

### Chief Investment Officer Monthly Report

Jonathan Grabel – Chief Investment Officer

Board of Investments Meeting October 11, 2023

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## 01 Market Environment

## Global Market Performance as of September 30, 2023



#### \*Global Equity Policy Benchmark - MSCI ACWI IMI Index

## Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index\*\* Trailing Returns (%) Annualized Returns (%) 1-Month 3-Month FYTD YTD 1Y 3Y 5Y 10Y

0.6

-5.2

0.1

1.1

E	Bloomberg U	.S. Aggrega	ate Bond Ind	lex 1-Year Pe	erformance	
2400						
2350						
2300						
2250						
2200						
2150				•		
2100				And the second		
2050						
2000	<b></b>					
1950 - 🚽						
1900						
Sep-22	Nov-22	Jan-23	Mar-23	May-23	Jul-23	Sep-23

-1.2

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

-3.2

-3.2

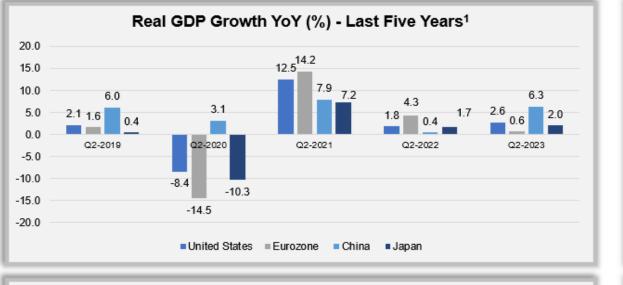
-2.5

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	-4.2	-3.4	-3.4	9.4	20.2	6.9	6.1	7.4
	U.S. All Cap	Russell 3000 Total Return	-4.8	-3.3	-3.3	12.4	20.5	9.4	9.1	11.3
Equity	U.S. Large Cap	S&P 500 Total Return	-4.8	-3.3	-3.3	13.1	21.6	10.2	9.9	11.9
Equity	U.S. Small Cap	Russell 2000 Total Return	-5.9	-5.1	-5.1	2.5	8.9	7.2	2.4	6.6
	Non-U.S. All Cap	MSCI ACWI-ex U.S. IMI Total Return	-3.2	-3.5	-3.5	5.3	20.2	3.8	2.6	3.5
	Emerging Markets	MSCI Emerging Markets Total Return	-2.6	-2.9	-2.9	1.8	11.7	-1.7	0.6	2.1
Private Equity	Private Equity Buyout	Thomson Reuters PE Buyout Index	-9.5	-7.4	-7.4	-12.6	3.4	-1.9	1.4	9.1
	U.S. Investment Grade Bonds	Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index	-2.5	-3.2	-3.2	-1.2	0.6	-5.2	0.1	1.1
	U.S. Corporate High Yield Bonds	Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Total Return	-1.2	0.5	0.5	5.9	10.3	1.8	3.0	4.2
Fixed Income	Developed Markets Leveraged Loans	Credit Suisse Leveraged Loan Total Return	0.9	3.4	3.4	9.9	12.5	5.9	4.3	4.3
	U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	Bloomberg U.S. Treasury TIPS Total Return Index	-1.8	-2.6	-2.6	-0.8	1.2	-2.0	2.1	1.7
	U.S. 3 Month Treasury Bill	FTSE 3 Month Treasury Bill	0.5	1.4	1.4	3.8	4.7	1.8	1.7	1.1
Commodity	Commodity Prices Index	Bloomberg Commodity Index Total Return	-0.7	4.7	4.7	-3.4	-1.3	16.2	6.1	-0.7
Commodity	Natural Resources	S&P Global LargeMidCap Commodity & Resources Index	0.6	3.1	3.1	-1.9	11.8	20.3	8.4	5.3
Infrastracture	Global Infrastructure	Dow Jones Brookfield Global Infrastructure Composite Index	-4.0	-6.9	-6.9	-4.5	4.5	5.8	3.0	4.2
Real Estate	U.S. REITs	MSCI U.S. REIT Index	-6.8	-7.0	-7.0	-1.9	3.2	5.7	2.8	6.0

