

***NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES***  
***RETIREMENT SYSTEMS***  
**SCHOOL RETIREMENT SYSTEM**  
**2003**

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Fifty-first Actuarial Report for  
State Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2005  
and  
System Plan Year Beginning July 1, 2003

November 2003





**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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June 13, 2008

Public Employees Retirement Board  
Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems  
Post Office Box 94816  
Lincoln, NE 68509

**Certification of Actuarial Valuation  
School Retirement System**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This report summarizes the results of the actuarial valuation of the School Retirement System as of July 1, 2003, performed by Mellon Consultants, Inc.

The actuarial valuation is based on unaudited financial and member data provided to us by the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems and summarized in this report. The benefits considered are those delineated in Nebraska State Statutes, effective as amended July 1, 2003.

All costs, liabilities and other factors under the plan were determined in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and procedures. This report fully and fairly discloses the actuarial position of the plan.

An actuarial experience analysis was completed in parallel with the July 1, 2002, valuation. In our opinion, the assumptions represent reasonable expectations and our best estimate of the anticipated experience under the plan. A summary of the actuarial assumptions used in this actuarial valuation are shown in Exhibit 10.

Based on the results of our actuarial valuation, current statutory contributions are sufficient to meet the plan's funding policy. The contributions paid by members, school employers, and the State defined by statute currently exceed the actuarially required contribution, which is equal to the sum of the annual normal cost and the annual payment necessary to amortize any unfunded liabilities over 25 years. For the 2004-2005 fiscal year, no additional contribution is necessary.

We are available to answer any questions on the material contained in this report, or to provide explanations to further details as may be appropriate.

Respectively submitted,

MELLON CONSULTANTS, INC.

David H. Slisinsky, A.S.A., E.A., M.A.A.A.  
Principal and Consulting Actuary

Koren L. Holden, E.A., M.A.A.A.  
Associate Principal, Retirement Actuary



**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**  
**SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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**SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL REPORT FOR CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS AND  
FUNDED STATUS FOR PLAN YEAR 2003/2004**

The main purposes of this report are:

1. To determine the actuarial soundness of the School District and member contributions defined under Nebraska State Statutes to fund the total Formula Annuity, and whether additional contributions are required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005;
2. To review the current funded status of the System; and
3. To compare actual and expected experience under the plan during the plan year beginning July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2003.

The 2003 actuarial valuation is based upon the plan provisions as of July 1, 2003, as described in Exhibit 8. The actuarial methods and assumptions are described in Exhibit 9 and 10.

Highlights from the current valuation:

1. No additional State contribution is required for the 2004-2005 fiscal year to pay the normal cost and amortize any unfunded liabilities for the system. The present value of future Formula Annuity benefits is less than the sum of the Actuarial Value of Assets and the present values of future member and employer contributions and State appropriations, resulting in a liability of \$152,062,046 in funding. Additional contributions beyond the 2004-2005 fiscal year will most likely be necessary given the delayed recognition of asset losses experienced over the last three years.
2. A loss was experienced on the actuarial value of assets during the 2002/2003 plan year. The annual rate of return on Market Value was 5.2%. The rate of return on Actuarial Value of 5.0% fell short of the 8% assumed investment return rate by 6.0%, resulting in a decrease to the Actuarial Value by \$262,997,685.
3. The plan experienced a decremental loss over the period, primarily due to salary increases greater than expected. The actuarial accrued liability increased by \$30,315,105 as a result of decremental experience.
4. The funded status of the system as measured by the ratio of the system assets over the Pension Benefit Obligation (PBO) decreased, primarily due to asset and liability losses. The PBO is calculated using the Projected Unit Credit Method, which determines the benefit by using service at the valuation date and projecting salary to assumed termination or retirement. Since the July 1, 2002 actuarial valuation, the funded percentage on Actuarial Value decreased from 102.7% to 97.2%. This decrease was primarily due to withdrawal and asset losses.





**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Basic Actuarial Valuation Results**

The 2003 actuarial valuation results are based upon the plan provisions as of July 1, 2003 as described in Exhibit 8. The key findings of the actuarial valuation are summarized below.

**1. Funding of Total Formula Annuity**

The total actuarially required contribution is equal to the normal cost plus an amortization payment for unfunded liabilities. Unfunded liabilities created due to experience gains or losses, plan changes or assumption changes are amortized over 25 years.

The member contribution rate is a fixed rate equal to 7.25% of pay. The School District's funding of liabilities is equal to 101% of the employee contribution rate, or 7.32% of pay. The State contributes .7% of covered pay and an annual appropriation of \$5,639,235, as well as any additional required funding.

The minimum total required contribution rate increased from 13.45% to 15.26% of pay from the 2002/2003 plan year to the 2003/2004 plan year. A history of required contribution rates is shown below. For fiscal years 1995/1996 through 2002/2003, this contribution rate is the rate required to cover the excess formula annuity only. For fiscal years 2003/2004 and thereafter, this contribution rate is the rate required to cover the entire formula annuity.

<b>History of Required Contribution Rates and Additional State Funding</b>		
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Additional State Contributions</b>
2004-2005	15.26%	\$ 0
2003-2004	13.45	0
2002-2003	11.98	0
2001-2002	9.15	0
2000-2001	11.92	0
1999-2000	5.69	0
1998-1999	8.86	0
1997-1998	13.94	0
1996-1997	14.53*	809,350
1995-1996	14.69*	4,413,418

\* Includes a 0.3% COLA contribution made to the School Employees Retirement System Reserve Fund.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1. Funding of Total Formula Annuity (cont'd)**

Based on the 2003 actuarial valuation, the total required contribution rate of 15.26% is below the actual contribution rate of 15.74%. For the current participant group, the present value of the additional funding needed is \$152,062,046. This amount is referenced as an actuarial liability on the plan's balance sheet.

**2. Asset Values**

The total assets of the system as of the current and prior valuation date at both market value and actuarial value, and the rate of return during the period is as follows:

	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2003	Annual Rate of Return
(a) Market value	\$ 4,041,641,782	\$ 4,282,430,841	5.2%
(b) Actuarial value, an adjusted value intended to reduce the effect of market fluctuations (Exhibit 1B)	\$ 4,825,628,742	\$ 4,953,304,596	2.0%

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**3. Actuarial Liability/(Reserve)**

The actuarial liability of the total Formula Annuity benefits is the excess of the total benefit obligation (present value of future benefits) over the projected financial resources (sum of (i) the actuarial value of assets and (ii) the present value of future member, employer, State contributions and PPSF Appropriations). If the projected financial resources exceed the total benefit obligation, the system has a Reserve. The actuarial position of the system as of the current and prior valuation dates are as follows:

	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2003
(a) Present value of future benefits	\$ 6,011,009,010	\$ 6,477,524,160
(b) Net actuarial value of assets	4,799,789,893	4,953,304,596
(c) Present value of future member contributions	600,489,138	636,096,520
(d) Present value of future employer contributions	606,286,964	642,238,141
(e) Present value of future State contributions	57,978,262	61,416,216
(f) Present value of future PPSF contributions	<u>35,227,663</u>	<u>32,406,641</u>
(g) Actuarial Liability/(Reserve) (a) - (b) - (c) - (d) - (e) - (f)	\$ (88,762,910)	\$ 152,062,046

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**4. Pension Benefit Obligation (PBO)**

The Pension Benefit Obligation represents a standardized disclosure measure of the present value of pension benefits payable in the future, which incorporates the effects of projected salary increases, based on service earned at the valuation date. The measure is intended to provide information regarding the Plan's funded status on an ongoing-concern basis, progress made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due, and comparability to other plans.

