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Official-language minority and health care workers in Canada

Evolution from 2001-2011

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February 28, 2017

Context

- Collaborative study with Health Canada, with funding from a consortium of federal departments
- Update to a report published in 2009
- Report's objective: evaluate the evolution in the offer of services in the minority language
- The Census and the NHS enable the enumeration of health care professionals

General increase in number of health care professionals in Canada between 2001 and 2011

- Demographic growth (11.7%)
- General increase in the offer of health care services
 - Investments in health
 - 2001: **29.7** professionals per 1,000 habitants
 - 2011: **35.5** professionals per 1,000 habitants
- Increase in part-time work

Measuring the potential of the services

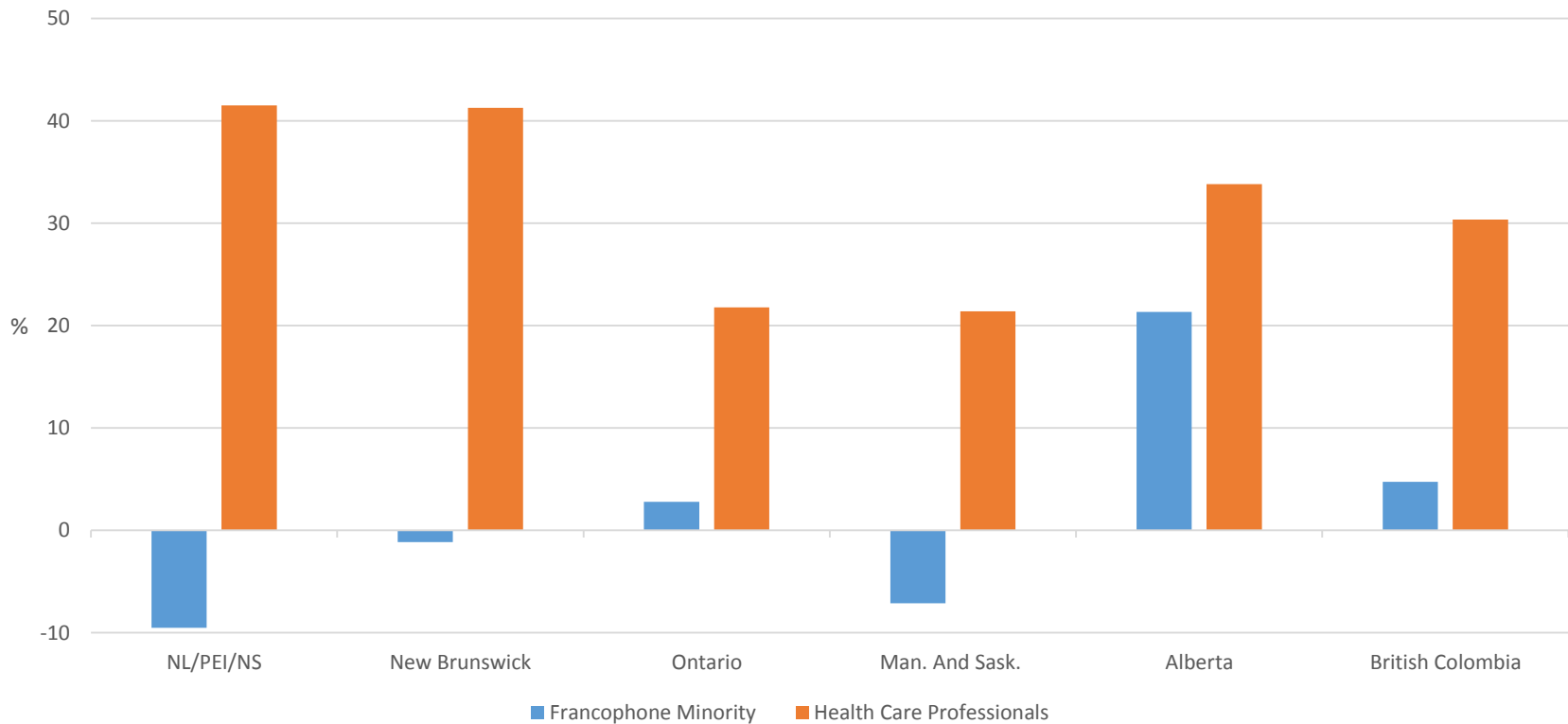
- Variable used: **ability to conduct a conversation in the minority language**
 - Maximal estimation for the offer of services (potential)
 - Limit: capacity to conduct a conversation in the minority language (reported on the Census) does not necessarily mean an ability to provide health care services in this language
 - Methodological advantage: greater numbers

