# INVESTMENTS MONTHLY SUMMARY

APRIL 2024



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# INVESTMENTS MONTHLY SUMMARY – APRIL 2024

#### Recent Results

**Excess Return** 

For the month of April 2024, the investments of the ERS Trust delivered a net return of -1.2%. The primary contributors to this performance were declines in the value of its investments within Public Real Estate and Public Equity, which declined -6.2% and -2.9% respectively, offset somewhat by gains in Private Credit, Hedge Funds and Private Equity. Overall, the ERS Trust has delivered a positive return of +6.5% in Fiscal Year 2024 and +9.3% for the trailing one-year period.

Asset Class Returns	April 2024	Fiscal Year 2024	Trai
ERS Trust	-1.2%	6.5%	
Policy Benchmark	-1.7%	5.1%	

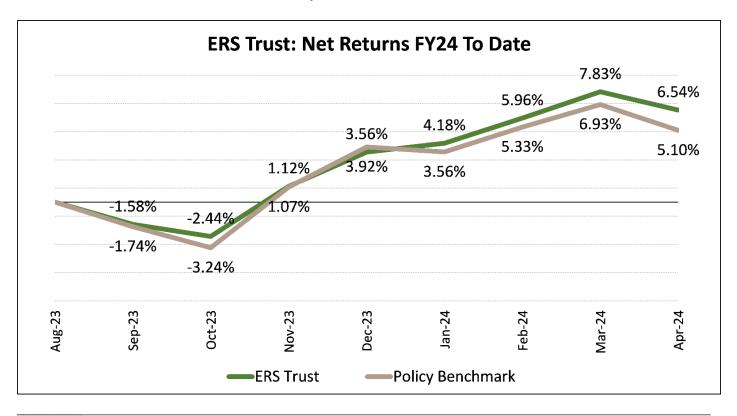
0.5%

Exhibit 1. Investment Returns of the ERS Trust

The Trust's investment performance for April recorded negative absolute returns of 1.2% and positive relative returns of +0.5%. For Fiscal Year 2024 to date, the Trust has surpassed the Policy Benchmark by 1.4% and sustained a strong lead of 1.6% over the previous twelve months.

1.4%

Exhibit 2. Returns of ERS Trust and Policy Benchmark



iling One Year

9.3%

7.8%

1.6%

Return Seeking assets, which accounted for 80.9% of total Trust assets at month end, returned -1.4% for the month. Within this category, Private Credit and Private Equity delivered the strongest results, with gains of 1.4% and 0.7% respectively.

Asset Class Returns	% of Trust	April 2024	Fiscal Year 2024
Public Equity	34.6%	-2.9%	14.4%
Private Equity	17.4%	0.7%	3.2%
Public Credit	7.0%	-1.0%	6.5%
Private Credit	4.0%	1.4%	13.0%
Public Real Estate	1.8%	-6.2%	2.0%
Private Real Estate	10.1%	-0.9%	-3.7%
Private Infrastructure	6.0%	-0.2%	3.1%
RETURN SEEKING ASSETS	80.9%	-1.4%	7.5%

Exhibit 3. Investment Returns of Return Seeking Assets

At the same time, Risk Reducing assets returned -0.2% during the month, with the Hedge Funds and Cash portfolios producing returns of 1.3% and 0.4% respectively.

Exhibit 4. Investment Returns of Risk Reducing Assets

Asset Class Returns	% of Trust	April 2024	Fiscal Year 2024
Rates	8.4%	-1.5%	1.4%
Hedge Funds	5.5%	1.3%	4.0%
Special Situations	0.3%	-4.1%	12.2%
Cash	4.9%	0.4%	3.6%
RISK REDUCING ASSETS	19.1%	-0.2%	2.7%

As Q2 2024 commences, varying inflation metrics and economic indicators have created uncertainty regarding the anticipated timing of the Federal Reserve's interest rate cuts that have been expected by financial markets. Additionally, while advancements in Artificial Intelligence continue to drive market enthusiasm, there remains skepticism about whether the prospects of these companies can meet heightened expectations.

## Trust Positioning

As of the end of the month, Trust investments were positioned within the asset allocation ranges established by the ERS Investment Policy Statement. From a relative positioning standpoint, the Trust maintained an overweight in Cash and private market investments including Private Equity, Private Credit, Private Real Estate, and Infrastructure. Relative underweights came primarily from Public Equity, Public Credit, Public Real Estate, Hedge Funds and Rates.

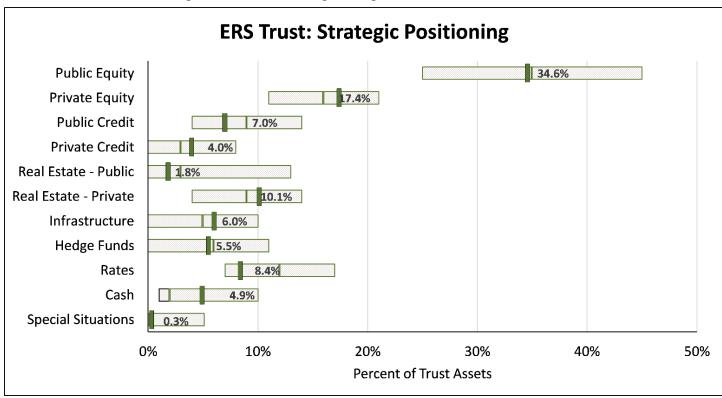


Exhibit 5. Trust Positioning Relative to Strategic Targets and Tactical Bands

The ERS Investment Policy Statement recognizes that an overweight to private market assets may occur from time to time, and managing this positioning back toward the target allocation over time occurs by adjusting the pacing of commitments. Those efforts remain ongoing and the target range for capital commitments has been adjusted accordingly for Fiscal Year 2024 and beyond.

