

# 2023 Investment Summary

| (dollars in thousand  | ls) |                              |            |                          |                                      |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------|-----|------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                       | -   | 2023 Beginning<br>Fair Value | Purchases  | Sales and<br>Redemptions | Increase (Decrease)<br>in Fair Value | 2023 Ending Fair<br>Value Balance | Percent of<br>Total Fair Value |
| Short-term securities | \$  | 1,220,889                    | 31,963,025 | (31,860,331)             | (9,058)                              | 1,314,525                         | 2.90                           |
| Equities              |     | 13,070,685                   | 2,525,250  | (2,468,459)              | 2,276,990                            | 15,404,466                        | 33.88                          |
| Debt securities       |     | 6,459,625                    | 42,930,765 | (42,806,283)             | 386,954                              | 6,971,061                         | 15.33                          |
| Real assets           |     | 8,613,643                    | 780,418    | (404,275)                | (245,862)                            | 8,743,924                         | 19.23                          |
| Private equity        |     | 5,529,627                    | 485,063    | (330,728)                | (68,914)                             | 5,615,048                         | 12.35                          |
| Absolute return       |     | 7,530,815                    | 1,866,377  | (2,227,728)              | 246,642                              | 7,416,106                         | 16.31                          |
| Totals                | \$  | 42,425,284                   | 80,550,898 | (80,097,804)             | 2,586,752                            | 45,465,130                        | 100.00                         |

### Outline of Investment Policies

The governing body of the Utah Retirement Systems (Systems) is the seven member Utah State Retirement Board (Board). The Board is composed of the Utah State Treasurer, who serves as an ex-officio member, and six trustees who are appointed by the Governor. Four board members are appointed for their investment expertise, and two members are appointed to represent employee and employer interests.

The Board has statutory authority to pool pension assets in the Utah State Retirement Investment Fund (Fund). Statutes also establish that this Fund will be invested in accordance with the "prudent investor rule." The prudent investor rule requires all members of the Board and investment staff to discharge their duties solely in the interest of Systems' participants and beneficiaries and with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence that they would exercise in the conduct of their own affairs. To this end, a Statement of Investment Policy and Performance Objectives has been created for the Fund and adopted by the Board. The purpose of this Statement is to:

- Outline the expected return and risk profile for the Fund;
- » Establish the target asset allocation mix and acceptable rebalancing ranges;
- » Describe plan and manager policies and objectives for performance evaluation.

The primary investment objectives are to preserve Fund assets and generate an appropriate level of riskadjusted return to meet future pension obligations.

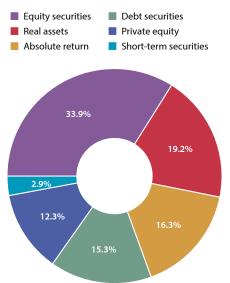
The Systems periodically complete an asset allocation and liability study to determine the optimal portfolio diversification to meet those obligations.

The Systems' investment portfolio includes strategic, long-term commitments in the following asset classes: Equities, Debt Securities, Real Assets, Private Equity, and Absolute Return. Asset allocation is reviewed in conjunction with the plan liabilities at least every five years.

The Board's policy is to establish a long-term strategic asset allocation that manages overall expected portfolio risk (volatility) and maximizes expected return without unduly constraining the discretionary, tactical decisionmaking process of the investment managers.

### Defined Benefit Systems Investments at Fair Value

December 31, 2023



To implement the asset allocation plan, the Executive Director, supported by the Board, staff, and consultant, selects appropriate money management experts to invest the Fund assets. This selection process includes the creation of specific search criteria, completion and documentation of analysis, and due diligence on potential candidates. It is not the staff or Board's intention to be involved with the day-to-day decisions made by external investment managers. Internal investment staff also manages segments of the portfolio.

All managers are expected to communicate with the staff at least quarterly.

Managers' portfolios are evaluated both against appropriate market indices and similar manager style groups. The investment policy outlines appropriate benchmarks.

Investment return calculations are prepared using a time-weighted rate of return.

The allocation of assets as reported to the board are as follows: Equity securities 33.9%, Debt securities 15.3%, Absolute return 16.3%, Private equity 12.4% and Real assets 19.2%. These allocation percentages differ from investment asset percentages presented in the MD&A and Statement of Fiduciary Net Position as a result of different methodologies used to categorize investment assets and the impact of derivatives for investment purposes versus financial statement presentation purposes. For investment purposes the impact of derivatives used to rebalance the defined portfolio are expressed using the notional value of those derivatives.

