

STATISTICS ORDINANCE 1950.⁽¹⁾

No. 15 of 1950.

An Ordinance relating to the Collection and Compilation of Statistics of the Territory.

BE it ordained by the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, in pursuance of the powers conferred by the *Papua and New Guinea Act 1949*, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the *Statistics Ordinance* Short title.
1950.⁽¹⁾

2. In this Ordinance, unless the contrary intention appears— Definitions.

“factory” means any building, establishment or place used for the purpose of manufacturing, treating, repairing or preparing any article or substance;

“officer” means an officer of the Public Service of the Territory and includes an exempt officer of that Service and a person temporarily employed in that Service;

“the Regulations” means the Regulations made under this Ordinance;

“the Statistical Officer” means the Statistical Officer appointed for the purposes of this Ordinance.

3. The Administrator may appoint a Statistical Officer, who shall have and may exercise such powers and shall perform such duties as are conferred or imposed on him by this Ordinance or the Regulations. Statistical Officer.

4.—(1.) The Statistical Officer may, in relation to any matter or class of matters or in relation to any part of the Territory, by writing under his hand, delegate any of his powers and functions under this Ordinance (except this power of delegation) so that the delegated powers and functions may be exercised by the delegate with respect to the matter or class of matters or the part of the Territory specified in the instrument of delegation. Delegation by Statistical Officer.

(2.) Any delegation by the Statistical Officer under this section shall be revocable in writing at will and no delegation shall prevent the exercise of any power or function by the Statistical Officer.

(1) Particulars of this Ordinance are as follows:—

Date on which made by Gov.-Gen. in Council.	Date on which notified in <i>Cwlth. Gaz.</i>	Date on which took effect.
2.8.1950	10.8.1950	10.8.1950 (<i>Cwlth. Gaz.</i> of 10.8.1950)

PART A : STATISTICS—

Undertaking of
fidelity and
secrecy.

5. The Statistical Officer and every officer exercising any power or performing any duty conferred or imposed on him under this Ordinance or the Regulations shall, before entering upon his duties or exercising any power under this Ordinance, sign, in the presence of a witness, an undertaking of fidelity and secrecy in accordance with a form approved by the Administrator.

Statistics to
be collected.

6. The Statistical Officer shall, subject to the Regulations and the directions⁽²⁾ of the Administrator, collect statistics of the Territory in relation to all or any of the following matters:—

- (a) Population;
- (b) The matters to which vital statistics relate;
- (c) Hospitals and charities;
- (d) Public health and quarantine;
- (e) Education;
- (f) Law and crime;
- (g) Organizations of employers and of employees;
- (h) Prices, rents and cost of living;
- (i) Wages, earnings and conditions of employment;
- (j) Employment and unemployment;
- (k) Accidents and injuries;
- (l) Industrial disputes;
- (m) Land tenure and occupancy;
- (n) Agricultural, horticultural, dairying and pastoral industries;
- (o) Sericultural and pomological industries;
- (p) Poultry industry;
- (q) Fishing industry;
- (r) Mining and quarrying;
- (s) Forestry;
- (t) Water conservation and supply;
- (u) Factories and productive industries generally;
- (v) Erection, alteration and repair of buildings and other constructional activity;
- (w) Housing;
- (x) Shipping and transport;
- (y) Migration;
- (z) Banking, insurance and finance;
- (aa) Capital investment;
- (ab) Local government;
- (ac) Radio and telephonic matters;
- (ad) Trade and commerce; and
- (ae) Any other prescribed matter.

Forms to be
filled up.

7.—(1.) For the purpose of enabling the statistics referred to in the last preceding section to be collected, the Statistical Officer

(2) A notice dated 10.5.1951 and published in Papua and N.G. Govt. Gaz. of 17.5.1951, directing the Statistical Officer to collect statistics in relation to specified matters is printed in this Volume on p. 1213.

may require a person to fill up and supply, in accordance with the instructions contained in or accompanying a form supplied to that person by the Statistical Officer, the particulars specified in that form, and that person shall, to the best of his knowledge, comply with the requirement.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

(2.) A prosecution for a contravention of this section shall not be instituted without the consent of the Administrator.

8.—(1.) Every person shall, to the best of his knowledge and belief, answer all questions asked him by the Statistical Officer, or an officer authorized in writing by the Statistical Officer to act under this section, necessary to obtain any information required for the purposes of any statistics authorized by this Ordinance to be collected.

Duty of persons to answer questions.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

(2.) A prosecution for a contravention of this section shall not be instituted without the consent of the Administrator.

9.—(1.) For the purpose of making any inquiries or observations necessary for the proper carrying out of this Ordinance, the Statistical Officer or any officer authorized in writing by him to act under this section may, at any time during working hours, enter any factory, mine, work-shop or place where persons are employed, and may inspect any part of it and all plant and machinery used in connexion with it, and may make such inquiries as are required or permitted by the Regulations.

Powers of entry and inspection.

(2.) A person shall not hinder or obstruct the Statistical Officer or any other officer in the execution of any power conferred by this section.

Penalty: Ten pounds.

10.—(1.) The Statistical Officer shall compile and tabulate the statistics collected in pursuance of this Ordinance and shall publish them or abstracts of them, as the Administrator directs, with observations thereon.

Publication of statistics.

(2.) This section does not authorize the publication of—

- (a) the transactions, profits or financial position of any individual person, corporation, firm or association (unless the consent in writing of the person, corporation, firm or association has first been obtained); or
- (b) any matter the publication of which by the Statistical Officer otherwise than under this section would be a contravention of section twelve of this Ordinance.

PART A : STATISTICS—

Untrue returns
by officers.

11. The Statistical Officer or an officer shall not wilfully and without lawful authority alter any document or form under this Ordinance or wilfully sign any untrue document or form.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Officers to
observe secrecy.

12.—(1.) The Statistical Officer or an officer shall not, except in the course of his duty under this Ordinance divulge the contents of any form filled up, or any information furnished—

(a) in pursuance of this Ordinance; or

(b) at the request of the Statistical Officer, for statistical purposes.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

(2.) The last preceding sub-section shall apply to the divulging of any contents or information to a court or other body having power to summon witnesses, whether by producing a form or document or by oral evidence, otherwise than in proceedings for an offence under this Ordinance.

Forgery of
forms.

13. A person shall not forge, or utter knowing it to be forged, a form or document under this Ordinance.

Penalty: Imprisonment for three years.

Penalty for
false returns
or answers.

14. A person shall not knowingly make, in a form or document filled up or supplied in pursuance of this Ordinance, or in answer to a question asked him under the authority of this Ordinance, a statement which is untrue in any material particular.

Penalty: Fifty pounds.

Regulations.

15. The Administrator may make regulations,⁽³⁾ not inconsistent with this Ordinance, prescribing all matters which by this Ordinance are required or permitted to be prescribed, or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed, for carrying out or giving effect to this Ordinance and, in particular, for prescribing penalties, not exceeding Fifty pounds, for breaches of the Regulations.

(3) See the *Statistics Regulations*, printed in this Volume on p. 1211.