Table 5 outlines perceptions of the benefits and losses from freer trade in provincial terms.

Table 5

BENEFIT/LOSS TO THE PROVINCES OF THE REMOVAL OF TRADE BARRIERS

	BENEFIT MORE %	ABOUT THE SAME %	BENEFIT LESS %	NET CHANGE FROM APRIL 1986
PROVINCE				
British Columbia	64	19	17	-13
Alberta	61	21	16	-16
Saskatchewan	47	27	19	+2
Manitoba	33	37	27	-7
Balance Ontario	46	26	28	+12
Metropolitan Toronto	52	23	24	+7
Quebec	42	31	26	-6
New Brunswick	55	17	28	-9
Nova Scotia	52	28	19	-3
Prince Edward Island	51	22	24	+7
Newfoundland	55	23	23	+12
National Average	50	26	23	-6

Note: Percentages for the first three columns sum horizontally and may not sum to 100% due to rounding and exclusion of "no opinion." The Net Change column provides data on the change since April 1986 based on a measure of those saying province would "benefit more" minus those saying "less."

This table shows that there continues to be a stronger belief that one's own province will benefit more from freer trade than the country as a whole. But the underlying optimism identified in the first wave of this study in April appears to be abating. Particularly in the three provinces identified as supporters for freer trade -- Newfoundland, British Columbia, and Alberta -- there is a diminishing certainty of provincial benefit. By contrast, residents of Metropolitan Toronto are more likely to identify Ontario's net benefit in the event of free trade.