canadian labour force survey

LABOUR FORCE QUALITY REPORT

January 1973

Labour Force Survey Section
Field Division
Special Surveys Development
Staff

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HIGHLIGHTS
(See Summary Table page 5)

A. COMPARISON OF SERIES

1. UIC Claimants and LFS Unemployed:

As noted in the previous report (December edition), the difference in the level between the two series appears very stable. As the relationship between the two series cannot be compared with previous years due to changes in the coverage of the Unemployment Insurance Act, those years will not appear in the chart next month. The one year of experience with the new series shows a quite stable relationship between the two and will provide us with a tool to pinpoint any odd movements in one of the two series. This practice will be continued in future quality reports.

For more details see tables on pages 5 and 6, and the notes and definitions, Appendix 1.

2. Canadian and American Unemployment Rates:

The gap between the two series continued to increase in December. If we look at the two previous years, this is the biggest difference between the Canadian and American unemployment rate for December. The Canadian rate for December 1972 at 6.5 was at the same level as December 1970 and slightly higher than the one in the same month last year. The American rate was the lowest recorded for that month in the three years. This is the fourth month in which the trends have been in opposite directions in the two countries and this pattern is inconsistent with observation of 1970 and 1971.

For more details on the actual and seasonally-adjusted rate, see the Summary Table (page 5).

B. SLIPPAGE

The estimated slippage rate at the Canada level has decreased from 4.6 % in November to 4.5 % in December (see graphs page G-2 and G-3). The annual average has increased from 3.7 % in 1971 to 4.3 % in 1972.

1 - By Province: All provinces exhibited positive slippage rates in December. From November to December, decreases in slippage rates were noted in Prince Edward Island (Chart 2 page G-2) New Brunswick (Chart 4), Quebec (Chart 5), Ontario (Chart 6),

Saskatchewan (Chart 8) and British Columbia (Chart 10). On the other hand, Newfoundland (Chart 1), Nova Scotia (Chart 3), Manitoba (Chart 7) and Alberta (Chart 9) showed increases in slippage from November to December, the biggest increase occuring in Manitoba.

Newfoundland continues to exhibit the highest slippage rate. In fact, in Newfoundland, the estimate derived from the December Labour Force Survey sample represented only 91.9 % (that is, a slippage rate of 8.1 %) of the population estimate as projected from the 1961 Census.

In regard to the annual average figures for slippage by province, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia showed increases in slippage from 1971 to 1972. Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, on the other hand, exhibited decreases in slippage from 1971 to 1972.

2 - By Age (Canada level): All age groups exhibited positive slippage rates in December. Decreases in slippage rate were noted in the 14-19 and 20-24 age groups. However, the 25-44, 45-64 and 65 and over age groups showed increases in slippage rate from November to December.

Of all the age groups, the 20-24 age group continues to show the highest slippage rate. In this age group, the estimate derived from the December Labour Force Survey represented only 86.0 % (that is, a slippage rate of 14.0 %) of the population estimate projected from the 1961 Census.

In regard to the annual averages, decreases in slippage rates from 1971 to 1972 occurred in the 14-19 and 65 and over age groups. Increases in slippage rate, however, were noted in the 20-24, 25-44 and 45-64 age groups.

C. NON-RESPONSE

The Canadian overall non-response rate increased from 5.2 % in November to 6.3 % in December. The non-response rate for December 1972 showed no change from December 1971.

For further information, see Appendix 2.

D. REJECTED DOCUMENTS

The Canada reject rate for the December survey decreased from 12.8 per cent in November to 8.5 per cent, representing a decline of 4.3 per cent. All regional offices showed decreases.

The improved results were fairly evenly distributed over both regular Labour Force items and supplementary items.

For some time there have been indications that reader malfunction was contributing to document rejects. In December, a special test deck of Labour Force documents was used to detect machine problems. This proved extremely successful and contributed to the overall reduction in the rejects for December.

The average number of careless errors per rejected documents remained unchanged at 55 errors per 100 documents; however, the number of omitted identification marks has been reduced by 50 per cent and several regions have almost eliminated this type of error.

E. ENUMERATION COST

At the Canada level, enumeration cost registered increases in both November and December of 5 cents per sample household. The average cost per S.R.U. household increased 11 cents between the October and the December surveys while the N.S.R.U. costs registered a 9 cent increase.

The Vancouver regional office had a one cent reduction since October whereas Edmonton enumeration cost increased one cent in this period. All other regions registered increases varying from 5 to 20 cents per household.

Montreal and Toronto registered the largest increases, 20 and 14 cents respectively. However, in both these regions, because of a threat of interrupted mail service, it was necessary to institute alternative methods (bus line and local pick-ups) for transporting survey supplies and returns. These methods did increase the fees and expenses claimed by many interviewers in these regions, i.e., deliveries had to be made to bus pick-up terminals and the shipment charges prepaid.

Another factor contributing to increased cost during this period was the efforts by most regions to reduce or maintain low levels of non-response.

Summary Table

		Monthly Estimates and Rate							Month-to-Month Change				Year-to-Year Change	
		1972					1971		1972				1971-1972	
		Dec.	Nov.	Oct.	Sept.	Aug.	Dec.	Nov.	Nov. to Dec.	Oct. to Nov.	Sept. to Oct.	Aug. to Sept.	Dec. to Dec.	Nov. to Nov.
Comparison of Series														
LFS Unemployed	000's	584	524	483	459	503	530	503	+ 60	+ 41	+ 24	- 44	+ 54	+ 21
UIC Claimants	000's		765	709	692	722	689	538		+ 56	+ 17	- 30		+ 227
Unemployment Rates (Actual) - Canadian	%	6.5	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.4	6.1	5.8	+ 0.6	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Unemployment Rates (Actual) - American	%	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.7	- 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 0.8
Unemployment Rates (Seasonally-adjusted) - Canadian	%	6.8	6.6	6.9	7.1	6.7	6.3	6.6	+ 0.2	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.5	—
Unemployment Rates (Seasonally-adjusted) - American	%	5.2	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.6	6.0	6.0	—	- 0.3	—	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 0.8
Slippage														
Canada - Total	%	4.5	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.7	3.6	3.6	- 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.3	- 0.2	+ 0.9	+ 1.0
14-19 years	%	2.1	3.3	2.9	3.2	3.1	0.2	0.8	- 1.2	+ 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.9	+ 2.5
20-24 years	%	14.0	14.3	14.2	12.5	12.8	11.5	11.4	- 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.7	- 0.3	+ 2.5	+ 2.9
25-44 years	%	4.2	4.1	3.7	4.1	6.1	3.7	3.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	- 0.4	- 2.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
45-64 years	%	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.8	2.6	1.7	1.7	+ 0.3	—	- 0.7	+ 1.2	+ 1.7	+ 1.4
65 and over	%	0.4	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 0.1	- 1.6	3.9	3.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	- 0.7	+ 1.5	- 3.5	- 3.5
Newfoundland	%	8.1	8.0	8.6	8.2	8.9	4.5	3.1	+ 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.4	- 0.7	+ 3.6	+ 4.9
Prince Edward Island	%	4.5	4.6	1.5	0.4	- 0.7	4.6	3.5	- 0.1	+ 3.1	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	- 0.1	+ 1.1
Nova Scotia	%	5.7	5.1	5.2	4.1	4.2	5.3	4.3	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 1.1	- 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.8
New Brunswick	%	6.8	7.0	7.3	9.0	9.4	4.8	4.7	- 0.2	- 0.3	- 1.7	- 0.4	+ 2.0	+ 2.3
Quebec	%	3.6	4.0	3.2	3.7	4.3	3.2	3.8	- 0.4	+ 0.8	- 0.5	- 0.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
Ontario	%	5.0	5.2	4.9	5.1	5.2	3.7	4.1	- 0.2	+ 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.1	+ 1.3	+ 1.1
Manitoba	%	2.6	0.4	0.6	1.7	0.8	1.6	0.4	+ 2.2	- 0.2	- 1.1	+ 0.9	+ 1.0	—
Saskatchewan	%	2.1	3.3	1.3	0.7	0.8	- 0.7	0.4	- 1.2	+ 2.0	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 2.8	+ 2.9
Alberta	%	2.2	1.4	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.6	+ 0.8	- 1.7	—	- 0.1	- 1.2	- 2.2
British Columbia	%	6.4	6.8	6.3	6.7	6.6	5.8	3.8	- 0.4	+ 0.5	- 0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 3.0
Non-response(1)														
Canada	%	6.3	5.2	5.1	6.1	10.1	6.3	6.1	+ 1.1	+ 0.1	- 1.0	- 4.0	—	- 0.9
St. John's	%	2.7	3.9	3.4	4.3	8.0	5.8	6.6	- 1.2	+ 0.5	- 0.9	- 3.7	- 3.1	- 2.7
Halifax	%	7.1	5.7	5.5	6.1	9.3	4.8	4.6	+ 1.4	+ 0.2	- 0.6	- 3.2	+ 2.3	+ 1.1
Montreal	%	6.5	5.6	5.3	5.9	10.3	5.3	5.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	- 0.6	- 4.4	+ 1.2	+ 0.2
Ottawa	%	5.6	3.8	3.3	4.5	7.9	5.5	5.9	+ 1.8	+ 0.5	- 1.2	- 3.4	+ 0.1	- 2.1
Toronto	%	6.5	4.3	4.4	5.5	11.2	8.2	7.8	+ 2.2	- 0.1	- 1.1	- 5.7	- 1.7	- 3.5
Winnipeg	%	1.6	2.1	2.7	3.3	4.9	4.1	4.0	- 0.5	- 0.6	- 0.6	- 1.6	- 2.5	- 1.9
Edmonton	%	7.5	6.5	6.6	8.4	11.7	7.6	7.8	+ 1.0	- 0.1	- 1.8	- 3.3	- 0.1	- 1.3
Vancouver	%	9.2	7.5	7.6	9.0	13.8	7.8	6.6	+ 1.7	- 0.1	- 1.4	- 4.8	+ 1.4	+ 0.9
Rejected Documents(1)														
Canada	%	8.5	12.8	13.5	9.9	16.2	14.7	12.8	- 4.3	- 0.7	+ 3.6	- 6.3	- 6.2	—
St. John's	%	7.9	15.1	11.3	8.0	11.5	15.2	12.5	- 7.2	+ 3.8	+ 3.3	- 3.5	- 7.3	+ 2.6
Halifax	%	9.6	12.7	10.1	9.4	16.1	14.2	13.5	- 3.1	+ 2.6	+ 0.7	- 6.7	- 4.6	- 0.8
Montreal	%	7.7	11.8	12.4	8.0	13.6	15.4	14.6	- 4.1	- 0.6	+ 4.4	- 5.6	- 7.7	- 2.8
Ottawa	%	5.8	10.9	12.8	14.7	18.9	14.4	10.5	- 5.1	- 1.9	- 1.9	- 4.2	- 8.6	+ 0.4
Toronto	%	10.3	16.5	17.7	11.7	21.0	17.1	13.2	- 6.2	- 1.2	+ 6.0	- 9.3	- 6.8	+ 3.3
Winnipeg	%	6.6	7.4	11.7	10.0	14.5	13.4	12.2	- 0.8	- 4.3	+ 1.7	- 4.5	- 6.8	- 4.8
Edmonton	%	8.3	11.7	14.2	8.9	14.1	10.4	10.2	- 3.4	- 2.5	+ 5.3	- 5.2	- 2.1	+ 1.5
Vancouver	%	8.9	13.2	16.0	10.1	17.1	15.0	13.2	- 4.3	- 2.8	+ 5.9	- 7.0	- 6.1	—
Enumeration Cost per Household(1)														
Canada - Total	$	2.20	2.15	2.10	2.08	2.11	1.83	1.85	+ 0.05	+ 0.05	+ 0.02	- 0.03	+ 0.37	+ 0.30
S.R.U.	$	2.10	2.04	1.99	1.99	1.98	1.74	1.77	+ 0.06	+ 0.05	—	+ 0.01	+ 0.36	+ 0.27
N.S.R.U.	$	2.32	2.29	2.23	2.19	2.26	1.94	1.96	+ 0.03	+ 0.06	+ 0.04	- 0.07	+ 0.38	+ 0.33
St. John's - Total	$	2.42	2.42	2.35	2.27	2.40	1.90	1.89	—	+ 0.07	+ 0.08	- 0.13	+ 0.52	+ 0.53
S.R.U.	$	2.12	1.98	1.92	1.98	2.08	1.79	1.81	+ 0.14	+ 0.06	- 0.06	- 0.10	+ 0.33	+ 0.17
N.S.R.U.	$	2.54	2.58	2.52	2.36	2.52	1.94	1.92	- 0.04	+ 0.06	+ 0.16	- 0.16	+ 0.60	+ 0.66
Halifax - Total	$	1.86	1.80	1.75	1.77	1.77	1.50	1.56	+ 0.06	+ 0.05	- 0.02	—	+ 0.36	+ 0.24
S.R.U.	$	1.64	1.63	1.58	1.66	1.66	1.34	1.40	+ 0.01	+ 0.05	- 0.08	—	+ 0.30	+ 0.23
N.S.R.U.	$	2.00	1.90	1.86	1.85	1.85	1.61	1.66	+ 0.10	+ 0.04	+ 0.01	—	+ 0.39	+ 0.24
Montreal - Total	$	2.47	2.28	2.27	2.29	2.36	2.02	2.03	+ 0.19	+ 0.01	- 0.02	- 0.07	+ 0.45	+ 0.25
S.R.U.	$	2.41	2.23	2.18	2.20	2.22	1.91	1.92	+ 0.18	+ 0.05	- 0.02	- 0.02	+ 0.50	+ 0.31
N.S.R.U.	$	2.58	2.39	2.43	2.46	2.63	2.23	2.25	+ 0.19	- 0.04	- 0.03	- 0.17	+ 0.35	+ 0.14
Ottawa - Total	$	2.35	2.38	2.26	2.29	2.25	1.96	1.80	- 0.03	+ 0.12	- 0.03	+ 0.04	+ 0.39	+ 0.58
S.R.U.	$	2.34	2.33	2.19	2.27	2.14	1.91	1.83	+ 0.01	+ 0.14	- 0.08	+ 0.13	+ 0.43	+ 0.50
N.S.R.U.	$	2.36	2.45	2.37	2.30	2.41	2.03	1.76	- 0.09	+ 0.08	+ 0.07	- 0.11	+ 0.33	+ 0.69
Toronto - Total	$	2.43	2.40	2.29	2.26	2.26	2.00	2.09	+ 0.03	+ 0.11	+ 0.03	—	+ 0.43	+ 0.31
S.R.U.	$	2.32	2.30	2.23	2.19	2.17	1.94	1.99	+ 0.02	+ 0.07	+ 0.04	+ 0.02	+ 0.38	+ 0.31
N.S.R.U.	$	2.76	2.64	2.43	2.42	2.53	2.15	2.37	+ 0.12	+ 0.21	+ 0.01	- 0.11	+ 0.61	+ 0.27
Winnipeg - Total	$	2.21	2.24	2.16	2.16	2.19	1.88	1.87	- 0.03	+ 0.08	—	- 0.03	+ 0.33	+ 0.37
S.R.U.	$	2.03	1.98	1.97	1.93	1.93	1.68	1.71	+ 0.05	+ 0.01	+ 0.04	—	+ 0.35	+ 0.27
N.S.R.U.	$	2.38	2.46	2.32	2.37	2.42	2.07	2.03	- 0.08	+ 0.14	- 0.05	- 0.05	+ 0.31	+ 0.43
Edmonton - Total	$	1.89	1.85	1.88	1.83	1.86	1.68	1.67	+ 0.04	- 0.03	+ 0.05	- 0.03	+ 0.21	+ 0.18
S.R.U.	$	1.61	1.55	1.57	1.53	1.59	1.44	1.46	+ 0.06	- 0.02	+ 0.04	- 0.06	+ 0.17	+ 0.09
N.S.R.U.	$	2.16	2.14	2.16	2.09	2.10	1.88	1.86	+ 0.02	- 0.02	+ 0.07	- 0.01	+ 0.28	+ 0.28
Vancouver - Total	$	1.96	1.99	1.97	1.89	1.88	1.70	1.76	- 0.03	+ 0.02	+ 0.08	+ 0.01	+ 0.26	+ 0.23
S.R.U.	$	1.88	1.84	1.84	1.79	1.77	1.58	1.66	+ 0.04	—	+ 0.05	+ 0.02	+ 0.30	+ 0.18
N.S.R.U.	$	2.10	2.23	2.20	2.03	2.08	1.89	1.91	- 0.13	+ 0.03	+ 0.17	- 0.05	+ 0.21	+ 0.32

Comparison of level of UIC Claimants and LFS Unemployed

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1969												
LFS Unemployed (000's)	467	473	448	432	386	383	349	318	279	314	354	383
UIC Claimants (000's)	616	631	594	527	305	277	279	268	260	280	349	537
Ratio: Claimants / Unemployed	1.32	1.33	1.33	1.22	0.79	0.72	0.80	0.84	0.93	0.89	0.99	1.40
1970												
LFS Unemployed (000's)	485	526	542	544	513	529	518	448	398	419	476	538
UIC Claimants (000's)	659	694	705	691	505	442	439	409	391	399	480	672
Ratio: Claimants / Unemployed	1.36	1.32	1.30	1.27	0.98	0.84	0.85	0.91	0.98	0.95	1.01	1.25
1971												
LFS Unemployed (000's)	668	675	650	659	543	551	514	455	434	447	503	530
UIC Claimants (000's)	844	888	857	819	496	420	413	411	433	436	538	689
Ratio: Claimants / Unemployed	1.26	1.32	1.32	1.24	0.91	0.76	0.80	0.90	1.00	0.98	1.07	1.30
1972												
LFS Unemployed (000's)	665	627	642	592	552	568	543	503	459	483	524	
UIC Claimants (000's)	827	912	914	874	814	753	762	722	692	709	765	
Ratio: Claimants / Unemployed	1.24	1.45	1.42	1.48	1.47	1.33	1.40	1.44	1.51	1.47	1.46	
% of Claimants under Old Act												
1971		(All claimants under Old Act)				*	80.4	61.9	44.2	36.6	25.4	17.8
1972	11.9	7.8	5.0	3.4	1.5	0.2	0.1	...	(All claimants under New Act)			

Note: 1. Seasonal Benefits Regulations were applicable from December to mid-May until 1971. This is the reason why in 1972 there was no large decline between April and May in the UIC Claimants as in previous years.

2. The Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, was introduced June 27, 1971. The lower portion of the above table indicates the percentage of claimants under the provision of the old Unemployment Insurance Act during the period July 1971 to August 1972.

3. Under the universal provision of the new Unemployment Insurance Act, some 2,000,000 persons - formerly excluded under the old Act - were insured effective January 2, 1972.

New Act introduced June 27, 1971.

... Less than 0.1%.

