

Baseline Data Report 2003–2004

Regional Profile of Outaouais



prepared by the

CHSSN

Community Health
and Social Services Network

for the Networking and Partnership Initiative

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Health Determinants of English-speaking Regional Communities

Acknowledgement

For the purpose of describing regional highlights, this section draws primarily on the demographic data developed by William Floch for the Department of Canadian Heritage based on the 1996 and 2001 Canadian Census, 2004. Any other sources are indicated throughout.

Regional Health Determinants

While the factors influencing health in a given region will be presented as much as possible as discreet entities it is important to keep in mind they are interdependent. Often the configuration of a number of factors underlies the difference between a weak and an optimal health situation.

Explanation of Table Indices:

Information in this report is supported by a series of reference tables for each administrative region. One of these tables compares the Income/Social Status of each region's Anglophone population relative to either the Francophone regional majority, or to the entire Anglophone population of the province. Two important methods of measurement (**mmi** and **rgi**) are used and their meanings are explained here:

Minority-Majority Index (mmi)

The Minority-Majority Index in this report compares the characteristic of the regional *minority* Anglophone population relative to the *majority* Francophone population which shares the same region. An **mmi greater than 1.00** indicates that the characteristic is more commonly found in the minority population. An **mmi less than 1.00** indicates that it is less present in the minority population.

Example: This Minority-Majority Index table for the Outaouais region indicates that the average income **mmi of 0.99** for the Anglophone population is just slightly lower than that of the Francophone population, while the proportion of population over the age of 15 without income is an **mmi of 1.09**, significantly higher.

| Income/Social Status Characteristics | mmi |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Average income | 0.99 |
| Population 15+ without income | 1.09 |
| Dependence on government transfer | 1.06 |
| Incidence of low income (under \$20k) | 1.07 |
| Incidence of high income (over \$50k) | 0.99 |

Relative Geographic Index (rgi)

The Relative Geographic Index in this document refers to the relative value of a characteristic for the Anglophone population of a given region compared to the Anglophone population of the entire province of Québec. Thus, an **rgi greater than 1.00**

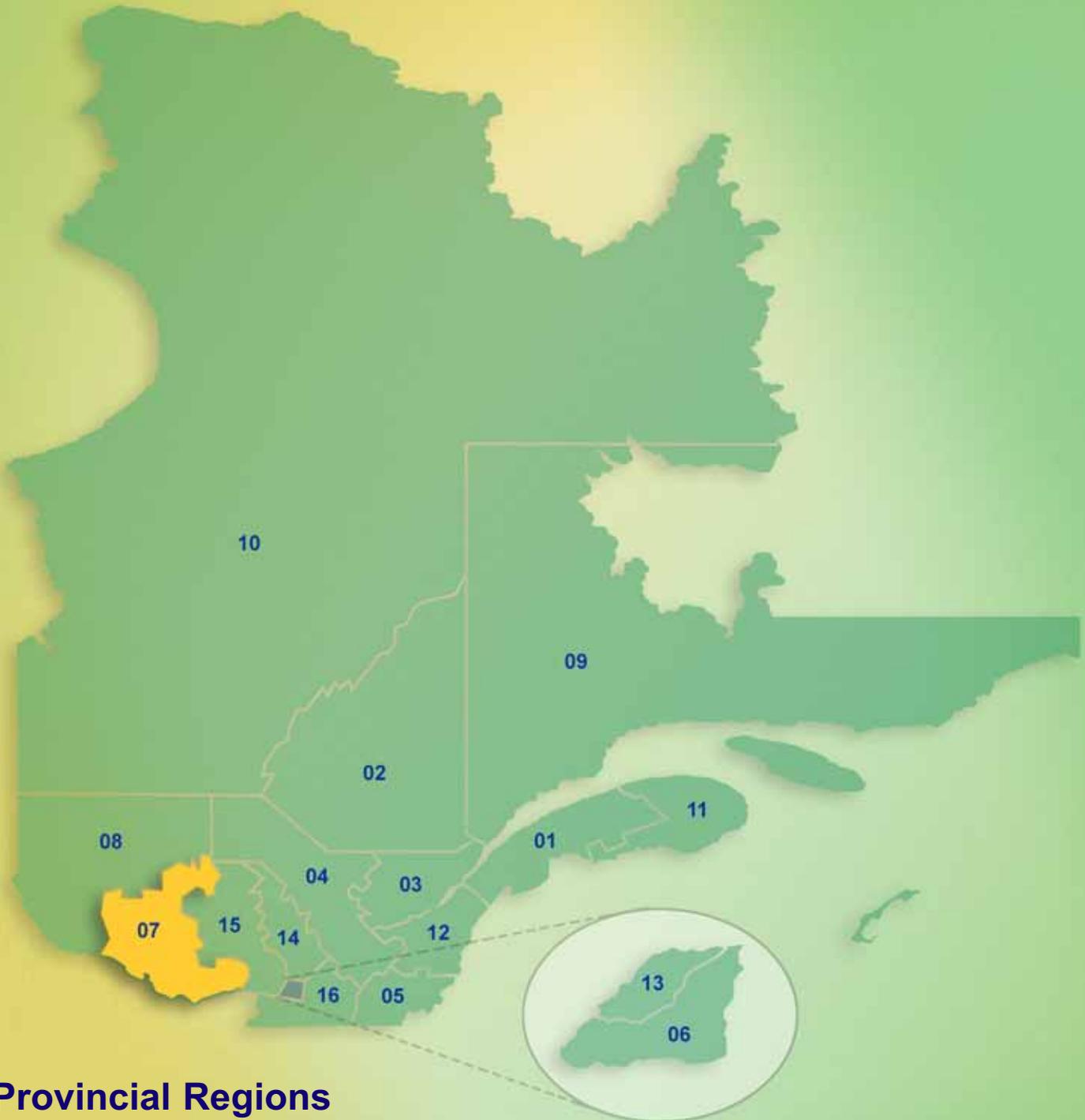
indicates that the characteristic is more present in the specific regional Anglophone population than in the provincial Anglophone population as a whole. An **rgi less than 1.00** indicates that the characteristic is less present in the regional population than in the provincial population.

