### **BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

OCTOER 22, 2025 • 9:30AM



#### **LOCATION - Hybrid Meeting**

In-Person:

Washington State Investment Board 2100 Evergreen Park Drive SW, Suite 100 Olympia, WA 98502

Or Virtual Meeting Information at www.leoff.wa.gov

#### **TRUSTEES**

DENNIS LAWSON, CHAIR
Central Pierce Fire and Rescue (Retired)

JASON GRANNEMAN, VICE CHAIR (Retired) Clark County Sheriff's Office

AJ JOHNSON Snohomish County Fire

SENATOR JEFF HOLY WA State Senator

PAT MCELLIGOTT East Pierce County Fire and Rescue

JAY BURNEY City of Olympia

WOLF OPITZ Pierce County

REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BERGQUIST WA State Representative

DARELL STIDHAM
Spokane County Sheriff's Office (Retired)

RYAN REESE Clark County Fire

CHRIS TRACY
Tacoma Police Department

#### **STAFF**

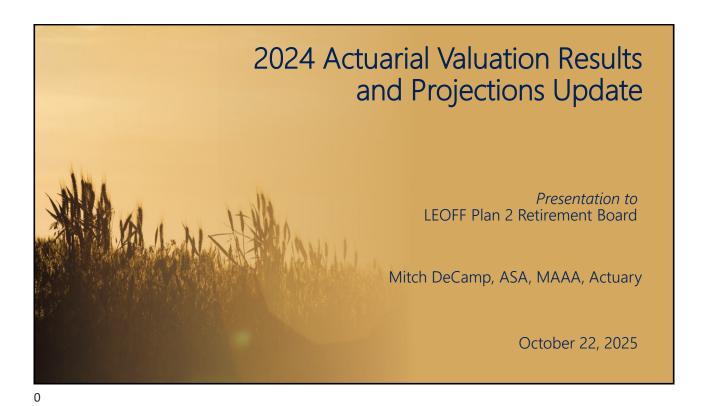
Steve Nelsen, Executive Director
Tim Valencia, Deputy Director
Chloe Drawsby, Executive Assistant
Jessie Jackson, Administrative Services Manager
Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager
Karen Durant, Senior Research and Policy Manager
Tammy Sadler, Lead Benefits Ombudsman
Jessica Burkhart, Benefits Ombudsman
Tor Jernudd, Assistant Attorney General

THEY KEEP US SAFE, WE KEEP THEM SECURE.

1.	2024 Actuarial Valuation Results and Projections Update	9:30 AM
	Mitch DeCamp, Actuary	
2.	Board Expectations	10:30 AM
	Tim Valencia, Deputy Director	
	Networking Break	10:45 AM
3.	Comparison of LEOFF 2 to Other National Plans	11:00 AM
	Steve Nelsen, Executive Director	
4.	Succession Planning Status	11:45 AM
	Steve Nelsen, Executive Director	
	Jacob White, Sr. Research and Policy Manager	
5.	2026 Proposed Board Meeting Calendar	12:20 PM
	Chloe Drawsby, Executive Assistant	
6.	2025 Executive Director Evaluation Process	12:30 PM
7.	Public Comment	12:50 PM

\*Public comment can be provided to the Board in writing 24 hours prior to the meeting via our reception mailbox: <a href="recep@leoff.wa.gov">recep@leoff.wa.gov</a>.

\*Lunch is served as an integral part of these meetings.



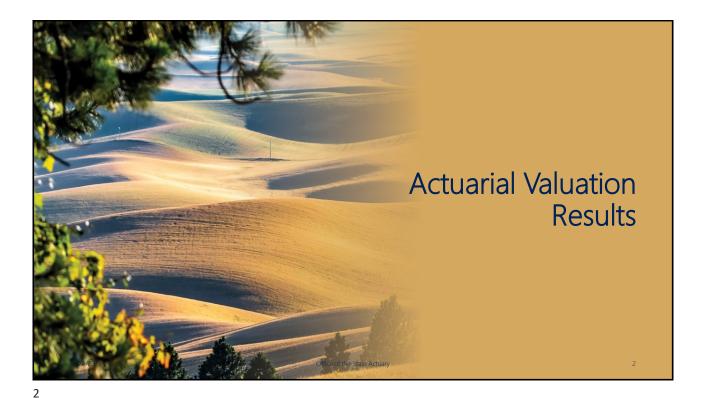
### Today's Presentation

- 2024 Actuarial Valuation Highlights
- Projections Model Update
- Informational No Board action needed today



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### Difference Between Valuations and Projections

- Valuations
  - Deterministic (best estimate results)
  - Point-in-time snapshot of current plan measures
- Projections
  - Deterministic or stochastic (variable results)
  - □ 30 years of future valuations
  - $\footnote{\footnote{\square}}$  Forecast of plan measures

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### 2024 Changes in Assets

#### Market Value of Assets

- The value of the assets in the market on the valuation date
- Investment Returns
  - FY 2024 investment return of 7.95%
  - □ Expected return was 7.00%
- Expected return about \$1.43 billion, actual investment return \$1.63 billion

