UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
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BIA CONSTRUCTS, UPGRADES INDIAN SCHOOL FACILITIES

Nearly \$200 million in new school construction and school improvement projects were approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs during the fiscal years 1962-1967, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall reported today.

The projects funded represent intensive efforts by the Department, during the six years beginning July 1, 1961, and continuing through next June 30, to expand and upgrade Federal school facilities serving young Indians who do not have access to public schools. Bureau schools and dormitories serve about 55,000 youngsters in 18 States.

Most of the schools built and operated by the Bureau for Indians are elementary schools located on reservations, serving isolated communities far from public schools. In addition, there are a number of BIA dormitories established near public schools for children who live beyond school bus routes.

Many Bureau facilities, both on or off reservations, must include such services as kitchens, dining halls and dormitories, in addition to classroom buildings. The larger high schools, such as the new Fort Wingate school near the Navajo Reservation in New Mexico, consist of a campus-style complex of buildings and serve enrollments numbering over a thousand students.

During the six-year period, construction projects in 14 States will have built classroom spaces for a total of nearly 30,000 Indian youngsters. Some of this total represents replacement of inadequate old structures; some represents additional spaces.

The largest number of projects, adding 10,655 new classroom spaces and replacing an additional 3,000, have been carried on in Arizona, the State with the largest Indian population. For fiscal years 1962-1967, a total of more than \$84.3 million was approved for projects within Arizona. Of this total, more than \$57 million was earmarked for projects on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations.

Next in line was New Mexico, for which projects totaling more than \$34.5 million were approved to improve or construct classrooms for 5,600 youngsters. Again, most of the money -- \$32.6 million -- went for projects on the vast Navajo Reservation.

In Alaska, where the Bureau recognizes responsibility for the education of Eskimos, Aleuts, and Athapaskan Indians, over \$33 million was budgeted for construction of new schools and replacement of delapidated or outmoded buildings.

The following amounts were approved for specific projects in all States for each fiscal year since 1962:

1962	\$29.4	million
1963	37.9	million
1964	44.9	million
1965	29.9	million
1966	14.5	million
1967	39.1	million

The following figures indicate total funding for school construction and improvement and numbers of classroom spaces added or replaced in each State during the entire six-year period:

	Total Funding		Classroom Spaces			
State	(in millio	ons)	Total	New	Replaced	
Alaska	\$33.1		5,220	2,770	2,450	
Arizona	84.3		13,680	10,655	3,025	
California	5.0	(General	•			
		which serves an enrollment of over 1,000)				
Florida	\$ 0.5	million	120	60	60	
Kansas 1.0 (General improvement						
a post-secondary vocational and t					technical	
	institute with an enrollment of 1,185)					
Mississippi	3.0		360	270	90	
Montana	2.0		520	120	400	
Nevada	1.5		420		420	
New Mexico	35.6		5,606	3,948	1,658	
North Carolina	\$ 0.7	million	(Completion d	uring 1962 o	f an earlier	
	project at Cherokee School)					
North Dakota	5.9		1,096	540	556	
Oklahoma	9.8		908	138	770	
South Dakota	10.5		1,970	720	1,250	
Utah	2.8		420	360	60	
	(Aneth Sc	hool Project				

in Fiscal Year 1963)

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