Memorandum

To	Ohio Retirement Study Council
From	RVK, Inc.
Subject	Executive Summary: December 31, 2023 Investment Performance
Date	May 9, 2024

Outlined below please find a summary of significant observations, key attributes, and performance metrics of Ohio's six[1] public retirement plans for the period ended December, 2023. The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate an objective "apples-to-apples" comparison of the six plans relative to each other, similar benchmarks, and peer group data consisting of similarly sized public pension plans.

While much of the discussion in this summary focuses on results from the trailing two-quarter period, we strongly encourage the Council to place significant weight on long-term results to better assess the management of the State's various pension plan assets. Though the six investment programs share many similarities, it is important to be aware of the crucial differences that may affect performance when reviewing this analysis. Each plan has unique long-term investment objectives and therefore distinct asset allocations in order to meet these objectives. Investment execution approaches also vary as it relates to active/passive and internal/external management.

The full results of our analysis are contained within our Investment Performance Analysis Report and we hope this Executive Summary will help in your review of that data. The information received by RVK, to the best of our knowledge, is complete and appropriate.

## Total Fund Returns and Risk

Returns for the Ohio plans ranged from 9.52% to 14.43% for 2023. In Q4, most risk assets rebounded from subdued conditions to finish the year with significant positive returns—a stark turnaround compared to performance in 2022. For instance, the MSCI All Country World Index, a broad measure of the global stock market, returned 22.2% in 2023 compared to returns of -18.4% in 2022. Fixed income markets also ended the year firmly in positive territory. Despite the positive market performance, some recent indicators of economic activity have provided investors reason for caution. For example, commodity prices and energy stocks broadly declined amidst slowing inflation. The manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) remained in contractionary territory throughout the year. However, other economic indicators were more positive, with the services PMI remaining in expansionary territory and corporate earnings proving more resilient than expected. The labor market remained healthy as the unemployment rate finished the year at 3.7%. The Dec. Consumer Price Index (CPI) report showed a higher than expected uptick in monthly inflation and annual inflation of 3.4%. The annual level represents a significant drop compared to the CPI measure of 6.5% in Dec. 2022. The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) anticipates further progress in bringing inflation down to target levels, with the current forecast for their preferred inflation measure, the PCE Price Index, projecting a decline to 2.4% by the end of 2024.

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[1]OPERS health care plan is not a pension plan and therefore has significantly different characteristics including a shorter focus asset allocation with more liquidity than the pension plans. For purposes of this study, the OPERS health care plan has been included in the results.

The dispersion in results among the State's retirement plans is driven by differences in asset allocation, asset class structure and investment manager selection, though it is not possible with the data available to RVK for us to weight each factor.

During 2023, four out of six plans outperformed or kept pace with their custom total fund benchmarks. Each plan will have different investment objectives and goals and the "Total Fund Benchmarks" will reflect this. Total Fund over/under performance can come from differences in actual allocations or investment manager results.

Figure 1: Total Fund Performance (dark shade) **vs. Total Fund Benchmarks** (light shade)

1-Year Ending December 31, 2023
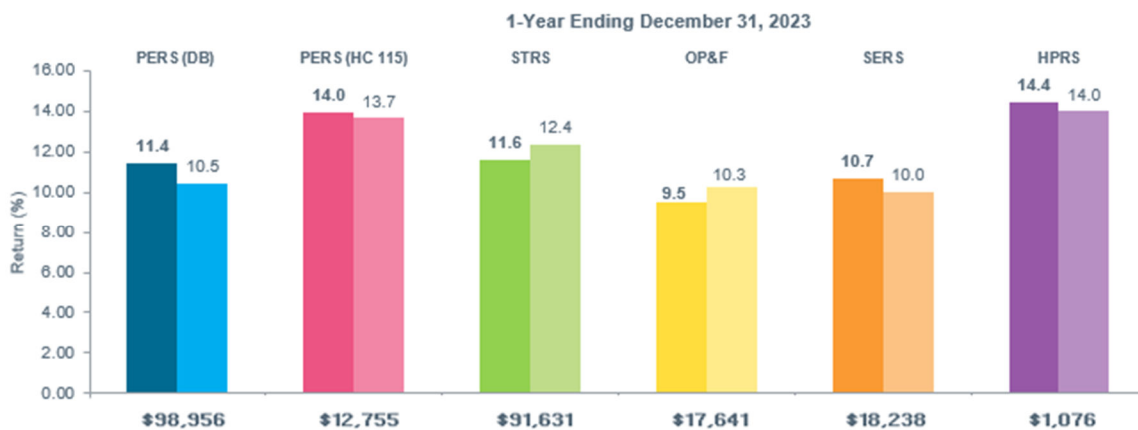
- Total Fund Benchmark is a target allocation index based on the targeted asset class percentages and appropriate asset class indexes for each individual plan
- Market values shown are in millions ($000,000)
- Performance shown is gross of fees
- PERS (DB): Public Employees Retirement System Defined Benefit Pension Plan
- PERS (HC 115): Since the PERS HC is a health care trust (now under HC 115), it has adopted a more liquid asset allocation policy versus the PERS (DB) Fund, with an emphasis on capital preservation, since 2005.
- STRS: State Teachers Retirement System
- OP&F: Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund
- SERS: School Employees Retirement System
- HPRS: Highway Patrol Retirement System