| December 31,          | 2014   | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Equities securities   | 35.5%  | 33.9  | 35.2  | 37.8  | 35.1  | 37.7  | 39.9  | 37.1  | 30.8  | 33.9  |
| Debt securities       | 15.6   | 15.8  | 15.0  | 14.2  | 16.9  | 17.3  | 13.5  | 12.0  | 15.2  | 15.3  |
| Private equity        | 11.8   | 11.9  | 11.3  | 10.7  | 11.7  | 11.3  | 11.5  | 13.1  | 13.0  | 12.4  |
| Real assets           | 14.0   | 14.9  | 14.7  | 14.8  | 16.6  | 13.9  | 13.3  | 15.3  | 20.3  | 19.2  |
| Short-term securities | 5.8    | 8.2   | 8.2   | 8.6   | 5.1   | 5.2   | 6.7   | 7.4   | 2.9   | 2.9   |
| Absolute return       | 17.2   | 15.3  | 15.5  | 13.9  | 14.7  | 14.6  | 15.1  | 15.1  | 17.8  | 16.3  |
| Total portfolio       | 100.0% | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |



## **10-Year Total Pension Investment Rates of Return**

| (dollars ii | n millions)                                    | •  | ٠   |   |   |
|-------------|--|--|---|---|---|
|             | Total<br>Investment<br>Portfolio<br>Fair Value | (1)<br>Smooth<br>Expected<br>Rate of<br>Return | (2)<br>Fair<br>Value<br>Rate of<br>Return | (3)<br>Actuarial<br>Assumed<br>Interest<br>Rate | (4)<br>Money<br>Weighted<br>Rate of<br>Return |
| 2014        | \$ 26,955                                      | 10.20%   | 7.52%                                     | 7.50%   | 7.94%   |
| 2015        | 27,086   | 7.84   | 1.92                                      | 7.50  | 2.02  |
| 2016        | 29,017   | 8.06   | 8.79                                      | 7.20  | 8.73  |
| 2017        | 32,125   | 8.32   | 13.57                                     | 6.95  | 13.38   |
| 2018        | 31,376   | 5.99   | (0.22)                                    | 6.95  | (0.38)  |
| 2019        | 35,612   | 7.08   | 14.45                                     | 6.95  | 13.80   |
| 2020        | 39,308   | 9.58   | 12.96                                     | 6.95  | 12.64   |
| 2021        | 45,538   | 11.52  | 17.46                                     | 6.85  | 17.28   |
| 2022        | 42,425   | 7.91   | (5.04)                                    | 6.85  | (5.23)  |
| 2023        | 45,465   | 8.50   | 9.44                                      | 6.85  | 9.76  |

- (1) Smoothed Expected Rate of Return consists of investment income in excess or shortfall of the expected 6.85% on fair value smoothed over a 5-year period with 20% of a year's excess or shortfall being recognized each year beginning with the current year.
- (2) Fair Value Rate of Return consists of cash income plus gains and losses due to changes in fair value, whether realized or unrealized (before deduction of investment fees). (For 2023, 9.27% net of fees.)
- (3) Actuarial Assumed Interest Rate is the assumed rate of return on the fair value of assets, and is used in establishing retirement contribution rates and in determining current benefit reserve requirements.
- (4) Money Weighted Rate or Return is calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, net of investment expenses.

# Comparative Investment Results (1)(2)(3)

Year Ended December 31, 2023

| Investment Option<br>Comparative Index   | 1 Year                 | 3 Year               | 5 Year                 | 10 Year              |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Global Equity*</b><br>FTSE Global All Cap Index.  | <b>21.73%</b><br>21.59 | <b>6.46%</b><br>5.47 | <b>11.79%</b><br>11.50 | <b>7.99%</b><br>7.77 |
| Global Debt Securities*  | 6.07                   | (2.62)               | 1.93                   | 2.56                 |
| Fund Benchmark<br>Benchmark consisting of:<br>60% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index<br>15% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index Hedged<br>25% Bloomberg World Government Inflation-Linked Bond Index Hedged   | 5.52                   | (3.01)               | 1.32                   | 2.22                 |
| Real Assets**  | 0.04                   | 11.74                | 7.76                   | 9.30                 |
| U.S. Consumer Price Index + 5%   | 8.33                   | 10.79                | 9.21                   | 7.76                 |
| Private Equity   | 3.20                   | 14.91                | 19.94                  | 17.70                |
| Private Equity Benchmark   |                        |                      |                        |                      |
| Russell 3000 + 2.5%  | 28.51                  | 11.19                | 17.91                  | 14.13                |
| Absolute Return  | 6.19                   | 6.56                 | 6.62                   | 5.12                 |
| 3-month Treasury Bills + 5.0%  | 10.02                  | 7.15                 | 6.88                   | 6.25                 |
| Short Term   | 2.60                   | 2.94                 | 3.16                   | 1.93                 |
| 3 Month Treasury Bills   | 5.01                   | 2.15                 | 1.88                   | 1.25                 |
| Total Fund***  | 9.44                   | 6.87                 | 9.55                   | 7.85                 |
| Fund Benchmark<br>Benchmark consisting of:<br>35% FTSE Global All Cap Index<br>15% 3-month Treasury Bill + 5%<br>18% CPI-W + 5%<br>12% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index<br>12% Russell 3000 Index + 2.5%<br>5% Bloomberg World Government Inflation-Linked Bond Index Hedged<br>3% Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index Hedged | 15.04                  | 5.63                 | 9.52                   | 7.36                 |
| CAI Public Fund — Very Large Database Median   | 11.70                  | 5.95                 | 9.35                   | 7.36                 |
| Inflation  | 3.32                   | 5.78                 | 4.20                   | 2.75                 |

(1) Investment measurement services provided by Callan Associates Inc.

