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# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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## STATE AND LOCAL AND ELECTION

### ADMINISTRATION EXAMINED

WASHINGTON - OCTOBER 1 -- State and local governments spent a total of \$813 million on election administration during the four fiscal years 1970 - 1973, according to a report released today by the Federal Election Commission.

The study, State and Local Government Expenditure for Election Administration: Fiscal Years 1970 - 1973, is "the first substantial study of the actual costs of administering elections in the United States", FEC Chairman Thomas B. Curtis, said.

The study was done by the U.S. General Accounting Office and the Bureau of the Census, and completed under the direction of the Clearinghouse of the Federal Election Commission.

Of the \$813 million total, \$277 million went for current expenditures and \$69 million went for capital outlays such as voting machines, computers and rental of facilities used for elections.

Costs per year grew from a total of \$182 million in 1970 to well over \$200 million in 1973. The largest total cost occurred in 1972, when state and local governments spent \$231 million on election administration.

In addition to total costs per year, the report includes five tables which detail expenditures by year and by state. The tables also indicate the total and yearly costs of election administration in each state, and for selected large county and large city governments.