

## **Chief Investment Officer Monthly Report**

Jonathan Grabel - Chief Investment Officer



Board of Investments Meeting November 13, 2024

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## 1 Market Environment

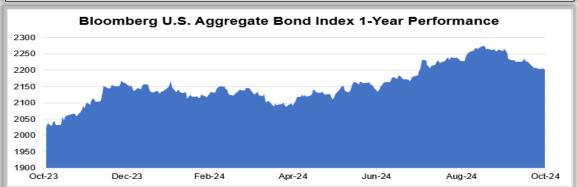
## Global Market Performance as of October 31, 2024











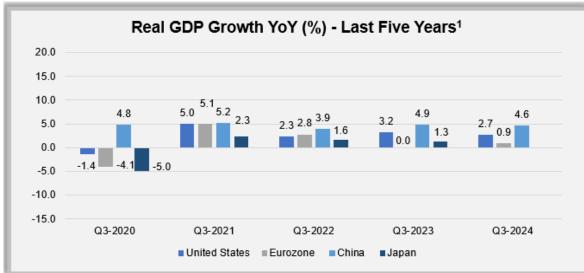
\*\*Investment Grade Bonds Policy Benchmark - Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index

Market	Sub-Category	Index Name	1-Month	3-Month	FYTD	YTD	1 Y	3 Y	5 Y	10 Y
Reference Portfolio	60:40 Equity:Bond Portfolio	60% MSCI ACWI IMI/ 40% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index		1.5	3.7	9.7	23.2	2.2	6.5	6.1
	Global All Cap	MSCI ACWI IMI Total Return	-2.3	2.3	4.4	15.1	32.2	4.9	10.7	8.9
	U.S. All Cap	Russell 3000 Total Return	-0.7	3.5	5.4	19.7	37.7	7.6	14.6	12.4
Equity	U.S. Large Cap	S&P 500 Total Return	-0.9	3.7	4.9	21.0	37.9	9.1	15.3	13.0
Equity	U.S. Small Cap	Russell 2000 Total Return	-1.4	-2.2	7.7	9.6	34.0	0.0	8.5	7.9
	Non-U.S. All Cap	MSCI ACWI-ex U.S. IMI Total Return	-5.0	0.3	2.8	8.3	24.2	1.2	5.8	4.9
	Emerging Markets	MSCI Emerging Markets Total Return	-4.4	3.6	3.9	11.7	25.2	-1.4	3.9	3.4
Private Equity	Private Equity Buyout	Thomson Reuters PE Buyout Index	-2.2	3.7	5.0	28.9	60.9	-0.4	10.7	11.1
	U.S. Investment Grade Bonds	Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index	-2.5	0.2	2.6	1.9	10.5	-2.2	-0.2	1.5
	U.S. Corporate High Yield Bonds	Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Total Return	-0.5	2.7	4.7	7.4	16.4	3.0	4.5	4.9
Fixed Income	U.S. Long Term Treasury Bonds	Bloomberg Long Term U.S. Treasury Total Return Index	-5.2	-1.3	2.2	-2.9	15.1	-10.5	-5.1	0.3
Fixed income	Developed Markets Leveraged Loans	Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Total Return	8.0	2.2	2.9	7.5	10.5	6.5	5.9	4.9
	U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	Bloomberg U.S. Treasury TIPS Total Return Index	-1.8	0.5	2.3	3.0	8.6	-1.5	2.2	2.3
	U.S. 3 Month Treasury Bill	FTSE 3 Month Treasury Bill	0.4	1.3	1.8	4.6	5.6	3.8	2.4	1.7
Commodity	Commodity Prices Index	Bloomberg Commodity Index Total Return	-1.9	3.0	-1.2	3.9	-1.2	2.1	7.0	-0.1
Commounty	Natural Resources	S&P Global LargeMidCap Commodity & Resources Index	-3.6	-0.4	1.0	2.6	9.3	6.4	10.4	5.7
Infrastracture	Global Infrastructure	Dow Jones Brookfield Global Infrastructure Composite Index	-1.7	4.9	11.4	11.8	25.6	5.0	4.9	4.3
Real Estate	U.S. REITs	MSCI U.S. REIT Index	-2.9	6.1	12.8	12.5	36.4	1.4	4.6	6.5

