



Treasury Board of Canada
Secrétariat

Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor
du Canada

Canada

Report on the Public Service Pension Plan

for the Fiscal Year
Ended March 31, 2021



ANNUAL REPORT

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represented by the President of the Treasury Board, 2022

Catalogue No. BT1-13E-PDF
ISSN 2291-4285

This document is available on the Government of Canada website at www.canada.ca

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., O.Q., C.D.,
Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada

Excellency:

I have the honour of submitting to Your Excellency the *Report on the Public Service Pension Plan for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2021*.

Respectfully,

Original signed by

The Honourable Mona Fortier, P.C., M.P.
President of the Treasury Board

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Message from the President of the Treasury Board

The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat oversees the management of the plan by providing strategic leadership, governance and administrative oversight to help ensure its integrity.

— The Honourable Mona Fortier, P.C., M.P.



I am pleased to present the annual *Report on the Public Service Pension Plan for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2021*. This Report provides information on how the Government of Canada has managed this plan over the last fiscal year, and will be of interest to plan members, parliamentarians and Canadians.

The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat supports the management of the public service pension plan. It helps maintain the plan's financial integrity and sustainability by providing strategic advice, governance, and administrative oversight to the President of the Treasury Board.

Since the reporting period covered in this report, the government took additional action to modernize the plan by amending the *Public Service Superannuation Regulations* to extend a single-rate pension contribution for plan members on leave for caregiving purposes. This change reduces the financial impact of taking caregiving leave and affords plan members the same treatment as their counterparts in federally regulated industries. It also removes the gendered impact of the previous policy given that caregivers are disproportionately women. The government will continue to ensure that the public service pension plan provides fair, appropriate and affordable benefits to plan members in a sustainable way.

In a year like no other, I would like to take this opportunity to thank public servants for their tremendous effort to help Canadians over the course of the pandemic. We are fortunate to have a dedicated and professional public service in which all Canadians can take pride.

Original signed by

The Honourable Mona Fortier, P.C., M.P.
President of the Treasury Board



Message from the Chief Human Resources Officer

As Chief Human Resources Officer at the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, I am committed to taking steps to improve our oversight and the funding governance of the *Public Service Pension Plan*.

— Christine Donoghue



I am pleased to highlight some of the progress we made in 2020-2021 to continue to deliver a pension plan to members that is fair and sustainable.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued to demand flexibility and adaptation, the Government of Canada provided measures to plan members such as extending payment schedules for service buybacks, leave without pay contributions and pension overpayments. As well, the Government of Canada temporarily extended most of the time limits under the public service pension plan that would otherwise expire during the pandemic, to allow plan members to meet deadlines set in legislation.

In October 2020, the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat launched the [Public Service Compensation Email Notification System](#)¹ to provide employees and retirees with general information about their public service pension plan along with other compensation information. The system was developed in response to the results of the *2019 Public Service Pension and Benefit Plans Member Survey*, which indicate that the majority of plan members prefer to receive pension and benefits information by email. To date, due to sustained communications efforts throughout the fiscal year, we have over 100,000 subscribers, nearly 60% of which are retired, and hope to maintain this momentum as more plan members sign-up.

Members' use of online tools and information continues to grow; the Government of Canada's pension and benefits website received more than 4.4 million page views during the 2020-21 fiscal. We will continue to improve access to pertinent pension information for members and stakeholders.

I would like to acknowledge the commitment and dedication of all those involved in the effective delivery of the public service pension plan, including its administrator, Public Services and Procurement Canada. I look forward to continued collaboration among all our partners with the shared objective of maintaining a strong and viable pension plan for members.

Original signed by

Christine Donoghue
Chief Human Resources Officer



About this report

This report provides information on the public service pension plan for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021.^{1, ii} It is prepared and tabled in Parliament in accordance with section 46 of the *Public Service Superannuation Act*.ⁱⁱⁱ

As required under section 45 of the *Public Service Superannuation Regulations*,^{iv} the report includes the plan's annual financial statements. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the stated accounting policies set out in [Note 2](#) to the statements, which are based on Canadian accounting standards for pension plans.

About the plan

The public service pension plan provides members with a lifetime income after they retire. In the event of a member's death, the plan also provides benefits to the eligible survivor and children. The benefits are directly related to the employee's salary and period of pensionable service.

The plan is a contributory defined benefit pension plan. This means that the employer and employee make contributions; and the benefits payable on death, disability, termination of service, and retirement are specified in the plan document, in this case, the *Public Service Superannuation Act* and its regulations.

Members

Plan members include full-time, part-time and retired employees of the federal public service, of certain public service corporations^{2, v} and of the public service of the territorial governments.

Benefits

A plan member's benefits are based on their years of [pensionable service](#). A member can accumulate up to 35 years of pensionable service in total.

Benefits are calculated using a formula set out in section 11 of the *Public Service Superannuation Act*.

Members may receive their benefits in one of the following ways:

- ▶ an [immediate annuity](#)
- ▶ a [deferred annuity](#)

1. For information on plan eligibility and benefits, visit [Public service pension at a glance](#).

2. Public service corporation means any board, commission or corporation specified in [Part I of Schedule I](#) of the act.



- ▶ an [annual allowance](#)
- ▶ a [disability](#) retirement annuity

To receive benefits, members must have at least 2 years of pensionable service.

Eligible survivors and children may receive [survivor benefits](#) and [child allowances](#), respectively.

All benefits are indexed annually to cover increases in the cost of living, as determined by the [Consumer Price Index](#). The indexation rate for calendar year 2021 was 1% and 2% for calendar year 2020.

Benefits for service before April 1, 2000, come from the Public Service Superannuation Account.

Benefits for service starting April 1, 2000, come from the Public Service Pension Fund. The [Public Sector Pension Investment Board](#) (PSPIB) was established on September 14, 1999, to manage this fund.

Contributions

Plan contributions are shared between the employer and plan members. Since 2017, the employer-member cost-sharing ratio for current service contributions has been 50:50.

Members' contributions are a percentage of their salary. They are compulsory and are collected through payroll deductions.

Plan financial status

As at March 31, 2021, the plan was in a surplus position, with net assets available for benefits exceeding funded pension obligations.

Net assets available for benefits consist mainly of net investments managed by the PSPIB on behalf of the plan.

Net assets available for benefits:

\$150.1 billion

Funded pension obligations:

\$118.5 billion

Total pension obligations:

\$228.4 billion

Pension obligations measure in today's dollars the benefits that will be paid to members in the future.

The amount of pension obligations is based on an actuarial valuation that is conducted every year, for accounting purposes, by the [Office of the Chief Actuary](#).^{vi} The valuation uses economic assumptions, such as future rates of return on investments, and demographic assumptions, such as life expectancy and retirement age.



Investment returns

Since April 1, 2000, the plan has made regular contribution transfers to the PSPIB for investment. Returns on these investments are key to funding plan benefits. The contribution transfers are over and above benefit payments and administrative costs. As the plan matures, the quantity of assets that come from investment returns is expected to continue growing.

Since 2018, the cumulative net investment returns have exceeded the cumulative net contribution transfers sent to the PSPIB.

Administrative expenses

Under legislation, authorized government organizations and the PSPIB charge eligible administrative expenses to the plan. These are expenses that departments incur for plan administration and for the operating expenses of the PSPIB.

For the year ended March 31, 2021, plan administrative expenses totalled \$493 million. The following table shows the breakdown.

Breakdown of administrative expenses, fiscal year ended March 31, 2021

Paid by	Amount
Government organizations	\$122 million
Public Sector Pension Investment Board	\$371 million
Total	\$493 million



Fiscal year highlights



As at March 31, 2021, the public service pension plan was in an overall surplus position for the funds accumulated for service since April 1, 2000.



The long-term expected return on assets for the Public Service Pension Fund account, which contains funds accumulated for service since April 1, 2000, was maintained.



Member and employer contributions totalled \$5.7 billion for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021.



Benefits paid to members, eligible survivors and children totalled \$8.3 billion for fiscal year ended March 31, 2021.



Cumulative net investment returns totalled \$87.9 billion, compared to the \$61.1 billion in cumulative net contribution transfers sent to the PSPIB.



The PSPIB reported a net rate of return of 18.4%,^{3,vii} which demonstrates a strong performance compared to the previous year, when the return was negative as a result of the global market decline associated with COVID-19.

Plan members this fiscal year, by type

Type of member	Number
Active	343,776
Retired	231,440
Deferred annuitants	41,686
Total (not including survivors*)	616,902

*Survivors receiving benefits: 52,580

New pension recipients this fiscal year

Male	Female	Total
4,223	5,405	9,628

3. More information on the rate of return on assets held by the PSPIB is available in the [PSPIB 2021 annual report](#).



Average annual pension benefits* paid⁴ to retired members, average age and average pensionable service of those members

Average	Male	Female	Overall
Annual pension	\$38,128	\$29,051	\$33,842
Age	73.2	70.2	71.8
Years of pensionable service	26.3	23.7	25.1

*Includes immediate annuities, disability retirement annuities and annual allowances.

New pensions this fiscal year, by benefit type

Type of benefit	Number
Immediate annuity	7,278
Annual allowance	1,275
Deferred annuity	589
Disability retirement annuity	486
Total	9,628

4. Amounts include indexation.



Account transaction statements

[Public Service Superannuation Account](#)

[Public Service Pension Fund Account](#)

[Retirement Compensation Arrangements Accounts](#)

[Supplementary Death Benefit Account](#)



Public Service Superannuation Account

All pension transactions for pensionable service before April 1, 2000, are recorded in the Public Service Superannuation Account in the Public Accounts of Canada.

The account contains contributions for service before April 1, 2000, and interest on those contributions. It does not contain any investments such as cash or marketable securities.

The interest is credited quarterly at rates calculated as though the net cash flows were invested quarterly in 20-year Government of Canada bonds issued at prescribed rates and held to maturity.

Public Service Superannuation Account transaction statement (unaudited)
Fiscal year ended March 31
(in dollars)

	2021	2020
Opening balance	\$91,516,183,543	\$93,700,183,799
Receipts and other credits		
Member contributions		
Government employees	598,683	826,359
Retired employees	2,514,360	3,311,300
Public service corporation employees	56,591	46,425
Employer contributions		
Government	2,642,151	3,461,289
Public service corporations	46,087	22,384
Transfers from other pension funds	5,817	70,680
Interest	3,088,785,626	3,410,432,517
Total receipts and other credits	\$3,094,649,315	\$3,418,170,954
Payments and other charges		
Annuities	5,518,628,324	5,512,288,490
Minimum benefits	12,791,544	13,821,878
Pension division payments	9,505,848	14,494,277
Pension transfer value payments	4,735,428	11,887,896
Return of contributions		
Government employees	4,267	37,214
Public service corporation employees	75,500	1,813



	2021	2020
Transfers to other pension funds	1,668,002	2,749,315
Administrative expenses	52,594,987	46,890,327
Total payments and other charges	\$5,600,003,900	\$5,602,171,210
Closing balance	\$89,010,828,958	\$91,516,183,543

Public Service Pension Fund Account

All pension transactions for pensionable service starting April 1, 2000, are recorded in the Public Service Pension Fund in the Public Accounts of Canada. An amount equal to contributions over and above benefit payments and government organizations' administrative expenses is transferred regularly to the PSPIB for investment. The balance in the Public Service Pension Fund at year-end represents net contributions transferable to the PSPIB.

The treatment of any actuarial surplus or deficit in the fund is outlined in the financial statements of the public service pension plan, which are included in this report.

The *Public Service Superannuation Act*^{viii} requires that any actuarial deficit be dealt with by transferring equal instalments to the pension fund over a period of up to 15 years, starting in the year in which the actuarial report is tabled in Parliament.

Public Service Pension Fund account transaction statement (unaudited)
Fiscal year ended March 31
(in dollars)

	2021	2020
Opening balance	\$24,214,915	\$16,598,579
Receipts and other credits		
Member contributions		
Government employees	2,731,144,271	2,409,721,286
Retired employees	54,601,422	52,795,966
Public service corporation employees	203,768,991	192,703,710
Employer contributions		
Government	2,724,790,877	2,397,195,812
Public service corporations	192,104,544	182,668,152
Transfers from other pension funds	65,699,585	67,132,149
Total receipts and other credits	\$5,972,109,690	\$5,302,217,075



	2021	2020
Payments and other charges		
Annuities	2,792,620,336	2,528,738,856
Minimum benefits	19,828,809	17,749,633
Pension division payments	38,866,122	39,380,048
Pension transfer value payments	260,986,147	387,976,907
Return of contributions		
Government employees	16,291,883	14,346,409
Public service corporation employees	4,642,766	4,059,208
Transfers to other pension funds	41,493,071	48,103,462
Administrative expenses	69,576,876	56,895,258
Total payments and other charges	\$3,244,306,010	\$3,097,249,781
Receipts and other credits, less payments and other charges	2,727,803,680	2,204,967,294
Transfers to PSPIB	2,517,613,496	2,197,350,958
Closing balance	\$234,405,099	\$24,214,915

Retirement Compensation Arrangements Accounts

Supplementary benefits for certain federal public service employees are provided under the *Retirement Compensation Arrangements Regulations, No. 1*,^{ix} Parts I and II (public service portion), and the *Retirement Compensation Arrangements Regulations, No. 2*^x (Early Retirement Incentive Program). These regulations were established under the *Special Retirement Arrangements Act*^{xi} for the purpose of paying benefits and established the Retirement Compensation Arrangements for the payment of benefits.

Transactions pertaining to Retirement Compensation Arrangement No. 1 and Retirement Compensation Arrangement No. 2, such as contributions, benefits and interest credits, are recorded in the Retirement Compensation Arrangements Account in the Public Accounts of Canada. The Retirement Compensation Arrangements Account is credited with interest quarterly at the same rates as those credited to the Public Service Superannuation Account.

The Retirement Compensation Arrangements Account is registered with the Canada Revenue Agency. A transfer is made annually between the Retirement Compensation Arrangements Account and the Canada Revenue Agency either to remit a 50% refundable tax in respect of the net increase in the accounts (contributions and interest credits, less payments and other charges)



or to receive a 50% tax reimbursement in respect of the net decrease in the accounts (payments and other charges, less contributions and interest credits).

Any actuarial shortfalls found between the balance and the actuarial liabilities in the Retirement Compensation Arrangements Account are credited to the Retirement Compensation Arrangements Account in equal instalments over a period of up to 15 years. These adjustments are based on triennial [actuarial valuations](#).

