

Supporting The People Who Support Ohio

MGR. DIVERSITY PROGRAMS

PATROL SERGEANT

SOCIAL WORKER 3

FIRE SECRETARY

SANITARIAN II

PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER

AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC

"I AM OPERS"

BRIDGE DESIGN ENGINEER

INSURANCE INVESTMENT OFFICER 2

RADIOLOGY SECRETARY

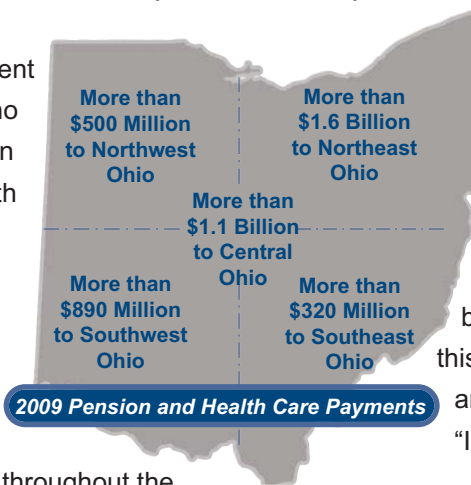
PLANT UTILITY WORKER

UNIV. LAW ENF

TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

Who Is OPERS?

The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) plays a critical role in supporting and sustaining the state of Ohio. Since 1935, OPERS has meant security and peace of mind to millions of Ohio's retired public workers and their families. OPERS is the fiduciary to hundreds of thousands of current public workers who await their pension benefits and health care coverage. OPERS is a catalyst to Ohio's economy infusing billions of dollars in the form of benefit payments throughout the state. For the state's taxpayers, OPERS is a return on investment more than doubling every dollar of their contributions. To thousands of employers, OPERS provides fundamental incentives attracting quality employees. For thousands of Ohioans, the system is the promise of hope in the form of employment by creating numerous job opportunities.



OPERS is people – members, employers and benefit recipients. OPERS is mechanics, bridge designers, social workers, investment officers, plant utility workers and judges. OPERS is public employers from Mercer County to Jefferson County and Ashtabula County to Lawrence County. OPERS is benefit recipients living in places from Geneva-on-the-Lake to Athens and everywhere in between. All around this great state, there are Ohioans who say, “I am OPERS.”

OPERS is more than 970,000 past and present Ohio workers. Including 356,734 active (working) members, 179,565 benefit recipients and 438,434 former public workers who maintain an account with the system.

Who Is OPERS?

OPERS is 3,699 public employers throughout the state. It is hospitals, health departments and the House of Representatives. It's corrections centers, commissions and counties. OPERS employers include the state, universities, municipalities, townships and villages.

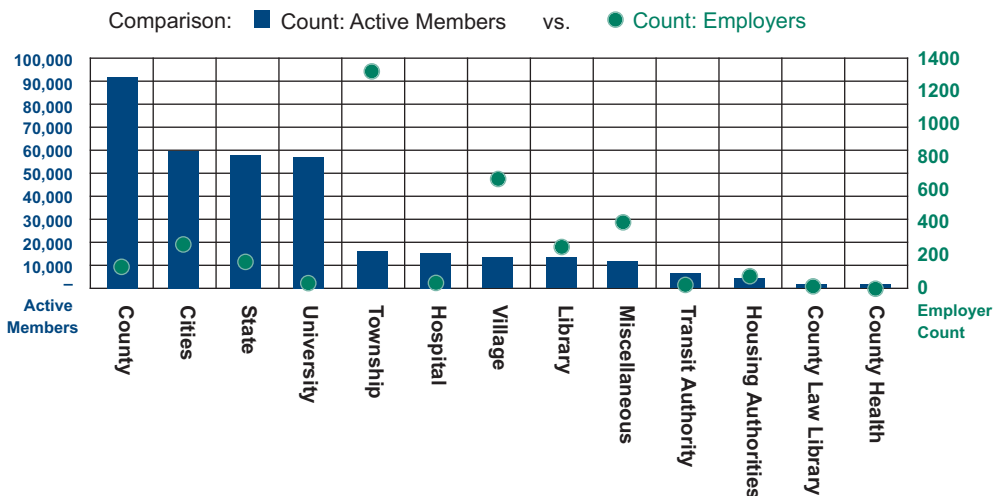
Essential Incentives For Public Employers

OPERS is the primary incentive to attract and retain workers for essential public services. Retention of experienced and trained personnel in public positions is critical to the continuous and reliable delivery of these services.

