

APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT—1937

In the past 5 years during which relief activities and facts concerning persons on relief have become of Nation-wide importance, a large volume of interesting data has been collected, analyzed, and published. For the more than 2 years that have elapsed since the Social Security Act became effective, facts about the special types of public assistance have been made available to the public. For the most part, the data presented have revealed the number of individuals or families benefiting under State plans and the amounts of assistance granted to these recipients. Of further interest to those working in the field of public assistance are facts regarding the number of persons who apply for public assistance and the disposition made of their requests.

In addition to the data already mentioned, State agencies report to the Social Security Board the number of applications pending at the end of the preceding month, the number received during the month, and the number approved or otherwise disposed of during the month. These data give some indication of the volume of work required in State agencies before the applications are finally disposed of. In reporting these data, the agencies include only a count of formal written applications. Persons who, at the time of interview, are known to be ineligible or who are rejected or referred elsewhere, do not file formal applications.

This analysis of applications presents the number pending at the beginning of the calendar year 1937 (or at a subsequent date for some States), the number received during the year, the disposition of the applications, and the number of cases pending on the last day of 1937.

As may be seen from tables 3, 4, and 5, the months for which Federal funds became available for each of the three types of public assistance varied widely from State to State. For the States in which Federal funds were available during 1936, the numbers of applications that were pending investigation on January 1, 1937, were those carried over from 1936. In all States in which Federal funds were not available until some time during 1937, the data regarding pending applications are for the first day of the month in which the State plan became operative under the Social Security Act.

The practice in regard to the investigation of applicants for assistance varies in the different States. For example, some States, where available funds are not adequate to give aid to all eligible applicants, investigate and approve applications, even though payments are not made immediately. In other States, applications are accepted, but no investigations are made until additional funds become available. These facts must be borne in mind in comparing the data State by State.

The wide variations in the numbers of applications in each of the three categories in the States reporting should not be considered indicative of differences in the extent of need for assistance or in the adequacy of current provisions. Among the reasons for these variations may be listed the differences in the length of time for which Federal funds were available, the amount of State money set aside for these types of assistance, and differences in administrative procedures from State to State.

Old-Age Assistance

At the end of the calendar year 1937 there were 47 States, the District of Columbia, Alaska, and Hawaii with approved plans for old-age assistance. (See table 3.) All but one State reported completely on the inquiries regarding applications for old-age assistance. Of the other 49 jurisdictions, 42 had administered old-age assistance under plans approved by the Board for the whole year. More than 500,000 applications were pending at the beginning of the year or on the first day of the month in which the States became participants in the Federal-State public-assistance program. Approximately 876,000 applications were received during the year; in that period, therefore, about 1.4 million applications were under consideration. This total probably does not represent the number of needy aged in the States reporting, because of the variations in the procedure in regard to applications. About four-fifths of the 1.4 million applications, or approximately 1.1 million, were disposed of; of these, almost two-thirds (713,000) were approved. (See table 6.)

Of the half-million applications pending at the beginning of the period, the largest number was in Texas. Other States in which the number pending

was 25,000 or more were, in descending order, Illinois, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, New York, Ohio, and Missouri.

These States were not, however, the ones in which the largest numbers of applications were received during the year. Michigan, Georgia, and California each received more than 60,000 applications during this period. In Michigan the age limit was reduced during 1937 from 70 to 65 years,

enabling a large number of persons aged 65-69 to apply for old-age assistance. Georgia, in which Federal funds were not available until July 1937, received the second largest number of applications (67,560). The large number of applications received in California probably resulted from the liberalization of eligibility requirements. New York was the only other State to receive more than 50,000 applications during the year. From Jan-

Table 3.—Applications for old-age assistance during the year 1937 in States with plans approved by the Social Security Board

