

## **Chief Investment Officer Monthly Report**

Jonathan Grabel – Chief Investment Officer

Board of Investments Meeting December 13, 2023

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# 1 Market Environment

## Global Market Performance as of November 30, 2023

Nov-23





May-23

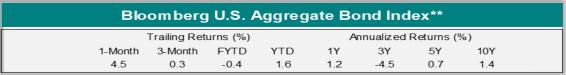
Jul-23

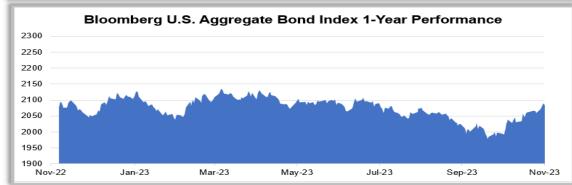
Sep-23



1300

Nov-22





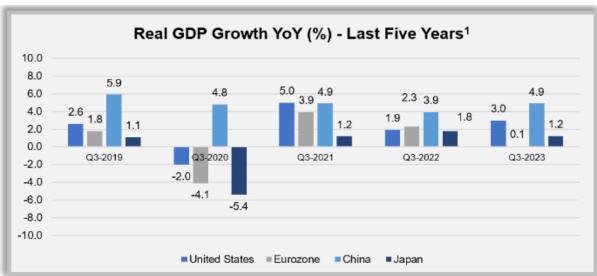
\*\*Investment Grade Bonds Policy Benchmark - Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index

Market	Sub-Category	Index Name	1-Month	3-Month	FYTD	YTD	1 Y	3 Y	5 Y	10 Y
	Global All Cap	MSCI ACWI IMI Total Return	9.2	1.2	2.0	15.5	11.1	5.4	8.7	7.4
Equity	U.S. All Cap	Russell 3000 Total Return	9.3	1.4	3.0	19.6	12.6	8.3	11.8	11.2
	U.S. Large Cap	S&P 500 Total Return	9.1	1.7	3.3	20.8	13.8	9.8	12.5	11.8
	U.S. Small Cap	Russell 2000 Total Return	9.1	-4.4	-3.6	4.2	-2.6	1.1	4.8	6.1
	Non-U.S. All Cap	MSCI ACWI-ex U.S. IMI Total Return	9.1	1.0	0.7	9.9	9.2	1.7	5.1	3.5
	Emerging Markets	MSCI Emerging Markets Total Return	8.0	1.1	0.8	5.7	4.2	-4.0	2.3	2.1
Private Equity	Private Equity Buyout	Thomson Reuters PE Buyout Index	16.9	1.0	3.4	-2.4	-6.4	<b>-</b> 2.6	5.8	9.6
Fixed Income	U.S. Investment Grade Bonds	Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index	4.5	0.3	-0.4	1.6	1.2	<b>-</b> 4.5	0.7	1.4
	U.S. Corporate High Yield Bonds	Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Total Return	4.5	2.1	3.8	9.4	8.7	1.4	4.1	4.3
	U.S. Long Term Treasury Bonds	Bloomberg Long Term U.S. Treasury Total Return Index	9.2	-3.8	-8.5	<b>-</b> 5.1	-6.7	-14.2	-1.8	1.2
	Developed Markets Leveraged Loans	Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Total Return	1.2	2.1	4.6	11.3	11.7	5.5	4.7	4.3
	U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	Bloomberg U.S. Treasury TIPS Total Return Index	2.7	0.1	-0.7	1.2	0.1	<b>-</b> 1.5	2.7	2.0
	U.S. 3 Month Treasury Bill	FTSE 3 Month Treasury Bill	0.5	1.4	2.3	4.8	5.1	2.1	1.9	1.2
Camana adita	Commodity Prices Index	Bloomberg Commodity Index Total Return	-2.3	-2.7	2.6	-5.4	-7.7	13.6	6.3	-0.7
Commodity	Natural Resources	S&P Global LargeMidCap Commodity & Resources Index	2.7	-2.0	0.4	-4.5	-8.1	14.1	10.0	4.8
Infrastracture	Global Infrastructure	Dow Jones Brookfield Global Infrastructure Composite Index	9.7	4.2	1.0	3.6	0.2	5.8	5.2	4.7
Real Estate	U.S. REITs	MSCI U.S. REIT Index	10.4	-1.6	-1.8	3.5	-1.8	4.9	3.6	6.6

