

Employment Profile of English Speakers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint- Jean

Provincial Employment Roundtable (PERT)





TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
METHODOLOGY & DEFINITIONS	5
POPULATION	7
Total Population	8
Age Structure of Population	9
Sex Structure of Population	11
ECONOMIC STRUCTURE	12
INDUSTRIES	14
Top Industries for Total Population	15
Top Industries for English Speakers	16
LABOUR FORCE	18
Total Labour Force	19
Age Structure of Labour Force	21
Sex Structure of Labour Force	23
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	25
Total Unemployment Rate	26
Age Structure of Unemployment Rate	27
Sex Structure of Unemployment Rate	29
WORK ACTIVITY	31
Engagement in Part- and Full-time Work	32
Average Weeks Worked	34
INCOME	35
Median After-Tax Income	36
EDUCATION	37
Educational Attainment	38
REFERENCES	40

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful for the insights shared by the organizations who met with us and provided invaluable input that contributed to the creation of this profile.

Special thanks to the Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois(es) d'expression anglaise (SRQEA), whose financial support made this work possible.

The views expressed herein are those of the Provincial Employment Roundtable. They do not purport to reflect the views of the Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise.

***Secrétariat aux relations
avec les Québécois
d'expression anglaise***

Québec 

Contributors:

Sithandazile Kuzviwanza, Director of Policy & Research, Provincial Employment Roundtable

Morgan Gagnon, Policy Researcher, Provincial Employment Roundtable

Joshua Loo, Policy Research Intern, Provincial Employment Roundtable

Maria De las Salas, Communications and Engagement Specialist, Provincial Employment Roundtable

Nicholas Salter, Executive Director, Provincial Employment Roundtable

Chad Walcott, Director of Engagement & Communications, Provincial Employment Roundtable

For more information about this report, contact : info@pertquebec.ca

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This profile aims to contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the employment issues faced by Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's English-speaking communities by surveying the most comprehensive information on the demographic and labour force conditions of English speakers in the region. The profile compiles the available data on English speakers' employment status with respect to their position as linguistic minorities in majority French-speaking communities. For this reason, most of the information presented in this profile is organized by the two linguistic categories of English speakers and French speakers.

In addition to examining the demographics and labour force of the English-speaking population, this profile also surveys Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's economic structure, as well as the work activity, income, and educational attainment of workers with the goal of providing a more holistic picture of employment and employability.

Key findings:

- Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean is the region with the second smallest English-speaking population in Québec; there are 1,970 English speakers who represent 0.7% of the region's population.
- The leading industry in which English speakers are employed is public administration, followed by education.
- Among English speakers, individuals aged 25-44 represent the largest portion of both the total population and the labour force in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. Among French speakers, individuals aged 45-64 make up the largest portion of the total population and labour force.
- French-speaking men represent the majority of the labour force in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (53.3%), while French-speaking women represent 45.9% of the labour force.
- English-speaking men represent 0.4% of the labour force, while English-speaking women represent 0.3% of the labour force.
- English speakers experience a lower unemployment rate than French speakers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (7.6% compared to 9.5%). The only other region in Québec where this occurs is Bas-Saint-Laurent.
- Among both English and French speakers, youth experience the highest unemployment rate. French-speaking youth experience a higher unemployment rate (13.2%) than English-speaking youth (9.8%).
- Men in the region tend to experience higher unemployment rates than women. French-speaking men experience the highest unemployment rate of any sex-linguistic group in the region (12.2%), followed by English-speaking men (9.1%), English-speaking women (6.5%), and French-speaking women (6.3%).
- 51.3% of English speakers are engaged in full-time work. Among French speakers, more individuals are engaged in part-time work than full-time work (54.5% compared to 45.5%).
- English speakers earn a higher median after-tax income than French speakers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (\$30,530 compared to \$28,886). This is one of only three regions in Québec where this is the case, the other two being Mauricie and Chaudière-Appalaches.
- English speakers have a slightly higher rate of postsecondary educational attainment compared to French speakers (62.9% compared to 60.5%). This is the second highest rate of postsecondary attainment among English speakers in any region of Québec, after Capitale-Nationale and tied with Chaudière-Appalaches.



METHODOLOGY & DEFINITIONS

Methodology

This profile relies primarily on data from two sources: the 2016 Census of Canada and the Institut de la statistique du Québec.¹

The profile uses 25% sample data from the 2016 Census. The 25% sample data is drawn from the approximately 25% of Canadian private households who received a long form questionnaire.

The data in this profile is organized by administrative region and regional county municipality/municipalité régionale comté (RCM/MRC). Administrative regions and regional county municipalities serve to organize the allocation and delivery of government services in Québec.

Language

English speakers and French speakers in this profile are classified according to Statistics Canada's definition of First Official Language Spoken (FOLS).² Individuals who speak both English and French as their first official language are evenly divided among English and French speakers. FOLS designation is a derived concept, taking into account a person's knowledge of Canada's two official languages, their mother tongue, and their home language (i.e. the language they speak most often at home).

Sex

Sex in this profile refers to sex assigned at birth, as indicated in the 2016 Census. Sex is typically assigned based on a person's reproductive system and other physical characteristics. The 2016 Census data exclusively utilizes the concept of sex, and particularly the categories of male and female. Data regarding the distinct concept of gender was collected for the first time in the 2021 Census, and will be made available in those datasets.

Labour Force Activity

Labour force refers to all individuals aged 15 and over who were either employed or unemployed during the week of May 1st to May 7th, in 2016. The labour force excludes individuals who are institutional residents, those who are unable to work, and those who are unwilling to work. For example, retirees, stay-at-home parents, students, and discouraged workers

who have stopped job-searching are not typically counted as part of the labour force. Generally, Statistics Canada does not consider those engaged in unpaid services such as community and volunteer services, or unpaid domestic services, to be part of the labour force.

Employed/Unemployed Person

An employed person is an individual who, during the week of May 1st to May 7th, 2016, did paid work in the context of an employer-employee relationship, or who was self-employed. The term also refers to individuals who did unpaid family work, which is defined as work directly contributing to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned by a relative in the same household (this does not include unpaid domestic services like childcare and household maintenance). The definition also includes individuals who had employment but were temporarily absent from work during the reference period due to events such as illness, disability, vacation, or labour dispute.

An unemployed person is an individual who did not have paid work during the week of May 1st to 7th, 2016, but had either been actively looking for paid work in the last four weeks, had been temporarily laid-off, or had definite plans to start a new job within four weeks.

Unemployment Rate

This refers to unemployment expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the week of May 1 to 7, 2016. The unemployment rate for a particular demographic (i.e. age, sex) is the number of unemployed in that group, expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that group.

Work Activity

Work activity refers to whether or not a person 15 years or over worked in 2015. For those who worked, this refers to the number of weeks they worked for pay or in self-employment during the reference year, even if they only worked for a couple hours. It provides a wider portrait of an individual's engagement in work over the period of a year.

After-tax Income

After-tax income refers to the total income of a person less income taxes. Income taxes refers to the sum of federal

1. Census data is the primary and most comprehensive source of linguistic-based information on Québec's English-speaking labour force. The fact that this data is only available every 5 years is a considerable limitation for those who rely on linguistic-based data to make important decisions. There is a need for more frequent data collection and publication on the socio-economic status of linguistic minorities by Statistics Canada, the Institut de la statistique du Québec and relevant research networks.

2. Statistics Canada. "First official language spoken of person," (2021, November 02). Government of Canada. Retrieved from: <https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3Var.pl?Function=DEC&Id=34004>

METHODOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

income taxes, provincial and territorial income taxes, less abatement where applicable.

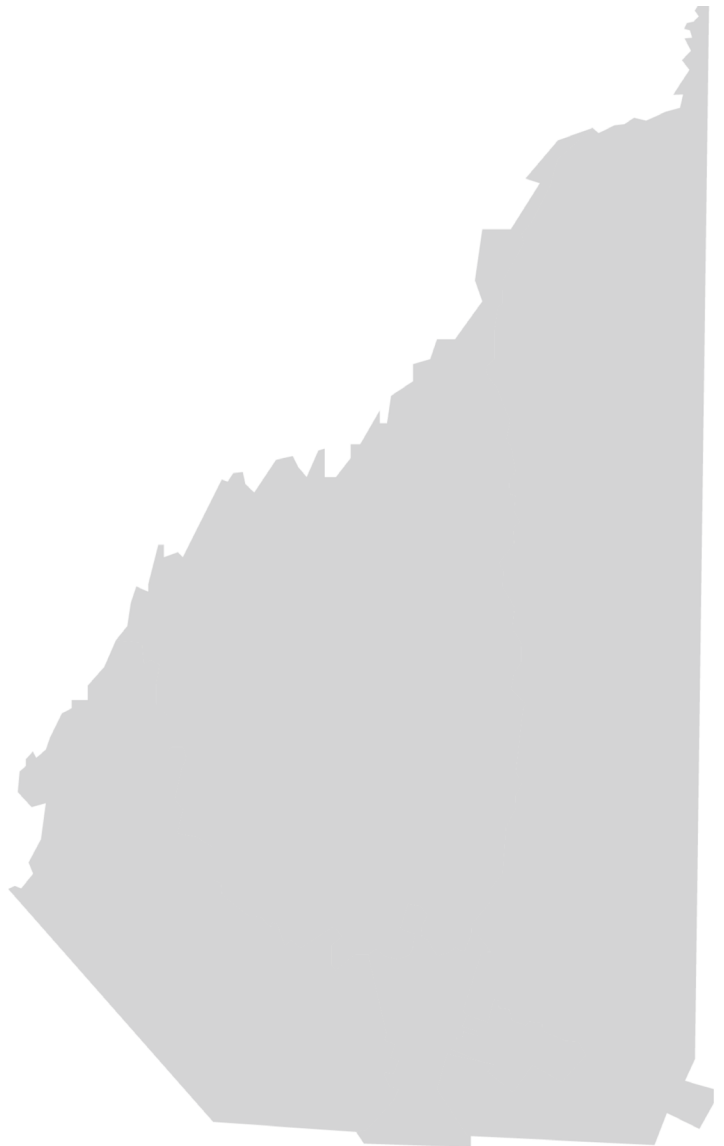
Educational Attainment

Refers to the highest level of education that a person has successfully completed.

Industry

Industry refers to the specific economic activity engaged in by a given group. An activity, in turn, is the combination of labour, capital, and goods in order to produce new goods and/or services. The industry data are produced according to the North American Industry Classification System 2012.

Population



POPULATION

Total Population of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean

English-speaking Population

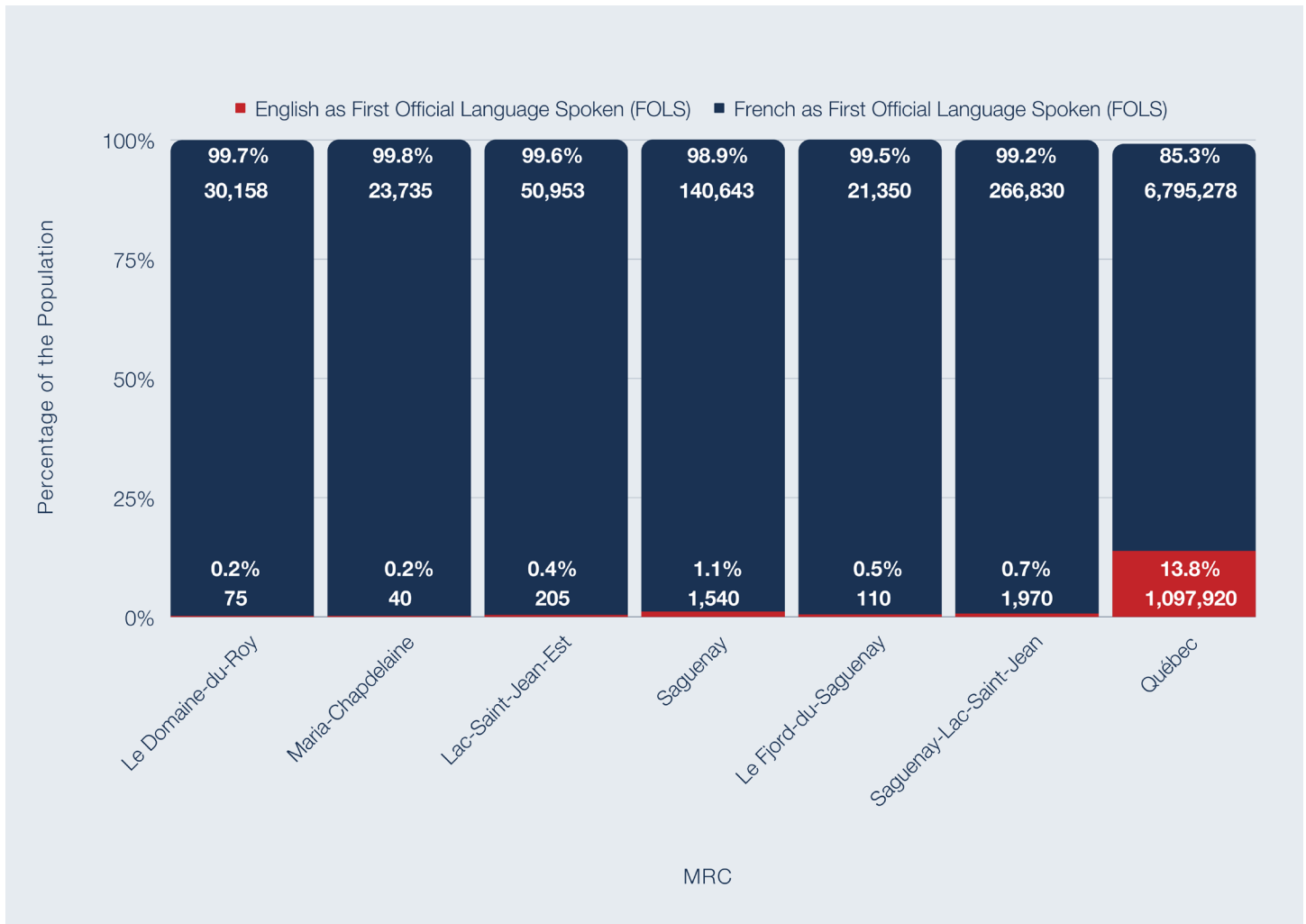


Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean has a population of 268,870, with the English-speaking community comprising approximately 1,970 individuals, or 0.7% of the region's population. This is the second smallest regional population of English speakers in the province, after Bas-Saint-Laurent.

The majority of English speakers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean live in Saguenay.

Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean

Graph 1: Total Population of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

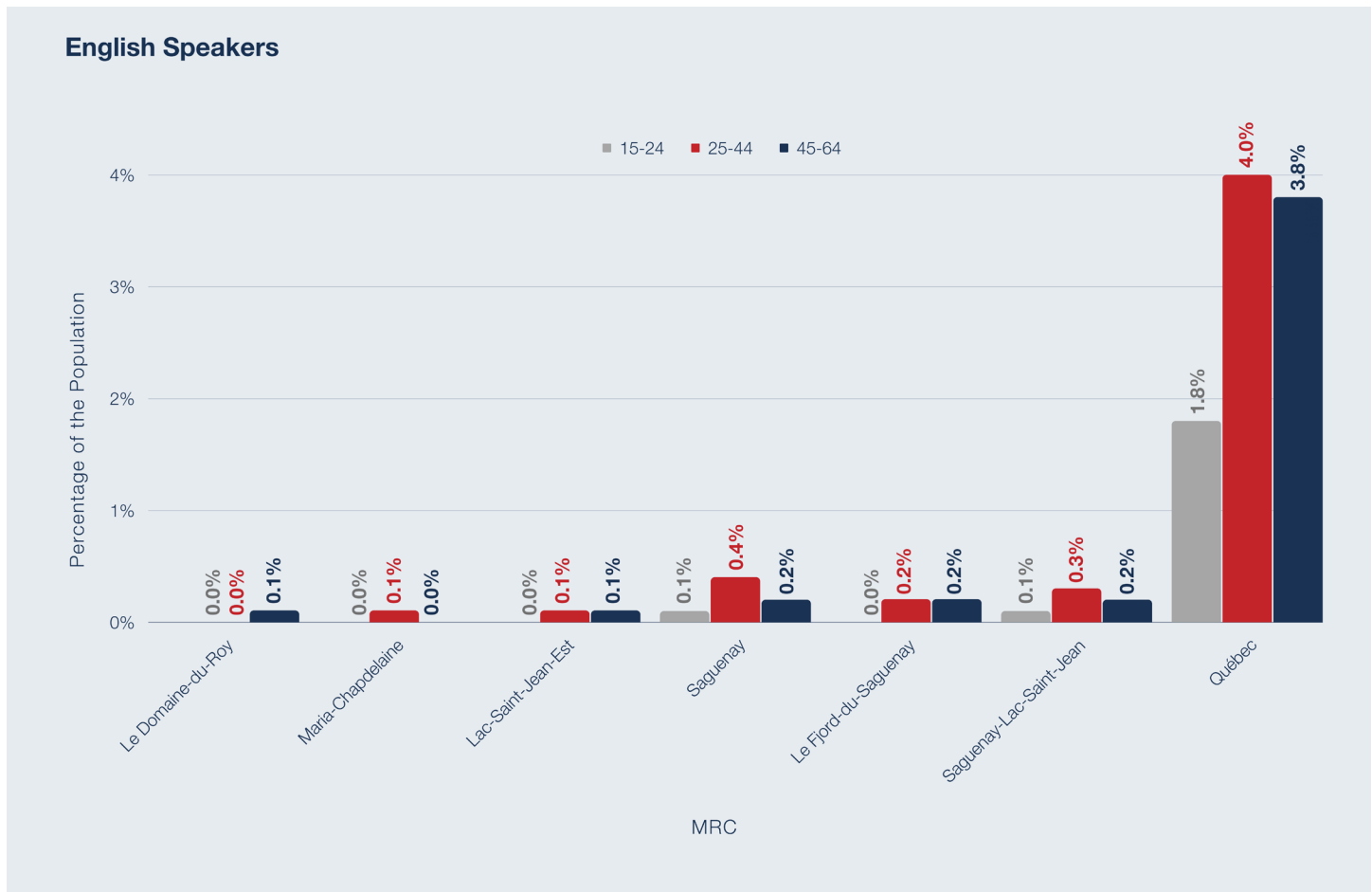
POPULATION

Age Structure of Population

Among French speakers, individuals aged 45-64 are the largest age group. Among English speakers, individuals aged 25-44 are the largest age group (by 0.1%).

