

# Greater Montréal's **VitalSigns**<sup>®</sup> 2020 2000-2019 in Review



Created by:

**IQ** Institut du Québec



Foundation of Greater Montréal

# Table of contents

3

A word from FGM's President and CEO

4

Part 1: the Vital Signs report

4

The 16 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

8

Demographic context

12

SDG 1: No Poverty

16

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

20

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

24

SDG 4: Quality Education

28

SDG 5: Gender Equality

32

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

34

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

36

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

40

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

44

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

48

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

52

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

54

SDG 13: Climate Action

56

SDG 14: Life Under Water

58

SDG 15: Life On Land

60

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

64

Part 2: Outlook on 2030 from Future Leaders

78

Sources and Acknowledgements - FGM Staff and Board of Directors

### How to use this report

**START CONVERSATIONS. TAKE ACTION.**  
If you or your organization is moved or motivated by what you read, use this report as a starting point for positive action.

**PASS IT ON.** Share the report with your friends, colleagues, employees, students, neighbours, library, community centre or an elected official at any level.

**FIND OUT MORE.** Learn about the many organizations in our community working to improve it, and see how you too can help.

**CONTACT US.** We know about the issues of our community as well as the organizations working to improve them. If you would like to make a difference, we can help and guide you. [www.fgmtl.org](http://www.fgmtl.org)

This is the abridged version of Greater Montreal's Vital Signs™ 2020 report. The full version is available on the FGM website.

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
  
This report was completed in February 2020, prior to the COVID-19 crisis. The report is an overview of conditions prevailing between 2000 and 2019. It includes no coverage of the situation in Greater Montréal since the start of 2020.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO



## OF THE FOUNDATION OF GREATER MONTRÉAL

As part of a series of initiatives coinciding with its 20th anniversary, the Foundation of Greater Montréal (FGM) presents a special edition in the Vital Signs™ of Greater Montréal series of reports. As a community foundation, FGM plays a role that goes beyond just promoting philanthropy; it also has a duty to inform, to unify, and to encourage collective action in our community. By publishing Vital Signs®, FGM brings forward its own contribution to public debate, and to the search for solutions, with regard to the challenges that Greater Montréal will have to take up today and in the future.

As was the case when we published the previous Vital Signs™ report in 2017, the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are the matrix through which the report was created. The SDG framework, a positive, inspiring, and comprehensive program for human development, is also the North Star that guides FGM in its commitment to the community and in giving support to its donors.

What, then, does the picture look like when we use the SDGs to assess Greater Montréal's current situation? Using the targets set in the SDG framework, we can certainly say that the metropolitan region has been economically vibrant over the last few years. The stagnation of the first decade of the 21st century has given way to vigorous economic growth and a significant drop in the unemployment rate. This is an impressive turnaround, proof of the diversity and dynamism of businesses in the metropolitan region. Unfortunately, this transformation has not benefited other vital sectors of our society; we see that major problems persist. Indeed, Montréal is, for example, the capital of child poverty in Quebec, and levels of food insecurity are higher here than anywhere else in the province. Despite substantial efforts, social exclusion, high numbers of young people dropping out of school, and mental health issues are still part of the landscape in Greater Montréal today. In all of these areas, we absolutely need a major shift in our way of doing things, so that we can build a community that is sustainable and resilient, as healthy socially as it is economically.

So as to offer as wide a perspective as possible on these issues, we have divided this year's report into two parts. In the first part, you will not only discover how Montréal stands now in relation to the SDGs, but also how the city has evolved with regard to these barometers over the last two decades. There are limits to what the available data can tell us, but nonetheless, this longitudinal survey will help you take the measure of the successes and challenges that have marked the start of this 21st century in Greater Montréal. In the second part, we have asked several individuals who will be the leaders of tomorrow to lay out their vision of what Greater Montréal could be in 2030. Working in a multitude of sectors, these individuals will be at the forefront of the Decade of Action, a United Nations initiative that is meant to carry us through to the SDG deadline in 10 years. Through the missions their organizations pursue, and the projects they are bringing to fruition, these leaders will help us see what the Greater Montréal of tomorrow could look like.

I would like to thank the Institut du Québec, which was responsible for researching and writing this report. A thank you also goes to the Lucie and André Chagnon Foundation for its support for this initiative, and to the members of the Vital Signs™ strategic committee for giving their time, their expertise and their advice.

I hope this publication will be of use to anyone seeking to get a clearer picture of the health of our community. I hope that it will stimulate discussion, and serve as a tool to drive even stronger engagement by all to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. This document is an abridged version of Vital Signs™ of Greater Montréal 2020; I heartily encourage you to consult the full version of the report, which is available on FGM's website.

*Yvan Gauthier*

Yvan Gauthier  
President and CEO  
Foundation of Greater Montréal

# The 16 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) used for the Vital Signs™ report

Goals	Targets*			
 <b>SDG 1</b> <b>No Poverty</b>  End poverty in all its forms everywhere	1.1 Eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than 1,90 USD.	1.2 Reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.	1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and vulnerable.	
 <b>SDG 2</b> <b>Zero Hunger</b>  End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	2.1 End hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.	2.2 End all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.	2.3 Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.	
 <b>SDG 3</b> <b>Good Health and Well-Being</b>  Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	3.1 Reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.  3.2 End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.  3.3 End the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.	3.4 Reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.  3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.  3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.	3.7 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes.  3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential healthcare services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.	
 <b>SDG 4</b> <b>Quality Education</b>  Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	4.1 Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and Goal-4 effective learning outcomes.  4.2 Ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.	4.5 Eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.	4.6 Ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.	

Goals	Targets*			
 <b>SDG 5</b> <b>Gender Equality</b>  Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.  5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.	5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.	5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.	
 <b>SDG 6</b> <b>Clean water and sanitation</b>  Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	6.1 Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.	6.2 Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.	
 <b>SDG 7</b> <b>Affordable and Clean Energy</b>  Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	7.1 Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.	7.2 Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.	7.3 Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.	
 <b>SDG 8</b> <b>Decent Work and Economic Growth</b>  Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries.  8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.	8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.  8.5 Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for younger people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.	8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.  8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrant, and those in precarious employment.  8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.	



Goals	Targets*			
	<b>SDG 9</b> <b>Industries, Innovation and Infrastructure</b>  <b>Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</b>	9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.  9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries.	9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets.  9.4 Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking	action in accordance with their respective capabilities.  9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending.
	<b>SDG 10</b> <b>Reduced Inequalities</b>  <b>Reduce inequality within and among countries</b>	10.1 Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average.	10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.	
	<b>SDG 11</b> <b>Sustainable Cities and Communities</b>  <b>Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b>	11.1 Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.  11.2 Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs	of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.  11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.	11.6 Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.
	<b>SDG 12</b> <b>Responsible Consumption and Production</b>  <b>Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</b>	12.2 Achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.  12.3 Halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.	12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycles, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts in human health and the environment.	12.5 Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.
	<b>SDG 13</b> <b>Climate Action</b>  <b>Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</b>	13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.	

\* by 2030, unless specified otherwise

Goals	Targets*			
	<b>SDG 14</b> <b>Life Below Water</b>  <b>Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</b>	14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.  14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and	take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.  14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that	can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.  14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.
	<b>SDG 15</b> <b>Life On Land</b>  <b>Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</b>	15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.	15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.  15.3 Combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.	15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.
	<b>SDG 16</b> <b>Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions</b>  <b>Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies</b>	16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.  16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.  16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.	16.4 Significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.  16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.  16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.	16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.



# DEMOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

## Greater Montréal, 20 years later

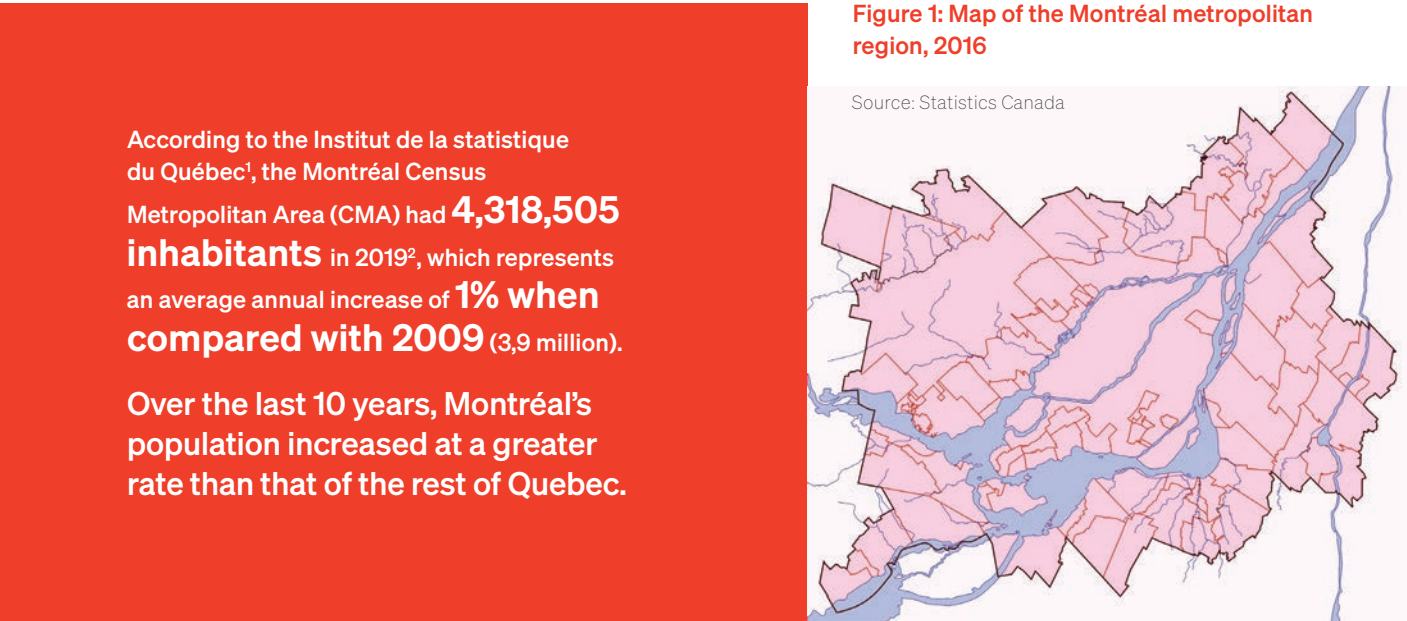
Almost 15 years have gone by since the publication of the first edition of the Vital Signs™ of Greater Montréal report by the Foundation of Greater Montréal. Years that saw the region experiencing an economic rebirth but also continuing to face major challenges: feed all its citizens, without exception, ensure decent income and housing for all, and take on the environmental crisis. Greater Montréal in 2020 is not the Greater Montréal of 2000, so we need to look at the road that's been travelled since then.

To measure the progress, and the shortfalls, of the region using the appropriate indicators, we chose a guiding framework: the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. This framework allows us to assess a variety of data according to their relative importance, thus setting aside indicators that only show part of the region's reality.

This document is divided according to the 16 Sustainable Development Goals that we have concluded are relevant. Where possible, data are used to trace an historic picture, and are linked to the targets that have been set for each Goal. The indicators we have selected sometimes to refer to the City of Montréal, the island of Montréal, the Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM) or the Census Metropolitan Area (CMA). The choice of geographic context stems from the availability of data, and the context is specified. Lastly, when regional data are not available, we have used province-wide data.

## A look at the demographics

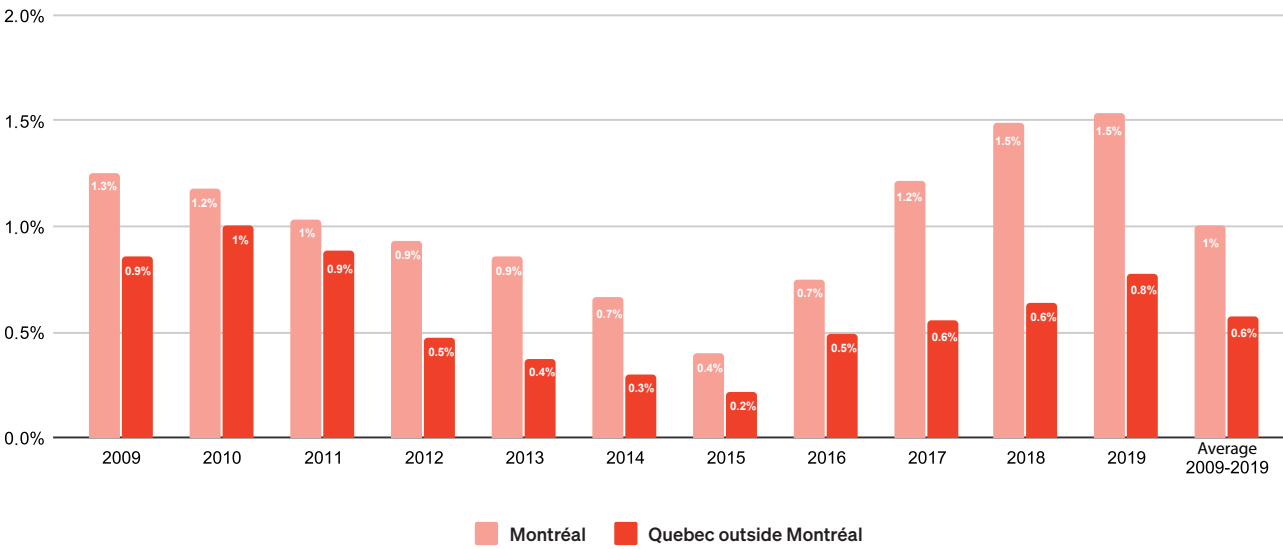
### A region experiencing growth



Indeed, since 2016, Montréal has seen considerable momentum in terms of population growth, while the rest of Quebec is growing at a slower rate.

Population growth in Montréal CMA and elsewhere in Quebec  
(annual variation in % and average annual growth from 2009 to 2019)

Graph 1



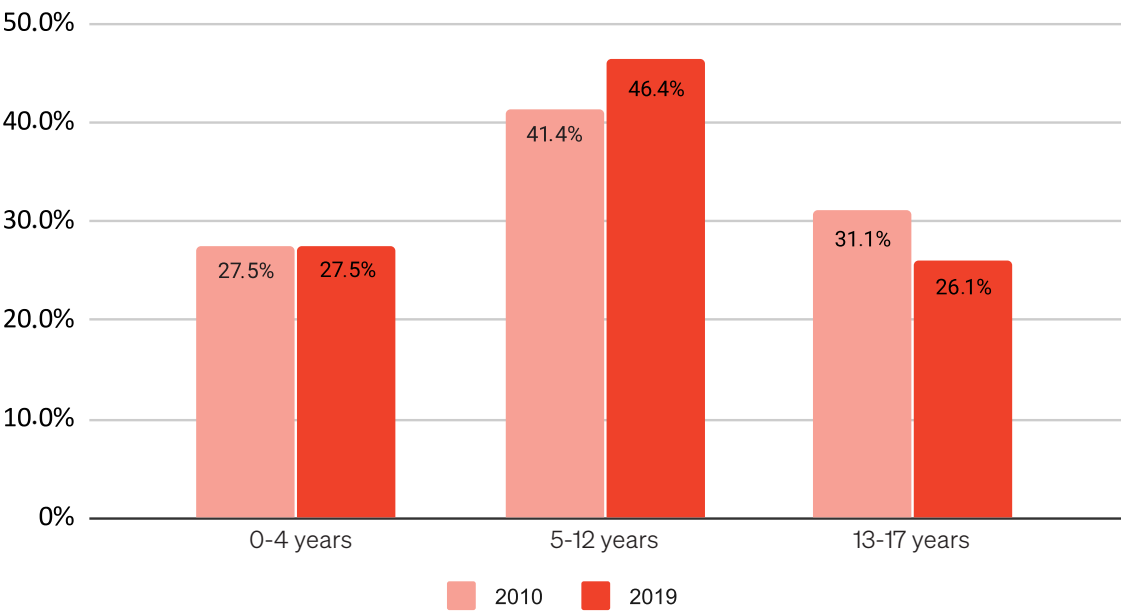
Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec

## Children

In all, **824,409 children under 18 lived in the Montréal CMA in 2018**. While this is an increase in absolute numbers over the period of 2001 to 2018, the relative weight of this group in the population has gradually diminished, going from 21.6% in 2001 to 20.7% in 2006, then to 19.6% in 2011 and 19.4% in 2018.

Distribution by age group in Montréal CMA (in%)

Graph 2



Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/statistiques/population-demographie/structure/rmr-totaux.htm>  
<sup>2</sup> Note that 2019 population data is preliminary.



Births

The number of births in the Montréal CMA remained relatively stable, having increased by 2.8% since 2006 to reach 44,675 in 2018. During this period, this figure remained higher than in the rest of Quebec.

In 2018, the birth rate stood at 10.5%, its lowest level since 2006. The total fertility rate stood at 1.51 children per female, under the rate of 1.59 for the whole of Quebec and for Gatineau (1.57), but above those of Quebec City (1.46) and Trois-Rivières (1.46)<sup>3</sup>.

In 2016, in the Montréal CMA, 451,875 couples had children, as well as 172,240 single parent families. Most couples had two children, and more than three-quarters of the single parent families were headed by a woman. Most single parent families only had one child.

Mother tongue

In the Montréal CMA, the vast majority (93.8%) of children under 15 years of age have a single mother tongue, either French (64.7%), English (12.3%) or another language (16.8%).

The situation differs quite a bit from one municipality to another within the Montréal CMA, although French continues to be the most common mother tongue. In 2016, French was the mother tongue of 47.5% of children under 15 in Montréal, while that proportion reached 56.9% in Laval, 71.7% in Longueuil and 86.3% in the rest of the Montréal CMA.

Conversely, the percentage of youths under 15 whose mother tongue was neither French nor English was 25.6% in Montréal, 23.3% in Laval, 15.1% in Longueuil and barely 4.4% in the remainder of the Montréal CMA.

Immigration

The Montréal CMA is one of the three regions in Canada where the concentration of immigrants is the highest. Indeed, among immigrants who landed in Quebec between 2008 and 2017 and who still resided there in 2019, 72.2% lived in the administrative region of Montréal, in Laval and in Greater Longueuil. The rest lived in another region (24.8%) or had a domicile that could not be clearly established (3.0%).

In 2016 in Montréal<sup>4</sup>, 321,675 children under 15 had at least one parent who was born abroad, which represents 46.6% of the total population in this group. That is a percentage that is far greater than the number for the whole of Quebec, (29.4%), but less than the numbers found in Toronto (71%) or Vancouver (63.7%).

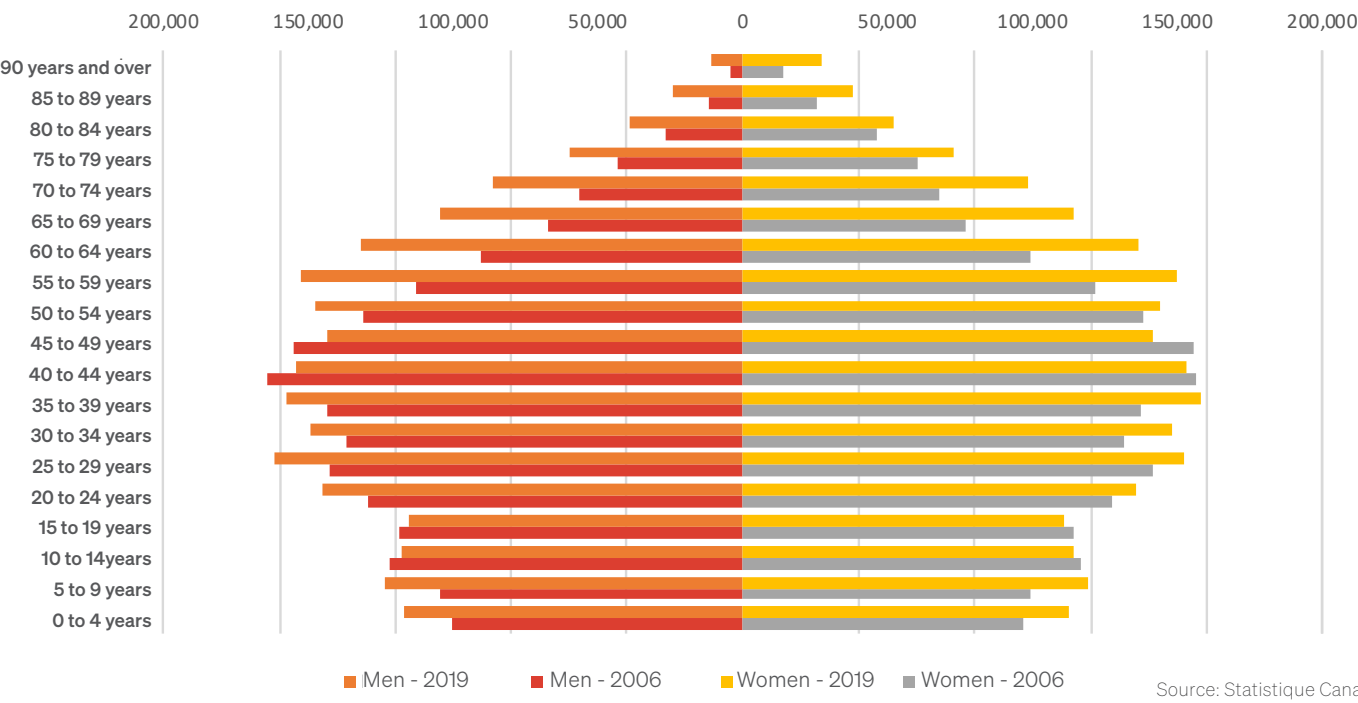
An aging population

Even though the Montréal CMA saw a greater influx of young people than the rest of Quebec did, the aging of the population is still a clear reality here. The proportion of elderly individuals in the region has increased.

