

Baseline Data Report 2003–2004

Regional Profile of Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean



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**

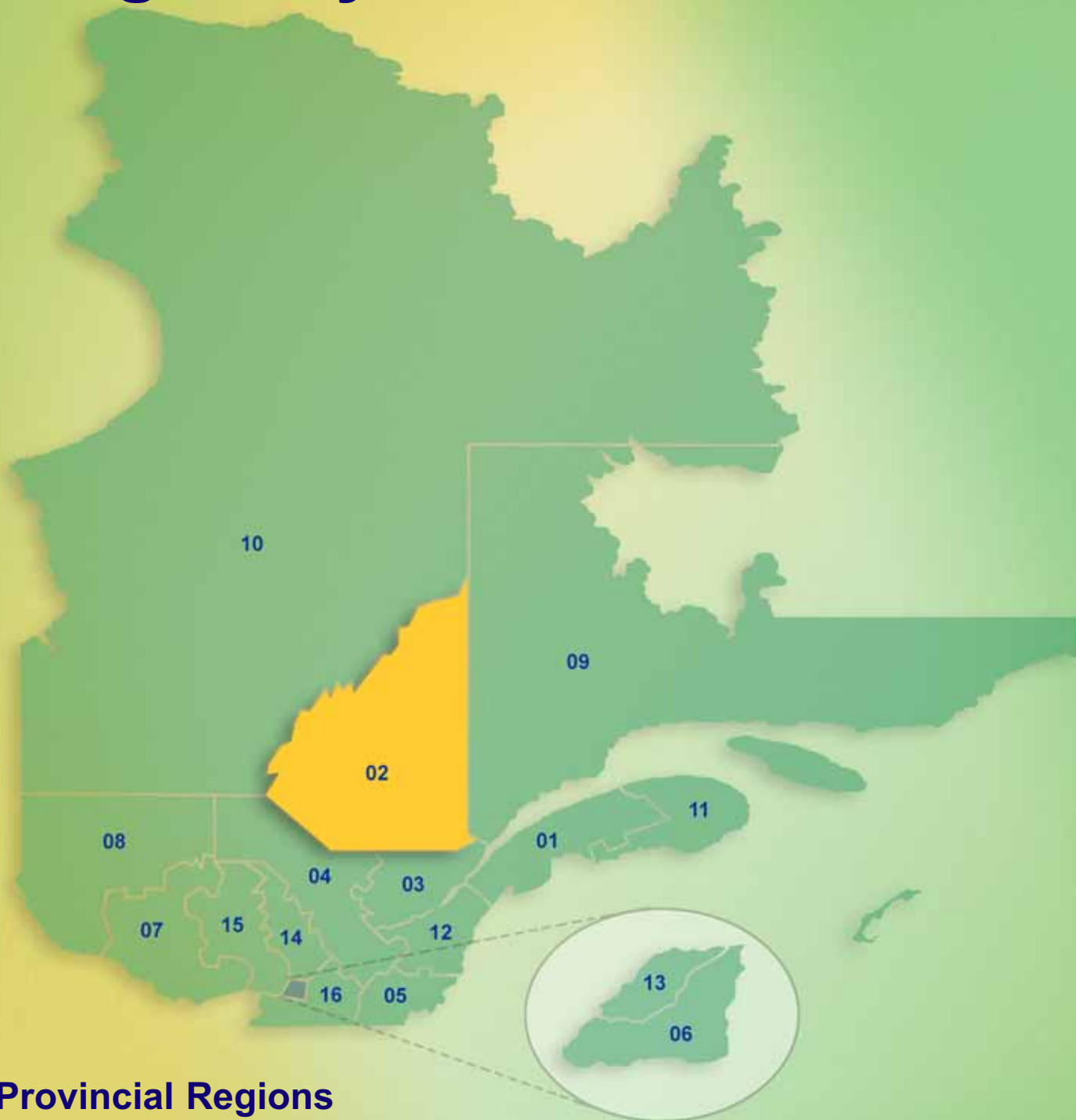
indicates that the characteristic is more present in the specific regional Anglophone population than in the provincial Anglophone population as a whole. An **rgi less than 1.00** indicates that the characteristic is less present in the regional population than in the provincial population.