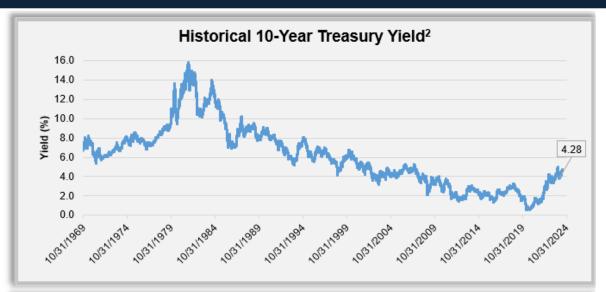
Source: Bloomberg

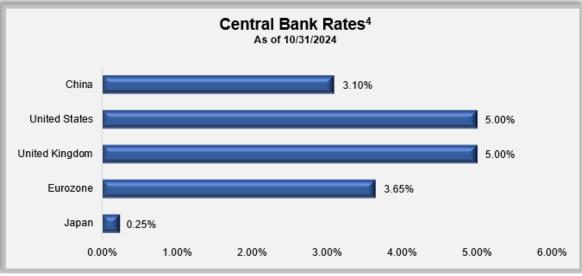
## **Key Macro Indicators\***











<sup>\*</sup>The information on the "Key Macro Indicators" charts is the best available data as of 10/31/24 and may not reflect the current market and economic environment.

Sources:

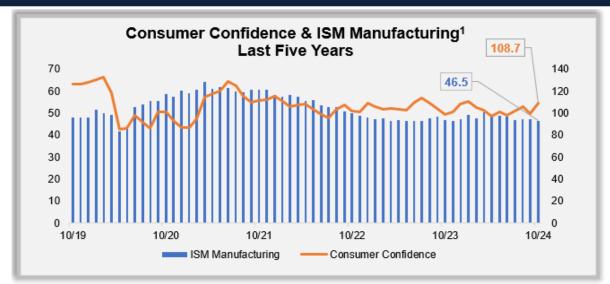
1. Bloomberg

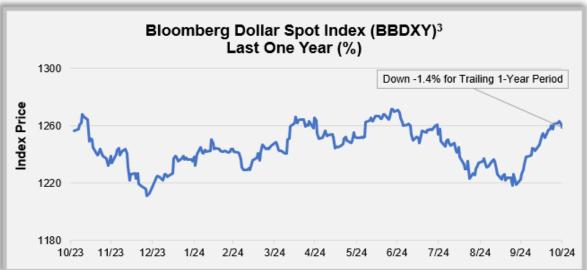
2. St. Louis Federal Reserve

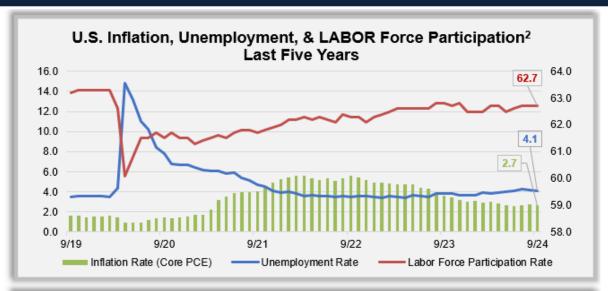
4. FactSet

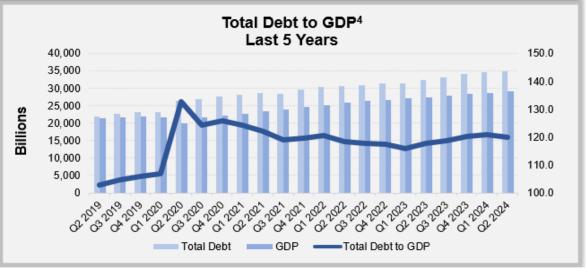
## **Key Macro Indicators\***











<sup>\*</sup>The information on the "Key Macro Indicators" charts is the best available data as of 10/31/24 and may not reflect the current market and economic environment.

