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Produced by:

The **NWT Labour** Market Information Committee
A Partnership between the Federal and Territorial Governments

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INTRODUCTION

The **Labour** Market Information Committee was formed to develop and provide **Labour** Market Information for **program** managers and planners for more effective management of the **labour** market in the **NWT**.

Quite often managers and planners are not aware of the **labour** market information available to them and how to access it. One of the primary mandates of the **Labour** Market Information Committee is to consolidate and share existing **Labour** Market Information amongst partners. To this end, the Committee has prepared this package of available sources of **labour** market information and a contact individual in the Departments.

The **Labour** Market Committee is composed of permanent representatives from the Government of the Northwest Territories (**GNWT**) and the Government of Canada. Participating **GNWT** Departments include: Education, Culture and Employment; Economic Development and Tourism; Social Services; and, the **NWT** Bureau of Statistics. Participating Federal Departments include: Human Resources Development (formerly Employment and Immigration Canada); and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

WHAT IS LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION?

Economists define the **labour** market as *the marketplace through which the price and allocation of labour is established*. They refer to any information about the supply and demand for **labour** as *labour market information*. To managers and career planners, **labour** market information is any information related to the world of work that can be used in career and **program** decision-making processes. It includes:

- *Economic Trend Information:* factors affecting specific industries that may cause them to be shrinking or expanding, and therefore influencing job openings within these industries.
- *Occupational Trend Information:* how the world of work is **structured** and how occupations are related to one another.
- *Job Market Information:* job openings in the **geographic** area of interest.
- *Demographic Information:* the characteristics of the population and how they influence the supply and demand for **labour**.
- *Social Trend Information:* how shifting social attitudes and practices may affect the kinds and numbers of jobs available, as well as the kind of competition in the **labour** market.
- *Educational Trend Information:* the kind and quality of training and education opportunities available for specific occupational qualifications.

Labour market information helps to present a clear picture of current and future employment prospects.

HOW CAN THE INFORMATION BE USED?

Labour market information is used for planning and decision making on **programs** and services whose objectives are to influence the **labour** market.

When used for planning purposes, **labour** market information reveals the opportunities for **labour** market **programs** of the Government of Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories, Regional and Community based Organizations. **Planning** should lead to conclusions regarding allocation of resources for many of the services we provide by revealing whether programs respond to **labour** market opportunities and other goals of the governments.

A distinction necessary for planning concerns whether goals are *system driven* or *learner/client driven*. Some programs and services have clearly stated **labour** market related goals while others depend on individual goals such as counseling and Adult Basic Education. In the case of individuals' goals, some will be related to the **labour** market and some will not.

Labour market planning considers the education and training needs of the population, from a **labour** market perspective. To plan, it is necessary to make assumptions about needs, but in our programs, it is *necessary to allow individuals control over the decision making process for their own careers*.

Labour market planning is general and NOT precise even though it may be based on very detailed analysis. This is necessary for two reasons:

- We will never be able to absolutely predict either human **behaviour** or economic **behaviour**.
- Programs and services must allow for individual and community decision making initiative.

We hope that the following manual will help you to access valuable **labour** market tools. Similarly, we hope that you will approach the Departmental contacts for any explanations about the listed information. Also ask questions that you may have about **labour** market issues not addressed here - we will do our best to answer them.

DEPARTMENTAL CONTACTS

Direct your information requests or questions about this document to the following individuals:

Education, Culture **and** Employment
Labour Market Analyst
(403) 920-6203

NWT Bureau of Statistics
Survey Statistician
(403) 873-7653

Social Services
Director, Family Support Services
(403) 920-8921

Human Resources Development (formerly **CEIC**)
LMI Analyst
(403) 920-8479
Manager
Labour Market Adjustment
(403) 920-8449

Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Non-Renewable Resources Economist
(403) 920-8196

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT

PUBLICATIONS

Component of the **NWT Labour** Market - An Analysis

This series was started in 1990 in response to the demand from program **planners** for **labour** market information. The documents are between 15-25 pages in length and analyze components of the **NWT labour** market.

Currently the format is being amended.

