

# **The Brookings Institution and Affiliates**

Consolidated Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019

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## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Trustees  
The Brookings Institution

### Report on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of The Brookings Institution and Affiliates (Brookings), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of June 30, 2019, the related consolidated statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements (collectively, 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 control 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 audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit 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.

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 The Brookings Institution and Affiliates as of June 30, 2019, and the changes in their net assets and their cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Emphasis of Matter**

As disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements, Brookings adopted the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2016-14, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic958): Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*. The adoption of this standard resulted in the consolidated statement of functional expenses, additional disclosures over liquidity and changes to the classification of net assets. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

**Report on Summarized Comparative Information**

We have previously audited Brookings' 2018 consolidated financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated November 15, 2018. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

*RSM US LLP*

McLean, Virginia  
November 20, 2019

**The Brookings Institution and Affiliates**

**Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**

**June 30, 2019**

**(With Comparative Totals for 2018)**

**(Dollars In Thousands)**

	2019	2018
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 33,355	\$ 29,587
Receivables, net	77,285	75,134
Investments – endowment	377,235	372,666
Investments – other	8,872	18,661
Property and equipment, net	29,719	32,388
Other assets	2,608	3,074
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<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 529,074</b>	<b>\$ 531,510</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 10,313	\$ 8,324
Deferred revenue	1,147	1,340
Accrued post-retirement benefit obligation	1,264	1,309
Note payable, net	45,050	45,797
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>57,774</b>	<b>56,770</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets:		
Without Donor Restrictions	225,101	231,351
With Donor Restrictions	246,199	243,389
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>471,300</b>	<b>474,740</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 529,074</b>	<b>\$ 531,510</b>
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See notes to consolidated financial statements.

The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

**Consolidated Statement of Activities**  
**Year Ended June 30, 2019**  
**(With Comparative Totals for 2018)**  
**(In Thousands)**

	2019			2018 Total
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
Revenue and support:				
Investment return designated for operations	\$ 12,133	\$ 5,464	\$ 17,597	\$ 16,038
Grants and contracts	1,955	48,521	50,476	38,388
Contributions	5,066	22,888	27,954	27,009
Program service revenue	470	-	470	555
Brookings press	1,533	-	1,533	1,817
Facility revenue	2,359	-	2,359	2,351
Rental income, net of expenses of \$(76)	561	-	561	358
Interest, dividends and currency exchange gains	926	(95)	831	264
Other income	241	-	241	268
Net assets released from restrictions	69,912	(69,912)	-	-
<b>Total revenue and support</b>	<b>95,156</b>	<b>6,866</b>	<b>102,022</b>	<b>87,048</b>
Expenses (pre-allocation):				
Program services:				
Economic studies	16,141	-	16,141	15,547
Foreign policy studies	15,331	-	15,331	15,942
Global economy and development	11,203	-	11,203	11,757
Governance studies	9,142	-	9,142	8,346
Institutional Initiatives	6,190	-	6,190	9,165
Metropolitan policy	8,407	-	8,407	7,767
Brookings press	1,975	-	1,975	2,221
Communications	1,216	-	1,216	1,886
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>69,605</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69,605</b>	<b>72,631</b>
Supporting services:				
Management and general	20,486	-	20,486	21,707
Fundraising	3,495	-	3,495	3,251
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>93,586</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>93,586</b>	<b>97,589</b>
<b>Change in net assets before non-operating activities</b>	<b>1,570</b>	<b>6,866</b>	<b>8,436</b>	<b>(10,541)</b>

(Continued)

**The Brookings Institution and Affiliates**

**Consolidated Statement of Activities (Continued)**

**Year Ended June 30, 2019**

**(With Comparative Totals for 2018)**

**(In Thousands)**

	<b>2019</b>			2018 Total
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
Non-operating activities:				
Investment return in excess of amounts designated for operations:				
Realized gain from sale of investments	\$ 11,936	\$ 4,503	\$ 16,439	\$ 23,073
Unrealized gain (loss) from investments	(8,272)	(4,056)	(12,328)	10,551
Interest and dividends	604	961	1,565	1,139
Investment income allocation	(12,133)	(5,464)	(17,597)	(16,038)
<b>Total investment return in excess of (under) amounts designated for operations</b>	<b>(7,865)</b>	<b>(4,056)</b>	<b>(11,921)</b>	<b>18,725</b>
<b>Change in net assets before post-retirement related changes</b>	<b>(6,295)</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>(3,485)</b>	<b>8,184</b>
Post-retirement related changes	45	-	45	112
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>(6,250)</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>(3,440)</b>	<b>8,296</b>
Net assets:				
Beginning	231,351	243,389	474,740	466,444
Ending	<u>\$ 225,101</u>	<u>\$ 246,199</u>	<u>\$ 471,300</u>	<u>\$ 474,740</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses  
Year Ended June 30, 2019  
(With Comparative Totals for 2018)  
(In Thousands)

	Program Services								
	Economic Studies	Foreign Policy Studies	Global Economy and Development	Governance Studies	Institutional Initiatives	Metropolitan Policy	Brookings Press	Communications	
Salaries and benefits	\$ 10,545	\$ 10,814	\$ 7,595	\$ 5,661	\$ 685	\$ 5,520	\$ 838	\$ 2,647	
Travel	388	698	470	128	306	163	12	28	
Conference	663	549	301	184	287	471	6	(4)	
Contractors/professional fees	1,765	697	994	1,550	3,385	582	43	396	
Occupancy	-	-	-	-	576	-	-	-	
Editing and publishing	143	34	67	39	77	33	515	139	
Communications and mailing	31	76	23	10	12	10	69	8	
General supplies	35	26	14	10	35	10	3	9	
Information technology	65	44	39	20	145	156	28	546	
Marketing and fulfillment	27	3	5	4	3	-	222	28	
Other direct costs	121	73	36	142	277	48	34	59	
Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Bad debt	-	-	-	-	1	87	-	3	
Depreciation and amortization	2	-	-	-	47	65	-	269	
Taxes and licenses	8	12	20	3	47	-	-	-	
	<b>13,793</b>	<b>13,026</b>	<b>9,564</b>	<b>7,751</b>	<b>5,883</b>	<b>7,145</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>4,128</b>	
Facilities allocation	1,457	1,438	1,025	945	47	802	205	626	
Website allocation	891	867	614	446	260	460	-	(3,538)	
<b>Total – operating expenses</b>	<b>16,141</b>	<b>15,331</b>	<b>11,203</b>	<b>9,142</b>	<b>6,190</b>	<b>8,407</b>	<b>1,975</b>	<b>1,216</b>	
Allocation of supporting services:									
Information technology	1,114	1,083	767	558	321	575	-	-	
Management and administration	2,613	2,542	1,800	1,310	763	1,350	-	-	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 19,868</b>	<b>\$ 18,956</b>	<b>\$ 13,770</b>	<b>\$ 11,010</b>	<b>\$ 7,274</b>	<b>\$ 10,332</b>	<b>\$ 1,975</b>	<b>\$ 1,216</b>	

