

BRANT COMMUNITY
SOCIAL
PLANNING
COUNCIL

Brant County
Social Indicators
Update 1993

**Local
History**

REFERENCE
317.1347
BRA
1993

LOCAL HISTORY

171 Colborne Street, Suite 502
Brantford, Ontario N3T 6C9
(519) 754-1081

Brant County
Social Indicators
Update 1993

Prepared by:
Kim Van Louwe
Executive Director

January, 1994

Ref
317.1347
BRA
Local History
1993

BRANTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
FEB 1995

Introduction

- Providing the community with current socio-economic data and analysis for Brant County is an important part of the mandate of the Brant Community Social Planning Council.
- © **BRANT COMMUNITY SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL, 1994**
171 Colborne Street, Suite 502
Brantford, Ontario N3T 6C9

**All rights reserved including the right to reproduce
in whole or in part in any form.**

The long running "Brant County" report is for Brant County* except where noted. The report presents a "snapshot" picture which relies upon graphs to highlight trends and patterns.

Opinions expressed in this report represent those of the author and not necessarily the Social Planning Council.

Thank you to the individuals and organizations who continue to supply the Council with the data to produce this document.

* Brant County includes the City of Brantford, Town of Paris, Township of Brantford, Township of Burford, Township of South Dumfries, Township of Grandage, Township of Okanese, Six Nations Indian Reserve (No. 46) and New Credit Indian Reserve (No. 404).

Introduction

Providing the community with current socio-economic data and analysis for Brant County is an important part of the mandate of the Brant Community Social Planning Council.

The purpose of this report is to document recent socio-economic trends utilizing a variety of relevant variables. The report has been divided into three parts:

- *Section 1: Summary presents a brief outline of the major trends described in Sections 2 and 3.*
- *Section 2: Current Trends presents a number of variables which have been monitored on a monthly basis over the past number of years (ie. unemployment rates, food bank utilization).*
- *Section 3: Past Trends presents a number of variables which have been extracted primarily from Census data and other historical sources (i.e. population, employment, income).*

The data contained in this report is for Brant County except where noted. The report presents a "pictorial" outline which relies upon graphs to highlight trends and patterns.*

Opinions presented in this report represent those of the author and not necessarily the Social Planning Council.

Thank you to the individuals and organizations who continue to supply the Council with the data to produce this document.

* *Brant County includes the City of Brantford, Town of Paris, Township of Brantford, Township of Burford, Township of South Dumfries, Township of Onondaga, Township of Oakland, Six Nations Indian Reserve (No. 40) and New Credit Indian Reserve (No. 40A).*

Table of Contents

Section 1: Summary **1 - 1**

Section 2: Current Trends **2 - 1**

<i>Unemployment Rates</i>	2 - 2
<i>Regular Unemployment Insurance Benefits Recipients</i>	2 - 3
<i>General Welfare Assistance Caseload</i>	2 - 4
<i>Family Benefits Assistance Caseload</i>	2 - 5
<i>Brantford Food Bank Clients</i>	2 - 6
<i>Brant and Brantford Housing Authority Waiting List</i>	2 - 7
<i>MLS Housing Sales</i>	2 - 8
<i>MLS Housing Prices</i>	2 - 9
<i>Housing Unit Construction</i>	2 - 10

Section 3: Past Trends **3 - 1**

<i>Historical and Projected Population</i>	3 - 2
<i>Historical and Projected Growth</i>	3 - 3
<i>Current Population</i>	3 - 4
<i>Population Composition</i>	3 - 5
<i>Marital Status</i>	3 - 6
<i>Family Composition</i>	3 - 7
<i>Ethnic Origin</i>	3 - 8
<i>Religious Affiliation</i>	3 - 9
<i>Educational Levels</i>	3 - 10
<i>Industry Divisions</i>	3 - 11
<i>Average Incomes</i>	3 - 12
<i>Private Household Income</i>	3 - 13
<i>Apartment Vacancy Rate</i>	3 - 14
<i>Apartment Rents</i>	3 - 15

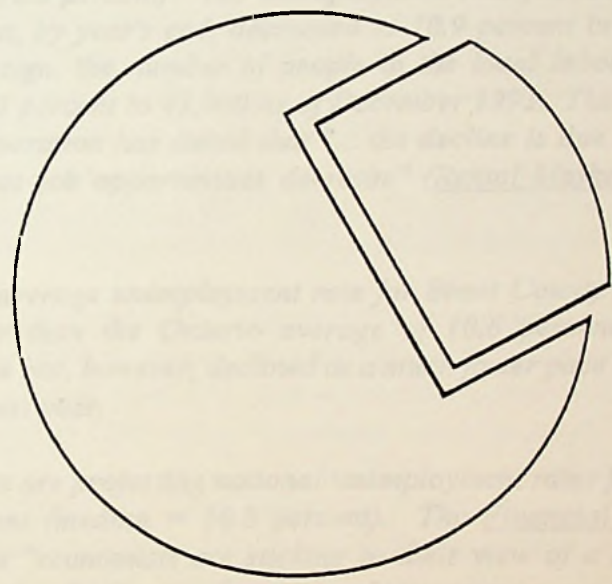
The following socioeconomic trends can be seen from the Brant County data reported in this report:

Section 1
Summary

Unemployment Rate

Figure 1.1: Unemployment Rate, 1982-1992

The unemployment rate for Brant County averaged 12.4 percent in 1992 (1982 average = 12.3 percent). The unemployment rate peaked in February 1992 at 14.5 percent but, by year-end, it fell to 12.4 percent. The unemployment rate was in a positive cycle during 1992 by 0.2 percentage points over the 1991 rate. The County's unemployment rate during 1992 was 0.2 percentage points above the Ontario average and 0.1 percentage points above the national average. The unemployment rate for Brant County in 1992 was 0.1 percentage points above the national average.



The 1992 unemployment rate for Brant County was 0.1 percentage points above the national average. The unemployment rate for Brant County in 1992 was 0.1 percentage points above the national average.

Unemployment rate for the national average during 1992 of 12.3 percent. The unemployment rate for Brant County in 1992 was 0.1 percentage points above the national average.

BRANT COMMUNITY
SOCIAL
PLANNING
COUNCIL

Executive Summary

Introduction

Unemployment rate for the national average during 1992 of 12.3 percent.

Summary

The following socio-economic trends can be seen from the Brant County data presented in this report.

Unemployment Rate

Down to 10.9 percent (5,300 people) during 1993.

The unemployment rate for Brant County averaged 12.6 percent in 1993 (1992 average = 12.8 percent). The unemployment rate peaked in February 1993 at 14.8 percent but, by year's end, decreased to 10.9 percent in December. While this is a positive sign, the number of people in the local labour force decreased during 1993 by 6.3 percent to 43,000 as of December 1993. The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has stated that "... the decline is due to workers leaving the labour force as job opportunities decrease" (Rental Market Report, October, 1993).

The 1993 average unemployment rate for Brant County (12.6 percent) was two points higher than the Ontario average of 10.6 percent. Brant County's unemployment rate has, however, declined at a much faster pace than the Provincial rate during the past year.

Economists are projecting national unemployment rates for 1994 of between 10.5 - 11.3 percent (median = 10.8 percent). The Financial Post (January 22, 1994) reports that "economists are sticking to their view of a steady recovery [in the economy] this year". Double-digit unemployment rates are projected to be with us for the next few years.

Unemployment Insurance Recipients

Down 29.2 percent to 4,938 cases during 1993.

Between January and December of 1993, the number of regular unemployment insurance recipients decreased by 29.2 percent. The annual average number of recipients decreased by 11.4 percent to 5,497 cases in 1993 (1992 average = 6,206 cases). Except for the months of August and December, the number of recipients decreased each month during the year.

The trend towards a continued decline in the number of beneficiaries is a sign that the local economy is improving albeit at a relatively slow pace. The weak recovery and uneasiness over employment prospects have had the spin-off effect of hampering consumer confidence and inhibiting consumer spending according to the Department of Finance.

Post-1991 recession levels are well below similar levels witnessed during the recession of the early 1980's in Brant County.

It is reasonable to expect a modest decline in the number of beneficiaries in 1994 given the anticipated moderate level of growth in the economy.

General Welfare Caseload

Down 8.2 percent to 3,074 cases during 1993.

Between January and December of 1993, the number of general welfare assistance cases decreased by 8.2 percent. The annual average number of cases declined by 6.0 percent to 3,127 cases (1992 average = 3,327 cases).

It would seem reasonable to expect a continued, but shallow, drop in the general welfare caseload in 1994 given the consistent trend experienced in 1993. The caseload will, in all likelihood, remain at a high level (around 3,000 cases). This caseload is dramatic when compared to the 1983 recession annual average when the caseload peaked at 2,028 cases.

Family Benefits Assistance Caseload

Up 9.1 percent to 5,529 cases during 1993.

Between January and December of 1993, the number of family benefits assistance cases increased by 9.1 percent. The annual average number of cases increased by 11.8 percent to 5,364 cases (1992 average = 4,796 cases). The caseload has inched-up month by month on a fairly consistent basis over the past few years.

Historically consistent trends suggest that the family benefits caseload will continue to increase during 1994 as more people move onto this longer-term form of social assistance. This pattern may occur despite anticipated declines in the number of people receiving unemployment insurance benefits and general welfare assistance.

Brantford Food Bank Clients

Down 17.8 percent to 911 clients during 1993.

Between January and December of 1993, the number of clients receiving food at the Brantford Food Bank decreased by 17.8 percent. This decrease can, in large part, be explained by the Food Bank's policy change in August to limit the number of times clients can use the service to once a month (from the previous twice a month policy). Even with this change, however, the annual average number of clients increased by 9.4 percent to 1,128 cases (1992 average = 1,031 clients).

It is likely that, in spite of the recent policy change, the number of clients utilizing the Food Bank will begin to climb again in 1994. The rate of this increase is not expected to be as great as that experienced in previous years.

Brant and Brantford Housing Authority Waiting List

Up 18.8 percent to 934 applicants during 1993.

Between January and December of 1993, the number of applicants awaiting subsidized accommodation increased by 18.8 percent. The annual average number of applicants increased by 25.0 percent to 864 cases (1992 average = 691 applicants).

This significant increase appears perplexing in view of declining unemployment, a lessened dependency on social assistance and an improved housing market featuring very low mortgage interest rates, cheaper housing and increased apartment vacancy rates. These trends, however, mask the reality for many poor people of diminished purchasing power and apartment rents which remain unaffordable for families in particular. In December 1993, 92 percent of all applicants on the waiting list for subsidized housing were "in serious need" of accommodation (ie. 100 or more points). A modest, but continued, increase in the waiting list is anticipated in 1994.

Housing Sales and Prices

Total sales up 1.2 percent and prices down 0.6 percent in 1993.

Compared to 1992, the total number of houses sold in the re-sale market

increased by 1.2 percent during 1993 to 1,558 sales (1992 total = 1,540 sales). At the same time, the average sale price decreased by 0.6 percent to \$119,989 during 1993 (1992 average = \$120,707).

While the housing market was stagnant in 1993, industry analysts are predicting a brisk recovery in 1994. This recovery is expected to be fuelled by the lowest mortgage interest rates in about the last 30 years and housing prices which have dipped since 1990 making homeownership more affordable for first-time buyers. The "move-up" market is also expected to increase in the coming year as existing homeowners search for more expensive accommodation.

Housing Unit Construction

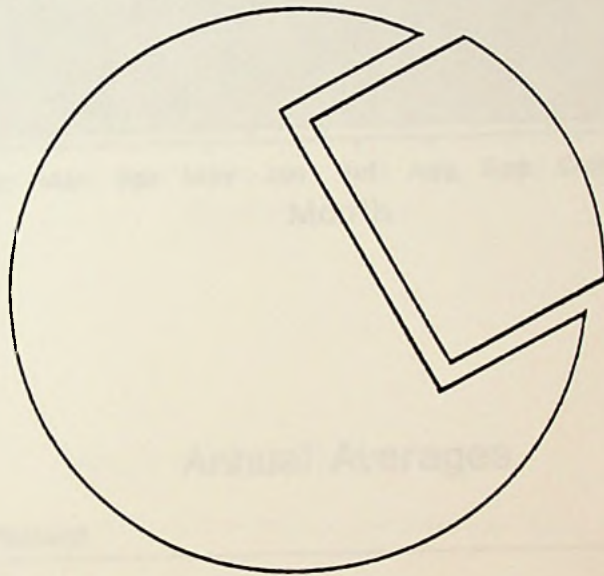
Down 32.2 percent to 395 units in 1993.

