

for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands than for the States. In addition, there is an overall dollar maximum on the total Federal payment to these possessions.

Total grants to State and local governments as a percentage of personal income received and of total State general revenues tend to be higher, on the average, in States with low per capita income (table 4). These percentages are also high in the "public land" States and the States that make relatively heavy expenditures for public assistance. Federal grants in 1957-58 represented somewhat more than 1 percent of personal income for the continental United States and 22 percent of State general revenues. Grants to State and local governments are presented here as percentages of State general revenues, but they would be more meaningfully related to combined State and local general revenues. There is available, however, no complete and consistent series for recent years on total local government revenues, by State. On the basis of State and local data for the continental United States as a whole, it is estimated that Federal grants represented 9 percent of combined State and local general revenues in 1957-58<sup>2</sup> and 8 percent in 1956-57.

Grants administered by the Social Security Administration totaled \$1,835 million in 1957—\$241 million or 15 percent more than the \$1,595 million of 1956-57. Nevertheless they represented only 38 percent of all Federal grants, compared with more than 40 percent in 1956-57 and 43 percent in 1955-56. For the continental United States in 1957-58, Social Security Administration grants amounted to \$1,822 million; on the average, they equaled  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent of personal income, 8 percent of State general revenues, and 4 percent of the estimated combined State and local general revenues. The proportion tended to be larger in States with low per capita personal income. The percentage that Social Security Administration grants were of total grants varied only slightly among the

three income groups of States. State-by-State variation was, however, considerably wider — ranging from 11 percent for Nevada in the high-income group and for Oregon in the middle-income group to 65 percent for Louisiana in the low-income group. For the Territories and possessions, Social Security Administration grants constituted 17 percent of all grants and amounted to \$4.19 per capita, compared with \$10.70 for the continental United States.

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### Expenditures for Assistance Payments from State-Local Funds, 1957-58\*

For the country as a whole, the States and localities made about the same fiscal effort to finance the five public assistance programs in the fiscal year 1957-58 as they had a year earlier. The relationship between expenditures for assistance payments from State and local funds for the fiscal year and personal income for the preceding calendar year is used here as a rough measure of the fiscal effort exerted by a State to support public assistance. Nationally, the non-Federal share of assistance payments per \$100 of personal income amounted to 46 cents in 1957-58 compared with 45 cents in 1956-57 (table 1). The insignificant increase (2.2 percent) in the ratio of expenditures from State and local funds to personal income resulted from a rise of almost a tenth in the State-local share of assistance and a moderate growth (5.3 percent) in personal income.

The States and localities spent about \$143 million more from their own funds for all programs combined in 1957-58 than in 1956-57, mainly because a rise in unemployment brought an increase in the recipient rolls for general assistance and aid to dependent children. When their rights to insurance expired, many out-of-work breadwinners had to turn to public assistance to help them provide the food, shelter, and cloth-

ing that their families needed. Thus, caseloads rose sharply in these programs — the two most sensitive to changes in economic conditions. The State-local share of payments went up by more than \$62 million in general assistance and \$40 million in aid to dependent children; combined, these amounts accounted for almost three-fourths of the total increase for all programs. The States and localities, of course, continued to put up all the money for general assistance, a program in which there is no Federal participation. Caseloads declined only in old-age assistance, as more persons left the rolls (primarily because of death) than were added to them. Many more aged persons would have needed old-age assistance had it not been for the continued growth in both the number of aged persons receiving old-age and survivors insurance benefits and the size of the average benefit awarded.

Despite the downturn in economic conditions during 1957, personal income for the United States and Hawaii rose \$17.4 billion to a new high of \$346 billion. The dip in the economy did not begin until the second half of the year, however, and was not severe enough to offset the increases in income scored during the first half. Moreover, increased unemployment had its greatest effect upon the assistance rolls during the winter and early spring months, when costs of fuel and clothing are high and garden produce is not available to reduce food bills.

Each of the 50 States shared in the increase in personal income, but changes were relatively small — less than 5 percent — in half the States (table 2). Personal income rose by 15 percent or more, however, in Nebraska and South Dakota, mainly as a result of the atypical upsurge in farm income that occurred in that part of the country.

