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WATER RESOURCES BRANCH
DATA DISSEMINATION SUMMARY
1984/85

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WATER RESOURCES BRANCH
DATA DISSEMINATION SUMMARY

1984/85

December 1985

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SECTION A

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF THE
"QUESTIONNAIRE FOR USERS OF
WATER RESOURCES BRANCH PUBLICATIONS," JANUARY 1985

INTRODUCTION

In 1979, the Water Resources Branch, together with the Editorial and Publications Division, decided to conduct annual surveys of all users of Water Resources Branch publications. The purpose of these surveys is to verify addresses, to verify publication requirements and to query the users on topics of concern, in order to continue providing good service.

Annual summaries of the results of the questionnaires have been printed in the following reports:

- (1) Summary of Results of April 1979 Questionnaire (May 1980)
- (2) Summary of Results of October 1981 Questionnaire (July 1982)
- (3) Summary of Results of January 1983 Questionnaire (July 1983)
- (4) Water Resources Branch - Data Dissemination Summary (December 1984)

This report summarizes the results of the fifth questionnaire, distributed in January 1985 to the 692 users who receive Water Resources Branch publications. The objectives of the questionnaire were

- (a) to determine whether there was a serious requirement for making hydrometric and sediment data available to users interactively through a "user friendly" computer retrieval program and
- (b) to identify (and categorize) these users.

SUMMARY OF USERS ON MAILING LIST

The questionnaire was distributed to 692 users who were on the January 1985 mailing list. Questionnaires were returned by 568 users (82%). The remaining 124 users were scrutinized by the Data Control Section; 23 users (mainly provinces and libraries) were retained on the mailing list and 101 (15%) were deleted. Owing to requests from new users, either via the regions or headquarters, 52 names were added to the mailing list, bringing the total number to 643 on May 23, 1985.

Distribution of Users

Figure 1 shows the distribution of users across Canada, both those on the current and previous mailing lists.

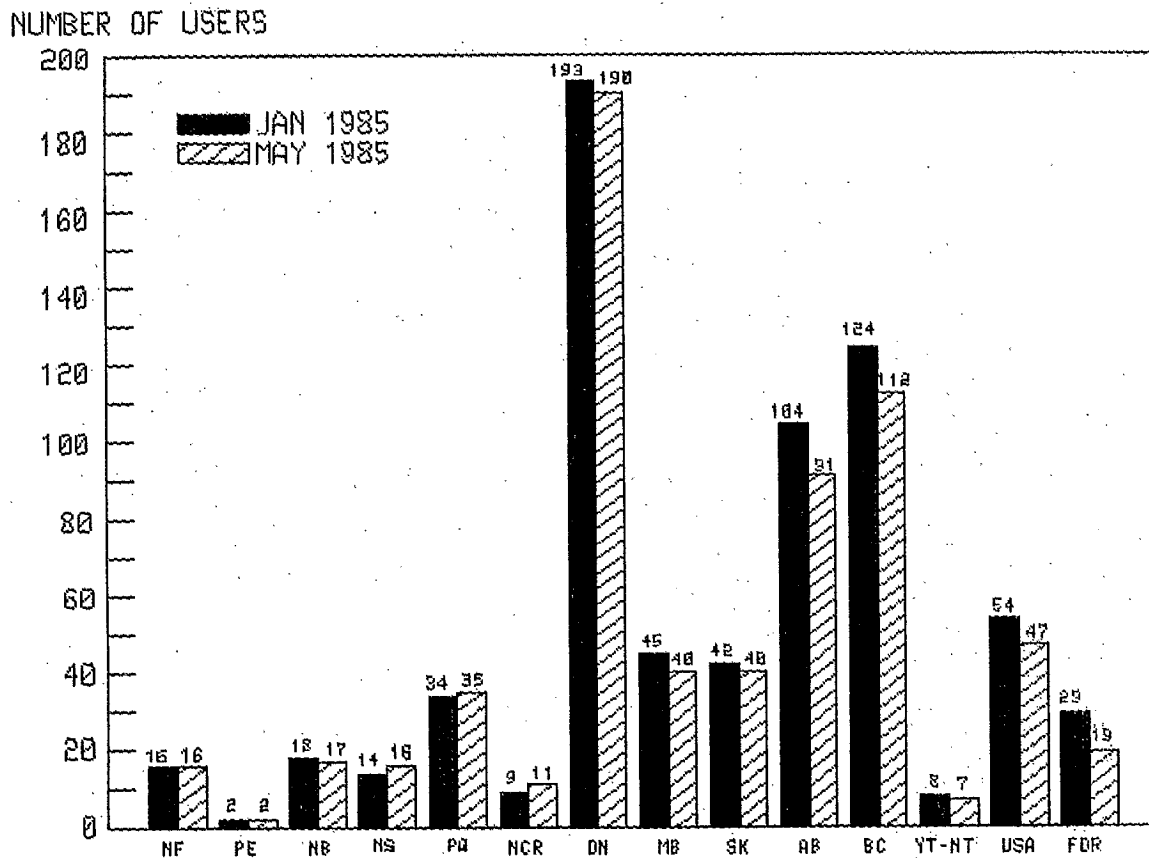


Figure 1. Distribution of users on mailing lists by province.

Type of Agency

Table 1 provides a breakdown of the 643 users on the mailing list, by province and type of agency. All users on the mailing list are counted, even if there are several from the same organization. The categories for the type of agency follow:

- (a) Government
 - (i) Federal (Canadian)
 - DOE - Department of the Environment (ECS, EPS, AES, Parks)
 - Other - Other federal departments
 - (ii) Provincial
 - Env. - Environment, Conservation branches
 - Hydro - Power authorities, hydro commissions
 - Other - Other provincial departments
- (b) Private
 - (i) Educ. Inst. - Universities, colleges, schools, public libraries
 - (ii) Eng. Cons. - Engineering consultants
 - (iii) Priv. Individ. - Individuals without a company address
 - (iv) Other Agencies - Other private companies, including foreign (government and private)

Table 1. Summary of Agencies

Province	Government		Private				Total
	Federal	Provincial	Educ. inst.	Eng. cons.	Priv. indiv.	Other agencies	
NF	2	8	1	3	1	1	16
PE	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
NB	4	4	4	2	-	3	17
NS	4	3	6	2	-	1	16
PQ	1	9	9	6	1	9	35
ON	44	59	38	35	8	17	201
MB	9	10	5	6	2	8	40
SK	10	11	8	4	3	4	40
AB	6	32	14	26	5	8	91
BC	14	35	12	31	8	12	112
YT-NT	3	3	1	-	-	-	7
USA	-	-	-	-	-	47	47
FOREIGN	-	-	-	-	-	19	19
Total	98 (15%)	175 (27%)	98 (15%)	115 (18%)	28 (5%)	129 (20%)	643
Total	273 (42%)		370 (58%)				643

The types of agencies are indicated in Figure 2.

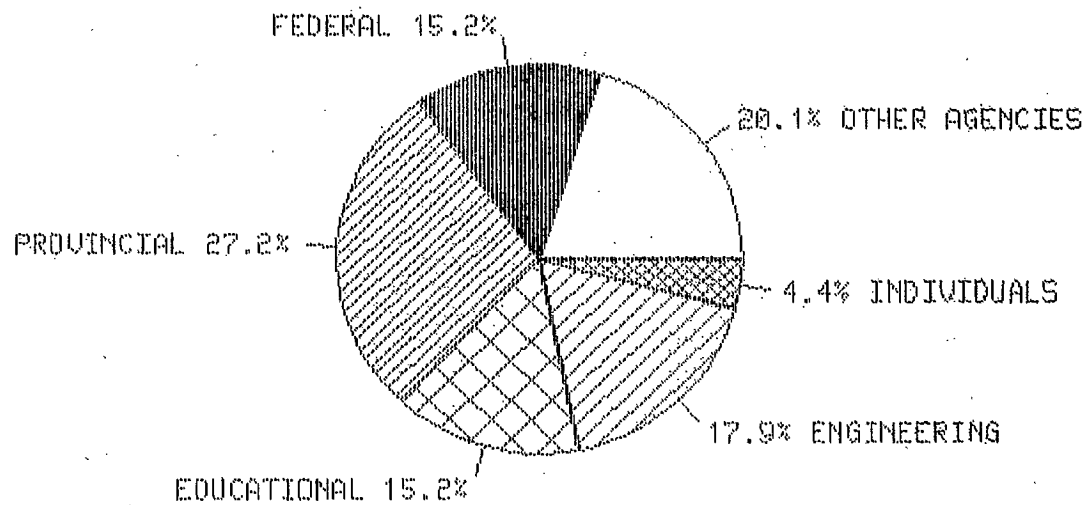


Figure 2. Type of agency.

SUMMARY OF REQUESTS FOR WRB PUBLICATIONS

Tables 2 and 3 refer to the number of copies requested by users on the IWD mailing list and do not include the 200 copies of each publication sent to the Department of Supply and Services, the bulk supply sent to the WRB Regional Offices, nor the supply required for subsequent distribution.

Table 2. Number of Users Requesting Each Publication

Province	<u>Surface Water Data</u>		<u>Hist. Streamflow Summary</u>		<u>Hist. Water Levels Summary</u>	
	No. of users	No. of copies	No. of users	No. of copies	No. of users	No. of copies
Atlantic	180	187	169	178	137	144
Quebec	172	181	160	166	138	143
Ontario	291	325	266	292	231	259
Manitoba	201	253	195	245	164	213
Saskatchewan	222	253	213	249	175	206
Alberta	263	312	250	303	199	228
British Columbia	278	323	267	314	211	250
YT and NWT	226	240	210	222	177	187

<u>Publication</u>	<u>No. of users</u>	<u>No. of copies</u>				
Sediment Data	360	404	-	-	-	-
Hist. Sed. Data	328	365	-	-	-	-
Sed. Ref. Index	293	311	-	-	-	-
Reference Index	493	621	-	-	-	-

No. of users	643	-	-	-	-	-
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Note: All values are from mailing list dated May 23, 1985.

