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French minority and health care workers in Canada

Evolution from 2001-2011

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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 French
- 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

Categories of health care professionals

- **Nurses** (registered, and registered psychiatric nurses)
- **Physicians** (general practitioners and family physicians)
- **Psychologists**
- **Social workers**
- **Pharmacists**
- **Licensed practical nurses**
- **Paramedics** (ambulance staff and paramedics)
- **Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates**
- **Other health care professionals**

Number of health care professionals in 2011

- In 2011, there were **888,375** health care professionals in Canada, outside Quebec
 - **38,655** professionals were francophone minorities (4.4%)
 - **103,830** professionals were able to conduct a conversation in French (11.7%)
 - **45,450** professionals use French at least regularly at work (5.1%)

Measuring the potential of the services

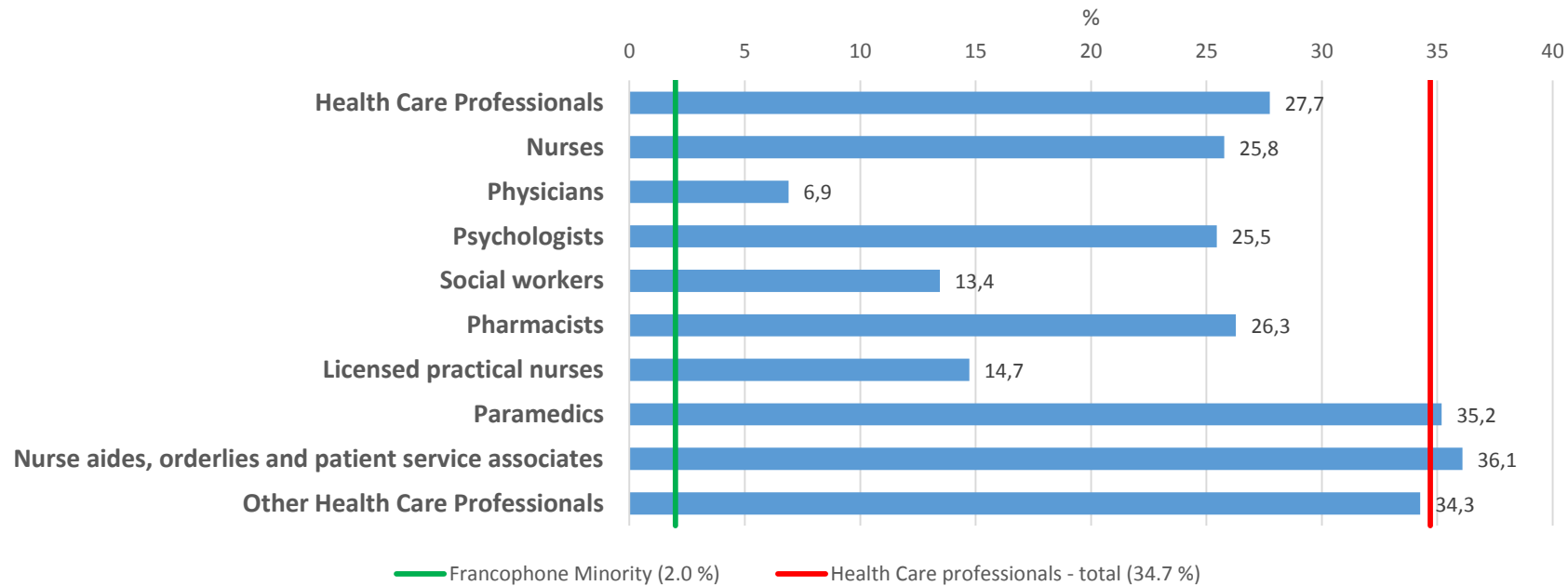
- Variable used: **ability to conduct a conversation in French**
 - Maximal estimation for the offer of services (potential)
 - Limit: capacity to conduct a conversation in French (reported on the Census) does not necessarily mean an ability to provide health care services in French
 - Methodological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

Health care professionals able to conduct a conversation in French

Health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French	2001		2011	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
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

