eurostat news

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The first 30 years and beyond A commemorative brochure

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A small brochure charting the development of the Community statistics over the last 30 years, with a message from Mr Burke, Member of the European Commission responsible for the Statistical Office, and a foreword from Mr de Geus. The brochure retraces developments under the leadership of former Directors-General, and gives some key facts and dates concerning Eurostat.

(The German version will be published later.)

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General information

The publications of the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) are grouped according to 'themes' and 'sub-themes', of which the reader will find a classification overleaf.

Eurostat News provides the public with a regular flow of information on the progress of the SOEC publications programme. The presentation is such that it is clear which publications have been **published** in the course of the last quarter and which are about **to be published** and will thus be available in the near future. There follows a list of 'periodicals', indicating their frequency of publication (monthly, quarterly, half-yearly).

The information provided on each publication is as follows: 'theme' to which the work belongs, title of volume, international classification number (ISBN or ISSN), languages in which available, format, number of pages, price and brief summary of content. For practical reasons, the price is given in only one currency, the BFR (Belgian franc) which is the legal tender in the country of publication (the Grand Duchy Luxembourg). The price thus indicated applies when orders are placed directly with the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (L-2985 Luxembourg, 5 rue du Commerce — postal cheque account (CCP) 19 190-81 — bank current account BIL 8-109/6003/300) and serves as a rough guide to the prices in the various national currencies in the event of purchase from the sales offices which are listed on the third page of the cover. The languages in which the publications are available

are shown by the following abbreviations: M = multilingual, i.e. in all the official languages of the European Communities, DA = Danish, DE = German, GR = Greek, EN = English, FR = French, IT = Italian, NL = Dutch.

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Statistical Office 30 years old

Mr R. Burke, Member of the Commission, underlines the importance of the Statistical Office



From left to right: Mr Harris, Director at the Statistical Office, Mr Burke, Member of the Commission, Mr de Geus, Director-General, and Mr Nols, Director at the Statistical Office.

On Monday, 20 June the Statistical Office was 30 years old. To celebrate the occasion a press luncheon was held which was attended by Mr R. Burke, Member of the Commission responsible for the Statistical Office, Mr P. de Geus, Director-General, the Directors of the Statistical Office and approximately

25 journalists from various Community countries.

In his address, Mr Burke spoke of the efficiency of the Statistical Office which he ascribed to 'the highly competent and devoted staff and suitable facilities in Luxembourg'.

Mr de Geus presented the 20-page birthday brochure containing an outline of the Statistical Office's history divided into periods corresponding to the terms of office of the successive Directors-General.

Mr de Geus pointed out that the role of the 320 strong staff currently employed at the

Statistical Office was to provide the various Community institutions with the statistical information required for the drafting and monitoring of Community policies, to help the various national statistical systems to work towards an integrated European system, and to provide the Member States and the general public with statistical information on the Communities.

Eurostat's new organization

On Tuesday, 6 September 1983, Mr P.B.R. de Geus, Director-General, held a meeting of all officials working at Eurostat. On the agenda was the introduction and explanatory details of the new establishment plan which came into force on 1 September 1983 following the Commission's decision of 29 July 1983.

As explained by Mr de Geus, the aim of the reorganization was to improve the functioning of this important service of the Commission which, in a period of budgetary difficulties, had to continue to improve the quality of its work with relatively smaller resources. The Director-General described the five new

directorates, consisting of a service directorate in charge of processing and dissemination of statistical information and four others responsible for the production of statistics. He also announced the creation of four internal coordinating committees.

After replying to questions, Mr de Geus closed the meeting by stressing Eurostat's main task, which was to produce good statistics and disseminate them as efficiently and quickly as possible to those concerned by applying the entire range of possibilities provided by the new technologies.

Egide HENTGEN

The new establishment plan

Director-General Pieter B. R. de GEUS

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Assistant to Director-General Alain BIRON

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2. Regional and financial statistics Raymond SALVAT

3. Price surveys and consumer price indices Hugo KRIJNSE-LOCKER

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Directorate C

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2. Production

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Silvio RONCHETTI

Rolf SANNWALD

Richard KUHNER

Thomas WILSON

Gertrud HILF

Directorate D

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Photis NANOPOULOS

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Cleto SIMEONI

Franz-Josef GNAD

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Demographic and social statistics —

Agricultural statistics

David Harris

Demographic and social statistics

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2. Wages, incomes and social welfare

3. Population, education and general social statistics

Hildegard FUERST

Gustav LOHMANN

Joachim WEDEL

Agricultural statistics

Adviser

Eric Lewis SNOWDON

4. Agricultural accounts and structures

Alberto de MICHELIS

5. Agricultural balance sheets and products

Hans Georg BAGGENDORFF

Eurostat hosts 18th world conference on income and wealth

In response to an invitation issued by Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission of the European Communities, the Statistical Office played host from 22 to 27 August to the 18th Conference of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW).

Mr Jacques Santer, Luxembourg's Minister of Finance, and Mr P.B.R. de Geus, Director-General of the Statistical Office, spoke at the opening ceremony welcoming some 200 eminent economists and government statisticians from all over the world. During a week of highly-specialized meetings held, it is worth

pointing out, for the first time in Luxembourg, consideration was given to current problems and future trends in national accounts, which are important economic statistics. Questions under discussion included the following:

How does inflation distort national accounts; for example, why do people consume less (save more) in periods of high inflation or what are the effects of index-linking of wages, interest rates and other payments?

Are economic statistics of output and income underestimated because transactions are going unrecorded in the 'hidden' economy?



From left to right: Mr Georges Als, Director of Statec, Mrs Nancy Ruggles, Secretary of IARIW, Mr Jacques Santer, Minister of Finance, Luxembourg, Mr P.B.R. de Geus, Director-General of Eurostat, Mr Laszlo Drechsler, President of IARIW; behind: Mr Alain Chantraine, Head of Division, Mr Piero Erba, Director at Eurostat.