Table 3. Number of Copies Requested for Each Publication

Province	Number of copies requested						Net change		
	Before questionnaire ¹			After questionnaire ²			SWD	HSS	HWLS
	SWD	HSS	HWLS	SWD	HSS	HWLS			
Atlantic	190	167	136	187	178	144	-3	+11	+8
Quebec	172	143	121	181	166	143	+9	+23	+22
Ontario	314	253	205	325	292	259	+11	+39	+54
Manitoba	278	187	156	253	245	213	-25	+58	+57
Saskatchewan	253	210	171	253	249	206	0	+39	+35
Alberta	309	274	204	312	303	228	+3	+29	+24
Br. Columbia	337	291	230	323	314	250	-14	+23	+20
YT and NWT	245	207	172	240	222	187	-5	+15	+15

Publication	Before ¹	After ²	Net
Sediment Data	413	404	-9
Hist. Sed. Data	302	365	+63
Sed. Ref. Ind.	260	311	+51
Ref. Index	625	621	-4

¹Values from mailing list dated January 1, 1985.

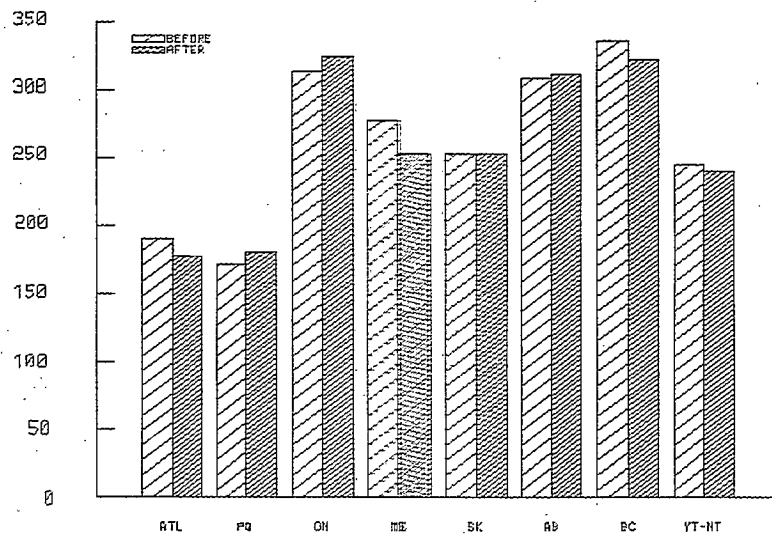
²Values from mailing list dated May 23, 1985.

SWD - Surface Water Data.
HSS - Historical Streamflow Summary.
HWLS - Historical Water Levels Summary.

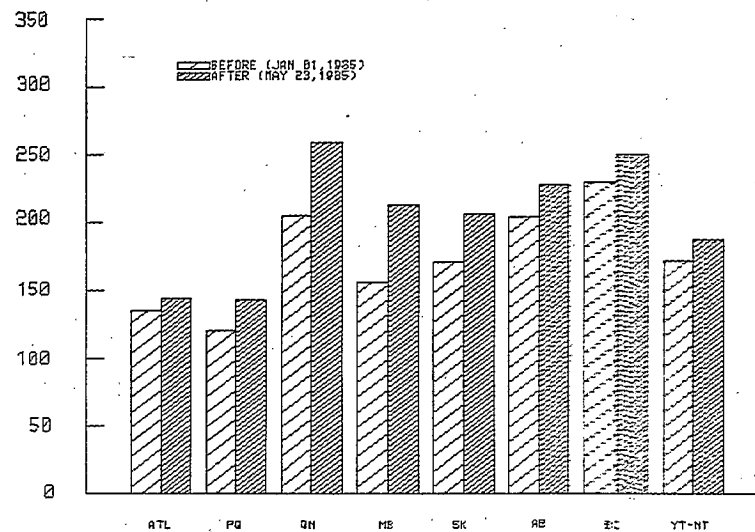
In Figures 3a to 3d, the quantities of copies requested of SWD, HSS, HWLS, and SED INDEX publications, respectively, are given. The net changes in the number of SWD, HSS, HWLS, and SED INDEX copies are given in Figures 4a to 4d, respectively. The legend for these figures follows:

- A - SWD Surface Water Data (by province)
- B - HSS Historical Streamflow Summary (by province)
- C - HWLS Historical Water Levels Summary (by province)
- D - SED Sediment Data for Canadian Rivers (Canada)
- HSDS Historical Sediment Data Summary (Canada)
- SED-RI Sediment Data Reference Index (Canada)
- SWD-RI Surface Water Data Reference Index

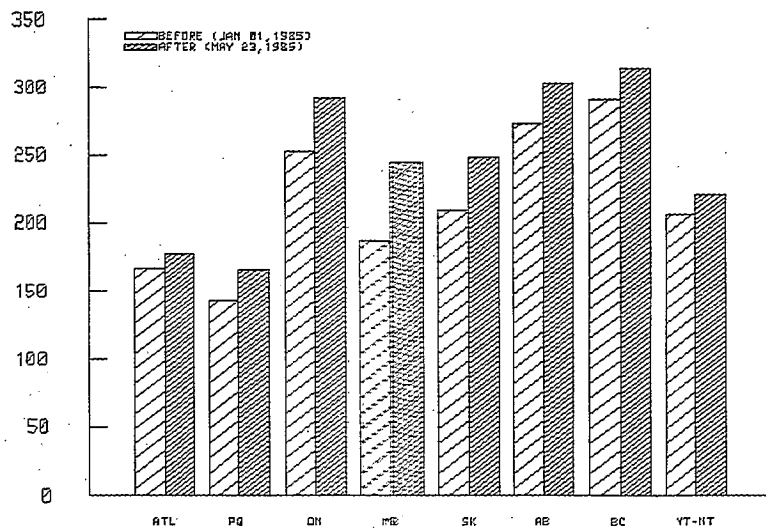
A. NUMBER OF SUD COPIES REQUESTED
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE



C. NUMBER OF HWLS COPIES REQUESTED
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE



B. NUMBER OF HSS COPIES REQUESTED
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE



D. NUMBER OF SED, INDEX COPIES REQUESTED
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE

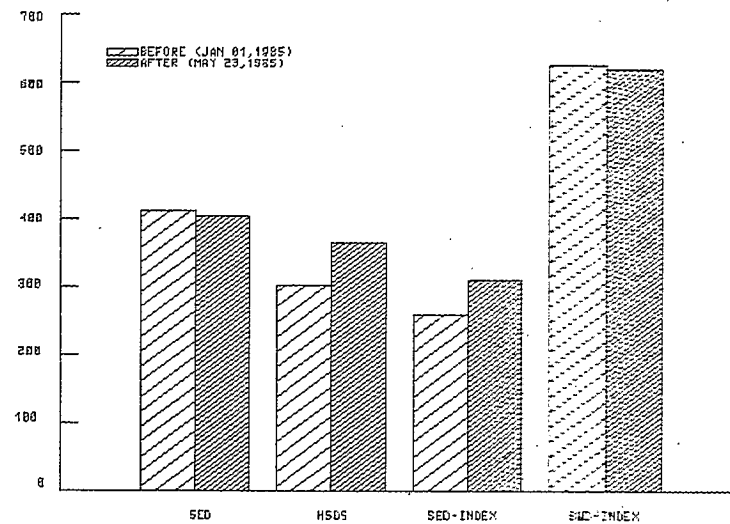
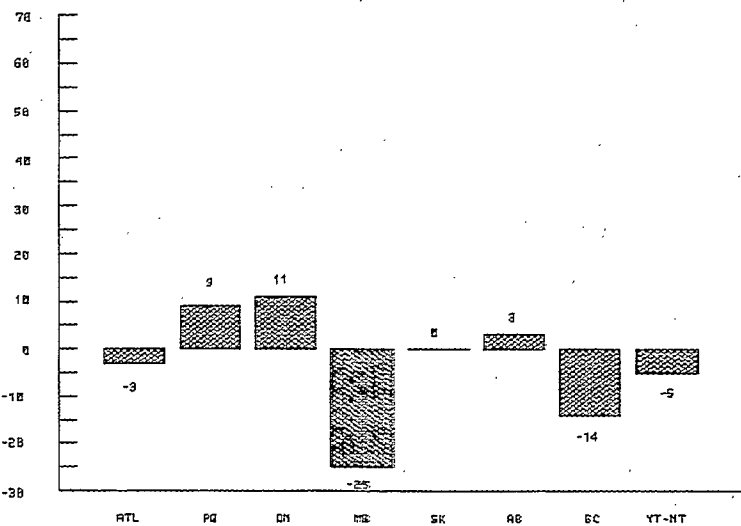
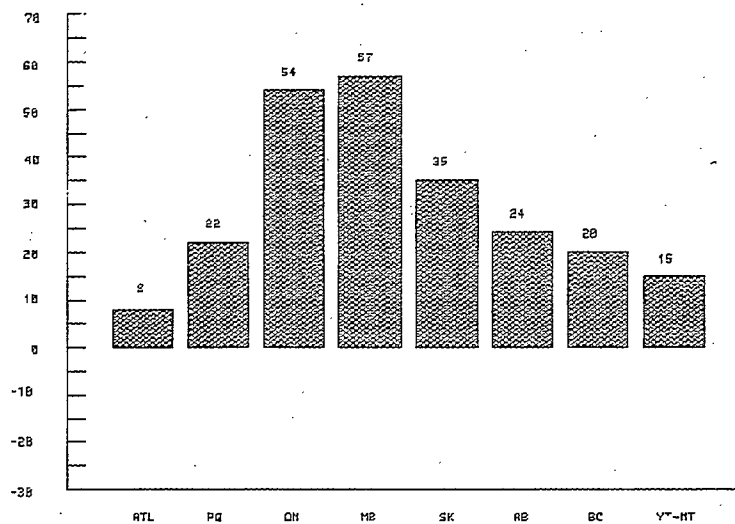


Figure 3. Number of publication copies requested.

