

# MRTA Summary Fact Sheet

The Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel (MRTA) is an organization founded in December 1960 in Jefferson City, Missouri. It was originally established by a group of eleven retired teachers who met at the Governor Hotel in Jefferson City. These retirees represented five different school system areas, including St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Columbia, Lebanon, and Springfield.

MRTA was incorporated as a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit corporation. Over the years, it has become Missouri's largest and only Education Association with a primary focus on the welfare and advocacy of public school retirees. MRTA has grown significantly and now represents over 30,000 retired educators in Missouri.

MRTA's mission is to support and represent retired educators in the state, ensuring that their interests are protected and their contributions to education are recognized and valued. This organization plays a crucial role in advocating for the needs and concerns of retired teachers and other school personnel in Missouri's public education system.

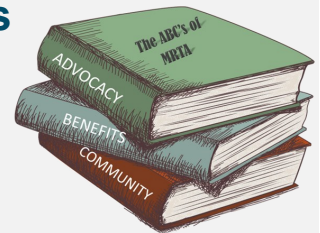


**Join Now**

- Year Founded:** 1960
- Board Makeup:** 12 Member (5 elected)
- Regions/Units:** 14 Regions/ 106 units, every county is represented
- Membership :** 30,254
- Grants Given:** 126 certificated/28 non-certificated
- Monetary Value:** \$611,000 (Grants/Scholarships)

## MRTA Advantages

Our retired teachers, educational professionals, administrators, and public school personnel gave so much during their careers to our public schools, school children, and local communities. Now, it is our duty to ensure that our retirees can enjoy their retirement with dignity, financial security, and retirement stability.

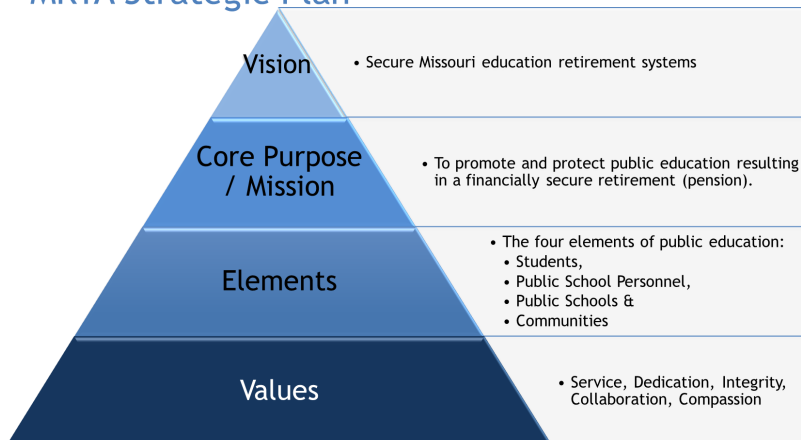


## Core Purpose (Mission)

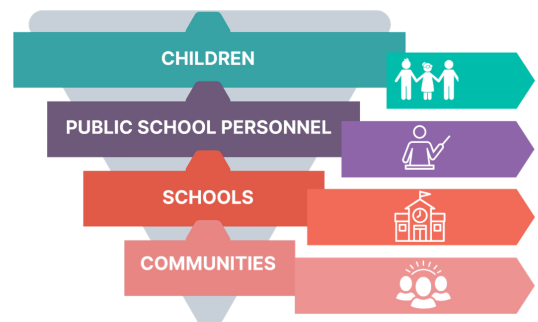
To promote and protect public education resulting in a financially secure retirement (pension). The four elements of public education: Students, Public School Personnel, Public Schools & Communities.



## MRTA Strategic Plan



To promote and protect our children, public schools, public school personnel, and communities which will result in a financially secure retirement (pension). Through advocacy, members, collaboration, philanthropy and compassion we can elevate public education and careers in education for strong retirement/pensions.

