



# Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Kentucky

## KRTA Annual Convention



**April 22, 2025**

**Gary L. Harbin, CPA**  
Executive Secretary

# Doing It Right

## What That Means at TRS



Providing security for Kentucky's retired teachers using a long-term investing process proven and refined over decades to achieve top returns on investments at the lowest costs.



# Board of Trustees

## Fiduciaries of TRS



**BRENDA  
MCGOWN**  
*Chair, Bowling Green*



**BEN  
LITTLEPAGE, Ed.D**  
*Vice Chair, Murray*



**PAUL  
BRUCE**  
*Louisville*



**WILLIAM  
CRAWFORD**  
*Louisville*



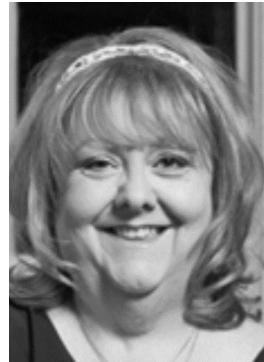
**ROBBIE  
FLETCHER**  
*Education Commissioner*



**HOLLIS  
GRITTON**  
*Union*



**MARK  
METCALF**  
*State Treasurer*



**LAURA  
SCHNEIDER**  
*Walton*



**LOUIS  
STRAUB**  
*Louisville*



**JOSH  
UNDERWOOD**  
*Tollesboro*

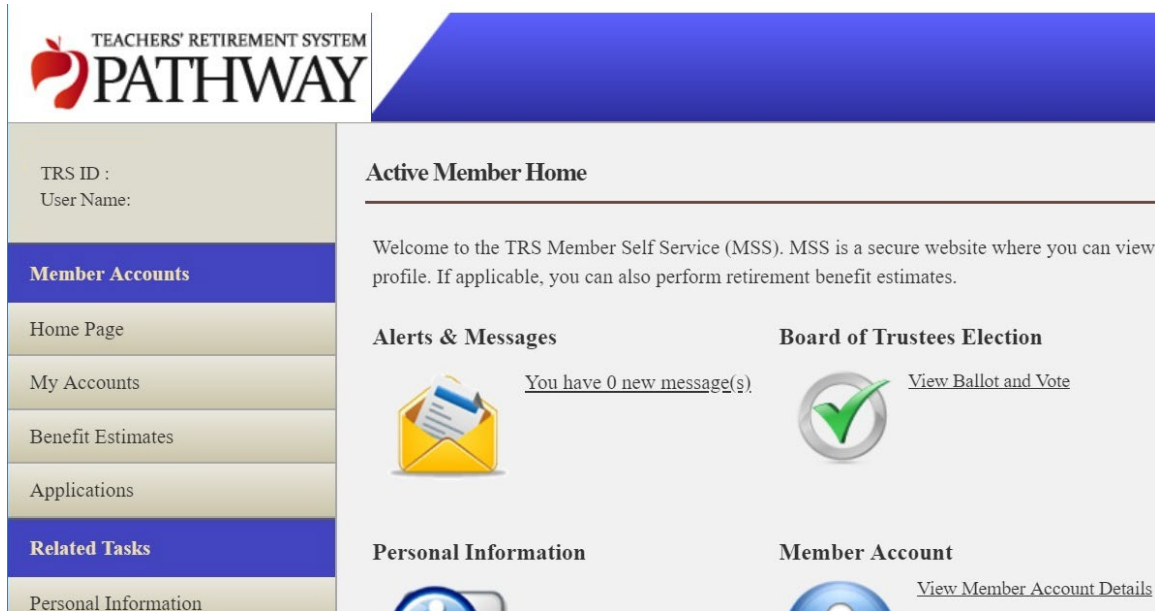


**ALISON  
WRIGHT**  
*Georgetown*

# Trustee Elections Each Spring

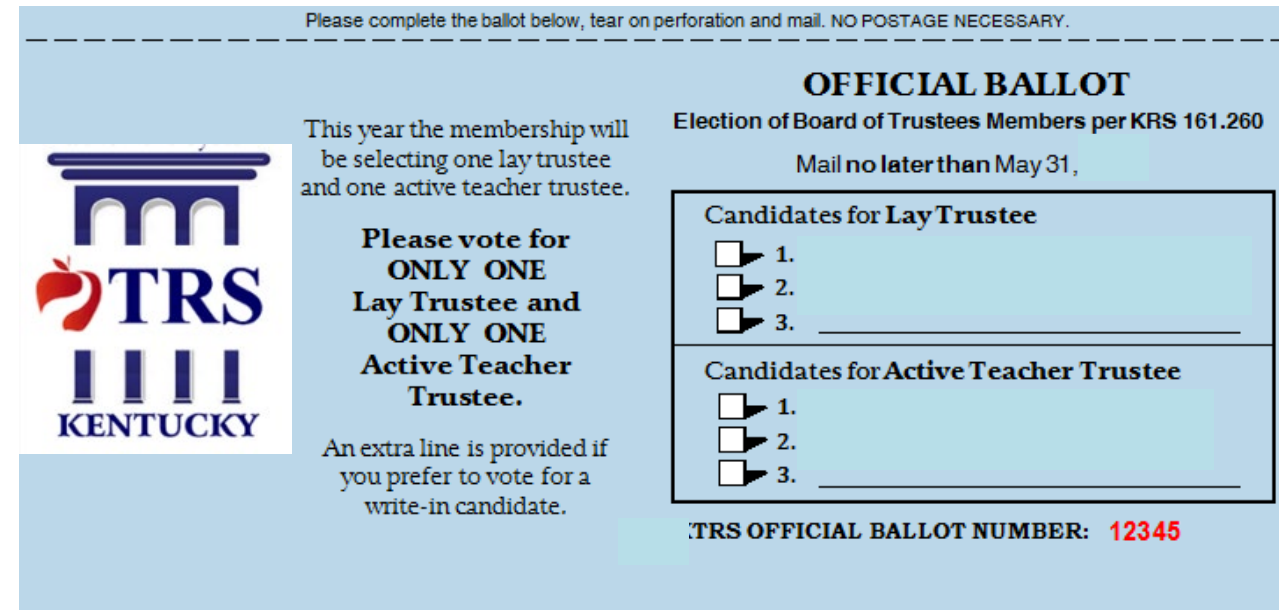
## By Pathway or Paper

### April



The screenshot shows the TRS Pathway website interface. At the top left is the logo for the Teachers' Retirement System Pathway. Below it is a login section with fields for TRS ID and User Name. A navigation menu on the left includes links for Member Accounts, Home Page, My Accounts, Benefit Estimates, Applications, Related Tasks, and Personal Information. The main content area is titled 'Active Member Home' and contains a welcome message, a section for Alerts & Messages (showing 0 new messages), a section for the Board of Trustees Election with a 'View Ballot and Vote' link, and a section for Member Account with a 'View Member Account Details' link.

### May



The screenshot shows the TRS Official Ballot form. At the top, it says 'Please complete the ballot below, tear on perforation and mail. NO POSTAGE NECESSARY.' The form is titled 'OFFICIAL BALLOT' and 'Election of Board of Trustees Members per KRS 161.260'. It instructs members to mail the ballot no later than May 31. The ballot is for the year when the membership will be selecting one lay trustee and one active teacher trustee. It asks members to vote for ONLY ONE Lay Trustee and ONLY ONE Active Teacher Trustee. There are two sections for candidates: 'Candidates for Lay Trustee' and 'Candidates for Active Teacher Trustee', each with three numbered lines and checkboxes. An extra line is provided for a write-in candidate. The TRS logo is on the left. At the bottom, it says 'TRS OFFICIAL BALLOT NUMBER: 12345'.

All contributing members and retirees have the privilege to vote.





