# State of Wisconsin Retiree Life Insurance Financial Report

**Calendar Year 2024** 



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### Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds

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#### **ETF Executive Team**

A. John Voelker, Secretary Diana Felsmann, Deputy Secretary Pamela Henning, Assistant Deputy Secretary

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STATE OF WISCONSIN

## Legislative Audit Bureau

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#### Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements and Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

Senator Eric Wimberger and Representative Robert Wittke, Co-chairpersons Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Members of the Employee Trust Funds Board, and Mr. A. John Voelker, Secretary Department of Employee Trust Funds

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position and the related notes for the State Retiree Life Insurance and Local Retiree Life Insurance programs of the State of Wisconsin, administered by the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the State Retiree Life Insurance and Local Retiree Life Insurance programs as of December 31, 2024, and the changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

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*, which is issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section. We are required to be independent of ETF and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present only the State Retiree Life Insurance and Local Retiree Life Insurance programs, and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the State of Wisconsin as of December 31, 2024, the changes in its financial position or, where applicable, its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.



#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for 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.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance. Therefore, reasonable assurance is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards, we exercised professional judgment and maintained professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

In addition, we obtained an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that were appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of ETF's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed. We also evaluated the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management, and evaluated the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 7 through 11 and the following information found on pages 24 through 28 be presented to supplement the financial statements: the State Retiree Life Insurance Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios, the Local Retiree Life Insurance Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios, and the State and Local Retiree Life Insurance Schedule of Investment Returns, which include the related notes. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) that considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the 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. These procedures 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 financial statements, and



other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the 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 Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 9, 2025, and published in report 25-18 on our consideration of ETF's internal control over financial reporting; our testing of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, and contracts; and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 the effectiveness of ETF's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be used in considering ETF's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. Report 25-18 is available on our website at *www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lab.* 

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT BUREAU

Legislative Andit Breasur September 9, 2025



### Management's Discussion and Analysis

Management of the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) presents this discussion and analysis of the financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2024 for the State Retiree Life Insurance Fund (SRLIF) and Local Retiree Life Insurance Fund (LRLIF). These funds are collectively referred to as the "Retiree Life Insurance funds". This narrative is intended to supplement the financial statements which follow and should be read in conjunction with the note disclosures, which are an integral part of the financial statements.

#### » Financial Statements

The following discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the financial statements for the Retiree Life Insurance funds, which are both defined-benefit Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) programs. The financial statements include:

- · Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
- Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
- Notes to Financial Statements

The Retiree Life Insurance funds are reported as fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government whose funds are restricted for purposes of the trust.

The Statement of Fiduciary Net Position provides a snapshot of account balances at a point in time. It reports the assets available for future payments to benefit recipients, along with any liabilities that are owed as of the statement date. The full accrual basis of accounting is used.

The difference between assets and liabilities represents the net value of assets held in trust for future benefit payments. These amounts are called "Net Position - Restricted for Other Post-Employment Benefits".

The Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position displays the effect of financial transactions that occurred during the calendar year. Additions less deductions equals the "Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Position". This net increase (decrease) reflects the change in the value of net position that occurred during the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of the financial statements and provide additional information that is essential for a comprehensive understanding of the data reported in the financial statements. The notes describe the accounting and administrative policies under which ETF operates, significant account balances and activities, material risks, obligations, contingencies and subsequent events, if any.

The Required Supplementary Information (RSI) following the notes to the financial statements includes:

- Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios
- Schedule of Investment Returns

The financial statements and related notes are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).



#### » Condensed Financial Information

The following tables show comparative summaries of the SRLIF and LRLIF net position and the changes in the net position for 2024 and 2023.

Summary Schedule of Fiduciary Net Position  As of December 31							
(In Thousands)							
		2024		2023	_ <	Change	% Change
State Retiree Life Insurance Fund							
Assets:							
Investment Contract	\$	275,164	\$	289,867	\$	(14,703)	(5)%
Other Assets		260		179		81	45
Total Assets	\$	275,424	\$	290,046	\$	(14,622)	(5)%
Liabilities:							
Benefits Payable	\$	2,105	\$	1,723	\$	382	22 %
Other Liabilities		654		558		96	17
Total Liabilities	\$	2,759	\$	2,281	\$	478	21 %
Net Position - Restricted for Other Post-Employment Benefits	\$	272,665	\$	287,765	\$	(15,100)	(5)%
Local Retiree Life Insurance Fund							
Assets:							
Investment Contract	\$	232,685	\$	237,281	\$	(4,596)	(2)%
Other Assets		355		244		111	45
Total Assets	\$	233,040	\$	237,525	\$	(4,485)	(2)%
Liabilities:							
Benefits Payable	\$	833	\$	1,202	\$	(369)	(31)%
Other Liabilities		456		387		69	18
Total Liabilities	\$	1,289	\$	1,589	\$	(300)	(19)%
Net Position - Restricted for Other Post-Employment Benefits	\$	231,751	\$	235,936	\$	(4,185)	(2)%