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



Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean



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 02 – Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean

[Link to full description](#)

Key Determinant	Key Facts
Income & Social Status	The average income of Anglophones and the incidence of those earning over \$50k is higher than that of the majority. The proportion of income drawn from government transfers is 25% lower for Anglophones than the Francophone population.
Social Support Networks	Anglophones have a somewhat high rate of aging (14.1%) and the aging mmi ranks 8th out of 16 regions. An age structure similar to that of the majority suggests conditions for a strong support network are present. There are substantially more widowed Anglophone women than men.
Education	English-speakers are less likely than Francophones to be without high school leaving. In the 45-64 age group there are fewer Anglophones with high school leaving than in the older age group. There is a substantial proportion of the Anglophone population with a post-secondary degree.
Employment & Working Conditions	Anglophones experience a higher unemployment rate than the majority and 72% higher than Anglophones across the province. A substantial number of Anglophones are not in the workforce. The involvement of Anglophones in unpaid care is only slightly greater than that of Francophones.
Social Environments	The English-speaking population in this region appears to be stable. 92% of the Anglophone population are bilingual.
Health Services	The use of English in health situations for the Anglophone community is very low compared to the provincial average ranking 16th of 16. The region ranks 14th of 16 in the area of entitled services for English-speakers. The proportion of the Anglophone population employed in the health care and social assistance industrial sector is low (mmi=0.48)
Gender	Anglophone women are 40% more likely to be unemployed than men. The proportion of women over 65 is lower than that of the majority. Employed Anglophone women tend to be concentrated in the health care and social assistance industrial sector but without substantial education in the area. There are more widowed Anglophone women than men.
Culture	Anglophones tend to have a more ethnically and racially mixed population than the majority.
Defining Characteristics of the Region	
While this Anglophone community has many strengths such as high levels of income and education it tends to be weak in the area of health services and levels of unemployment. The stability of the population and its high rate of bilingualism are both factors which may contribute to the reduction of health risk.	

Region 02 – Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean

Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean is an administrative region situated on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence. In 2001 Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean had 1,768 Anglophones who comprised 0.6% of the region's total population of 274,325. The largest municipality in the region is Chicoutimi with a population of 59,100 which also contains the largest Anglophone population (483). For the 1996-2001 period, the Anglophone population of the region dropped by 28 individuals which represents a decline of 1.5 %. Educational services, manufacturing, public administration, and professional/scientific and technical services are the largest employers of the English-speaking population living in the region. In the area of access to health and social services delivered in English the Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean ranks the lowest of 16 health regions.

Regional rankings for 16 Regions / Potential for services in English	
Feature (1=highest, 16=lowest)	Rank
Demographic characteristics	13
Access to entitled services	16
Services delivered in English	14
Summary rank	14
Source: (CCSEC, 2002: 12-15)	

Income and Social Status

Characteristics	<u>mmi</u>	<u>rgi</u>
Average income ⁵	1.25	1.10
Population 15+ without income	1.15	1.63
Dependence on government transfer	0.76	0.98
Incidence of low income (under \$20k)	0.95	0.98
Incidence of high income (over \$50k)	1.59	1.34

- While displaying a proportion of individuals with low income similar to the majority population Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones also exhibit higher numbers of people (59% higher) at the higher end of the economic spectrum.
- The average income for Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones is substantially higher than that of the Francophone majority of the same region (mmi=1.25) and also slightly higher than that enjoyed by the rest of Anglophone Québec (rgi=1.10)
- The rate of dependence on government transfer is about 25% lower than that of the majority population and equal to the rest of Anglophone Québec
- Anglophones living in Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean are slightly less likely than Francophones to earn under \$20k and do not differ from larger Anglophone Québec in this respect

⁵ Given the small size of this Anglophone population, average income data is not available due to confidentiality rules regarding Census data.

Social Support Networks

Age Structure	Anglo	Franco
0-14	15.0%	17.8%
15-24	8.6%	15.1%
25-44	30.0%	28.4%
45-64	30.4%	27.0%
65+	14.1%	11.7%
Care-giver to Senior Ratio	2.58	2.90

- The Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophone population are experiencing a 14.1% rate of aging (14.1% are 65 and over compared to 11.7% for Francophones). In other words, Anglophones have 21% more individuals in their senior years than found in the Francophone majority.
- Given the differences in age distribution the care-giver to senior ratio is similar in the Anglophone and Francophone communities
- There are 82% more widowed women than widowed men in the Anglophone Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean population.