In contrast to the generally small increases in income, expenditures for assistance payments went up significantly in 1957-58 in more than half the States. The State-local cost of assistance payments dropped, however, in five States, but the declines were less than 5 percent in all but one State. Changes ranged from a decrease of 5.6 percent in Colorado

<sup>2</sup> Revenue data from the *Summary of Governmental Finances in 1957* (Bureau of the Census) have been projected for 1 year.

\* Prepared by Frank J. Hanmer, Division of Program Statistics and Analysis, Bureau of Public Assistance.

to an increase of 44.0 percent in the District of Columbia. Nine States raised the outlay from their own funds by at least 15 percent, including four that reported increases of 25 percent or more.

The downturn in the economy was

mainly responsible for the larger expenditures for assistance in three of the four States with the greatest increases in the State-local share of assistance payments. In Arkansas, the fourth State, the rise was due to higher assistance standards; because

of the large caseload in old-age assistance, costs increased more in that program than in the others. About 80 percent of the total increase in expenditures from State and local funds in Delaware and Michigan, which rely heavily on income from manufacturing, occurred in general assistance. In the District of Columbia, in contrast, the growth in the number of recipients of aid to dependent children accounted for 45 percent of the total increment in the non-Federal share of assistance. Employable persons are not eligible for general assistance in the District of Columbia, but higher expenditures for that program contributed more than one-fifth of the total increase for all categories combined.

Slightly more than half the States exerted greater fiscal effort to assist public assistance recipients in 1957-58 than in 1956-57. In the 27 States with increases in effort the rise in the State-local share of assistance exceeded that in personal income, and the largest increases occurred in the four States with the biggest jump in State-local expenditures. The drop in effort in 22 States resulted from either a decrease in the non-Federal share of assistance (five States) or a smaller rise in expenditures than in personal income (17 States).

The ratio of assistance from State-local funds to personal income went down the most (15.4 percent) in Colorado and Nebraska and went up the most (37.5 percent) in the District of Columbia. The shifts amounted to less than 5 percent, however, in almost half the States, including 12 where the change was less than 2½ percent. The number of States with specified percentage changes in fiscal effort from 1956-57 to 1957-58 is shown below.

Table 1.—Expenditures for public assistance payments from State and local funds in relation to personal income and amount expended per inhabitant, by State, 1957-58<sup>1</sup>

