

# Baseline Data Report 2003–2004

## *Regional Profile of Laurentides*



*prepared by the*

**CHSSN**

Community Health  
and Social Services Network

*for the Networking and Partnership Initiative*

**Joanne Pocock, Research Consultant**  
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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	<a href="#">mmi</a>
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**

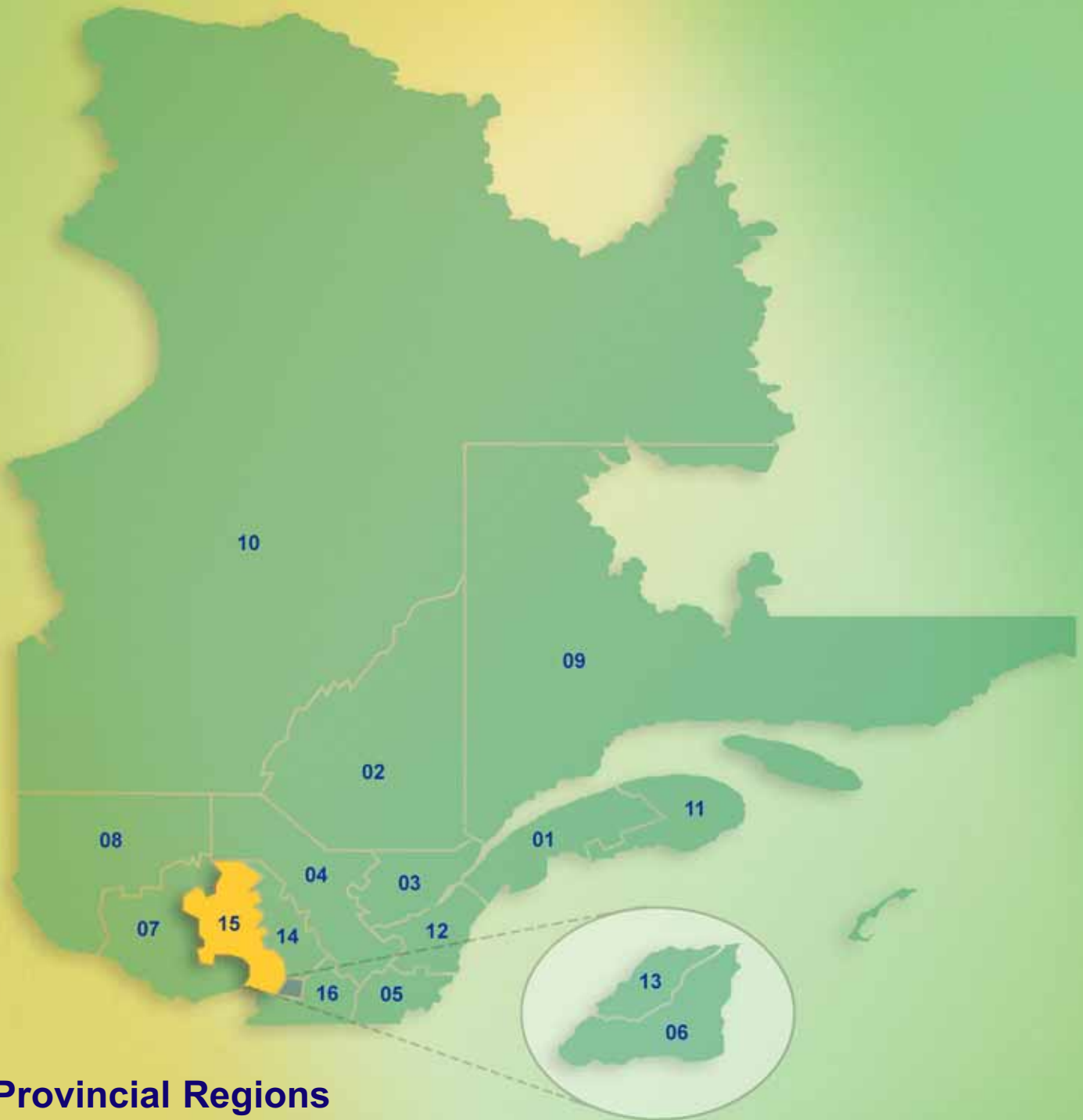
indicates that the characteristic is more present in the specific regional Anglophone population than in the provincial Anglophone population as a whole. An **rgi less than 1.00** indicates that the characteristic is less present in the regional population than in the provincial population.

