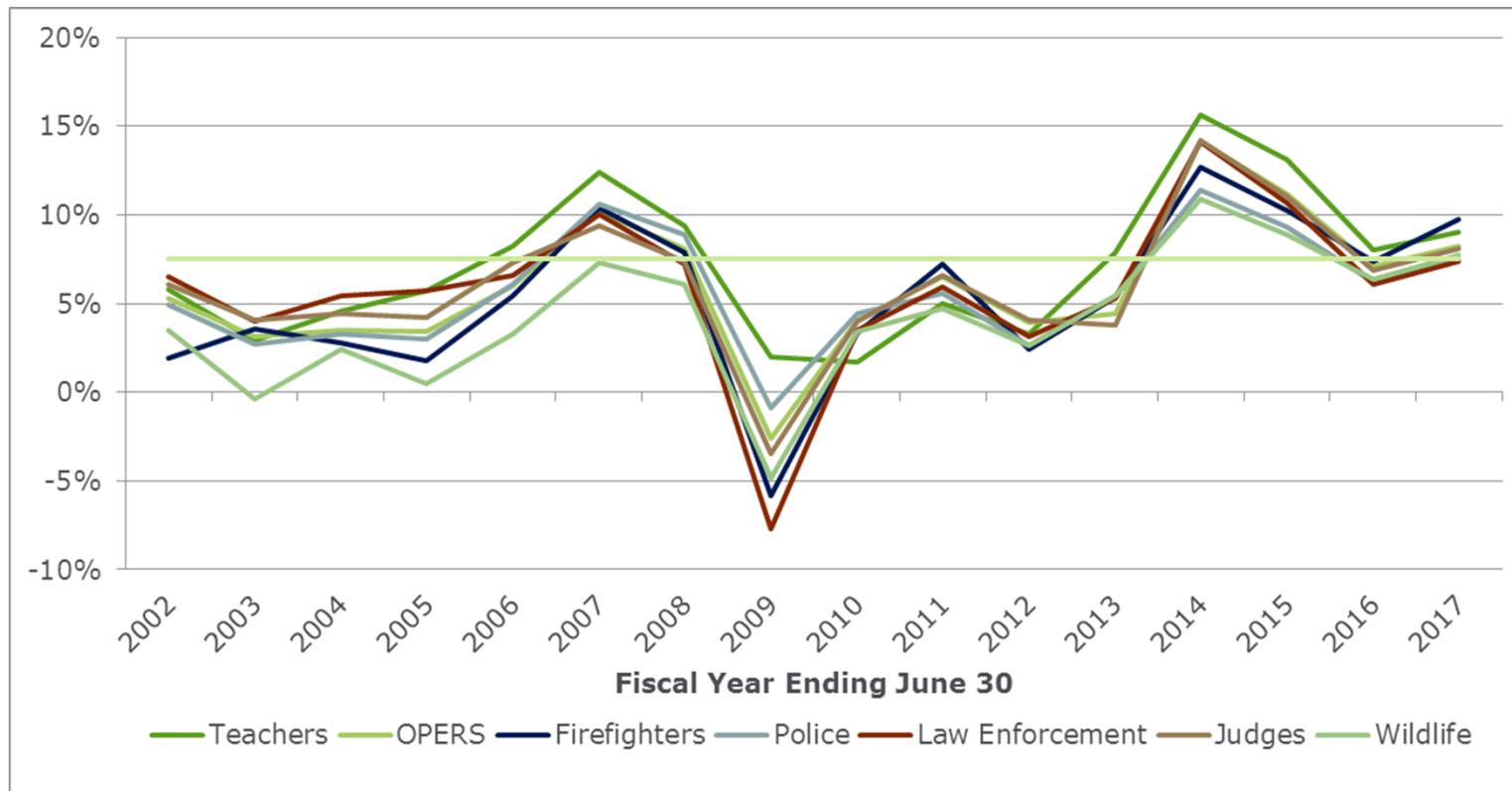


- The Teachers' plan is shown as an example of the benefit of using actuarial value of assets vs. market value
- Actuarial Value return lags Market Value return as gains and losses are smoothed in over 5 years
  - Helps smooth fluctuations in funded status and keep expected return close to assumed rate
- Currently, actuarial value of assets is greater than market value as past losses from 2015 and 2016 are still being recognized



Sources: 1999 and earlier: R.V. Kuhns & Associates. 2000 to present: Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company.