# This Year's Elections

## Active Teacher Trustee



**Laura Schneider**



**Darrell Dixon**

## Retired Teacher Trustee



**Brenda McGown**



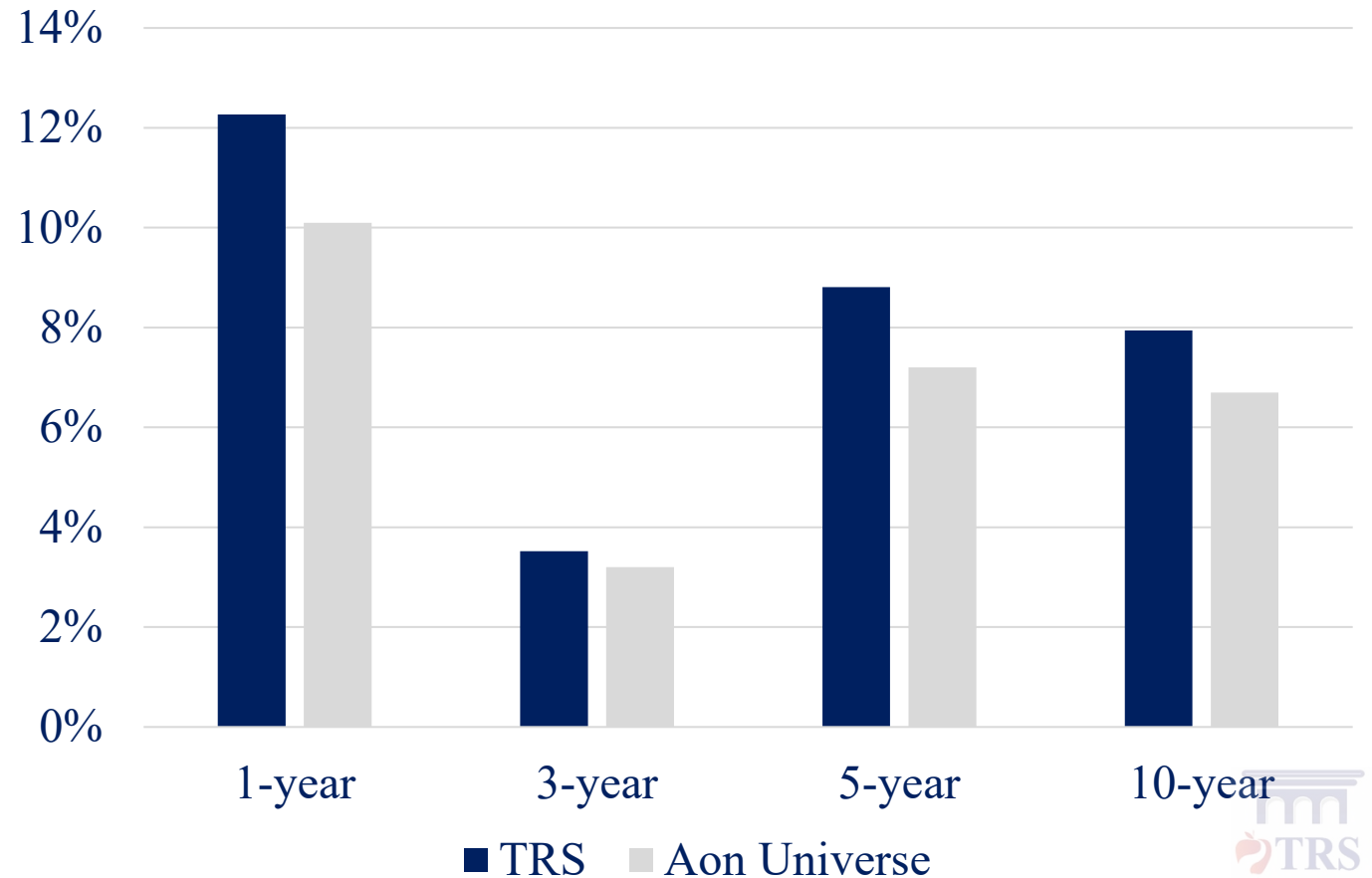
**Michelle Porter**

# Investment Performance

## Retirement Annuity Trust Gross Returns as of June 30, 2024

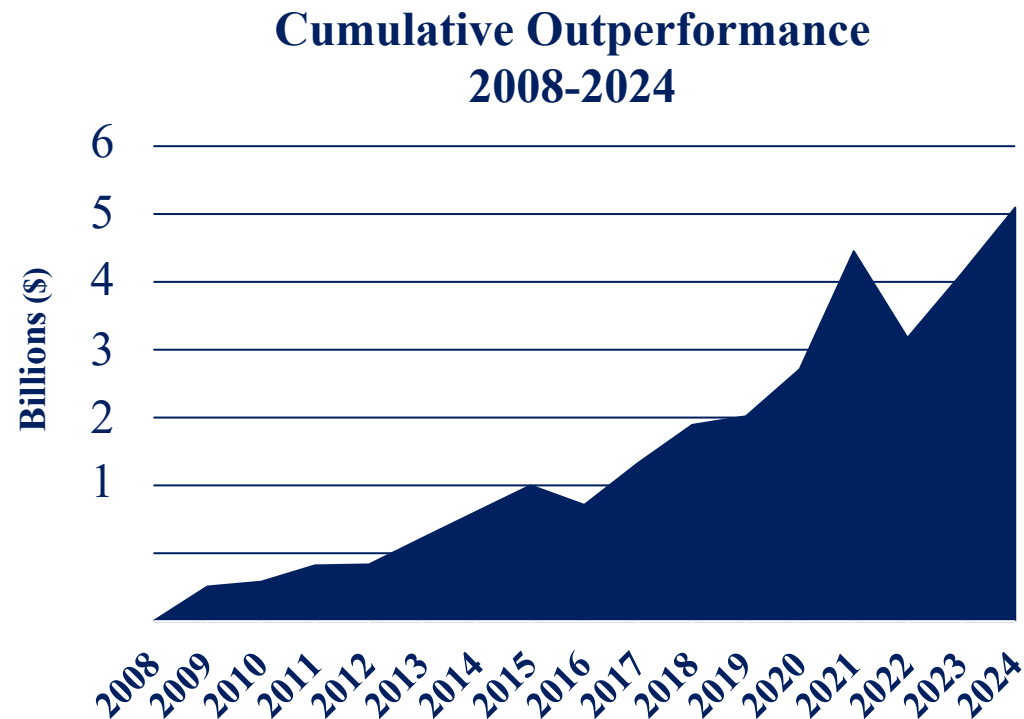
	TRS	Aon Rank
1-year	12.27%	Top 10%
3-year	3.52%	Top 41%
5-year	8.81%	Top 12%
