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IMPACT OF CLERGY  
ON THE  
MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM  
IN THE  
STATE OF MAINE

Pauline M. Gingras  
Department of Mental Health & Corrections  
Augusta, Maine 04330

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Department of Mental Health and Corrections (Appropriation #1540-1011)

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## FOREWORD

This report, which is a reference document providing data on the impact of over 750 members of the clergy on the mental health system in the State of Maine, represents part of the Department's total effort to develop a mental health manpower system. In developing such a system, baseline information will be obtained about the number and characteristics of mental health personnel in the state; also the Department will obtain perceptions on future needs from all key administrators responsible for the delivery of mental health services in the state. The Department proposes to use both the substantive results of this study and the process developed in the conduct of this study to assist in its manpower planning and program development.

The State of Maine Department of Mental Health & Corrections take this occasion to acknowledge gratefully the assistance of the members of the clergy who responded to the survey. This study was conducted in the Bureau of Mental Health, William E. Schumacher, M.D., Director, Thomas J. Kane, D.S.W., Chief, Community Mental Health Services.

William F. Kearns, Jr.  
Commissioner  
Department of Mental Health & Corrections

July 1974

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to express her appreciation to the many individuals who provided assistance and direction in this study, especially Rev. Donald Schermerhorn, Director of Chaplaincy Services, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, who provided the mailing list used in this study, and to those members of the clergy who provided the data on which this report is based. Richard Hinkley assisted in tabulation of the raw data and in the table preparation. A special thanks is due Milton Levine, Ph.D., National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, D.C., for his technical assistance and encouragement throughout this project.

P.M.G.  
7/15/74

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## SUMMARY

● During December 1973, 1500 questionnaires were mailed to religious organizations in an attempt to reach all of the members of the clergy in the State of Maine as part of a special manpower survey conducted by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections. In 1974 there was a response from 900 members of the clergy; of these 779 representing about 50 percent of the organizations contacted were qualified for inclusion in this study. Not included were those facilities which were closed, closed without a pastor, mergers, and duplicate returns.

● Some 395 members of the clergy (46 percent) stated that they provide mental health services to their clients.

● Of all of the members of the clergy responding, 528 (68 percent) made referrals of some 2,100 clients in 1973 for mental health services, with Eastern Maine Area referring the largest number of clients, more than 500 annually. The clergy in the state made referrals primarily to community mental health centers (52 percent), however, the proportion of referrals made in Cumberland to psychiatrists and to psychologists is the highest in the state.

● Three-fifths of all of the members of the clergy would like to increase their capability to provide mental health services.

-- of the 359 members of the clergy currently providing direct services related to the mental health of their clients, 77 percent want to increase their capability

-- of the 398 members of the clergy currently not providing such services 46 percent want to increase their capability to provide mental health services directly.



## INTRODUCTION

This report, based on responses received in 1974 of the clergy in the State of Maine, contains data on the number of clergy providing direct services related to the mental health problems of congregants and others in the community, the kinds of mental health services provided, where clergy refer their clients for mental health services, an estimated number of clients referred for mental health services, and whether the clergy would like to increase their capability to provide mental health services directly. This is the first study conducted by the Department of Mental Health & Corrections in cooperation with religious organizations in the state.

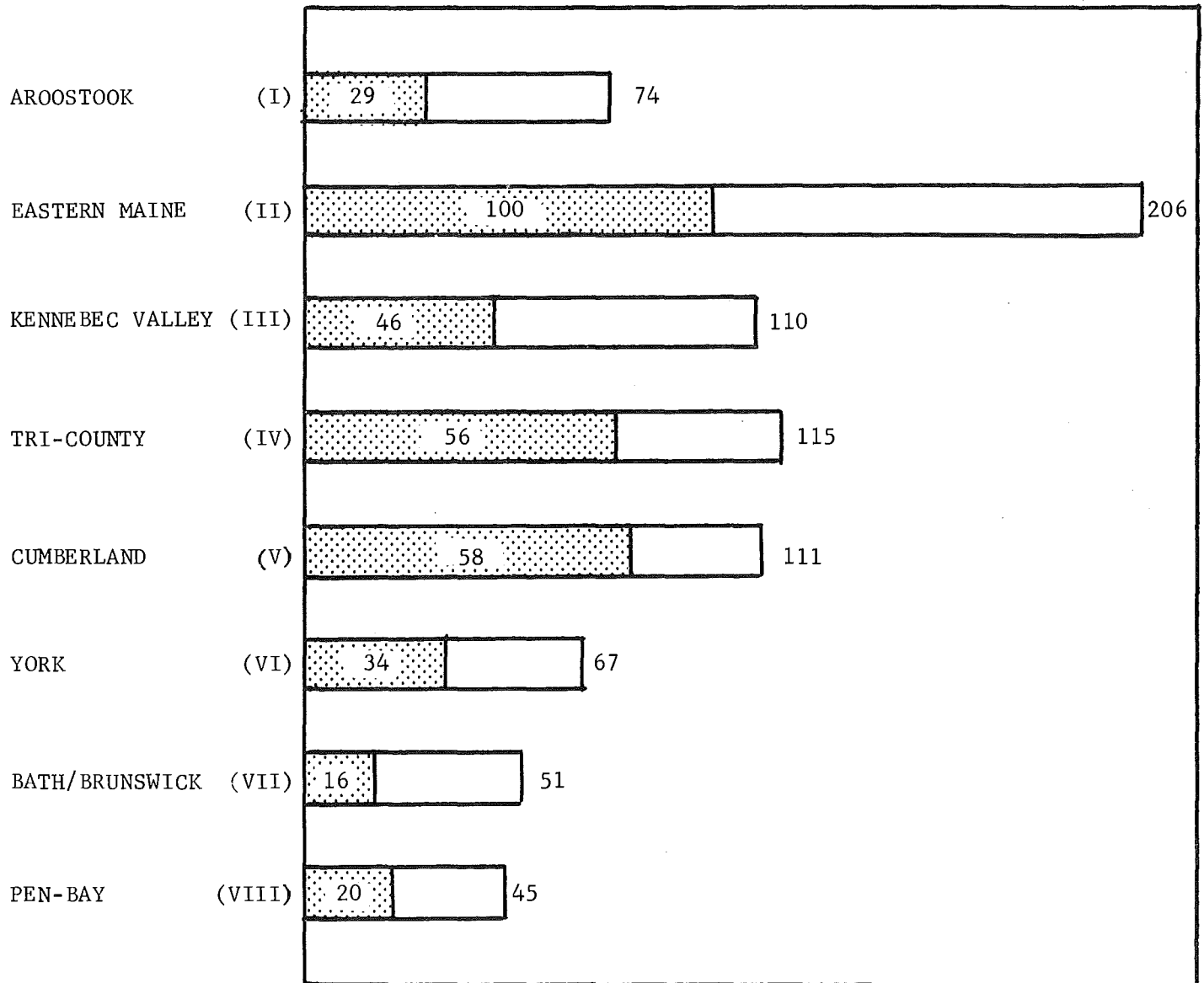
The Department of Mental Health & Corrections conducted this survey of members of the clergy as part of a greater effort to study the mental health manpower development and utilization system in the State of Maine. This report presents data on members of the clergy in three parts: in part I a broad perspective is presented in a series of charts; more specific, although selective tables are presented in part II; and detailed statistical tables are provided in part III. The technical notes in appendix A contain information on the survey methodology, coverage, concepts, and definitions. The questionnaire and cover letter used in the survey are reproduced in appendix B.

