

# Summary of the Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions for 2013:Q3<sup>1</sup>

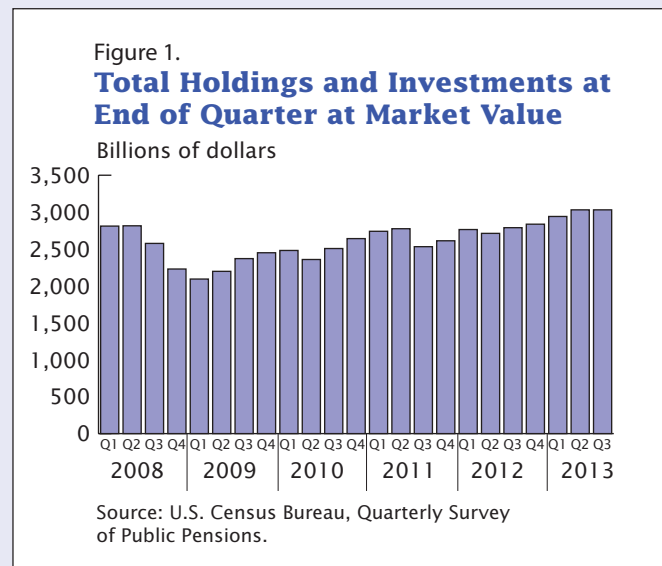
## TOTAL HOLDINGS AND INVESTMENTS OF MAJOR PUBLIC PENSION SYSTEMS PASS \$3.0 TRILLION FOR THE FIRST TIME

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G13-QSPP3

### 2013 QUARTER 3

For the 100 largest public-employee retirement systems in the country, cash and security holdings totaled \$3,061.0 billion in the third quarter of 2013, reaching the highest level since the survey began in 1968. Cash and security holdings had a quarter-to-quarter increase of 4.0 percent, from \$2,944.3 billion last quarter, and a year-to-year increase of 9.8 percent, from \$2,788.1 billion in the third quarter of 2012. Earnings on investments totaled \$120.1 billion in the third quarter of 2013.



### CORPORATE STOCKS

Corporate stocks quarter-to-quarter increased 3.8 percent, from \$1,018.5 billion to \$1,057.7 billion in the third quarter of 2013. Corporate stocks year-to-year increased 11.4 percent from \$949.6 billion in the third quarter of 2012. Corporate stocks comprised about a third (34.6 percent) of the total cash and security holdings of major public pension systems for the current quarter.

### CORPORATE BONDS

Corporate bonds quarter-to-quarter increased 0.5 percent from \$321.5 billion to \$323.2 billion in the third quarter of 2013. Corporate bonds year-to-year decreased 7.1 percent from \$347.8 billion in the third quarter of 2012. Corporate bonds comprised about a tenth (10.6 percent) of the total cash and security holdings of major public pension systems for the current quarter.

### INTERNATIONAL SECURITIES

International securities quarter-to-quarter increased 7.8 percent from \$591.5 billion to \$637.8 billion in the third quarter of 2013. International securities year-to-year increased 16.6 percent from \$547.1 in the third quarter of 2012. International securities comprised about a fifth (20.8 percent) of total cash and security holdings of major public pension systems for the current quarter.

<sup>1</sup> This summary is based on the Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions, which consists of a panel of the 100 largest state and local government pension systems, as determined by their total cash and security holdings reported in the 2007 Census of Governments. These 100 systems comprised 89.4 percent of financial activity among such entities, based on the 2007 Census of Governments. Each of the 100 systems represents itself only. These data are not subject to sampling error, but are subject to various nonsampling errors, such as errors of nonresponse and respondent error.

For further information on public pensions, please visit our Web site at <[www.census.gov/govs](http://www.census.gov/govs)> or contact Governments Division, U.S. Census Bureau, at **1-888-529-1963** or by e-mail at <[govs.pensions@census.gov](mailto:govs.pensions@census.gov)>.



## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

Federal government securities quarter-to-quarter decreased 0.2 percent, from \$266.2 billion to \$265.7 billion in the third quarter of 2013. Federal government securities year-to-year increased 8.1 percent, from \$245.8 billion in the third quarter of 2012. Federal government securities comprised less than a tenth (8.7 percent) of the total cash and security holdings of major public pension systems for the current quarter.

