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**QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF SLID
TEST 3B DATA COLLECTION**

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Sylvie Michaud, Social Survey Methods Division

Mylène Lavigne, Social Survey Methods Division

Jacqueline Pottle, Social Survey Methods Division

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents a summary evaluation of the quality of the data collected during the SLID field test of income and wealth, held in April and May 1993. The household response and non-response rates are presented first, as well as results of the tracing operation. These are followed by the figures on the interview time for a household and the number of telephone calls made by the interviewers. Finally, a comparison of consistency between data collected in the field test in January and that collected in May is displayed. Included in the appendices are additional tables on the characteristics of the sample, the response rates by age group and sex, the response rates for households and individuals, and the interview durations for specific sections of the interview. Relevant SLID definitions are provided as well.

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1. OVERVIEW OF THE RESULTS

SLID is a longitudinal survey designed to measure the dynamics among work, income and family characteristics. The data is collected twice a year, with an interview in January to collect information on labour market activity and an interview in May to obtain data on income. Two tests were conducted in 1993, simulating the actual survey collection process one year before the survey begins. This report covers the data collection for the May test (income and wealth content). The collection period was April 30 to May 14, 1993. As a result of the previous test in January and after excluding certain households (20 categorical refusals, 2 households with language difficulties and 1 household without a telephone), the Test 3B sample size was 1392 households. Of these, 476 households were assigned to the St. John's Regional Office and 916 to the Toronto Regional Office. A detailed explanation of the test is provided in SLID Research Paper 93-04 **SLID Income Interview - May 1993: Questionnaire and Data Collection Procedures**.

The overall response rate of the test (in terms of households) was 67%. The response rate differs between the two regional offices (St. John's had a response rate of 76% while Toronto's was 62%). This difference between the regional offices has been observed in other surveys also. However, the non-response rates were higher than those obtained by the Survey of Consumer Finance (SCF). It is possible that this difference can be mostly explained by response burden -- the Test 3B respondents were also surveyed for SLID Test 3A, and were in the Labour Force Survey for six months in 1992 (including participation in the 1992 SCF). As well, interviewers worked on Test 3B immediately after SCF. They reported that conducting two income surveys so close together was quite difficult.

The non-responses were divided into various components: refusals, people who could not be traced, and other non-response. A refusal rate of 19% was obtained (12% in St. John's and 23% in Toronto).

The unable-to-trace rate for persons was the same in both regional offices (7%). There were two types of situations requiring tracing: households which could not be traced for Test 3A in January, and people who had moved between the two tests (i.e., between January and May 1993). A successful trace was accomplished for 47.6% (35% in St. John's and 53.6% in Toronto) of households not traced in Test 3A. For persons who had moved between the two SLID field tests, 57.5% were traced (69% in St John's and 52% in Toronto).

Other non-response was assigned to 6% of households (4% in St. John's and 7% in Toronto).

Non-response rates as a function of household size were similar to those obtained in Test 3A. In St. John's, the non-response rate was higher for single-person households. In Toronto, the non-response rate increased with household size, particularly for refusals.

There do not appear to be any overall differences in non-response by sex or age group.

In general, data collection for Test 3B required more telephone calls than did Test 3A: on average, 4.7 calls (as compared to 3.1 in January 1993) were required to obtain a complete household response; for partial household response cases, 7.8 calls were required, on average (6.2 in January 1993).

Finally, consistency rates of certain data items collected in both tests were calculated: whether income had been received in 1992 from each of the following sources (wages and salaries, Old Age Security, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and social assistance). If a respondent reported receiving income from any of these sources in Test 3A, the automated collection system alerted the interviewer in Test 3B if that person did not report any income. The interviewer could then ask the respondent to clarify the discrepancy. In general, the consistency rates were high:

Wages and salaries	88.3%
Old Age Security	97.7%
Unemployment Insurance	91.4%
Workers' Compensation	97.3%
Social assistance	96.0%

