



ESTIMATES

Statistics Canada

**2000-2001
Estimates**

Part III – Report on Plans and Priorities

Canada

The Estimates Documents

Each year, the government prepares Estimates in support of its request to Parliament for authority to spend public monies. This request is formalized through the tabling of appropriation bills in Parliament. The Estimates, which are tabled in the House of Commons by the President of the Treasury Board, consist of three parts:

Part I – The Government Expenditure Plan provides an overview of federal spending and summarizes both the relationship of the key elements of the Main Estimates to the Expenditure Plan (as set out in the Budget).

Part II – The Main Estimates directly support the *Appropriation Act*. The Main Estimates identify the spending authorities (votes) and amounts to be included in subsequent appropriation bills. Parliament will be asked to approve these votes to enable the government to proceed with its spending plans. Parts I and II of the Estimates are tabled concurrently on or before 1 March.

Part III – Departmental Expenditure Plans which is divided into two components:

- (1) **Reports on Plans and Priorities (RPPs)** are individual expenditure plans for each department and agency (excluding Crown corporations). These reports provide increased levels of detail on a business line basis and contain information on objectives, initiatives and planned results, including links to related resource requirements over a three-year period. The RPPs also provide details on human resource requirements, major capital projects, grants and contributions, and net program costs. They are tabled in Parliament by the President of the Treasury Board on behalf of the ministers who preside over the departments and agencies identified in Schedules I, I.1 and II of the *Financial Administration Act*. These documents are to be tabled on or before 31 March and referred to committees, which then report back to the House of Commons pursuant to Standing Order 81(4).
- (2) **Departmental Performance Reports (DPRs)** are individual department and agency accounts of accomplishments achieved against planned performance expectations as set out in respective RPPs. These Performance Reports, which cover the most recently completed fiscal year, are tabled in Parliament in the fall by the President of the Treasury Board on behalf of the ministers who preside over the departments and agencies identified in Schedules I, I.1 and II of the *Financial Administration Act*.

The Estimates, along with the Minister of Finance's Budget, reflect the government's annual budget planning and resource allocation priorities. In combination with the subsequent reporting of financial results in the Public Accounts and of accomplishments achieved in Departmental Performance Reports, this material helps Parliament hold the government to account for the allocation and management of public funds.

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2000-2001 Estimates

A Report on Plans and Priorities

John Manley
Minister of Industry

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SECTION I: MESSAGE

Minister's Portfolio Message

In the global economy, innovation is an essential determinant of long-term economic growth, improved productivity and, ultimately, our quality of life. Preparing Canadians for the knowledge-based economy remains one of the government's top priorities in the years ahead. My portfolio of government organisations is promoting the growth of a strong, dynamic Canadian economy and helping Canadians take advantage of the opportunities offered by the global knowledge-based economy. We have laid a solid foundation through our continuing investments in knowledge and innovation.

An essential ingredient for our knowledge-based growth, both as an economy and as a society, is Connecting Canadians, an initiative designed to make Canada the most connected country in the world. Leading-edge applications will create jobs and growth, and strengthen productivity performance. Connecting Canadians also allows us to reach out to all citizens, and redefine and enhance how we provide services to, and interact with, Canadians.

I am pleased to present the Report on Plans and Priorities for Statistics Canada which sets out for Canadians the planned activities, priorities and resources over the course of the next three years. These plans illustrate how Statistics Canada is contributing to building a strong and dynamic Canadian economy. Statistics Canada provides Canadians with high quality information which covers a broad spectrum of issues such as the performance of the Canadian economy and its productivity, the knowledge-based economy, economic growth, global challenges, social cohesion and human development. This is achieved through the enhancement of statistical programs covering economic production, science and technology, the environment, trade income polarization and various social transitions to name a few.

The Industry Portfolio is ...

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
Business Development Bank of Canada*
Canadian Space Agency
Competition Tribunal
Copyright Board Canada
Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions
Industry Canada
National Research Council Canada
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Standards Council of Canada*
Statistics Canada
Western Economic Diversification Canada

**Not required to submit Reports on Plans and Priorities*

As we look ahead we must define excellence by global standards. Innovation, science, research and development, and connectedness will profoundly change the world we face in the next decade. To maintain and improve our quality of life, we must be more skilled, more productive, more entrepreneurial and more innovative than any other country in the world and we can be all of these things.

The Honourable John Manley

SECTION II: STATISTICS CANADA OVERVIEW

A. Mandate, Roles and Responsibilities

Statistics Canada's mandate derives primarily from the Statistics Act. The Act requires the Agency, under the direction of the Minister, to collect, compile, analyze and publish statistical information on the economic, social and general conditions of the country and its citizens. This activity is fundamentally important to an open, democratic society as it provides objective information to Canadians and their elected representatives about the evolution of our society and economy. The Agency's information resources are also exploited by businesses, unions and non-profit organizations to make informed decisions.

Statistics Canada's mandate also provides for coordination and leadership of the country's statistical system. This has led Statistics Canada to form many partnerships at the federal and provincial levels. These partnerships have benefited Canadians in many ways. Improved data quality through more comparable survey methods, reduced response burden through the use of administrative records and data sharing and the exchange of best practices among all participants are a few examples.

In recent years, Agency data are increasingly used in a statutory or regulatory mode. Uses include distribution of federal funds to provinces (*Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act*); apportioning of federal-provincial collections (Harmonized Sales Tax); indexing federal payments to both beneficiaries and income tax credits (*Income Tax Act*); determining areas of eligibility for supplementary benefits (*Employment Insurance Act*); determining the distribution of parliamentary seats among provinces and defining federal electoral districts (*Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*); designating federal bilingual services areas (*Official Languages Act*) and measuring the prevalence of sub-populations which are the focus of the federal employment equity program (*Employment Equity Act*). Other federal legislation also requires Statistics Canada to produce data for specific purposes. (See Section V-A for a complete list of legislated requirements.)