## PART I. GRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS

### NOTES

- Percent details shown in these charts may not add up to totals because of rounding
- Numerical basis for percentages was the total 779 members of the clergy responding to the Mental Health Manpower Survey, 1974

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY



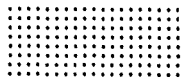
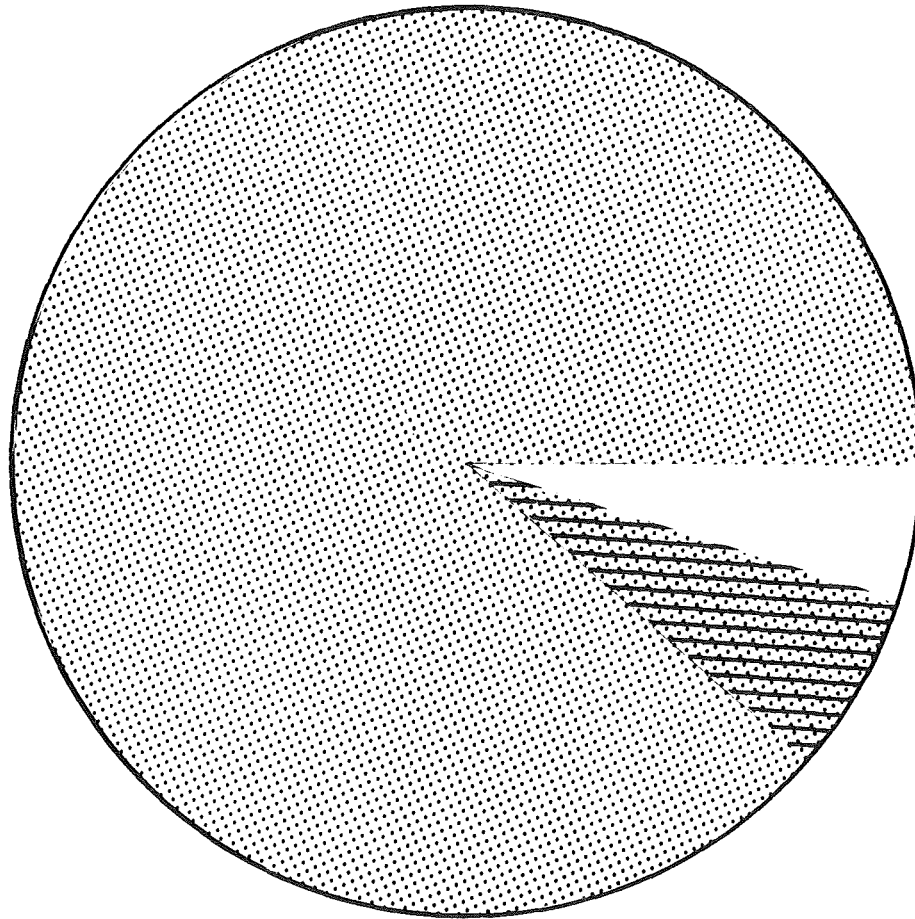
TOTAL NUMBER OF CLERGY (STATE TOTAL 779)



NUMBER OF CLERGY PROVIDING SERVICES DIRECTLY RELATED TO MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS (STATE TOTAL 359)

SOURCE: Maine Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of Members of the Clergy, 1974.

