



November 12, 2019

Delivered by: Electronic and U.S. Mail

Delivered to: Governor Roy Cooper
North Carolina General Assembly
Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations
North Carolina Council of State
Charles Perusse – Office of State Budget Management, State Budget Director
Debbie Young – Office of State Budget Management, Executive Assistant to the State Budget Director
Grant Schawb - North Carolina General Assembly - Fiscal Research

RE: Quarterly Investment Report for the Period Ended September 30, 2019

Dear Colleagues:

Attached is the Quarterly Investment Report for the state pension fund (Fund) for the period ending September 30, 2019. We continue to be intently focused on reducing cost and complexity, increasing transparency and accountability, and building value across the divisions of the N.C. Department of State Treasurer.

The attached report provides detailed information I hope you will find valuable. I am aware of your time constraints, so I want to provide you with some highlights from the prior quarter that you may find helpful.

Specifically:

- Investment Performance – 3rd Quarter 2019

The Fund, comprised of the retirement plans the N.C. Department of State Treasurer manages, reported gains of 1.15 percent for the quarter. Pension fund assets were valued at \$102.3 billion, up from \$102.0 billion at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2019. These figures, and all the following performance figures, are reported net of all fees and expenses.

- Fee Reductions

Our investment management team continue to reduce costs significantly to provide value to members of the pension plan. Since January 2017, realized savings from reductions in fees paid to Wall Street investment managers, as well as other cost reductions, have exceeded \$225 million. This projects to a savings of close to \$350 million over my first term. We have far exceeded my pledge of cutting \$100 million in management fees over four years, and we continue to look for ways to reduce costs further.

- The Pew Charitable Trusts “[Stress Tests](#)” North Carolina Pension Plans

As of 2017, North Carolina’s funded ratio was 6th in the nation at 90.7%. Net amortization to payroll was 9th in the nation (1.8 %) and operating cash flow to assets ratio was 25th in the nation (-3.1%). In regional comparisons, North Carolina’s funded ratio exceeds all states except Tennessee. Specifically:



- Tennessee: 96.5%
- North Carolina: 90.7%
- Georgia: 79.2%
- Virginia: 77.2%
- South Carolina: 54.3%
- Kentucky: 33.9%

After ten years of economic recovery, many state pension plans could be in trouble in the next financial downturn. Even in downside scenarios, North Carolina's current funding policy sustains progression to full funding. Additionally, the Employer Contribution Rate Stabilization Policy (ECRSP) policy followed by the North Carolina General Assembly drives predictable increases in contributions that insulate the plan during downturns. However, if the current funding policy is not followed and contributions remain level as a share of revenue, funding levels will decrease under a severe recession scenario.

- Moody's rates North Carolina pension burden to be the lowest in the country

North Carolina's Retirement Systems, a division of the Department of State Treasurer (DST), has the lowest Adjusted Net Pension Liability (ANPL) in the United States according to Moody's Investor Service. In a recent [report](#), Moody's noted the ANPL for the entire country had declined due to healthy investment returns during the 2017 fiscal year. North Carolina's ANPL was the lowest, adjusted for its size, at \$9.4 billion (31.4% of own-source revenue). Illinois had the country's highest ANPL at \$240.8 billion (505.1% of own-source revenue).

Thank you all for your support of the N.C Department of State Treasurer. We will continue to look for opportunities to reduce complexity, increase value, and protect the futures of the more than 900,000 members who rely on our retirement systems.

Warmest Regards,

Dale R. Folwell, CPA
State Treasurer of North Carolina

Outline

This quarterly report provides the information required under North Carolina General Statute (N.C.G.S.) § 147-69.12 and provides information on the overall performance of the State Treasurer's investment programs. The information in this report is as of September 30, 2019. This report addresses the following topics:

- I. Investment Performance
 - A. Market Environment Context
 - B. Retirement Systems
 - i. Total Fund (Investment Program) Performance
 - ii. Investment Policy Statement (IPS) Asset Class Performance
 - C. Cash Management Programs
 - i. Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF)
 - ii. Bank Balances
 - D. Other Investment Programs – Ancillary Governmental Participant Investment Programs
 - i. Bond Index Fund (BIF)
 - ii. Equity Index Fund (EIF)
 - iii. Escheat Fund
 - E. Other Investments with or on behalf of the State, Its Agencies, or Institutions
 - i. Bond Proceeds Fund
- II. North Carolina Retirement System Financial Information
 - A. Introduction to Differences between the IPS and Statute
 - B. Concordance of IPS and N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2
 - C. Statutory Compliance – Statutory Asset Classes
 - D. Fees – Statutory Asset Classes
 - E. Green Managers and Funds
 - F. Locations on Website

Additionally, there are explanatory tables, financial data, and other information included as appendices to this report:

Appendix 1: Financial Information

- A. Department of State Treasurer Bank Balances
- B. Combined Statement of Net Positions (Fiscal Year to Date)

Appendix 2: References

- A. Implementation vs. Long-Term Policy Benchmark
- B. Other Benchmark Definitions
- C. Definitions and Procedures

Quarterly Investment Report for the Period Ending September 30, 2019

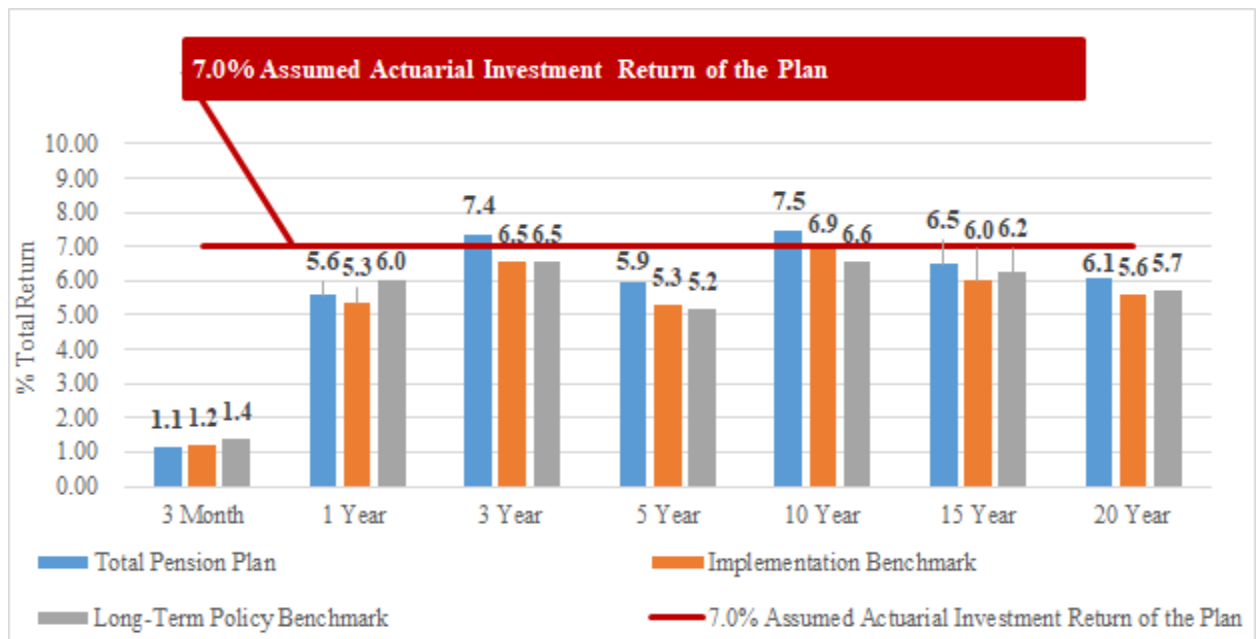
I. Investment Performance [§ 147-69.12(a)(6)(g)]