Statistics Canada

2000-2001 Resources by Organization and Business Line

		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: fit-content;">Minister of Industry</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: fit-content;">Chief Statistician</div>								
Business Line		ACS* Social, Institutions and Labour Statistics	ACS Business and Trade Statistics	ACS National Accounts and Analytical Studies	ACS Communications and Operations	ACS Informatics and Methodology	ACS Management Services	Sub- Total	Vote- Netted Revenues	Total
Economic and Social Statistics	(\$ millions)	55.7	73.5	30.5	73.2	52.4	103.0	388.3	75.6	312.7
	FTEs	521	1,114	439	840	701	867	4,482		4,482
Census of Population Statistics	(\$ millions)	46.2	0.0	0.0	59.6	25.9	2.5	134.2	12.3	121.9
	FTEs	338	0	0	363	308	86	1,095		1,095
Total Planned Spending	(\$ millions)	101.9	73.5	30.5	132.8	78.3	105.5	522.5	87.9	434.6
	FTEs	859	1,114	439	1,203	1,009	953	5,577		5,577

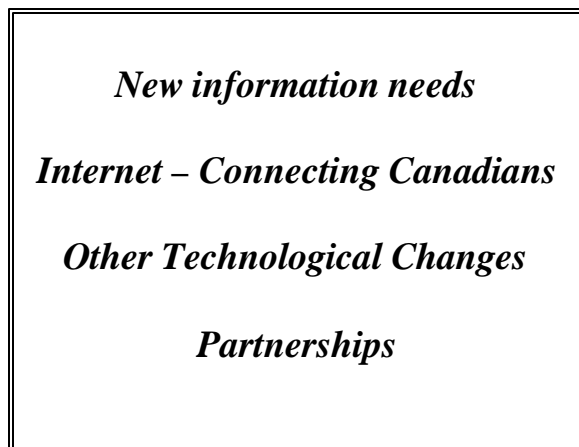
*ACS - Assistant Chief Statistician

B. Objectives

From Statistics Canada's mandate are derived two primary objectives:

- to provide statistical information and analysis of the economic and social structure and functioning of Canadian society as a basis for the development, operation and evaluation of public policies and programs, for public and private decision-making and for the general benefit of all Canadians; and
- to promote the quality, coherence, and international comparability of Canada's statistics through collaboration with other federal departments and agencies, with the provinces and territories and in accordance with sound scientific standards and practices.

C. External Factors Influencing the Department



The Agency's *raison d'être* lies in the production of high quality statistical information. The effectiveness of Statistics Canada depends on its credibility, the relevance of its information, the quality and accessibility of its products and services, the attainment of high professional standards, and the control of the burden on survey respondents.

The gathering of information involves a partnership with all Canadians. In this partnership, Canadians both contribute and benefit. Information is provided to Statistics Canada through surveys and access to administrative records, while Statistics Canada, after compiling and analyzing this information, provides feedback through a myriad of information products.

New information needs

Historically, Statistics Canada's program has been structured to provide information on the macro-economy, the micro-economy and the socio-demographic structure of Canada. Statistical information also has been provided on public institutions and programs. Such information continues to be relevant. This constitutes the Agency's core program (more information can be found in the business lines descriptions). However, emerging issues means the Agency has to be capable of reacting to these complex requirements. New federal-provincial fiscal arrangements, the health of Canadians and the systems that support it, the factors affecting economic performance in the new knowledge-based economy, economic growth, the micro-economic factors affecting competitiveness, social cohesion, human development, global opportunities and challenges as well as the outcomes of social programs are some of the areas requiring more information and

analysis to assist public and private decision makers in understanding the issues they face. Maintaining the relevance¹ of the Statistics Canada program by meeting such information needs and maintaining the integrity of the core program continues to be a primary goal for the Agency.

Internet – Connecting Canadians

Connecting Canadians is a Federal Government commitment to make information and knowledge accessible to all Canadians. The internet potentially offers individuals, institutions, small and large businesses, all communities, and all levels of government with new opportunities for learning, interacting, transacting business and developing their social and economic potential. Mindful of this commitment, the Agency continuously evaluates its dissemination strategy to ensure that the needs of the Canadian public are met in a rapidly evolving environment.

The Internet is changing how information is accessed by society. It has become a key element in the Agency's dissemination strategy providing the latest as well as historical information.

Other technological changes

Evolving social, economic and technological dynamics within Canadian society have placed a significant obligation on Statistics Canada to produce new types of information that keep pace of the nation's information needs. Over the late 1980's and throughout the 1990's, new technologies have been instrumental in providing these new types of information while reducing the burden placed on respondents providing information.

Partnerships

As is the case for many other federal institutions, partnerships and cost-sharing with other departments, and in some cases with provincial bodies, have become regularized over the past three to four years. Contributions from partners demonstrate a need for the data, relevance, confidence and the willingness to cooperate, and these relationships have gradually evolved to be an integral part of the development of business plans. Statistics Canada will continue to foster such arrangements over the planning period as they have proven to well serve not only the needs of the stakeholders but also the needs of the national statistical system and the Canadian research community.

¹ Relevance is further discussed in section V-B of this report

D. Statistics Canada – Planned Spending

(\$ millions)	Forecast Spending 1999-2000 ¹	Planned Spending 2000-2001	Planned Spending 2001-2002	Planned Spending 2002-2003
Budgetary Main Estimates (gross)	383.1	497.7	571.7	407.8
Less: Respendable Revenue	74.0	87.9	69.2	69.2
Total Main Estimates	309.1	409.8	502.5	338.6
Adjustments ²	42.6	24.8	28.4	3.9
Net Planned Spending	351.7	434.6	530.9	342.5
Less: Non-respendable Revenue	0.8	2.5	0.8	0.8
Plus: Cost of Services received without charge	37.4	39.3	39.5	37.3
Net Cost of Program	388.3	471.4	569.6	379.0
Full Time Equivalents	5,039	5,577	5,819	5,032

¹ Reflects best forecast of total planned spending to the end of the fiscal year.

² Adjustments are to accommodate approvals obtained since the Annual Reference Level Update (ARLU) exercise and to include Budget initiatives.

SECTION III: PLANS, RESULTS AND RESOURCES

Economic and Social Statistics Business Line

A. Net Planned Spending (\$millions) and Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)

Forecast Spending 1999-2000 ¹	Planned Spending 2000-2001	Planned Spending 2001-2002	Planned Spending 2002-2003
\$315.1	\$312.7	\$327.5	\$304.6
4,321 FTE	4,482 FTE	4,499 FTE	4,419 FTE

¹ Reflects the best forecast of planned spending to the end of the fiscal year.

B. Objective

The objective of this Business Line is twofold:

- to provide statistical information and analysis relating to the measurement of the international and domestic components of Canadian economic performance; and
- to provide statistical information on the social, economic and physical well-being of individuals and families and on the public systems and institutions which serve them.

C. Description

The Economic Statistics component of this business line provides information and analysis on the entire spectrum of Canadian economic activity, both domestic and international, through a set of macro-economic statistics. The organization of economic statistics is guided, in large measure, by frameworks which constitute the Canadian System of National Accounts. The system makes it possible to measure both the current performance and the structural make-up of the Canadian economy by type of economic transaction and by sector. This set of accounts is designed to provide structural and current information on the Canadian economy in direct support of fiscal, monetary, human resource, industrial and international economic policy formulation and adjustment. The System of National Accounts also serves as a framework within which individual statistical series are compared to assess their reliability and as an analytic tool to identify shifts in the economic importance of various sectors.

