

# CHSSN

*Community Health  
And Social Services Network*  
Réseau communautaire de santé  
et de services sociaux

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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE  
OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING BLACK COMMUNITIES  
OF CSSS CAVENDISH  
AND CLSC CÔTE-SAINT-LUC

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FOR THE  
AFRICAN CANADIAN DEVELOPMENT AND  
PREVENTION NETWORK (ACDPN)  
AND THE  
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
NETWORK (CHSSN)

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## Introduction

### *Purpose of this document*

This document presents selected demographic characteristics of the English-speaking black population of CSSS Cavendish and CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc. The information presented is drawn from the 2006 Census of Canada. The selection of characteristics is guided by their importance as determinants of the health status and vitality of Quebec's official language minority community with a particular emphasis on the characteristics of the black group within the English-speaking population.<sup>1</sup> Health organizations include culture among the factors that are acknowledged as significantly affecting health. A group may face additional health risks where dominant cultural values contribute to some form of social marginalization including exclusion based on language, or membership in a visible minority, or both. Lack of access to culturally appropriate health care and services is a factor in the lower health status of a population.<sup>2</sup>

This demographic portrait was prepared by the CHSSN for the African Canadian Development and Prevention Network (ACDPN). Its purpose is to support ACDPN in its efforts to build knowledge of the black population within the English-speaking communities and their needs; and to promote collaboration with the public health and social services system serving the territory of CLSC de Côte-Saint-Luc.

### *Linguistic definitions*

There are numerous linguistic definitions that are used to identify the English-speaking population in Québec. The choice of linguistic indicator depends largely on the issue being examined. This report uses the [First Official Language Spoken](#) (FOLS) definition with multiple responses proportionally distributed since it best reflects the total English-speaking health service users in the province.

Other definitions include [Mother tongue](#), which refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood. The [language most often spoken at home](#) is used to designate the home language. [Knowledge of official languages](#) indicates the official language in which a person can carry on a conversation. The [language used most often at work](#) indicates the language spoken most frequently at work.

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<sup>1</sup> National governments and health organizations around the world have identified a broad range of social, economic and environmental factors that have been demonstrated to have a strong influence on the health of populations and individuals. Health Canada outlines various determinants of health – some of which are social determinants – such as income and social status, social support networks, education, employment and working conditions, health services, physical and social environments, biology and genetic endowment, personal health practices and coping skills, healthy child development, gender and culture See Health Canada. (1998) [Taking Action on population health: a position paper for Health Promotion and Programs Branch staff](#), Health and Welfare Canada. See also, Raphael, Dennis. (Ed.) (2002) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press Inc,

<sup>2</sup> Grace-Edward Galabuzi cites extensive research which demonstrates that groups experiencing some form of social exclusion tend to sustain higher health risks and lower health status in her article entitled "Social Exclusion", pp.235-251, in Raphael, D. (ed.) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press Inc. 2002.

### **CHSSN: Networking and Partnership Initiative (NPI)**

ACDPN participates in the CHSSN Networking and Partnership Initiative Program.<sup>3</sup> The NPI Program is intended to support the development of the capacity of Quebec's English-speaking communities to ensure their vitality through cooperation and partnership with the health and social services system in order to improve, develop and maintain access to the full range of services for Quebec's English-speaking minority communities. To achieve this, the Program funds the development of community networks within English-speaking communities consistent with the territories served by Quebec's health and social services centres (CSSS).

A *community network* is a formal grouping of community, institutional and other partners of the health and social services network. The goal is to improve access to health and social services through partnership initiatives, cooperation with and participation in the public system, provision of information on community needs, support for the volunteer and community resources sector, and the promotion of services adapted to the needs of English-speaking people.

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.chssn.org/En/Networking\\_Partnership.html](http://www.chssn.org/En/Networking_Partnership.html)

## Series of Tables – Demographic Characteristics

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### Demographic Size

Studies have confirmed that language barriers affect access and quality of care for linguistic minority communities. Obstacles to communication can reduce recourse to preventative services; increase consultation time including the number of tests and the possibility of diagnostic and treatment errors; affect the quality of services requiring effective communication such as social services; reduce the probability of treatment compliance and reduce users’ satisfaction with the services received.<sup>4</sup> In the complex context of a medical situation, where the communication between care provider and patient is a key factor in the achievement of a positive health outcome, it is not surprising that the language spoken most often is considered the most effective. The treatment by health professionals of sensitive issues such as cancer, addiction, or depression, requires ease of communication as a feature of building trust and offering comfort to patients.

