File

canadian labour force survey

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LABOUR FORCE QUALITY REPORT

JUNE, 1973

Labour Force Survey Division
Field Division
Household Surveys Development Staff

STATISTICS CANADA
Document for Restricted Circulation

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HIGHLIGHTS

A. SLIPPAGE

The estimated slippage rate at the Canada level has decreased slightly from 4.9% in April to 4.8% in May (see Summary Table on page 5 and graphs on pages G-1 and G-2).

1- By Province: All provinces exhibited positive slippage rates in May. From April to May, decreases in slippage rates were noted in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta. All other provinces showed increases in slippage during this same time period. The largest increases in slippage occurred in Manitoba and British Columbia. The estimated slippage rate increased from 4.7% to 5.7% in Manitoba and from 4.0% to 5.0% in British Columbia. Moreover, the slippage rate in Manitoba was higher in May (Survey 275) than in any other month since July 1968.

Newfoundland continues to exhibit the highest slippage rate. In fact, for this province, the estimate derived from the May Labour Force Survey sample represented only 89.0% (that is a slippage rate of 11.0%) of the population estimate as projected from the 1961 Census.

2- By Age at the Canada Level: All age groups exhibited positive slippage rates in May. From April to May, increases in slippage rates were noted in the 14-19 and 45-64 age groups. The slippage rate remained steady for the 20-24 age group and decreased in the 25-44 and 65 and over age groups.

The 20-24 age group continues to show the highest slippage rate. In fact, for this age group, the estimate derived from the May Labour Force Survey sample represented only 87.5% (that is, a slippage rate of 12.5%) of the population estimate as projected from the 1961 Census.

3- Analysis of Saskatchewan Slippage Estimates between March and May, 1973: As a result of the 1.6% increase in slippage between March and April in Saskatchewan the expected household take by rotation group and the average size of households were studied. There was a decrease of only 9 expected households between March and April, or about one-half percent, (7 of which were accounted for by rotation) contributing about 1/3 to the overall decrease in the population estimate based on the sample and hence to an increase in the slippage estimate. There were very insignificant changes in the other rotation groups. The average size of households decreased from 2.374 to 2.348 between March and April. This decrease is a very insignificant one in absolute terms and certainly within sampling variability but since it is about 1%, it contributes about 2/3 to the decrease in the population estimate and hence to an increase in the slippage estimates.

Between April and May, there was an increase in the number of expected households of 34 caused by either growth or rotation, and contributing a 2% gross decrease in the slippage estimate. However, a continued decrease in the average size of households somewhat dampened the decrease in slippage to about 1%.

All of the changes referred to above are within sampling variability so that one need not be too concerned with changes in slippage estimates of 1 to 2% in smaller provinces.

B. NON-RESPONSE

The non-response rate at the Canada level declined from 7.9% in April to 7.0% in May. The largest change occurred in the T.A. component (decrease from 2.4% to 1.8%) while N_1 and "other" showed declines of 0.1% and 0.2% respectively. The N_2 remained constant.

Again in May the Winnipeg Office indicated the lowest overall rate and Vancouver the highest.

The overall May 1973 rate was considerably lower than the 10.5% rate in May 1972.

See Summary Table on page 5, graphs on pages G-3 to G-10 and for detailed information, Appendix 2.

C. REJECTED DOCUMENTS

The charts for rejected documents were revised to exclude the results for supplementary questions which vary in numbers and complexity from one month to the next.

The new charts will provide a more valid monthly comparison because they will reflect reject rates for regular Labour Force items only. The detailed table on the Analysis of Rejected Documents will continue to be published in this report and the new charts have been set-up to show the reject trends for Labour Force Items for Canada and for the 8 Regional Offices.

The Canada reject rate for the May Labour Force items was 8.2%, up 0.6% from the April rate of 7.6%. With the exception of the St-John's Region the reject rate for all regions have registered general upward trends since February 1973.

Most rejects are considered to be in the careless error category and result from omissions and inconsistent entries for LF items.

D. ENUMERATION COST

At the Canada level the May enumeration cost per household, when compared with March (when a similar enumeration work load existed), remained unchanged at the $2.17 level. It will be remembered that as a result of the Household Facilities and Equipment Survey in April it was not possible to make a valid comparison between the March and April Labour Force enumeration cost.

At the regional level, when March and May enumeration costs are compared, we find that 3 regions registered increases ranging from 1 to 7 cents and 5 regions had decreases from 1 to 5 cents in enumeration costs.

See Summary Table on page 5 and graphs on pages G-3 to G-10.

E. COMPARISON OF SERIES

1. U.I.C. Claimants and LFS Unemployed:

In April the LFS Unemployed at 570,000 showed a drop of 38,000 from March while the UIC Claimants at 921,000 showed a decline of 82,000 over the month. (See Summary Table on page 5 and Graph 11 (1).)

The comparison of both levels shows that the ratio of the UIC Claimants to the LFS Unemployed declined from the high of 1.65 in March to 1.62 in April. (See table on page 6)

It is difficult to draw any conclusion when comparing the LFS and UIC data due to conceptual differences. See Appendix 3 of the April issue of this report.

2. Canadian and American Unemployment Rates:

(a) Actual: The Canadian unemployment rate was at 5.3% in May as compared to the American rate of 4.3%. Both rates showed a decline of about the same magnitude over the year; the Canadian rate dropped by 0.9 while the American rate declined by 0.8.

(b) Seasonally-adjusted: The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate continued to decline in Canada between April and May while the American rate remained the same. In May, the Canadian rate was 5.2% as compared to a rate of 5.0% in the United States. The Canadian rate has been declining since last December while the American rate has been rather stable. The gap between the two seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates was 1.6 in December as compared to 0.2 in May.

See Summary Table on page 5 and Graph 11 (2).

Summary Table

		Monthly Estimates and Rates							Month-to-Month Change				Year-to-Year Change	
		1973					1972		Apr. 1973 to May 1973	Mar. 1973 to Apr. 1973	Feb. 1973 to Mar. 1973	Jan. 1973 to Feb. 1973	May 1972 to May 1973	Apr. 1972 to Apr. 1973
		May	April	March	Feb.	Jan.	May	April						
Strength														
Canada - Total	%	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.2	4.5	4.4	− 0.1	+ 0.2	− 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
14-19 years	%	2.7	2.0	2.4	2.8	0.8	1.9	1.5	+ 0.7	− 0.4	− 0.4	+ 2.0	+ 0.8	+ 0.5
20-24 years	%	12.5	12.5	11.9	12.3	12.2	12.2	10.8	−	+ 0.6	− 0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.7
25-44 years	%	3.9	4.4	3.8	3.0	3.8	3.8	3.4	− 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.8	− 0.8	+ 0.1	+ 1.0
45-64 years	%	4.9	4.7	4.5	5.2	4.2	3.8	5.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	− 0.7	+ 1.0	+ 1.1	− 0.3
65 and over	%	1.8	2.5	3.0	4.3	1.4	3.3	3.7	− 0.7	− 0.5	− 1.3	+ 2.9	− 1.5	− 1.2
Newfoundland	%	11.0	10.8	10.3	10.1	9.4	5.8	4.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 5.2	+ 6.4
Prince Edward Island	%	2.9	2.5	3.3	6.4	6.8	2.3	1.6	+ 0.4	− 0.8	− 3.1	− 0.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.9
Nova Scotia	%	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.0	2.9	2.1	+ 0.3	−	− 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 3.6	+ 4.1
New Brunswick	%	7.2	6.9	5.9	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.7	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	− 0.4	−	+ 0.6	+ 0.2
Quebec	%	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.9	3.4	4.6	4.8	+ 0.2	−	− 0.3	+ 0.5	− 0.8	− 1.2
Ontario	%	5.2	5.9	5.3	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.9	− 0.7	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	+ 1.0
Manitoba	%	5.7	4.7	3.7	4.9	3.3	1.6	2.7	+ 1.0	+ 1.0	− 1.2	+ 1.6	+ 4.1	+ 2.0
Saskatchewan	%	3.4	4.5	2.9	3.8	3.0	− 1.1	− 0.4	− 1.1	+ 1.6	− 0.9	+ 0.8	+ 4.5	+ 4.9
Alberta	%	3.3	3.6	3.5	2.1	1.4	5.9	2.5	− 0.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.4	+ 0.7	− 2.6	+ 1.1
British Columbia	%	5.0	4.0	4.9	6.1	5.4	5.3	6.0	+ 1.0	− 0.9	− 1.2	+ 0.7	− 0.3	− 2.0
Non-response														
Canada	%	7.0	7.9	6.8	7.2	7.3	10.5	9.4	− 0.9	+ 1.1	− 0.4	− 0.1	− 3.5	− 1.5
St. John's	%	4.5	5.1	3.2	3.5	3.1	9.4	7.8	− 0.6	+ 1.9	− 0.3	+ 0.4	− 4.9	− 2.7
Halifax	%	7.6	7.5	6.3	7.0	6.4	10.5	9.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.2	− 0.7	+ 0.6	− 2.9	− 1.9
Montreal	%	7.4	7.4	6.8	7.2	8.2	9.1	7.8	−	+ 0.6	− 0.4	− 1.0	− 1.7	− 0.4
Ottawa	%	5.7	5.6	5.2	6.6	8.2	8.7	7.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.4*	− 1.4	− 1.6	− 3.0	− 1.9*
Toronto	%	6.2	7.2	7.0	6.6	6.3	11.8	12.8	− 1.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	− 5.6	− 5.6
Winnipeg	%	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.4	8.2	6.0	−	−	− 0.1	+ 0.5	− 5.4	− 3.2
Edmonton	%	9.0	10.0	9.1	11.0	9.4	10.8	9.8	− 1.0	+ 0.9	− 1.9	+ 1.6	− 1.8	+ 0.2
Vancouver	%	9.6	14.5	10.5	10.2	11.9	13.2	9.9	− 4.9	+ 4.0	+ 0.3	− 1.7	− 3.6	+ 4.6
Rejected Documents (1) (Regular Labour Force Items)														
Canada	%	8.2	7.6	7.4	6.4	7.3	10.3	8.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	− 0.9	− 2.1	− 0.7
St. John's	%	4.9	5.9	4.1	5.2	5.3	8.3	6.0	− 1.0	+ 1.8	− 1.1	− 0.1	− 3.4	− 0.1
Halifax	%	9.0	7.9	8.1	6.4	7.2	10.6	7.8	+ 1.1	− 0.2	+ 1.7	− 0.8	− 1.6	+ 0.1
Montreal	%	7.2	6.4	5.9	5.3	6.4	9.8	7.0	+ 0.8	+ 0.5	− 0.6	− 1.1	− 2.6	− 0.6
Ottawa	%	7.0	7.1	7.2	6.1	5.1	8.8	8.2	− 0.1	− 0.1	+ 1.1	+ 1.0	− 1.8	− 1.1
Toronto	%	9.8	10.1	10.1	7.1	8.5	12.3	10.5	− 0.3	−	+ 3.0	− 1.4	− 2.5	− 0.4
Winnipeg	%	6.5	5.7	6.2	5.5	9.6	10.1	7.4	+ 0.8	− 0.5	+ 0.7	− 4.1	− 3.6	− 1.7
Edmonton	%	8.1	6.6	6.0	7.4	6.7	8.3	8.3	+ 1.5	+ 0.6	− 1.4	+ 0.7	− 0.2	− 1.7
Vancouver	%	9.4	9.0	8.0	7.6	7.8	11.2	9.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	+ 0.4	− 0.2	− 1.8	− 0.5
Enumeration Cost per Household (1)														
Canada - Total	$	2.17	1.89	2.17	2.18	2.20	1.72	1.56	+ 0.28	− 0.28	− 0.01	− 0.02	+ 0.45	+ 0.33
S.R.U.	$	2.04	1.78	2.04	2.06	2.14	1.62	1.54	+ 0.26	− 0.26	− 0.02	− 0.08	+ 0.42	+ 0.24
N.S.R.U.	$	2.32	2.04	2.31	2.33	2.29	1.83	1.60	+ 0.28	− 0.27	− 0.02	+ 0.04	+ 0.49	+ 0.44
St. John's - Total	$	2.59	2.17	2.52	2.47	2.35	1.81	1.65	+ 0.42	− 0.35	+ 0.05	+ 0.12	+ 0.78	+ 0.52
S.R.U.	$	2.36	2.13	2.18	2.13	2.14	1.72	1.55	+ 0.23	− 0.05	+ 0.05	− 0.01	+ 0.64	+ 0.58
N.S.R.U.	$	2.67	2.18	2.64	2.59	2.43	1.84	1.69	+ 0.49	− 0.46	+ 0.05	+ 0.16	+ 0.83	+ 0.49
Halifax - Total	$	1.98	1.74	1.95	1.92	1.90	1.36	1.33	+ 0.24	− 0.21	+ 0.03	+ 0.02	+ 0.62	+ 0.41
S.R.U.	$	1.80	1.55	1.68	1.62	1.71	1.25	1.29	+ 0.25	− 0.13	+ 0.06	− 0.09	+ 0.55	+ 0.26
N.S.R.U.	$	2.10	1.85	2.12	2.12	2.02	1.43	1.36	+ 0.25	− 0.27	−	+ 0.10	+ 0.67	+ 0.49
Montreal - Total	$	2.36	2.00	2.37	2.38	2.42	1.80	1.71	+ 0.36	− 0.37	− 0.01	− 0.04	+ 0.56	+ 0.29
S.R.U.	$	2.23	1.86	2.32	2.34	2.33	1.70	1.63	+ 0.37	− 0.46	+ 0.02	+ 0.01	+ 0.53	+ 0.23
N.S.R.U.	$	2.61	2.28	2.46	2.47	2.60	2.00	1.87	+ 0.33	− 0.18	− 0.01	− 0.13	+ 0.61	+ 0.41
Ottawa - Total	$	2.33	2.05	2.36	2.40	2.20	1.70	1.38	+ 0.28	− 0.31	− 0.04	+ 0.20	+ 0.63	+ 0.67
S.R.U.	$	2.24	1.98	2.32	2.33	2.20	1.68	1.17	+ 0.26	− 0.34	− 0.01	+ 0.13	+ 0.56	+ 0.81
N.S.R.U.	$	2.46	2.16	2.41	2.51	2.19	1.72	1.65	+ 0.30	− 0.25	− 0.10	+ 0.32	+ 0.74	+ 0.51
Toronto - Total	$	2.29	1.98	2.28	2.31	2.48	1.77	1.48	+ 0.31	− 0.30	− 0.03	− 0.17	+ 0.52	+ 0.50
S.R.U.	$	2.20	1.92	2.21	2.23	2.39	1.72	1.45	+ 0.28	− 0.29	− 0.02	− 0.16	+ 0.48	+ 0.47
N.S.R.U.	$	2.55	2.14	2.47	2.52	2.74	1.90	1.55	+ 0.41	− 0.33	− 0.05	− 0.22	+ 0.65	+ 0.59
Winnipeg - Total	$	2.19	2.07	2.24	2.21	2.22	1.87	1.80	+ 0.12	− 0.17	+ 0.03	− 0.01	+ 0.32	+ 0.27
S.R.U.	$	1.94	1.90	2.04	1.93	2.05	1.63	2.11	+ 0.04	− 0.14	+ 0.11	− 0.12	+ 0.31	− 0.21
N.S.R.U.	$	2.41	2.22	2.42	2.45	2.38	2.07	1.52	+ 0.19	− 0.20	− 0.03	+ 0.07	+ 0.34	+ 0.70
Edmonton - Total	$	1.78	1.66	1.79	1.91	1.93	1.93	1.49	+ 0.12	− 0.13	− 0.12	− 0.02	− 0.15	+ 0.17
S.R.U.	$	1.44	1.39	1.43	1.61	1.68	1.66	1.28	+ 0.05	− 0.04	− 0.18	− 0.07	− 0.22	+ 0.11
N.S.R.U.	$	2.09	1.93	2.14	2.18	2.17	2.15	1.67	+ 0.16	− 0.21	− 0.04	+ 0.01	− 0.06	+ 0.26
Vancouver - Total	$	1.98	1.72	2.00	1.99	1.98	1.59	1.67	+ 0.26	− 0.28	+ 0.01	+ 0.01	+ 0.39	+ 0.05
S.R.U.	$	1.94	1.65	1.90	1.89	2.01	1.53	1.59	+ 0.29	− 0.25	+ 0.01	− 0.12	+ 0.41	+ 0.06
N.S.R.U.	$	2.03	1.84	2.17	2.15	1.95	1.70	1.81	+ 0.19	− 0.33	+ 0.02	+ 0.20	+ 0.33	+ 0.03
Comparison of Series														
CPS Unemployed	000's	493	570	608	655	688	552	592	− 77	− 38	− 47	− 33	− 59	− 22
UIC Claimants	000's		921	1,003	1,055	1,056		874		− 82	− 52	− 1		+ 47
Unemployment Rates (Actual) - Canadian	%	5.3	6.3	6.8	7.3	7.7	6.2	6.8	− 1.0	− 0.5	− 0.5	− 0.4	− 0.9	− 0.5
(Actual) - American	%	4.3	4.8	5.2	5.6	5.5	5.1	5.5	− 0.5	− 0.4	− 0.4	+ 0.1	− 0.8	− 0.7
Unemployment Rates (Seasonally-adjusted) - Canadian	%	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.9	6.2	6.2	5.9	− 0.2	− 0.1	− 0.4	− 0.3	− 1.0	− 0.5
(Seasonally-adjusted) - American	%	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.8	5.8	−	−	− 0.1	+ 0.1	− 0.8	− 0.8

(1) By Regional Office
* Corrected from last month

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	584
UIC Claimants (000's)	827	912	914	874	814	753	762	722	692	709	765	903
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	1.55
1973												
LFS Unemployed (000's)	688	655	608	570								
UIC Claimants (000's)	1,056	1,055	1,003	921								
Ratio: Claimants / Unemployed	1.53	1.61	1.65	1.62								
% 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%.