A. Market Environment Context

For the quarter ended September 30, 2019, Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) came in at an annualized rate of 1.9%, beating consensus estimates of 1.6%. The unemployment rate fell to 3.5%. Consumer price inflation was at 1.7% year over year, while core consumer price inflation (i.e., removing the volatile food and energy sectors), was 2.4% year over year. Global equity markets were roughly flat for the quarter. Investment grade domestic bonds experienced positive returns of nearly 3% over the quarter as Treasury yields fell while credit spreads were unchanged. The Federal Reserve's short-term interest rate target was lowered by 50 basis points during the quarter, ending the quarter at a range of 1.75 to 2.00%.

Retirement Systems [§ 147-69.12(a)(5)(a,b)]

i.Total Fund (Investment Program) Performance for Periods Ending September 30, 2019 (%; Periods Greater than 1 Year are Annualized)



The assumed actuarial investment return of the plan is the discount rate used to calculate the total pension liability as measured in the annual actuarial valuation. **This return was lowered from 7.2% to 7.0% in April of 2018.** For definitions of the Implementation Benchmark and the Long-Term Policy Benchmarks, and a comparison of the two, please see Appendix 2, Part A.

ii. IPS Asset Class Performance

	Market Value (\$000)	3 Mo	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	15 Yr	20 Yr
Growth	47,107,188	0.22	2.72	9.87	7.38	9.30	6.99	5.67
Benchmark		0.40	2.00	8.44	6.11	8.30	6.40	4.84
Public Equity	32,695,305	(0.57)	1.03	9.81	6.98	9.16	6.97	5.65
Benchmark		(0.17)	0.48	8.91	6.31	8.43	6.36	4.72
Private Equity	5,465,265	2.72	10.17	12.78	10.54	10.74	9.24	6.35
Benchmark		3.33	8.70	11.27	8.42	11.81	11.35	10.56
Non-Core Real Estate	3,224,196	3.03	9.99	11.60	12.96	10.80	7.40	7.09
Benchmark		2.13	5.53	7.42	6.97	7.58	6.75	7.32
Opportunistic Fixed Income	5,722,422	0.11	1.59	6.16	3.48	8.10	-	-
Benchmark		0.48	1.70	2.67	1.62	3.02	-	-
Rates & Liquidity	41,279,339	2.31	10.57	3.03	3.65	4.76	5.22	6.12
Benchmark		3.03	12.40	3.37	4.06	4.87	5.11	5.99
IG Fixed Income & Cash	30,914,746	2.89	11.98	3.41	3.94	4.91	5.33	6.20
Benchmark		3.12	12.77	3.44	4.17	4.93	5.14	6.02
Pension Cash	10,364,593	0.55	2.35	1.66	1.28	-	-	-
Benchmark		0.52	2.24	1.50	0.95	-	-	-
Inflation Sensitive & Diversifiers	11,906,527	0.90	4.63	6.73	4.46	3.22	3.94	4.63
Benchmark		0.76	4.37	4.44	3.79	3.49	3.36	4.58
Inflation Sensitive	6,115,197	(0.10)	1.94	6.00	1.75	(0.72)	3.05	3.54
Benchmark		0.08	2.54	3.00	0.04	(0.57)	3.91	3.95
Core Real Estate	5,791,331	1.98	7.70	7.61	8.14	8.64	6.61	6.66
Benchmark		1.56	6.55	6.17	8.37	8.91	6.94	7.29
Multi-Strategy	2,103,126	0.66	1.04	6.42	4.98	7.89	5.78	-
Benchmark		(0.68)	(0.89)	5.20	3.73	6.21	7.13	-
Total Pension Plan	102,396,179	1.15	5.59	7.37	5.94	7.49	6.47	6.10
Implementation Benchmark		1.20	5.35	6.55	5.32	6.90	6.00	5.62
Long-Term Policy Benchmark		1.41	6.02	6.55	5.20	6.59	6.24	5.74
Assumed Actuarial Investment Return¹		1.71	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00

¹ The Assumed Actuarial Investment Return was decreased from 7.2% to 7.0% in April 2018.

For definitions of the Benchmarks, please see Appendix 2, Part B.

B. Cash Management Programs

i. STIF [§ 147-69.12(a)(4), § 147-86.11(c)]

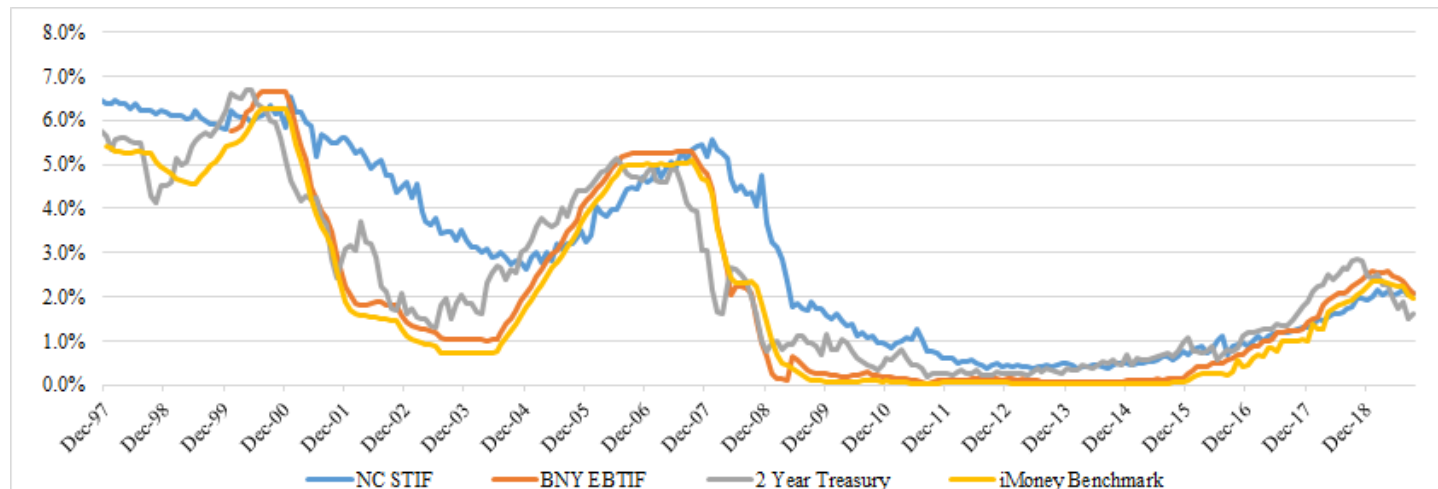
The STIF is responsible for managing the operating funds of the State. Investors include the State's General Fund, Highway Trust Fund, certain Retirement Systems funds, and other investors. The STIF is also where any bank balances are held for the State; please see part (ii) below for information about the quarter-end bank balances.

