

2. SPENDING AGENCIES FOR CAPITAL OUTLAYS

Funds from local, State, and Federal Governments to nonpublic are estimated as very small. Public ownership of 0.7 percent of the nonpublic school sites, however, was reported in the National Survey of School Facilities and Personnel conducted by the Office of Education in the spring of 1962. The number of profitmaking organizations is also very small. It is estimated that about 98 percent of the funds for capital outlays shown in table 15 were accounted for by nonprofit organizations.

3. SOURCE OF FINANCING FOR CAPITAL OUTLAYS

Financing of capital construction for nonpublic schools is primarily from gifts. However, mortgages are used in some instances, and funds are also provided from higher echelons of church-related organizations.

D. NEEDS AND PROSPECTIVE CAPITAL OUTLAYS

1. CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

Establishment of facility standards and decisions about capital needs for nonpublic schools are the responsibility of the organizations that operate those schools. It might be assumed that it would be difficult to generalize at least about the Catholic schools, which account for a large percent of the nonpublic enrollment. However, control of these schools has been largely decentralized and standards are known to vary.

In this section, mainly to facilitate comparison between the public and private sectors, the present median pupil accommodation in the schools will be used as the basis for estimates. It cannot be assumed, however, that this basis is or will be accepted as a standard by public school officials. It should be noted, furthermore, that to finance the necessary capital outlay usually represents only the first step toward achieving smaller classes in schools which now accommodate large numbers of pupils in each room. This is because the number of pupils per room often corresponds closely to the number of pupils per teacher. The amortized per pupil cost of additional classrooms is by no means small, but it is substantially less than the salaries of the teachers required to staff the rooms. For all of these reasons, the estimates of capital outlay requirements given here should be recognized as primarily for purposes of illustration.

In the decade 1956 through 1965, estimated enrollments in nonpublic schools increased from about 4.4 million to about 6.6 million. In the decade through 1975, the anticipated increase will be much smaller. The Office of Education projections place the 1975 enrollment at about 7 million.

Hence, it appears possible that the nonpublic schools may be able to meet their needs during this decade on their very large backlog of unmet needs. It must be anticipated, however, that a substantial backlog will still remain at the end of the decade, unless these schools can develop new sources of financing.