#### **Actuarial Value of Assets**

- Smoothed value of assets to reduce investment volatility in plan measures and contribution rates
- Recognized \$255 million deferred investment gains
- Still deferring investment gains of about \$1 billion

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### Calculating 2024 Actuarial Value of Assets

Calculation of Actuarial Value of Assets										
LEOFF 2										
(Dollars in Millions) 2024										
Market Value of Assets \$22,081										
Plan Year	Plan Year Return on Years Years									
Ending	Assets	Deferred	Remaining	Deferred*						
6/30/2024	7.95%	0	0	0						
6/30/2023	6.90%	0	0	0						
6/30/2022	0.21%	7	4	(741)						
6/30/2021	31.65%	8	4	1,762						
<b>Total Defer</b>	ral			\$1,021						
<b>Actuarial V</b>	alue of Ass	ets**		\$21,060						

Note: Totals may not agree due to rounding.

\*Amount of asset gains and (losses) left to recognize, or apply, in future valuations. All asset gains/losses prior to 6/30/2021 have been fully recognized.

\*\*AVA can never be less than 70% (\$15,457) or greater than 130% (\$28,705) of the MVA.

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### Participant Data Highlights

2022 2023 Actives Headcount 18,625 19,311	<b>2024</b> 19,899
	19,899
<b>Headcount</b> 18.625 19.311	19,899
<b>Average Annual Salary</b> \$129,100 \$136,600	\$145,200
Average Age 41.7 41.1	40.7
Average Service 12.4 11.8	11.3
Annuitants	
<b>Headcount</b> 8,597 9,460	10,294
Average Annual Benefit \$58,900 \$61,600	\$64,400
Actives to Annuitants 2.2 2.0	1.9

- Higher FY 2024 salary increases than assumed
  - Active members received average salary increases of approximately 10%
- About 200 additional retirements than assumed
- CPI-based inflation for CY 2024 was 3.61% for COLAs paid July 1, 2025

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### **Funded Status Changes**

Changes to LEOFF 2 Funded Status						
Funded Status – 2023 Valuation	101.7%					
Investment Returns/Recognizing Past Deferred Gains	2.7%					
Plan Experience	(2.6%)					
Miscellaneous	(0.2%)					
Funded Status – 2024 Valuation	101.6%					

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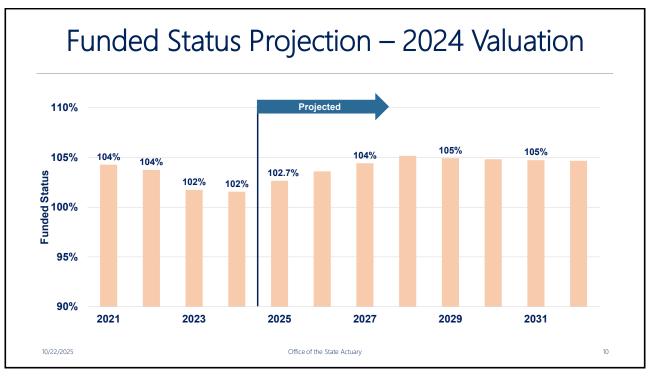
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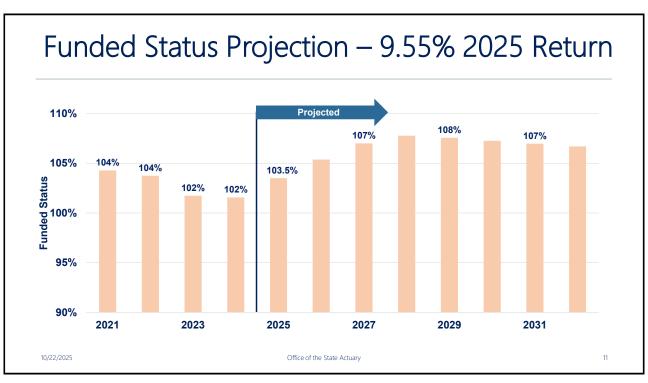
### What are OSA projections?

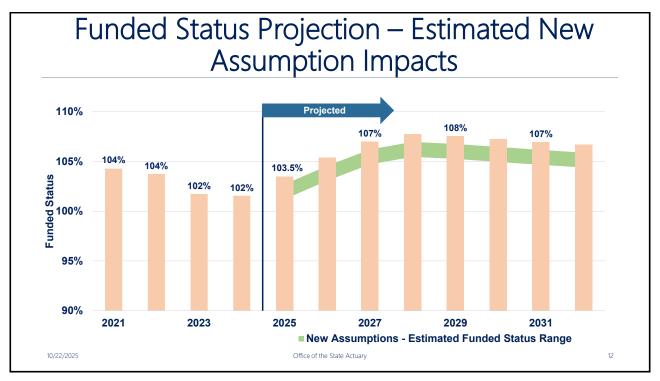
- Model produced by OSA to forecast results of future valuations
- Assume all future experience matches current plan assumptions
  - $\ \ \square$  No changes to adopted contribution rates and future rates match funding policy
  - Additional assumptions for new members joining the plan
  - $_{\mbox{\tiny $\square$}}$  Includes actual June 30, 2025, investment return of 9.55%
- Stochastic component to estimate variability of actual investment earnings
  - Investment return variability provided by WSIB