The average age in the Montréal CMA stands at 40.8 years, and a bit more than 40% of the population is aged between 35 and 65.

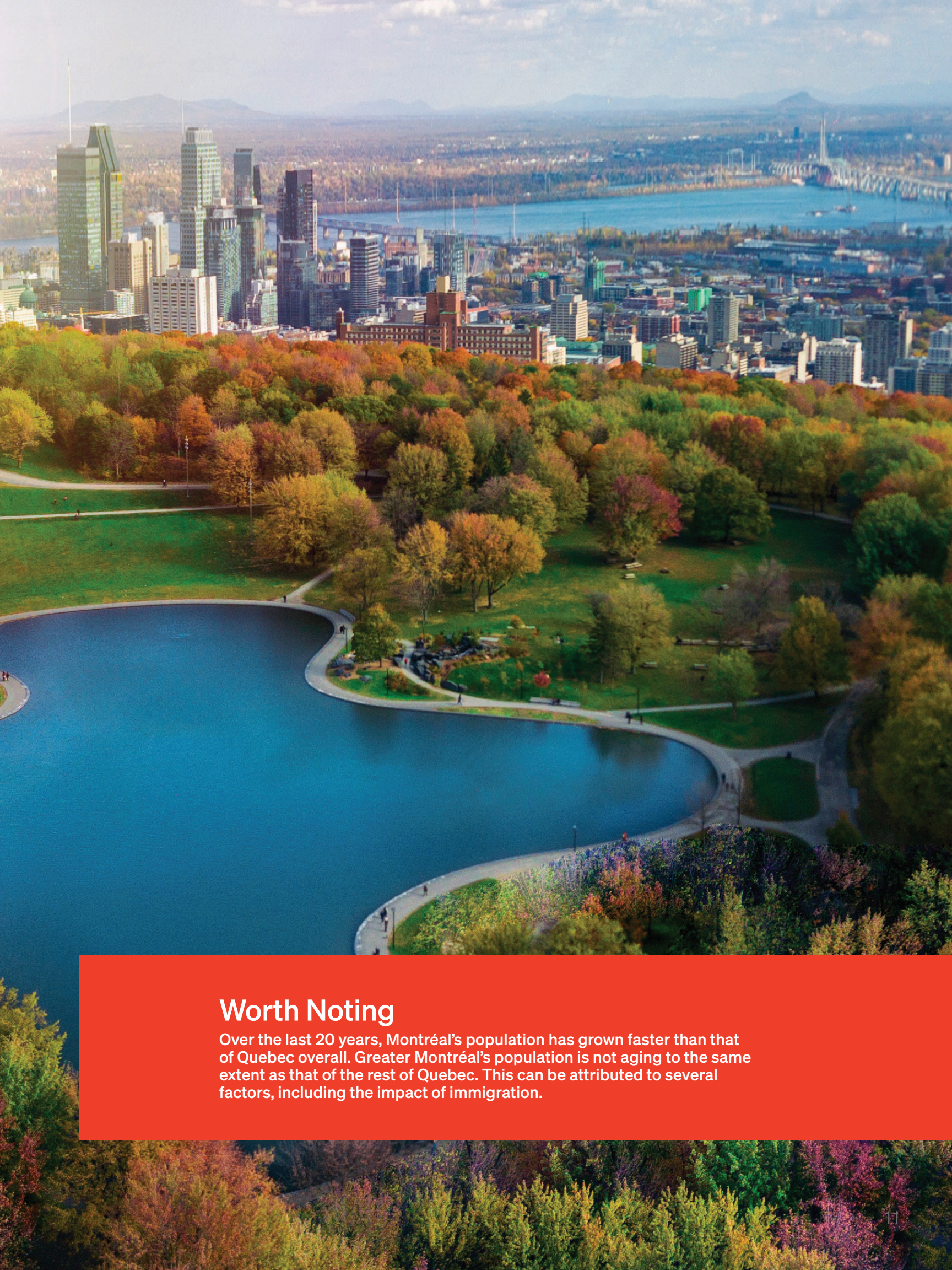
Demographic pyramid, Montréal CMA, 2006 and 2019

Graph 4



Source: Statistique Canada, tableau: 17-10-0135-01

<sup>3</sup> To consult the definitions of the terms «birth rate» and «total fertility rate», see chapter 2 of *Bilan démographique du Québec (2019)*, from the Institut de la statistique du Québec.  
<sup>4</sup> Data are from Statistics Canada's 2016 Census.



Worth Noting

Over the last 20 years, Montréal's population has grown faster than that of Quebec overall. Greater Montréal's population is not aging to the same extent as that of the rest of Quebec. This can be attributed to several factors, including the impact of immigration.





# No Poverty

## End poverty in all its forms everywhere

### Poverty persists, though it has eased a bit

Despite experiencing economic growth over the past several years, the Montreal region is still grappling with problems caused by poverty. In certain areas and neighbourhoods in particular, the difficulties are persistent. Greater Montréal's residents, with the exception of some individuals experiencing homelessness, all earn more than \$1.90 US per day (which is the poverty line set by the World Bank); and yet, that doesn't mean that poverty has been eliminated. Some of the region's neighbourhoods and sectors continue to be home to too many people living in poverty.

In general, if we go by the Market Basket Measure (see side box), the situation in Greater Montréal has admittedly gotten better, as is the case for Quebec as a whole. **By that standard, in 2017, 11.6% of Montrealers did not have enough income to purchase the basic goods and services needed to live a full life in our society.** In 2006 (the first year for which this measurement is available), that percentage stood at 14.6%.

Again, using this standard, the poverty rate for **Greater Montréal is 2.6 points higher than that of Quebec** for 2017.

#### Gauging poverty<sup>1</sup>

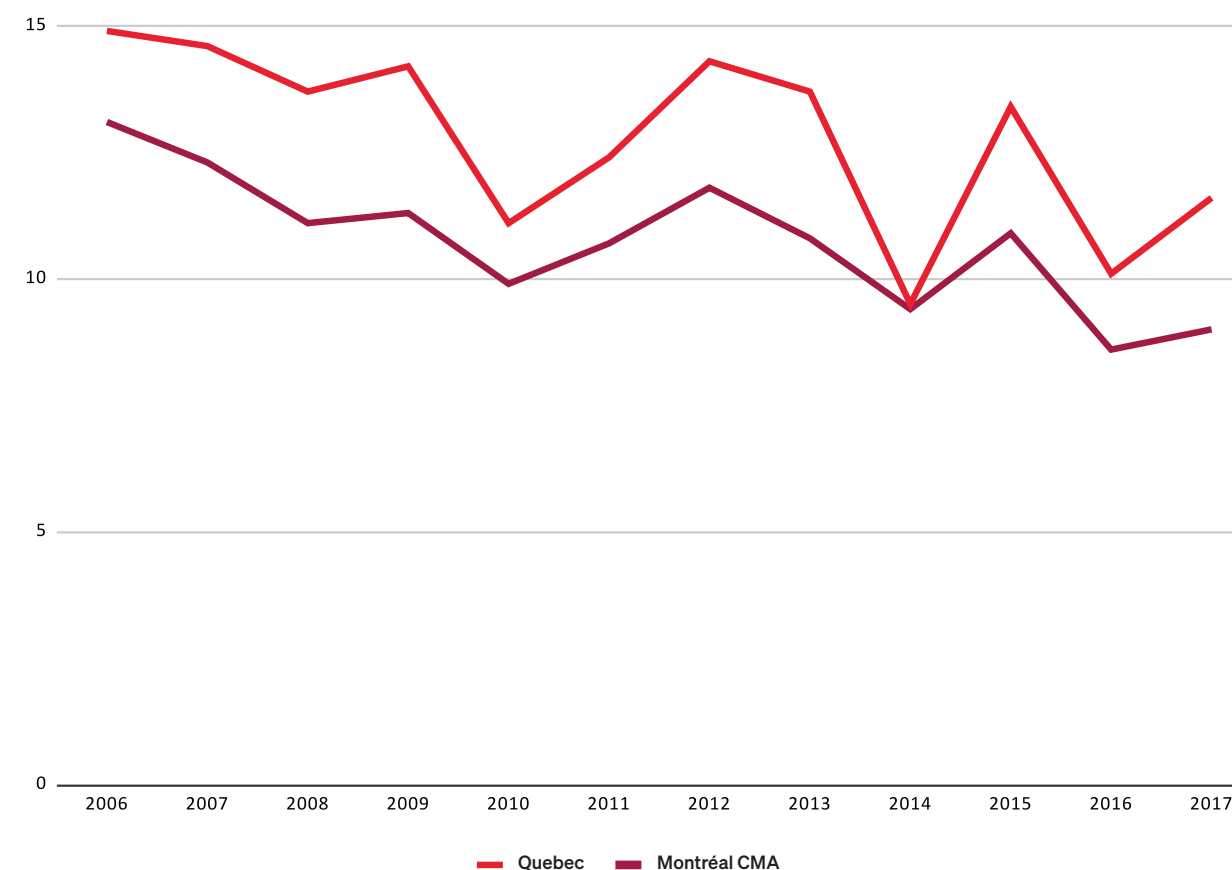
Poverty can be measured through a variety of indicators, all of which have their strengths and weaknesses. **The Low Income Measure** is calculated based on a household's adjusted income, weighted according to its size. An income is considered low if it is at 50% or less of the median weighted income. This measurement is effective in comparing interprovincial and international data, but does not factor in cost of living, which can vary among regions. This measure is **relative**, since it varies according to the income level in society in general. For instance, an increase in median income can result in an increase in the percentage of individuals considered as having low incomes, without their situation having actually worsened.

Another indicator is the **Market Basket Measure (MBM)**, which is based on the cost of the various products and services necessary to ensure a modest, basic standard of living for a family of two parents and two children. This measure is adjusted to take into account variations in the cost of living from one region to another and for different types of families. MBM allows us to capture the relation between incomes and families' needs. However, it is not easily comparable from region to another. It is an **absolute measure** of poverty, since it indicates the exact percentage of individuals who don't have enough to be able to participate actively in society. That is the percentage that needs to be brought down as much as possible.

Graph 1-1

Evolution of the percentage of people in poverty in Montréal and Quebec based on the Market Basket Measure, base year 2008 (%)

Source: Statistique Canada, Tableau : 11-10-0136-01<sup>2</sup>



### The way people experience poverty varies with age

Even if MBM constitutes an absolute and general measurement of poverty, it looks at people in different age groups in different ways. For instance, the elderly are more likely to live in poverty in Greater Montréal. **In 2017, 21.3% of families that included at least one elderly person were experiencing poverty.** We should note, though, that the picture has brightened a bit since 2006.

A similar situation can be seen among young people. Indeed, an examination of the data from the 2016 Census leads to the conclusion that poverty affects two age groups in particular: young people between 20 and 24 years of age, and persons older than 65<sup>3</sup>.

### Montréal, the child poverty capital of Quebec

A 2018 analysis of poverty by federal electoral riding from the Campaign 2000 organization found that **the four Quebec ridings experiencing the highest child poverty rates were located in Montréal<sup>4</sup>.** Conversely, Montréal's suburbs stood out in a positive way, since they featured some of the lowest child poverty rates in Canada.



Table 1-1

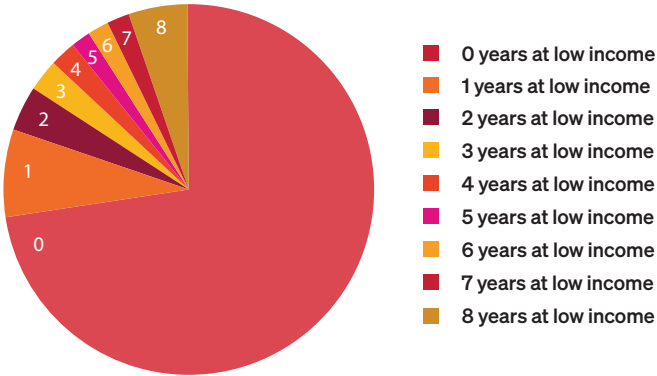
Federal riding	Province or territory	Number of children (0 to 17 years) in low income families	Percentage of children (0 to 17 years) in low income families (%)
Churchill–Keewatinook Ask	Manitoba	21,870	64.2%
Desnethé–Missinippi–Churchill River	Saskatchewan	15,300	57.8%
Winnipeg Centre	Manitoba	7,730	41.1%
Toronto Centre	Ontario	4,210	40.0%
Ville-Marie–Le Sud-Ouest–Île-des-Soeurs	Québec	5,260	38.1%
Nunavut	Nunavut	5,150	36.1%
Kenora	Ontario	6,090	34.7%
Hamilton Centre	Ontario	6,240	34.2%
Dauphin–Swan River–Neepawa	Manitoba	6,910	33.8%
Sydney–Victoria	Nouvelle-Écosse	4,500	33.0%
Humber River–Black Creek	Ontario	8,840	32.9%
Bourassa	Québec	7,130	32.9%
Scarborough–Guildwood	Ontario	7,720	32.9%
Winnipeg North	Manitoba	8,250	32.3%
Windsor West	Ontario	8,680	32.1%
Saint-Léonard–Saint-Michel	Québec	8,730	31.9%
Edmonton Griesbach	Alberta	7,610	31.7%
Ottawa–Vanier	Ontario	5,720	31.3%
Etobicoke North	Ontario	9 050	30.8%
Battlefords–Lloydminster	Saskatchewan	6 260	30.4%
Regina–Qu'Appelle	Saskatchewan	6 110	30.2%
York South–Weston	Ontario	7 630	29.9%
Scarborough Centre	Ontario	6 980	29.3%
Saskatoon West	Saskatchewan	6,580	29.3%
Scarborough Southwest	Ontario	6,960	29.3%
Scarborough–Agincourt	Ontario	5,500	29.1%
Papineau	Québec	5,680	29.1%
Don Valley East	Ontario	5,480	28.7%
Ottawa South	Ontario	6,930	28.6%
Prince Albert	Saskatchewan	5,850	28.3%

Source: Mettons fin à la pauvreté des enfants et des familles, Campagne 2000, 2018  
https://campaign2000.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/June2018-FR-Campaign-2000-Riding-by-Riding-Child-Poverty-Report-FR.pdf

Poverty is persistent

One element that stands out from our survey of the available data is the persistence of poverty. That people should have to live in poverty even temporarily is dramatic enough, but the fact that this situation is repeated year after year attests to a more serious underlying issue. In this vein, the statistics that illustrate poverty in Greater Montréal paint a very disturbing picture.

Graph 1-2 Persistence of poverty, based on the Low Income Measure, Montréal CMA, 2010 to 2017 (%)



Source: Statistique Canada, Tableau: 11-10-0136-01

Social support

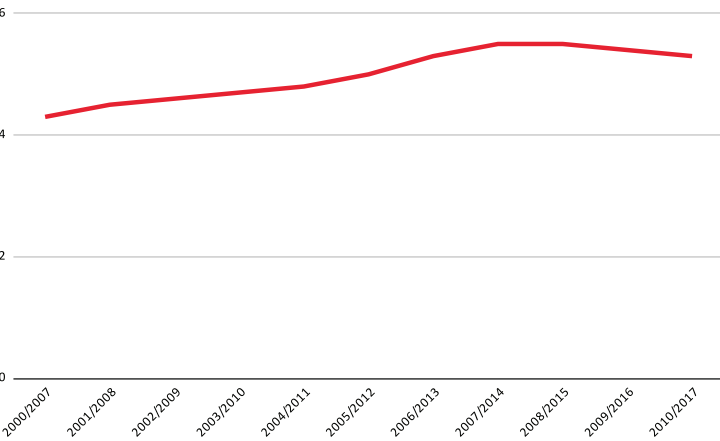
The government program that best demonstrates the social support given to people living with poverty is social assistance. While the number of beneficiaries has dropped overall through the years, **it remains higher on the island of Montréal than for Quebec as a whole in people under 65 years of age.**

Worth noting

Poverty in Greater Montréal has gone down in absolute numbers. However, pockets of poverty still exist in certain areas, and some individuals remain trapped in situations of poverty for long periods of time.

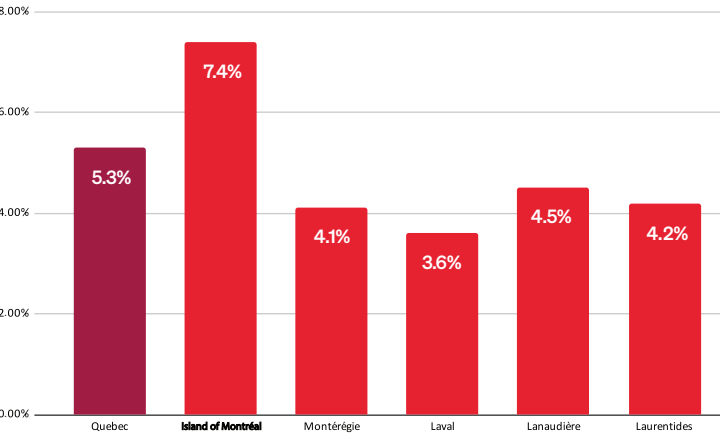
Thus, **5.3% of the population in the Montréal CMA were in the low income category for the eight years comprised between 2010 and 2017.** Worse yet, not only has that percentage not diminished since 2000, but it has actually increased. Breaking the cycle of poverty appears to be very difficult for these individuals.

Graph 1-3 Percentage of individuals having reported 8 years of low income in Greater Montréal between 2000 and 2017



Source: Statistique Canada, Tableau 11-10-0025-01

Graph 1-4 Percentage of individuals on social assistance, 0-64 years of age, November 2019



Source: https://www.mtess.gouv.qc.ca/publications/pdf/00\_AS-statistiques-2019-11.pdf



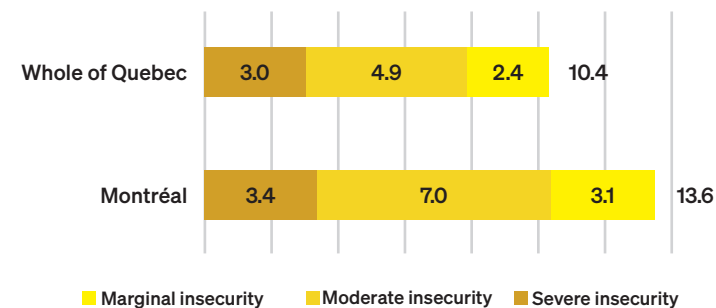
## Zero Hunger

### End hunger, guarantee food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Percentage of the population experiencing food insecurity, 2015-2016.

Graph 2-1

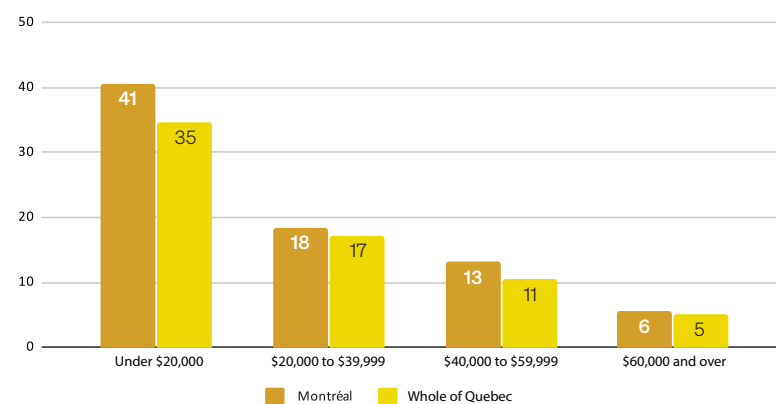
Source<sup>1</sup>



Percentage of the population experiencing food insecurity, 2015-2016, by income.

Graph 2-2

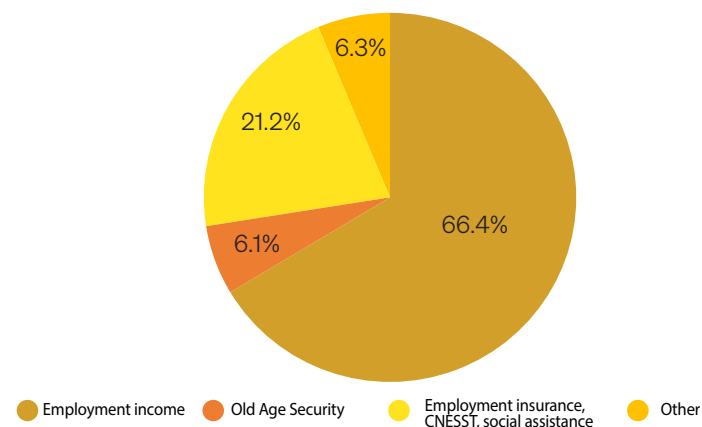
Source<sup>1</sup>



Distribution of the population experiencing food insecurity by income source.