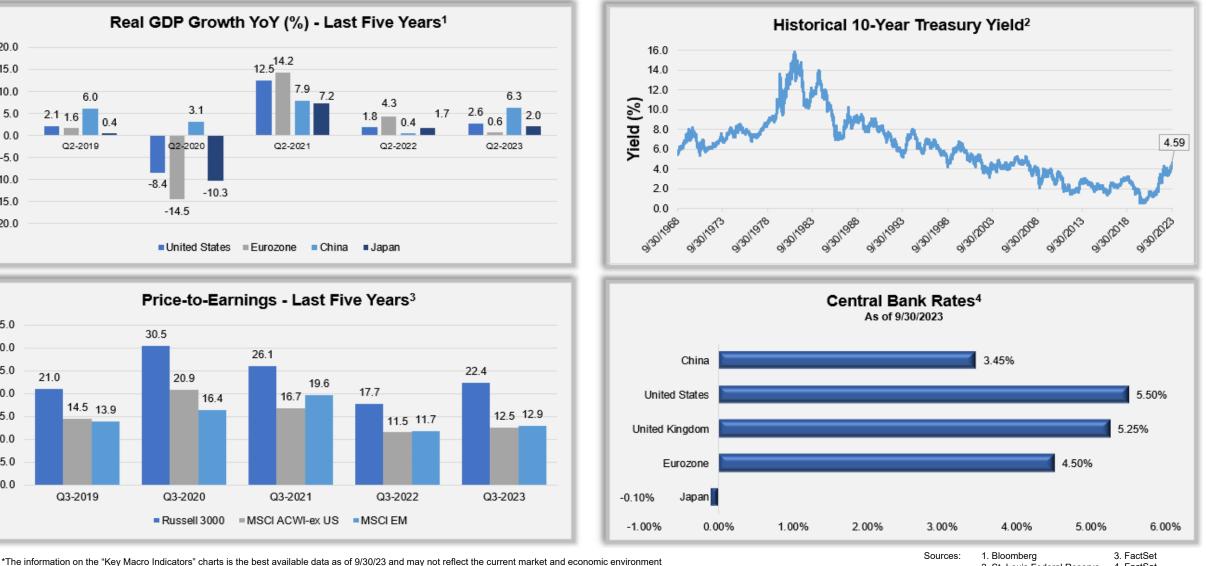
Source: Bloomberg

## Key Macro Indicators\*





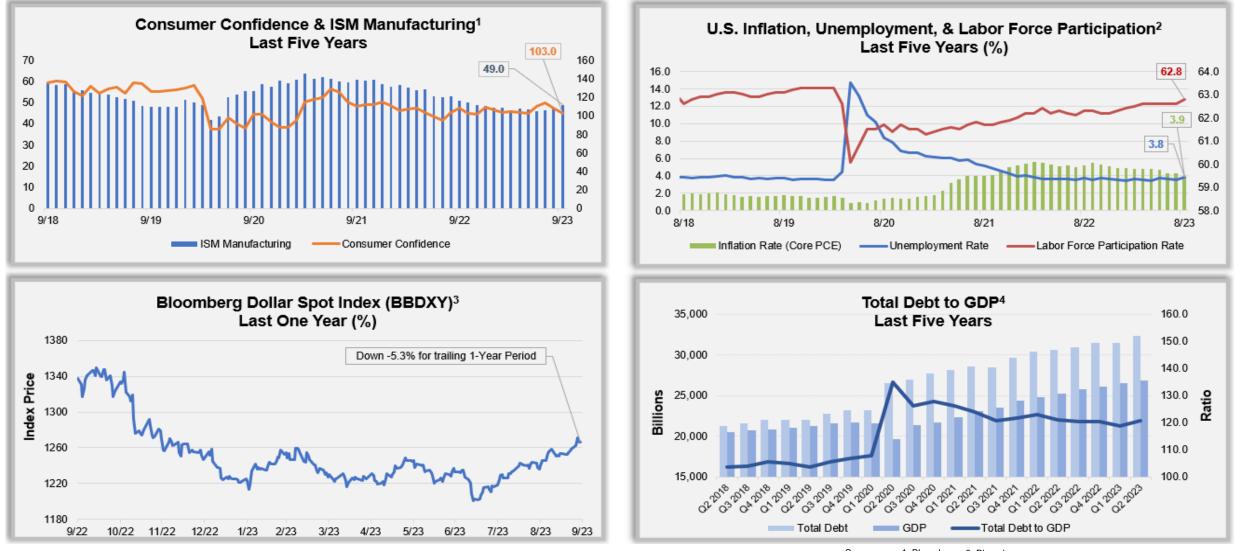




FactSet 2. St. Louis Federal Reserve

## **Key Macro Indicators\***





\*The information on the "Key Macro Indicators" charts is the best available data as of 9/30/23 and may not reflect the current market and economic environment

Sources: 1. Bloomberg 3. Bloomberg 2. Bloomberg 4. Office of Management and Budget; St. Louis Federal Reserve



## **O 2 Portfolio Performance & Risk Updates**

## Market Themes and Notable Items to Watch



### **Recent Themes**

- In September, the Federal Open Market Committee left benchmark interest rates unchanged between 5.25% to 5.50%. Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell discussed interest rate levels and the economy at a September 20<sup>th</sup> press conference:
  - "We've covered a lot of ground, and the full effects of our tightening have yet to be felt. Today, we decided to leave our policy interest rate unchanged and to continue to reduce our securities holdings"
- Crude oil prices (West Texas Intermediate WTI) reached above \$93/barrel in September, up 39% from its lowest point in 2023 of \$67/barrel
- The U.S. 10-year Treasury yield ended September at 4.59%, 50 bps higher than at the end of last month, after being 3.88% at the end of 2022, 1.52% at the end of 2021 and 0.93% at the end of 2020
- Global equities (MSCI All Country World Investable Market Index) declined 4.2% in September

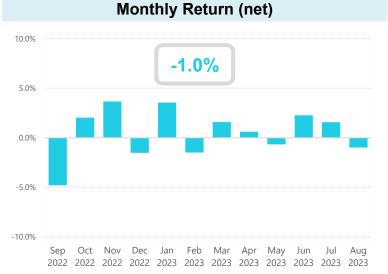
### What to Watch

- 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
  - Financial Stability Board (global body of central bank leaders) initiated a review of systemic financial risks in growing private credit sector
  - California Assembly and Senate pass legislation that, if signed, would require firms with over \$1 billion in revenues and doing business in California to report carbon emissions and climate risks