Retirement Compensation Arrangement No. 1 Account

Retirement Compensation Arrangement No. 1 account transaction statement
(unaudited)
Fiscal year ended March 31
(in dollars)

	2021	2020
Opening balance	\$1,314,790,678	\$1,265,638,829
Receipts and other credits		
Member contributions		
Government employees	12,339,032	17,690,955
Retired employees	421,477	344,102
Public service corporation employees	2,256,583	2,600,842
Employer contributions		
Government	46,199,020	66,025,001
Public service corporations	8,241,238	8,689,443
Transfers from other pension funds	0	216,870
Interest	45,360,136	47,240,725
Total receipts and other credits	\$114,817,486	\$142,807,938
Payments and other charges		
Annuities	61,039,592	56,408,899
Minimum benefits	184,975	855
Pension division payments	725,621	383,971
Pension transfer value payments	903,484	2,267,492
Return of contributions		
Government employees	7,346	35,279
Public service corporation employees	4,164	40,795



	2021	2020
Transfers to other pension funds	213,362	816,795
Refundable tax	34,974,908	33,702,003
Total payments and other charges	\$98,053,452	\$93,656,089
Closing balance	\$1,331,554,712	\$1,314,790,678

Retirement Compensation Arrangement No. 2 Account

Retirement Compensation Arrangement No. 2 account transaction statement
(unaudited)
Fiscal year ended March 31
(in dollars)

	2021	2020
Opening balance	\$627,939,260	\$659,130,079
Receipts and other credits		
Government interest	20,602,663	23,374,139
Refundable tax	31,877,729	30,456,797
Total receipts and other credits	\$52,480,392	\$53,830,936
Payments and other charges		
Annuities	84,720,723	85,021,755
Total payments and other charges	\$84,720,723	\$85,021,755
Closing balance	\$595,698,929	\$627,939,260

Supplementary Death Benefit Account

Supplementary Death Benefit account transaction statement (unaudited)
Fiscal year ended March 31
(in dollars)

	2021	2020
Opening balance	\$3,880,168,916	\$3,799,864,724
Receipts and other credits		
Contributions		
Members (government and public service corporation employees)	122,721,092	114,487,357
Government		
General	11,521,842	12,482,150



	2021	2020
Single premium for \$10,000 benefit	3,245,641	3,193,021
Public service corporations	1,715,552	1,615,620
Interest	133,516,068	140,761,844
Total receipts and other credits	\$272,720,195	\$272,539,992
Payments and other charges		
Benefit payments		
General*	138,242,099	149,747,301
\$10,000 benefit†	37,739,736	42,450,000
Other death benefit payments	20,000	38,499
Total payments and other charges	\$176,001,835	\$192,235,800
Closing balance	\$3,976,887,276	\$3,880,168,916

* Benefits paid in respect of participants who, at the time of death, were employed in the public service or in receipt of an immediate annuity.

† Benefits paid in respect of participants who, at the time of death, were employed in the public service or were in receipt of an immediate annuity and on whose behalf a single premium for \$10,000 of death-benefit coverage has been made by the employer.



Glossary

actuarial valuation

An actuarial analysis that provides information on the financial condition of a pension plan.

annual allowance

An annual benefit available to public service pension plan members who have more than 2 years of pensionable service, who retire before age 60 (Group 1) or before age 65 (Group 2), and who are not entitled to an immediate annuity. This benefit is a reduced pension that considers the early payment of a retirement pension. The earliest it becomes payable is at age 50 (Group 1) or at age 55 (Group 2).⁵

child allowance

A pension benefit, equal to one fifth of the [survivor benefit](#) (two fifths if there is no eligible survivor), payable to a member's child or children until age 18 (age 25, if the child is a student). The maximum allowance for all children combined is the equivalent of four children's benefits.

Consumer Price Index

A measure of price changes published monthly by Statistics Canada. The Consumer Price Index measures the retail prices of about 300 goods and services, including food, housing, transportation, clothing and recreation. Increases in the Consumer Price Index are also referred to as "cost-of-living increases."

deferred annuity

A pension option that allows a member with at least 2 years of pensionable service to postpone their pension payments until a later date if they leave the public service before the retirement age applicable to them (60 or 65 years).

disability

A physical or mental impairment that prevents an individual from engaging in any employment for which the individual is reasonably suited by virtue of his or her education, training or experience and that can reasonably be expected to last for the rest of the individual's life.

5. **Group 1:** Members of the public service pension plan who were participating in the plan on or before December 31, 2012. **Group 2:** Members of the public service pension plan who began participating in the plan on or after January 1, 2013.



immediate annuity

An annual benefit payable to public service plan members who retire at any time after reaching age 60 (Group 1) or age 65 (Group 2) and have at least 2 years of pensionable service, or after reaching age 55 (Group 1) or age 60 (Group 2) and have at least 30 years of pensionable service. In addition, an immediate annuity, also known as an immediate pension, is payable at any age to plan members who have at least 2 years of pensionable service and are retiring because of disability.

indexation

The adjustment of pensions to reflect changes in the cost of living, as determined by the Consumer Price Index.

pensionable service

Periods of service credited to a member of the public service pension plan. This service includes any complete or partial periods of purchased service (for example, service buyback).

Public Sector Pension Investment Board

A Crown corporation established on September 14, 1999, under the *Public Sector Pension Investment Board Act*. It manages the amounts transferred to it by the Government of Canada for the funding of benefits earned by members of the federal public sector pension plans. The board operates under the commercial name of [PSP Investments](#).^{xii}

survivor

The person who, at the time of a plan member's death, was married to the plan member before his or her retirement, or was cohabiting with the plan member in a conjugal relationship before retirement and for at least one year before the date of death.

survivor benefit

A pension benefit, in the form of a monthly allowance, paid to the survivor of a plan member who has died. It is equal to half of the pension the member would have received before age 65 (calculated before any applicable reduction) and is payable immediately.

Note: Additional pension terminology is available at [Glossary - Pension](#).^{xiii}



Financial statements of the public service pension plan
for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021



Statement of responsibility

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) and the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (the Secretariat) are responsible for preparing these financial statements in accordance with the stated accounting policies set out in Note 2 to the financial statements, which are based on Canadian accounting standards for pension plans, and on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of these financial statements rests with PSPC and the Secretariat. The Secretariat carries out responsibilities in respect of the overall management of the pension plan, while PSPC is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the pension plan and for maintaining the books of accounts. The information included in these financial statements is based on the management's best estimates and judgment, with due consideration given to materiality.

To fulfill its accounting and reporting responsibilities, PSPC maintains systems of financial management and internal control which give due consideration to costs, benefits and risks. These systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the reliability of the financial information and to ensure that transactions are in accordance with the *Public Service Superannuation Act* (PSSA) and regulations, as well as the *Financial Administration Act* (FAA) and regulations.

Additional information is obtained as required, from the Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSPIB) to meet accounting and reporting requirements. PSPIB maintains its own systems of financial management and internal control to account for the funds managed on behalf of the pension plan in accordance with the *Public Sector Pension Investment Board Act*, regulations and by-laws.

These financial statements have been audited by the Auditor General of Canada, the independent auditor for the Government of Canada.

Approved by:

Paul Thompson
Deputy Minister
Public Services and Procurement Canada

January 31, 2022

Graham Flack
Secretary of the Treasury Board
Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

January 31, 2022





Office of the
Auditor General
of Canada

Bureau du
vérificateur général
du Canada

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the President of the Treasury Board and the Minister of Public Services and Procurement

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the public service pension plan (the pension plan), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2021, and the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits and statement of changes in pension obligations for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the pension plan as at 31 March 2021, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits and changes in its pension obligations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for pension plans.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the pension plan in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.



Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the stated accounting policies set out in Note 2 of the financial statements, which are based on Canadian accounting standards for pension plans, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the pension plan's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the pension plan or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the pension plan's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the pension plan's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the pension plan's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the



financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the pension plan to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the pension plan to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision, and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Compliance with Specified Authorities

Opinion

In conjunction with the audit of the financial statements, we have audited transactions of the public service pension plan coming to our notice for compliance with specified authorities. The specified authorities against which compliance was audited are the *Public Service Superannuation Act* and regulations, the *Public Sector Pension Investment Board Act* and regulations, and the by-laws of the Public Sector Pension Investment Board.

In our opinion, the transactions of the public service pension plan that came to our notice during the audit of the financial statements have complied, in all material respects, with the specified authorities referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance with Specified Authorities

Management is responsible for the public service pension plan's compliance with the specified authorities named above, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the public service pension plan to comply with the specified authorities.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance with Specified Authorities

Our audit responsibilities include planning and performing procedures to provide an audit opinion and reporting on whether the transactions coming to our notice during the audit of the financial statements are in compliance with the specified authorities referred to above.



Mélanie Cabana, CPA, CA
Principal
for the Auditor General of Canada

Ottawa, Canada
31 January 2022



Financial statements

Statement of financial position (Canadian \$ millions)

	As at March 31, 2021	As at March 31, 2020
Assets		
Public Service Pension Fund (Note 4)	\$234	\$24
Investments (Note 5)	169,506	150,752
Contributions receivable		
From plan members (Note 8)	505	602
From employers (Note 8)	434	526
Other assets	178	237
Total assets	\$170,857	\$152,141
Liabilities		
Investment-related liabilities (Note 5)	\$8,255	\$15,762
Accounts payable and other liabilities	318	321
Borrowings (Note 5 and Note 9)	12,196	11,497
Total liabilities	\$20,769	\$27,580
Net assets available for benefits	\$150,088	\$124,561
Pension obligations		
Funded (Note 12)	\$118,493	\$112,052
Unfunded (Note 12 and Note 20)	109,875	123,152
Total pension obligations	\$228,368	\$235,204
Deficit to be financed by the Government of Canada (Note 13)	\$(78,280)	\$(110,643)

Commitments (Note 23)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



Financial statements (continued)

Statement of changes in net assets available for benefits
Year ended March 31 (Canadian \$ millions)

	2021	2020
Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year	\$124,561	\$123,085
Increase in net assets available for benefits		
Investment income, excluding changes in fair values of investment assets and investment liabilities (Note 14)	3,175	3,659
Changes in fair values of investment assets and investment liabilities, realized and unrealized gains and losses (Note 14)	20,675	0
Contributions		
From plan members (Note 15)	2,891	2,674
From employers (Note 15)	2,826	2,595
Transfers from other pension plans	66	67
Total increase in net assets available for benefits	\$29,633	\$8,995
Decrease in net assets available for benefits		
Changes in fair values of investment assets and investment liabilities, realized and unrealized gains and losses (Note 14)	\$0	\$3,561
Benefits paid with respect to service after March 31, 2000 (Note 17)	2,812	2,547
Refunds and transfers (Note 17)	362	494
Investment-related expenses (Note 18)	491	468
Administrative expenses (Note 19)	441	449
Total decrease in net assets available for benefits	\$4,106	\$7,519
Net increase in net assets available for benefits	\$25,527	\$1,476
Net assets available for benefits, end of year	\$150,088	\$124,561

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



Financial statements (continued)

Statement of changes in pension obligations Year ended March 31 (Canadian \$ millions)

	2021 Funded	2021 Unfunded	2021 Total	2020 Funded	2020 Unfunded	2020 Total
Pension obligations, beginning of year	\$112,052	\$123,152	\$235,204	\$100,467	\$117,159	\$217,626
Increase in pension obligations						
Interest on pension obligations	5,662	1,420	7,082	5,075	2,104	7,179
Benefits earned	5,543	0	5,543	5,109	0	5,109
Experience losses (Note 12)	0	0	0	769	194	963
Changes in actuarial assumptions: losses (Note 12)	0	0	0	3,662	9,297	12,959
Transfers from other pension plans	66	0	66	67	0	67
Total increase in pension obligations	\$11,271	\$1,420	\$12,691	\$14,682	\$11,595	\$26,277
Decrease in pension obligations						
Benefits paid (Note 17)	\$2,812	\$5,532	\$8,344	\$2,547	\$5,526	\$8,073
Experience gains (Note 12)	323	262	585	0	0	0
Changes in actuarial assumptions: gains (Note 12)	1,263	8,835	10,098	0	0	0
Refunds and transfers (Note 17)	362	16	378	494	29	523
Administrative expenses included in the service cost (Note 19 and Note 20)	70	52	122	56	47	103
Total decrease in pension obligations	\$4,830	\$14,697	\$19,527	\$3,097	\$5,602	\$8,699
Net increase (decrease) in pension obligations	\$6,441	\$(13,277)	\$(6,836)	\$11,585	\$5,993	\$17,578
Pension obligations, end of year	\$118,493	\$109,875	\$228,368	\$112,052	\$123,152	\$235,204

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



1. Description of the public service pension plan

The public service pension plan (the pension plan), governed by the *Public Service Superannuation Act* (PSSA), provides pension benefits for federal public service employees. While the PSSA has been in effect since January 1, 1954, federal legislation has been providing pensions for public servants since 1870.

The main provisions of the pension plan are summarized below.

(A) General

The pension plan is a contributory defined benefit plan covering substantially all of the full-time and part-time employees of the federal public service, as well as certain public service corporations as defined in the PSSA, and territorial governments. Membership in the pension plan is compulsory for all eligible employees.

The Government of Canada (the government) is the sole sponsor of the pension plan. The President of the Treasury Board is the Minister responsible for the PSSA. The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (the Secretariat) is responsible for the management of the pension plan while Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) provides the day-to-day administration of the pension plan and maintains the books of accounts. The Office of the Chief Actuary (OCA), an independent unit within the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI), performs periodic actuarial valuations of the pension plan.

Until April 1, 2000, separate invested funds were not set aside to provide for payment of pension benefits. Instead, transactions relating to the pension plan were recorded in the Public Service Superannuation Account (superannuation account) created by legislation in the accounts of Canada. Pursuant to the PSSA, as amended by the *Public Sector Pension Investment Board Act*, transactions relating to service since April 1, 2000, are now recorded in the Public Service Pension Fund (pension fund). An amount equal to contributions in excess of benefit payments and administrative costs is transferred regularly to the Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSPIB) for investment. PSPIB is a Crown corporation whose statutory objectives are to manage the funds transferred to it for investment and to maximize investment returns without undue risk of loss, having regard to the funding, policies and requirements of the three main public sector pension plans (public service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Canadian Forces).

(B) Funding policy

The pension plan is funded from plan member and employer contributions, and from investment earnings. For the fiscal year, public service employees who were members of the pension plan on or before December 31, 2012 (Group 1) contributed 9.53% (9.56% in 2020) for the first 9 months and 9.83% (9.53% in 2020) for the last 3 months of pensionable earnings, up to the maximum covered by the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) or Québec Pension Plan (QPP), and 11.72% (11.78% in 2020) for the first 9 months and 12.26% (11.72% in 2020) for the last 3 months of pensionable earnings above that maximum.



Notes to the financial statements

For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 (Canadian \$)

The contribution rates for public service employees joining the pension plan on or after January 1, 2013 (Group 2) was set at 8.69% (8.68% in 2020) for the first 9 months and 8.89% (8.69% in 2020) for the last 3 months of pensionable earnings, up to the maximum covered by the CPP and QPP, and 10.15% (10.18% in 2020) for the first 9 months and 10.59% (10.15% in 2020) for the last 3 months of pensionable earnings above that maximum. The government's contribution is made monthly to provide for the cost (net of plan member contributions) of the benefits that have accrued in respect of that month at a rate determined by the President of the Treasury Board. The contribution rates are determined based on actuarial valuations for funding purposes, which are normally performed triennially.

The PSSA provides that all pension obligations arising from the pension plan be met by the government. The PSSA requires that any actuarial deficit in the pension fund be dealt with by transferring equal instalments to the pension fund over a period of up to 15 years, commencing in the year in which the actuarial report is tabled in Parliament. The PSSA also allows any surplus to be lowered by reducing employer and pension plan member contributions. In addition, if there is an amount considered to be a non-permitted surplus (refer to PSSA section 44.4(5) for the definition of non-permitted surplus) related to the pension fund, no further government pension contributions are permitted while pension plan member contributions under the pension fund may be reduced and amounts managed by PSPIB may be transferred to the government's Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF).