# HISTORICAL RATE OF RETURN



- **Average actuarial rate of return for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 was 8.6%**
  - Assumed rate of return was between 7.5% and 7.0% for all plans

Sources: 2000 to 2009: Buck Consultants, Milliman Consultants and Actuaries, and Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company  
2010 to 2016: Buck Consultants, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, and Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company  
2017: Conduent Consultants, Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting, and Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company



# SYSTEM SUMMARY – STATE COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

- The following table summarizes the State-only contribution requirements for the 2018 and 2017 fiscal years

Pension Plan	FY 2018		FY 2017			Est. Actual Contribution as % Pay
	Required Contribution as % Pay	Required Contribution (\$m)	Required Contribution as % Pay	Required Contribution (\$m)	Actual Contribution (\$m)	
Teachers*	7.7%	\$316.91	7.8%	\$331.87	\$278.92	6.5%
OPERS	10.1%	\$174.28	10.1%	\$182.00	\$288.34	17.1%
Firefighters	41.2%	\$115.48	38.6%	\$103.14	\$88.13	31.4%
Police	0.0%	\$0.00	3.3%	\$10.64	\$34.28	10.9%
Law Enforcement	27.0%	\$23.35	27.7%	\$24.53	\$21.84	25.3%
Judges	5.0%	\$1.65	10.5%	\$3.66	\$6.19	18.6%
Wildlife	19.5%	\$2.49	22.3%	\$2.99	\$4.78	37.3%
<b>Total as % of Payroll</b>	<b>9.5%</b>		<b>9.8%</b>			<b>10.8%</b>
<b>Total Dollars (\$m)</b>		<b>\$634.16</b>		<b>\$658.83</b>	<b>\$722.49</b>	

\* Teachers plan contribution is estimated by subtracting expected Employer contributions of 9.3% of payroll from the calculated ADEC of 17.0%

- For fiscal year ending 2018, the recommended contribution is 9.5% of payroll, or \$634 million – lower than 2017
- For fiscal year ending 2017, the recommended contribution to the Oklahoma pension plans was \$659 million, or 9.8% of total payroll
  - However, the actual contribution amount was \$722 million, or 110% of required
- The contribution amounts for each plan are not tied to the calculation of the actuarially determined contributions amounts (see the following page)
  - In 2017, four plans received more than what was required
  - In 2018, the Police plan has no required contribution for 2018, but will receive the statutory contribution of 14% of insurance premiums taxes
  - In 2018, Judges and Justices plan requires 5% of payroll for next year, but will receive 20.5% of payroll, per current statute



# SYSTEM SUMMARY – MANDATED CONTRIBUTION RATES AND ACTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- The chart below shows the rates of contributions, by type, for each plan as mandated by statute**
- The second table summarizes actual contributions dollars, by type, for each plan in fiscal 2017**

Mandated Employee and Employer Contribution Rates as of July 1, 2017

Pension Plan	Employee Contribution Rate (% of payroll)	Employer + Federal Contribution rate (% of payroll)	Municipality / Agency Contribution rate (% of payroll)	State Contribution rate
Teachers	7.0%	EESIP: 9.5% Reg. Universities: 8.55% Federal grants: 7.7%*		5% of tax and lottery revenue
OPERS	3.5%			16.5% of payroll
Firefighters	9.0%		14.0%	36% of insurance premium tax
Police	8.0%		13.0%	14% of insurance premium tax + a % of special tax credit fund
Law Enforcement	8.0%		11.0%	5.0% of insurance premium tax + 1.2% of drivers license tax
Judges	8.0%			20.5% of payroll**
Wildlife	5.0%			

\* Scheduled to increase to 7.8% in fiscal 2018

\*\* Increased from 19.0% in fiscal 2016 to 20.5% in fiscal 2017. Scheduled to increase to 22.0% by fiscal 2019.

