

# CHSSN

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

---

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE  
OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING BLACK COMMUNITIES  
OF CLSC LAC-SAINT-LOUIS  
AND CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE

PRODUCED BY DR. JOANNE POCOCK  
AND JAN WARNKE

---

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

MARCH 2010

---

**Contents**

Introduction..... 3

    Purpose of this document ..... 3

    Linguistic definitions ..... 3

    CHSSN: Networking and Partnership Initiative (NPI) ..... 4

Series of Tables – Demographic Characteristics ..... 5

    Demographic Size ..... 6

    Age Structure ..... 7

    Income..... 9

    Household Living Arrangements ..... 11

    Low-Income Cut-off..... 13

    Highest Educational Attainment..... 17

    Labour Force Activity ..... 20

Sources and References..... 22

## Introduction

### *Purpose of this document*

This document presents selected demographic characteristics of the English-speaking black population of CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île and CLSC Lac-Saint-Louis. 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 CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île and CLSC Lac-Saint-Louis.

### *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

---

<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.

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.

### ***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.

---

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

## Series of Tables – Demographic Characteristics

Table 1 - Population Size ..... 6  
Table 2 - Age Structure of the Population ..... 7  
Table 3 - Income ..... 9  
Table 4 - Population by Household Living Arrangements ..... 11  
Table 5 - Population Living Below LICO, Across Age Groups ..... 13  
Table 6 - Population Living Below LICO, Within Age Groups ..... 14  
Table 7 - Population Living Below LICO, by Household Living Arrangements ..... 15  
Table 8 - Highest Educational Certification, for Selected Age Groups ..... 17  
Table 9 - Labour Force Activity ..... 20

## 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	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06011 – CLSC Lac Saint-Louis		
	Total	blacks	non-blacks	Total	blacks	non-blacks
FOLS - Anglophones	130,425	6,050	124,375	54,690	865	53,825
	100.0%	4.6%	95.4%	100.0%	1.6%	98.4%
FOLS - Francophones	76,198	4,148	72,050	23,690	405	23,285
	100.0%	5.4%	94.6%	100.0%	1.7%	98.3%

*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.*

- ❖ While the English-speaking population constitutes an official language minority in the province of Quebec, the English-speakers living in CSSS de l’Ouest-de-l’Île form the numerical majority of this CSSS region and of the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis.
- ❖ The total population of individuals living in the area of CSSS de l’Ouest-de-l’Île who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) is 130,425. There are 6,050 individuals who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) and are members of the black community representing 4.6% of the total English-speaking group.
- ❖ There are 865 blacks among the 54,690 English-speakers in the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory. They represent 1.6% of that population, which is just one-third of their share across the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory. Blacks form similar proportions in the English-speaking (1.6%) and French-speaking populations (1.7%) in the CLSC 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.

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 suggests that access to social services in English is a health priority for the English-speakers of CSSS de L'Ouest-de-l'Île. In the case of CSSS de L'Ouest-de-l'Île, English-speaking black youth may be a sub-group whose needs are underestimated.

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

Age Structure of the Population	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint-Louis		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	130,425	6,050	76,198	54,690	865	23,690
0-14 y ears	26,070	1,535	13,958	10,535	150	4,533
15-24 y ears	18,980	915	10,683	8,025	145	3,070
25-44 y ears	33,955	1,530	18,693	12,415	245	5,590
45-64 y ears	36,125	1,545	23,343	16,115	245	7,338
65+y ears	15,295	525	9,523	7,600	80	3,160
<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	20.0%	25.4%	18.3%	18.3%	17.3%	19.1%
15-24 y ears	14.6%	15.1%	14.0%	14.0%	16.8%	13.0%
25-44 y ears	26.0%	25.3%	24.5%	24.5%	28.3%	23.6%
45-64 y ears	27.7%	25.5%	30.6%	30.6%	28.3%	31.0%
65+y ears	11.7%	8.7%	12.5%	12.5%	9.2%	13.3%
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.						

<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).