FIELD DIVISION — DIVISION DES OPÉRATIONS RÉGIONALES

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY
ENQUÊTE SUR LA MAIN-D'OEUVRE

ANALYSIS OF REJECTED DOCUMENTS
ANALYSE DES DOCUMENTS REJETÉS

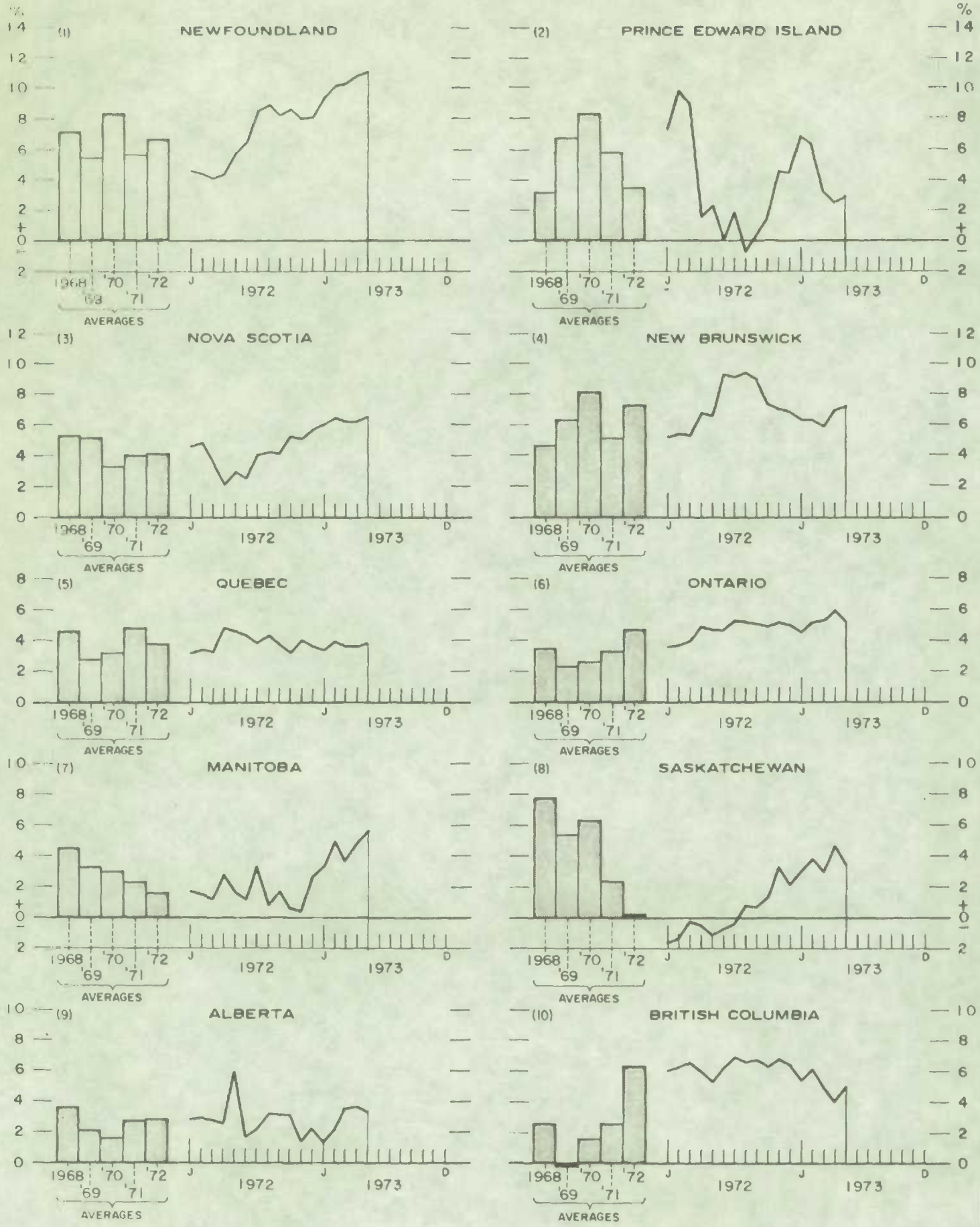
SURVEY No. 275
ENQUÊTE

May-1973-Mai

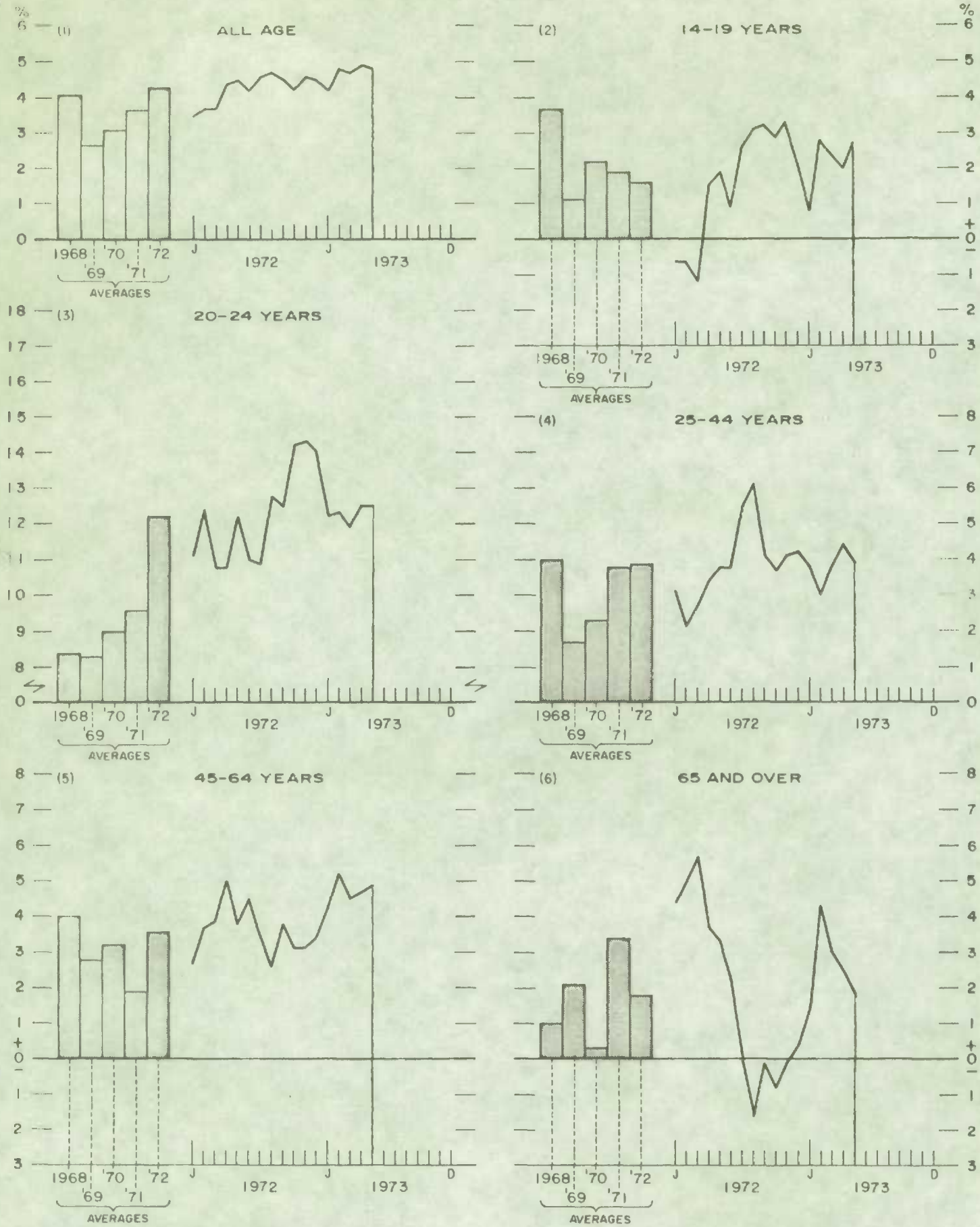
	CANADA	ST.JOHN'S	HALIFAX	MONTRÉAL	OTTAWA	TORONTO	WINNIPEG	EDMONTON	VANCOUVER
TOTAL DOCUMENTS RECEIVED TOTAL DES DOCUMENTS REÇUS	74,897	4,377	12,877	14,484	4,585	15,425	6,974	8,283	7,892
REJECTED DOCUMENTS DOCUMENTS REJETÉS	10,199	425	2,034	1,830	395	2,580	658	1,126	1,151
% REJECTED DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DES DOCUMENTS REJETÉS	13.6	9.7	15.8	12.6	8.6	16.7	9.4	13.6	14.6
SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS ARTICLES SUPPLÉMENTAIRES									
REJECTED DOCUMENTS DOCUMENTS REJETÉS	4,073	210	871	782	75	1,072	200	454	409
% OF TOTAL DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DU TOTAL DES DOCUMENTS	5.4	4.8	6.8	5.4	1.6	6.9	2.9	5.5	5.2
% OF REJECTED DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DES DOCUMENTS REJETÉS	39.9	49.4	42.8	42.7	19.0	41.6	30.4	40.3	35.5
LABOUR FORCE ITEMS ARTICLES DE LA MAIN-D'OEUVRE									
REJECTED DOCUMENTS DOCUMENTS REJETÉS	6,126	215	1,163	1,048	320	1,508	458	672	742
% OF TOTAL DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DE TOUS LES DOCUMENTS	8.2	4.9	9.0	7.2	7.0	9.8	6.5	8.1	9.4
% OF REJECTED DOCUMENTS POURCENTAGE DES DOCUMENTS REJETÉS	60.1	50.5	57.2	57.3	81.0	58.4	69.6	59.7	64.5
No. OF CARELESS ERRORS NOMBRE DE FAUTES D'INATTENTION	3,044	107	570	477	145	792	245	363	345
AVE. PER DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT	.040	.024	.044	.033	.032	.051	.035	.044	.044
AVE. PER REJECTED DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT REJETÉ	.298	.252	.280	.261	.367	.307	.372	.322	.300
No. OF BLANKS IN ID. NOMBRE DE BLANCS À L'IDENTIFICATION	1,835	16	263	407	113	374	163	234	265
AVERAGE PER DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT	.024	.004	.020	.028	.025	.024	.023	.028	.034
AVE. PER REJECTED DOCUMENT MOYENNE PAR DOCUMENT REJETÉ	.180	.038	.129	.222	.286	.145	.248	.208	.230

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.

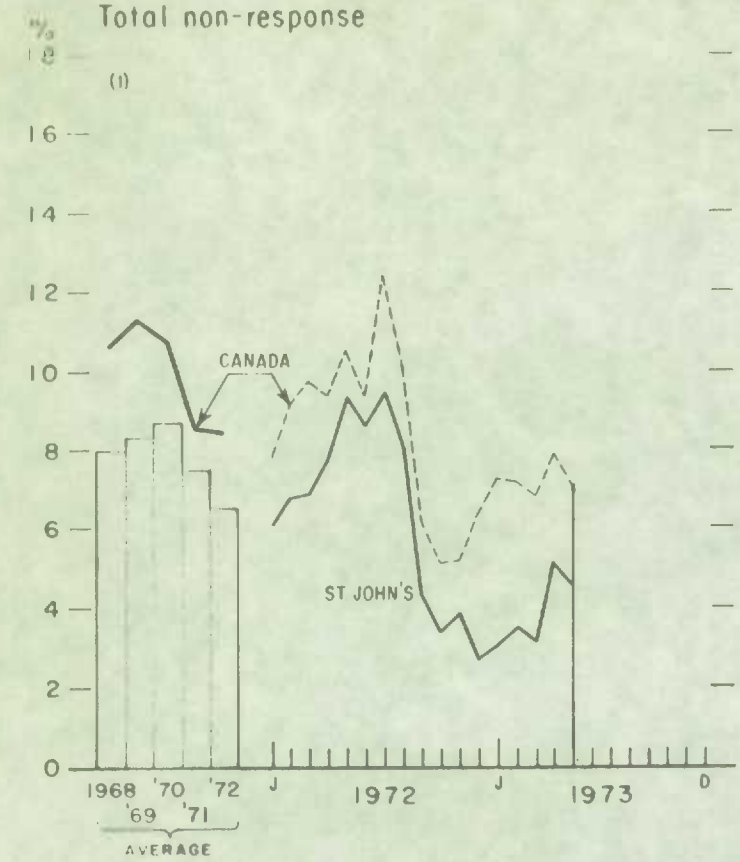
Slippage by Province

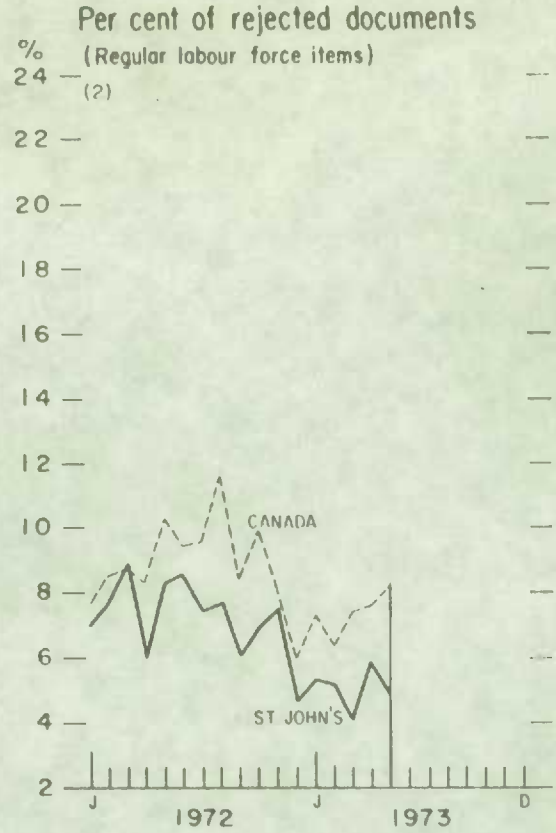


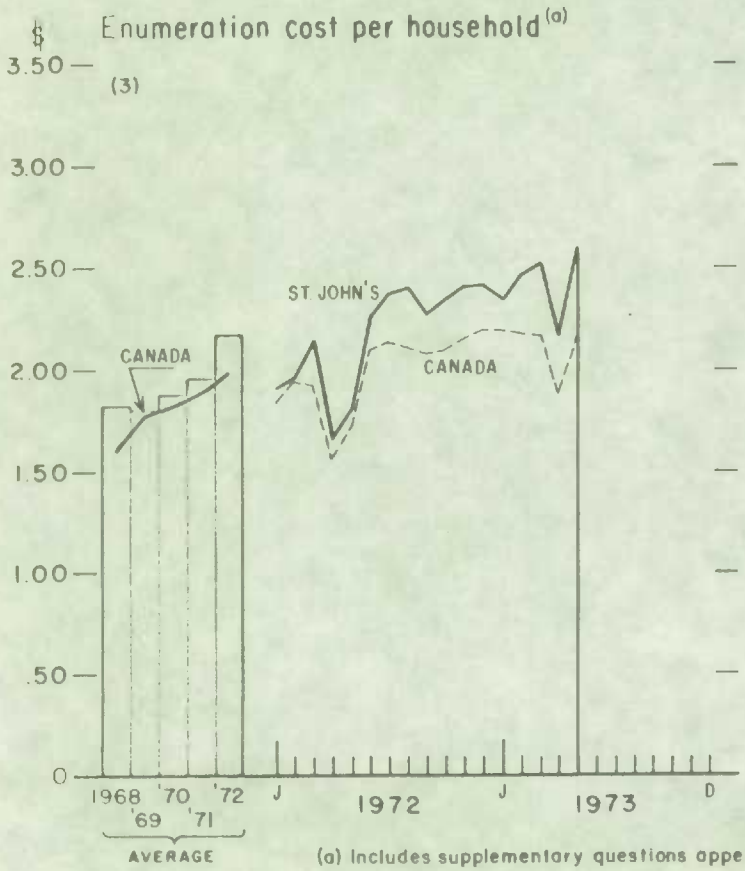
Slippage by Age Group at the Canada Level