Source: Bloomberg

## Key Macro Indicators\*







Q3-2021

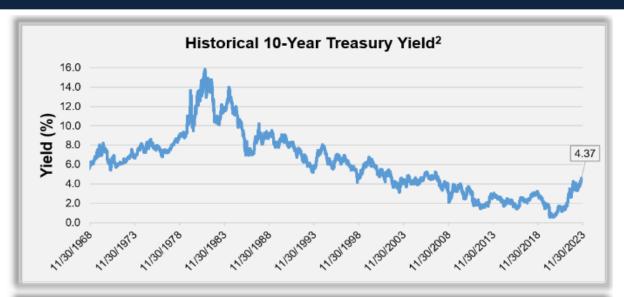
■ MSCI ACWI-ex US

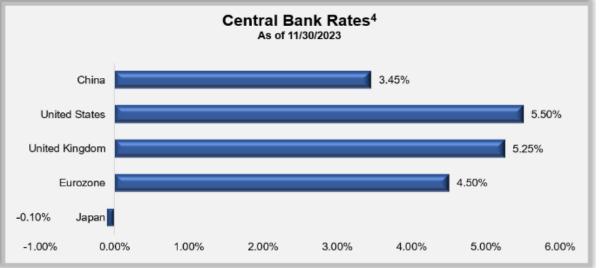
5.0 0.0

Q3-2019

Q3-2020

Russell 3000





Sources

Q3-2022

MSCI EM

Q3-2023

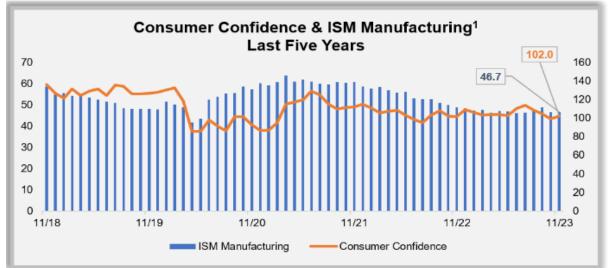
<sup>\*</sup>The information on the "Key Macro Indicators" charts is the best available data as of 11/30/23 and may not reflect the current market and economic environment

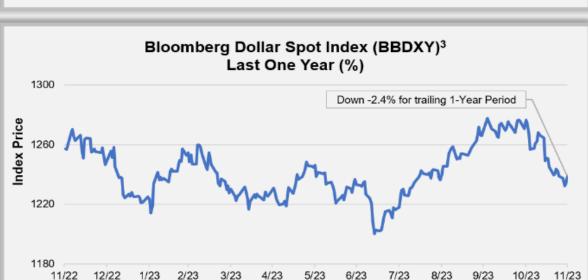
<sup>1.</sup> Bloomberg

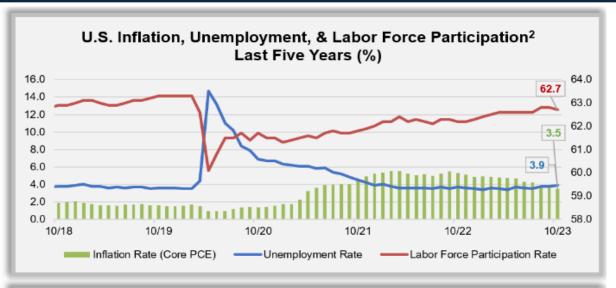
<sup>3.</sup> FactSet 4. FactSet 2. St. Louis Federal Reserve

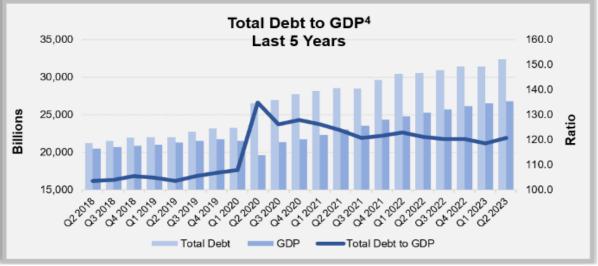
## **Key Macro Indicators\***











<sup>\*</sup>The information on the "Key Macro Indicators" charts is the best available data as of 11/30/23 and may not reflect the current market and economic environment