Compared to 1992, the total number of new housing units constructed in the City decreased by 32.2 percent during 1993 to 395 units (1992 total = 583 units). Production in 1993 was, however, up from the 1991 low of 315 units.

A modest increase in the number of new homes constructed may be witnessed in 1994 as the housing market regains anticipated momentum.

January - December 1993

Section 2
Current Trends

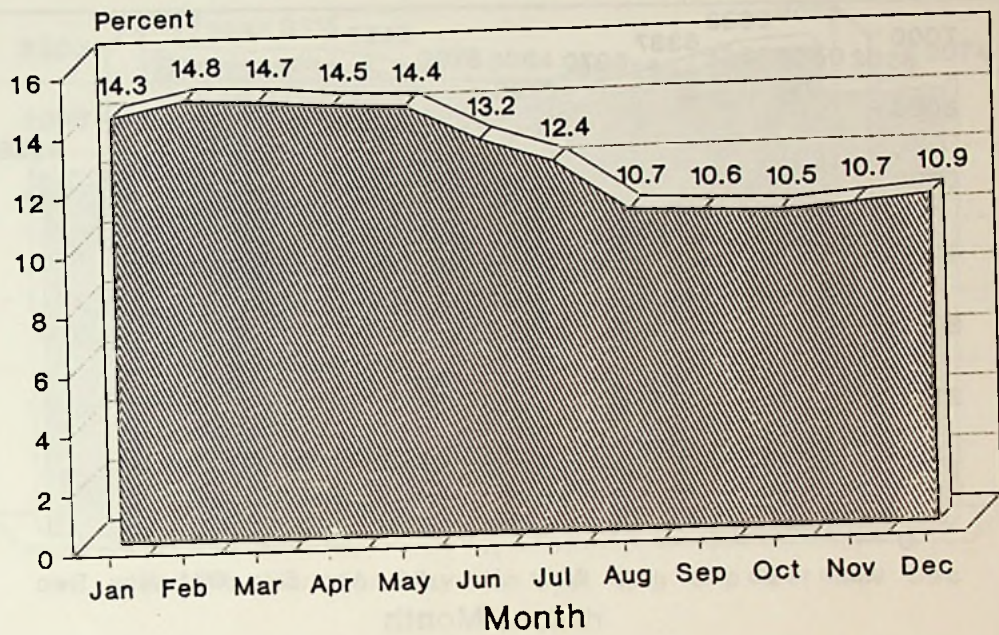


BRANT COMMUNITY
SOCIAL
PLANNING
COUNCIL

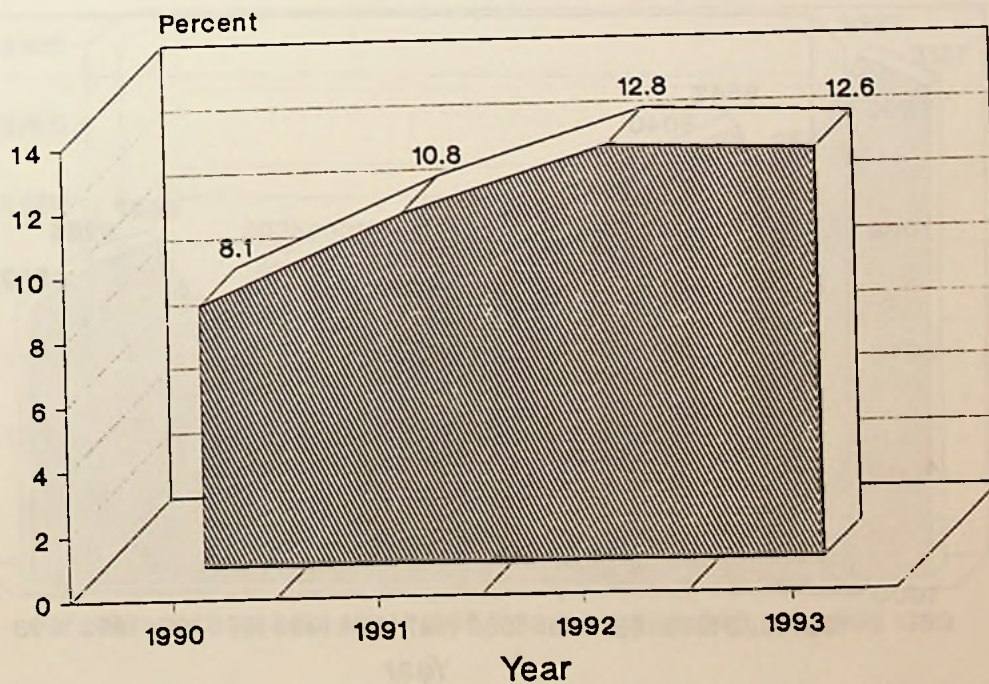
BRANTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES*

January - December 1993



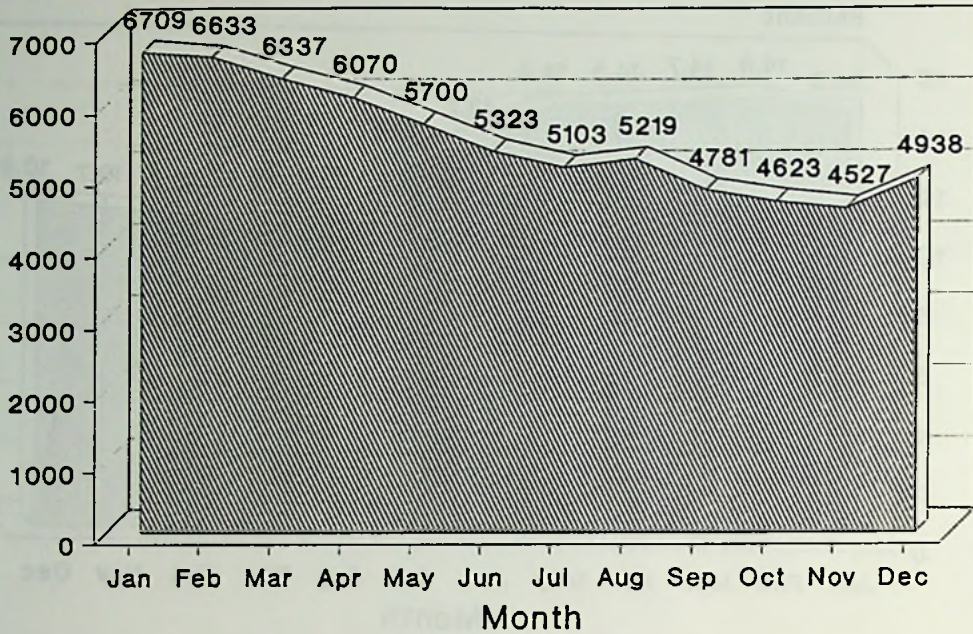
Annual Averages



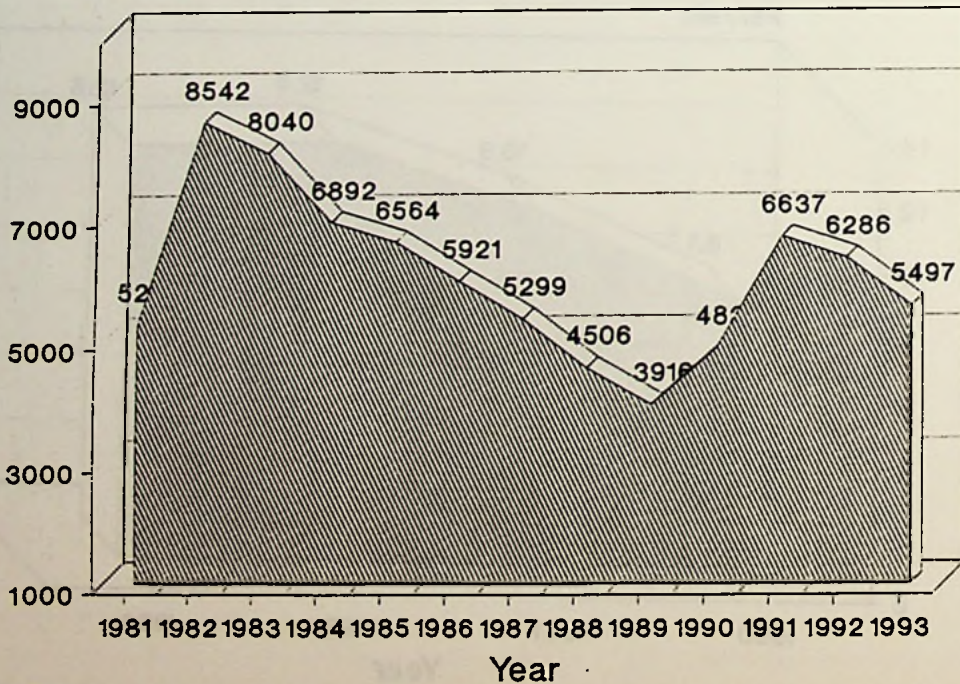
* Unemployment rates are for the Brantford Census Agglomeration (City of Brantford, Town of Paris and the Township of Brantford).