[Data reported by State agencies, corrected to Jan. 25, 1938]

| State | Month for which Federal funds first became available | Number of applications for old-age assistance during the period Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 1937 ¹ | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Pending ² | Received during year | Total under consideration during year | Disposed of during year | | | Pending Dec. 31, 1937 |
| | | | | | Total | Approved | Other disposition | |
| Total for 49 States reporting completely | | 605,923 | 875,834 | 1,381,767 | 1,083,831 | 712,947 | 370,884 | 297,926 |
| 1. Alabama | February 1936 | 3,870 | 11,733 | 15,603 | 12,927 | 6,812 | 7,115 | 2,076 |
| 2. Alaska | July 1937 | 0 | 365 | 365 | 223 | 101 | 32 | 142 |
| 3. Arizona | June 1937 | 5,371 | 2,730 | 8,110 | 6,125 | 4,000 | 1,525 | 1,985 |
| 4. Arkansas | March 1936 | 5,830 | 14,057 | 20,799 | 12,511 | 6,037 | 5,874 | 8,285 |
| 5. California | April 1936 | 13,861 | 62,284 | 76,145 | 55,799 | 43,405 | 12,394 | 20,346 |
| 6. Colorado | April 1936 | 985 | 19,246 | 20,231 | 18,291 | 13,723 | 4,568 | 1,940 |
| 7. Connecticut | April 1936 | 1,981 | 4,543 | 6,524 | 5,534 | 4,179 | 1,355 | 990 |
| 8. Delaware | February 1936 | 519 | 1,044 | 2,163 | 1,233 | 399 | 834 | 930 |
| 9. District of Columbia | February 1936 | 1,911 | 1,488 | 3,399 | 2,770 | 1,791 | 1,040 | 629 |
| 10. Florida | October 1936 | 8,321 | 34,806 | 43,127 | 23,744 | 17,143 | 6,601 | 19,383 |
| 11. Georgia | July 1937 | 0 | 67,560 | 67,560 | 32,075 | 20,210 | 6,405 | 34,885 |
| 12. Hawaii | September 1936 | 16 | 1,258 | 1,274 | 1,169 | 1,009 | 160 | 116 |
| 13. Idaho | February 1936 | 226 | 3,020 | 3,246 | 2,871 | 1,875 | 996 | 875 |
| 14. Illinois | July 1936 | 52,214 | 37,567 | 89,781 | 73,462 | 45,425 | 28,037 | 10,319 |
| 15. Indiana | April 1936 | 6,401 | 15,246 | 21,647 | 19,579 | 12,928 | 6,651 | 2,068 |
| 16. Iowa | February 1936 | 15,897 | 17,968 | 33,865 | 27,871 | 18,782 | 9,089 | 5,994 |
| 17. Kansas | August 1937 | 0 | 22,018 | 22,018 | 17,163 | 14,885 | 2,278 | 4,855 |
| 18. Kentucky | July 1936 | 42,878 | 19,094 | 61,972 | 40,006 | 31,092 | 8,914 | 21,966 |
| 19. Louisiana | June 1936 | 9,672 | 19,663 | 29,275 | 28,110 | 15,436 | 12,674 | 1,166 |
| 20. Maine ³ | February 1936 | 19,003 | 2,424 | 22,327 | 2,008 | 2 | 2,006 | 20,319 |
| 21. Maryland | February 1936 | 7,902 | 5,698 | 13,600 | 10,778 | 5,888 | 4,890 | 2,822 |
| 22. Massachusetts | February 1936 | 5,610 | 33,543 | 39,153 | 37,582 | 27,011 | 9,971 | 1,671 |