Asset Allocation

Overall, the six plans all exhibit characteristics of increasingly diversified, institutional quality portfolios. Exposures to public equities (capital appreciation or "growth" assets) make up the largest component for each plan. Within equities, allocations to US equity investments have generally declined over the past ten years while allocations to alternatives, particularly hedge funds and private equity, have increased. The charts in Figure 2 show a 5-year asset allocation "lookback" for each plan and how they have moved to today's portfolio and target.

PERS (HC 115) currently has the largest allocation to US equity at 26.6%. Zero of the six plans have a higher exposure to US equities than peer median (peer median: 26.9%). PERS (HC 115) has the largest fixed income allocation at 34.0%. The average total allocation to hedge funds, private equity, and other alternatives among the six plans is 19.0%. Relative to peer median allocations (All Public Plans > $1B), four of six plans have higher strategic exposures to international equities (peer median: 15.7%) Five of six plans have higher allocations to real estate than peer median (peer median: 7.6%).

Figure 2: Asset Allocation Changes (5 Years)
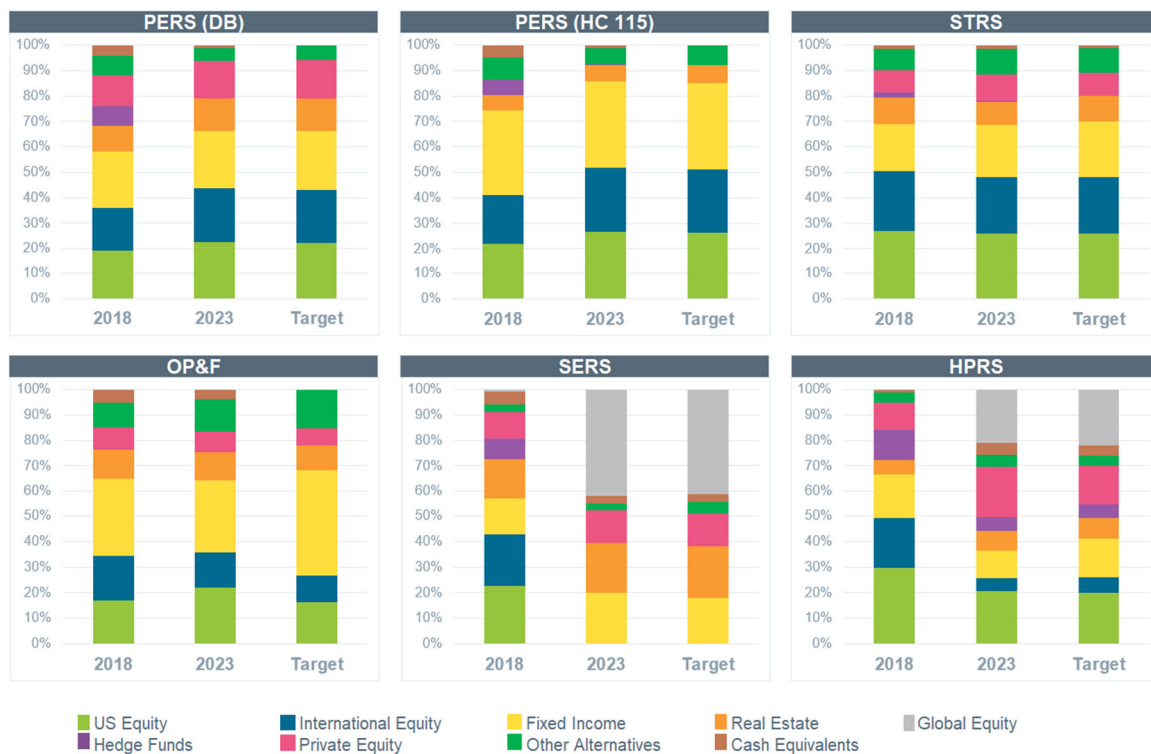
- Cash Equivalents for PERS (DB) consists of cash, additional annuity, and other pension assets. Cash Equivalents for PERS (HC 115) consists of cash. OPERS typically holds 30bps of cash (invested in OPERS STIF) for liquidity needs.

The table below highlights recent target allocation changes since our last report.

