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1. Structural indicators:
   They compromise combinations of economic indicators — on an annual basis — which highlight the main characteristics of the national economies.
2. European Monetary System:
   Various aspects of the mechanism of the EMS are presented.
3. Current statistics:
   This is the most important part of the publication containing time series of the main financial indicators (money supply, interest rates, reserves, etc.).

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NEWS ITEMS

Departure of the Director-General of Eurostat

Mr P. B. R. de Geus left the Statistical Office of the European Communities on 31 August 1984 following the Commission's acceptance of his resignation.

Mr De Geus had been appointed to the post of Director-General on 1 December 1982. He is returning to the Netherlands, where he has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the TNO.

Since 1 September, Mr Silvio Ronchetti, Director of the Directorate for 'External trade, ACP and non-member countries, and transport statistics', has been performing the duties of Director-General of Eurostat.

The work of Eurostat in 1983

1. Processing and dissemination of statistical information

1.1. In March 1983, the two largest Community statistical data bases (Cronos — time series and Comext — external trade) were made available on-line in North America through commercial agencies. A similar launching in Japan is planned during the first week of June 1984.

1.2. In addition to these commercial services, there were important developments in direct on-line services to certain privileged external users such as the national statistical institutes and the EC press offices. At the same time the range of on-line information made available from several data bases in Luxembourg to users within the European Commission headquarters in Brussels was considerably extended. Plans are being made for the setting up of joint data bases shared between the Statistical Office and the administrative departments in the Commission.

1.3. A second study was completed on the impact of networks on the transmission of statistical data. A further pilot experiment was initiated with Istat in Rome to enable a better assessment to be made of the practical problems involved in this type of transmission.

1.4. The exchange of external trade data through international networks was further advanced by the linking of the Community trade statistics (Nimexe) to the UN Comtrade system.

2. General economic statistics

2.1. National accounts

Eurostat continued, in cooperation with the OECD, the United Nations, the IMF and the World Bank, its preparatory work for the next revision of the systems of national accounts. In 1983, it managed to obtain the Member States' agreement to changing the sectoral classification of private non-profit institutions serving households. It also continued its studies on the definition of alternative concepts for measuring consumption (concept of extended consumption of the population, i. e. including goods or services for individual consumption financed by general government), for measuring income (concept of discretionary income) and for the treatment of consumption subsidies. Lastly, Eurostat began, in conjunction with the CBS, the study on the use of chain indices in national accounts and, in conjunction with the OECD, the study on the adjustment to be made to national income to take account of the terms of trade.

The work of developing national accounts was directed towards better knowledge of assets. The present accounts record only flows, i. e. the transactions that have taken place during the past year. The analysis of economic behaviour patterns, mainly in periods of inflation, is taking more and more account of the possession of both real assets and financial assets or liabilities.

In the field of production, this analysis led Eurostat to introduce a calculation of the stocks of fixed capital assets held by producer branches, first of all for industry and then for agriculture and market services. The methodology of these calculations was published in the series 'Studies in national accounts' and the results are available in Eurostat's data bases.

As regards the more general problem of balance-sheet accounts, the Working Party on National Accounts welcomed Eurostat's proposals to define common accounting rules and to introduce a step-by-step programme for the compilation of balance sheet accounts at Community level.

2.2. Nomenclatures

In 1983 two important meetings were held regarding the project for harmonization of classifications of activities and products at world level, a project in which Eurostat is playing a major part.

The first of these meetings was held in Luxembourg in May 1983 and was attended by experts from the joint Eurostat/United Nations working group.

A semi-final version of the 'Integrated System of Classifications of Activities and Products' (Iscap) was drawn up for goods. For construction and services, the basic structure of the system was defined. Work in the next few years will involve refining the definitions of the headings for which a list was drawn up.

At the end of 1983, the United Nations Statistical Office organized in New York a meeting of experts, which examined the incorporation of the Iscap work into proposed revisions of the ISIC and SITC and into the project for a combined trade/production nomenclature.

2.3. Regional statistics

Harmonization

In response to the requirements of the Commission departments responsible for regional (ERDF) and social (ESF) policies, a method of estimating unemployment at regional level was adopted by Eurostat in close cooperation with the relevant working parties. Using this method, which combines the statistics on registered unemployment and the results of the Community labour force survey, the countries should be able to supply unemployment rates which are as comparable and reliable as possible within a fairly short period (t + four months) and a detailed regional level (NUTS III).

On the question of employment, a comparative analysis of the data available according to different sources (accounts, labour force surveys, inquiries into industrial activity, harmonized statistics on employment in industry) provided Eurostat with the data needed for critical examination and selection of the best regional indicators.

2.4. Financial statistics

In the field of national accounts, the working parties on 'Economic accounts' and 'Financial accounts' decided at a joint meeting held on 1 and 2 December 1983 to draw up accounts of economic and financial assets to supplement the flow accounts.

As regards the balance sheet accounts, the working parties decided to maintain the classification of sectors and transactions as defined in the ESA. However, this will not rule out the possibility of producing, in satellite tables outside the system, more detailed breakdowns and data, particularly on the subject of bank credits. With regard to the principles of valuation, the working parties expressed their preference for using the market price as the valuation criterion; this also applies to securities (shares and bonds), which will be recorded at market prices on both the assets and liabilities sides, in accordance with the recommendations of the UN's provisional directives on the compilation of balance sheet accounts.

2.5. Balance of payments, international movements of capital, international trade in services

Description of national methods

The studies describing the national methods of compiling the balance of payments in the FR of Germany, Denmark and France have been completed. These studies will be published at the end of 1983 or beginning of 1984. The United Kingdom methodology was published in September 1983.

International movements of capital

In conjunction with the work carried out within the OECD, a draft revised version of the questionnaire used for collecting information on direct investment and related headings was adopted by the 'Balance of payments' working party on 27 and 28 October 1983.

2.6. Balance of payments of the European institutions

The balance of payments of the Community institutions were compiled for the years 1974-81. This information was used to study the differences in recording flows between the Community institutions and the Member States.

2.7. Consumer prices and purchasing power parities

The work on purchasing power parities was limited to a price survey on market services, carried out in autumn 1983. During the year, the emphasis was placed on incorporating the 1980 results (phase IV of the ICP) into wider contexts such as the European, OECD and world comparisons. The general outlines of the programme of work for the next phase covering 1985 were determined in the Community countries at the end of 1983.

