

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023	
A	This return/report is for: ☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____ ☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ▶ ☐
D	Check box if filing under: ☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☒ special extension (enter description) HURRICANE HELENE
E	If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. ▶ ☐

Part II	Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information						
1a	Name of plan THE CATO CORPORATION 401(K)/PROFIT SHARING PLAN	1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002			
		1c	Effective date of plan 01/28/1984				
2a	Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) CATO CORPORATION 8100 DENMARK ROAD CHARLOTTE, NC 28273	2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 56-0484485	2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 704-551-7347	2d	Business code (see instructions) 448120

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/18/2024	YASMIN BENTON
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 3542
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6a(1) 2737 6a(2) 2642 6b 31 6c 788 6d 3461 6e 6 6f 3467 6g(1) 1729 6g(2) 1680 6h 13
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D 2E

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
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10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- (5) ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1) ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) ☐ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 0
- (4) ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) ☒ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan THE CATO CORPORATION 401(K)/PROFIT SHARING PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CATO CORPORATION	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 56-0484485	

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
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You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. ☒ Yes ☐ No
- b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL
04-2647786

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

35-2552359

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
26	INVESTMENT ADVISOR	35000	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 60 64 65	RECORDKEEPER	3386	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
DE IVY MID CP GR I - DELAWARE INVE 2005 MARKET STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103	0.25%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
DODGE & COX INCOME I - SS&C GIDS, 2000 CROWN COLONY DRIVE QUINCY, MA 02169	0.08%	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
INVS COMSTOCK Y - INVESCO INVESTME 11 GREENWAY PLAZA, SUITE 100 HOUSTON, TX 77046	0.25%	

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
MFS MID CAP VALUE R4 - MFS SERVICE 04-2865649	0.15%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.
MS W LARGE CAP GR I - NYLIM SERVICE 52-2206685	0.25%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan THE CATO CORPORATION 401(K)/PROFIT SHARING PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CATO CORPORATION		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 56-0484485
Part I Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: FA STABLE VALUE I		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): FIDELITY MANAGEMENT TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 04-3022712-026	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 13795804
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PUTNAM STABLE VALUE		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PUTNAM FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 04-3159710-202	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 969890
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

Part II **Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)**

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

a Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023	
A Name of plan THE CATO CORPORATION 401(K)/PROFIT SHARING PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CATO CORPORATION	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 56-0484485

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	0	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	0	0
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	1075111	1073804
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	15179154	14765694
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	46653616	54662362
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	0	0
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	62907881	70501860
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
h Operating payables	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	0	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	62907881	70501860

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	1183392	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	2361879	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	31062	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		3576333
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	0	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	58138	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		58138
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	0	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	1805143	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		1805143
(3) Rents	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	0	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	0	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	0	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		490996
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		8099148
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		14029758

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	6343093	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)	0	
(3) Other	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		6343093
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		44148
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		10152
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	0	
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)	3386	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)	0	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	0	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	0	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)	0	
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	0	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	0	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)	0	
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	35000	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		38386
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		6435779

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		7593979
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		0

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☒ Unmodified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☐ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☒ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: **FORVIS MAZARS, LLP**

(2) EIN: **44-0160260**

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		☒	
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒		500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		☒	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		☒	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.		☒	

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan THE CATO CORPORATION 401(K)/PROFIT SHARING PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CATO CORPORATION	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 56-0484485	

Part I	Distributions
--------	---------------

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1	Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	
2	Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 04-6568107	
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3	Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
---------	--

4	Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.				
5	If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.			
6	a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a		
	b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b		
	c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)	6c		
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.				
7	Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
8	If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
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9	If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
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Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
---------	--

10	Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
11	a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
	b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes	☐ No
12	Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:		
a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14b	
c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14c	
15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:		
a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	
16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:		
a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	
17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐		

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
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18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐	
19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):	
a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as: Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%	
b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: ☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more	
20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.	
a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:	
☐ Yes.	
☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.	
☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.	
☐ No. Other. Provide explanation. _____	

Part VII	IRS Compliance Questions
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21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No	
21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).	
☐ Design-based safe harbor method	
☐ "Prior year" ADP test	
☒ "Current year" ADP test	
☐ N/A	
22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter <u>06 / 30 / 2020</u> (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number <u>Q702438A</u> .	