Example: Adding the **rgi** index to the same table indicates that the proportion of Anglophone population of the Outaouais over the age of 15 without income has an **rgi of 0.91** (or lower than the proportion of the Anglophone population of the whole province), while the **rgi of 1.13** indicates that the relative incidence of high income earning is substantially higher.

| Income/Social Status Characteristics | mmi | rgi |
|---|------------|------------|
| Average income | 0.99 | 0.99 |
| Population 15+ without income | 1.09 | 0.91 |
| Dependence on government transfer | 1.06 | 0.97 |
| Incidence of low income (under \$20k) | 1.07 | 0.93 |
| Incidence of high income (over \$50k) | 0.99 | 1.13 |



Outaouais



Provincial Regions

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01 Bas-Saint-Laurent | 09 Côte-Nord |
| 02 Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean | 10 Nord-du-Québec |
| 03 Québec – La Capitale Nationale | 11 Gaspésie – Îles-de-la-Madeleine |
| 04 Mauricie – Centre-du-Québec | 12 Chaudière-Appalaches |
| 05 Estrie | 13 Laval |
| 06 Montréal | 14 Lanaudière |
| 07 Outaouais | 15 Laurentides |
| 08 Abitibi-Témiscamingue | 16 Montérégie |

Overview - Region 07 – Outaouais

[Link](#) to full description

| Key Determinant | Key Facts |
|---|--|
| Income & Social Status | There is a higher proportion of individuals with low income in the Anglophone population relative to the Francophone. The average income rate of the minority community is similar to the Francophone majority as well as the larger provincial Anglophone population. |
| Social Support Networks | The Anglophone community in this region is experiencing a low rate of aging (10.3%) and their mmi ranks 12th among 16 regions. This group exhibits an age structure similar to its Francophone counterpart and it appears that the demographic conditions for a strong social support network are present. The majority and minority populations share similar rates of widowhood. |
| Education | Anglophones in this region are more likely than their provincial peers and host majority to have no high school leaving. They are more likely than the Francophone majority and less likely than Anglophones across the province to have postsecondary qualifications. Anglophone women are less likely to complete their university degree than men. |
| Employment & Working Conditions | The unemployment rate of Anglophones relative to Francophones is 32% higher. Compared to Anglophones across the province the Outaouais community exhibits proportionally fewer unemployed, fewer out of the workforce, and substantially more self-employed. |
| Social Environments | This Anglophone population experienced growth between 1996 and 2001 The rate of bilingualism in this English-speaking community is 50.3% which is low relative to the larger provincial Anglophone group. The proportion of the Anglophone community who claim aboriginal identity is three and a half times that of the Francophone. |
| Health Services | Relative to the provincial average the use of English in health situations in Outaouais is average, ranking 4th of 16. In the area of entitled services it ranks 5th of 16 regions. Outaouais has 2 designated institutions for health and social services. Anglophones are underrepresented as employees in the health care and social assistance industrial sector. |
| Gender | Anglophone women are less likely to be unemployed than men. There are more than three and a half times as many widowed Anglophone women as there are Anglophone men. While the Anglophone community overall is more involved in unpaid care than Francophones, Anglophone women are twice as involved as Anglophone men. |
