

6.—Numbers and Values of Annuity Contracts as at Mar. 31, 1956 and 1957

Classification	1956			1957		
	Contracts	Amount of Annuities	Value at Mar. 31 of Contracts in Force	Contracts	Amount of Annuities	Value at Mar. 31 of Contracts in Force
	No.	\$	\$	No.	\$	\$
Vested ordinary.....	31,294	12,509,859	111,390,363	33,540	13,653,854	119,927,248
Vested guaranteed.....	33,483	18,296,068	203,011,985	32,854	18,263,884	201,939,906
Vested last survivor.....	4,290	2,133,472	27,739,918	4,203	2,114,078	27,279,201
Vested reducing at age 70.....	2,439	2,304,947	19,005,776	3,400	3,240,716	25,984,612
Deferred.....	301,014	¹	569,073,059	306,338	¹	614,154,972
Totals.....	372,520	35,244,346	930,221,101	380,335	37,272,532	989,285,939

¹ Undetermined.

Subsection 4.—Other Federal Government Programs

Unemployment Insurance and National Employment Service.—In 1940, by an amendment to the British North America Act, the Federal Government was given jurisdiction in the field of unemployment insurance and the Unemployment Insurance Act was passed, establishing a national system of unemployment insurance which is outlined in Chapter XVIII.

The National Employment Service is operated in conjunction with the unemployment insurance scheme. It is administered through local employment and claims offices and supervised by the Department of Labour. Statistics of positions offered and placements made are given in Chapter XVIII.

Prairie Farm Assistance.—The Prairie Farm Assistance Act is administered by the Department of Agriculture; a description of the legislation is given in Chapter IX.

Welfare Services for Indians and Eskimos.—The welfare of Indians and Eskimos is administered by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration and the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, respectively; this field is covered in the Population Chapter, pp. 146-150.

Section 2.—Federal-Provincial Programs

Subsection 1.—Old Age Assistance

The Old Age Assistance Act of 1952 as amended November 1957, provides for federal reimbursement to the provinces for assistance to persons aged 65 and over who are in need and who have resided in Canada for at least 10 years (previously, 20 years) or who, if absent from Canada during this period, have been present in Canada prior to the commencement of the 10-year period for double any period of absence. On reaching age 70 a pensioner is transferred to Old Age Security. The federal contribution may not exceed 50 p.c. of \$55 per month (\$40 prior to July 1, 1957, and \$46 from July 1 to Oct. 31, 1957) or of the assistance paid, whichever is less. The province administers the program and, within the limits of the federal Act, may fix the amount of assistance payable, the maximum income allowed and other conditions of eligibility.

For an unmarried person total income allowed, including assistance, may not exceed \$960 a year. For a married couple it may not exceed \$1,620 a year and, when the spouse is blind within the meaning of the Blind Persons Act, \$1,980 a year. Assistance is not paid to a person receiving an allowance under the Blind Persons or War Veterans Allowance Acts.