10-year	7.94%	Top 8%
20-year	7.57%	N/A

30-year compounded  
8.1%



# Investment Performance

## TRS vs. Average Retirement Plan



From 2008 to June 2024, TRS investment returns resulted in net assets of \$26.1 billion, compared to the average plan's \$20 billion.

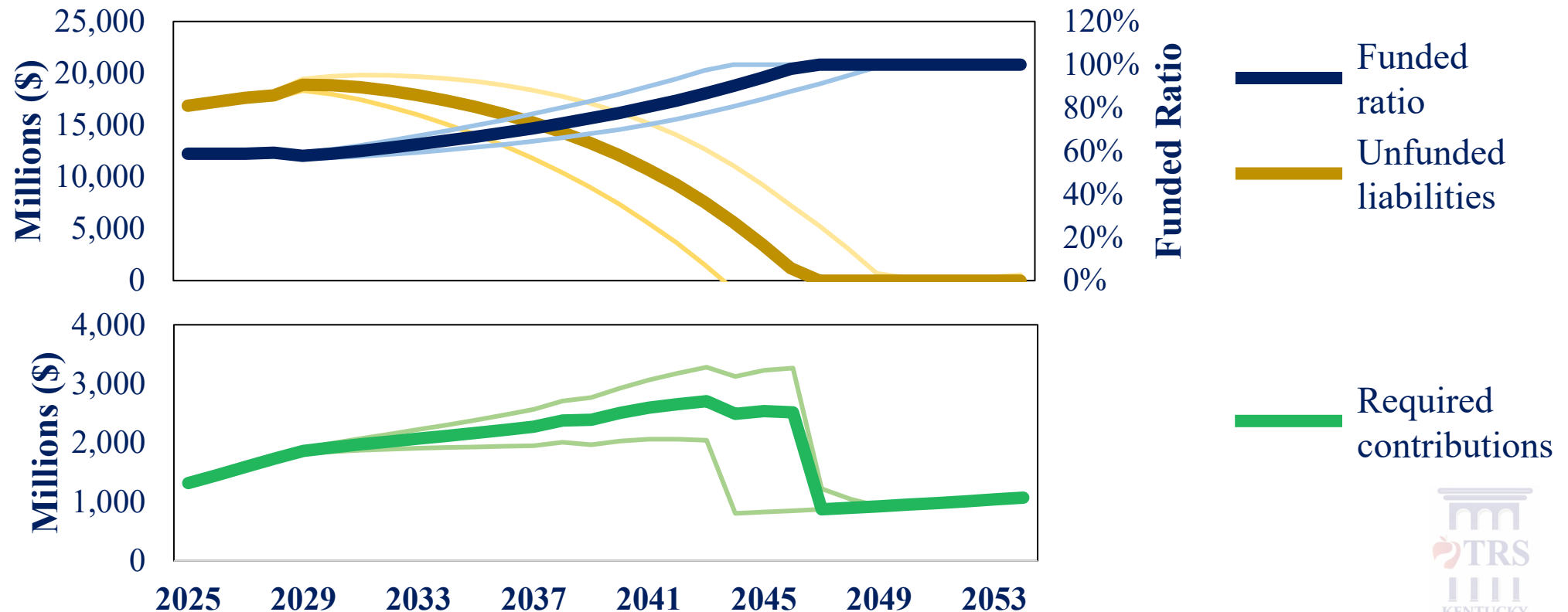
This outperformance generated \$6.1 billion to the benefit of Kentucky's teachers and all taxpayers.