3. External trade, ACP and non-member countries, transport statistics

3.1. Eurostat has just published the 1982 *ACP Yearbook,* comprising a selection of the main macroeconomic series on some 60 associated countries from 1976 to 1981.

The Siena project — chronological data bank of external trade statistics based on the Nimexe, SITC and NACE — has just been made available to users within the Community institutions. Siena is a tool for analysing Community trade over a long period. Developments are planned in the next few months; this project will represent the main tool for analysis and internal dissemination of Community trade statistics.

3.2. Production and dissemination of external trade statistics

The Community external trade statistics were collected regularly every month on the basis of the Nimexe nomenclature in accordance with the basic regulations. Derived statistics based on nomenclatures such as the SITC, NACE, CCT, textiles, etc. were produced and made available to various users by means of a considerably extended and diversified range of tools:

External trade data bank

Comext-Eurostat:

disseminated by the hosts CISI and EURIS to users outside the Commission;

Siena:

main tool for analysis and study of time series within the Commission; several Cronos domains, particularly for agricultural products (MICA).

These data can be placed in a world context through a link-up with the UN's Comtrade data bank and the incorporation of the statistics of our main trading partners (USA, Japan, Canada, ACP countries, etc.) in the Comtext, Siena and Cronos banks.

3.3. Analysis and development

Indices of external trade

Studies in depth into various issues associated with unit values, which have been carried out over the last two years should allow the publication of first results in 1984.

Technical cooperation

The technical cooperation programme is expanding rapidly. This reflects the interest shown by beneficiary countries and the priority given by the Commission to cooperation with developing countries. The main projects in progress are:

- *Training of statisticians:* the results of the study carried out by the Office were presented at a meeting of directors of African statistical training centres. The implementation of the recommendations is under way.
- *ECWA*[1] *external trade statistics:* a working group of representatives of ECWA Member States has prepared a draft methodological regulation. This is a first concrete step in the improvement and harmonization of the figures.
- *ICP-Africa:* the results of phase IV (15 countries) are being presented at a meeting in Addis Ababa in February. This meeting will also be used for the preparation of phase V.
- *National accounts:* Eurostat has set up a work programme in collaboration with Member States; the starting point will be the critical evaluation of the numerous activities already under way in this domain.
- *Budget/consumption study in Benin:* EDF support has been obtained for this project.
- *Food strategy:* Eurostat is associated with those Community projects which have a statistical character (CILSS, Kenya, etc.). In addition in four African countries the Office will launch actions to improve the statistics necessary for policy.
- *Contacts and visits:* Eurostat has received delegations from numerous countries or organizations including (recently) Yugoslavia, Cooperation Council of Arab States of the Gulf, Mexico, and Israel.

[1] Economic Community of Western Africa.

4. Energy and industrial statistics

4.1. Energy

Overall energy balance sheets

Within the framework of the development of the overall energy balance sheets, the disaggregation of final consumption has been improved further by the introduction of a new heading covering households on their own as a subdivision of the sector 'Households, etc.' so that household consumption, which previously was combined with the tertiary sector, is now shown separately. This disaggregation has been effected on each energy source for the years 1975 to 1982.

At the same time the calculation of degree-days for a large number of years and observation points in the most significant geographical regions of the Community has been computerized for use as an explanatory factor and exogenous variable in domestic consumption.

On the other hand in order to provide users with historical series of increasing length, the 'energy supplied' balance sheets, hitherto dated back to 1973, are now available in a common unit from 1960 onwards for all the Community countries except Greece. Since October 1983, these series have been available to users of the Euronet system.

Oil and natural gas balance sheets

As part of the process of improving the analyses of the energy economy, specific quarterly balances for crude oil, petroleum products and natural gas are now drawn up in parallel with the aggregate quarterly energy balances. The layout of the tables is designed to permit the comparison of similar periods and an analysis and commentary on the changing flows on both the supply and demand sides are published regularly. The results are now drawn up in computerized form on the basis of the monthly data and are available with a three-months time lag.

Energy input-output tables

A document on 'definitions and methods' was drawn up with a view to the harmonized preparation of the energy input-output tables for 1980.

The computer programs for calculations of energy content have been written and the final results, based on the 1975 tables, are available as a computer listing or tape. They cover the energy contents, including the part contained in imports, and thus allow the total energy content to be calculated for each good and service (breakdown in 45 branches).

On the other hand, the household energy consumption has been updated as far as 1982 in line with the input-output tables, the national accounts and the energy balance sheets.

4.2. Industry and services

Industry

A publication containing the results of the coordinated survey on the structure and activity of industry for 1979 and 1980 has been prepared and will be published at the beginning of 1984. In addition the results for 1975 to 1981 of the coordinated survey on investments in fixed assets were published at the end of 1983.

Difficulties have been encountered in implementing the project on producer price indices for industrial products because of the delayed return dates agreed by the authorities of several Member States. The intention is to publish some of the information provided in 1984 in the monthly bulletin *Industrial short-term trends*. A special 1983 supplement to this booklet was issued covering retrospective series for the index of industrial production and the updating of the applied methodology.

Services

Work is continuing on the collection and publication on a country-by-country basis of the first statistical data on the structure and activity of enterprises in wholesale and retail distribution as well as on the monthly volume indices for retail sales.

Iron and steel

Editorial and material revision of certain iron and steel statistical questionnaires: continuation of work started at the beginning of 1982. Coordination of the statistical definitions with the technological definitions of Euronorm 1982. Revision of statistics on steel merchants.

Programme of statistical research into the consumption of steel by branch. Setting up of a new triennial programme 1983, 1984, 1985. Results available towards the end of 1983: 1970 to 1981. First publication of a synthesis in the *Iron and Steel Yearbook 1983*.

Establishment of the 'Input-output — Steel' tables of the Member States. Pilot study for Germany. Studies started for the other Member States. Completion time: up to end of 1984.

5. Demographic and social statistics

During the course of 1983, priority in demographic and social statistics was again given to the developments and production of statistics required to service labour market problems, including the unemployment of young persons, the duration of unemployment and the crisis of employment in steel. The monthly and annual statistical bulletins on unemployment and employment were extended to include further information as this became available.

5.1. Employment and unemployment

A series of publications setting out the definitions and scope of national statistics in the field of employment and working conditions was completed during the year by the issuing of volumes dealing with the duration of unemployment, the handicapped and their employment, and industrial disputes. Work on updating the important volume on definitions of registered unemployment was put in hand during the year.