## Summary Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position For the Years Ended December 31

(In Thousands)

	2024	2023		2023 \$ Change		% Change
State Retiree Life Insurance Fund						
Additions:						
Employer Contributions	\$ 2,209	\$	1,948	\$	261	13 %
Investment Income	9,039		9,103		(64)	(1)
Other Income	 209		164		45	27
Total Additions	\$ 11,457	\$	11,215	\$	242	2 %
Deductions:						
Other Benefit Expense	\$ 25,434	\$	25,634	\$	(200)	(1)%
Administrative Expenses	 1,123		1062		61	6
Total Deductions	\$ 26,557	\$	26,696	\$	(139)	(1)%
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	\$ (15,100)	\$	(15,481)	\$	381	2 %
Net Position - Beginning of Year	\$ 287,765	\$	303,246	\$	(15,481)	(5)%
Net Position - End of Year	\$ 272,665	\$	287,765	\$	(15,100)	(5)%
Local Retiree Life Insurance Fund						
Additions:						
Employer Contributions	\$ 2,104	\$	2,038	\$	66	3 %
Investment Income	7,307		7,205		102	1
Other Income	286		224		62	28
Total Additions	\$ 9,697	\$	9,467	\$	230	2 %
Deductions:						
Other Benefit Expense	\$ 12,055	\$	13,386	\$	(1,331)	(10)%
Administrative Expenses	1,827		1,775		52	3
Total Deductions	\$ 13,882	\$	15,161	\$	(1,279)	(8)%
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	\$ (4,185)	\$	(5,694)	\$	1,509	27 %
Net Position - Beginning of Year	\$ 235,936	\$	241,630	\$	(5,694)	(2)%
Net Position - End of Year	\$ 231,751	\$	235,936	\$	(4,185)	(2)%



#### » Analysis of Financial Activities

#### State Retiree Life Insurance Fund

The SRLIF provides fully paid-up life insurance benefits for post-age 64 retired employees of the State of Wisconsin and pre-age 65 annuitants who pay for their coverage.

The SRLIF Program had a net position of \$272.7 million as of December 31, 2024. This was a decrease of \$15.1 million compared to \$287.8 million as of December 31, 2023. This decrease is primarily the result of benefit expense exceeding contributions and investment income.

For 2024, the SRLIF collected \$2.2 million in contributions from participating employers, a 13% increase from \$1.9 million in 2023. This increase is primarily related to an increase in covered payroll and the current employer contribution schedule that includes an annual increase of 5% for nine years beginning in 2020 and ending in 2029, as approved by the Group Insurance Board (GIB) in August 2019.

The program incurred expenses of \$26.6 million in 2024 compared to \$26.7 million in 2023. This decrease was primarily caused by lower benefit expenses in 2024, which decreased about 1%. Contributions received for preage 65 annuitants are reported as a reduction to benefit expense, in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Post-Employment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans.

An actuarial valuation, in accordance with GASB standards, shows a Net OPEB Liability of \$709.2 million as of December 31, 2024. The plan Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total OPEB Liability was 28%. Additional information on this valuation can be found in Note 3, Retiree Life Insurance Funds Overview.

There were 36,892 retirees participating in the SRLIF in 2024 which was a 1% increase in participants from 2023.

#### **Local Retiree Life Insurance Fund**

The LRLIF provides fully paid-up life insurance benefits for post-age 64 retired employees of participating local governments in Wisconsin and pre-age 65 annuitants who pay for their coverage.

The LRLIF Program had a net position of \$231.8 million as of December 31, 2024. This was a decrease \$4.2 million compared to \$235.9 million as of December 31, 2023. This decrease is primarily the result of benefit expenses exceeding contributions and investment income.

For 2024, the LRLIF collected \$2.1 million in contributions from participating employers, a 3% increase from \$2.0 million in 2023. This increase is primarily related to an increase in covered payroll.

The program incurred expenses of \$13.9 million in 2024 compared to \$15.2 million in 2023. This decrease was primarily caused by lower benefit expenses in 2024, which decreased about 10%. Contributions received from pre-age 65 annuitants are reported as a reduction to benefit expense, in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74.

An actuarial valuation, in accordance with GASB standards, shows a Net OPEB Liability of \$391.2 million as of December 31, 2024. The plan Fiduciary Net Position as a percentage of the Total OPEB Liability was 37%. Additional information on this valuation can be found in Note 3.

There were 52,424 retirees participating in the LRLIF in 2024, which was a 2% increase in participants from 2023.



#### » Financial Contact

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the programs' finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report should be addressed to ETF at P.O. Box 7931, Madison, Wisconsin, 53707-7931.



