



**TOWN OF NEWINGTON
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN**

**Actuarial Valuation as of July 1, 2021
To Determine Funding for Fiscal Year 2022-23**

Prepared by

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Certification

We have performed an actuarial valuation of the Plan as of July 1, 2021 to determine funding for fiscal year 2022-23. This report presents the results of our valuation.

The ultimate cost of a pension plan is the total amount needed to provide benefits for plan members and beneficiaries and to pay the expenses of administering the plan. Pension costs are met by contributions and by investment return on plan assets. The principal purpose of this report is to set forth an actuarial recommendation of the contribution, or range of contributions, which will properly fund the plan, in accordance with applicable government regulations. In addition, this report provides:

- A valuation of plan assets and liabilities to review the year-to-year progress of funding.
- Information needed to meet disclosure requirements.
- Review of plan experience for the previous year to ascertain whether the assumptions and methods employed for valuation purposes are reflective of actual events and remain appropriate for prospective application.
- Assessment of the relative funded position of the plan, i.e., through a comparison of plan assets and projected plan liabilities.
- Comments on any other matters which may be of assistance in the funding and operation of the plan.

This report may not be used for purposes other than those listed above without Milliman's prior written consent. If this report is distributed to other parties, it must be copied in its entirety, including this certification section.

Milliman's work is prepared solely for the internal business use of the Town of Newington ("Town"). To the extent that Milliman's work is not subject to disclosure under applicable public records laws, Milliman's work may not be provided to third parties without Milliman's prior written consent. Milliman does not intend to benefit or create a legal duty to any third party recipient of its work product. Milliman's consent to release its work product to any third party may be conditioned on the third party signing a Release, subject to the following exceptions: (a) the Town may provide a copy of Milliman's work, in its entirety, to the Town's professional service advisors who are subject to a duty of confidentiality and who agree to not use Milliman's work for any purpose other than to benefit the Town; and (b) the Town may provide a copy of Milliman's work, in its entirety, to other governmental entities, as required by law. No third party recipient of Milliman's work product should rely upon Milliman's work product. Such recipients should engage qualified professionals for advice appropriate to their own specific needs.

In preparing this report, we relied on employee census data and financial information as of the valuation date, furnished by the Town. We performed a limited review of the data used directly in our analysis for reasonableness and consistency and have found them to be reasonably consistent and comparable with data used for other purposes. If the underlying data or information is inaccurate or incomplete, the results of our analysis may likewise be inaccurate or incomplete and our calculations may need to be revised. If there are material defects in the data, it is possible that they would be uncovered by a detailed, systematic review and comparison of the data to search for data values that are questionable or for relationships that are materially inconsistent. Such a review was beyond the scope of our assignment.

Certification

The calculations reported herein have been made on a basis consistent with our understanding of ERISA and the related sections of the tax code. Additional determinations may be needed for purposes other than meeting funding requirements, such as judging benefit security at plan termination or meeting employer accounting requirements. On the basis of the foregoing, we hereby certify that, to the best of our knowledge, this report is complete and accurate and all costs and liabilities were determined in conformance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices.

We further certify that, in our opinion, each actuarial assumption, method and technique used is reasonable taking into account the experience of the Plan and reasonable expectations. Future actuarial measurements may differ significantly from the current measurements presented in this report due to factors such as, but not limited to, the following: plan experience differing from that anticipated by the economic or demographic assumptions; changes in economic or demographic assumptions; increases or decreases expected as part of the natural operation of the methodology used for these measurements (such as the end of an amortization period or additional cost or contribution requirements based on the plan's funded status); and changes in plan provisions or applicable law. Due to the limited scope of the actuarial assignment, we did not perform an analysis of the potential range of such future measurement.

The valuation results were developed using models intended for valuations that use standard actuarial techniques. In addition to the models described previously, Milliman has developed certain models to develop the expected long term rate of return on assets used in this analysis. We have reviewed the models, including their inputs, calculations, and outputs for consistency, reasonableness, and appropriateness to the intended purpose and in compliance with generally accepted actuarial practice and relevant actuarial standards of practice (ASOP). The models, including all input, calculations, and output may not be appropriate for any other purpose.

Although it is possible that the COVID-19 pandemic could have a material impact on the projected mortality, liabilities, and contribution requirements, we have chosen not to make an adjustment in the projections at this time, given the substantial current uncertainty regarding the impact of COVID-19 on mortality and plan costs, including whether the pandemic will increase or decrease mortality during the term of our projections. We will be monitoring this development closely and may adjust future projections to reflect the impact of COVID-19, if and when it becomes appropriate.

The consultants who worked on this assignment are pension actuaries. Milliman's advice is not intended to be a substitute for qualified legal or accounting counsel.

We are members of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion contained herein.



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Section I - Executive Summary Changes Since the Prior Valuation

Plan Changes

None.

Changes in Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

This valuation reflects several changes to the actuarial methods and assumptions used to calculate the Actuarially Determined Contribution, including lowering the interest rate assumption from 6.875% to 6.25%, lowering the salary scale and amortization growth rate from 3.50% to 3.25%, and resetting the actuarial value of assets to equal the market value of assets. These changes in combination decreased the Unfunded Accrued Liability by about \$570,000 and decreased the Actuarially Determined Contribution by about \$60,000.

Other Significant Changes

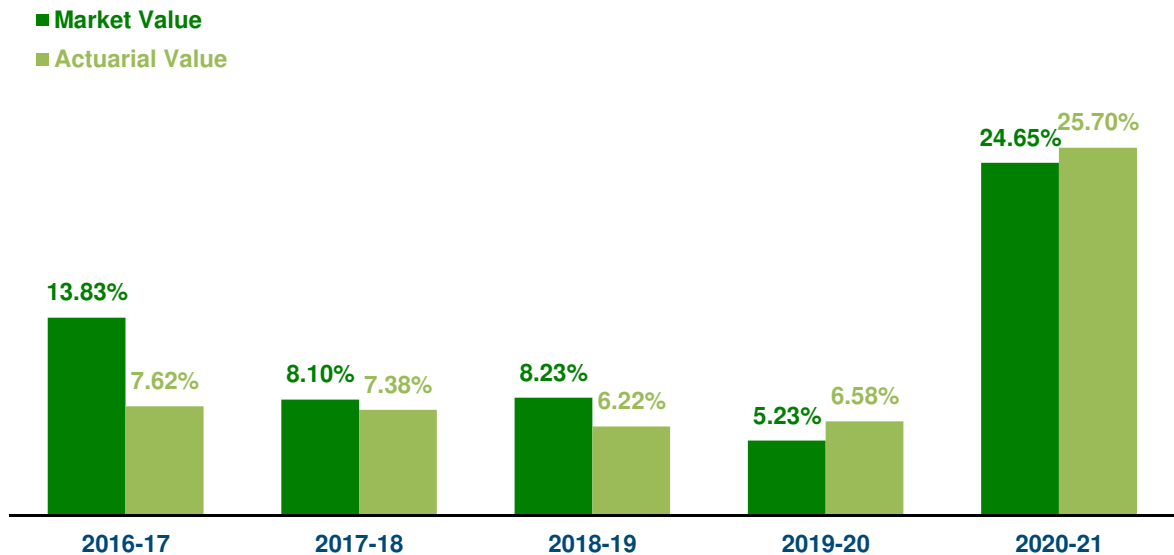
None.

Section I - Executive Summary Assets

There are two different measures of the plan's assets that are used throughout this report. The Market Value is a snapshot of the plan's investments as of the valuation date. The Actuarial Value is a smoothed asset value designed to temper the volatile fluctuations in the market by recognizing investment gains or losses non-asymptotically over five years. The Actuarial Value of Assets has been reset in 2021 to equal the Market Value of Assets.

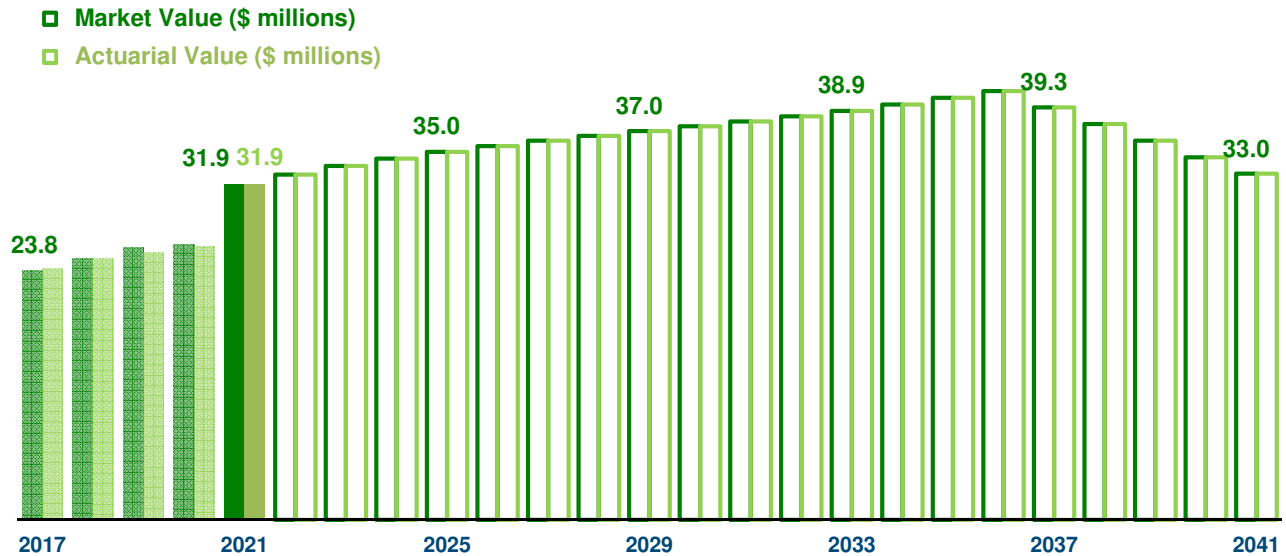
	Market	Actuarial
Value as of July 1, 2020	\$26,239,011	\$26,022,621
Town and Member Contributions	2,613,333	2,613,333
Investment Income	6,383,474	6,599,864
Benefit Payments and Administrative Expenses	(3,289,845)	(3,289,845)
Value as of July 1, 2021	31,945,973	31,945,973