Figure 3: Changes to Target Allocations Since 6/30/2023

	Domestic Equity	International Equity	Global Equity	Fixed Income	Real Estate	Hedge Funds	Private Equity	Other Alternatives	Cash Equivalents
PERS (DB)	0.40%	---	---	---	---	---	---	-0.40%	---
PERS (HC 115)	0.40%	---	---	---	---	---	---	-0.40%	---
STRS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
OP&F	-0.24%	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.04%	-0.80%
SERS	-24.75%	-20.25%	41.00%	-1.00%	3.00%	---	1.00%	---	1.00%
HPRS	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Detailed asset allocation targets as of 12/31/2023 can be found in the full Investment Performance Analysis.
PERS (DB & HC 115) have completed phasing out their dedicated hedge fund allocations.
[2]In 2023, SERS consolidated targets to Domestic Equity and International Equity to a broad Global Equity target.

Figure 4: Annual Asset Class Performance

The table below highlights calendar year performance for key asset classes.

Index (Asset Class)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
S&P 500 (US Large Cap)	38.8	13.7	15.0	21.3	37.3	8.3	31.5	20.0	28.7	16.1	26.3	Highest Return
Russell 2000 (US Small Cap)	32.4	12.5	1.4	12.0	25.0	0.0	25.5	18.4	27.1	7.5	18.2	
MSCI EAFE (Int'l Developed)	22.8	6.0	0.6	11.8	21.8	-4.0	22.0	18.3	22.2	-5.3	16.9	
MSCI EM (Int'l Emg Markets)	13.9	4.9	-0.3	11.2	14.6	-4.4	18.4	10.9	14.8	-13.0	9.8	
Barclays US Agg Bond (Fixed Income)	9.0	3.4	-0.8	8.8	7.8	-11.0	8.7	7.8	11.3	-14.5	6.1	
NCREIF ODCE (Real Estate)	-2.0	-2.2	-4.4	2.7	7.6	-11.2	8.4	7.5	6.2	-18.1	5.5	
HFRI FOF (Absolute Return)	-2.6	-4.9	-14.9	1.0	3.5	-13.8	7.7	1.2	-1.6	-20.1	-7.9	
Bloomberg Cmdty (Commodities)	-9.5	-17.0	-24.7	0.5	1.7	-14.6	5.3	-3.1	-2.5	-20.4	-12.0	Lowest Return

Figure 5: Fund Performance (Gross) vs. Actuarial Rate of Return (Gray)

1-, 5-, and 10-Years (dark to light) Ending December 31, 2023

[3]PERS (DB): 3 Year performance reduced 0.37%, 5 Year performance reduced 0.23%, 7 Year performance reduced 0.16% and 10 Year performance reduced 0.12% due to change in distribution methodology in private equity and real estate portfolios.

Over the trailing 10-year period, five of the six plans outperformed their current actuarial assumed rate of return as shown by Figure 5.

Figure 6: Historical Actuarial Rates of Return

2013, 2018, and 2023 (dark to light)
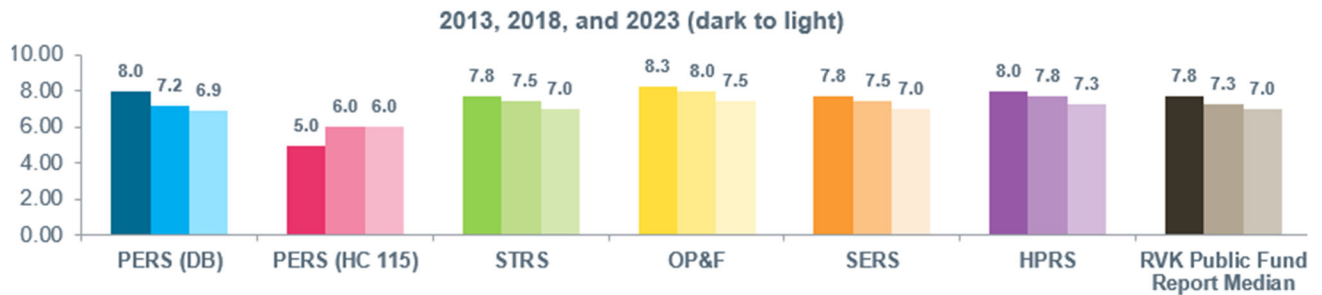
Over the past ten years, the median actuarial rate of return for public funds within the RVK universe has declined (see Figure 6). Actuarial rates for four of the six Ohio plans are above the RVK universe median. Figure 7 shows the dispersion of actuarial rates of return around the median of 7.0%.