Graph 2-3

Source<sup>1</sup>



## Hunger: still a serious problem

As was noted in the 2017 Vital Signs™ report, the island of Montréal is more affected than other areas in the province by the problem of food insecurity, **in that 13.6% of its population experiences food insecurity, including 3.1% in a situation of severe food insecurity.**

**40.6% of the population living on the island of Montréal and having a household income of less than \$20,000 experienced food insecurity, versus 36.4% for all of Québec** – a difference that is probably attributable to the relatively higher cost of life in the city.

We note as well that for the whole of Quebec, as well as for the island of Montréal, more than one person in 10 having an income of **\$40,000 to \$59,999 nonetheless experienced food insecurity.**

Over the last 20 years, the number of food baskets provided by food banks has nearly doubled. This increase is likely due to a combination of two factors: demand for assistance remaining steady, simultaneous with an increase in services offered by food banks.

## It can be difficult even for those with a job

In a similar vein, a disturbing statistic is that **66.4% of individuals who experience food insecurity also earn employment income.** We can thus conclude that a significant number of our fellow citizens who are experiencing food insecurity are employed, but that their incomes do not allow them to ensure an adequate food intake.

## What is food insecurity?

Statistics Canada has defined the following situations<sup>1</sup>:

### Marginal food insecurity

Indications that there are fears of, or obstacles to, adequate and sure access to food, due to income level.

### Moderate food insecurity

Indications that the quality or quantity of food consumed is inadequate.

### Severe food insecurity

Indications of reductions of food intake and disruption of eating patterns.

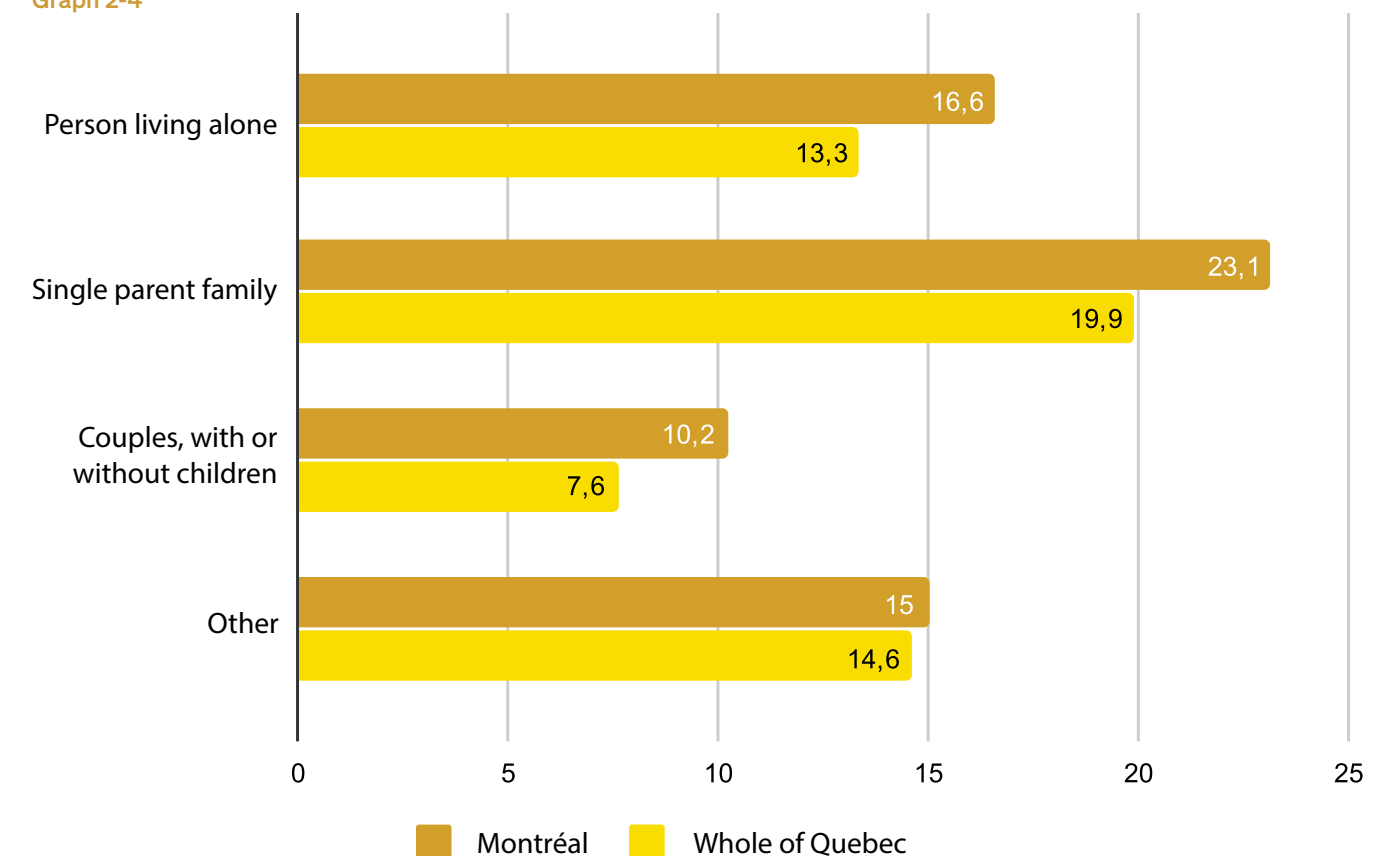
In all of these situations, healthy eating is compromised.

Looking at this from another angle, **11.7% of those on the island of Montréal who had employment income were experiencing food insecurity.** People who experience poverty are often working people.

**Single parent families** are the ones most often suffering due to this phenomenon: **23.1% of those living on the island of Montréal and 19.9%** of those in Quebec as a whole experience food insecurity. On the island of Montréal, more than one couple in 10, with or without children, is experiencing food insecurity.

Proportion of the population experiencing food insecurity according to type of household, 2015-2016.

Graph 2-4



Direction de la Santé Publique de Montréal, Enquête sur l'insécurité alimentaire, Compilation spéciale à partir du FMGD de l'ESCC 2015-2016 de Statistique Canada. Document à paraître.

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada, Household food insecurity, 2011-2012 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/82-625-x/2013001/article/11889-eng.htm>

Two ways of understanding hunger on the island of Montréal

Out of  
**100**

Montrealers

**14**

are experiencing food insecurity.

Of these,

**9**

have income from employment.

Out of

**100**

Montrealers who work,

**12**

experience food insecurity.



Out of the 345,184 visits to food assistance programs for the whole of Quebec in March 2019, 122,811 were made to Moisson Montréal – **over a third, even though the Island of Montréal represents a little under a quarter of Quebec’s population. Moisson Montréal’s 2009-2010 report tallied 115,467 food bank visits per month.**

In March 2019, 46,411 visits were made to Moisson Rive-Sud, a substantial increase of 26% as compared to the number of visits in 2018. On the other hand, Moisson Laval reported a decrease in use, with visits down by 15%, to 26,697.

Table 2-1

	Total number of visits to food assistance programs	Proportion of food bank users who are children aged 18 or below
Moisson Laval	26,697	58.0%
Moisson Lanaudière	23,717	32.6%
Moisson Laurentides	33,566	28.9%
Moisson Montréal	122,811	35.2%
Moisson Rive-Sud	46,411	37.3%

Source: Les Banques alimentaires du Québec (Site Internet, consulté en février 2020), Bilan-Faim 2019.  
<https://www.banquesalimentaires.org/bilan-faim/>

**More than 35% of households that resorted to food banks had children under 18** – a percentage comparable to the Canadian average (34%). The proportion was also 35% for the island of Montréal, and roughly the same on the South Shore at 37%. However, 58% of Laval households using these services included children.

On this point, the **frequency of junk food intake is down on the island of Montréal, as it is in Quebec overall**. That said, intake of fruits and vegetables still remains inadequate.

School age children in particular benefit from an adequate and healthy diet.

The TOPO 2017 survey revealed that among sixth grade students on the island of Montréal, **38% did not eat breakfast every day. In all, one student in seven had not had breakfast at all** in the school week preceding the survey<sup>2</sup>.

**There was a slight increase in the proportion of obese and overweight adults from 2009-2010 to 2013-2014**, in Québec (50.5% to 52.5%) as well as in Canada (52.0% to 53.8%). In general, the obesity rate was the percentage that went up, although on the island of Montréal, the proportion was stable, at 50.8% for 2013-2014.

When it comes to youth (ages 12-17), the situation is barely more promising, **as the percentage of obese and overweight individuals in this age group increased in Canada (19.9% to 21.9%), in Quebec (18.4% to 22.2%) and on the island of Montréal (16.0% to 19.9%).**

## Worth noting

Despite economic growth, a significant proportion of Greater Montréal’s population uses food banks. Many of these individuals are gainfully employed.



<sup>2</sup> Centre Intégré Universitaire de Santé et de Services Sociaux de the Centre – South region of the island of Montréal (2018), Portrait des jeunes montréalais de 6e année. Results of the TOPO 2017 Survey by the direction régionale de santé publique.





# Good Health and Well-Being

## Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

### Better health overall, but with an increase in anxiety disorders among youth

What is the state of Montrealers' health, as self-reported by them? How do we establish comparisons with Quebecers as a whole, and Canadians as a whole? Table 1, which shows the highlights of the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) for 2017-2018<sup>1</sup>, carried out among residents 12 years old and over and published in October 2019, for the Montréal metropolitan region, sheds some light on this.

Several elements are noteworthy. For instance, a larger proportion of Montrealers than Canadians perceive their mental health to be good or excellent, and yet Montrealers also perceive their stress levels to be higher than those of Quebecers and Canadians in general.

When it comes to health problems, adult Montrealers report a rate of obesity (based on the Body Mass Index) lower than that of Canadians, and less of a tendency to experience mood disorders than people elsewhere in the country.

As regards health behaviours, adults in Greater Montréal report a higher level of physical activity than do Quebecers as a whole, although adolescents are less active than their Canadian counterparts. Montrealers engage in less excess drinking than other Quebecers, but smoke more than Canadians as a whole.

As well, there seem to be more weak spots in the health system in Montréal: fewer Montrealers have access to a regular health care provider than Quebecers or Canadians, and they are far less likely to get a flu shot than other Canadians are.

#### Highlights of the Canadian Community Health Survey

Table 3-1

	Montréal	Quebec	Canada
Well-being			
Perception of health is good or excellent	62.1	61.4	60.8
Perception of mental health is good or excellent	71.3	72.6	<b><u>69.4</u></b>
Perceived stress level, very or extremely stressed	25.4	<b><u>23.7</u></b>	<b><u>21.4</u></b>
Health issues			
Body Mass Index, self-reported and corrected, adults 18 and over, excess weight	35.8	36.5	36.1
Body Mass Index, self-reported and corrected, adults 18 and over, or obesity	24.2	25.9	<b><u>26.9</u></b>
Asthma	7.7	8.2	8.1
Mood disorders, including depression, bipolar disorder, mania and dysthymia	5.9	6.3	<b><u>8.8</u></b>
Health-related behaviours			
Self-reported physical activity, 150 minutes per week, adult (18 years or over)	54.8	<b><u>52.6</u></b>	56.0
Self-reported physical activity, 150 minutes per week, youth (12 to 17 years)	51.2	53.2	<b><u>57.8</u></b>
Excessive drinking	20.3	<b><u>22.0</u></b>	19.3
Currently smoke, occasionally or daily	17.4	17.9	<b><u>16.0</u></b>
Health system			
Has a regular health care provider	73.4	<b><u>78.5</u></b>	<b><u>84.9</u></b>
Had flu shot in the last 12 months	22.2	22.4	<b><u>32.0</u></b>
Personal resources			
Life satisfaction, satisfied or very satisfied	93.8	94.1	93.1
Feeling of belonging to a local community, strong or very strong	60.7	61.1	<b><u>68.9</u></b>

Note: significant differences between Montreal and all of Quebec or Canada are displayed in bold and underlined.

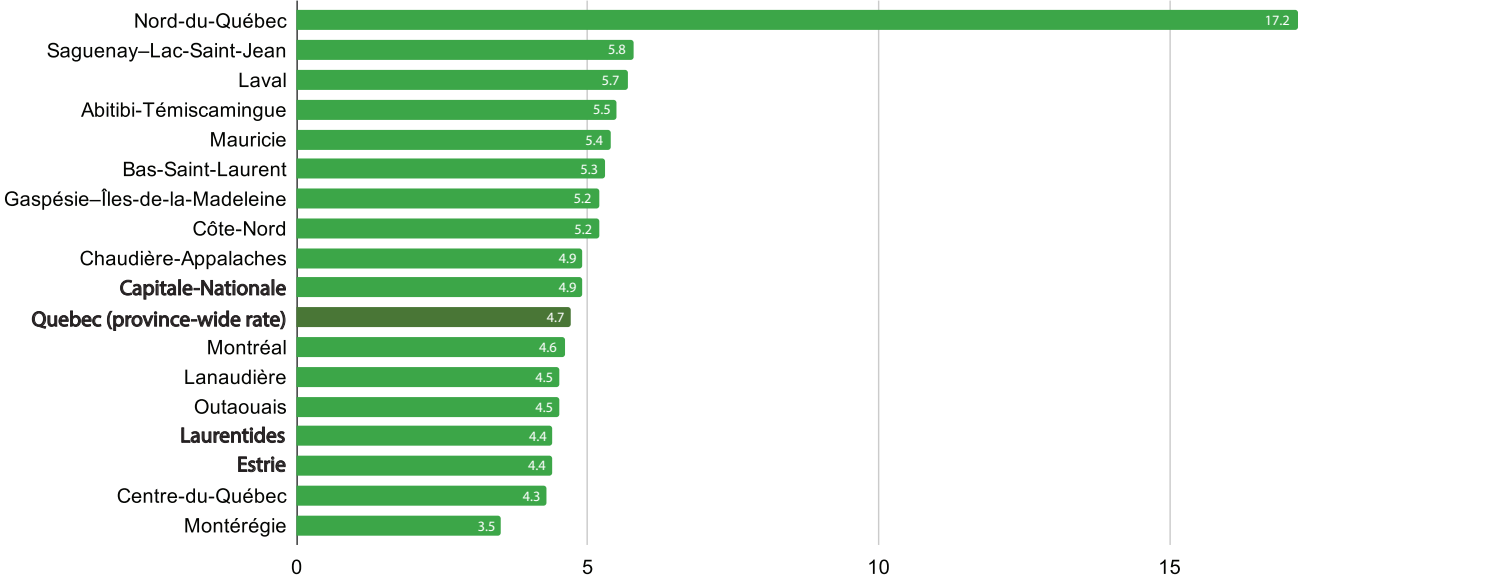
### Infant mortality

For Quebec as a whole, **the estimated infant mortality rate for 2018<sup>2</sup> stood at 4.2‰. That represents the lowest rate ever recorded in the province.** The trend over the last 20 years has been a slight decrease of the rate, and the average rate since 2000 has been 4.6‰.

A regional comparison can be established using a 2012 to 2016 average. While the rest for the province overall was at 4.7‰, we note large discrepancies among administrative regions. The Nord-du-Québec region posted, by far, the highest rate, at 17,2‰, while the Montérégie posted the lowest, at 3,5‰. **The rate for the Montréal region (4.6‰) was near the average, and those of all the other administrative regions stood between 4 and 6‰.**

#### Infant mortality rate, 2012-2016

Graph 3-1



Source: Taux de mortalité, de mortalité périnatale, néonatale et infantile, Québec et régions administratives, 2012-2016. Institut de la Statistique du Québec, 2012-2016. <http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/statistiques/population-demographie/deces-mortalite/315.htm>.

### The opioid crisis

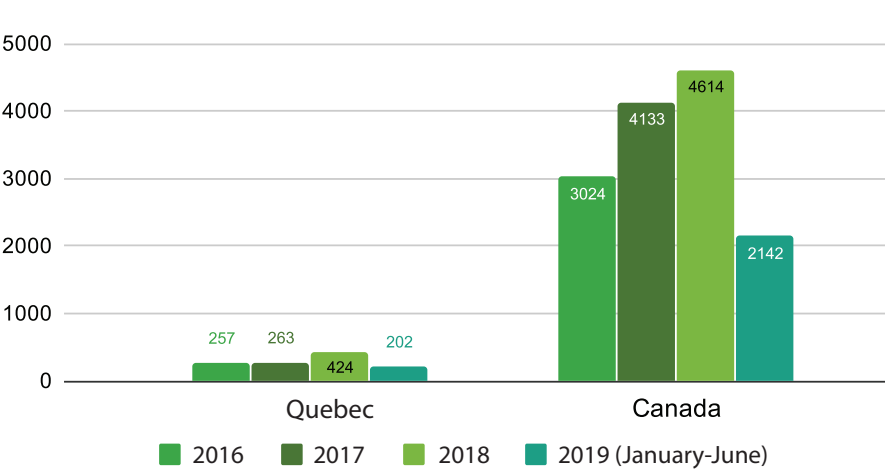
In several developed countries, deaths caused by opioid overdoses are on the rise. According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Canada is the country that is second hardest-hit, just after the United States.

In 2018 alone, 4,460 individuals are thought to have died as a result of having taken opioids. British Columbia (1,525) was the most affected province, followed by Ontario (1,471), Alberta (775) and Québec (424). The Quebec mortality rate (per 100,000 inhabitants) amounts to less than half of the Canadian average (5.1 versus 12.4).

**In the Montréal region, 150 deaths are believed to have been attributable to drug or opioid use.**

#### Total number of deaths thought to be linked to opioid consumption

Graph 3-2



Source: <https://sante-infobase.canada.ca/labo-de-donnees/surveillance-nationale-opioides-mortalite.html>

<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/fr/catalogue/82-625-X>.

<sup>2</sup> Taux de mortalité, de mortalité périnatale, néonatale et infantile, Québec et régions administratives, 2012-2016. Institut de la Statistique du Québec, 2012-2016. <http://www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/statistiques/population-demographie/deces-mortalite/315.htm>.

Life expectancy

Life expectancy as of 65 years of age is slightly less in Montréal than in Toronto, Vancouver or Calgary, for men as well as women. Indeed, for 2014-2016, it was 22.8 years for women in Montréal, versus 24.9 years in Toronto, 23.2 years in Calgary and 24.4 years in Vancouver. For men, the gaps were similar, as can be seen in graph 3-3<sup>3</sup>.

Mental health

In 2012, 12.2% of Quebecers aged 15 or over experienced an episode of depression, a slight drop from 2002 (14.6%). Women are overrepresented in this statistical category, experiencing depression at a rate of 15.0% versus 9.3% for men. Between 2002 and 2012, improvement was noted in all age groups, except for young people between 15 and 24 years of age, for whom the rate remained stable (12.6% to 12.7%). More specific data exist that indicate that there is no correlation between a depressive episode and income levels.

Anxiety disorders among high school youth

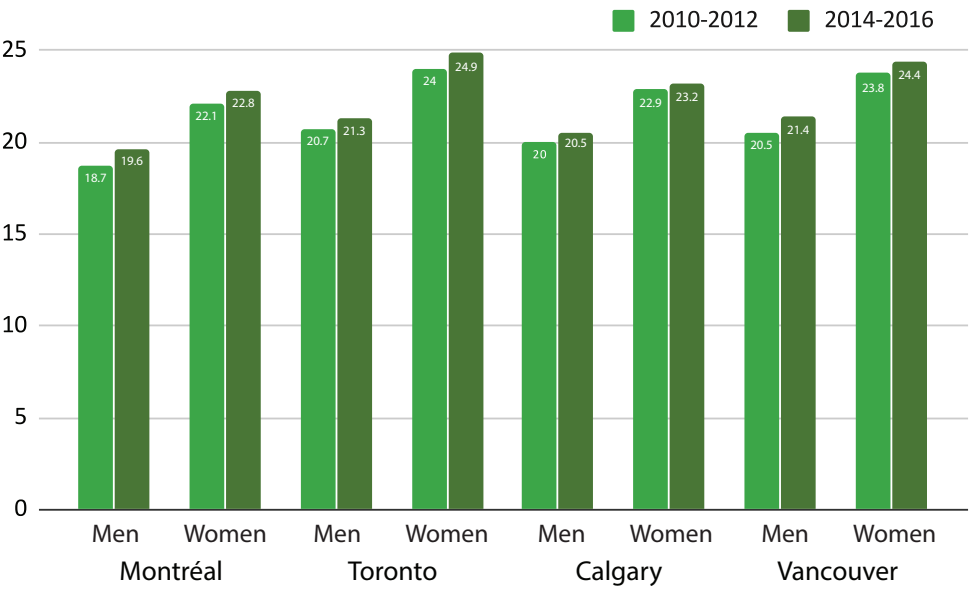
The *Quebec Health Survey of High School Students* carried out in 2016-2017 found that in Montréal, diagnoses of anxiety disorders, depression or eating disorders were up between 2010-2011 and 2016-2017 for all age groups in high school, having gone from 12.3% to 16.4%. In 2016-2017, 12.2% of boys reported having been so diagnosed, compared to 20.5% of girls. These rates remain lower than those noted for Québec as a whole (average of 19.5%, 13.8% for boys and 25.4% for girls).