Actual Contributions by Type for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017 (in \$millions)

Pension Plan	Employee Contribution	Employer + Federal Contribution	Municipality / Agency Contribution	State Contribution	Total
Teachers	\$292.95	\$426.28		\$278.92	\$998.16
OPERS	\$70.28			\$288.34	\$358.62
Firefighters	\$25.24		\$40.33	\$88.13	\$153.70
Police	\$23.92		\$38.89	\$34.28	\$98.00
Law Enforcement	\$6.83		\$10.11	\$21.84	\$38.79
Judges	\$2.66			\$6.19	\$8.00
Wildlife	\$0.63			\$4.78	\$5.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$422.51</b>	<b>\$426.28</b>	<b>\$89.32</b>	<b>\$722.49</b>	<b>\$1,660.67</b>



# CONTRIBUTION HISTORY – STATE AND MUNICIPALITIES

**Required State and Employer Contribution - after reduction for estimated Employee contributions**

	07/01/07	07/01/08	07/01/09	07/01/10	07/01/11	07/01/12	07/01/13	07/01/14	07/01/15	07/01/16	07/01/17
Teachers*	\$590.5	\$714.4	\$742.3	\$822.4	\$588.0	\$620.0	\$603.0	\$550.7	\$762.0	\$758.0	\$729.0
OPERS	\$363.9	\$323.1	\$389.2	\$402.0	\$240.0	\$257.0	\$259.0	\$200.8	\$164.6	\$182.0	\$174.3
Firefighters**	\$147.3	\$157.8	\$187.2	\$195.7	\$142.0	\$159.0	\$162.0	\$142.4	\$139.2	\$141.5	\$155.5
Police**	\$100.5	\$102.6	\$132.5	\$146.8	\$65.0	\$79.0	\$90.0	\$63.9	\$44.7	\$51.0	\$40.8
Law Enforcement**	\$32.7	\$36.6	\$48.1	\$50.1	\$48.6	\$44.7	\$43.8	\$31.8	\$33.3	\$34.0	\$33.0
Judges	\$7.6	\$8.2	\$10.8	\$12.5	\$7.0	\$7.0	\$7.0	\$4.9	\$3.5	\$3.7	\$1.7
Wildlife	\$3.1	\$3.4	\$4.4	\$3.2	\$3.8	\$4.3	\$4.3	\$3.7	\$3.2	\$3.0	\$2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,245.6</b>	<b>\$1,374.0</b>	<b>\$1,514.4</b>	<b>\$1,632.7</b>	<b>\$1,094.4</b>	<b>\$1,171.0</b>	<b>\$1,169.1</b>	<b>\$998.2</b>	<b>\$1,150.4</b>	<b>\$1,173.2</b>	<b>\$1,136.7</b>

**Actual State and Employer Contributions**

	07/01/07	07/01/08	07/01/09	07/01/10	07/01/11	07/01/12	07/01/13	07/01/14	07/01/15	07/01/16	07/01/17
Teachers*	\$597.0	\$618.6	\$620.6	\$638.0	\$682.0	\$701.0	\$707.0	\$728.0	\$725.0	\$705.2	TBD
OPERS	\$220.2	\$243.0	\$260.0	\$253.0	\$263.0	\$270.0	\$280.0	\$292.2	\$296.0	\$288.3	TBD
Firefighters**	\$83.1	\$83.2	\$82.2	\$92.0	\$101.0	\$111.0	\$115.6	\$130.1	\$131.5	\$128.5	TBD
Police**	\$56.1	\$58.6	\$54.6	\$56.0	\$61.0	\$66.0	\$66.9	\$72.8	\$74.0	\$73.2	TBD
Law Enforcement**	\$25.0	\$24.9	\$23.1	\$25.0	\$26.0	\$28.0	\$29.7	\$32.3	\$33.0	\$32.0	TBD
Judges	\$1.7	\$2.2	\$8.7	\$3.0	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$4.6	\$5.3	\$5.8	\$6.2	TBD
Wildlife	\$3.0	\$3.4	\$4.4	\$3.2	\$4.1	\$4.1	\$4.3	\$4.3	\$3.7	\$4.8	TBD
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$986.1</b>	<b>\$1,033.9</b>	<b>\$1,053.5</b>	<b>\$1,070.2</b>	<b>\$1,141.1</b>	<b>\$1,184.1</b>	<b>\$1,208.1</b>	<b>\$1,264.9</b>	<b>\$1,269.0</b>	<b>\$1,238.1</b>	TBD