Figure 7: RVK Public Fund Report Survey Actuarial Rates of Return – As of 12/31/2023
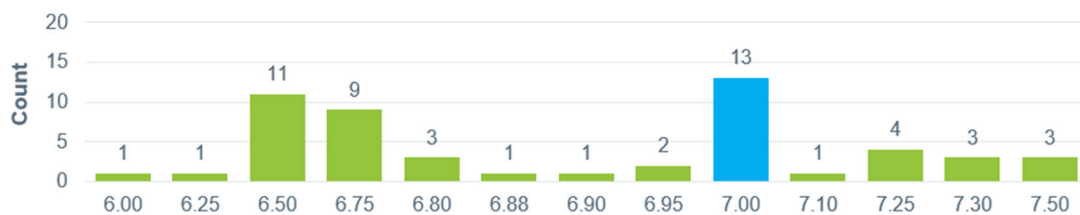
RVK prepares a proprietary Public Fund Report with over 70 participating public funds across the U.S. Participating public funds are surveyed semi-annually. This data is preliminary for 12/31/2023 and is subject to change.

Longer-term performance remains strong as all six plans have outperformed or kept pace with their custom benchmark over the trailing 7- and 10-year periods (see Figure 8).

Figure 8: Long-Term Fund Performance (dark shade) vs. Total Fund Benchmarks (light shade)

7- and 10-Years Ending December 31, 2023
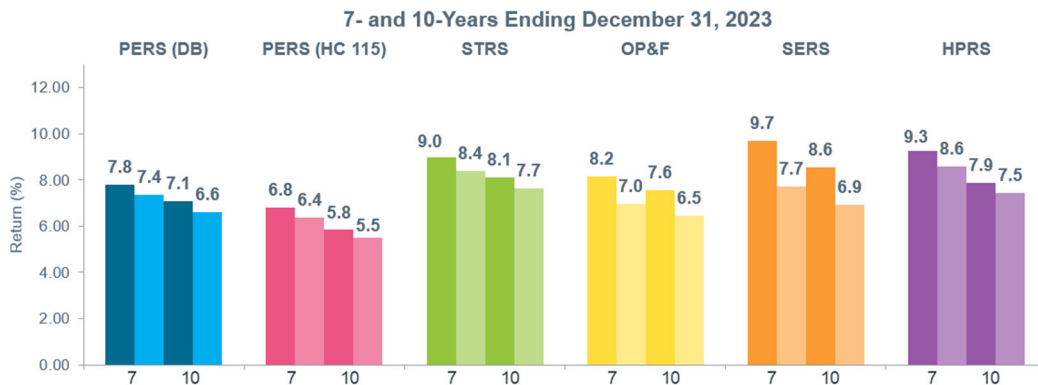
[4]PERS (DB): 3 Year performance reduced 0.37%, 5 Year performance reduced 0.23%, 7 Year performance reduced 0.16% and 10 Year performance reduced 0.12% due to change in distribution methodology in private equity and real estate portfolios.

Plan sponsor peer group benchmarking is another way to compare performance results of Ohio's retirement plans, however there can be a wide range in investment objectives and different benefit plan structures. For example, the PERS Health Care Fund's objective of capital preservation leads to a larger allocation to fixed income. Relative to peers, four of the six plans equaled or outperformed the All Public Plans > $1B median over the trailing 5-year period and five of the six plans outperformed or kept pace with the median peer over the trailing 10-year period (see Figure 9).

For 2023, three out of six funds have exceeded or matched the greater than $1B peer group median. Four of the six funds rank above the same median for the 3-year trailing period.
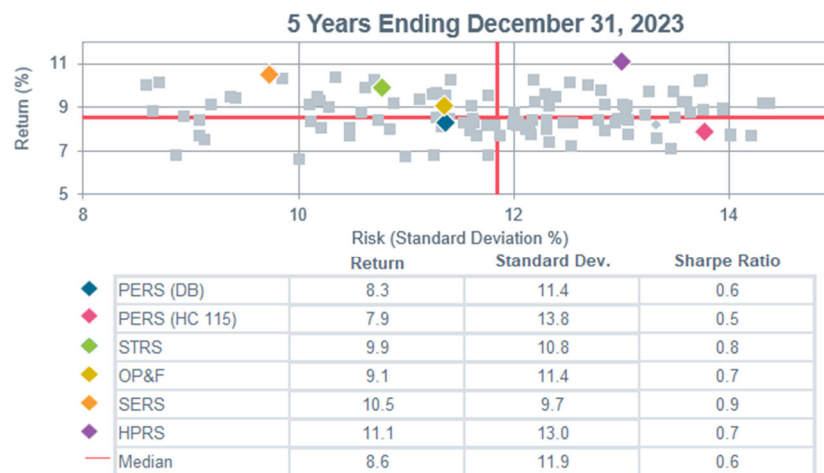
Figure 9: Fund Performance vs. Public Plans

