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ANNUAL

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Minister of Trade and Commerce

Price: 25 cents

TELEPHONE STATISTICS

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON LARGE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

1966

This statement is issued as a preliminary report on the telephone industry in Canada and presents the operations during 1966 of the fifteen largest telephone systems. The cost of plant for these systems at the end of 1965 accounted for 97 p.c. of the total telephone industry. They operated over 95 p.c. of all telephones, earned nearly 98 p.c. of the total revenue and paid 98 p.c. of the total salaries and wages reported by all telephone systems at the end of 1965.

Table 1 shows that these fifteen systems operated 7,573,087 telephones in 1966, an increase of 5 p.c. over the 7,113,691 telephones they operated in 1965. The trend to individual lines and automatic switchboards continues. Of the total telephones, 50 p.c. were on individual lines, 18 p.c. on multi-party lines, 18 p.c. were extensions and 13 p.c. were private branch exchange telephones. There were 5,346,859 residence and 2,226,228 business telephones. Telephones on automatic switchboards increased from 6,913,822 to 7,397,639 and represented 98 p.c. of the total. Telephones on manual switchboards decreased from 199,869 to 175,448.

Employment and financial statistics are shown in Table 2. There was an increase of 4,915 in the number of full-time employees of these companies from 1965 to 1966 and average earnings rose from \$5,385 to \$5,614. Total salaries and wages, which amounted to \$327,741,556¹ in 1965 and \$369,289,068¹ in 1966 increased by 13 p.c.

The overall cost of plant for these companies increased by 10 p.c. during the year from \$4,005,215,089 to \$4,410,938,369. The largest percentage increases reported were 20 p.c. by Québec-Téléphone and 16 p.c. by Alberta Government Telephones. While some companies reported record expenditures on construction, increases in expen-

ditures on purchases of machinery and equipment have also been substantial. In order to satisfy the demand for more versatile and flexible switching equipment, step-by-step switching equipment is rapidly being replaced by modern crossbar systems with associated common control equipment. A further development has been the installation by Bell Telephone Company of Canada of one of the world's first electronic switching offices in Montreal during the past year. A definite trend is now expected to develop towards this extremely flexible switching unit. The direct distance dialing programme is expanding rapidly across Canada and of the total number of telephones operated by these systems in 1966, 71 p.c. had direct distance dialing. Accumulated depreciation amounted to approximately \$1,052 million which represented 24 p.c. of total cost of plant.

Operating revenue and expenses for the fifteen systems increased by 10 p.c. and 11 p.c. respectively. Net operating revenue increased by 10 p.c. compared with an increase of 11 p.c. for the previous year. Net income showed a modest rise of 4 p.c. to \$127,827,581 from \$122,336,681.

Dividends paid to shareholders amounted to \$94,713,132 in 1966 compared to \$82,677,067 in 1965 or an increase of 15 p.c. A surplus of \$3,800,000 was also remitted by Saskatchewan Government Telephones to the provincial government as well as an amount of \$2,325,510 by City of Edmonton Telephone System to the municipal corporation.

Table 3 shows that there were 12,298,095,000 local and 323,325,000 long distance calls reported by these fifteen systems compared to 11,556,600,000 local and 301,614,000 long distance calls reported in 1965, an overall increase of 763,206,000 calls or 6 p.c. Total calls per telephone remained the same as the previous year.

¹ Includes part-time salaries and wages.

Transportation and Public Utilities Division
Public Utilities Section

September 1967
8706-512

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TABLE 1. Number of Telephones Operated by Large Telephone Systems, by Type of Service and by Type of Switchboard, 1966

No.	Name of company	On individual lines		Local 2-party		Local 4-party	
		Business	Residence	Business	Residence	Business	Residence
1	Avalon Telephone Company, Ltd.	7,074	26,153	102	12,307	—	1,165
2	Island Telephone Company, Ltd.	2,139	9,053	17	1,455	48	1,052
3	Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company, Ltd.	14,849	103,130	81	6,257	456	9,866
4	New Brunswick Telephone Company, Ltd.	14,970	66,108	515	20,377	98	6,192
5	Bell Telephone Company of Canada	387,697	2,072,882	5,042	552,397	—	—
6	Québec-Téléphone	11,274	28,854	1,768	18,715	—	—
7	Fort William Municipal Telephone System	2,427	12,667	15	739	—	—
8	Northern Telephone Limited	7,231	25,043	255	10,329	22	476
9	Port Arthur Municipal Telephone System	2,247	11,640	4	1,016	—	—
10	Manitoba Telephone System	32,080	171,709	390	24,788	—	—
11	Saskatchewan Government Telephones	30,844	160,861	31	360	—	—
12	Alberta Government Telephones	43,757	202,404	—	—	7,772	—
13	City of Edmonton Telephone System	22,012	96,337	—	—	—	—
14	British Columbia Telephone Company	61,638	177,244	—	225,164	—	—
15	Okanagan Telephone Company	4,276	5,583	124	6,866	75	7,280
16	Total fifteen systems 1966	644,515	3,169,668	8,344	880,770	8,471	26,031
17	Total fifteen systems 1965	610,641	2,901,263	8,685	915,209	726	35,136
18	Total all systems 1965	631,762	2,940,460	12,860	954,528	2,048	54,209

