## Wisconsin DETF

## Pension Administration Benchmarking Results Fiscal Year 2010

Bruce Hopkins December 1, 2011



#### How to this report is used

- To improve service levels
  - Compare your service levels to your peers
  - Insight into best practices
- To manage costs
  - Understand the factors that influence costs
  - Support arguments for investments in people or infrastructure
- To support business decisions
  - Understand how and where other funds are investing in people, technology, service and growth
- To develop performance goals and standards
  - Develop your performance framework and set realistic goals
  - Measure the impact of major operations changes
- To measure and manage your performance
  - Monitor your annual progress using an outside benchmark
- To communicate to stakeholders
  - Demonstrate relative performance to governing bodies
  - Show progress to employees to recognize success and motivate

## 80 leading global pension systems participate in the benchmarking service.

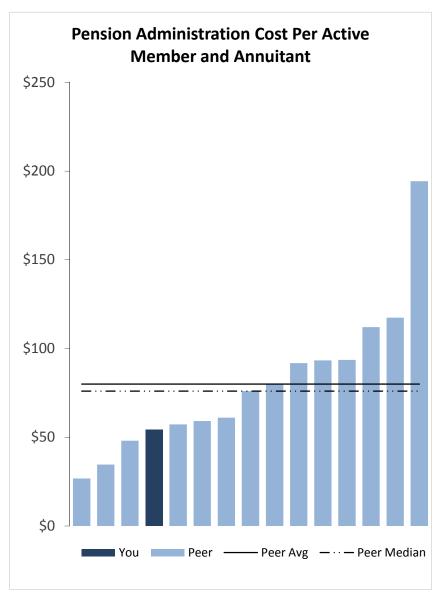
Participants			
Australia*	<u>Denmark</u>	Lafarge	Michigan ORS
AustralianSuper	ATP	Met Police	MOSERS
BUSSQ		MPS	Nevada PERS
CARE	The Netherlands	PCSPS	New Mexico ERB
CBUS	ABN-AMRO	Rolls Royce	North Carolina RS
GESB	ABP	RPMI	NYC TRS
HealthSuper	bpfBOUW	SPPA	NYSLRS
QSuper	Pensioenfonds DSM Nederland	Teesside	Ohio PERS
REST	Pensioenfonds ING	USS	Ohio SERS
StatewideSuper	Pensioenfonds Metaal en Techniek		Oklahoma PERS
SunSuper	Pensioenfonds Stork	<b>United States</b>	Oregon PERS
	PFZW	Arizona SRS	San Bernardino County ERA
<u>Canada</u>	Philips Pensioenfonds	CalPERS	South Dakota RS
APS	Rabobank	CalSTRS	STRS Ohio
BC Pension Corporation	Stichting Algemeen Pensioenfonds KLM	Colorado PERA	Texas County and District RS
Canada Post	Stichting Pensioenfonds voor Huisartsen	City of Milwaukee ERS	TRS Louisiana
CBC	Stichting Shell Pensioenfonds	Delaware PERS	Utah RS
Defence Canada		Idaho PERS	Virginia RS
Desjardins	United Kingdom*	Illinois MRF	Washington State DRS
HOOPP	Aviva	Indiana PERF	Wisconsin DETF
LAPP	Barclays Bank	Indiana State TRF	
OMERS	BBC	Iowa PERS	
Ontario Pension Board	BSA NHS Pensions	KPERS	
Ontario Teachers	BCSSS	LACERA	* Systems from Australia and the UK complete a
PWGSC	Co-Op	Maine PERS	separate benchmarking survey.
RCMP	EDF Energy	Michigan MERS	

#### The custom peer group for Wisconsin DETF consists of the following 15 peers:

Custom Peer Group for Wisconsin DETF				
	Membership (in 000's)			
Peers (sorted by size)	Active	Annuitants	Total	
NYSLRS	562	376	938	
CalSTRS	442	259	701	
North Carolina RS	461	225	686	
Ohio PERS	365	170	535	
Michigan ORS	298	224	522	
Virginia RS	343	148	491	
Washington State DRS	298	134	431	
Wisconsin DETF	267	151	418	
STRS Ohio	207	133	340	
Arizona SRS	214	106	320	
Colorado PERA	216	84	300	
Oregon PERS	179	117	295	
Indiana PERF	179	98	277	
Illinois MRF	181	92	273	
Iowa PERS	166	94	259	
Peer Median	267	134	418	

Inactive members are not considered when selecting peers because they are excluded when determing cost per member. They are excluded because they are less costly to administer than either active members or annuitants.