The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan

EIN 56-0484485 PN 002

**Independent Auditor's Report, Financial Statements
and Supplemental Schedule**

December 31, 2023 and 2022



The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Contents
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Contents

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Independent Auditor's Report

Participants of The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan and the
Compensation Committee of The Cato Corporation
Charlotte, NC

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the financial statements of The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements ("Financial Statements").

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 4 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").
- The information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for 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. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that these financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audits 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 Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of GAAP.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with GAAP.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matter - Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at year end) as of December 31, 2023 listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. 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 financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- The information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Forvis Mazars, LLP

Charlotte, North Carolina
October 15, 2024

Federal Employer Identification Number: 44-0160260

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS		
Investments		
Investments, at fair value	<u>\$ 70,285,774</u>	<u>\$ 62,928,335</u>
Receivables		
Employer contributions	1,099,121	1,183,392
Notes receivable from participants	<u>1,073,804</u>	<u>1,075,111</u>
Total Receivables	<u>2,172,925</u>	<u>2,258,503</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits	<u><u>\$ 72,458,699</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 65,186,838</u></u>

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Additions

Investment Income

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 8,099,150
Interest and dividends	2,058,292
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	58,138

10,215,580

Contributions

Participant	2,361,878
Employer	1,099,121
Rollovers	31,062

3,492,061

Total Additions

13,707,641

Deductions

Benefits paid to participants	6,397,394
Administrative expenses	38,386

Total Deductions

6,435,780

Net Increase

7,271,861

Net Assets Available for Benefits, Beginning of Year

65,186,838

Net Assets Available for Benefits, End of Year

\$ 72,458,699

Note 1. Description of Plan

The following description of The Cato Corporation (the “Company”) 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan providing benefits to eligible employees of the Company who have completed one year of service by the end of a twelve month period, provided the employee has worked at least 1,000 hours during the plan year and is age 21 or older. The Compensation Committee of the Company (the “Committee”) controls and manages the operation and administration of the Plan. Fidelity Management Trust Company (the “Trustee”) serves as the trustee of the Plan. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”).

Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute compensation, as defined in the plan document, subject to Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) limitations. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans. Company contributions are discretionary. No additional contributions were made the year ended December 31, 2023. Contributions are subject to certain limitations.

Investment options

Participants direct the investment of their accounts into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Plan currently offers mutual funds and a stable value collective trust fund as investment options for participants.

Participant accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and allocations of the Company's contributions and plan earnings, and charged with any benefit payments, plan losses and allocations of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant's compensation or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account balance.

Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's contribution portion of their accounts, plus actual earnings thereon, is based on years of service. Participants are vested on the following schedule:

1 year	20%
2 years	40%
3 years	60%
4 years	80%
5 or more years	100%

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Notes receivable from participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at rates which are commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined by the plan administrator. At December 31, 2023, outstanding loans bore interest ranging from 4.25-9.50%. Principal and interest is paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Payment of benefits

On termination of service, a participant may elect to receive an amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account in either a lump-sum amount or various installment options as provided by the Plan. Hardship distributions are permitted upon demonstration of financial hardship. All fully vested balances are available for distribution after the participant reaches the age of 59½.

Forfeitures

At December 31, 2023 and 2022 forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$45,666 and \$48,496, respectively. These accounts will be used to reduce employer contributions and then administrative expenses. For the year ended December 31, 2023, forfeitures of \$34,959 were used to reduce administrative expenses.

Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of assets, liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates and assumptions.

Investment valuation and income recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. 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. Plan management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the Trustee. See Note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Notes receivable from participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the plan document.