For fiscal year 2020-21, the plan's assets earned 24.646% on a Market Value basis and 25.700% on an Actuarial Value basis. The actuarial assumption for this period was 6.875%; the result is an asset gain of about \$4,602,800 on a Market Value basis and a gain of about \$4,834,300 on an Actuarial Value basis. Historical rates of return are shown in the graph below.



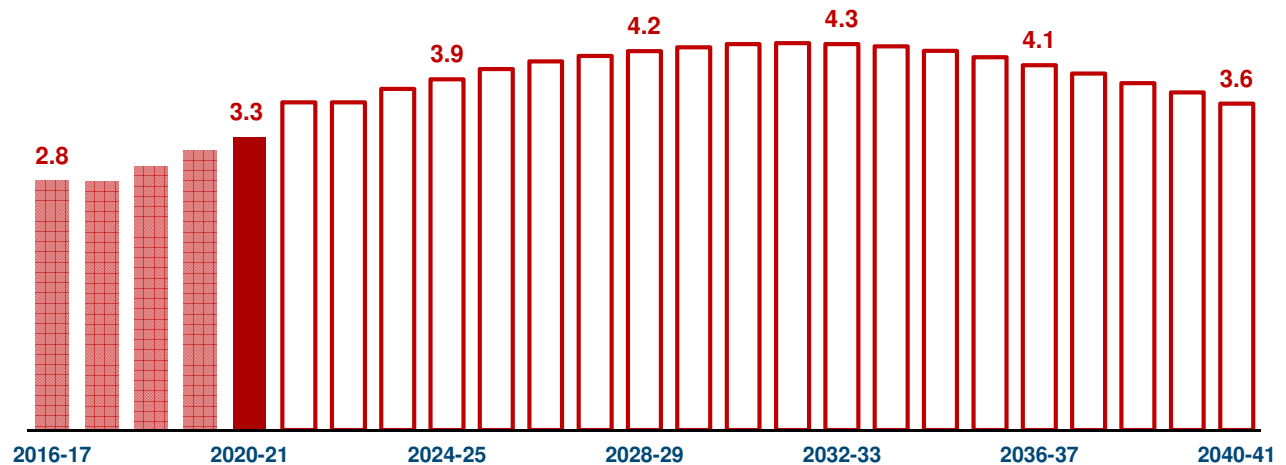
Section I - Executive Summary Assets (continued)

The graph below shows how this year's asset values compare to where the plan's assets have been over the past several years and how they are projected to change over the next 20 years. For purposes of this projection, we have assumed that the Town always contributes the Actuarially Determined Contribution and the investments always earn the assumed interest rate each year.



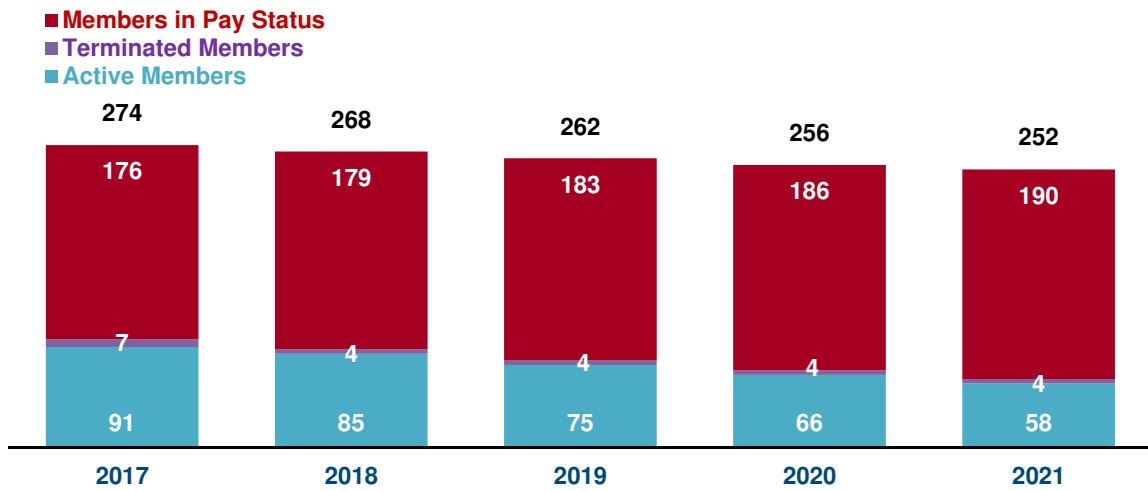
In 2020-21, the plan paid out \$3,253,700 in benefits to members. Over the next 20 years, the plan is projected to pay out a total of \$80 million in benefits to members.

Benefit Payments (\$ millions)



Section I - Executive Summary Membership

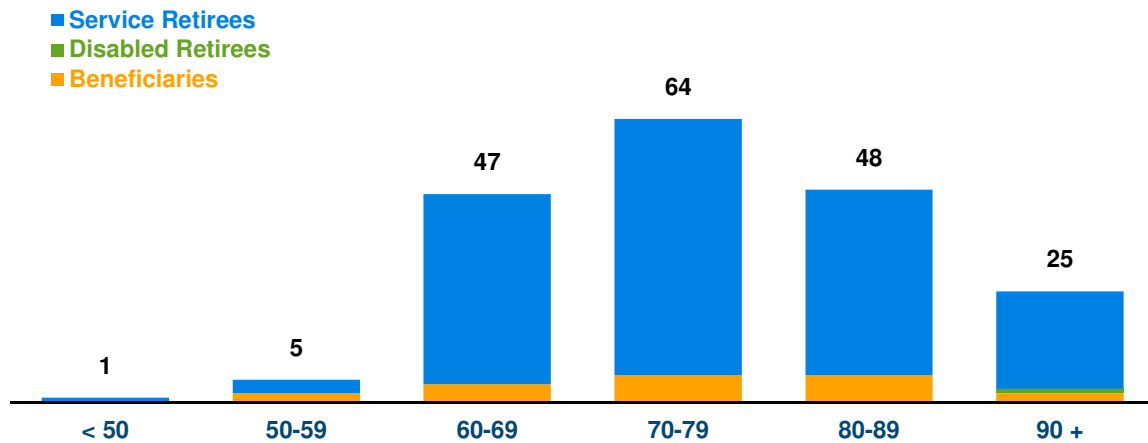
There are three basic categories of plan members included in the valuation: (1) members who are receiving monthly pension benefits, (2) former employees who have a vested right to benefits but have not yet started collecting, and (3) active employees who have met the eligibility requirements for membership.