# Actuarial 30-Year Projections

## At Full Funding, TRS Required Contributions Decrease

Actuary's retirement annuity projections at assumed 7.1% investment return.

Thick lines show projections; thin lines show projections adjusted for investment returns 1% higher and lower.





# Foundation of Comprehensive

## What to Know About Kentucky Teachers' Benefits



- Replaces Social Security
  - Goal is being able to retire through TRS without needing any Social Security income.
- Roughly same cost as Social Security
- Current contributions *are* enough to pay full benefits
- Health insurance premium benefits



# Foundation of Comprehensive

## What to Know About Social Security



- Not meant to be a sole source of retirement income, though it is for many
- Not a pension
- A social program to address poverty
- Current contributions *are not* enough to pay full benefits
- No medical insurance premium benefits before 65

# U.S. Law Impact on Social Security



- Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)  
impacts anyone eligible for Social Security benefits who also receives TRS benefit
- Government Pension Offset (GPO)  
impacts anyone eligible for spousal Social Security benefit who also receives a TRS benefit

Visit Social Security office or [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) for more information

# Social Security Fairness Act

- Does not impact TRS benefits.
- Social Security has begun making payments under the law.
- Contact Social Security at 800-772-1213 regarding receiving benefits to which you may be entitled.
- If you are on Medicare Eligible Health Plan (MEHP) and *now are newly receiving Social Security*, contact Medicare 800-633-4227 or your bank to make sure you're not paying the Part B premium twice.

# TRS 4 Plan Approach

## National Recognition

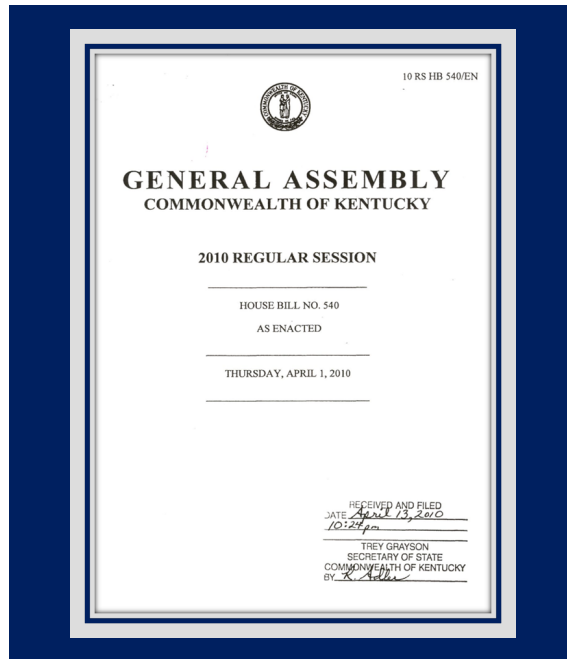
- Provides retirement security through foundational (defined benefit). and supplemental (defined contribution savings) benefits.
- Pew Charitable Trusts' report found TRS 4 was one of three non-Social Security retirement system plans for new teachers or state employees nationally that replaces at least 90% of preretirement income.
- National Institute on Retirement Security (NIRS), which was co-founded by defined benefit provider groups, presented an award for a model public pension funding policy authored by the Pew Charitable Trust. TRS 4 uses concepts cited in the award.