(Continued)



The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses (Continued)  
 Year Ended June 30, 2019  
 (With Comparative Totals for 2018)  
 (In Thousands)

	Supporting Services					2018 Total
	Management and General				Total	
	Administration	Information Technology Services	Occupancy Services	Fundraising		Total
Salaries and benefits	\$ 9,045	\$ 2,597	\$ 1,512	\$ 2,242	\$ 59,701	\$ 61,060
Travel	134	8	2	101	2,438	2,713
Conference	176	1	1,602	463	4,699	5,630
Contractors/professional fees	826	1,038	352	136	11,764	11,537
Occupancy	-	-	3,474	-	4,050	3,864
Editing and publishing	4	2	1	19	1,073	1,539
Communications and mailing	32	140	66	17	494	578
General supplies	33	20	51	11	257	330
Information technology	202	922	125	18	2,310	2,442
Marketing and fulfillment	1	-	-	31	324	598
Other direct costs	519	24	(225)	104	1,212	1,369
Interest	-	-	1,179	-	1,179	1,199
Bad debt	(104)	-	-	-	(13)	22
Depreciation and amortization	284	810	2,507	-	3,984	4,613
Taxes and licenses	24	-	-	-	114	95
	11,176	5,562	10,646	3,142	93,586	97,589
Facilities allocation	1,323	428	(8,649)	353	-	-
Website allocation	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total – operating expenses</b>	<b>12,499</b>	<b>5,990</b>	<b>1,997</b>	<b>3,495</b>	<b>93,586</b>	<b>97,589</b>
Allocation of supporting services:						
Information technology	-	(4,418)	-	-	-	-
Management and administration	(10,378)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,121</b>	<b>\$ 1,572</b>	<b>\$ 1,997</b>	<b>\$ 3,495</b>	<b>\$ 93,586</b>	<b>\$ 97,589</b>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**The Brookings Institution and Affiliates**

**Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows  
Year Ended June 30, 2019  
(With Comparative Totals for 2018)  
(In Thousands)**

	2019	2018
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ (3,440)	\$ 8,296
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization expense	3,984	4,613
Change in allowance for receivables	(388)	(39)
Amortization of discount on receivables	(1,227)	(454)
Amortization of bond issuance costs	28	28
Realized gains, interest and dividends on investments, net of investments expenses and amounts appropriated for expenses	(407)	(23,073)
Net unrealized loss (gain) from investments	12,328	(10,551)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in:		
Receivables	(1,667)	20,583
Other assets	466	(200)
(Decrease) increase in:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,989	(190)
Deferred revenue	(193)	(609)
Accrued post-retirement benefit obligation	(45)	(112)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>11,428</b>	<b>(1,708)</b>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of investments	(120,331)	(82,630)
Proceeds from sales of investments	113,630	89,995
Purchases of property and equipment	(1,315)	(2,077)
<b>Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities</b>	<b>(8,016)</b>	<b>5,288</b>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Principal payments on note payable	(775)	(756)
Payments on endowment pledges	1,131	1,696
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>940</b>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>3,768</b>	<b>4,520</b>
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Beginning	29,587	25,067
Ending	\$ 33,355	\$ 29,587
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 1,151	\$ 1,172

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies

**Nature of activities:** The Brookings Institution and Affiliates (Brookings) consist of the Brookings Institution, Brookings Institution India Center, and Brookings Doha Center. Brookings is a nonprofit public policy organization that conducts in-depth, independent research with the goal of improving governance and solving problems facing society at the local, national and global level. Brookings achieves impact by providing policy analysis and recommendations on pressing policy challenges, which are disseminated through reports, books, media appearances, op-eds, blog posts, Congressional testimony, public and private events and opinion pieces posted on Brookings's website, as well as briefings for policymakers and their staff. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., Brookings is organized into five research programs that focus on domestic and international economics, foreign policy, international development, governance and metropolitan policy. Brookings has overseas centers in India, Qatar and China. In 2016, Brookings adopted a new strategic plan that refocuses its mission, engages new audiences, promotes interdisciplinary collaboration, increases diversity and strengthens efficiency and sustainability.

**Brookings Institution India Center:** Brookings opened its newest overseas policy center in New Delhi, India in early 2013. This center compliments its two existing overseas policy centers in Beijing, China and Doha, Qatar. The India Center serves as a platform for cutting-edge, policy relevant research and analysis on the opportunities and challenges facing India and the world.

**Brookings Institution Doha Center:** Brookings opened a research center in Doha, Qatar in early 2008 after organizing an annual conference in Qatar since 2004. The Doha Center is designed to support and disseminate research and to facilitate dialogue and understanding between the West and the Islamic World.

Brookings' funds are allocated to the following program areas:

**Economic Studies:** Economic Studies monitors the global economy and seeks answers to economic policy issues in the United States. The program's research aims to increase the public's understanding of how the economy works and how to make programs and policies better.

**Foreign Policy Studies:** The U.S. and the international community face great challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – globalization offers more freedom and prosperity, but also new threats to our security. Foreign Policy experts and research help policymakers and the public address these crucial issues.

**Global Economy and Development:** Global Economy and Development examines the opportunities and challenges presented by globalization, which has become a central concern for policymakers, business executives and civil society. Global experts address the issues surrounding globalization within three key areas: the drivers shaping the global economy, the road out of poverty and the rise of new economic powers.

**Governance Studies:** Governance Studies brings together people interested in improving the performance of our national government and the economic security, social welfare and opportunity available to all Americans.

**Institutional Initiatives:** Includes research initiatives of the Executive Office and all cross-program research efforts. It also includes expenses associated with partnerships with two universities: The Brookings Mountain West program with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Brookings' Executive Education program, a partnership with Washington University in St. Louis. Institutional Initiatives also includes the work of Brookings' three foreign centers based in Beijing, China, Doha, Qatar and New Delhi, India.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

**Metropolitan Policy:** The Metropolitan Policy Program redefines the challenges facing metropolitan America and promotes innovative solutions to help communities grow in more inclusive, competitive and sustainable ways

**Brookings Press:** The Brookings Press publishes public policy research books from Brookings' own scholars, as well as outside authors. The publications provide extensive background and insight on important public policy issues in business, economics, government and international affairs.

**Communications:** The Central Communications team promotes the work of Brookings scholars to a wide range of niche and general audiences and protects and maintains the Brookings brand. In coordination with research program staff, Central Communications provides strategic counsel and crisis communications, manages the Brookings website and digital footprint (including social media properties and newsletters), oversees all public Brookings events and serves as producer for the Brookings Podcast Network.

A summary of Brookings' significant accounting policies follows:

**Principles of consolidation:** All significant intercompany transactions have been eliminated in the consolidation.

**Basis of accounting:** Brookings' consolidated financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP), unconditional gifts and grants, including promises to give, is recorded when received, other revenue is recognized when earned, and expenses are recognized when the obligations are incurred.

