



National Institute on Retirement Security

ERISA at 50

Webinar – September 5, 2024

Jason Russell, Senior Vice President and Actuary

ERISA Retirement Plan Basics

Types of Retirement Plans

Defined benefit (DB)

- Amount of *benefit* is defined
- Benefit usually payable for lifetime in retirement
- Plan sponsor bears risk of fulfilling benefit promise

Defined contribution (DC)

- Amount of *contribution* is defined
- Retirement savings account
- Participant bears risk of investing contributions, converting account balance into retirement income

Types of ERISA Plans

Single-employer plans

- One employer

Multiemployer plans

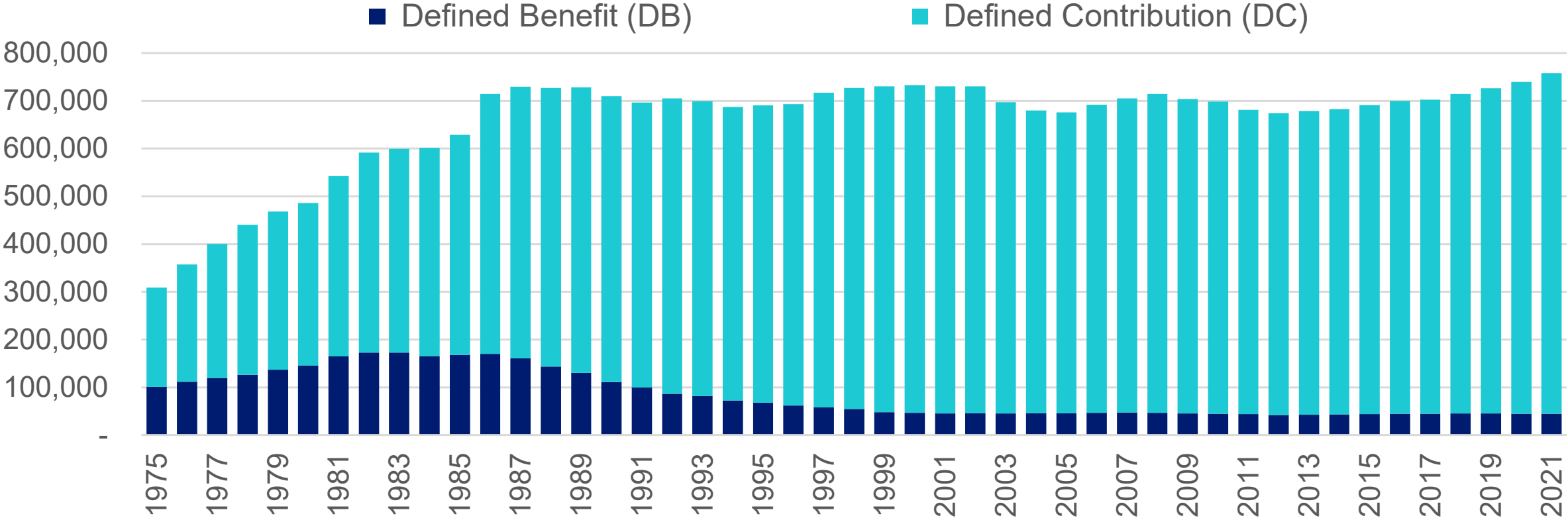
- Two or more related employers
- Collectively-bargained

Multiple-employer plans

- Two or more employers (may or may not be related)
- Usually not collectively-bargained