Payment of benefits

Benefits are recorded upon distribution.

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Administrative expenses

The Plan's administrative expenses are paid by either the Plan or the Company, as provided by the plan document. Certain administrative functions are performed by employees of the Company. No such employees receive compensation from the Plan.

Subsequent events

The Plan has evaluated the effect subsequent events would have on the financial statements through October 15, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3. Fair Value Measurements

Fair value, as defined under GAAP, is an exit price representing 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. GAAP establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include:

- Level 1:** Observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets.
- Level 2:** Inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable.
- Level 3:** Unobservable inputs about which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions.

Assets and liabilities are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Plan's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgment, and may affect the valuation of fair value assets and liabilities and their placement within the fair value hierarchy levels.

There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023 and 2022. The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for net assets measured at fair value:

Mutual funds

Mutual funds are publicly traded investments and are valued daily at the closing price reported on the active market on which the funds are traded.

Stable value collective trust fund

The Plan invests in a stable value collective trust fund for which quoted prices are not available in active markets for identical instruments. The Plan utilizes the net asset value ("NAV") provided by the Trustee as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. This practical expedient would not be used if it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different from the reported NAV. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. If the Plan initiates a full redemption of the stable value collective trust fund, the issuer reserves the right to require 12 months' notification in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner. The stable value collective trust fund is not required to be classified within a level on the fair value hierarchy.

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets accounted for at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2023				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	<u>\$ 54,662,362</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ 54,662,362
Investments measured at NAV (a)				<u>15,623,412</u>
Total				<u>\$ 70,285,774</u>

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2022				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	<u>\$ 46,653,616</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ 46,653,616
Investments measured at NAV (a)				<u>16,274,719</u>
Total				<u>\$ 62,928,335</u>

(a) *In accordance with GAAP, certain investments that were measured at NAV per share (or its equivalent) have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the line items presented in the statement of net assets available for benefits.*

The following table summarizes investments for which fair value is measured using the NAV per share practical expedient as of December 31, 2023 and 2022. There are no participant redemption restrictions for these investments; the redemption notice period is applicable only to the Plan.

	Fair Value at December 31, 2023	Fair Value at December 31, 2022	Unfunded Commitments	Other Redemption Restrictions	Redemption Notice Period
Stable value collective trust fund	\$ 15,623,412	\$ 16,274,719	None	Daily	12 months

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Note 4. Unaudited Investment Information Certified By Trustee

The accompanying financial statements include the following unaudited information as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 and for the year ended December 31, 2023 that was obtained from data prepared and certified to be complete and accurate by the Trustee:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Investments	\$ 70,285,774	\$ 62,928,335
Notes receivable from participants	\$ 1,073,804	\$ 1,075,111
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 8,099,150	
Interest and dividends	\$ 2,058,292	
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	\$ 58,138	

Note 5. Exempt Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan investments are managed by the Trustee as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as exempt party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid by the Plan for investment management services were included as a reduction of the return earned on each fund. Fees paid to the Trustee by the Plan for administrative services were \$38,386 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Note 6. Tax Status

The Plan has not obtained a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") stating that the Plan was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. The Plan is relying on the IRS approval of the standardized prototype plan that it is utilizing. The IRS has determined and informed the Trustee by a letter dated June 30, 2020 that the prototype plan document was designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC. The Plan has since been amended. However, the plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, the plan administrator believes that the Plan was qualified and the related trust was tax-exempt as of the financial statement date.

GAAP requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

Note 7. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of plan termination, participants would become 100% vested in their accounts.