Funded Status	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2003
(a) Pension Benefit Obligation		
i) retirees, disabled members and beneficiaries receiving benefits and deferred vested members not yet receiving benefits	\$ 1,836,865,187	\$ 2,050,708,101
ii) active members	<u>2,837,279,509</u>	<u>3,045,861,033</u>
iii) total pension benefit obligation	\$ 4,674,144,696	\$ 5,096,569,134
(b) Net assets available for benefits (actuarial value)	<u>4,799,789,893</u>	<u>4,953,304,596</u>
(c) Unfunded Pension Benefit Obligation/(Reserve)	\$ (125,645,197)	\$ 143,264,538
(d) Funded percentage on actuarial value of assets: (b) ÷ (a)(iii)	102.7%	97.2%

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**5. Benefit Accrual Cost**

The cost of benefits accruing over an active member's working career can be expressed as a level percentage of compensation or a level dollar amount. This cost represents the true cost of accruing benefits since it is not adjusted for any overfunding or underfunding which may exist on the valuation date. It is determined using the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method and is also called the Normal Cost. The level benefit accrual cost determined during the current and prior valuation dates are as follows:

<b>Formula Annuity Benefit</b>	<b>July 1, 2002</b>	<b>July 1, 2003</b>
(a) Benefit accrual cost amount:	\$ 127,964,984	\$ 136,752,185
(b) Annual compensation before assumed normal retirement age:	\$ 1,123,295,414	\$ 1,200,135,565
(c) Benefit accrual cost rate as a level percentage of compensation (a) ÷ (b):	11.392%	11.395%

<b>Service Annuity Benefit</b>	<b>July 1, 2002</b>	<b>July 1, 2003</b>
(a) Service Annuity Benefit		
(i) NPERS members	\$ 2,360,880	\$ 2,434,247
(ii) Omaha members	N/A	<u>415,282*</u>
(iii) Total	\$ 2,360,880	\$ 2,849,529
(b) Number of active members before assumed retirement age		
(i) NPERS members	35,714	36,485
(ii) Omaha members	N/A	<u>6,339</u>
(iii) Total	35,714	42,824
(c) Benefit accrual cost per active member as a level dollar amount [(a) ÷ (b)]		
(i) NPERS members	\$ 66.11	\$ 66.72
(ii) Omaha members	N/A	65.51
(iii) Total	\$ 66.11	\$ 66.54

\*determined as of September 1, 2002.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**6. Forecast of Disbursements**

A forecast of the annual benefit disbursements expected over the next thirty years is presented in Exhibit 7. This forecast is based on the same actuarial assumptions with respect to salary increases and decrement rates used to determine the funding requirements. The forecast should be a useful guide in discussing the cash-flow needs of the system with investment managers and in projecting the future financing needs of the system.

**7. Actuarial Methods and Assumptions**

The required contributions developed in this report are estimates of the amounts necessary to provide ongoing benefits to plan members assuming the system is funded in a systematic manner. These estimates are based upon the actuarial method defined under State Statutes to allocate the total cost of the plan to various years and actuarial assumptions regarding the return on investments, salary rates, employee termination rates, mortality rates and other risk factors.

The actuarial method used to determine the actuarial contribution requirement necessary to fund current and future benefits is the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method. A description of this method can be found in Exhibit 9.

The actuarial assumptions represent the expected long-term experience of the system on an explicit basis for each risk area considered. The experience is reviewed periodically. Where necessary, changes are recommended by the actuary and adopted by the Public Employees Retirement Board. Summaries of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in the current valuation are presented in Exhibits 9 and 10, respectively.

**8. Changes Since the Last Actuarial Valuation**

There have been no changes in the actuarial cost method, assumptions, or plan provisions since the last valuation as of July 1, 2002.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**SYSTEM ASSETS**

A. Summary of Assets	Market Value as of June 30, 2002	Market Value as of June 30, 2003
1. Cash and Equivalents	\$ 2,134,662	\$ 3,085,792
2. Investments	4,170,449,073	4,216,132,149
3. Receivables and Prepaids	(128,453,171)	66,099,744
4. Accounts Payable	(2,488,782)	(2,886,844)
<b>7. Net Assets Considered (1 + 2 + 3 + 4)</b>	<b>\$ 4,041,641,782</b>	<b>\$ 4,282,430,841</b>

B. Development of Actuarial Value of Assets	Amount
1. Actuarial Value of Assets as of July 1, 2002	\$ 4,825,628,742
2. Unrecognized Return as of July 1, 2002	\$ (783,986,960)
3. Contributions	
(a) Member	\$ 86,802,581
(b) Employer	84,438,915
(c) State appropriations	13,119,888
(d) Total (a + b + c)	\$ 184,361,384
4. Benefit Payments (including transfers to Omaha)	\$ 154,339,488
5. Expected Return at 8% on:	
(a) Item 1	\$ 386,050,299
(b) Item 2	(62,718,957)
(c) Item 3(d)	7,232,587
(d) Item 4	5,541,299
(e) Total (a+b+c-d)	\$ 325,022,630
6. Actual Return on Market Value for 2002/2003 Plan Year, net of expenses	\$ 210,767,163
7. Return to be Spread for 2002/2003 Plan Year [6-5(e)]	\$ (114,255,467)

