

### **MBTA Retirement Fund**

**FMCB Update** 

May 2017

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED, FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES

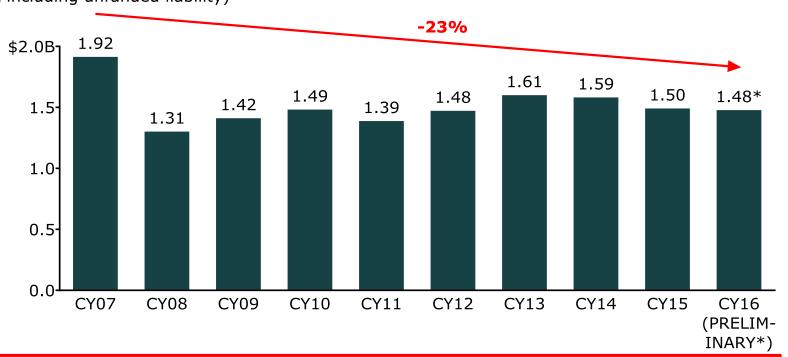




### MBTA pension assets have declined by 23% over last 10 years...

PRESENTED AT FMCB
JUNE 2016

Year-end MBTARF Net Assets: Market Value (not including unfunded liability)



Market Funded %

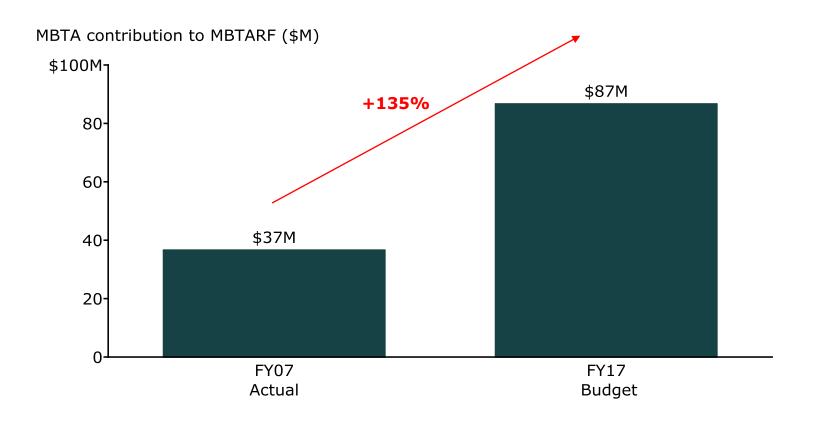
**92**%

**58%** 

<sup>\*</sup>Preliminary estimates as of 5/1/2017 Source: MBTA Pension Fund Data; MBTARF Annual Reports



### ... while MBTA contributions have grown 135% over the last 10 years



Note: \$7.0M in contributions during FY07 were retroactive 'catch-up' payments for previous years in which not enough had been contributed compared with contractual obligations; these have been removed

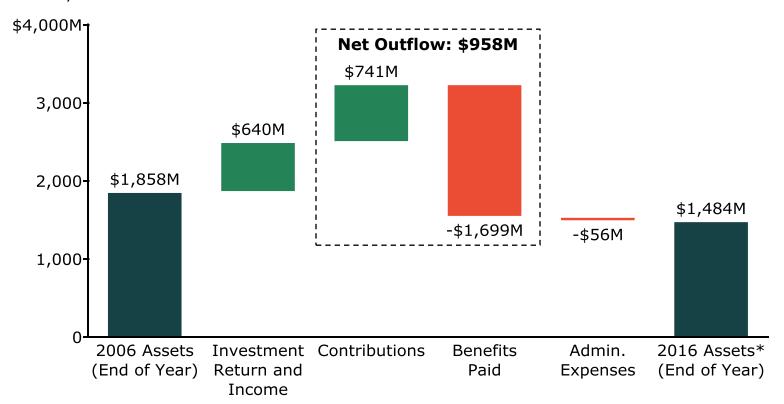
Source: MBTA Financials



### Nearly \$1B in net outflows over past decade

**PRELIMINARY 2016** 

Total Additions and Deductions from the MBTARF, 2006-2016



\*2016 number preliminary until Actuarial Valuation complete, latest as of 5/1/2017

