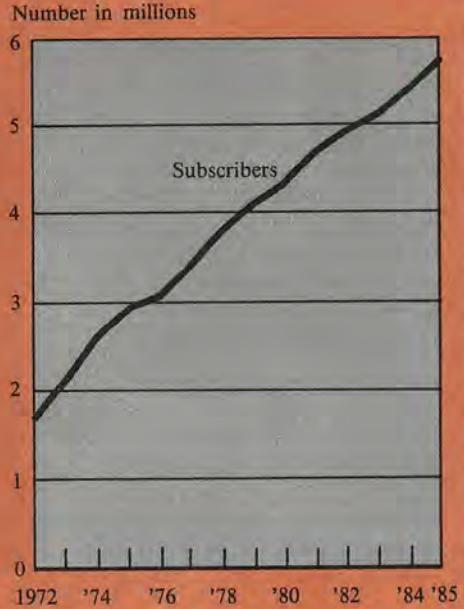
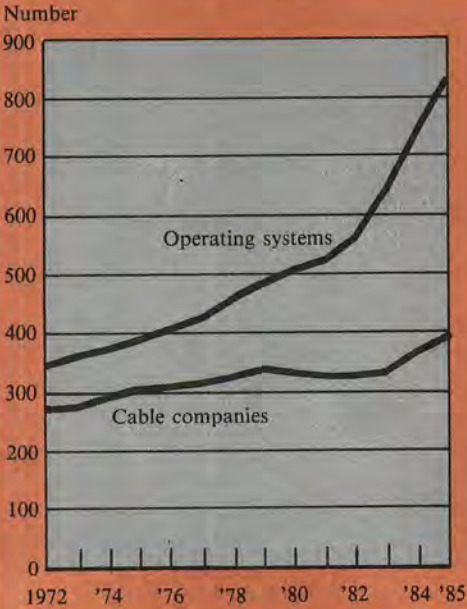


Chart 14.2  
**Growth of cable television in Canada**



captions or sign-language for the hearing-impaired and shopping channels are available to Canadian cable subscribers, in addition to public and private networks from Canada and the United States.

By the mid 1980s, over 270 community channel studios each produced an average of five hours per day of original programming, or, on a national basis, about 1,300 hours of programming daily. The proliferation of community channels is the result of regulations made by the federal regulatory body, the CRTC. In 1968, regulatory responsibility for the cable television industry passed from the Ministry of Transport to the Canadian Radio-Television Commission, which was renamed the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) in 1976 when it was given the additional responsibility for regulating telecommunications.

Discretionary services were first licensed by the CRTC in 1982. By 1986, over 90% of Canadian cable subscribers could pay additional monthly fees to receive such services as movie channels, the MuchMusic rock video service, and The Sport Network (TSN). About one in

five cable households subscribed to one or more discretionary service.

**Satellite transmission.** Canada also pioneered satellite distribution of television signals. Hermes, the communications technology satellite launched in 1976, was a milestone in Canadian space history. Its innovations, including tele-health, tele-education and direct broadcasting by satellite (DBS), have had worldwide impact. Using higher frequencies and smaller receiving dishes (earth stations) than earlier satellites, Hermes delivered television signals to individual homes, particularly in previously underserved or unserved rural and remote communities.

The CBC routinely uses Telesat Canada's Anik satellites to transmit television and radio signals across Canada. Live broadcasts of special events are sent simultaneously to stations in the country's six time zones; some national news broadcasts are centrally produced and transmitted at hourly intervals to centres across the country; news stories and programs are assembled in various cities for rebroadcast by local networks. Satellite coverage of fast-breaking news stories, elections, sports and