**Table 1 - Population Size**

| Population Size     | 0608 - CSSS C A VENDISH |        |            | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |        |            |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|------------------------|--------|------------|
|                     | Total                   | blacks | non-blacks | Total                  | blacks | non-blacks |
| FOLS - Anglophones  | 77,415                  | 6,660  | 70,755     | 33,685                 | 1,465  | 32,220     |
|                     | 100.0%                  | 8.6%   | 91.4%      | 100.0%                 | 4.3%   | 95.7%      |
| FOLS - Francophones | 37,710                  | 2,553  | 35,158     | 13,150                 | 590    | 12,560     |
|                     | 100.0%                  | 6.8%   | 93.2%      | 100.0%                 | 4.5%   | 95.5%      |

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French.*

- ❖ The total population of individuals living in the area of CSSS Cavendish who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) is 77,415. There are 6,660 individuals who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) and are members of the black community representing 8.6% of the total English-speaking group.
- ❖ There are 1,465 blacks among the 33,685 English-speakers in the CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc territory. They represent 4.3% of that population, which is just half of their share of the CSSS Cavendish territory.

<sup>4</sup> See Bowen, S. (2001). [Language Barriers in Access to Health Care](#), Ottawa: Health Canada. Also, Jacobs, E, and A. Chen, L. Karliner, N. Agger-Gupta & S. Mutha. (2006). “The Need for More Research on Language Barriers in Health Care: A Proposed Research Agenda”. The Millbank Quarterly, Vol. 84, No.1, pp.111-133.

## Age Structure

The distribution of the English-speaking population across age categories, and the extent to which language majority and minority communities differ in accordance to age, is important in understanding their distinct health needs and resources. Each stage of life tends to be associated with specific health and social service needs. The way these needs are met by public provisions and families must also take the age and age-related competencies of the client group into consideration. Typically, the age structure of the majority is important in shaping the scope and design of available health services and programs. Improving the health and the vitality of all citizens residing in this CSSS requires awareness of the problems that are pressing for the minority and may be overlooked in the focus on the majority, and, awareness of problems that are shared by both language groups but are being met with solutions that are not equally accessible for both.

Research in recent years has underlined the crucial role of childhood development in the long-term health of individuals and communities. Like every age group, youth are characterized by health and social service needs specific to their stage of life. For example, the respondents of the Quebec Health and Social Survey (1998) aged 15-24 years of age reported the highest levels of psychological distress and survey respondents with high levels of psychological distress were more likely to report suicidal ideas and suicidal attempts. Anglophone respondents to the survey were more than twice as likely as Francophones to perceive their mental health as poor.<sup>5</sup> The findings suggest that access to social services in English is a health priority for the English-speakers of CSSS Cavendish. In the case of CSSS Cavendish, English-speaking black seniors and youth may be a sub-group whose needs are underestimated.

**Table 2 - Age Structure of the Population**

| Age Structure of the Population | 0608 - CSSS CAVENDISH  |                         |                       | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |                         |                       |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                 | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total |
| Total - Age groups              | 77,415                 | 6,660                   | 37,710                | 33,685                 | 1,465                   | 13,150                |
| 0-14 y ears                     | 11,315                 | 1,425                   | 6,800                 | 4,990                  | 300                     | 2,483                 |
| 15-24 y ears                    | 9,370                  | 955                     | 4,983                 | 3,640                  | 185                     | 1,745                 |
| 25-44 y ears                    | 22,305                 | 2,060                   | 11,635                | 7,800                  | 405                     | 3,848                 |
| 45-64 y ears                    | 19,520                 | 1,410                   | 9,780                 | 8,410                  | 330                     | 3,235                 |
| 65+y ears                       | 14,905                 | 810                     | 4,513                 | 8,845                  | 245                     | 1,841                 |
| <b>Proportion by age group</b>  |                        |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |
| Total - Age groups              | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                |
| 0-14 y ears                     | 14.6%                  | 21.4%                   | 18.0%                 | 18.0%                  | 20.5%                   | 18.9%                 |
| 15-24 y ears                    | 12.1%                  | 14.3%                   | 13.2%                 | 13.2%                  | 12.6%                   | 13.3%                 |
| 25-44 y ears                    | 28.8%                  | 30.9%                   | 30.9%                 | 30.9%                  | 27.6%                   | 29.3%                 |
| 45-64 y ears                    | 25.2%                  | 21.2%                   | 25.9%                 | 25.9%                  | 22.5%                   | 24.6%                 |
| 65+y ears                       | 19.3%                  | 12.2%                   | 12.0%                 | 12.0%                  | 16.7%                   | 14.0%                 |

<sup>5</sup> Pocock, J. (2008) "Baseline Data Report 2007-2008. *Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information.*" Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN). Pp.115-126.  
[http://www.chssn.org/En/BDR/docs/BDR\\_2007-08\\_final.pdf](http://www.chssn.org/En/BDR/docs/BDR_2007-08_final.pdf)

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French.*

- ❖ An examination of the age structure of the CSSS Cavendish language groups reveals that the 25-44 age group is the largest for each of the English-speaking (28.8%), English-speaking black (30.9%), and French-speaking groups (30.9%).
- ❖ There are proportionately more children aged 0-14 in the English-speaking black group (21.4%) than in the general English-speaking population (14.6%) and Francophone group (18.0%).
- ❖ At the CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc level, we find a high proportion of the English-speaking black population falling into the 0-14 years age group., accounting for more than 1 in 5 (20.5%) of the territory's population. The English-speaking black community shows a high proportion of seniors 65+ (16.7%).