Canada outside Quebec - Health care professionals able to conduct a conversation in French

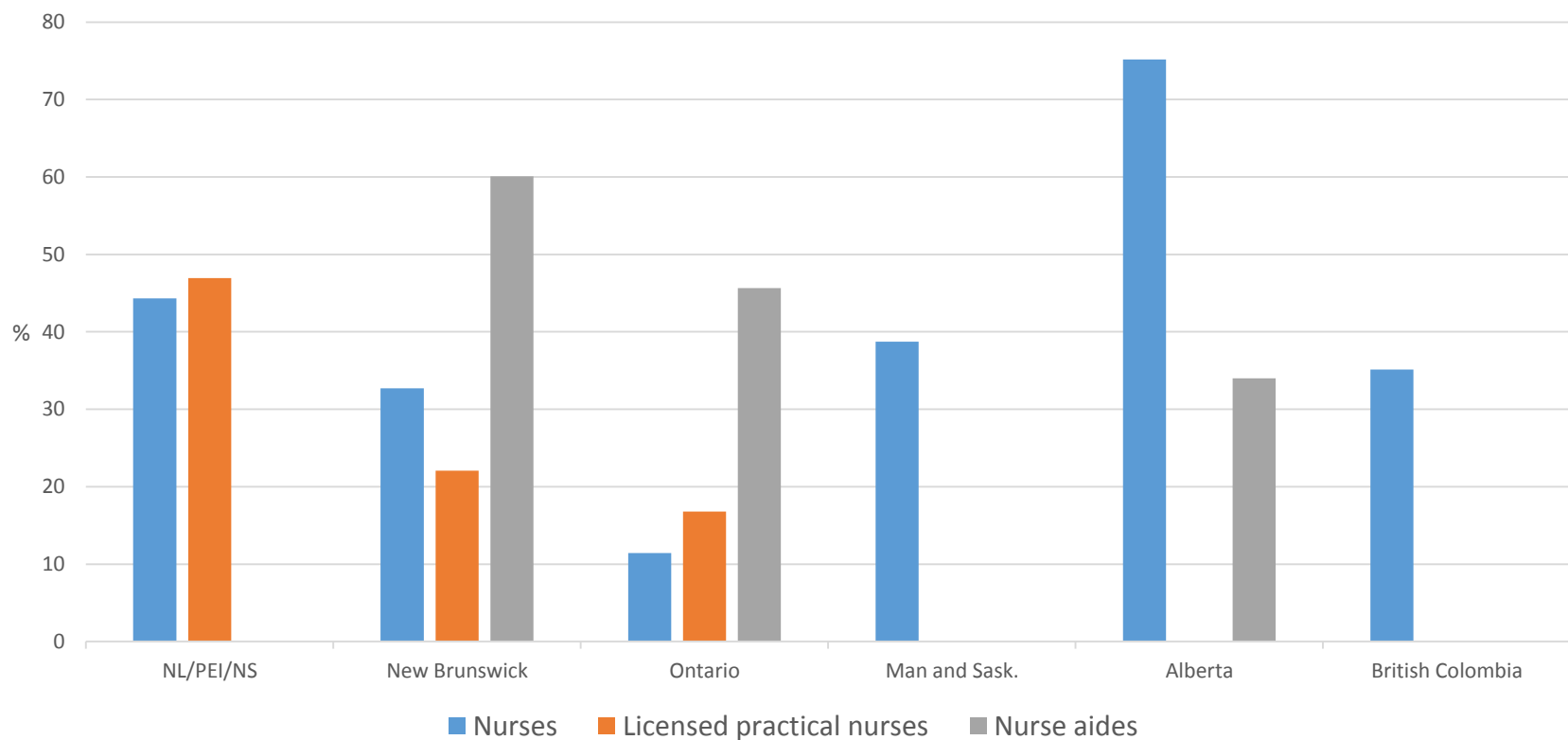
Health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French

