# State Board of Administration of Florida Florida Retirement System (FRS) Investment Plan Trust Fund

Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AND MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Trustees
State Board of Administration of Florida

#### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of the Florida Retirement System ("FRS") Investment Plan Trust Fund (the "Trust") administered by the State Board of Administration ("SBA") of Florida, as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Trust's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Trust administered by the SBA, as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the respective changes in financial position for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Trust, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements present only the Trust and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the State of Florida, the State Board of Administration of Florida or the Florida Retirement System as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, their changes in financial position, or, where applicable, their cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
  fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures
  include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial
  statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
  that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
  effectiveness of the Trust's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *management's discussion and analysis* on pages 4 – 14 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated November 6 2023 on our consideration of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Trust's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Crowe LLP

Tampa, Florida November 6, 2023

#### Introduction

This section of the financial statements of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) Investment Plan Trust Fund (the Trust) presents management's discussion and analysis of the Trust's financial position for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022. Please read it in conjunction with the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes, which follow this section.

As further described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the FRS Investment Plan (the Plan) is a defined contribution plan for eligible members of the FRS who have not elected to participate in the FRS Pension Plan, a defined benefit plan, or who are mandated to participate in the Plan as a condition of renewed membership in the FRS.

The Florida Legislature is responsible for establishing Plan structure, benefit levels and contribution rates, and providing statutory authority for the administration of the Plan. The Plan is administered by the State Board of Administration of Florida (the SBA). The SBA has defined the roles and responsibilities of affected employers, the Division of Retirement within the Department of Management Services (DMS), and other service providers pertaining to the Plan.

Contributions to the Plan are collected by DMS and transmitted to the SBA, which deposits them in the Trust. Alight Solutions, the Plan Administrator contracted by the SBA, is responsible for the placement of member-directed trades among investment options offered by the Plan and maintaining records of individual member accounts. Alight Solutions records in each member's account all relevant contributions, withdrawals, fees, and the investment performance of the funds selected by the member. The benefits each member receives from the Plan vary based on the member's individual account balance.

#### **Financial Statements**

The financial reporting entity represented in the basic financial statements and accompanying notes is the Trust, which consists of the assets held in trust by the SBA for the payment of retirement benefits and reasonable administrative expenses of the Plan. The assets, liabilities, and net position of the Trust are reported in the annual comprehensive financial report published by the State of Florida.

The Trust's basic financial statements include two-year comparative statements of net position and statements of changes in net position. The statements of net position provide a measurement of the financial position of the Trust as of the end of the fiscal year. The statements of changes in net position present the results of Trust activities during the fiscal years presented in this report. The accompanying notes to the financial statements offer additional discussion that is essential for a full understanding of the data presented in the financial statements, and provide additional information regarding the Trust, such as accounting policies, significant account balances and activities, material risks, obligations, contingencies, and subsequent events, if any.

# **Statements of Net Position**

The statements of net position present the assets, liabilities, and net position (total assets in excess of total liabilities) of the Trust as of the end of the fiscal year and are point-in-time financial statements. The assets in the Trust are comprised of the members' investment accounts. The following table represents condensed financial information.

	As of June 30					
	2023		2022			2021
			(In	Millions)		
Assets						
Investments	\$	14,559	\$	12,852	\$	14,835
Receivables		121		68		62
Investments sold, but not settled		17		28		31
Total assets		14,697		12,948		14,928
Liabilities						
Payables		6		3		3
Investments purchased, but not settled		42		68		63
Total liabilities		48		71		66
Net position held in trust	\$	14,649	\$	12,877	\$	14,862

# **Statements of Changes in Net Position**

The statements of changes in net position show the net investment income earned by the Trust, the contributions from employers and employees, and the deductions for members and beneficiaries that occurred during the fiscal year. The following table represents condensed financial information.

	Fiscal Years Ended June 30					
	2023		2022		2021	
			(In	Millions)		
Additions						
Net investment income/(loss)	\$	1,406	\$	(1,903)	\$	3,332
Contributions:						
Employer/employee contributions received from DMS		1,077		657		605
Member-directed benefits received from the						
FRS Trust Fund		590		768		668
Member-directed rollover deposits		63		77		70
Total contributions		1,730		1,502		1,343
Total additions		3,136		(401)		4,675
Deductions						
Benefit payments to members		1,287		1,466		1,217
Member-directed benefits sent to the						
FRS Trust Fund		69		112		140
Administrative expenses		8		6		6
Total deductions		1,364		1,584		1,363
Change in net position		1,772		(1,985)		3,312
Net position held in trust						
Beginning of year		12,877		14,862		11,550
End of year	\$	14,649	\$	12,877	\$	14,862

### **Analysis**

The Trust's net position increased by \$1.8 billion (13.8%) and decreased by \$2.0 billion (-13.4%) during fiscal years 2023 and 2022, respectively. For fiscal year 2023, the increase in net position was primarily due to positive investment performance. Despite beginning the fiscal year with global supply chain interruptions and high inflationary pressures, equity markets significantly rebounded generating positive returns as inflation fell throughout the year. As well, an increase in overall contributions provided additional funds for investment in the Trust.

Trust investments generated net income of approximately \$1.4 billion for fiscal year 2023 and a net loss of approximately \$1.9 billion for fiscal year 2022. Positive investment performance contributed substantially to the increase in net income for fiscal year 2023. The overall Trust return remained positive, exceeding its benchmark, and provided continued growth in Trust income and overall net position. During fiscal year 2023, domestic equities returned 19.9% and international equities returned 13.8%. In contrast, domestic equities returned -16.3% and international equities returned -20.2% during fiscal year 2022. As well, fixed income returned 0.7% and -10.5% for fiscal years 2023 and 2022, respectively. The Stable Value Fund also generated positive results, returning 2.3% and 1.6% for fiscal years 2023 and 2022, respectively. Additionally, the Retirement Date Funds returned 8.8% and -11.0% for fiscal years 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Additional analysis of Trust investments can be found in the "Asset Allocation" and "Investment Returns" sections of Management's Discussion and Analysis.

Deductions from the Trust in both fiscal years consist mainly of benefit payments to members. Benefit payments decreased by \$178.8 million (-12.2%) and increased by \$249.0 million (20.5%) during fiscal years 2023 and 2022, respectively. Benefit payments from the Plan vary from year to year based on the number of retirees, their account balances, and the related benefits due during the fiscal year.

Additional Plan highlights and trends follow.

### Plan Participation and Membership

The number of employers participating in the Plan increased slightly over the last three fiscal years. As well, overall Plan membership increased steadily over that same time period due to the Plan default change, which applied January 2018 (see the "Plan Choice" section of Management's Discussion and Analysis).

	As of June 30						
	2023	2022	2021				
Participating employers	991	988	985				
Plan membership:							
Active members <sup>1</sup>	210,649	187,430	180,836				
Inactive members <sup>2</sup>	104,879	96,260	80,549				
Total Plan members	315,528	283,690	261,385				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Active members are those employees currently receiving contributions into their retirement account.

