

corresponding figures for 1954 awards under the 1954 amendments were 15 percent and 27 percent, respectively. The shift toward higher benefits was largely the result of the higher proportion of beneficiaries qualifying for the dropout who were awarded benefits based on earnings after 1950; only 4 percent of them received the minimum amount and 41 percent received \$90 or more (table 6).

Benefits in Current-Payment Status

The growth in the proportion of persons receiving old-age benefits based on earnings after 1950 is indicated in table 7; by the end of 1955, they comprised 43 percent of all old-age beneficiaries. The average amount payable to all old-age beneficiaries has increased continuously—from \$58.75 in September 1954 (when the benefits were increased) to \$61.90 in December 1955—as the proportion of benefits based on earnings after 1950 has increased. The growing proportion of beneficiaries eligible for the dropout also contributed to the increase.

The National School Lunch Program *

About one-third of America's school population satisfies at least a third of its daily nutritional needs through school meals provided by public and private sources under the national school lunch program and associated programs. From isolated efforts early in the century to supplement the food in the rural school child's lunch pail, a program has gradually developed that now represents a cooperative effort by Federal, State, and local governments, parents, and private local organizations. The program currently provides a nutritionally balanced, usually hot, daily meal to more than 10 million elementary and secondary school children in all parts of the Nation. The total public and private cost of the program has increased

* Prepared by Sophie R. Dales, Division of Program Research, Office of the Commissioner. The author wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture in providing information and reviewing the material.

Table 1.—Public and private expenditure for the national school lunch program, by legislative authority, fiscal years 1952-53, 1953-54, and 1954-55

[In millions; independently rounded]

Authority	1954-55	1953-54	1952-53
Total.....	\$628.7	\$594.3	\$513.1
National School Lunch Act..	541.2	500.1	461.4
Federal assistance.....	82.0	82.0	82.0
Cash apportionment.....	69.1	67.3	67.2
Value of commodities distributed ¹	12.8	14.8	14.8
State-local participation.....	459.3	418.0	379.5
Government contributions.....	69.0	63.0	57.2
Parents' payments for lunches.....	336.4	303.3	276.0
Other local contributions.....	53.9	51.8	46.4
Surplus food donations ²	70.3	94.2	51.7
Section 32 commodities.....	26.9	94.2	51.7
Section 416 commodities.....	43.4	-----	-----
Special school milk program ³	17.2	-----	-----

¹ Under section 6 of the National School Lunch Act, as amended.

² Under section 32 of P. L. 320 (1935), as amended, and section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended.

³ Under section 204 (b) of the Agricultural Act of 1954.

Source: Releases of the Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

from \$221 million in 1947 to \$630 million in 1955.

Historical and Legislative Background

Federal participation in the school lunch program began during the depression. In 1933 the Reconstruction Finance Corporation made loans to several Missouri communities to finance the labor costs of preparing and serving the meals. By the end of 1934, similar help was being furnished in 39 States through the Civil Works Administration and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Labor and trained management personnel were later provided by the Works Progress Administration and

the National Youth Administration.

Federal food donations began in 1935 with the direct distribution of surplus commodities under section 32 of Public Law 320 (74th Cong., 1st sess.).¹ By March 1942, 6 million children were eating school lunches that included surplus commodities. Today, the school lunch program is one of the largest single beneficiaries of surplus agricultural commodities and products purchased and distributed with what are known as "section 32 funds."

In June 1940, the school milk program, more popularly known as the "penny milk" program, was started with section 32 funds. One purpose of the program was to increase the consumption of milk among needy school children. Another was to improve the total income of milk producers by using quantities of milk for fluid consumption that otherwise would have been used in the manufacture of butter, cheese, and other dairy products—at prices therefore lower to the milk producers. The Agriculture Appropriation Act of 1944 (Public Law 129, 78th Cong., 1st sess.) established Federal cash payments for local food purchase by school lunch authorities and merged the penny milk program with it. Under the "indemnity plan" in this legislation, schools were reimbursed in cash for the purchase of seasonal or overabundant foods used in certain defined types of school lunches. This act contained the first specific mention in Federal legislation of the school lunch program. It provided that assistance to the program could

¹ The full title of Public Law 320 is "An act to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act and for other purposes."

Table 2.—Total expenditures for the national school lunch program, by source of funds, fiscal years 1952-53, 1953-54, and 1954-55

[Amounts in millions, independently rounded]

Source of funds	1954-55		1953-54		1952-53	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Total.....	\$628.7	100.0	\$594.3	100.0	\$513.1	100.0
Private.....	390.3	62.1	355.1	59.7	322.3	62.8
Government, total.....	238.5	37.9	239.3	40.3	190.8	37.2
Federal, total.....	169.5	27.0	176.3	29.7	133.7	26.1
Commodities.....	83.1	13.2	109.0	18.4	66.5	13.0
Cash.....	86.3	13.7	67.3	11.3	67.2	13.1
State-local.....	69.0	11.0	63.0	10.6	57.2	11.1

Source: Releases of Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 3.—Surplus and price-supported foods distributed under section 32 of Public Law 320 (1935) and section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, by type of recipient, fiscal years 1952-53, 1953-54, and 1954-55

[Amounts in millions]

Type of recipient	First 9 months, fiscal year 1955-56		1954-55		1953-54		1952-53	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Total.....	\$414.4	100.0	\$364.9	100.0	\$224.8	100.0	\$73.0	100.0
Domestic.....	164.8	39.8	167.7	46.0	155.2	69.0	68.7	94.1
Schools.....	84.7	20.4	70.3	19.3	94.2	41.9	51.7	70.8
Institutions.....	26.5	6.4	35.4	9.7	49.1	21.8	16.6	22.7
Needy persons.....	53.6	12.9	62.0	17.0	11.9	5.3	.4	.5
Foreign.....	249.6	60.2	197.2	54.0	69.6	31.0	4.3	5.8

Source: Releases of the Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

be continued whether or not there was a food surplus. Although direct donations of surplus commodities were still made, they were greatly reduced as wartime food demand reduced the amount of the surplus and purchases under section 32.²

National School Lunch Act

In mid-1946, Congress passed the National School Lunch Act (Public Law 396, 79th Cong., 2d sess.). The opening section of the act declares it to be

the policy of Congress, as a measure of national security, to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation's children and to encourage the domestic consumption of nutritious agricultural commodities and other foods, by assisting the States, through grants-in-aid and other means, in providing an adequate supply of foods and other facilities for the establishment, maintenance, operation and expansion of nonprofit school-lunch programs.

Thus, after 11 years of operation on the basis of authority contained in the annual Department of Agriculture appropriation acts, the school lunch program was accorded permanent statutory authority.