<sup>1.</sup> Bloomberg 3. Bloomberg

<sup>2.</sup> Bloomberg 4. Office of Management and Budget; St. Louis Federal Reserve



# 2 Portfolio Performance & Risk Updates

## Market Themes and Notable Items to Watch



### **Recent Themes**

- At the last Federal Open Markets Committee ("FOMC") meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup>, the U.S. Federal Reserve ("Fed") unanimously elected to leave interest rates steady at a 22-year high of 5.25 to 5.5%. The next FOMC meeting is on December 12-13
- The U.S. 10-year Treasury yield ended November at 4.37%, 51 bps lower than at the end of last month and after being 3.88% at the end of 2022, 1.52% at the end of 2021 and 0.93% at the end of 2020
- On December 1<sup>st</sup> during a fireside chat in Atlanta, Fed Chair Jerome Powell said, "The FOMC is strongly committed to bringing inflation down to 2 percent over time, and to keeping policy restrictive until we are confident that inflation is on a path to that objective"
- Global equities (MSCI All Country World Investable Market Index) returned 9.2% in November

### What to Watch

- Interest rates and central bank actions
- Economic data and trends
  - Inflation, supply chains, and labor developments
- Macro conditions and geopolitical risks
- Stewardship and ESG-related developments
  - Global investor coalition representing \$2.5 trillion in assets (and supported by LACERA per October 2023 Corporate Governance Committee) issued <u>report</u> encouraging phase-out of unequal investor voting rights at public companies

