Statistical Abstract of the United States 1959

80th Annual Edition

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Prepared under the direction of EDWIN D. GOLDFIELD

Chief, Statistical Reports Division



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The cooperation of the many contributors to this volume is gratefully acknowledged. The list of sources of tables (pp. 957-960) and the source note below each table credit the various government and private agencies which have collaborated in furnishing information for the Statistical Abstract.

June 1959.

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PREFACE

The Statistical Abstract of the United States, published annually since 1878, is the standard summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic organization of the United States. It is designed to fulfill two functions: First, to serve as a convenient volume for statistical reference; and second, to serve as a guide to other statistical publications and sources. The latter function is served by the introductory text to each section, the source notes appearing below each table, and the Bibliography of Sources (page 961).

This volume includes a selection of data from many important statistical publications, both governmental and private. The publications cited as sources usually contain additional statistical detail and a more complete discussion of relevant definitions and concepts than can be presented here. Where contributing agencies are cited as sources, without mention of publications, more detailed information frequently is available from their unpublished tabulations and records.

Emphasis in the Statistical Abstract is given primarily to national data. Data for regions and individual States are presented to a lesser extent. Statistics for outlying areas of the United States are included in the State tables whenever available and supplemented by specialized information for these areas in section 33. Statistics for cities or other relatively small geographic units appear only in a few instances.

Unless otherwise noted, statistics shown for the United States represent the 48 States and the District of Columbia (also identified in various tables as continental U.S.). Figures for the 2 new States, Alaska and Hawaii, are presented in State tables whenever available and in section 33, "Outlying Areas . . ."

Since most of the State tables present the States arrayed by geographic division, Alaska and Hawaii have been set apart and listed below all other States pending their official designation as parts of geographic divisions. Except in a few cases, the grand totals shown in the State tables are for continental United States in order to maintain comparability with totals shown in other tables (United States tables as well as State tables). It should be recognized that this method of presentation represents a transitional stage.

1959 edition.—This edition, the 80th annual issue, was compiled and published in 1959. It presents data for the most recent year or period available during the early part of 1959.

Each year, in addition to the normal bringing up to date of the over 1,200 tables and charts included, new tables containing pertinent data are introduced. Data that are less timely are eliminated and format and text changes are made where considered advisable.

Changes worthy of note this year are those affecting the subjects of scientific research and development, personal health, housing values and financing, and travel. Eleven tables on research and development have been brought together and placed in the former "Power" section, now retitled "Power and Scientific Development." Only 4 of the tables, however, represent new additions to the Abstract; the others were included in prior editions, scattered over several sections. This new subsection now covers research and development expenditures, by source, by character of work, and by industry; scientific personnel, by industry; patent applications; atomic energy program; and satellites launched.

Four new tables presenting measures of personal disability and medical attention are the result of the recently established National Health Survey. The 1956 National Housing Inventory also led to 4 new tables showing characteristics of mortgaged residential properties and value of and rent paid for dwelling units. Development begun last year of the recreation subsection was further advanced with 4 new tables on number

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and expenditures of travelers to and from the United States and on volume and characteristics of domestic travel.

Two sections were subjected to intensive analytical review with resulting revisions in presentation and content. In section 10, Social Insurance and Welfare Services, the summary welfare expenditures tables were wholly revised and the unemployment insurance tables were rearranged and adapted to accommodate new aspects of current programs. In section 28, Mining and Mineral Products, the sequence of the fuels and metals tables has been altered somewhat, certain tables have been expanded or revised, and the prompter release of current data by the Bureau of Mines has resulted in improved timeliness of almost all the tables.

A total of 77 new tables have been introduced in this edition. Following is a list of subjects covered by some of the new tables:

Research and development expenditures Satellites and space probes Scientists and engineers in private

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Domestic civilian travel

Foreign travel expenditures
Projected apportionment of membership

in U.S. House of Representatives
Elective local officials

Projections to 1980 of families and of

educational attainment
Physician visits per person
Days of disability per person
Assets and expenses of hospitals
Total horsepower of all prime movers

Military reserve components personnel Time intervals for disposition of civil court cases

Average annual earnings per employee, by industry

Relative importance of commodities and services in the Consumer Price Index Indebtedness of State and local governments

Public employee retirement systems

Persons covered for insurance of major medical expenses

Employee benefit plans

Indexes of intercity freight traffic

Merchant fleets of the world

Farm marketings, by price support status

Agricultural exports under government financed programs, by commodities

Frozen food production

Wholesale price indexes of timber products

Financial characteristics of mortgaged dwelling units

Value of owner-occupied nonfarm dwelling units

International production of milk, beer, and cigarettes

Among tables shown in the last edition, 43 were omitted from this issue. Major omissions occurred in the Education section affecting figures on illiteracy, distribution of income by years of school completed, and expenditures per pupil in public schools; in the Elections section affecting data on political party campaign finances, and expenditures of lobbying organizations; in the Federal Government Finances section affecting data on commercial-industrial activities of the Federal Government, and individual income and estate tax returns; in the State and Local Government Finances and Employment section affecting data on governmental revenue, expenditure, and debt and government employment and payrolls; in the Banking and Finance section affecting data on bank assets and liabilities, and life insurance; and in the Manufactures section affecting data on ethyl alcohol, cotton-system spindle activity, pig iron and ferroalloys, and blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills. Some of the information in the omitted tables was absorbed in other tables still present.

