

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 ²	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

¹ Revised.

² 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.

in the injury rate from 29.4 per 1,000 workers in 1958 to 31.2 in 1959, produced an 8-percent rise in the volume of disabling work injuries—compen-

sable and noncompensable—reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Liberalization of State workmen's compensa-

Estimates of workmen's compensation payments, by State and type of insurance, 1959 and 1958¹

[In thousands]

State	1959				1958				Percentage change in total payments, 1959 from 1958 ²
	Total	Insurance losses paid by private insurance carriers ³	State fund disbursements ³	Self-insurance payments ⁴	Total	Insurance losses paid by private insurance carriers ³	State fund disbursements ³	Self-insurance payments ⁴	
Total.....	\$1,229,897	\$767,969	\$318,420	\$143,508					
Total, excluding Alaska and Hawaii.....	1,224,229	763,577	318,420	142,232	\$1,110,303	\$694,402	\$285,024	\$130,877	+10.3
Alabama.....	7,148	5,718	-----	1,430	6,307	5,047	-----	1,260	+13.3
Alaska.....	2,255	2,104	-----	151	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Arizona.....	12,078	281	11,507	290	9,306	258	8,758	290	+29.8
Arkansas.....	7,626	6,251	-----	1,375	6,703	5,493	-----	1,210	+13.8
California.....	136,495	90,043	32,317	14,135	119,087	78,985	27,772	12,330	+14.6
Colorado.....	9,589	3,183	5,530	870	8,896	2,936	5,150	810	+7.8
Connecticut.....	19,305	17,376	-----	1,930	17,844	16,059	-----	1,785	+8.2
Delaware.....	1,829	1,464	-----	365	1,651	1,321	-----	330	+10.8
District of Columbia.....	4,296	3,974	-----	322	3,757	3,477	-----	280	+14.3
Florida.....	31,509	29,329	-----	2,180	26,709	24,584	-----	2,125	+18.0
Georgia.....	12,392	10,592	-----	1,800	10,334	8,834	-----	1,500	+19.9
Hawaii.....	3,413	2,288	-----	1,125	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Idaho.....	4,692	3,150	992	550	4,406	2,892	999	515	+6.5
Illinois.....	66,283	53,027	-----	12,650	58,125	47,753	-----	10,372	+14.0
Indiana.....	19,505	16,615	-----	2,890	16,860	14,360	-----	2,500	+15.7
Iowa.....	9,389	7,509	-----	1,880	7,809	6,294	-----	1,575	+19.3
Kansas.....	12,030	9,625	-----	2,405	10,308	8,248	-----	2,060	+16.7
Kentucky.....	11,757	8,827	-----	2,930	11,062	7,902	-----	3,160	+6.3
Louisiana.....	25,998	22,033	-----	3,965	28,700	24,320	-----	4,380	-9.4
Maine.....	3,185	2,770	-----	415	2,771	2,411	-----	360	+14.9
Maryland.....	16,910	12,536	2,030	2,344	16,943	12,779	1,774	2,390	-0.2
Massachusetts.....	38,955	36,070	-----	2,885	37,858	35,053	-----	2,805	+2.9
Michigan.....	44,368	30,079	3,315	10,974	40,081	26,501	2,585	10,995	+10.7
Minnesota.....	21,455	18,528	-----	2,927	18,464	15,972	-----	2,492	+16.2
Mississippi.....	7,423	6,805	-----	618	6,209	5,660	-----	540	+19.7
Missouri.....	21,533	18,563	-----	2,970	20,258	17,463	-----	2,795	+6.3
Montana.....	5,401	1,300	3,097	1,004	3,403	1,211	3,173	112	0
Nebraska.....	4,468	4,343	-----	125	3,976	3,864	-----	112	+12.4
Nevada.....	4,364	10	4,144	210	4,333	4	4,124	205	+0.7
New Hampshire.....	3,635	3,565	-----	70	2,671	2,621	-----	50	+36.1
New Jersey.....	57,847	50,832	-----	7,015	54,113	47,551	-----	6,562	+6.9
New Mexico.....	6,416	5,871	-----	545	5,984	5,554	-----	430	+7.2
New York.....	164,053	99,779	43,659	20,615	155,057	95,482	40,091	19,484	+5.8
North Carolina.....	13,710	11,425	-----	2,285	12,213	10,093	-----	2,120	+12.3
North Dakota.....	2,353	(5)	2,353	-----	2,160	10	2,150	-----	+8.9
Ohio.....	85,147	124	73,933	11,090	76,064	103	66,053	9,908	+11.9
Oklahoma.....	15,511	12,274	2,102	1,135	15,466	12,213	2,123	1,130	+0.3
Oregon.....	22,889	2,211	20,678	-----	22,092	2,114	19,978	-----	+3.6
Pennsylvania.....	46,929	30,739	4,025	12,165	43,281	28,357	3,703	11,221	+8.4
Rhode Island.....	6,359	5,990	-----	369	6,538	6,227	-----	311	-2.7
South Carolina.....	7,711	6,426	-----	1,285	6,471	5,306	-----	1,165	+19.2
South Dakota.....	1,668	1,413	-----	255	1,349	1,134	-----	215	+23.6
Tennessee.....	13,082	12,203	-----	879	11,593	10,538	-----	1,055	+12.8
Texas.....	70,956	70,956	-----	-----	59,727	59,727	-----	-----	+18.8
Utah.....	3,385	1,097	1,724	564	3,300	1,167	1,583	550	+2.6
Vermont.....	1,673	1,523	-----	150	1,665	1,515	-----	150	+5
Virginia.....	12,172	10,062	-----	2,110	10,823	8,873	-----	1,950	+12.5
Washington.....	23,590	239	22,991	360	21,996	567	21,069	360	+7.2
West Virginia.....	14,482	23	13,227	1,232	13,966	56	13,023	887	+3.7
Wisconsin.....	19,876	16,213	-----	3,663	18,634	15,500	-----	3,134	+6.7
Wyoming.....	1,547	11	1,536	-----	1,339	13	1,326	-----	+15.5
Federal workmen's compensation:									
Civilian employees ⁵	41,551	-----	41,551	-----	40,076	-----	40,076	-----	+3.7
Other ⁷	27,703	-----	27,703	-----	19,514	-----	19,514	-----	+42.0