Sources:

<sup>1.</sup> Bloomberg 3. Bloomberg

<sup>2.</sup> Bloomberg 4. Office of Management and Budget; St. Louis Federal Reserve



# 2 Portfolio Performance & Risk Updates

### Market Themes and Notable Items to Watch



#### **Recent Themes**

- The International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook report for October 2024 indicates "stable but underwhelming global growth, with the balance of risks tilted to the downside"
  - The report cites continued monetary, fiscal, and structural reforms to promote stable growth
- The Federal Reserve is scheduled to meet and consider policy interest rates at the November 6-7 meeting
- The U.S. 10-year Treasury yield ended October at 4.28% after being 3.88% at the end of both 2022 and 2023, 1.52% at the end of 2021, and 0.93% at the end of 2020
- Global equities (MSCI All Country World Investable Index) decreased 2.3% in October

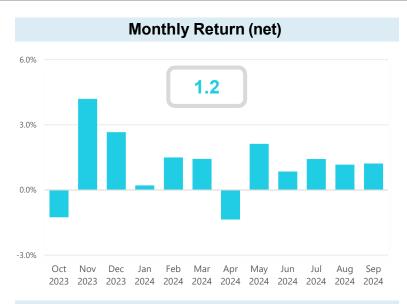
#### What to Watch

- Interest rates and central bank actions
- Economic data and trends
  - Inflation, supply chains, and labor developments
- Macro conditions and geopolitical risks
- Artificial intelligence including research developments, applications, and infrastructure investment
- Stewardship and ESG-related developments
  - Corporate DEI efforts continue with 97% of S&P500 companies disclosing aggregate employee demographics in 2024, up from 93% in 2023\*

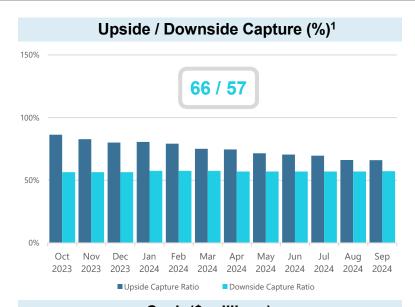
<sup>\*</sup> www.teneo.com/insights/articles/the-state-of-sustainability-in-2024-dei-will-survive

## **Total Fund Summary as of September 2024**



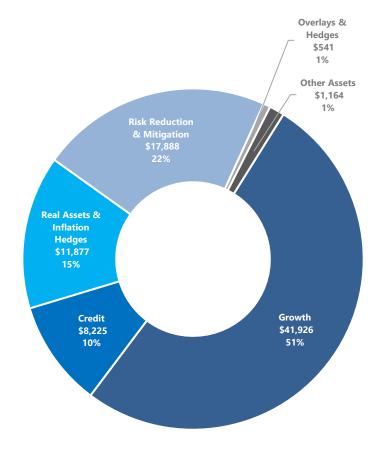








#### Asset Allocation (\$ millions)<sup>2</sup>



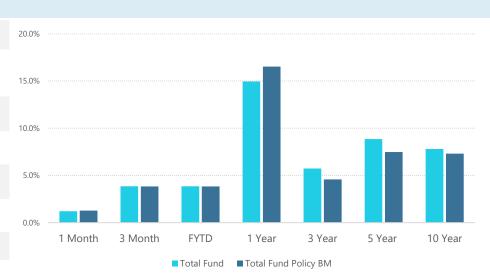
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reference portfolio = 60% MSCI ACWI IMI / 40% Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Other Assets include receivables due to deferred sales and rebalancing activity pending settlement.

