



Child Poverty in BC: A Key Social Determinant of Health

Presentation by Adrienne Montani, Provincial Coordinator

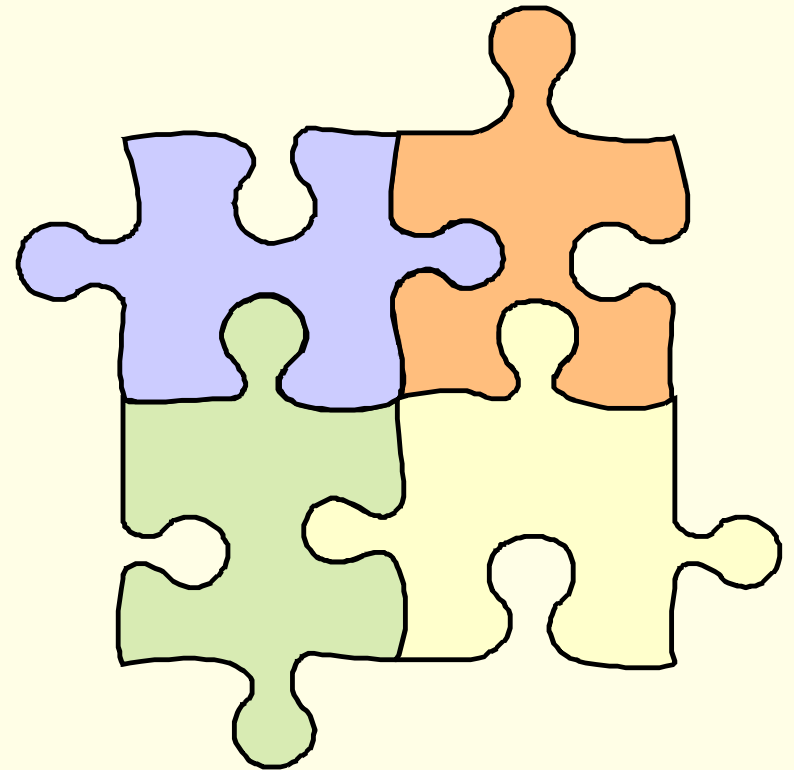
First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition

Northern Health Authority Webinar

January 19, 2012

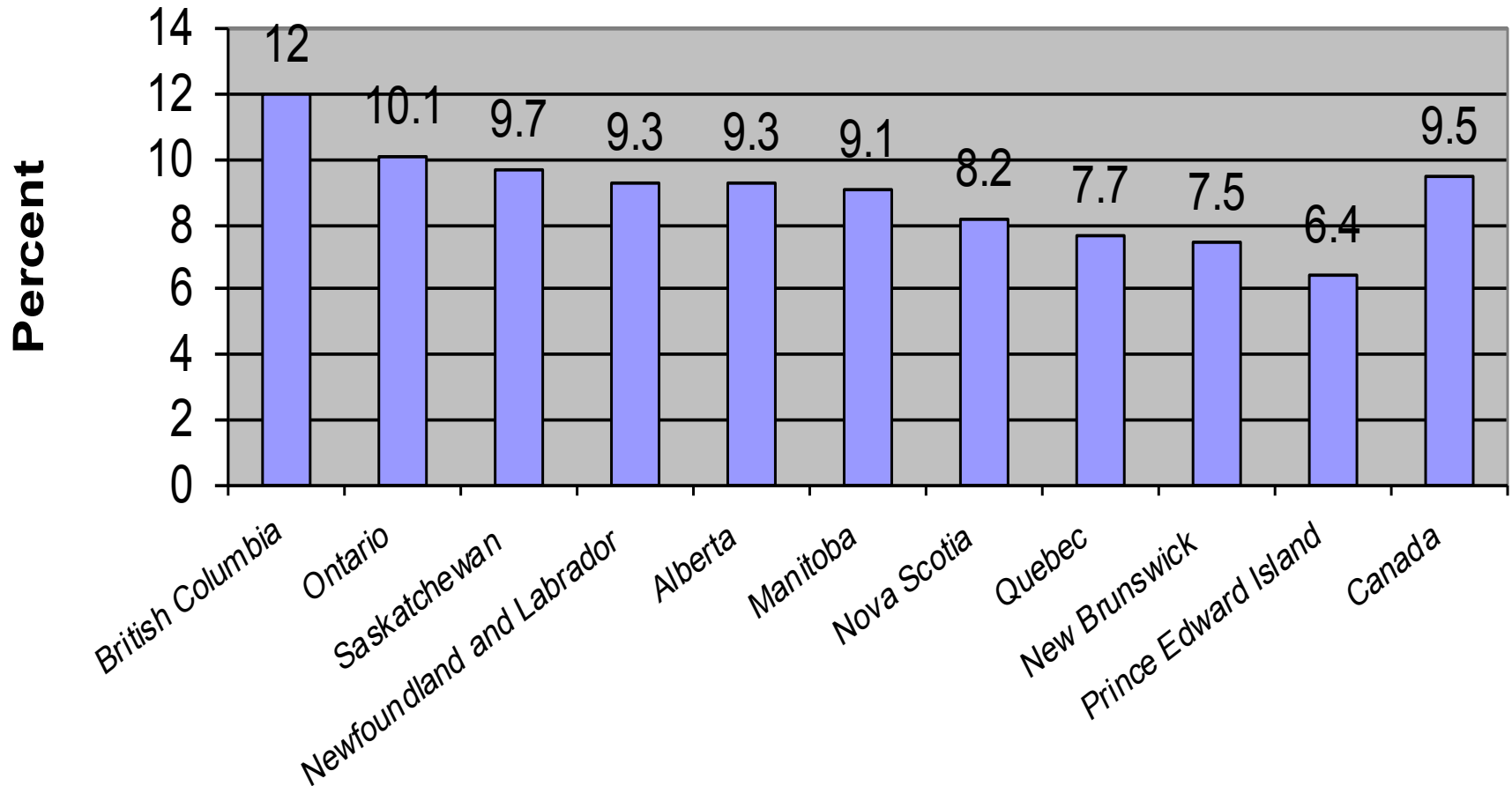
First Call's 4 Keys to Success for Children and Youth