| 23. Michigan | February 1936 | 2,913 | 68,014 | 71,527 | 49,048 | 38,030 | 11,012 | 21,879 |
| 24. Minnesota | March 1936 | 4,859 | 10,870 | 21,735 | 19,912 | 14,325 | 5,587 | 1,823 |
| 25. Mississippi | February 1936 | 1,295 | 3,045 | 4,940 | 3,982 | 2,547 | 1,435 | 958 |
| 26. Missouri | February 1936 | 26,114 | 22,105 | 48,219 | 30,308 | 30,027 | 9,281 | 8,911 |
| 27. Montana | June 1936 | 755 | 5,965 | 6,720 | 6,352 | 4,746 | 1,606 | 368 |
| 28. Nebraska | February 1936 | 1,650 | 7,300 | 8,950 | 7,793 | 5,030 | 1,863 | 1,163 |
| 29. Nevada | August 1937 | 1,982 | 693 | 2,675 | 2,074 | 1,027 | 447 | 601 |
| 30. New Hampshire | February 1936 | 389 | 1,731 | 2,120 | 1,943 | 1,116 | 828 | 177 |
| 31. New Jersey | April 1936 | 4,614 | 12,762 | 17,376 | 15,728 | 8,449 | 7,279 | 1,648 |
| 32. New Mexico | April 1936 | 1,172 | 2,464 | 3,636 | 2,875 | 1,330 | 1,539 | 761 |
| 33. New York | May 1936 | 31,070 | 51,706 | 83,376 | 74,774 | 44,601 | 30,273 | 8,002 |
| 34. North Carolina | July 1937 | 0 | 40,943 | 40,943 | 31,834 | 23,161 | 8,673 | 9,109 |
| 35. North Dakota | April 1936 | 807 | 2,984 | 3,791 | 2,809 | 1,051 | 916 | 922 |
| 36. Ohio | February 1936 | 27,059 | 20,835 | 56,894 | 35,857 | 17,214 | 18,643 | 21,037 |
| 37. Oklahoma | April 1936 | 33,597 | 18,432 | 62,029 | 49,552 | 30,230 | 19,322 | 2,477 |
| 38. Oregon | April 1936 | 853 | 7,751 | 8,604 | 4,899 | 3,416 | 1,483 | 3,705 |
| 39. Pennsylvania | July 1936 | 39,892 | 43,102 | 82,994 | 75,581 | 40,306 | 29,275 | 7,413 |
| 40. Rhode Island | February 1936 | 7,206 | 3,326 | 10,532 | 9,360 | 3,099 | 6,261 | 1,182 |
| 41. South Carolina | August 1937 | 0 | 32,372 | 32,372 | 21,351 | 14,139 | 7,212 | 11,021 |
| 42. South Dakota | October 1936 | 5,843 | 11,117 | 16,960 | 14,553 | 9,510 | 5,013 | 2,407 |
| 43. Tennessee ⁴ | July 1937 | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) |
| 44. Texas | July 1936 | 72,084 | 38,494 | 110,578 | 106,079 | 63,458 | 42,021 | 4,499 |
| 45. Utah | March 1936 | 583 | 8,780 | 9,363 | 8,887 | 7,430 | 1,451 | 482 |
| 46. Vermont | February 1936 | 3,042 | 1,074 | 4,716 | 4,472 | 1,860 | 2,606 | 244 |
| 47. Washington | February 1936 | 14,172 | 14,789 | 28,961 | 15,730 | 11,821 | 3,909 | 13,231 |
| 48. West Virginia | October 1936 | 17,367 | 16,143 | 33,510 | 31,907 | 17,628 | 14,379 | 1,063 |
| 49. Wisconsin | February 1936 | 2,407 | 12,535 | 14,942 | 13,107 | 9,467 | 3,640 | 1,835 |
| 50. Wyoming | February 1936 | 215 | 886 | 1,101 | 993 | 711 | 282 | 1,068 |