REGULAR UIC BENEFITS RECIPIENTS

January - December 1993

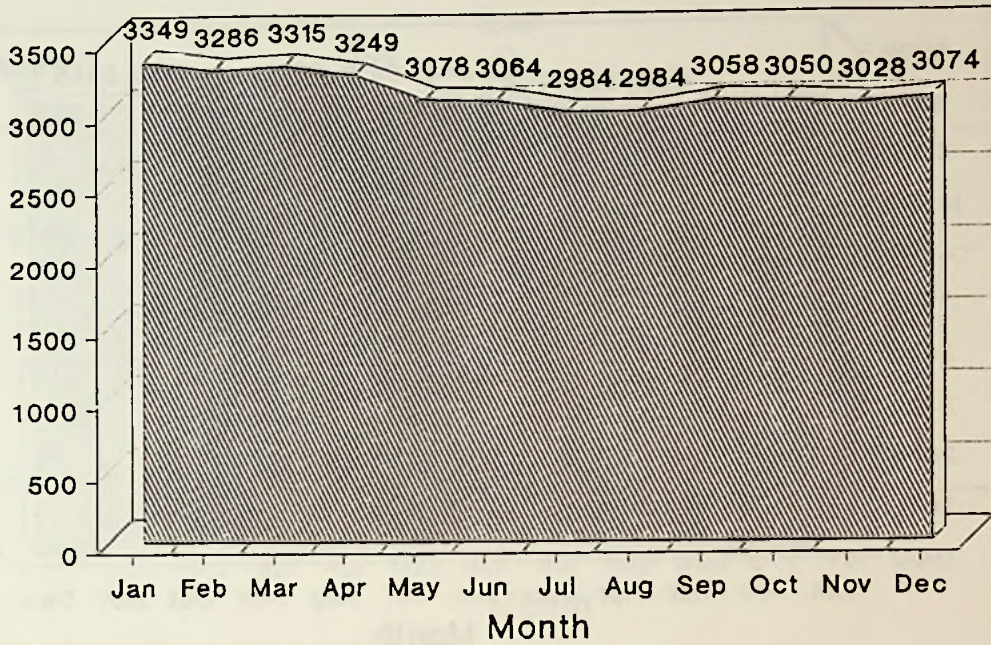


Annual Averages

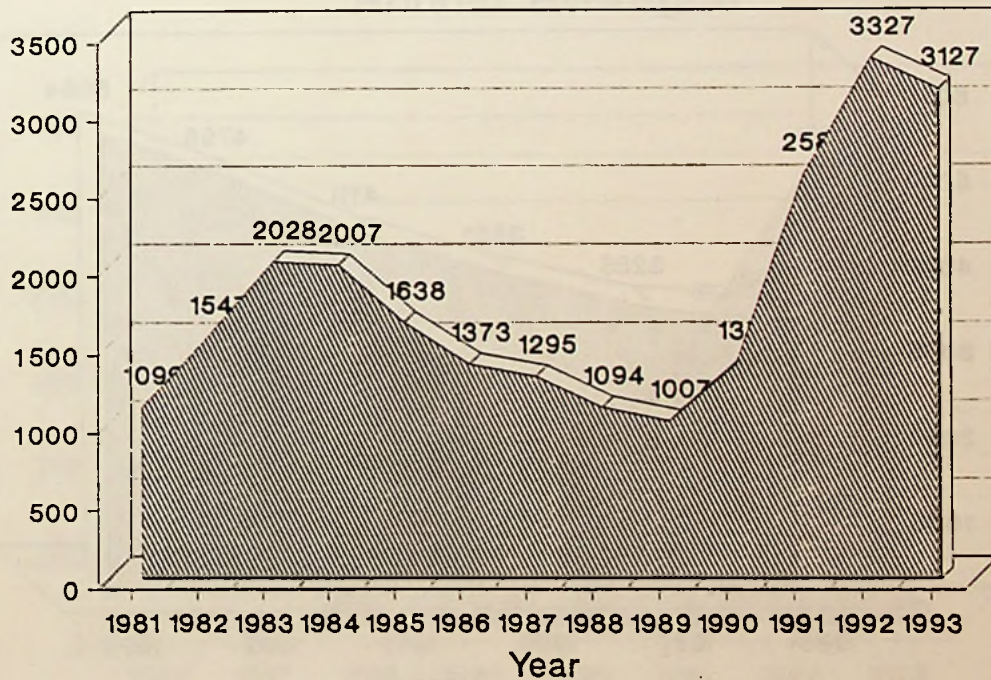


GENERAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE CASELOAD

January - December 1993

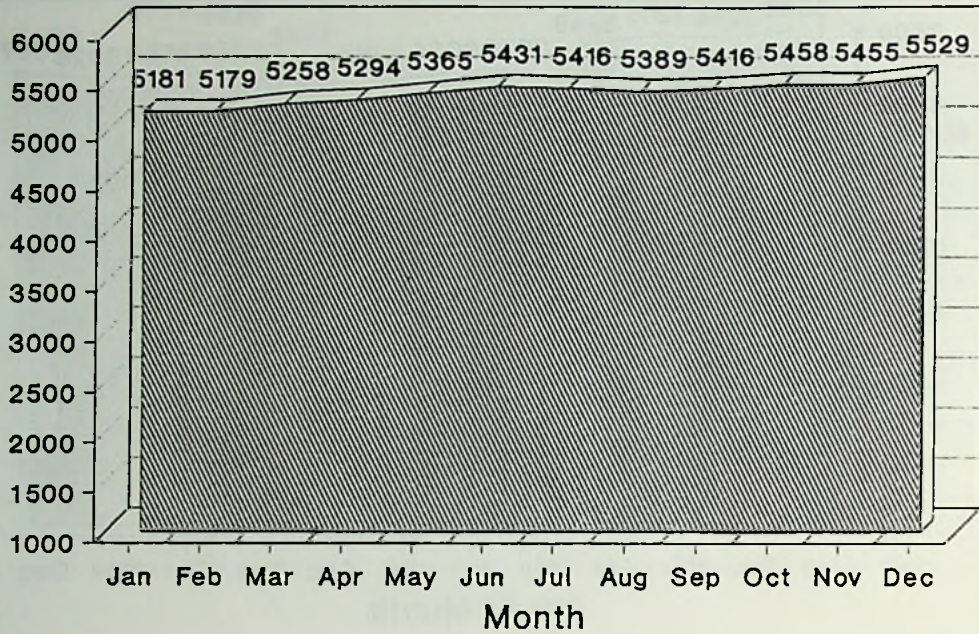


Annual Averages

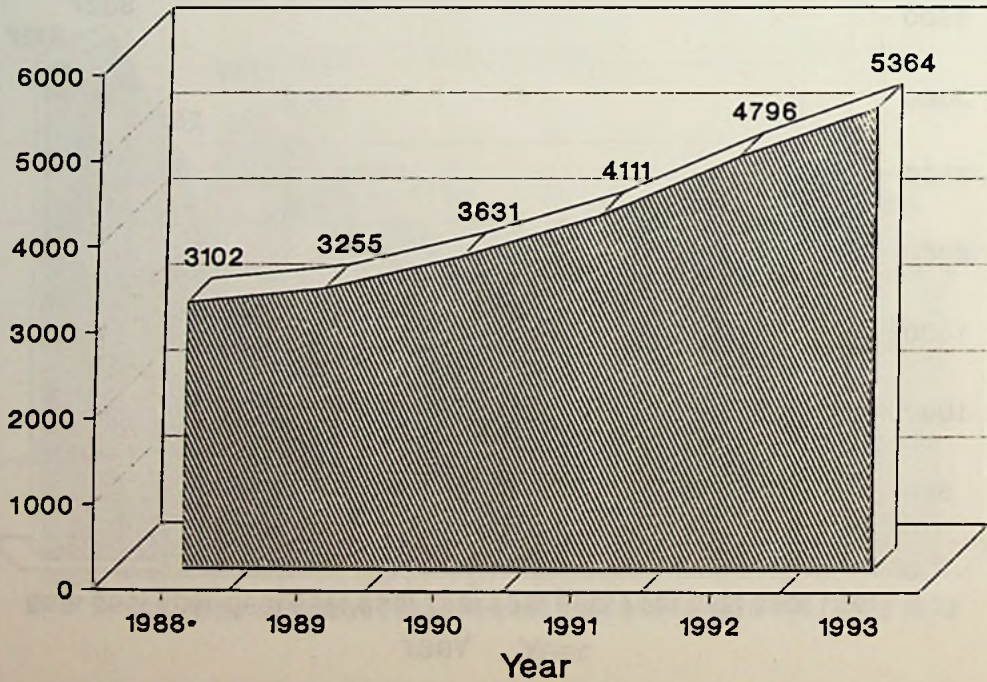


FAMILY BENEFITS ASSISTANCE CASELOAD

January - December 1993



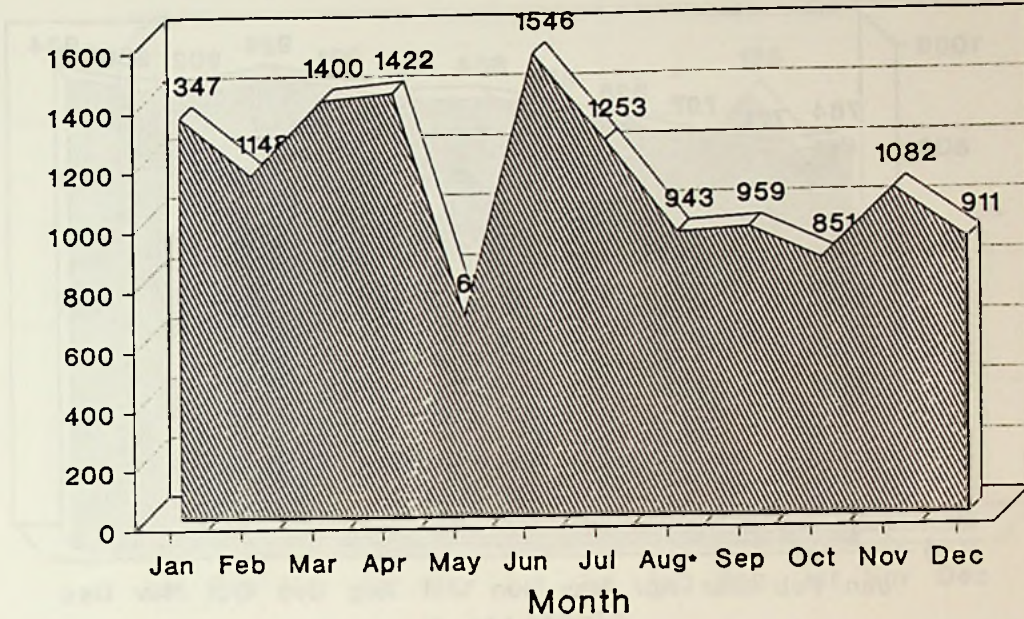
Annual Averages



• July to December 1988 only

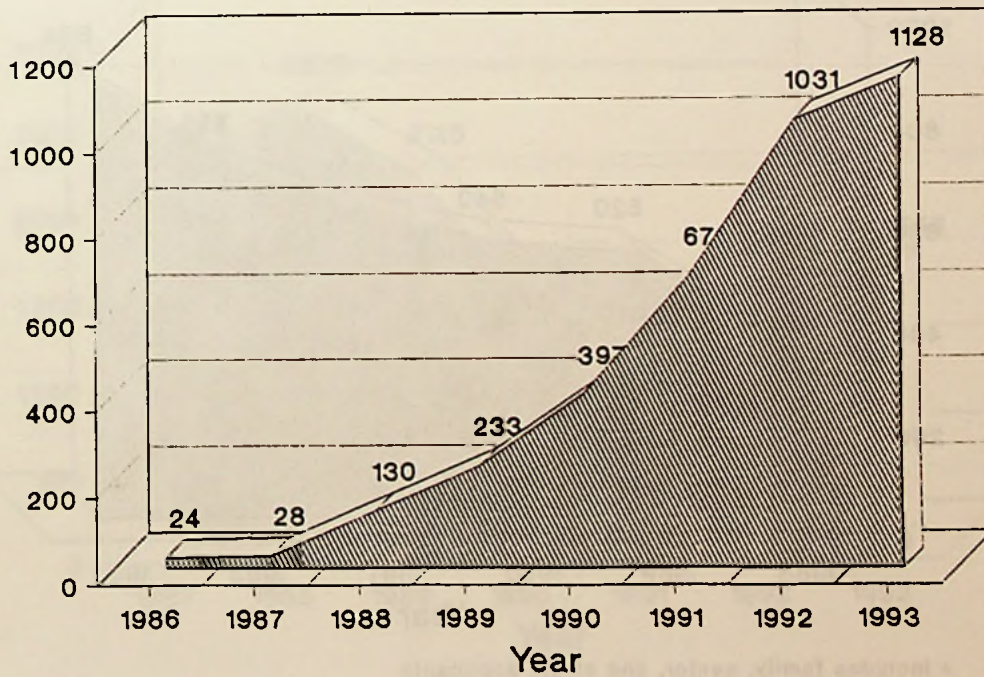
BRANTFORD FOOD BANK CLIENTS

January - December 1993



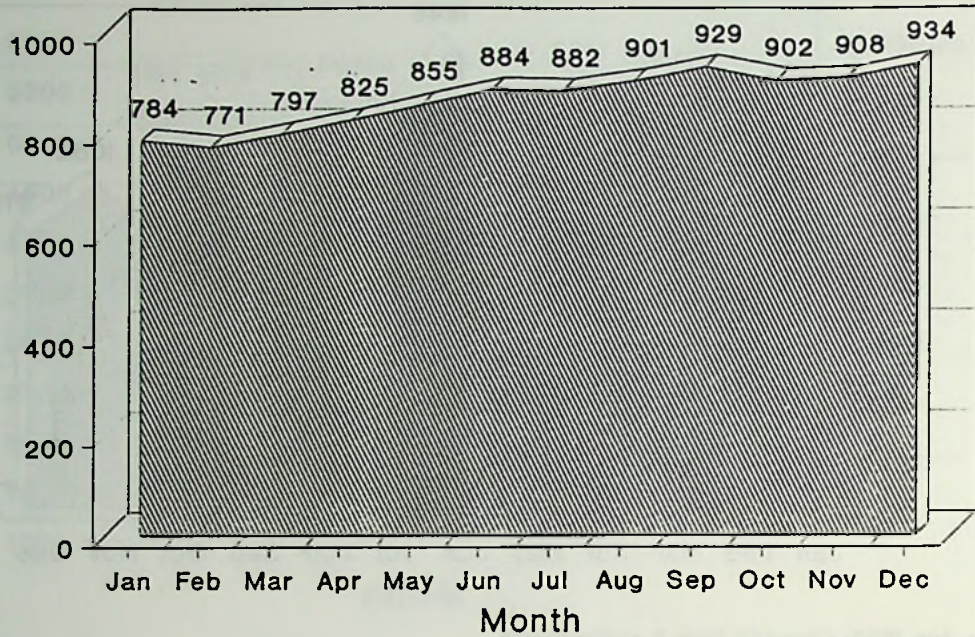
• Aug 1993: Changed from 2 visits/month to 1 visit/month for each client.