¹ Three or more telephones on one line, except where 4-party service is available.

TABLE 2. Selected Employment and Financial Statistics of Large Telephone Systems, 1966

No.	Name of company	Number of full-time employees	Salaries and wages ¹	Cost of plant		Accumulated depreciation on plant
				dollars	dollars	
1	Avalon Telephone Company, Ltd.	764	2,830,452	39,013,618	1,844,588	
2	Island Telephone Company, Ltd.	201	736,530	12,981,773	3,089,142	
3	Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company, Ltd.	2,521	10,429,987	128,492,251	33,099,671	
4	New Brunswick Telephone Company, Ltd.	1,846	9,016,662	121,975,549	28,266,599	
5	Bell Telephone Company of Canada	37,487	225,436,554	2,748,866,567	667,700,043	
6	Québec - Téléphone	1,520	6,619,954	78,883,826	13,249,376	
7	Fort William Municipal Telephone System	47	388,604	3,352,822	54,848	
8	Northern Telephone Limited	634	2,729,773	26,907,085	8,109,766	
9	Port Arthur Municipal Telephone System	54	366,902	6,926,827	688,021	
10	Manitoba Telephone System	3,877	19,268,074	213,070,459	67,609,070	
11	Saskatchewan Government Telephones	2,474	12,444,065	172,411,573	51,125,586	
12	Alberta Government Telephones	6,324	31,570,276	324,787,268	65,844,955	
13	City of Edmonton Telephone System	643	3,720,081	33,354,320 ²	8,865,285	
14	British Columbia Telephone Company	7,082	42,004,499	480,762,018	97,663,919	
15	Okanagan Telephone Company	306	1,726,655	19,152,413	4,553,391	
16	Total fifteen systems 1966	65,780	369,289,068	4,410,938,369	1,051,764,260	
17	Total fifteen systems 1965	60,865	327,741,556	4,005,215,089	939,136,608	
18	Total all systems 1965	63,467	335,364,967	4,127,386,680	955,313,475	

¹ Includes part-time salaries and wages.

TABLE 1. Number of Telephones Operated by Large Telephone Systems, by Type of Service and by Type of Switchboard, 1966

Rural ¹		Private branch exchange		Extension telephones		Public pay stations	Mobile telephones	Total	On automatic switchboard	On manual switchboard	No.
Business	Residence	Business	Residence	Business	Residence						
74	2,518	8,585	—	5,012	5,854	441	—	69,285	63,652	5,633	1
279	7,498	2,731	—	1,468	1,950	210	—	27,900	18,711	9,189	2
881	24,832	32,320	91	9,605	21,722	3,180	—	227,270	200,355	26,915	3
629	21,769	17,623	—	13,692	18,603	2,229	1,090	183,895	175,624	8,271	4
8,678	200,302	660,158	122	318,045	614,248	47,647	1,174	4,868,392	4,847,338	21,054	5
1,633	22,317	6,552	—	8,678	6,104	—	72	105,967	82,698	23,269	6
1	1,064	1,876	—	3,502	1,998	156	9	24,454	23,389	1,065	7
512	6,339	6,111	—	5,532	3,819	597	—	66,266	60,752	5,514	8
66	1,184	2,194	—	2,011	1,738	169	—	22,269	22,269	—	9
2,482	36,270	42,020	—	20,938	30,156	2,743	103	365,679	332,456	33,223	10
1,453	4,750	25,829	—	16,664	21,591	2,915	267	265,765	243,446	22,319	11
—	2,500	37,999	—	26,772	39,390	3,831	2,416	366,841	355,421	11,420	12
—	—	35,971	—	6,120	17,241	751	—	178,432	178,432	—	13
2,801	64,940	89,356	—	52,941	78,986	6,032	2,027	761,129	753,570	7,559	14
225	6,286	3,098	—	3,057	2,208	181	284	39,543	39,526	17	15
19,714	404,569	972,423	213	494,237	865,608	71,082	7,442	7,573,087	7,397,639	175,448	16
20,263	397,873	899,473	122	462,303	784,610	71,726	5,661	7,113,691	6,913,822	199,869	17
33,832	559,754	905,785	122	476,777	793,742	73,306	5,886	7,445,071	7,124,244	321,827	18