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### **Contribution Rates**

LEOFF 2 Adopted Contribution Rates							
2025-27 2028 2029							
Member	8.53%	8.66%	8.80%				
<b>Employer</b>	5.12%	5.20%	5.28%				
State	3.41%	3.46%	3.52%				

- The Board adopted contributions based on the 2023 rate-setting valuation
  - Adopted rates for 2028 and 2029 may still be updated next summer with results from the 2025 valuation
- 2025 valuation will reflect any economic and demographic assumptions adopted by the Board

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### Summary

- The plan is considered healthy
  - □ Funded status exceeds 100% measured on June 30, 2024
  - Actuarial value of assets deferring over \$1 billion
  - Recognition of deferred gains available to offset negative plan experience or improve future funded status
- Projected funded status expected to improve when reflecting new assumptions and 2025 investment gain
- 2025 Actuarial Valuation Report available next summer

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### Disclosure

- The valuation results in this presentation are from the <u>2024 Actuarial Valuation</u> <u>Report</u> Please see <u>our website</u> for the full report containing the study assumptions, methods, and data used to produce the results in this presentation.
- We relied on the data, assumptions, and methods from our <u>2024 Valuation</u> <u>Projections Model</u> to estimate future measurements of funded status. Please see the webpage for additional details.
- We prepared the estimated range of funded status impacts resulting from the new economic and demographic assumptions based on independent pricing on the <u>2023 AVR</u>. Please see the <u>Preliminary Demographic Experience Study</u> presentation from the September 24, 2025, LEOFF 2 Board meeting for additional details.
- Mitch DeCamp, ASA, MAAA for the material in this presentation and meets the qualification standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions provided.

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# **Board Member Expectations**

October 22, 2025

## **Excellence Starts with Understanding Expectations**

- You are our primary customers
  - Success for the team means meeting or exceeding your expectations
  - The team needs to be clear about Board member expectations as we develop processes to support your mission
  - The team needs feedback to ensure we are on the right track