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Note 8. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

Note 9. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The Form 5500 has been prepared using the fair value of the underlying investments held by the stable value elective trust fund, instead of using NAV as the practical expedient the estimate fair value (see Note 3). The following is a reconciliation of net assets per the financial statements as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 to Schedule H of Form 5500:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 72,458,699	\$ 65,186,838
Adjustment for employer contribution receivable	(1,099,121)	(1,183,392)
Adjustment from NAV to fair value for stable value collective trust investment	<u>(857,718)</u>	<u>(1,095,565)</u>
Net assets per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 70,501,860</u>	<u>\$ 62,907,881</u>

The following is a reconciliation of increases per the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023 to Schedule H of Form 5500:

Increase in net assets per the financial statements	\$ 7,271,861
Adjustment for employer contribution receivable	84,271
Change in adjustment from NAV to fair value for stable value collective trust fund	<u>237,847</u>
Net income per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 7,593,979</u>

Supplemental Schedule

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
Employer Identification Number: 56-0484485
Plan Number: 002
December 31, 2023

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	(d) Cost**	(e) Current Value
	Mutual funds:			
	MainStay	MainStay Large Cap Growth I		\$ 9,196,779
	Delaware Funds	Ivy Mid Cap Growth Fund		4,573,464
	Dodge & Cox	Dodge & Cox Income		2,470,021
	American Century Investments	Small Cap Value Fund		2,462,468
	Invesco	Comstock Y Fund		2,090,387
	MFS	MFS Mid Cap Value R4		1,088,072
	JPMorgan	Equity Income Fund		705,592
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2005		202,814
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2010		1,285,266
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2015		136,086
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2020		1,736,600
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2025		1,363,517
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2030		4,460,043
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2035		2,938,092
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2040		2,471,680
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2045		1,126,109
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2050		1,171,314
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2055		500,401
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2060		159,094
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2065		60,736
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity 500 Index Fund		8,911,555
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity International Capital Appreciation Fund		3,446,788
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom Income		68,841
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Mid Cap Index Fund		103,480
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity International Index Fund		37,386
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity U.S. Bond Index		22,189
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Small Cap Index Fund		75,077
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom Small Cap Growth		1,798,511
				<u>54,662,362</u>
	Stable value collective trust fund:			
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Stable Value Fund		14,653,522
	MorningStar	Putnam Stable Value		969,890
*	Participant loans***	Interest ranging from 4.25-9.50% maturing through December 2033		<u>1,073,804</u>
				<u><u>\$ 71,359,578</u></u>

* Indicates party-in-interest.

** Cost omitted for participant-directed investments.

*** The accompanying financial statements classify participant loans as notes receivable from participants.

Supplemental Schedule

The Cato Corporation 401(k)/Profit Sharing Plan
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
Employer Identification Number: 56-0484485
Plan Number: 002
December 31, 2023

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	MainStay	MainStay Large Cap Growth I		\$ 9,196,779
	Delaware Funds	Ivy Mid Cap Growth Fund		4,573,464
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*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2025		1,363,517
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2030		4,460,043
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2035		2,938,092
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2040		2,471,680
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2045		1,126,109
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2050		1,171,314
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2055		500,401
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2060		159,094
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom 2065		60,736
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity 500 Index Fund		8,911,555
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity International Capital Appreciation Fund		3,446,788
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom Income		68,841
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Mid Cap Index Fund		103,480
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*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Small Cap Index Fund		75,077
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Freedom Small Cap Growth		1,798,511
				<u>54,662,362</u>
	Stable value collective trust fund:			
*	Fidelity Management Trust Company	Fidelity Advisor Stable Value Fund		14,653,522
	MorningStar	Putnam Stable Value		969,890
*	Participant loans***	Interest ranging from 4.25-9.50% maturing through December 2033		<u>1,073,804</u>
				<u><u>\$ 71,359,578</u></u>

* Indicates party-in-interest.

** Cost omitted for participant-directed investments.

*** The accompanying financial statements classify participant loans as notes receivable from participants.



IRS announces tax relief for victims of Hurricane Helene in North Carolina; various deadlines postponed to May 1, 2025

NC-2024-08, Oct. 1, 2024

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service announced today tax relief for individuals and businesses in the entire state of North Carolina that were affected by Hurricane Helene that began on Sept. 25, 2024. These taxpayers now have until May 1, 2025, to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments.

