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## Selected ERS Research Reports

*[Order the following reports from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161.]*

**Estimates of Manufacturers' Food and Beverage Shipments Among Major Marketing Channels, 1977**, by John M. Connor. Staff Report. Apr. 1982, 94 pp. Order PB83-138800 from NTIS. \$11.50 paper copy; \$4.50 microfiche copy.

This report estimates the 1977 manufacturers' value of as many as 138 processed food and beverage product classes flowing through five major marketing channels: imports and exports, intermediate goods for other manufacturers, foodservice outlets, branded foodstore products, and unbranded foodstore products. About 20.5 percent of domestic consumer supply was shipped to foodservice establishments and the remainder to other retail outlets. Approximately 20 percent of the value of all foodstore shipments of processed foods was unlabeled or private-label merchandise. An application of these data shows that proper measurement of advertising-to-sales ratios yields estimates over twice as high as conventional approaches. A second application calculates that forward vertical integration (intrafirm shipments of food inputs) averaged 23 percent of total sales.

**A Simultaneous Equations Model of Food Stamp Program Participation and Program Effects**, by David Smallwood and James Blaylock. Staff Report. May 1982, 15 pp. Order PB83-152900 from NTIS. \$7.00 paper copy; \$4.50 microfiche copy.

A simultaneous equations model is proposed for analyzing Food Stamp Program participation and program effects on household behavior. The model is useful for studying the effect of program participation on food expenditures and vice versa. Aside from its simultaneity, the model postulates that the participation decision is based on selected household socioeconomic characteristics and the potential for increasing both food and non-food expenditures, each of which may have differing impacts.

**Transfer Payments In Nonmetropolitan Areas**, by Robert A. Hoppe and William E. Saupé. Staff Report. Sept. 1982, 46 pp. Order PB83-148718 from NTIS. \$8.50 paper copy; \$4.50 microfiche copy.

Transfer payments have become an important source of income, particularly in nonmetropolitan areas. By 1977, transfer programs represented 16.1 percent of nonmetro personal income, compared with only 13.1 percent of metro personal income. This report describes the U.S. transfer payment system and identifies programs that are especially important to nonmetro areas. It documents the growth of transfer payments in both metro and nonmetro areas. The report also pinpoints counties that could be affected by changes in the transfer system because they receive large transfer payments.

**Measuring Food Deficits and Undernutrition: An Accuracy Problem**, by Carol Goodloe. Staff Report. Nov. 1982, 52 pp. Order PB83-134585 from NTIS. \$10.00 paper copy; \$4.50 microfiche copy.

This paper presents estimates of undernutrition and food deficits using household survey data for Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. These estimates are compared to previous studies to assess different methods. Previous methods of estimating undernutrition and food deficits may overstate actual levels because of problems with key elements in the methods—the caloric standard and the calorie-income elasticity. Estimates are very sensitive to the caloric standard, yet no theoretical basis exists for establishing a valid caloric standard. Calorie-income elasticities estimated from survey data differed from other studies and raise questions about the usefulness of the concept in estimating undernutrition and food deficits.

**The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1982: Effects on Programs Administered by the Department of Agriculture**, by Richard W. Rizzi. Staff Report. Nov. 1982, 20 pp. Order PB83-152611 from NTIS. \$7.00 paper copy; \$4.50 microfiche copy.

Agriculture and food program provisions of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1982 are summarized. This includes changes in the dairy, wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, rice, export, and food stamp program.

**Registration and Procedures for Safety Reassessment for Drugs and Chemicals Used in Agriculture: Some Economic Considerations**, by Kathleen C. Reidy and Clark R. Burbee. Staff Report. Nov. 1982, 20 pp. Order PB83-149716 from NTIS. \$7.00 paper copy; \$4.50 microfiche copy.

This report discusses several of the regulatory problems faced by industry in the Federal registration process for animal drugs, food additives, and pesticides. Descriptions of the types of registration solutions are included. Problems associated with the safety reassessment of animal drugs that were approved for use years ago and not assessed for safety with current state-of-the-art techniques are also addressed.

**Federal Funds in 1980: Geographic Distribution and Recent Trends**, by J. Norman Reid and Eleanor Whitehead. Staff Report. Nov. 1982, 68 pp. Order PB83-173864 from NTIS. \$10.00 paper copy; \$4.50 microfiche copy.

This report summarizes the distribution of Federal dollars in 1980 and assesses recent trends. Federal per capita funding remains unevenly divided among the regions; however, the advantage of the West and South may be moderating somewhat. The spread of some Federal programs into more rural counties may have peaked and there is evidence that the nonmetro funding gap has widened. Major differences remain in the way specific categories of programs are allocated. Nonmetro areas are behind urban areas in defense funding, but lead in agricultural and income security programs. Poorer nonmetro counties are especially reliant on public assistance programs.