## Historical Net Performance as of September 2024



						L	ACER	A Pen	sion F	und	
	Market Value (\$ mm)	% of Total Fund	Interim Target	1 Month	3 Month	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	
Total Fund	81,621	100.0%	100.0%	1.2%	3.9%	3.9%	15.0%	5.7%	8.9%	7.8%	
Total Fund Policy BM				1.3%	3.8%	3.8%	16.5%	4.6%	7.5%	7.3%	
7% Annual Hurdle Rate				0.6%	1.7%	1.7%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	
Growth	41,926	51.4%	50.5%	1.6%	4.7%	4.7%	20.0%	7.4%	13.0%		
Growth Policy BM				2.1%	5.1%	5.1%	24.8%	7.0%	12.0%		
Credit	8,225	10.1%	12.0%	0.8%	3.6%	3.6%	16.0%	6.8%	7.0%		
Credit Policy BM				1.0%	2.8%	2.8%	11.8%	3.8%	4.4%		
Real Assets & Inflation Hedges	11,877	14.6%	16.0%	0.8%	2.6%	2.6%	4.0%	4.3%	5.3%		
Real Assets & Inflation Hedges Policy BM				-0.9%	-0.1%	-0.1%	1.2%	2.4%	4.6%		
Risk Reduction & Mitigation	17,888	21.9%	21.5%	1.0%	4.1%	4.1%	10.6%	-0.3%	1.4%		
Risk Reduction & Mitigation Policy BM				1.2%	4.4%	4.4%	11.1%	-0.5%	0.9%		
Overlays & Hedges	541	0.7%									
Other Assets	1,164	1.4%									

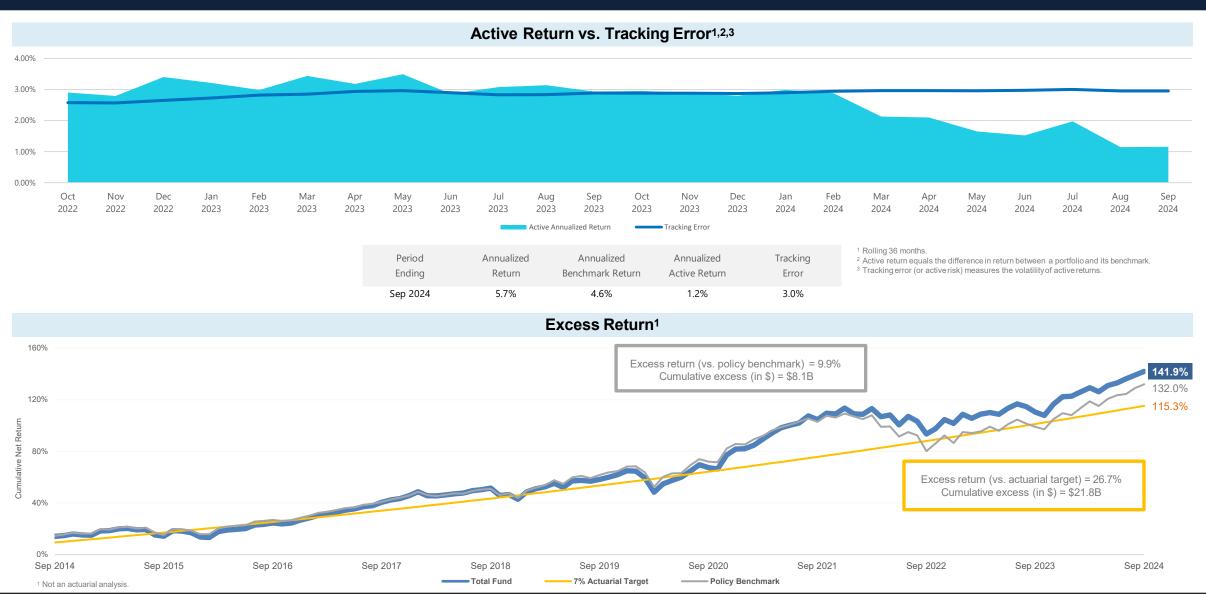


							OPEB Trust			
	Market Value (\$ mm)	% of Master Trust	Interim Target	1 Month	3 Month	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
<b>OPEB Master Trust</b>	4,371			1.9%	6.3%	6.3%	21.3%	4.6%	7.8%	7.7%
OPEB Master Trust Policy BM				1.6%	4.7%	4.7%	18.0%	3.6%	7.0%	6.5%
6% Annual Hurdle Rate				0.5%	1.47%	1.5%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
OPEB Growth	1,999	45.7%	45.0%	2.2%	6.7%	6.7%	31.0%	7.6%	12.1%	
OPEB Growth Policy BM				2.3%	6.4%	6.4%	30.0%	7.2%	11.7%	
OPEB Credit	739	16.9%	17.0%	1.3%	4.1%	4.1%	11.9%	4.0%	4.0%	
OPEB Credit Policy BM				1.0%	2.8%	2.8%	11.8%	3.8%	4.2%	
OPEB Real Assets & Inflation Hedges	713	16.3%	16.5%	2.3%	8.7%	8.7%	18.2%	1.9%	3.9%	
OPEB RA & IH Policy BM				0.6%	0.9%	0.9%	2.8%	-1.4%	2.2%	
OPEB Risk Reduction & Mitigation	919	21.0%	21.5%	1.4%	5.5%	5.5%	12.2%	-0.6%	0.7%	
OPEB RR & M Policy BM				1.4%	5.4%	5.4%	12.0%	-1.3%	0.2%	
OPEB HL PM Cash	0	0.0%								



