



NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Basic Financial Statements and Supplementary Information

March 31, 2016

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Table of Contents

	Page(s)
Independent Auditors' Report	1–2
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)	3–8
Basic Financial Statements:	
Combining Basic Statement of Fiduciary Net Position	9
Combining Basic Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position	10
Notes to Basic Financial Statements	11–33
Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)	
Schedule 1 – Schedule of Changes in the Employers' Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios	34–35
Schedule 2 – Schedule of Employer Contributions	36
Schedule 3 – Schedule of Investment Returns	37
Notes to Required Supplementary Information	38
Other Supplementary Information	
Schedule 4 – Schedule of Administrative Expenses	39
Schedule 5 – Schedule of Investment Expenses	40
Schedule 6 – Schedule of Consulting Fees	41
Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	42–43



KPMG LLP
515 Broadway
Albany, NY 12207-2974

Independent Auditors' Report

The Trustee
New York State and Local Retirement System:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying combining statement of fiduciary net position of the New York State and Local Retirement System (the System) as of March 31, 2016, the related combining statement of changes in fiduciary net position for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the System as of March 31, 2016, and the changes in fiduciary net position for the year then ended, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.



Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

U.S. generally accepted accounting principles require that the management's discussion and analysis and required supplementary information as listed in the accompanying table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the System's basic financial statements. The accompanying other supplementary information as listed in the accompanying table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the other supplementary information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 20, 2016 on our consideration of the System's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the System's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KPMG LLP

July 20, 2016

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Management's Discussion and Analysis

March 31, 2016

(Unaudited)

The following overview of the financial activity of the New York State and Local Retirement System (the System) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016 is intended to provide the reader with an analysis of the System's overall financial position. The System is comprised of the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS) and the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System (PFRS). This management's discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the basic financial statements of the System, which follow.

Financial Highlights

The fiduciary net position of the System held in trust to pay pension benefits was \$183.64 billion as of March 31, 2016. This amount reflects a decrease of \$5.77 billion from the prior fiscal year. This change is primarily the result of the net depreciation of the fair value of the investment portfolio. Investment (depreciation) appreciation for the fiscal years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015 is \$(3.93) billion and \$9.28 billion, respectively.

- The System's investments reported a positive money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expense, of 0.03 percent for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016 and a positive money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expense, of 6.98 percent for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015.
- Retirement and death benefits paid during fiscal year 2016 to 440,943 annuitants totaled \$10.91 billion, as compared to \$10.44 billion paid to 430,308 annuitants for fiscal year 2015. The increase is primarily due to the number of new retirees.
- Contributions from employers decreased from \$5.80 billion for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015 to \$5.14 billion for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016. The decrease in contributions is attributable to lower billing rates.
- The Net Pension Liability (NPL) for ERS was \$16.10 billion for the measurement period ended March 31, 2016 as compared to \$3.38 billion for the measurement period ended March 31, 2015. The fiduciary net position, restricted for pension benefits as of March 31, 2016, was \$156.25 billion, which represents 90.7 percent of the calculated total pension liability for ERS. The NPL is allocated to participating employers and reported pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements 67 and 68.
- The NPL for the PFRS was \$2.96 billion for the measurement period ended March 31, 2016 as compared to \$275.26 million for the measurement period ended March 31, 2015. The fiduciary net position restricted for pension benefits as of March 31, 2016, was \$27.39 billion, which represents 90.2 percent of the calculated total pension liability for the PFRS. The NPL is allocated to participating employers and reported pursuant to GASB Statements 67 and 68.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The financial statements consist of the combining basic statement of fiduciary net position, the combining basic statement of changes in fiduciary net position, and the notes to the basic financial statements. The required supplementary information that appears after the notes to the basic financial statements is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the GASB. The other supplementary information following the required supplementary information is not required, but management has chosen to include such information to increase transparency.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Management's Discussion and Analysis

March 31, 2016

(Unaudited)

The combining basic statement of fiduciary net position reflects the resources available to pay members, retirees and beneficiaries at the close of the System's fiscal year. This statement also provides information about the fair value and composition of the System's net position.

The combining basic statement of changes in fiduciary net position presents the changes to the System's net position for the fiscal year, including net investment (loss) income, net appreciation or depreciation in fair value of the investment portfolio, and contributions from members and employers. Benefits and administrative expenses paid by the System are included under the deductions section of the statement.

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of the basic financial statements and provide additional information about the plans, policies and performance of the System. The financial statement notes include Description of Plans, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, System Reserves, Investments, Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure, Derivatives, Securities Lending Program, Net Pension Liability of Participating Employers, Federal Income Tax Status, Commitments, and Contingencies.

The required supplementary schedules include: Schedule of Changes in the Employers' Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios, Schedule of Employer Contributions, and Schedule of Investment Returns.

The other supplementary information includes schedules of administrative expenses, investment expenses, and consulting fees.

Analysis of the Overall Financial Position of the System

The purpose of the System's investments is to provide for long-term growth, while also ensuring a reliable cash flow that meets the funding requirements of the near-term pension obligation. To achieve these goals, the investments are allocated to a variety of asset types and strategies in order to meet the current funding needs as well as future growth requirements of the pension liability. Equity-related investments are included for their long-term return and growth characteristics. While a majority of fixed income and debt-related investments are generally included in the allocation for their ability to control investment risk and provide for a reliable cash flow that meets the funding requirements of the pension payments, a portion is strategically invested in more actively traded markets. It is important to note that the change from year to year is due not only to changes in fair values, but also to purchases, sales, and redemptions. Tables 1, 2, and 3 summarize and compare financial data for the current and prior years.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Management's Discussion and Analysis

March 31, 2016

(Unaudited)

Table 1

Summary schedule of fiduciary net position as of March 31, 2016, as compared to March 31, 2015:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Dollar change</u>	<u>Percentage change</u>
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Assets:				
Investments	\$ 178,639,701	184,502,044	(5,862,343)	(3.2)%
Securities lending collateral – invested	11,732,966	6,195,790	5,537,176	89.4
Receivables and other assets	<u>6,484,158</u>	<u>7,184,596</u>	<u>(700,438)</u>	<u>(9.7)</u>
Total assets	<u>196,856,825</u>	<u>197,882,430</u>	<u>(1,025,605)</u>	<u>(0.5)</u>
Liabilities:				
Securities lending obligations	11,741,243	6,206,381	5,534,862	89.2
Payables and other liabilities	<u>1,475,377</u>	<u>2,263,633</u>	<u>(788,256)</u>	<u>(34.8)</u>
Total liabilities	<u>13,216,620</u>	<u>8,470,014</u>	<u>4,746,606</u>	<u>56.0</u>
Net position, restricted for pension benefits	<u>\$ 183,640,205</u>	<u>189,412,416</u>	<u>(5,772,211)</u>	<u>(3.0)%</u>

The fiduciary net position of the System totaled \$183.64 billion as of March 31, 2016, a decrease of \$5.77 billion from the prior fiscal year, primarily attributable to the net depreciation of invested assets.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Management's Discussion and Analysis

March 31, 2016

(Unaudited)

Table 2

Schedule of invested assets as of March 31, 2016, as compared to March 31, 2015:

	2016	2015	Dollar change	Percentage change
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Domestic equity	\$ 61,544,070	67,219,661	(5,675,591)	(8.4)%
Global fixed income	44,661,200	47,652,210	(2,991,010)	(6.3)
International equity	29,211,336	27,073,871	2,137,465	7.9
Private equity	13,961,373	14,247,374	(286,001)	(2.0)
Real estate	12,639,723	12,123,440	516,283	4.3
Absolute return strategy investments	8,029,411	8,388,806	(359,395)	(4.3)
Short-term investments	5,578,801	5,252,486	326,315	6.2
Opportunistic funds	1,719,316	1,292,161	427,155	33.1
Mortgage loans	796,403	852,955	(56,552)	(6.6)
Real assets	498,068	399,080	98,988	24.8
Total investments	\$ <u>178,639,701</u>	<u>184,502,044</u>	<u>(5,862,343)</u>	<u>(3.2)%</u>

The largest percentage increases to the invested assets were in the opportunistic funds and real assets portfolios, which represent 1.0 percent and 0.3 percent of the total portfolio, respectively. The Fund continued to add capital to both the opportunistic funds and real assets portfolios to fulfill the targeted asset allocation. The largest percentage decrease to the invested assets was in domestic equity, which represents 34.5 percent of the total portfolio. The Fund also added capital to new corporate issues and funded an external manager to maintain a diversified global fixed income mandate. This strategy of diversification enabled the Fund to capitalize on the dynamic opportunity set across global markets.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Management's Discussion and Analysis

March 31, 2016

(Unaudited)

Table 3

Summary schedule of changes in fiduciary net position for the year ended March 31, 2016, as compared to the year ended March 31, 2015:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Dollar change</u>	<u>Percentage change</u>
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Additions:				
Net investment (loss) income	\$ (384,834)	12,444,891	(12,829,725)	(103.1)%
Total contributions	<u>5,779,715</u>	<u>6,313,041</u>	<u>(533,326)</u>	<u>(8.4)</u>
Total additions	<u>5,394,881</u>	<u>18,757,932</u>	<u>(13,363,051)</u>	<u>(71.2)</u>
Deductions:				
Total benefits paid	(11,060,472)	(10,513,714)	(546,758)	5.2
Administrative expenses	<u>(106,620)</u>	<u>(107,151)</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>(0.5)</u>
Total deductions	<u>(11,167,092)</u>	<u>(10,620,865)</u>	<u>(546,227)</u>	<u>5.1</u>
Net (decrease) increase	(5,772,211)	8,137,067	(13,909,278)	(170.9)
Net position, restricted for pension benefits – beginning of year	<u>189,412,416</u>	<u>181,275,349</u>	<u>8,137,067</u>	<u>4.5</u>
Net position, restricted for pension benefits – end of year	<u>\$ 183,640,205</u>	<u>189,412,416</u>	<u>(5,772,211)</u>	<u>(3.0)%</u>

The change in net investment (loss) income is primarily attributable to the net depreciation in fair value of investments from 2015 to 2016. This is reflected in the change in the money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expense, from 6.98 percent in 2015 to 0.03 percent in 2016. The decrease in total contributions is attributable to the change in employer billing rates.