Members in Pay Status on July 1, 2021

Service Retirees	169	Average Age	76.3
Disabled Retirees	1	Total Annual Benefit	\$3,356,745
Beneficiaries	20	Average Annual Benefit	17,667
Total	190		

The members in pay status fall across a wide distribution of ages:



Section I - Executive Summary Membership (continued)

Terminated Vested Members on July 1, 2021

Count	4
Average Age	55.8
Total Annual Benefit	\$49,860
Average Annual Benefit	12,465

Nonvested Members Due Refunds on July 1, 2021

Count	0
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Active Members on July 1, 2021

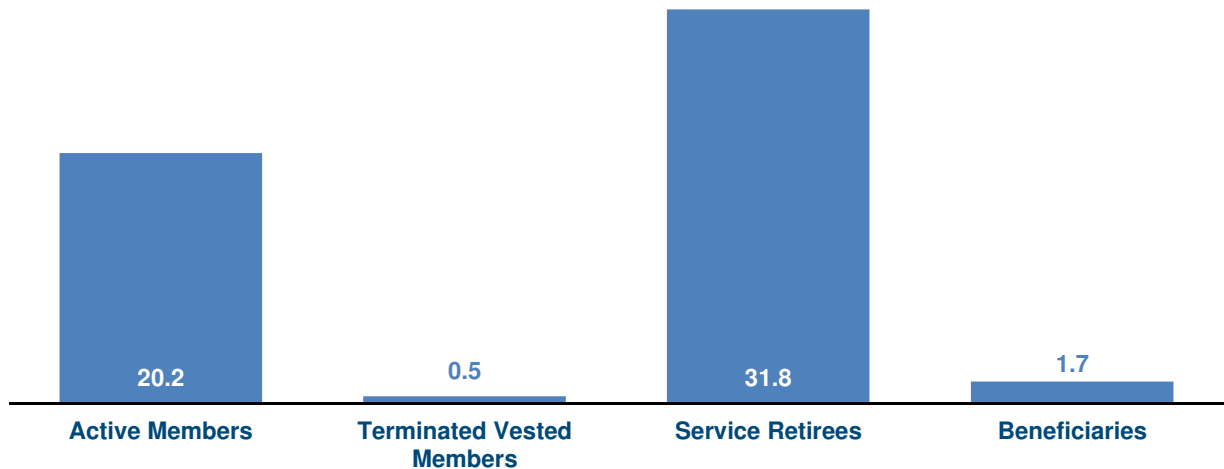
Count	58
Average Age	57.9
Average Service	23.9
Payroll	\$4,217,110
Average Payroll	72,709

The table below illustrates the age and years of service of the active membership:

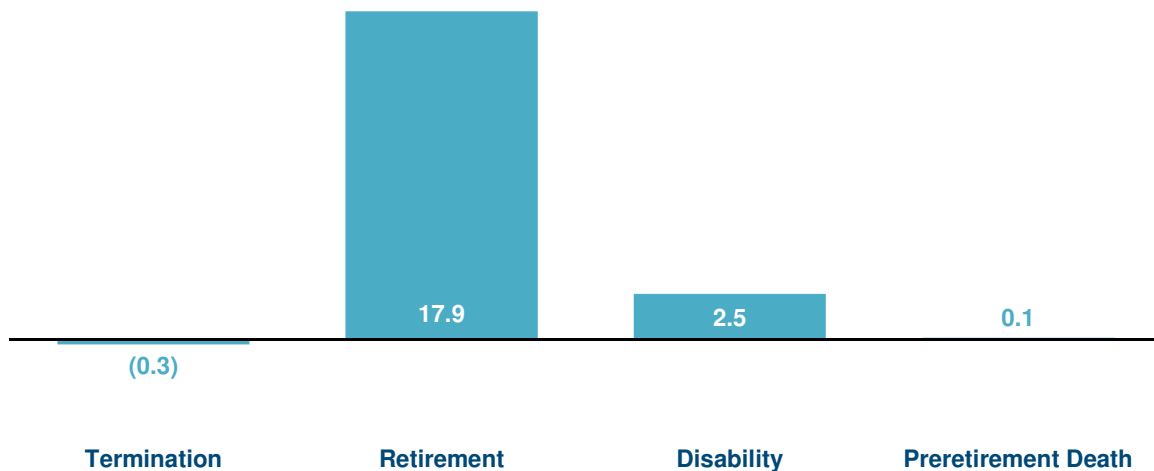
Age	Years of Service							Total
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30+	
< 25								0
25-29								0
30-34								0
35-39			2					2
40-44				1				1
45-49				2	2			4
50-54			1	5	2	1	1	10
55-59			2	2	3	1	4	12
60-64			3	5	5	4	4	21
65+			2	1	2	1	2	8
Total	0	0	10	16	14	7	11	58

Section I - Executive Summary Accrued Liability

The Accrued Liability as of July 1, 2021 is \$54,352,390, which consists of the following pieces (in \$ millions):



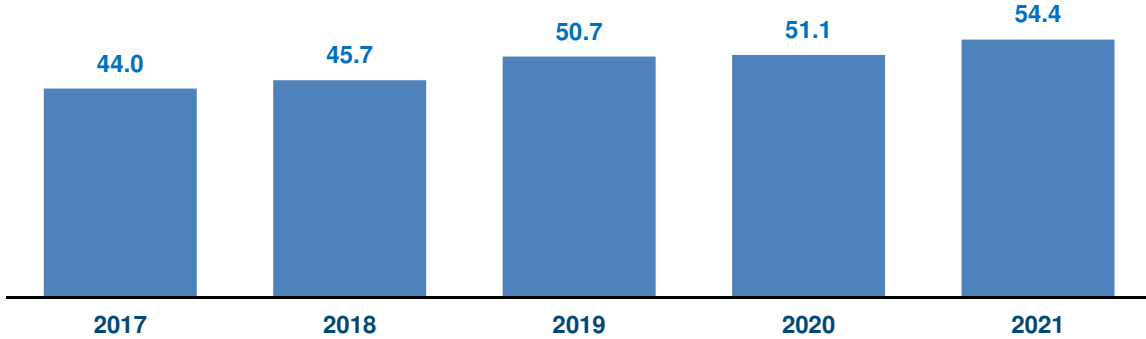
The Accrued Liability for active members can be broken down further by the different types of benefits provided by the plan:



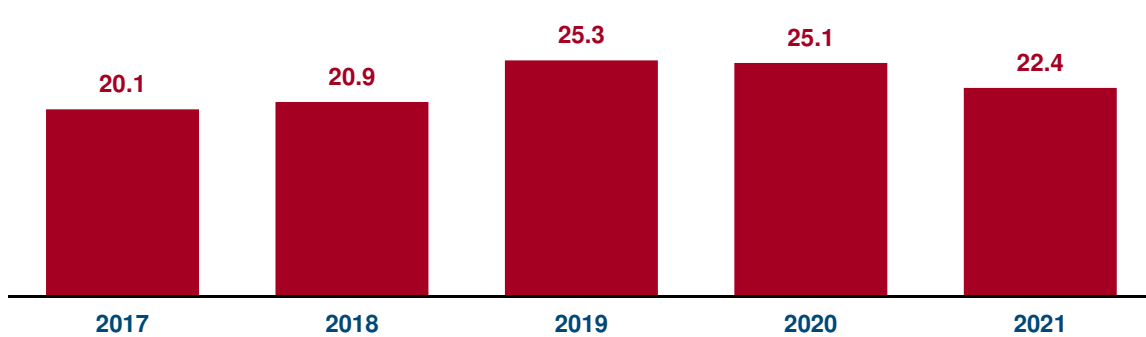
Section I - Executive Summary Funded Status

The Accrued Liability grows over time as active members earn additional benefits, and goes down over time as members receive benefits; it may also change when there are changes to the plan provisions or changes in the actuarial assumptions. The Unfunded Accrued Liability is the dollar difference between the Accrued Liability and the Actuarial Value of Assets; the Funded Ratio is the ratio of the two.

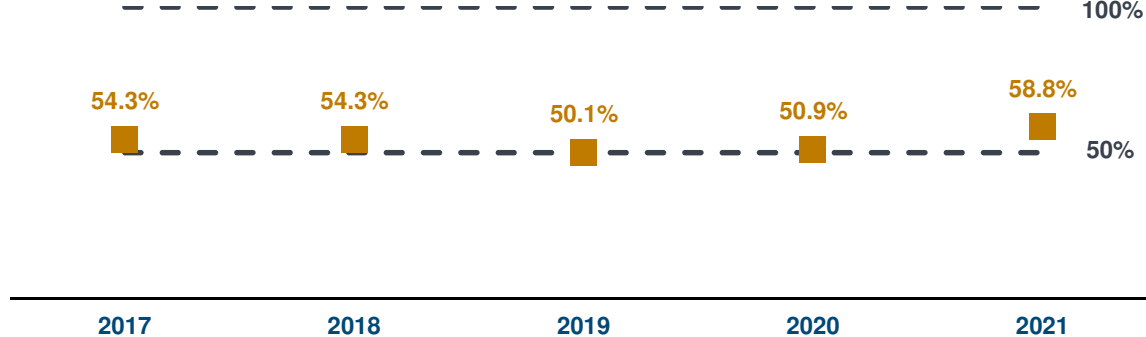
Accrued Liability (\$ millions)



Unfunded Accrued Liability (\$ millions)



