



CANADIAN COUNCIL
ON **LEARNING**

CONSEIL CANADIEN
SUR **L'APPRENTISSAGE**

Literacy Issues among Special Populations:
Rural Students,
Students with Disabilities,
Minority Francophone Students

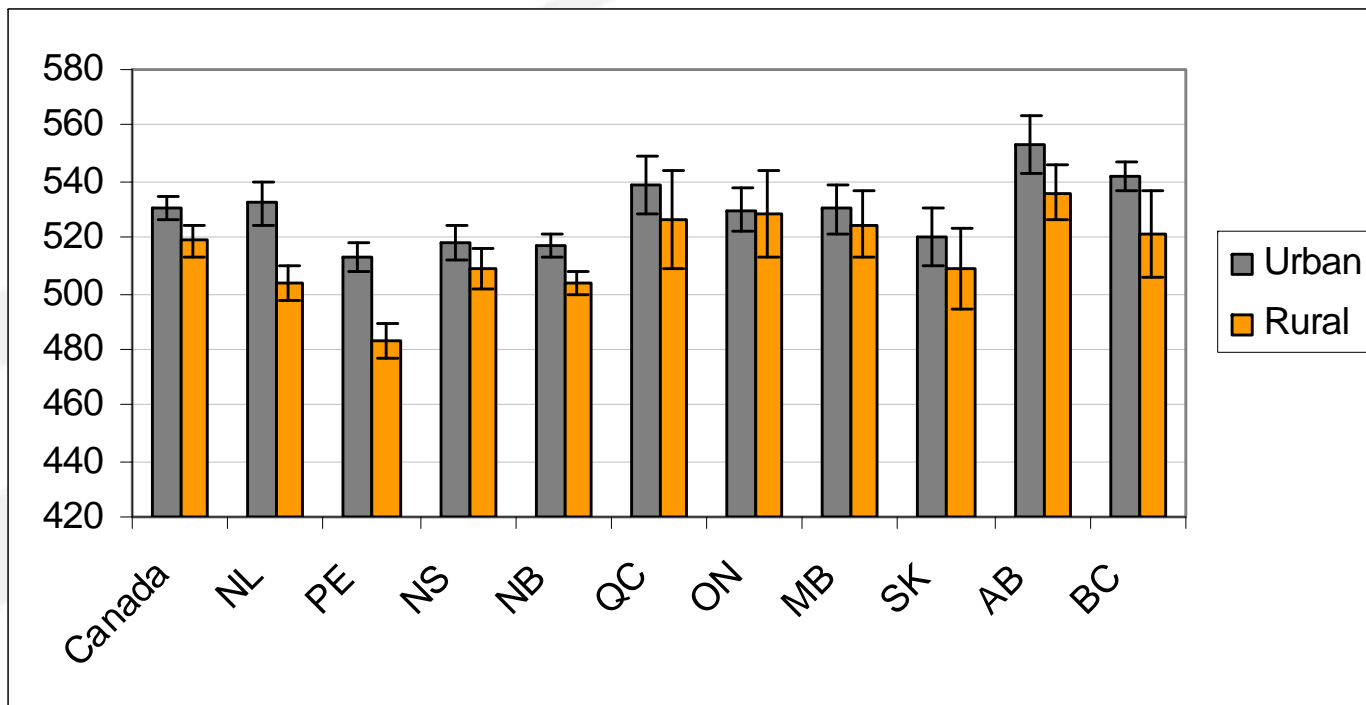
Overview

- Populations
 - Rural students
 - Students with disabilities
 - Minority Francophone students
- Issues
 - Data
 - Key factors
 - Interventions