TABLE 2. Selected Employment and Financial Statistics of Large Telephone Systems, 1966

Operating revenue	Operating expenses	Net operating revenue	Additions to income	Deductions from income	Net income	Dividends	No.
dollars							
7,504,656	5,691,443	1,613,213	62,280	1,578,628	96,865	—	1
2,769,789	1,727,536	1,042,253	3,079	636,724	408,608	245,732	2
28,570,965	17,746,160	10,822,805	234,736	6,655,512	4,402,029	3,051,650	3
26,828,751	16,966,495	9,862,256	138,065	6,102,923	3,897,398	2,657,223	4
645,047,173	406,679,494	238,367,679	11,998,041	158,402,404	91,963,316	75,859,261	5
16,147,922	9,541,878	6,606,044	993,145	4,899,686	2,699,503	1,607,345	6
1,242,251	500,594	741,657	—	197,702	543,955	—	7
6,206,427	4,251,040	1,955,387	168,278	1,420,190	703,475	834,825	8
1,292,380	604,913	687,467	—	301,553	385,914	—	9
39,667,905	28,960,390	10,707,515	531,054	7,829,362	3,409,207	—	10
36,112,256	24,227,142	11,885,114	1,498,354	6,552,213	6,831,255	3,800,000	11
60,295,362	53,869,584	6,425,778	623,433	12,363,732	Dr. 5,314,521	—	12
11,875,357	6,580,794	5,294,563	30,316	2,927,098	2,397,781	2,325,510	13
112,526,763	71,504,625	41,022,138	458,714	26,645,534	14,635,318	9,905,320	14
3,940,680	2,566,680	1,374,000	154,511	961,033	567,478	351,776	15
1,000,028,637	651,620,768	348,407,869	16,894,006	237,474,294	127,827,581	100,838,642	16
906,659,325	584,556,250	322,103,075	13,310,677	213,077,151	122,336,601	88,933,678	17
929,616,947	605,374,668	324,242,279	18,559,170	215,830,226	126,971,223	90,339,199	18

¹ Includes plant acquired through debenture redemption, government grant and reserve for plant extension.

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TABLE 3. Telephone Calls Reported by Large Telephone Systems, 1966

Name of company	Local calls	Long distance calls	Calls per telephone	
			1966	1965
	000's		number	
Avalon Telephone Company, Ltd.	170,000	3,665	2,506	2,535
Island Telephone Company, Ltd.	51,398	1,738	1,904	1,905
Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company, Ltd.	451,160	11,188	2,034	1,972
New Brunswick Telephone Company, Ltd.	348,353	6,403	1,929	1,930
Bell Telephone Company of Canada	6,985,073	206,127 ¹	1,477	1,483
Québec-Téléphone	192,983	8,848	1,905	1,802
Fort William Municipal Telephone System	52,756	²	2,157	2,203
Northern Telephone Limited	149,234	2,901	2,296	2,287
Port Arthur Municipal Telephone System	38,253	²	1,718	1,919
Manitoba Telephone System	855,418	11,760	2,371	2,327
Saskatchewan Government Telephones	507,034	15,454	1,966	2,026
Alberta Government Telephones	906,560	26,229 ³	2,545	2,595
City of Edmonton Telephone System	348,656	⁴	1,954	2,002
British Columbia Telephone Company	1,176,098	26,736	1,580	1,551
Okanagan Telephone Company	65,119	2,276	1,704	1,300
Total fifteen systems 1966	12,298,095	323,325	1,667	-
Total fifteen systems 1965	11,556,600	301,614	-	1,667
Total all systems 1965	12,138,243	301,614	-	1,671

¹ Includes calls originating with Fort William and Port Arthur telephones.

² Calls originating with these telephones are included with Bell Telephone Company of Canada.

³ Includes calls originating with Edmonton telephones.

⁴ Calls originating with these telephones are included with Alberta Government Telephones.

