

Experiences with two-tier home care: a focus on inequalities in home care use by income in Ontario

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Outline

- **Setting the context:** In what way is home care two-tiered?
- **Describing the study:** Are home care services distributed equitably?
- **Results:** Home care use varies by income, but it is difficult to assess equity
- **Implications**

Publicly funded system operates alongside an active private sector

Publicly funded:

- Eligibility for home care is based on need
- Cost containment through service maxima

Privately funded:

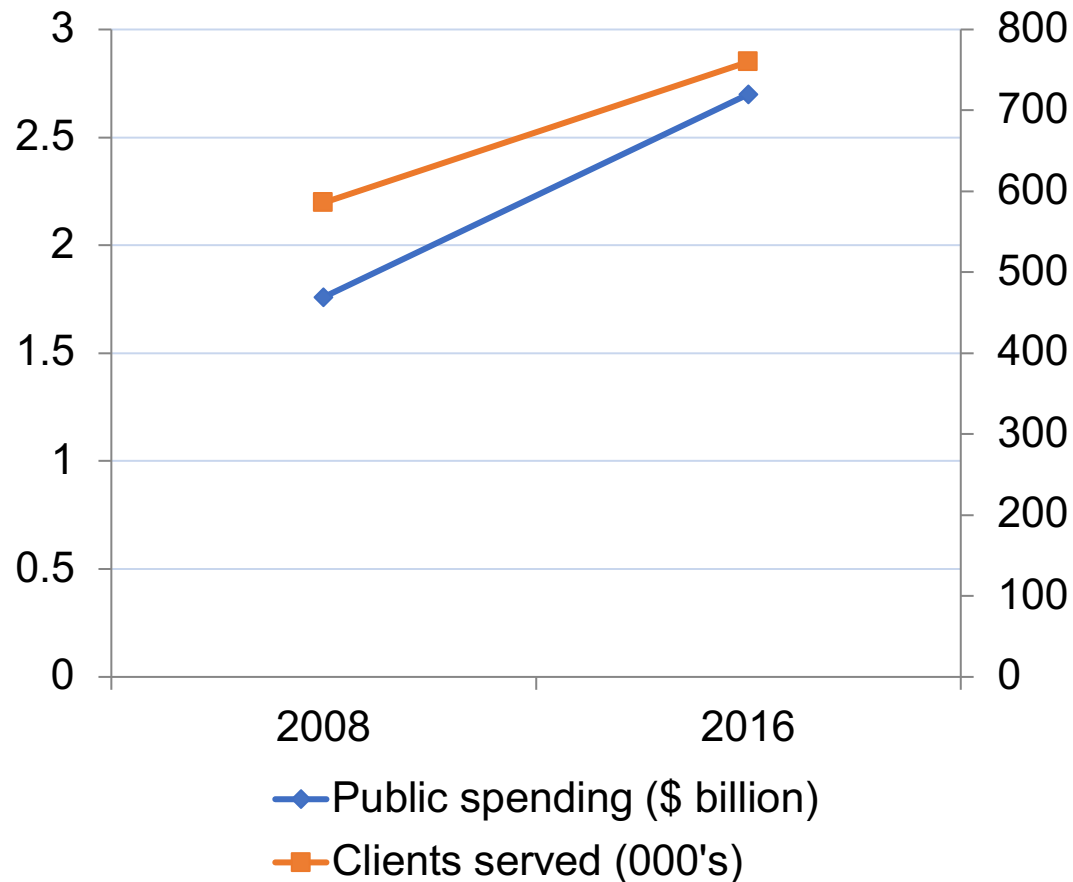
- Substitutive: opt out
- Supplementary: top up