(C) Benefits

The pension plan provides pension benefits based on the number of years of pensionable service up to a maximum of 35 years. Benefits are determined by a formula set out in the legislation; they are not based on the financial status of the pension plan. The basic benefit formula is 2% per year of pensionable service multiplied by the average of the 5 consecutive years of highest-paid service. To reflect the *Income Tax Act* restrictions on registered pension plan benefits, separate retirement compensation arrangements (RCAs) have been implemented to provide benefits that exceed the limits established in the *Income Tax Act*. Since the RCAs are covered by separate legislation, their account balances in the accounts of Canada are not consolidated in these financial statements; however, condensed information is presented in Note 21.

Pension benefits are coordinated with the CPP and QPP, and are reduced when the plan member reaches age 65 or earlier if the member receives a disability benefit from the CPP or QPP. The pension reduction factor is 0.7% for members born before 1943, declining gradually for members born from 1943 to 1946 until it reaches 0.625% for members born after 1946. Also, benefits are fully indexed to the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

Other benefits include survivor pensions, minimum benefits in the event of death, unreduced early retirement pensions, and disability pensions.



2. Significant accounting policies

The significant accounting policies that have been applied in the preparation of these financial statements are summarized below.

(A) Basis of presentation

These financial statements present information on the pension plan on a going-concern basis. They are prepared to assist plan members and others in reviewing the activities of the pension plan for the year, not to portray the funding requirements of the pension plan.

These financial statements are prepared in Canadian dollars, the pension plan's functional currency, in accordance with the accounting policies stated below, which are based on Canadian accounting standards for pension plans in Part IV of the Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) Canada Handbook (Section 4600). Section 4600 provides specific accounting guidance on investments and pension obligations. For accounting policies that do not relate to either investments or pension obligations, the pension plan complies with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in Part I of the CPA Canada Handbook. To the extent that IFRS in Part I are inconsistent with Section 4600, Section 4600 takes precedence. The presentation and results using the stated accounting policies do not result in any significant differences from Canadian accounting standards for pension plans.

PSPIB is a Crown corporation whose statutory objectives are to manage the funds transferred to it for investment and to maximize investment returns without undue risk of loss. PSPIB qualifies as an investment entity as defined under IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements and forms part of the pension plan reporting entity. Pursuant to Section 4600, PSPIB's subsidiaries that are formed to hold investments or those that provide PSPIB with services that relate to its investment activities are consolidated since these entities are not considered investment assets. PSPIB's investment in subsidiaries, associates, and joint ventures that are considered investment assets are measured at fair value in accordance with Section 4600. Financial liabilities are also measured at fair value in accordance with Section 4600.

The financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2021, were authorized for issue by the signatories on January 31, 2022.

(B) Interests in other entities

Management, through the activities of PSPIB, assesses control, joint control and significant influence with respect to the investees disclosed in Note 6 as follows:

(I) Control and significant influence

It is determined that PSPIB has control over an investee when it is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its investment in an entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee.



In certain cases, PSPIB does not have control over an investee but has the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee. In such cases, PSPIB determines that it has significant influence over the investee.

In the context of control or significant influence, power over an investee is obtained through voting rights conveyed by PSPIB's ownership interest, other contractual arrangements, or a combination thereof.

(II) Joint control

It is determined that PSPIB is party to a joint venture arrangement when it has joint control over an investee and has rights to the net assets of the investee. Joint control is established through a contractual arrangement which requires the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control for the activities that significantly affect the returns of the arrangement.

Generally, decision-making regarding such activities is governed through voting rights conveyed by the ownership interest of each party. In certain cases, it is governed solely through contractual arrangements or in conjunction with the ownership interest of each party.

(C) Financial instruments

(I) Classification

Financial assets representing investments are managed, together with related financial liabilities, according to the entity's business model to maximize the rate of return. The performance of such financial instruments is evaluated on a fair value basis and they are classified at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL). They are described in detail in Note 5(A).

Borrowings, as described under Note 9, are financial liabilities that are designated to be measured at FVTPL since they are part of the portfolios of investments that are managed together and whose performance is evaluated on a fair value basis.

(II) Recognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recorded at the date upon which PSPIB becomes a party to the associated contractual provisions. In the case of traded financial assets, they are recorded as of the trade date.

(III) Initial and subsequent measurement

All financial assets and financial liabilities are recorded in the statement of financial position at fair value and continue to be measured as such on a recurring basis. After initial measurement, subsequent changes in the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities classified at FVTPL are recorded in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.



(IV) Derecognition

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part thereof) is derecognized when the following conditions are met:

- ▶ The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired, or
- ▶ PSPIB has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows to a third party,
and
- ▶ PSPIB has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or
- ▶ In cases where PSPIB has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, it has transferred control of the asset.

A financial liability is derecognized when the obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or expired.

(D) Determination of fair value

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

At initial recognition, PSPIB evaluates the facts and circumstances related to a transaction to confirm that the transaction price represents the fair value of an asset or a liability. At each subsequent reporting date, market prices are used to determine fair value where an active market exists (such as a recognized securities exchange), as they reflect actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. If quoted market prices are not available, then fair value is estimated using valuation techniques based on inputs existing at the end of the reporting period that are derived from observable market data.

Valuation techniques are generally applied to investments in private markets, alternative investments, over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives and certain fixed income securities. The values derived from applying these techniques are impacted by the choice of valuation model and the underlying assumptions made concerning factors such as the amounts and timing of future cash flows, discount rates, volatility and credit risk. In certain cases, such assumptions are not supported by market observable data.

The determination of fair value of all financial assets and financial liabilities is described in Note 5.

(E) Foreign currency translation

Foreign currency transactions during the period, including purchases and sales of securities, income and expenses, are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing on the date of the transaction.

Monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the functional currency rate of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period.



Foreign currency transaction gains and losses on all monetary assets and liabilities are included in investment income.

(F) Securities lending and securities borrowing and related collateral

PSPIB participates in securities lending and borrowing programs whereby it lends and borrows securities in order to enhance portfolio returns. Lending and borrowing transactions including related collateral under such programs do not transfer the risks or rewards of ownership of the securities to the counterparty. Consequently, PSPIB does not derecognize securities lent or pledged as collateral, or recognize securities borrowed or received as collateral. Cash collateral received is recognized as described in Note 5(A)(IX).

The securities lending and borrowing programs require collateral in cash, high-quality debt instruments or securities. Collateral transactions are conducted under terms that are usual and customary in standard securities lending and borrowing programs. PSPIB and its counterparties are authorized to sell, repledge or otherwise use collateral held. The same securities or equivalent securities must be returned to the counterparty at the end of the contract, unless an event of default occurs.

(G) Securities sold under repurchase agreements and purchased under reverse repurchase agreements and related collateral

PSPIB is party to repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements. Such agreements involve the sale of securities by one counterparty with a simultaneous agreement to repurchase such securities at a specified price and at a specified future date.

Securities sold or purchased under the repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements respectively, including related collateral, are not derecognized or recognized as all risks and rewards of ownership related to such securities are not transferred. As such, in the case where PSPIB is the counterparty selling securities under such agreements, all income (loss) related to such securities continues to be reported in investment income and obligations to repurchase the securities sold are accounted for as investment-related liabilities.

The difference between the fair value of the securities sold and the repurchase price is recorded as interest expense within investment-related expenses. In the case where PSPIB is the counterparty purchasing securities under such agreements, no income (loss) related to such securities is recognized and obligations to resell the securities are accounted for as investment-related receivables. The difference between the fair value of the securities purchased and resale price is recorded in investment income.

Transactions under repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements involve pledging collateral consisting of cash or securities deemed acceptable by the counterparties. Collateral transactions are conducted under terms that are usual and customary in standard repurchase arrangements. Such terms require the relevant counterparty to pledge additional collateral based on the changes



in the fair value of the existing collateral pledged, as well as the related securities sold or purchased. The counterparties are authorized to sell, repledge or otherwise use collateral held. The securities pledged as collateral must be returned to the relevant counterparty at the end of the contract, unless an event of default occurs.

(H) Offsetting of financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset with the net amount reported in the statement of financial position only if PSPIB has a current legally enforceable right to offset the recognized amounts and the intent to settle on a net basis, or to realize the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

(I) Pension obligations

The present value of accrued pension benefits is calculated by the OCA on behalf of the plan sponsor, the government, using the projected benefit method prorated on service, based on management's best estimate of streamed expected rates of return on invested funds for funded pension benefits, and the government's cost of borrowing derived from the yields on the actual zero-coupon yield curve for Government of Canada bonds, which reflect the timing of the expected future cash flows for unfunded pension benefits.

(J) Investment income

Investment income is made up of interest, dividends, gains (losses) on the disposal of financial assets and financial liabilities, as well as gains (losses) which reflect the change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of financial assets held and financial liabilities outstanding at the end of the reporting period. Interest is recognized, on a consistent basis, using the prescribed rates until maturity. Dividends are recognized when the right to receive them has been obtained, generally on the ex-dividend date.

(K) Contributions

Contributions for current service are recorded in the year in which the related payroll costs are incurred. Contributions for past service that are receivable over a period in excess of 1 year are recorded at the estimated net present value of the contributions to be received.

(L) Benefits earned, benefits paid, and refunds and transfers

Benefits earned are accrued as employees render pensionable services.

The funded and unfunded benefits paid are recognized as a reduction of pension obligations when the payments are made. The funded benefits paid are recognized as a reduction of net assets available for benefits when the payments are made.

Benefit payments, refunds to former members and transfer payments to other plans are recorded in the period in which they are paid.



(M) Investment-related expenses

Investment-related expenses are made up of interest expense, as described in Note 5(A)(VII), transaction costs, external investment management fees and other (net).

Transaction costs are incremental costs directly attributable to the acquisition, due diligence, issue, or disposal of a financial asset or financial liability, and they are expensed as incurred.

External investment management fees are directly attributable to the external management of assets on behalf of PSPIB. These fees are paid directly by PSPIB and comprise base fees accrued as a percentage of the fair value of the assets managed externally and performance fees accrued as a function of various performance indicators. This excludes amounts not paid directly by PSPIB for certain pooled fund investments classified under alternative investments and for investments in private markets as outlined in Note 18.

(N) Significant accounting judgments, estimates and assumptions

In preparing the financial statements, management makes certain judgments, estimates and assumptions that can affect the amounts reported therein. Significant judgments include those related to the determination of the investment entity status of PSPIB as described in Note 2(A).

Management also makes estimates and assumptions in the measurement, risk assessment and related disclosures surrounding investments in private markets, certain fixed income securities and the pension obligations.

The main assumptions made by management regarding measurement of financial instruments are outlined in Note 5(C)(III), and those regarding the assessment of risk are outlined in Note 7.

The pension obligations are actuarially determined, and the actual experience may differ significantly from the assumptions used in the calculation of the pension obligations. The significant actuarial assumptions used in measuring the pension obligations are found in Note 12.

One source of estimate uncertainty is the outbreak of COVID-19, which the World Health Organization classified as a global pandemic in March 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic, which has impacted global commercial activity and contributed to significant ongoing volatility and unpredictability in the global financial markets, continues to evolve. As a result, the economic environment continues to be subject to sustained volatility, which could continue to impact the actuarial assumptions used to measure the present value of the pension obligations and the market value of PSPIB's portfolio. The pension obligations and the investments held by PSPIB, as at March 31, 2021, as well as the return on investments for the year, reflect the impacts resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic to the extent known and estimable at the reporting date.

Although assumptions reflect management's best estimates, actual results may differ from such estimates due to the uncertainties involved in using them.



3. Current and future changes in accounting standards

(A) Current accounting standards

Management has determined that there is no significant impact on the financial statements arising from new standards, amendments and interpretations that have been issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), effective for the year ended March 31, 2021.

(B) Future accounting standards

Interest rate benchmark reform: Phase 2

Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2021, the IASB issued amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16 providing new guidance meant to address the issues that arise from the transition to alternative benchmark rates as a result of the interbank offered rate reform. The amendments address replacing existing interest rate benchmarks with alternative benchmarks in the context of changes in the basis for determining contractual cash flows of financial assets and liabilities, hedge accounting and introduce new disclosure requirements. Management has determined that there is no significant impact of the accounting requirements on the financial statements. Required note disclosures will be made as applicable.

4. Public Service Pension Fund

The government has a statutory obligation to pay benefits relating to the pension plan. This pension obligation is to plan members and their beneficiaries.

In 1999, the pension legislation was amended to allow the government to invest funds in order to provide for the pension obligations. This legislation created the PSPIB to manage and invest amounts that are transferred regularly to it from the CRF related to service since April 1, 2000. The transactions are recorded in the Public Service Pension Fund. The Public Service Pension Fund is merely a flow-through account. At year-end, the balance in the Public Service Pension Fund represents net contributions transferable to PSPIB. PSPIB investment assets and investment-related liabilities are reflected directly in the pension plan's financial statements.

In order for the government to track the transactions related to contributions, benefit payments, interest and transfers for service prior to April 1, 2000, the government established the superannuation account in the accounts of Canada. The superannuation account has no capacity to pay pensions and is not considered an asset of the pension plan. All cash receipts and disbursements go to or come from the CRF. The details of the transactions of the superannuation account are provided in Note 20.



Notes to the financial statements
For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 (Canadian \$)

5. Financial assets and financial liabilities

(A) Classes of financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are aggregated in the following table in classes that reflect their respective exposure, as well as in investment sectors. Their fair values were as follows as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Investments		
Public markets		
Canadian equity	\$2,869	\$2,444
Foreign equity	29,293	21,145
Private markets		
Real estate	23,325	21,646
Private equity	22,045	16,064
Infrastructure	16,568	16,312
Natural resources	9,407	7,595
Fixed income		
Cash and money market securities	5,681	3,520
Government and corporate bonds	18,934	22,839
Inflation-linked bonds	10,363	12,042
Private debt securities	13,208	12,684
Alternative investments	11,840	8,056
Total investments	\$163,533	\$144,347
Investment-related assets		
Amounts receivable from pending trades	\$1,231	\$553
Interest receivable	293	427
Dividends receivable	115	116
Securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements	2,746	3,284
Derivative-related assets	1,588	2,025
Total investment-related assets	\$5,973	\$6,405
Investments representing financial assets at FVTPL	\$169,506	\$150,752
Investment-related liabilities		
Amounts payable from pending trades	\$(1,111)	\$(739)
Interest payable	(52)	(69)
Securities sold short	(2,022)	(2,829)



Notes to the financial statements
For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 (Canadian \$)

	2021	2020
Collateral payable	(1,613)	(2,437)
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	(2,391)	(6,390)
Derivative-related liabilities	(1,066)	(3,298)
Investment-related liabilities representing financial liabilities at FVTPL	\$(8,255)	\$(15,762)
Borrowings		
Capital market debt financing	\$(12,196)	\$(11,497)
Borrowings representing financial liabilities designated at FVTPL	\$(12,196)	\$(11,497)
Net investments	\$149,055	\$123,493

(I) Public markets

Public markets consist of Canadian and foreign investments in the following securities: common shares, American depository receipts, global depository receipts, participation notes, preferred shares, income trust units, exchange-traded funds units, pooled funds units, and securities convertible into common shares of publicly listed issuers.