Economic Factors and Rates of Return

The Fund announced positive investment performance for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016, with a time-weighted rate of return of 0.19 percent, a modest increase which reflected the volatility in the world equity markets. The Fund's private equity and real estate portfolios experienced strong positive performance which benefited the total Fund. The U.S. equity market's performance was flat for the year while the international markets, particularly the emerging markets, experienced negative performance. Market volatility and concerns about increasing inflation and political uncertainty across the globe continued through this year. This was the seventh consecutive year of positive performance for the Fund following the fiscal crisis of 2008.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Management's Discussion and Analysis

March 31, 2016

(Unaudited)

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the System's finances for all interested parties. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the New York State and Local Retirement System, 110 State Street, Albany, New York 12244-0001. The report can also be accessed on the Comptroller's website at www.osc.state.ny.us/retire/about_us/financial_statements_index.php.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Combining Basic Statement of Fiduciary Net Position

March 31, 2016

(Dollars in thousands)

	Employees' Retirement System	Police and Fire Retirement System	Total
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Assets:			
Investments (notes 2(b), 4 and 5):			
Domestic equity	\$ 52,272,728	9,271,342	61,544,070
Global fixed income	37,933,188	6,728,012	44,661,200
International equity	24,810,777	4,400,559	29,211,336
Private equity	11,858,154	2,103,219	13,961,373
Real estate	10,735,605	1,904,118	12,639,723
Absolute return strategy investments	6,819,816	1,209,595	8,029,411
Short-term investments	4,738,379	840,422	5,578,801
Opportunistic funds	1,460,309	259,007	1,719,316
Mortgage loans	676,428	119,975	796,403
Real assets	423,036	75,032	498,068
	<u>151,728,420</u>	<u>26,911,281</u>	<u>178,639,701</u>
Securities lending collateral – invested (note 7)	9,965,447	1,767,519	11,732,966
Forward foreign exchange contracts (note 6)	101,970	18,086	120,056
Receivables:			
Employers' contributions	3,749,357	471,217	4,220,574
Members' contributions	8	—	8
Member loans	1,067,191	2,725	1,069,916
Investment income	341,935	60,647	402,582
Investment sales	240,234	42,609	282,843
Other	88,288	110,398	198,686
	<u>5,487,013</u>	<u>687,596</u>	<u>6,174,609</u>
Capital assets, at cost, net of accumulated depreciation	160,947	28,546	189,493
	<u>167,443,797</u>	<u>29,413,028</u>	<u>196,856,825</u>
Liabilities:			
Securities lending obligations (note 7)	9,972,478	1,768,765	11,741,243
Forward foreign exchange contracts (note 6)	100,243	17,780	118,023
Accounts payable – investments	758,449	134,522	892,971
Benefits payable	204,081	81,068	285,149
Other liabilities	155,281	23,953	179,234
	<u>11,190,532</u>	<u>2,026,088</u>	<u>13,216,620</u>
Net position, restricted for pension benefits	\$ <u>156,253,265</u>	<u>27,386,940</u>	<u>183,640,205</u>

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Combining Basic Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

Year ended March 31, 2016

(Dollars in thousands)

	Employees' Retirement System	Police and Fire Retirement System	Total
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Additions:			
Income (loss) from investing activities:			
Net depreciation in fair value of investments	\$ (3,344,512)	(590,341)	(3,934,853)
Interest income	1,229,554	217,015	1,446,569
Dividend income	1,354,026	238,984	1,593,010
Other income	874,361	154,324	1,028,685
Less investment expenses	<u>(480,957)</u>	<u>(84,888)</u>	<u>(565,845)</u>
Total loss from investing activities	<u>(367,528)</u>	<u>(64,906)</u>	<u>(432,434)</u>
Income from securities lending activities:			
Securities lending income	31,191	5,505	36,696
Securities lending rebates	13,754	2,428	16,182
Less securities lending management fees	<u>(4,486)</u>	<u>(792)</u>	<u>(5,278)</u>
Total income from securities lending activities	<u>40,459</u>	<u>7,141</u>	<u>47,600</u>
Total net investment loss	<u>(327,069)</u>	<u>(57,765)</u>	<u>(384,834)</u>
Contributions:			
Employers	4,347,619	792,585	5,140,204
Members	289,333	17,298	306,631
Interest on accounts receivable	128,648	15,711	144,359
Other	<u>69,684</u>	<u>118,837</u>	<u>188,521</u>
Total contributions	<u>4,835,284</u>	<u>944,431</u>	<u>5,779,715</u>
Total additions	<u>4,508,215</u>	<u>886,666</u>	<u>5,394,881</u>
Deductions:			
Benefits paid:			
Retirement benefits	(9,045,042)	(1,675,252)	(10,720,294)
Death benefits	(179,861)	(8,329)	(188,190)
Other, net	<u>(150,294)</u>	<u>(1,694)</u>	<u>(151,988)</u>
Total benefits paid	<u>(9,375,197)</u>	<u>(1,685,275)</u>	<u>(11,060,472)</u>
Administrative expenses	<u>(93,012)</u>	<u>(13,608)</u>	<u>(106,620)</u>
Total deductions	<u>(9,468,209)</u>	<u>(1,698,883)</u>	<u>(11,167,092)</u>
Net decrease	<u>(4,959,994)</u>	<u>(812,217)</u>	<u>(5,772,211)</u>
Net position, restricted for pension benefits – beginning of year	<u>161,213,259</u>	<u>28,199,157</u>	<u>189,412,416</u>
Net position, restricted for pension benefits – end of year	<u>\$ 156,253,265</u>	<u>27,386,940</u>	<u>183,640,205</u>

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(1) Description of Plans

The Office of the New York State Comptroller administers the following plans: the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS) and the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System (PFRS), which are collectively referred to as the New York State and Local Retirement System (the System). The net position of the System is held in the New York State Common Retirement Fund (the Fund), which was established to hold all assets and record changes in fiduciary net position allocated to the System.

The Comptroller of the State of New York serves as the trustee of the Fund and is the administrative head of the System. The Comptroller is an elected official determined in a direct statewide election and serves a four-year term. Thomas P. DiNapoli has served as Comptroller since February 7, 2007. In November 2014, he was elected for a new term commencing January 1, 2015. System benefits are established under the provisions of the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law (RSSL). Once a public employer elects to participate in the System, the election is irrevocable. The New York State Constitution provides that pension membership is a contractual relationship and plan benefits cannot be diminished or impaired. Benefits can be changed for future members only by enactment of a State statute. Generally, members of the System are employees of the State and its municipalities, other than New York City.

ERS and PFRS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plans. The System is included in the State's financial report as a pension trust fund. The Public Employees' Group Life Insurance Plan (GLIP) provides death benefits in the form of life insurance. In these statements, GLIP amounts are apportioned to and included in ERS and PFRS.

As of March 31, 2016, the number of participating employers for ERS and PFRS consisted of the following:

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>PFRS</u>
State	1	1
Counties	57	4
Cities	61	61
Towns	913	207
Villages	487	375
Other	793	38
School districts	698	—
	<u>3,010</u>	<u>686</u>
Total	<u><u>3,010</u></u>	<u><u>686</u></u>

As of March 31, 2016, the System membership for ERS and PFRS consisted of the following:

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>PFRS</u>
Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	407,112	33,831
Active members	494,411	31,720
Inactive members *	117,883	3,385
	<u>1,019,406</u>	<u>68,936</u>
Total members and benefit recipients	<u><u>1,019,406</u></u>	<u><u>68,936</u></u>

* Includes vested members not currently receiving benefits and nonvested members.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(a) Membership Tiers

Pension legislation enacted in 1973, 1976, 1983, 2009 and 2012 established distinct classes of membership. For convenience, the System uses a tier concept to distinguish these groups, generally:

ERS

- Tier 1 Those persons who last became members before July 1, 1973.
- Tier 2 Those persons who last became members on or after July 1, 1973, but before July 27, 1976.
- Tier 3 Generally, those persons who are State correction officers who last became members on or after July 27, 1976, but before January 1, 2010, and all others who last became members on or after July 27, 1976, but before September 1, 1983.
- Tier 4 Generally, except for correction officers, those persons who last became members on or after September 1, 1983, but before January 1, 2010.
- Tier 5 Those persons who last became members on or after January 1, 2010, but before April 1, 2012.
- Tier 6 Those persons who first became members on or after April 1, 2012.