#### State of Wisconsin Retiree Life Insurance Statement of Fiduciary Net Position December 31, 2024

(In Thousands)

	Other Post-Employment Benefi Trust Funds		
	State Retiree Life Insurance	Local Retiree Life Insurance	
Assets:			
Receivables:			
Miscellaneous Receivables	\$ 209	\$ 286	
Total Receivables	209	286	
Investments at Fair Value:			
Investment Contract	275,164	232,685	
Total Investments	275,164	232,685	
Capital Assets, Net	51	69	
Total Assets	275,424	233,040	
Liabilities:			
Benefits Payable	2,105	833	
Unearned Revenue	445	169	
Due To Other Benefit Programs	37	52	
Miscellaneous Payables	172	235	
Total Liabilities	2,759	1,289	
Net Position - Restricted for Other Post-Employment Benefits	\$ 272,665	\$ 231,751	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



#### State of Wisconsin Retiree Life Insurance Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

(In Thousands)

	Other Post-Employment Benefit Trust Funds		
	State Retiree Life Insurance	Local Retiree Life Insurance	
Additions:			
Contributions:			
Employer Contributions	\$ 2,209	\$ 2,104	
Total Contributions	2,209	2,104	
Investment Income:			
Other	9,039	7,307	
Net Investment Income	9,039	7,307	
Service Reimbursement Income	209	286	
Total Additions	11,457	9,697	
Deductions:			
Benefits and Refunds:			
Other Benefit Expense	25,434	12,055	
Carrier Administrative Expenses	950	1,589	
Administrative Expenses	173	238	
Total Deductions	26,557	13,882	
Net Increase (Decrease)	(15,100)	(4,185)	
Net Position - Beginning of Year	287,765	235,936	
Net Position - End of Year	\$ 272,665	\$ 231,751	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1

### **SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The State Retiree Life Insurance Fund (SRLIF) is a single-employer, defined-benefit Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) plan. The Local Retiree Life Insurance Fund (LRLIF) is a multiple-employer, defined-benefit OPEB plan. These funds are collectively referred to as the "Retiree Life Insurance funds". The SRLIF provides post-employment life insurance benefits for all eligible employees of the State of Wisconsin and the LRLIF provides post-employment life insurance benefits for all eligible employees of participating Wisconsin local employers. The Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) and the Group Insurance Board (GIB) have statutory authority for program administration and oversight under Wis. Stat. § 40.70.

#### » Presentation Basis

The financial statements of the SRLIF and LRLIF have been prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for government units as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Boards (GASB).

The assets and operations of the Retiree Life Insurance funds are accounted for as fiduciary, Other Post-Employment Benefit Trust Funds. These funds are used to account for the accumulation of assets and the payment of life insurance benefits for retired employees of the State of Wisconsin and participating local governments in Wisconsin.

ETF is not a general-purpose government and does not present government-wide statements. The Retiree Life Insurance funds administered by ETF are presented in the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, as they are a part of the State of Wisconsin financial reporting entity.

#### » Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The Retiree Life Insurance funds financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The Retiree Life Insurance funds are accounted for using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, contributions are recognized in the accounting period in which the underlying earnings on which the contributions are based are paid and the employer has made a formal commitment to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of each fund.

#### » Capital Assets and Related Commitments

Capital assets are reported in the Statements of Fiduciary Net Position and consist of implementation costs for construction work in progress, related to a Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITA). ETF capitalizes SBITAs with a cost equal to or greater than \$100,000. Certain costs to implement SBITA assets are capitalized when incurred. Assets are depreciated over the life the contract using the straight-line method of depreciation. As of December 31, 2024, capital assets have not yet begun to be depreciated.

As of December 31, 2024, the total value of capital assets allocated to SRLIF and LRLIF were \$51 thousand and \$69 thousand respectively.



In addition to the construction work in progress, ETF's contract for the Insurance Administration System has a subscription term expected to commence during the calendar year 2026. The estimated amount of the subscription liability at the time of commencement as well as the remaining amount owed for capitalizable implementation costs related to the contract that are attributable to SRLIF and LRLIF are approximately \$340 thousand and \$470 thousand, respectively.

#### » Amounts Due To/From Other Benefit Programs

As of December 31, 2024, SRLIF had a \$37 thousand balance and LRLIF had a \$52 thousand balance due to the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS). The outstanding balances between benefit programs result from the time lag between when actual receipts and disbursements are made and when those amounts are allocated between benefit programs. All liabilities are expected to be paid within one year of the balance sheet date.

#### » Administrative Expenses

ETF administrative costs are financed by a separate appropriation and are allocated to each benefit plan administered by ETF in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 40.04. The sources of funds for this appropriation are investment earnings and third-party reimbursements received from the programs administered by ETF. Administrative expenses allocated to the SRLIF and LRLIF as of December 31, 2024 were \$173 thousand and \$238 thousand, respectively, which includes ETF administrative costs, offset by capitalized costs. Costs incurred by the SRLIF and LRLIF for the third-party administrator in 2024 were \$950 thousand and \$1.6 million, respectively, and are reported as "Carrier Administrative Expenses."

#### >> Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make estimates that affect amounts reported herein. Due to the inherent uncertainty involved, actual results could differ from those estimates.

