# Hand Composite Employee Benefit Trust Sage Funds

Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements

December 31, 2019



**December 31, 2019** 

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#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

Board of Directors Hand Composite Employee Benefit Trust Houston, Texas

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of selected funds (Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund, Sage Cash Balance Growth Fund and Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund) [3 funds] included in the Hand Composite Employee Benefit Trust ("Trust" or "Funds"), which statements comprise the statements of assets and liabilities, including the schedules of investments, as of December 31, 2019, and the related statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.



Board of Directors Hand Composite Employee Benefit Trust Page 2

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of these selected funds included in the Hand Composite Employee Benefit Trust as of December 31, 2019, and the results of their operations and changes in their net assets for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Supplementary Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The schedules of investment purchases and sales listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Houston, Texas May 29, 2020

BKD,LLP

# Statements of Assets and Liabilities – Selected Funds December 31, 2019

	Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund			age Cash Balance Growth Fund	age Cash Balance Moderate Fund
Assets					
Investments, at cost	\$	1,784,555	\$	6,048,598	\$ 17,316,678
Investments, at fair value Receivable for dividends	\$	1,797,270 1,422	\$	6,099,527 3,911	\$ 17,419,931 11,923
Total assets	\$	1,798,692	\$	6,103,438	\$ 17,431,854
Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	587	\$	1,974	\$ 5,304
Total liabilities	<u>\$</u>	587	\$	1,974	\$ 5,304
Net assets held for participants: Class R1	<u>\$</u>	1,798,105	\$	6,101,464	\$ 17,426,550
Units outstanding: Class R1		171,030		574,252	 1,612,045
Net asset value per unit: Class R1	\$	10.51	\$	10.63	\$ 10.81

# Schedules of Investments Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund December 31, 2019

Number of Shares			Cost	Fair Value
<u> </u>				Tun Tunu
	Short Term Investment			
70,455	First American Treasury Obligation Fund V		70,455	\$ 70,455
	Total Short Term Investment	3.92%	70,455	70,455
	Exchange-traded Funds			
	Fixed Income			
5,845	First Trust Enhanced Short Maturity Fund		350,739	351,227
	iShares Barclays Short Treasury Bond FD		228,073	228,210
	JPM Ultra-Short Income ETF		350,113	351,043
3,456	PIMCO Enhanced Short Maturity ETF		350,229	351,095
	Vanguard Short-Term Bond ETF		429,111	439,405
	Total Fixed Income	95.76%	1,708,265	1,720,980
	Total Exchange-traded Funds	95.76%	1,708,265	1,720,980
	Common Trust Fund			
	Fixed Income			
5,835	HB&T Short Term Income Fund		5,835	5,835
	Total Fixed Income	0.32%	5,835	5,835
	Total Common Trust Fund	0.32%	5,835	5,835
	Total Investments	100.00% _\$	1,784,555	\$ 1,797,270

# Schedules of Investments (Continued) Sage Cash Balance Growth Fund December 31, 2019

Number of Shares			Cost	Fair Value
	Short Term Investment			
247,014	First American Treasury Obligation Fund V	_9	\$ 247,014	\$ 247,014
	Total Short Term Investment	4.05%	247,014	247,014
	Exchange-traded Funds			
	Fixed Income			
4,610	Invesco Variable Rate Preferred ETF		115,596	119,076
10,271	iShares 0-5 Year High Yield Corp ETF		477,548	476,883
5,956	iShares Barclays 1-3 YR Treas Bond Index		502,099	504,056
1,060	iShares Barclays Aggregate Bond Fund		120,521	119,112
3,849	iShares Barclays MBS Bond Fund		406,441	415,923
10,187	iShares Barclays Short Treasury Bond FD		1,125,654	1,125,256
1,363	iShares Iboxx High Yield Corporate Bond		116,133	119,862
1,121	iShares JP Morgan Emerging Bond Fund		122,316	128,422
3,434	iShares S&P US Preferred Stock Index		126,721	129,084
23,481	JPM Ultra-Short Income ETF		1,183,021	1,184,147
1,280	PIMCO 0-5 YR High Yield Corp Bond Index		128,204	127,654
2,210	SPDR Barclays Convertible Secs		116,926	122,655
3,710	Vaneck Vectors High Yield Muni ETF		235,101	237,626
12,887	Vanguard Short-Term Bond ETF		1,021,367	1,038,821
	Total Fixed Income	95.89%	5,797,648	5,848,577
	Total Exchange-traded Funds	95.89%	5,797,648	5,848,577
	Common Trust Fund			
	Fixed Income			
3 936	HB&T Short Term Income Fund		3,936	3,936
3,730	Total Fixed Income	0.06%	3,936	3,936
	Total I food movine	0.0070	3,730	3,730
	Total Common Trust Fund	0.06%	3,936	3,936
	Total Investments	100.00%	6,048,598	\$ 6,099,527

