

GREATER MONTREAL'S

VitalSigns®

Our Region's Annual Check-up

2007



Foundation of Greater Montreal



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The Foundation of Greater Montreal is a charitable organization dedicated to promoting the well-being of the community. It encourages the establishment of permanent endowment funds and ensures their sound management, then redistributes the income in the form of grants to support organizations across the entire community in a variety of areas, including health, social services, arts and culture, education, and the environment.

The Foundation of Greater Montreal is a member of Community Foundations of Canada (CFC), an organization that currently includes 158 members across the country, with total assets of \$2.3 billion. In 2006, these foundations granted some \$115 million in support of local charitable projects. This year, 11 community foundations are publishing *Vital Signs*.

CFC also plays a vital role in the development of a worldwide network and has supported the establishment of foundations in Brazil, Mexico, Central and Eastern Europe, South Africa and Australia.

Greater Montreal's Vital Signs — 2007

Copies of this report may be ordered by visiting our website. The site also contains a more comprehensive version of the report, with a larger number of indicators as well as data sources and links to those sources.

www.fondationdugrandmontreal.org



Foundation of Greater Montreal

Greater Montreal's Vital Signs

INTRODUCTION

We proudly present this new report card on **Greater Montreal's Vital Signs**, now in its second year. Our annual check-up of the Montreal metropolitan region is aimed at giving all those who wish to contribute to the vitality of their community the information they need to direct their actions towards the most critical areas. *Vital Signs* provides them with indicators that underscore strengths and weaknesses in our community, and reveal both positive and negative trends.

On the positive side, the regional economy has shown renewed strength and more people have jobs. Montreal has become a centre for scientific and technological innovation while fostering a dynamic artistic avant-garde and offering a wide range of cultural attractions. It is an environment that is considered safe, where the use of mass transit results in less traffic congestion and where the costs of housing and energy for both homeowners and renting households are more affordable than in other major Canadian cities. The number of post-secondary graduates is increasing and there is a slight decline in the number of children who enter high school with an academic lag relative to the average for their age group. Birth rates are showing signs of recovery and low education levels among mothers have dropped significantly.

Other vital signs are less encouraging. Family incomes have been rising but gaps remain: nearly one fourth of families fall into the low-income category and close to one third are in need of more affordable housing. In the area of migrations, only immigration from abroad contributes to Greater Montreal's net population increase, with the island population showing a negative balance. Newcomers are affected by unemployment more than in other regions of the country. The decline in school enrolments will present challenges in the near future. Recycling has stagnated below targets, and water consumption remains high. Lack of physical activity among the young and imprudent behaviour on the streets and highways are also among avoidable risk factors.

With an abundance of indicators to describe our community, naturally we had to make choices. We invite you to consult the Foundation of Greater Montreal's Vital Signs website, where a broad range of indicators and references are posted for Montrealers who want to make a difference.



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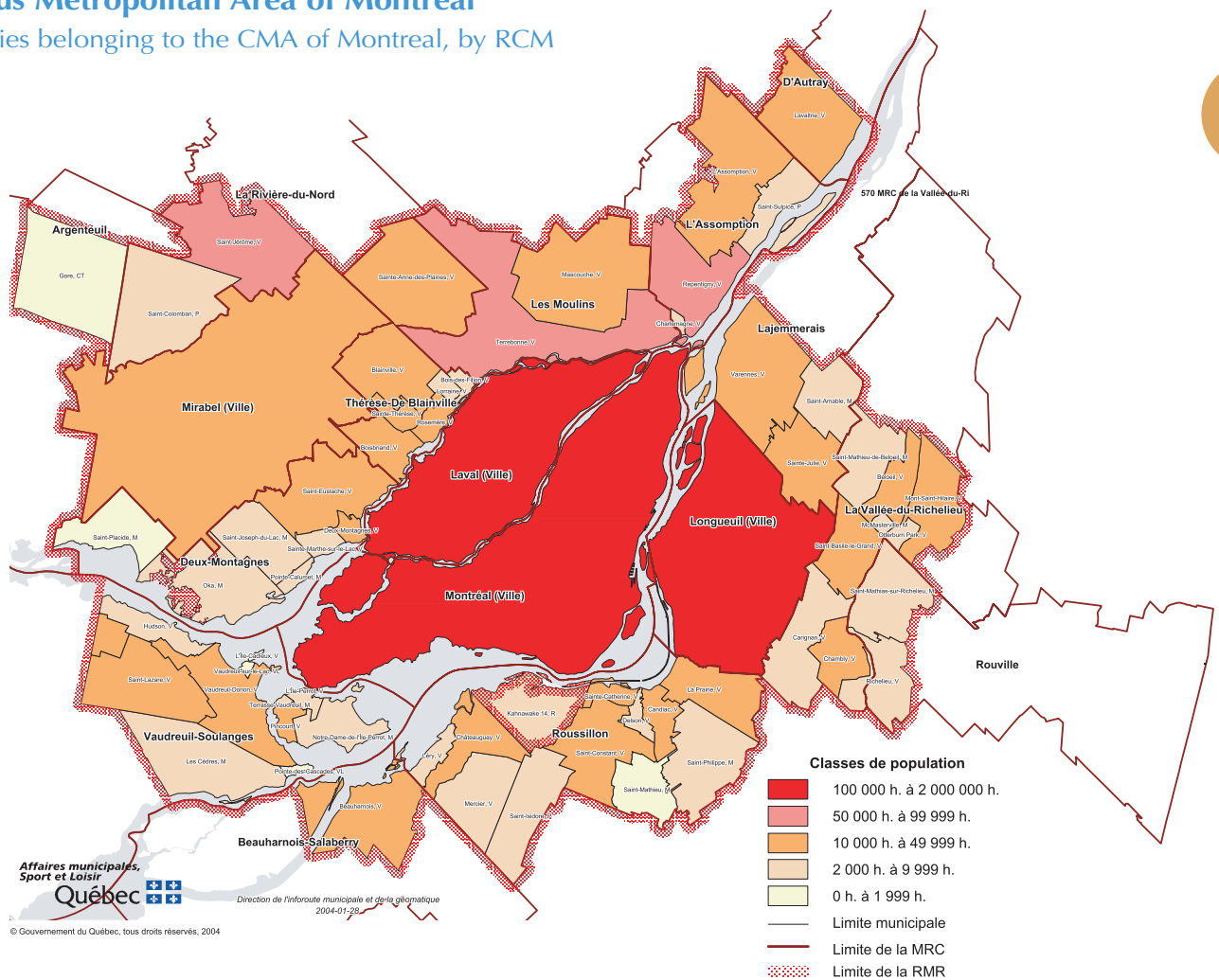