### **Active Plan Membership by Class**

While membership varies across classes, total active Plan membership has continued to increase over the last three fiscal years.

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	Regular	Senior Management	Special Risk Admin	Elected Officers	Special Risk	Other	Total
2023	192,272	2,284	19	620	10,931	4,523	210,649
2022	170,387	2,252	23	676	11,019	3,073	187,430
2021	162,296	2,305	25	589	11,654	3,967	180,836

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Inactive accounts are held on behalf of members who are no longer employed by an eligible employer, so their accounts are not receiving contributions at this time. This includes, but is not limited to, retirees with a remaining balance, plan beneficiaries, and alternate payees as a result of a Oualified Domestic Relations Order.

### Plan Choice<sup>1</sup>

Chapter 2017-88, Laws of Florida amended Chapter 121, *Florida Statutes*. The amendment provided that all new hires whose employment in a regularly established position commenced on or after January 1, 2018, or who did not complete an election window before January 1, 2018, will have until the last business day of the 8th month after hire to make a choice between the FRS Pension Plan and FRS Investment Plan. If a new hire does not make an active election by the deadline date, the new hire will default into the FRS Investment Plan, except those who are enrolled in the Special Risk Class (who will continue to default to the FRS Pension Plan). The first group of new hires defaulted into the FRS Investment Plan effective October 1, 2018. For fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, 55.2% of all new hires defaulted to the FRS Investment Plan, an increase from the prior year, and 15.0% made an active election to enroll in the FRS Investment Plan, a decrease from the prior year. The SBA's Office of Defined Contribution Programs continues to monitor trend information and projections as to the effect the plan choice amendment may have on the Trust.

The number of new employees eligible to make an initial plan choice increased by 15,040 (29.5%) during fiscal year 2023, due to increased hiring by participating FRS employers. The number of new employees defaulting to the FRS Investment Plan also increased during fiscal year 2023. While the number of new employees making an active election to enroll in the FRS Investment Plan also increased, the rate of those making the active election to total new hires decreased, The number of employees joining the FRS Investment Plan through a Second Election also decreased for fiscal year 2023.

	Fiscal Years Ended June 30				
_	2023	2022	2021		
New employees making initial Plan Choice	65,971	50,931	46,219		
New employees joining FRS Investment Plan:	46,339	35,163	30,642		
Active election	9,899	8,085	7,805		
Plan default	36,440	27,078	22,837		
Employee Second Elections <sup>2</sup> :					
To the FRS Investment Plan	2,573	3,563	3,258		
To the FRS Pension Plan	840	1,048	1,442		

Plan Choice data is based on unaudited statistics received from Alight Solutions, the Plan Administrator.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FRS members are granted a one-time option to transfer from one retirement plan (Pension or Investment) to the other during their FRS-covered employment. This is considered a Second Election.

# **Benefit Payments**

Benefit payments reflect withdrawals from the Trust in the form of lump sum distributions, partial distributions, rollovers to other qualified retirement plans, and periodic payments to members. The number of member requests for benefit payments during the year increased by 1,797 (2.6%) and increased by 12,782 (23.2%) for fiscal years 2023 and 2022, respectively. Benefit payments decreased by \$178.8 million (-12.2%) and increased by \$249.0 million (20.5%) for fiscal years 2023 and 2022, respectively. The annual amount of benefits disbursed to Plan members varies from year to year due to the number of members requesting benefits and their accounts balances.

	Fiscal Years Ended June 30					1e 30
		2023		2022		2021
Number of member requests for benefits		69,786		67,989		55,207
Benefit payments (In Millions)						
Rollovers	\$	735	\$	876	\$	745
All other		552		590		472
Total benefit payments	\$	1,287	\$	1,466	\$	1,217

#### **Contribution Rates**

The Florida Legislature is responsible for establishing employer and employee contribution rates. Employer contribution rates vary by membership class and increased across all classes for fiscal year 2023.

	<b>Employee Rate</b>	Employer Rate <sup>1</sup>		
Membership Class	FYs 2021-23	FY 2023	FY 2022	FY 2021
Regular	3.00 %	6.30 %	3.30 %	3.30 %
Special risk	3.00	14.00	11.00	11.00
Special risk: administrative support	3.00	7.95	4.95	4.95
Legislators	3.00	9.38	6.38	6.38
Governor, Lt. Governor, and cabinet officers	3.00	9.38	6.38	6.38
State Attorney and public defenders	3.00	9.38	6.38	6.38
Justices and judges	3.00	13.23	10.23	10.23
County and local elected officers	3.00	11.34	8.34	8.34
Senior management service	3.00	7.67	4.67	4.67

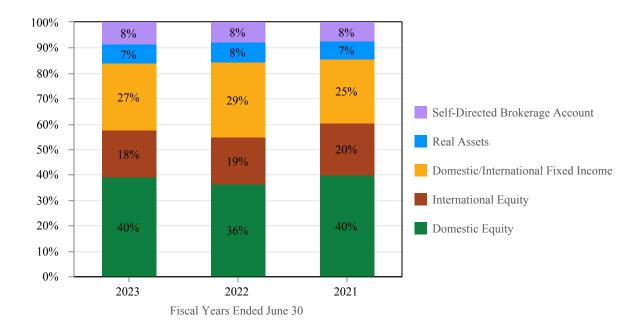
Employer rates presented in this table do not include employer contributions for the Health Insurance Subsidy (1.66% for FYs 2021-2023), plan administrative/educational expense (.06% for FYs 2021-2023) or the disability and in line-of-duty death programs (varies by membership class) as these amounts are not deposited into the Trust.

#### **Asset Allocation**

The asset allocation of the Trust is a function of the members' investment decisions across the various investment options offered. The effects of inflationary pressures impacted both the member asset allocations and market performance for fiscal year 2023. Equity investments (domestic and international combined) remained the largest allocation, as members looked to capitalize on the long-term growth prospects of these assets. Allocations to fixed income investments decreased due in part to performance expectations relative to other investment options.

Domestic and international equities generated positive performance for fiscal year 2023, which was driven by a steady decline in inflation and recovering economy. In contrast, equities experienced negative returns for fiscal year 2022, as equity markets struggled to recover from the economic downturn. Although fixed income generated positive returns in fiscal year 2023, allocations decreased due to increased performance by domestic equity. Lastly, members continued their allocations to the Self-Directed Brokerage Account, which allows for additional investment flexibility. Note 3 to the financial statements describes the Plan's Investment Policy Statement (IPS) and oversight of the Trust's investments.

# By Percentage of Invested Assets<sup>1</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> International fixed income represents a small fraction (less than 1%) of the overall Trust investments and is combined with domestic fixed income for charting purposes.