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**SYSTEM ASSETS**

<b>B. Development of Actuarial Value of Assets (cont'd)</b>		<b>Amount</b>																								
8.	Total Market Value of Assets as of July 1, 2003	\$ 4,282,430,841																								
9.	Return to be Spread:																									
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Plan Year</th> <th>Return to be Spread</th> <th>Unrecognized Percent</th> <th>Unrecognized Return</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2002/2003</td> <td>\$ (114,255,467)</td> <td>80%</td> <td>\$ (91,404,374)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2001/2002</td> <td>(606,631,726)</td> <td>60%</td> <td>(363,979,036)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2000/2001</td> <td>(544,586,637)</td> <td>40%</td> <td>(217,834,655)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1999/2000</td> <td>11,721,551</td> <td>20%</td> <td>2,344,310</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>\$ (670,873,755)</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Plan Year	Return to be Spread	Unrecognized Percent	Unrecognized Return	2002/2003	\$ (114,255,467)	80%	\$ (91,404,374)	2001/2002	(606,631,726)	60%	(363,979,036)	2000/2001	(544,586,637)	40%	(217,834,655)	1999/2000	11,721,551	20%	2,344,310	<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ (670,873,755)</b>	
Plan Year	Return to be Spread	Unrecognized Percent	Unrecognized Return																							
2002/2003	\$ (114,255,467)	80%	\$ (91,404,374)																							
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1999/2000	11,721,551	20%	2,344,310																							
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ (670,873,755)</b>																							
10.	<b>Total Actuarial Value of Assets at July 1, 2003 (8 - 9)</b>	<b>\$ 4,953,304,596</b>																								



**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**SYSTEM ASSETS**

<b>C. Change in Asset Values During 2002/2003</b>	<b>Actuarial Value</b>	<b>Market Value</b>
1. Total asset value as of July 1, 2002	\$ 4,825,628,742	\$ 4,041,641,782
2. Contributions for 2002/2003:		
(a) Member contributions paid during the year	\$ 86,802,581	\$ 86,802,581
(b) Employer contributions paid during the year	84,438,915	84,438,915
(c) State appropriations for the year**	<u>15,520,794</u>	<u>15,520,794</u>
(d) Contributions for 2002/2003: (a) + (b) + (c)	\$ 186,762,290	\$ 186,762,290
3. Disbursements for 2002/2003:		
(a) Benefit payments*	\$ 154,339,488	\$ 154,339,488
(b) Expenses and fees**	<u>14,687,875</u>	<u>14,687,875</u>
(c) Disbursements for 2002/2003: (a) + (b)	\$ 169,027,363	\$ 169,027,363
4. Investment return for 2002/2003:	\$ 109,940,927	\$ 223,054,132
5. Total asset value as of July 1, 2003: [1 + 2(d) - 3(c) + 4]	\$ 4,953,304,596	\$ 4,282,430,841
6. Approximate rate of investment return, net of expenses	2.0%	5.2%

\*Includes transfers to Omaha.

\*\*Includes Omaha appropriation.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**ACTUARIAL CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT**

<b>A. Development of Actuarially Required Funding Rate</b>	<b>July 1, 2003</b>
1. Actuarial present value of benefits	
(a) Active members	\$ 4,426,816,059
(b) Inactive members	273,566,313
(c) Retired members, disabilities and beneficiaries	<u>1,777,141,788</u>
(d) Total	\$ 6,477,524,160
2. Present Value of Future Normal Costs	<u>1,012,951,284</u>
3. Total Actuarial Accrued Liability [1(d) - 2]	\$ 5,464,572,876
4. Net Actuarial Value of Assets	<u>4,953,304,596</u>
5. Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability [3 - 4]	\$ 511,268,280
6. Annual Contribution to Amortize Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability Bases	
(a) Amount	\$ 46,402,728
(b) Amount as % of Pay	3.87%
7. Annual Normal Cost	
(a) Amount	\$ 136,752,185
(b) Amount as % of Pay	11.39%
8. Total Annual Actuarially Required Contribution	
(a) Amount [6(a) + 7(a)]	\$ 183,154,913
(b) Amount as % of Pay	15.26%

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**ACTUARIAL CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT**

<b>B. Development of Additional State Contributions for 2004/2005</b>	<b>Annual Amount as a % of Pay</b>
1. Actuarially Required Contribution	
a. Amount	\$183,154,913
b. State PPSF appropriation	<u>5,639,235</u>
c. Net amount [(a)-(b)]	177,515,678
d. Net Amount as % of Pay	14.79%
2. Statutory Contribution Rates	
a. Employee Contribution Rate	7.25%
b. Employer Contribution Rate	7.32%
c. State Contribution Rate	<u>.70%</u>
d. Total Contribution Rate [(a) + (b) + (c)]	15.27%
3. Additional Required State Contribution	
a. Additional Required State Contribution Rate [1(d)-2(d), not less than 0%]	0.00%
b. Additional Required State Contribution Amount	\$ 0

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**ACTUARIAL CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT**

<b>C. Schedule of Amortization Bases</b>	<b>Original Amount</b>	<b>July 1, 2003 Remaining Payments</b>	<b>Date of Last Payment</b>	<b>Outstanding Balance as of July 1, 2003</b>	<b>Annual Contribution</b>
1. 2002 Initial Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability base	\$ 256,078,100	24	07/01/2027	\$ 252,575,264	\$ 23,083,507
2. 2003 Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability Base	<u>258,693,016</u>	25	07/01/2028	<u>258,693,016</u>	<u>23,319,221</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 514,771,116</b>			<b>\$ 511,268,280</b>	<b>\$ 46,402,728</b>

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**ACTUARIAL (GAIN)/LOSS**

<b>A. Change in Actuarial Accrued Liability</b>		
1.	Actual Actuarial Accrued Liability as of July 1, 2002	\$ 5,055,867,993
2.	Benefits accrued during the 2002/2003 plan year	127,964,984
3.	Benefit payments during the 2002/2003 plan year*	153,551,757
4.	Interest at 8%	<u>403,976,551</u>
5.	Expected Actuarial Accrued Liability as of July 1, 2003 (1 + 2 - 3 + 4)	\$ 5,434,257,771
6.	Decremental (Gain)/Loss by Source:	
	(a) Retirement	\$ (21,551,685)
	(b) Termination	25,474,496
	(c) Disability	1,476,585
	(d) Pre-retirement mortality	(4,398,809)
	(e) Post-retirement mortality	(1,697,450)
	(f) Salary	18,904,745
	(g) New entrants	20,403,116
	(h) Retiree Cola	(6,027,456)
	(i) Data changes/miscellaneous	<u>(2,268,437)</u>
	(j) Total decremental (gain)/loss	\$ 30,315,105
7.	Change in Actuarial Assumptions	\$ 0
8.	Change in Plan Provisions	0
9.	Actual Actuarial Accrued Liability as of July 1, 2003 (5 + 6(j) + 7 + 8)	\$ 5,464,572,876

\* Excludes transfer to Omaha.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**ACTUARIAL (GAIN)/LOSS**

<b>B. Change in Net Actuarial Value of Assets</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Total Actuarial Value of Assets as of July 1, 2002	\$ 4,799,789,893
2. Contributions	
(a) Member	\$ 86,802,581
(b) Employer	84,438,915
(c) State appropriation*	<u>13,119,888</u>
(d) Total	\$ 184,361,384
3. Benefit Payments*	\$ 153,551,757
4. Expected Return at 8% on:	
(a) Item 1	\$ 383,983,192
(b) Item 2(d)	7,232,586
(c) Item 3	<u>5,513,017</u>
(d) Total (a) + (b) - (c)	\$ 385,702,761
5. Expected Total Actuarial Value of Assets at June 30, 2003 [1 + 2(e) - 3 + 4(d)]	\$ 5,216,302,281
6. Actual Total Actuarial Value of Assets at June 30, 2003	4,953,304,596
7. Actuarial (Gain)/Loss on Asset Sources (5 - 6)	\$ 262,997,685

\* Excludes transfers to Omaha.

