Are Public Pensions Crowding Out Other Spending?

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Sept. 18, 2017
Case Studies for the State of California and Selected Municipal Governments

- State of California
  - CalPERS
  - CalSTRS

- CalPERS
  - Palo Alto, Pacific Grove, Sacramento, Stockton, and Vallejo, BART

- Independent systems
  - City of Los Angeles, and the counties of Alameda, Los Angeles and Marin

- Local school districts
  - LAUSD, Mill Valley, and Visalia
County of Los Angeles Annual Contributions Increase to $3.3 Billion

Increase as share of operating expenditures to 10.2%/13.8% in 2029-30 (from 3.0% in 2002-03 and 8.7% currently)
City of Pacific Grove Annual Contributions Increase to $7.2 Million

Increase as share of operating expenditures to 23.2%/28.0% in 2029-30 (from 2.0% in 2002-03 and 22.5% currently)
Mill Valley School District Annual Contributions Increase to $8.6 Million

Increase as share of operating expenditures to 12.9%/14.3% in 2029-30 (from 5.3% in 2007-08 and 8.8% currently)
Service Crowd Out to Date

• State of California
  • Social services
  • Higher education

• Counties
  • Public assistance, e.g., County of Los Angeles
  • Health care

• Cities
  • “Soft” services, i.e., libraries, recreation, environment, public works, etc.

• School districts
  • Salaries
Publication Release Details

Late this week/early week of Sept. 25

Available at http://siepr.stanford.edu/research/publications