The following documents were developed:

- *Literacy*
- *Youth*
- *Demographics*
- *Socio-Economic Context of Schooling*
- *Nunavut Labour Market*

Occupational Profiles

NWT specific occupational profiles. The **profiles** outline entry requirements, remuneration, contacts for employment and career paths. The oil & gas industry, mining industry, education and health have been completed.

DATABASES

Student Records System

The Student Records System tracks primary and secondary school students in the **NWT**. Information has been maintained and updated annually since 1971.

The System covers:

- number of enrollments
- graduation records
- secondary school course completions
- attendance information

Data is by gender and **ethnicity** and is available by school, community, constituency, region and on a territorial basis.

Education's Northern Training and Employment Register (ENTER) System

ENTER is a system that was designed to monitor the available **labour** force in the **NWT**. Currently it **tracks** individuals accessing various programs through **ECE**.

ENTER provides information on a client basis by community and region.

Student Monetary and Record Tracking System (SMART)

SMART is a database of **all** student financial assistance **funded** through **ECE** for post secondary education in the **NWT**. It was created in 1991.

The data is collected by program, type of **certificate** (degree, diploma, **etc**), year of study, home community, post secondary institution, sex and **ethnicity**. It also tracks the number of applicants and the number of recipients.

Raw data from the SMART system is confidential and not open for public distribution. Requests for specific information can be **filled**.

Apprenticeship Records

A database of apprentices and journeymen across the **NWT**. Information is collected on a client basis by: sex, community, trade, sponsoring agency (Public or Private Sector) year of apprenticeship, journeyman **certification** and Red Seal **Certification**.

Raw data is confidential although statistics on the above variables are available.

Arctic College **Enrolment** and Graduation Tracking System

Developed at the end of 1992, this system **will** track students enrolled at Arctic College by course of study, completion and **labour** market integration. This information will be available at the regional level.

NWT BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OVERVIEW

As the central statistics **office** for the Government of Northwest Territories, the Bureau of Statistics has **overall** responsibility for the territorial government statistical **program**. To accomplish this, the **Bureau** of Statistics:

- develops, interprets and disseminates economic, social and **demographic** statistics **required** for territorial government purposes.
- circulates **official** government statistics and other statistical information in both print and electronic formats, and provides statistical advice and assistance to departments, regional **offices** and central agencies as required.
- assists departments with the analysis of statistical information and to complete statistical surveys.
- coordinates statistical activities within the government to minimize duplication of statistical effort and to help ensure that the statistics used by the government are current, consistent and accurate.
- provides for the continuing and effective representation of territorial statistical interests within the national statistical system. This task involves participating in **federal-provincial** committees on statistics, serving as the government's focal point for contacts with Statistics Canada regarding territorial statistics.
- provides a limited statistical service to the general public, to the private sector and to other governments.

STATISTICAL PROGRAMS

Labour Force Statistics

To meet the requirements for **labour** supply information, the Bureau of Statistics has completed two community **labour** force surveys since 1984, the latest during winter 1989. Another survey is planned for winter 1994. These surveys have provided information on

employment and **labour** force participation; seasonal patterns of employment; occupation and industry; education and **training**; language skills; **training** needs; willingness to move to obtain work; renewable resource harvesting activities; **traditional** crafts; length of residence; age, sex and **ethnicity**; etc.

Information from these **labour** force surveys has been used extensively by government and others. For example, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment used **labour** force survey data to prepare its employment development strategy while the Department of Personnel used sex, **ethnicity** and residency information from the survey for its **affirmative** action planning. In addition, **labour** force survey data was used extensively by the . Legislative Assembly's Special Committee on the Northern Economy.

Three reports have been prepared and widely distributed based on this survey. Tables for two further reports, examining persons not employed and alternative **definitions** of unemployment and presenting employment by industry and occupation, have been prepared and distributed, although printing of these reports was not completed due to budgetary constraints. Special tabulations **are** available from the **labour** force survey by contacting the Bureau of Statistics.

Currently, Northwest Territories is not included in the national monthly **labour** force survey. However, Statistics Canada has agreed in principle to include Northwest Territories in the survey with details to be worked out over the next year. This survey would probably provide quarterly estimates of **labour** force, employment and unemployment for Northwest Territories, along with some information being available for **Nunavut** and the Western NWT.

