

# 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 DE LA MONTAGNE AND  
CLSC PARC-EXTENSION

PRODUCED BY DR. JOANNE POCOCK  
AND JAN WARNKE

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FOR THE  
AFRICAN CANADIAN DEVELOPMENT AND  
PREVENTION NETWORK (ACDPN)  
AND THE  
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## Introduction

### *Purpose of this document*

This document presents selected demographic characteristics of the English-speaking black population of CSSS de la Montagne and CLSC Parc-Extension. 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 Parc-Extension.

### *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

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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.

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.

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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	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	Total	blacks	non-blacks	Total	blacks	non-blacks
FOLS - Anglophones	110,305	5,445	104,860	17,030	1,300	15,730
	100.0%	4.9%	95.1%	100.0%	7.6%	92.4%
FOLS - Francophones	96,645	8,068	88,578	9,355	2,170	7,185
	100.0%	8.3%	91.7%	100.0%	23.2%	76.8%

*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.*

- ❖ The total population of individuals living in the area of CSSS de la Montagne who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) is 110,305. There are 5,445 individuals who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) and are members of the black community representing 4.9% of the total English-speaking group.
- ❖ There are 1,300 blacks among the 17,030 English-speakers in the CLSC Parc-Extension territory. They represent 7.6% of that population, which is higher than their share of the CSSS de la Montagne 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. In the case of CSSS de la Montagne, English-speaking seniors and English-speaking black youth may be a sub-group whose needs are underestimated. 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. 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 de la Montagne.

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

Age Structure of the Population	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	110,305	5,445	96,645	17,030	1,300	9,355
0-14 y ears	15,065	1,150	15,898	2,250	290	2,580
15-24 y ears	16,790	845	16,438	2,050	205	1,718
25-44 y ears	38,090	1,710	28,723	6,530	420	2,860
45-64 y ears	24,945	1,135	22,805	4,075	325	1,443
65+y ears	15,415	605	12,783	2,125	60	756
<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	13.7%	21.1%	16.4%	16.4%	22.3%	27.6%
15-24 y ears	15.2%	15.5%	17.0%	17.0%	15.8%	18.4%
25-44 y ears	34.5%	31.4%	29.7%	29.7%	32.3%	30.6%
45-64 y ears	22.6%	20.8%	23.6%	23.6%	25.0%	15.4%
65+y ears	14.0%	11.1%	13.2%	13.2%	4.6%	8.1%
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.						

<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 15,065 English-speakers in the CSSS de la Montagne territory who are 0-14 years of age. They form a fairly substantial 13.7% of the total Anglophone age groups in this CSSS. 1,150 of the individuals in this age cohort are English-speaking blacks. 2,250 of the English-speaking population located in the territory of CLSC Parc-Extension are 0-14 years of age. 290 (22.3%) of these are English-speaking blacks.
- ❖ Table 2 tells us that there are 15,415 English-speaking individuals living in the CSSS de la Montagne area who are 65 years of age and over. 605 of these English-speakers are also members of the black community. Older individuals of the official language minority and their families form a vulnerable sub-group, as they are highly likely to need public healthcare support in their language.
- ❖ When we consider the territory of CLSC Parc-Extension, we observe there are 2,125 Anglophones who are 65 years and over which represents 13.2% of the total English-speaking population. Of these, 60 are English-speaking blacks representing 4.6% of the total English-speaking black population in this CLSC territory. Anglophones 65 and over living in CLSC Parc-Extension form a larger proportion of their community when compared to Francophones. The proportion of English-speaking blacks 65+ years of age (4.6%) is nearly half of the proportion of Francophones of the same age (8.1%).
- ❖ 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 la Montagne Francophone 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	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Income groups	95,240	4,295	80,748	14,780	1,010	6,775
Without income	6,785	325	5,130	1,015	65	583
With income	88,455	3,955	75,623	13,765	935	6,200
Under \$10,000	24,970	1,155	19,388	4,355	275	2,085
\$10,000 - \$29,999	34,865	1,990	26,078	7,330	495	3,080
\$30,000 - \$49,999	13,155	570	12,763	1,745	150	780
\$50,000 - \$74,999	6,495	155	7,380	250	10	183
\$75,000 and over	8,965	70	10,023	85	0	75
<b>Proportion by income group</b>						
Total - Income groups	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Without income	7.1%	7.6%	6.4%	6.9%	6.4%	8.6%
With income	92.9%	92.1%	93.7%	93.1%	92.6%	91.5%
Under \$10,000	26.2%	26.9%	24.0%	29.5%	27.2%	30.8%
\$10,000 - \$29,999	36.6%	46.3%	32.3%	49.6%	49.0%	45.5%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	13.8%	13.3%	15.8%	11.8%	14.9%	11.5%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	6.8%	3.6%	9.1%	1.7%	1.0%	2.7%
\$75,000 and over	9.4%	1.6%	12.4%	0.6%	0.0%	1.1%
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.						