As of September 30, 2019, the STIF had the following characteristics:

Total Assets	Duration	3-Month Return	Benchmark 3-Month Return	1-Month Annualized Cash Return	Fees
\$27.5 billion	0.60 years	0.53%	0.52%	2.08%	N/A

The benchmark for the cash management program, as outlined in the "Department of State Treasurer Investment Management Division Investment Policy Statement for North Carolina Retirement Systems" (IPS), is the iMoneyNet First Tier Institutional Money Market Funds Net Index.

For comparison purposes, the 1-month annualized cash return of the STIF is shown below, over time, versus the yields of other short-term benchmarks.



Notes: The BNY EBTIF is the Bank of New York Mellon Employee Benefit Temporary Investment Fund, a diversified institutional money market sweep vehicle. The iMoney Benchmark is the iMoneyNet First Tier Institutional Money Market Funds Net Index.

ii. Bank Balances [§ 147-69.12(a)(3)]

The State's total Bank Balance as of September 30, 2019, was \$313.7 million. For a list of each bank and other qualified depository institutions utilized by the State Treasurer and the current quarter-end cash balances, please see Appendix 1, Part A.

C. Other Investment Programs – Ancillary Governmental Participant Investment Programs [§ 147-86.11(c)]

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 147-69.3, the Treasurer is responsible for one or more investment programs for the deposit and investment of assets pursuant to §§ 147-69.1 and 147-69.2, namely, the Ancillary Governmental Participant Investment Program (AGPI Program). The AGPI Program includes assets for, among others, the Escheat Fund, public hospitals, Local Government Other Post-Employment Benefits Trusts, Local Government Law Enforcement Special Separation Allowance Trusts, and the North Carolina Conservation Grant Fund, as well as entities such as the State Health Plan, the Disability Income Plan, and the State Educational Assistance Authority. For a complete listing of the AGPI Program participants, see the Other Investment Programs statement in Appendix 1, Part B. While each of the AGPI Program participants has its particular investment authority as to how it may invest, all AGPI Program participants are eligible for the STIF as referenced in part B (i) above. The following are other investment options maintained by the Treasurer for the AGPI Program.

i. BIF [§ 147-69.12(a)(6)]

The BIF invests in high quality debt securities, under N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(1)–(6). The BIF maintains a low-cost approach to investing in investment grade fixed income assets through a passive index strategy. The BIF is designed to produce a return consistent with its Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index benchmark.

As of September 30, 2019, the BIF had the following characteristics:

Total Assets	Duration	3-Month Return	Benchmark 3-Month Return	Crediting Rate	Fees
\$1.6 billion	5.63 years	2.24%	2.27%	N/A	2.5 bps on first \$750 million; 2.0 thereafter

For a list of the entities invested in the BIF at quarter-end, please see the Other Investment Programs statement in Appendix 1, Part B.

ii. EIF [§ 147-69.12(a)(6)]

The EIF invests primarily in U.S. and non-U.S. equity securities eligible under N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(8) with the objective of closely approximating the capitalization weighted total return of the markets for global publicly traded equity securities while maintaining a low-cost approach. The EIF is designed to produce a return consistent with its Morgan Stanley Capital International All Country World Index benchmark.

As of September 30, 2019, the EIF had the following characteristics:

Total Assets	Duration	3-Month Return	Benchmark 3-Month Return	Crediting Rate	Fees
\$630.4 million	N/A	0.04%	-0.03%	N/A	2.0 bps

For a list of the entities invested in the EIF at quarter-end, please see the Other Investment Programs statement in Appendix 1, Part B.

iii. Escheat Fund [§§ 147-69.12(a)(6), 147-69.2A(b)]

As of September 30, 2019, the Escheat Fund had \$691.2 million in total invested assets. Of that total, \$506 million was in STIF and \$133 million in BIF.

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(12), up to 20% of the Escheat Fund's assets may be invested in authorized Public Equity, Real Estate, and Alternative Investments. For the quarter ending September 30, 2019, the Escheat Fund held \$52.1 million in these types of investments. Performance data for these assets are shown below:

	Market Value (\$000)	3 Month	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
Escheat Alternatives	52,147	-3.37	-5.36	2.82	1.52	8.05
Benchmark		4.44	11.48	12.38	10.18	13.15

Additional financial information on the Escheat Fund is available in the Other Investment Programs statement in Appendix 1, Part B. Information on the Escheats Alternatives Benchmark is available in Appendix 2, Part B.

Within the Escheat Alternatives portfolio, pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 147-69.2A and 147-69.2(b)(12)(c), the State Treasurer is required to invest 10% of the Escheat Fund through the Venture Capital Multiplier Fund. This is included in the 20% limit laid out in N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(12). The Venture Capital Multiplier Fund is administered by a third-party professional investment management firm selected through a public procurement process by designees from the Governor's Office, the Department of State Treasurer, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. This fund was created in November 2016. Performance and investment information through the most recent quarter-end are as follows:

	Market Value	Commitment	Unfunded	IRR ¹	TVPI ²	Distributions	DPI ³
Venture Capital Multiplier Fund	32,987,049	60,000,000	25,852,230	(0.07%)	1.00	1,301,087	0.04

¹ Internal rate of return; ² Total value to paid in capital, or the sum of (distributions + ending value) divided by the total paid in or funded capital; ³ Distributions to paid in capital, or distributions divided by the total paid in or funded capital

Note: Returns may reflect higher costs and lower returns in earlier years.

D. Other Investments with or on behalf of the State, Its Agencies, or Institutions

i. General Obligation Bond Proceeds Fund [§ 147-69.12(a)(6), § 147-86.11(c)]

The General Obligation Bond Proceeds Fund is managed by a private investment company under contract with the Department of State Treasurer. The investments are valued at amortized cost, which approximates fair value. The General Obligation Bond Proceeds Fund has a separate investment account for each state bond issue to comply with Internal Revenue Service regulations on bond arbitrage. Additional information on the fund may be found in the Other Investment Programs statement in Appendix 1, Part B.

II. North Carolina Retirement System Financial Information

A. Introduction to Differences Between IPS and Statute

N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2 prescribes limits on different kinds of investments the Treasurer is authorized to make with the assets of the Retirement Systems. The limits are expressed in terms of percentages of the overall assets invested and there are limits both on individual asset classes and in the aggregate.

During the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, the Investment Management Division conducted an asset liability study to develop a new IPS that would utilize some of the additional investment flexibility created by this statute, which had been updated in 2013. The IPS describing the asset class structure was finalized and became effective July 1, 2014. The tables below compare the investment policy statement's classifications to the statutory classifications. The numbers reflect net assets owned only by the NCRS funds in the statutory asset classes excluding securities lending, as of the quarter-end date for this report.

B. Concordance of IPS and N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2 [§ 147-69.12(a)(5)(c)]

The following connects statutory guidelines to those in the IPS:

General Statute § 147-69.2		Statutory Asset Classifications	IPS
b(1)-(6) ¹	At least 20%	STIF	Cash
		Bank Balances	
		External Fixed Income	Investment Grade Fixed Income
		Long-Term Fixed Income	
b(6c)	No more than 7.5%	Other Fixed Income	Opportunistic Fixed Income
b(7)	No more than 10%	Real Estate	Core Real Estate
			Non-Core Real Estate
b(8)	No more than 65%	Public Equity	Public Equity
b(8)(b)	No more than 8.5%	Public Equity Limited Liability	Public Equity
b(9)	No more than 8.75%	Alternatives	Private Equity
			Multi-Strategy
b(9a)	No more than 7.5%	Inflation Protection	Inflation Sensitive

Guide to IPS "segment" groups: Green = Rates and Liquidity; Blue = Growth; Purple = Inflation Sensitive & Diversifiers; Orange = Multi-Strategy

¹ Per § 147-69.2(b)(6a), investments authorized by these sections (fixed income) and those authorized by § 147-69.1(c)(1)-(7) (cash management) are combined in calculating the 20% limit.

The following maps the market value balances of the retirement system at quarter-end to the respective statutory and IPS classifications:

		Statutory Classification (\$ Millions)									Total
		Public Equity ¹	Long-Term ²	Cash ²	External Fixed Income ²	Alternatives ³	Real Estate ⁴	Inflation Protection ⁵	Other Fixed Income ⁶	Public Equity Limited Liability ⁷	
IPS Classification (\$ Millions)	Public Equity	\$31,103								\$1,592	\$32,695
	Private Equity					\$5,465					5,465
	Non-Core Real Estate						\$3,224				3,224
	Opportunistic Fixed Income								\$5,722		5,722
	IG Fixed Income		\$27,818		\$3,097						30,915
	Cash			\$10,365							10,365
	Inflation Sensitive							\$6,115			6,115
	Core Real Estate						5,791				5,791
	Multi-Strategy					2,103					2,103
Total		\$31,103	\$27,818	\$10,365	\$3,097	\$7,568	\$9,016	\$6,115	\$5,722	\$1,592	\$102,396

¹ N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(8)(a),(c); ² N.C.G.S. § 147-69.1(c) and N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(1)-(6b); ³ N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(9); ⁴ N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(7);

⁵ N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(9a); ⁶ N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(6c); ⁷ N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(8)(b)

Note: For statutory compliance purposes, all public equity investments made through funds with limited liability structures are included in the category of investments authorized by N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(8)(b.). This kind of investment structure is limited to a maximum of 8.5% of the total fund. One external manager, ValueAct Capital Management LP, is a limited liability partnership, and thus assets invested with this manager are included in the N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(8)(b.) limit of 8.5%. ValueAct Capital Management, however, has a different investment strategy than the other assets invested with managers through limited liability structures.

The following provides a summary of the investment vehicles in which the various trusts and clients are invested:

		Vehicles			
		Short Term Investment Fund	Bond Index Fund	Equity Index Fund	Long-Term Investment Fund (QIB)
Trusts & Clients	Retirement Systems	●			●
	Cash Management Programs	●			
	Ancillary Governmental Participant Investment Program	●	●	●	
	Escheats Fund	●	●		

C. Statutory Compliance – Statutory Asset Classes [§ 147-69.12(a)(5)(c); § 147-69.12(a)(1)]

The table below lists the maximum or minimum percentages of the total assets allowed and actual percentages as of the quarter-end.

Statutory Citation	Minimum or Maximum Percentage of Fund	Percentage of Total Assets Invested	Compliant
N.C.G.S. §§ 147-69.1(c) and 147-69.2(b)(1)-(6b) for fixed income and cash	At least 20%	40.3%	✓
N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(8) for public equity	No more than 65%	31.9%	✓
N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(8)(b.) for public equity limited liability investment vehicles	No more than 8.5%	1.6%	✓
N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(6c) for other fixed income	No more than 7.5%	5.6%	✓
N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(7) for real estate	No more than 10%	8.8%	✓
N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(9) for private equity and other alternatives	No more than 8.75%	7.4%	✓
N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(9a) for inflation protection	No more than 7.5%	6.0%	✓
N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2(b)(10a) for the 35% aggregate portfolio limit	The sum of rows 3 to 7; No more than 35%	29.3%	✓

Note: Percentage of Total Assets Invested is based on market values as of the most recent quarter-end. Undrawn capital commitments are not included in the calculations until they are called and invested.

In the event that the market value of any of subdivision (6c) or (7), sub-subdivision b. of subdivision (8), or subdivision (9) or (9a) of N.C.G.S. § 147-69.2 increases during a fiscal year by an amount greater than three percent (3%) of the market value of all invested assets of the Retirement Systems as of the prior fiscal year end, then that event will be noted in this report along with the expected impact on the risk profile of the assets. No such change occurred during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.

D. Fees – Statutory Asset Classes [§ 147-69.12(a)(1)]

The Investment Management Division utilizes external managers for a portion of the Retirement Systems. Over time, the Department of State Treasurer, with the advice and counsel of the Investment Advisory Committee, has used a relatively lower risk and lower cost approach to investing the North Carolina Retirement System trust funds. While costs have risen somewhat over time as more diverse external investment strategies were pursued, the all-in costs of investing the retirement trust fund remain modest.

The fees incurred to external investment managers, by asset class, are outlined in the Combining Statement of Operations – Pension Trust Funds Investment Program in Appendix 1, Part B. In addition to the fees shown in this statement, internal administrative expenses of the Funds and (for the internally-managed portfolios) trade transaction costs are paid by the Treasurer. These charges are reported on the Combined Statement of Operations in Appendix 1, Part B.