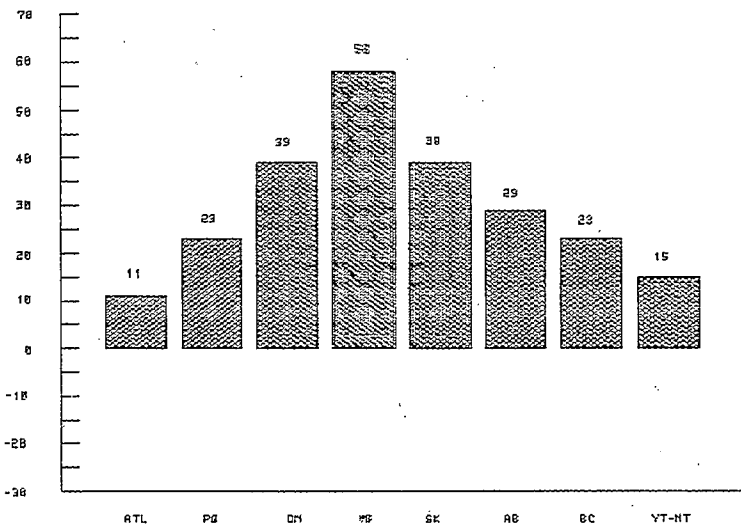
A. NET CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SWD COPIES
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE



C. NET CHANGE IN NUMBER OF HULLS COPIES
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE



B. NET CHANGE IN NUMBER OF HSS COPIES
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE



D. NET CHANGE IN NO. OF SED, INDEX COPIES
BEFORE AND AFTER THE QUESTIONNAIRE

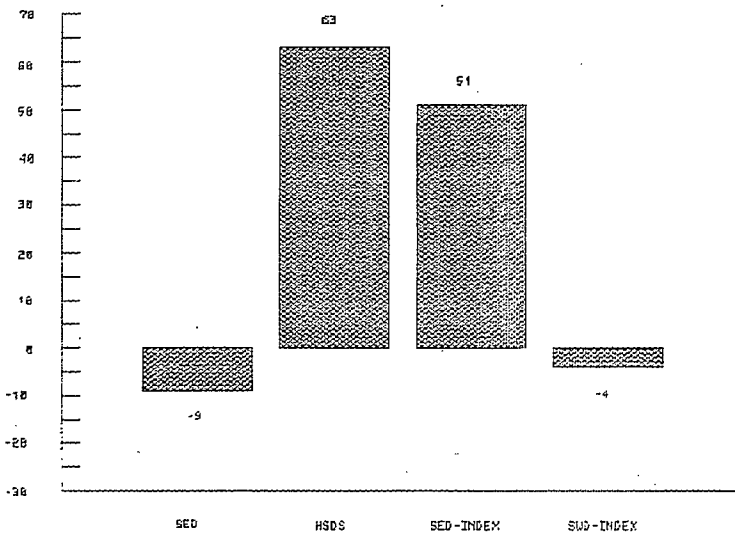


Figure 4. Net change in number of publication copies.

The trend over the last eight years for the number of copies as requested on the mailing list is illustrated in Figure 5.

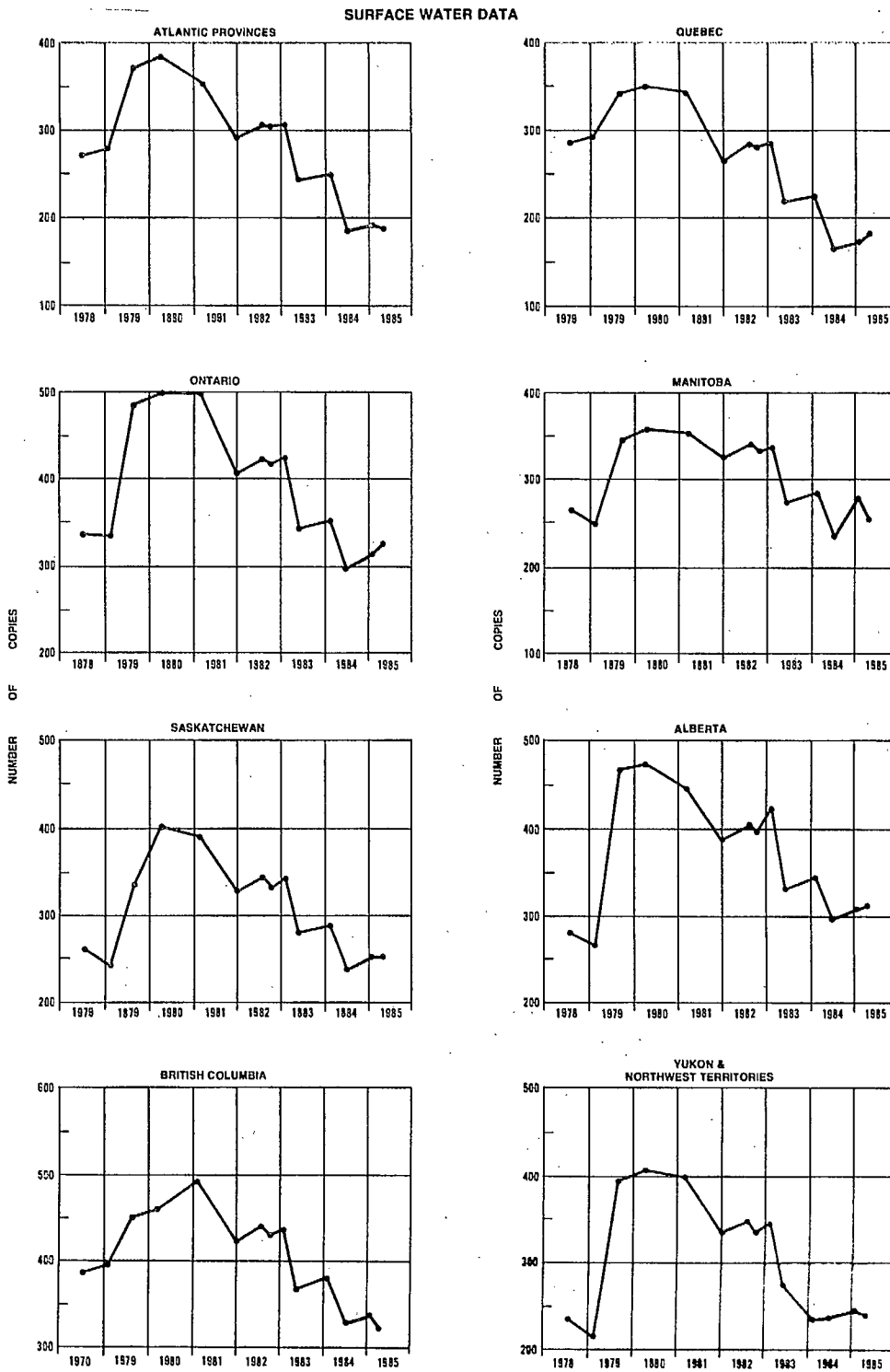


Figure 5. Trend over the last eight years (number of copies as requested on mailing list).

HISTORICAL STREAMFLOW SUMMARY

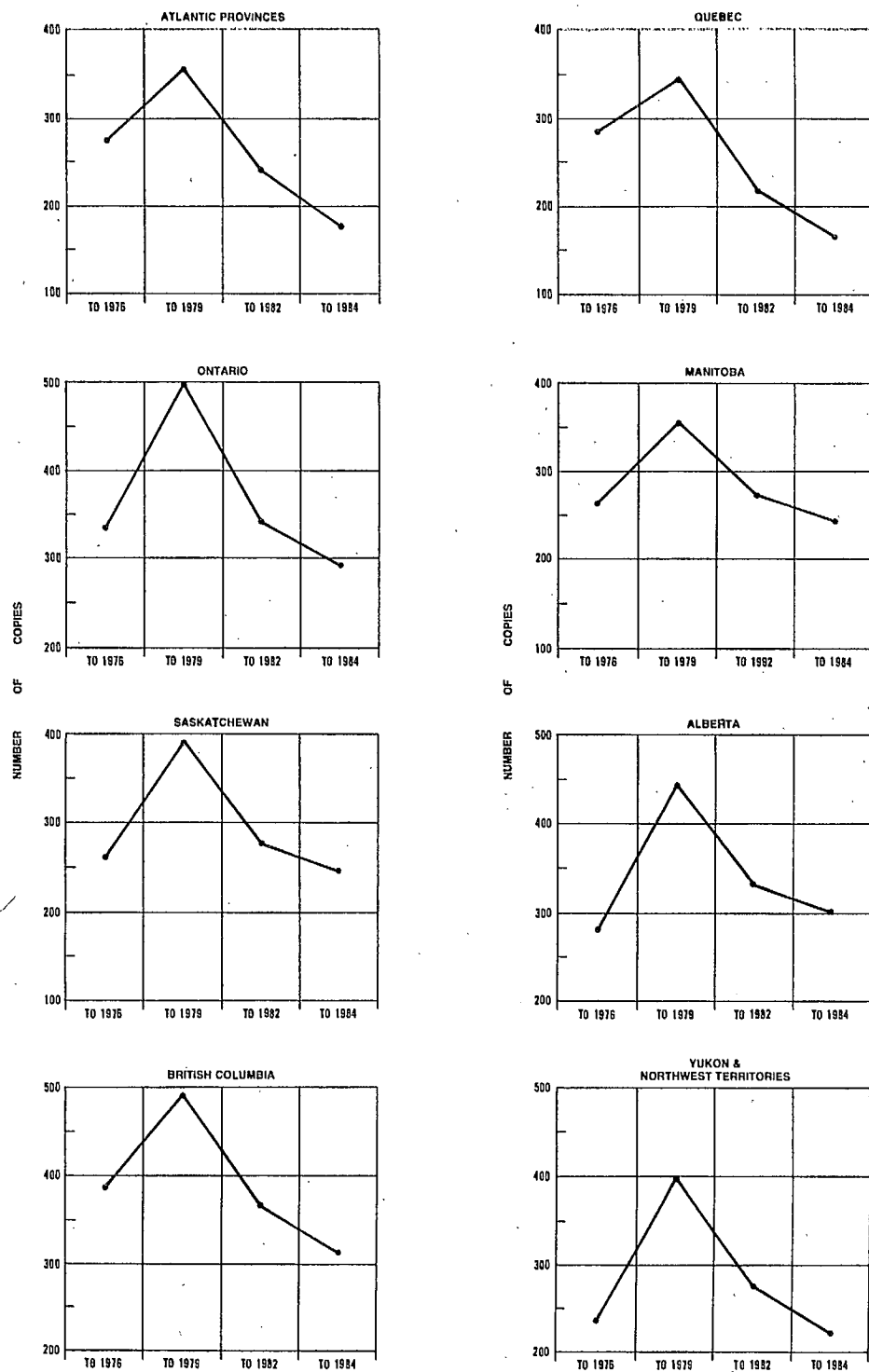


Figure 5. Continued.