¹ Calendar-year figures, except that data for Montana and West Virginia, for Federal workmen's compensation, and for State fund disbursements in Maryland, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, and Utah represent fiscal years ended in 1958 and 1959. Includes benefit payments under the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and the Defense Base Compensation Act for the States in which such payments are made.

² Net cash and medical benefits paid by private insurance carriers under standard workmen's compensation policies. 1958 data furnished by the Chilton Company, publisher of *Spectator: Insurance by States of Fire, Marine, Casualty, Surety and Miscellaneous Lines*. Data for 1959 are preliminary estimates, based on percentage change in direct incurred losses from 1958 to 1959 as reported in the *Spectator* for the individual States.

³ Net cash and medical benefits paid by State funds; compiled from State

reports (published and unpublished) and from the *Spectator*; estimated for some States.

⁴ Cash and medical benefits paid by self-insurers, plus the value of medical benefits paid by employers carrying workmen's compensation policies that do not include the standard medical coverage. Estimated from available State data.

⁵ Less than \$500.

⁶ Payments to civilian Federal employees (including emergency relief workers) and their dependents under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act.

⁷ Includes primarily payments made to dependents of reservists who died while on active duty in the Armed Forces, to individuals under the War Hazards Act, War Claims Act, and Civilian War Benefits Act, and to cases involving Civil Air Patrol and Reserve Officers Training Corps personnel.

tion laws also affected benefit payments. The amount of the cash benefits payable to injured workers was increased in 30 States in 1959. Higher benefits were established for death cases and for all major types of disability in all but five of these States. For temporary total disability, maximum weekly rates were raised \$15 in two States, \$5–\$15 in 14 States, and less than \$5 in nine States. Thirteen States also improved their medical coverage by extending the total time or money limit on payments or by providing additional services. Finally, six States liberalized the provisions of their laws relating to the waiting period before the indemnity benefits are paid.

The full force of these amendments will not be felt until 1960, since more than half the laws did not go into effect until the latter part of 1959. The benefit payments for 1959 fully reflect, however, liberalizing amendments passed in 1958 in four States.

The number of workers covered by workmen's compensation in an average week in 1959 was 42.0–42.5 million, about 1.5 million more than in the preceding year. This expansion in the covered labor force plus higher wage rates resulted in an 8.7-percent increase in the covered payroll, which advanced from an estimated \$183 billion in 1958 to \$199 billion in 1959. Aggregate benefit payments were equivalent to 0.62 percent of covered payroll in 1959—a new post-World War II peak, surpassing the previous high of 0.61 percent in 1958.

Of the total payments of \$1,230 million, 62 percent was paid by private insurance carriers, 26 percent by State funds (including the Federal workmen's compensation system), and 12 percent by self-insurers. This distribution is unchanged from that of the previous 3 years, although payments under self-insurance are not increasing at the same pace as the benefit amounts paid through the other two types of insurance.

Medical and hospitalization benefits amounted to an estimated \$415 million in 1959, somewhat more than a third of total payments. Of the \$815 million in nonmedical payments, nine-tenths took the form of cash compensation for nonfatal injuries and the remaining tenth was paid in death cases. The estimated distributions by type of payment for 1959 (including Alaska and Hawaii) and for 1958 are shown in the following tabulation.

