Pension Fund Association for Local Government

**Fiscal Year 2021** 

# **Review of Operations**

## **Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund**





[DISCLAIMER] When there are any discrepancies between the original Japanese version and the English translation version, the original Japanese version shall prevail.

#### [Abbreviations]

- Local Public Service Mutual Aid Associations: Collectively means the Mutual Aid Association of Prefectural Government Personnel, the Japan Mutual Aid Association of Public School Teachers, the Japan Police Personnel Mutual Aid Association, the Mutual Benefit Association for Tokyo Metropolitan Government Employees, the National Federation of Mutual Aid Associations for Municipal Personnel and the Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials.
- **Member associations:** Collectively means the Mutual Aid Association of Prefectural Government Personnel, the Japan Mutual Aid Association of Public School Teachers, the Japan Police Personnel Mutual Aid Association, the Mutual Benefit Association for Tokyo Metropolitan Government Employees and the National Federation of Mutual Aid Associations for Municipal Personnel.

National Federation: National Federation of Mutual Aid Associations for Municipal Personnel

**Association:** Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials

**KKR:** Federation of National Public Service Personnel Mutual Aid Associations

**PMAC:** Promotion and Mutual Aid Corporation for Private Schools of Japan

- **GPIF:** Government Pension Investment Fund
- **EPI Act:** Employees' Pension Insurance Act (Act No. 115 of 1954)
- Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act: Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act (Act No. 152 of 1962)
- Order for Enforcement of Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act: Order for Enforcement of Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act (Cabinet Order No. 352 of 1962)
- Regulation for Enforcement of Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act: Regulation for Enforcement of Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act (Ministerial Order of Ministry of Home Affairs No. 20 of 1962)
- Implementation Procedures for Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act: Implementation Procedures for Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act (Ministerial Order of Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and Ministry of Home Affairs No. 1 of 1962)

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Fiscal Year 2021 Investment Results (Overview)



As pension investment funds are intended for long-term investment, the investment status must be judged from the long-term perspective.

The Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund is based on book value as the funds are invested in domestic bonds on the premise of continued holding until maturity.

# Section 1 Administration and Investment of Funds in FY2021 1 Investment results

## (1) Asset mix

The shares in the asset mix were as follows:

						(Unit: %)
	End of FY2020		Fiscal Ye	ear 2021		Benchmark
		End of Q1	End of Q2	End of Q3	End of FY	portfolio
Domestic bonds	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Short-term assets	(0.3)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.1)	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	



Composition by Investment Asset Class



## (2) Investment return

The realized return (book value basis) came to 0.34%.

Domestic bonds held by the Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund were evaluated based on book value on the premise of continued holding until maturity.

					(Unit: %)
		Fis	scal Year 20	21	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY Total
Realized return (book value basis)	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.34
Domestic bonds	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.34
Short-term assets	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)

(Reference)					(Unit: %)
	Fiscal Year 2021				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY Total
Return (market value basis)	0.68	0.15	-0.09	-1.67	-1.11

(Note 1) The return in each quarter is the period rate.

(Note 2) Unless otherwise specified, the return (market value basis) refers to the modified total return. (The same shall apply hereinafter.)

(Note 3) The return (market value basis) represents the realized return (book value basis) adjusted for the effects of changes in valuation gains/losses based on market value.

(Note 4) The realized return (book value basis) and return (market value basis) represent the figures after the deduction of fees, etc.

## (3) Investment income

#### The realized income (book value basis) was ¥273 million.

				(Un	it: JPY100M)	
	Fiscal Year 2021					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY Total	
Realized income (book value basis)	0.65	0.65	0.69	0.73	2.73	
Domestic bonds	0.65	0.65	0.69	0.73	2.73	
Short-term assets	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	

(Reference) (Unit: JPY100M					
	Fiscal Year 2021				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY Total
Investment income (market value basis)	5.17	1.16	-0.78	-14.55	-8.99

(Note 1) The realized income (book value basis) represents the sum of trading profits/losses and interest income, etc.

(Note 2) The realized income (book value basis) and investment income (market value basis) represent the figures after the deduction of fees.

(Note 3) The investment income (market value basis) represents the realized income (book value basis) adjusted for the effects of changes in valuation gains/losses based on market value.

(Note 4) Due to rounding, the total sum of individual figures may not necessarily add up to the FY total.