Single-Employer Plans

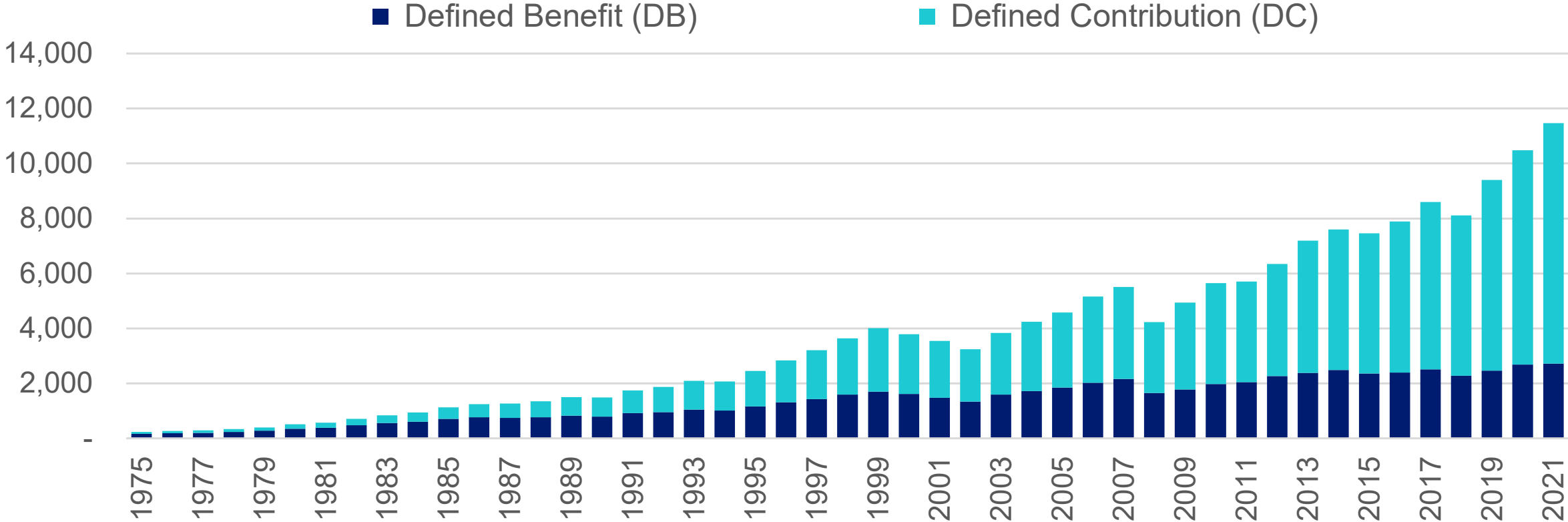
Number of Plans



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: single-employer plans

Single-Employer Plans

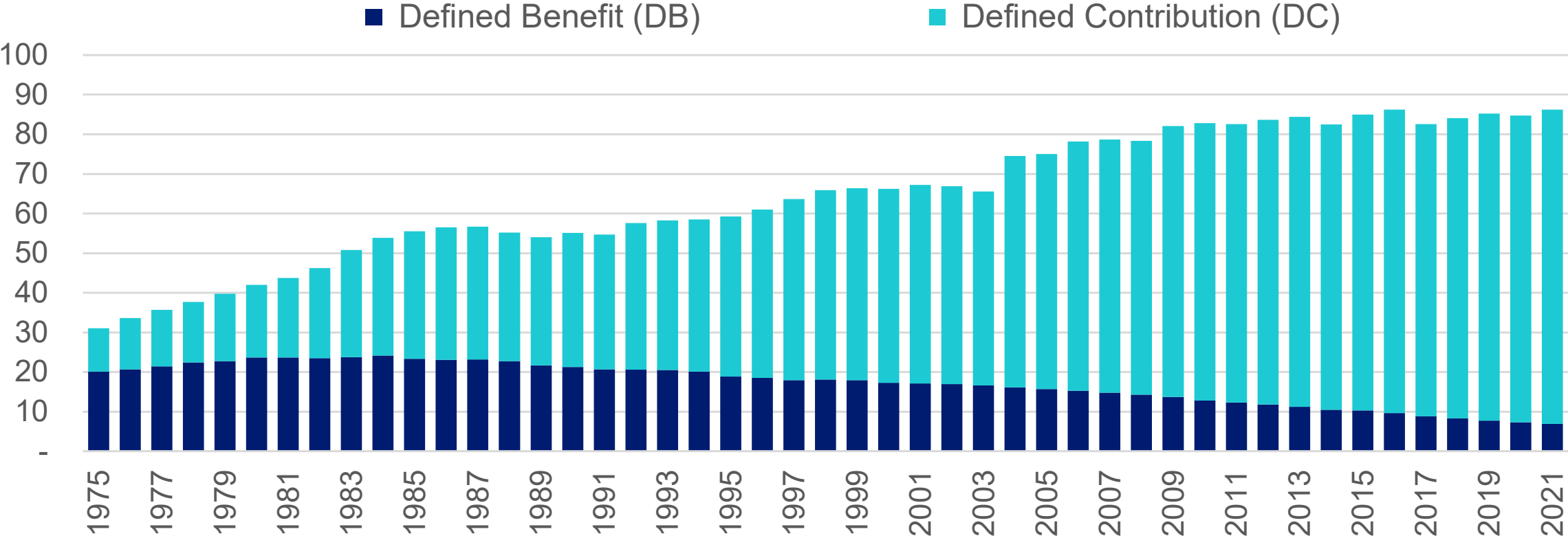
Total Assets (\$Billions)