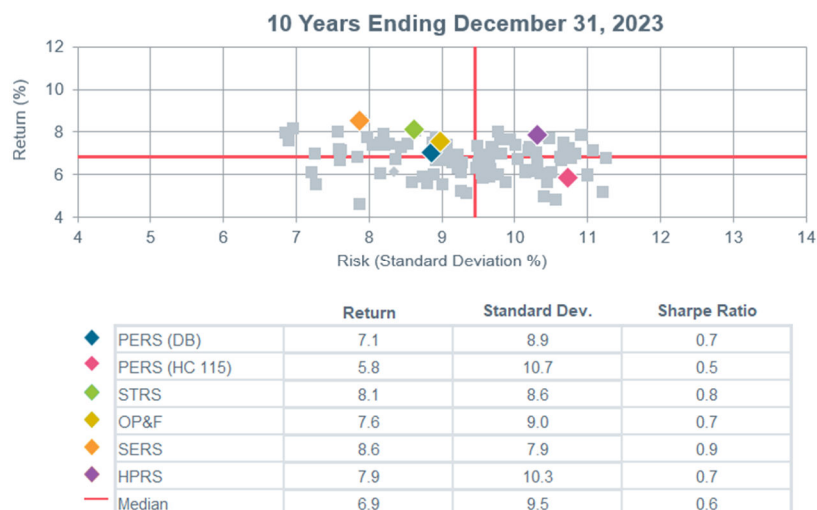|	Market Value ($000,000)	2 Quarters			1 Year			3 Years			5 Years			7 Years			10 Years		
		Return %	Rank > $1B	> $10B	Return %	Rank > $1B	> $10B	Return %	Rank > $1B	> $10B	Return %	Rank > $1B	> $10B	Return %	Rank > $1B	> $10B	Return %	Rank > $1B	> $10B
PERS (DB)	98,956	4.7	(49)	(48)	11.4	(55)	(55)	4.2	(63)	(74)	8.3	(61)	(72)	7.8	(50)	(70)	7.1	(40)	(57)
PERS (HC 115)	12,755	5.7	(8)	(5)	14.0	(13)	(8)	3.3	(84)	(89)	7.9	(79)	(83)	6.8	(83)	(82)	5.8	(84)	(83)
STRS	91,631	4.2	(72)	(74)	11.6	(50)	(49)	6.4	(20)	(33)	9.9	(15)	(21)	9.0	(12)	(21)	8.1	(7)	(7)
OP&F	17,641	4.2	(72)	(74)	9.5	(85)	(85)	6.4	(20)	(33)	9.1	(40)	(60)	8.2	(39)	(60)	7.6	(22)	(32)
SERS	18,238	4.3	(66)	(63)	10.7	(72)	(70)	7.5	(11)	(17)	10.5	(4)	(5)	9.7	(3)	(3)	8.6	(3)	(1)
HPRS	1,076	5.5	(13)	(10)	14.4	(7)	(6)	6.8	(17)	(24)	11.1	(2)	(2)	9.3	(6)	(8)	7.9	(12)	(20)
> $1B Peer Median		4.6			11.6			4.5			8.6			7.8			6.9		
> $10B Peer Median		4.6			11.5			4.7			9.1			8.4			7.3		

[5]PERS (DB): 3 Year performance reduced 0.37%, 5 Year performance reduced 0.23%, 7 Year performance reduced 0.16% and 10 Year performance reduced 0.12% due to change in distribution methodology in private equity and real estate portfolios.

While additional analysis is needed to fully understand the risk posture of each plan, the risk and return charts shown below suggest four of six plans have generated more return for each unit of risk exposure (as measured by standard deviation) than the median peer over the trailing 5-year period. Two plans have exhibited more asset risk (as defined by standard deviation) relative to peers over the trailing 10-year period (see Figure 10). Peers may have different risk/return results for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to: objectives and goals, target allocations, time of allocation changes, investment restrictions, asset class exposures, or investment management execution.

Figure 10: All Public Plans > $1B Risk and Return

5 Years Ending December 31, 2023

		Return	Standard Dev.	Sharpe Ratio
◆	PERS (DB)	8.3	11.4	0.6
◆	PERS (HC 115)	7.9	13.8	0.5
◆	STRS	9.9	10.8	0.8
◆	OP&F	9.1	11.4	0.7
◆	SERS	10.5	9.7	0.9
◆	HPRS	11.1	13.0	0.7
—	Median	8.6	11.9	0.6

[6]Grey boxes on scatterplot charts represent members of the peer universe.

10 Years Ending December 31, 2023

		Return	Standard Dev.	Sharpe Ratio
◆	PERS (DB)	7.1	8.9	0.7
◆	PERS (HC 115)	5.8	10.7	0.5
◆	STRS	8.1	8.6	0.8
◆	OP&F	7.6	9.0	0.7
◆	SERS	8.6	7.9	0.9
◆	HPRS	7.9	10.3	0.7
—	Median	6.9	9.5	0.6

[7]Grey boxes on scatterplot charts represent members of the peer universe.

