

Canada is well on the way to reducing emissions to an acceptable level. More than 90 percent of the emission reductions required to reach the 2.3-million-tonne level have been incorporated in the provincial regulations and air pollution control programs and have been ratified in federal/provincial agreements. Under the Canadian acid rain control program, these reductions will be achieved by 1994 at the latest. The emission reductions are absolute and emissions from any new source, no matter how stringently controlled, must be offset by additional reductions from existing sources. Currently, sulphur-dioxide emissions in eastern Canada are about 2.8 million tonnes—almost 40 percent less than in 1980. The full reductions required under Canada's program will be achieved on or ahead of schedule.

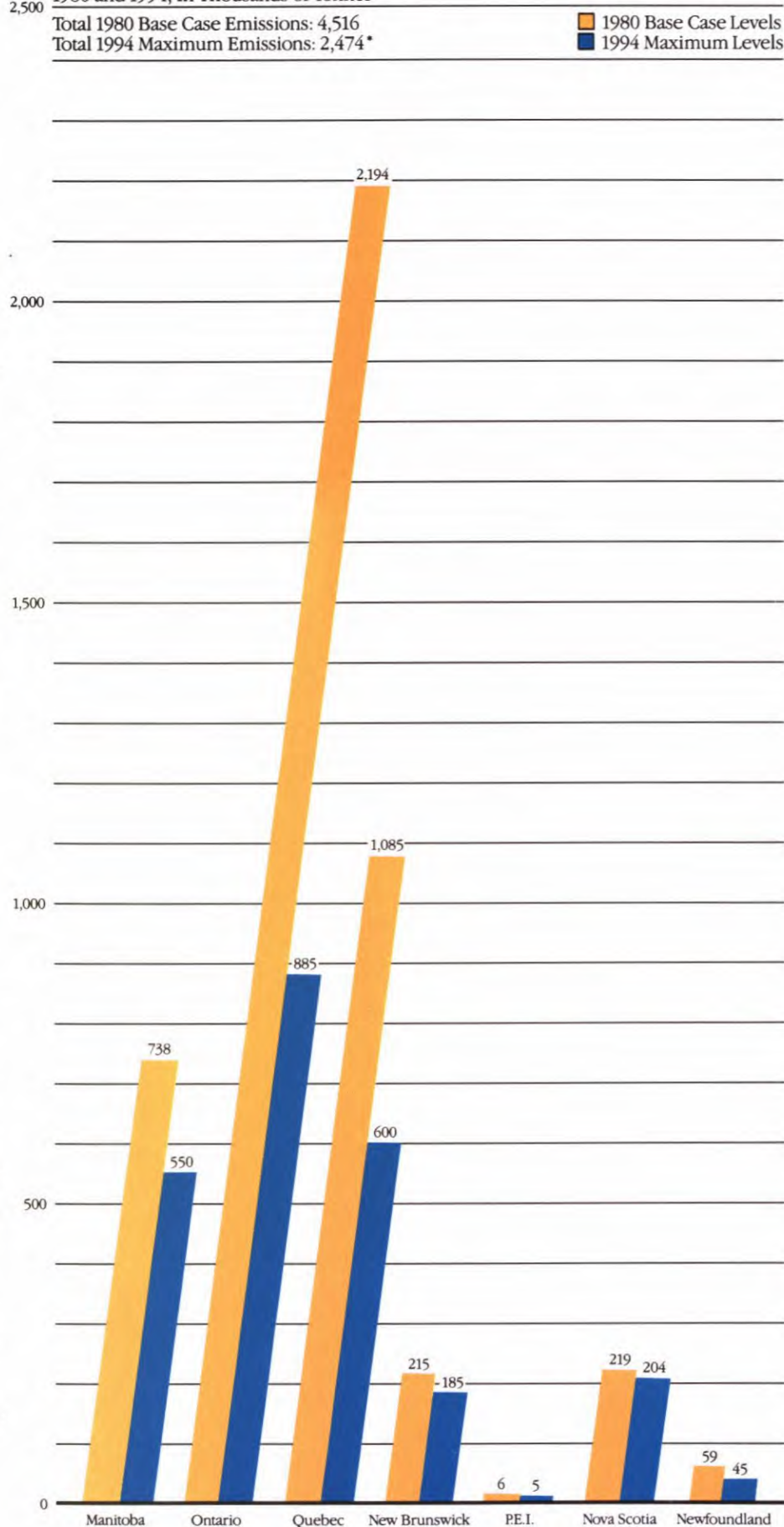
The northeastern United States is benefitting from Canadian actions. Canada has already reduced the amount of acid rain pollution it exports by one-third. When Canada's program is completed, it will have cut its exports by more than 50 percent.

The sources of sulphur-dioxide emissions in Canada are very different from those in the United States. In eastern Canada, 60 percent of sulphur-dioxide emissions come from non-ferrous smelters, 15 percent from thermal power plants, 15 percent from non-utility fuel combustion and the remainder from miscellaneous sources. By contrast, in the United States, about 70 percent of sulphur-dioxide emissions come from thermal power plants. This means that the nature and scope of actions taken to reduce emissions from the sources in the two countries will be quite different.

The Canadian acid rain control program is the result of a genuine partnership involving all levels of government, industry and environmental interest groups. The experience gained over the past four years has demonstrated that major emission reduction measures are both technically and economically feasible. Cleaning up pollution does not have to cripple an industry's competitiveness. In fact, environmental cleanup can be part of an industry's future strategy. Technical innovation and plant modernization can reduce emissions and improve productivity even when the emission reductions must be accomplished within a tight time frame.

SULPHUR-DIOXIDE EMISSIONS IN EASTERN CANADA

1980 and 1994, In Thousands of Tonnes



*Governments are committed to allocating the remaining 174,000 tonnes of emission reductions in time to have them in place by 1994.