## **Total Fund Summary as of October 2023**



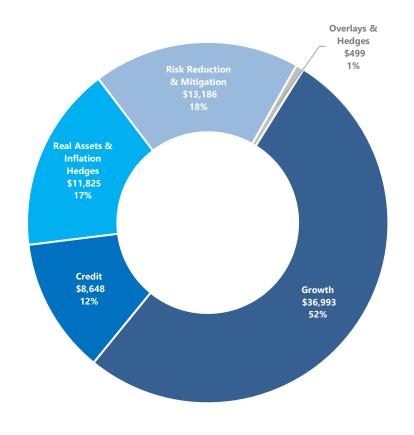












## Historical Net Performance as of October 2023

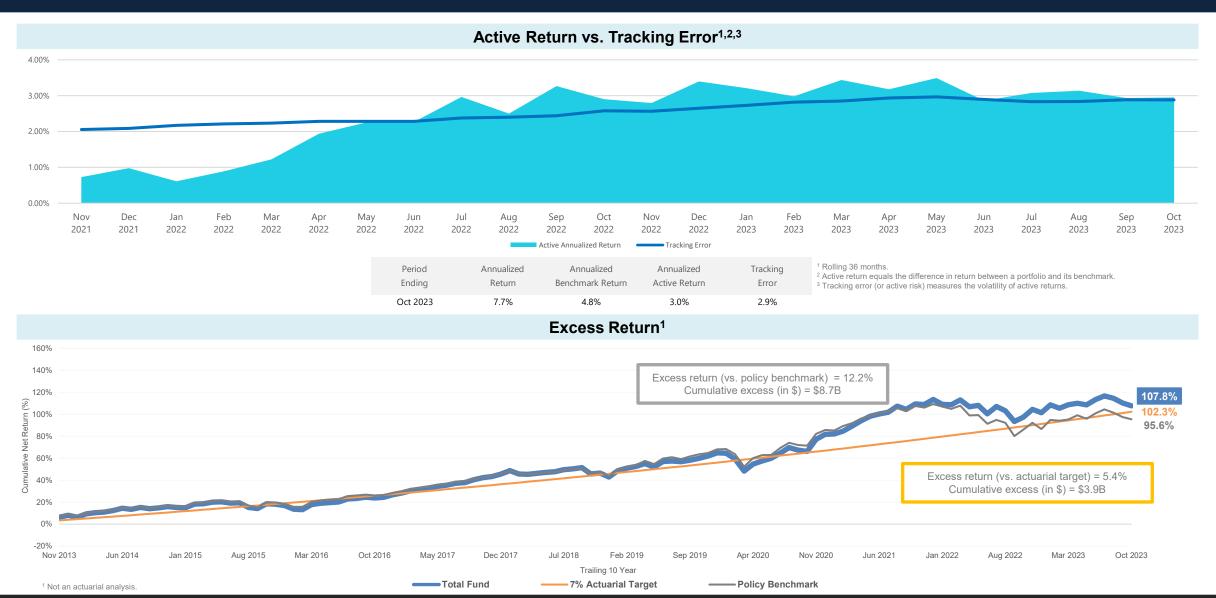


LACERA Pension Fund											
	Market Value	% of	Final								10.00/
	(\$ millions)	Total Fund	Target	1 Month	3 Month	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	10.0%
Total Fund	71,152	100.0%	100.0%	-1.3%	-4.1%	-2.6%	5.3%	7.7%	7.3%	7.0%	
Total Fund Policy BM				-1.0%	-3.7%	-1.9%	5.9%	4.8%	6.2%	6.3%	5.0%
7% Annual Hurdle Rate				0.6%	1.7%	2.3%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	
Growth	36,993	52.0%	53.0%	-2.0%	-5.9%	-3.6%	7.6%	11.9%			
Growth Policy BM				-0.8%	-3.5%	-0.9%	10.2%	8.8%			0.0%
Credit	8,648	12.2%	11.0%	1.0%	2.7%	4.1%	12.6%	6.3%			
Credit Policy BM	0,040	12.270	11.070	-0.5%	0.6%	2.5%	11.5%	2.0%			
,											-5.0%
Real Assets & Inflation Hedges	11,825	16.6%	17.0%	-0.5%	-3.7%	-2.8%	-2.1%	8.3%			
Real Assets & Inflation Hedges Policy BM				-1.3%	-5.4%	-4.1%	-4.5%	7.2%			
Risk Reduction & Mitigation	13,186	18.5%	19.0%	-1.3%	-4.2%	-4.5%	0.7%	-3.6%			-10.0%
Risk Reduction & Mitigation Policy BM				-1.6%	-4.9%	-5.3%	0.5%	-4.4%			1 Month 3 Month FYTD 1 Year 3 Year 5 Year 10 Year
Overlays & Hedges	499	0.7%		0.6%	14.2%	13.6%	25.3%				■Total Fund ■Total Fund Policy BM
							OPEB	Mast	er Tru	st¹	
Market Value % of Final											
	(\$ millions)			1 Month	3 Month	n FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	10.0%
PEB Master Trust	3,057		19	-2.3%	-7.3%	-5.0%	5.5%	4.3%	5.1%	5.9%	
OPEB Master Trust Policy Benchmark				-1.9%	-5.9%	-3.8%	5.6%	4.5%	5.0%	5.1%	
Los Angeles County	2,978	97.4%	_	-2.3%	-7.3%	-5.0%	5.5%	4.3%	5.1%	5.4%	5.0%
Superior Court	63	2.1%	_	-2.3%	-7.4%	-5.2%	5.3%	4.3%	4.9%		
LACERA	15	0.5%	_	-2.3%	-7.4%	-5.1%	5.3%	4.2%	5.0%	5.4%	
OPEB Growth	1,353	44.3%	45.0%	-3.3%	-9.9%	-6.5%	9.6%	6.7%	7.4%		0.0%
OPEB Growth Policy Benchmark	1,555	44.570	45.070	-2.5%	-8.0%	-4.8%	11.0%	6.8%	7.3%		
OPEB Credit	574	18.8%	18.0%		-0.9%	0.6%	10.2%	2.4%	2.9%		
OPEB Credit Policy Benchmark	317	. 3.0 /0	.0.070	-0.1%	0.0%	1.7%	10.2%	2.4%	3.0%		-5.0%
OPEB Real Assets & Inflation Hedges	605	19.8%	20.0%	-2.3%	-8.2%	-5.7%	-3.3%	5.7%	3.2%		
OPEB RA & IH Policy Benchmark				-1.3%	-5.2%	-3.5%	-5.2%	6.5%	3.6%		
OPEB Risk Reduction & Mitigation	524	17.2%	17.0%	-2.2%	-6.8%	-7.1%	-2.3%	-5.2%	-0.3%		-10.0%
OPEB RR & M Policy Benchmark				-2.3%	-6.9%	-7.5%	-2.1%	-5.8%	-0.8%		1 Month 3 Month FYTD 1 Year 3 Year 5 Year
OPEB HL PM Cash	0	0.0%									The Angele Courts To Control To Lacture
OPED Marchar Trust total resolutions in claudes a setticin	0	0.076									■ Los Angeles County ■ Superior Court ■ LACERA

<sup>1</sup> OPEB Master Trust total market value includes participant level cash.