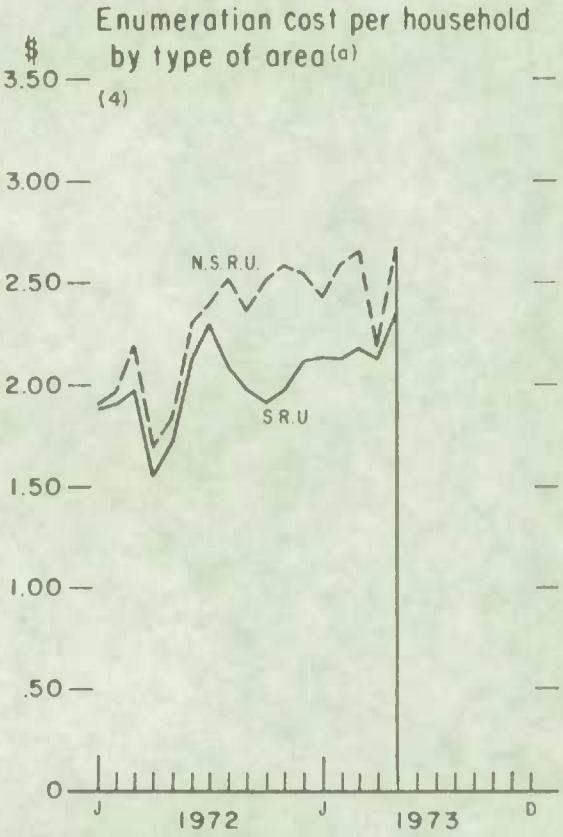


St. John's Regional Office



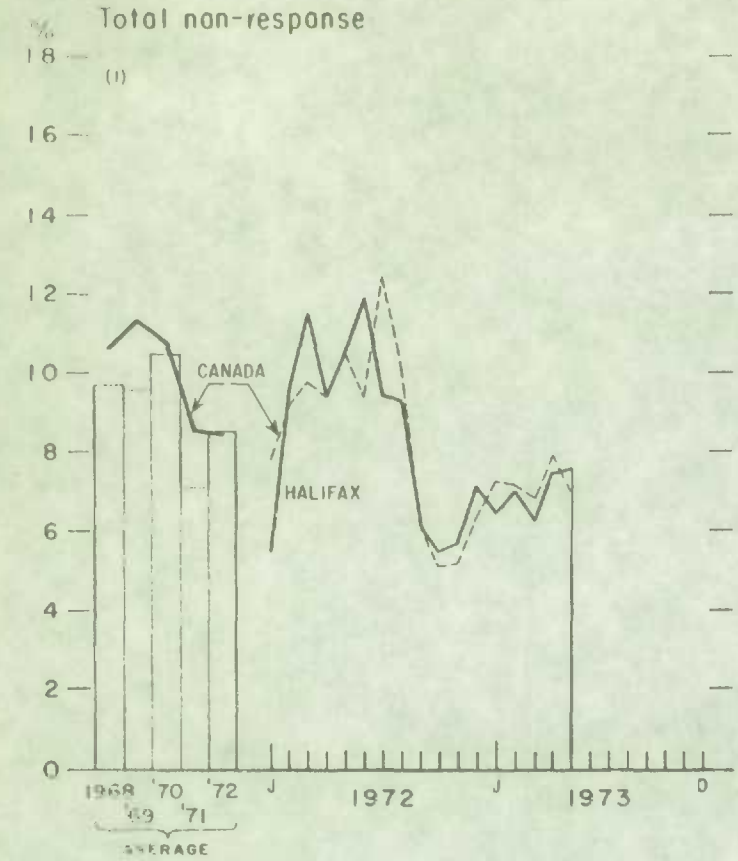


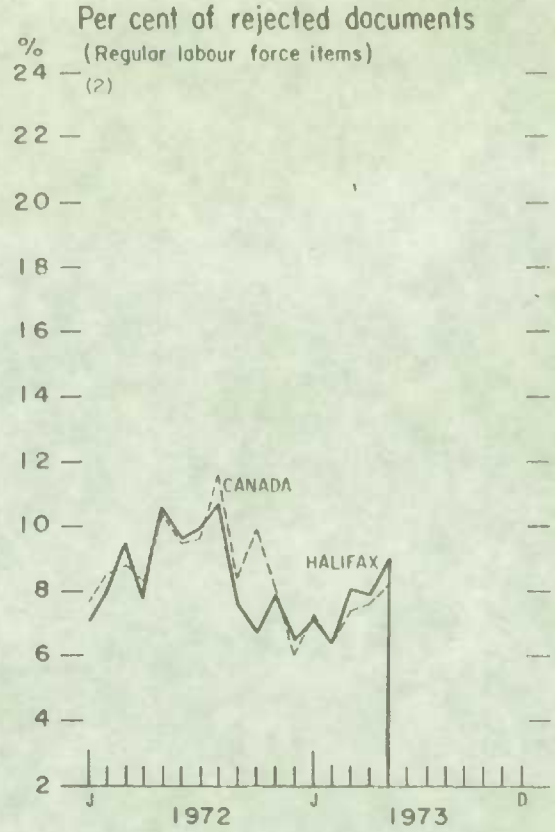


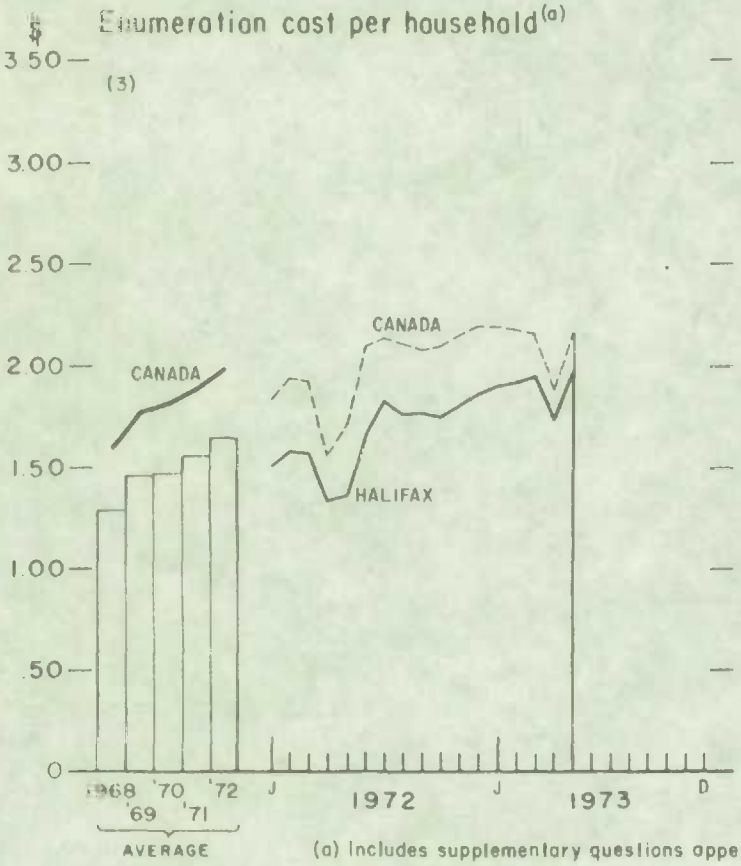


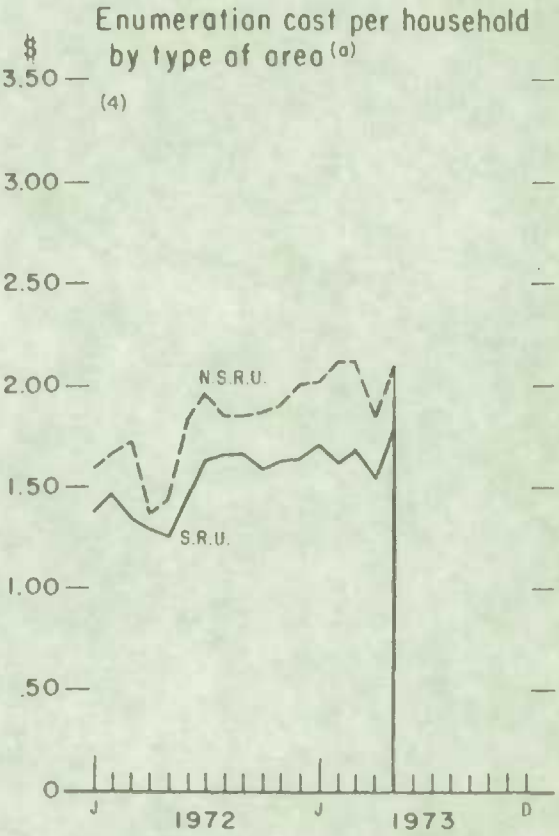
(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the L F S regular schedule.

Halifax Regional Office



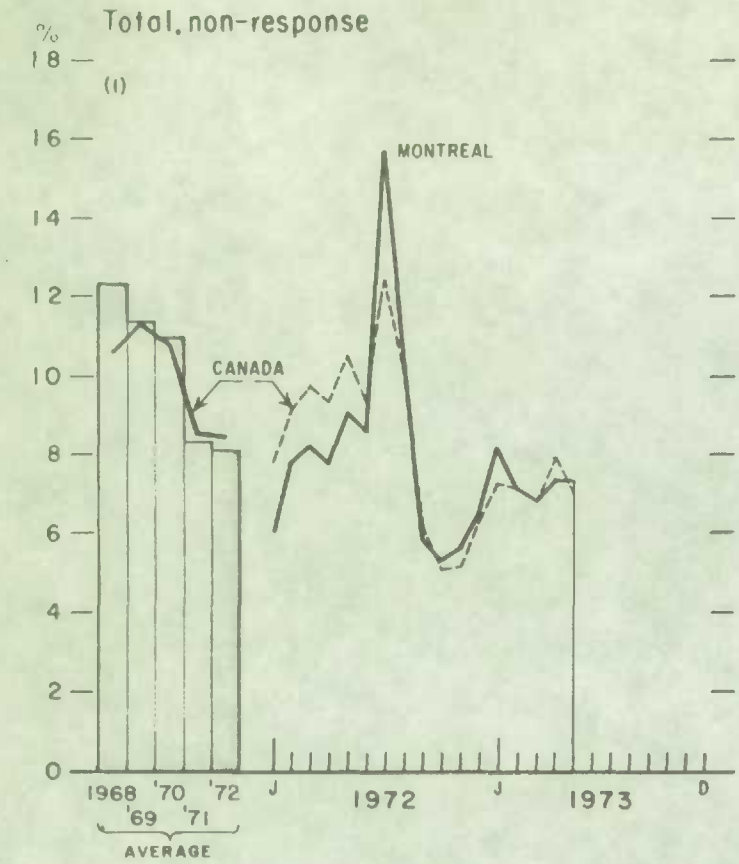


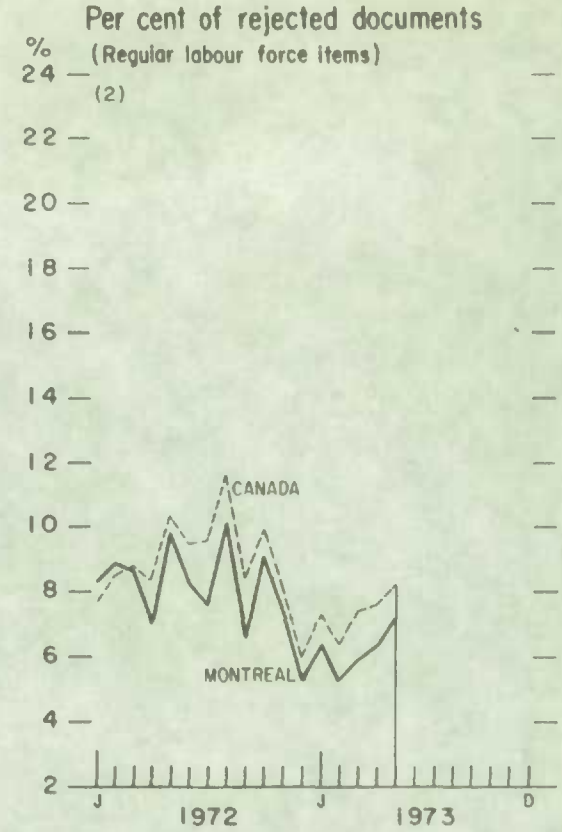


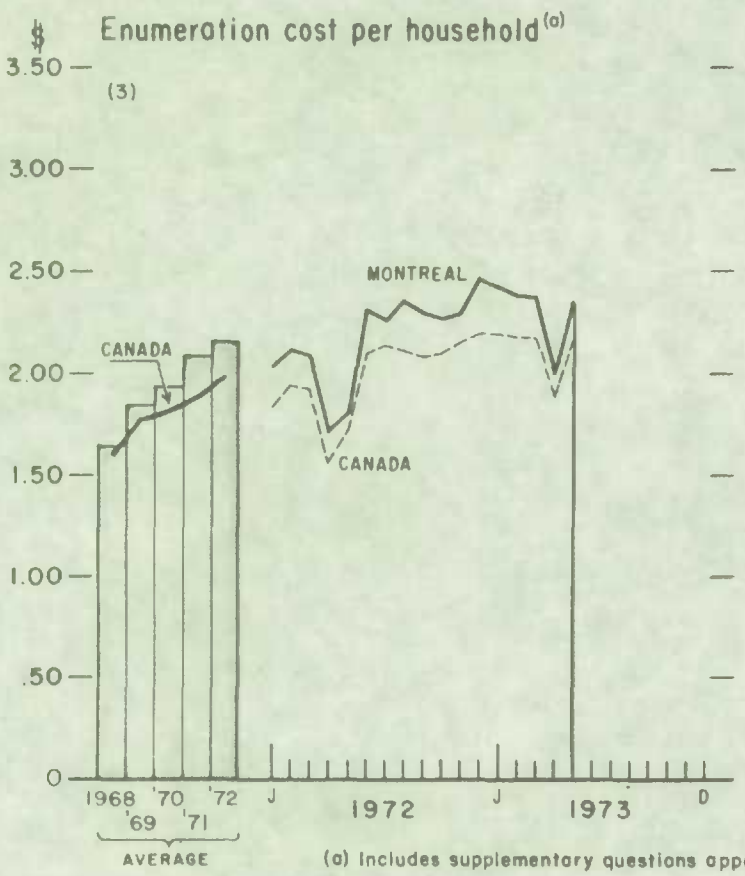


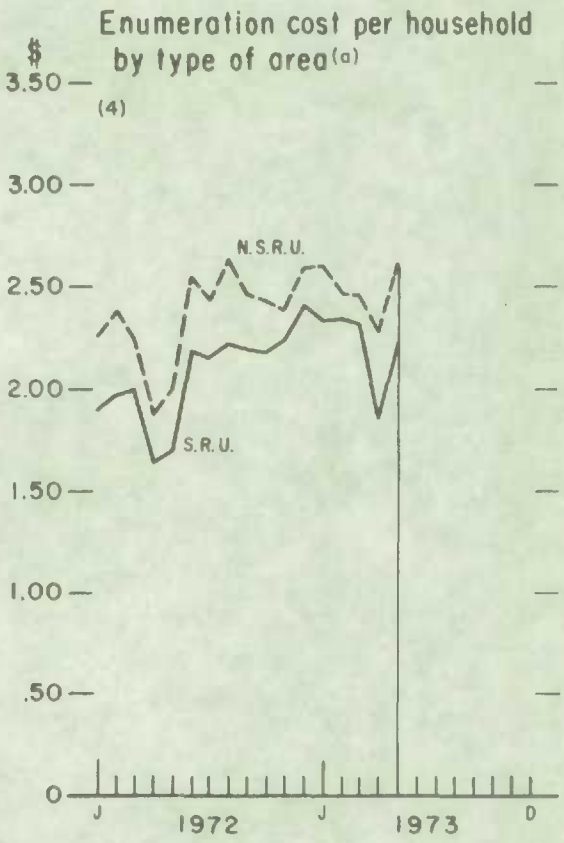
(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the LFS regular schedule.

Montreal Regional Office



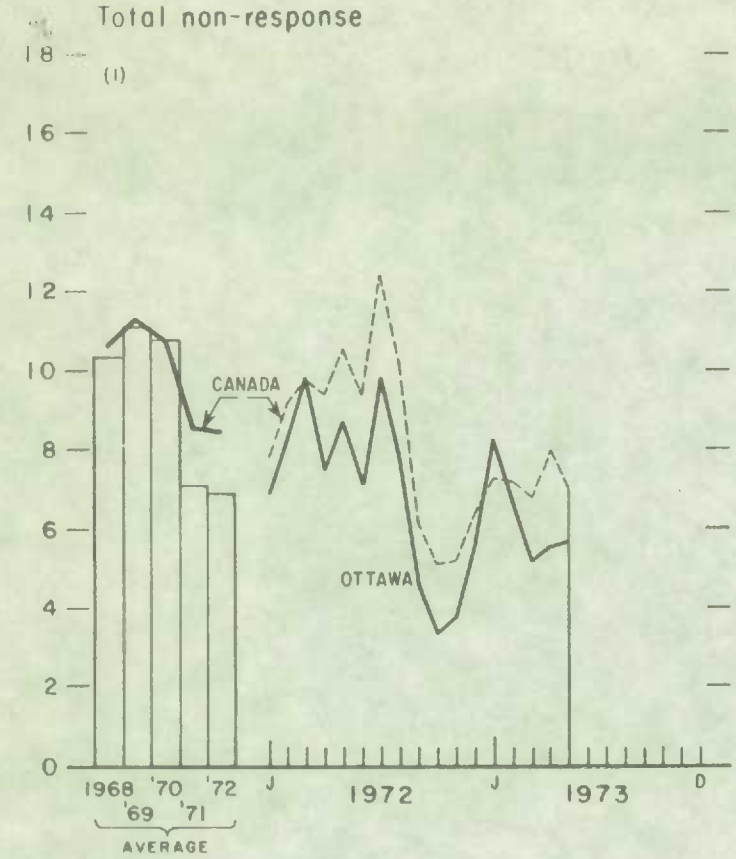


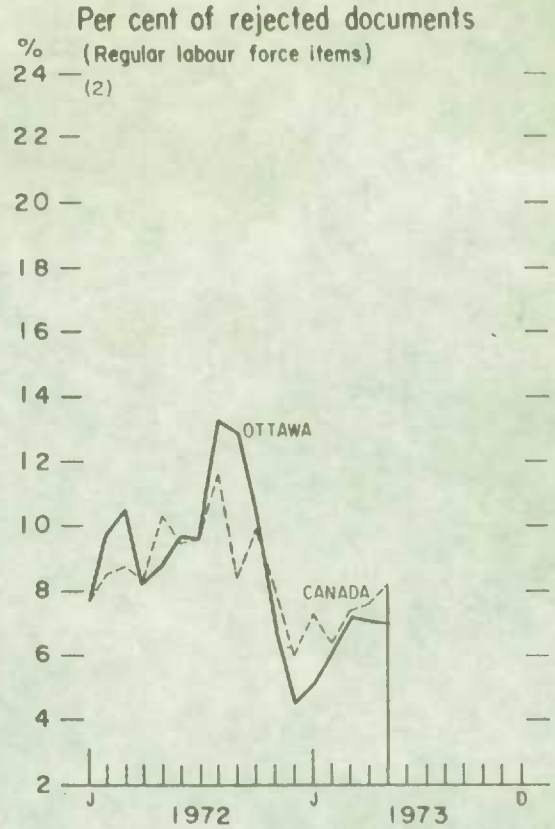


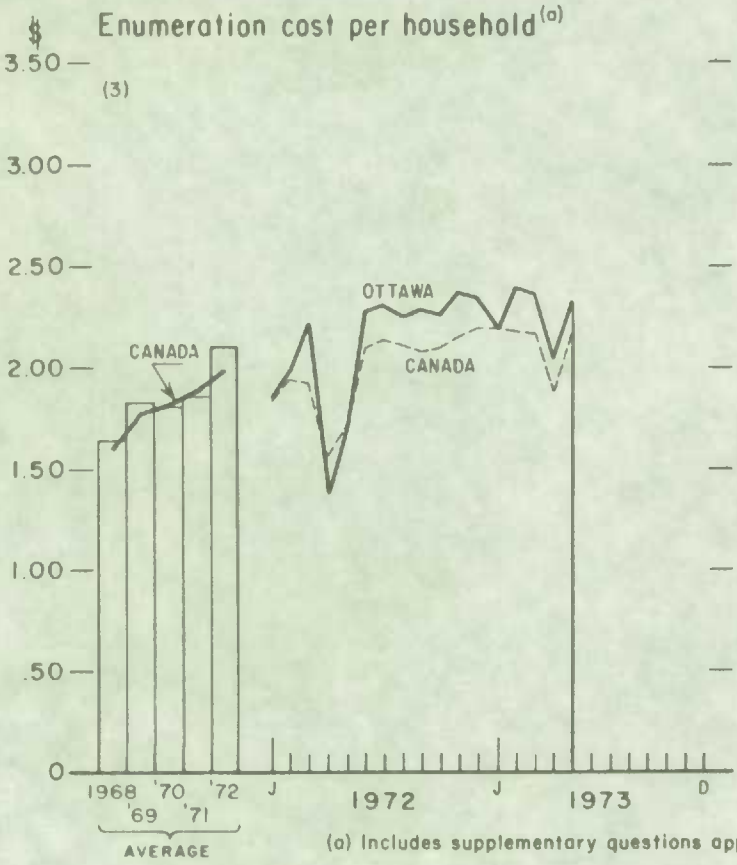


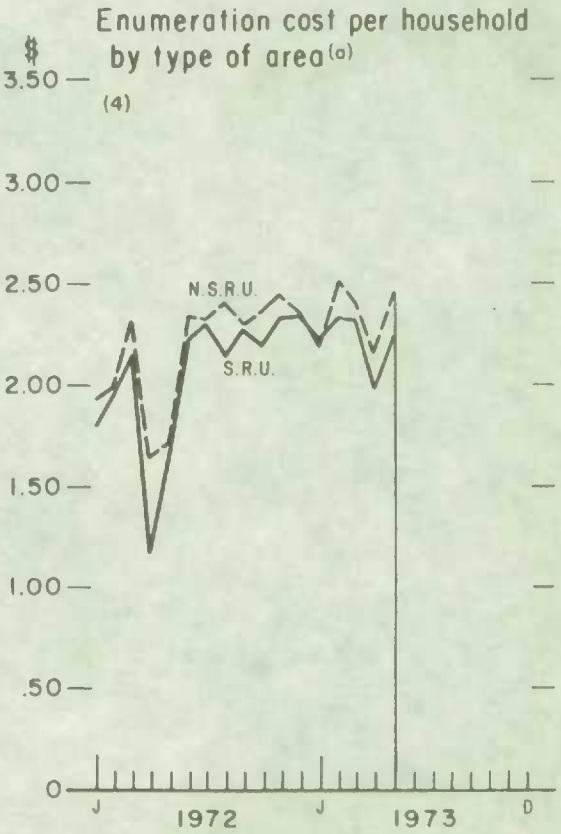
(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the LFS regular schedule.

