

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 POINT-SAINT-CHARLES
AND CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN

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Introduction

Purpose of this document

This document presents selected demographic characteristics of the English-speaking black population of CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun and CLSC Point-Saint-Charles. 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 du Sud-Ouest-Verdun and CLSC Point-Saint-Charles.

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

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.

used to designate the home language. [Knowledge of official languages](#) indicates the official language in which a person can carry on a conversation. The [language used most often at work](#) indicates the language spoken most frequently at work.

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	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	Total	blacks	non-blacks	Total	blacks	non-blacks
FOLS - Anglophones	38,930	3,390	35,540	4,740	450	4,290
	100.0%	8.7%	91.3%	100.0%	9.5%	90.5%
FOLS - Francophones	96,013	4,198	91,815	9,015	1,043	7,973
	100.0%	4.4%	95.6%	100.0%	11.6%	88.4%

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 total population of individuals living in the area of CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) is 38,930. There are 3,390 individuals who use English as their first official language spoken (FOLS) and are members of the black community representing 8.7% of the total English-speaking group.
- ❖ The total population of individuals living in the area of CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles who use English as their first official language spoken is 4,740. There are 450 individuals who use English as their first official language spoken and are members of the black community, representing 9.5% of the total English-speaking group.

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.

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 du Sud-Ouest-Verdun Francophone group. Research in recent years has underlined the crucial role of childhood development in the long-term health of individuals and communities. Like every age group, youth are characterized by health and social service needs specific to their stage of life. For example, the respondents of the Quebec Health and Social Survey (1998) aged 15-24 years of age reported the highest levels of psychological distress and survey respondents with high levels of psychological distress were more likely to report suicidal ideas and suicidal attempts. Anglophone respondents to the survey were more than twice as likely as Francophones to perceive their mental health as poor.⁵ The findings suggest that access to social services in English is a health priority for the English-speakers of CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun. In the case of CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun, 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	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	38,930	3,390	96,013	4,740	450	9,015
0-14 y ears	5,420	1,030	13,738	695	105	1,660
15-24 y ears	5,395	580	11,463	785	80	1,075
25-44 y ears	14,690	975	30,930	1,520	100	3,188
45-64 y ears	9,060	515	26,978	1,200	95	2,308
65+y ears	4,365	290	12,906	540	70	786
Proportion by age group						
Total - Age groups	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
0-14 y ears	13.9%	30.4%	14.3%	14.3%	23.3%	18.4%
15-24 y ears	13.9%	17.1%	11.9%	11.9%	17.8%	11.9%

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

Age Structure of the Population	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
25-44 years	37.7%	28.8%	32.2%	32.2%	22.2%	35.4%
45-64 years	23.3%	15.2%	28.1%	28.1%	21.1%	25.6%
65+ years	11.2%	8.6%	13.4%	13.4%	15.6%	8.7%

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.

- ❖ There are 5,420 English-speakers in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun territory who are 0-14 years of age. There are 1,030 individuals in this age cohort who are English-speaking blacks. 695 of the English-speaking population located in the territory of CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles are 0-14 years of age. Of these, 105 are English-speaking blacks.
- ❖ When we look across the age groups of CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun we observe that children under 14 years old constitute 30.4% of the English-speaking black population there, a proportion which is significantly higher than both the total English-speaking population (13.9%) and the French-speaking population (14.3%). The proportion of English speaking blacks in the 15-24 age group (17.1%) is also higher than that of the total English-speaking population (13.9%) and French speaking population (11.9%).
- ❖ When we look across age groups in the black Anglophone population living in the territory of CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles we note a large proportion of youth as well as a large proportion of seniors. English-speaking blacks aged 0-14 make up 23.3% of the population, a proportion which is higher than that of the total English-speaking population (14.3%) or French-speaking population (18.4%).
- ❖ Table 2 tells us that there are 4,365 English-speaking individuals living in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun area who are 65 years of age and over. 290 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 Pointe-Saint-Charles, we observe there are 540 Anglophones who are 65 years and over which represents 13.4% of the total English-speaking population. Of these, 70 are English-speaking blacks representing 15.6% of the total English-speaking black population in this CLSC territory. This proportion is higher than that of the French population, of which seniors form 8.7%.