Valuation techniques

Direct investments in Canadian and foreign equities are measured at fair value using quoted prices in active markets and are based on the most representative price within the bid-ask spread.

In the case of investments in pooled funds, fair value is measured using unit values obtained from each of the funds' administrators, which are derived from the fair value of the underlying investments in each pooled fund. PSPIB reviews the fair value received, and where necessary, the impact of restrictions on the sale or redemption of such investments is taken into consideration.

(II) Private markets

Private markets consist of investments in real estate, private equity, infrastructure and natural resources.

Real estate investments comprise direct equity positions in various private entities, fund investments, as well as properties in the real estate sector. Real estate investments focus on partnerships, companies and properties operating mainly in the retirement and residential, office, retail and industrial sectors, as well as private funds invested in real estate assets. Real estate investments are presented net of all third-party financing.

Private equity investments comprise fund investments with similar objectives, co-investments in private entities, as well as direct equity positions.



Infrastructure investments comprise direct equity positions, fund investments and co-investments in various private entities. Infrastructure investments focus on entities engaged in the management, ownership or operation of assets in energy, transportation and other regulated businesses. Infrastructure investments are presented net of all third-party financing.

Natural resources investments comprise direct equity positions, fund investments and co-investments in various private entities. Natural resources investments focus on entities engaged in the management, ownership or operation of assets in timberlands, agriculture and upstream oil and gas. Natural resources investments are presented net of all third-party financing.

Valuation techniques

The process for fair value measurement of private markets investments is described in Note 5(C)(II) and the valuation techniques together with the significant inputs used are described in Note 5(C)(III).

(III) Fixed income

Fixed income consists of cash and money market securities, government and corporate bonds, inflation-linked bonds and private debt securities.

Cash and money market securities include instruments having a maximum term to maturity of 1 year, such as treasury bills, certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances. A portion of such instruments has maturities of 90 days or less and is held to meet short term financial commitments. Such instruments are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and have an insignificant risk of change in value.

Government and corporate bonds include Canadian and foreign, federal, provincial, territorial and municipal bonds, floating rate notes, asset-backed term notes and mortgage-backed securities. Inflation-linked bonds are fixed income securities that earn inflation-adjusted returns.

Private debt securities are fixed income securities of private companies held directly or through private funds. Such debt securities take the form of senior debt, mezzanine and distressed debt and primary and secondary investments in leveraged loans. Private debt securities also include third-party loans such as junior and senior debts, construction loans, bridge loans, income-participating loans, as well as other structured finance products in the real estate sector.

Valuation techniques

Treasury bills are valued based on prices obtained from third-party pricing sources. Such prices are determined using the most representative price within a spread of dealer quotations. Certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances are recorded at cost plus accrued interest, which approximates their fair value given their short-term nature.

Fair values of government and most corporate bonds, inflation-linked bonds and mortgage-backed securities are based on prices obtained from third-party pricing sources. Such



prices are determined using either an appropriate interest rate curve with a spread associated with the credit quality of the issuer or other generally accepted pricing methodologies.

The fair values of certain corporate bonds, private debt securities and asset-backed term notes are determined using valuation techniques. Such techniques, together with the significant inputs used, are described in Note 5(C)(III).

The fair value measurement of fund investments included as part of private debt securities is described in Note 5(C)(II).

(IV) Alternative investments

Alternative investments consist mainly of units of funds that hold a mix of equity, fixed income and derivative instruments, as well as hedge funds.

Valuation techniques

The fair value of these investments is determined based on the fair values reported by the funds' administrators or general partners and reflects the fair value of the underlying equity, fixed income or derivative instruments, as applicable. PSPIB reviews the fair value received and, where necessary, the impact of restrictions on the sale or redemption of such investments is taken into consideration.

(V) Amounts receivable and payable from pending trades

Amounts receivable from pending trades consist of proceeds on sales of investments, excluding derivative financial instruments, which have been traded but remain unsettled at the end of the reporting period.

Amounts payable from pending trades consist of the cost of purchases of investments, excluding derivative financial instruments, which have been traded but remain unsettled at the end of the reporting period.

Valuation techniques

The fair value of amounts receivable and payable from pending trades reflects the value at which their underlying original sale or purchase transactions were undertaken.

(VI) Interest and dividends receivable

Interest and dividends are recorded at the amounts expected to be received at the end of the reporting period, which due to their short-term maturity, approximates fair value.

(VII) Interest payable

With respect to the borrowings described in Note 5(A)(XI), interest is accrued at the amount expected to be paid at the end of the reporting period, which approximates fair value.



(VIII) Securities sold short

Securities sold short reflect PSPIB's obligation to purchase securities pursuant to short selling transactions. In such transactions, PSPIB sells securities it does not own with an obligation to purchase similar securities on the market to cover its position.

Valuation techniques

Using quoted market prices that are based on the most representative price within the bid-ask spread, the fair value of securities sold short is measured using the same method as the similar long positions presented within public markets and fixed income.

(IX) Collateral payable

As part of securities lending and certain OTC derivative transactions, cash collateral is received and reinvested by PSPIB. PSPIB recognizes cash collateral received with a corresponding payable. The payable balance reflects the obligation of the transferee to return cash collateral to the transferor at the end of the transaction in the absence of an event of default by the transferor.

(X) Securities sold under repurchase agreements and purchased under reverse repurchase agreements

As described in Note 2(G), PSPIB is party to repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements.

Valuation techniques

Obligations to repurchase or resell the securities sold or purchased under such agreements are recorded at cost plus accrued interest, which due to their short-term maturity, approximates fair value.

(XI) Borrowings under the capital market debt program

PSPIB's capital market debt program is described in Note 9(B).

Valuation techniques

Short-term promissory notes are recorded at cost plus accrued interest, which due to their short-term maturity, approximates fair value. The fair value of PSPIB's medium-term notes is based on prices that are obtained from third-party pricing sources. Such prices are determined using an interest rate curve with a spread consistent with PSPIB's credit quality.

(B) Derivative-related assets and liabilities

Derivative financial instruments are financial contracts that are settled at a future date. The value of such instruments is derived from changes in the value of the underlying assets, interest or exchange rates. Derivative financial instruments do not, typically, require an initial net investment. In certain cases, they require an initial net investment that is less than what would be required to hold the underlying position directly. Derivative financial instruments can be listed or traded OTC. OTC instruments consist of those that are bilaterally negotiated and settled, and those that are cleared (OTC-cleared) by a central clearing party (CCP).



PSPIB uses derivative financial instruments to enhance returns or to replicate investments synthetically. Derivatives are also used to reduce the risk associated with existing investments.

PSPIB uses the following types of derivative financial instruments:

(I) Swaps

Swaps are transactions whereby two counterparties exchange cash flow streams with each other based on predetermined conditions that include a notional amount and a term. Swaps are used to increase returns or to adjust exposures of certain assets without directly purchasing or selling the underlying assets.

(II) Futures

Futures are standardized contracts to take or make delivery of an asset (buy or sell) at a predefined price and predefined future date. Futures are used to adjust exposures to specified assets without directly purchasing or selling the underlying assets.

(III) Forwards

Forwards are contracts involving the sale by one party and the purchase by another party of a predefined amount of an underlying instrument, at a predefined price and at a predefined date in the future. Forwards are used to adjust exposures to specified assets without directly purchasing or selling the underlying assets.

(IV) Options

Options are contracts where the seller gives the purchaser the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a given amount of an underlying security, index, commodity, currency, interest rate, credit or other financial instrument, at an agreed-upon price stipulated in advance, either at a determined date or at any time before the predefined maturity date.

(V) Warrants and rights

Warrants are options to purchase an underlying asset which is in the form of a transferable security and which can be listed on an exchange or traded OTC.

Rights are securities giving shareholders entitlement to purchase new shares issued by a corporation at a predetermined price (normally less than the current market price) in proportion to the number of shares already owned. Rights are issued only for a short period of time, after which they expire.

Valuation techniques

(i) Determination of fair value of derivative financial instruments

Listed derivative financial instruments are recorded at fair value using quoted market prices that are based on the most representative price within the bid-ask spread. OTC-cleared derivatives are recorded at fair value using prices obtained from the CCP. OTC derivatives are valued using



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appropriate valuation techniques such as discounted cash flows. These techniques use significant inputs that are observable in the market such as current market yields.

(ii) Notional values and fair values of derivative-related assets and liabilities

Notional values of derivative financial instruments are not recorded as assets or liabilities as they represent the face amount of the contract. Except for credit derivatives, notional values do not represent the potential gain or loss associated with the market or credit risk of such transactions disclosed below. Rather, they serve as the basis upon which the cash flows and the fair value of the contracts are determined.



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The following table summarizes the derivatives portfolio as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021			2020		
	Notional value	Fair value		Notional value	Fair value	
		Assets	Liabilities		Assets	Liabilities
Equity and commodity derivatives						
Listed: Futures	\$3,688	\$0	\$0	\$1,953	\$0	\$0
Listed: Warrants and rights	9	9	0	1	0	0
Listed: Options: Purchased	2,958	17	0	2,757	99	0
Written	5,413	0	(9)	2,624	0	(48)
OTC						
Swaps	18,906	550	(193)	17,872	620	(2,254)
Options: Purchased	394	4	0	564	41	0
Written	467	0	(5)	711	0	(35)
Currency derivatives						
Listed: Futures	211	0	0	90	0	0
OTC						
Forwards	15,110	106	(68)	19,878	575	(353)
Swaps	4,642	4	(86)	4,560	70	(22)
Options: Purchased	890	20	0	2,269	51	0
Written	819	0	(17)	2,481	0	(49)
Interest rate derivatives						
Listed: Futures	4,935	0	0	3,000	0	0
Listed: Options: Purchased	43,171	60	0	24,069	41	0
Written	46,708	0	(57)	9,523	0	(32)
OTC						
Swaps	756	38	(4)	4,974	108	(150)
Options: Purchased	33,761	780	0	29,830	414	0
Written	33,317	0	(624)	32,845	0	(351)
OTC-cleared						
Forwards	0	0	0	20,666	0	0
Swaps	41,628	0	0	77,933	0	0
Credit derivatives						
OTC						
Credit default swaps:						
Purchased	151	0	(3)	336	6	(4)
Written ¹	14	0	0	16	0	0
OTC-cleared						
Credit default swaps:						
Purchased	412	0	0	725	0	0
Written ¹	635	0	0	0	0	0
Total		\$1,588	\$(1,066)		\$2,025	\$(3,298)

1. PSPIB, through written credit default swaps, indirectly guarantees the underlying reference obligations. The maximum potential exposure is the notional amount of the written credit default swaps as shown in the table above.



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Total derivative-related assets and liabilities as at March 31 comprise (\$ millions):

	2021			2020		
	Notional value	Fair value		Notional value	Fair value	
		Assets	Liabilities		Assets	Liabilities
Listed derivatives	\$107,093	\$86	\$(66)	\$44,017	\$140	\$(80)
OTC derivatives	109,227	1,502	(1,000)	116,336	1,885	(3,218)
OTC-cleared derivatives	42,675	0	0	99,324	0	0
Total		\$1,588	\$(1,066)		\$2,025	\$(3,298)

The terms to maturity based on the notional value for the derivatives were as follows as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Less than 3 months	\$81,835	\$125,895
3 to 12 months	103,970	66,286
Over 1 year	73,190	67,496

(C) Fair value hierarchy

(I) Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities described under Note 5(A) are classified within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole.

- ▶ Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that PSPIB can access at the end of the reporting period.
- ▶ Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or the liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include:
 - (i) quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets
 - (ii) quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active
 - (iii) inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability
 - (iv) market-corroborated inputs
- ▶ Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability that are used within model-based techniques. They reflect PSPIB's assessment of the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the assets or liabilities.

The classification within the levels of the hierarchy is established at the time of the initial determination of fair value of the asset or liability and reviewed at the end of each reporting



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period. PSPIB determines whether a transfer between levels has occurred and recognizes such transfers at the beginning of the reporting period.



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The following table shows the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities as at March 31, 2021, classified within the fair value hierarchy (\$ millions):

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total fair value
Investments				
Public markets				
Canadian equity	\$2,016	\$813	\$40	\$2,869
Foreign equity	27,862	569	862	29,293
Private markets				
Real estate	0	0	23,325	23,325
Private equity	0	0	22,045	22,045
Infrastructure	0	0	16,568	16,568
Natural resources	0	0	9,407	9,407
Fixed income				
Cash and money market securities	3,356	2,325	0	5,681
Government and corporate bonds	4,759	14,171	4	18,934
Inflation-linked bonds	10,276	87	0	10,363
Private debt securities	0	0	13,208	13,208
Alternative investments	0	5,494	6,346	11,840
Total investments	\$48,269	\$23,459	\$91,805	\$163,533
Investment-related assets				
Amounts receivable from pending trades	\$0	\$1,231	\$0	\$1,231
Interest receivable	0	293	0	293
Dividends receivable	0	115	0	115
Securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements	0	2,746	0	2,746
Derivative-related assets	85	1,503	0	1,588
Total investment-related assets	\$85	\$5,888	\$0	\$5,973
Investments representing financial assets at FVTPL	\$48,354	\$29,347	\$91,805	\$169,506
Investment-related liabilities				
Amounts payable from pending trades	\$0	\$(1,111)	\$0	\$(1,111)
Interest payable	0	(52)	0	(52)
Securities sold short	(2,022)	0	0	(2,022)
Collateral payable	0	(1,613)	0	(1,613)
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	0	(2,391)	0	(2,391)
Derivative-related liabilities	(66)	(1,000)	0	(1,066)
Investment-related liabilities representing financial liabilities at FVTPL	\$(2,088)	\$(6,167)	\$0	\$(8,255)
Borrowings				
Capital market debt financing	\$0	\$(12,196)	\$0	\$(12,196)
Borrowings representing financial liabilities designated at FVTPL	\$0	\$(12,196)	\$0	\$(12,196)
Net investments	\$46,266	\$10,984	\$91,805	\$149,055



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The following table shows the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities as at March 31, 2020, classified within the fair value hierarchy (\$ millions):

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total fair value
Investments				
Public markets				
Canadian equity	\$1,896	\$515	\$33	\$2,444
Foreign equity	19,180	1,090	875	21,145
Private markets				
Real estate	0	0	21,646	21,646
Private equity	0	0	16,064	16,064
Infrastructure	0	0	16,312	16,312
Natural resources	0	0	7,595	7,595
Fixed income				
Cash and money market securities	936	2,584	0	3,520
Government and corporate bonds	8,375	14,459	5	22,839
Inflation-linked bonds	11,758	284	0	12,042
Private debt securities	0	0	12,684	12,684
Alternative investments	0	1,901	6,155	8,056
Total investments	\$42,145	\$20,833	\$81,369	\$144,347
Investment-related assets				
Amounts receivable from pending trades	\$0	\$553	\$0	\$553
Interest receivable	0	427	0	427
Dividends receivable	0	116	0	116
Securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements	0	3,284	0	3,284
Derivative-related assets	134	1,891	0	2,025
Total investment-related assets	\$134	\$6,271	\$0	\$6,405
Investments representing financial assets at FVTPL	\$42,279	\$27,104	\$81,369	\$150,752
Investment-related liabilities				
Amounts payable from pending trades	\$0	\$(739)	\$0	\$(739)
Interest payable	0	(69)	0	(69)
Securities sold short	(2,674)	(155)	0	(2,829)
Collateral payable	0	(2,437)	0	(2,437)
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	0	(6,390)	0	(6,390)
Derivative-related liabilities	(77)	(3,221)	0	(3,298)
Investment-related liabilities representing financial liabilities at FVTPL	\$(2,751)	\$(13,011)	\$0	\$(15,762)
Borrowings				
Capital market debt financing	\$0	\$(11,497)	\$0	\$(11,497)
Borrowings representing financial liabilities designated at FVTPL	\$0	\$(11,497)	\$0	\$(11,497)
Net investments	\$39,528	\$2,596	\$81,369	\$123,493



There were no significant transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the year ended March 31, 2021 (no significant transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the year ended March 31, 2020).

