

# **Access to Post-Secondary Education in Canada: Provincial Differences**

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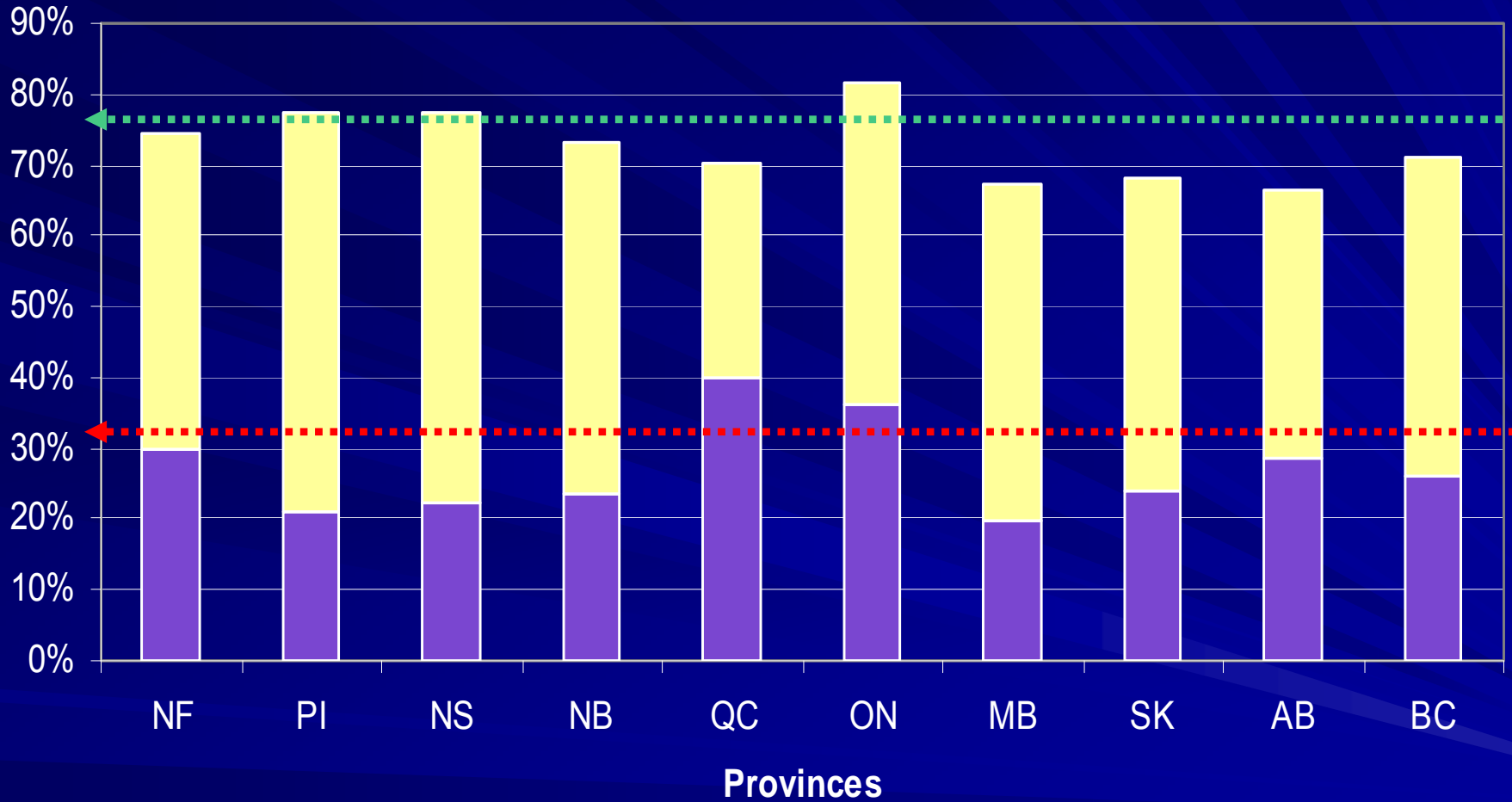
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# Access Rates