State	Percentage change in—		Expenditures from State and local funds for assistance			
	Personal income, 1957 from 1956	Expenditures from State and local funds for assistance, 1957-58 from 1956-57	Per \$100 of personal income			Per inhabitant, 1957-58
			1956-57	1957-58	Percentage change, 1957-58 from 1956-57	
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	+5.3	+9.7	\$0.45	\$0.46	+2.2	\$9.34
Alabama.....	+6.6	+2.3	.44	.41	-6.8	5.49
Arizona.....	+8.7	+3.2	.38	.35	-7.9	6.19
Arkansas.....	+2.9	+40.1	.41	.56	+36.6	6.42
California.....	+6.0	+17.8	.60	.65	+8.3	16.46
Colorado.....	+9.7	-5.6	1.43	1.21	-15.4	24.17
Connecticut <sup>3</sup> .....	+6.1	+19.6	.35	.40	+14.3	11.25
Delaware.....	+9	+28.2	.15	.19	+26.7	5.10
District of Columbia.....	+3.0	+44.0	.16	.22	+37.5	5.61
Florida <sup>3</sup> .....	+10.3	+15.3	.29	.30	+3.4	5.43
Georgia.....	+3.2	+4.2	.41	.41	+0.2	5.89
Hawaii.....	+7.2	+4	.32	.30	-6.2	5.50
Idaho <sup>5</sup> .....	+3.3	+2.1	.44	.43	-2.3	6.95
Illinois.....	+4.3	+10.2	.43	.45	+4.7	11.06
Indiana.....	+3.9	+13.8	.22	.24	+9.1	4.84
Iowa.....	+11.9	-3	.55	.48	-12.7	8.76
Kansas.....	+5.7	-3.1	.60	.54	-10.0	9.61
Kentucky.....	+3.9	+7.9	.31	.32	+3.2	4.38
Louisiana.....	+9.8	+3.3	1.20	1.12	-6.7	17.58
Maine.....	+2.8	+13.7	.47	.52	+10.6	8.85
Maryland.....	+4.9	+10.3	.13	.14	+7.7	2.96
Massachusetts.....	+5.5	+10.1	.77	.80	+3.9	18.59
Michigan.....	+2.1	+27.9	.43	.53	+23.3	11.40
Minnesota.....	+6.7	+5.2	.70	.68	-2.9	12.54
Mississippi.....	+1.8	+12.2	.35	.39	+11.4	3.70
Missouri.....	+3.3	+2.9	.63	.62	-1.9	10.05
Montana.....	+3.4	+3.7	.59	.58	-1.7	10.98
Nebraska.....	+15.3	-2	.39	.33	-15.4	5.96
Nevada <sup>3</sup> .....	+7.3	(3)	.36	.29	(3)	7.02
New Hampshire.....	+5.8	+5.2	.40	.40	+0.3	7.40
New Jersey.....	+6.1	+17.9	.20	.22	+10.0	5.48
New Mexico.....	+12.4	+8.9	.40	.38	-5.0	6.44
New York.....	+5.3	+8.2	.43	.44	+2.3	11.32
North Carolina.....	+9	+12.4	.24	.27	+12.5	3.53
North Dakota.....	+2.3	-4.5	.73	.68	-6.8	9.69
Ohio.....	+4.7	+8.8	.37	.38	+2.7	8.61
Oklahoma.....	+4.4	+9.2	1.28	1.32	+3.1	21.38
Oregon.....	+1.0	+1.2	.60	.59	-1.7	11.20
Pennsylvania.....	+5.2	+6.9	.28	.28	+0.7	5.93
Rhode Island.....	+1.4	+5.8	.59	.60	+1.7	11.97
South Carolina.....	+3.8	+1.0	.25	.24	-4.0	2.89
South Dakota.....	+18.7	+8.4	.50	.47	-6.0	7.19
Tennessee.....	+4.0	+10.9	.23	.24	+4.3	3.35
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	+6.8	+6.3	.29	.28	-3.4	5.05
Utah.....	+7.9	+7.5	.51	.50	-2.0	8.54
Vermont <sup>3</sup> .....	+3.8	+16.3	.37	.42	+13.5	6.98
Virginia.....	+4.0	+9.1	.08	.09	+12.5	1.46
Washington.....	+5.8	+7.5	1.06	1.06	+0.1	22.54
West Virginia.....	+7.4	+1.1	.32	.30	-6.2	4.65
Wisconsin.....	+4.6	+4.0	.50	.49	-2.0	9.42
Wyoming.....	+5.7	+7	.42	.40	-4.8	8.10

<sup>1</sup> Expenditures are for the fiscal years 1956-57 and 1957-58 and exclude amounts spent for administration; they are related respectively to personal income for the calendar years 1956 and 1957.

<sup>2</sup> Data on income for Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands not available.

<sup>3</sup> Data for general assistance expenditures esti-

mated. For Nevada, data for 1957-58 exclude vendor payments for medical care from general assistance funds for 6 months and therefore are not comparable with data for 1956-57.

<sup>4</sup> Computed from unrounded ratios.

<sup>5</sup> Reporting of general assistance expenditures incomplete.

Percentage change	Increases	Decreases
Total.....	27	1 22
0-2.4.....	6	6
2.5-4.9.....	7	4
5.0-9.9.....	3	8
10.0-14.9.....	7	2
15.0 or more.....	4	2

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Nevada; general assistance data not comparable for 1956-57 and 1957-58.

The fiscal effort made by the indi-

**Table 2.—Number of States with specified change in personal income and in expenditures for public assistance from State and local funds, 1957-58 from 1956-57**

Percentage change	Increase in personal income	Change in assistance expenditures from State and local funds	
		Increase	Decrease
Total number of States.....	50	44	15
0-2.4.....	7	7	2
2.5-4.9.....	18	6	2
5.0-7.4.....	16	5	1
7.5-9.9.....	4	9	0
10.0-12.4.....	3	6	0
12.5-14.9.....	0	2	0
15.0 or more.....	2	9	0

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Nevada; general assistance data not comparable for the 2 years.