The National School Lunch Act was the first Federal legislation to embody a specific and well-defined variable-grant formula. Grants to the States are variable, or "equal-

² See M. K. Jeffers, *State Provisions for School Lunch Programs*, Bulletin 1952—No. 4, U. S. Office of Education, and *Food Distribution Programs*, prepared for the National Outlook Conference, Dairy Work Session, October 29, 1954, by the Food Distribution Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 4.—Number of participating children under the school lunch program as a percent of total enrollment in elementary and secondary schools, fiscal years 1946-47—1954-55

Fiscal year	Number (in thousands)	Percentage increase from preceding fiscal year	Percent of elementary and secondary school enrollment ¹
1946-47.....	6,016	-----	22.6
1947-48.....	6,016	(?)	22.6
1948-49.....	6,960	15.7	25.8
1949-50.....	7,840	12.6	28.5
1950-51.....	8,637	10.2	30.8
1951-52.....	9,320	7.9	32.1
1952-53.....	9,783	5.0	33.0
1953-54.....	10,139	3.6	32.7
1954-55.....	10,971	8.2	32.2

¹ Based on data from the Office of Education (latest available at time of each annual report on the school lunch program).

² Less than 0.005 percent.

Source: U. S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service.

ized," to the extent that the amount granted varies directly with a State's need for the program and inversely with the financial ability of a State and its localities to support the program.³ Low-income areas are further assisted in that the required rate of non-Federal matching of Federal funds in States with an average per capita income below the national average varies directly with State financial ability. In addition, the act is liberally drawn to provide that the Federal grant may be matched by funds "from sources within the States determined . . . to have been expended in connection with the school lunch program," including "the reasonable value of donated services,

³ See "Variable Grants in the School Lunch Program," *Social Security Bulletin*, August 1946, pages 53-55.

supplies, facilities, and equipment." Thus parents' payments for the lunches and any local funds privately raised are included in the total of non-Federal matching funds.

The grant formula provides for apportionment of Federal funds among the States in the ratio that each State's index of need bears to the total of State indexes. The index of need for a given State is obtained by multiplying the State population aged 5-17 by the ratio of the national average per capita income to the average per capita income of that State. For States where the average per capita income is above the national average there is a fixed relationship between the amount of Federal aid and the non-Federal matching requirement. For States with per capita incomes below the national average "the matching required for any fiscal year is decreased by the percentage which the State per capita income is below the per capita income of the United States."

With a view to the eventual assumption of greater financial responsibility for the school lunch program by and in the States, Congress included in the 1946 act a schedule under which, from 1946-47 to 1949-50, every Federal dollar would be matched by \$1 from sources within the States; from 1950-51 through 1954-55, by \$1.50; and for 1955-56 and thereafter, by \$3. This schedule has never been amended.

Section 6 of the National School Lunch Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to use part of the annual school lunch appropriation to make large-scale purchases of foods for the program. In recent years more than 15 percent of all Federal aid under the act has been in the form of such commodities.

Originally the act provided that Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands could not receive more than 3 percent of the Federal funds appropriated under the school lunch program for purchase and distribution of agricultural commodities. By a 1952 amendment, Hawaii and Alaska were removed from the restricted group and Guam was added. The 1952 legislation also modified the effect of the 3-percent limitation by

(Continued on page 24)

Table 2.—Contributions and taxes collected under selected social insurance and related programs, by specified period, 1954-56

[In thousands]

Period	Retirement, disability, and survivor insurance			Unemployment insurance		
	Federal insurance contributions ¹	Federal civil-service contributions ²	Taxes on carriers and their employees	State unemployment insurance contributions ³	Federal unemployment taxes ⁴	Railroad unemployment insurance contributions ⁵
Fiscal year:						
1954-55 ⁶	\$5,087,154	\$469,856	\$600,106	\$1,142,009	\$279,986	\$25,066
1955-56 ⁷	6,442,326	808,079	634,320	1,328,722	324,654	34,043
1955						
July	217,239	⁸ 275,775	15,484	116,423	2,433	120
August	923,619	55,204	84,970	242,213	15,714	3,554
September	519,117	42,754	59,775	7,065	770	2,399
October	221,517	47,817	18,031	87,768	3,855	204
November	704,700	48,721	84,769	184,576	14,014	2,038
December	340,055	47,326	54,691	12,346	1,156	4,142
1956						
January	186,056	52,318	17,300	71,035	31,850	102
February	661,916	31,404	85,058	130,219	241,146	1,872
March	520,119	59,257	53,870	9,312	5,880	4,126
April	593,353	49,098	15,267	138,956	4,045	506
May	997,587	53,424	91,356	316,671	2,499	12,193
June ⁹	552,047	44,982	53,748	12,140	1,291	2,998
July	(⁹)	⁸ 500,769	23,376	148,138	1,719	434

¹ Represents contributions of employees and employers in employments covered by old-age and survivors insurance (beginning December 1952, adjusted for employee-tax refunds); from May 1951, includes deposits in the trust fund by States under voluntary coverage agreements; beginning January 1951, on an estimated basis.

² Represents employee and Government contributions to the civil-service retirement and disability fund; Government contributions are made in 1 month for the entire fiscal year.

³ Represents deposits in State clearing accounts of contributions plus penalties and interest collected from employers and, in 3 jurisdictions, contributions from employees; excludes contributions collected for deposit in State sickness insurance funds. Data reported by State agencies.

⁴ Represents taxes paid by employers under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act.

⁵ Beginning 1947, also covers temporary disability insurance.

⁶ Except for State unemployment insurance contributions, as shown in the *Final Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U. S. Government*.

⁷ Preliminary.

⁸ Includes contributions from the Federal Government.

⁹ Not available.

Source: *Monthly Statement of the U. S. Treasury*, and other Treasury reports, unless otherwise noted.

Table 3.—Total Federal cash income and outgo,¹ and amounts for programs under the Social Security Act, fiscal years 1953-54, 1954-55, and 1955-56

[In millions]

Classification	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
Cash income or deposits ¹	\$71,815	\$67,758	\$77,079
Social security	6,120	6,509	8,096
Federal insurance contributions	4,589	5,087	6,442
Federal unemployment taxes	285	280	325
Deposits in unemployment trust fund ²	1,246	1,142	1,329
Other	65,695	61,249	68,983
Cash outgo or withdrawals ¹	71,974	69,888	71,984
Social security	6,645	7,849	8,497
Administrative expenses, Social Security Administration ³	67	80	98
Administrative expenses, Bureau of Employment Security, Department of Labor	4 5	4 5	4 5
Grants to States ⁴	1,667	1,645	1,716
State withdrawals from unemployment trust fund	1,605	1,760	1,287
Old-age and survivors insurance benefit payments	3,276	4,333	5,361
Administrative expenses, Department of the Treasury ⁵	25	26	30
Other	65,329	62,039	63,487

¹ Represents flow of cash, exclusive of borrowed cash, into and out of the general fund and trust accounts of the Treasury. Beginning 1952-53, cash deposits and withdrawals on revised Treasury basis.

