

New Mexico Educational Retirement Board Press Release

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Educators' pension fund returns reach all-time high

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Educational Retirement Board pension fund reached an all-time high of \$11.7 billion for the period ended Sept. 30, 2016. NMERB also had a gain of \$1.12 billion for the 12 months ending Sept. 30.

The results of the investment portfolio performance were presented at the December NMERB Board of Trustees meeting in Albuquerque.

Performance results also showed that returns for all time periods measured were positive.

Returns for the one-, five- and 30-year periods exceeded the actuarially assumed rate of 7.75 percent with average annual returns of 10.3 percent, 9.2 percent and 8.6 percent, respectively.

The three- and 10- year periods fell short somewhat short of the target at 7 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively.

In all periods of one year or more, the NMERB pension fund ranked above the median return for U.S. public pension funds with assets of \$1 billion or more in the InvestorForce database.

On a risk adjusted basis, the fund consistently ranks as one of the best performing funds in the country. This is the successful result of the NMERB Board of Trustee's strategic decision to diversify the portfolio with the goal of reducing the volatility of the fund's return over time.

The educational retirement pension plan covers approximately 60,000 active members currently paying into the system and 46,000 retirees, ranging from public school teachers and principals to college faculty and staff.

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