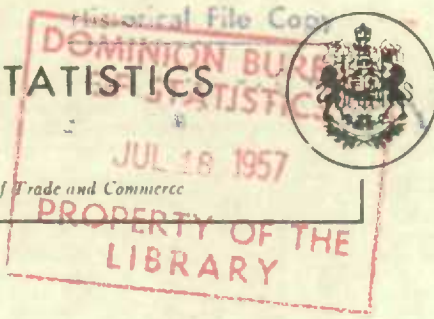


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# DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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## TELEPHONE STATISTICS

### PRELIMINARY REPORT ON LARGE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

#### 1956

This statement on the 1956 operations of the fifteen largest telephone systems in Canada is issued as a preliminary report of the telephone industry in Canada. The systems included here represented 96 per cent of total telephone investment in Canada in 1955 and earned 96 per cent of telephone revenue. These 15 companies also operated 92 per cent of all telephones in the country and paid 97 per cent of the total salaries and wages reported by all Canadian telephone systems. In 1956 several companies were acquired by the Bell Telephone Company. For comparative purposes these companies have been added to the total of the 15 large systems shown for 1955.

The number of telephones operated by these fifteen systems increased by 9 per cent rising to 4,182,488 in 1956 from 3,837,235 in 1955. An increase of almost 14 per cent was registered by telephones on individual lines which numbered 1,426,198 and accounted for over 34 per cent of the total. Private branch exchange and extension telephones numbered 1,022,341 and accounted for over 24 per cent of the total, an increase of 11 per cent over 1955. Almost 32 per cent of the total, 1,310,762 telephones, were on two and four-party lines, an increase of nearly 3 per cent over the previous year. There were 58,097 public pay stations, an increase of 4 per cent, while telephones on party lines of more-than-four parties increased by 8 per cent.

The cost of property and equipment rose from \$1,413,651,371 in 1955, to \$1,609,137,767 in 1956, an increase of 14 per cent. Revenues totalled \$397,449,777 compared with \$355,092,373 in the previous year, an increase of almost 12 per cent. Expenses also rose by 12 per cent and the net operating revenue rose to \$115,071,858 from \$103,411,014, an increase of over 11 per cent. Net income for the year amounted to \$53,526,261, as compared with \$46,064,480 in 1955, up 16 per cent.

Employees numbered 58,022, an increase of 8 per cent over the 53,708 reported in the previous year, while salaries and wages rose nearly 12 per cent to \$188,390,888 from \$168,729,471.

Conversations, estimates of which were only available from twelve systems, increased by nearly 13 per cent, numbering 7,441,864,000 for 1956, an average of 1,816 calls per telephone. Included in this estimate was a total of 163,851,993 completed long distance calls, 7 per cent above the 1955 count of 153,087,485.

Prepared in the Transportation and Public Utilities Section  
Public Finance and Transportation Division

**TABLE 1. Number of Telephones Operated by Large Telephone Systems, by Type of Service and by Type of Switchboard, 1956**

No.	Name of company	On individual lines		Local 2-party		Local 4-party	
		Business	Residence	Business	Residence	Business	Residence
1	Avalon Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	7,263	5,776	101	1,266	—	11,262
2	Island Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	1,673	2,804	71	2,342	49	933
3	Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	12,546	45,944	174	19,028	362	10,801
4	New Brunswick Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	8,751	21,302	878	18,457	183	14,033
5	Bell Telephone Company of Canada .....	247,382	622,116	12,000	935,909	24	436
6	Quebec Telephone .....	3,307	3,637	1,684	7,804	—	—
7	Gulf of St. Lawrence Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	729	653	181	2,302	—	—
8	Northern Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	5,106	10,127	275	13,325	45	1,527
9	Manitoba Telephone System .....	20,187	60,691	354	69,197	—	—
10	Saskatchewan Government Telephones .....	21,160	84,637	179	2,416	—	—
11	Alberta Government Telephones .....	24,502	97,779	—	—	—	—
12	Edmonton Automatic Telephone System .....	24,125	34,903	—	—	—	—
13	British Columbia Telephone Company .....	39,759	11,421	—	171,488	—	—
14	North-west Telephone Company .....	1,804	288	—	2,637	—	—
15	Okanagan Telephone Company .....	4,062	1,764	66	2,549	3	6,421
16	<b>Total 15 companies</b> ..... 1956	<b>422,356</b>	<b>1,003,842</b>	<b>15,963</b>	<b>1,248,720</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>45,413</b>
17	<b>Total 15 companies</b> <sup>2</sup> ..... 1955	<b>391,443</b>	<b>862,954</b>	<b>17,467</b>	<b>1,211,359</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>45,510</b>
18	<b>Total all companies</b> ..... 1955	<b>406,243</b>	<b>892,960</b>	<b>20,648</b>	<b>1,237,346</b>	<b>2,548</b>	<b>54,960</b>