Your total pension administration cost was \$54 per active member and annuitant. This was \$26 below the peer average of \$80.

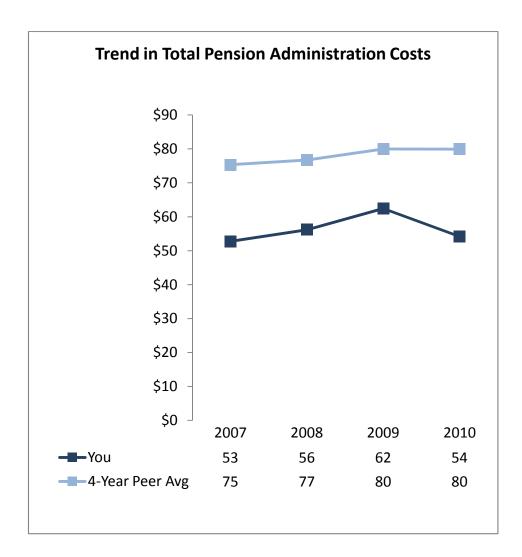


Your total pension administration cost was \$22.6 million. This excludes the cost of administering healthcare, and optional and third-party administered benefits of \$2.5 million.

## **Cost per activity**

A and the	(\$000s) You
Activity	100
1. Member Transactions	4.467
a. Pension Payments	1,167
b. Pension Inceptions	662
c. Withdrawals and Transfers-out	510
d. Purchases and Transfers-in	192
e. Disability	839
2. Member Communication	
a. Call Center	1,128
b. Mail Room, Imaging	536
c. 1-on-1 Counseling	653
d. Presentations and Group Counseling	235
e. Written Pension Estimates	747
f. Mass Communication	567
3. Collections and Data Maintenance	
a. Data and Money from Employers	513
b. Service to Employers	342
c. Data Not from Employers	126
4. Governance and Financial Control	
a. Financial Administration and Control	645
b. Board, Strategy, Policy	162
c. Government and Public Relations	25
5. Major Projects	
a. Amortization of capitalized projects	2,083
b. Major Projects (if you don't capitalize)	1,543
6. Support Services and Other	,
a. IT Strategy, Database, Applications	2,799
b. IT Desktop, Networks, Telecom	14
c. Building and Utilities	951
d. Human Resources	42
e. Actuarial	226
f. Legal and Rule Interpretation	6
g. Internal and External Audit	319
h. Other Support Services	5,606
Total Pension Administration	22,637

#### **Cost Trends**



Your total pension administration cost per member increased by 0.9% per annum between 2007 and 2010.

The average cost of your peers increased by 2.0% per annum over that period.

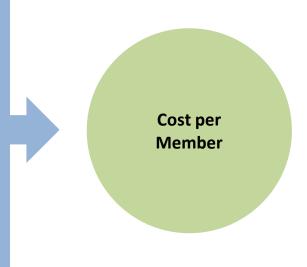
#### **CEM** uses the following cost model to explain differences in total costs:

#### **Reasons for differences in total costs**

- 1 Economies of scale
- 2 Transactions per member (workloads)
- 3 Transactions per FTE (productivity)
- 4 Paying more per FTE for: salaries and benefits, building and utilities, HR and IT desktop
- 5 Higher third-party costs and other miscellaneous costs in front-office activities

(Front office activities are Member Transactions, Member Communication and Collections and Data Maintenance.)

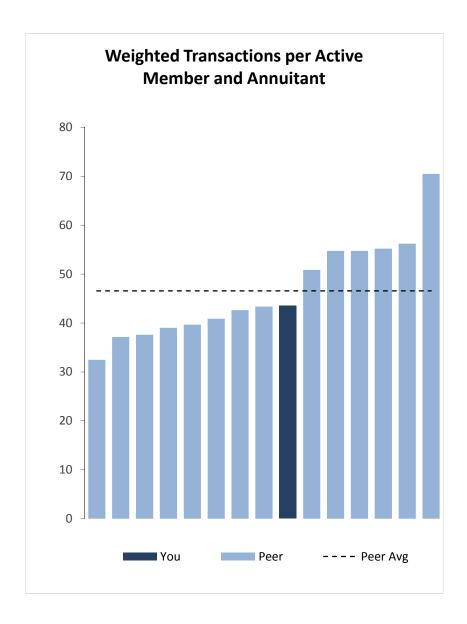
6 Higher back-office activity costs
(Back office activities are Governance and
Financial Control, Major Projects and Support
Services.)