Ottawa Regional Office



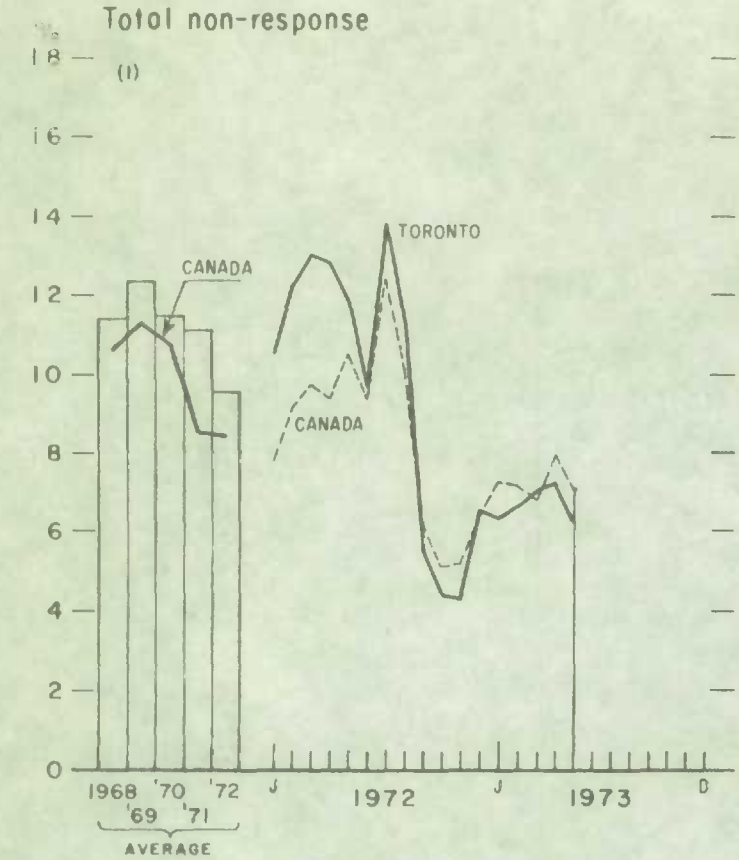


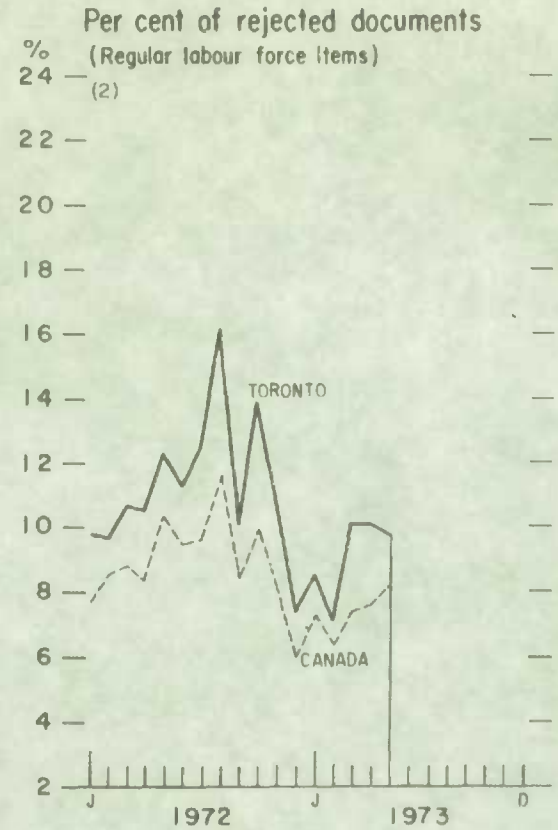


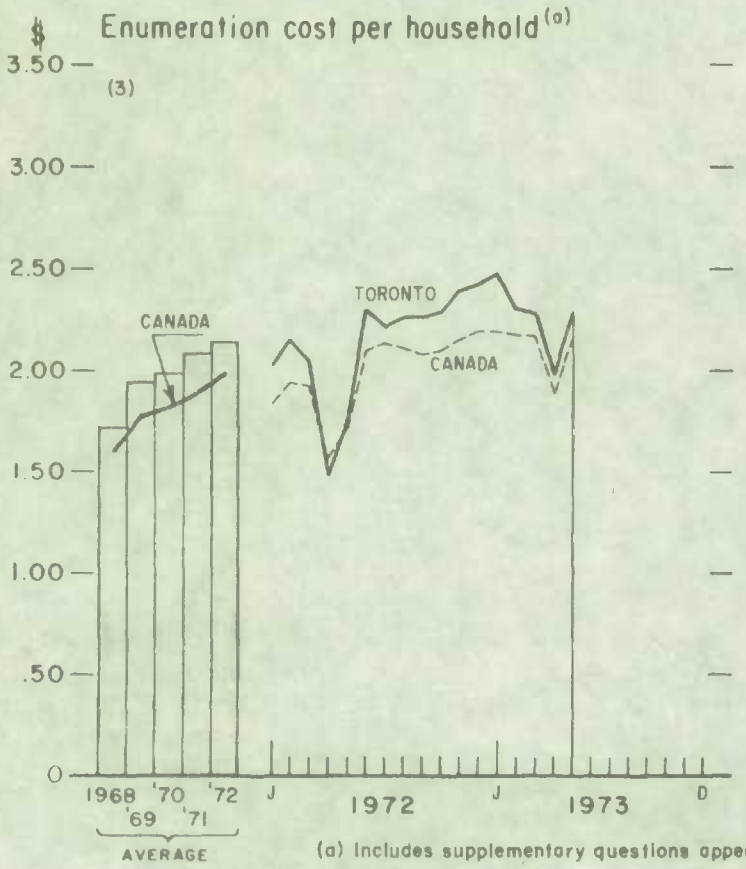


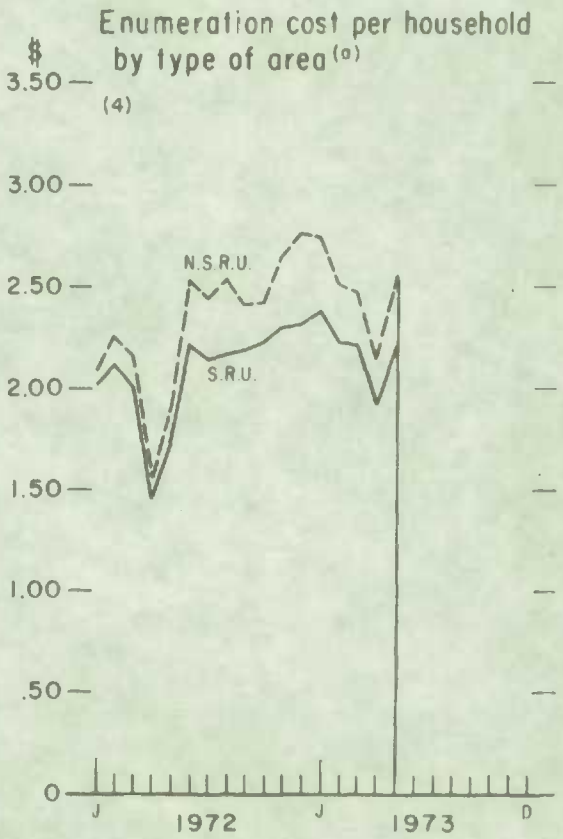
(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the L.F.S. regular schedule.

Toronto Regional Office



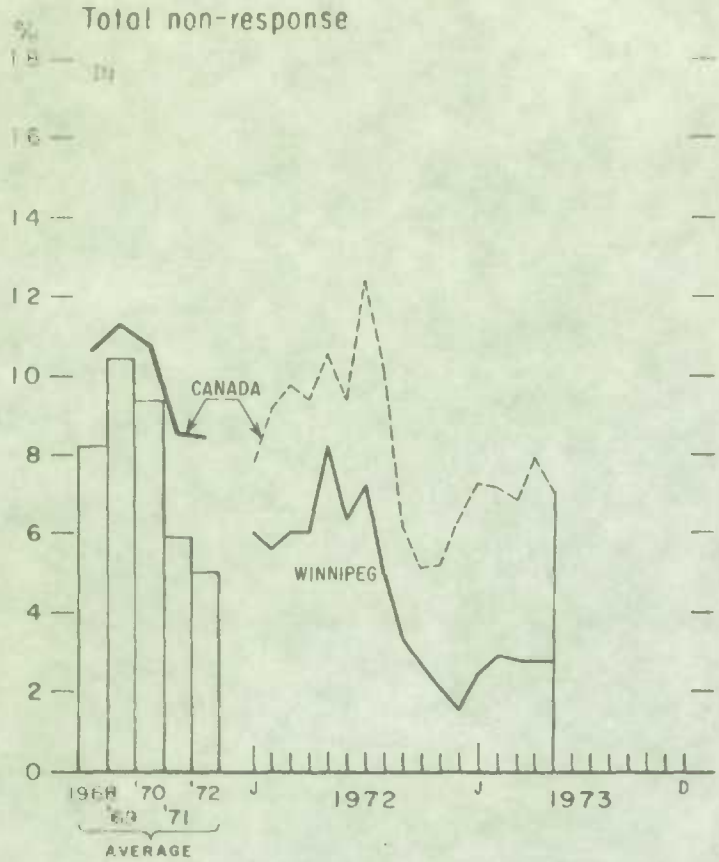


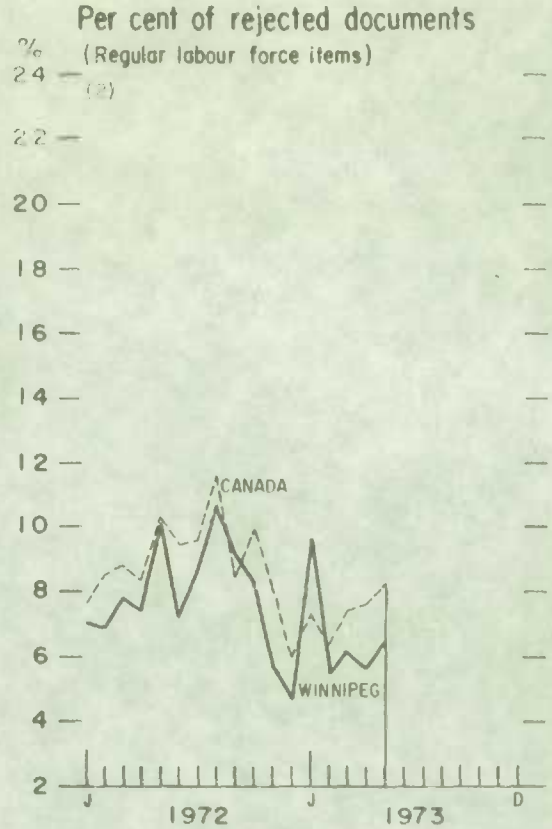


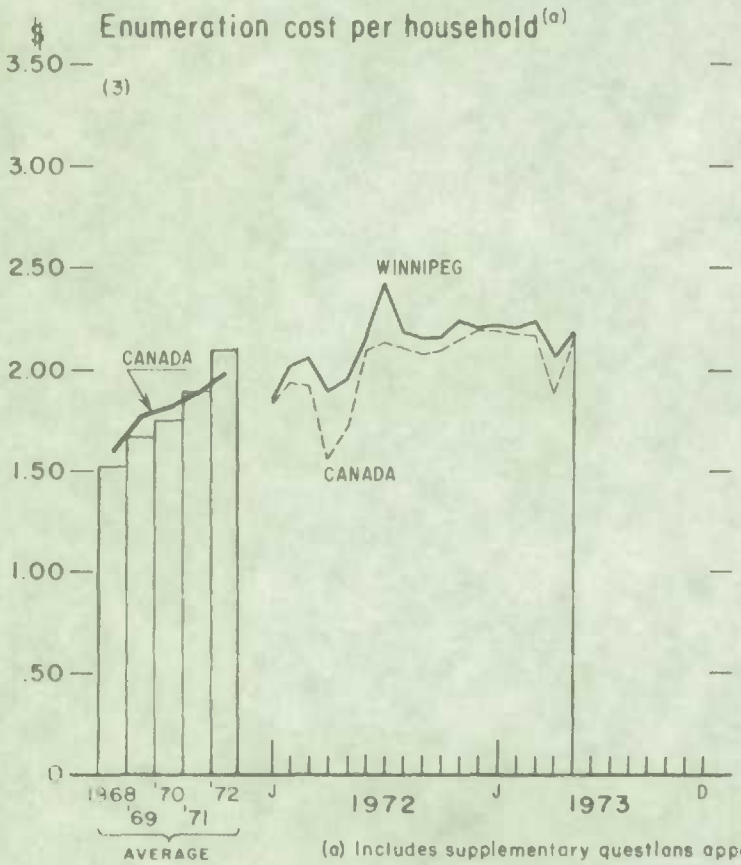


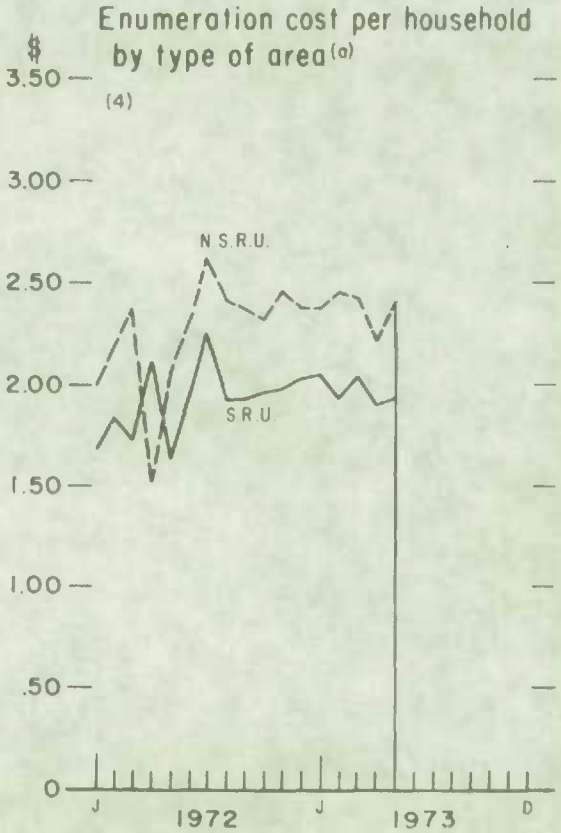
(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the LFS regular schedule

Winnipeg Regional Office



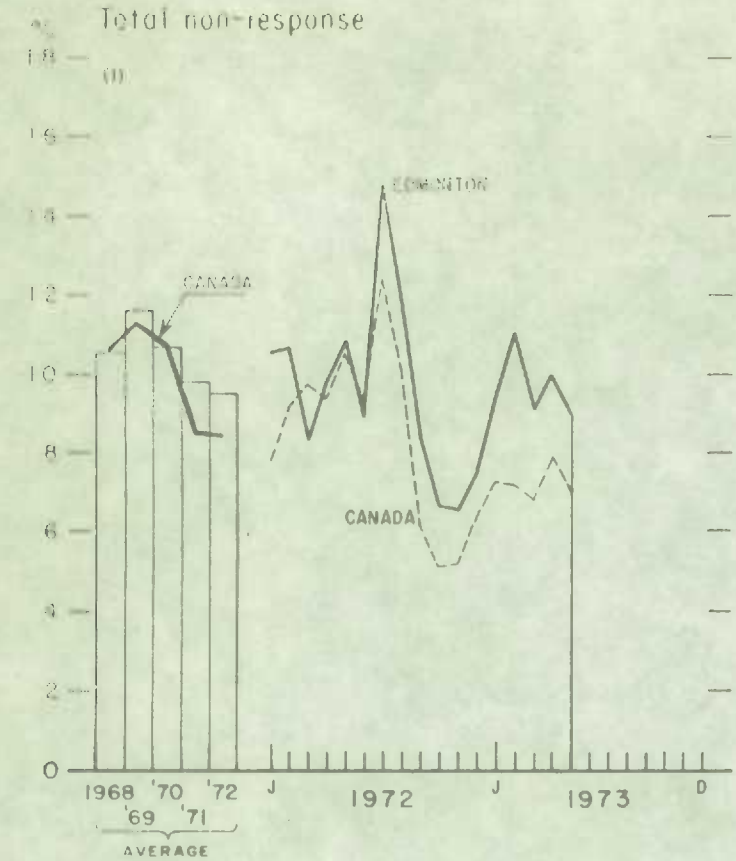


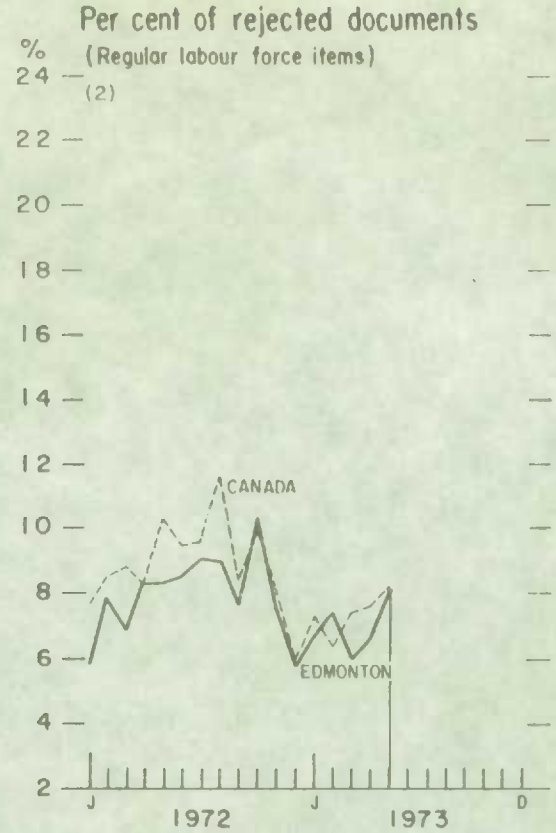


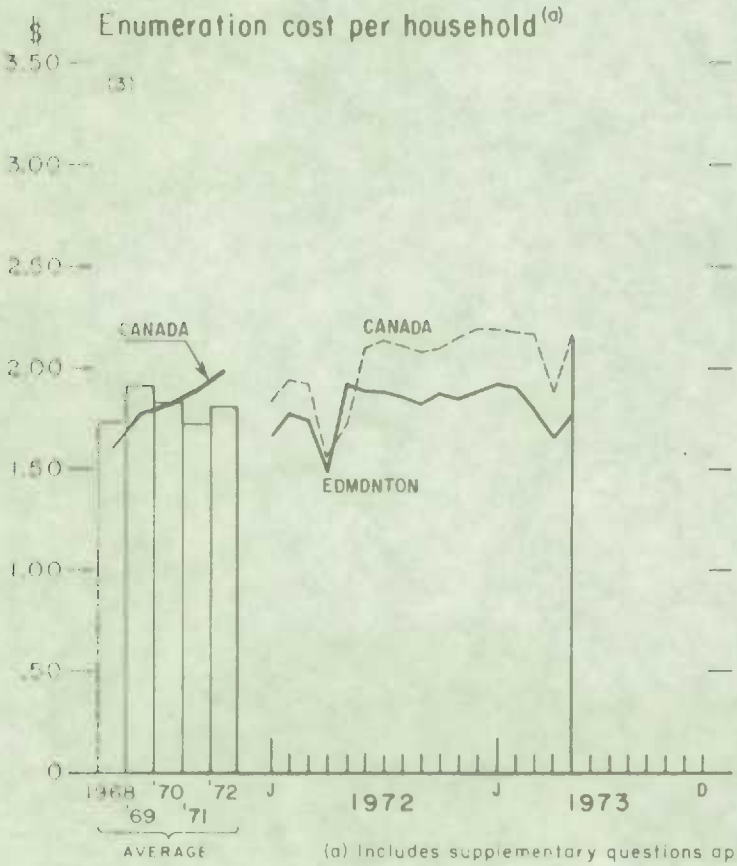


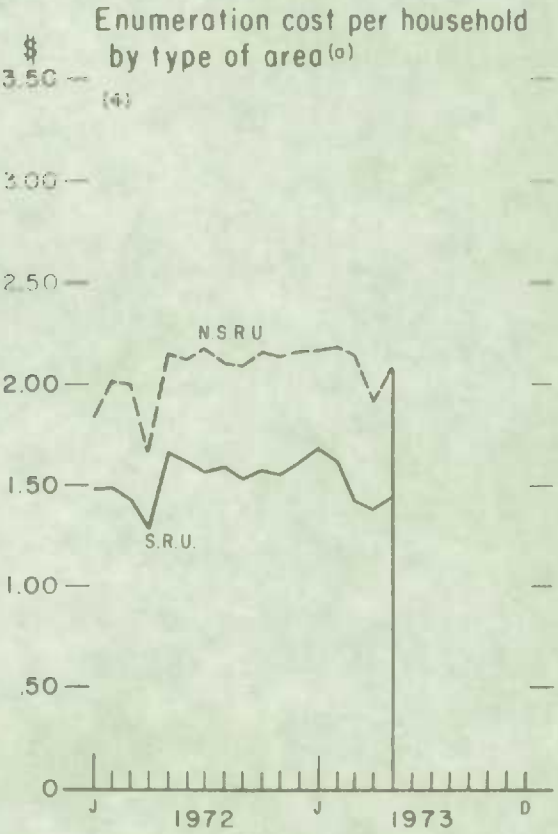
(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the LFS regular schedule.

