

Consolidated finance statistics

22.1

Data on each level of government constitute the basis of the intergovernment consolidation which is presented for the years 1971-72 and 1975-77 in Table 22.1. The consolidation process integrates the separate levels of government to reveal the fiscal framework of the public sector viewed as an economic unit. As a result, the numerous intergovernmental transactions either as revenue or as expenditure are eliminated in order to obtain a measure of the collective impact of all government transactions upon the rest of the economy, in terms of services provided and taxes collected.

Federal government finance

22.2

General accounts

22.2.1

Tables 22.2 - 22.5 and 22.20 present financial statistics of the federal government prepared in accordance with the concepts published in *The Canadian system of government financial management statistics* (Statistics Canada Catalogue 68-506). Financial statistics in Tables 22.7, 22.8 and 22.11 are extracted directly from the *Public accounts of Canada*.

Tables 22.2 and 22.3 give details of gross general revenue and expenditure for the years ended March 31, 1976 to 1978. Revenue increased from \$34,703 million to \$39,054 million while expenditures rose from \$36,845 million to \$45,955 million.

Transfers from the federal government to provincial governments, territories and local governments for the years ended March 31, 1977 and 1978 are shown in Table 22.20. Comparable figures for the previous year are available in the *Canada Year Book 1978-79* pp 826-828.

Table 22.4 provides details of the assets and liabilities of the federal government as at March 31, 1976 to 1978. Table 22.5 analyzes gross bonded debt according to average interest rate, average term of issue and place of payment as at March 31, 1976 to 1978.

In addition to direct gross bonded debt, the federal government has assumed certain contingent liabilities. The major categories of this indirect or contingent debt are the guarantee of insured loans under the National Housing Act and the guaranteed bonds and debentures of Canadian National Railways. The remainder consists chiefly of guarantees of loans made by chartered banks to the Canadian Wheat Board, to farmers and to university students and of guarantees under the Export Development Act. Table 22.6 provides details of the contingent liabilities of the government as at March 31, 1977 and 1978.

Table 22.7 summarizes the public debt position during the period 1973-78 as to interest and amount outstanding. Details of unmatured debt and treasury bills outstanding and information on new security issues of the federal government may be found in the *Public accounts of Canada*. They are summarized by standard classification in *Federal government finance* (Statistics Canada Catalogue 68-211).

Individual and corporation taxes

22.2.2

Statistics of income tax collections are gathered at the time the payments are made and are therefore up to date. Over 74% of individual taxpayers are wage- or salary-earners who have almost the whole of their tax liability deducted at the source by their employers. All other taxpayers are required to pay most of their estimated tax during the taxation year. Thus, the greater part of the tax is collected during the same year in which the related income is earned and only a limited residue remains to be collected when returns are filed. The collections for a given fiscal year include employer remittances of tax deductions, Canada Pension Plan contributions, unemployment insurance premiums and instalments, embracing portions of two or more taxation years, and year-end payments; they cannot therefore be closely related to the statistics for a given