Supplements to the Abstract.—The Statistical Abstract, as an annual one-volume publication, is of necessity limited in amount of detail shown. Businessmen, teachers, librarians, public officials, professional workers, market researchers, and others often require data for individual cities, counties, metropolitan areas, and other small areas as well as for States. Economists, teachers, social scientists, historians, students, and others frequently need more historical information. To meet such requests for more detail, a series of supplements to the Abstract have been issued.

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The County and City Data Book, 1956, is designed to help satisfy the need for statistical information about counties and cities and other relatively small geographic areas. Conveniently assembled are 133 statistical items for each county in the United States and 130 statistical items for each of the 484 cities having 25,000 inhabitants or more in 1950. Information comparable to that for counties is also presented for geographic regions and divisions, States, and standard metropolitan areas. A special feature is an appendix which presents selected data for Congressional Districts. Also included are descriptive text and source notes.

This edition is the fifth in the County and City Data Book series. Many of the statistics in this volume were obtained from the results of the 1954 Censuses of Agriculture, Business, and Manufactures. Other subjects covered include births, deaths, and marriages; population characteristics; dwelling units; city government finances and employment; hospitals; bank deposits; and other items of social and economic importance. This volume is on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for \$4.50.

Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789–1945, a historical supplement, was published in July 1949. This volume presents, in compact form, approximately 3,000 statistical time series (mostly on an annual basis) which cover various periods from 1789 to 1945. In the preparation of this supplement the Bureau of the Census had the cooperation of a special committee of the Social Science Research Council set up to advise the Director of the Census on a source book of historical statistics and of the Committee on Research in Economic History under the auspices of the Social Science Research Council.

Continuation to 1952 of Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789–1945, issued in May 1954, presents data for 1946 to 1952 for the current series shown in Historical Statistics, mentioned above. It also contains the latest revisions for many of the series in Historical Statistics. This publication is on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for 55 cents.

Preparation of a revised edition entitled *Historical Statistics of the United States*, *Colonial Times to 1957*, is presently underway. The new volume, expected to be published at the end of 1959, will greatly enlarge the scope of the present volume by adding much new material and by bringing the older material up to date.

Responsibility.—The contents of this volume are taken from a large number of sources (see source agencies pp. 957-960). The Bureau of the Census cannot accept the responsibility for the accuracy or limitations of the data presented here, other than for those which it collects. However, the responsibility for selection of the material and for proper presentation rests with the Bureau.

Many persons have written offering suggestions for improving the presentation of the material. These letters have been most helpful and users are urged to continue to make their needs known. All suggestions will be carefully considered in planning future editions.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON DATA PRESENTED

write to the agency indicated in the source note to the table which covers the desired subject.

SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS

should be sent to
The Director
Bureau of the Census
Washington 25, D. C.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT SUPPLEMENTS

County and City Data Book, 1956. A compact presentation of 133 items of statistical data for each county in the United States, and 130 items of statistical data for each of 484 cities having 25,000 inhabitants or more in 1950. Information comparable to that for counties is also presented for geographic regions and divisions, States, and standard metropolitan areas. Items included based largely on results of 1954 Censuses of Agriculture, Business, and Manufactures. Includes 51 maps, explanatory and definitive text, and source notes. Issued 1957. Price \$4.50 (Buckram).

Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789–1945. A supplement to the Statistical Abstract, prepared with the cooperation of the Social Science Research Council. A compilation of about 3,000 statistical time series, largely annual, extending back through time to the earliest year for which figures are available. Includes definitions of terms and descriptive text. Specific source notes provide a basic guide to original published sources for further reference and additional data. Detailed alphabetical subject index. 363 pages. Issued 1949. Out of print.

Continuation to 1952 of Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789-1945. Carries forward and presents revisions of the statistical time series contained in Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789-1945. Designed especially for use in conjunction with the Historical Statistics volume. 79 pages. Issued 1954. Price 55 cents.

Purchase orders should be addressed to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

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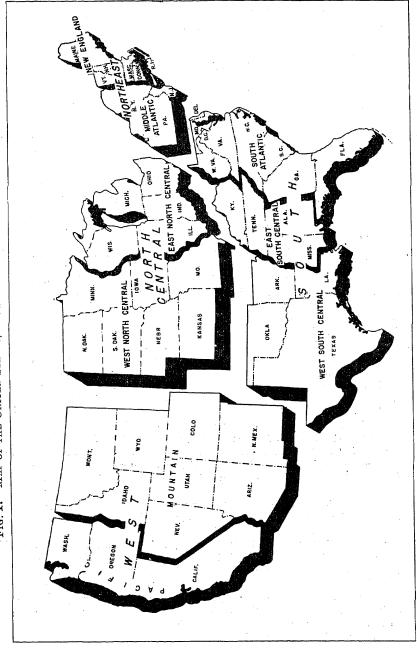
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Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.