² Deposits by States of contributions collected under State unemployment insurance laws.

³ Includes expenses of Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance for preparation for building construction.

⁴ Excludes salaries and expenses for the Mexican farm labor program, beginning 1951-52.

⁵ Grants for employment security administration (including employment service), for old-age assistance, aid to the blind, aid to dependent children, and aid to the permanently and totally disabled, and for maternal and child health and child welfare services.

⁶ In connection with old-age and survivors insurance.

Source: Total Federal cash income or deposits and outgo or withdrawals from *Treasury Bulletin*; trust fund operations from Treasury releases; other data from *Monthly Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U. S. Government* and from individual agencies.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

(Continued from page 22)

raising the apportionment per school-age child in the three jurisdictions to an amount not less than that made to the State with lowest per capita income among those participating in the program.

In 1949 the school lunch program

was named first on a list of priority beneficiaries of certain price-supported foods donated under section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (Public Law 439, 81st Cong., 1st sess.) "to prevent the waste of food commodities acquired through price support operations, which are found to be in danger of loss through de-

terioration or spoilage." The Secretary of Agriculture and the Commodity Credit Corporation were authorized to make these foods available "at the point of storage at no cost save handling and transportation costs . . . from the point of storage." Under this section, commodities were donated to the school lunch program

Table 4.—Federal grants to States under the Social Security Act: Checks issued by the Treasury Department in fiscal years 1954-55 and 1955-56

[In thousands]

State	Total, fiscal year 1954-55	Fiscal year 1955-56								
		Total	Old-age assistance	Aid to the permanently and totally disabled ¹	Aid to dependent children	Aid to the blind	Employment security ²	Maternal and child health services	Services for crippled children	Child welfare services
Total	\$1,644,683.1	\$1,715,829.7	\$928,585.5	\$91,974.6	\$396,761.7	\$37,952.8	\$226,932.5	\$11,921.3	\$14,804.0	\$6,897.3
Alabama.....	33,029.0	45,477.1	29,024.1	3,388.4	7,965.1	494.2	3,443.0	426.1	518.1	218.1
Alaska.....	2,384.8	3,012.7	676.8		1,010.4	34.2	997.7	84.4	169.7	39.5
Arizona.....	11,253.8	11,975.8	5,604.8		3,651.8	326.9	2,240.0	85.8		66.3
Arkansas.....	24,470.9	25,216.7	16,090.6	1,505.7	4,074.9	681.3	2,192.2	201.3	309.9	160.8
California.....	181,344.8	186,161.6	113,103.6		42,067.6	5,683.5	23,847.1	607.9	622.1	239.7
Colorado.....	28,728.6	29,704.4	20,541.1	2,092.9	4,608.8	137.5	1,890.0	209.7	148.2	76.2
Connecticut.....	14,715.8	16,868.3	7,504.1	1,115.9	4,133.3	163.4	3,526.8	144.8	211.6	68.4
Delaware.....	2,009.0	2,477.3	608.2	142.9	909.6	103.0	494.1	85.5	93.2	40.9
District of Columbia.....	5,340.8	5,543.8	1,221.1	946.9	1,838.3	107.1	998.9	150.6	252.0	28.9
Florida.....	38,325.6	44,042.1	25,577.4	632.3	11,720.6	1,119.9	4,171.8	286.5	392.5	141.2
Georgia.....	49,206.9	51,939.6	32,414.8	4,082.0	9,711.0	1,242.9	3,349.2	360.1	554.5	225.1
Hawaii.....	4,449.6	4,658.2	620.5	515.4	2,425.2	44.7	715.2	141.6	162.6	33.0
Idaho.....	6,302.4	6,509.5	3,173.4	371.5	1,414.0	78.1	1,199.8	92.6	150.7	29.3
Illinois.....	69,623.1	75,353.3	39,498.9	3,353.1	20,051.9	1,625.7	9,860.9	309.7	458.4	194.7
Indiana.....	23,391.0	23,747.7	11,895.8		6,247.2	738.9	4,382.0	233.6	151.5	98.7
Iowa.....	23,186.7	23,329.6	15,370.5		4,829.7	614.5	1,895.9	177.1	291.2	150.7
Kansas.....	20,485.1	20,928.5	13,581.7	1,491.8	3,363.8	264.9	1,801.6	136.3	177.5	110.9
Kentucky.....	32,245.3	33,088.6	17,115.1		11,313.3	985.5	2,667.9	291.4	494.1	221.3
Louisiana.....	67,626.5	71,867.2	49,414.8	5,019.4	12,873.4	782.0	2,932.1	300.0	372.4	173.1
Maine.....	9,263.4	9,875.1	4,762.0	233.8	3,122.9	215.9	1,268.8	87.6	114.7	69.3
Maryland.....	14,340.0	15,094.2	3,641.2	1,966.2	4,938.2	185.9	3,624.4	328.8	308.7	100.8
Massachusetts.....	62,845.7	59,668.2	34,857.4	4,771.0	9,562.8	778.3	9,055.5	350.8	212.4	80.0
Michigan.....	55,075.2	55,156.4	27,561.6	1,017.3	13,498.1	715.2	11,346.0	331.4	461.6	225.1
Minnesota.....	28,931.4	30,555.2	19,972.0	480.1	5,716.8	512.5	3,221.3	223.9	265.3	163.3
Mississippi.....	26,956.9	27,840.1	19,361.1	896.3	3,246.2	1,181.8	2,317.8	307.7	327.1	202.0
Missouri.....	77,011.1	77,372.6	52,239.3	5,587.5	12,969.2	1,728.2	4,011.6	255.4	410.6	170.8
Montana.....	7,148.0	7,157.3	3,418.0	611.5	1,501.0	188.4	1,159.2	84.2	131.0	64.1
Nebraska.....	10,046.7	10,830.6	6,813.9	297.1	1,981.0	340.3	1,117.4	99.2	130.6	51.2
Nevada.....	1,929.2	2,347.5	1,104.0		268.9	53.5	737.3	73.2	86.9	23.7
New Hampshire.....	4,720.9	4,504.1	2,267.0	125.5	790.9	110.6	1,068.8	65.2	28.2	47.9
New Jersey.....	24,772.9	26,170.8	8,581.7	1,741.5	5,057.9	450.6	9,886.8	157.4	213.8	81.1
New Mexico.....	11,277.8	9,653.8	3,261.9	603.7	4,017.7	139.4	1,313.6	122.5	122.5	71.6
New York.....	135,790.0	141,575.5	40,822.5	18,898.4	46,962.1	2,024.9	31,751.4	453.8	444.9	217.5
North Carolina.....	35,914.8	38,402.4	15,036.3	4,106.5	11,734.3	1,807.9	4,293.6	547.8	557.1	319.0
North Dakota.....	5,492.6	5,829.0	3,204.8	381.0	1,168.3	47.6	774.1	85.1	106.2	61.8
Ohio.....	63,353.8	67,690.8	37,932.3	3,695.1	13,463.8	1,713.6	9,787.4	374.9	463.2	260.5
Oklahoma.....	52,806.5	54,847.5	38,120.9	2,604.5	10,005.6	848.1	2,655.3	156.1	322.0	135.0
Oregon.....	14,923.4	14,843.8	7,426.5	1,394.7	2,675.2	132.2	2,919.1	105.9	139.2	51.0
Pennsylvania.....	68,854.5	69,842.2	19,271.6	5,142.1	22,489.6	3,450.1	18,150.6	482.4	561.6	294.3
Puerto Rico.....	5,613.2	6,078.7	1,495.9	739.8	1,959.8	54.5	864.8	308.0	451.6	204.3
Rhode Island.....	8,530.8	8,577.7	3,053.8	669.3	2,473.0	70.9	2,059.9	84.9	126.7	39.4
South Carolina.....	21,977.3	22,931.2	12,646.3	2,400.2	3,852.4	589.8	2,607.4	259.7	390.3	185.2
South Dakota.....	6,954.3	6,929.5	3,823.6	309.8	1,882.5	76.9	573.8	86.1	106.3	70.6
Tennessee.....	38,933.7	36,919.0	19,382.4	632.6	11,383.4	1,102.6	3,395.9	379.8	424.6	217.6
Texas.....	98,072.5	103,483.6	77,341.1		12,665.7	2,439.7	9,459.5	543.7	701.4	332.6
Utah.....	8,478.5	8,624.8	3,636.2	758.0	2,112.6	100.3	1,633.6	128.0	197.6	58.5
Vermont.....	4,266.5	4,814.8	2,717.6	217.2	829.9	62.3	762.2	77.0	97.6	51.1
Virginia.....	13,849.9	15,635.3	4,831.9	1,581.4	5,684.8	431.3	2,175.0	321.2	395.7	214.0
Virgin Islands.....	378.9	382.7	89.0	14.4	50.4	4.4	39.2	68.1	87.1	30.0
Washington.....	36,220.1	38,407.8	23,811.4	2,341.7	6,771.5	337.8	4,634.7	182.8	215.3	112.6
West Virginia.....	23,289.6	22,865.2	6,150.1	2,468.7	11,493.5	337.7	1,778.2	185.5	287.7	163.9
Wisconsin.....	25,600.2	25,871.5	15,298.6	433.6	5,769.2	462.6	3,223.1	201.5	312.7	170.2
Wyoming.....	2,943.2	3,148.8	1,614.1	195.9	462.8	28.9	659.0	75.6	71.4	41.0