#### **Investment Returns**

The Trust's performance is a function of the members' decisions about their asset allocations and the investment options' performance. The SBA does not influence asset mix decisions; however, investment performance affects the Trust's net position.

The Trust's total return for fiscal year 2023 was 10.7%, which was above the target total benchmark of 10.4%. The Trust's overall performance compared with its benchmark reflects the weighted performance for the underlying fund options in which members are investing.

The Trust's investment returns were as follows:

	Fiscal Years Ended June 30						
Investment Type	2023	2022	2021				
Retirement Date Funds <sup>2</sup>	8.8%	-11.0%	27.3%				
Short-term			0.2				
Stable value	2.3	1.6	_				
Real assets	-0.9	-1.5	18.1				
Fixed income	0.7	-10.5	2.9				
Domestic equity	19.9	-16.3	45.9				
International equity	13.8	-20.2	38.8				
Total Trust return	10.7%	-12.2%	28.4%				
Total Trust aggregate benchmark	10.4	-11.1	27.3				
Over (under) benchmark	0.3%	-1.1%	1.1%				

The above investment performance information for each fiscal year is the official investment return data supplied by the SBA's master custodian and performance measurement service provider, BNY Mellon Performance Reporting and Analytics Services.

Performance for the Self-Directed Brokerage Account is not included since there is no comparable benchmark. Members assume the full risk and responsibility for the investments they have selected in the Self-Directed Brokerage Account and for monitoring the performance of these investments.

More detailed information and analysis of the Trust's performance can be obtained from the SBA's Annual Investment Report, which can be found at www.sbafla.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Retirement Date Funds consist of Plan investments in various proportions.

#### **Economic Factors**

On the heels of the highest inflation increase seen in 40 years, the 2023 fiscal year began amid a very challenging market environment. In June 2022, the U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI) peaked at 9.1% year over year. In response, the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed), amongst other central banks, continued to combat inflation with interest rate hikes. The Fed raised its rate by 75 basis points in July, September, and October 2022, 50 basis points in December 2022, and 25 basis points in February, March, and May 2023. This represents the fastest interest rate hiking cycle since the 1980s. However, by mid-fiscal year, there was confidence in a declining inflationary environment that shifted economic outlooks.

U.S. inflation showed a steady decline from its peak to end the 2023 fiscal year at 3.0% year-over-year. The declining trend in inflation was followed by a slowing pace of interest rate hikes by the Fed and offered a source of relief to investors. As a result, risk appetite picked up and was supported by a generally resilient economy and expectations of fewer interest rate increases. However, the yield curve remained inverted throughout the year, which has historically signaled a looming recession, and prospects for any interest rate cuts in the near term have since proven to be premature.

Markets were also put to the test in the second half of the year through a regional banking crisis and the U.S. debt ceiling debate. In March 2023, Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) entered receivership with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), due to inadequate liquidity and solvency protection, and was the largest bank failure since the Global Financial Crisis (GFC). Shortly after SVB's failure, investor concerns regarding Credit Suisse Group AG accelerated. Regulators swiftly stepped in with the FDIC fully protecting all depositors of SVB, and launching the new Bank Term Funding Program to provide liquidity should banks require it. Swiss regulators also stepped in quickly to broker a deal with UBS Group AG buying Credit Suisse Group AG at a significant discount. Despite the failures, a broader banking crisis was avoided and markets emerged intact. The standoff during the debt ceiling negotiations also threatened to destabilize markets, yet investor confidence remained relatively stable throughout the ordeal until a resolution was passed.

Despite a rough start, the 2023 fiscal year ended on a more positive note as year-over-year inflation fell throughout the year, and economic outlooks were stronger than expected. Global equities, as defined by the MSCI All Country World IMI Index, rose 16.1% for the year. Emerging markets struggled in the high inflation and rising rate environment, returning 1.8% in USD terms. Due to the pace of rising interest rates, bond markets saw a rise in yields in the first few months, then traded with minimal yield fluctuations for the remaining part of the year. The impact on investment grade returns was relatively passive, as the Bloomberg U.S. Intermediate Aggregate Bond Index declined by 0.6%. On the other hand, as risk-appetite returned, high yield bonds performed well returning 9.1% over the year, as measured by the Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Index. Overall, more risk-oriented portfolios generally delivered positive mid-to-high single digit total returns for the 2023 fiscal year.

# **Contacting the Trust's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, Plan members, and other interested parties with an overview of the Trust's finances and the prudent exercise of the SBA's oversight. If you have any questions regarding this report or need additional information, please contact the Chief of Defined Contribution Programs, State Board of Administration of Florida, P.O. Box 13300, Tallahassee, FL 32317.

# **Statements of Net Position**

	As of June 30				
		2023	2022		
		(In Tho	usai	nds)	
Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	2	\$	18	
Investments:					
Fixed income	3	,869,649		3,712,055	
Equity	8	,414,385		7,108,525	
Real assets	1	,088,750		999,063	
Self-Directed Brokerage Account	1	,186,229		1,031,641	
Total investments	14	,559,013		12,851,284	
Receivables:					
Accounts receivable				41	
Interest and dividends		3,934		3,496	
Margin receivable from counterparty				30	
Due from DMS		117,630		64,836	
Investments sold, but not settled		16,665		27,812	
Total receivables		138,229		96,215	
Total assets	14	,697,244		12,947,517	
Liabilities					
Payables:					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		6,036		3,340	
Due to DMS		89			
Investments purchased, but not settled		42,412		67,584	
Total liabilities		48,537		70,924	
Net position held in trust	\$ 14	,648,707	\$	12,876,593	
<u>*</u>		<del></del>	· —		

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

# **Statements of Changes in Net Position**

	Fiscal Years Ended June			
		2023	2022	
	(In Thousands)			
Additions				
Investment income:				
Dividend income	\$	43,787	\$ 25,452	
Interest and other investment income		10,979	6,843	
Fines, forfeits, and securities litigation proceeds		7	53	
Net increase/(decrease) in fair value of investments		1,358,045	(1,928,068)	
Total investment income/(loss)		1,412,818	(1,895,720)	
Investment expenses:				
Bank fees		(550)	(539)	
Other fees		(40)	(41)	
Investment management fees		(6,220)	(7,156)	
Total investment expenses		(6,810)	(7,736)	
Net income/(loss) from investments		1,406,008	(1,903,456)	
Contributions:				
Employer/employee contributions received				
from DMS		1,076,356	657,066	
Member-directed benefits received from the				
FRS Trust Fund		590,051	768,107	
Member-directed rollover deposits		63,204	77,137	
Total contributions		1,729,611	1,502,310	
Total additions		3,135,619	(401,146)	
Deductions				
Benefit payments to members		1,287,283	1,466,033	
Member-directed benefits sent to the FRS Trust Fund		68,746	111,923	
Administrative expenses		7,476	6,434	
Total deductions		1,363,505	1,584,390	
Change in net position		1,772,114	(1,985,536)	
Net position held in trust				
Beginning of year		12,876,593	14,862,129	
End of year		14,648,707	\$ 12,876,593	