## (4) Value of assets

The value of investment assets (book value basis) was ¥89.6 billion.

														(Unit:	JPY100M)
									Fiscal Ye	ear 2021					
	End of FY2020		End of Q1			End of Q2			End of Q3			End of FY			
	Book value	Market value	Valuation gains/losses												
Domestic bonds	757	760	3	757	765	8	780	788	8	830	837	7	896	887	-9
Short-term assets	(2)	(2)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Total	757	760	3	757	765	8	780	788	8	830	837	7	896	887	-9

## (5) Fees

There are no fees related to investment because the full amount of funds of the Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund is invested in domestic bonds through in-house investment, etc.

## 2 Risk management

## (1) Approach to risk management

Generally speaking, "risk" refers to the "possibility of an incident that could have a negative impact on an organization's goals and objectives." In the field of asset investment, "risk" refers to the range of fluctuations of expected return on investment. Risk in this sense includes not only the possibility of failing to secure the required yield but also the range of fluctuations of return on investment due to various risks, such as interest rate risk, price fluctuation risk, credit risk, and liquidity risk.

Therefore, for asset investment, it is important to consider various risks commensurate with investment from a long-term perspective.

The Association appropriately implements risk management for investment in accordance with the implementation policy for risk management concerning investment of the Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund in consideration of the following points: that investment of funds should be made safely and efficiently from a long-term perspective and the characteristics of a cash balance-type pension plan that links the benefit level to the government bond yield or other benchmarks.

Implementation policy for risk management concerning investment of the Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund (excerpt)

1 Basic approach concerning risk management

The Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials ("Association") appropriately conducts risk management related to the investment of adjustment funds in light of the following matters.

- (1) Manage adjustment funds safely and efficiently from a long-term perspective.
- (2) A benchmark portfolio should be developed and investment of adjustment funds should be made based on it.
- (3) In the investment of the adjustment funds, consideration should be constantly given to the relationship between the liabilities related to the Annuity Retirement Benefits operations and the funds in the future in light of the characteristics of a cash-balance pension plan, whose benefit level is linked to the government bond yield and other benchmarks.

Section

## (2) Risk management efforts

#### Management of the deviation of the asset mix

Investment based on the benchmark portfolio requires the management of various risk factors. Therefore, in order to secure profits in line with the benchmark portfolio from the long-term perspective, it is important, in particular, to manage the degree of deviation of the asset mix of the actual portfolio from that of the benchmark portfolio.

Specifically, for its assets as a whole, the Association keeps track of and manages the status of the deviation of the actual portfolio from the benchmark portfolio in terms of the asset mix.

#### Management of asset administration institutions

The Association requires asset administration institutions to improve systems to fulfill the fiduciary responsibilities and ensure compliance and appropriately manages them by keeping track of their status of asset administration.

#### Reporting on the status of risk management and improvement measures implemented

The Association reports on the status of risk management and improvement measures implemented to the Investment Risk Management Committee, the Fund Management Committee of Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials and the Governing Council.

## (3) Status of risk management

The full amount of funds of the Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund is invested in domestic bonds.

The duration deviation from NOMURA-BPI Overall ranged from 1.6 years to 2.1 years.



[Change in deviation of domestic bonds durations against NOMURA-BPI Overall]

#### Section 2

## **Businesses and Fund Management of Association**

### Establishment

Article 43 of the Local Public Service Act provides "A mutual aid system shall be implemented in order to provide appropriate benefits in cases of employees' illness, injury, childbirth, involuntary leave, calamity, retirement, disability or death, or their dependents' illness, injury, child birth, death or calamity." Based on this provision, the Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act has been enacted.

The pension fund system for local government officials was established in December 1962 as a system to comprehensively manage the long-term benefits program, short-term benefits program and welfare services program for local government employees and their families, for the purpose of providing mutual aid for local government employees.

The Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials was established on April 1, 1984, in order to stabilize the foundation of pension finance by integrating the pension funding units and to ensure appropriate and smooth management of operations related to long-term benefits of member associations so that sound management of the pension system can be maintained. The Japan Mutual Aid Association of Public School Teachers and the Japan Police Personnel Mutual Aid Association became members in April 1990, and the Association has become a federation comprising all member associations.