## Active and Excess Return as of October 2023





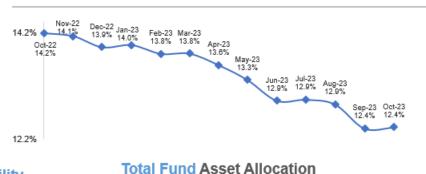
## Total Fund Forecast Volatility as of October 2023\*



## TOTAL FUND VOLATILITY 12.4%



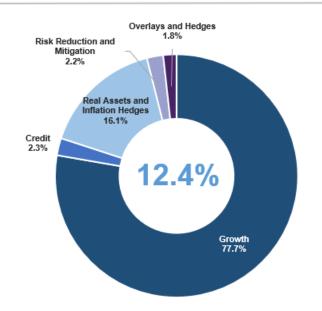
#### Forecasted Total Fund Volatility Trend

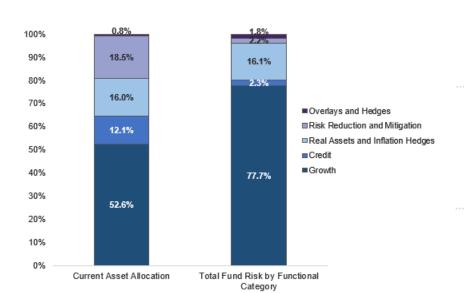


Capital-based versus Risk-based

**Functional Category Contributions to Total Fund Volatility** 







#### Subcategory Volatility

1 Subcategory volatility is on the left bar and benchmark risk is on the right bar.

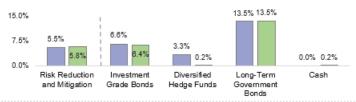








#### Risk Reduction and Mitigation



#### Overlays and Hedges



<sup>\*</sup> Real estate and private equity data is based on best available cash flow adjusted market values. Exposure data is based on security level holdings and/or proxies

## Total Fund Forecast Tracking Error as of October 2023\*



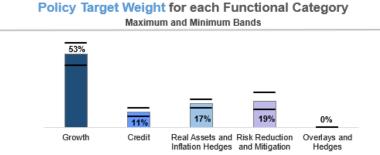


Source: MSCI BarraOne

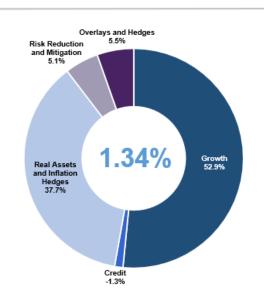




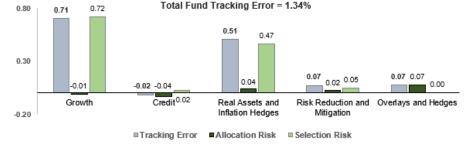




#### Functional Category Contributions to Tracking Error







**Active Weights for each Functional Category** 



Risk Reduction and Mitigation

1.23

Reduction and Mitigation

#### **Subcategory Tracking Error**



<sup>\*</sup> Real estate and private equity data is based on best available cash flow adjusted market values. Exposure data is based on security level holdings and/or proxies

