

STATE AND LOCAL FINANCIAL DATA

Compiled by, and available at, various Federal agencies

Because of the increasing interest in the improvement of Federal-State-local fiscal relations and in the problems of State and local fiscal structures, a survey has been made of the materials available at the various Federal agencies which may be used in the study of these problems.

The results of the survey are set forth below. The material has been divided into six sections:

1. Collections of financial documents.
2. General economic data.
3. Fiscal data (expenditures, revenues, funds and debt).
4. Labor statistics.
5. Grants-in-aid, and Federal-State-local fiscal relations generally.
6. Programming.

1. COLLECTIONS OF FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS.

State and Local Financial Documents

Municipal Reference Service,
Bureau of the Census

An extensive collection of State and local financial documents is available at the Municipal Reference Service. Included in the collection are State, county and municipal reports of every variety: budgets, reports of auditors, treasurers, tax commissions, comptrollers, etc. A great many special reports and surveys are also included.

The coverage is complete for States and for cities with a population of 50,000 and over. The coverage for smaller cities and counties is on a sample basis.

Contained in the collection are a number of magazines -- e. g. of tax associations, municipal officers' associations, civic associations and tax payers' leagues.

State and Local Financial Documents

Municipal Finance Unit,
Division of Research,
Work Projects Administration

The Municipal Finance Unit maintains a collection of financial documents and related data of all States and of as many as possible of the counties, municipalities and other subdivisions. Included in the collection are State and local budgets, finance reports, special studies, tax collections, annual reports, etc.

Reports of State Planning Boards

Library,
National Resources Planning Board

These reports cover a wide range of subjects, but many of them are specifically concerned with the various aspects of State finance. The following will serve to illustrate the type of material included in the State Reports:

- (1) Kansas State Planning Board
Collection of Personal Property Taxes in Kansas, 1927-36 inclusive. Preliminary report on thirty counties. 1938 Mimeo., 26 pages; tables.
- (2) Maryland State Planning Commission
Six-year capital improvement program for Maryland. Pub. No. 30. Jointly prepared by the Maryland State Planning Commission, and the Department of Budget and Procurement. January, 1941. Mimeo., 169 pages; illustrated.

- (3) New Jersey State Planning Board
Rural Tax Delinquency in New Jersey. 1938. Printed, 65 pages.
- (4) South Carolina State Planning Board
The Fiscal System of South Carolina. Analysis revenues and recommendations. December, 1939. 129 pages.
- (5) Tennessee State Planning Commission
Federal Aid in Tennessee. Compiled by Leo J. Zuber.
Bulletin No. 16. February, 1939. vii 63 pages.

State Public Welfare Reports

Bureau of Public Assistance
Social Security Board

Varying amounts of financial data appear in the monthly Bulletins and annual reports of State public welfare agencies. The Social Security Bulletin contains a list of the bulletins and annual reports received from the States and a statement of the types of aid which these publications cover. These State Bulletins and reports are available in the Social Security Board Library or in the Office of the Associate Director in charge of Public Assistance Research, Bureau of Public Assistance, Social Security Board. The type of material presented by such reports can be gathered from the following examples:

Aspects of Public Assistance Budgeting in West Virginia in 1938-1939.
(Relief Trends in the State since 1932 are summarized.)

"Cost of Public Assistance Administration", Pennsylvania Public Assistance Statistics, July, 1939, (information on the cost of administration of public assistance in Pennsylvania and the ratio of administrative cost to the total cost of the Public Assistance program).

Financial Condition of Wisconsin Counties, 1935, 1937, 1938:
(each of the Wisconsin counties is ranked according to its relative financial condition. The component parts of the composite index by which relative financial condition was determined are discussed).

Old-Age Assistance in Montana, 1940 (an analysis of the history, expenditures, number aided, population, various plans for aid to the aged and financial problems).

2. GENERAL ECONOMIC DATA,

Fiscal Capacity of the States: A Source Book

Division of Finance and Economic
Studies,
Bureau of Research and Statistics,
Social Security Board

Continuation Study (3rd Ed. Published Feb. 1941)
(Compilation of this material has progressed from year to year since the first Source Book in 1937 but annual revisions or compilations are not contemplated.)

Contents: The materials presented in this volume are designed primarily to place at the disposal of the Social Security Board, and of others who are concerned with similar problems of policy and administration, tabular data on State resources, income, tax revenues, population characteristics, and expenditures. The volume thus provides source materials for use in analysis and clarification of problems regarding State resources.

Although this study is directed especially toward problems of financing public assistance, general relief, and closely related social services, measures of State economic and fiscal capacity have implications for social insurance and all other efforts to improve living standards and economic security in the United States.

