

ing part of all current expenditures take the form of salaries to the instruction staff, and since reasonably good data on annual salaries of instruction personnel are available, these data are used as the main source of information on price level changes.

It is possible to find data on average annual earnings of full-time equivalent State and local government employees in public education. However, this information goes back only to 1930 and these data not only include salaries to the instruction staff but they cover all salaries. At the same time, these data cover salaries paid not only to the personnel of public primary and secondary schools, but also to the personnel of State and city colleges and universities.

In table 10, information on average annual salaries per member of total instruction staff in primary and secondary schools for selected years, 1900-1958, is given. These data are supplemented for selected years from 1930 on by data on the average annual earnings of full-time equivalent State and local employees in public education. To facilitate comparisons, for both series index numbers have been developed with 1954 = 100. Judging by the index numbers, the two series resemble one another rather closely, especially since 1950. Prior to that period, increases in the first series were more rapid than those in the second.

TABLE 10.—Average annual salaries of public school teachers, selected years, 1900-1958

Year	Average annual salary per member of instruction staff in primary and secondary schools	Index 1954=100	Average annual earnings full-time equivalent State and local government public education	Index 1954=100
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1900.....	\$325	8.5		
1902.....	349	9.1		
1910.....	485	12.7		
1913.....	512	13.4		
1920.....	871	22.8		
1922.....	1,166	30.5		
1930.....	1,420	37.1	\$1,455	41.5
1932.....	1,417	37.0	1,399	39.9
1940.....	1,441	37.7	1,435	40.9
1942.....	1,507	39.4	1,512	43.1
1946.....	1,995	52.2	2,025	57.7
1948.....	2,639	69.0	2,538	72.3
1950.....	3,010	78.7	2,794	79.6
1952.....	3,450	90.2	3,169	90.3
1954.....	3,825	100.0	3,510	100.0
1956.....	4,139	108.2	3,799	108.2
1958.....	4,700	122.8	4,343	123.7

Sources: Average annual salary data per member of total instruction staff were computed by Eugene P. McLoone, Division of State and Local School Systems, School Finance Section, U.S. Office of Education.

Average annual earning data of full-time equivalent State-local government public education was taken from: U.S. Department of Commerce, National Income, 1954, a supplement to the Survey of Current Business, table 15.

U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Income and Output, a supplement to the Survey of Current Business, 1958, table VI-15.

In 1900, the average teachers' salary in public primary and secondary schools was \$325. By 1958, it was about 13 times larger, i.e., about \$4,700.

(b) *Income level.*—There can be no doubt that throughout the United States the richer communities and States spend on the aver-