2. HOUSEHOLD RESPONSE RATES

CHART 1

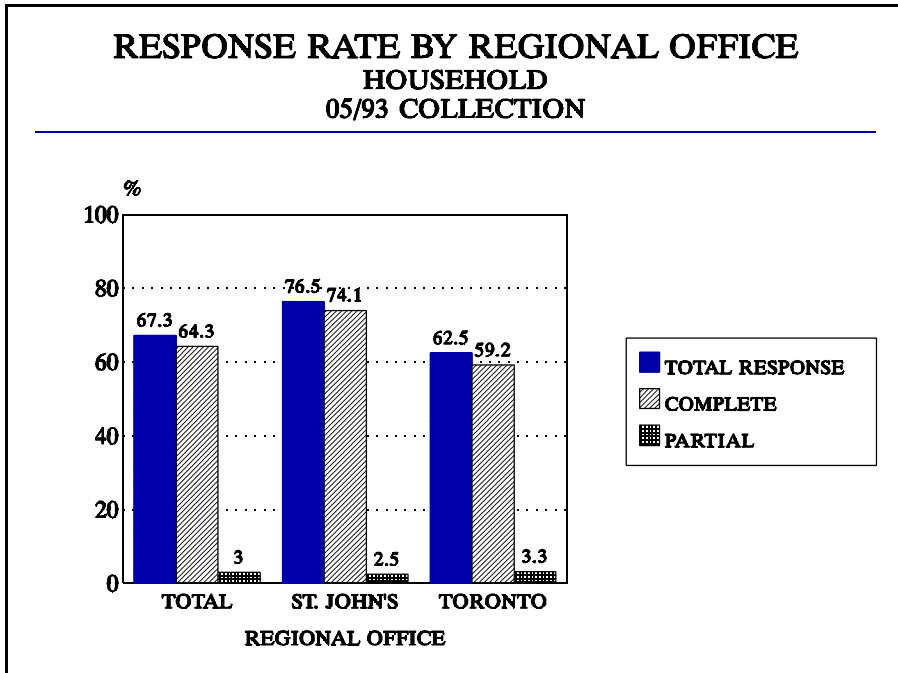


CHART 2

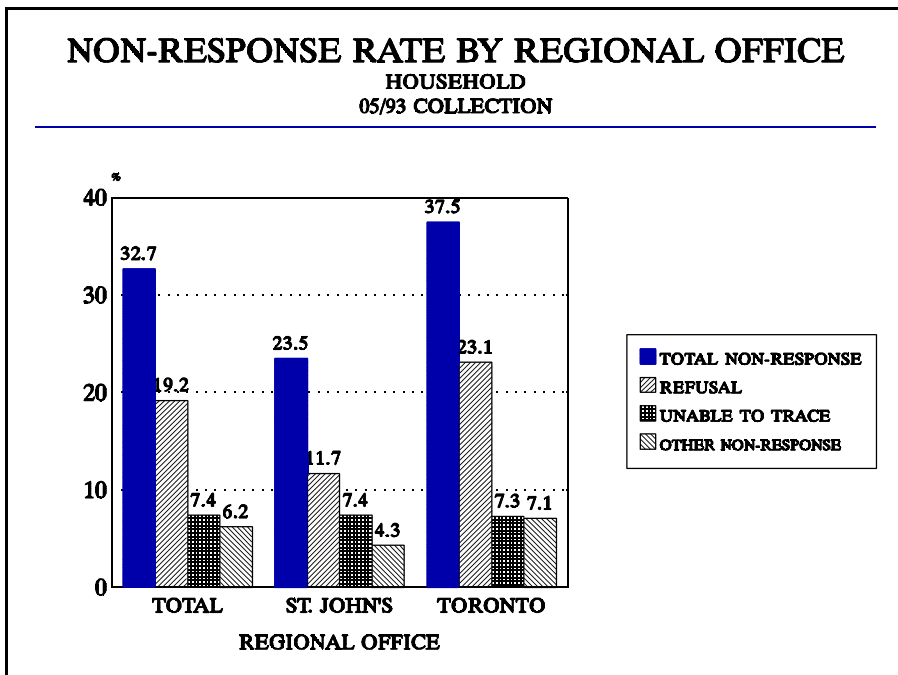


CHART 3

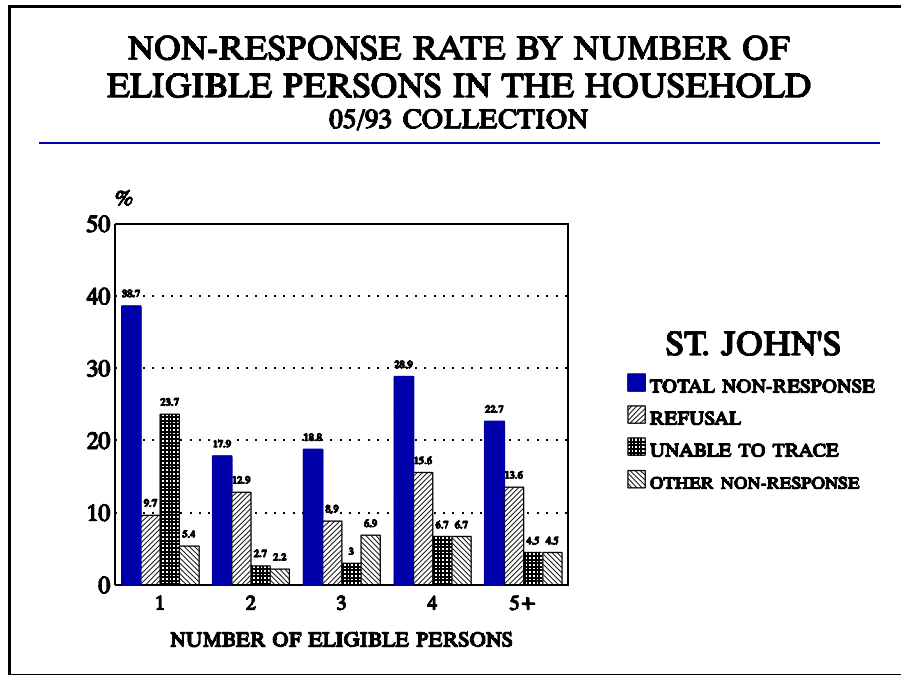
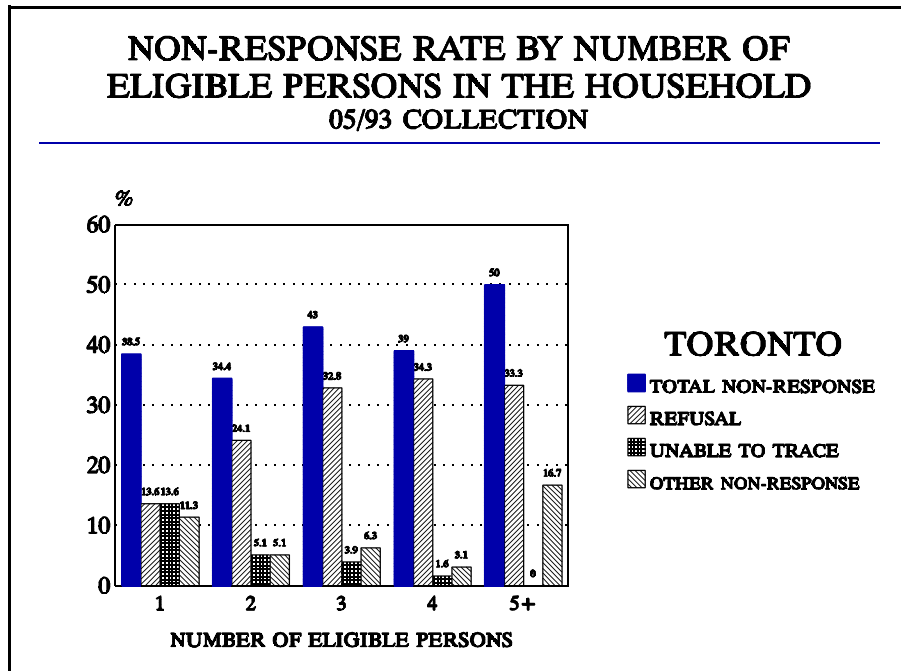