KINDS OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY



Counseling: 95 percent



Therapy: 5 percent

Other: 12 percent

NOTE: Based on 359 members of the clergy

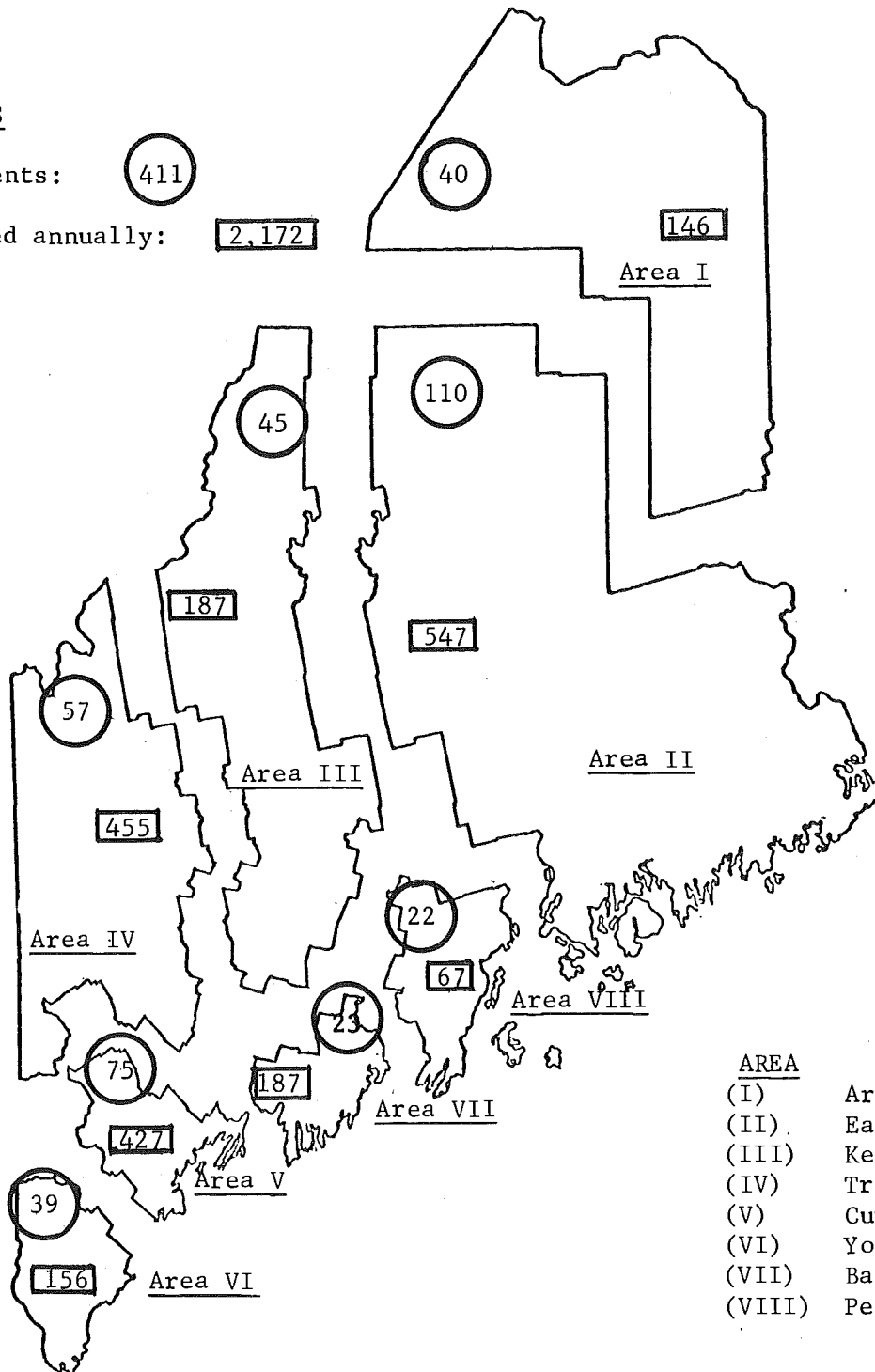
SOURCE: Maine Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of the Clergy, 1974.

MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY REFERRING CLIENTS TO OTHERS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

STATE TOTALS

Clergy referring clients: (411)

Clients being referred annually: [2,172]