The Community sample survey of the labour force was taken in spring 1983. In this survey, for the first time, the recommendations of the 12th International Conference of Labour Statisticians were applied in the 10 Member States. In the present circumstances, with continuing problems in the labour market, intensive use is being made of the comparative data provided by the labour force surveys.

5.2. Demography

In 1983 there was the completion of the dissemination of the preliminary results from the 1981 round of censuses in a number of short statistical bulletins. The detailed country tables envisaged in the Community programme for exploitation of the 1981 censuses in member countries began to be received during the course of the year with a view to publication of comparative results when these are available for all countries. As far as shorter-period population statistics are concerned, the regular annual volume of demographic statistics containing data for member countries and the Community up to the end of 1981 as well as preliminary 1982 figures, was issued in mid-1983. Such demographic and population data are now also available in the computerized data bank system Cronos.

Education

Meetings at secretarial level were held with OECD and Unesco with a view to the use of common questionnaires for the collection of routine data (numbers of pupils, students, teachers, finance, etc.) so as to reduce the amount of work in the Member States and offer the prospect of greater consistency in figures published by the international organizations.

In view of the importance of vocational training in tackling present problems and youth employment, a start was made in 1983 on the difficult task of collecting harmonized statistics of vocational training on a wider basis than before.

Work accidents

Agreement of the relevant national organizations was secured in 1983, of a format for the collection of fatal accident statistics in the industries of the Community, which has since been used by the majority of Member States to submit historic data to Eurostat. Work was also put in hand on the procedures necessary to achieve a rapprochement of the different bases used for work accident statistics in the Member States so that a common structure of presentation can be applied.

In the sector of the iron and steel industry, agreement was reached on the questionnaire to be used for an in-depth study of fatal accidents.

5.3. Wages and labour costs

Processing of the triennial labour costs survey in respect of the accounting year 1981 was completed in 1983 and the complete results published in the form of microfiche by the end of the year. Summarized data was also published in a statistical bulletin. A volume of selected tables will appear in 1984. This timetable of publication represents a considerable advance on previous surveys. With regard to historic data, complete results for 1978 and 1981 and selected data from the 1974/75 surveys are now available on magnetic tape. Preparation of the 1984 survey was completed during 1983.

Social protection statistics

In 1983, Eurostat further developed its long-established system for the analysis of expenditure in the social field — the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS) which brings together all expenditures, current or capital involved in meeting costs incurred in social security, from provision made on a collective basis. The system provides for comprehensive coverage and allows international comparisons unaffected by differing institutional arrangements.

6. Agriculture and fisheries

6.1. Economic accounts for agriculture and forestry (EAA and EAF)

The revised methodological manual for the compilation of the EAA and EAF has been completed by the inclusion of more detailed recommendations on calculations at constant prices. Revised questionnaires for the transmission of accounts data have been made available to the Member States.

Structure of agricultural holdings

1979/80 farm structure survey

Programming for analysis of the results has been completed and data are being verified and analysed as they are received from Member States.

1983 farm structure survey

The table programme and definitions to be used have been agreed and adopted in the form of Commission decisions.

1985 and 1987 farm structure surveys

A draft Council Regulation has been prepared and is being discussed by the Council.

Data bank on farm structure surveys

The first stage of the farm structure survey retrieval system is now operational. Further development, which will permit simple manipulations of the stored data and the production of an on-line index of results stored, are in hand and will be operational by mid-1984.

Wine-growing surveys

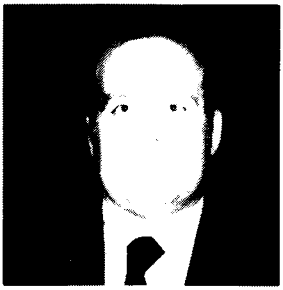
The basic survey, which was to have been carried out in all the Member States, was realized. Eurostat is currently making an appraisal of the results of the intermediate surveys.

6.2. Fishery statistics

A suite of programs for the detection of discrepancies in the catch by fishing region data bases of the various international fishery organizations was developed and tested in 1983. Early indications are that this will prove a useful tool in improving historical series of data and in regular periodic quality checks on the latest data.

The statistical register of Community fishing vessels became fully operational, the final step having been the application of a suitable software package to fully exploit the contents of the register. Eurostat is now able to provide both Community and national institutions with tabular information and to conduct *ad-hoc* investigations of the contents of the register (for example the relationship between parameters).

Some experiences in the use of microcomputers within statistical processing systems: A pilot project carried out by the Balance of Payments Section



Introduction

In the framework of installing distributed information systems, the Commission of the European Communities intends to provide its services with computer equipment composed of work stations and mini-computers as well as with software functionally adapted to the specific needs of the respective user groups. In September 1983 an invitation to tender for decentralized informatic equipment was called for by the Commission.

The Commission is now analysing the tenders to establish a restricted list of the equipment which best fulfils the functions specified in the invitation to tender. The equipment will then be ordered progressively depending on the specific needs of the users.

In order to base the specification of its needs on experience, the Statistical Office of the European Communities has run, in a laboratory framework, a pilot experiment in the use of personal computers within its statistical processing system. The experience has been carried out by the Balance of Payments Section in touch with SOEC Division A1 'Processing' and A2 'Dissemination'.

Balance of payments statistics, by combining the processing of structural data (balances) with the time series approach, can be considered a fairly sufficient standard statistical domain.

A second reason to choose BOP information has been the social acceptability shown by the section staff.

Objectives of the pilot experiment

The main objective of the exercise was to evaluate the use of microcomputers as a means of handling statistical information in relation to a centralized data base application.

The personal computer (PC) has been used as 'pre-' or 'postprocessor' for the data base.

As 'pre-processor' the PC provides facilities for local capturing and checking of data before entry into the data base.

As 'post-processor' it produces statistical telegrams or *ad hoc* rapid informations. These types of document have to be produced rapidly containing a mixture of text, table and graphic.

Functional elements

The system had to be conceived to allow the following facilities:

(a) Capturing, checking and entry of data into the data base.
(b) Access to the data base to retrieve the latest relevant figures.