¹ Figures for each State are limited to those months for which Federal funds were available.

² Number of applications pending on Jan. 1, 1937, or on the 1st day of the 1st month for which Federal funds were available.

³ Figures cover the periods Jan. 1 through Aug. 31, and Dec. 1 through Dec. 31, 1937.

⁴ Partly estimated by the Social Security Board.

⁵ Complete reports not received by the Social Security Board in time to be included in this tabulation.

uary 1931 until May 1936, New York had been administering old-age assistance under a State law in which the minimum age was 70 years. When Federal funds became available in 1936, the minimum was reduced to 65 years. This revision in the law resulted in a large influx of applications that continued during 1937. Nearly 20 percent of the applications received during 1937 were in four of the five States¹ which had no State program prior to 1937.

The total number of applications pending on December 31, 1937, represented a reduction of more than 40 percent from the number pending at

¹ Georgia, Kansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

the beginning of 1937 or later within the year when Federal funds first became available for a given State. About two-thirds of the States had reduced their count of pending applications during the year. Five of the sixteen jurisdictions in which there were more applications pending on December 31, 1937, than at the beginning of the year had none pending at the time the program was begun. In Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Michigan, and Oregon, the numbers pending at the end of 1937 were considerably larger than at the beginning of the period. Georgia had the largest number pending on December 31, 1937. This State, however, in

Table 4.—Applications for aid to dependent children during the year 1937 in States with plans approved by the Social Security Board¹

(Data reported by State agencies, corrected to Jan. 25, 1938)

| State | Month for which Federal funds first became available | Number of applications for aid to dependent children during the period Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 1937 ² | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Pending ³ | Received during year | Total under consideration during year | Disposed of during year | | | Pending Dec. 31, 1937 |
| | | | | | Total | Approved | Other disposition | |
| Total for 39 States reporting completely..... | | 43,354 | 163,937 | 207,201 | 171,123 | 112,080 | 59,034 | 36,168 |
| 1. Alabama..... | February 1936 | 1,007 | 6,142 | 7,149 | 6,456 | 3,392 | 3,063 | 694 |
| 2. Arizona..... | February 1936 | 237 | 1,711 | 1,948 | 1,776 | 1,065 | 711 | 172 |
| 3. Arkansas..... | April 1936 | 424 | 5,873 | 6,297 | 4,758 | 3,030 | 1,728 | 1,039 |
| 4. California..... | July 1936 | 714 | 6,417 | 7,131 | 5,636 | 4,385 | 1,251 | 1,493 |
| 5. Colorado..... | April 1936 | 473 | 2,444 | 2,917 | 2,734 | 2,139 | 590 | 183 |