Private home care fills big service gap



Globe and Mail 2011

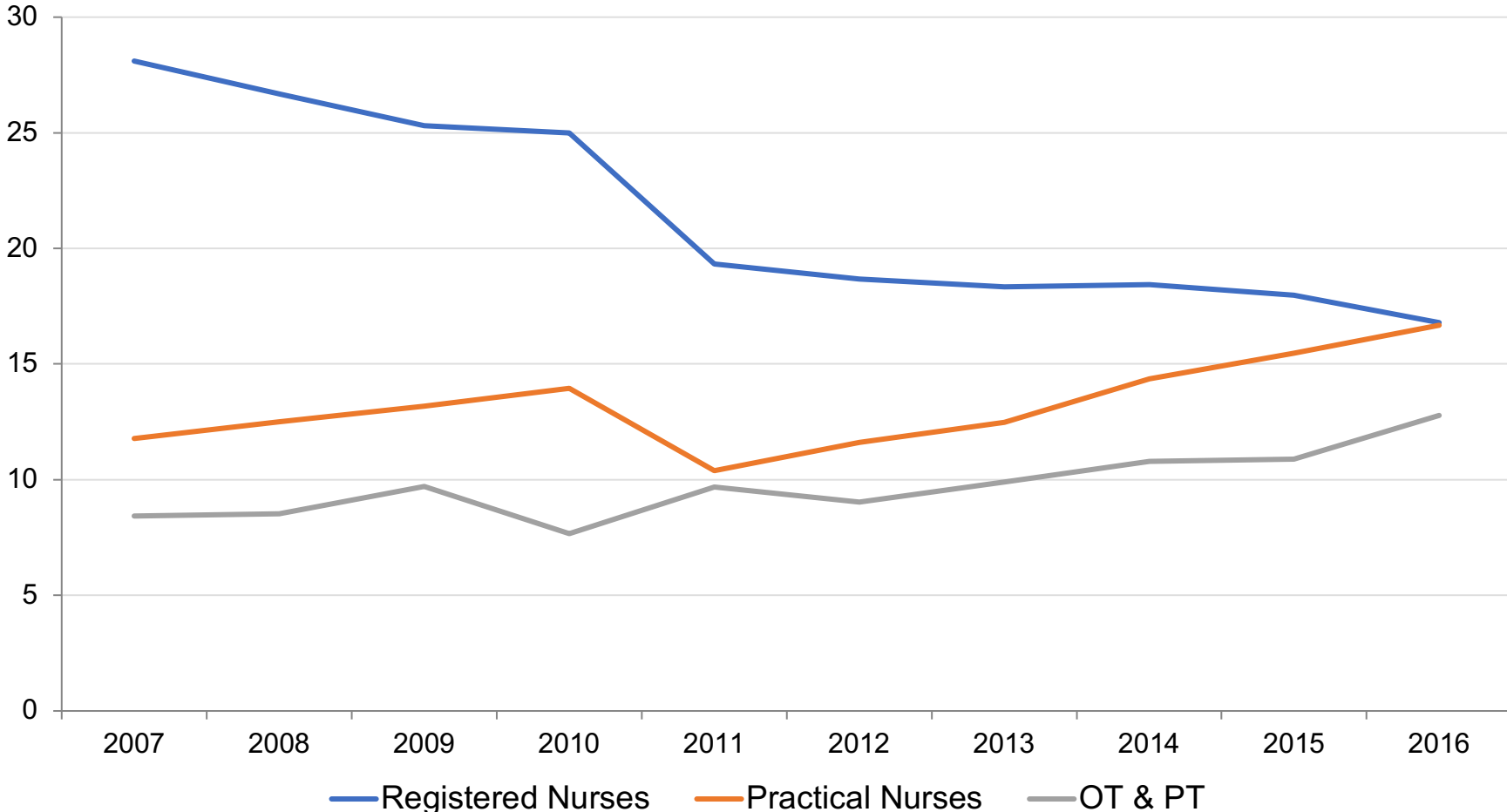
Home care constitutes about 4% of total health spending in Ontario