Asset Class Returns and Risk

The following section includes information on all "major" asset classes. Broad market benchmarks are included for illustrative purposes. Additional details, including system-specific benchmark performance, are available within our Investment Performance Analysis.

Traditional Asset Classes:

Traditional asset classes typically make up a portfolio's core allocation and include investments in stocks and bonds, with characteristics of capital appreciation (growth) from stocks and capital preservation (safety) from bonds. Depending on the type of investment, real estate may fall within traditional or alternative categories and exposures can have income, inflation protection, and/or capital appreciation characteristics.

US Equity

The US equity portfolios for zero of six plans outperformed their respective benchmarks during 2023. All six plans outperformed the peer median over the same period (see Figure 11). Absolute and relative performance over the past 10 years has been strong, with all six plans outperforming the peer median over trailing periods five years and longer.

Figure 11: US Equity Performance

	2 Quarters		1 Year		3 Years		5 Years		7 Years		10 Years	
	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank
PERS (DB)	8.4	(27)	26.0	(21)	8.8	(25)	15.1	(22)	12.8	(18)	11.3	(19)
PERS (HC 115)	8.4	(27)	26.0	(21)	8.8	(25)	15.1	(22)	12.8	(18)	11.3	(20)
STRS	8.5	(25)	25.3	(23)	8.5	(33)	15.8	(10)	13.3	(8)	11.7	(10)
OP&F	6.6	(89)	23.1	(49)	9.9	(16)	16.5	(1)	14.2	(1)	12.6	(1)
SERS	8.0	(41)	23.1	(49)	7.8	(48)	14.8	(29)	12.6	(25)	11.1	(25)
HPRS	8.4	(27)	25.4	(22)	9.7	(17)	16.3	(1)	13.2	(9)	11.7	(6)
R 3000 Index	8.4		26.0		8.5		15.2		12.8		11.5	
Peer Median	7.8		23.0		7.8		14.0		11.9		10.4	

[8]OP&F is benchmarked to the Wilshire 5000

International Equity

The international equity portfolios for six of six plans outperformed their respective benchmarks during 2023. OP&F earned the highest absolute performance during the period with a return of 19.8% (see Figure 12). Six out of six funds outperformed their respective benchmarks over the 10-year period.

Figure 12: International Equity Performance

	2 Quarters		1 Year		3 Years		5 Years		7 Years		10 Years	
	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank
PERS (DB)	6.3	(22)	17.5	(38)	1.9	(56)	8.4	(60)	7.8	(54)	5.4	(33)
PERS (HC 115)	6.3	(22)	17.5	(38)	1.9	(56)	8.4	(60)	7.8	(54)	5.4	(33)
STRS	4.9	(68)	16.8	(54)	6.3	(4)	9.3	(28)	8.0	(40)	6.4	(3)
OP&F	6.4	(22)	19.8	(10)	4.1	(25)	9.4	(28)	7.6	(56)	4.9	(65)
SERS	6.4	(22)	18.6	(22)	3.3	(33)	9.6	(24)	8.4	(21)	5.7	(17)
HPRS	3.4	(92)	13.1	(95)	-3.6	(100)	6.0	(99)	5.6	(100)	3.3	(100)
MSCI ACW Ex US IMI	6.0		15.6		1.5		7.2		6.4		4.0	
Peer Median	5.4		17.0		2.2		8.7		7.8		5.1	

[9]MSCI ACW Ex US IMI may not be the direct benchmark for all the applicable systems international equity exposure, but it is included as a broad benchmark for illustrative purposes.
[10]HPRS International Equity Portfolio consists of emerging markets and international small cap holdings.

Fixed Income

Domestic fixed income markets were up 5.5% in 2023, as measured by the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index. During the period, three out of six plans outperformed or kept pace with their respective benchmarks. Three out of six plans outperformed the peer median. Five of six plans outperformed the broad market index over the 10-year trailing period, as shown by Figure 13. HPRS fixed income composite returned 4.6% versus 1.8% for the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index, the highest absolute and relative return earned among the six plans over the 10-year time period.

