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QUARTERLY REPORT

Holdings of Selected Public Employee Retirement Systems

September 30, 1970

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE / Bureau of the Census

Major retirement systems covering employees of State and local governments held $50.2 billion in cash and investment securities as of September 30, 1970. This amount represents an increase of 2.7 percent over the $48.9 billion holdings reported 3 months ago.

More than half, $28.5 billion, of this sum is in corporate bonds. The continuing increase in holdings of corporate bonds indicates the reliance on this form of security as the primary area of investment by the publicly operated retirement systems. Holdings of $4.2 billion of U.S. Government securities and $1.8 billion of securities of State and local governments reflect the steady, though gradual, decrease in amounts of governmental securities held. Other major holdings include $6.3 billion invested in corporate stocks and $5.8 billion in mortgages. Corporate stocks are generally reported at cost; therefore the amounts shown do not reflect stock market fluctuations.

The total cash balances of $315 million include interest-earning time deposits as well as demand accounts; therefore, this amount does not entirely represent uninvested funds.

The 100 systems canvassed in this survey hold approximately 90 percent of the assets of all retirement systems operated by State and local governments, although more than 2,100 such systems were counted in the 1967 Census of Governments. The proportionate share of nongovernmental securities (corporate bonds and stocks, mortgages, etc.) held by the largest funds is especially high.

The statistics in this report are based on a quarterly mail survey which covers the 100 public employee retirement systems in the United States with the largest amount of cash and security holdings. Usable reports are received each quarter from about nine-tenths of the systems canvassed. Estimates are developed for the remainder of the 100 systems from the latest available data.

Cash and Security Holdings of Major Public-Employee Retirement Systems: September 30, 1970 and Prior Balances

(Millions of dollars)

Date	Cash and security holdings							
	Total	Cash and deposits	Federal securities	State and local government securities	Corporate bonds	Corporate stocks	Mortgages	Other securities
September 30, 1970....	50,223	315	4,206	1,808	28,534	6,287	5,834	3,239
June 30, 1970.....	48,908	349	4,220	1,842	27,606	5,975	5,729	3,187
March 31, 1970.....	46,970	234	4,531	1,990	26,256	5,475	5,580	2,904
December 31, 1969.....	45,799	282	4,618	2,027	25,703	5,023	5,490	2,656
September 30, 1969....	45,043	300	4,790	2,051	25,273	4,574	5,504	2,551
June 30, 1969.....	43,771	230	4,950	2,075	24,640	4,172	5,318	2,386
March 31, 1969.....	42,177	323	5,058	2,112	23,479	3,724	5,207	2,274
December 31, 1968.....	41,338	358	5,268	2,127	22,912	3,471	5,116	2,086
September 30, 1968....	40,528	338	5,413	2,167	22,378	3,109	5,005	2,118
June 30, 1968.....	39,419	288	5,422	2,182	21,624	2,837	4,974	2,092
March 31, 1968.....	38,271	283	5,632	2,257	20,466	2,537	4,903	2,193

For sale by the Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233, and U.S. Department of Commerce field offices. Price 10 cents.