1. Strong Commitment to Early Childhood Development
2. Support in Transitions from Childhood to Youth and Adulthood
3. Increased Economic Equality
4. Safe and Caring Communities

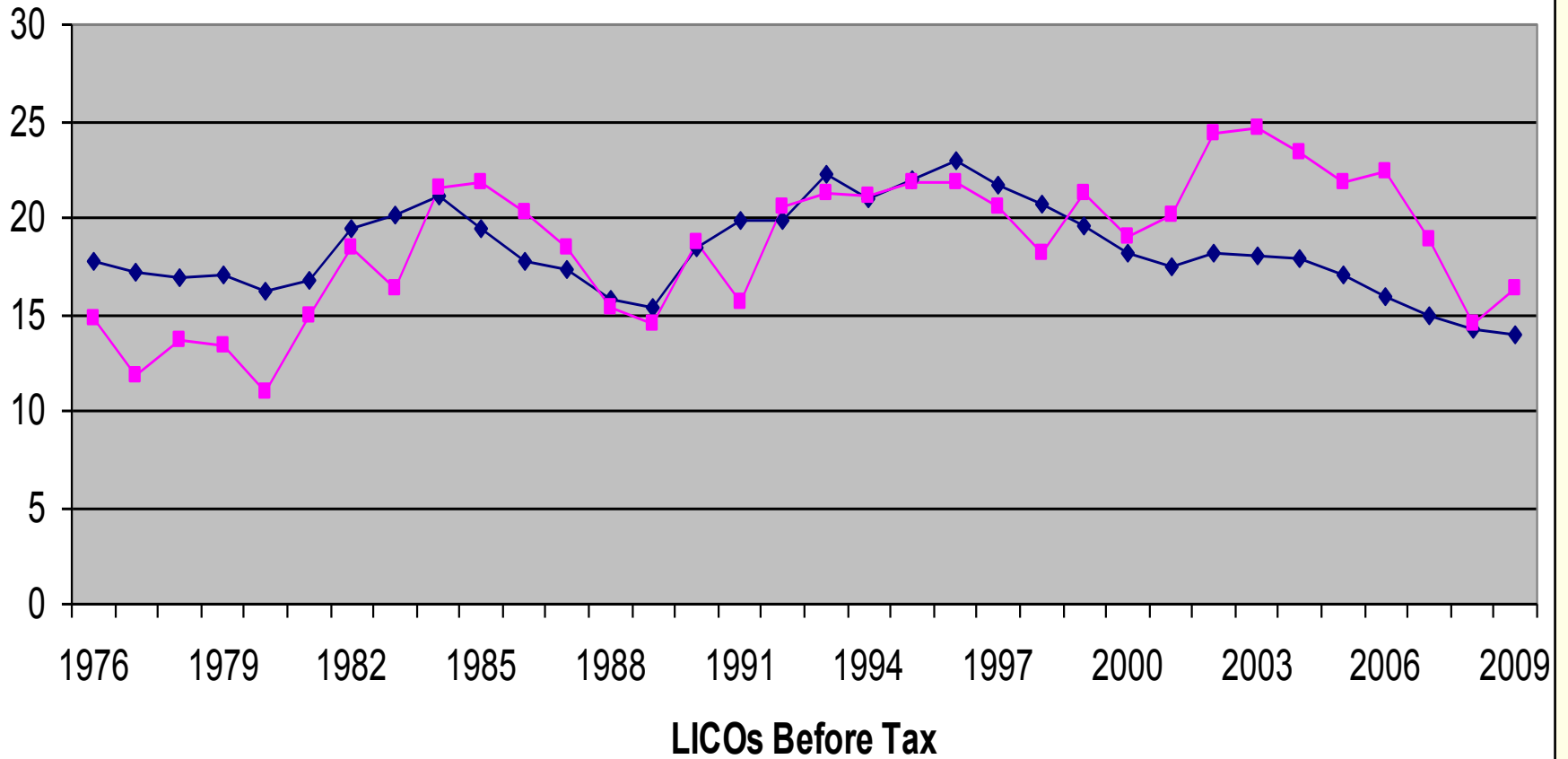


CHILD POVERTY BY PROVINCE

2009 LICO AFTER-TAX

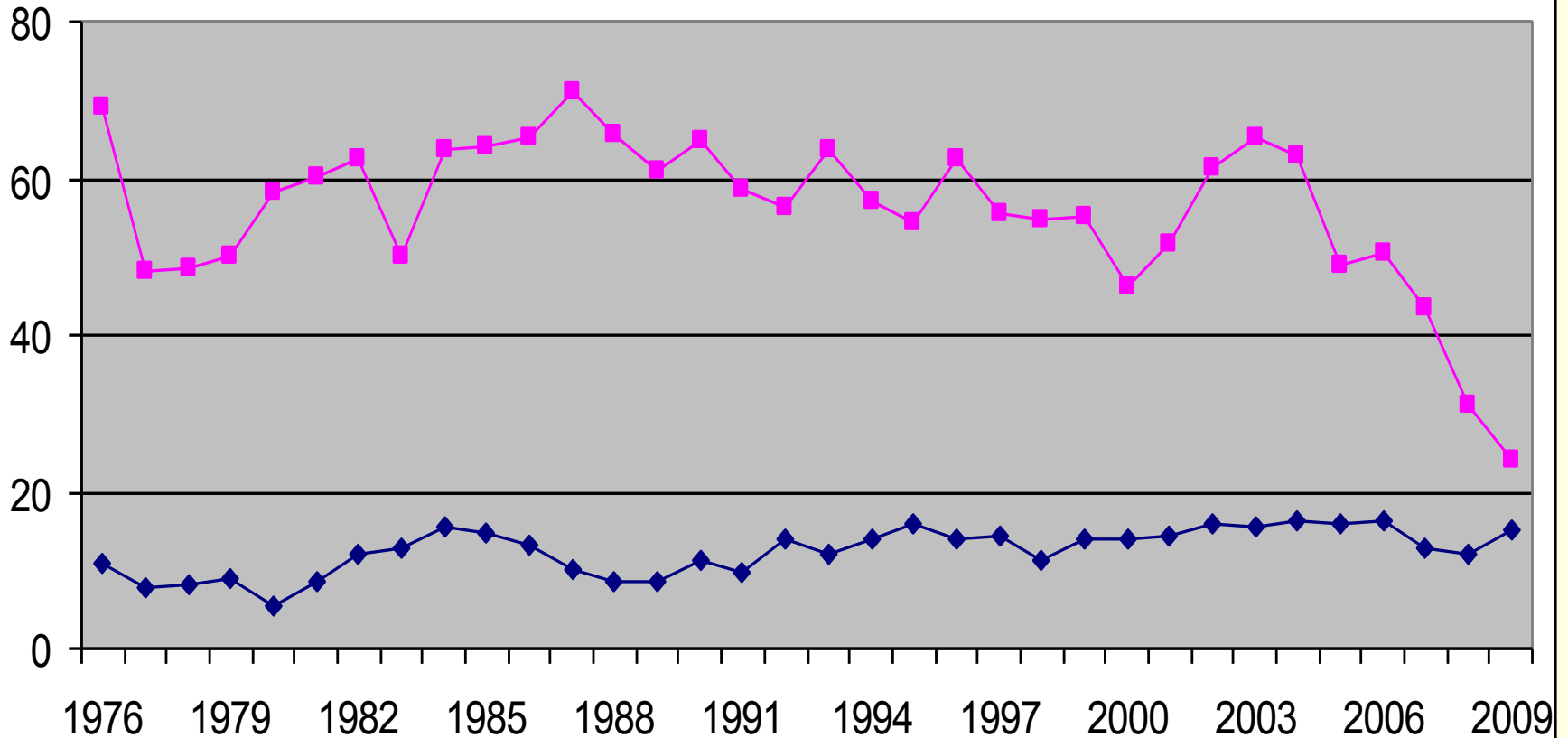


Child Poverty Rates for Canada and BC, 1976-2009