*Measuring
Canadian
Economic
Performance*

Another component of Economic Statistics focuses on the business, trade and tourism sectors of the Canadian economy. Information produced includes measures of the value of production, cost structures, commodities produced and consumed, the flows and stocks

of fixed capital assets employed in the economy, the degree of capacity utilization, estimates of planned annual capital expenditure of businesses and governments, and measures of price changes for industrial goods, capital expenditures and construction.

*Information
on Canadians
and the systems
funded to meet their
needs*

The Household Statistics component of this business line provides information on the economic and social characteristics of individuals, families and households in Canada, and on the major factors which can contribute to their well-being. It includes measures of household income and expenditure; of employment, unemployment, their associated costs and benefits, labour income and factors affecting labour supply; and information on topics of specific social policy concern.

The Institutions Statistics component of this business line provides information on the facilities, agencies and systems which are publicly funded to meet the socio-economic and physical needs of Canadians, and on the outcomes of the services which they provide. It encompasses the justice, health care and education systems as well as cultural institutions and industries, in terms of the nature and extent of their services, and operations, the characteristics of the individual Canadians and families whom they serve, and their impacts on Canadian society. Increasingly, the Agency is attempting to go beyond the institutional orientation of this component, and to portray the impacts on Canadians of the activities of the health, education and justice systems.

D. Key Results Commitments, Planned Results and Related Activities

In 1998-99 Statistics Canada defined the quality assurance framework that it uses for managing data quality within its statistical programs. The framework embraces six dimensions of quality (relevance, accuracy, timeliness, accessibility, interpretability and coherence) which formed the basis for reporting on quality in Statistics Canada's Performance Report for the period ending March 1999.

The projects highlighted in the following table under the heading "Planned Results" will be subject to review and reporting according to the framework.

Key Results Commitments, Planned Results and Related Activities

To provide Canadians with:	Planned Results:	Related Activities:	Activities Reported On Page
<p>Objective and non-partisan statistics that provide measures of various aspects of Canada's economy and society which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relevant to policy formulation and decision making; • responsive to emerging issues; • of high quality. <p>And which contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the fulfillment of legal requirements; • informing Canadians about current and emerging economic and social issues; • the maintenance of a national statistical knowledge infrastructure. 	<p>Information to support federal-provincial sales tax harmonization.</p> <p>Information needed to meet policy challenges in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • performance of the Canadian economy and its competitiveness; • the knowledge-based economy; • economic growth; • social cohesion; • human development; • global challenges and opportunities. 	<p>The development of the Project to Improve Provincial Economic Statistics (PIPES).</p> <p>The development of the Survey Research Program in response to information needs to meet policy challenges in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • science and technology; • service industries; • education; • justice; • labour market dynamics; • the environment; • youth; • small business; • international trade and its promotion. <p>The development of the Health Roadmap Initiative.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>25</p>
	<p>The maintenance of a national statistical knowledge infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • controlled respondent burden; • maximum use of administrative data; • use of modern methods & technologies; • skilled & responsive staff. 	<p>Controlling response burden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of the Unified Enterprise Survey; • The development of new administrative data. 	<p>26</p>

The following provides an overview of the major initiatives to be undertaken over the next three years.

1. Project to Improve Provincial Economic Statistics (PIPES)

Statistics Canada launched a large and important project to improve provincial economic statistics during 1996-97. The approved ongoing budget of \$42.9 million per annum was reached in 1998-99.

The project is the outcome of discussions in 1996 between the governments of Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia on sales tax harmonization resulting in the decision to use a revenue allocation formula based on aggregate statistics. To minimize the burden on business, this approach was adopted rather than one that attempts to track every business transaction involving the payment or rebate of sales taxes. It was recognized that for this revenue allocation method to be used, substantial improvements in the quality of provincial economic statistics would be necessary. As a consequence, Statistics Canada is strengthening its provincial economic statistics.

***Improved provincial
economic statistics
triggered by sales tax
harmonization***

Objectives of the Project to Improve Provincial Economic Statistics

In broad terms, the goal is to improve the quality of Canadian provincial economic statistics. This means the development of a tightly integrated and reliable system of provincial economic accounts centered on inter-provincial input-output accounts and income and expenditure accounts, both prepared annually.

The structure of Canada's economy is complex and highly interrelated. Large companies, accounting for over half of total Canadian business sector output, are involved in many provinces and their production and sales transactions frequently cross provincial and territorial boundaries. Small companies are also involved in inter-provincial trade. For this reason, it would not be feasible to confine the improvements to the three affected provinces. The scope of the project must capture production and sales for all provinces as they affect the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) of the three signatory provinces.

Expected Results

From 1997 to 1999, the outputs associated with these improvements were used by federal and provincial finance department officials to prepare preliminary and interim estimates of the Harmonized Sales Tax revenue shares. By the fourth year, 2000, the statistical outputs will have reached a stage of completeness to permit them to be used to produce annual provincial and territorial Input-Output Accounts and Provincial Economic

Accounts. These accounts will, in turn, be used by federal and provincial finance departments to calculate the final revenue shares.

In addition to their role in the HST revenue allocation formula, the new data produced as a result of this initiative will be useful in a variety of other applications ranging from intergovernmental transfer arrangements and regional development policy formulation to business investment, marketing and cost analysis.

Major Accomplishments to date

A set of “pilot” provincial and territorial input-output tables were produced for reference year 1996. The publication of these tables and their integration with Statistics Canada’s existing Provincial Economic Accounts represents a very important milestone in the development of Canada’s statistical system.

Three important household surveys, the Survey of Household Spending, the Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey and the Canadian Travel Survey, have been successfully conducted for reference years 1997 and 1998. Data have also been released for three pilot 1997 Unified Enterprise Surveys which, together, provided a strong proof of concept. In addition, the infrastructure for Statistics Canada’s business statistics program has been expanded and improved in a number of ways, thereby bringing significant quality improvements to a wide range of existing surveys.

2. The Development of the Survey Research Program in response to information needs to meet policy challenges – Data Gaps II

In response to the Policy Research Initiative, issues identified out of this process will be a key focus of Statistics Canada over the next year. The Agency will consolidate, develop and implement, in conjunction with lead departments, a survey research program which will respond to the information demands in the areas of the *knowledge-based economy, economic growth, social cohesion, human development and global challenges and opportunities*.



A short status report is given for each project to indicate the progress towards the stated objectives.

Activities in support of Knowledge-Based Economy and Society information needs

In response to the need for new information on the role of knowledge and higher level skills and their impact on the labour market and among firms, the following programs have been approved:

- Workplace and Employee Survey (WES)

Policy research on workers and the workplace has been incomplete because of two missing elements:

- a lack of basic information on the demand for labour;
- the inability to link such demand side information to the supply side of the labour market, i.e. the inability to link company decisions to impact on workers.