**Basis of presentation:** The financial statement presentation follows the recommendations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) in its Accounting Standards Codification (the Codification or ASC). As required by the Non-Profit Entities topic of the Codification, Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations, Brookings is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to two classes of net assets: with donor restrictions and without donor restrictions.

**Adopted accounting pronouncement:** In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-14, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*. The amendments in this ASU make improvements to the information provided in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes of nonprofit entities. The amendments set forth the FASB's improvements to net asset classification requirements and the information presented about a nonprofit entity's liquidity, financial performance and cash flows. The ASU will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017. Earlier application is permitted. The changes in this ASU should generally be applied on a retrospective basis in the year that the ASU is first applied. Management has implemented ASU 2016-14 in the consolidated financial statements for fiscal 2019.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Among other requirements, ASU 2016-14 modifies net asset reporting. Accordingly, Brookings has reclassified its net assets from three categories – unrestricted, temporarily restricted and permanently restricted – to two categories: net assets without donor restrictions and net assets with donor restrictions. The impact of these changes is captured in the following table:

2018 Ending Net Assets	2019 Beginning Net Assets Reclassified		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Unrestricted	\$ 231,351	\$ -	\$ 231,351
Temporarily restricted	-	153,276	153,276
Permanently restricted	-	90,113	90,113
Totals	<u>\$ 231,351</u>	<u>\$ 243,389</u>	<u>\$ 474,740</u>

ASU 2016-14 also provides additional disclosure requirements, each of which is discussed in the relevant sections that follow.

**Cash and cash equivalents:** Cash includes currency on hand and demand deposits held by financial institutions. Cash equivalents includes short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are so near maturity that they present insignificant interest rate risk.

Cash in U.S. banks may, at times, exceed federally insured limits. Brookings has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes its exposure for such losses is insignificant. The value of cash and cash equivalents held by foreign financial institutions can be adversely affected by potential factors such as currency devaluation and political unrest. Brookings has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant financial risk on such accounts.

**Financial assets and liquidity resources:** ASU 2016-14, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*, requires a nonprofit entity to present information about the availability of and how it manages its liquid available resources to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year of the date of the consolidated statement of financial position.

Brookings has various sources of liquidity at its disposal, including cash and cash equivalents, investments, receivables due within one year, and a line of credit. Brookings strategically manages these financial resources to maximize investment return on funds not required for operations. As part of liquidity management, Brookings invests cash in excess of six-month requirements in low-risk liquid short-term investments. Brookings operates with a balanced budget and, in conjunction with its cash management procedure, closely monitors budget and forecast performance metrics. The most significant element of the Brookings business model is the ongoing pursuit of contributions and grants to support its mission. Since grantors typically provide advance funding to support project activities, the cost of these activities is generally cash-neutral or cash-positive, and thereby mitigates the risk of cash shortfalls necessitating utilization of Brookings' prior year resources, reserves or the line of credit.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Financial assets and liquidity resources available for general expenditure within one year of the June 30, 2019, consolidated statement of financial position include the following:

	<u>Available</u>
Financial assets available on June 30, 2019:	
Cash and cash equivalents, available	\$ 21,402
Accounts receivable due in one year	37,160
Investments:	
Board-directed reserve*	5,451
Short-term investments	8,872
Financial assets available on June 30, 2019 for current use	<u>72,885</u>
Financial commitments due within one year:	
Bond payments	(1,926)
Operating liabilities	(8,934)
Financial commitments due in one year	<u>(10,860)</u>
Net financial assets available on June 30, 2019 for general expenditures	62,025
Liquidity resources:	
Budgeted endowment appropriation	18,747
Cash management reserves*	20,177
Line of credit, including \$5 million accordion feature	10,000
Total financial assets and liquidity resources available for general expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 110,949</u>

\* Additional Resources: \$34.032 million is invested in endowment money market funds at June 30, 2019

**Receivables:** Receivables include grants and contracts and promises to give as follows:

- **Grants and contracts:** Brookings receives grants and enters into contracts with the U.S. and with foreign governments which support various programs on a cost-reimbursement basis. Revenue is recognized as reimbursable expenditures are incurred and includes recoveries of facility and administrative costs. Unconditional grants from private foundations and other organizations are recognized in the period when received.
- **Promises to give:** Unconditional promises to give are recorded as contribution revenue upon receipt of the promise. Promises that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at their net realizable value. Promises that are expected to be collected beyond one year are recorded at the net present value of anticipated future cash flows. An allowance for uncollectible contributions receivable is provided based upon management's judgment of potential defaults.
- **Contributions receivable in a charitable remainder unitrust (CRUT):** Included in accounts, grants and contributions receivable is a 6% CRUT held by an outside trustee. Brookings' remainder interest in the CRUT is revalued annually by applying the appropriate IRS remainder interest factor, based on the life income beneficiary's current age, to the market value of the trust assets.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Receivables are recorded at their net realizable value. Accounts past due are individually analyzed for collectability. When all collection efforts have been exhausted, the account is written off against an allowance account. Management annually adjusts the allowance account based upon its estimate of those accounts receivable it believes to be uncollectible. The allowance at June 30, 2019, was \$0.9 million.

**Investments:** Investments consist of U.S. treasury funds, money market funds, separately managed equity securities, shares held in pooled funds and partnerships. These investments include both foreign and domestic securities. As part of the respective underlying strategies, the investment managers employ various financial strategies, all of which carry a certain degree of risk of investment loss. Specifically, market risk relates to the possibility that invested assets within a particular strategy may experience loss due to prevailing market conditions. Brookings has adopted a diversified asset allocation policy to avoid undue concentration of risk and to take advantage of market inefficiencies.

Investments are stated at fair value in the consolidated financial statements. 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. The estimated fair value of investments that are not listed on national markets or over-the-counter markets and for which quoted market prices are not available, and which are generally subject to certain withdrawal restrictions, is provided by the general partners or external investment managers and may be based on historical cost, appraisals, obtainable prices for similar assets or other estimates. Because of the inherent uncertainty of the valuation of these investments and in certain of the underlying investments held by the fund managers, values for those investments may differ from values that would have been used had a ready market for the investments existed. Brookings reviews and evaluates the values provided by its investment managers and agrees with the valuation methods and assumptions used in determining the fair value. These financial investments include both assets and liabilities in the underlying partnership funds, which are combined into a net asset value (NAV). Future events could impact asset valuations as well as estimates of fair value related to liabilities. For disclosure of fair value inputs and valuation techniques see Note 4.

Unrealized gains and losses are determined by comparison of cost to fair value at the beginning and end of the reporting period. Realized gains and losses on sales of investments are recorded on the trade date of the transaction.

Donated investments are recorded in the consolidated financial statements at fair value on the date of donation.