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: single-employer plans

Single-Employer Plans

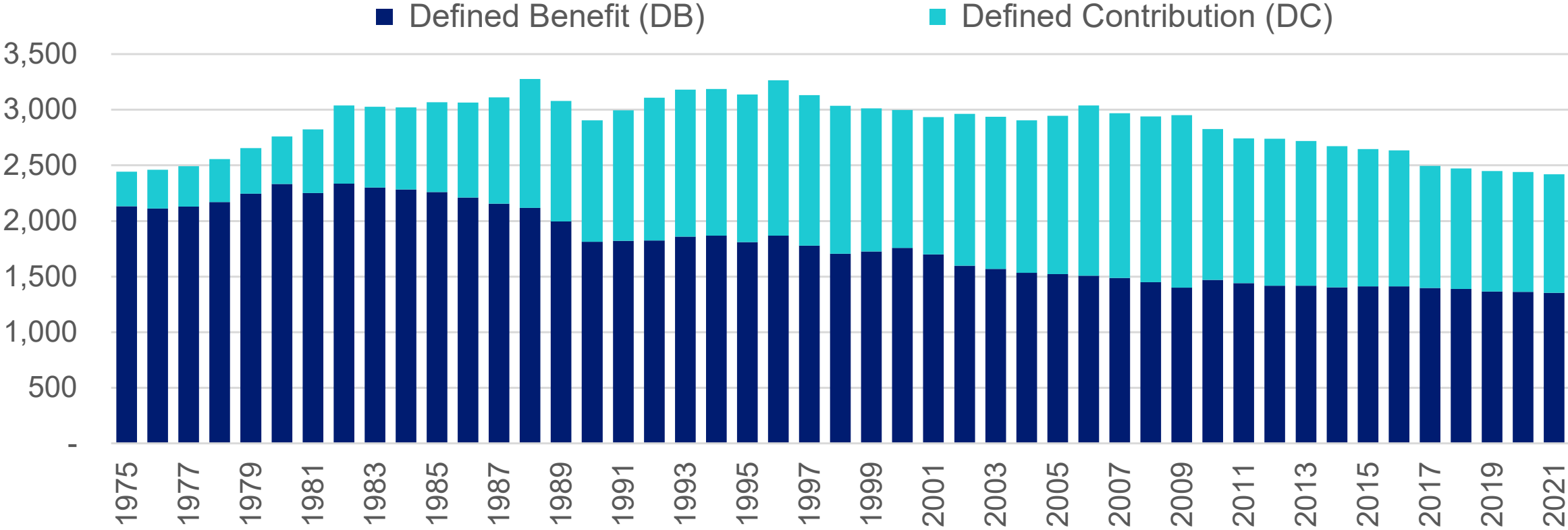
Active Participants (Millions)