HISTORICAL WATER LEVELS SUMMARY

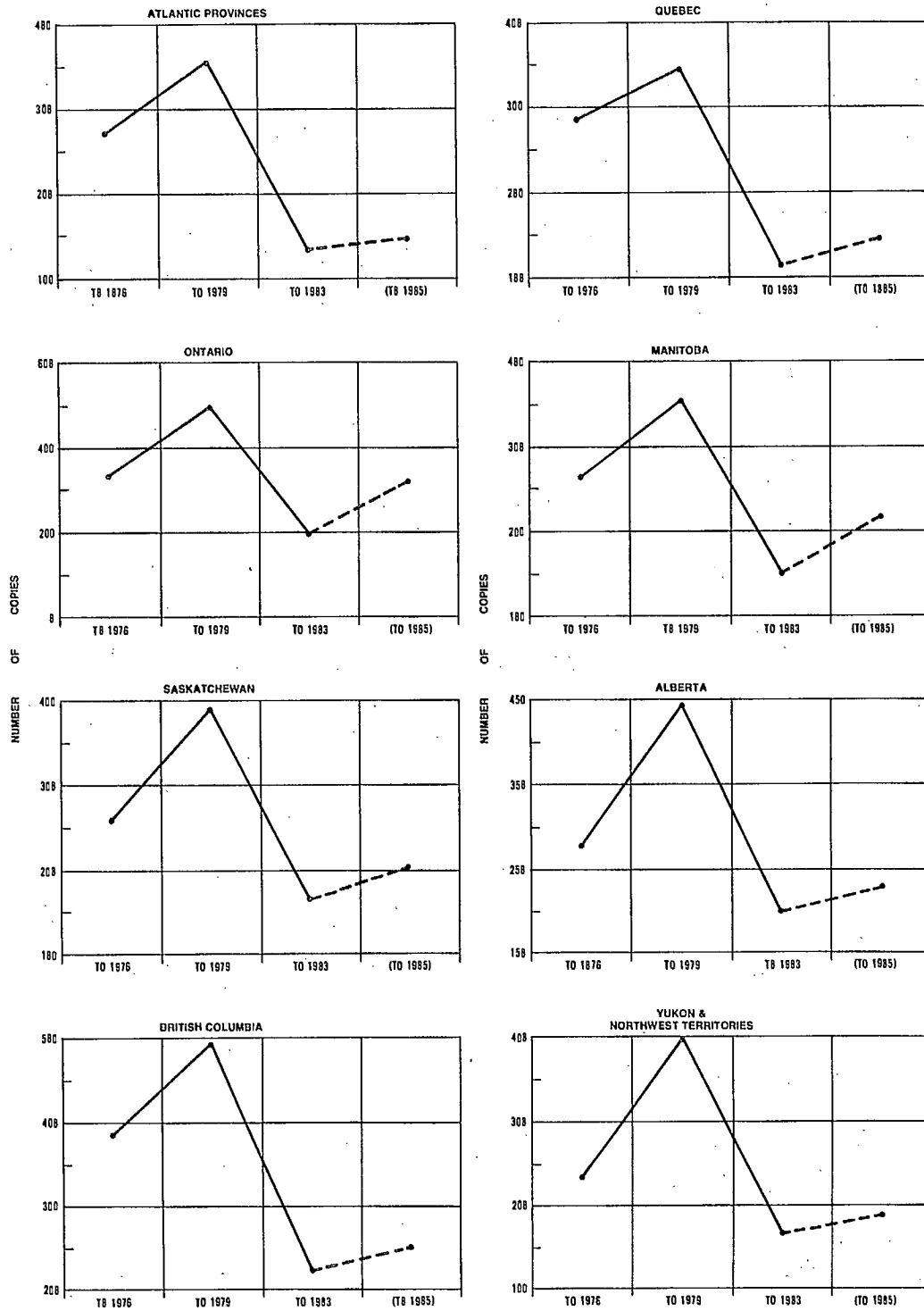


Figure 5. Continued.

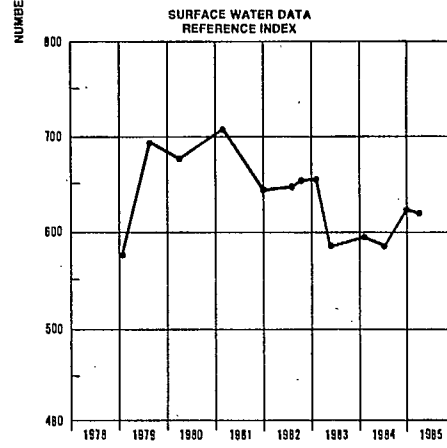
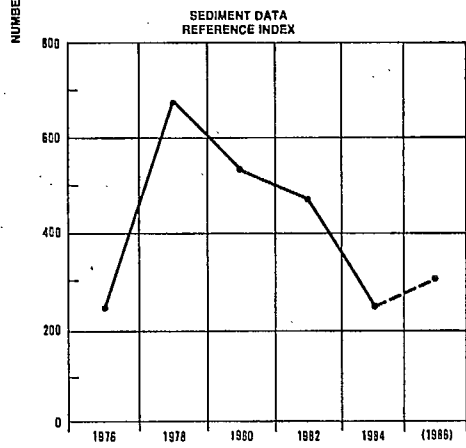
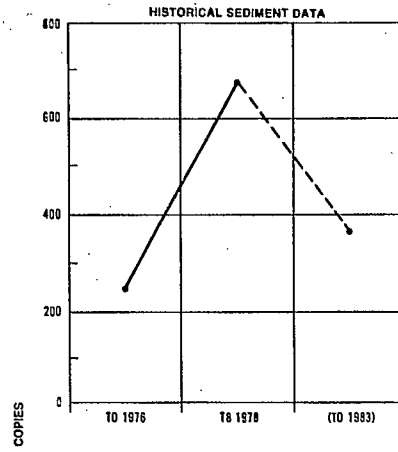
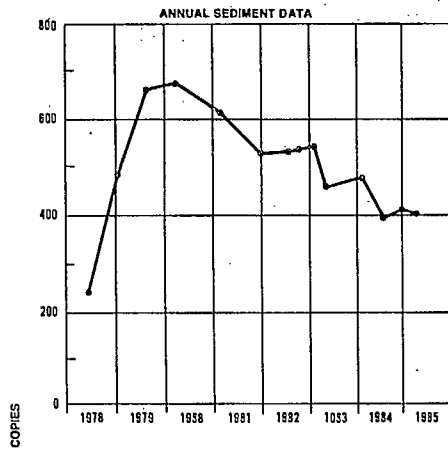


Figure 5. Continued.)

SUMMARY OF INTEREST IN A USER FRIENDLY COMPUTER RETRIEVAL PROGRAM

Part 3 of the questionnaire was used to determine whether there was a serious requirement for making hydrometric and sediment data available to users interactively through a "user friendly" retrieval program, and to identify (and categorize) these users. Of the 568 users who returned their questionnaires, 517 (91%) responded to this part of the questionnaire.

Figure 6 gives an agency breakdown of the 103 (18%) users who responded YES to all four questions, and therefore indicated that they were willing and prepared to use an interactive procedure.

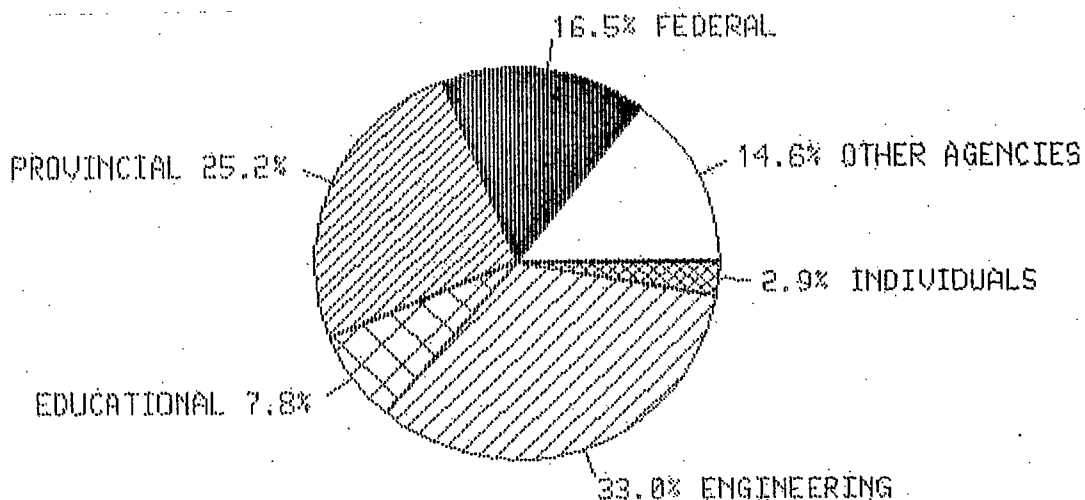


Figure 6. Agencies responding YES to all questions.

Question 1: Would you be willing to do your own hydrometric data retrievals through a user friendly computer program?