State Differences in Economic and Fiscal Capacity

Division of Finance and
Economic Studies,
Bureau of Research and Statistics,
Social Security Board

Special Study: (1940 Social Security
Yearbook)

Contents: This article presents a number of series:

"Percentage distribution of population, production, income, State and Federal tax collections, and Federal aid, for specified periods;"

"Ratio of aged, children, persons in urban areas, and white persons to total population of each State, 1940;"

"Per capita income payments, 1939, and ratios of selected series to income payments, by State;"

"Per capita Federal aid for all programs combined, for special types of public assistance, and for old-age assistance, and ratios of Federal aid to State tax collections, fiscal year 1939-40;"

"State tax collections, fiscal year 1939-40, and estimated receipts from selected Federal taxes with incidence on income payments, 1937."

Analysis of Local Housing Markets

Continuation Study

Division of Research and
Statistics,
Federal Housing Administration

An "Economic Data System" is maintained in the Division of Research and Statistics of the Federal Housing Administration for the purpose of providing information needed in the analysis of local housing markets.

The system as now organized is designed to provide detailed information primarily for each of the 412 urban places with a 1940 population of 25,000 and over; but less comprehensive data are also included for some 1,700 urban places of less than 25,000 population.

Current statistical series are kept up to date by use of ozalid replacement sheets; and special efforts are being made to report as promptly as possible a number of especially significant series, such as employment and pay rolls, retail trade, residential building, etc.

The Federal Housing Administration Economic Data System covers the following general list:

Part One

NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE DATA

- I. General Economic Data (Population, wealth, and income production, public finance, etc.)
- II. Real Estate and Construction Data (Housing inventory, general construction, building permits, publicly financed housing, housing deficiencies and surpluses, etc.)

Part Two

INDIVIDUAL CITY REPORTS AND DATA

Individual City Reports and Maps

Economic Reports
Housing Reports
City Planning and Zoning Data
City and County Maps

- I. General Characteristics
 - A. Location and Area
 - B. History of Community
 - C. Environmental Factors
 - D. Local Government
- II. Housing Market--Demand Factors (Population, wealth and income; employment and payrolls; cost of living, etc.)
- III. Housing Market--Supply Factors (Real estate activity,

housing inventory, residential cost data, home financing, construction labor, etc.

IV. Housing Market--Demand versus Supply (deficiency or surplus of housing).

Municipal Economic Data

Federal Housing Administration

Illustrative Special Studies (in the form of office memoranda):

- (1) Toledo, Ohio - Analysis of Tax Delinquency, 1930-36
(Jan. 16, 1941)
Contains critical analysis of a study of tax delinquency in Lucas County and its inclusive city of Toledo, covering the years 1930 to 1936 inclusive.

- (2) St. Louis, Mo. - Analysis of its Economic and Financial Position. (Dec. 16, 1940)

Contains a critical analysis of the economic background, fiscal operations, social trends, and political conditions of the city of St. Louis, leading to the consideration of its present and prospective debt load and tax rate.

- (3) Summarized analysis of the economic background in the light of the national defense program, of the following cities:

Baltimore, Md. - - - - July 22, 1941
St. Louis, Mo. - - - - July 24, 1941
Buffalo, N. Y. - - - - July 28, 1941
Los Angeles, Calif. - Aug. 2, 1941
Fort Worth, Texas - - Aug. 5, 1941
Seattle, Washington - Aug. 6, 1941

The Shifting Trend in Municipal Bond Prices

Federal Housing Administration

Special Study by Basil C. Rodes (in The Bonded Buyer June 4, 1938)

Contents: This article summarizes results of an extensive study - of the economic, financial, social and political conditions of 18 cities, covering a 10-year period, 1927-1937, in order to determine the causes responsible for the shifting trend in market prices of their bonds. Cities covered include: Cincinnati, Baltimore, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Kansas City, Minneapolis, Cleveland, Chicago, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Newark, Jersey City, Detroit.

Exploring Southern Municipals

Federal Housing Administration

Special Study by Basil C. Rodes (in The Bonded Buyer, Sept. 7, 1938)

Contents: This article summarizes results of an extensive study of the economic, financial, social and political conditions of the Southern States and communities as of the year 1938, and specifically presents the outstanding features of the 12 largest cities. These cities are: New Orleans, Louisville, Atlanta, Birmingham, Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Forth Worth.

Municipals

National Association of
Supervisors of State Banks, in
Cooperation with the Federal
Deposit Insurance Corporation

Special Study

A study setting forth the type of information necessary in appraising the investment soundness of municipal obligations. A "uniform credit file for municipal obligations" is submitted. A comprehensive analysis of the more important factors to be considered in judging a municipality as a credit risk is presented in the text.

