

INDIANA

Indiana paid, or exceeded, its full annual pension contribution four times from 2005 to 2010, but the system was 65 percent funded in fiscal year 2010 and faced a \$14 billion funding gap. Of that unfunded liability, 80 percent was the result of the poorly funded State Teachers' **Retirement Fund. Most experts** agree that a fiscally sustainable system should be at least 80 percent funded. The state also had a \$383 million bill for retiree health care costs, only 5 percent of which was funded, slightly below the 8 percent national average in 2010.

In 2011, Indiana lawmakers approved a defined contribution plan but made it an option for new state employees. Employees who do not choose this plan must join a hybrid plan that combines features of defined benefit and defined contribution plans.

TOTAL BILL COMING DUE

Indiana's retirement plans had a liability of \$39.4 billion and the state has fallen \$14 billion short in setting aside money to pay for it.



ANNUAL RECOMMENDED CONTRIBUTION

In 2010, Indiana paid 94 percent of the recommended contribution to its pension plans and just 23 percent of what the state should have paid to fund retiree health benefits.

Pensions Retiree Health Care Full Recommended Contribution Full Recommended Contribution \$1.5B \$54M \$1.4B \$13M Actual Actual

HOW DID THIS STATE FARE?

Indiana's management of its long-term liabilities for pensions was cause for **serious concern** and the state **needed to improve** how it managed its bill for retiree health care.



The grades for pensions and retiree health benefits assess how well the states have managed these liabilities. The pension grade is based on being above 80 percent funded (2 points), having an unfunded liability that is less than the payroll for active members (1 point), and paying at least 90 percent of the recommended pension contribution over the last five years (1 point). Plans that got all four points were solid performers, plans with two or three needed improvement, and plans with one or no points were cause for serious concern. Grades for retiree health benefits were based on whether the state's benefits had a funding level above the national average (1 point), whether 90 percent of the recommended contribution was made in the most recent year (1 point), and whether the state's plans were better funded based on the most recent data than they were in the prior year (1 point). States with two or three points were solid performers, those with just one point needed improvement, and states with no points were cause for serious concern. This fact sheet stems from a 50-state analysis of states' retiree benefit obligations by the Pew Center on the States. The full report and 50 state fact sheets can be found at **www.pewstates.org**.