- Includes short (post-acute) and long-term care
- Includes **health** (e.g., nursing, rehab), **personal** (e.g., help in activities of daily living), and **support services** (e.g., meals on wheels, house cleaning)

Source: Office of the Auditor General of Ontario

The home care workforce in Ontario is changing over time



Head counts per 100,000 population, CIHI data

Describing the study: Data

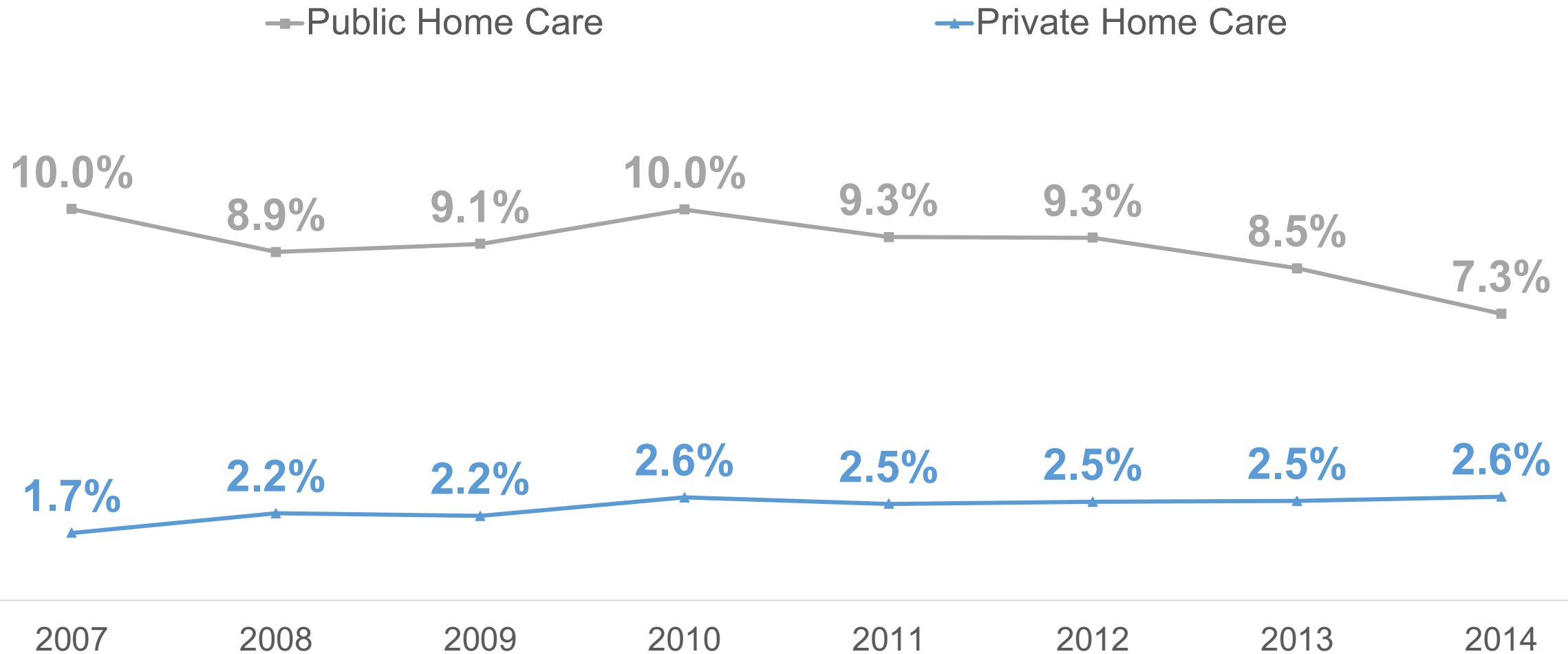
- Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)
2007-2015 for Ontario
- Over 40,000 older adults (age 65 and over)