| 6. Delaware..... | August 1936 | 178 | 253 | 431 | 319 | 135 | 184 | 0 |
| 7. District of Columbia..... | February 1936 | 39 | 443 | 482 | 482 | 422 | 919 | 4,464 |
| 8. Georgia..... | July 1937 | 0 | 8,833 | 8,833 | 4,360 | 3,420 | 27 | 70 |
| 9. Hawaii..... | June 1937 | 5 | 300 | 305 | 295 | 208 | 27 | 112 |
| 10. Idaho..... | February 1936 | 74 | 2,173 | 2,247 | 2,007 | 1,564 | 533 | 150 |
| 11. Indiana..... | April 1936 | 4,586 | 13,093 | 17,679 | 15,878 | 10,451 | 5,227 | 1,801 |
| 12. Kansas..... | August 1937 | 0 | 5,241 | 5,241 | 3,850 | 3,103 | 660 | 1,882 |
| 13. Louisiana..... | June 1936 | 1,028 | 5,952 | 7,980 | 7,141 | 4,503 | 2,638 | 439 |
| 14. Maine..... | February 1936 | 403 | 963 | 1,366 | 868 | 503 | 515 | 496 |
| 15. Maryland..... | February 1936 | 496 | 6,074 | 6,570 | 6,137 | 3,714 | 2,423 | 483 |
| 16. Massachusetts ⁴ | April 1936 | 437 | 2,157 | 2,594 | 2,111 | 1,685 | 426 | 433 |
| 17. Michigan..... | August 1936 | 461 | 10,442 | 10,903 | 10,230 | 8,970 | 1,260 | 673 |
| 18. Minnesota..... | September 1937 | 21 | 1,403 | 1,424 | 822 | 682 | 140 | 662 |
| 19. Missouri..... | October 1937 | 0 | 1,616 | 1,616 | 110 | 08 | 21 | 1,497 |
| 20. Montana..... | April 1937 | 0 | 2,385 | 2,385 | 2,211 | 1,652 | 559 | 174 |
| 21. Nebraska..... | February 1936 | 1,190 | 3,403 | 4,603 | 4,097 | 3,028 | 1,069 | 606 |
| 22. New Hampshire..... | February 1936 | 75 | 208 | 283 | 119 | 78 | 71 | 134 |
| 23. New Jersey..... | April 1936 | 1,509 | 3,878 | 5,387 | 4,332 | 2,684 | 1,648 | 1,055 |
| 24. New Mexico..... | April 1936 | 518 | 1,238 | 1,756 | 1,351 | 731 | 620 | 405 |
| 25. New York..... | May 1937 | 3,311 | 6,942 | 10,253 | 6,545 | 3,412 | 3,133 | 3,708 |
| 26. North Carolina..... | July 1937 | 0 | 7,494 | 7,494 | 5,067 | 4,585 | 1,082 | 1,817 |
| 27. North Dakota..... | June 1937 | 0 | 750 | 750 | 353 | 263 | 60 | 397 |
| 28. Ohio..... | July 1936 | 3,262 | 7,707 | 10,969 | 8,169 | 4,337 | 3,832 | 2,800 |
| 29. Oklahoma..... | April 1936 | 9,043 | 11,648 | 21,691 | 19,778 | 10,710 | 9,068 | 1,813 |
| 30. Oregon..... | June 1937 | 0 | 2,422 | 2,422 | 1,763 | 1,230 | 533 | 659 |
| 31. Pennsylvania..... | August 1936 | 7,969 | 9,388 | 17,348 | 15,527 | 9,473 | 6,054 | 1,821 |
| 32. Rhode Island..... | January 1937 | 56 | 674 | 730 | 438 | 317 | 121 | 236 |
| 33. South Carolina..... | August 1937 | 89 | 4,117 | 4,206 | 2,045 | 1,700 | 885 | 1,561 |
| 34. Tennessee ⁵ | July 1937 | (¹) | (¹) | (¹) | (¹) | (¹) | (¹) | (¹) |
| 35. Utah..... | March 1936 | 158 | 1,538 | 1,696 | 1,594 | 1,310 | 284 | 102 |
| 36. Vermont..... | March 1936 | 23 | 194 | 217 | 151 | 86 | 65 | 66 |
| 37. Washington..... | February 1936 | 335 | 4,484 | 4,819 | 4,161 | 3,185 | 976 | 658 |
| 38. West Virginia..... | October 1936 | 3,170 | 8,749 | 11,919 | 11,051 | 5,083 | 5,071 | 865 |
| 39. Wisconsin..... | February 1936 | 513 | 4,828 | 5,341 | 4,732 | 3,333 | 1,399 | 609 |
| 40. Wyoming..... | February 1936 | 63 | 302 | 355 | 320 | 224 | 96 | 35 |