CONTEXT

The census metropolitan area (CMA), commonly referred to in this report as “Greater Montreal” or simply “the region,” includes the islands of Montreal and Laval, the municipality of Longueuil and the neighbouring North and South Shore communities. For convenience, we also use the expression “the island” when we refer to the municipality, the health region, the economic region or the administrative region of Montreal.

The Census Metropolitan Area of Montreal

Municipalities belonging to the CMA of Montreal, by RCM



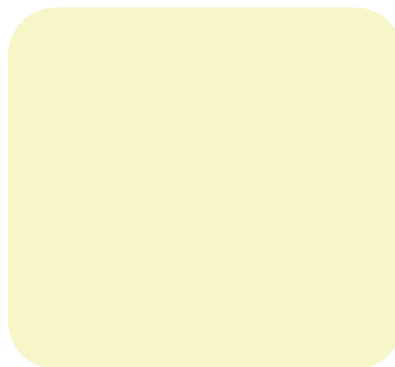


CONTEXT

Among all population movements into and out of the region, only international migrations show a net increase. At the same time, the birth rate is up slightly. And while average family incomes are rising, this is not benefiting the majority of the population because median family incomes are declining.

Demography

- The population of the metropolitan census area in 2006 stood at 3,666,280 inhabitants, an increase of 4.5% over five years, and equal to 47.9% of the population of the province of Quebec. The municipalities of Montreal (51.1%), Longueuil (10.6%) and Laval (10.3%) accounted for 72% of the total. From its 45th position among the world's most populous metropolitan areas in 1975, Montreal had moved to 75th in 2005 and is expected to rank 91st in 2015.
- After experiencing declines since 1991, the annual number of births and the birth rate in the region both recorded slight increases between 2003 and 2005, and grew even faster in 2006. With 5,000 fewer births than in 1991, however, the 2006 birth rate (11.4 per 1,000) remained lower than it was 15 years earlier (14.2 per 1,000).
- In 2005-06, Greater Montreal received 35,058 immigrants from abroad, 12,661 persons originating from other provinces and 40,037 individuals from other regions of Quebec. Only international migrations showed a net positive balance. Overall, the net population increase associated with these movements stood at 13,691 – 3,409 less than the previous year.
- In 2006, the median age in the region was 38.9 years: 37.7 years for men and 40.1 years for women. Among both men and women, 43-year-olds formed the largest group.
- In 2006, 13.4% of the region's population was 65 years and older, an increase of 1.4 percentage points relative to 1996; 29.4% of the population was 25 years old and under, a decline of 2.3 points. The proportion of people aged 75 years and over grew from 4.8% to 6.3%.



Economy

- GDP per capita has been growing at an average annual rate of about 4% since 2000. In 2006, it was \$39,207 across the region and \$51,453 on the island.
- In 2005, the median family income in the region stood at \$44,300 while the average family income was \$57,300. Both figures were equivalent to 91% of the Canadian averages. However, while average income had risen 5% since 1980, median income had declined by 12% over the same period.
- In the second quarter of 2007, 81% of the 1,903,000 jobs in Greater Montreal were in the service sector, an increase of 1.6 percentage points over the previous year. While service sector employment grew by 5%, losses were recorded in the primary sector (32%) and the secondary sector (6%).
- The number of tourists visiting the island was estimated at 7.6 million in 2006, an increase of 2.3% over the previous year. Their spending, estimated at close to \$2.6 billion, helped to sustain nearly 75,000 jobs.
- The City of Montreal is home to 60 international organizations as well as 85 consulates and foreign missions.
- In 2004, Montreal ranked first in Canada in the field of innovation, with 834 patents being granted to residents of the region.



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WORK

The region's unemployment rate, which has trended downward in recent years, has just recorded a sharp drop and now approaches the Canadian average, something not seen in at least two decades.