In several MRCs, there are too few English speakers, resulting in limited data.

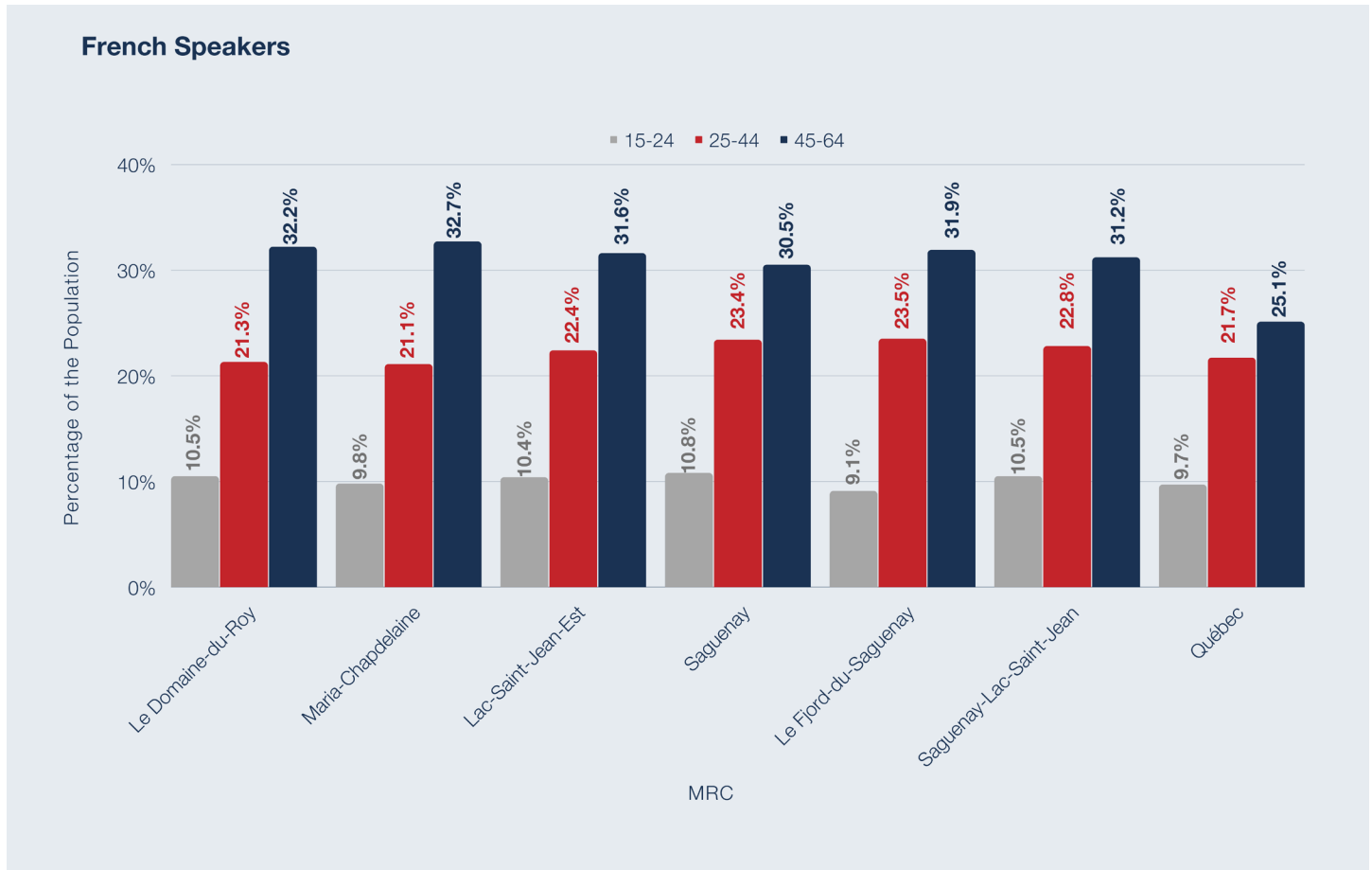
Graph 2a: Age Structure of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's Population by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

POPULATION

Graph 2b: Age Structure of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's Population by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

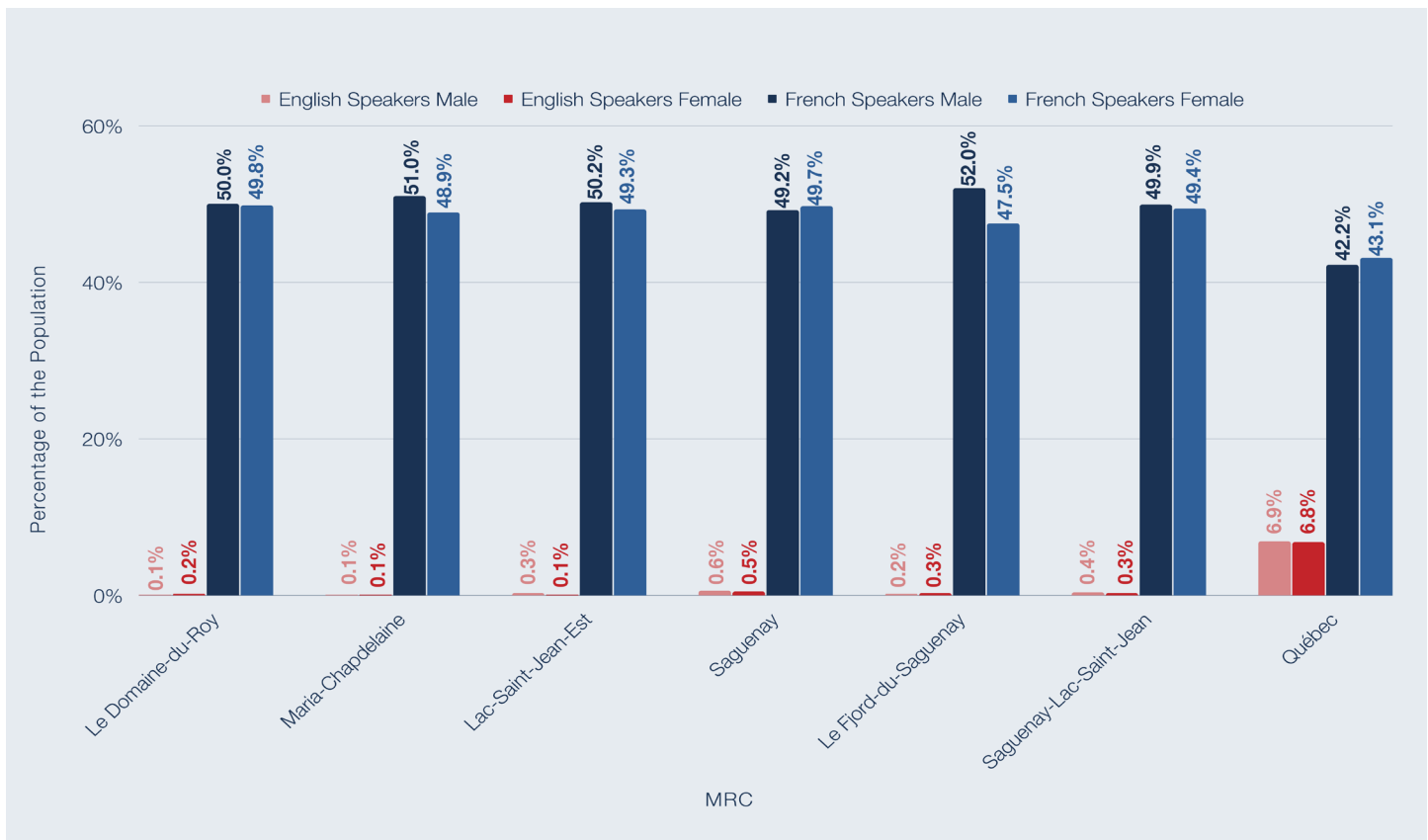
POPULATION

Sex Structure of Population

Among both English and French speakers, there are slightly more men in the region than women.

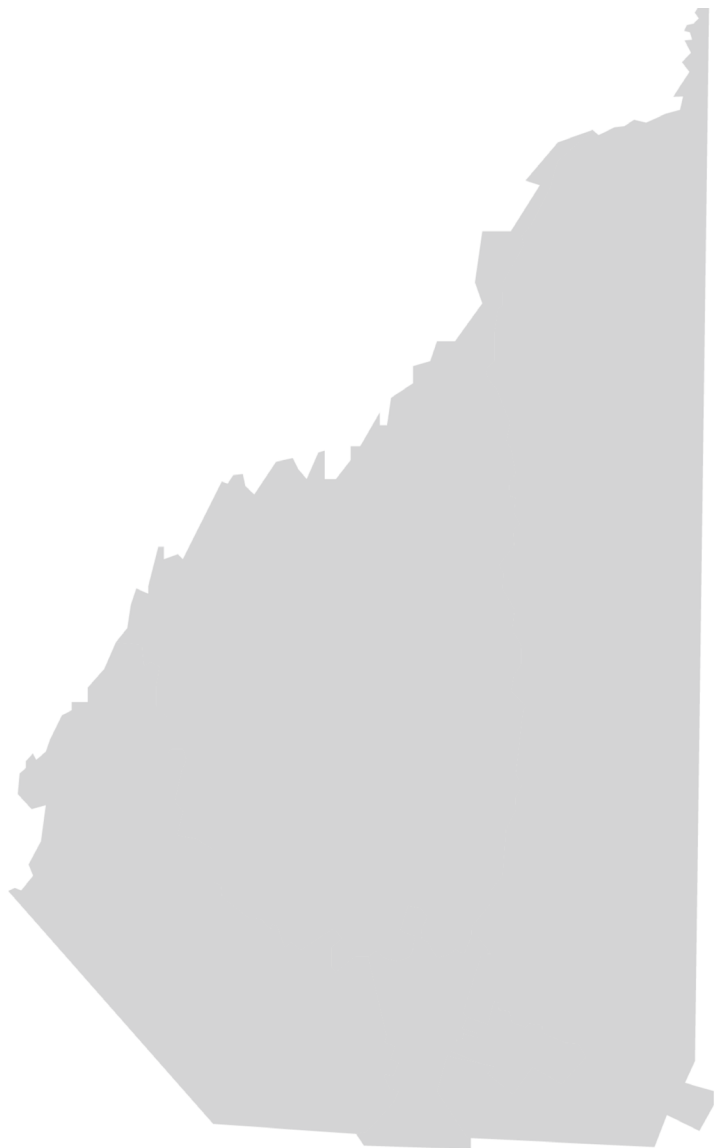
Among French speakers, the largest gap between women and men is observed in le Fjord-du-Saguenay: there are approximately 4.5% more French-speaking men than women in this MRC. Among English speakers, however, there are slightly more women than men in le Fjord-du-Saguenay.

Graph 3: Sex Structure of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's Population by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

Economic Structure



ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean is designated as a manufacturing-oriented region according to Québec's Economic Development Index.³ As of 2018, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean has a score of 90.6, a decrease of 5.6 from its 2013 score (the largest decrease observed in any region).⁴ This indicates below average economic performance, and is consistent with the decrease in score experienced by several other manufacturing-oriented regions, including Mauricie, Centre-du-Québec, and Lanaudière.

Major industries in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean include the processing of natural resources such as lumber and the production of paper products. Manufacturing is directly linked to primary industries in the region, such as mining and forestry. Other major industries include construction, health care, retail, education, and public administration.⁵

From 2013-2017 sales of manufactured goods produced in the region increased by an average of 3.7% per year, compared to a provincial yearly growth rate of 3%. Following this period (2017-2021), private investment in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean increased by an annual average of 10.4%, compared to an annual provincial growth in private investment of 3.7%.⁶ Upcoming projects include the construction of an electricity transmission line between Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and Côte-Nord (valued at \$691 million), a multipurpose facility for the Department of National Defense (\$126 million), the Val-Éo wind farm (\$70 million) and the expansion of the Roberval courthouse (\$66.2 million).⁷

3. This index analyzes the economic reality of the region according to four components: demographics, labour market, income, and education. A score of more than 100 indicates that a region is above average, while the increase of a score over time indicates better performance in comparison with other regions.

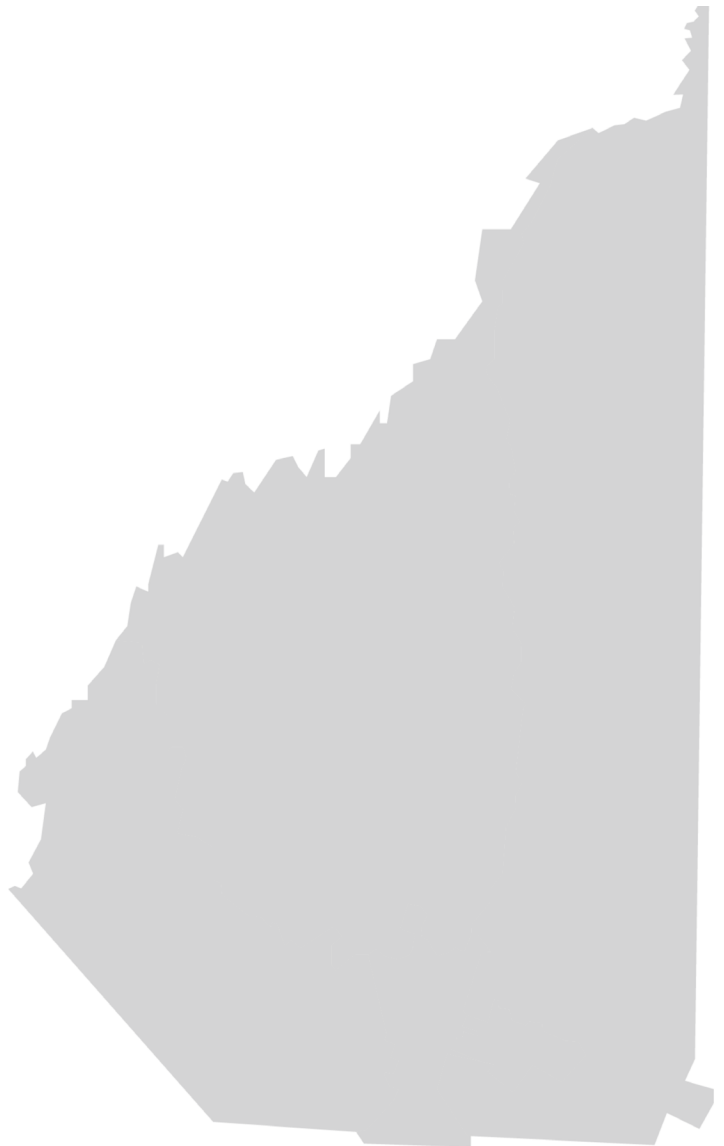
4. Frédéric Hamelin. "Economic Portrait of the Regions of Quebec," (2020). Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation. Retrieved from: https://www.economie.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/contenu/documents_soutien/regions/portraits_regionaux/20200322-PERQ-2020.pdf, page 18.

5. François Dupuis, Mathieu D'Anjou, and Chantal Routhier. "Études régionales: Région administrative du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean," (2021). Desjardins. Retrieved from: <https://www.desjardins.com/ressources/pdf/21SLSJ-f.pdf?resVer=1617718261000>, page 5.

6. Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation du Québec. "Région Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean: Secteur des entreprises," (2020). Retrieved from: <https://www.economie.gouv.qc.ca/pages-regionales/saguenay-lac-saint-jean/portrait-regional/secteur-des-entreprises/>

7. Dupuis, D'Anjou, and Routhier. "Études régionales: Région administrative du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean," 10.