The aim of the Workplace and Employee Survey is to eliminate this data gap through collecting information on the workplace, how it is changing and its impact on workers.

Status report

The initial survey was completed in November 1999. The data will be ready for analysis in early summer 2000. A newsletter will be circulated to respondents coincident with the start of the second survey cycle of WES that will be conducted in April 2000. The full publication for the employer and employee data sets will be available in the Fall of 2000. The WES Steering Committee developed a Research Agenda and presented it to the Advisory Committee in October 1999. The Agenda identifies a number of long term priorities.

Access to WES data is proceeding on several fronts. WES has been included in the plans for Data Research Centres in a number of Canadian universities and other possibilities are being examined.

- Access to and Use of Information Communication Technology

The objective of this project is to measure the extent to which Canadians have access to these technologies, how often they are used, and the purpose of their use. The survey will provide information such as:

- the equipment and communications services to which people currently have access;
- the use made of equipment/services;
- time spent on these activities;
- demographics of users/non-users;
- the factors influencing people's decision not to use this equipment/these services;
- the history/flow of access to computers;
- the impact of technology on people's lives; and
- the adequacy of Canadian content in on-line services.

Status report

The pilot test for this survey was successfully completed in the Fall of 1999 permitting us to continue with the launch of a full survey reading in January 2000.

- An Index of Total Labour Compensation

The purpose of the project is to develop a new labour cost index (LCI). This index will assist policy makers in their assessment of current developments on labour markets – an essential ingredient in implementing stabilization policies. The new series will also permit new or better research on topics such as:

- the role of labour-cost pressures in the inflation process and the business cycle;
- how particular labour markets adjust to changes in the demand and supply of labour;
- the role of non-wage benefits and pay ‘at risk’ in overall compensation and in promoting wage flexibility; and
- the relationship between wage flexibility and employment adjustment.

Status report

The LCI is constructed on the basis of detailed survey data through the use of a model to extrapolate the index. Following consultations, a preliminary model was developed and is presently being tested.

Activities in support of Economic Growth information needs

Economic growth is central to both wealth and job creation, yet many aspects of growth are not clearly understood, particularly in such areas as the determinants of productivity growth and the productivity slowdown, reasons for the strong growth in the U.S. in the 1990s but not in Canada and the association between the environment and growth.

Projects planned to fill data gaps in this domain comprise:

- Science and Technology Redesign Project: Information System for Science and Technology

Science and technology activities are central to the creation of jobs and economic growth, to the improvement of the quality of life and to the advancement of knowledge. Although effective exploitation of science and technology is fundamental to individual and societal well being, many questions relating to this issue could not be answered with the statistical information available a number of years ago.

***Information
system for
science
and
technology***

Objective

The development of an information system for science and technology was launched three years ago to address the information gaps in this area. The project is intended to provide information, in an integrated manner, on three aspects of science and technology in Canada: the basic performance of science and technology, including research, development and innovation, in all sectors of the economy; the economic and social impacts of technological innovation; and the diffusion of technologies and ideas in a knowledge-based economy.

Expected Results

The project aims at developing three sets of measurements under the headings of science and technology, innovation, and diffusion and appropriation. These measurements will serve to provide a coherent picture of the Canadian system of innovation and its relation to the knowledge-based economy.

As a result of this initiative, existing surveys have been improved, new surveys have been conducted and new analytical work undertaken. Activities have focused on:

- industrial research and development;
- federal science and technology activity;
- innovation;
- technology diffusion;
- knowledge flows;
- economic performance.

Status report

To date, these activities have yielded new information on biotechnology such as the federal expenditure on biotechnology (both R&D and related scientific activities), the use and planned use of biotechnology and the characteristics of firms which have biotechnology as their principal activity. The results from the survey of commercialization of intellectual property in universities have been used by the Expert Panel of the Prime Minister's Advisory Committee on Science and Technology and recommendations of the Panel have been incorporated in a second survey. New results on innovation in construction and related industries have also been released.

- Socio-Economic Indicators of "Connectedness"

This project will provide information on what factors influence Canada's ability to achieve its objective to make the knowledge infrastructure accessible to all

Canadians. This project will also serve to determine the use or planned use of information and communication technologies by households and other sectors of the economy and their readiness to engage in electronic commerce. Measuring electronic commerce is a key part of the Project.

Status report

Statistics Canada recognizes the importance of providing information on *electronic commerce* which reflect the changing way Canadians carry out business. The Agency has established a working group to develop a comprehensive approach to dealing with e-commerce measurement.

A cross-economy survey of electronic commerce has been launched as part of an Industry Canada sponsored project to develop socio-economic indicators of 'connectedness'. This survey takes advantage of existing survey infrastructure and a comprehensive picture of Internet-based electronic commerce in 1999 is planned for the first half of the year 2000. Repetition of this fast turnaround survey will provide trend information on how and where electronic commerce is growing in the economy.

As part of the same project, questions on electronic commerce have been added to the 1999 household Internet survey to provide information on the electronic purchases of households using the Internet. Results from this activity are also expected for the first half of the year 2000.

- Environment Statistics Program

The Program's objective is to provide Canadians with consistent, comprehensive and pertinent information with which to study the relationship between the environment and human activities. The mandate is carried out through two main activities:

- integration of environmental information with Statistics Canada's socio-economic data; and
- collection of data on environmental protection directly from businesses, households and governments through several surveys on the production and consumption of environmental goods and services.

Status report

The following activities contribute to the overall program:

- The publication *Human Activity and the Environment 2000 (HAE)* will be released at the beginning of year 2000. HAE is a quinquennial statistical compendium on the human-environment relationship developed for a general audience and for use in the classroom setting.
- A user-friendly integrated database and mapping tool have been developed to facilitate the analysis of integrated environmental, social and economic data.
- Four environmental surveys were successfully conducted. As a result, more comprehensive, detailed and timely information is now available on environmental protection activities (e.g. the use of environmental

technologies), the waste management industry, and businesses that supply environmental goods and services.

- In the area of climate change, the existing Environmental Accounts data on greenhouse gas emissions will be produced for each Canadian province. This information will allow the analysis of various policy options for achieving Canada's commitment to greenhouse gas reduction.
- Three multi-year projects related to the environment were launched: evaluation and testing of the approaches to develop statistics on recycling activities (in collaboration with Natural Resources Canada and Industry Canada); evaluation and testing of the means of assessing and valuing water resources (in collaboration with Environment Canada); and, measurement of the use of innovative advanced technologies in the natural resource industries (in collaboration with Natural Resources Canada).

