November 1974
Number 75-5

statistical reporter

STATISTICAL REPORTER

Prepared Monthly by the Statistical Policy Division

CONTENTS

SUBSCRIPTIONS ($5.25 a year) should be sent to the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Make checks payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

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STATISTICAL APPLICATIONS TO MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS IN GOVERNMENT

BY BENJAMIN J. MANDEL[1]

In previous issues of the *Statistical Reporter,* reference was made to the major statistical programs of the Federal Government such as the Current Population Survey, the Consumer Price Index and others, which serve the Government and private sectors with essential information on the economy and demography of the Nation. Occasionally, reference also was made to some novel statistical applications which serve the internal management of a specific agency in the conduct of specific functions. In general, however, very little is known about the extent to which statistical science serves Government administrators and operations staff with valuable information essential to the conduct of the programs for which they are responsible.

In recent years quite a number of novel applications have been made of statistical science to a variety of management problems. In this report I illustrate the use of well-known and oft-used sample survey methods, the less frequently used technique of random-time sampling, record sampling as well as the analytical tools of regression analysis and control chart (specifically the c-chart). Some of these applications involve the simplest of statistical methods; others more sophisticated methods. The primary purpose of this report is to describe some of these varied applications in the hope that other agencies, faced with similar management problems, will be encouraged to adopt similar techniques. A noted authority in management science once stated: "There is scarcely a nook or corner of modern life which could not find some application, however simple, for statistical theory and show some profit thereof."[2] This report will illustrate the veracity of this statement by demonstrating to agencies which are not using statistical science a large number of areas to which successful applications are being made so that they, too, might make some of these useful applications.

The areas described in this report include such applications as inventory valuation, workload forecasting for budgeting, cost estimation, auditing, rate-making, legislative planning, policy formulation, and many others. A brief summary of each application and the primary statistical tool used follows:

Inventory Valuation

The question before a past Commissioner for Social Security was whether or not to authorize the Internal Revenue Service to destroy a file of some seven million self-employment income reports prepared for a given year. Since these reports also provide the earnings and tax information needed under the Social Security program, the question before the Commissioner really was: Has the Internal Revenue Service transmitted to the Social Security Administration all the social security tear-off sheets which contain the necessary earnings credit for self-employed persons, so that destruction of the file would cause no self-employed persons to lose social security credits?

To provide a basis for the Commissioner's decision, a random sample of 2,000 of the waiting-to-be-destroyed tax reports was examined. It indicated that nearly .6 of 1% of the returns processed for income tax purposes had not been processed for social security taxes and earnings. This is such a small percentage, that it did not appear to be a significant problem to destroy the entire file and thereby provide filing space for other, incoming reports. However, when applied to the universe total of seven million returns, it meant that about 40,000 self-employed persons (i.e. .6 of 1% multiplied by 7 million returns) would suffer a loss of earnings

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[1]Dr. Mandel was formerly the Director of the Office of Statistical Programs and Standards, Post Office Department. Since his retirement, he has been conducting statistical training seminars for Government employees throughout the United States and has been serving as statistical consultant to several Government agencies. This report is based on his actual experience with many of the applications described.

[2]M.J. Moroney, "Facts From Figures," Penguin Ltd., 1951, pages 460–461.

credits under the social security program, a significant number by any standard.

On the basis of this estimate, as well as the estimated tax earnings credits involved, it was also estimated from the sample that about $1.5 million in social security taxes had not been credited to the Social Security Trust Fund. The Commissioner's decision, therefore, was not to authorize destruction of the file until after it was screened on a 100% basis. When this was done, about 39,000 additional social security earnings reports for self employed persons were transmitted to the Social Security Administration. The additional social security taxes actually amounted to $1.5 million, as was estimated from the sample. The value of the inventory of seven million tax reports was thus accurately determined in advance by the examination of a sample of 2,000 returns, an insignificant investment for a significant return.

While this would appear to be an isolated application of statistical techniques, it actually was not. The same technique was used to evaluate this inventory each year for about 10 years. Random sampling techniques can be used generally for this purpose.

Another example of the power of random sampling is the inventory of alcoholic beverage gallonage recently taken by the State of Maryland. A stratified random sampling method was developed which can estimate the gallonage inventory of wholesalers within 1 to 2% of the actual total gallonage, an accuracy better than the usual 100% counts with but a fraction of the cost.

Estimating Income Tax Liability

In Chicago, several years ago, the Internal Revenue Service caught up with a gambling house which had not paid income tax for the past 3 years. The operators claimed that they did not make a profit sufficient to pay taxes. However, confiscated stubs of betting tickets (such as those used for football pools) provided a basis, by use of the law of probability, to estimate the operators' gross take and the total amount of money placed in bets. A tax assessment of about $100,000 was made to which was added the appropriate amount of interest and penalty.

Rate Proceedings

Recently, a communications common carrier requested a rate increase from the General Services Administration (GSA) in connection with year-round services it provides the Government in maintaining the civilian telecommunication system. The level of increase, they claimed, was based partly on a study they made which indicated that about 60% to 65% of the servicing time was spent in maintaining the electronic equipment, the most technical and costly function. In contesting that level, GSA conducted a random-time sampling study and found the percentage spent on this activity to be more nearly between 35% to 40%. This evidence played a useful role in the rate arbitration case and random sampling made this possible.

Rate-making

Another type of rate-making application is typified by the U.S. Postal Service[3] sampling systems. Two different stratified random samples provide the basic data to determine the amount of revenue earned and the comparable cost of processing each class of mail. One sampling system collects data from a sample of millions of pieces of mail on the postal revenue earned by each class. Another random sample (random-time sample) collects data on the direct (incremental) cost of processing and delivering each class of mail. The ratio obtained by dividing estimated revenue earned by estimated direct costs of each class indicates whether or not a class of mail is breaking even (ratio of one), losing (ration of less than one), or making a profit (ratio in excess of one). These direct cost-coverage ratios form the starting point for the analysis of the adequacy of existing postal rates and for recommended rate changes.

Billing of Services Rendered

The Federal Telecommunications System (FTS) is administered by the General Services Administration (GSA), but each agency is billed for a fair share of its usage of the system. Since the total number of messages completed through the system currently exceeds 100 million a year, it would be prohibitively expensive to maintain a record of each agency's share of this total. Therefore, a sampling system has been designed which provides estimates of the number of messages completed by each agency. Thus, with but a fraction of the would-be cost of maintaining a 100% message-count system, the sampling system provides the basis for billing each agency for an equitable share of the total FTS cost.