CHART 4



3. TRACING

**TABLE 1: OVERVIEW OF TRACING PROCEDURES
TOTAL TRACING
05/93 COLLECTION**

	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS TO TRACE	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS TRACED		AVERAGE NUMBER OF SOURCES USED	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CALLS
		tot	%		
TOTAL	211	110	52.13	1.78	4.02
ST. JOHN'S	69	34	49.28	1.76	3.12
TORONTO	142	76	53.52	1.78	4.43

**TABLE 2: OVERVIEW OF TRACING PROCEDURES
R.O. TRACING
05/93 COLLECTION**

	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS TO TRACE	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS TRACED		AVERAGE NUMBER OF SOURCES USED	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CALLS
		tot	%		
TOTAL	124	59	47.58	2.12	5.32
ST. JOHN'S	40	14	35.00	2.00	3.36
TORONTO	84	45	53.57	2.16	5.93

**TABLE 3: OVERVIEW OF TRACING PROCEDURES
TRACING IN THE FIELD
05/93 COLLECTION**

	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS TO TRACE	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS TRACED		AVERAGE NUMBER OF SOURCES USED	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CALLS
		tot	%		
TOTAL	87	50	57.47	1.37	2.45
ST. JOHN'S	29	20	68.97	1.60	2.95
TORONTO	58	31	53.44	1.21	2.10

**TABLE 4: SOURCES USED IN TRACING
ST. JOHN'S
05/93 COLLECTION**

SOURCE	TRACING IN FIELD		R.O. TRACING		TOTAL	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
CONTACT	10	50.0	5	35.7	15	44.1
PROXY	9	45.0	9	64.3	18	53.0
OTHER	1	5.0	--	--	1	2.9

**TABLE 5: SOURCES USED IN TRACING
TORONTO
05/93 COLLECTION**

SOURCE	TRACING IN FIELD		RO TRACING		TOTAL	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
CITY DIRECTORY	--	--	3	6.7	3	4.1
CONTACT	10	34.5	11	24.4	21	28.4
LONG DISTANCE OPERATOR	2	6.9	11	24.4	13	17.6
PHONE BOOK	1	3.4	--	--	1	1.4
PROXY	10	34.5	20	44.4	30	40.5
OTHER	6	20.7	--	--	6	8.1

4. DURATION OF INTERVIEW

All times presented below are in minutes and fractions of minutes.

4.1 INTERVIEW DURATION BY HOUSEHOLD

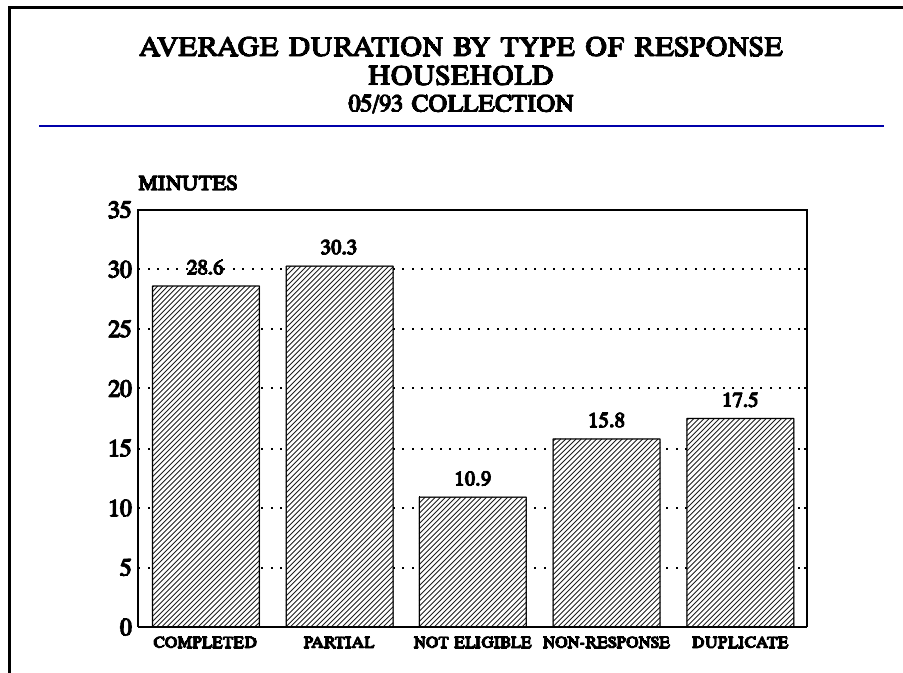
TABLE 6: TOTAL DURATION
05/93 COLLECTION

	HOUSEHOLDS			
	AVERAGE	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM	STAND. DEVIATION
TOTAL	24.4	0.2	88.9	15.3
ST. JOHN'S	22.3	1.5	88.9	13.2
TORONTO	25.5	0.2	87.3	16.2

NOTE: These data are based on 1413 households.
Outliers (interviews taking more than 90 minutes) were excluded for the purposes of these calculations.