Industries



INDUSTRIES

Top Industries for Total Population

Primary industries in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean account for 6.4% of jobs, compared to 2.3% of jobs in the province as a whole.

Manufacturing industries account for 12.1% of jobs in the region, compared to 11.6% at the provincial level.

The services sector accounts for the greatest share of jobs in the region (74.3%), as it does within the province (79.9%).⁸ The service sector supports other industries in the region such as mining and manufacturing.

The services sector encompasses a vast array of occupations and industries ranging from health care to retail and education.

Industries categorized as “other” include repair services and religious organizations. Typical health care and social assistance occupations include doctors, nurses, dentists, orderlies, early childhood educators and social workers.

Primary sector



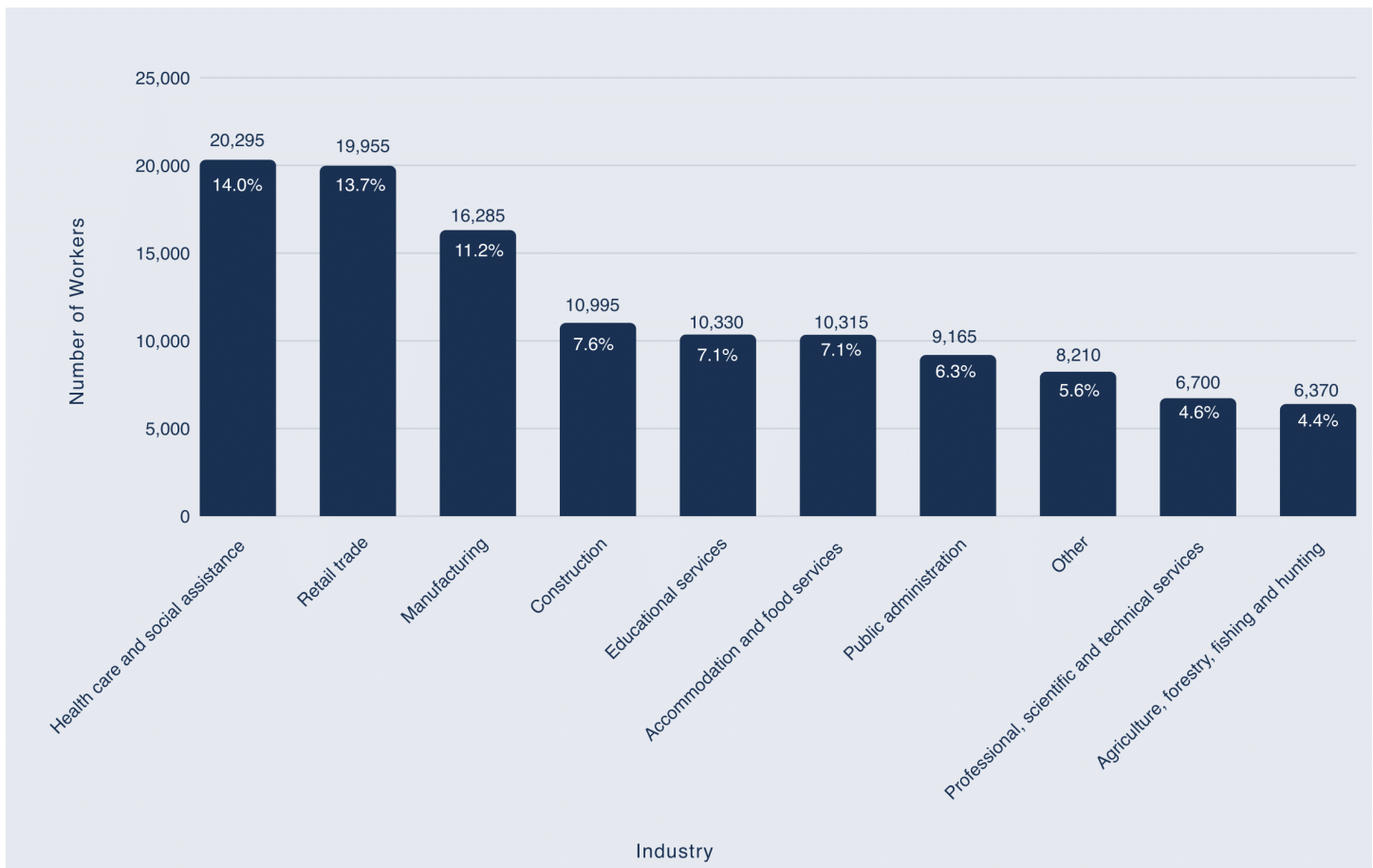
Manufacturing



Services



Graph 4: Top 10 Industries in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean for Total Population



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

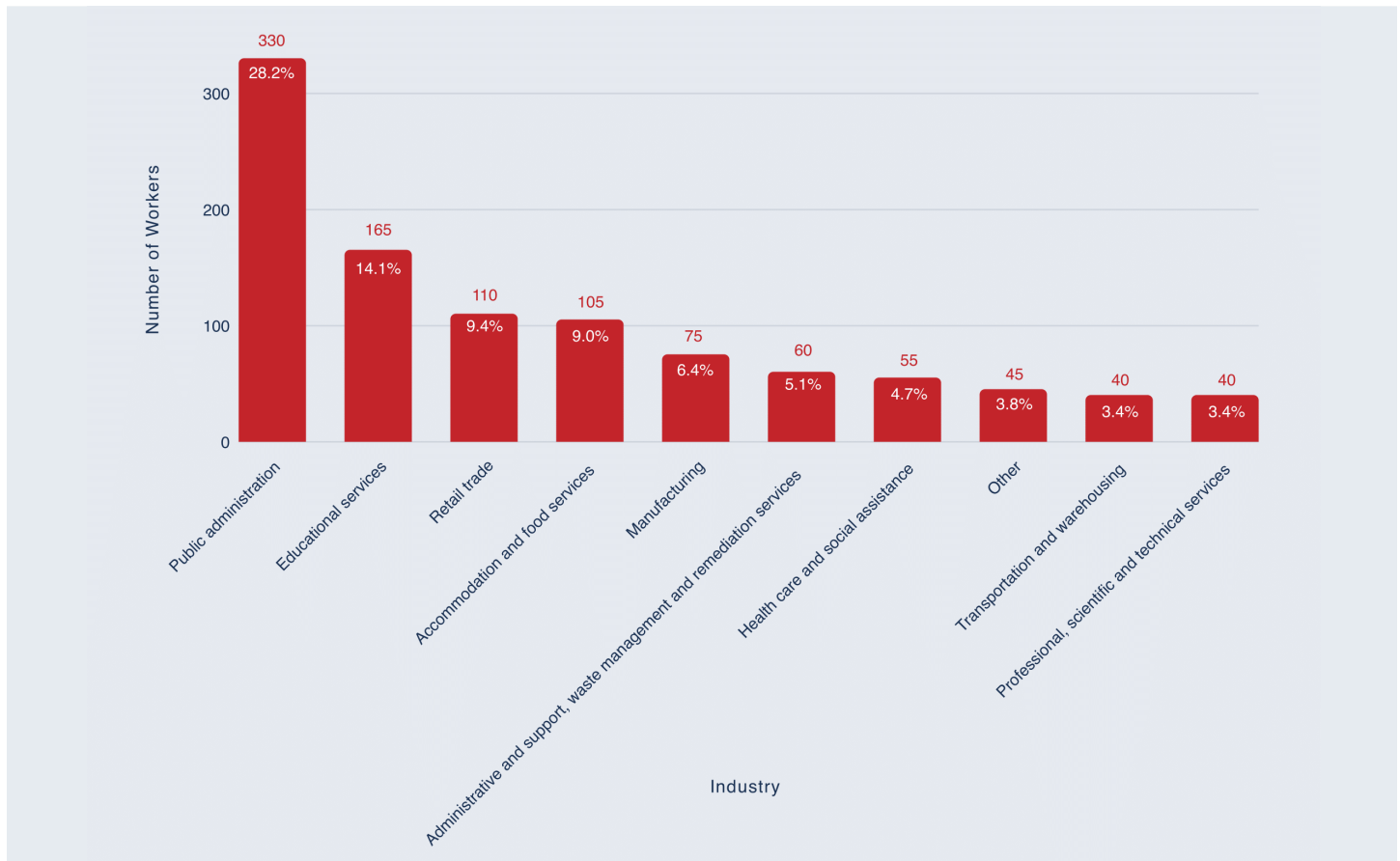
8. Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation du Québec. "Région Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean: Structure économique," (2021). Retrieved from: <https://www.economie.gouv.qc.ca/pages-regionales/saguenay-lac-saint-jean/portrait-regional/structure-economique/>

INDUSTRIES

Top Industries for English Speakers

English speakers have a high level of engagement in public administration within the federal government. Most of the English speakers in this field live in Saguenay, which houses the majority of federal offices and a significant number of public service positions. These positions often require high levels of English-French bilingualism.

Graph 5: Top 10 Industries in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean for English Speakers by Number of Workers

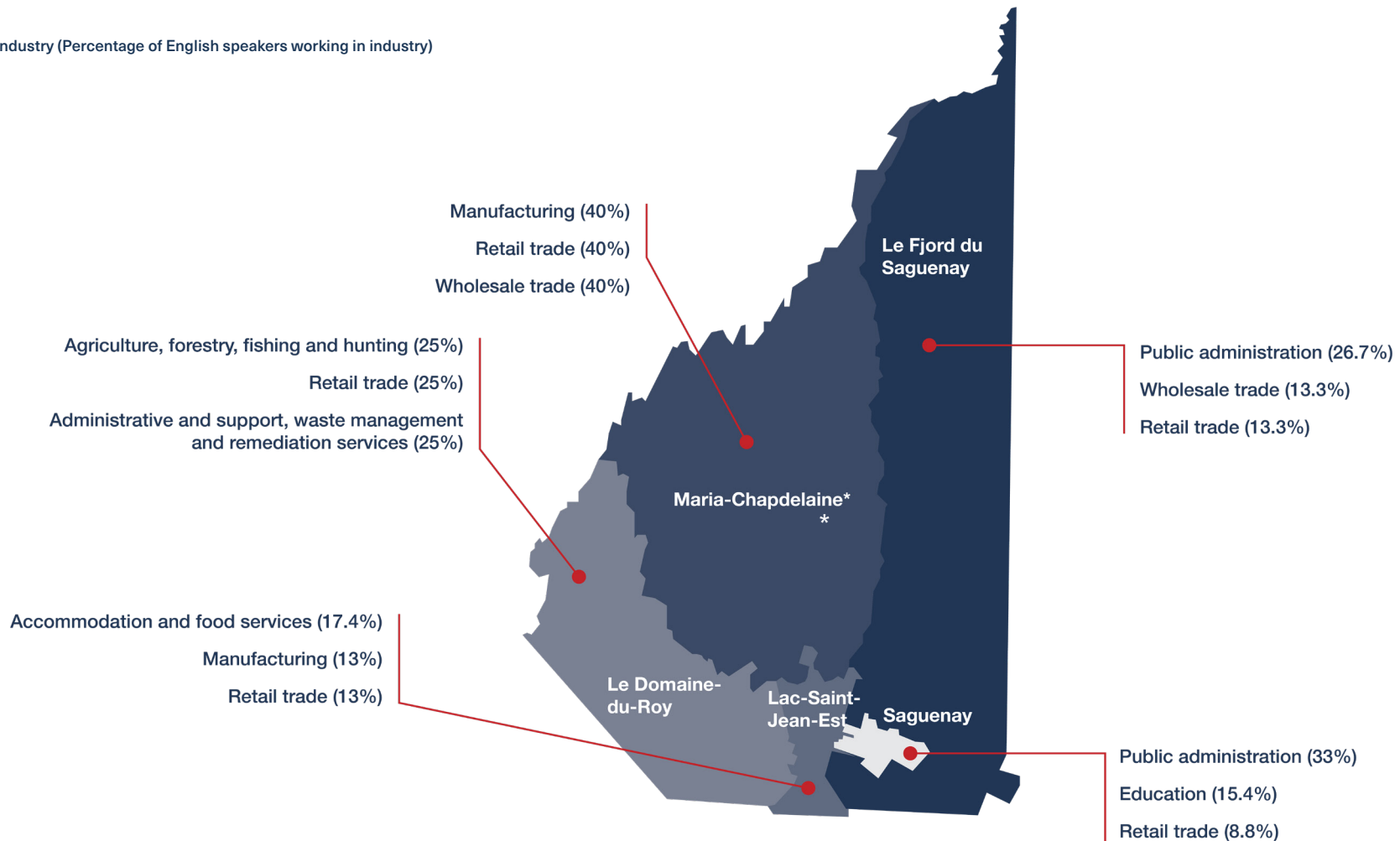


Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

INDUSTRIES

Map 1: Top Industries in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean for English Speakers

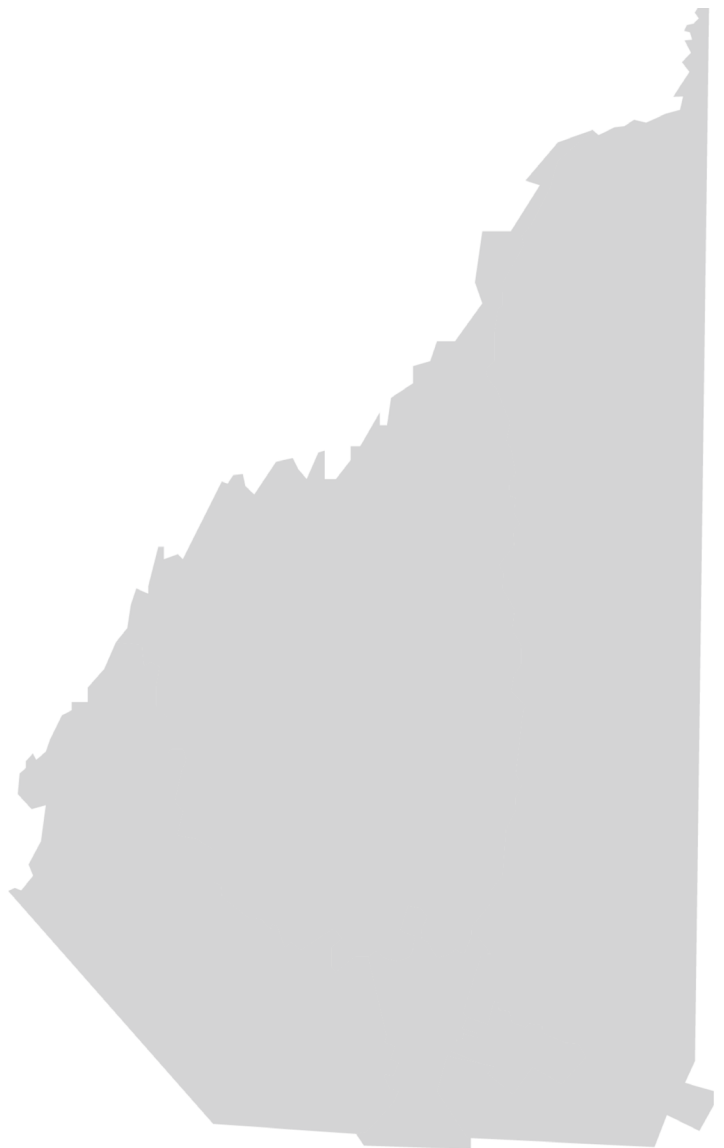
Industry (Percentage of English speakers working in industry)



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

*Owing to the small population sample size of English speakers in this MRC, figures may not be representative.

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

Total Labour Force

The labour force includes individuals who are employed and those who are unemployed, but actively seeking employment and available for work. Labour force participation is an important metric for understanding the employment and economic status of communities because it indicates the levels of activity in the labour market.