Overlays and Hedges

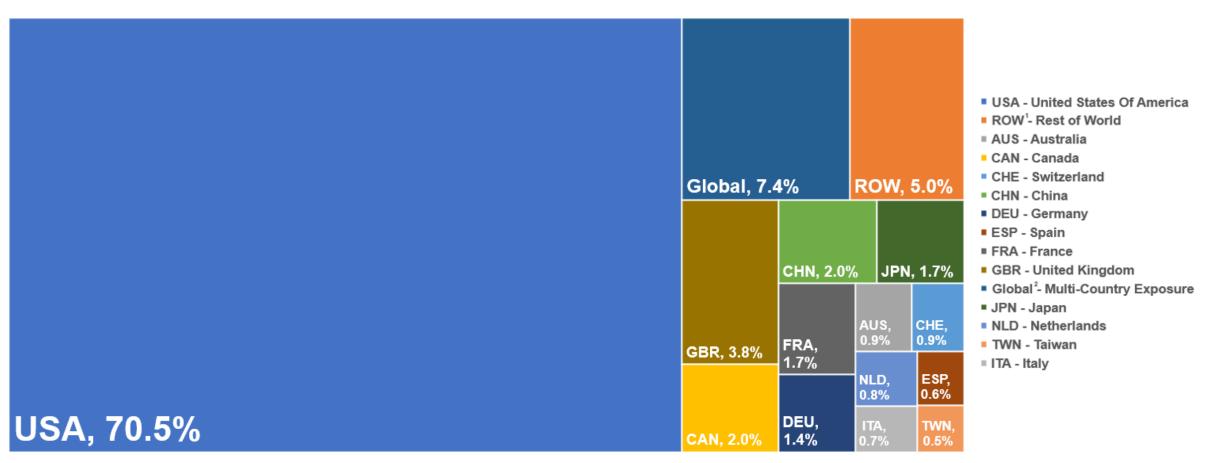
Overlays and

0.25

Cash

## **Geographic Exposures by AUM**Total Fund as of October 2023\* Ex-Overlays and Hedges





AUM = Assets under management

Geographic exposure is based on the domicile country of a given security/asset.

SOURCE: MSCI BarraOne

<sup>\*</sup> Implementation of the MSCI Risk Platform is ongoing, reconciliation and refinement of the data is progressing and subject to change.

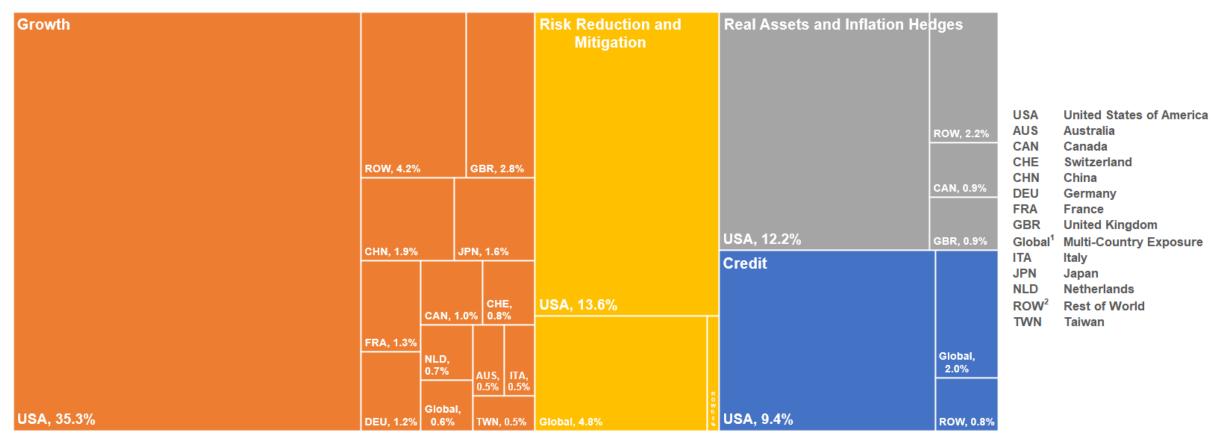
Real Estate and Private Equity data is based on best available cash flow adjusted market values. Exposure data is based on security level holdings and/or proxies.

<sup>1 &</sup>quot;ROW - Rest of World" is sum of countries with weights below 0.5%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Global represents investments made in regions where specific country allocations are not available.

## **Geographic Exposures by AUM**Functional Categories as of October 2023\* Ex-Overlays and Hedges





AUM = Assets under management.

Geographic exposure is based on the domicile country of a given security/asset.

SOURCE: MSCI BarraOne

<sup>\*</sup> Implementation of the MSCI Risk Platform is ongoing; reconciliation and refinement of the data is progressing and subject to change.