Education

Characteristics	mmi	rgi
Without high school leaving	0.66	0.81
With post-secondary qualifications	1.44	0.96
High school drop-out	0.78	0.73
College drop-out	0.80	0.75
University drop-out	0.85	0.88

- In general, Anglophones in this region are 34% less likely than Francophones to be without high school leaving. They are 19% less likely to be without high school leaving than Anglophones in general across the province.
- The figures are particularly striking in the 45-64 age group, where regional Anglophones are 72% less likely than Francophones to be without high school leaving. However, 60% more Anglophones than Francophones in the 15-24 age group are likely to possess high school leaving.
- At the post-secondary level, Anglophones of all age groups are 44% more likely than Francophones in the region to possess some qualifications; they are 4% less likely to possess them when compared with other Anglophones across the province. Anglophones in Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean in the 45-64 age group are 86% more likely to hold some post-secondary qualifications than regional Francophones; this rises to 95% for the over 65 age group.
- Anglophones in the region are more than twice as likely as Francophones to have a university degree

- Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones are 21% less likely than their Anglophone peers across the province to be without 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 less likely to desist from their studies at the high school (mmi=0.78), college (mmi=0.80) and university levels (mmi=0.85)
- Within the Anglophone Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean community women are 19% less likely not to complete their degree than men.

Employment and Working Conditions

Characteristics	<u>mmi</u>	<u>rgi</u>
Unemployed	1.21	1.76
Not in workforce	1.08	1.20
Self-employed	1.09	0.64
15+ hrs/week, unpaid housework	1.07	1.30
15+ hrs/week, unpaid childcare	1.09	1.11
10+ hrs/week, unpaid care to seniors	0.99	0.82

- The main industrial sectors for Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones are educational services (21.1%) manufacturing (15.1%), public administration (12.7%), and Professional/scientific and technical services (9.7%)
- Anglophone women are three times more likely than Anglophone men to be working in health care and social assistance combined with educational services while Francophone women are more than 7 times more likely than Francophone men. There are 60% fewer Anglophone women than Francophone employed in the area of health care and social assistance.
- Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones are slightly more likely than Francophones in the region and 20% 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 Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean community is 21% higher than that of the French-speaking Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean community. When compared to other Anglophone communities across Québec the rate is 76% higher.
- Government transfers represent 24% less of the income of Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones than for the Francophone majority
- Anglophone women living in the Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean region are 94% more likely than Anglophone men to perform 10+ hours of unpaid care for seniors
- Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones are slightly 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 fairly good for Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones. (Saber-Freedman, 2001:73-76)

- English-speaking individuals living in Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean are fairly likely to believe Anglophones have equal access to federal or provincial jobs and interest in such opportunities is substantial. (Saber-Freedman, 2001:79-82)

Social Environments

- Overall the Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophone population remained stable between 1996 and 2001, declining by 28 individuals which represents a drop of 1.5%
- Roughly 62% of Anglophone population were living in the same municipality five years previously which is somewhat lower than the mobility rate for Francophones in the region
- Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean region has a very high rate of international immigration. The rate of inter-provincial migration is 35.2% (45 times higher than in the Francophone community). The presence of visible minorities is notably stronger (18 times higher) in the Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophone minority when compared to the Francophone majority sharing the same territory but only one-third of the levels exhibited by Anglophones across the province. 5.4% of Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones claim citizenship other than Canadian and 35.2% were born outside the province
- 92% of the English-speaking population in Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean are bilingual (CCESC, 2002: 8)
- Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean has no designated English-language institutions for health and social services. (Carter, 2001: 6)

Health Services

Use of English in Health Situations		
	Province	Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean
Doctor	86	42
Hospital	80	12
Community organization	78	n/a
Emergency room	73	8
Private facility	72	n/a
CHSLD	70	n/a
CLSC	66	n/a
Info-santé	61	n/a
Private nurse	75	n/a
Overall	75	16.3
Rank among regions	n/a	16

Source: (CCSEC, 2002: 12)