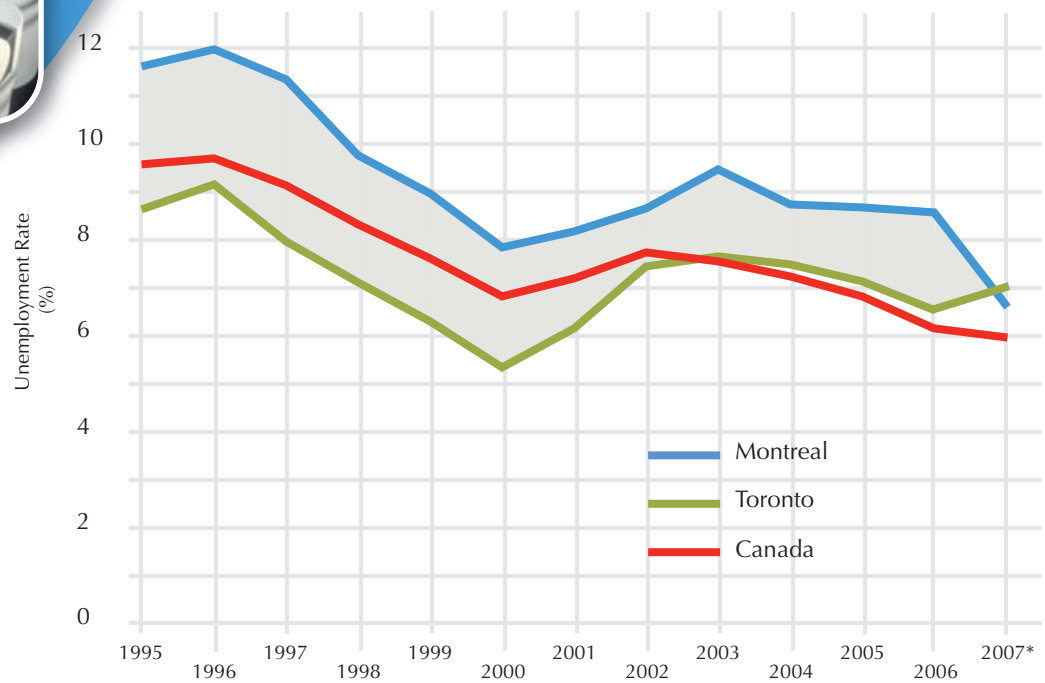
- In July 2007, there were 30,200 fewer unemployed workers in the region than at the same time a year earlier. The unemployment rate declined by nearly 2 percentage points over the period to 6.7%, falling below the figure for Toronto (7%). As a result, Montreal ranked 23rd among Canada's 27 metropolitan regions, compared with its 26th position in 2006.





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Change in Unemployment Rates Montreal and Toronto CMAs



* Seasonally adjusted data for July 2007, three-month moving averages.

Source: Statistics Canada

- Between 1990 and 2005, the proportion of scientific and technical occupations in the labour force aged 25 to 64 grew faster in Greater Montreal than in Toronto and Vancouver, allowing the region to catch up (39%).
- The employment rate of the region's university graduates in 2005 was nearly 6 percentage points higher than that of the overall labour force aged 25 to 64 (80.2% vs. 74.4%). The difference was greater for women (8.3 points) than for men (3.4 points).
- In 2006, the unemployment rate of workers aged 25 and under in the region was 70% higher than the average for the labour force (14.3% vs. 8.4%), compared with differences of 84% for Canada as a whole and 106% for Toronto.
- In 2005, as in previous years, employment earnings per capita were significantly higher in Laval (\$23,480) and Longueuil (\$25,501) than in Montreal (\$20,610).

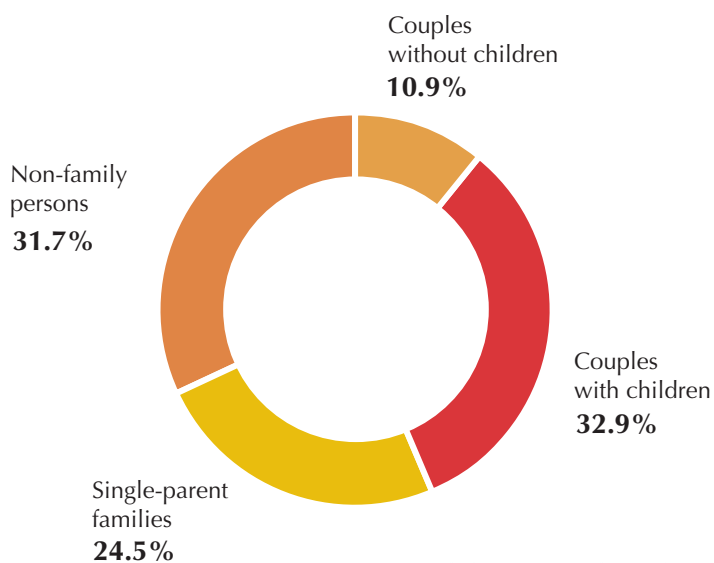


GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR

The cost of healthy nutrition has grown faster than income, especially for those at the bottom of the ladder. Fortunately, helping hands are alleviating the impact.

- In the metropolitan area, 23.7% of families were in the low-income category in 2005, a number close to the 2000 figure (23.5%). That proportion was 5.3% higher than the Quebec average and 9.2% higher than the Canadian average.

Population under the Low-Income Threshold¹ By family type, Montreal CMA, 2004



¹ The low-income measurement is based on 50% of the after-tax median family income in Quebec. Note that the median income is adjusted for family size.

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec



In Quebec, collective kitchens first appeared in Montreal's Hochelaga-Maisonneuve district in 1982. They were the result of the resourcefulness of two sisters and one of their friends, who met regularly to plan and cook their recipes while sharing the costs. This ingenious initiative spread further and the *Regroupement des cuisines collectives du Québec* (RCCQ-Quebec Collective Kitchens Association) was established in 1990. The RCCQ membership includes 7 groups in Laval, 12 in Longueuil and 176 in Montreal. Within these groups, some 975 people cook once a month, on average, to feed about 4,875 mouths. While a collective kitchen is, above all, a small group of people who pool their time, money and skills to prepare healthy, low-cost and appetizing meals, it is also a place where popular education, solidarity, pride and dignity are significant ingredients: the groups prepare delicious meals, cook up a take-charge atmosphere and harvest the fruits of a better quality of life.

- On the island, 35.4% of men and 48.2% of women aged 65 and over received the Guaranteed Income Supplement in 2005. In all of Quebec, these proportions were higher by more than 6 percentage points (42.1% and 54.5%).
- The cost of healthy nutrition on the island in 2007 has been estimated at \$6.11 per person per day for a typical family of four (parents aged around 40, with a 14-year-old son and a 9-year-old daughter) – about \$171 a week. Two years ago, the weekly amount was \$154.
- First Nations make up less than half of 1% of the population of Greater Montreal. Despite this low figure, many long-term homeless people are believed to be Aboriginals. Inuit make up a significant proportion of this group, even though they represent less than 5% of Aboriginals in Montreal. Among homeless Aboriginals, women are almost as numerous as men; among non-Aboriginals, the ratio is estimated to be five men for every woman.