PFRS

- Tier 1 Those persons who last became members before July 31, 1973.
- Tier 2 Those persons who last became members on or after July 31, 1973, but before July 1, 2009.
- Tier 3 Those persons who last became members on or after July 1, 2009, but before January 9, 2010.
- Tier 4 N/A
- Tier 5 Those persons who last became members on or after January 9, 2010, but before April 1, 2012, or who were previously PFRS Tier 3 members who elected to become Tier 5.
- Tier 6 Those persons who first became members on or after April 1, 2012.

(b) Vesting

Members who joined the System prior to January 1, 2010 need five years of service to be 100 percent vested. Members who joined on or after January 1, 2010 (ERS) or January 9, 2010 (PFRS) require ten years of service credit to be 100 percent vested.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(c) ***Employer Contributions***

Participating employers are required under the RSSL to contribute to the System at an actuarially determined rate adopted annually by the Comptroller. The average contribution rate for ERS for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016 was approximately 18.2 percent of payroll. The average contribution rate for PFRS for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016 was approximately 24.7 percent of payroll. Delinquent annual bills for employer contributions accrue interest at the actuarial interest rate applicable during the year. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016, the applicable interest rate was 7.5 percent.

(d) ***Member Contributions***

Generally, Tier 3, 4, and 5 members must contribute 3 percent of their salary to the System. As a result of Article 19 of the RSSL, eligible Tier 3 and 4 employees, with a membership date on or after July 27, 1976, who have ten or more years of membership or credited service with the System, are not required to contribute. Members cannot be required to begin making contributions or to make increased contributions beyond what was required when membership began. For Tier 6 members, the contribution rate varies from 3 percent to 6 percent depending on salary. Generally, Tier 5 and 6 members are required to contribute for all years of service.

(e) ***Benefits***

Tiers 1 and 2

Eligibility: Tier 1 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. There is no minimum service requirement for Tier 1 members. Tier 2 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have five years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. The age at which full benefits may be collected for Tier 1 is 55, and the full benefit age for Tier 2 is 62.

Benefit Calculation: Generally, the benefit is 1.67 percent of final average salary for each year of service if the member retires with less than 20 years. If the member retires with 20 or more years of service, the benefit is 2 percent of final average salary for each year of service. Tier 2 members with five or more years of service can retire as early as age 55 with reduced benefits. Tier 2 members age 55 or older with 30 or more years of service can retire with no reduction in benefits. As a result of Article 19 of the RSSL, Tier 1 and Tier 2 members who worked continuously from April 1, 1999 through October 1, 2000 received an additional month of service credit for each year of credited service they have at retirement, up to a maximum of 24 additional months.

Final average salary is the average of the wages earned in the three highest consecutive years of employment. For Tier 1 members who joined on or after June 17, 1971, each year's compensation used in the final average salary calculation is limited to no more than 20% greater than the previous year. For Tier 2 members, each year of final average salary is limited to no more than 20% greater than the average of the previous two years.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

Tiers 3, 4, and 5

Eligibility: Tier 3 and 4 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have five years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. Tier 5 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have ten years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. The full benefit age for Tiers 3, 4 and 5 is 62.

Benefit Calculation: Generally, the benefit is 1.67 percent of final average salary for each year of service if the member retires with less than 20 years. If a member retires with between 20 and 30 years of service, the benefit is 2 percent of final average salary for each year of service. If a member retires with more than 30 years of service, an additional benefit of 1.5 percent of final average salary is applied for each year of service over 30 years. Tier 3 and 4 members with five or more years of service and Tier 5 members with ten or more years of service can retire as early as age 55 with reduced benefits. Tier 3 and 4 members age 55 or older with 30 or more years of service can retire with no reduction in benefits.

Final average salary is the average of the wages earned in the three highest consecutive years of employment. For Tier 3, 4 and 5 members, each year's compensation used in the final average salary calculation is limited to no more than 10 percent greater than the average of the previous two years.

Tier 6

Eligibility: Tier 6 members, with the exception of those retiring under special retirement plans, must have ten years of service and be at least age 55 to be eligible to collect a retirement benefit. The full benefit age for Tier 6 is 63 for ERS members and 62 for PFRS members.

Benefit Calculation: Generally, the benefit is 1.67 percent of final average salary for each year of service if the member retires with less than 20 years. If a member retires with 20 years of service, the benefit is 1.75 percent of final average salary for each year of service. If a member retires with more than 20 years of service, an additional benefit of 2 percent of final average salary is applied for each year of service over 20 years. Tier 6 members with ten or more years of service can retire as early as age 55 with reduced benefits.

Final average salary is the average of the wages earned in the five highest consecutive years of employment. For Tier 6 members, each year's compensation used in the final average salary calculation is limited to no more than 10 percent greater than the average of the previous four years.

Special Plans

The 25-Year Plans allow a retirement after 25 years of service with a benefit of one-half of final average salary, and the 20-Year Plans allow a retirement after 20 years of service with a benefit of one-half of final average salary. These plans are available to certain PFRS members, sheriffs, and correction officers.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

Ordinary Disability Benefits

Generally, ordinary disability benefits, usually one-third of salary, are provided to eligible members after ten years of service; in some cases, they are provided after five years of service.

Accidental Disability Benefits

For all eligible Tier 1 and Tier 2 ERS and PFRS members, the accidental disability benefit is a pension of 75% of final average salary, with an offset for any Workers' Compensation benefits received. The benefit for eligible Tier 3, 4, 5 and 6 members is the ordinary disability benefit with the years-of-service eligibility requirement dropped.

Ordinary Death Benefits

Death benefits are payable upon the death, before retirement, of a member who meets eligibility requirements as set forth by law. The first \$50,000 of an ordinary death benefit is paid in the form of group term life insurance. The benefit is generally three times the member's annual salary. For most members, there is also a reduced post-retirement ordinary death benefit available.

Post-Retirement Benefit Increases

A cost-of-living adjustment is provided annually to: (i) all pensioners who have attained age 62 and have been retired for five years; (ii) all pensioners who have attained age 55 and have been retired for ten years; (iii) all disability pensioners, regardless of age, who have been retired for five years; (iv) ERS recipients of an accidental death benefit, regardless of age, who have been receiving such benefit for five years; and (v) the spouse of a deceased retiree receiving a lifetime benefit under an option elected by the retiree at retirement. An eligible spouse is entitled to one-half the cost-of-living adjustment amount that would have been paid to the retiree when the retiree would have met the eligibility criteria. This cost-of-living adjustment is a percentage of the annual retirement benefit of the eligible member as computed on a base benefit amount not to exceed \$18,000 of the annual retirement benefit. The cost-of-living percentage shall be 50% of the annual Consumer Price Index as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor, but cannot be less than 1 percent or exceed 3 percent.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The System maintains records and accounts, and prepares financial statements using the accrual basis of accounting. Employer contributions are recognized when legally due, pursuant to statutory requirements, in accordance with the terms of each plan. Member contributions are based on earned member salaries and are recognized when due. Benefits, expenses, and refunds are recognized when due and payable.

(b) Investments

Investments are recorded on a trade-date basis and reported at fair value. Fair value is defined as the amount that can reasonably be expected to be received for an investment in a current sale between a willing buyer and a willing seller. Due to the nature of investments, it is reasonable that changes in the value of investments will occur in the near future, and such changes could materially affect the amounts

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

reported. The amounts reported as investments on the financial statements are allocated between ERS and PFRS based on each system's monthly average equity in the Fund. See note 4(c) for detailed information on the System's policy on investment valuation.

(c) ***Member Loan Programs***

Members are entitled to participate in a loan program that allows them to borrow up to 75 percent of their member contributions. Repayment of outstanding amounts is generally made through payroll deductions within five years. The interest rate charged for member loans is fixed at 1 percent below the actuarial interest rate at the time the loan is granted. The rate for loans issued during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016 was 6 percent.

(d) ***Capital Assets***

Capital assets are capitalized at cost and depreciated on a straight-line basis over the related assets' estimated useful lives.

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, the System began capitalizing outlays associated with its data imaging, filing, and storage system. This project was completed in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016. The outlays for the project totaled \$36.64 million.