During the calendar year 2019, the Department engaged CEM Benchmarking, a leading independent cost and performance analysis firm, to review the cost structure of the funds for the calendar year 2018. The report showed that the funds' cost structure was below that of most institutional peers. This leads to savings of roughly 19.5 basis points compared to the median peer. Importantly, after deducting all fees, incentives, and expenses, the trust fund exceeded its performance benchmarks. This outperformance is a positive for plan beneficiaries, employers, and taxpayers. At the same time, the Department continues to proactively target improvements in cost-efficiency, transparency, risk management, and compliance.

Calendar Year 2018 NCRS Costs of Investment Operations Compared to Peers

(Expressed in basis points where 50 basis points equals 0.50%)

	Total (Basis Points)
Median Peer	54.5
North Carolina Retirement Systems	35.0
Percentile	8%

Source: CEM [Cost Effectiveness Measurement] Benchmarking Inc. The peer group consists of 14 U.S. public pension funds managing from \$48 billion to \$154 billion. The median peer managed an average of \$79 billion throughout the year versus NCRS' \$98 billion. In CEM's methodology, total cost excludes carry / performance fees for real estate, infrastructure, natural resources, and private equity funds. Performance fees are included for public market asset classes and hedge funds. All such fees and expenses have been deducted from all investment returns reported by NCRS.

E. Green Managers and Funds [§ 147-69.12(a)(2)]

There is no consensus on a validation group or process to certify green managers for investments, and the statute provides no definition of the term “sustainable practices” that would enable the Treasurer to determine which companies and funds would fall under this provision. Thus, it is not possible to report any relevant data at this time.

F. Locations on Website [§ 147-69.12(a)(6)(f,i,j)]

The current Investment Policy Statement may be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.nctreasurer.com/inside-the-department/OpenGovernment/Policies/Investment%20Policy%20Statement%20for%20NCRS.pdf>

A list of new commitments to external investment managers may be found within the periodic IAC Performance Review presentations at the following link:

<https://www.nctreasurer.com/inv/Pages/IAC-Reports.aspx>

Information on the use of placement agents by investment managers may be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.nctreasurer.com/inside-the-department/OpenGovernment/Pages/Investment-Manager-and-Placement-Agent-Disclosure-Forms.aspx>

Appendix 1: Financial Information

Part A: Department of State Treasurer Bank Balances

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER BANK BALANCES AS OF September 30, 2019 (dollars in thousands)	
Summary of Bank Balances	
Balances as of 06/30/2019	\$ 327,170
Total Receipts	\$ 60,068,576
Total Payments	\$ 60,081,995
Balance as of 09/30/2019	\$ 313,751
Bank Balances as of September 30, 2019	
<i>Bank</i>	<i>Bank Balance</i>
Wells Fargo	\$ 155,295
Bank of America	\$ 42,515
SunTrust	\$ 1,979
PNC	\$ 256
First Citizens	\$ 6,019
BB&T	\$ 31,661
Pinnacle Bank	\$ 850
Bank of Tennessee	\$ 3
Bank OZK	\$ 2,000
Capital Bank	\$ 6,000
Entegra Bank	\$ 2,000
Fidelity Bank	\$ 7,223
First Bank	\$ 11,813
First Federal Savings Bank	\$ 1,000
First National Bank	\$ 9,972
HomeTrust Bank	\$ 1,000
KS Bank	\$ 100
Lumbee Guaranty Bank	\$ 2,750
M&F Bank	\$ 2,250
Peoples Bank	\$ 1,000
South State Bank	\$ 1,096
Southern Bank & Trust	\$ 14,110
Surrey Bank	\$ 750
TD Bank	\$ 500
Townebank	\$ 2,010
Union Bank	\$ 999
United Community Bank	\$ 6,600
Uwharrie Bank	\$ 2,000
Total*	\$ 313,751
*This number reflects the balance in the State treasury credited to all State funds, including not only the General Fund but also other funds.	

Part B: Combined Statement of Net Positions (Fiscal Year to Date)

- Combined Statement of Net Position
- Combining Statement of Net Position – Pension Trust Funds Investment Program
- Other Investment Programs
- Combined Statement of Operations
- Combining Statement of Operations – Pension Trust Funds Investment Program

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER
COMBINED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2019
(dollars in thousands)

Unaudited

	Short-term Investment Fund	*Pension Trust Funds Investment Program Subtotal	Intrafund Eliminations	Total
Net Assets:				
Investment Securities:				
Cash Equivalents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Certificates of Deposit	7,000	-	-	7,000
Repurchase Agreements	1,665,000	-	-	1,665,000
U.S. Treasury Bills/ Notes/ Bonds	11,369,596	7,557,593	-	18,927,189
U.S. Government Agency Notes/ Bonds	14,082,568	775,498	-	14,858,066
GNMA Certificates	-	9,528,128	-	9,528,128
Corporate Obligations	-	10,588,507	-	10,588,507
Other Investments	-	4,777,485	-	4,777,485
Investments in Equity Securities	-	32,097,114	-	32,097,114
Investments in Equity Trusts & Limited Liability Entities**	-	602,310	-	602,310
Investments in Real Estate Trust Funds & Partnerships	-	9,015,527	-	9,015,527
Investments in Alternative Partnerships	-	7,564,270	-	7,564,270
Investments in Credit Partnerships	-	5,722,422	-	5,722,422
Investments in Inflation Partnerships and Other Invest.	-	5,055,764	-	5,055,764
Total Investment Securities	\$ 27,124,164	\$ 93,284,618	\$ -	\$ 120,408,782
Cash in Bank	313,751	-	-	313,751
Deposits in Short-term Investment Fund	-	8,911,729	(8,911,729)	-
Other Assets, Net of Liabilities	98,278	199,832	-	298,110
Total Net Assets	\$ 27,536,193	\$ 102,396,179	\$ (8,911,729)	\$ 121,020,643
Participant Equity:				
General Fund	\$ 6,770,165	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,770,165
Other Funds Which Earn Interest for General Fund	2,174,785	-	-	2,174,785
Highway Fund	399,134	-	-	399,134
Highway Trust Fund	224,204	-	-	224,204
University Trust Funds	2,661,348	-	-	2,661,348
Pension Trust Funds	497,123	102,396,179	-	102,893,302
Other Independent Trust Funds	5,222,008	-	-	5,222,008
Local Political Subdivisions	636,998	-	-	636,998
Licensing Boards	38,699	-	-	38,699
Other Investment Funds	8,911,729	-	(8,911,729)	-
Total Participant Equity	\$ 27,536,193	\$ 102,396,179	\$ (8,911,729)	\$ 121,020,643
Percent of Total	22.75%	84.61%	-7.36%	100.00%

*The Trust Funds Investment Program is presented at market value. Trust Funds detail is included on Combining Statement of Net Position.

