

GRAPEVINE

SINCE
1958

21st
YEAR

Number 248

February 1979

Page 1571

TIMELY DATA CIRCULATED WHILE CURRENT

Reports on state tax legislation; state appropriations for universities, colleges, and junior colleges; legislation affecting education beyond the high school.

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"Some may still deplore the prospect of universal higher education in our country. But the American commitment on this front has gone beyond the point of no return. Formal learning beyond the age of eighteen is necessary now and will become more necessary in the future."

--William M. Birenbaum, President of Antioch College.

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COMPARATIVE TAXES IN THE NATIONS OF THE WESTERN WORLD

This is a thumbnail report of a scholarly official survey of the totality of tax revenues in each of about a dozen countries of western Europe, plus Canada and the United States--all classified as "developed" nations where private capitalism is the predominating economic system.

The socialist or communist countries are not discussed here, nor are the "developing" nations of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The figures are from the Office in Paris of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, an agency of the United Nations, via the American media credited below.

In brief, the total of taxes at all levels of government in the United States is a substantially smaller proportion of the annual gross national output of goods and services than in any of the other developed nations named.

The New York Times of July 30, 1978, reported that the ratios of all taxes to total national output in the countries of the European Economic Community were as represented by following percentages: (as of 1975)*

Netherlands	46.9 per cent
Sweden	45.9
Denmark	43.0
Belgium	41.4
France	36.9
Great Britain	36.8
West Germany	35.2
Italy	32.3
United States	30.3

*Note the two different reporting years, 1975 and 1977, cause small differences.

U.S. News and World Report for December 25, 1978 / January 1, 1979, reported similar percentages: (as of 1977)*

Sweden	53.3 per cent
Norway	47.4
Netherlands	46.7
Denmark	45.0
Belgium	42.8
Finland	41.5
Austria	40.4
France	39.4
West Germany	38.2
Italy	37.8
Great Britain	36.6
Canada	32.7
Switzerland	31.0
United States	30.4

There are many difficulties in comparing national tax systems, all of which are immensely complex and diverse in various ways.

With great care, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has given its survey meaning and credibility. There is no better source of the data. Unfortunately the facts do not seem to be very widely understood and discussed. Informed persons, hearing of the abortive "tax revolt" in the United States, tend to wonder what it is that the "revolters" are revolting about.

If the United States has in many respects the best public services in the world (and it has), and certainly one of the lowest tax loads in the whole developed world (which it has), then can there be any reason for complaint other than a desire to turn back the clock and dim the lights of civilization?

One beneficial result of justifiable complaints against local property taxes will be a swifter shift of support for local public services to broad-based state and federal taxes on incomes, sales, succession, severance, and other nonproperty taxes. This is essential because of obvious changes in the national economy.

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URBAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN 26 BIG CITIES

GRAPEVINE has always concentrated on institutional and statewide figures, with nationwide summaries to encourage the concept of state tax support of all higher education as a large and diverse enterprise.

Approx annual state tax support for urban universities, in millions of dollars.

Now in the short interim before we begin again to fill our columns with state tabulations for fiscal 1980, we focus on state tax support of *universities in 26 big cities*. For this purpose "university" means a full-fledged doctoral-granting school, albeit we do make a few exceptions of institutions that are newer and are apparently destined to develop in that direction. We do not include community colleges (less than baccalaureate) though they are an important segment of the picture in many large cities.

Atlanta	70
Baltimore	60
Boston	22
Buffalo	90
Chicago	170
Cincinnati	59
Cleveland	31
Columbus	141
Dallas	40
Detroit	90
Houston	147
Indianapolis	42
Kansas City	27
Los Angeles	358
Memphis	59
Miami	27
Milwaukee	51
Minneapolis	125
New York	161
Philadelphia	96
Pittsburgh	63
St. Louis	15
San Antonio	44
San Diego	121
San Francisco	105
Seattle	105

History since 1960 seems to indicate that big cities (including many others somewhat smaller than the 26 listed here) will continue to experience important additions to their facilities for state tax-supported university education, as the trend toward universal higher education goes on. This is one facet of the irreversible growth of state and federal tax assistance for the operation of essential public services in local governmental subdivisions.

