



SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENTAL DEBT IN 1947

GOVERNMENTAL FINANCES IN THE UNITED STATES, 1947

GOVERNMENTAL DIVISION
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Total public debt outstanding on June 30, 1947--Federal, State, and local--amounted to \$275.1 billion. This sum represents a reduction of \$10.2 billion, or 4 percent, from the 1946 total. This material decline is in striking contrast to the 1945-1946 increase of \$10.1 billion and the 1940-1947 net increase of \$211.9 billion, equivalent to 335 percent for the 7-year period, as depicted in the chart below.

Of the 1947 total, Federal public debt comprised \$256.3 billion and gross debt of the 155 thousand State and local governments combined is estimated at \$18.8 billion. The 1946-1947 decline in public debt was the net result of a decrease in Federal direct obligations of \$11.1 billion, or 4 percent, and a rise in State and local government debt of \$0.9 billion, or 6 percent. Most of the increase in non-Federal public debt was accounted for by an upward swing in State debt amounting to more than \$0.6 billion, or 26 percent; the rise in total local government debt was less than \$0.3 billion, equivalent to only 2 percent of the 1946 amount. Summary statistics of public debt, tracing the movement of Federal, State, and local government debt since 1902, are shown in table 1.

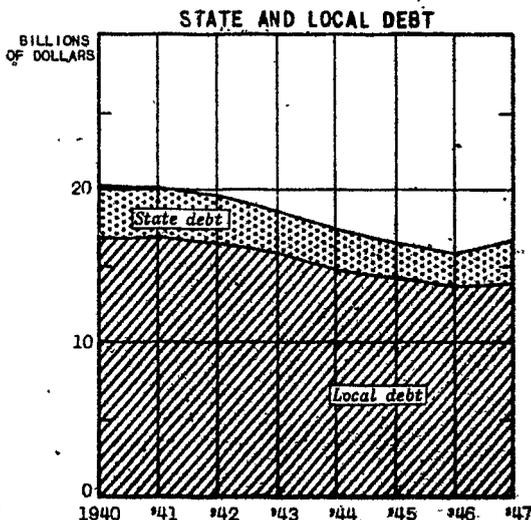
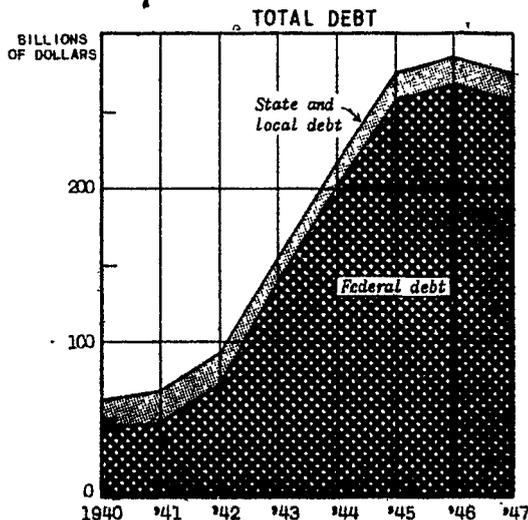
Total public debt in 1947 was equivalent to \$1,910 for each person in the United States, including members of the armed services overseas. Per capita amounts of governmental debt, by levels of government, are presented in table 2.

Aggregate governmental debt in 1947 was 38 percent larger than the national income for the year, which is estimated at approximately \$200 billion. Comparative statistics of national income and public debt for the period 1932-1947 are presented in table 2.

STATE DEBT

Preliminary figures on State debt outstanding at the close of the 1947 fiscal years of the respective States are presented in table 3. The 1947 total State debt of \$2,950 million was \$580 million, or 25 percent, higher than in 1946. This rise principally reflected extremely large borrowing by 3 States--Illinois, Massachusetts, and Michigan--in connection with financing of veterans' bonus payments and services. Altogether, debt increases occurred in 18 States and net reductions were effected in 29 States.

GOVERNMENTAL DEBT: 1940 - 1947



BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

GOVERNMENTAL FINANCES IN THE UNITED STATES: 1947

TABLE 1.--GROSS DEBT OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: SELECTED YEARS 1902-1947

Data for years beginning with 1940 are as of June 30, and they necessarily vary from information for diverse closing dates of fiscal years shown in table 3 and in other Census publications. Earlier data are as of ends of fiscal years.