SURVEY No. 270
ENQUETE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY
ENQUETE SUR LA MAIN-D'OEUVRE

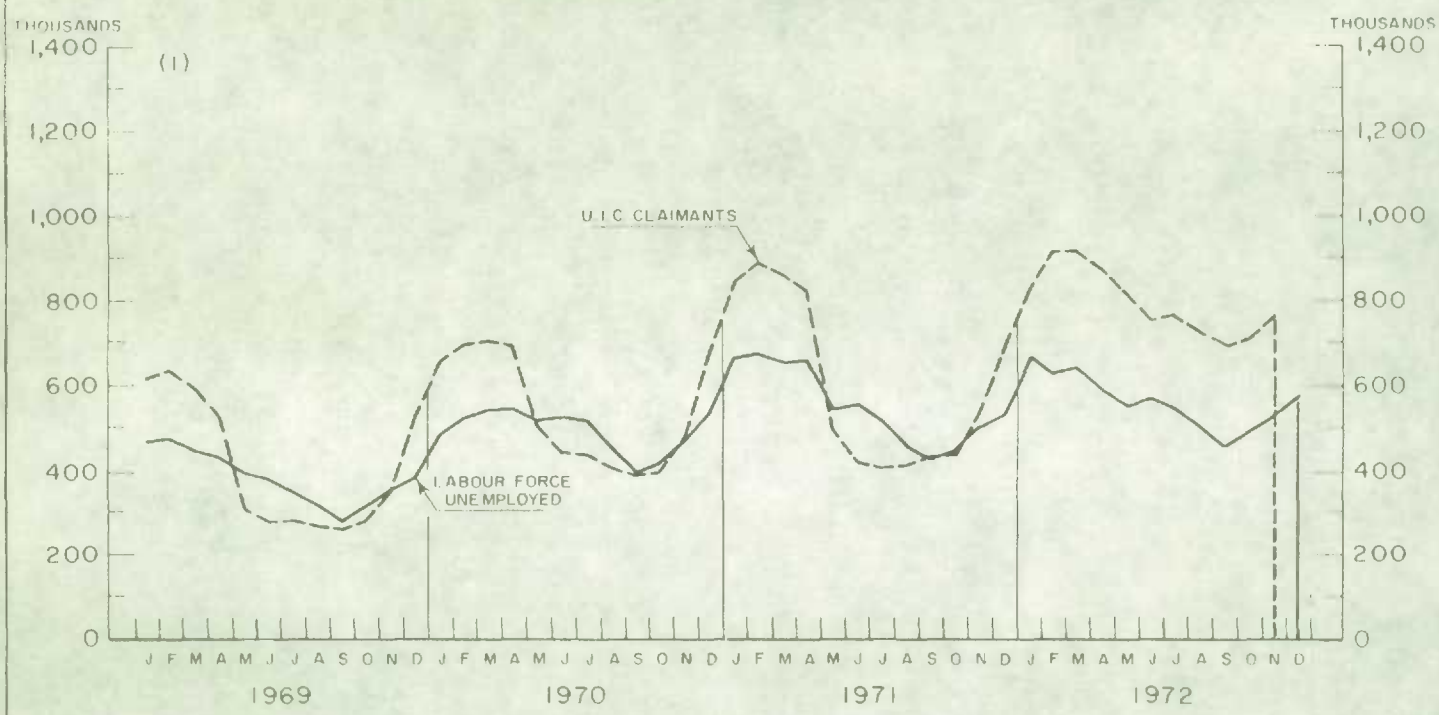
ANALYSE OF REJECTED DOCUMENTS
ANALYSE DES DOCUMENTS REJETES

(December 1972)

	CANADA	ST.JOHN'S	HALIFAX	MONTREAL	OTTAWA	TORONTO	WINNIPEG	EDMONTON	VANCOUVER
TOTAL DOCUMENTS RECEIVED TOTAL DES DOCUMENTS REÇUS	75,178	4,605	12,930	14,594	4,617	15,192	7,229	8,335	7,676
REJECTED DOCUMENTS DOCUMENTS REJETES	6,418	362	1,238	1,125	267	1,569	479	695	683
% REJECTED DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DES DOCUMENTS REJETES	8.5	7.9	9.6	7.7	5.8	10.3	6.6	8.3	8.9
SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS ARTICLES SUPPLEMENTAIRES									
REJECTED DOCUMENTS DOCUMENTS REJETES	1,900	146	396	357	61	442	140	209	149
% OF TOTAL DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DU TOTAL DES DOCUMENTS	2.5	3.2	3.1	2.4	1.3	2.9	1.9	2.5	1.9
% OF REJECTED DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DES DOCUMENTS REJETES	29.6	40.3	32.0	31.7	22.8	28.2	29.2	30.1	21.8
LABOUR FORCE ITEMS ARTICLES DE LA MAIN-D'OEUVRE									
REJECTED DOCUMENTS DOCUMENTS REJETES	4,518	216	842	768	206	1,127	339	486	534
% OF TOTAL DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DU TOTAL DES DOCUMENTS	6.0	4.7	6.5	5.3	4.5	7.4	4.7	5.8	7.0
% OF REJECTED DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DES DOCUMENTS REJETES	70.4	59.7	68.0	68.3	77.2	71.8	70.8	69.9	78.2
No. OF CARELESS ERRORS NOMBRE DE FAUTES D'INATTENTION	3,559	101	594	930	191	1,033	188	265	257
AVE. PER DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT	.047	.022	.046	.064	.041	.068	.026	.032	.033
AVE. PER REJECTED DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT REJETE	.555	.279	.480	.827	.715	.658	.392	.381	.376
No. OF BLANKS IN ID. NOMBRE DE BLANCS A L'IDENTIFICATION	1,559	12	98	672	89	450	77	72	39
AVERAGE PER DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT	.021	.003	.008	.046	.019	.030	.011	.009	.012
AVE. PER REJECTED DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT REJETE	.243	.033	.079	.597	.333	.287	.161	.104	.130

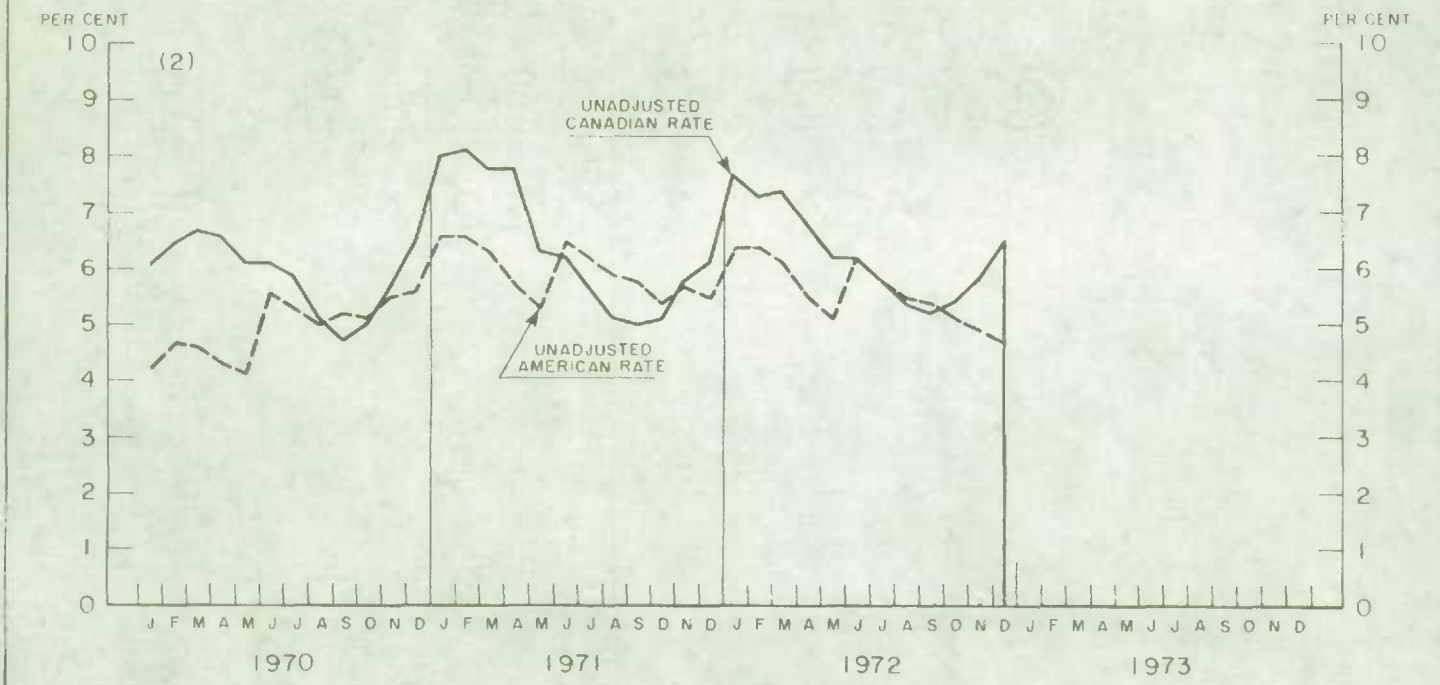
CARELESS ERROR: sum of errors for items 1 to 10 and 24, 25, and 26 on the LFS document.
FAUTE D'INATTENTION: total des erreurs aux articles 1-10 et 24, 25 et 26 sur le document LFS.

COMPARISON OF LABOUR FORCE UNEMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMANTS* BY MONTH, JANUARY 1969 TO DATE

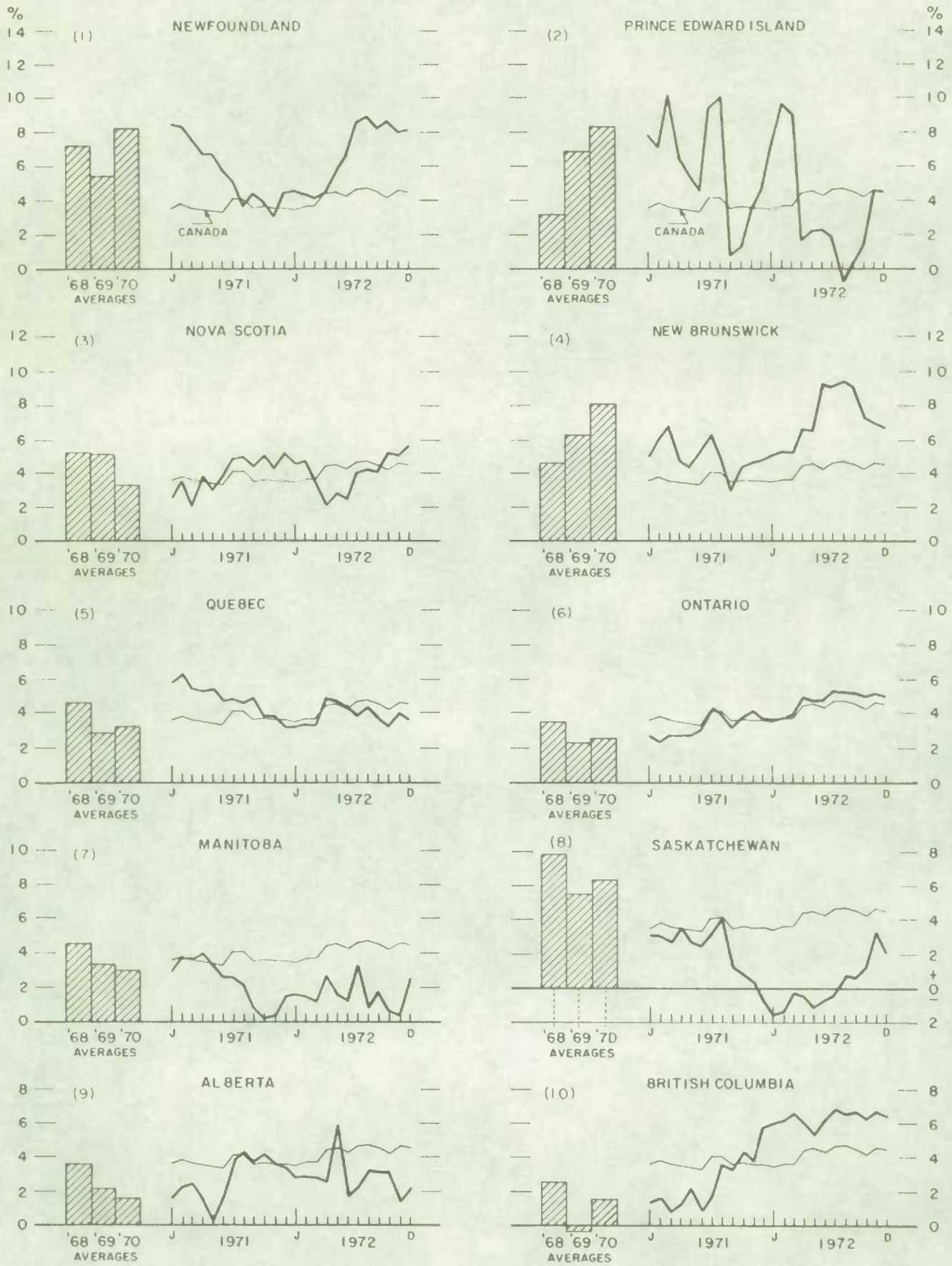


* WITH SEASONAL BENEFIT CLAIMANTS

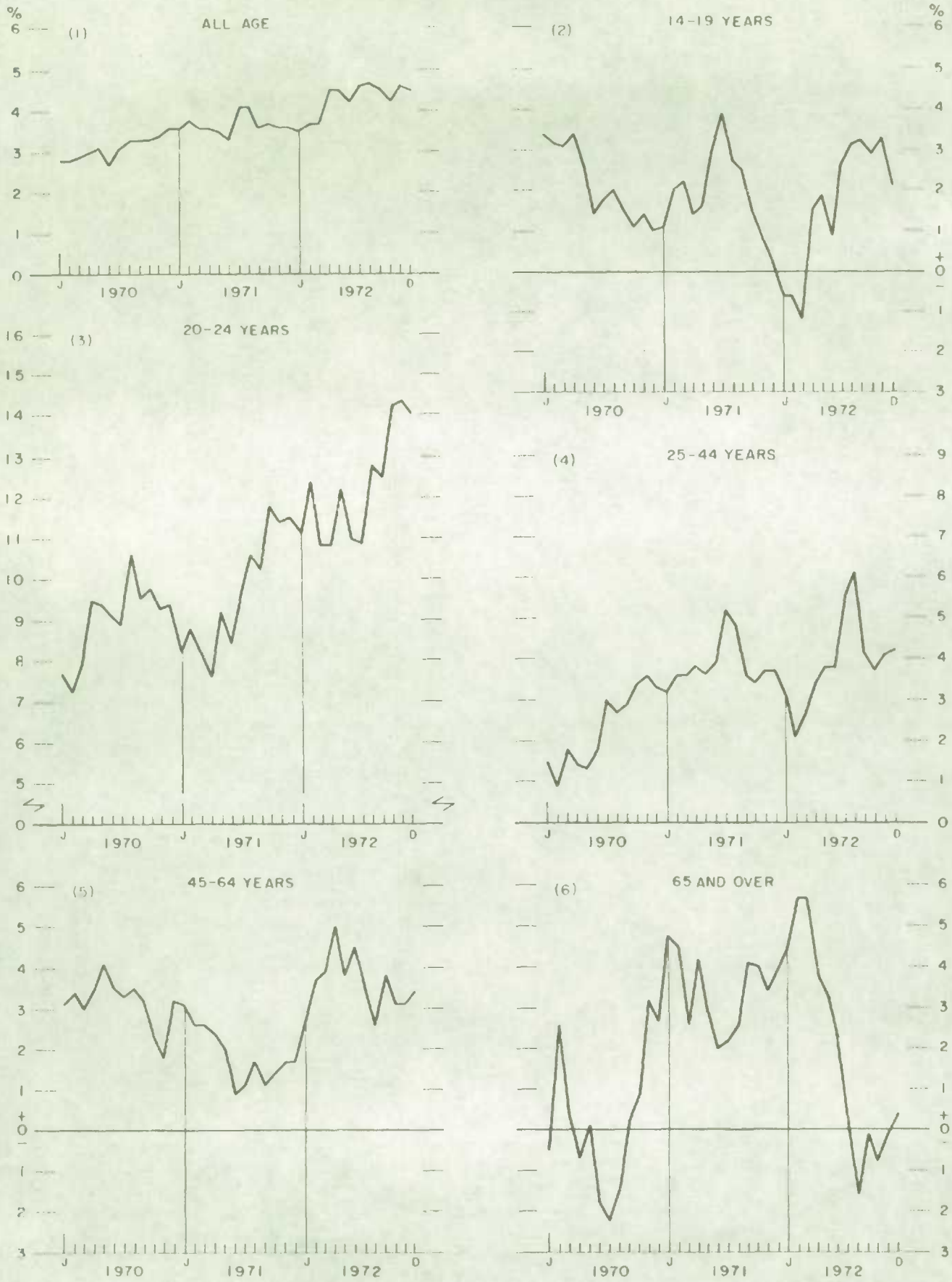
COMPARISON OF CANADIAN AND AMERICAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY MONTH, JANUARY 1970 TO DATE



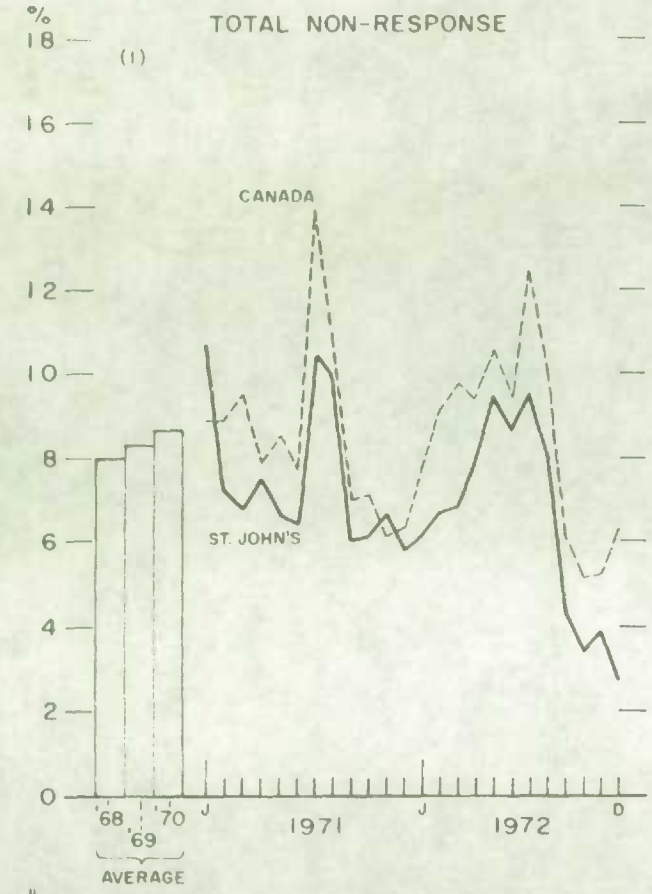
SLIPPAGE BY PROVINCE

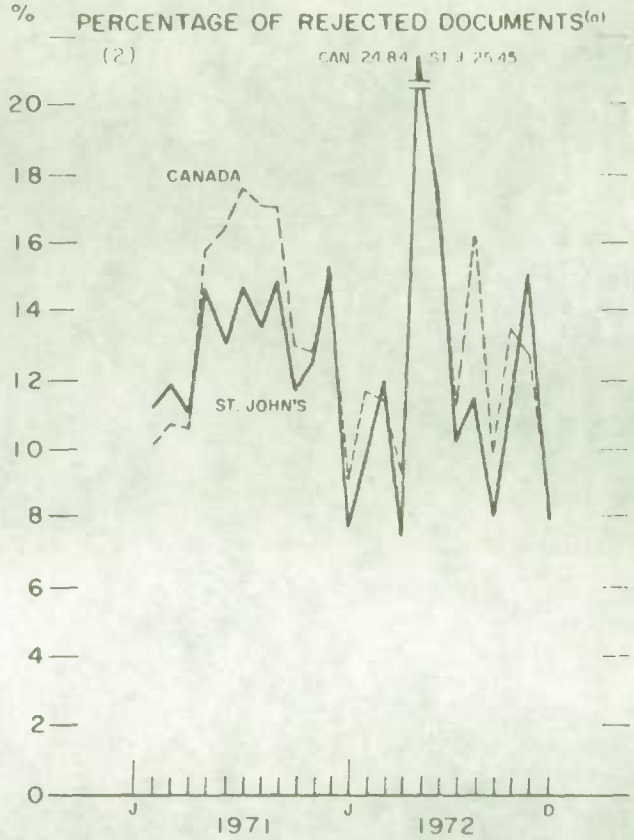


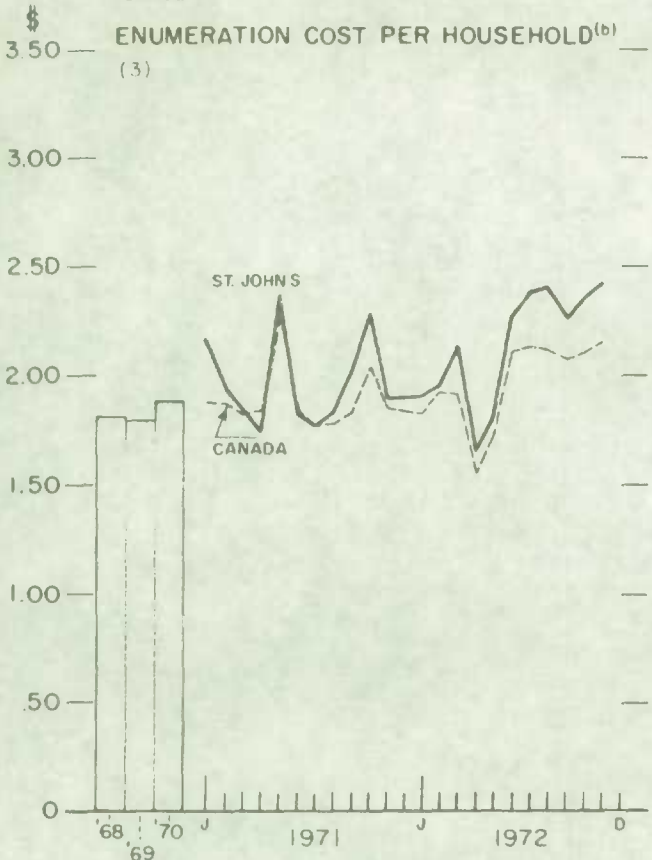
SLIPPAGE BY AGE GROUP AT THE CANADA LEVEL