Note: Administrative Expenses includes Refunds

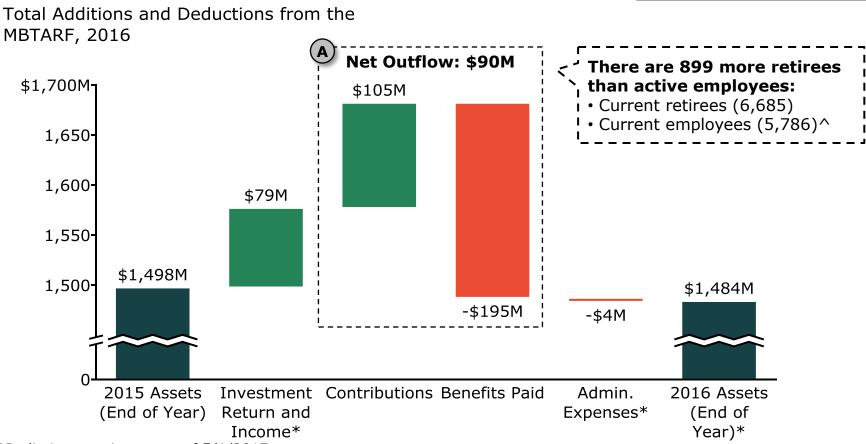
Source: MBTARF Annual Reports





### Annual benefit payments now nearly double contributions

**PRELIMINARY 2016** 



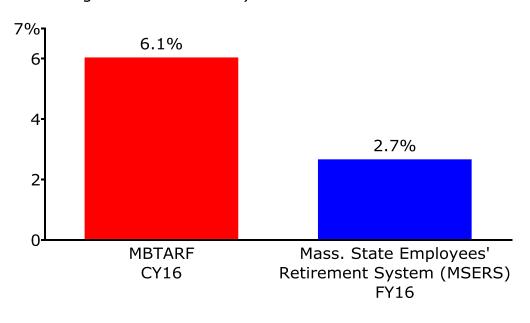
<sup>\*</sup>Preliminary estimates as of 5/1/2017

<sup>^</sup>Current retiree and active employee counts are preliminary, will be confirmed by 12/31/16 valuation when complete Source: MBTA Pension Fund Data; MBTARF Annual Reports



## MBTARF asset balance will decline in any year in which returns fall below 6.1% (net outflow %)

Net outflow as a % of total assets (not including investment return)



- MBTARF has net outflow of \$90M on net assets of \$1.5B in CY16 before investment returns
- MSERS had net outflow of \$642M on assets of \$23.7B in FY16 before investment returns

Note: PRIM invests multiple retirement systems' assets Source: MBTA Pension Fund Data; PRIM Annual Report

