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EC PUBLISHES COMPARATIVE DATA FOR 22 NATIONS

Luxembourg has the lowest unemployment rate, residents of the United States have the most passenger cars and the Soviet Union has the highest ratio of doctors to population, according to comparative data for 22 nations provided by a new publication of the Statistical Office of the European Communities.

The 1983 edition of Basic Statistics of the Community also shows that the Dutch, with 346 persons per square kilometer in 1981, live in the most crowded of the 22 countries; that Turkey has the highest percentage of workers in agriculture (60.4 percent in 1980); and that Japan produces the most motor vehicles (about 11 million in 1981).

Basic Statistics features 192 charts and graphs with information on such topics as national accounts, external trade, population, social conditions, industry and agriculture for the 10 member states of the European Community (Belgium, Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom). Figures in many cases are also provided for Austria, Canada, Finland, Japan, Norway, Portugal, the Soviet Union, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States.

Among the book's other statistics are these:

--Crude steel production in the European Community dropped from 150 million tons in 1973 to 110 million tons in 1982. During the same period, production fell from 140 million tons to less than 70 million tons in the United States, and from 120 million tons to about 100 million tons in Japan.

--Spain had the lowest percentage of women in the workforce (29.4 percent in 1981), the Soviet Union the highest (51 percent in 1980).

--The United States had the highest marriage rate in 1981 (10.6 marriages per 1,000 population), while Austria had the highest death rate (12.3 per 1,000).

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--In 1982, West Germany produced the most petroleum products of any European Community member state (85.5 million tons), but the United Kingdom was the only Community nation that exported more petroleum than it imported.

--Irish industrial employees worked on an average of 41.4 hours per week in April 1982, the highest of eight European countries. Belgians worked 35.6 hours, the lowest.

Basic Statistics of the Community is available for \$5 from the European Community Information Service, 2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037; (202) 862-9500.