(c) *Ad hoc* editing of this retrieved data to insert late data or to correct errors/estimates.
(d) Formulating of the data in tables with appropriate headings and, in some cases, calculated values.
(e) Representation of some of the data in graphical form (e.g. graph, pie chart, histogram, etc.).
(f) Assembly of the individual elements into a completed document.
(g) Output of the document in printed form ready for reproduction.
(h) Possible return of locally updated values to the data base for automatic inclusion in the data base to ensure consistency between the publication and contents of the base.
(i) The system should allow the user to:
  (1) Define the format of input questionnaires,
  (2) Define the format of his telegram or rapid information,
  (3) Store the format for routine production,
  (4) Edit a production output to include minor changes prior to distribution.

The mainframe environment

To manage and interrogate its data base SOEC has already developed a system (Cronos) which can be interrogated in a conversational mode. To complement the facilities directly offered by Cronos, SOEC has also developed a system, programmed in APL, called Cronapl (Cronos + APL).

Cronapl offers functions to input, process, stock, retrieve and print statistical time series matrices in connection with the Cronos system.

Cronapl uses the same classification plan and code system as Cronos. Interfaces to/from Cronos are provided.

The Cronapl software package uses the advantages of APL[1] and avoids most of its disadvantages[2]. To work with the system only a very limited subset of the basic concepts of APL programming is required. Being written in APL, Cronapl is mainly oriented to be used in a conversational mode.

The end-user oriented facilities offered by Cronos and Cronapl for working in a conversational mode can be considered a prerequisite to the pilot experience of using PCs.

The micro-mainframe connection

From the functional elements described above it follows that the most important part of the pilot experience was the micro-mainframe connection.

Today the only significant kind of micro-mainframe interconnection is mainframe terminal emulation.

A user who wants to access the applications available on the mainframe installs some mainframe terminal emulation hardware and software, and logs on to the mainframe just as if he was using a dumb terminal. Most of the emulation uses elementary asynchronous protocols. The micro-mainframe connection was carried out by having the PC simulate a standard TTY terminal to interrogate Cronos or an APL TTY terminal to work by Cronapl.

[1] APL is a very powerful language. Programs (functions) and data (variables) are stored or the same file (workspace). The user loads the complete file (workspace) at the beginning of his session and, usually, saves it at the end. Thus, no knowledge about the filing system is required. After loading the workspace, APL can be used like a pocket calculator. Even untrained users can more or less immediately start to work with APL. On the other hand, trained users can quite easily program functions for very complex applications.

[2] Some APL advantages can, at the same time, be regarded as disadvantages. There is no clear distinction between standardized software functions and user-defined functions and variables. Functions and data are often not documented. Users of APL tend to be very individualistic in their work.

Because the APL was not available on the PC, the program that simulates the mainframe terminal emulation has been written in Basic using an asynchron transmission package. The file transmissions to/from the mainframe have been enclosed in the program. Some other 'short' programs have been written in Basic to format the file before upload to the mainframe or, after download, input into the PC available packages. The experience done has shown that the upload and download of data will be improved by using the same language in the micro and in the mainframe.

APL/PC transfer facility

APL is one of the functional requirements of the systems asked for in the European Commission's call for tenders. When the restricted list of the equipment which best fulfils the functions specified in the invitation to tender is established by the Commission, SOEC intends to develop an APL/PC transfer facility. With this facility it should be possible to transfer APL objects, or the entire contents of workspaces and files, between the mainframe and a PC or vice-versa. The first release will use asynchronous communications. Transmission error detection and correction would be built into the transfer functions.

The transfer facility should perform all necessary translations to convert APL objects into transmittable characters and back again. It should distinguish between boolean, integer, real, and complex number, functions and packages.

The user should have the choice of using the transfer facility in one of two modes: as a closed system where he interactively specifies files and workspaces to be transferred, or as an open system where he uses a set of APL utilities to send and receive data between the PC and the mainframe. The open system should allow the user to exchange individual APL objects between the PC and the mainframe under program control.

A second release should be based on network independent file transfer protocol (NIFTP) based on ECMA72/class 0 transfer station and X25 network. These requirements are also specified in the invitation to tender.

Cronapl/PC

When the APL/PC transfer facility described above is available, it will be possible to install a subset of the Cronapl system in the PC. The advantage of having the same software in the mainframe and in the PC is self-evident in terms of efficiency and end-user friendship.

The link between the APL and the other PC softwares (spreadsheet, word processing and graphics) already available on Cronapl mainframe will then run locally in the PC after transmission of data so improving the download facility.

Other PC softwares

PC is mainly concerned with five application areas: spreadsheets, word processing, statistical analysis, graphics and data base.

The experiences done by the Balance of Payments Section tends to prove that business packages already available in the software market can sufficiently satisfy the functional elements specified above.

Spreadsheets can be used for capturing and checking of data, formatting of the data in tables with appropriate headings and calculated values.

The spreadsheet used in the pilot experience was Multiplan. The social acceptability of Multiplan has been very high. Help on-line feature of Multiplan lets the user access an explanation of commands without exiting his work. Formatting possibilities are very rich. They include formatting of individual cells, variable-width colomns, split screen, etc. It has also to be noted that Multiplan provides a function to allow the user to solve recursive equations that can be used to build econometric models. Because of the social acceptability shown by Multiplan, it is worth considering that Microsoft's text processing package, Microsoft Word, contains the same command structure and help on-line feature of Multiplan.

The integration of other types of software with the electronic spreadsheet has been attracting considerable attention in carrying out the pilot experience. Links between Multiplan and APL, and Multiplan and the graphics software have been established.

Tests on production of graphics by a 'A4' desk plotter have been done with satisfaction.

SOEC is now analysing some integrated software to run the five application areas: spreadsheets, word processing, statistical analysis, graphics and data base.

To assemble the individual elements into a complete document a multi-task system displaying one or more windows, each with a different application, is necessary. The next release of Microsoft windows could help in solving this problem.

Conclusions

The main objective of the pilot experience was to evaluate the use of microcomputers as a means of handling statistical information in relation to a centralized data base application.

The major outcome of the experience was that business packages already available, or next to come, in the software market can sufficiently satisfy the required functional elements. APL, an end-user oriented language, could be used for transmission of data and for *ad hoc* programming to complement and to link the available softwares.

The next five years will see a number of exciting developments:

— Micros will become very active front-end and back-end processors for existing large-scale data bases.
— Micros will become major users of in-house data communications networks.
— Micros will frequently call upon mainframe facilities — especially the central data base — to assist their own specialized applications.
— Users will tend to use the data base as data source and micros as data manager.

These trends should lead to the mainframe's mass storage software being redefined as the centre of a decentralized network of microcomputers.

