# Ratings

# State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR OHIO)

Principal Stability Fund Ratings Definitions

AAAm A fund rated 'AAAm' demonstrates extremely strong capacity to maintain principal stability and to limit exposure to principal losses due to credit risk.
'AAAm' is the highest principal stability fund rating assigned by S&P Global

Ratings

**AAm** A fund rated 'AAm' demonstrates very strong capacity to maintain principal stability and to limit exposure to principal losses due to credit risk. It differs from the highest-rated funds only to a small degree.

Am A fund rated 'Am' demonstrates strong capacity to maintain principal stability and to limit exposure to principal losses due to credit risk, but is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than funds in higher-rated categories

BBBm A fund rated 'BBBm' demonstrates adequate capacity to maintain principal stability and to limit exposure to principal losses due to credit risk. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a reduced capacity to maintain principal stability.

BBm A fund rated 'BBm' demonstrates speculative characteristics and uncertain capacity to maintain principal stability. It is vulnerable to principal losses due to credit risk. While such funds will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

**Dm** A fund rated 'Dm' has failed to maintain principal stability resulting in a realized or unrealized loss of principal.

**About the Pool** 

**POOL PROFILE** 

Pool Rating AAAm
Stable NAV 6

Pool Type Stable NAV Government Investment Pool

Investment Adviser Ohio State Treasurer

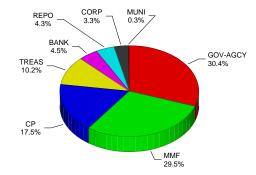
Portfolio Manager Shawn Cochran, Jonathan Azoff &

Robert Willer

Pool Rated Since July 1995

Custodian Huntington National Bank

# Portfolio Composition as of September 28, 2020



GOV-AGCY - Agency and Government; MMF - Money Market Fund; CP - Commercial Paper; TREAS - Treasury; BANK - Bank Deposits; REPO - Repurchase Agreement; CORP - Corporate; MUNI - Municipal Debt

### Rationale

S&P Global's 'AAAm' rating on State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR OHIO) is based on an analysis of the pool's management, investment guidelines, portfolio holdings, and market price exposure. The rating signifies our forward-looking opinion about a fixed-income fund's ability to maintain principal value (i.e., stable net asset value, or 'NAV').

#### Overview

STAR Ohio began operations in December 1985. Through prudent investing, the pool aims to preserve capital, maintain liquidity, and provide current income. This is done while conforming to all statutes that govern the investment of public funds in the state of Ohio. It is designed as a safe, liquid investment for political subdivisions in Ohio. While STAR OHIO is not a registered money-market fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, its investment and operational guidelines are generally comparable to those of registered money-market funds.

### Management

transfer agent.

STAR OHIO is managed by State Treasurer of Ohio Robert Sprague, along with his staff of professional portfolio managers. Since expenditures by many public entities tend to be cyclical, the management team carefully monitors periods of high redemption activity. Its goal is to match investment maturities with periods in which greater liquidity has historically been necessary. Treasurer Sprague's office is also responsible for fund administration, a role it shares with a co-administrator - Public Fund Administrators. The pool's financial advisor, Meeder Investment Management Inc., assists with credit analysis and compliance. Huntington National Bank serves as custodian for the pool's assets and Ultimus Fund Solutions is the

Plus (+) or Minus (-) The ratings may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the

rating categories.

# S&P Global Ratings Analyst: Andrew Paranthoiene - + 44 20 7176 8416

www.spratings.com

Participants should consider the investment objectives, risks and charges and expenses of the pool before investing. The investment guidelines which can be obtained from your broker-dealer, contain this and other information about the pool and should be read carefully before investing.

#### **Portfolio Assets**

In order to provide its participants with a safe and liquid investment pool, STAR Ohio invests in shortterm U.S. Treasury Obligations, U.S. government agency obligations, commercial paper, corporate obligations, repurchase agreements (REPO) with highly-rated counterparties, money market funds, and bank deposits. The commercial paper is issued by entities that maintain a S&P Global short-term rating of "A-1" or better. The pool has the authority to, but does not currently use, reverse REPO or lend securities. In the future, if the pool did engage in those activities, any cash received as collateral would be invested in securities that mature on or before the termination dates of the reverse REPO or securities lending agreement. The pool is managed to maintain a weighted average maturity to reset (WAM(R)) of 60 days or less and a weighted average maturity to final (WAM (F)) of 90 days or less, to enhance liquidity and to limit market price exposure to volatile interest rate movements in the market. Assets are priced daily at amortized cost and are marked-to-market weekly.

## Principal Stability Rating Approach and Criteria

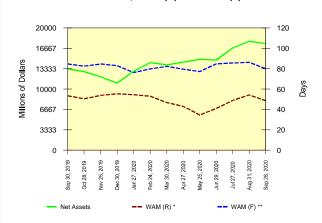
A S&P Global Ratings principal stability fund rating, also known as a "money market fund rating", is a forward-looking opinion about a fixed income fund's capacity to maintain stable principal (net asset value). When assigning a principal stability rating to a fund, S&P Global Ratings analysis focuses primarily on the creditworthiness of the fund's investments and counterparties, and also its investments' maturity structure and management's ability and policies to maintain the fund's stable net asset value. Principal stability fund ratings are assigned to funds that seek to maintain a stable or an accumulating net asset value.