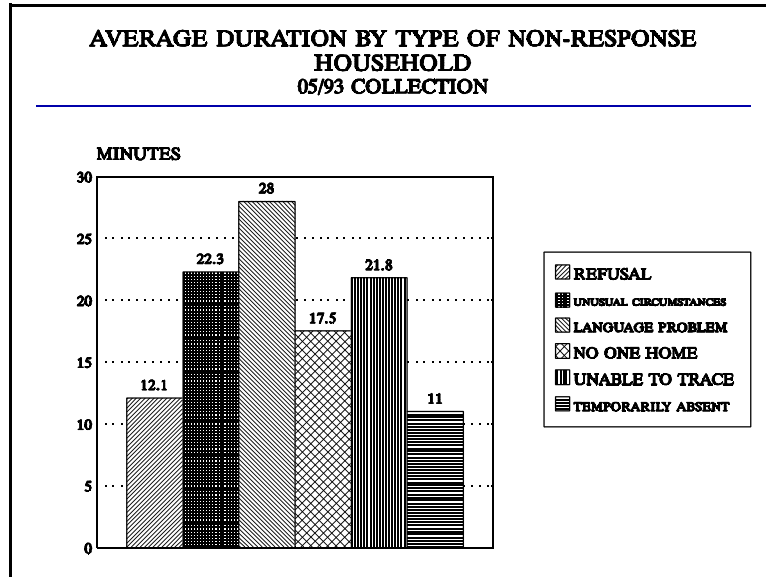
4.2 INTERVIEW DURATION PER HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE OF RESPONSE

CHART 5:



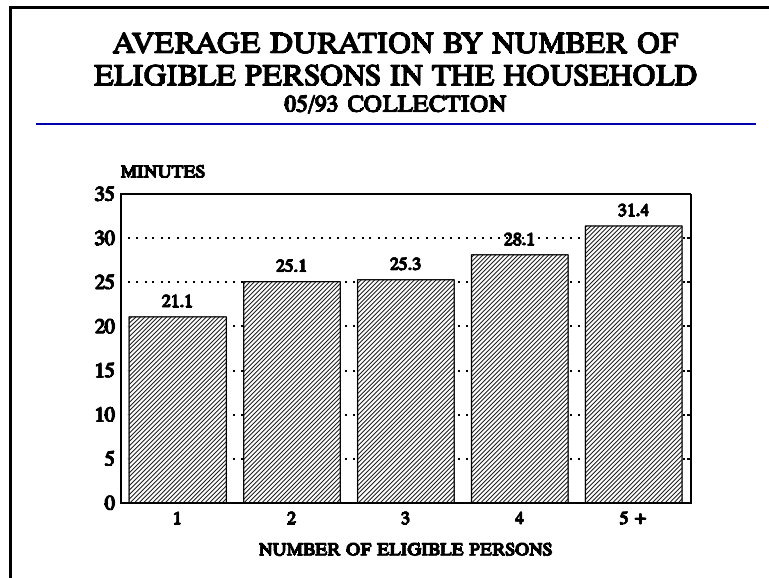
4.3 DURATION PER HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE OF NON-RESPONSE

CHART 6:



4.4 DURATION BY NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE PERSONS

CHART 7



5. NUMBER OF TELEPHONE CALLS

CHART 8

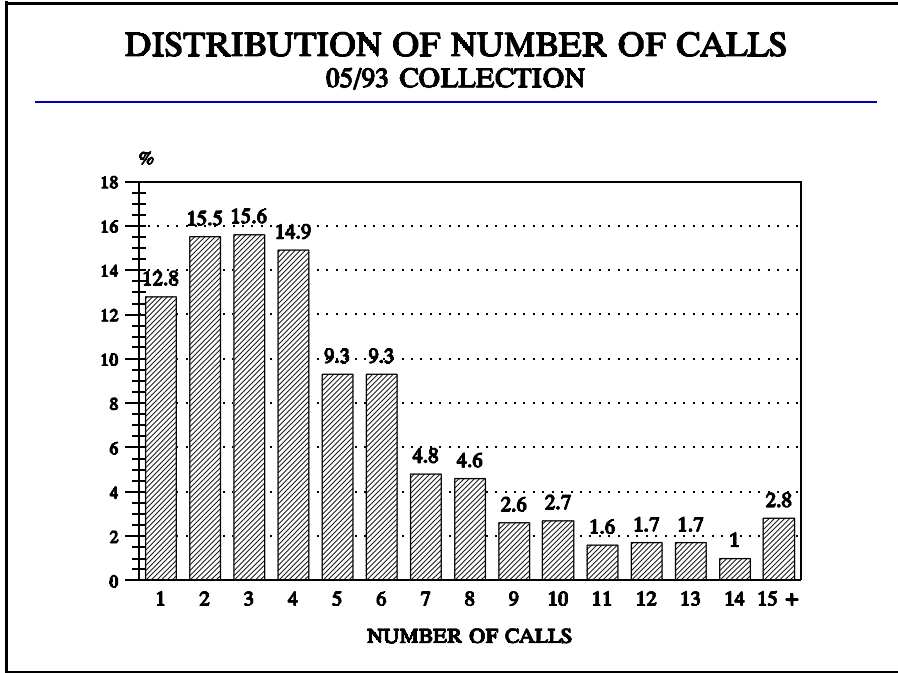
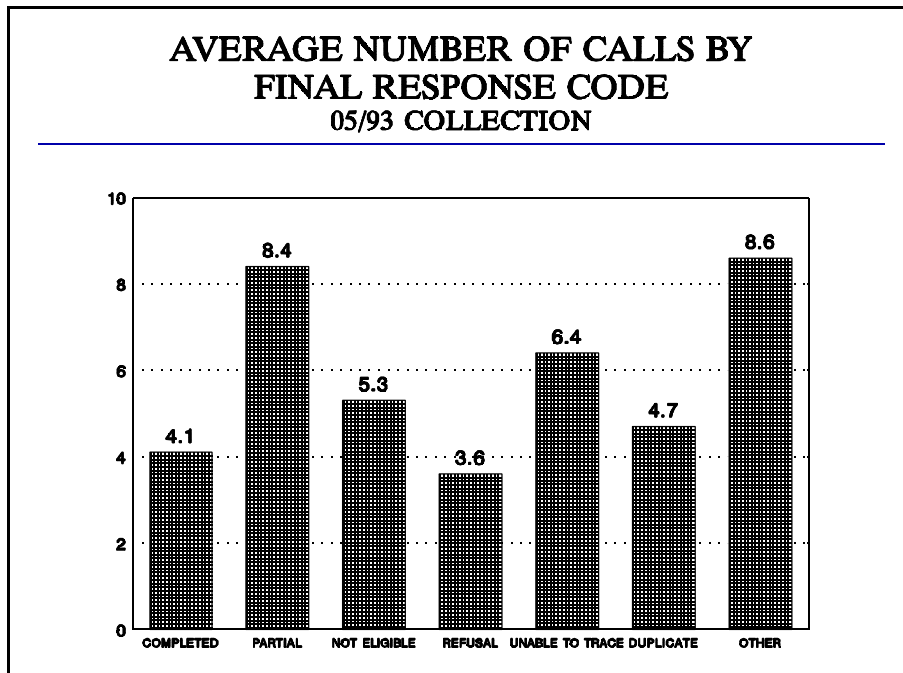