M. Lancetti

Foreign trade indices: Some methodological considerations

1. Why foreign trade indices?

In consultation with the EC Member States, the Statistical Office is planning to produce a more comprehensive series of Community foreign trade indices than it has hitherto published. A programme of investigation and development has been underway for some time, with the first published results expected to appear during the course of 1985. More detailed indices will be an important addition to the range of foreign trade statistics furnished by Eurostat. Foreign trade statistics are already a major Eurostat output with a wide variety of uses in policy analysis (for example in trade negotiations with third countries, where the Commission acts on behalf of the Community). For the last eight years Eurostat has received detailed trade statistics from every Member State, compiled using a common methodology. So there is no lack of basic data. The information received each month would, if listed with one item to a line, require some 50 000 pages. The detailed figures are themselves used extensively and are available via the Siena database for internal users and via Comext for outside users (see Eurostat News No 1—1984 for further details). They are also aggregated to provide information on trade by broad groups of products and by industrial sectors.

Users of foreign trade figures are interested not only in their absolute values but also in trends. At the level of individual product heading, data for the tonnage imported or exported is available as well as that for value (and sometimes a second quantity unit such as number of items is also given), so the evolution of the volume of trade can be assessed directly. Furthermore dividing the value by the quantity gives what is termed a 'unit value' and these can be compared across time to give an approximate measure of the price performance of the product. For groupings of products however, aggregate tonnage or number of items is of course not generally a sensible measure of volume, nor is total value divided by total tonnage a sensible unit value. What is required is the use of index number techniques to show the trends in volume and price. The volume indices can either be calculated directly or price or unit value indices can be used to deflate the value data.

2. The advantages and disadvantages of using unit values

Are unit values a satisfactory substitute for directly measured prices? Most price indices (for example retail price indices or producer price indices) are calculated from data collected by specifically designed price surveys. The goods whose prices are being recorded can normally be made comparable from period to period, though there may be a problem in keeping them representative if technology evolves quickly. Most countries choose not to incur the extra expense of a special price survey for import and export prices (Germany is the exception in the Community). Price trends therefore have to be inferred from unit values calculated from data collected as a by-product of customs processing. There are two principal disadvantages to this. Firstly, a particular product heading in the Nimexe classification is usually an amalgam of many separate goods. And even for essentially the same good, since there is no breakdown by manufacturer, a heading may cover several different models. The percentage composition by good will vary from month to month and there may be systematic longer run trends. This monthly variation will cause the unit value of the heading to vary even if there is no change in the prices of goods. The magnitude of this effect will depend, among other things, on how stable the composition is. If in the short run the latter fluctuates around a stable market share, from statistical considerations the variability of the unit value is likely to depend inversely on the number of transactions recorded during the period. Headings with a low number of transactions will normally have a low weight in a unit value index, and therefore the effect of variable composition may not be as damaging as has sometimes been feared. Nevertheless it was recognized early in Eurostat's work on unit value indices that grouping together headings before calculating indices increases the chances of these unwanted fluctuations occurring. This is therefore avoided wherever possible. However even the basic headings are sometimes not detailed enough to avoid long-run changes in composition giving a misleading impression of price trends. This is particularly true of headings subject to rapid technical evolution.

The longer-run solution is to subdivide the heading. In the short run, a unit value index for a similar product group or an external price index could be used.

The second problem with unit values is probably the more serious. The sheer volume of data being collected and processed by customs means that it is all too easy for statistical errors to remain undetected. Errors may arise because goods are classified under the wrong product heading, or because the value or weight or quantity are entered incorrectly. For the purpose of levying customs duty, the value has of course to be correct. For unit value calculations, however, an error in the weight or quantity is as serious as one in the value. In one study, the Office found that unit values at the detailed Nimexe level for successive years often differed from one another by a factor of 10, and differences of the order of a hundredfold were not uncommon. On the other hand most unit values behaved plausibly. There is therefore no question of accepting the data uncritically. The Office's strategy is to revise what would have been the value of the unit value index by dropping aberrant items and by changing the weighting of the items retained in the index. How this is done is described in section 4.

To offset these disadvantages of unit values, there are the practical advantages of no additional collection and data entry costs, virtually complete coverage of the whole range of foreign trade, and no time differences between unit values and values. In contrast price surveys generally record prices at the time when contracts are signed, rather than the time when the goods cross the border.

3. Chain indices versus fixed base ones

Fixed base indices are commonly calculated for many types of indices. In situations where the weights for an index have to be found from a separate survey, a fixed base index is cheaper to compile than a chain index, whose base generally changes each year. However the weights for unit value indices are taken from trade data and so do not require additional collection. Chain indices increasingly feature in the literature on index numbers because of certain theoretical attractions of Divisia indices.[1] Empirical and theoretical work have shown that a chain Fisher index will closely follow the path of the Theil-Törnqvist approximation to a Divisia index. Though the claimed superiority of Divisia indices is still a matter of debate, in the context of foreign trade indices chain indices present three advantages over fixed base ones. Firstly the basket of goods used to construct the index will be a current one and therefore responsive to the changing patterns of world trade. In addition chain indices are more robust in the face of abnormal events, which if they occur in the base year can distort the weighting of a fixed base index. Secondly, since the Nimexe nomenclature changes each year due to the subdivision and regrouping of headings, better quality comparisons are made by focussing on year to year changes. The alternative is to find groupings of products which are stable over several years, and these are necessarily defined over a wider range of products. Thirdly chain indices are easier to compute when the nomenclature changes annually.

4. Computational aspects

Volume indices will be derived by deflating data on values by the calculated unit value indices. The latter will be calculated first because it is possible to check the plausibility of individual unit values, which can be expected to be reasonably stable, whereas the volume of trade can be quite volatile. Studies by SOEC using robust regression techniques have shown that the unit values of related product headings tend to move together. In

[1] See, for example, P. Koves, *Index Theory and Economic Reality*, Budapest 1983.

other words, differences between their unit value changes can be attributed to random factors rather than product specific effects which endure over time. This observation enables the problem of identifying and dealing with implausible unit value data to be treated within the framework of statistical estimation theory. For a homogeneous block of trade data (usually taken to be one reporting country's imports or exports for all Nimexe headings belonging to one, or a small number of, SITC three-digit groups), a unit value index is constructed using statistical techniques to identify aberrant data. The index corresponds to a robust estimate of the block's underlying unit value change. Items whose unit values are implausible or for which there is no trade in that particular period have their own unit value change replaced by the block's one in subsequent calculations.

