

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX I

"PURPOSES AND USES OF FEDERAL STATISTICS"¹

CONFERENCE OF THE WASHINGTON CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICS
ASSOCIATION AND THE AMERICAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION

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PREFACE

The conference on "Purposes and Uses of Federal Statistics" was organized by the Washington Chapters of the American Statistical Association and the American Marketing Association. Briefly stated, its purpose was to explore the general framework of the federal statistical system to develop guidelines for collection of new data and to improve the uses of existing data.

This preface is intended to describe briefly the background of this report and to acknowledge the assistance of many persons who have contributed to it. While this report is the final product of this conference, it is only a first step towards the exploration of the subject. It may take many reports of this nature before the whole arena of federal statistical system is investigated.

With the passage of a heavy volume of new legislation by the 89th Congress the need for program orientation of federal statistics was clear. The American Marketing Association, whose members are major users of federal statistical data, wanted to develop a dialogue on purposes and uses of existing data and to focus on the needs for new data. The Association asked the Editor of this report to organize the conference. The American Statistical Association joined hands and thus a joint project was created. Invitations were issued to three groups: (1) Congressman Thomas B. Curtis of Missouri was invited to review the entire federal statistical system, (2) Those who were primarily responsible for producing at least part of the federal data—Mr. Robert Voight, Bureau of the Census; Dr. Faith Clark, Department of Agriculture; Mrs. Helen Lamale, Bureau of Labor Statistics; were in this category and (3) those who used the federal data—Miss Mollie Orshansky, Social Security Administration; and the discussants, Mr. Royce Lowry, Bureau of the Budget; Mr. Al Mindlin, District of Columbia Government; Dr. Daniel A. Swope, National Canners Association; Mrs. Catherine Martini, National Boards of Real Estate and Mr. Norman Frumkin, National Planning Association, filled this role. Thus, the conference could be called an exchange of thoughts between the producers, users and policy reviewers of the federal data. The conference was held at the Museum of History and Technology Auditorium in Washington, D.C., on April 11, 1967.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL AHMED, *Editor*.

¹ Edited by Mr. Paul Ahmed, National Center for Health Statistics.