## Income

Long-standing and substantial research provides evidence that income is a key determinant of the level of health and well-being experienced by communities and their members. The Quebec Social and Health Survey (1998) reveals a significant link between lower income households and the likelihood of a poor health status among Quebec citizens.<sup>6</sup> For these vulnerable households barriers to access to public health services loom large as they cannot afford private care services nor are they likely to have access to work-related benefits or private insurance coverage.

**Table 3 - Income**

| Population 15+ years,<br>by Income Group | 0608 - CSSS CAVENDISH     |                            |                          | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc    |                            |                          |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | English-speaking<br>Total | English-speaking<br>blacks | French-speaking<br>Total | English-speaking<br>Total | English-speaking<br>blacks | French-speaking<br>Total |
| Total - Income groups                    | 66,100                    | 5,235                      | 30,910                   | 28,695                    | 1,165                      | 10,668                   |
| Without income                           | 3,180                     | 345                        | 1,935                    | 1,285                     | 70                         | 700                      |
| With income                              | 62,915                    | 4,890                      | 28,978                   | 27,405                    | 1,090                      | 9,970                    |
| Under \$10,000                           | 14,095                    | 1,190                      | 6,715                    | 5,035                     | 185                        | 2,400                    |
| \$10,000 - \$29,999                      | 23,180                    | 2,480                      | 9,505                    | 9,920                     | 615                        | 3,555                    |
| \$30,000 - \$49,999                      | 12,180                    | 910                        | 5,600                    | 5,680                     | 230                        | 1,943                    |
| \$50,000 - \$74,999                      | 6,725                     | 265                        | 3,743                    | 3,025                     | 55                         | 1,168                    |
| \$75,000 and over                        | 6,730                     | 50                         | 3,410                    | 3,745                     | 10                         | 910                      |
| <b>Proportion by income group</b>        |                           |                            |                          |                           |                            |                          |
| Total - Income groups                    | 100.0%                    | 100.0%                     | 100.0%                   | 100.0%                    | 100.0%                     | 100.0%                   |
| Without income                           | 4.8%                      | 6.6%                       | 6.3%                     | 4.5%                      | 6.0%                       | 6.6%                     |
| With income                              | 95.2%                     | 93.4%                      | 93.7%                    | 95.5%                     | 93.6%                      | 93.5%                    |
| Under \$10,000                           | 21.3%                     | 22.7%                      | 21.7%                    | 17.5%                     | 15.9%                      | 22.5%                    |
| \$10,000 - \$29,999                      | 35.1%                     | 47.4%                      | 30.8%                    | 34.6%                     | 52.8%                      | 33.3%                    |
| \$30,000 - \$49,999                      | 18.4%                     | 17.4%                      | 18.1%                    | 19.8%                     | 19.7%                      | 18.2%                    |
| \$50,000 - \$74,999                      | 10.2%                     | 5.1%                       | 12.1%                    | 10.5%                     | 4.7%                       | 10.9%                    |
| \$75,000 and over                        | 10.2%                     | 1.0%                       | 11.0%                    | 13.1%                     | 0.9%                       | 8.5%                     |

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French.*

- ❖ As the table above shows, the income patterns of English-speakers and French-speakers in CSSS Cavendish do not vary greatly. Francophones are more likely to be without income (6.3% to 4.8%) while Anglophones are more likely to be at the low middle income level (35.1% to 30.8% for those earning \$10-29k), and slightly less likely to be in the upper income brackets.
- ❖ English-speaking blacks are much more likely to be in the low-middle income group (47.4% in the \$10-29k range) and much less likely to be in the upper income groups (6.1% total in the \$50k and over group compared to 20.4% of the general English-speaking population and 23.1% of the French-speaking population).
- ❖ In the CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc territory, the general English-speaking population is relatively advantaged compared to the French-speaking population with a lower

<sup>6</sup> For discussion of the survey, see Pocock, J. (2008) "Baseline Data Report 2007-2008. *Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information*." Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN). [http://www.chssn.org/En/BDR/docs/BDR\\_2007-08\\_final.pdf](http://www.chssn.org/En/BDR/docs/BDR_2007-08_final.pdf)

tendency to be at the low income level (17.5% under \$10k compared to 22.5%) and a higher tendency to be at the highest income level (13.1% at \$75k+ compared to 8.5% of Francophones). This is not the case for English-speaking blacks who are much more likely to be in the low-middle income level of \$19-29k and much less likely to be in the higher income levels.