The set of blocks has an identity separate from the set of final indices. The latter often have overlapping scope because they are defined in terms of several target nomenclatures. Duplicate index calculations are avoided by making the block the unit of computation. Sub-indices are calculated from the blocks which can then be combined into final indices. The question arises whether it is possible for an entire index to be calculated from substitute block indices rather than individual unit values? This could only occur if an attempt was made to calculate indices for very fine product/zone partitions. The blocks are established at around the three-digit SITC level, and so indices at the two-digit level or higher will have adequate coverage. Moreover the number of substitutions is reduced by consistently excluding from index calculations items with a small value of trade in the previous year. The grounds for this are that their inclusion has negligible effect on the level of the index and there is a considerable saving in computational effort.

The net result is that Eurostat's indices will be calculated from a large number of individual unit values, each of which has passed a plausibility check. Thus indices of an acceptable quality can be calculated from unit value data, supplemented in some instances by external price data.

Further information on the methodology of the index number system under construction by Eurostat can be obtained from the author.

D. Koszerek

'The Community's finances': Some comments on the latest edition of D. Strasser's book[1]

The increasingly critical and — notwithstanding the decisions taken at Fontainebleau — still partially unresolved financial problems of the European Community dominate much of the discussion about European integration now and in the future. 1984 has seen for the first time something which many experts have been predicting for a number of years: the total exhaustion of the Community's resources threatens to jeopardize the proper functioning of the Community and its institutions, a circumstance which may have marked repercussions in Eurostat's own fields of activity and in the statistical offices of the Member States.

As is usually the case in crisis situations, there is no shortage of proposals and patent remedies to resolve the problem. However, most of these are inadequate, in that they tend to overlook the political causes of the present situation and also fail to take due account of the intricacy of the Community's financial devices and procedures, the complexity of which is such that only a few specialists can fully understand them.

This being the case, the appearance of the fifth — significantly enlarged — edition of the book *The Community's finances* can only be welcomed. The author, D. Strasser, has since 1977 been in charge of the Directorate-General for Budgets, and in this capacity he is unquestionably one of the most prominent experts on Community budgetary matters, of which he has a comprehensive first-hand knowledge.

The book starts with a little background information and then falls into three sections. The first section deals with the Community budget laws and contains a detailed description of the principles, the budgetary procedures, the implementation of the budget and finally the various budgetary control procedures.

The second section contains a comprehensive description of the Community's financial resources and details of their origin. As this is broken down by policy area, readers who are interested only in certain aspects can rapidly pick out the essentials.

The third section contains a breakdown of the Community's financial instruments by policy area (agricultural policy, regional policy, development policy, etc.).

The comprehensive nature of the information provided in this book makes it compulsary reading for anyone interested in Community affairs, either for professional reasons or out of academic or personal interest. The fact that it is precisely the financial aspects of European integration that are currently the subject of so much discussion adds to the significance of this latest edition, although the author's presentation of the contents was not influenced by a desire to highlight the problems which are particularly acute at the moment. Nonetheless, the attentive reader

[1] Mr Strasser is the Director-General of the Directorate-General for Budgets of the Commission of the European Communities.

will be conscious of the author's personal views on these highly topical questions of financial policy, particularly as these — for instance the relatively favourable assessment of the common agricultural policy — clearly provide material for animated debate.

E. Seebohm

Parliamentary questions

Written question No 234/83
by Mrs Danielle De March (COM—F)
to the Commission of
the European Communities

(28 April 1983)

Subject: Community trade in glass fibre

Can the Commission give a statistical breakdown of Community trade in glass fibre with third countries over the past five years?
Can it give an overall and a country-by-country breakdown?
Can it indicate which are the main European glass fibre importers and the main third countries exporting to the European market?

Written question No 236/83
by Mrs Danielle De March (COM—F)
to the Commission of the
European Communities

(28 April 1983)

Subject: Intra-Community trade in glass fibre

Can the Commission give a statistical breakdown of intra-Community trade in glass fibre over the past five years? Can it indicate which are the main European producers and the main European exporters on the Community market?

Joint answer given by Mr Burke
on behalf of the Commission
to Written Questions No 234/83
and No 236/83

(4 July 1983)

For reasons of space the Commission is sending a set of tables in the form of computer printouts direct to the honourable Member and Parliament's Secretariat. These figures, which are expressed in quantity and value terms, present a picture of trade between Member States and between Community and non-Community countries over the period 1978 to 1982.

The main European producers are the Compagnie de Saint-Gobain (glass fibre) and Rockwool (rock wool). Between them these two companies account for almost two-thirds of the European market, with Rockwool dominant in the north and Isover in the south.

The Community's chief importers are the Federal Republic of Germany and France, on account of the size of their markets, while its principal exporters are France, the Netherlands and Belgium on account of the production capacity installed in those countries.

Written Question No 2127/82
by Mr David Curry (ED—UK)
to the Commission of the
European Communities

(7 February 1983)

Subject: Import and use of lupins and peas and beans for animal feeding

Further to my Written Question No 1576/82[1], could the Commission provide the following supplementary information for the years 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981:

[1] OJ C 73, 17. 3. 1983, p. 9.

1. What quantities of lupin seed were imported into the EEC for use as animal feed?

2. What where the major countries of origin of this lupin seed?

3. How much of this lupin seed was incorporated into compound feedstuffs?

4. What were the quantities of peas and beans incorporated into compound feedstuffs in the EEC, split by:
(a) imported peas and beans;
(b) Community-grown peas and beans?

Answer given by Mr Dalsager on behalf of the Commission

(27 April 1983)

1. According to the Community's trade statistics (Nimexe), the following quantities of lupin seed were imported into the EEC:

Year	Tonnes
1978	8 150
1979	16 184
1980	5 326
1981	16 460
Jan. — Sept. 1982	52 128

Trade sources estimate that the total figure for 1982 will be approximately 70 000 to 75 000 tonnes. They also expect a further import of 70 000 tonnes in 1983.

2. The vast majority (more than 90 %) of these imports come from Australia, with limited quantities from South Africa.

3. Virtually all of this lupin seed was incorporated into compound feedstuffs.

4. The incorporation of Community grown peas and beans into compound feedstuffs covered by the aid regime for peas and beans was:

Marketing year	Tonnes
1978/79	165 000
1979/80	270 000
1980/81	332 000
1981/82	352 000

The Commission estimates that for 1982/83, the quantities incorporated will be approximately 450 000 tonnes.