*Derivative financial instruments and hedging activities:* Brookings invests with managers who reserve the right to use various derivative instruments (e.g., options, warrants, futures, swaps, etc.). Derivatives are traded contracts whose value is derived from the price movements of an underlying security and they are typically used to hedge certain types of investment risk (e.g., interest rate, currency, etc.) or otherwise meet the stated objectives of the fund. These derivative instruments are recorded at their estimated fair value, and the resulting gains and losses are reflected as a component of investment return in the accompanying consolidated statement of activities.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

*Financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk:* In the course of the trading activities entered into by Brookings' various investment managers, certain financial instruments involve, to varying degrees, elements of market risk and credit risk in excess of the amounts recorded in the consolidated financial statements. As previously stated, market risk is the potential for changes in the value of investment assets due to market forces, including the interest and foreign exchange rate movements and fluctuations that are embedded in the security prices. This risk is also affected by the volatility and liquidity of the markets in which the related underlying assets are traded. Credit risk is the possibility that a loss may occur due to the failure of the counter party to meet its financial obligation as stated in the terms of the contract. Brookings' risk of loss in the event of counter party default is typically limited to the amounts recognized in the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position and does not include the notional amounts of the specific contracts.

The Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) topic on fair value measurement for financial assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis defines fair value and establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The topic emphasizes that fair value is a market-based measurement, not an entity-specific measurement and, therefore, a fair value measurement should be determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

As a basis for considering market participant assumptions in fair value measurements, the topic established a fair value hierarchy based upon the transparency of the inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability. These inputs may be observable, whereby, the market participant assumptions are developed based on market data obtained from independent sources, and unobservable, whereby, assumptions about market participant assumptions are developed by the reporting entity based on the best information available in the circumstances. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described as follows:

- Level 1:** Inputs based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities accessible at the measurement date.
- Level 2:** Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets.
- Level 3:** Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, including the reporting entity's own assumptions in determining the fair value measurement.

Brookings' assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of June 30, 2019, are presented in accordance with the fair value standards in Note 4.

**Property, equipment and depreciation:** All acquisitions of furniture and equipment greater than \$2.5 thousand, including computer equipment and software, are capitalized at cost and are depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which range from 3 to 20 years, with no salvage value. Costs incurred in the development of software for internal use are expensed during the preliminary and post-implementation operation stages, including data conversion, training and maintenance costs. Costs incurred during the application development stage of software development are capitalized. The buildings are stated at cost and are depreciated using the straight-line method over an estimated useful life of 50 years, with no salvage value. Building improvements greater than \$2.5 thousand are capitalized and amortized using the straight-line method over the remaining estimated life of the related building or the estimated life of the asset, whichever is less. Expenditures for minor repairs and maintenance costs are expensed when incurred. Land and artwork are recorded at cost or fair value at time of donation. Upon the retirement or disposal of assets, the cost and accumulated depreciation are eliminated from the respective accounts and the resulting gain or loss is included in revenue or expenses.



## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

**Valuation of long-lived assets:** Brookings accounts for the valuation of long-lived assets by reviewing such assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of the long-lived asset is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of the asset to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the estimated fair value of the assets. Assets to be disposed of are reportable at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value, less costs to sell. There were no impairments of long-lived assets at June 30, 2019.

**Net assets:** Brookings' resources are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into net asset groups based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. The net asset groups are as follows:

- **Net assets without donor restrictions:** Resources available to support Brookings general operations and includes board designated net assets and quasi-endowment funds.
- **Net assets with donor restrictions:** Resources received by Brookings from contributors or grantors that are purpose-restricted, time-restricted or both purpose and time restricted. Time restrictions include resources received with donor instructions that they be held by Brookings in perpetuity. Investment earnings on these perpetual assets with purpose restrictions accrue to the purpose designated by the donor.

In fiscal year 2005, the Brookings Board of Trustees (Board) directed placement of \$5 million of net assets without donor restrictions in a discrete reserve fund. The fund is available to Brookings, with Board approval, to fund specific costs or activities, including operating losses, and to be the repository for operating earnings. In fiscal year 2012, the Board approved the use of the reserve to support unfunded strategic priorities. They also approved encumbering, for a period of no longer than three years, the balance of the strategic reserve to cover the cash requirements of the Brookings website redesign to be used as necessary based on institutional cash requirements. As of June 30, 2019, none of the reserve has been utilized and its assets are no longer encumbered. At June 30, 2019, the balance of the subject reserve amounted to \$5.46 million.

In February 2015, a second reserve was established, to be funded with up to \$0.5 million excess net assets without donor restrictions each year, on a discretionary basis. At June 30, 2019, the amount of net assets without donor restrictions in this board designated strategic reserve amounted to \$2.60 million.

**Revenue recognition:** Brookings recognizes unconditional contributions, non-federal grants and contracts, including unconditional promises to give, as revenue in the period received, and/or when unconditional promises are received. All unconditional contributions, non-federal grants and contracts are considered to be available for unrestricted use, unless specifically restricted by the donor. Unconditional gifts, grants and contracts that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at net realizable value. Unconditional gifts, grants and contracts that are expected to be collected in future years are recorded at the present value of their estimated future cash flows. The discounts on these amounts are computed using market rates that are commensurate with the risks identified. The portion of unconditional gifts, grants and contracts that was discounted in prior fiscal years but is collected in the current year is recorded as revenue in the current year. Contributions, non-federal grants and contracts that have been committed to Brookings but have not been received are reflected as receivable in the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### **Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

Net assets with donor restrictions become net assets without donor restrictions when the respective time restriction expires, or during the period the funds are used for the restricted purpose. The conversion of net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions is reported in the accompanying consolidated statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Revenue from publications and federal grants and contracts is recognized in the year in which it is earned. Amounts received from these sources but not yet earned are reported as deferred revenue in the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position.

**Endowments:** The ASC topic on Not-For-Profit Entities provides guidance on the net asset classification of donor-restricted endowment funds for a nonprofit organization that is subject to an enacted version of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act of 2006 (UPMIFA). Effective January 23, 2008, the District of Columbia enacted UPMIFA, the provisions of which apply to endowment funds existing on or established after that date. The ASC requires disclosures about an organization's endowed funds (both donor-restricted endowment funds and board designated endowment funds).

**Allocation of expenses:** Expenses have been summarized on a functional basis in the accompanying consolidated statement of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the program and supporting services benefited. Occupancy expenses, other than those costs directly related to facilities revenue, are allocated to program and supporting services.

**Prior year information:** The consolidated financial statements include certain prior year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with Brookings' audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2018, from which the summarized information was derived.

**Measure of operations:** The consolidated statements of activities separately report changes in net assets from operating and changes in net assets from non-operating activities. Operating activities consist primarily of revenues and expenses related to ongoing research programs and administrative activities, including contributions and grants, investment income from operating cash accounts and investment return appropriated from long-term investments. Non-operating activities consist primarily of returns generated by long-term investments in excess of amounts appropriated for operating activities, and changes in the value of post-retirement benefit obligations.