Business Statistics

As part of the work funded through the **Canada-NWT** Economic Development (EDA), the Bureau of Statistics surveyed and prepared current listings of businesses operating in Northwest Territories during the spring of 1993. This project will provide statistics on territorial business activity as well as identifying counts of businesses by region and community **classified** according to the 1980 Standard Industrial **Classification** (SIC). Other information collected during this survey include revenue information and employment.

Final coding of the survey results are now being prepared and a statistical report should be available in the fall. This listing is also an important component for the Bureau of Statistics to complete planned **labour** demand surveys.

Another source of detailed business statistics is the federal-provincial consortium on small

business statistics. This project provides detailed financial and **operating** information on small businesses by type.

Population Statistics

An important component of Bureau of Statistics **operations** is the development of population estimates and projections for Northwest Territories, its regions and communities. Population estimates are prepared annually for each community using information relating to births, deaths and **migration** and provide details on age, sex and ethnic group distributions as well as basic population figures. These estimates serve as **official** population figures and are used for a variety of purposes including the calculation of grants to communities, establishing eligibility for programs, assessing community requirements for facilities and services, reviewing constituency boundaries, etc.

Population projections for Northwest Territories, its **regions** and communities are also prepared by the Bureau of Statistics based on a computerized population projection model which was recently redesigned. This model **incorporates** assumptions on trends in fertility and mortality rates, and for interprovincial and **intra-territorial migration**. Population projections are updated with each release of current population estimates.

The Bureau of Statistics also maintains a variety of other demographic information including vital statistics data; **specifically**, statistics on number of births by mother's place of residence and by place of occurrence, as well as number of deaths for each community and detailed cause of death information at the territorial level. Inter-provincial migration information showing province of origin and destinations is also kept by the Bureau of Statistics along with statistics on international migration.

Economic Accounts

In recent years, the Bureau of Statistics has worked closely with Statistics Canada towards the development and enhancement of economic accounts for the Northwest Territories. As a result of this effort, income and expenditure accounts for the territory were released in 1988. The Bureau of Statistics has **since** prepared preliminary estimates of territorial Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by industry along with revised GDP figures **incorporating labour** income estimates which **correct** for a major historical discontinuity in that series. Future plans for income and expenditure accounts development include finalizing of territorial import and export series, estimates of net expenditure abroad, and constant dollar GDP figures. Current work with Statistics Canada includes providing extensive input and consultation regarding territorial data on a major project to estimate **interprovincial** trade.

Also of note, territorial input-output tables for 1984 were reviewed in considerable detail with Statistics Canada prior to their publication during 1991. In addition, the Bureau of Statistics has developed a microcomputer based input-output model for Northwest Territories based on the these tables which describe the input-output structure of the territorial economy. This model has been used extensively by territorial government departments and others to estimate the economic impacts of development projects and other changes in the economy. Impacts are provided describing changes to gross domestic product, to **labour** income, and employment impacts.

To date, work using this model has included information relating to the economic impacts of the division of Northwest Territories, impacts of a Mackenzie Valley pipeline and gas plants, effects of the **Yellowknife** airport expansion, and the impacts of the proposed **Izok** Lake mine development and associated work. Those wishing to use the model for assessing impacts of various projects should contact the Bureau of Statistics for more details.

Price Statistics

The high cost of living and doing business in the North is **important** to government and to Northerners in general. This importance is reflected in the work the Bureau of Statistics does to provide current and reliable price statistics.

Price surveys completed by the Bureau of Statistics have provided retail price comparisons between **Yellowknife** and Edmonton as well as food price comparisons for communities throughout Northwest Territories. Bureau of Statistics efforts were also instrumental in the extension of the national Consumer Price Index **program** to **Yellowknife** beginning in 1982. As well, the Bureau of Statistics keeps current information on community living costs developed by Statistics Canada for federal isolated post allowance purposes. The Bureau of Statistics also maintains national and regional statistics on prices for manufactured goods and construction activity.

Recently, the Bureau of Statistics has also been involved in two further price studies. The **first** is a clothing price survey for the Department of Social Services to assess spatial variability in retail clothing prices. The data collection for this project was completed in the spring of 1993 with results expected in the near **future**. The second project is assisting the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs in reviewing the Northern Cost Indexes (**NCI**) used for hamlet funding and evaluating community based capital projects. Results from this review should be available in the next few months.