However, several factors must be considered when looking at labour force figures including:

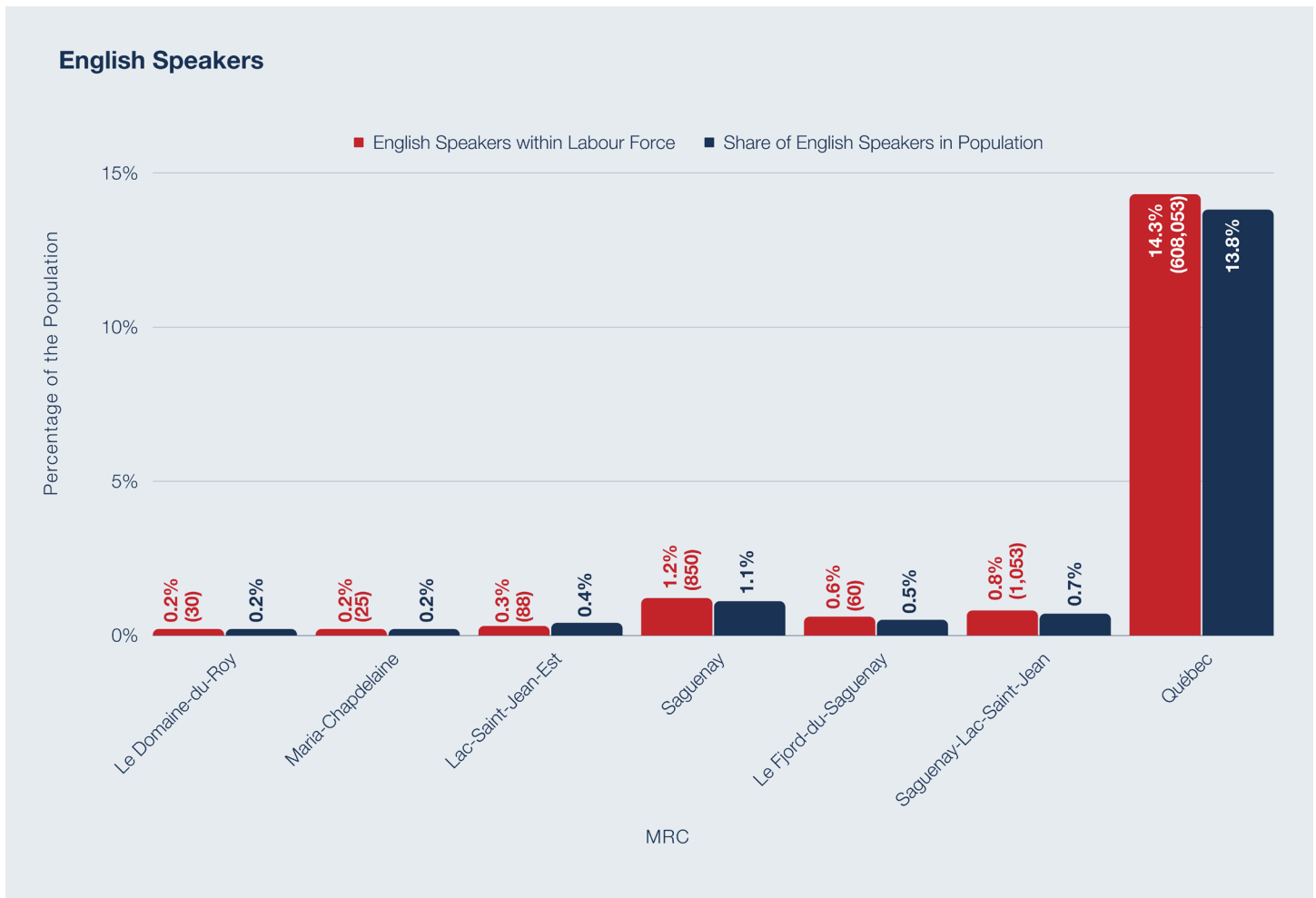
- The proportion of individuals in the labour force who are unemployed
- Cyclical conditions and the time of year when labour force data is collected

- The types of occupations that employed individuals have
- The income that individuals are earning

The English-speaking community accounts for approximately 0.7% of the population and 0.8% of the labour force in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. There are 1,053 English speakers within the region's 133,480-person labour force.

English speakers have slightly higher representation in the labour force than they do in the total population in the MRCs of Saguenay and le Fjord-du-Saguenay. This is consistent with provincial trends that see higher representation of English speakers in the labour force in urban areas.

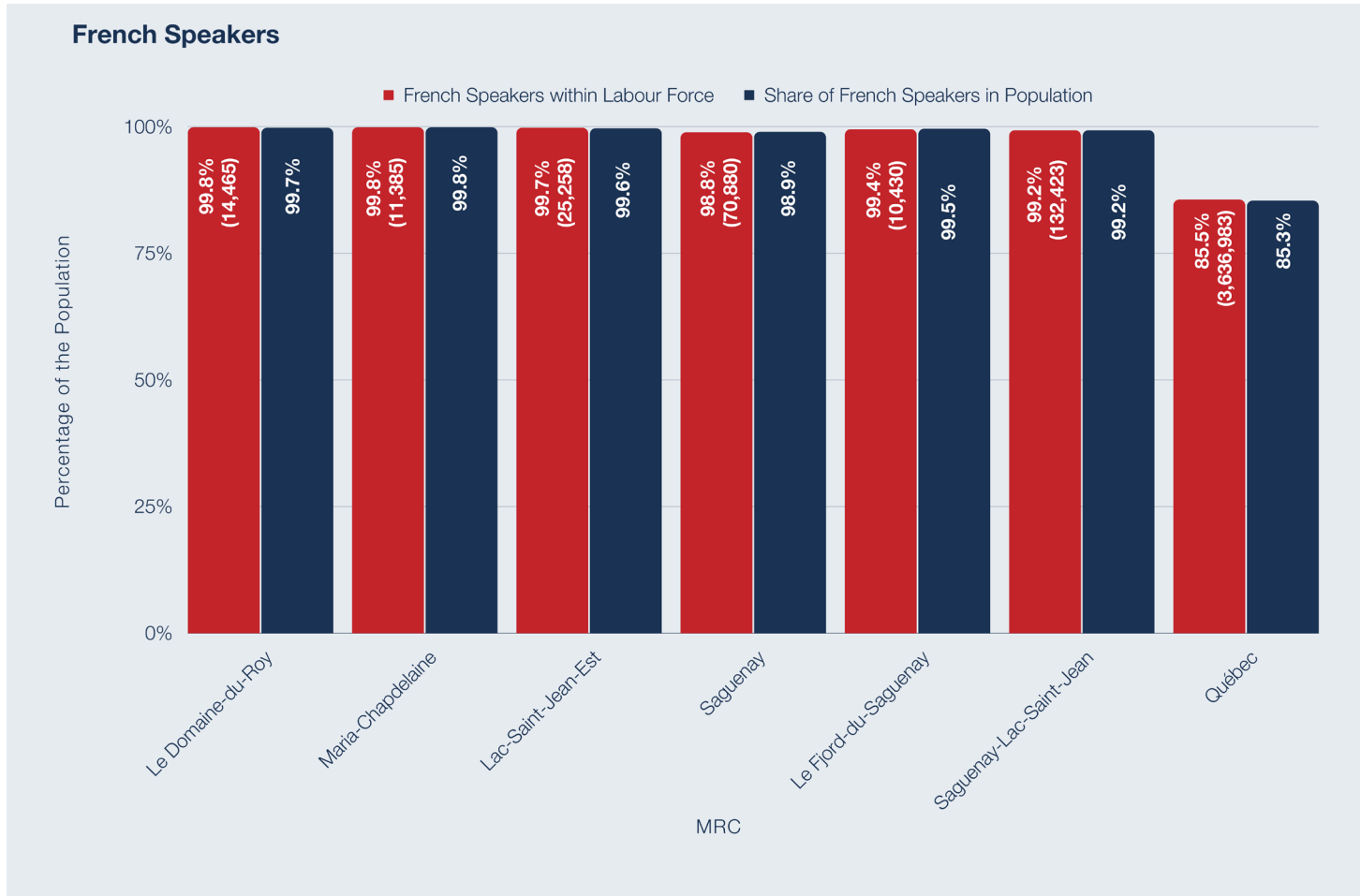
Graph 6a: Labour Force of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

LABOUR FORCE

Graph 6b: Labour Force of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

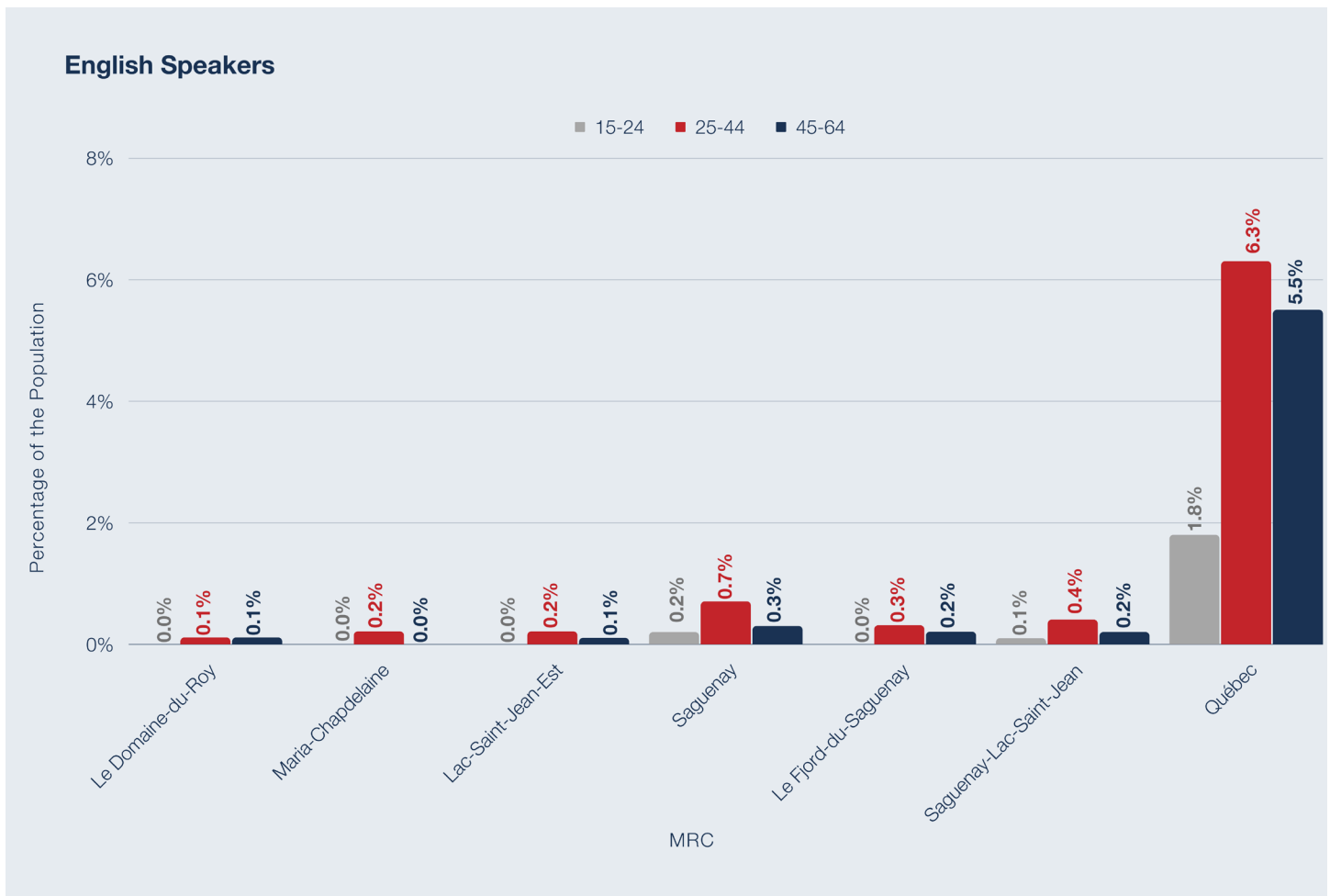
LABOUR FORCE

Age Structure of Labour Force

French speakers aged 45-64 represent the largest portion of the labour force. In Québec as a whole, French speakers aged 25-44 represent the largest share of the labour force owing to high representation in a few key regions.

Among English speakers, individuals aged 24-44 represent the largest share of the region's labour force. The widest gap observed among different English-speaking age groups is observed in Saguenay, where English speakers aged 25-44 represent 0.4% more of the labour force than individuals aged 45-64.

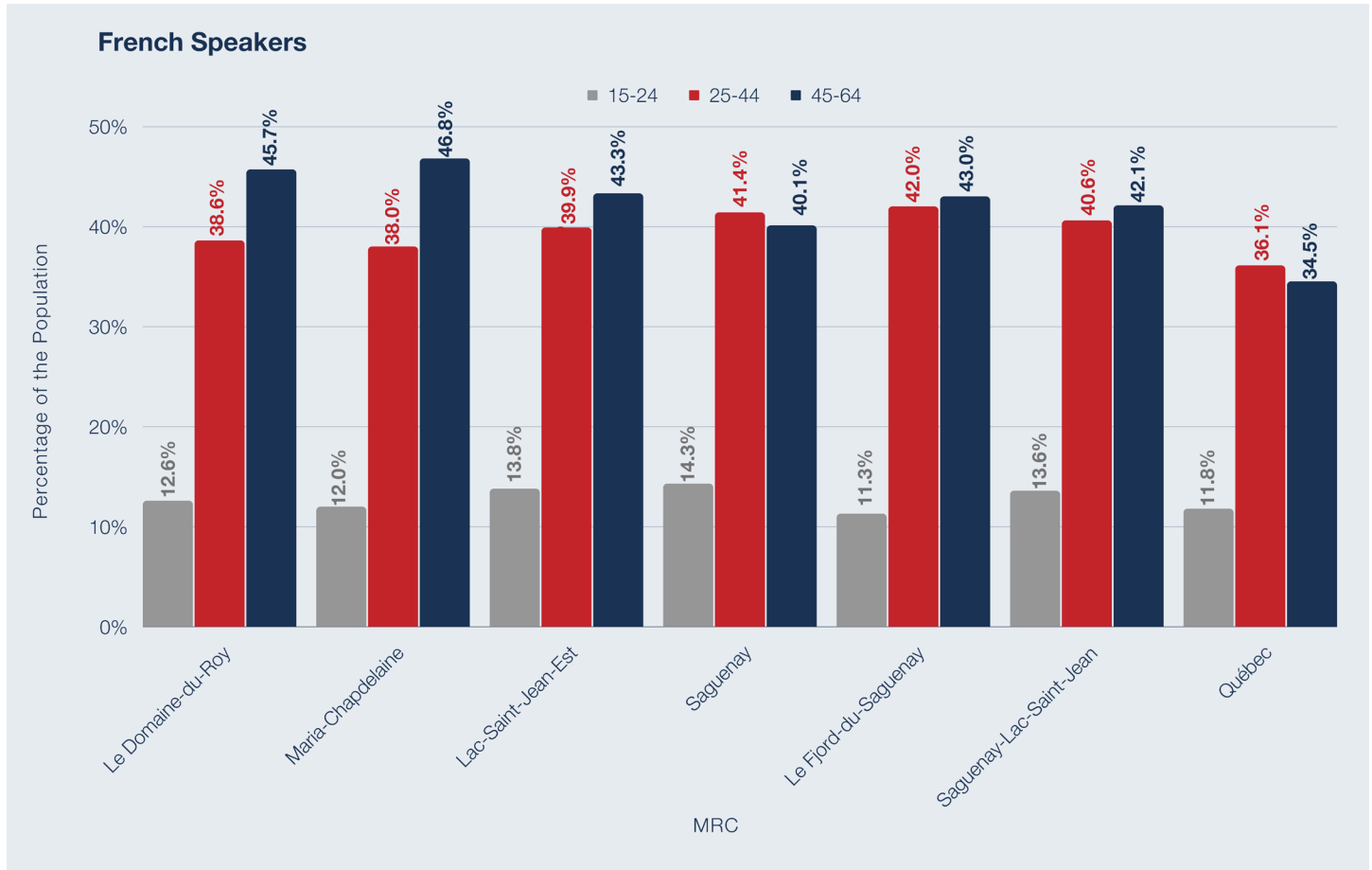
Graph 7a: Age Structure of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's Labour Force by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

LABOUR FORCE

Graph 7b: Age Structure of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's Labour Force by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

LABOUR FORCE

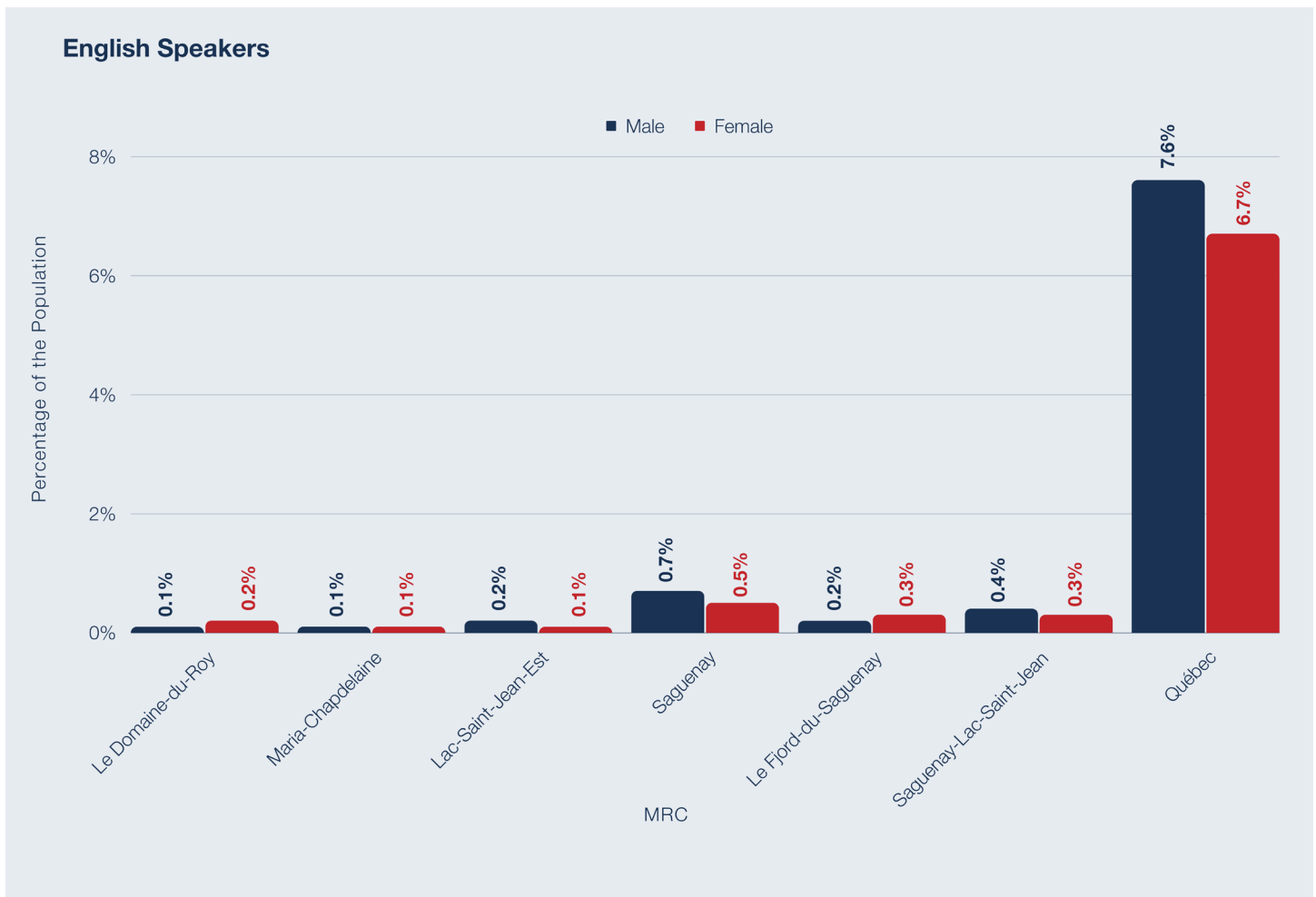
Sex Structure of Labour Force

French-speaking men represent the majority of the labour force in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (53.3%), while French-speaking women represent 45.9% of the labour force.