Suicides

Among Québec regions, with the notable exception of Nunavik, Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine are the most impacted by suicide. **Montréal's rate is slightly below the Quebec average, while Laval's suicide rate is the lowest in the province.**

Life expectancy as of 65 years of age

Graph 3-3



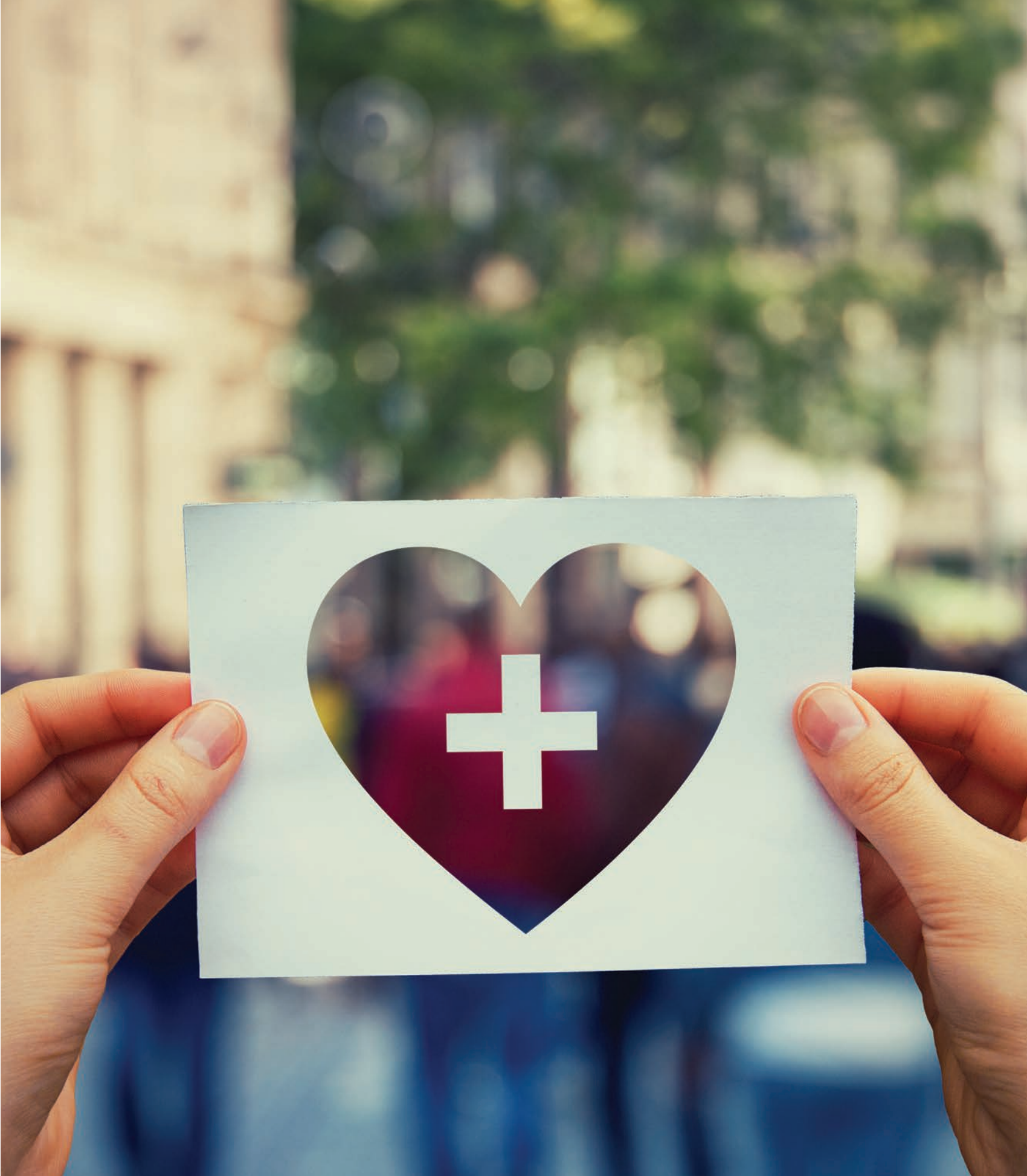
Source: Statistique Canada, tableau 13-10-0063-01

Adjusted suicide rate, 2016

Table 3-2

Nunavik	113.1
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	20.4*
Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine	18.1*
Chaudières-Appalaches	16.2
Mauricie et Centre-du-Québec	16.1
Côte-Nord	15.4*
Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	14.5
Nord-du-Québec	14.2**
Bas-Saint-Laurent	13.6*
Estrie	13.5
Terres-Cries-de-la-Baie-James	13.1*
Outaouais	12.6
Laurentides	12.6
Capitale-Nationale	11.9
Lanaudière	10.9
Montréal	10.9
Laval	9.6
Whole of Quebec	12.1**

\* Coefficient of variation greater than 16.6% and less than 33.3%. The value must be interpreted with caution.  
\*\* Coefficient of variation greater than 33%, the value is presented for information only.  
Source: [https://www.inspq.qc.ca/sites/default/files/publications/2497\\_suicide\\_quebec.pdf](https://www.inspq.qc.ca/sites/default/files/publications/2497_suicide_quebec.pdf)



Worth noting

Montrealers' health is good, but mental health issues and stress levels are cause for concern. Life expectancy is good, though in some cases less than in other cities in Canada.



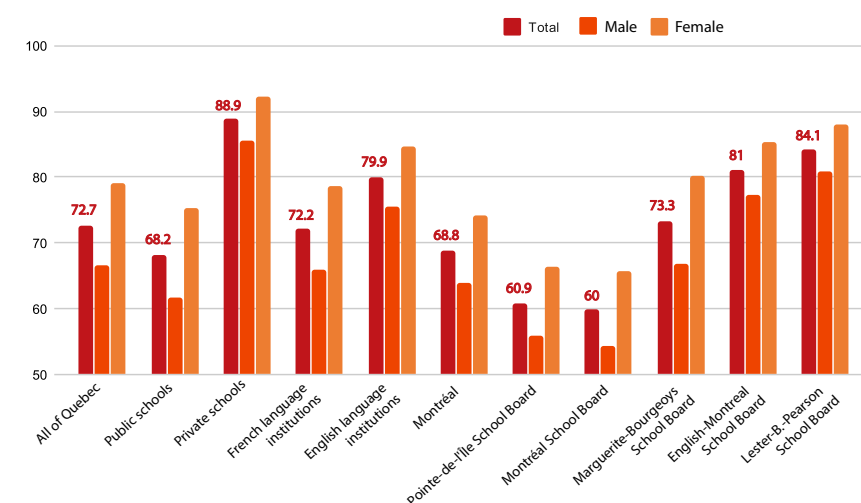


## Quality Education

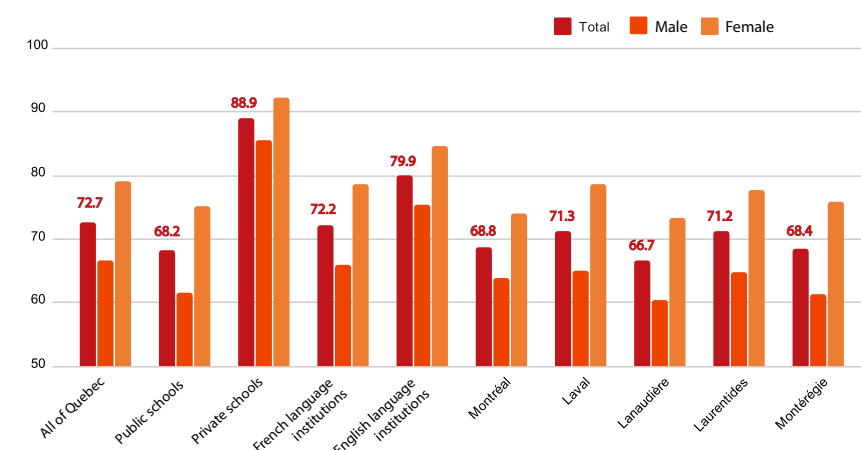
Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning

Rate of graduation and qualification, 2013 cohort tracked until 2017-2018 (5 years), in %

Graph 4-1<sup>1</sup>



Graph 4-2<sup>1</sup>



The dropout rate remains very high

An educated population is the ultimate goal

On the territory of the island of Montréal, **68.8% of students obtain their secondary school diploma or qualification in five years, which is 0.6% higher than in the Quebec education network as a whole.** However, the rate is quite a bit lower in the Pointe-de-l'Île (60.9%) and Montréal school boards (60%).

Graduation rates generally allow us to see what proportion of students in Quebec, and elsewhere in Canada, complete their studies in five years. To do so, we track the number of third-year students who obtain their secondary school diploma two years later. This rate is measured on a Quebec-wide basis by the ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MÉES). **The following graph shows significant disparities across Quebec, and within the territory of Montréal.**

The data also show that fewer boys than girls obtain their diploma within the five-year window. The rate for boys is 61.6% overall in the public school network, and is higher in Montréal (64%). Again, we note that school boards for Pointe-de-l'Île and Montréal school boards graduate fewer than 6 adolescent boys out of 10 within 5 years

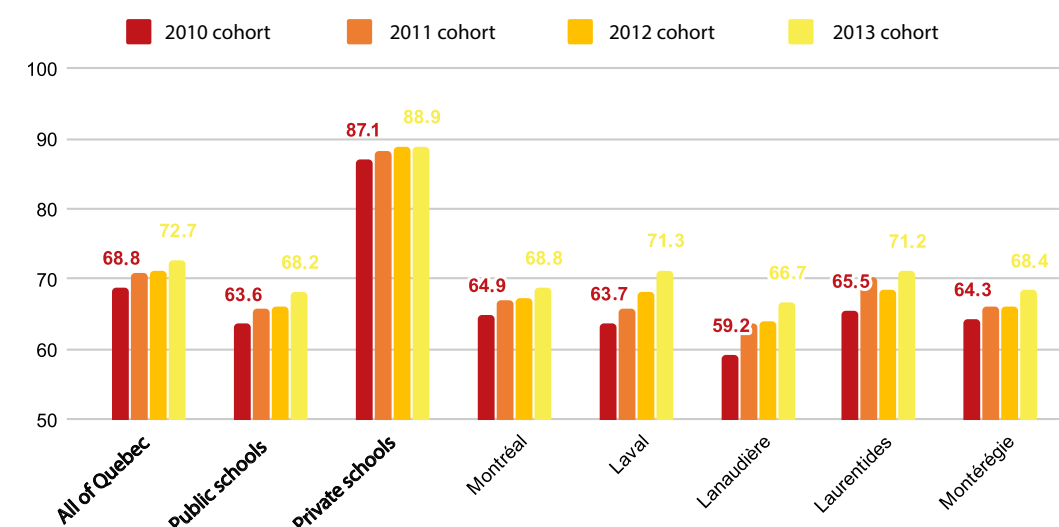
Graduation rates are also available for the administrative regions that surround the island of Montréal. However, these results may include school boards that are not part of the Montréal CMA. The following graphic shows graduation rates for these four administrative regions.

The administrative regions adjacent to Montréal show graduation rates that are slightly higher than the Quebec average for public schools, with the exception of the Lanaudière region. **The Montréal region, which by itself is home to 11 school boards, posts widely varying results, with the lowest graduation rate at 52.1% and the highest at 81.7%.**

If we look at historical trends, graduation and qualification rates have gone up throughout Quebec over the last few years, including in Montréal. The following graph demonstrates this.

Rate of graduation and qualification after 5 years (in %)

Graph 4-3<sup>1</sup>

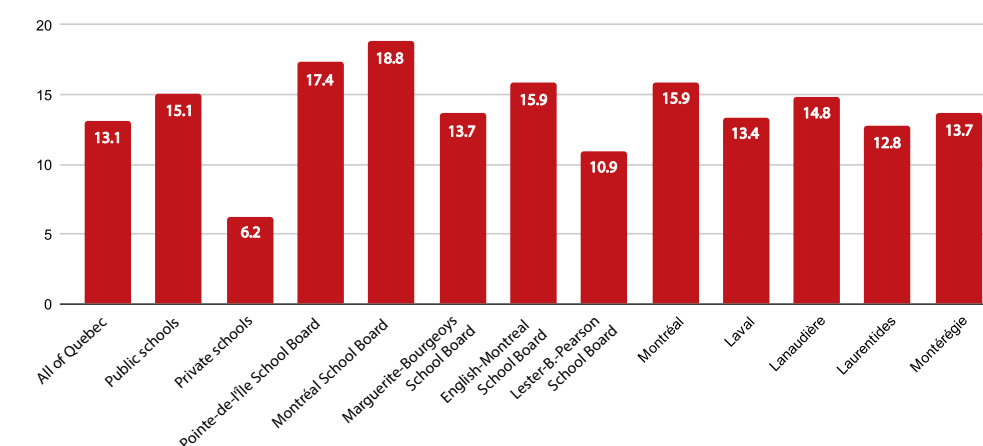


The other key indicator for measuring academic success is the rate of students leaving secondary school without a diploma or a qualification. More commonly referred to as the «dropout rate», it corresponds to the number of students having abandoned their secondary studies in a given year, without a diploma in hand. It is in a sense the inverse of the proportion of students (out of all students registered in secondary school) who obtain a diploma or a qualification, or pursue their studies.

The dropout rate is tracked province-wide, and by school board. Graphs 4-4 and 4-5 summarize the results for Quebec in 2016-2017.

Rate of departure from school without diploma or qualification, 2016-2017 (in %)

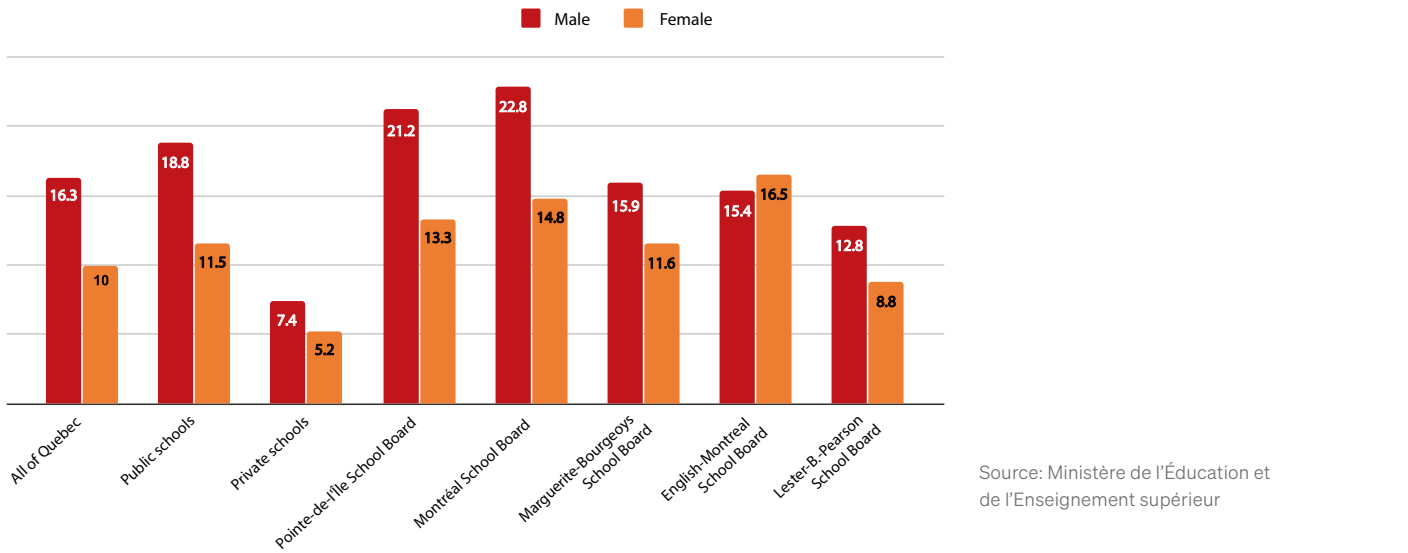
Graph 4-4<sup>1</sup>





Rate of departure from school without diploma or qualification, 2016-2017 (in %)

Graph 4-5



While there has certainly been progress, Quebec still lags behind the Canadian average, for both boys and girls. **The comparison is even more unfavourable to Quebec when it is measured against Ontario.**

Rate of high school graduation or qualification obtained within a regular time frame, 2015-2016. Public and private school networks combined

Table 4-1

	Total (%)	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Gap B-G (p.p.)
Canadian average	79	75	83	8
Newfoundland and Labrador	80	78	83	5
Prince Edward Island	78	74	82	8
New Brunswick	86	82	85	3
Quebec	74	68	80	12
Ontario	81	77	85	8
Manitoba	82	79	85	6
Saskatchewan	78	76	81	5
Alberta	77	75	79	4
British Columbia	79	77	81	4

Note: Nova Scotia data not available  
Source: Statistics Canada

It's important to bear in mind that dropping out of school has not just social, but also economic ramifications. According to a study carried out in 2019 by Aiseo Conseil for the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montréal (CCMM), **an individual who has completed their secondary studies will earn, on average, \$500,000 more over the course of their career than someone who has not completed them**<sup>1</sup>.

Table 4-2<sup>1</sup>

	Loss of income for individuals	Loss of tax revenues	Impact on GDP
Men	\$432,300	\$111,600	\$982,600
Women	\$492,500	\$100,200	\$1,119,400

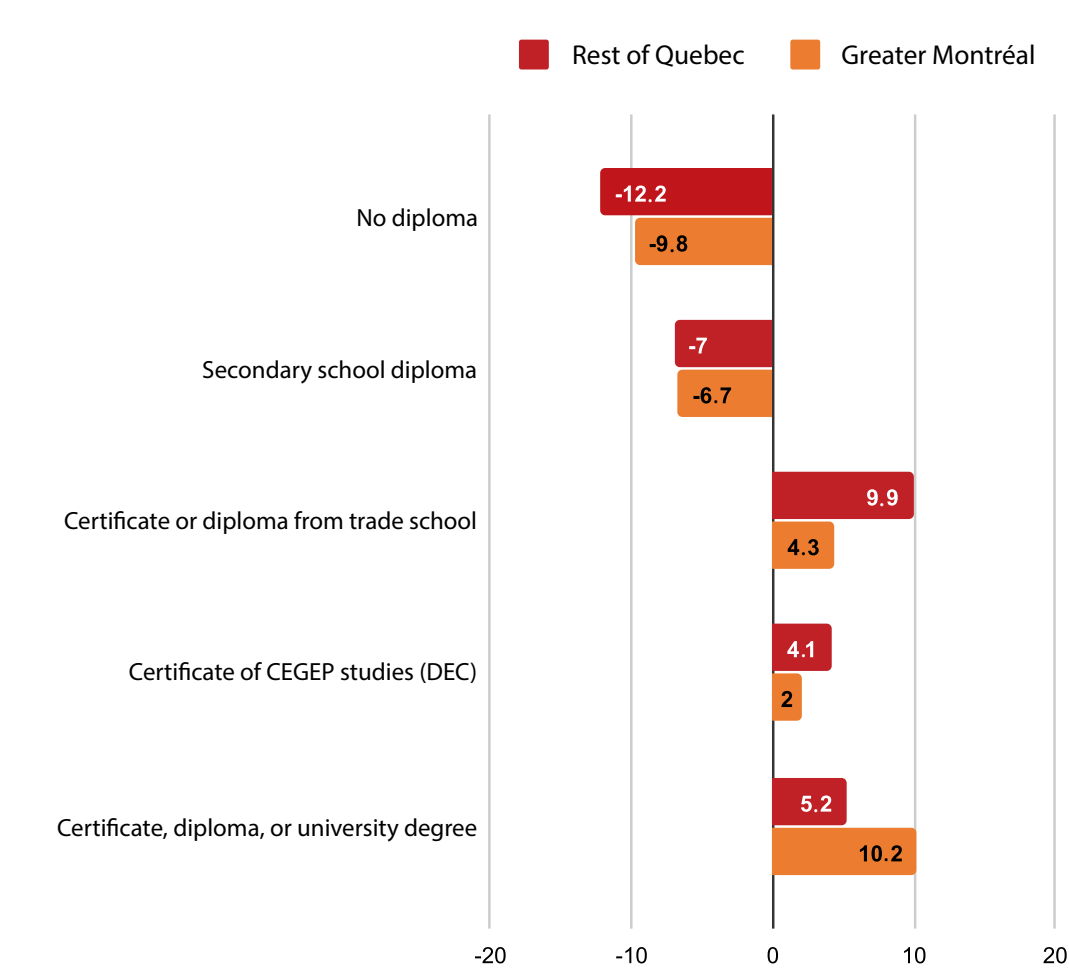
According to the Montreal Hooked on School organization<sup>2</sup>, dropping out of school has other major impacts:

- 30% of dropouts do not participate in the labour market;
- Two out of three recipients of social assistance are dropouts;
- Dropouts are more likely to have health problems and have a life expectancy that is 7 years less than the average;
- 62% of individuals who go through the prison system are dropouts;
- **The average employment income of a dropout is 31% lower than that of an individual with a secondary school diploma (DES);**
- Females who drop out, though proportionately a smaller number, are especially disadvantaged when it comes to employment:
  - Even fewer of them are employed than their male dropout counterparts (the gap is 22%);
  - The salaries they earn are on average is 21% lower than those of male dropouts.