Another useful application was recently made in the billing area. The Government Printing Office (GPO) agreed to adopt random sampling as a basis for reimbursing the U.S. Postal Service for the use of penalty indicia in its mailing process. Previously, the amount

[3]Statements relating to the facts and practices about the U.S. Postal Service are those of the author and are not officially endorsed as being accurate and/or complete by the U.S. Postal Service.

of reimbursement was determined judgmentally on a personally negotiated contract. The first sampling determination indicated that the GPO was paying only a fraction of the total estimated as the correct amount by the random sample of mail.

Settlement of Inter-Government Accounts

Several years ago a major application was made in the area of settlement of accounts by use of random sampling. The Treasury Department annually accepted reimbursement, on the basis of a .1% sample, from the Social Security Administration for the overpayment of FICA taxes by employees who worked for more than one employer and were taxed on total annual earnings in excess of the maximum legal tax base. Thus, the Treasury Department received the funds (running into hundreds of million dollars) required to pay the employees who claim a refund for their overpaid FICA taxes. While initially a .1% sample was used as the basis for the preliminary settlement, a year later this amount was adjusted by use of a 1% sample of employees with social security earnings in the year. (This procedure has now been superseded by the use of a preliminary (first) estimate based on a 100% but incomplete accounting with the estimate reviewed and revised on the basis of a 1% sample after one year, and a final figure based on a 100% tabulation for the total plus the use of the 1% sample to determine the allocation of the total between the amount legally overpaid and the amount overpaid in error.)

This application may be considered a significant breakaway from the conventional accounting procedure of settlement of accounts on a complete-count basis. It operates on the policy that, so long as a reasonable amount of sampling error from the exact amount is tolerated, random sampling can achieve a substantial reduction in the cost of complete accounting. In this case, the maximum sampling variation of the settled amounts remain reasonably close to 1% a year. Furthermore, since the settlement is made each year, over a period of years, the error in the cumulative amount is but a fraction of 1% and favors neither agency.

Voucher Examination

When the cost of examining vouchers for substantive accuracy exceeds the return for this investment, as is the case in a number of agencies, there is reason to adopt random sampling techniques as the basis for certifying the amounts to be paid. Thus, agencies such as the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Internal Revenue Service, the Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Postal Service have adopted random sampling in the examination of vouchers under $200, the maximum permissible by law. The size of the sample used to examine these vouchers varies from agency to agency, but the fact remains that through sampling, substantial reductions in the total government cost for voucher examination have been achieved.

Airline Routes Determination and Scheduling

How can the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) determine the pattern and growth of origin and destination traffic and the need for additional air routes? One way would be to tabulate and analyze the information on number of passengers flown in all directions between specific geographic points for each air carrier and class of travel. Since the number of passengers and airline tickets runs into the millions, the cost of complete, 100% tabulations would be prohibitively high. The only logical choice is to use a random sampling procedure, which CAB does. One out of every ten airline tickets used is selected (a systematic random sample) and the required information is extracted from this sample and used by CAB in its route and traffic studies.

Cost Estimation

Several years ago, before the Civil Service Commission could decide whether to proceed with a plan to issue social security account numbers to all Federal civilian employees, it needed to know how many such employees did not have numbers, since the Social Security Administration's fee for issuing a number for purposes unrelated to social security was quoted as 50 cents. To make an estimate of the total cost of issuing numbers, a mail questionnaire survey was conducted with a systematic random sample of several thousand Federal civilian employees to determine the number and percent of employees who did not yet have a social security number. The study indicated that only 4% did not have such numbers as compared with a judgment estimate of 20%. Thus the estimated cost was about one-fifth of the originally assumed cost of issuing social security numbers to Federal civilian employees.

Another cost estimation application is in the U.S. Postal Service. It uses a random-time sampling system to estimate the direct (attributable) cost of processing each class of mail. The sampling system is a multistage design whereby a stratified random sample of participating offices is selected; a digital random sample of employees is selected from the participating offices each week and a systematic random sample of instants of work time is selected, during which the class of mail being processed is determined. The relative frequency of observations for each class of mail is ultimately converted into a cost estimate, generally based on personnel (salary) costs.

Auditing

An interesting application of random-time sampling was recently made by the General Accounting Office (GAO) in auditing a contract to determine the efficiency of a contractor's use of his personnel on a large Government contract. At random moments of time, GAO auditors were permitted by plant management and labor to observe the work activity of employees assigned by a contractor to work on the contract. From this study, it was determined that an inordinate amount of idle time (about 9%) was involved on the part of production assembly employees and also that a relatively large percentage of employees were absent from their work stations. Substantial improvements in productivity and cost reductions were achieved when the contractor adjusted for the inefficient use of personnel.

Again, in the area of auditing, some substantial use is made of random sampling by State Public Welfare Agencies in evaluating the accuracy of welfare eligibility determinations and payment amounts by eligibility workers in the States. This application is quite extensive and provides the States (and Federal Government) essential information on the extent to which they need to improve the quality of their elegibility and payment determinations in order to avoid substantial reductions in the Federal share to the States for public assistance.

In the auditing area, several additional valuable applications are being made of random sampling techniques. Thus, to optimize the allocation of funds for auditing income tax returns, the Internal Revenue Service uses a probability sample of returns to determine the extent of errors made by income tax filers. This information serves several uses of management.

In the field of auditing one cannot fail to mention the use of random sampling by the GAO, the Army Audit Division, the Defense Supply Agency, and other audit units of the Government.

Program Analysis

A number of agencies use statistical techniques in the analysis of the effectiveness of public programs of various types in meeting program objectives. One of the agencies which collects data annually on the operations of the national social security program is the Social Security Administration. Using a one-percent sample of employees covered under the social security system, SSA compiles data on the characteristics of the universe of such workers by earnings, age, sex, color, State, quarters of employment, insured status, etc. Much of the data are used in program analysis for policy makers. Thus, for example, the wage base (the maximum earnings taxable under the program) is evaluated regularly in terms of the number and percent of employees who were taxed for the maximum taxable amount. When the percent reaches a certain level, consideration is given to developing a recommendation for a higher wage base, to avoid the long-run development of a situation where an inordinate percentage of employees would be entitled (upon retirement or disability) to the same social security benefit amount. The social security provisions aim for a varying, not a flat benefit, and the taxable wage base must be regularly studied. The sampling system of the SSA which provides these data is called the Continuous Work History Sample, whereby employees are selected for inclusion in the sample by their digits in the social security account number and once selected they stay in the sample over their entire lifetime.