- ❖ Table 3 shows that 6,785 English-speakers 15 years of age and over living in CSSS de la Montagne are without income and 325 of these are English-speaking blacks. They represent 7.1% of the total English-speaking CSSS population and 7.6% of the English-speaking black population.
- ❖ Among the CSSS de la Montagne English-speaking population with income, 24,970 individuals are earning an annual income under \$10,000 and 1,155 of these are English-speaking blacks. Those earning under \$10,000 form 26.2% of the English-speaking CSSS population and 26.9% of the English-speaking black population.

<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)

- ❖ A much greater percentage of Anglophones with income living in CSSS de la Montagne are earning under \$30,000 (62.8%) than above (30%). The percentage of English-speaking blacks earning under \$30,000 is even greater at 73.2%.
- ❖ There are 1,015 English-speakers residing in the territory of CLSC Parc-Extension who are without income and 65 of these are English-speaking blacks. Those without income represent 6.9% of the total English-speaking population and 6.4% of the English-speaking black population located in this CLSC territory.
- ❖ Among the CLSC Parc-Extension English-speaking population with income, 4,355 are earning an annual income under \$10,000 and 275 of these are English-speaking blacks. They form 29.5% of the English-speaking CLSC group and 27.2% of the English-speaking CLSC black community.

## 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	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Persons in private households	109,915	5,415	95,523	17,030	1,300	9,350
Total - Persons in Census family households	79,145	3,565	67,515	13,705	965	7,290
Persons in married or common-law couples families	68,045	1,990	56,653	11,335	670	5,705
Persons in lone-parent families	11,105	1,565	10,863	2,375	295	1,583
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	30,770	1,855	28,005	3,325	335	2,060
Living with relatives	3,610	225	3,063	480	25	288
Living with non-relatives only	6,700	265	5,648	715	95	363
Living alone	20,460	1,335	19,293	2,130	200	1,410
Proportion by household living arrangements						
Total - Persons in private households	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total - Persons in Census family households	72.0%	65.8%	70.7%	80.5%	74.2%	78.0%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	61.9%	36.7%	59.3%	66.6%	51.5%	61.0%
Persons in lone-parent families	10.1%	28.9%	11.4%	13.9%	22.7%	16.9%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	28.0%	34.3%	29.3%	19.5%	25.8%	22.0%
Living with relatives	3.3%	4.2%	3.2%	2.8%	1.9%	3.1%
Living with non-relatives only	6.1%	4.9%	5.9%	4.2%	7.3%	3.9%
Living alone	18.6%	24.7%	20.2%	12.5%	15.4%	15.1%
<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 living in the CSSS de la Montagne 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 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 la Montagne is further divided into the territory of CLSC Parc-Extension.

- ❖ Among English-speakers living in the CSSS de la Montagne territory 79,145 are living in Census families. Of these, 11,105 are individuals living in lone-parent families. 2,375 of English-speakers living in lone-parent households are located in the CLSC Parc-Extension territory.
- ❖ Among English-speaking blacks living in the CSSS de la Montagne territory, 3,565 are living in Census families. Of these, 1,565 are individuals living in lone-parent families. 295 of English-speaking blacks living in lone parent households are located in the CLSC Parc-Extension territory.
- ❖ English-speaking blacks living in lone parent families constitute 28.9% of the English-speaking black population in this CSSS, and 22.7% of the English-speaking black population in the CLSC Parc-Extension territory. This percentage is much higher than that of lone parent households in the CSSS Francophone population (11.4%).