Edmonton Regional Office



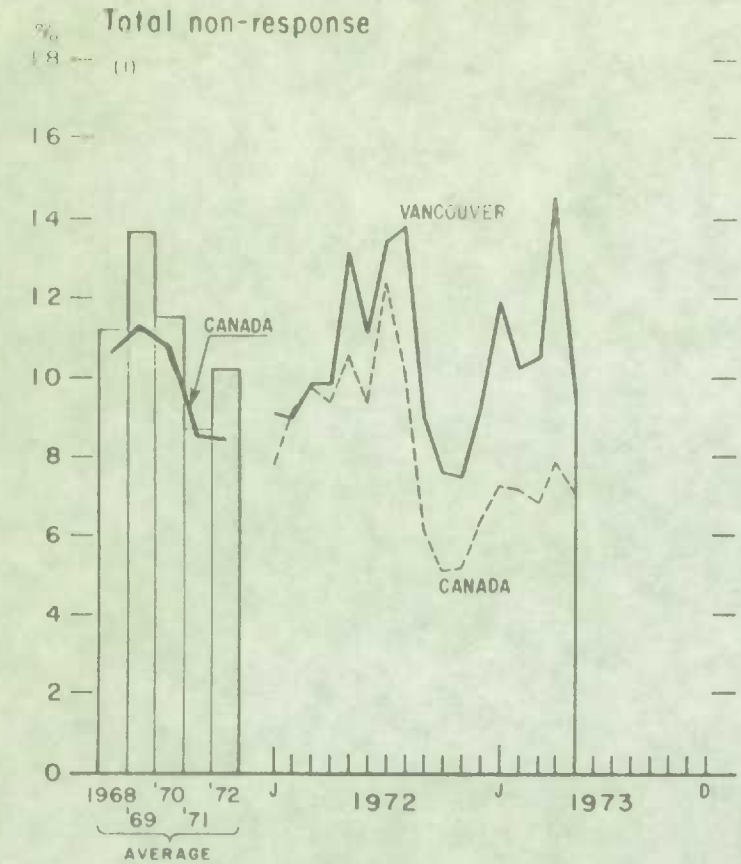


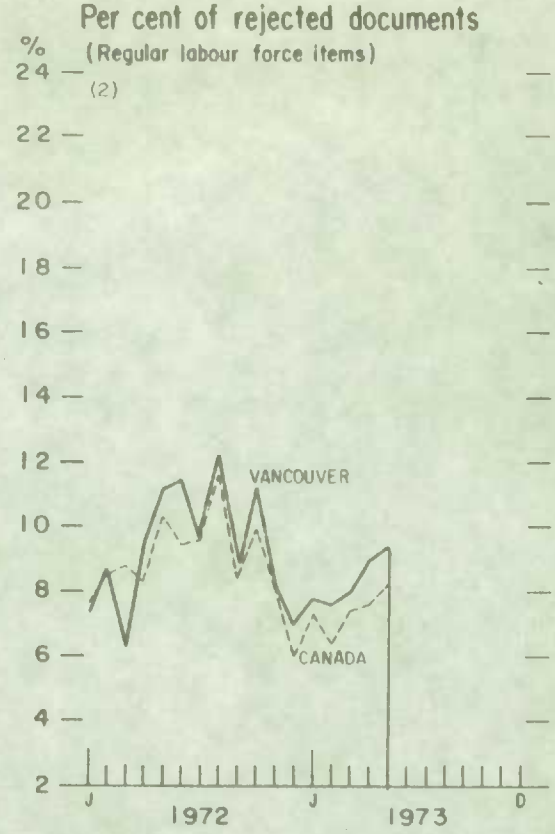


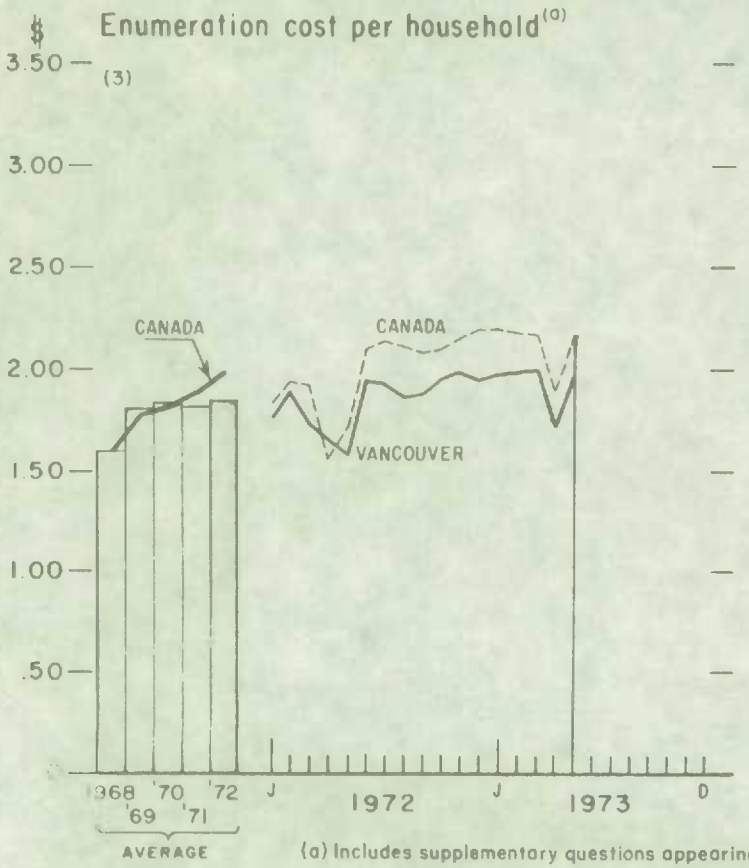


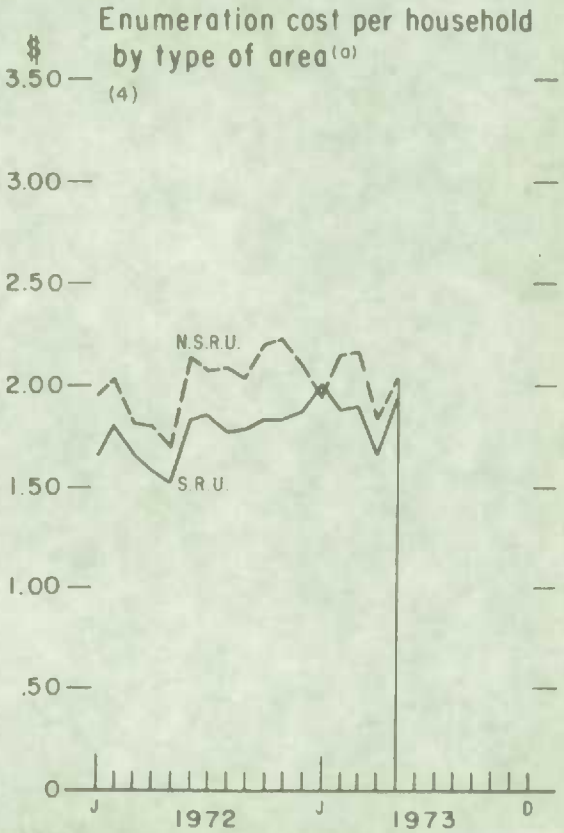
(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the L.F.S. regular schedule.

Vancouver Regional Office



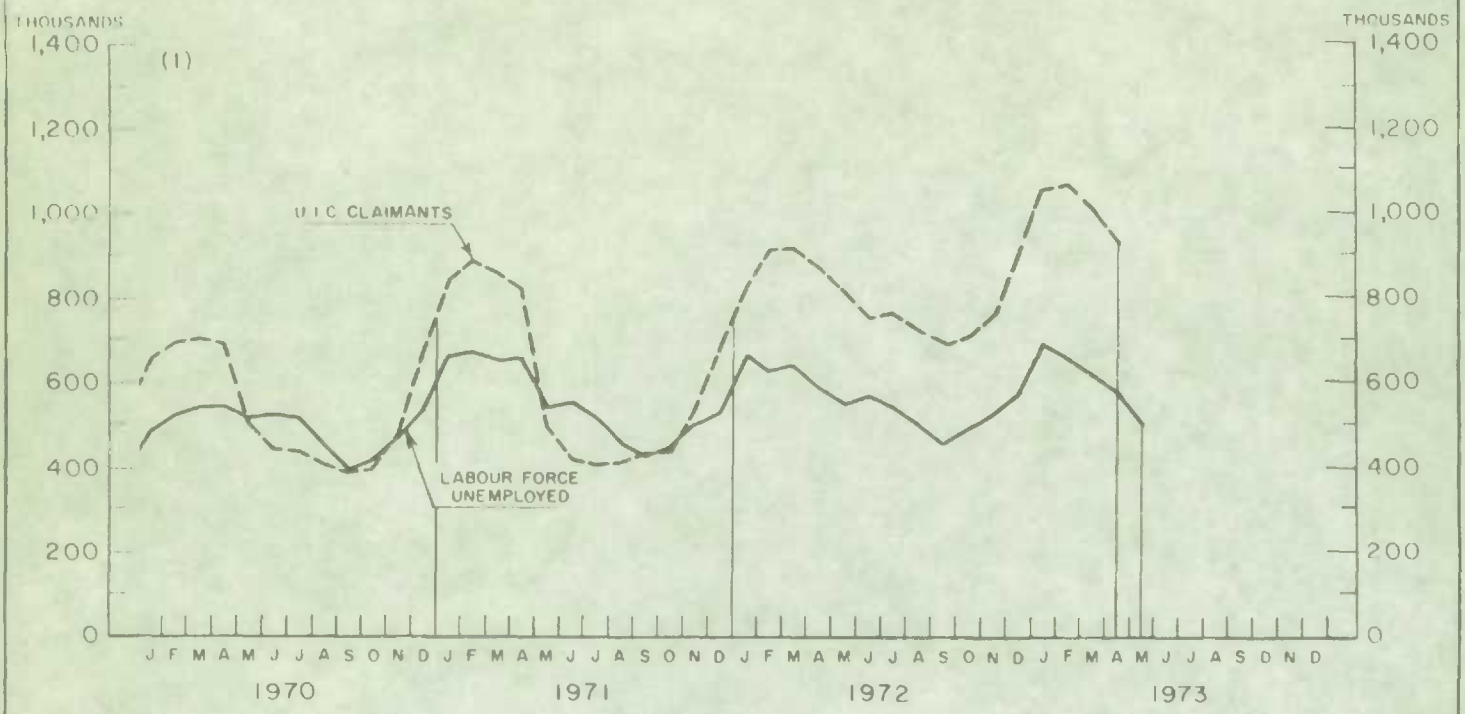




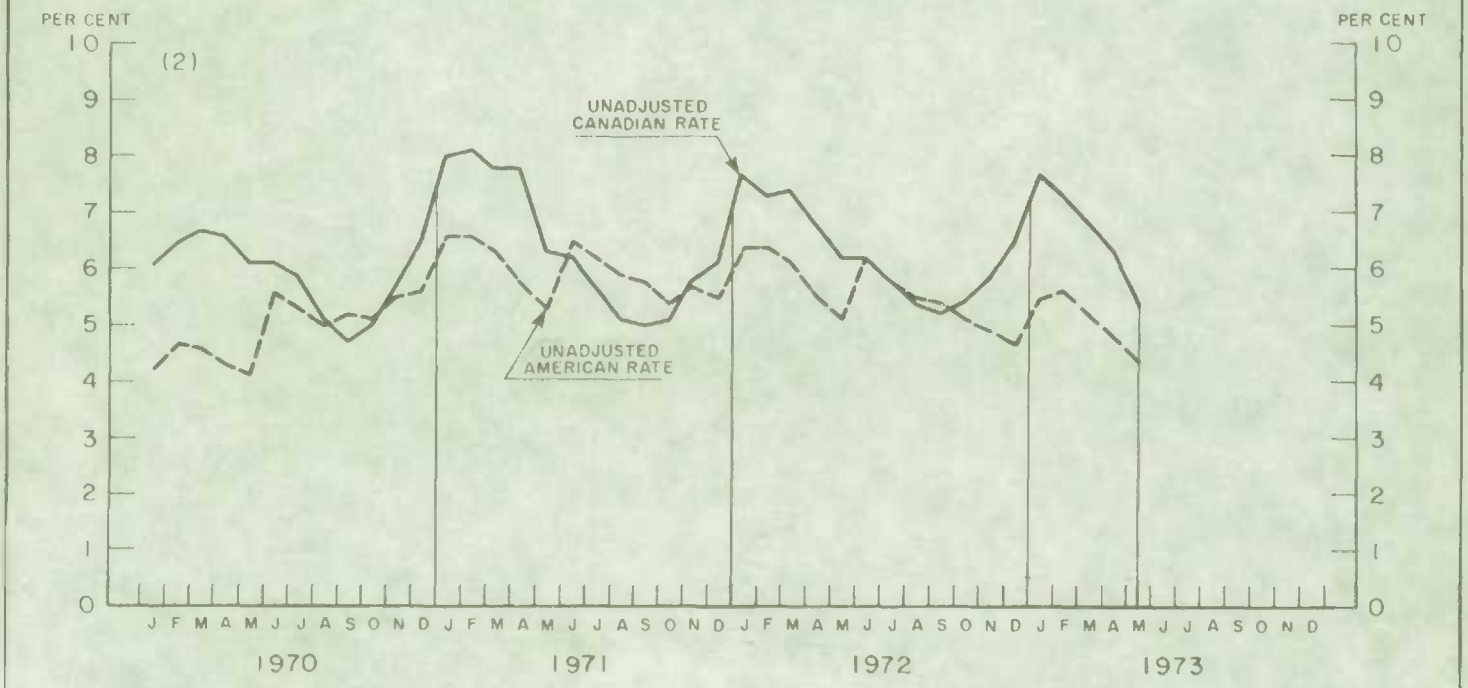


(a) Includes supplementary questions appearing on the LFS regular schedule.

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



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



DEFINITIONS

RELATED TO SECTION 1E

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 1A

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 $\hat{P}p$ derived from the Labour Force Survey sample for the same month. It is given by

$$\frac{Pp - \hat{P}p}{Pp} \cdot 100$$

RELATED TO SECTION 1B

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 1C

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 1D

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 NR73-5 (May 1973), Non-Response Rates in the Canadian Labour Force Survey, prepared by D.S. Murray, Household Surveys Development Staff, and E.T. McLeod of Field Division.

labour force survey papers
articles sur la population active

NR 73-5 (May 1973)
Published June 1973

D.S. Murray,
Household Surveys Development Staff.

E.T. McLeod,
Field Division.

NON-RESPONSE RATES IN THE CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

DOCUMENT FOR RESTRICTED CIRCULATION WITHIN STATISTICS CANADA
DIFFUSION RESTREINTE À L'INTÉRIEURE DE STATISTIQUE CANADA

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 increase in sampling variability caused by higher non-response rates 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 but 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 pattern seasonally, generally peaking in the summer months and declining in the spring and autumn (Graph G1). The seasonality effect is caused by the "temporarily absent[1]" component which increases sharply during the summer months when people are generally away on vacation (Graph G1).

II. Format of Non-Response Graphs and Monthly Meeting

The non-response rate for each regional office is 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 of regional offices can also be made.

The monthly meeting on May 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.

Commencing with the report on January, 1973, non-response bar charts have been included to show the non-response for each Economic Region (E. R.) in each regional office. The R. O. levels, in total, are shown in a chart under the section headed Canada. Table 1, contains, for Canada and each regional office, the total non-response and each of its components.

[1] See definitions on Page 2

Definitions

Total households includes all sampled households but excluding vacant dwellings, households not to be interviewed, etc.

Non-response is defined as the proportion of total households which were not interviewed for the reasons shown and is the sum of the four given below.

1 Temporarily absent. When all household members are away for the entire interview week. (T.A.)

2 No one home. When after a reasonable number of callbacks, there is no responsible member to interview. (N_1)

3 Refusal. When a responsible member of the household definitely refuses to provide the survey information requested. (N_2)

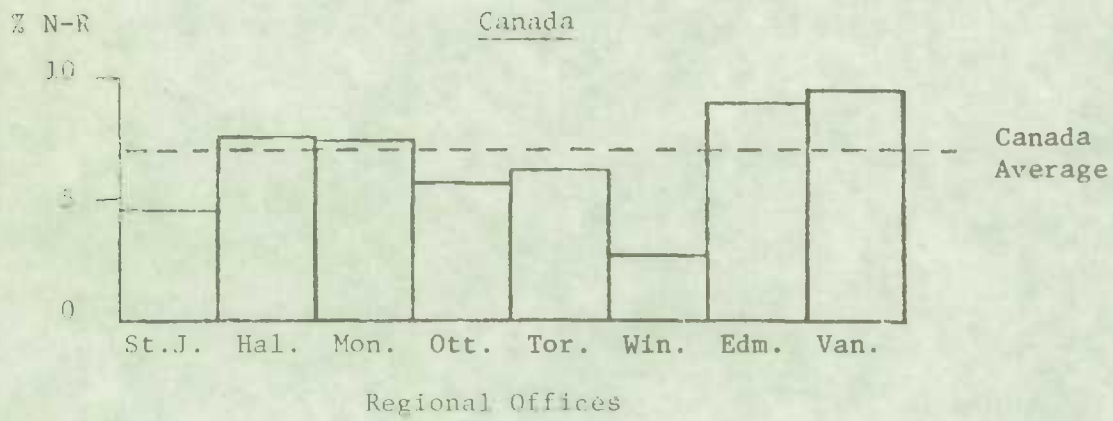
4 Other. When none of the foregoing reasons are applicable, e.g., roads impassable, enumerator not available, death, illness, language problems, etc. (N_{3-5})

Canada

The non-response rate at the Canada level declined from 7.9% in April to 7.0% in May. The largest change occurred in the T.A. component (decrease from 2.4% to 1.8%) while N_1 and "other" showed declines of 0.1% and 0.2% respectively. The N_2 remained constant.

Again in May the Winnipeg Office indicated the lowest overall rate and Vancouver the highest.

