

The impact of healthcare reform on equity in health workers distribution in Burundi: a 12-year follow-up study

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Background

- Since 2010, the government of Burundi has introduced health reform
 - Hospital autonomization
 - Results-based financing scale – up
- Aim of this health reform :
 - Improve the management of health facilities,
 - strengthen their autonomy, motivate and stabilize all health workers in peripheral health facilities.
- This study aimed to analyze changes in human resource allocation and impact on equity.

Method

- A longitudinal study was conducted between 2010 and 2021.
- Data sources: DHIS2, statistical yearbooks of the MoH and the Institute of Statistical Studies of Burundi.
- Variables: number of general practitioners and number of nurses
- Gini index was calculated to assess the equity of the distribution of these indicators and its evolution.

Results and discussion

The growth rates were 90.8% and 2% respectively for general practitioners and nurses.

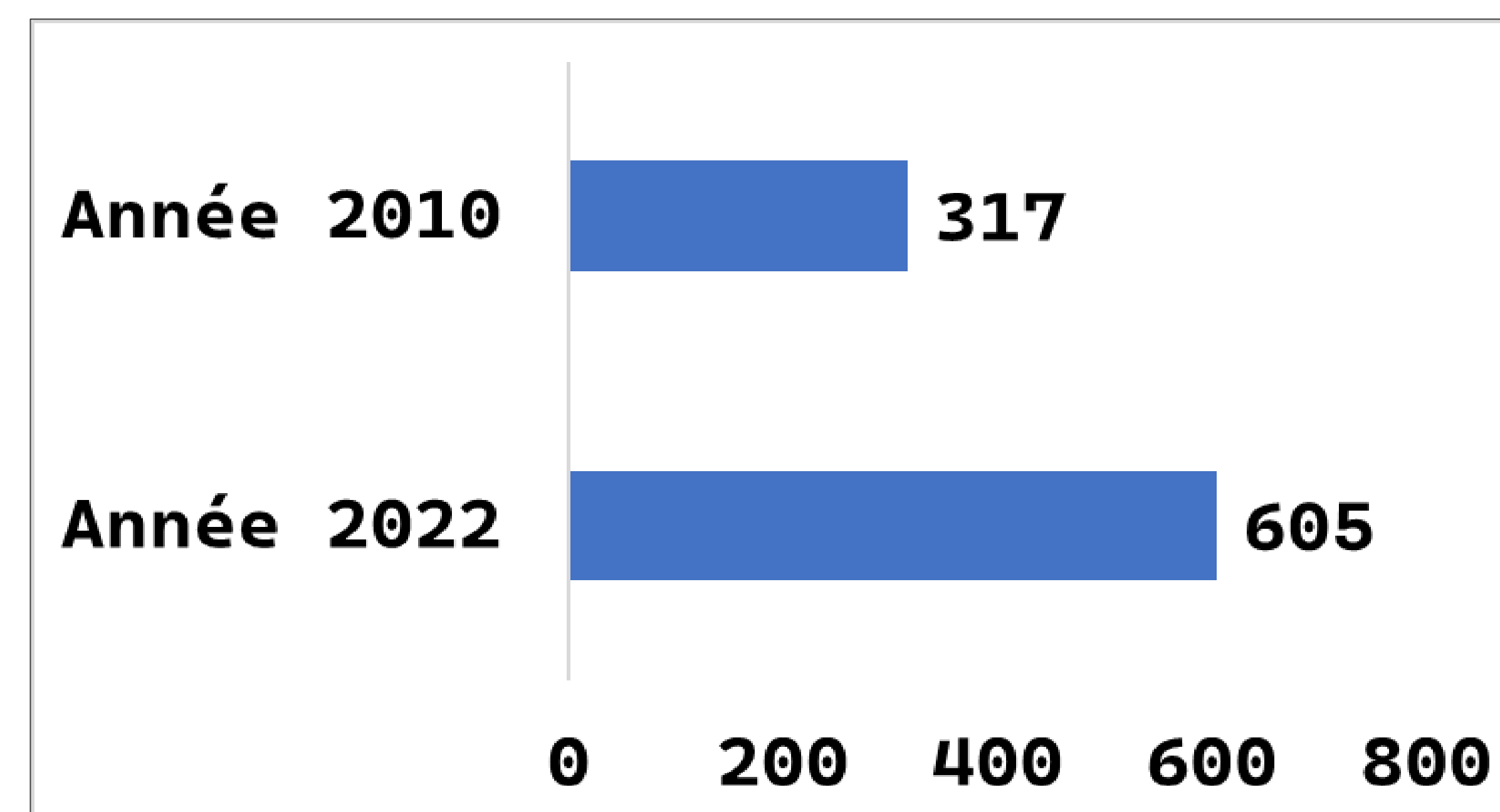


Fig1: Concentration index trend for general practitioners

The concentration index decreased from 0.634 to 0.389 for general practitioners indicating an improvement in the equity of their distribution.