¹ States for which no grant is shown either had no approved plan or State plan was approved too late to receive grant during this period.

² Excludes grants made to State employment security agencies as agents for the United States for the payment of unemployment compensation to veterans

under the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952, operating costs of the District of Columbia Employment Center, and a small payment to Railroad Retirement Board for informational services to States.

Source: Unpublished data of administrative agencies.

in 1950, 1951, 1952, and 1955.

Section 416 was amended in 1954 by the Agriculture Trading and Development Assistance Act (Public Law 480, 83d Cong., 2d sess.) to enable the Commodity Credit Corporation to pay the cost of reprocessing and packaging its donable foods as well as a substantial part of the cost of delivering the commodities from central storehouses to distribution points within the States. In addition, the "point

of spoilage" requirement was removed so that commodities may be bought and distributed while they are in prime condition.

The Agricultural Act of 1954 (Public Law 690, 83d Cong., 2d sess.) authorized expenditure of not more than \$50 million of Commodity Credit Corporation funds a year for the period September 1, 1954, through June 30, 1956, for a special milk program in nonprofit schools. School

lunch program administrative agencies at all levels of government were designated to administer the program. In the fiscal year 1954-55 the program was operating in more than 47,000 schools, where, at a cost to the Federal Government of \$17.2 million, more than 400 million half-pints of milk were consumed in addition to the milk consumed as part of the regular school lunches. Under legislation passed in April 1956—Public

Table 5.—Status of the old-age and survivors insurance trust fund, by specified period, 1937–56

[In thousands]

Period	Receipts		Expenditures		Assets		
	Net contribution income and transfers ¹	Interest received ²	Benefit payments	Administrative expenses ³	Net total of U. S. Government securities acquired ⁴	Cash balance at end of period	Total assets at end of period
Cumulative, January 1937–June 1956 ⁵	\$42,077,921	\$3,917,798	\$22,452,811	\$949,844	\$22,043,031	\$550,034	\$22,593,064
Fiscal year:							
1953–54 ⁶	4,589,182	450,504	3,275,556	88,636	1,522,270	702,752	20,042,815
1954–55 ⁶	5,087,154	447,580	4,333,147	103,202	1,240,627	560,152	21,140,643
1955–56 ⁶	6,442,326	494,889	5,360,813	124,339	1,462,540	550,034	22,593,064
1955							
June ⁶	703,719	175,243	427,705	9,079	536,246	560,511	21,141,001
July	217,239	⁷ 7,439	423,430	11,131	266,104	84,524	20,931,119
August	923,619	1,330	428,390	10,241	438,002	132,840	21,417,437
September	519,117	15,330	428,522	9,976	-269,558	496,347	21,513,386
October	221,517	18,127	434,163	9,770	-228,059	522,116	21,309,097
November	704,700	4,219	436,644	12,542	179,000	602,849	21,568,830
December	340,055	201,141	437,443	9,479	135,884	561,238	21,663,104
1956							
January	186,056	¹ 1,041	438,481	9,727	-247,406	547,533	21,401,992
February	661,916	3,303	444,634	9,999	70,352	637,767	21,612,579
March	520,119	13,737	457,667	10,227	-175,942	577,786	21,678,541
April	598,353	18,427	471,736	9,568	-179,159	892,421	21,814,016
May	997,587	4,600	478,994	12,440	647,668	755,506	22,324,769
June ⁸	552,047	206,196	480,708	9,239	473,767	550,034	22,593,064

¹ For July 1940 to December 1950 equals taxes collected; beginning January 1951, equals amounts appropriated (estimated tax collections) and, from May 1951, deposits by States under voluntary coverage agreements. For 1947–51 includes amounts appropriated to meet costs of benefits payable to certain veterans' survivors. Beginning 1952, includes deductions to adjust for reimbursement to the General Treasury of the estimated amount of taxes subject to refund for employees who paid contributions on more than \$3,600 a year (through working for more than 1 employer)—\$66 million in October 1955 for 1954 taxes.

² Includes interest transferred from the railroad retirement account under the financial interchange provision of the Railroad Retirement Act, as amended in 1951. See footnote 6.

³ Represents net expenditures for administration. Beginning November 1951, adjusted for reimbursements to trust fund of small amounts for sales of supplies and services. Beginning October 1953, includes amounts for expenses of plans

and preparations for construction authorized by P.L. 170, 83d Cong., 1st sess.