Activities in support of Social Cohesion information needs

Among the challenges in the area of Social Cohesion are issues related to polarization and Canadian identity. A research framework has been developed and while there is a broad range of information from existing surveys, major information gaps still exist. A multi-faceted strategy is proposed, combining specific initiatives to meet short term data needs and the development of flexible data collection and analysis vehicles to address new questions which emerge from the ongoing research program. Areas to be covered by this initiative are:

- General Social Survey (GSS)

The aim of this project is to redesign and expand the GSS to provide data to support research initiatives, particularly in the areas of social cohesion and human development. In the year 2000, it is proposed to conduct the survey on Access to and Use of Information Communication Technology which also provides linkage to Knowledge-Based Economy and Society information.

Status report

Over the past year, efforts have concentrated on program redesign and expansion. A survey on crime and victimization has been carried out. Plans call for a survey on *Families, Social Support and Caregiving* in the year 2001, and a number of potential new topics related to *Aging, Volunteering, Giving and Participation* and *Time Use* in future years.

- Hate Crime and Other Diversity Issues in the Justice System

Hate-motivated crime and the perceived inequality of treatment of different groups by the justice system can polarize society along racial or ethnic lines. Hate-motivated crime has been identified as a major information gap. This project will provide information to support the development of effective policy in response to the social and economic impacts of hate-motivated activity.

Status report

Work has been undertaken to examine available data sources within Statistics Canada that describe the diversity of Canadians, as well as the experiences of various population groups as victims, offenders and employees in the justice system. Work in subsequent years will focus on testing data collection methods and establishing ongoing data collection mechanisms.

- Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada

The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada is designed to improve our understanding of how immigrants adjust to life in Canada. The survey will interview the same respondent at three points in time after arriving in Canada: six months (Wave 1), two years (Wave 2) and four years (Wave 3). This design will facilitate detailed analysis of the factors influencing changes in the life of the immigrants over time. The study will focus only on issues related to short-term adjustments and integration. The results of this survey will guide the determination of which services are most effective in helping newcomers settle into Canadian society and will provide information on how new immigrants use the resources available to them. The target population of the survey is permanent residents 15 years of age and older arriving from outside Canada over a specified period of time. The primary unit of analysis for the survey is the individual immigrant, not the family.

Status report

Consultations with provincial and federal government representatives began in November 1999. Interviews for this survey are scheduled to begin in October 2000 and will be conducted in 15 languages, including English and French. As this is a longitudinal survey, project plans provide for three survey waves to be conducted over time. A feasibility study is currently underway to determine the best methodology for locating survey respondents. The questionnaire content and development is nearing completion and preliminary specifications for the collection of information have been developed.

Activities in support of Human Development information needs

Human Development covers numerous aspects of the human experience: childhood, work, learning, aging, caring for others and participation in the community. The following statistical projects are proposed to meet the needs identified as gaps by the Human Development Network initiative over the first several years of its research agenda.

- Post-Secondary Transition Surveys

The Post-Secondary Transition Survey will provide information to better understand factors affecting the transition of Canada's young people in moving between post-secondary education and the world of work. This will help in the

development of youth policies and programs to achieve successful transitions into the labour market. Results will also identify concerns about social integration and social disenfranchisement. The survey will reveal if there are major inefficiencies in the early stages of post-secondary education, and if “leavers” might benefit from alternative educational pathways. Information is critically needed to assess the magnitude of persons leaving the country upon graduation in order to understand the factors involved and to develop policies on the issue of the “brain-drain” - a growing policy concern relating to Canada’s competitiveness in the global economy.

Status report

Over the last year, activities concentrated on the development of the 2001 National Graduates Survey which aims at tracking individuals who graduated in 1999. In this same light, preparations are well advanced on the follow-up survey of the 1995 graduates which will be held in the year 2000. A discussion paper is being analyzed to determine options for the conduct of surveys of selected post-secondary non-completers.

- Life Skills Survey

As Canada’s economy and society change to become more knowledge-based, Canadians will face a new set of transition and adjustment challenges. The purpose of the International Life Skills Survey (ILSS) is to directly assess, via cognitive measures, the performance of adults aged 16 to 65 in the skill domains of *prose literacy*, *document literacy*, *numeracy*, and *problem solving*. The results will establish the level of skills among Canada’s working age population and will enable international comparisons. The project will be developed jointly with the OECD, thereby permitting the design and calibration of a series of generic tests to measure the aforementioned skills.

Status report

On the international component of this project, the survey questions as well as the questionnaire design are proceeding on target, and it is expected that they will be completed by June 2000. At the national level, 16 countries, including Canada, are drafting national planning reports that outline the nature and extent of their proposed participation in the study. These reports will be reviewed by Statistics Canada to ensure compliance to design specifications by June 2000. A pilot survey is scheduled for the first quarter of 2001.

- Changing Life Paths and Time Allocation

One of the major gaps in federal policy research identified by the federal Policy Research Initiative (PRI) concerns the life path and time allocation patterns of Canadians, how these patterns have been changing and what the impacts of these changes are. In particular, the PRI noted that “The way Canadians allocate their time to key life activities affects current and future production, the quality of care provided to children, the quality of life of individuals and families and the strength of local communities. The consequences of family ‘time crunch’ and the

changing nature of the world of work need to be monitored and better understood. More needs to be known about family preferences in balancing work, learning, leisure and caring activities.”

Status report

The “LifePaths” project will address these gaps in our knowledge and understanding by:

- applying new analytical methods to integrate both existing and new data to provide a better description of trends;
- undertaking new research to shed light on the reasons why various changes are occurring; and
- developing a simulation and projection methodology to allow for different scenarios with respect to life path and time allocation patterns.

This coming year, the main outputs of the LifePaths component are analytical reports plus a software framework (i.e. a systematic set of empirically derived statistical relationships plus simulation capacity). This software framework, the LifePaths model, will be documented and made generally available to interested users.

This coming year, the main activities will be to upgrade core components of the model (e.g. labour market dynamics), and to focus on the activity patterns of very young children.

- Information on Aging

The growth in the number of seniors over the next several decades raises issues related to the effect they will have on health care, pensions and the labour force. Although most household surveys provide some information relevant to issues of an aging population, the Aging and Independence Survey conducted in 1991 was the last survey entirely focussed on such issues.

Status report

Consultations are currently being carried out to assess data needs related to Canada’s aging population. Alternatives that are currently being evaluated for providing data would include using, and perhaps extending, existing surveys; repeating the Aging and Independence Survey; or developing a new survey to meet the emerging needs.

Research on the best vehicle for conducting such a survey is continuing with a view to co-ordinating and optimizing the collection of seniors’ data.