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

## 1. Financial Reporting Entity

The Florida Retirement System (FRS) Investment Plan (the Plan), a defined contribution pension plan, qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a), was established pursuant to Section 121.4501, *Florida Statutes*, to provide for retirement benefits for eligible employees of the State and all participating county, district school board, community college and university employees as an alternative to the FRS Pension Plan or other optional retirement plans. Additionally, certain retirees of the FRS who return to employment with a participating employer are mandatory participants of the Plan. Under the Plan, employers and employees make contributions to an account, set up in the member's name, and the member directs the investments in the account, choosing from a number of diverse investment options selected and monitored by the State Board of Administration of Florida (the SBA). The Plan was first offered to public sector employees in fiscal year 2003, and was modeled after private sector 401(k) plans. The Plan's and the SBA's financial activities are reported in the annual comprehensive financial report of the State of Florida. The SBA is governed by a Board of Trustees, comprised of the Governor, as Chair, the Attorney General, and the Chief Financial Officer of the State of Florida.

The FRS Investment Plan Trust Fund (the Trust) was established pursuant to Section 121.4502, *Florida Statutes*, to hold the assets of the Plan in trust for the exclusive benefit of the Plan's members.

The Trust is a separate legal entity within the State of Florida. These financial statements and notes include only the net position and changes in net position of the Trust and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the State of Florida, the SBA, or the Plan as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, nor the changes in their financial position for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP).

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying financial statements were prepared in conformity with GAAP as applicable to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and reporting principles. The Trust is accounted for as an investment trust fund pursuant to GASB Statement No. 31, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools (GASB 31), GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments (GASB 34), and GASB Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position (GASB 63). As such, the Trust's financial statements include statements of net position and statements of changes in net position.

### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

### **Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred, regardless of when the related cash flow takes place.

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Trust reports all cash on hand and deposits in banks as cash and cash equivalents. See Note 3, Deposits and Investments, for additional information.

#### **Investment Valuation**

Investments are reported in accordance with GASB reporting standards as follows:

- Money market funds at amortized cost.
- Stable value funds at contract value (sometimes referred to as book value), which is principal plus credited interest, and at the net asset value (NAV) per share of the funds as reported by external investment managers.
- Commingled funds at the NAV of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments as reported by the external investment manager.
- Other investments at the most recent market price as of the close of the markets on June 30, or the most recent market close of each fiscal year, if the markets are closed on June 30. If a market price is not readily determinable, alternative pricing methodologies may be used to determine fair value. Alternative pricing may include methodologies such as matrix-pricing, stale pricing, broker bids, or cost/book value.

#### **Income Recognition**

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade (investment) date basis. Interest, dividend, and other investment income are recorded on the accrual basis, with dividends accruing on the ex-dividend date.

#### **Administrative Expenses**

Pursuant to Section 121.4502, *Florida Statutes*, and in accordance with Internal Revenue Service Revenue Ruling 84-156, reasonable administrative expenses of the Plan may be paid from the Trust. These expenses may include the activities of the Plan administrator, Plan custodian, investment and administrative consulting, and other services rendered for the benefit of Plan members.

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

### **Investment Management Fees**

The SBA hires external investment managers to invest the Trust's investment assets. The Trust typically pays investment management fees based on individually negotiated investment management agreements. The fees, usually paid quarterly, may be based on a sliding scale of the portfolio's net asset value at quarter-end, calculated by multiplying each level of net position by a specified basis point charge, or may be performance-related, typically associated with exceeding a market benchmark or hurdle rate. Fees are paid from the appropriate manager's portfolio and are recognized as an expense over the time period for which the fees are applicable.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues (additions) and expenses (deductions) during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The estimates and assumptions underlying these financial statements are based on the information available as of June 30, 2023, including judgments about the financial market and economic conditions, which may change over time.

### **New Accounting Standards**

In April 2022, the GASB issued Statement No. 99, *Omnibus 2022 (GASB 99)*. The objectives of this Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The statement was implemented without impact to the Trust.

In May 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) (GASB 96). The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by (a) establishing uniform accounting and financial reporting requirements for SBITAs; (b) improving the comparability of financial statements among governments that have entered into SBITAs; and (c) enhancing the understandability, reliability, relevance, and consistency of information about SBITAs. For purposes of applying this Statement, a SBITA is a contract that conveys control of the right to use another party's (a SBITA vendor's) IT software, alone or in combination with tangible capital assets (the underlying IT assets), as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The statement was implemented without impact to the Trust.

### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

In March 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements (GASB 94)*. The primary objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public-public partnership arrangements (PPPs) and availability payment arrangements (APAs). A PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. An APA is an arrangement in which a government compensates an operator for services that may include designing, constructing, financing, maintaining, or operating an underlying nonfinancial asset for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The statement was implemented without impact to the Trust.

In March 2020, the GASB issued Statement No. 93, Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates (GASB 93). The objective of this Statement is to address accounting and financial reporting implications that result from the replacement of an interbank offered rate (IBOR). Some governments have entered into agreements in which variable payments made or received depend on an IBOR most notably, the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). As a result of global reference rate reform, LIBOR is expected to cease to exist in its current form at the end of 2021, prompting governments to amend or replace financial instruments for the purpose of replacing LIBOR with other reference rates, by either changing the reference rate or adding or changing fallback provisions related to the reference rate. The removal of LIBOR as an appropriate benchmark interest rate is effective for reporting periods ending after December 31, 2021. The replacement of an IBOR upon which variable payments depend in lease contracts is effective for fiscal year periods beginning after June 15, 2021, and reporting periods thereafter. All other requirements of GASB 93 are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2020. The statement was implemented without impact to the Trust.

## 3. Deposits and Investments

#### **Deposits**

The reported carrying amount of deposits totaled \$1.6 thousand and \$18.1 thousand at June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. All deposits were held in U.S. dollars. See Custodial Credit Risk for additional information

#### **Investments**

The Plan has an Investment Policy Statement (IPS) that includes, among other items, the investment objectives of the Plan, manager selection, monitoring guidelines, and performance measurement criteria. The IPS is reviewed no less than annually to ensure the structure and guidelines are appropriate, taking into consideration the Plan's goals and objectives.

The primary investment objectives of the Plan are to: (1) offer a diversified mix of low-cost investment options that span the risk-return spectrum and give members the opportunity to accumulate retirement benefits; (2) offer investment options that avoid excessive risk, have a prudent degree of diversification relative to broad market indices and provide a long-term rate of return, net of all expenses and fees, that seek to achieve or exceed the returns on comparable market benchmark indices; and (3) offer members meaningful, independent control over the assets in their account.

The SBA's Executive Director & Chief Investment Officer is responsible for selecting, evaluating, and monitoring performance of the investment options, with a focus on maximizing return within appropriate risk constraints outlined in the Plan's IPS. The Plan offers a number of low-cost institutional investment funds that invest in various short-term, fixed income, and equity securities.