Describing the study: Methods

- Predict the probability of choosing one of the following 4 options using multinomial logit:
 - No home care
 - Public home care
 - Private home care
 - Both public and private
- Models run separately for home **health** and home **social** care
- Control for factors related to need

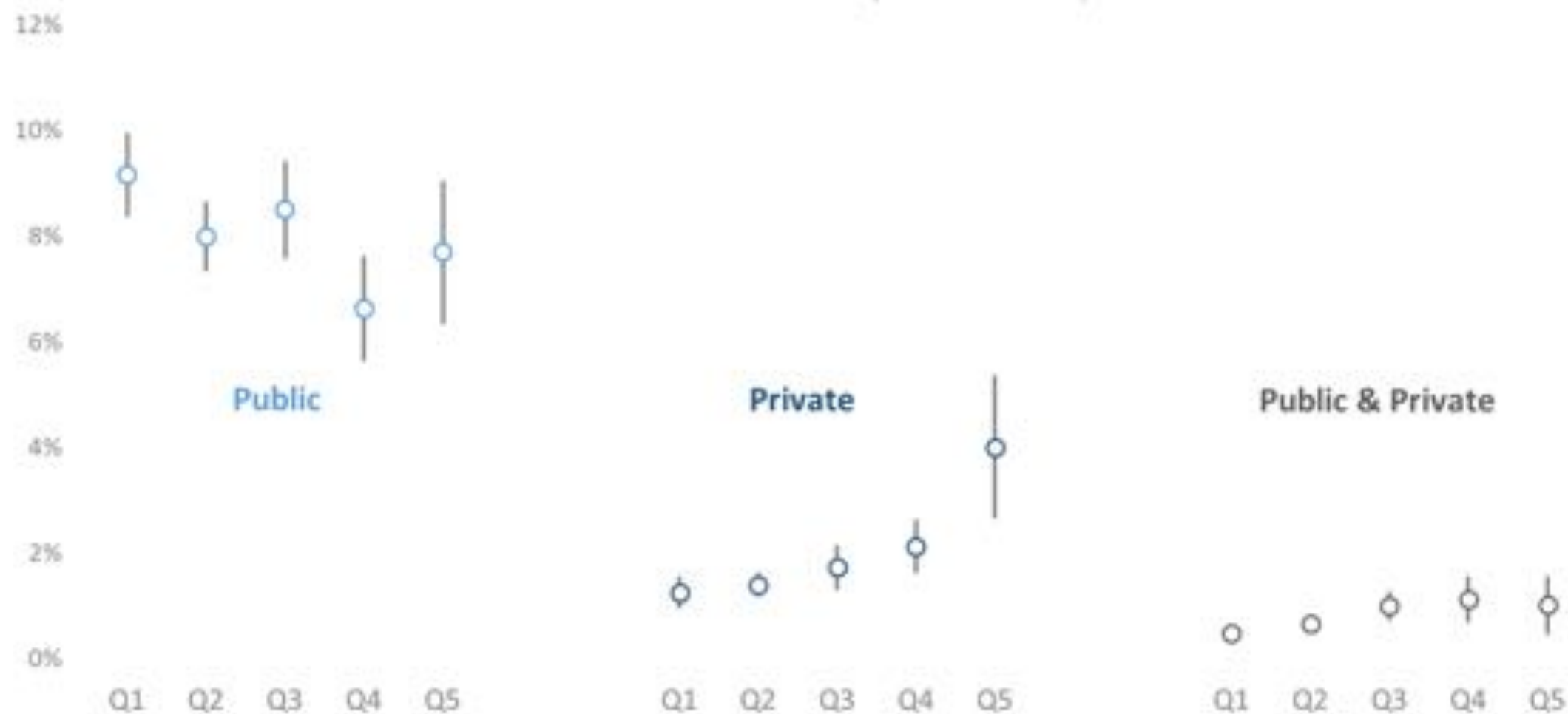
Trends of Home Care Use in Ontario for Seniors 65+