<b>C. Total Actuarial (Gain)/Loss for the 2002/2003 plan year [A(6)(j) + B(7)]</b>	<b>\$ 293,312,790</b>
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**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**ACTUARIAL BALANCE SHEET**

<b>A. Financial Resources</b>	<b>July 1, 2003</b>
1. Total Actuarial Value of Assets	\$ 4,953,304,596
2. Present Value of Future Contributions	
(a) Member	\$ 636,096,520
(b) Employer	642,238,141
(c) State	61,416,216
(d) State PPSF Appropriations	<u>32,406,641</u>
(e) Total	1,372,157,518
3. Actuarial Liability/(Reserve)	152,062,046
4. Total Assets [1 + 2(e) + 3]	\$ 6,477,524,160

<b>B. Benefit Obligations</b>	<b>July 1, 2003</b>
1. Present Value of Future Benefits	
(a) Active members	\$ 4,412,434,700
(b) Inactive members	273,168,685
(c) Retirees, disabilities and beneficiaries	1,777,076,305
(d) Omaha	
(i) active	14,381,359
(ii) deferred vested	397,628
(iii) retired	<u>65,483</u>
(e) Total	\$ 6,477,524,160

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
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**ACCOUNTING INFORMATION**

**A. Pension Benefit Obligation under the Projected Unit Credit Cost Method.**

	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2003
<b>Pension Benefit Obligation (PBO):</b>		
Vested PBO		
(a) members currently receiving payments	\$ 1,568,042,886	\$ 1,777,141,788
(b) other members		
(i) accumulated member contributions	1,196,831,186	1,248,296,837
(ii) employer financed vested	<u>1,787,668,385</u>	<u>1,942,921,792</u>
Total Vested PBO	\$ 4,552,542,457	\$ 4,968,360,417
Nonvested PBO	<u>121,602,239</u>	<u>128,208,717</u>
Total PBO	\$ 4,674,144,696	\$ 5,096,569,134
Total Actuarial Value of Assets	<u>4,799,789,893</u>	<u>4,953,304,596</u>
Unfunded Pension Benefit Obligation (Reserve)	\$ (125,645,197)	\$ 143,264,538
Funded Percentage		
(a) on vested PBO	105.4%	99.7%
(b) on total PBO	102.7%	97.2%

**B. Change in Pension Benefit Obligation from July 1, 2002 to July 1, 2003**

<b>Pension Benefit Obligation at July 1, 2002</b>	\$ 4,674,144,696
Increase/(Decrease) during Period:	
Plan Provision Changes	\$ 0
Assumption Changes	0
Benefits Accumulated	155,746,439
Benefits Paid*	(153,551,757)
Interest Cost	380,878,274
Plan Experience	<u>39,351,482</u>
Total Change	\$ 422,424,438
<b>Pension Benefit Obligation at July 1, 2003</b>	\$ 5,096,569,134

\* Excludes transfer to Omaha.



**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**ACCOUNTING INFORMATION**

Exhibit 9 and 10 provide a more detailed summary of the underlying actuarial methods and assumptions used in the calculations of the Pension Benefit Obligation. The benefits valued are those in effect on July 1, 2003 and 2002, respectively, as outlined in Exhibit 8. The determination of the Pension Benefit Obligation has been made in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices.

**C. Schedule of Contributions from Employers and other Contributing Entities - Disclosure Requirements under GASB No. 25**

Plan Year Ending	Annual Required Contributions*			Percentage Contributed
	School	State	Total	
June 30, 2003	\$ 84,438,915	\$ 15,520,794	\$ 99,959,709	100%
June 30, 2002	80,201,908	14,971,170	95,173,078	100%
June 30, 2001	77,062,239	14,451,658	91,513,897	100%
June 30, 2000	69,945,377	14,102,170	84,047,547	100%
June 30, 1999	69,983,866	27,637,589	97,621,455**	100%
June 30, 1998	65,135,713	13,511,201	78,646,914	100%
June 30, 1997	63,187,899	13,271,330	76,459,229	100%

\* Includes funding for the Excess Formula Annuity, the Service Annuity, supplemental funds, and Omaha appropriations.

\*\* Includes accrued School and State contributions of \$2,920,270 and \$13,882,513, respectively.

**D. Actuarial Assumptions, Method and Additional Information under GASB No. 25**

Valuation Date	June 30, 2003
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age
Amortization Method	Level dollar amount, closed
Amortization Period	25 years
Asset Valuation Method	5 year smoothing
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Investment rate of return*	8.0%
Projected salary increases*	4.5% - 9.1%
* Includes inflation at	3.5%
Cost-of-living adjustment	2.5% with a floor benefit equal to 75% purchasing power of original benefit

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**ACCOUNTING INFORMATION**

**E. Schedule of Funding Progress under GASB No. 25**

<b>Actuarial Valuation Date</b>	<b>Actuarial Value of Assets (a)</b>	<b>Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (b)</b>	<b>Unfunded Accrued Liabilities (UAL) (b-a)</b>	<b>Funded Ratio (a/b)</b>	<b>Covered Payroll (c)</b>	<b>UAL as a % of Covered Payroll [(b-a)/c]</b>
June 30, 2003	\$ 4,953,304,596	\$ 5,464,572,876	\$ 511,268,280	90.6%	\$ 1,138,776,241	44.9%
June 30, 2002	4,799,789,893	5,055,867,993	256,078,100	94.9%	1,065,515,857	24.0
June 30, 2001	1,486,008,665	1,704,201,512	218,192,847	87.2	995,348,331	21.9
June 30, 2000	1,348,542,467	1,526,061,507	177,519,040	88.4	933,339,432	19.0
June 30, 1999	1,129,546,860	1,345,494,742	215,947,882	84.0	893,801,152	24.2
June 30, 1998	892,780,966	865,412,669	(27,368,297)	103.2	882,963,179	(3.1)
June 30, 1997	742,015,212	771,343,623	29,328,411	96.2	853,842,959	3.4

The Schedule of Funding Progress prior to June 30, 2002 excluded liabilities and assets for the Excess Formula Annuity benefit because funding for this benefit was based on the Aggregate Actuarial Cost Method. As of June 30, 2002, per LB 407, the cost method was changed to the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method for the total Formula Annuity, and thus, from June 30, 2002 forward, the Schedule of Funding Progress under GASB No. 25 includes total liabilities and assets for the School Retirement System.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**SUMMARY OF MEMBER DATA**