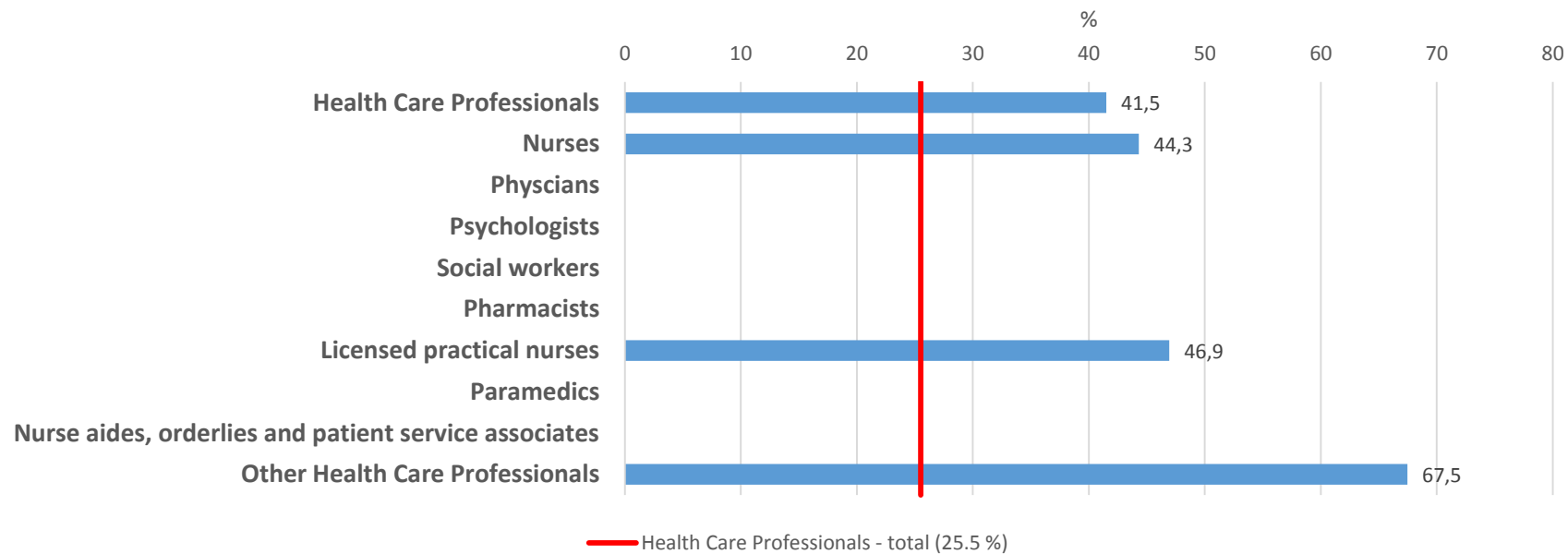
Growth in number of professionals greater than the growth in the population in all categories

Change in number of health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French, Canada outside Quebec, 2001-2011



NL, PEI and NS: strong growth for Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses and Licensed practical nurses

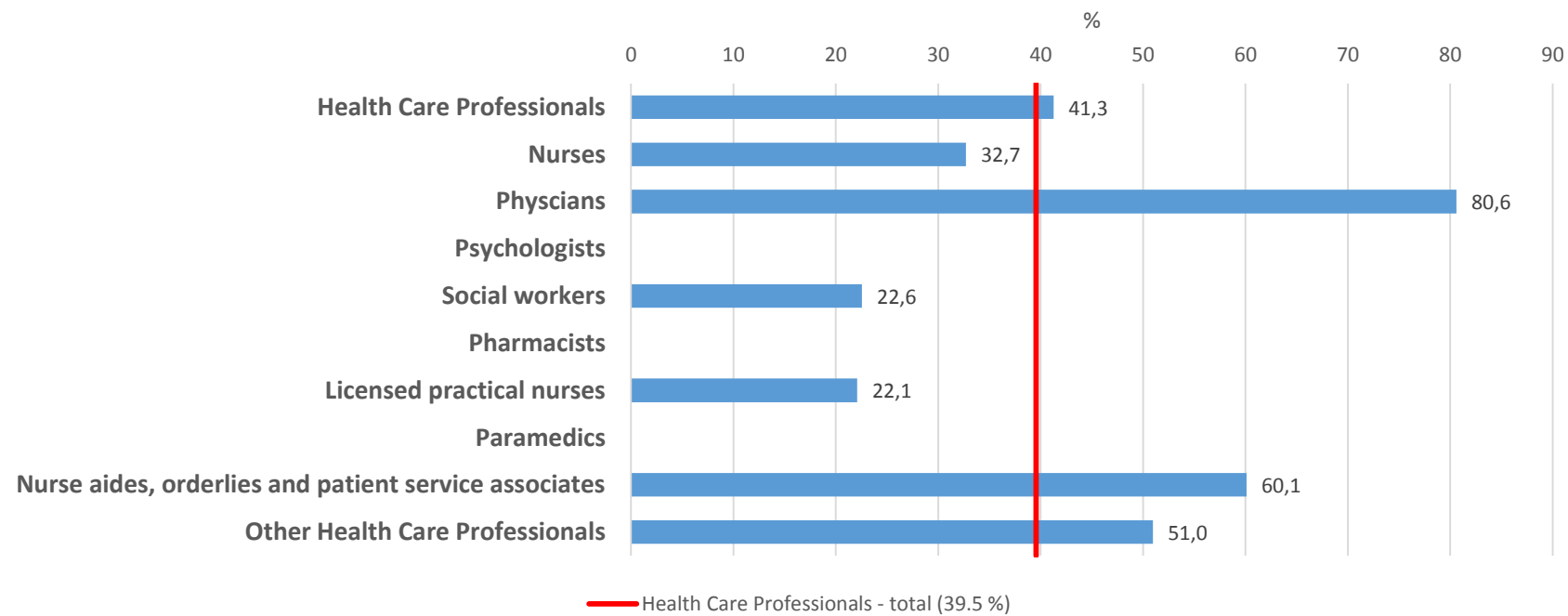
Change in number of health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French, NL, PEI and NS, 2001-2011