# Shared Responsibility

## In Second Decade

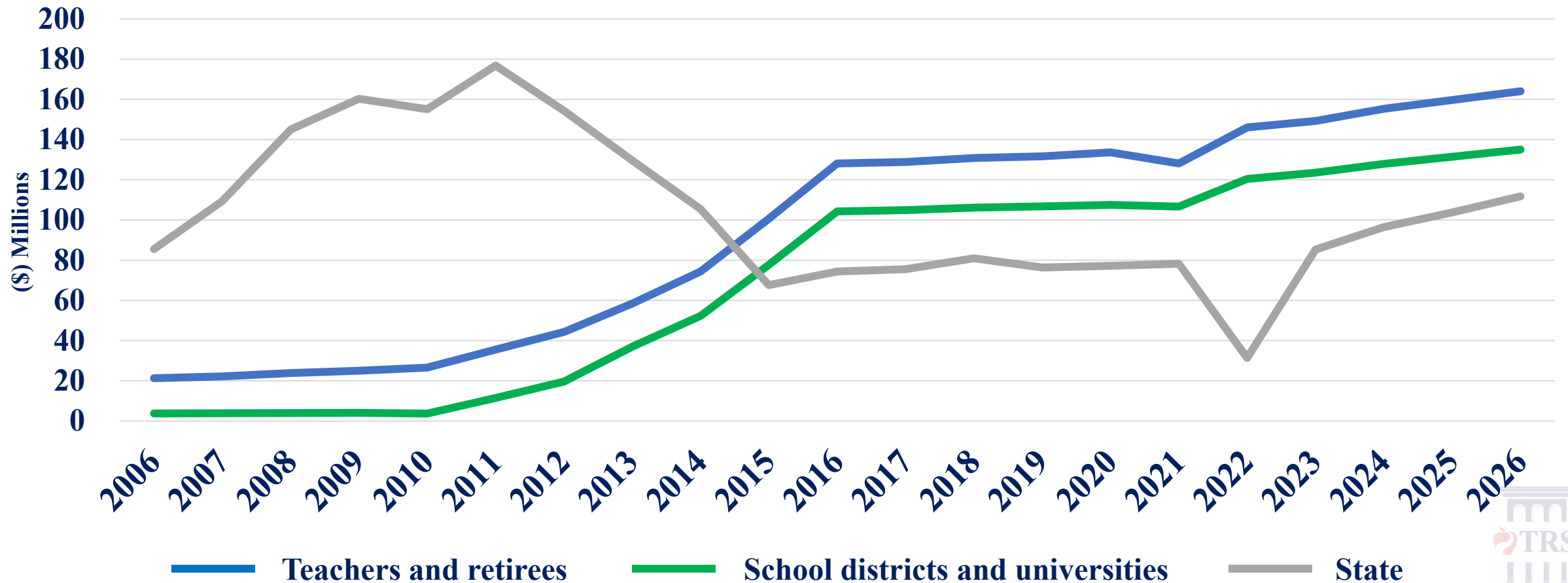
Shared solution providing permanent funding for retiree health care