3. FISCAL DATA (EXPENDITURES, REVENUES, FUNDS, AND DEBT).

Financial Statistics of States and
Local Governments

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

(decennial canvass)

- a. Decennial collection and reporting of State and local government data.
- b. Type of data collected
 - 1. Financial transactions of all governmental units--State and local
 - a. Revenues
 - b. Cost payments
 - c. Debt
 - d. Assessed valuations and tax levies
 - 2. Plans under way for the 1942 census, which will probably vary a great deal from the previous one in 1932.

Financial Statistics of States

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

- a. Annual collection and reporting of data.
- b. Type of data collected
 - 1. General-government financial transactions
 - a. Revenues
 - b. Cost payments--operation, interest, and capital outlays
 - c. Debt
 - d. Assessed valuations and tax levies
 - 2. Public-service enterprise financial transactions
 - a. Income
 - b. Payments
 - c. Debt

Financial Statistics of Cities over
100,000 Population

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

- a. Annual collection and reporting of data.
- b. Type of data collected
 - 1. General-government financial transactions
 - a. Revenues
 - b. Cost payments--operation, interest, and capital outlays
 - c. Debt
 - d. Assessed valuations and tax levies
 - 2. Public-service enterprise financial transactions
 - a. Income
 - b. Payments
 - c. Debt

State and Local Government Debt

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

- a. Annual collection of data.
- b. Type of data collected
 - 1. Gross debt
 - a. Short-term interest-bearing
 - b. Long-term interest-bearing
 - c. Non-interest-bearing
 - 2. Sinking-fund assets
 - 3. Debt service liability

State Tax collections

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

- a. Annual collection of data.
- b. Type of data collected--detailed breakdown of yields of State taxes.

Financing State and City Pensions

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

Occasional Study

Study based on data assembled for the reports of financial statistics of States and cities.

A Decade of Assessed Valuations

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

Study based on information obtained from official reports of State agencies, copies of which reports are available in the Division's Municipal Reference Service.

Digests of State Laws Pertaining To Taxes

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

Rural Local Government and Finance

Division of Agricultural Finance,
Bureau of Agricultural Economics,
U. S. Department of Agriculture

Special Studies

taxation: Illustrative material relating to rural local government and

In Agricultural Finance Review:

Statistical appendix - selected tables All issues

Articles:

The Farmers' Present Tax Situation May 1938
Trend and Present Status of Rural Tax
Delinquency Nov. 1938
Land Tax Delinquency and Land Use May 1939
Tax Preference for Homesteads May 1939
Some Causes of Farm Tax Delinquency Nov. 1940
Personal Property Taxation and the Farmer . . Nov. 1940
National Defense and Farm Taxes Nov. 1940
Farm Property Tax Payment and Rural Government
Finance May 1941

In Agricultural Situation:

Problem-Land Speculation Oct. 1938
Five Decades of Farm Taxes Dec. 1939
Tax Outlook for Farmers May 1941

Processed reports and releases; and printed bulletins

Farm Real Estate Tax Delinquency in Selected
Counties 1928-33 (Individual State Reports) 1935
Farm Real Estate Taxes in 1939 (also releases
for earlier years) Oct. 1940
Farm Property Taxes and Their Relation to
Parity Determinations Sept. 1941
The Farmers' Tax Problem 1934
A Graphic Summary of Farm Taxation 1937

Problems in Rural Public Finance

Special Studies

Division of Land Economics,
Bureau of Agricultural Economics,
U. S. Department of Agriculture

The Division of Land Economics has prepared a number of reports on the financial problems of various farm districts throughout the country. The following reports are illustrative of the type of studies which have been made:

"Some Data on Taxation and Tax Delinquency of Farm Land in
Southwestern North Dakota"

This report describes findings of a survey of 14 southwestern North Dakota counties with respect to the composition of the general property tax base, the tax burden, extent of tax delinquency, and the amount of tax-exempt land. Recommendations for correcting maladjustments in land use and removal of large areas from non-taxpaying status are made.

"Public Finance Aspects of the Milk River Land Acquisition
Project (LA-MT-2) Phillips County, Montana"

This report analyzes the public finance problems of the county bearing upon or growing out of the Federal land acquisition and resettlement program, particularly the rural school districts which were most seriously affected by the problem. Comprehensive reorganization of rural school districts, preferably through the establishment of the county-unit system, are recommended, and means of compensating local governments for loss of tax base occasioned by Federal land purchase are outlined.