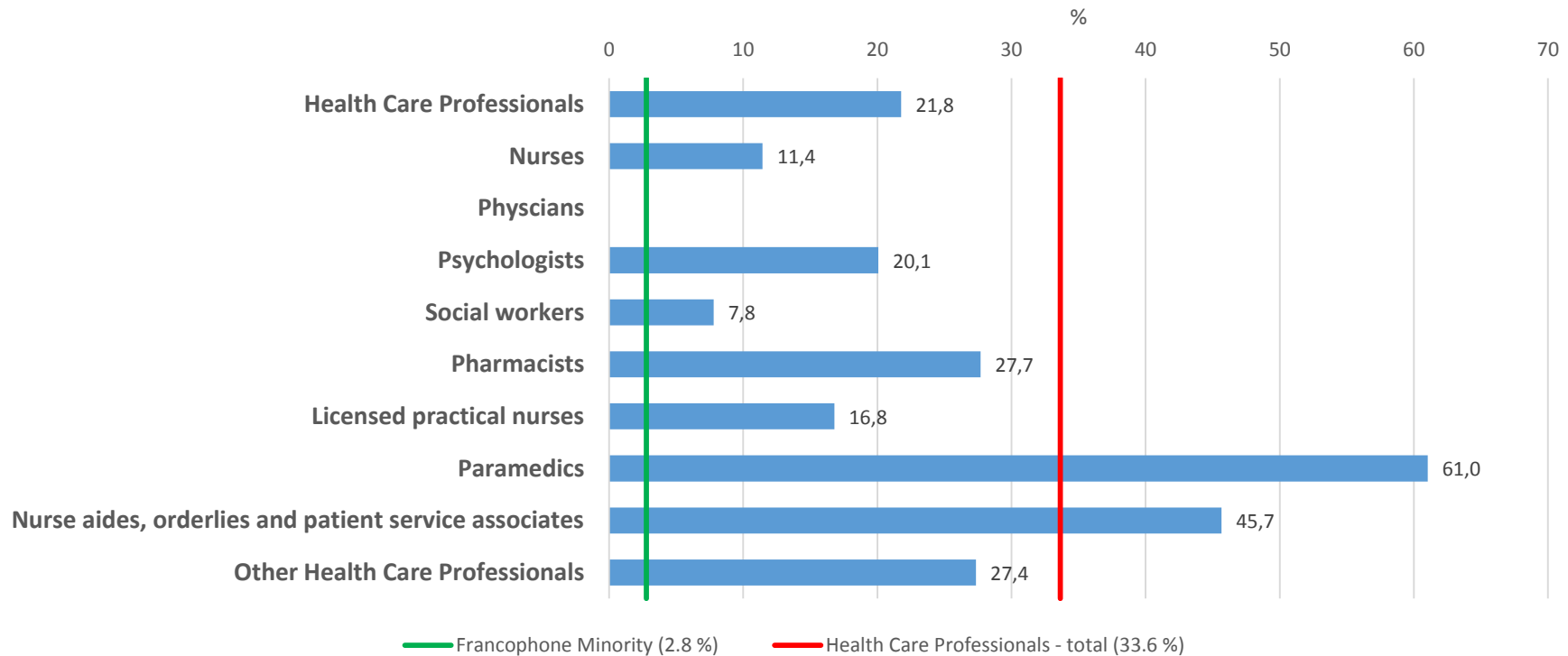
New Brunswick: strong growth in number of General practitioners and family physicians

Change in number of health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French, New Brunswick, 2001-2011