For imported peas and beans incorporated into compound feedstuffs in the EEC, no accurate figures exist because Community trade statistics do not go into this detail. On the basis of information from Member States, the Commission estimates that for 1979, 1980 and 1981, the quantity of peas and beans imported for animal feed was between 70 000 and 80 000 tonnes per year. Of this quantity, professional sources consider that 45 000 to 55 000 tonnes per year were probably incorporated into compound feedstuffs.

Written question No 447/83 by Mrs Yvonne Théobald-Paoli (S—F) and Mr Louis Eyraud (S—F) to the Commission of the European Communities

(31 May 1983)

Subject: Imports of manioc into the Community in 1982

Following the different agreements reached with supplier countries with a view to limiting imports of manioc into the Community, can the Commission indicate:

(a) the total quantity of manioc imported into the Community in 1982 and the percentage by which these imports have increased compared with the previous year;

(b) the quantities for which a 6 % levy reduction was granted?

Can the Commission indicate:
(a) the ceiling above which the 6 % import levy reduction is no longer granted;
(b) the amount of the levy imposed on imports above the ceiling;
(c) the additional budgetary revenue obtained through this supplementary levy in 1982?

Answer given by Mr Dalsager on behalf of the Commission

(2 August 1983)

I. The quantities of manioc imported into the Community have been as follows:[1]

1981 — 6 677 499 tonnes, of which 5 609 303 from Thailand.
1982 — 8 101 036 tonnes (an increase of 18.60%), of which 7 347 533 from Thailand (an increase of 31 %).

All these quantities attracted a levy of 6% *ad valorem* only for the following reasons:

Thailand

The EEC-Thailand Agreement, approved by the Council on 19 July 1982, stipulated that for 1982 Thailand could export 5 500 000 tonnes of manioc to the Community with a maximum levy of 6% *ad valorem,* and required Thailand not to issue export certificates for quantities exceeding this volume during 1982.

Thailand, which activated the export certificate system from 1 January 1982 onwards, issued, for the period from 1 January to 31 December 1982, 4 068 export certificates checked by the Commission for 5 499 999 tonnes, in accordance with the undertaking given.

The difference between the quantity of 5 500 000 tonnes and the 7 347 533 tonnes actually imported in 1982 according to Eurostat statistics was due to quantities exported by Thailand in the last months of 1981, i.e. before the entry into force of Thailand's undertaking, but arriving in the Community in 1982, plus quantities stored in bond in Community ports in 1981 and cleared in 1982 on the basis of import licences issued by the Community in accordance with arrangements applying in the Community before the activation of the EEC-Thailand Agreement.

Indonesia

The quantities imported fell short of the quota: 286 037 tonnes were imported, although the Agreement allowed 500 000 tonnes for 1982.

Other countries, GATT members

3 043 tonnes were imported, although 90 000 tonnes were allowed by the Agreement.

GATT non-members (China)

At the time of the adoption of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2646/82 of 30 September 1982[2] relating to import arrangements applying in 1982 to products coming under subheading 07.06 A of the Common Cystoms Tariff, the quantities imported from China were already 440 181 tonnes, while the quantity due to qualify for the maximum levy of 6% *ad valorem* was only 370 000 tonnes. No import licence conceding this advantage was issued during the rest of 1982. As a result, there were no further imports from these countries.

II. The ceilings beyond which imports no longer qualify for an *ad valorem* duty not exceeding 6% are the following:[3]

In 1983 and 1984

Thailand:	5 million tonnes per year plus 500 000 tonnes spread over 1983 and 1984.
Indonesia:	750 000 tonnes per year.

[1] *Source:* Eurostat.

[2] OJ L 279, 1. 10. 1982.
[3] Council Regulation (EEC) No 604/83 of 14 March 1983. OJ L 72, 18. 3. 1983, p. 3.

GATT members other than Thailand and Indonesia: 132 355 tonnes per year.

Other GATT non-members: 370 000 tonnes in 1983. The quota for 1984 is still to be fixed by the Council.

In 1985 and 1986

Thailand: 4 500 000 tonnes per year plus 450 000 tonnes to be spread over 1985 and 1986.

Indonesia: 825 000 tonnes per year.

GATT members other than Thailand and Indonesia: 145 590 tonnes per year.

Other GATT non-members: the quota is still to be fixed by the Council.

The levy applying since 1982 to imports exceeding the ceilings mentioned under point II is the same as the levy for barley.

So far there have been no applications from importers for import licences involving application of this full levy (the levy for barley).

Written question No 548/83
by Mr George Patterson (ED—UK)
to the Commission of the
European Communities

(21 June 1983)

Subject: Voluntary sector

It has been estimated recently that the money contributed to the voluntary sector — i.e. to charities, educational bodies, trade unions and friendly societies, housing associations, etc. — is at least UKL 6 700 million per annum in the United Kingdom, which constitutes about 3 % of gross national product.

What equivalent statistics are available for the other Member States?

If such figures are not available, what steps is the Commission willing to take to investigate the size of this sector of the Member States' economies?

Answer given by Mr Burke
on behalf of the Commission

(19 July 1983)

The data available on private non-profit institutions is fragmentary and of unusually poor quality, relating to a very heterogeneous group of institutions which in some countries includes private clinics, research centres, universities and even works canteens in addition to the more usual charities and trade unions. The data suggests that money contributions to this sector probably amount to about 1 % of gross domestic product in France, Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany and about 2 % in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. No data is available for other countries.

Requests by the Commission for data on this sector have been included in the European System of Integrated Economic Accounts (the Community harmonized system of national accounts) since 1970, but this is one of the areas in which Member States have made least progress and it is not an area where the Commission's current policy needs would justify it in insisting at this point in time that they intensify their effort.

PUBLICATIONS

Published

Theme 1

YEARBOOK OF REGIONAL STATISTICS

ISBN 92-825-4219-X (DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, 241 pages, price BFR 1000

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:

(i) population and its structure;

(ii) employment and unemployment;

(iii) education, health and various social indicators;

(iv) economic aggregates;

(v) the main series on the different sectors of the economy: agriculture, industry, energy and the services sector;

(vi) The Community's financial participation in investments.

