

# North Carolina Retirement Systems COLA and CPI-U History

Year *	Retiree COLA		Formula Increase		Total Increase		National	South Region
	TSERS	LGERS	TSERS	LGERS	TSERS	LGERS	CPI-U	CPI-U
1985	3.8%	3.8%	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.2%
1986	4.0%	4.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.0%	4.0%	1.1%	0.9%
1987	3.6%	3.6%	1.2%	1.2%	4.8%	4.8%	4.4%	3.9%
1988	3.5%	3.5%	1.9%	1.9%	5.4%	5.4%	4.4%	3.9%
1989	6.1%	6.1%	0.6%	0.6%	6.7%	6.7%	4.6%	4.1%
1990	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.1%	6.1%
1991	1.6%	1.6%	3.6%	3.6%	5.2%	5.2%	3.1%	2.6%
1992	1.6%	1.6%	0.6%	0.0%	2.2%	1.6%	2.9%	2.7%
1993	3.5%	2.8%	1.2%	0.6%	4.7%	3.4%	2.7%	3.1%
1994	2.0%	2.0%	1.2%	1.3%	3.2%	3.3%	2.7%	2.7%
1995	4.4%	4.4%	0.0%	0.0%	4.4%	4.4%	2.5%	2.9%
1996	4.0%	4.0%	2.2%	2.3%	6.2%	6.3%	3.3%	3.2%
1997	2.5%	2.5%	0.0%	0.6%	2.5%	3.1%	1.7%	1.4%
1998	2.3%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	1.0%	1.6%	1.5%
1999	3.6%	3.8%	0.6%	0.6%	4.2%	4.4%	2.7%	2.5%
2000	2.0%	2.0%	0.0%	1.7%	2.0%	3.7%	3.4%	2.9%
2001	1.4%	1.4%	0.6%	0.6%	2.0%	2.0%	1.6%	1.1%
2002	1.3%	2.0%	0.0%	1.5%	1.3%	3.5%	2.4%	2.5%
2003	** 1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	1.9%	1.7%
2004	2.0%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	2.5%	3.3%	3.3%
2005	3.0%	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	2.8%	3.4%	3.7%
2006	2.2%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	2.2%	2.5%	2.5%
2007	2.2%	2.15%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	2.2%	4.1%	4.4%
2008	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
2009	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	2.9%
2010	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	1.4%
2011	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	3.0%	3.3%
2012	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	1.7%
2013	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	1.5%	1.8%
2014	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%
2015	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.7%	0.5%
Average	2.4%	2.2%	0.4%	0.5%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.7%

\* Percentage change in CPI from December of prior year; COLA effective July 1 of following year.

\*\* In 2003, a "catch-up" COLA of 6% was given to those LGERS members who retired before July 1, 1982 and a COLA of 1.6% was given to those LGERS members who retired between July 1, 1982 and July 1, 1993.

# North Carolina Retirement Systems

## Effect of Inflation on Real Value of Pension Benefits

Year of Retirement	Cumulative National CPI-U*	TSERS		LGERS	
		Cumulative Adjustments**	Relative Real Value Using National CPI***	Cumulative Adjustments**	Relative Real Value Using National CPI***
1985	2.25	2.15	96%	2.13	95%
1986	2.16	2.07	96%	2.05	95%
1987	2.14	1.99	93%	1.97	92%
1988	2.05	1.90	93%	1.88	92%
1989	1.96	1.80	92%	1.78	91%
1990	1.88	1.69	90%	1.67	89%
1991	1.77	1.69	95%	1.67	95%
1992	1.72	1.60	94%	1.59	93%
1993	1.67	1.57	94%	1.56	94%
1994	1.62	1.50	92%	1.51	93%
1995	1.58	1.45	92%	1.46	93%
1996	1.54	1.39	90%	1.40	91%
1997	1.49	1.31	88%	1.32	89%
1998	1.47	1.28	87%	1.28	87%
1999	1.44	1.25	87%	1.27	88%
2000	1.41	1.20	85%	1.21	86%
2001	1.36	1.18	87%	1.17	86%
2002	1.34	1.15	86%	1.15	86%
2003	1.31	1.14	87%	1.11	85%
2004	1.28	1.12	87%	1.11	86%
2005	1.24	1.10	88%	1.08	87%
2006	1.20	1.07	89%	1.05	88%
2007	1.17	1.04	89%	1.03	88%
2008	1.13	1.02	91%	1.01	90%
2009	1.13	1.02	91%	1.01	90%
2010	1.10	1.02	93%	1.01	92%
2011	1.08	1.02	95%	1.01	93%
2012	1.05	1.01	96%	1.01	96%
2013	1.03	1.01	98%	1.01	98%
2014	1.01	1.00	99%	1.01	99%
2015	1.01	1.00	99%	1.00	99%

\*Based on percentage change in CPI from December of prior year

\*\*Includes all adjustments that have been applied to benefits for individuals retiring in year shown;  
including COLAs effective July 1, 2015

\*\*\*This is the real value of 2015 retirement benefits relative to the nominal value of benefits in the year of retirement