2 The Guaranteed Income Supplement complements the Old-Age Security pension to provide additional income for low-income elderly people.

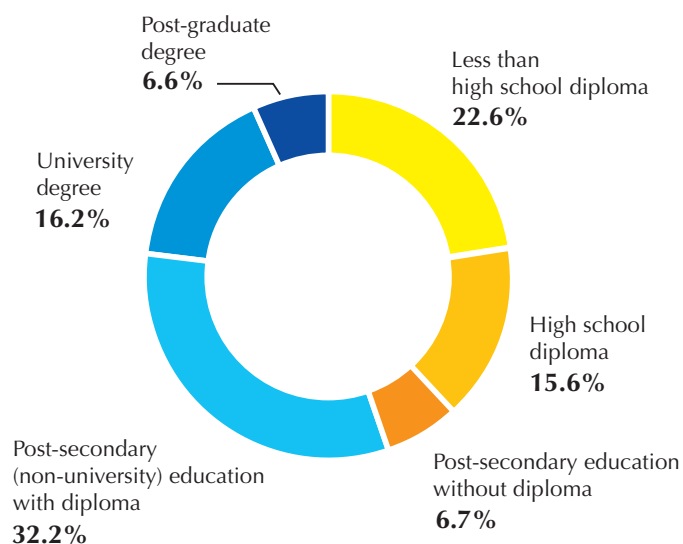


LEARNING

Enrolment and graduation rates have been rising, but the school population will continue to decline for another decade or so, despite the growth in the number of students from immigrant families.

- In 2006, 55% of those aged 15 years and over in the region had completed post-secondary studies, higher than the Canadian average of 48.8%. Only Ottawa was ahead of Montreal in this regard. Ten years previously, in 1996, the proportion was 43%.
- In 2005, 58.6% of all graduates of Montreal universities were women, while 53.4% of PhD graduates were men. Four years earlier, the ratios were broadly similar, but there were 2% fewer female PhDs.

Distribution of the Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Education Level
Montreal CMA, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada



© Tourisme Montréal

- Pre-school enrolments have been declining across the island – from 24,013 in 2001-02 to 21,179 in 2005-06. The same is true at the elementary level, where enrolments have dropped by 8,352; on the other hand, high schools have gained 8,428 students. This overall decline in enrolments is expected to come to an end only after 2018.
- Children of immigrants accounted for 45.4% of all Montreal students in 1994-95, a proportion that had risen to 53.3% by 2003-04. In Laval and the Montérégie, their numbers grew from 19.8% to 21.7% over the same period.
- The proportion of the island's students who entered high school with an academic lag relative to the average for their age group declined slightly from 18.8% to 16.9% between 2002-03 and 2004-05. Both genders showed improvement in that regard, with girls declining from 16.2% to 14% and boys dropping from 21.3% to 19.6%.
- Among students on the island who worked in 2003, 65% of those at the secondary I level devoted under 6 hours to paid work each week; at the secondary V level, 69% of students worked 11 hours or more each week.



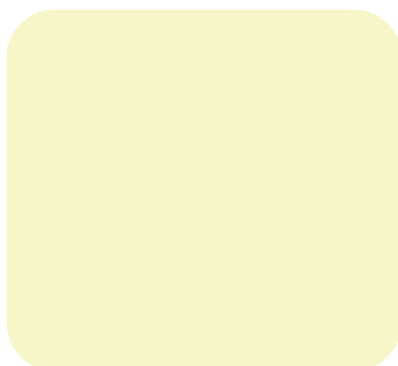
Jean Bruneau

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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

*The level of physical activity among young people is inadequate, especially among girls.
Awareness campaigns, successful in the past, must continue in the face of persistent risk behaviours.*

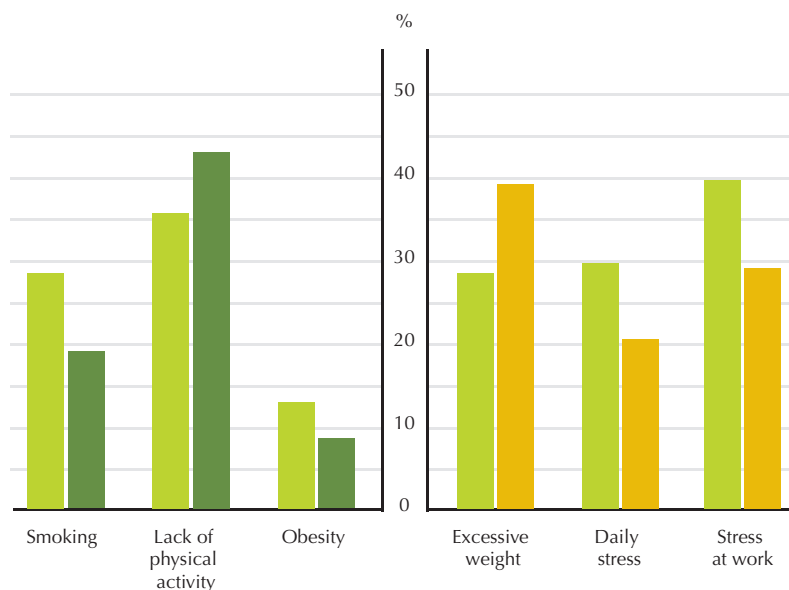
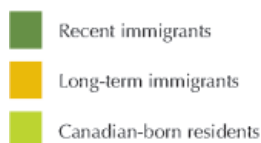
- The number of general practitioners and specialists per 100,000 people in the region has remained stable at around 246 since 1997. In 2005, that proportion was 29% above the Canadian average. On the island, however, 25% of women and 40% of men did not have a family physician.
- In 2001, 16.1% of those aged 15 years and over on the island reported having cared for elderly persons without pay, a figure that stood at 17.7% for Quebec as a whole. The figure of 13.3% for Greater Montreal was similar to Toronto's and higher than Calgary's (11.8%), but below Vancouver's (14.6%).



