



2023 DISABILITY EXPERIENCE OF THE OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Year Ending December 31, 2023

February 1, 2024

To: The Honorable Governor Mike DeWine
 Ohio Retirement Study Council
 The Honorable Matt Huffman, Senate President
 The Honorable Jason Stephens, Speaker of the House
 The Honorable Terry Johnson, Chair, Veterans and Public Safety
 The Honorable Bob Peterson, Chair, Government Oversight
 The Honorable Jeffrey LaRe, Chair, Financial Institutions and Technology

From: Carl Roark, Ph.D.
 Executive Director
 614.430.3557 (direct)
c.roark@ohprs.org

Re: **2023 Disability Experience of the State Highway Patrol**

The 2023 disability retirement experience for the State Highway Patrol is being provided pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5505.181. The table below provides a summary:

Applications Pending, 12/31/2022	1
+Applications Filed	5
=Total Disability Applications	6
-Applications Granted (3 in-the-line-of-duty)	5
-Applications Denied	0
-Applications Withdrawn	0
=Applications Pending, 12/31/2023	1
Total Active Members, 12/31/2022	1,388
Percentage of disability applications granted relative to active members	0.43%

5-Year Average of Percentage Granted to Active Members

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	5-Year Average
0.25%	0.39%	0.41%	0.65%	0.43%	0.43%

Disabilities for OSHP officers are covered by ORC 5505.18 and OAC 5505-3-02. In-the-line-of-duty disabilities are calculated at a minimum service credit of 25 years. All others (off-duty) are calculated at a minimum service credit of 12 years. HB362, which became effective 5/11/2018, reduced the minimum service credit for off-duty disabilities from 20 years (50%) to 12 years (30%). To be eligible for an off-duty disability, a member must have five or more years of qualifying HPRS service credit.

The total number of retirees on disability increased from **158** at the end of **2022** to **161** at the end of **2023**.

Based on historical records, HPRS has had a total of **239** people who were granted disability benefits. Currently, HPRS has **161** retirees on disability with **100** of those being in-the-line-of-duty and **61** being off-duty. There is a mandatory retirement age of 60 for all Highway Patrol

officers. A total of **57** disability retirees are over the mandatory retirement age of 60 and prohibited from returning to work.

For informational purposes, a breakdown of the reasons for disability is shown in the following table.

Reason	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	All Time	% of Total
Psychiatric	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	1	19	7.8%
Neurological	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	4	0	1	1	21	8.7%
Musculoskeletal	4	3	2	4	5	3	3	2	2	7	2	128	53.5%
Oncologic	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.8%
Cardiovascular	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	22	9.2%
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*42	*18.0%
TOTAL	7	3	4	6	6	7	4	6	6	9	5	239	100%

*The number and percentage for “Other” normally would be included in one of the other five categories, but these records are older and do not indicate the reason for the disability.

Other statistics:

- Active members (12/31/2023) = **1,413**
- Retirees (12/31/2023) Total = **1,565**
 - Age & Service: **1,404**
 - Disabilities: **161**
 - **100** In-the-line-of-duty; **61** Off-duty
- Percentage of all disabilities relative to all actives: **11.4%**
 - Percentage excluding those over age 60 (mandatory retirement): **7.4%**
- Percentage of all disabilities relative to all retirees: **10.3%**
 - Percentage excluding those over age 60 (mandatory retirement): **6.6%**
- Average age at disability: **41.5 years**
- Current average age: **56.7 years**
- **61** disabled retirees over mandatory retirement age of 60
 - **34** in-the-line-of-duty, **27** off-duty
- **21** disabled retirees over age 70
 - **11** in-the-line-of-duty, **10** off-duty