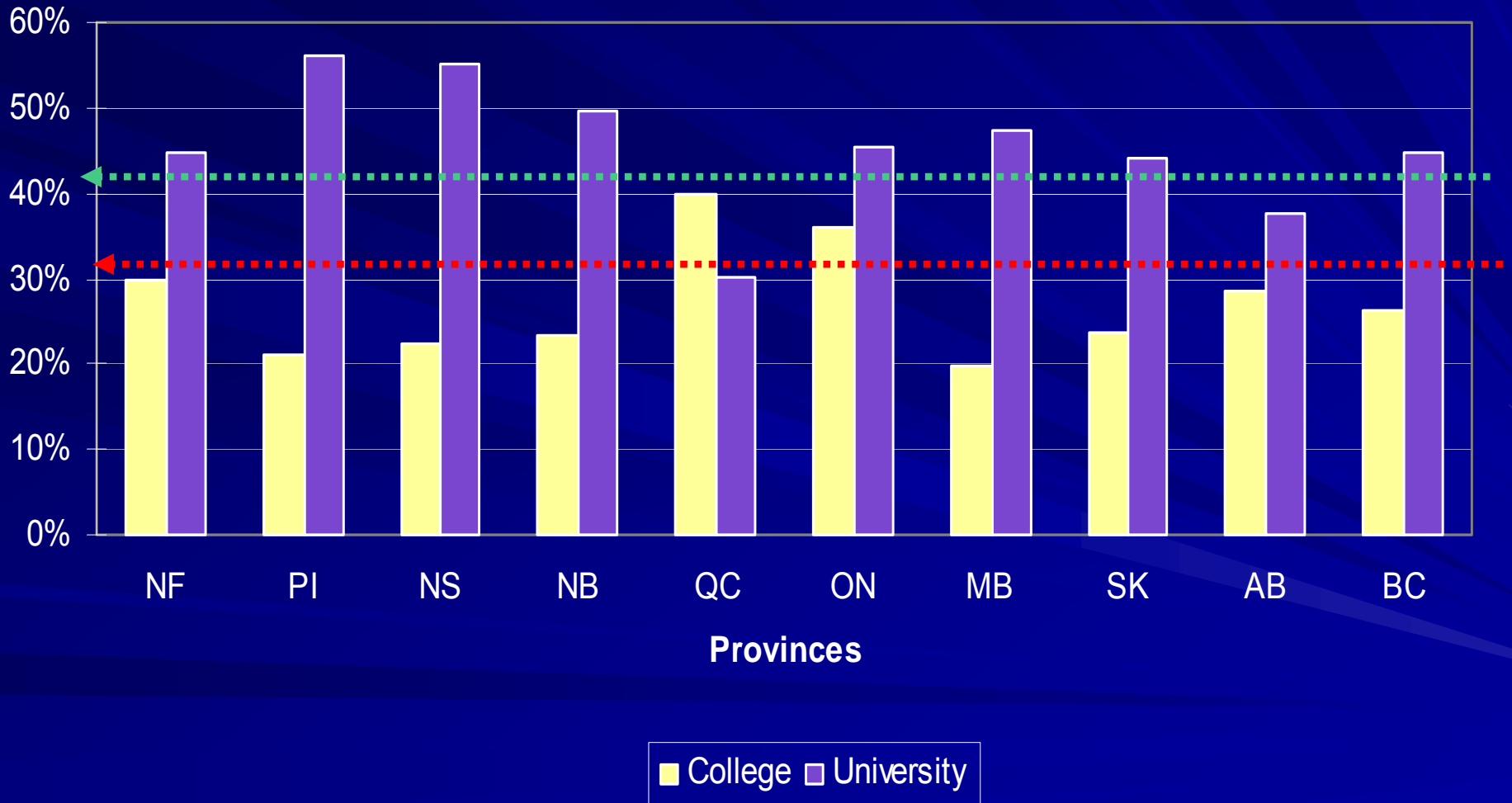
- Vary significantly across provinces
- Not (obviously) related to tuition rates
- Nor provincial incomes
- What are they?
- What drives them?

# College and university access rates by age 21 by province



■ College ■ University

# College and university access rates by age 21 by province -- alternative view



# Possible Factors

- Financial?
- “Cultural”?
- Preparation?
- Selection?
- Mix of demand and supply side factors...

# The YITS Data

- Longit. sample of youth, age 21 in '06
- Detailed family information
- Good PSE indicators
- Unique sets of other explanatory variables
- Including incomes, Grades, PISA scores

# The Model

$$Y = X_1b_1 + X_2b_2 + X_3b_3 + \varepsilon$$

- $X_1$ : Basic provincial variables
- $X_2$ : Family income, parental education, PISA scores, grades
- $X_3$ : Provincial interactions with key variables