#### Outline of Local Public Service Mutual Aid Associations

#### **Major operations** 2

The Association conducts the following operations in order to maintain sound management of pension systems related to local government officials.

- · Administration and investment of funds
- · Investment of surplus funds entrusted by member associations
- · Provision of technical and professional knowledge and reference materials related to operations concerning long-term benefits of member associations
- · Exchange of information and communication and coordination with the implementing organizations prescribed under the EPI Act
- · Matters concerning contributions and grants related to employees' pension insurance. Payment of National Pension contributions.
- · Calculation of the following items related to retirement and other pension benefits: the entitlement rate, the standard interest rate, the present value rates of lifetime pensions and fixed-term pensions, and the ratio of the standard monthly remuneration to premiums and the ratio of the standard termend allowances, etc. to premiums
- · Handling of matters related to payment to and receipt from the KKR of fiscal adjustment contributions
- Exchange of information related to special levies of nursing care insurance premiums, etc. from pension benefits
- · Businesses related to sharing of pension information under the "My Number" system
- · Operations intended to achieve other objectives (e.g., administrative works related to the aggregation of pension coverage periods in Japan and other countries)

## Organization

## (1) Governing Council

Pursuant to the provisions of the Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act, the Association is required to establish a Governing Council. The Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications must appoint members from among individuals who possess broad knowledge concerning matters pertaining to the operations of the Local Public Service Mutual Aid Associations. In this case, half of all members must be representatives of members of individual mutual aid associations.

Revision of the articles of incorporation, the formulation and revision of the rules of operations, annual business plans, budgets and account settlement, disposal of important assets and assumption of significant debt are subject to deliberation by the Governing Council.

Meanwhile, the Governing Council is empowered to investigate and deliberate important matters pertaining to the operations of the Association upon request from the President and to present proposals to the President with respect to the matters for which the need to do so is recognized.

## (2) Fund Management Committee of Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials

## Outline of Fund Management Committee of Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials

To study expert matters pertaining to the administration and investment of adjustment funds based on the Basic Policy for Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund, the Association has established the Fund Management Committee of Pension Fund Association for Local Government Officials, which is comprised of individuals who possess academic knowledge or practical experience in areas such as economics, finance, and fund management (the "Fund Management Committee").

The Fund Management Committee can discuss and receive reports concerning expert matters related to the administration and investment of each adjustment fund and also can express its opinions on important matters upon request from the President.

#### Matters for deliberation and report by the Fund Management Committee

Deliberation matters	Reporting matters
<ul> <li>Matters concerning establishment and revision of the basic policy</li> <li>Matters concerning establishment and revision of risk management implementation policy</li> <li>Matters concerning establishment and revision of investment policy for new investment instruments</li> <li>Matters concerning establishment and revision of flexible investment policies</li> <li>Matters concerning establishment and revision of the selection criteria for entrusted investment management institutions, etc.</li> <li>Matters concerning the revision, etc. of the Corporate Governance Principles and the Guidelines for Exercising Shareholders' Voting Right</li> <li>Other expert matters concerning the administration and investment of each adjustment fund</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Investment performance</li> <li>Status of risk management</li> <li>Investment status of new investment instruments</li> <li>Status of selection of entrusted investment management institutions, etc.</li> <li>Status of stewardship activities</li> <li>Status of training and nurturing of expert personnel</li> <li>Other matters required by the Fund Management Committee concerning the administration and investment of each adjustment fund</li> </ul>

#### List of Fund Management Committee Members (As of April 1, 2022)

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Hidetaka Kawakita	Kyoto University, Professor Emeritus
Konosuke Kita	Russell Investments Japan Co., Ltd.
	Executive Consultant/Director, Consulting
Hisae Sato	Trustee, International Christian University
Yoshiko Takayama	J-Eurus IR Co., Ltd.
	Managing Director
Hitoshi Takehara	Professor, Waseda Business School (Graduate School of
	Business and Finance)
Katsuyuki Tokushima	Director, Member of the Board
	Head of Pension Research, CMA
	Financial Research Department
Chairperson Takaaki Wakasugi	The University of Tokyo, Professor Emeritus
	Chairman, Japan Corporate Governance Research
	Institute