**See description of Equity Investment Fund in note on following pages

Unaudited

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER
COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - PENSION TRUST FUNDS INVESTMENT PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

(dollars in thousands)

	Cash Investment	Long-term Investment	External Fixed Inc. Investment	Long-Only Public Equity Investment	Hedged Public Equity Investment	Real Estate Investment	Alternatives Investment	Other Fixed Income Investment	Inflation Protection Investment	Totals
Net Assets:										
Investment Securities:										
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$ -	-
U.S. Treasury Bills/ Notes/ Bonds	-	7,237,838	-	-	-	-	-	-	319,735	7,557,593
U.S. Government Agency Notes/ Bonds	-	775,498	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	775,498
GNMA Certificates	-	9,528,128	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,528,128
Corporate Obligations	-	9,891,515	-	-	-	-	-	-	696,992	10,588,507
Other Investments	4,740,651	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,834	4,777,485
Investments in Equity Securities	-	-	-	32,092,994	-	-	4,120	-	-	32,097,114
Investments in Equity Trusts & Limited Liability Entities	-	-	-	-	602,310	-	-	-	-	602,310
Investments in Real Estate Trust Funds & Partnerships	-	-	-	-	-	9,015,527	-	-	-	9,015,527
Investments in Alternative Partnerships	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,564,270	-	-	7,564,270
Investments in Credit Partnerships	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,722,422	-	5,722,422
Investments in Inflation Partnerships and Other Invest.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,055,764	5,055,764
Total Investment Securities	\$ 4,740,651	27,432,999	-	32,092,994	602,310	9,015,527	7,568,390	5,722,422	6,109,325	93,284,618
Cash in Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deposits in Short-term Investment Fund	5,623,943	191,241	3,096,545	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,911,729
Other Assets, Net of Liabilities	-	193,960	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,872	199,832
Total Net Assets	\$ 10,364,594	27,818,200	3,096,545	32,092,994	602,310	9,015,527	7,568,390	5,722,422	6,115,197	102,396,179
Participant Equity:										
Pension Trust Funds	\$ 10,364,594	27,818,200	3,096,545	32,092,994	602,310	9,015,527	7,568,390	5,722,422	6,115,197	102,396,179
Total Participant Equity	\$ 10,364,594	27,818,200	3,096,545	32,092,994	602,310	9,015,527	7,568,390	5,722,422	6,115,197	102,396,179
Percent of Total	10.12%	27.17%	3.02%	31.35%	0.59%	8.80%	7.39%	5.59%	5.97%	100.00%

* In terms of calculating performance, all public equity investments with long strategies are grouped together, and all public equity investments with hedged strategies are grouped together.

Note: One external manager, Value-Act Capital Management LP is included in the Long-Only Public Equity Investment Fund group on this combining statement; however, on the "Concordance of IPS and NCGS § 147-69.2" table in Part II, Section B of this report, the assets invested with Value Act are included in the "Public Equity Limited Liability" category, not the "Public Equity" category. The "Public Equity" category includes all assets invested in long strategies.

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER
OTHER INVESTMENT PROGRAMS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2019**
in thousands

Unaudited

	Bond Index Fund	Equity Index Fund	Escheats Alternative Investments	General Obligation Bond Proceeds	Totals
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION					
Net Assets:					
Deposits in Equity Index Fund	\$ -	630,385	-	-	630,385
Deposits in Bond Index Fund	1,597,810	-	-	-	1,597,810
Deposits in Alternative Investment Fund	-	-	52,147	-	52,147
Other Assets	-	-	-	830,130	830,130
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,597,810	\$ 630,385	\$ 52,147	830,130	3,110,472

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS (for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019)					
Revenues:					
Investment Income:					
Investment Earnings	\$ 10,882	1,218	1,672	1,117	14,889
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	10,882	1,218	1,672	1,117	14,889
Net Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	24,964	(1,371)	(3,498)	-	20,095
Total Investment Income	35,846	(153)	(1,826)	1,117	34,984
Expenditures:					
Management Fees	(88)	(32)	(6)	(33)	(159)
Other Cost	-	-	(4)	-	(4)
Total Expenditures	(88)	(32)	(10)	(33)	(163)
Net Investment Income (Loss)	\$ 35,758	\$ (185)	\$ (1,836)	1,084	34,821

	Bond Index Fund	Equity Index Fund	Escheats Alternatives
Participants:			
Albemarle and Tideland MHRHIT	X	X	
Albemarle RH OPEB	X	X	
Appalachian DHD OPEB			
Archdale LEOSSA	X	X	
Buncombe County	X	X	
City of Asheville	X	X	
City of Concord	X	X	
City of Greensboro	X	X	
City of Greenville	X	X	
City of Sanford	X	X	
Clean Water	X		
Columbus Regional		X	
Community College Systems	X		
Conservation Easement Endowment Fund	X		
Conservation EE II		X	
Conservation Grant Endowment	X	X	
Cornelius LEOSSA			
Cornelius OPEB			
County of Dare	X	X	
County of Guilford	X	X	
County of Hamett LEOSSA	X	X	
County of Hamett OPEB	X	X	
Disability Income	X		
DMS Nutrient Offset	X		
Drinking Water	X		
EEP Wetlands Trust	X		
ElectriCities OPEB		X	
Employee Benefit Trust	X		
Forsyth County	X	X	
Greensboro LEOSSA	X	X	
Greenville Utilities Commission OPEB	X	X	
Guilford County LEOSSA		X	
Isothermal Planning & Development OPEB	X	X	
Margaret Pardee Hospital		X	
Martin County OPEB	X	X	
Mecklenburg County	X	X	
NC Student Loan Fund	X		
New Hanover Hospital		X	
Orange County OPEB	X	X	
Partners Behavioral			
Public School Insurance Fund	X		
Raleigh Housing Authority	X	X	
Register of Deeds	X		
Rowan Cabarrus Community College	X		
State Property Fire Insurance	X		
State Treasurer Escheats	X		X
Town of Williamston	X	X	
Trillium Health OPEB	X	X	
UNC SEAA Student Loan	X		
Union County	X	X	
Watauga Medical Center			
Wildlife Endowment	X	X	

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER
COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019
(dollars in thousands)