CHART 9



6. INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN JANUARY AND MAY

In the January interview (Test 3A), respondents were asked questions about whether they had received any income from the following sources: wages and salary, Old Age Security, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, or Social Assistance. Then in the May interview (Test 3B), the respondents were asked exactly how much money they had received from various sources, including the five mentioned above. If they indicated in January that they had received money from these sources, but in May said they had not, then an edit was triggered and the interviewer pointed out this discrepancy in order to get more accurate information. If, on the other hand, the respondent said they had not received income in January, but did report some in May, no edit was triggered. Both of these discrepancies are of interest to us and are illustrated in the following charts.

CHART 10

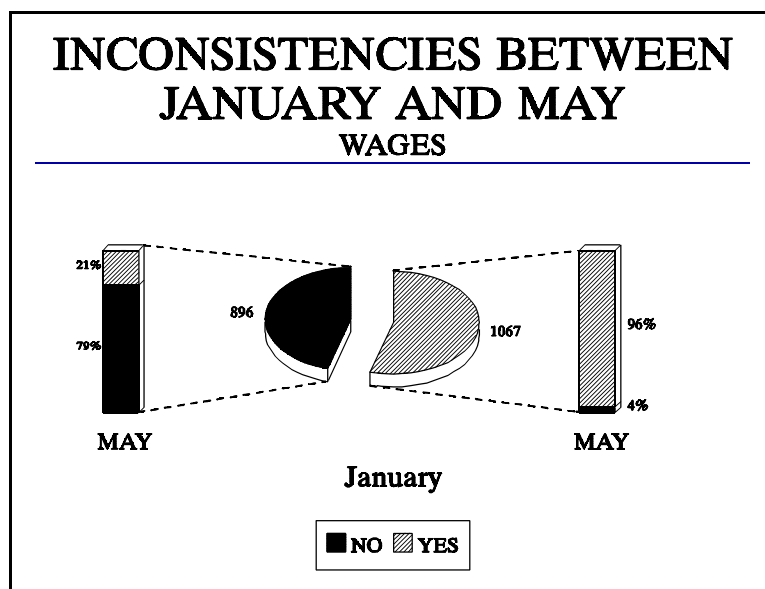


CHART 11

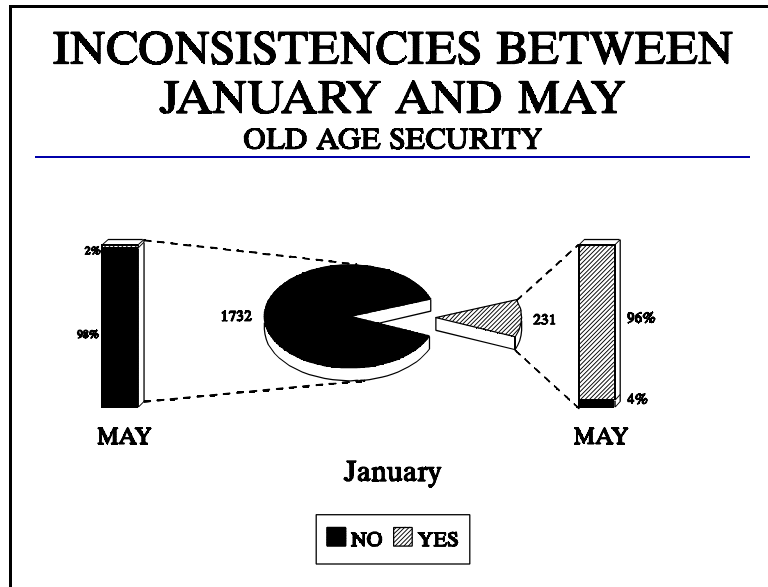


CHART 12

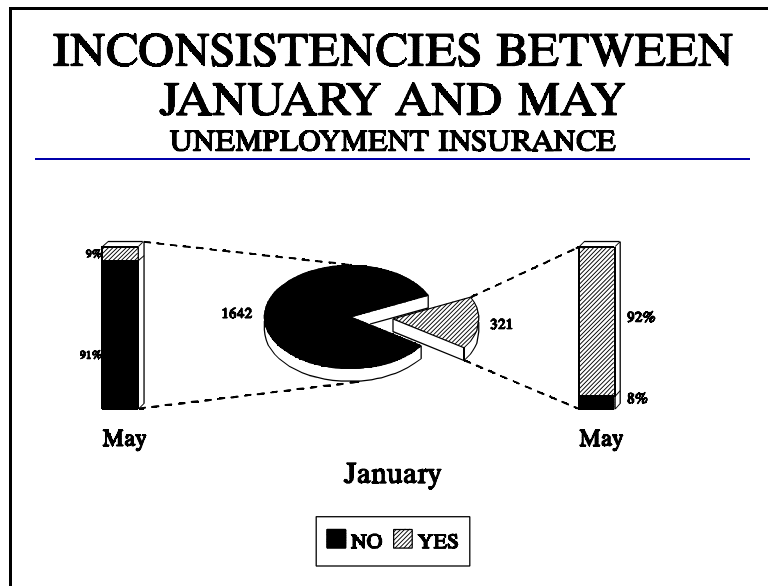


CHART 13

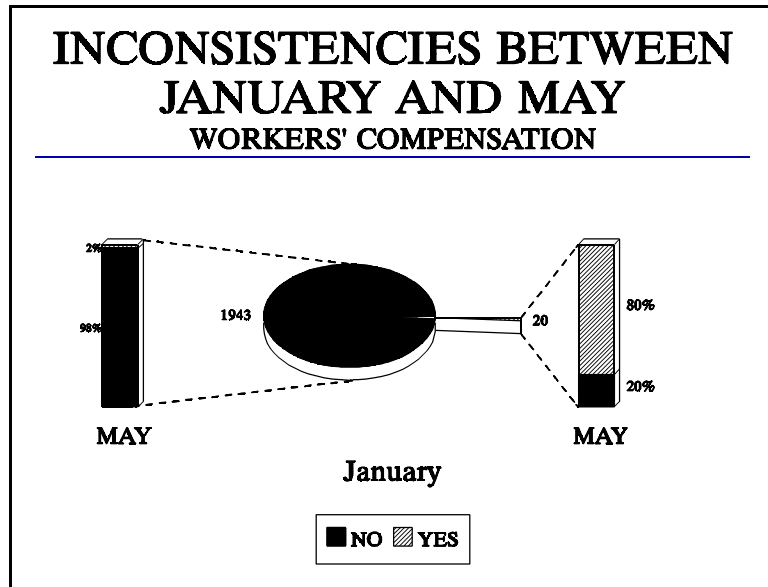
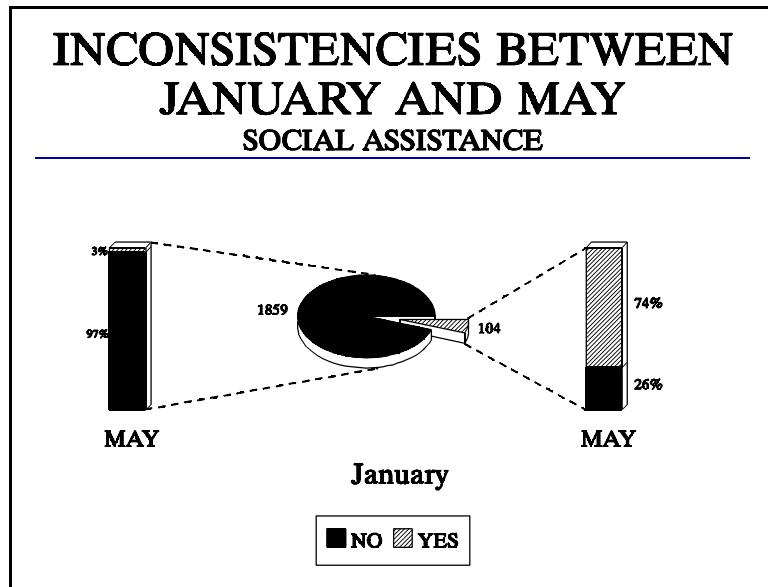


CHART 14



**TABLE 7: INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN JANUARY AND MAY
BY COLLECTION ROUTE
05/93 COLLECTION**

	ROUTE						ALL APPROACHES	
	BLOCK		NOTEBOOK		TAXFORM			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
WAGES	106	11.6	90	12.6	34	10.0	230	11.7
OLD AGE SECURITY	26	2.8	13	1.8	6	1.8	45	2.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	83	9.1	57	8.0	28	8.3	168	8.6