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2014, the System began capitalizing outlays associated with its pension administration system redesign. As of March 31, 2016, capitalized outlays for the project total \$133.0 million. This project is currently ongoing and is expected to be completed in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019, at which time depreciation of the capitalized costs will begin.

(e) ***Contributions Receivable***

Employers' contributions receivable are presented net of withdrawals, refunds, advance employer payments, and credits due employers. Receivable amounts from participating employers include \$32.91 million for amortization of retirement incentives, new plan adoptions, and retroactive membership. The Retirement and Social Security Law includes several provisions related to the amortization of employer contribution amounts. These include:

- Chapter 260 of the Laws of 2004 authorized local employers to amortize over ten years, at 5 percent interest, the portion of their annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2007 that exceeded 10.5 percent of payroll. The amortized amount receivable from participating employers as of March 31, 2016 is \$2.65 million.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

- Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2010 authorized the State and local employers to amortize a portion of their annual pension costs during periods when actuarial contribution rates exceed thresholds established by the statute. Amortized amounts will be paid in equal annual installments over a ten-year period including a rate of interest set by the Comptroller annually. Employers may prepay these amounts at any time without penalty. The first payment will be due in the fiscal year following the decision to amortize. Chapter 57 further provides that when contribution rates fall below legally specified levels and all outstanding amortizations have been paid, employers that elected to amortize will be required to pay additional moneys into reserve funds, specific to each employer, which will be used to offset their contributions in the future. These reserve funds will be invested separately from pension assets.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2011, the statutory amortization threshold was 9.5 percent of payroll for ERS and 17.5 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller set an interest rate of 5 percent. The amortized amount receivable from the State as of March 31, 2016 is \$136.37 million and from local participating employers is \$23.07 million.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2012, the statutory amortization threshold was 10.5 percent of payroll for ERS and 18.5 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller set an interest rate of 3.75 percent. The amortized amount receivable from the State as of March 31, 2016 is \$354.88 million and from local participating employers is \$131.07 million.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2013, the statutory amortization threshold was 11.5 percent of payroll for ERS and 19.5 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller set an interest rate of 3 percent. The amortized amount receivable from the State as of March 31, 2016 is \$562.94 million and from local participating employers is \$264.31 million.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2014, the statutory amortization threshold was 12.5 percent of payroll for ERS and 20.5 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller set an interest rate of 3.67 percent. The amortized amount receivable from the State as of March 31, 2016 is \$777.93 million and from local participating employers is \$177.69 million.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2015, the statutory amortization threshold was 13.5 percent of payroll for ERS and 21.5 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller set an interest rate of 3.15 percent. The amortized amount receivable from the State as of March 31, 2016 is \$653.07 million and from local participating employers is \$134 million.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2016, the statutory amortization threshold is 14.5 percent of payroll for ERS and 22.5 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller has set an interest rate of 3.21 percent. The amortized amount receivable from the State as of March 31, 2016 is \$357.05 million and from local participating employers is \$67.05 million.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

- The fiscal year 2014 Enacted Budget included an alternate contribution program (the Alternate Contribution Stabilization Program) that provided certain participating employers with a one-time election to amortize slightly more of their required contributions than would be available for amortization under the 2010 legislation. In addition, the maximum payment period was increased from ten years to twelve years. The election was available to: counties, cities, towns, villages, BOCES, school districts and the four public health care centers operated in the counties of Nassau, Westchester and Erie. The State was not eligible to participate in the Alternate Contribution Stabilization Program.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2014, the alternative amortization threshold was 12 percent of payroll for ERS and 20 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller set an interest rate of 3.76 percent. The amortized amount receivable as of March 31, 2016 from participating employers is \$215.65 million.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2015, the alternative amortization threshold was 12 percent of payroll for ERS and 20 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller set an interest rate of 3.5 percent. The amortized amount receivable as of March 31, 2016 from participating employers is \$182.75 million.

For the annual bill for the fiscal year ended 2016, the alternative amortization threshold is 12.5 percent of payroll for ERS and 20.5 percent for PFRS. The Comptroller has set an interest rate of 3.31 percent. The amortized amount receivable as of March 31, 2016 from participating employers is \$134.08 million.

(f) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingencies. These estimates are subject to a certain amount of uncertainty in the near term, which could result in changes in the values reported for those assets in the combined statement of fiduciary net position. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of income/additions and expenses/deductions during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(g) Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, provides guidance for determining a fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes. This Statement also provides guidance for applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value measurements. The System will implement this standard beginning with the financial statements as of and for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2017.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(3) System Reserves

The legally required reserves, as covered by provisions of the RSSL, are maintained by the System, are fully funded as of March 31, 2016, and are described below:

- *Annuity Savings Funds* – Funds in which contributions of Tier 1 and Tier 2 members are accumulated.
- *Annuity Reserve Funds* – Funds from which member contribution annuities are paid.
- *Pension Accumulation Funds* – Funds in which employer contributions and income from the investments of the System are accumulated.
- *Pension Reserve Funds* – Funds from which pensions are paid.
- *Designated Annuitant Funds* – Funds from which beneficiary annuities are paid.
- *Loan Insurance Funds* – Funds that provide loan insurance coverage for members with existing no-default loan balances at time of death.
- *Group Life Insurance Plan Reserve* – Reserves that provide group term death benefits not to exceed \$50,000, payable upon the death of eligible members.
- *Coescalation (COESC) Contribution Funds* – Funds in which member contributions are accumulated. These funds are transferred to the Pension Accumulation Fund at retirement.

As of March 31, 2016, the System reserves for ERS and PFRS consisted of the following:

	ERS	PFRS
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Annuity savings	\$ 4,270	46,067
Annuity reserve	82,638	9,992
Pension accumulation	60,804,402	11,147,961
Pension reserve	86,559,360	16,123,782
Designated annuitant	54,410	21,171
Loan insurance	2,750	104
Group Life Insurance Plan reserve	110,545	3,998
COESC contributions	8,634,890	33,865
Total	\$ 156,253,265	27,386,940

A law pertaining to State University of New York (SUNY) police officers was enacted on December 18, 2015. Chapter 561 of the Retirement and Social Security Law (RSSL) allowed sworn SUNY police officers who were members of the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS) to transfer to the Police and Fire Retirement System (PFRS). Officers who transferred are covered by a special 25-year plan. The transfer requests must have been filed with the System on or before December 31, 2015. SUNY Police Officers hired on or after December 18, 2015 are automatically registered to PFRS and are covered by the special 25-year plan. During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016, pension assets in the amount of \$63.7 million were transferred from ERS to PFRS to reflect the SUNY police transfers.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(4) Investments

(a) *Investment Policy*

The State Comptroller, currently Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, is Trustee of the Fund. He is directly accountable for the investment of Fund assets and for the oversight and management of the Fund. Comptroller DiNapoli is responsible for implementing an asset allocation with an appropriate balance of risk and return. The Trustee has put in place investment policies and practices designed to ensure that investments are made for the exclusive benefit of the participants and beneficiaries of the System, on whose behalf the assets of the Fund are invested, and that Fund investments are made with the care that a prudent person serving in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of like character and with like aims – the “prudent person” and “exclusive benefit” fiduciary standards of investment. Additionally, the Trustee has adopted policies and practices to ensure that the Fund is managed with high levels of ethical conduct and transparency.

The Comptroller seeks the input of a wide range of internal and external advisors to determine the allocation of assets and the appropriate investment choices for the Fund. Approximately sixty employees work in the Office of the State Comptroller’s Division of Pension Investment and Cash Management (PICM). The Comptroller appoints a Chief Investment Officer to oversee PICM operations, manage staff, and supervise investments on a day-to-day basis. The Fund also relies on advice from a network of outside advisors, consultants, and legal counsel, as well as the members of independent external advisory committees appointed by the Comptroller. Outside advisors and internal investment staff are part of the chain of approval that must recommend all investment decisions before they reach the Comptroller for final approval.

The asset allocation is not intended to be an absolute limit on the type of investments that can be made by the Comptroller or considered by staff. The Comptroller is expressly permitted to invest the assets of the Fund pursuant to various provisions of State law, including, among others, sections 13, 176, 177, 178, and 313 of the RSSL, which also contains limitations on the amount and quality of investments the Fund may hold in certain asset categories. Investments purchased pursuant to these provisions are so-called “legal list” investments. In addition to the foregoing, section 177(9) of the RSSL contains a provision that currently provides that up to 25 percent of the Fund’s assets may be placed in investments not specifically authorized by any other provision of law. In making investments under this provision, the Comptroller is subject to the prudent person and exclusive benefit provisions in the statute. Subject to such standards, investments made under this provision must also, to the extent reasonably possible, benefit the overall economic health of the State. Investments purchased pursuant to section 177(9) of the RSSL are so-called “basket clause” investments.