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: single-employer plans

Multiemployer Plans

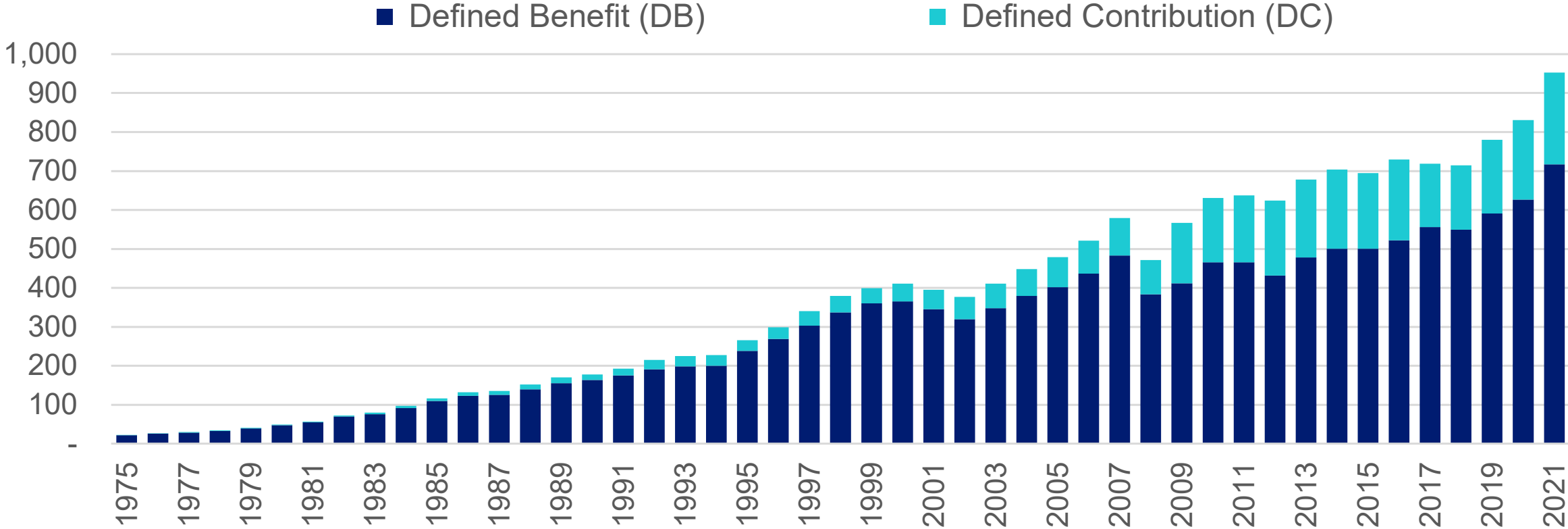
Number of Plans



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: multiemployer plans

Multiemployer Plans

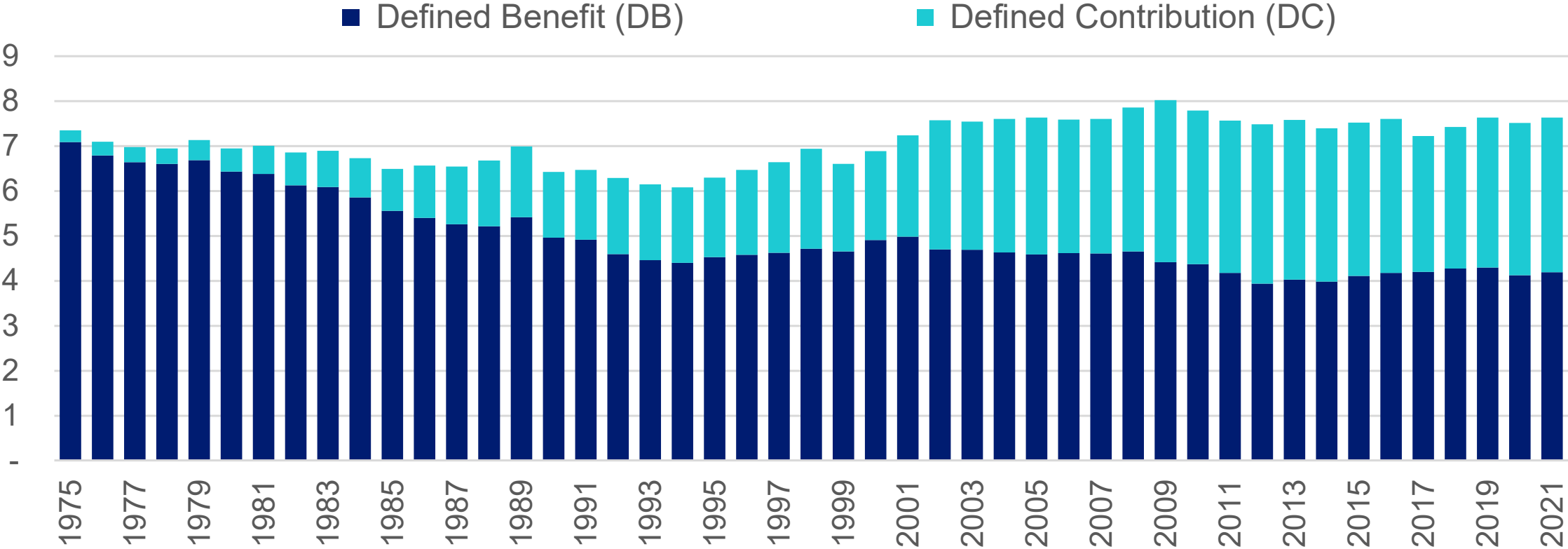
Total Assets (\$Billions)