The promise of post employment benefits also helps to compensate for the fact that public employees historically have earned less than their private sector counterparts.

Retirement Security For Public Workers

OPERS was established by the state legislature before Social Security was created and Ohio public employees do not pay into Social Security. Without OPERS, many retirees would not have an income and their only option for health care coverage would be Medicare. As a result, OPERS takes a substantial burden off Ohio's social welfare system.





Allen Foster
Process Manager
Member since 2001



Kelvin Haire
OSU Archives librarian
Member since 2002

Who Is The Average OPERS Member?

Average plan entry age	32
Average age of an active member	43
Average current service credit balance	10
Average annual wage	\$35,848
Average FAS (Final Average Salary)	\$34,603

Rose Babington
OSU Admissions Counselor
Member since 2005



Rosie Drake
Became member in 1978
Retired 2008





Gary Bourquin

Franklin County Sherriff's Department – S.W.A.T. team
Member since 1998



Venkata Kosaraju

Lead Database Administrator
Member since 2002

Who Is The Average OPERS Retiree?

Average plan entry age	35
Average attained age at retirement	57.3
Average service credit at retirement	22
Average annual pension benefit	\$22,078
Projected monthly pension benefit	\$1,840

Dave Lippert

Became member in 1973
Retired 2007



Tricia Lynn Zeiser

Senior Library Technician –
King Library, Miami University
Member since 2005



OPERS Is Good For Ohio

In 2010, OPERS paid \$5.5 billion in pension benefits and health care coverage to 179,565 retired Ohioans and their beneficiaries. Nearly 90 percent of those retirees live in Ohio spending the vast majority of that money on goods and services in-state thereby providing a stable foundation for the Ohio economy. The parallels drawn from recent studies suggest the spending

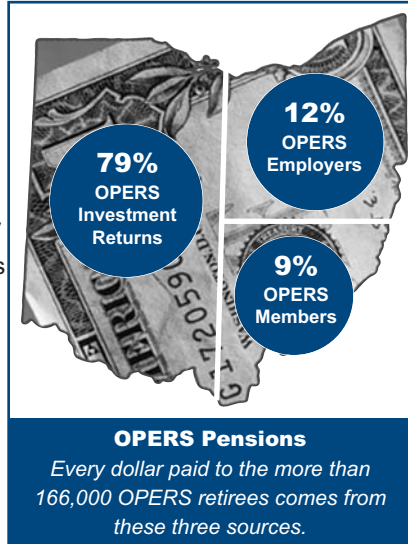
in 2010 had a potential impact on more than 50,000 jobs in Ohio.

For every \$1 of taxpayer contribution to OPERS, investments and employee contributions, plus other sources of revenue return \$3.06 back into the Ohio economy. As these dollars ripple through the economy they generate additional economic activity and have an even greater impact.

Through the creation of, and investment in, the Ohio-Midwest Fund, a regional investment program focusing on private

equity funds with strong economic ties to Ohio and the Midwest region, OPERS has impacted more than 2,800 jobs and generated more than \$160 million of investments in Ohio companies. The Fund totals \$102 million with \$72 million of that money currently invested in 12 private equity funds, all of which have ties to Ohio and the Midwest region.

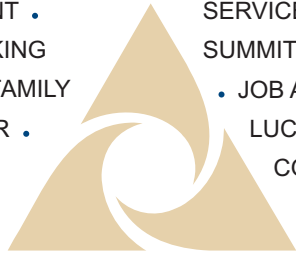
OPERS receives money from three main sources (2010 figures):



- Employee (member) contributions – \$1.4 billion
- Employer (taxpayer) contributions – \$1.8 billion
- Return on investments: 13.9 percent – Historically, three-quarters of the income is from investments while employee and employer contributions make up the remainder.
- In 2010, employer contributions accounted for 14 percent of the revenues from which OPERS pension benefits and health care expenses were paid.