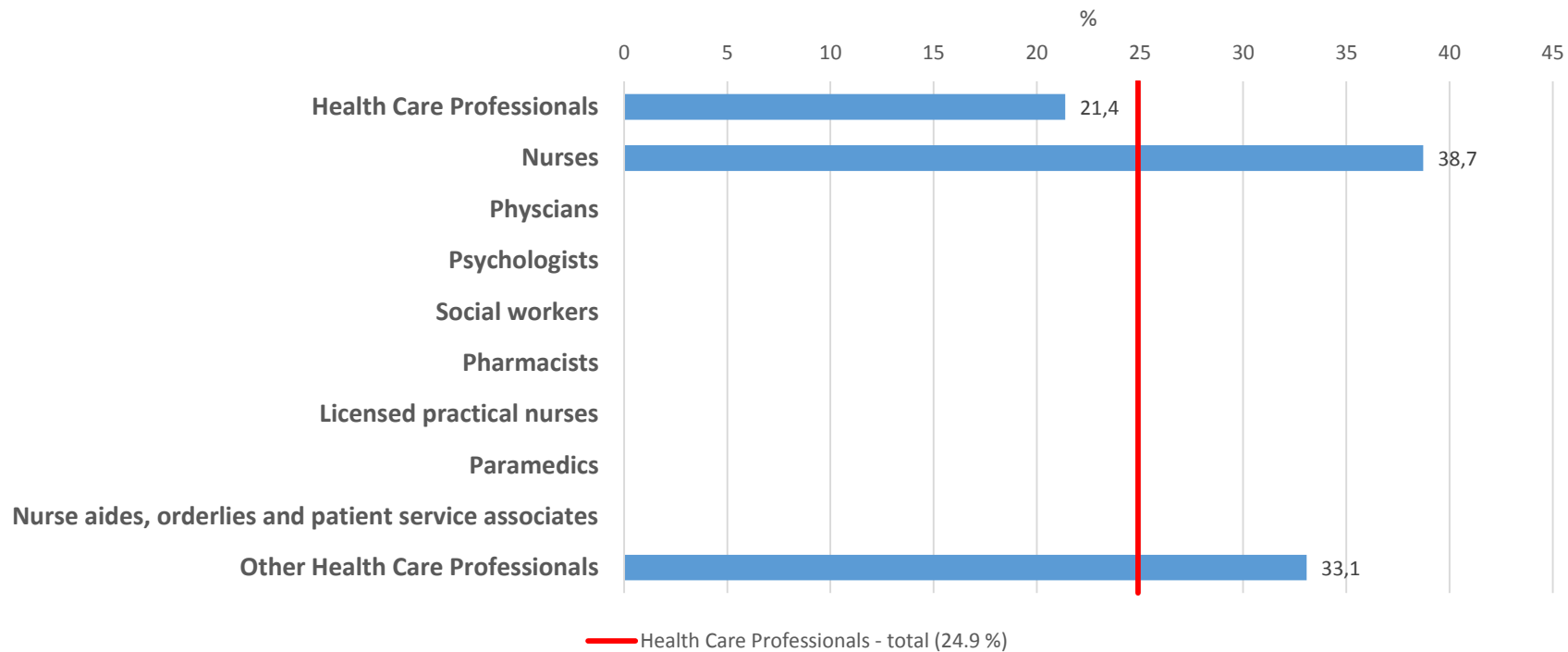
Ontario: strong growth in number of Paramedical occupations and Nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates

Change in number of health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French, Ontario, 2001-2011



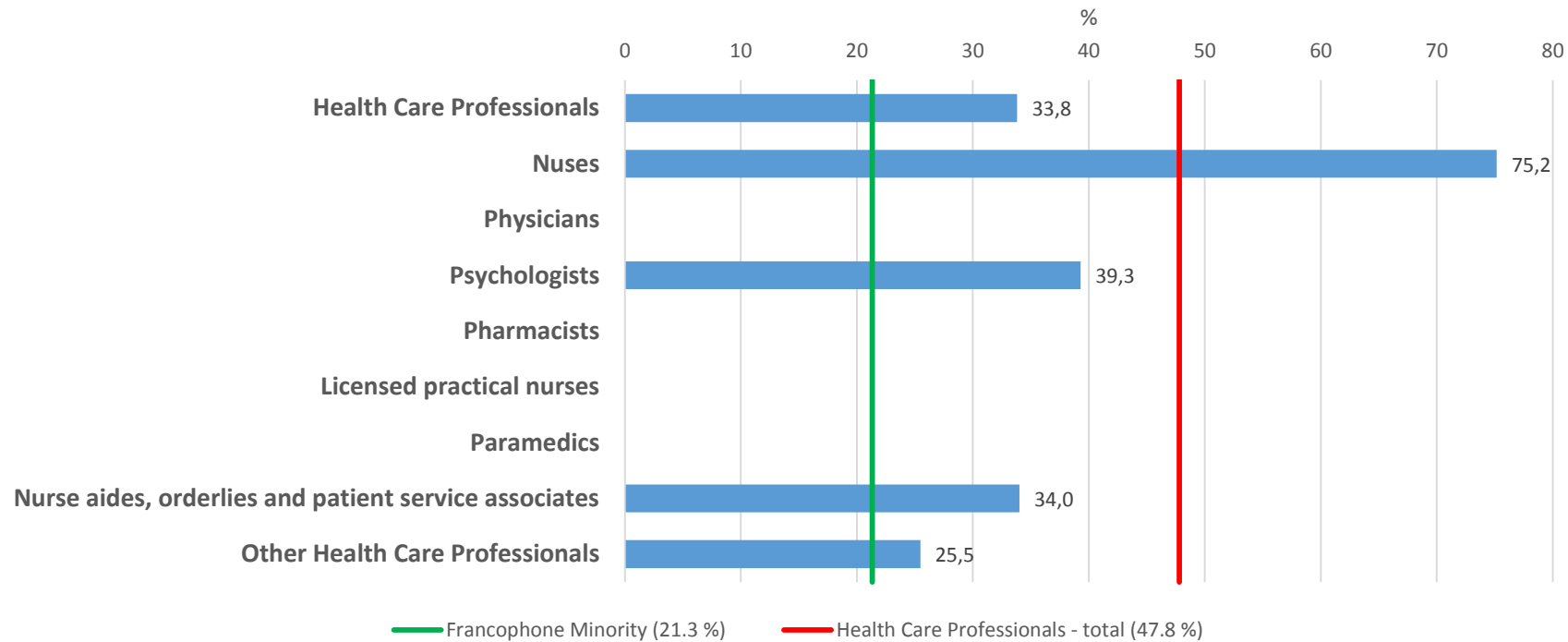
Manitoba and Saskatchewan: strong growth in number of Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses

Change in number of health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 2001-2011



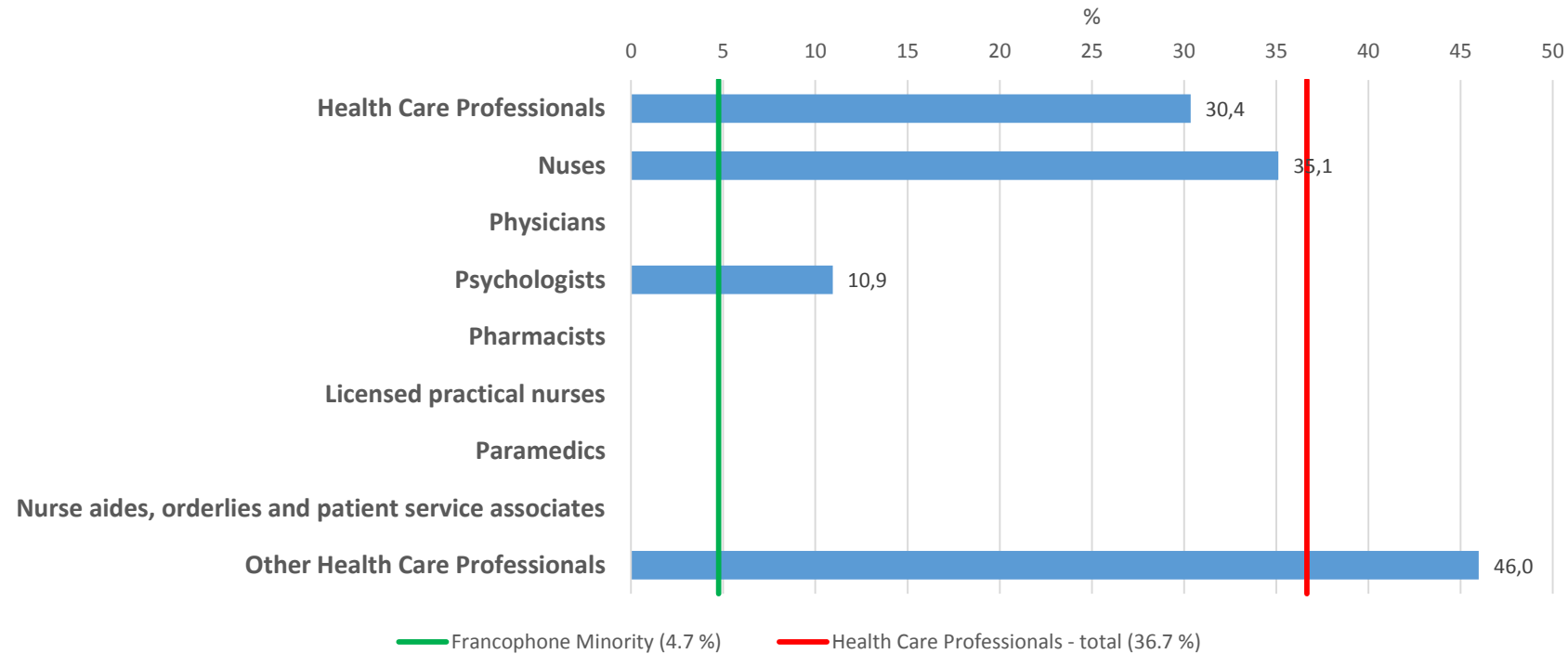
Alberta: strong growth in number of Registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses

Change in number of health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French, Alberta, 2001-2011