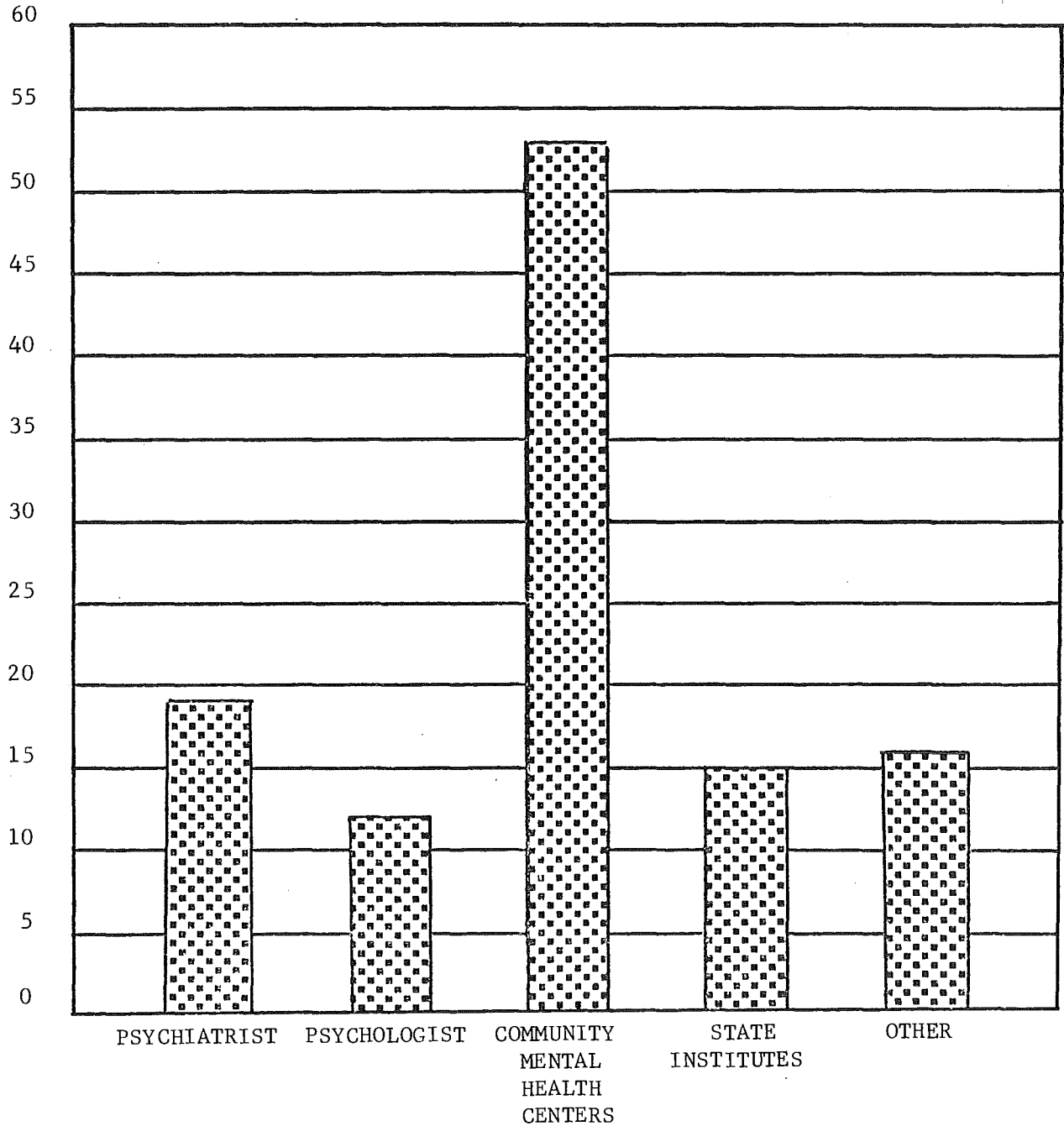


<u>AREA</u>	<u>NAME</u>
(I)	Aroostook
(II)	Eastern Maine
(III)	Kennebec Valley
(IV)	Tri-County
(V)	Cumberland
(VI)	York
(VII)	Bath/Brunswick
(VIII)	Pen-Bay

SOURCE: Maine Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of the Clergy, 1974.

MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY REFERRALS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

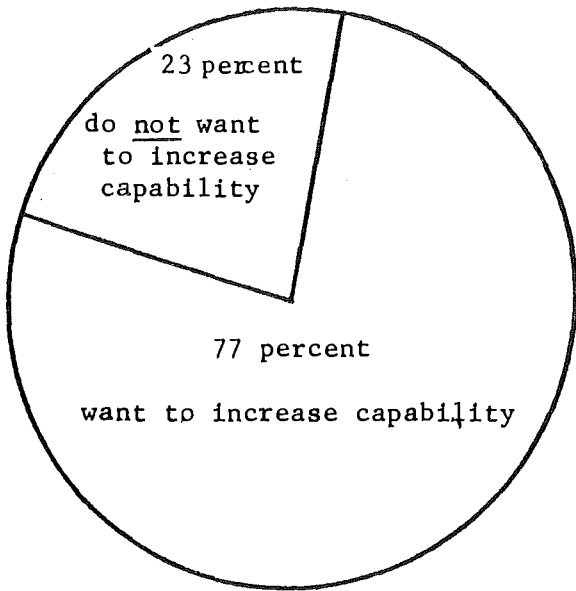
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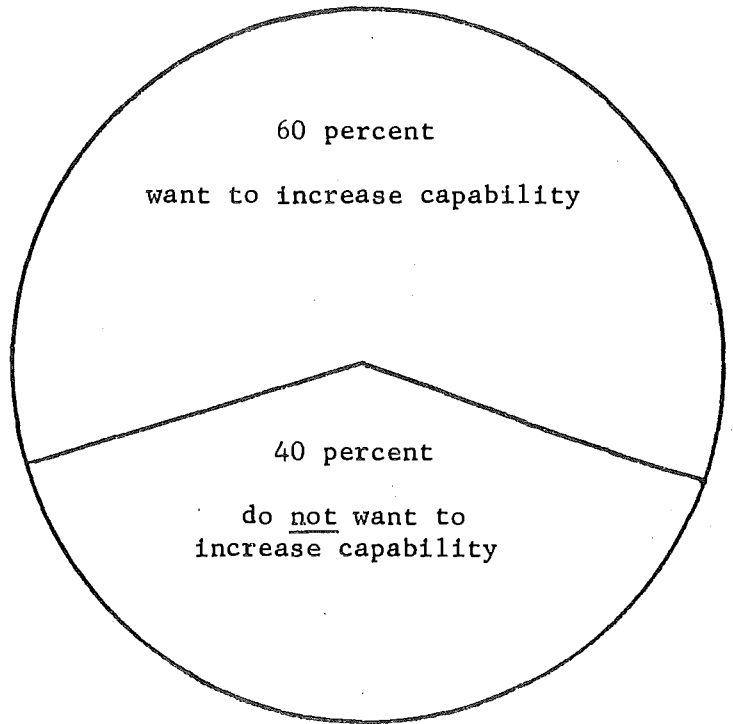
NOTE: Data based on 779 members of the clergy.

SOURCE: Maine Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of the Clergy, 1974.