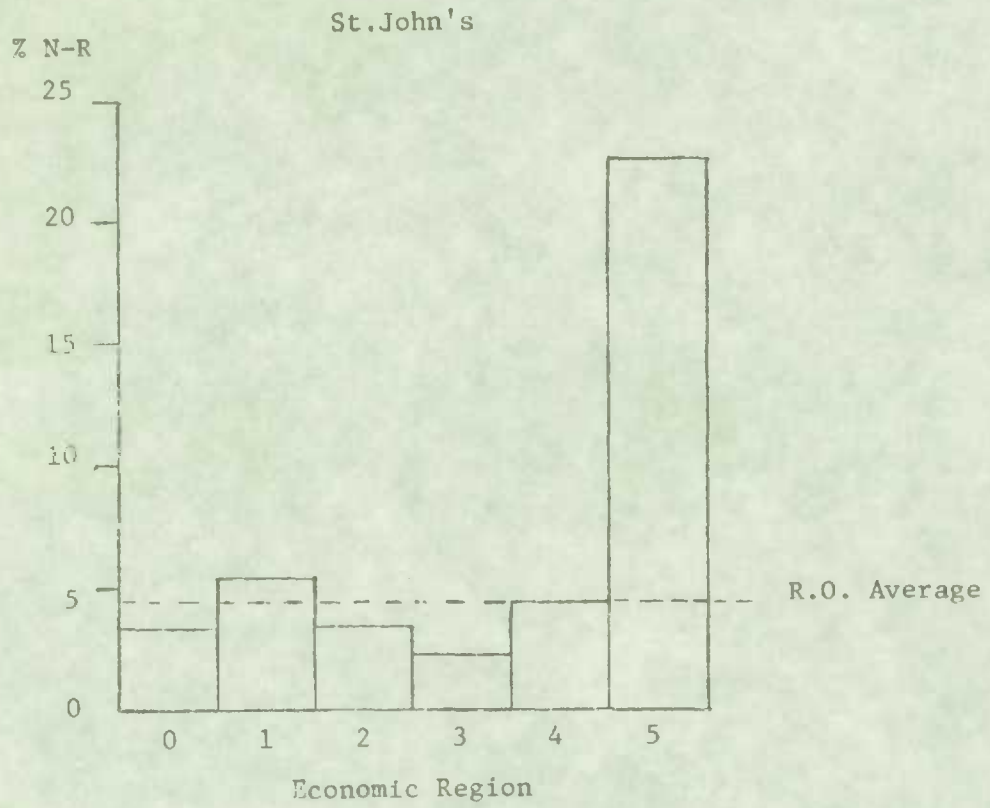
The overall May 1973 rate was considerably lower than the 10.5% rate in May 1972.



St.John's

The overall rate in St.John's decreased by 0.6% in May. The T.A. and "other" components decreased by 1.0% and 0.4% respectively and N_1 and N_2 increased by 0.5% and 0.3% respectively. The overall rate in May was 4.5%.

This regional office indicated the second lowest overall rate in Canada. The May 1973 rate was less than half the 9.5% rate shown in May 1972.



Halifax

The overall rate in May was 0.1% higher than in April. The Halifax Office was one of two offices to show a higher rate in May than in April. Small increases in N_1 and "other" where partially offset by small decreases in T.A. and N_2.

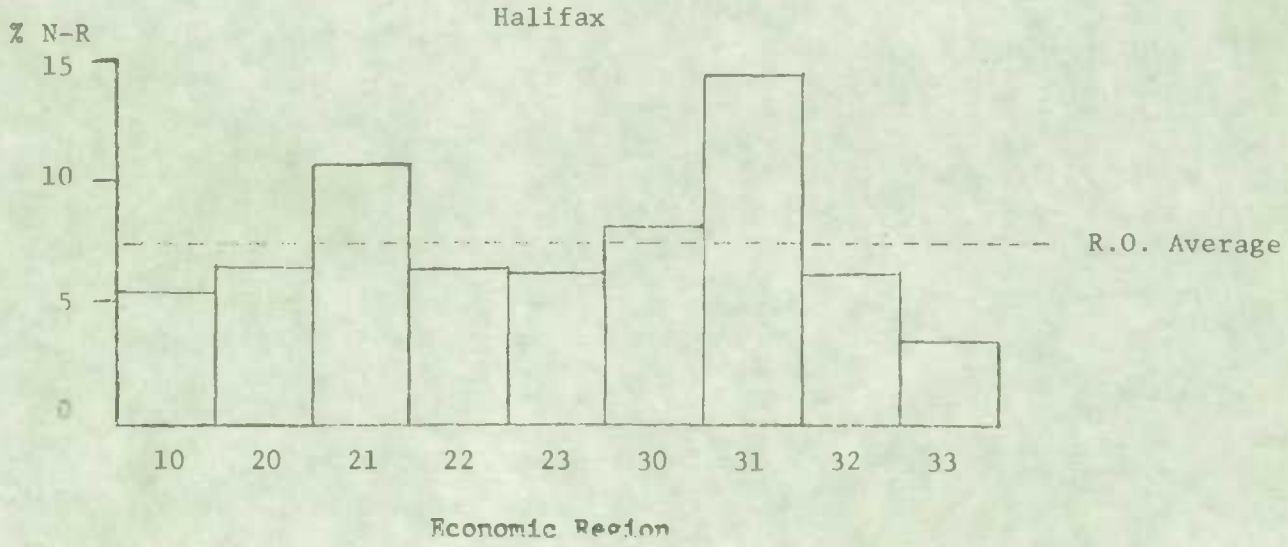
The "roads impassable" part of the "other" component contributed 33 non-respondent households to the total. In April there were 19 such households. In May E.R. 21 was primarily responsible for the large number of households which fell into this category. With 19 households not interviewed due to "roads impassable" the E.R. showed an overall rate of 10.9%; 3.5% of which was attributable to these households. It has been discovered that 17 of the 19 households coded as not interviewed due to "roads impassable" were incorrectly coded. In fact, an interviewer resigned during the survey and failed to notify the office. Thus, these households should be coded as not interviewed due to "no interviewer available".

There seems an obvious solution to the problem of "losing" interviewers during the survey or immediately prior to it. The interviewer could be instructed that as soon as she is aware that she will not be available for a survey or part of a survey she should telephone or telegraph (collect) the regional office such that someone could be assigned to cover the interviewer's assignment.

Despite the decrease (0.1%) in the N_2 rate, this component remains high. For five consecutive months "refusals" have exceeded 2.0%. Three E.R.'s are primarily responsible for the high refusal rate:

(a) E.R. 22, Halifax-Dartmouth, 2.7%
(b) E.R. 30, Moncton, 3.5%
(c) E.R. 31, Saint John, 5.0%

The overall rate (7.6%) for the Halifax Office in May 1973 was considerably lower than the 10.5% rate indicated in May 1972.

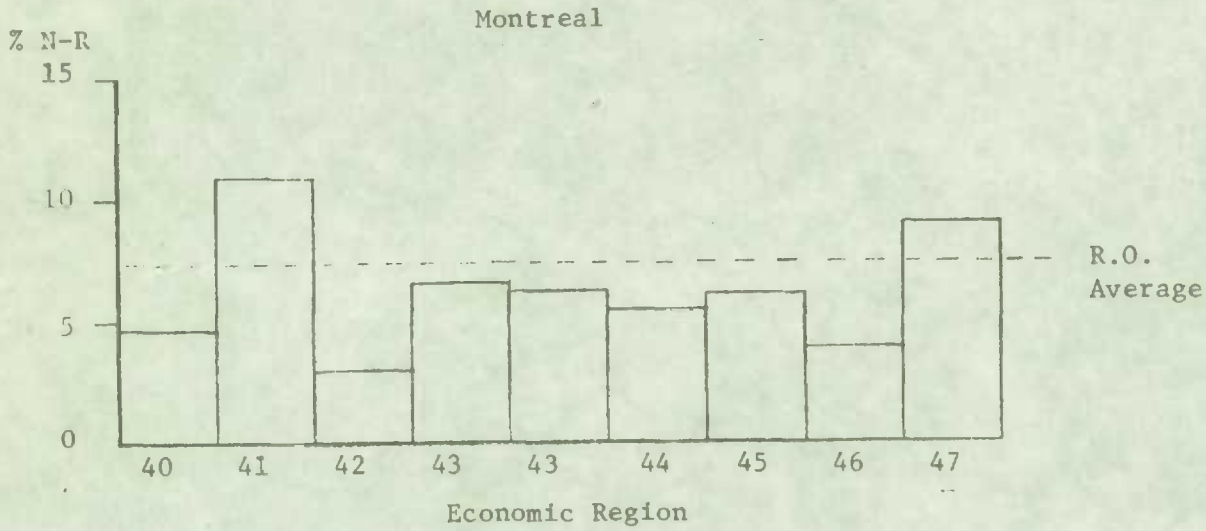


Montreal

The Montreal non-response remained unchanged from the April level of 7.4%. Increases of 0.1% and 0.2% in the T.A. and N_1 components, respectively, were offset by a 0.3% decrease in the N_2 component.

Most of the change in refusals occurred in E.R. 47 (Montreal area). The number of refusal households declined 14 and the rate decreased from 3.6% to 3.0%. Although the N_2 rate for the Office as a whole is somewhat high (2.0%) the decrease from April to May is encouraging.

The May 1973 overall rate of 7.4% showed an improvement over the May 1972 rate of 9.1%.



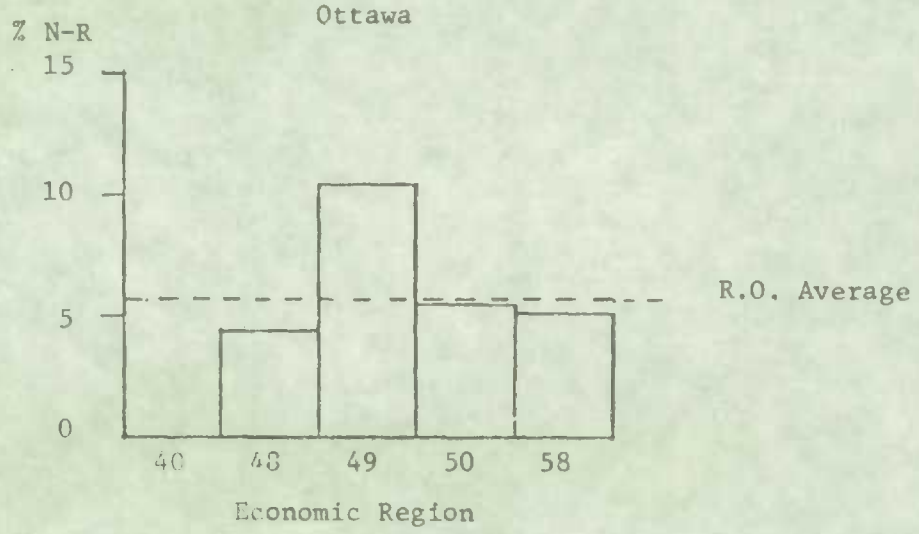
Ottawa

The Ottawa Office indicated a slight increase of 0.1% in the overall rate in May. The 5.7% level is, however, well below the national figure. Changes in the components occurred in the following manner:

	April	May	Change (May - April)
T.A.	2.0%	1.1%	-0.9%
N_1	1.4	1.7	0.3
N_2	1.5	2.0	0.5
Other	0.7	0.9	0.2
Total	5.6	5.7	0.1

Economic Region 50 (Ottawa Valley) contributed a large number of the households to the increases in all N_1, N_2 and "other" components. Simultaneously, a large part of the decrease in T.A. for the office is attributable to this E.R. Since half the households covered by the regional office are located in this E.R. changes in non-response in the E.R. are expected to largely affect the overall office levels. The "other" component for this E.R. increased from 0.3% in April to 1.4% in May. Because schedules from four households were delayed in the mails 0.4% non-response was added to the E.R. non-response. Eleven households, or 1.0% of the households in the E.R., were not covered due to "roads impassable". More than half of these households are located in one assignment (east of Ottawa) which could not be completed when a highway was closed. The remaining 5 of the 11 households were scattered throughout three assignments in the E.R. and because of muddy roads could not be contacted.

The May 1973 a rate of 5.7% compares favourably with the 8.7% level in May 1972.

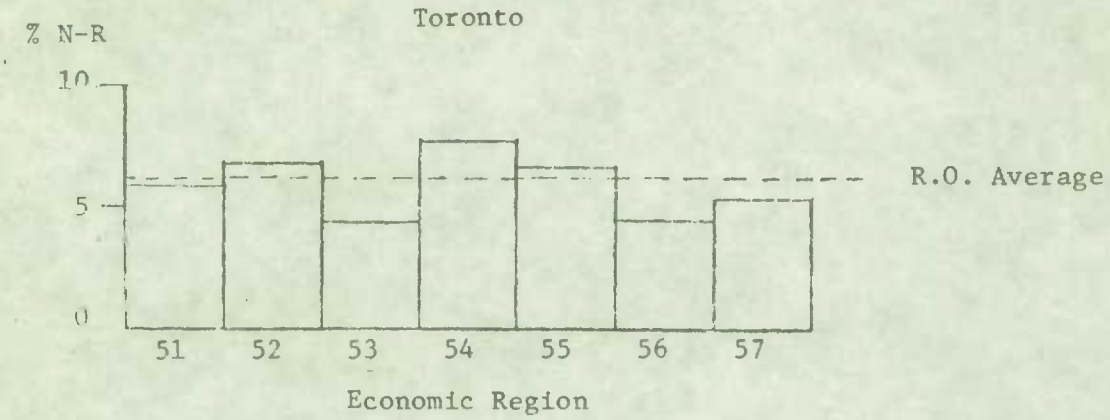


Toronto

The overall non-response rate declined from 7.2% in April to 6.2% in May. The T.A., N_1 and "other" components indicated small decreases while N_2 remained constant.

The non-response was fairly evenly distributed over all E.R.'s: E.R. 53 (Hamilton - St. Catherines area) showed the lowest rate 4.6% and E.R. 54 (London-St.Thomas) the highest, 7.8%.

The Toronto rate for May 1973 was considerably lower than the 11.8% rate in May 1972 and was the lowest rate for May in at least eight years.

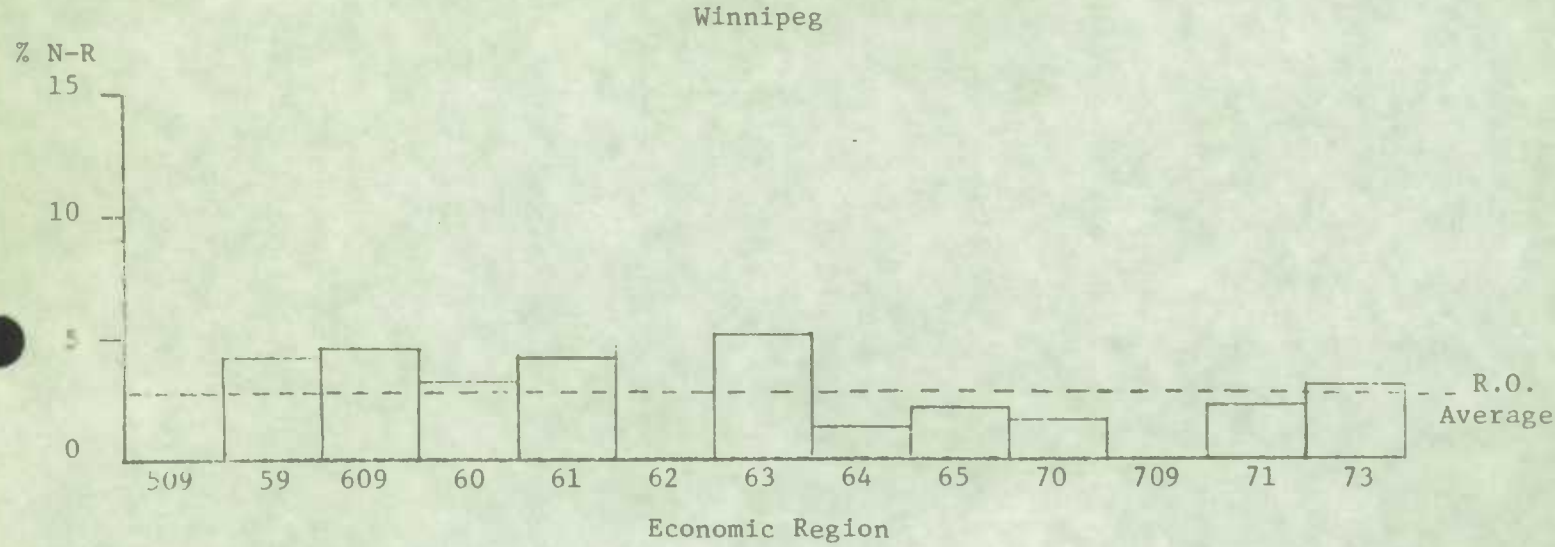


Winnipeg

For the third consecutive month the overall rate has remained at 2.8%. From April to May a 0.2% increase in N_2 was offset by a decreases of 0.1% in both N_1 and "other" components.

The non-response rates for the individual E.R.'s ranged from 1.3% in E.R. 64 (Brandon) to 5.0% in E.R. 63 (Portage la Prairie).

Compared with the 8.2% rate indicated in May 1972 the May 1973 rate is much improved.



Edmonton

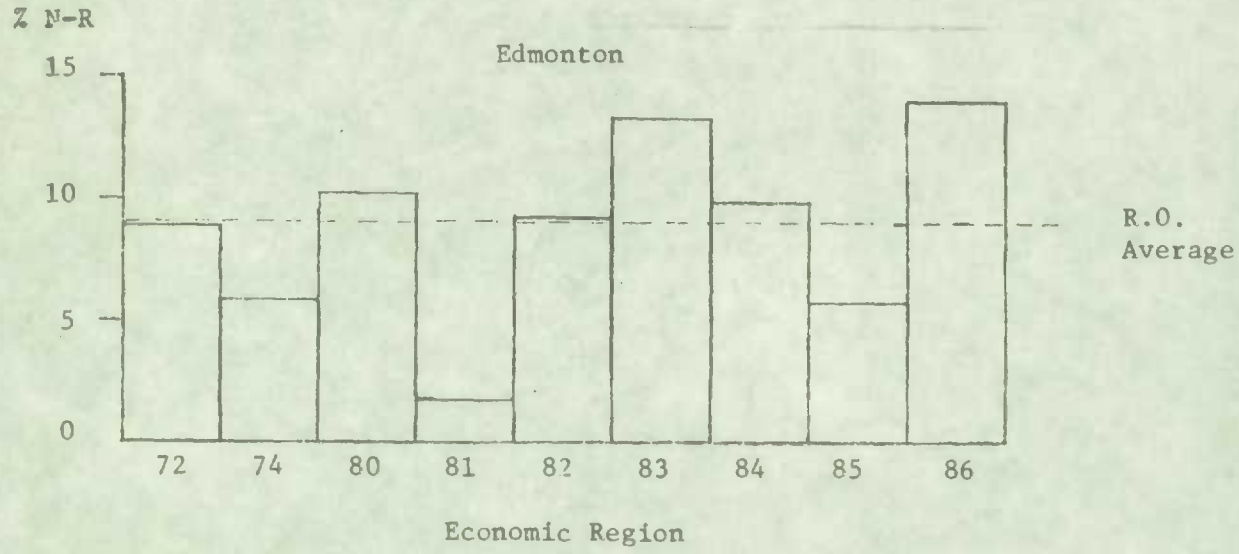
The overall rate decreased from 10.0% in April to 9.0% in May. Changes occurred in all components as follows:

	April	May	Change (May-April)
T.A.	3.8%	2.6%	-1.2%
N_1	2.6	3.3	0.7
N_2	2.5	2.3	-0.2
Other	1.1	0.8	-0.3
Total	10.0	9.0	-1.0

Although there was 0.4% decrease in the N_2 rate for E.R. 84 the level remains high. This E.R. (Edmonton-Red Deer) indicated an N_2 rate of 3.9% in May.