The external advisory committees appointed by the Comptroller meet periodically throughout the year and provide independent, expert assistance in guiding the Fund. These committees include: the Advisory Council for the Retirement System; the Investment Advisory Committee; the Real Estate Advisory Committee; the Actuarial Advisory Committee; and the Audit Advisory Committee.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(b) Asset Allocation

The following was the adopted asset allocation policy as of March 31, 2016:

<u>Asset class</u>	<u>Target allocation</u>
Domestic equity	38.0%
International equity	13.0
Private equity	10.0
Real estate	8.0
Absolute return strategies	3.0
Opportunistic funds	3.0
Real assets	3.0
Bonds and mortgages	18.0
Cash	2.0
Inflation-indexed bonds	2.0
	<u>100.0%</u>

(c) Methods Used to Value Investments

Equity securities traded on a national or international exchange are reported at current quoted fair values.

Bonds and other fixed assets are primarily reported at fair values obtained from independent pricing services.

Mortgages are valued on the basis of future principal and interest payments and are discounted at prevailing interest rates for similar instruments.

Direct investments in real estate are valued based on independent appraisals made every three years or according to the fund agreement.

Real estate partnerships are reported at values provided by general partners. These values are based on discounted cash flows, comparative sales, capitalization rates applied to net operating income, or if none of the preceding fit a property's attributes and strategy, at cost.

For various alternative investments (private equity, absolute return strategies, opportunistic funds, and real assets) where no readily ascertainable fair value exists, management in consultation with its investment advisors will value these investments in good faith based upon reported net asset values, cash-flow analysis, purchases and sales of similar investments, new financings, economic conditions, other practices used within the industry, or other information provided by the underlying investment advisors. Because of the inherent uncertainty in privately held securities, the fair value may differ from the values that would have been used if a ready market for such securities existed, and the difference can be material.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

The Fund trades in foreign exchange contracts in the normal course of its investing activities in order to manage exposure to market risks. Such contracts, which are generally for a period of less than one year, are used to purchase and sell foreign currency at a guaranteed future price. These contracts are recorded at fair value using foreign currency exchange rates.

(d) Rates of Return

In accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the money-weighted rate of return on plan investments, net of investment expenses, was 0.03 percent for the year ended March 31, 2016. For internal purposes, the System evaluates investment performance using the time-weighted rate of return, gross of certain investment fees, which was 0.19 percent for the year ended March 31, 2016.

(5) Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure

(a) Custodial Credit Risk for Investments

Investment securities are exposed to custodial credit risk if the securities are not registered in the name of the Fund, or are held either by the counterparty or the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the name of the Fund.

Equity and fixed income investments owned directly by the Fund, which trade in the United States (U.S.) markets, are generally held by the Fund's custodian, in separate accounts, in the name of the Comptroller of the State of New York in Trust for the Fund. These securities are typically held in electronic form through the Federal Book Entry System and by the Depository Trust Company (DTC) and its subsidiaries acting as an agent of the Fund's custodian bank. Securities held directly by the Fund that trade in markets outside the U.S. are held by a subsidiary of the Fund's custodian bank in the local market, a bank performing custodial services in the local market acting as an agent for the Fund's custodian bank, and in some foreign markets, the securities are held in electronic form by a DTC subsidiary or an organization similar to DTC. Fixed income investments that are not held by the Fund's custodian are held by third-party administrators in the name of the Comptroller of the State of New York in Trust for the Fund.

Equity investments held indirectly by the Fund via limited partnerships, commingled investment funds, joint ventures, and other similar vehicles are held in custody by an organization contracted by the general partner and/or the investment management firm responsible for the management of each investment organization.

Title to real estate invested in by the Fund is held either by a real estate holding company or a real estate investment fund. Ownership of mortgage assets is documented by the Fund's holding of original mortgage and note documents by the Office of the State Comptroller's PICM.

(b) Custodial Credit Risk for Deposits

Deposits are exposed to custodial credit risk if the deposits are not covered by depository insurance or the deposits are uncollateralized, collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution's trust department or agent, but not in the name of the Fund.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

In accordance with existing policies and procedures, the PICM in the Office of the State Comptroller monitors deposit balances for the purpose of determining collateralization levels. Collateral sufficient to cover all uninsured deposits is held at the State's custodial bank.

(c) Interest Rate Risk

The System is subject to interest rate risk, which is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of the Fund's fixed income securities. Pursuant to the Fund's investment policies and procedures and to address changing economic factors and their impact on various sectors of the economy, the Division's staff meets regularly to discuss the investment strategy for the fixed income portfolio. Several factors are taken into account when formulating this strategy, including sector weightings and the current duration of the portfolio.

The price volatility of the Fund's fixed income holdings is measured by duration. Effective duration is a measure of the price sensitivity of a bond to interest rate movements. Effective duration follows the concept that interest rates and bond prices move in opposite directions.

As of March 31, 2016, the duration of the fixed income portfolio is as follows (dollars in thousands):

<u>Bond category</u>	<u>Fair value</u>	<u>Percentage of bond portfolio</u>	<u>Effective duration (In years)</u>
Core portfolio:			
Treasury	\$ 5,599,754	12.5%	8.66
Federal agency	2,033,357	4.6	5.23
Corporate	14,378,582	32.2	6.39
Asset-backed	2,382,686	5.3	1.78
Commercial mortgage-backed	1,716,539	3.8	2.87
Mortgage-backed	4,974,643	11.1	3.54
Collateralized loan obligations	2,947,060	6.6	0.02
Municipal bonds	382,373	0.9	10.55
Core portfolio	34,414,994	77.0	5.27
Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS)	6,658,845	14.9	5.52
Externally managed funds:			
BlackRock Fixed Income	1,997,256	4.5	2.95
Neuberger Berman Fixed Income	1,022,589	2.3	2.39
Semper Capital Management	247,158	0.6	1.32
Smith Graham	320,358	0.7	3.50
Total	\$ <u>44,661,200</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(d) Credit Risk of Debt Securities

Fixed income obligations purchased pursuant to section 177(1-a) of the RSSL must be investment grade at the time of their acquisition. A bond is considered investment grade if its credit rating is Baa or higher by Moody's or BBB- or higher by Standard & Poor's. Fixed income obligations purchased pursuant to section 177(9) of the RSSL, the "basket clause," are subject to a standard of prudence. As of March 31, 2016, credit ratings, obtained from several industry rating services, for the fixed income portfolio are as follows (dollars in thousands):

<u>Quality rating</u>	<u>Fair value</u>	<u>Percentage of fair value</u>
AAA	\$ 24,233,307	54.25%
AA	4,237,770	9.49
A	5,820,883	13.03
BAA	5,703,566	12.77
BBB	802,548	1.80
BA	542,116	1.21
BB	61,920	0.14
B	132,829	0.30
CAA	80,494	0.18
CA	2,479	0.01
C	3,196	0.01
Not rated	20,247	0.05
Externally managed funds: ¹		
Black Rock Fixed Income		
Range AAA to C & Not Rated	1,997,256	4.47
Neuberger Berman Fixed Income		
Range AAA to CAA & Not Rated	1,022,589	2.29
Total	\$ <u>44,661,200</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

¹ These externally managed funds are part of the "basket clause" investments described in note 4(a). Approximately 75 percent of the holdings in each of these funds are rated as non investment grade or not rated. The remaining holdings in these funds as rated investment grade or above.

(e) Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of the Fund's investment in a single issuer.

As of March 31, 2016, the System did not hold any investments in any one issuer that totaled 5 percent or more of the pension plan's fiduciary net position. Investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government and pooled investments are excluded.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

Issuer limits for investments held by the Fund are established by law and by policy guidelines adopted by the PICM.

Short-term fixed income investments not purchased pursuant to section 177(9) of the RSSL are generally limited to the following investment types maturing in one year or less:

- Obligations for which the full faith and credit of the U.S. is pledged to provide payment of interest and principal.
- Obligations issued by any Federal Home Loan Bank or obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.
- Commercial paper that has received the highest rating from two nationally recognized rating services. A maximum of \$1 billion of the short-term portfolio may be invested in any one commercial paper issuer.
- Simultaneous purchase and sale of U.S. Treasury obligations may be executed with Primary Government Dealers. A maximum of \$200 million may be invested with any one Primary Government Dealer.
- Corporate and asset-backed securities (ABS) that are rated investment grade by two nationally recognized rating services. ABS must have a weighted average life of one year or less.

Short-term fixed income investments purchased pursuant to section 177(9) of the RSSL are subject to the specific prudent person investor and exclusive benefit provisions of this statute. Subject to such standards, investments made under section 177(9) must, to the extent reasonably possible, benefit the overall economic health of the State.