Price statistics have found wide use within the Government as well as by the **general** public and business. For example, the government uses price information (and interpretations provided by the Bureau of Statistics) for compensation studies, for preparing collective bargaining positions, for establishing rates for medical services, and in helping to determine social assistance rates. Price statistics provided by the Bureau of Statistics are also used by various territorial bargaining units during collective agreement negotiations with employers. In addition, price statistics **are** widely used within the government for financial planning purposes.

Other Social, Economic & Demographic Data

The development and dissemination of a variety of other social, economic and demographic statistics is an important **part** of Bureau of Statistics operations. Certain of these statistics originate with Statistics Canada, Revenue Canada or other **federal** government departments while other statistics **are** compiled by territorial government departments or developed directly by the Bureau of Statistics. Subject areas covered in this work include:

- education
- social services
- law enforcement
- **labour** force activity
- investment
- communications
- mining
- health
- income security
- personal income
- business activity
- transportation
- energy
- renewable resources

These statistics are disseminated electronically within the government and through the various publications produced by the Bureau of Statistics.

Other Planned Projects for 1991-96 Economic Development Agreement

There are several other projects that have been proposed to committees related to the **Canada/NWT** Economic Development Agreement that may be of general interest to the **Labour** Market Information Committee. This year, as noted above, projects include another community **labour** force survey and a dwelling listing project. Projects proposed over the next couple of years include **labour** demand surveys, a travel survey and the production of a regional input-output model.

The **labour** demand survey will use the business listing project to conduct sector surveys ‘ assessing **labour** demand in Northwest Territories. The travel survey will be a household based survey assessing impacts of territorial travel patterns. The regional input-output project will involve the production of models with data **specific** to the Nunavut Territory and the Western NWT. The **regionalization** of the input-output model will allow for more specific impacts of development projects to be assessed.

STATISTICAL SERVICES

In addition to the statistical programs outlined above, **the** Bureau of Statistics provides a variety of statistical services to territorial government departments and regional offices, as well as a limited statistical reference service to the public and the private sector.

Statistical Reference, Referral and Consultation

As part of its operations the Bureau of Statistics maintains a comprehensive collection of territorial statistics, as well as provincial and national data including copies of all Statistics Canada publications. Historical and current data are available along with forecasts of key national economic indicators. When required information is not readily available, the Bureau of Statistics is able to refer inquires to the appropriate sources based on its extensive contacts within Statistics Canada and other **federal** departments, with the provincial and territorial statistical agencies, and within the territorial government. Although the emphasis is placed upon supporting territorial government central agencies, departments and regional offices, statistical assistance is provided to other users on a limited basis.

The Bureau of Statistics provides broad statistical support to territorial government departments and regional offices to assist them in their statistical activities. Here, services range from advice on the statistical and mathematical aspects of their work to assistance in the conduct of surveys and analysis of survey results. **Examples** of this consultation activity have included assistance to the Audit Bureau and Department of Health on sampling procedures for audits; advice to the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs on formulas for calculating grants to tax-based municipalities; and work for the Department of Personnel for settlement allowances, cost of living adjustments for union contracts, pay equity and Hay Plan compensation.

Statistical Surveys

The Bureau of Statistics also undertakes statistical surveys to develop statistics not available from other sources. This work has included the **labour** force and price surveys noted above. As well, the Bureau of Statistics assists departments wishing to undertake surveys to meet their specific statistical information needs. This assistance has included:

- questionnaire design and sample selection;
- selection and **training** of surveyors;
- managing field operations;
- database design and the development of data entry;
- editing completed **questionnaires**;
- training data entry operators;
- undertaking computerized data edits and computation;
- sample weighting;
- preparation, analysis and **interpretation** of statistical tables;
- publication of survey results.

Given the large increase in this work load over the past while, **consideration** is being given to providing this and certain other statistical services on a cost recovery basis.