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

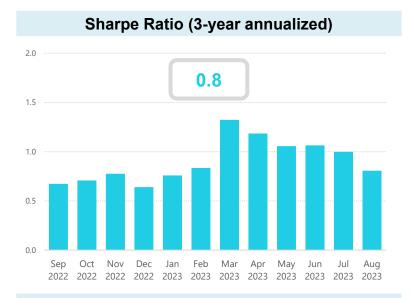
500

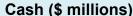






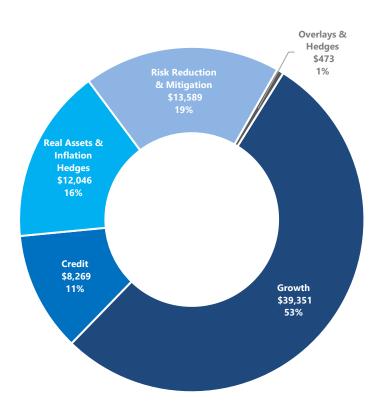








### **Asset Allocation (\$ millions)**



## **Historical Net Performance as of August 2023**



						L	ACERA	Pensi	on Fur	d	
	Market Value (\$ millions)	% of Total Fund	Final Target	1 Month	3 Month	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	10.0%
otal Fund	73,729	100.0%	100.0%	-1.0%	2.8%	0.6%	5.6%	8.1%	7.4%	8.0%	
Total Fund Policy BM				-1.5%	2.8%	0.3%	4.8%	5.0%	6.0%	7.1%	
7% Annual Hurdle Rate				0.6%	1.7%	1.1%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	
• 4											5.0%
Growth	39,351	53.4%	53.0%	-1.3%	4.8%	1.2%	10.3%	12.5%			
Growth Policy BM				-2.1%	4.8%	0.5%	8.6%	8.5%			
Credit	8,269	11.2%	11.0%	0.9%	3.7%	2.3%	8.7%	6.0%			
Credit Policy BM				1.1%	3.5%	3.0%	8.6%	2.1%			0.0%
Real Assets & Inflation Hedges	12,046	16.3%	17.0%	-2.0%	0.2%	-1.1%	-4.2%	8.0%			
Real Assets & Inflation Hedges Policy BM				-2.2%	0.5%	-0.9%	-4.2%	7.5%			
Risk Reduction & Mitigation	13,589	18.4%	19.0%	-0.6%	-1.2%	-1.0%	-0.6%	-2.5%			-5.0%
Risk Reduction & Mitigation Policy BM				-0.7%	-1.0%	-1.1%	-0.6%	-3.1%			1 Month 3 Month FYTD 1 Year 3 Year 5 Year
Succession and Succes				21170			21070	2.1.70			
Overlays & Hedges	473	0.6%		8.1%	16.5%	7.5%	34.6%				Total Fund Total Fund Policy BM