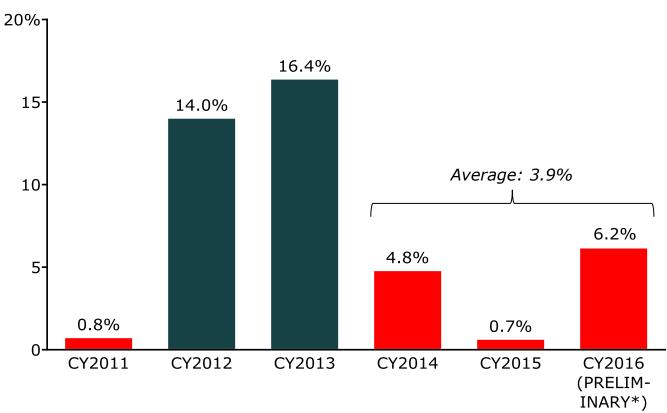




### Investment returns will not be adequate to rescue the fund

**PRELIMINARY 2016** 

Main Fund Annual Rate of Net Return



\*Preliminary estimates as of 5/1/2017

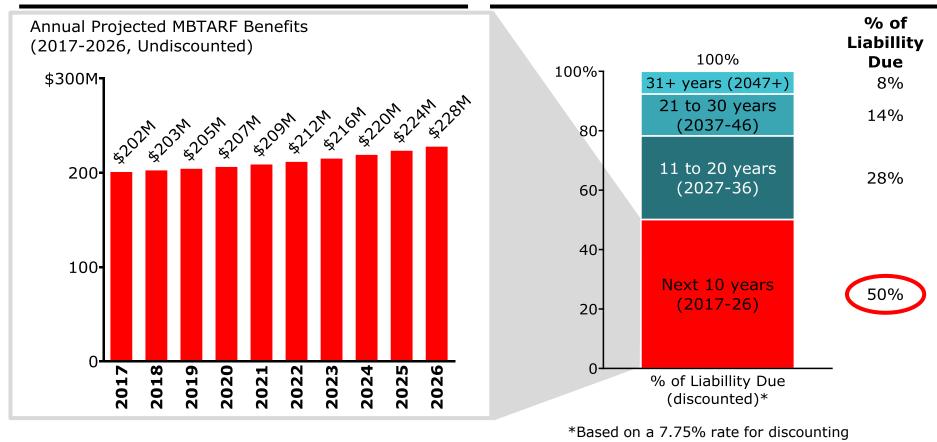
Source: MBTA Pension Fund Data; MBTARF Annual Reports



### Next 10 years of returns are critical

### MBTA TO PAY \$2.1B IN BENEFITS TO RETIREES OVER NEXT TEN YEARS

#### \$2.1B IN BENEFITS OVER NEXT TEN YEARS COMPRISES HALF THE TOTAL ACCRUED LIABILITY OF THE MBTARF

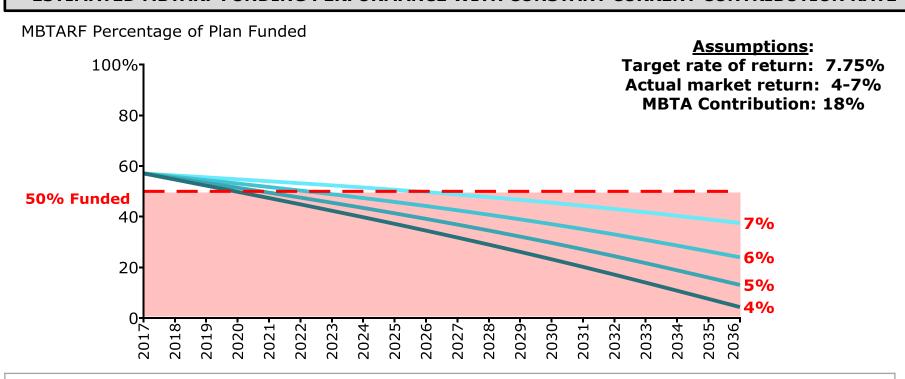


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## If MBTARF continues to generate only 4%-5% returns, funding level likely to fall below 50% within 5 years

#### ESTIMATED MBTARF FUNDING PERFORMANCE WITH CONSTANT CURRENT CONTRIBUTION RATE



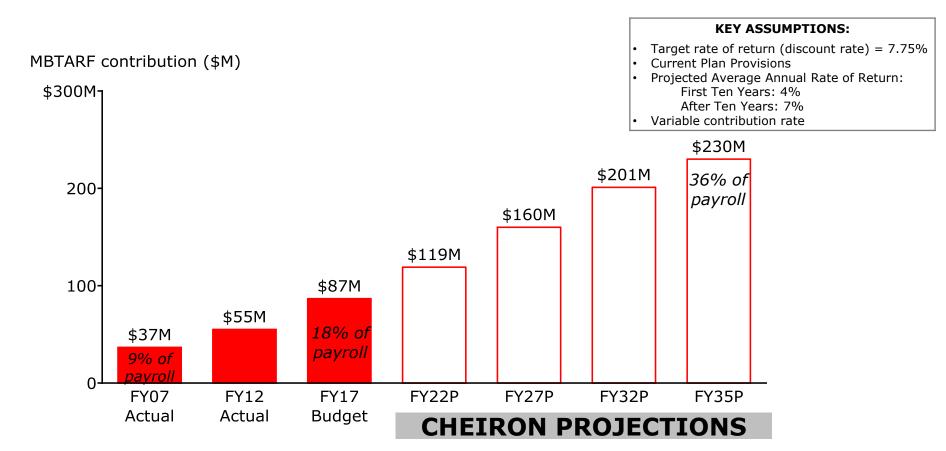
#### **KEY ASSUMPTIONS:**

- Employer Contribution Rate = 18%
- Employee Contribution Rate = 6%
- 2016 Preliminary Return = 6.2
- Target rate of return (discount rate) = 7.75%