Table 4. Response to Question 1 by Agency

Agency	Response				Total
	Yes	No	Maybe	No Reply	
Federal	48	26	1	-	75
Provincial	77	60	-	2	139
Educational	48	24	3	4	79
Engineering	68	28	2	1	99
Individuals	10	16	-	-	26
Other agencies	48	46	-	5	99
Total	299	200	6	12	517

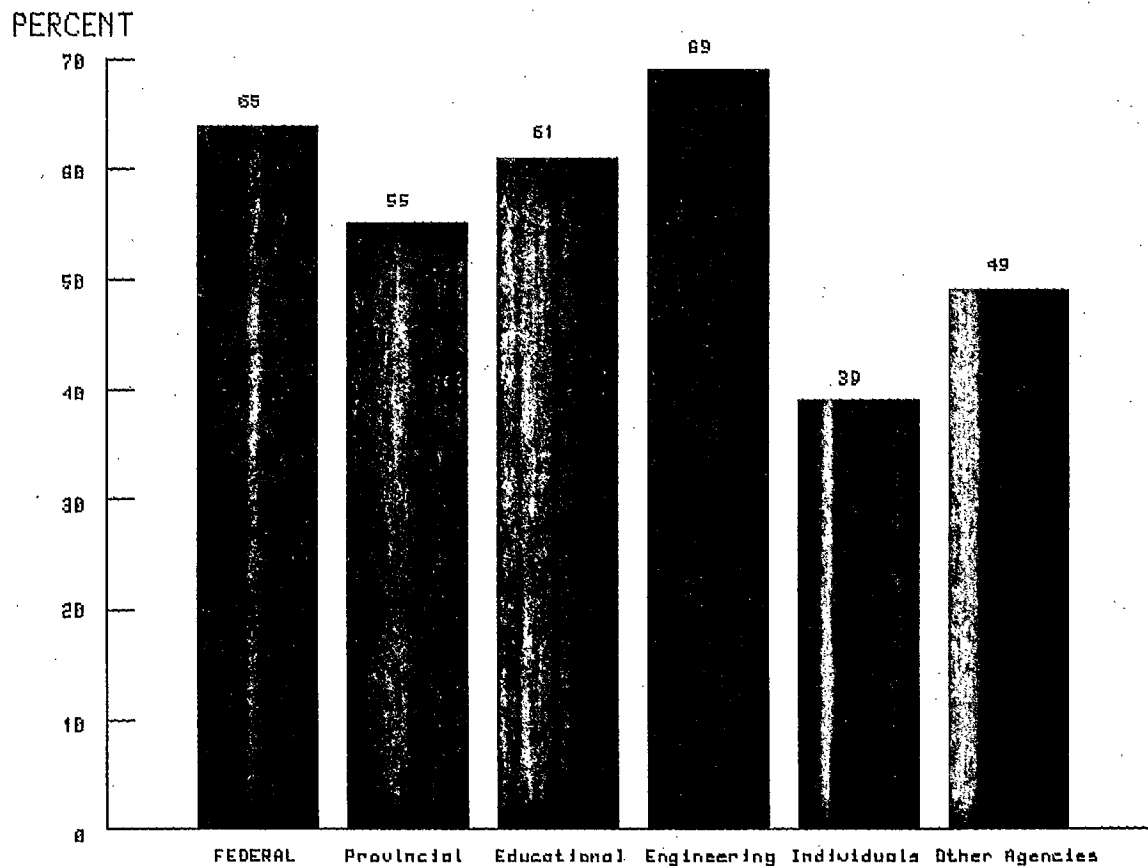


Figure 7. Percent of agencies responding YES.

Question 2: Would you be willing to establish an account at EMR Computer Science Centre and to pay the cost of computer retrievals?

Table 5. Response to Question 2 by Agency

Agency	Response				Total
	Yes	No	Maybe	No Reply	
Federal	29	39	4	3	75
Provincial	45	83	10	1	139
Educational	22	41	11	5	79
Engineering	58	36	4	1	99
Individuals	9	17	-	-	26
Other agencies	30	55	6	8	99
Total	193	271	35	18	517

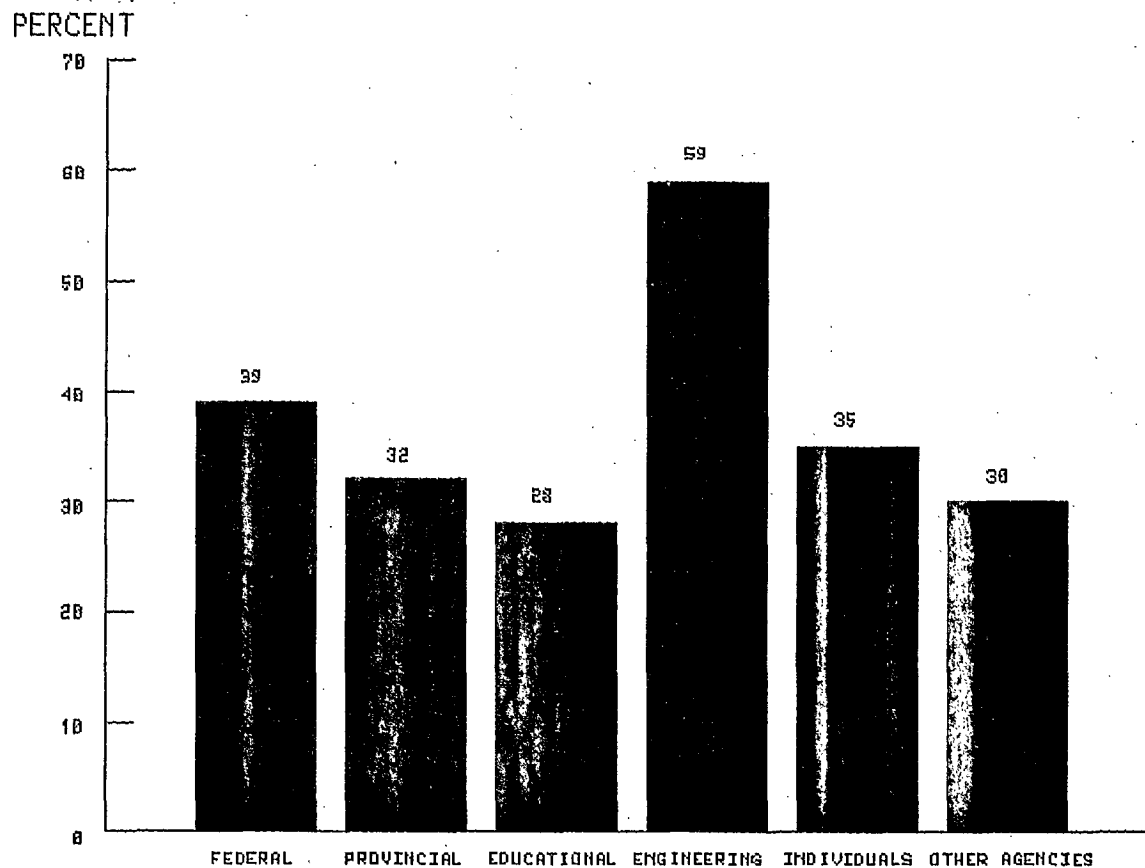


Figure 8. Percent of agencies responding YES.

Question 3: Do you presently have facilities capable of communicating with other computer centres?

Table 6. Response to Question 3 by Agency

Agency	Response				Total
	Yes	No	Maybe	No Reply	
Federal	45	29	-	1	75
Provincial	85	54	-	-	139
Educational	56	21	1	1	79
Engineering	68	30	1	-	99
Individuals	8	18	-	-	26
Other agencies	49	49	-	1	99
Total	311	201	2	3	517

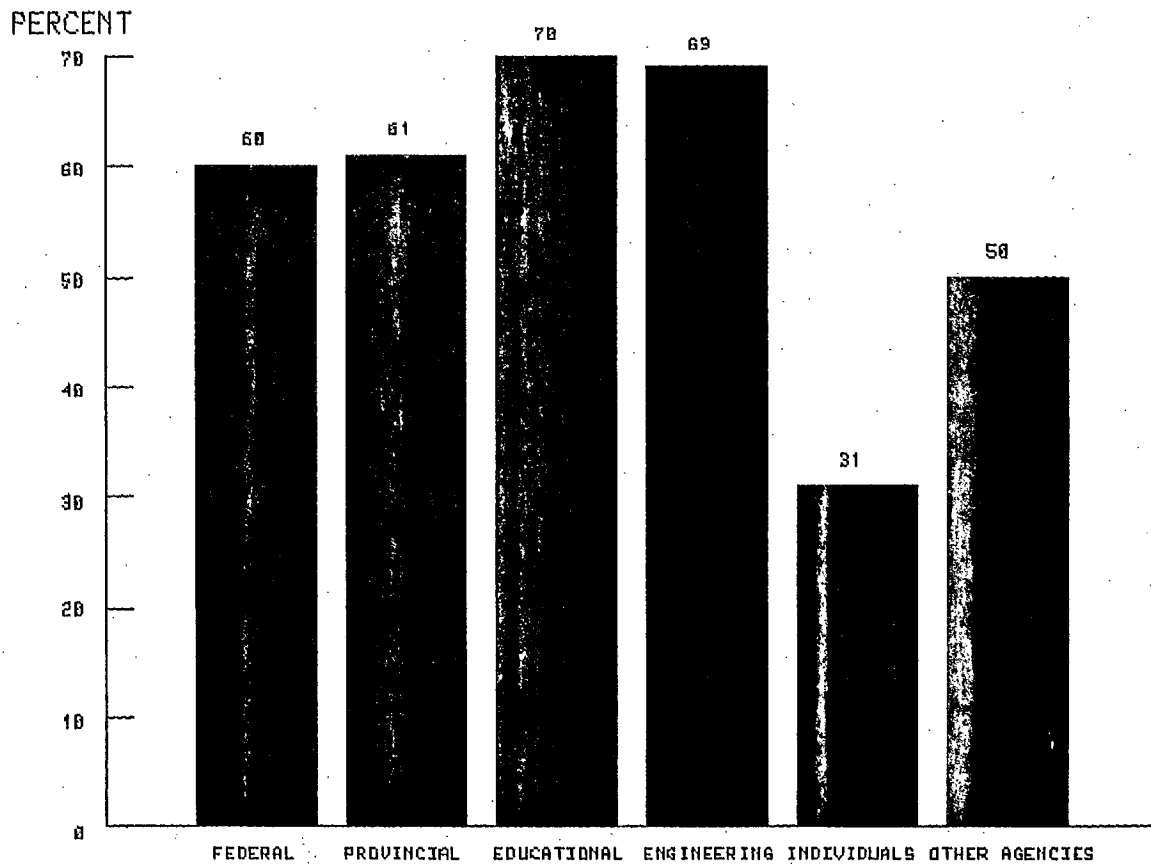


Figure 9. Percent of agencies responding YES.

Question 4: Do you presently receive information interactively from any exterior computer data bank?