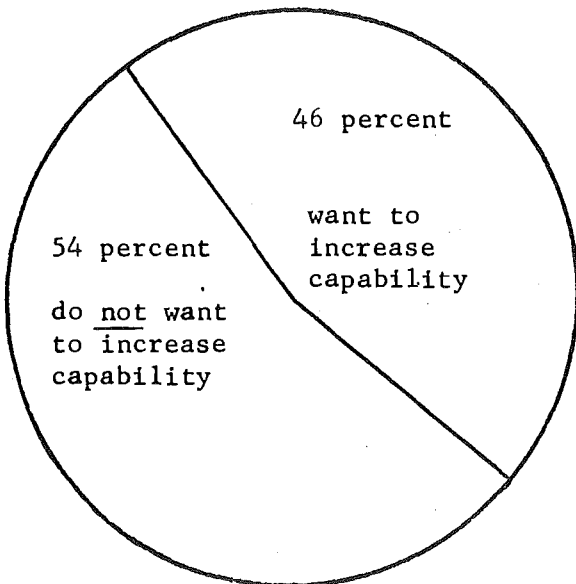
MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY DESIRE FOR INCREASED CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



359 members of the clergy providing services at present



779 total number of members of the clergy



398 members of the clergy not providing services at present

NOTE: No report is included in "do not want capability".

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.

## PART II. SUMMARY TABLES

### NOTES

- Percent details may not add to totals because of rounding
- Data, unless otherwise indicated, are based on the total of 779 members of the clergy
- Geographic distribution - geographic areas reported here are based on county boundaries and vary slightly from the geographic areas as used by the State Planning Office
- For additional definitions see Technical Notes, appendix A



GEOGRAPHIC AREA

STATE OF MAINE

	TOTAL	PERCENT
State Total	779	100
Provide mental health services	359	46
Make referrals for mental health services	528	68
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	151	29
Community mental health centers	413	78
Psychologists	92	17
State Institutes	117	22
Other	127	24
Number of clients referred	2,172	-
Like to increase mental health capability	465	60

Over half (60 percent) of the members of the clergy would like to increase their capability to provide mental health services directly.

# GEOGRAPHIC AREA

## AROOSTOOK (I)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
Total Clergy	74	100
Provide mental health services	29	39
Make referrals for mental health services	54	73
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	11	20
Community mental health centers	42	78
Psychologists	5	9
State Institutes	2	4
Other	11	20
Number of clients referred	146	-
Like to increase mental health capability	46	62

Almost 3/4 of the members of the clergy in this area refer clients for mental health services. Most of these referrals are made to community mental health centers (78 percent).

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

EASTERN MAINE (II)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
Total Clergy	206	100
Provide mental health services	100	49
Make referrals for mental health services	144	70
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	37	26
Community mental health centers	108	75
Psychologists	17	12
State Institutes	47	33
Other	38	26
Number of clients referred	547	-
Like to increase mental health capability	127	62

Although over 1/4 (100) of all members of the clergy in the state providing mental health services were in Eastern Maine, 62% of the clergy in this area indicate they would like to increase their capability to provide mental health services.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
Total Clergy	110	100
Provide mental health services	46	42
Make referrals for mental health services	61	56
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	18	30
Community mental health centers	45	74
Psychologists	16	26
State Institutes	16	26
Other	19	31
Number of clients referred	187	-
Like to increase mental health capability	65	59

Kennebec Valley's referral rate by the clergy to community mental health centers was below the state average.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

TRI-COUNTY (IV)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
Total Clergy	115	100
Provide mental health services	56	49
Make referrals for mental health services	75	65
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	20	27
Community mental health centers	72	96
Psychologists	12	16
State Institutes	8	11
Other	7	9
Number of clients referred	455	-
Like to increase mental health capability	65	57

The largest proportion of members of the clergy making referrals to community mental health centers is in Tri-County.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

CUMBERLAND (V)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
Total Clergy	111	100
Provide mental health services	58	52
Make referrals for mental health services	87	78
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	37	43
Community mental health centers	69	79
Psychologists	26	30
State Institutes	24	28
Other	27	31
Number of clients referred	427	-
Like to increase mental health capability	66	60

The clergy in the Cumberland area have the highest proportion (78 percent) in the state of making referrals for mental health services. Although a large proportion of referrals are made to community mental health centers, the proportion made to psychiatrists and psychologists are the highest in the state.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

YORK (VI)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
Total Clergy	67	100
Provide mental health services	34	51
Make referrals for mental health services	49	73
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	10	20
Community mental health centers	36	74
Psychologists	6	12
State Institutes	7	14
Other	15	31
Number of clients referred	156	-
Like to increase mental health capability	44	66

Although 1/2 of the members of the clergy in York provide mental health services 66% in this area would like to increase their capability to provide mental health services directly.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

BATH-BRUNSWICK (VII)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
Total Clergy	51	100
Provide mental health services	16	31
Make referrals for mental health services	31	61
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	7	23
Community mental health centers	19	61
Psychologists	3	10
State Institutes	7	23
Other	6	19
Number of clients referred	187	-
Like to increase mental health capability	25	49

The Bath-Brunswick area has the lowest proportion of members of the clergy providing mental health services directly (31 percent). The 31 members of the clergy referring 187 clients for mental health services is the highest proportion (8.1 percent) of any area in the state.



GEOGRAPHIC AREA

PEN-BAY (VIII)

	TOTAL	PERCENT
State Total	45	100
Provide mental health services	20	44
Make referrals for mental health services	27	60
To:		
Psychiatrist in private practice	11	41
Community mental health centers	22	82
Psychologists	7	30
State Institutes	6	22
Other	4	15
Number of clients referred	67	-
Like to increase mental health capability	27	60

Although the Pen-Bay area has the fewest number of members of the clergy (45) in the state, their desire to increase their capability to provide mental health services directly is equal to the state average.