| Culture | A greater percentage of the Anglophone population claim multiple ethnic origins. The likelihood of claiming an aboriginal identity is three and a half times greater in the English-speaking population. |
| Defining Characteristics of the Region | |
| There is a significant divergence between the rural and urban constituencies of this Anglophone population which the research findings may not sufficiently reveal. The low rate of aging, population growth, and substantial health and social services are the strengths of this community. The unemployment rate is high, the rate of bilingualism is low and the percentage of the Anglophone population with no high school leaving is highest all of which may contribute to an increased health risk | |

Region 07 – Outaouais

The Outaouais is a region situated in the western part of Québec adjoining the province of Ontario on its western border. The presence of the National Capital Region in Ottawa-Gatineau has a strong influence on the composition and character of the Outaouais region. In 2001 Outaouais had 53,948 Anglophones who comprised 17.2% of the region's total population of 312,835. The largest municipality in the region is Gatineau with a population of 102,380. The largest Anglophone population is found in Aylmer (12,918). For the 1996-2001 period, the Anglophone population of the region grew by 85 individuals which represents a negligible increase of 0.2%. Public administration, retail trade, manufacturing, and professional/scientific/technical services are the largest employers of the English-speaking population in this region.

| Regional rankings for 16 Regions / Potential for services in English | |
|--|------|
| Feature (1=highest, 16=lowest) | Rank |
| Demographic Characteristics | 2 |
| Access to entitled services | 4 |
| Services delivered in English | 5 |
| Summary rank | 3 |
| Source: (CCSEC, 2002: 12-15) | |

Income and Social Status

| Characteristics | mmi | rgi |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Average income | 0.99 | 0.99 |
| Population 15+ without income | 1.09 | 0.91 |
| Dependence on government transfer | 1.06 | 0.97 |
| Incidence of low income (under \$20k) | 1.07 | 0.93 |
| Incidence of high income (over \$50k) | 0.99 | 1.13 |

- Outaouais Anglophones display a slightly higher proportion of individuals with low income than Francophones in this region and an equal proportion of people at the higher end of the economic spectrum.
- The average income for Outaouais Anglophones is similar to that of the Francophone majority of the same region (mmi=0.99) and similar to that enjoyed by the rest of Anglophone Québec (rgi=0.99)
- The rate of dependence on government transfer is slightly higher than that of the majority population and similar to that of the rest of Anglophone Québec
- Anglophones living in Outaouais are slightly more likely than Francophones to earn under \$20k and do not differ from larger Anglophone Québec in this respect

Social Support Networks

| Age Structure | Anglo | Franco |
|----------------------------|-------|--------|
| 0-14 | 19.6% | 19.9% |
| 15-24 | 12.8% | 12.9% |
| 25-44 | 31.9% | 32.4% |
| 45-64 | 25.4% | 25.3% |
| 65+ | 10.3% | 9.5% |
| Care-giver to Senior Ratio | 3.25 | 3.63 |

- The age structure of the Outaouais Anglophone population is similar to that found in the Francophone majority. This demographic similarity between the majority and minority population would suggest common ground in terms of defining needs and services.
- One of the strengths of the Outaouais community lies in the fact that there are more than 3 individuals from the Care-giver generation for every senior
- There are almost three and a half times more widowed women than men in the Anglophone Outaouais population.

