

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 PIERREFONDS
AND CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE

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Introduction

Purpose of this document

This document presents selected demographic characteristics of the English-speaking black population of the CLSC Pierrefonds which is part of the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île. 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.¹ 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.²

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 Pierrefonds.

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

¹ 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,

² 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.³ 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.

³ http://www.chssn.org/En/Networking_Partnership.html

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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.⁴ 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'ILE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	Total	blacks	non-blacks	Total	blacks	non-blacks
FOLS - Anglophones	130,425	6,050	124,375	40,750	3,400	37,350
	100.0%	4.6%	95.4%	100.0%	8.3%	91.7%
FOLS - Francophones	76,198	4,148	72,050	39,613	2,800	36,813
	100.0%	5.4%	94.6%	100.0%	7.1%	92.9%

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.

- ❖ 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 Pierrefonds.
- ❖ 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 3,400 blacks among the 40,750 English-speakers in the CLSC Pierrefonds territory. They represent 8.3% of that population, which is nearly twice their proportion across the CSSS territory. At the level of the CSSS territory, blacks make up a slightly higher proportion of the French-speaking population (5.4%) than they do for the English-speaking population (4.6%) but this is reversed at the CLSC territory where blacks form 8.3% of the English-speaking population compared to 7.1% of the French-speaking population.

⁴ 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.⁵ 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 and CLSC Pierrefonds, 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'ILE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	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	40,750	3,400	39,613
0-14 years	26,070	1,535	13,958	8,835	965	7,245
15-24 years	18,980	915	10,683	5,485	510	5,620
25-44 years	33,955	1,530	18,693	12,540	850	10,185
45-64 years	36,125	1,545	23,343	9,810	795	12,028
65+ years	15,295	525	9,523	4,080	280	4,535
Proportion by age group						
Total - Age groups	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
0-14 years	20.0%	25.4%	18.3%	18.3%	28.4%	18.3%
15-24 years	14.6%	15.1%	14.0%	14.0%	15.0%	14.2%
25-44 years	26.0%	25.3%	24.5%	24.5%	25.0%	25.7%
45-64 years	27.7%	25.5%	30.6%	30.6%	23.4%	30.4%
65+ years	11.7%	8.7%	12.5%	12.5%	8.2%	11.4%
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.						

⁵ 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

- ❖ 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% of the total Anglophone age groups in this CSSS. 1,535 of the individuals in this age cohort are English-speaking blacks. 8,835 of the English-speaking population located in the territory of CLSC Pierrefonds are 0-14 years of age. 965 of these are English-speaking blacks.
- ❖ Table 2 tells us that there are 15,295 English-speaking individuals living in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île area who are 65 years of age and over. 525 of these English-speakers are also members of the black community. When we consider the territory of CLSC Pierrefonds, we observe there are 4,080 Anglophones who are 65 years and over which represents 12.5% of the total English-speaking population. Of these, 280 are English-speaking blacks, representing 8.2% of the total English-speaking black population in this CLSC territory. 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 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 Pierrefonds, we note the tendency of English-speakers 15-24 to form nearly the same proportion of their English-speaking community as French-speakers of this age with respect to their language group. Anglophones 65 and over living in CLSC Pierrefonds form a slightly larger proportion of their community when compared to Francophones.

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.⁶ 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			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	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	31,915	2,435	32,368
Without income	5,675	385	3,540	1,875	245	1,773
With income	98,675	4,120	58,705	30,040	2,185	30,595
Under \$10,000	21,290	905	10,690	6,360	520	5,810
\$10,000 - \$29,999	30,910	1,765	18,215	10,455	975	9,985
\$30,000 - \$49,999	20,765	925	12,805	6,920	475	6,795
\$50,000 - \$74,999	13,480	370	8,833	3,715	140	4,570
\$75,000 and over	12,220	145	8,165	2,590	70	3,430
Proportion by income group						
Total - Income groups	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Without income	5.4%	8.5%	5.7%	5.9%	10.1%	5.5%
With income	94.6%	91.3%	94.3%	94.1%	89.7%	94.5%
Under \$10,000	20.4%	20.0%	17.2%	19.9%	21.4%	17.9%
\$10,000 - \$29,999	29.6%	39.1%	29.3%	32.8%	40.0%	30.8%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	19.9%	20.5%	20.6%	21.7%	19.5%	21.0%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	12.9%	8.2%	14.2%	11.6%	5.7%	14.1%
\$75,000 and over	11.7%	3.2%	13.1%	8.1%	2.9%	10.6%

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 8.5% of the English-speaking black population.
- ❖ 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% of the English-speaking black population.