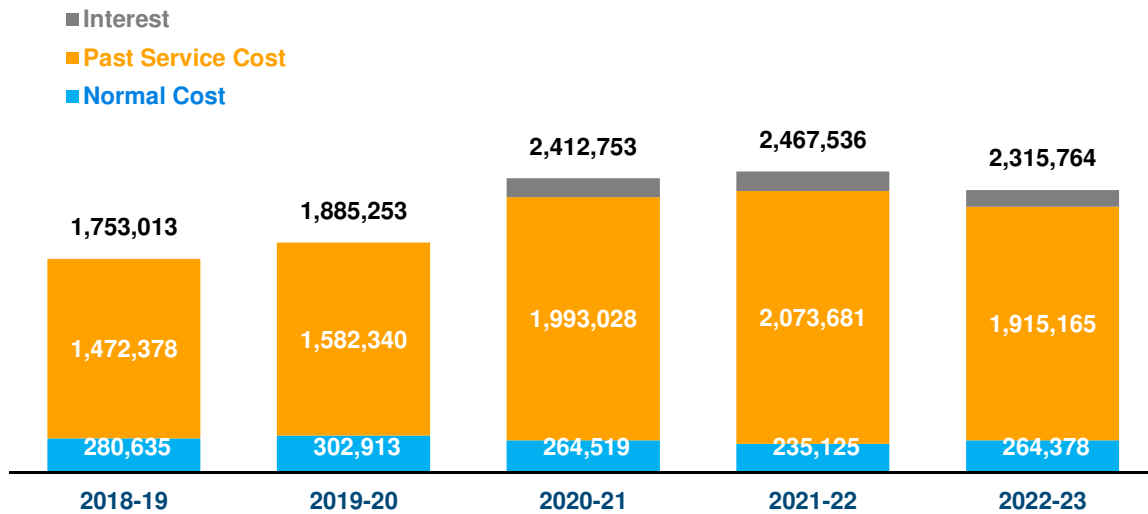
Funded Ratio



Section I - Executive Summary Actuarially Determined Contribution

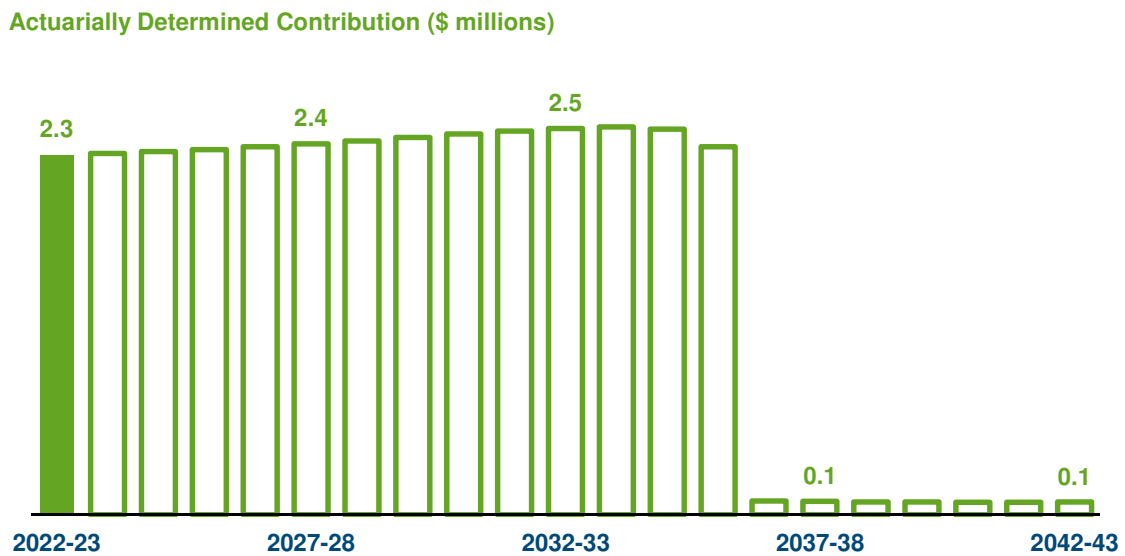
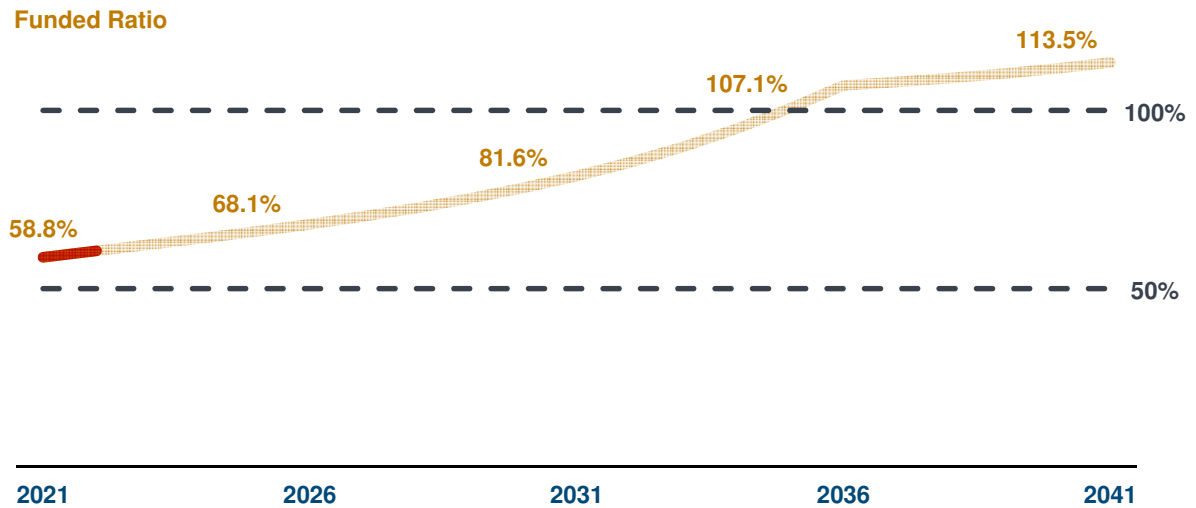
The Actuarially Determined Contribution consists of three pieces: a Normal Cost payment to fund the benefits earned each year, a Past Service Cost to gradually reduce any unfunded or surplus liability, and Interest to reflect the timing of the contribution relative to the valuation date.

The Actuarially Determined Contribution for fiscal year 2022-23 is shown graphically below, along with the comparable figures for the preceding four fiscal years. Note that the Normal Cost is relatively consistent from year to year, whereas the Past Service Cost tends to be more volatile since it reflects the impact of asset performance.



Section I - Executive Summary Long-Range Forecast

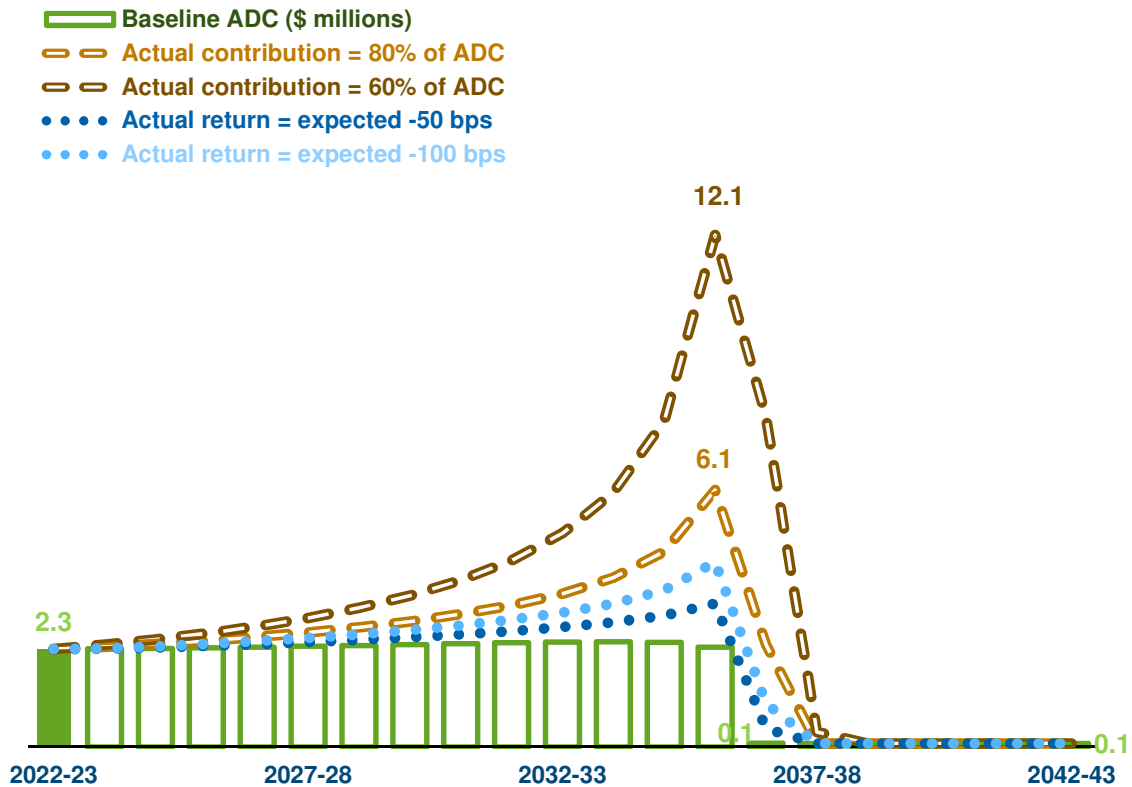
If the Town pays the Actuarially Determined Contribution each year, the investments earn exactly the assumed interest rate each year, and there are no changes in the plan provisions or in the actuarial methods and assumptions, then we project the following changes in the plan's funded status and the long-range contribution levels:



To the extent that there are future investment or liability gains or losses, changes in the actuarial assumptions or methods, or plan changes, the actual valuation results will differ from these forecasts. Please see Section III C for more details of the long range forecast.

