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# information service

October 24, 1969

STATE HIGHWAY RECEIPTS TOTAL \$14.6 BILLION IN 1968;  
EXPENDITURES FOR HIGHWAY PURPOSES AMOUNT TO \$14.2 BILLION

\* \* \*

State highway departments and related agencies - including toll authorities - took in \$14.6 billion in highway funds, and spent \$14.2 billion for highway purposes during calendar year 1968, according to figures compiled by the Federal Highway Administration's Bureau of Public Roads.

The total receipts of \$14.6 billion include \$1.4 billion in borrowed funds and \$4.4 billion in Federal aid. Federal Highway Administrator Francis C. Turner indicated that the Federal funds accounted for 52 per cent of the \$8.4 billion of total capital expenditures. In all, Turner said, \$4.0 billion of Federal and State funds were spent on Interstate highway projects in 1968.

The Bureau of Public Roads pointed out that the amount of State receipts for highways represents an increase of 10.6 per cent over the 1967 figure. Of the total receipts, State highway user taxes provided \$7.4 billion, or 51 per cent. Federal funds, also derived from highway user taxes, comprised \$4.4 billion of the total receipts, or 30 per cent. \$716 million of the total came from tolls, \$1.4 billion from proceeds of highway construction bonds, and \$674 million from miscellaneous sources.

Total expenditures represented an increase of 7.1 per cent over 1967. Capital expenditures, including roadway and bridge improvement, new construction, engineering, and right-of-way costs, amounted to \$8.4 billion. Maintenance expenditures came to \$1.6 billion, while the costs of administration, highway safety activities, law enforcement, and interest on highway debts totaled \$1.7 billion. Grants to local governments for highway purposes amounted to \$1.9 billion. Also, \$639 million worth of highway bonds were retired in 1968, making the total amount of disbursements for highway purposes \$14.2 billion.

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NATIONAL HIGHWAY USERS CONFERENCE

## information service

October 24, 1969

ALMOST 10 PER CENT OF STATE HIGHWAY USER TAXES  
DIVERTED IN 1968; NEW JERSEY LEADS THE WAY WITH 55 PER CENT

\* \* \*

Nearly \$800 million in State highway user taxes - 9.6 per cent of the net funds distributed - were diverted to nonhighway purposes last year, according to an NHUC analysis of data released by the Federal Highway Administration's Bureau of Public Roads. In 1968, 26 States and the District of Columbia diverted some part of their highway revenues. One jurisdiction, New Jersey, diverted more than 55 per cent of its distributed funds.

The Bureau reported net collections from State highway user levies, after refunds, amounted to \$8.6 billion. After the deduction of the costs of collection and administration, \$8.2 billion was available for distribution by the States.

The total amount of net State revenues was derived from \$5.4 billion in motor fuel taxes, and \$2.8 billion of motor vehicle registration fees and allied levies.

The exact total of State highway user taxes used for nonhighway related purposes in 1968 was \$789,484,000. Further analysis of the BPR data indicated that most of the States made no nonhighway allocations, or the amounts were insignificant.

New Jersey was the leading State, with \$150.7 million in diversion, or 55.2 per cent of the total funds available for distribution. Other States which diverted substantial amounts were Rhode Island (\$13.2 million or 37.4 per cent), Florida (\$108.2 million or 34.8 per cent), Georgia (\$38.4 million or 23.4 per cent), Washington (\$48.4 million or 22 per cent), Tennessee (\$38.5 million or 20.4 per cent), Oklahoma (\$24.8 million or 18 per cent), and Illinois (\$32.9 million or 8.6 per cent).

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