OPERS At-A-Glance

FULL TIME BUS OPERATOR . MEMBER SERVICE REP . GROUNDS FACILITIES WORKER . FIRE SECRETARY . HEAD CASHIER . HEALTH RESEARCH ASSOCIATE . HIGHWAY TECHNICIAN . HOUSING INSPECTOR . SEWER INSPECTION TECHNICIAN . INSURANCE INVESTMENT OFFICER . INSTRUCTOR ASSISTANT . ACCOUNTANT I . WORKING FOREMAN . JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES SUPERVISOR . JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER . LEAD MRI TECHNOLOGIST . LIBRARY ASSISTANT . LIEUTENANT/PATROL OFFICER . SOCIAL WORKER . PLANT UTILITY WORKER . MANAGEMENT SECRETARY . SUPERVISOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES . MANAGER REFERENCE . MAPPING SUPERVISOR . MASTER EQUIPMENT OPERATOR . MEDICAL RECORDS TRANSCRIPTIONIST . MEDICAL STAFF COORDINATOR . MANAGER DIVERSITY PROGRAMS . MANAGER OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS . WATER PIPE REPAIRMAN . TAX COMMISSIONER AGENT . TURF MAINTENANCE WORKER . DEPUTY AUDITOR-REAL ESTATE



OPERS

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY . CUYAHOGA COUNTY . CITY OF COLUMBUS . FRANKLIN COUNTY . UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI . METRO HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER . CITY OF CLEVELAND . CUYAHOGA COUNTY . MONTGOMERY COUNTY . DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION AND FAMILY SERVICES . HAMILTON COUNTY . SUMMIT COUNTY . OHIO UNIVERSITY . JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES . LUCAS COUNTY . STARK COUNTY . LAKE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY . YOUNGSTOWN METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY . RICHLAND COUNTY . ST CLAIRSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY . STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM . LAKE METRO PARKS . COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION . SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM . OHIO POLICE AND FIRE PENSION FUND . SOUTH CENTRAL AMBULANCE DISTRICT . COLUMBIANA COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY . OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL RET SYSTEM . SPRINGFIELD TWP . LUCAS COUNTY . PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTH . VILLAGE OF COOLVILLE . ATHENS COUNTY

OPERS At-A-Glance

- OPERS offers three retirement plans that provide retirement benefits for most of Ohio's public employees (members). Two of these three plans provide survivor and disability benefits as well as health care coverage.
- OPERS serves more than 356,000 active members working for nearly 3,700 public employers.
- OPERS serves more than 438,000 inactive members, former public employees, who maintain an account with OPERS.
- Over 179,565 benefit recipients, disability recipients and surviving beneficiaries are receiving monthly benefits from OPERS.
- OPERS expects to pay benefits to 225,000 benefit recipients in 10 years and 280,000 by the year 2023.
- OPERS-covered employers include the state, counties, townships, municipal corporations and villages, as well as state colleges and universities.
- The 11-member OPERS Board of Trustees serves in a fiduciary role over the retirement system.
- Over the past 30 years OPERS' average annual investment returns have outpaced our current assumed actuarial rate of return. OPERS uses an interest rate of 8 percent to discount future liabilities. For the past three decades OPERS' investments have returned an average gain of 8.99 percent. That includes 2008, when we experienced one of the worst recessions in U.S. history.
- Historically, three-quarters of OPERS' revenue, from which benefits are paid, is derived from investment returns. The remaining one-quarter of the revenue is made from employee and employer contributions.
- Public employee pensions are fairly modest. The average annual benefit for an OPERS member retiring in 2010 was \$26,281. The average age for a new service retiree in 2010 was 60.
- Ohio is a non-Social Security state. Public employees do not pay into Social Security and without OPERS many public employees would not receive a retirement benefit.

OPERS supports nearly one million Ohioans and their families.



Ohio Public Employees
Retirement System
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www.opers.org