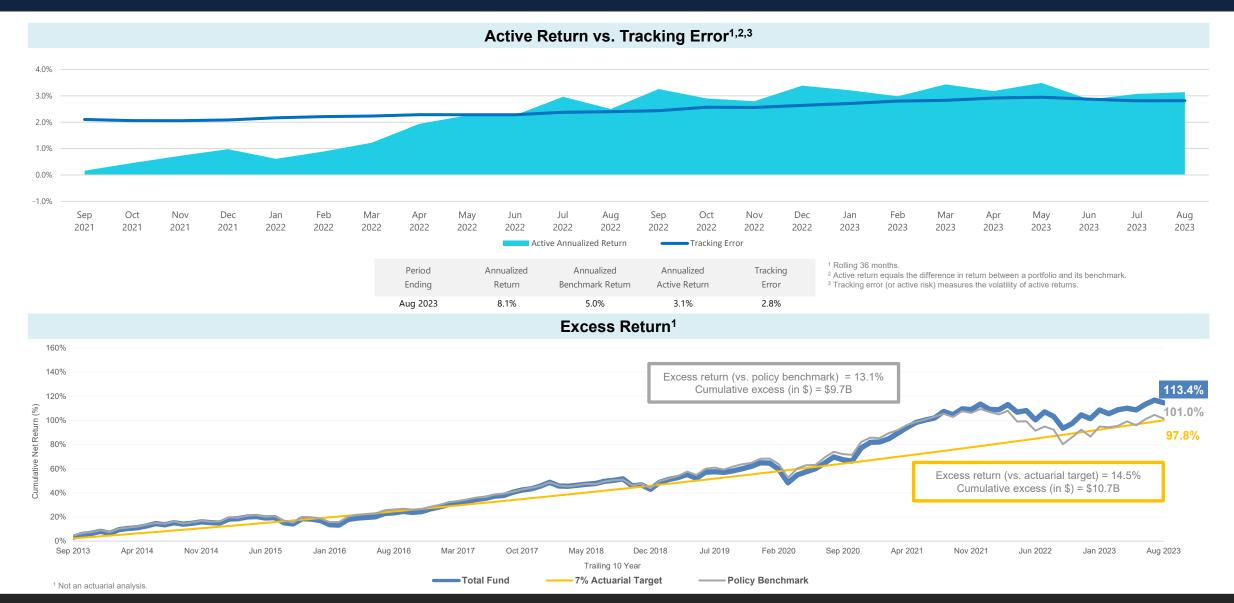
**OPEB Master Trust** 

	Market Value (\$ millions)	% of Master Trust	Final Target	1 Month	3 Month	FYTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
OPEB Master Trust		Master Trust	Target				7.0%		
	3,110			-1.9%	4.5%	0.6%		5.2%	5.3%
Los Angeles County	3,027	97.3%	—	-1.9%	4.5%	0.6%	7.0%	5.2%	5.3%
Superior Court	67	2.2%	—	-1.9%	4.3%	0.5%	6.7%	5.1%	5.2%
LACERA	16	0.5%	-	-1.9%	4.3%	0.5%	6.8%	5.0%	5.2%
LACERA Master OPEB Trust Fund	3,109		100.0%	-1.9%	4.4%	0.6%	6.8%	5.1%	5.3%
OPEB Master Trust Policy Benchmark				-1.6%	3.7%	0.6%	6.5%	4.8%	4.9%
OPEB Growth	1,402	45.1%	45.0%	-2.8%	6.7%	0.8%	13.5%	7.5%	7.3%
OPEB Growth Policy Benchmark				-2.7%	6.5%	0.8%	12.8%	6.9%	6.8%
OPEB Credit	566	18.2%	18.0%	0.0%	3.8%	1.6%	9.1%	2.7%	3.1%