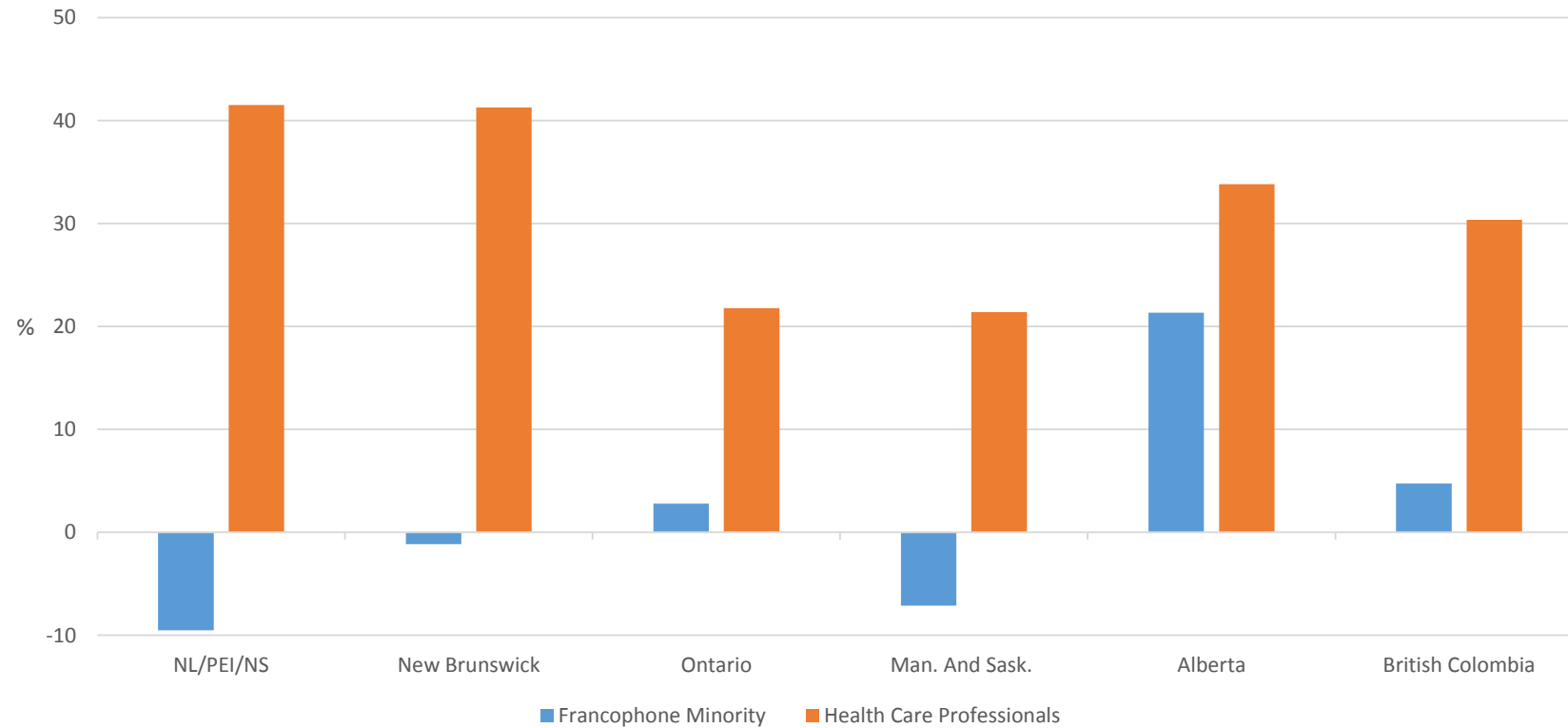


British Columbia: significant growth in the category for Other health care professionals

