Most pension funds that invest in real estate, on an asset weighted basis, invest in real estate using a blend of REITs and private real estate investment. A REIT is a company that owns, operates, or finances income-producing real estate. REITs of all types collectively own more than $3T in gross assets across the U.S. REITs historically have outperformed private real estate.

Investing in both REITs and private real estate can be a powerful risk management tool—mitigating the likelihood of negative investment returns while providing the opportunity to capture more of the upside in the form of higher returns.

REIT strategies can help address critically important priorities, including:
1. Ability to efficiently invest in the real estate asset class
2. Governance
3. Performance and cost management
4. Risk management

Nareit speaks with hundreds of pension funds every year and provides training and education at no cost for boards and staff on how real estate and REITs can help your plan. Please reach out to mdespins@nareit.com with any questions. Learn more at pensionsandrealestate.com