There are wide disparities when it comes to the highest level of schooling declared by Quebecers. In Quebec as a whole, **11.3% of residents aged 25 to 64 have no diploma. The administrative regions of Montréal, Laval and the Montérégie do better than the Quebec average, with rates of 7.7%, 9.9% and 10.9% respectively, whereas two other neighbouring regions, the Laurentians (12.1%) and Lanaudière (14.0%), post rates that are higher than the provincial average.** While one resident out of two on the island of Montréal has obtained a certificate, diploma, or university degree, **graduation rates remain below the Quebec average.**

Highest level of education (Change from 2001 to 2016, in percentage points)

Graph 4-6



Source: Statistique Canada, Recensements de la population de 2001 et 2016.  
Traitement: Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM), 2018.

Worth noting

Greater Montréal has more residents with diplomas than it did 20 years ago. Unfortunately, the dropout rate remains high.

<sup>1</sup> Chambre de commerce du Montréal métropolitain (CCMM), Persévérance scolaire et conciliation études-travail: une piste de solution à la pénurie de main-d'œuvre, 2019: <https://www.ccmm.ca/fr/publications/etude/perserverance-scolaire-et-conciliation-etudes-travail---une-piste-de-solution-a-la-penurie-de-main-d-oeuvre/>

<sup>2</sup> Réseau Réussite Montréal - <https://www.reseautreussitemontreal.ca/perserverance-a-montreal/perserverance-et-decrochage/decrochage-scolaire/>



Our society is becoming more egalitarian, but it is still marked by domestic violence

Levels of education on the rise among women  
In 1995, fewer women than men pursued a university education. Since then, the opposite has become the reality. From 2000 to 2018 (based on the latest available data, which are still estimates), the percentage of women with a university degree increased more than the percentage of men with a university degree. Quebec-wide, in 2018, the proportion of women holding bachelor's, master's and PhDs had nearly doubled, while progress on the men's side was slower.

Women and the labour market  
One of the most significant societal changes of the last decades, with a marked economic, social and demographic impact, was the massive influx of women into the labour market.

# Gender Equality

## Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Population distribution, ages 25 to 54, according to level of education

Table 5-1

	WOMEN		MEN	
	1995	2015	1995	2015
Whole of Quebec				
Certificate, diploma, from college or CEGEP	15.8	22	12.5	18.2
Bachelor's degree	10.7	20.3	12	16.6
University degree beyond Bachelor's	3.5	9.2	5.5	8.1
Montréal				
Certificate, diploma, from college or CEGEP	14.6	18.7	12.3	16.1
Bachelor's degree	15.1	28.6	17.6	28.2
University degree beyond Bachelor's	6.2	16.5	8.8	15.6

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec

Employment rate for individuals from 25 to 54 years of age

Table 5-2

		Montréal	Toronto	Vancouver	Calgary
2001	Men	82.4	87.3	89.4	84.9
	Women	72.4	75.5	80.2	73
2011	Men	81.1	83.8	88.7	81.2
	Women	77.4	73.8	79.5	74
2019	Men	86.5	86.5	88.6	88.6
	Women	81.6	76.5	80.5	79.1

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec

### Immigrant women: still much ground to make up

In Montréal in 2006<sup>1</sup>, the employment rate among immigrant women between the ages of 25 and 54 who had arrived less than five years ago stood at 50%, about 20 points lower than that of immigrant women who had established themselves in the region at least 10 years prior, and 30 points lower than that of Canadian-born women.

Ten years later, in 2016, the employment rate for women in Montréal had increased for all groups. But while it was nearing 90% among women born in Canada, it remained lower among immigrants, specifically, 60% for women having arrived less than five years ago (a gap of 30 points) and 80% for those who had been established for at least 10 years (a 10-point gap).

Reported victims of violent crime (rate for 100,000 inhabitants)

Table 5-3

	11 years and under		12 to 17 years old		18 to 24 years old		24 years of age and under		25 years and over	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
All CMAs	289	277	1 757	1 402	1 834	1 449	1 123	914	732	767
Montréal	367	338	2 027	1 421	2 030	1 452	1 251	921	803	789
Quebec City	369	367	2 242	1 544	2 370	2 025	1 388	1 126	760	852
Ottawa	156	152	1 263	967	1 630	1 246	903	709	575	582
Toronto	246	288	1 380	1 542	1 431	1 237	912	900	643	698
Vancouver	181	181	1 328	1 172	1 385	1 350	877	831	702	856

Source: Statistique Canada

### Domestic violence

In 2017, women were significantly overrepresented among the victims of violence inflicted by intimate partners. This was the case throughout Canada. Among Canada's four largest cities, Montréal posted the highest rate of violence between partners, as reported by police. This was true among women and among men.

A study by the Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ) shows that the prevalence of conjugal violence diminished significantly in Quebec from 1999 to 2014, with the rate dropping from 7.4% to 3.5%<sup>2</sup>.

### Indigenous women

Indigenous women have had a minimal presence in the labour market. The differences between the employment rates for Indigenous women and Indigenous men are quite significant.

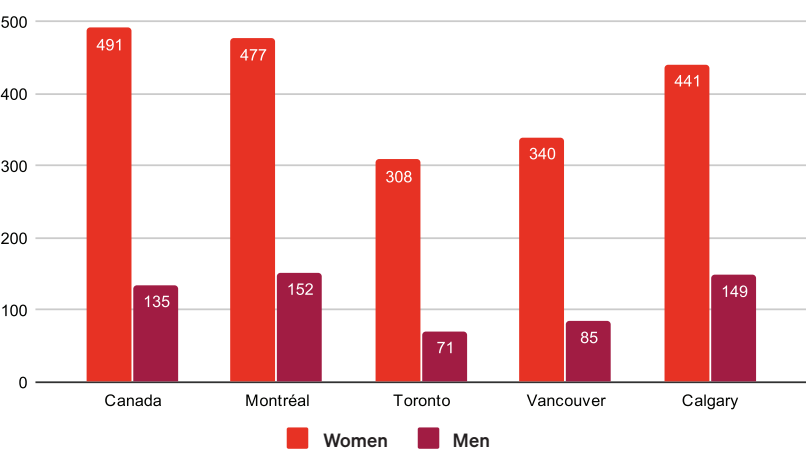
### Violence against women

In 2017, among those aged 25 and under, the rate of reported violent crime was higher among female victims. The rate was also higher among women and girls under 25 than among those over 25.

Montréal had rates of reported violent crime against girls and women that surpassed those of Toronto, Vancouver or Ottawa. That was also the case for men 25 and older, a category in which only Vancouver led Montréal.

Rate of violent acts committed between intimate partners

Graph 5-1



Source: Statistique Canada

<sup>1</sup> Données de l'Enquête sur la population active de Statistique Canada.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.inspq.qc.ca/rapport-quebecois-sur-la-violence-et-la-sante/la-violence-conjugale/ampleur-de-la-violence-conjugale-au-quebec>

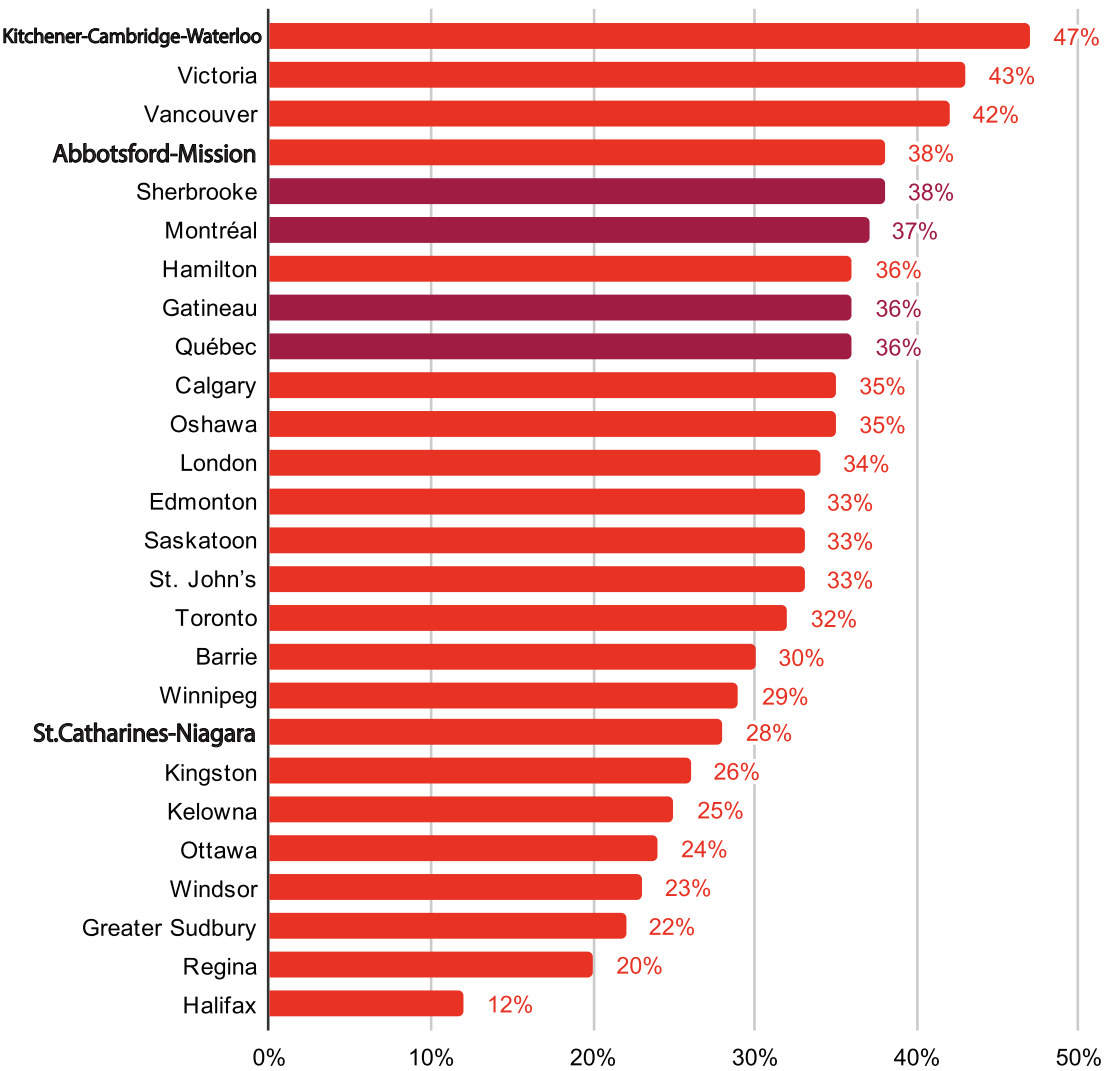


Women in politics

In municipal politics in 2019, women made up a third of elected officials in Canada's largest cities, and more than 50% of councillors and mayors in Montréal, Quebec City, Vancouver, Saskatoon and Victoria.

Percentage of women elected at the municipal level

Graph 5-1



Source: <https://www.policyalternatives.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/publications/National%20Office/2019/03/Best%20and%20Worst%20Places%20to%20Be%20a%20Woman%202019.pdf>

Worth noting

There has been progress in terms of equality; but challenges remain when it comes to reducing violence against women.





# Clean Water and Sanitation

## Ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

### Cleaner water, but still much water loss

Greater Montréal's residents have access to water that is of good quality. Drinking water is free, and available to all. But despite this (nearly) universal access, Montréal's water quality can be a cause for concern, for instance with regards to lead exposure.

### Montréal: an action plan on lead supply lines

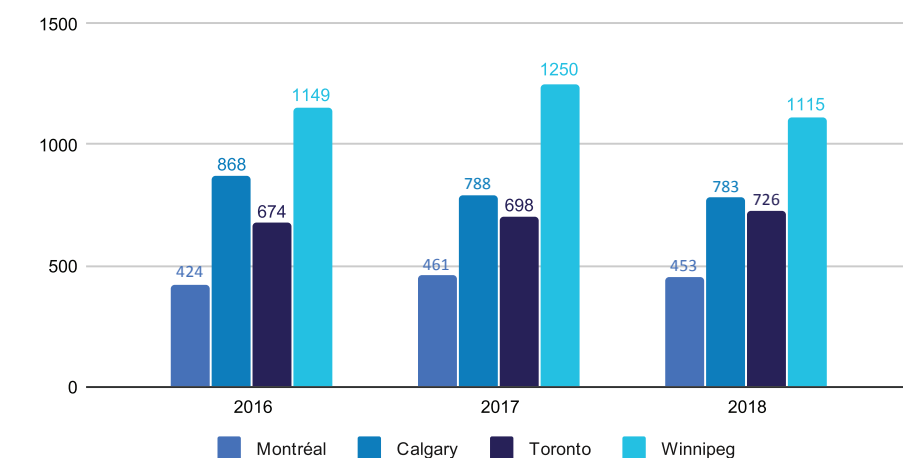
In October of 2019, the City of Montréal unveiled an action plan that aims to speed up the replacement of about 48,000 lead service lines between now and 2030. Health Canada recently revised its drinking water guidelines, lowering the maximum acceptable concentration of lead in tap water from 10 to 5 micrograms per litre. That represents a diminution of 90% in comparison with the 50 micrograms recommended in 2001, one of the lowest thresholds in the world. Note that the World Health Organization considers that there is no completely safe level of exposure to lead. The government of Quebec announced that it would compel municipalities to come up with an action plan to reduce the amount of lead in drinking water<sup>2</sup>.

The total cost of the wastewater treatment system per megalitre of water treated is substantially lower in Montréal than it is in other major Canadian cities. Despite having lower costs, Montréal has a higher wastewater treatment rate per 100,000 inhabitants than Canada's other large cities.

The cost of treatment and distribution of drinking water is thus substantially less in Montréal than it is in other main cities in Canada, and it has remained fairly stable in the last few years.

Total cost of treatment and distribution/transmission of potable water per megalitre of treated water (in \$)

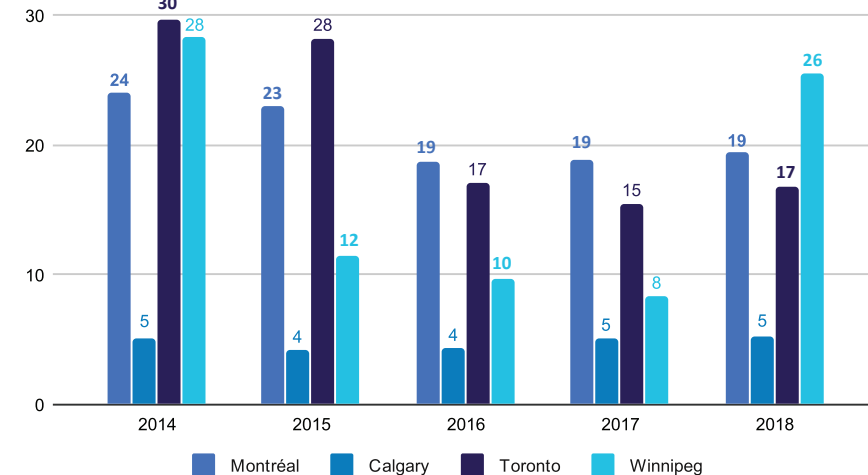
Graph 6-1<sup>3</sup>



On the other hand, the number of breaks per 100 kilometres of water mains in Montréal, while having diminished in recent years, is still not in line with the trend of substantial diminution in other major Canadian cities since 2014. In Toronto, for instance, the relative frequency of breaks has dropped by half, even though the age of the corresponding infrastructure is the same.

Number of breaks per 100 km of water mains

Graph 6-2<sup>3</sup>



In 2018, the average age of drinking water mains in Montréal was 61 years, which is exactly the same as in Toronto and nearly double what it was in Calgary (33 years). The average age of wastewater lines was 57 years, compared to 66 years in Toronto and 33 years in Calgary.

Greater Montréal offers its citizens streams and inland waters that are of a particularly poor quality: most of those sampled posted a water quality characterized as poor or polluted, especially on the eastern and western ends of the island<sup>3</sup>. We should point out that most of the streams in the agglomeration have been canalized.

### Bilan du programme RUISSO 2018

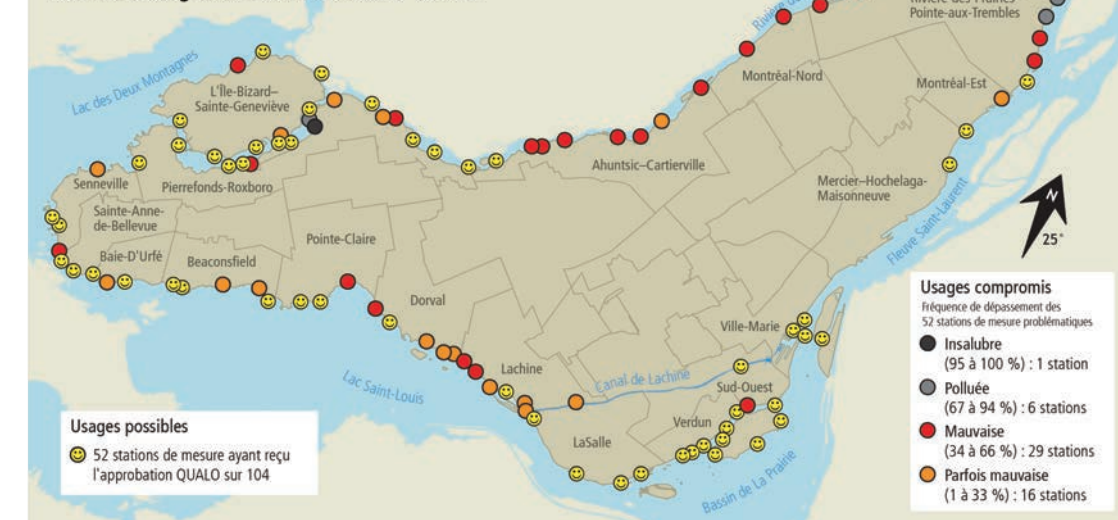
Qualité de l'eau des différents segments des ruisseaux et plans d'eau intérieurs



Ville de Montréal, «Portrait de la qualité des plans d'eau à Montréal en 2018»  
[http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/VDM\\_BILANRMA\\_2018\\_VF.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/VDM_BILANRMA_2018_VF.PDF)  
Only available in French

### Bilan du programme QUALO 2018

Stations propices aux usages de contact direct avec l'eau, comme la baignade, selon l'indicateur QUALO



Ville de Montréal, «Portrait de la qualité des plans d'eau à Montréal en 2018»  
[http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/VDM\\_BILANRMA\\_2018\\_VF.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/VDM_BILANRMA_2018_VF.PDF)  
Reproduite avec permission  
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In 2018, half (52 out of 104) of the sampling stations surrounding Greater Montréal received a QUALO certification, meaning that coming into contact with the water there while swimming is not problematic. Samples vary widely from one year to another, mostly according to the amount of precipitation received. For instance, in 2017, 73% of the stations received the QUALO certification.

One geographic reality stands out: a significant number of the problematic beaches in the agglomeration can be found on the eastern part of the island, which raises the issue of equitable access to bodies of water. On a positive note, beaches are being developed, for example in Verdun.

### Worth noting

Greater Montréal has enjoyed good water quality for many years. There is still, however, work to be done in order to reduce water loss caused by wear and tear in municipal water distribution systems. Equitable access to bodies of water remains problematic.



# Affordable and Clean Energy

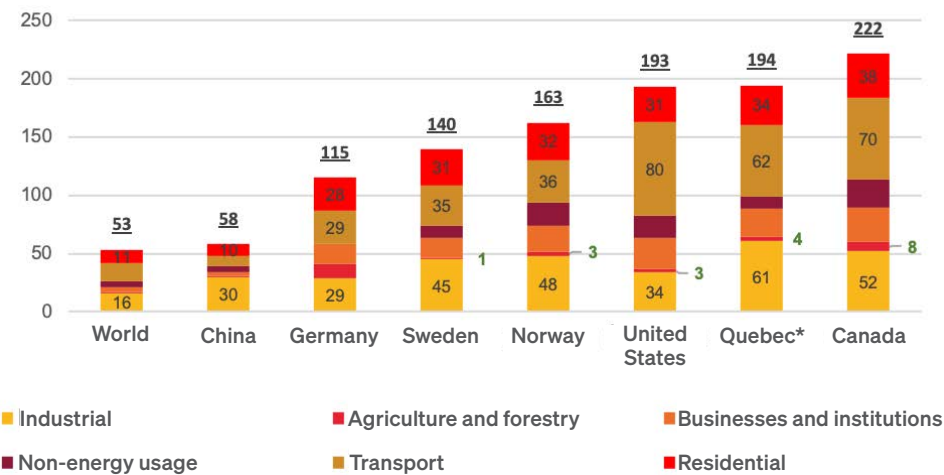
## Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

### Energy is affordable, but the level of consumption is high

In **Quebec**, annual per capita energy consumption is **193 gigajoules (GJ)**, slightly lower than those of **Canada (221 GJ)** and the **United States (196 GJ)**. Developed nations like **Norway (164 GJ)**, **Sweden (141 GJ)** or **Germany (114 GJ)** have lower rates of consumption. Quebec has an especially high level of industrial consumption (61 GJ) compared to these other countries: the presence of energy-intensive industries is part of the reason for this. There is also a significant difference between European countries and North American nations as regards transport-related energy consumption<sup>1</sup>.