## Household Living Arrangements

Household living arrangements may be used as an indicator of groups within a population who are vulnerable to a poor health status. For example, the Quebec Social and Health Survey (1998) revealed that parents of minors living in lone parent households were more likely to report food insecurity, high levels of psychological distress and having more than one health problem compared to parents with other household arrangements.<sup>7</sup> Individuals living alone may lack the important health benefits of a strong support network in the event of activity limitations due to illness or aging.<sup>8</sup>

**Table 4 - Population by Household Living Arrangements**

| Population by Household Living Arrangements        | 0608 - CSSS CA VENDISH |                         |                       | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |                         |                       |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|  | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total |
| Total - Persons in private households              | 77,325                 | 6,645                   | 37,583                | 33,665                 | 1,460                   | 13,130                |
| Total - Persons in Census family households        | 58,155                 | 4,705                   | 30,003                | 26,170                 | 975                     | 11,123                |
| Persons in married or common-law couples families  | 48,390                 | 2,290                   | 25,410                | 23,125                 | 515                     | 9,600                 |
| Persons in lone-parent families                    | 9,770                  | 2,425                   | 4,590                 | 3,050                  | 465                     | 1,528                 |
| Total - Persons in non-Census family households    | 19,170                 | 1,940                   | 7,578                 | 7,495                  | 485                     | 2,003                 |
| Living with relatives                              | 1,800                  | 370                     | 945                   | 625                    | 70                      | 315                   |
| Living with non-relatives only                     | 3,205                  | 275                     | 1,215                 | 820                    | 75                      | 238                   |
| Living alone                                       | 14,170                 | 1,295                   | 5,420                 | 6,050                  | 340                     | 1,458                 |
| <b>Proportion by household living arrangements</b> |                        |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |
| Total - Persons in private households              | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                |
| Total - Persons in Census family households        | 75.2%                  | 70.8%                   | 79.8%                 | 77.7%                  | 66.8%                   | 84.7%                 |
| Persons in married or common-law couples families  | 62.6%                  | 34.5%                   | 67.6%                 | 68.7%                  | 35.3%                   | 73.1%                 |
| Persons in lone-parent families                    | 12.6%                  | 36.5%                   | 12.2%                 | 9.1%                   | 31.8%                   | 11.6%                 |
| Total - Persons in non-Census family households    | 24.8%                  | 29.2%                   | 20.2%                 | 22.3%                  | 33.2%                   | 15.3%                 |
| Living with relatives                              | 2.3%                   | 5.6%                    | 2.5%                  | 1.9%                   | 4.8%                    | 2.4%                  |
| Living with non-relatives only                     | 4.1%                   | 4.1%                    | 3.2%                  | 2.4%                   | 5.1%                    | 1.8%                  |
| Living alone                                       | 18.3%                  | 19.5%                   | 14.4%                 | 18.0%                  | 23.3%                   | 11.1%                 |

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French.*

- ❖ In terms of household living arrangements, at the CSSS Cavendish level, French-speakers are most likely to be in a census family household (79.8%) compared to the general English-speaking population (75.2%) and English-speaking blacks (70.8%).

<sup>7</sup> For discussion of the survey, see Pocock, J. (2008) "Baseline Data Report 2007-2008. Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information." Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN). [http://www.chssn.org/En/BDR/docs/BDR\\_2007-08\\_final.pdf](http://www.chssn.org/En/BDR/docs/BDR_2007-08_final.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Under Statistics Canada's terminology, a census family refers "to a married couple (with or without children of either or both spouses), a couple living common-law (with or without children of either or both partners) or a lone parent of any marital status, with at least one child living in the same dwelling. A couple may be of opposite or same sex. 'Children' in a census family include grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present." (<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/concepts/definitions/cfamily-rfamille-eng.htm>)

- ❖ English-speaking blacks are three times as likely to live in lone-parent families at 36.5% compared to 12.6% for the general English-speaking population and 12.2% for the Francophone group. Both the general English-speaking group (18.3%) and English-speaking blacks (19.5%) are more likely than French speakers to be living alone in CSSS Cavendish.
- ❖ These patterns persist at the CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc level where Francophones are considerably more likely to live in census family households (84.7%) than Anglophones (77.7%) or English-speaking blacks (66.8%).
- ❖ In CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc, English-speaking blacks are much more likely than Francophones to live in lone-parent families (31.8% compared to 11.6%) or to live alone (23.3% compared to 11.1%).

## Low-Income Cut-off

Although there is no official measure of poverty in Canada, the Statistics Canada measure of Low Income Cut-Offs (LICO) is probably the best known. Commonly known as the “poverty line”, LICO uses the income levels of a given family and considers how large a share of its income is spent on necessities such as food, shelter and clothing. If the amount a family spends is 20% higher than an average family in a year, it falls into the low income cut-off category. People who live below a set of income cutoffs may be said to live in “straitened circumstances”<sup>9</sup> The following table considers the population living below LICO by language, administrative territory and age group.