## Active and Excess Return as of September 2024





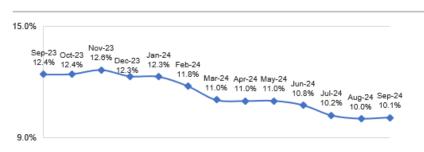
## Total Fund Forecast Volatility as of September 2024\*



## TOTAL FUND VOLATILITY

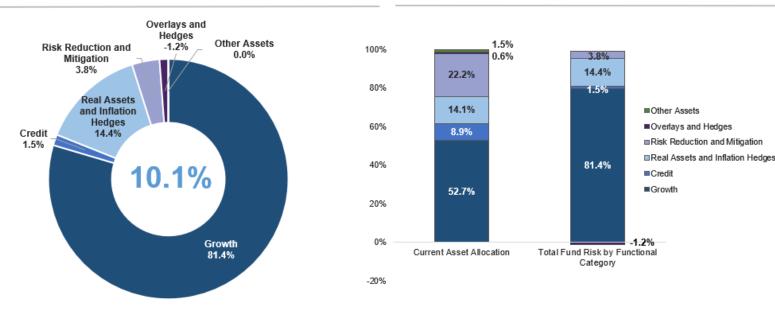


#### **Forecasted Total Fund Volatility Trend**



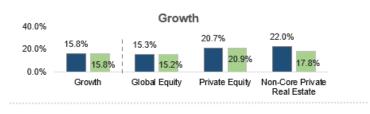
**Functional Category Contributions to Total Fund Volatility** 





#### **Subcategory Volatility**



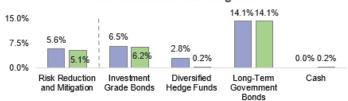




#### Real Assets and Inflation Hedges



#### Risk Reduction and Mitigation



Source: MSCI BarraOne

<sup>\*</sup> Real estate and private equity data is based on best available cash flow adjusted market values. Exposure data is based on security level holdings and/or proxies.

## Total Fund Forecast Tracking Error as of September 2024\*











Policy Target Weight for each Functional Category Maximum and Minimum Bands



#### Functional Category Contributions to Tracking Error

Credit 9.6%



Active Weights for each Functional Category





#### Subcategory Tracking Error



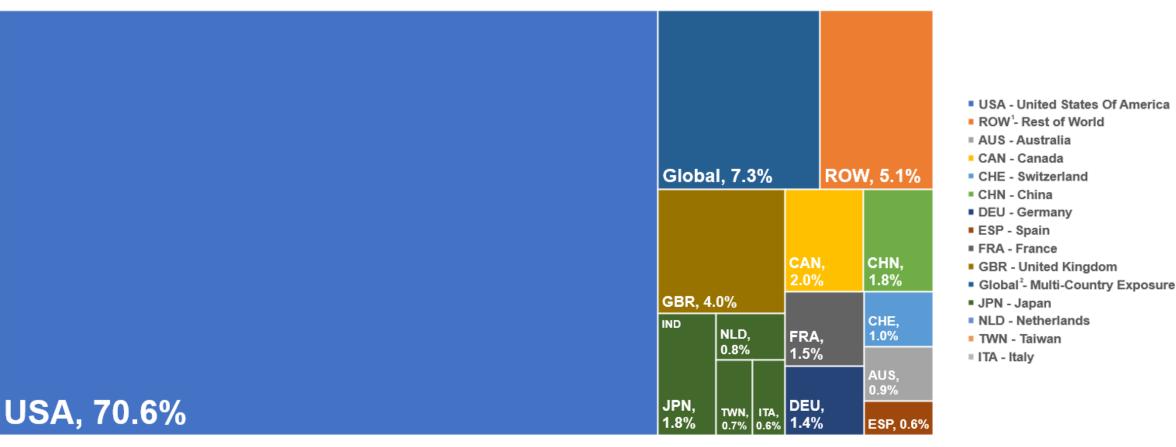
Source: MSCI BarraOne

<sup>\*</sup> Real estate and private equity data is based on best available cash flow adjusted market values. Exposure data is based on security level holdings and/or proxies