Section I - Executive Summary Long-Range Forecast (continued)

Pension benefits are paid for through a combination of contributions from the Town and from employees, and from investment income. If the Town pays less than the Actuarially Determined Contribution each year, or if the investments persistently earn less than the assumed interest rate, then the plan's funded status would suffer, and to compensate, the Town's contribution levels would be pushed higher. The risks of underfunding and underearning are illustrated in the hypothetical scenarios below:



The scenarios illustrated above are based on deterministic projections that assume emerging plan experience always exactly matches the actuarial assumptions; in particular that actual asset returns will be constant in every year of the projection period. Variation in asset returns, contribution amounts, and many other factors may have a significant impact on the long-term financial health of the plan, the liquidity constraints on plan assets, and the Town's future contribution levels. Stochastic projections could be prepared that would enable the Town to understand the potential range of future results based on the expected variability in asset returns and other factors. Such analysis was beyond the scope of this engagement.

Section I - Executive Summary Summary of Principal Results

Membership as of	July 1, 2020	July 1, 2021
Active Members	66	58
Terminated Members	4	4
Members in Pay Status	<u>186</u>	<u>190</u>
Total Count	256	252
 Payroll	 \$4,755,017	 \$4,217,110
Assets and Liabilities as of	July 1, 2020	July 1, 2021
Market Value of Assets	\$26,239,011	\$31,945,973
Actuarial Value of Assets	26,022,621	31,945,973
Accrued Liability for Active Members	20,030,359	20,221,740
Accrued Liability for Terminated Members	467,659	529,032
Accrued Liability for Members in Pay Status	<u>30,611,584</u>	<u>33,601,618</u>
Total Accrued Liability	51,109,602	54,352,390
 Unfunded Accrued Liability	 25,086,981	 22,406,417
 Funded Ratio	 50.9%	 58.8%
Actuarially Determined Contribution for Fiscal Year	2021-22	2022-23
Normal Cost	\$235,125	\$264,378
Past Service Cost	2,073,681	1,915,165
Interest	<u>158,730</u>	<u>136,221</u>
Actuarially Determined Contribution	2,467,536	2,315,764
Breakdown of Actuarially Determined Contribution		
Board of Education	\$1,426,122	\$1,339,987
Town	<u>1,041,414</u>	<u>975,777</u>
Total	2,467,536	2,315,764

Section II - Plan Assets

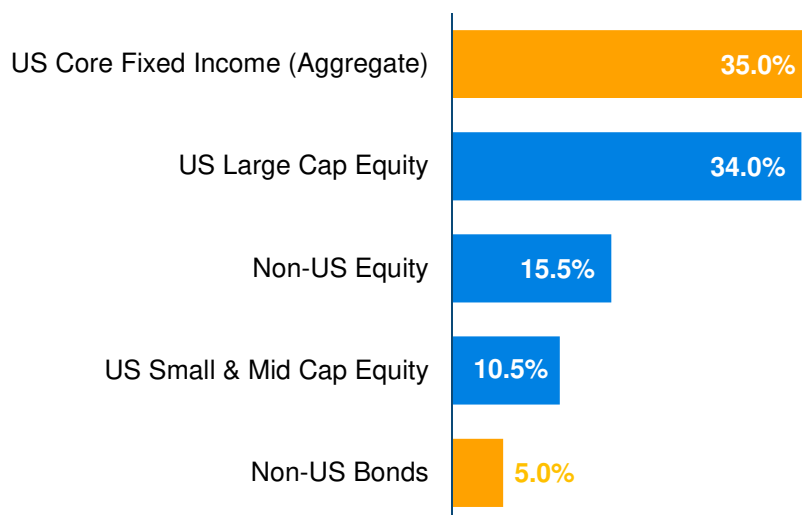
A. Summary of Fund Transactions

Market Value as of July 1, 2020	\$26,239,011
Town Contributions	2,412,753
Member Contributions	200,580
Net Investment Income	6,383,474
Benefit Payments	(3,253,673)
Administrative Expenses	(36,172)
 Market Value as of June 30, 2021	 31,945,973
Expected Return on Market Value of Assets	1,780,670
Market Value (Gain)/Loss	(4,602,804)
Approximate Rate of Return *	24.646%

* The rate shown here is not the dollar or time weighted investment yield rate which measures investment performance. It is an approximate net return assuming all activity occurred on average midway through the fiscal year.

Target Asset Allocation as of June 30, 2021

■ Equity ■ Fixed Income



Section II - Plan Assets

B. Development of Actuarial Value of Assets

As of July 1, 2021, the Actuarial Value of Assets has been reset to the Market Value of Assets.

Section III - Development of Contribution

A. Past Service Cost

In determining the Past Service Cost, the Unfunded Accrued Liability is amortized as a level percent over a closed period of 30 years starting on July 1, 2005.

	July 1, 2020	July 1, 2021
1. Accrued Liability		
Active Members	\$20,030,359	\$20,221,740
Terminated Members	467,659	529,032
Service Retirees	29,107,424	31,846,294
Disabled Retirees	15,204	14,840
Beneficiaries	<u>1,488,956</u>	<u>1,740,484</u>
Total Accrued Liability	51,109,602	54,352,390
2. Actuarial Value of Assets (see Section IIB)	26,022,621	31,945,973
3. Unfunded Accrued Liability: (1) - (2)	25,086,981	22,406,417
4. Funded Ratio: (2) / (1)	50.9%	58.8%
5. Amortization Period	15	14
6. Amortization Growth Rate	3.50%	3.25%
7. Past Service Cost: (3) amortized over (5)	2,073,681	1,915,165

Section III - Development of Contribution

B. Actuarially Determined Contribution

	2021-22	2022-23
1. Total Normal Cost	\$416,202	\$407,079
2. Expected Member Contributions	206,977	180,001
3. Expected Administrative Expenses	25,900	37,300
4. Town Normal Cost: (1) - (2) + (3)	235,125	264,378
5. Past Service Cost (see Section IIIA)	2,073,681	1,915,165
6. Interest on (4) + (5) to beginning of fiscal year	158,730	136,221
7. Actuarially Determined Contribution: (4) + (5) + (6)	2,467,536	2,315,764
8. Actuarially Determined Contribution as a Percent of Payroll	51.9%	54.9%
9. Allocation of Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) based on the Accrued Liability for active members:		
a. Accrued liability for active Board of Education members	11,576,627	11,701,045
b. Accrued liability for active Town members	8,453,732	8,520,695
c. Total accrued liability for active members	20,030,359	20,221,740
d. ADC allocated to Board of Education: (7) x (9a) / (9c)	1,426,122	1,339,987
e. ADC allocated to Town: (7) x (9b) / (9c)	1,041,414	975,777

Section III - Development of Contribution C. Long Range Forecast

This forecast is based on the results of the July 1, 2021 actuarial valuation and assumes that the Town will pay the Actuarially Determined Contribution each year, the assets will return the assumed interest rate on a market value basis each year, and there are no future changes in the actuarial methods or assumptions or in the plan provisions. For purposes of this forecast the amortization period declines to 1 year to illustrate the progress of the plan towards becoming fully funded; in actual practice the amortization period will not be less than 10 years in order to shield the Town from contribution volatility. Actual results at each point in time will yield different values, reflecting the actual experience of the plan membership and assets.

Valuation Date	Values as of the Valuation Date				Fiscal Year	Cash Flows Projected to the Following Fiscal Year			
	Accrued Liability	Actuarial Value of Assets	Unfunded Accrued Liability	Funded Ratio		Town Contributions	Member Contributions	Benefit Payments	Net Cash Flows
7/1/2021	\$54,352,390	\$31,945,973	\$22,406,417	58.8%	2022-23	\$2,315,764	\$163,288	(\$3,641,716)	(\$1,162,664)
7/1/2022	54,268,000	32,879,000	21,389,000	60.6%	2023-24	2,323,000	146,000	(3,789,000)	(1,320,000)
7/1/2023	54,034,000	33,695,000	20,339,000	62.4%	2024-25	2,335,000	130,000	(3,897,000)	(1,432,000)
7/1/2024	53,610,000	34,400,000	19,210,000	64.2%	2025-26	2,348,000	116,000	(4,009,000)	(1,545,000)
7/1/2025	53,026,000	35,032,000	17,994,000	66.1%	2026-27	2,365,000	102,000	(4,093,000)	(1,626,000)
7/1/2026	52,273,000	35,584,000	16,689,000	68.1%	2027-28	2,384,000	90,000	(4,157,000)	(1,683,000)
7/1/2027	51,372,000	36,087,000	15,285,000	70.2%	2028-29	2,403,000	78,000	(4,208,000)	(1,727,000)
7/1/2028	50,336,000	36,561,000	13,775,000	72.6%	2029-30	2,424,000	69,000	(4,251,000)	(1,758,000)
7/1/2029	49,172,000	37,017,000	12,155,000	75.3%	2030-31	2,448,000	58,000	(4,288,000)	(1,782,000)
7/1/2030	47,888,000	37,470,000	10,418,000	78.2%	2031-32	2,466,000	49,000	(4,296,000)	(1,781,000)
7/1/2031	46,475,000	37,924,000	8,551,000	81.6%	2032-33	2,483,000	42,000	(4,285,000)	(1,760,000)
7/1/2032	44,958,000	38,406,000	6,552,000	85.4%	2033-34	2,493,000	35,000	(4,261,000)	(1,733,000)
7/1/2033	43,353,000	38,938,000	4,415,000	89.8%	2034-35	2,478,000	29,000	(4,212,000)	(1,705,000)
7/1/2034	41,668,000	39,530,000	2,138,000	94.9%	2035-36	2,365,000	25,000	(4,143,000)	(1,753,000)
7/1/2035	39,924,000	40,185,000	(261,000)	100.7%	2036-37	88,000	21,000	(4,051,000)	(3,942,000)
7/1/2036	38,141,000	40,831,000	(2,690,000)	107.1%	2037-38	85,000	18,000	(3,960,000)	(3,857,000)
7/1/2037	36,340,000	39,258,000	(2,918,000)	108.0%	2038-39	83,000	15,000	(3,853,000)	(3,755,000)
7/1/2038	34,520,000	37,672,000	(3,152,000)	109.1%	2039-40	82,000	12,000	(3,751,000)	(3,657,000)
7/1/2039	32,696,000	36,090,000	(3,394,000)	110.4%	2040-41	80,000	10,000	(3,625,000)	(3,535,000)
7/1/2040	30,862,000	34,508,000	(3,646,000)	111.8%	2041-42	80,000	8,000	(3,498,000)	(3,410,000)