⁶ 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

- ❖ A greater percentage of Anglophones with income living in CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île are earning under \$30,000 (50.0%) than above (44.5%). The percentage of English-speaking blacks earning under \$30,000 is even greater at 59.1%.
- ❖ There are 1,875 English-speakers residing in the territory of CLSC Pierrefonds who are without income and 245 of these are English-speaking blacks. Those without income represent 5.9% of the total English-speaking population and 10.1% of the English-speaking black population located in this CLSC territory.
- ❖ Among the CLSC Pierrefonds English-speaking population with income, 6,360 are earning an annual income under \$10,000 and 520 of these are English-speaking blacks. They form 19.9% of the English-speaking CLSC group and 21.4% of the English-speaking CLSC black community.
- ❖ The proportion (20.4%) of the Anglophone community of CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île earning under \$10,000 is higher than the proportion of Francophones (17.2%) in the same income bracket. The proportion of the CSSS English-speaking black community without income (8.5%) is higher than the proportion of Francophones (5.7%) in that situation. The proportion of the English-speaking black community earning \$50,000-\$74,999 and \$75,000 and over (8.2% and 3.2%, respectively) is much smaller than the proportion of Francophones located in these high income brackets (14.2% and 13.1%).
- ❖ Among those living in the territory of CLSC Pierrefonds, the proportion of English-speakers earning under \$10,000 is slightly higher than the proportion of Francophones who do so (19.9% compared to 17.9%).

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.⁷ 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.⁸

Table 4 - Population by Household Living Arrangements

Population by Household Living Arrangements	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	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	40,750	3,400	39,518
Total - Persons in Census family households	117,210	5,335	67,100	36,240	2,975	34,330
Persons in married or common-law couples families	103,590	3,465	59,070	31,225	1,865	29,713
Persons in lone-parent families	13,630	1,875	8,035	5,020	1,115	4,625
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	13,085	715	8,930	4,505	425	5,175
Living with relatives	1,980	205	1,155	735	105	675
Living with non-relatives only	1,530	70	1,163	520	60	730
Living alone	9,570	425	6,600	3,255	260	3,775
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	90.0%	88.3%	88.2%	88.9%	87.5%	86.9%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	79.5%	57.3%	77.7%	76.6%	54.9%	75.2%
Persons in lone-parent families	10.5%	31.0%	10.6%	12.3%	32.8%	11.7%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	10.0%	11.8%	11.7%	11.1%	12.5%	13.1%
Living with relatives	1.5%	3.4%	1.5%	1.8%	3.1%	1.7%
Living with non-relatives only	1.2%	1.2%	1.5%	1.3%	1.8%	1.8%
Living alone	7.3%	7.0%	8.7%	8.0%	7.6%	9.6%
<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 and CLSC Pierrefonds areas into Census family households (persons in married or common-law couples and persons in lone parent

⁷ 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

⁸ 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>)

families) and non-Census family households (persons living with relatives, living with non-relatives only and living alone).

- ❖ 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 (10.5% of the total) are individuals living in lone-parent families and 5,020 (12.3%) of English-speakers living in lone-parent households are located in the CLSC Pierrefonds 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 (31%) are individuals living in lone-parent families. The percentage of English-speaking blacks living in lone parent households is much higher than the percentage of those living in the CSSS Francophone population (10.6%). 1,115 of English-speaking blacks living in lone parent households are located in the CLSC Pierrefonds territory. They form 32.8% of the CLSC English-speaking black population living in Census family households. Lone parent families form only 11.7% of the CLSC Francophone group

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”⁹ 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			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	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	6,640	855	5,888
0-14 y ears	3,620	450	2,300	1,595	300	1,445
15-24 y ears	2,415	160	1,393	910	110	735
25-44 y ears	4,420	365	2,128	1,955	215	1,358
45-64 y ears	4,000	235	2,170	1,500	180	1,343
65+ y ears	2,115	90	1,748	680	50	1,008
Proportion of those below LICO across age groups						
Total - Age groups	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
0-14 y ears	21.8%	34.6%	23.6%	24.0%	35.1%	24.5%
15-24 y ears	14.6%	12.3%	14.3%	13.7%	12.9%	12.5%
25-44 y ears	26.7%	28.1%	21.9%	29.4%	25.1%	23.1%
45-64 y ears	24.1%	18.1%	22.3%	22.6%	21.1%	22.8%
65+ y ears	12.8%	6.9%	18.0%	10.2%	5.8%	17.1%

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.