# Control Variables

- Gender

- Family Type

- High School Location

  - Province

  - Urban-rural

- High School language



# Empirical Findings

# Effects of parental income on university, parental education included (no interactions)

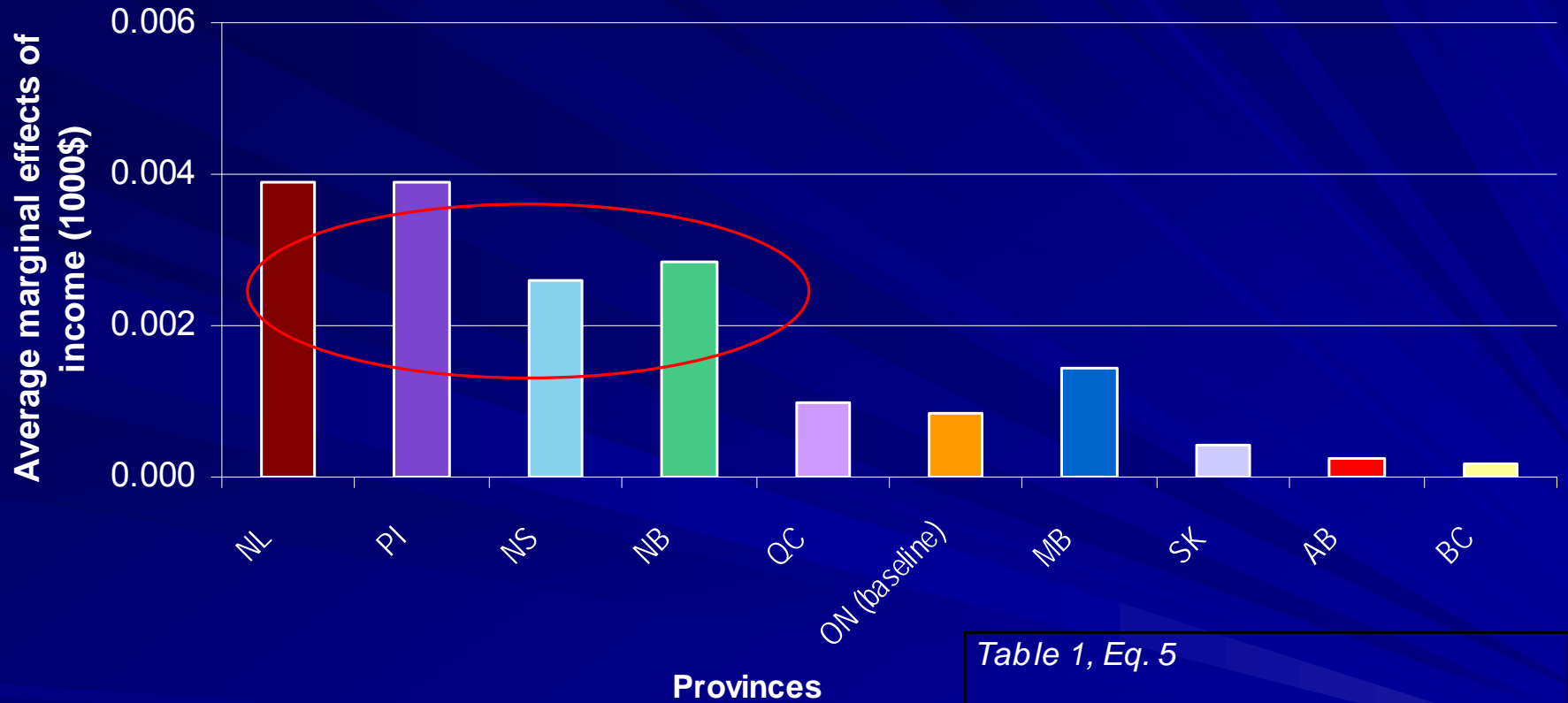


Table 1, Eq. 5

# Effects of parental income on university, adding other controls