Income

Long-standing and substantial research provides evidence that income is a key determinant of the level of health and well-being experienced by communities and their members. The Quebec Social and Health Survey (1998) reveals a significant link between lower income households and the likelihood of a poor health status among Quebec citizens.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	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST- VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total	English- speaking Total	English- speaking blacks	French- speaking Total
Total - Income groups	33,510	2,360	82,275	4,045	345	7,355
Without income	1,915	185	3,648	260	35	410
With income	31,605	2,175	78,623	3,780	315	6,948
Under \$10,000	9,300	655	16,933	1,315	120	1,855
\$10,000 - \$29,999	12,490	980	30,710	1,620	155	2,948
\$30,000 - \$49,999	5,575	385	17,218	530	35	1,313
\$50,000 - \$74,999	2,465	125	7,740	180	0	593
\$75,000 and over	1,760	20	6,023	130	0	240
Proportion by income group						
Total - Income groups	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Without income	5.7%	7.8%	4.4%	6.4%	10.1%	5.6%
With income	94.3%	92.2%	95.6%	93.4%	91.3%	94.5%
Under \$10,000	27.8%	27.8%	20.6%	32.5%	34.8%	25.2%
\$10,000 - \$29,999	37.3%	41.5%	37.3%	40.0%	44.9%	40.1%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	16.6%	16.3%	20.9%	13.1%	10.1%	17.9%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	7.4%	5.3%	9.4%	4.4%	0.0%	8.1%
\$75,000 and over	5.3%	0.8%	7.3%	3.2%	0.0%	3.3%
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.						

- ❖ Table 3 shows that 1,915 English-speakers 15 years of age and over living in CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun are without income and 185 of these are English-speaking blacks. They represent 5.7% of the total English-speaking CSSS population and a substantial 7.8% of the English-speaking black population.
- ❖ Among the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun English-speaking population with income, 9,300 individuals are earning an annual income under \$10,000 and 655 of these are English-speaking blacks. Those earning under \$10,000 form 27.8% of both the English-speaking and English-speaking black population in this CSSS. This is a greater proportion earning under \$10,000 than observed in the French-speaking CSSS 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 du Sud-Ouest-Verdun are earning under \$30,000 (65.1%) than above (29.3%). The percentage of English-speaking blacks earning under \$30,000 is even greater at 69.3%.
- ❖ There are 260 English-speakers residing in the territory of CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles who are without income and 35 of these are English-speaking blacks. Those without income represent 6.4% of the total English-speaking population and 10.1% of the English-speaking black population located in this CLSC territory.
- ❖ Among the CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles English-speaking population with income, 1,315 are earning an annual income under \$10,000 and 120 of these are English-speaking blacks. They form 32.5% of the English-speaking CLSC group and 34.8% of the English-speaking CLSC black community. The proportion of English-speaking blacks living in CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles territory who are earning under \$10,000 is much higher than the proportion of French-speakers located in this income bracket.
- ❖ At the CSSS level of this table, the proportion of the English-speaking population earning between \$10,000 and \$29,999 is similar to the proportion of Francophones in this income bracket.
- ❖ . The proportion of the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun English-speaking black community earning \$50,000-\$74,999 and \$75,000 and over is much smaller than the proportion of Francophones located in these high income brackets.
- ❖ . English-speaking blacks living in the territory of CLSC Pointe Saint Charles are more likely to be earning \$10,000-\$29,999 and less likely to be earning \$75,000 and over than French-speakers of the same territory.

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	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Persons in private households	38,815	3,390	95,713	4,725	455	8,983
Total - Persons in Census family households	27,950	2,590	66,748	3,380	285	6,075
Persons in married or common-law couples families	21,120	910	51,748	2,435	130	4,138
Persons in lone-parent families	6,830	1,680	15,000	945	160	1,933
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	10,860	800	28,963	1,340	165	2,910
Living with relatives	1,235	165	2,438	165	35	280
Living with non-relatives only	2,820	200	5,505	355	25	565
Living alone	6,800	430	21,025	820	100	2,068
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%	76.4%	69.7%	71.5%	62.6%	67.6%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	54.4%	26.8%	54.1%	51.5%	28.6%	46.1%
Persons in lone-parent families	17.6%	49.6%	15.7%	20.0%	35.2%	21.5%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	28.0%	23.6%	30.3%	28.4%	36.3%	32.4%
Living with relatives	3.2%	4.9%	2.5%	3.5%	7.7%	3.1%
Living with non-relatives only	7.3%	5.9%	5.8%	7.5%	5.5%	6.3%
Living alone	17.5%	12.7%	22.0%	17.4%	22.0%	23.0%
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.						