## **Board Expectations**



Responsibly govern the plan



Help us get up to speed as soon possible



Keep us informed



Support our policy decisions



**Educate the plan stakeholders** 

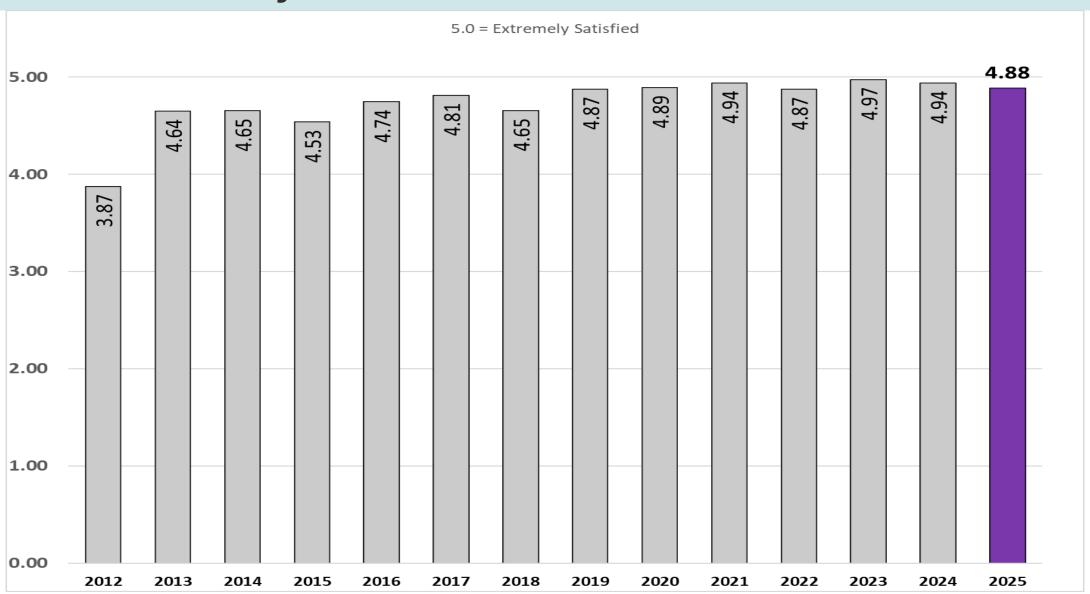


Provide professional administrative support

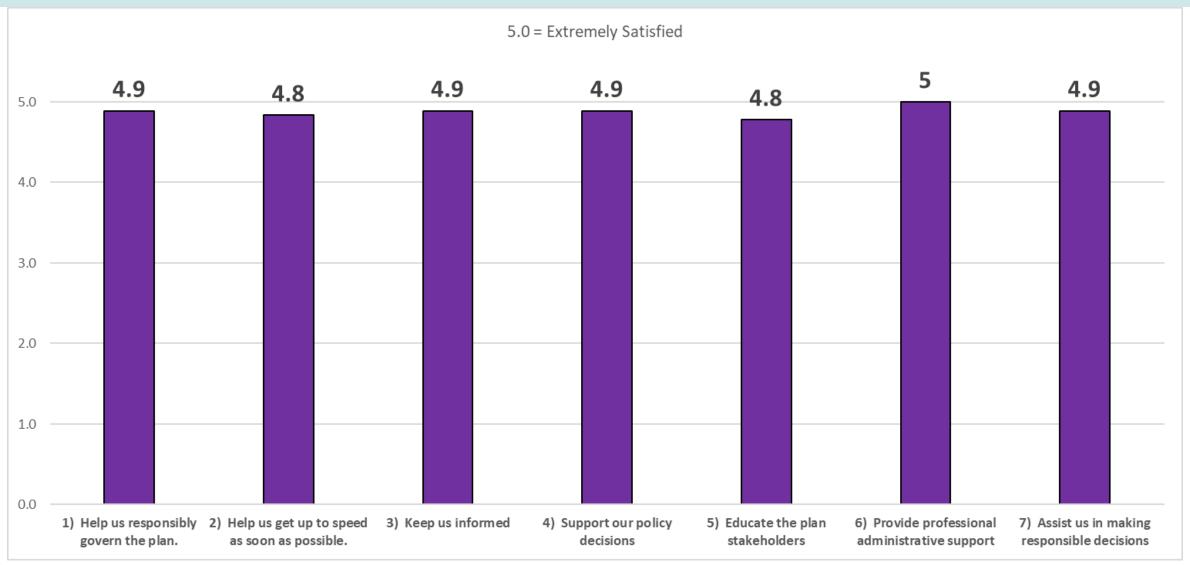


Assist us in making responsible decisions

## Satisfaction by Year 2012 - 2025



# 2025 Satisfaction by Expectation





## Questions/Discussion/Next Steps

- Clarity regarding expectations is key to success.
- What improvements will exceed your expectations?
- Have any expectations changed, or new expectations emerged?
- Changes to process?







The LEOFF Plan 2 has been consistently one of the best funded public pension plans in the country. Click the teal arrow below to see how the LEOFF Plan 2's funded ratio (blue dot) has compared to the other plans in the Public Plans Database (gray dots).

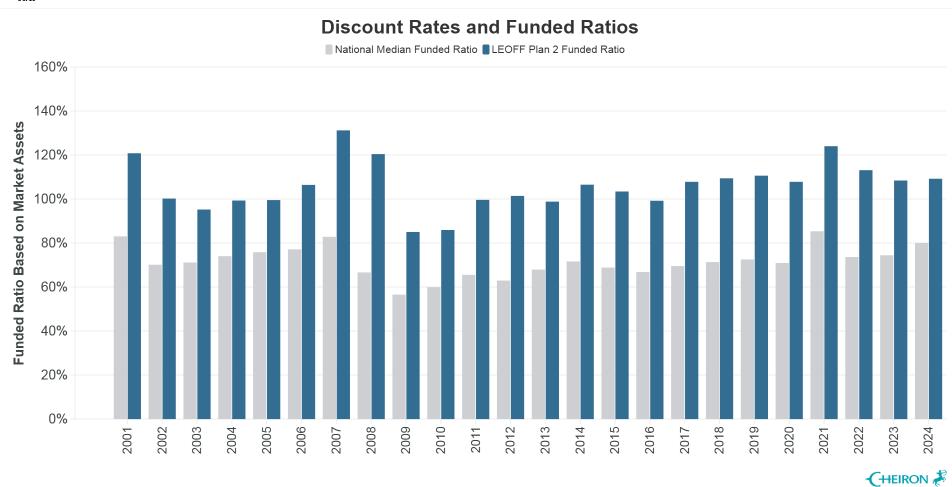
Q Search to highlight a plan

**CHEIRON** 



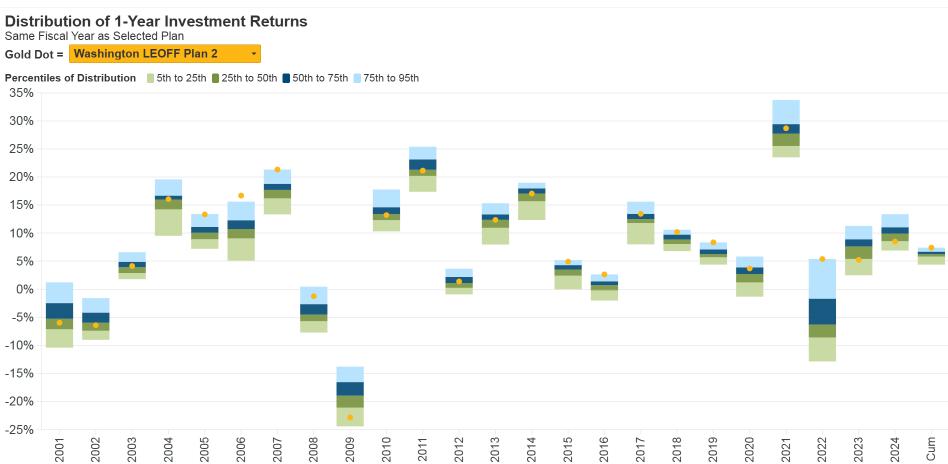


Plans have reported their funded ratios based on different discount rates, but even if we normalize the discount rates to 7.0% for all years, LEOFF Plan 2 remains significantly better funded than the median public pension plan. The question is why?