**Income taxes:** Brookings is exempt from federal income taxes on its exempt activities under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) and has been designated by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a publicly supported organization under Section 509(a)(1) of the Code. Brookings engages in certain activities that produce unrelated business income, as defined by federal income tax regulations.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

When tax returns are filed, it is highly certain that some positions taken would be sustained upon examination by the taxing authorities, while others are subject to uncertainty about the merits of the position taken or the amount of the position that would be ultimately sustained. The benefit of a tax position is recognized in the consolidated financial statements in the period during which, based on all available evidence, management believes it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination, including the resolution of appeals or litigation processes, if any. Tax positions taken are not offset or aggregated with other positions. Tax positions that meet the more likely than not recognition threshold are measured as the largest amount of tax benefit that is more than 50% likely of being realized upon settlement with the applicable taxing authority. The portion of the benefits associated with tax positions taken that exceeds the amount measured as described above is reflected as a liability for unrecognized tax benefits in the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position, along with any associated interest and penalties that would be payable to the taxing authorities upon examination.

Brookings files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction. As of June 30, 2019, and for the year then ended, there were no material unrecognized/derecognized tax benefits or tax penalties or interest. Generally, Brookings is no longer subject to U.S. federal income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before fiscal year 2016.

**Use of estimates:** The preparation of consolidated financial statements 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 consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Upcoming accounting pronouncements:** In June 2018, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued ASU 2018-08, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Clarifying the Scope and the Accounting Guidance for Contributions Received and Contributions Made*. The purpose of the ASU is to clarify and improve the scope and the accounting guidance for contributions received and contributions made. The amendments in the ASU should assist entities in: (1) evaluating whether transactions should be accounted for as contributions (nonreciprocal transactions) within the scope of Topic 958, *Not-for-Profit Entities*, or as exchange (reciprocal) transactions subject to other guidance, and 2) determining whether a contribution is conditional. The amendments in the ASU are to be applied on a modified perspective basis, although retrospective application is permitted. Entities which serve as a resource recipient are required to implement the standards to annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018. Entities which serve as a resource provider are required to implement the standards to annual periods beginning after December 15, 2019. Brookings has undertaken an in-depth analysis of the impact of the new standard on the consolidated financial statements. As predicted in the 2018 financial statements, the ASU will likely result in more grants and contracts being accounted for as conditional contributions than observed in practice under current guidance. The standard will be implemented for fiscal year 2020.

In March 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-07, *Compensation – Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost*. ASU 2017-07 requires that an entity report the service cost component of net periodic pension and postretirement cost in the same line item or items as other compensation costs arising from services rendered by the pertinent employees during the period. The remaining components of net benefit costs are required to be presented in the consolidated statement of activities separately from the service component and outside a subtotal of income from operations, if one is presented. The amendment further allows only the service cost component of net periodic pension and post-retirement costs to be eligible for capitalization.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

ASU 2017-07 is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and the interim periods included within those annual periods, with early adoption permitted. ASU 2017-07 must be applied retrospectively for the presentation of the service cost component and the other components of net periodic pension cost and net periodic postretirement benefit cost in the statement of activities, and prospectively, on and after the effective date, for the capitalization of the service cost component of net periodic pension cost and net periodic postretirement benefit in assets. Brookings is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*. The guidance in this ASU supersedes the leasing guidance in Topic 840, *Leases*. Under the new guidance, lessees are required to recognize lease assets and lease liabilities on the statement of financial position for all leases with terms longer than 12 months. Leases will be classified as either finance or operating, with classification affecting the pattern of expense recognition in the consolidated statement of activities. The new standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020, including interim periods within those fiscal years. A modified retrospective transition approach is required for lessees for capital and operating leases existing at, or entered into after, the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented in the consolidated financial statements, with certain practical expedients available. Brookings is currently evaluating the impact of its pending adoption of the new standard on the consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606)*, requiring an entity to recognize the amount of revenue to which it expects to be entitled for the transfer of promised goods or services to customers. The updated standard will replace most existing revenue recognition guidance in U.S. GAAP when it becomes effective and permits the use of either a full retrospective or retrospective with cumulative effect transition method. Early adoption is not permitted. The updated standard will be effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. In August 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-14, which defers the effective date of ASU 2014-09 by one year, making it effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2019. Application of ASU 606 is required in tandem with the provisions of ASU 2018-08, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Clarifying the Scope and the Accounting Guidance for Contributions Received and Contributions Made* and will therefore be implemented on July 1, 2019.

**Subsequent events:** Brookings evaluated subsequent events through November 20, 2019, which is the date the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 2. Receivables

Receivables expected to be collected within one year are recorded at their net realizable value. Grants and contributions expected to be collected after one year are recorded at their present value using a discount rate between 3.95% and 4.10% for the respective periods of collection. As of June 30, 2019, receivables were due as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Less than one year	\$ 42,191
One to five years	35,268
More than five years	3,899
	<u>81,358</u>
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(900)
Less unamortized discount to present value	(3,173)
	<u>\$ 77,285</u>

#### Note 3. Investments

Investments are stated at fair value and include cash equivalents held for investment purposes. As of June 30, 2019, investments consisted of the following:

	Dollars in Thousands
<b>Endowment Investments</b>	
Money market funds	\$ 34,032
U.S. Treasury funds	35,695
Developed market public equities	
Separately managed	4,158
Pooled funds	92,346
Equity-biased funds	28,530
Emerging market equities funds	36,298
Hedge and Credit funds	38,031
Partnerships:	
Hedge and credit strategies	10,772
Real assets	43,788
Developed market public equities	34,269
Private equity	19,316
Total endowment investments	<u>\$ 377,235</u>
<b>Other Investments</b>	
U.S. Treasury fund	<u>\$ 8,872</u>
Total other investments	<u>\$ 8,872</u>

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Note 4. Fair Value Measurements

The following table summarizes Brookings' assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of June 30, 2019, in accordance with fair value standards:

	Dollars in Thousands			
	Total Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets/Liabilities (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Endowment investments:				
Money market funds	\$ 34,032	\$ 34,032	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Treasury fund	35,695	-	35,695	-
Long-biased equities:				
Developed market public funds	52,914	6,948	45,966	-
Emerging markets funds	30,513	-	30,513	-
Total long-biased equities	83,427	6,948	76,479	-
Investments valued at NAV	224,081	-	-	-
Total endowment investments	\$ 377,235	\$ 40,980	\$ 112,174	\$ -
Other investments:				
U.S. Treasury fund	\$ 8,872	\$ -	\$ 8,872	\$ -
Total other investments	\$ 8,872	\$ -	\$ 8,872	\$ -
Contributions receivable:				
Interest in charitable remainder unitrust	\$ 961	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 961
Total assets held at fair value	\$ 387,068	\$ 40,980	\$ 121,046	\$ 961

Brookings used the following methods and significant assumptions to estimate fair value for its assets recorded at fair value:

**U.S. Treasury fund, money market funds, and other long biased equities:** Valued using pricing models, quoted prices in active markets, quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics or discounted cash flows.

