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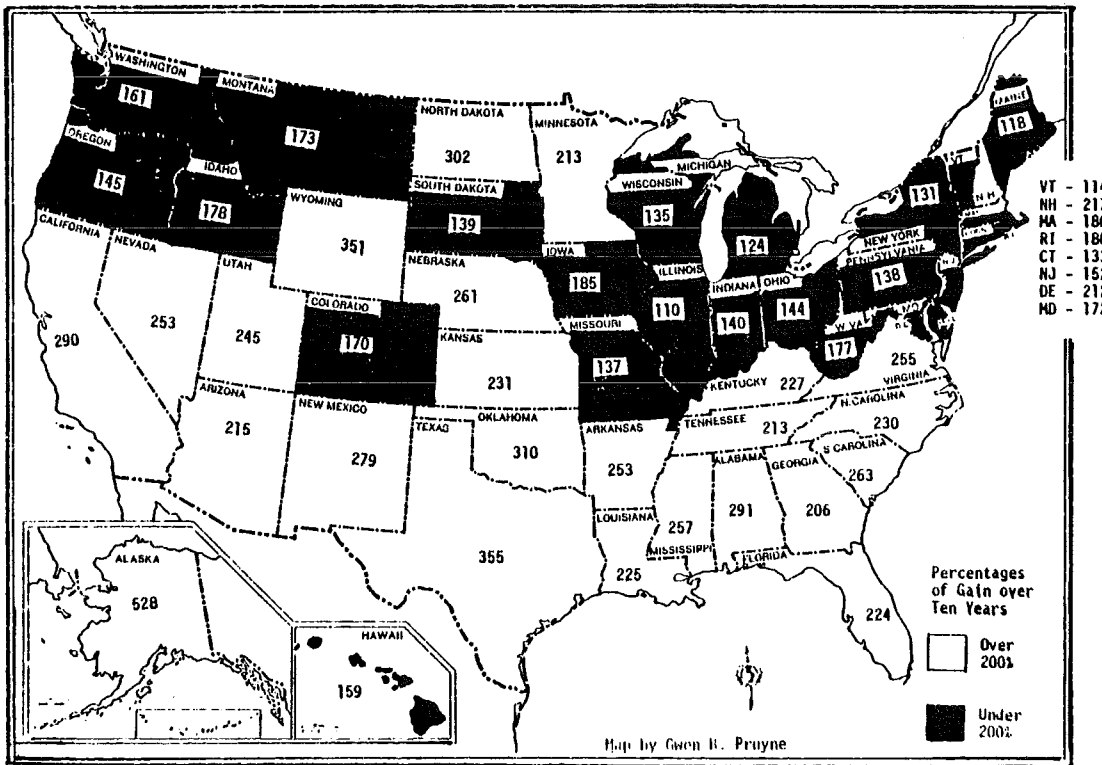
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TIMELY DATA CIRCULATED WHILE CURRENT

## COMPARATIVE STATE TAX SUPPORT OF HIGHER EDUCATION: THE SWIFT AND THE SLOW IN RATES OF GAIN OVER TIME



Percentages of Gain over Ten Years, Fiscal 1982 over Fiscal 1972  
 The Fifty-State Weighted Average is 197%

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THESE ARE THE SWIFT: TWELVE STATES, HAVING 60 MILLION PEOPLE,  
MADE GAINS IN TAX SUPPORT OF HIGHER EDUCATION RANGING FROM 255  
PER CENT TO 528 PER CENT OVER TEN YEARS

A little less than \$23 billion is the total appropriated by fifty state legislatures for annual operating expenses of higher education for fiscal year 1982. This is 20 per cent more than the comparable sums of two years earlier, for 1980, and 197 per cent higher than for ten years ago, for 1972, when the nationwide total was only \$7.7 billion.

The percentages of gains over that ten-year period vary among the states from as low as 110 per cent to as high as 528 per cent. Twelve states form the top quartile, each having increases of 255 per cent or more. These are the swift. We are measuring not status as to scope or quality of higher education, but only rate of change in state tax support.

Alaska is so untypical that it distorts analysis of the twelve leading states, and probably should be excluded from some features of the analysis, for such reasons as: (1) it is the smallest state, with only about 400,000 people; (2) it is currently enjoying large income from its oil resources; as well as (3) the conditions of living make general prices and wages much higher than in any other states.

Two of the most populous states in the nation stand high in this group: Texas (14.2 million people) and California (23.7 million). Their combined population is about one-sixth that of the entire U. S.

Table 81. Twelve States Making Highest Rates of Gain, 1972-1982.

States (1)	Ten-year Gain, % (2)	Rank (3)
Alaska	528	1
Texas	355	2
Wyoming	351	3
Oklahoma	310	4
North Dakota	302	5
Alabama	291	6
California	290	7
New Mexico	279	8
South Carolina	263	9
Nebraska	261	10
Mississippi	257	11
Virginia	255	12

The total population of these twelve states (about 60 million) is more than one-fourth that of the whole United States: one-fourth of the nation's people are living in 12 states where increases in state tax support of higher education have been between 255 and 528 per cent since fiscal year 1972.