	2001		2011	
	number	%	number	%
Total	81,280	12.4	103,830	11.7
Nurses	18,935	10.6	23,815	10.1
Physicians	6,595	21.3	7,050	21.4
Psychologists	2,200	23.2	2,760	20.9
Social workers	5,205	14.3	5,905	13.5
Pharmacists	2,150	11.5	2,715	11.1
Licensed practical nurses	3,260	9.5	3,740	9.2
Paramedics	1,435	12.9	1,940	12.8
Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates	9,615	10.1	13,085	9.2
Other Health Care Professionals	31,890	13.1	42,815	12.7

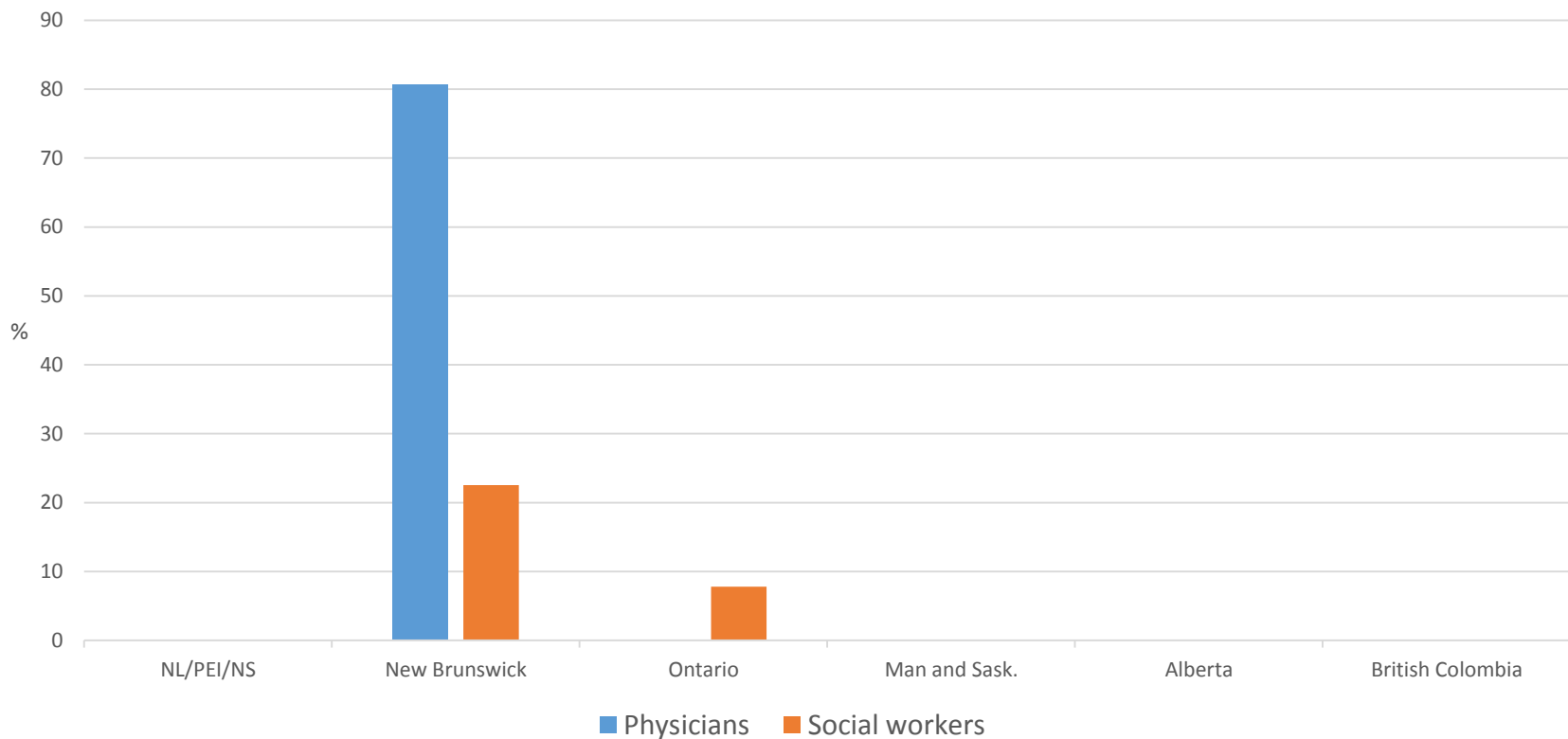
In general, potential offer of health care services is not linked to demand



