

Farm real estate

The Department of Agriculture provides information on farm real estate values (40-F-10). In addition there are two surveys, farm real estate market survey (40-F-12), and farm building survey (40-F-14), which would be very useful.

Other data

Financial information provided by the FHA series on insured home mortgage terminations (55-17), and data on individual parcels given by the census of governments assessed valuations (41-A-46), would be particularly valuable. Although the "County and City Data Book" is published, the computer tapes of this information which are now sold by the Census Bureau are very useful for research.

3. LABOR FORCE AND WAGES

Information on the labor force, employment, earnings, and labor unions are provided by several Federal agencies. These data are often needed in a highly disaggregated form so that they can be related at a detailed level to other regional, industrial, and demographic information.

Labor force

The basic data in this area is provided by the Census Bureau in the Current Population Survey (41-A-19), and high priority should be given to making this available. In addition, the Social Security Administration provides useful samples of employer-employee records (72-1), and continuous work histories (72-3 and 72-4). Some sample of the summary earnings record tape (72-6) would also be desirable. Finally, the Bureau of Employment Security of the Department of Labor gives data on the employment and wages of workers covered by unemployment insurance (44-A-8), labor turnover (44-B-28), and the characteristics of the insured unemployed (44-A-9). Given the current interest in the problem of unemployment data these sources are very important.

Wages and hours

The Bureau of Labor Statistics collects the basic information in this area in its survey of industry employment, payrolls, and hours (44-B-27 and 44-A-18). The data on wages and related benefits for 82 market areas (44-B-14) also are highly important. Since census data on industry and trade also contain employment and wage data it will often be found useful if these various bodies of data are available in a form that can be interrelated.

Unions and pension plans

The characteristics of labor unions (44-D-12) together with their financial data (44-D-13 and 44-D-14) provide the basic information on labor unions. Pension and welfare plans are covered by additional Bureau of Labor Statistics surveys (44-D-6, 44-D-7, 44-D-8, and 44-D-9). The growing importance of pension and welfare funds both as a source of funds in the economy and in terms of effects on the future income of the aged make this information particularly valuable.

4. EDUCATION

The increased interest in education and the magnitude of expenditures on education make it imperative that adequate data on this topic be available for research purposes. Much of the basic information is contained in the population census and other surveys where data are provided on the age, sex, and educational attainment of individuals. However, the Office of Education of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, provides a considerable amount of specialized information.

Primary and secondary schools

The inventory of schools for resource evaluation (51-4) provides basic data on primary and secondary schools. Additional surveys of nonpublic schools (51-7, 51-18, and 51-19) are carried out on a periodic basis. Expenditures by type per pupil (51-9) and data on various aspects of the curriculum such as science and mathematics (51-3 and 51-8) and foreign languages (51-39) furnish valuable information on the extent of educational benefits in different areas.