Education

| Characteristics | mmi | rqi |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Without high school leaving | 0.93 | 1.16 |
| With post-secondary qualifications | 1.04 | 0.87 |
| High school drop-out | 1.07 | 1.11 |
| College drop-out | 1.07 | 1.00 |
| University drop-out | 0.95 | 0.93 |

- In this region, Anglophones in general are 7% less likely than Francophones to have no high school leaving; however, they are 16% more likely to no high school leaving when compared with Anglophones generally across the province.
- Amongst Anglophones in the 15-24 age group, 6% are more likely to have no high school leaving than Francophones. In the age ranges 25-44, 45-64 and over 65, Anglophones in the region are approximately 13% less likely to have no high school leaving than Francophones.
- With regard to post-secondary qualifications, Anglophones in general in the region are 4% more likely than Francophones to possess some certification. They are 13% less likely to possess it when compared with Anglophones in general across the province.
- Those Anglophones over 65 in the Outaouais are 50% more likely to have some form of post-secondary qualifications than Francophones in the region. In the 15-24 age group, they are 13% less likely than Francophones to have such qualifications.
- Outaouais Anglophones are 16% more likely than their Anglophone peers across the province to have no high school leaving or additional training

- Once they have entered the various levels of schooling, and relative to their Francophone counterparts, English-speakers in the region are more likely to desist from their studies at the high school (mmi=1.07) and college levels (mmi=1.07) but are less likely to do so at the university level (mmi=0.95)
- The Anglophone Outaouais community women are 17% more likely not to complete their university degree than men.

Employment and Working Conditions

| Characteristics | mmi | rgi |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Unemployed | 1.32 | 0.83 |
| Not in workforce | 1.05 | 0.89 |
| Self-employed | 1.57 | 1.22 |
| 15+ hrs/week, unpaid housework | 1.13 | 1.20 |
| 15+ hrs/week, unpaid childcare | 1.10 | 1.19 |
| 10+ hrs/week, unpaid care to seniors | 1.22 | 0.92 |

- The main industrial sectors for Outaouais Anglophones are public administration (16.3%), retail trade (8.6%), manufacturing (7.7%), and professional, scientific and technical services (7.2%)
- Anglophone women are more than four times more likely than Anglophone men to be working in health care and social assistance than in any other industrial sector. They are more than twice as likely to be working in finance and insurance and educational services.
- Outaouais Anglophones are about as likely as Francophones in the region and 11% more likely than Anglophones across the province to be out of the labour force (have not worked for 1 year and not actively looking for work)
- The unemployment rate of the English-speaking Outaouais community is 32% higher than that of the French-speaking Outaouais community.
- Compared to other Anglophone communities in Québec the Outaouais have fewer unemployed, fewer out of the workforce, and 22% more self-employed
- Government transfers represent 12.2% of the income of Outaouais Anglophones which is about equal to the Francophone majority
- Anglophone women living in the Outaouais region are nearly twice as likely as Anglophone men to perform 10+ hours of unpaid care for seniors
- Outaouais Anglophones are 57% more likely than Francophones in the region to be self-employed
- The knowledge of local resources for career services, employment resources, or public resources to help start a business is substantial for Outaouais Anglophones (Saber-Freedman, 2001:73-76)

- English-speaking individuals living in Outaouais are among those regions most likely to believe Anglophones have equal access to federal jobs and interest in such opportunities is fairly substantial. Belief in equal access to provincial jobs is much less strong (Saber-Freedman, 2001:79-82)

Social Environments

- Overall the Outaouais Anglophone population grew by 85 individuals which represents a slight increase of 0.2% from 1996 to 2001
- Roughly 61.5% of the Anglophone population were living in the same municipality five years previously
- Outaouais region has a 13.5% rate of international immigration. The rate of inter-provincial migration is 48.8% (almost three times higher than in the Francophone community).
- The presence of visible minorities is stronger in the Outaouais Anglophone minority when compared to the Francophone majority sharing the same territory.
- 98% of Outaouais Anglophones claim Canadian citizenship and are almost three times more likely than their Francophone counterpart to have been born outside the province
- The Outaouais Anglophone community has almost three and a half times more individuals who claim aboriginal identity
- 50.3% of the English-speaking population in Outaouais are bilingual (CCESC, 2002: 8)
- Outaouais has two designated English-language institutions for health and social services; (Carter, 2001: 14).

