Desjardins Group Pension Plan



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER AS AT JUNE 30, 2025

Financial position

Over the last quarter, US politics once again appeared to be the main source of financial market volatility. The announcement of higher-than-expected US tariffs led to market turmoil and rising long-term yields in the US. Faced with this reaction, the White House put the tariffs on hold for a period of 90 days and began trade discussions with China, which reassured investors. The markets rebounded, driven, in particular, by the excellent results in the US bigtech sector.

In Canada, long-term yields also went up, and there was relatively high market volatility as well. However, this doesn't appear to have dented investors' renewed confidence. The central banks in the US and Canada have been taking a cautious approach, pausing the rate-cutting cycle that began in 2024.

In these economic circumstances, the financial health of the Desjardins Group Pension Plan ("DGPP" or the "Plan") remained solid. Its solvency ratio of 105% confirmed its ability to meet obligations if its assets need to be sold off. Despite a slight drop in the Plan's funding ratio from 122% to 121%, there is no doubt about its ability to meet long-term commitments.



Funding ratio¹
121%



Solvency ratio²
105%

A new perspective on responsible investment

On Earth Day, the Plan released its very first report on climate-related risks and opportunities.

Organized around four thematic areas (governance, strategy, risk management, metrics and targets), the report highlights the concrete actions the Plan has taken to account for climate-related challenges in its investment strategy.

Although this is the first time it has published a report entirely devoted to this topic, the Plan has been taking a dynamic approach to responsible investment for several years now. It has set a clear goal: To generate tangible benefits for plan members, employees and partners, while actively contributing to a more sustainable future.



Read the report to learn what the Plan is doing to act on its commitment to sustainable investing.

The new annual statement: clear, simple, personalized

To better meet the needs of active plan members and plan members with a deferred pension, the annual statement has been given a complete makeover.

It now features a quick overview of key information about their pension, along with simple explanations to make it easier to understand.

To view your annual statement, log in to your <u>secure file</u> on the DGPP website.

You can also <u>check out the 5-minute video</u> to learn more about your new statement.



A new annual statement for retirees coming in 2026

Work is underway to offer a completely redesigned annual statement for retirees starting in 2026. The project is benefitting from the active input of retirees whose feedback helps us better understand their needs and expectations. The goal is to offer retirees an annual statement that is clear and relevant and helps them understand the amounts paid to them.

Our pension plan helps support overall health

A pension plan is more than just income for the future. Research has shown that pension plans have a significant impact on plan members' mental, physical and social health.

People with a pension plan report feeling happier and enjoying better mental health. In some population segments, an actual reduction in symptoms of depression can be observed.

The benefits aren't limited to better mental health: Many people also report improved physical fitness. Diminished financial stress appears to reduce the risk of chronic inflammation. Having a pension plan may even be associated with a longer life expectancy.

Finally, being able to rely on a pension plan seems to encourage healthy lifestyle habits, such as a balanced diet and regular physical activity. It also appears to encourage participation in community events, sports and recreational activities, thereby helping to strengthen social ties.

Our pension plan doesn't just provide financial security. It is a benefit that makes a real difference in the lives of plan members.

Source: This information is based on a <u>study commissioned by the Healthcare of</u> Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP) and conducted by The Behavioural Insights Team.

Additional information

This report was produced by the DGPP Division. It's for information purposes only. In the event of a discrepancy between the content of this report and that of the DGPP Regulation, that of the Regulation prevails.

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¹ Funding ratio: The DGPP's ability to meet its obligations over the long term.

² **Solvency ratio**: The DGPP's ability to meet its obligations if it were terminated.