## Reasons why your total cost was \$26 below the peer average.

Reason	Impact
Economies of scale advantage	-\$0.71
2. Lower transactions per member (workloads)	-\$1.48
3. Higher transactions per FTE (productivity)	-\$4.44
4. Lower costs per FTE for: salaries and benefits, building and utilities, HR and IT desktop	-\$1.78
5. Lower third-party and other costs in front-office activities	-\$9.41
6. Paying more/-less for back-office activites:	
- Governance and Financial Control	-\$3.92
- Major Projects	-\$0.83
- IT Strategy, Database, Applications	-\$11.20
- Actuarial, Legal, Audit, Other Support Services	\$2.01
7. Adjustment re: December-year-end peers	\$5.99
Total	-\$25.78

#### Reason 2: You had lower transaction volumes (workloads).



Your weighted transactions were 7% below the peer average. Your lower transaction volumes decreased your total cost per member by an estimated \$1.48 relative to the peer average.

Weighted transactions indicates whether you are doing more or fewer transactions per member in aggregate than your peers.

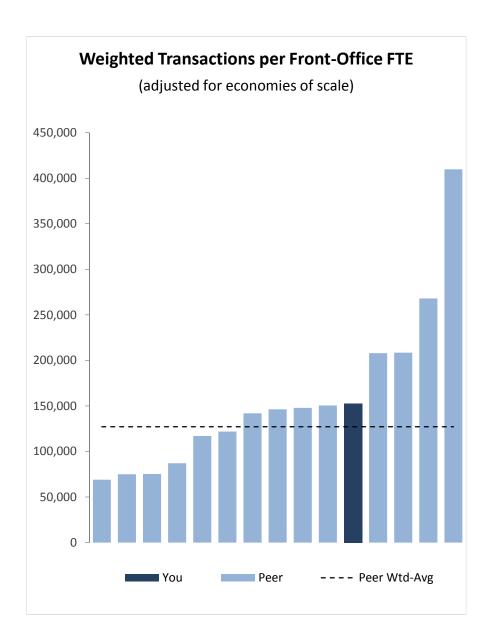
### Where did you do more/fewer transactions?

Where did you do more/fewer transactions?			
	Volume per 1,000 Active		
Members and Annui		<u>uitants</u>	
Front Office Transactions		Peer	More/
(or Transaction Driver)	You	Average	-Less
1. Member Transactions			
a. Pension Payments (Annuitants)	360	351	3%
b. New Payee Inceptions	18	23	-22%
c. Withdrawals and Transfers-out	11	34	-68%
d. Purchases and Transfers-in	1.9	9.9	-81%
e. Disability Applications	5.5	2.7	105%
2. Member Communication			
a. Calls and Emails	439	707	-38%
b. Incoming Mail	451	468	-4%
c. Members Counseled 1-on-1	19	29	-33%
d. Member Presentations	0.8	1.3	-40%
e. Written Estimates	47	28	65%
3. Collections and Data Maintenance			
a. Data and Money from Employers			
(Active Members)	640	649	-1%
b. Service to Employers (Active			
Members)	640	649	-1%
c. Data Not from Employers (Actives,			
Inactives, Annuitants)	1,355	1,410	-4%
Weighted Total	43,522	46,565	-7%

Differences in transaction volumes per member reflect differences in:

- Membership mix (active, inactive, annuitant)
- Member demographics
- Member type/ industry group
- System and plan complexity
- Service Levels

#### Reason 3: You had higher transactions per FTE (productivity).



Your weighted transactions per front-office FTE were 20% above the peer weighted-average. This decreased your total cost per member by \$4.44 relative to the peer average.

Differences in transaction volumes per FTE are due to differences in:

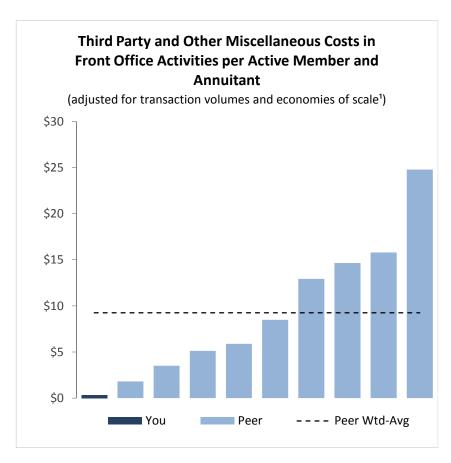
- Economies of scale. CEM research shows that smaller systems had lower productivity than larger systems
- IT capability / on-line transactions
- Service levels
- Complexity of plan rules
- Staff skills and productivity
- Use of consultants versus internal staff
- Projects
- Organization design

Reason 4: You had lower costs per FTE for: salaries and benefits, IT desktop, networks and telecom, building and utilities, and human resources.