**Table 5 - Population Living Below LICO, Across Age Groups**

| Population Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO) Level, Across Age Groups | 0608 - CSSS CAVENDISH  |                         |                       | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |                         |                       |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|  | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total |
| Total - Age groups   | 20,335                 | 2,940                   | 10,385                | 7,115                  | 590                     | 3,665                 |
| 0-14 y ears  | 3,030                  | 795                     | 2,178                 | 1,135                  | 175                     | 818                   |
| 15-24 y ears   | 2,970                  | 445                     | 1,718                 | 870                    | 100                     | 535                   |
| 25-44 y ears   | 7,090                  | 890                     | 3,525                 | 2,085                  | 145                     | 1,168                 |
| 45-64 y ears   | 4,285                  | 545                     | 1,800                 | 1,535                  | 115                     | 593                   |
| 65+ y ears   | 2,960                  | 265                     | 1,165                 | 1,490                  | 55                      | 553                   |
| <b>Proportion of those below LICO across age groups</b>                        |                        |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |
| Total - Age groups   | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                |
| 0-14 y ears  | 14.9%                  | 27.0%                   | 21.0%                 | 16.0%                  | 29.7%                   | 22.3%                 |
| 15-24 y ears   | 14.6%                  | 15.1%                   | 16.5%                 | 12.2%                  | 16.9%                   | 14.6%                 |
| 25-44 y ears   | 34.9%                  | 30.3%                   | 33.9%                 | 29.3%                  | 24.6%                   | 31.9%                 |
| 45-64 y ears   | 21.1%                  | 18.5%                   | 17.3%                 | 21.6%                  | 19.5%                   | 16.2%                 |
| 65+ y ears   | 14.6%                  | 9.0%                    | 11.2%                 | 20.9%                  | 9.3%                    | 15.1%                 |

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French. The percentages shown here are calculated against the total in a particular age group for linguistic groups in the given territories.*

- ❖ When we consider the distribution of those living below the low-income cut-off (LICO) level across age groups, we find that children aged 0-14 in the English-speaking black population form a higher proportion living below LICO (27%) than is found in the other language groups. In the general English-speaking group, it is the seniors aged 65+ who form a higher proportion of those living below LICO than we find in the other language groups.
- ❖ In the CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc territory, the children aged 0-14 form an even higher percentage of those living below LICO in the English-speaking black group (29.7%) while seniors (20.9%) account for a disproportionately large group in the English-speaking population.

<sup>9</sup> See “[Low Income in Canada: 2000-2007 Using the Market Basket Measure](#)” August 2009 by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada for a breakdown on various Low Income Measurements. Available online at <http://www.rhdcc-hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/cs/comm/news/2003/RH63-1-569-03-03E.pdf>

**Table 6 - Population Living Below LICO, Within Age Groups**

| Proportion Within Age Groups, Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO) Level | 0608 - CSSS CAVENDISH  |                         |                       | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |                         |                       |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|  | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total |
| Total - Age groups   | 20,335                 | 2,940                   | 10,385                | 7,115                  | 590                     | 3,665                 |
| 0-14 years   | 3,030                  | 795                     | 2,178                 | 1,135                  | 175                     | 818                   |
| 15-24 years  | 2,970                  | 445                     | 1,718                 | 870                    | 100                     | 535                   |
| 25-44 years  | 7,090                  | 890                     | 3,525                 | 2,085                  | 145                     | 1,168                 |
| 45-64 years  | 4,285                  | 545                     | 1,800                 | 1,535                  | 115                     | 593                   |
| 65+ years  | 2,960                  | 265                     | 1,165                 | 1,490                  | 55                      | 553                   |
| <b>Proportion of those below LICO within the age group</b>                     |                        |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |
| Total - Age groups   | 26.3%                  | 44.1%                   | 27.5%                 | 21.1%                  | 40.3%                   | 27.9%                 |
| 0-14 years   | 26.8%                  | 55.8%                   | 32.0%                 | 22.7%                  | 58.3%                   | 32.9%                 |
| 15-24 years  | 31.7%                  | 46.6%                   | 34.5%                 | 23.9%                  | 54.1%                   | 30.7%                 |
| 25-44 years  | 31.8%                  | 43.2%                   | 30.3%                 | 26.7%                  | 35.8%                   | 30.4%                 |
| 45-64 years  | 22.0%                  | 38.7%                   | 18.4%                 | 18.3%                  | 34.8%                   | 18.3%                 |
| 65+ years  | 19.9%                  | 32.7%                   | 25.8%                 | 16.8%                  | 22.4%                   | 30.0%                 |

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French. The percentages shown here are calculated against the total in a particular age group for linguistic groups in the given territories.*

- ❖ In Table 6 above, we examine the number of those living below LICO in each age group and this number is compared to the total number of persons in that age group for each linguistic population. In CSSS Cavendish, the proportion of English-speaking black children living below LICO (55.8%) is much higher than the levels for the other language groups. For all age groups, there is a higher proportion in the English-speaking black population to be living below LICO. The percentages given here compare the number below LICO in a given age group with the total number in that age group as presented in [Table 2 Age Structure of the Population](#) of this document.
- ❖ For most age groups in CSSS Cavendish, the proportion of English-speakers living below LICO is similar to that found in the French-speaking population with the exception of the 0-14 and 65+ age groups where the rate is somewhat lower.
- ❖ In CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc, 40.3% of English-speaking blacks are living below the LICO, which is considerably higher than that reported in the total English-speaking group (21.1%) and in the French-speaking group (27.9%). The rate of living below LICO is especially high for children (58.3%) and youth aged 15-24 years (54.1%). In most age groups, the rate of living below LICO is lower for the general English-speaking population than for Francophones.