Generally, when faced with an unanticipated level of redemption requests during periods of high market stress, the manager of any fund may suspend redemptions for up to five business days or meet redemption requests with payments in-kind in lieu of cash. A temporary suspension of redemptions or meeting redemption requests with distributions in-kind does not constitute a failure to maintain stable net asset values However, higher rated funds are expected to have stronger capacities to pay investor redemptions in cash during times of high market stress because they generally comprise shorter maturity and higher quality investments.

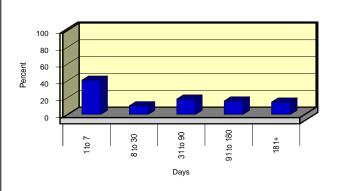
Principal stability fund ratings, or money market fund ratings, are identified by the 'm' suffix (e.g., 'AAAm') to distinguish the principal stability rating from a S&P Global Ratings traditional issue or issuer credit rating. A traditional issue or issuer credit rating reflects S&P Global Ratings view of a borrower's ability to meet its financial obligations. Principal stability fund ratings are not commentaries on yield levels.

# Data Bank as of September 28, 2020

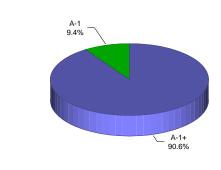
#### Net Assets, WAM (R) and WAM (F)



### Portfolio Maturity Distribution as of September 28, 2020

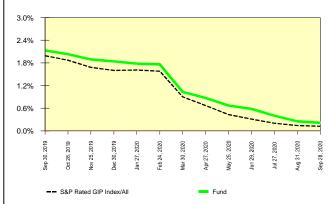


### Portfolio Credit Quality as of September 28, 2020 \*



\*As assessed by S&P Global Ratings

## Portfolio 7 Day Net-Yield Comparison \*



\*S&P 'AAAm' Money Fund Indices are calculated weekly by iMoneyNet, Inc., and are comprised of funds rated or assessed by S&P Global Ratings to within the specific rating categories. The S&P Global Ratings Rated LGIP Indices are calculated weekly by S&P Global Ratings and are comprised of 'AAAm' and 'AAm' government investment pools. The yield quoted represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Current yield may be lower or higher than the yield quoted.

Pool portfolios are monitored weekly for developments that could cause changes in the ratings. Rating decisions are based on periodic meetings with senior pool executives and public information.

S&P Global Ratings is neither associated nor affiliated with the fund.

Copyright © 2020 by Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. All rights reserved. No content (including ratings, credit-related analyses and data, valuations, model, software or other application or output therefrom) or any part thereof (Content) may be modified, reverse engineered, reproduced or distributed in any form by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or its affiliates (collectively, S&P). The Content shall not be used for any unlawful or unauthorized purposes. S&P and any third-party providers, as well as their directors, officers, shareholders, employees or agents (collectively S&P Parties) do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness or availability of the Content. S&P Parties are not responsible for any errors or omissions (negligent or otherwise), regardless of the cause, for the results obtained from the use of the Content, or for the security or maintenance of any data input by the user. The Content is provided on an "as is" basis. S&P PARTIES DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE, FREEDOM FROM BUGS, SOFTWARE ERRORS OR DEFECTS, THAT THE CONTENT'S FUNCTIONING WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED OR THAT THE CONTENT WILL OPERATE WITH ANY SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE CONFIGURATION. In no event shall S&P Parties be liable to any party for any direct, indirect, incidental, exemplary, compensatory, punitive, special or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs or losses caused by negligence) in connection with any use of the Content even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

Credit-related and other analyses, including ratings, and statements in the Content are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact. S&P's opinions, analyses and rating acknowledgment decisions (described below) are not recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or to make any investment decisions, and do not address the suitability of any security. S&P assumes no obligation to update the Content following publication in any form or format. The Content should not be relied on and is not a substitute for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. S&P does not act as a fiduciary or an investment advisor except where registered as such. While S&P has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable, S&P does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives.

To the extent that regulatory authorities allow a rating agency to acknowledge in one jurisdiction a rating issued in another jurisdiction for certain regulatory purposes, S&P reserves the right to assign, withdraw or suspend such acknowledgement at any time and in its sole discretion. S&P Parties disclaim any duty whatsoever arising out of the assignment, withdrawal or suspension of an acknowledgment as well as any liability for any damage alleged to have been suffered on account thereof.

S&P keeps certain activities of its business units separate from each other in order to preserve the independence and objectivity of their respective activities. As a result, certain business units of S&P may have information that is not available to other S&P business units. S&P has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of certain non-public information received in connection with each analytical process.

S&P may receive compensation for its ratings and certain analyses, normally from issuers or underwriters of securities or from obligors. S&P reserves the right to disseminate its opinions and analyses. S&P's public ratings and analyses are made available on its Web sites, www.standardandpoors.com (free of charge), and www.ratingsdirect.com and www.globalcreditportal.com (subscription), and may be distributed through other means, including via S&P publications and third-party redistributors. Additional information about our ratings fees is available at www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees.

S&P GLOBAL RATINGS, S&P, GLOBAL CREDIT PORTAL and RATINGSDIRECT are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.