## 2 ACCOUNTING CHANGES

No accounting changes occurred during calendar year 2024.

## 3 RETIREE LIFE INSURANCE FUNDS OVERVIEW

#### **Governance Board**

The GIB sets policy for the life insurance program for state employees and for those local employers who chose to offer the program. Membership of the GIB is comprised of the following positions as required by Wisconsin Statutes:

Appointed by the Governor (no membership requirement);



- Ex officio, Administrator in Department of Administration, Division of Personnel Management (or their designee);
- Appointed by the Governor (insured participant in the WRS who is a teacher);
- Appointed by the Governor (insured participant in the WRS who is a retiree);
- Ex officio, Secretary of the Department of Administration (or their designee);
- Appointed by the Governor (insured participant in the WRS who is an employee of a local government unit);
- · Appointed by the Governor (insured participant in the WRS who is not a teacher);
- Ex officio, Attorney General (or their designee);
- Appointed by the Governor (chief executive or member of the governing body of a local government that is a participating employer);
- Ex officio, Commissioner of Insurance (or their designee); and
- Ex officio, Governor (or their designee).

### Plan Description

#### » Retiree Life Insurance Plans

The SRLIF includes the State of Wisconsin, the Universities of Wisconsin, and other component units of the State of Wisconsin, and is considered a single-employer defined benefit OPEB plan. The LRLIF includes participating employees of 747 local government employers as of December 31, 2024, and is considered a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan. The plans are reported as Other Post-Employment Benefit Trust Funds. The plans provide post-employment life insurance coverage to all eligible employees of participating employers. The plans are established by Wis. Stat. § 40.70. ETF, under the direction of the GIB, is responsible for the administration of the life insurance programs. ETF contracts with Securian Financial Group, Inc. (Securian) as a third-party administrator for the Retiree Life Insurance plans. Benefit terms may be modified by the GIB, subject to state and federal legislative constraints.

#### Membership

**Enrollment Eligibility**: Generally, members may enroll during a 30-day enrollment period after their date of hire. Members may also enroll after the initial 30-day enrollment period with evidence of insurability. Members under evidence of insurability enrollment must enroll in group life insurance coverage before age 55 to be eligible for Basic or Supplemental coverage.

Membership for basic coverage as of December 31, 2024, included:

_	State	Local	Total
Active*	53,559	74,396	127,955
Inactive:			
Pre-Age 65 Annuitants	5,635	9,556	15,191
Post-Age 64 Annuitants	31,257	42,868	74,125
Totals	90,451	126,820	217,271
_			

<sup>\*</sup>Active members include disabled.



#### **Contributions**

The GIB approves contribution rates annually, based on recommendations from the insurance carrier. Recommended rates are based on an annual valuation, taking into consideration an estimate of the present value of future benefits and the present value of future contributions. A portion of employer contributions made during a member's working lifetime funds a post-retirement benefit.

Employers are required to pay the following contributions based on active member contributions to provide them with Basic Coverage after age 65. There are no employer contributions required for pre-age 65 annuitant coverage. If a member retires prior to age 65, premium payments must continue until age 65 for the member to be eligible for the benefit after age 65.

State and Local Retiree Life Insurance Employer Contribution Rates For the year ended December 31, 2024							
Coverage Type	State	Local					
50% Post-Retirement Coverage	28% of member contribution	40% of member contribution					
25% Post-Retirement Coverage	N/A	20% of member contribution					

Member contributions are based upon nine age bands through age 69 and an additional eight age bands for those age 70 and over. Participating employees must pay monthly contribution rates per \$1,000 of coverage until the age of 65 (age 70 if active). The member contribution rates in effect for the year ended December 31, 2024 are as listed below:

Life Insurance	
Member Contribution Rates	
For the year ended December 31, 2024	

	Sta	ite *		Lo	ocal *	
Attained Age	 Basic	Supplem	ental	 Basic	Supple	mental
Under 30	\$ 0.05	\$	0.05	\$ 0.05	\$	0.05
30-34	0.05		0.05	0.06		0.06
35-39	0.05		0.05	0.07		0.07
40-44	0.08		0.08	0.08		0.08
45-49	0.13		0.13	0.12		0.12
50-54	0.21		0.21	0.22		0.22
55-59	0.29		0.29	0.39		0.39
60-64	0.40		0.40	0.49		0.49
65-69	0.52		0.52	0.57		0.57

<sup>\*</sup> Disabled members under age 70 receive a waiver-of-premium benefit.



The subsequent table provides the total contributions earned during 2024 by employers and pre-age 65 annuitants to fund post-retirement benefits.

State and Local Retiree Life Insurance Contributions Earned For the year ended December 31, 2024								
Contribution Type	State			Local				
Employer	\$	2,209,404	\$	2,103,563				
Pre-age 65 Annuitants*		4,586,961		6,681,367				
Total	\$	6,796,365	\$	8,784,930				

<sup>\*</sup>Contributions for pre-age 65 annuitants are recorded as a reduction of benefit expense in the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position.