⁴ Includes accrued interest and repayments on account of accrued interest on bonds at time of purchase.

⁵ Data for fiscal years 1953–54 and 1954–55 and for June 1955 revised to correspond with *Final Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U. S. Government*. Cumulative data and those for fiscal year 1955–56 and June 1956 are preliminary.

⁶ Represents interest transferred from the railroad retirement account—In July 1955 on \$330.6 million for the fiscal year 1954–55—on the estimated amount that would place the old-age and survivors insurance trust fund in the same position it would have been in at the beginning of the fiscal year if railroad employment had always been covered under old-age and survivors insurance.

⁷ Includes \$50,781 profit to the fund on sale of securities.

Source: *Monthly Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U. S. Government* and unpublished Treasury report.

Law 465 (84th Cong., 2d sess.)—Congress extended the special school milk program to June 30, 1958, and raised the amount available for it from \$50 million a year to \$75 million.

The 1954 act also authorized expenditures for the program in nonprofit child-care centers, summer camps, settlement houses, and similar nonprofit institutions devoted to the care and training of underprivileged children on a public welfare and charitable basis. In 1956, Congress passed legislation (Public Law 752, 84th Cong., 2d sess.) authorizing extension to all nonprofit camps and child-care institutions.

Mechanics of Participation

The National School Lunch Act of 1946 required that Federal funds for the program be distributed through the State education agency. Many States then had established no legal authority under which the education agency could accept Federal funds, and for the first year of the national program—fiscal year 1946–47—these

States could accept the Federal cash apportionment only by special authorization of their governors, subsequently confirmed by legislative action. Within a short time all the States had enacted school lunch legislation permitting them to participate in the national program, though the laws vary widely from State to State.

Under these legislative authorizations the Department of Agriculture enters into contractual agreements with the State education agencies for the operation of the school lunch program. In turn, these State authorities approve the schools for participation, enter into contractual agreements with the local sponsor—usually a school board or school official (although parent-teacher associations often have acted in this capacity)—and provide general supervision of individual school lunch operations.

This description of Federal-State-local relations under the school lunch program does not apply in the jurisdictions that have laws prohibiting

payment of public funds to private schools (27 States and Hawaii). For the private schools in those jurisdictions, the Department of Agriculture itself signs the agreements with the individual local sponsors and assumes the functions that the State education agency performs for the public schools.

The agreements signed by State education agencies and by the local sponsors include three basic Federal program requirements:

(1) The lunch program must be operated on a nonprofit basis. All receipts must be used to improve the meals or to reduce their price, or both.

(2) The meals served must meet the nutritional standards set by the Department of Agriculture.

(3) The lunches must be offered free or at a reduced price to children unable to pay the full price.

There is no standard price for a school lunch; each school sets its own price on the basis of local costs of the food, equipment, and labor. A survey

Table 6.—Old-age and survivors insurance: Monthly benefits in current-payment status at the end of the month, by type of benefit and by month, July 1955–July 1956, and monthly benefits awarded, July 1956¹

[Amounts in thousands; data corrected to Aug. 19, 1956]

Item	Total		Old-age		Wife's or husband's		Child's		Widow's or widower's		Mother's		Parent's	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
Monthly benefits in current-payment status at end of month:														
1955														
July.....	7,643,250	\$389,411.2	4,266,655	\$261,174.6	1,143,796	\$37,510.6	1,228,209	\$44,101.1	695,011	\$32,532.5	283,029	\$12,858.1	25,650	\$1,234.4
August.....	7,724,551	394,733.0	4,318,020	264,092.2	1,154,962	37,962.8	1,237,185	44,549.4	702,645	32,984.3	286,008	13,002.3	25,731	1,242.2
September.....	7,796,310	399,203.8	4,361,542	268,118.5	1,165,314	38,363.5	1,246,873	45,010.0	710,193	33,401.7	286,813	13,058.6	25,870	1,251.6
October.....	7,856,522	403,960.0	4,406,750	271,652.1	1,176,724	38,801.8	1,257,568	45,537.5	700,631	33,550.9	288,455	13,167.5	25,394	1,250.1
November.....	7,901,917	407,861.9	4,441,542	274,499.2	1,184,794	39,126.0	1,266,991	45,985.1	693,498	33,729.7	290,039	13,272.3	25,053	1,249.5
December.....	7,960,616	411,612.8	4,473,971	276,941.8	1,191,963	39,415.5	1,270,240	46,443.6	701,360	34,152.2	291,916	13,403.0	25,196	1,256.5
1956														
January.....	8,003,915	414,669.5	4,497,924	278,944.5	1,197,385	39,668.0	1,281,915	46,782.0	709,569	34,585.9	291,850	13,425.5	25,272	1,263.6
February.....	8,069,862	419,429.8	4,541,282	282,556.5	1,207,832	40,119.4	1,287,480	47,066.4	715,965	34,932.3	292,003	13,459.1	25,300	1,266.1
March.....	8,149,733	424,975.4	4,594,991	286,817.7	1,219,883	40,605.2	1,293,384	47,422.3	723,119	35,317.0	292,990	13,542.4	25,366	1,270.8
April.....	8,235,594	430,675.4	4,649,159	290,968.1	1,233,164	41,141.2	1,301,683	47,859.3	731,146	35,750.0	294,950	13,677.7	25,492	1,279.1
May.....	8,315,314	435,742.9	4,697,531	294,528.6	1,246,118	41,632.8	1,310,331	48,312.0	739,968	36,224.6	295,771	13,759.0	25,595	1,285.8
June.....	8,374,453	439,423.8	4,731,942	296,976.4	1,255,018	41,968.4	1,316,728	48,662.0	747,766	36,647.7	297,294	13,875.9	25,705	1,293.3
July.....	8,451,169	444,020.4	4,781,036	300,770.8	1,268,031	42,477.0	1,320,390	48,912.8	756,213	37,106.2	299,675	14,047.2	25,804	1,300.4
Monthly benefits awarded in July 1956	132,382	7,654.2	71,294	5,108.4	25,167	883.8	18,109	710.5	11,654	609.3	5,861	325.0	297	17.2

¹ Beginning December 1955, all benefits of persons receiving both an old-age benefit and a widow's, widower's, or parent's secondary benefit are included only in the number of old-age benefits and the amount of the reduced secondary benefit is combined with the amount of the old-age benefit.

