

013197  
Presented by JIS  
4/6/69

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

The Department of Statistics was set up in 1946 under the Statistics Law, Cap. 368 to provide a comprehensive statistical service to assist Government in framing economic, financial and social policy.

2. Although some Ministries, Government Departments and Organizations, compile statistics relating to their particular responsibilities the Department of Statistics is the central Government agency engaged in the increasing work of collecting, collating and analysing data on various aspects of the economy.

Statistics relating to finance, foreign trade, incomes, prices, employment, production and population are to be found in the Department's regular monthly, quarterly and annual publications as well as in its Reports on special surveys.

Organisation and Staff

3. The permanent establishment during 1966/67 consisted of a staff of 87, including a Director, a Deputy Director and 2 Assistant Directors.

The Department falls into three principal divisions dealing with -

- (a) Demographic, Social and Basic Statistics - (Demographic Social and Labour Statistics, Agriculture, Industrial Production, Trade etc.)
- (b) Economic Statistics - (National Income, Balance of Payments Financial Statistics, Retail Price Indices etc.)
- (c) General Services - (Sampling & Survey Design, Data Processing Field Staff, Administration).

Surveys

4. One of the most important developments of the year under review, has been the preparatory work concerned with the establishment of machinery for a permanent Continuous Social and Demographic Survey. Data collection will be much more efficient using a permanent sample and a permanent cadre of interviewers. The design has already been prepared and drawn. Emphasis will be placed on two Surveys during the first year - one on Labour Force and the other on Housing Conditions. A running survey of Health Centres is also tentatively projected to start in early 1968.

5. Extensive field work was associated with the following surveys -

- (a) The field work of a Labour Force Survey which was commenced in 1966, has been completed and tabulation of the results is now underway.
- (b) A survey of Industrial Cost, Output and Investment which has so far collected data from over 500 establishments entered its final stages;
- (c) A Tourist Expenditure Survey, based on interviews of tourists on their departure was conducted. This is expected to be continued on a regular basis.

6. Preparatory work has begun for an Agricultural Census in 1968, in connection with the FAO World Census on Agriculture. The main aims of the project are to -

- (a) determine the structure of the agricultural sector;
- /and ...

and

- (b) provide a framework from which any number and type of sample survey directed to investigating economic administration and the productive pattern of farms can be carried out.

#### General

7. The review of Trade Statistics for the years 1963 to 1966 has commenced and special attention is being paid to Export values and prices.

New Consumer Price Indices for urban and rural areas, based on the results of a recent Household Expenditure Survey, have been developed. The publication will include all the definitions used and show the derivation of the weights.

Information has been collected and descriptions of occupations finalised for a publication on Wage Indices.

#### Data Processing and Printing Service

8. The Department of Statistics has taken advantage of the facilities offered by the use of the Electronic Computer at the Department of Supply. Consequently, the editing stage of the Trade Statistics has been computerised and programmes will be prepared for the tabulation stage at an early date. Mark-sensing, which was used for the first time in Jamaica on the 1960 Census, has been re-introduced in the transference of data on the Labour Force Survey.

Due to the lack of proper printing facilities considerable delays are being experienced in the issuing of the increasing number of publications. In order to cope with the situation certain jobs had to be given out to private printers. The Government Printer continues to print the annual Trade Report and the annual Abstract of Statistics and assists with the binding and trimming of several other publications.

#### Publications

9. A schedule of the publications issued by the Department during the year under review, and of other publications available, is set out in Appendix I to this Ministry Paper.

Appendix I.

A list of forthcoming publications to be issued during 1967/68 is included in Appendix II.

Appendix II.

#### Conclusion

10. The public has shown an increasing awareness of the virtue of statistics resulting in substantial increase in the demand for statistical data. The Department has to be endeavouring to keep up to schedule with its regular monthly and quarterly publications of trade and monetary data, price indices and wages and employment information.

Edward Seaga  
Minister of Development and Welfare,  
9th May, 1967.

APPENDIX I

Schedule of Publications

Department of Statistics

(A) Publication for Year Ended 31st March, 1967

(a) Monthly

- (i) Trade Bulletins, (December 65 - December 66)
- (ii) Retail Price Indices, (Kingston Metropolitan area) (to February 67)
- (iii) Retail Price Indices (Rural) (to Feb. 67)

(b) Quarterly

- (i) Abstract of Statistics (to June 66)
- (ii) Monetary Statistics (to September 66)

(c) Annual

- (i) Wage Rates - 1965
- (ii) Provisional National Income Estimates for '64
- (iii) Preliminary National Income Estimate for 1965
- (iv) Trade Report 1964
- (v) Trade Report 1965
- (vi) Employment of Earnings in Large Establishments 1963/64

(d) General

- (i) Survey of Agriculture 1961/62 (Final Report)
- (ii) Household Expenditure Survey 1964
- (iii) Industrial Classification of Economic Activities
- (iv) Classification of Occupation

(e) Reports on 1960 Population Census of Jamaica, Leeward Island and British Honduras

- (i) Volume II Part F - 1960 Population Census of Jamaica
- (ii) Volume II Part H - 1960 Population Census of Jamaica
- (iii) Census of Monserrat 1960
- (iv) Census of St. Kitts-Nevis 1960
- (v) Census of Cayman Islands 1960

(B) Other Publications Available

(a) Annual

- (i) Trade Bulletin
- (ii) Abstract of Statistics

/(b) ...

(b) General

(i) Industrial Activity 1960  
(Mining, Manufacture and Construction)

(ii) "Framework for Revising the National Accounts  
of Jamaica" by Dexter L. Rose.

(c) Reports on 1960 Population Census of Jamaica  
Leeward Islands and British Honduras

(i) Volume I in Parts - A, B, C and D

(ii) Volume II in Parts A to J

(iii) Organization and Contents of the 1960  
Population Census Report.

Forthcoming Publications

(After May, 1967)

Department of Statistics

- (A) Monthly
- (i) Trade Bulletins from January 1967 to February 1968
  - (ii) Retail Price Indices up to February 1968
- (B) Quarterly
- (i) Abstract of Statistics up to quarter ending December 1967
  - (ii) Monetary Statistics up to quarter ending September 1967
- (C) Annual
- (i) Wage Rates 1966
  - (ii) Preliminary National Income Estimates for 1966
  - (iii) National Income Report for 1965 and 1966
  - (iv) Annual Abstracts of Statistics - 1966
  - (v) Employment and Earnings - 1965 and 1966
  - (vi) Annual Abstract of Statistics - 1967.
- (D) General
- (i) Report on International Passengers 1962 to 1964
  - (ii) Characteristics of International Passengers - 1965 & 1966
  - (iii) Population of Jamaica in Numbers (Kalman Tekse)
  - (iv) Report on Internal Migration (Kalman Tekse)
  - (v) Report on Mortality in Jamaica, 1956 to 1961
  - (vi) C.S.D.S. - Labour Force Survey 1967 Report
  - (vii) C.S.D.S. - Report on Housing Conditions 1967.
- (E) Reports on 1960 Population Census of Jamaica, Leeward Islands and British Honduras.
- (i) Volume II Part A - 1960 Population Census of Jamaica  
(Approximately 900 pages (5th and 6th volumes))
  - (ii) Volume II Part D - 1960 Population Census of Jamaica (approximately 900 pages (9th and 10th volumes))
  - (iii) Census of Antigua 1960.
  - (iv) Census of Jamaica 1960: Report on Labour Force
  - (v) Census of Jamaica 1960: Report on Female Population
  - (vi) Census of Jamaica 1960: Report on Households and Housing.