It appears that four of these states are in the Southeast, and eight are west of the Mississippi River, corroborating the impression that the best advances in state support of higher education during the recent decade have tended to be made in the South and West.

## THE TWELVE FASTEST TEN-YEAR GAINERS (From Table 81, page 1176)

The figures alone have very limited meaning. They provide only a starting-point from which to consider many pertinent factors.

TEXAS experienced a large increase in total population during the decade--from 11.2 million in 1970 to 14.2 million in 1980. Formerly fifth in population, it surpassed both Illinois and Pennsylvania to become the third most populous state. Rich in oil and gas and benefiting from the influx of population to the Sunbelt, the state has had a comparative economic boom during the recent decade. Notably Houston has become one of the nation's largest cities. The legislature raised the appropriations for operating expenses of higher education above one billion dollars in 1978, and to more than two billion for 1983.

CALIFORNIA maintains its historic policy of supporting public higher education despite the blow of a reduction of 60 per cent in property taxes which was enacted by initiative in June 1978. The community colleges had to have their state tax support increased to about \$1 billion. That amount is roughly the sum appropriated for 1982 for each of the three public segments: 9-campus University of California, 19-campus "state university and colleges," and 106-campus community colleges. The annual total exceeds \$3.3 billion--larger than in any other states.

OKLAHOMA's population has grown to exceed three million. Having somewhat the same resource assets as Texas, this state participates in the comparative boom which has benefited every state in the southwestern tier from Louisiana to California.

NORTH DAKOTA and NEBRASKA have had very slight increases in population, but both have raised their appropriations for higher education at relatively high rates over the past decade.

NEW MEXICO, though with only about one and a quarter million people, has developed a state medical college at its principal state university, and is otherwise expanding its higher education system.

### In the Southeast

VIRGINIA grew by more than half a million people, to more than 5.3 million and continued to improve its state universities and state community colleges.

ALABAMA (3.9 million people) is sixth among the twelve fastest-gaining states in tax support of higher education.

SOUTH CAROLINA and MISSISSIPPI (3.1 million and 2.5 million people), in Table 81 rank ninth and eleventh as to upward change in state tax support of higher education over this decade.

### The Most Recent Two Years

Confining our view to rates of gain over the two years 1980-1982, we find the 50 states rearrange themselves; but that six of the foregoing twelve also appear among the top twelve on two-year gains: Alaska, Texas, Wyoming, Oklahoma, North Dakota, and New Mexico. The other six fall to lower rankings, while six newcomers move into the top quartile: Louisiana, Montana, Arizona, New Hampshire, Delaware, and Georgia. (See last column of Table 83, page 1779.)

WISCONSIN. Table 84 supplements and updates Table 79, page 1772, GRAPEVINE (November 1981):

Table 84. State tax-fund appropriations for operating expenses of higher education in Wisconsin, fiscal year 1981-82, in thousands of dollars.

Institutions (1)	Sums appropriated (2)
University of Wisconsin System	
Doctoral Cluster -	
Madison	167,018
University hospitals	2,423
Subtotal, UW, Madison - \$169,441	
Milwaukee	55,422
Subtotal, Doctoral - \$224,863	
University Cluster -	
Oshkosh	22,664
Eau Claire	21,206
Whitewater	18,085
Stevens Point	18,010
La Crosse	17,335
Stout	15,717
River Falls	12,007
Platteville	11,952
Parkside	11,205
Green Bay	10,538
Superior	7,831
Subtotal, U's - \$166,550	

WISCONSIN (Continued from preceding col)	
Centers (2 year)	15,138
Extension	27,300
System administration	6,201
Sytemwide programs	4,242
Subtotal, UW-System - \$444,294	
Voc tech adult ed system	60,752
Medical Coll of Wisconsin	6,590
Higher ed aids board	20,366
Total	532,002

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**GRAPEVINE**

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Table 83. RANKINGS OF THE 50 STATES AS TO PERCENTAGES OF GAINS OVER TWO YEARS, FISCAL 1982 OVER 1980; AND OVER TEN YEARS, FISCAL 1982 OVER 1972.