## 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	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	42,220	2,760	32,690	8,345	575	5,390
0-14 y ears	5,510	645	6,198	1,280	110	1,778
15-24 y ears	9,175	500	8,053	1,070	105	1,028
25-44 y ears	16,170	865	10,258	3,350	215	1,520
45-64 y ears	7,680	505	5,155	1,855	110	695
65+ y ears	3,685	245	3,028	790	35	371
<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	13.1%	23.4%	19.0%	15.3%	19.1%	33.0%
15-24 y ears	21.7%	18.1%	24.6%	12.8%	18.3%	19.1%
25-44 y ears	38.3%	31.3%	31.4%	40.1%	37.4%	28.2%
45-64 y ears	18.2%	18.3%	15.8%	22.2%	19.1%	12.9%
65+ y ears	8.7%	8.9%	9.3%	9.5%	6.1%	6.9%
<small>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.</small>						

- ❖ 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, 42,220 English-speaking individuals in CSSS de la Montagne and 2,760 English-speaking blacks in that CSSS live below the low-income cut-off level (LICO). For CLSC Parc-Extension, 8,345 English-speakers of whom 575 are black are living below LICO.
- ❖ Black children (aged 0-14) make up large proportions of those living below the LICO level at both the CSSS and CLSC areas, accounting for a substantial 23.4% of black English-speakers in the CSSS and 19.1% of English-speakers in the CLSC. Young adults aged 25-44 make up a high proportion of black English-speakers living below

<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>

LICO in the CSSS de la Montagne territory (31.3%) and in the CLSC Parc-Extension territory (37.4%).

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

Proportion Within Age Groups, Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO) Level	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	42,220	2,760	32,690	8,345	575	5,390
0-14 years	5,510	645	6,198	1,280	110	1,778
15-24 years	9,175	500	8,053	1,070	105	1,028
25-44 years	16,170	865	10,258	3,350	215	1,520
45-64 years	7,680	505	5,155	1,855	110	695
65+ years	3,685	245	3,028	790	35	371
<b>Proportion of those below LICO within the age group</b>						
Total - Age groups	38.3%	50.7%	33.8%	49.0%	44.2%	57.6%
0-14 years	36.6%	56.1%	39.0%	56.9%	37.9%	68.9%
15-24 years	54.6%	59.2%	49.0%	52.2%	51.2%	59.8%
25-44 years	42.5%	50.6%	35.7%	51.3%	51.2%	53.1%
45-64 years	30.8%	44.5%	22.6%	45.5%	33.8%	48.2%
65+ years	23.9%	40.5%	23.7%	37.2%	58.3%	49.1%
<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 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 ranges across age groups from 23.9% for those in the 65+ years group to a high of 54.6% for the youth aged 15-24. For black English-speakers, the overall rate living below LICO is not only higher than for the general English-speaking population (50.7% compared to 38.3%), but there is considerable variation across age groups. Children aged 0-14 and young adults aged 25-44 in the black English-speaking population show the highest rate of living below LICO at 56.1% and 59.2%, respectively.
- ❖ In the CLSC Parc-Extension territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is lower for Black English-speakers (44.2%) than for the general English-speaking population (49%) and for the French-speaking population (57.6%).

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

Population Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off Level (LICO), by Household Living Arrangements	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Persons in private households	42,215	2,750	32,683	8,345	575	5,390
Total - Persons in Census family households	25,570	1,640	18,598	6,185	335	3,945
Persons in married or common-law couples families	20,765	700	14,423	4,940	180	3,008
Persons in lone-parent families	4,800	940	4,178	1,245	155	940
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	16,660	1,110	14,088	2,165	235	1,445
Living with relatives	1,445	130	1,458	195	15	185
Living with non-relatives only	5,010	205	3,945	565	90	270
Living alone	10,195	765	8,683	1,400	135	988
<b>Proportion in Household Living Arrangements who are Below the Low-Income Cut-off</b>						
Total - Persons in private households	38.4%	50.8%	34.2%	49.0%	44.2%	57.6%
Total - Persons in Census family households	32.3%	46.0%	27.5%	45.1%	34.7%	54.1%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	30.5%	35.2%	25.5%	43.6%	26.9%	52.7%
Persons in lone-parent families	43.2%	60.1%	38.5%	52.4%	52.5%	59.4%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	54.1%	59.8%	50.3%	65.1%	70.1%	70.1%
Living with relatives	40.0%	57.8%	47.6%	40.6%	60.0%	64.2%
Living with non-relatives only	74.8%	77.4%	69.8%	79.0%	94.7%	74.4%
Living alone	49.8%	57.3%	45.0%	65.7%	67.5%	70.1%