Source: Canadian Community Health Survey



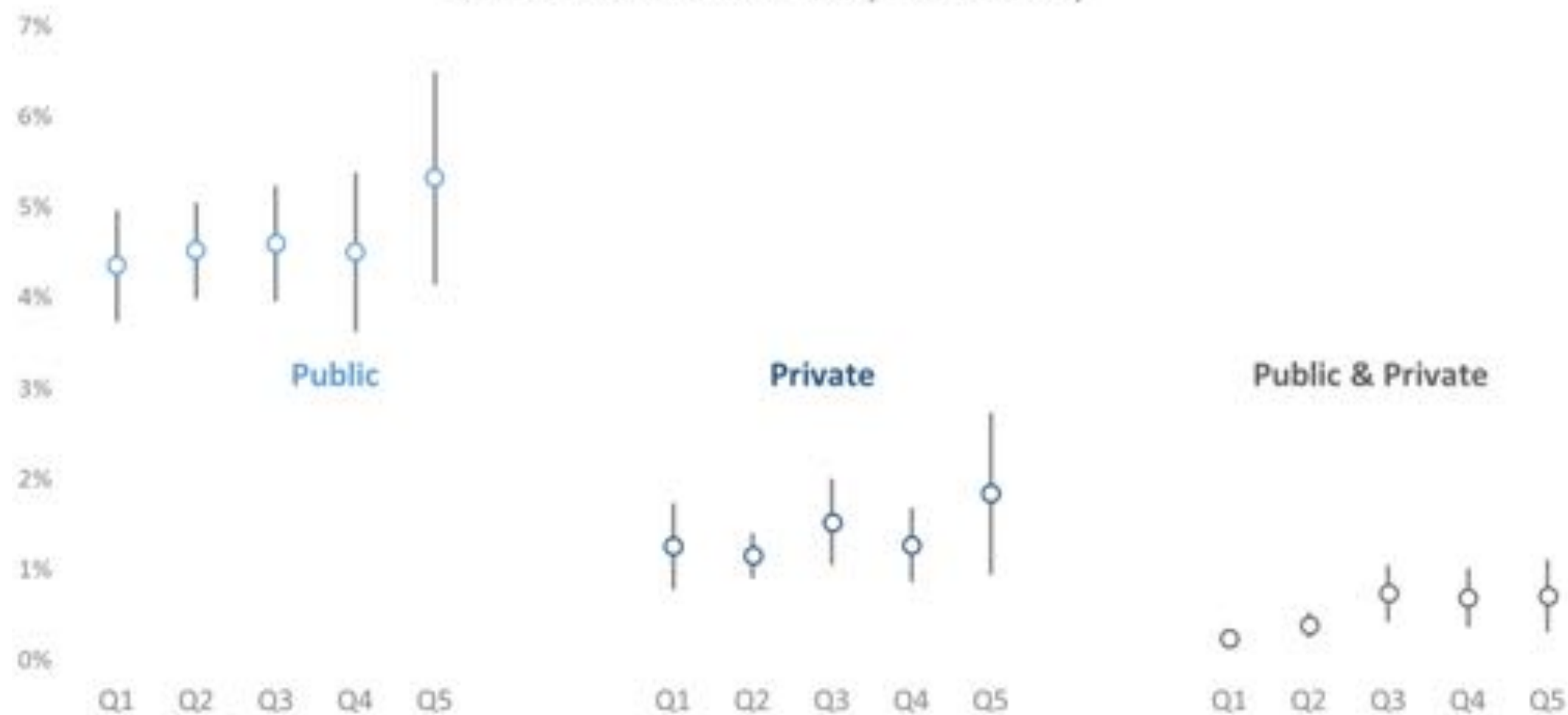
Predictive Margins of Home Care Use by Household Income Quintile

