

Distressed Communities: Capital Investments Were Postponed in Texas as Local Economies Weakened: Hrd-91-14



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U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)

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Reviews

I actually started reading this article ebook. It is actually packed with knowledge and wisdom Its been printed in an remarkably simple way and it is only after i finished reading this pdf where in fact modified me, alter the way i believe.

(Prof. Uriel Witting)

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BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 50 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. GAO provided information on the condition of basic public services in two economically distressed communities in Texas, focusing on: (1) the changing federal-local fiscal relations due to declining federal aid and the loss of general revenue sharing; and (2) local efforts to cope with fiscal problems and whether state policies helped to offset those circumstances. GAO found that: (1) federal aid to municipalities and counties declined sharply between 1980 and 1990, and the general revenue sharing program ended in 1986; (2) Texas experienced wide swings in economic fortune between 1970 and 1990, primarily due to the instability of its oil and gas industry; (3) Texas remained fiscally conservative at the state level during the economic swings, although many localities increased their tax efforts; (4) state aid patterns placed heavy financing responsibilities on Texas counties and municipalities, which consistently financed a greater share of total state-local spending for most public services than other states localities; (5) Texas local governments had many local tax sources that were comparable to those of other states localities, such as property taxes, general sales taxes, and some selective sales taxes; (6) poorer communities had more difficulty than other localities in providing public services because they had greater needs but fewer resources; (7) general-purpose state aid to poorer communities did not address all of the demographic and socioeconomic factors contributing to localities fiscal distress, but the aid helped to lessen public service problems; (8) the gap between poorer and more affluent communities in Texas remained high compared to most other states; and (9) when public service needs exceeded revenues, local governments used such coping strategies as management improvements, revenue actions, reductions in spending, and postponement of capital investment....



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