

amount of economic output because of the underachievement, underproduction, or complete incapability of the retarded persons.

A general statement on community health programs similarly illustrates economic effects by indicating the magnitude of economic costs and losses from accidents, dental decay and periodontal disease, and infectious diseases. Thus, national health survey data indicate that during 1963-64, infective and parasitic diseases (other than upper respiratory infections, such as the common cold and influenza, and common childhood diseases) caused losses of 20,735,000 days from work. Evidence is cited to suggest that improvements are being achieved through reductions in the incidence of various infections that can be credited directly to efforts at control and prevention. Benefits attributable to training in tularemia control during 1950-64, in the form of savings in medical expenses, wage loss, and related costs are estimated at nearly \$11 million. This is compared with expenditures of only \$3.5 million over the last 25 years for training in all vector-borne disease (including some 100 diseases besides tularemia).

Air pollution control and prevention is a subject of wide current interest and concern, with numerous and substantial economic ramifications. The response to the question on economic effects indicates only that present efforts to reduce or eliminate pollution will have varying influences on the economy, including some that will raise prices to consumers (as in the case of automobiles with control devices). It notes the possibility that some changes in manufacturing processes to abate pollution could make the processes more efficient or generate salable byproducts. The statement does not undertake further identification of economic aspects or assess their magnitudes.

The brief comment on economic aspects of the air pollution control program contrasts with a more extensive statement for the older water pollution control program (for which administrative responsibility was transferred in 1966 to the Department of the Interior). This statement notes that the conventional economic analysis of benefit-cost evaluation that is applied to all Federal water resource development projects is applied also to water pollution control, but the importance of health and esthetic aspects in water pollution control means that the analytical results are less conclusive than for other water projects. A study of pollution enforcement in the Colorado River Basin is cited to illustrate this situation. The statement on water pollution control does not give quantitative estimates or specific conclusions. It indicates that systematic studies of effects on public expenditure, employment, and income distributions are yet to be made, and that such studies are to be instituted in conjunction with comprehensive river basin studies now being made.

Food protection activities, the national shellfish sanitation program, and interstate carrier food and water sanitation controls are segments of public health activity in which impacts upon particular industries are direct and significant. The statements for these programs suggest that difficulties beset any efforts to estimate the number of cases of illness prevented. On the other hand, inferences about the importance of these programs may be drawn from estimates of losses incurred when illnesses actually do occur. Conservative estimates indicate that 1 million persons are made acutely ill each year by some foodborne health hazard and each loses 2 to 4 days of work, for a total