Source: Canadian Community Health Survey



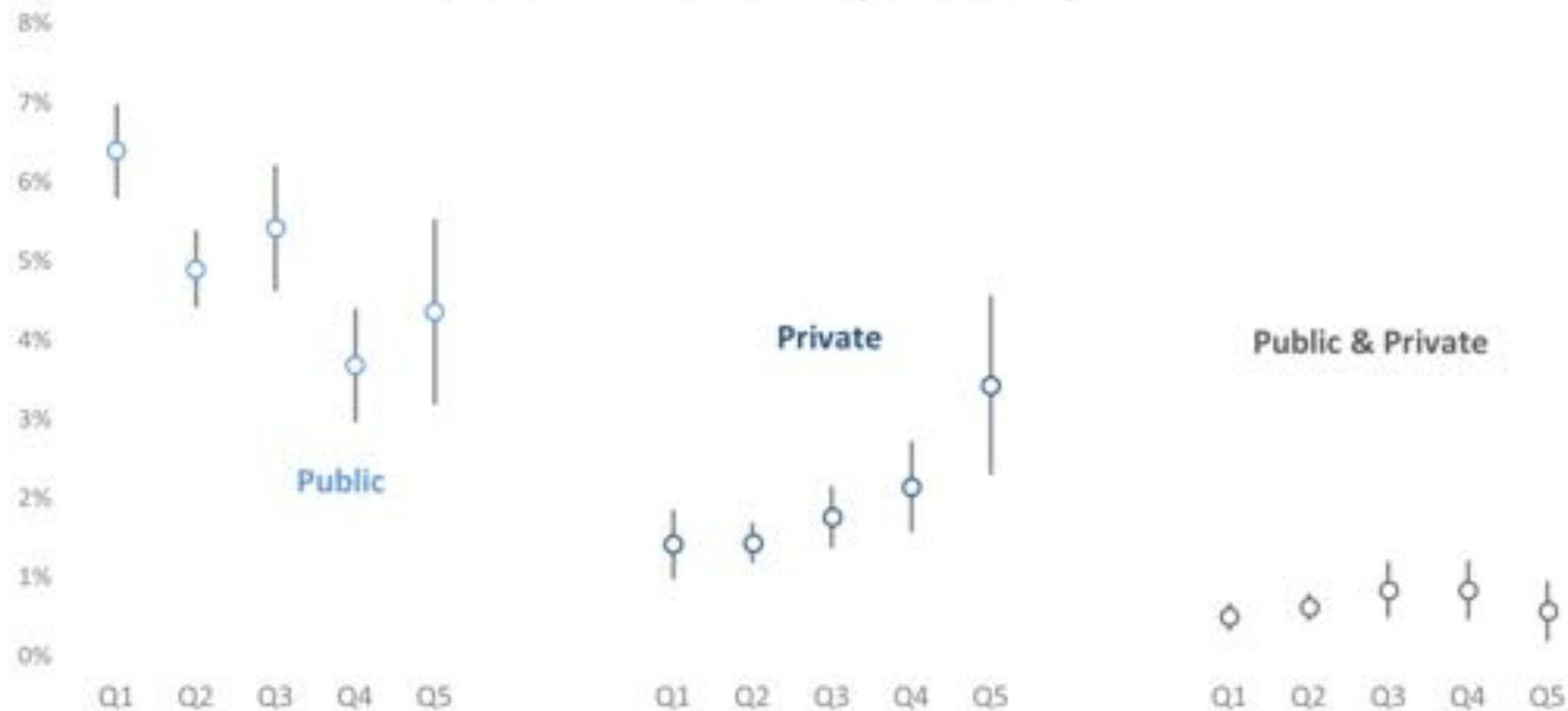
Predictive Margins of Home Health Care Use by Household Income Quintile

Source: Canadian Community Health Survey



Predictive Margins of Home Social Care Use by Household Income Quintile

Source: Canadian Community Health Survey



Implications