(II) Process for Level 3 fair value determination

The valuation process is monitored and governed by an internal valuation committee (VC). This committee is responsible for overseeing all aspects of fair value determination. This includes valuation methodologies and procedures for each type of investment and ensuring they are complied with. Valuation methodologies established are based on widely recognized practices that are consistent with professional appraisal standards. Such standards include, among others, the *International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines*, the *Canadian Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice* and the *Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice* in the United States of America.

The fair value of investments classified as Level 3 in private markets is determined at least semi-annually. For other interim reporting periods, the fair value is reviewed and adjusted, as appropriate, to reflect the impact of any significant market or investment-specific events or circumstances. For each investment, the relevant valuation methodology is applied consistently over time as appropriate in the prevailing circumstances. The appropriateness of significant changes in valuation methodologies is reviewed by the VC.

In cases where the services of third-party appraisers are used, PSPIB ensures their independence and that valuation methods used are consistent with professional appraisal standards outlined above. In validating the work performed by appraisers, PSPIB ensures that the assumptions used correspond to financial information and forecasts of the underlying investment.

With respect to fund investments classified as Level 3, the annual fair value is generally determined based on audited financial statements received from the fund's general partner. In certain cases fair value is obtained from information provided by the fund's administrators and is reviewed by PSPIB to ensure reasonableness and adherence to acceptable industry valuation methods. Where necessary, the impact of restrictions on the sale or redemption of such investments is taken into consideration in determining fair value.

To reflect the impact, where applicable, of significant market movements or other events occurring up to March 31, 2021, such as those in connection with the market disruption described in Note 2(N), adjustments to private markets and fund investments are made, as appropriate. Such adjustments are based on a number of factors, including public market trading comparables, investment-specific characteristics, as well as market conditions and uncertainties at that time.



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(III) Level 3 significant inputs

The following table outlines key information with respect to significant inputs related to financial assets and financial liabilities categorized within Level 3 as at March 31, 2021:

Financial assets and financial liabilities	Type of investment	Fair value (\$ millions)	Significant valuation techniques	Significant unobservable inputs	Range (weighted average)			
Public markets								
Canadian equity	Direct investments	\$40	Net asset value method (NAV) ¹	n/a	n/a			
Foreign equity	Direct investments	\$862	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a			
Private markets								
Real estate	Direct and co-investments	\$21,651	Discounted cash flow (DCF)	Discount rate ^{2, 3}	5.00% to 20.00% (7.34%)			
				Terminal capitalization rate ^{2, 3}	4.00% to 13.25% (5.71%)			
			Direct capitalization	Capitalization rate ^{2, 4}	2.40% to 10.13% (4.70%)			
				Stabilized occupancy rate ^{4, 5}	38.00% to 100.00% (96.89%)			
				Sales comparison approach	Price per square foot ^{4, 5}	\$4.07 to \$1,365.41 (\$274.50)		
			NAV ¹	n/a	n/a			
			Transaction price	n/a	n/a			
			Fund investments	\$1,674	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a	
			Other private markets	Direct and co-investments	\$33,582	DCF	Discount rate ²	5.92% to 15.00% (8.70%)
							Market comparables	n/a
NAV ¹	n/a	n/a						
Transaction price	n/a	n/a						
Fund investments	\$14,438	NAV ¹				n/a	n/a	
Fixed income								
Corporate bonds	Asset-backed term notes	\$4	Third-party pricing ¹	n/a	n/a			
Private debt securities	Direct and co-investments	\$9,218	DCF	Discount rate ²	2.70% to 22.23% (9.03%)			
				NAV ¹	n/a	n/a		
			Transaction price	n/a	n/a			
			Fund investments	\$3,990	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a	
Alternative investments	Fund investments	\$6,346	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a			
Total		\$91,805						

1. In certain cases, when investments are held through funds, partnerships or similar structures, fair value is determined by third parties where valuation information is not available to PSPIB.
2. An increase (decrease) in this unobservable input, taken individually, generally results in a decrease (increase) in fair value.
3. An increase (decrease) in the discount rate is generally accompanied by an increase (decrease) of the terminal capitalization rate.
4. There is no predictable direct relationship between this input and any other significant unobservable input.
5. An increase (decrease) in this unobservable input, taken individually, generally results in an increase (decrease) in fair value.



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The following table outlines key information with respect to significant inputs related to financial assets and financial liabilities categorized within Level 3 as at March 31, 2020:

Financial assets and financial liabilities	Type of investment	Fair value (\$ millions)	Significant valuation techniques	Significant unobservable inputs	Range (weighted average)				
Public markets									
Canadian equity	Direct investments	\$33	Net asset value method (NAV) ¹	n/a	n/a				
Foreign equity	Direct investments	\$875	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a				
Private markets									
Real estate	Direct and co-investments	\$20,428	Discounted cash flow (DCF)	Discount rate ^{2, 3}	2.90% to 20.00% (7.46%)				
				Terminal capitalization rate ^{2, 3}	3.95% to 10.25% (5.82%)				
				Direct capitalization	Capitalization rate ^{2, 4}	2.35% to 9.78% (4.88%)			
				Stabilized occupancy rate ^{4, 5}	67.50% to 100.00% (98.43%)				
				Sales comparison approach	Price per square foot ^{4, 5}	\$0.94 to \$1,895.16 (\$290.17)			
				NAV ¹	n/a	n/a			
				Transaction price	n/a	n/a			
				Fund investments	\$1,218	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a	
				Other private markets	Direct and co-investments	\$28,377	DCF	Discount rate ²	6.30% to 15.00% (8.20%)
								Market comparables	n/a
NAV ¹	n/a	n/a							
Transaction price	n/a	n/a							
Fund investments	\$11,594	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a					
Fixed income									
Corporate bonds	Asset-backed term notes	\$5	Third-party pricing ¹	n/a	n/a				
Private debt securities	Direct and co-investments	\$9,011	DCF	Discount rate ²	6.63% to 22.64% (11.86%)				
				NAV ¹	n/a	n/a			
				Transaction price	n/a	n/a			
				Fund investments	\$3,673	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a	
Alternative investments	Fund investments	\$6,155	NAV ¹	n/a	n/a				
Total		\$81,369							

1. In certain cases, when investments are held through funds, partnerships or similar structures, fair value is determined by third parties where valuation information is not available to PSPiB.
2. An increase (decrease) in this unobservable input, taken individually, generally results in a decrease (increase) in fair value.
3. An increase (decrease) in the discount rate is generally accompanied by an increase (decrease) of the terminal capitalization rate.
4. There is no predictable direct relationship between this input and any other significant unobservable input.
5. An increase (decrease) in this unobservable input, taken individually, generally results in an increase (decrease) in fair value.



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(IV) Level 3 reconciliation

The following table shows a reconciliation of all movements related to financial assets and financial liabilities categorized within Level 3 for the year ended March 31, 2021 (\$ millions):

	Opening balance	Purchases	Sales	Settlements	Realized gains (losses)	Unrealized gains ¹	Transfer out of Level 3	Closing balance
Public markets	\$908	\$168	\$(106)	\$0	\$(7)	\$342	\$(403)	\$902
Private markets	61,617	8,997	(4,904)	0	1,364	4,405	(134)	71,345
Fixed income	12,689	4,624	(4,461)	(1)	102	259	0	13,212
Alternative investments	6,155	568	(899)	0	99	423	0	6,346
Total	\$81,369	\$14,357	\$(10,370)	\$(1)	\$1,558	\$5,429	\$(537)	\$91,805

1. Includes pension plan allocation adjustments.

As at March 31, 2020, an investment of \$403 million in a non-listed fund that held listed securities was classified as Level 3 due to the nature of the contractual restrictions on the redemption of fund units. During the year ended March 31, 2021, the listed securities held by the fund were transferred to PSPIB and were classified as Level 1 as at March 31, 2021.

Additionally, as at March 31, 2020, a private market investment of \$134 million was classified under Level 3 as its fair value was determined based on significant unobservable inputs. During the year ended March 31, 2021, this investment was transferred to Level 2 as the underlying investee indirectly held by PSPIB became publicly traded.

The following table shows a reconciliation of all movements related to financial assets and financial liabilities categorized within Level 3 for the year ended March 31, 2020 (\$ millions):

	Opening balance	Purchases	Sales	Settlements	Realized gains	Unrealized gains (losses) ¹	Transfer in (out) of Level 3	Closing balance
Public markets	\$1,262	\$83	\$(644)	\$0	\$381	\$(174)	\$0	\$908
Private markets	55,219	14,119	(7,759)	0	2,735	(2,769)	72	61,617
Fixed income	11,396	5,690	(3,750)	(1)	83	(729)	0	12,689
Alternative investments	5,752	1,230	(897)	0	125	112	(167)	6,155
Total	\$73,629	\$21,122	\$(13,050)	\$(1)	\$3,324	\$(3,560)	\$(95)	\$81,369

1. Includes pension plan allocation adjustments.



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As at March 31, 2019, an alternative investment of \$167 million in a non-listed fund that held listed securities was classified as Level 3 due to the nature of the contractual restrictions on the redemption of fund units. During the year ended March 31, 2020, the investment was transferred to Level 2 as the contractual restrictions were lifted. Additionally, as at March 31, 2019, a public market investment of \$72 million was classified as Level 1 and was transferred to Level 3 during the year ended March 31, 2020, as the investment became privately held.

(V) Level 3 sensitivity analysis

In the course of measuring fair value of financial instruments classified as Level 3, valuation techniques used incorporate assumptions that are based on non-observable data. Significant assumptions used for each asset class are described in Note 5(C)(III). Although such assumptions reflect PSPIB's best judgment, with all other variables held constant, the use of reasonably possible alternative assumptions could yield different fair value measures representing, at a minimum, a 3% increase and 3% decrease as at March 31, 2021 (3% increase and 3% decrease as at March 31, 2020) in the fair value of financial instruments categorized as Level 3. This excludes fund investments where a sensitivity analysis is not possible given the underlying assumptions used are not available to PSPIB. In the case of fund investments, the fair value is determined as indicated in Note 5(C)(II).

(D) Collateral pledged and received

PSPIB is party to agreements that involve pledging and holding collateral, as outlined in Notes 2(F), 2(G) and 7(B)(I). The following table illustrates the fair values of the pension plan's allocated collateral, as well as the securities under the lending and borrowing programs and the securities under the repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements, as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Securities lending and borrowing		
Securities lent	\$2,617	\$481
Collateral held ¹	2,801	512
Securities borrowed	1,394	750
Collateral pledged ²	1,448	814
Securities repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements		
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	2,384	6,435
Collateral pledged	2,390	6,404
Securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements	2,745	3,293
Collateral held ³	2,744	3,289
Derivative contracts		
Collateral pledged	496	2,106
Collateral held ⁴	962	280



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1. The minimum fair value of securities collateral denominated in the same currency required is equal to 102% and in the case of securities denominated in different currencies, 105%.
2. The minimum fair value of collateral required is equal to 100% of the fair value of the securities borrowed.
3. The collateral received is in the form of securities of which \$744 million has been used in connection with short selling transactions as at March 31, 2021 (\$2,079 million as at March 31, 2020) and \$112 million has been used in connection with securities sold under repurchase agreements (\$97 million as at March 31, 2020).
4. As part of collateral held, cash amounted to \$222 million as at March 31, 2021 (\$33 million as at March 31, 2020) and securities amounted to \$740 million as at March 31, 2021 (\$247 million as at March 31, 2020). All cash collateral is reinvested.

6. Interest in other entities

(A) Subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates

In the normal course of business, investments in private markets are commonly held through investment entity subsidiaries formed by PSPIB. As at March 31, 2021, 120 investment entity subsidiaries were incorporated in North America, 18 in Europe, 13 in Oceania, 4 in Central and South America, 1 in Africa and 1 in Asia (111 in North America, 15 in Europe, 15 in Oceania, 4 in Central and South America, 1 in Africa and 1 in Asia as at March 31, 2020).

In addition, PSPIB controlled 91 investees directly or through its investment entity subsidiaries as at March 31, 2021 (84 investees as at March 31, 2020).

The following tables present, in descending order, the most significant investees held directly or indirectly by PSPIB where it has control, joint control or significant influence.

As at March 31, 2021:

Entity's name	Principal place of business	Ownership interest held by PSPIB (%)	Relationship to PSPIB
AviAlliance GmbH	Europe	100	Controlled investee
Kaingaroa Timberlands Limited	Oceania	56	Jointly controlled investee
Revera Inc.	North America	100	Controlled investee
SEGRO European Logistics Partnership S.a.r.l.	Europe	50	Jointly controlled investee
Forth Ports Limited.	Europe	51	Jointly controlled investee
Roadis Transportation Holding, S.L.U.	Global	100	Controlled investee
American Wholesale Insurance Holding Company, LLC	North America	23	Associate
TDF S.A.S.	Europe	22	Associate
Constantin Investment Limited	Europe	38	Associate
Pomona Farming, LLC	North America	99	Controlled investee



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As at March 31, 2020:

Entity's name	Principal place of business	Ownership interest held by PSPIB (%)	Relationship to PSPIB
AviAlliance GmbH	Europe	100	Controlled investee
Revera Inc.	North America	100	Controlled investee
Kaingaroa Timberlands Limited	Oceania	56	Jointly controlled investee
Roadis Transportation Holding, S.L.U.	Global	100	Controlled investee
SEGRO European Logistics Partnership S.a.r.l.	Europe	50	Jointly controlled investee
Forth Ports Limited.	Europe	51	Jointly controlled investee
TDF S.A.S.	Europe	22	Associate
Big Box Properties	North America	49	Jointly controlled investee
Roccapina Fund, L.P.	North America	100	Controlled investee
American Wholesale Insurance Holding Company, LLC	North America	27	Associate

In addition to the above, PSPIB consolidates wholly owned subsidiaries that solely provide it with services that relate to its investment activities. Such services consist of investment management and financing of private market investments within the context of PSPIB's capital market debt program described in Note 9(B).

(B) Structured entities

PSPIB holds interests in partnerships and funds mainly in the context of its investments in private markets. Given their nature, such entities commonly have the characteristics of a structured entity as defined by IFRS. These entities are held as investments and do not expose PSPIB to additional risks or returns compared to interests held in non-structured entities.

Information regarding structured entities is included, as applicable, within disclosures of investment risk management under Note 7, guarantees and indemnities under Note 22 and commitments under Note 23.

