

A breakdown of the total capital investment in storm sewer systems by population groups is presented in table II. These data were analyzed further to arrive at various averages, such as dollars per capita, et cetera. Table III presents these averages.

TABLE II.—*Capital investment in urban drainage improvements in the United States, by population groups of cities, 1965*

Population group (thousands)	Number of cities	Population 1965 estimated (thousands)	Capital investment (millions)	Square miles of improvement
500 or more.....	28	30,000	\$5,900	2,800
100 to 500.....	109	24,000	4,500	2,400
50 to 100.....	180	13,000	1,400	900
10 to 50.....	1,344	30,000	4,500	3,500
2.5 to 10.....	3,000	16,000	2,700	2,100
Less than 2.5.....	13,000	9,000	1,300	1,000
Other urban places.....	1,700	12,000	1,700	1,300
Totals.....	19,361	134,000	22,000	14,000

TABLE III.—*Capital investment in urban drainage improvements cities of the United States (averages for cities, by population groups), 1965*

Population group (thousands)	Capital investment ¹			
	Per city (millions)	Per capita ²	Percent of market value of taxable property	Per square mile city area
500 or more.....	\$210	\$195	3.7	\$270,000
100 to 500.....	40	185	4.3	225,000
50 to 100.....	8	110	2.2	105,000
10 to 50.....	3	150	2.5	385,000
2.5 to 10.....	.9	170		
Less than 2.5.....	.2	145		

¹ Replacement value as of mid-1965.

² Based on 1965 population.

NOTE.—Estimates for population groups under 10,000 are rough approximations.

SOURCE: Questionnaire survey by the American Public Works Association, 1965.

(c) *Ages of Sewer Systems*

The ages of the country's sewers are variable and difficult to determine. Again, the lack of available records of installations and replacements makes age determinations difficult in many areas, particularly the older urbanized areas. In general, it may be stated that most existing underground urban storm sewer laterals (sewer conduits serving areas in which they are located) were constructed along with the development of property and the construction of buildings in these areas. The construction of main and trunk sewers cannot be traced accurately with population growth as they are generally constructed to serve anticipated urbanization and are often constructed through relatively unpopulated areas to points of discharge.

With good planning, in progressive and economically sound communities, main and truck sewer construction generally precedes population expansion. In areas where backlogs of sewer requirements have developed, the construction of these larger sewers often lags behind urban growth. In some areas storm sewers were installed after urbanization and in these areas the ages of the sewers are not