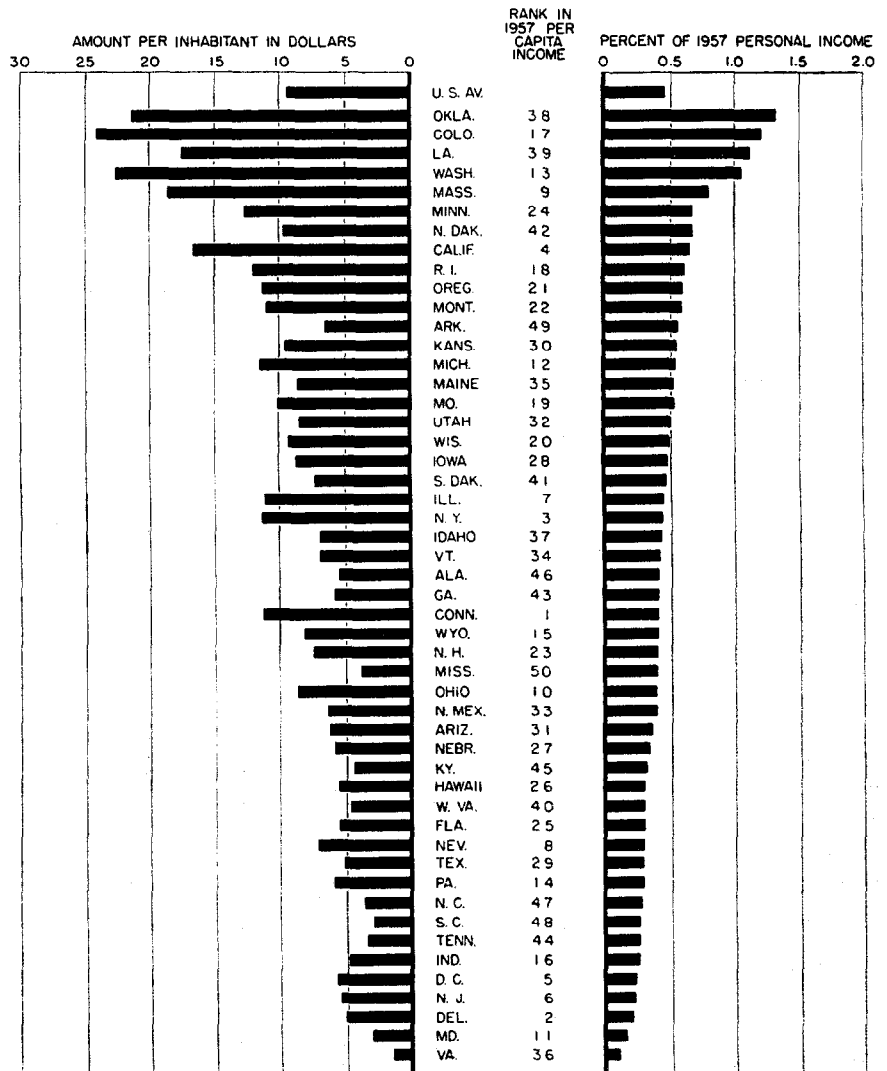
vidual States in 1957-58 varied greatly. Assistance expenditures from State-local funds in Oklahoma, the highest State, amounted to \$1.32 per \$100 of personal income—almost 15 times the 9 cents spent in Virginia, the lowest State. Oklahoma was one of four States that spent more than 90 cents per \$100 of personal income, and Virginia was one of 12 States spending less than 30 cents. In two-thirds of the States the State-local share of assistance payments came to less than 50 cents for every \$100 of personal income. The number of States spending specified amounts per \$100 of personal income is as follows:

Less than 30 cents.....	12
30-49 cents.....	21
50-69 cents.....	12
70-89 cents.....	1
90 cents or more.....	4

As shown in the accompanying chart, there is a good correlation between fiscal effort and per inhabitant expenditures from State-local funds. In 1957-58, Virginia—the lowest State in fiscal effort—spent the least per capita from its own funds (\$1.46), and Colorado, which ranked second highest in fiscal effort, spent the most (\$24.17). Per inhabitant expenditures from State and local funds amounted to less than \$5.00 in nine States, \$5.00-\$6.99 in 15 States, \$7.00-\$10.99 in 13 States, and \$11.00 or more in 13 States.