Fixed income investments not purchased pursuant to section 177(9) of the RSSL are generally limited to the following investment types with maturities longer than one year:

- Obligations for which the full faith and credit of the U.S. is pledged to provide payment of principal and interest.
- Obligations payable in U.S. dollars issued by any department, agency, or political subdivision of the U.S. government or issued by any corporation, company, or other issuer of any kind or description created or existing under the laws of the U.S., any state of the U.S., the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and obligations payable in U.S. funds of Canada or any province or city of Canada, provided each obligation at the time of investment shall be rated investment grade by two nationally recognized rating services (or by one nationally recognized rating service in the event only one such service rates such obligation). The aggregate investment by the Fund in the obligations of any one issuer shall not exceed 2% of the assets of the Fund or 5 percent of the direct liabilities of the issuer.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

- Interest-bearing obligations payable in U.S. funds, which at the time of investment are rated in one of the three highest rating grades by each rating service approved by the New York State Department of Financial Services that has rated such obligations. The aggregate amount invested in the obligations of any single issuer may not exceed 1 percent of the assets of the Fund.
- Bonds issued or guaranteed by the State of Israel and approved by the United States Comptroller of the Currency, payable in U.S. dollars, not to exceed 5 percent of the assets of the Fund.
- Obligations issued or guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (not to exceed 5 percent of the assets of the Fund), the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, or the African Development Bank.

Fixed income investments purchased pursuant to section 177(9) of the RSSL are subject to the specific prudent person investor and exclusive benefit provisions of this statute. Subject to such standards, investments made under section 177(9) must, to the extent reasonably possible, benefit the overall economic health of the State.

(f) Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment or a deposit. The Fund has exposure through direct investments in international equities, international equity commingled funds, international fixed income investments, international real estate investments, international absolute return strategies, international private equity investments, international opportunistic funds, and international real asset funds. The Fund's asset allocation and investment policies allow for active and passive investments in international securities. The Fund permits the managers of direct investments in international equities to use forward currency contracts to manage their exposure to foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar. Where the Fund participates in commingled funds, limited partnerships, or other investment arrangements, the decision whether or not to use forward currency contracts to manage their foreign currency exposure is left up to the individual investment managers. To address the impact of changes in exchange rates, only forward foreign exchange contracts of one year or less are allowed when used to lessen portfolio volatility or hedge the portfolio's currency exposure.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

Foreign investments included in the combining basic statement of fiduciary net position as of March 31, 2016 are as follows (dollars in thousands):

	<u>Fixed income</u>	<u>Equity</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Real estate</u>	<u>Private equity, opportunistic, absolute return strategy and real asset funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Angolan Kwanza	\$ 3,175	—	—	—	210	3,385
Argentine Peso	39,860	—	—	508	8,872	49,240
Armenian Dram	2,286	—	—	—	—	2,286
Australian Dollar	351,963	355,061	2,507	53,625	76,293	839,449
Azerbaijani New Manat	6,539	—	—	—	—	6,539
Bahamian Dollar	—	—	—	846	(7,139)	(6,293)
Bermudian Dollar	1,796	—	—	—	61,605	63,401
Bolivian Boliviano	699	—	—	—	—	699
Brazilian Real	73,698	140,897	773	39,726	123,970	379,064
British Pound Sterling	581,932	1,940,760	3,867	384,482	1,282,748	4,193,789
Bulgarian Lev	—	—	—	30	7,496	7,526
Burmese Kyat	—	—	—	—	10,301	10,301
Canadian Dollar	800,781	198,117	92	1,317	395,569	1,395,876
Cayman Islands Dollar	107,697	—	—	—	2,555,503	2,663,200
Central African CFA Franc	1,620	—	—	39	105,838	107,497
Chilean Peso	76,809	5,633	—	—	(750)	81,692
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	470,940	—	—	342,993	1,381,890	2,195,823
Colombian Peso	21,401	4,275	—	78	460	26,214
Costa Rican Colon	1,526	—	—	52	5	1,583
Croatian Kuna	13,479	—	—	20	3,382	16,881
Czech Koruna	256	—	121	1,915	12,310	14,602
Danish Krone	4,846	264,228	176	55,191	142,788	467,229
Dominican Peso	24,508	—	—	32	109	24,649
Egyptian Pound	3,170	3,876	34	271	4,575	11,926
Ethiopian Birr	591	—	—	128	70	789
Euro	742,699	2,344,871	71,411	981,616	1,189,445	5,330,042
Ghanaian Cedi	4,558	—	—	—	23,866	28,424
Guatemalan Quetzal	2,106	—	—	—	(70)	2,036
Hong Kong Dollar	181,188	636,273	165	133,896	45,190	996,712
Hungarian Forint	24,222	9,914	98	28	10,351	44,613
Icelandic Krona	—	—	—	16	15,675	15,691
Indian Rupee	52,673	124,545	2,841	42,114	283,395	505,568
Indonesian Rupiah	61,702	43,719	159	33	26,199	131,812
Iraqi Dinar	2,923	—	—	—	146	3,069
Israeli Shekel	166,156	15,102	707	486	108,291	290,742
Jamaican Dollar	4,669	—	—	129	—	4,798
Japanese Yen	236,122	1,551,227	2,187	100,492	239,875	2,129,903
Kazakhstani Tenge	13,971	—	—	—	462	14,433
Kenyan Shilling	2,951	—	—	29	7,998	10,978
Malaysian Ringgit	3,435	62,871	803	106	23,395	90,610
Maldivian Rufiyaa	—	—	—	2,430	2,552	4,982
Mauritian Rupee	—	—	—	341	51,650	51,991
Mexican Peso	307,454	56,437	255	15,467	51,782	431,395
Mongolian Togrog	12,895	—	—	—	49	12,944
Moroccan Dirham	21,572	—	—	493	(246)	21,819
New Taiwan Dollar	1,681	238,471	7,822	2,269	1,273	251,516
New Zealand Dollar	34,425	3,593	—	50	2,021	40,089
Nigerian Naira	1,610	20	1	90	7,144	8,865
Norwegian Krone	122,179	38,625	271	487	79,588	241,150

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

	<u>Fixed income</u>	<u>Equity</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Real estate</u>	<u>Private equity, opportunistic, absolute return strategy and real asset funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pakistani Rupee	\$ 4,908	—	—	—	—	4,908
Panamanian Balboa	14,024	—	—	29	392	14,445
Paraguayan Guarani	2,417	—	—	—	—	2,417
Peruvian Nuevo Sol	13,461	—	1	46	7,923	21,431
Philippine Peso	13,680	14,603	7	—	7,297	35,587
Polish Zloty	—	26,438	191	4,175	29,925	60,729
Qatar Rial	—	3,113	—	60	—	3,173
Romanian Leu	4,169	—	—	368	4,373	8,910
Russian Ruble	27,728	—	—	3,193	56,544	87,465
Serbian Dinar	6,081	—	—	—	—	6,081
Singapore Dollar	4,456	160,338	39	1,807	40,962	207,602
South African Rand	50,004	163,508	641	492	30,978	245,623
South Korean Won	342,424	501,549	552	2,941	103,981	951,447
Sri Lankan Rupee	20,794	—	—	20	262	21,076
Swedish Krona	—	351,810	422	181,722	2,549	536,503
Swiss Franc	46,562	781,752	392	1,115	235,901	1,065,722
Thai Baht	—	56,558	—	6,783	(235)	63,106
Tunisian Dinar	1,420	—	—	—	—	1,420
Turkish Lira New	123,078	39,705	57	4,468	54,446	221,754
Ukrainian Hryvnia	12,745	—	—	1,598	2,279	16,622
United Arab Emirates Dirham	24,869	12,986	14	11,300	1,824	50,993
Uruguayan Peso	7,286	—	—	35	—	7,321
Venezuelan Bolivar	22,764	—	—	2,327	10,603	35,694
Vietnamese Dong	4,365	—	—	9	4,317	8,691
West African CFA Franc	14,239	—	—	—	—	14,239
Zambian Kwacha	1,520	—	—	—	367	1,887
Other	4,824	—	—	712	(364)	5,172
Total subject to foreign currency risk	5,358,581	10,150,875	96,606	2,385,025	8,930,460	26,921,547
Commingled international equity in U.S. Dollars	—	14,947,581	—	—	—	14,947,581
Foreign investments in U.S. Dollars	—	4,112,880	—	4,415	4,850,759	8,968,054
Total foreign investments	\$ 5,358,581	29,211,336	96,606	2,389,440	13,781,219	50,837,182

(6) Derivatives

A derivative is generally defined as an investment contract or security with a value that depends on, or is derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate, or financial index. The System has classified the following as derivatives:

Forward Currency Contracts

The System may enter into forward currency contracts to manage exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates on portfolio holdings. The System also enters into forward exchange contracts to settle future obligations. A forward exchange contract is a commitment to purchase or sell a foreign currency at a future date at a negotiated forward rate. A contract is classified as a forward contract when the settlement date is

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

more than two days after the trade date. Risk associated with such contracts includes movement in the value of a foreign currency relative to the U.S. dollar. The contracts are valued at forward exchange rates and include net appreciation/depreciation in the combining statement of fiduciary net position. Realized gain or loss on forward currency contracts is the difference between the original contract and the closing value of such contract and is included in the combining basic statement of changes in fiduciary net position.