**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.

<b>Income/Social Status Characteristics</b>	<b>mmi</b>	<b>rgi</b>
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



# Laurentides



## 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 15 – Laurentides

[Link](#) to full description

Key Determinant	Key Facts
<a href="#">Income &amp; Social Status</a>	The proportion of Laurentides Anglophones with low income is similar to that of the majority while the incidence of high income is slightly greater. The average income of Anglophones is slightly greater than Francophones and similar to Anglophones across the province.
<a href="#">Social Support Networks</a>	Anglophones in this region experience a high rate of aging (17.1%) and their aging mmi ranks the highest of all the regions. The caregiver-to-senior ratio of the Francophone majority is twice as high as that of Anglophones.
<a href="#">Education</a>	Anglophones are less likely to have no high school leaving than Francophones; they are more likely to have no high school leaving than Anglophones across the province. Generally, Anglophones are more likely than Francophones to have a postsecondary degree. Anglophones over 65 are twice as likely as Francophones to have postsecondary qualifications. Anglophones 25-44 are 6% less likely to have postsecondary qualifications.
<a href="#">Employment &amp; Working Conditions</a>	Anglophones are more likely to be out of the workforce, have a higher unemployment rate, and depend upon government transfers for a greater proportion of their income than Francophones. Anglophones give 60% more unpaid care (10+ hours) to seniors than Francophones.
<a href="#">Social Environments</a>	This Anglophone population experienced a 2.1% decline between 1996 and 2001. The rate of bilingualism of English-speakers is 68%.
<a href="#">Health Services</a>	The use of English in health situations is very low compared to the provincial average ranking 9th of 16. With respect to entitled services this region ranks 8th out of 16 regions. Laurentides has one designated English-language institution for health and social services. Anglophones are 50% less likely to be employed in the health care and social service industrial sector.
<a href="#">Gender</a>	Anglophone men are less likely to have high school leaving or a college certificate than Anglophone women. The percentage of Anglophone men doing 10+ hours of unpaid care to seniors is twice that of Francophone men; Anglophone women are 63% more likely than Anglophone men to perform this task.
<a href="#">Culture</a>	The proportion of the Anglophone population who claim multiple ethnic origins is greater than in the Francophone majority.
<b>Defining Characteristics of the Region</b>	
The combination of a high rate of aging, high unemployment, and limited services suggest an increasing health risk for this community. The caregiver-to-senior ratio is low for this population and diverges substantially from the Francophone majority whose ratio is twice as high. The strain this represents on informal networks of care is not adequately addressed through public services. While income and education would appear to be strengths for this constituency the rate of unemployment and varying levels of scolarity between older and younger Anglophones may diminish their positive influence on health outcomes.	

## Region 15 – Laurentides

The Laurentides is an administrative region covering the mountainous region to the north of Montréal. In 2001 Laurentides had 30,568 Anglophones who comprised 6.7% of the region's total population of 454,520. The largest municipality in the region is Saint-Eustache with a population of 39,940. The largest Anglophone population is found in Deux-Montagnes (3,645).

For the 1996-2001 period, the Anglophone population of the region dropped by 645 individuals which represents a decline of 2.1%. Manufacturing, retail trade, wholesale trade and educational services are the largest employers of the English-speaking population in this region.

<b>Regional rankings for 16 Regions / Potential for services in English</b>	
Feature (1=highest, 16=lowest)	Rank
Demographic Characteristics	7
Access to entitled services	9
Services delivered in English	8
Summary rank	7
Source: (CCSEC, 2002: 12-15)	

### **Income and Social Status**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>mmi</b>	<b>rgi</b>
Average income	1.10	1.02
Population 15+ without income	1.15	1.01
Dependence on government transfer	1.15	1.15
Incidence of low income (under \$20k)	1.03	0.98
Incidence of high income (over \$50k)	1.12	1.02

- Laurentides Anglophones exhibit a very similar proportion of people earning under \$20k as the Francophone majority. The proportion of Anglophones at the higher end of the economic spectrum are slightly greater. 12% more of the Anglophone population than the Francophone earn over \$50k.
- The average income for Laurentides Anglophones is slightly greater than that of the Francophone majority of the same region (mmi=1.10) and equal to that enjoyed by the rest of Anglophone Québec (rgi=1.02)
- The rate of dependence on government transfer is 15% greater than that of the majority population and 15% greater than the rest of Anglophone Québec
- Anglophones living in Laurentides are 15% more likely than Francophones to be without income and are similar to larger Anglophone Québec in this respect.