How can increasing government involvement in the economy, i.e. by providing services and social benefits for households by subsidizing companies to safeguard jobs or reduce prices, by increasing State participation in certain sectors of industry, etc. be measured objectively? How best to make international comparisons of income distribution and redistribution? How can computers help in compiling data more rapidly and in greater detail to give policy-makers better statistics when they need them?

The 18th biennial conference of the IARIW came at a particularly important time for the

Statistical Office. Conditions in the world and national economies are changing fundamentally and more rapidly than ever before and preliminary discussions are taking place in international organizations (United Nations, OECD, etc.) on revisions of the concepts and methods of national accounting which will shape the statistical system for the next 20 years. The IARIW has always been very influential in this area and the hosting of this Conference is part of a continued effort by the Commission to ensure that the Community will have statistics adequate to the policy needs and problems of the coming years.

Developments regarding the 1983 population census in the Federal Republic of Germany

The following report has been provided by Dr Hamer, Vice-President of the Statistisches Bundesamt.

According to the Population Census Law of 25 March 1982, the Federal Republic of Germany should have carried out its first population, occupation, housing and work place census since 1970 by 27 April 1983. Between the interim order of the Federal Constitutional Court of 13 April 1983 and the final decision, this census was subject to over 100 objections on the grounds of unconstitutionality. As a result, preliminary work on the census at Federal, Land and regional level was provisionally suspended two weeks before the original deadline. The Population Census Law will not finally be clarified until the Court's decision on the main issue, and this is not expected before the autumn of 1983. The basic questions of the protection of the constitutional rights of the individual as a member of the community - under the specific conditions brought about by the developments in statistics and automatic data processing since the microcensus decision of 1969 — require detailed investigation, as the supreme German court stated in its justification for the interim order. After considering this aspect, the Court also noted that costs of DM 100 million had been largely lost in preparations for the census.

Because of the new legislative procedure required in each case, according to the Court's final decision, it will probably not be possible to hold the population census before 1985. Much urgent basic material on population, gainful activities, occupations, housing, work places, etc. in the Federal Republic of Germany is therefore still lacking because this can only be acquired through a population census. Furthermore, Germany cannot, for the time being, fulfil its obligations to the European Communities and the United Nations with regard to the supply of such data.

In this connection too it is clear that a population census is of vital importance in official statistics. There is therefore very little doubt

about the need for these statistical records. This was never questioned in the legislative procedure on the census which led, in the autumn of 1978, to the first bill by the Federal Government and went on until the spring of 1982. The only controversy was about the apportionment of the census costs between the Federal Government and the Länder, which meant that the deadline for the census was put back several times. A compromise was found by the mediation committee in the form of a financial contribution of DM 2.50 per inhabitant. The law was finally adopted unanimously by the Bundestag and Bundesrat.

During the legislative procedure the committees of the Bundestag discussed in detail the question of statistical confidentiality and the passing on of individual data from censuses. The views of those responsible for data protection at both federal and land level were also heard. They, like the statistical offices, asked for restricted use. After careful consideration of the traditional strict confidentiality of German official statistics, which had never been known to have been violated, and the legitimate information requirements of the State, the parliamentary committees finally introduced provisions into the Popu-·lation Census Law whereby individual data could be passed on to specific recipients under very stringent conditions.

The individual data are, in principle, to be kept confidential. Adjustment of a few selected data from the population census to the registers of inhabitants kept by the local authorities is, however, permitted. Furthermore, in specific cases explicitly indicated in the Population Census Law, individual data — definitely without names or without names or addresses — can be passed on for specific purposes. In this way the highest federal and

land authorities can obtain such data for statistical and planning purposes in so far as they require them to carry out their tasks. The same applies to specific statistical and planning work within the local authorities and for scientific purposes. The law explicitly states that the strict obligation to maintain statistical confidentiality also applies to all recipients of individual data, who may not use them as they wish — the information can only be used for specific purposes. It cannot therefore be passed on to penal bodies such as criminal investigation offices, offices for the protection of the constitution, social authorities, etc.

The population census was not expected to pose any major problems. A sample survey covering almost 25 000 households was conducted in May 1982 without difficulty. The attitude of the public to the census changed suddenly when, at the beginning of 1983, a number of political groups succeeded in spreading alarm by misinforming the public. They very cleverly took over people's subconscious fears of State interference in their private lives and played on the public's fear of being quizzed and having all their secrets revealed. Faced with a situation fraught with frantic and emotional arguing, made worse by the conflicting remarks about censuses made by politicians in the campaign leading up to the Bundestag election of March 1983, the public authorities found it difficult to make themselves heard when they wanted to pass on factual information about the census. The Federal Government therefore decided to conduct a public information campaign in the press and on radio and television. Substantial additional funds were made available for this purpose. The Federal Constitutional Court's interim order stopping further preparations for the census therefore came as a surprise to all concerned.

Absolute agricultural prices

The SOEC records a large number of monthly and annual agricultural price series for the 10 Member States of the Community, covering the selling prices of crop products, the selling prices of animal products and the purchase prices of the means of agricultural production. These series are mostly (but not always) representative for each country and harmonized across the Community. The series of selling prices of crop and animal products comprise the prices at producer level of the major agricultural products (in some cases wholesale prices too); prices of some processed products supplied by the food industry are also available. The purchase prices of the means of agricultural production relate to the prices paid by farmers for feedingstuffs, fertilizers, fuel for equipment and heating, seeds and plant protection products. The prices are expressed in national currency and in ECU and are stored in the SOEC's Cronos databank ('PACO' domain), usually from 1969 onwards.