Section III - Development of Contribution

D. History of Funded Status

Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets	Accrued Liability	Unfunded Accrued Liability	Funded Ratio
July 1, 2011	\$19,765,407	\$37,089,866	\$17,324,459	53.3%
July 1, 2012	19,209,556	37,488,499	18,278,943	51.2%
July 1, 2013	19,784,562	39,632,512	19,847,950	49.9%
July 1, 2014	21,260,237	41,068,269	19,808,032	51.8%
July 1, 2015	22,679,334	43,168,261	20,488,927	52.5%
July 1, 2016	22,989,316	43,752,056	20,762,740	52.5%
July 1, 2017	23,890,261	43,986,616	20,096,355	54.3%
July 1, 2018	24,845,362	45,735,928	20,890,566	54.3%
July 1, 2019	25,405,242	50,748,114	25,342,872	50.1%
July 1, 2020	26,022,621	51,109,602	25,086,981	50.9%
July 1, 2021	31,945,973	54,352,390	22,406,417	58.8%

Section III - Development of Contribution

E. History of Town Contributions

Fiscal Year	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Town Contribution	Payroll	Actual Contribution as a Percent of Payroll
2012-13	\$1,373,058	\$1,373,058	\$7,503,241	18.3%
2013-14	1,452,707	1,452,707	7,230,177	20.1%
2014-15	1,594,153	1,594,153	6,806,553	23.4%
2015-16	1,622,642	1,622,642	6,886,617	23.6%
2016-17	1,694,689	1,694,689	6,514,492	26.0%
2017-18	1,741,672	1,741,672	6,127,475	28.4%
2018-19	1,753,013	1,753,013	6,114,621	28.7%
2019-20	1,885,253	1,885,253	5,803,253	32.5%
2020-21	2,412,753	2,412,753	5,437,457	44.4%
2021-22	2,467,536	TBD	4,755,017	TBD
2022-23	2,315,764	TBD	4,217,110	TBD

Section IV - Membership Data

A. Reconciliation of Membership from Prior Valuation

Details of the changes in the Plan membership since the last valuation are shown below. Additional details on the Plan membership are provided in the remainder of Section IV.

	Active Members	Terminated Vested Members	Nonvested Members Due Refunds	Service Retirees	Disabled Retirees	Beneficiaries	Total
Count July 1, 2020	66	4	0	166	1	19	256
Terminated							
- no benefits due	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
- paid refund	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
- vested benefits due	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Retired	(8)	-	-	8	-	-	0
Died							
- with beneficiary	-	-	-	(1)	-	1	0
- no beneficiary	-	-	-	(4)	-	-	(4)
Benefits expired	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
New member	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Rehired	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
New Alternate Payee	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Correction	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Count July 1, 2021	58	4	0	169	1	20	252

Section IV - Membership Data
B. Statistics of Active Membership

	As of July 1, 2020	As of July 1, 2021
Number of Active Members	66	58
Average Age	57.6	57.9
Average Service	23.0	23.9
Total Payroll	\$4,755,017	\$4,217,110
Average Payroll	72,046	72,709

Section IV - Membership Data

C. Statistics of Inactive Membership

	As of July 1, 2020	As of July 1, 2021
Terminated Vested Members		
Number	4	4
Total Annual Benefit	\$49,859	\$49,859
Average Annual Benefit	12,465	12,465
Average Age	54.8	55.8
Nonvested Members Due Refunds		
Number	0	0
Service Retirees		
Number	166	169
Total Annual Benefit	\$3,030,059	\$3,157,992
Average Annual Benefit	18,253	18,686
Average Age	76.0	76.3
Disabled Retirees		
Number	1	1
Total Annual Benefit	\$3,720	\$3,720
Average Annual Benefit	3,720	3,720
Average Age	91.0	92.0
Beneficiaries		
Number	19	20
Total Annual Benefit	\$167,890	\$195,033
Average Annual Benefit	8,836	9,752
Average Age	74.8	75.9

Section IV - Membership Data
D. Distribution of Inactive Members as of July 1, 2021

	Age	Number	Annual Benefits
Terminated Vested Members	< 50	0	\$0
	50 - 59	3	37,180
	60 - 69	1	12,679
	70 - 79	0	0
	80 - 89	0	0
	90 +	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total	4	49,859
Service Retirees	< 50	1	\$39,644
	50 - 59	3	109,747
	60 - 69	43	998,442
	70 - 79	58	1,202,117
	80 - 89	42	654,068
	90 +	<u>22</u>	<u>153,974</u>
	Total	169	3,157,992
Disabled Retirees	< 50	0	\$0
	50 - 59	0	0
	60 - 69	0	0
	70 - 79	0	0
	80 - 89	0	0
	90 +	<u>1</u>	<u>3,720</u>
	Total	1	3,720
Beneficiaries	< 50	0	\$0
	50 - 59	2	29,539
	60 - 69	4	28,486
	70 - 79	6	74,651
	80 - 89	6	53,773
	90 +	<u>2</u>	<u>8,584</u>
	Total	20	195,033

Section V - Analysis of Risk

A. Introduction

The results of this actuarial valuation are based on one set of reasonable assumptions. However, it is almost certain that future experience will not exactly match these assumptions. As an example, the plan's investments may perform better or worse than assumed in any single year and over any longer time horizon. It is therefore important to consider the potential impacts of these likely differences when making decisions that may affect the future financial health of the plan, or of the plan's members.

In addition, as plans mature they accumulate larger pools of assets and liabilities. The increase in size in turn increases the potential magnitude of adverse experience. As an example, the dollar impact of a 10% investment loss on a plan with \$1 billion in assets and liabilities is much greater than the dollar impact for a plan with \$1 million in assets and liabilities. Since pension plans make long-term promises and rely on long-term funding, it is important to consider how mature the plan is today, and how mature it may become in the future.

Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 51 (ASOP 51) directs actuaries to provide pension plan sponsors with information concerning the risks associated with the plan:

- Identify risks that may be significant to the plan.
- Assess the risks identified as significant to the plan. The assessment does not need to include numerical calculations.
- Disclose plan maturity measures and historical information that are significant to understanding the plan's risks.

This section of the report uses the framework of ASOP 51 to communicate important information about significant risks to the plan, the plan's maturity, and relevant historical plan data.

Please see Section III C for more information on the basis for the projected results shown on the following pages.

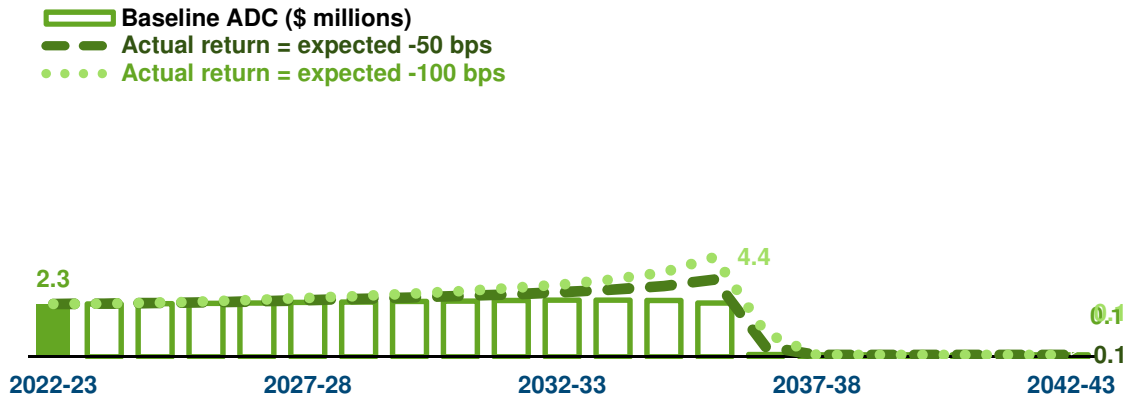
Section V - Analysis of Risk

B. Risk Identification and Assessment

Investment Risk

Definition: This is the potential that investment returns will be different than expected.