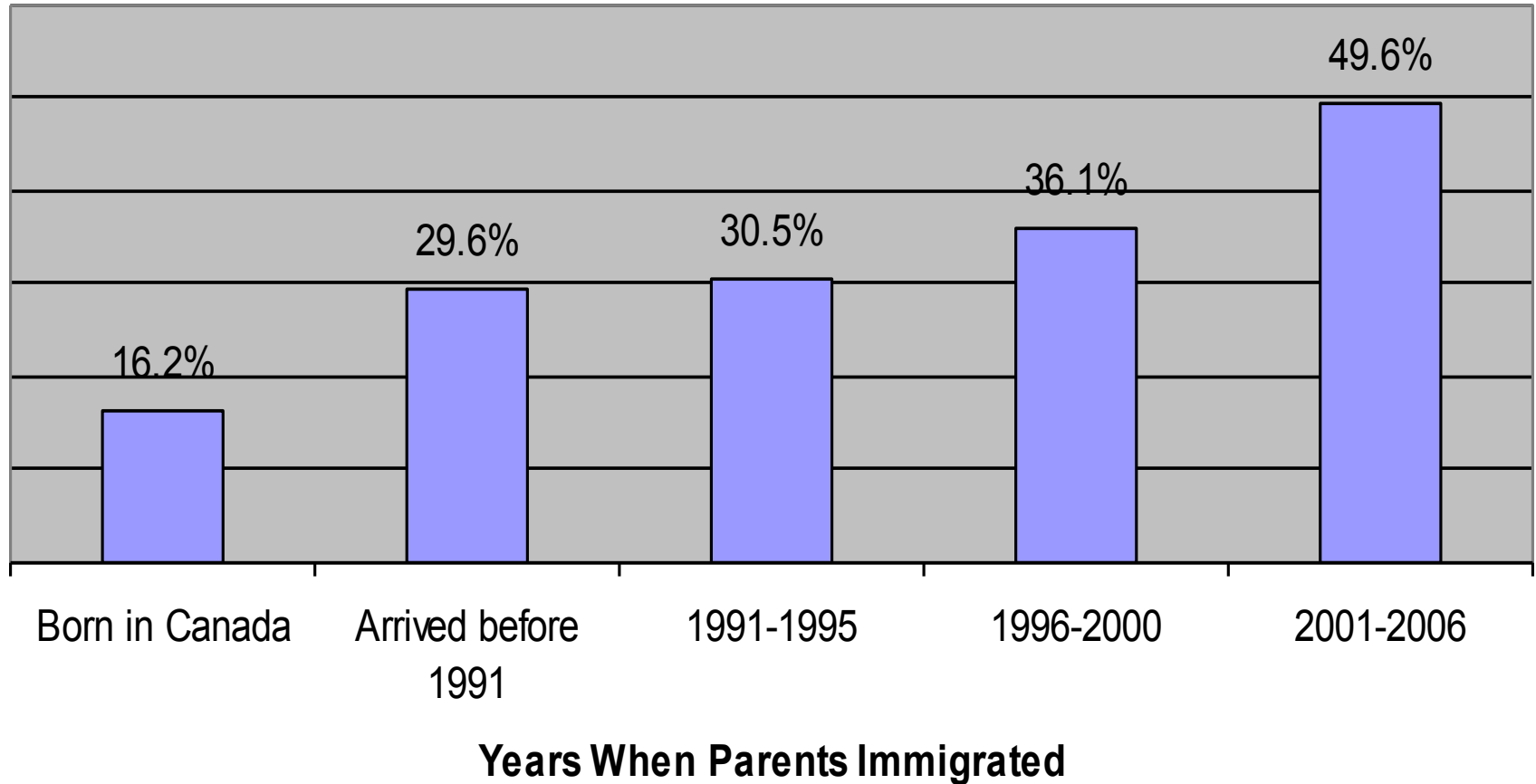
—◆— Canada —■— British Columbia

BC Child Poverty Rates by Family Type, 1976-2009

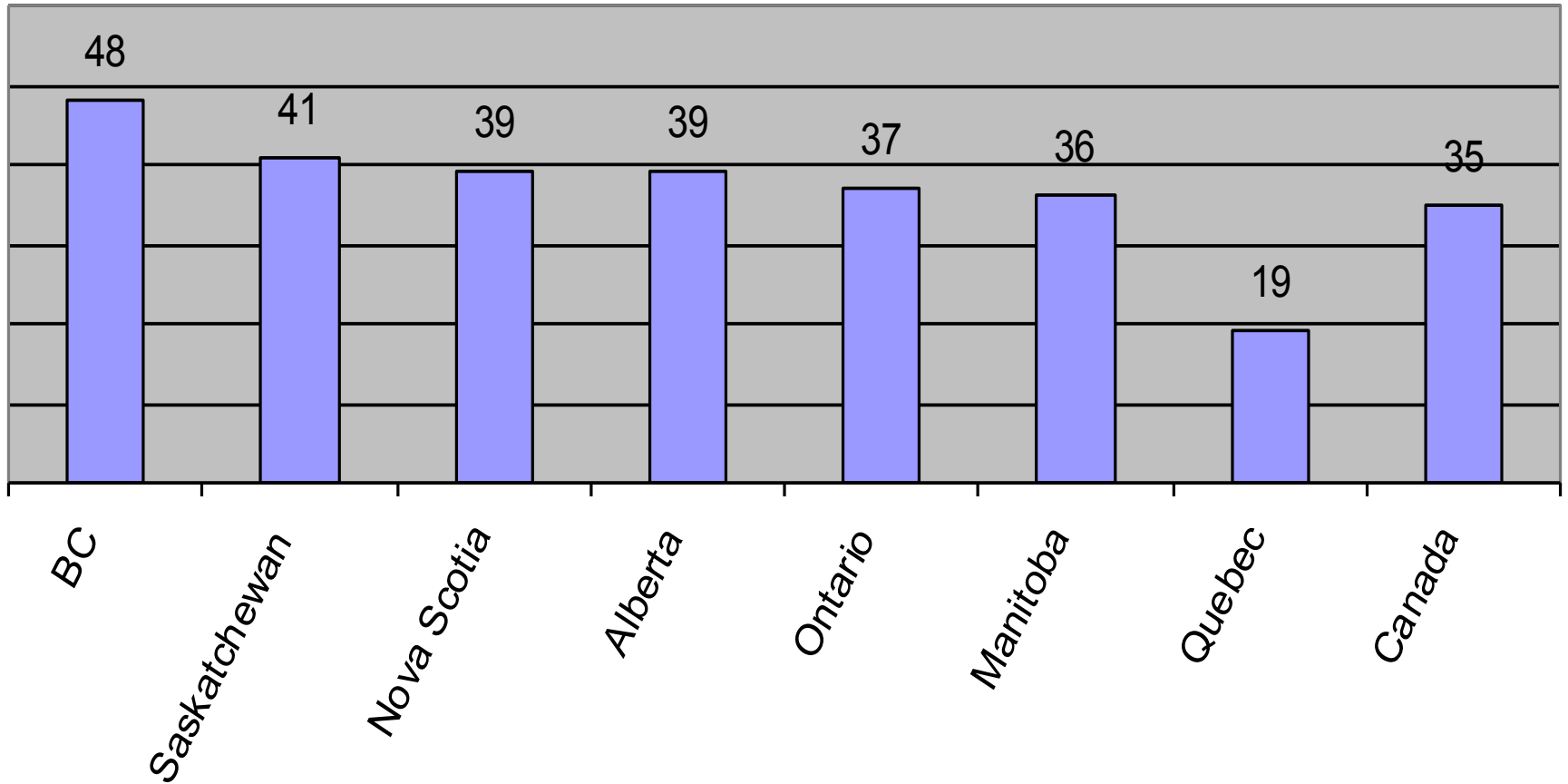


- ◆ Children under 18 years in two-parent families