- ❖ There are 26,070 English-speakers in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île territory who are 0-14 years of age. They form a substantial 20.0% of the total Anglophone age groups in this CSSS. There are 1,535 individuals in this age cohort who are English-speaking blacks. English-speaking blacks 0-14 years of age represent a substantial 25.4% of the CSSS English-speaking black community. 10,535 of the English-speaking population (18%) located in the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis are 0-14 years of age and 150 of these are English-speaking blacks
- ❖ When we consider the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis, we observe there are 7,600 Anglophones who are 65 years and over which represents 12.5% of the total English-speaking population. Of these, 80 are English-speaking blacks representing 9.2% of the total English-speaking black population in this CLSC territory. This is notably smaller than the proportion of CLSC Francophones of the same age (13.3%).
- ❖ When we look across the age groups in the Anglophone population of CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île, we observe a substantial number of children under 14 years of age with the bulk of the population located in the 25-64 years age group and smaller comparable numbers of seniors over 65 years. When we compare this pattern with the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île French-speaking group, we note that English-speakers aged 0-14 form a larger proportion of their English-speaking community than French-speakers of this age with respect to their language group. Compared to Francophones, the Anglophone age groups of 45-64 and 65+ years form a smaller proportion of their language community.
- ❖ When English-speaking blacks residing in this CSSS territory are compared with the French-speaking CSSS group this variance is even more evident. Besides a greater proportion of youth, English-speaking blacks in the older age groups form a smaller proportion of their black community than the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île Francophone group. Research in recent years has underlined the crucial role of childhood development in the long-term health of individuals and communities
- ❖ When we look across age groups in the Anglophone population living in the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis, we note that English-speakers aged 15-24 form a proportion of their English-speaking community (14.0%) that is similar to that of French-speakers of this age (13.0%) with respect to their language group. Anglophones 65 and over living in CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis form a slightly smaller proportion of their community (12.5%) when compared to Francophones (13.3%).
- ❖ The variance between CLSC English-speaking blacks in the 15-24 and 25-44 age groups and Francophones of the same age cohorts is noteworthy. Relatively speaking, they form a greater proportion of their community when all age groups are considered than Francophones of these ages with respect to their language group.

## 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, by Income Group	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06011 - Lac Saint-Louis		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Income groups	104,355	4,515	62,240	44,155	715	19,158
Without income	5,675	385	3,540	2,230	70	1,038
With income	98,675	4,120	58,705	41,920	645	18,128
Under \$10,000	21,290	905	10,690	8,990	110	3,023
\$10,000 - \$29,999	30,910	1,765	18,215	11,150	250	4,815
\$30,000 - \$49,999	20,765	925	12,805	8,305	140	3,770
\$50,000 - \$74,999	13,480	370	8,833	6,495	110	2,945
\$75,000 and over	12,220	145	8,165	6,980	30	3,580
<b>Proportion by income group</b>						
Total - Income groups	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Without income	5.4%	8.5%	5.7%	5.1%	9.8%	5.4%
With income	94.6%	91.3%	94.3%	94.9%	90.2%	94.6%
Under \$10,000	20.4%	20.0%	17.2%	20.4%	15.4%	15.8%
\$10,000 - \$29,999	29.6%	39.1%	29.3%	25.3%	35.0%	25.1%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	19.9%	20.5%	20.6%	18.8%	19.6%	19.7%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	12.9%	8.2%	14.2%	14.7%	15.4%	15.4%
\$75,000 and over	11.7%	3.2%	13.1%	15.8%	4.2%	18.7%
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.						

- ❖ Table 3 shows that 5,675 English-speakers 15 years of age and over living in CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île are without income and 385 of these are English-speaking blacks. They represent 5.4% of the total English-speaking CSSS population and a substantial 8.5% of the English-speaking black population. The proportion of the CSSS English-speaking black community without income is nearly 50% higher, in relative terms, than the proportion of CSSS Francophones.
- ❖ Among the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île English-speaking population with income, 21,290 individuals are earning an annual income under \$10,000 and 905 of these are English-speaking blacks. Those earning under \$10,000 form 20.4% of the English-speaking CSSS population and 20.0% of the English-speaking black

<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)

population. The proportion of the Anglophone community of CSSS de L'Ouest-de-L'Île earning under \$10,000 is higher than the proportion of Francophones in the same income bracket.