English-speaking men represent 0.4% of the region's labour force, while English-speaking women represent 0.3% of the labour force.

Across the region, men tend to be the majority gender group in the labour force. This is true for French speakers in all MRCs of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. Among English speakers, there is more variation in labour force representation by gender, with more women in the labour force in le Domaine-du-Roy and le Fjord-du-Saguenay.

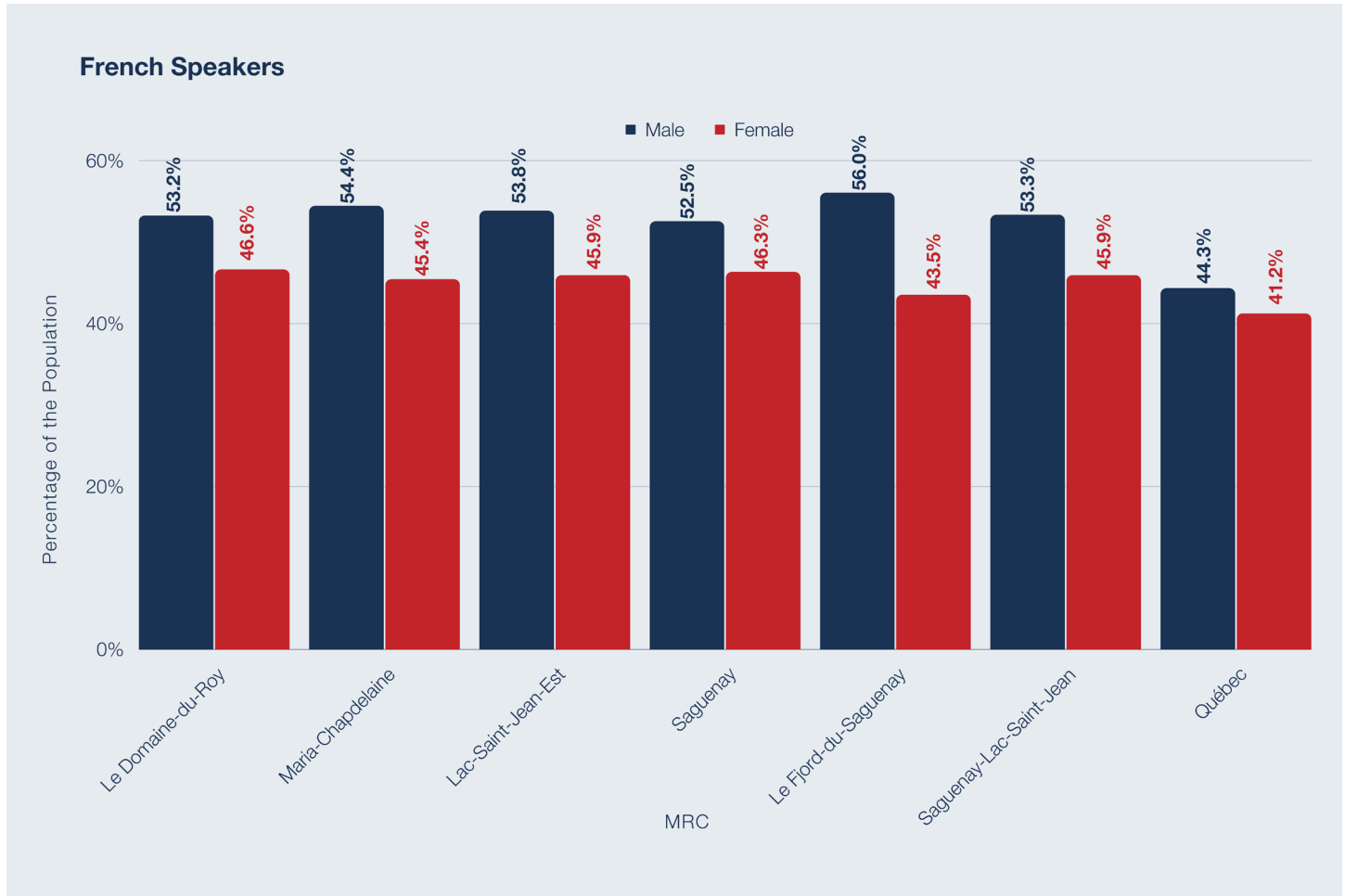
Graph 8a: Sex Structure of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's Labour Force by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

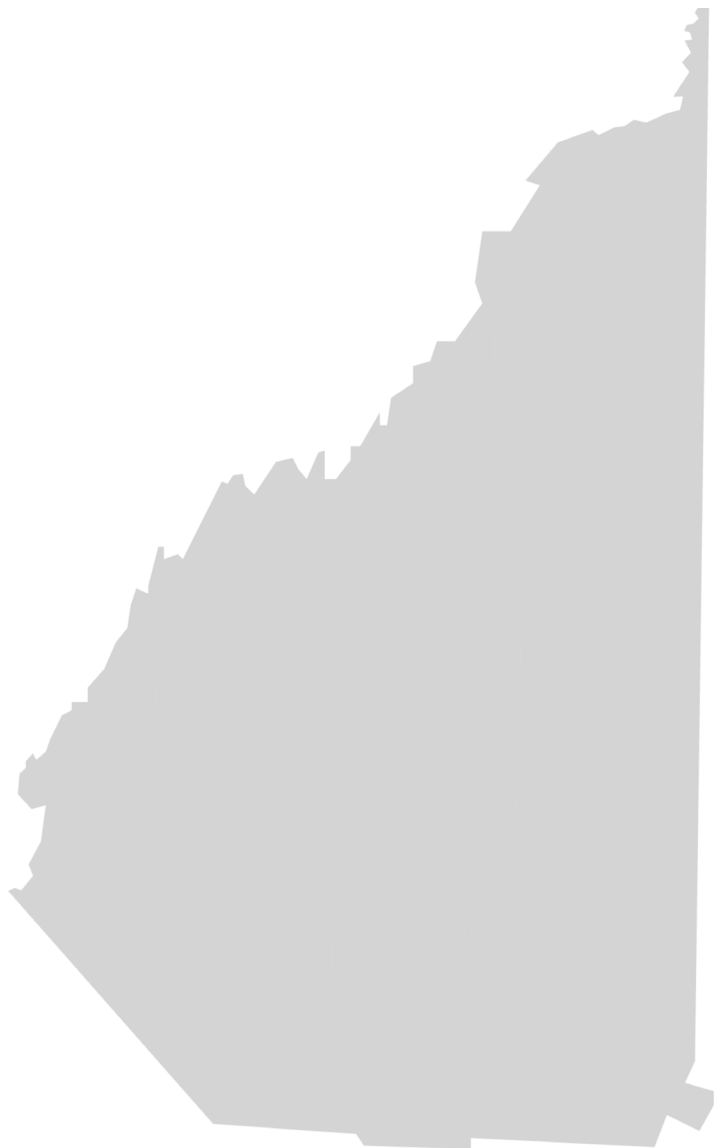
LABOUR FORCE

Graph 8b: Sex Structure of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean's Labour Force by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

Unemployment Rate



UNEMPLOYMENT

Total Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate represents the percentage of individuals in the labour force who do not have paid work and are looking for work. Unemployment rate serves as an official measure of performance of the labour market and can shed light on the income, purchasing power, and socio-economic well-being of communities.

The unemployment rate, however, has its limitations. The unemployment rates in this section capture the work status of individuals at the time Census data was collected in May 2016.

The unemployment rate may not account for:

- Those who work seasonal occupations and have less work or no work during the winter months
- Those who have been out of work for a long time and have stopped actively looking for work
- The quality of work that individuals have.

While the unemployment rate may not capture the

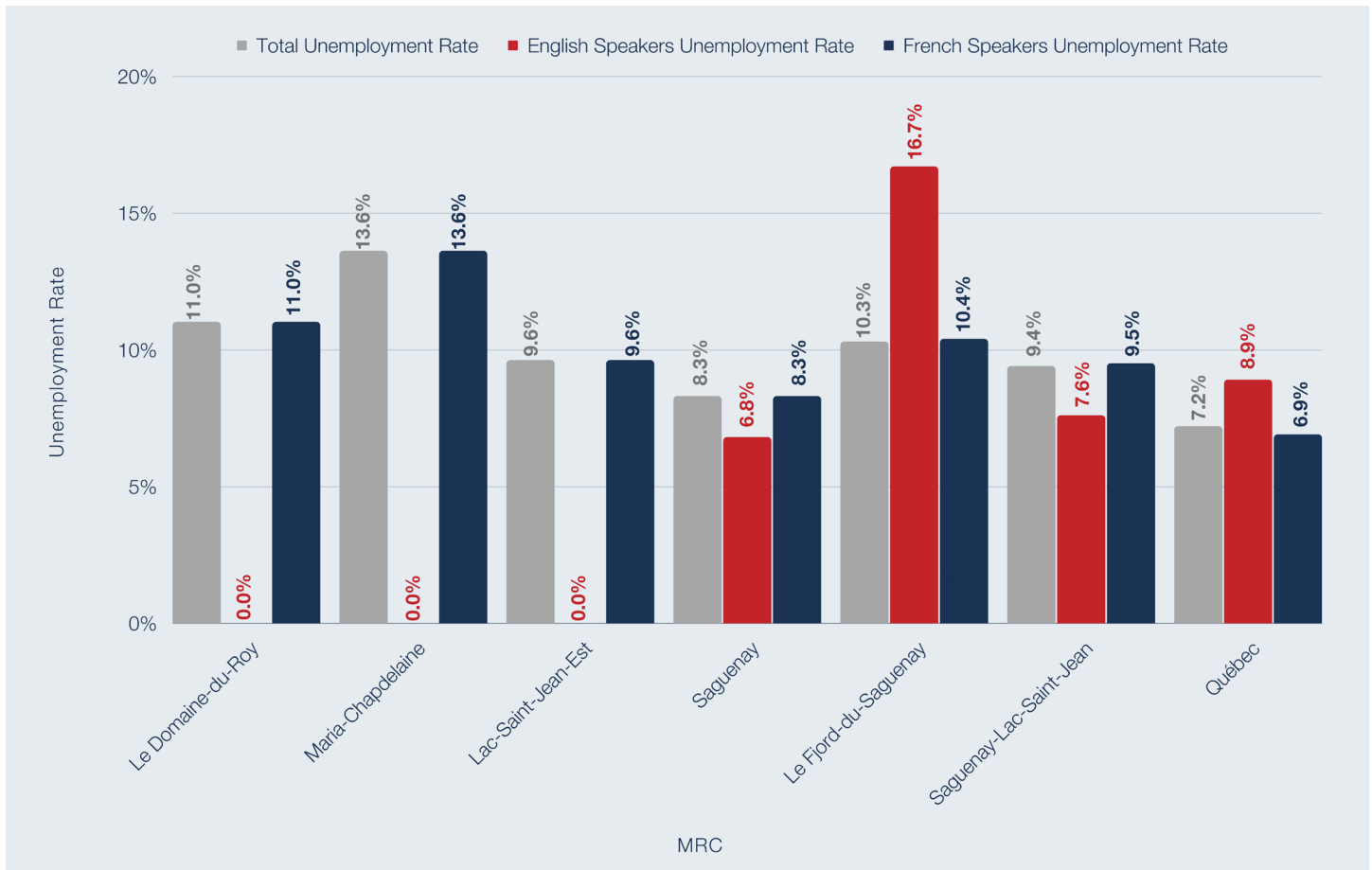
precariousness of part-time, temporary, and low-wage work, it remains an important official measure that indicates the lost wages, reduced economic growth, and difficulties that communities face due to joblessness.

Due to a small population sample size in some MRCs, the unemployment rates for English speakers may appear as either 0%, a very high figure (e.g. 100%), or incalculable. These figures may not be representative of communities, suggesting the need for further research.

English speakers experience a lower unemployment rate than French speakers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (7.6% compared to 9.5%). The only other region where this occurs is Bas-Saint-Laurent, which also has a small English-speaking population.

Saguenay and le Fjord-du-Saguenay are the only MRCs with unemployment data available for English speakers. In Saguenay, English speakers experience an unemployment rate 1.5% lower than that of French speakers. In contrast, English speakers in le Fjord-du-Saguenay face the highest unemployment rate in the region (16.7%).

Graph 9: Unemployment Rate in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

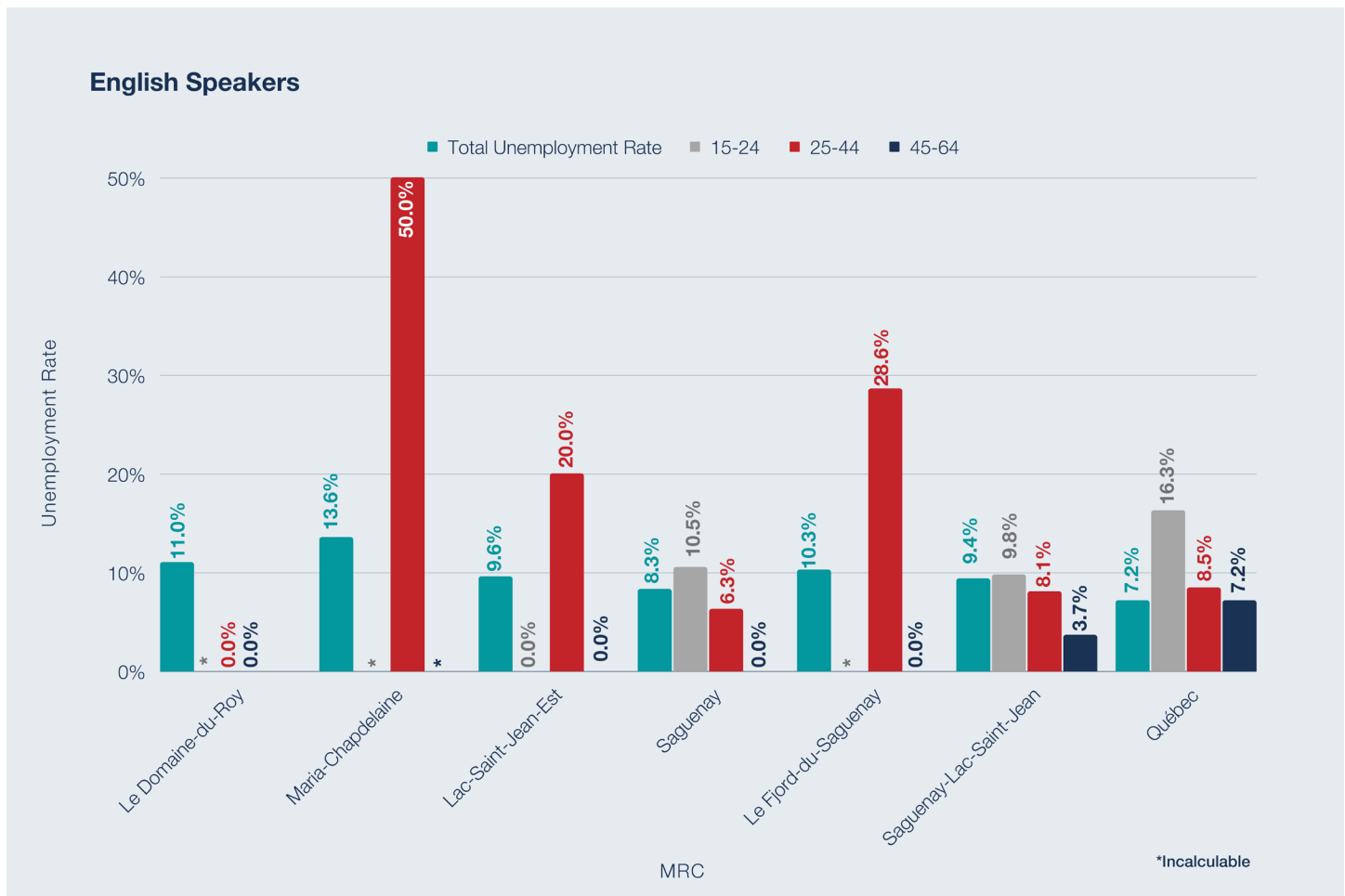
UNEMPLOYMENT

Age Structure of Unemployment Rate

Among both English and French speakers, youth experience the highest unemployment rates. French-speaking youth experience a higher unemployment rate (13.2%) than English-speaking youth (9.8%).