For non-Commission users, these data are available via Euronet and can, on request to the SOEC, also be supplied in the form of computer printouts or on magnetic tape. Hitherto, the monthly and annual agricultural prices have been published in booklets appearing quarterly and annually; certain changes have, however, been made in this respect in the recent past. While the annual agricultural price data for the past 12 years are still published in the annual series entitled Agricultural price statistics (with effect from 1984: Agricultural prices), the quarterly booklets entitled Selling prices of crop products, Selling prices of animal products and purchase prices of the means of agricultural production, which contained essentially the monthly prices, were discontinued after the appearance of No 4/1981. Following numerous complaints regarding discontinuation of these series, and because of the large number of requests for computer printouts of month-

ly agricultural prices in 1982, the SOEC decided to publish the monthly agricultural price data for both the current and the previous year with effect from 1983 on a quarterly basis on microfiches (entitled 'Agricultural Prices'), and to publish a selection of the most important series in a booklet entitled Agricultural Prices: Selected Series from the Cronos Databank. The first issues of hese two new publications have now appeared, and the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities is currently running a leaflet campaign to inform subscribers to agricultural statistics publications about the availability of monthly agricultural priceson microfiches.

The SOEC has used the year's break (1982) in the pattern of monthly agricultural price series publications to:

- (i) take a general look at the selection of agricultural price series in Cronos, and to bring them up to date with technical and economic developments in agriculture;
- (ii) include a large number of additional price series for fruit and vegetables in the selection;
- (iii) incorporate the agricultural price series for Greece in the existing system (necessitating the inclusion of special price series for a number of Mediterranean agricultural products).

Cronos ('PACO' domain) now contains 5 460 monthly and annual agricultural price series in national currencies and in ECU. Details (i.e. a list of products covered with their code numbers, etc.) are given in the Cronos manual 'BI PACO, Section: Agricultural Prices and Price Indices', which is available on request.

A new version of the catalogues of characteristics of the agricultural price series stored in

Cronos, which describe price-determining characteristics such as product definition, trading stage and conditions, etc., is currently being prepared and should be available in 1984. A brief description of these characteristics is given in the annual booklet entitled Agricultural Price Statistics (from 1984: Agricultural Prices).

The Siena databank

For a large number of readers, the name Siena will doubtless conjure up memories of a very pretty town in Tuscany which is full of ancient monuments and famed in history.

However, for anyone who has ever had anything to do with statistical data on external trade, Siena will also mean a databank which has been developed by Eurostat.

Eurostat has in fact been offering an on-line Siena service for Commission internal use since June 1982. This databank contains statistics on the Community's external trade and trade between its Member States. It is stored on the ICL 2982 computer at the Computer Centre and may be consulted via the MAC (multi-access computing) mode from any terminal connected to the system.

In the following we give a detailed description of the content of this databank and the facilities offered by the interrogation and aggregation software.

The content

Siena contains all the data on the Community's external trade and trade between its Member States since 1976. For the period from 1976 to 1978, the information is annual; from 1979 onward, it is quarterly. An external trade data record, as stored in the base, is characterized by six elements, namely:

- (i) the flow;
- (ii) the reference period;
- (iii) the product code;

- (iv) the code of the declaring country;
- (v) the code of the partner country;
- (vi) the unit.

Let us look at each of these elements individually:

- 1. The flow indicates whether import or export.
- 2. The reference period indicates the year considered and the frequency (annual or quarterly as the case may be).
- 3. The product code describes the product in terms of the product classification used. The product classifications in the base are as follows:
- (i) Nimexe (Nomenclature of Goods for External Trade Statistics of the Community and Statistics of Trade between Member States) at the level 6 (headings), 4 (CCCN headings) and 2 (chapters). The Nimexe system is brought up to date and revised each year as dictated by requirements. The Siena database memorizes the amendments and the link-up with the Nimexe codes for the adjacent years.
- (ii) SITC (Standard International Trade Classification) of the United Nations — Rev. 2) at level 5 (items), 4 (sub-groups), 3 (groups), 2 (divisions), and 1 (sections).
- (iii) The textile categories as defined in pursuance of the Multifibre Arrangement.
- 4. The declaring country is currently a Community Member State or Japan; the descrip-

tion and code are given in the Geonomenclature.

- 5. The partner country may be a Community Member State or a third country, or an economic zone. Countries and economic zones are classified and defined in the *Geonomenclature*.
- 6. The units are values (1 000 ECU), quantities (1 000 kg) and supplementary units (for certain products).

For the methodology applied to data collection and processing, please see the *Users'* Guide on external trade statistics which gives all the information required.

The interrogation software

The Siena interrogation software was developed to meet numerous Commission requirements. Data are selected by means of a combination of two or more elements which characterize the information required.

As Siena can memorize the relationships between Nimexe codes in adjacent years, it can indicate the years for which a product code is valid. Similarly, the user may ask it to find the smallest product aggregation which, comprising a special code, remains stable over a given period.

As regards the retrieval of selected information, Siena offers 17 different tables in each of the flows (import, export or trade balance). These may be divided into two categories:

- (i) the tables defined by a permutation of two elements, taken from period, product, declaring country and partner country, in columns and in lines;
- (ii) the tables presenting various types of information in columns and, in lines, one element selected from period, product, declaring country and partner country.

Of the various kinds of information available, mention may be made of;

unit value based on the quantity or on supplementary units, indices, annual average rate of growth, market share, etc.

When a table is being retrieved, Siena can make a classification by re-ordering the lines so that a column presents the information in decreasing order of importance.

The aggregation software

The aggregation system is a recent development. Siena offers three types of aggregates, both at product and country level. Let us look at the characteristics of each:

1. The physical aggregates

These include the aggregates of the product classifications Nimexe (6/4/2/total) and SITC (5/4/3/2/1/total) and the geographical zones as defined in the *Geonomenclature*. These aggregates are only calculated once, then stocked in the base.

2. The system aggregates

These are provided by the Siena management team, the aim being to store the product or country groupings which are most commonly used by the Commission.

The system aggregates are calculated from primary data each time a user uses them.

3. The user aggregates

Each user of Siena can create his own aggregates. He will receive an identification code enabling him to create, modify or use special aggregates which will be stored in a memory block.

The user aggregates are also calculated from primary data whenever these are asked for. This system enables the user to create his own aggregates depending on the particular type of analysis he wishes to perform.