While investment returns for LEOFF Plan 2 have been very good compared to other plans, the difference does not, by itself, explain LEOFF Plan 2's better funded ratios.

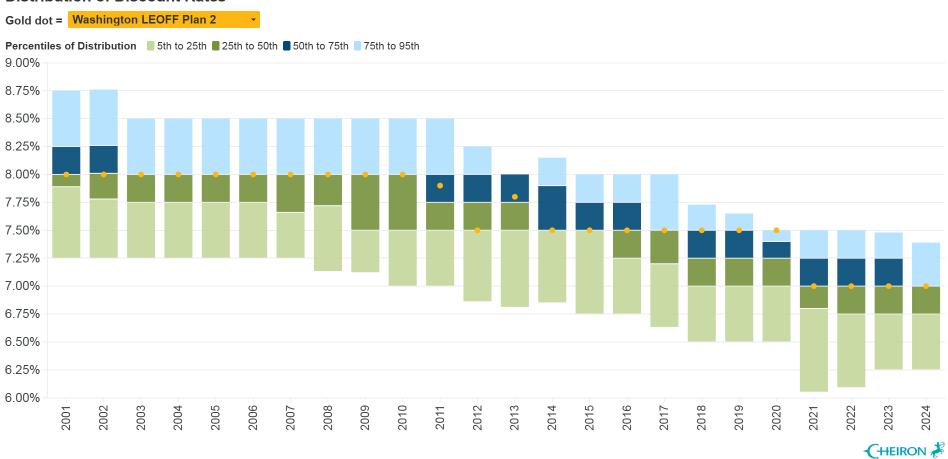


**CHEIRON** 



Plans with higher discount rates report higher funding ratios, but LEOFF Plan 2 has used a discount rate near the median of all public plans.





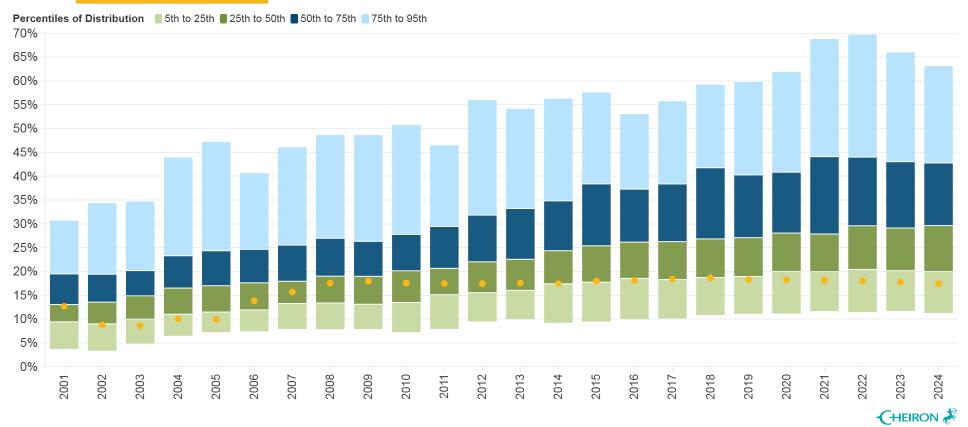


LEOFF Plan 2 has maintained its higher funded status while keeping contribution rates stable and below the median of all public plans. This is somewhat surprising for a safety plan that typically provides higher benefits than many of the non-safety plans included in the Public Plan Data. In this case, however, it is the higher funded status that enables the plan to maintain lower contribution rates.

#### **Distribution of Total Contribution Rates**

Actual Contributions from All Sources / Payroll

Gold dot = Washington LEOFF Plan 2





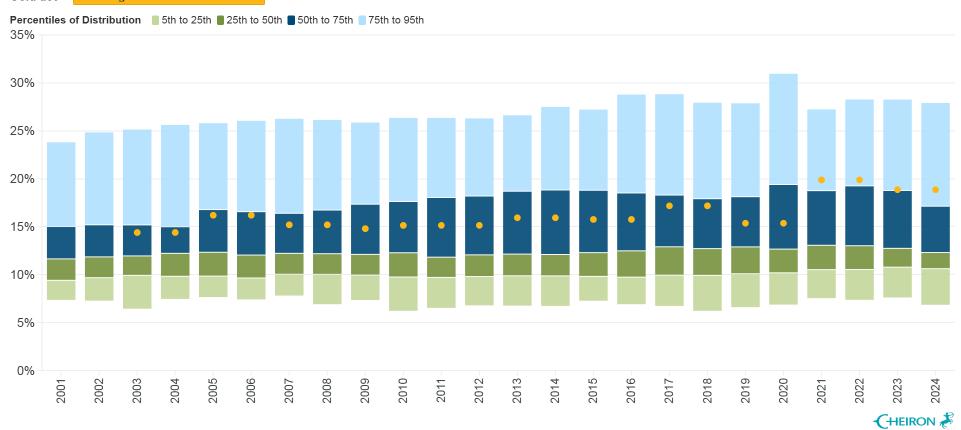
One measure of benefit levels is the total normal cost rate, and LEOFF Plan 2's normal cost rate is higher than most public plans. Again, this difference is likely due to comparing a safety plan to a mix of safety and non-safety plans.