1. Five or more telephones on one line.  
2. Revised.

**TABLE 2. Selected Financial and Employment Statistics of Large Telephone Systems, 1956**

No.	Name of company	Capital stock	Funded debt	Total capital	Cost of property and equipment	Gross revenue	Operating expenses
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1	Avalon Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	4,073,625	3,003,500	7,077,125	9,222,570	1,497,103	929,331
2	Island Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	1,600,000	1,500,000	3,100,000	4,216,046	971,534	835,324
3	Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	21,515,268	16,500,000	38,015,268	49,080,419	11,724,909	7,533,524
4	New Brunswick Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	19,454,118	16,000,000	35,454,118	46,097,327	9,827,565	6,650,667
5	Bell Telephone Company of Canada .....	387,673,300	305,018,597	692,691,897	1,068,296,579	273,975,152	196,252,745
6	Quebec Telephone .....	6,664,639	7,065,000	13,729,639	11,213,937	3,581,064	2,085,676
7	Gulf of St. Lawrence Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	35,000	1,950,624	1,985,624	2,437,246	725,075	581,562
8	Northern Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	2,534,564	1,453,000	3,987,564	6,166,039	2,324,821	1,723,662
9	Manitoba Telephone System .....	—	62,656,479 <sup>1</sup>	62,656,479	94,993,672	16,040,012	12,027,571
10	Saskatchewan Government Telephones .....	—	45,109,298 <sup>1</sup>	45,109,298	68,335,399	13,997,871	9,822,507
11	Alberta Government Telephones .....	—	53,997,445 <sup>1</sup>	53,997,445	86,711,601	18,437,441	13,507,098
12	Edmonton Automatic Telephone System .....	—	9,901,260	9,901,260	9,901,260	3,381,265	2,118,220
13	British Columbia Telephone Company .....	71,214,604	46,121,000	117,335,604	141,657,107	37,167,957	25,823,662
14	North-west Telephone Company .....	2,010,000	1,500,000	3,510,000	7,370,506	2,416,893	1,632,598
15	Okanagan Telephone Company .....	1,500,000	2,543,000	4,043,000	5,438,059	1,381,115	853,772
16	<b>Total 15 companies</b> ..... 1956	<b>518,275,118</b>	<b>574,319,203</b>	<b>1,092,594,321</b>	<b>1,609,137,767</b>	<b>397,449,777</b>	<b>282,377,919</b>
17	<b>Total 15 companies</b> <sup>2</sup> ..... 1955	<b>437,334,709</b>	<b>512,507,411</b>	<b>949,842,120</b>	<b>1,413,651,371</b>	<b>355,092,373</b>	<b>251,681,359</b>
18	<b>Total all companies</b> ..... 1955	<b>467,026,669</b>	<b>521,336,006</b>	<b>988,362,675</b>	<b>1,470,679,433</b>	<b>371,463,279</b>	<b>265,199,751</b>

1. Government investment.  
2. Revised.

TABLE 1. Number of Telephones Operated by Large Telephone Systems, by Type of Service and by Type of Switchboard, 1956

Rural <sup>1</sup>		Private branch exchange and extensions		Public pay stations	Total	On Automatic Switchboard	On Manual Switchboard	No.
Business	Residence	Business	Residence					
57	207	5,521	2,294	313	34,060	29,129	4,931	1
292	3,121	1,821	706	95	13,907	9,804	4,103	2
1,095	17,104	19,320	9,256	1,865	137,495	109,810	27,685	3
899	17,592	15,673	6,194	1,343	105,305	68,217	37,088	4
11,634	163,504	534,822	195,464	42,862	2,766,153	2,381,820	384,333	5
2,176	6,392	3,254	683	418	29,355	11,706	17,649	6
265	985	1,172	346	116	6,749	4,164	2,585	7
530	4,590	4,805	2,410	384	43,124	11,598	31,526	8
4,403	24,950	32,438	8,541	2,290	223,051	182,534	40,517	9
772	1,081	19,534	4,644	1,182	135,605	105,474	30,131	10
-	1,292	27,326	7,721	1,367	159,987	125,123	34,864	11
-	-	17,243	5,062	315	81,648	81,648	-	12
4,152	87,621	74,365	18,474	4,855	412,135	263,858	148,277	13
545	4,990	2,061	311	571	13,207	5,404	7,803	14
272	4,569	880	-	121	20,707	18,084	2,623	15
27,092	337,998	760,235	262,106	58,097	4,182,488	3,408,373	774,115	16
26,718	311,555	693,234	219,803	55,812	3,837,235	3,007,336	829,899	17
46,460	506,378	702,997	223,693	57,445	4,151,678	3,069,908	1,081,770	18