- Children under 18 years in female lone-parent families

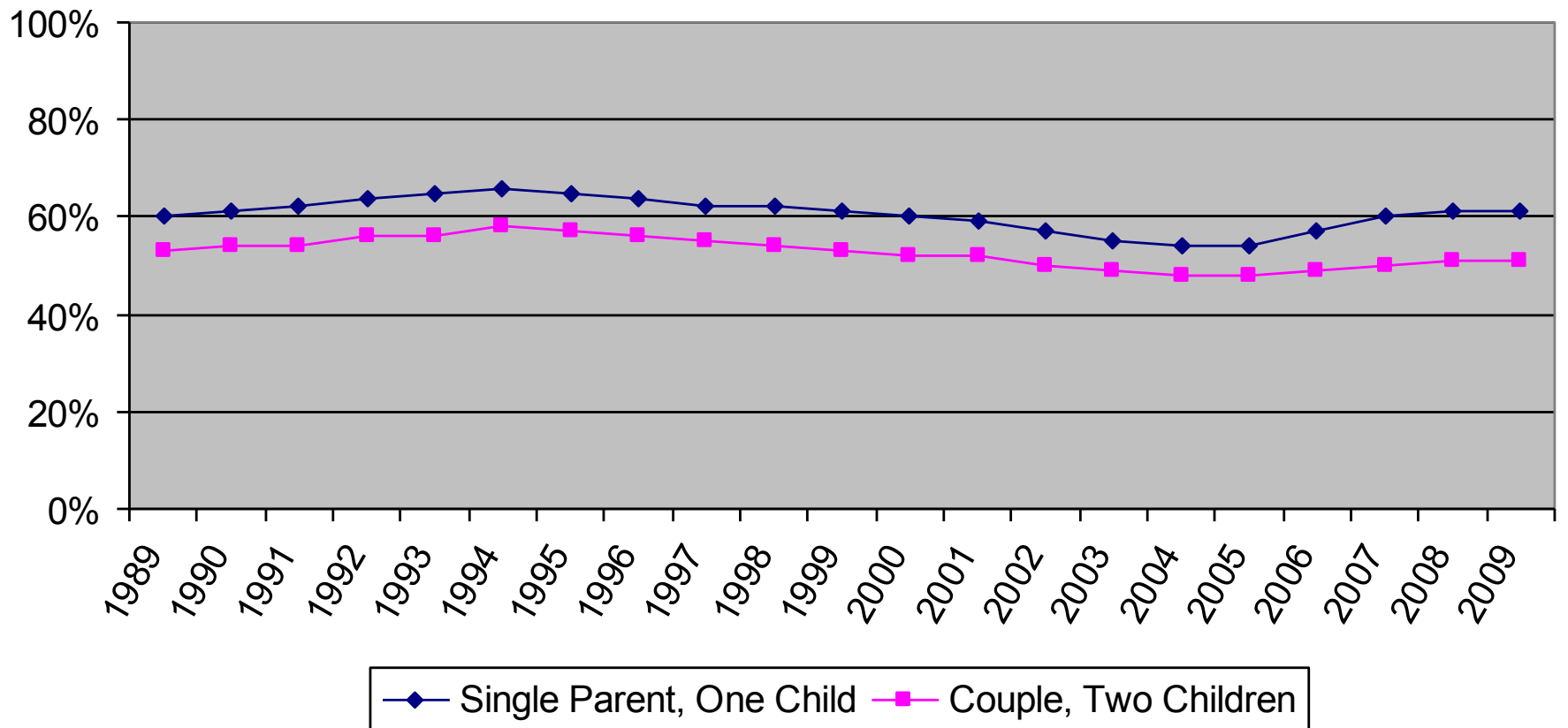
Poverty Rates by Period of Immigration, BC Children Under 18, 2005