Unaudited

	Short-term Investment Fund	Pension Trust Funds Investment Program Subtotal*	Intrafund Eliminations	Total
Revenues:				
Investment Income:				
Investment Earnings	\$ 132,448	\$ 1,889,692	\$ -	\$ 2,022,140
Intra-Pool Interest Earnings	-	39,592	(39,592)	-
Income from Securities Lending	2,594	444	-	3,038
Commission Recapture	-	-	-	-
Other Income	-	14	-	14
Subtotal	135,042	1,929,742	(39,592)	2,025,192
Net Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	-	(698,753)	-	(698,753)
Total Investment Income	135,042	1,230,989	(39,592)	1,326,439
Expenditures:				
Treasurer's Allocated Cost	(760)	3	-	(757)
Management Fees	-	(32,080)	-	(32,080)
Placement Fees**	-	-	-	-
Incentive Fees	-	(14,910)	-	(14,910)
Dividend Withholding Tax	-	(3,655)	-	(3,655)
Other Cost	(622)	(15,043)	-	(15,665)
Total Expenditures	(1,382)	(65,685)	-	(67,067)
Net Investment Income (Loss)	\$ 133,660	\$ 1,165,304	\$ (39,592)	\$ 1,259,372
Total Investment Income Allocated:				
General Fund	\$ 43,161	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,161
Highway Fund	1,509	-	-	1,509
Highway Trust Fund	1,469	-	-	1,469
University Trust Funds	14,122	-	-	14,122
Pension Trust Funds	4,273	1,165,304	-	1,169,577
Other Independent Trust Funds	26,055	-	-	26,055
Local Political Subdivisions	3,263	-	-	3,263
Licensing Boards	216	-	-	216
Other Investment Funds	39,592	-	(39,592)	-
Total Investment Income Allocated	\$ 133,660	\$ 1,165,304	\$ (39,592)	\$ 1,259,372

Cash Return, Fiscal Year-to-Date (Annualized) **2.10%**

*Pension Trust Funds detail is included on the Combining Statement of Operations-Pension Trust Funds Investment Program.

**By policy and practice, neither the Department of State Treasurer nor the funds bear the cost of placement agent fees.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER

COMBINING STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - PENSION TRUST FUNDS INVESTMENT PROGRAM

FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

(dollars in thousands)

Unaudited

	Cash Investment	Long-term Investment	External Fixed Inc. Investment	Long-Only Public Equity Investment	Hedged Public Equity Investment	Real Estate Investment	Alternative Investment	Other Fixed Income Investment	Inflation Protection Investment	Totals
Revenues:										
Investment Income:										
Investment Earnings	\$ 24,014	399,437	-	1,069,626	3,964	185,882	88,185	38,258	80,326	\$ 1,889,692
Intra-Pool Interest Earnings	22,653	738	16,201	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,592
Income from Securities Lending	-	444	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	444
Commission Recapture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Subtotal	46,681	400,619	16,201	1,069,626	3,964	185,882	88,185	38,258	80,326	1,929,742
Net Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	-	430,936	-	(1,157,196)	(19,358)	36,263	89,896	(25,131)	(74,183)	(698,753)
Total Investment Income	46,681	831,575	16,201	(87,570)	(15,394)	222,145	178,081	13,127	6,143	1,230,989
Expenditures:										
Treasurer's Allocated Cost	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Management Fees	-	-	-	(12,845)	-	(6,972)	(3,810)	(5,012)	(3,441)	(32,080)
Incentive Fees	-	-	-	-	-	(3,655)	(5,253)	(1,135)	(4,867)	(14,910)
Placement Fees*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend Withholding Tax	-	-	-	(3,192)	-	(98)	-	-	(365)	(3,655)
Other Cost	(6)	(530)	(53)	(973)	-	(1,502)	(8,299)	(708)	(2,972)	(15,043)
Total Expenditures	(6)	(529)	(53)	(17,008)	-	(12,227)	(17,362)	(6,855)	(11,645)	(65,685)
Net Investment Income (Loss)	\$ 46,675	\$ 831,046	\$ 16,148	\$ (104,578)	\$ (15,394)	\$ 209,918	\$ 160,719	\$ 6,272	\$ (5,502)	\$ 1,165,304
Total Investment Income Allocated:										
General Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Highway Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Highway Trust Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
University Trust Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pension Trust Funds	46,675	831,046	16,148	(104,578)	(15,394)	209,918	160,719	6,272	(5,502)	1,165,304
Other Independent Trust Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Political Subdivisions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Licensing Boards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Investment Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Investment Income Allocated	\$ 46,675	\$ 831,046	\$ 16,148	\$ (104,578)	\$ (15,394)	\$ 209,918	\$ 160,719	\$ 6,272	\$ (5,502)	\$ 1,165,304
Total Return, 12, 24, and 36 and 60 months:										
12 months	2.35%	13.21%	2.02%	1.13%	-6.62%	8.54%	7.64%	1.59%	1.94%	5.59%
24 months	1.96%	5.51%	1.74%	5.74%	0.00%	9.03%	11.16%	4.96%	4.91%	5.99%
36 months	1.66%	3.64%	1.49%	10.30%	2.59%	9.20%	10.99%	6.16%	6.00%	7.37%
60 months	1.28%	4.28%	1.16%	7.29%	3.72%	10.33%	8.96%	3.48%	1.75%	5.96%

*By policy and practice, neither the Department of State Treasurer nor the funds bear the cost of placement agent fees.

Appendix 2: References

Part A: Implementation vs. Long-Term Policy Benchmark

The Implementation Benchmark is a blend of the Asset Class Benchmarks at policy weights. It is currently weighted as follows: 58% Growth Benchmark, 29% Rates & Liquidity Benchmark, 11% Inflation Sensitive & Diversifiers Benchmark, and 2% Multi-Strategy Benchmark.

The Long-Term Policy Benchmark is comprised of 57% MSCI ACWI IMI Net, 33% BOAML 5+ Years U.S. Treasury Index, 6% Bloomberg Commodity Index, and 4% BOAML 1-3 Years U.S. Inflation-Linked Treasury Index.

The Implementation Benchmark represents the Retirement System's current strategic policy allocations, and thus allows for the evaluation of (1) the impact of manager selection and (2) the impact of tactical variations away from the strategic policy allocations. The Long-Term Policy Benchmark represents the Retirement System's passively-managed equivalent and allows for evaluation of the active asset allocation decisions made across the Retirement System. Taken together, these two benchmarks may provide insights as to how the Retirement System is performing versus reasonably comparable hypothetical portfolios.

Part B: Other Benchmark Definitions

The Growth Benchmark is a blend of the Public Equity Benchmark, Private Equity Benchmark, Non-Core Real Estate Benchmark, and Opportunistic FI Benchmark at policy weights.

The Public Equity Benchmark is the dynamically-weighted combination of the MSCI ACWI IMI Net (Long-Only) and a beta adjusted MSCI ACWI IMI Net (Hedged Equity).

The Private Equity Benchmark is comprised of the following Burgiss Group Private iQ indices: 50% Buyout, 20% Venture Capital, and 30% Distressed.

The Non-Core Real Estate Benchmark is comprised of the following Burgiss Group Private iQ indices: 80% U.S. Non-Core Real Estate (Opportunistic and Value-Added) and 20% Non-U.S. Non-Core Real Estate (Opportunistic and Value-Added).