- ❖ A greater percentage of Anglophones with income living in CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île are earning under \$30,000 (50%) than above (44.5%). The percentage of English-speaking blacks earning under \$30,000 is even greater at 59.1%.
- ❖ There are 2,230 English-speakers aged 15 and over residing in the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis who are without income and 70 of these are English-speaking blacks. Those without income represent 5.1% of the total English-speaking population and 9.8% of the English-speaking black population located in this CLSC territory.
- ❖ There are 8,990 CLSC English-speakers who are earning an annual income under \$10,000 and 110 of these are English-speaking blacks. Among those living in the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis, the proportion of English-speakers earning under \$10,000 (20.4%) is much higher than the proportion of Francophones (15.8%) who do so.
- ❖ The proportion of English-speaking blacks living in CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory who are earning under \$10,000 (15.4%) is similar to the proportion of French-speakers (15.8%) who are located in this income bracket. English-speaking blacks are much more likely to be earning \$10,000-\$29,999 and much less likely to be earning \$75,000 and over than French-speakers.

## 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	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint-Louis		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Persons in private households	130,300	6,045	76,040	54,670	865	23,673
Total - Persons in Census family households	117,210	5,335	67,100	49,040	765	21,153
Persons in married or common-law couples families	103,590	3,465	59,070	44,260	640	19,193
Persons in lone-parent families	13,630	1,875	8,035	4,785	125	1,965
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	13,085	715	8,930	5,625	105	2,515
Living with relatives	1,980	205	1,155	665	30	293
Living with non-relatives only	1,530	70	1,163	575	0	343
Living alone	9,570	425	6,600	4,385	55	1,868
<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	90.0%	88.3%	88.2%	89.7%	88.4%	89.4%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	79.5%	57.3%	77.7%	81.0%	74.0%	81.1%
Persons in lone-parent families	10.5%	31.0%	10.6%	8.8%	14.5%	8.3%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	10.0%	11.8%	11.7%	10.3%	12.1%	10.6%
Living with relatives	1.5%	3.4%	1.5%	1.2%	3.5%	1.2%
Living with non-relatives only	1.2%	1.2%	1.5%	1.1%	0.0%	1.4%
Living alone	7.3%	7.0%	8.7%	8.0%	6.4%	7.9%
<i>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.</i>						

- ❖ Table 4 divides the total population of English-speakers living in private households in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île area into Census family households (persons in married or common-law couples and persons in lone parent families) and non-Census family households (persons living with relatives, living with non-relatives only)

<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](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/concepts/definitions/cfamily-rfamille-eng.htm) 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>)

and living alone). The population living in the administrative area of CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île is further divided into the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis.

- ❖ Among English-speakers living in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île territory 117,210 are living in Census families. Of these, 13,630 are individuals living in lone-parent families. 4,785 of the English-speakers living in lone-parent households are located in the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory.
- ❖ Among English-speaking blacks living in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île territory, 5,335 are living in Census families. Of these, 1,875 are individuals living in lone-parent families. There are 125 English-speaking blacks living in lone parent households in the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory.
- ❖ English-speaking blacks living in lone parent families constitute 31.0% of the English-speaking black population in this CSSS. This percentage is much higher than that of lone parent households in the CSSS Francophone population (10.6%).

## 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	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint-Louis		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	16,570	1,300	9,738	5,210	110	1,973
0-14 years	3,620	450	2,300	1,015	40	370
15-24 years	2,415	160	1,393	785	30	313
25-44 years	4,420	365	2,128	1,250	35	405
45-64 years	4,000	235	2,170	1,300	0	460
65+ years	2,115	90	1,748	860	5	425
<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 years	21.8%	34.6%	23.6%	19.5%	36.4%	18.8%
15-24 years	14.6%	12.3%	14.3%	15.1%	27.3%	15.9%
25-44 years	26.7%	28.1%	21.9%	24.0%	31.8%	20.5%
45-64 years	24.1%	18.1%	22.3%	25.0%	0.0%	23.3%
65+ years	12.8%	6.9%	18.0%	16.5%	4.5%	21.5%
<p><i>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.</i></p>						

- ❖ Table 5 gives us information on the total FOLS English-speaking population, English-speaking blacks and total French-speaking populations living below LICO as distributed according to administrative territory and age group. According to the table, 16,570 English-speaking individuals in CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île and 1,300 English-speaking blacks in that CSSS live below the low-income cut-off level (LICO). For CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis, 5,210 English-speakers of whom 110 are black are living below LICO.
- ❖ Black children (aged 0-14) make up large proportions of those living below the LICO level in both the CSSS and CLSC areas, accounting for a substantial 34.6% of black English-speakers in this CSSS and 36.4% of English-speakers in this CLSC. Young adults aged 25-44 make up a high proportion of black English-speakers living below LICO in both the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île and CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territories.