# Shared Responsibility

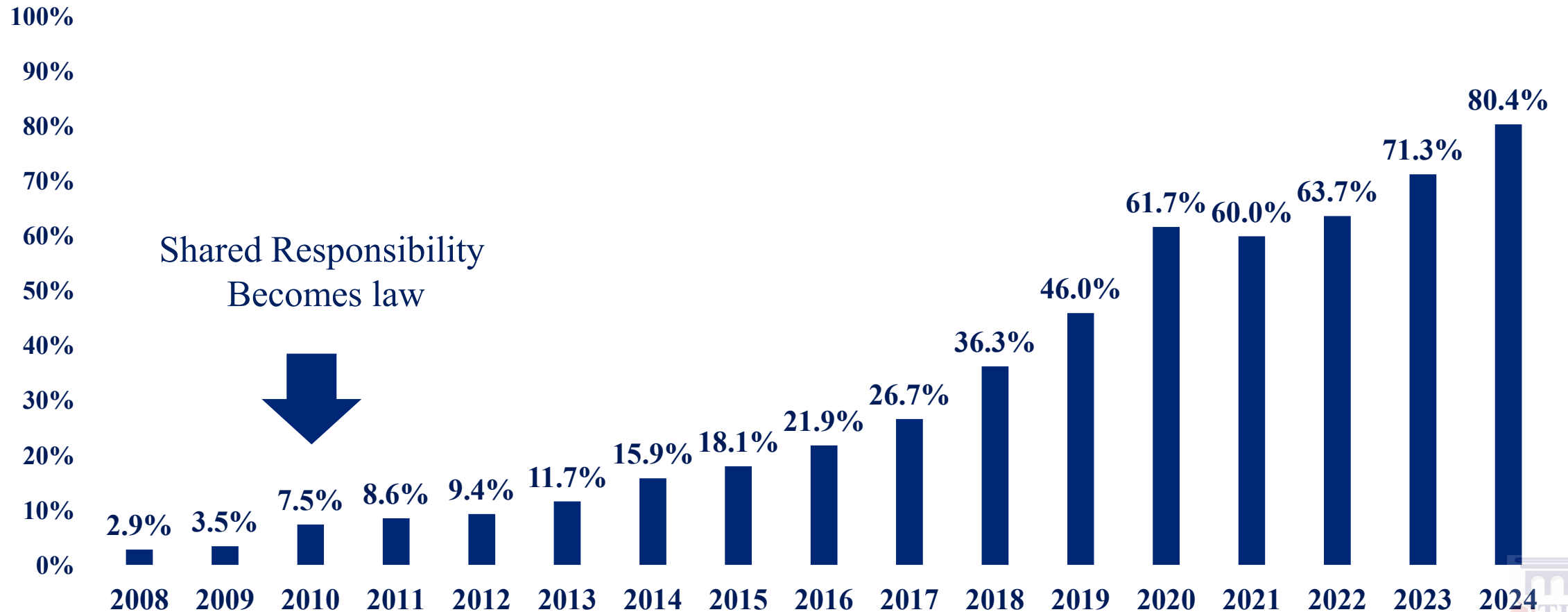
## How the Cost Has Been Shared

Retiree Health Care Funding 2006-2024, Budgeted through 2026



# TRS Health Insurance

## Funded Status



# Shared Responsibility

## House Bill 694

- Member contributions for health insurance are unchanged.
- Certain other contributions would go to retirement annuity if health trust at least 100% funded.
- Employee contributions won't be reduced until *both* the retirement and health insurance trusts are fully funded.
- Several legislators said the change is a default position, and they're open to discussing alternatives.

**KEHP**

**MEHP**

# Know Your Rx Coalition

## Free counseling with live pharmacists

Know Your Rx Coalition *Pharm-Assist*

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET

Phone: 855-218-5979

Email: [KYRx@uky.edu](mailto:KYRx@uky.edu)

Website: [www.KYRx.org](http://www.KYRx.org)





**KEHP**

**MEHP**

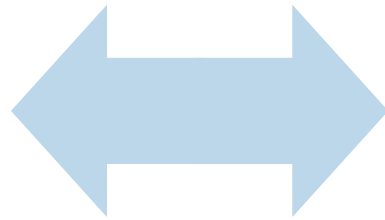
# Personalized Medicine



## TRS Solution: Personalized Medicine Partnership

CORIELL  
LIFE SCIENCES

You  
Your Doctor  
Your Pharmacist



# Personalized Medicine

## Could Your Medication or Condition Benefit From DNA Test

### 20 Most Used Drugs By TRS Members

Atorvastatin calcium	Meloxicam
Metoprolol	Carvedilol
Rosuvastatin calcium	Pravastatin sodium
Omeprazole	Sertraline HCL
Pantoprazole sodium	Escitalopram oxalate
Metformin	Trazodone HCL
Hydrocodone-acetaminophen	Tramadol HCL
Simvastatin	Clopidogrel
Tamsulosin HCL	Oxycodone
Ondansetron	Duloxetine HCL

### Top 20 Disease States For TRS Members

High blood cholesterol	Anxiety
Pain/inflammation	Alzheimer's disease
Heartburn/ulcer disease	Mental diseases
High blood press/heart disease	Skin infections
Depression	Seizures
Diabetes	Ophthalmic conditions
Urinary disorders	Glaucoma
Nausea/vomiting	Irregular heartbeat
Antiplatelets	Skin conditions
Sleep disorders	Anticoagulant

Source: Medications and disease states provided by Know Your Rx Coalition as of 2025

**KEHP**

**MEHP**

# Personalized Medicine

## How to Sign Up

**MEHP**

Contact Coriell at 888-454-9024  
or [www.coriell.com/trs](http://www.coriell.com/trs) to request  
free DNA kit.

**KEHP**

Discuss with your doctor whether  
a DNA test could be covered  
because of medical necessity.

*or*

Retirees on KEHP can contact  
Coriell and use HRA funds to pay  
any cost.

# Doing It Right

## What That Means at TRS



Providing security for Kentucky's retired teachers using a long-term investing process proven and refined over decades to achieve top returns on investments at the lowest costs.





## ***Our Members Come First!***

**800-618-1687**

**8 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET  
Monday – Friday**

**[info@trs.ky.gov](mailto:info@trs.ky.gov)**  
**<https://trs.ky.gov>**

***Protecting & Preserving Teachers' Retirement Benefits***