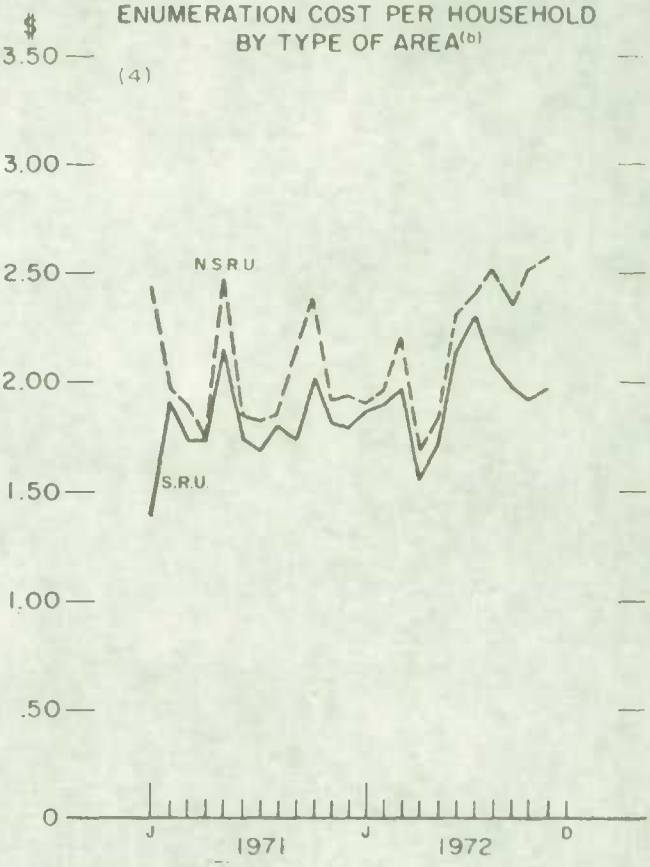


ST. JOHN'S REGIONAL OFFICE



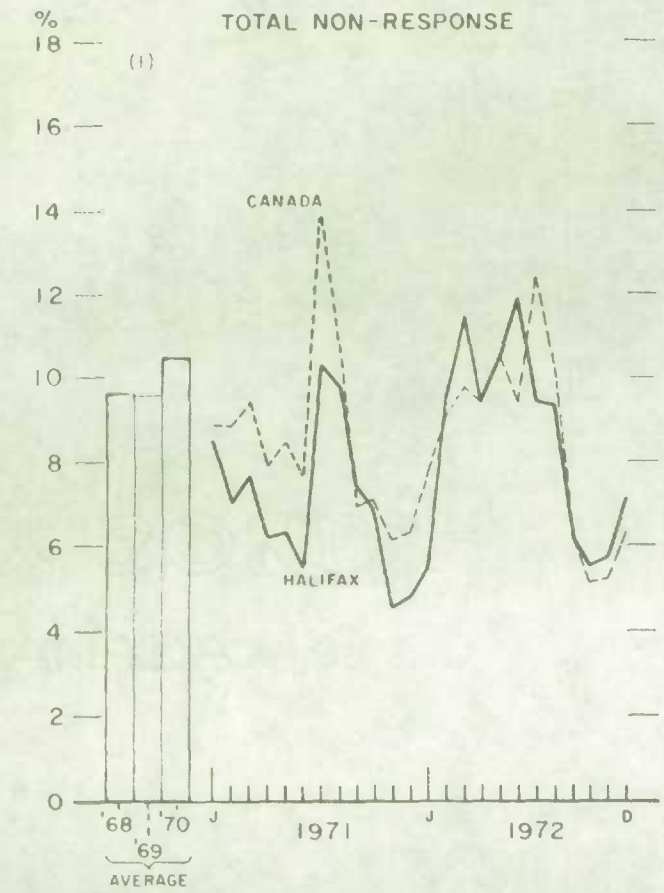


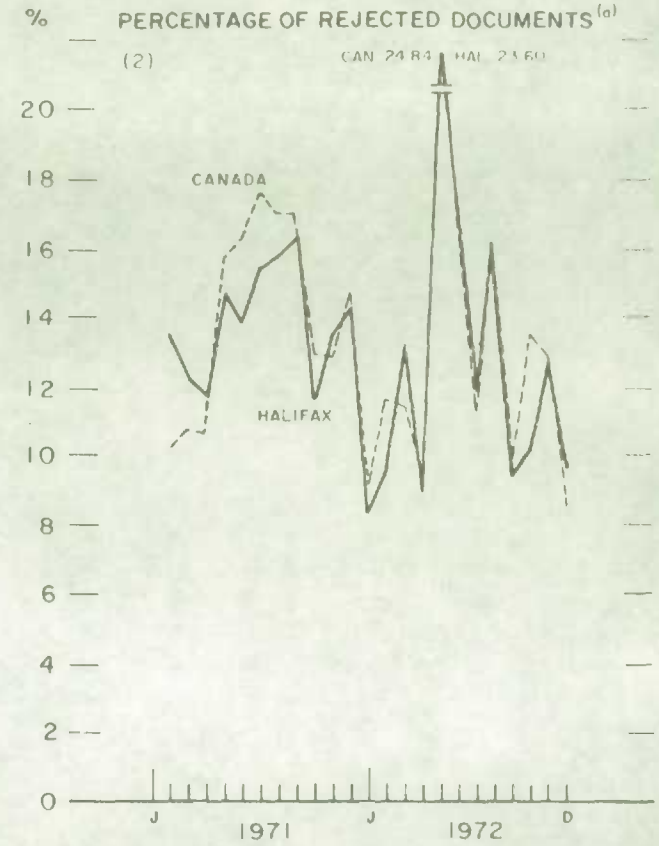


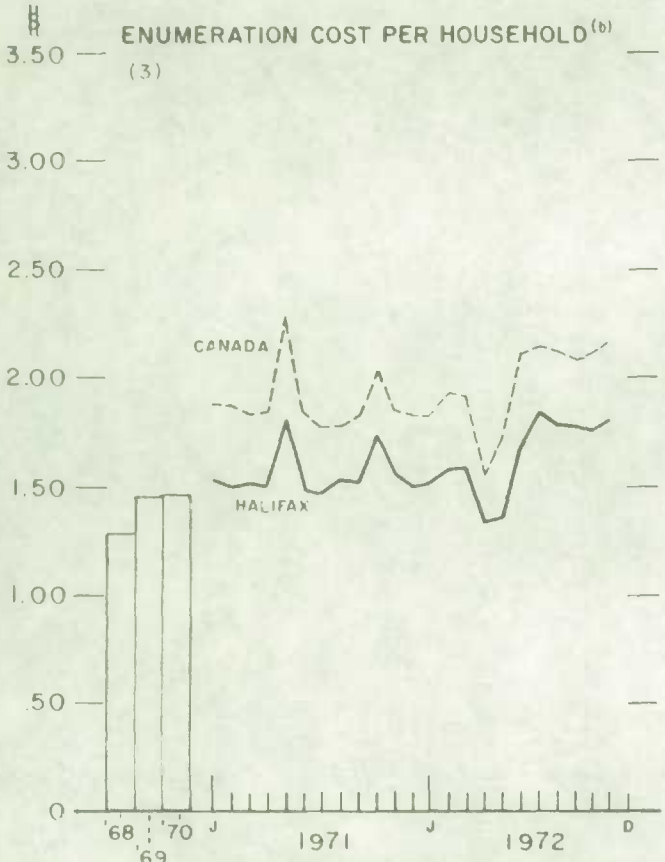


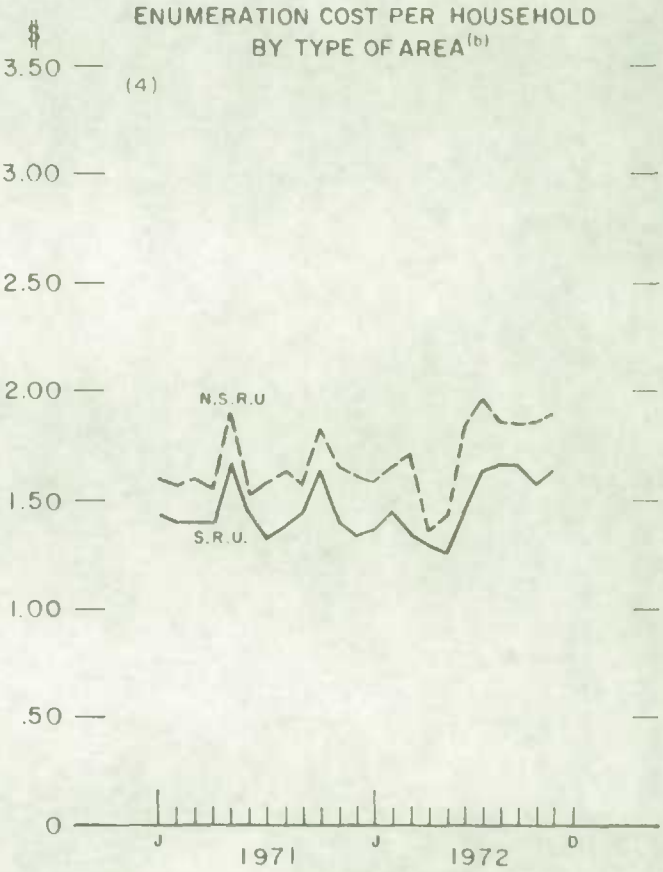
(a) JANUARY 1971 RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO READER PROBLEMS.
(b) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY.

HALIFAX REGIONAL OFFICE









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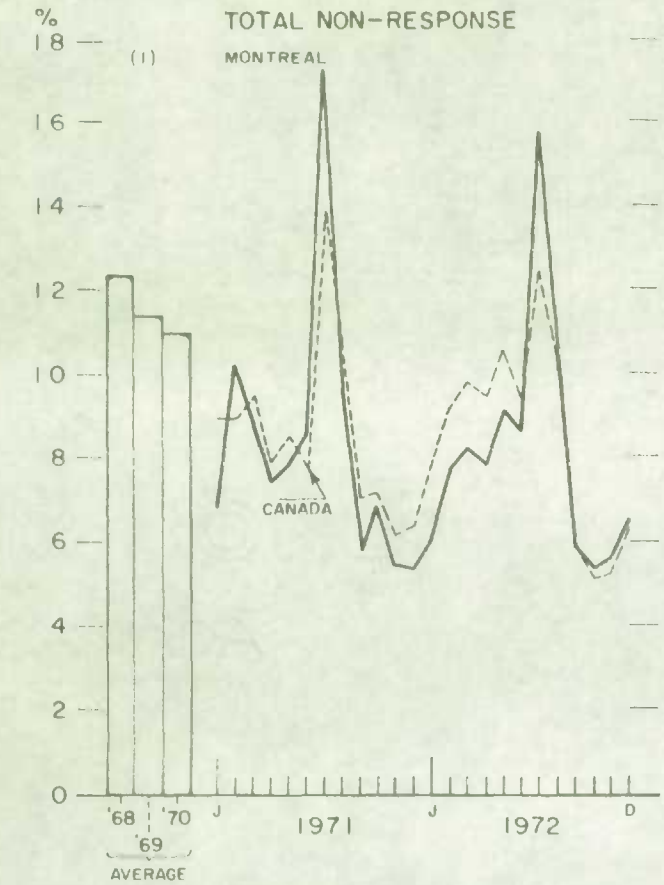
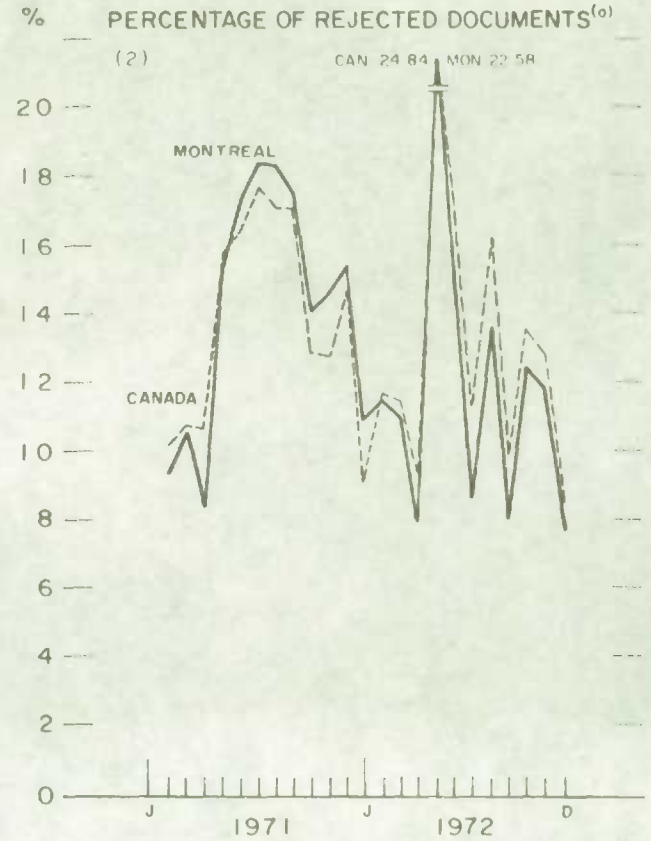
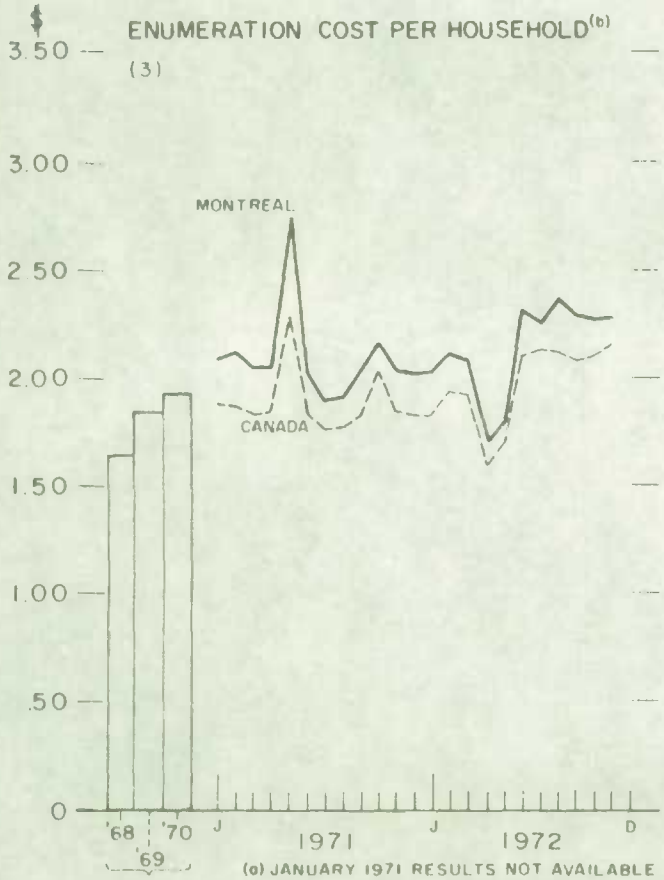
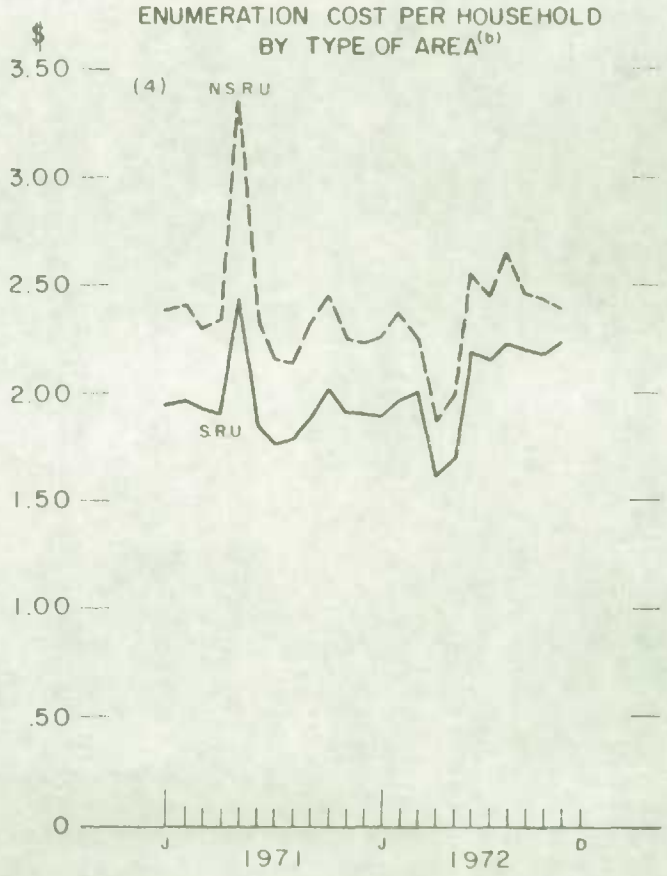
MONTREAL REGIONAL OFFICE



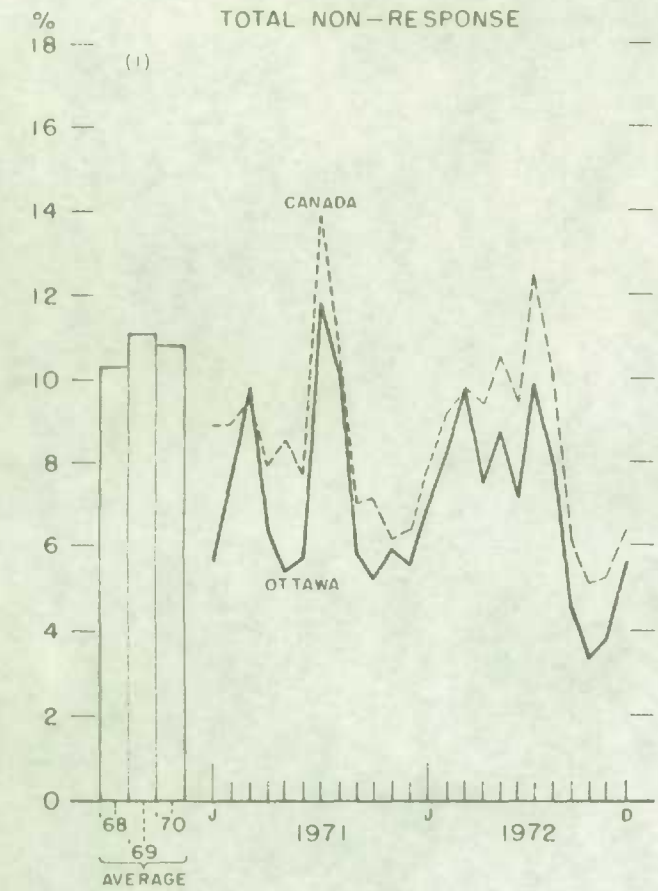


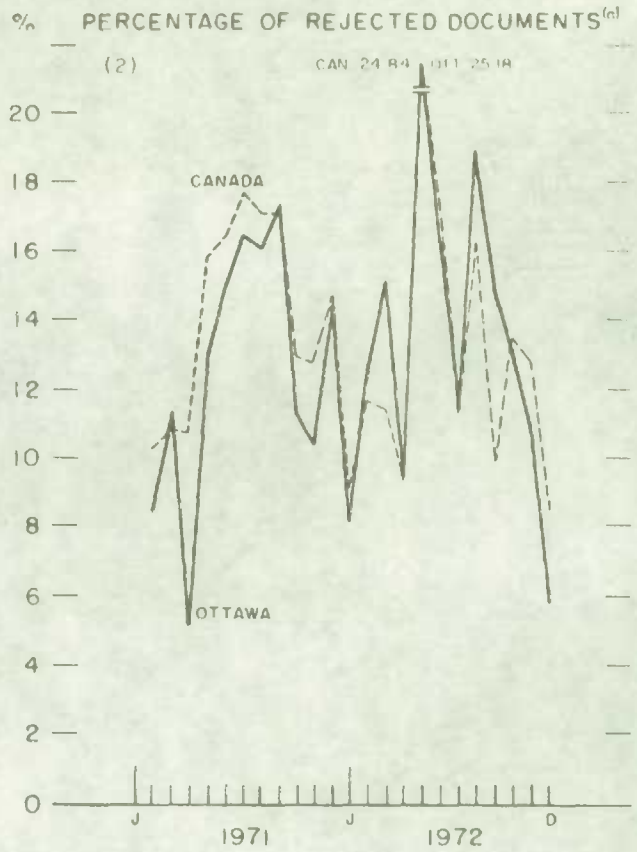


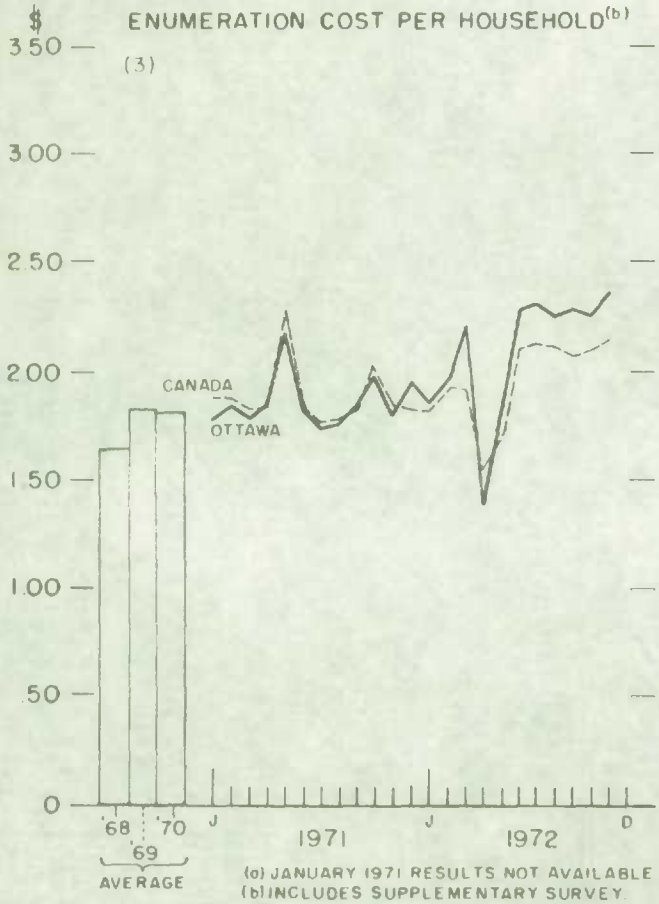


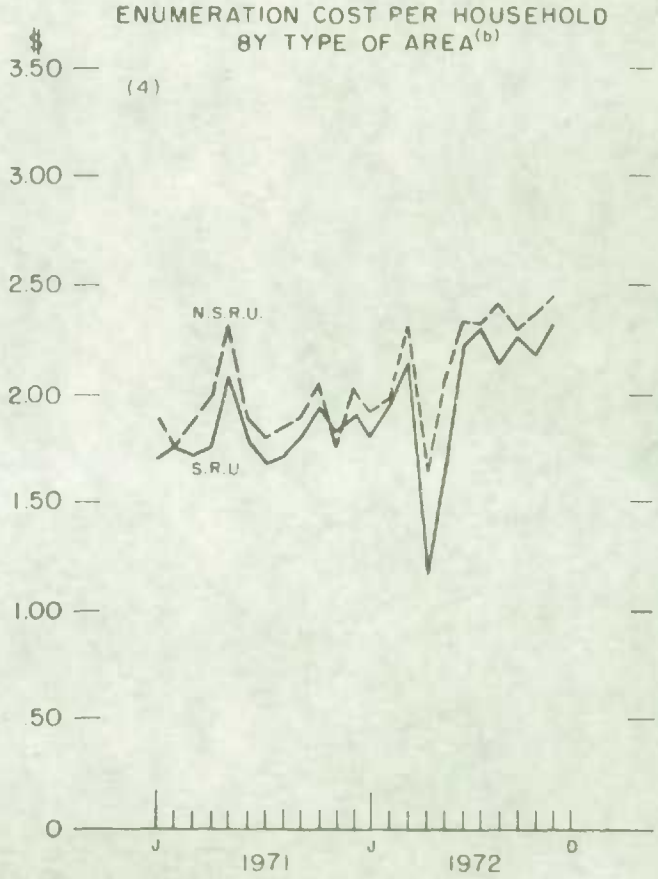
(a) JANUARY 1971 RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO READER PROBLEMS.
(b) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY.