- The use of English in health and social service situations in Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean relative to the provincial average is very low. (CCESC, 2002: 12)

- The percentage of English-speakers receiving health service in English is difficult to evaluate in the case of the Saguenay given the unavailability of information. The data available regarding doctors, hospitals, and emergency rooms suggests very limited access (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 Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones are extremely limited in all but youth protection services which are substantial.(CCESC, 2002: 15)

Service category	Entitled rights
Primary care (CLSCs)	4
General and specialized medical services	4
Long-term care	4
Youth protection	1
Rehabilitation	4
Inter-regional agreements	4
Designated institutions	4
Sum of indicators of level of access	26
Regional ranking	14
Definition of the level of access to a service : 1 = substantial; 2 = moderate; 3 = limited; 4 = extremely limited	
Source: (CCESC, 2002 :15)	

- Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean region has no inter-regional agreement sanctioned in the government approved access plan. There is a pattern of use of specialized medical services in Québec and Montréal-Centre
- Identified priorities are homecare services CH, CHSLD, CLSC Cleophas-Claveau and CH de la Sagamie (CLSC mission) and Info-santé
- The Anglophone community is underrepresented as employees in the area of health and social service as their mmi is 0.48 indicating that they are less than half as likely as Francophones to be employed in that industry.

Gender

- Anglophone Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean women are 40% more likely to be unemployed than Anglophone men
- If we consider unpaid work, Anglophone women are 75% more likely than Anglophone men to devote 10+ hours weekly of care to Seniors. In the region, English-speaking men are 33% more likely than Francophone men to perform 10+ hours per week of unpaid care to seniors
- Government transfer payments make up twice as much of the income of Anglophone women as for Anglophone men;

- When we consider women over 65, we find a similar proportion in the Anglophone population than in the Francophone (mmi=1.04)
- Contrary to most populations, the proportion of women over 65 is lower than that of men over 65 in the Anglophone community in this region;
- There are also substantially more widowed Anglophone women than Francophone women (mmi=1.39)
- While Anglophone women are almost twice as likely as Anglophone men to be employed in the area of health care and social assistance they are less than half as likely to have postsecondary education in the health professions
- Women are highly implicated in a family based model of care and yet with declining access to resources like family and community support, education, and income.

Culture

- 61.9% of Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean Anglophones are Catholic; 23.1% are non-Catholics; Anglophones in Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean are much more likely than Francophones to have no religious affiliation (13.6% compared to 2.3%)
- If we consider Anglophone Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean from the point of view of the ethnic origins of the individuals who comprise this population we find a greater diversity of backgrounds than we find in the majority population. Anglophones are 80% more likely to claim multiple ethnic origins and much more likely to be a member of a visible minority
- In terms of family patterns, the Anglophone community is more likely than its Francophone counterpart to be legally married; more than 30% less likely to be divorced; less likely to be in common-law relationship; and finally, 50% more likely to be widowed



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.

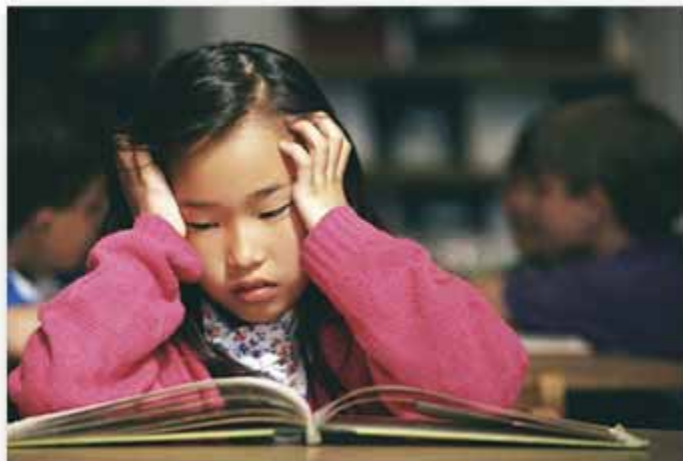
Relative Geographic Index - The Relative Geographic Index in this document refers to the relative value of a characteristic for the Anglophone population of a given region compared to the Anglophone population of the entire province of Québec. Thus, an **rgi** greater than 1.00 indicates that the characteristic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