- ❖ 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 Pierrefonds, 6,640 English-speakers of whom 855 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 34.6% of black English-speakers in the CSSS and 35.1% of English-speakers in the CLSC. Young

⁹ 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>

adults aged 25-44 make up a high proportion of black English-speakers living below LICO in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île territory.

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'ILE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	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	6,640	855	5,888
0-14 y ears	3,620	450	2,300	1,595	300	1,445
15-24 y ears	2,415	160	1,393	910	110	735
25-44 y ears	4,420	365	2,128	1,955	215	1,358
45-64 y ears	4,000	235	2,170	1,500	180	1,343
65+ y ears	2,115	90	1,748	680	50	1,008
Total - Age groups	12.7%	21.5%	12.8%	16.3%	25.1%	14.9%
0-14 y ears	13.9%	29.3%	16.5%	18.1%	31.1%	19.9%
15-24 y ears	12.7%	17.5%	13.0%	16.6%	21.6%	13.1%
25-44 y ears	13.0%	23.9%	11.4%	15.6%	25.3%	13.3%
45-64 y ears	11.1%	15.2%	9.3%	15.3%	22.6%	11.2%
65+ y ears	13.8%	17.1%	18.4%	16.7%	17.9%	22.2%

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. 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.
- ❖ In the CLSC Pierrefonds territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is higher for Black English-speakers (25.1%) than for the general English-speaking population (16.3%) and for the French-speaking population (14.9%).
- ❖ In the 25-44 and 45-64 age groups, the proportion of English-speaking blacks living below LICO is roughly double the rate shown by the French-speaking population in the CLSC Pierrefonds territory.

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'ILE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	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	6,640	855	5,883
Total - Persons in Census family households	12,405	1,075	6,920	5,110	715	4,108
Persons in married or common-law couples families	9,570	485	5,010	3,865	260	2,853
Persons in lone-parent families	2,845	590	1,898	1,245	455	1,250
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	4,160	230	2,815	1,530	145	1,780
Living with relatives	315	0	90	155	0	60
Living with non-relatives only	820	45	680	270	45	430
Living alone	3,020	140	2,040	1,105	95	1,288
Proportion in Household Living Arrangements who are Below the Low-Income Cut-off						
Total - Persons in private households	12.7%	21.5%	12.8%	16.3%	25.1%	14.9%
Total - Persons in Census family households	10.6%	20.1%	10.3%	14.1%	24.0%	12.0%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	9.2%	14.0%	8.5%	12.4%	13.9%	9.6%
Persons in lone-parent families	20.9%	31.5%	23.6%	24.8%	40.8%	27.0%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	31.8%	32.2%	31.5%	34.0%	34.1%	34.4%
Living with relatives	15.9%	0.0%	7.8%	21.1%	0.0%	8.9%
Living with non-relatives only	53.6%	64.3%	58.5%	51.9%	75.0%	58.9%
Living alone	31.6%	32.9%	30.9%	33.9%	36.5%	34.1%

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 l'Ouest-de-l'Île and in CLSC Pierrefonds. 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 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.
- ❖ In the CLSC Pierrefonds territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is higher for Black English-speakers (25.1%) than for the general English-speaking population (16.3%) and for the French-speaking population (14.9%). The rate of living below

LICO appears to be very low (13.9%) for blacks living in married or common-law couple family arrangements.

- ❖ At the CLSC level, English-speaking blacks in lone-parent families are much more likely to be living below LICO (40.8%) than are the general English-speaking population (24.8%) or the French-speaking population (27%).

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 members¹⁰.