OTTAWA REGIONAL OFFICE



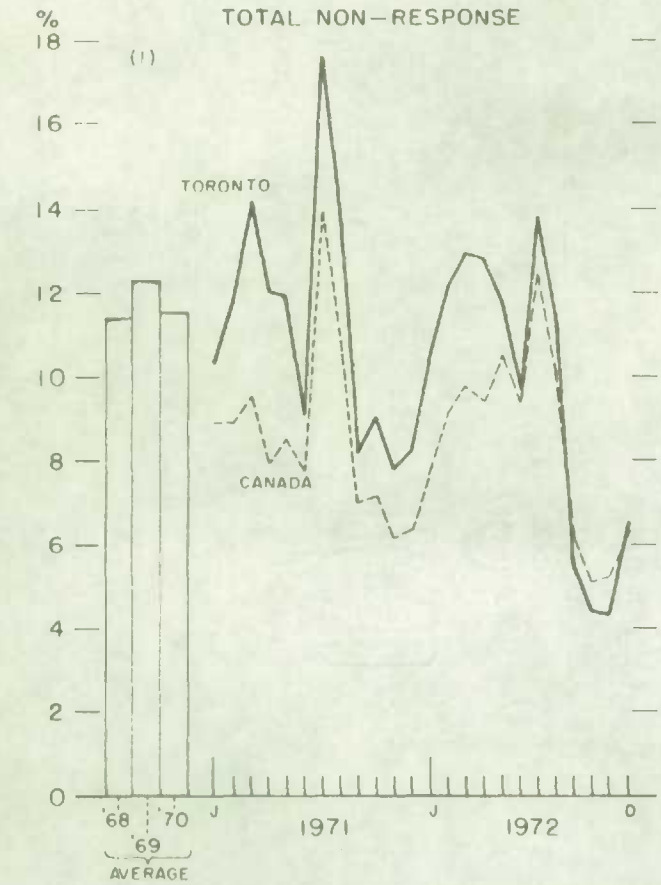


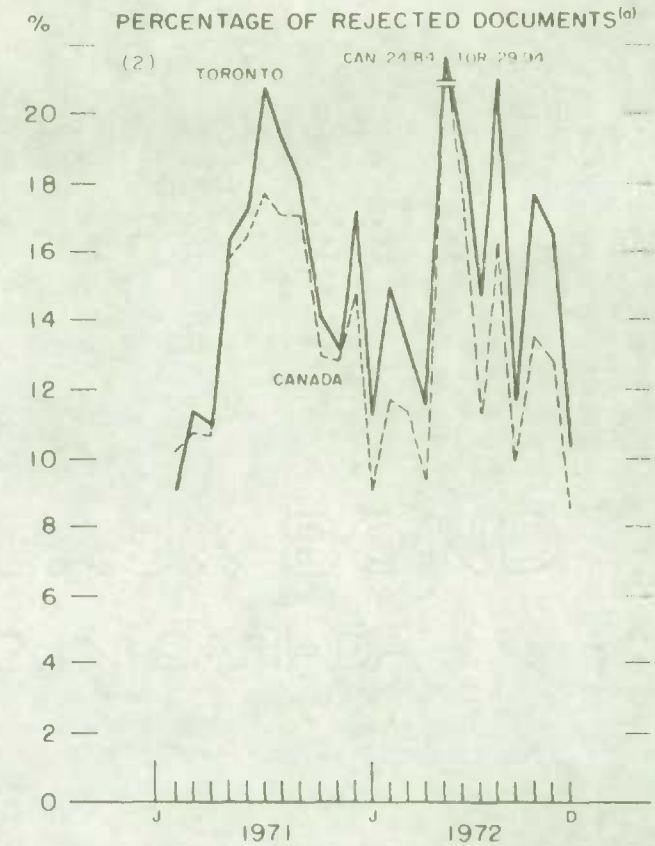


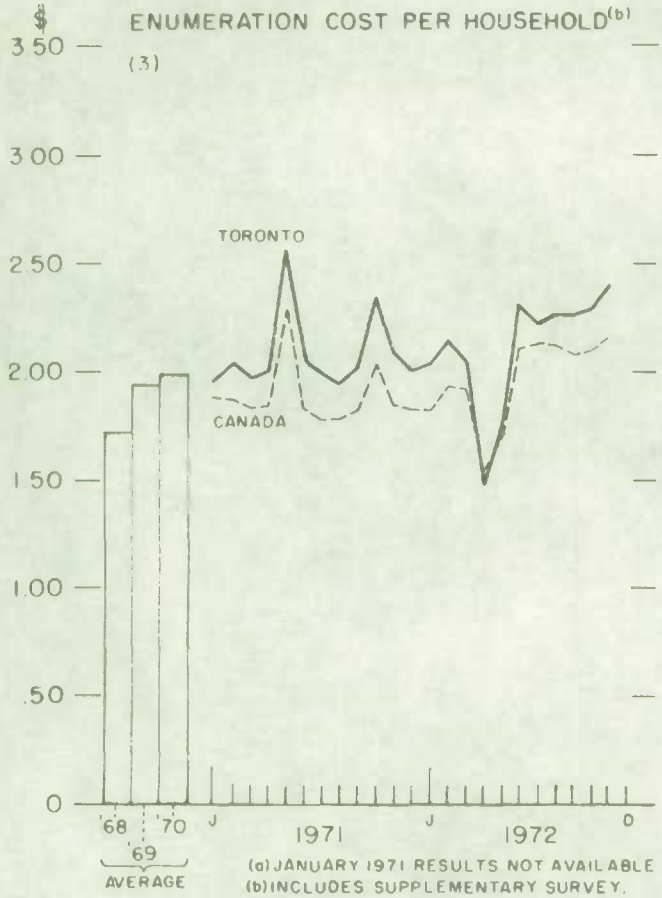


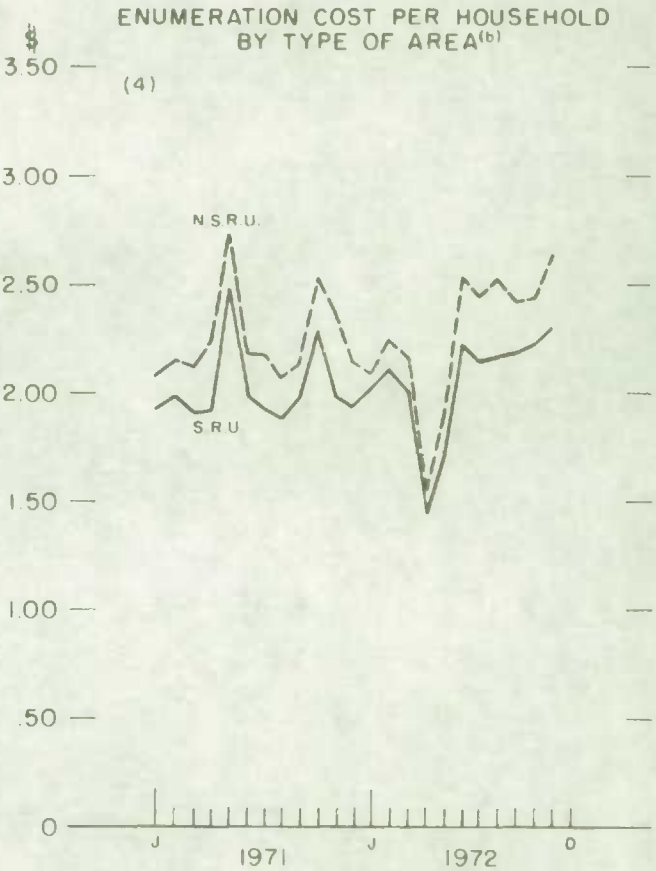
(a) JANUARY 1971 RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO READER PROBLEMS.
(b) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY.

TORONTO REGIONAL OFFICE



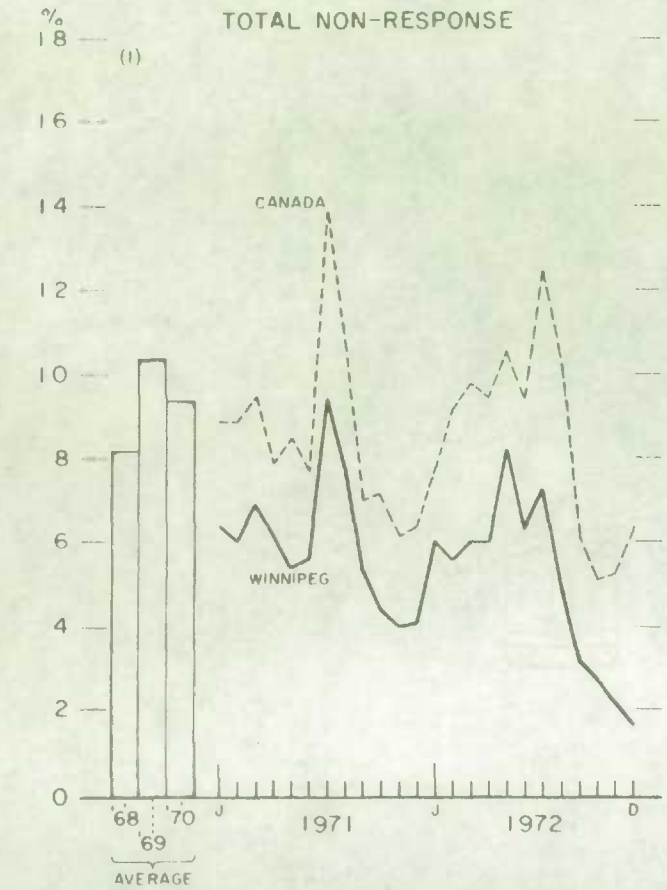


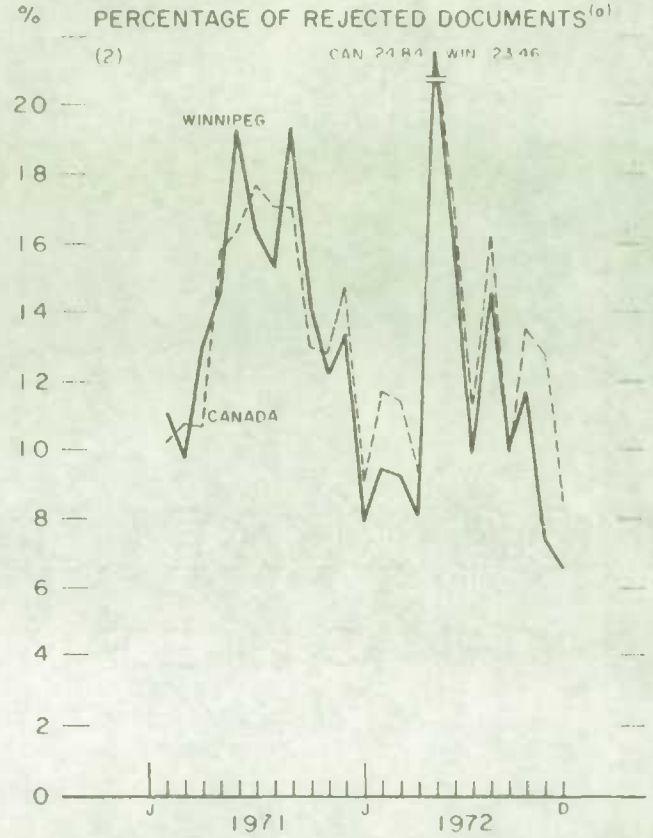


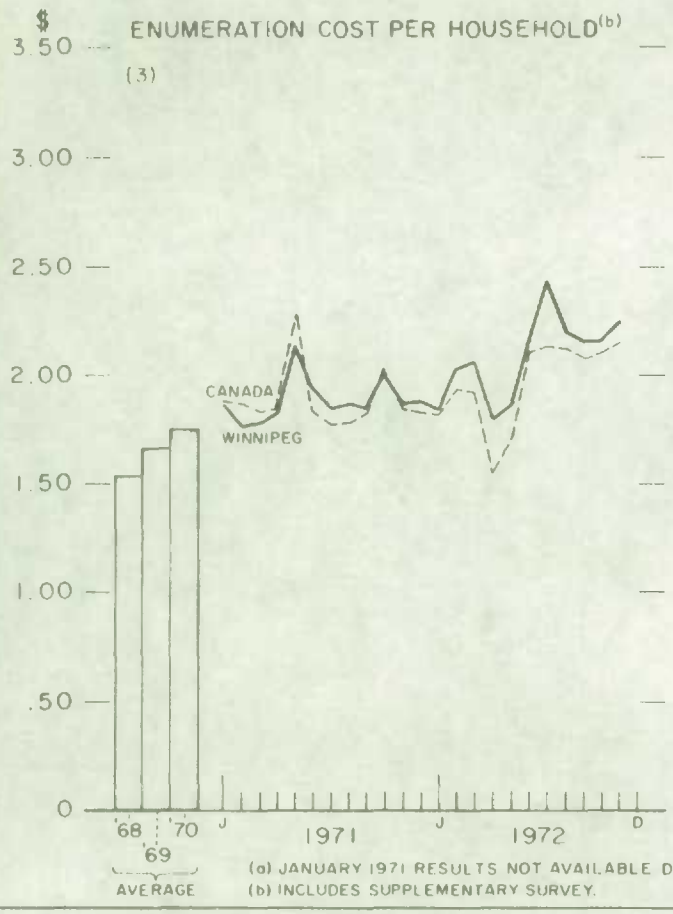


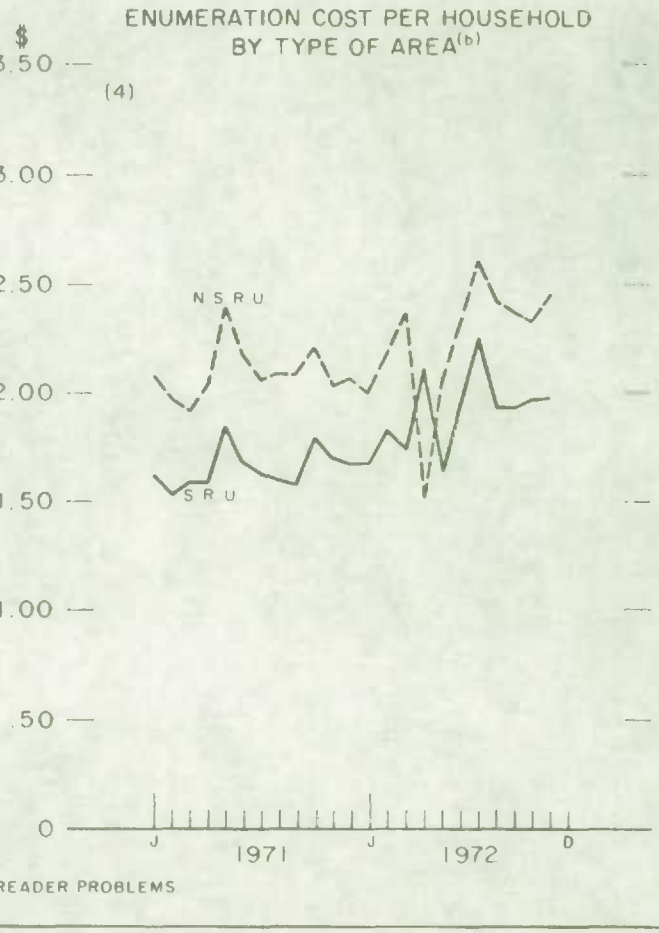
(a) JANUARY 1971 RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO READER PROBLEMS.
(b) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY.

WINNIPEG REGIONAL OFFICE



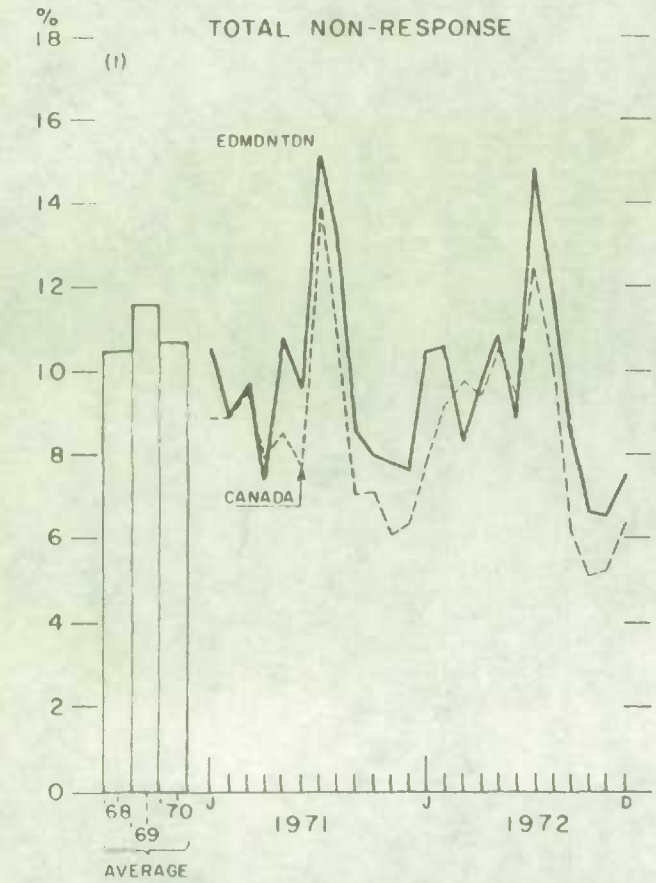


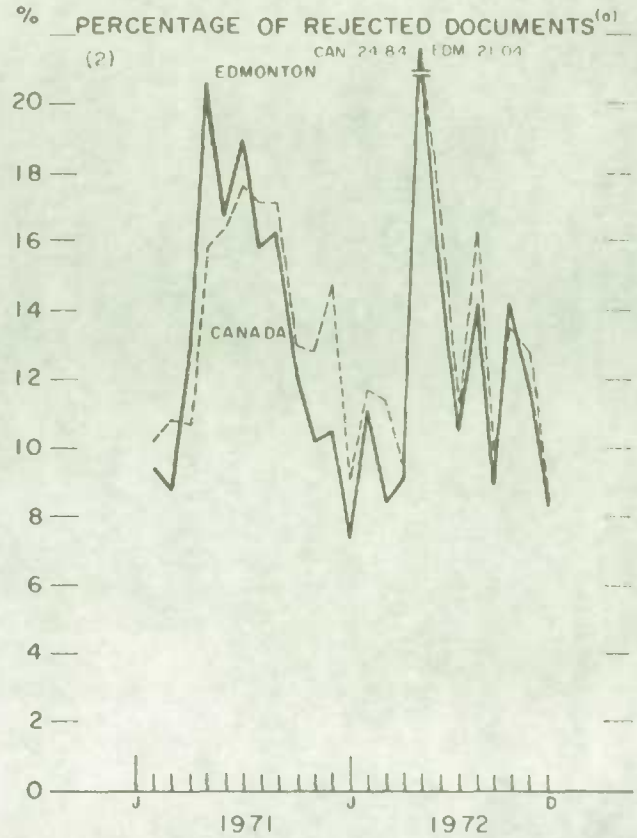


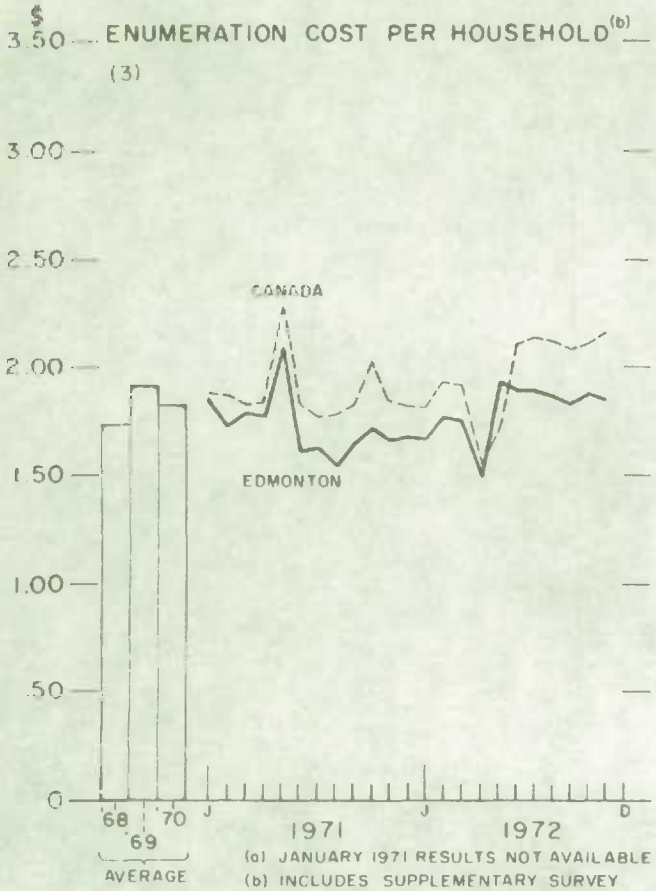


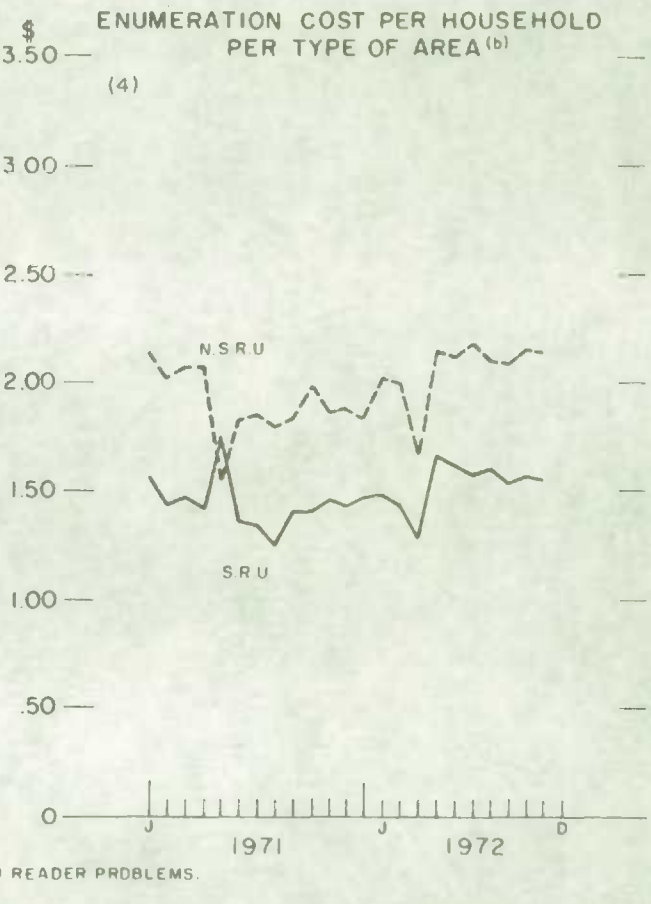
(a) JANUARY 1971 RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO READER PROBLEMS.
(b) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY.