"Land-Use Adjustment and the County Fiscal Problem, Billings
County, North Dakota"

In the absence of formal legal control over the use of range lands in this area, which is similar to other parts of the Great Plains, competitive grazing and deterioration of the range has occurred, resulting in excessive tax delinquency and a shrinking tax base. As a consequence, the county has incurred an annual operating deficit. This report made at the request of the county commissioners recommends reorganization of the county government through simplification of the administrative structure under a county manager plan; consolidation with an adjacent county; or disorganization and attachment to an adjoining county for administrative and judicial purposes.

Structure of State and Local Taxes

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Continuation Study

Contents: Standard tabulations have been developed, showing on a State-by-State basis the legislative history, rates, exemptions, deductions, administration, and disposition of revenues for more important State and local taxes. These tabulations relate to varying dates ranging from 1937 through 1940 and cover in varying degree of completeness the following taxes:

- (a) Individual income taxes
- (b) Inheritance, estate and gift taxes
- (c) Corporation income and capital stock taxes
- (d) Taxes on specific classes of corporations
- (e) General sales and use taxes
- (f) Tobacco and liquor excises and licenses
- (g) Motor fuel taxes
- (h) Admission taxes
- (i) Taxes on soft drinks
- (j) Stock and bond transfer taxes
- (k) Pay roll taxes
- (l) Chain-store taxes
- (m) Severance taxes
- (n) Pari-mutuel taxes

Tax-Exempt Securities

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Continuation Study

Contents: Estimates are prepared annually of the gross and net outstanding volume of State and local securities. At irregular intervals estimates are also prepared on the maturity and distribution of State and local securities, the level of interest rates and the volume of interest costs. The effect of tax exemption on State and local refunding and other financing operations are also analyzed.

Federal and Estimated State and Local
Revenues and Expenditures for General
Government, 1938

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Special Study: (Treasury Bulletin, Aug. 1939).

Contents: Contains an analysis of Federal, State and Local

- (1) collections from individual revenue sources
- (2) expenditures for specific functions, and
- (3) borrowing operations, grants-in-aid and other intergovernmental transfers.

Indebtedness of State and Local
Governments

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Special Study (1938, unpublished)

Contents: Contains statistical information on the indebtedness and the interest costs of State and local governments in 1932 and 1937 and an analysis of the trend of State and local borrowings since 1900.

Data for individual State and local units are included.

Securities Exempt from the Federal
Income Tax

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Special Study: (Published August 1938)

Contents: Contains information on the outstanding volume of tax-exempt securities and the amount of such securities held by public sinking, trust, and investment funds, as of June 30, 1937. Includes detailed information for individual States and the more important local units.

Federal-State Coordination of
Death and Gift Taxes

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Special Study: (included in Tax Revision Studies 1937, Vol. 5)

Contents: Contains an analysis of the structure and yield of inheritance, estate and gift taxes imposed by the States and the relation of these State taxes to the Federal estate and gift taxes. A program of intergovernmental coordination in the death tax field is outlined and recommended.

Collections from Selected State-Imposed
Taxes, 1930-1936

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Special Study: (Published Nov. 30, 1936)

Contents: Includes information on State collections from and local shares in inheritance, individual income, corporate income, motor fuel, motor vehicle, sales, liquor and tobacco taxes.

Employment Security
Statistical Compilations

Bureau of Employment Security,
Social Security Board

This bureau gathers directly from its affiliated State employment security agencies data on contributions collected from covered employers, benefit payments to recipients of unemployment compensation, and administrative expenditures of the State and local employment security offices. Data on contributions and benefit payments are classified by major industry groups and administrative costs are classified by functions.

Statistics on contributions and administrative costs are collected quarterly, the former on a mandatory basis from all 48 States, District of Columbia, Alaska and Hawaii, and the latter on a voluntary basis from 33 States.

Functional Activity Cost Code

Bureau of Employment Security,
Social Security Board

Special Study - in preparation

Contents: A manual outlining the statistical techniques for estimating the solvency of State unemployment compensation funds. This functional code is divided into 5 main sections:

- (1) Contributions
- (2) Benefit payments
- (3) Administration
- (4) Office service
- (5) Local offices

and furnishes not only the necessary expenditures for each function, but also the sources of the funds used.

Public Assistance
Statistical Compilations

Bureau of Public Assistance,
Social Security Board

Continuation Studies

- (1) Special types of public assistance in States with plans approved by Social Security Board, by State.
- (2) Public assistance and Federal work programs: assistance and earnings in the continental United States, by month.
- (3) Public assistance and Federal work programs: recipients of assistance and persons employed in the continental United States, by month.