- Survey of Financial Security

The Survey of Financial Security will provide information on the net worth of Canadians, that is, the value of our assets less our debts. In particular, this project will enable a better understanding of:

- the types of assets and debts held by Canadian individuals and families;
- the manner in which wealth is distributed among the Canadian population;
- the profile of Canadians holding different types of assets and debts;
- the changes in asset and debt holdings over the life-cycle;
- future consumption capabilities of Canadians and their potential financial vulnerability, particularly if facing unforeseen events such as a reduction in income;
- the extent to which individuals' current assets will provide them with an income in retirement;
- the relationship between income and wealth;
- the extent to which assets are being, or could be, transferred from one generation to the next; and
- the impact of student loans on students and their families.

Status report

The survey was conducted from May to July of 1999. The information collected is presently being processed and the first of many data releases is scheduled for September 2000.

- Enhanced Student Information System (ESIS)

The project consists of establishing a national database of individual student records at all levels of education, kindergarten through post-secondary, public and private. Such information will provide for the analysis of student mobility and pathways over time, from one level of education to another, across institutions and jurisdictions as well as more in depth analysis of factors associated with education and labour market outcomes.

Status report

Over the last year, activities concentrated on ensuring that post-secondary students were entered on the national data base. The goal is to have 90% of all post-secondary students entered on the database by January 2001. This will permit the sample for the 2001 Survey of 1999 Graduates to be drawn from the ESIS files.

Activities in support of Global Challenges and Opportunities information needs

The projects which fall under this heading are of a more global nature and thus are not readily classifiable in any of the preceding headings:

- International Merchandise Trade Data Reconciliation and Improvement

Two factors in the development of Canada's trade policy that require a better understanding are reconciliations with major trading partners and the characteristics of our exporting community. Mutually-agreed trade data are a prerequisite for trade negotiations. This project will consist of reconciling, with Canada's major trading partners, the bilateral trade flows on an annual basis. In addition, a population of exporters will be developed and maintained over time.

This will allow analysis, over time, of our exporters; who they are, where and what do they export. Such information is a key component to monitor and focus trade promotion activities.

Status report

In the past year, reconciliation work was undertaken with Mexico (jointly with the U.S.) and the European Union. Individual commodities were also analyzed. In the case of Mexico, preliminary results were simultaneously released in the three NAFTA countries at the end of 1999.

Results for the 1993 to 1997 period on the exporting community will be released next year. The stakeholders have contributed towards the development of an exporter register. In this coming year, work will begin on the establishment of an on-going program to maintain the currency of the register and a demographic analysis of our exporters will be undertaken.

3. *The Development of the Health Roadmap Initiative*

The Health Roadmap Initiative is a collaborative effort between the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), Statistics Canada, Health Canada and a number of groups within the health community. The outcome of this initiative aims to:

- better track information on major current and emerging health issues;
- address problems of fragmented or incomplete data;
- improve the analysis of health information being captured; and
- more broadly disseminate health information to realize its potential for improving the health of Canadians and their health care system.

Expected results

It is expected that this initiative will contribute to the establishment of new databases or the expansion of existing information to better understand emerging issues in health care. The project will also result in better data and technical standards for gathering information and ensuring privacy as well as obtaining consensus on the indicators and determinants of good health. Such an undertaking will involve collaborative efforts with key stakeholders at the local, regional, provincial/territorial and national levels.

Projects include:

- the development of person-oriented datasets which integrate health care data with information on health status and the outcomes of medical treatment;
- the implementation of the Canadian Community Health Survey which will provide cross-sectional estimates of health determinants, health status and health system utilization in community health regions across Canada;

- the enhancement of the Canadian Cancer Registry to accept additional data (diagnoses, medical, surgical and therapeutic interventions, as well as associated costs and outcomes) to support analysis of survival; and
- the further development of Vital Statistics to improve the accuracy, timeliness and quality of the data and enhance the capability to use birth and mortality data in the development of health outcome information.

More information on these projects as well as on others can be found in the “Roadmap Initiative” publication released by the Health Statistics Division of Statistics Canada.

4. Controlling Response Burden

Statistics Canada is continuously mindful that its demands for information result in the expenditure of time and effort on the part of respondents. The following initiatives are examples of the Agency’s efforts to control the burden it places on respondents through the use of alternative means of data collection.

The development of the Unified Enterprise Survey

Statistics Canada is redesigning its entire framework for conducting business surveys. To avoid duplication of survey activities, most annual business surveys will be integrated into a single master survey program called the Unified Enterprise Survey (UES). Moreover, the UES will collect more industry and commodity detail at the provincial level than was previously possible and will avoid overlap between different survey questionnaires.

The three core objectives of the UES are:

- methodologies and procedures must be highly sensitive to the burden they impose on respondents, small and large;
- business statistics must have good quality, and that quality must be roughly equal for each province and territory; and
- statistical coverage must be broadly comprehensive, in terms of industries and commodities.

The UES is closely related to the Project to Improve Provincial Economic Statistics (PIPES) that was discussed earlier in this section. The last two of the objectives mentioned above are discussed in the PIPES description. The first objective, dealing with the response burden issue, is the focus here.

Status report

In the area of response burden the Agency will monitor and limit the amount of survey burden it places on businesses, especially the smallest businesses, and make it as simple, as flexible and as low-cost as possible for businesses to provide the information that is required.

To further ensure that the reporting burden of UES questionnaires is as low as possible, a working group is reviewing business survey strategies. This working group is currently addressing such issues as reviewing survey questionnaires to eliminate any duplicate or low priority questions, finding means of further using alternative information sources (see Development of new administrative data, below), and ensuring that questionnaires are using terminology and concepts that are consistent with the way businesses keep their books. Other working group activities focus on reviewing sampling and estimation procedures in business surveys aiming to apply improved statistical techniques in managing and limiting the reporting burden of business surveys.

The development of new administrative data

Another way to ease response burden is to use administrative data that have already been compiled from other sources. Often, these data come from other federal agencies or departments, or other levels of government, who must gather the information for their own program requirements.

Status report

Statistics Canada is aggressively pursuing new sources of administrative data and is being proactive in establishing agreements to share such information in an effort to offset the need to conduct more surveys. Some sources, such as the Generalized Index of Financial Information (GIFI) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST) file have been identified, analyzed and will be integrated in the statistical system. The new Customs Blueprint offers a potential source for trade, transportation and travel statistics. The Agency plans to analyze this source in the coming year. In future years, Statistics Canada will continue to search for administrative sources to fill its information needs.

5. Other Business Line Initiatives

- ***Census of Agriculture***

The content for the 2001 Census of Agriculture is ready for approval. The timing of this approval will allow the printing of the questionnaires as well as the development of the processing systems, manuals and procedures to begin. The processing system will include a new automated mapping system to assist in identifying the location of farming operations.

The 1996 Census of Agriculture developed a digital imaging, storage and retrieval system for completed questionnaires. In the coming year, testing will be done to determine the feasibility of augmenting this system with an Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) data capture system.

