

PART II. DATA BEARING ON ECONOMIC ASPECTS AND IMPACTS OF THE PROGRAM

9. *Economic effects*

This program is specifically directed toward the solution of community problems. Improved conditions within a community are expected to result in a corresponding improvement in its economy. In addition, through continuing education programs adults can upgrade their skills or learn new ones and, thus, improve their economic security. There is, however, no basis for estimating the specific economic effects resulting from this program.

10. *Economic classification of program expenditures*

Not applicable. The program was not in operation in fiscal year 1965.

V. PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

PART I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

1. *Objectives*

To broaden the knowledge and improve the quality of education by stimulating and supporting research, survey, demonstration, and dissemination projects in the field of education.

2. *Operation*

Research programs of the Office of Education are administered by the Bureau of Research. The Bureau receives proposals from colleges, universities, organizations, State educational agencies, and individuals for extramural research and research-related projects and programs. Proposals are evaluated by Bureau staff and by field readers and consultants outside the Office of Education. After approval by the Commissioner, a grant or contract is negotiated and awarded. Projects are monitored by the Bureau of Research. Projects and programs conducted through educational laboratories will be directed by laboratory staffs in conjunction with the Office of Education and within established program guidelines.

The Bureau of Research also stimulates research projects or programs in those areas which it has identified as needing special attention or development.

3. *History*

The educational research program is composed of a variety of smaller programs, each of which was established by a specific legislative authorization.

The first program began in 1954 with the enactment of the Cooperative Research Act (Public Law 83-531) which authorized the Commissioner of Education to enter into cooperative arrangements with colleges, universities, and State educational agencies for research, surveys, and demonstrations in the field of education. For its first 4 years, the program supported only basic and applied research and emphasized the area of mental retardation. Subsequently, the program was enlarged to include field demonstrations, developmental projects, curriculum study centers, a small contracts program, and a curriculum improvement program.