The unemployment rates of French speakers in the region are highest among youth, and lowest among individuals aged 25-44.

Graph 10a: Age Structure of Unemployment Rate in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC

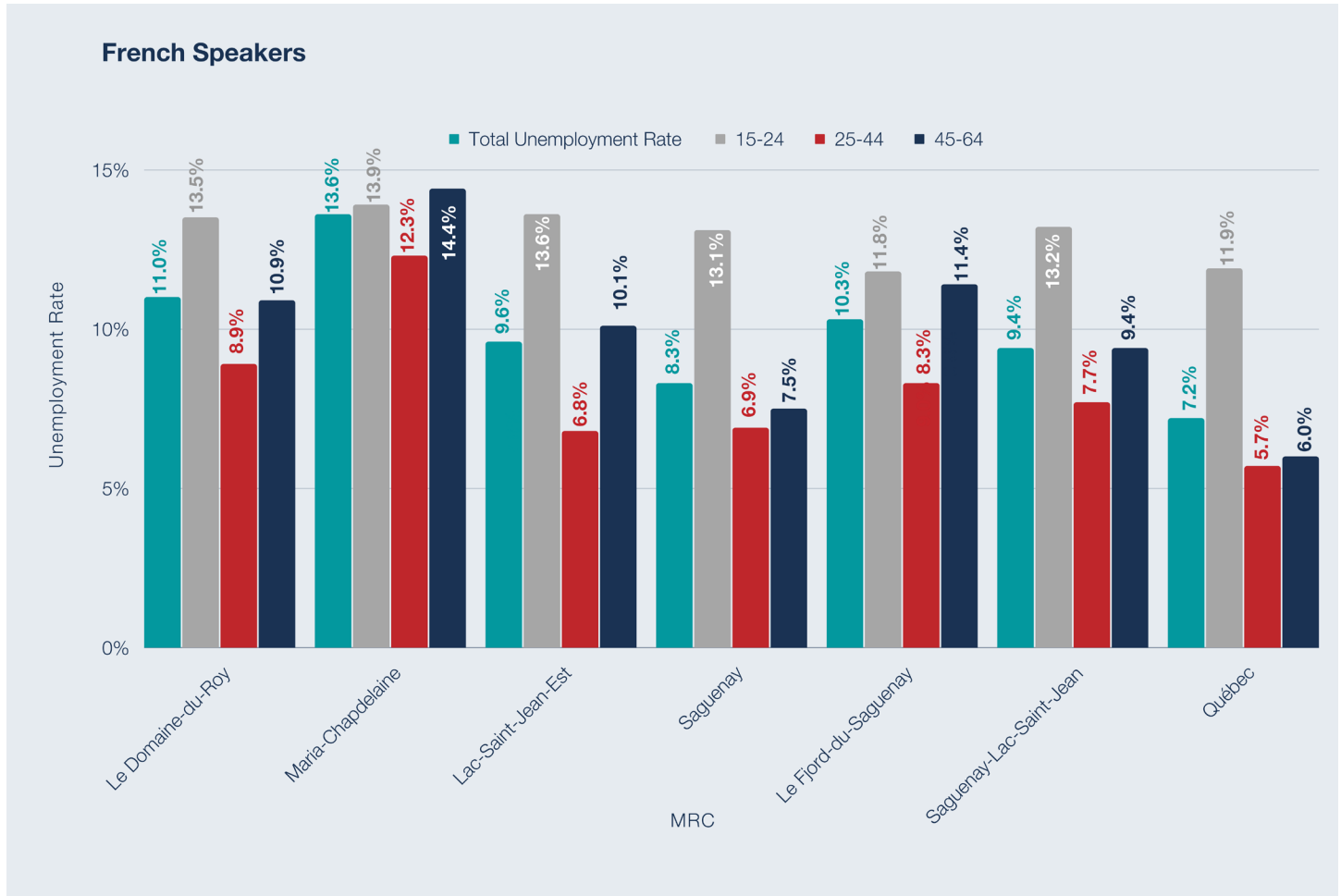


Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

*This figure is incalculable. According to the 25% sample data available through the 2016 Census, there are zero English speakers within this demographic in the labour force in this area.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Graph 10b: Age Structure of Unemployment Rate in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



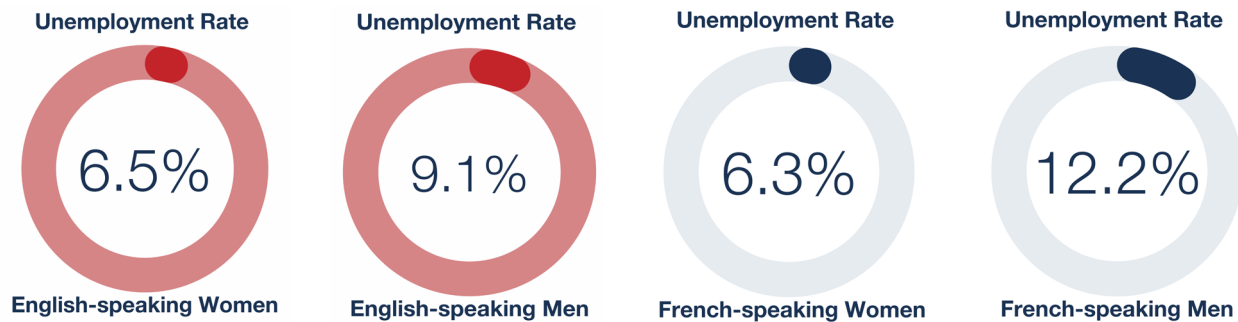
Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

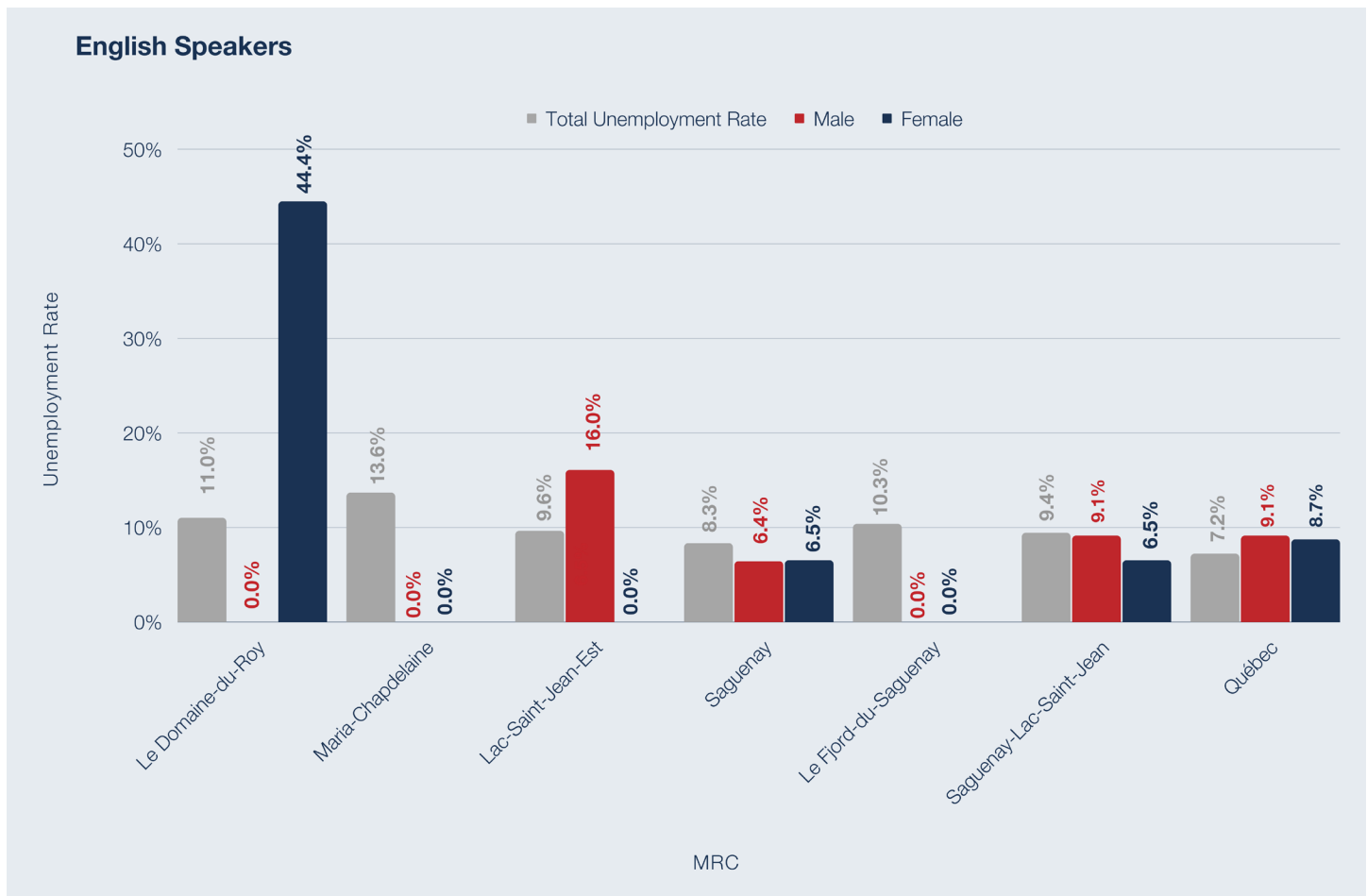
Sex Structure of Unemployment Rate

Men in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean tend to experience higher unemployment rates than women within their linguistic community. English-speaking men experience an unemployment rate of 9.1%, while English-speaking women experience an unemployment rate of 6.5%.

French-speaking men experience the highest unemployment rate of any sex-linguistic group, at 12.2%, while French-speaking women experience the lowest unemployment rate, at 6.3%.



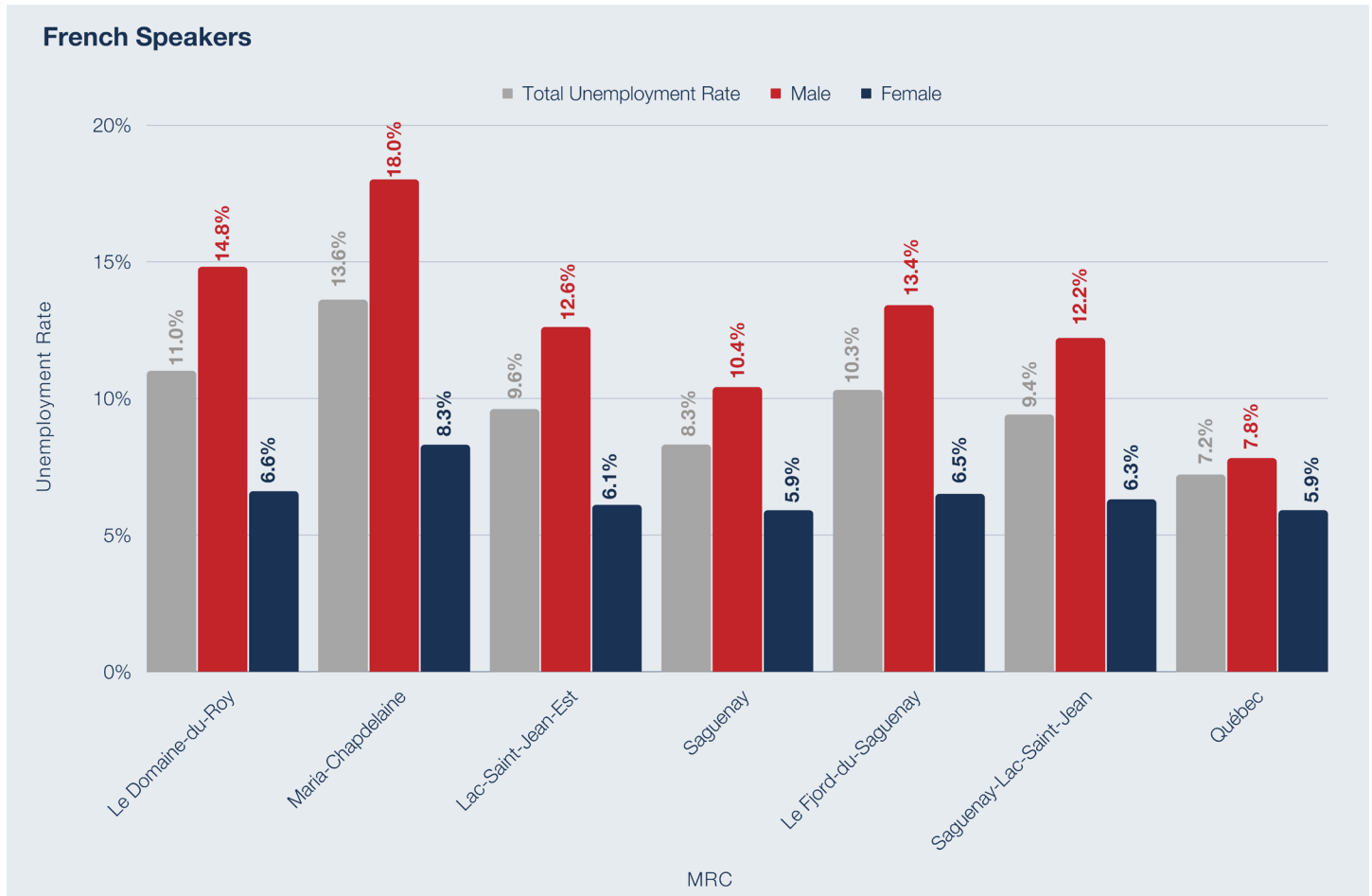
Graph 11a: Sex Structure of Unemployment Rate in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

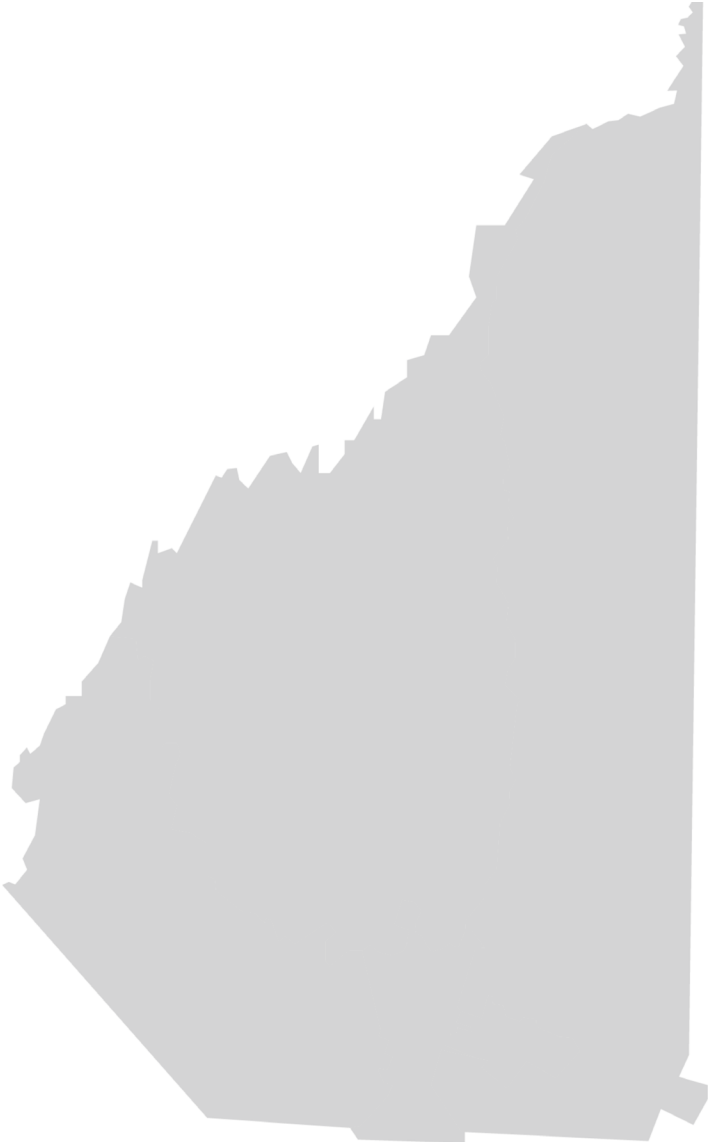
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Graph 11b: Sex Structure of Unemployment Rate in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