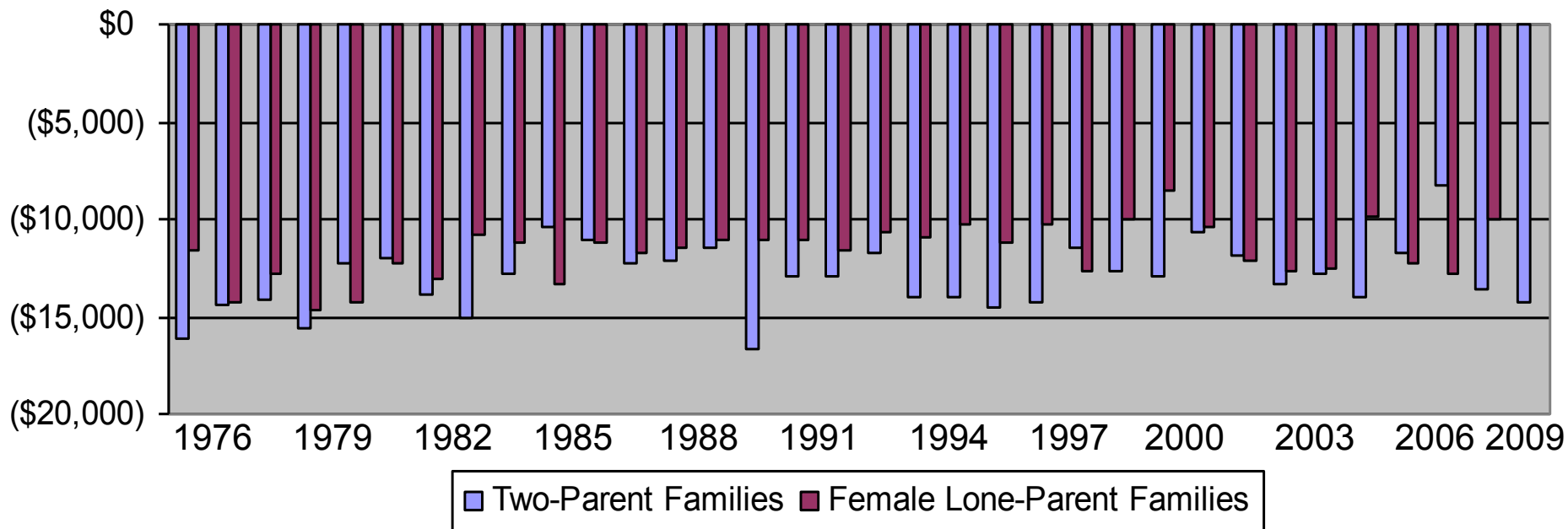
Percentage of Poor Children with One or More Parents Employed Full-Time, Full-Year by Province, 2009



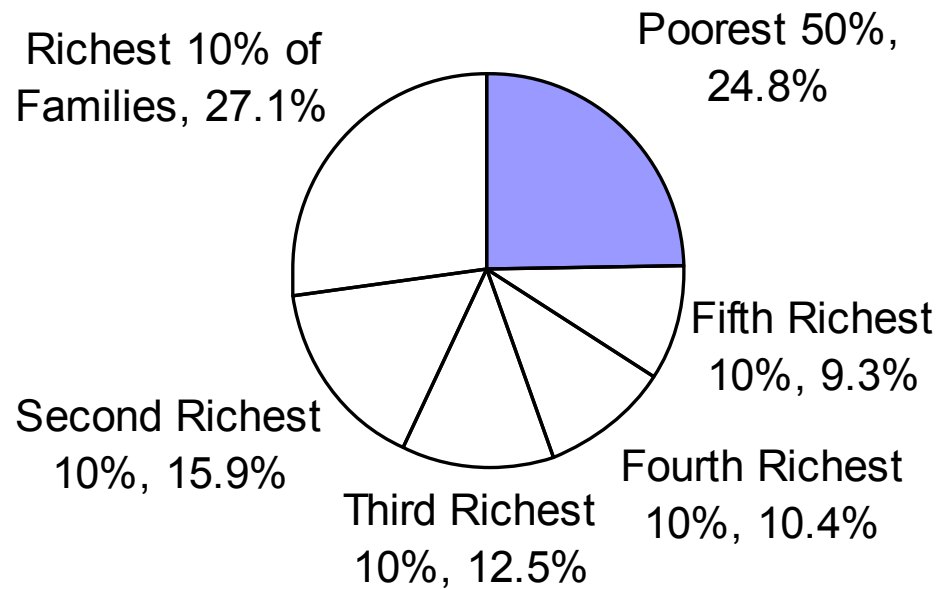
BC Welfare Incomes as a Percentage of the Poverty Line, 1989-2009