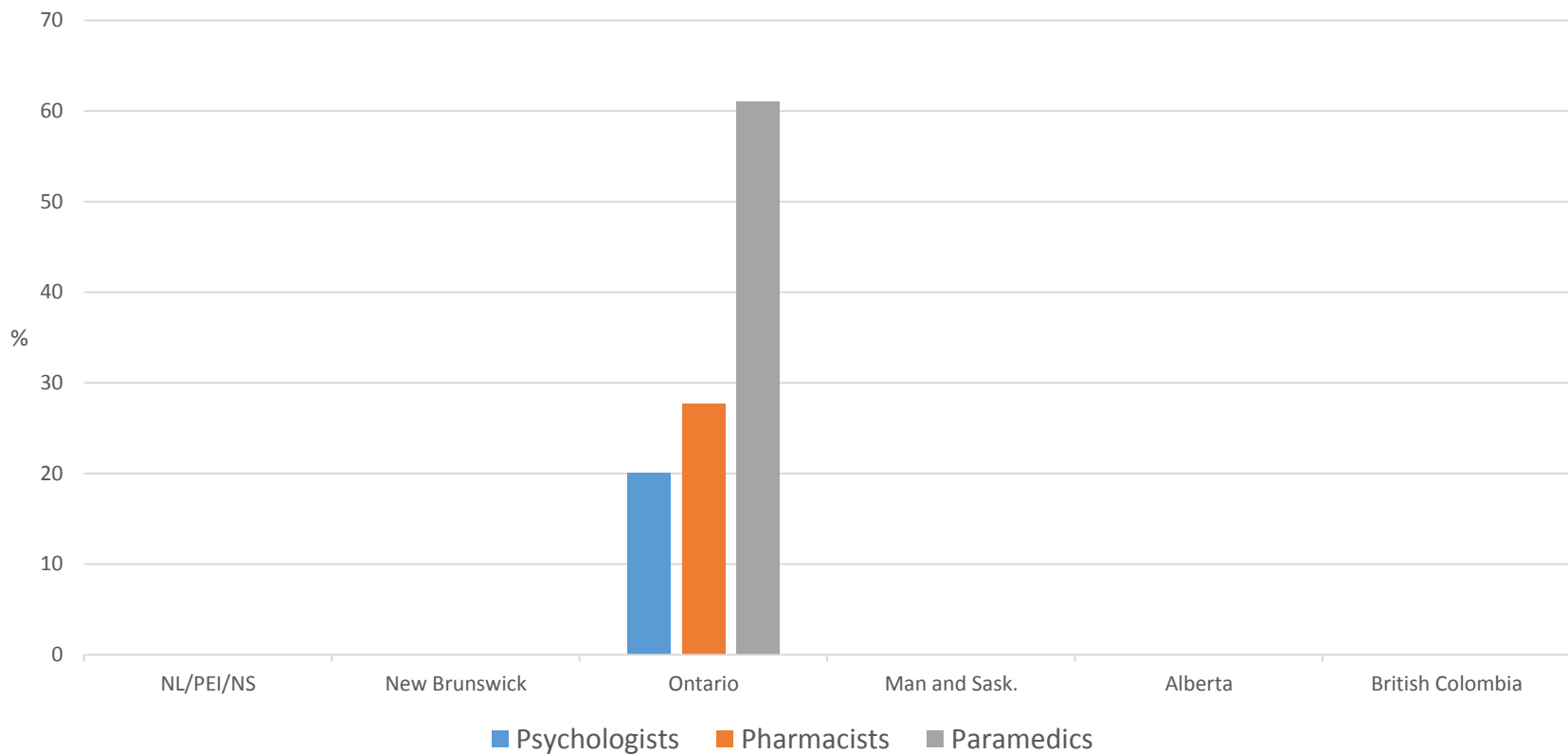
Nurses, licensed practical nurses and nurses aides



