

## 7.—Construction costs of new general hospital buildings in the Hill-Burton program, 1964 survey

| Project size in beds | Number of projects | Square feet per bed | Building and fixed equipment costs |          | Total project costs |          |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
|                      |                    |                     | Per square foot                    | Per bed  | Per square foot     | Per bed  |
| 5                    | 5                  | 724                 | \$25.09                            | \$15,267 | \$26.04             | \$22,213 |
| 19                   | 19                 | 707                 | 27.00                              | 19,086   | 30.82               | 21,783   |
| 16                   | 16                 | 708                 | 27.93                              | 19,780   | 33.31               | 23,592   |
| 10                   | 10                 | 723                 | 27.33                              | 19,716   | 33.33               | 24,047   |
| 6                    | 6                  | 926                 | 27.93                              | 25,869   | 33.21               | 30,761   |
| 3                    | 3                  | 925                 | 25.95                              | 23,988   | 30.72               | 28,404   |
| Total                | 59                 | 804                 | 27.19                              | 21,871   | 32.38               | 26,041   |

Source: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, *Representative Costs of Hill-Burton Hospitals and Related Health Facilities*, January-April 1965, and unpublished

There is such a wide variation in hospital projects involving additions that costs per square foot or per bed have little meaning. There usually some and often extensive remodeling in conjunction with addition and there also may be considerable equipment expense any particular project. Therefore, national data are not meaningful addition or remodeling type projects.

## (b) Operating Costs

The 5,712 non-Federal short-term general and special hospitals and with the American Hospital Association had a total expense of \$8.3 billion in 1964. Payroll expense was \$5.2 billion or 62 percent of total expense. Expense by size of hospital, as shown in table 8, greater payroll expense per bed and per patient-day in the hospitals as well as the inclusion for large hospitals of the expense such services and departments as emergency room, cafeteria, outpatient clinics, occupational therapy, and so forth. Another that for food, has been estimated for all registered hospitals the United States in 1964 at \$1 billion.<sup>6</sup>

TABLE 8.—Total expense of registered non-Federal short-term general and other special hospitals, by size, 1964<sup>1</sup>

| Size in beds | Number of hospitals | Beds    | Total expense         |         |                 |
|--------------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------|
|              |                     |         | Amount (in thousands) | Per bed | Per patient day |
| 25 to 49     | 583                 | 10,171  | \$71,430              | \$7,023 | \$34.67         |
| 100 to 199   | 1,480               | 52,572  | 431,363               | 8,205   | 35.53           |
| 200 to 299   | 1,449               | 100,694 | 936,165               | 9,297   | 37.22           |
| 500 or more  | 1,095               | 151,422 | 1,640,957             | 10,837  | 39.50           |
|              | 542                 | 130,759 | 1,645,119             | 12,581  | 43.24           |
|              | 286                 | 97,018  | 1,255,030             | 12,936  | 43.47           |
|              | 122                 | 53,755  | 714,571               | 13,293  | 44.15           |
|              | 155                 | 124,419 | 1,654,588             | 13,299  | 44.97           |
| Total        | 5,712               | 720,810 | 8,349,223             | 11,583  | 41.58           |

<sup>1</sup> Excludes short-term psychiatric hospitals.

Source: *Hospitals*, "Guide Issue," Aug. 1, 1965, pp. 450-451.

<sup>6</sup> *Hospitals*, Dec. 1, 1965, p. 64.