OPEB Credit Policy Benchmark				0.7%	4.1%	2.4%	8.5%	2.6%	3.2%
OPEB Real Assets & Inflation Hedges	619	19.9%	20.0%	-2.0%	4.0%	0.7%	-4.2%	6.8%	3.9%
OPEB RA & IH Policy Benchmark				-1.4%	0.8%	0.4%	-3.6%	6.7%	3.7%
<b>OPEB</b> Risk Reduction & Mitigation	522	16.8%	17.0%	-1.1%	-1.7%	-1.5%	-0.9%	-3.5%	0.7%
OPEB RR & M Policy Benchmark				-1.1%	-1.9%	-1.8%	-2.4%	-4.1%	0.2%

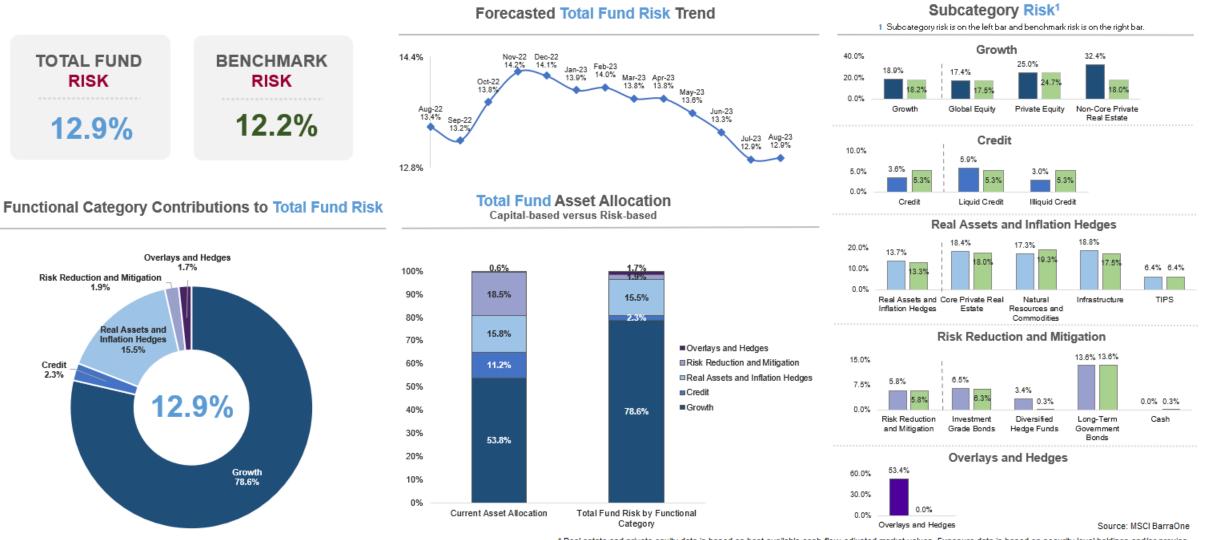


## Active and Excess Return as of August 2023





## **Total Fund Forecast Risk as of August 2023\***

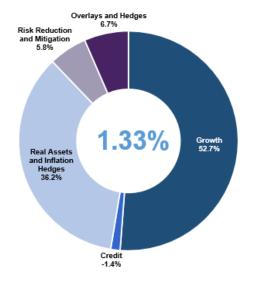


\* Real estate and private equity data is based on best available cash flow adjusted market values. Exposure data is based on security level holdings and/or proxies.