The amount expended per inhabi-

**Expenditures per inhabitant from State and local funds for public assistance in relation to personal income, by State, fiscal year 1957-58**



tant from State and local funds is determined by the average payment per recipient from State-local funds and by the proportion of the population receiving assistance. High expenditures per inhabitant are largely the result, in States with high per capita incomes, of relatively high average payments to recipients; in States with low per capita incomes, they result from the comparatively high proportion of the population that is aided (recipient rate). Low expenditures per inhabitant, in contrast, are mainly the result of relatively low recipient rates in States

with high per capita incomes and of comparatively low average payments in States with low per capita incomes. The need for assistance, as reflected by relatively high recipient rates, is greatest in the lowest-income States, which have the least economic resources with which to meet this need. There is less need for assistance in the highest-income States, which have the greatest fiscal resources with which to meet need and therefore can afford to make higher payments to recipients.

The comparatively low payments  
(Continued on page 32)

**Table 11.—Old-age, survivors, and disability insurance: Wife's or husband's monthly benefits in current-payment status at end of selected months, by type of benefit and type of claim, 1950-58**

[Included in table 6; amounts in thousands; data corrected to May 12, 1959]

Year and month	Total			Aged wife's <sup>1</sup>			Young wife's <sup>2</sup>			Husband's		
	Total	OASI <sup>3</sup>	DI <sup>3</sup>	Total	OASI <sup>3</sup>	DI <sup>3</sup>	Total	OASI <sup>3</sup>	DI <sup>3</sup>	Total	OASI <sup>3</sup>	DI <sup>3</sup>
Number												
December:												
1950.....	508,350	508,350		498,688	498,688		8,865	8,865		797	797	
1951.....	646,890	646,890		614,513	614,513		29,388	29,388		2,989	2,989	
1952.....	737,859	737,859		699,797	699,797		33,784	33,784		4,278	4,278	
1953.....	887,845	887,845		840,019	840,019		41,425	41,425		6,401	6,401	
1954.....	1,015,892	1,015,892		958,755	958,755		49,225	49,225		7,912	7,912	
1955												
June.....	1,131,262	1,131,262		1,067,561	1,067,561		54,461	54,461		9,240	9,240	
December.....	1,191,963	1,191,963		1,124,616	1,124,616		57,284	57,284		10,063	10,063	
1956												
June.....	1,255,018	1,255,018		1,183,899	1,183,899		60,404	60,404		10,715	10,715	
December.....	1,433,507	1,433,507		1,359,894	1,359,894		62,153	62,153		11,460	11,460	
1957												
June.....	1,718,969	1,718,969		1,631,346	1,631,346		74,782	74,782		12,841	12,841	
December.....	1,827,048	1,827,048		1,732,130	1,732,130		81,396	81,396		13,522	13,522	
1958												
June.....	1,947,414	1,947,414		1,843,236	1,843,236		90,366	90,366		13,812	13,812	
November <sup>4</sup> .....	2,031,091	2,018,860	12,231	1,915,566	1,910,585	4,981	101,164	93,931	7,233	14,361	14,344	17
Monthly amount												
December:												
1950.....	\$11,994.9	\$11,994.9		\$11,865.0	\$11,865.0		\$114.0	\$114.0		\$15.9	\$15.9	
1951.....	14,709.5	14,709.5		14,230.2	14,230.2		421.1	421.1		58.2	58.2	
1952.....	19,178.4	19,178.4		18,531.1	18,531.1		551.8	551.8		95.4	95.4	
1953.....	24,017.1	24,017.1		23,124.9	23,124.9		744.3	744.3		147.9	147.9	
1954.....	32,270.6	32,270.6		31,021.1	31,021.1		1,038.9	1,038.9		210.6	210.6	
1955												
June.....	37,011.2	37,011.2		35,542.1	35,542.1		1,220.0	1,220.0		249.1	249.1	
December.....	39,415.5	39,415.5		37,826.1	37,826.1		1,315.1	1,315.1		274.4	274.4	
1956												
June.....	41,968.4	41,968.4		40,257.5	40,257.5		1,416.5	1,416.5		294.3	294.3	
December.....	48,325.6	48,325.6		46,536.6	46,536.6		1,469.2	1,469.2		319.8	319.8	
1957												
June.....	58,748.6	58,748.6		56,582.2	56,582.2		1,797.8	1,797.8		368.6	368.6	
December.....	62,801.6	62,801.6		60,433.9	60,433.9		1,970.3	1,970.3		397.4	397.4	
1958												
June.....	67,821.1	67,821.1		65,207.0	65,207.0		2,201.8	2,201.8		412.4	412.4	
November <sup>4</sup> .....	71,230.1	70,814.8	\$415.2	68,249.2	68,052.6	\$196.6	2,543.4	2,325.4	\$218.0	437.5	436.9	\$0.6

<sup>1</sup> Wife aged 65 or over, or wife aged 62-64 with no entitled children in her care.

<sup>2</sup> Wife under age 65 with one or more entitled children in her care.

<sup>3</sup> See footnote 2, table 6, page 29.

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 5, table 6, page 29.

**STATE-LOCAL EXPENDITURES FOR ASSISTANCE**

(Continued from page 24)

to recipients in the lowest-income States have aroused concern as to whether they are making as much

fiscal effort to support public assistance as the other States. The average fiscal effort exerted by each of the three per capita income groups shown below differed somewhat for all programs combined, with the low-

est-income group making the highest effort. The lowest- and middle-income groups averaged about 11½ percent more effort than the highest-income States. In the following tabulation the 48 States are divided into

Table 12.—Old-age, survivors, and disability insurance: Number of monthly benefits awarded, by type of benefit, 1955-59

Year and quarter <sup>1</sup>	Total			Old-age	Disability <sup>3</sup>	Wife's or husband's			Child's <sup>4</sup>		DI <sup>2</sup>	Widow's or widower's	Mother's	Parent's
	Total	OASI <sup>2</sup>	DI <sup>2</sup>			Total	OASI <sup>2</sup>	DI <sup>2</sup>	Total	OASI <sup>2</sup>				
1955	1,657,773	1,657,773		909,883		288,915	288,915		238,795	238,795		140,624	76,018	3,538
1956	1,855,296	1,855,296		934,033		384,562	384,562		211,783	211,783		253,524	67,475	3,919
1957	2,832,344	2,653,542	178,802	1,424,975	178,802	578,012	578,012		313,163	313,163		244,633	88,174	4,585
1958 (Jan.-Nov.) <sup>5</sup>	2,123,438	1,960,861	162,577	1,041,688	131,394	379,429	366,509	12,920	286,772	268,509	18,263	199,314	81,466	3,375
1955														
January-March	396,719	396,719		219,209		75,936	75,936		50,547	50,547		34,389	15,917	721
April-June	504,709	504,709		291,587		86,914	86,914		67,375	67,375		36,663	21,263	907
July-September	402,163	402,163		217,849		67,324	67,324		61,535	61,535		34,855	19,631	969
October-December	354,182	354,182		181,238		58,741	58,741		59,338	59,338		34,717	19,207	941
1956														
January-March	346,713	346,713		185,202		59,905	59,905		52,382	52,382		31,845	16,587	792
April-June	413,242	413,242		223,469		73,641	73,641		60,706	60,706		35,271	19,244	911
July-September	438,803	438,803		244,225		87,051	87,051		55,098	55,098		33,842	17,748	839
October-December	656,538	656,538		281,137		163,965	163,965		43,597	43,597		152,566	13,896	1,377
1957														
January-March	659,108	659,108		348,707		151,509	151,509		65,681	65,681		72,076	19,890	1,245
April-June	950,330	950,330		538,103		226,371	226,371		94,029	94,029		65,857	24,645	1,325
July-September	641,766	506,490	135,266	264,506	135,266	100,944	100,944		72,626	72,626		48,603	18,849	962
October-December	581,150	537,614	43,536	273,659	43,536	99,188	99,188		80,827	80,827		58,097	24,790	1,053
1958														
January-March	546,939	502,668	44,271	263,420	44,271	95,847	95,847		67,599	67,599		54,374	20,611	817
April-June	711,565	672,548	39,017	371,765	39,017	128,665	128,665		85,599	85,599		59,996	25,553	970
July-September	547,059	516,815	30,244	271,872	30,244	92,757	92,757		74,213	74,213		54,668	22,423	882
October-November <sup>5</sup>	317,875	268,830	49,045	134,631	17,862	62,160	49,240	12,920	59,361	41,998	18,263	30,276	12,879	706
1959														
January-March <sup>5</sup>	764,834	674,931	89,903	338,493	45,643	140,616	122,568	18,048	128,518	102,306	26,212	78,946	30,126	2,492

<sup>1</sup> Annual data for 1940-54 appear in the 1957 Annual Statistical Supplement, p. 30, table 34.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 2, table 6, page 29.

<sup>3</sup> Monthly benefits to disabled workers aged 50-64.

<sup>4</sup> Includes benefits payable to disabled persons aged 18 or over—dependent children of disabled, deceased, or retired workers—whose disability began before

age 18.

<sup>5</sup> To effect the benefit increases provided by the 1958 amendments, certain operations affecting statistical data on benefits awarded and monthly benefits in current-payment status were suspended for December 1958; figures on benefits awarded in December 1958 are therefore not available separately but are included in the figures for benefits awarded in January 1959.

three groups on the basis of their per capita incomes, and the average fiscal effort (assistance expenditures from State-local funds per \$100 of personal income) made by each group is shown for each of the three major programs and for all programs combined.

Income group, 1955-57	Average fiscal effort, 1957-58 <sup>1</sup>			
	All 5 programs <sup>2</sup>	OAA	A DC	GA
High-income (15 States)	\$0.44	\$0.19	\$0.09	\$0.12
Middle-income (17 States)	.49	.27	.08	.10
Low-income (16 States)	.50	.31	.10	.04

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Alaska, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The averages shown are unweighted—that is, in determining the average every State is given the same weight. (A weighted average is heavily influenced by the States with the largest amounts of income.)

<sup>2</sup> Includes fiscal effort for aid to the blind and aid to the permanently and totally disabled, not shown separately because of their comparatively small size.

The three income groups differed markedly in their efforts to support old-age assistance and general assistance. Although all three made their greatest effort for old-age assistance, the lowest- and middle-income groups exerted about two-fifths to three-fifths again as much effort for that program as did the group with highest income. Variation in effort to finance old-age assistance exists in part because, until recent years, coverage under the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program was much more limited in the middle- and lowest-income States, where agriculture is more prevalent, than in the high-income industrialized States. The States with the lowest per capita incomes put far less effort, however, into general assistance than did the States in the other two groups. Because of their extremely limited fiscal resources, the lowest-income States prefer to chan-

nel their funds into the programs that attract Federal dollars. Moreover, a comparatively large proportion of their population qualifies for assistance under the federally aided categories because of the great amount of need.

In view of the generally greater need that exists in the lowest-income States, it is surprising that they do not also make far greater fiscal effort than the other income groups for aid to dependent children. Old-age assistance, however, has much greater community acceptance and support than has the children's program, which includes aid to those whose fathers are absent from the home because of divorce, desertion, or failure to marry the mother. Funds for aid to dependent children are generally curtailed by setting assistance standards lower than those in other programs and/or by meeting a

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**Table 14.—Public assistance in the United States, by month, March 1958—March 1959<sup>1</sup>**

[Except for general assistance, includes vendor payments for medical care and cases receiving only such payments]