*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.*

- ❖ Table 7 addresses the total population of English-speakers, English-speaking blacks and French-speakers living below LICO in private households in the CSSS de la Montagne and in CLSC Parc-Extension. 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 CSSS level, there is considerable variation among those below LICO according to different household living arrangements ranging from a low of 30.5% for those living in married or common-law couple families to a high of 74.8% 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 (50.8% compared to 38.4%), but the same trend is observed with a low of 35.2% for those living in married or common-law couple families to a high of 77.4% for those living with non-relatives only.
- ❖ In the CLSC Parc-Extension territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is lower for Black English-speakers (44.2%) than for the general English-speaking population (49%) and for the French-speaking population (57.6%). The rate of living below

LICO appears to be much lower (26.9%) for blacks living in married or common-law couples 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		0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
		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+	95,225	4,285	80,755	14,780	1,005	6,780
	25-44 years	38,090	1,710	28,720	6,530	420	2,855
	45-64 years	24,940	1,135	22,803	4,075	330	1,443
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	14,330	1,125	8,548	5,580	280	2,223
	25-44 years	3,435	340	1,303	1,620	85	465
	45-64 years	3,435	255	1,820	1,725	70	525
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	21,655	1,195	11,553	4,095	270	1,390
	25-44 years	6,820	465	2,648	1,870	115	523
	45-64 years	5,165	295	2,510	1,160	95	303
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	4,835	635	4,448	1,235	230	678
	25-44 years	1,920	300	1,590	595	135	328
	45-64 years	1,510	180	1,460	365	65	205
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	12,085	710	11,440	1,635	120	1,035
	25-44 years	5,015	285	3,673	975	55	568
	45-64 years	2,755	240	2,470	325	45	160
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	Pop. 15+	6,115	115	6,420	480	35	285
	25-44 years	2,485	40	2,278	245	0	183
	45-64 years	1,760	30	1,803	145	30	45
University certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	36,225	480	38,363	1,760	70	1,170
	25-44 years	18,435	285	17,230	1,235	30	788
	45-64 years	10,310	120	12,760	355	25	205
<b>Proportion within age group with given educational certification</b>							
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	15.0%	26.3%	10.6%	37.8%	27.9%	32.8%
	25-44 years	9.0%	19.9%	4.5%	24.8%	20.2%	16.3%
	45-64 years	13.8%	22.5%	8.0%	42.3%	21.2%	36.4%
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	22.7%	27.9%	14.3%	27.7%	26.9%	20.5%
	25-44 years	17.9%	27.2%	9.2%	28.6%	27.4%	18.3%
	45-64 years	20.7%	26.0%	11.0%	28.5%	28.8%	21.0%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	5.1%	14.8%	5.5%	8.4%	22.9%	10.0%
	25-44 years	5.0%	17.5%	5.5%	9.1%	32.1%	11.5%
	45-64 years	6.1%	15.9%	6.4%	9.0%	19.7%	14.2%
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate	Pop. 15+	12.7%	16.6%	14.2%	11.1%	11.9%	15.3%

<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		0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
		English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
or diploma	25-44 y ears	13.2%	16.7%	12.8%	14.9%	13.1%	19.9%
	45-64 y ears	11.0%	21.1%	10.8%	8.0%	13.6%	11.1%
Univ ersity certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	Pop. 15+	6.4%	2.7%	7.9%	3.2%	3.5%	4.2%
	25-44 y ears	6.5%	2.3%	7.9%	3.8%	0.0%	6.4%
	45-64 y ears	7.1%	2.6%	7.9%	3.6%	9.1%	3.1%
Univ ersity certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	38.0%	11.2%	47.5%	11.9%	7.0%	17.3%
	25-44 y ears	48.4%	16.7%	60.0%	18.9%	7.1%	27.6%
	45-64 y ears	41.3%	10.6%	56.0%	8.7%	7.6%	14.2%

