

NEW MEXICO

Pensionomics 2016:

Measuring the Economic Impact of DB Pension Expenditures

Key Findings

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

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.

In 2014, expenditures stemming from state and local pensions supported...

- 16,049 jobs that paid \$672.9 million in wages and salaries
- \$2.3 billion in total economic output
- \$450.3 million in federal, state, and local tax revenues

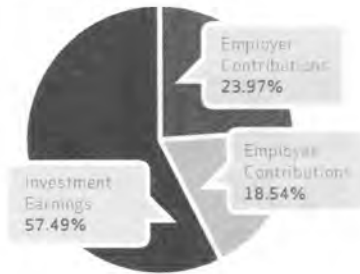
... in the state of New Mexico.

Each dollar paid out in pension benefits supported \$1.24 in total economic activity in New Mexico.

Each dollar "invested" by New Mexico taxpayers in these plans supported \$5.19 in total economic activity in the state.

Overview

Expenditures made by retirees of state and local government provide a steady economic stimulus to New Mexico communities and the state economy. In 2014, 76,230 residents of New Mexico received a total of \$1.8 billion in pension benefits from state and local pension plans.



The average pension benefit received was \$1,973 per month or \$23,673 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.

Between 1993 and 2014, 23.97% of New Mexico's pension fund receipts came from employer contributions, 18.54% from employee contributions, and 57.49% from investment earnings.* Earnings on investments and employee contributions—not taxpayer based contributions—have historically made up the bulk of pension fund receipts.

Impact on Jobs and Incomes

Retiree expenditures stemming from state and local pension plan benefits supported 16,049 jobs in the state. The total income to state residents supported by pension expenditures was \$672.9 million.

To put these employment impacts in perspective, in 2014 New Mexico's unemployment rate was 6.7%. The fact that DB pension expenditures supported 16,049 jobs is significant, as it represents 0.83 percentage points in New Mexico's labor force.

Economic Impact

State and local pension funds in New Mexico and other states paid a total of \$1.8 billion in benefits to New Mexico residents in 2014. Retirees' expenditures from these benefits supported a total of \$2.3 billion in total economic output in the state, and \$1.2 billion in value added in the state.

\$1.0 billion in direct economic impacts were supported by retirees' initial expenditures. An additional \$734.0 million in indirect impact resulted when these businesses purchased additional goods and services. \$491.1 million in induced impacts occurred when workers employed by businesses as a result of the direct and indirect impacts made expenditures.

————— Total Economic Impact **\$2.3 billion** —————

**DIRECT
IMPACT**
\$1.0 billion

**INDIRECT
IMPACT**
\$734.0 million

**INDUCED
IMPACT**
\$491.1 million

Economic Multipliers

Taxpayer Contribution Factor*



\$1.00

contributed by taxpayers to New Mexico pensions over 30 years



\$5.19

total output

Each \$1 in taxpayer contributions to New Mexico's state and local pension plans supported \$5.19 in total output in the state. This reflects the fact that taxpayer contributions are a minor source of financing for retirement benefits—investment earnings and employee contributions finance the lion's share.

Pension Benefit Multiplier



\$1.00

pension benefits paid to retirees in New Mexico



\$1.24

total output

Each \$1 in state and local pension benefits paid to New Mexico residents ultimately supported \$1.24 in total output in the state. This "multiplier" incorporates the direct, indirect, and induced impacts of retiree spending, as it ripples through the state economy.

*Caution should be used in interpreting these numbers. See the Technical Appendix of the full *Pensionomics* report for details.

Impact on Tax Revenues

State and local pension payments made to New Mexico residents supported a total of \$450.3 million in revenue to federal, state, and local governments. Taxes paid by retirees and beneficiaries directly out of pension payments totaled \$162.6 million. Taxes attributable to direct, indirect and induced impacts accounted for \$287.6 million in tax revenue.

Federal Tax	\$218.8 million
State/Local Tax	\$231.5 million
Total	\$450.3 million

Economic Impacts by Industry Sector

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

Industry	Employment Impact (# Jobs)	Labor Income Impact	Value Added Impact	Output Impact
Full-Service Restaurants	752	\$15,245,842	\$15,858,768	\$31,037,623
Limited-Service Restaurants	720	\$12,889,206	\$27,746,697	\$52,909,655
Real Estate	672	\$7,450,541	\$104,677,999	\$139,381,869
Hospitals	644	\$47,666,277	\$55,238,117	\$95,256,666
Home Health Care Services	436	\$11,250,460	\$8,354,876	\$12,927,095
Retail - General Merchandise Stores	421	\$11,484,180	\$18,263,528	\$28,766,050
Individual and Family Services	420	\$8,610,572	\$8,752,565	\$13,391,572
Offices of Physicians	397	\$31,196,895	\$30,286,383	\$48,778,560
Retail - Food and Beverage Stores	359	\$10,854,723	\$15,860,606	\$23,579,259
Nursing and Community Care Facilities	318	\$11,123,075	\$12,337,152	\$20,040,955

Industry totals include the first round of impacts from pension payments to state residents, and do not account for recaptured "leakage" to or from other states.