



MN TRA Facts

Quick slide show that will help explain some of the most often asked questions.



How Did We Get Here.....

Tier II is defined as anybody hired after July 1, 1989. In 1989 the MN Legislature went after a group that did not quite exist yet... The Future of Tier II Educators of MN, and since it did not affect any of the current teachers (Tier I Educators), TRA Board, EdMN, MASSP, or MESPA Members, there was little or no fight because, again, it did not affect any current educators or the effects would not be felt for 30 years or so. In the 1990s and early 2000s, TRA and the legislature made some really, really poor decisions regarding contribution rates and colas. They are NOW fixing these issues by burdening CURRENT TIER II Educators with past mistakes. How? By making Tier II educators **work up to a decade longer** than their Tier I counterparts. They **pay more in contributions** than their Tier I counterparts. They are slated to have **smaller Colas** than most Tier I counterparts when they finally retire.



Discounts and Penalties

Below is the chart that shows the penalties for choosing to retire “early”. You can see below that you are heavily penalized for leaving before your 62nd birthday.

Minnesota Teacher Retirement Benefit Reduction/Discount Chart

AGE	Under 30 Years of Service	Over 30 years of Service	
55	65% reduction in benefits	65% reduction	
56	61%	61%	
57	57%	57%	
58	53% reduction	53%	
59	49%	49%	
60	42%	42%	
61	35%	35%	
62	28%	14.50%	16%
63	21%	10.40%	12%
64	14%	6.70%	8%
65	7%	3.20%	4%
66	FULL BENEFITS	FULL BENEFITS	

First worked after summer 2006:

State Pension Plans

The chart below shows the estimated percentage of teachers who will break even in regards to their pensions. You can see the full chart of comparisons by visiting the MN TRA Reform website under [“Comparisons → State Pension Plans”](#). The chart below was a screenshot of the bottom ¼ of the shared chart.



Teachers who will reach full retirement age and will be fully vested. MN is right in the middle compared to other states.



Estimated percentage of teachers who will break even. As you can see MN is third from the bottom.



State by State Benefit Comparison

STATE BY STATE Full-Benefit Retirement AGE, Rule, or Years of Service- National Average (mean) over 58 yrs of age. I had the teacher start at 22 years old for calculation purposes... (age estimate when they would qualify). To see the full state by state comparison, visit the MN TRA Reform website under “[Comparisons → State by State Benefit Comparisons](#)”.

Rule of 97- Pennsylvania (59.5)

60- North Dakota, Michigan, Oregon, Delaware, North Carolina, Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, Hawaii, Alaska, Massachusetts, California (60)

62- Washington, West Virginia, Alabama, Texas, Rhode Island (62)

63- New York (63)

65- New Hampshire, New Jersey (65)

66- Minnesota (66) - SECOND TO LAST IN THE US

67- Illinois, South Dakota (67)



TRA Contributions

Here is a graph showing employee and employer contributions percentages. It is a state by state comparison. You can see the full chart by visiting the MN TRA Reform website under “[Comparisons → Contributions](#)”. The below is a screenshot of the bottom 14 states. Minnesota is 4th from the bottom.

State	Employee	Employer	Total	State	Employee
New Hampshire	7	19.48	9.9	70.7	2.9
New Jersey	7.21	20.88	10.1	71.4	2.89
Kansas	6	13.33	8.2	73.2	2.2
Nebraska	9.78	9.78	13.3	73.5	3.52
Tennessee	5	9.0 (hybrid)	6.7	74.6	1.7
Alabama	7.5 or 6.2	12.43 or 11.32	9.8	76.5	2.3
New Mexico	10.7	15.15	13.7	78.1	3
Vermont	5	19.51	6.4	78.1	1.4
Montana	8.15	9.27	10	81.5	1.85
Minnesota	7.75 (7/1/23)	8.75 (7/1/23)	9.5	81.6	1.75
Arizona	12.22	12.22	14.9	82	2.68
South Carolina	9	16.41	10.7	84.1	1.7
Mississippi	9	17.4	9.4	95.7	0.4



How Can I Help....

Visit the MN TRA Reform website so learn more and educate yourself on how you can get involved and help the movement to force reform. We have never had a better chance at getting reform passed as we do after this election cycle.

<https://mntrareform.com>

Visit the MN TRA Reform Facebook page to get involved in the active conversation that is being held regarding this important issue. Currently the Facebook group is heading to 10,000 members strong!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/710515807000456>



Change.org

Brent Bovitz started a Change.org petition to help bring awareness to the issue. Extend the Rule of 90 for All Minnesota TRA and SPTRFA Members. If you have not done so, take the time to add your name as we work to increase those that signed to 25,000!!!

<https://www.change.org/p/governor-walz-the-minnesota-legislature-edmn-leadership-and-the-mn-tra-board-extend-the-rule-of-90-for-all-minnesota-tra-and-sptrfa-members>

24,225 have signed. Let's get to 25,000!



At 25,000 signatures, this petition becomes one of the **top signed on Change.org!**