Annual Averages

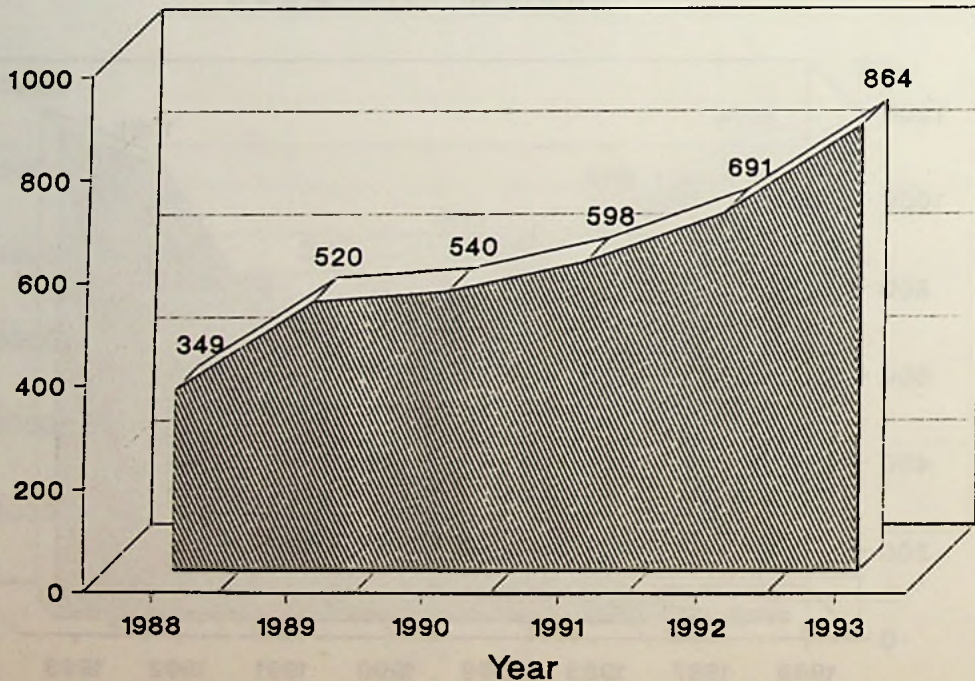


BRANT AND BRANTFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY

Waiting List*, January - December 1993



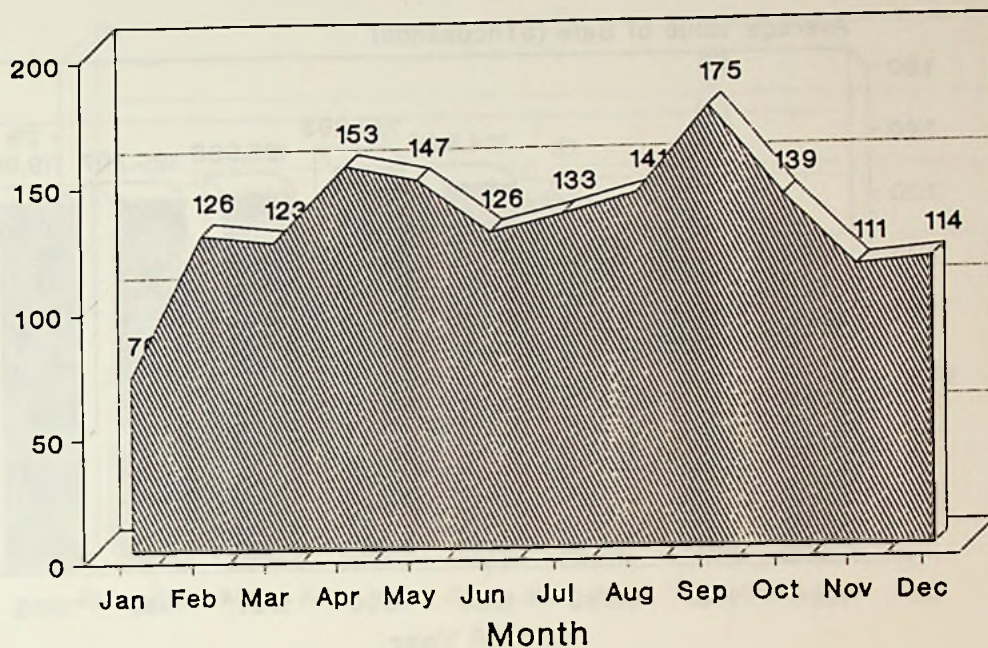
Annual Averages



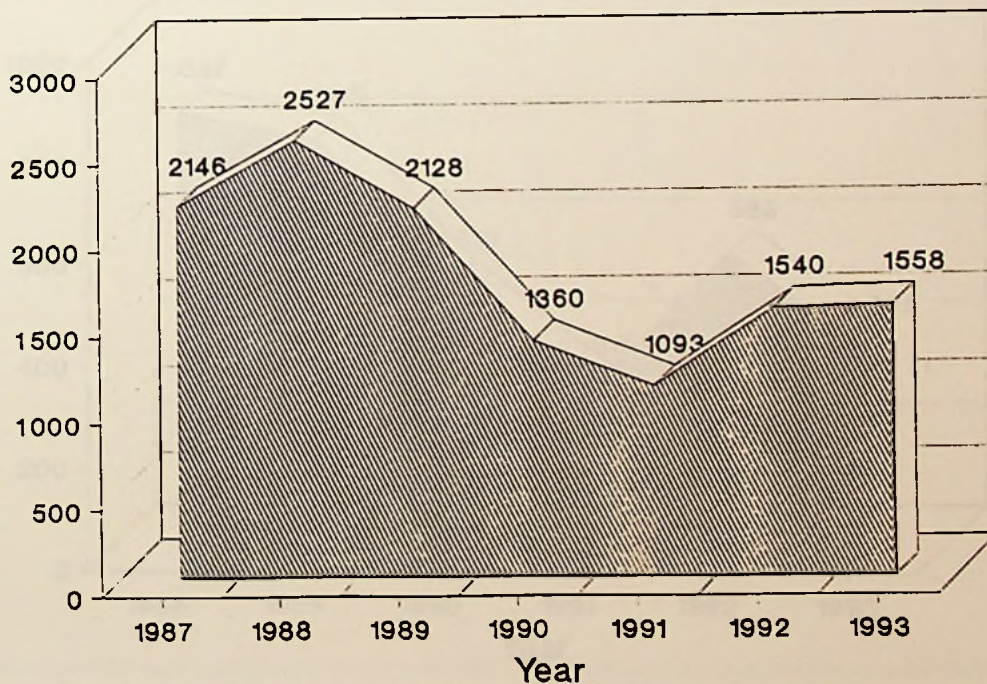
* Includes family, senior, and single applicants