Table 7.—Old-age and survivors insurance: Number of monthly benefits withheld, by reason for withholding payment and type of benefit,¹ June 30, 1956

[Based partly on 10-percent sample]

Reason for withholding payment ²	Total	Old-age			Wife's or husband's			Widow's or widower's	Mother's	Parent's	
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Wives, aged 65 and over	Wives, under age 65				Husband's
Total.....	299,092	183,487	148,633	34,854	40,423	35,240	4,789	394	4,599	70,514	69
Covered or noncovered employment ³ of beneficiary in United States or covered employment ³ of beneficiary outside United States.....	246,517	174,595	141,350	33,245	3,657	2,293	1,364	0	3,395	64,861	9
Noncovered employment ³ of beneficiary outside United States.....	390	280	220	60	10	10	0	0	0	100	0
Covered or noncovered employment ³ in United States or covered employment ³ outside United States of old-age beneficiary on whose earnings benefit is based.....	34,937	-----	-----	-----	34,937	31,936	2,627	374	-----	-----	-----
Noncovered employment ³ outside United States of old-age beneficiary on whose earnings benefit is based.....	81	-----	-----	-----	81	61	20	0	-----	-----	-----
Failure to have care of an entitled child.....	4,281	-----	-----	-----	525	-----	525	-----	-----	3,756	-----
Payee not determined.....	2,488	1,759	1,329	430	213	152	61	0	319	171	26
Administrative reasons.....	10,398	6,853	5,734	1,119	1,000	788	192	20	885	1,626	34

¹ Data for child's benefits withheld are not available.

determination of guardian or appropriate payee.

² As provided for under section 203 of the amended act except for the reason "payee not determined," in which case benefit payments are accrued pending

³ Includes self-employment.

by the Department of Agriculture in 1952 found that at "program" schools—those participating in the national school lunch program—the average price charged for a meal was 22 cents, and the average in "non-program" schools was 40 cents. At present the range is from about 5 cents to 35 cents in schools participating in the program.

Whether a child shall pay the full

price, a reduced price, or receive the meal free is determined in a different manner in the various schools. In some places the principal makes the decision, and in others, a different school official; in still others the determination that the meal shall be free is automatic upon notification by the welfare department that the family is a client. The Department of Agriculture requires that all schools

must arrange and implement the exemption from payment in such a manner that the child feels no discrimination and suffers no embarrassment.

Nutritional Aspects

The nutritional objectives of the school lunch program are twofold—better health and better diets for children. These objectives are accom-

Table 9.—Old-age and survivors insurance: Amount of benefit payments in fiscal year 1955-56, by State

[In thousands]

Beneficiary's State of residence	Total	Monthly benefits ¹			Lump-sum death payments ²
		Old-age	Supplementary	Survivor	
Total.....	\$5,360,813	\$3,532,910	\$531,831	\$1,180,732	\$115,340
Alabama.....	62,374	35,374	5,775	19,720	1,505
Alaska.....	2,449	1,615	104	663	67
Arizona.....	23,868	14,759	2,167	6,443	499
Arkansas.....	38,225	24,451	3,816	9,283	675
California.....	444,523	306,184	40,754	88,295	9,290
Colorado.....	43,347	29,011	4,371	9,128	837
Connecticut.....	102,715	70,237	10,441	19,901	2,136
Delaware.....	12,759	8,360	1,241	2,817	341
District of Columbia.....	19,883	13,593	1,469	4,362	459
Florida.....	145,216	101,789	15,791	25,225	2,411
Georgia.....	64,880	36,629	5,441	21,079	1,731
Hawaii.....	10,830	7,008	818	2,796	208
Idaho.....	16,562	10,964	1,671	3,572	355
Illinois.....	344,085	230,028	33,693	72,303	8,061
Indiana.....	153,585	101,009	16,356	32,995	3,225
Iowa.....	79,572	54,759	8,772	14,527	1,514
Kansas.....	56,576	38,100	6,199	11,199	1,078
Kentucky.....	74,137	45,036	7,338	20,122	1,641
Louisiana.....	52,459	30,270	4,534	16,404	1,251
Maine.....	41,593	28,822	4,006	7,993	792
Maryland.....	74,545	47,088	6,762	18,715	1,980
Massachusetts.....	239,512	165,130	23,543	46,096	4,743
Michigan.....	248,130	159,181	26,182	57,257	5,510
Minnesota.....	95,751	65,442	10,013	18,558	1,738
Mississippi.....	30,363	17,911	2,704	9,039	709
Missouri.....	136,602	92,998	13,749	27,027	2,828
Montana.....	18,202	12,064	1,628	4,075	435
Nebraska.....	36,377	25,170	4,019	6,482	706
Nevada.....	5,584	3,784	363	1,297	140
New Hampshire.....	26,834	18,825	2,546	4,925	538
New Jersey.....	227,812	151,074	23,163	48,180	5,395
New Mexico.....	11,621	6,452	1,002	3,904	262
New York.....	644,577	442,450	61,948	125,756	14,423
North Carolina.....	72,712	40,865	6,368	23,698	1,781
North Dakota.....	9,209	6,190	916	1,950	153
Ohio.....	330,621	214,737	35,479	73,281	7,124
Oklahoma.....	52,768	33,530	5,353	12,737	1,148
Oregon.....	68,450	48,346	6,635	12,122	1,347
Pennsylvania.....	456,577	296,724	47,919	102,130	9,804
Puerto Rico.....	11,446	7,695	1,046	2,506	199
Rhode Island.....	39,424	27,283	3,830	7,525	786
South Carolina.....	36,011	19,119	2,905	13,056	931
South Dakota.....	13,899	9,435	1,481	2,742	241
Tennessee.....	66,334	39,513	6,122	19,102	1,597
Texas.....	161,826	96,388	15,320	46,245	3,873
Utah.....	19,434	11,608	2,099	5,360	367
Vermont.....	14,662	10,024	1,493	2,880	265
Virgin Islands.....	165	121	13	26	5
Virginia.....	79,902	47,980	7,355	22,556	2,011
Washington.....	101,337	70,598	9,874	18,798	2,067
West Virginia.....	65,867	38,703	6,879	19,118	1,167
Wisconsin.....	134,077	90,127	14,664	26,734	2,552
Wyoming.....	7,405	4,971	677	1,619	138
Foreign.....	33,139	23,386	3,024	6,409	320

¹ Distribution by State and type of benefit estimated. Supplementary benefits are paid to aged wives, wives under age 65 with child beneficiaries in their care, dependent aged husbands, and children of old-age beneficiaries. Survivor benefits are paid to aged widows, dependent aged widowers, children,

widows or divorced wives with child beneficiaries in their care, or dependent aged parents of deceased insured workers.

² Distribution by State based on 10-percent sample.