## Geographic Exposures by AUM

#### Total Fund as of September 2024\* Ex-Overlays and Hedges





AUM = Assets under management.

Geographic exposure is based on the domicile country of a given security/asset.

SOURCE: MSCI BarraOne

<sup>\*</sup> Implementation of the MSCI Risk Platform is ongoing; reconciliation and refinement of the data is progressing and subject to change.

Real Estate and Private Equity data is based on best available cash flow adjusted market values. Exposure data is based on security level holdings and/or proxies.

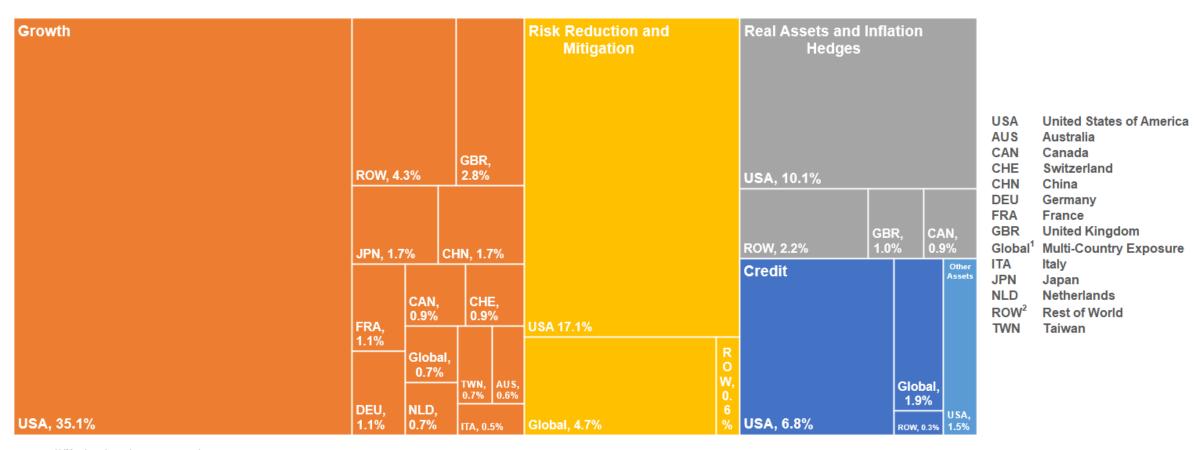
<sup>1 &</sup>quot;ROW - Rest of World" is sum of countries with weights below 0.5%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Global represents investments made in regions where specific country allocations are not available.

## Geographic Exposures by AUM



Functional Categories as of September 2024\* Ex-Overlays and Hedges



AUM = Assets under management.

Geographic exposure is based on the domicile country of a given security/asset.