#### **Description of Benefits**

**Retirement Eligibility**: At retirement, the member must have active group life insurance coverage and satisfy one of the following:

- WRS coverage prior to January 1, 1990, or
- At least one month of group life insurance coverage in each of five calendar years after 1989

#### and one of the following:

- Eligible for an immediate WRS benefit, or
- At least 20 years from their WRS creditable service as of January 1, 1990, plus their years of group life insurance coverage after 1989, or
- At least 20 years on the payroll of their last employer.

In addition, terminating members and retirees must continue to pay the member contributions until age 65 (age 70 if active).

**Basic Coverage Benefits:** After retirement, basic coverage is continued for life in these amounts of the insurance in force before retirement:

Percent of Basic Coverage Continuing							
Age	State	Local					
Before age 65	100%	100%					
While age 65	75%	75%					
While age 66	50%	50%					
After age 66	50%	50%/25% Employer Election					

**Supplemental Coverage Benefits:** After retirement, supplemental coverage may be continued until age 65 at 100% of the amount of the insurance in force before retirement at the employee's expense.

**Additional Coverage Benefits:** After retirement, additional coverage may be continued until age 65 at 100% of the amount of the insurance in force before retirement at the employee's expense.

**Spouse and Dependent Coverage Benefits:** After retirement, the coverage is terminated.



#### **Program Investments**

**Investment Contract with Insurance Carrier:** Investments for the Retiree Life Insurance funds are held with the insurance carrier, Securian, and are classified as "Investment Contract" in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position. In accordance with the administrative agreement between the GIB and Securian, interest is calculated and credited to the Retiree Life Insurance funds based on the rate of return for a segment of the insurance carrier's general fund, specifically 10 Year A-Bonds (as a proxy and not tied to any specific investments). The funds invested during the year earn interest based on that year's rate of return for 10 Year A-Bonds. The overall aggregate interest rate is calculated using a tiered approach based on the year the funds were invested and the rate of return for that year. Investment interest is credited based on the aggregate rate of return and assets are not adjusted to fair market value. Furthermore, the insurance carrier guarantees the principal amounts of the reserves, including all interest previously credited thereto. No significant contract changes occurred during the calendar year.

The targeted asset allocation and expected rates of return are presented in the following table:

State and Local Retiree Life Insurance
Asset Allocation Targets and Expected Returns
As of December 31, 2024

Asset Class	Index	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Geometric Real Rate of Return
U.S. Intermediate Credit Bonds	Bloomberg U.S. Interm Credit	40%	2.41%
U.S. Mortgages	Bloomberg U.S. MBS	60%	2.71%
Inflation			2.30%
Long-Term Expected Rate		4.25%	

The annual money-weighted rate of return on plan investments is shown in the below table. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of OPEB plan investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

The long-term expected rate of return remained unchanged from the prior year at 4.25%. The expected inflation rate remained unchanged from the prior year at 2.30%. The long-term expected rate of return is determined by adding expected inflation to expected long-term real returns and reflecting expected volatility and correlation.

State and Local Retiree Life Insurance Schedule of Investment Returns Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return							
	2024						
State Retiree Life Insurance	3.25%						
Local Retiree Life Insurance	3.17%						



#### State Retiree Life Insurance Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of Participating Employers

The components of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of the participating State employers as of December 31, 2024 were as follows (in millions):

Total OPEB Liability	\$ 981.83
Plan Fiduciary Net Position*	272.66
Participating Employer's Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ 709.17
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	27.77%

<sup>\*</sup>An immaterial difference may exist between the Plan Fiduciary Net Position used in the actuarial valuation and that reported in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position, due to the timing of the actuarial valuation.

Amounts may not foot due to rounding.

Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation follows:

Actuarial Valuation Date: January 1, 2024

Measurement Date of Net OPEB Liability

(Asset): December 31, 2024

January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2023

WRS Experience Study: Published November 19, 2024

Actuarial Cost Method: Entry Age Normal

20 Year Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Yield\* 4.08% Long-Term Expected Rate of Return: 4.25% Discount Rate: 4.09%

Salary Increases:

Wage Inflation 3.00% Seniority/Merit 0.1% - 5.7%

Mortality: 2020 WRS Experience Mortality Table

Some actuarial assumptions used in this valuation, including the wage inflation, mortality, and separation rates, are based upon an experience study conducted in 2024 that covered a three-year period from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023. The Total OPEB Liability for December 31, 2024 is based upon a roll-forward of the liability calculated from the January 1, 2024 actuarial valuation.

A discount rate of 4.09% was used to measure the Total OPEB Liability for the current year, as opposed to a discount rate of 3.30% for the prior year. The change in the discount rate was primarily caused by the increase in the municipal bond rate from 3.26% as of December 31, 2023 to 4.08% as of December 31, 2024. The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made according to the current employer contribution schedule and that contributions are made by plan members retiring prior to age 65. At their August 2019 meeting, the GIB approved an annual premium rate increase of 5% for nine years, beginning in 2020 and ending in 2029.