Work Activity

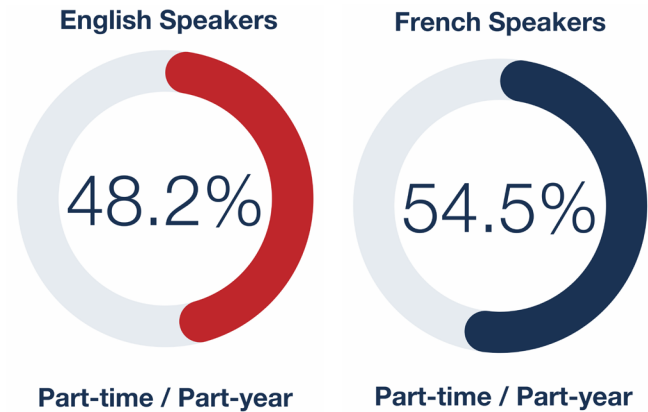


WORK ACTIVITY

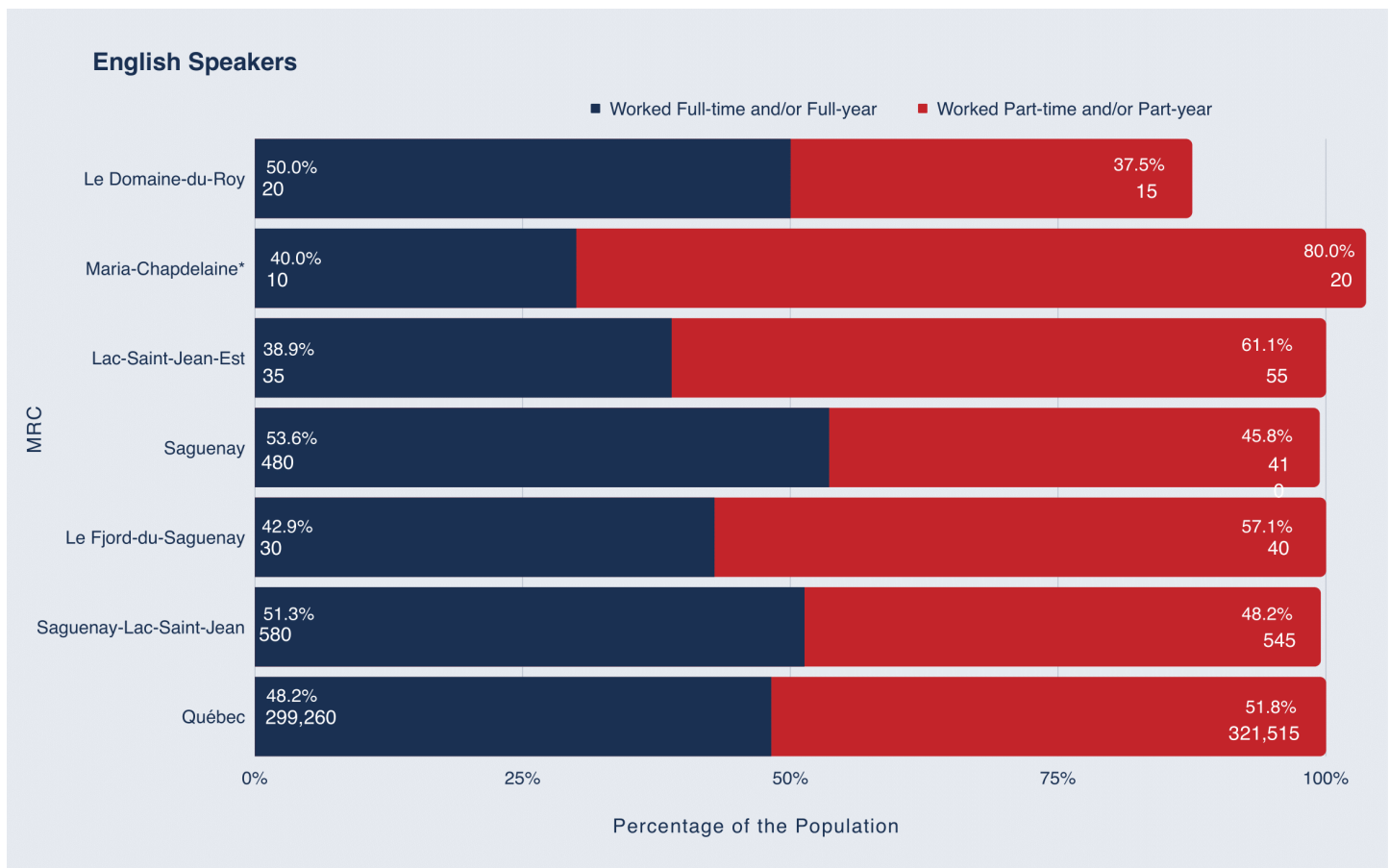
Engagement in Part- and Full-time Work

More English speakers are engaged in full-time work compared to part-time work (51.3% compared to 48.2%).

Among French speakers, more individuals are engaged in part-time work than full-time work (54.5% versus 45.5%).



Graph 12a: Work Activity in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC

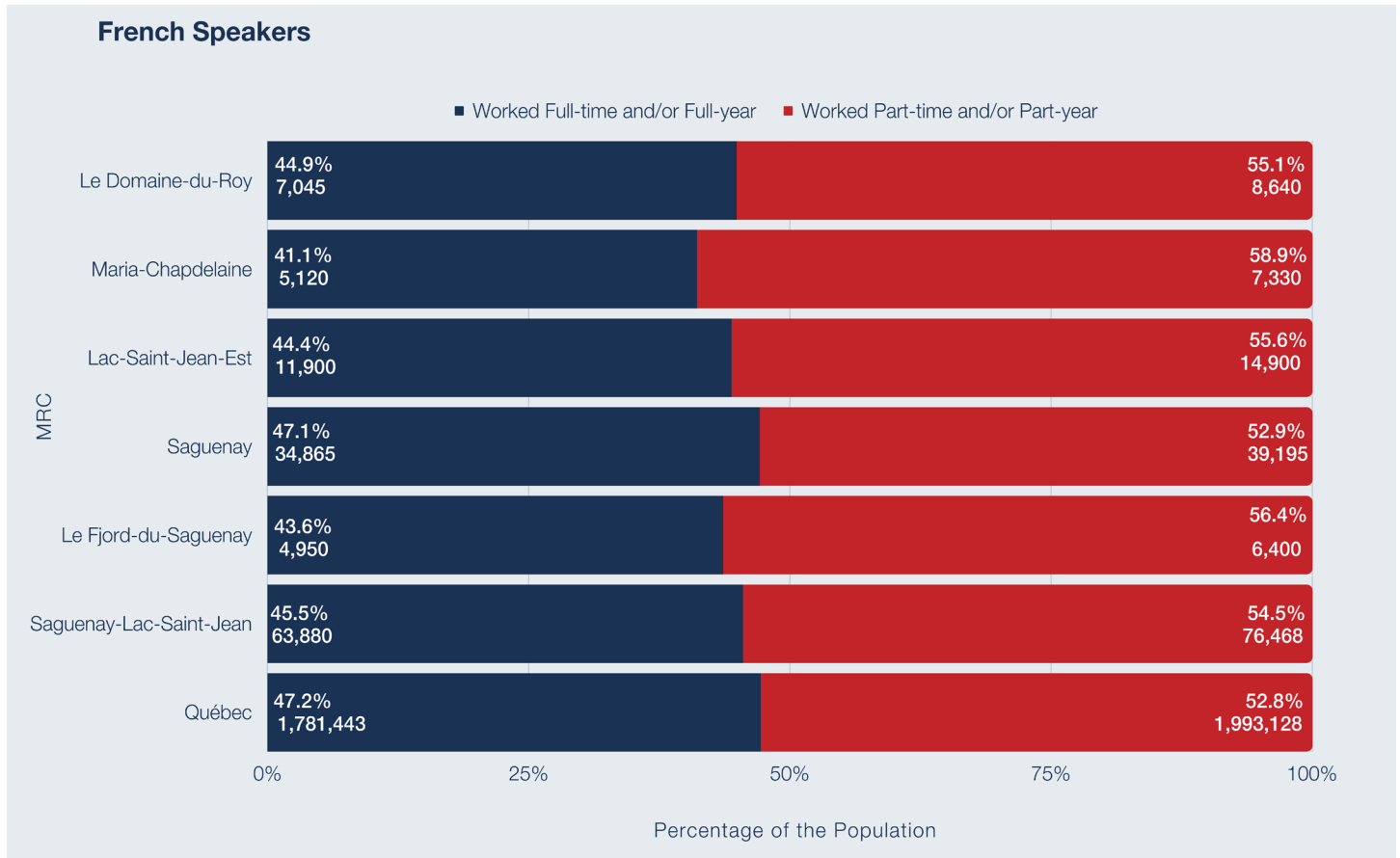


Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

*Owing to the small population sample size of English speakers in this MRC, figures may not be representative.

WORK ACTIVITY

Graph 12b: Work Activity in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

WORK ACTIVITY

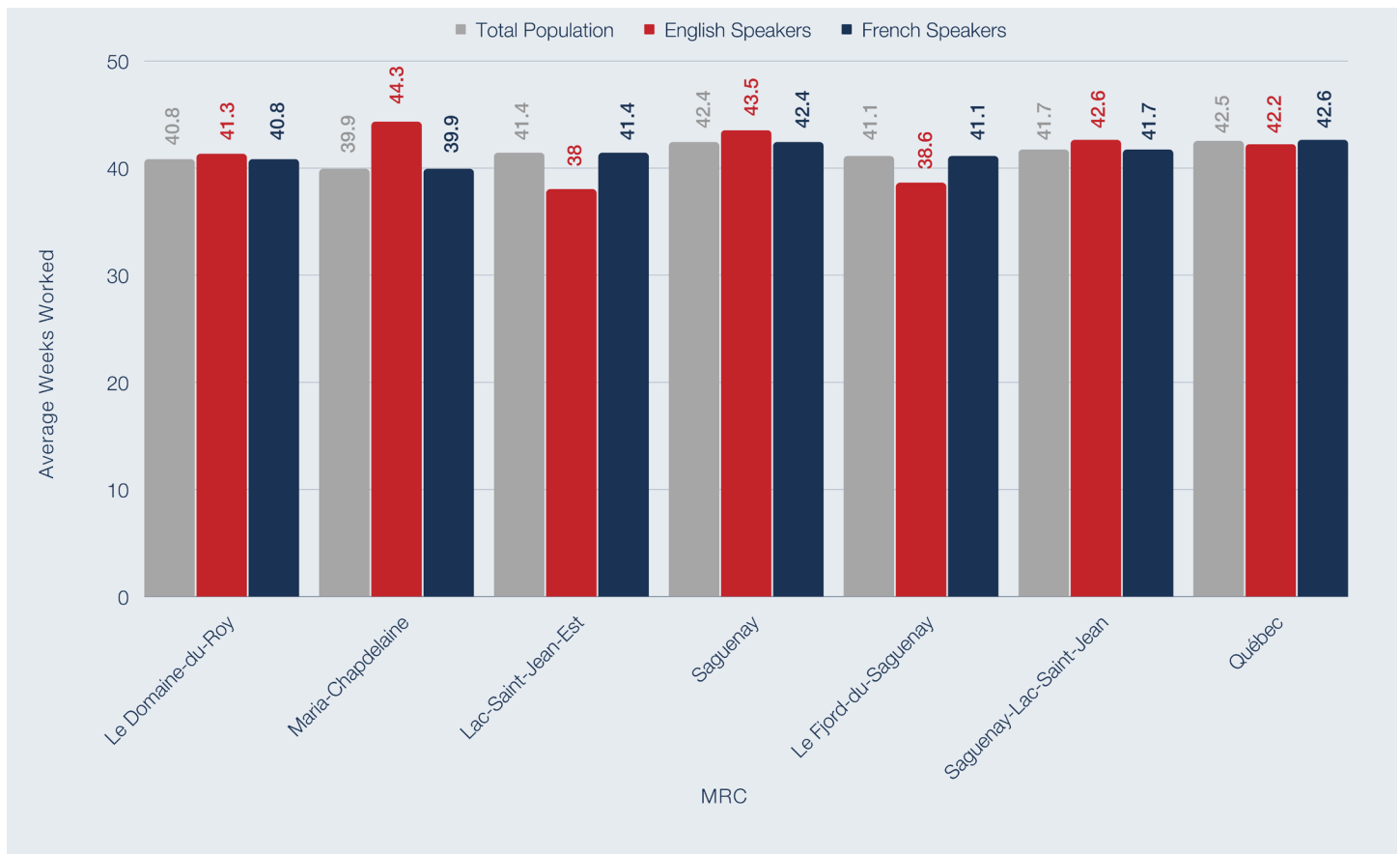
Average Weeks Worked

English speakers work an average of 42.6 weeks per year, while French speakers work for 41.7 weeks per year. ⁹

There are two MRCs in which English speakers work fewer average weeks per year than French speakers - Lac- Saint-Jean-Est and le Fjord-du-Saguenay.



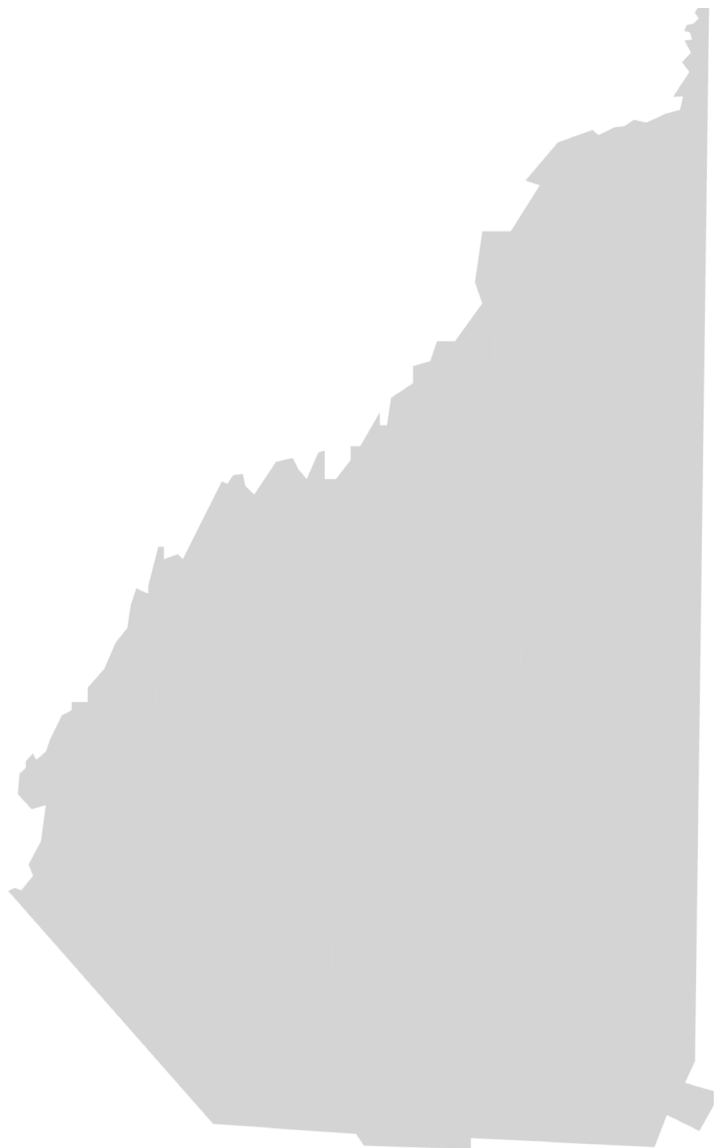
Graph 13: Average Weeks Worked in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

9. The data in this section pertains to individuals who speak only English or only French as their first official language. Individuals who speak both official languages were not distributed among English and French speakers in the graph below. This is due to limitations on the data available.

