

Subsection 2.—Old Age Security

The Old Age Security Act of 1951, as amended, provides a universal pension of \$75 a month payable by the Federal Government to all persons aged 70 or over, subject to a residence qualification. The rate was raised from \$65 to \$75 a month effective Oct. 1, 1963. To qualify for pension a person must have resided in Canada for ten years immediately preceding its commencement or, if absent during that period, must have been actually present in Canada prior to it for double any period of absence and must have resided in Canada at least one year immediately preceding commencement of pension. Payment of pension may be continued for any period of residence outside Canada if the pensioner has resided in Canada for at least 25 years after attaining the age of 21 or, if he has not, it may be continued for six consecutive months exclusive of the month of departure from Canada. The program is administered by the Department of National Health and Welfare through regional offices located in each provincial capital.

The pension is financed on the pay-as-you-go method through a 3-p.c. sales tax, a 3-p.c. tax on corporation income and, subject to a limit of \$120 a year, a 4-p.c. tax on taxable personal income. Yields from these taxes are paid into the Old Age Security Fund; if they are insufficient to meet the pension payments, temporary loans or grants are made from the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Persons in receipt of old age assistance (see p. 303) who reach age 70 are automatically transferred to old age security. Others make application to the regional offices. Recipients of old age security 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.

2.—Old Age Security 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	Pensioners in March	Net Pensions Paid during Fiscal Year	Province or Territory	Pensioners in March	Net Pensions Paid during Fiscal Year
	No.	\$		No.	\$
Newfoundland.....	18,184	14,013,832	British Columbia.....	120,678	93,362,860
Prince Edward Island.....	7,635	5,962,922	Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	676	524,445
Nova Scotia.....	43,583	33,817,492	Canada.....1963	950,766	734,381,632
New Brunswick.....	31,935	24,858,331	1962	927,590	625,107,804
Quebec.....	202,405	155,359,915	1961	904,906	582,413,283
Ontario.....	344,002	265,742,644	1960	876,410	574,887,046
Manitoba.....	57,692	44,617,405	1959	854,284	559,279,858
Saskatchewan.....	59,690	46,334,646			
Alberta.....	64,286	49,787,140			

Subsection 3.—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. 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 XI.