YEAR	Total	Federal ¹	STATE AND LOCAL ²		
			Total	State	Local
GROSS DEBT OUTSTANDING (Amounts in millions)					
1947	\$275,075	\$258,286	\$16,789	\$2,972	\$13,847
1946	285,309	269,422	15,887	2,358	13,564
1945	275,244	258,682	16,562	2,425	14,164
1944	218,429	201,003	17,426	2,768	14,703
1943	155,341	136,696	18,645	2,909	15,783
1942	92,064	72,422	19,642	3,211	16,479
1941	69,143	48,961	20,182	3,413	16,812
1940	63,177	42,963	20,209	3,526	16,720
1932	39,049	19,487	19,562	2,896	16,680
1922	33,219	22,963	10,256	1,163	9,093
1912	5,692	1,194	4,498	423	4,075
1902	3,372	1,178	2,194	270	1,924
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION, BY TYPE OF GOVERNMENT					
1947	100.0	93.9	6.1	1.1	5.0
1946	100.0	94.4	5.6	.8	4.8
1945	100.0	94.0	6.0	.9	5.1
1944	100.0	92.0	8.0	1.3	6.7
1943	100.0	88.0	12.0	1.9	10.1
1942	100.0	78.7	21.3	3.5	17.9
1941	100.0	70.8	29.2	4.9	24.3
1940	100.0	68.0	32.0	5.6	26.5
1932	100.0	49.9	50.1	7.4	42.7
1922	100.0	69.1	30.9	3.5	27.5
1912	100.0	21.0	79.0	7.4	71.6
1902	100.0	34.9	65.1	8.0	57.1
INDEX, 1940 = 100					
1947	435.4	601.1	83.1	84.3	82.8
1946	451.6	627.0	78.6	66.9	81.1
1945	435.7	602.0	81.9	68.8	84.7
1944	345.7	467.3	86.2	78.5	87.9
1943	245.9	318.1	92.3	82.4	94.4
1942	145.7	168.5	97.2	91.1	98.5
1941	109.4	113.9	99.9	96.8	100.6
1940	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1932	61.8	45.4	76.8	82.1	79.8
1922	52.6	55.4	55.7	33.7	54.4
1912	9.0	2.8	23.3	14.0	24.4
1902	5.3	2.7	10.9	7.7	11.5

¹Debt of the United States Government; includes general treasury obligations incurred on behalf of Federal agencies and excludes Federal agency debt incurred outside of general treasury.

²Comprises debt both for general purposes and for government enterprises.

*Total is less than the sum of amounts shown in "State" and "Local" columns because of the exclusion of State debts incurred for loans to local governments, which duplicate local obligations held by State governments.

TABLE 2.--PER CAPITA GROSS DEBT OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND PER CAPITA NATIONAL INCOME: SELECTED YEARS 1932 TO 1947

YEAR	PER CAPITA DEBT ¹					NATIONAL INCOME		PERCENT OF DEBT TO NATIONAL INCOME				
	Total	Federal	State and local			Per capita ¹	Amounts ² (in billions)	Total	Federal	State and local		
			Total	State	Local					Total	State	Local
1947	\$1,910	\$1,794	\$117	\$21	\$96	\$1,390	\$200.1	137.5	129.1	8.4	1.5	6.9
1946	2,020	1,908	112	17	96	1,262	178.2	160.1	151.2	8.9	1.3	7.6
1945	1,972	1,853	119	17	101	1,310	182.3	150.6	141.5	9.1	1.3	7.7
1944	1,582	1,456	126	20	106	1,320	182.3	119.8	110.3	9.6	1.5	8.1
1943	1,138	1,001	137	21	116	1,233	168.3	92.3	81.2	11.1	1.7	9.4
1942	684	538	146	24	122	1,014	136.5	67.4	53.1	14.4	2.4	12.1
1941	519	368	152	26	126	779	103.8	66.6	47.2	19.4	3.3	16.2
1940	480	326	153	27	127	617	81.3	77.7	52.9	24.9	4.3	20.6
1932	313	156	157	23	134	334	41.7	93.6	46.7	46.9	6.9	40.0

¹Based on estimated population, including armed forces overseas, as of July 1 in the specified years—except 1940, for which population was enumerated as of April 1.