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'ILE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
		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	31,915	2,430	32,368
	25-44 y ears	33,950	1,535	18,695	12,535	855	10,185
	45-64 y ears	36,125	1,550	23,335	9,810	795	12,028
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	12,810	850	8,893	4,605	425	5,365
	25-44 y ears	1,675	105	1,150	750	40	853
	45-64 y ears	2,675	275	1,878	1,070	155	1,275
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	26,160	1,180	13,478	8,900	660	7,488
	25-44 y ears	6,420	405	2,653	2,740	240	1,635
	45-64 y ears	8,990	280	4,873	2,965	130	2,733
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	7,480	555	5,923	2,885	305	3,558
	25-44 y ears	2,485	165	1,783	1,120	80	1,090
	45-64 y ears	3,125	310	2,765	1,155	170	1,618
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	20,200	975	11,003	6,470	525	5,820
	25-44 y ears	7,405	415	3,368	2,995	215	2,035
	45-64 y ears	6,025	315	4,145	1,745	165	2,158
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	Pop. 15+	6,985	335	4,758	1,865	205	2,218
	25-44 y ears	2,450	150	1,385	870	90	718
	45-64 y ears	2,925	115	2,090	645	75	1,028
University certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	30,715	620	18,200	7,190	320	7,915
	25-44 y ears	13,520	270	8,348	4,065	180	3,848
	45-64 y ears	12,390	245	7,580	2,230	90	3,215
Proportion within age group with given educational certification							
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	12.3%	18.9%	14.3%	14.4%	17.5%	16.6%
	25-44 y ears	4.9%	6.8%	6.2%	6.0%	4.7%	8.4%
	45-64 y ears	7.4%	17.7%	8.0%	10.9%	19.5%	10.6%
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	25.1%	26.2%	21.7%	27.9%	27.2%	23.1%
	25-44 y ears	18.9%	26.4%	14.2%	21.9%	28.1%	16.1%
	45-64 y ears	24.9%	18.1%	20.9%	30.2%	16.4%	22.7%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	7.2%	12.3%	9.5%	9.0%	12.6%	11.0%
	25-44 y ears	7.3%	10.7%	9.5%	8.9%	9.4%	10.7%
	45-64 y ears	8.7%	20.0%	11.8%	11.8%	21.4%	13.5%
College, CEGEP or other non-university	Pop. 15+	19.4%	21.6%	17.7%	20.3%	21.6%	18.0%

¹⁰ 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'ILE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
		English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total	English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total
certificate or diploma	25-44 y ears	21.8%	27.0%	18.0%	23.9%	25.1%	20.0%
	45-64 y ears	16.7%	20.3%	17.8%	17.8%	20.8%	17.9%
Univ ersity certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	Pop. 15+	6.7%	7.4%	7.6%	5.8%	8.4%	6.9%
	25-44 y ears	7.2%	9.8%	7.4%	6.9%	10.5%	7.0%
	45-64 y ears	8.1%	7.4%	9.0%	6.6%	9.4%	8.5%
Univ ersity certif icate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	29.4%	13.8%	29.2%	22.5%	13.2%	24.5%
	25-44 y ears	39.8%	17.6%	44.7%	32.4%	21.1%	37.8%
	45-64 y ears	34.3%	15.8%	32.5%	22.7%	11.3%	26.7%

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 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 Pierrefonds territories. Of the 4,505 English-speaking blacks (15 +) 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 (44.7%) of the 2,430 CLSC Pierrefonds English-speaking blacks are without a high school graduation certificate (425) or have high school certification as their highest level of schooling (660).
- ❖ 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 Pierrefonds where we find a rate of low educational attainment more present in the black English-speaking population (17.5%) than for the French-speaking population (16.6%) or for the English-speaking population in general (14.4%).
- ❖ 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 Pierrefonds 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%).
- ❖ The same pattern holds for CLSC Pierrefonds, where English-speaking blacks are less likely to hold a B.A. or higher (13.2%) than are the general English-speaking population (22.5%) or the French-speaking population (24.5%).
- ❖ 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.¹¹

Table 9 - Labour Force Activity

Labour Force Activity, Population 15+	0601 - CSSS DE L'OUEST-DE-L'ÎLE			06012 - Pierrefonds		
	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	31,915	2,430	32,368
In the labour force	71,205	3,080	42,460	22,260	1,595	22,458
Employed	66,355	2,795	40,153	20,555	1,410	21,300
Unemployed	4,860	290	2,300	1,705	185	1,155
Out of the labour force	33,150	1,425	19,783	9,655	835	9,910
Labour market participation rates, unemployment rate						
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%	69.7%	65.6%	69.4%
Employed	93.2%	90.7%	94.6%	92.3%	88.4%	94.8%
Unemployed	7.3%	10.4%	5.7%	8.3%	13.1%	5.4%
Out of the labour force	31.8%	31.6%	31.8%	30.3%	34.4%	30.6%
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 Pierrefonds, there are 1,705 unemployed English-speakers and 185 of these are English-speaking blacks.
- ❖ For the populations residing in the CSSS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île territory, apart from the English-speaking blacks in CLSC Pierrefonds (34.4%) there is essentially no difference in the tendency to be out of the labour force¹² with each reporting rate at just over 30%.

¹¹ 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

¹² 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

- ❖ For the CSSS territory, English-speaking blacks (10.4%) and the English-speaking population in general (7.3%) are much more likely to be unemployed than are Francophones (5.7%). This tendency is even more pronounced in the CLSC Pierrefonds territory, where the unemployment rate of English-speaking blacks is more than twice as that exhibited by Francophones in the territory (13.1% to 5.4%) while the rate shown by English-speakers in general is 8.3%.

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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