The non-response was not evenly distributed over all E.R.'s. The overall levels for the E.R.'s ranged from 1.8% in E.R. 81 (Lethbridge) to 14.0% in E.R. 86 (Peace River Region).

The May 1973 rate was 1.8% lower than the May 1972 rate of 10.8%.



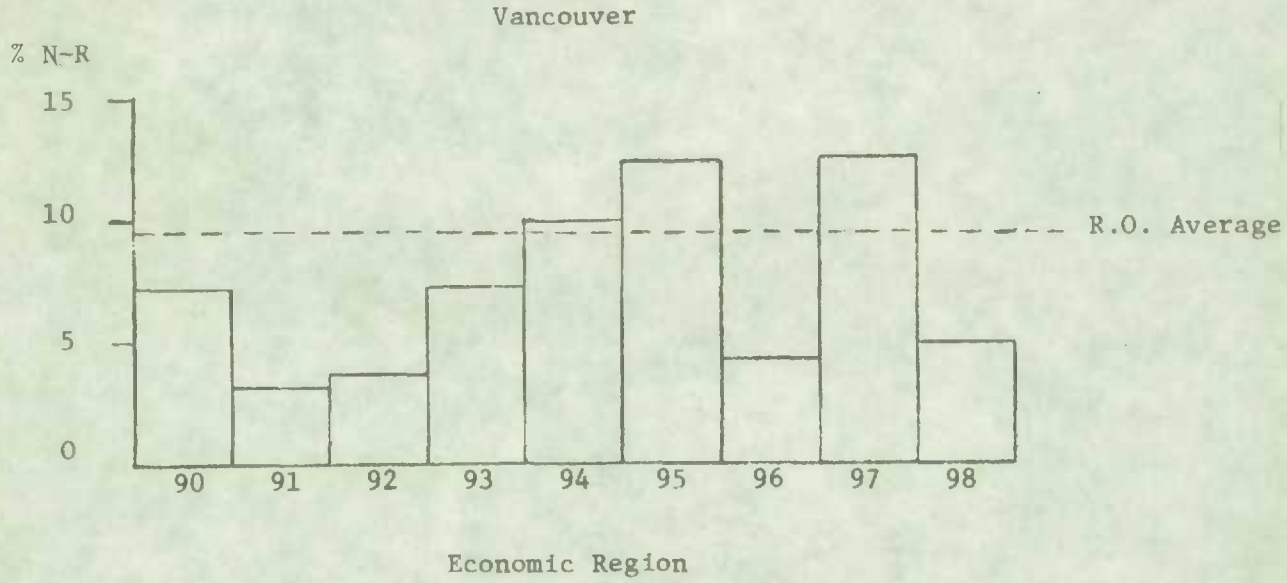
Vancouver

The overall non-response rate declined from 14.5% in April to 9.6% in May. The T.A., N_1 and "other" components decreased and N_2 remained constant. The largest decrease occurred in the N_1 component which declined from 5.5% to 3.2%.

Decreases in overall rates occurred in all E.R.'s with the result that only two showed rates in excess of 12.0%. This contrasts with the situation in April when only two E.R.'s showed rates of less than 12.0%.

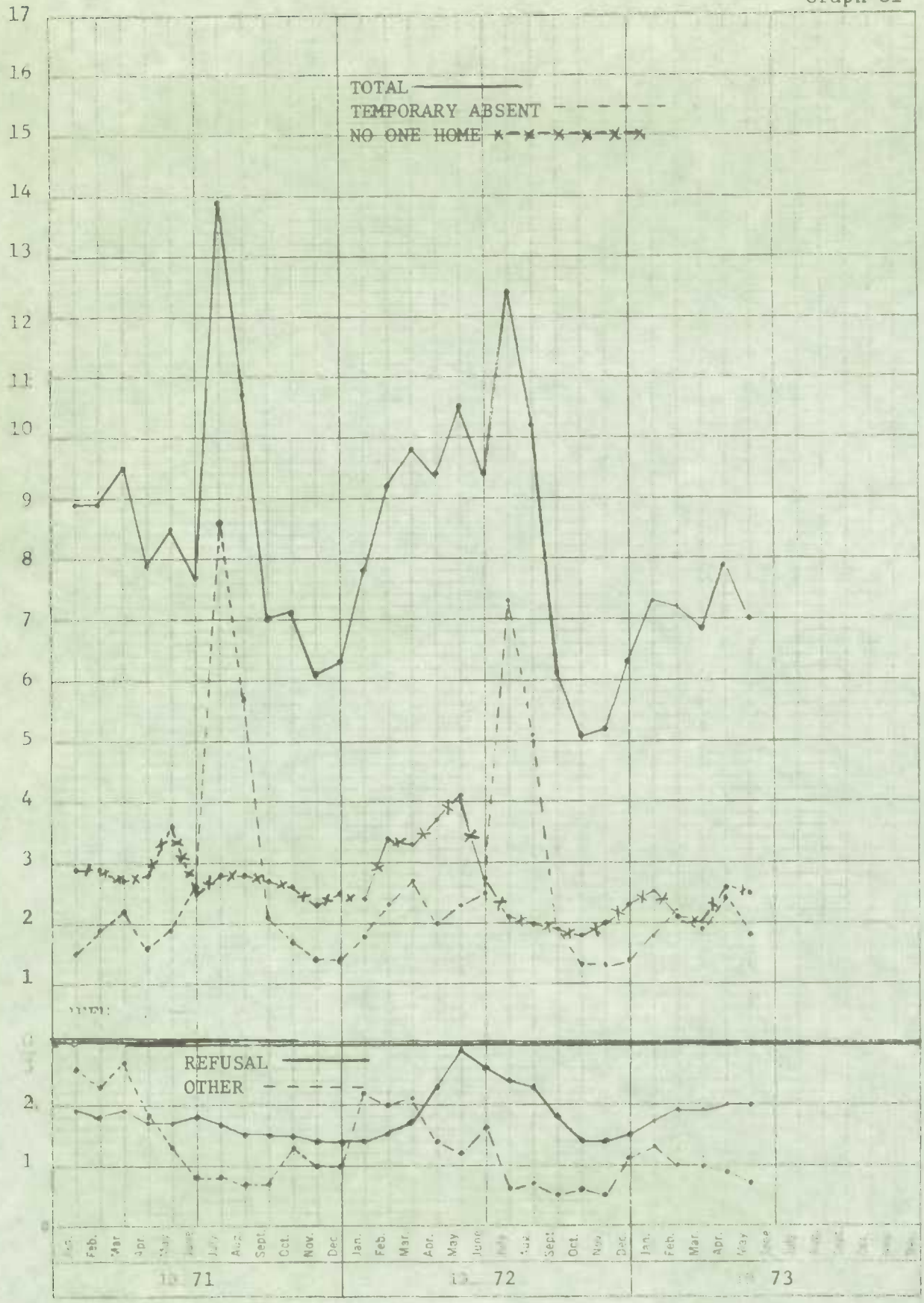
Despite the substantial decrease in the overall rate the N_2 component, at 3.1%, remains high. Economic Region 94 (Vancouver area) showed an N_2 rate of 3.8%, the highest E.R. in the regional office. Although the office showed the highest overall non-response in Canada only the N_2 component was higher than in any other office. (Edmonton showed the highest T.A. and N_1 rates while Halifax had the highest "other" rate). It is obvious, therefore, that considerable effort to reduce refusals would reduce considerably the overall rate in Vancouver.