**Investments valued at net asset value:** These investments include hedge funds, partnerships and other long-biased equities that are subject to certain liquidity restrictions and generally have no established trading market. Fair value is determined based on the investment's net asset value (NAV) as provided by the fund's management or the general partner of the respective fund. The fair values are based on third-party appraisals, discounted cash flow models and publicly-traded companies, among other things. Brookings has performed significant due diligence around the valuation of these investments, including assessments of factors such as manager compliance, price transparency and valuation procedures in place, the ability to redeem at NAV at the measurement date and the existence of certain redemption restrictions at the measurement date, to ensure NAV is an appropriate measure of fair value as of June 30, 2019.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Note 4. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

*Contributions receivable in a Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT):* Brookings is the remainder interest beneficiary of a 6% CRUT held by an outside trustee. The fair value of the remainder interest is revalued annually by applying the appropriate IRS remainder interest factor, based on the life income beneficiary's current age, to the market value of the trust assets as reported by the trustee.

A roll forward of the fair value measurements using unobservable inputs (Level 3) is as follows for the year ended June 30, 2019 (dollars in thousands):

	Balance at June 30, 2018	Actuarial Change in Beneficial Interest	Balance at June 30, 2019
Charitable remainder unitrust	\$ 1,159	\$ (198)	\$ 961

The following table details Brookings' ability to redeem endowment investment funds as of June 30, 2019:

	Dollars in Thousands			Redemption Frequency if Currently Eligible	Redemption Notice Period (Days)
	Number of Funds	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitments		
Levels 1 and 2:					
Money Market	2	\$ 34,032		Daily	0-2
US Treasuries	1	35,695		Daily	0-2
Developed Market Public Equities	3	50,123		Daily	0-2
Emerging Market Equity	1	21,770		Daily	0-2
Emerging Market Equity	1	8,744		Monthly	30-89
Equity-Biased Funds	1	2,790		Daily	0-2
Net Asset Valued (NAV) investments:					
Developed Market Public Equities	1	14,960		Weekly	7-10
Developed Market Public Equities	1	19,309		Monthly	7-10
Developed Market Public Equities	1	38,543		Quarterly	30-89
Developed Market Public Equities*	1	784		Annually	90
Developed Market Public Equities*	1	7,054		Illiquid	n/a
Emerging Markets Equity	1	5,784		Monthly	90
Equity-Biased*	3	21,571		Annually	30-89
Equity-Biased*	3	4,136		Illiquid	n/a
Equity-Biased	1	33		Illiquid	n/a
Private Equity	6	19,316	2,779	Illiquid	n/a
Real Assets	18	43,788	12,070	Illiquid	n/a
Credit*	2	12,787		Annually	30-89
Credit*	2	25,244		Illiquid	n/a
Credit	3	10,772	1,526	Illiquid	n/a
Total endowment investments		<u>\$ 377,235</u>	<u>\$ 16,375</u>		

\* Investment funds with multiple redemption provisions

In May, 2019, an additional \$5 million was committed to MRP Value Offshore Fund I, LP, a credit fund. The first capital call for this investment was received August, 2019.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Note 5. Property and Equipment

Brookings held the following property and equipment as of June 30, 2019:

	Dollars in Thousands
Land	\$ 4,156
Buildings and improvements	52,885
Computer equipment and software	18,792
Furniture and equipment	4,427
	<u>80,260</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(50,541)
	<u><u>\$ 29,719</u></u>

Depreciation and amortization expense totaled approximately \$4 million for the year ended June 30, 2019.

#### Note 6. Net Assets with Donor Restrictions

At June 30, 2019, net assets with donor restrictions are as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Economic studies	\$ 45,043
Institutional and President's special initiatives	33,793
Foreign policy	21,481
Global economy and development	21,298
Governance studies	18,975
Metropolitan policy	10,519
Time restricted	4,563
Endowment - perpetuity	90,527
	<u>\$ 246,199</u>

#### Note 7. Endowment Funds

Brookings' endowment consists of individual funds established for a variety of purposes. The endowment includes donor-restricted funds to be maintained in perpetuity, and expendable funds, with and without donor restrictions, which have been designated by the Board of Trustees (Board) to function as endowments, or quasi-endowments. As of June 30, 2019, Brookings' Endowment had the following net asset composition:

	Dollars in Thousands		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Donor-restricted	\$ -	\$ 135,896	\$ 135,896
Board designated	224,844	-	224,844
Endowment net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 224,844</u>	<u>\$ 135,896</u>	<u>\$ 360,740</u>



## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 7. Endowment Funds (Continued)

**Interpretation of relevant law:** Brookings has interpreted UPMIFA as requiring preservation of the original fair value of gifts received with donor instructions that the contributed resources are intended to create or to supplement a fund to be maintained in perpetuity. The perpetual assets are invested, and a portion of the earnings thereon are accumulated or are appropriated for expenditure in a manner consistent with UPMIFA. Accumulated investment earnings are classified as net assets with donor restrictions until the amounts appropriated for expenditure are spent.

**Performance objectives and spending and investment policies:** In accordance with UPMIFA, Brookings considers the following factors in its construct of its investment policies, including the portfolio asset allocation and spending policy:

- The duration and preservation of the fund;
- The purposes of Brookings and the donor-restricted endowment fund;
- General economic conditions;
- The possible effect of inflation and deflation;
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments;
- The availability of other Brookings resources.

As a going concern organization intending to pursue its mission in perpetuity, the Endowment provides the core source of operational funds now and into the future, independent from and not reliant upon external revenue sources. Accordingly, the spending and investment policies are designed in tandem to earn and provide sustainable and reliable amounts annually to support Brookings' programs.

A portion of the portfolio is invested in risk-free U.S. government bonds in order to protect Brookings' immediate spending requirements. On top of this core, the portfolio is invested in diversified layers of less liquid assets that incrementally offer higher return at higher market risk and volatility levels. These additional investments are in publicly traded equities in developed and emerging markets; absolute return strategies utilizing marketable bonds, stocks and derivatives; public securities and private partnerships interested in real estate, oil and gas and other tangible assets; and partnerships interested in non-public companies. Management continually monitors the portfolio allocation and rebalances as necessary between the multiple asset classes, in order to ensure that liquid funds are available to support the institution, fulfill any investment commitments, and maintain a balance of risks among the many external partners and investment strategies.

The specific amount allocated for spending is a 70/30 weighted average of the amount provided to operations in the prior year, adjusted for inflation, and the amount that represents 5% of the market value of the spending funds within the Endowment at the prior December 31. Dramatic decreases or increases in the investment market value will only marginally affect the new fiscal year's support level, ensuring continuity in annual support while also preventing imprudent over-spending when valuations are unreliaably high. In order to provide this amount of support into the future, the Endowment must earn a real return of 5%, annualized, over the long term.