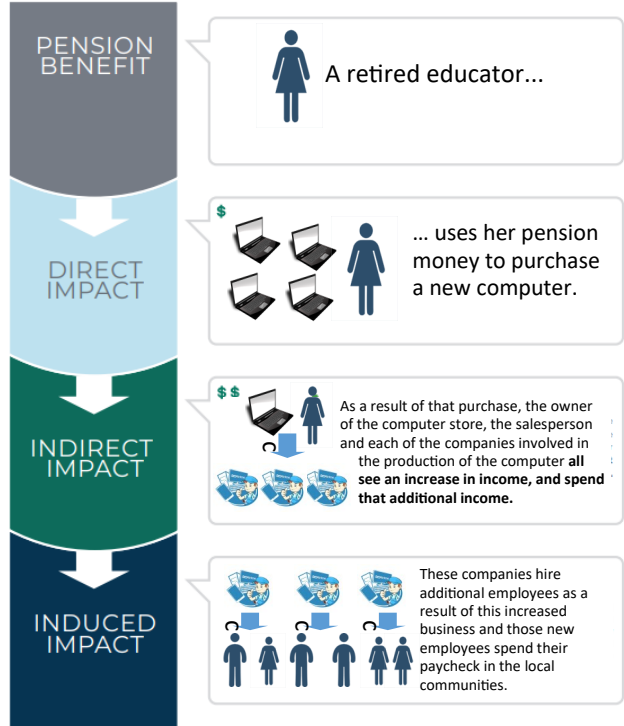
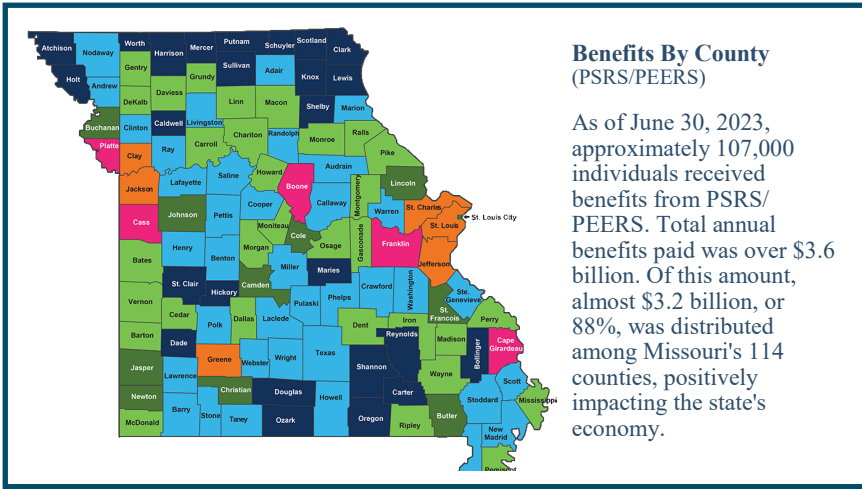


**FINANCIALLY SECURE RETIREMENT (PENSION).**



*Building a Better Tomorrow*

# Measuring the Economic Impact of Public School Pensions In Missouri



State and local pension funds in Missouri and other states paid a total of \$5.7 billion in benefits to Missouri residents in 2020. Retirees' expenditures from these benefits supported a total of \$7.5 billion in total economic output in the state, and \$4.3 billion in value added in the state. —National Institute on Retirement Security

**Taxpayer Investment Factor**

\$1.00 contributed by taxpayers to Missouri pensions over 30 years

\$5.31 total output

Each \$1 in taxpayer contributions to Missouri's state and local pension plans supported \$5.31 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 pension savings.

Pensions are effective at supporting retirement security because they:

- Provide a reasonable lifetime benefit that does not run out.
- Deliver a regular benefit so that retirees have an easier time budgeting.
- Are professionally managed so that members do not have to make investment decisions.
- Does not allow participants to borrow or withdraw before retirement.

## Advocacy for Public Schools - What is Right with Missouri Public Education?

- Experienced Teachers**  
Experienced teachers matter the most when it comes to student success.
- 95% Reach Retirement**  
95% of teachers entering their 15th year of service will stay in teaching until they reach retirement eligibility.
- 22.5 Years of Service**  
In 2020-2021, the average number of service for a Missouri teacher was 22.5 years.
- MO Kids Excel**  
Missouri's children perform above the national average due to experienced and professional public school teachers.

**MO High School Graduation Rates**

86% Nationwide | 90% Missouri

**Students to take ACT**

52% Nationwide | 76% Missouri

**Nationwide Missouri ACT Composite Scores**

20.6 | 20.8

**50<sup>th</sup> Revenue Spent on Public Schools**

**50<sup>th</sup> Starting Teacher Pay**

**45<sup>th</sup> Average Teacher Pay**