7. Investment risk management

PSPIB is required to act in the best interests of the contributors and beneficiaries under the pension plan and for maximizing returns without undue risk of loss. In pursuit of this objective, PSPIB established an Enterprise Risk Management Policy (ERM Policy). The ERM Policy provides a framework for identifying, evaluating, managing, mitigating, monitoring and reporting the investment and non-investment risks to which PSPIB is exposed.



As part of the overall ERM policy, the objective of the Investment Risk Management Policy (IRM Policy) is to support the management of risk inherent to the investment decision-making process. The IRM Policy outlines a framework detailing how investment activities should comply with PSPIB's risk philosophy and align with the tolerance and limits of its risk appetite. The IRM Policy also supplements the Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures (SIP&P), whose objective is to effectively manage investment risks related to the implementation of PSPIB's various investment strategies. Investment risks include market, credit and liquidity risks.

(A) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of an investment will fluctuate as a result of an adverse financial outcome due to changes in the factors that drive the value, such as changes in market prices, changes caused by factors specific to the individual investment, volatility in share and commodity prices, interest rate, foreign exchange or other factors affecting similar securities traded in the market.

(I) Measurement of market risk

The absolute annualized volatility of the total portfolio is used as the primary measure of market risk. The absolute volatility is a statistical measure of the size of changes in investment returns of a given investment or portfolio of investments. It is used to illustrate the potential loss of value in an investment or portfolio of investments as a result of fluctuations in market prices.

PSPIB uses 7 years' worth of market returns scaled to a 12-month holding period to calculate the absolute volatility. For investments that are not actively traded, the calculation of the absolute volatility uses securities with similar risk attributes as a proxy.

The absolute volatility is statistically valid under normal market conditions. Although it includes losses from severe market events such as those described in Note 2(N), it does not solely measure such events. It also assumes that the future will behave in a pattern similar to the past. Consequently, if future market conditions differ significantly from those of the past, potential losses may differ from those originally estimated.

The following table shows the absolute volatility of the total portfolio expressed as a percentage of net investments as at March 31:

	2021 (%)	2020 (%)
Absolute volatility	11.3	9.2

Stress testing

Although the absolute volatility is a widely accepted risk measure, it is complemented by other risk measurement methodologies that provide greater insight on market risk. PSPIB uses stress testing and scenario analysis to examine the impact on financial results of abnormally large



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movements in risk factors. Such techniques are used to test a portfolio's sensitivity to various risk factors and key model assumptions. These methods also use historically stressed periods to evaluate how a current portfolio reacts under such circumstances. Stress testing and scenario analysis are also deployed to assess new product performance.

(II) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that fluctuations in interest rates will directly affect the fair value of the pension plan's net asset values.

The terms to maturity of the classes of financial instruments, outlined in Note 5(A), with the most significant exposure to interest rate risk were as follows as at March 31, 2021 (\$ millions):

	Less than 1 year	1 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	Over 10 years	Other	Total
Cash and money market securities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,681 ¹	\$5,681
Government and corporate bonds	506	8,852	4,711	4,240	625 ²	18,934
Inflation-linked bonds	384	4,066	3,632	2,281	0	10,363
Private debt securities	151	3,499	4,215	1,169	4,174 ³	13,208
Total fixed income	\$1,041	\$16,417	\$12,558	\$7,690	\$10,480	\$48,186

1. Due to their short-time maturity, these investments are not significantly exposed to interest rate risk.
2. Certain fixed income securities are not significantly exposed to interest rate risk as their prescribed rates are variable.
3. Information in connection with the terms to maturity of fund and certain directly held investments included as part of private debt securities is not available.



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The terms to maturity of the classes of financial instruments, outlined in Note 5(A), with the most significant exposure to interest rate risk were as follows as at March 31, 2020 (\$ millions):

	Less than 1 year	1 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	Over 10 years	Other	Total
Cash and money market securities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,520 ¹	\$3,520
Government and corporate bonds	674	12,997	4,143	4,026	999 ²	22,839
Inflation-linked bonds	0	4,341	4,615	3,086	0	12,042
Private debt securities	224	3,156	4,532	1,083	3,689 ³	12,684
Total fixed income	\$898	\$20,494	\$13,290	\$8,195	\$8,208	\$51,085

1. Due to their short-time maturity, these investments are not significantly exposed to interest rate risk.
2. Certain fixed income securities are not significantly exposed to interest rate risk as their prescribed rates are variable.
3. Information in connection with the terms to maturity of fund and certain directly held investments included as part of private debt securities is not available.

All equity investments within Canadian equity, foreign equity, real estate, private equity, infrastructure and natural resources amounting to \$103,507 million as at March 31, 2021 (\$85,206 million as at March 31, 2020) do not have specified terms to maturity nor are they significantly exposed to interest rate risk.

Alternative investments described in Note 5(A)(IV), which amounted to \$11,840 million as at March 31, 2021 (\$8,056 million as at March 31, 2020), also have no specified terms to maturity. Certain of these investments, as well as reverse repurchase agreements and derivative contracts described in Notes 5(A)(X) and 5(B), respectively, are subject to interest rate risk exposures. These exposures are reflected in the absolute volatility calculation described in Note 7(A)(I).

The terms to maturity of PSPIB's capital market debt financing are disclosed in Note 9(B).

(III) Foreign currency risk

PSPIB is exposed to currency risk through holding of investments that is, direct and indirect holdings of securities, units in pooled funds and units in limited partnerships or, investment-related liabilities in various currencies. Fluctuations in the relative value of the Canadian dollar against these foreign currencies can result in a positive or a negative effect on the fair value of the investments. To mitigate this risk, PSPIB may take, through foreign forward contracts or cross currency swaps, positions in foreign currencies.



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The underlying foreign currency exposures of net investments for the pension plan were as follows as at March 31 (\$ millions):

Currency	2021	
	Fair value	% of total
US dollar	\$77,710	63.0
Euro	17,219	14.0
Australian dollar	6,131	5.0
British pound	4,452	3.6
Japanese yen	2,951	2.4
Hong Kong dollar	1,912	1.6
Mexican peso	1,536	1.2
Swiss franc	1,207	1.0
Indian rupee	1,189	1.0
Brazilian real	1,176	1.0
Chinese yuan	1,152	0.9
South Korean won	1,123	0.9
Others	5,598	4.4
Total	\$123,356	100.0

As at March 31, 2021, PSPIB and its investment entity subsidiaries also had commitments, denominated in foreign currencies of \$19,615 million for the pension plan (US\$12,919 million, €1,870 million, £276 million, 16 million South African rand, 1,465 million Mexican pesos, 2,200 million Indian rupees and 36 million Danish kroner), which were not included in the foreign currency exposure table above.

Currency	2020	
	Fair value	% of total
US dollar	\$70,965	67.1
Euro	13,701	13.0
Australian dollar	4,518	4.3
British pound	3,482	3.3
Japanese yen	2,545	2.4
Hong Kong dollar	1,705	1.6
Swiss franc	1,260	1.2



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Mexican peso	1,160	1.1
Indian rupee	975	0.9
Brazilian real	960	0.9
Others	4,407	4.2
Total	\$105,678	100.0

As at March 31, 2020, PSPIB and its investment entity subsidiaries also had commitments, denominated in foreign currencies of \$18,111 million for the pension plan (US\$10,554 million, €1,451 million, £198 million, 16 million South African rand, 1,621 million Mexican pesos, 19,200 million Indian rupees, 36 million Danish kroner and 6 million Australian dollars), which were not included in the foreign currency exposure table above.

(B) Credit risk

PSPIB is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk of non-performance of a debtor on whom PSPIB relies to fulfill contractual or financial obligations. That is, the risk that the issuer of a debt security or that the counterparty to a derivative contract, to a securities lending and borrowing transaction or to securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements, is unable to meet its financial obligations.

Credit risk encompasses the risk of a deterioration of creditworthiness and the relevant concentration risk. Credit risk monitoring entails an evaluation of the credit quality of each issuer and counterparty that transacts with PSPIB. To perform this evaluation for public issuers and counterparties, PSPIB relies on four recognized credit rating agencies. A minimum of two credit ratings are used to classify each security. If the agencies disagree as to a security's credit quality, PSPIB uses the lowest of the available ratings. For private issuers, PSPIB assigns internal credit ratings to issuers and measures the combined risk profile against set targets. To assign risk ratings to issuers, PSPIB uses methodologies comparable to those used by recognized rating agencies.

As at March 31, 2021, the pension plan's maximum exposure to credit risk amounted to \$52 billion (\$55 billion as at March 31, 2020). This amount is presented before collateral held and netting arrangements that do not qualify for offsetting under IFRS. The maximum credit exposure excludes guarantees disclosed in Note 22, as well as investments in funds classified as alternative investments in Note 5(A). Such funds hold fixed income securities among other types of instruments.

To monitor the evolution of credit risk, PSPIB periodically produces a concentration report by credit rating of credit-sensitive securities. The concentration of credit risk by credit rating was as follows.



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As at March 31, 2021 (\$ millions):

	Government and corporate bonds ¹	Inflation-linked bonds ¹	Money market securities ¹	Reverse repurchase agreements	OTC derivatives ²	Private debt securities ¹	Total ¹
AAA-AA	\$12,737	\$10,295	\$4,298	\$1,236	\$36	\$0	\$28,602
A	5,688	87	887	1,476	1,466	0	9,604
BBB	194	0	0	34	0	231	459
BB or below	337	0	0	0	0	13,043	13,380
No rating ³	84	0	19	0	0	102	205
Total	\$19,040	\$10,382	\$5,204	\$2,746	\$1,502	\$13,376	\$52,250

1. Includes interest receivable.
2. As disclosed in Note 5(B).
3. Includes securities for public issuers and counterparties that are either not rated by credit rating agencies or rated by a single credit rating agency.

As at March 31, 2020 (\$ millions):

	Government and corporate bonds ¹	Inflation-linked bonds ¹	Money market securities ¹	Reverse repurchase agreements	OTC derivatives ²	Private debt securities ¹	Total ¹
AAA-AA	\$16,101	\$11,810	\$1,510	\$788	\$199	\$0	\$30,408
A	5,427	100	565	2,465	1,686	0	10,243
BBB	626	157	0	31	0	172	986
BB or below	769	0	0	0	0	12,545	13,314
No rating ³	53	0	0	0	0	231	284
Total	\$22,976	\$12,067	\$2,075	\$3,284	\$1,885	\$12,948	\$55,235

1. Includes interest receivable.
2. As disclosed in Note 5(B).
3. Includes securities for public issuers and counterparties that are either not rated by credit rating agencies or rated by a single credit rating agency.

(I) Counterparty risk

Counterparty risk represents the credit risk from current and potential exposure related to transactions involving derivative contracts, securities lending and borrowing, as well as securities repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements. In order to minimize counterparty risk, PSPIB requires that counterparties provide adequate collateral and meet its credit rating requirements. PSPIB frequently monitors the credit rating of its counterparties as determined by recognized credit rating agencies. With respect to derivative contracts, PSPIB has the ability to



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For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 (Canadian \$)

terminate all trades with most counterparties whose credit rating is downgraded below its requirements.

For OTC derivatives, PSPIB's policy also requires the use of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) Master Agreement with all counterparties to derivative contracts. The ISDA Master Agreement provides the contractual framework within which dealing activities across a full range of OTC products are conducted. In the case of OTC-cleared derivatives, trading activities are regulated between parties under terms that are customary to such transactions.

As a credit mitigation technique, the ISDA Master Agreement contractually binds counterparties to close-out netting provisions in the case of default by one of the counterparties. Additionally, the Credit Support Annex (CSA) to the ISDA Master Agreement enables PSPIB to realize any collateral placed with it in the case of default of the counterparty. The CSA also requires PSPIB to contribute further collateral when requested. All collateral transactions under the CSA are in cash, high-quality debt instruments or securities. The CSA also regulates the exchange of collateral when the credit exposure to a counterparty exceeds a predetermined threshold. Counterparties are generally authorized to sell, repledge or otherwise use collateral held. Similarly, in the case of OTC-cleared derivatives, collateral is required in cash, high quality debt instruments or securities and can be sold, repledged or otherwise used. PSPIB does not sell, repledge or otherwise use any collateral held in the form of securities but does reinvest all cash collateral, with respect to derivative contracts.

With respect to transactions involving securities lending and borrowing agreements, as well as securities repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements, collateral requirements are in place to mitigate counterparty risk. Notes 2(F) and 2(G) describe collateral requirements in securities lending and borrowing programs, as well as securities repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements.

Information in connection with collateral pledged by PSPIB and its counterparties is disclosed in Note 5(D).

In the case of the securities lending program, PSPIB's exposure to counterparty risk is further mitigated as the custodian of the securities lent assumes the risk that a counterparty will be unable to meet its obligations associated with the collateral requirements.

PSPIB is responsible for counterparty risk monitoring and mitigation, as well as for maintaining a comprehensive, disciplined and enterprise-wide process for tracking and managing counterparty risk. As such, PSPIB measures counterparty risk on an ongoing basis, evaluates and tracks the creditworthiness of current counterparties and mitigates counterparty risk through collateral management.



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(II) Offsetting

PSPIB is subject to ISDA Master Agreements in relation to its OTC derivative financial instruments as described. Such agreements contain close-out netting provisions applicable only in the case of default. In certain cases, such agreements also allow for offsetting. In cases where the conditions for offsetting were met, financial instruments have been presented net in the statement of financial position. Securities repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements, described in Notes 2(G) and 5(D) are subject to similar arrangements; however, they are not offset as the conditions for offsetting are not met.

The following tables present the financial assets and liabilities described above (\$ millions):

Financial assets

	Gross amount of recognized financial assets	Less: gross amount of recognized financial liabilities set off	Net amount of financial assets presented in the statement of financial position	Less: related amounts not set off in the statement of financial position		Net
				Recognized financial liabilities	Collateral held and not recognized	
As at March 31, 2021						
Reverse repurchase agreements	\$2,746	\$0	\$2,746 ¹	\$1,090	\$1,655	\$1
OTC-derivatives	1,646	144	1,502 ²	1,057	432	13
Total	\$4,392	\$144	\$4,248	\$2,147	\$2,087	\$14
As at March 31, 2020						
Reverse repurchase agreements	\$3,284	\$0	\$3,284 ¹	\$2,599	\$683	\$2
OTC-derivatives	1,916	31	1,885 ²	1,654	224	7
Total	\$5,200	\$31	\$5,169	\$4,253	\$907	\$9

1. As described in Note 5(A)(X).

2. As described in Note 5(B).



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Financial liabilities

	Gross amount of recognized financial liabilities	Less: gross amount of recognized financial assets set off	Net amount of financial liabilities presented in the statement of financial position	Less: related amounts not set off in the statement of financial position		Net
				Recognized financial assets	Collateral pledged and not derecognized	
As at March 31, 2021						
Repurchase agreements	\$2,391	\$0	\$2,391 ¹	\$1,090	\$1,299	\$2
OTC-derivatives	1,144	144	1,000 ²	897	89	14
Collateral payable	222	0	222 ³	160	0	62
Total	\$3,757	\$144	\$3,613	\$2,147	\$1,388	\$78
As at March 31, 2020						
Repurchase agreements	\$6,390	\$0	\$6,390 ¹	\$2,599	\$3,788	\$3
OTC-derivatives	3,249	31	3,218 ²	1,638	1,525	55
Collateral payable	33	0	33 ³	16	1	16
Total	\$9,672	\$31	\$9,641	\$4,253	\$5,314	\$74

1. As described in Note 5(A)(X).

2. As described in Note 5(B).

3. As described in Note 5(A)(IX). The balance consists of cash collateral received with respect to certain OTC derivative transactions and is included in Note 5(A) as part of collateral payable.