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Health-Related Risk Factors Island of Montreal, 2005



Source: Direction de santé publique de Montréal

- More than one fifth (22%) of those aged 12 and over on the island suffered from a long-term incapacity in 2003. Physical disabilities were more prevalent among low-income residents (33%) than among those with high-incomes (19%).
- Across the island, the proportion of women without a Grade 11 education who gave birth in 2002-04 fell 2.5 percentage points relative to the previous period, but it remained high at 13.1%. In 1981-83, the figure stood at 25%, almost twice as high.
- In 2005-06, the breastfeeding rate on the island was higher than those of other regions in Quebec. Six months after birth, the rate remained above 60% in Montreal but was less than 50% for Quebec as a whole.
- To remain in good physical condition, teenagers must exercise almost daily and engage in vigorous physical activity at least three times a week. Fewer than half of young Montrealers met those two criteria in 2003. At the secondary V level, the proportions were only 39% for boys and 27% for girls.
- In 2002-05, two-thirds (65.1%) of the 3,158 cumulative cases of HIV infection in Quebec were recorded in the Montreal-Centre public health region; more than half (52.6%) were new cases. According to a 2003 survey of street youths between the ages of 14 and 23, 31.3% used injection drugs. Among these users, 33.6% had shared needles in the previous six months. Among male respondents, 27.7% had practised prostitution between 2001 and 2003; 26.7% of those who reported high-risk relations with male customers had practised unprotected sex.



HOUSING

The average price of houses is rising but remains relatively affordable. Condominium ownership is particularly convenient for women and persons living alone. Although fewer than 10% of rental units fall into the category of social or affordable housing, nearly one-third of renting households could benefit from such housing.

- The average price of houses in Greater Montreal in 2005 was equal to 3.48 years of the median family income. The ratio had increased by 43% over the previous five years and exceeded the Quebec average by 7%, but it remained 15% lower than the Canadian average.
- While the stock of condominium units is expanding in the region, it is still modest, accounting for only 6.6% of all housing units. Even in the central districts, where 37% of all condominium properties are concentrated, their proportion relative to all housing units remains in single digits (8%).
- Contrary to a widespread perception, most condominium units are fair in size: 86% have at least 2 bedrooms and more than one quarter (26.5%) have between 3 and 5 bedrooms. Lofts account for only 0.7% of the total. Overall, 8.8% of condominium units are rented out, compared with 19.4% in the Toronto area.
- A substantial proportion of condominium-owning households is made up of persons living alone (28% of all women, 12% of all men), people aged 65 years and over (26%) and retired people (34%). Households with children account for nearly one-quarter of all those who own a condominium (two-parent households: 16.4%; single-parent households: 7.5%). While 16% of condominium-owning households report incomes above \$100,000, 45% earn less than \$50,000.
- The total number of households receiving government housing assistance in 2005 was estimated at 4,571 on the island, corresponding to 38.5% of the 11,860 cooperative housing units.
- Across the territory of the Montreal Urban Community, 50% of housing units are rented. Only 9.4% of these fall into the category of social or affordable housing, despite the fact that 31% of renting households face problems of affordable housing.



GETTING AROUND

Getting around in Montreal is less challenging than might be expected, given the size of its population. To cope with urban sprawl and the increase in motor vehicle traffic, however, the development of mass transit and “active transportation” (walking and biking) will have to be supported and encouraged.

- Although Montreal ranks 16th among the 75 largest urban areas of North America by population, it is 40th in terms of traffic congestion, probably because it is a densely populated metropolitan area with a high rate of mass transit use and a significantly lower proportion of households with motor vehicles than in comparable American cities.
- Among the 54,000 car travels which in 2003 were above the 1998 level, the majority (56%) were attributable to residents of the North and South Shore communities; of the 26,000 additional travels by mass transit, the majority (58%) were by residents of the island.
- The share of mass transit costs that is paid by users rose from 31.3% in 1991 to 40% in 2005. When the bus-métro monthly pass (CAM) was introduced in 1980, its price was equivalent to 2.9% of the monthly income at the minimum wage. By 2006, that proportion had almost doubled to 5.6%.
- There is wide recognition that wearing a safety helmet can prevent serious head injuries. Between 1993 and 2006, the use of safety helmets among Montreal cyclists almost doubled from 20.3% to 40%. However, men were less likely than women to wear a helmet (42% vs. 51 %), and 16 to 24 year-old riders were much less likely to do so than their elders (20% vs. 49%).

Shares of Households with Motor Vehicles

Selected CMA districts, 2003

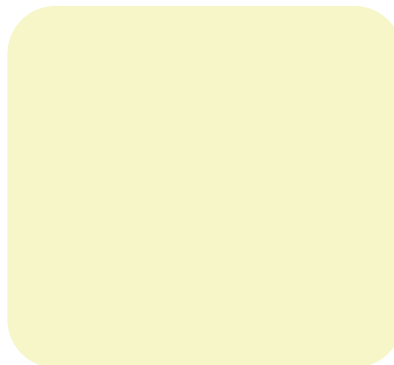
Downtown	40.3%
Central Montreal	61.9%
East End Montreal	76.7%
West End Montreal	82.3%
Laval	90.2%
Longueuil	87.0%
South Shore	94.0%
North Shore	94.0%

