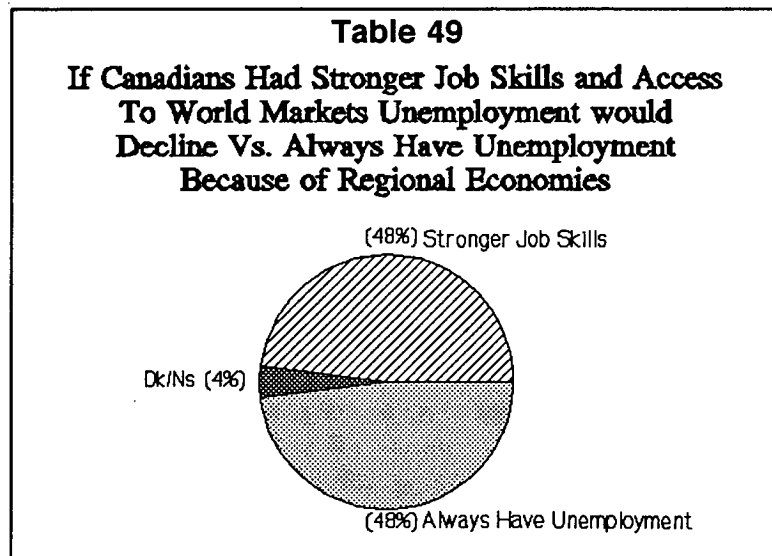


Table 49 presents aggregate responses to the following forced choice question testing the perceived impact of market access and skills development on long-term employment prospects for Canadian workers:

"Some people say that if Canadians had stronger job skills along with access to world markets, we would prosper and the problem of unemployment would decline on its own.

Other people say that we will always have high unemployment in Canada because of the weaknesses in some of our regional economies. Which statement is closest to your own point of view?"



These data indicate that Canadians are divided on the efficacy of market access and skills training -- only half (48%) see them as effective when compared to the overall impact of Canada's weak regional economies. Regionally, B.C. (53%) residents are the most optimistic about the efficacy of skills and markets, Alberta and Quebec (both 43%) residents are the least optimistic.