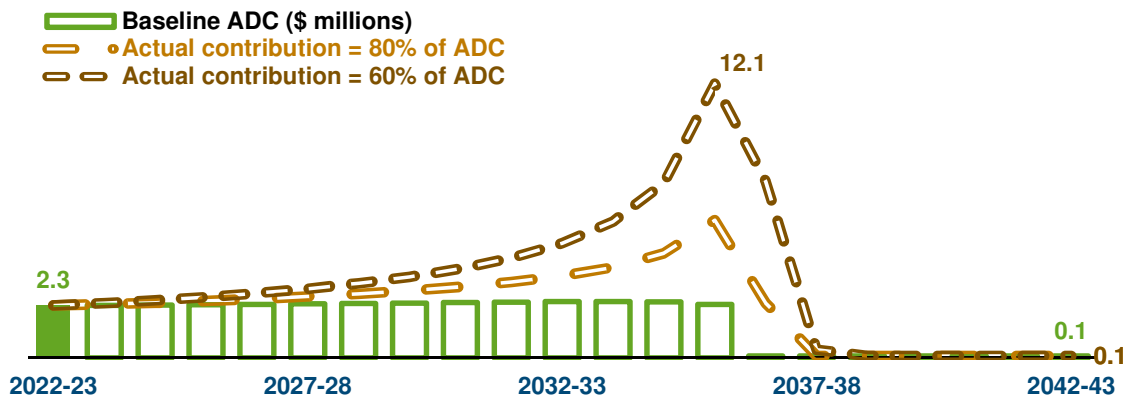
Identification: To the extent that actual investment returns differ from the assumed investment return, the plan's future assets, Actuarially Determined Contributions, and funded status may differ significantly from those presented in this valuation. The consequences of persistent underperformance on future Actuarially Determined Contribution levels are illustrated below:



Contribution Risk

Definition: This is the potential that actual future contributions will be less than the Actuarially Determined Contribution.

Identification: Over the past 9 years, actual contributions have been 100.0% of the Actuarially Determined Contribution in total. The consequences of persistent underfunding on future Actuarially Determined Contribution levels are illustrated below:



Section V - Analysis of Risk

B. Risk Identification and Assessment

Liquidity Risk

Definition: This is the potential that assets must be liquidated at a loss earlier than planned in order to pay for the plan's benefits and operating costs. This risk is heightened for plans with negative cash flows, in which contributions are not sufficient to cover benefit payments plus expenses.

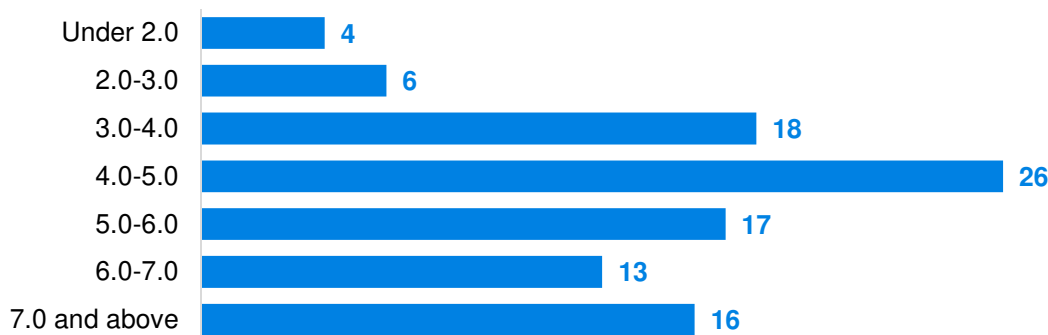
Identification: In 2020-21, the plan had negative cash flow, with town and member contributions to the plan of \$2,613,333 compared to \$3,289,845 of benefit payments and administrative expenses paid out of the plan. We suggest that you consult with your investment advisors with respect to the liquidity characteristics of the plan's investment holdings.

Maturity Risk

Definition: This is the potential for total plan liabilities to become more heavily weighted toward inactive liabilities over time, and for plan assets and/or liabilities to become larger relative to the active member liability.

Identification: The plan is subject to maturity risk because as plan assets and liabilities continue to grow, the dollar impact of any gains or losses on the assets or liabilities also becomes larger.

Assessment: As of July 1, 2021, the plan's Asset Volatility Ratio (the ratio of the market value of plan assets to payroll) is 7.6. According to Milliman's 2021 Public Pension Funding Study, the 100 largest US public pension plans have the following range of Asset Volatility Ratios:



Inflation Risk

Definition: This is the potential for a pension to lose purchasing power over time due to inflation.

Identification: The members of pension plans without fully inflation-indexed benefits are subject to the risk that their purchasing power will be reduced over time due to inflation.

Assessment: This plan does not contain a mechanism to regularly increase benefits after retirement, so members bear all of the inflation risk.

Section V - Analysis of Risk

B. Risk Identification and Assessment

Insolvency Risk

Definition: This is the potential that a plan will become insolvent; that is, assets will be fully depleted.

Identification: If a plan becomes insolvent, contractually required benefits must be paid from the plan sponsor's other remaining assets.

Assessment: Under the GASB 68 depletion date methodology, the plan is not projected to become insolvent. Please see the GASB 68 report for more details on the underlying analysis.

Demographic Risks

Definition: This is the potential that mortality, turnover, retirement, or other demographic experience will be different than expected.

Identification: The pension liabilities reported herein have been calculated by assuming that members will follow patterns of demographic experience as described in Appendix B. If actual demographic experience or future demographic assumptions are different from what is assumed to occur in this valuation, future pension liabilities, Actuarially Determined Contributions, and funded status may differ significantly from those presented in this valuation. Formal Experience Studies performed on a regular basis are helpful in ensuring that the demographic assumptions reflect emerging plan experience.

Pensionable Earnings Risk

Definition: This is the potential for active members to add items to their pensionable earnings and receive pension benefits that are higher than expected.

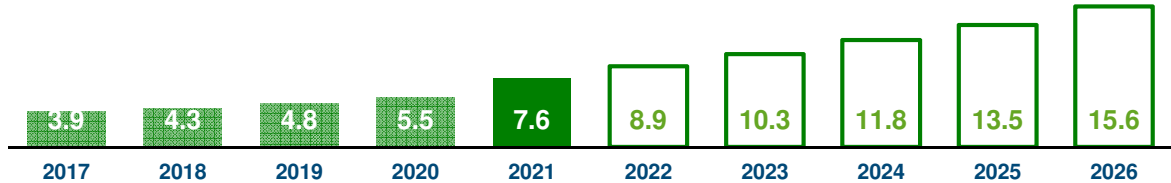
Identification: This plan uses gross earnings to determine pension amounts. To the extent that members have years with substantial amounts of overtime pay, this could put upward pressure on subsequent Actuarially Determined Contributions.

Section V - Analysis of Risk

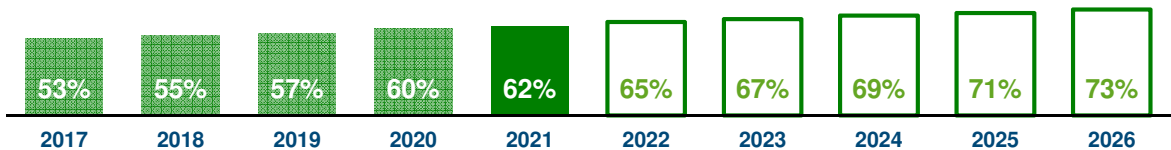
C. Maturity Measures

The metrics presented below are different ways of understanding the plan's maturity level, both in the past and as it is expected to change in the coming years.