**Percent of Required State and Employer Contribution Actually Contributed**

	07/01/07	07/01/08	07/01/09	07/01/10	07/01/11	07/01/12	07/01/13	07/01/14	07/01/15	07/01/16	07/01/17
Teachers*	101.1%	86.6%	83.6%	77.6%	116.0%	113.1%	117.2%	132.2%	95.1%	93.0%	TBD
OPERS	60.5%	75.2%	66.8%	62.9%	109.6%	105.1%	108.1%	145.5%	179.8%	158.4%	TBD
Firefighters**	56.4%	52.7%	43.9%	47.0%	71.1%	69.8%	71.4%	91.4%	94.5%	90.8%	TBD
Police**	55.8%	57.1%	41.2%	38.1%	93.8%	83.5%	74.3%	113.9%	165.7%	143.5%	TBD
Law Enforcement**	76.5%	68.0%	48.1%	49.9%	53.5%	62.6%	67.8%	101.4%	99.7%	94.0%	TBD
Judges	22.2%	27.4%	80.8%	24.0%	57.1%	57.1%	65.9%	108.1%	168.8%	169.1%	TBD
Wildlife	97.1%	100.3%	100.0%	100.0%	107.9%	96.1%	99.8%	116.7%	115.7%	159.3%	TBD
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.2%</b>	<b>75.2%</b>	<b>69.6%</b>	<b>65.5%</b>	<b>104.3%</b>	<b>101.1%</b>	<b>103.3%</b>	<b>126.7%</b>	<b>110.3%</b>	<b>105.5%</b>	TBD

\* Teachers plan contributions include State, Employer, and Federal funds

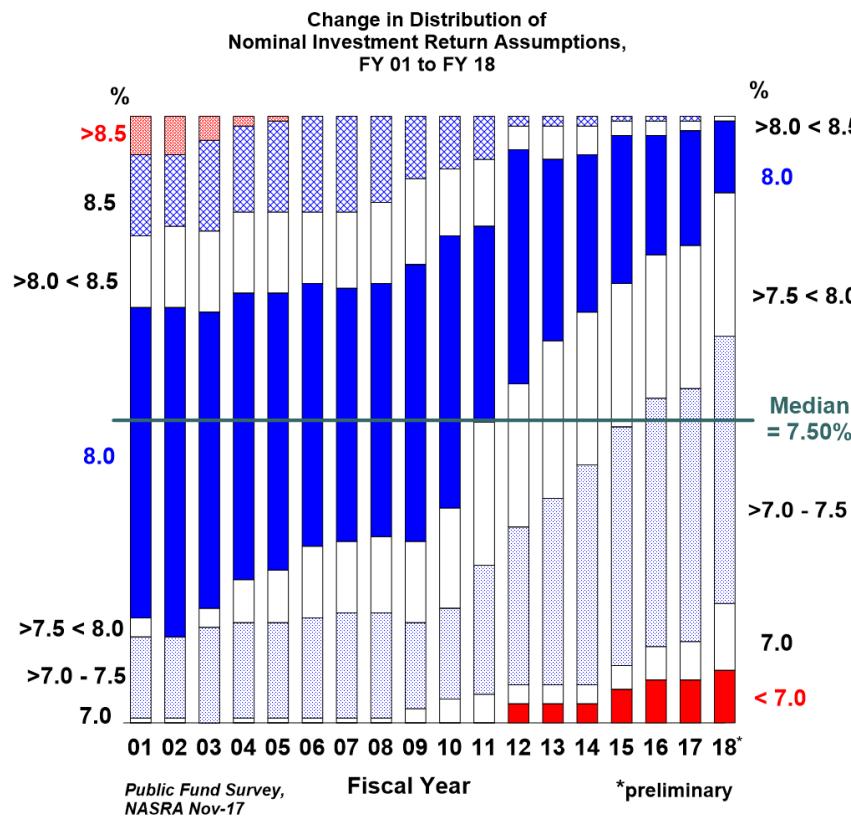
\*\* Contributions include State and Agency or Municipality funds