<sup>9</sup> See “[Low Income in Canada: 2000-2007 Using the Market Basket Measure](http://www.rhdcc-hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/cs/comm/news/2003/RH63-1-569-03-03E.pdf)” 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	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint-Louis		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
<b>Total - Age groups</b>	<b>16,570</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>9,738</b>	<b>5,210</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>1,973</b>
0-14 y ears	3,620	450	2,300	1,015	40	370
15-24 y ears	2,415	160	1,393	785	30	313
25-44 y ears	4,420	365	2,128	1,250	35	405
45-64 y ears	4,000	235	2,170	1,300	0	460
65+ y ears	2,115	90	1,748	860	5	425
<b>Total - Age groups</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
0-14 y ears	13.9%	29.3%	16.5%	9.6%	26.7%	8.2%
15-24 y ears	12.7%	17.5%	13.0%	9.8%	20.7%	10.2%
25-44 y ears	13.0%	23.9%	11.4%	10.1%	14.3%	7.2%
45-64 y ears	11.1%	15.2%	9.3%	8.1%	0.0%	6.3%
65+ y ears	13.8%	17.1%	18.4%	11.3%	6.3%	13.4%

*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.*

- ❖ Table 6 shows the numbers of those in various age groups and language populations as well as the number of English-speaking blacks who live below the LICO level. 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 the English-speaking population at the CSSS level, the proportion of those below LICO is fairly consistent across age groups ranging from 11.1% for the 45-64 age group to a high of 13.9% for the children aged 0-14. For black English-speakers, the overall rate living below LICO is not only higher than for the general English-speaking population (21.5% compared to 12.7%), but there is considerable variation across age groups. Children aged 0-14 and young adults aged 25-44 show the highest rate of living below LICO at 29.3% and 23.9%, respectively.
- ❖ Given that there are only 110 English-speaking blacks living below LICO in the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory, the age breakdown for this population should be used with caution. It is noteworthy that, in the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is higher for Black English-speakers (12.7%) than for the general English-speaking population (9.5%) and for the French-speaking population (8.3%).

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

Population Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off Level (LICO), by Household Living Arrangements	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint-Louis		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Persons in private households	16,570	1,300	9,733	5,210	110	1,973
Total - Persons in Census family households	12,405	1,075	6,920	3,640	85	1,278
Persons in married or common-law couples families	9,570	485	5,010	2,900	45	1,053
Persons in lone-parent families	2,845	590	1,898	745	40	223
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	4,160	230	2,815	1,570	25	695
Living with relatives	315	0	90	75	0	15
Living with non-relatives only	820	45	680	285	0	215
Living alone	3,020	140	2,040	1,205	0	463
<b>Proportion in Household Living Arrangements who are Below the Low-Income Cut-off</b>						
Total - Persons in private households	12.7%	21.5%	12.8%	9.5%	12.7%	8.3%
Total - Persons in Census family households	10.6%	20.1%	10.3%	7.4%	11.1%	6.0%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	9.2%	14.0%	8.5%	6.6%	7.0%	5.5%
Persons in lone-parent families	20.9%	31.5%	23.6%	15.6%	32.0%	11.3%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	31.8%	32.2%	31.5%	27.9%	23.8%	27.6%
Living with relatives	15.9%	0.0%	7.8%	11.3%	0.0%	5.1%
Living with non-relatives only	53.6%	64.3%	58.5%	49.6%	--	62.7%
Living alone	31.6%	32.9%	30.9%	27.5%	0.0%	24.8%

*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.*

- ❖ Table 7 addresses the total population of English-speakers, English-speaking blacks and French-speakers living below LICO in private households in the C.S.S.S. de l'Ouest-de-l'Île and in CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis. These populations are divided into Census family households (persons in married or common-law couples and persons in lone-parent families) and non-Census family households (persons living with relatives, living with non-relatives only and living alone). 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.
- ❖ For the English-speaking population at the C.S.S.S. level, there is considerable variation among those below LICO according to different household living arrangements ranging from a low of 9.2% for those living in married or common-law couple families to a high of 53.6% for those living with non-relatives only. For black English-speakers, the overall rate living below LICO is higher than it is for the general English-speaking population (21.5% compared to 12.7%), but the same trend is observed with a low of 14% for those living in married or common-law couple families to a high of 64.3% for those living with non-relatives only.
- ❖ Given that there are only 110 English-speaking blacks living below the LICO in the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory, the distribution of LICO by household living arrangements for this population should be used with caution. It is noteworthy that, in the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is