¹ This table represents the numbers of families making formal applications for aid to dependent children. The 207,201 applications of families represent requests for aid on behalf of 511,142 dependent children.

² Figures for each State are limited to those months for which Federal funds were available.

³ Number of applications pending on Jan. 1, 1937, or on the 1st day of the 1st month for which Federal funds were available.

⁴ Figures cover period July 1 through Dec. 31, 1937. Figures for months of January through June incomplete.

⁵ Complete reports not received by the Social Security Board in time to be included in this tabulation.

the initial stages of its program, had disposed of about half of the 68,000 applications received from July to December.

Although nearly two-thirds of all applications disposed of during this period were approved, from State to State there was considerable variation in the ratio of approvals to other dispositions. (See table 6.) The range was from less than one-third in Delaware to nearly nine-tenths in Kansas and Hawaii. Maine has been excluded from this comparison because of the suspension of the program in that State for 3 months during 1937. All but 7 of the 49 jurisdictions approved more than 50 percent of the applications disposed of during the year. Fifteen States and Territories approved more than 75 percent of the applications filed.

Aid to Dependent Children

Of the 38 States, the District of Columbia, and Hawaii which had plans for aid to dependent children approved by the Social Security Board at some time in 1936 or 1937, all but 2 States made complete reports on applications for the entire period of 1937 for which Federal funds were available. More than 207,000 applications of families with an aggregate of 511,000 children were under consideration in State agencies during the year. Of this number, nearly 164,000 (about four-fifths) were received during 1937. Approximately 171,000 applications were disposed of; about two-thirds of these were approved. (See table 4.)

Seven States reported no applications pending at the beginning of the period during 1937 for

Table 5.—Applications for aid to the blind during the year 1937 in States with plans approved by the Social Security Board

[Data reported by State agencies, corrected to Jan. 25, 1938]

| State | Month for which Federal funds first became available | Number of applications for aid to the blind during the period Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 1937 | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Pending † | Received during year | Total under consideration during year | Disposed of during year | | | Pending Dec. 31, 1937 |
| | | | | | Total | Approved | Other disposition | |
| Total for 30 States reporting completely | | 5,520 | 28,456 | 33,976 | 26,875 | 18,500 | 8,375 | 7,101 |
| 1. Alabama | April 1937 | 0 | 762 | 762 | 605 | 415 | 250 | 97 |
| 2. Arizona | February 1936 | 16 | 234 | 300 | 243 | 168 | 75 | 57 |
| 3. Arkansas | April 1936 | 42 | 366 | 408 | 283 | 229 | 54 | 125 |
| 4. California | July 1936 | 298 | 2,185 | 2,483 | 1,875 | 1,436 | 439 | 698 |
| 5. Colorado | April 1936 | 21 | 239 | 260 | 234 | 156 | 78 | 20 |
| 6. District of Columbia | February 1936 | 94 | 111 | 205 | 155 | 97 | 58 | 50 |
| 7. Florida | December 1937 | 68 | 458 | 516 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 510 |
| 8. Georgia | July 1937 | 0 | 1,869 | 1,869 | 1,118 | 886 | 232 | 751 |
| 9. Hawaii ‡ | July 1937 | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) |
| 10. Idaho | February 1936 | 8 | 111 | 119 | 100 | 62 | 44 | 13 |
| 11. Indiana | April 1936 | 1,133 | 1,238 | 2,371 | 2,010 | 1,127 | 913 | 331 |
| 12. Iowa | November 1937 | 523 | 606 | 1,129 | 477 | 374 | 103 | 652 |
| 13. Kansas | August 1937 | 0 | 817 | 817 | 682 | 480 | 102 | 235 |
| 14. Louisiana | July 1937 | 0 | 780 | 780 | 707 | 562 | 145 | 79 |
| 15. Maine | February 1936 | 173 | 416 | 589 | 380 | 213 | 107 | 209 |
| 16. Maryland | May 1936 | 88 | 266 | 354 | 299 | 183 | 110 | 55 |
| 17. Massachusetts | April 1936 | 1 | 360 | 361 | 358 | 289 | 69 | 3 |
| 18. Michigan | July 1936 | 27 | 524 | 551 | 545 | 407 | 78 | 0 |
| 19. Minnesota | July 1937 | 0 | 216 | 216 | 29 | 9 | 20 | 187 |
| 20. Nebraska | February 1936 | 30 | 215 | 275 | 221 | 186 | 35 | 54 |
| 21. New Hampshire | February 1936 | 7 | 68 | 75 | 71 | 57 | 14 | 4 |
| 22. New Jersey | July 1936 | 60 | 182 | 212 | 207 | 128 | 79 | 35 |
| 23. New Mexico | April 1936 | 75 | 123 | 198 | 149 | 80 | 69 | 49 |
| 24. New York | May 1937 | 449 | 1,384 | 1,833 | 1,281 | 685 | 590 | 552 |
| 25. North Carolina | July 1937 | 0 | 2,452 | 2,452 | 2,202 | 1,968 | 234 | 250 |
| 26. North Dakota | November 1936 | 0 | 146 | 146 | 117 | 94 | 23 | 29 |
| 27. Ohio | July 1936 | 148 | 1,379 | 1,527 | 1,407 | 854 | 553 | 120 |
| 28. Oklahoma | December 1936 | 399 | 2,421 | 2,820 | 2,525 | 2,120 | 405 | 295 |
| 29. Oregon | April 1936 | 35 | 255 | 290 | 258 | 183 | 75 | 32 |
| 30. Pennsylvania | February 1936 | 950 | 4,552 | 5,608 | 4,534 | 2,587 | 1,947 | 974 |
| 31. South Carolina | August 1937 | 0 | 1,163 | 1,163 | 817 | 568 | 249 | 346 |
| 32. Tennessee † | July 1937 | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) | (?) |
| 33. Utah | March 1936 | 11 | 93 | 104 | 101 | 76 | 25 | 3 |
| 34. Vermont | April 1936 | 2 | 51 | 53 | 41 | 30 | 11 | 12 |
| 35. Washington | April 1936 | 98 | 928 | 1,026 | 810 | 490 | 320 | 210 |
| 36. West Virginia | October 1936 | 650 | 861 | 1,511 | 1,430 | 845 | 591 | 75 |
| 37. Wisconsin | February 1936 | 112 | 508 | 620 | 563 | 369 | 194 | 57 |
| 38. Wyoming | February 1936 | 0 | 31 | 37 | 33 | 21 | 12 | 4 |