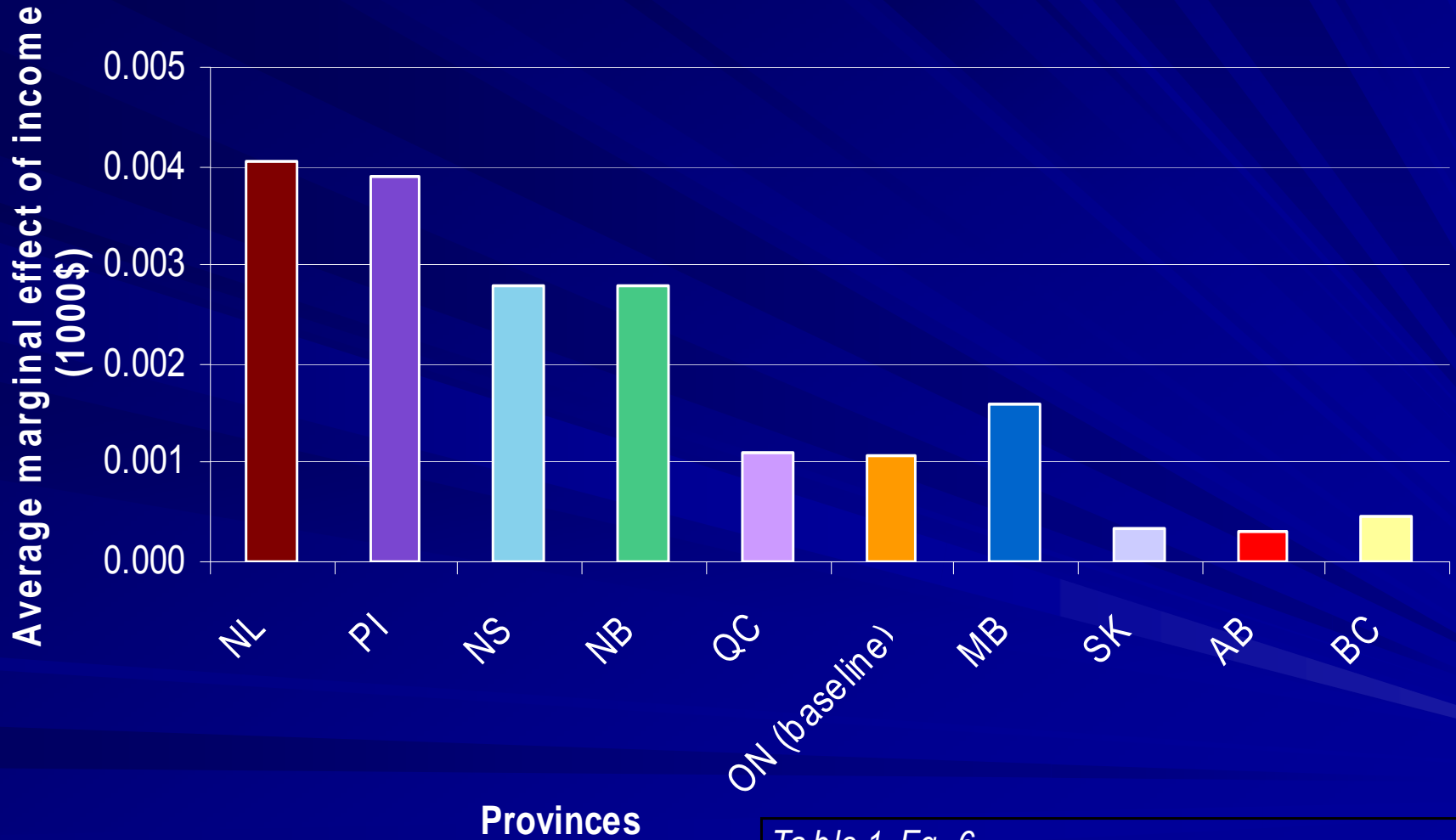


Table 1, Eq. 6

# Effects of HS overall grade (each 10 points) by province

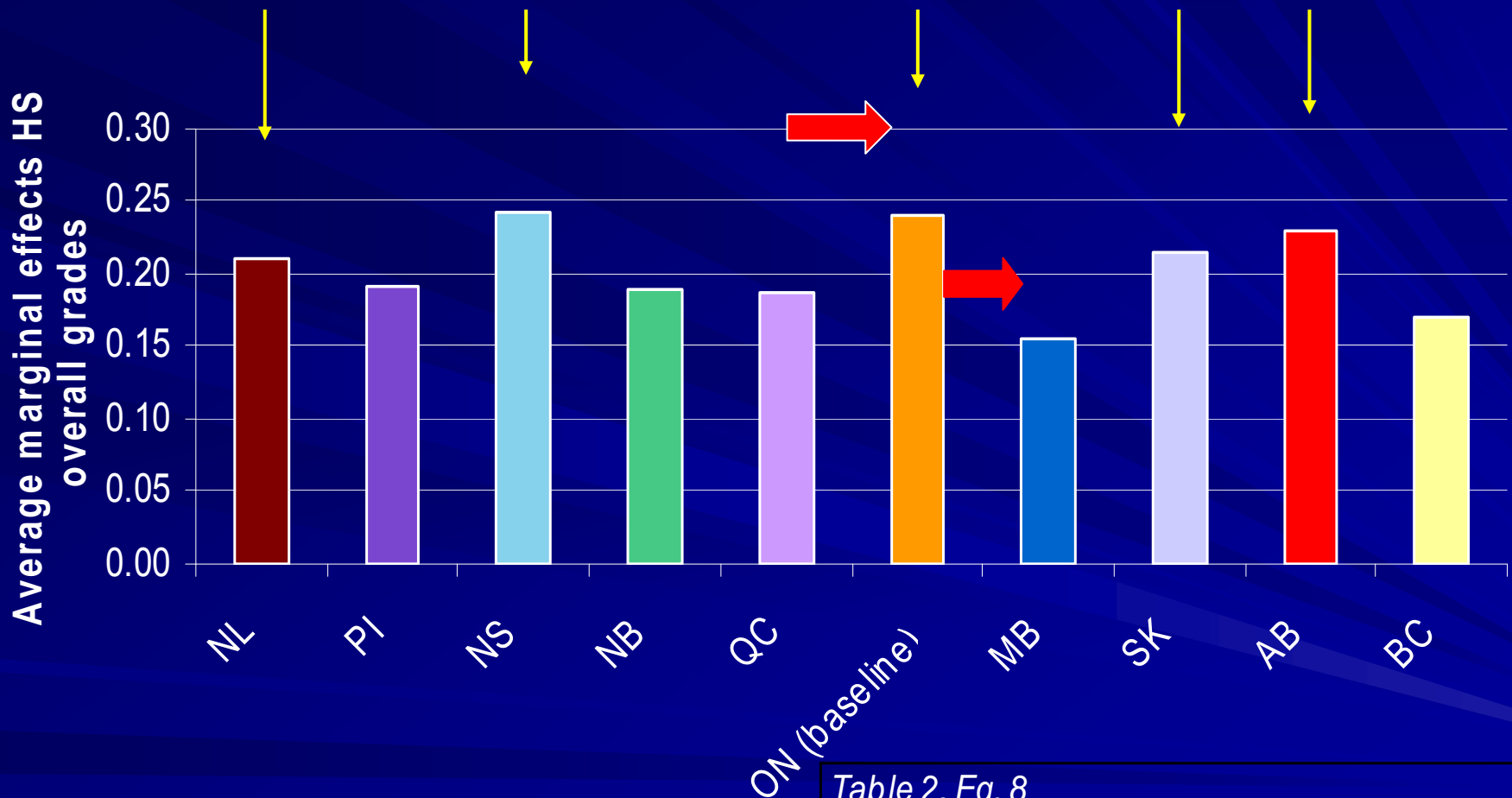
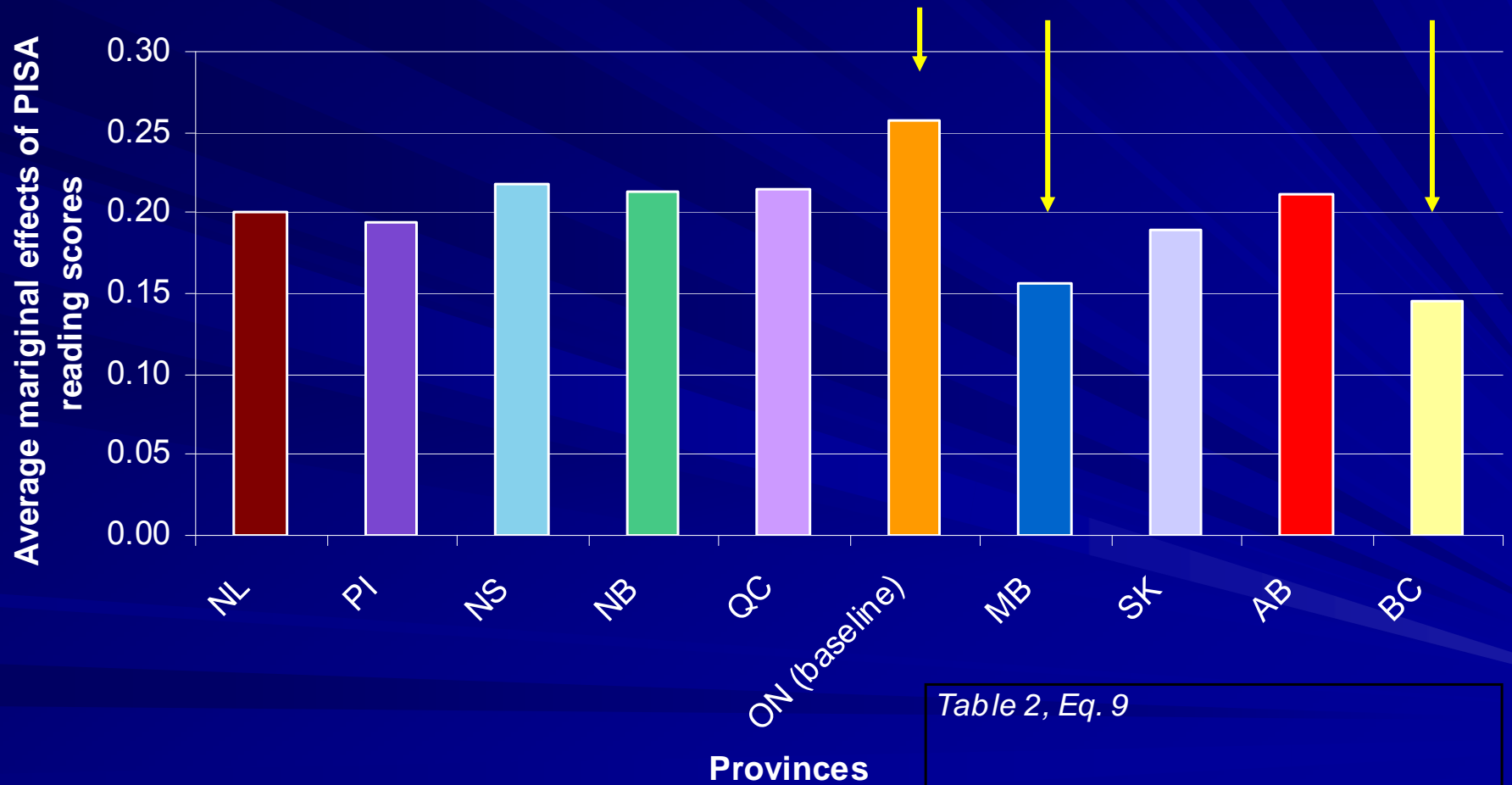


