Statistical Abstract of the United States 1946

SIXTY-SEVENTH NUMBER

Compiled Under the Supervision of Morris H. Hansen
Statistical Assistant to the Director

Bureau of the Census Library



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Statistical Abstract of the United States has been published annually for the past 67 years, and its present content and form are the result of the work of many persons during that period. Revisions are made each year to adapt it to meet current needs

and uses, and to bring the various statistical series up to date. The present volume has been prepared under the supervision of the Statistical Assistant to the Director by Morris B. Ullman, Statistician, and Kathleen H. Dugan, Editor.

The cooperation of many persons, acting in either their official positions or as individuals, who contributed to the preparation of this volume, is gratefully acknowledged. Cooperating agencies are credited under each of the tables for which they furnished information. In addition to furnishe information, the addition to furnishe information. mation. In addition to furnishing information, the Federal agencies listed below contributed to the planning and preparation of the material in excess of routine requirements.

> Administrative Office of the United States Courts. Treasury Department—Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Division of Research and Statistics. Department of Justice—Immigration and Naturalization Service. Department of the Interior—General Land Office.

Fish and Wildlife Service.

Department of Agriculture—Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Forest Service.

Department of Commerce—Bureau of Foreign & Domestic Commerce. Department of Labor—Bureau of Labor Statistics. Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System. Civil Service Commission. Federal Security Agency—Social Security Board. Office of Education.

Interstate Commerce Commission. Maritime Commission. Railroad Retirement Board.

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INTRODUCTION

Use of the Statistical Abstract.—The Statistical Abstract of the United States presents in one convenient volume important summary statistics on the industrial, social, political, and economic organization of the United States, and includes a representative selection from most of the important statistical publications. It is, of necessity, limited primarily to national data or to State data nation-wide in scope and does not attempt to present the great wealth of local data available from many sources.

This book is planned as a convenient reference volume for quantitative information and also serves as a guide to the various sources of statistical data. If the information on a particular subject presented in the Statistical Abstract is not sufficiently detailed, it is suggested that the user refer to the publication or to the agency responsible for the data, as indicated in the source note of the table, to obtain further information. The original source from which the table has been taken usually contains more complete discussions of the definitions and concepts used, and presents information for small areas, and often with additional classifications. Occasionally the agency responsible for the data has still more, detailed information that can be made available from unpublished records.

1946 Edition.—This edition is the 67th annual issue of the Statistical Abstract and is designated by the year of publication. The data shown are the latest available in the early part of the calendar year and the dates vary according to the practices followed by the various agencies responsible for their preparation.

Some change has been made in the order of the sections to facilitate preparation of the volume, and the section in the 1944–45 edition entitled Military and Civil Services, has been changed to Military Services and Veterans Affairs in this edition, with corresponding changes in content. Civil service employment data will now be found in the Labor Force section and data on retirement systems are brought together in the Social Security section. Tables in the Vital Statistics and Fisheries sections have undergone considerable revision and a number of tables on metal products have been transferred from the Mining and Mineral Products section to that on Manufactures. These changes, along with others involving only one or two tables each, have resulted in the omission of 65 tables carried in the 1945 edition and the addition of 92 new tables.

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, and others often require data for individual cities, counties, metropolitan areas, and other small areas as well as for States. Economists, teachers, students, and others frequently need more historical information. To meet such requests for more detail, a series of supplements to the Abstract has been initiated.

The first of these supplements, Cities Supplement—Statistical Abstract of the United States, provides 79 different items of information concerning the population, education, housing, labor force, business establishments, government finance, and climate of each of the 397 cities of the United States with 25,000 or more inhabitants in 1940. This supplement is on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., for 15 cents.

A second supplement will be ready in the fall of 1946. The Counties Supplement—Statistical Abstract of the United States, will bring together 91 different items of information for each of the 3,099 counties of the United States, with summaries for 138 metropolitan areas defined along county lines. Broad subject headings covered are population, labor force, housing, agriculture, industry, trade, and other economic data (including bank deposits, E Bond sales, war supply contracts and war-time facilities projects).

A third supplement, which is now being contemplated, will be designed to remove the burden of carrying long historical series from the annual volume and place such series in a separate boo: This supplement, which will be integrated with the annual volume, will present time series of social and economic data of historical significance along with statements on the sources and limitations of the data. A committee of the Social Science Research Council has been formed to advise with the Bureau of the Census on the preparation of this volume and preliminary exploratory work has already started. It is planned to consult many producers and users of data in government, private research, universities, and business in order to plan the best possible volume meeting these specifications.

The formulation of this volume will furnish an opportunity for a rather extensive review of available statistical material and a comprehensive review of the present content of the Abstract. It is contemplated that the supplement will follow the general organization of the annual volume so that the historical tables shown in the supplement can be continued in current issues of the Statistical Abstract.

Responsibility.—As implied in the title, the contents of this volume are taken from a large number of sources, as indicated in the list of agencies furnishing material on pages VII—X. The Bureau of the Census cannot accept the responsibility for the accuracy or limitations of the data presented here, other than for that which it collects. The responsibility for selection of the material for the general user and for proper presentation does, however, rest with the Bureau even though carried out with the cooperation of many technicians who have given unselfishly of their time and knowledge in order to assist the Bureau's staff in making the presentation as meaningful and useful as possible.

The cooperation of the users must also be acknowledged. 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

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.