# Schedules of Investments (Continued) Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund December 31, 2019

Number of Shares			Cost	Fair Value
	Short Term Investment			
632,099	First American Treasury Obligation Fund V		632,099	\$ 632,099
	Total Short Term Investment	3.63%	632,099	632,099
	Exchange-traded Funds			
	Fixed Income			
14,161	Invesco Variable Rate Preferred ETF		353,000	365,779
29,494	iShares 0-5 Year High Yield Corp ETF		1,373,132	1,369,406
20,487	iShares Barclays 1-3 Yr Treasury Bond Index		1,731,387	1,733,815
3,012	iShares Barclays Aggregate Bond Fund		342,580	338,458
16,059	iShares Barclays MBS Bond Fund		1,704,285	1,735,336
29,233	iShares Barclays Short Treasury Bond FD		3,230,363	3,229,077
3,906	iShares Iboxx High Yield Corporate Bond		338,163	343,494
3,028	iShares JP Morgan Emerging Bond Fund		333,145	346,888
9,787	iShares S&P US Preferred Stock Index		366,003	367,893
65,700	JPM Ultra-Short Income ETF		3,311,264	3,313,251
4,475	Pimco 0-5 YR High Yield Corp Bond Index		447,251	446,292
6,214	SPDR Barclays Convertible Secs		328,969	344,877
13,213	Vaneck Vectors High Yield Muni ETF		842,451	846,293
24,245	Vanguard Short-Term Bond ETF		1,930,002	1,954,389
	Total Fixed Income	96.07%	16,631,995	16,735,248
	Total Exchange-traded Funds	96.07%	16,631,995	16,735,248
	Common Trust Fund			
	Fixed Income			
52,584	HB&T Short Term Income Fund		52,584	52,584
	Total Fixed Income	0.30%	52,584	52,584
	Total Common Trust Fund	0.30%	52,584	52,584
	Total Investments	100.00% \$	17,316,678	\$ 17,419,931

## Statements of Operations – Selected Funds Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund			ge Cash Balance Browth Fund	B M	ge Cash salance oderate Fund
Income						
Interest	\$	705	\$	2,604	\$	9,408
Dividends		37,551		166,406		400,761
Total income		38,256		169,010		410,169
Expenses						
Investment management and administrative		5,457		18,495		46,398
Custody fees		324		1,100		2,472
Other		16		47	-	228
Total expenses		5,797		19,642		49,098
Net Investment Income		32,459		149,368		361,071
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments						
Net realized gain		19,164		122,056		224,821
Net change in unrealized appreciation		7,106		88,293		114,903
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments		26,270		210,349		339,724
Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting From Operations	\$	58,729	\$	359,717	\$	700,795

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets – Selected Funds Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund			age Cash Balance Growth Fund		Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund
Operations						
Net investment income	\$	32,459	\$	149,368	\$	361,071
Net realized gains		19,164		122,056		224,821
Increase in unrealized appreciation		7,106		88,293	_	114,903
Net increase in net assets from operations		58,729		359,717		700,795
Net Increase in Net Assets From Participant Transactions		531,092		1,661,331		12,544,626
Increase in Net Assets		589,821		2,021,048		13,245,421
Net Assets Beginning of year		1,208,284		4,080,416		4,181,129
End of year	\$	1,798,105	\$	6,101,464	\$	17,426,550

# Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2019

#### Note 1: Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Nature of Operations**

Hand Composite Employee Benefit Trust ("HB&T" or "the Trust") was created in order to provide broad and uniform diversification programs for pension and profit sharing plans which, having complied with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code (the IRC), are exempt from taxation under the provisions of the IRC. The Trust is comprised of 76 funds (the Funds); the financial statements of three of those funds are included in this report.