²Source: National Income Supplement to Survey of Current Business, July 1947, and later monthly issues of Survey of Current Business. Data are for calendar years, except for 1947. The 1947 figure is the estimated total for the second quarter, seasonally adjusted, at an annual rate.

SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENTAL DEBT IN 1947

TABLE 3.--DEBT OF STATE GOVERNMENTS OUTSTANDING AT END OF FISCAL YEAR, BY STATE: 1947¹

(In thousands)

State	GROSS DEBT				LONG-TERM DEBT			Short-term debt	Sinking-fund offsets to long-term debt	Net long-term debt
	Total		General	Enterprise	Total	Full faith and credit	Nonguaranteed			
	1947	1946								
Total	\$2,950,091	\$2,370,208	\$2,716,505	\$233,586	\$2,868,930	\$2,534,368	\$334,562	\$81,161	\$578,567	\$2,290,363
Alabama	59,995	63,522	52,670	7,325	59,995	56,294	3,701	—	12,226	47,769
Arizona	8,626	5,794	8,626	—	8,626	6,534	2,092	—	373	8,253
Arkansas	128,702	134,619	128,702	—	128,702	124,901	3,801	—	8,968	119,734
California	176,680	170,044	111,299	65,381	176,680	134,432	42,248	—	37,332	99,348
Colorado	17,865	19,482	17,865	—	17,854	590	17,264	11	119	17,735
Connecticut	28,433	22,635	13,148	15,285	28,183	28,183	—	250	12,898	15,285
Delaware	4,019	4,250	4,019	—	4,019	4,019	—	—	90	3,929
Florida	1,232	1,269	1,232	—	1,232	—	1,232	—	314	918
Georgia	7,891	8,350	7,797	94	7,891	4,141	3,750	—	4,141	3,750
Idaho	200	355	200	—	200	28	172	—	52	148
Illinois	398,229	106,633	398,229	—	398,229	394,520	3,709	—	8,263	389,966
Indiana	8,871	7,210	8,871	—	8,871	—	8,871	—	3,130	5,741
Iowa	1,774	1,241	1,774	—	1,774	22	1,752	—	122	1,652
Kansas	8,971	10,279	8,971	—	8,971	8,971	—	—	1,819	7,152
Kentucky	5,533	5,656	5,323	210	5,533	2,810	2,723	—	228	5,305
Louisiana	176,853	158,034	149,659	27,194	176,853	165,056	11,797	—	7,200	169,653
Maine	15,300	16,596	14,730	570	15,300	14,300	1,000	—	244	15,056
Maryland	28,097	34,699	23,192	4,905	28,097	16,895	11,202	—	2,735	25,362
Massachusetts	177,797	84,169	158,507	19,290	102,297	102,297	—	75,500	7,916	94,381
Michigan	225,539	29,554	25,539	—	225,539	198,773	26,766	—	731	224,808
Minnesota	59,297	66,247	59,297	—	59,297	59,297	—	—	12,059	47,238
Mississippi	77,030	65,747	77,030	—	77,030	18,770	58,260	—	17,136	59,894
Missouri	57,650	63,545	57,650	—	57,650	57,400	250	—	6,605	51,045
Montana	8,973	12,674	5,136	3,837	8,973	3,124	5,849	—	833	3,140
Nebraska	925	850	925	—	925	—	925	—	10	915
Nevada	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Hampshire	11,424	12,550	8,753	2,671	11,413	10,173	1,240	11	3,656	7,757
New Jersey	31,326	72,419	81,326	—	31,326	31,326	—	—	24,014	56,712
New Mexico	24,686	21,232	24,636	—	24,636	22,072	2,614	—	30	24,456
New York	515,392	540,681	515,392	—	515,392	517,151	241	—	154,766	360,626
North Carolina	92,336	101,868	92,336	—	92,336	90,957	1,379	—	68,458	23,878
North Dakota	18,313	19,912	18,313	—	18,313	18,250	63	—	17,396	917
Ohio	9,183	10,292	7,783	1,400	9,183	6,695	2,488	—	405	8,778
Oklahoma	26,470	27,261	26,470	—	26,470	20,376	6,094	—	20,742	5,728
Oregon	23,602	18,283	18,162	4,500	18,273	15,776	2,497	5,389	14,672	3,601
Pennsylvania	120,829	125,629	74,829	46,000	120,829	74,029	46,000	—	34,494	85,335
Rhode Island	43,847	24,417	42,935	862	43,847	43,847	—	—	4,147	39,700
South Carolina	71,532	75,595	44,938	26,594	71,532	44,938	26,594	—	4,439	67,043
South Dakota	20,580	23,460	20,580	—	20,580	20,314	266	—	2,059	18,521
Tennessee	77,339	76,500	77,339	—	77,339	75,363	1,976	—	2,669	74,670
Texas	19,942	12,187	19,942	—	19,942	4,110	15,832	—	2,015	17,927
Utah	1,594	1,896	1,594	—	1,594	1,229	365	—	1,237	357
Vermont	1,564	2,682	1,564	—	1,564	1,564	—	—	—	1,564
Virginia	20,542	22,530	20,542	—	20,542	14,288	6,254	—	15,788	4,754
Washington	10,283	11,894	6,343	3,940	10,283	5,938	4,295	—	4,847	5,436
West Virginia	69,000	68,226	65,472	3,528	69,000	63,995	5,005	—	5,339	63,661
Wisconsin	3,159	3,731	3,159	—	3,159	3,159	—	—	—	3,159
Wyoming	2,606	2,901	2,606	—	2,606	1,770	836	—	—	2,606