Alaska ranked 1st and New Mexico ranked 8th respectively in both categories

2-yr Gain (1980-82)			10-yr Gain (1972-1982)			(1980-82) 2-yr Gain		
Rank		%	Rank		%	Rank		%
1	AK	69	1	Alaska	528	1	AK	69
2	WY	60	2	Texas	355	2	WY	60
3	TX	45	3	Wyoming	351	3	TX	45
4	ND	43	4	Oklahoma	310	4	ND	43
5	OK	42	5	No Dakota	302	5	OK	42
6	MT	38	6	Alabama	291	6	MT	38
7	LA	38	7	California	290	7	LA	38
8	NM	36	8	New Mexico	279	8	NM	36
9	DE	35	9	So Carolina	263	9	DE	35
10	NH	32	10	Nebraska	261	10	NH	32
11	AZ	32	11	Mississippi	257	11	AZ	32
12	GA	30	12	Virginia	255	12	GA	30
13	HA	30	13	Nevada	253	13	HA	30
14	MS	29	14	Arkansas	253	14	MS	29
15	NC	27	15	Utah*	245	15	NC	27
16	VT	25	16	Kansas	231	16	VT	25
17	NB	24	17	No Carolina	230	17	NB	24
18	CO	24	18	Kentucky	227	18	CO	24
19	FL	23	19	Louisiana	225	19	FL	23
20	VA	22	20	Florida	224	20	VA	22
21	WV	21	21	New Hampshire	217	21	WV	21
22	NY	20	22	Arizona	215	22	NY	20
23	UT	20	23	Minnesota	213	23	UT	20
24	MD	19	24	Tennessee	213	24	MD	19
25	RI	19	25	Delaware	212	25	RI	19
26	KY	18	26	Georgia**	206	26	KY	18
27	CA	18	27	Iowa	185	27	CA	18
28	IN	17	28	Rhode Island	180	28	IN	17
29	KS	17	29	Massachusetts	180	29	KS	17
30	ME	17	30	Idaho	178	30	ME	17
31	NJ	16	31	West Virginia	177	31	NJ	16
32	MA	16	32	Montana	173	32	MA	16
33	NV	16	33	Maryland	172	33	NV	16
34	CT	15	34	Colorado	170	34	CT	15
35	WI	14	35	Washington	161	35	WI	14
36	SC	13	36	Hawaii	159	36	SC	13
37	IA	13	37	New Jersey	152	37	IA	13
38	IL	13	38	Oregon	145	38	IL	13
39	TN	12	39	Ohio	144	39	TN	12
40	MO	12	40	Indiana	140	40	MO	12
41	ID	12	41	So Dakota	139	41	ID	12
42	MN	12	42	Pennsylvania	138	42	MN	12
43	PA	12	43	Missouri	137	43	PA	12
44	AL	11	44	Wisconsin	135	44	AL	11
45	OR	10	45	Connecticut	133	45	OR	10
46	AR	8	46	New York	131	46	AR	8
47	WA	6	47	Michigan	124	47	WA	6
48	MI	5	48	Maine	118	48	MI	5
49	SD	5	49	Vermont	114	49	SD	5
50	OH	4	50	Illinois	110	50	OH	4

Examples: \*Utah ranks 15th over ten years, 23rd over two years;  
 \*\*Georgia ranks 26th over ten years, 12th over two years.

THE SLOW GAINERS OVER TEN YEARS, AND OVER THE MOST  
RECENT TWO YEARS

The twelve states forming the fourth quartile among the fifty when ranked according to percentages of gain in appropriations of state tax funds for higher education over the ten-year period 1972-82 are named in Table 82.

Five of the nation's ten most populous states are included: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Michigan. Ten of the states are in the North-east quadrant. Only two are west of the Mississippi River: Missouri and South Dakota. Eleven form a nearly contiguous bloc extending from Missouri to Maine.

We are measuring not absolute quantity or quality of higher education, but only rates of gain in state support. A majority of these states stood at high levels as leaders in higher education in 1972 and thereto, and continue to receive world recognition in that respect, though their rates of progress in tax support are temporarily slowed somewhat.

Indications of upturn are discernible in the fact that over the most recent two years alone, seven of these states moved out of the fourth quartile to higher ranks: Illinois, Vermont, Maine, New York, Connecticut, Wisconsin, and Indiana.

Indeed, for the short-term period, 1980-82, none of the six New England states nor New York was found in the fourth quartile (whereas practically the solid northeast was in a slump during the late 1970's).

Space does not permit extensive comment on each of these states, but a few remarks about conditions underlying the ten-year positions of some of the states in Table 82 follow:

ILLINOIS was at a relatively high level of state support in 1972 and before, but has made only moderate gains since that time. MICHIGAN's progress was retarded by the downside of the automobile industry, among other factors; OHIO's by recession in the tire and steel industries as well as by chronic reluctance to forge ahead with tax support of higher education.

Table 82. Twelve states Making Lowest Rates of Gain, 1972-82.

States	Ten-year Gain, %	Rank
(1)	(2)	(3)
Ohio	144	39
Indiana	140	40
South Dakota	139	41
Pennsylvania	138	42
Missouri	137	43
Wisconsin	135	44
Connecticut	133	45
New York	131	46
Michigan	124	47
Maine	118	48
Vermont	114	49
Illinois	110	50

Regarding Table 83 on Page 1779

Table 83 on the following page shows graphically how all fifty states aligned themselves in order of ten year gains, 1972-82, and also according to rates of two-year gain, 1980-82, in separate columns. How they rearranged themselves on the latter short-term measure gives some indication of current upturns and downturns. Table 83 also provides a simple graph of changes in rates of gain in the entire 50-state scene over the decade, 1972-82. This may serve as a simple starting-point for further observations.

The same data also appear, but in alphabetical order by states in Table 80, page 1773 (November 1981).