Depth of Poverty, BC Families, Low Income Cut-Offs Before Tax



Percentage of Total Income Among BC Parents with Children, 2009

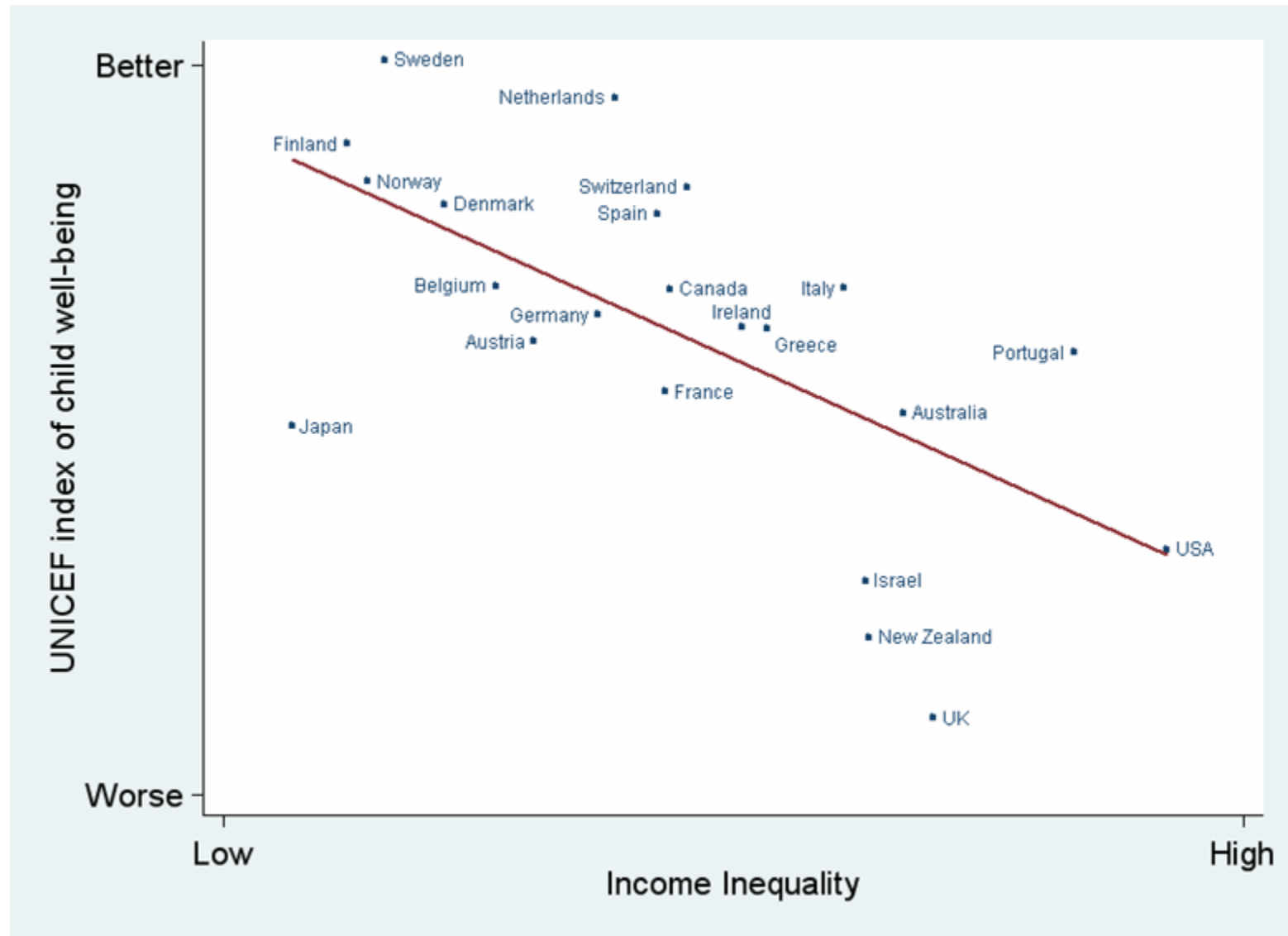


Growing Inequality for BC Families 1989-2009

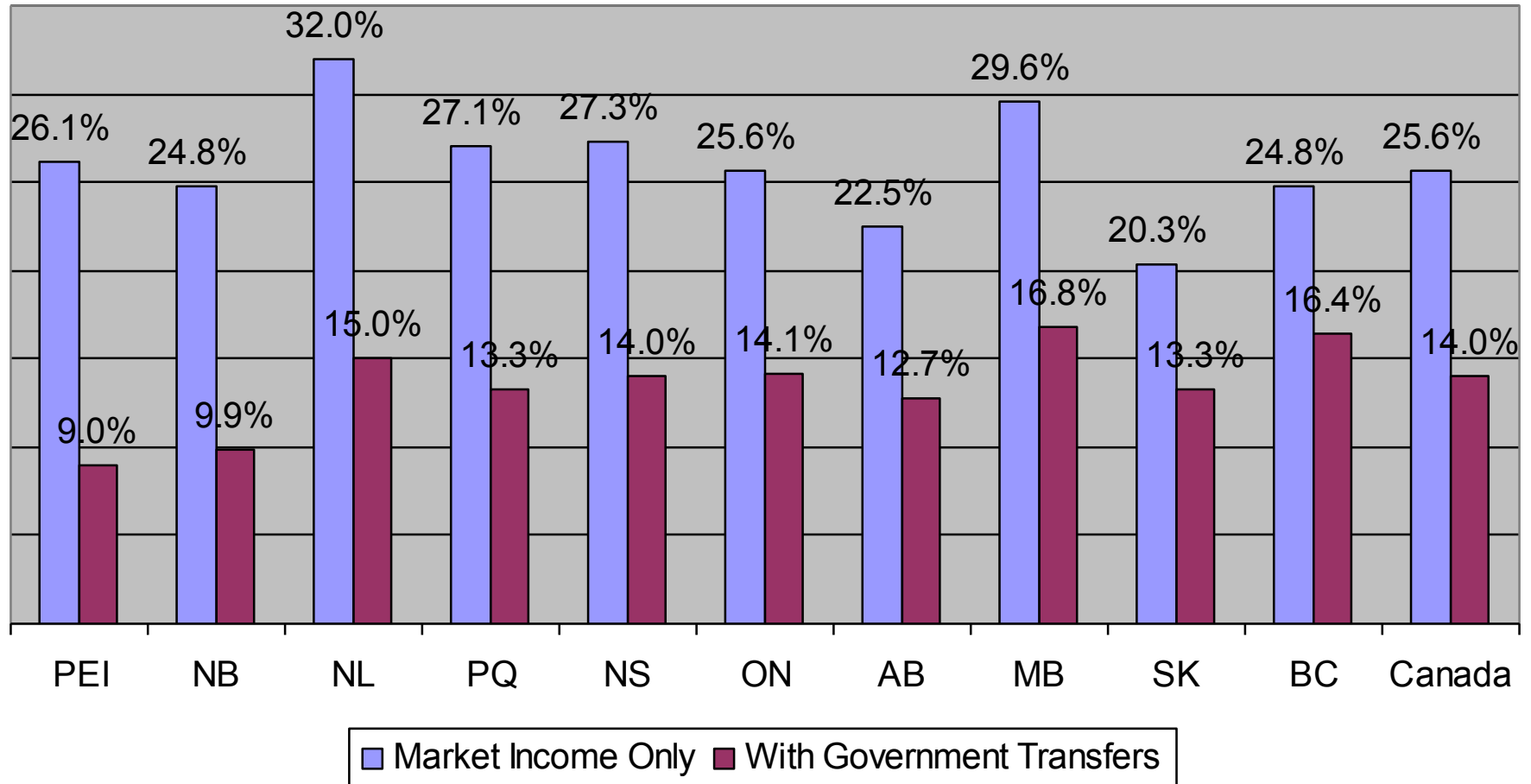
Changes to average family income over the last 20 years:

Richest 10%:	\$89,118
Fourth poorest 10%	<\$ 1,394>
Third poorest 10%:	<\$ 4,524>
Second poorest 10%:	<\$ 229>
Poorest 10%:	\$ 828

Child Well-being is Better in More Equal Rich Countries



Child Poverty Rates Before and After Government Transfers, 2009



Elements of a Poverty Reduction Plan we can all advocate for...

Public policy options include:

- Raise and index welfare rates, restore earnings exemptions, and easier eligibility
- A publicly-funded quality child care system
- Index the minimum wage
- Living wage commitment from employers
- Stop contracting out jobs to low wage employers
- Increase federal child tax benefits and extend eligibility for more families

Advocate for....

- Increase the stock of affordable housing
- Rescind cuts to Employment Insurance
- Expand eligibility for and duration of parental leave benefits
- Remove barriers to post-secondary access for lower income people
- Enforce and enhance employment standards
- Public coverage for dental care and prescription drugs

Information Sources on Income Inequality and Poverty

www.firstcallbc.org

www.campaign2000.ca

www.livingwageforfamilies.ca

www.policyalternatives.ca

www.bcpovertyreduction.ca

www.raisetherates.org

www.cwp-csp.ca