Rural Students

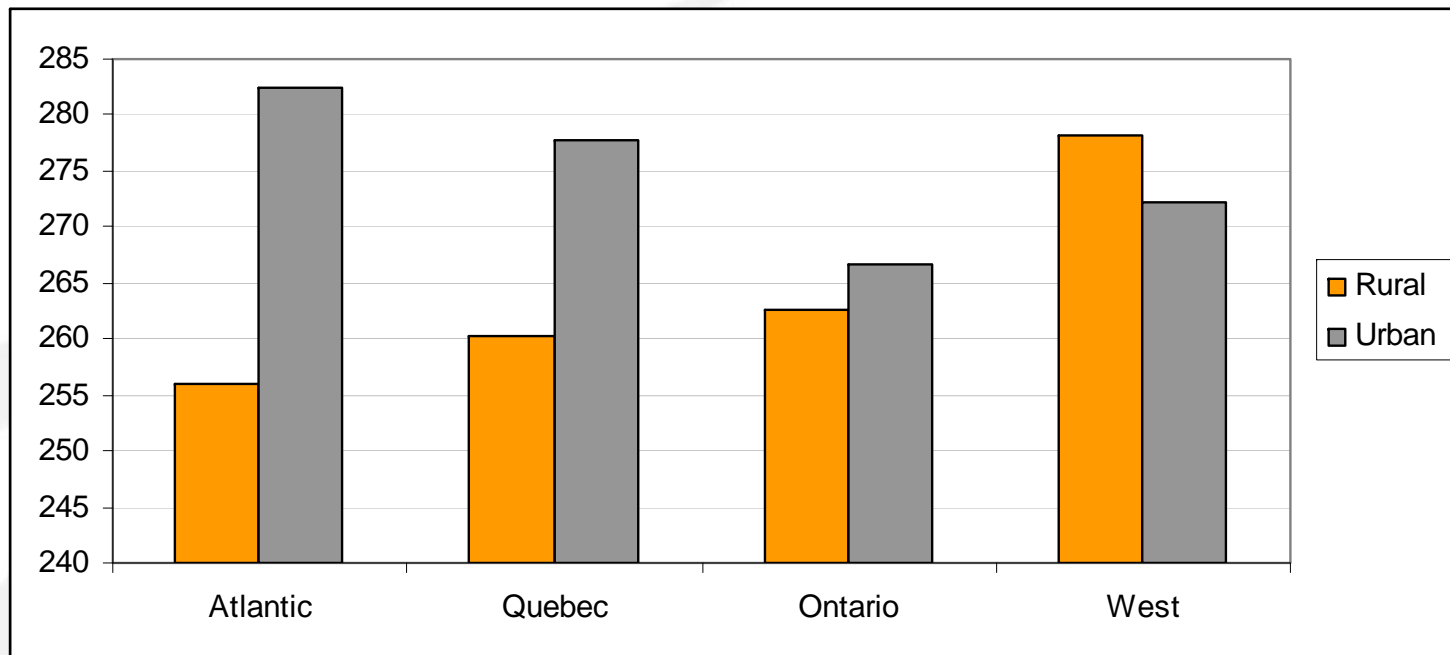
- Literacy achievement is lower among rural students than among their urban counterparts

Reading achievement among 15 year olds



Source: Statistics Canada – PISA 2003

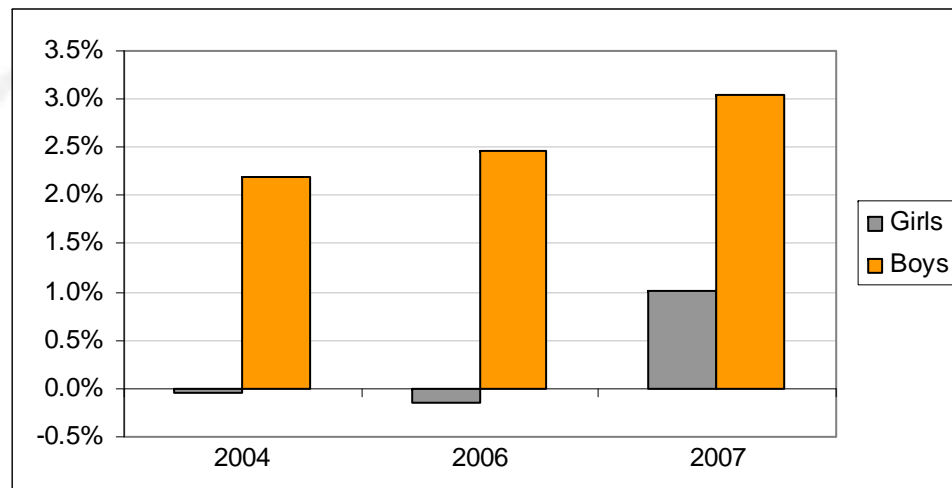
Prose literacy among adults



Source: Statistics Canada – IALSS 2003

Key Factors

- Home/family experiences
- Community economic factors
- School conditions
- Gender



Source: EQAO – OSSLT.