WORKERS' COMPENSATION	23	2.5	15	2.1	14	4.1	52	2.7
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	45	5.0	18	2.5	15	4.4	78	4.0

APPENDIX A - HOUSEHOLD RESPONSE RATES

TABLE 8: OVERVIEW OF THE SAMPLE

05/93 COLLECTION

	HOUSEHOLD								
	ORIGINAL	CREATED	NOT * ELIGIBLE	DUPLICATE	TOTAL	TOTAL RESPONSE		TOTAL NON- RESPONSE	
						tot	%	tot	%
TOTAL	1 392	43	29	6	1 400	942	67.29	458	32.71
ST. JOHN'S	476	13	0	3	486	372	76.54	114	23.46
TORONTO	916	30	29	3	914	570	62.36	344	37.66

NOTE: ORIGINAL: A household from the original January 92 sample.
 CREATED: A household that was created from an original household. For example, two households are created when the three members of the household no longer live together. One of the three retains the identification of the original household and two households are created for the other two persons.
 DUPLICATE: A Household where a member had moved out before January and then moved back in between January and May.
 TOTAL: TOTAL = ORIGINAL + CREATED - NOT ELIGIBLE - DUPLICATE.
 * This number includes 27 households that were eligible but were not actually interviewed.

TABLE 9: HOUSEHOLD RESPONSE RATE BY REGIONAL OFFICE
05/93 COLLECTION

	HOUSEHOLD														
	TOTAL	COMPLETED INTERVIEW		PARTIAL INTERVIEW		TOTAL RESPONSE		REFUSAL		UNABLE TO TRACE		OTHER NON-RESPONSE		TOTAL NON-RESPONSE	
		tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%
TOTAL	1 400	900	64.29	42	3.00	942	67.29	266	19.00	105	7.50	87	6.21	458	32.71
ST. JOHN'S	486	360	74.07	12	2.47	372	76.54	57	11.73	36	7.41	21	4.32	114	23.46
TORONTO	914	540	59.08	30	3.28	570	62.36	209	22.87	69	7.55	66	7.22	344	37.64