- ❖ Table 4 divides the total population of English-speakers living in private households in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun 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)

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](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 du Sud-Ouest-Verdun is further divided into the territory of CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles.

- ❖ Among English-speakers living in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun territory 27,950 are living in Census families. Of these, 6,830 are individuals living in lone-parent families. 945 of English-speakers living in lone-parent households are located in the CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles territory.
- ❖ Among English-speaking blacks living in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun territory, 2,590 are living in Census families. Of these, 1,680 are individuals living in lone-parent families. 160 of English-speaking blacks living in lone parent households are located in the CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles territory.
- ❖ English-speaking blacks living in lone parent families constitute 49.6% 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 (15.7%).

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	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	16,060	1,930	30,970	2,235	325	4,078
0-14 years	2,935	725	5,975	435	90	905
15-24 years	2,655	350	4,643	385	65	578
25-44 years	5,805	480	8,750	670	50	1,288
45-64 years	3,260	245	7,198	490	80	915
65+ years	1,405	130	4,406	255	40	393
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 years	18.3%	37.6%	19.3%	19.5%	27.7%	22.2%
15-24 years	16.5%	18.1%	15.0%	17.2%	20.0%	14.2%
25-44 years	36.1%	24.9%	28.3%	30.0%	15.4%	31.6%
45-64 years	20.3%	12.7%	23.2%	21.9%	24.6%	22.4%
65+ years	8.7%	6.7%	14.2%	11.4%	12.3%	9.6%

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. 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, 16,060 English-speaking individuals in CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun and 1,930 English-speaking blacks in that CSSS live below the low-income cut-off level (LICO). For CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles, 2,235 English-speakers of whom 325 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 37.6% of black English-speakers in the CSSS and 27.7% of black English-speakers in the CLSC.

⁹ 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>

Youth aged 15-24 also make up a high proportion of black English-speakers living below LICO in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun territory and CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles.

Table 6 - Population Living Below LICO, Within Age Groups

Proportion Within Age Groups, Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off (LICO) Level	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Age groups	16,060	1,930	30,970	2,235	325	4,078
0-14 years	2,935	725	5,975	435	90	905
15-24 years	2,655	350	4,643	385	65	578
25-44 years	5,805	480	8,750	670	50	1,288
45-64 years	3,260	245	7,198	490	80	915
65+ years	1,405	130	4,406	255	40	393
Proportion of those below LICO within the age group						
Total - Age groups	41.3%	56.9%	32.3%	47.2%	72.2%	45.2%
0-14 years	54.2%	70.4%	43.5%	62.6%	85.7%	54.5%
15-24 years	49.2%	60.3%	40.5%	49.0%	81.3%	53.8%
25-44 years	39.5%	49.2%	28.3%	44.1%	50.0%	40.4%
45-64 years	36.0%	47.6%	26.7%	40.8%	84.2%	39.6%
65+ years	32.2%	44.8%	34.1%	47.2%	57.1%	50.0%
<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>						

- ❖ 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 higher for the younger age groups, ranging from 32.2% for the 65+ age group to a high of 54.2% for the children aged 0-14. For black English-speakers, the overall rate living below LICO is higher than that of the general English-speaking population (56.9% compared to 41.3%), while following the same pattern. In the black English-speaking community, children aged 0-14 and young adults aged 25-44 show the highest rate of living below LICO at 70.4% and 60.3%, respectively.
- ❖ It is noteworthy that, in the CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is much higher for Black English-speakers (72.2%) than for the general English-speaking population (47.2%) and for the French-speaking population (45.2%). For black Anglophone children aged 0-14 in this CLSC, the rate of living below LICO is 85.7%.