Examples of Recent Survey Work Completed by the Bureau of Statistics

There are generally two types of surveys conducted by the Bureau of Statistics. The first type is done with finding assistance provided through means such as the Economic Development Agreement (EDA). Community **labour** force surveys fall into this category. The second type of survey is conducted **specifically** to assist departments with their survey requirements. Surveys such as the community food price survey, community clothing price survey, renewable resource harvester survey, and the Great Slave Lake Fishery Survey would be included in this type.

Currently, there are two surveys being completed by the Bureau of Statistics. The **first** survey is the 1993 NWT Campground User Survey. This survey is being completed for the GNWT Department of Economic Development and Tourism and should provide overall statistics on users of territorial parks. For campground users **characteristics** being collected by interview include size of group, home community, length of stay, spending patterns and likes and dislikes of the parks. The survey is being conducted in the Yellowknife area, the Hay River and Twin Falls parks, Fort Simpson, Fort **Liard**, Fort Smith, Fort Providence and in parks in the **Inuvik** area.

The second survey by the Bureau of Statistics is the 1993 NWT Tobacco Use Survey. This survey was initiated by the Department of Health and was completed by students in territorial schools. Although the Bureau was not involved in the data collection phase, it designed the database, coordinated data entry, and analyzed and completed the sample weighting of the statistical **file**. Previously this survey was conducted in cooperation with Health and Welfare Canada. In addition to the work on the 1993 survey, the 1987 survey and the 1982 survey are going to be examined to review weighting decisions made for those two projects.

Electronic Data Dissemination (T-stat)

The Bureau of Statistics makes statistics available to territorial government departments in electronic formats as well as in publication form. The main form of electronic data dissemination used by the Bureau of Statistics is the territorial government's on-line statistical data retrieval system, T-stat.

This system was developed **by** the Bureau of Statistics and has three components: time series data retrieval, 1991 and 1986 census information, and community **profiles**. T-stat allows users of statistical data within the government to obtain the most recent statistics available and helps to ensure that accurate, current and consistent statistics are used throughout the government.

SOCIAL SERVICES

PUBLICATIONS

The Department of Social Services published a pamphlet called Your Guide to Social Assistance in the Northwest Territories. The pamphlet provides a simplified summary of the Social Assistance Regulations and policies.

Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained from the local Social Services office or from:

Director
Family **Support**
Department of Social Services
500,4920-52 Street
Yellowknife, NT
XIA 3T1

DATABASES

Social Assistance Information System (SASS)

The Social Assistance Information System (SASS) records information necessary for determining eligibility for social **assistance**. The System maintains demographic information on each applicant and dependents, the reason for assistance, income, assets and the needs of all members of the family unit, according to the Social Assistance Regulations.

REPORTS

Program Analysis Report

All information on recipients of social assistance is **confidential**. However, reports with non-identifying information are available.

The Program Analysis **Reports** give information by Region, by Community on:

- . Number of cases
- . Number of dependents
- . Age
- . Occupation
- . Education
- . Reason for assistance
- . Expenditures

The reports are produced by fiscal year.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

PUBLICATIONS

NWT Labour Market Profile

Contains detailed community information based on 1986 Census and 1989 **NWT Labour Force Survey** data. This publication was released in October 1990. Information contained includes population distribution, the **labour** market, social assistance recipients, education, the economy, job demand by occupation; as defined by **NWT Regions** and **Canada Employment Centres** districts.

NWT Labour Market Bulletin (EIC)

This bulletin is produced quarterly for **EIC** users in the **Alta/NWT Region**; and any other requesting **Canada Employment Centres**. It reviews each quarter by defined sector, i.e. mining, government, health, transportation, retail and **service**, education, and manufacturing. Information for this publication is obtained from various Northwest Territories newspapers, statistics **figures** as provided from Statistics Canada Census data and the 1989 **NWT Labour Force Survey**.

NWT Wage Survey (1991)

In 1991 a wage survey was conducted for the major occupational groups of Construction, Mining and Service Industries. The survey includes occupational codes and titles, wage ranges, education levels, and required experience; and a **summary** on benefit packages offered by employers.

National Occupational Classification (NOC)

NOC is a comprehensive system that **classifies** and describes occupations in the Canadian **labour** market, according to skill type and skill level. It was developed by **EIC** in cooperation with Statistics Canada, and replaces the Canadian Classification and Dictionary of Occupations (**CCDO**). This system was implemented nationally on May 17, 1993.