¹Data are for State fiscal years ending on June 30 of the specified year, except for 7 States with earlier closing dates (in the same calendar year—May 31 for Pennsylvania, March 31 for New York and Washington; in the previous calendar year—December 31 for Ohio, September 30 for Alabama and Wyoming, August 31 for Texas). Total amounts shown in this table, therefore, do not agree with State total amounts shown in table 1, which are as of June 30, 1947 for all 48 States combined. For the seven States having fiscal years ending prior to June 30, gross debt as of June 30, 1947 was as follows (preliminary figures, in millions): Alabama \$58.8, New York \$537.6, Ohio \$9.2, Pennsylvania \$120.6, Texas \$20.8, and Wyoming \$2.3.

DEFINITIONS OF SELECTED TERMS

Abridged definitions of selected debt concepts from the Census Bureau's uniform classification on State and local government finances are presented below. More detailed definitions may be found in the annual compendium volumes on "State Finances" and "City Finances."

DEBT.--Bonds, notes, judgments, mortgages, and all other instruments of long-term indebtedness, whether backed by the full faith and credit of the governmental unit, or nonguaranteed, and all interest-bearing short-term debt. Except as otherwise specified, debt figures include indebtedness for enterprise purposes as well as general-government obligations.

ENTERPRISE DEBT.--Debt incurred for the purpose of financing water, electric, gas, and transit systems, and other large commercial activities for which separate and relatively complete accounts are maintained.

GENERAL DEBT.--Debt issued for general-government purposes, as distinguished from the financing of enterprises.

GROSS DEBT.--This term and "total debt" are used interchangeably. See "DEBT."

LONG-TERM DEBT.--All debt payable more than one year after date of issue, including fixed-term and serial obligations of all types.

NET LONG-TERM DEBT.--Total long-term debt less the amount of sinking-fund offsets to such debt.

SHORT-TERM DEBT.--Interest-bearing obligations that mature not later than one year after date of issue, such as bond anticipation notes, tax anticipation notes and warrants, and similar obligations that have no fixed maturity dates and are payable from a tax levied for collection in the year of their issuance.

SINKING-FUND OFFSETS.--Total assets of reserve funds, however designated, which are spe-

cifically held for the redemption of long-term debt. Included are balances for payment of matured obligations not presented and balances in refunding bond accounts held pending completion of refunding transactions. Any amounts held by sinking funds in excess of the specific debt for which they were accumulated, and separately recorded amounts held for payment of interest, are excluded.

NOTES ON SOURCES AND PROCEDURE

The 1947 statistics on State and local debt presented in this summary report are based primarily on information obtained from officials of State and local governments in response to a mail survey. The debt figures for State and for large debt-incurring local governments are based on complete coverage. Indebtedness of school districts has been estimated on the basis of information obtained from State agencies and from the U. S. Office of Education. For other classes of local governments for which complete coverage was not practicable, debt statistics have been estimated on the basis of data obtained from a random stratified sample.

Statistics in this report concerning debt of the Federal Government have been derived from the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Treasury Bulletin.

An explanation of procedure and a statement concerning reliability of the estimates will be provided in the final and more detailed report, Governmental Debt in 1947.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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