Mortgage Loans

Several years ago, a number of Federal Government agencies and private trade associations inaugurated monthly surveys on the mortgage loan activity in the United States by the principal financial institution groups. In the case of commercial banks, mutual savings banks, savings and loan associations, mortgage companies and several other groups, it appeared worthwhile to adopt a sampling system to collect data on mortgage loan transactions and commitments by type of housing and other characteristics, in lieu of full universe surveys. The best method appeared to be one which included in the reporting system with certainty the largest institutions within the group, and with less than a probability of one, the smaller loaning institutions. Thus, a highly stratified random sampling system for the aforementioned financial institution groups was designed to provide these data. The tabulations serve useful management and policy planning purposes of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, the Federal Reserve Board, and other Government agencies responsible for housing credit policies.

Quality of Service

For most of its existence, since Ben Franklin's days, the U.S. Postal Service had no statistically valid or comprehensive information on the length of time required to deliver mail of various types, A few years ago, the U.S. Postal Service designed, for the first time in the postal service history, a comprehensive random sampling system which now provides each quarter reliable data on the amount of time which elapses from the time of cancellation of a piece of mail to its delivery.

These data are also compiled by originating and destination city for large cities. Both averages and frequency distributions are compiled. Thus, for example, a recent quarterly report showed that first class mail required an average of 1.55 days for delivery (exclusive of time for pickup from boxes) and that 97% of this class of mail was delivered within 3 days. Delivery of first class mail from New York to Chicago averaged 2.3 days; from Washington to New York, 1.5 days.

Productivity Measurement and Budget Planning

A few agencies are using random-time sampling as the basis for compiling data on the amount of personnel time spent on the different functions, activities, and programs of the agency. With these estimates, plus separately compiled data on the number of completed units of work, the agencies are able to prepare factually-based estimates of staff and funds required to handle the expected workloads. Furthermore, the average cost and time figures can be converted to measures of productivity for individual functions and by proper weighting, produce a measure of the agency's overall productivity.

Many agencies measure time spent on projects and activities by the old conventional method of slip reporting by all of its employees. This method is no longer considered worthy by a number of agencies which have adopted the random-time sampling techniques as the basis for time measurement and cost analysis essential to personnel management, budget planning, and cost control.

Workload Forecasting

Most of the prior applications referred to the use of random sampling techniques to achieve breakthroughs in information and achieve cost reductions in compiling data. However, statistical science also offers some valuable tools for the effective analysis and interpretation of quantitative data. One of the applications is in forecasting the agency's workload for future years. Such forecasts are made by one or a combination of statistical tools, such as trend analysis and regression analysis. For example, the latter technique is being applied by the U.S. Postal Service to forecast the volume of mail (all types and different classes) by use of multiple regression analysis techniques. It was found through research that the two variables, population of the United States and average per capita income, correlate highly on an annual basis with the number of pieces of mail delivered. The coefficient of correlation over the base period is in excess of .99, almost perfect correlation. Therefore, effective use is made of population projections and forecasts of income and per capita income to yield reliable forecasts of the Postal Service's primary workload—mail. In combination with productivity data, these forecasts are used in planning and preparing short-run and long-run budgets.

No doubt, other agencies are using, or may be able to use, this and other tools of statistical science in forecasting.

Control of Quality of Product or Service

Some very substantial applications are being made by Government agencies of the tools of statistics in the control of quality of product and/or service. Thus, the Department of Defense uses acceptance sampling techniques in controlling the quality of manufactured or serviced parts in airplanes, motor vehicles, and tanks. Other agencies undoubtedly use control chart and acceptance sampling techniques in some of their quality control activities.

A novel application is being made of the c-chart (number of defects per unit) by the Air Transportation Division of the U.S. Postal Service. To improve the quality of mail transportation by the Nation's air carriers, data were collected and analyzed on the number of pieces (pouches, sacks, containers, etc.) of mail mishandled by each carrier each month over the past year. These data were then used to develop the average monthly mishandled pieces and appropriate tolerances. Penalties are then imposed on the air carriers whose number of mishandled pieces in the month exceed their respective mishandling tolerances. It is expected that this system will not only help to improve the current handling performance but also control the mishandling rate at a reasonable level on a continuing basis.

Summary

From the foregoing illustrations of applications of statistical science by different Government agencies, it is apparent that this science has played a valuable role in a variety of Government functions. It should not, however, be deduced from these illustrations that all, or even most, agencies are availing themselves of this science to improve management and reduce costs. While no comprehensive survey has been made of this area, it is my opinion that the great majority of agencies and offices are not yet taking advantage of this science; in other words, the current number of applications is probably but a small fraction of the potential areas of fruitful application.

Most of the foregoing applications involved the use of random sampling techniques. While many cost reductions and management improvements can be achieved by sampling, we must also be aware that other

statistical tools can serve management. Furthermore, there are a number of instances when sampling cannot, or should not, be used. They are when:

1. There is a law against such use. For example, the law does not permit sampling Government vouchers if they amount to $200 or more; the law does not permit a decennial census of population on a sampling basis; it does not permit the estimation of gross sales by sampling for income tax purposes. In these instances, if the virtues of sampling are sufficient, the only way to apply it is to work toward legalizing the use of sampling, as has been done for vouchers under $200.

2. Human life or limb would be endangered, such as the inspection by sampling of parachutes by its manufacturers, of airplane motors, or motor vehicle brakes.

3. No error is considered tolerable by management. When such a situation is encountered it would be worthwhile determining, by means of special research, if 100% accuracy is really being achieved by 100% inspection or review. It has often been found that even fairly simple operations cannot be reduced to complete accuracy by 100% review, let alone fairly complex operations.

4. The amount of data required by the analyst or user is so detailed (many cross-classifications) as to create many cells of data which can only be displayed by complete or nearly complete counts and tabulations.

5. No reductions in cost or time can be achieved by use of sampling. Some instances of this situation are: When the population or universe of interest is very small (e.g. less than 100 cases); when the universe is large but the unit cost of collecting the data is insignificant (like counting the number of visitors to an institution by an electric counter.)

In practically all other situations, random sampling may be applied effectively to gather information, make inspections and make decisions on a factual rather than judgmental basis. Furthermore, the entire field of statistical science, which includes the principles and methods of data collection, as well as the techniques of analysis and presentation of quantitative data can serve management in many ways of which the following are but a few:

Cost reductions in numerous areas (e.g. voucher examinations, accounting, and inventory valuation)
More equitable service to the public
Better quality of service or product
Better policy decisions
Formulation of legislative proposals
More confident management
More efficient and humane use of personnel
More reasonable standards of performance
Improved budget formulation
Improved management by exception
Settlement of inter-agency accounts
Improved decision-making

In conclusion, I again quote the noted authority in management science: "There is scarcely a nook or corner of modern life which could not find some application, however simple, for statistical theory and show some profit thereof."

