

Debt Administration

The ratios of net bonded debt to assessed property value, debt to present market value and bonded debt per capita are considered to be useful indicators of the State's debt position to State management, citizens and investors. Data for fiscal years 1989 and 1990 are shown as follows:

	Amount (expressed in thousands)	Ratio of Net Bonded Debt to Assessed Value (49.4% of Present Market)	Ratio of Debt to Present Market Value	Bonded Debt Per Capita
General obligation bonds:				
1989	\$2,005,360	2.28%	1.14%	\$437.95
1990	1,986,906	2.06	1.02	418.91

Additionally, outstanding limited obligation bonds of the Department of Transportation amounted to \$707,705,000 at June 30, 1990. Debt service on these bonds is provided principally by excise taxes levied by statute. Self-supporting revenue bonds outstanding at June 30, 1990 amounted to \$2,573,750,000. Long-term obligations for accrued retirement costs of \$321,481,000 represent the excess of retirement costs over retirement expenditures since 1978 and are being funded on a long-term basis through annual contributions, principally from general fund revenue. Long-term obligations for accrued annual leave of \$119,015,000 represent the value of accumulated earned but unused annual leave for general government employees at June 30, 1990.

Limited obligation bonds issued by the Department of Transportation and self-supporting revenue bonds issued by enterprise agencies amounted to \$269,950,000 and \$520,264,000, respectively, during 1990.

In 1978, the Capital Debt Affordability Committee was created to study the State's debt structure and to recommend maximum limitations on annual debt authorizations. Although the recommendations of the Committee are not binding on the State's General Assembly, the amounts of annual general obligation bond authorizations for 1990 were within the limits established by the Committee. For the fiscal year 1990, new general obligation bond authorizations amounted to \$328,219,000.

The following tabulation shows the general obligation bonds issued during the past three fiscal years:

State of Maryland—General Obligation Bonds

<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Average Life in Years</u>	<u>Effective Interest Rate</u>	<u>Interest Cost Per Borrowed Dollar</u>
July 9, 1987	\$144,860,000	9.8	6.44%	63.1c
January 7, 1988	80,000,000	9.9	6.78	67.2
May 17, 1988	80,000,000	9.9	6.49	64.3
October 25, 1988	80,000,000	9.9	6.66	66.0
March 1, 1989	80,000,000	9.9	6.71	66.5
July 18, 1989	80,000,000	9.9	6.45	63.7
March 1, 1990	130,000,000	9.9	6.57	64.8
May 4, 1990	24,227,000	6.7	6.35	42.3

Since June 30, 1983, general obligation bonds outstanding have declined by \$422,984,000.

Maryland's general obligation bonds have been rated Aaa by Moody's Investors Service and AAA by Standard and Poor's for a number of years.