

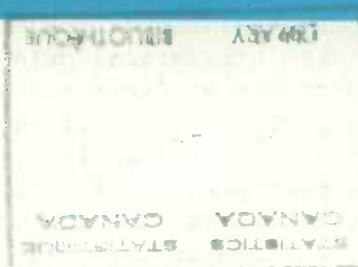
Service Bulletin

AVIATION STATISTICS CENTRE

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OUR FIRST!

The Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin has been designed as a vehicle for the quick release of timely statistics produced from the surveys conducted by the Centre on behalf of the Department of Transport, the Air Transport Committee and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. For some readers the first issue may be an introduction to the Centre itself. Most, however, will be familiar with the work of the Centre through at least one of the agencies it serves.

You may, for example, receive the monthly summaries entitled "Aircraft Movements Statistics, Airports with Air Traffic Control Towers" and "Aircraft Movements at Airports without D.O.T. Towers" which we produce for the Department of Transport from information reported by air traffic controllers or airport staff.

Perhaps you use the annual report on "Airline Passenger Origin and Destination Statistics, Domestic Report" prepared on behalf of the Air Transport Committee from summaries of airline tickets supplied by eight Canadian carriers providing scheduled or regular air services over major routes.

Or you may subscribe to one or more of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics publications called "Civil Aviation", containing data which we compile from financial and operational statements filed with the Air Transport Committee by nearly 400 Canadian commercial operators, as well as additional information reported to the Bureau by a score of foreign airlines operating scheduled services into or through Canada, and, in the Annual, supplementary tables supplied by the Department of Transport.

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Then, too, you may be one of the hundreds of people requesting aviation statistics, either to us directly or through one of the three Government agencies already mentioned, each year.

It is this fourth group - those requesting information - which is the principal reason for the inauguration of a service bulletin. It is increasingly apparent that statistical data heretofore compiled only for the use of the Department of Transport or the Air Transport Committee is needed for planning a wide variety of services directly related to airports and other air service facilities. Our request register lists such diverse users as urban planners, hotels, caterers, advertisers, aircraft manufacturers, aircraft services, and the air transport industry itself. Release of summary information is therefore in the public interest. On the other hand, because commercial air operations in Canada are closely controlled, many areas are served by only one major carrier: very few airports can meet the traditional criterion of three or more firms which the Dominion Bureau of Statistics usually requires before information is published.

In succeeding issues we intend to illustrate the type of information available, giving, if necessary, a short description of the source surveys and the major limitations of the data, together with statistical data of general interest. Later, historical tables will be provided on those subjects on which suitable series have been developed. We hope also to release data which will be of value to our respondents, especially air carriers. For example, an early issue will contain figures on aircraft operating costs. Suggestions for topics of broad interest will be most welcome.

For internal use, much detail is required for decision-making on specific problems. For publication, data could be selected in a variety of ways. Electronic data processing provides great flexibility in the compilation and arrangement of material. As our programming schedule permits, we hope to build a program library which will enable us to present data in the form most suited to a specific need.

So, should you wish more detail, or a slightly different tabulation, ask for it. If we can provide it easily, and if it is not confidential, we shall be happy to do so. Otherwise we may suggest other data, tell you when the compilation will be feasible, or explain why the information is unavailable.

The next issue of the Service Bulletin will consist of an Aviation Statistics Centre Directory. Please keep this for ready reference. As information is provided on various subjects, the final paragraph of each introduction will name the person to whom enquiries should be directed. Your comments and suggestions will be most welcome.