#### **2023 SERS Budget Highlights**

The Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System currently serves nearly 240,000 current and former state employees, their survivors, and beneficiaries. Last year, the system paid approximately \$3.9 billion in pension benefits, of which approximately \$3.5 billion was paid to retirees who live in Pennsylvania. For 2022, the average pension paid to retirees who work to full retirement age was \$31,331. For FY 2023-24, SERS proposes a \$35.7 million spending authority, which is drawn from SERS funds, not general government operating accounts, for administration of the Defined Benefit Plan, \$5.3 million for the Defined Contribution Plan, and \$1.8 million for the Deferred Compensation Plan.

# New Deputy Executive Director of Office of Member and Participant Services

In June, 2022, the agency hired Brenda Cunard as Deputy Executive Director of Member and Participant Services. Brenda was a retirement counselor in SERS' Pittsburgh Regional Office from 2008-2013, where she provided one-onone counseling in a multi-county area for retiring members regarding retirement benefits, and assisted active members and annuitants on legislation, provisions, rules and regulations of the State Employees' Retirement Code. Prior to rejoining SERS, she served as a retirement communications manager at PSERS, since August 2016, managing a staff of professionals responsible for the communication of retirement benefit information and counseling in six of PSERS' regional offices.

## New E-Signature Document Management Platform

Beginning in early 2022, the agency began using a new cloud-based E-signature and document management platform that lets multiple users access and sign a wide array of important papers. The platform, named DocuSign, also gives users the ability to quickly check a document's status, send reminders, view audit trails, and securely store important documents online. Making these documents electronically accessible, shareable, trackable, and secure, will help to ease the burden of paperwork that can be so complex and time-consuming.

#### **New Strategic Planning Initiative**

Beginning in November, 2022, SERS launched an ambitious initiative as part of the strategic planning process to transform SERS into a digital workplace with the aim of reducing the use of paper in business operations wherever practicable. The underlying premise is that creating a more streamlined workflow and having access to important information across the enterprise through electronic data will help to improve efficiencies and customer service at SERS. It will also serve to expand telework capabilities to more business processes in more business areas, as well as serve as an additional layer of insulation against business disruptions brought on by another pandemic shutdown or some other event.

#### **Agency-Wide Policy and Process Initiative**

Throughout 2022, SERS engaged in an agency-wide policy and process initiative to update existing, and draft new, policies and processes in order to document our internal controls and operational practices. Policies and processes support a sound internal control structure and assist employees (especially those new to SERS) in performing their job responsibilities accurately and efficiently. To aid employees with this critical work, SERS' Chief Compliance Officer held educational sessions and distributed written materials about policies, processes, and PolicyTech, our central repository for SERS policy and process documents.





### **Defined Benefit Plan Snapshot**

96,395 active members paying into the system

Hybrid Plan members 17,124 Defined Benefit Plan 79,271

135,647 retirees and beneficiaries receiving benefits

7,188 inactive members not receiving benefits

\$25,017 per year **Average 2022 Annuity** 

**Members** 

as of Dec 31, 2022

\$31,331 per year for those who work to full retirement age

**Total Pension Benefits Paid** 

\$3.9 billion paid in 2022, unaudited

**Member Contribution Rate** 6.25% of salary, by payroll deduction (for most members)

239,230 total

Varies between 5% and 9.3% PA FY 2022-23

**Number of Employers** 

101 as of Dec 31, 2022

34.16% of payroll, composite rate **Employer Contribution Rate** 

8.32% of payroll for benefits earned this year PA FY 2022-23 25.84% of payroll primarily for the unfunded liability

**Projected Employer Contribution Rate** 

PA FY 2023-24

34.44% of payroll 8.98% of payroll for benefits earned this year

25.46% of payroll primarily for the unfunded liability

approx. 40% general funds **Employer Contribution Sources** 

approx. 52% special and federal funds % provided by the Governor's Budget Office

(FY 2018-19) approx. 8% independent employer funds

**Funding Sources** 

as of year-end Dec 31, 2022, unaudited

\$415 million member contributions

\$2.1 billion employer contributions

\$(5.1) billion investment earnings

**Investment Returns** 

as of Dec 31, 2022 unaudited, annualized, net-of-fees -12.2% 1-year 6.7% 25-year

9.2% inception to date return 6.8% 10-year

**Total Fund Assets** 

as of Dec 31, 2022, unaudited

\$33.7 billion

**Cash Flow** 2023 projected \$2.6 billion annual contributions (member/employer)

\$4.0 billion annual payments (benefits/administrative expenses)

difference in sum necessary to cover payments must come from investment income

**Funded Status** 

69.4% with an unfunded liability of \$16.4 billion 2021 actuarial report adjusted with preliminary 2022 year-end performance data