Source: Enquête O-D 2003

SAFETY

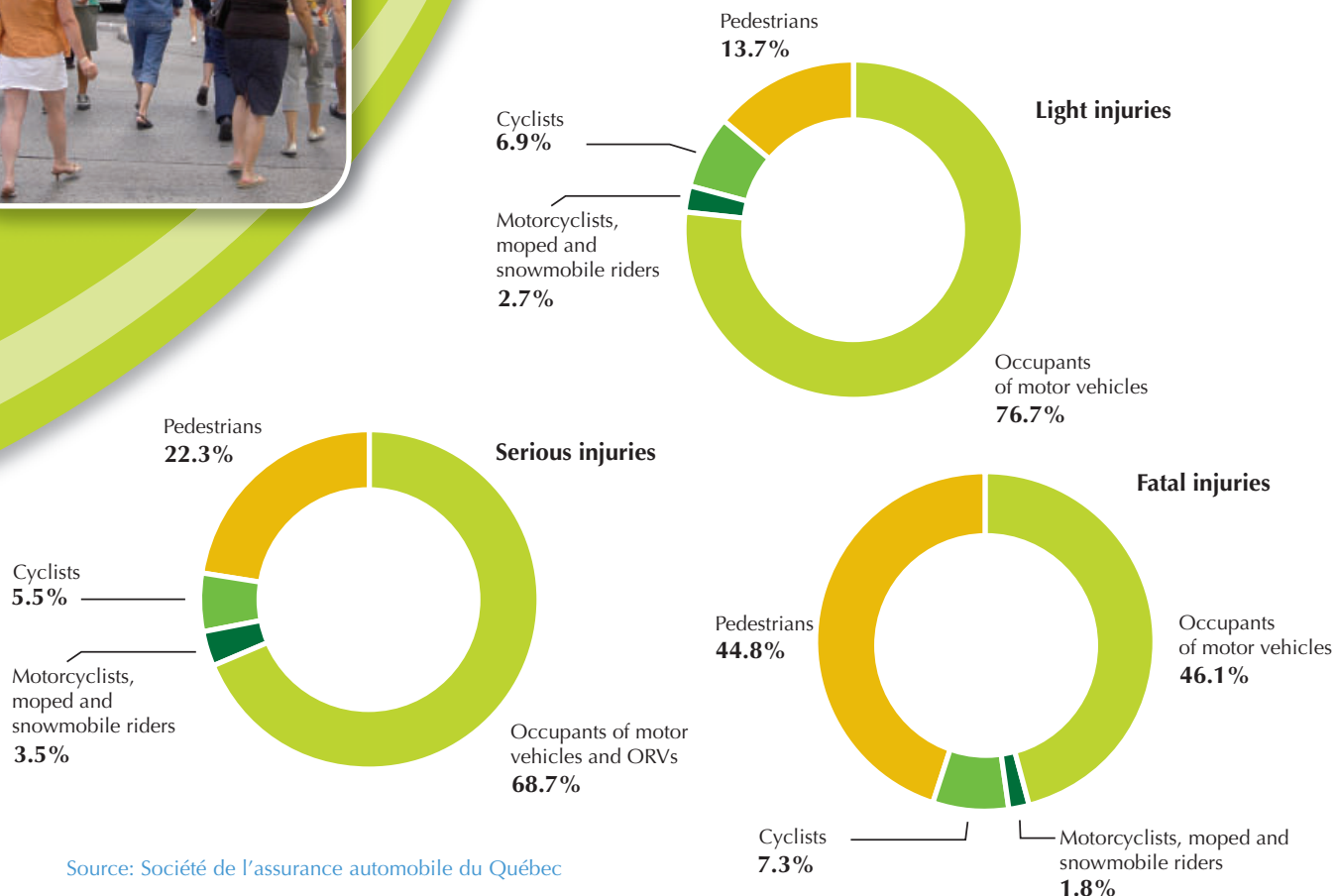
Crimes against property are declining and Montreal is among the safest metropolitan regions in the country. And while there has been some improvement with regard to the number of traffic accidents, reckless behaviour by pedestrians, cyclists and drivers on the region's highways and streets remains a source of concern.

- The region's rate of 3,710 crimes against property per 100,000 residents in 2005 was close to the Canadian average. The rate declined to 3,642 in 2006, its lowest level in 15 years, ranking Montreal among the safest large urban regions, behind Toronto (2,471) and Ottawa (3,122).
- In 2005, 97,299 crimes against property (thefts, burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, fraud, arson, vandalism and possession of stolen goods) were reported on the island – a rate of 5,197 per 100,000 residents. This was the lowest ratio in 25 years, reflecting a downward trend that began in the early 1990s (44% decline over the period) and was also observed throughout Quebec (42%) and, to a lesser extent, across Canada (35%).





Distribution of injuries, hospitalizations and fatalities due to traffic accidents Island of Montreal, 2000-06



Source: Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec

- Between 1998 and 2002, there were about 2,000 fires per year on the island, causing an average of 20 fatalities each year.
- Montreal pedestrians are less cautious than their Toronto counterparts when it comes to waiting on the sidewalk before crossing the street (53% vs. 90%), using marked crosswalks (65% vs. 86%) and observing traffic lights (76% vs. 91%). In interactive situations, on the other hand, pedestrians are more likely to give priority to vehicles in Montreal (72.5%) than in Toronto (51%). As a result, accident-preventing behaviour is more prevalent among pedestrians in Montreal (63%) and among motorists in Toronto (71%).
- Between 2000 and 2006, traffic accidents caused, on average, one fatality, 16 serious injuries requiring hospitalization and 216 minor injuries every week on the island of Montreal.
- Between 1996 and 2005, among the residents of the municipalities of Montreal, Longueuil and Laval, the rate of alcohol-related offences fell by more than two-thirds. The number of such offences in 2005 was 1,294 whereas the number of speeding violations was 129,992 – one hundred times higher.

ENVIRONMENT

The recycling rate of households has stalled below government targets and the consumption of water remains high. At the same time, greenhouse gas emissions due to motor vehicles are less significant than elsewhere, and car sharing is making inroads.

- In 2004, daily water usage in the region's homes was 460.5 litres per capita, 9% more than the Quebec average and 37% more than the Canadian average. Since 2001, Montreal's water consumption has grown by 15.3%, double the average for Quebec (7.3%); during that period, Canadian average consumption declined by 1.3%.