- · Current Plan Provisions
- Funded ratios shown were based upon market value of assets



## Without action, the MBTA annual contribution could grow to \$200M+ and consume 36% of payroll



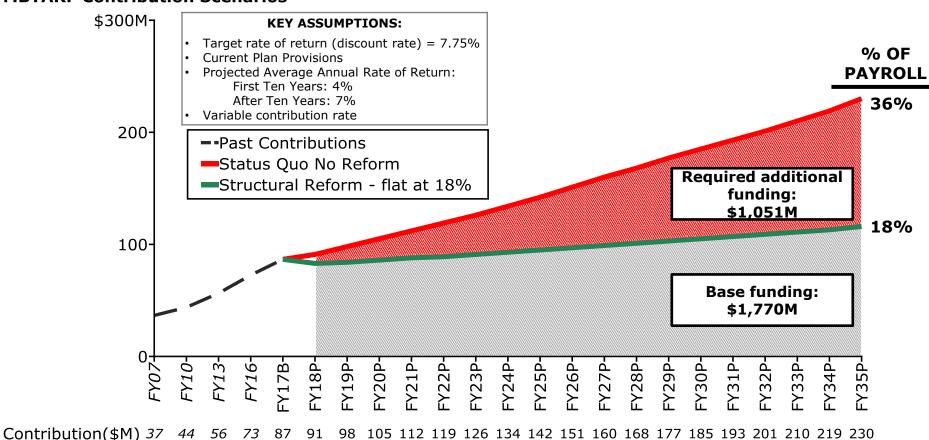
Note: \$7.0M in contributions during FY07 were retroactive 'catch-up' payments for previous years in which not enough had been contributed compared with contractual obligations; these have been removed

Source: MBTA Financials; Cheiron Projections



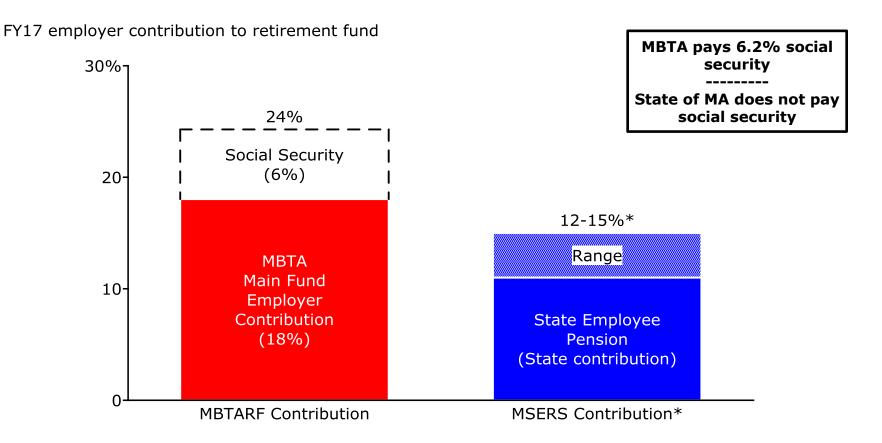
## Without action, MBTARF could require \$3B in taxpayer funding over next 20 years

#### **MBTARF Contribution Scenarios**



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## Unlike other state employees and teachers (who don't receive social security), MBTA employees receive both a full pension and social security



<sup>\*</sup>High range of state employer contribution calculated for MBTA by ANF, Low side of range from 12/15/16 Boston Globe article 'Report proposes major overhaul of retirement benefits for new MBTA Employees'; Estimated amount based on allocation of total lump sum pension payment by Commonwealth to PRIM for state employees varies based on calculation method



### MBTARF plan design provides added incentive to retire young

#### Years of service x Annual Multiplier = Pension % of Highest Wages

<u>Years of</u> <u>service</u>	Age at retirement	<u>Employer</u>	Annual multiplier*	Pension % of highest wages
25	55 ··	MBTA	2.46%	61.5%
		State	N/A—min age 60	N/A—min age 60
25	60	MBTA	2.46%	61.5%
		State	1.45%	36.3%
25	65 ···	MBTA	2.46%	61.5%
		State	2.20%	55.0%
32	67 ·	MBTA	2.46%	75%^
		State	2.50%	80%



Because MBTA pension multiplier does not grow with age, benefits for early retirees are significantly higher than those for state employees