Table 7. Response to Question 4 by Agency

Agency	Response				Total
	Yes	No	Maybe	No Reply	
Federal	35	38	1	1	75
Provincial	50	89	-	-	139
Educational	27	49	2	1	79
Engineering	45	53	1	-	99
Individuals	5	21	-	-	26
Other agencies	39	58	-	2	99
Total	201	308	4	4	517

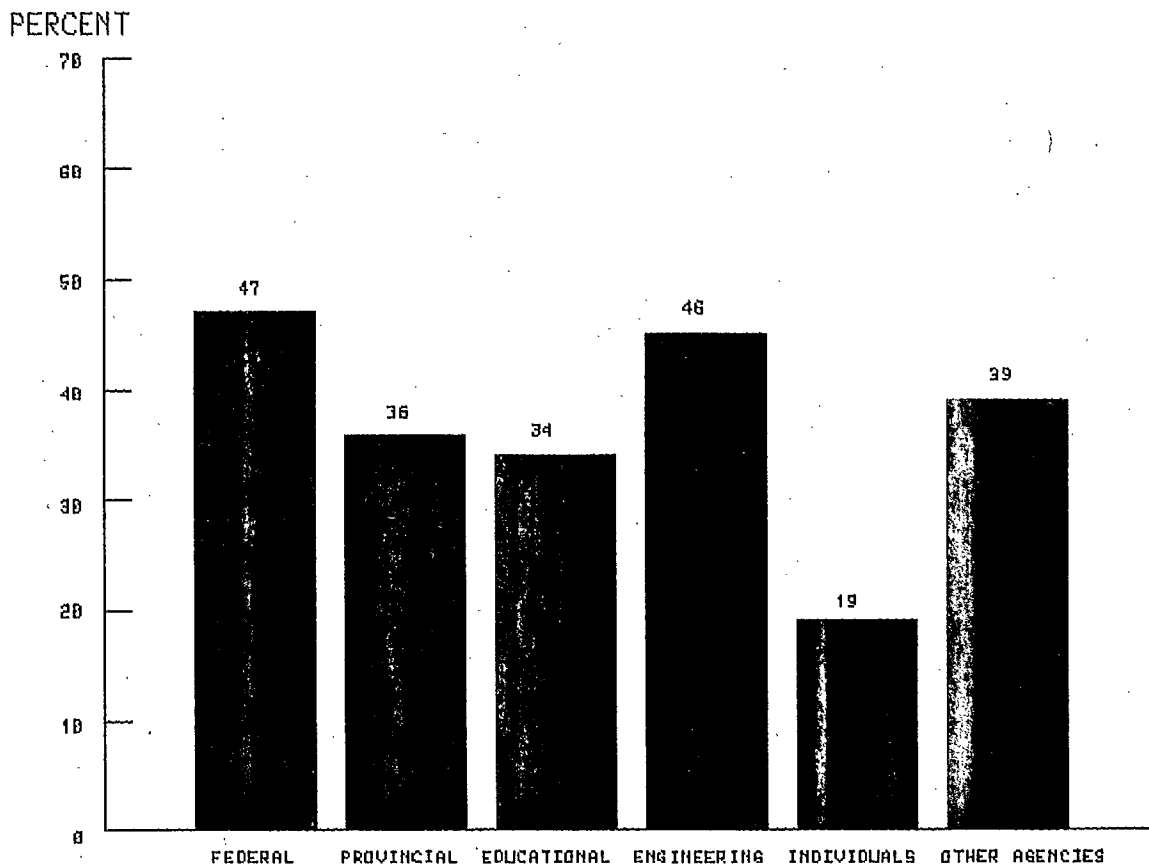


Figure 10. Percent of agencies responding YES.

User Comments

Many users wrote comments on their questionnaires to qualify some of their responses or to explain their situation. Most of the comments were very positive, encouraging the development of an interactive system for their immediate or probable future use. Many were concerned about the cost and cited this as a limiting factor. There were also a few concerns about whether the data could be copied onto disks for personal computers.

SUMMARY

The number of users has continued to decrease, as indicated in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of users</u>
1980	1132
1982	801
1983	679
1984	661
1985	643

The total number of users seems to be leveling off, but there is still a large fluctuation (15%) of users being added and removed from the list.

In November 1984, 31 names were added to the mailing list. An additional 52 were added in May 1985, for a total of 83 additions. On the other hand, 124 users did not respond to the questionnaire, and after being scrutinized by the Data Control Section, the names of 101 users were deleted. All types of users were deleted and added; there does not appear to be any trend.

The type of users of the hydrometric data publication series has remained consistent over the last six years, as indicated in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Percent of users</u>	
	<u>Government</u>	<u>Private</u>
1980	46	54
1982	54	46
1983	45	55
1984	39	61
1985	42	58

There may have been some discrepancies in earlier years in the classification of the type of agency. To eliminate these discrepancies, the agency type has been coded and stored on the mailing address file for the last two years, producing more reliable results.

For the first time in five years there has been an increase in the requirement for Surface Water Data publications (Fig. 5). This increase is not apparent from Figures 3 and 4, which are comparisons of the 1985 (January vs July) mailing lists. (Note: Between June 1984 and January 1985, 31 names were added to the mailing list.)

There has been a marked reversal in the requirement for both the Historical Streamflow Summary (HSS) and the Historical Water Levels Summary (HWLS) (Figs. 3 and 4). These publications were formerly distributed to all users on the Surface Water Data mailing list. As a result of the January 1983 Questionnaire, however, it was recommended that separate tabs be added to the mailing lists for these publications, which in June 1984 resulted in a drop of approximately 40 HSS and 80 HWLS publications. Significant savings in publication costs were anticipated owing to the reduced requirement. The latest questionnaire reverses this previous trend, since there is an increased demand (approximately 30 books) for both publications.

NOTE: In Figure 5, the reversal is illustrated for the HWLS publications because the 1983 publication was distributed from the June 1984 mailing list. It is not illustrated for the HSS (Fig. 5) because the 1982 publication was distributed from the former SWD mailing list.

The increased total in the Surface Water Data Reference Index, Sediment Data Reference Index, and Sediment Data for Canadian Rivers is shown in Figure 5, as in the last paragraph on page 21.

The reversal in requirements for the Historical Sediment Data Summary is as described on this page in paragraph 1.

The response in favour of making the WRB data banks available for retrieval by users through a prompted retrieval was very positive. Twenty percent (103 users) responded YES to all four questions indicating that they were willing and prepared to use an interactive procedure. Over 60% responded YES to at least one question.

Fifty-seven percent of users were interested in retrieving data, but funds are a limiting factor (37%).

Fifty-seven percent of users had the facilities capable of communicating with other computer centres, and 36% were receiving data interactively from other exterior data banks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that the new distribution list continue to use separate mailing "tabs" for each publication. Therefore unwanted publications will not be distributed. This is for the convenience of the user, since the savings in publication costs are marginal.
2. Owing to the increased requirements, costs for the "Historical Streamflow Summary to 1984" and "Sediment Data for Canadian Rivers" publications will exceed the 1985/86 estimates. The 1986/87 estimates should be adjusted accordingly.
3. It is recommended that the Interactive Procedure for Automated Retrieval (IPAR) program be developed for public distribution as soon as possible.

REVIEW OF PAST RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The July 1982 recommended schedule for updating the mailing list was implemented and is working satisfactorily. There is still an overlap because the questionnaire and Sediment/Historical publications are distributed at the same time, but this should be resolved in the future as the publications are distributed earlier.
2. The 1982 recommendations concerning producing publications on microfiche were not actioned. Instead, the decision was made to produce all daily historical data on microfiche annually. All users on the mailing list (not just the 152 interested users) were informed that these microfiche were available via the 1984 questionnaire tabs. Samples of the microfiche should be sent to users in a follow-up questionnaire.
3. As recommended in July 1983, the mailing list was revised so that separate mailing "tabs" are now used for all Water Resources Branch publications.
4. As recommended in 1984, a file of names and addresses was maintained on the PDP 11/44 of all users who received data on magnetic tape from July 1984 to June 1985. This file was made available to the regions. It was also used to supply information for the Pearse Inquiry and to notify these users when the 1984 data became available.
5. Since last year's report indicated that many users require water level data as well as discharge, many regions now store both kinds of data on magnetic files.
6. From last year's report, the large interest indicated in sediment data has supported the need for an improved annual sediment publication.

SECTION A

APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR USERS OF WATER RESOURCES BRANCH PUBLICATIONS

The Water Resources Branch is updating its mailing lists of users of Branch publications as part of a continuous drive to make these publications widely available while at the same time keeping publishing costs to a minimum. You can help us do this by completing the questionnaire and returning it to this office.

The Water Resources Branch publications consist of the Surface Water Data series, the Historical Streamflow Summary series, the Historical Water Levels Summary series, Sediment Data for Canadian Rivers, Sediment Data Reference Index, Historical Sediment Data Summary and the Surface Water Data Reference Index. The list printed below describes briefly these publications and identifies their mailing tabs.

The mailing label in Part 1 of the questionnaire shows your name and address as it appears on Directorate records. If your mailing address is not correct, please provide correct address.

Your present requirements for publications are shown on the mailing label in Part 2,

e.g. 003-002*004-001*017-001*
indicates a requirement of 2
copies of tab 003, 1 copy of tab
004, 1 copy of tab 017

To assist us in identifying the demand for providing "user friendly" retrieval service to users, please respond to Questionnaire Part 3.

Please fold completed questionnaire card with return address out, tape closed, and return not later than February 29, 1985. No postage is necessary if mailed in Canada.

N.B. FAILURE TO RETURN THE CARD BY THE DATE SPECIFIED WILL BE TAKEN AS AN INDICATION THAT YOU ARE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN RECEIVING WATER RESOURCES BRANCH PUBLICATIONS.

TAB	PUBLICATION	DESCRIPTION
003 004 005 006 007 008 009 010	Surface Water Data (Atlantic Provinces) (Quebec) (Ontario) (Manitoba) (Saskatchewan) (Alberta) (British Columbia) (Yukon and NWT)	Daily streamflow and daily water level data, annually on calendar-year basis. Daily water levels are not published for stations where streamflow data are collected; this information is available at Water Resources Branch regional offices.
011	Sediment Data for Canadian Rivers	Daily suspended sediment concentration and load, particle-size distribution and bed-load data for Canadian rivers, annually on calendar-year basis.
012	Historical Sediment Data Summary Canadian Rivers	Summary of historical monthly and annual mean suspended sediment load, and annual extremes of suspended sediment and total suspended load for Canadian Rivers, published every second year.
013	Sediment Data Reference Index	An inventory containing descriptive information such as the types of sediment data available for various rivers, published every second year.
017	Surface Water Data Reference Index	An inventory containing descriptive information such as location and period of records for over 7000 active and discontinued gauging stations in Canada; published every second year. Hydrometric Map Supplement containing maps showing location of gauging stations, published approximately every five years, is sent automatically to recipients of the Surface Water Data Reference Index.
103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110	Historical Streamflow Summary (Atlantic Provinces) (Quebec) (Ontario) (Manitoba) (Saskatchewan) (Alberta) (British Columbia) (Yukon and NWT)	Summary of historical monthly and annual mean discharges and annual extremes for the period of record for all stations where streamflow data have been collected during the history of the Water Resources Branch, published every second year.
203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210	Historical Water Levels Summary (Atlantic Provinces) (Quebec) (Ontario) (Manitoba) (Saskatchewan) (Alberta) (British Columbia) (Yukon and NWT)	Summary of historical monthly and annual mean water levels of annual extremes for the period of record for all stations on lakes, reservoirs and streams where water level data have been collected during the history of the Water Resources Branch, published every second year.
	Microfiche	Historical daily streamflow, water level and sediment data for the entire period of record are available on microfiche by province upon written request only.