SOURCE: MSCI BarraOne

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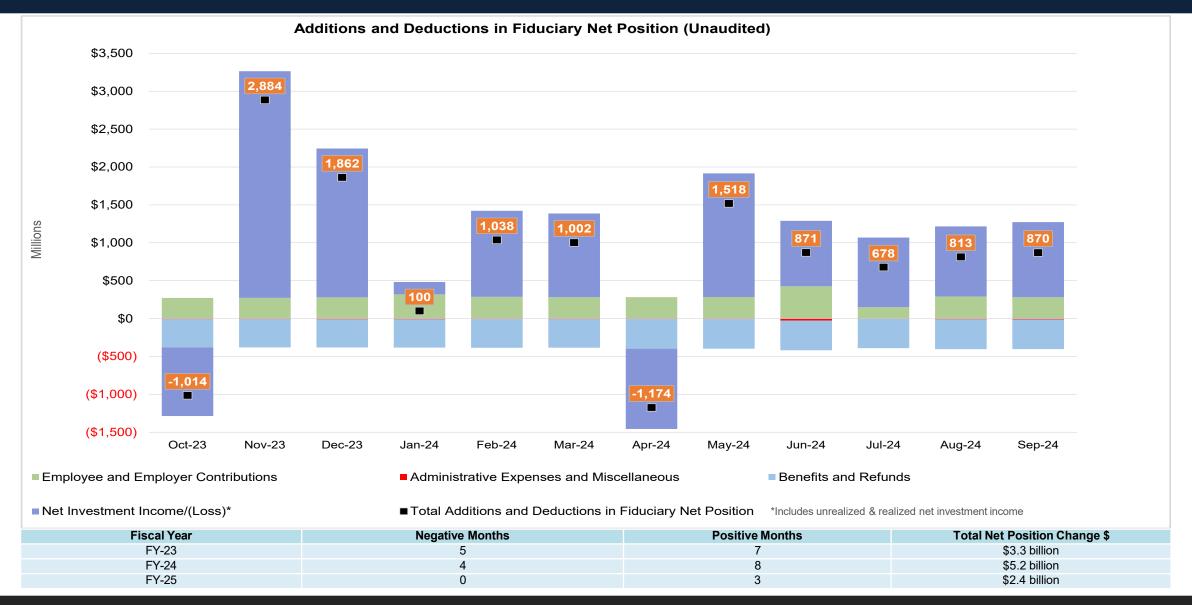
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## **Change In Fiduciary Net Position**





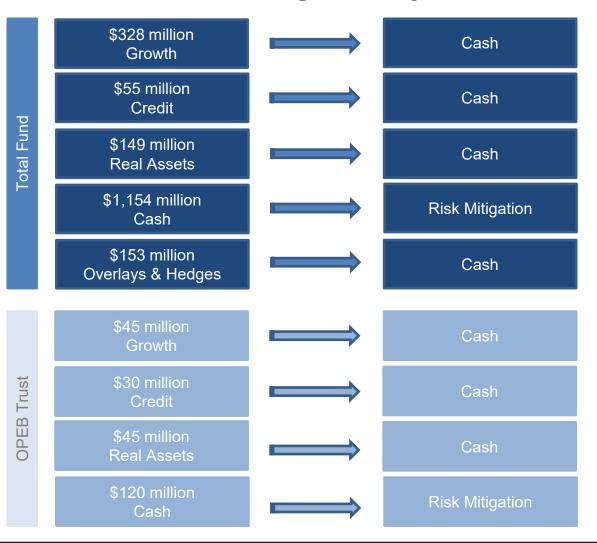


# Portfolio Structural Updates

## Portfolio Structural Updates



#### **Rebalancing Activity**



#### **Overlays & Hedges**

#### **Monthly Activity**

Program	September Return	September Gain/(Loss)	Inception¹ Gain/(Loss)
Currency Hedge <sup>2</sup>	-0.5%	(\$47.2 Million)	\$1.5 Billion
Cash / Rebalance Overlay <sup>3</sup>	0.9%	\$31.4 Million	\$566.6 Million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Currency and overlay program inception dates are 8/2010 & 7/2019, respectively.

#### **Current Search Activity**

#### Status of Active Searches - Subject to Change

Name	RFP Issued	Due Diligence	Selection/ Review
Risk and Analytics System, and ESG Research Services Search	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Nov 2024
Real Assets Emerging Manager Program Separate Account Manager Search	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Q4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> LACERA's currency hedge program's 1-month return is calculated monthly whereas the monthly gain/loss amount for the same period is the net realized dollar amount at contract settlement over three monthly tranches.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> LACERA's overlay program's 1-month return includes interest earned on the cash that supports the futures contracts.