The 1996 Census output program was completed in December of 1999 with the release of the flagship publication, Canadian Agriculture at a Glance. This

publication is a compendium of articles outlining current issues concerning farm operators and their families as well as the industry as a whole. A Teachers' Kit will be developed in conjunction with the publication to facilitate the usefulness in the education sector, the prime market.

- ***Aboriginal Peoples' Survey***

In December 1997, approval was obtained for the Government's response to the final Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples: Canada's National Aboriginal Strategy, and incremental funding was provided for in the February, 1998 budget. As a partner in this initiative, Statistics Canada will be conducting an Aboriginal Peoples' Survey and creating a statistical training program for 30 to 40 Aboriginal people per year. Gathering Strength – Canada's Aboriginal Action Plan is an initiative that has an approved four-year horizon, from 1998-99 through 2001-02.

- ***Justice***

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) will continue to ensure that its products and activities are responsive to the evolving needs of its partners in the "National Justice Statistics Initiative" and the broader user community through:

- regular contacts with members of the Initiative and other data users;
- participation in meetings of justice-related committees and organizations (e.g. federal-provincial-territorial committees, interdepartmental working groups); and
- scheduled review and revision of survey operations, data content and output products and services.

A review and revision of the Initiative's strategic plan, conducted every three to five years, will be completed in 2000-01. Extensive consultation will have been conducted with members of the Initiative. A key addition to this strategic plan will be performance measures to assess the extent to which the objectives of the Initiative are met.

As funding allows, special projects are undertaken to respond to emerging data needs and to explore possibilities for new data collection. Topics expected to be of ongoing interest include recidivism, alternatives to incarceration, youth justice, and maintenance of enforcement programs.

With funding from Justice Canada, over a five-year period, critical support to the implementation of the new Youth Criminal Justice Act will be provided.

Activities this year in support of the Federal Family Violence Initiative include: modules on spousal assault and senior abuse added to the 1999 General Social Survey on Victimization; a national survey of transition homes; and, an annual publication designed to monitor trends in the nature and extent of family violence in Canada.

- ***Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics***

The Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics (CISS) is a co-operative project of Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada possesses comprehensive data sets that provide the country with an excellent statistical base of information on critical social and socio-economic issues. These include, among others, an exploration of the factors that determine child development, survey results that shed light on the accumulating pension rights of Canadians, the impact of competitive business practices on employees, the factors that determine the health of Canadians, and the incidence of crime and its impact on victims and society. The three key objectives of this project are:

- promote research and training that make extensive use of social statistics;
- facilitate access to Statistics Canada's detailed micro-data (but where confidentiality will be maintained in accord with the Statistics Act) through the implementation of data centres across Canada; and
- maximize the research and public policy interface.

- ***Future of the Canadian Financial Services Sector***

Following the recommendations of the Task Force on the Future of the Canadian Financial Services Sector (Mackay Task Force), Statistics Canada was asked to undertake surveys to provide:

- new data relating to the "supply" or availability of all forms of finance, including debt and equity, for small businesses and businesses in the knowledge-based industries; and
- data relating to the sources of financing and borrower satisfaction with the availability thereof.

Census of Population Business Line

A. Net Planned Spending² (\$millions) and Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)

Forecast Spending 1999-2000 ¹	Planned Spending 2000-2001	Planned Spending 2001-2002	Planned Spending 2002-2003
\$36.6	\$121.9	\$203.4	\$37.9
718 FTE	1,095 FTE	1,320 FTE	613 FTE

¹ Reflects the best forecast of planned spending to the end of the fiscal year.

² The Census, by law (the Statistics Act), must be taken every five years. The decennial Census of Population is required by the Constitution as well as by the Statistics Act in every year ending in the number one, such as 2001. An entire cycle of activities for the Censuses of Population, from developing content and questionnaires to collecting, processing, and disseminating data, takes eight years to complete. Thus, the census cycles and funding requirements overlap each other, the completion of one census program taking place simultaneously with the development and consultation activities of the next.

B. Objective

The objective of this business line is to provide statistical information on the Canadian population, its demographic characteristics and conditions, and their changes over time.

C. Description

This business line provides statistical information from the quinquennial Census of Population. The Census provides benchmark information on the structure of the Canadian population and its demographic, social and economic conditions. It provides the detailed information on subgroups of the population and for small geographic areas, which cannot be generated through sample surveys. Estimates of the size of the population and its demographic structure between Censuses, as well as population projections, are dependent on Census information.

Population counts and estimates are required to determine electoral boundaries, the distribution of federal transfer payments, and the transfer and allocation of funds among regional and municipal governments, school boards and other local agencies within provinces.

Population Counts to determine:

- ***electoral boundaries***
- ***transfer payments***
- ***municipal allocation of funds***

D. Key Results Commitments, Planned Results and Related Activities

To provide Canadians with:	Planned Results:	Related Activities:	Activities Reported On Page
<p>Objective and non-partisan statistics that provide measures of various aspects of Canada's economy and society which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relevant to policy formulation and decision making; • responsive to emerging issues; • of high quality. <p>And which contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the fulfillment of legal requirements; • informing Canadians about current and emerging economic and social issues; • the maintenance of a national statistical knowledge infrastructure. 	<p>Demographic information on Canada's population.</p>	<p>Planning, consultation and preparation for the 2001 census.</p> <p>Initial Planning for the 2006 census.</p>	<p>32</p> <p>32</p>

2001 Census

The content for the 2001 Census of Population questionnaire is ready for approval. Over the next year, the agency will conduct the final preparations leading up to the Census day, May 14, 2001. These preparations focus mainly on the following activities in 2000-01:

- production of all 2001 Census collection and processing systems and materials, including questionnaire packages and maps;
- middle-level field staff will be hired and trained, and space will be acquired for regional activities;
- the 2001 Census products and services line will be determined based on the evaluation of the 1996 Census experience;
- the definition of market sector profiles, as well as the establishment of pricing strategy for products and services; and
- the recruitment and training of collection staff will be completed in time for census day.

Starting in the spring of 2002 the first results from the census will be published. The release of census information takes place over a period of three years beginning with the first release in April 2002.

2006 Census

Developmental activities for the 2006 Census of Population will begin in 2002. It is expected that research will center around collection and processing methodologies and the development of work plans.