(C) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk corresponds to the risk that PSPIB will not be able to meet its financial obligations on a timely basis, with sufficient and readily available cash resources. PSPIB's cash position is monitored on a daily basis. In general, investments in cash, money market securities, floating rate notes, bonds and public equities are expected to be highly liquid as they will be invested in securities that are actively traded. PSPIB utilizes appropriate measures and controls to monitor liquidity risk in order to ensure that there is sufficient liquidity to meet financial obligations as they come due. A liquidity report taking into consideration future forecasted cash flows is prepared and presented to PSPIB's senior management on a weekly basis. This ensures that sufficient cash reserves are available to meet forecasted cash outflows. Additionally, sufficient sources of liquidity are maintained for deployment in case of market disruption.

PSPIB has the ability to raise additional capital through the use of its capital market debt program. This program allows PSPIB to issue short-term promissory notes and medium-term



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notes. Note 9(B) provides additional information on the usage of the capital market debt program. Furthermore, PSPIB maintains credit facilities for general corporate purposes. Note 9(A) provides additional information with respect to such credit facilities.

The terms to maturity of the notional amount of derivatives are disclosed in Note 5(B).

Financial liabilities

The following tables present the fair value of non-derivative-related financial liabilities, as well as of derivative-related financial instruments, aggregated according to their maturities as at March 31, 2021 (\$ millions) and excluding the impact of guarantees and indemnities disclosed in Note 22:

	Less than 3 months	3 to 12 months	Over 1 year	Total
Non-derivative-related financial liabilities¹				
Amounts payable from pending trades	\$(1,111)	\$0	\$0	\$(1,111)
Interest payable	(46)	(6)	0	(52)
Securities sold short	(2,022)	0	0	(2,022)
Collateral payable	(581)	0	(1,032)	(1,613)
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	(1,965)	(426)	0	(2,391)
Capital market debt financing	(2,672)	(2,428)	(7,096)	(12,196)
Trade payable and other liabilities	(105)	(80)	(133)	(318)
Total	\$(8,502)	\$(2,940)	\$(8,261)	\$(19,703)

	Less than 3 months	3 to 12 months	Over 1 year	Total
Derivative-related financial instruments				
Derivative-related assets	\$633	\$546	\$409	\$1,588
Derivative-related liabilities ¹	(414)	(412)	(240)	(1,066)
Total	\$219	\$134	\$169	\$522

1. Liabilities are presented in the earliest period in which the counterparty can request payment.



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The following tables present the fair value of non-derivative-related financial liabilities, as well as of derivative-related financial instruments, aggregated according to their maturities as at March 31, 2020 (\$ millions) and excluding the impact of guarantees and indemnities disclosed in Note 22:

	Less than 3 months	3 to 12 months	Over 1 year	Total
Non-derivative-related financial liabilities¹				
Amounts payable from pending trades	\$(739)	\$0	\$0	\$(739)
Interest payable	(24)	(45)	0	(69)
Securities sold short	(2,829)	0	0	(2,829)
Collateral payable	(36)	0	(2,401)	(2,437)
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	(5,643)	(747)	0	(6,390)
Capital market debt financing	(2,630)	(2,658)	(6,209)	(11,497)
Trade payable and other liabilities	(93)	(94)	(134)	(321)
Total	\$(11,994)	\$(3,544)	\$(8,744)	\$(24,282)

	Less than 3 months	3 to 12 months	Over 1 year	Total
Derivative-related financial instruments				
Derivative-related assets	\$1,398	\$366	\$261	\$2,025
Derivative-related liabilities ¹	(1,987)	(1,057)	(254)	(3,298)
Total	\$(589)	\$(691)	\$7	\$(1,273)

1. Liabilities are presented in the earliest period in which the counterparty can request payment.



8. Contributions receivable

The contributions receivable as at March 31 are as follows (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Contributions receivable from plan members for past service	\$424	\$481
Other contributions receivable from plan members	81	121
Total contributions receivable from plan members	\$505	\$602
Contributions receivable from employers for past service	\$353	\$403
Other contributions receivable from employers	81	123
Total contributions receivable from employers	\$434	\$526
Total contributions receivable	\$939	\$1,128

9. Borrowings

(A) Credit facilities

PSPIB maintains a revolving credit facility in the amount of \$2 billion and a demand line of credit in the amount of \$1 billion (together “the credit facilities”).

The credit facilities are for general corporate purposes and are available in either Canadian or US currencies. Subject to customary terms and conditions, these credit facilities are available at variable interest rates such as the prime rate and the US base rate.

These credit facilities were not drawn upon as at March 31, 2021, and March 31, 2020.

(B) Capital market debt financing

PSPIB’s capital market debt program consists of the private placement of short-term promissory notes, as well as medium-term notes issued by PSP Capital Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of PSPIB. The capital raised is primarily used to finance private market investments. It is unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by PSPIB in accordance with its corporate leverage policy.

The maximum amount authorized by PSPIB’s Board of Directors for the capital market debt program is 10% of the net investments plus all recourse debt outstanding of PSPIB at the time of commitment to issuance. Under this limit, the short-term promissory note component cannot exceed \$12 billion for issuances in Canada and the United States combined.

PSPIB’s capital market debt financing was in compliance with the limits authorized by PSPIB’s Board of Directors during the years ended March 31, 2021, and March 31, 2020.



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The following outlines the terms, as well as the fair value, of the notes issued under the capital market debt program allocated to the pension plan as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021		2020	
	Capital amounts payable at maturity	Fair value	Capital amounts payable at maturity	Fair value
Short-term Canadian dollar promissory notes, bearing interest between 0.12% and 0.51% and maturing within 90 and 364 days of issuance (between 0.97% and 1.87%, maturing within 27 and 364 days as at March 31, 2020)	\$257	\$257	\$236	\$236
Short-term US dollar promissory notes, bearing interest between 0.09% and 0.47% and maturing within 31 and 365 days of issuance (between 0.03% and 2.02% and maturing within 7 and 366 days as at March 31, 2020)	3,931	3,928	4,326	4,315
Medium-term notes Series 5, bearing interest of 3.03% per annum and maturing on October 22, 2020	0	0	727	737
Medium-term notes Series 7, bearing interest of 3.29% per annum and maturing on April 4, 2024	1,064	1,145	1,024	1,099
Medium-term notes Series 8, bearing interest of 1.34% per annum and maturing on August 18, 2021	911	915	859	866
Medium-term notes Series 9, bearing interest of 2.09% per annum and maturing on November 22, 2023	1,093	1,135	1,078	1,109
Medium-term notes Series 10, bearing interest of 1.73% per annum and maturing on June 21, 2022	1,143	1,163	1,214	1,234
Medium-term notes Series 11, bearing interest of 3.00% per annum and maturing on November 5, 2025	911	983	909	979
Medium-term notes Series 12, bearing interest of 2.05% per annum and maturing on January 15, 2030	911	911	909	922
Medium-term notes Series 13, bearing interest of 0.90% per annum and maturing on June 15, 2026	1,093	1,067	0	0
Medium-term notes Series 14, bearing interest of 1.50% per annum and maturing on March 15, 2028	703	692	0	0
Total	\$12,017	\$12,196	\$11,282	\$11,497



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Unrealized gains in connection with borrowings amounted to \$430 million for the year ended March 31, 2021 (unrealized losses of \$372 million for the year ended March 31, 2020).

Interest expense, for the years ended March 31, was as follows (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Short-term promissory notes	\$21	\$108
Medium-term notes	153	137
Total	\$174	\$245

(C) Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

The following provides a reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities, including both changes arising from cash and non-cash changes for the year ended March 31, 2021 (\$ millions):

	Opening balance	Proceeds from borrowings	Repayment of borrowings	Non-cash changes		Closing balance
				Foreign exchange gains	Fair value ¹ gains	
Capital market debt financing	\$11,497	\$16,365	\$(15,226)	\$(399)	\$(41)	\$12,196
Borrowings	\$11,497	\$16,365	\$(15,226)	\$(399)	\$(41)	\$12,196

1. Includes interest on short-term promissory notes, which added to cost approximates their fair value.

The following provides a reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities, including both changes arising from cash and non-cash changes for the year ended March 31, 2020 (\$ millions):

	Opening balance	Proceeds from borrowings	Repayment of borrowings	Non-cash changes		Closing balance
				Foreign exchange losses	Fair value ¹ losses	
Capital market debt financing	\$10,260	\$19,202	\$(18,336)	\$260	\$111	\$11,497
Borrowings	\$10,260	\$19,202	\$(18,336)	\$260	\$111	\$11,497

1. Includes interest on short-term promissory notes, which added to cost approximates their fair value.



10. Related party transactions

(A) Certain investees

Transactions between PSPIB and its unconsolidated subsidiaries, jointly controlled investees and associates or subsidiaries of such entities are related party transactions. PSPIB enters into investment transactions with such related parties in the normal course of its business, more specifically, as part of private markets and certain fixed income investments described under Note 5(A), as well as guarantees, indemnities and commitments described under Notes 22 and 23, respectively. Since balances in connection with all investment transactions are measured at FVTPL, those transactions undertaken with related parties have the same impact on net assets available for benefits as those with unrelated parties.

Transactions between PSPIB and its consolidated subsidiaries, as well as related balances, are eliminated upon consolidation and, therefore, are not disclosed in this note.

(B) Government-related entities

Since PSPIB is a Crown corporation, it is considered to be a government-related entity. Other entities that are controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced by the government are also considered government-related entities.

PSPIB may enter into investment transactions with government-related entities in the normal course of its business, more specifically, as part of private markets and certain fixed income investments described under Note 5(A). Such investment transactions are carried out on terms that are equivalent to those that may prevail in transactions with unrelated parties and are subject to the same internal processes. In this respect, transactions with such related parties have the same impact on the net assets available for benefits as those with unrelated parties.

Consequently, management is availing itself of the exemption under IAS 24 Related Parties from making specific disclosures on transactions and balances with such government-related entities.

11. Capital management

PSPIB manages the pension plan's investments. PSPIB's investment objectives are:

- ▶ To invest fund transfers in the best interests of the beneficiaries and contributors under the PSSA. The funds received are invested with a view of achieving a maximum rate of return, without undue risk of loss, having regard to the funding, policies and requirements of the pension plan established under the PSSA and the ability of the pension plan to meet its financial obligations. The funds are also invested in accordance with PSPIB's Investment Risk Management policy which is outlined in Note 7.
- ▶ To maintain an appropriate credit rating to achieve access to the capital markets at the lowest cost of capital. Through PSP Capital Inc. and its leverage policies, PSPIB has the ability to raise capital by issuing short-term promissory notes and medium-term notes. Note 9(B)



provides information on the capital market debt financing and Note 7(C) provides information on PSPIB's liquidity.

The pension plan's capital consists of the actuarial funding surplus or deficit determined regularly by the actuarial funding valuation prepared by the OCA. The purpose of this actuarial valuation is to determine the financial position of the pension plan by testing its ability to meet obligations to current plan members and their survivors. Using various assumptions, the OCA projects the future pension benefits to estimate the current value of the pension obligations on a funding basis, which is compared with the sum of: the investment assets held by PSPIB (net of investment-related liabilities and borrowings), including their projected earnings; and the discounted value of future plan member and government contributions, including future earnings on contributions. The result of this comparison is either an actuarial surplus or an actuarial deficit.

It is government policy that the obligations pertaining to service before April 1, 2000, are unfunded and are paid as they become due. For the obligations pertaining to service since April 1, 2000, the objective of managing the capital position of the pension plan is to ensure that the investments held by PSPIB are sufficient to meet the related future pension obligations.

12. Pension obligations

The OCA performs an actuarial valuation for accounting purposes as at March 31 of each fiscal year to measure and report the pension obligations, and to attribute the costs of the benefits to the period using the projected benefit method prorated on service. The assumptions used in the actuarial valuation are based on management's best estimates of expected long-term experience and short-term forecasts, as well as the majority of the demographic assumptions underlying the triennial actuarial valuation for funding purposes of the pension plan, as at March 31, 2017. The assumptions include estimates of discount rates, future inflation, returns on investments, general wage increases, workforce composition, retirement rates and mortality rates.

The discount rates used to measure the present value of the pension obligations are as follows:

- ▶ for funded pension benefits, the streamed expected rates of return on invested funds; and
- ▶ for unfunded pension benefits, the government's cost of borrowing derived from the yields on the actual zero-coupon yield curve for Government of Canada bonds which reflect the timing of the expected future cash flows.

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The principal actuarial assumptions used in measuring the pension obligations were as follows as at March 31:

	2021 (%)	2020 (%)
Discount rates		
Funded pension benefits ¹	5.7	5.6
Unfunded pension benefits ²	1.8	1.2
Long-term rate of inflation	2.0	2.0
Long-term general wage increase	2.6	2.6

1. In regard to funded pension benefits, the streamed discount rates used to measure the pension obligations are equivalent to the flat discount rates presented in the table. The ultimate discount rate is expected to reach 5.9% by 2034 (5.9% by 2035 in 2020).
2. In regard to unfunded pension benefits, the discount rates disclosed in the table reflect the equivalent flat discount rate.

For the year ended March 31, 2021, the pension plan has recorded net gains of \$10.68 billion (net losses of \$13.92 billion in 2020) related to gains due to changes in actuarial assumptions of \$10.09 billion (losses of \$12.96 billion in 2020) and experience gains of \$0.59 billion (losses of \$0.96 billion in 2020).

13. Deficit to be financed by the Government of Canada

The financial statement deficit does not impact the benefit payments to plan members because the government has a statutory obligation to pay the pension benefits it sponsors. Pursuant to pension legislation, the transactions for funded and unfunded pension benefits are tracked in the pension accounts in the accounts of Canada.

(A) Funded pension benefits

The pension plan is financed from employee and employer contributions, as well as from investment earnings. Funded pension benefits relate to post-March 2000 service that falls within the *Income Tax Act* limits, as an amount equal to contributions less benefit payments and other charges is invested by PSPIB. Funded pension benefits also include pre-2000 service purchased since April 1, 2000.

(B) Unfunded pension benefits

Unfunded pension benefits related to pre-April 2000 service are tracked in the pension plan superannuation account since no separate invested funds are maintained for this account (see Note 20). Employee and employer contributions for unfunded pension benefits are part of the CRF.



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14. Investment income

The investment income of the pension plan is presented for each major class of financial assets and liabilities and has two categories: interest and dividends, and net unrealized and realized gains (losses). This presentation reflects the substance of the investment income generated by the underlying investments, whether directly held by PSPIB or by its investment entity subsidiaries.