The table below summarizes the fair value of foreign currency contracts as of March 31, 2016 (dollars in thousands):

Currency	Forward currency contracts	Spot currency contracts	Totals
Australian Dollar	\$ 8,688	(228)	8,460
Brazilian Real	—	(181)	(181)
British Pound Sterling	(12,736)	(5,146)	(17,882)
Canadian Dollar	12,139	(28)	12,111
Colombian Peso	—	164	164
Danish Krone	—	(1,002)	(1,002)
Euro	(23,259)	5,209	(18,050)
Hong Kong Dollar	9,341	(4,843)	4,498
Hungarian Forint	—	805	805
Indian Rupee	(2)	(99)	(101)
Indonesia Rupiah	—	757	757
Japanese Yen	22,532	(3,060)	19,472
Malaysian Ringgit	—	(511)	(511)
Mexican Peso	454	—	454
New Taiwan Dollar	—	(4,709)	(4,709)
Norwegian Krone	—	(138)	(138)
Polish Zloty	—	(2,764)	(2,764)
Qatar Rial	(139)	—	(139)
Singapore Dollar	223	—	223
South African Rand	5,575	—	5,575
South Korean Won	—	(2,651)	(2,651)
Swedish Krona	—	(915)	(915)
Swiss Franc	(6,394)	—	(6,394)
Thai Baht	—	(592)	(592)
Turkish Lira New	—	(736)	(736)
U.S. Dollar	(13,033)	20,626	7,593
United Arab Emirates Dirham	(1,356)	—	(1,356)
Total	\$ 2,033	(42)	1,991

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(7) Securities Lending Program

Section 177-d of the RSSL authorizes the Fund to enter into security loan agreements with broker/dealers and state or national banks. The Fund has designated its master custodian bank (the custodian) to manage a securities lending program. This program is subject to a written contract between the Fund and the custodian who acts as securities lending agent for the Fund. The custodian is authorized to lend securities within the borrower limits and guidelines established by the Fund. Types of collateral received from borrowers for securities loaned are cash, government securities, and obligations of federal agencies. The custodian is authorized to invest the cash collateral in short-term investments that are legal for the Fund. These include domestic corporate and bank notes, U.S. Treasury obligations, obligations of federal agencies, repurchase agreements, and specific asset-backed securities. All rights of ownership to securities pledged as collateral remain with the borrower except in the event of default. As of March 31, 2016, there were no violations of legal or contractual provisions. The Fund did not experience any losses resulting from the default of a borrower or lending agent during the year ended March 31, 2016.

The Fund lends fixed income, domestic equity, and international equity securities to approved broker/dealers. Collateral for securities loaned equals 102 percent of fair value for domestic securities and 105% for international securities. Credit risk associated with the investment of cash collateral pledged by borrowers is mitigated by the maturity restrictions, percentage limitations, and rating requirements for individual asset classes included in the Fund's reinvestment guidelines. The custodian acknowledges responsibility to reimburse the Fund for losses that might arise from managing the program in a manner inconsistent with the contract. The Fund manages its market risk by recording investments at fair value daily and maintaining the value of the collateral held by the Fund in excess of the value of the securities loaned. As of March 31, 2016, the fair value of securities on loan was \$13.66 billion. The associated collateral was \$13.99 billion, of which \$11.76 billion was cash collateral and \$2.23 billion was securities. The cash collateral has been reinvested in other instruments, which had a fair value of \$11.73 billion as of March 31, 2016. The securities lending obligations were \$11.74 billion. The unrealized loss in invested cash collateral on March 31, 2016 was \$8.28 million, which is reported in the combining basic statement of changes in fiduciary net position as part of "Net depreciation in fair value of investments."

All open security loans can be terminated on demand by either the Fund or the borrower. To provide sufficient liquidity, the policy of the Fund is to maintain a minimum of 10% collateral in overnight investments. While the Fund's Securities Lending Investment Guidelines allow investments of up to a maximum of three years for U.S. Treasury and federal agency obligations and one year for all other investments, the average term of open security loans at March 31, 2016 was 35 days. All loans were open loans. There were no direct matching loans.

On March 4, 2013, a securities lending collateral deficiency was realized in the amount of \$127.14 million and agreed to be repaid to the lending agent through future earnings commencing with revenues earned effective April 1, 2013 and continuing in the future until the deficiency is reimbursed in full. The securities lending collateral deficiency is due to a loss in the reinvestment of cash collateral. Investment guidelines have been strengthened to mitigate future losses. At March 31, 2016, the balance of the securities lending collateral deficiency was \$20.33 million.

The collateral pool is valued at fair value obtained from independent pricing services.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(8) Net Pension Liability of Participating Employers

The components of the net pension liability of the employers participating in the system as of March 31, 2016, were as follows:

	<u>Employees' retirement system</u>	<u>Police and fire retirement system</u>	<u>Total</u>
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Employers' total pension liability	\$ 172,303,544	30,347,727	202,651,271
Fiduciary net position	<u>156,253,265</u>	<u>27,386,940</u>	<u>183,640,205</u>
Employers' net pension liability	<u>\$ 16,050,279</u>	<u>2,960,787</u>	<u>19,011,066</u>
Ratio of fiduciary net position to the employers' total pension liability	90.7%	90.2%	90.6%

(a) Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability at March 31, 2016 was determined by using an actuarial valuation as of April 1, 2015, with update procedures used to roll forward the total pension liability to March 31, 2016. The actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions:

	<u>ERS</u>	<u>PFRS</u>
Inflation	2.5%	2.5%
Salary increases	3.8	4.5
Investment rate of return (net of investment expense, including inflation)	7.0	7.0
Cost of living adjustments	1.3%	1.3%

Annuitant mortality rates are based on April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2015 System experience with adjustments for mortality improvements based on the Society of Actuaries' Scale MP-2014.

The actuarial assumptions used in the April 1, 2015 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2015.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expenses and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges 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 and by adding expected inflation.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of March 31, 2016 (see Investment policy – note 4(a)) are summarized below:

<u>Asset class</u>	<u>Long-term expected real rate of return</u>
Domestic equity	7.30%
International equity	8.55
Private equity	11.00
Real estate	8.25
Absolute return strategies	6.75
Opportunistic portfolio	8.60
Real assets	8.65
Bonds and mortgages	4.00
Cash	2.25
Inflation-indexed bonds	4.00

(b) Discount Rate

The discount rate used to calculate the total pension liability was 7.0 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially. Based upon the assumptions, the System’s fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of 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 total pension liability.

(c) Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to the Discount Rate Assumption

The following presents the current-period net pension liability of the employers calculated using the current-period discount rate assumption of 7.0 percent, as well as what the net pension liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (6.0 percent) or one percentage-point higher (8.0 percent) than the current assumption (dollars in thousands):

	<u>One percent decrease (6.0%)</u>	<u>Current assumption (7.0%)</u>	<u>One percent increase (8.0%)</u>
ERS net pension liability (asset)	\$ 36,192,213	16,050,279	(968,795)
PFRS net pension liability (asset)	6,613,230	2,960,787	(100,751)

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

(9) Federal Income Tax Status

ERS and PFRS are qualified defined benefit retirement plans under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and are exempt from federal income taxes. ERS and PFRS last received favorable determination letters from the Internal Revenue Service dated August 28, 2014 stating that ERS and PFRS are in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the System's financial statements.

(10) Commitments

As of March 31, 2016, the System had contractual commitments totaling \$11.45 billion to fund future private equity investments, \$5.19 billion to fund future real estate investments, \$1.67 billion for opportunistic funds, \$40 million to fund absolute return strategies and \$720 million to fund future real asset investments. Future commitments will be funded over the commitment period through transaction income including distributions, redemptions, and maturities.

(11) Contingencies

The System is a defendant in litigation proceedings involving individual benefit payments, participant eligibility, and other issues arising from its normal activities. Management of the System believes there will be no material adverse effect on the basic financial statements as a result of the outcome of these matters.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Schedule of Changes in the Employers' Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)

	2016	2015
	Employees' Retirement System	Employees' Retirement System
Total pension liability:		
Service cost	\$ 2,916,374	2,989,807
Interest	11,198,823	11,581,437
Difference between expected and actual experience	(2,378,116)	135,177
Changes in assumptions	5,350,157	—
Benefit payments	(9,224,904)	(8,829,751)
Other, net	(150,294)	(77,388)
Net change in total pension liability	7,712,040	5,799,282
Total pension liability—beginning	164,591,504	158,792,222
Total pension liability—ending (a)	172,303,544	164,591,504
Fiduciary net position:		
Contributions—employer	4,347,619	4,893,110
Contributions—member	289,332	272,004
Net investment income (loss)	(327,068)	10,582,102
Benefit payments	(9,224,904)	(8,829,751)
Refunds of contributions	(150,294)	(77,388)
Administrative expense	(93,012)	(93,357)
Other additions	198,333	193,176
Net change in fiduciary net position	(4,959,994)	6,939,896
Fiduciary net position—beginning	161,213,259	154,273,363
Fiduciary net position—ending (b)	156,253,265	161,213,259
Net pension liability—ending (a) – (b)	\$ 16,050,279	3,378,245
Ratio of fiduciary net position to total pension liability	90.7%	97.9%
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 24,364,056	24,480,045
Net pension liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	65.9%	13.8%