EDMONTON REGIONAL OFFICE



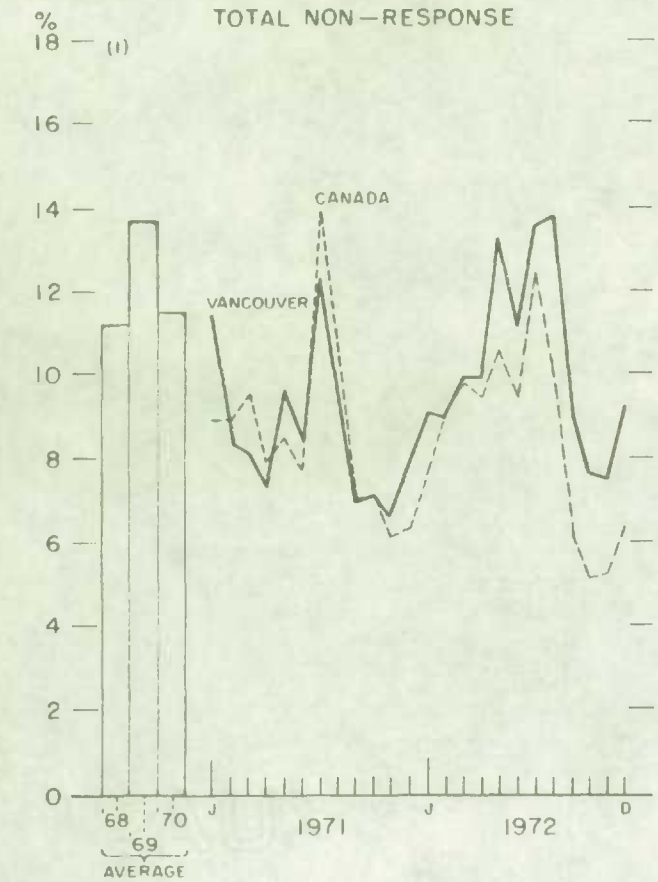


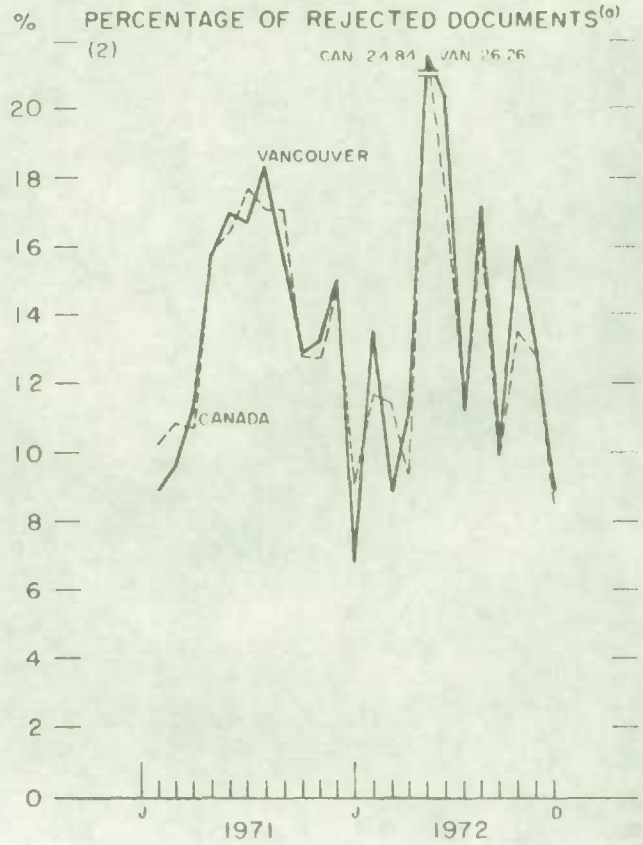


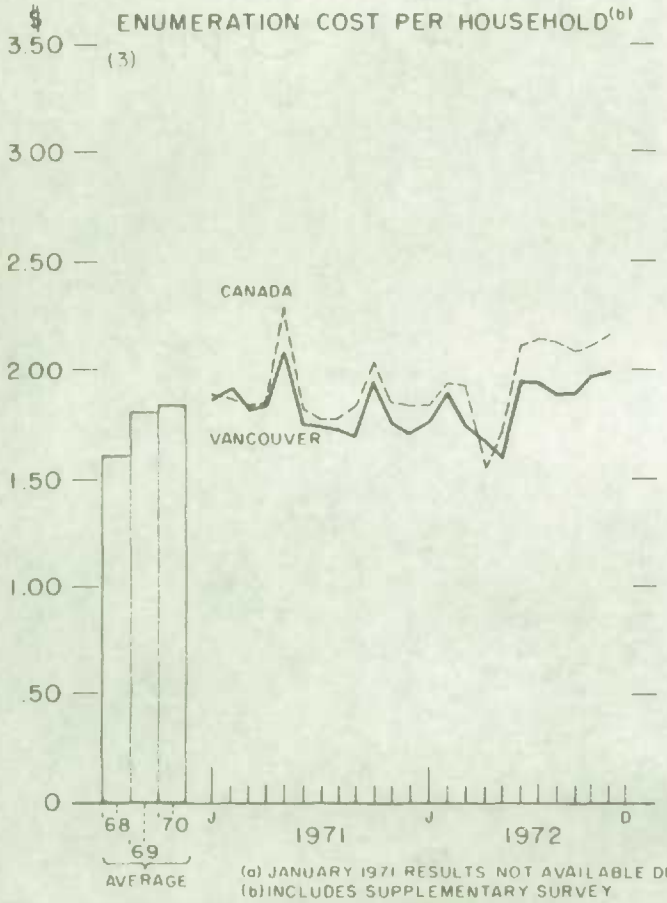


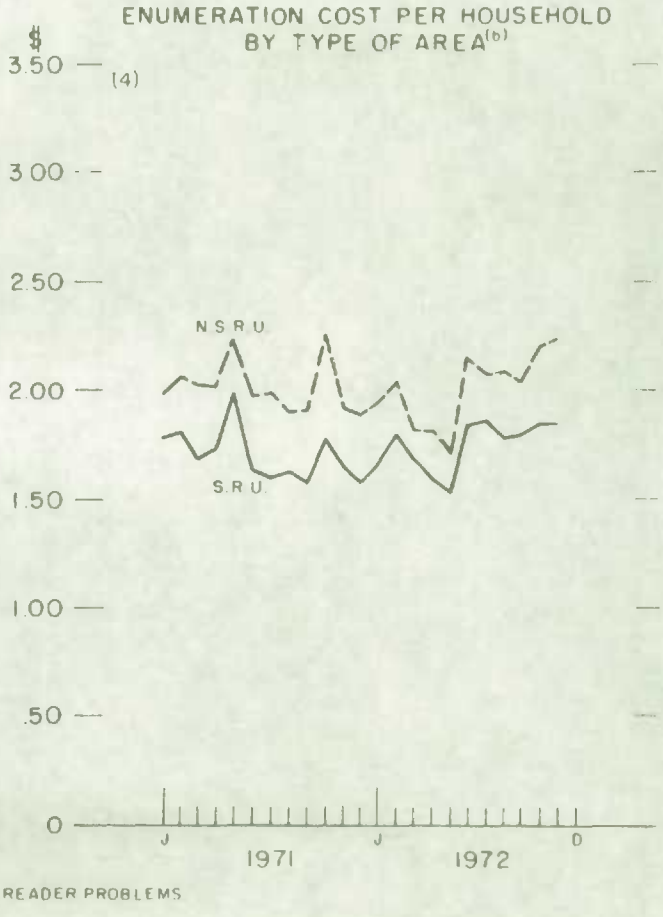
(a) JANUARY 1971 RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO READER PROBLEMS.
(b) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY

VANCOUVER REGIONAL OFFICE









(a) JANUARY 1971 RESULTS NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO READER PROBLEMS
(b) INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY

DEFINITIONS

RELATED TO SECTION 1A

Unemployment rate represents the number unemployed as a per cent of the civilian labour force.

Canadian civilian Labour Force, in the Labour Force Survey concept, is composed of that portion of the civilian non-institutional population 14 years of age and over who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed.

American civilian Labour Force, in the Current Population Survey concept, is composed of that portion of the civilian non-institutional population 16 years of age and over who, during the reference week (which contains the 12th day of the month), were employed or unemployed.

List of some differences in the concepts of claimants and unemployed

UIC	LF unemployed
- need to have worked at least 8 weeks in past year to be eligible	- does not need to have worked before
- interruption of earnings resulting from unemployment, illness or pregnancy	- activity concept: 1) did not work, 2) actively searched for a job, and 3) was able to work
- must be capable of and available for work and unable to obtain suitable employment (except in case of illness and pregnancy)	
- contribution and benefit entitlement ceases for a person: a) at the age of 70, or b) to whom a retirement pension under the Canada Pension Plan or the Quebec Pension Plan has at any time become payable	- no upper age boundaries. See activity concept.
- claimants can work and be eligible for total benefit if weekly earnings do not exceed one quarter of weekly rate of benefit; work-related income in excess of 25% of weekly rate is deducted from benefit.	- unemployed cannot have worked a single hour in reference week

RELATED TO SECTION 1B

Slippage - population slippage is defined as the percentage difference between the Census population projection, Pp (based on the 1961 Census) for a given month and the population estimate Pp derived from the Labour Force Survey sample for the same month. It is given by

$$\frac{Pp - Pp}{Pp} \cdot 100$$

RELATED TO SECTION 1C

Total non-response - proportion of households which were not interviewed due to lack of co-operation or their unavailability to the survey interviewer.

RELATED TO SECTION 1D

Percentage of Rejected Documents - The charts reflect a percentage of all labour force documents requiring clerical edits prior to final tabulations. These rejected documents result from missing or inconsistent entries in the regular labour force items and in the additional questions (supplementary) asked for every survey. Since the supplementary questions vary in their complexity from one month to the next, they affect the reject rate considerably.

Careless Errors - The term "careless errors" refers to omissions, poor marks and inconsistent entries on the Labour Force schedule for identification, sex, marital status, relationship to head and age as taken from the entries on the Household Record Card, plus the failure to answer item 26, "Was this person interviewed?"

RELATED TO SECTION 1E

Enumeration Cost per Household - The per household costs are calculated using the total number of households sampled for the survey in relation to the cost incurred to do the interviewing in terms of fees paid to the interviewer (hourly rated employee) and the interviewer expenses to cover the assignment (mileage, etc.).

NON-RESPONSE

The contents of this appendix are taken from publication NR72-12 (December 1972), Non-Response Rates in the Canadian Labour Force Survey, prepared by D.S. Murray, Special Surveys Development Staff, and E.T. McLeod of Field Division.

labour force survey papers
articles sur la population active

NR 72-12 (December 1972)

D.S. Murray
Special Surveys Development Staff

E.T. McLeod,
Field Division

Published January 1973

NON-RESPONSE RATES IN THE CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

Non-Response Rates

I. Introduction

There are a number of ways of measuring the quality of the Labour Force Survey. One such method is the calculation of non-response rates. The sampling variability of weighted up statistics is inversely proportional to the response rate so that published figures based on a sample with only 80% response rate (20% non-response rate) will have 90/80 or 1.125 times the sampling variability of corresponding figures based on the same sample with 90% response rate (or 10% non-response rate). Together with the increase in sampling variability caused by higher non-response rate there is also a possible increase in the mean square error as a result of the non-response bias. If the characteristics of non-respondents are significantly different from those of respondents, then the higher the non-response rate, the greater the contribution to the mean square error by the non-response bias. The extent of this bias is unknown at present bu must be obtained from outside sources of similar data or from special experiments on non-response characteristics.

The non-response rates are presented in the form of graphs for Canada and for regional offices. The rate of non-response is given for each of the four components[1] and for total non-response by month and year.

Non-response follows a marked seasonal pattern, generally peaking in the summer months and declining during the spring and autumn (Graph 2.1a). The seasonality effect is caused by the "temporarily absent[1]" component which increases sharply during the summer months when people generally are away on vacation((Graph 2.1a).

II. Format of Non-Response Graphs and Monthly Meeting

The non-response rates for each regional office are presented by component on a separate page. This format facilitates the examination of the contributions of each component of non-response to the total non-response. In this form comparison between regional offices can also be made.

The monthly meeting on December non-response with D.S. Murray, Labour Force Methodology Section and E.T. McLeod, Field Division deals with the more pronounced movements in the current non-response data.

[1] See definitions

III. Analysis of Monthly Non-Response

Canada

The overall rate at the national level increased from 5.2% in November to 6.3% in December. The T.A., N_1 and N_2 components rose in total by 0.5% while the "other" component increased by 0.6%. The inclement weather conditions during survey week contributed, in large part, to the higher "other" rate. Driving conditions prevented interviewers from reaching assigned households: this is exemplified by the six fold increase in households not enumerated due to "roads impassible" (from 24 households to 156).

The December 1972 rate showed no change compared with December 1971.

St.John's

The non-response in the St.John's Office declined from 3.9% in November to 2.7% in December. The greatest change occurred in the "other" component which fell 0.6%. Ten households, which had previously been listed as non-respondent, were excluded from the sample in this office when they were found to be not inhabited. Consequently, the "other" component declined from 0.7% to 0.1%.

In addition, small decreases in the T.A. and N_1 rates were partially offset by an increase in refusals.

The December 1972 rate of 2.7% compares favourably with the December 1971 rate of 5.9%.

Halifax

The Halifax Regional Office non-response rate increased by 1.4% from the November to December survey. The "other" component increased from 0.6% to 1.5% and accounts for a large part of the rise in the overall rate. Fifty households were not enumerated due to "roads impassible". It has been confirmed, in consultation with the Halifax Office, that snow storms prevented many interviewers from completing their assignments.

The Halifax Office has shown a 0.6% increase in the N_1 rate. Part of this increase may be due to difficult driving conditions. Where a household was visited by the interviewer and there was no one home and subsequently the interviewer was unable to re-visit the household, the non-response type would be N_1, (no one home). In fact, this has happened in most regional offices in the December survey when storms affected driving conditions.

The December 1972 rate of 7.1% is considerably higher than the December 1971 rate of 4.8%.

Montreal

The Montreal Office experienced an increase in the overall rate from 5.6% in November to 6.5% in December. Slight increases in all the T.A., N_2 and "other" components contributed to an overall increase of 0.9%.

The December 1971 rate was 5.3%.

Ottawa

The Ottawa Office indicated the second largest change in the overall non-response rate of all offices. From November to December the rate increased from 3.8% to 5.6%. Although none of the components showed a dramatic increase, the moderate rise in each combined to cause a substantial increase. The "roads impassible" part was largely responsible for the increase in the "other" component. Economic Region (E.R.) 50 (Ottawa Valley and Kingston) which was subject to winter storm conditions, contributed 0.4% to the total non-response of the office because of "roads impassible".

The December 1972 rate of 5.6% was marginally higher than the December 1971 rate of 5.5%.

Toronto

The non-response rate in the Toronto Office increased by 2.2% from November to December. Of this increase, 1.5% was attributable to the "other" component. This component was comprised of 129 households in December compared with 24 in November. Economic Region 54 was the prime contributor to this increase of 105 households. In November, E.R. 54 (London, St.Thomas) listed 4 households as non-respondent in the "other" component; in December, the corresponding figure was 77. The Labour Force Survey Supervisor in the Toronto Office indicated that:

(a) A recently hired interviewer was not adequately familiar with re-visiting procedures and failed to accomplish the necessary coverage of her assignment.

(b) An interviewer neglected to dispatch her transmittal to the regional office until the Friday following survey week and consequently the schedules contained did not arrive in time for processing. Fifteen households were, thus, non-respondent. This interviewer has been released by the regional office.

(c) Storms made many area roads not passible and 28 households in E.R. 54 were not visited.

It could be noted that none of the remaining E.R.'s showed such dramatic changes in non-response.

While the "other" component rose from 0.4% in November to 1.9% in December all the remaining components increased only marginally.

The overall rate in this office for December 1972 at 6.5% is a marked improvement compared with the 8.2% in December 1971.

Winnipeg

The Winnipeg Office further reduced the overall non-response rate in the December survey. At 1.6% the rate shows an improvement of 0.5% compared with November. The largest single component was T.A. and "other", with 1 non-respondent household, was reduced to 0.0%. It would appear that the emphasis placed on response by the Regional Director and L.F.S. Unit Head has achieved the desired results.

The December 1972 rate was 2.5% lower than in December 1971.

Edmonton

The overall rate in the Edmonton Office for the December survey showed an increase of 1.0% over the November non-response. Only the "other" component remained unchanged as the remaining three increased moderately. The only E.R. to show a disturbing increase was E.R. 84, (Edmonton, Red Deer Area) where the refusal component increased by 10 households. The disturbing aspect of this increase is that the regional office is located in the E.R., supposedly where it would be convenient to have field representatives follow-up on the refusal households. The refusal component for E. R. 84 in December was 3.0% or twice the national average.

The overall rate in Edmonton of 7.5% was 0.1% lower in December 1972 than December 1971.

Vancouver

At 9.2% the Vancouver non-response rate in December was 2.9% higher than the Canada figure. The rate increased, from November to December by 1.7% with the largest change being a 1.2% increase in "other". At 3.6%, the Vancouver N_1 is 1.3% higher than the national average.

Economic Region 96 showed an overall non-response rate of 33.3%, due mainly to 25 non-respondent households listed as "other". Of these, 19 were not covered due to "no interviewer available". It was explained that the interviewer in E.R. 96 (Kitimat, Prince Rupert) became ill and could not complete her assignment. Due to chaotic driving conditions a field representative was not sent to the area to cover the assignment.

E.R. 95, Vancouver Island, indicated 11 households not interviewed due to "no interviewer available". The regional office reported that the interviewer responsible was not willing to visit households under the then prevailing weather conditions. Since the regional office felt that conditions were not severe enough to warrant the loss of coverage, the interviewer is no longer in the employ of Statistics Canada.

The overall rate for December 1972 of 9.5% compares unfavourably with the 7.9% rate shown in December 1971.

IV. Appendix

The attached appendix contains, for Canada and each region, graphs showing for 1972:

(a) pages A1 to A6, total non-response, vacancy, and unemployment (actual) rates.