#### **Distribution of Total Normal Cost Rates**

Same Social Security Coverage as Selected Plan







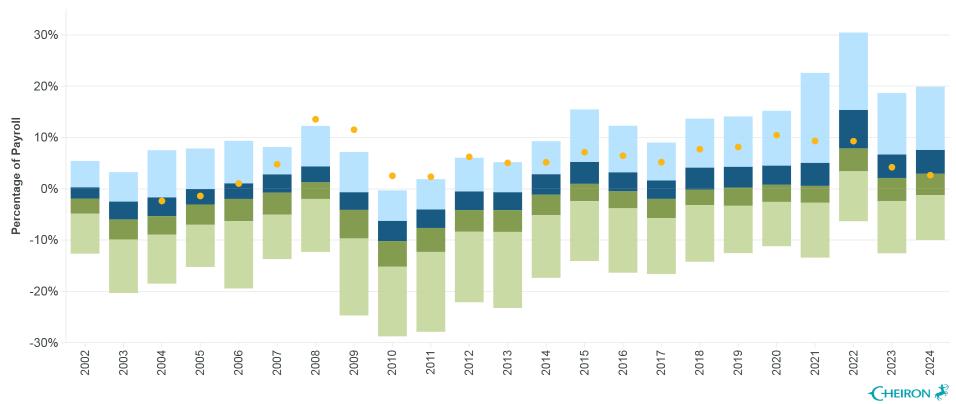
For contributions to be sufficient, they should generally be greater than the normal cost plus interest on the unfunded - the tread water rate. The Unfunded Paydown Rate is the percentage of payroll that goes to reduce the unfunded or increase the surplus. LEOFF Plan 2 has consistently had a paydown rate greater than 0%, indicating that its contributions have been sufficient on a consistent basis.

#### **Distribution of Unfunded Paydown Rates**

Unfunded Paydown Rate = Total Contribution Rate - Tread Water Rate

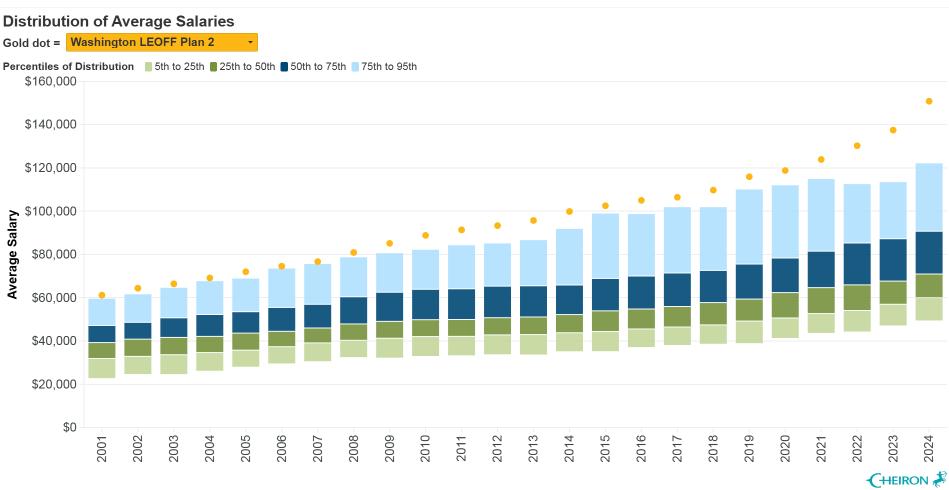
Gold dot = Washington LEOFF Plan 2







LEOFF Plan 2 also pays higher average salaries than most public plans. This difference is likely a combination of LEOFF Plan 2 being a safety plan and being located in a relatively high cost of living state.





LEOFF Plan 2 has been managed extremely well, but it has been a relatively young plan, which has made it much easier to recover from bad events like the Great Recession. As LEOFF Plan 2 becomes more mature, it will become more sensitive to risks