Income



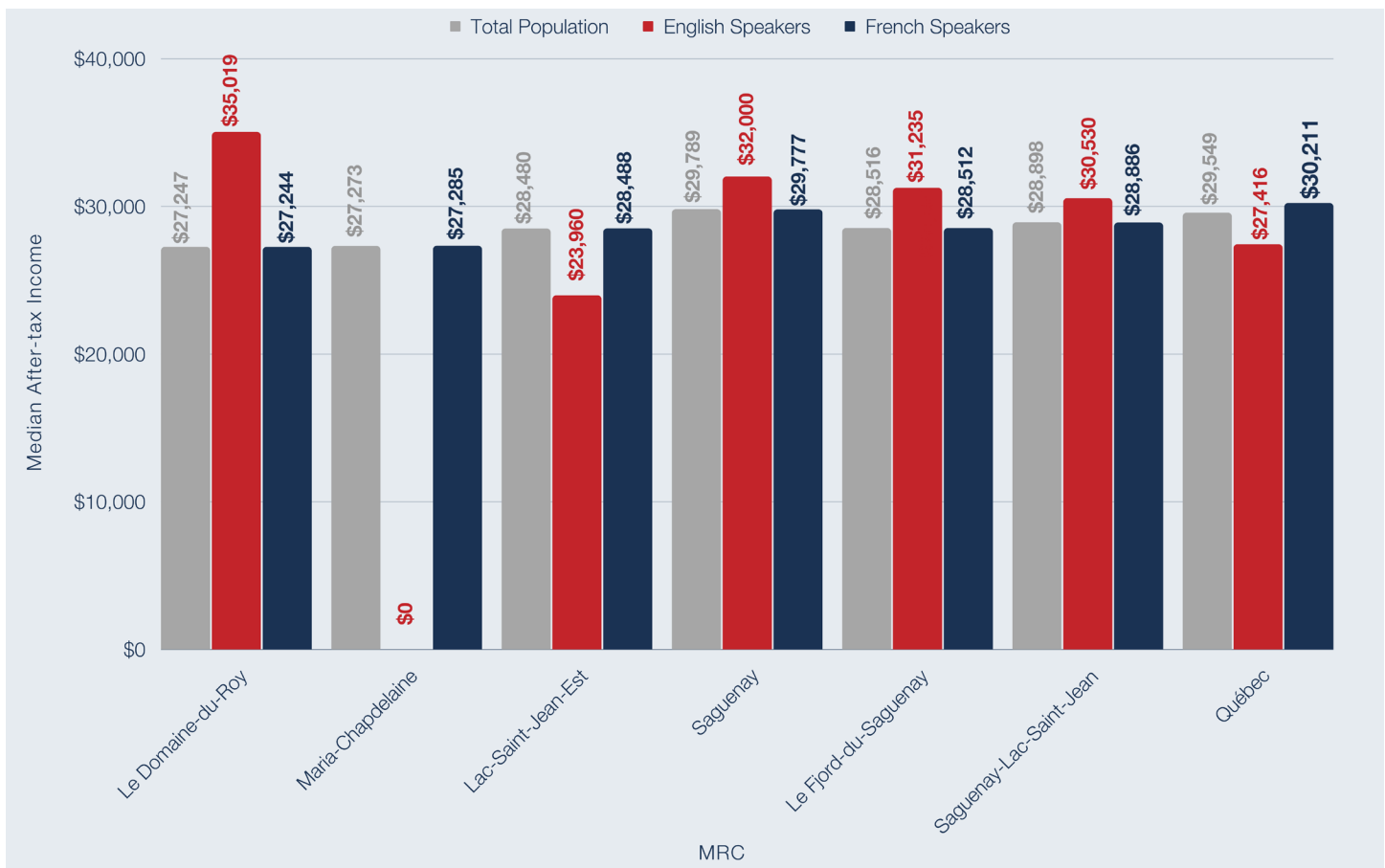
Income

Median After-tax Income

At the regional level, English speakers earn a higher median after-tax income than French speakers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (\$30,530 compared to \$28,886). This is one of only three regions in Québec where this is the case, the other two being Mauricie and Chaudière-Appalaches.¹⁰

In Lac-Saint-Jean-Est, English speakers earn \$4,528 less than French speakers, and no income data is available for English speakers in Maria-Chapdelaine.

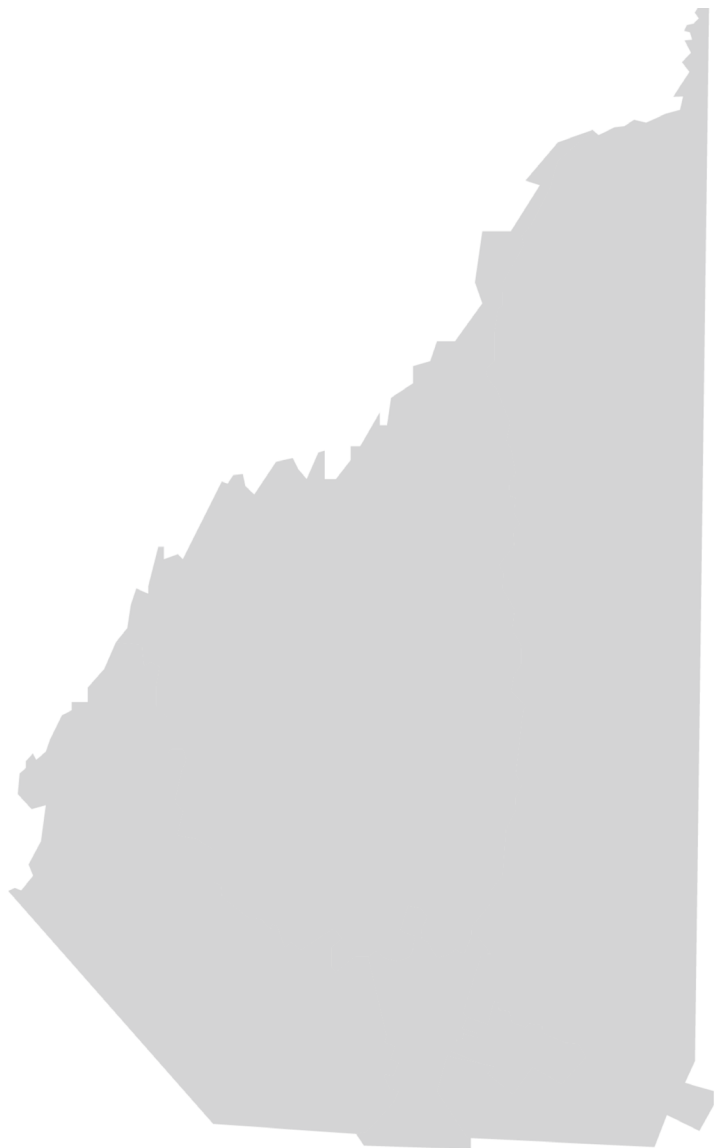
Graph 14: Median After-tax Income in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

10. The data in this section pertains to individuals who speak only English or only French as their first official language. Individuals who speak both official languages were not distributed among English and French speakers in the graph below. This is due to limitations on the data available.

Education



EDUCATION

Educational Attainment

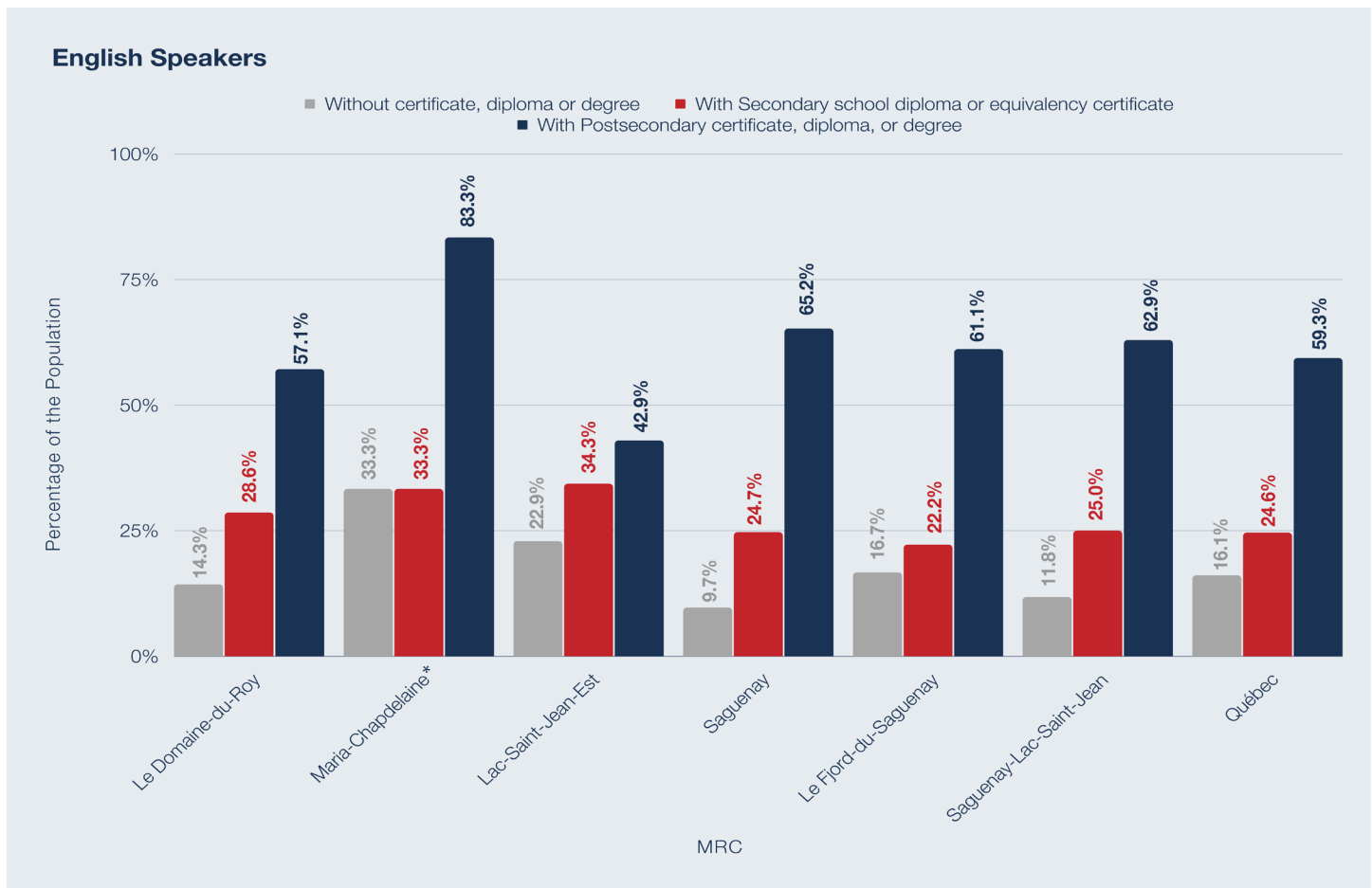
In most developed countries, employment, earnings, and labour productivity rise with educational attainment. Education provides the skills and training that are useful for labour market entry and advancement. In Québec, French is taught within the primary and secondary education systems, providing the opportunity for English-speaking Quebecers to learn French. However, like many skills taught within the standard education system, additional or supplementary training might be needed in order to prepare learners for the labour market. For English speakers with lower levels of French-language proficiency as well as those who did not receive French-language training in Québec, French-

language training for the workforce can bridge the language gap and reduce the obstacles they face in obtaining and retaining employment.

Educational attainment remains a key determinant in individuals' employability and employment prospects, although the relationship between education and employment differs for English speakers across Québec.

English speakers in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean have a higher rate of postsecondary educational attainment compared to French speakers (62.9% compared to 60.5%).

Graph 15a: Educational Attainment in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC

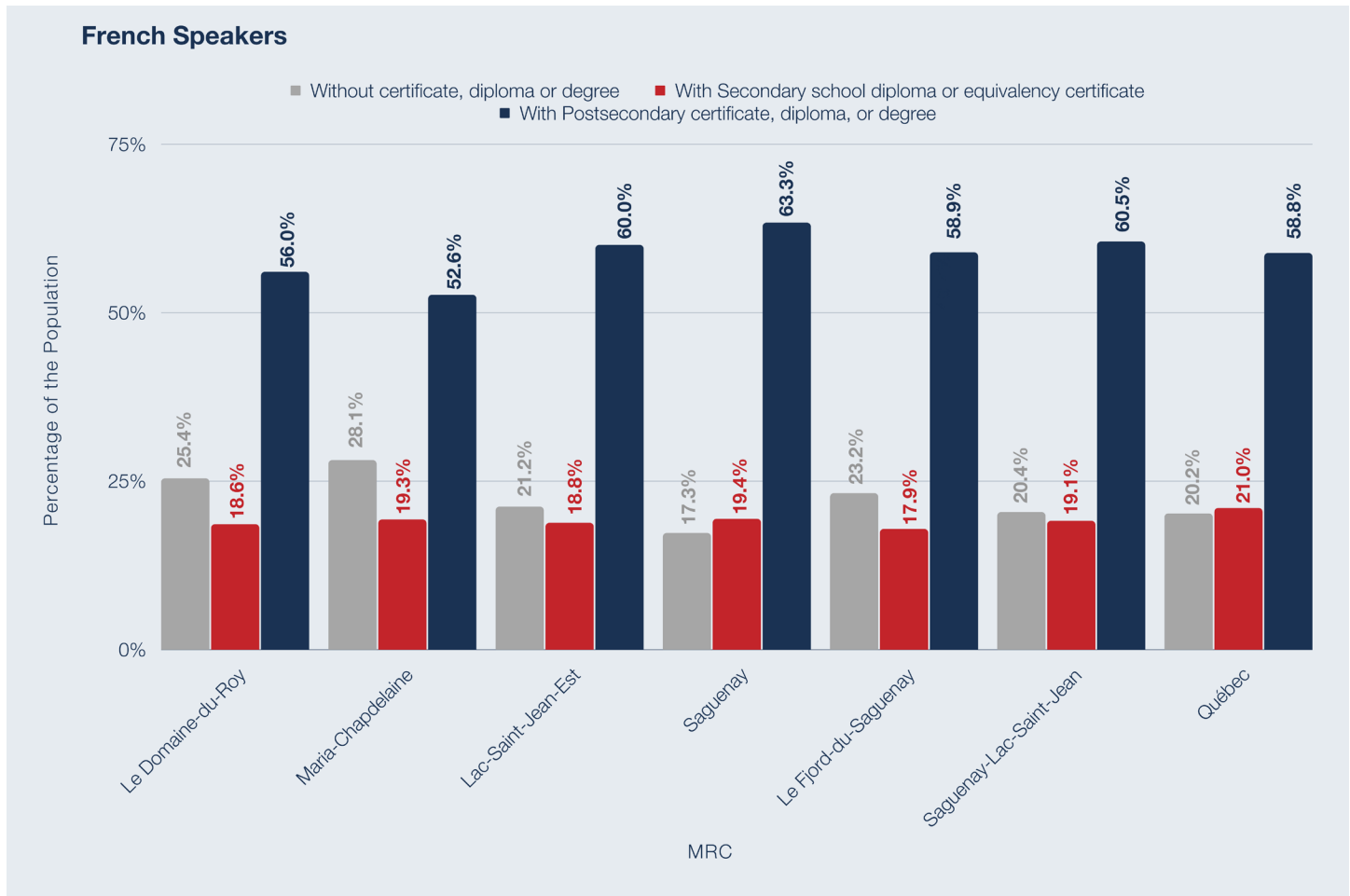


Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

*Owing to the small population sample size of English speakers in this MRC, figures may not be representative.

EDUCATION

Graph 15b: Educational Attainment in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean by MRC



Source: Provincial Employment Roundtable calculations based on data from Statistics Canada (2016).

REFERENCES

Adapted from Statistics Canada. (2016). Population in Private Households by Selected Demographic, Cultural, Educational, Labour Force and Income Characteristics (984), First Official Language Spoken (6), Age (8B) and Sex (3), for the Province of Quebec, the MRCs of the Province of Quebec and the administrative Regions of the Province of Quebec, 2016 Census - 25% Sample Data, [custom table].

Dupuis, F., D'Anjou, M., and Routhier, C. (202, April 6). Études régionales: Région administrative du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean. Desjardins. Retrieved from: <https://www.desjardins.com/ressources/pdf/21SLSJ-f.pdf?resVer=1617718261000>

Hamelin, F. (2020). Portrait économique des régions du Québec. Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation. Retrieved from: https://www.economie.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/contenu/documents_soutien/regions/portraits_regionaux/20200322-PERQ-2020.pdf

Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation du Québec. (2021, September 1). Région Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean: Structure économique. Retrieved from: <https://www.economie.gouv.qc.ca/pages-regionales/saguenay-lac-saint-jean/portrait-regional/structure-economique/>

Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation du Québec. (2021, August 31). Région Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean: Secteur des entreprises. Retrieved from: <https://www.economie.gouv.qc.ca/pages-regionales/saguenay-lac-saint-jean/portrait-regional/secteur-des-entreprises/>

Statistics Canada. (2021, November 02). First official language spoken of person. Government of Canada. Retrieved from <https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3Var.pl?Function=DEC&Id=34004>