Each class has equal rights as to earnings and assets except that each class bears different distribution, shareholder servicing and transfer agent expenses. Income, expenses (other than expenses attributable to a specific class), and realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments are allocated to each class of units based on its relative net assets.

The Sage All Cap Equity Plus Fund, Sage Target Date 2025 Fund, Sage Target Date 2035 Fund, Sage Target Date 2045 Fund, Sage Target Date 2055 Fund and the Sage Target Date Retirement Income Fund were liquidated during 2019.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of investment income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Investment Valuation

All investments in securities are recorded at their estimated fair value. Transfers in and out of Level 1 (quoted market prices), Level 2 (significant other observable inputs) and Level 3 (significant unobservable inputs) are recognized on the period-ending date.

#### Investment Transactions

Investment transactions are recorded on trade date. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions and unrealized appreciation or depreciation on investments are determined using the identified cost basis.

#### Investment Income and Distribution of Income

Dividend income less foreign taxes withheld, if any, is recorded on the ex-dividend date and interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Investment income is allocated ratably on the valuation dates among all participants. No distributions are made to participants in the Funds until

# Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2019

units owned are redeemed, at which time the market value of redeemed units is distributed. Investment income and realized gains (if any) earned by the Funds are reinvested, thereby increasing the respective unit values.

#### Valuation of Participants' Interest

Units of participation may be purchased or redeemed on the valuation dates at the fair value per unit on such valuation dates. All Funds are valued daily.

#### Federal Income Taxes

The Funds comply with the requirements under Section 501(a) of the IRC and apportion all of their taxable income to their participants. Therefore, no federal income tax provision is required.

#### Subsequent Events

As a result of the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus in 2020, economic uncertainties have arisen which may negatively affect the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the Funds. The duration of these uncertainties and the ultimate financial effects cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

Subsequent events have been evaluated through May 29, 2020, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

#### Investment Management Advisors

The investment management advisors for each Fund are as follows:

Fund	Investment Management Advisors
Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund	Sage Advisory Services, Ltd. Co.
Sage Cash Balance Growth Fund	Sage Advisory Services, Ltd. Co.
Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund	Sage Advisory Services, Ltd. Co.

### Note 2: Investment Advisory Fees and Other Transactions With Affiliates

The Funds are charged an administrative fee by HB&T for trustee/administrative services (fund accounting services, transfer agency services, trustee services, etc.). The Funds have also entered into investment advisory and service agreements with various third-party advisors. These fees compensate the advisors for the services they provide and for expenses borne by the advisors under the various agreements.

# Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2019

The following table indicates the fees charged each of the Funds and the various classes of units within the Funds (as a percentage of net assets). These charges are calculated using each Fund's average daily net assets.

Fund	Administrative Fees	Advisory Fees	Custody Fees	Total Fees
Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund:				
Class R1 Sage Cash Balance Growth Fund:	0.10%	0.25%	0.02%	0.37%
Class R1 Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund:	0.10%	0.25%	0.02%	0.37%
Class R1	0.10%	0.25%	0.02%	0.37%

#### Note 3: Financial Highlights

	Class R1										
	Ba Cons	Sage Cash Balance Balance Conservative Fund Fund Fund Fund			Ba Mo	e Cash lance derate und					
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$	10.09	\$	9.85	\$	10.10					
Net investment income		0.21		0.29		0.29					
Net realized and unrealized gains		0.21		0.49		0.42					
Net increase from investment operations		0.42		0.78		0.71					
Net asset value, end of year	\$	10.51	\$	10.63	\$	10.81					
Total return		4.16%		7.92%		7.03%					
Ratio to average net assets:  Net investment income  Expenses		2.03% 0.36%		2.78% 0.37%		2.69% 0.37%					

# Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2019

#### Note 4: Participant Unit Transactions

_	•	Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund		Sage Cash Balance Growth Fund			Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund		
	Units		Dollars	Units		Dollars	Units		Dollars
Class R1:									
Proceeds from sales of units	78,051	\$	807,037	251,148	\$	2,612,144	1,461,521	\$	15,358,213
Cost of units redeemed	(26,743)	_	(275,945)	(90,942)	_	(950,813)	(263,326)	_	(2,813,587)
Net change in Class R1 from									
participant transactions	51,308		531,092	160,206		1,661,331	1,198,195		12,544,626
Net increase in total net assets from participant transactions		\$	531,092		\$	1,661,331		\$	12,544,626

#### Note 5: Disclosures About Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset, or paid to transfer a liability, in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value measurements must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. There is a hierarchy of three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- **Level 1:** Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Funds can access at the measurement date.
- **Level 2:** Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.
- **Level 3:** Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies and inputs used for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis and recognized in the accompanying statements of assets and liabilities, as well as the general classification of such assets pursuant to the valuation hierarchy. There have been no significant changes in the valuation techniques during the year ended December 31, 2019.

**Short Term Investments.** Short term investments, including money market funds, for which market quotations are readily available, are valued at the last reported sales price or official closing price as reported by an independent pricing service on the primary market or exchange on which they are traded and are categorized as Level 1 in the hierarchy.

# Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2019

**Exchange-traded Funds.** Securities traded on a national securities exchange (or reported on the NASDAQ national market) are valued at the last reported sales price or official closing price as reported by an independent pricing service on the primary market or exchange on which they are traded and are categorized as Level 1 in the hierarchy.

The following tables present the fair value measurements of assets recognized in the accompanying statements of assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis and the level within the fair value hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fall at December 31, 2019:

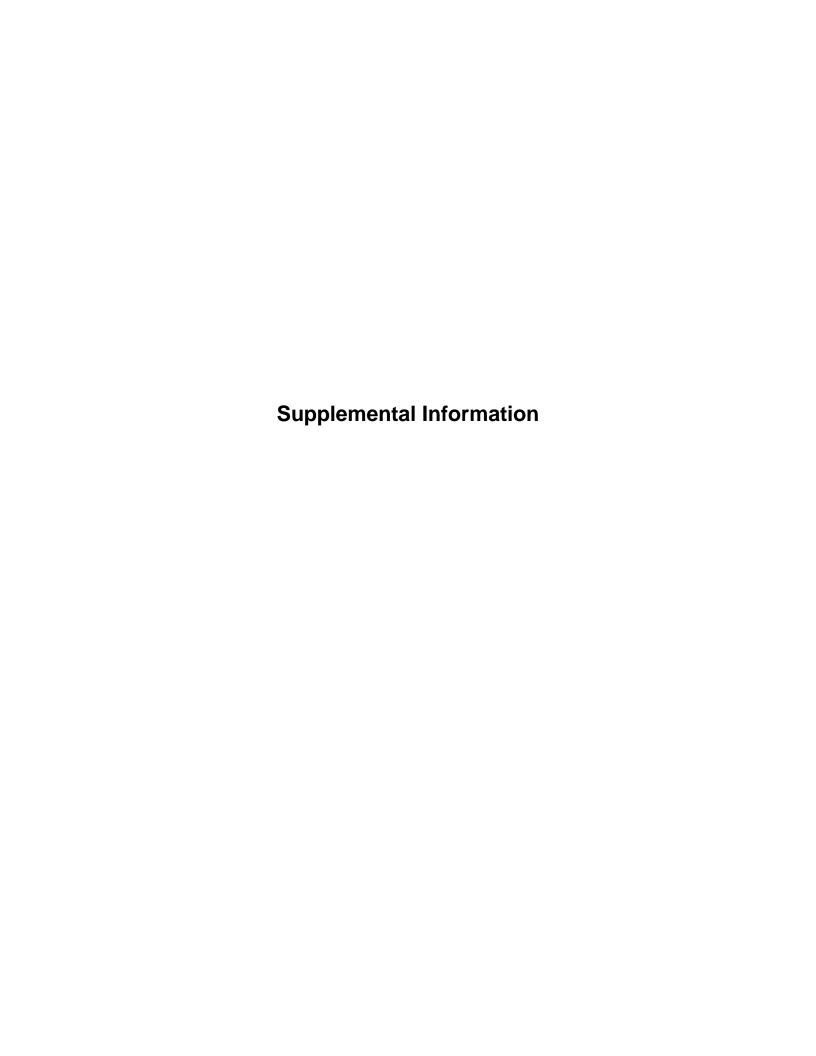
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	Fair Value			Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	ices in ctive S kets for entical OI ssets		Un	Significant nobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund								
Short Term Investment	\$	70,455	\$	70,455	\$	-	\$	-
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income		1,720,980		1,720,980		-		-
Common Trust Fund - Fixed Income (A)		5,835						
Total	\$	1,797,270						
Sage Cash Balance Growth Fund								
Short Term Investment	\$	247,014	\$	247,014	\$	-	\$	-
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income		5,848,577		5,848,577		-		-
Common Trust Fund - Fixed Income (A)		3,936						
Total	\$	6,099,527						
Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund								
Short Term Investment	\$	632,099	\$	632,099	\$	-	\$	-
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income		16,735,248		16,735,248		-		-
Common Trust Fund - Fixed Income (A)		52,584						
Total	\$	17,419,931						

