

VI. EXPECTATIONS RE TIMING OF THE EFFECTS OF FREE TRADE, U.S. PROTECTIONISM AND ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

A. Timing of Effects and Expectations Re Adjustment Assistance

Canadians were asked not only whether they feel the free trade agreement is good or bad for Canada's economy in various contexts, but also how long they think it will be before the effects of the trade agreement will be felt in Canada. Results are arrayed in Table 11.

Table 11

ANTICIPATED TIME FRAME FOR EFFECTS OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BEING FELT IN CANADA

	JUNE <u>1987</u> %	OCTOBER <u>1987</u> %
Almost right away	20	11
Two-to-five years	35	42
Three-to-five years	29	29
Five-to-ten years	11	15
More than 10 years	5	4

As in June, more than eight-in-ten Canadians anticipate that the effects of the free trade agreement will be felt within five years. Expectations as to the timing of effects continue to vary on the basis of age and region. Quebecers remain more likely than average to be of the view that the effects will be felt in three-to-five years, or five-to-ten years. Canadians aged 25-to-34 years are still more likely to expect the effects to be apparent sooner, within two-to-three years. In short, these data clearly indicate that consistent with their earlier expectations, Canadians believe that the effects of the free trade agreement with the United States will be felt more in the relatively short to medium term.