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

LOCAL PUBLIC MEETINGS ON 1980 CENSUS

Although it is slightly over 5 years until the date of the next census of population and housing (April 1, 1980), the Census Bureau is now in the early stages of planning for the 20th Decennial Census. The necessary goals are to decide on the content of the 1980 census questionnaire by April 1977 and to conduct a dress rehearsal of the questionnaire in the spring of 1978.

With these goals in mind, the Census Bureau is making an extensive effort to obtain suggestions for the 1980 Census of Population and Housing. Although there are constraints on the census in terms of what and how much information can be collected and tabulated, it is very important to obtain and review the recommendations of as wide a range of users and potential users of decennial census data as possible in planning for the next census. To that end, a number of open public meetings are being arranged and held by such local organizations as chapters of the American Statistical Association, chambers of commerce, councils of government, and professional, community, and business

organizations in approximately 60 cities across the country, with the cooperation of the Census Bureau as needed.

The first meeting was held on October 30, 1974 in New Orleans, La. It was cosponsored by the Economic Development Council of the New Orleans Area, the Division of Business and Economic Research at the University of New Orleans, the New Orleans Department of Commerce District Office, and the Louisiana Chapter of the American Statistical Association.

Further information on these local public meetings is available from CAROLEE BUSH, DEMOGRAPHIC CENSUS STAFF, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, telephone (301) 763-2740.)

STUDY OF DENTAL CARE SYSTEMS

The Division of Dentistry, Bureau of Health Resources Development, Health Resources Administration, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, is sponsoring a study of the private practice dental care delivery system in the Baltimore Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area. The study will use the research design of the Division's International Collaborative Study of Dental Manpower Systems, being conducted in six nations in cooperation with the World Health Organization. Researchers of the University of Maryland Dental School will study the effect on oral health of such variables as the availability, accessibility, and acceptability of dental services.

Three groups of consumers, about 1000 each in the ages ranges of 8–9 years, 13–14 years, and 35–44 years, will be given a clinical dental examination by dentists trained in the International Study methodology. The older children will respond to a brief dental practices questionnaire in their schools and the adults will be interviewed in their homes concerning their knowledge, attitudes, and dental practices.

Approximately 100 dentists will be interviewed to obtain information on the nature and conditions of their practices. They will also be asked to complete a brief questionnaire concerning economic aspects of dental practice.

The collected data from all of these sources will be analyzed to obtain information about the United States private practice system, as it prevails in the area studied, and about how these findings compare with similar results in the other nations. (WALTER A. KLIEGER, HEALTH RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE, telephone (301) 496-1347).

PROPOSED REVISIONS IN CONSUMER CREDIT DATA

Proposed revisions in the Federal Reserve's consumer credit data collection and publication program are discussed in the *Consumer Credit Review Report* prepared by the Board's Division of Research and Statistics. Copies of the Report for public comment are now available, on request, from the

Mortgage, Agricultural and Consumer Finance Section
Division of Research and Statistics
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Washington, D.C. 20551

Comments should be submitted by December 31, 1974, to Robert M. Fisher, Chief, Mortgage, Agricultural and Consumer Finance Section, Federal Reserve Board, Washington, D.C. 20551.

SURVEY OF PHILANTHROPY

The Filer Commission on Private Philanthropy and Public Needs, a private nonprofit research and educational organization, is studying private philanthropy in the United States. John Filer who is Commission Chairman is Chairman of the Board, Aetna Life and Casualty Company. Some issues to be studied:

— consideration of the appropriate role of private philanthropy in our society

— consideration of present incentives to private giving and alternatives for improvement

— consideration of the appropriate regulation of charitable institutions (Federal, State, local or self-regulative)

The Commission has asked the Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Michigan to conduct a survey of individuals to determine who gives what to whom and why and to determine the factors influencing giving by individuals to philanthropic organizations. The survey will have two parts: A panel representing the U.S. population as a whole and another panel with a large representation of high income individuals. The latter panel will be surveyed by the Bureau of the Census. The survey will provide information on people's attitudes toward giving time and money to charitable organizations as well as how these attitudes are reflected in actions. Through this survey, SRC will attempt to determine whether the changes in the tax law have affected the giving of time and money in the past, and the possible effect of alternative tax changes in the future. It will also examine the acquisition and diposition of assets during lifetime and at death by gifts to

family and charity. All such information will be related to the socieconomic background of the family.

Great care has been taken to protect the confidentiality of sensitive information made available by the respondent to the interviewer. The information in aggregate form and in statistical tabulations will be used by the Filer Commission to evaluate the future of private philanthropy and to make recommendations on improvements and encouragement of private philanthropy. (LEONARD SILVERSTEIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION, AND GAMBRIEL RUDNEY, RESEARCH DIRECTOR, telephone (202) 833-8810.)

HANDBOOK OF LABOR STATISTICS, 1974

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has released the 1974 edition of the *Handbook of Labor Statistics*. The 450-page indexed volume contains 175 statistical tables on labor force, employment, unemployment, hours, compensation, prices, living conditions, unions, industrial relations, national income, industrial safety, and foreign labor conditions.

In general, each table is complete historically, presenting annual data from the earliest date for which reliable and consistent figures are available. For many tables, monthly figures are shown for 1972 and 1973. A short technical note describes the source and limitation of each series.

The *Handbook of Labor Statistics, 1974* (BLS Bulletin 1825) may be purchased for $5 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, or from the BLS regional offices. (TOMMY C. ISHEE, OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, telephone (202) 961-5470.)

BLS RESUMES PUBLICATION OF POVERTY AREA EMPLOYMENT DATA

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, which discontinued publication of data on employment and unemployment in urban poverty areas in 1972, recently resumed publication with the release of 1973 data covering poverty areas across the Nation.

Some significant findings were: (1) About 29 million people 16 years and over lived in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan poverty areas in 1973. (2) The unemployment rate in poverty areas averaged 6.5% in 1973 compared with 4.6% in other areas. (3) The unemployment rate in nonmetropolitan poverty areas was much lower than in metropolitan poverty areas. (4) The unemployment rate for whites was almost identical in poverty and other areas but the rate for blacks was much higher in poverty than in other areas. (5) Labor force participation by poverty area workers was substantially below that of workers in other areas. (6) Blacks accounted for nearly a third of the population in poverty areas but about half of the unemployed and discouraged workers in those areas. (Poverty areas are those Census geographical divisions in which 20% or more of the residents were poor according to the 1970 Decennial Census.)