<sup>(</sup>A) Certain investments that are measured at fair value using net asset value per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts included above are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the statements of assets and liabilities.

# Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2019

#### Note 6: Risk Factors

The Funds invest in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such change could materially affect the amounts reported in the accompanying statements of assets and liabilities.



### Schedules of Investment Purchases and Sales Sage Cash Balance Conservative Fund Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### **Purchases**

Investment Class	Cost		
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income Common Trust Funds - Fixed Income	\$	1,500,467 149,116	
Total Investments Purchased	\$	1,649,583	

#### Sales

Investment Class	i	Proceeds		Cost		Gains	
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income	\$	708,353	\$	706,336	\$	2,017	
Exchange-traded Funds - Equity Common Trust Funds - Fixed Income		278,529 146,415		261,382 146,415		17,147 	
Total Investments Sold	\$	1,133,297	\$	1,114,133	\$	19,164	

### Schedules of Investment Purchases and Sales Sage Cash Balance Growth Fund Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### **Purchases**

Investment Class	Cost		
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income	\$ 7,535,891		
Exchange-traded Funds - Equity	308,000		
Common Trust Funds - Fixed Income	386,635		
Total Investments Purchased	\$ 8,230,526		

#### Sales

Investment Class	Proceeds		Cost		Gains	
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income	\$	4,104,399	\$	4,052,510	\$	51,889
Exchange-traded Funds - Equity		2,099,159		2,028,992		70,167
Common Trust Funds - Fixed Income		390,984		390,984		
Total Investments Sold	\$	6,594,542	\$	6,472,486	\$	122,056

### Schedules of Investment Purchases and Sales Sage Cash Balance Moderate Fund Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### **Purchases**

Investment Class	Cost			
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income Exchange-traded Funds - Equity Common Trust Funds - Fixed Income	\$ 24,104,441 40,116 946,725			
Total Investments Purchased	\$ 25,091,282			

#### Sales

Investment Class	Proceeds		Cost		Gains	
Exchange-traded Funds - Fixed Income	\$	10,462,044	\$	10,297,338	\$	164,706
Exchange-traded Funds - Equity Common Trust Funds - Fixed Income		1,379,146 908,999		1,319,031 908,999		60,115
Total Investments Sold	\$	12,750,189	\$	12,525,368	\$	224,821