(2) Total rates of return include cash income plus gains and losses due to changes in fair value, where realized or unrealized.

(3) Investment return calculations were prepared using a time-weighted return except private equity which is prepared using a dollar weighted return.

\*Global equity and fixed income returns are reported at gross for comparability to the benchmarks which are reported as gross of fees. All other returns are reported a net of fees.

\*\*The non real estate portion of Real Assets only reflects returns for years 1, 3 and 5. Year 10 is for real estate only using a NCREIF Total Index Benchmark.

\*\*\*Total fund return is blended based upon gross returns for global equity and fixed income and net returns for Real Assets, Absolute Return, Short Term and Private Equity. Total fund net return is 9.27%, 6.70%, 9.39% and 7.68% for 1, 3, 5 and 10 year periods.

### List of Largest Assets Held

December 31, 2023

### Largest Equity Holdings\*

|                         | (By Fair Value) |                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Description             | Shares          | Fair Value        |
| Microsoft Corp.         | 979,505         | \$<br>368,333,060 |
| Apple Inc.              | 1,741,576       | 335,305,627       |
| Alphabet Inc.           | 1,458,580       | 204,487,460       |
| Amazon Inc.             | 1,169,490       | 177,692,311       |
| Nvidia Corp.            | 298,614         | 147,879,625       |
| United Healthcare Group | 175,719         | 92,510,782        |
| Meta Inc.               | 261,228         | 92,464,263        |
| Visa Inc.               | 319,453         | 83,169,589        |
| Tesla Inc.              | 325,871         | 80,972,426        |
| S&P Global Inc.         | 172,559         | 76,015,691        |

### **Largest Debt Securities Holdings**

|  | (By Fair Value) |               |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| Description                                      | Par Value       | Fair Value    |
| United States Treasury Note<br>4.875% 11/30/2025 | \$ 79,470,000   | \$ 80,311,265 |
| GIC FLTG RT 30/09/2041                           | 59,987,000      | 64,581,518    |
| FNMA Pool 2.0%<br>01/01/2051                     | 70,414,873      | 57,906,787    |
| United States Treasury Note<br>2.375% 02/15/2042 | 72,735,000      | 56,028,680    |
| United States Treasury Note<br>3.125% 11/15/2033 | 56,693,000      | 55,572,428    |
| MFC iShares iBoxx                                | 693,563         | 53,674,841    |
| United States Treasury Note<br>4.5% 11/15/2033   | 36,206,000      | 38,089,843    |
| Korea (Republic of) 4.25%<br>10/12/2032          | 45,286,300,000  | 38,007,748    |
| Unites States Treasury Note<br>1.5% 02/15/2025   | 39,030,000      | 37,668,524    |
| United States Treasury Note 2.85% 011/15/2046    | 43,195,000      | 34,738,229    |

\*As required by SEC Rule 13F, a list of publicly traded equity securities held by Utah Retirement Systems is available online through the SEC Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis, and Retrieval (EDGAR) website. This list is also available upon request.

### Schedule of Fees and Commissions

Year Ended December 31, 2023

### **Broker Commission Fees**

| Broker                       | Commissions     |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Morgan Stanley               | \$<br>395,234   |
| Instinet                     | 257,295         |
| Instinet Europe Limited      | 198,890         |
| Cowen                        | 183,746         |
| Gordan Haskett Capital       | 113,576         |
| Goldman                      | 107,299         |
| Jefferies                    | 82,400          |
| Direct Trading Institutional | 65,623          |
| J. P. Morgan                 | 60,507          |
| UBS Securities               | 56,299          |
| Other                        | 1,161,281       |
| Total                        | \$<br>2,682,151 |

# Schedule of Investment Fees and Commissions

| Investment advisor fees:*     |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Absolute return               | \$<br>7,212,141   |
| Equity securities             | 33,435,093        |
| Debt securities               | 8,213,898         |
| Private equity                | 19,758,450        |
| Real assets                   | 30,590,422        |
| Short term                    | 208,530           |
| Total investment advisor fees | 99,418,534        |
| Investment brokerage fees     | 2,682,151         |
| Total fees and commissions    | \$<br>102,100,685 |

\*Represents fees that are invoiced and paid directly by URS. These numbers do not represent all management, performance, carried interest, or other fees charged directly by investment advisors. These and other investment related fees are netted from returns.

Utah Retirement Systems uses a commission recapture program as part of its trading strategies. During the year ending December 31, 2023, Utah Retirement Systems recaptured approximately \$139,934 from the gross commission charges. This recaptured sum was used to cover or offset the \$81,651 in investment expenses that otherwise would have been paid for with investment funds.