Car sharing, which emerged in 1987, already has more than 280,000 users in 650 cities around the world, 75% of them in Europe. Car sharing offers an alternative that is cheaper than ownership and more flexible than renting/leasing. At the same time, it contributes to a reduction in both the use and the number of cars on the roads, thus lowering the noise and pollution associated with motor vehicles. This type of arrangement is particularly well suited to high-density areas where parking spaces are limited. Montreal joined the trend in 1995:

Communauto, the oldest car sharing company operating in North America, has been gaining in popularity, with 327 vehicles available at 107 stations and serving 6,468 subscribers as of December 2005. Stations were also opened in Longueuil in 2004 and in Laval in 2005.

- The rate of household recycling through the selective collection services available in Montreal (glass, plastic, metal, paper and cardboard) is three times less than the government target of 60% and has tended to stall. In particular, the composting rate for putrescible waste is only 8%, even though it has been estimated that 38.2% of household wastes could be composted.
- In 2001, the production of greenhouse gases caused by road traffic in the region was 59% less than the Canadian average. At 2.37 tonnes per capita, Montreal ranked third, behind Victoria (1.70 tonnes) and Vancouver (2.08 tonnes).
- It has been conservatively estimated that each Communauto vehicle replaces 4.6 private vehicles in Montreal – a net reduction of 3.6 vehicles. Car sharing also results in an average reduction of some 2,900 km per year in distances driven. This, coupled with the use of vehicles that consume less fuel than those used by the general population, represents a reduction of 38% in energy consumption and an average reduction of 1.2 tonnes of greenhouse gases per user each year.



Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED® for homes), a rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, promotes high-performance green residential homes through the use of such rating criteria as innovation and design, location and linkages, sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and air quality. In the pilot test, only 4 homes among the 6,000 tested earned the highest level of certification in the United States. In Canada, the very first home awarded the LEED® Platinum certification was ahead of all its competitors in North America: it is located in the heart of Montreal, on Avenue du Parc near Avenue du Mont-Royal.



ARTS AND CULTURE

Thanks to a wide range of cultural offerings sustained by dynamic creativity, Montreal provides a vibrant environment. The city's residents are enthusiastic in their response to these opportunities. Indeed, many of them are not content with just being part of the audience.

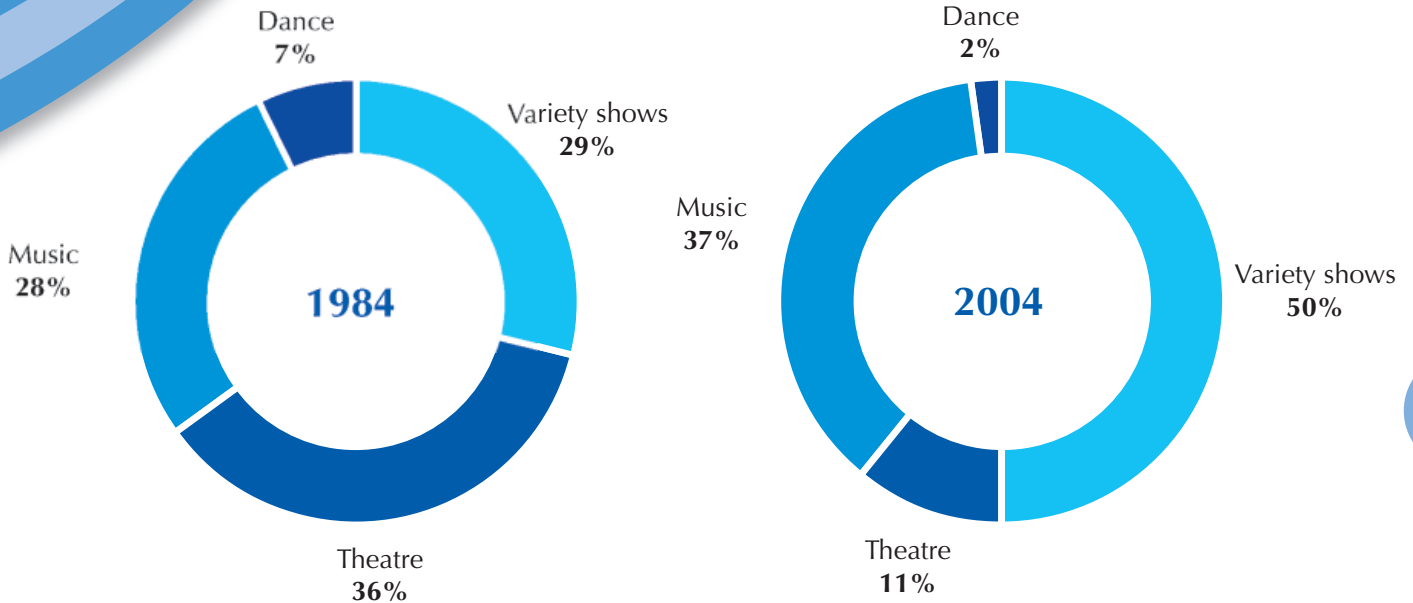
- The metropolitan region's cultural industry provides more than 90,000 jobs – about 5.1% of the total labour force.

The island of Montreal boasts a wealth of cultural opportunities: 90 festivals, many of them international in scope; 65,000 seats available for performances almost every night of the year; 700 artists' studios; 200 professional theatre groups; 50 dance companies; 2 symphony orchestras and about a dozen high-calibre contemporary-music ensembles; a major library (la Grande Bibliothèque) and 57 public libraries with 12 million book loans every year; 32 museums, 28 exhibition centres and 19 interpretative centres; internationally recognized art schools; and 93 record and stage performance companies.