- PART III. DETAILED STATISTICAL TABLES

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF CLERGY REPORTING WHETHER THEY PROVIDE "SELECTED SERVICES", BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Total Clergy	Do provide services	Do not provide services	No report
STATE TOTAL	779	359	398	22
AROOSTOOK (I)	74	29	43	2
Aroostook	74	29	43	2
EASTERN MAINE (II)	206	100	101	5
Hancock	46	26	19	1
Penobscot	98	49	47	2
Piscataquis	23	10	12	1
Washington	39	15	23	1
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	110	46	60	4
Kennebec	85	32	49	4
Somerset	25	14	11	-
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	115	56	57	2
Androscoggin	39	19	19	1
Franklin	27	18	9	-
Oxford	49	19	29	1
CUMBERLAND (V)	111	58	49	4
Cumberland	111	58	49	4
YORK (VI)	67	34	31	2
York	67	34	31	2
BATH/BRUNSWICK (VII)	51	16	33	2
Lincoln	28	12	16	-
Sagadahoc	23	4	17	2
PEN-BAY (VIII)	45	20	24	1
Knox	22	12	10	-
Waldo	23	8	14	1

NOTE: "Selected services" means direct services related to mental health problems of congregants or others in the community.

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.

TABLE 2. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF CLERGY PROVIDING "SELECTED SERVICES",  
BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Number of clergy	Percent
STATE TOTAL	359	46.1
AROOSTOOK (I)	29	39.2
Aroostook	29	39.2
EASTERN MAINE (II)	100	48.5
Hancock	26	56.5
Penobscot	49	50.0
Piscataquis	10	43.5
Washington	15	38.5
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	46	41.8
Kennebec	32	37.6
Somerset	14	56.0
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	56	48.7
Androscoggin	19	48.7
Franklin	18	66.7
Oxford	19	38.8
CUMBERLAND (V)	58	52.3
Cumberland	58	52.3
YORK (VI)	34	50.7
York	34	50.7
BATH/BRUNSWICK (VII)	16	31.4
Lincoln	12	42.9
Sagadahoc	4	17.4
PEN-BAY (VIII)	20	44.4
Knox	12	54.5
Waldo	8	34.8

NOTE: "Selected services" means direct services related to mental health problems of congregants or others in the community.

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health & Corrections, Survey of Clergy, 1974.

TABLE 3. KINDS OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CLERGY PROVIDED,  
BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Number of clergy providing M. H. services	Kinds of mental health services provided *			
		Therapy	Counseling	Other	No report
STATE TOTAL	359	16	341	43	6
AROOSTOOK (I)	29	4	26	2	2
Aroostook	29	4	26	2	2
EASTERN MAINE (II)	100	3	92	19	3
Hancock	26	1	23	6	2
Penobscot	49	1	47	10	1
Piscataquis	10	1	9	-	-
Washington	15	-	13	3	-
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	46	2	44	6	-
Kennebec	32	2	32	3	-
Somerset	14	-	12	3	-
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	56	-	54	5	1
Androscoggin	19	-	17	2	1
Franklin	18	-	18	1	-
Oxford	19	-	19	2	-
CUMBERLAND (V)	58	6	57	5	-
Cumberland	58	6	57	5	-
YORK (VI)	34	-	34	2	-
York	34	-	34	2	-
BATH/ BRUNSWICK (VII)	16	-	14	4	-
Lincoln	12	-	10	4	-
Sagadahoc	4	-	4	-	-
PEN-BAY (VIII)	20	1	20	-	-
Knox	12	1	12	-	-
Waldo	8	-	8	-	-

\*These data provide separately the number of clergy engaged in therapy and counseling or other kinds of mental health services; it should be noted that more than one kind of activity was reported by individual members of the clergy.

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health & Corrections, Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF CLERGY REFERRING CLIENTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Total clergy	Do refer clients	Do not refer clients	No report
STATE TOTAL	779	528	187	64
AROOSTOOK (I)	74	54	16	4
Aroostook	74	54	16	4
EASTERN MAINE (II)	206	144	49	13
Hancock	46	30	11	5
Penobscot	98	73	20	5
Piscataquis	23	18	3	2
Washington	39	23	15	1
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	110	61	41	8
Kennebec	85	49	30	6
Somerset	25	12	11	2
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	115	75	26	14
Androscoggin	39	26	8	5
Franklin	27	18	8	1
Oxford	49	31	10	8
CUMBERLAND (V)	111	87	17	7
Cumberland	111	87	17	7
YORK (VI)	67	49	15	3
York	67	49	15	3
BATH/BRUNSWICK (VII)	51	31	10	10
Lincoln	28	22	4	2
Sagadahoc	23	9	6	8
PEN-BAY (VIII)	45	27	13	5
Knox	22	14	7	1
Waldo	23	13	6	4