■Past Meetings of the Fund Management Committee	

Meeting number	Meeting date	Main theme
37th Meeting	July 13, 2021	<ul> <li>Review of Operations reports concerning administration and investment of individual funds in FY2020 (Association)</li> <li>Status of risk management of individual funds in FY2020 (Association)</li> <li>Examination of the benchmark portfolio of the Annuity Retirement Benefit Adjustment Fund</li> <li>Support for the TCFD</li> <li>Implementation of the asset manager registration system</li> </ul>
		regarding foreign bonds <ul> <li>Status of asset allocation in FY2021 (April-May)</li> </ul>
38th Meeting	November 22, 2021	<ul> <li>Response to inclusion of Chinese government bonds in the FTSE World Government Bond Index</li> <li>Revision of the Basic Policy for Employees' Pension Insurance Benefit Adjustment Fund</li> <li>Basic Policy for the Transitional Long-Term Benefits (TLTB) Adjustment Fund</li> <li>Status of selection of active products regarding foreign bonds, etc.</li> <li>Start of selection of active products regarding foreign equities</li> <li>Status of investment of individual funds in the second quarter of FY2021 (Association)</li> <li>Status of risk management of individual funds in the first quarter of FY2021 (Association)</li> <li>Status of asset allocation in FY2021 (April-September)</li> </ul>
39th Meeting	February 2, 2022	<ul> <li>Revision of the Corporate Governance Principles, Guidelines for Exercising Shareholders' Voting Rights (Domestic Equities) and Guidelines for Exercising Shareholders' Voting Rights (Foreign Equities) of the Association</li> <li>Status of investment in alternative assets</li> </ul>
40th Meeting	March 29, 2022	<ul> <li>Status of investment of individual funds in the third quarter of FY2021 (Association)</li> <li>Status of risk management of individual funds in the third quarter of FY2021 (Association)</li> <li>Examination of the benchmark portfolio of the Employees' Pension Insurance Benefit Adjustment Fund</li> <li>Examination of the benchmark portfolio of the Transitional Long- term Benefit Adjustment Fund</li> <li>Annual Stewardship Activity Report FY2021</li> <li>Review of investments in FY2021, and investment policy in FY2022</li> </ul>

## (3) Executives and Secretariat

#### Executives

The Association is required to appoint the President, eight executive directors and three auditors. The President, two of the executive directors, and one of the auditors must serve on a full-time basis.

#### Secretariat

The Association's Secretariat is comprised of three departments, 11 divisions (there is also a system manager outside the divisions), and one office.

As of April 1, 2022, the prescribed number of employees at the Secretariat is 80.



## (4) Meetings

#### Asset Management Committee

The Association has established the Asset Management Committee, which is chaired by a full-time executive director responsible for fund management, in order to conduct preliminary deliberation when the President makes important decisions concerning the management of status of investment of funds of member associations as well as the management and investment of funds by the Association.

In principle, the Committee shall hold a monthly meeting and shall also meet as necessary.

The chairperson shall promptly report to the President on the status of discussions at the Committee.

#### Investment Risk Management Committee

The Association has established the Investment Risk Management Committee, which is chaired by the President, in order to deliberate matters pertaining to the risk management of investment of funds so that the risk management can be appropriately conducted.

Unlike the Asset Management Committee, this committee is under the direct control of the President in order to ensure mutual checks and balances between the risk management side and the investment side. In principle, the Investment Risk Management Committee shall hold a regular quarterly meeting and shall also meet as necessary.

## (5) Governance structure



## 4 Investment of funds

## (1) Mechanisms

The Association formulates Administration and Investment Policy, which serves as the common policy for administration and investment organizations (the Local Public Service Mutual Aid Associations) subject to approval from the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications (Article 112-10 of the Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act).

A Basic Policy pertaining to administration and investment of funds is formulated by the administration and investment organizations so as to conform to the Administration and Investment Policy set by the Association (Article 112-11 of the Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act).



## (2) Basic approach to investment

#### Basic policy

As a basic policy, investment shall be made for the purpose of contributing to the stable management of the annuity retirement benefit operations in light of the characteristics of a cash balance-type pension program, whose benefit level is linked to the government bond yield or other benchmarks.

The benchmark portfolio shall be determined and appropriately managed so as to secure the necessary investment return on funds (meaning the assumed return (the assumed return as stipulated in Article 28, Paragraph (5) of the Order for Enforcement of Local Public Officers, etc. Mutual Aid Association Act)) at the minimum risk.