Note: MBTARF benefits do not get automatic COLAs; retirees in State systems do (those covered by Chapter 32)

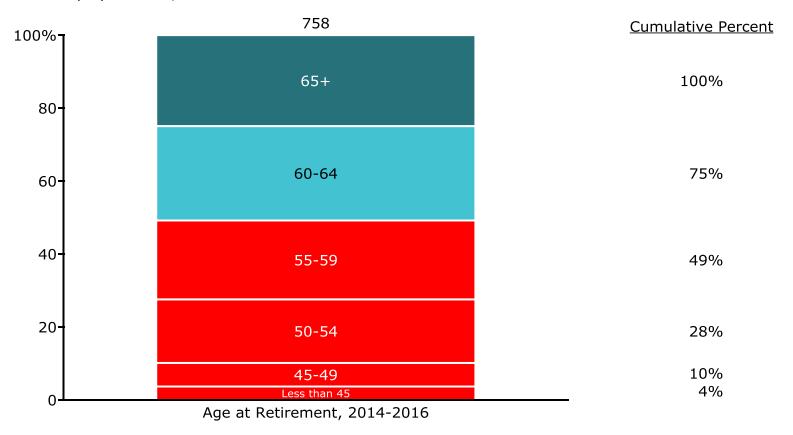
<sup>\*</sup>Uses age rates for state employees hired after 4/2/2012

<sup>^</sup>Calculation produces result >75%, which is adjusted down to maximum benefit



# Unsustainable Plan Design: Half of MBTA employees retire and begin drawing pension benefits in their 50s

Retired MBTA employee count, 2014-2016





# MBTA employees earn significantly more in post-retirement pension benefits than state employees and teachers at all ages

**EXAMPLE: FINAL AVERAGE EARNINGS \$80,000 | 25 YEARS OF SERVICE** 

#### **COMPARISON OF MBTA PENSION BENEFIT WITH STATE AND TEACHERS BENEFIT**

AGE AT RETIREMENT	TEACHERS AND STATE EMPLOYEES (HIRED SINCE 4/2012)	MBTARF MULTIPLIER (2.46%)	SOCIAL SECURITY	TOTAL RETIREMENT BENEFIT (SS+MBTARF)
60	\$29,000	\$49,200		\$49,200 (\$66,600 at Age 62)
61	\$32,000	\$49,200		\$49,200 (\$66,600 at Age 62)
62	\$35,000	\$49,200	+\$17,400	\$66,600
63	\$38,000	\$49,200	+\$18,600	\$67,800
64	\$41,000	\$49,200	+\$19,800	\$69,000
65	\$44,000	\$49,200	+\$20,700	\$69,900
66	\$47,000	\$49,200	+\$22,300	\$71,500
67	\$50,000	\$49,200	+\$23,800	\$73,000



## "Status Quo" is not an option: Retirees are at risk without pension reform

- 1.The MBTA Retirement Fund is in crisis and without significant external financing it is on track to run out of money
- Market returns are not likely to rescue the pension, and one bad investment year would be crippling
- 3.MBTA cannot afford the financial burden of uncontrolled pension contribution growth
- 4. The longer that action is deferred, the worse the choices will get for MBTA/State



### **Next steps**

- Seek input from a broad array of stake-holders on ideas for putting the MBTA RF on a sustainable path for current employees and retirees
- Meet with Carmen's Union to begin discussions on their ideas for a path forward – collaboration between the Union and MBTA will be critical to any workable solution
- Vet and report publicly on all ideas and proposals, using a third-party to quantify and validate potential scenarios