**QUESTIONNAIRE DESTINÉ AUX USAGERS DES PUBLICATIONS
DE LA DIRECTION DES RESSOURCES EN EAU**

La Direction veut mettre à jour la liste des utilisateurs qui reçoivent ses publications. Cette révision périodique permet de continuer à servir le public et de garder à leur minimum les coûts de publication. Le lecteur est prié de compléter et de retourner ce questionnaire. Il nous aidera ainsi à réaliser notre objectif.

Les publications de la Direction des ressources en eau se composent des séries suivants: Données sur les eaux de surface, Sommaires chronologiques de l'écoulement et des niveaux d'eau et des documents suivants: Données sur les sédiments des rivières canadiennes, Index de référence des données sur les sédiments, Sommaire chronologique des données sur les eaux de surface et enfin Index de référence sur les eaux de surface. La liste qui suit décrit brièvement les différentes publications et indique leur code d'identification.

L'étiquette d'envoi que vous trouvez à la partie 1 du questionnaire contient votre nom et votre adresse tels qu'ils figurent dans les dossiers de la Direction générale. Si votre adresse postal est inexact, veuillez corriger l'erreur.

L'étiquette d'envoi que vous trouvez à la partie 1 du questionnaire contient votre nom et votre adresse tels qu'ils figurent dans les dossiers de la Direction générale. Si votre adresse postal est inexact, veuillez corriger l'erreur.

L'étiquette de la partie 2 indique votre choix de publications. Par exemple : 003-002*004-001*017-001*

signifie que vous désirez obtenir deux exemplaires du code 003, un exemplaire du code 004 et un autre du code 017.

Pour nous aider à identifier la demande d'offrir aux usagers le service de recherche à la portée de l'utilisateur, veuillez s.v.p. répondre au questionnaire, partie 3.

Veuillez plier la carte-réponse de façon à ce que l'adresse apparaisse à l'extérieur, la sceller et nous la retourner avant le 29 février 1985. Le port sera payé si elle est postée au Canada. N.B. : SI NOUS NE RECEVONS PAS VOTRE CARTE-RÉPONSE AVANT LA DATE PRESCRITE, NOUS CONCLUONS QUE VOUS N'ÊTES PLUS INTÉRESSÉS À RECEVOIR LES PUBLICATIONS DE LA DIRECTION DES RESSOURCES EN EAU.

CODE	PUBLICATION	DESCRIPTION
003 004 005 006 007 008 009 010	Données sur les eaux de surface (Provinces de l'Atlantique) (Québec) (Ontario) (Manitoba) (Saskatchewan) (Alberta) (Colombie-britannique) (Yukon et T. du N.-O.)	Débit quotidien et données quotidiennes des niveaux d'eau, publiés annuellement (chaque année civile). Les niveaux d'eau quotidiens ne sont pas publiés pour les stations où l'on recueille les données de l'écoulement; ces renseignements sont disponibles auprès des bureaux régionaux de la Direction générale des eaux intérieures.
011	Données sur les sédiments des rivières canadiennes	Concentration quotidienne des sédiments en suspension, distribution granulométrique et données sur le charriage de fond pour les rivières canadiennes, publiées annuellement (chaque année civile).
012	Le sommaire chronologique des données sur les sédiments-Rivières canadiennes	Un résumé des moyennes mensuelles et annuelles de la charge de sédiments en suspension, des extrêmes annuels de la concentration quotidienne et de la charge quotidienne des sédiments en suspension, ainsi que de la charge totale annuelle des sédiments en suspension, pour les rivières au Canada, publié tous les deux ans.
013	Index de référence des données sur les sédiments	Inventaire contenant de l'information descriptive telle que les types de débit des sédiments disponible pour les rivières diverses, publié tous les deux ans.
017	Index de référence des données sur les eaux de surface	Inventaire contenant de l'information descriptive telle que l'emplacement et la période d'enregistrement de plus de 7000 stations de jaugeage au Canada (dont les opérations sont en cours ou ont cessé) publié tous les deux ans. Le supplément de cartes hydrométriques, contenant les cartes qui indiquent l'emplacement des stations de jaugeage, et publié environ tous les cinq ans, est envoyé automatiquement aux destinataires de l'Index de référence des données sur les eaux de surface.
103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110	Sommaire chronologique de l'écoulement (Provinces de l'Atlantique) (Québec) (Ontario) (Manitoba) (Saskatchewan) (Alberta) (Colombie-britannique) (Yukon et T. du N.-O.)	Un résumé des moyennes mensuelles et annuelles des débits ainsi que les débits extrêmes annuels pour toute la période d'enregistrement et pour toutes les stations où des données de débit sont recueillies par la Direction des ressources en eau, publié tous les deux ans.
203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210	Sommaire chronologique des niveaux d'eau (Provinces de l'Atlantique) (Québec) (Ontario) (Manitoba) (Saskatchewan) (Alberta) (Colombie-britannique) (Yukon et T. du N.-O.)	Un résumé des niveaux moyens mensuels et annuels ainsi que des niveaux extrêmes annuels pour la période d'enregistrement pour toutes les stations de lacs, de réservoirs, ou de cours d'eau où des données sur les niveaux d'eau sont recueillies par la Direction des ressources en eau, publié tous les deux ans.
	Microfiches	Les données sur les débits quotidiens, les sédiments et les niveaux d'eau pour toute la période des relevés sont disponibles sur microfiches par province, sur demande écrite seulement.

PART 3/PARTIE 3

Hydrometric and Sediment data for Canada are stored centrally on magnetic tapes at the Energy, Mines and Resources (EMR) Computer Centre in Ottawa. It is from the data bank (HYDAT) that all historical data are made available to users via publications, computer tapes, listings or microfiche.

Another way of making data available to users is by permitting user access to HYDAT interactively through a "user friendly" retrieval program. The Water Resources Branch is interested in knowing what the demand would be for such a service. Please assist us by responding to the following questionnaire:

Toutes les données hydrométriques et portant sur les sédiments au Canada sont conservées sur bandes magnétiques au Centre d'informatique d'Énergie, Mines et Ressources (EMR). C'est la banque de données HYDAT qui fournit aux usagers toutes les données chronologiques, sous forme de publications, de bandes, d'états imprimés ou de microfiches.

Il existe un autre moyen de communiquer les données au usagers. Il s'agit de l'accès à HYDAT en mode interactif grâce à un programme de recherche à la portée de l'usagers. La Direction des ressources en eau aimerait connaître l'intérêt que ce service susciterait parmi les usagers et en évaluer la demande. À cette fin, elle vous prie de bien vouloir l'aider en complétant ce questionnaire :

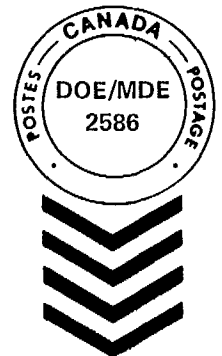
- 1. Would you be willing to do your own hydrometric data retrievals through a user friendly computer program? Yes No
- 1. Accepteriez-vous de faire vos propres recherches de données hydrométriques par l'intermédiaire du programme machine à la portée de l'usager? Oui Non
- 2. Would you be willing to establish an account at the EMR Computer Centre and to pay the cost of computer retrievals? Yes No
- 2. Accepteriez-vous d'ouvrir un compte au Centre d'informatique d'EMR et de payer le coût des recherches sur ordinateur? Oui Non
- 3. Do you presently have facilities capable of communicating with other computer centres? Yes No
- 3. Disposez-vous actuellement d'installations qui vous permettent de communiquer avec d'autres centres d'informatique? Oui Non
- 4. Do you presently receive information interactively from any exterior computer data bank? Yes No
- 4. Recevez-vous actuellement de l'information interactive d'une banque de données informatisées de l'extérieur? Oui Non



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PUBLICATIONS OFFICE
INLAND WATERS DIRECTORATE
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
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BUREAU DES PUBLICATIONS
DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE DES EAUX
INTÉRIEURES
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
OTTAWA (ONTARIO), K1A 9Z9
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SECTION B

NATIONAL DATA USERS SUMMARY

1984/85

INTRODUCTION

In 1982, a decision was made to prepare a National Data Users Summary. This summary would be an annual compilation of the data user reports prepared by the regions and by headquarters. Each region would keep a detailed record of data requests according to their own requirements, and annually in July, a report containing the information required for the national summary would be forwarded to Ottawa.

It was determined that the national summary would record the number of requests, regardless of quantity of data requested. The number of requests is determined by using the following guide:

- (a) upon receiving a request by letter, telephone or in person
- (b) each time data were supplied to a standing request
- (c) a request from other WSC offices (outside their office)
- (d) a request for several types of data would be considered as one request and categorized according to the major data supplied.

The tables on the following pages summarize the requests by type of data requested and type of user group for 1984/85.

Definition of Data Requests

- Historical data - requests for data that were published before the date of the request, including HSS and SWD publications, microfiche, hourly data, stage-discharge tables, hydrographs, gauge charts and meter notes.
- Current data - requests for data that were not published before the date of the request.
- Other - requests for maps, station descriptions, benchmark elevations, general publications including reference indexes and manuals, HYDEX retrievals and other miscellaneous information.

Definition of User Groups

- Federal government - all Canadian federal government agencies, including Crown Corporations.
- Provincial government - all provincial government agencies, including conservation authorities and hydro companies.
- Educational institutes - elementary and secondary schools, colleges, universities and public libraries.
- Engineering consultants - engineering consulting firms.
- Private individuals - all users requesting data as private individuals, e.g., no company title or address.
- Other agencies - all other users, including law firms, insurance companies, municipal governments, and United States or foreign (government and private) users.