Comparison of per capita energy consumption in Quebec with that of other countries, 2017

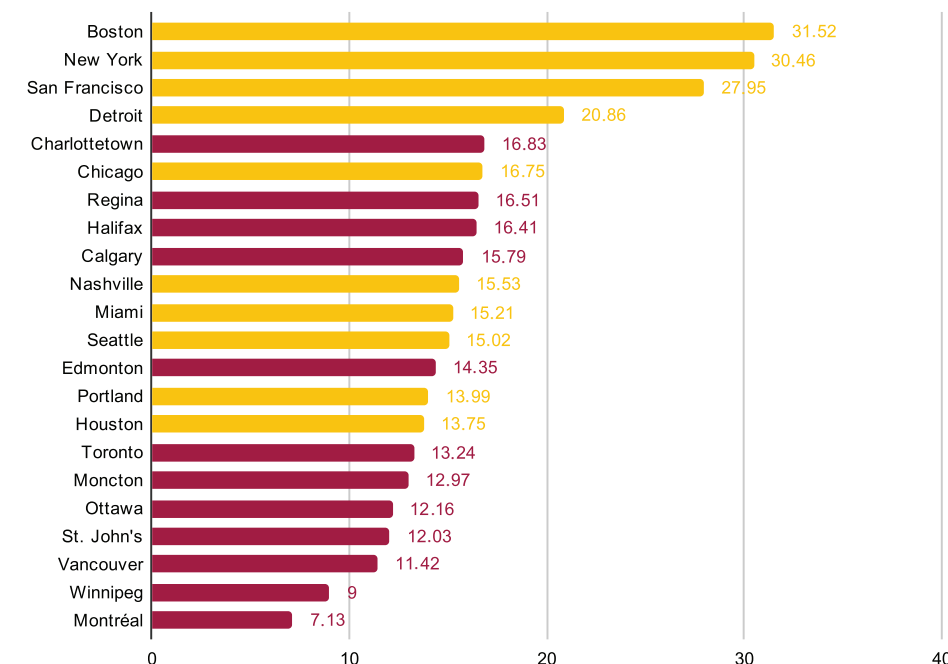
Graph 7-1<sup>1</sup>



Note: This graph illustrates the energy consumption in some other countries. Only four small nations have a higher level of consumption than Canada: Trinidad and Tobago, Qatar, Iceland and Luxembourg.

Average cost billed to residential customers (monthly consumption of 1,000 kWh; in ¢/KWh, Canadian dollars)

Graph 7-2



Source: Hydro-Québec, Prix de l'électricité: l'écart se creuse entre le Québec et le reste du continent, 13 octobre 2018, <http://nouvelles.hydroquebec.com/fr/communiqués-de-presse/1426/prix-de-lelectricite-lecart-se-creuse-entre-le-quebec-et-le-reste-du-continent/>

Montrealers pay considerably less for their electricity than residents of other North American cities. The average rate paid by Montréal residential clients is about half of the rate Torontonians pay, and substantially less than average rates in other large Canadian cities. The difference between Montréal and large cities in the United States is even more striking: Bostonians and New Yorkers pay four times as much for their electricity. Also noteworthy is that Montrealers use much more electricity as a proportion of their total energy usage than residents of other cities on the continent – natural gas plays a larger part in energy consumption in the Northeastern United States, for example. Given these lower costs, electricity occupies a larger space in the overall energy usage picture for Quebecers and Montrealers, particularly when it comes to heating.

Quebec households pay much less than their neighbours in Ontario when it comes to residential energy expenses. Indeed, in 2017, for expenses associated with water, fuel and electricity for their main dwelling, the least well-off Quebec household – in the bottom income quintile – spent \$946. That's about 25% less than an Ontario household in the bottom quintile which spent, on average, \$1,265. The same phenomenon could be observed for other income quintiles: Quebecers regularly paid less in expenses associated with water, fuel and electricity, with the gap being between 25 and 40%<sup>2</sup>.

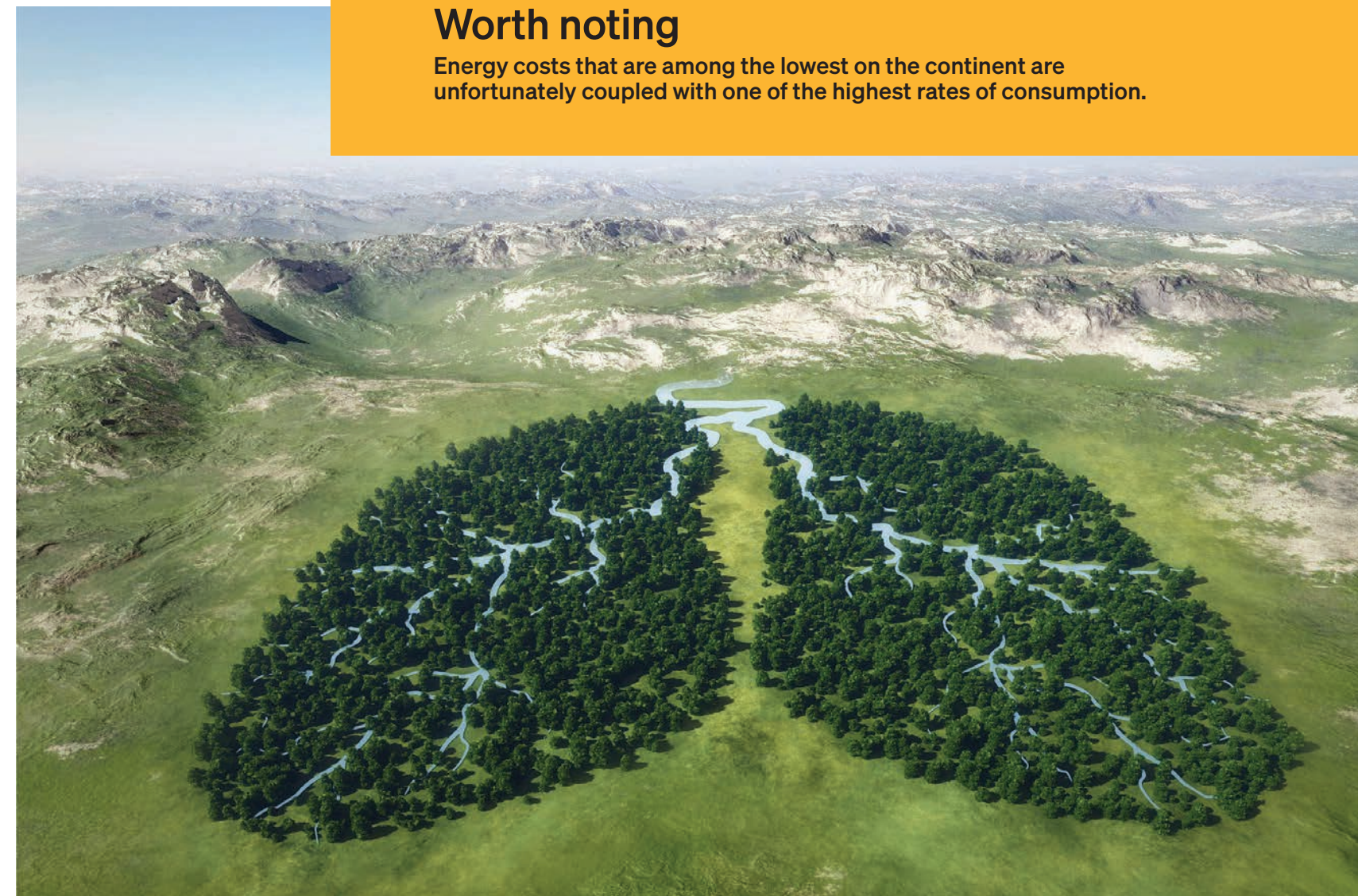
The residential sector counts the largest proportion of renewable energy in its overall consumption picture: 73% of residential consumption is electricity (and that is almost entirely renewable hydropower). The industrial sector meets 48% of its needs with electricity, while the commercial and institutional sectors stand at 43%. On the other hand, 97% of the energy used by the transportation sector comes from refined petroleum products<sup>3</sup>.

The Chair in Energy Sector Management at HEC Montréal reports in its most recent State of Energy in Quebec that the proportion of oil supply coming from Canadian and American sources increased by a significant amount – in fact, it reached 100% of the Quebec total as of October 2019. The breakdown was 38% from Western Canada and 62% from the United States.

We have seen, then, that Montréal's energy is both clean and renewable, but is it economically efficient? The answer is yes, despite the losses in the energy system referred to above: between 1990 and 2017, the growth of Quebec's economy was quite a bit more rapid than that of its energy consumption. Indeed, as GDP increased by 66%, and the population increased by 19%, energy consumption only went up by 13% during this period. Specifically, this means that the "energy intensity of the economy"<sup>4</sup> diminished by 32%, while per capita energy consumption went down by 5%<sup>5</sup>.

### Worth noting

Energy costs that are among the lowest on the continent are unfortunately coupled with one of the highest rates of consumption.





# Decent Work and Economic Growth

## Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

### Going from stagnant to vibrant

#### Sustained economic growth

The classic way to measure standard of living is according to the per capita gross domestic product (GDP). Over the last 20 years, in other words from 2000 to 2019, real GDP per capita in Montréal went from \$39,400 to \$46,100 (in 2012 dollars), an increase of 17%<sup>1</sup>.

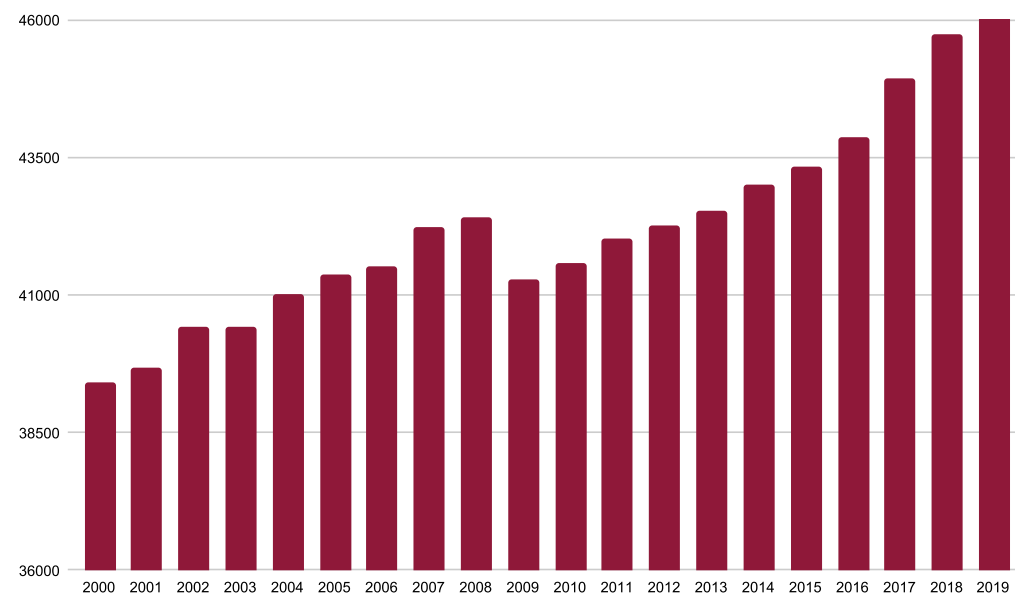
In 2000, Montréal lagged behind Toronto and Vancouver in this category, and we should point out that despite Montréal's strong economic performance, it has not been able to close that gap. Since 2000, the annual rate of increase in real GDP in Montréal was 0.8%, versus 0.6% in Toronto and 1.6% in Vancouver. Vancouver has just about closed the gap that separated it from Toronto in 2000.

In 2019, then, Montréal was still behind Toronto by 23% and behind Vancouver by 19%. This calculation does not, however, take into account the differences in the cost of living among the three cities.

The productivity of jobs in Montréal – which is measured in real GDP per job – was relatively stagnant from 2000 to 2010, while the value added per job (in 2012 dollars) was generally less than \$85,000. It then increased in a sustained manner, reaching \$89,000 in 2019, representing a growth of 7% relative to the year 2000<sup>2</sup>.

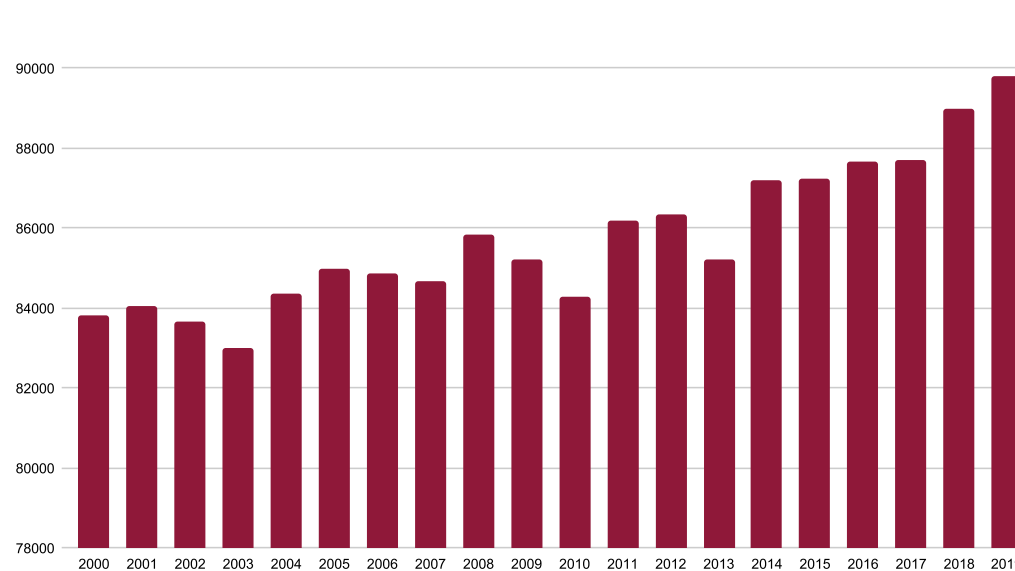
Standard of living in Montréal (Real per capita GDP, in 2012 \$)<sup>1</sup>

Graph 8-1<sup>1</sup>



Productivity in Montréal (Real GDP per job, in 2012 \$)

Graph 8-2<sup>2</sup>



#### Growth in the "gig economy"

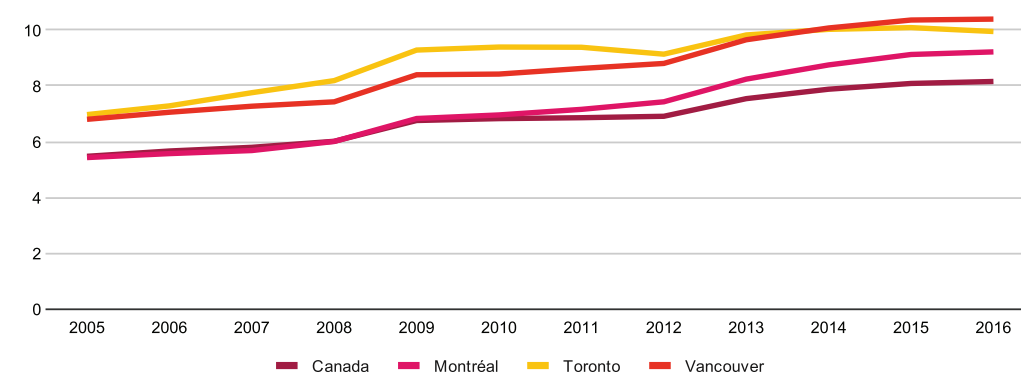
Much has been said about the precarious nature of work in the current labour market. Some worry that "gig" work is going to become more and more prevalent.

Statistics Canada researchers published a study in 2019 that attempted to quantify the proportions that on-demand, or gig, work has taken on in Canada and in its major cities. In doing so, they defined the phenomenon in this way: "Gig workers are usually not employed on a long-term basis by a single firm; instead, they enter into various contracts with firms or individuals (task requesters) to complete a specific task or to work for a specific period of time for which they are paid a negotiated sum. This

includes independent contractors or freelancers with particular qualifications and on-demand workers hired for jobs that are mediated through the growing number of online platforms and crowdsourcing marketplaces, such as Uber, Lyft, TaskRabbit, Upwork, Guru, Fiverr and Freelancer<sup>3</sup>. **They noted, for example, that in 2016, gig work amounted to 8.2% of all jobs in Canada overall; and this percentage was even higher in the nation's three major cities, that is, 9.2% in Montréal, 9.9% in Toronto and 10.4% in Vancouver<sup>4</sup>. This rate was up everywhere; in Montréal, it had been around 5.5% in 2006, for instance.**

On-demand workers ("gig workers") (in %)

Graph 8-3<sup>5</sup>



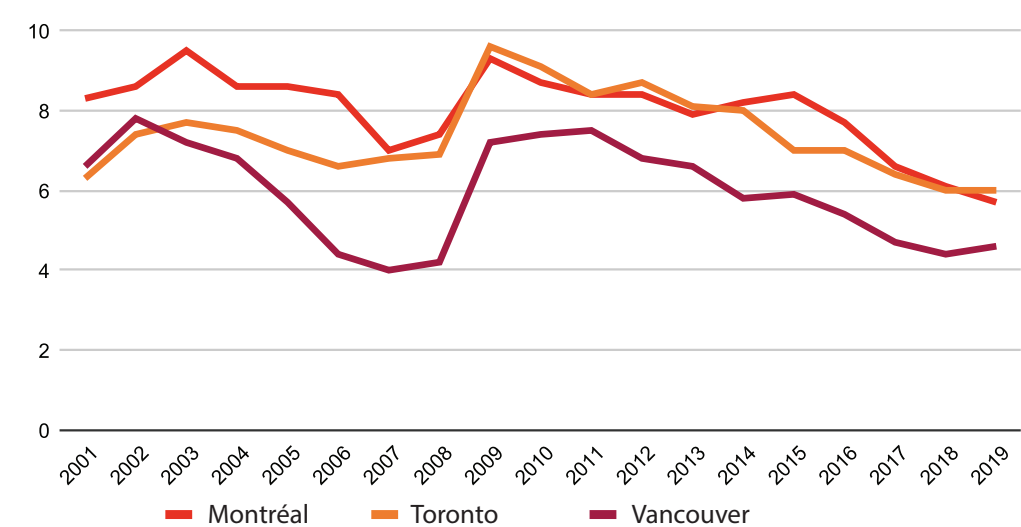
Another 2019 study, this one carried out by the Bank of Canada, also tried to quantify the gig economy phenomenon, though using a different methodology<sup>5</sup>.

#### Productive full employment for all

One way of assessing the state of employment is to track the evolution of the unemployment rate, that is, the percentage of individuals who do not have a job and who are actively seeking one. **We note that in 2019, the unemployment rate hit an all-time low in Montréal, at 5.7%.** Since 2010, it has been on the decline in Canada's three major cities.

Unemployment rate in Canada (%)

Graph 8-4<sup>6</sup>





Pay for women:  
still inferior

Although the average hourly salary for women in Quebec has done **some catching up since the end of the 1990s**, it is still 10% below that of men, a marker that has not changed since 2015<sup>6</sup>.

The gap in unemployment rates between immigrants and natives has narrowed.

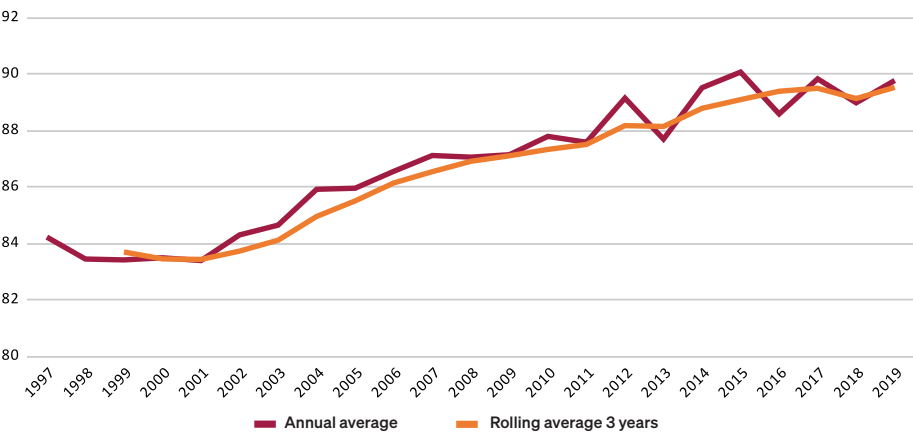
The gap between the unemployment rate among immigrants and that of natives has narrowed over the last few years<sup>7</sup>. **From a peak of 7.3 percentage points in 2011, it dwindled to 2.9 points in 2019.** That said, Montréal is lagging behind Canada's two other major cities in this respect. Indeed, in 2019, the immigrant-native difference in the unemployment rate was 0.5 point in Toronto, which is a record, and 1.1 points in Vancouver.

Work-related injuries are down in Quebec

After having increased in the 1980s, work-related injuries have steadily declined since the 1990s<sup>8</sup>.