**Table 7 - Population Living Below LICO, by Household Living Arrangements**

| Population Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off Level (LICO), by Household Living Arrangements | 0608 - CSSS CAVENDISH  |                         |                       | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |                         |                       |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|   | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total |
| Total - Persons in private households   | 20,330                 | 2,930                   | 10,380                | 7,115                  | 585                     | 3,660                 |
| Total - Persons in Census family households   | 11,990                 | 1,895                   | 7,108                 | 4,330                  | 395                     | 2,710                 |
| Persons in married or common-law couples families   | 8,470                  | 635                     | 5,373                 | 3,270                  | 95                      | 2,185                 |
| Persons in lone-parent families   | 3,525                  | 1,265                   | 1,740                 | 1,060                  | 305                     | 530                   |
| Total - Persons in non-Census family households   | 8,335                  | 1,030                   | 3,280                 | 2,785                  | 190                     | 955                   |
| Living with relatives   | 555                    | 160                     | 235                   | 125                    | 25                      | 70                    |
| Living with non-relatives only  | 2,110                  | 195                     | 748                   | 520                    | 40                      | 180                   |
| Living alone  | 5,670                  | 670                     | 2,295                 | 2,135                  | 120                     | 698                   |
| <b>Proportion in Household Living Arrangements who are Below the Low-Income Cut-off</b>       |                        |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |
| Total - Persons in private households   | 26.3%                  | 44.1%                   | 27.6%                 | 21.1%                  | 40.1%                   | 27.9%                 |
| Total - Persons in Census family households   | 20.6%                  | 40.3%                   | 23.7%                 | 16.5%                  | 40.5%                   | 24.4%                 |
| Persons in married or common-law couples families   | 17.5%                  | 27.7%                   | 21.1%                 | 14.1%                  | 18.4%                   | 22.8%                 |
| Persons in lone-parent families   | 36.1%                  | 52.2%                   | 37.9%                 | 34.8%                  | 65.6%                   | 34.7%                 |
| Total - Persons in non-Census family households   | 43.5%                  | 53.1%                   | 43.3%                 | 37.2%                  | 39.2%                   | 47.7%                 |
| Living with relatives   | 30.8%                  | 43.2%                   | 24.9%                 | 20.0%                  | 35.7%                   | 22.2%                 |
| Living with non-relatives only  | 65.8%                  | 70.9%                   | 61.6%                 | 63.4%                  | 53.3%                   | 75.6%                 |
| Living alone  | 40.0%                  | 51.7%                   | 42.3%                 | 35.3%                  | 35.3%                   | 47.9%                 |

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French.*

- ❖ When we examine the tendency to live below LICO within various household living arrangements, we find that there is little difference between the tendency to be living below LICO for English-speaking and French-speaking populations in terms of living in census families (20.6% and 23.7% respectively), living in lone-parent families (36.1% and 37.9%) or to be living alone (40% compared to 42.3%). We find higher proportions of English-speaking blacks in lone-parent families to be below LICO (52.2%), and similar high proportions of those living alone also living below LICO (51.7%). The percentages given here compare the number below LICO in a given household living arrangement with the total number in that arrangement as presented in [Table 4 Household Living Arrangements](#) in this document.
- ❖ In CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc, there is a very high percentage of blacks living in lone-parent families who live below LICO (65.6%) which is nearly double the rate for those in that household situation in the English-speaking population in general (34.8%) and in the Francophone population (34.7%). For those living alone in the CLSC region, it is Francophones at 47.9% who are most likely to be living below LICO.
- ❖ Across the board, the rate of living below LICO appears to be lower for those living in married or common-law couple family arrangements.

## Highest Educational Attainment

In many ways, education is an important determinant of the health status of a community. In Canada, the level of education achieved by an individual tends to be an indicator of social status, and ideally, a predictor of economic opportunity. The overall level of health literacy and preventative health practice enjoyed by a community also tends to be associated with the years of schooling by those included among its members<sup>10</sup>.