*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 la Montagne and CLSC Parc-Extension territories. Of the 4,285 English-speaking blacks (aged 15 +) living in the CSSS de la Montagne territory, more than two thousand have no more than high school certification (of these, 1,125 are without high school certification while 1,195 have only high school certification). Nearly 55% of the 1,005 CLSC Parc-Extension English-speaking blacks are without a high school graduation certificate (280) or have high school certification as their highest level of schooling (270).
- ❖ Among the population groups in the CSSS de la Montagne, English-speaking blacks (26.3%) are much more likely to be without high school certification as the French-speaking population (10.6%) and the English-speaking population (15%). For the residents of CLSC Parc-Extension, we find a rate of low educational attainment present in the black English-speaking population (27.9%) that is much lower than that of the English-speaking population in general (37.8%) and the French-speaking population (32.8%).
- ❖ Among younger black adults (aged 25-44 in 2006), there is a lower tendency to show low educational attainment than for older black adults (aged 45-64) in both the CSSS de la Montagne and CLSC Parc-Extension territories.
- ❖ At the other end of the educational spectrum, in CSSS de la Montagne, English-speaking blacks are much less likely to hold a university certificate, degree or diploma (11.2%) than either the English-speaking population in general (38%) or the French-speaking population (47.5%). The rate of university accreditation is lower for CLSC Parc-Extension English-speaking blacks than for the English-speaking black population in the CSSS de la Montagne as a whole (7%), and is still much lower than that exhibited by French-speaking population (17.3%) or for the total English-speaking population in the CLSC territory (11.9%).
- ❖ In CLSC Parc-Extension, the tendency to hold university accreditation is higher for the older English-speaking black cohort (7.6% for those aged 45-64) than for its younger cohort (7.1% for those aged 25-44).

- ❖ A greater proportion of English-speaking blacks (14.8%) hold an apprenticeship or trade certificate or diploma compared to the total English-speaking (5.1%) and French-speaking population (5.5%) of CSSS de la Montagne. Those aged 45-64 years among the English-speaking black group (15.9%) are less likely to have this certification than those aged 25-44 years (17.5%).

## 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+	0607 - CSSS DE LA MONTAGNE			06075 - Parc-Extension		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Labour force activity	95,225	4,285	80,755	14,780	1,005	6,780
In the labour force	57,680	2,780	51,823	8,385	720	4,038
Employed	51,270	2,360	46,388	6,825	590	3,408
Unemployed	6,400	420	5,423	1,560	125	630
Out of the labour force	37,545	1,505	28,932	6,395	285	2,742
<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	60.6%	64.9%	64.2%	56.7%	71.6%	59.6%
Employed	88.9%	84.9%	89.5%	81.4%	81.9%	84.4%
Unemployed	12.5%	17.8%	11.7%	22.9%	21.2%	18.5%
Out of the labour force	39.4%	35.1%	35.8%	43.3%	28.4%	40.4%

*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.*

- ❖ According to the 2006 Census of Canada, there are 6,400 unemployed English-speakers, of whom 420 are blacks, residing in the territory of CSSS de la Montagne. In CLSC Parc-Extension, there are 1,560 unemployed English-speakers and 125 of these are English-speaking blacks.
- ❖ The rate of unemployment is higher for black English-speakers in the CSSS administrative area (17.8%) than for the overall English-speaking population (12.5%). The opposite is true in the CLSC territory, where the rate of unemployment is lower for the black English-speaking population than for the general English-speaking population (21.2% compared to 22.9%). Both of these are higher rates of unemployment compared with the French-speaking population (11.7% as the CSSS level and 18.5% 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 la Montagne territory, apart from the English-speaking blacks of CLSC Parc-Extension (28.4%), there is essentially no difference in the tendency to be out of the labour force<sup>12</sup> with each reporting rate at around 39%.

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<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>)

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