Average hourly salary of women in Quebec (in % of men's average hourly wage)

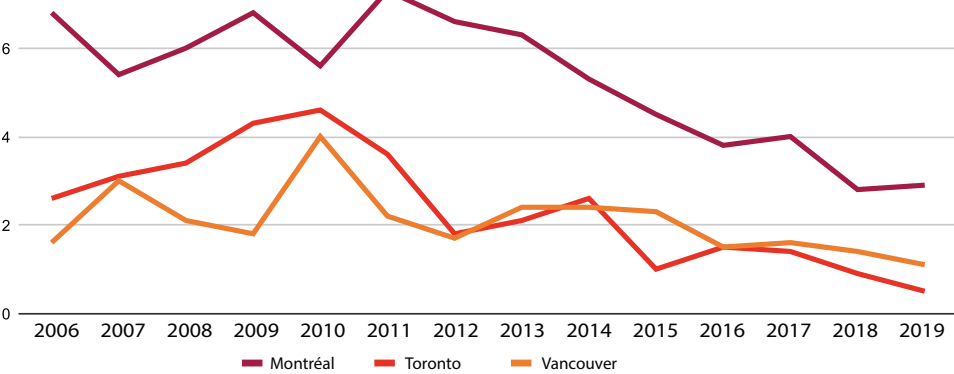
Graph 8-5



Source: Statistique Canada, tableau 14-10-0064-01

Immigrants - natives unemployment rate differential (Ages 25 to 54, in percentage points)

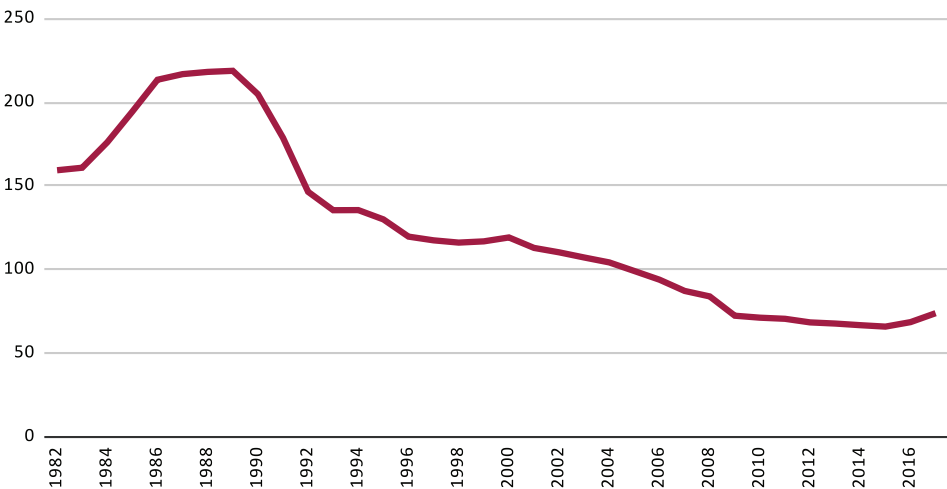
Graph 8-6



Source: Statistique Canada Tableau: 14-10-0096-01 (anciennement CANSIM 282-0129)

Number of accepted lost-time claims (in thousands, Québec)

Graph 8-7



Source: [http://awcbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Statistiques\\_nationales\\_des\\_accidents\\_maladies\\_et\\_deces\\_professionnels-2015-2017.pdf](http://awcbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Statistiques_nationales_des_accidents_maladies_et_deces_professionnels-2015-2017.pdf)

## Worth noting

After years of stagnation, Montréal's economy has finally taken off. How the benefits of this growth will be distributed among its population remains to be seen.



<sup>6</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>7</sup> Statistique Canada, Tableau: 14-10-0083-01.  
<sup>8</sup> [http://awcbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Statistiques\\_nationales\\_des\\_accidents\\_maladies\\_et\\_deces\\_professionnels-2015-2017.pdf](http://awcbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Statistiques_nationales_des_accidents_maladies_et_deces_professionnels-2015-2017.pdf).

Making major investments, but lagging behind on sustainable projects

Congestion on the roads: at the head of the pack

Since 2009, the vehicle stock in Quebec has increased by 98%, compared to 54% in Ontario<sup>1</sup>. In Greater Montréal, access to roads does not seem to be a problem. Indeed, according to data compiled by the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, the number of vehicles in the area has constantly been on the rise. In 2018, there were **2,036,000 of them, an increase of 7% as compared to 2013**. On the other hand, 2018 was the first year in which the number of vehicles registered in the City of Montréal decreased from the previous year, slightly, the total going from 666,000 to 665,000<sup>2</sup>.

The geographic configuration of the island of Montréal has contributed to it being near the top of the list of North American cities of its size when it comes to traffic congestion. According to the Inrix firm, Montrealers spend 145 hours per year in their cars<sup>3</sup>.

Air traffic on the rise

In general, air traffic is increasing substantially in Canada. From 2008 to 2018, the number of passengers in Canada's airports increased by 45%<sup>4</sup>.

The nation's four main airports saw substantial increases in traffic: 57% for Toronto, 48% for Vancouver, 52% for Montréal and 37% for Calgary. According to the Official Airline Guide (OAG), Montréal-Trudeau airport ranks as the 41st busiest airport in the world, which puts it behind Toronto (6th) et Vancouver (27th)<sup>5</sup>.

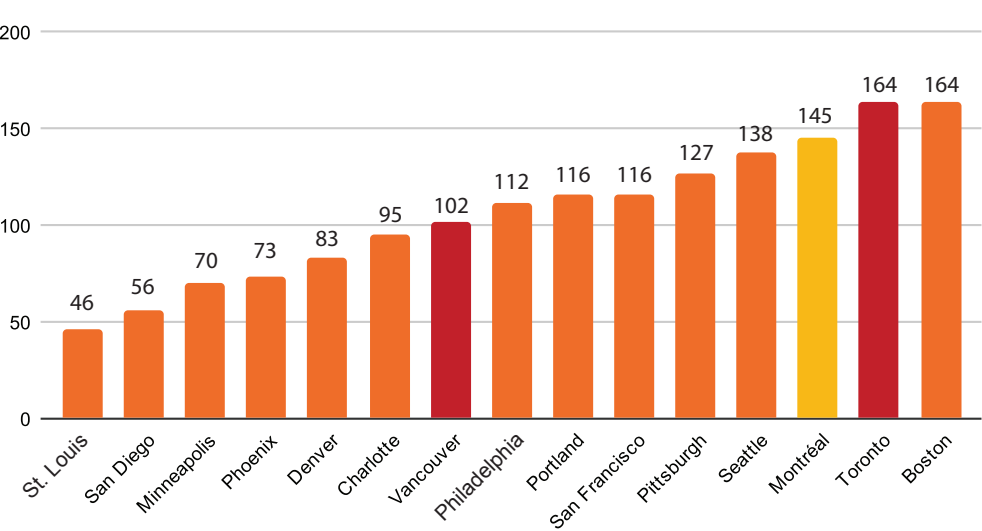
<sup>1</sup> Data are in Canadian dollars of the current year.  
<sup>2</sup> <http://observatoire.cmm.qc.ca/observatoire-grand-montreal/outils-statistiques-interactifs/grand-montreal-en-statistiques/?t=4&st=148&i=1803&p=2018&e=3>.  
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.institutduquebec.ca/docs/default-source/default-document-library/201908comparermontreal.pdf?sfvrsn=0>  
<sup>4</sup> Trafic aérien de passagers aux aéroports canadiens, annuel, <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/fr/cv.action?pid=2310025301>  
<sup>5</sup> [https://www.oag.com/hubfs/Free\\_Reports/Megahubs/2018/Megahubs\\_International\\_Index\\_2018.pdf?hsCtaTracking=cb970431-e381-4ada-b54b-b168f98d9eb7%7Cf52e0462-7e9f-4091-a2e7-91d2eda51d07301](https://www.oag.com/hubfs/Free_Reports/Megahubs/2018/Megahubs_International_Index_2018.pdf?hsCtaTracking=cb970431-e381-4ada-b54b-b168f98d9eb7%7Cf52e0462-7e9f-4091-a2e7-91d2eda51d07301)

Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Time lost due to traffic congestion (Hours lost in one year due to congestion, per driver)

Graph 9-1



Source: Inrix

Table 9-1

Air passenger traffic at Canadian airports	2008	2018	Change over 10 years
Canada	109,360,095	159,009,051	+ 45 %
Halifax/Robert L. Stanfield International	3,460,651	4,236,898	+ 22 %
Montréal/Pierre Elliott Trudeau International	12,309,992	18,749,586	+ 52 %
Ottawa/Macdonald-Cartier International	4,170,944	4,979,019	+ 19 %
Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International	30,829,446	48,269,345	+ 57 %
Winnipeg/James Armstrong Richardson International	3,547,332	4,289,197	+ 21 %
Calgary International	12,109,780	16,606,209	+ 37 %
Edmonton International	6,225,414	8,066,010	+ 30 %
Vancouver International	17,058,616	25,267,409	+ 48 %

Source: Official Airline Guide (OAG)

An increase in maritime traffic

At the Port of Montréal, from 2014 to 2018, maritime traffic was up by 696 vessels<sup>6</sup>, an increase of 34 %. Cargo transport was up substantially, tonnage having increased by 37.5%.

Maritime traffic at the Port of Montréal

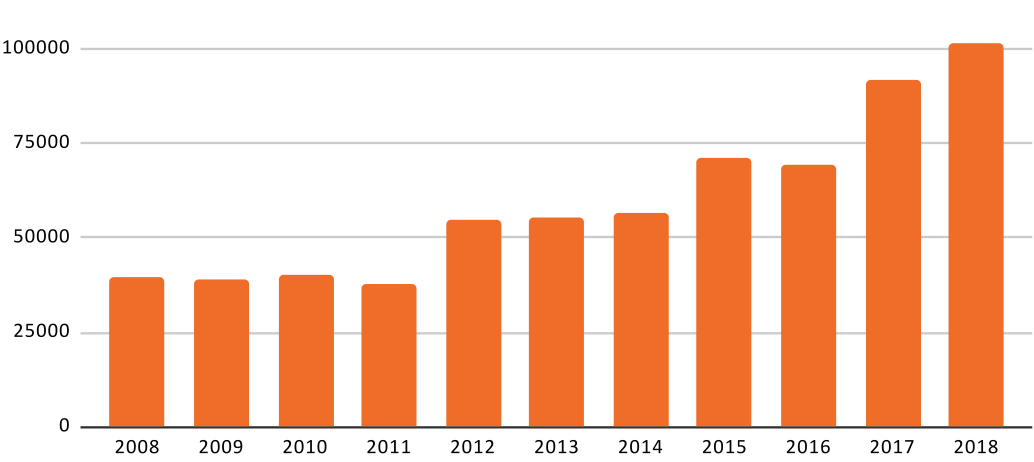
Table 9-2

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total number of vessels	2,042	2,109	2,271	2 392	2,738
Gross tonnage (in millions of tonnes)	38.1	41.5	45.6	48.6	52.4

Source: <https://www.port-montreal.com/PMStats/html/frontend/statistics.jsp?lang=fr&context=business>

Number of passengers at the Port of Montréal

Graph 9-2



<https://www.port-montreal.com/PMStats/html/frontend/statistics.jsp?lang=fr&context=business>

As well, the number of passengers has more than doubled since 2011. In 2018, more than 100,000 passengers were tallied at the Port<sup>7</sup>.

Rail transport: mainly on commuter trains

Canada boasts a vast rail network that encompasses nearly 50,000 kilometres of railway. Nationally, the majority of this network is used for freight transport. However, each year, around 84 million passengers use this mode of transportation in Canada, primarily on the commuter train systems of Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver, which were the source of 94% of rail traffic in 2017<sup>8</sup>. In 2018, 4.8 million passengers journeyed to destinations served by VIA Rail<sup>9</sup>. The vast majority of these trips were made along the densely populated corridor running between Québec City and Windsor. The Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal counts 1,850 kilometres of railway, as compared with 18,200 kilometres of road network within the Montréal CMA<sup>10</sup>.

Sustainable and active transportation: more public transit in Greater Montréal

As mentioned earlier, Montrealers lose a lot of time sitting and waiting when they travel by car. Unfortunately, with the increase in the number of vehicles in the Greater Montreal area, the situation is hardly likely to get better. Not only will this phenomenon increase greenhouse gas emissions, but it is bound to have a considerable impact on the economy and the lives of individuals.

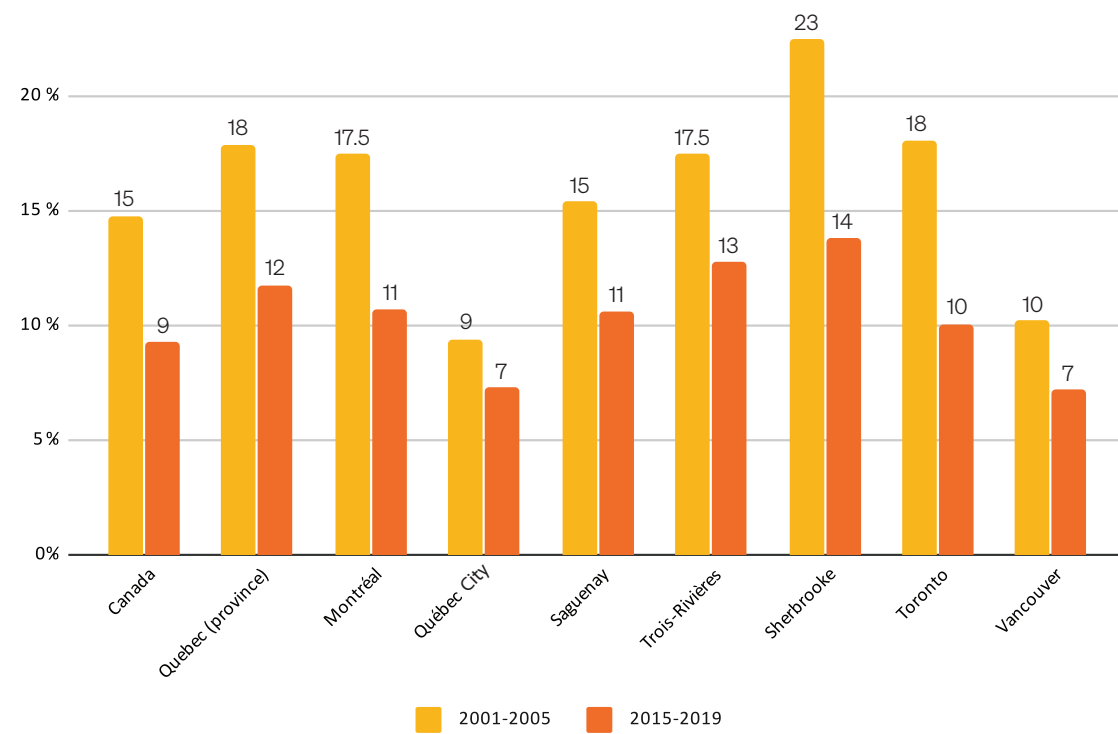
One solution that can alleviate the burden on us all is public transport. The latest data from the Origine-Destination survey (2018) yield positive results for Greater Montréal, since they demonstrate an increase of 4% in public transport use since 2013, and show that 74% of trips to Montréal's downtown core were made using public transport during the same period.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.port-montreal.com/PMStats/html/frontend/statistics.jsp?lang=fr&context=business>.  
<sup>7</sup> [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?\\_pageid=6897,67889663&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?_pageid=6897,67889663&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL).  
<sup>8</sup> <https://www.railcan.ca/101/canadas-passenger-railways-moving-people/>.  
<sup>9</sup> [https://media.viarail.ca/sites/default/files/publications/2018\\_Annual\\_Report\\_FR.pdf](https://media.viarail.ca/sites/default/files/publications/2018_Annual_Report_FR.pdf).  
<sup>10</sup> <http://cmm.qc.ca/champs-intervention/transport/dossiers-en-transport/transport-des-marchandises/>.  
<sup>11</sup> [https://www.artm.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/CA\\_Faits-saillants\\_EOD\\_COMPLET\\_WEB\\_14012020\\_R002.pdf](https://www.artm.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/CA_Faits-saillants_EOD_COMPLET_WEB_14012020_R002.pdf)



Percentage of jobs in the manufacturing sector

Graph 9-3



Source: Conference Board of Canada

A deindustrialization of the economy

The relative importance of Montréal's manufacturing sector has declined by one third since 2000.

Across the nation, the percentage of jobs tied to manufacturing activity has decreased over the last two decades. From 2001-2005 to 2015-2019, this decrease was 37% in Canada (-5.5 percentage points), 35% in Quebec and 39% in Montréal<sup>11</sup>.

One can observe the same phenomenon in terms of the relative weight of the manufacturing sector's output in the GDP, down by 29% in Canada (-4.3 percentage points), 28% in Quebec, and 31% in Montréal.

Significant financing for businesses

In Canada in 2014, 51.3% of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs, fewer than 100 employees) sought out external financing. In all, 28.1% obtained financing by loan, 29.4% by commercial credit, 7.9% through financial leasing, 4.4% through government financing and 0.9% through equity.

In acquiring other businesses, SMEs used a variety of methods of financing. These included personal funds (71.4%), credit from financial institutions (60.7%) and loans or investment from the owners' friends or families (26%).

In Montréal, 28.4% of SMEs sought financing by loan in 2017, which is above the Canadian average (25.6%), but below the Quebec average (30.4%). The likelihood of a request for financing being denied was greater in Montréal (10.6%) than for Quebec as a whole (6.6%), but about the same as the national average (9.5%).

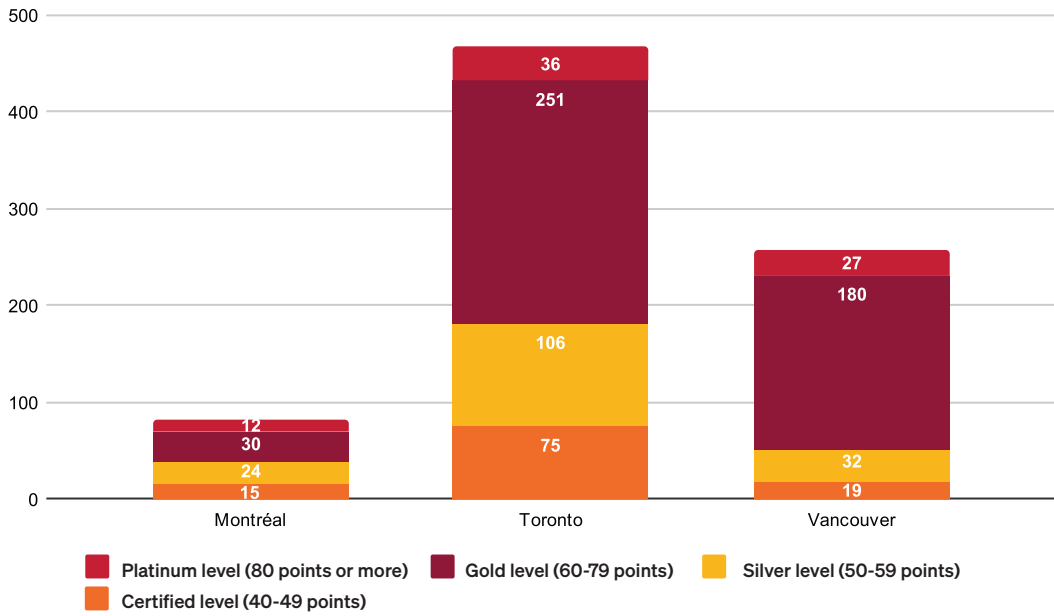
LEED-certified projects lagging behind

One way to assess the quality of infrastructure in the metropolitan region is to tally the number of LEED-certified projects. This method has its shortcomings, but does allow us to see some of the picture.

By that standard, we can see that Montréal lags behind Toronto or Vancouver. Indeed, the number of LEED projects in Montréal has not yet hit 100, whereas Toronto's total is five times that, and Vancouver has three times as many projects.

LEED-certified projects in Canada

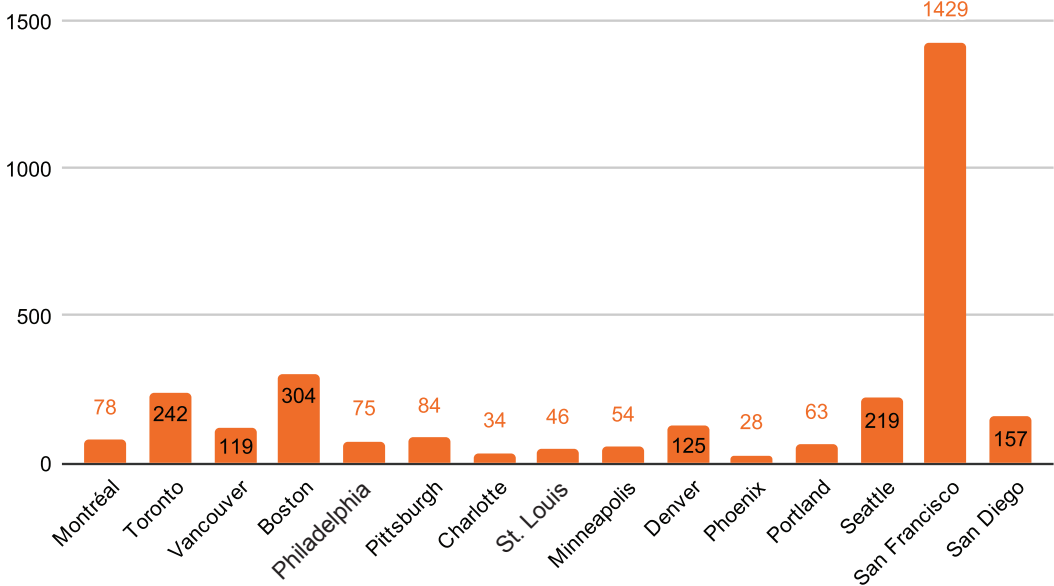
Graph 9-4



Source: [http://leed.cagbc.org/LEED/projectprofile\\_FR.aspx](http://leed.cagbc.org/LEED/projectprofile_FR.aspx)

Number of venture capital agreements, average 2016-2018

Graph 9-5



Source: Institut du Québec

Investing in innovation: Montréal near the head of the pack in Canada

Another way of calculating the degree of investment in innovation is to look at the number of agreements signed that involve venture capital. If we compare Montréal with its North American peers in terms of activity between 2016 and 2018, San Francisco clearly stands out, followed by Boston and Toronto. Montréal is in the middle of the pack in North America, and stands in third place in Canada<sup>12</sup>.