## Total Fund Forecast Active Risk as of August 2023\*

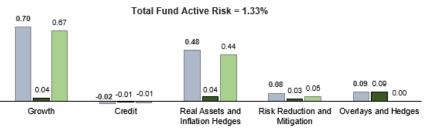


Functional Category Contributions to Active Risk



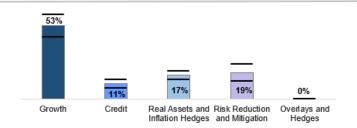






Active Risk Allocation Risk Selection Risk

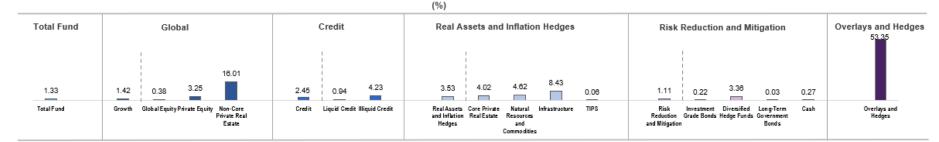




#### Active Weights for each Functional Category



Subcategory Active Risk



Source: MSCI BarraOne

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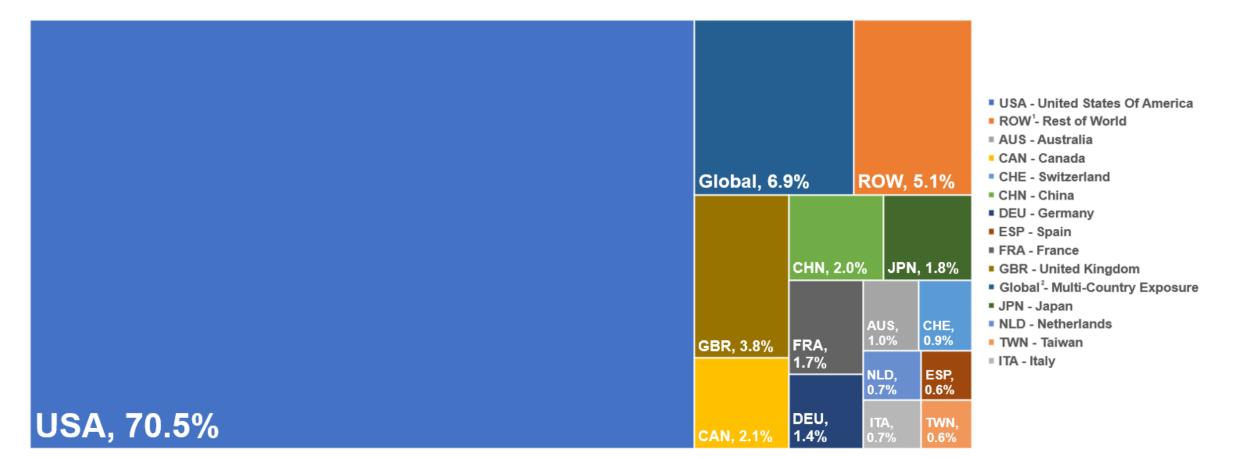
0.80

0.30

-0.20

## **Geographic Exposures by AUM** Total Fund as of August 2023<sup>\*</sup> Ex-Overlays and Hedges





AUM = Assets under management.

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

\* 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.