Based on these assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the discount rate for

<sup>\*</sup> Based on the Bond Buyer GO 20-Bond Municipal index.



calculating the Total OPEB Liability was applied to benefit payments, to the extent that the plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to make projected benefit payments, and the municipal bond rate applied to benefit payment to the extent that the plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be insufficient. The plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make projected future benefit payments of current plan members through December 31, 2033. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied through 2033 and the municipal bond index rate was applied for all remaining periods of projected benefit payments to determine the Total OPEB Liability.

## Sensitivity of the State Retiree Life Insurance Net OPEB Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the plan's Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and shows what the plan's Net OPEB Liability (Asset) would be if it was calculated using a single discount rate that is one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher (in millions):

	19	% Decrease 3.09%	Di	Current iscount Rate 4.09%	1% Increase 5.09%			
Total OPEB Liability	\$	1,179.9	\$	981.8	\$	827.8		
Plan Fiduciary Net Position		272.7		272.7		272.7		
Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$	907.2	\$	709.2	\$	555.1		

Amounts may not foot due to rounding.

#### Local Retiree Life Insurance Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of Participating Employers

The components of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of the participating local employers at December 31, 2024, were as follows (in millions):

Total OPEB Liability	\$ 622.98
Plan Fiduciary Net Position*	 231.75
Participating Employer's Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ 391.23
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	37.20%

<sup>\*</sup>An immaterial difference may exist between the Plan Fiduciary Net Position used in the actuarial valuation and that reported in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position, due to the timing of the actuarial valuation.



#### Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuations follows:

Actuarial Valuation Date: January 1, 2024

Measurement Date of Net OPEB

Liability (Asset): December 31, 2024

January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2023

WRS Experience Study: Published November 19, 2024

Actuarial Cost Method: Entry Age Normal

20 Year Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond

Yield\* 4.08% Long-Term Expected Rate of Return: 4.25% Discount Rate: 4.09%

Salary Increases:

Wage Inflation 3.00%

Seniority/Merit 0.1% - 5.7%

Mortality: 2020 WRS Experience Mortality Table

Some actuarial assumptions used in this valuation, including the wage inflation, mortality, and separation rates, are based upon an experience study conducted in 2024 that covered a three-year period from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2023. The Total OPEB Liability for December 31, 2024 is based upon a roll-forward of the liability calculated from the January 1, 2024 actuarial valuation.

A discount rate of 4.09% was used to measure the Total OPEB Liability for the current year, as opposed to a discount rate of 3.32% for the prior year. The change in the discount rate was primarily caused by the increase in the municipal bond rate from 3.26% as of December 31, 2023 to 4.08% as of December 31, 2024. The projection of cash flows used to determine the single discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made according to the current employer contribution schedule and that contributions are made by plan members retiring prior to age 65.

Based on these assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the discount rate for calculating the Total OPEB Liability was applied to benefit payments, to the extent that the plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to make projected benefit payments, and the municipal bond rate applied to benefit payment to the extent that the plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be insufficient. The plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make projected future benefit payments of current plan members through December 31, 2037. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied through 2037 and the municipal bond index rate was applied for all remaining periods of projected benefit payments to determine the Total OPEB Liability.

<sup>\*</sup> Based on the Bond Buyer GO 20-Bond Municipal index.



## Sensitivity of the Local Retiree Life Insurance Net OPEB Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the plan's Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and shows what the plan's Net OPEB Liability (Asset) would be if it was calculated using a single discount rate that is one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher (in millions):

	Current 1% Decrease Discount Ra 3.09% 4.09%		ount Rate	19	% Increase 5.09%	
Total OPEB Liability	\$	754.7	\$	623.0	\$	521.5
Plan Fiduciary Net Position		231.8		231.8		231.8
Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$	522.9	\$	391.2	\$	289.7

# 4 CONTINGENCIES, RELATED PARTIES, UNUSUAL EVENTS, & SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

No loss contingencies, related party transactions, unusual events, or subsequent events occurred related to calendar year 2024.



## REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

State Retiree Life Insurance Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios (In Millions)										
Calendar Year Ended, December 31		2024		2023		2022		2021		2020
Total OPEB Liability										
Service Cost	\$	35.2	\$	29.5	\$	49.0	\$	46.3	\$	36.3
Interest on the Total OPEB Liability		36.5		36.7		28.0		27.4		30.0
Effect of Economic/Demographic Gains or Losses		(0.3)		(5.3)		(5.3)		3.3		(10.5)
Effect of Assumption Changes or Inputs		(149.0)		86.6		(350.1)		13.4		138.5
Benefit Payments		(25.4)		(25.6)		(26.0)		(23.7)		(24.7)
Net Change in Total OPEB Liability		(103.0)		121.8		(304.4)		66.7		169.6
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning		1,084.8		963.0		1,267.4		1,200.7		1,031.1
Total OPEB Liability - Ending (a)	\$	981.8	\$	1,084.8	\$	963.0	\$	1,267.4	\$	1,200.7
Plan Fiduciary Net Position										
Employer Contributions	\$	2.2	\$	1.9	\$	1.8	\$	1.7	\$	1.5
Net Investment Income		9.2		9.3		8.9		8.8		9.8
Benefit Payments		(25.4)		(25.6)		(26.0)		(23.7)		(24.7)
OPEB Plan Administrative Expense		(1.1)		(1.1)		(1.0)		(0.9)		(0.9)
Other		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position		(15.1)		(15.5)		(16.3)		(14.1)		(14.3)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning		287.8		303.2		319.6		333.7		348.0
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	\$	272.7	\$	287.7	\$	303.3	\$	319.6	\$	333.7
Net OPEB Liability(Asset) - Ending (a) - (b)	\$	709.2	\$	797.1	\$	659.7	\$	947.8	\$	867.0
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total OPEB Liability		27.77 %		26.53 %		31.49 %	)	25.22 %	ı	27.80 %
Covered Employee Payroll	\$	4,362.5	\$	3,894.0	\$	3,645.2	\$	3,529.3	\$	3,456.5
Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll		16.26 %		20.47 %		18.10 %	)	26.85 %	ı	25.08 %
Key Assumptions										
Discount Rate		4.09 %		3.30 %		3.75 %	)	2.15 %	l	2.22 %
Long-Term Expected Rate of Return		4.25 %		4.25 %		4.25 %	)	4.25 %	ı	4.25 %
20 Year Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Yield		4.08 %		3.26 %		3.72 %	)	2.06 %	ı	2.12 %

Immaterial differences may exist between the amounts in this schedule and those reported in the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position.



#### State Retiree Life Insurance Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios (In Millions)

(In Millions)			
Calendar Year Ended, December 31	2019	2018	2017
Total OPEB Liability			
Service Cost	\$ 25.4	\$ 30.7	\$ 26.1
Interest on the Total OPEB Liability	33.2	31.2	30.7
Effect of Economic/Demographic Gains or Losses	(6.2)	(17.5)	(5.3)
Effect of Assumption Changes or Inputs	223.0	(94.9)	49.0
Benefit Payments	(19.8)	(19.5)	(17.7)
Net Change in Total OPEB Liability	255.6	(70.0)	82.8
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	775.5	845.5	762.6
Total OPEB Liability - Ending (a)	\$ 1,031.1	\$ 775.5	\$ 845.5
Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
Employer Contributions	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.4
Net Investment Income	10.4	10.9	11.5
Benefit Payments	(19.8)	(19.5)	(17.7)
OPEB Plan Administrative Expense	(0.8)	(0.7)	(0.6)
Other	13.1 *	0.0	0.0
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	4.0	(7.9)	(5.4)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	344.0	352.0	357.4
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	\$ 348.0	\$ 344.0	\$ 352.0
Net OPEB Liability(Asset) - Ending (a) - (b)	\$ 683.1	\$ 431.5	\$ 493.5
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total OPEB Liability	33.75 %	44.36 %	41.63 %
Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 3,299.5	\$ 3,182.5	\$ 3,184.0
Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	20.70 %	13.56 %	15.50 %
Key Assumptions			
Discount Rate	2.84 %	4.20 %	3.60 %
Long-Term Expected Rate of Return	4.25 %	5.00 %	5.00 %
20 Year Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Yield	2.74 %	4.10 %	3.44 %

<sup>\*</sup>Transfer from Active Life Insurance Program.

Immaterial differences may exist between the amounts in this schedule and those reported in the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position.



Local Retiree Life Insurance						
Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios						
(In Millions)						

(in Millions)										
Calendar Year Ended, December 31		2024		2023		2022		2021		2020
Total OPEB Liability										
Service Cost	\$	24.3	\$	20.6	\$	34.8	\$	33.9	\$	26.7
Interest on the Total OPEB Liability		23.7		23.9		18.8		18.7		20.2
Effect of Economic/Demographic Gains or Losses		(12.9)		(14.8)		(16.4)		(10.7)		(12.5)
Effect of Assumption Changes or Inputs		(96.0)		57.0		(240.0)		6.3		97.7
Benefit Payments		(12.1)		(13.4)		(13.8)		(10.4)		(12.8)
Net Change in Total OPEB Liability		(73.0)		73.4		(216.6)		37.8		119.2
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning		696.0		622.6		839.2		801.4		682.2
Total OPEB Liability - Ending (a)	\$	623.0	\$	696.0	\$	622.6	\$	839.2	\$	801.4
Plan Fiduciary Net Position										
Employer Contributions	\$	2.1	\$	2.0	\$	2.0	\$	2.0	\$	2.0
Net Investment Income		7.6		7.4		6.9		6.7		7.3
Benefit Payments		(12.1)		(13.4)		(13.8)		(10.4)		(12.8)
OPEB Plan Administrative Expense		(1.8)		(1.8)		(1.7)		(1.5)		(1.5)
Other		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position		(4.2)		(5.7)		(6.6)		(3.2)		(5.0)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning		235.9		241.6		248.2		251.4		256.4
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	\$	231.7	\$	235.9	\$	241.6	\$	248.2	\$	251.4
Net OPEB Liability (Asset) - Ending (a) - (b)	\$	391.2	\$	460.1	\$	381.0	\$	591.0	\$	550.0
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total OPEB Liability		37.20 %		33.90 %		38.81 %		29.57 %		31.36 %
Covered Employee Payroll	\$	4,841.7	\$	4,619.1	\$	4,471.4	\$	4,418.5	\$	4,307.4
Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll		8.08 %		9.96 %		8.52 %		13.38 %		12.77 %
Key Assumptions										
Discount Rate		4.09 %		3.32 %		3.76 %		2.17 %		2.25 %
Long-Term Expected Rate of Return		4.25 %		4.25 %		4.25 %		4.25 %		4.25 %
20 Year Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Yield		4.08 %		3.26 %		3.72 %		2.06 %		2.12 %