MLS HOUSING SALES

January - December 1993

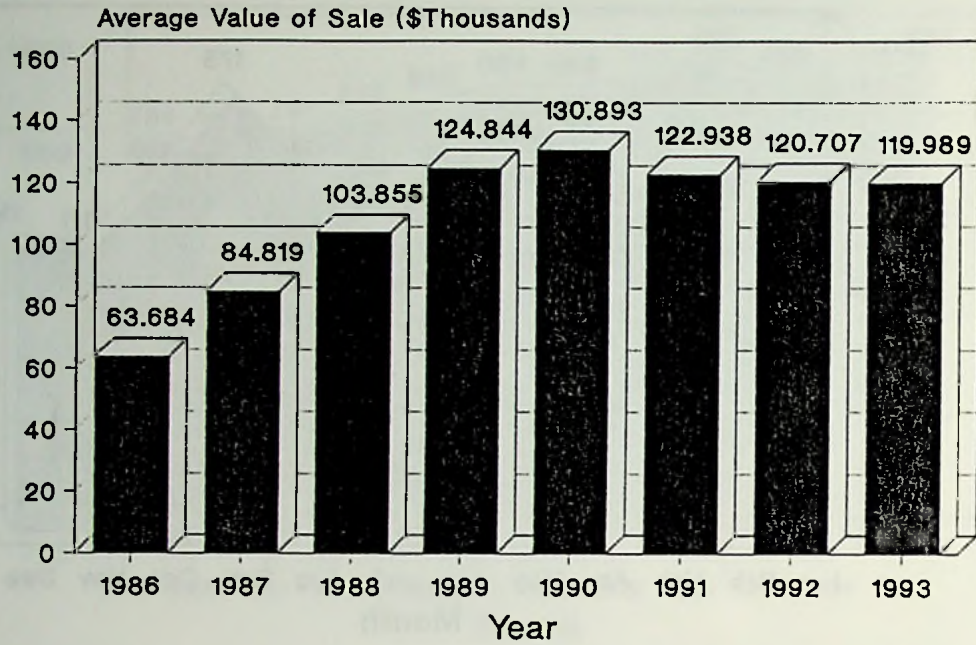


Annual Totals



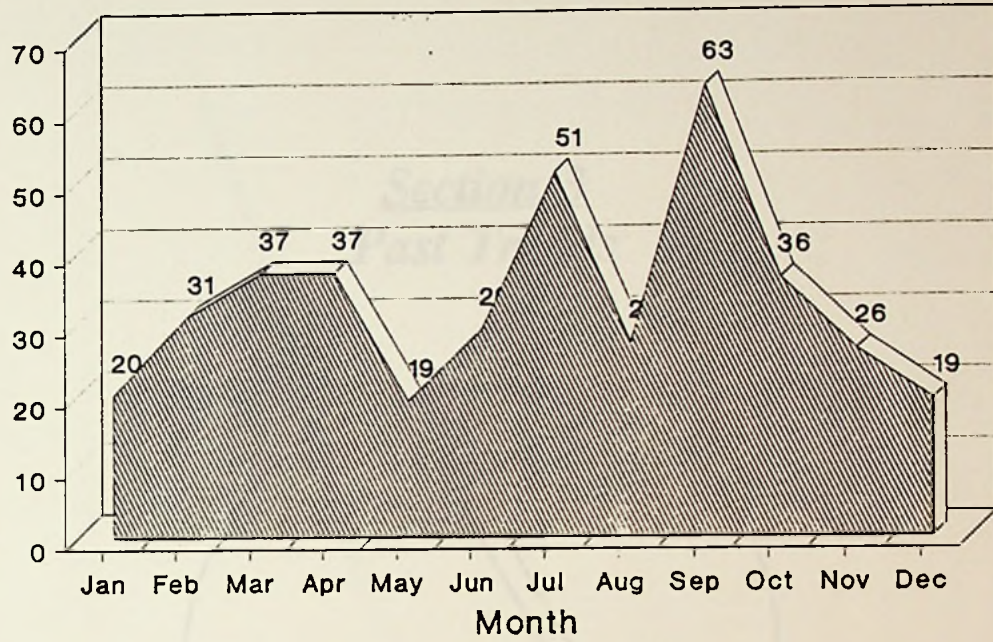
MLS HOUSING PRICES

Annual Averages

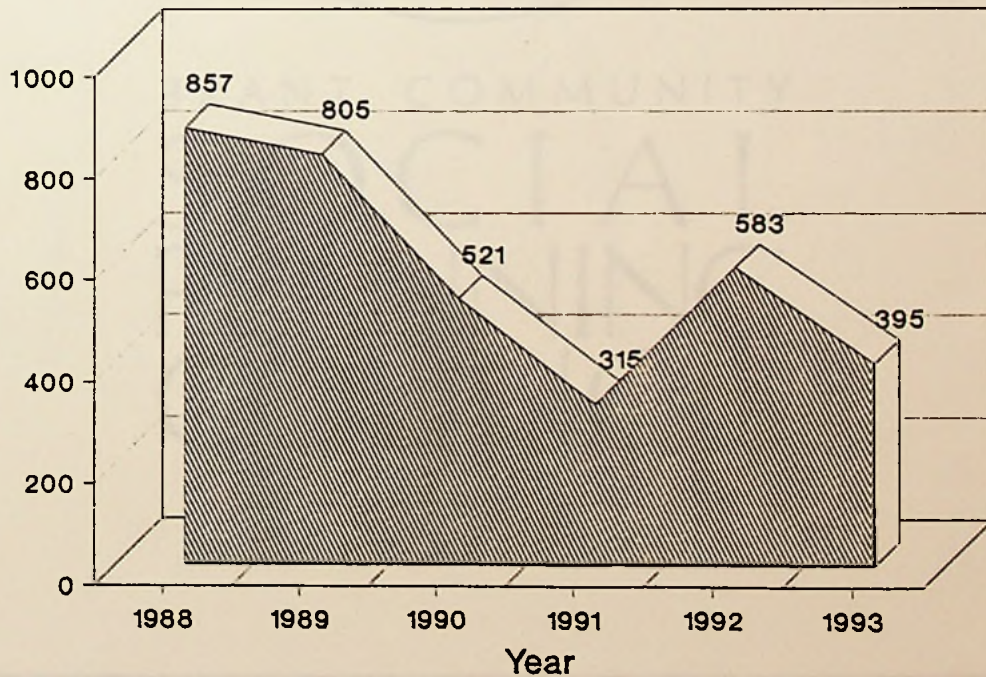


HOUSING UNIT CONSTRUCTION*

January - December 1993

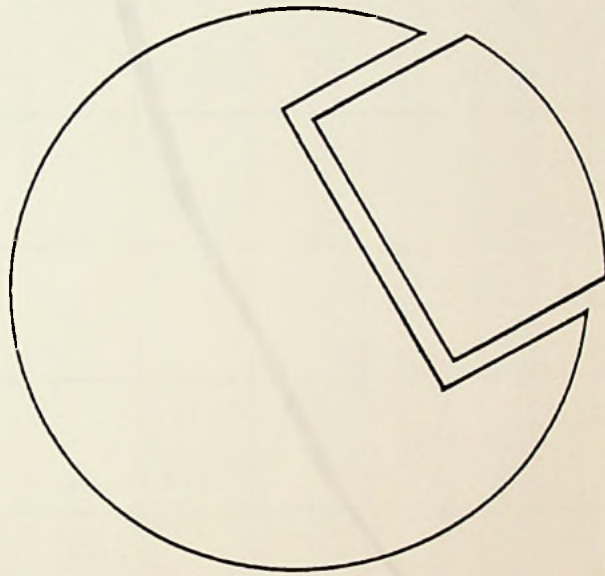


Annual Totals



* Construction figures are for the City of Brantford

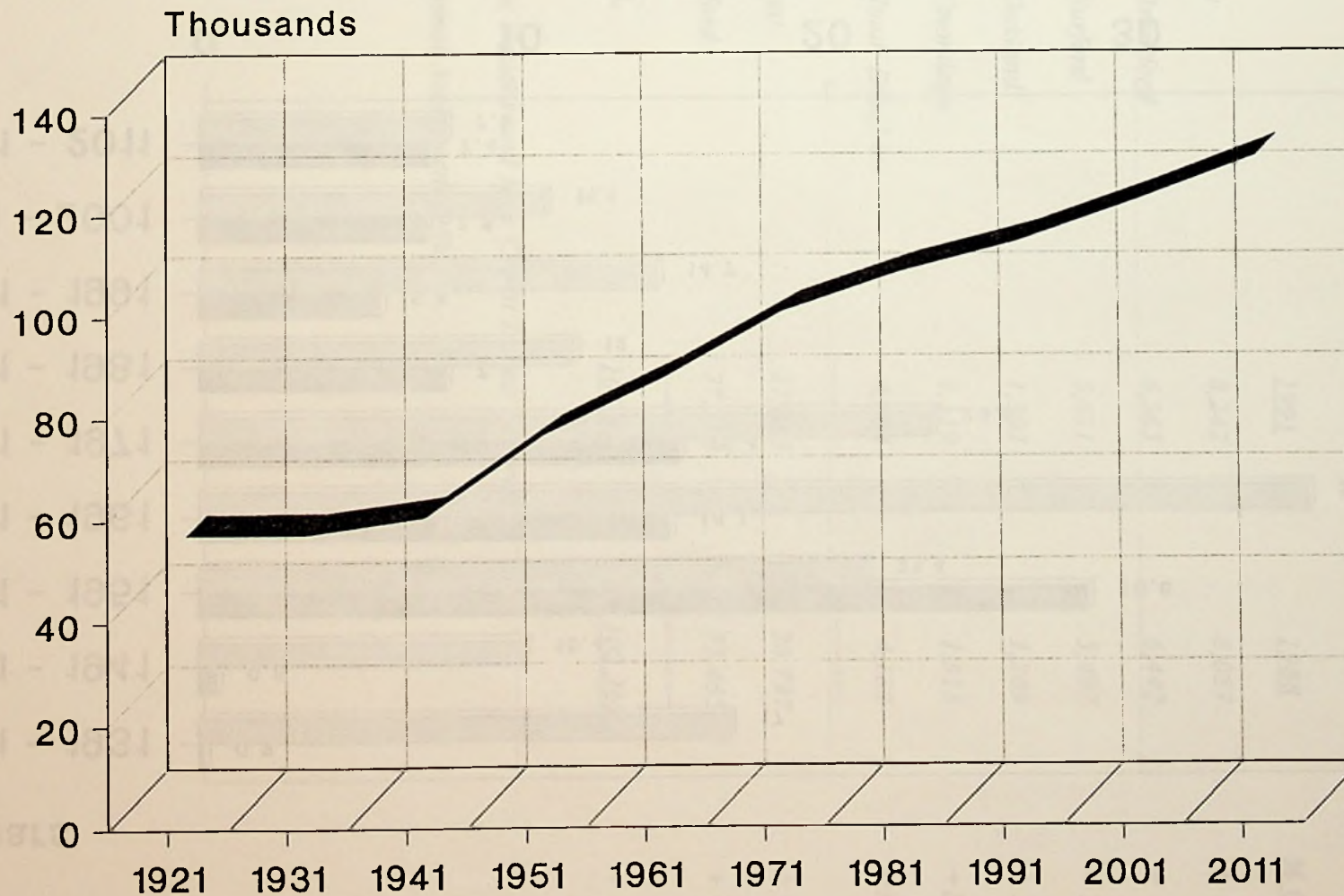
Section 3
Past Trends



BRANT COMMUNITY
SOCIAL
PLANNING
COUNCIL

Historical and Projected Population Brant County (1921 - 2011)

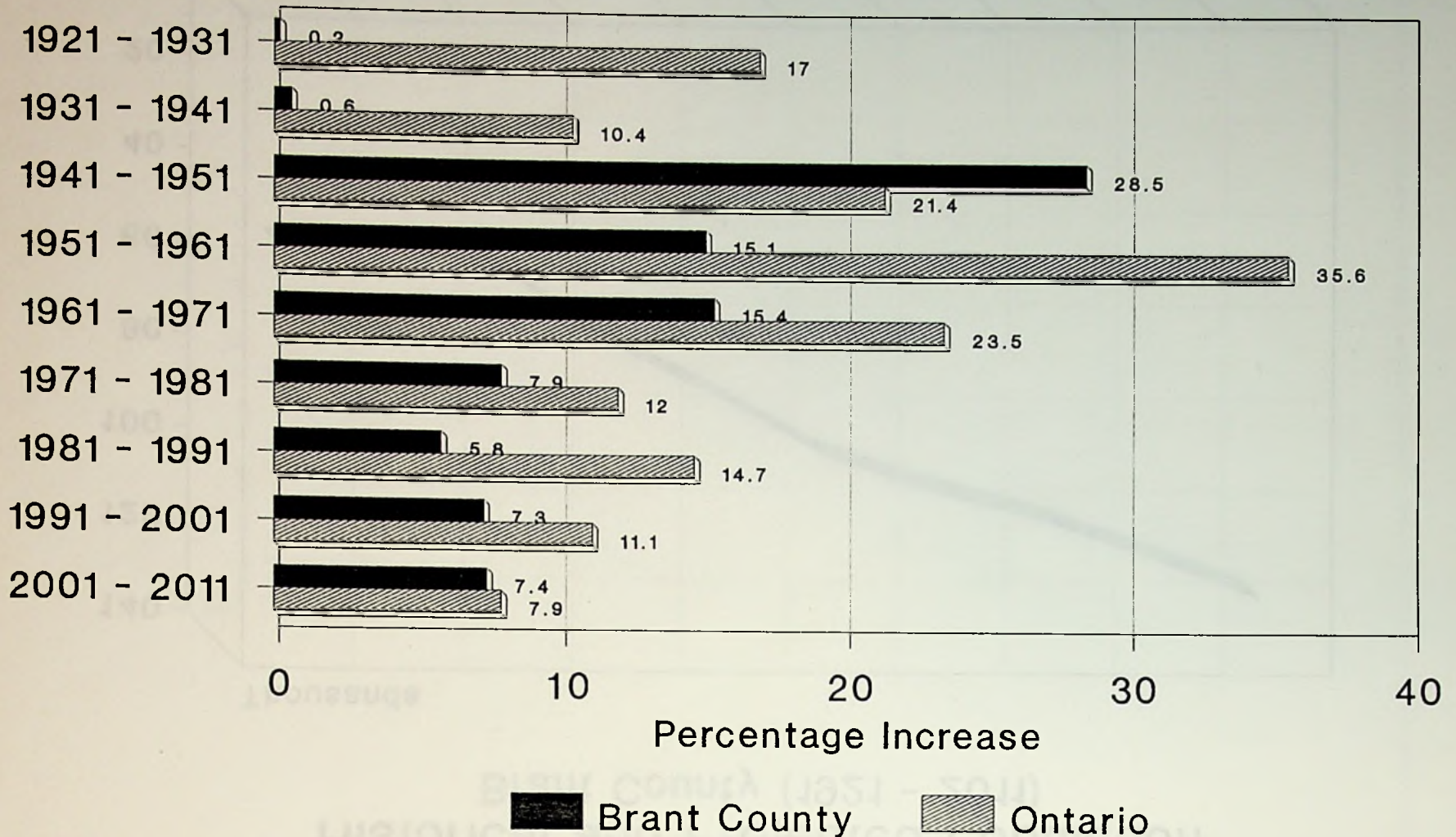
3-2



Source: Statistics Canada; Ministry of Treasury and Economics

Historical and Projected Growth Brant County and Ontario (1921 - 2011)

Years



3-3

Source: Statistics Canada; Ministry of Treasury and Economics

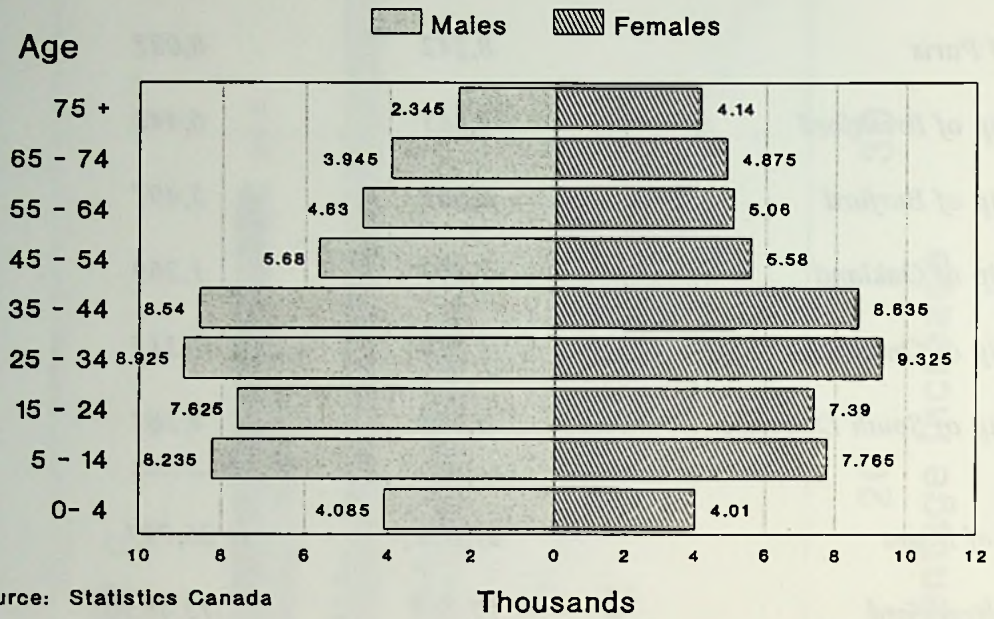
*CURRENT POPULATION
Brant County (1988, 1991)**

	<u>1991</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>% Change</u>
<i>Town of Paris</i>	8,242	8,087	+ 1.9
<i>Township of Brantford</i>	6,563	6,442	+ 1.9
<i>Township of Burford</i>	5,631	5,497	+ 2.4
<i>Township of Oakland</i>	1,303	1,269	+ 2.7
<i>Township of Onondaga</i>	1,519	1,315	+15.5
<i>Township of South Dumfries</i>	4,604	4,187	+10.0
	-----	-----	
<i>County of Brant</i>	27,862	26,797	+ 4.0
<i>City of Brantford</i>	77,713	75,465	+ 3.0
	-----	-----	
<i>Brant County*</i>	<u>105,575</u>	<u>102,262</u>	+ 3.2