Table 10.—Old-age and survivors insurance: Number of aged beneficiaries¹ receiving monthly benefits per 1,000 population aged 65 and over,² by State, June 1956

State (ranked by number of aged beneficiaries per 1,000 aged population)	Aged beneficiaries per 1,000 aged population
Total, adjusted ³	454
Total, unadjusted ³	462
Rhode Island.....	616
Maine.....	599
New Hampshire.....	587
Connecticut.....	581
Florida.....	581
New Jersey.....	576
Massachusetts.....	567
Oregon.....	550
Pennsylvania.....	547
New York.....	534
Delaware.....	528
Washington.....	513
Michigan.....	509
Vermont.....	507
California.....	505
Alaska.....	503
West Virginia.....	496
Ohio.....	491
Maryland.....	487
Indiana.....	486
Arizona.....	484
Hawaii.....	475
Wisconsin.....	474
Nevada.....	469
Illinois.....	466
Utah.....	444
Idaho.....	432
Colorado.....	418
Missouri.....	409
Virginia.....	405
Minnesota.....	394
Wyoming.....	385
District of Columbia.....	380
Montana.....	370
Kentucky.....	369
Iowa.....	369
Kansas.....	365
Alabama.....	359
Nebraska.....	345
North Carolina.....	336
Tennessee.....	332
Arkansas.....	330
Louisiana.....	329
Oklahoma.....	328
Texas.....	327
New Mexico.....	322
Georgia.....	318
South Carolina.....	305
South Dakota.....	299
Mississippi.....	261
Puerto Rico.....	248
North Dakota.....	232
Virgin Islands.....	148

¹ Persons receiving old-age, wife's, husband's, widow's, widower's, and parent's benefits.

² Based on population as of July 1956, estimated by the Bureau of Public Assistance.

³ Continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Adjusted rates are based on the exclusion of (1) wife beneficiaries under age 65 with child beneficiaries in their care and (2) duplicate counts for beneficiaries receiving both old-age and wife's or husband's benefits. Rates for States unadjusted.

whole milk; the maximum rate of reimbursement is 2 cents. This "lunch" pattern is included in the program for schools without other lunch facilities. Each school must offer to all children in attendance the highest type of lunch that it serves.

Within the framework of both

lunch patterns, the schools have opportunity to offer a wide variety of menus. They are assisted in meal planning by a file of about 400 recipes for dishes of the Type A pattern, developed by the Department of Agriculture and distributed free to State education agencies and schools. In

addition, the Department publishes material on the purchase and care of large-quantity cookery equipment, storage of food, and various other aspects of the school lunch program. State education agencies have also

(Continued on page 31)

Table 12.—Public assistance in the United States, by month, July 1955–July 1956¹

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

Year and month	Total ²	Old-age assistance	Aid to dependent children		Aid to the blind	Aid to the permanently and totally disabled	General assistance (cases)	Total	Old-age assistance	Aid to dependent children (families)	Aid to the blind	Aid to the permanently and totally disabled	General assistance (cases)	
			Families	Recipients										
				Total ³										Children
Number of recipients													Percentage change from previous month	
1955														
July.....	2,550,101	611,578	2,209,299	1,668,914	104,140	238,763	297,000	+0.1	-1.4	+0.2	+0.8	-4.1		
August.....	2,551,615	607,822	2,199,090	1,661,809	104,164	240,299	297,000	+1.1	-0.6	(⁴)	+0.6	-1.1		
September.....	2,552,536	604,457	2,191,138	1,656,814	104,249	240,870	290,000	(⁵)	-0.6	+1.1	+0.2	-2.4		
October.....	2,552,991	598,459	2,171,169	1,642,899	104,444	242,320	286,000	(⁵)	-1.0	+1.2	+0.6	-1.3		
November.....	2,554,709	598,113	2,173,222	1,644,728	104,718	242,122	297,000	+1.1	-1.1	+1.3	+0.1	+3.8		
December.....	2,552,899	602,787	2,193,215	1,661,206	104,860	244,010	314,000	-1.1	+0.8	+1.1	+0.8	+5.9		
1956														
January.....	2,545,576	605,674	2,205,913	1,670,728	104,947	245,210	330,000	-0.3	+0.5	+1.1	+0.5	+5.1		
February.....	2,538,518	608,628	2,220,653	1,682,363	104,772	247,117	336,000	-0.3	+0.5	+1.2	+0.8	+1.7		
March.....	2,535,419	613,246	2,240,856	1,698,296	105,083	249,118	336,000	-0.1	+0.8	+1.3	+0.8	(⁵)		
April.....	2,530,720	615,985	2,253,738	1,708,484	105,229	251,533	322,000	-0.2	+0.4	+1.1	+1.0	-4.2		
May.....	2,527,753	617,058	2,258,858	1,713,503	105,469	255,954	303,000	-0.1	+0.2	+1.2	+1.8	-5.9		
June.....	2,523,716	613,720	2,250,229	1,707,629	105,796	258,279	290,000	-0.2	-0.5	+1.3	+0.9	-4.3		
July.....	2,519,920	607,813	2,229,407	1,691,963	105,991	259,835	287,000	-0.2	-1.0	+1.2	+0.6	-0.8		
Amount of assistance													Percentage change from previous month	
1955														
July.....	\$227,688,000	\$134,267,369	\$52,998,023	\$5,906,557	\$13,188,555	\$15,946,000	-0.3	+0.7	-1.5	-1.0	+1.4	-4.3		
August.....	226,875,000	133,649,806	52,763,377	5,888,035	13,300,930	15,718,000	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	+0.9	-1.4		
September.....	227,079,000	133,999,430	52,851,801	5,945,057	13,284,871	15,358,000	+1.1	+0.3	+0.2	+1.0	-0.1	-2.3		
October.....	228,821,000	136,034,539	52,512,850	6,039,250	13,450,637	15,178,000	+0.8	+1.5	-0.6	+1.6	+1.2	-1.2		
November.....	230,400,000	136,805,741	52,580,182	6,054,577	13,458,492	15,849,000	+0.7	+0.6	+0.1	+0.3	+1.1	+4.4		
December.....	234,139,000	137,666,789	53,415,407	6,090,775	13,709,025	17,300,000	+1.6	+0.6	+1.6	+0.6	+1.9	+9.2		
1956														
January.....	235,480,000	138,276,533	53,474,008	6,100,996	13,784,271	18,012,000	+0.6	+0.4	+0.1	+0.2	+0.5	+4.1		
February.....	235,733,000	137,284,906	54,051,818	6,110,375	13,943,747	18,506,000	+1.1	-0.7	+1.1	+0.2	+1.2	+2.7		
March.....	237,157,000	137,313,059	54,818,422	6,144,744	14,082,191	18,585,000	+0.6	(⁴)	+1.4	+0.6	+1.0	+0.4		
April.....	236,526,000	137,412,301	55,239,202	6,170,895	14,272,922	17,407,000	-0.3	+1.1	+0.8	+0.4	+1.4	-6.3		
May.....	235,923,000	137,436,276	55,222,938	6,375,783	14,557,834	16,054,000	-0.3	(⁴)	(⁵)	+3.3	+2.0	-7.8		
June.....	233,756,000	137,005,608	54,735,725	6,392,529	14,649,950	15,051,000	-0.9	-0.3	-0.8	+0.3	+0.6	-6.2		
July.....	234,418,000	138,584,947	54,345,228	6,407,242	14,639,044	15,035,000	+0.3	+1.2	-0.8	+0.2	-0.1	-1.1		

¹ For definition of terms see the *Bulletin*, January 1953, p. 16. All data subject to revision.