The information presented here is sketchy and incomplete, but may serve as a partial basis for further thought about the place of the cities and their suburbs as sites for new and larger universities in the coming age of universal higher education.

In the long run, after the present short period of fright, uncertainty, and preoccupation with pessimism subsides, there will be a time of augmented expansion of higher education for all, including women, minority people, the economically disadvantaged, persons above conventional college age, and graduate and postdoctorate students.

TWENTY-SIX BIG CITIES

Atlanta, home of Georgia Institute of Technology, has the much more recently developed Georgia State University. For fiscal 1979 each of these institutions got between \$30 and \$40 million of state tax funds for annual operating expenses. The newer institution will probably continue its expansion to meet demand.

Baltimore is the site of the Baltimore City Campus of the University of Maryland, a long-established cluster of professional schools (\$44 million), and the much newer Baltimore County Branch (\$12 million). Under the Trustees of State Colleges there is also a former private institution now state-supported, known as the University of Baltimore (\$4 million).

Boston, famed for its many private universities and colleges, after much struggle and delay now has a vigorous branch campus of the University of Massachusetts (about \$22 million in state tax funds for operating expenses in 1979). Its private competitors are numerous and strong, but its outlook is promising.

Buffalo. The long-standing private University of Buffalo was acquired by the state in 1963 and became the largest of four "state university centers"; *i.e.*, comprehensive university campuses, of SUNY. This university got about \$90 million of state tax funds for annual operating expenses in 1979. It had a head start as a comprehensive private university, and gained from its conversion to public.

Chicago. Long the home of the medical and related colleges of the University of Illinois (\$81½ million), Chicago now has the Chicago Circle Campus of the same University, a wholly new institution developed within the most recent twenty years (\$47 million of state tax funds for annual operating expenses in 1979). In the Chicago area are also three smaller state universities, continuing in developmental stages: Chicago State University (\$14 million), Northeastern Illinois University (\$16 million), and Governors State University (\$11 million). All would seem to have excellent prospects for long-term expansion. Current total of annual state support seems to be about \$170 million.

Cincinnati. The University of Cincinnati (\$59 million) has been a state university only since July 1, 1977. For many decades it was municipal (Supported in large part by city taxation). Reluctant to change that identity, as enrollments and state tax support grew, for about a decade it was a "state-affiliated university."

Cleveland. Once a YMCA college, later an independent college, Cleveland State University was acquired by the state of Ohio and is now one of Ohio's twelve state universities (about \$25 million). The older Kent State University (\$36 million) has no large branch campus in Cleveland, but its main campus is only about 35 miles from the city. The state also subsidizes the medical college of Case-Western Reserve University, a private school in Cleveland (\$6 million).

Columbus has always been the site of the Ohio State University (\$141 million). A century ago the University and the town were both small, but both have grown up into the big time in their respective classifications. Ohio State University's current enrollment (about 51,000 students) is probably the largest on any one university campus in the United States.

Dallas has a branch of the University of Texas known as UT at Dallas (\$9½ million), and a UT Health Science Center (\$30½ million), making a total of about \$40 million of annual state support.

Detroit had Wayne University for many years as a locally supported institution. In 1959 it became Wayne State University (\$90 million), one of the three big state universities in Michigan.

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Houston has the University of Houston with three campuses (\$59 million). (It also has separately the University of Texas System Cancer Center (\$45 million), and the newer University of Texas Health Sciences Center (\$43 million).

Indianapolis, in addition to the large Indiana University Medical Center, has several non-medical units of Indiana University and of Purdue University. The whole complex is jointly administered by the two universities, under the name of Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis (IUPUI) (\$42 million).

Kansas City has the relatively recently established and growing largest branch campus of the University of Missouri, named University of Missouri at Kansas City (\$27 million). It absorbed the faltering private University of Kansas City.

