

UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



GENERAL

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14 May 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

BASIC INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

(Memorandum prepared by the Secretary-General)

In accordance with the Commission's request, the Statistical Office has prepared a revised version of Annex III of E/CN.3/124 (attached). Account has been taken of the Commission's wish to simplify this annex, and of the suggestions made on particular items.

The Statistical Office has also drawn up a revised series of draft recommendations, which take account of the other points made in the discussion, as follows:

The Statistical Commission

Requests the Secretary-General to invite countries:

- (a) To consider collecting (by means of an exhaustive or a sample enquiry, or a combination of enquiries, or the adaptation of data already collected for other purposes, or by a combination of methods), and publishing, statistics or reliable estimates for the items listed in Annex III, at the intervals specified therein;
- (b) To consider adopting, as the field covered by the data, the activities of mining, manufacturing, construction, electricity and gas, that is the activities included in major groups II to 51 inclusive of the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities; and classifying the data according to that classification, or one which can be converted into that classification.
- (c) To consider distinguishing, under each item listed in Annex III, industries at the group (3-digit) level of the classification, unless production in a group is negligible; and within this framework distinguishing further industrial sub-divisions according to national requirements.
- (d) To consider adopting the principle that the scope of the data compiled at decennial or similar intervals, should extend over the

whole industrial field - that is, should include all forms of production within the categories of (b) above, though the methods of collection may vary for different forms of production, different industries and different countries.

(The alternatives to including handicrafts and similar non-factory forms of organization are to exclude them or to include them but separately distinguish them. The Office wishes to point out, however, that if these forms of organization are to be excluded or separately distinguished, they must be defined, and from its study of this question, it has reached the conclusion that an agreed international definition would be very difficult or impossible to obtain. Moreover, the only internationally comparable figures are totals including non-factory production, since to some extent the part played by factories in some economies is replaced by handicrafts and similar forms in others. The Office proposes therefore that its original recommendation on this subject be adopted, namely that in principle the figures should relate to totals including handicrafts and similar forms of organization; it being understood that the data would be collected by appropriate means in different countries, including sampling enquiries.)

(e) To consider collecting (by one or a combination of the methods mentioned in recommendation (a)), and publishing, decennial data for 1952 or 1953.

(f) To consider adopting the principle that the scope of the annual data should be preferably all establishments in the industries covered, and at least all large establishments; though, in accordance with recommendation (a), not necessarily basing the estimates on a return from every establishment.

The Statistical Commission further

Requests the Secretary-General to invite countries which are embarking on the collection of basic industrial statistics for the first time to consider confining their efforts at the start to the starred items in Annex III, namely number of establishments, numbers engaged, total wages and salaries paid and value of sales.

/The Statistical

The Statistical Commission may also wish to

Request the Secretary-General to continue the study of existing practices and concepts in the field of basic industrial statistics in consultation with national statistical offices, and to report thereon to the Commission at its next session.

Annex III  
(Revised)

Basic industrial statistics recommended to countries

At least once every  
ten years

Every year

Every industry

Important industries

A. Establishment data

1. Number of establishments

\*a. Total number  
distinguishing

-

b. Numbers with different  
numbers of employees

c. Numbers with different  
values of production

B. Labour and wages

1. Employment

a. Numbers engaged during a  
specified period

-

\* i. total

ii. men, women, boys & girls

iii. employers and employees

a) operatives

b) administrative, technical  
and clerical workers

b. Total engaged during several  
specified periods in the year

b. Total en-  
gaged dur-  
ing several  
specified  
periods in  
the year

2. Wages & salaries paid

\*a. Total wages & salaries paid  
to employees,  
distinguishing

a. Total wages  
and sal-  
aries paid  
to employee

i. operatives

ii. administrative, technical  
and clerical workers.

3. Manhours worked

a. Total manhours worked

a. Total man-  
hours worked

/C. Capital

C. Capital & investment

1. Power equipment

- a. capacity of prime movers, distinguishing
  - i. those directly applied to machines from those applied to generators
  - ii. those in use from those in reserve
- b. Capacity of electric motors distinguishing
  - i. those using energy generated in the establishment from those using purchased energy.

2. Machinery

- a. Number and capacity of typical pieces of machinery (where appropriate)

3. Current investment in fixed assets

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Gross investment in fixed assets during the year distinguishing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. new</li> <li>ii. second-hand</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Value of sales of fixed capital assets</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Gross investment in assets during the year distinguishing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. new</li> <li>ii. second-hand</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Value of sales of fixed capital assets</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

4. Stocks

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Value of stocks at beginning and end of year distinguishing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. raw materials</li> <li>ii. finished products</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Value of stocks at beginning and end of year distinguishing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. raw materials</li> <li>ii. finished products</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|---|---|

D. Output, materials, not output

1. Output

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*a. Total value of products sold and work done</li> <li>b. Quantities and values of important products sold</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Total value of products sold and work done</li> <li>b. Quantities of important products sold</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

2. Materials used

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Total cost of materials, fuels &amp; energy purchased and of work given out.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Total cost of materials, fuels &amp; energy purchased and of work given out.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

/b.

D. Output, materials, net output (Continued)

b. Quantities of important  
materials, fuels and  
energy purchased.

3. Value added

1(a) - 2(a) adjusted by  
changes in value of  
stocks of materials and  
products

1(a) - 2(a) adjusted by  
changes in value of  
stocks of materials and  
products

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