- **Actual contributions exceeded recommended amounts by \$65m in fiscal 2017**
- **Four plans received more than the required contribution amount**



# SYSTEM SUMMARY – CHARACTERISTICS AND ASSUMPTIONS

- **Investment return assumptions (7.5% for Teachers, Fire, Police, and Law Enforcement; 7.0% for PERS, Judges, and Wildlife) are in line with other public funds**
  - In 2017, the PERS and Judges plans lowered their expected return assumptions from 7.25% to 7.0%
  - Median discount rate for public plans was estimated to be 7.5% in fiscal 2018



# SYSTEM SUMMARY - CHARACTERISTICS AND ASSUMPTIONS

- **All plans have in place long term amortization schedules to fund the Unfunded Accrued Liability**
  - However some schedules are “open” (re-determined each year) and some “closed” (declining by one year each year)
  - Some plans which had closed amortization schedules are currently amortizing their unfunded liability over shorter timeframes, which result in higher recommended contributions
  - The amortization periods for the Oklahoma pension plans are as follows:
    - 5 years – open (Police)
    - 10 years – closed (Judges and OPERS)
    - 11 years – open (Wildlife) - based on the average future working lifetime for active members
    - 12 years – closed (Law Enforcement)
    - 27 years – closed (Firefighters) – reset in 2014
    - 17 years - open (Teachers)
    - The amortization period is set as the funding period for the current actuarial valuation, not in excess of 20 years
- **All plans employ similar actuarial asset valuation methods, where gains and losses are smoothed over 5 years**
- **Four of the plans have adopted the RP-2014 mortality tables, which have increased longevity assumptions over previous tables and therefore increased plan liabilities**
  - PERS, Law Enforcement, Judges and Justices, and Wildlife plans



# SYSTEM SUMMARY – FUNDED POSITION – GASB 67

Plan	Market Value of Assets (in millions)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (in millions)	Funded Status as of 7/1/2017	Discount Rate
Teachers	\$14,990.0	\$21,625.4	69.3%	7.5%
Public Employees (PERS)	\$8,914.0	\$9,454.6	94.3%	7.0%
Firefighters	\$2,509.5	\$3,767.2	66.6%	7.5%
Police	\$2,395.4	\$2,403.1	99.7%	7.5%
Law Enforcement	\$939.3	\$1,069.3	87.8%	7.5%
Judges	\$318.3	\$282.8	112.5%	7.0%
Wildlife	\$109.0	\$121.4	89.8%	7.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,175.4</b>	<b>\$38,723.8</b>	<b>77.9%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>

- **As of July 1, 2017, overall funded status of the plans were 77.9% under GASB 67, vs. 78.6% for funding purposes**
- **GASB 67 uses Market Value of Assets instead of Actuarial Value, and may use a different discount rate than for funding purposes**
  - For fiscal 2017, each plan's actuary has determined that all the plans' projected benefits would be covered by projected assets, therefore discount rates remained unchanged from the funding valuations
- **Values exclude GASB 74 OPEB liabilities and assets**