Immaterial differences may exist between the amounts in this schedule and those reported in the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position.



Local Retiree Life Insurance
Schedules of Changes in Net OPEB Liability (Asset) and Related Ratios
(In Millions)

(In Millions)			
Calendar Year Ended, December 31	2019	2018	2017
Total OPEB Liability			
Service Cost	\$ 17.0	\$ 21.1	\$ 18.1
Interest on the Total OPEB Liability	21.7	20.4	19.8
Effect of Economic/Demographic Gains or Losses	(9.5)	(11.0)	(4.9)
Effect of Assumption Changes or Inputs	159.4	(65.1)	33.5
Benefit Payments	(9.3)	 (7.6)	(7.3)
Net Change in Total OPEB Liability	179.3	(42.2)	59.2
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	502.9	545.1	485.9
Total OPEB Liability - Ending (a)	\$ 682.2	\$ 502.9	\$ 545.1
Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
Employer Contributions	\$ 1.8	\$ 1.9	\$ 2.1
Net Investment Income	7.5	7.6	7.6
Benefit Payments	(9.3)	(7.6)	(7.3)
OPEB Plan Administrative Expense	(1.4)	(1.2)	(1.2)
Other	12.9 *	 0.0	0.0
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	11.5	0.7	1.2
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	244.9	244.2	243.1
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	\$ 256.4	\$ 244.9	\$ 244.2
Net OPEB Liability(Asset) - Ending (a) - (b)	\$ 425.8	\$ 258.0	\$ 300.9
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total OPEB Liability	37.58 %	48.69 %	44.81 %
Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 4,228.2	\$ 4,115.0	\$ 4,205.3
Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	10.07 %	6.27 %	7.15 %
Key Assumptions			
Discount Rate	2.87 %	4.22 %	3.63 %
Long-Term Expected Rate of Return	4.25 %	5.00 %	5.00 %
20 Year Tax-Exempt Municipal Bond Yield	2.74 %	4.10 %	3.44 %

<sup>\*</sup>Transfer from Active Life Insurance Program.

Immaterial differences may exist between the amounts in this schedule and those reported in the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position.

State and Local Retiree Life Insurance Schedule of Investment Returns Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expenses								
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
State Retiree Life Insurance	3.25 %	3.10 %	2.82 %	2.67 %	2.86 %	3.09 %	3.16 %	3.19 %
Local Retiree Life Insurance	3.17 %	3.04 %	2.77 %	2.65 %	2.84 %	3.05 %	3.10 %	3.13 %



### NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Changes in Benefit Terms and Assumptions related to SRLIF and LRLIF OPEB Liabilities (Assets)

**Benefit Terms**: There were no recent changes in benefit terms.

**Assumptions**: In addition to the rate changes detailed in the tables above, the State of Wisconsin Employee Trust Fund Board adopted economic and demographic assumption changes based on a three year experience study performed for the Wisconsin Retirement System. These assumptions are used in the actuarial valuations of OPEB liabilities (assets) for the retiree life insurance programs and are summarized below.

The assumption changes that were used to measure the December 31, 2021 total OPEB liabilities, including the following:

- Lowering the price inflation rate from 2.5% to 2.4%
- Mortality assumptions were changed to reflect updated trends by transitioning from the Wisconsin 2018 Mortality Table to the 2020 WRS Experience Mortality Table.

The assumption changes that were used to measure the December 31, 2018 total OPEB liabilities, including the following:

- Lowering the long-term expected rate of return from 5.00% to 4.25%
- Lowering the wage inflation rate from 3.2% to 3.0%
- Lowering the price inflation rate from 2.7% to 2.5%
- Mortality assumptions were changed to reflect updated trends by transitioning from the Wisconsin 2012 Mortality Table to the Wisconsin 2018 Mortality Table.