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF CLERGY MAKING REFERRALS, BY PLACE OF REFERRALS, AND BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Number of clergy making referrals	Place of referral				
		PPP	CMHC	P	SI	Other
STATE TOTAL	528	151	413	92	117	127
AROOSTOOK (I)	54	11	42	5	2	11
Aroostook	54	11	42	5	2	11
EASTERN MAINE (II)	144	37	108	17	47	38
Hancock	30	5	23	3	9	10
Penobscot	73	21	52	9	29	19
Piscataquis	18	5	17	2	2	3
Washington	23	6	16	3	7	6
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	61	18	45	16	16	19
Kennebec	49	15	35	15	15	14
Somerset	12	3	10	1	1	5
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	75	20	72	12	8	7
Androscoggin	26	7	26	5	2	2
Franklin	18	6	16	3	3	1
Oxford	31	7	30	4	3	4
CUMBERLAND (V)	87	37	69	26	24	27
Cumberland	87	37	69	26	24	27
YORK (VI)	49	10	36	6	7	15
York	49	10	36	6	7	15
BATH/ BRUNSWICK (VII)	31	7	19	3	7	6
Lincoln	22	5	11	2	7	5
Sagadahoc	9	2	8	1	-	1
PEN-BAY (VIII)	27	11	22	7	6	4
Knox	14	7	10	5	1	3
Waldo	13	4	12	2	5	1

NOTE: PPP = Psychiatrist in private practice      SI = State institutes  
 CMHC = Community mental health center      Other = Other responses  
 P = Psychologist

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health and Corrections; Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.

TABLE 6. NUMBER OF CLIENTS AND AVERAGE NUMBER PER MEMBER OF THE CLERGY REFERRED ANNUALLY, BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Number of clergy making referrals	Number of clients referred	Average number of clients per clergy
STATE TOTAL	411 *	2,172	5.3
AROOSTOOK (I)	40	146	3.7
Aroostook	40	146	3.7
EASTERN MAINE (II)	110	547	5.0
Hancock	25	155	6.2
Penobscot	57	256	4.5
Piscataquis	14	69	4.9
Washington	14	67	4.8
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	45	187	4.2
Kennebec	35	165	4.7
Somerset	10	22	2.2
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	57	455	8.0
Androscoggin	20	280	14.0
Franklin	16	93	5.8
Oxford	21	82	3.9
CUMBERLAND (V)	75	427	5.7
Cumberland	75	427	5.7
YORK (VI)	39	156	4.0
York	39	156	4.0
BATH/BRUNSWICK (VII)	23	187	8.1
Lincoln	16	152	9.5
Sagadahoc	7	35	5.0
PEN-BAY (VIII)	22	67	3.0
Knox	12	33	2.8
Waldo	10	34	3.4

\* Does not include 117 members of the clergy who indicated that they made referrals, but who did not indicate the number of referrals.

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.



TABLE 7. NUMBER OF CLERGY REPORTING WHETHER THEY WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE THEIR CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTLY, BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Total clergy	Would like to increase capability	Would not like to increase capability	No report
STATE TOTAL	779	465	195	119
AROOSTOOK (I)	74	46	16	12
Aroostook	74	46	16	12
EASTERN MAINE (II)	206	127	55	24
Hancock	46	22	20	4
Penobscot	98	63	21	14
Piscataquis	23	17	4	2
Washington	39	25	10	4
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	110	65	30	15
Kennebec	85	52	21	12
Somerset	25	13	9	3
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	115	65	29	21
Androscoggin	39	22	9	8
Franklin	27	21	5	1
Oxford	49	22	15	12
CUMBERLAND (V)	111	66	28	17
Cumberland	111	66	28	17
YORK (VI)	67	44	12	11
York	67	44	12	11
BATH/ BRUNSWICK (VII)	51	25	15	11
Lincoln	28	16	9	3
Sagadahoc	23	9	6	8
PEN-BAY (III)	45	27	10	8
Knox	22	13	5	4
Waldo	23	14	5	4

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.

TABLE 8. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF CLERGY REPORTING WHETHER THEY PROVIDE "SELECTED SERVICES" AND WHETHER THEY WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE THEIR CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTLY, BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA, STATE OF MAINE, 1974.

Geographic Area	Do provide "selected services"		Do not provide "selected services"	
	Number of clergy	Percent that would like to increase capability	Number of clergy	Percent that would like to increase capability
STATE TOTAL	359	77.4	398	45.5
AROOSTOOK (I)	29	72.4	43	55.8
Aroostook	29	72.4	43	55.8
EASTERN MAINE (II)	100	75.0	101	49.5
Hancock	26	65.4	19	21.1
Penobscot	49	77.6	47	51.1
Piscataquis	10	90.0	12	66.7
Washington	15	73.3	23	60.9
KENNEBEC VALLEY (III)	46	71.7	60	51.7
Kennebec	32	75.0	49	55.1
Somerset	14	64.3	11	36.4
TRI-COUNTY (IV)	56	85.7	57	29.8
Androscoggin	19	78.9	19	36.8
Franklin	18	94.4	9	44.4
Oxford	19	84.2	29	20.7
CIMBERLAND (V)	58	70.7	49	46.9
Cumberland	58	70.7	49	46.9
YORK (VI)	34	88.2	31	45.2
York	34	88.2	31	45.2
BATH/BRUNSWICK (VII)	16	81.3	33	36.4
Lincoln	12	83.3	16	37.5
Sagadahoc	4	75.0	17	35.3
PEN-BAY (VIII)	20	85.0	24	41.7
Knox	12	75.0	10	40.0
Waldo	8	100.0	14	42.9

NOTE: "Selected services" means direct services related to mental health problems of congregants or others in the community.

Of the 465 members of the clergy indicating they would like to increase their capability, 6 are not represented on this table. Those 6 responses come from the 22 clergymen who did not indicate if they provided "selected services".

SOURCE: Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Manpower Survey of Clergy, 1974.

