

IV. ANTICIPATED EFFECTS OF FREE TRADE

A. General Views

Respondents' views as to the anticipated effects of the FTA were probed through the presentation of a series of statements presenting possible consequences of the FTA. Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with each statement on a scale between -5 and +5, where +5 meant that they strongly agree with the statement and -5 meant they strongly disagreed with the statement.

The aggregate results for two of these statements appear in Table 5.

Table 5

GENERAL PERCEPTIONS OF THE FTA

	<u>PERCENTAGE AGREE</u>		<u>GAMMA CORRELATION</u>	
	<u>May</u> %	<u>August</u> %	<u>May</u>	<u>August</u>
Canada may become more like the States in some areas, but Canadians themselves will not become like Americans as a result of free trade	66	66	.576	.539
The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement is nothing more than an economic agreement between the two countries	--	56	--	.472

As Table 5 suggests, a majority of Canadians (66%) continue to agree that the FTA will not mean that Canadians will become like Americans. This result is unchanged from the May 1988 finding. Only 25% of respondents disagree with this statement, and concomitantly, these respondents are considerably more likely to oppose (64%) the FTA.

August survey respondents were asked whether they agree or disagree that the Canada-U.S. FTA is only an economic agreement between the two countries. A small majority (56%) of Canadians agree that this is indeed the case.