The Plan offers ten customized Retirement Date Funds that consist of mixtures of various asset classes. At the end of fiscal year 2023, 89% of the Plan's members had allocated at least some of their assets to one or more of the available Retirement Date Funds. Approximately 49% of total Trust assets were held in the Retirement Date Funds, which are constructed using the various investment funds offered in the Plan.

The Plan also offers a Stable Value Fund, which consists of two collective trust funds (CTFs) and one separately managed trust. The separate trust consists of three fully benefit-responsive synthetic guaranteed investment contracts (SGICs), often referred to as "wrap contracts". The wrap contracts are issued by insurance companies and banks to stabilize the fund's investment return on various fixed income securities, providing participants with a low-risk investment option that seeks to provide stable returns that exceed other low-risk investments over the long term. The wrap contracts allow participants to withdraw or transfer their balances in the Stable Value Fund at contract value, which is principal plus credited interest. As of June 30, 2023 and 2022, the fair values of the underlying investments and the wrap contracts held in the separate trust totaled \$256.4 million and \$19.3 million, respectively, and \$249.0 million and \$15.0 million, respectively.

The crediting interest rate for the stable value funds is determined quarterly and is derived from the book value yield of the underlying securities net of fees. Interest is credited daily.

#### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

The SBA follows the Florida Statutes' fiduciary standards of care in managing the Plan's investment options. The SBA Trustees appoint members to serve on the Investment Advisory Council, which makes recommendations on the Trust's investment policy, strategy, and procedures.

### **Self-Directed Brokerage Account**

Beginning in January 2014, a Self-Directed Brokerage Account (SDBA) was added as an option available to Plan members. The SDBA allows Plan members to invest in thousands of different investments in addition to the Plan's primary investment funds. It is offered through Alight Financial Solutions (AFS), a subsidiary of Alight Solutions, the Plan Administrator.

The SDBA is for experienced investors who want the flexibility to invest in a variety of options beyond those available in the Plan's primary investment funds. It is not suitable for all members.

The SDBA provides access to the following investment instruments:

- Stocks listed on a Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) regulated national exchange;
- Exchange Traded Funds (except for leveraged Exchange Traded Funds);
- Mutual Funds (except for any of the Plan's primary investment funds); and
- Fixed Income products.

The SDBA accessibility does not include any of the following as investment alternatives:

- Illiquid investments;
- Over the Counter Bulletin Board (OTCBB) securities;
- Pink Sheet® (PS) securities;
- Leveraged Exchange Traded Funds;
- Direct Ownership of Foreign Securities;
- Derivatives, including, but not limited to futures and options contracts on securities, market indexes, and commodities;
- Buying/Trading on Margin;
- Limited Partnership Interests;
- Private Placements;
- FRS Investment Plan products; or
- Any investment that would jeopardize the FRS Investment Plan's tax qualified status.

# A Plan member may participate in the SDBA if the member:

- Maintains a minimum balance of \$5,000 in the primary investment options offered under the FRS Investment Plan;
- Makes a minimum initial transfer of funds into the SDBA of \$1,000;
- Makes subsequent transfers of funds into the SDBA in amounts of \$1,000 or greater;
- Pays all trading fees, commissions, administrative fees and any other expenses associated with participating in the SDBA; and
- Does not violate any trading restrictions established by the provider, the FRS Investment Plan, or state or federal law.

# 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

The SBA is not responsible for managing the SDBA beyond administrative requirements as established between the SBA and AFS. As such, investment alternatives available through the SDBA have not been subjected to any selection process, are not monitored by the SBA, require the member's investment expertise to prudently buy, manage and/or dispose of, and have a risk of substantial loss.

#### **Fund Lineup Changes**

There were no fund lineup changes during fiscal year 2023.

For fiscal year 2022, effective July 1, 2021, the Plan's investment fund lineup changed whereby the FRS Money Market Fund, available to members, was replaced with the FRS Stable Value Fund. The changes, approved by the SBA's IAC and Board of Trustees, were made with the objective of providing greater returns for members going forward.

While generally offering higher returns and valued at net asset value, stable value funds have similar deposit and investment risks to that of money market funds in that they are lower risk investment options, which focus on the preservation of capital by retaining the value of investments with limited volatility. Stable value funds invest in high quality fixed income securities and utilize wrap contracts offered by banks and insurance companies for principal stability.

#### **Investment Performance**

The SBA staff, consultants, and Trustees review the Trust's performance quarterly. The long-term performance of each actively-managed investment option is expected to exceed the returns on its performance benchmark, net of all fees and charges, while avoiding large year-to-year deviations from the returns of the performance benchmark. The long-term performance of each passively-managed investment option is expected to closely approximate returns of the performance benchmark, net of all fees and charges. At the total Trust level, performance is evaluated by asset class and is measured on an absolute basis and relative to appropriate market benchmarks for each investment option. Performance data is aggregated for the total Trust and for each product type or asset class, using member allocations as weighting factors. Performance for the SDBA is not included since there is no comparable benchmark. The member assumes the full risk and responsibility for the investments selected in the SDBA and for monitoring the performance of these investments. More detailed information can be obtained by visiting the Florida Retirement System website at MyFRS.com.

### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

The following schedule discloses the Trust's investments, by type, at June 30, 2023 and 2022.

	As of June 30						
Investment Type <sup>1</sup>		2022					
		(In The	ousan	nds)			
Fixed income							
Money market funds	\$	32,795	\$	32,624			
Stable value funds		1,389,332		1,328,330			
U.S. guaranteed obligations		104,560		106,567			
Federal agencies		97,744		81,894			
Domestic bonds and notes		103,846		119,859			
International bonds and notes		17,098		17,385			
Domestic commingled funds		2,124,274		2,025,396			
Total fixed income		3,869,649		3,712,055			
Equity							
Domestic		811,800		611,046			
International		56,482		45,073			
Domestic commingled/mutual funds		4,936,030		4,089,930			
International commingled/mutual funds		2,610,073		2,362,476			
Total equity		8,414,385		7,108,525			
Commingled real asset funds		1,088,750		999,063			
Self-Directed Brokerage Account		1,186,229		1,031,641			
<b>Total investments</b>	\$	14,559,013	\$	12,851,284			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Retirement Date Funds are comprised of portions of the investments shown in this table.

#### Margin Collateral

Cash may be pledged as collateral with the investment manager counterparties in order to meet initial margin requirements for commitments to purchase (TBAs), which are contracts to purchase mortgage backed securities (MBS) at a later date. Such initial margin amounts are reflected as "Margin receivable from counterparty" on the statements of net position. There was no margin to report for fiscal year 2023. The initial margin amount receivable from the broker as of June 30, 2022, for TBAs, totaled \$30.0 thousand.

### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

## Fair Value Hierarchy

The Trust's investments are measured and reported at fair value and classified according to the following hierarchy:

<u>Level 1</u> - Investments reflect unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

<u>Level 2</u> - Investments reflect prices based on significant observable inputs (including, but not limited to, quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, foreign exchange rates, volatility and credit spreads), either directly or indirectly. These inputs may be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data through correlation or by other means.

<u>Level 3</u> - Investments reflect prices based upon unobservable inputs, including situations where there is little market activity, if any, for assets or liabilities.

The categorization of investments within the hierarchy is based upon the pricing transparency of the instrument and should not be perceived as the particular investment's risk.

Fixed income and equity securities classified as Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using quoted prices at June 30 (or the most recent market close date if the markets are closed on June 30) in active markets from the custodian bank's external pricing vendors, which utilize primary exchanges.

Fixed income securities classified as Level 2 are valued using evaluated prices from the custodian bank's external pricing vendors. The pricing methodology involves the use of evaluation models such as matrix pricing, which is based on the securities' relationship to benchmark quoted prices. Other evaluation models use actual trade data, collateral attributes, broker bids, new issue pricings, and other observable market information.

Fixed income securities classified as Level 3 are valued using prices from the custodian bank's external pricing vendors or an alternative pricing source, utilizing inputs such as stale prices, cash flow models, or broker bids.

The SDBA is classified as Level 2, since the individual, underlying assets are priced by observable inputs. The SDBA Administrator uses an external pricing source to value the underlying investments and aggregates the overall investment values into a total account fair value for reporting purposes.

Certain investments, such as money market funds, are carried at amortized cost, and not priced at fair value. Mutual funds are valued at the quoted price traded on the exchanges. Commingled investments are measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share (or its equivalent) as provided by the investment manager. The stable value funds are valued daily through a combination of NAV per share (or its equivalent), which approximates fair value, and contract value, which is principal plus accrued interest.

### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

The Trust has the following fair value measurements as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022.

				As of	June 30, 2023	3	
		Fair Value Measurements Using					
Investments by Fair Value Level	Total		(Level 1)		(Level 2)		(Level 3)
			(In Tho	usands	5)		
Fixed income							
U.S. guaranteed obligations	\$ 104,560	\$	_	\$	104,560	\$	_
Federal agencies	97,744		_		97,744		_
Domestic bonds and notes	103,846		_		102,236		1,610
International bonds and notes	17,098		_		17,098		_
Total fixed income	323,248	_			321,638		1,610
Equity							
Domestic	811,800		811,800		_		_
International	56,482		56,482		_		_
Domestic equity mutual funds	95,410		95,410		_		_
International equity mutual funds	480,447		480,447		_		_
Total equity	1,444,139		1,444,139		_		_
Self-Directed Brokerage Account	1,186,229		_		1,186,229		_
Total investments by fair value level	2,953,616		1,444,139		1,507,867		1,610
			Redemption				
			Frequency (If		edemption		
Investments at net asset value (NAV)		_	Eligible)		otice Period		
Stable value funds <sup>1</sup>	1,113,644		Daily	365	Days		
Commingled fixed income funds <sup>2</sup>	2,124,274		Daily	2 Da	ıys		
Commingled domestic equity funds <sup>3</sup>	4,840,620		Daily	2 - 4	Days		
Commingled international equity funds <sup>4</sup>	2,129,626		Daily	2 Da	ıys		
Commingled real asset funds <sup>5</sup>	1,088,750		Daily	2 - 3	Days		
Total investments measured at NAV	11,296,914						
Investments at contract value							
Stable value funds <sup>1</sup>	 275,688	_					
Investments at amortized cost							
Money market funds	32,795						
<b>Total investments</b>	\$ 14,559,013	:					

<sup>1</sup> Stable Value Funds: Two funds are collective trust funds (CTFs) and considered to be commingled in nature, and are valued daily at the net asset value per share as reported by the investment manager. One fund is a separately managed trust and is valued at contract value, which is principal plus accrued interest. These funds consist of fixed income securities and wrap contracts. Although similar to money market funds, these stable value funds focus on the preservation of capital by retaining the value of investments with limited volatility.

<sup>2</sup> Commingled Fixed Income Funds: One Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) fund and five fixed income funds are considered to be commingled in nature. The TIPS fund seeks long-term real total return and is designed to keep pace with inflation. The commingled fixed income funds utilize various investment strategies such as short/intermediate duration, index/benchmark tracking, high-yield, and corporate/government investment grade debt. Each fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.

<sup>3</sup> Commingled Domestic Equity Funds: Four domestic equity funds are considered to be commingled in nature. These commingled domestic equity funds utilize various investment strategies such as index/benchmark tracking, small/mid cap, and large cap growth/value seeking appreciation and income. Each fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.

<sup>4</sup> Commingled International Equity Funds: One international equity fund is considered to be commingled in nature. This fund invests in a portfolio of international equity securities whose total rates of return will approximate as closely as practicable the capitalization weighted total rates of return of the markets in certain countries for equity securities traded outside the United States. The fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.

<sup>5</sup> Commingled Real Asset Funds: These two funds consist of various investments such as real estate, commodities, floating rate loans, energy industry Master Limited Partnerships, global infrastructure, and agriculture. Each fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.

#### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

			As of June 30, 2022						
			Fair Value Measurements Using						
Investments by Fair Value Level	Total			(Level 1)		(Level 2)		(Level 3)	
		_		(In Tho	usan	ds)			
Fixed income									
U.S. guaranteed obligations	\$	106,567	\$	_	\$	105,794	\$	773	
Federal agencies		81,894		_		81,894		_	
Domestic bonds and notes		119,859		_		119,602		257	
International bonds and notes		17,385		_		17,385			
Total fixed income		325,705		_		324,675		1,030	
Equity									
Domestic		611,046		611,046		_		_	
International		45,073		45,073		_		_	
Domestic equity mutual funds		82,814		82,814		_		_	
International equity mutual funds		415,164		415,164		_			
Total equity		1,154,097		1,154,097		_			
Self-Directed Brokerage Account		1,031,641		_		1,031,641		_	
Total investments by fair value level		2,511,443		1,154,097		1,356,316		1,030	
				Redemption					
				Frequency (If		Redemption			
Investments at net asset value (NAV)			_	Eligible)		Notice Period			
Stable value funds <sup>1</sup>		1,064,293		Daily		5 Days			
Commingled fixed income funds <sup>2</sup>		2,025,396		Daily		15 Days			
Commingled domestic equity funds <sup>3</sup>		4,007,116		Daily		5 Days			
Commingled international equity funds <sup>4</sup>		1,947,312		Daily		Days			
Commingled real asset funds <sup>5</sup>		999,063		Daily	1 -	15 Days			
Total investments measured at NAV		10,043,180							
Investments at contract value									
Stable value funds <sup>1</sup>		264,037							
Investments at amortized cost									
Money market funds		32,624							
Total investments	\$	12,851,284							