## APPENDIXES

- A. Technical Notes
- B. Reproduction of 1974  
Cover Letter and  
Questionnaire

## APPENDIX A

### GENERAL METHODOLOGY

The identification and location of members of the clergy was carried out in cooperation with various religious leaders in the state. It was originally intended that the questionnaire should be sent to individual members of the clergy. However, it was discovered that a comprehensive mailing list of individual members of the clergy in the state did not exist and that such a mailing list would have to be compiled from each of the individual religious groups. Because of the time and resource constraints on this special manpower study, it was decided to use existing list of religious organizations and facilities.

A state-wide list of religious facilities was obtained in the form of mailing labels from the Director of Chaplaincy Services, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, Maine. On December 12, 1973, questionnaires similar to that in appendix B were mailed by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections to an estimated 1,500 religious facilities.

Respondents returned approximately 900 questionnaires. About 121 questionnaires were eliminated as duplicates, facilities closed, closed without a pastor, mergers, etc., so that about 779 responses are included in the data of this report.

The format of the questionnaire and the return mailing procedures were designed to reduce the burden on the respondent and to obtain as high a return rate as possible. A follow-up mailing was made one month after the initial mailing to those members of the clergy who had not yet responded. These efforts resulted in a response rate of about 50 percent. It may well be that a higher rate of return would have been received had the questionnaire been mailed directly to individual members of the clergy rather than to religious organizations.

### COVERAGE

Information was collected by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections on a voluntary basis from those members of the clergy who could be reached through state-wide list of religious organizations in an attempt to obtain as complete a coverage as possible. It should be recognized that this study did not include religious facilities not on the available state-wide mailing list and those who never received a questionnaire. Not known is how many members of the clergy were in each facility. Therefore, the information obtained should be considered as a minimum data base. No attempt was made to determine the characteristics of non-respondents.

The percent of respondents not answering individual questions on the manpower questionnaire was between 2 and 15 percent for all but question 5. Approximately 22 percent of the 528 members of the clergy stating that they referred clients for mental health services did not provide information on the number they referred. It may be that these members of the clergy do not maintain records on referral information. The number and percent of respondents not answering individual questions is shown in table A-1.

#### CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Much thought was given to the wording of the questions so as to allow the respondent the broadest possible interpretation of which "selected services" to consider as related to mental health problems of clients. No attempt was made to define the term "mental health services". The objective being to obtain needed information on the perception of members of the clergy of their role and their impact on the mental health system in the state. In this report "selected services" and mental health services are used interchangeably.

The data presented according to Geographic Area was based on the mailing address; the responses were grouped according to county boundaries. (The geographic areas are based on county boundaries and vary slightly from the geographic areas as used by the State Planning Office.)

It should be noted that in this study human services facilities affiliated and/or associated with religious groups are not included; only those religious facilities, primarily churches, included on the statewide list were included.

It was intended that the responses to question 5 - estimate the number of persons you have referred for mental health services during the year 1973 - would be based on annual referrals. Referrals that were reported on monthly or weekly basis were converted to an annual basis.

An important consideration in understanding the impact of these referrals on the mental health system would be the information on how many of these individuals being referred did or did not avail themselves of mental health services. This information can only be determined from a separate study since it was not possible within the time and resource limits available in this special manpower study.

The reader should be cautioned in interpreting the responses to question 6 - Would you like to increase your capability to provide such mental health services. Without further follow-up these data show a general interest on the part of the clergy in becoming more directly involved with the mental health system. Such additional study should determine the nature and extent of how such capability would be utilized; for example: should members of the clergy receive specialized training? Should mental health personnel be assigned to and located in religious facilities?

No attempt was made to include or analyze the data from question 2 - Please indicate the name and address of the place(s) where you provide such mental health services - nor the remarks provided by the respondents. It is intended that as time and resources permit the Department will utilize this information to better understand these data submitted by the respondents.

TABLE A-1. NUMBER AND PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS NOT ANSWERING INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS

	Number not answering	Percent not answering
* Of the total 779 members of the clergy responding:		
(Question 1) Do you provide mental health services?	22	2.8
(Question 4) Do you make referrals for mental health services?	64	8.2
(Question 5) Would like to increase your capability?	119	15.3
* Of the 359 that provided services:		
(Question 3) Kind of mental health services provided?	6	1.7
* Of the 528 who estimated:		
(Question 5) Number of clients referred for mental health services.	117	22.2



STATE OF MAINE  
 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS  
 Augusta, Maine 04330  
 Tel. (207) 289-3161

DO NOT SEPARATE

Dear Member of the Clergy:

DECEMBER 1973

We seek your cooperation in our effort to appraise the mental health system in delivering services to the citizens of Maine. Accordingly, the Department requests that you take a few moments to answer six questions on the attached postcard and return it to us. No postage is necessary.

Your immediate reply is very important in providing needed information on the extent to which the clergy may impact on the State's mental health system. Various religious leaders in the State are cooperating in this activity.

Your response will be held in strict confidence - only statistical summaries will be released. I appreciate your help in providing an early response.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Kearns, Jr.  
 Commissioner

**PLEASE REVERSE FOLD AND TAPE EDGE BEFORE MAILING**

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY, ALSO BE SURE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS IS CORRECT.

1. Do you provide any direct services related to the mental health problems of your congregants or others in the community? Yes  No
2. Please indicate the name and address of the place(s) where you provide such mental health services.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What kinds of mental health services do you provide?  
 therapy  counseling  
 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you make referrals for mental health services? Yes  No   
 Indicate your referrals:  
 Psychiatrist in private practice  Community mental health center  
 Psychologist  State hospital  
 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Estimate the number persons you have referred for mental health services during the year 1973. Number \_\_\_\_\_

6. Would you like to increase your capability to provide such mental health services directly? Yes  No

Please print or type name of person to be contacted if we have any questions:

\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (telephone)

DO NOT SEPARATE