SECTION IV: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Table 4.1:

Statistics Canada

Source of Respendable and Non-respendable Revenue

Respendable Revenue

(\$ millions)	Forecast Revenue 1999-2000	Planned Revenue 2000-2001	Planned Revenue 2001-2002	Planned Revenue 2002-2003
Economic and Social Statistics	58.5	75.6	55.9	55.9
Census of Population Statistics	15.5	12.3	13.3	13.3
Total Respendable	74.0	87.9	69.2	69.2

Non-respendable Revenue

(\$ millions)	Forecast Revenue 1999-2000	Planned Revenue 2000-2001	Planned Revenue 2001-2002	Planned Revenue 2002-2003
Economic and Social Statistics Special statistical services	0.8	2.5	0.8	0.8
Total Non-respendable Revenue	0.8	2.5	0.8	0.8
Total Respendable and Non-respendable Revenue	74.8	90.4	70.0	70.0

Table 4.2.**Statistics Canada****Net Cost of Program for the Estimates Year**

(\$ millions)	Planned Spending 2000-2001
Net Planned Spending	434.6
Plus: Services Received without Charge	
• Accommodation provided by Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)	22.1
• Contributions covering employers' share of insurance premiums and costs paid by Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS)	16.8
• Workman's compensation coverage provided by Human Resources Development Canada	0.3
• Salary and associated costs of legal services provided by Justice Canada	0.1
	39.3
<i>Less: Non-responsible Revenue</i>	2.5
2000-2001 Net Cost of Program	471.4

SECTION V: OTHER INFORMATION

A. Legislated Requirements

In addition to the Statistics Act, the following Federal Acts give the Chief Statistician or Statistics Canada responsibility for the collection or provision of specific information:

Banks and Banking Law Revision Act, 1980
Canada Council Act
Canada Elections Act
Canada Pension Plan Act
Canada Student Loans Act
Children's of Deceased Veterans Education Assistance Act
Children's Special Allowances Act
Competition Act
Constitution Act
Corporations Returns Act
Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act
Excise Tax Act
Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health Contributions Act, 1977
Employment Equity Act
Income Tax Act
Judges Act
Municipal Grants Act
Official Languages Act
Old Age Security Act
Pension Act
Parliament of Canada Act
Railway Relocation and Crossing Act
Salaries Act
Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act

B. Relevance, Stakeholders and Uses

B.1 Relevance

Statistics Canada relies on many ongoing mechanisms which contribute to the assessment of the Agency's overall program. Given their nature and the breadth of their review, the impact of the advice received in the course of time affects virtually all Statistics Canada's programs. Consultation and advice is provided by the following mechanisms.

The National Statistics Council

The National Statistics Council advises the Chief Statistician of Canada on the full range of Statistics Canada's activities, particularly on overall program priorities.

Professional Advisory Committees

A network of Professional Advisory Committees in major subject areas ensures the continuous review of the Agency's statistical outputs and helps set priorities and foster program relevance.

***Ensuring
relevance
through
consultation***

Bilateral Relationships with Key Federal Departments

Statistics Canada maintains, on a continuing basis, a close bilateral relationship with key federal departments and agencies, including Industry, Health, Human Resources Development, Environment, Agriculture and Agri-Food, Transport, the Canadian Transportation Agency, Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, Heritage, Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation, Citizenship and Immigration and Justice. These bilateral relationships foster an awareness of each department's needs and their information priorities.

Federal-Provincial-Territorial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy (and its subcommittees)

This Council and its subcommittees comprise a network of 13 provincial/territorial official representatives, who collaborate with Statistics Canada to determine data requirements, consult on current statistical activities and coordinate the dissemination of Statistics Canada products to provincial and territorial governments.

In the last instance, three special initiatives in the areas of health, education and justice statistics warrant mention.

Health: Statistics Canada priorities are developed with the assistance of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Institute for Health Information. The Board comprises senior federal, provincial and private sector representatives including the Chief Statistician.

Education: the Canadian Education Statistics Council is a joint creation of Statistics Canada and the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada. The Council, comprising the Chief Statistician and Provincial/Territorial Deputy

Ministers of Education, advises the Chief Statistician on the Education Statistics Program at Statistics Canada.

Justice: The Justice Information Council comprises federal and provincial Deputy Ministers responsible for justice policies and programs and the Chief Statistician, and provides advice to the Chief Statistician on the Justice Statistics Program at the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics within Statistics Canada.

In addition to these consultation mechanisms, the Agency conducts special program reviews (featuring focus groups or special consultations during program re-designs) to monitor the continued relevance of its products and to enhance its understanding of client needs.

B.2 Stakeholders and Uses

Stakeholders : The operations and priorities of Statistics Canada must satisfy a very broad range of interests – key federal and provincial users, a multiplicity of other users, respondents, and other agencies whose administrative data are a major information source. The Agency’s specific stakeholders include the following groups.

- **Public and Media:** Statistics Canada’s basic information on Canadian society – economic growth, employment, inflation, balance of payments, population, family income, health, education, justice, and a host of other subjects – is communicated to the public largely through the media.
- **Government:** Most federal departments and agencies are major users of Statistics Canada data and several are also important suppliers of administrative data to the Agency. Intensive bilateral arrangements are in place to ensure an effective flow of information. Provincial and territorial governments, like the federal government, are heavily dependent on Statistics Canada data over the entire range of subjects covered by the Agency; they are also major suppliers of data on health, education and justice.
- **Businesses and Labour Unions:** Businesses and labour unions are important sources and users of the Agency’s information. The burden of surveys on the business community continues to be an important factor in the design of statistical programs. A multiplicity of communication channels is maintained with this sector, including close collaboration with small businesses.
- **Academic Sector:** For both research and pedagogical purposes, the academic sector is a significant user of Statistics Canada data and is also a prime source of advice to the Agency.
- **Foreign and International Bodies:** Statistics Canada maintains extensive contacts with international, scientific and intergovernmental organizations, to share professional expertise and to promote common concepts, standards and practices. Canada’s membership in international organizations, such as the United Nations and

the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, requires that the program's outputs meet international standards to ensure that Canadian data continues to be comparable with those of other countries.

- **Other client groups:** There are many other users of Statistics Canada's data whose interests have to be borne in mind; for example, regional and local governments, public libraries, professional associations, research institutes and special interest groups.

Uses: The relevance of the Agency's statistical information to stakeholders is demonstrated by the uses made of it. Information is used to:

- **analyze** economic performance;
- **develop** fiscal, monetary, and foreign exchange policies;
- **shape** international tariffs and trade negotiations;
- **develop** policies and programs to assist small businesses;
- **support** policy development and evaluate government programs on economic and social well-being;
- **improve** allocation of government program funding by determining their social and economic effects;
- **support** the regulatory and legislative requirements of government;
- **draw** electoral boundaries;
- **determine** equalization payments and other federal-provincial fiscal transfers;
- **adjust** inflation-indexed contracts and entitlements;
- **develop** programs to promote domestic and international competitiveness;
- **support** immigration policies and programs;
- **support** tourism strategies and programs;
- **assess** the cost-effectiveness of health care and education programs; and
- **monitor** the justice system's effectiveness and efficiency.

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