higher for Black English-speakers (12.7%) than for the general English-speaking population (9.5%) and for the French-speaking population (8.3%). The rate of living below LICO appears to be very low (7%) for blacks 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, Population 15+, by Selected Age Groups		0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE- L'ÎLE L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint- Louis		
		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+	104,355	4,505	62,243	44,150	715	19,158
	25-44 y ears	33,950	1,535	18,695	12,415	245	5,590
	45-64 y ears	36,125	1,550	23,335	16,115	250	7,333
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	12,810	850	8,893	4,430	120	2,223
	25-44 y ears	1,675	105	1,150	340	0	173
	45-64 y ears	2,675	275	1,878	700	40	333
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	26,160	1,180	13,478	10,245	230	3,623
	25-44 y ears	6,420	405	2,653	1,950	65	598
	45-64 y ears	8,990	280	4,873	3,585	60	1,313
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	7,480	555	5,923	2,550	90	1,410
	25-44 y ears	2,485	165	1,783	750	45	428
	45-64 y ears	3,125	310	2,765	1,030	40	698
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	20,200	975	11,003	8,500	135	3,130
	25-44 y ears	7,405	415	3,368	2,545	65	778
	45-64 y ears	6,025	315	4,145	2,685	40	1,243
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	Pop. 15+	6,985	335	4,758	2,845	25	1,535
	25-44 y ears	2,450	150	1,385	845	20	398
	45-64 y ears	2,925	115	2,090	1,350	0	625
University certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	30,715	620	18,200	15,575	115	7,245
	25-44 y ears	13,520	270	8,348	5,985	35	3,215
	45-64 y ears	12,390	245	7,580	6,765	65	3,120
<b>Proportion within age group with given educational certification</b>							
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	12.3%	18.9%	14.3%	10.0%	16.8%	11.6%
	25-44 y ears	4.9%	6.8%	6.2%	2.7%	0.0%	3.1%
	45-64 y ears	7.4%	17.7%	8.0%	4.3%	16.0%	4.5%
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	25.1%	26.2%	21.7%	23.2%	32.2%	18.9%
	25-44 y ears	18.9%	26.4%	14.2%	15.7%	26.5%	10.7%
	45-64 y ears	24.9%	18.1%	20.9%	22.2%	24.0%	17.9%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	7.2%	12.3%	9.5%	5.8%	12.6%	7.4%
	25-44 y ears	7.3%	10.7%	9.5%	6.0%	18.4%	7.7%
	45-64 y ears	8.7%	20.0%	11.8%	6.4%	16.0%	9.5%
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	19.4%	21.6%	17.7%	19.3%	18.9%	16.3%
	25-44 y ears	21.8%	27.0%	18.0%	20.5%	26.5%	13.9%
	45-64 y ears	16.7%	20.3%	17.8%	16.7%	16.0%	17.0%
University certificate or diploma below the	Pop. 15+	6.7%	7.4%	7.6%	6.4%	3.5%	8.0%

<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, Population 15+, by Selected Age Groups		0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE- L'ÎLE L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint- Louis		
		English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total	English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total
bachelor level	25-44 y ears	7.2%	9.8%	7.4%	6.8%	8.2%	7.1%
	45-64 y ears	8.1%	7.4%	9.0%	8.4%	0.0%	8.5%
University certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	29.4%	13.8%	29.2%	35.3%	16.1%	37.8%
	25-44 y ears	39.8%	17.6%	44.7%	48.2%	14.3%	57.5%
	45-64 y ears	34.3%	15.8%	32.5%	42.0%	26.0%	42.5%