Figure 13: Fixed Income Performance

	2 Quarters		1 Year		3 Years		5 Years		7 Years		10 Years	
	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank	% Return	Rank
PERS (DB) Core FI	3.1	(60)	5.3	(67)	-3.2	(71)	1.5	(75)	1.6	(77)	2.1	(77)
PERS (HC 115) Core FI	3.1	(60)	5.3	(67)	-3.2	(71)	1.5	(75)	1.6	(77)	2.1	(77)
STRS Core Fixed Incom	3.9	(33)	6.3	(34)	-2.6	(60)	1.8	(63)	1.8	(66)	2.3	(66)
OP&F Core FI	3.2	(55)	4.7	(77)	-9.4	(99)	-2.9	(99)	-1.3	(99)	0.0	(98)
SERS	4.2	(22)	7.4	(17)	-2.1	(44)	2.7	(21)	2.6	(25)	2.8	(29)
HPRS	5.4	(7)	11.0	(3)	3.4	(1)	5.5	(1)	5.1	(1)	4.6	(1)
B US Agg Bond Index	3.4		5.5		-3.3		1.1		1.3		1.8	
Peer Median	3.3		5.6		-2.4		2.1		2.1		2.5	

[11]Bloomberg US Agg Bond Index may not be the direct benchmark for all the applicable systems fixed income exposure, but it is included as a broad benchmark for illustrative purposes.

Real Estate

Of the five plans with exposure to core and value-added real estate, returns ranged from -10.8% to -4.1% during 2023. PERS (HC 115)'s REITs (real estate investment trusts) composite and PERS (DB)'s REITs both increased by 14.0% during 2023. Over the trailing 10-year period, returns ranged from 7.7% to 11.4% for plans with core and value-added real estate (see Figure 14).

Figure 14: Real Estate Performance

Core and Value-Added Real Estate							
	2 Quarters	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years	10 Years	10 Years
	% Return	% Return	% Return	% Return	% Return	% Return	Standard Deviation
PERS (DB)	-2.2	-5.8	8.3	7.0	7.0	9.7	4.8
STRS	-4.8	-7.3	5.7	5.2	5.6	7.7	4.7
OP&F	-4.0	-10.8	11.2	8.4	9.4	11.4	5.9
SERS	-1.3	-4.1	10.2	8.7	9.3	10.3	3.7
HPRS	-3.0	-4.5	5.5	6.1	8.0	9.1	3.9
NCREIF ODCE Index (Net) (AWA)	-7.0	-12.7	4.0	3.3	4.4	6.3	5.4
REITs							
PERS (HC 115)	7.8	14.0	7.3	6.2	4.3	7.0	18.4
PERS (DB)	7.8	14.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DJ US Sel RE Securities	7.8	14.0	7.2	6.1	4.2	7.0	18.4

[12]NCREIF ODCE Index (Net) (AWA) may not be the direct benchmark for all the applicable systems real estate exposure, but it is included as a broad benchmark for illustrative purposes.

[13]PERS (DB): 3 Year performance reduced 1.22%, 5 Year performance reduced 0.73%, 7 Year performance reduced 0.51% and 10 Year performance reduced 0.37% due to change in distribution methodology in private equity and real estate portfolios.

Alternative Asset Classes:

Alternative investments are typically added to a portfolio to provide further diversification of assets, enabling investors to reduce expected portfolio volatility without sacrificing return potential. Exposures may include hedge funds, private equity, private real estate, commodities, and opportunistic exposures to equity or fixed income segments/securities. As compared to traditional asset classes, alternative investments can be less transparent (although this is improving), less liquid (potential fund lock-up periods or staged withdrawals), and more expensive (although costs are generally decreasing). Investment managers rely on manager skill, extensive research, and sourcing of opportunities to add value, all which lead to unique characteristics and higher costs.

As with any investment, alternative investments are also subject to a variety of risks, including, but not limited to: operational, complexity, leverage, liquidity, concentration, volatility, headline, fraud, and regulatory. A thorough and ongoing due diligence process is needed to mitigate these risks. Figure 15 shows the correlation between broad market benchmarks for alternatives (private real estate, REITs, hedge funds, private equity) and traditional asset classes (public equities and fixed income).

Figure 15: Alternative Asset Class Index Correlation

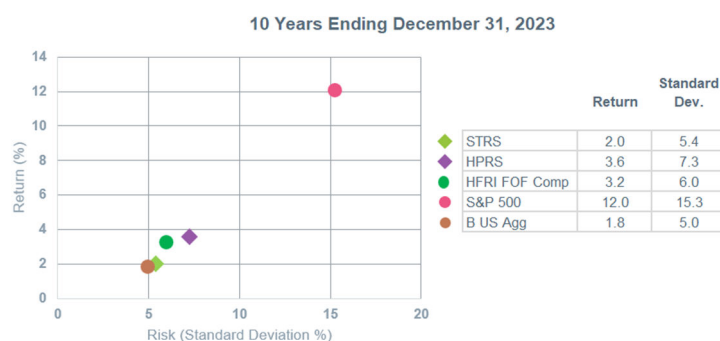|	NCREIF ODCE Index	DJ US Select RE Secr Index	HFRI FOF Comp Index	Cambridge US PE Index (Qtr Lag)
S&P 500 Index (Cap Wtd)	-0.14	0.78	0.86	0.00
Russell 2000 Index	-0.14	0.75	0.89	0.00
MSCI EAFE Index	-0.23	0.73	0.85	0.00
MSCI Emg Mkts Index	-0.39	0.61	0.82	-0.15
Bloomberg US Agg Bond Index	-0.25	0.33	0.08	-0.11
NCREIF ODCE Index	1.00	-0.04	-0.25	0.53
DJ US Select RE Secr Index	-0.04	1.00	0.57	0.18
HFRI FOF Comp Index	-0.25	0.57	1.00	-0.04
Cambridge US PE Index (Qtr Lag)	0.53	0.18	-0.04	1.00

[14]Correlations are based on 15 years of performance ending December 31, 2023.

