

Subsection 4.—Unemployment Assistance

Unemployment assistance is a federal grant-in-aid program under which the Federal Government shares with the provinces and their municipalities the costs of general assistance. The general assistance programs in the various provinces are known by different names, such as social allowances, social aid, social assistance and general welfare assistance.

Under the Unemployment Assistance Act 1956, as amended, the Federal Government may enter an agreement with any province to reimburse it for 50 p.c. of the unemployment assistance expenditures made by the province and its municipalities. All provinces and the two territories have signed agreements under the Act. The rates and conditions of assistance are determined by the province or municipality. Payments to both employable and unemployable persons who are unemployed and in need are shareable under the agreement as are the costs of maintaining persons in homes for special care (nursing homes or homes for the aged). The Federal Government shares in additional assistance paid to needy persons in receipt of old age security pensions, old age assistance, blind persons' allowances, disabled persons' allowances and unemployment insurance benefits, where the amount of the assistance paid is determined through an assessment both of the recipient's basic requirements and of his financial resources.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1962, the Federal Government made payments for unemployment assistance amounting to \$92,044,244. The federal share of assistance costs shown in Table 7, however, is based on payments for the months in which the assistance was actually given and, since claims may be submitted at any time within six months after the month to which they relate, the figures for each fiscal year include certain reimbursements made to the provinces after the end of that year.

7.—Unemployment Assistance, by Province, Year Ended Mar. 31, 1962 with Totals for 1958-62

NOTE.—Provincial figures for each year from the inception of the Act to 1961 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1957-58 edition.

Province	Recipients ¹ in March	Federal Share of Unem- ployment Assistance Costs ²	Province or Territory	Recipients ¹ in March	Federal Share of Unem- ployment Assistance Costs ²
	No.	\$		No.	\$
Newfoundland.....	59,144 ³	4,064,063	British Columbia.....	91,816 ³	15,965,364
Prince Edward Island....	2,819	174,422	Yukon Territory.. ..	205	39,820
Nova Scotia.....	26,200 ³	1,673,624	Northwest Territories.....	233	33,766
New Brunswick.....	33,841 ³	1,526,972			
Quebec.....	253,584	32,339,377	Canada.....1962	703,739	87,831,749
Ontario.....	123,923	18,741,458	1961	562,720	59,707,964
Manitoba.....	32,348 ³	4,285,212	1960	322,553	38,201,087
Saskatchewan.....	44,490 ³	4,525,334	1959	297,760	30,849,721
Alberta.....	35,136 ³	4,462,337	1958⁴	182,054	10,813,003

¹ Includes dependants. ² Payment figures shown are for the months to which the claims made under the program relate and include amounts paid to the provinces by the Federal Government after the end of the fiscal year. ³ Includes persons of a class formerly granted aid under a mothers' allowances program. ⁴ Nine provinces only participating; all provinces and territories were participating in the program in 1959.

Subsection 5.—Fitness and Amateur Sport Program

The Fitness and Amateur Sport Act, passed Sept. 25 and proclaimed Dec. 15, 1961, brought a new focus and impetus to the development of fitness in Canada and to efforts to raise levels of participation and proficiency in both competitive and non-competitive sports. The Act is administered by the Fitness and Amateur Sport Directorate in the Welfare Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

The new legislation provides for an annual \$5,000,000 allocation "to encourage, promote and develop fitness and amateur sport". The program operates through three main channels. Grants are made to national organizations to assist national and international