The statistical series on poverty areas formerly covered the 100 largest metropolitan areas and used different criteria for defining poverty areas. It was discontinued in 1972 because of changes in the Current Population Survey from which the poverty data were derived. The new series incorporates several changes which include the introduction of 1970 population controls, current definitions of metropolitan areas, new criteria for delineating poverty areas, and increased geographic coverage.

The new series will be published quarterly in a press release and in the BLS periodical *Employment and Earnings* beginning in October. A *Monthly Labor Review* article analyzing the 1973 data is in preparation.

HOUSEHOLD MONEY INCOME 1973

A report on "Household Money Income in 1973 and Selected Social and Economic Characteristics of Households" has recently been published by the Bureau of the Census. This report contains data on household money income distributions cross-classified by various demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the household head, and other characteristics such as residence, size and type of household, and relationship to household head.

The report shows that the median income of households in the United States rose to $10,500 in 1973, an increase of about 8.4% over the 1972 median income of $9,700. After adjusting for price changes, the increase in the median income was only 2.1%.

Total aggregate household income was $849.3 billion in 1973, an increase of 10.3% over 1972. This increase resulted from a 2.4% increase in the number of households (1.6 million new households) and a 7.7% increase in the average (mean) household income.

Of the 69.9 million households in the United States, 5.4 million households, or 7.8%, received incomes of $25,000 or more in 1973. There were 15.4 million households (22.1%) with incomes between $15,000 and $25,000. At the other end of the income scale,

16.0 million households, or 22.9%, had incomes less than $5,000 in 1973.

Copies of this report "Household Money Income in 1973 and Selected Social and Economic Characteristics of Households," *Current Population Reports,* Series P–60, No. 96 (30 pages, 75 cents) may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. (ROBERT W. CLEVELAND, POPULATION DIVISION, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, telephone (301) 763-5071.)

MAJOR PROGRAMS OF THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Major Programs 1974/Bureau of Labor Statistics, an annual periodical, presents in highly concentrated form the scope of the Bureau's principal programs. Selected major characteristics of more than 40 programs are grouped into related subject-matter areas. The frequency with which data are made available, the principal publications in which they appear, and some of the principal uses of the data are shown. A brief narrative accompanies each major subject-matter grouping.

Free copies may be obtained from the Bureau as long as supplies last. Requests should be addressed to the Office of Publications, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20212. (TOMMY C. ISHEE, OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, telephone (202) 961-5470.)

STATISTICAL PROPERTIES OF MAJOR BLS SERIES

A technical note describing the principal statistical properties of six major series published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics appeared in the July 1974 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review.* The six series covered in the article are:

- Total nonagricultural employment, derived from the Current Population Survey
- Total nonagricultural payroll employment, derived from the establishment survey
- The manufacturing workweek
- The overall unemployment rate
- The Wholesale Price Index—All Commodities
- The Consumer Price Index—All Items

These series were analysed in terms of (1) the magnitude and timing of their largest historical increases and decreases, (2) their lead-lag behavior over the various phases of the business cycle, (3) their smoothness, (4) the extent to which they are affected by the annual revision of seasonal adjustment factors, and (5) the degree of statistical error associated with them.

Reprints of the article, which is entitled "Statistical Characteristics of Major BLS Series," can be obtained from the Office of Publications, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C. 20212 (Those interested in further information on this topic should call John F. Early, Division of Industry Employment Statistics, (202) 961-2227 or Paul O. Flaim, Division of Employment and Unemployment Analysis, (202) 961-2237, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor.)

1972 GENERAL AVIATION ACTIVITY SURVEY

The Federal Aviation Administration recently released the results of the General Aviation Activity Survey. This one-time survey was undertaken in 1972 to supplement information gathered annually relative to general aviation flying. The special report is based upon the data from 40,330 interviews of general aviation pilots at 213 airports in 38 states.

The statistics are presented in terms of aircraft operations and kind of flying by aircraft type. The results of the survey show that the frequency of U.S. general aviation operations are split into 53.5% itinerant and 46.5% local. On the average, a general aviation aircraft travels a distance of 236 miles, carries 2.5 persons per trip and files a flight plan in less than 50% of its total itinerant operations. Of the total flight plans filed, instrument flight rules (IFR) accounts for 41%; visual flight rules (VFR) 59%.

The survey data also show that the trip length and occupancy are closely correlated with the number of flight plans filed. If an aircraft flies over a longer distance or carries more persons aboard, the probability of the pilot filing a flight plan is higher.

Copies of the 1972 General Aviation Survey may be obtained from the Information and Statistics Division, Office of Management Systems of the Federal Aviation Administration, Washington, D.C. 20591, telephone (202) 426-3323.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED WEEKLY RETAIL TRADE ESTIMATES

Effective with the release issued October 11, the Bureau of the Census included seasonally adjusted weekly estimates of sales by all retail stores together with total sales by durable goods and nondurable goods stores in the *Weekly Retail Trade Report.* The *Weekly Retail Trade Report* has also been expanded to include the

final weekly estimates for the weeks of one month in the current year. Previously, the final estimates were not shown until the following year.

The weekly report, issued each Thursday, also provides estimates of the previous week's unadjusted total sales of retail stores for the United States as well as unadjusted data for major kinds-of-business groups. Previous year data for the corresponding weeks are shown for comparison purposes.

The weekly sales estimates are based on data obtained from a panel of 2,500 firms, covering approximately 48,000 retail stores in the United States, which are part of a larger survey panel furnishing figures on a monthly basis.

Copies of the Weekly Retail Sales reports may be obtained from the Public Information Office, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233. (IRVING J. TRUE, BUSINESS DIVISION, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, telephone (301) 763-7660.)

SAMPLE REVISION FOR MONTHLY SURVEY OF MERCHANT WHOLESALERS

The sample used to derive the Monthly Wholesale Trade series estimates has been revised effective with the July data month. The kind-of-business classification codes for establishments selected in the new sample are in terms of the 1967 Economic Census, whereas the classification in the former sample was based on the 1963 assignments.

The sample is approximately the same size as the old survey. Estimates for the 4-month period March through June 1974 were derived concurrently from both the old and new samples. Based on the sample results from this period, previously published data were adjusted back to January 1964 to maintain comparability with the newly introduced series and are available upon request.

This survey is limited to merchant wholesalers, which constitute the major portion of the broad field of wholesale trade. and excludes the other types of wholesale trade such as manufacturers' sales branches and sales offices, petroleum bulk stations, agents and brokers, and assemblers of farm products. All kinds of business in which merchant wholesalers operate are included in this survey.