Hedge Funds

Hedge Fund exposures are typically intended to provide attractive risk-adjusted returns and diversification benefits to a portfolio over the long-term. These attributes are often obtained via investments that rely on manager skill rather than specific asset class exposures, and allow for flexibility of allocations and tools.

Composite returns during the 10-year trailing period range from 2.0% to 3.6% among the two plans with dedicated hedge fund composites. Over the trailing 10-year period one out of two hedge fund allocations equaled or outperformed their respective benchmarks.

Figure 16: Hedge Funds Performance

10 Years Ending December 31, 2023

	Return	Standard Dev.
STRS	2.0	5.4
HPRS	3.6	7.3
HFRI FOF Comp	3.2	6.0
S&P 500	12.0	15.3
B US Agg	1.8	5.0

[15]PERS (DB) has no Hedge Fund target allocation and remaining assets are liquidating.

Private Equity

Private Equity investments typically attempt to achieve returns above public market returns while providing some diversification benefits. Private equity investments provide a way to access companies, industries, and strategies not easily available to public markets and allows skilled managers to effect meaningful change to businesses, thus improving value.

Five of the six plans have dedicated exposure to private equity. Over the trailing 10-year period, the time-weighted returns for these allocations have ranged from 11.9% to 17.6% per annum. Although we prefer to measure private equity performance using since inception money-weighted returns (IRR), we have included time-weighted performance in our full Investment Performance Analysis for illustrative purposes.

Figure 17: Private Equity Performance

Plan	10 Years Ending December 31, 2023				
	PERS (DB)	STRS	OP&F	SERS	HPRS
% Return	13.3	15.2	15.5	17.6	11.9
Benchmark % Return	12.9	N/A	15.5	12.3	14.1

[16]HPRS's private equity portfolio did not begin in earnest until after 2008. Therefore, longer period trailing returns may not be relevant.
[17]STRS adopted a new benchmark, which is the Cambridge Associates Private Equity and Venture Capital Index, one quarter lagged to be consistent with external fund reporting, effective July 1, 2021, and therefore does not have 10 years of benchmark performance history.
[18]PERS (DB): 3 Year performance reduced 2.29%, 5 Year performance reduced 1.37%, 7 Year performance reduced 0.98% and 10 Year performance reduced 0.68% due to change in distribution methodology in private equity and real estate portfolios.

Additional Investments

We have included additional asset class composites which are not shared across the majority of the six plans within our Investment Performance Analysis.

Considerations

After careful analysis, we put forth the following considerations for the Ohio Retirement Study Council:

1. Be mindful of target asset allocation for each fund and the goals they are attempting to achieve. Currently all the funds are diversified across multiple asset classes and exhibit characteristics of prudent investor diversification.

   → The determination of a fund's asset allocation is the single most important investment decision and is a major determinant of long-term return and the volatility risk of asset values. Creating a diversified portfolio of asset classes enables the investor to achieve a potential higher rate of return while minimizing volatility of the portfolio. A fund following a smoother, less volatile path compounds value at a faster rate.

   → Don't assume that all of the plans should have the same asset allocation. Differences in their liabilities, funding status, the risk tolerance of their fiduciaries and other factors will likely produce legitimate differences in their respective asset allocations.

2. Monitor the change in asset allocation over time.

   → Target allocations should be formally reviewed (by the Board) every few years with potentially more frequent informal reviews (by Staff). From each review there can be multiple reasons for adopting new targets (with generally gradual shifts) – from a rare occurrence of the overarching goal of the investment program changing to potential consideration of significant, longer-term economic or market changes to the possibility of opportunities to improve the risk/return tradeoff.

3. While this and subsequent reports we deliver to the council will focus on recent information in return and risk taken at each of the funds, we strongly encourage you to once again focus on the 3 and 5-year risk and return results to better gauge the stewardship of the State's pension assets.

All performance shown is gross of fees, with the exception of externally managed real estate, hedge fund, and private equity investments. Total Fund performance shown is gross of fees but is net of embedded fees, including carried interest, incentives or promotion fees, on externally managed real estate and alternative investments. Peer group ranks are measured in percentiles.