Physicians and social workers



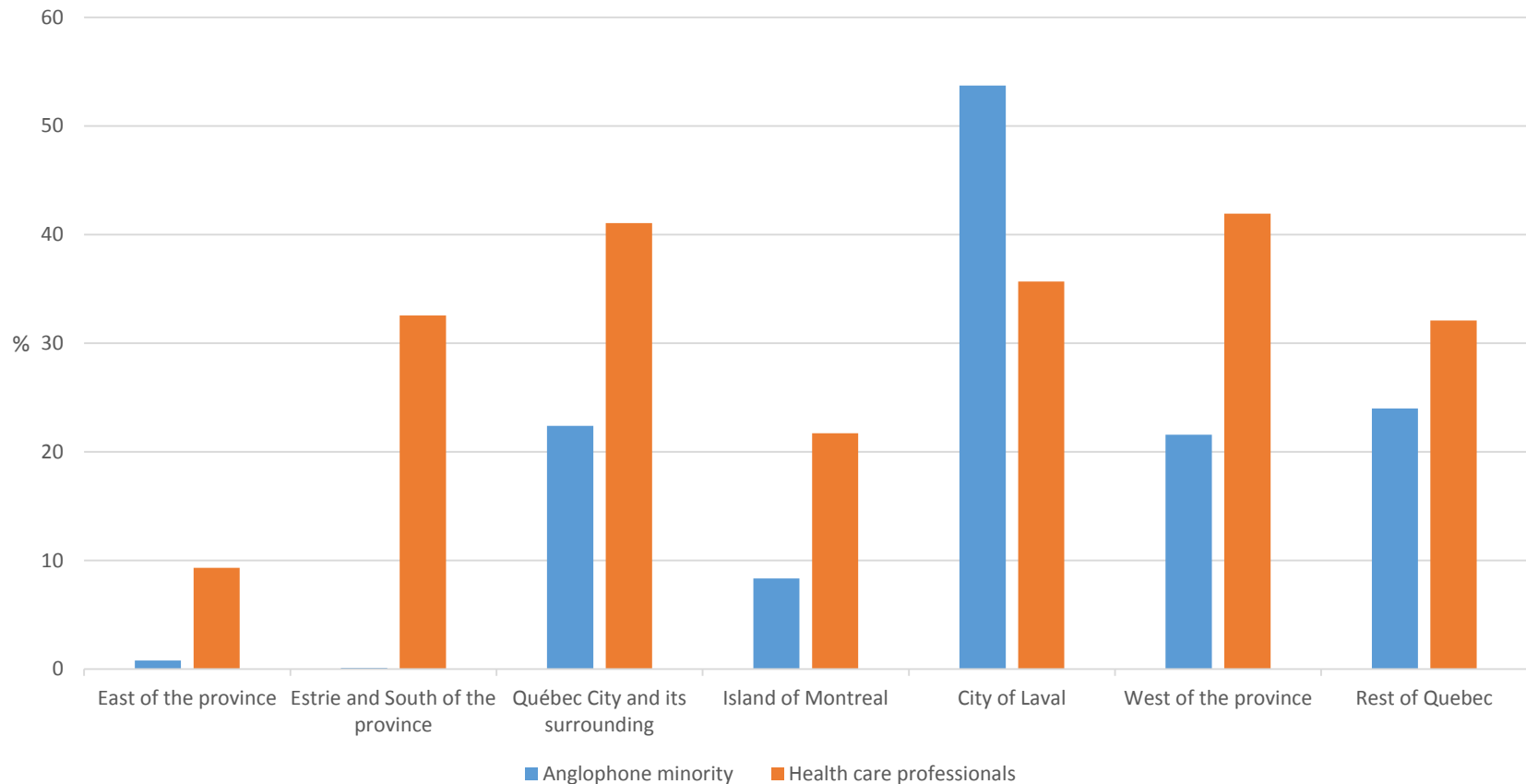
Psychologists, pharmacists and paramedics



