

TABLE 2.—*Economic classification of program expenditures for fiscal year 1965*

[In millions of dollars]

Federal Government:	
Purchases of goods, services:	
Wages and salaries.....	0.5
Other.....	1.1
Grants to State and local governments.....	85.0
Total, Federal.....	86.6
Non-Federal expenditures: Other ¹	80.4
Total expenditures for program.....	167.0

¹ Includes children's payments and other contributions not identifiable by categories.

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

PART I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

1. Objectives

To improve the health and well-being of children through improved nutrition and to expand the market for domestically produced agricultural products.

2. Operation

The national school lunch program is a grant-in-aid program administered through the State educational agency in each State. Funds appropriated by Congress are apportioned among the States under a formula contained in the National School Lunch Act. The State agency, in turn, disburses funds to participating public and nonprofit private schools. In those States where the State agency is prohibited from disbursing funds to other than public schools, eligible private schools sign agreements with and receive their funds directly from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Additional assistance is provided through the donation to school lunch programs of foods purchased for the program by the USDA as well as foods acquired under price support and surplus removal programs.

3. History

School food service for children evolved over a period of many years in this country. The first tangible effort on the part of the Federal Government to support this activity developed during the decade 1930-40 when foods acquired as part of agricultural programs were distributed to schools to help support a lunch program with much of the labor supplied by those employed by the Works Progress Administration. From 1944 to 1946 fiscal years, a transfer of funds from section 32 was authorized by the Congress for school lunch programs. The basic authority for the program, the National School Lunch Act, became law on June 4, 1946. This act was revised, effective October 15, 1962, with a major change in the formula for apportioning cash assistance among the States and the inclusion of section 11 which provided for special assistance (increased rates per lunch) to schools drawing attendance from particularly needy areas.

4. Level of operations. (See table 1.)

5. Estimated magnitude of program in 1970. (See table 1.)

Program: National school lunch program.

Department or agency, and office or bureau: Department of Agriculture; Consumer and Marketing Service.