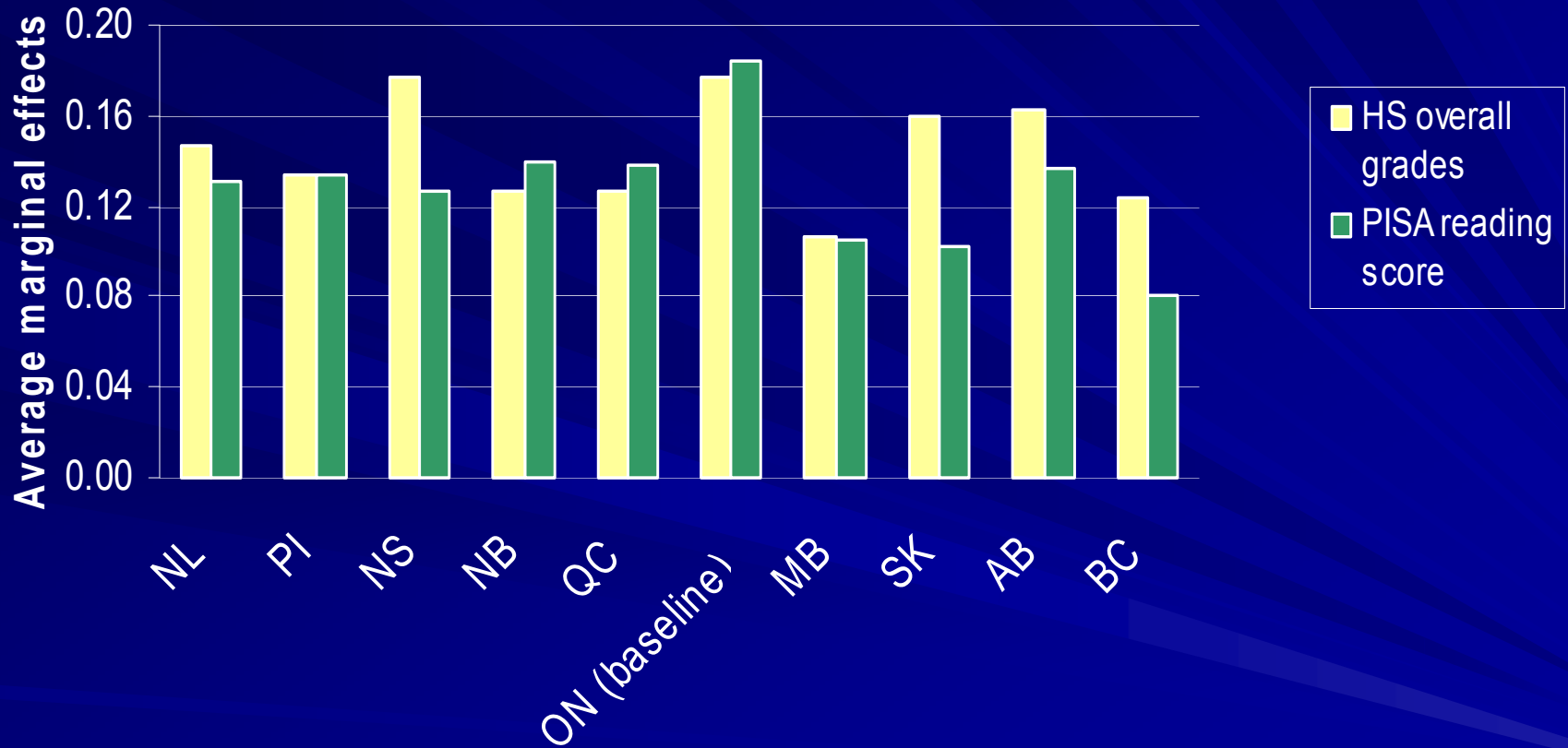
Table 2, Eq. 8

Provinces

## Effects of PISA reading scores (each 100 points)



## Effects of HS overall grades vs PISA reading