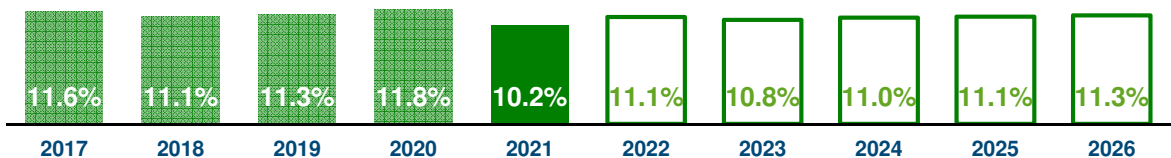
Asset Volatility Ratio: Market Value of Assets compared to Payroll



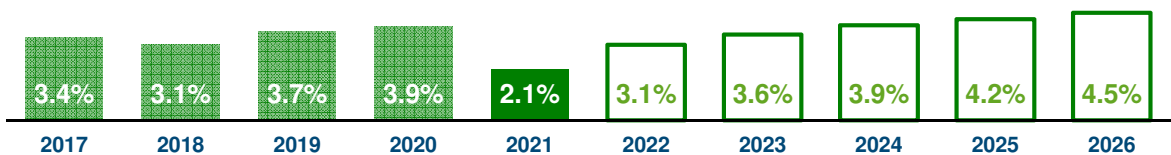
Accrued Liability for members in pay status compared to total Accrued Liability



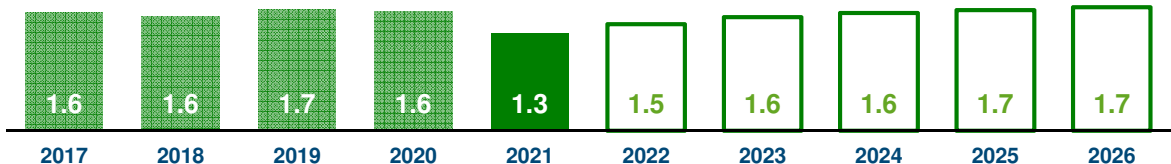
Benefit Payments compared to Market Value of Assets



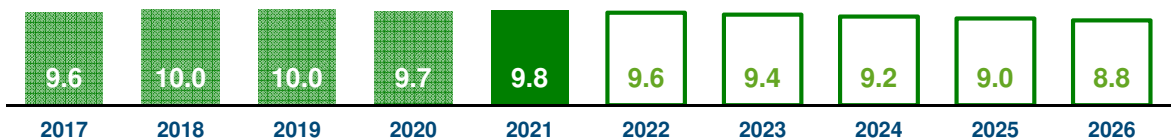
Net Cash Flows compared to Market Value of Assets



Benefit Payments compared to Town Contributions



Duration of Accrued Liability (based on GASB 68 sensitivity disclosures)



Appendix A - Actuarial Funding Method

The actuarial funding method used in the valuation of this Plan is known as the Entry Age Normal Method. The Actuarially Determined Contribution consists of three pieces: Normal Cost plus a Past Service Cost payment to gradually eliminate the Unfunded Accrued Liability plus Interest to reflect the one-year lag between the valuation date and when the contribution is expected to be paid.

The Normal Cost is determined by calculating the present value of future benefits for present active Members that will become payable as the result of death, disability, retirement or termination. This cost is then spread as a level percentage of earnings from entry age to termination as an Active Member. If Normal Costs had been paid at this level for all prior years, a fund would have accumulated. Because this fund represents the portion of benefits that would have been funded to date, it is termed the Accrued Liability. In fact, it is calculated by adding the present value of benefits for Retired Members and Terminated Vested Members to the present value of benefits for Active Members and subtracting the present value of future Normal Cost contributions.

The funding cost of the Plan is derived by making certain specific assumptions as to rates of interest, mortality, turnover, etc. which are assumed to hold for many years into the future. Since actual experience may differ somewhat from the assumptions, the costs determined by the valuation must be regarded as estimates of the true costs of the Plan.

The Unfunded Accrued Liability is the excess of the Accrued Liability over the assets which have been accumulated for the plan. This Unfunded Accrued Liability is amortized as a level percent over a closed period of 30 years starting on July 1, 2005.

As of July 1, 2021 the Actuarial Value of Assets has been reset to the Market Value of Assets. In subsequent years the Actuarial Value of Assets is determined by recognizing market gains and losses non-asymptotically over a five year period.

The long-range forecasts included in this report have been developed by assuming that members will terminate, retire, become disabled, and die according to the actuarial assumptions with respect to these causes of decrement, and that pay increases, cost of living adjustments, and so forth will likewise occur according to the actuarial assumptions.

Appendix B - Actuarial Assumptions

Each of the assumptions used in this valuation was set based on industry standard published tables and data, the particular characteristics of the plan, relevant information from the plan sponsor or other sources about future expectations, and our professional judgment regarding future plan experience. We believe the assumptions are reasonable for the contingencies they are measuring, and are not anticipated to produce significant cumulative actuarial gains or losses over the measurement period.

Interest Rate	6.25% (prior: 6.875%)	
Amortization Growth Rate	3.25% (prior: 3.50%)	
Expenses	Administrative expenses paid in the prior year, increased by 3% and rounded to the nearest \$100.	
Salary Scale	3.25% (prior: 3.50%)	
Mortality	Pub-2010 Mortality Table for Employees, Healthy Annuitants and Disabled Annuitants with generational projection of future improvements per the MP-2019 Ultimate scale. This assumption includes a margin for improvements in longevity beyond the valuation date.	
Turnover	Rates according to the following table:	
	Service	Rate
	0-4 years	10%
	5+ years	5%
Retirement	Age	Rate
	55	3%
	56-57	1%
	58	5%
	59-61	1%
	62-64	20%
	65-69	30%
	70	100%
Disability	11th Railroad Retirement Board Disability Rates.	
Marital Status	80% of members are assumed to be married with wives 3 years younger than husbands.	

Appendix C - Summary of Plan Provisions

This exhibit summarizes the major provisions of the Plan. It is not intended to be, nor should it be interpreted as a complete statement of all plan provisions. All eligibility requirements and benefit amounts shall be determined in strict accordance with the plan document itself. To the extent that this summary does not accurately reflect the plan provisions, then the results of this valuation may not be accurate.

Eligibility	Employed for twenty or more hours a week for more than 5 months per calendar year. Effective January 1, 2007, the Plan is closed to new members.
Final Average Earnings	Highest average gross earnings received in any three full calendar years.
Continuous Service	Period of continuous employment with the Town beginning with the first of the month following date of employment.
Aggregate Service	The sum of all periods of Continuous Service.
Member's Contributions	4.5% of after tax Earnings. Interest is credited at 4% per annum. Refund of Employee Contributions with interest to date of termination of employment or death, unless the employee is eligible for a deferred retirement income.
Normal Form of Benefit	Modified Cash Refund.
Normal Retirement Date	Earlier of age 63 or completion of 25 years of service.
Normal Retirement Benefit	1.7% of Final Average Earnings multiplied by years of Aggregate Service through July 1, 1990 plus 2% of Final Average Earnings multiplied by years of Aggregate Service since July 1, 1990, with a minimum of \$750 per year.
Early Retirement Date	Age 55, and 5 years of Continuous Service or 15 years of Aggregate Service.
Early Retirement Benefit	Accrued Benefit, actuarially reduced if payments begin prior to the member's 58th birthday.
Death Benefit Eligibility	Married Member (of at least one year) or with minor children. Age 30 with 5 years of Continuous Service.
Death Benefit	35% of benefit accrued to date of death.
Disability Retirement Eligibility	Five years of Aggregate Service and not eligible for benefits under the Long Term Disability Contract.
Disability Retirement Benefit	Accrued Benefit, not less than \$1,000 per year, payable to the earlier of the end of disability, death or Normal Retirement Date.

Appendix C - Summary of Plan Provisions

Termination Benefit Eligibility

Five years of Continuous Service or 15 years of Aggregate Service.

Termination Benefit

Benefit accrued to date of termination with payment commencing on Normal Retirement Date.

Appendix D - Glossary

Actuarial Cost Method - This is a procedure for determining the Actuarial Present Value of Benefits and allocating it to time periods to produce the Actuarial Accrued Liability and the Normal Cost.

Accrued Liability - This is the portion of the Actuarial Present Value of Benefits attributable to periods prior to the valuation date by the Actuarial Cost Method (i.e., that portion not provided by future Normal Costs).

Actuarial Assumptions - With any valuation of future benefits, assumptions of anticipated future events are required. If actual events differ from the assumptions made, the actual cost of the plan will vary as well. Some examples of key assumptions include the interest rate, salary scale, and rates of mortality, turnover and retirement.

Actuarial Present Value of Benefits - This is the present value, as of the valuation date, of future payments for benefits and expenses under the Plan, where each payment is: a) multiplied by the probability of the event occurring on which the payment is conditioned, such as the probability of survival, death, disability, termination of employment, etc.; and b) discounted at the assumed interest rate.

Actuarial Value of Assets - This is the value of cash, investments and other property belonging to the plan, typically adjusted to recognize investment gains or losses over a period of years to dampen the impact of market volatility on the Actuarially Determined Contribution.

Actuarially Determined Contribution (“ADC”) - This is the employer’s periodic contributions to a defined benefit plan, calculated in accordance with actuarial standards of practice.

Attribution Period - The period of an employee’s service to which the expected benefit obligation for that employee is assigned. The beginning of the attribution period is the employee’s date of hire and costs are spread across all employment.

Interest Rate - This is the long-term expected rate of return on any investments set aside to pay for the benefits. In a financial reporting context (e.g., GASB 68) this is termed the Discount Rate.

Normal Cost - This is the portion of the Actuarial Present Value of Benefits allocated to a valuation year by the Actuarial Cost Method.

Past Service Cost - This is a catch-up payment to fund the Unfunded Accrued Liability over time (generally 10 to 30 years). A closed amortization period is a specific number of years counted from one date and reducing to zero with the passage of time; an open amortization period is one that begins again or is recalculated at each valuation date. Also known as the Amortization Payment.

Return on Plan Assets - This is the actual investment return on plan assets during the fiscal year.

Unfunded Accrued Liability - This is the excess of the Accrued Liability over the Actuarial Value of Assets.