- (4) General relief in the continental United States, by State.
- (5) Public assistance and Federal work programs; assistance and earnings in the continental United States, by State.
- (6) Public assistance and Federal work programs: recipients of assistance and persons employed in the continental United States, by State.
- (7) Comparative administration costs of general relief and public assistance operations in selected large cities.
- (8) Financial statistics for public assistance and general relief in selected States.
- (9) Source of funds expended for the special types of public assistance and general relief.
- (10) Comparative statistics of general relief operations of public agencies in selected large cities.
- (11) Distribution of assistance payments to recipients (monthly).

A summary statement of public assistance statistics appears in the annual report of Social Security Board.

Trends in Public Assistance, 1933-1939

Special Study

Bureau of Public Assistance,
Bureau of Research & Statistics,
Social Security Board

Contents: Contains data on old-age assistance; aid to dependent children, aid to the blind, and general relief, by States and by counties, (supplemented by data on payments and recipients by counties or other local subdivisions for a single month, Dec. 1939).

Studies Bearing on the Fiscal Aspects
of Education

U. S. Office of Education

Continuation Studies:

- (1) Biennial Survey of Education in the United States.
- (2) "Federal Funds for Education, 1937-38" by Timon Covert
(This study is revised frequently;) Leaflet No. 54.
- (3) Annual compilation of land-grant college statistics, the sampling of income and expenditures in colleges and universities, and a study on expenditures per pupil in city school systems.

- (4) Annual compilation of expenditures of Federal, State, and local money for vocational education (in the "Digest of Annual Reports" of the Vocational Division).

Special Studies:

- (1) "Financing of Schools as Function of State Departments of Education" by Timon Covert. Bulletin 1940, No. 6, Monograph No. 3.
- (2) "State School Taxes and State Funds for Education and Their Apportionment in Seven States, 1934-35" by Timon Covert, Pamphlet No. 78.
- (3) "Legislative Plan for Financing Public Education" by Timon Covert and Ward W. Keesecker. Pamphlet No. 79.
- (4) Bibliography of School Finance, 1923-31 - prepared for the National Survey of School Finance by Carter Alexander and Timon Covert. Bulletin 1932, No. 15.
- (5) "State Support for Public Education" by Paul R. Mort for the National Survey of School Finance. Published by the American Council on Education
- (6) "Fiscal Control over Higher Education", John H. McNeely. Bulletin 1940, No. 8.
- (7) Federal Laws and Ruling Relating To . . . Land-Grant Colleges and Universities. Pamphlet No. 91.

A complete list of past publications may be found in Bulletin 1910, No. 3 (Reprint 1940) for publications from 1867-1910; and Bulletin 1937, No. 22 for publications from 1910-1936. More recent publications will be found in the Government Printing Office list of available publications.

Sources of Funds Allotted for
Cooperative Extension Work

Extension Service,
Department of Agriculture

Continuation Study (Annual)

Contents: Includes statement of funds from State and college appropriations, county appropriations, and contributions by Farmers' Organizations, as well as from Federal Sources allotted for cooperative extension work in the 48 States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

Public Roads
Statistical Compilations

Public Roads Administration

Continuation Studies (Annual)

For each State:

- (1) State motor-fuel tax receipts and motor-fuel consumption
- (2) State motor-vehicle registrations and receipts
- (3) State motor-carrier tax receipts
- (4) Disposition of above three classes of receipts
- (5) State highway income and expenditures
- (6) State highway obligations and debt service thereon.
- (7) County and local road income and expenditures
- (8) County and local road obligations and debt service thereon.

Financial Data of State, County, and
Local Governments

State-Wide Highway Planning
Surveys,
Sponsored by Public Roads
Administration

Special Studies

The State-Wide Highway Planning Surveys, which were initiated between 1936 and 1938 by the Public Roads Administration and the highway departments of all States except Delaware, New York, and North Carolina, included studies of State, county, and local government financing of all governmental functions and activities as well as the financing of highways.

These studies were for a single year in each State. Either the year 1935 or 1936 was selected in most cases. The kinds of financial data collected for each class of governmental units were as follows:

1. Property tax levies (general property and special assessment)
2. Balance at the beginning of year or decrease in balances
3. Receipts according to type of revenue. These were classified as between general and specific purposes for which they were restricted by law. Wherever such revenues or a portion of them were committed by law either for the retirement of debt or for payment to other governmental units such amounts were determined and segregated from those which remained currently available to the unit in question.
4. Disbursements according to purpose and class of payment
5. Outstanding net bonded and temporary indebtedness
6. Assessed valuation of taxable property

The purpose classifications employed in classifying all restricted revenues, borrowings, current expenditures, debt service payments and outstanding indebtedness were as follows;

1. Highways
2. Education
3. Public welfare and services
4. General government

In addition a "general" classification was also employed for unrestricted revenues, indebtedness of undeterminable purpose as well as retirements thereof and the principal proceeds used to refund indebtedness of unknown purpose.