APPENDIX B - INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE RATES

CHART 15

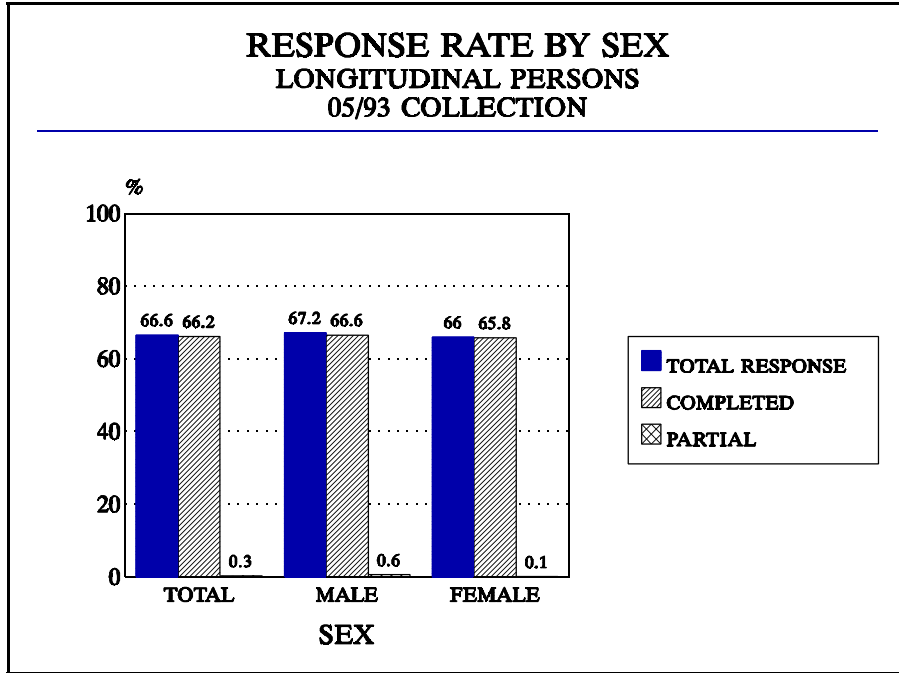


CHART 16

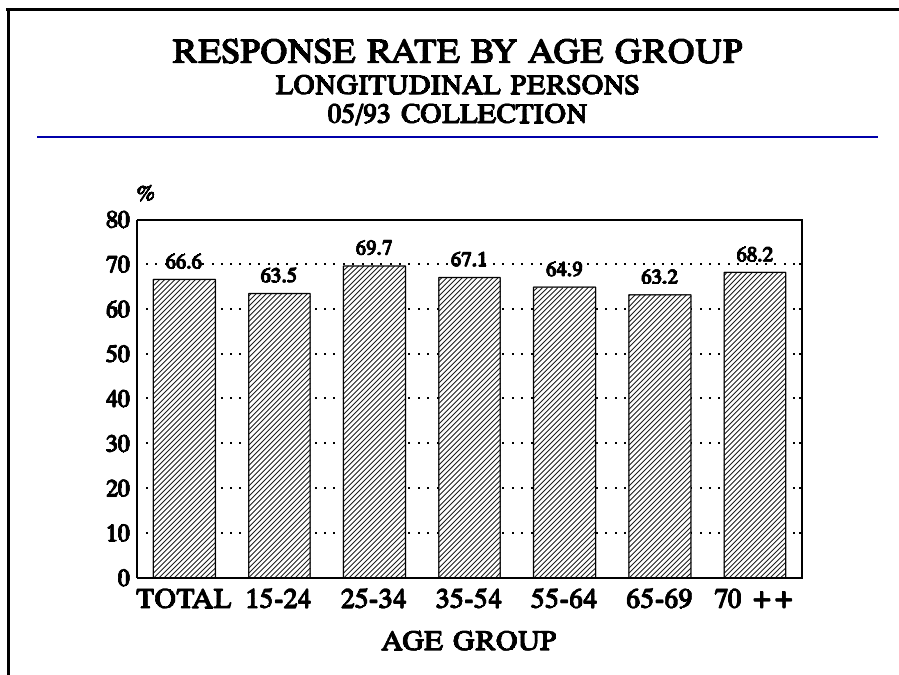


TABLE 10: OVERVIEW OF THE SAMPLE

05/93 COLLECTION

	INDIVIDUAL						
	LONGITUDINAL					NON LONGITUDINAL	TOTAL
	ELIGIBLE		NOT ELIGIBLE		TOTAL	TOTAL	
	tot	%	tot	%			
TOTAL	2 878	75.26	946	24.74	3 824	177	4 001
00-14 years	0	0.00	848	100.0	848	62	910
15-24 years	502	90.45	53	9.55	555	33	588
25-34 years	668	98.82	8	1.18	676	39	715
35-54 years	1 017	98.17	19	1.83	1 036	19	1 055
55-64 years	313	98.74	4	1.26	317	7	324
65-69 years	133	97.08	4	2.92	137	2	139
70 years & over	245	96.08	10	3.92	255	3	258
Male	1 415	73.97	498	26.03	1 913	89	2 002
00-14 years	0	0.00	453	100.0	453	33	486
15-24 years	272	91.28	26	8.72	298	15	313
25-34 years	325	98.78	4	1.22	329	24	353
35-54 years	487	98.78	6	1.22	493	12	505
55-64 years	166	98.81	2	1.19	168	2	170
65-69 years	60	95.24	3	4.76	63	1	64
70 years & over	105	96.33	4	3.67	109	2	111
Female	1 463	76.56	448	23.44	1 911	76	1 987
00-14 years	0	0.00	395	100.0	395	29	424
15-24 years	230	89.49	27	10.51	257	18	275
25-34 years	343	98.85	4	1.15	347	15	362
35-54 years	530	97.61	13	2.39	543	7	550
55-64 years	147	98.66	2	1.34	149	5	154
65-69 years	73	98.65	1	1.35	74	1	75
70 years & over	140	95.89	6	4.11	146	1	147

Note: There are 12 non-longitudinal persons with missing values for sex and age.