DATABASES**Labour Market Information System (I-MIS)**

This provides Employer listings in the **NWT** and includes the address and phone number, contact name (if possible), SIC codes, year business started, type of business or product supplied. There is also a section for entering data on wages and conditions of employment, if available. Sources used were the **NWT** Business Directory 1990, **NWT** Phone Directories, **Yellowknife** Business Book. Last updated January 1991.

Newspaper Job Vacancy System (NJVS)

This is a collection system of job ads in local **NWT** community newspapers. It was started in the summer of 1987 in order to examine **labour** market demand in the **NWT**. Various fields include employer, type of vacancy, location, **CCDO** code, salary/wage offered, any IPA benefits, etc. As this system runs June to June; data has been collected for June '87 to June '90. Job ads continue to be collected for future input.

Display Order Job Vacancy System (DISPLAY)

This is a collection system of **cancelled** displayed job orders received monthly from the Canada Employment Centres (**CEC**) across the **NWT**. Usage of this program can determine the distribution of major occupational groups for each **CEC** area, for **specific** time periods, or both. Data is collected for 1989 until March 1991. **Cancelled** display job order cards continue to be received for future input.

EIC Unemployment Insurance Database (NWT BNOP)

Unemployment Insurance (**UI**) statistical data is received by disk each month from **Alta/** **NWT** Regional Headquarters. Information is extracted from the Benefit and Overpayment (**BNOP**) master file containing selected data on hand, at a point in time, of claims deemed to be active by the Commission. The reference date is the week containing the 15th day. **This** records all **NWT** claim activity by type, i.e. active or dormant, sickness, **maternity/parental**, seasonal. Along with the claimant's tombstone data; fields include Benefit Period Commencement (this is a **CEIC** specific week code); Number of insured weeks on this claim; Amount of insurable earnings on this claim; Benefit rate at which the claimant will be compensated; total benefits claimant has received to date and total number of weeks that have

been paid. This does not provide data on numbers of individuals moving into or out of the UI program; nor does it maintain a historical series on UI claims.

Unemployment Insurance System (UIS)

This is a micro computer based **program** developed by Economic Services at **Alta/NWT** Regional Headquarters and is accessed by modem. The reference date for each month is the week containing the 15th day. It is designed to assist in handling and analyzing Unemployment Insurance (**UI**) data from the BNOP master **file**, and is grouped by **UI** CEC areas (**Yellowknife** and **Iqaluit**). It allows the user to read and generate reports from regular active claimant count by occupation and average duration. Until recently this system **was** not available to the NWT.

HISTORICAL DATA**Unemployment Insurance/Population System (UIP)**

The purpose of the **UIP** system is to provide a way to retrieve ratios of regular Unemployment Insurance beneficiaries without reported earnings compared to population by Census Division (CD). Data supplied in this system is derived by Statistics Canada from 1987 and 1988 income tax records. Data is aggregated at a CD level only. **CEC** specific breakdowns are not available.

Migration Estimates Information System (CEICMIG)

The **CEICMIG** system provides migration estimates at the Census Division (CD) level. The program allows users to extract information on the number of migrants to and from any CD in Canada. Data supplied with this system is derived by Statistics Canada from 1987 and 1988 personal income tax records. Data is aggregated at a CD level only. **CEC** specific breakdowns are not available.

Labour Force Income Profile (LFINC)

The purpose of this system is to provide a way to retrieve **labour** force income profiles by Canada Employment **Centre (CEC)** areas. Data supplied with this system are derived by Statistics **Canada** from 1987, 1988 and 1989 personal income tax records.

Economic Dependency Profile (ECON)

The purpose of this system is to provide a way to retrieve economic dependency information (government **transfer** payments such as **UIC**, **CPP**, etc.) by Canada Employment **Centre (CEC)** areas. The data is derived by Statistics Canada from 1987 and 1988 personal income tax records.

1989 Taxfiler Data Specific to Community Futures Areas

This data is derived **by** Statistics Canada from 1989 personal income tax records, and is broken down by Community Future Society area and by community with use of postal codes.