- 1 Stable Value Funds: Two funds are collective trust funds (CTFs) and considered to be commingled in nature, and are valued daily at the net asset value per share as reported by the investment manager. One fund is a separately managed trust and is valued at contract value, which is principal plus accrued interest. These funds consist of fixed income securities and wrap contracts. Although similar to money market funds, these stable value funds focus on the preservation of capital by retaining the value of investments with limited volatility.
- 2 Commingled Fixed Income Funds: One Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) fund and five fixed income funds are considered to be commingled in nature. The TIPS fund seeks long-term real total return and is designed to keep pace with inflation. The five commingled fixed income funds utilize various investment strategies such as short/intermediate duration, index/benchmark tracking, high-yield, and corporate/government investment grade debt. Each fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.
- 3 Commingled Domestic Equity Funds: Four domestic equity funds are considered to be commingled in nature. These commingled domestic equity funds utilize various investment strategies such as index/benchmark tracking, small/mid cap, and large cap growth/value seeking appreciation and income. Each fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.
- 4 Commingled International Equity Funds: One international equity fund is considered to be commingled in nature. This fund invests in a portfolio of international equity securities whose total rates of return will approximate as closely as practicable the capitalization weighted total rates of return of the markets in certain countries for equity securities traded outside the United States. The fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.
- 5 Commingled Real Asset Funds: These two funds consist of various investments such as real estate, commodities, floating rate loans, energy industry Master Limited Partnerships, global infrastructure, and agriculture. Each fund is valued at the net asset value of units held at the end of the period based upon the fair value of the underlying investments.

### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

### **Deposit and Investment Risk**

The Trust has deposits and a broad range of financial investments exposed to various risks, including overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain financial investments, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of financial investments will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the financial statements.

The Plan's IPS provides a statement of objectives for the Plan, general guidelines for each asset class and the Retirement Date Funds, as well as educational services to help members manage the level of risk associated with the choices they make with their individual investment accounts.

Investments available through the Plan's SDBA are not selected or monitored by the SBA. The SDBA investments are subject to Alight Financial Solutions' Self-Directed Brokerage Account guidelines and the risks inherent in the types of investments selected by participating Plan members.

GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures (GASB 40)*, requires that certain risks be discussed in the financial statements. These risks include credit risk, custodial credit risk, concentration of credit risk, interest rate risk, and foreign currency risk. Each of these risks is managed by the Trust's investment advisors, subject to guidelines set forth in prospectuses, Statements of Additional Information, and other governing documents.

#### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. Credit quality ratings are used as an assessment of creditworthiness and are assigned by Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (NRSROs). These ratings are disclosed in aggregate by investment type for the securities held as of the financial statement date.

The stable value funds are permitted to invest in investment grade fixed income instruments, including those of the U.S. Government and Agencies, corporate bonds, and asset-backed securities. The weighted average credit quality of the securities held must be maintained at a minimum rating of AA- or equivalent by at least one of the NRSROs.

The mutual funds and commingled trust funds in the Trust are institutional funds and, as such, are not rated by the NSRSOs.

# 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

The following tables disclose credit quality ratings related to credit risk on investments held in the Trust as of June 30, 2023 and 2022.

							Α	s of .	June 30, 2	023							
Credit Qua	Credit Quality Ratings <sup>1</sup>		Credit Quality Ratings 1			•			Stable Value	Federal		Domestic Bonds and		Commingled Fixed		International Bonds and	
S&P	Moody's		Total		Funds	Funds		Ag	gencies <sup>3</sup>		Notes		Income		Notes		
								(In	Thousands	)							
AAA		\$	28,077	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	27,695	\$	_	\$	382		
AA			5,649		_		_		1,513		3,414		_		722		
Α			31,279		_		_		_		23,146		_		8,133		
BBB			35,139		_		_		_		29,352		_		5,787		
BB			947		_		_		_		375		_		572		
	Aaa		16,729		_		_		_		16,729		_		_		
	Aa		697		_		_		_		_		_		697		
	A		1,061		_		_		_		731		_		330		
	Baa		1,964		_		_		_		1,489		_		475		
	Ba		294		_		_		_		294		_		_		
NR	NR		3,643,253		32,795		1,389,332		96,231		621		2,124,274		_		
			3,765,089		32,795		1,389,332		97,744		103,846		2,124,274		17,098		
				_								_					

#### Ratings not applicable:

U.S. guaranteed obligations <sup>2</sup> 104,560

Total fixed income investments \$ 3,869,649

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> S&P ratings were primarily used. If S&P did not provide a rating or did not provide the rating with the greatest degree of risk, then Moody's ratings were used. If neither rating agency issued a rating, the security was listed as "NR" (not rated). Long-term ratings are presented.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> U.S. guaranteed obligations, which are explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government, do not require disclosure of credit quality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Federal Agency TBAs and mortgage-backed securities are classified as "NR" because they do not have explicit credit ratings on individual securities.

# 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

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Credit Quality Ratings 1		- , ,		_	Money Market		Stable Value	Feder		Bo	omestic onds and	C	ommingled Fixed	ternational Bonds and
S&P	Moody's	Total	 Funds		Fund	Agenci	es 3		Notes		Income	 Notes		
						(In Tho	usands	9)						
AAA		\$ 25,212	\$ S —	\$	_	\$	_	\$	25,212	\$	_	\$ _		
AA		5,409	_		_		320		4,929		_	160		
A		33,344	_		_		_		26,856		_	6,488		
BBB		43,210	_		_		_		35,218		_	7,992		
BB		3,655	_		_		_		3,008		_	647		
В		790	_		_		_		790		_	_		
	Aaa	15,770	_		_		_		15,770		_	_		
	Aa	768	_		_		_		_		_	768		
	Α	2,250	_		_		_		2,250		_	_		
	Baa	4,957	_		_		_		3,627		_	1,330		
	Ba	1,384	_		_		_		1,384		_	_		
NR	NR	3,468,739	 32,624		1,328,330	81	,574		815		2,025,396			
		3,605,488	 32,624		1,328,330	81	,894		119,859		2,025,396	17,385		
			 -	_						_		 		

#### Ratings not applicable:

U.S. guaranteed obligations <sup>2</sup>

Total fixed income
investments

106,567

\$ 3,712,055

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> S&P ratings were primarily used. If S&P did not provide a rating or did not provide the rating with the greatest degree of risk, then Moody's ratings were used. If neither rating agency issued a rating, the security was listed as "NR" (not rated). Long-term ratings are presented.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> U.S. guaranteed obligations, which are explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government, do not require disclosure of credit quality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Federal Agency TBAs and mortgage-backed securities are classified as "NR" because they do not have explicit credit ratings on individual securities.

#### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

#### **Custodial Credit Risk**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that if a depository institution or counterparty fails, the Trust will not be able to recover the value of its deposits, investments or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party.