#### Mature pension plans are more sensitive to risk

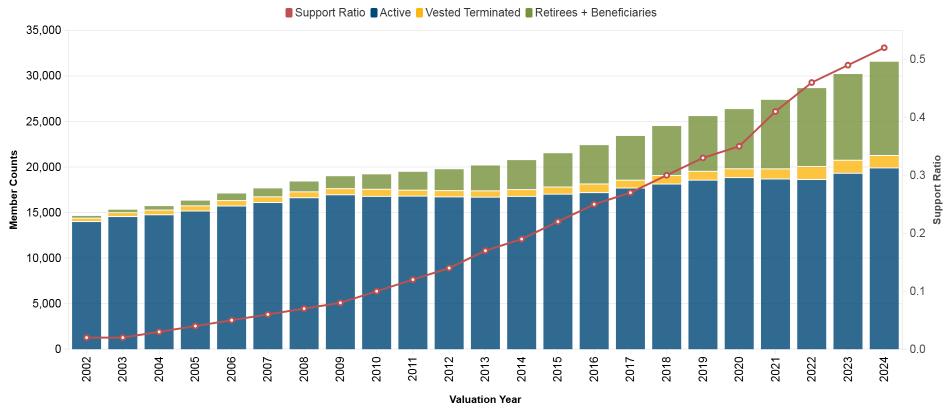
Support Ratio = Retirees / Actives

Asset Leverage Ratio = Assets / Payroll

20 years ago, LEOFF Plan 2 had very few retirees to support. Now the retiree population is growing much faster than the active population and the ratio of retirees to active members is increasing rapidly.

#### **LEOFF Plan 2 Membership Trends**

Support Ratio = Retirees and Beneficiaries / Actives





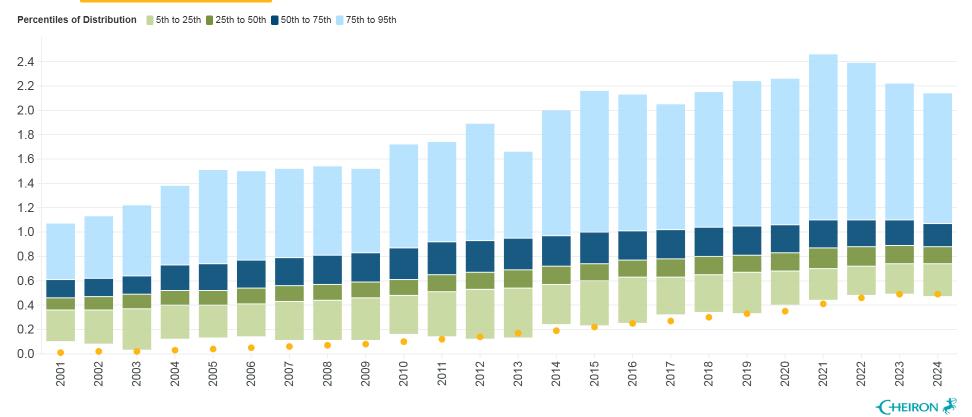


LEOFF Plan 2's Support Ratio remains one of the lowest in the nation, but you can expect it to continue to catch up with other plans as it matures.

#### **Distribution of Support Ratios**

Support Ratio = Retirees / Actives

Gold dot = Washington LEOFF Plan 2



Support ratios are an intuitive measure of maturity, but they don't help quantify a plan's sensitivity to risk. Asset leverage ratios quantify the plan's sensitivity to investment risk.

#### Asset Leverage Ratio = Market Value of Assets / Payroll

Higher asset leverage ratios indicate a plan is more sensitive to investment risk

High asset leverage ratios are caused by higher funded status, higher benefit levels, and more retirees compared to actives

Plan	Asset Leverage Ratio	Investment Loss (Compared to Assumed Return)	Investment Loss as a % of Payroll	Interest on Investment Loss as a % of Payroll
Plan A	5	10% Loss	50% (5 x 10%)	3.5% (50% x 7% Discount Rate)
Plan B	10	10% Loss	100% (10 x 10%)	7.0% (100% x 7% Discount Rate)

As a percentage of payroll, it will cost Plan B twice as much as Plan A to pay for the same investment loss.



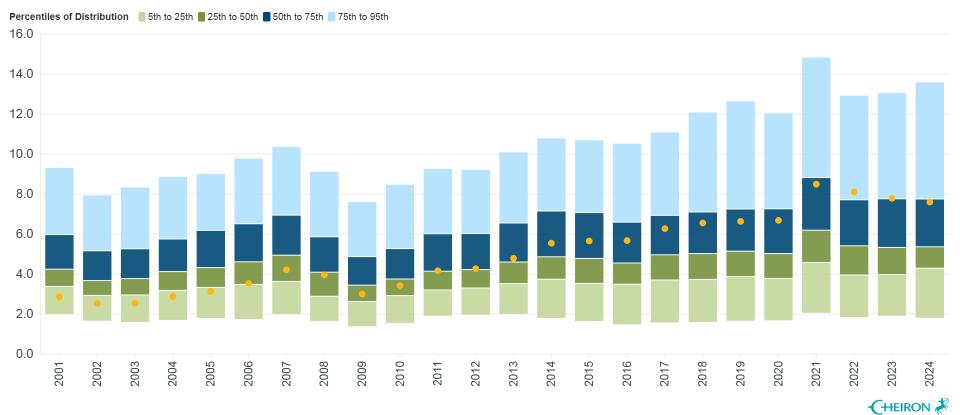


While LEOFF Plan 2 is still a relatively young plan, its asset leverage ratio has already grown to around the 75th percentile of all plans, and you can expect its asset leverage ratio to continue to increase. It is well-funded, has higher-than-average benefits, and its support ratio is continuing to grow.