Health Services

| Use of English in Health Situations | | |
|--|----------|-----------|
| | Province | Outaouais |
| Doctor | 86% | 92 |
| Hospital | 80% | 74 |
| Community organization | 78% | 45 |
| Emergency room | 73% | 69 |
| Private facility | 72% | 70 |
| CHSLD | 70% | 67 |
| CLSC | 66% | 68 |
| Info-santé | 61% | 42 |
| Private nurse | 75% | 69 |
| Overall | 75% | 73.4 |
| Rank among regions | n/a | 4 |

Source: CCESC, 2002: 12

- The use of English in health and social service situations in Outaouais relative to the province is average.(CCESC, 2002: 12)
- The percentage of English-speakers receiving service in English are highest from doctors, and lowest from community organization and Info-santé. (CCESC, 2002: 12)

- With regard to entitled services as defined in regional access programs approved by the Québec government for health and social services in English Outaouais Anglophones are weakest with respect to inter-regional agreements (extremely limited access) and rehabilitation (moderate access) and have substantial service access to primary care (CLSCs), general and specialized medical services, youth protection, rehabilitation, and designated institutions. (CCESC, 2002: 15)
- An identified priority in entitled services is the improvement of the level of access in English of Info-santé and reception, evaluation, and orientation services of CLSC de Hull, CLSC de la Petite-Nation (Carter,2001: 14)

| Service category | Entitled rights |
|---|-----------------|
| Primary care (CLSCs) | 1 |
| General and specialized medical services | 1 |
| Long-term care | 1 |
| Youth protection | 1 |
| Rehabilitation | 2 |
| Inter-regional agreements | 4 |
| Designated institutions | 1 |
| Sum of indicators of level of access | 11 |
| Regional ranking | 5 |
| Definition of the level of access to a service : | |
| 1 = substantial; 2 = moderate; 3 = limited; 4 = extremely limited | |
| Source: (CCESC, 2002: 15) | |

- With respect to inter-regional agreements in the Outaouais region the government decree omits the agreement for access to Foster Pavillon (drug and alcohol addiction programs) (Carter, 2001: 14)

Gender

- Anglophone Outaouais women are about 10% less likely to be unemployed when compared to Anglophone men and their average income is 23% lower. This is very similar to the situation of Francophone women in relation to Francophone men.
- The rate of unpaid work (more than 10 hours weekly of unpaid care to seniors specifically) for Anglophone Outaouais women is 81% greater than that of Anglophone men
- In the region, English-speaking men are more likely than Francophone men to perform 10+ hours per week of unpaid care to seniors (mmi=1.33)
- Government transfers account for a greater share of the income of Anglophone women than for Anglophone men (57% more)
- There are more than three times as many widowed women as men in the Anglophone population
- There are also similar proportions of widowed Anglophone women as Francophone women (mmi=1.03)

- Anglophone women are more than four times more likely than Anglophone men to be employed in the area of health care and social assistance and they are more than three times more likely to have postsecondary education in the health professions

Culture

- 52.2% of Outaouais Anglophones are Catholic; 31.3% non-Catholics; Anglophones in Outaouais are more likely than Francophones to have no religious affiliation
- We find more individuals who claim multiple ethnic origins, who are members of a visible minority, and almost three and half times more individuals who claim aboriginal identity in the Anglophone Outaouais population than in the majority population
- In terms of family patterns, the Anglophone and Francophone communities are similar. The Anglophone community is somewhat more likely than its Francophone counterpart to be legally married; somewhat less likely to be divorced; less likely to be in common-law relationship; and finally, tends to have a similar rate of widowhood



Acronyms and Glossary

Acronyms

| | |
|-------------|---|
| CCESC | Consultative Committee for English-speaking Communities (Health Canada) |
| NPI | Networking and Partnership Initiative |
| QCGN | Quebec Community Groups Network |
| CHSSN | Community Health and Social Services Network |
| C-MI survey | CROP-Missisquoi Survey conducted in the spring of 2000 |
| PCH | Patrimoine Canadian Heritage |

Glossary

Administrative Region – The concept of administrative region is important to an understanding of the way that the Government of Quebec organizes its territory for the delivery of services. There are currently 17 administrative regions. For the purposes of health, there are 16 health regions. In the former, more general example, we find Centre-du-Québec added as a new, seventeenth region. For the analysis of entitled services and for the coverage of the CROP-Missisquoi survey, the 16 health regions were utilized. To remain consistent to these data sources, the demographic analysis used in this document retains the 16 health regions as the geographic basis.

