



Retirement Security
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Measuring the Economic Impact of DB Pension Expenditures

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

Key Findings

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 2018, expenditures stemming from state and local pensions supported...

- 18,344 jobs that paid \$900.1 million in wages and salaries
- \$3.1 billion in total economic output
- \$413.4 million in federal, state, and local tax revenues

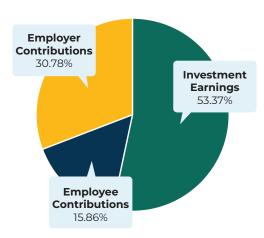
... in the state of Kansas.

Each dollar paid out in pension benefits supported \$1.60 in total economic activity in Kansas.

Each dollar "invested" by Kansas taxpayers in these pension plans supported \$5.20 in total economic activity in the state.

Overview

Expenditures made by retirees of state and local government provide a steady economic stimulus to Kansas communities and the state economy. In 2018, 109,967 residents of Kansas received a total of \$2.0 billion in pension benefits from state and local pension plans.



The average pension benefit received was \$1,488 per month or \$17,856 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 2018, 30.78% of Kansas's pension fund receipts came from employer contributions, 15.86% from employee contributions, and 53.37% 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 18,344 jobs in the state. The total income to state residents supported by pension expenditures was \$900.1 million.

To put these employment impacts in perspective, in 2018 Kansas's unemployment rate was 3.3%. The fact that DB pension expenditures supported 18,344 jobs is significant, as it represents 1.30 percentage points in Kansas's labor force.

Economic Impact

State and local pension funds in Kansas and other states paid a total of \$2.0 billion in benefits to Kansas residents in 2018. Retirees' expenditures from these benefits supported a total of \$3.1 billion in total economic output in the state, and \$1.6 billion in value added in the state.

\$1.4 billion in direct economic impacts were supported by retirees' initial expenditures. An additional \$1.1 billion in indirect impact resulted when these businesses purchased additional goods and services. \$696.0 million in induced impacts occurred when workers employed by businesses as a result of the direct and indirect impacts made expenditures.

Total Economic Impact \$3.1 billion

DIRECT IMPACT \$1.4 billion INDIRECT IMPACT \$1.1 billion INDUCED
IMPACT
\$696.0 million

Economic Multipliers



Each \$1 in taxpayer contributions to Kansas's state and local pension plans supported \$5.20 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











Each \$1 in state and local pension benefits paid to Kansas residents ultimately supported \$1.60 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.

Impact on Tax Revenues

State and local pension payments made to Kansas residents supported a total of \$413.4 million in revenue to federal, state, and local governments. Taxes paid by retirees and beneficiaries directly out of pension payments totaled \$60.9 million. Taxes attributable to direct, indirect, and induced impacts accounted for \$352.5 million in tax revenue.

Federal Tax	\$249.1 million		
State/Local Tax	\$164.3 million		
Total	\$413.4 million		

Economic Impacts by Industry Sector

The economic impact of state and local pension benefits was broadly felt across various industry sectors in Kansas. 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
Hospitals	916.60	\$69,214,823	\$81,621,158	\$158,453,259
Limited-service restaurants	839.70	\$16,981,643	\$28,427,776	\$63,562,810
Full-service restaurants	768.70	\$17,498,747	\$26,748,460	\$49,171,063
Offices of physicians	506.60	\$54,848,225	\$63,007,410	\$93,187,096
Retail - Food and beverage stores	486.10	\$14,521,236	\$22,897,901	\$36,982,135
Nursing and community care facilities	485.70	\$18,046,399	\$20,535,841	\$37,130,515
Retail - General merchandise stores	484.80	\$14,375,095	\$23,551,594	\$36,817,814
Other real estate	431.90	\$10,287,104	\$30,076,568	\$80,784,874
Individual and family services	348.10	\$8,699,943	\$8,143,751	\$12,903,307
Retail - Nonstore retailers	334.70	\$4,230,902	\$17,812,560	\$42,317,493

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