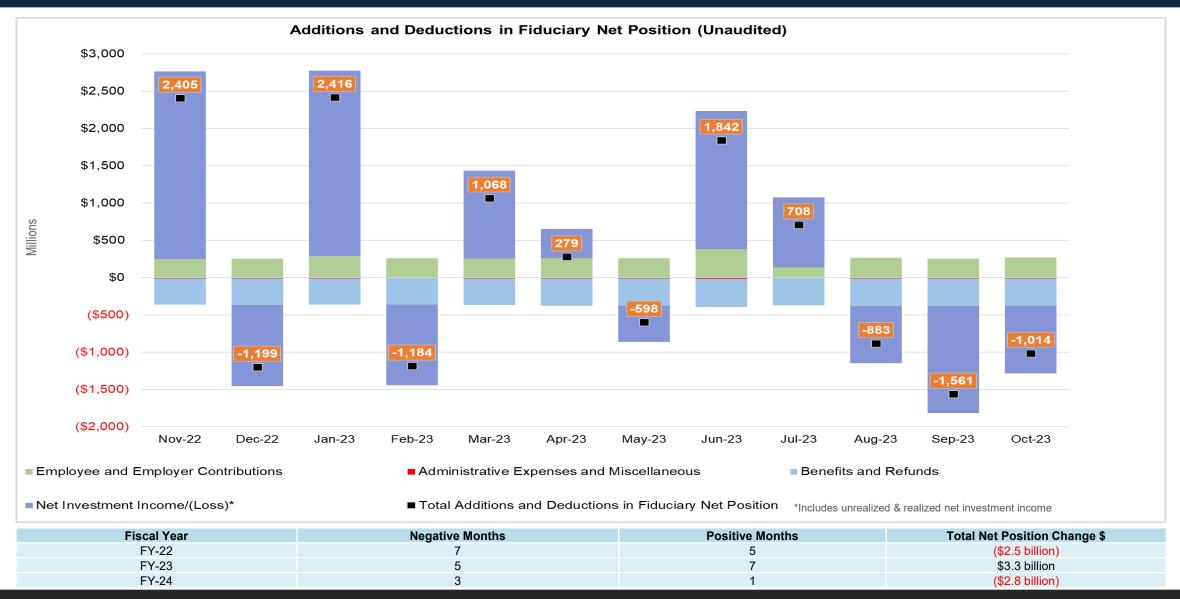
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Global represents investments made in regions where specific country allocations are not available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "ROW - Rest of World" is sum of countries with weights below 0.5%.

## **Change In Fiduciary Net Position**







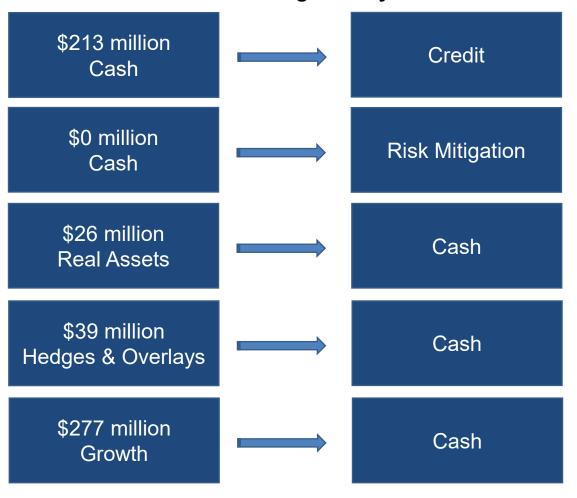
# Portfolio Structural Updates

## Portfolio Structural Updates



#### **Portfolio Movements**

#### **Rebalancing Activity**



#### **Hedges & Overlays**

#### **Monthly Activity**

Program	October Return	October Gain/(Loss)	Inception <sup>1</sup> Gain/(Loss)
Currency Hedge <sup>2</sup>	0.6%	\$38.8 Million	\$1.4 Billion
Cash/Rebalance Overlay <sup>3</sup>	-1.2%	(\$33.7 Million)	\$251.8 Million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Currency and overlay program inception dates are 8/2010 & 7/2019, respectively.

### **Current Search Activity**

#### **Status of Active Searches – Subject to Change**

Name	RFP Issued	Due Diligence	Selection/Review
Real Assets Emerging Manager Program Search	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	TBD
Private Market Analytics Platform Search	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	TBD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> LACERA's currency hedge program's 1-month return is calculated monthly whereas the monthly gain/loss amount for the same period is the net realized dollar amount at contract settlement over three monthly tranches.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> LACERA's overlay program's 1-month return includes interest earned on the cash that supports the futures contracts.