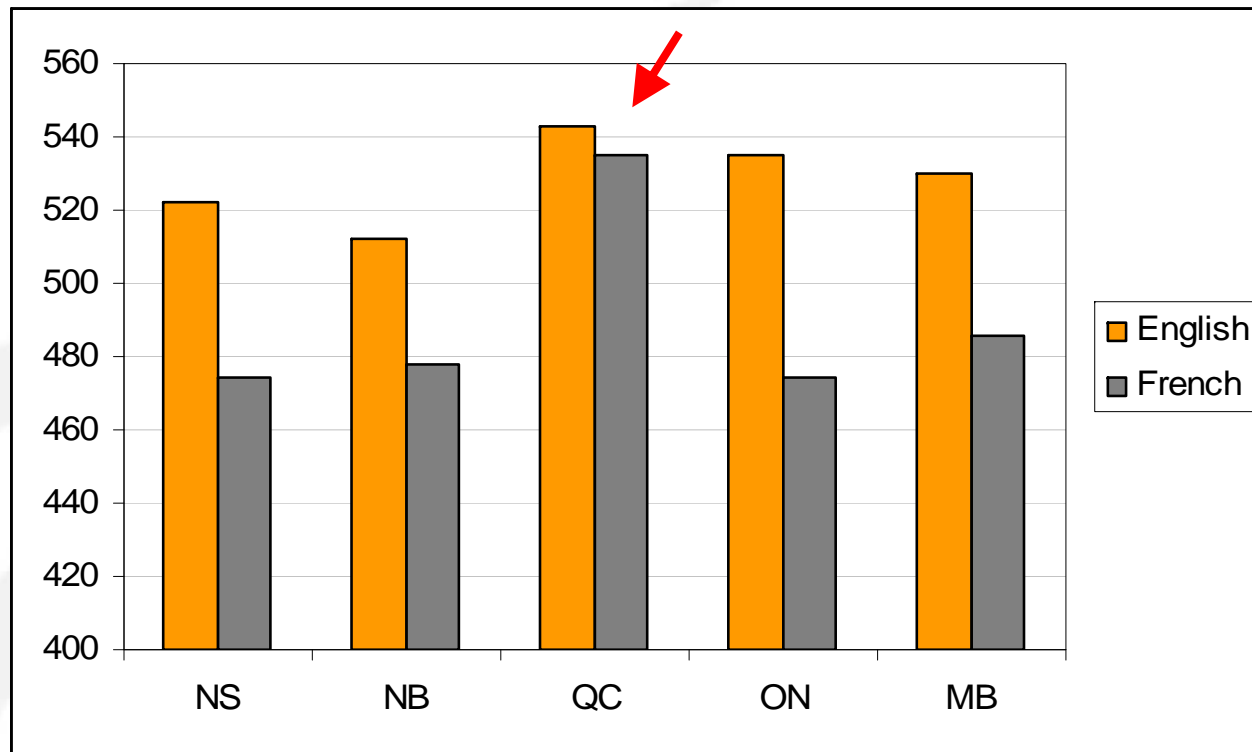
Effective Interventions

- Family literacy programs
 - Literacy resources
 - Audio tapes
 - Role of fathers
- School-to-work programs
- Improving rural schools
 - Professional induction
 - School leadership

Minority Francophone Students

- Literacy achievement is lower among students in French school systems outside of Quebec compared with
 - Students in French school systems in Quebec
 - Students in English school systems outside of Quebec

Reading achievement among 15 year olds



Source: Statistics Canada – PISA 2000. Adapted from Allen & Cartwright, 2004.

Key Factors

- Bilingualism
- Reading readiness
 - Lack of French language ECE
 - Home language
- French language resources
- Ethnolinguistic vitality

Effective Interventions

- Family literacy programs
 - Resource kits
- Community based programs
 - Community school centres
- French language ECE
- Pedagogical Approaches
 - Minority language pedagogy
 - Pre-service and in-service training specific to minority language contexts