SUMMARY OF USER DATA REQUESTS FOR 1984/85

Table 1. Summary of Data Requests

Region	Historical data		Current data		Other	Total
	Hydrometric	Sediment	Hydrometric	Sediment		
Atlantic provinces	126	6	100	-	53	285
Quebec	69	-	27	-	14	110
Ontario	150	5	247	5	93	500
Ottawa	273	46	-	-	193	512
Manitoba	115	-	540	-	102	757
Saskatchewan	25	-	195	-	172	392
Alberta	106	-	176	-	424	706
British Columbia	79	-	246	12	42	379
YT and NWT	44	-	31	-	32	107
Total	987	57	1562	17	1125	3748

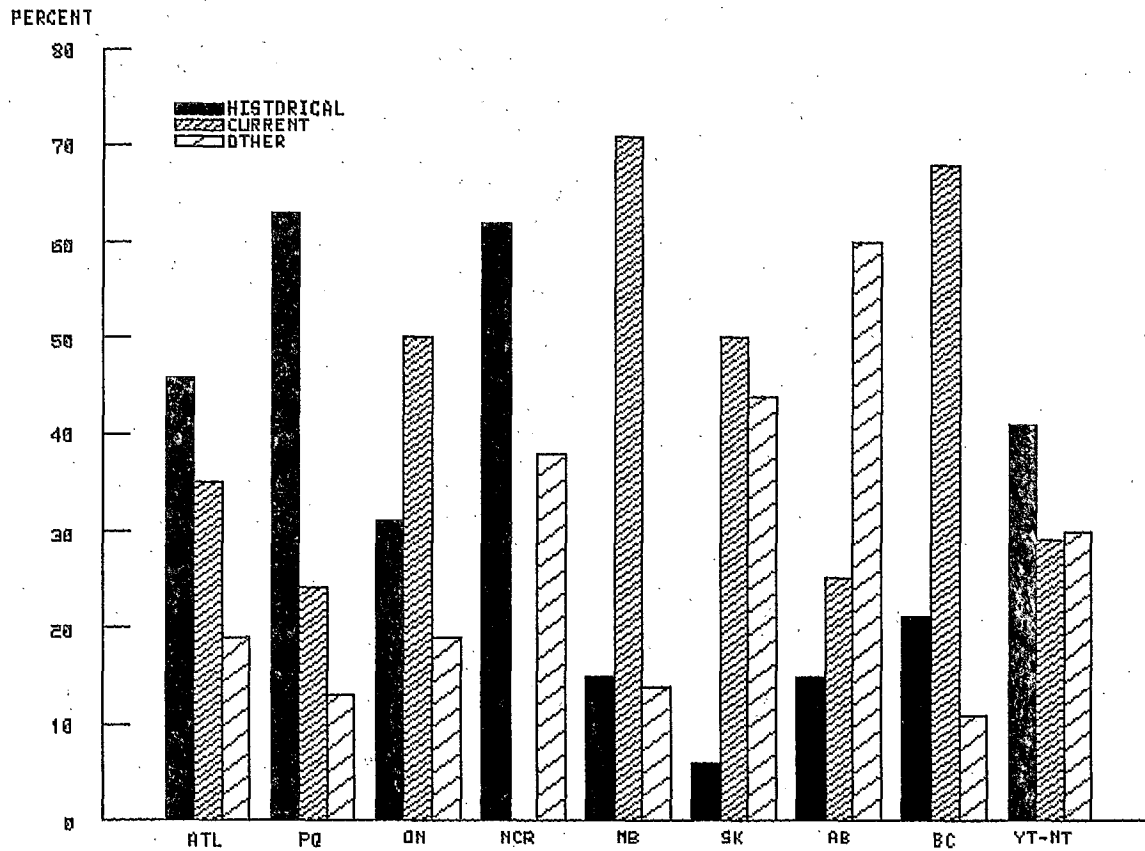


Figure 1. Type of requests by province.

Table 2. Summary of Requests by User Groups

Region	Government		Educational institutions	Engineering consultants	Private individuals	Other and foreign
	Federal	Provincial				
Atlantic Provinces	78	79	24	59	9	36
Québec	10	16	12	34	19	19
Ontario	63	179	61	119	53	25
Ottawa	219	70	46	95	24	58
Manitoba	207	302	18	59	96	75
Saskatchewan	138	147	11	40	20	36
Alberta	41	261	20	193	55	136
British Columbia	43	93	10	80	50	103
YT and NWT	43	23	2	26	10	3
Total	842	1170	204	705	336	491

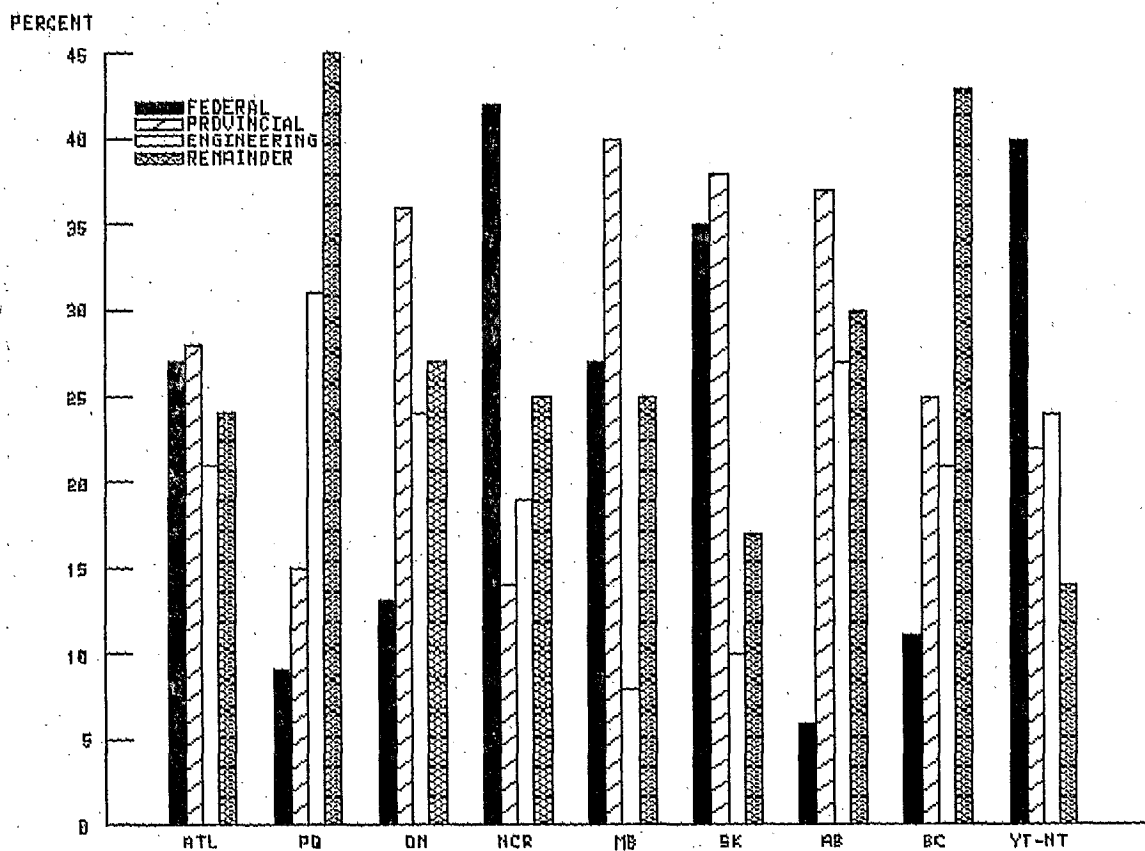


Figure 2. Type of user groups by province.

SUMMARY

This is the third annual report of data requests, but it is still too early to see any national trends. The total number of requests reported is as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Number of Requests</u>
1982/83	3439
1983/84	3462
1984/85	3748

The actual values do not represent a trend. Rather, the change is due to adjustments in the reporting procedures, for instance

- Winnipeg revised their monthly standing requests, which resulted in a drop in requests.
- Vancouver requests were included this year, which increased the total number.
- Ottawa requests now include the requests sent by the Distribution Centre.
- Adjustments in other regions resulted in changes ranging from -11% to +38%.

The type of request varies across Canada. In most regions, over 50% of the requests are for Current Data. Ottawa, Quebec, Atlantic and Territories requests are mainly for Historical Data. Alberta is the only region where requests for Other Data are predominant.

The type of agency requesting data also varied across Canada. Six of the eight regional offices reported Provincial Agencies as their main users, with Federal Agencies or Consultants ranking second or third. In British Columbia, Other Agencies ranked second. Federal Agencies were major users of the Territorial and Headquarters data.

Some regions are not able to report on sediment data because of the definition of a request, i.e., if a user is requesting a large quantity of hydrometric and sediment data for only a few stations, it is counted as a hydrometric request. To provide meaningful statistics on sediment data, a change in this definition is recommended.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Although all regions submit an annual summary report to Ottawa, it is frequently difficult for the Ottawa staff to categorize correctly the requests and agencies for the national compilation. It is recommended that all offices re-examine their procedures to assist Ottawa and improve the statistics.
2. It is recommended that the definition of a data request given in the Introduction be revised by adding the following entry to the list:
 - (e) all requests for sediment data will be considered as a sediment request. If hydrometric data are also requested, then they will be considered as two requests (one sediment, one hydrometric).

It is also recommended that each region identify hydrometric and sediment requests for Table 1 in the national report.

REVIEW OF PAST RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The 1984 recommendations for all offices to re-examine their reporting procedures have been repeated this year. Procedures have improved but we are not yet to the point where all headquarters, regional and sub-offices are consistently reporting all requests.
2. The policy for cost-recovery of supplying data to users has not been re-examined. The three DOE/WRB Inquiries may have an impact on this policy.
3. HYDAT data have not been supplied to the regions on RA60 disk for the PDP 11/44. Users and regions will be able to retrieve data directly from the HYDAT data bank in Ottawa.
4. A program will be written for the regions' PDP 11/44 computers which will convert their final approved data into a user format. The regions will then be able to supply their final data (or certain users may be able to access the data themselves) before the historical data banks are updated in Ottawa.
5. An attempt was made to produce the microfiche by September 1. The microfiche this year were produced by new equipment at Public Archives and difficulties resulted in a two-month delay. Testing should be completed earlier next year to meet this goal.