

G. OPINIONS ON A FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WHICH INCLUDES CANADA, THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Respondents were asked for their opinions concerning a Free Trade Agreement which included Canada, the United States and Mexico. In particular, they were asked if they were in favour or opposed to such an agreement. Respondents were divided in their position on such an agreement (Table 16). About 48% indicated they were strongly or somewhat in favour of the idea, with most indicating they somewhat favoured it. Another 38% were almost equally divided between somewhat or strongly opposed to the idea. A high percentage (14%) of respondents would not or could not give an opinion on this question. No differences were noted in responses by region, sector or firm size.

**TABLE 16
EXPORTERS' OPINIONS ON A FREE TRADE AGREEMENT
WHICH INCLUDED MEXICO**

Opinion	(501) %
Strongly Favour	18
Somewhat Favour	30
Somewhat Oppose	18
Strongly Oppose	20
Don't Know	14

Source: Question D11.

For those respondents who favoured such an agreement, the most common reason why they were in favour was that it would offer new or expanded opportunities and markets (see Table 17). Other reasons given included such benefits as cheaper labour, lower priced products and the idea that we must become part of a larger economic trading bloc in order to compete in world markets.