As stated in SBA's custodial credit policy, the SBA seeks to minimize custodial credit risk through the use of trust accounts maintained at top tier third-party custodian banks, whose creditworthiness is monitored by the SBA. To the extent possible, the SBA's negotiated custody contract requires that deposits and investments be held in accounts in the SBA's name, separate and apart from the assets of the custodian bank. In addition, un-invested cash for all portfolios/funds under SBA management is generally swept nightly into overnight investments, thereby reducing the Trust's exposure to custodial credit risk. On occasion, however, the Trust's cash balances can exceed federally-insured limits.

U.S. dollar deposits held at SBA's custodian bank are covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to the maximum available limits. Cash deposits totaling \$1.6 thousand and \$18.1 thousand were held as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, respectively, and were fully insured by the FDIC.

#### **Concentration of Credit Risk**

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of an investment in a single issuer. GASB 40 requires disclosure of investments in any one issuer that represent 5% or more of total investments, excluding investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government and excluding investments in mutual funds, external investment pools, and other pooled investments. The Trust did not hold any investments with a single issuer representing 5% or more of the Trust's fair value at June 30, 2023 or 2022.

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of fixed income instruments.

The Plan's IPS provides that money market funds will offer high-quality, liquid, short-term instruments to control interest rate sensitivity. The other fixed income funds may be passively or actively managed. In both cases, the funds' sensitivity to interest rate changes generally will closely approximate that of the performance benchmark.

The stable value funds are generally limited to a maximum weighted average duration of 3.5 to 4 years.

# 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

The interest rate risk tables for the Trust as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, are presented below. Investment types, related to fixed come portfolios, are presented using effective weighted duration.

	As of June	30, 2023
		Effective
T 4 70	7D 4 1	Weighted
Investment Type	Total	Duration
	(In Thousands)	(In Years)
Money market funds	\$ 32,795	0.08
Stable value funds	1,389,332	3.00
Fixed income commingled funds	2,124,274	5.63
U.S. guaranteed obligations:		
Treasury bonds and notes	86,405	8.74
Bonds and notes	298	3.84
GNMA mortgage-backed	4,089	5.56
GNMA commitments to purchase (TBAs)	7,046	2.63
Mortgage-backed CMOs and CMBS	6,722	6.54
Federal agencies:		
Unsecured bonds & notes	2,389	7.76
Mortgage-backed	66,331	5.30
FNMA, FHLMC commitments to purchase (TBAs)	14,041	3.17
Mortgage-backed CMOs and CMBS	14,983	3.84
Domestic:		
Corporate bonds and notes	57,674	7.83
Asset and mortgage-backed	36,124	2.26
Mortgage-backed CMOs and CMBS	9,172	2.50
Municipal/provincial	876	14.70
International:		
Corporate bonds and notes	14,544	5.21
Government and agency obligations	2,554	9.20
Total fixed income investments	\$ 3,869,649	

#### 3. Deposits and Investments (continued)

	As of June 30, 2022				
		Effective			
T	m	Weighted			
Investment Type	Total	Duration			
	(In Thousands)	(In Years)			
Money market funds	\$ 32,624	0.09			
Stable value fund	1,328,330	2.91			
Fixed income commingled funds	2,025,396	6.00			
U.S. guaranteed obligations:					
Treasury bonds and notes	88,652	8.53			
Bonds and notes	388	3.93			
GNMA mortgage-backed	10,039	5.86			
GNMA commitments to purchase (TBAs)	3,545	4.30			
Mortgage-backed CMOs and CMBS	3,943	6.64			
Federal agencies:					
Unsecured bonds & notes	1,225	8.02			
Mortgage-backed	51,666	5.65			
FNMA, FHLMC commitments to purchase (TBAs)	20,344	3.12			
Mortgage-backed CMOs and CMBS	8,659	5.01			
Domestic:					
Corporate bonds and notes	73,595	7.09			
Asset and mortgage-backed	31,880	2.62			
Mortgage-backed CMOs and CMBS	13,446	2.73			
Municipal/provincial	938	15.57			
International:					
Corporate bonds and notes	14,781	5.72			
Government and agency obligations	2,604	10.94			
Total fixed income investments	\$ 3,712,055	•			

#### Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Trust's actively managed fixed income and equity portfolios are prohibited from holding any non-U.S. dollar denominated securities.

Although the Trust's commingled funds are denominated in U.S. dollars, the international equity and real asset funds may have underlying investments exposed to foreign currency risk in various currencies. The fair value of the equity international commingled/mutual funds was \$2.6 billion and \$2.4 billion as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The fair value of the commingled real asset funds was \$1.1 billion and \$1.0 billion as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

# 4. Contingencies and Litigation

In the ordinary course of its operations, the SBA, on behalf of the Trust, may be party to various claims, legal actions, and class action lawsuits. The SBA's General Counsel's Office handles these matters either directly or with assistance of outside legal counsel. In the opinion of the SBA's management and legal counsel, these matters are not anticipated to have a material financial impact on the Trust.

#### **5. Related-Party Transactions**

The Trust considers the State of Florida and its Department of Management Services (DMS), Division of Retirement, and the Florida Retirement System Trust Fund (FRS Trust Fund) to be related parties for the purpose of the financial statements.

The DMS is responsible for the receipt of member demographic data and for collecting employer and employee contributions and remitting those contributions to the SBA for deposit into the Trust for the benefit of the Plan members. In addition, the DMS provides administrative services to the Trust and charges an administrative fee based on membership in the FRS Investment Plan each quarter-end. The FRS Trust Fund is the source of funding for a member's accumulated benefit obligation (ABO) when a member in the FRS Pension Plan elects to join the FRS Investment Plan. The FRS Trust Fund is also a recipient of certain benefits returned to the Trust.

The table below discloses significant transactions between the Trust, the DMS, and the FRS Trust Fund.

		As of J	June	30
		2023		2022
		(In The	usan	ds)
Receivables:				
Due from DMS	\$	117,630	\$	64,836
Payables:				
Due to DMS	\$	89	\$	
	F	iscal Years l	Ende	ed June 30
		2023		2022
		(In Tho	usan	ds)
Additions:				
Employer/employee contributions received				
from DMS	\$	1,076,356	\$	657,066
Member-directed benefits received from the				
FRS Trust Fund		590,051		768,107
Total additions	\$	1,666,407	\$	1,425,173
<b>Deductions:</b>				
Member-directed benefits sent to the				
FRS Trust Fund	\$	68,746	\$	111,923
Administrative fees to DMS		261		229
<b>Total deductions</b>	\$	69,007	\$	112,152



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Board of Trustees
State Board of Administration of Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Florida Retirement System Investment Plan Trust Fund (the "Trust") administered by the State Board of Administration ("SBA") of Florida, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 6, 2023.

#### **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Trust's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Trust's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Trust's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Crowe LLP

Tampa, Florida November 6, 2023