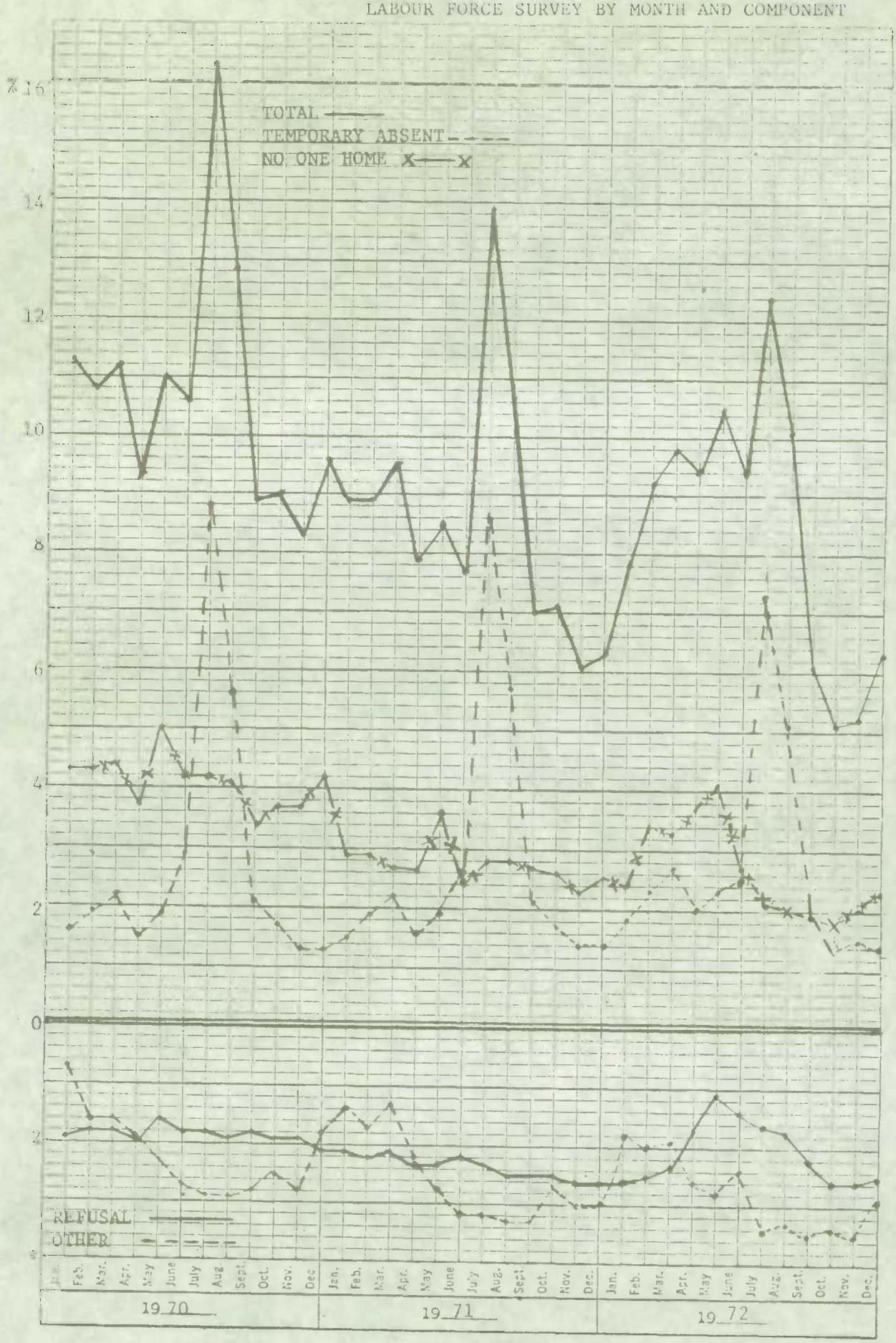
(b) for each regional office, total non-response and vacancy rates, pages A7 and A8.

Note, the vacancy rate is defined as:

$$100 \frac{\text{number of vacant and non-existent households}}{\text{expected number of households sampled}}$$

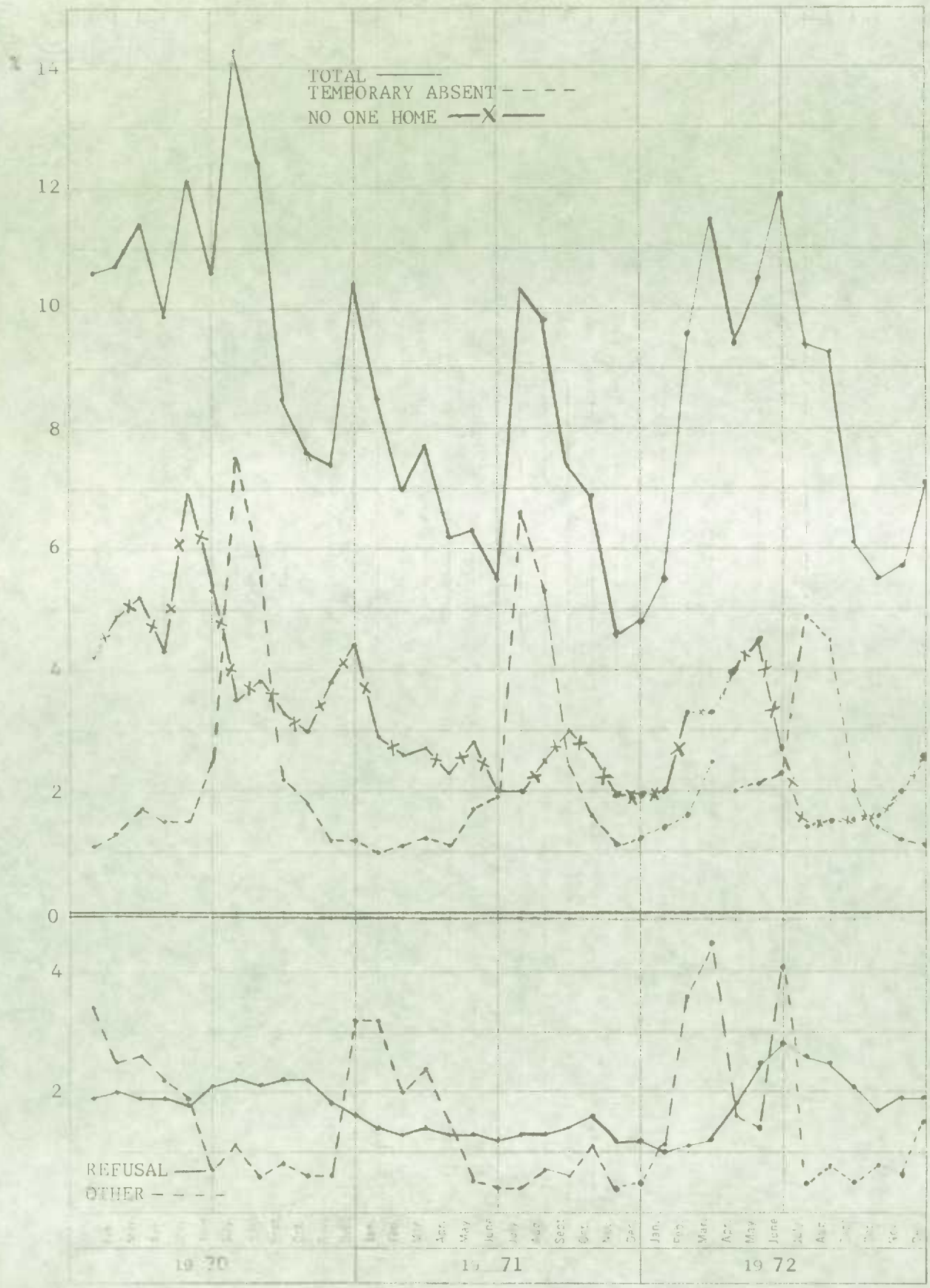
The purpose for undertaking this endeavour was to discover if any relationship exists among or between these variables. In graphical form, the data does not appear to suggest that any relationship(s) exist(s). Labour Force Methodology Section is initiating further research in this area.

GRAPH 2.1a NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR CANADA,
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH AND COMPONENT



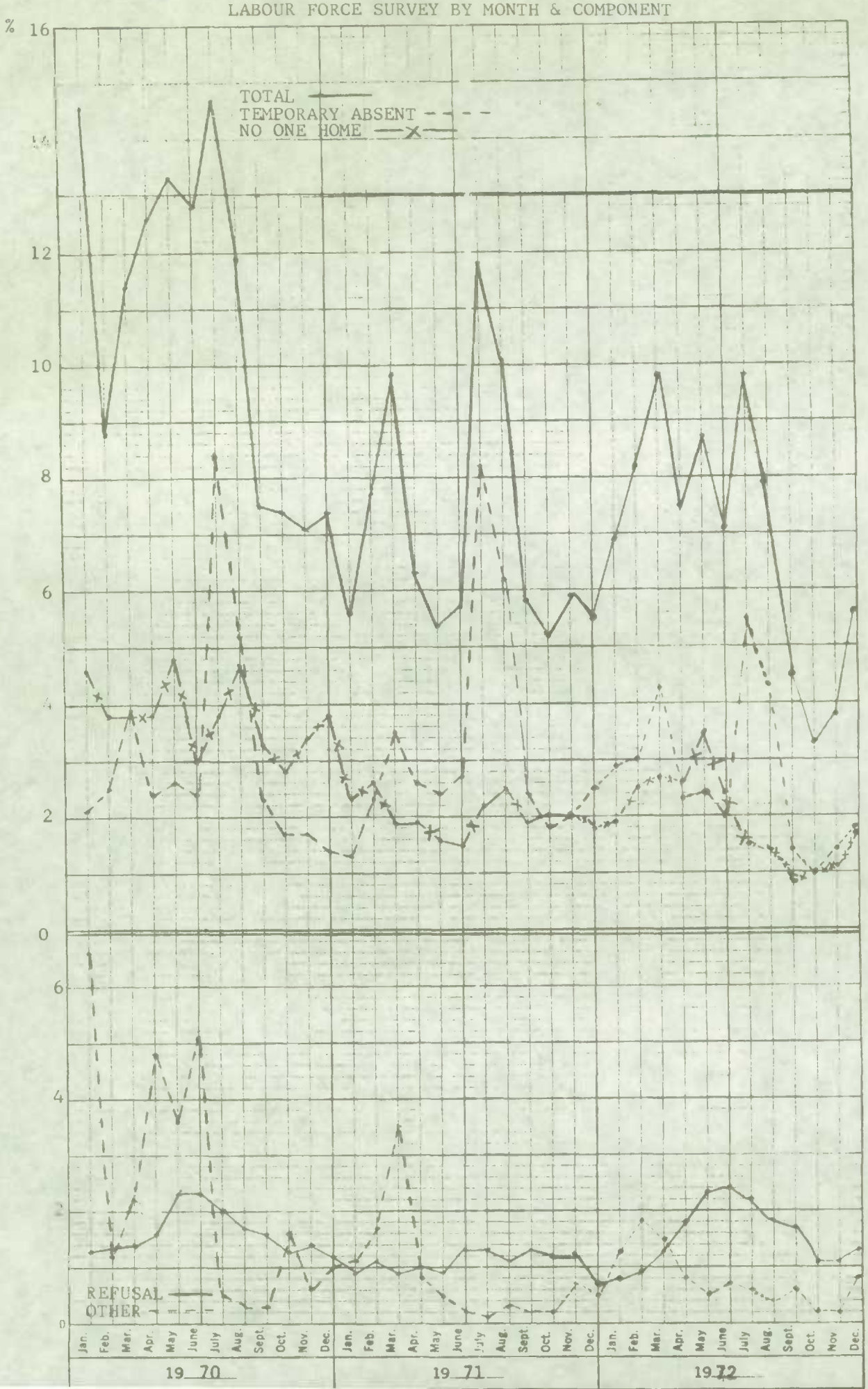
Graph 2.1b NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR ST. JOHN'S REGIONAL OFFICE, LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT

Graph 2.1c NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR HALIFAX REGIONAL OFFICE,
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT

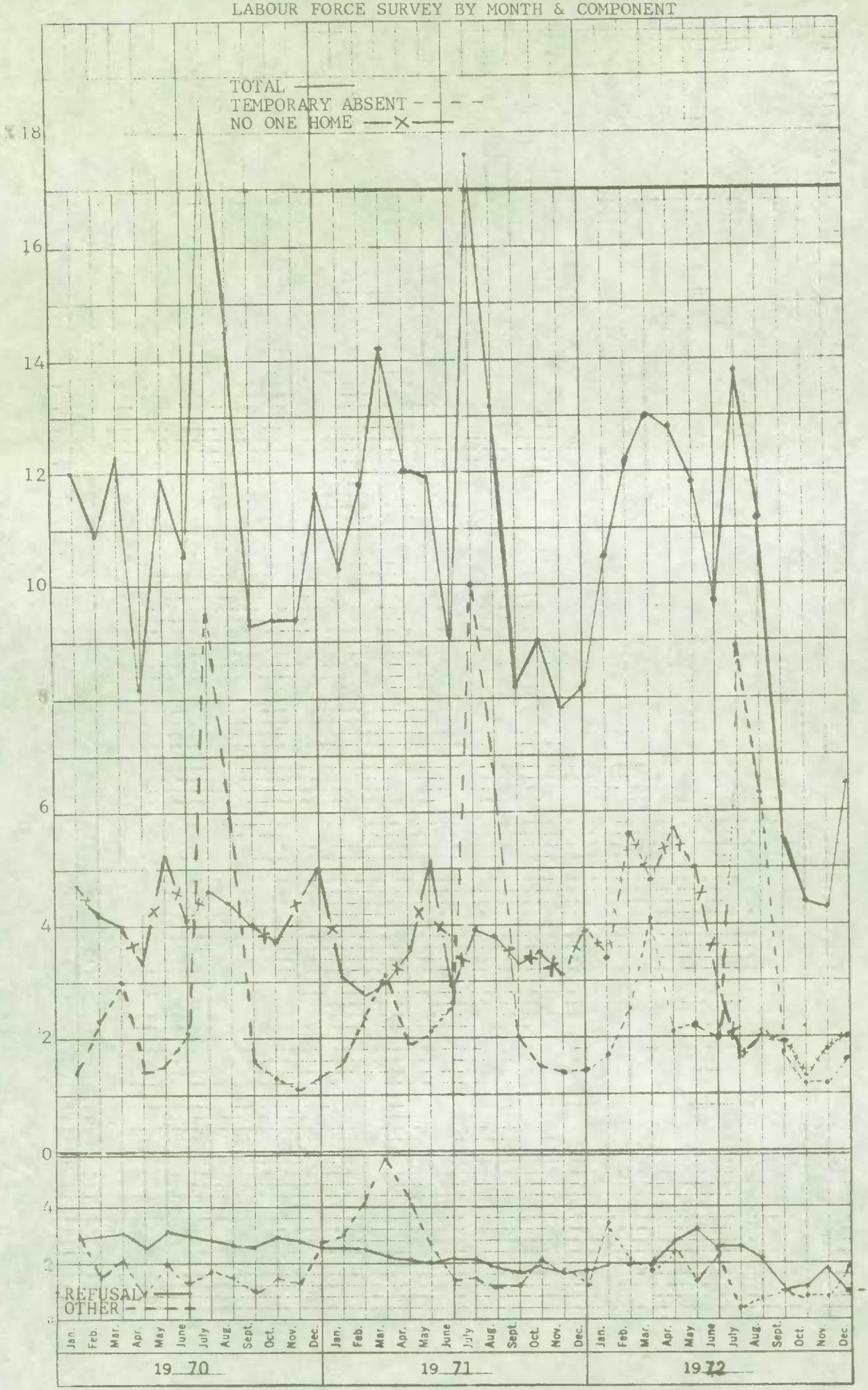


Graph 2.1d NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR MONTREAL REGIONAL OFFICE, LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT

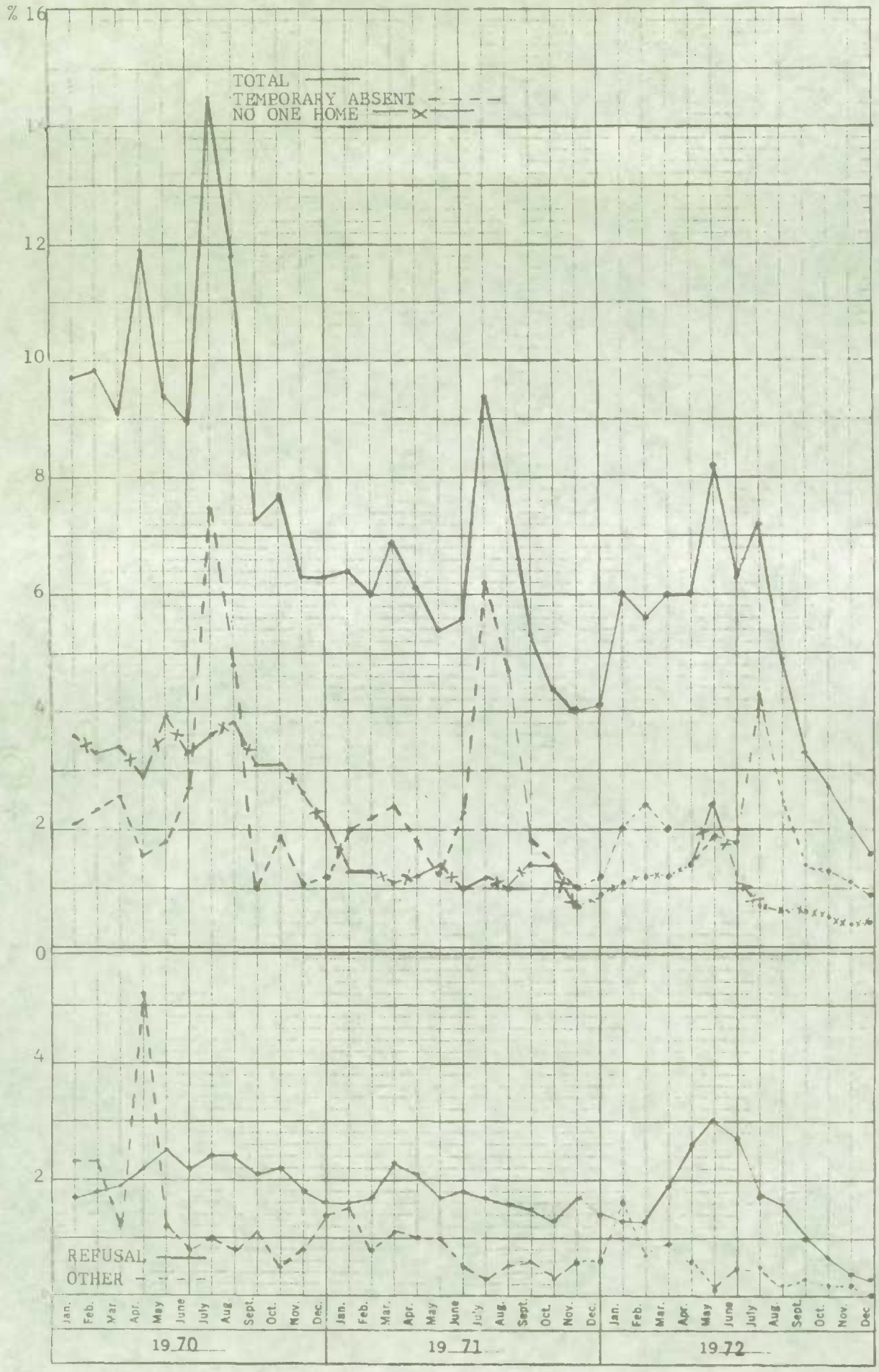
Graph 2.1e NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR OTTAWA REGIONAL OFFICE, LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT



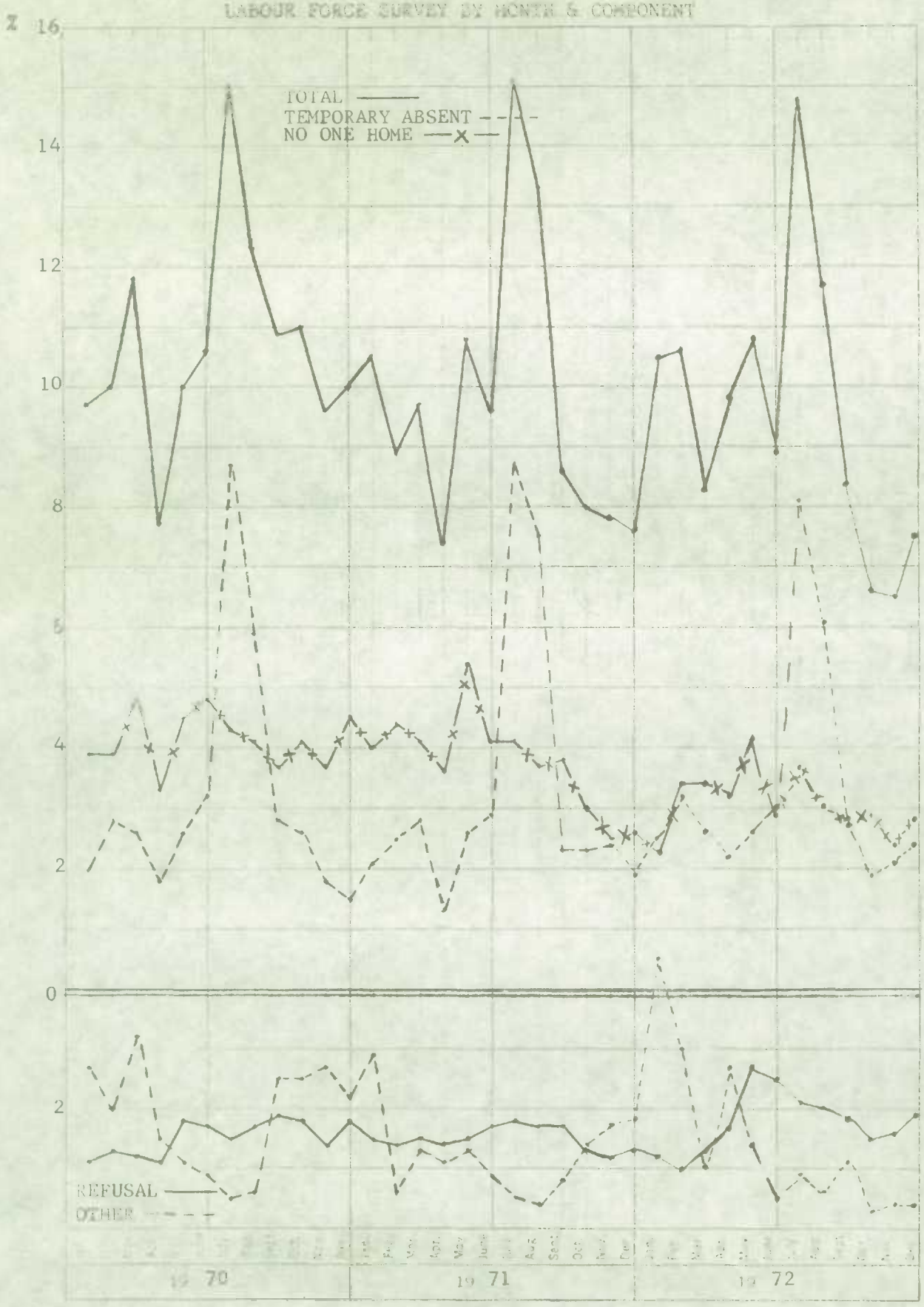
Graph 2.1f NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR TORONTO REGIONAL OFFICE, LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT



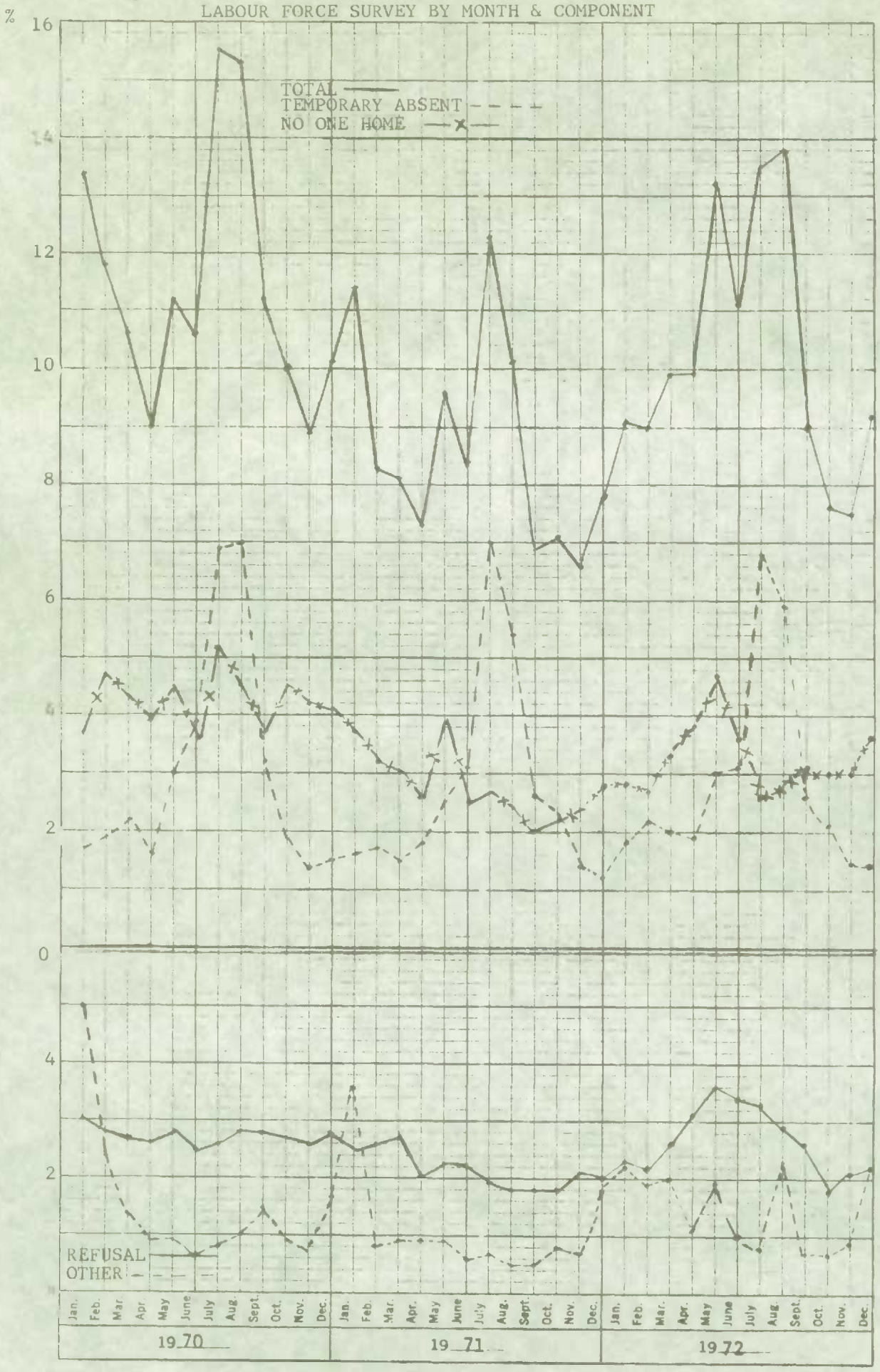
Graph 2.1g NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR WINNIPEG REGIONAL OFFICE, LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT



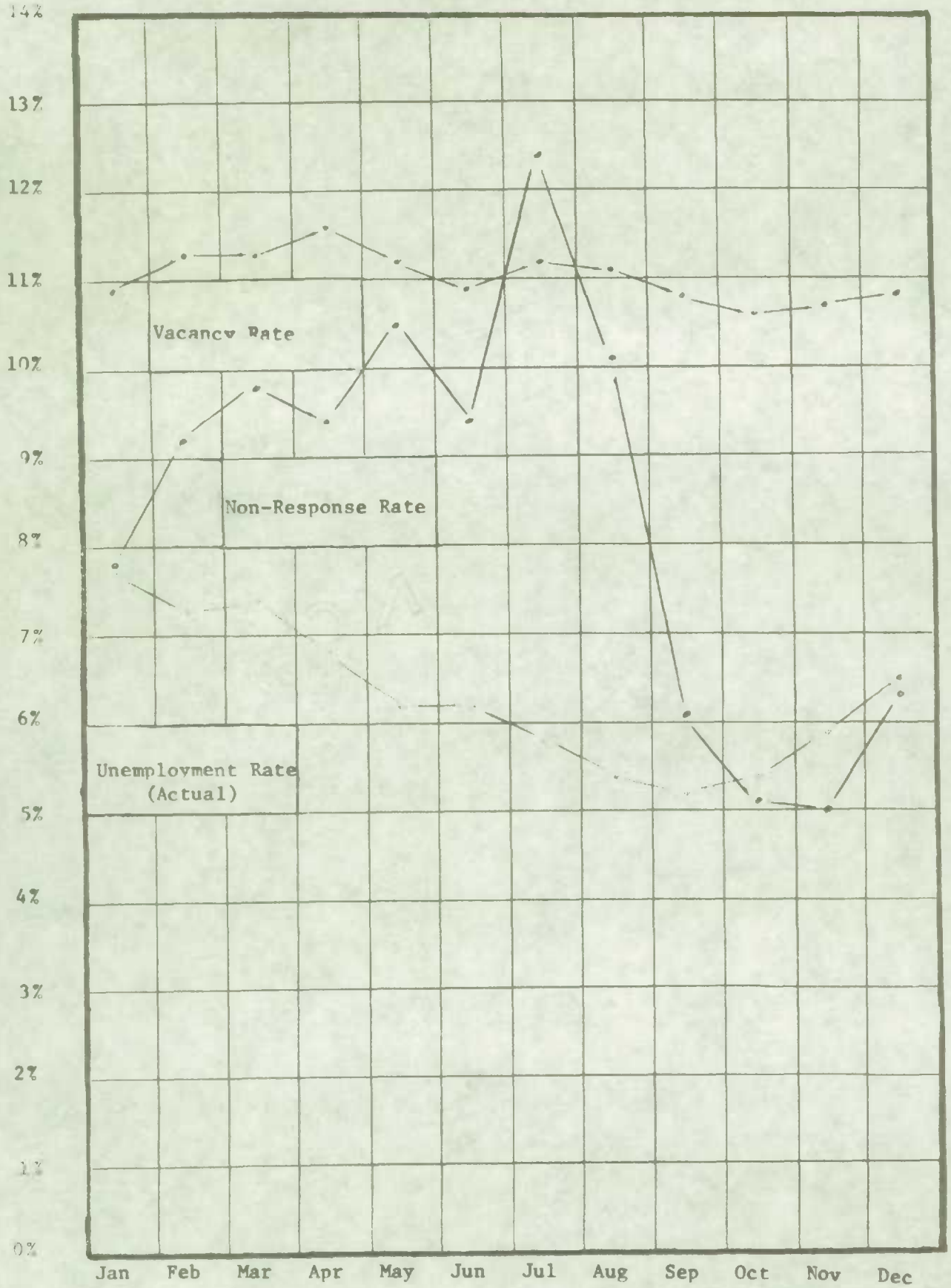
Graph 2.1h NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR EDMONTON REGIONAL OFFICE,
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT



Graph 2.11 NON-RESPONSE RATES FOR VANCOUVER REGIONAL OFFICE, LABOUR FORCE SURVEY BY MONTH & COMPONENT



Canada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Vacancy Rate
Non-Response Rate
Unemployment Rate
(Actual)
Jan
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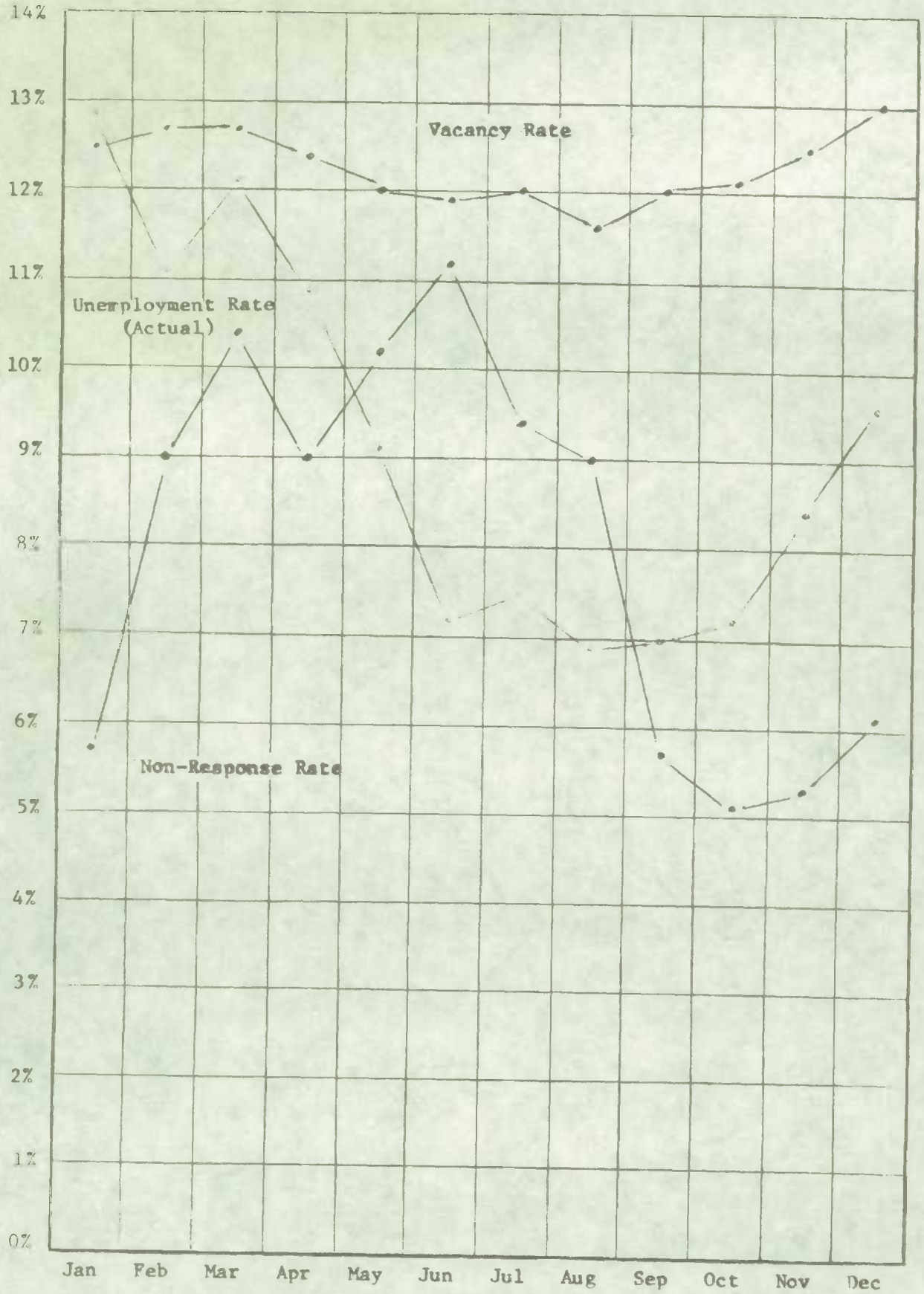
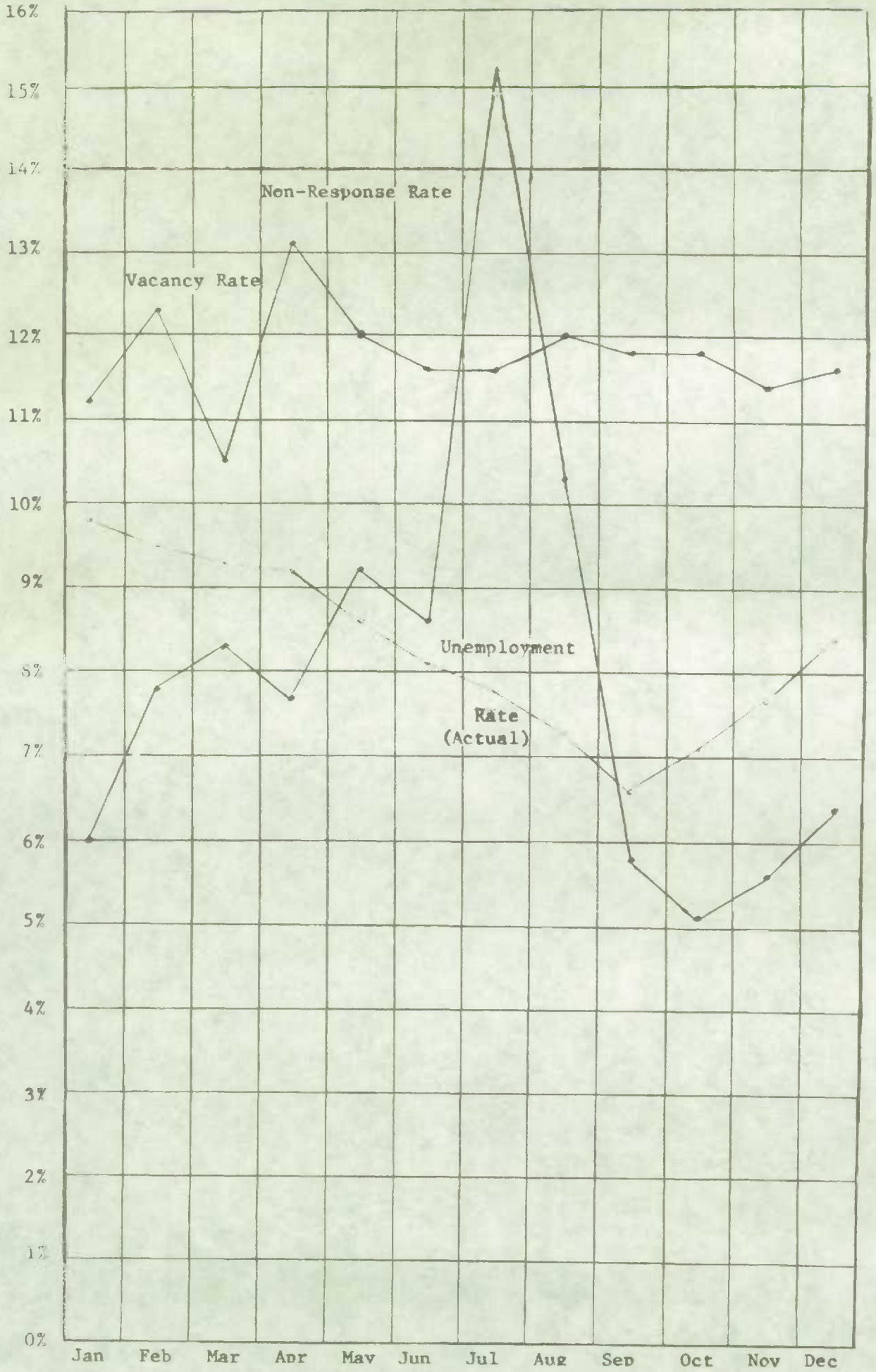
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