<b>A. Active Members</b>	<b>July 1, 2002</b>	<b>July 1, 2003</b>
1. Number of Active Members		
(a) Before assumed retirement age	35,714	36,485
(b) Beyond assumed retirement age	<u>260</u>	<u>294</u>
(c) Total	35,974	36,779
2. Annual Considered Compensation*		
(a) Before assumed retirement age	\$ 1,123,295,414	\$ 1,200,135,565
(b) Beyond assumed retirement age	<u>3,447,905</u>	<u>4,009,364</u>
(c) Total	\$ 1,126,743,319	\$ 1,204,144,929
3. Accumulated Contributions	\$ 1,057,037,368	\$ 1,104,132,350
4. Active Member Averages		
(a) Age	45.3	45.5
(b) Service	11.7	11.6
(c) Compensation	\$ 31,321	\$ 32,740
(d) Accumulated Contributions	\$ 29,383	\$ 30,021
<b>B. Inactive Members</b>		
1. Number of inactive members	14,302	14,531
2. Accumulated member contributions	\$ 139,793,818	\$ 144,164,487
3. Inactive member averages		
(a) Age	50.4	50.7
(b) Accumulated member contributions	\$ 9,774	\$ 9,921
<b>C. Retired Members and Beneficiaries</b>		
1. Number of members		
(a) System retirees	11,360	11,837
(b) Omaha retirees	3	3
2. Annual benefits - regular		
(a) System retirees	\$ 120,709,781	\$ 134,743,457
(b) Omaha retirees	<u>3,319</u>	<u>3,319</u>
(c) Total	\$ 120,713,100	\$ 134,746,776
3. Annual benefits-supplemental		
(a) System retirees	\$ 10,083,770	\$ 9,539,610
(b) Omaha retirees	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
(c) Total	\$ 10,083,770	\$ 9,539,610

\*Prior year pay is increased by the salary scale for each member. Total prior year compensation for 2002 and 2003 was \$1,065,515,857 and \$1,138,776,241, respectively.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**SUMMARY OF MEMBER DATA**

**D. Distribution of Retired Members and Beneficiaries as of July 1, 2003**

Age Range	Number	Annual Benefit	Average Annual Benefit
59 & Under	791	\$ 19,637,158	\$ 24,826
60-64	1,779	34,342,161	19,304
65-69	2,489	35,986,149	14,458
70-74	2,426	25,874,827	10,666
75-79	1,718	15,198,603	8,847
80-84	1,237	7,802,649	6,308
85-89	804	3,332,520	4,145
90 & Over	593	2,109,000	3,556
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,837</b>	<b>\$ 144,283,067</b>	<b>12,189</b>

Does not include three Omaha retirees.

**E. Member Data Reconciliation**

	Active Members	Inactive Members			Total
		With Deferred Benefits	Terminated with Balance	Retired Members and Beneficiaries	
As of July 1, 2002	35,974	4,866	9,436	11,360	61,636
Changes in status					
a) Normal & early retirements	(625)	0	0	625	0
b) Became payable	0	(142)	(4)	146	0
c) Deaths	(37)	(14)	(19)	(503)	(573)
d) Nonvested terminations	(1,119)	0	1,119	0	0
e) Vested terminations	(554)	554	0	0	0
f) Contribution refunds	(837)	(203)	(1,251)	0	(2,291)
g) Beneficiaries in receipt	0	0	0	236	236
h) Disability retirements	(23)	0	0	23	0
i) Return to active service	472	(194)	(278)	0	0
j) Expired benefits	0	0	0	(67)	(67)
k) Data corrections	(1)	(54)	54	(4)	(5)
Total changes in status	(2,724)	(53)	(379)	456	(2,700)
New entrants					
a) Without prior service	3,023	0	214	0	3,237
b) With prior service	506	390*	57	24	977
Total new members	3,529	390	271	24	4,214
Net change	805	337	(108)	480	1,514
As of July 1, 2003	36,779	5,203	9,328	11,840	63,150

\*Includes 384 Omaha deferred vested members eligible for a service annuity benefit.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**SUMMARY OF MEMBER DATA**

**F. Reconciliation Between Data Submitted By NPERS and Valuation Data**

	Active Members	Inactive Members	Retired Members, Beneficiaries, and Disabled	Total
Number of Data Records Submitted By NPERS	36,818	14,164	11,898	62,880
Additions				
a) 2003 Active	-	3	-	3
c) 2002 Balance Only	-	16	-	16
d) 2002 Deferred Vested	-	5	-	5
Total Additions	-	24	-	24
Subtractions				
a) Also Listed as Deaths	(2)	-	(53)	(55)
b) Also Listed as Inactives or Retirees	(21)	(33)	-	(54)
c) Also Listed as Contribution Refunds	(2)	(8)	-	(61)
d) Benefits Expired	-	-	(8)	(8)
e) Not a member	(14)	-	-	(14)
Total Subtractions	(39)	(41)	(61)	(141)
Net change	(39)	(17)	(61)	(117)
Number of Members Included in the Valuation As of July 1, 2003	36,779	14,147	11,837	62,763

Does not include Omaha retirees or inactives.