For the year ended June 30, 2019, \$17.597 million was distributed from the endowment for expenditures, including \$0.776 million for long-term debt principal payments.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Note 7. Endowment Funds (Continued)

For the year ended June 30, 2019, Brookings' Endowment had the following activity

	Dollars in Thousands		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$ 232,704	\$ 139,388	\$ 372,092
Investment income, net of fees	4,273	1,408	5,681
Contributions and change in value of CRUT		564	564
Appropriations for expenditure	(12,133)	(5,464)	(17,597)
Endowment net assets, end of year	\$ 224,844	\$ 135,896	\$ 360,740

**Net assets with donor restrictions:** The portion of endowment funds required to be retained in perpetuity, either by explicit donor stipulation or by UPMIFA, is as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Chairs and fellowships	\$ 67,797
General	22,730
	<u>\$ 90,527</u>

The portion of endowment funds that do not remain perpetuity which subject to a purpose or time restriction under UPMIFA is as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Without purpose restrictions	\$ 4,563
With purpose restrictions	40,806
	<u>\$ 45,369</u>

**Funds with deficiencies:** From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with a donor-restricted endowment fund may fall below the level that the donor or UPMIFA requires be preserved in perpetuity. Generally, such deficient conditions occur in recently created endowment funds when investment market performance has not produced a return greater than Brookings' spending rate. The calculated spending appropriation continues to be made for these funds, often referred to as "underwater," because the perpetual time horizon with which endowment assets are invested ensures any deficiency is likely to be recovered as investment assets appreciate. ASU 2016-14, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958)*: *Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities* modified previous guidance to now require underwater fund deficiencies be classified as net assets with donor restrictions. On June 30, 2019, there were no underwater Endowment funds in the Brookings portfolio.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 8. Line of Credit and Note Payable

**Line of credit:** Brookings has an unsecured revolving line of credit with a financial institution up to a loan amount of \$5 million, renewed effective January 30, 2019. This line of credit includes an accordion feature which allows Brookings to borrow up to a total loan amount of \$10 million. The interest rate was calculated based on the one-month London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 60 basis points, which was 3.00% as of June 30, 2019. There was no interest expense relating to the line of credit for the year ended June 30, 2019, due to no borrowings during the fiscal year. This credit facility is renewed every three years and currently has been extended with an expiration date of January 31, 2022.

**Tax-exempt bonds and refinancing:** On February 12, 2009, the District of Columbia agreed to issue tax-exempt revenue bonds totaling \$40 million, the proceeds from which were loaned to Brookings through a third-party. The bonds were issued at a discount of \$710 thousand. Interest accrued at a rate of 5.75% and was payable in semi-annual installments of \$1.150 million, until principal payments commence on October 1, 2035. The bonds were unsecured and mature on October 1, 2039.

On January 30, 2015, the 2009 District of Columbia issued tax-exempt revenue bonds totaling \$40 million were refinanced by Brookings in a 15-year, fixed coupon, amortizing Direct Purchase bond structure. Brookings directly issued to a bank lender a Direct Purchase bond, with the proceeds being used to purchase eligible securities that were placed into an escrow account. These proceeds were used to legally defease the existing Series 2009 bonds through their 2019 call date. The bank lender agreed to purchase the bonds for a 30-year loan. For the first 15 years the loan will be amortized over a 40-year period. At the end of the 15 years, the loan will be adjusted to a 15-year amortization through February 1, 2045. Brookings can prepay after year 5 without penalty. Brookings required approximately \$48.575 million of proceeds to sufficiently escrow and advance refund the existing \$40 million Series 2009 issue. The interest rate on the new debt is 2.5179%. Interest expense relating to the note payable totaled \$1.151 million for the year ended June 30, 2019.

Future scheduled principal repayments under the note payable are as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Years ending June 30:	
2020	\$ 795
2021	816
2022	836
2023	858
2024	879
Thereafter	41,167
Unamortized debt issuance costs	(301)
	<u>\$ 45,050</u>

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 9. Leases

Brookings has several non-cancellable lease agreements for office space in Washington, D.C. and foreign countries that expire through August 31, 2026. Under the terms of the leases, Brookings is committed to annual rentals adjusted for defined escalations. Office rent expense for the year ended June 30, 2019, including rent in foreign offices, amounted to \$1.409 million. Brookings also subleases a portion of its office buildings. Rental income was \$485 thousand for the year ended June 30, 2019. Future minimum lease payments and receipts for all operating leases are as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands		
	Payments	Receipts	Net
Years ending June 30:			
2020	\$ 1,573	\$ (679)	\$ 894
2021	1,606	(685)	921
2022	1,631	(700)	931
2023	1,676	(721)	955
2024	1,715	(745)	970
2025 – 2027	3,411	-	3,411
Total	<u>\$ 11,612</u>	<u>\$ (3,530)</u>	<u>\$ 8,082</u>

#### Note 10. Employee Benefits

**Post-retirement benefits:** Brookings sponsors a health insurance plan to provide certain medical, dental, vision and life insurance benefits to its retirees who retired by June 30, 2004. Brookings makes the same plan available, with the exception of life insurance, to its retirees who retired after June 30, 2004. The amount of premium paid by Brookings is determined by a set cost structure. For both groups, the retiree completely pays the cost of dental and vision insurance.

Brookings has no mandatory retirement age. For employees hired before July 1, 2004, retirement is granted if the person's age is 60 or older and if the combination of the person's age and years of service totals at least 75; for those younger than age 60, the combination of age and years of service must total at least 80. For anyone hired after June 30, 2004, retirement is granted to an employee who is at least age 63½ and who has at least 10 years of service (the 63½ rule).

Effective June 30, 2011, Brookings changed the retiree medical plan eligibility conditions. The minimum age requirement under the rule-of-75 was removed, but plan participation is now limited to employees who will meet the retirement eligibility requirement by June 30, 2012 (their actual retirement date can be after June 30, 2012). This change reduced the plan's projected obligations and costs. It also significantly reduced the expected years of future service of active plan participants, causing a curtailment, as defined in the applicable accounting rules. The event of a curtailment required accelerated recognition, in FY2011, of the unrecognized prior service related to prior plan amendments.