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

Population Living Below the Low-Income Cut-off Level (LICO), by Household Living Arrangements	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST-VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Persons in private households	16,065	1,940	30,965	2,240	325	4,078
Total - Persons in Census family households	10,335	1,440	17,723	1,355	190	2,298
Persons in married or common-law couples families	6,435	250	9,983	775	65	1,098
Persons in lone-parent families	3,910	1,190	7,733	580	125	1,198
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	5,730	485	13,238	880	130	1,780
Living with relatives	545	125	813	55	30	160
Living with non-relatives only	2,045	135	3,353	280	25	345
Living alone	3,145	225	9,068	550	75	1,275
Proportion in Household Living Arrangements who are Below the Low-Income Cut-off						
Total - Persons in private households	41.4%	57.2%	32.4%	47.4%	71.4%	45.4%
Total - Persons in Census family households	37.0%	55.6%	26.6%	40.1%	66.7%	37.8%
Persons in married or common-law couples families	30.5%	27.5%	19.3%	31.8%	50.0%	26.5%
Persons in lone-parent families	57.2%	70.8%	51.6%	61.4%	78.1%	62.0%
Total - Persons in non-Census family households	52.8%	60.6%	45.7%	65.7%	78.8%	61.2%
Living with relatives	44.1%	75.8%	33.3%	33.3%	85.7%	57.1%
Living with non-relatives only	72.5%	67.5%	60.9%	78.9%	100.0%	61.1%
Living alone	46.3%	52.3%	43.1%	67.1%	75.0%	61.7%

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 7 addresses the total population of English-speakers, English-speaking blacks and French-speakers living below LICO in private households in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun and in CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles. 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 72.5% 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 (57.2% compared to 41.4%), but the same trend is observed with a low of 27.5% for those living in married or common-law couple families to 67.5% for those living with non-relatives only.
- ❖ It is noteworthy that, in the CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles territory, the overall rate of living below LICO is higher for black English-speakers (71.4%) than for the general English-speaking population (47.4%) and for the French-speaking population

(45.4%). The rate of living below LICO appears to be relatively low (50%) 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 members¹⁰.

Table 8 - Highest Educational Certification, for Selected Age Groups

Highest Educational Certification, Population 15+, by Selected Age Groups		0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST- VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
		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+	33,510	2,365	82,270	4,040	350	7,355
	25-44 years	14,690	975	30,925	1,520	95	3,188
	45-64 years	9,060	510	26,975	1,200	95	2,313
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	7,100	660	20,853	1,415	125	2,435
	25-44 years	1,460	170	4,115	300	25	695
	45-64 years	2,005	95	6,053	460	20	810
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	8,325	685	16,283	1,010	90	1,323
	25-44 years	2,915	285	4,578	350	20	505
	45-64 years	2,420	110	6,015	300	0	410
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	2,220	260	9,373	285	50	860
	25-44 years	930	110	4,103	125	10	420
	45-64 years	770	75	3,633	110	35	325
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	4,620	390	11,513	480	50	915
	25-44 years	2,315	200	5,348	300	35	438
	45-64 years	1,165	110	3,078	50	15	215
University certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	Pop. 15+	1,540	65	4,775	90	10	298
	25-44 years	815	10	1,903	55	0	168
	45-64 years	400	10	1,863	15	0	95
University certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	9,710	295	19,480	760	25	1,533
	25-44 years	6,270	170	10,873	400	0	968
	45-64 years	2,300	70	6,345	265	20	450
Proportion within age group with given educational certification							
No certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	21.2%	27.9%	25.3%	35.0%	35.7%	33.1%
	25-44 years	9.9%	17.4%	13.3%	19.7%	26.3%	21.8%
	45-64 years	22.1%	18.6%	22.4%	38.3%	21.1%	35.0%
High school certificate or equivalent	Pop. 15+	24.8%	29.0%	19.8%	25.0%	25.7%	18.0%
	25-44 years	19.8%	29.2%	14.8%	23.0%	21.1%	15.8%
	45-64 years	26.7%	21.6%	22.3%	25.0%	0.0%	17.7%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	Pop. 15+	6.6%	11.0%	11.4%	7.1%	14.3%	11.7%
	25-44 years	6.3%	11.3%	13.3%	8.2%	10.5%	13.2%
	45-64 years	8.5%	14.7%	13.5%	9.2%	36.8%	14.1%
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate	Pop. 15+	13.8%	16.5%	14.0%	11.9%	14.3%	12.4%