TABLE 2. Selected Financial and Employment Statistics of Large Telephone Systems, 1956

Net operating revenue	Additions to income	Gross corporate income	Deductions from income	Net corporate income	Dividends	Reserves	Balance to profit and loss	Number of employees	Salaries and wages	No.
567,772	8,499	576,271	316,174	260,097	218,300	-	41,797	375	714,490	1
136,210	329	136,539	114,460	22,079	81,160	-	Dr. 59,081	159	384,036	2
4,191,385	170,206	4,361,591	2,527,009	1,834,582	1,419,667	-	414,915	1,820	4,818,369	3
3,176,898	169,160	3,346,058	1,932,831	1,413,227	1,152,089	-	261,138	1,609	4,191,032	4
77,722,407	5,516,576	83,238,983	48,289,802	34,949,181	29,146,855	-	5,802,326	37,794	130,677,707	5
1,495,388	164,674	1,660,062	981,454	678,608	547,247	-	131,361	646	1,568,999	6
143,513	2,566	146,079	97,227	48,852	-	-	48,852	111	137,735	7
601,159	-	601,159	317,867	283,292	100,000	-	183,292	489	1,115,223	8
4,012,441	2,391	4,014,832	2,308,562	1,706,270	-	-	1,706,270	3,192	8,994,134	9
4,175,364	262,479	4,437,843	1,783,687	2,654,156	-	-	2,654,156	1,945	6,169,529	10
4,930,343	92,210	5,022,553	1,651,565	3,370,988	-	882,503	2,488,485	3,058	8,504,036	11
1,263,045	394,473	1,657,518	703,827	953,691	-	867,678	86,013	299	1,229,390	12
11,344,295	384,156	11,728,451	6,925,918	4,802,533	3,466,718	-	1,335,815	6,080	18,369,471	13
784,295	13,342	797,637	445,419	352,218	130,000	-	222,218	313	947,971	14
527,343	10,832	538,175	341,688	196,487	125,000	-	71,487	132	566,766	15
115,071,858	7,191,893	122,263,751	68,737,490	53,526,261	36,387,036	1,750,181	15,389,044	58,022	188,390,888	16
103,411,014	5,214,634	108,625,648	62,561,168	46,064,480	32,433,877	1,570,247	12,060,356	53,708	168,729,471	17
106,263,528	5,253,372	111,516,900	63,680,923	47,835,977	32,610,741	1,645,227	13,580,009	55,673	173,922,973	18

TABLE 3. Telephone Conversations Reported by Large Telephone Systems, 1956<sup>1</sup>

Name of company	Total conversations	Conversations per telephone	
		1956	1955
Avalon Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	229,149,000	6,728	5,495
Island Telephone Company, Ltd. ....	29,838,000	2,146	2,120
Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Co. ....	287,322,000	2,090	2,116
New Brunswick Telephone Co., Ltd. ....	201,748,000	1,916	1,665
Bell Telephone Company of Canada .....	4,203,065,000	1,519	1,470
Fort William Municipal Telephone System <sup>2</sup> .....	50,130,000	3,158	3,310
Port Arthur Municipal Telephone System <sup>2</sup> .....	24,470,000	1,792	1,811
Manitoba Telephone System .....	575,672,000	2,581	2,627
Saskatchewan Government Telephones .....	359,316,000	2,650	2,034
Alberta Government Telephones .....	616,421,000	3,853	3,710
Edmonton Automatic Telephone System .....	242,261,000	2,967	2,866
British Columbia Telephone Company .....	622,472,000	1,510	1,407
<b>Total twelve systems ..... 1956</b>	<b>7,441,864,000</b>	<b>1,816</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total twelve systems ..... 1955</b>	<b>6,605,859,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,738</b>
<b>Total all systems ..... 1955</b>	<b>6,961,476,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,677</b>

1. Telephone conversations not available for other telephone systems.
2. Although not among the 15 largest systems, this firm is of significant size.