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 10. Employee Benefits (Continued)

The following table summarizes the accumulated post-retirement benefit obligations, the fair value of plan assets and the funded status of the plan at June 30, 2019:

	Dollars in Thousands
Change in benefit obligation:	
Accumulated post-retirement benefit obligation, beginning of fiscal year	\$ 1,309
Service cost	-
Interest cost	49
Plan amendments	-
Retiree contributions	133
Benefits paid	(219)
Actuarial (gain)	(8)
Accumulated post-retirement benefit obligation, end of fiscal year	<u>\$ 1,264</u>
Change in plan assets:	
Fair value of plan assets, beginning of fiscal year	
Employer contributions	86
Retiree contributions	133
Benefits paid	(219)
Fair value of plan assets, end of fiscal year	<u>\$ -</u>
Funded status, end of fiscal year	<u>\$ (1,264)</u>

The components of the net periodic post-retirement benefit costs recognized in the accompanying consolidated statement of activities are as follows for the year ended June 30, 2019:

	Dollars in Thousands
Service cost	\$ -
Interest cost	49
Amortization of prior service credit	(67)
Recognized actuarial gain	(103)
Net periodic post-retirement benefit cost	<u>\$ (121)</u>

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 10. Employee Benefits (Continued)

Amounts recognized in the consolidated statement of financial position are as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Liabilities	<u>\$ (1,264)</u>
Plan assets, beginning of year	\$ -
Employer contributions	86
Retiree contributions	133
Benefits paid	<u>(219)</u>
Plan assets, end of year	<u>\$ -</u>

Amounts recognized in net assets without donor restrictions that have not yet been recognized in net periodic post-retirement benefit cost are as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Net gain	\$ (1,307)
Prior service credit	<u>(653)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (1,960)</u>

Amounts expected to be amortized from net assets without donor restrictions into net periodic benefit cost for the year ending June 30, 2019, are as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Prior service credit	\$ (67)
Unrecognized gain	<u>(96)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (163)</u>

Estimated future net benefit payments net of retiree contributions are as follows:

	Dollars in Thousands
Years ending June 30:	
2020	\$ 113
2021	112
2022	107
2023	106
2024	90
2025 – 2029	<u>404</u>
Total	<u>\$ 932</u>

## The Brookings Institution and Affiliates

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Note 10. Employee Benefits (Continued)

As the plan is unfunded, contributions are expected to be equivalent to future estimated benefit payments. Accordingly, for the year ending June 30, 2020, Brookings expects to contribute approximately \$113 thousand to its post-retirement health care benefit plan.

For measurement purposes, a 7.0% annual rate of increase in the cost of health care benefits was assumed for fiscal year 2020. The rate was assumed to decrease gradually to 5.0% by 2026 and to remain at that level thereafter. The health care cost trend rate assumption has an effect on the amounts reported. Increasing the assumed health care cost trend rates by 1% would increase the accumulated post-retirement benefit obligation by \$98 thousand and the sum of the service cost and interest cost for fiscal year 2019 by \$4 thousand. Decreasing the assumed health care cost trend rates by 1% would decrease the accumulated post-retirement benefit obligation by \$86 thousand and the sum of the service cost and interest cost for fiscal year 2019 by \$4 thousand.

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the assumed weighted-average discount rates used in determining the accumulated post-retirement obligation and the net periodic benefit cost was 3.9% and 3.00% respectively.

**Retirement plan:** Brookings has a 403(b) defined contribution retirement plan (the Plan). All employees are eligible to participate in the Plan for employee contributions upon hiring. An employee becomes eligible for employer contributions once the employee has completed two years of service and has attained the age of 21. Brookings' contribution to the Plan is 12% of the employee's salary, within statutory limits. Contributions to the Plan were \$4.459 million for the year ended June 30, 2019.

**Supplemental employee retirement plan:** Brookings has a Section 457(b) supplemental employee retirement plan (the Plan). Under the terms of the Plan, eligible employees elect to deposit a percentage of their compensation into the Plan, subject to IRS limits. Employee deposits and accumulations are accounted for as an asset and offsetting liability on the Brookings's consolidated statement of financial position until they are distributed to the participants. The amount of deposits and related accumulations were \$792,552 and \$680,540 at June 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The asset and liability are included on the consolidated statement of financial position in other assets and accounts payable and accrued expenses, respectively.

#### Note 11. Commitments and Contingencies

**Federal awards:** Brookings receives reimbursements for expenditures under federal grants that are subject to annual audits and periodic reviews by grantor agencies. The ultimate determination of amounts reimbursed under these programs is based upon allowable costs reported to and audited by the grantor agencies or their designees. Until such audit is accepted by the government, there exists a contingent liability to refund any amounts received in excess of allowable costs. Management believes that matters arising from the federal agencies' reviews of the independent auditor's reports for 2019 will not have a material effect on the consolidated financial position of Brookings.

**Provisional indirect cost rates:** Billings under cost-reimbursable government grants and contracts are calculated using direct rates that permit recovery of indirect costs in accordance with Brookings' negotiated indirect cost rate agreement with the cognizant agency. Brookings was granted approval by its cognizant agency of a predetermined indirect cost rate for a period of three years, ending June 30, 2022.

## Independent Auditor's Report on the Supplementary Information

To the Board of Trustees  
The Brookings Institution

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of The Brookings Institution and Affiliates as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and have issued our report thereon, which contains an unmodified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. See pages 1 and 2. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements as a whole.

The supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the consolidated 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 consolidated financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the consolidated financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements or to the consolidated 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 consolidated financial statements as a whole.

*RSM US LLP*

McLean, Virginia  
November 20, 2019



**The Embassy of Denmark in Washington DC – GRA0481**  
**No Country Left Behind: Security and Development in the 21st Century**

Grant No: GRA0481
Recipient: The Brookings Institution
Project Title: No Country Left Behind: Security and Development in the 21st Century
Start Date: 12/20/2017
End Date: 12/19/2019

	Expenditures 7/2018 - 6/2019
Expenditures:	
Salaries and benefits	\$ 107,955.00
Contracts and Honoraria	-
Travel and conference	7,886.91
Editing, publishing and web	7,504.11
ITS	9,380.16
Other direct costs	9,226.95
<b>Total direct costs</b>	<u>141,953.13</u>
Indirect costs	<u>9,896.50</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u><u>\$ 151,849.63</u></u>

Summary 1:	
Total cumulative cash receipts (DKK)	DKK 2,000,000
Total cumulative cash receipts (USD)	\$ 313,700.89
Less total cumulative expenditures	<u>248,712.12</u>
<b>Total unencumbered balance</b>	<u><u>\$ 64,988.77</u></u>

**Bernard Van Leer – GRA0592**  
**Learning Landscapes: Combining Placemaking**  
**and the Learning Sciences to Support Early Childhood Development**

Grant No:	GRA0592
Recipient:	The Brookings Institution
Project Title:	Learning Landscapes: Combining Placemaking and the Learning Sciences to Support Early Childhood Development
Start Date:	4/1/2019
End Date:	3/31/2021

	Expenditures 4/2019 - 6/2019
Expenditures:	
Salaries and benefits	\$ 3,722.06
Contracts and Honoraria	-
Travel	-
Conference	-
Editing and publishing	-
Web allocation	251.21
ITS allocation	314.01
Facilities	464.77
Other direct costs	-
<b>Total direct costs</b>	<b>\$ 4,752.05</b>
Indirect costs	418.69
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 5,170.74</b>
Summary 1:	
Total cumulative cash receipts (EUR)	EUR 132,737
Total cumulative cash receipts (USD)	\$ 150,643.00
Less total cumulative expenditures	5,170.74
<b>Total unencumbered balance</b>	<b>\$ 145,472.26</b>