The Opportunistic Fixed Income Benchmark is comprised of 50% HFRX Distressed Securities Index, 20% HFRX Relative Value Index, 15% Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Index, and 15% BOAML High Yield Index.

The Rates & Liquidity Benchmark is a blend of the IG Fixed Income Benchmark and the Cash Benchmark at policy weights.

The IG Fixed Income Benchmark is comprised 10% iMoneyNet First Tier Institutional Money Market Funds Net Index and 90% custom BOAML Core Investment Grade Index. The custom BOAML core index is comprised of the following weightings: 30% BOAML 5+ Years Governments, 35% BOAML 5+ Years Investment Grade Corporates, and 35% BOAML Mortgage Master.

The Cash Benchmark is the iMoneyNet First Tier Institutional Money Market Funds Net Index.

The Inflation Sensitive & Diversifiers Benchmark is a blend of the Inflation Sensitive Benchmark and the Core Real Estate Benchmark at policy weights.

The Inflation Sensitive Benchmark is the dynamically-weighted combination of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch 1-3 Years U.S. Inflation-Linked Treasury Index (TIPS), the Bloomberg Commodities Index (Commodities), and a combination of the benchmarks of investments classified within Private Natural Resources or Other Real Assets and Diversifiers.

The Core Real Estate Benchmark is comprised of 80% NCREIF ODCE Net and 20% FTSE EPRA NAREIT Global Index.

The Multi-Strategy Benchmark is comprised of a dynamically-weighted combination of the HFRX ED: Multi-Strategy Index, net of fees, and the market value weighted benchmarks for any other total fund strategies within the Portfolio.

The Escheat Alternatives Benchmark is the total blended Burgiss Private iQ Private Equity index.

Part C: Definitions and Procedures

The following is information that the Department of State Treasurer provides regarding its internal procedures for submitting statutorily-required reports, as well as definitions of terms used within this report.

REQUIRED INVESTMENT REPORTS

- (a) The State Treasurer shall issue all the reports required by N.C.G.S. § 147-69.12(e) concerning the State Treasurer's investment programs on or before the dates required by law. The State Treasurer may also issue voluntary reports or include in mandatory reports additional information that is not required by the statute.
- (b) Reports required by different statutory provisions may be combined, so long as the combined report provides all the information required by each statutory provision.
- (c) Failure by any Department of State Treasurer employee to comply with any provision of this Section may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

TRANSMISSION OF REPORTS

- (a) The State Treasurer will issue reports directly or through a deputy authorized under N.C.G.S. § 147-75.
- (b) To fulfill the report delivery requirements set out in N.C.G.S. § 147-69.12(d):
 - (1) E-mail delivery shall be used to send reports to the Joint Legislative Commission on Government Operations, chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees, chairs of the House of Representative and Senate Finance Committees, Fiscal Research Division, Governor, Council of State, and State Auditor.
 - (2) A paper copy shall also be sent to the Joint Legislative Commission on Government Operations, unless the Commission indicates that a paper copy is not necessary.
 - (3) The website of the State Treasurer shall have a publicly accessible page that collects recent reports required by the North Carolina General Statutes concerning the State Treasurer's investment programs. Reports shall be collected for at least ten years.
 - (4) E-mail delivery or website portal delivery, at the State Treasurer's discretion, shall be used to send reports, where required by N.C.G.S. § 147-69.12(d), to other officials, institutions, boards, commissions, or agencies investing in a State Treasurer investment program, including but not limited to the State Treasurer's Ancillary Governmental Participant Investment Programs (AGPIPs).

SCOPE OF REPORTING; LEVEL OF DETAIL

- (a) Each statutory investment report shall include all State Treasurer investments, unless the statute specifically requests only certain types of investments.
- (b) For internally managed portfolios, the State Treasurer may make aggregated reports for each strategy that describe performance and assets at the portfolio level, rather than listing each asset within the internally managed portfolio.
- (c) Unless otherwise specified by the Department of State Treasurer in the report, all reports shall use generally accepted accounting principles and performance measurement methodologies as adopted by the State Treasurer in its policies and procedures. The State Treasurer shall periodically review and update such policies and procedures and make them available upon request.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

In the State Treasurer's required investment reports, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings defined below:

- (1) "Bank balance" means money held by the State Treasurer in a bank or savings institution.
- (2) "Cash management programs" means the Short-Term Investment Fund, bank balances, and any other future investment fund or strategy designed primarily to preserve capital and maintain a strong liquidity profile, as well as achieve competitive relative returns.

- (3) “Duration” of an investment refers to the sensitivity of an investment’s price to changes in interest rates. The calculation involves the present value of the investment, its yield, coupon payment, maturity date and other features, and is measured in terms of years. A higher figure suggests higher interest rate sensitivity. The duration of a portfolio is calculated as the weighted average of all of the underlying securities’ duration.
- (4) “Fee” means a charge against the State Treasurer or a State Treasurer investment. The State Treasurer’s reports shall include under “fees” all of the following types of charges:
- (i) Management fees;
 - (ii) Incentive compensation, carried interest, incentive fees, or performance fees; and
 - (iii) Placement fees.
- (5) “Expense” means the Department of State Treasurer’s administrative costs attributable to and charged to the investment portfolio. The State Treasurer’s reports shall include under “expenses” all of the following types of charges, as communicated to the State Treasurer:
- (i) Administrative expenses;
 - (ii) Commissions, asset fees, or custody fees;
 - (iii) Partnership or organizational expenses;
 - (iv) Pass-through expenses; and
 - (v) The portion of the Department of State Treasurer’s administrative costs attributable to and charged to the investment portfolio or investment fund.
- (6) “Investment manager” means a person or entity, other than Department of State Treasurer employees, given authority or discretion by the State Treasurer to make decisions concerning State Treasurer investments.
- (7) “Placement fee” or “placement agent fee” means a net fee, after any offsets, (i) to a placement agent or (ii) to any other entity, other than the investment manager itself or one of its employees or affiliates, that an investment manager directly or indirectly engaged in order to obtain investment from the State Treasurer.
- (8) “Rate of return” refers to the time-weighted return of each period shown, with adjustments made for cash inflows and outflows to limit distorting effects. Periods of greater than one year are annualized. All returns shown are net of all investment manager fees and all related State Treasurer expenses.
- (9) “State Treasurer investments” shall mean all investments of any kind by the Treasurer of the State of North Carolina or Department of State Treasurer, including but not limited to securities held directly, securities held in separate accounts pursuant to third-party investment management agreements, interests in limited liability investment vehicles or other investment companies as defined under generally accepted United States accounting principles as promulgated by the Financial Accounting Standards Board.
- (10) “Website portal delivery” means a secure method of accessing messages on a website portal set up by the Department of State Treasurer.