
February 1999

Indexes for Abstracts of Reports and Testimony: Fiscal Year 1998



Introduction

The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) is a nonpartisan agency within the legislative branch of the government. GAO conducts audits, surveys, investigations, and evaluations of federal programs. This work is either self-initiated or done at the request of congressional committees or members. GAO's findings and recommendations are published as reports to congressional members or delivered as oral testimony to congressional committees. 870 reports and testimony are included in the abstracts volume of this publication. Restricted and classified products as well as correspondence are not included in the abstracts.

Abstracts of Reports and Testimony: Fiscal Year 1998 and Indexes for Reports and Testimony: Fiscal Year 1998 is a two-volume publication. The first volume contains full abstracts of reports and testimony listed alphabetically by division or staff office, and the second volume contains several indexes to assist you in locating a particular report or testimony by subject matter, issue category, title, or GAO witness. How to use the two volumes is described more fully below. This publication is also available in electronic form on the Internet from GAO's World Wide Web site, (<http://www.gao.gov>).

General Information About GAO Reports and Testimony

GAO report numbers contain the following information: the division or staff office acronym, the last two digits of the fiscal year, and the sequentially assigned report number, e.g., GGD-98-1. Testimonies are shown with a "T" in front of the division or staff office acronym; e.g., T-NSIAD-98-114.

Abstracts of Reports and Testimony: Fiscal Year 1998

This volume contains the full abstracts of reports and testimony issued October 1, 1997, through September 30, 1998 as originally abstracted in GAO's monthly list of reports and testimony, the Month In Review. The abstracts are arranged sequentially by report number for each division and staff office. The abstract entry also includes publication date, publication length, and the complete title followed by the full abstract.

In fiscal year 1998, GAO had five program and technical divisions, and several offices that issued reports. Some reports were issued jointly by two or more divisions; in those cases, the report number includes the acronym for each division, e.g., AIMD/GGD-98-152.

The following is a list of division and office acronyms and names:

| Acronym | Division/Office Name |
|----------------|--|
| AIMD | Accounting and Information Management Division |
| GGD | General Government Division |
| HEHS | Health, Education and Human Services Division |
| NSIAD | National Security and International Affairs Division |
| OCE | Office of the Chief Economist |
| OCG | Office of the Comptroller General |
| OGC | Office of the General Counsel |
| OIMC | Office of Information Management and Communications |
| OP | Office of Policy |
| OPA | Office of Public Affairs |
| OSI | Office of Special Investigations |
| PEMD | Program Evaluation and Methodology Division |
| RCED | Resources, Community and Economic Development Division |

Indexes for Abstracts of Reports and Testimony: Fiscal Year 1998

The Indexes for Abstracts of Reports and Testimony are designed to lead you to a report or testimony from a variety of access points. There are four indexes to help you in your search.

- **Category Index** groups items by the broad subject headings used in GAO's Month In Review. The entries of the category index are grouped according to subject matter under one of the following 27 subheadings:
 - Agriculture and Food
 - Budget and Spending
 - Business, Industry, and Consumers
 - Civil Rights
 - Economic Development
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Energy
 - Environmental Protection
 - Financial Institutions
 - Financial Management
 - Government Operations
 - Health
 - Housing
 - Income Security
 - Information Management

-
- International Affairs
 - Justice and Law Enforcement
 - National Defense
 - Natural Resources
 - Science, Space, and Technology
 - Social Services
 - Special Publications
 - Tax Policy and Administration
 - Transportation
 - Veterans Affairs

While there may be instances where reports or testimony logically fit under two or more categories, we have tried to place them under the most obvious categories.

- **Subject Index** has generic subject area headings including terms from GAO's Thesaurus as well as geographic locations, weapon system names, and funds. Reports and testimonies are listed alphabetically by title, followed by the report, or testimony number.
- **Title Index** lists all reports and testimonies alphabetically in natural word order, along with the date of the publication and the report or testimony number.
- **Witness Index** consists of an alphabetical list of GAO officials who have testified before congressional committees and the testimony number.

Each index reference will lead you to an abstract that will give you enough information to decide whether the report or testimony will provide the information you want.

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