The July data month press release was published on October 1, 1974. (RONALD PIENCYKOSKI, BUSINESS DIVISION, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, telephone (301) 763-5294.)

AVAILABILITY OF SPSS OVERRIDE SYSTEM (SOS) FROM DUALABS

DUALabs, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to improving data access for social scientists, has announced the availability of the SPSS-Override System (SOS). SOS is specifically designed to process the hierarchically structured files of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

As released by the Census Bureau, the Public Use Sample (PUS) and Current Population Survey (CPS) files pose two complicated processing problems. First, their nonrectangular file structure precludes direct use of most standard data processing packages, including SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences), for all but the most elementary types of applications. Consequently the data bases must be reformatted in some fashion to produce fixed length logical records for input to SPSS, or each analytical problem must be handled on an *ad hoc* basis. Either alternative can be costly and time-consuming. Second, the physical size of the data bases, especially of the PUS file (a single 1% PUS file as released by the Census Bureau can be as large as 33 reels of magnetic tape), creates handling problems at the computer site.

SOS provides a solution to both of these problems. Basically, SOS eliminates the requirement to reformat the hierarchical structure of these files by overriding the normal file input facilities of SPSS and allows users to access directly variables from the data as if the data bases had been reformatted. The SOS user can analyze selected variables across the hierarchy (for example, neighborhood, household and person in PUS, and family and person in CPS), as well as characteristics of family relationships (for example, husband's income, wife's income, children's income). In order to eliminate some of the problems of physical size, SOS offers the option to analyze compressed data, for example, in which logical record length has been reduced from 120 bytes to 60 bytes. This compression technique, combined with other data storage techniques, can reduce the physical size of the 33 reels of magnetic tape for one file to just five reels.

SOS was designed by Martin L. Levin of the Department of Sociology at Emory University and was developed with the partial support of the Department of Housing and Urban Development under an interagency agreement with the Atomic Energy Commission at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Emory University. DUALabs has implemented various system refinements and further modifications of its own. DUALabs' work on SOS is partially supported by the contract with the

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

DUALabs has established a number of SOS Support and Distribution centers for various types of computer installations. The following centers will provide information and distribute SOS on a full maintenance basis to SPSS(H) users:

For IBM 360/370 installations—
Kisun Han
DUALabs
1601 N. Kent St., Suite 900
Arlington, Va. 22209
Telephone: (703) 525-1480

For UNIVAC 70 installations—
Julie Cottrill
Computing Center
Emory University
Atlanta, Ga. 30322
Telephone: (404) 377-2411, ext. 7751

For CDC 6000 series installations—
Lorraine Borman
Vogelback Computing Center
Northwestern University
2129 Sheridan Rd.
Evanston, Ill. 60201
Telephone: (312) 492-3682

For UNIVAC 1106/1108 installations—
Ellen S. Bryant
Miss. Summary Tape Processing Center
P.O. Drawer C
Miss. State University
Miss. State, Miss. 39762
Telephone: (601) 325-5024

For PDP DEC-10 installations—
Michael A. Matzek
Computing Center
University of Pittsburgh
600 Epsilon Dr.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15238
Telephone: (412) 781-5966

DUALabs has also developed and distributed a series of other computer systems including PUSH (the PUS file reformatting and extracting program), CENTS-AID (the PUS file cross-tabulation program), and the MOD series which is designed to process all Census Summary Tape files. Those interested in further information on these systems should write or call Kisun Han at DUALabs (see above). Persons interested in attending one of the training seminars should write or call ROB BARNES, DUALabs, 1601 N. Kent St., Suite 900, Arlington, Va. 22209, telephone (703) 525-1480.

COINS SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

The Subcommittee on Agricultural Statistics of the Committee on Improvement of National Statistics (COINS), an organ of the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI), held its VII Session from September 24–October 2, 1974. The meeting took place in the Paramount Building, 1735 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

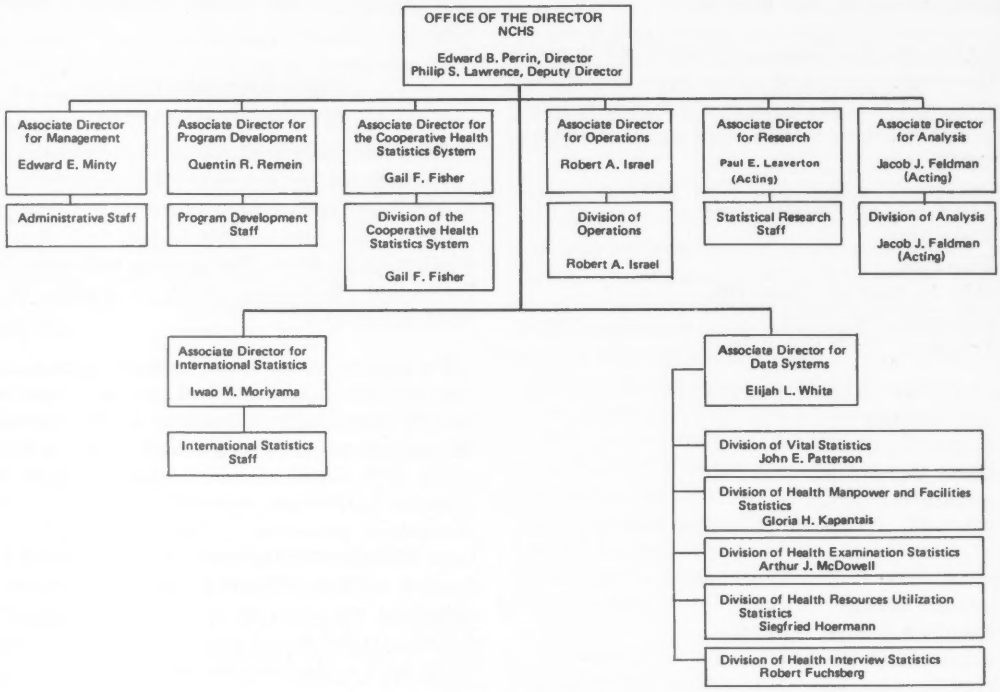
The purpose of the Session was to examine: (a) Long-term national programs of food and agricultural statistics, (b) bases for the formulation of the standards for the agricultural census to be taken under the Program of the 1980 Census of America and the 1980 World Census of Agriculture, and (c) bases for the formulation of standards pertaining to statistics on vegetables and fruits of Section V (Agriculture) of the Inter-American Program of Basic Statistics. The Subcommittee also considered the activities in the field of agricultural statistics carried out since its VI Session (1971) and the future work of the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee on Agricultural Statistics is the guiding body of the IASI-FAO mechanism for the coordination of activities aimed at the development and improvement of these statistics in the Americas. Since the inception of such mechanism in 1964, the IASI Secretariat and the Statistics Division of FAO have pooled the means at their disposal for the achievement of their identical objectives.