#### **Distribution of Asset Leverage Ratios (Open Plans)**

Asset Leverage Ratio = Market Value of Assets / Payroll











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#### **Cheiron's Public Plan Tool**

Select a Card to Explore the Public Plan Metrics

#### **Assumptions**

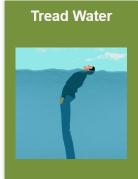
















Source: Public Plans Data





# **Succession Planning**

October 22, 2025

## **Succession Planning**

- The plan for the rest of the year
- The plan for session
- The plan for post April 1



## Thank You

Steve Nelsen, Executive Director

(360) 586-2323

steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov

Jacob White, Senior Research and Policy Manager

(360) 586-2327

jacob.white@leoff.wa.gov



# 2026 Proposed Board Meeting Calendar

October 22, 2025

## Background

- The LEOFF 2 Board generally meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month.
  - Exceptions can be made for Stakeholder Outreach, Fiduciary Education Conferences, and State Holidays.

### **2026 Board Meetings**



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<u>MEETING LOCATION:</u> WSIB 2100 Evergreen Park Dr SW Olympia, WA 98502 and virtually via Microsoft Teams <u>CONTACT:</u> Phone: 360.586.2320 | EMAIL: recep@leoff.wa.gov

# BOARD MEETING DATES STATE HOLIDAYS

### 2026 EVENT CALENDAR (DRAFT)

FIDUCIARY EDUCATION	STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH
NAPPA WINTER (NASHVILLE, TN)   February 18-20, 2026	WACOPS WINTER (OLYMPIA, WA)   February 4-6, 2026
NCPERS ACE. (LAS VEGAS, NV) I May 17-20, 2026	WACOPS SPRING (BLAINE, WA) I May 7-8, 2026
NAPPA LEGAL ED. (GRAND RAPIDS, MI) I June 16-19, 2026	WACOPS FALL (SPOKANE, WA)   September 16-18, 2026
NASRA ANNUAL (BOSTON, MA)   August 8-12, 2026	WSCFF KELLY L. FOX (OLYMPIA, WA) I January 26-27, 2026
NCPERS FALL (FORT LAUDERDALE, FL)   October 26-29, 2026	WSCFF EDU. (WENATCHEE, WA)   April 21-23, 2026
IFEBP ANNUAL (NEW ORLEANS, LA)   October 25-28, 2026	WSCFF ANNUAL (KENNEWICK, WA) I June 23-25, 2026

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## **Next Steps**

- No action required today.
- Board will adopt the 2026 board meeting dates at the November 19th meeting.



## Thank You

**Questions?** 



## **Executive Director Evaluation 2025**

October 22, 2025

## **2025 Evaluation Process**

- Evaluation Survey sent out November 3
- Responses due back by November 14
- Compiled response report sent out by December 10
- Evaluation in executive session at December 17 meeting
- 2026 Goals



## Thank You

**Karen Durant** 

**Senior Research and Policy Manager** 

(360) 586-2325

karen.durant@leoff.wa.gov

From: jasonyantzer@gmail.com < jasonyantzer@gmail.com >

Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 5:29 PM

To: DRS Contact Center < <a href="mailto:drs.wa.gov">drs.wa.gov</a>>

Subject: OTHER

Member ID: 878757 Name: Jason A. Yantzer

Email: jasonyantzer@gmail.com System/Plans: LEOFF 2 PERS 2

I am a dual member of both LEOFF 2 and PERS 2. When I was employed and qualified for the PERS 2 retirement, my employer only paid into the retirement for 9 months of the 3 years that I was employed. I requested an investigation to look into recovering these benefits. You performed the investigation and denied my request. The investigation found that I qualified for the benefit, however, it was optional for the employer to pay into the retirement plan. Currently, my legislator and the LEOFF 2 board are attempting to craft legislation to fix this issue. They are requesting the denial letter and reason for the denial. Can you please locate the letter and sent it to me? They are currently in legislation session and need it asap to move forward.

From: Jason Yantzer < iasonyantzer@gmail.com >

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 6:18 PM

**To:** Nelsen, Steve (LEOFF) < <a href="mailto:steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov">steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov</a>>; Dan Bronoske

<Dan.Bronoske@westpierce.org>

Subject: Fwd: OTHER

External Email

Steve,

Here is my denial letter from DRS. I hope this helps!

Jason Yantzer

On Wed, Feb 12, 2025 at 4:20 PM Nelsen, Steve (LEOFF) < <a href="mailto:steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov">steve.nelsen@leoff.wa.gov</a>> wrote:

Jason,

Thank you for sending your denial letter. I am clear on what the issue is. It will take a statutory change.

When an employer opts to join PERS they have a choice whether to join prospectively or to include past service credit. Your employer chose the prospective option in 1996. That is not uncommon for employers because of the cost of retroactive service credit. So, the DRS denial of your request for this service was correct.

One possibility for statutory change would be to provide a new option in statute that in the event the employer chooses to provide service credit prospectively only, the member has the option to purchase past service with that employer by paying both the member and employer contributions. There would still be some cost and legal issues but it might work. There are other types of service where this member option approach is used.

I hope this is helpful.

Steve