** Excludes Six Nations and New Credit Indian Reserves.*

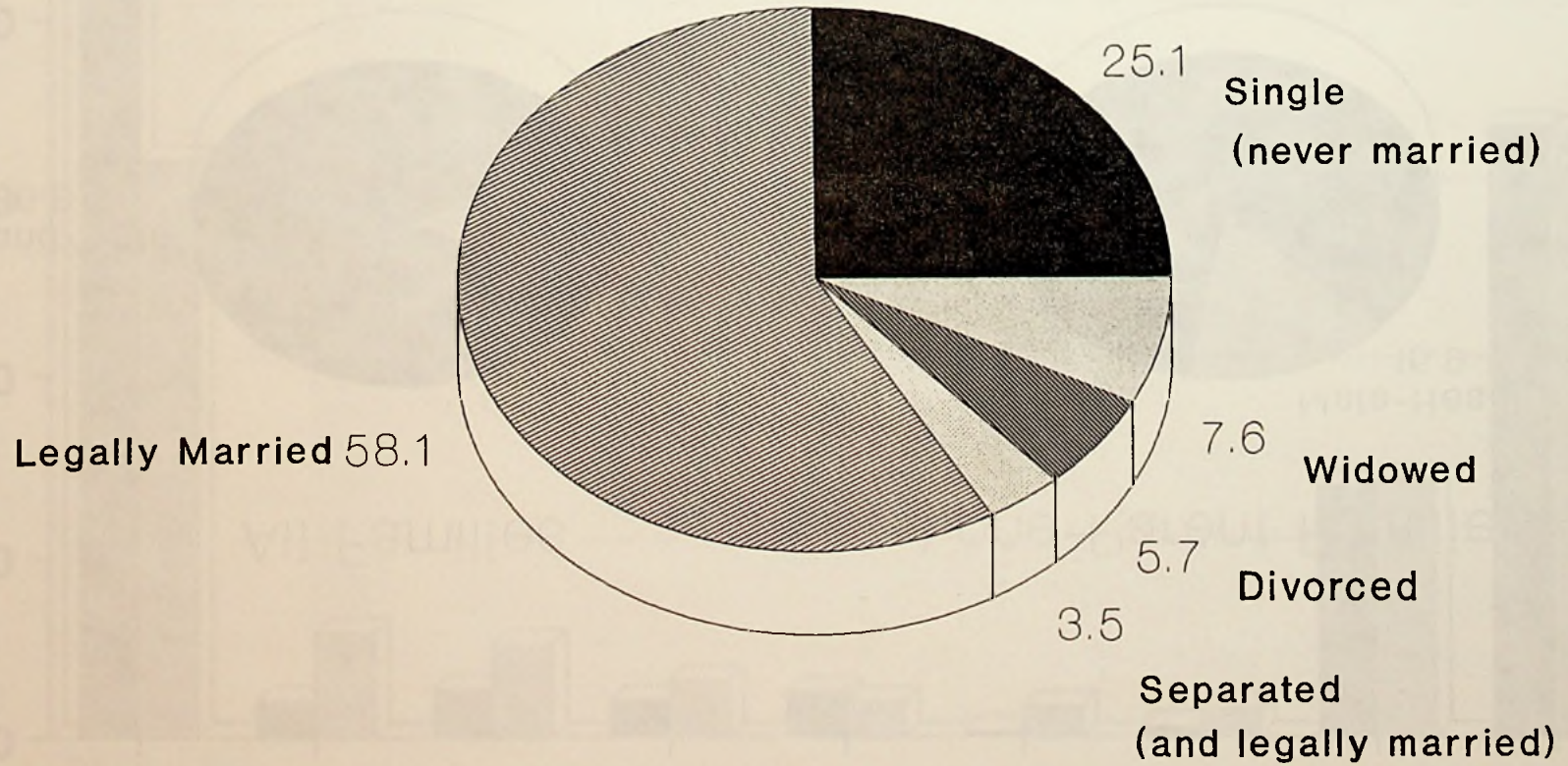
Source: *Regional Assessment Office*

Population Composition Brant County (1991)



Marital Status* Brant County (1991)

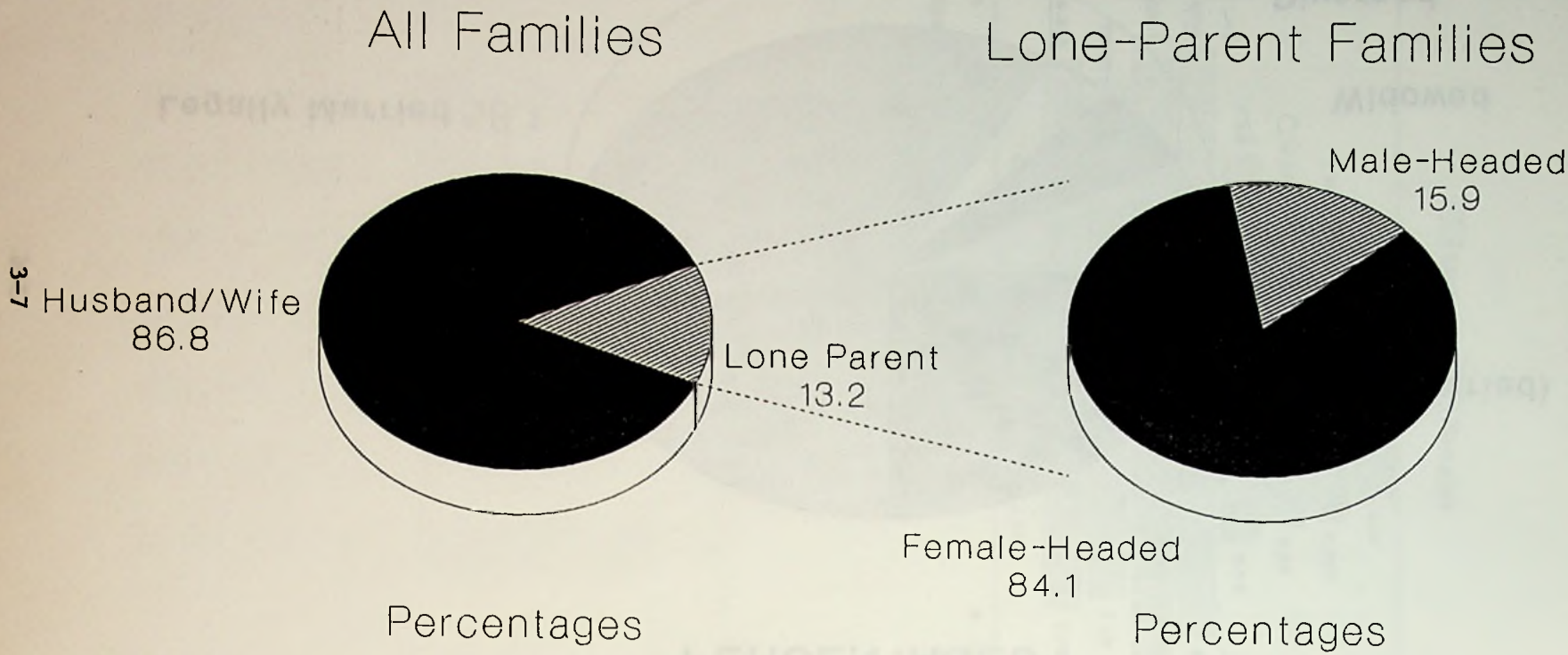
PERCENTAGES



3-6

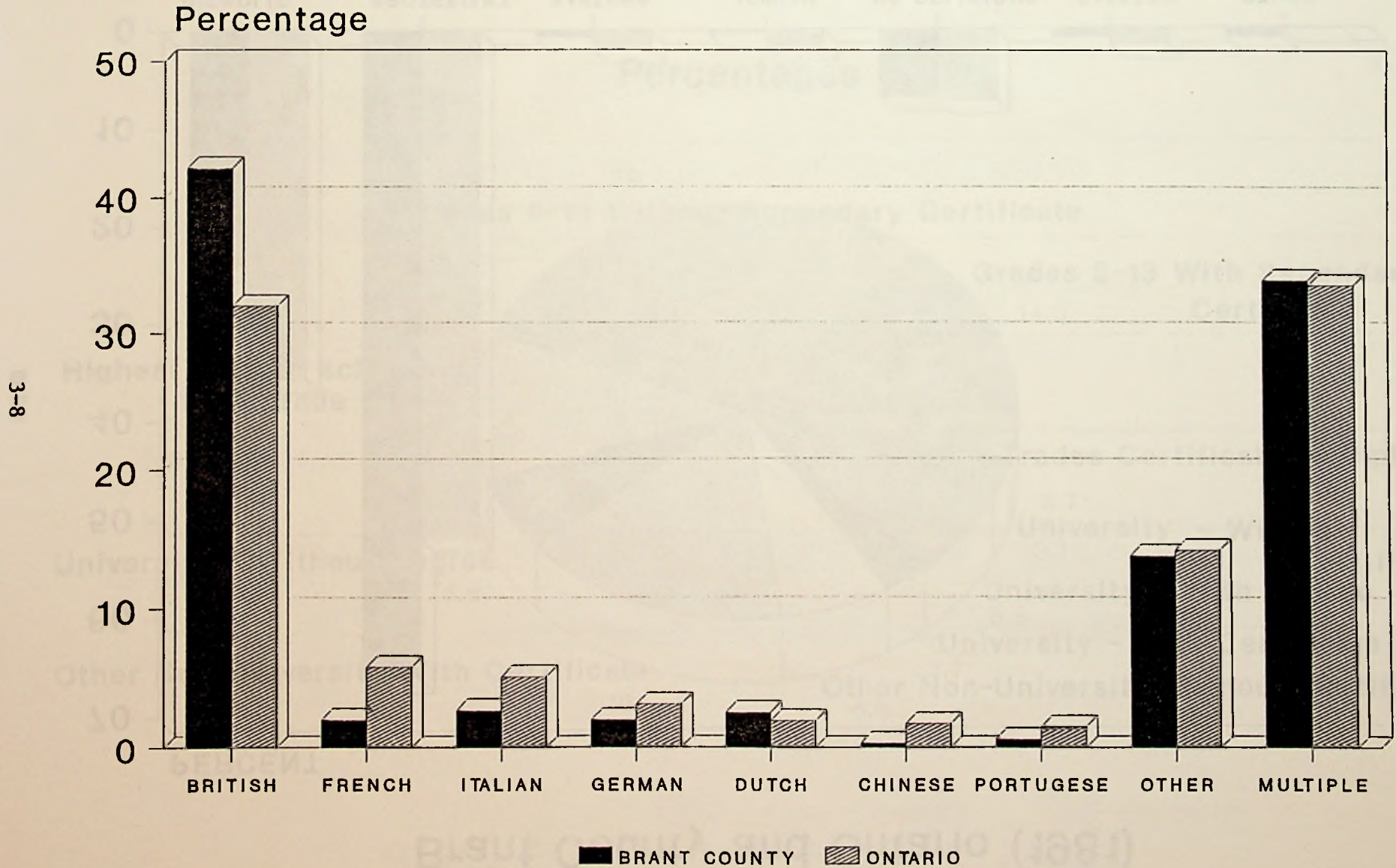
* Population 15 years of age and over (86,705)
Source: Statistics Canada

Family Composition Brant County (1991)