# **14** Key Initiatives & Operational Updates

## Notable Initiatives and Operational Updates



#### **Key Initiative Updates**

- The April 2024 approved Strategic Asset Allocation implementation is in progress
- Adhering to the BOI-approved 2024 Work Plan and Strategic Initiatives
- The 2025 Work Plan and Strategic Initiatives is under development

#### **Operational Updates**

- Annual LACERA T.I.D.E. data collection exercise has begun
- The Annual Contract Compliance project has started
- Development of the annual fee report is underway

#### **Team Searches and Vacancies**

- Principal Investment Officer
- 2 Senior Investment Officer
  - 1 in progress
- 3 Financial Analyst-III
  - 2 in progress
- 1 Financial Analyst-II

## Manager/Consultant Updates



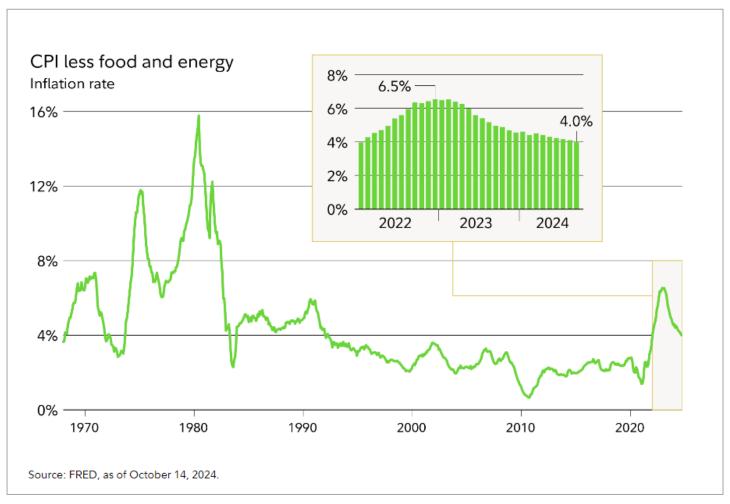
- Capital Group Global Equities Informed LACERA that Samir Parekh and Lisa Thomson were added as portfolio managers for the LACERA international equity portfolio effective October 2024.
- Aermont Capital Real Estate Leon Bressler, the former Chairman passed away. In April 2023, Leon Bressler promoted Paul Golding to Managing Partner of the firm as part of the succession planning. Paul Golding is supported by Nathan Shike, Alison Trewartha, Henning Richter, and Samuel Kreber.
- TPG-Angelo Gordon Real Estate Informed LACERA that co-Managing Partner Josh Baumgarten will leave the firm to pursue other opportunities. Mr. Baumgarten was responsible for leading the firm's debt platform. There are no changes to the leadership of the equity platform in which LACERA is invested.
- CBRE Investment Management Core Real Estate Informed LACERA that Larissa Belova, Lead Portfolio Manager of the CBRE U.S. Core Partners Fund (USCP) which LACERA is invested in had departed. In succession, Elisabeth (Liz) Troni, an internal appointment has assumed the role of Lead Portfolio Manager for the Fund.



## Commentary

### Staff Chart of the Month

#### The Consumer Price Index Less Food and Energy has Trended Lower



Source: Fidelity.

The Sticky Price Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure that tracks the price changes of goods and services that adjust their prices relatively infrequently. This index is calculated from a subset of items in the overall CPI, focusing on those that change prices slowly.



# 06 Appendix

## **Quiet Period for Search Respondents**



## Real Assets Emerging Manager Program Discretionary Separate Account Manager

- ✓ ORG Portfolio Management
- ✓ Barings
- ✓ Belay Investment Group
- ✓ Hamilton Lane
- ✓ Cambridge Associates
- ✓ Seed Partners
- ✓ Stable Asset Management
- ✓ Wafra Inc.
- ✓ Artemis Real Estate Partners
- ✓ Aether Investment Partners
- ✓ Neuberger Berman Group
- ✓ The Townsend Group
- ✓ BGO Strategic Capital Partners
- ✓ BlackRock
- √ StepStone
- ✓ GCM Grosvenor

#### Risk and Analytics System, and ESG Research Services Search

- ✓ BlackRock Financial Management Inc.
- ✓ Barra, LLC
- ✓ Bloomberg Finance L.P.
- ✓ Clearwater Analytics
- ✓ eVestment Alliance, LLC
- ✓ FactSet Research Systems Inc.
- ✓ ISS STOXX GmbH
- ✓ MSCI ESG Research LLC
- ✓ Northfield Information Systems, Inc.
- ✓ Solovis, Inc.