The main regional indicators are also presented in a series of coloured maps. **(1. 2. 1/83)**

Theme 2

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — AGGREGATES 1960-82

ISBN 92-825-4834-1 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, 135 pages, price BFR 500

Results of the principal aggregates of the accounts drawn up according to ESA (European system of integrated economic accounts). Development and comparison between the Community as a whole (EUR 10), the 10 Member States, the two prospective member countries (Spain, Portugal), the United States and Japan. **(2. 1. 1/83)**

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — DETAILED TABLES BY BRANCH 1970-82

ISBN 92-825-4440-0 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, 214 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)

REGIONAL STATISTICS — THE COMMUNITY'S FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN INVESTMENTS — 1982

ISBN 92-825-4323-4 (DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, 87 pages, price BFR 250

Updating of and commentary on the data relating to the regional dispersion of the financial participations agreed by the Community in 1982 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 (NCI). **(2. 5. 1/83)**

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES 1976-82

(EN/FR)

Format A 4, 77 pages, free of charge

Eurostat has recently published consumer price indices for the period from 1976 to 1982, which makes available to the readers long series on base 1975 = 100.

The publication contains monthly and annual figures for the general index and for nine main groups, as well as for 18 detailed groups which have not been published before.

It contains also a historical review of the consumer price index from 1955 to 1982, as well as 10 graphs, illustrating the trends in consumer prices from 1976-82.

(2. 7. 1/83)

Theme 3

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT — STATISTICAL BULLETIN No 3—1984

(EN/FR)

Format A 4, 16 pages, price BFR 100

This bulletin presents the first available data for employment in the European Community in 1983.

Around 15 statistical tables provide data on working population and activity rates and employment and employees in employment by sector of economic activity for seven Member States and for the total of the European Community. A breakdown by sex is provided for all the above data.

A commentary, illustrated by several graphics, emphasizes the most important aspects of the current situation in the labour market. **(3. 4. 2/84)**

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT — STATISTICAL BULLETIN No 4—1984

(EN, FR)

Format A 4, 14 pages, price BFR 100

This bulletin presents detailed structural data on unemployment which are available on a Community-wide basis once a year in respect of the month of October. These data relate to aspects of the situation on the labour market in October 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983.

The bulletin complements the up-to-date statistics of registered unemployed people which are published regularly in the monthly series of bulletins 'Unemployment'. **(3. 4. 2/84)**

WORKING TIME STATISTICS
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ISBN 92-825-3939-3 (EN), ISBN 92-835-3940-7 (FR)

Format A 4, 128 pages, price BFR 750

This study is a guide to statistics on hours of work and outlines the definitions and methods of all the regular suppliers of official statistics relating to hours of work in Community countries. The six main definitions of hours of work are examined and compared. The effect of the inclusion or exclusion of certain categories of workers and of certain types of working hours not worked is analysed in respect of the various countries.

An examination of statistical sources and publications led to the compilation of a number of tables of data for the period 1973-80. **(3. 4. 6/82)**

STRUCTURE OF EARNINGS 1978/79 — PRINCIPAL RESULTS
Volume 4 — BELGIUM

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Volume 5 — DENMARK

ISBN 92-825-4175-4 (DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/NL)

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This publication contains 34 tables, published separately for each country, showing the main results of the Community survey on the structure and distribution of earnings in industry, wholesale and retail distribution, banking and insurance in 1978/79. **(3. 6. 2/83)**

Theme 4

STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITY OF INDUSTRY — 1979
DATA BY SIZE OF ENTERPRISE

ISBN 92-825-4387-0 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, 190 pages, price BFR 250

The publication comprises some results for 1979 of the coordinated annual inquiry into industrial activity, broken down by size of enterprises. **(4. 1. 1/83)**

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION 2-1984

ISSN 0254-0649 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, 266 pages, price BFR 225

Quarterly and annual statistics in physical units of production of: man-made fibres, textiles, clothing, leather and footwear, pulp, paper and board, office machines, data-processing equipment, domestic electrical appliances. **(4. 1. 3/84)**

Theme 5

YEARBOOK OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS 1979-82

ISBN 92-825-4264-5 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format C 5, 328 pages, price BFR 600

This book can be considered as a statistical vade-mecum containing the most important items given in 'Agricultural Statistics'. This publication contains parts:

— General,
— Agricultural and forestry accounts,
— Structure,
— Production,
— Supply balance sheets,
— Prices and price indices. **(5. 1. 1/83)**

Theme 6

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(6. 2. 2/84)

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(6. 2. 2/84)

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(6.2.3/84)

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To be published

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The handbook is invaluable for social and economic research workers risking to make comparisons in this field. **(adaptation)**

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Format A 4, approximately 128 pages, price BFR 750

Indicators of some of the principal features of the social situation in the European Community, including: unemployment, employment, the position of women, regional indicators, comparison with other major countries in the world, etc. **(3. 2. 1/83)**

Theme 5

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ISBN 92-825-5072-9 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 320 pages, price BFR 800

This publication provides annual series for the selling prices of the main agricultural (crop and animal) products and the purchase prices of the means of agricultural production. The information relates to all 10 Community Member States. The prices are expressed in national currencies and in ECU. The publication also contains a brief description of the various price series. A supplement to this publication contains the rates of VAT in agriculture levied in each country. **(5. 3. 3/84)**

COMMUNITY SURVEY OF ORCHARD FRUIT TREES 1982

ISBN 92-825-4985-2 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 104 pages, price BFR 300

The publication contains the most recent statistics (reference period 1982) on the 590 000 hectares of commercial orchards under apples, pears, peaches and oranges in the EEC. The tables provide details of age of orchard and density of plantation for the main fruit varieties of each species in individual Member States and production zones. The information was collected by special surveys under Council Directive 76/625/EEC. **(5. 5. 2/84)**

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(1. 1. 3/84)

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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. Figures are also shown for unemployed foreigners, the numbers of vacancies and vacancies filled during the month.

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. 3/84)**

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(4. 2. 6/84)

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As regards the time-series, they contain data for the short-term economic analysis and covers the following subjects: money supply, capital markets, public finance, interest rates, exchange rates and official reserves. Moreover, a chapter of the bulletin will provide statistics related-to the European Monetary System.
(2. 4. 1/84)

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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. 2/84)

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(6. 2. 4/84)

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(adaptation)

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(6. 2. 4/84)

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(6. 2. 5/84)

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(6. 2. 5/84)

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ISSN 0250-5967 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

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(5. 3. 1/84)

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