The other functions

Apart from the functions described above, there is also an interface to the Siena subprogram allowing the base to be accessed from programs written in Fortran and Cobol.

Similarly, there is a module for extracting material from the Siena file which allows the user to transfer data to one of his own files. This module covers a wide range of information, the output format being the recording format, namely, 39 Nimexe standard bytes.

The future

Of future developments envisaged for Siena, mention may be made of:

- (i) input of new declaring countries such as the USA, Canada, Spain and Portugal;
- (ii) expansion of the system to cover monthly information;
- (iii) access to data in the NACE/CLIO classification;

- (iv) execution of complex tasks in the batch mode;
- (v) preparation of graphs (pie chart, histogram, etc.) from data taken from Siena.

For those interested in external trade statistics who would like to make use of the Siena facilities, we would point out that there is a user's manual for the Siena database on external trade (version 2—0 of July 1983) which is available in French and English.

To obtain this manual, or for any information on access to the Siena databank or any additional information on its content or processing software, please contact:

Statistical Office of the European Communities, Directorate C, BP 1907, L-1019 Luxembourg. (Tel: 4301.2745 or 4301.3530)

C. Poliart

The foundations of unemployment

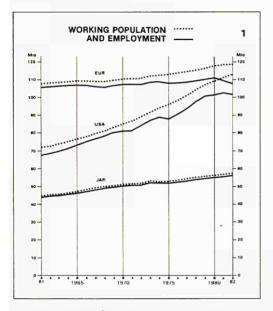
Unemployed persons, as everyone knows, are persons who want to work but cannot find work. This brief definition contains the two parts of the equation which, when not properly balanced, result in unemployment:

- (i) the active population, i.e. all the persons who work or want to work (from desire and/or necessity);
- (ii) work, i.e. all the jobs existing within the economy.

Graph 1 describes more clearly than words the problem facing Europe: while the active population in Europe increased by approximately 10 million between 1960 and 1982, the number of jobs remained stagnant at around 100 million.

We shall return to these two European curves, but before moving on from Graph 1 it is interesting to note how very differently from Europe the other two major Western economic powers have behaved:

(i) In the United States over the past 20 years the active population has increased by 40 million, going from 70 to 110 million and thus now equalling the active population of the European Community! However, at the same time 35 million new jobs have also been created at an equally rapid rate. While the active population and the levels of employment and unemployment in Europe and the United States may at present be very similar, the backgrounds to this situation are very different: Euro-



pean stagnation as opposed to American dynamism.

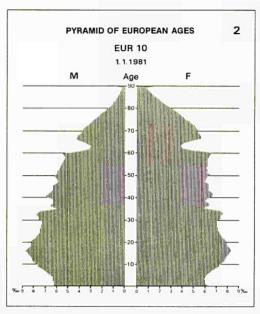
(ii) In Japan, the outstanding feature is the remarkable balance between the active population and jobs, both having increased from 45 to over 55 million.

Growth of the active population

The active population is based on two main factors: demographic structure and activity rate.

The pyramid of European ages (Graph 2) shows a certain uniformity for age groups between 35 and 60. On the other hand the 60 to 65 years age group, corresponding to births during the First World War, is much narrower, while the age group between 15 and 35 is very broad. Finally the drop in birth rate since 1965 is narrowing the base of the pyramid to an even more important degree than did the two world wars.

This complicated and irregular structure significantly affects the number of 'persons of working age'. At present, the groups just reaching working age are heavily populated, while those reaching retirement are thinly

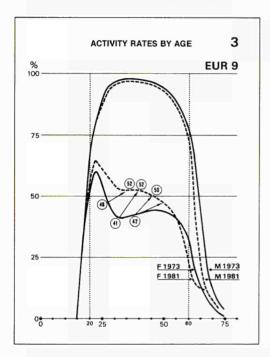


populated. The resulting population excess increased steadily throughout the 1970s, culminating in an excess of over 800 000 persons per year between 1977 and 1982. This excess will decrease in the years ahead, but, contrary to popular belief, it will remain positive until 1991, and even by the year 2000 there will have been only a very minor reversal. Unless more jobs are created the population structure will mean that unemployment will go on increasing in Europe until the 1990s.

There is every likelihood that we shall see the reverse phenomenon with very different but equally serious repercussions, at the start of the next century, when the population will not only be ageing more rapidly but relatively large numbers of people will be approaching retirement. For if the present reproduction rate of approximately 0.85 continues, the numbers approaching working age will represent a mere two-thirds of those approaching retirement age.

The second major factor influencing the active population is the activity rate; this indicates, for every hundred persons of a given age and sex, the number in possession

of or wishing to have a paid job. Both the level and the pattern of development of this indicator of the desire to have a paid job differ greatly between men and women.



For a man, work is the norm, and more than 95% of men in their 30s are in work (or are seeking work). When one compares the 1973 and 1981 Community labour force surveys, however, it is noticeable that the activity rate has decreased slightly for men of all ages, but in particular that the retirement age is rapidly decreasing. In 1981 just over half of the men aged between 60 and 64 had already retired, whereas in 1973 the figure was only 40%.

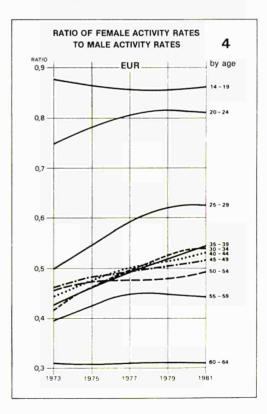
As for women, it is difficult to know whether to talk about evolution or revolution, so rapid has been the increase in their activity rate. Apart from the fact that women, like men, are also retiring at an earlier age, it is noticeable that the activity rate rose steeply for women of all ages between 1973 and 1981.

At the beginning of the 1970s the curve showing activity rates by age sagged in the middle,

reflecting the fact that women tended to withdraw from the jobs market when they had young children and started seeking work again from the age of 35 onwards. By 1981 this trend had disappeared, while the activity rate of women aged between 30 and 50 increased from just over 40% in 1973 to more than 50% in 1981.

This change in the behaviour of women in relation to the labour market becomes even more impressive if the results are analysed on a cohort basis: if women who were aged between 25 and 29 in 1973 had maintained the same pattern of behaviour towards work between 1973 and 1981 their activity rate in 1981 (at which time they would have been aged between 33 and 37) would have remained as in 1973 at 46

If they had had the same pattern of behaviour as existed in 1973 their activity rate would

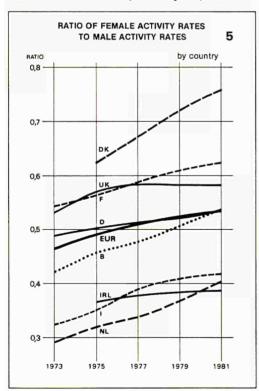


have gone down to 41% in 1981. Yet not only has their activity rate not decreased, it has actually increased from 46% to 52%. And this phenomenon applies to every age group without exception.

In less than a decade the narrowing of the gap between the activity rates of men and women has been spectacular (see Graph 4).

The ratio between the activity rates of women and men has increased for all age groups, and in particular for persons aged between 25 and 44, where the increases vary between 20 and 27%. The changes in the behaviour patterns of older persons have been slightly less marked. The ratio varies less for the youngest age groups, simply because nowadays the behaviour of young women is practically comparable with that of young men.

The spread between the different Member States is remarkable (see Graph 5). In 1981



the ratio of the activity rates of women to those of men in the European Community was just above 0.5. This was the ratio in the Federal Republic of Germany and Belgium, while the figure for France and the United Kingdom was 0.6. However, the ratio for Denmark, at one extreme, was 0.75, while at the other extreme the ratio for the Netherlands, Italy and Ireland was approximately 0.4.

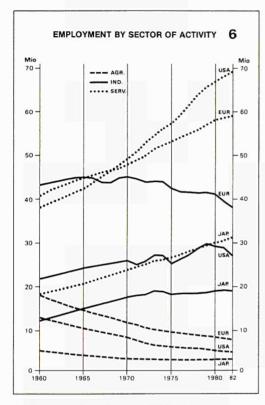
Nevertheless, there has been a narrowing of the gap in the behaviour of men and women in relation to the labour market in all Member States. This process has been particularly rapid in Denmark (where there is a high proportion of part-time work), whereas it has been fairly slow in the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

All these observations on the activity rate of women point to a simple but far-reaching conclusion: barring a reversal of this sociological trend the behaviour of women on the labour market will be comparable to that of men by the start of the 21st century. It therefore seems likely that 30 years from now there will be an additional 20 million women on the labour market.

Growth in employment?

The stagnation in employment in Europe since the 1960s is in fact simply a reflection of the contrasting fortunes of the different economic sectors of activity. The three major economic sectors (agriculture, industry and services) highlight the trend very clearly.

The protracted decline in the number of agricultural workers has continued, the workforce decreasing from 18.5 million in 1960 to 8 million in 1982. Agriculture now accounts for only 7% of employment in Europe; if we exclude Italy, Ireland and Greece, where agriculture is still a major source of employment (12%, 17% and 28% respectively), the average for the other European countries drops to 5%. The figure, which is very



similar to that in the United States, can scarcely fall very much further. There has even been an increase in agricultural employment in certain countries — in Germany since 1976 and in the United Kingdom, Netherlands and Denmark in 1982.

Employment in industry seems to have entered a similar stage of decline. The long-term trend for Europe clearly reveals a continuous decrease since 1970, each crisis provoking further losses which are never completely made up during the subsequent recovery phase. Thus, the number of workers in industry fell from 45 million in 1970 to 38 million in 1982, a drop of 15%. Europe reached a ceiling at the end of the 1960s; Japan and the United States did so in 1973 (with a more accentuated curve in the latter country); in both cases industrial employment remained the same in 1982 as in 1973. The example of Japan, which has a young and

dynamic industry, seems to indicate that gains in industrial production are now achieved through increased productivity and automation. Nowadays, industry needs to keep itself in good health simply to maintain employment at current levels; any increase is unlikely.

In 1960, employment in services represented 40% of all jobs in the European Community, whereas the figure is now approaching 60%. In absolute terms, the number of persons employed in the services sector increased from 41 million in 1960 to 62 million in 1982, a rise of 50%. The increase has been even more spectacular in the United States, where the number of jobs in this sector rose from 38 million in 1960 to 69 million in 1982, an increase of 80%, or a doubling of employment over a period of approximately 25 years. The increase in Japan has been almost as great (+70%), from 18 million in 1960 to 31 million in 1982.

A further point of interest is that it is also the services sector where two modern characteristics of employment are well to the fore:

- (i) the sector employs almost as many women as men (46%) in 1981);
- (ii) there is a considerable amount of part-time work 15% of employment against 5% in industry).

Moreover, these two characteristics are very closely correlated, women having a virtual monopoly over part-time work (in 1981 85% of part-time jobs were held by women). In fact in the services sector almost one woman in three works part-time (29% for all women, 38% for married women). This is all the more remarkable when one considers that the percentage of men working part-time is still minimal; only 4% in the services sector and a mere 1% in industry.

Unavoidable unemployment?

The statistical data show clearly that throughout the 1980s the population of working age

in Europe will increase and, in the absence of any major sociological reversal of trends the propensity to work will likewise increase. Such a rise in the active population, should employment in Europe continue to stagnate as during past 20 years, would mean that rise in unemployment will become the statistical norm.

In order to avoid this increase in unemployment, it is obviously necessary to provide more employment. Two developments are possible:

The first lies in economic expansion. However, besides the multiplicity of conditions to make this possible, its effects on employment are not necessarily all positive. The need for international competitiveness in a free market might cause businesses, notably in industry, to invest in automation or rationalization in order to boost productivity. The creation of skilled jobs is thus balanced by the loss of less-skilled jobs with a possibly negative effect on the number of jobs created. The services sector, less affected by this phenomenon,

remains our biggest hope in the short term. As this sector is now dominant in our economies and will soon be responsible for two out of every three jobs, this hope has a quantitatively important base. Qualitatively employment in services is often for the young, or female, where supply of labour is at its highest. If full employment is the aim of society, our economies cannot be ruled by policies based on financial and economic mechanisms which cause new investment to consume more jobs than it creates.

The second solution to the problem of unemployment, which can moreover be combined with the former, is the redistribution of work. The problems here are not so much financial but rather the reorganization of work and the reaction to change which this entails. It must not be forgotten, even though it is often left unsaid, that work-sharing has very concrete implications on revenues and responsibilities. The necessity exists but are those who are in work ready to share?

B. Langevin

Parliamentary questions

Written Question No 1946/82 by Mr Rudolf Wedekind (PPE—D) to the Commission of the European Communities

(10 February 1983)

Subject: Mounting tide of statistical surveys

An increasing number of enterprises in the Community deplore the mounting tide of statistical surveys with which they are inundated, in particular those emanating from the Community. What, in the Commission's view, are the possibilities of restricting the number of statistical surveys of the most disparate kind on EEC territory and of requesting only the essential data, thereby

relieving undertakings of non-operational costs?

Is the Commission aware of the extent of the financial burden which these increasingly detailed statistical inquiries place on undertakings?

Answer given by Mr Burke on behalf of the Commission

(13 April 1983)

The Statistical Office of the European Communities, with the close cooperation of the national statistical offices of the Member States has succeeded in recent years in reducing substantially the demands made on business enterprises to respond to Community statistical surveys.

The burden has been reduced in several ways:

- by simplification and reduction of the number of questionnaires — for example to current statistics for the coal and steel industries;
- by the reduction in the frequency with which certain surveys are conducted — for example the structure of earnings surveys;
- by increased use of sampling methods and by a reduction in the number of enterprises approached in sample surveys — for example in the enquiries into industrial activities and in surveys of labour costs.

There is also currently before the Council a draft Regulation¹ laying down certain measures for the standardization and simplification of statistics of trade between Member States by means of the introduction of a single document for recording purposes.

In general, the Community's needs are met, as far as possible, from statistics collected for national purposes, or are incorporated within national surveys. The latter is, for example, true of the Commission's conjunctural (business-cycle) surveys of Community industry.

While no precise information is available, the costs incurred by firms in meeting the Community's statistical requirements are extremely small.

Written Question No 2024/82 by Sir James Scott-Hopkins (ED—UK) to the Commission of the European Communities

(18 January 1983)

Subject: Inflation

What was the level of inflation over the last three months on an annual basis in each of the 10 Member States?

Answer given by Mr Burke on behalf of the Commission

(18 March 1983)

The rate of inflation as measured by the 'Consumer price index', over the last three months calculated on an annual basis was as follows in each of the Member States:

	October 1982/81	November 1982/81	December 1982/81
Federal Republic			
of Germany	4,9	4,7	4,6
France	9,3	9,4	9,8
Italy	17,1	16,6	16,2
The Netherlands	4,8	4,4	4,2
Belgium	9,8	8,9	8,1
Luxembourg	10,4	10,8	10,4
United Kingdom	6,8	6,2	5,4
Ireland ¹		12,3	
Denmark	10,6	10,1	9,0
Greece	20,0	19,9	19,1
EUR 10	10,0	9,7	9,4
	1	1	1

¹ Fourth quarter 1982 compared with fourth quarter 1981.

These figures are published by the Statistical Office of the European Communities in the monthly bulletin *Consumer price index*.

The name of the honourable Member has been put on the mailing list for this publication.

Written Question No 2024/82 by Mr Michael Welsh (ED—UK) to the Commission of the European Communities

(24 January 1983)

¹ OJ C 21, 26. 1. 1983, p. 4.

Subject: Employment in the services sector

The Financial Times of 7 January 1983 gives a breakdown of employment in the Community by type of activity. The figures for 1981 are as follows:

	(%)
Agriculture:	7.2
Manufacturing:	26.6
Services:	56.0
Other (including construction):	10.2

- 1. Could the Commission confirm the accuracy of these figures?
- 2. Could it state which service industries are included in the 56% of employment in the Community and provide a breakdown of the different sectors?

Answer given by Mr Burke on behalf of the Commission

(15 March 1983)

1. According to national estimates supplied to Eurostat, the respective shares of the various sectors of activity in total employment was as follows in 1981:

Agriculture: 7.2 %. Industry: 36.8 %. Services: 56.0 %.

These figures include all wage and salary earners (including the armed forces), besides employers, the self-employed and family workers.

The Commission has no breakdown available showing the respective shares in total employment of 'manufacturing industries' and 'other (including the construction sector)'.

However, a breakdown is available for wage and salary earners only; the respective shares of the sectors referred to by the honourable Member were as follows in 1981:

	(%)
Agriculture:	2.5
Manufacturing industry (ISIC 3):	30.9
Other, including the construction	
sector (ISIC 2-4-5):	10.2
Services:	56.4

2. The service activities include the retail distribution, hotels and catering activities, repairs, transport and communications, banking and finance, insurance, business services, renting services, public administration and other services.

A breakdown showing the proportion of wage and salary earners employed in each branch of the service industries is available for certain Member States but not for the Community as a whole. The available data are being transmitted directly to the honourable Member and to the Secretariat of the European Parliament.

Written Question No 2176/82 by Mr Robert Jackson (ED—UK) to the Commission of the European Communities

(10 February 1983)

Subject: Demography

Can the Commission state what proportions of the Community's total male and female population were over 60:

- (a) in the most recent year for which comprehensive figures are available;
- (b) in 1973?

Is the Commission able to give an estimate of the likely proportion of the Community's population that will be over 60 in the year 2000?

Answer given by Mr Burke on behalf of the Commission

(15 March 1983)

The honourable Member will find in the table below the information requested.

Percentage of the total population aged 60 years or over

	LU	011 10 (%)		
Year	Total	Males	Females	
1973	18.4	15.6	21.0	
1980	18.2	15.2	21.2	
2000	20.1	17.3	22.9	
		1	l	

Published

Theme 1

BASIC STATISTICS OF THE COMMUNITY — 1982

ISBN 92-825-3185-6 (GR)

Format A 6, 283 pages, price BFR 200

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This selection covers the following subjects:

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(1. 1. 2/82)

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ISBN 92-825-3316-6 (DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/NL)

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In this publication, the Statistical Office of the European Communities gives the latest statistics relating to economic and social factors in the regions of the European Community.

The issue contains information on:

- population and its structure;
- employment and unemployment;
- education, health and various social indicators;
- economic aggregates;
- the main series on the different sectors of the economy: agriculture, industry, energy and the services sector;
- the Community's financial participation in investments.

The main regional indicators will also be presented in a series of coloured maps. For the first time, regional series for Greece will be included in the yearbook.

(1. 2. 1/82)

Theme 2

COMPARISON IN REAL VALUES OF THE AGGREGATES OF ESA — 1980 ISBN 92-825-3403-0 (EN/FR), ISBN 92-825-3404-9 (DE/IT) Format A4, 417 pages, price BFR 1000

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The work makes it possible to express in real terms the share of each country in the EUR 10 for each aggregate. (2. 1. 2/82)

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ISBN 92-825-368-0 (FR), ISBN 92-825-3867-2 (EN)

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The study analyses the treatment in national accounts of goods and services for individual consumption which are produced, distributed or paid for by government. This is an important and growing phenomenon in many areas of government involvement in the economy but the most important examples are to be found in the field of medical care. Differences in institutional arrangements between countries or over time mean that in some cases the initial expenditure may be made by households (private consumption), knowing that most of their outlays will be reimbursed by the social security administration, while in others goods and services are provided free to the population and paid for directly by government, hence being treated as collective consumption. This is one of the major sources of difficulty in comparing the national accounts of different countries.

The author examines the treatment of such transactions, in the light of various international national accounts recommendations and concludes that through showing separately who actually consumes and who finances the expenditure, one can obtain national accounts figures which are both clearer for individual countries and more comparable internationally.

(2. 1. 5/83)

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — DETAILED TABLES BY BRANCH 1970—1981 ISBN 92-825-3679-3 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, 209 pages, price BFR 600

Data for the Member States are provided for operations on goods and services (gross value-added, earnings of employees, gross fixed capital formation, final consumption of households), the breakdown of employment by branch as well as structural data and figures based on purchasing power parities.

(2.3.1/83)

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Updating of and commentary on the data relating to the regional dispersion of the financial participations agreed by the Community in 1981 with regard to regional development, according to the following forms:

- European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), Guidance Section;
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);
- European Coal and Steel Community and European Atomic Energy Community (ECSC Treaty, Articles 54 and 56 (2a), and Euratom Treaty);
- European Investment Bank (EIB). Loans from the Bank's own resources and from the resources of the New Community Instrument for borrowing and lending (NCl).
 (2. 5. 1/82)

Theme 3

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

ISBN 92-825-3394-8 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, 251 pages, price BFR 700

The statistical yearbook on employment and unemployment covers in a single volume all statistical aspects of the labour market:

- population;
- working population and employment according to sex, status and sector of activity;
- gainful employment in industry and the services (ISIC and NACE Nomenclatures);
- registered unemployment, vacancies and job placements;
- industrial disputes;
- working hours.

A special chapter is devoted to employment in the iron and steel industry. As far as they are available, the data relate to the years from 1970 to 1981 in the 10 Member States of the European Community; the main data on Spain and Portugal are given in an annex.

The main variables are illustrated by about 10 graphs.

(3. 4. 1/82)

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT — STATISTICAL BULLETIN — 3-1983 (EN, FR)

Format A 4, 15 pages, price BFR 100

This bulletin presents the latest data available relating to population, working population, and employment by sector of economic activity and by occupational status. The data are published in the form of time-series from 1970 to 1982 in absolute values, in percentage changes and in percentage shares of the total.

A short commentary and graph underline the most relevant points.

(3. 4. 2/83)

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(3. 6. 3/81)

(3. 6. 4/81)

Theme 4

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(4. 1. 3/83)

OPERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS 1982

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This annual publication presents, in its first part, the main operating statistics for the past year and gives an outline of the structure of the nuclear plant situation, with units on line as well as units under construction.

The second part of the publication gives the monthly operating data for each nuclear power station of the Community as well as the yearly results since the first connection to the grid. The annual load diagrams are also included showing the main reasons for unavailability.

(4. 2. 3/83)

Theme 5

AGRICULTURAL PRICE STATISTICS 1970—1981

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The publication Agricultural price statistics 1970-1981 provides annual series for the selling prices of the main agricultural (crop and animal) products and the purchase prices of the means of agricultural

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Theme 6

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(6. 2. 2/83)

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(6, 2, 2/83)

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(6. 2. 2/83)

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(6.2.2/83)

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		(6. 2. 3/83)

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The study is rounded off by an analysis of the macroeconomic data and external trade of each ACP country and by an analysis of intra-ACP trade.

(6. 3. 1/83)

Theme 9

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(The German version will be published later.)

(9. 2. 1/83)

To be published

Theme 2

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(3. 4. 7/82)

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 $(4. \ 4. \ 1/83)$

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(5. 3. 3/83)

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(5.7.1/82)

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(6. 2. 6/83)

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(9. 1. 1/83)

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This publication is produced essentially by an automatic photocomposition process after an extraction from the Cronos data bank. Four kinds of information are published in Eurostatistics: an article 'In brief' which looks at the latest trends in the data available, a visual presentation of the most important economic series for the Community and the Member States, 'Community tables' containing data harmonized by Eurostat on the basis of common criteria and 'Country tables' with a selection of the economic indicators most often used in each country. The bulletin appears at the beginning of each month in a trilingual edition.

(1. 1. 3/83)

UNEMPLOYMENT — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 3)

ISSN 0252-9890 (DE), 0252-9920 (EN), 0252-9912 (FR), 0252-9904 (IT)

Format A 4, approximately 10 pages, price BFR 430 annual subscription

This bulletin, which appears on about the 20th of each month, shows the total of registered unemployed in each of the Member States of the European Community as at the end of the previous month.

Figures are given for the total of unemployed together with unemployed persons under 25 years broken down by sex.

These data are presented in absolute terms, as percentage changes, and as a proportion of the civilian working population. In the case of unemployed persons under 25 years, data in the last category appear for the first time. Figures are also shown for unemployed foreigners, the numbers of vacancies and vacancies filled during the month.

A table showing a regional breakdown of registered unemployed will be appearing in 1983 for the first time.

In addition to the data the main features of and trends in the labour market are commented on briefly and illustrated by a graph. (3. 4. 3/83)

INDUSTRIAL SHORT-TERM TRENDS (THEME 4)

ISSN 0254-0231 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 60 pages, price BFR 720 annual subscription

Short-term industrial indicators with commentary and graphs. The indicators relate to industrial production (gross indices per day worked and seasonally adjusted), turnover, new orders, exports and imports, number of persons employed and wages and salaries for 13 sectors of industry, three main groups of industrial products and for total industry. A special section of the bulletin deals with the short-term indicators of the building and civil engineering sector. The publication may include one or more supplements with methodological notes or long series in the course of the year: these are included in the subscription price.

(4. 1. 5/83)

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(4. 3. 3/83)

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(4. 2. 7/83)

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(4. 2. 5/83)

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(4. 2. 6/83)

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(6. 2. 7/83)

► Quarterly bulletins

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The data are expressed in millions of European currency units (Mio ECU); they are presented according to the Eurostat's balance-of-payments schema and cover the three latest annual and the nine latest quarterly available periods.

(2. 6. 3/83)

QUARTERLY IRON AND STEEL BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-3510 (DE/EN/FR/1T)

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Annual, quarterly and monthly statistics on employment, consumption of raw materials, production of iron ore, pig-iron, crude steel, finished steel products and end products, on works deliveries and receipts, stocks, on external and internal ECSC steel and scrap trade and on apparent steel consumption. (4. 3. 2/83)

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(DE/EN/FR)

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(4. 1. 3/83)

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(4. 1. 3/83)

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ISSN 0250-6580 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 120 pages, price BFR 1 320 annual subscription

This quarterly bulletin on the volume of animal production comprises five parts. The first three parts contain the monthly statistics on meat (slaughterings, gross indigenous production, external trade in live animals), eggs and poultry (incubation of eggs, chicks hatched and external trade in chicks) and milk (collection of milk, dairies' production, stocks of butter and milk powder). Most of these statistics are forwarded to Eurostat by the Member States in accordance with Council directives or regulations.

Part 4 contains external trade statistics on meat, eggs and milk products; the basic data required for the compilation of these statistics are the Nimexe cumulative quarterly data. For the main products (beef and veal, pigmeat, sheepmeat, horsemeat, butter, milk powder, eggs), these external trade statistics are shown alongside the data on production and intervention stocks; this combination leads to the presentation of simplified 'Eurostat balance sheets', which do not necessarily tally with the annual supply balance sheets compiled by the Member States, but which should help to provide more frequent (quarterly) and more rapid (four to five months after the end of the quarter under review) information on the balance between supply and demand.

Finally, the content of Part 5 varies, and comprises annual supply balance sheets, results of surveys on the numbers or the structure of cattle and pig herds, annual milk statistics, structure of dairies, structure and use of hatcheries, comments and forecasts, etc.

Note: For all the series published, retrospective data are available in Eurostat's Cronos data bank and can be supplied on request in the form of print-outs or magnetic tapes; similarly, recent updatings of the basic monthly series can be sent each month on request. (5. 2. 1/83)

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The selling prices of crop and animal products comprise prices for the major products at the agricultural producer level, and also the prices of a number of processed products of the food industry. The purchase prices of the means of agricultural production relate to the prices paid by farmers for the purchase of feedingstuffs, fertilizers, fuels, seeds and plant protection products.

(5. 3. 4/83)

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(6. 2. 4/83)

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(6. 2. 5/83)

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ISSN 0378-3596 (DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, approximately 290 pages, price BFR 860 annual subscription

This publication which is updated every six months contains harmonized data on manual workers' hourly earnings and weekly hours of work in industry, and non-manual workers' monthly earnings in industry, trade, banking and insurance. These data are broken down by industrial groups according to NACE, by sex (earnings only) and, for certain countries, by region.

In addition, this publication shows, for manual and non-manual workers combined and broken down by industrial group, some data on total hourly labour costs in industry (principal results of the three-yearly Community surveys and updated estimates for intermediate years).

(3. 6. 1/83)

EC AGRICULTURAL PRICE INDICES (OUTPUT AND INPUT) (THEME 5) ISSN 0250-5967 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 120 pages, price BFR 860 annual subscription

This publication shows the trend of the monthly EC indices of producer prices of agricultural products and of purchase prices of the means of agricultural production during the latest 13 months for EUR 9, EUR 10 and each of the 10 Member States. Each of the price indices is the result of a base-weighted (Laspeyres) calculation using value-weights determined for the base year 1975 for a fixed basket of agricultural products (output index) or of a selection of goods and services (input index). 1975 also serves as the reference year. Number 1/1983 of this publication shows in addition the trend of the annual price indices from 1973 to 1982. A comment on the most recent evolution together with a presentation of rates of change and some graphics are to be found before the index tables. A weighting schema by country and product is also included.

(5.3.1/83)

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