Los Angeles, is the home of the famed University of California at Los Angeles (\$173 million), which probably receives larger annual state tax support than any other urban university in the Nation. Within Los Angeles County are California state universities at Dominguez Hills (\$15 million), Long Beach (\$51 million), Los Angeles (\$44 million), Northridge (\$43 million), and Pomona (\$32 million). By this reckoning, the city and county, with some \$358 million in annual state tax support of urban universities, in that respect exceeds any other heavily populated area in the U. S.

Memphis is the site of Memphis State University (\$30 million), and the Health Science Center branch campus of the University of Tennessee (about \$29 million), making a total of about \$59 million of annual state support.

Miami has the new Florida International University (\$21 million). The state also heavily subsidizes the annual operation of the medical school of the private University of Miami (\$6 million).

Milwaukee was for many years the site of a state teachers college, and also a relatively small branch of the University of Wisconsin. More recently these have been merged into the larger University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (\$47 million), the only doctoral-granting state university in Wisconsin except the University of Wisconsin at Madison. The state also largely supports the private nonsectarian Medical College of Wisconsin (\$4 million), until recently the medical college of Marquette University.

Minneapolis and St. Paul have always had the main plant of the University of Minnesota (two campuses). We do not have a figure for its state tax support for 1979, apart from the total of \$186 million for the University and all its outlying branches, including the large branch campus at Duluth; but the twin cities operation undoubtedly substantially exceeds \$100 million.

New York City, with its 18-campus City University, has the only municipal university extant; and indications are that the current session of the state legislature may assume full state tax support of the nine four- and five-year components and the doctoral-granting graduate center. For fiscal 1979, these got \$161 million of state tax funds for annual operating expenses.

Philadelphia has no state university. Pennsylvania heavily subsidizes two private institutions of its "Commonwealth Segment": Temple University (\$71 million), and Lincoln University (\$3½ million). The state also subsidizes the private University of Pennsylvania (\$18 million), Drexel University (3½ million), and ten lesser private institutions, half of which are independent colleges of medicine or allied health professions.

Pittsburgh has no state university; but the private University of Pittsburgh is a subsidized member of Pennsylvania's "Commonwealth Segment" (\$63 million). The four-member Commonwealth Segment includes the Pennsylvania State University, which is not in a big city (\$112 million); and the three private institutions thus identified in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh (total for the four, \$250 million).

St. Louis has the relatively recently developed third largest campus of the University of Missouri, named University of Missouri-St. Louis (\$15 million). The late development of this institution may be ascribed in part to the presence of two long-established and prestigious private universities in St. Louis--St. Louis University (Roman Catholic) and Washington University (nonsectarian). The state university branch probably has large expansion ahead in the long term.

San Antonio. The University of Texas has a branch campus here (\$9 million), and a Health Science Center (\$35 million), making a total of about \$44 million of state support. Both these institutions are of relatively recent origin.

San Diego has the relatively new campus of the University of California at San Diego (\$65 million), which was a spin-off from the small but respected Institute of Oceanography at nearby La Jolla. San Diego also has San Diego State University (\$56 million), currently receiving the largest sum of annual state tax support among the 19 campuses of the California state university and college system.

San Francisco has been for many decades the site of the original Medical Campus of the University of California (\$63 million). Also in the city is San Francisco State University (\$42 million), one of the top half-dozen of the 19-campus system known as California State University and Colleges. The Bay Area is a center of population including much more than the City of San Francisco, which occupies a part of its southwest shores. It also includes on its eastern shore Berkeley, the home of the original University of California (\$135 million), flagship of the nine-campus University of California system; but Berkeley is not a large city of the magnitude discussed in this brief story; and we do not pursue further the matter of the boundaries of a large city and the limits of its environs, which would require a dissertation in almost every instance.

Seattle has always been the site of the University of Washington, one of the top dozen state universities in the United States. For 1979 the University of Washington was among the few state universities in the nation getting state tax support in top figures (\$105 million).

Comments on the foregoing feature are invited. Depending on the response, a small addendum may appear in a future issue.