## CONTRIBUTIONS AND PAYMENTS

Government contributions had a quarter-to-quarter decrease of 3.2 percent, from \$22.9 billion to \$22.2

billion in the third quarter of 2013, and a year-to-year increase of 14.5 percent, from \$19.4 billion in the third quarter of 2012. Employee contributions had a quarter-to-quarter decrease of 27.5 percent, from \$11.4 billion to \$8.3 billion in the third quarter of 2013, and a year-to-year increase of 3.9 percent, from \$7.9 billion in the third quarter of 2012. Government contributions to employee contributions had a 2.7 to 1 ratio this quarter—government contributions comprised 72.9 percent and employee contributions comprised 27.1 percent of total contributions. Total payments totaled \$59.3 billion, decreasing 4.5 percent, from \$62.1 billion last quarter, and a year-to-year increase of 8.7 percent, from \$54.6 billion in the third quarter of 2012.

Figure 2.  
**Corporate Stocks<sup>1</sup> and Corporate Bonds<sup>2</sup> at End of Quarter at Market Value**

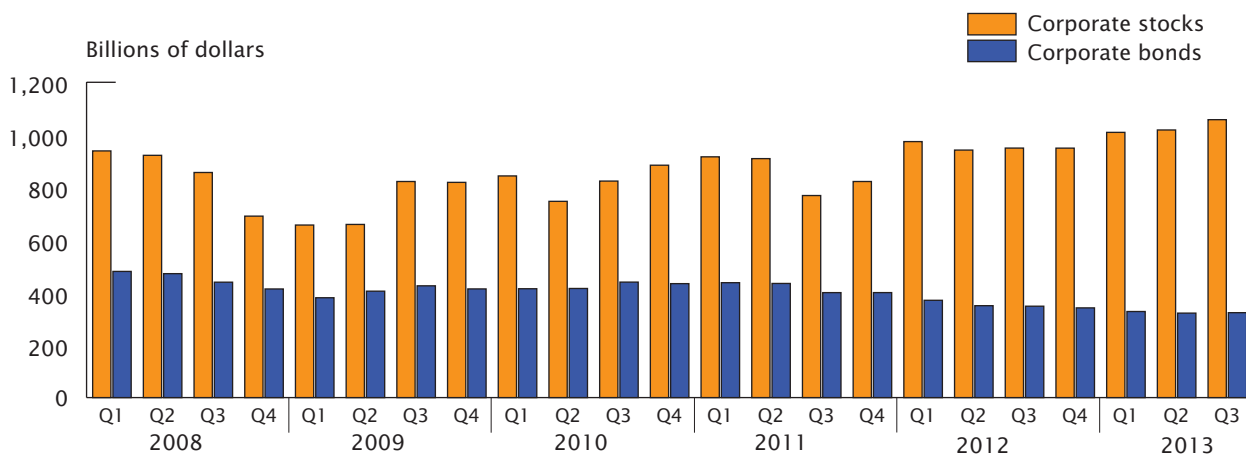
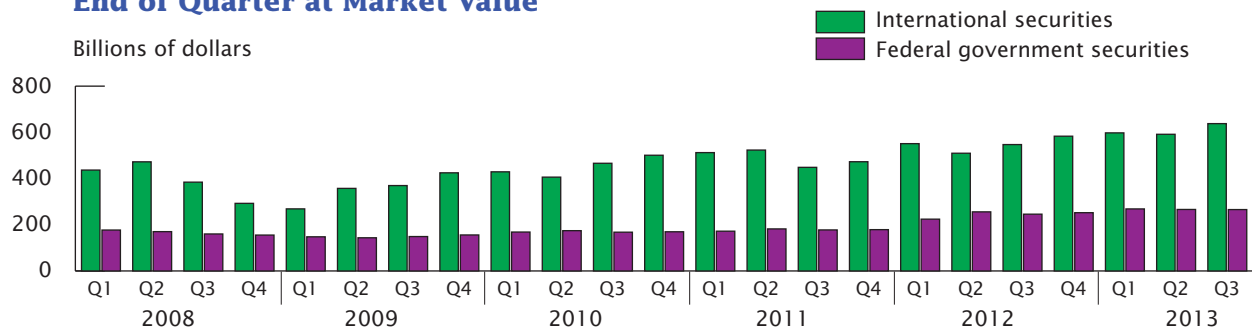


Figure 3.  
**International Securities and Federal Government Securities<sup>2</sup> at End of Quarter at Market Value**



<sup>1</sup> Effective with the first quarter of 2012, private equity, venture capital, and leveraged buy-outs are now classified under *corporate stocks* instead of other securities. As such, for these asset categories, any data comparisons between the quarters of 2012 and the quarters prior to 2012 should be exercised with caution.

<sup>2</sup> Effective with the first quarter of 2012, federally-sponsored agency securities are now classified under *federal government securities* instead of corporate bonds. As such, for these asset categories, any data comparisons between the quarters of 2012 and the quarters prior to 2012 should be exercised with caution.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions.