

than in 1949 and many more of the aged lived in urban areas where costs are higher. A considerable improvement in their economic situation is nevertheless suggested by the drop from 74 percent in 1949 to 55 percent in 1959 in the proportion with less than \$1,000 and the rise from 7 percent to 13 percent in the proportion with \$3,000 or more.

The large increase in the number of women with some cash income of their own was, of course, a major factor in this gain, although many of them are still receiving less than \$1,000. The problem in statistics for aged women of classifying at zero or very low incomes married women supported by their husbands does not arise in the data for aged men. These statistics also can be misleading, however, because although some men have only themselves to support, others provide for a wife and a few for children also. The survey shows that about half the men aged 65 and over had incomes below \$1,500 and about half had \$1,500 or more. Almost one-fourth had \$3,000 or more, and the same proportion reported less than \$870. Most of the former had regular employment; most of the latter received public

assistance or small payments under other income-maintenance programs.

As previously noted, many older persons have acquired savings and property that could in some measure offset the reduction in current cash income that follows retirement. All surveys, however, point to the fact that those whose incomes are lowest and who would benefit most from assets readily convertible to cash are the least likely to have them.<sup>5</sup> By the same token, those with relatively high incomes are most likely to have financial assets. Similarly, the persons with the most limited financial resources—whether measured in terms of income or financial assets—are the least likely to own their homes. This relationship between assets and income is, of course, not unexpected because both income and assets after retirement are related to earnings in earlier years and to the opportunity they afforded for accumulating savings.

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<sup>5</sup> For supporting data see Lenore A. Epstein, "Some Problems in Measuring the Economic Status of the Aged in the United States," a paper presented at the Fifth Congress of the International Association of Gerontology, San Francisco, August 1960.

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## Notes and Brief Reports

### State-Chartered Credit Unions in 1959\*

The number of active credit unions chartered under State laws continued to grow during 1959, passing the 10,000 mark for the first time. Reports from 9,961 (99 percent) of the 10,054 active credit unions reveal that total assets moved up almost 16 percent in 1959 and amounted to \$2,676.1 million at the year's end (table 1).

A net increase of about 402,500 in 1959 brought the total membership to 5.7 million. Members' savings (shares) meanwhile increased 15.4 percent and stood at \$2,259 million on December 31. Shareholdings amounted to more than \$2 billion for the first time.

Loans outstanding to members likewise ex-

ceeded \$2 billion for the first time. They totaled \$2,051 million at the end of 1959, an increase of nearly 21 percent from the amount a year earlier.

During the 10 years since the end of 1949, average assets per State-chartered credit union have almost tripled, the average membership has increased 37 percent, and the average savings of the members have more than doubled. By the end of 1959, credit unions chartered under State laws had, on the average, assets of \$268,657, their membership averaged 575, and average shares per member amounted to \$394.

State-chartered credit unions have experienced a declining rate of growth since 1956, but in 1959 they regained some momentum as total assets increased 15.7 percent, in contrast to a rise of 14.4 percent in 1958. Except for 1958, however, the 1959 rate of increase was still the smallest since 1951. In terms of dollar volume, year-to-year increases in total assets have risen continuously since 1943. In that year an advance of

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\*Prepared by Ronald M. Gardner, Statistics and Reports Branch, Bureau of Federal Credit Unions.

TABLE 1.—Development of State-chartered credit unions, 1925-59

Year	Number of credit unions		Number of members	Assets
	Active	Reporting		
1925.....	419	176	108,000	(1)
1929.....	974	838	264,908	(1)
1931.....	1,500	1,244	286,143	\$33,645,343
1932.....	1,612	1,472	301,119	31,416,072
1933.....	2,016	1,772	359,646	35,496,668
1934.....	2,450	2,028	427,097	40,212,112
1935.....	2,600	2,122	523,132	47,964,068
1936.....	3,490	2,734	854,475	73,659,146
1937.....	3,792	3,128	1,055,736	97,087,995
1938.....	4,299	3,977	1,236,826	117,672,392
1939.....	4,782	4,677	1,459,377	145,803,444
1940.....	5,267	5,175	1,700,390	180,649,090
1941.....	5,663	5,506	1,907,694	216,557,977
1942.....	5,622	5,400	1,797,084	221,114,849
1943.....	5,285	5,124	1,721,240	228,314,723
1944.....	4,993	4,907	1,629,706	253,663,658
1945.....	4,923	4,858	1,626,304	281,524,015
1946.....	5,003	4,954	1,717,616	322,082,553
1947.....	5,155	5,097	1,893,944	380,751,106
1948.....	5,273	5,271	2,120,708	443,049,653
1949.....	5,427	5,402	2,271,115	510,726,465
1950.....	5,602	5,585	2,482,539	599,165,879
1951.....	5,881	5,886	2,732,495	693,613,296
1952.....	6,362	6,324	3,035,046	853,709,783
1953.....	7,096	6,986	3,380,121	1,040,874,593
1954.....	7,814	7,713	3,756,852	1,237,175,567
1955.....	8,387	8,258	4,121,421	1,476,014,239
1956.....	8,901	8,763	4,548,617	1,741,742,069
1957.....	9,463	9,314	4,963,813	2,021,144,713
1958.....	<sup>2</sup> 9,806	<sup>2</sup> 9,740	5,329,111	2,312,053,121
1959.....	10,054	9,961	5,731,636	2,676,095,037

<sup>1</sup> Data not available.  
<sup>2</sup> Revised.

\$7.2 million was recorded; total assets increased \$364 million during 1959.

The demand for loans, which had declined in 1958, picked up in 1959 as the economy began to pull out of the recent recession. Outstanding loans to members at the end of 1959 amounted to one-fifth more than they did at the end of 1958. This increase matched the rise in 1957; in 1958 the rate of increase was only 11 percent. The greater loan activity in 1959 resulted in an increase of \$23.3 million (26 percent) in net income; the preceding year had seen a rise of only \$6.3 million (7.6 percent).

Members of State-chartered credit unions received \$79.1 million in dividends in 1959. This amount is \$14.9 million (23 percent) higher than the total paid in dividends a year earlier.

## REAL ESTATE LOANS

Twenty-four States reported on real estate loans in 1959. Of the loans outstanding (nearly \$1.5 billion) at the end of the year in these States, 23 percent had been made for the purpose of buy-

ing real estate. During the year, it is estimated, these States made loans totaling \$1,494 million, almost \$93 million of which represented loans for this purpose (table 2).

More than half (57 percent) of the loans outstanding in Rhode Island were secured by real-estate mortgages. The proportion was also large in New Hampshire and Massachusetts—48 percent and 47 percent, respectively. Other States reporting at least 40 percent of their outstanding loans secured by real estate were Minnesota and Wisconsin.

## ACTIVITIES BY STATES

All 46 jurisdictions that have a local credit union law reported on their operations in 1959. Seven States did not report on membership, nine States did not report net earnings in 1959, and 11 jurisdictions did not report dividend payments on members' shareholdings. Estimates were made for the missing items and included in the totals for all States in table 3.

Six States—Illinois, California, Michigan, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and Ohio—account for

TABLE 2.—All loans and real estate loans made by State-chartered credit unions, 24 States, 1959<sup>1</sup>

State	Loans outstanding, end of year		Loans made during year	
	Total	Secured by real estate	Total	Secured by real estate
Total, 24 States.....	\$1,488,699,072	\$344,598,749	<sup>a</sup> \$1,494,100,000	<sup>b</sup> \$92,600,000
Ala.....	36,683,868	3,823,865	48,000,683	(3)
Calif.....	222,780,365	34,598,532	213,056,074	(3)
Colo.....	41,149,417	5,306,734	44,568,854	2,313,225
Fla.....	44,467,186	4,028,499	59,847,373	(3)
Iowa.....	47,162,939	6,458,204	47,760,742	2,239,106
Kans. <sup>4</sup> .....	25,901,972	2,597,603	(3)	(3)
Maine.....	4,314,000	8,000	(3)	(3)
Mass.....	128,161,010	59,639,821	(3)	(3)
Mich.....	192,572,890	43,465,258	201,900,086	5,859,424
Minn.....	106,865,176	42,296,082	67,486,196	(3)
Miss.....	2,330,988	545,902	3,406,774	82,805
Mo. <sup>4</sup> .....	19,410,875	19,182,143	(3)	(3)
N. H. <sup>5</sup> .....	6,486,630	3,093,777	(3)	(3)
N. Dak.....	8,826,513	1,246,698	6,629,258	(3)
Ohio.....	124,373,429	14,981,699	156,444,572	(3)
Okla.....	23,423,959	1,070,179	(3)	(3)
Oreg.....	20,315,753	1,596,633	21,236,006	641,238
R. I.....	47,719,656	27,105,000	26,959,807	6,917,637
Tex.....	91,064,128	5,786,717	124,376,259	2,525,125
Utah.....	30,298,574	3,423,550	27,573,954	1,467,222
Vt.....	3,535,570	555,937	(3)	(3)
Wash.....	50,116,891	5,524,044	61,227,903	2,204,985
W. Va.....	2,847,324	255,040	5,599,332	530,735
Wis.....	135,859,959	58,008,832	93,728,725	16,000,268

<sup>1</sup> States reporting on real estate loans. Data are for calendar year unless otherwise noted.

<sup>2</sup> Includes estimates for States not reporting.

<sup>3</sup> Data not reported.

<sup>4</sup> Data for fiscal year ended September 30.

<sup>5</sup> Data for fiscal year ended June 30.

more than half (52 percent) of the total assets of State-chartered credit unions. Illinois, which ranked first in total assets, also reported the largest number of active credit unions at the end of 1959. California, ranking second in amount of assets, was fifth in terms of the number of active groups. Michigan was third in both categories, and Wisconsin was fourth in the amount of assets held and second in the number of active credit unions. Ranking fifth in assets, Massachusetts was seventh in number of credit unions. Ohio ranked sixth in total assets at the end of 1959 and fourth in the number of active credit unions chartered under State law.

credit unions. Their ranking in this respect is the same as it is for total assets.

### STATE-CHARTERED AND FEDERAL GROUPS

For comparative purposes, selected data on State-chartered and Federal credit unions are shown in table 4. Eight jurisdictions—Alaska, the Canal Zone, Delaware, Hawaii, Nevada, South Dakota, the Virgin Islands, and Wyoming—that are covered by the Federal Credit Union Act have no provisions for chartering credit unions under local law. In these eight areas, 414 Federal credit unions serving 205,400 members re-

TABLE 3.—Operations of State-chartered credit unions, 1959

State	Law enacted	Number of credit unions		Number of members	Loans outstanding end of year	Paid-in share capital	Reserves	Total assets	Net earnings	Dividends on shares
		Active	Reporting							
Total 1958 <sup>1</sup>		<sup>2</sup> 9,806	<sup>2</sup> 9,740	5,329,111	\$1,697,666,464	\$1,958,384,577	\$113,422,813	\$2,312,053,121	\$89,600,742	\$64,214,950
Total, 1959 <sup>1</sup>		10,054	9,961	5,731,636	2,051,210,064	2,259,210,555	132,485,677	2,676,095,937	112,880,460	79,145,198
Alabama.....	1927	129	128	89,588	36,683,868	39,325,883	1,452,963	47,776,121	3,426,261	1,749,031
Arizona.....	1929	59	59	19,466	7,241,308	6,470,310	144,873	7,858,224	382,496	249,216
Arkansas.....	1931	69	69	18,719	4,404,057	4,803,639	191,616	5,531,124	224,251	170,157
California.....	1927	619	596	535,994	222,780,365	226,420,403	10,921,150	261,137,905	11,924,858	8,270,004
Colorado.....	1931	163	163	91,792	41,149,417	41,988,542	1,836,145	49,800,192	2,240,641	1,414,496
Connecticut.....	1939	162	162	53,974	14,898,849	18,894,398	586,806	21,018,011	794,830	441,906
District of Columbia.....	1932	16	16	22,199	4,614,355	5,371,914	420,318	6,182,666	253,834	202,433
Florida.....	1929	310	310	130,019	44,497,186	47,976,082	2,531,713	54,553,288	2,665,758	1,672,185
Georgia.....	1925	158	158	83,143	29,806,834	425,352	1,341,908	38,063,768	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Idaho <sup>4</sup> .....	1935	78	74	10,613	2,164,179	2,052,144	85,604	2,340,546	112,610	60,558
Illinois.....	1925	1,520	1,520	765,772	239,795,841	317,885,710	19,652,829	351,700,104	14,993,206	10,795,736
Indiana <sup>5</sup> .....	1923	148	148	( <sup>3</sup> )	28,342,549	35,091,824	3,355,891	39,117,530	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Iowa.....	1925	316	316	129,259	47,162,939	56,165,675	2,787,922	63,232,435	2,707,058	1,894,393
Kansas <sup>6</sup> .....	1929	206	201	79,786	25,901,972	30,832,322	1,344,974	34,012,888	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Kentucky <sup>6</sup> .....	1922	131	131	( <sup>3</sup> )	19,456,225	23,243,348	1,472,384	26,447,334	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Louisiana.....	1924	101	101	43,949	13,615,283	14,770,020	966,346	17,109,559	908,324	620,082
Maine.....	1939	24	24	( <sup>3</sup> )	4,314,000	5,010,000	341,000	5,777,000	221,000	167,000
Maryland.....	1929	44	44	57,169	16,550,273	17,296,229	1,220,615	21,492,255	1,153,007	794,334
Massachusetts.....	1909	449	449	411,513	128,161,010	156,267,027	15,911,204	189,632,756	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Michigan.....	1925	684	673	434,353	192,572,890	208,018,909	9,016,313	236,376,534	9,821,382	7,144,753
Minnesota.....	1925	426	424	219,196	106,865,176	100,981,104	5,016,611	124,269,635	3,532,611	3,581,524
Mississippi.....	1924	38	36	11,936	2,330,988	3,587,958	211,297	4,224,003	240,595	167,168
Missouri <sup>6</sup> .....	1927	539	524	( <sup>3</sup> )	91,410,876	111,329,101	5,317,253	122,781,903	( <sup>3</sup> )	2,956,763
Montana.....	1929	35	32	6,576	1,751,494	1,666,940	83,702	2,047,322	91,775	35,963
Nebraska.....	1919	81	81	33,088	12,915,492	15,240,055	646,413	16,746,899	585,727	545,600
New Hampshire <sup>6</sup> .....	1921	35	35	18,766	6,486,630	4,281,161	244,531	8,318,226	328,293	113,574
New Jersey.....	1924	72	72	37,687	4,619,778	13,219,339	666,942	14,252,077	481,287	394,330
New Mexico.....	1945	53	53	( <sup>3</sup> )	4,095,298	4,597,234	116,118	5,071,276	231,470	146,047
New York.....	1913	151	151	162,953	43,905,254	48,435,046	4,483,220	58,220,020	2,447,925	1,578,053
North Carolina.....	1915	202	200	94,006	23,700,808	25,732,414	1,762,589	30,874,120	3,044,259	( <sup>3</sup> )
North Dakota.....	1935	90	90	21,505	8,826,513	9,444,103	315,957	10,304,320	287,730	169,106
Ohio.....	1931	626	616	337,689	124,373,429	136,948,630	7,348,468	158,191,016	7,018,350	4,820,658
Oklahoma.....	1933	40	39	( <sup>3</sup> )	23,423,959	317,871	1,551,062	27,295,474	1,362,182	( <sup>3</sup> )
Oregon.....	1915	42	42	42,183	20,315,753	22,008,683	1,286,220	24,339,692	1,179,447	784,676
Pennsylvania.....	1933	124	124	83,980	19,102,409	26,634,810	1,667,502	31,605,352	1,043,949	807,618
Puerto Rico <sup>6</sup> .....	1947	183	183	65,354	13,765,976	12,240,396	338,024	15,303,521	383,843	( <sup>3</sup> )
Rhode Island.....	1914	100	95	105,950	47,719,656	41,449,463	4,520,786	63,862,608	2,651,179	1,355,037
South Carolina <sup>4</sup> .....	1915	28	23	8,535	2,123,241	2,289,299	79,085	2,611,375	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Tennessee.....	1923	185	182	93,815	38,263,488	42,939,761	1,484,373	48,662,046	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Texas.....	1913	387	386	220,072	91,064,128	95,547,407	2,607,385	107,802,339	5,255,540	4,124,610
Utah.....	1915	168	168	59,661	30,298,573	28,410,660	725,477	33,597,444	1,544,462	1,067,719
Vermont.....	1941	62	62	15,595	3,535,570	3,493,067	138,365	3,980,626	189,898	89,544
Virginia.....	1921	99	99	( <sup>3</sup> )	17,378,002	15,609,747	858,778	20,058,755	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Washington.....	1933	151	151	137,166	50,116,891	57,761,135	2,913,701	66,238,640	3,518,106	2,270,253
West Virginia.....	1925	23	23	8,186	2,847,324	2,226,271	244,432	3,289,074	110,266	110,161
Wisconsin.....	1913	728	728	341,959	135,859,959	174,509,169	12,274,722	192,992,034	7,759,260	5,481,212

<sup>1</sup> Includes estimates for data not reported.

<sup>2</sup> Revised.

<sup>3</sup> Data not reported.

<sup>4</sup> Data furnished by State Credit Union League.

<sup>5</sup> Data for fiscal year ended June 30.

<sup>6</sup> Data for fiscal year ended Sept. 30.

TABLE 4.—Selected data on State-chartered and Federal credit union operations, 1958 and 1959

Item	All credit unions		State-chartered		Federal	
	1958	1959	1958	1959	1958	1959
Number in operation.....	1 18,836	19,501	1 9,806	10,054	9,030	9,447
Number reporting.....	1 18,770	19,408	1 9,740	9,961	9,030	9,447
Number of members.....	10,539,023	11,374,884	5,329,111	5,731,636	5,209,912	5,643,248
Amount of loans outstanding.....	\$3,077,390,191	\$3,717,735,576	\$1,697,666,464	\$2,051,210,064	\$1,379,723,727	\$1,666,525,512
Paid-in share capital <sup>2</sup> .....	3,770,401,850	4,334,265,574	1,958,384,577	2,259,210,555	1,812,017,273	2,075,055,019
Reserves.....	197,694,237	233,562,916	113,422,813	132,485,677	84,271,424	101,077,239
Total assets.....	4,346,918,696	5,028,908,437	2,312,053,121	2,676,095,037	2,034,865,575	2,352,813,400
Net earnings.....	177,754,328	215,117,587	89,600,742	112,880,460	88,153,586	102,237,147
Dividends paid on shares.....	127,208,156	152,437,557	64,214,950	79,145,198	63,083,206	73,292,359
Average membership per credit union.....	1 561	586	1 547	575	577	597
Average assets per credit union.....	1 \$231,589	\$259,115	1 \$237,377	\$268,657	\$225,345	\$249,054
Average shares per member.....	358	381	367	394	348	368
Ratio (percent) of—						
Loans outstanding to shares.....	81.6	85.8	86.7	90.8	76.1	80.3
Loans outstanding to assets.....	70.8	73.9	73.4	76.6	67.8	70.8
Reserves to shares.....	5.2	5.4	5.8	5.9	4.7	4.9
Reserves to loans outstanding.....	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.5	6.1	6.1

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes members' deposits in State-chartered credit unions amounting to \$99,464,000 in 1958 and \$103,466,000 in 1959.

ported total assets of \$105.4 million at the end of 1959.

In 1959, active credit unions chartered under State laws outnumbered those chartered under the Federal act by 607 and made up 51.6 percent of all operating credit unions in the United States. Shareholdings in State-chartered credit unions accounted for 52.1 percent of the total savings in all credit unions at the end of the year, and assets for 53.2 percent of the total.

State-chartered credit unions are somewhat larger than Federal groups, on the average, in terms of total assets. The size of the average shares held by members likewise exceed the average for Federal credit unions, but average membership among the latter groups exceeds that for credit unions chartered under State laws.

The year 1959 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the first State credit union law in the United States and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first Federal law. By the end of 1959, there were 19,501 credit unions—State-chartered and Federal—in operation in the United States. Their 11.4 million members had accumulated more than \$4.3 billion in savings in their credit unions. Total assets in State-chartered and Federal credit unions passed the \$5 billion mark in 1959 and amounted to \$5,029 million at the year's end.

## Workmen's Compensation Payments and Costs, 1959\*

Registering the largest year-to-year percentage increase—more than 10 percent—since 1952, workmen's compensation payments for wage loss and medical benefits totaled an estimated \$1,230 million during 1959. Dollarwise, the increase of \$120 million from the 1958 total of \$1,110 million was the largest reported since the Social Security Administration initiated the series in 1939. The increases would still be the largest in the periods mentioned even if the \$5.7 million paid in Alaska and Hawaii were excluded from the 1959 totals. Data for the two new States are included for the first time in all the 1959 measures of workmen's compensation operations but are not of sufficient magnitude to affect significantly the analysis of year-to-year changes.

Increases in wage levels, medical costs, industrial activity, and injury rates contributed in large part to the rise in benefit payments. Average wages, to which cash benefits are related, advanced 5 percent from 1958 to 1959, and medical care prices, according to the consumer price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, went up 4 percent. At the same time, a pickup in employment and hours of work, accompanied by an increase

\*Prepared in the Division of Program Research by Alfred M. Skolnik with the assistance of Julius W. Hobson. For previous estimates of workmen's compensation payments in recent years, see the December issue of the *Bulletin*, 1950-59.