**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**SUMMARY OF MEMBER DATA**

**G. Age and Service Distribution of Active Members as of July 1, 2003**

Age Last Birthday		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	Over 34	Total
15-19	Number	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54
	Total Salary	\$ 291,560	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 291,560
	Average Salary	\$ 5,399	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,399
20-24	Number	1,032	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,036
	Total Salary	\$ 19,156,454	\$ 71,014	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 19,227,468
	Average Salary	\$ 18,562	\$ 17,754	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 18,559
25-29	Number	2,398	643	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,041
	Total Salary	\$ 66,040,778	\$ 22,758,259	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 88,799,037
	Average Salary	\$ 27,540	\$ 35,394	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 29,201
30-34	Number	1,437	1,574	433	1	0	0	0	0	3,445
	Total Salary	\$ 32,561,417	\$ 58,217,032	\$ 18,237,209	\$ 9,435	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 109,025,093
	Average Salary	\$ 22,659	\$ 36,987	\$ 42,118	\$ 9,435	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 31,647
35-39	Number	1,521	791	1,126	401	1	0	0	0	3,840
	Total Salary	\$ 28,065,037	\$ 25,441,601	\$ 47,663,638	\$ 18,072,057	\$ 39,220	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 119,281,552
	Average Salary	\$ 18,452	\$ 32,164	\$ 42,330	\$ 45,067	\$ 39,220	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 31,063
40-44	Number	1,941	1,010	779	983	550	3	0	0	5,266
	Total Salary	\$ 34,157,216	\$ 26,674,834	\$ 29,286,454	\$ 44,595,044	\$ 26,035,482	\$ 107,865	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 160,856,896
	Average Salary	\$ 17,598	\$ 26,411	\$ 37,595	\$ 45,366	\$ 47,337	\$ 35,955	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 30,546
45-49	Number	1,512	1,034	905	666	1,020	753	2	0	5,892
	Total Salary	\$ 27,800,470	\$ 26,692,495	\$ 29,616,100	\$ 27,112,397	\$ 49,027,497	\$ 37,999,601	\$ 95,317	\$ 0	\$ 198,343,876
	Average Salary	\$ 18,387	\$ 25,815	\$ 32,725	\$ 40,709	\$ 48,066	\$ 50,464	\$ 47,658	\$ 0	\$ 33,663
50-54	Number	1,003	880	1,011	902	783	1,280	873	1	6,733
	Total Salary	\$ 18,792,269	\$ 22,530,702	\$ 32,937,375	\$ 35,546,197	\$ 35,344,740	\$ 66,313,382	\$ 47,042,044	\$ 104,951	\$ 258,611,660
	Average Salary	\$ 18,736	\$ 25,603	\$ 32,579	\$ 39,408	\$ 45,140	\$ 51,807	\$ 53,886	\$ 104,951	\$ 38,410
55-59	Number	697	486	617	655	620	575	635	226	4,511
	Total Salary	\$ 13,263,371	\$ 12,508,735	\$ 19,914,431	\$ 24,460,084	\$ 25,119,388	\$ 27,899,700	\$ 35,153,378	\$ 12,458,336	\$ 170,777,422
	Average Salary	\$ 19,029	\$ 25,738	\$ 32,276	\$ 37,344	\$ 40,515	\$ 48,521	\$ 55,360	\$ 55,125	\$ 37,858
60-64	Number	416	241	268	321	311	200	97	161	2,015
	Total Salary	\$ 6,470,450	\$ 5,119,219	\$ 7,054,078	\$ 9,797,580	\$ 11,357,477	\$ 8,301,879	\$ 4,894,197	\$ 9,161,040	\$ 62,155,920
	Average Salary	\$ 15,554	\$ 21,242	\$ 26,321	\$ 30,522	\$ 36,519	\$ 41,509	\$ 50,456	\$ 56,901	\$ 30,847
65-69	Number	383	179	116	120	59	43	19	27	946
	Total Salary	\$ 4,582,271	\$ 2,670,407	\$ 2,395,217	\$ 2,579,898	\$ 1,268,907	\$ 1,260,145	\$ 867,465	\$ 1,150,137	\$ 16,774,447
	Average Salary	\$ 11,964	\$ 14,918	\$ 20,648	\$ 21,499	\$ 21,507	\$ 29,306	\$ 45,656	\$ 42,598	\$ 17,732
TOTAL	Number	12,394	6,842	5,255	4,049	3,344	2,854	1,626	415	36,779
	Total Salary	\$ 251,181,292	\$ 202,684,298	\$ 187,104,500	\$ 162,172,693	\$ 148,192,710	\$ 141,882,573	\$ 88,052,400	\$ 22,874,464	\$ 1,204,144,929
	Average Salary	\$ 193,880	\$ 262,025	\$ 266,593	\$ 269,352	\$ 278,304	\$ 257,563	\$ 253,015	\$ 259,575	\$ 32,740

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**FORECAST OF EXPECTED DISBURSEMENTS**

Plan Year Ending June 30	Active Employees	Retired and Disabled Members and Beneficiaries	Total
2004	\$ 14,695,664	\$ 151,527,791	\$ 166,223,455
2005	34,471,579	153,209,637	187,681,216
2006	56,642,630	155,069,288	211,711,918
2007	81,536,602	156,590,260	238,126,862
2008	109,350,711	158,083,799	267,434,510
2009	140,426,462	158,934,534	299,360,996
2010	174,055,815	159,938,196	333,994,011
2011	209,625,103	160,798,818	370,423,921
2012	247,636,872	161,322,719	408,959,591
2013	287,408,605	160,864,259	448,272,864
2014	\$ 328,982,351	\$ 159,835,789	\$ 488,818,140
2015	371,164,777	158,654,787	529,819,564
2016	413,125,531	157,222,616	570,348,147
2017	454,794,542	155,319,893	610,114,435
2018	496,657,082	152,944,894	649,601,976
2019	539,113,102	150,600,835	689,713,937
2020	581,779,125	148,144,869	729,923,994
2021	624,120,526	145,217,463	769,337,989
2022	667,099,817	141,945,873	809,045,690
2023	710,185,192	138,164,226	848,349,418
2024	\$ 752,323,504	\$ 133,869,841	\$ 886,193,345
2025	793,747,076	129,062,120	922,809,196
2026	833,725,711	123,912,337	957,638,048
2027	873,120,001	118,301,646	991,421,647
2028	911,454,237	112,272,170	1,023,726,407
2029	949,423,928	105,995,510	1,055,419,438
2030	987,267,796	99,574,854	1,086,842,650
2031	1,022,826,948	92,885,528	1,115,712,476
2032	1,058,107,547	86,097,010	1,144,204,557
2033	1,094,232,645	79,176,782	1,173,409,427

**Note:** These amounts exclude distributions for vested inactive members eligible to receive future benefit payments. Benefit amounts for these members have not yet been determined.



**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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***SUMMARY OF PLAN PROVISIONS***

<b>Member</b>	Any person employed by a public school 15 or more hours per week and age 21 by August 15 preceding the school year shall be a member of the system. Employees at the date of establishment could have elected not to participate, and those covered under another system do not participate.
<b>Participation Date</b>	Date of becoming a member.
<b>Definitions</b>	
Final average earnings	The average of the highest three fiscal years after July 1, 1968 of pensionable pay during the period ending on the earlier of the participant's termination date or retirement date. For employees who become a member on or after July 1, 1996, earnings will be capped at the maximum earnings defined in Code 401(a)(17).
Fiscal year	Twelve month period ending June 30.
Member contributions	As of July 1, 2003, members contribute at a rate equal to 7.25% of pensionable pay. The School Districts contribute at a rate equal to 101% of the members' rate, or 7.32% of pensionable pay. Such contributions are credited with interest in accordance with State Statutes.
Monthly pension benefit	The greater of (1) or (2). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Amount: A monthly benefit equal to the sum of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) A savings annuity which is the actuarial equivalent of the member's accumulated contributions, and</li> <li>(b) A service annuity equal to \$3.50 per year of service.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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**SUMMARY OF PLAN PROVISIONS**

- (2) Amount: Members employed by a class I, II, III, IV, or VI School District may receive a formula annuity. The formula annuity is a monthly amount equal to the product of 2.00% of final average earnings times total years of service for those members who are employed on or after July 1, 2001.