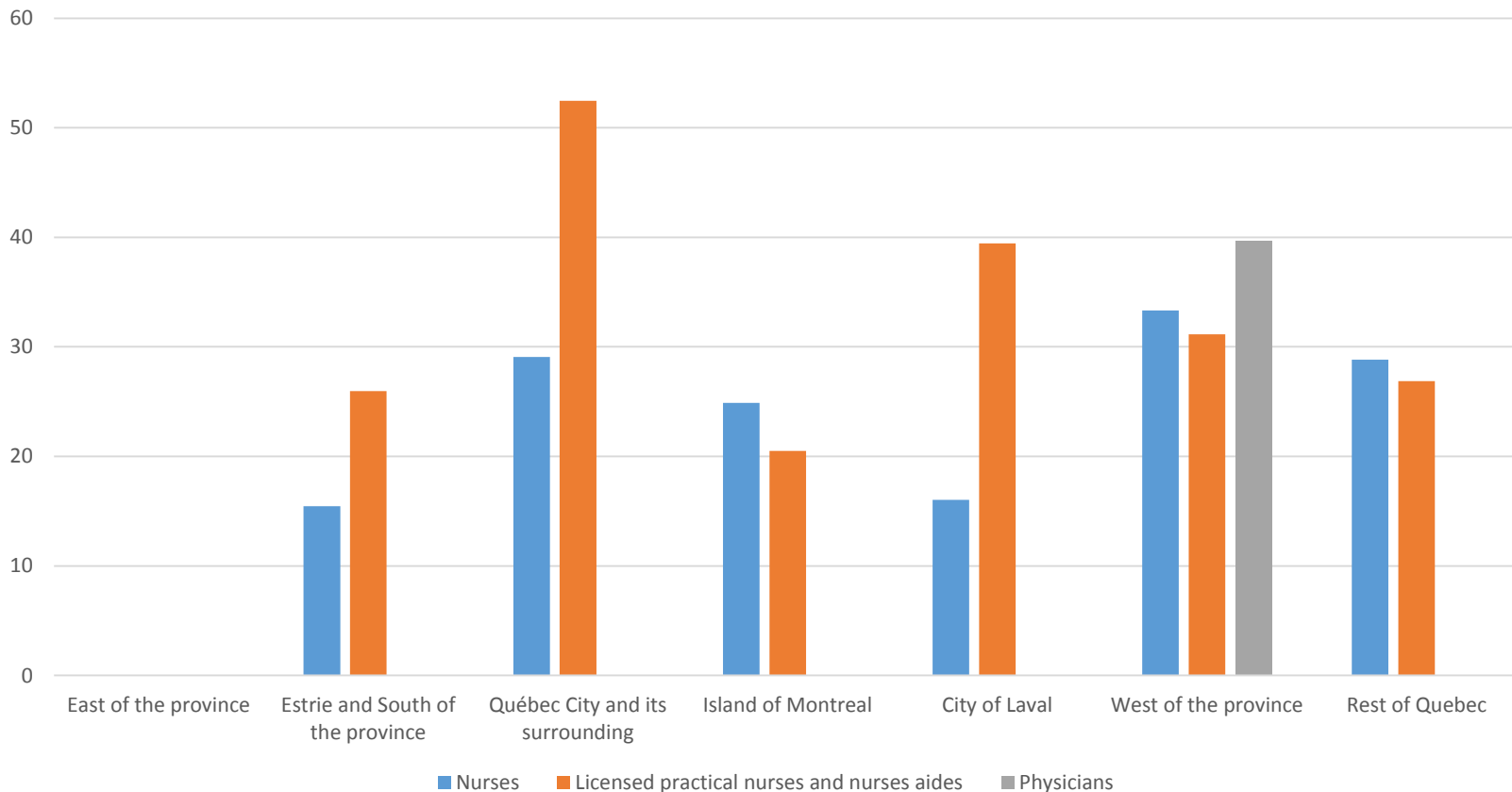
Quebec - Health care professionals able to conduct a conversation in English

Health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in English	2001		2011	
	number	%	number	%
Total	118,255	52.8	155,265	53.6
Nurses	25,660	46.3	32,545	50.2
Physicians	8,660	90.3	8,945	89.3
Psychologists	4,420	70.6	5,755	69.7
Social workers	6,060	55.8	7,095	56.3
Pharmacists	3,935	73.6	6,035	77.7
Licensed practical nurses	3,970	29.0	5,345	32.1
Paramedics	1,270	53.0	1,930	52.0
Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates	15,940	36.5	20,150	34.2
Other Health Care Professionals	48,345	62.9	67,465	63.0