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		0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST- VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
		English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
or diploma	25-44 y ears	15.8%	20.5%	17.3%	19.7%	36.8%	13.7%
	45-64 y ears	12.9%	21.6%	11.4%	4.2%	15.8%	9.3%
Univ ersity certificate or diploma below the bachelor level	Pop. 15+	4.6%	2.7%	5.8%	2.2%	2.9%	4.1%
	25-44 y ears	5.5%	1.0%	6.2%	3.6%	0.0%	5.3%
	45-64 y ears	4.4%	2.0%	6.9%	1.3%	0.0%	4.1%
Univ ersity certificate, diploma or degree	Pop. 15+	29.0%	12.5%	23.7%	18.8%	7.1%	20.8%
	25-44 y ears	42.7%	17.4%	35.2%	26.3%	0.0%	30.4%
	45-64 y ears	25.4%	13.7%	23.5%	22.1%	21.1%	19.5%

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 du Sud-Ouest-Verdun and CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles territories. Of the 2,365 English-speaking blacks living in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun territory, more than a thousand have no more than high school certification (of these, 660 are without high school certification while 685 have only high school certification). Nearly half of the 350 CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles English-speaking blacks are without a high school graduation certificate (125) or have high school certification as their highest level of schooling (90).
- ❖ Among the population groups in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun, English-speaking blacks (27.9%) show the highest tendency to be without high school certification, which is higher than the French-speaking population (25.3%) and the English-speaking population (21.2%). The same pattern applies for the residents of CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles where we find a rate of low educational attainment more present in the black English-speaking population (35.7%) and for the English-speaking population in general (35%) than for the French-speaking population (33.1%).
- ❖ At the other end of the educational spectrum, in CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun, English-speaking blacks are much less likely to hold a university certificate, degree or diploma (12.5%) than either the English-speaking population in general (29%) or the French-speaking population (23.7%). The rate of university accreditation is lower for CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles English-speaking blacks than for the English-speaking black population in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun as a whole (7.1%). It is considerably lower than that exhibited by the French-speaking population (20.8%) or for the English-speaking population in general (18.8%) living in the CLSC territory.
- ❖ In the CSSS, the tendency to hold university accreditation is lower for the older English-speaking black cohort (13.7% for those aged 45-64) than for its younger cohort (17.4% for those aged 25-44). In this CLSC, those aged 45-64 are much more likely (21.1%) to have a university certificate, diploma, or degree, than those aged 25-44 (0%).

- ❖ A greater proportion of CSSS English-speaking blacks (11.0%) hold an apprenticeship or trade certificate or diploma compared to the total English-speaking population (6.6%). Those aged 45-64 years among the English-speaking black group (14.7%) are more likely to have this certification than those aged 25-44 years (11.3%).
- ❖ The proportion of CLSC English-speaking blacks who hold an apprenticeship or trade certificate or diploma is notably high particularly among those aged 45-64 years at 36.8%.

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+	0603 - CSSS DU SUD-OUEST- VERDUN			06031 - Pointe-Saint-Charles		
	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total	English-speaking Total	English-speaking blacks	French-speaking Total
Total - Labour force activity	33,510	2,365	82,270	4,040	350	7,355
In the labour force	20,665	1,435	52,290	2,290	195	4,650
Employed	18,210	1,230	47,800	1,995	145	4,118
Unemployed	2,445	210	4,488	290	50	533
Out of the labour force	12,845	930	29,980	1,750	155	2,705
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	61.7%	60.7%	63.6%	56.7%	55.7%	63.2%
Employed	88.1%	85.7%	91.4%	87.1%	74.4%	88.6%
Unemployed	13.4%	17.1%	9.4%	14.5%	34.5%	12.9%
Out of the labour force	38.3%	39.3%	36.4%	43.3%	44.3%	36.8%
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.						

- ❖ According to the 2006 Census of Canada, there are 2,445 unemployed English-speakers, of whom 210 are blacks, residing in the territory of CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun. In CLSC Pointe-Saint-Charles, there are 290 unemployed English-speakers and 50 of these are English-speaking blacks.
- ❖ The rate of unemployment is substantially higher for black English-speakers (17.1% in the CSSS administrative area and 34.5% in the CLSC territory) than for the overall English-speaking population (13.4% at the CSSS level and 14.5% at the CLSC level) and the French-speaking population (9.4% as the CSSS level and 12.9% at the CLSC level). At the CLSC level, the proportion of unemployed English-speaking blacks is more than double the proportion of unemployed Francophones.

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

- ❖ For the populations residing in the CSSS du Sud-Ouest-Verdun territory there is little difference in the tendency to be out of the labour force¹² with each reporting rate at just under 40%.

¹² 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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