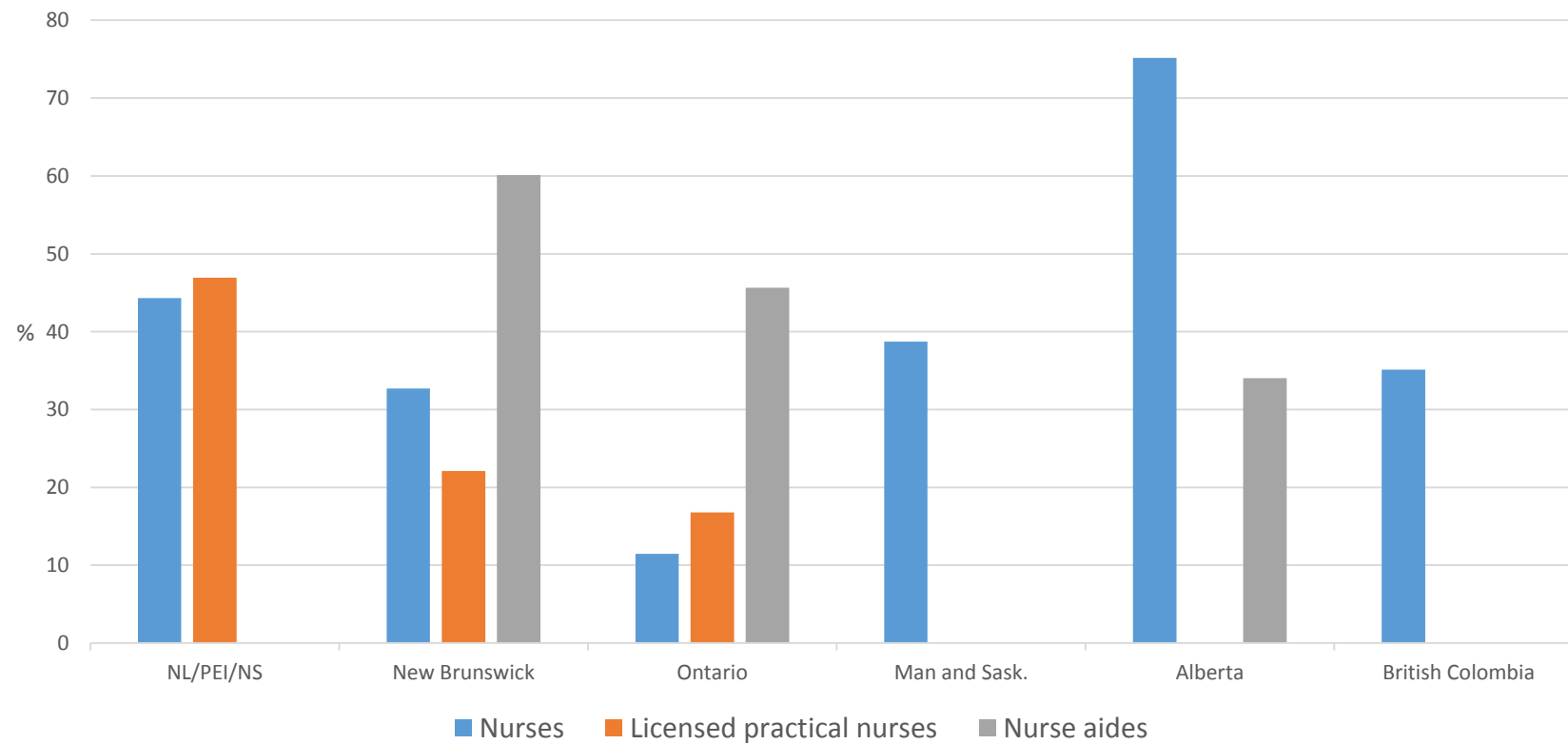
Change in number of health care professionals with the ability to hold a conversation in French, British Columbia, 2001-2011