† Figures for each State are limited to those months for which Federal funds were available.

‡ Number of applications pending on Jan. 1, 1937, or on the 1st day of the 1st month for which Federal funds were available.

§ Complete reports not received by the Social Security Board in time to be included in this tabulation.

which Federal funds were available, although five of these had State laws authorizing this type of aid prior to the time their plans were approved by the Social Security Board.

Of the 164,000 applications received during the year, the largest number in any State (13,093) was received in Indiana. Six other States—Oklahoma, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Georgia, West Virginia, and Ohio—received 7,500 or more applications during the year.

Table 6.—Percentage of total applications disposed of which were approved for public assistance during the year 1937 in States with plans approved by the Social Security Board

[Corrected to Jan. 25, 1938]

| State | Percentage of total applications disposed of which were approved for public assistance during the year 1937 | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| | Old-age assistance ¹ | Aid to dependent children ² | Aid to the blind ³ |
| Total..... | 65.8 | 65.5 | 68.8 |
| 1. Alabama..... | 45.0 | 52.5 | 62.4 |
| 2. Alaska..... | 85.7 | ..... | ..... |
| 3. Arizona..... | 75.1 | 60.0 | 60.1 |
| 4. Arkansas..... | 63.1 | 63.7 | 80.9 |
| 5. California..... | 77.8 | 77.8 | 76.6 |
| 6. Colorado..... | 75.0 | 78.2 | 66.7 |
| 7. Connecticut..... | 75.5 | ..... | ..... |
| 8. Delaware..... | 32.4 | 42.3 | ..... |
| 9. District of Columbia..... | 62.5 | 87.6 | 62.6 |
| 10. Florida..... | 72.2 | ..... | ..... |
| 11. Georgia..... | 80.2 | 78.3 | 70.2 |
| 12. Hawaii..... | 87.1 | 90.8 | (⁴) |
| 13. Idaho..... | 65.3 | 74.6 | 58.5 |
| 14. Illinois..... | 61.8 | ..... | ..... |
| 15. Indiana..... | 66.0 | 67.1 | 55.2 |
| 16. Iowa..... | 67.4 | ..... | 78.4 |
| 17. Kansas..... | 80.7 | 82.7 | 82.5 |
| 18. Kentucky..... | 77.7 | ..... | ..... |
| 19. Louisiana..... | 54.9 | 63.1 | 79.5 |
| 20. Maine..... | .1 | 41.8 | 56.1 |
| 21. Maryland..... | 54.6 | 60.5 | 61.2 |
| 22. Massachusetts..... | 73.5 | 79.8 | 80.7 |
| 23. Michigan..... | 70.6 | 87.7 | 85.7 |
| 24. Minnesota..... | 71.9 | 83.0 | (⁵) |
| 25. Mississippi..... | 64.0 | ..... | ..... |
| 26. Missouri..... | 76.4 | 82.4 | ..... |
| 27. Montana..... | 74.7 | 74.7 | ..... |
| 28. Nebraska..... | 76.1 | 73.9 | 81.2 |
| 29. Nevada..... | 78.4 | ..... | ..... |
| 30. New Hampshire..... | 57.4 | 52.3 | (⁶) |
| 31. New Jersey..... | 53.7 | 62.0 | 61.8 |
| 32. New Mexico..... | 46.5 | 54.1 | 53.7 |
| 33. New York..... | 59.5 | 52.1 | 53.5 |
| 34. North Carolina..... | 72.8 | 80.9 | 89.4 |
| 35. North Dakota..... | 68.1 | 83.0 | 80.3 |
| 36. Ohio..... | 48.0 | 53.1 | 60.7 |
| 37. Oklahoma..... | 61.0 | 54.2 | 84.0 |
| 38. Oregon..... | 69.7 | 69.8 | 70.9 |
| 39. Pennsylvania..... | 61.3 | 61.0 | 57.1 |
