

Welfare Services for Indians and Eskimos.—Indians and Eskimos benefit as other Canadians under the federal income maintenance programs, but welfare services are administered by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration and the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, respectively, with some provincial participation. This topic is covered in the Population Chapter (pp. 190-198).

Section 2.—Federal-Provincial Programs

Subsection 1.—Old Age Assistance

The Old Age Assistance Act of 1951, as amended, provides for federal reimbursement to the provinces for assistance to persons aged 65 or over who are in need and who have resided in Canada for at least ten years or who, if absent from Canada during this period, have been present in Canada prior to the commencement of the ten-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 \$75 a month (raised from \$65 a month in December 1963) 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. All provinces use a maximum payment of \$75 a month and the income limits set out below. In May 1964, the Yukon and Northwest Territories were using a maximum payment of \$65.

For an unmarried person, total income allowed, including assistance, may not exceed \$1,260 a year. For a married couple it may not exceed \$2,220 a year or, when the spouse is blind within the meaning of the Blind Persons Act, \$2,580 a year. Assistance is not paid to a person receiving an old age security pension or an allowance under the Blind Persons Act, the Disabled Persons Act, or the War Veterans Allowance Act.

Recipients of old age assistance who are in need may receive supplementary aid under general assistance programs in the provinces. Where the amount of aid is determined through an individual assessment of need, which takes the recipient's requirements and resources into consideration, the Federal Government may share in it under the Unemployment Assistance Act.

3.—Old Age Assistance Statistics, by Province, Year Ended Mar. 31, 1963 with Totals for 1959-63

Note.—Provincial figures for each year from the inception of the Act to 1962 are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books, beginning with the 1952-53 edition.

Province or Territory	Recipients in Month of March	Average Amount of Monthly Assistance	P.C. of Recipients to Population Age 65-69	Federal Government Contribution during Year	
	No.	\$		\$	
Newfoundland.....	5,187	63.00	52.93	1,987,213	
Prince Edward Island.....	1,039	60.35	28.86	375,350	
Nova Scotia.....	5,421	59.76	25.45	2,007,871	
New Brunswick.....	5,491	61.58	33.90	2,065,950	
Quebec.....	37,088	61.48	31.01	13,793,745	
Ontario.....	23,925	58.80	13.12	8,458,293	
Manitoba.....	5,448	60.83	19.39	2,001,606	
Saskatchewan.....	5,866	59.63	21.18	2,220,539	
Alberta.....	6,479	60.30	20.18	2,523,720	
British Columbia.....	7,039	62.26	14.02	2,675,208	
Yukon Territory.....	34	64.47	17.00	15,287	
Northwest Territories.....	144	63.36	48.00	54,275	
Canada.....	1963	103,159	60.68	21.00	38,179,057
	1962	98,944	53.87¹	20.14	30,810,585
	1961	100,184	50.56	20.57	30,657,396
	1960	98,773	50.74	20.57	30,349,393
	1959	97,836	50.97	20.64	30,207,284

¹ The average monthly assistance was \$61.09 for June 1962, the first month for which an average based on the maximum of \$65 a month was computed.