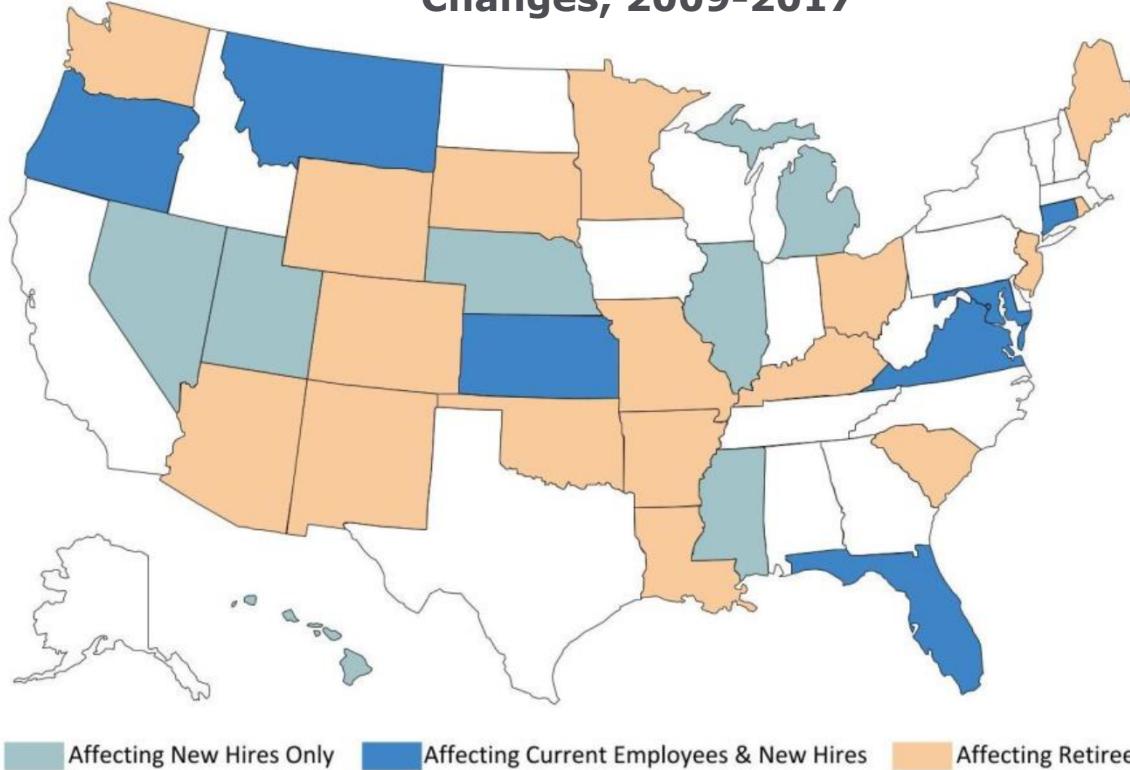
# SYSTEM SUMMARY – 2017 LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

- **Teachers plan saw changes from HB 1162, which changed the “vesting” period to be eligible for benefits from five to seven years for members who join after October 31, 2017**
- **Oklahoma PERS created a defined contribution plan for most new employees hired after November 1, 2015**
  - The effect on the defined benefit plan liabilities will be small in the near term as all benefits earned prior to November 1, 2015 remain in the plan
  - Eventually, the defined benefit plan population will begin to decline, lowering plan liabilities, but also lowering active payroll used for percentage of payroll purposes
  - This defined contribution plan is not covered in the analysis in this report



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – NATIONWIDE COLA CHANGES

State Retirement Systems Undergoing COLA Legislative Changes, 2009-2017



- Since 2009, seventeen states changed COLAs affecting current retirees, seven states addressed current employees' benefits, and seven states changed the COLA structure only for future employees.
- The legality of these modifications in several states is being challenged in court

Source: NASRA, "Issue Brief: Cost-of-Living Adjustments", November 2017



# SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- **In aggregate, the State's plans are 78.6% funded as of June 30, 2017**
  - All plans saw an increase in funded status, except for a slight decrease in the Firefighters plan
  - Four of the seven plans are now over 90% funded
    - Recall that corporate plans have a typical minimum funding threshold of staying above 80% funded
- **Actual State contributions exceeded recommended amounts by \$65m in fiscal 2017**
  - In 2017, four plans received more than the Actuarially Determined Contribution amount, as the statutory contributions are not tied to actuarial calculations
- **Prior two years of asset losses continue to be recognized in the actuarial value of assets, slightly boosting funded status**
  - Actuarial value is currently higher than the market value of assets
- **The plans' assumptions are within a reasonable range**
  - Two plans lowered their expected return assumption this year, all plans use 7.5% or 7.0% to discount liabilities
  - Four plans have updated their mortality assumptions to the RP-2014 mortality tables
- **GASB 67 reporting found the Oklahoma plans at 77.9% funded, using market value of assets**
  - For fiscal 2017, each plan's actuary had determined that each plans' projected benefits would be covered by projected assets, therefore discount rates remained unchanged from funding valuations