Cost per FTE				
		FTE-Wtd		
	You	Peer Avg		
Salaries and Benefits	\$98,190	\$83,903		
Building and Utilities	\$4,886	\$10,257		
Human Resources	\$217	\$2,654		
IT Desktop, Networks, Telecom	\$71	\$9,432		
Total	\$103,364	\$106,246		

Your lower costs per FTE decreased your total cost by \$1.78 per member relative to the peer average.

## Reason 5: You had lower third party and other miscellaneous costs in the front-office activities.



Your third party and other miscellaneous costs (such as travel, office supplies, etc.) in the front-office activities<sup>1</sup> were \$0.32 per member which was 97% below the adjusted peer weighted average of \$9.26. Your lower third party costs decreased your total cost per member by \$9.41 relative to the peer average.

- 1. Front office activities are activities that come in contact with clients or employers, such as paying pensions, member calls and presentations. It excludes back-office activities such as Governance and Financial Control, Major Projects and Support Services.
- 2. There are fewer bars in the above graph than graphs elsewhere in this report because detailed salary and third-party cost data is not yet available for participants with December year ends (5 of your 15 peers).

#### Reason 6: You paid less for back-office activities.

Back-Office Activities - Adjusted Cost per Member				
			More/	
Back Office Activities	You	Peer Avg	-less	
Governance and Financial Control	\$3.05	\$6.97	-\$3.92	
Major Projects	\$6.96	\$7.80	-\$0.83	
IT Strategy, DB Mgmt, Applications	\$4.27	\$15.47	-\$11.20	
Actuarial, Legal, Audit, Other	\$18.74	\$16.73	\$2.01	
Total	\$33.03	\$46.97	-\$13.95	

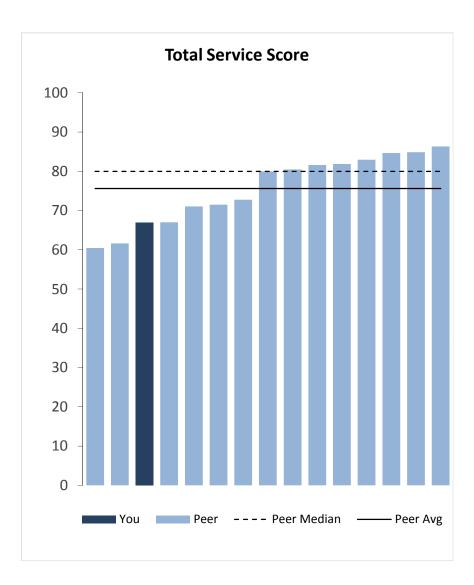
To avoid double counting, back office costs are adjusted for economies of scale and cost per FTE for: salaries, benefits, building, utilities, IT desktop and human resources. Before adjustments, your total costs for the above back-office activities were \$32. The unadjusted peer average was \$33.

Your adjusted cost per active member and annuitant of \$33.03 for back-office activities was below the peer average of \$46.97. Paying less for back-office activities decreased your total cost per member by \$13.95 relative to the peer average.

Differences in cost per member for back-office activities reflects differences in:

- How much you do. For example, some systems invest more in disaster recovery.
- IT capability
- IT investment cycle
- Plan complexity

#### Your total service score was 67 out of 100. This was below the peer median of 80.

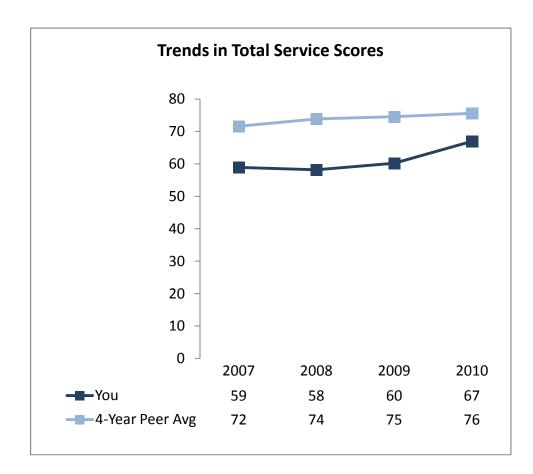


Service is defined from a member's perspective. Higher service means faster turnaround times, more availability, more choice, and higher quality.