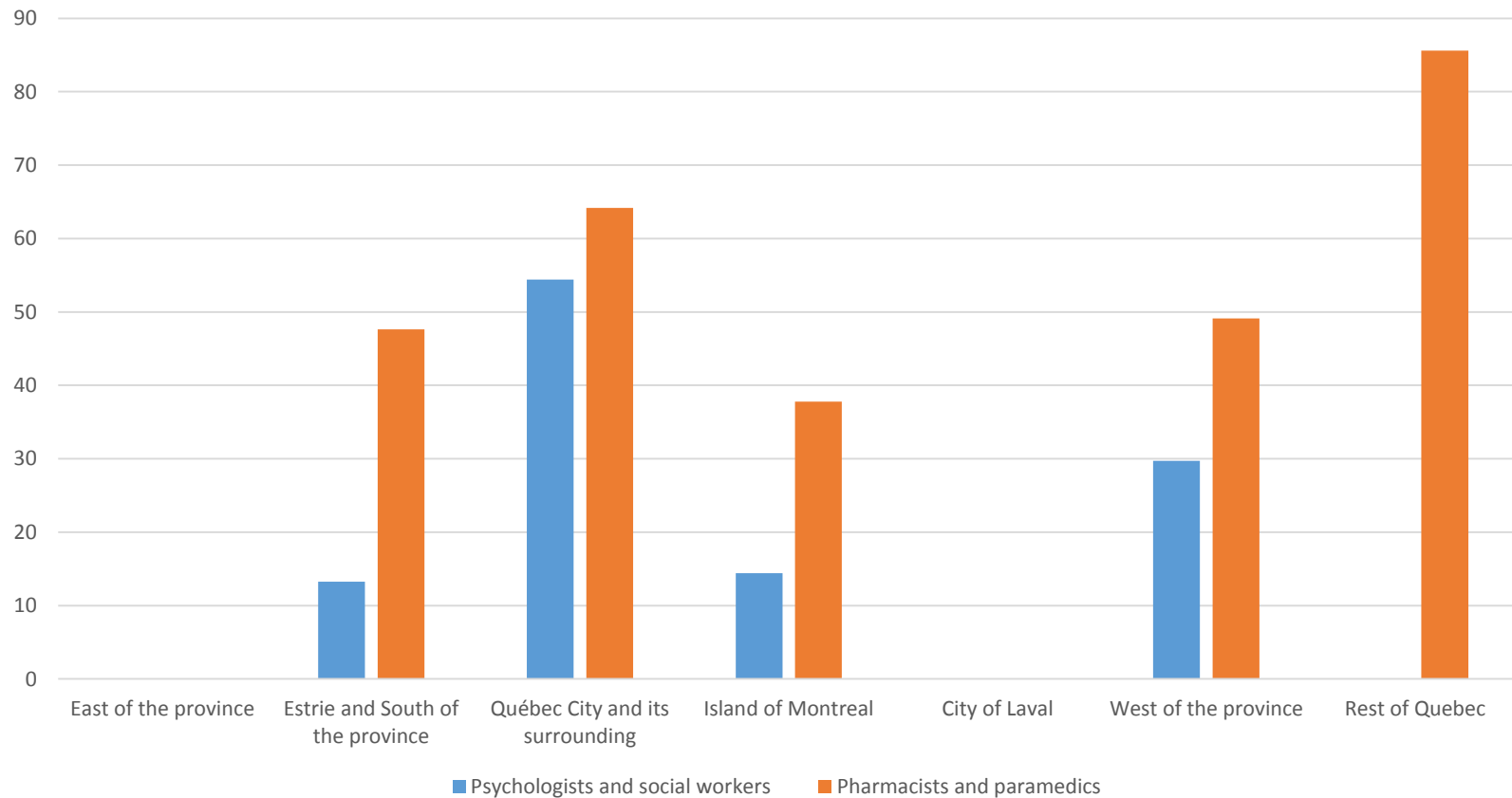
In general, potential offer of health care services is not linked to demand



Nurses, licensed practical nurses and nurses aides, physicians



Psychologists and social workers, pharmacists and paramedics



Conclusion

- Enumerating health care professionals:
 - Can not assess the number of consultations, medical procedures performed, etc.
 - Can not assess if the service offered was sufficient at the beginning, nor if it ever was
 - Can not assess the importance of the active offer
 - Can not assess the availability of services at the local level

Conclusion

- General increase in potential offer of health care services in the minority language
- Potential offer of health care services
 - in French has increased **less** rapidly than general health care services
 - in English has increased **more** rapidly than general health care services
- Potential offer of health care services in the minority language has increased more rapidly than the demand
- The unequal increases are relatively more important in regions with a low growth in demand