Following the disaster declaration issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [↗](#), individuals and households that reside or have a business in the entire state qualify for tax relief.

Affected taxpayers with returns and payments with due dates postponed until Feb. 3, 2025, due to Tropical Storm Debby in North Carolina (NC-2024-07) will also now have until May 1, 2025, to file and/or pay.

The declaration permits the IRS to postpone certain tax-filing and tax-payment deadlines for taxpayers who reside or have a business in the disaster area. For instance, certain deadlines falling on or after Sept. 25, 2024, and before May 1, 2025, are granted additional time to file through May 1, 2025. As a result, affected individuals and businesses will have until May 1, 2025, to file returns and pay any taxes that were originally due during this period.

The May 1, 2025, filing deadline applies to:

- Individuals who had a valid extension to file their 2023 return due to run out on Oct. 15, 2024. The IRS noted, however, that because tax payments related to these 2023 returns were due on April 15, 2024, those payments are not eligible for this relief.
- Calendar-year corporations whose 2023 extensions run out on Oct. 15, 2024.

The May 1, 2025, deadline also applies to any payment normally due during this period, including the quarterly estimated tax payments due on Jan. 15 and April 15, 2025. The May 1, 2025, deadline also applies to the quarterly payroll and excise tax returns normally due on Oct. 31, 2024, and Jan. 31, and April 30, 2025. In addition, penalties on payroll and excise tax deposits due on or after Sept. 25, 2024, and before Oct. 10, 2024, will be abated as long as the tax deposits are made by Oct. 10, 2024.

If an affected taxpayer receives a late filing or late payment penalty notice from the IRS that has an original filing, payment or deposit due date that falls within the postponement period, the taxpayer should call the telephone number on the notice to have the IRS abate the penalty.

The IRS automatically identifies taxpayers located in the covered disaster area and applies filing and payment relief. But affected taxpayers who reside or have a business located outside the covered disaster area should call the IRS disaster hotline at 866-562-5227 to request this tax relief. Tax preparers located in the disaster area with clients located outside the disaster area can choose to use the Bulk requests from practitioners for disaster relief option, described on IRS.gov.

Covered disaster area

The localities listed above constitutes a covered disaster area for purposes of Treas. Reg. §301.7508A-1(d)(2) and are entitled to the relief detailed below.

Affected taxpayers

Taxpayers considered to be affected taxpayers eligible for the postponement of time to file returns, pay taxes and perform other time-sensitive acts are those taxpayers listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(d)(1), and include individuals who live, and businesses (including tax-exempt organizations) whose principal place of business is located, in the covered disaster area. Taxpayers not in the covered disaster area, but whose records necessary to meet a deadline listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c) are in the covered disaster area, are also entitled to relief. In addition, all relief workers affiliated with a recognized government or philanthropic organization assisting in the relief activities in the covered disaster area and any individual visiting the covered disaster area who was killed or injured as a result of the disaster are entitled to relief.

Under section 7508A, the IRS gives affected taxpayers until May 1, 2025, to file most tax returns (including individual, corporate, and estate and trust income tax returns; partnership returns, S corporation returns, and trust returns; estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer tax returns; annual information returns of tax-exempt organizations; and employment and certain excise tax returns), that have either an original or extended due date occurring on or after Sept. 25, 2024, and before May 1, 2025, are granted additional time to file through May 1, 2025.

Affected taxpayers that have an estimated income tax payment originally due on or after Sept. 25, 2024, are postponed through May 1, 2025, will not be subject to penalties for failure to pay estimated tax installments as long as such payments are paid on or before May 1, 2025.

The IRS also gives affected taxpayers until May 1, 2025, to perform other time-sensitive actions described in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c)(1) and Rev. Proc. 2018-58, 2018-50 IRB 990 (Dec. 10, 2018), that are due to be performed on or after Sept. 25, 2024, and before May 1, 2025, are granted additional time to file through May 1, 2025.