To receive this benefit, retirement must occur after meeting the Rule of 85 requirements (minimum age 55) or attaining age 65.

An automatic annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) equal to the CPI-W index, with a maximum increase of 2.5% in any one year is provided for current and future retirees. Also provided is a minimum floor benefit equal to 75% of the purchasing power of the original benefit.

Normal Retirement Date (NRD)	First of month coinciding with or next following the attainment of age 65.
Service	Length of service includes all service as a school employee for which contributions have been made. This service only includes years for which the member was employed on at least a half-time basis, and includes declared emergency service in the armed forces, provided certain conditions are met. Special provisions allow credit for service prior to 1945 and for up to ten years of service in another State upon payment of the actuarial cost of the additional benefit granted.
Pensionable pay	Gross earnings subject to contributions.

**Eligibility for Benefits**

Deferred vested	Termination for reasons other than death or disability retirement after completing five years of service.
Disability retirement	Retirement by reason of disability.
Early retirement	Retirement before NRD and on or after both attaining age 60 and completing five years of service, or attaining 35 years of service regardless of age, or attaining age 55 and age plus service equals at least 85 (Rule of 85).
Normal retirement	Retire on NRD.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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**SUMMARY OF PLAN PROVISIONS**

Postponed retirement	Retire after NRD.
Pre-retirement spouse benefit	Death prior to retirement.

**Monthly Benefits Paid Upon the Following Events**

Normal retirement	Monthly pension benefit determined as of NRD.
Early retirement	Monthly pension benefit determined as of early retirement date, reduced by 3% for each year that commencement of payment precedes age 65 (member must be age 60 with five years of service). Unreduced benefits are available to members who have attained age 55 and whose age plus service is greater than or equal to 85. Benefits payable upon retirement prior to age 60 (based on the 35 year service rule) are actuarially reduced from age 65.
Postponed retirement	Monthly pension benefit determined as of actual retirement date.
Termination with deferred vested benefit	Monthly pension benefit determined as of termination date, reduced by 3% for each year that commencement of payment precedes age 65 (Early Commencement requires attainment of age 60).
Disability retirement	Monthly pension benefit determined as of disability retirement date.
Death with pre-retirement benefits	Survivor portion of 100% Joint and Survivor Annuity paid to spouse assuming retirement by member at death if the member is age 65 or has 20 years of service at death. If the member has met the 5-year vesting service requirement, has less than 20 years of service and is under age 65, the spouse may choose between the following two options:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) a lump sum equal to the member's contributions with interest plus 101% of the member's contributions with interest, and</li><li>(2) an annuity which equals the survivor portion of the 100% Joint and Survivor value of the member's accrued benefit, payable immediately, reduced for commencement before age 65 and the 100% joint and survivor form of payment.</li></ol>

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**  
**SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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***SUMMARY OF PLAN PROVISIONS***

Forms of payment	Pre-retirement death benefits are payable only as described above.  Monthly pension benefits are paid under the form of payment elected by the retiree at retirement. Payment forms include: life annuity, five year certain and life annuity, 100% joint and survivor annuity (spouse only), 10-year certain and life annuity, 15-year certain and life annuity, or a modified cash refund annuity.
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**Funding Arrangement**

Pursuant to LB 407 enacted in 2002, the School Retirement Fund is created. Balances existing on June 30, 2002 in the School Employers Deposit Account, the School Employees Savings Account, the Service Annuity Account, the Annuity Reserve Account, and the School Employees Retirement System Reserve Fund (RSRF) shall be combined and transferred into the School Retirement Fund.

There are four funds established in the State Treasury, which receive monies and pay the expenses and benefits of the retirement system, as follows:

1. School Retirement Fund – receives required deposits of the employers, the State, and employees. Upon retirement, the fund pays all savings annuities, service annuities, and formula annuities.
2. Contingent Account - receives all interest, dividends, and miscellaneous income, pays all regular interest allocated to the other accounts or funds, and meets any deficiencies occurring in the other accounts or funds.
3. Expense Fund - pays all expenses connected with the operation and administration of the system, and receives annual contributions to cover anticipated expenses.
4. Retired Teachers Supplementary Benefits Fund - pays certain supplemental benefits.

***NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS***  
***SCHOOL SYSTEM***

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***SUMMARY OF PLAN PROVISIONS***

**State Appropriation**

LB 700, passed in 1996, established a separate fund to provide for cost-of-living benefit adjustments to members ceasing employment on or after April 10, 1996. The COLA increases are 0.3% per year, beginning six years after retirement. This benefit is funded by State contributions. Beginning with the 1996-97 fiscal year, the funding shall be 81.7873% of \$6,895,000 or \$5,639,235 annually, for each year through the 2010-11 fiscal year.

**Benefits Reflected in Valuation**

All benefits were valued, including future cost-of-living increases as provided for by LB 674 and LB 711.

**Plan Provisions Effective after July 1, 2003**

No future changes in plan provisions were recognized in determining the GASB 25 funded status and in determining the actuarial soundness of statutory contribution levels.

**Changes in Plan Provisions since Prior Year**

There have been no changes in plan provisions since the July 1, 2002 valuation.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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***SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL METHODS AND PROCEDURES AS OF JULY 1, 2003***

**A. ACTUARIAL METHODS**

- 1. Calculation of Normal Cost and Actuarial Accrued Liability:** The method used to determine the normal cost and actuarial accrued liability was the Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method described below.

**Entry Age Actuarial Cost Method**

Projected pension and preretirement spouse's death benefits were determined for all active members under age 70. Cost factors designed to produce annual costs as a constant percentage of each member's expected compensation in each year from the assumed entry age to the assumed retirement age were applied to the projected benefits to determine the normal cost (the portion of the total cost of the plan allocated to the current year under the method). The normal cost is determined by summing intermediate results for active members under age 70 and determining an average normal cost rate which is then related to the total payroll of active members under age 70. The actuarial assumptions shown in Exhibit 10 were used in determining the projected benefits and cost factors. The actuarial accrued liability for active members (the portion of the total cost of the plan allocated to prior years under the method) was determined as the excess of the actuarial present value of projected benefits over the actuarial present value of future normal costs.

The actuarial accrued liability for retired members and their beneficiaries currently receiving benefits, active members age 70 and over, terminated vested members and disabled members not yet receiving benefits was determined as the actuarial present value of the benefits expected to be paid. No normal costs are now payable for these members.

The actuarial accrued liability under this method at any point in time is the theoretical amount of the fund that would have been accumulated had annual contributions equal to the normal cost been made in prior years (it does not represent the liability for benefits accrued to the valuation date). The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is the excess of the actuarial accrued liability over the actuarial value of plan assets measured on the valuation date. The initial unfunded actuarial accrued liability established July 1, 2002 is amortized with a level dollar payment amount over 25 years. At subsequent valuation dates, amortization bases equal to changes in the unfunded actuarial accrued liability are established and amortized with a level dollar payment over a 25-year period. If the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is \$0 or less on the valuation date, all previous amortization bases are considered fully amortized.