Year and month	Total <sup>2</sup>	Old-age assistance	Aid to dependent children		Aid to the blind	Aid to the permanently and totally disabled	General assistance (cases) <sup>4</sup>	Total	Old-age assistance	Aid to dependent children (recipients)	Aid to the blind	Aid to the permanently and totally disabled	General assistance (cases)				
			Families	Recipients													
				Total <sup>3</sup>										Children			
Number of recipients													Percentage change from previous month				
1958																	
March		2,470,660	704,498	2,641,820	2,023,535	107,787	299,867	452,000		-0.2	+2.1	+0.1	+1.4	+6.7			
April		2,465,980	716,296	2,687,845	2,057,926	107,898	304,862	454,000		-2	+1.7	+1	+1.7	+4			
May		2,464,344	725,007	2,720,974	2,082,898	108,144	309,486	490,000		-1	+1.2	+2	+1.5	-5.1			
June		2,460,299	728,255	2,733,146	2,092,216	108,336	312,585	418,000		-2	+4	+2	+1.0	-3.0			
July		2,458,761	729,338	2,737,453	2,094,887	108,836	315,968	405,000		-1	+2	+5	+1.1	-3.1			
August		2,456,043	732,050	2,750,548	2,105,694	109,114	318,151	384,000		-1	+5	+2	+7	-5.2			
September		2,454,281	736,478	2,770,517	2,121,925	109,342	320,516	381,000		-1	+7	+2	+7	-8			
October		2,455,358	741,501	2,792,437	2,139,700	109,594	322,974	386,000		( <sup>5</sup> )	+8	+2	+8	+1.5			
November		2,452,775	746,271	2,811,134	2,154,928	109,796	325,294	393,000		-1	+7	+2	+7	+1.8			
December		2,452,465	756,405	2,850,440	2,185,225	109,831	327,763	434,000		( <sup>5</sup> )	+1.4	( <sup>5</sup> )	+8	+10.5			
1959																	
January		2,445,349	763,302	2,878,317	2,206,708	109,679	329,478	471,000		-3	+1.0	-1	+5	+8.4			
February		2,438,513	769,230	2,901,512	2,224,949	109,470	330,357	480,000		-3	+8	-2	+3	+2.0			
March <sup>7</sup>		2,433,412	775,587	2,916,799	2,235,435	109,261	331,304	480,000		-1	+8	+1	+7	-1			
Amount of assistance													Percentage change from previous month				
1958																	
March	\$284,020,000	\$151,434,890		\$72,009,344		\$7,189,413	\$18,191,186	\$27,594,000	+2.2	+0.2	+2.9	+0.3	+1.6	+9.3			
April	285,134,000	150,981,895		73,446,282		7,190,649	18,467,430	27,686,000	+4	-3	+2.0	( <sup>5</sup> )	+1.5	+3			
May	285,576,000	151,317,552		74,251,695		7,196,326	18,695,143	26,404,000	+2	+2	+1.1	+1	+1.2	-4.6			
June	284,969,000	151,014,619		74,564,363		7,228,164	18,969,310	25,713,000	-2	-2	+4	+4	+1.5	-2.6			
July	283,170,000	150,875,984		74,316,563		7,258,399	18,998,787	24,633,000	-6	-1	-3	+4	+2	-4.2			
August	283,110,000	151,598,122		74,624,065		7,254,331	19,199,930	23,186,000	( <sup>5</sup> )	+5	+4	-1	+1.1	-5.9			
September	285,277,000	151,647,823		76,051,105		7,324,068	19,503,462	23,385,000	+8	( <sup>5</sup> )	+1.9	+1.0	+1.6	+9			
October	292,504,000	155,463,614		77,737,527		7,402,577	19,949,176	24,778,000	+2.5	+2.5	+2.2	+1.1	+2.3	+6.0			
November	293,578,000	155,066,929		78,748,815		7,446,517	20,057,128	25,099,000	+4	-3	+1.3	+6	+5	+1.3			
December	303,278,000	157,341,932		80,631,860		7,500,759	20,513,738	29,892,000	+3.3	+1.5	+2.4	+7	+3	+19.1			
1959																	
January	306,706,000	157,829,277		81,479,512		7,481,650	20,742,481	31,908,000	+1.1	+3	+1.1	-3	+1.1	+6.7			
February	308,068,000	156,534,017		82,697,672		7,467,170	20,903,352	32,557,000	+4	-8	+1.5	-2	+8	+2.0			
March <sup>7</sup>	310,665,000	156,570,470		83,651,489		7,523,815	21,091,642	33,192,000	+9	+1	+1.7	+1.1	+1.6	+1.9			

<sup>1</sup> For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, October 1957, p. 18. All data subject to revision.

<sup>2</sup> Total exceeds sum of columns because of inclusion of vendor payments for medical care from general assistance funds and from special medical funds; data for such expenditures partly estimated for some States.

<sup>3</sup> Includes as recipients the children and 1 parent or other adult relative in families in which the requirements of at least 1 such adult were considered in determining the amount of assistance.

<sup>4</sup> Excludes Idaho; data not available. Percentage change based on data for 52 States.

<sup>5</sup> Increase of less than 0.05 percent.

<sup>6</sup> Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.

<sup>7</sup> Except for general assistance, data included for Illinois understated because of administrative change in the processing of payments. Percentage changes for the special types of public assistance based on data excluding Illinois.

**STATE-LOCAL EXPENDITURES FOR ASSISTANCE**

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smaller percentage of need than in the other programs when it is necessary for the State to reduce payments to recipients.

Equal fiscal effort by a low- and a

high-income State results in far fewer State-local dollars per inhabitant for assistance in the State with the lower income. Fiscal effort, for example, in Mississippi (39 cents per \$100 of personal income) was about equal to that in Connecticut (40 cents per \$100), yet Mississippi had only

\$3.70 to spend for assistance and Connecticut had \$11.25—more than three times as much. Thus, it is apparent that a low-income State, to make the same expenditure per inhabitant from State-local funds, must make far greater fiscal effort than a high-income State.