

GSA has 11 GE 400 computers, five Honeywell H-200 computers, one Honeywell H-2200, one IBM 1410, one RCA 301, three UNIVAC 418's, and two Control Data Corp. 1700's. Eighteen of the above 24 machines are purchased.

54. Who makes the decision on whether computers are purchased or leased? On what basis are the decisions made?

The head of the agency or his designated representative makes the purchase versus lease decision in accordance with the guidelines published in BOB Circular A-54; however, GSA may, in consideration of secondary and/or tertiary users, propose purchase as against an agency lease determination.

55. Is your agency now using any leased ADP equipment? If so, how much longer do you expect to use it?

Yes. GSA has six leased computers. The RCA 301 computer is scheduled for replacement within 1 year. The three UNIVAC 418's and two Control Data Corp. 1700's are scheduled for replacement within 2 years.

56. Have you made use of third-party leasing arrangements? If so, what has been your experience with these arrangements?

Yes. Procurement from leasing companies is outlined below:

Agency	When awarded	Number of machines	Savings	
			Percent	Total ¹
Department of Labor—Guidance by GSA.....	December 1965.....	1 computer.....	17.8	\$31,500
Social Security—Guidance by GSA.....	August 1966.....	do.....	30.0	628,452
Department of Justice—Guidance by GSA.....	September 1966.....	do.....	12.9	21,924
Department of Agriculture—Awarded by GSA.....	October 1966.....	190 PCM.....	23.6	122,220
Department of Treasury—Awarded by GSA.....	October 1967.....	81 PCM.....	19.7	14,994
Department of Commerce—Awarded by GSA.....	March 1968.....	170 PCM.....	23.8	20,130
Veterans Administration—Awarded by GSA.....	April 1968.....	120 PCM.....	24.9	11,334
Total.....				850,554

¹ Indicated savings are as of June 30, 1968.

57. To what extent have you developed standard systems or applications which are used by your computer installations?

All GSA nationwide data processing user systems are centrally developed and processed in standard computer programs on standard families of ADP hardware configurations at all 10 GSA regions operating the same program manager systems. Through the application of strictly enforced standards in development and programming, centrally approved local requirements within a given region can be readily accommodated. In addition, standard software developments and requirements for equipment make it possible to run certain peripheral runs such as card to tape and tape to print runs on all computer families available within a given region's data processing complex irrespective of which computer family produced the media magnetic tape. The Data Processing Standards Manual, which has been developed by GSA over the last few years, is the basic guidance for all data processing personnel.

58. Will you describe the steps you have taken for the development of standard data elements for use by your department under the program recently established by Bureau of the Budget Circular A-86.

GSA has designated a contact point in accordance with BOB Circular A-86 and has been staffing for this program. A draft GSA order implementing the program for internal data systems is under development. GSA has provided representation on the State and city code task group created by BOB for standardization of codes and has reviewed and commented on the proposed country codes.

59. What do you consider to be the most pressing problems that need to be overcome for you to make better and more efficient use of computers in your agency?

The most pressing ADP problems that need to be overcome are:

A. Lack of qualified personnel. This agency is utilizing a training program approved by the U.S. Civil Service Commission to overcome this shortage.

B. Lack of training by users in the use and application of data processing techniques and systems. GSA is in the process of developing a training program for its managers to overcome this problem.

C. Difficulty in matching long-range data processing support resources with the program manager's more rapidly changing needs.