Type of payment	1959	1958
Total.....	\$1,230,000,000	\$1,110,000,000
Medical and hospitalization.....	415,000,000	380,000,000
Compensation, total.....	815,000,000	730,000,000
Disability.....	725,000,000	645,000,000
Survivor.....	90,000,000	85,000,000

STATE VARIATIONS IN BENEFIT PAYMENTS

Year-to-year variations in the level of benefit payments among the States are related to differences in the incidence and composition of covered employment, the frequency and severity of compensable injuries, the level and distribution of wages, and the liberality of benefit provisions. Among the jurisdictions, 1959 benefit payments showed percentage changes from the preceding year that ranged from a decrease of 9.4 percent to an increase of 42.0 percent. For 1958 the corresponding range was from a decrease of 4.4 percent to an increase of 22.0 percent. In 1959 only three States, with less than 4 percent of the covered labor force, showed declines, but in 1958 decreases occurred in seven States having almost one-fourth of the coverage. In one State the level of benefit payments was the same in both years.

In 13 States and the Federal program, with one-fifth of the covered workers, payments in 1959 were at least 15 percent higher than in 1958. Three of these States—Arizona, New Hampshire, and South Dakota—reported increases of more than 20 percent. In addition, the Federal program covering injuries to persons other than civilian Federal employees experienced a 42-percent rise in payments. This increase is attributed to an administrative decision of the Department of Labor to pay compensation retroactively to dependents of military reservists who died while on active duty for the period covered by the 6-month death gratuity; this period had been excluded from the period of compensation. In future years, payments to this group can be expected to return to or drop below former levels.

Thirteen States and the District of Columbia, with about 37 percent of covered employment, had increases of 10.0–14.9 percent. The remaining 18 States, accounting for 40 percent of the coverage, had increases of 0.1–9.9 percent. Regionally, the greatest percentage increase in bene-

fit payments took place in the States of the Deep South, the Great Plains, and the Far West. The smallest relative gains occurred in the Rocky Mountain and New England States.

Payments in each of eight States—California, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas—amounted to more than \$40 million, and together these States accounted for 55 percent of the total amounts expended in 1958 and 1959. Six States—Alaska, Delaware, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming—made payments of less than \$3 million each; these payments in the aggregate were less than 1 percent of all 1959 payments.

COST RELATIONSHIPS

Despite increased benefit payments, employers in 1959 spent a smaller proportion of their payrolls to insure or self-insure their risks under workmen's compensation. The 1959 estimate of \$1,860 million spent by employers was more than \$110 million higher than the amount estimated for 1958; the total represented about 93 cents per \$100 of covered payroll, a drop of 2 cents from the 95 cents per \$100 reported in 1958. The 1959 total consists of (a) \$1,321 million in premiums paid to private insurance carriers; (b) \$394 million in premiums paid to State funds (for the Federal programs financed through congressional appropriations, these "premiums" are the sum of the benefit payments and the costs of the administrative agency); and (c) about \$145 million as the cost of self-insurance (benefits paid by self-insurers, with the total increased 5-10 percent to allow for administrative costs).

Benefits as a percent of premiums reached new heights in 1959. Almost two-thirds of the \$1.86 billion expended by employers was returned to workers in the form of cash payments and medical services. The proportions had been 64 percent in 1958, 61 percent in 1957, and as low as 57 percent in 1953. For private carriers alone, the ratio (direct losses incurred as a percentage of direct premiums earned) amounted to 64 percent in 1959, an increase of 1 percentage point from 1958. State funds (with the Federal fund excluded) also experienced an increase of 1 percentage point in the ratio of benefits paid to premiums and reached a new high of 76 percent. The ratios for

private carriers and, to some extent, for State funds do not take into account the amount of premium income that is returned to employers in the form of dividends or retrospective rating credits.

Applicants for Account Numbers, 1959*

From the beginning of the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program to the end of 1959, a total of 131.7 million social security account numbers have been issued (table 1). Almost 3.4 million accounts were established during

TABLE 1.—Number of applicants for account numbers during year and cumulative number at end of year, by sex, 1950-59

[In thousands]

Period]	Total		Male		Female	
	Total during period	Cumulative total at end of period	Total during period	Cumulative total at end of period	Total during period	Cumulative total at end of period
1950-----	2,891	97,526	1,405	57,382	1,485	40,142
1951-----	4,927	102,453	2,420	59,802	2,507	42,649
1952-----	4,363	106,816	2,292	62,094	2,071	44,720
1953-----	3,464	110,280	1,664	63,758	1,800	46,520
1954-----	2,743	113,023	1,299	65,057	1,444	47,964
1955-----	4,323	117,346	2,304	67,361	2,019	49,983
1956-----	4,376	121,722	2,391	69,752	1,985	51,968
1957-----	3,639	125,361	1,793	71,545	1,845	53,613
1958-----	2,920	128,281	1,384	72,929	1,536	55,349
1959-----	3,388	131,669	1,645	74,574	1,742	57,091

1959—an increase of 16 percent from the 2.9 million established in the recession year 1958 (table 2) but a drop of 7 percent from the 3.6 million of 1957.

One of the reasons for the rise from 1958 was an upturn in the number of job opportunities in 1959. Another was an increase in the "reserve" of persons without account numbers—an increase resulting in part from the relatively few account numbers issued in 1958.

The 7-percent decline from 1957 is, of course, in line with the expected long-term downward trend; year by year there will be fewer persons aged 20 or over who have not already obtained a social security account number. A further factor

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