

A fully integrated evaluation of the net effects will always have substantial lags. Data availability on the performance of the industries in the manufacturing sector and other parts of the economy, can only be assembled, with any completeness, after the input-output tables become available. At the present time, the latest table is for the year 1986. Thus, for example, an assessment of the impact of the FTA on the total economy for the year 1989 is technically feasible only in late 1992 or early 1993.

This analysis focuses on the "technical" side of the question. But beyond that, it should be acknowledged that the direction of the information system is also a challenge since rigorous technical procedures are applied to particular questions. Deciding on which questions to ask is equally important. How that would be administered is important, but lies beyond the scope of our commission.