The May 1973 rate was 3.6% lower than the May 1972 rate of 13.2%



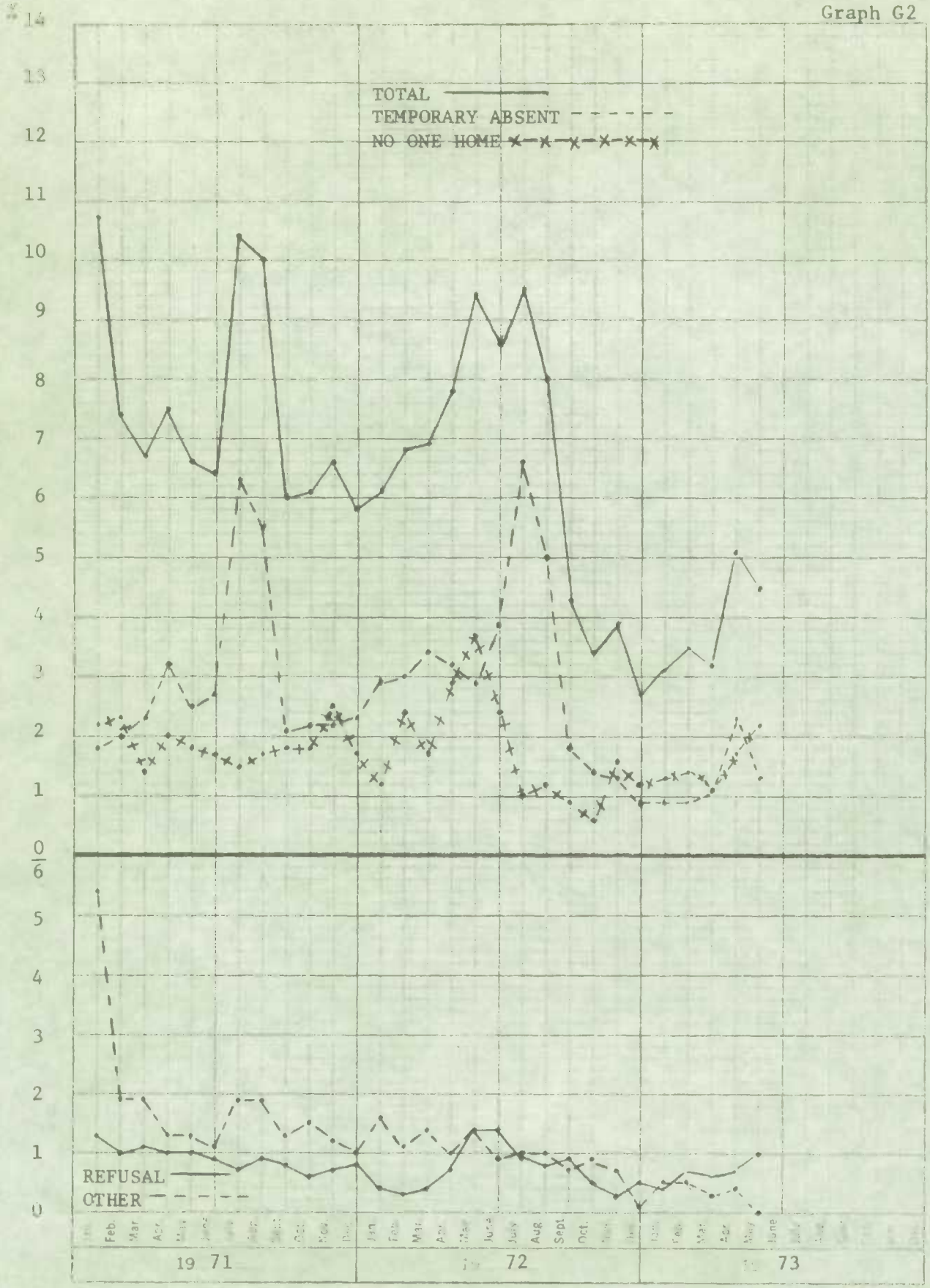
Canada

Graph G1



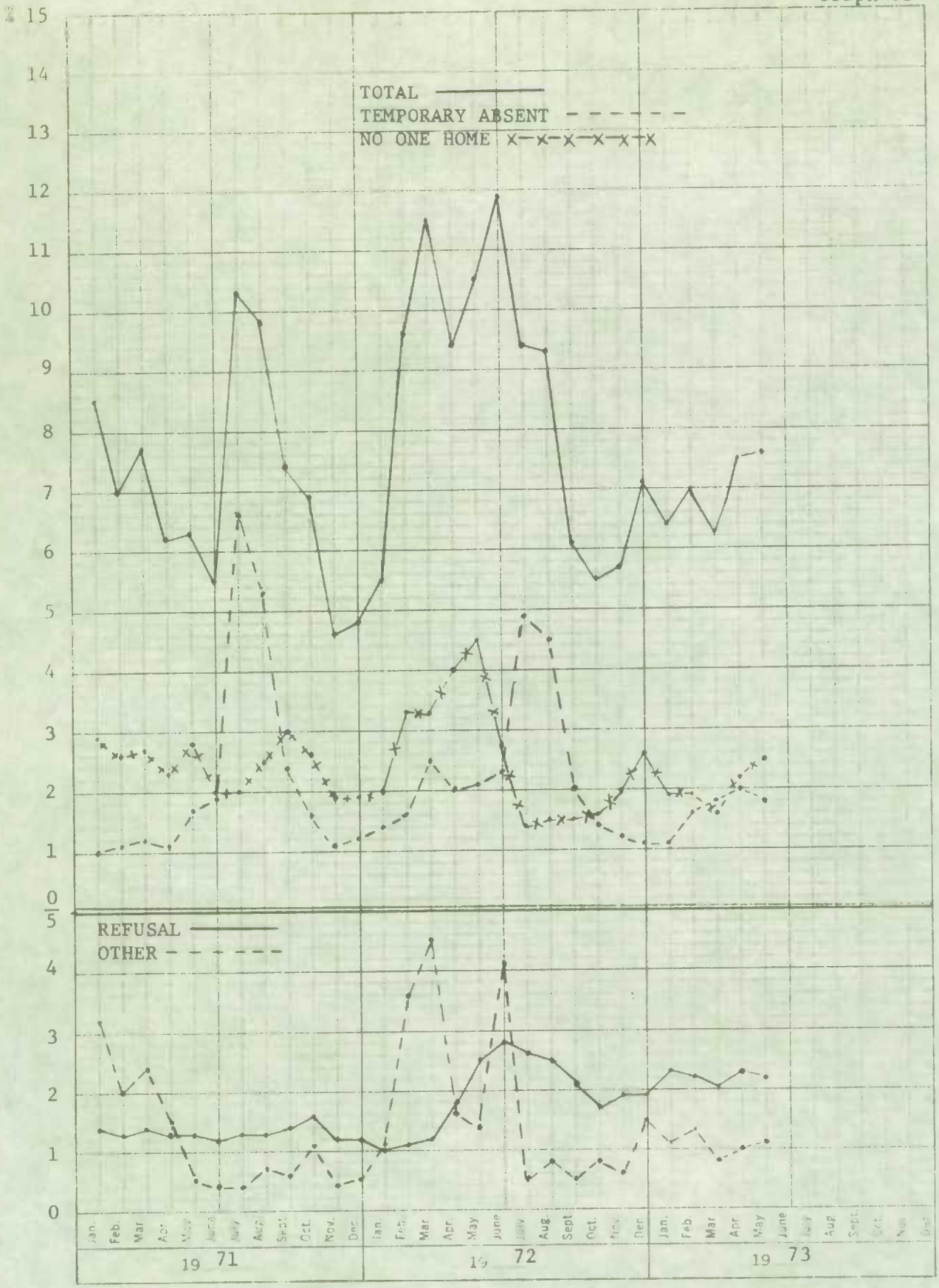
St.John's Regional Office

Graph G2



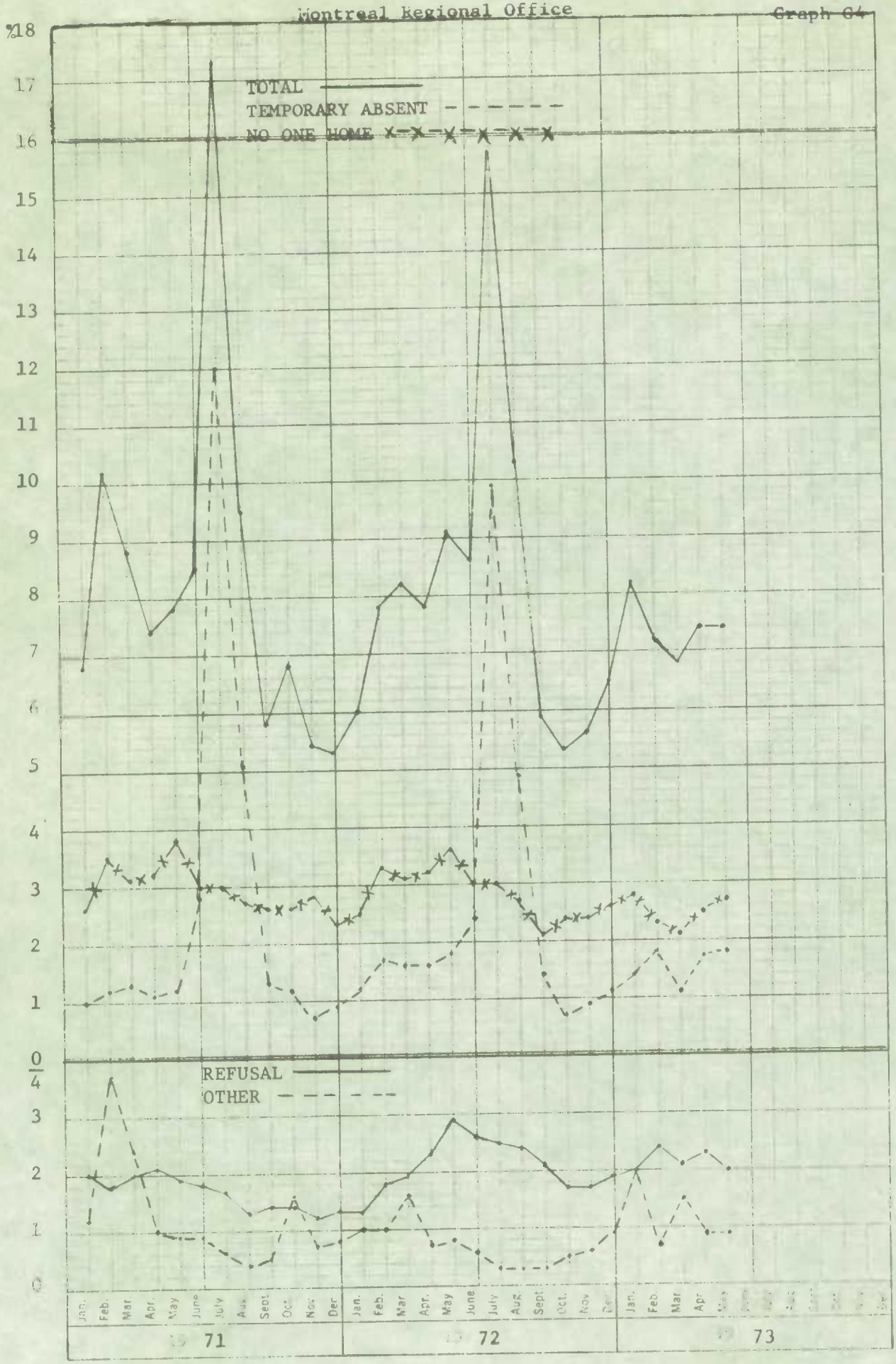
Halifax Regional Office

Graph G3



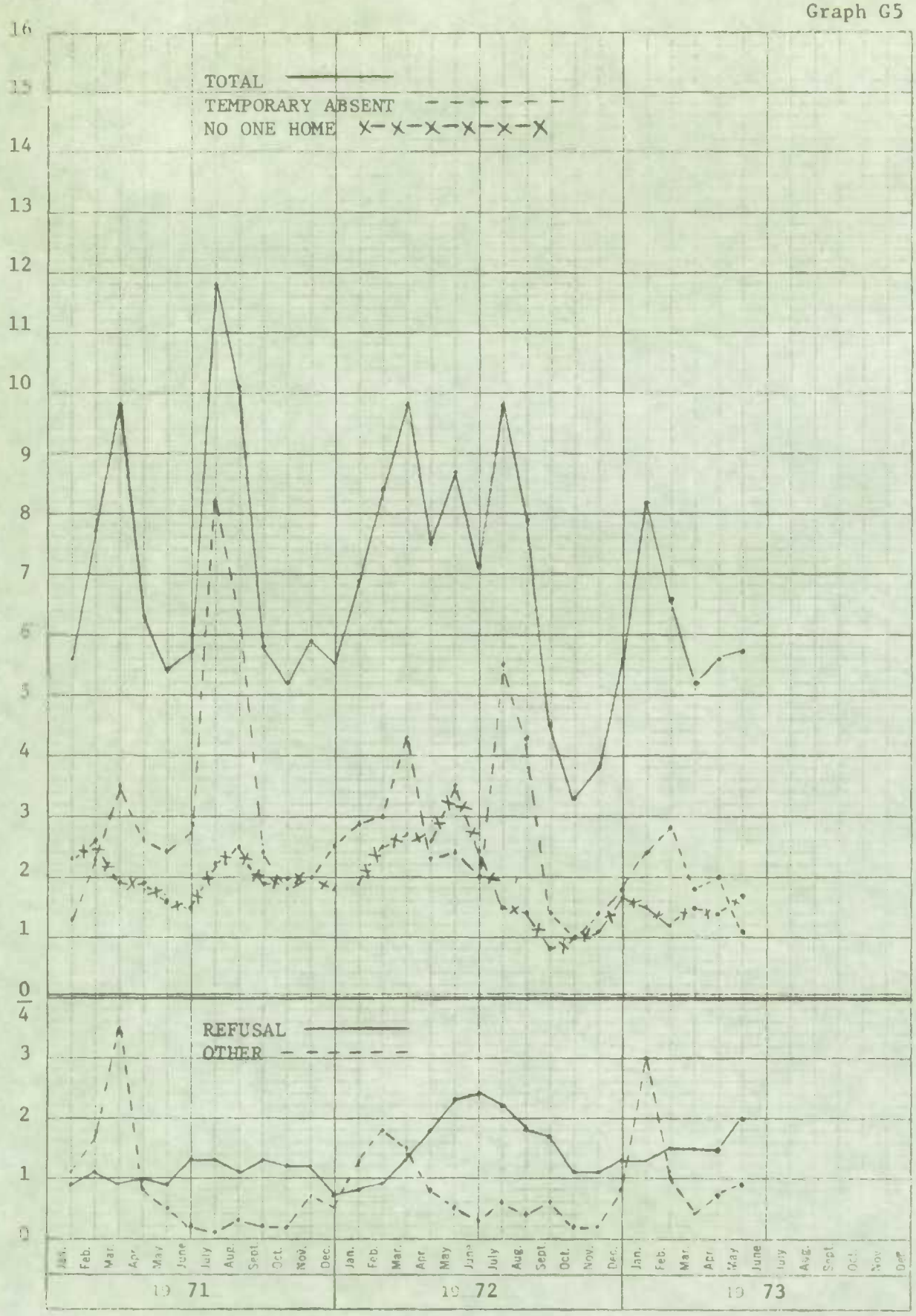
Montreal Regional Office

Graph G4



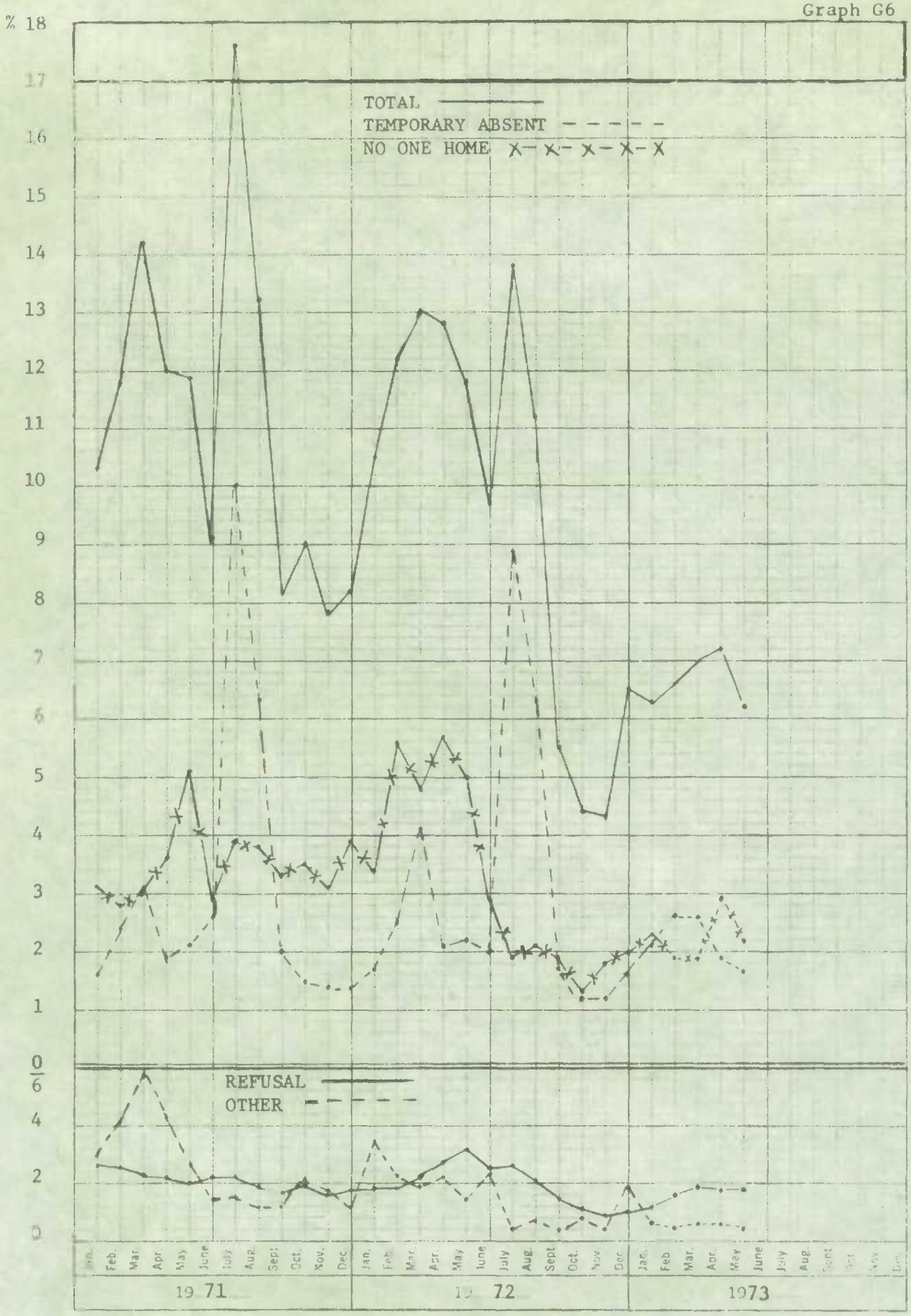
Ottawa Regional Office

Graph G5



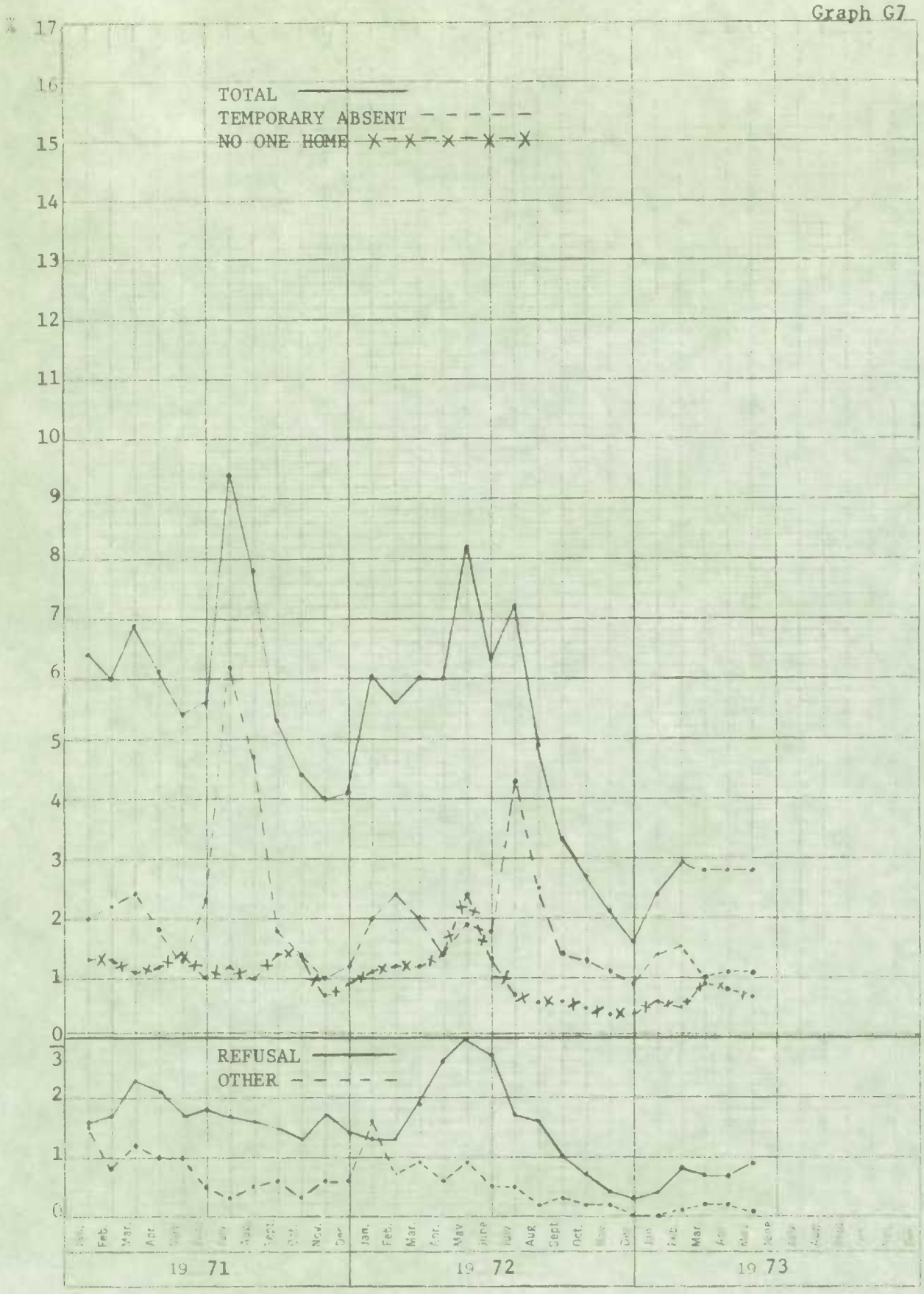
Toronto Regional Office

Graph G6



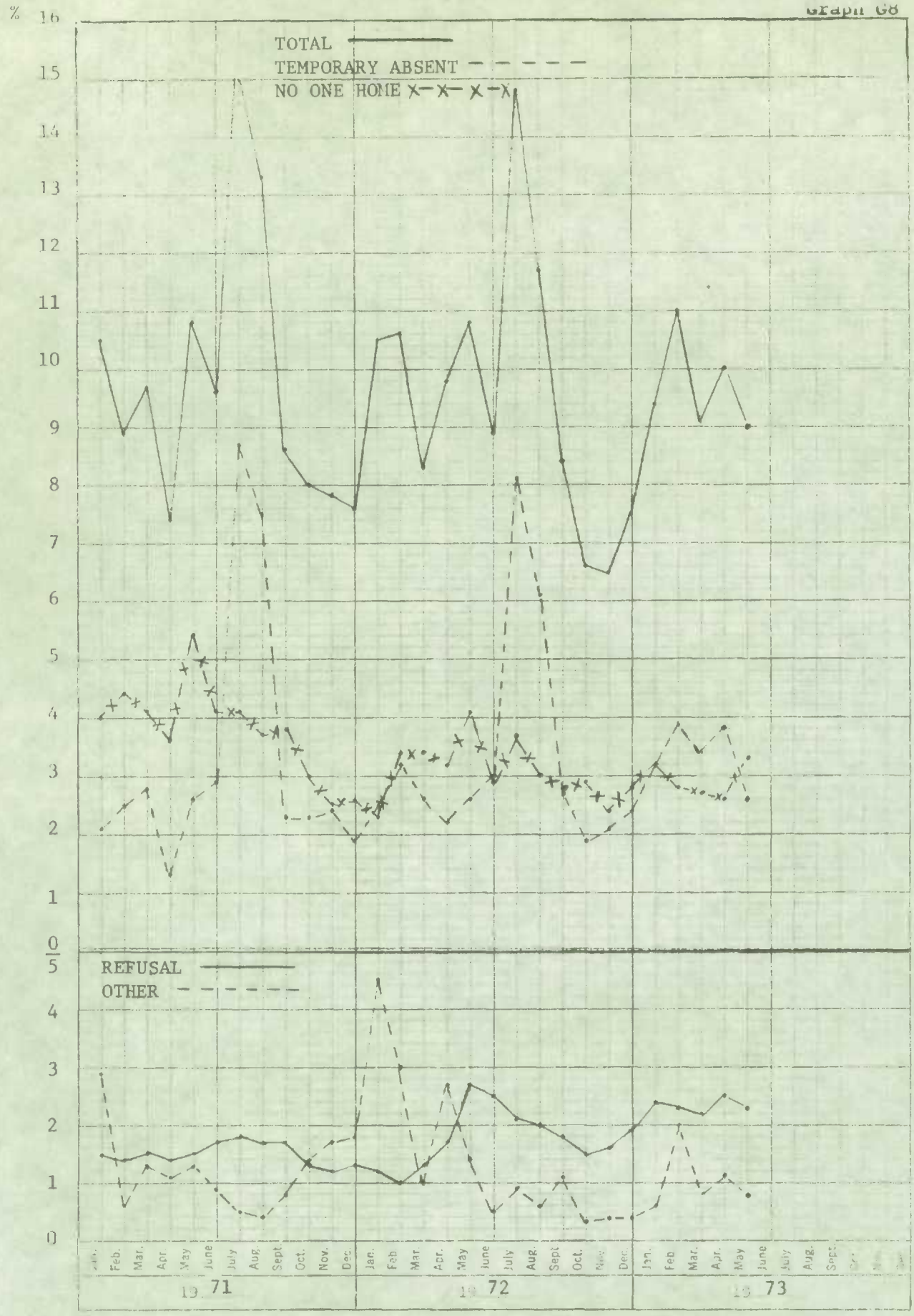
Winnipeg Regional Office

Graph G7



Edmonton Regional Office

Graph G8



Vancouver Regional Office

Graph G9

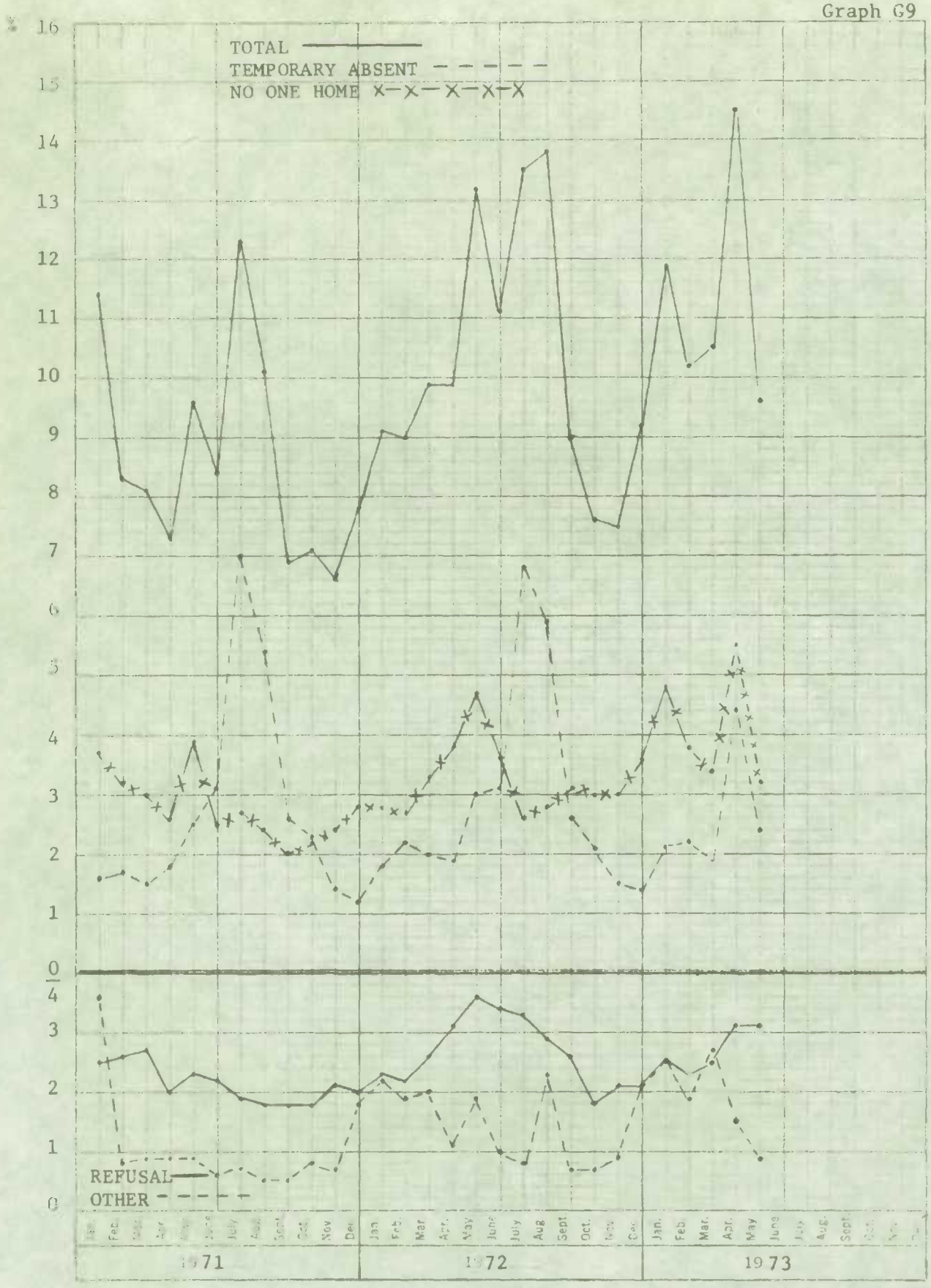


TABLE 1.

May, 1973

NON-RESPONSE RATES BY COMPONENT,

CANADA, AND REGIONAL OFFICES

(Percent)

	Total	T. A.	N. 1.	N. 2.	Other
Canada	7.0	1.8	2.5	2.0	0.7
St. John's	4.5	1.3	2.2	1.0	0.0
Halifax	7.6	1.8	2.5	2.2	1.1
Montreal	7.4	1.8	2.7	2.0	0.9
Ottawa	5.7	1.1	1.7	2.0	0.9
Toronto	6.2	1.7	2.2	1.8	0.5
Winnipeg	2.8	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.1
Edmonton	9.0	2.6	3.3	2.3	0.8
Vancouver	9.6	2.4	3.2	3.1	0.9