However, there is a decline in the equity of distribution for general practitioners as the concentration index has increased from 0.342 to 0.389 between 2019 and 2022.

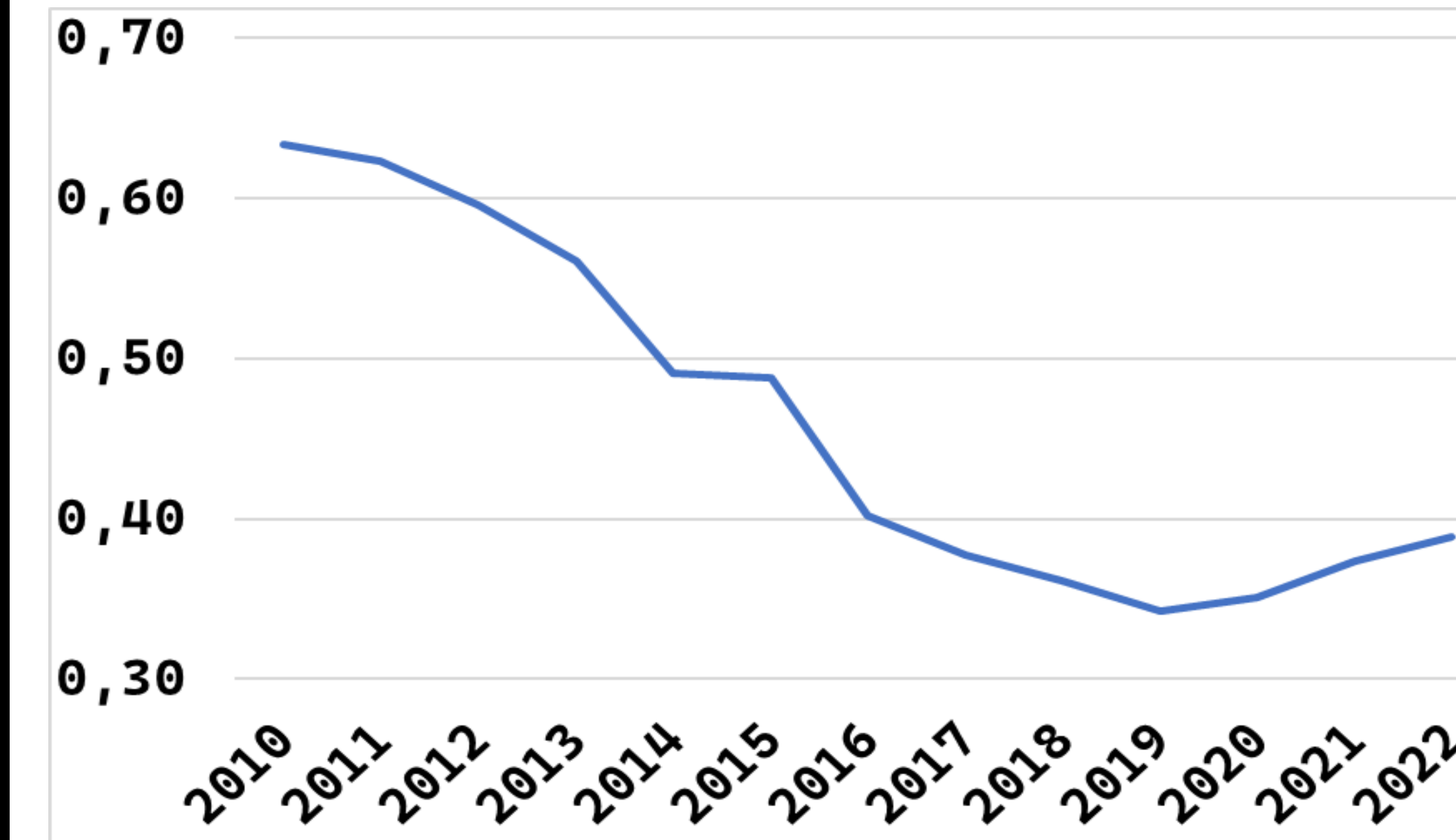


Fig2: Concentration index trend for general practitioners

The concentration index decreased from 0.390 to 0.273 for nurses

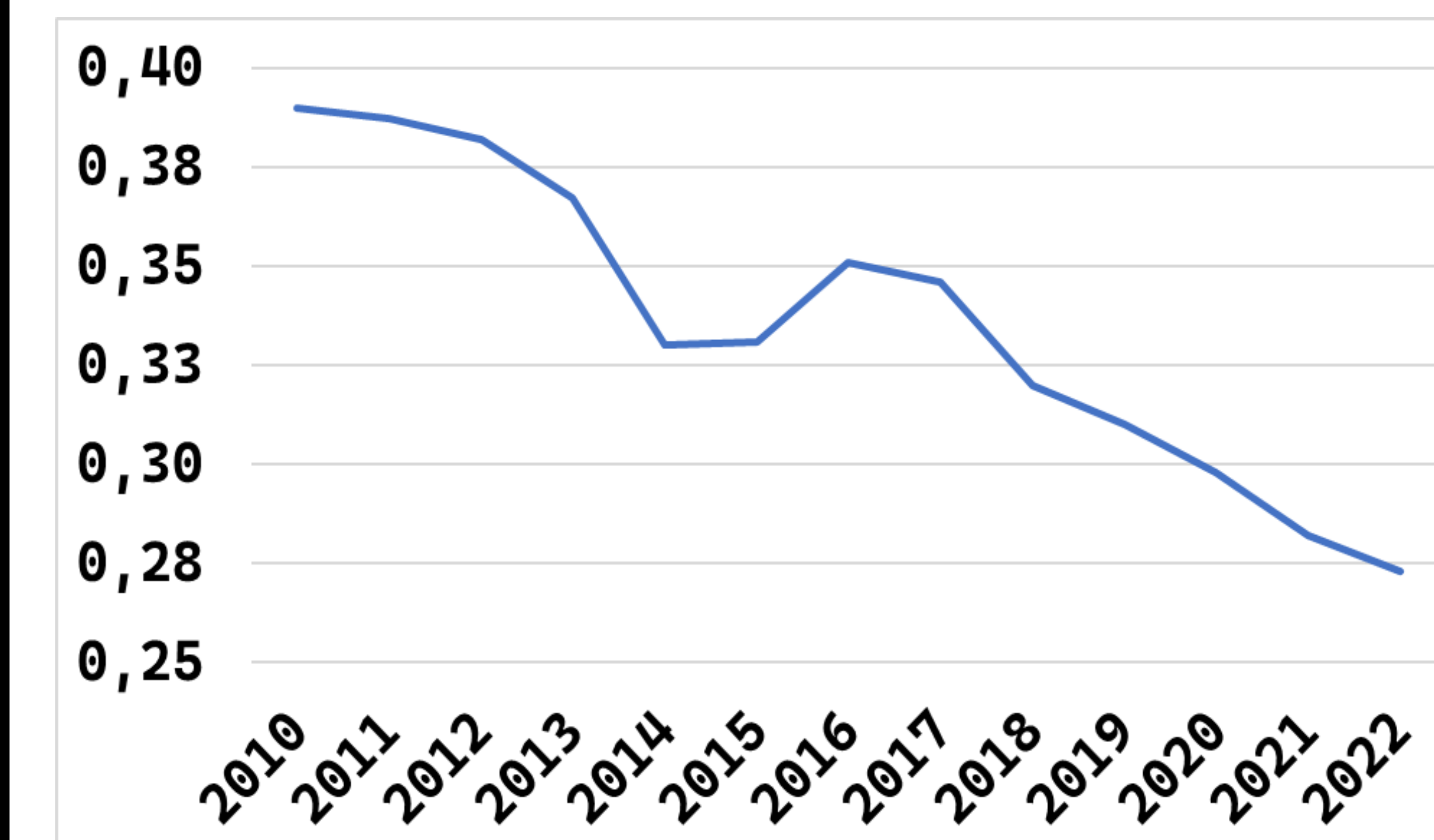


Fig3: Concentration index trend for nurses

Conclusion

- Significant increase in number of health workers between 2010 and 2022
- Improvement in the equity of health workers distribution.
- Strong inequities persist especially for the distribution of general practitioners.
- Measures must be taken to reverse the decline observed since 2019 in of general practitioners' distribution

References

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2. Institut de Statistiques et d'Etudes Economiques du Burundi (ISTEEBU), annuaires statistiques, 2018 - 2021