Budget Issues: The Role of
Depreciation in Budgeting for
Certain Federal Investments:
Aimd-95-34

By -

BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 32 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in.GAO reviewed whether: (1) federal agencies are depreciating transportation infrastructure, research and development (R and D), and human capital investments for accounting and budgeting purposes; and (2) depreciation of these investments could be useful in federal budgeting. GAO found that: (1) the federal government generally does not depreciate transportation infrastructure, R and D, and human capital investments for accounting or budgeting purposes; (2) Congress and the Administration are considering budgeting alternatives to decrease the annual federal deficit and increase long-term federal investments; (3) budget and accounting experts do not support depreciating these investments for budgeting purposes, since it is difficult to determine the value and useful life of such investments; (4) depreciation in accounting is complex and involves such key factors as the assets value, its useful life, and its salvage value; (5) federal agencies do not depreciate assets they do not own because it is difficult to link federal grant money to the value of a specific asset; (6) although economists depreciate infrastructure and R and D investments to generate national economic wealth estimates, the problems of determining ownership or...

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