# Trust Liquidity

In April, the Trust had a net cash outflow of \$166 million for the month. Excluding significant one-time and legacy payments of \$2,447 million from the State of Texas, the total outflows over the trailing year amounted to \$1.13 billion, representing 3.3% of the Trust's initial value during that period.

#### Exhibit 6. Cash Flow Sources and Uses for ERS Trust

Asset Class	April 2024 (\$M)	Fiscal Year 2024 (\$M)	One Year (\$M)
Contributions	131	1,008	1,471
Distributions	82	1,074	1,724
Benefit Payments	(253)	(1,980)	(2,953)
Capital Calls	(101)	(1,014)	(1,389)
Legacy Payments	0	1,381	2,447
TOTAL	(166)	489	1,315

Trust liquidity remains healthy with a 13.3% allocation to Rates and Cash, which equates to more than three years of net benefit payments for the Trust based on recent levels of \$1.5 billion annually.

#### Investment Activity

There were four investment approvals by Asset Class Investment Committees during the month.

Exhibit 7. Asset Class Investment Committee (ACIC) Approvals for April 2024

Asset Class	# of Investments	Commitments (\$M)	Other Actions
Private Equity	2	76	0
Private Credit	1	75	0
Hedge Funds	0	0	0
Private Real Estate	0	0	0
Infrastructure	1	51	0
Special Situations	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	202	0

For the fiscal year to date, there have been twenty four commitments totaling around \$902 million.

Asset Class	# of Investments	Commitments (\$M)	FY24 Tactical Plan (\$M)
Private Equity	17	566	450-750
Private Credit	2	150	100-150
Hedge Funds	3	85	N/A
Private Real Estate	1	50	150-450
Infrastructure	1	51	150-250
Special Situations	0	0	N/A
TOTAL	24	902	900-1500

Exhibit 8. Asset Class Investment Committee (ACIC) Approvals for Fiscal Year 2024

Trading desk activity was also robust during the month, with around 31.3 million shares totaling \$1,151 million in value routed through the desk.

Exhibit 9. Trading Desk Activity for April 2024

Portfolio Type	Shares Apr '24	Value Apr '24	Shares FYTD	Value FYTD
Internally Managed	30.5 million	\$1,116 million	263 million	\$6,230 million
Externally Advised	0.8 million	\$35 million	9.6 million	\$324 million

#### Long-Term Performance

The performance of the Trust remains well above the Policy Benchmark across all time horizons and represents significant value added from investment implementation. Staff believes that such high levels are among the best performance in the history of the ERS Trust.

Exhibit 10. Investment Returns of ERS Trust

	3 years	5 years	10 years
ERS Trust	6.4%	8.7%	7.6%
Policy Benchmark	4.3%	6.7%	6.5%
Passive Index	2.6%	7.6%	6.7%

The ten-year return for Trust investments remains strong and continues to exceed the Policy Benchmark and the Passive Index. Almost all asset classes have contributed meaningfully to the excess returns of the Trust.

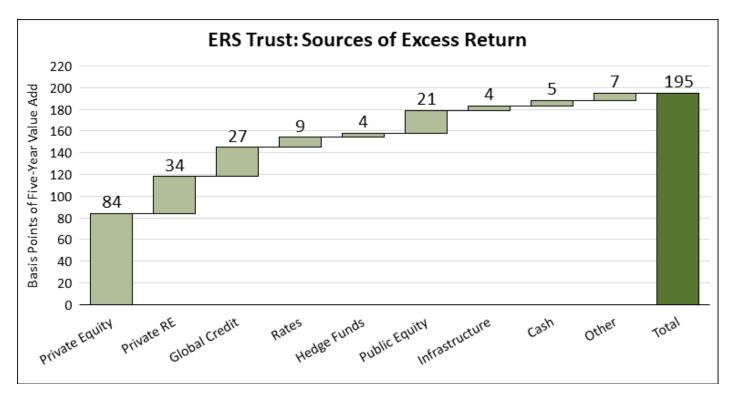


Exhibit 11. Five-Year Excess Return Attribution for ERS Trust

## **Risk Metrics**

Absolute risk for the Trust as measured by realized volatility has risen over the last 36 months and is now at 7.7% on a trailing five-year basis. This level represents an increase from pre-pandemic levels of 5-6% and is in line with the long-term average of 8%. This metric for the Trust is slightly below the realized volatility of the Policy Benchmark and it is well below that of the Passive Index of 14.6% due in large part to the smoothing effects of private market valuations.

	3 years	5 years	10 years
ERS Trust	6.7%	7.7%	6.7%
Policy Benchmark	7.5%	8.2%	7.4%
Passive Index	13.7%	14.6%	12.0%

Exhibit 12. Realized Volatility of ERS Trust

Relative to the amount of absolute risk taken, the performance of the Trust has been good as evidenced by high Sharpe ratios, which measures the amount of return per unit of absolute risk. As measured over the last five years the Sharpe ratio was 0.85, significantly above the typical threshold value of 0.3-0.4.

Exhibit 13. Realized Sharpe Ratio of ERS Trust

	3 years	5 years	10 years
ERS Trust	0.54	0.85	0.92
Policy Benchmark	0.21	0.57	0.69
Passive Index	-0.01	0.38	0.44