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: multiemployer plans

Multiemployer Plans

Active Participants (Millions)



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: multiemployer plans

Multiple-Employer Plans

Number of Plans



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: multiple-employer plans

Multiple-Employer Plans

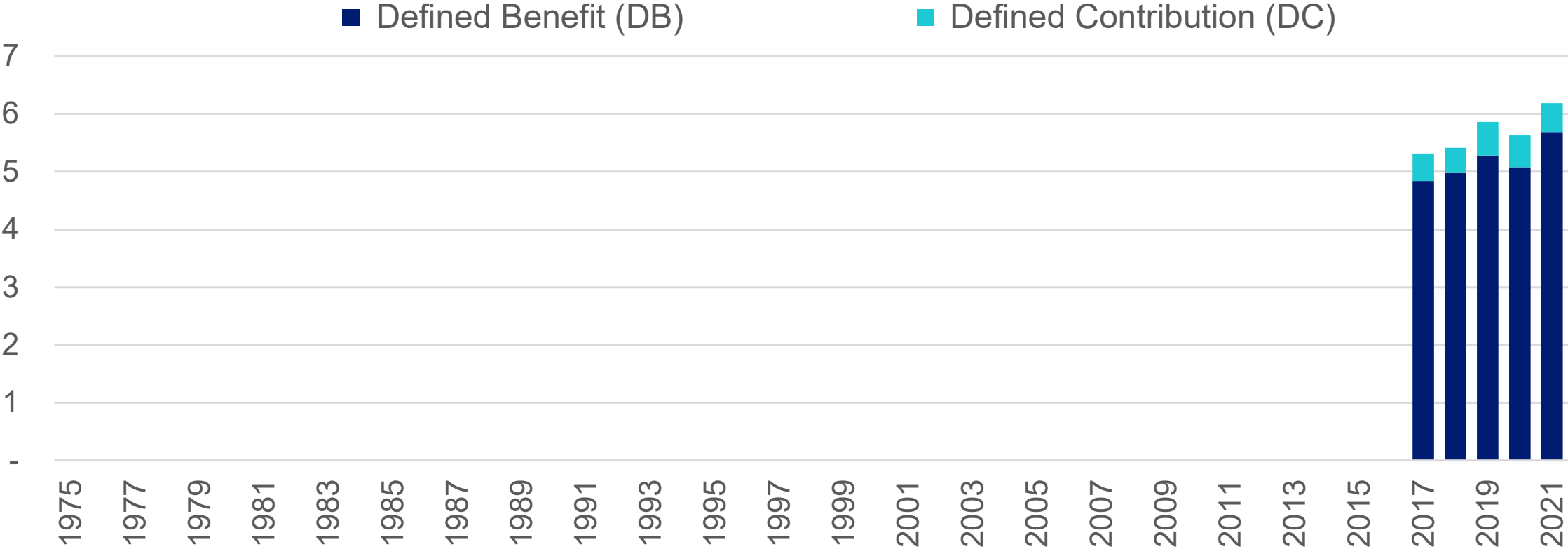
Total Assets (\$Billions)



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: multiple-employer plans

Multiple-Employer Plans

Active Participants (Millions)



Source: EBSA study of private retirement plan data, 1975-2021: multiple-employer plans

EBSA Study

- *Private Pension Plan Bulletin Historical Tables and Graphs 1975-2021*
- Published in September 2023 by the Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) of the Department of Labor

Link:

<https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ebsa/researchers/statistics/retirement-bulletins/private-pension-plan-bulletin-historical-tables-and-graphs.pdf>