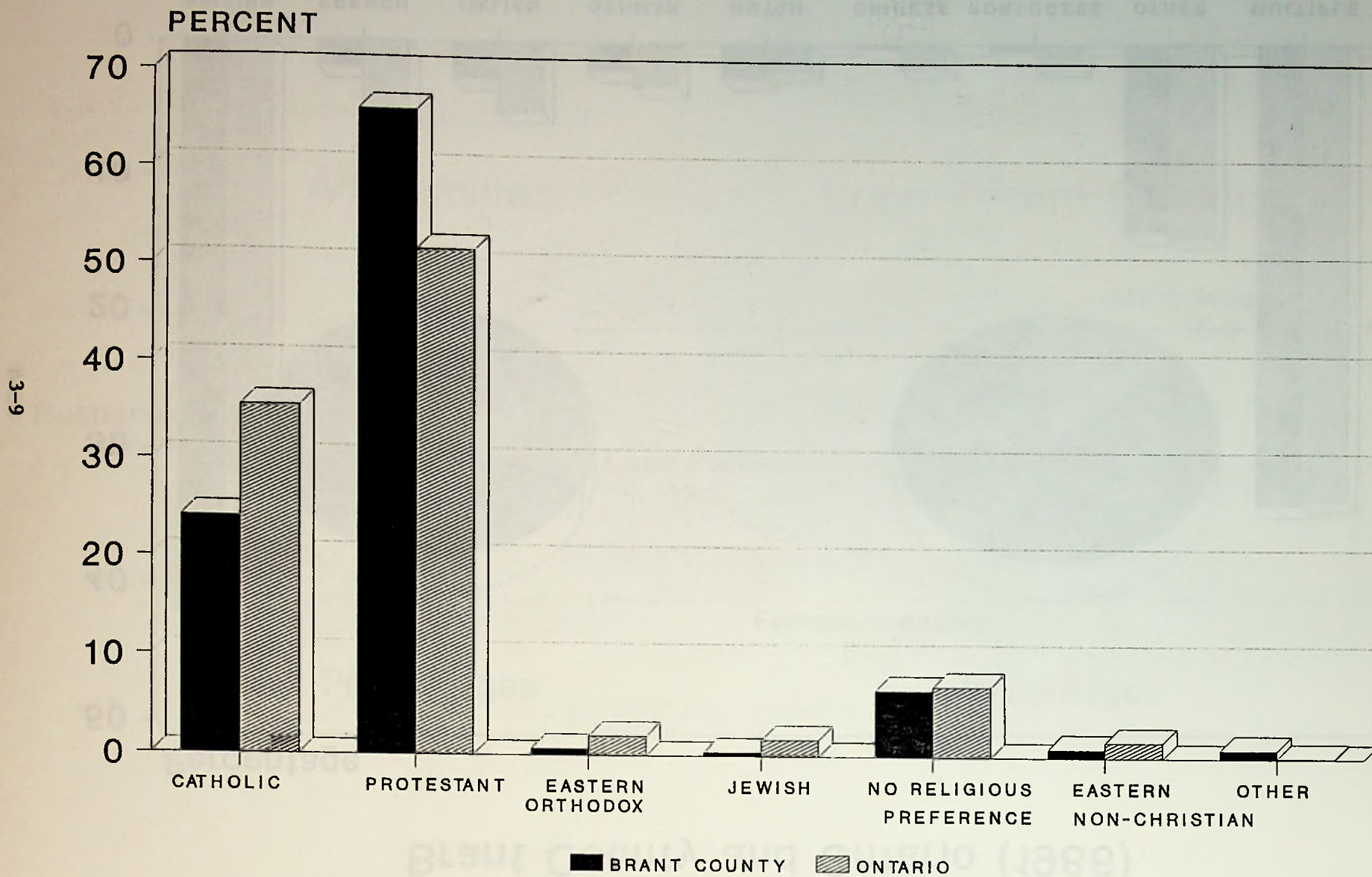
Ethnic Origin

Brant County and Ontario (1986)



Source: Statistics Canada

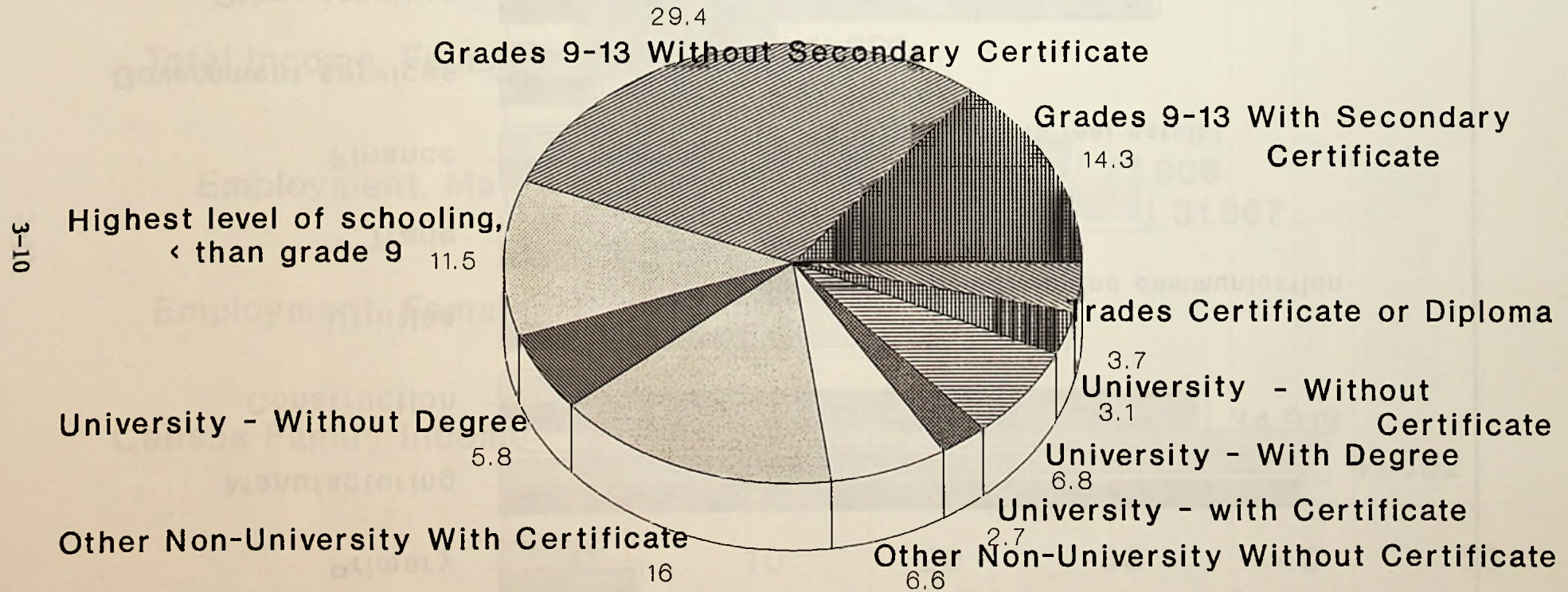
Religious Affiliation Brant County and Ontario (1981)



Source: Statistics Canada

Educational Levels Brant County (1991)

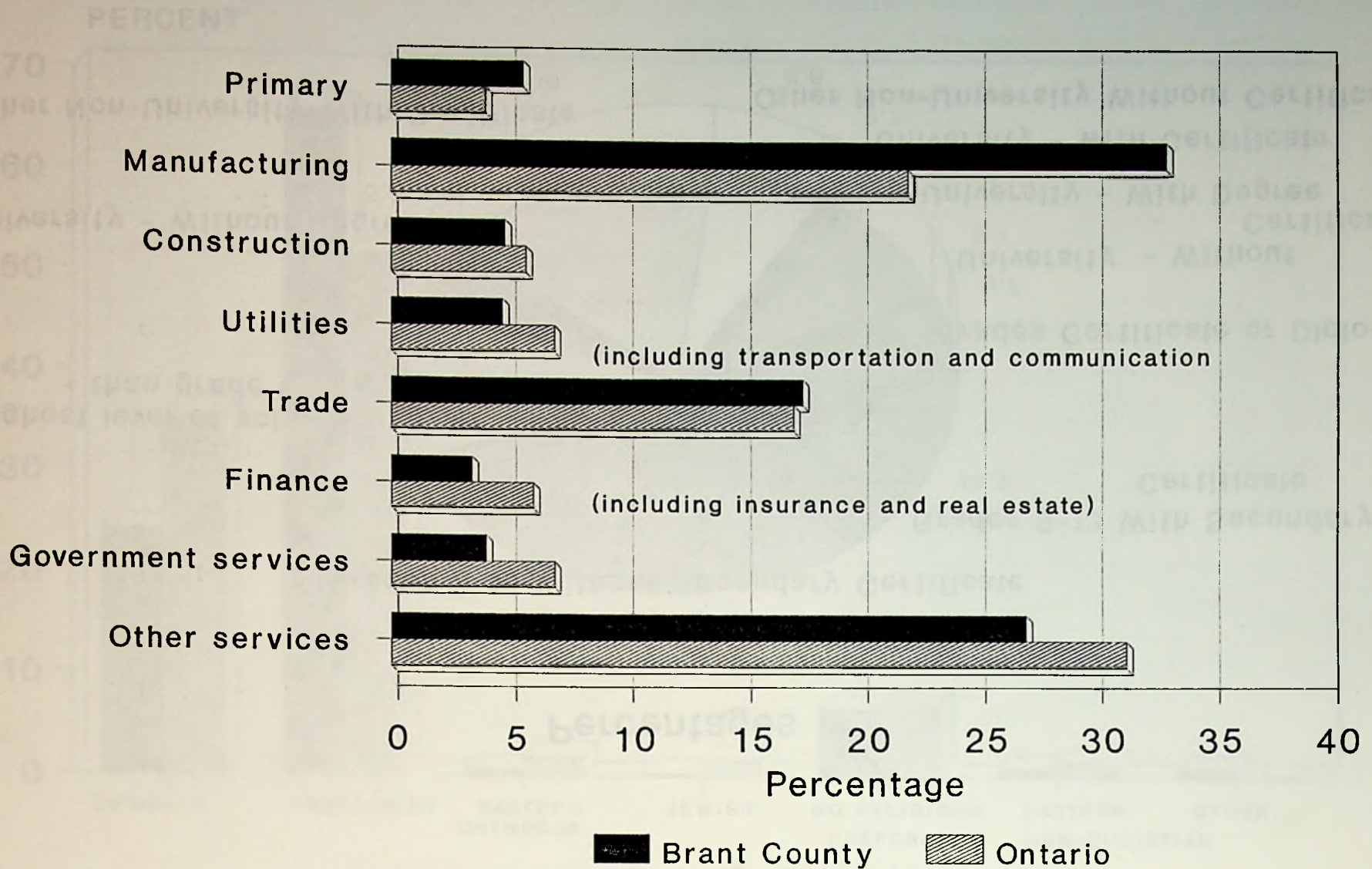
Percentages



Source: Statistics Canada

Industry Divisions

Brant County and Ontario (1986)

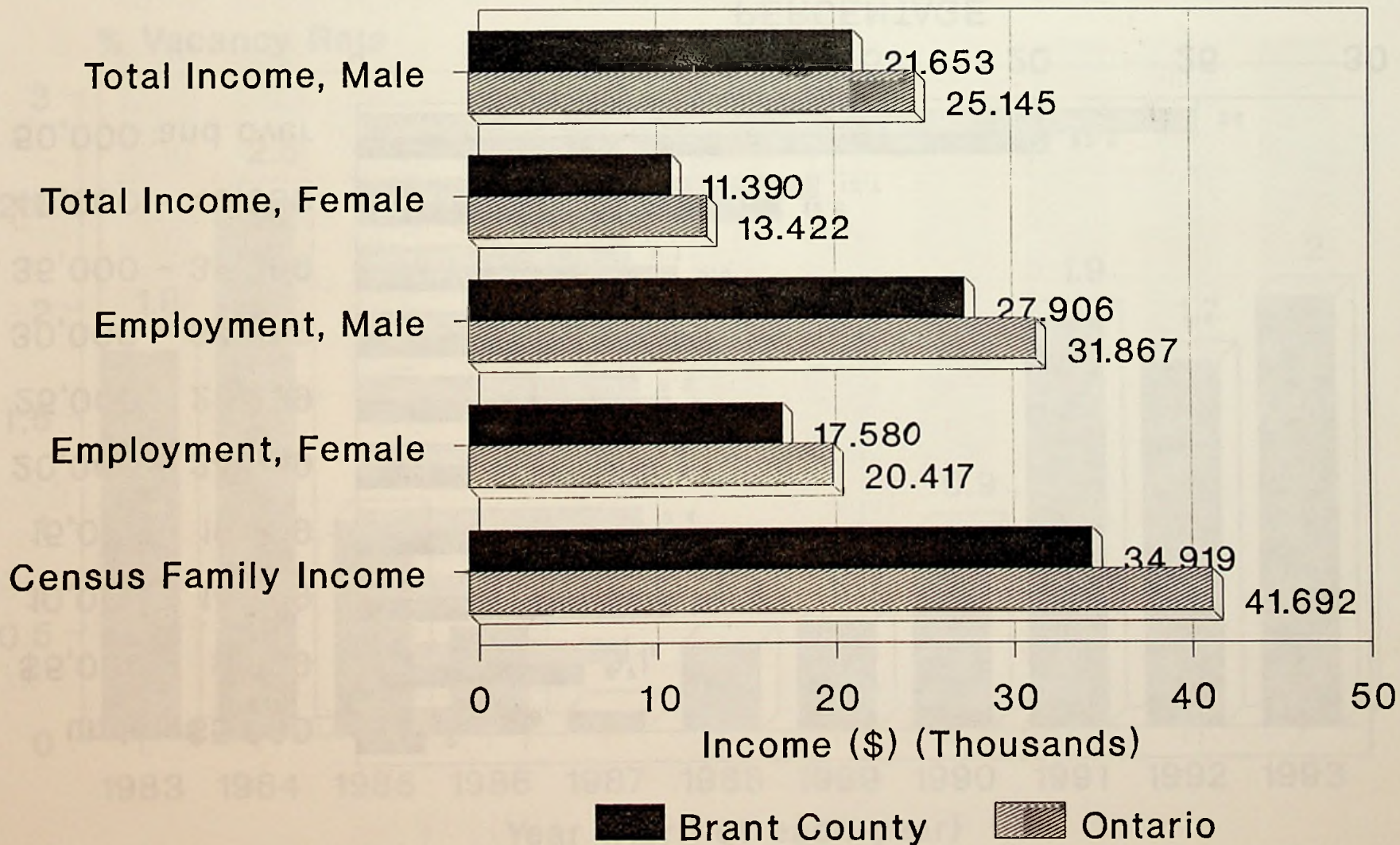


3-11

Average Incomes

Brant County and Ontario (1985)