The Executive Committee of IASI designated the following persons to serve as Subcommittee members for the VII Session: Juan Manuel Caballero Díaz, Director, Bureau of Statistics and Census, Office of the Comptroller General, Panama, who acted as chairman of the Session; Manoel Antônio Soares da Cunha, Chief, Census of Agriculture Division, Department of Censuses, "Fundação IBGE," Brazil; Wilfredo Caballero Armas, Director, Office of Sampling and Special Surveys, National Office of Statistics and Census, Peru; Ruth Rawlins, Senior Statistician, Central Statistical Office, Trinidad and Tobago; and, Robert S. Ellis, Director, Census of Agriculture, Statistics Canada, Canada.

Observers of national institutions and international organizations also attended the session. (TULO H. MONTENEGRO, SECRETARY GENERAL, INTER-AMERICAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE, telephone (202) 331-1010.)

REORGANIZATION OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS



Among the new components created in the recent reorganization of the National Center for Health Statistics are the following:

Division of Analysis, which will conduct a program of analytic studies and research relating to health status, demography, and health economics.

Division of the Cooperative Health Statistics System, to coordinate and conduct technical assistance, research, systems design, training, and other activities related to development of the Cooperative System.

Division of Operations, which includes data collection, processing, and dissemination functions.

In addition, the Center's methodological research activities are now placed under the general direction of an Associate Director in a move to strengthen and expand research capabilities. Similarly, the Associate Director for Data Systems will provide overall direction and coordination of the Center's various data collection systems. (ALICE HAYWOOD, NCHS, DHEW, telephone (301) 443-1201.)

PERSONNEL NOTES

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Office of Management and Budget: MARIE D. WANN, Assistant to the Deputy Associate Director for Statistical Policy and Chief Mathematical Statistician, retired from Government service on October 15.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Division of Research and Statistics: JAMES L. KICHLINE, formerly an Assistant Adviser and Chief of the Capital Markets Section, has been promoted to Ad-

viser. RICHARD H. PUCKETT, formerly in the Banking Section, has succeeded Mr. Kichline as Chief of the Capital Markets Section. JAMES FRALICK has transferred from the National Income, Labor Force and Trade Section to the Government Finance Section.

SUSAN VROMAN, a Ph.D. candidate at Johns Hopkins University, has joined the staff of the National Income, Labor Force, and Trade Section. MARTHA SCANLON has transferred from the Banking Section to the Capital Markets Section. ELEANOR PRUITT has transferred from the Office of Managing Director for Research and Economic Policy to the Banking Section.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census: The following staff members of the Statistical Methods Division have been assigned to these positions—GARY M. SHAPIRO, Assistant Chief for Programs; PETER A. BOUNPANE, Chief, Recurring Surveys Branch; and DAVID V. BATEMAN, Chief, Special Surveys Branch.

JACOB SILVER has been designated Acting Assistant Chief for Operations, Geography Division.

MICHAEL G. FARRELL has been named Assistant Division Chief, Current Programs, Business Division.

As the result of a recent reorganization in the Governments Division, the following changes have been made in staff assignments: SHERMAN LANDAU, Chief; MAURICE CRIZ, Senior Staff Advisor to the Division Chief; JOHN R. COLEMAN, Assistant Division Chief for Economic Statistics of Governments; ALAN R. JONES, Assistant Division Chief for Special Governmental Statistics; and KENNETH E. ANDERSON, Assistant Division Chief for Survey Operations.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

National Center for Health Statistics: PAUL J. PLACEK, formerly with Vanderbilt University, has joined the staff of the Natality Branch, Division of Vital Statistics. KINZO YAMAMOTO, formerly with the Office of Health Resources Opportunity, Health Resources Administration, has been named Chief, Utilization and Expenditures Branch, Division of Health Interview Statistics. JACOB J. FELDMAN, formerly with Harvard University, has joined the Center as service fellow in the Division of Analysis. PAUL EMMITT LEAVERTON, formerly with the University of Iowa, is now a service fellow with the Center's Office of Statistical Research.

SELECTED NEW REPORTING PLANS AND FORMS

The following listing gives brief descriptions of selected new reporting plans and forms approved in the previous month by the Office of Management and Budget under the provisions of the Federal Reports Act. These descriptions provide information on surveys and data collection programs currently being started or soon to be started.

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Health Services Administration

Otitis media program evaluation (singletime).—This survey will collect baseline data on otitis media, the most prevalent infectious ear disease affecting American Indians and Alaskan Natives. The data to be collected include (1) current extent of ear disease and hearing loss, (2) availability and extent of hearing conservation programs in schools, (3) availability and location of treatment facilities, (4) availability of medical personnel, (5) methods of diagnosis and treatment used, and (6) parents' knowledge and beliefs concerning ear disease and hearing. A follow-up study will be made 5 years later. The data will be used for an evaluation study and for planning service programs. (For further information: Gooloo Wunderlich, OASH, HEW, telephone (301) 443-2660.)

Social and Rehabilitation Service

Comprehensive service needs study survey schedule (singletime).—The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 mandates the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to study the feasibility of methods for meeting the comprehensive service needs of individuals with the most severe handicaps (IMSH). Two major groups of IMSH will be surveyed: (1) those who have received rehabilitation services from a Comprehensive Medical Rehabilitation Center, and (2) those who have applied to Vocational Rehabilitation for services but who have been rejected or terminated due to severity of their handicap. (For further information: Louis Y. Nau, Social and Rehabilitation Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, telephone (202) 245-0081.)

Health Resources Administration

Cost of in-hospital orientation training and other types of in-service education for registered nurses (singletime).—National sample survey of 1,000 short-term general hospitals to determine the costs to employers for providing orientation and/or in-service training for registered nurses who are graduates of 2, 3, and 4 year nursing education programs. The information gained through the study will fill the need for information on the prevalence and scope of formalized orientation training and in-service education in hospitals. (For further information: Evelyn B. Moses, Division of Nursing, HRA, HEW telephone (301) 496-6546.)

Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Surveys related to Fair Labor Standards Act. (Single time).—Three surveys will be made to provide the Secretary of Labor with information needed to appraise the justification for three of the exemptions to the minimum wage and overtime pay provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). The Act requires an appraisal of each exemption and other surveys will be conducted in the future. The three surveys are:

(1) *Straight-time weekly hours and earnings of executive, administrative, and professional employees.* Survey to determine the distribution of executive, administrative and professional employees by weekly earnings and hours. The survey will cover a sample of establishments in private industry and public education institutions. (2) *Outside salespersons, 1973 gross annual earnings and number of weeks paid for.* Survey to determine the frequency distribution of outside salespersons by annual earnings and weeks paid for. The survey will cover the same sample of establishments as (1) above, except public education institutions. (3) *Survey of hours and earnings, nonsupervisory occupations in selected industries.* Survey to determine aggregate weekly hours worked during each week of the year October 1, 1973 to September 30, 1974; hours worked by individual employees during 4 selected weeks; and earnings and hours of individual employees. The survey will be limited to retail trade and service establishments included in (1) above which qualify for exemption from FLSA coverage. (For further information: Alvin Bauman, BLS, Labor Department, telephone (202) 961-2910.)

National Science Foundation

Government/industry cost-sharing (singletime).—Survey to explore and evaluate (1) industry's attitudes towards and reasons for participation in cost sharing projects (i.e., cost shared by a Government agency and industry to improve the rate of technological implementation, (2) degree to which cost-sharing has assisted in the development of new technology, and (3), industry's experience with other Government incentives in the development, introduction, and use of technology as compared with the cost-sharing experience. The survey will be made on an in-depth personal interview basis. (For further information: Richard I. Gerson, National Science Foundation, telephone (202) 632-5550.)

Department of Commerce

National Bureau of Standards

Taxpayer service study questionnaire (singletime).—Study being made by NBS for the General Accounting Office to determine the extent to which taxpayers are aware of the assistance available through the Internal Revenue Service, whether they have used it, and their satisfaction with the assistance provided. The data will be used for a report to a Congressional committee. (For further information: Ralph B. Swisher, Project Leader, NBS, telephone (301) 921-3891.)

SCHEDULE OF RELEASE DATES FOR PRINCIPAL FEDERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

December 1974

Release dates scheduled by agencies responsible for the principal economic indicators of the Federal Government are given below. These are target dates that will be met in the majority of cases. Occasionally agencies may be able to release data a day or so earlier or may be forced by unavoidable compilation problems to release a report one or more days later.

A similar schedule will be shown here each month covering release dates for the following months. The indicators are identified by the titles of the releases in which they are included; the source agency; the release identification number where applicable; and the *Business Conditions Digest* series numbers for all BCD series included, shown in parentheses. Release date information for additional series can be found in publications of the sponsoring agencies.

(Any inquiries about these series should be directed to the issuing agency)

DATE	SUBJECT	DATA FOR
December 2	Construction Expenditures (Press release), Census C-30 (69)	October
3	Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders, Census, M3–1 (20, 65, 852)	October
4	Consumer Credit, Federal Reserve Board (FRB), G.19 (66, 113)	October
4	U.S. Government Security Yields and Prices, FRB, G.14 (114)	November
4	Plant and Equipment Expenditures, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), (61)	3Q '74 and 1974
4	Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks, FRB, H.4.2 (72)	Week ending November 27
5	Money Stock Measures, FRB, H.6 (85, 102, 103)	Week ending November 27
5	Factors Affecting Bank Reserves and Condition Statement of Federal Reserve Banks, FRB, H.4.1 (93)	Week ending December 4
5	Manufacturers' Export Sales and Orders, Census, M4-A (506)	October
6	The Employment Situation, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), (1, 21, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 740, 841-848)	November
9	Retail Trade Report (Press Release), Census, (54)	October
10	Monthly Wholesale Trade (Press release), Census, BW	October
10	Advance Monthly Retail Sales (Press release), Census, (54)	November
11	Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks, FRB, H.4.2 (72)	Week ending December 4
12	Money Stock Measures, FRB, H.6 (85, 102, 103)	Week ending December 4
12	Factors Affecting Bank Reserves and Condition Statement of Federal Reserve Banks, FRB, H.4.1 (93)	Week ending December 11
12	Wholesale Price Index, BLS, (55, 58, 750, 751, 752)	November

DATE	SUBJECT	DATA FOR
December 13	Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales, BEA (31, 56, 71, 851)	October
16	Yields on FHA Insured New Home 30-Year Mortgages, HUD, (118)	December
16	Industrial Production and Related Data, FRB, G.12.3 (47, 853)	November
18	Balance of Payments on Current Account and Long-Term Capital, BEA, (519)	3 Q '74
18	Personal Income, BEA, (52, 53)	November
18	Bank Rates on Short-Term Business Loans, FRB, E.2 (67)	November 1–15
18	Housing Starts (Press release), Census, C–20 (28, 29)	November
18	Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks, FRB, H.4.2 (72)	Week ending December 11
19	Money Stock Measures, FRB, H.6 (85, 102, 103)	Week ending December 11
19	Factors Affecting Bank Reserves and Condition Statement of Federal Reserve Banks, FRB, H.4.1 (93)	Week ending December 18
19	Revised Corporate Profits and National Income, BEA	3 Q '74
20	Advance Report on M3–1, Durable Goods, Manufacturers Shipments and Orders, Census (6, 24, 25, 96, 647, 648)	November
20	Consumer Price Index, BLS (781, 782, 783, 784)	November
20	Real Earnings, BLS (741, 859)	November
24	Average Yields of Long-Term Bonds, Treasury Bulletin (115, 116)	November
24	Quarterly Financial Report for Manufacturing Corporations Federal Trade Commission	3 Q '74
26	Condition Report of Large Commercial Banks, FRB, H.4.2 (72)	Week ending December 18
26	Money Stock Measures, FRB, H.6 (85, 102, 103)	Week ending December 18
26	Factors Affecting Bank Reserves and Condition Statement of Federal Reserve Banks, FRB, H.4.1 (93)	Week ending December 24
27	Export and Import Merchandise Trade, Census, FT-900 (500, 502, 512)	November
27	Advance Business Conditions Digest, BEA: (12, 33, 69, 813, 817)	October
	(5, 10, 17, 45, 59, 62, 810, 811, 814, 815, 816, 820, 825, 830, 853, 860)	November
30	Labor Turnover in Manufacturing (Press release), BLS, (2, 3)	November
30	Defense Indicators, BEA, (625)	November
31	Agricultural Prices (Agriculture)	Mid-November

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.
Price 50 cents (single copy). Subscription Price: $5.25 domestic postpaid; $1.35 additional for foreign mailing.