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ Increase of less than 0.05 percent.

⁵ Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.

(Continued from page 29)

developed pamphlet material for the use of individual school programs.

In addition, workshops are held for the local school lunch operating personnel for in-service training and consultation purposes. The workshops are generally sponsored by the individual State school lunch agencies alone or in cooperation with State colleges or universities or other State agencies. On request, the five offices of the Agriculture Department's Food Distribution Division (of which the School Lunch Branch is a component) assist in planning and conducting these training programs. Further assistance is given to the

schools through an active administrative review of local school lunch programs, which is conducted by the State educational agencies as part of their supervisory functions.

Recent Operations

The first Federal donations of foods in the fiscal year 1935-36 amounted to \$244,114 from section 32 funds. In 1954-55, total Federal cash and food donations amounted to \$169.5 million, of which \$27.0 million represented the value (cost) of section 32 commodities. The total cost of school lunches in recent years, by program and by source of funds, is shown in tables 1 and 2.

Since 1947, the first full year of

operation of the national school lunch program on a permanent Federal legislative basis, a total of \$482.8 million in surplus, price-supported, and locally purchased agricultural commodities has been used for school meals under the three legislative authorities: section 6, National School Lunch Act, \$123.4 million; section 32, Public Law 320 (1935), \$280.5 million; and section 416, Agricultural Act of 1949, \$68.6 million. The following commodities were donated under these authorizations, although not all of them in every year or under every authority: beef, butter, cheese, cottonseed oil, eggs, fruits and juices, honey, nonfat dry milk, olive oil, peanut butter, potatoes, pork and

Table 13.—Amount of vendor payments for medical care for recipients of public assistance, by program and State, July 1956¹

State	Old-age assistance	Aid to dependent children	Aid to the blind	Aid to the permanently and totally disabled	General assistance ²
Total	\$11,709,829	\$2,068,988	\$312,286	\$2,071,965	³ \$5,407,000
Alabama.....	<i>1,640</i>	<i>988</i>		<i>91</i>	229
Alaska.....				(4)	20,658
California.....	242,099		20,448	(4)	76,727 ⁽⁶⁾
Colorado.....			<i>121</i>		
Connecticut.....	277,440	101,422	5,328	70,917	(6)
Hawaii.....	8,075	22,954	204	5,220	(6)
Illinois.....	1,835,154	277,238	57,017	288,616	445,971
Indiana.....	478,545	79,332	17,610	(4)	188,513
Iowa.....				(4)	209,981
Kansas.....	<i>226,897</i>	<i>42,228</i>	<i>4,068</i>	<i>36,590</i>	34,401
Louisiana.....	<i>175</i>	<i>4,097</i>	<i>459</i>	<i>2,282</i>	2,185
Maine.....	47,288	13,143	1,569	4,080	41,166
Massachusetts.....	2,163,019	141,946	2,539	507,859	140,064
Michigan.....	185,770		2,500	31,534	84,499
Minnesota.....	1,398,992	123,036	40,581	5,930	153,146
Montana.....					171,664
Nebraska.....					181,416
Nevada.....	6,647			(4)	71,400
New Hampshire.....	88,215	12,636	2,871	8,550	(6)
New Jersey.....		<i>20,192</i>	<i>70</i>		117,268
New Mexico.....	38,588	23,366	1,868	6,440	2,943
New York.....	2,166,006	694,993	83,638	798,288	(6)
North Carolina.....	47,600	17,316		13,202	162,675
North Dakota.....	155,240	17,894	1,043	22,455	21,676
Ohio.....	313,552	<i>14,467</i>	<i>11,826</i>		927,093
Oregon.....	<i>185,780</i>	<i>16,583</i>	<i>2,183</i>	<i>39,977</i>	69,467
Pennsylvania.....	130,291	115,445	31,899	48,845	57,615
Rhode Island.....	64,849	34,460	1,182	18,920	26,239
South Carolina.....					12,534
South Dakota.....					84,379
Utah.....	<i>1,066</i>	<i>1,024</i>		<i>394</i>	155
Virgin Islands.....	344	114	15	51	153
Virginia.....					5,364
Washington.....	996,419	128,861	9,429	109,474	203,625
West Virginia.....	39,458	31,050	2,040	14,504	6,700
Wisconsin.....	<i>610,680</i>	<i>156,208</i>	<i>11,988</i>	<i>38,006</i>	134,605
Wyoming.....					40,113

¹ For the special types of public assistance figures in italics represent payments made without Federal participation. States not shown made no vendor payments during the month or did not report such payments.

² In all States except California, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, the Virgin Islands, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin include payments

made on behalf of recipients of the special types of public assistance.

³ Includes an estimated amount for States making vendor payments for medical care from general assistance funds and from special medical funds and reporting these data semiannually but not on a monthly basis.

⁴ No program for aid to the permanently and totally disabled.

⁵ Data not available.

pork products, rice, tree nuts, turkeys, and vegetables.

Commodities donated under the authority of section 32 of Public Law 320 (1935) and section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 account for almost three-fourths of all food donations for school meals in the years since passage of the National School Lunch Act. At one time this program was the "best customer" for section 32 commodities. In the past few years, however, other federally aided programs—notably those for foreign distribution and for needy persons in this country—have been the beneficiaries to an increasingly greater degree and the school lunch program to a decreasing degree in the annual total of agricultural commodities directly distributed under these two sections. Table 3 shows the amount and proportion of the annual amount distributed under section 32

and section 416 to the various types of recipients from July 1953 to March 1956.

Private funds are still the major source for financing the programs. In recent years, 60-65 percent of the total cost of the lunches has been provided by nongovernmental spending. Parents' payments alone averaged approximately 53 percent of total expenditures in recent years. There is strong local interest in many communities in the lunch program, which has frequently been expressed in the form of financial donations to improve the meals or to buy equipment for their preparation and service. In the past few years, private contributions by parent-teacher associations, women's clubs, businessmen's service organizations, and others have averaged about 9 percent of the total sums that have been provided from all sources.

Participation in the school lunch program has increased steadily, particularly since the passage of the Federal permanent legislation in 1946. From 1947 through 1955, enrollment in public and private elementary and secondary schools increased 28 percent. In the same period the number of children eating school meals served under the program increased 82 percent, almost three times as great an increase as that in school enrollment. As a proportion of the total school enrollment, the number of these children has increased from about 1 pupil out of every 5 enrolled in 1947 to about 1 pupil out of every 3 enrolled in 1955 (table 4). No meaningful comparison can be made of the growth over the years in the number of schools that serve school lunches because of the trend to consolidated schools in suburban as well as rural areas.