Highlights include Number of Taxfilers reporting each source of 1989 income, comparison of number of **taxfilers** in the **labour** force 1984 and 1989, and demographic and income data for postal code areas.

1986 Census Data Specific to Pathways Regional Management Board **Zones**

The 1986 Census was used as the information base to define three groups within the Aboriginal NWT population; North American Indian, Inuit and Metis. In fiscal year 1991/92, this data was **reconfigured** from the 1986 2B **profile** data into the ten Pathways zones. Now with the programming of the **configured** zones, subsequent census data can be produced once available.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS

NWT COMMUNITY DATABASES

To date the **NWT** community data base is composed of eight **separate** databases or modules. Each one is a “stand alone” database which can be used together with other databases or separately. This type of multiple database design has a number of distinct advantages. First it allows us to keep data sources distinct, making it easier to maintain and add to the database. Second, it allows us to compare slightly different sources of data, for example we can compare average social assistance payments to earned income, both on an average and per capita basis. Third, it **reduces** individual applications to manageable proportions.

Databases developed to date include:

- Population - since 1961;
- Employment - since 1981;
- Social Assistance -1990 & 1991 only;
- Business - Registry from 1986 survey only;
- **Ethnicity** - Census years since 1971;
- Income - since 1981;
- Education - Census in 1986 and 1989 survey;
- Claim - Basic community, political and geographic characteristics

Population

The population databases, with 17 fields or different types of data, is the most comprehensive and complete. This database uses community census and survey data to **track** community populations since 1961. Census year data is only entered before 1980, and a combination of GNWT estimates and census thereafter; current census data is not yet entered. In total there are 74 communities or records within this database.

Labour Force and Employment

The **labour** force and employment database tracks 5 different annual types of employment data for every community. In total it has 22 fields and 63 records (communities). From this data and the population database, it is possible to generate information on every major employment or unemployment statistic at the community level. For example, the database combines community population data (from the population database) with participation rates (from the **labour** force **database**) to estimate **the labour** force size.

Income

The income database tracks 10 different types of information for 57 communities (community data is provided from Revenue Canada **statistics**). Only four different types of data are entered for each year: Number of Tax Returns; Total Income; Average Taxes Paid (calculated field); Total Taxes Paid. Calculations are then performed on this data to supply other community income statistics including average taxes, taxes to income ratios and so on. Combined with the population database, per capita incomes can be calculated for every community.

Ethnicity

The **ethnicity** database has 14 different types of information for 63 communities. It **tracks** the changing aboriginal make-up of communities through 3 separate years: 1978, 1985 and 1990. Information includes the percentage of aboriginal residents within a community, the number of Aboriginal residents and the number of non-Aboriginal residents.

Education

The education database is more limited than the others. Information currently available at the community level is limited to the 1986 census. Nine different types of education data are maintained for 74 communities. Information includes the population with: Less than a grade 9, Between grades 9 and 12, High-school Diploma, Trade or (College) Diploma, Some University, and University Degree.

Social Assistance

The social assistance database relies on information provided by the GNWT Department of Social Services. This information is limited to direct financial assistance to clients for a variety of defined needs. The database tracks unemployment assistance, income supplement, health assistance and other types of assistance on an annual basis. Data for each of these categories is limited to average number, total dollars for each category and total recipients.

Data is available for approximately 52 communities; information on **Detah** and **Ndilo**, for example, is combined with Yellowknife. Similarly, Paradise Gardens, Hay River Reserve and Enterprise are included with Hay River.

Current data is limited to 1989/1990. New data will be entered when it is obtained from the Department of Social Services.

Business

The business database lacks current information. The only community business data collected was through the 1985 special survey. Data includes business employment information including the number of residents and non-residents employed and **seasonality**. Using this database with the population and income databases makes it possible to generate a number of ratios such as businesses per capita, non-resident employment to number of community unemployed, and the number of businesses for every \$100,000 in community income.

Community Information

The remaining database relates communities to the claim area, tribe, language group and other geographic **classifications**. This database was used with the others to generate reports on **Nunavut** and **non-Nunavut** communities.