All of the data described above were or are being collected by the State-Wide Highway Planning Survey organizations which form a part of the State highway departments. The function of the Public Roads Administration in relation to the collection of these data is advisory. The data are for the use of both agencies,

Forest Highway System
Report to Committee on Roads,
House of Representatives

Public Roads Administration

Special Study

Contents: Contains report on the status of construction and maintenance of the forest highway system, including the work done and obligations undertaken by the States, counties and other agencies, together with an estimate of probable cost of bringing the present approved system to a satisfactory standard.

The Community Welfare Picture in
34 Urban Areas - 1940

Children's Bureau,
Department of Labor

Continuation Study

Contents: Contains a summary of expenditures for health and welfare activities and of reports of cases dealt with in the fields of relief and child care.

It includes data on expenditures by source of funds and on certain services for the year 1940 supplied by 34 urban areas.

Statistical tables of amounts expended for all health and welfare services by source of funds in 34 urban areas are included; types of service in health and welfare fields; and region, size and level-of-living classifications of urban areas participating in the study.

For the year 1938 the Children's Bureau published a similar report, based on data supplied by 29 areas.

Maternal and Child Welfare
Statistical Compilations

Children's Bureau,
Department of Labor

Continuation Studies (Annual)

- (1) Federal grants to States for maternal and child-health services under the Social Security Act.
- (2) Federal grants to States for services for crippled children under the Social Security Act.
- (3) Federal grants to States for child-welfare services.
- (4) Federal funds allotted to States for maternal and child-health services.
Federal funds Budgeted; Paid; Expended.

Series on State and Local Government
Debt

Bureau of Foreign and Domestic
Commerce,
Department of Commerce

Continuation Study: (Annual)

This series is released annually and is part of the annual estimates of aggregate public and private debt. It is based principally on census data but concept of "net" differs from that in the census material. "Net" State and local government debt is defined as gross indebtedness less State and local government obligations held by these government divisions in their sinking, trust and investment funds.

Estimates of public and private debt are usually released through the Survey of Current Business - the most recently published figures are for 1939 (Survey - June 1940) and an article to appear in October 1941 will contain 1940 figures.

For purposes of the annual estimates of national income by distributive shares the Bureau makes estimates of interest received by individuals on State and local government securities owned, as well as other estimates of wages and salaries paid by these government divisions. Neither of these series, however, is released separately.

Rural Tax Delinquency, Debt, and
Expenditures

Division of Agricultural Finance,
Bureau of Agricultural Economics,
Department of Agriculture

Extensive studies have been made of rural tax delinquency. Data were obtained for a 6-year period directly from published reports of State offices, educational and planning agencies, and private research bodies. Data obtained for a 6-year period directly from official records by CWA workers also were part of the basic material. This material was supplemented by corresponding with officials and researchers in the field.

A study of rural local government debt is also being carried on. This uses data from published reports of official agencies and financial journals supplemented by correspondence at certain points.

A proposed study covers expenditures of rural local governments. This would require detailed information for a large number of units of expenditures by purposes.

Tax Rates and Debts

Federal Housing Administration

Special Study by Basil C. Rodes (FHA Portfolio, Third Quarter, 1941)

Contents: It presents the results of a comparative study of tax rates, tax levies, and debts of the 36 largest cities of 250,000 population or over (except San Antonio and Washington, D. C.), grouped according to the five FHA zones, group averages, and total averages.

A comparative table is presented showing the over-all tax rate (all rates of all government units having the power to levy taxes) as levied, basis of assessment, adjusted over-all tax rates (on basis of 100 per cent estimated current values of taxable properties), the over-all tax levy per capita, over-all net debt per capita, and over-all net debt ratio, for each city separately.

Fiscal Capacity of the States:
A Source Book

Division of Finance and
Economic Studies,
Bureau of Research and Statistics,
Social Security Board

See "2." above (page 4)

4. LABOR STATISTICS.

Number and Compensation of Federal,
State and Local Officers and
Employees 1937-1938

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Special Study: (Treasury Bulletin, Jan. 1940)

Contents: Contains information on the number and compensation of Federal, State and local officers and employees, classified for civilian and military personnel by compensation size classes.

State, County and Municipal Employment
and Construction Survey

Bureau of Labor Statistics,
Department of Labor

Special Study

Contents: Survey's two main objectives are:

- (1) To obtain data on the number of employees and the amount of pay rolls for all State governments and for those of selected counties, cities, townships, school districts and other civil divisions, by months from 1929 through 1938 or 1939.
- (2) To obtain data on construction contracts let by those governmental agencies during the same period.