TABLE 11: RESPONSE RATES BY REGIONAL OFFICE (LONGITUDINAL PERSONS)
05/93 COLLECTION

	TOTAL	COMPLETED INTERVIEW		PARTIAL INTERVIEW		TOTAL RESPONSE		REFUSAL		UNABLE TO TRACE		OTHER NON-RESPONSE		NON-RESPONSE	
		tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%	tot	%
TOTAL	2 920	1 906	66.23	10	0.35	1 916	66.57	616	21.40	157	5.46	189	6.57	962	33.42
15-24 years	502	317	63.15	2	0.40	319	63.55	98	19.52	49	9.76	36	7.17	183	36.45
25-34 years	676	460	68.86	1	0.15	461	69.01	99	14.82	57	8.53	51	7.63	207	30.99
35-54 years	1017	678	66.67	4	0.39	682	67.06	242	23.80	37	3.64	56	5.51	335	32.94
55-64 years	313	202	64.54	1	0.32	203	64.86	85	27.16	8	2.56	17	5.43	110	35.14
65-69 years	133	83	62.41	1	0.75	84	63.16	34	25.56	1	0.75	14	10.53	49	36.84
70 years & over	245	166	67.76	1	0.41	167	68.16	58	23.67	5	2.04	15	6.12	78	31.75
ST. JOHN'S	1 087	834	76.72	4	0.37	838	77.09	134	12.33	58	5.34	57	5.24	249	22.91
15-24 years	216	160	74.77	2	0.93	162	75.00	23	10.65	16	7.41	15	6.94	54	25.00
25-34 years	229	177	77.29	0	0.00	177	77.29	26	11.35	19	8.30	7	3.06	52	22.71
35-54 years	387	302	78.03	2	0.52	304	78.55	51	13.18	18	4.65	14	3.62	83	21.45
55-64 years	124	94	75.81	0	0.00	94	75.81	21	16.94	3	2.42	6	4.84	30	24.19
65-69 years	45	30	66.67	0	0.00	30	66.67	6	13.33	0	0.00	9	20.00	15	33.33
70 years & over	86	71	82.56	0	0.00	71	82.56	7	8.14	2	2.33	6	6.98	15	17.44
TORONTO	1 791	1072	59.85	6	0.34	1 078	60.19	482	26.91	99	5.53	132	7.37	713	39.81
15-24 years	286	157	54.90	0	0.00	157	54.90	75	26.22	33	11.54	21	7.34	129	45.10
25-34 years	439	283	64.46	1	0.56	284	64.69	73	16.63	38	8.66	44	10.02	155	35.31
35-54 years	630	376	59.86	2	0.32	378	60.00	191	30.32	19	3.02	42	6.67	252	40.00
55-64 years	189	108	57.14	1	0.53	109	57.67	64	33.86	5	2.65	11	5.82	80	42.33
65-69 years	88	53	60.23	1	1.14	54	61.36	28	31.82	1	1.14	5	5.68	34	38.64
70 years & over	159	95	59.75	1	0.63	96	60.38	51	332.08	3	1.89	9	5.66	63	39.62

APPENDIX C - AVERAGE INTERVIEW DURATION OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS

TABLE 12: AVERAGE DURATION BY COMPONENTS
05/93 COLLECTION

	HOUSEHOLD		
	CONTACT / HOUSEHOLD ROSTER	DEMOGRAPHICS	INCOME
TOTAL	4.20	0.60	13.14
ST. JOHN'S	3.88	0.51	12.23
TORONTO	4.37	0.66	13.74

Note: The Demographics portion in Test 3B did not involve any actual questions, as it did in Test 3A, and is therefore substantially shorter.

TABLE 13: AVERAGE DURATION OF INCOME PORTION BY APPROACH
05/93 COLLECTION

	HOUSEHOLD					
	ROUTE=BLOCK		ROUTE=NOTEBOOK		ROUTE=TAXFORM	
	Average duration	Number of interviews	Average duration	Number of interviews	Average duration	Number of interviews
TOTAL	12.35	394	9.65	298	17.60	131
ST. JOHN'S	12.41	180	8.65	114	17.18	27
TORONTO	12.29	214	10.27	184	17.71	104

Note: These data are based on only those 823 households in which all the respondents used the same approach for the income interview.

**TABLE 14: AVERAGE DURATION OF INCOME INTERVIEW BY
APPROACH
05/93 COLLECTION**

	INDIVIDUAL					
	ROUTE=BLOCK		ROUTE=NOTEBOOK		ROUTE=TAXFORM	
	Average duration	Number of interviews	Average duration	Number of interviews	Average duration	Number of interviews
TOTAL	6.31	907	4.52	714	10.03	339
ST. JOHN'S	5.74	454	3.68	316	8.90	85
TORONTO	6.89	453	5.19	398	10.41	254

Note: These data are based on 1960 respondents. There were 3 respondents for whom there was no information on time taken to complete the interview.

APPENDIX D - SLID DEFINITIONS

SLID cross-sectional sample:

The cross-sectional sample is composed of everyone living in Canada, with the exception of inhabitants of Yukon and the Northwest Territories, residents of an institutional establishment (residing therein for a period of at least six months), persons living on an Indian reservation, full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces and persons without a telephone.

Field of observation:

The field of observation is composed of everyone living in Canada or the United States.

Longitudinal person:

Person who was part of the January 92 initial sample. These persons are also part of the cross-sectional sample.

Non-longitudinal person:

Person living with a longitudinal person. This person might or might not belong to the survey population in January 92.

Person eligible in May 1993 test for:

- Preliminary long questionnaire:

A person aged 15 (longitudinal or non-longitudinal).

- Preliminary short questionnaire:

A non-longitudinal person aged 16 or over.

- Questionnaire on income:

A person aged 16 or more (longitudinal or non-longitudinal).

For the document, anyone 15 years of age or older is considered eligible if he or she is not deceased or institutionalized and if he or she resides within the field of observation.

Ineligible person:

Anyone aged 14 or less, a deceased person, an institutionalized person, and anyone residing outside the field of observation.

Eligible household:

Household with at least one person in the household eligible.

Ineligible household:

Household with everyone in the household ineligible.

Duplicate household:

When a person moves out from a household, a new household is created. If that person subsequently moves back into the original household, a duplicate household is created, and one must be deleted.