PUBLICATIONS

NWT Economic Commentary

The NWT Economic Commentary is a periodical newsletter published as new data from the eight databases becomes available. Five newsletters have been published.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

15+ Population: everyone 15 years of age and over; the working age population

Attrition: jobs that are vacated due to retirement, leaving, etc, and will be **filled**

Canadian Classification Dictionary of Occupations (CCDO): breakdown of occupations to a high level of detail (more detailed than the Standard Occupational **Classification {SOC}**). Seven digit numbers are used to list and describe 7,750 occupations. The **CCDO** had not been updated since 1981 and has been replaced by the National Occupational Classification.

Cyclical Unemployment: unemployment generated from generally poor economic conditions

Discouraged Worker: people who are unemployed and have given up looking for work feeling that it is unlikely that they will be able to **find** a job given the state of the economy and their current skills

Economic Indicators: a statistic which reveals something about the economy

Employed Persons: all people who actually have a job

Employment: any activity carried out for pay or profit

Employment **Growth:** creation of new jobs in an economy

Employment Requirement: a rough measure of the need that an economy has for new workers - *employment growth plus attrition*

Employment/Population Ratio: percentage of the working age population which is employed. This ratio is used to get an idea of the ability an economy has to create jobs - *number of employed persons divided by 15+ population.*

Ethnicity: racial or cultural group

Forecast: starts in the present and projects from current information **future behaviour**. It is very **specific** and has a short time frame. Forecasts are limited by the “non-living” quality of numbers on which they are based and the inability of anyone to **truly** predict the **future**.

Frictional Unemployment: situation where workers are between jobs for whatever reason

Full-time Employment: work for at least thirty hours per week. Work may be volunteer and therefore not “real employment” (**ie.** for pay or profit).

Goods Industries: manufacturing, oil and gas, construction, agriculture, fishing, hunting and trapping

Gross National Product (GNP): the monetary value placed on all goods and services produced in a country over a period of time. GNP shows how active an economy is - the more active it is, the more jobs there are. GNP is not **specific** and will not tell you where jobs are. GNP must also be put within the context of population and inflation.

Labour Force: the proportion of the working age population who are employed or unemployed and have sought work within the past four weeks

Labour Force Survey: a snapshot of the **labour** market where the activity of working people is momentarily frozen

Literacy: **ability** to read and write; in Canada a **functionally** literate individual should read and write at a grade nine level

National Occupational Classification (**NOC**): standardized classification of 522 occupational unit groups. It is defined by 4 skill levels and 9 skill type categories.

Not Participating in the **Labour Force:** **retired** people, students, people not actively seeking work (sometimes referred to as discouraged workers) and people not available for work for other reasons (**ie:** taking care of children)

Numeracy: ability to understand mathematical processes

Part-time Employment: work for less than thirty hours per week. Work may be volunteer and therefore not “real employment” (**ie.** for pay or profit).

Participation Rate: the percentage of the population 15 years of age and over who are working or not working and actively seeking work - *number of people in the labour force divided by the total working age population*. A high participation **rate** means that a large proportion of the working age population is either working or actively looking for work.

Permanent Employment: any job that does not have a **specific** termination date

Seasonal Employment: jobs that last during a part of the year, year after year with no specific termination date

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate: the unemployment rate corrected for “normal” seasonal fluctuations like vacation periods and construction seasons

Service Industries: Business and retail services; health and social services; education; government; transportation; finance and insurance; communications and utilities; real estate agents; accommodation; and foods and beverages

Standard Industry Classification (SIC): standard listing of industries developed in 1980.

Standard Occupational Classification (SOC): standard listing of occupations developed in 1980

Structural Unemployment: situation when workers and jobs are not in the same location.

Temporary Jobs: short-term jobs with a definite termination date.

Trend: a change in social direction that is wide in scope and **identified** by many sources. Trends are long in evidence and have a history.

Unemployed: people without work who have been available for and looking for work within the past four weeks

Unemployment Rate: the percentage of the **labour** force (proportion of the working age population who are working or have looked for work within the past four weeks) that is unemployed - *number of unemployed people divided by the number of people in the labour force.*

Working Age Population: people 15 years of age and over who are not living on Indian reserves, as inmates of institutions, or as **fulltime** members of the armed forces

Youth: persons between the ages of 15 to 24

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