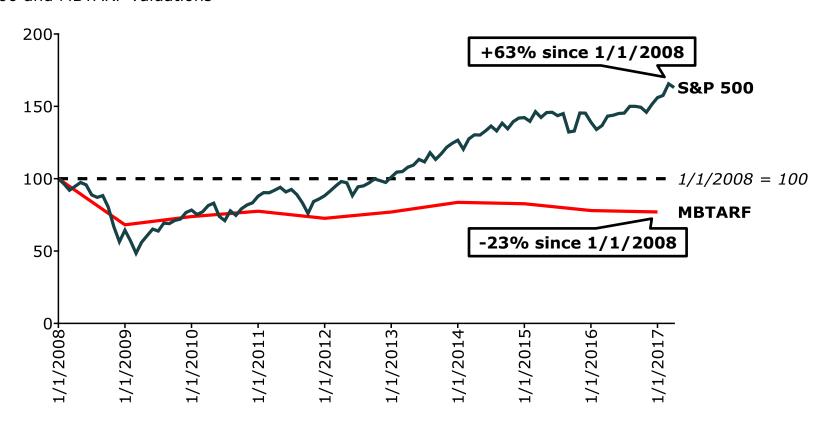


### **Appendix**



## While the broader market has recovered from the 2009 downturn, the MBTARF portfolio has failed to keep pace

S&P 500 and MBTARF valuations





# MBTARF return expectations: Fund should ensure sustainability with returns of 4% over the next 10 years

#### CONSERVATIVE EVALUATION OF MBTARF PORTFOLIO ESTIMATES 4% RETURN OVER 10 YEARS

			Geometric		Arithmetic
EQUITY	Source	% Alloc	Return	Volatility	Returr
Domestic - Large	RA	18%	2.60%	14.3%	3.62%
Domestic - Small	RA	7%	2.40%	19.0%	4.21%
International	RA	11%	7.30%	16.9%	8.73%
Emerging	RA	2%	8.90%	23.2%	11.59%
Global	BNY	5%	6.40%	16.5%	7.76%
FIXED INCOME					
Core	RA	8%	2.70%	3.8%	2.77%
TIPS	RA	3%	3.00%	6.2%	3.19%
Mortgage	BNY	3%	2.70%	2.5%	2.73%
Multi-sector	BNY	8%	2.57%	10.4%	3.10%
Bank Loans	RA	2%	3.90%	8.1%	4.23%
Real Estate Debt	BR	1%	3.15%	8.8%	3.54%
Cash	BNY	2%	1.50%	0.0%	1.50%
ALTERNATIVES					
Hedge Funds	BNY	10%	4.30%	6.3%	4.50%
Real Estate	BNY	9%	4.00%	5.0%	4.139
Private Equity	BNY	8%	7.90%	17.8%	9.48%
Risk Parity	Est	3%	5.00%	10.0%	5.50%
Estimated Portfolio		100%	4.46%	11%	5.07%
Uncertainty for Alterna		-0.30%			
Net Expected Geometr	ic Return		4.16%		

## EXPERT RECOMMENDS ASSUMING 4% RETURN FOR NEXT TEN YEARS, BUT ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY AT EVEN LOWER RETURNS

- Due to high benefit liability (50% of total) due over the next ten years, returns over that period are critical for determining future funding levels
- A reasonable annual return expectation for MBTARF over the next 10 years is 4-5%
- Optimistic forecasts results in an expectation of 5.2% over 10 years
- Lower returns are possible and full sustainability would require that the plan survive returns lower than 4% in the next 10 years.
- Recommended that the baseline evaluation of MBTARF use 4% returns for the next 10 years to stress test the fund under various scenarios and develop a rescue strategy

Notes: 100 bps reduction for alternative risk;

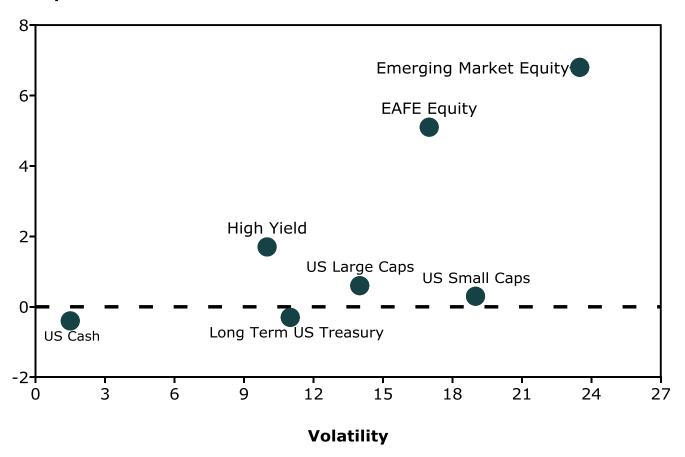
BNY net of fees, RA gross of fees





### Global Investing: 10-year outlook poor for most asset classes

#### 10-Year Real Expected Returns



Source: Barron's—May 15, 2017, "Global Investing: Taking a Long View", projections from Research Affiliates