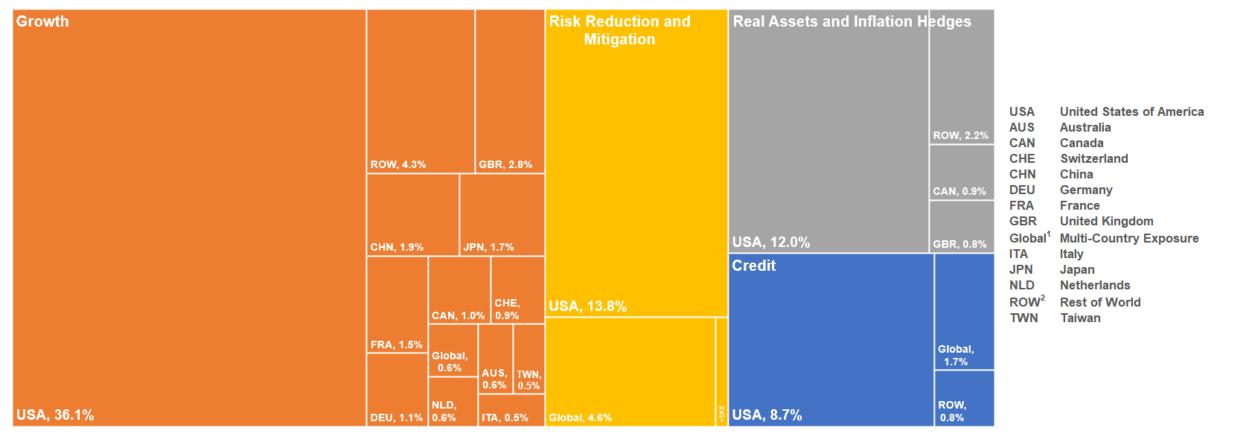
<sup>1</sup> "ROW - Rest of World" is sum of countries with weights below 0.5%.

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

SOURCE: MSCI BarraOne

## **Geographic Exposures by AUM** Functional Categories as of August 2023<sup>\*</sup> Ex-Overlays and Hedges





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

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SOURCE: MSCI BarraOne

## **Change In Fiduciary Net Position**





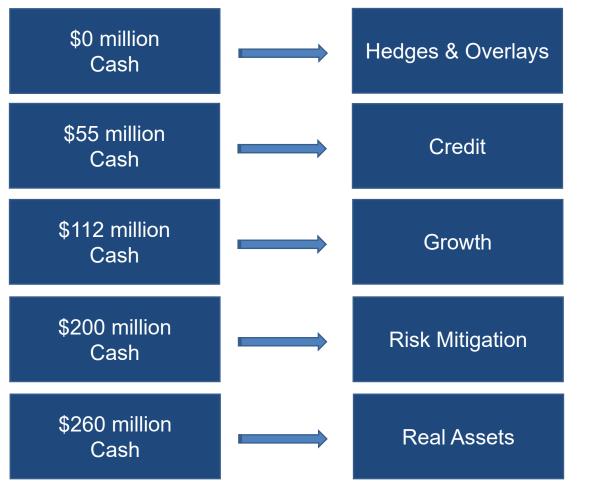
# **O3** Portfolio Structural Updates

## **Portfolio Structural Updates**



### **Portfolio Movements**

### **Rebalancing Activity**



### **Hedges & Overlays**

### Monthly Activity

Program	August Return	August Gain/(Loss)	Inception <sup>1</sup> Gain/(Loss)
Currency Hedge <sup>2</sup>	1.2%	(\$0.3 Million)	\$1.4 Billion
Cash/Rebalance Overlay <sup>3</sup>	-2.3%	(\$49.3 Million)	\$340.2 Million

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

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

### **Current Search Activity**

### Status of Active Searches – Subject to Change

Name	RFP Issued	Due Diligence	BOI Review
Real Assets Emerging Manager Program Search	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Anticipated Q4 2023
Commercial Real Estate Brokers Search	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Anticipated Q4 2023
Private Market Analytics Platform Search	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Anticipated Q4 2023



## Key Initiatives & **04** Operational Updates

## **Notable Initiatives and Operational Updates**



### **Key Initiative Updates**

- The 2024 Strategic Asset Allocation study is underway
- The Investment Division is adhering to the 2023 Work Plan and Strategic Initiatives approved at the January 2023 BOI
- The 2024 Work Plan and Strategic Initiatives are in development
- <u>NewOpportunities@LACERA.com</u> was created to receive solicitations from outside investment firms

### **Operational Updates**

 Annual contract compliance, fee report, and LACERA T.I.D.E. initiatives are in progress