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

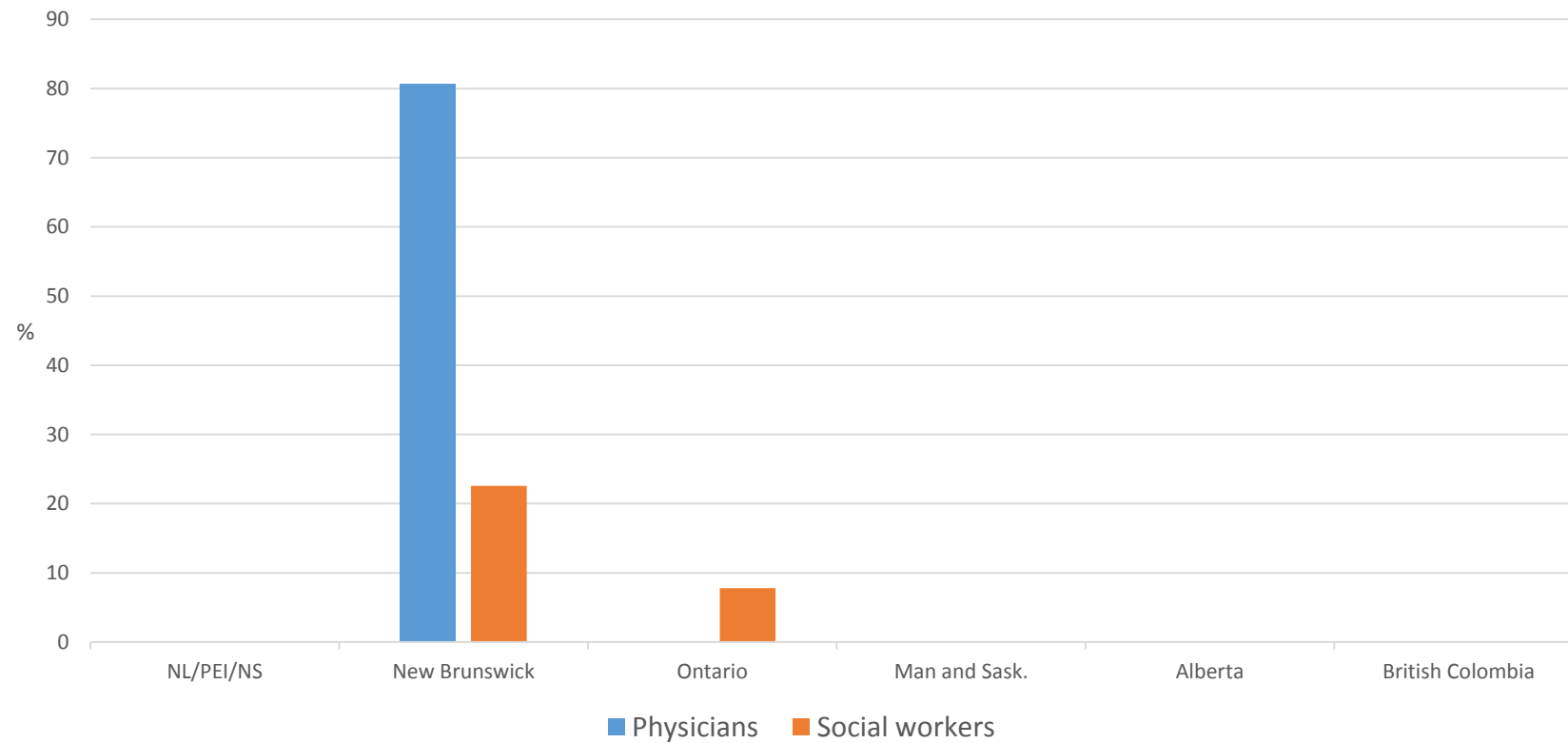


Nurses, licensed practical nurses and nurses aides

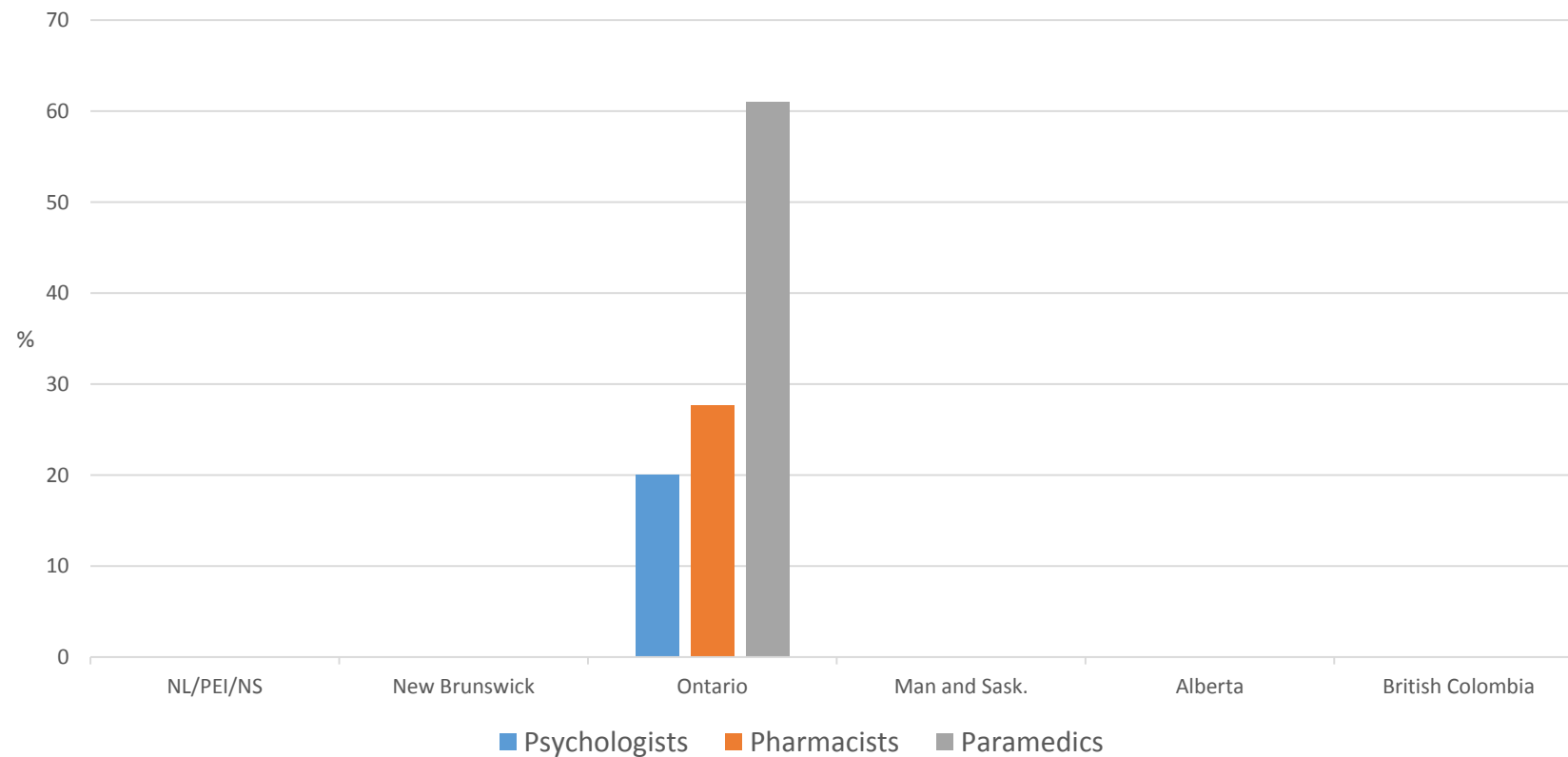




Physicians and social workers



Psychologists, pharmacists and paramedics



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