**Table 8 - Highest Educational Certification, for Selected Age Groups**

| Highest Educational Certification,<br>Population 15+, by Selected Age Groups |             | 0608 - CSSS C A VENDISH |                         |                       | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |                         |                       |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|  |             | English-speaking Total  | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total |
| Total - Highest certificate, diploma or degree                               | Pop. 15+    | 66,090                  | 5,235                   | 30,910                | 28,690                 | 1,165                   | 10,670                |
|  | 25-44 years | 22,310                  | 2,060                   | 11,633                | 7,800                  | 405                     | 3,843                 |
|  | 45-64 years | 19,520                  | 1,410                   | 9,780                 | 8,410                  | 335                     | 3,235                 |
| No certificate, diploma or degree  | Pop. 15+    | 9,605                   | 1,205                   | 3,485                 | 4,465                  | 215                     | 1,215                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 1,015                   | 265                     | 395                   | 240                    | 30                      | 100                   |
|  | 45-64 years | 1,720                   | 300                     | 590                   | 565                    | 50                      | 213                   |
| High school certificate or equivalent  | Pop. 15+    | 14,750                  | 1,400                   | 4,728                 | 6,825                  | 315                     | 1,883                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 3,605                   | 490                     | 1,123                 | 1,255                  | 110                     | 383                   |
|  | 45-64 years | 4,005                   | 355                     | 1,293                 | 1,815                  | 75                      | 535                   |
| Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma                              | Pop. 15+    | 3,995                   | 850                     | 2,060                 | 1,615                  | 240                     | 730                   |
|  | 25-44 years | 1,360                   | 315                     | 783                   | 385                    | 65                      | 210                   |
|  | 45-64 years | 1,365                   | 325                     | 668                   | 595                    | 110                     | 260                   |
| College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma                | Pop. 15+    | 9,855                   | 825                     | 4,818                 | 3,705                  | 175                     | 1,770                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 3,545                   | 465                     | 1,793                 | 1,210                  | 100                     | 733                   |
|  | 45-64 years | 2,665                   | 185                     | 1,398                 | 955                    | 45                      | 513                   |
| University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level                   | Pop. 15+    | 3,940                   | 270                     | 2,520                 | 1,980                  | 55                      | 1,100                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 1,590                   | 155                     | 998                   | 645                    | 15                      | 485                   |
|  | 45-64 years | 1,240                   | 60                      | 848                   | 700                    | 20                      | 330                   |
| University certificate, diploma or degree                                    | Pop. 15+    | 23,950                  | 685                     | 13,285                | 10,100                 | 165                     | 3,960                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 11,180                  | 375                     | 6,565                 | 4,055                  | 90                      | 1,940                 |
|  | 45-64 years | 8,510                   | 195                     | 4,990                 | 3,770                  | 35                      | 1,385                 |
| <b>Proportion within age group with given educational certification</b>      |             |                         |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |
| No certificate, diploma or degree  | Pop. 15+    | 14.5%                   | 23.0%                   | 11.3%                 | 15.6%                  | 18.5%                   | 11.4%                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 4.5%                    | 12.9%                   | 3.4%                  | 3.1%                   | 7.4%                    | 2.6%                  |
|  | 45-64 years | 8.8%                    | 21.3%                   | 6.0%                  | 6.7%                   | 14.9%                   | 6.6%                  |
| High school certificate or equivalent  | Pop. 15+    | 22.3%                   | 26.7%                   | 15.3%                 | 23.8%                  | 27.0%                   | 17.6%                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 16.2%                   | 23.8%                   | 9.7%                  | 16.1%                  | 27.2%                   | 10.0%                 |
|  | 45-64 years | 20.5%                   | 25.2%                   | 13.2%                 | 21.6%                  | 22.4%                   | 16.5%                 |
| Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma                              | Pop. 15+    | 6.0%                    | 16.2%                   | 6.7%                  | 5.6%                   | 20.6%                   | 6.8%                  |
|  | 25-44 years | 6.1%                    | 15.3%                   | 6.7%                  | 4.9%                   | 16.0%                   | 5.5%                  |
|  | 45-64 years | 7.0%                    | 23.0%                   | 6.8%                  | 7.1%                   | 32.8%                   | 8.0%                  |
| College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma                | Pop. 15+    | 14.9%                   | 15.8%                   | 15.6%                 | 12.9%                  | 15.0%                   | 16.6%                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 15.9%                   | 22.6%                   | 15.4%                 | 15.5%                  | 24.7%                   | 19.1%                 |
|  | 45-64 years | 13.7%                   | 13.1%                   | 14.3%                 | 11.4%                  | 13.4%                   | 15.9%                 |
| University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level                   | Pop. 15+    | 6.0%                    | 5.2%                    | 8.2%                  | 6.9%                   | 4.7%                    | 10.3%                 |
|  | 25-44 years | 7.1%                    | 7.5%                    | 8.6%                  | 8.3%                   | 3.7%                    | 12.6%                 |
|  | 45-64 years | 6.4%                    | 4.3%                    | 8.7%                  | 8.3%                   | 6.0%                    | 10.2%                 |

<sup>10</sup> For further discussion of education as a health determinant and the Population Health Model see J. Carter, *A Community Guide to the Population Health Approach*. Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN), <http://www.chssn.org/populationhealth/docs/CHSSNPHA.pdf>, March 2003. See Also, D. Raphael. (ed.) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. (pp.1-18, 235-51) Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press Inc, 2002

| Highest Educational Certification,<br>Population 15+, by Selected Age Groups |             | 0608 - CSSS C AVENDISH    |                            |                          | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc    |                            |                          |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
|  |             | English-speaking<br>Total | English-speaking<br>blacks | French-speaking<br>Total | English-speaking<br>Total | English-speaking<br>blacks | French-speaking<br>Total |
| University certificate, diploma or degree                                    | Pop. 15+    | 36.2%                     | 13.1%                      | 43.0%                    | 35.2%                     | 14.2%                      | 37.1%                    |
|  | 25-44 years | 50.1%                     | 18.2%                      | 56.4%                    | 52.0%                     | 22.2%                      | 50.5%                    |
|  | 45-64 years | 43.6%                     | 13.8%                      | 51.0%                    | 44.8%                     | 10.4%                      | 42.8%                    |

*Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French.*

- ❖ For the population 15+ in CSSS Cavendish, English-speaking blacks (23%) are much more likely than English-speakers in general (14.5%) or Francophones (11.3%) to be without a high school certificate. They are also much less likely than English-speakers or French-speakers (13.1% compared to 36.2% and 43% respectively) to hold a university bachelor's degree or higher.
- ❖ Across the age groups, we find that older English-speaking blacks in the CSSS Cavendish territory are more likely to be at the lowest educational attainment level (21.3% for those aged 45-64 compared to 12.9% for those aged 25-44). At the other end of the education spectrum, we find that the younger cohort of the English-speaking group is more likely to hold a bachelor's degree or better (18.2%). This level of attainment is still considerably lower than the levels registered by their peers in the English-speaking (50.1%) and French-speaking (56.4%) populations.
- ❖ In CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc, the educational gap between the English-speaking black population and the general English-speaking and the French-speaking populations is comparable to that at the CSSS Cavendish level. English-speaking blacks are much more likely to be without a high school diploma, and much less likely to hold a university certificate, diploma, or degree than are the other groups.
- ❖ In the CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc territory, older English-speaker blacks are twice as likely as younger English-speaking black adults to be without a high school diploma (14.9% in the 25-44 age group compared to 7.4% in the 45-64 age group). This older group is only half as likely to have a university bachelor's degree or better than the younger cohort (10.4% compared to 22.2%).

## Labour Force Activity

The rate and type of labour force participation experienced by a community and its members is strongly associated with health status. In industrial nations like Canada, labour force activity is linked with level of income as well as the level of social integration enjoyed by a group. Employment is an important source of social identity and a key context for the establishment of a social support network that extends beyond the workplace. For an individual, work is an important source of the self-esteem and sense of control typically associated with good mental health.<sup>11</sup>

**Table 9 - Labour Force Activity**

| Labour Force Activity,<br>Population 15+   | 0608 - CSSS CA VENDISH |                         |                       | 06081 - Côte-Saint-Luc |                         |                       |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|  | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total | English-speaking Total | English-speaking blacks | French-speaking Total |
| Total - Labour force activity  | 66,090                 | 5,235                   | 30,910                | 28,690                 | 1,165                   | 10,670                |
| In the labour force  | 40,740                 | 3,480                   | 20,328                | 16,470                 | 765                     | 6,798                 |
| Employed   | 37,255                 | 2,925                   | 18,685                | 15,235                 | 665                     | 6,308                 |
| Unemployed   | 3,485                  | 560                     | 1,655                 | 1,235                  | 105                     | 500                   |
| Out of the labour force  | 25,350                 | 1,755                   | 10,582                | 12,220                 | 400                     | 3,872                 |
| <b>Labour market participation rates, unemployment rate</b>  |                        |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |
| Total - Labour force activity  | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                | 100.0%                 | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                |
| In the labour force  | 61.6%                  | 66.5%                   | 65.8%                 | 57.4%                  | 65.7%                   | 63.7%                 |
| Employed   | 91.4%                  | 84.1%                   | 91.9%                 | 92.5%                  | 86.9%                   | 92.8%                 |
| Unemployed   | 9.4%                   | 19.1%                   | 8.9%                  | 8.1%                   | 15.8%                   | 7.9%                  |
| Out of the labour force  | 38.4%                  | 33.5%                   | 34.2%                 | 42.6%                  | 34.3%                   | 36.3%                 |
| Source: 2006 Census of Canada, 20% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken with multiple responses proportionately distributed between the English and the French. |                        |                         |                       |                        |                         |                       |

- ❖ At 19.1%, the unemployment rate for English-speaking blacks in CSSS Cavendish is more than twice the levels reported by English-speakers in general (9.4%) or Francophones (8.9%). There is no great difference among the three groups in terms of the tendency to be out of the labour force<sup>12</sup>, although the rate for English-speakers is somewhat higher than for the English-speaking blacks or Francophones.
- ❖ We find a similar trend in the CLSC Côte-Saint-Luc territory with English-speaking blacks showing much higher levels of unemployment (15.8%) than the general

<sup>11</sup> For further discussion of employment and working conditions as health determinants and the Population Health Model see J. Carter, *A Community Guide to the Population Health Approach*, Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN), <http://www.chssn.org/populationhealth/docs/CHSSNPHA.pdf>, March 2003. See also D. Raphael (ed.) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. (pp.1-18, 235-51) Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press Inc, 2002

<sup>12</sup> The Statistics Canada category "out of the labour force" refers to persons 15 years and over, excluding institutional residents, who, in the past week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), were neither employed nor unemployed. It includes students, homemakers, retired workers, and seasonal workers in an "off" season who were not looking for work because of a long-term illness or disability. (<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/ref/dict/pop101-eng.cfm>)

English-speaking (8.1%) or French-speaking (7.9%) populations. Here again, we find that the general English-speaking population shows a higher tendency to be out of the labour force.

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