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

By -

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...



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