Under this method, experience gains or losses, i.e., decreases or increases in accrued liabilities attributable to deviations in experience from the actuarial assumptions, adjust the unfunded actuarial accrued liability.

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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***SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL METHODS AND PROCEDURES AS OF JULY 1, 2003***

- 2. Calculation of the Actuarial Value of Assets:** The actuarial value of assets is based on a five-year smoothing method and is determined by spreading the effect of each year's investment return in excess of or below the expected return. The Market Value of assets at the valuation date is reduced by the sum of the following:
- (i) 80% of the return to be spread during the first year preceding the valuation date.
  - (ii) 60% of the return to be spread during the second year preceding the valuation date.
  - (iii) 40% of the return to be spread during the third year preceding the valuation date.
  - (iv) 20% of the return to be spread during the fourth year preceding the valuation date.

The return to be spread is the difference between (1) the actual investment return on Market Value and (2) the expected return on Actuarial Value. The Actuarial Value is determined using the total assets of the System, and is then allocated on a pro-rata basis to each reserve fund and account using Market Value. Effective July 1, 2000, the expected return on Actuarial Value includes interest on the previous year's unrecognized return.

- 3. Calculation of Pension Benefit Obligation:** The method used to determine the Pension Benefit Obligation was the Projected Unit Credit Actuarial Cost Method without service proration. Under this method, the benefit is based on salary projected to assumed termination or retirement and service as of the valuation date.

***NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM***

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***SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL METHODS AND PROCEDURES AS OF JULY 1, 2003***

**B. VALUATION PROCEDURES**

No actuarial liability is included for participants who terminated without being vested prior to the valuation date, except those due a refund of contributions.

The compensation amounts used in the projection of benefits and liabilities for active members were prior plan year compensations increased one year with the salary scale.

In computing accrued benefits, average compensation was determined by applying the salary scale assumption to most recent compensation to construct any missing salary history.

Projected benefits were limited by the dollar limitation required by the Internal Revenue Code Section 415 as it applies to governmental plans and compensation limited by Section 401(a)(17).

There were approximately 241 active participants with missing dates of birth and gender codes. They were assumed to be age 33 (the average entry age for the group as a whole) and gender codes were randomly assigned in the ratio 75% female/25% male.



**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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***SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AS OF JULY 1, 2003***

**ECONOMIC ASSUMPTIONS**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Investment Return | 8% per annum, compounded annually, net of expenses. |
| 2. Inflation         | 3.5% per annum, compounded annually.                |
| 3. Salary Increases  | Rates vary by age.<br>Sample ages are as follows:   |

Age	Rate
25	9.10%
30	8.00%
35	7.10%
40	6.40%
45	5.80%
50	5.30%
55	5.00%
60	4.70%
65+	4.50%

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 4. Interest on Employee Contributions | 5.5% per annum, compounded annually. |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|

**DEMOGRAPHIC ASSUMPTIONS**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Mortality  |  |
| a. Healthy lives - active and retired members and beneficiaries | 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table, with two year setback. |
| b. Disabled lives   | 1971 Group Annuity Mortality Table, without setback.       |

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AS OF JULY 1, 2003**

c. Mortality rates under the mortality tables are shown below at sample ages:

Sample Age	Mortality Rate			
	Healthy Members		Disabled Members	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
30	.08%	.03%	.08%	.05%
40	.09	.06	.16	.09
50	.21	.12	.53	.22
60	.63	.34	1.31	.55
70	1.99	1.18	3.61	1.65
80	5.02	3.17	8.74	5.61

d. Life expectancies under the mortality tables are shown below at sample ages:

Sample Age	Life Expectancy (Years)			
	Healthy Members		Disabled Members	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
30	51.7	56.2	45.6	51.0
40	42.1	46.4	36.0	41.3
50	32.5	36.8	26.9	31.8
60	23.5	27.4	18.8	23.5
70	15.7	18.9	11.9	15.3
80	9.4	11.6	7.0	8.9

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**  
**SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AS OF JULY 1, 2003**

2. Retirement:

Rates vary by age and eligibility for benefits.  
Rates are as follows:

<b>Retirement Rates When Eligible for Unreduced Benefits</b>		
<b>Age</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
55	20%	20%
56	20%	20%
57	22%	22%
58	25%	25%
59	28%	28%
60	35%	35%
61	30%	30%
62	40%	40%
63	30%	30%
64	30%	30%
65	35%	35%
66	25%	25%
67	20%	20%
68	20%	20%
69	20%	20%
70	100%	100%

<b>Retirement Rates When Eligible for Reduced Benefits</b>		
<b>Age</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
60	6%	6%
61	6%	6%
62	18%	18%
63	14%	14%
64	10%	10%

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

**SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AS OF JULY 1, 2003**

3. Termination:

Rates vary by age and service, and are derived by taking the product of the select multiplier and the ultimate rate. Select multipliers are applied by service and ultimate rates are applied by age. Sample rates are as follows:

<b>Select Multipliers by Service:</b>	
<b>Years of Service</b>	<b>Multiplier</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	2.00
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1.50
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1.25
4 <sup>th</sup> or more	1.00

<b>Ultimate Rates by Age</b>		
<b>Age</b>	<b>Rate</b>	
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
25	11.4%	14.2%
30	9.4%	11.7%
35	7.5%	9.4%
40	5.7%	7.1%
45	4.7%	5.9%
50	4.5%	5.7%
55	5.0%	6.2%
60	15.5%	19.4%

4. Disability:

Rates vary by age. Sample rates are as follows:

<b>Age</b>	<b>Rate</b>
25	.00%
30	.00%
35	.06%
40	.06%
45	.12%
50	.18%
55	.27%
60	.36%

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEMS  
SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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***SUMMARY OF ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS AS OF JULY 1, 2003***

**OTHER ASSUMPTIONS**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Form of Payment:                             | Service annuity - Life annuity<br>Formula annuity - Five year certain and life annuity.  |
| 2. Marital Status                               |  |
| a. Percent married                              | 85% married  |
| b. Spouse's age                                 | Females assumed to be three years younger than males.  |
| 3. Administrative Expense                       | Investment return is assumed to be net of expenses.  |
| 4. Commencement age for deferred vested benefit | Age 62.  |
| 5. Cost of Living Adjustment                    | Service annuity – none<br>Formula annuity – 2.5% per annum, compounded annually, and 3.5% per annum, compounded annually, after reaching 75% purchasing power floor benefit. |

NOTE: There have been no changes in the actuarial assumptions since the last actuarial valuation of the system as of July 1, 2002.