Distribution of Attendance at Stage Performing Arts Island of Montreal

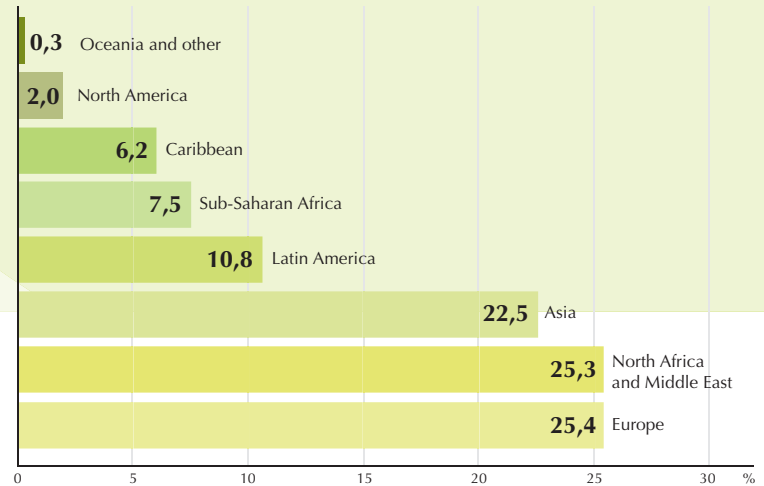


Source: Portrait de la diffusion culturelle à Montréal

- With the largest combined sound stage area (in square metres) in North America, Montreal is ranked 5th (after Los Angeles, New York, Vancouver and Toronto) with respect to the economic value of its film output. The Quebec film and audiovisual industry, which is highly concentrated in Montreal, includes 500 production and distribution companies and employs more than 35,000 people.
- In 2000-01, grants from private sources totalling \$15.9 million were given to 159 cultural production organizations on the island of Montreal. This private funding, accounting for 13.1% of their income on average, came in three major forms: sponsorships (49%), donations (31%) and special activities (20%).
- Overall, 24.9% of Montreal islanders aged 15 and over attended at least one stage performance each month in 2004, while 15.7% attended none. Taking into account only performances by professionals, 27.2% went to the theatre (an average of 3.1 times annually), 18.3% attended a classical music concert (2.9 times), and 17.6% attended a dance performance (2.7 times).
- Among those aged 15 and over on the island who attended an amateur production in 2004, 13% went to the theatre, 14.5% to a dance performance and 24% to a concert. In all, 36% of the population attended a performance produced by non-professionals, and 37.2% said they were involved in artistic activities on a regular basis.



Region of Origin of Immigrants in Quebec, 2006



Source: Ministère de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles

GETTING STARTED IN THE COMMUNITY

More than half the immigrants from various countries who settled in Montreal in recent years came to Canada for economic reasons. Although nearly one-third had scientific or technical training, newcomers were more likely than Canadian-born residents to experience unemployment.

- In 2001, the unemployment rates of recent immigrants relative to Canadian-born workers were 1.7 times higher across Canada, 2.6 times higher in Quebec and 3.4 times higher in the Montreal region.
- That same year, the population of recent immigrants in Greater Montreal was more diversified than in Toronto: there, 41.3% of newcomers came from the top five countries of origin, whereas the corresponding figure for Montreal was 29.5%. From the perspective of integration, 53% of newcomers in Montreal spoke a language other than English or French at home, compared with 64% in Toronto.
- In 2006, recent immigrants were not evenly distributed across the metropolitan area: Montreal received somewhat fewer Europeans (22.5%), while Longueuil received comparatively more of them (28.6%); Laval received fewer immigrants from Sub-Saharan Africa (3.4%) and Asia (14.6%); more newcomers from North Africa and the Middle East settled in Laval (34.4%), but the opposite was true in Longueuil (19.6%).
- In 2001, the average size of immigrant households in the region (2.7 persons) was appreciably greater than that of Canadian-born households (2.3 persons). The average size was greatest among immigrants in Laval and the neighbouring North Shore communities (3.2 persons).
- Of the 210,125 immigrants who came to Canada between 1995 and 2004 and lived in the Montreal metropolitan region in 2006, more than half (51.5%) were economic immigrants, 28.1% had been admitted as part of a family reunification program and 19.1% were refugees.
- Among recent immigrants aged 15 and over who lived in the region in 2001, 31.4% had scientific or technical training as their main field of study, compared with 17.4% of Canadian-born residents.



BELONGING AND LEADERSHIP

For citizens to become actively involved in their community, they must be well informed. Half of Montrealers regularly read daily newspapers and more than four-out-of-five listen to the spoken media, but the number of those who keep up with current events via the Internet is already one in six.

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- In 2004, 32.5% of Greater Montreal residents aged 15 and over were engaged in unpaid volunteer work. That proportion was somewhat lower than the average for Quebec (34%) and substantially lower than the Canadian average (45.3%).
- That same year, 83% of residents aged 15 and over listened regularly (61%) or fairly often (22%) to news and public affairs broadcasts. In addition, 49% read a daily newspaper every day or almost, whereas 26% never read dailies.
- Also in 2004, 68% of the island's households had a computer and 52% were connected to the Internet. Net users aged 15 and over often used that medium to read newspapers or magazines and keep up with the news (31.5%), to consult encyclopaedias or reference works (34.5%) and to follow cultural events (43%).

In 1899, widows and adult unmarried female renters were given the right to vote in municipal elections in Montreal. The right to vote was given in 1908 to women separated from their husbands and in 1932 to married women who owned a house. In 1940, women eligible to vote were finally given the right to run as candidates. That year, Jessie Kathleen Fisher was the first woman to be elected to the position of municipal councillor in Montreal. She sat on the council from 1940 to 1954, representing homeowners in the electoral system of that era. Only in 1970 were all restrictions against the right to vote abolished in Montreal.

PARTNERS AND SOURCES

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Copies of this report may be ordered by visiting our website. The site also contains a more comprehensive version of the report, with a larger number of indicators as well as data sources and links to those sources.

www.fondationdugrandmontreal.org

Ce rapport est également disponible en français



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