Information has been assembled on: (1) hours of work, (2) number of employees receiving room, board, and other items in addition to wages and salary. Figures showing number of persons in full or part-time work are available.

A special supplementary study of salaries, hours, and working conditions has been conducted for two occupational groups - policemen and firemen.

State and Local Government Quarterly
Employment Survey

Division of State and Local
Government,
Bureau of the Census

- a. Quarterly collection and reporting of data.
- b. Type of data collected
 1. Public nonschool employment statistics with functional breakdown.
 2. Public nonschool pay roll statistics with functional breakdown.
 3. Data collected and reported separately for governmental units on basis of type of population - 9 separate reports covering States, cities, counties, and townships.
- c. From original data additional reports issued
 1. General summary - issued quarterly
 2. Functional report - issued semi-annually
 3. National estimates - issued annually

5. GRANTS-IN-AID, AND FEDERAL-STATE-LOCAL FISCAL RELATIONS GENERALLY.

Federal Grants to States

Division of Tax Research,
Treasury Department

Special Study (Treasury Bulletin, May 1940)

Contents: Covers Federal grants to States and Federal revenues shared with States, showing purpose of grant, basis of apportionment, annual authorization and 1940 appropriation; also contains State-by-State data on 1939 Federal expenditures for grants-in-aid and Federal revenues shared with States.

Grant-in-Aid Studies

Division of Finance and Economic
Studies,
Social Security Board

A large number of special studies bearing on various aspects of the grant-in-aid problem is available in the files of the Division of Finance and Economic Studies, Bureau of Research and Statistics, Social Security Board. Although prepared for internal use, the Division would be willing to make them available for examination by persons in other government departments, provided that the use of any data obtained therefrom would be submitted to the Division for approval.

Illustrative of the type of material available are the following:

- (1) Study of the methods and feasibility of varying percentage Federal grants-in-aid to States (March 1938).
- (2) The basis of Federal grants to the States (January 1939).
- (3) Variable Federal grants and the Federal drain (September 1940).
- (4) Estimating the relative fiscal resources of the States (October 1938).
- (5) Whence the revenues for our public welfare program? (June 1941).
- (6) A proposed formula for allocation of intrastate grants-in-aid, with special reference to Wisconsin (July 1941).
- (7) Analysis of variations in average old-age assistance payments by Alabama counties, with special reference to the fiscal factor (June 1941).
- (8) Some first principles of intrastate variable grants (May 1941).
- (9) Economic and fiscal summary for Pennsylvania (March 1940).
- (10) The Federal grant system and variations in State fiscal capacity (Sept. 1941).
- (11) The use of assessed valuations as a measure of fiscal ability in intrastate equalization, with special reference to Ohio (Sept. 1941).
- (12) Comparison of per capita income and other economic series for the States (June 1941).
- (13) Summary of State plans for financing old-age assistance (July 1941).
- (14) Comparison of State differences in per capita income and distribution of income (April 1941).
- (15) The measurement of tax effort (August 1941).

1. The Financial Participation of the
Federal Government in State Welfare
Programs - Daniel S. Gerig, Jr.

Division of Finance and Economic
Studies,
Bureau of Research and Statistics,
Social Security Board

Special Study (Social Security
Bulletin, Jan. 1940)

2. Formulas for Variable Federal Grants-in-Aid

Special Study (Social Security Bulletin, June 1940)

Contents: These two studies analyze the fiscal significance of Federal grants for welfare, the differences in the financial resources and needs of the States, the effects of matching or uniform-ratio requirements, methods of increasing Federal financial participation for some States, and a discussion of formulas for variable grants. .

Grants-in-Aid and Recent Fiscal Developments
Under the Social Security and Related
Programs, with Special Emphasis on Federal-
State Relations

Division of Finance and Economic
Studies,
Bureau of Research and Statistics,
Social Security Board

Special Study - in preparation

Contents: The general focus of this study is on the financing of benefits and assistance under the Social Security Act and related programs. Because of Board recommendations for modification of the assistance titles, the emphasis will be primarily on the grants-in-aid programs. Its scope cannot, however, be altogether limited to this area. The economic and social effects of the several grant-in-aid programs might be contradictory or otherwise disturbing if not coordinated with other grants to States and with developments in the area of social insurance. Some account must be taken of all Federal grant-in-aid programs. Moreover, the tax and disbursement provisions of the social insurances must be kept in mind in order to understand the combined effect of Federal effort.

