

On June 30, 2022, the university held investments in money-market mutual funds and U.S. Treasury securities valued on the fair market at \$163 million and \$201.4 million, respectively, or a total of over \$364 million.

A year later, on June 30, 2023, the fair-market value of these investments had fallen to an aggregate of \$156 million, a change of around \$208 million.

To the degree any investment beyond money-market mutual funds and Treasury securities saw an increase in fair-market value, the change between June 30 of 2022 and 2023 was relatively slight, ranging from a nominal decrease of around \$9.9 million in the value of UA's commercial paper investment; all the way up to a \$17-million increase in the value of the university's corporate bond investment.

Further evidence disproving the theory that a significant amount of the cash, which had previously been invested in money-market mutual funds and U.S. Treasury securities, was thereafter reinvested elsewhere can be glimpsed in the university's [statement](#) of cash flows. Across the 2023 fiscal year, the university recognized \$531 million in positive cash in-flow from the sale and maturity of investments. However, during that same fiscal year, it reported only \$345 million in negative cash outflow originating from the purchase of investments — a difference of \$186 million.

In addition, there's no evidence to suggest the change in value of the university's investments in money-market mutual funds and Treasury securities resulted from a change in value on the fair market. A similar lack of evidence would support the idea that, if the university did reinvest its cash into less liquid investments, those investments lost value. The fair market value of the university's investment actually increased in the 2023 fiscal year, [though](#) only by \$10.2 million. This rings true with conventional understanding about Treasury securities and money-market mutual funds, which is that they tend to increase. There are only two [known](#) instances of a money-market mutual fund in America ever "breaking the buck" — that is, when a fund is or was unable to pay back at least 100 cents on each dollar invested within it: The first occurred 1994, and the second was amid the fallout of Lehman Brothers' bankruptcy filing in September 2008.