This relief also includes the filing of Form 5500 series returns that were required to be filed on or after Sept. 25, 2024, and before May 1, 2025, are postponed through May 1, 2025, in the manner described in section 8 of Rev. Proc. 2018-58. The relief described in section 17 of Rev. Proc. 2018-58, pertaining to like-kind exchanges of property, also applies to certain taxpayers who are not otherwise affected taxpayers and may include acts required to be performed before or after the period above.

Unless an act is specifically listed in Rev. Proc. 2018-58, the postponement of time to file and pay does not apply to information returns in the W-2, 1094, 1095, 1097, 1098 or 1099 series; to Forms 1042-S, 3921, 3922 or 8027; or to employment and excise tax deposits. However, penalties on deposits due on or after Sept. 25, 2024, and before Oct. 10, 2024, will be abated as long as the tax deposits were made by Oct. 10, 2024.

Casualty losses

Affected taxpayers in a federally declared disaster area have the option of claiming disaster-related casualty losses on their federal income tax return for either the year in which the event occurred, or the prior year. In this instance, the 2024 return normally filed next year), or the return for the prior year (the 2023 return filed this year). Taxpayers have extra time – up to six months after the due date of the taxpayer’s federal income tax return for the disaster year (without regard to any extension of time to file) – to make the election. See Publication 547 for details. Individuals may deduct personal property losses that are not covered by insurance or other reimbursements. For details, see Form 4684, Casualties and Thefts [PDF](#) and its instructions [PDF](#). Affected taxpayers claiming the disaster loss on their return should put FEMA disaster declaration number, FEMA-3617--EM on any return. See Publication 547 for details.

Other relief

The IRS will waive the usual fees and requests for copies of previously filed tax returns for affected taxpayers. Taxpayers should put the assigned FEMA declaration number (**3617-EM**), in bold letters at the top of Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return [PDF](#), or Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Tax Return [PDF](#), as appropriate, and submit it to the IRS.

Qualified disaster relief payments are generally excluded from gross income. This means that affected taxpayers can exclude from their gross income amounts received from a government agency for reasonable and necessary personal, family, living or funeral expenses, as well as for the repair or rehabilitation of their home, or for the repair or replacement of its contents. See Publication 525 for details.

Additional relief may be available to affected taxpayers who participate in a retirement plan or individual retirement arrangement (IRA). For example, a taxpayer may be eligible to take a special disaster distribution that would not be subject to the additional 10% early distribution tax and allows the taxpayer to spread the income over three years. Taxpayers may also be eligible to make a hardship withdrawal. Each plan or IRA has specific rules and guidance for their participants to follow.

The IRS may provide additional disaster relief in the future.

Affected taxpayers who are contacted by the IRS on a collection or examination matter should explain how the disaster impacts them so that the IRS can provide appropriate consideration to their case. Taxpayers may download forms and publications from the official IRS website, IRS.gov.

Reminder about tax return preparation options

- Eligible individuals or families can get free help preparing their tax return at Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) or Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) sites. To find the closest free tax help site, use the VITA Locator Tool [↗](#) or call 800-906-9887. **Note that normally, VITA sites cannot help claim disaster losses.**
- To find an AARP Tax-Aide site, use the AARP Site Locator Tool [↗](#) or call 888-227-7669.
- Any individual or family whose adjusted gross income (AGI) was \$79,000 or less in 2023 can use IRS Free File's Guided Tax Software at no cost. There are products in English and Spanish.
- Another Free File option is Free File Fillable Forms. These are electronic federal tax forms, equivalent to a paper 1040 and are designed for taxpayers who are comfortable filling out IRS tax forms. Anyone, regardless of income, can use this option.
- MilTax, a Department of Defense program, offers free return preparation software and electronic filing for federal tax returns and up to three state income tax returns. It's available for all military members and some veterans, with no income limit.