| 40. Rhode Island..... | 33.1 | 72.4 | ..... |
| 41. South Carolina..... | 66.2 | 66.5 | 69.5 |
| 42. South Dakota..... | 66.6 | ..... | ..... |
| 43. Tennessee..... | (⁴) | (⁴) | (⁴) |
| 44. Texas..... | 59.8 | ..... | ..... |
| 45. Utah..... | 83.7 | 82.2 | 75.2 |
| 46. Vermont..... | 41.7 | 57.0 | (⁵) |
| 47. Washington..... | 75.1 | 76.5 | 60.8 |
| 48. West Virginia..... | 54.9 | 54.1 | 58.8 |
| 49. Wisconsin..... | 72.2 | 70.4 | 65.5 |
| 50. Wyoming..... | 71.6 | 70.0 | (⁶) |

¹ See table 3. ² See table 4. ³ See table 5.

⁴ Complete report not received by the Social Security Board in time to be included in this tabulation.

⁵ Percentage not computed, base less than 100.

Reports suggest that applications are disposed of more quickly in the aid to dependent children program than in either of the other types of public assistance. In the 39 jurisdictions reporting completely, only about one-sixth of all the applications handled during the year were still pending on December 31, 1937. Of the 10 States in which approximately 7,500 or more applications were under consideration during the year, 4 had less than one-third as many pending at the end of 1937 as they had at the beginning of the period. The number pending at the end of 1937 in individual States ranged from 35 in Wyoming to about 4,500 in Georgia.

Practically two-thirds of the 171,000 applications disposed of were approved. The percentage of the total applications approved, State by State, however, ranged from 41.8 in Maine to 87.7 in Michigan. Nineteen States reported that more than 70 percent of all applications disposed of were approved for assistance.

Aid to the Blind

All but 12 of the 38 reporting jurisdictions administered aid to the blind for the whole year. Complete reports on applications during 1937 were received from 36 of the 38 jurisdictions (Connecticut excluded) administering this program under plans approved by the Social Security Board. More than 28,000 applications were received in the 36 jurisdictions during the year. This number, added to the number pending investigation on January 1, 1937, or at the time the State plan became operative in 1937, made a total of about 34,000 applications. Approximately 27,000, almost four-fifths, of the total applications under consideration during the year were disposed of. Of these, approximately seven-tenths were accepted for aid. (See tables 5 and 6.)

There were 7 States—California, Indiana, Iowa, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia—that had approximately 300 or more applications pending at the beginning of the period under consideration. Nearly half of all the applications under consideration during 1937 were received in these States.

Of the 12 States with 1,000 or more applications under consideration during the year (4 States had 2,400 or more), 10 had disposed of two-thirds or more of the applications; of these, 50 percent or more were approved.