## The total service score is the weighted average of the activity level service scores.

Service Scores by Activity			
		Score out of 100	
			Peer
Activity	Weight	You	Median
1. Member Transactions			
Pension payments	19.7%	95	97
Pension inceptions	7.4%	91	82
Withdrawals and transfers-out	0.3%	19	82
Purchases and transfers-in	3.1%	82	82
Disability	4.8%	73	84
2. Member Communication			
Call center	21.2%	49	67
1-on-1 counseling	7.4%	49	87
Member presentations	6.5%	83	85
Written pension estimates	4.7%	72	78
Mass communication			
a. Website	7.6%	37	77
b. Newsletters	3.8%	74	80
c. Member statements	6.6%	77	84
d. Other mass communication	0.9%	50	60
3. Other			
Satisfaction surveying	5.0%	12	41
Disaster recovery	1.0%	90	92
Weighted Total Service Score	100.0%	67	80

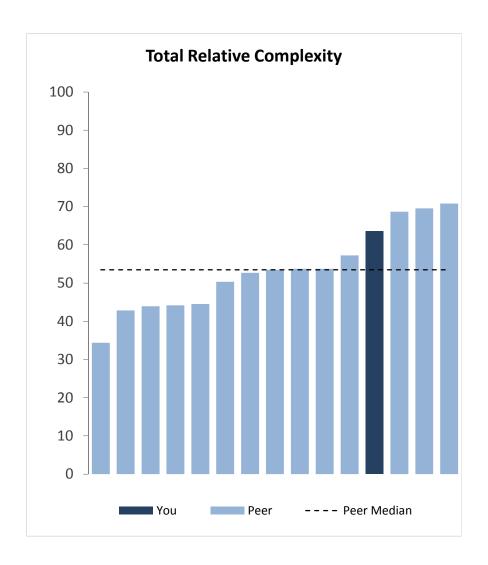
#### Your service score increased significantly in 2010.



Your total service score improved by 7 points compared to 2009. The key reasons were:

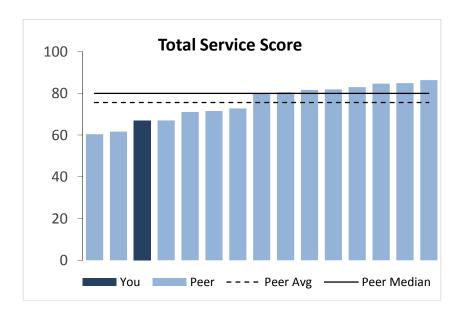
- <u>Call Center</u> You significantly reduced your number of abandoned calls. You also started monitoring call center agent responses for quality control purposes.
- <u>Member Presentations</u> You gave more presentations in the field, making it easier for your members to attend presentations. You also reduced the average group size.
- <u>Written Pension Estimates</u> You improved your turnaround time on written pension estimates, from 11 days to 4 days.

# Back-office costs and productivity are impacted by system complexity. Your total relative complexity score of 64 was above the peer median of 53.

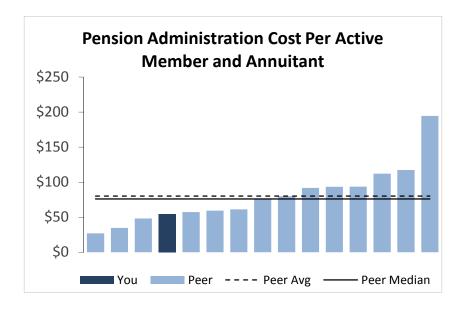


Relative Complexity Score by Cause (0 least - 100 most)			
·	•	Peer	
Cause	You	Median	
Pension Payment Options	58	60	
Customization Choices	22	4	
Multiple Plan Types and Overlay:	100	59	
Multiple Benefit Formula	28	45	
External Reciprocity	35	35	
COLA Rules	12	22	
Contribution Rates	58	53	
Variable Compensation	100	85	
Service Credit Rules	58	60	
Divorce Rules	100	55	
Purchase Rules	55	64	
Refund Rules	14	32	
Disability Rules	85	83	
Translation	0	0	
Defined Contribution Plan Rules	100	100	
Total Relative Complexity	64	53	

#### **Key Takeaways:**



Your total service score was 67 out of 100. This was below the peer median of 80, but significantly higher than the previous year.



Your total pension administration cost was \$54 per active member and annuitant. This was \$26 below the peer average of \$80.