scores by province



Provinces

Table 2, Eq.10

# Effects of income, full model

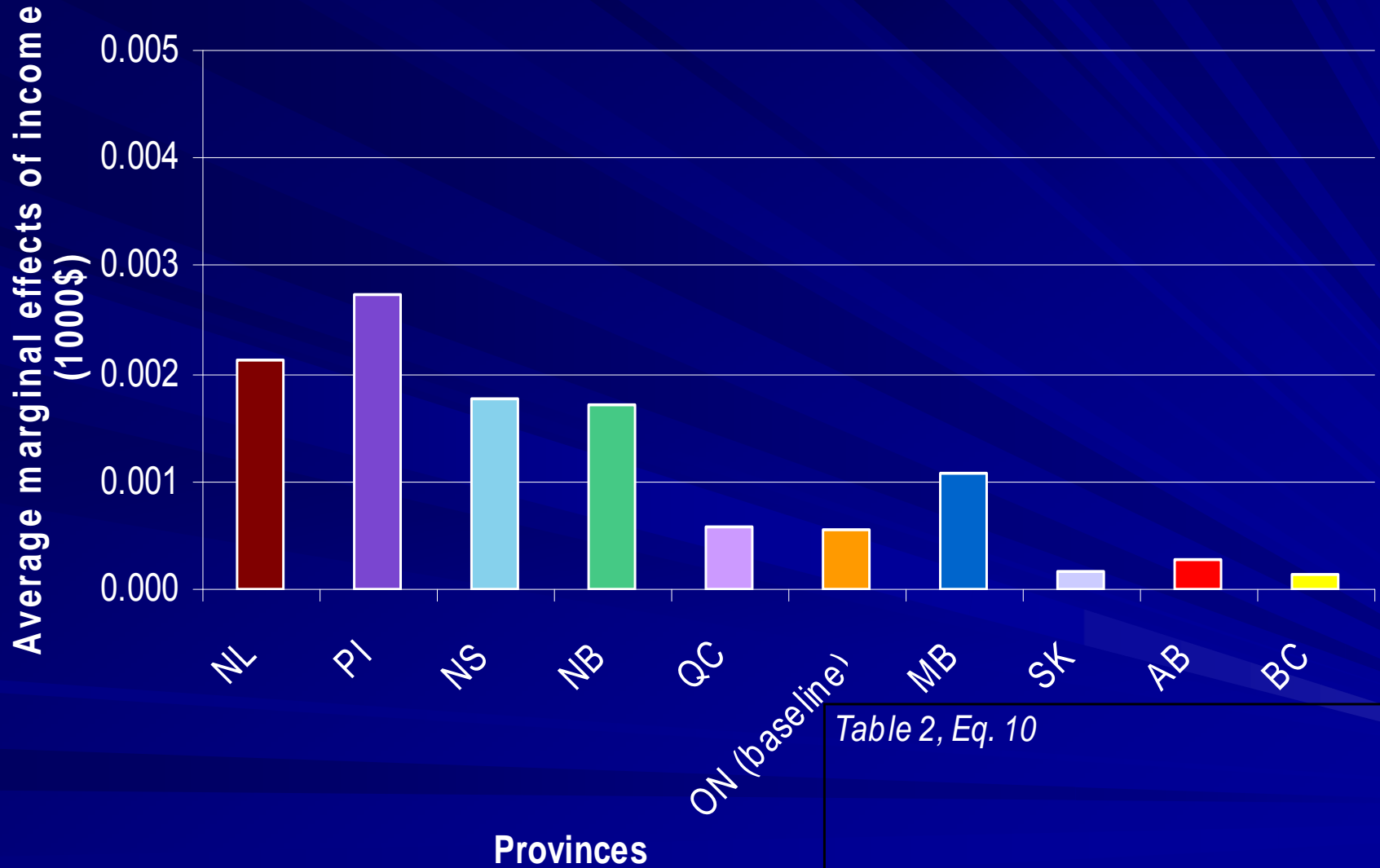
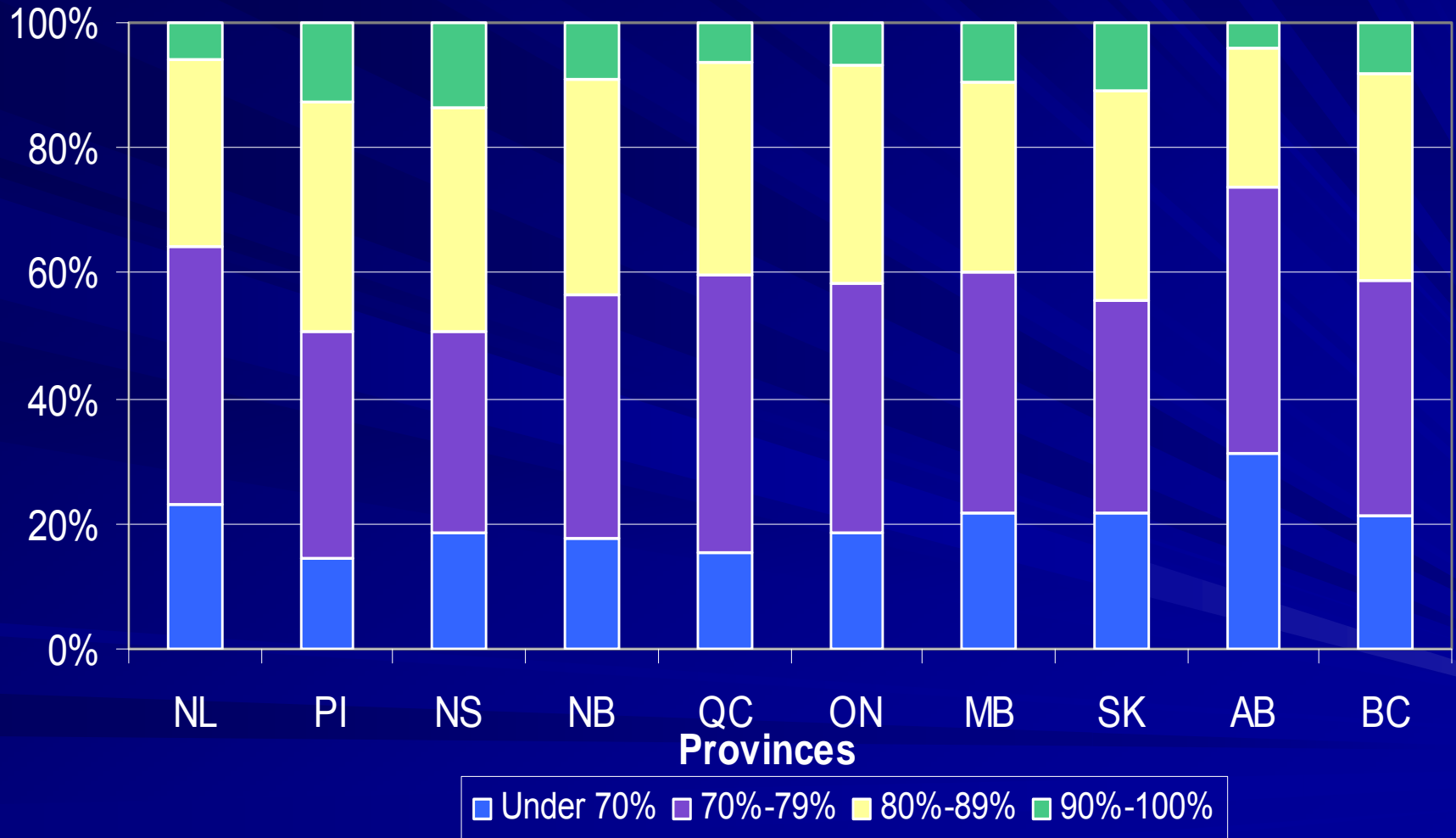