Aging - At a societal level aging refers to the proportion of age groups in a given population: young, mature, and aged. According to the United Nations a population is considered “aged” if 10% or more of its population is 60 years or over. For Census Canada, the term “elderly” or “senior”, refers to 65 years or over. Some of Quebec’s official language communities are presently living the rate of aging the general Canadian population is predicted to experience in about 20 years.

Agreements on inter-regional services – are agreements between regional health councils that facilitate the provision of services in English to residents of other regions which may not be in a position to offer such services in English in their region.

Care-giver-to-Senior Ratio – refers to the number of individuals in a given population between the ages of 35-54 relative to the number of individuals aged 65 and over. Implicit in the use of this ratio is the expectation that the care-giver generation provide informal support and, in some instances, care to seniors in the community.

Demographic Vitality - The concept of demographic vitality used in the Report to the Federal Minister of Health was a blend of demographic characteristics considered important to health. These characteristics included population size and proportion, percentage of bilingual persons in the minority community, unemployment rate, and age structure. Each region was ranked for each of the characteristics and an overall ranking was calculated based on the sum of the rankings.

Designated Institutions – are those health and social service institutions which are specifically mandated to provide health and social services to members of the English-speaking community. Many of these institutions were originally established by the Anglophone community but are now publicly funded and depending on this designation, able to operate bilingually under certain conditions.

Entitled Services – are those health and social services which are described in regional access plans and for which access in English is guaranteed by law under certain conditions.

First Official Language Spoken - The first official language spoken (FOLS) is a derived language variable based on the answers to three Census of Canada questions: knowledge of English and French, mother tongue and home language. The algorithm used by Statistics Canada results in the assigning of 98% of Canadians as Anglophone or Francophone with the remaining 2% split between dual Anglophone/Francophone (0.5%) or neither Anglophone or Francophone (1.5%). The dual Anglophone/Francophone individuals have been divided equally between the two language groups.

Health Determinants – These are a broad range of individual and collective factors that have been shown to exert a determining influence upon health status.

Minority-Majority Index - The Minority-Majority Index in this report compares the characteristic of the regional *minority* Anglophone population relative to the *majority* Francophone population which shares the same region. An **mmi** greater than 1.00 indicates that the characteristic is more commonly found in the minority population. An **mmi** less than 1.00 indicates that it is less present in the minority population.

Population Health – Population health is an approach that aims to improve the health of an entire population by taking into account a broad range of factors that have a strong influence on health.

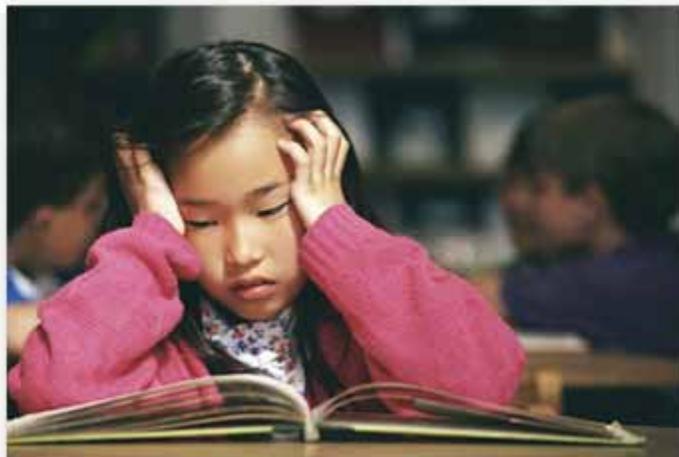
Relative Geographic Index - The Relative Geographic Index in this document refers to the relative value of a characteristic for the Anglophone population of a given region compared to the Anglophone population of the entire province of Québec. Thus, an **rgi** greater than 1.00 indicates that the characteristic is more present in the specific regional Anglophone population than in the provincial Anglophone population as a whole. An **rgi** less than 1.00 indicates that the characteristic is less present in the regional population than in the provincial population.

Without High School Leaving – refers to the population 15 years and over who have not attained a high school graduation certificate.



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