## Social Support Networks

Age Structure	Anglo	Franco
0-14	17.2%	20.8%
15-24	11.5%	12.1%
25-44	27.6%	31.4%
45-64	26.8%	26.0%
65+	17.1%	9.8%
Care-giver to Senior Ratio	1.95	3.52

- The Laurentides Anglophone population are experiencing a high rate of aging (17.1% are 65 and over compared to 9.8% for Francophones). In other words, Anglophones have 74% more individuals in their senior years than found in the Francophone majority.
- The Care-giver to senior ratio is very low for the Anglophone population in this region, especially in relation to the Francophone population where the number of care-givers to seniors is almost twice as high.
- Given the majority population is not experiencing the same demographic characteristics as the minority its institutions and services may not be designed to meet the same needs
- In relative terms, there are 54% more widowed individuals in the Anglophone population in this region relative to the Francophone population.
- The proportion of widowed women in the Anglophone Laurentides population is more than three times higher than that found in the male group.

## Education

Characteristics	<a href="#">mmi</a>	<a href="#">rgi</a>
Without high school leaving	0.90	1.13
With post-secondary qualifications	1.07	0.75
High school drop-out	1.07	1.00
College drop-out	1.13	1.10
University drop-out	1.29	1.42

- 10% of Anglophones in this region are less likely to have no high school leaving when compared to Francophones; by comparison, they are 13% more likely not to have high school leaving than Anglophones across the province. Anglophones and Francophones in the 15-24 age group in this region are equivalent in their levels of high school leaving. In the age ranges from 25 to 64, the average Anglophone is 85% as likely to have no high school leaving as a Francophone counterpart.

- Anglophones in the Laurentides are 7% more likely to have post-secondary qualifications than their Francophone counterparts. In the 15-24 age group, they are 9% more likely; in the 25-44 age group, they are 6% less likely to have post-secondary qualifications. In the 45-64 age group, Anglophones are 22% more likely to have post-secondary qualifications than Francophones; over 65, Anglophones are more than twice as likely to have post-secondary qualifications than Francophones. Compared to the provincial average, however, Laurentides Anglophones are 25% less likely to have post-secondary certification of some form.
- Among those in the region without high school leaving or additional training Laurentides Anglophones are 10% less likely than Francophones to be in this situation
- Anglophone youth 15-24 are as likely as Francophones not to attain high school leaving certificate. Older Anglophones are 29% less likely than Francophones to show low educational status.
- Laurentides Anglophones are 13% 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), college (mmi=1.13) and university levels (mmi=1.29)
- Anglophone women are 30% more likely to drop out from university than their male counterparts.

### ***Employment and Working Conditions***

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>mmi</b>	<b>rgi</b>
Unemployed	1.35	0.98
Not in workforce	1.25	1.10
Self-employed	1.18	1.19
15+ hrs/week, unpaid housework	1.16	1.25
15+ hrs/week, unpaid childcare	0.93	1.02
10+ hrs/week, unpaid care to seniors	1.57	1.01

- The main industrial sectors for Laurentides Anglophones are manufacturing (19.2%) retail trade (9.5%), wholesale trade (7.7%) educational services (7.2%)
- Anglophone women are almost four times more likely than Anglophone men to be working in health care and social assistance than in any other industrial sector. This is followed very closely by management of companies and enterprises where Anglophone women are more than three times as likely as men to be working
- Laurentides Anglophones are 25% more likely than Francophones in the region and 10% 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 Laurentides community is 35% higher than that of the French-speaking Laurentides community. When compared to other Anglophone communities in Québec the rate is about the same.
- Government transfers represent 15% more of the income of Laurentides Anglophones than of the Francophone majority
- Anglophones in the Laurentides region are giving substantially more, almost 60% more, unpaid care to seniors than are Francophones
- Anglophone women living in the Laurentides region are 63% more likely than Anglophone men to perform 10+ hours of unpaid care for seniors
- Laurentides Anglophones are 18% 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 low for Laurentides Anglophones (Saber-Freedman, 2001:73-76)
- English-speaking individuals living in Laurentides are among those regional communities most likely to believe Anglophones have equal access to federal or provincial jobs and interest in such opportunities is fairly substantial (Saber-Freedman, 2001:79-82)

