

# MAINE

## Pensionomics:

Measuring the Economic Impact of State and Local Pension Plans

### Key Findings

Benefits paid by state and local pension plans support a significant amount of economic activity in the state of Maine.

Pension benefits received by retirees are spent in the local community. This spending ripples through the economy, as one person's spending becomes another person's income, creating a *multiplier effect*.

Expenditures stemming from state and local pensions supported...

- 5,129 jobs that paid \$257.9 million in wages and salaries
- \$671.7 million in total economic output
- \$102.5 million in federal, state, and local tax revenues

... in the state of Maine.

Each dollar paid out in pension benefits supported \$1.29 in total economic activity in Maine.

Each dollar "invested" by Maine taxpayers in these plans supported \$4.00 in total economic activity in the state.

### Overview

Expenditures made by retirees of state and local government provide a steady economic stimulus to Maine communities and the state economy. In 2006, 33,263 residents of Maine received a total of \$520.48 million in pension benefits from state and local pension plans, with \$481.72 million paid from plans within the state and the remainder originating from plans in other states.

The average pension benefit received was \$1,304 per month or \$15,647 per year. These modest benefits provide retired teachers, public safety personnel and others who served the public during their working careers income to meet basic needs in retirement.

### Impact on Jobs and Incomes

Retiree expenditures stemming from state and local pension plan benefits supported 5,129 jobs in the state. The total income to state residents supported by pension expenditures was \$257.9 million.

Of this, the greatest share, \$143.3 million, was comprised of employee compensation (wages and salaries). Proprietors' income (self-employment income) represented \$18.4 million, and other property income (including payments from interest, rent, royalties, profits and dividends) totaled \$96.2 million.

### Economic Impact

State and local pension funds in Maine and other states paid a total of \$520.48 million in benefits to Maine residents in 2006. Retirees' expenditures from these benefits supported a total of \$671.7 million in total economic output in the state, and \$286.5 million in value added in the state.

\$495.5 million in direct economic impacts were supported by retirees' expenditures on goods and services from businesses in the state. An additional \$76.8 million in indirect economic impact resulted when these businesses purchased additional goods and services, generating additional income in the local economy. \$99.4 million in induced impacts occurred when employees hired by businesses as a result of the direct and indirect impacts made expenditures, supporting even more additional income.

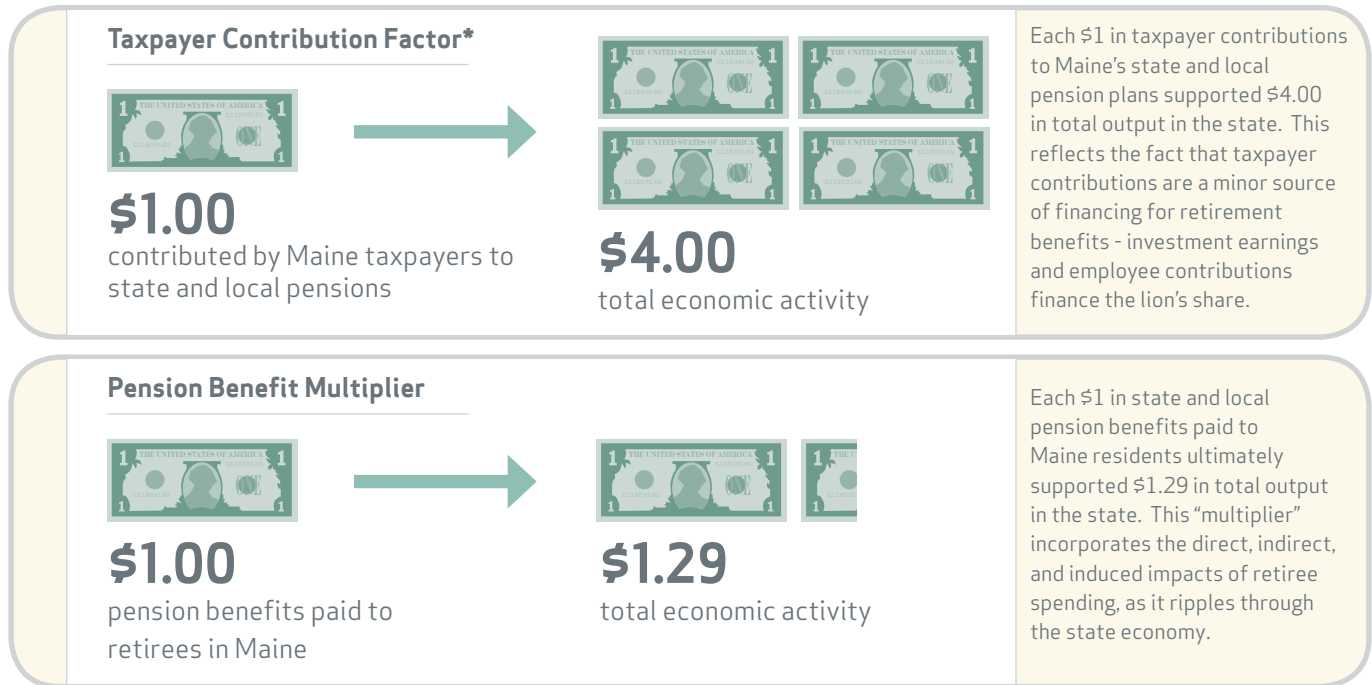
————— Total Economic Impact **671.7 million** —————

**DIRECT  
IMPACT**  
495.5 million

**INDIRECT  
IMPACT**  
76.8 million

**INDUCED  
IMPACT**  
99.4 million

## Economic Multipliers



\* Caution should be used in interpreting this number, because the Census data used reflect the taxable status of contributions only; because employee contributions may be reported as taxpayer contributions, the multiplier here may be underestimated.

## Impact on Tax Revenues

State and local pension payments made to Maine residents supported a total of \$102.5 million in revenue to federal, state and local governments. Taxes paid by retirees and beneficiaries directly out of pension payments totaled \$25.0 million. Taxes attributable to direct, indirect and induced expenditures accounted for \$77.5 million in tax revenue.

Federal Tax	59.2 million
State/Local Tax	43.1 million
Other Corporate Taxes	0.1 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$102.5 million</b>

## Economic Impacts by Industry Sector

The economic impact of state and local pension benefits was broadly felt across various industry sectors in the state. The ten industry sectors with the largest employment impacts are presented in the table below.

Industry	Employment Impact (# Jobs)	Value Added Impact (\$ millions)	Income Impact (\$ millions)	Output Impact (\$ millions)
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,243	\$59.7	\$59.0	\$99.8
Retail Trade	1,071	43.8	34.6	67.5
Accommodation and Food Services	577	14.5	12.9	29.7
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	428	8.9	8.2	18.1
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	300	22.4	18.7	33.4
Finance and Insurance	189	18.4	17.5	34.0
Educational Services	176	11.1	5.1	19.8
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	175	8.7	8.5	16.9
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	165	3.7	3.3	6.9
Wholesale Trade	141	13.5	10.6	20.1