

work of the respective sectors of the capital market to handle the expected increasing volume of securities or obligations with minimum strain.

Thus, the chief objective of the present volume is to ascertain the likelihood that the requisite private credit resources will be available to meet the anticipated capital requirements over the next decade. To help answer this question, the various chapters present a wealth of descriptive materials and statistics on the sources of funds, institutional forces, and emerging trends in the municipal securities market during the past 20 years. Particular attention is focused on such ancillary matters as (a) which of the major pools of institutional funds are likely to invest in municipal or private, nonprofit securities, (b) whether the marketing machinery hitherto developed can expand sufficiently to accommodate an increasing volume of securities, and (c) whether the credit instruments now in use, e.g., tax-exempt municipal securities and the diversity of instruments employed by private, nonprofit organizations, are best suited to meet future capital requirements.

(b) Linkage of Statistical Data

Those who have occasion to study State and local government capital outlays or review the municipal securities market are often dismayed by the diversity of statistics available, each series seemingly unrelated to the others. Major data inputs are provided by (1) the Governments Division, Bureau of the Census (capital outlays, construction expenditures, outstanding debt, new debt issued, debt retired), (2) the Construction Statistics Division, Bureau of the Census (construction put in place), (3) the Treasury Department (distribution of holdings of State and local government obligations), (4) the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (similar distribution), (5) the Bond Buyer (municipal bond sales), and (6) the Investment Bankers Association (municipal bond sales and characteristics of bonds sold). While each statistical series may be internally consistent, they do not tie into each other or with other data.¹ Thus, the analyst has the unhappy choice of either using isolated statistical series without bothering about consistency with other data or attempting to reconcile the various series through "adjustment factors" or "statistical discrepancy" notes.

Several efforts are made in this volume to link together some of the disparate statistical series. Chapter 1 relates for State and local governments (a) capital outlays to total expenditures, (b) construction expenditures to construction put in place, and (c) borrowing to capital outlays; and it also provides details regarding the composition of capital outlays, construction expenditures and long-term borrowing. Chapter 5 provides newly revised comprehensive data on new municipal bonds sold in 1957-65 by type of offering, bond, maturity, issuer, use of proceeds, size of issue, and State distribution, with appropriate cross tabulations. Supplement B of this chapter traces the relationships of capital outlays to long-term bond sales (net of refundings), bond retirements, outstanding debt, and net changes in outstanding debt for State and local governments. Supplement C presents a tabulation that links outstanding State and local govern-

¹ Aggregate statistics on the asset holdings of financial institutions or public agencies.