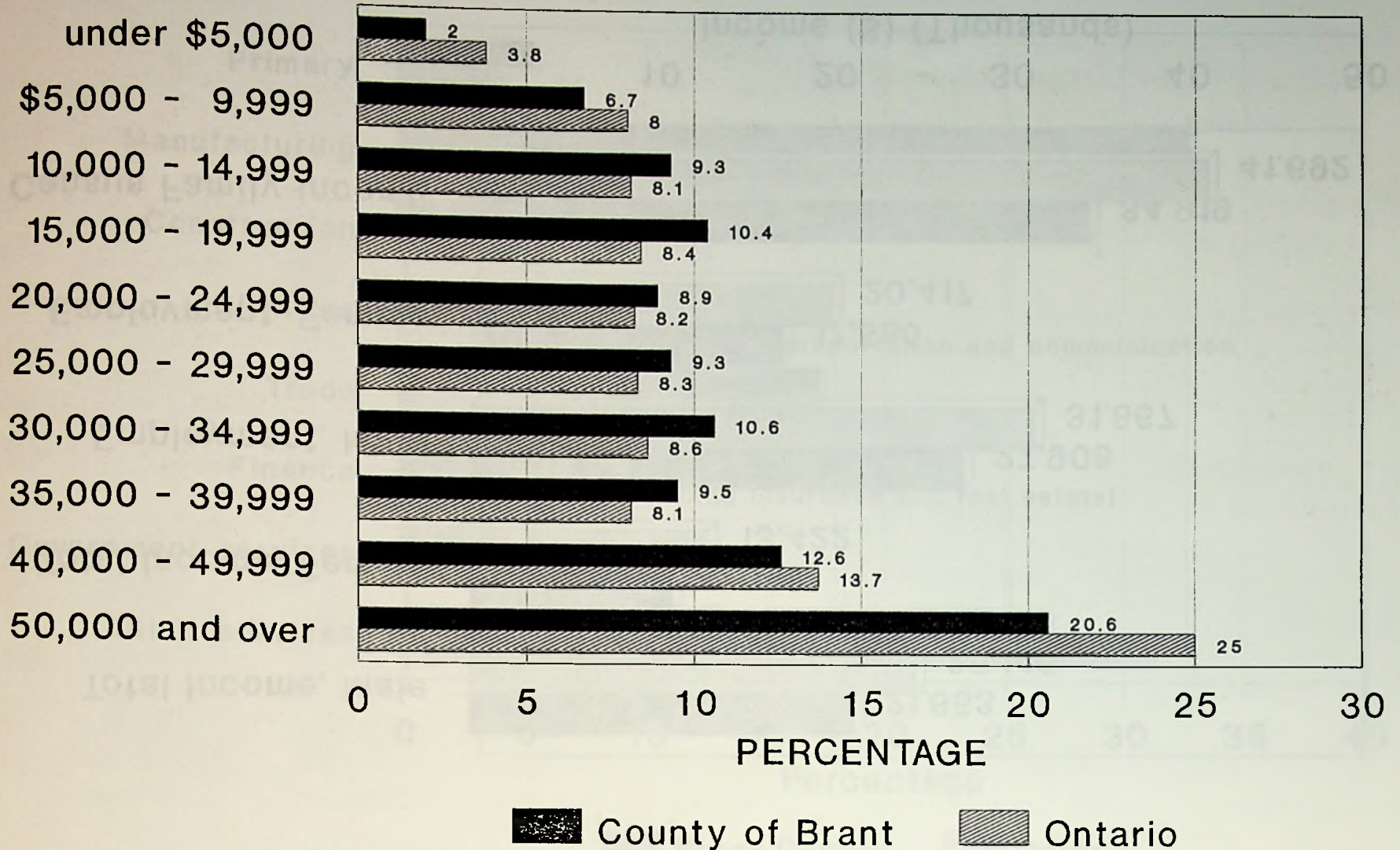
3-12



Source: Statistics Canada

Private Household Income Brant County and Ontario (1985)

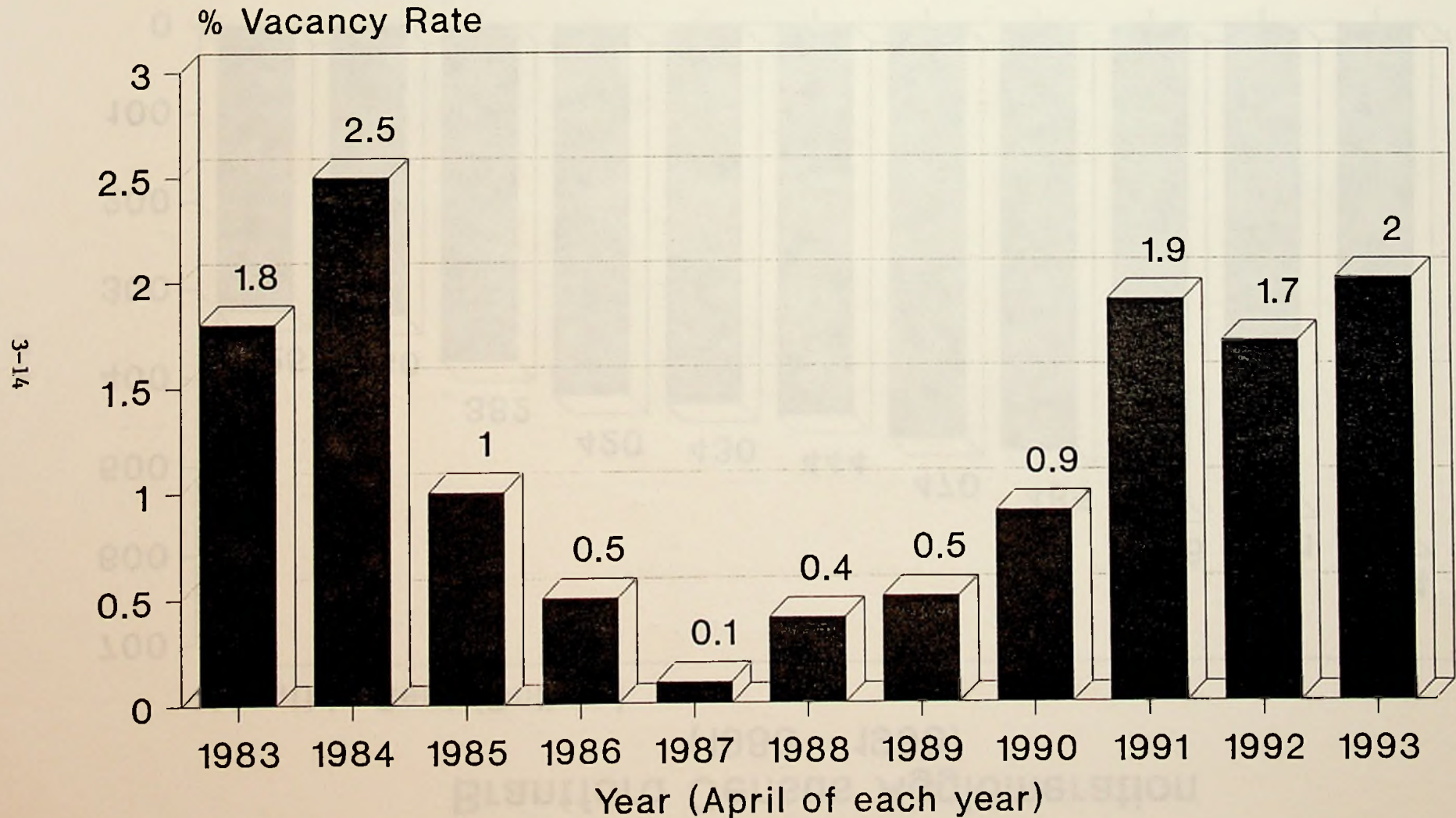
3-13



Source: Statistics Canada

Apartment Vacancy Rate*

Brantford Census Agglomeration (1983 - 1993)



* Private apartments of 6 or more units
Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp

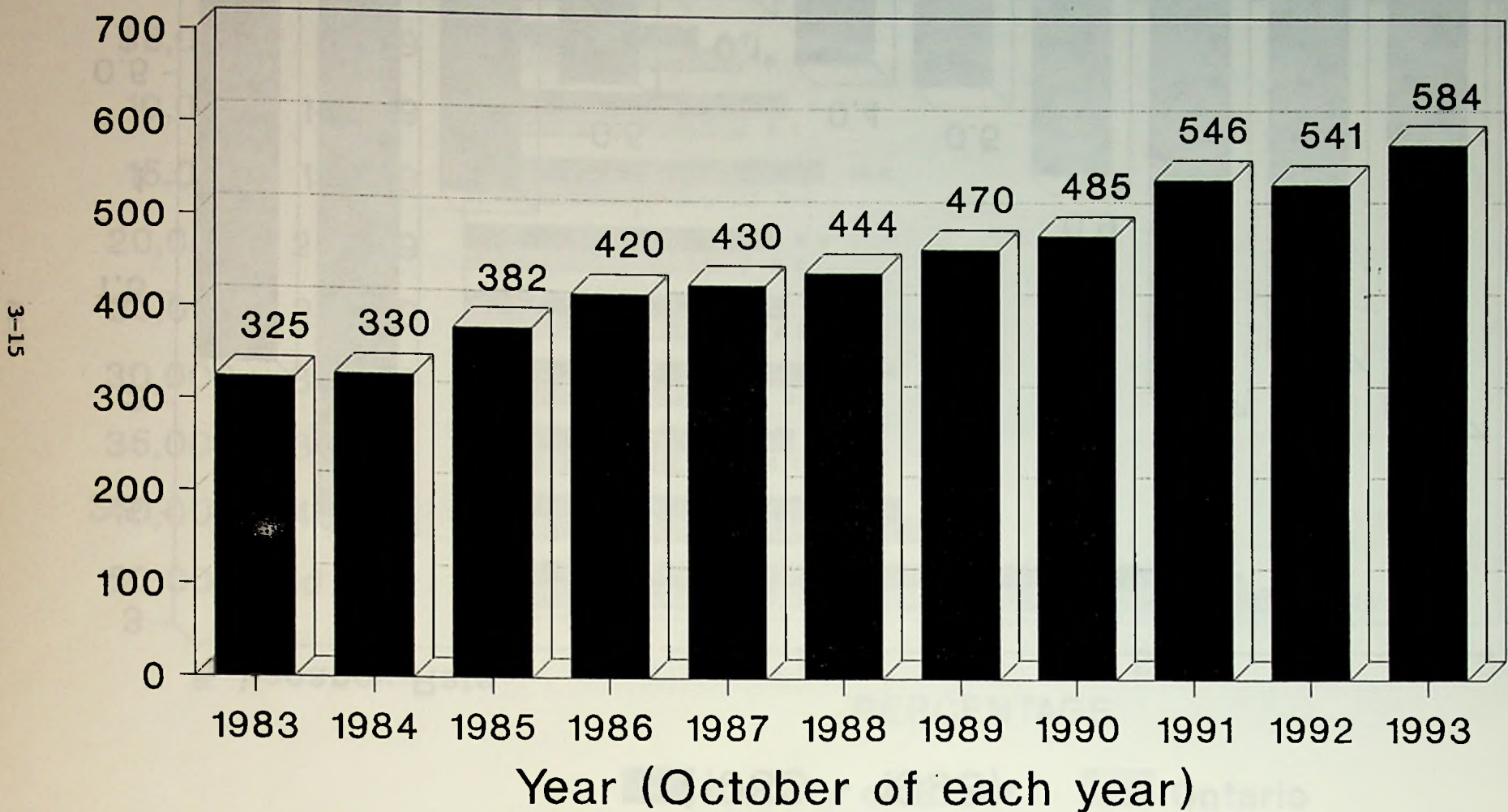
Apartment Rents

Two-Bedroom Units, Monthly*

Brantford Census Agglomeration

(1983 - 1993)

Monthly Rent (Dollars)



* Private apartments of 6 or more units
Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp



3 9154 00398940 7