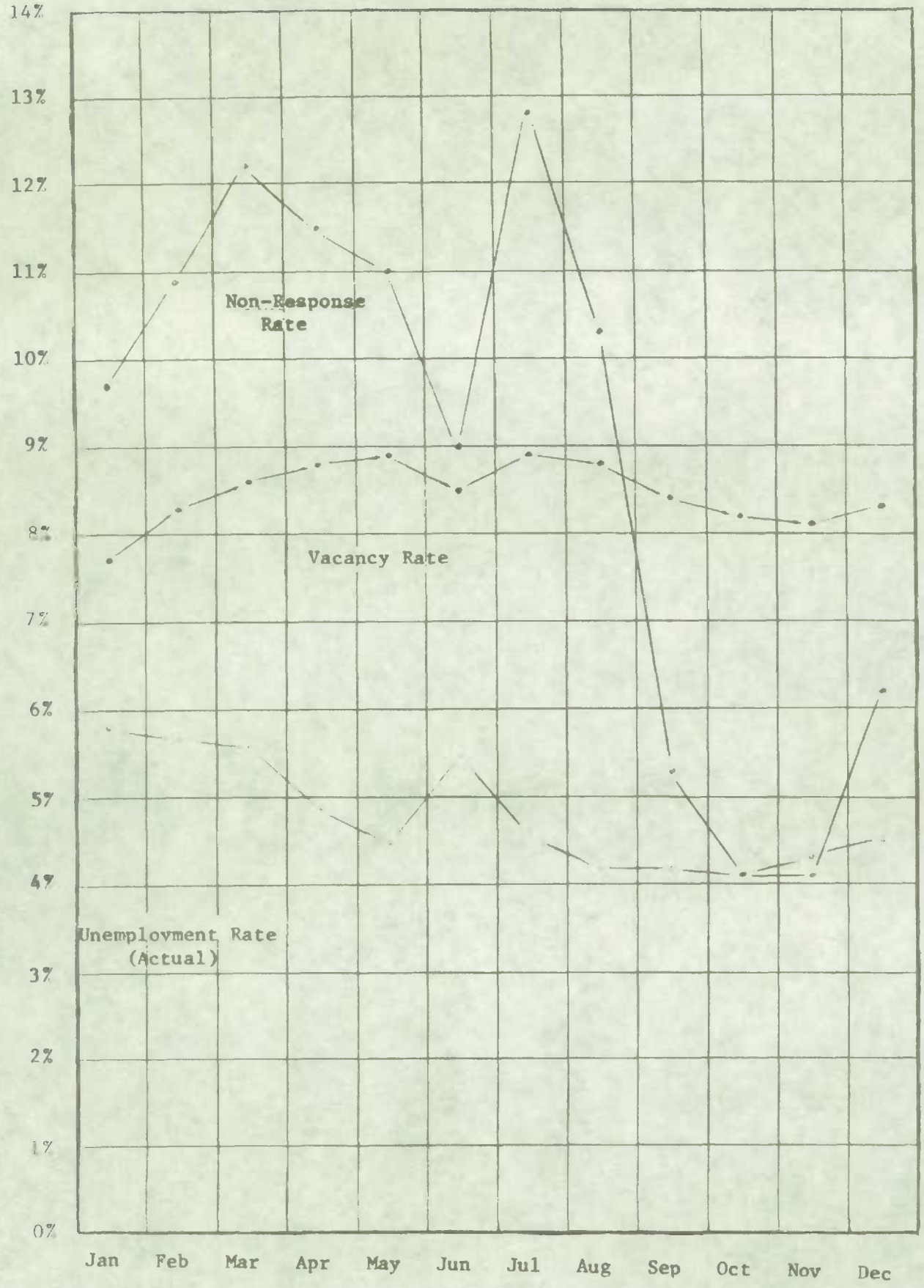
Atlantic Region



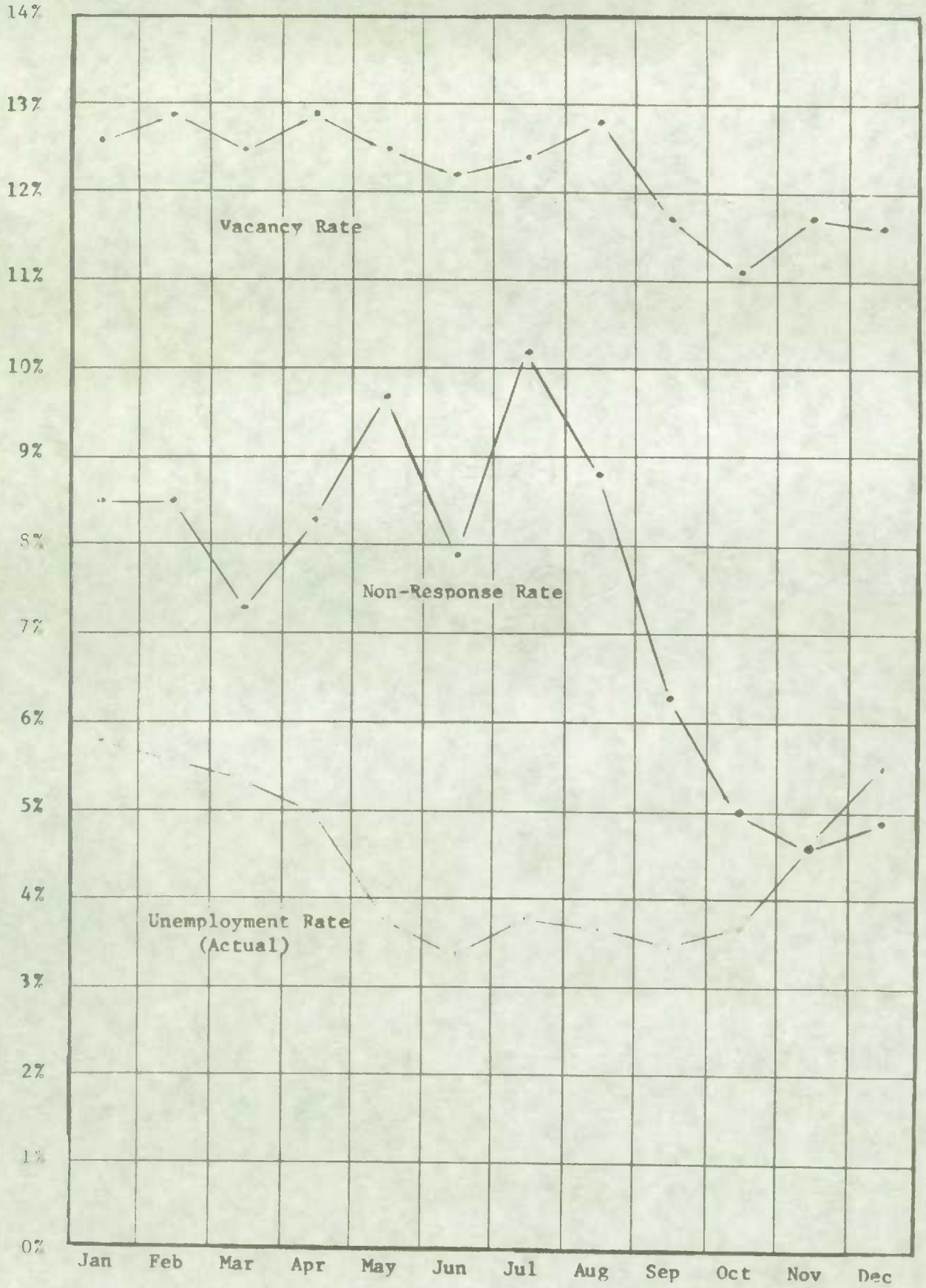
Quebec Region



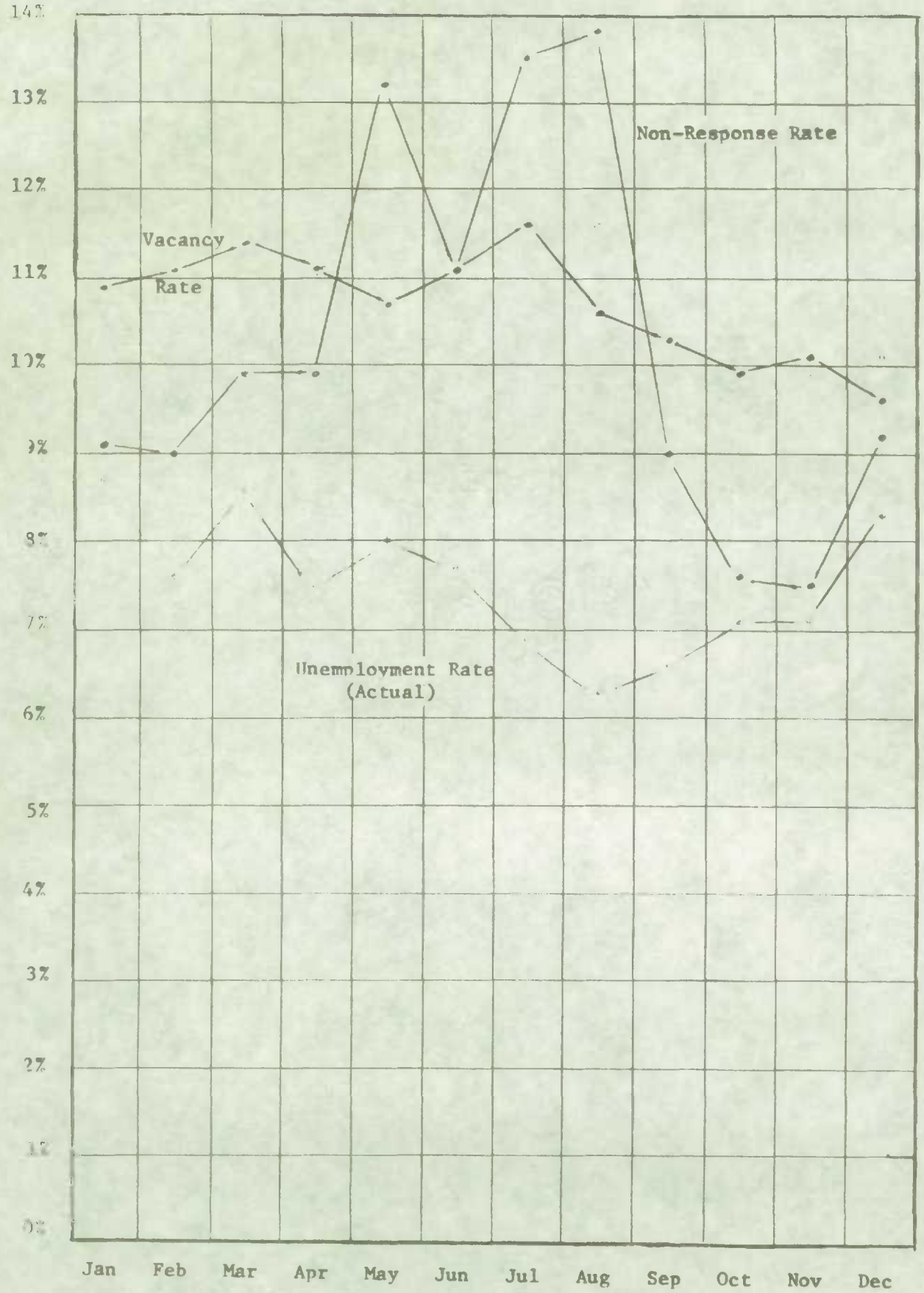
Ontario Region



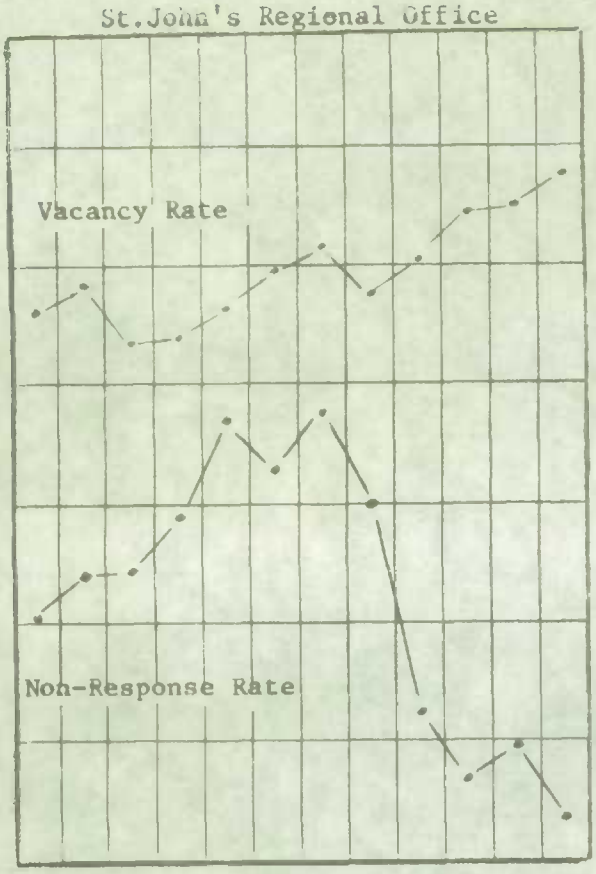
Prairie Region



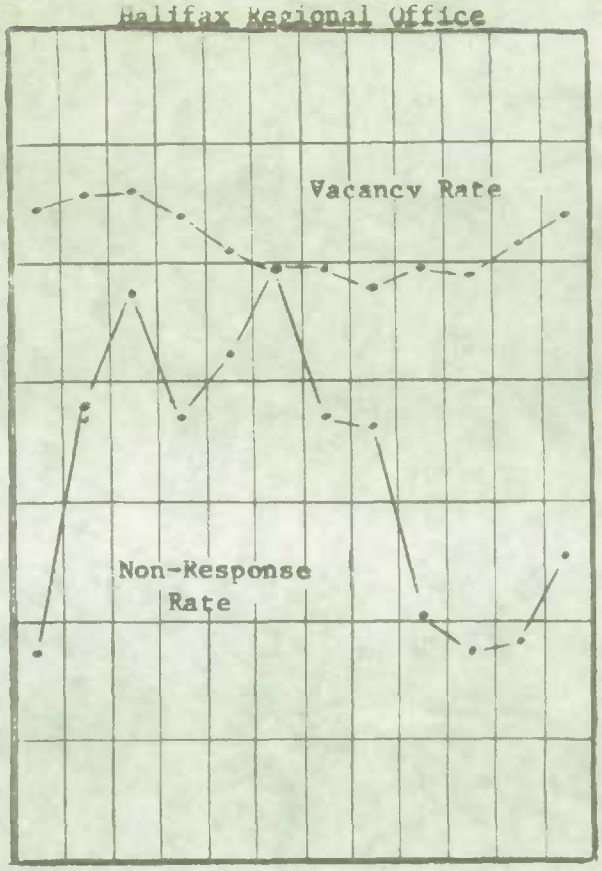
British Columbia Region



St.John's Regional Office



Halifax Regional Office



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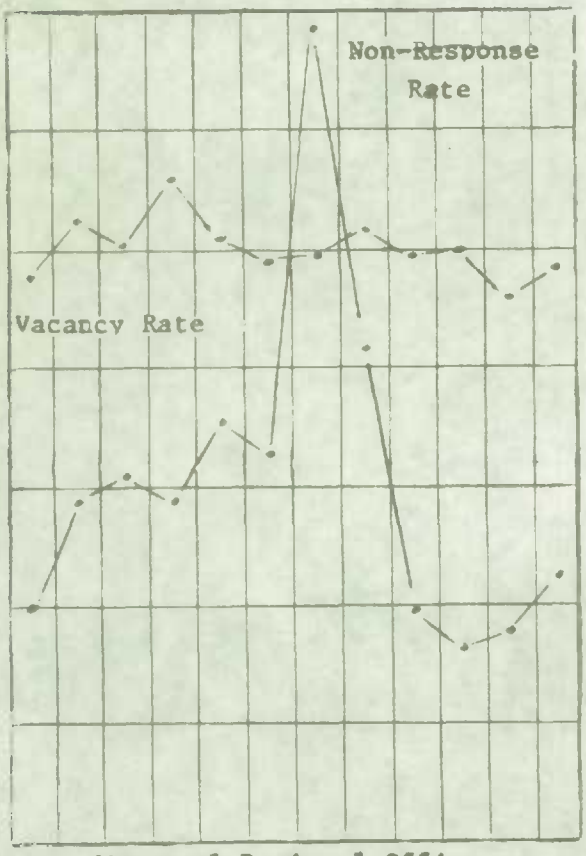
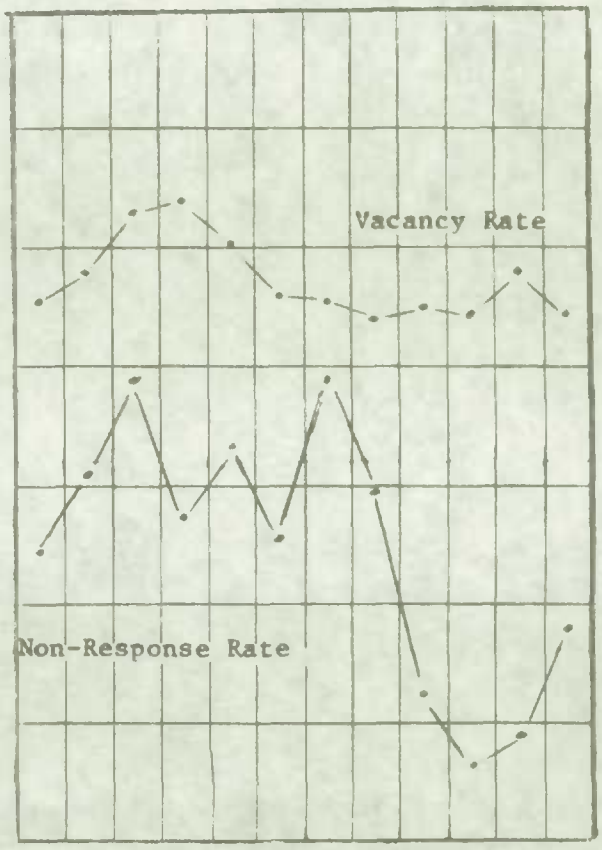
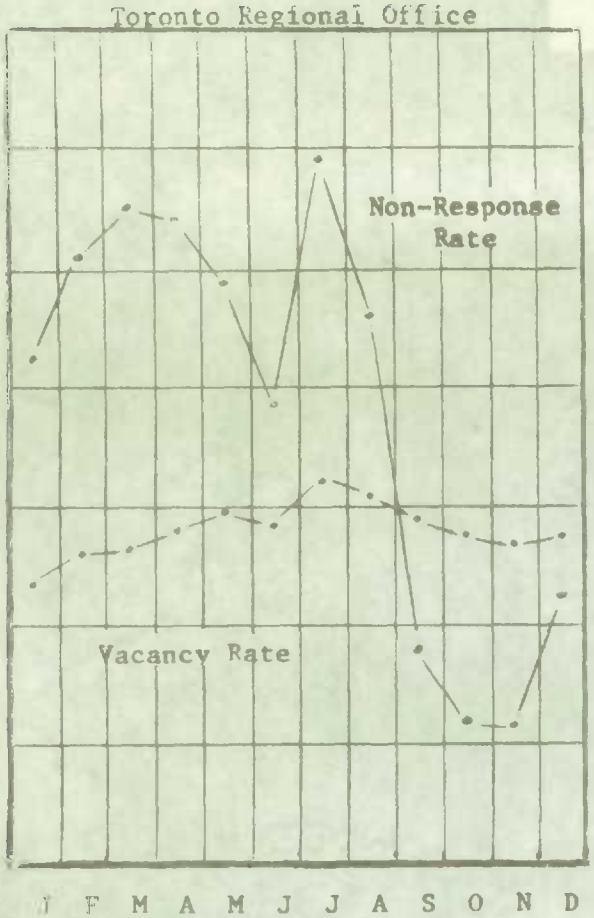


Montreal Regional Office

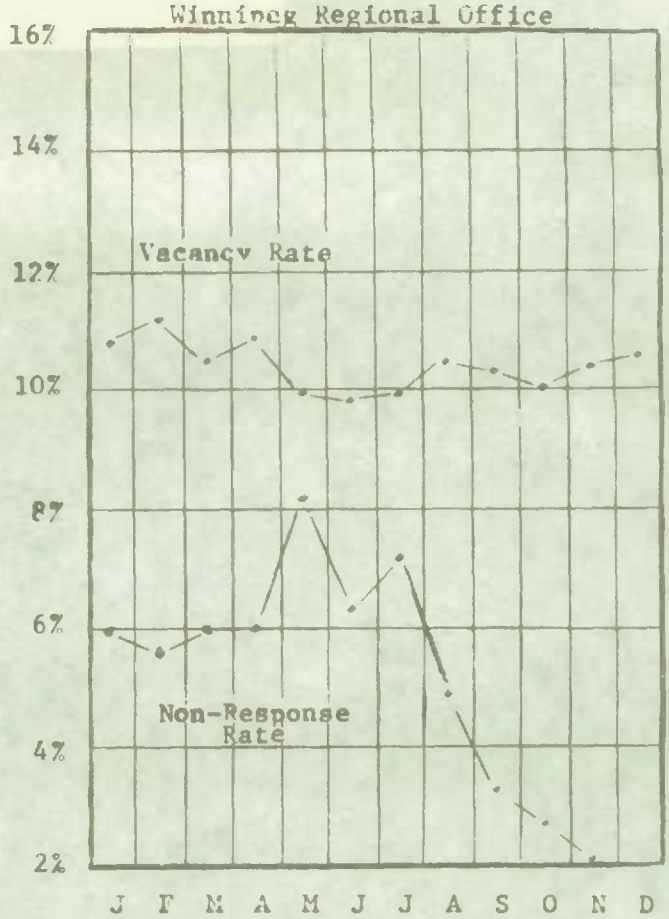


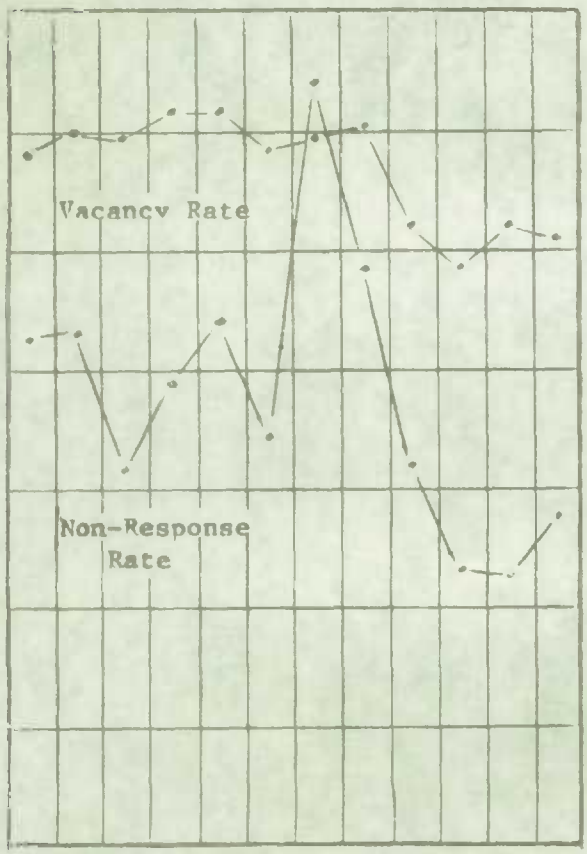
Ottawa Regional Office

Toronto Regional Office

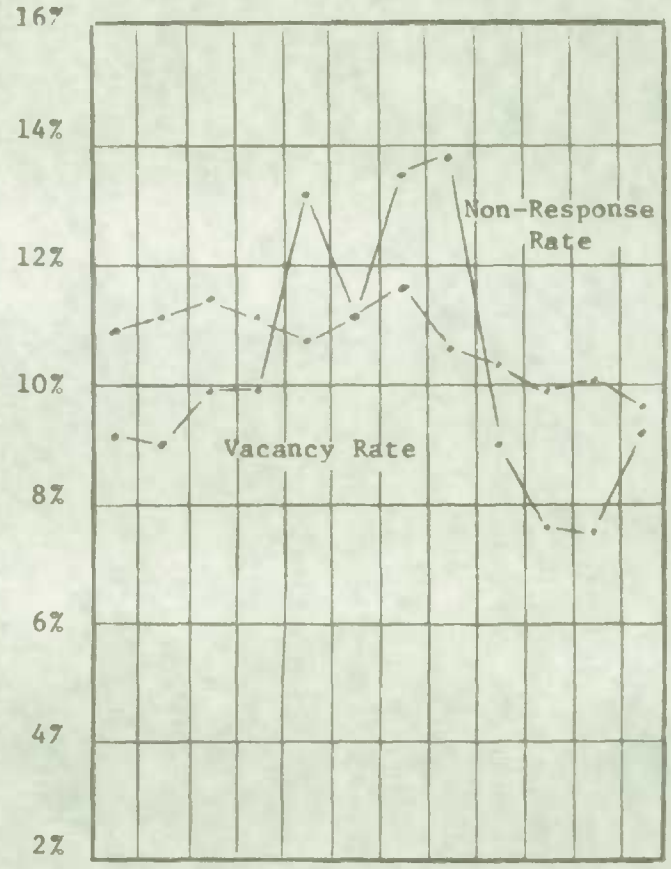


Winnipeg Regional Office





Edmonton Regional Office



Vancouver Regional Office