*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.*

- ❖ Table 8 looks at information on the highest educational certification attained by the English-speakers (total population and blacks) and French-speakers in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île and CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territories. Of the 4,505 English-speaking blacks living in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île territory, more than two thousand have no more than high school certification (of these, 850 are without high school certification while 1,180 have only high school certification). Nearly half of the 715 CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis English-speaking blacks are without a high school graduation certificate (120) or have high school certification as their highest level of schooling (230).
- ❖ Among the population groups in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île, English-speaking blacks (18.9%) show the highest tendency to be without high school certification, which is substantially higher than the French-speaking population (14.3%) and the English-speaking population (12.3%). The same pattern applies for the residents of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis where we find a rate of low educational attainment more present in the black English-speaking population (16.8%) than for the French-speaking population (11.6%) or for the English-speaking population in general (10%).
- ❖ Among younger black adults (aged 25-44 in 2006), there is a much lower tendency to show low educational attainment than for older black adults (aged 45-64) in both the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île and CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis territories.
- ❖ At the other end of the educational spectrum, in CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île, English-speaking blacks are much less likely to hold a university certificate, degree or diploma (13.8%) than either the English-speaking population in general (29.4%) or the French-speaking population (29.2%). While the rate of university accreditation is higher for CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis English-speaking blacks than for the English-speaking black population in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île as a whole (16.1%), it is still considerably lower than that exhibited by French-speaking population (37.8%) or for the English-speaking population in general (35.3%) in the CLSC territory.
- ❖ In this CLSC territory, the tendency to hold university accreditation is considerably higher for the older English-speaking black cohort (26% for those aged 45-64) than for its younger cohort (14.3% for those aged 25-44).
- ❖ A greater proportion of English-speaking blacks (12.3%) hold an apprenticeship or trade certificate or diploma compared to the total English-speaking (7.2%) and

French-speaking population (9.5%) of CSSS de L'Ouest-de-l'Île. Those aged 45-64 years among the English-speaking black group (20.0%) are much more likely to have this certification than those aged 25-44 years (10.7%).

## 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, Population 15+	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE- L'ÎLE L'ÎLE			06011 - CLSC du Lac Saint- Louis		
	English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total	English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total
Total - Labour force activity	104,355	4,505	62,243	44,150	715	19,158
In the labour force	71,205	3,080	42,460	29,105	465	12,840
Employed	66,355	2,795	40,153	27,285	415	12,198
Unemployed	4,860	290	2,300	1,825	50	648
Out of the labour force	33,150	1,425	19,783	15,045	250	6,318
<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	68.2%	68.4%	68.2%	65.9%	65.0%	67.0%
Employed	93.2%	90.7%	94.6%	93.7%	89.2%	95.0%
Unemployed	7.3%	10.4%	5.7%	6.7%	12.0%	5.3%
Out of the labour force	31.8%	31.6%	31.8%	34.1%	35.0%	33.0%
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.						

- ❖ According to the 2006 Census of Canada, there are 4,860 unemployed English-speakers, of whom 290 are blacks, residing in the territory of CSSS de L'Ouest-de-l'Île. In CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis, there are 1,825 unemployed English-speakers and 50 of these are English-speaking blacks.
- ❖ The rate of unemployment is substantially higher for black English-speakers (10.4% in the CSSS administrative area and 12% in the CLSC territory) than for the overall English-speaking population (7.3% at the CSSS level and 6.7% at the CLSC level) and the French-speaking population (5.7% as the CSSS level and 5.3% at the CLSC level).

<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

- ❖ For the populations residing in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île territory, there is essentially no difference in the tendency to be out of the labour force<sup>12</sup> with each reporting a rate that is slightly higher than 31%. The rate of non-participation in the labour force is slightly higher for those residing in the territory of CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis.

---

<sup>12</sup> The Statistics Canada category "[out of the labour force](http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/ref/dict/pop101-eng.cfm)" 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>)

## Sources and References

- Bowen, S. (2001). [\*Language Barriers in Access to Health Care\*](#), Ottawa: Health Canada.
- Carter, J. (2003). [\*A Community Guide to the Population Health Approach\*](#). Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN), <http://www.chssn.org/populationhealth/docs/CHSSNPHA.pdf>.
- [\*Consultative Committee for English-speaking Minority Communities \(CCESMC\) 2002, Report to the Federal Minister of Health\*](#), Ottawa: Health Canada.
- Galabuzi, G. (2002). "Social Exclusion" in Raphael, D (ed.) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press Inc, pp235-251.
- Health Canada (1998). [\*Taking Action on population health: a position paper for Health Promotion and Programs Branch staff\*](#). Health and Welfare Canada.
- 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.
- 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)
- Raphael, D. (Ed.) (2002) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press Inc,
- Statistics Canada. (2007). 2006 Census of Canada, Ottawa. Series of tables delivered to the Community Health and Social Services Network.