### **Social Environments**

- Overall the Laurentides Anglophone population dropped by 645 individuals which represents a decline of 2.1% from 1996 to 2001
- Roughly 65% of Anglophone population were living in the same municipality five years previously
- Laurentides region has a 15.4% rate of international immigration. The rate of inter-provincial migration is 16.9% (seven times higher than in the Francophone community).
- The presence of visible minorities is stronger in the Laurentides Anglophone minority when compared to the Francophone majority sharing the same territory.
- 95.8% of Laurentides Anglophones claim Canadian citizenship and this population is almost seven times more likely than the Francophone majority to have been born outside the province
- When compared to the Francophone majority there is a greater portion of unemployed individuals, greater numbers of individuals not in the workforce, and higher levels of unpaid work by Care-givers to seniors.,
- 68% of the English-speaking population in Laurentides are bilingual (CCESC, 2002: 8)
- Laurentides has 1designated English-language institutions for health and social services; (Lachute Residence)(Carter, 2001: 26).

## Health Services

Use of English in Health Situations		
	Province	Laurentides
Doctor	86%	64
Hospital	80%	49
Community organization	78%	67
Emergency room	73%	49
Private facility	72%	65
CHSLD	70%	52
CLSC	66%	43
Info-santé	61%	43
Private nurse	75%	97
Overall	75%	55.7
Rank among regions	n/a	9

Source: CCESC, 2002: 12

- The use of English in health and social service situations in Laurentides relative to the provincial average is very low.(CCESC, 2002: 12)
- The percentage of English-speakers receiving service in English are highest from private nursing services. All other health situations fall below the provincial average. CLSC's, and Info-santé are notably low in the use of English.(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 Laurentides Anglophones are weakest with respect to inter-regional agreements (extremely limited access) and long-term care, general and specialized services, and rehabilitation (limited access). Entitled services in primary care (CLSCs), youth protection, and designated institutions are substantial (CCESC, 2002: 15)
- Laurentides region has no inter-regional agreements in their access programs approved by the Québec government in 1999

Service category	Entitled rights
Primary care (CLSCs)	1
General and specialized medical services	3
Long-term care	3
Youth protection	1
Rehabilitation	3
Inter-regional agreements	4
Designated institutions	1
Sum of indicators of level of access	16
Regional ranking	8
Definition of the level of access to a service : 1 = substantial; 2 = moderate; 3 = limited; 4 = extremely limited	
Source: (CCESC, 2002: 15)	

- Despite the high rate of aging (almost twice that of Francophones) 5 to 10 long-term care institutions were removed from the 1999 Government decree (Carter: 26)
- Entitled access to 4 rehabilitation centers not retained in 1999 Government decree and there is no entitled access to rehabilitation programs for youth. (Carter, 2001: 26)
- The Anglophone community is underrepresented as employees in the area of health and social service. They are 50% less likely to be employed in this sector when compared to Francophones.

### **Gender**

- Anglophone Laurentides men are less likely to have a high school leaving certificate and less likely to have a college certificate than Anglophone women of the same region. Anglophone men are 25% more likely to have a university degree.
- Anglophone Laurentides women are 72% more likely to be without income when compared to Anglophone men
- In the region, English-speaking men are almost twice as likely as Francophone men to perform 10+ hours per week of unpaid care to seniors (mmi=1.93)
- If we consider unpaid work, women are 63% more likely than men in the Anglophone community to devote more than 10 hours weekly of unpaid care to seniors specifically
- The rate of dependency on government transfer for Anglophone women is double that of Anglophone men
- When we consider women over 65 we find a much higher proportion of Anglophone women than Francophone women (mmi=1.74)
- The proportion of widowed women in the Anglophone Laurentides population is more than three times higher than that found in the male group
- Anglophone women are almost four times more likely than Anglophone men to be employed in the area of health care and social assistance and they are much more likely to have postsecondary qualifications in the health professions and related technologies
- While a very significant portion of both the Anglophone and Francophone population have their postsecondary qualifications in applied science technologies and trades women are barely represented
- 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**

- 46.5% of Laurentides Anglophones are Catholic; 36.9% non-Catholics; Anglophones in Laurentides are as likely as Francophones to have no religious affiliation
- If we consider Anglophone Laurentides from the point of view of the ethnic origins of the individuals who comprise this population we find a greater diversity of backgrounds (71% more likely to claim multiple ethnic origins than we find in the majority population).
- In terms of family patterns, the Anglophone community is more likely than its Francophone counterpart to be legally married; slightly 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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