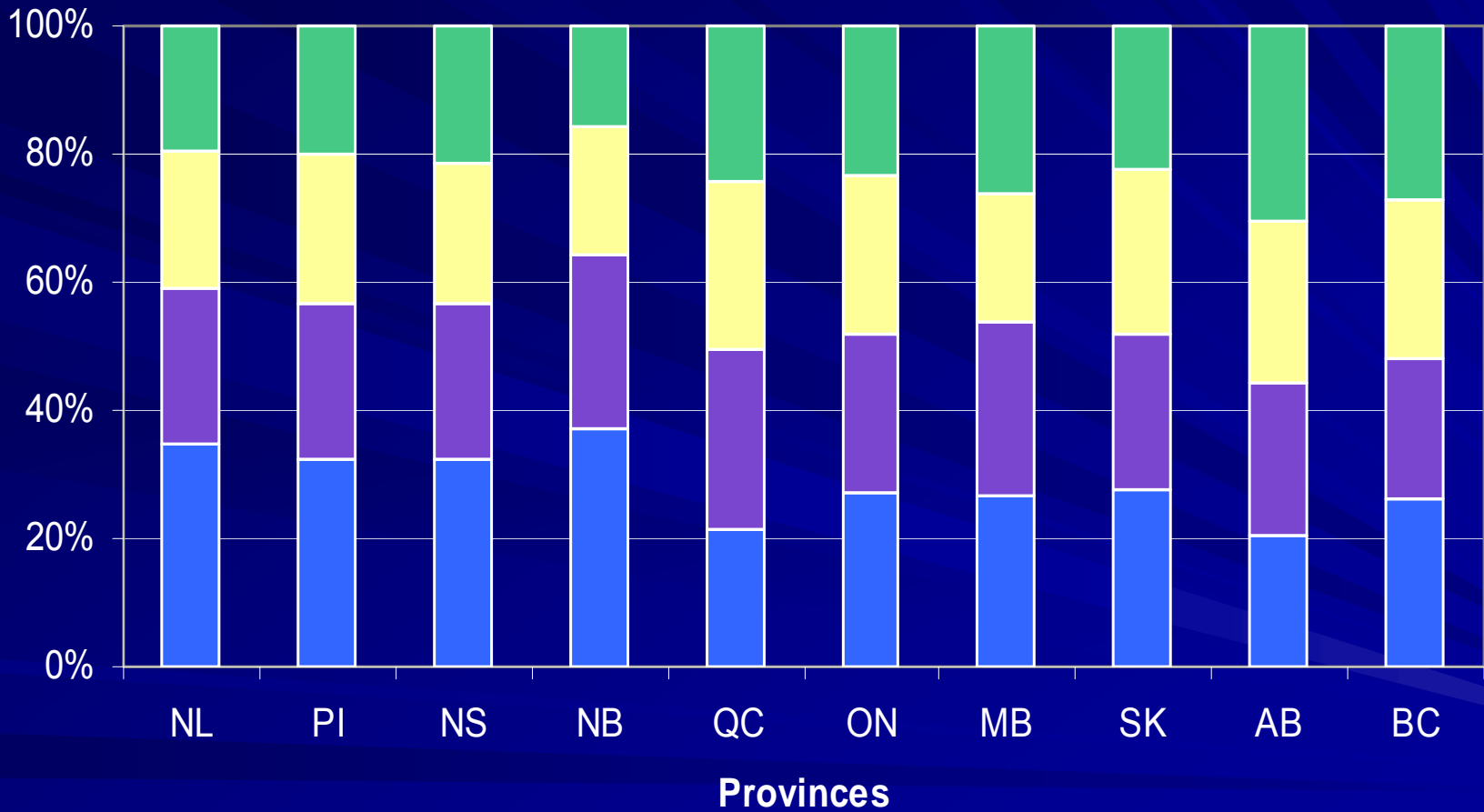
Table 2, Eq. 10

## Distribution of the HS overall grade across the Canadian provinces



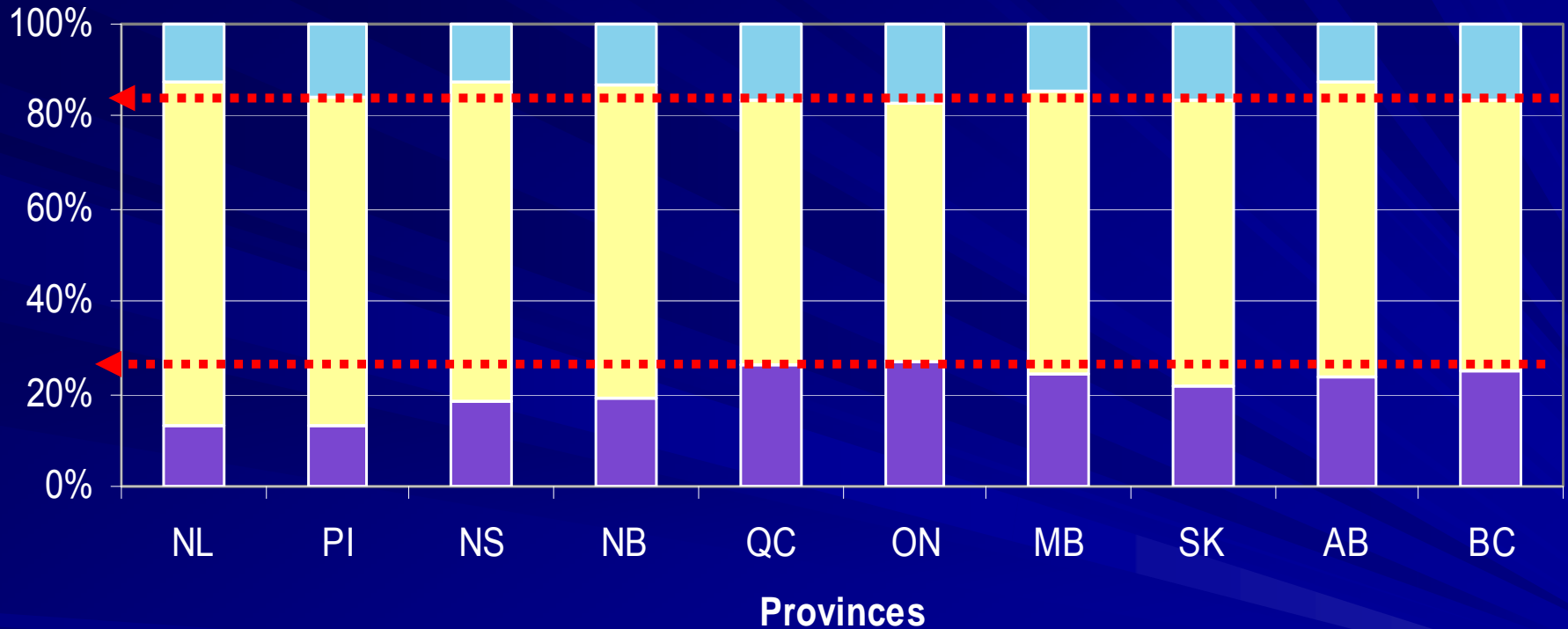


# Distribution of the PISA score accross the Canadian provinces



Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4

# Reasons given by youth for not going to PSE by the age of 21, by province



Financial situation   Nothing prevented PSE   Admissibility, Lack of interest and Other

# Summary of Main Findings

- Big differences in access: levels, gradients
- Income, grades, PISA scores matter
- Results hold using decomposition analysis
- Different systems in different provinces

# Policy Implications

- Why?!
- Why?! Supply, demand, selection...
- Differences in these
- Pursue further...