

everywhere are a part of a structure used for other purposes, there is no adequate way to estimate their dollar value. What price can you place on a 30-man jail in New England built over 150 years ago or any of the other 20 to 25 percent of jails built before 1900? Replacement costs on a per bed basis would give one crude estimate of value.

B. COSTS AND USER CHARGES

1. CAPITAL COSTS

The costs of new jails vary greatly with size, location, custody requirements and on the basis of its being a free-standing structure or part of a government complex (i.e., civic center, courthouse or sheriff's office). We were told by one company specializing in jail construction that it is possible to build a jail for as little as \$1,000 a bed. Federal jail inspectors were able to secure cost figures for 37 jails in 10 States. The average per bed cost of these 37 institutions was \$8,930. Per bed costs ranged from \$888 for a 250-man addition to the county jail in Oklahoma City to \$17,000 for a 38-man jail in Manitowoc County, Wis. (see fig. 3 for cost distribution by capacity). In some instances these cost figures included the total cost of the structure which served other government functions in addition to the jail. Although this greatly limits the quality of these cost figures, it is estimated by the only experts in this area—the Federal jail inspectors—that real per bed construction costs for jails probably average from \$6,000 to \$9,000.

FIGURE 3.—Average per bed cost for 37 jails of varying capacity built 1961-65

Capacity	Number of jails	Average cost per bed
Total.....	37	\$8,931
0 to 50.....	19	9,793
51 to 100.....	6	8,842
101 to 150.....	2	6,541
151 to 200.....	2	13,381
201 to 250.....	2	2,118
251 to 300.....	1	6,836
301 to 350.....	2	8,698
351 to 400.....	1	6,696
401 to 450.....	1	8,312
451 to 500.....	1	8,000

2. USER CHARGES

During fiscal year 1965, the Federal Government paid an overall daily rate of \$3.80 for the care of U.S. prisoners confined in jails and other non-Federal institutions. U.S. prisoners were held in jails in every State in the Union, Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia during 1965. A total of 1,207,024 days of care was provided at a cost to the Federal Government of \$4,582,812. Housing and subsistence alone amounted to \$4,208,722, or \$3.48 per man-day. For medical, dental, and hospital expenses incurred by U.S. prisoners, \$374,090 was spent. The per day rates the Federal Government pays for U.S. prisoners confined in jails and other non-Federal institutions are determined by negotiation between the Government and the jail authorities involved. The operating costs