The investment income of the pension plan consists of the following for the years ended March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021			2020		
	Interest and dividends	Change in fair value ¹	Total investment income	Interest and dividends	Change in fair value ¹	Total investment income
Public markets	\$612	\$9,383 ²	\$9,995	\$725	\$(3,223) ²	\$(2,498)
Private markets						
Real estate	514	325 ²	839	487	(1,004) ²	(517)
Private equity	190	4,665 ²	4,855	133	515 ²	648
Infrastructure	315	279 ²	594	485	687 ²	1,172
Natural resources	158	476 ²	634	134	(281) ²	(147)
Fixed income	1,382	(783)²	599	1,647	1,741²	3,388
Alternative investments	1	260	261	4	300	304
Total before giving effect to investment-related assets and liabilities	\$3,172	\$14,605	\$17,777	\$3,615	\$(1,265)	\$2,350
Investment-related assets and liabilities	3	5,439	5,442	44	(1,872)	(1,828)
Capital market debt financing	0	631	631	0	(424)	(424)
Investment income	\$3,175	\$20,675	\$23,850	\$3,659	\$(3,561)	\$98

1. Change in fair value includes realized and unrealized gains (losses) as described in Note 2(J).
2. As described in Note 18, investment-related expenses of \$130 million were incurred by PSPIB's investment entity subsidiaries for the year ended March 31, 2021 (\$44 million were recovered for the year ended March 31, 2020). They are presented as part of investment-related expenses in accordance with Section 4600, while they are presented as part of investment income in PSPIB's financial statements prepared under IFRS.



15. Contributions

The contributions related to funded benefits for the years ended March 31 are as follows (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
From plan members		
Current service contributions	\$2,714	\$2,441
Past service contributions	177	233
Total plan member contributions	\$2,891	\$2,674
From employers		
Current service contributions	\$2,726	\$2,450
Past service contributions	100	145
Total employer contributions	\$2,826	\$2,595
Total plan member and employer contributions	\$5,717	\$5,269

16. Actuarial adjustment

The PSSA requires that any actuarial deficit be dealt with by transferring equal instalments to the pension fund over a period of up to 15 years, commencing in the fiscal year in which the actuarial report is tabled in Parliament.

No actuarial adjustment payment was made to the pension fund in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 (no actuarial adjustment payment in 2020) based on the triennial actuarial valuation of the pension plan as at March 31, 2017, that was tabled in Parliament on November 2, 2018. The next triennial actuarial valuation of the pension plan as at March 31, 2020, is expected to be tabled in Parliament in early 2022.

17. Benefit payments and refunds and transfers

(A) Benefit payments

The value of benefit payments for funded benefits, for the years ended March 31, is as follows (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Retirement benefit payments	\$2,575	\$2,317
Disability benefit pension payments	217	212
Death benefit payments ¹	20	18
Total benefit payments	\$2,812	\$2,547

1. Consist of minimum benefit payments and return of contribution payments at death.



(B) Refunds and transfers

The value of refunds and transfers for funded benefits, for the years ended March 31, is as follows (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Payments with respect to division of pension benefits	\$39	\$39
Returns of contributions and transfer value payments	282	407
Transfers to other pension plans	41	48
Total refunds and transfers	\$362	\$494

18. Investment-related expenses

Investment-related expenses allocated to the pension plan consist of the following for the years ended March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Interest expense	\$188	\$307
Transaction costs	98	124
External investment management fees ¹	40	37
Other (net) ²	165	0
Total	\$491	\$468

1. Consists of amounts incurred for investments in public markets that are paid directly by PSPIB. Other fees are paid by certain pooled fund investments classified under alternative investments, which amounted to \$274 million for the year ended March 31, 2021 (\$63 million for the year ended March 31, 2020). Such fees are embedded in the fair value of the funds. Similarly, management fees related to investments in private markets and private debt securities are not paid directly by PSPIB. Such fees, which generally vary between 0.1% and 2.5% of the total invested and/or committed amount, totalled \$340 million for the year ended March 31, 2021 (\$301 million for the year ended March 31, 2020). Such fees are embedded in the fair value of investments.
2. Investment-related expenses of \$130 million were incurred by PSPIB's investment entity subsidiaries for the year ended March 31, 2021 (\$44 million were recovered for the year ended March 31, 2020). They are presented as part of investment-related expenses in accordance with Section 4600, while they are presented as part of investment income in PSPIB's financial statements prepared under IFRS.

19. Administrative expenses

The legislation provides for administrative expenses to be charged to the pension plan. The Treasury Board approves the administrative expenses chargeable to the pension plan.

PSPC, as the day-to-day administrator, recovers from the pension plan administrative expenses for the activities directly attributable to its administration. These costs include salaries and benefits, systems maintenance and development, accommodation, and other operating costs of administering the pension plan within the department.

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The Secretariat, as the program manager of the pension plan, provides policy interpretation support, information to plan members, financing and funding services and support to the Pension Advisory Committee, and charges its administrative costs to the pension plan.

Health Canada is reimbursed for the costs related to medical examinations required for members that elect to purchase prior service and for members who retire on medical grounds under the pension plan. These costs are included in the Secretariat's operations and maintenance costs charged to the pension plan.

The OCA provides actuarial valuation services. The costs related to these services are charged to the pension plan.

PSPIB's costs of operation are charged to the four plans for which PSPIB provides investment services, namely, the public service pension plan, the Canadian Forces pension plan, the Reserve Force pension plan and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police pension plan. PSPIB allocates the direct costs of investment activities, such as external investment management fees and custodial fees that are included in each pension plan's administrative expenses, based upon the net investments of each pension plan at the time the expense was incurred.

In 2021, 72.8% of PSPIB's costs of operation were allocated to the public service pension plan (72.7% in 2020) as plan-related administrative expenses, such as salaries and employee benefits, operations and maintenance, professional and consulting fees, and other operating fees.

Administrative expenses, for the years ended March 31, consist of the following (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
PSPC		
Salaries and employee benefits	\$81	\$65
Professional and consulting fees	16	15
Operations and maintenance	9	10
Other	8	7
Total	\$114	\$97
The Secretariat		
Salaries and employee benefits	\$5	\$4
Operations and maintenance	2	2
Total	\$7	\$6
OCA		
Actuarial fees	\$1	\$0
Total for government departments (included in the service cost)	\$122	\$103
PSPIB		
Salaries and employee benefits	\$234	\$231
Operations and maintenance	73	73
Professional and consulting fees	59	64



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Other	5	25
Total	\$371	\$393
Total administrative expenses¹	\$493	\$496

1. Administrative expenses related to the funded service for 2021 totalled \$441 million (\$449 million in 2020).

20. Superannuation account

A separate superannuation account has been established in the accounts of Canada in accordance with the PSSA and is not consolidated in the pension plan financial statements. In order for the government to track transactions made through the CRF, the superannuation account records contributions, benefit payments, interest and transfers that pertain to service before April 1, 2000. The superannuation account does not contain separate invested funds; rather, it is credited with notional interest as though net cash flows were invested quarterly in 20-year Government of Canada bonds issued at prescribed rates and held to maturity.

The following summarizes the financial position of the superannuation account and contributions receivable for service before April 1, 2000, as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Balance of account		
Superannuation account	\$89,011	\$91,516
Contributions receivable from plan members for past service	9	12
Contributions receivable from employers for past service	8	10
Subtotal	\$89,028	\$91,538
Pension obligation ¹	\$109,875	\$123,152
Shortfall of the balance of the account over the pension obligation	\$(20,847)	\$(31,614)

1. The pension obligation is consolidated in the pension plan's financial statements. The actuarial assumptions used to measure the pension obligation related to the superannuation account are included in Note 12.

The PSSA requires that any actuarial shortfall resulting from a lower balance in the superannuation account than the actuarial liability, based on the actuarial valuation for funding purposes, be addressed by increasing the superannuation account in equal instalments over a period of up to 15 years.

For the year ended March 31, 2021, no adjustment was made to the superannuation account (no adjustment in 2020) to cover actuarial deficiencies.

The PSSA also allows the surplus, based on the actuarial valuation for funding purposes, to be reduced by decreasing the superannuation account over a period of up to 15 years; however, if the balance of the superannuation account exceeds 110% of the amount required to meet the cost



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of the benefits payable, the surplus amount must be reduced by decreasing the superannuation account annually over a period of up to 15 years.

The following summarizes the transactions in the superannuation account for unfunded pension benefits for the years ended March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Opening balance	\$91,516	\$93,700
Increase		
Contributions by plan members	\$3	\$4
Contributions by employers	3	3
Interest income	3,089	3,411
Total increase	\$3,095	\$3,418
Decrease		
Benefits paid	\$5,532	\$5,526
Refunds and transfers	16	29
Administrative expenses	52	47
Total decrease	\$5,600	\$5,602
Closing balance	\$89,011	\$91,516

21. Retirement compensation arrangements

Retirement compensation arrangements (RCAs) have been established under the authority of the *Special Retirement Arrangements Act* to provide supplementary pension benefits to certain plan members. Since these arrangements are covered by separate legislation, the balance of the RCAs and the related pension obligations are not consolidated in the financial statements of the pension plan.

RCA No. 1 provides for benefits in excess of those permitted under the *Income Tax Act* restrictions for registered pension plans.

RCA No. 2 provides pension benefits to federal public service employees who were declared surplus as a result of a 3-year Early Retirement Incentive program that ended on March 31, 1998. The cost of RCA No. 2 is assumed entirely by the government.

Pursuant to the legislation, transactions pertaining to both RCA No. 1 and RCA No. 2, such as contributions, benefits, and interest credits, are recorded in the RCA accounts, which are maintained in the accounts of Canada. The legislation also requires that the RCA accounts be credited with interest quarterly at the same rates as those credited to the superannuation account.

The RCAs are registered with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), and a transfer is made annually between the RCA accounts and the CRA either to remit a 50% refundable tax in respect



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of the net increase in the accounts (contributions and interest credits less payments and other charges) or to receive a 50% tax reimbursement in respect of the net decrease in the accounts (payments and other charges less contributions and interest credits).

The following summarizes the financial position of RCA No. 1 and RCA No. 2 as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Balance of the accounts		
RCA accounts	\$1,926	\$1,943
Refundable tax receivable	1,944	1,941
Contributions receivable from plan members for past service	1	1
Contributions receivable from employers for past service	1	1
Subtotal	\$3,872	\$3,886
Pension obligations	\$3,634	\$4,415
Excess (Shortfall) of the balance of the accounts over the pension obligations	\$238	\$(529)

The actuarial assumptions used to value the pension obligations pertaining to the RCA accounts are consistent in all respects with those used for the superannuation account.

The following summarizes the transactions in RCA No. 1 and RCA No. 2 for the years ended March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Opening balance	\$3,886	\$3,864
Increase		
Contributions by plan members	\$15	\$21
Contributions by employers	54	75
Interest income	65	71
Increase in refundable tax receivable	3	4
Total increase	\$137	\$171
Decrease		
Benefits paid	\$146	\$142
Refunds and transfers	2	3
Refundable tax remittance	3	4
Total decrease	\$151	\$149
Closing balance	\$3,872	\$3,886



Actuarial shortfalls found between the balance in the RCA accounts and the actuarial liabilities are credited to the RCA accounts in equal instalments over a period of up to 15 years.

Adjustments to fund deficiencies are based on triennial actuarial valuations. For the year ended March 31, 2021, no adjustment was made to RCA No. 1 (no adjustment in 2020), and no adjustment was made to RCA No. 2 (no adjustment in 2020) to cover actuarial deficiencies.

22. Guarantees and indemnities

PSPIB provides indemnification to its directors, its officers, its vice-presidents and to certain PSPIB representatives who are asked to serve on boards of directors (or like bodies) or investment advisory boards (or like bodies) of entities in which PSPIB or its investment entity subsidiaries have made an investment or have a financial interest. As a result, but subject to the *Public Sector Pension Investment Board Act*, PSPIB may be required to indemnify these representatives for costs incurred, such as claims, actions or litigation in connection with the exercise of their duties, unless the liability of such a representative relates to a failure to act honestly and in good faith. To date, PSPIB has not received any claims or made any payment for such indemnities.

In certain cases, PSPIB also provides indemnification to third parties in the normal course of business. As a result, PSPIB may be required to indemnify such third parties in connection with the performance of their contractual obligations. To date, PSPIB has not received any claims nor made any payments for such indemnities.

PSPIB unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees all credit facilities, as well as short-term promissory notes and medium-term notes issued by PSP Capital Inc., as described in Note 9.

In certain investment transactions, PSPIB and its investment entity subsidiaries provided guarantees, indemnifications or issued letters of credit to third parties, the most significant of which are as follows:

- ▶ As at March 31, 2021, and March 31, 2020, PSPIB and its investment entity subsidiaries agreed to guarantee and, in some cases, provide indemnification for the performance of certain investees under contractual agreements. The majority of these agreements are borrowing arrangements. In the event a default occurs under such agreements, which is of limited recourse in certain cases, PSPIB or its investment entity subsidiaries could assume obligations of up to \$2,239 million as at March 31, 2021 (\$2,802 million as at March 31, 2020), of which \$1,632 million has been allocated to the pension plan (\$2,038 million as at March 31, 2020) plus applicable interest and other related costs. The arrangements mature between May 2021 and November 2029 as of March 31, 2021 (between April 2020 and November 2029 as of March 31, 2020).
- ▶ Additionally, PSPIB and its investment entity subsidiaries issued letters of credit totalling \$93 million as at March 31, 2021 (\$89 million as at March 31, 2020), of which \$68 million



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has been allocated to the pension plan (\$65 million as at March 31, 2020) in relation to investment transactions.

23. Commitments

PSPIB and its investment entity subsidiaries have committed to enter into investment transactions, which will be funded over the next several years in accordance with agreed terms and conditions. The portion of PSPIB's commitments that would be assumed by the pension plan is as follows as at March 31 (\$ millions):

	2021	2020
Foreign equity	\$1	\$0
Real estate	3,220	2,566
Private equity	9,379	9,472
Infrastructure	1,777	2,146
Natural resources	163	193
Private debt securities	3,885	2,765
Alternative investments	1,426	1,230
Total	\$19,851	\$18,372

Funding in connection with the above commitments can be called upon at various dates extending until 2040 as at March 31, 2021 (until 2035 as at March 31, 2020).



Endnotes

- i. Public Service Compensation Email Notification System, <https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/PBENS-SNCPAS/en/Communication/Subscription>
- ii. *Public service pension at a glance*, <https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/pension-plan/plan-information/public-service-pension-glance.html>
- iii. *Public Service Superannuation Act*, <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/p-36/>
- iv. *Public Service Superannuation Regulations*, https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._1358/page-1.html
- v. *Public Service Superannuation Act*, Schedule I (Sections 3 and 47), Part I, <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/p-36/page-16.html#h-409754>
- vi. Office of the Chief Actuary, <https://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/Eng/oca-bac/Pages/default.aspx>
- vii. PSPIB 2021 annual report, https://www.investpsp.com/media/filer_public/documents/PSP-2021-annual-report-en.pdf
- viii. *Public Service Superannuation Act*, <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/p-36/>
- ix. *Retirement Compensation Arrangements Regulations, No. 1*, <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-94-785/page-1.html>
- x. *Retirement Compensation Arrangements Regulations, No. 2*, <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-95-169/index.html>
- xi. *Special Retirement Arrangements Act*, <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/S-15.2/index.html>
- xii. PSP Investments, <https://www.investpsp.com/en/>
- xiii. Glossary – Pension, <https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/pension-plan/plan-information/glossary.html>