> **Key Assumptions** 2021 Actuarial Report

7.0% long-term investment return

4.6% average total salary/career growth

2.5% inflation rate

1.800.633.5461 | www.SERS.pa.gov

Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System | 30 North 3rd Street, Suite 150 | Harrisburg PA 17101





# **Hybrid Plan Snapshot** as of December 31, 2022

17,124 total

**Participants** 16,475 A-5 Class of Service

649 A-6 Class of Service

See the Defined Contribution Plan and Defined Benefit Plan **Assets** 

snapshots for the assets in each plan.

**Eligible Employers** 101





### **Defined Contribution Plan Snapshot**

as of and for the year-ended December 31, 2022, unaudited

25,306 total accounts

17,711 participants contributing to the plan **Participants** 

Hybrid Plan participants 17,124

Defined Contribution Plan participants 587

7,595 inactive accounts

**Assets** \$103.3 million

**Eligible Employers** 101

**Total Participant** \$24.8 million **Mandatory Contributions** 

**Total Voluntary** \$1.4 million **After-Tax Contributions** 

**Total Employer Contributions** \$16.6 million

**Total Rollovers Into the Plan** 178 totaling \$5.0 million

**Total Rollovers Out of the Plan** 200 totaling \$1.1 million

**Total Distributions/Withdrawals** 1,211 totaling \$3.0 million



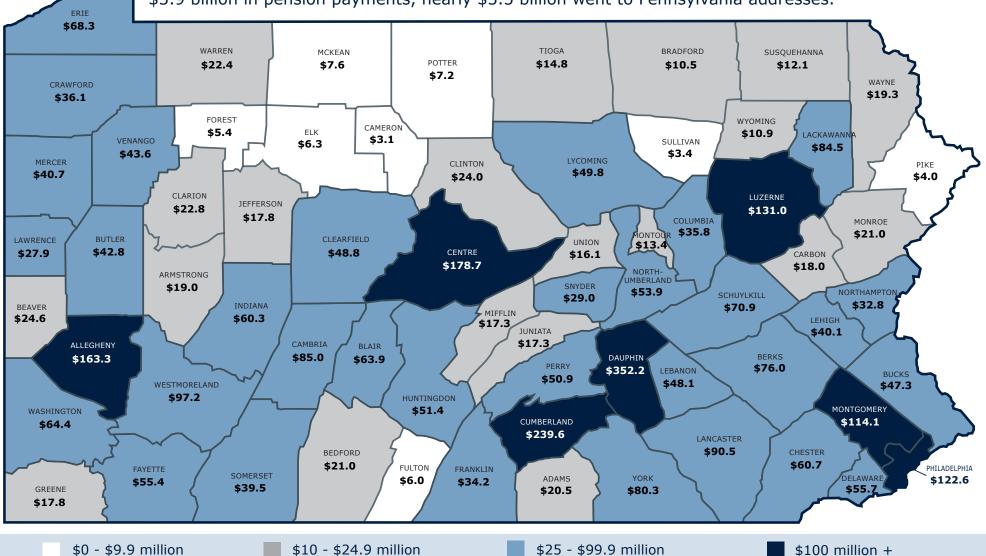
# **Deferred Compensation Plan Snapshot** as of and for the year-ended December 31, 2022, unaudited

Participants	56,752 total accounts 32,272 actively contributing participants
Assets	\$4.1 billion
Eligible Employers	76
<b>Total Participant Contributions</b>	\$177 million
<b>Total Rollovers Into the Plan</b>	650 totaling \$56 million
<b>Total Rollovers Out of the Plan</b>	1,745 totaling \$198 million
Total Distributions/Withdrawals	28,621 totaling \$320 million



## 2022 Pension Payments By County (\$ millions)

SERS pension payments positively impact the state's economy. In 2022, SERS made approximately \$3.9 billion in pension payments, nearly \$3.5 billion went to Pennsylvania addresses.



Domestic Out of State \$372.4 million

Out of Country \$1.4 million