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See accompanying independent auditors' report and notes to required supplementary information.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Schedule of Changes in the Employers' Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	<u>Police and Fire Retirement System</u>	<u>Police and Fire Retirement System</u>
Total pension liability:		
Service cost	\$ 628,863	625,648
Interest	1,935,222	1,997,215
Difference between expected and actual experience	(537,163)	39,833
Changes in assumptions	1,531,662	—
Benefit payments	(1,683,580)	(1,606,417)
Other, net	(1,694)	(158)
Net change in total pension liability	1,873,310	1,056,121
Total pension liability—beginning	28,474,417	27,418,296
Total pension liability—ending (a)	30,347,727	28,474,417
Fiduciary net position:		
Contributions—employer	792,585	904,339
Contributions—member	17,297	12,789
Net investment income (loss)	(57,765)	1,862,789
Benefit payments	(1,683,580)	(1,606,417)
Refunds of contributions	(1,694)	(158)
Administrative expense	(13,608)	(13,794)
Other additions	134,548	37,623
Net change in fiduciary net position	(812,217)	1,197,171
Fiduciary net position—beginning	28,199,157	27,001,986
Fiduciary net position—ending (b)	27,386,940	28,199,157
Net pension liability—ending (a) – (b)	\$ 2,960,787	275,260
Ratio of fiduciary net position to total pension liability	90.2%	99.0%
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 3,232,589	3,257,100
Net pension liability as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	91.6%	8.5%

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See accompanying independent auditors' report and notes to required supplementary information.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Schedule of Employer Contributions

(Unaudited)

(Dollars in millions)

	Employees' Retirement System									
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Actuarially determined contribution (1)	\$ 4,348	4,893	5,138	4,524	3,879	3,623	1,879	1,963	2,135	2,216
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution (2)	4,348	4,893	5,138	4,524	3,879	3,623	1,879	1,963	2,135	2,216
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Covered-employee payroll (3)	\$ 24,364	24,480	24,361	24,405	24,291	24,389	24,972	24,099	22,779	22,018
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	17.85%	19.99%	21.09%	18.54%	15.97%	14.86%	7.52%	8.15%	9.37%	10.06%
	Police and Fire Retirement System									
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Actuarially determined contribution (1)	\$ 793	904	926	812	706	542	465	493	513	502
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution (2)	793	904	926	812	706	542	465	493	513	502
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Covered-employee payroll (3)	\$ 3,232	3,257	3,233	3,163	3,191	3,146	3,113	2,970	2,926	2,825
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	24.54%	27.76%	28.64%	25.67%	22.12%	17.23%	14.94%	16.60%	17.53%	17.77%

(1) The actuarially determined contribution includes normal costs, the GLIP amounts, adjustments made to record the reconciliation of projected salary to actual salary and miscellaneous accounting adjustments.

(2) The contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution reflects actual payments and installment payment plans.

(3) Covered-employee payroll represents pensionable payroll.

See accompanying independent auditors' report and notes to required supplementary information.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Schedule of Investment Returns

(Unaudited)

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Annual money-weighted rate of return, net of investment expenses	0.03%	6.98%

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Notes to Required Supplementary Information (Unaudited)

Year ended March 31, 2016

Changes in Benefit Terms

There were no significant legislative changes in benefits for the April 1, 2014 actuarial valuation.

Changes of Assumptions

There was a change in assumption for the pensioner mortality improvement in the April 1, 2014 actuarial valuation from the Society of Actuaries' Scale AA to Scale MP-2014.

Methods and Assumptions Used in Calculations of Actuarially Determined Contributions

The April 1, 2014 actuarial valuation determines the employer rates for contributions payable in fiscal year 2016. The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used:

Actuarial cost method	The System is funded using the Aggregate Cost Method. All unfunded actuarial liabilities are evenly amortized (as a percentage of projected pay) over the remaining worker lifetimes of the valuation cohort.
Asset valuation period	5 year level smoothing of the difference between the actual gain and the expected gain using the assumed investment rate of return.
Inflation	2.7%
Salary scale	4.9% in ERS, 6.0% in PFRS, indexed by service
Investment rate of return	7.5% compounded annually, net of investment expenses, including inflation.
Cost of living adjustments	1.4% annually

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Schedule of Administrative Expenses

Year ended March 31, 2016

(Dollars in thousands)

Personal services:	
Salaries	\$ 54,665
Overtime salaries	2,435
Fringe benefits	28,075
Total personal services	<u>85,175</u>
Building occupancy expenses:	
Building, lease and condominium fees	3,424
Utilities and municipal assessments	108
Office supplies and services	287
Telephone	680
Total building occupancy expenses	<u>4,499</u>
Computer expenses:	
IT shared services ¹	<u>10,635</u>
Total computer expenses	<u>10,635</u>
Personal and operating expenses:	
Training	90
Travel and auto expenses – includes pre-retirement seminars	1,160
Postage – includes member and retiree communication	1,576
Printing – includes member and retiree communication	261
Subscriptions/memberships	128
Total personal and operating expenses	<u>3,215</u>
Professional expenses:	
Audit services	1,064
Medical/clinical services	1,470
Miscellaneous consulting services	562
Total professional expenses	<u>3,096</u>
Total	<u>\$ 106,620</u>

¹ The System is implementing a shared service, information technology (IT) model within the Office of the State Comptroller, wherein all IT costs, including personal services, will be incorporated into the IT shared services and reflected as nonpersonal service expenditures.

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Schedule of Investment Expenses

Year ended March 31, 2016

(Dollars in thousands)

Investment expenses:

Investment management and incentive fees:

Absolute return strategy funds	\$ 150,183
Private equity	138,799
International equity	81,617
Real estate	55,328
Domestic equity	46,754
Opportunistic funds	28,812
Real assets	14,189
Fixed income	12,717
	<hr/>
Total investment management and incentive fees	528,399

Investment-related expenses:

General consulting	8,582
Miscellaneous expenses	7,661
Data processing expenses/licenses	5,364
Real estate consulting and monitoring	3,527
Mortgage loan servicing fees	2,914
Private equity consulting and monitoring	2,597
Legal fees	2,330
Absolute return strategy consulting and monitoring	1,999
Administrative expenses	1,255
Real assets consulting and monitoring	587
Audit and audit-related fees ¹	413
Custodial fees	122
Domestic equity consulting and monitoring	69
Global equity consulting	26
	<hr/>
Total investment-related expenses	37,446
	<hr/>
Total investment expenses	\$ 565,845

¹ “Audit and audit-related fees” include expenses incurred for the system’s fiduciary review.

See accompanying independent auditors’ report.

NEW YORK STATE AND LOCAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Schedule of Consulting Fees

Year ended March 31, 2016

Fees in excess of \$25,000 paid to outside professionals other than investment advisors.

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Nature</u>
Seward & Kissel, LLP	\$ 688,315	Legal Services
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP	494,408	Legal Services
Foster, Pepper & Shefelman, PLLC	398,311	Legal Services
KPMG LLP	239,183	Audit Services
Funston Advisory Services	173,600	Audit Services
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP	165,847	Legal Services
D & D Medical Associates, PC	160,336	Medical Services
FCME Management, Inc.	151,336	Medical Services
Nixon Peabody, LLP	141,863	Legal Services
Jeffrey M. Meyer MD, PLLC	93,132	Medical Services
Regional Orthopaedics, PLLC	91,525	Medical Services
Mayer, Brown, LLP	80,635	Legal Services
K&L Gates, LLP	80,110	Legal Services
Seyfarth Shaw, LLP	70,000	Legal Services
First Choice Evaluations	66,162	Medical Services
Jackson Walker, LLP	57,744	Legal Services
Michael Lynch	42,340	Medical Services
Groom Law Group	38,379	Legal/ Tax Consultant
John S. Mazella MD, PC	37,150	Medical Services
ProHEALTH Care Associates	36,801	Medical Services
Simaren Corporation	35,033	Security Services
Louis Benton, MD	31,000	Medical Services
Riverside Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine Assoc.	30,525	Medical Services
Specialty Consultants	28,333	Recruitment Services
Pine Bush Mental Health, LLP	27,700	Medical Services
Edward A Toriello MD, FACS.	26,775	Medical Services
Certified Medical Consultants, Inc.	25,740	Medical Services
CEM Benchmarking, Inc.	25,000	Industry Measurement Survey

See accompanying independent auditors' report.



KPMG LLP
515 Broadway
Albany, NY 12207-2974

Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

The Trustee
New York State and Local Retirement System:

We have audited, in accordance with the 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, the financial statements of the New York State and Local Retirement System (the System), which comprise the combining statement of fiduciary net position as of March 31, 2016, and the related combining statement of changes in fiduciary net position for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 20, 2016.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the System's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the System's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the System's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the System's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.



Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the System's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the System's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

KPMG LLP

July 20, 2016