



PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL NO. 172 FRINGE BENEFIT FUNDS

Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 172 Welfare Fund
Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 172 Pension Fund
Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 172 Voluntary 401(k) Fund

Managed for the Trustees by
TIC International Corporation

ANNUAL FUNDING NOTICE For PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 172 PENSION PLAN

Introduction

This notice includes important funding information about your pension plan (“the Plan”). This notice also provides a summary of federal rules governing multiemployer plans in reorganization and insolvent plans and benefit payments guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), a federal agency. This notice is for the plan year beginning March 1, 2022 and ending February 28, 2023 (referred to hereafter as “Plan Year”).

Funded Percentage

The funded percentage of a plan is a measure of how well that plan is funded. This percentage is obtained by dividing the Plan’s assets by its liabilities on the valuation date for the plan year. In general, the higher the percentage, the better funded the plan. The Plan’s funded percentage for the Plan Year and 2 preceding plan years is set forth in the chart below, along with a statement of the value of the Plan’s assets and liabilities for the same period.

	2022	2021	2020
Valuation Date	March 1, 2022	March 1, 2021	March 1, 2020
Funded Percentage	89.3%	85.5%	81.0%
Value of Assets	\$128,026,748	\$118,380,765	\$108,463,784
Value of Liabilities	\$143,422,650	\$138,501,110	\$133,945,094

Fair Market Value of Assets

Asset values in the chart above are actuarial values, not market values. Market values tend to show a clearer picture of a plan’s funded status as of a given point in time. However, because market values can fluctuate daily based on factors in the marketplace, such as changes in the stock market, pension law allows plans to use actuarial values for funding purposes. While actuarial values fluctuate less than market values, they are estimates. As of February 28, 2023, fair market value of the Plan’s assets was \$123,715,157*. As of February 28, 2022, the fair market value of the Plan’s assets was \$134,620,085. As of February 28, 2021, the fair market value of the Plan’s assets was \$127,272,383.

**This amount is preliminary and is unaudited.*

Participant Information

The total number of participants in the plan as of the Plan’s valuation date was 940. Of this number, 443 were active participants, 374 were retired or separated from service and receiving benefits, and 123 were retired or separated from service and entitled to future benefits.

Funding & Investment Policies

The law requires that every pension plan have a procedure for establishing a funding policy to carry out the plan objectives. A funding policy relates to the level of contributions needed to pay for benefits promised under the plan currently and over the years. The Plan is financed entirely by employer contributions as negotiated in the collective bargaining agreements.

Once money is contributed to the Plan, the money is invested by plan officials called fiduciaries. Specific investments are made in accordance with the Plan's investment policy. Generally speaking, an investment policy is a written statement that provides the fiduciaries who are responsible for plan investments with guidelines or general instructions concerning various types or categories of investment management decisions. The investment policy of the Plan is reviewed semi-annually by the Board of Trustees and is set as of December 22, 2022, at a goal of 52.0% U.S. equities, 19.5% fixed income, 5.5% international equities, 8.0% debt real estate, and 15.0% equity real estate.

In accordance with the Plan's investment policy, the Plan's assets were allocated among the following categories of investments based on data considered to be best available and estimation methods deemed to be suitable, as of the end of the Plan year, but have not been subject to review or audit, and are subject to revision based upon final audit. These allocations as of February 28, 2023 are percentages of total assets:

	Asset Allocations	Percentage
1.	Other	0.6%
2.	Real Estate	13.2%
3.	Value of interest in common/ collective trusts	15.5%
4.	Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	70.7%

Critical or Endangered Status

Under federal pension law a plan generally will be considered to be in Endangered Status ("yellow zone") if, at the beginning of the plan year, the funded percentage of the plan is less than 80 percent or in Critical Status ("red zone") if the percentage is less than 65 percent (other factors may also apply). If a pension plan enters endangered status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a funding improvement plan. Similarly, if a pension plan enters critical status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a rehabilitation plan. Rehabilitation and funding improvement plans establish steps and benchmarks for pension plans to improve their funding status over a specified period of time.

The Plan was not in endangered nor critical status in the Plan Year beginning March 1, 2023.