The following outline indicates the scope and emphasis of the present studies in presenting the Board's problem of achieving effective and equitable grants-in-aid in a social security program.

- I. The System of Assistance and Welfare Grants Provided in the Act of 1935, and Subsequent Years.
- II. Five Years of Operation Under this System.
- III. Problems and Inequities.
- IV. The Board's Problem in the Larger Setting of Many Types of Grants Programs - Interrelationships.
- V. Relation of Grants-in-Aid Assistance to Insurance Protection - Aims, Early Accomplishments, and Future Prospects.
- VI. The Role of Revenue Measures in Extending the Scope and Effectiveness of Protection.
- VII. What We Know About the Present Situation and What We Need to Know in Order to Extend the Scope and Eliminate Inequities.
- VIII. Tentative Solutions and Potential Remedies for the Need of Services and Payments.

IX. The Problem of Implementing Potential Solutions Suggested for Present Problems.

Working Outline: In order to locate all the main topics in a general plan, the research in the area of grants has been divided into eight main headings as follows:

- I. Policies in the field of Federal grant-in-aid to the States and their relations to Federal taxation and expenditure.
- II. Current methods of financing public assistance and related grant-in-aid programs.
- III. Methods of measuring State variation in need.
- IV. Methods of measuring State capacity to finance services and payments and present variation in such capacity.
- V. Extent and character of State and local tax effort.
- VI. Fiscal problems resulting from joint State-local participation in Federal grant-in-aid programs.
- VII. Over-all economic significance of grants-in-aid, including possible role in times of rapid change such as war, post-war adjustment, and cyclical declines.
- VIII. Conclusions.

State Differences in Economic and
Fiscal Capacity

See "2." above (page 4).

Division of Finance and Economic
Studies,
Bureau of Research and Statistics,
Social Security Board

Fiscal Capacity of the States:
A Source Book

See "2." above (page 4).

Division of Finance and Economic
Studies,
Bureau of Research and Statistics,
Social Security Board

6. PROGRAMMING.

Long Range Programming of Public Works

National Resources Planning Board

Continuation Study

Plans for public works and activities are being drawn by Federal, State and local governments. The Board has just reviewed the experience gained in efforts to increase employment since 1933 to see how useful public activities can be put in motion quickly and effectively when they are needed:

Development of Resources and Stabilization of Employment in the United States, January 1941, pp. 17 to 22

Economic Effects of the Federal Public Works Expenditures, 1933-38 (1940)

The Board has conducted demonstration projects for "Capital Budgets" (Long Range Programming of Municipal Public Works, 1941) and now serves as joint sponsor with the Federal Works Agency of the Public Works Reserve. This is a reserve of projects and activities which can be called into action when needed locally or when called for by national policy.

The programming operation consists of four steps:

(1) Listing of needed improvements:

Each department provides all data concerning proposed projects and this data include a statement in justification, estimates of cost of construction or purchase, and operation and maintenance expense.

Each department head arranges the proposals in tentative order of priority over a six-year period. Proposals not included are tabulated and classified "later." This group increases with additional needs.

(2) The Financial Analysis:

Involves thorough analysis of past fiscal operations. Its purpose is to develop trends in income and expenditures to form basis for reliable forecasts of funds which might be available for future financing necessary construction.

(3) Preparation of the program and the capital budget:

The six-year program is developed from these lists of proposed improvements and financial analysis. Development of the program involves administrative consideration of these data, of basic development plans and related studies, of established policies of the government, and of the attitude of the public. These determine projects to be scheduled and their priority.

A capital budget is then recommended. This budget only involves the first year of the program.

(4) Legislative consideration:

The Governing Body acts upon this submitted budget and also the entire program should be available to this body for its information during deliberations.

A tentative five-year program remains after the adoption of the initial Capital Budget. During the current year in line with previous procedures the operation begins again. Entirely new projects may demand consideration and inclusion or rearrangements appear desirable. Those projects originally classified as "later" are drawn upon to help produce items for a new sixth year and the entire program is then reviewed and revised. Another recommended Capital Budget for the forthcoming fiscal period must be prepared and year by year the entire process is repeated. Thus a well considered long range program is always available.

Toll Roads and Free Roads

Public Roads Administration

Special Study:

Contents: Contains report by the Bureau of Public Roads on the feasibility of a system of transcontinental toll roads and a master plan for free highway development. It is the first complete assembly of data on the use being made of our national highway network and points to corrective measures of greatest urgency and shows that existing improvements may be fully utilized in meeting ultimate highway needs.

Emphasizes need for special system of direct interregional highways with connections in and around cities, designed to meet national defense requirements and growing peacetime traffic.