# **14** Key Initiatives & Operational Updates

## **Notable Initiatives and Operational Updates**



### **Key Initiative Updates**

- The 2024 Strategic Asset Allocation study is underway
- The 2024 Work Plan and Strategic Initiatives are in development
- Board education library under development

### **Operational Updates**

 Annual contract compliance, fee report, and LACERA T.I.D.E. initiatives are in progress with two of the reports being presented at the December BOI.

### **Team Searches and Vacancies**

- Principal Investment Officer
- 4 Senior Investment Officer
  - 2 in progress
- 2 Financial Analyst-III
  - 2 in progress
- Financial Analyst-II
  - 1 in progress

### Manager/Consultant Updates

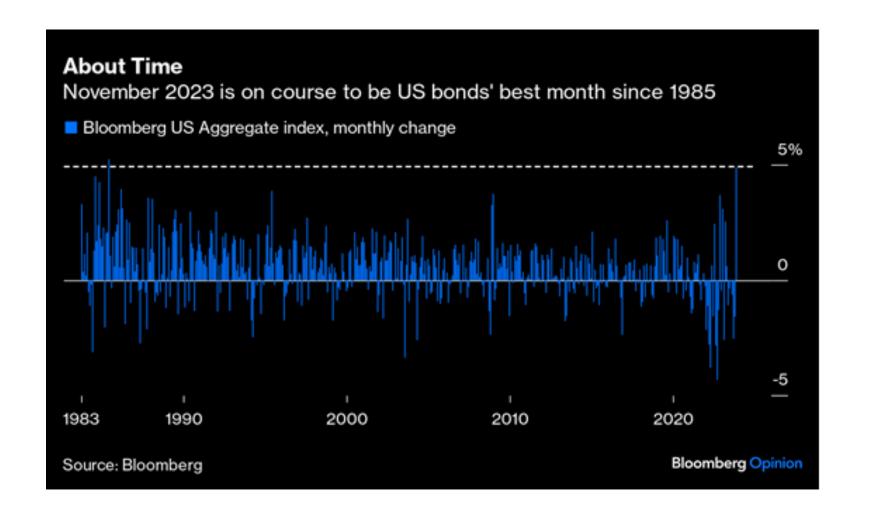
Aermont – Real Estate - entered a strategic partnership with Keppel Corporation Limited, a Singapore-based asset manager, commencing with a 50/50 joint venture in H1 2024 and concluding with Keppel acquiring the remaining 50% stake in H1 2028. The deal is pending approval from Aermont's LPs, Luxembourg CSSF, UK FCA, and EU regulatory authorities.



## Commentary

## **Staff Chart of the Month U.S. Bonds Best Monthly Performance Since 1985**







# 06 Appendix

## **Quiet Period for Search Respondents**



#### Real Assets Emerging Manager Program Discretionary Separate Account Manager Search

- ✓ BlackRock Investments, LLC
- ✓ ACRES Capital
- ✓ Aether Investment Partners
- ✓ Cloverlay
- ✓ ORG Portfolio Management
- ✓ Barings
- ✓ Belay Investment Group
- ✓ Encore Enterprises, Inc.
- ✓ Stable
- ✓ Cambridge Associates
- ✓ GCM Grosvenor
- ✓ The Townsend Group
- ✓ Cypress Creek Partners
- ✓ Hamilton Lane Advisors
- ✓ Neuberger Berman Group
- ✓ Wafra Inc.
- ✓ Artemis Real Estate Partners
- ✓ Hawkeye Partners, LP
- ✓ Astarte Capital Partners
- ✓ Bentall Green Oak
- ✓ Clear Sky Advisers
- ✓ Clear Investment Group
- ✓ Poverni Sheikh Group
- ✓ Trilogy
- ✓ Stepstone
- ✓ Oak Street
- ✓ White Deer

#### Private Market Analytics Platform Search

- √ BlackRock
- ✓ Burgiss
- ✓ CEPRES
- ✓ Clearwater
- ✓ Dynamo
- √ Hamilton Lane
- ✓ Nasdaq