### **Manager/Consultant Updates**

### **Team Searches and Vacancies**

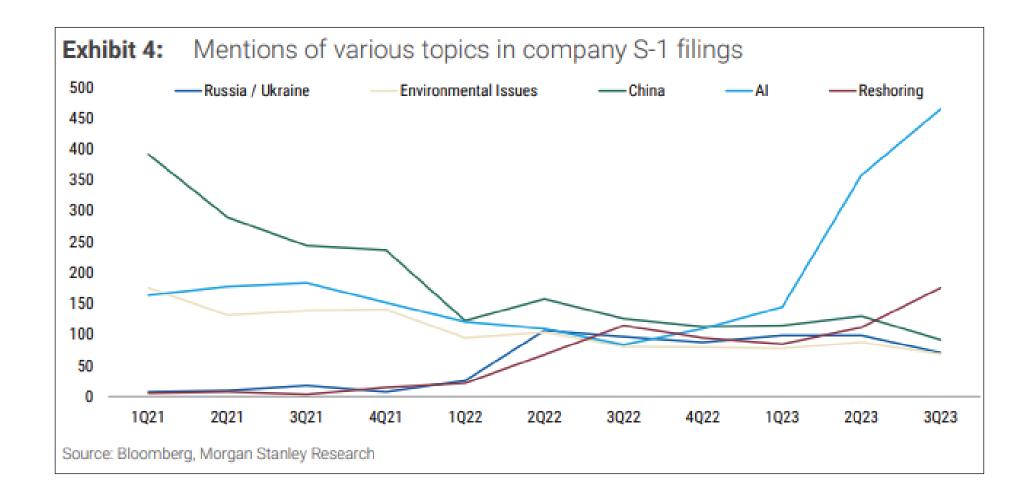
- Principal Investment Officer
- 4 Senior Investment Officer
  - 1 in progress working with an outside recruiter
  - 1 in development
- 2 Financial Analyst-III
  - 1 in progress working with an outside recruiter
- Financial Analyst-II
  - 1 search in progress

Capital Group – Growth – Michael Cohen, one of the portfolio managers for the LACERA international equity portfolio will transition out of the strategy effective January 2, 2024. His responsibilities will be absorbed by the rest of the four remaining portfolio managers.

Hamilton Lane – Growth & OPEB – Erik Hirsch and Juan Delgado-Moreira have been appointed Co-Chief Executive Officers, effective 1/1/2024. Erik will lead the firm's strategic direction and manage its operations, while Juan will lead global sales and client service.

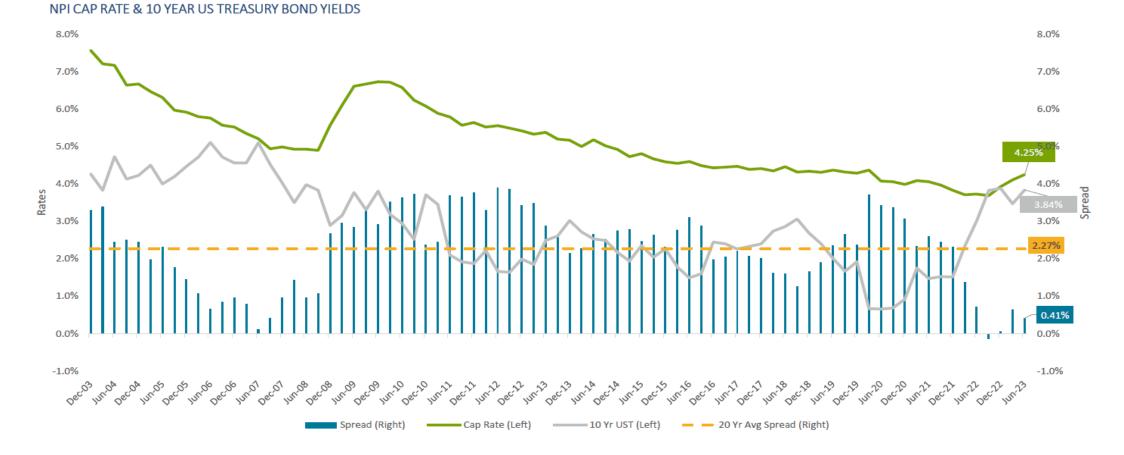






LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

### US Cap Rate Spreads Compressed Further in 2Q23



## Staff Chart of the Month US Cap Rate Spreads





## 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

### Commercial Real Estate Brokers Search

- ✓ CBRE
- ✓ Cushman & Wakefield
- ✓ Eastdil
- ✓ JLL
- ✓ Newmark

### Private Market Analytics Platform Search

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