

**Table 161.—Summary of expenditures for public elementary and secondary education, by purpose:  
1919–20 to 1995–96**

Purpose of expenditures	1919–20	1929–30	1939–40	1949–50	1959–60	1969–70	1979–80	1989–90	1994–95 <sup>1</sup>	1995–96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Amounts in thousands of dollars										
<b>Total expenditures</b> .....	<b>\$1,036,151</b>	<b>\$2,316,790</b>	<b>\$2,344,049</b>	<b>\$5,837,643</b>	<b>\$15,613,255</b>	<b>\$40,683,429</b>	<b>\$95,961,561</b>	<b>\$212,763,564</b>	<b>\$279,000,318</b>	<b>\$293,610,849</b>
Current expenditures .....	864,396	1,853,377	1,955,166	4,722,887	12,461,955	34,853,578	87,581,727	191,205,902	249,026,087	259,804,398
Public elementary and secondary education .....	861,120	1,843,552	1,941,799	4,687,274	12,329,389	34,217,773	86,984,142	188,223,359	243,877,582	255,079,736
Administration .....	36,752	78,680	91,571	220,050	528,408	1,606,646	4,263,757	<sup>2</sup> 16,346,991	<sup>2</sup> 19,877,848	<sup>2</sup> 20,697,641
Instruction .....	632,556	1,317,727	1,403,285	3,112,340	8,350,738	23,270,158	53,257,937	<sup>2</sup> 113,550,405	<sup>2</sup> 150,556,118	<sup>2</sup> 157,480,290
Plant operation .....	115,707	216,072	194,365	427,587	1,085,036	2,537,257	<sup>3</sup> 9,744,785	<sup>2</sup> 20,261,415	<sup>2</sup> 24,542,922	<sup>2</sup> 25,725,984
Plant maintenance .....	30,432	78,810	73,321	214,164	422,586	974,941	<sup>(3)</sup>	<sup>(3)</sup>	<sup>(3)</sup>	<sup>(3)</sup>
Fixed charges .....	9,286	50,270	50,116	261,469	909,323	3,266,920	11,793,934	—	—	—
Other school services <sup>4</sup> .....	36,387	101,993	129,141	451,663	1,033,297	2,561,856	7,923,729	<sup>2</sup> 38,064,548	<sup>2</sup> 48,900,694	<sup>2</sup> 51,175,821
Other current expenditures										
Summer schools .....	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	13,263	106,481	24,753	2,982,543	5,148,505	4,724,662
Adult education <sup>5</sup> .....	3,277	9,825	13,367	35,614	26,858	128,778	—	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>
Community colleges .....	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	34,492	138,813	—	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>
Community services .....	<sup>(4)</sup>	<sup>(4)</sup>	<sup>(4)</sup>	<sup>(4)</sup>	57,953	261,731	572,832	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>
Capital outlay <sup>7</sup> .....	153,543	370,878	257,974	1,014,176	2,661,786	4,659,072	6,506,167	17,781,342	24,456,100	27,547,918
Interest on school debt .....	18,212	92,536	130,909	100,578	489,514	1,170,782	1,873,666	3,776,321	5,518,131	6,258,534
Percentage distribution										
<b>Total expenditures, all schools</b> .....	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Current expenditures .....	83.4	80.0	83.4	80.9	79.8	85.7	91.2	89.9	89.3	88.5
Public elementary and secondary education .....	83.1	79.6	82.8	80.3	79.0	84.1	90.6	88.5	87.4	86.9
Administration .....	3.5	3.4	3.9	3.8	3.4	3.9	4.4	27.7	27.1	27.0
Instruction .....	61.0	56.9	59.9	53.3	53.5	57.2	55.5	<sup>2</sup> 53.4	<sup>2</sup> 54.0	<sup>2</sup> 53.6
Plant operation .....	11.2	9.3	8.3	7.3	6.9	6.2	<sup>3</sup> 10.2	<sup>2</sup> 9.5	<sup>2</sup> 8.8	<sup>2</sup> 8.8
Plant maintenance .....	2.9	3.4	3.1	3.7	2.7	2.4	<sup>(3)</sup>	<sup>(3)</sup>	<sup>(3)</sup>	<sup>(3)</sup>
Fixed charges .....	0.9	2.2	2.1	4.5	5.8	8.0	12.3	—	—	—
Other school services <sup>4</sup> .....	3.5	4.4	5.5	7.7	6.6	6.3	8.3	17.9	17.5	17.4
Other current expenditures										
Summer schools .....	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	0.1	0.3	<sup>(6)</sup>	1.4	1.8	1.6
Adult education <sup>5</sup> .....	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.3	—	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>
Community colleges .....	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	0.2	0.3	—	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>
Community services .....	<sup>(4)</sup>	<sup>(4)</sup>	<sup>(4)</sup>	<sup>(4)</sup>	0.4	0.6	0.6	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>	<sup>(6)</sup>
Capital outlay <sup>7</sup> .....	14.8	16.0	11.0	17.4	17.0	11.5	6.8	8.4	8.8	9.4
Interest on school debt .....	1.8	4.0	5.6	1.7	3.1	2.9	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.1

<sup>1</sup> Revised from previously published data.  
<sup>2</sup> Data not comparable to figures prior to 1989–90.  
<sup>3</sup> Plant operation also includes plant maintenance.  
<sup>4</sup> Prior to 1959–60, items included under "other school services" were listed under "auxiliary services," a more comprehensive classification that also included community services.  
<sup>5</sup> Prior to 1959–60, data shown for adult education represent combined expenditures for adult education, summer schools, and community colleges.  
<sup>6</sup> Included under summer schools.  
<sup>7</sup> Prior to 1969–70, excludes capital outlay by state and local schoolhousing authorities.

<sup>8</sup> Less than 0.05 percent.  
 —Data not available.  
 NOTE.—Beginning in 1959–60, includes Alaska and Hawaii. Beginning in 1980–81, state administration expenditures were excluded from both "total" and "current" expenditures. Beginning in 1988–89, extensive changes were made in the data collection procedures. Because of rounding, details may not add to totals.  
 SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Statistics of State School Systems*; and Common Core of Data surveys. (This table was prepared June 1998.)