Right to Request a Copy of the Annual Report

A pension plan is required to file with the US Department of Labor an annual report (i.e., Form 5500) containing financial and other information about the plan. Copies of the annual report are available from the US Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration's Public Disclosure Room at 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-1513, Washington, DC 20210, or by calling 202.693.8673. Or you may obtain a copy of the Plan's annual report by making a written request to the plan administrator.

Summary of Rules Governing Insolvent Plans

Federal law has a number of special rules that apply to financially troubled multiemployer plans that become insolvent, either as ongoing plans or plans terminated by mass withdrawal. The plan administrator is required by law to include a summary of these rules in the annual funding notice. A plan is insolvent for a plan year if its available financial resources are not sufficient to pay benefits when due for that plan year.

An insolvent plan must reduce benefit payments to the highest level that can be paid from the plan's available resources. If such resources are not enough to pay benefits at the level specified by law (see Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC, below), the plan must apply to the PBGC for financial assistance. The PBGC will loan the plan the amount necessary to pay benefits at the guaranteed level. Reduced benefits may be restored if the plan's financial condition improves.

A plan that becomes insolvent must provide prompt notice of its status to participants and beneficiaries, contributing employers, labor unions representing participants, and PBGC. In addition, participants and beneficiaries also must receive information regarding whether, and how, their benefits will be reduced or affected, including loss of a lump sum option.

Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC

The maximum benefit that the PBGC guarantees is set by law. Only benefits that you have earned a right to receive and that cannot be forfeited (called vested benefits) are guaranteed. There are separate insurance programs with different benefit guarantees and other provisions for single-employer plans and multiemployer plans. Your Plan is covered by PBGC's multiemployer program. Specifically, the PBGC guarantees a monthly benefit payment equal to 100 percent of the first \$11 of the Plan's monthly benefit accrual rate, plus 75 percent of the next \$33 of the accrual rate, times each year of credited service. The PBGC's maximum guarantee, therefore, is \$35.75 per month times a participant's years of credited service.

Example 1: If a participant with 10 years of credited service has an accrued monthly benefit of \$600, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the PBGC guarantee would be determined by dividing the monthly benefit by the participant's years of service ($\$600/10$), which equals \$60. The guaranteed amount for a \$60 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus \$24.75 ($.75 \times \$33$), or \$35.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit is \$357.50 ($\35.75×10).

Example 2: If the participant in Example 1 has an accrued monthly benefit of \$200, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the guarantee would be \$20 (or $\$200/10$). The guaranteed amount for a \$20 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus \$6.75 ($.75 \times \$9$), or \$17.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit would be \$177.50 ($\17.75×10).

The PBGC guarantees pension benefits payable at normal retirement age and some early retirement benefits. In addition, the PBGC guarantees qualified preretirement survivor benefits (which are preretirement death benefits payable to the surviving spouse of a participant who dies before starting to receive benefit payments). In calculating a person's monthly payment the PBGC will disregard any benefit increases that were made under the plan within 60 months before the earlier of the plan's termination or insolvency (or benefits that were in effect for less than 60 months at the time of termination or insolvency). Similarly, the PBGC does not guarantee pre-retirement death benefits to a spouse or beneficiary (e.g., a qualified pre-retirement survivor annuity) if the participant dies after the plan terminates, benefits above the normal retirement benefit, disability benefits not in pay status, or non-pension benefits, such as health insurance, life insurance, death benefits, vacation pay, or severance pay.

For additional information about the PBGC and pension insurance program guarantees, go to the Multiemployer Page on PBGC's website, www.pbgc.gov/multiemployer. Please contact your employer or plan administrator for specific information about your pension plan or pension benefit. PBGC does not have that information. See "Where to Get More Information" below.

Where to Get More Information

For more information about this notice, you may contact TIC International Corporation at 517-321-7502; or in writing at 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, Michigan 48917; or at Nblevins@tici.com. For identification purposes, the official plan number is 001 and the plan sponsor's employer identification number or "EIN" is 35-6212986. For more information about the PBGC and benefit guarantees, go to PBGC's website, www.pbgc.gov, or call PBGC toll-free at 1-800-400-7242 (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 1-800-400-7242).