As far as availability of venture capital goes, that is, the average amount of equity invested in venture capital agreements, San Francisco also leads. Montréal ranks first among Canada's major cities.

Worth noting

A number of investments, especially in transport, have improved the state of our infrastructure. Greater Montréal is still grappling with congestion problems, though, so a transition towards sustainable modes of transportation has become a more urgent need.

<sup>11</sup> Données du Conference Board of Canada

<sup>12</sup> Étude comparative avec <https://www.institutduquebec.ca/docs/default-source/default-document-library/201908comparermontreal.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

# Reduced Inequalities

## Reduce inequality within and among countries

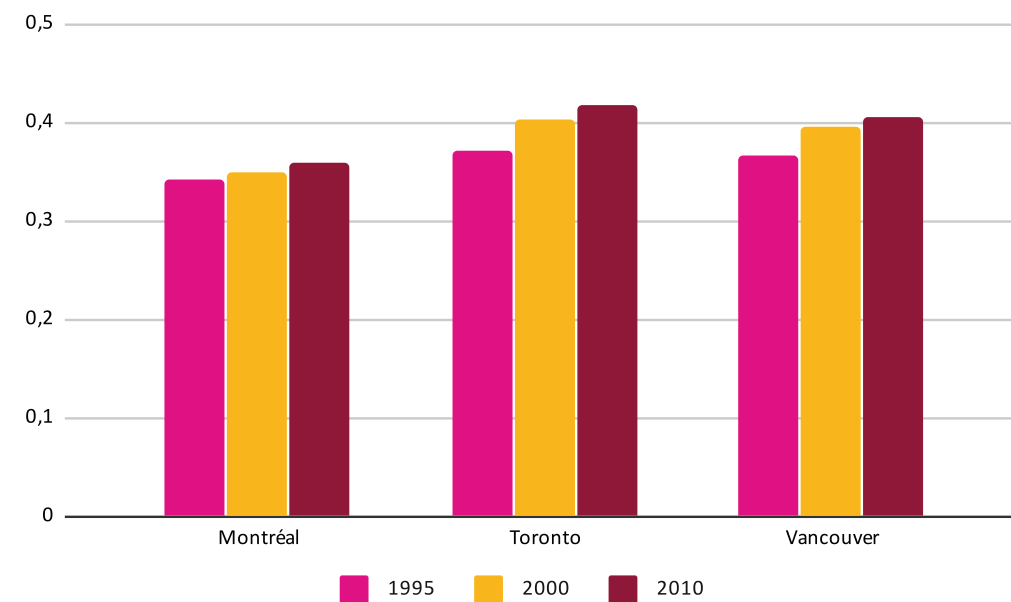
Inequalities are less pronounced, but are still increasing, and social mobility is lower

Montréal was less egalitarian in 2010 than in 2000 or in 1990, but remains more egalitarian than Toronto or Vancouver. This observation was arrived at using the Gini Index. On a scale of 0 to 1, it shows income distribution among a population, with 0 representing perfect equality and 1 representing the most unequal distribution. Therefore, the ideal is to have the lowest possible index.

This observation is consistent with what is seen elsewhere in Quebec. When it comes to market inequalities, that is, inequalities associated with income, Quebec became less egalitarian in the 1990s. Since then, the situation has stabilized.

Gini Index, by city

Graph 10-1



Source: Statistique Canada, Longitudinal Administrative Databank.

GINI index by province for 2017, by type of income

Graph 10-2



Source: Statistique Canada

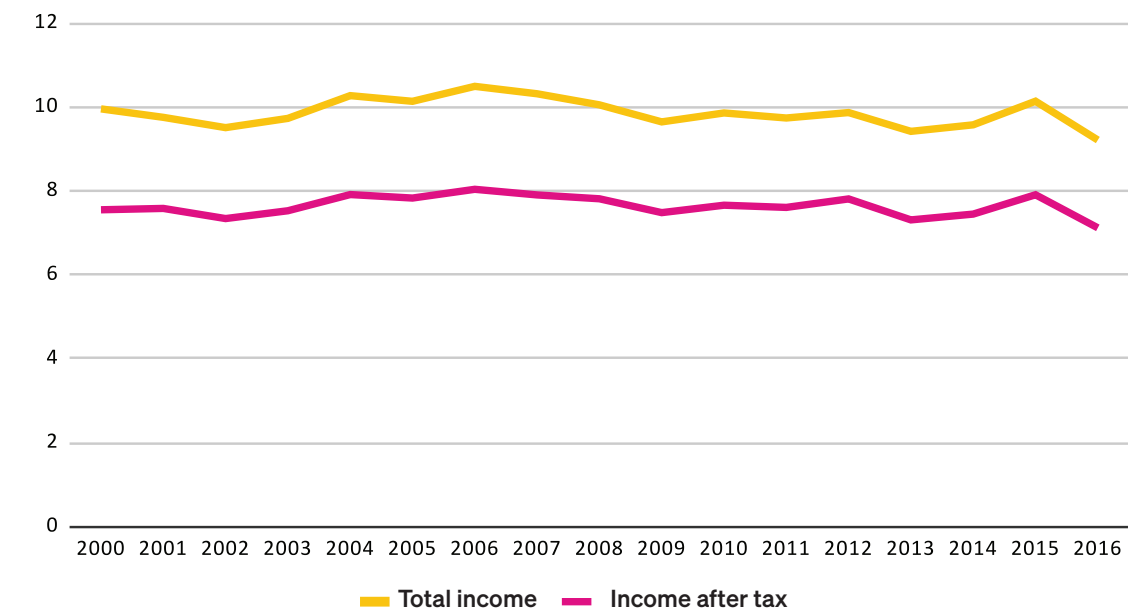
When we examine inequality after having taken into account the impact of taxes and redistribution measures, we can see that Quebec government programs have, since the 1970s, been able to mitigate these economic inequalities.

In fact, Quebec remains one of the provinces in Canada that deploys some of the most effective redistribution programs. Even with fairly high market inequalities being present, Quebec's Gini Index, after redistribution, is one of the lowest in the country.

In carrying out our analysis, we focused on the wealthiest 1% in Quebec society. In Quebec, the ratio of income of «the 1%» relative to «the 99%» has remained fairly stable.

Ratio of average income of the wealthiest 1% over average income of the 99%

Graph 10-3

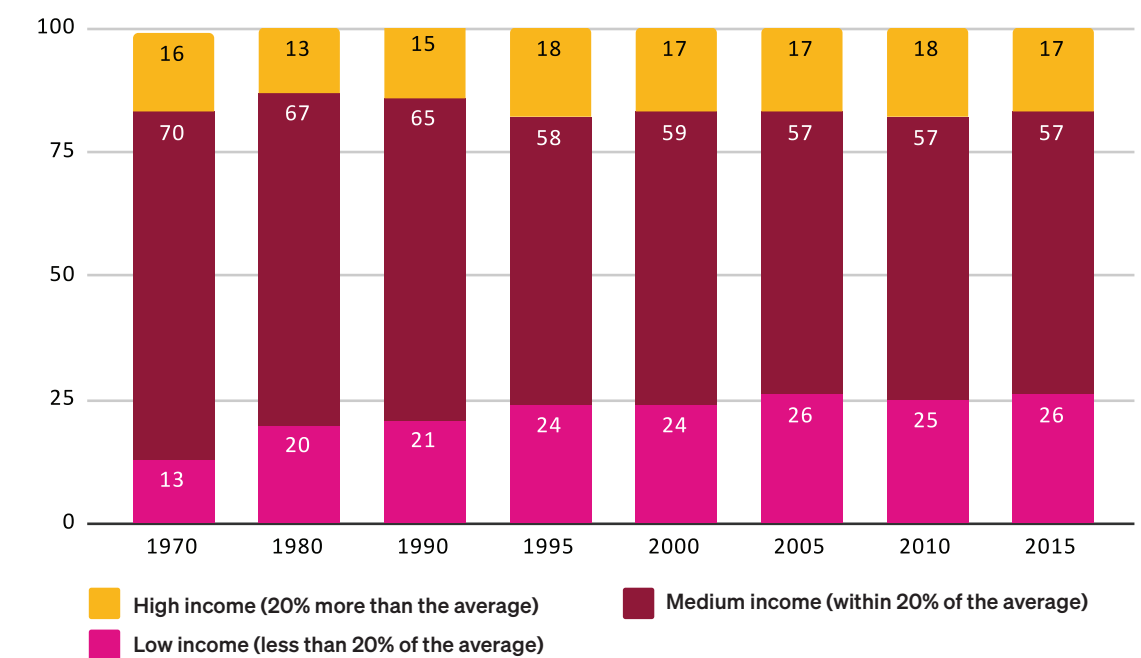


The picture is somewhat different, though, if we look at the population according to income bracket. By this standard, we observe somewhat of a gap forming between the wealthiest and the poorest in the Montréal CMA. The phenomenon dates to the mid 1990s.

To sum up, economic inequalities are rising slightly in the metropolitan region, but are still not as pronounced as in the rest of Canada.

Montréal CMA population, by income category

Graph 10-4



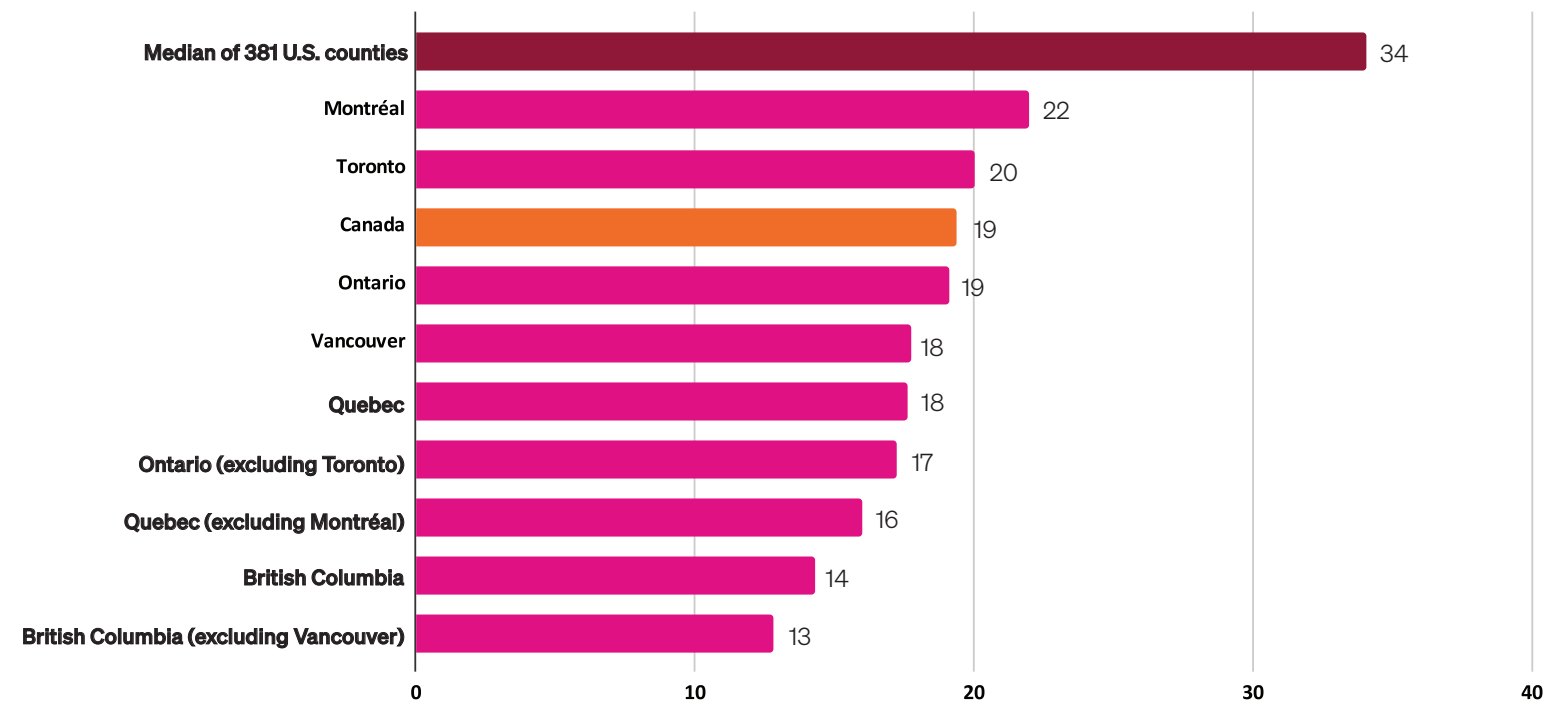


With inequalities remaining at the same level over time, we need to act on another front in order to reduce their impact. This other front is the concept of social mobility, defined as an individual's capacity to progress or regress on the income scale. One way to measure this indicator is to look at intergenerational income elasticity, in other words, the percentage of an individual's income that can be attributed to the income of a parent. The higher the percentage, the lesser the mobility. Therefore, what is sought is a low percentage.

In Montréal's case, we can observe that this percentage is higher than in Toronto, higher than the Canadian average, and also higher than elsewhere in Quebec. So, there is less social mobility in Montréal than elsewhere in the country, although there is significantly more than in the United States.

Intergenerational income elasticity in Canada's three major cities (in % of income that can be attributed to the income of parents )

Graph 10-5



Sources: Institut du Québec, The Equality of Opportunity Project.

If we analyze the data by neighbourhood, we can see that there is much more mobility in some sectors of the island of Montréal than in others. The Saint-Pierre district is where there is the most mobility, and Outremont is where there is the least, which means that the incomes of Outremont residents are those that are the most influenced by those of their parents (sectors as defined by 1986 boundary lines).

Intergenerational income elasticity (IIE) by neighbourhood in 2008 ( 1986 boundaries)

Table 10-1

Municipalities or neighbourhoods on the island of Montréal (1986 boundaries)	IIE
Saint-Pierre	0.10
Hampstead	0.12
Sainte-Geneviève	0,12
Saint-Raphaël-de-l'Île-Bizard	0.14
Kirkland	0.15
Montréal-Est	0.15
Dorval	0.16
Beaconsfield	0.16
Pointe-Claire	0.17
Lasalle	0.17
Pierrefonds	0.17
Saint-Léonard	0.19
Dollard-des-Ormeaux	0.20
Roxboro	0.20
Montréal-Ouest	0.21
Anjou	0.21
Baie-d'Urfé	0.21
Montréal-Nord	0.22
Senneville	0.22
Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue	0.22
Mont-Royal	0.23
Verdun	0.23
Lachine	0.24
Saint-Laurent	0.25
Côte-Saint-Luc	0.25
Westmount	0.25
Montréal (1986 boundaries)	0.26
Outremont	0.29

Source: Corak, 2017.

## Worth noting

Montréal is a region that is becoming less and less egalitarian, and social mobility appears to be lower than elsewhere in Canada. That is a disturbing finding, especially in light of our conclusions relating to Goal 1.

# Sustainable Cities and Communities

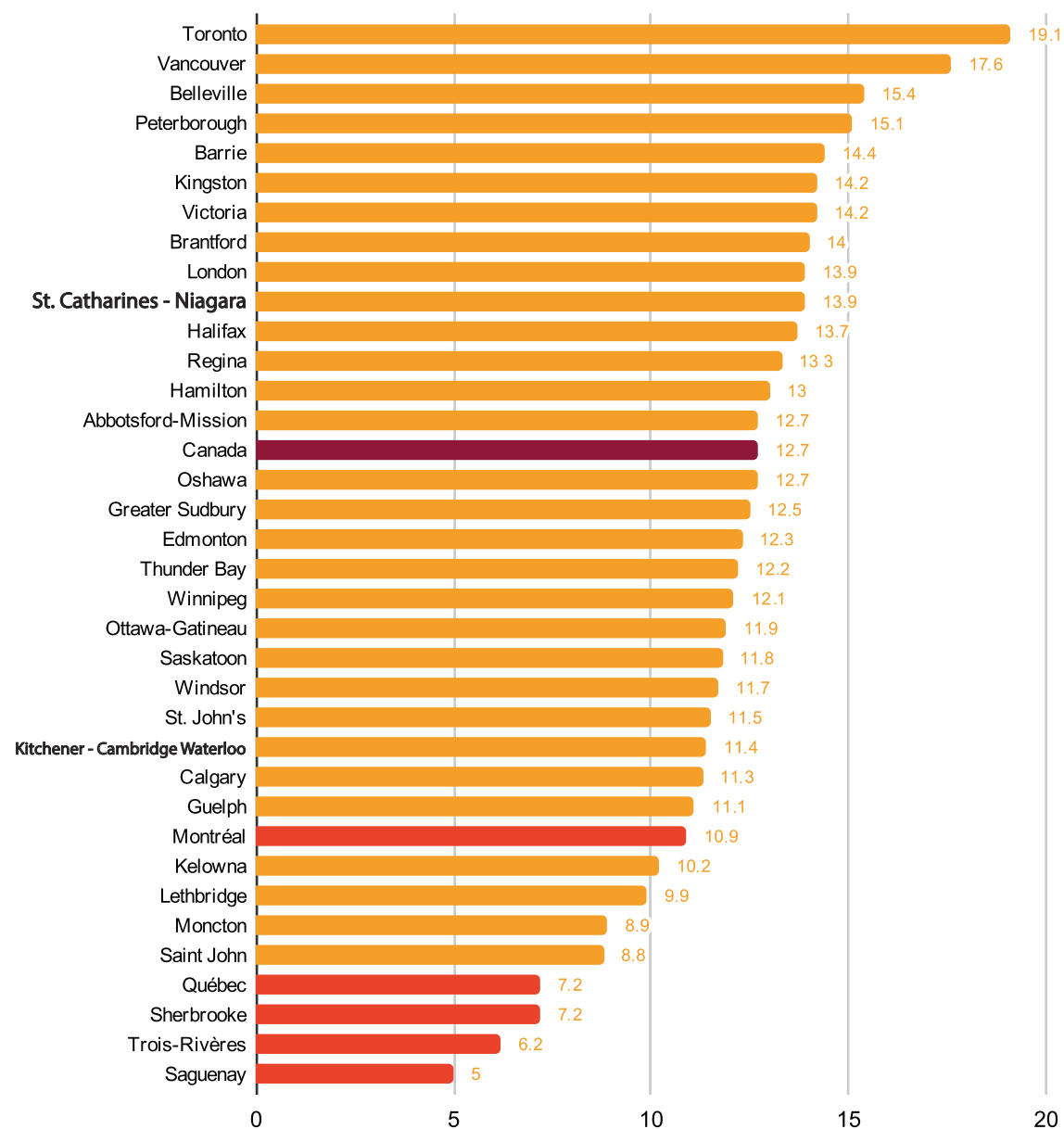
## Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

### A lack of resilience

In 2016, the percentage of individuals in Montréal living in housing that was inadequate, unaffordable or not large enough (in other words experiencing a core housing need ) was at 10.9%<sup>1</sup>. This rate has gone down; it was at 13.2% in 2011, and 12.5% in 2006. On the other hand, of all the CMAs in Quebec, Montréal's rate is the highest.

Core housing need, 2016 (in %)

Graph 11-1



Sources: Institut du Québec, The Equality of Opportunity Project.

The vacancy rate in the Montréal region has declined substantially over the last few years. In 2018, it fell to 1.9%, and yet, it had been at 2.8% in 2017, and had been between 3% and 4% in the three years prior<sup>2</sup>. In 2019, according to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), **it appears to have gone as low as 1.4%, while the rate needed to ensure market equilibrium is estimated at 3%.** These data, along with other elements that have been brought to light by the media, indicate that we are experiencing **the beginnings of a housing shortage in the region.**

The picture varies depending on the size of dwellings. Specifically, in October 2019, CMHC<sup>3</sup> reported an overall vacancy rate in the Montréal CMA of 1.5%, with the breakdown by rental category being as follows:

- 3.2% for studios;
- 1.6% for a one-room dwelling;
- 1.4% for a two-room dwelling;
- **0.7% for a dwelling with three rooms or more.**

**That last statistic highlights the challenge for families searching for decent housing.**

### Public transit

In its 2018 annual report, the Société de transport de Montréal (STM) indicated that its ridership hit another record high; it was up by 4%. For the first time ever, there were days when more than a million users were using the transit network. This in fact occurred several times. This growing popularity does create certain issues, though, with crowding on the metro lines being more and more of a problem during rush hour<sup>4</sup>.

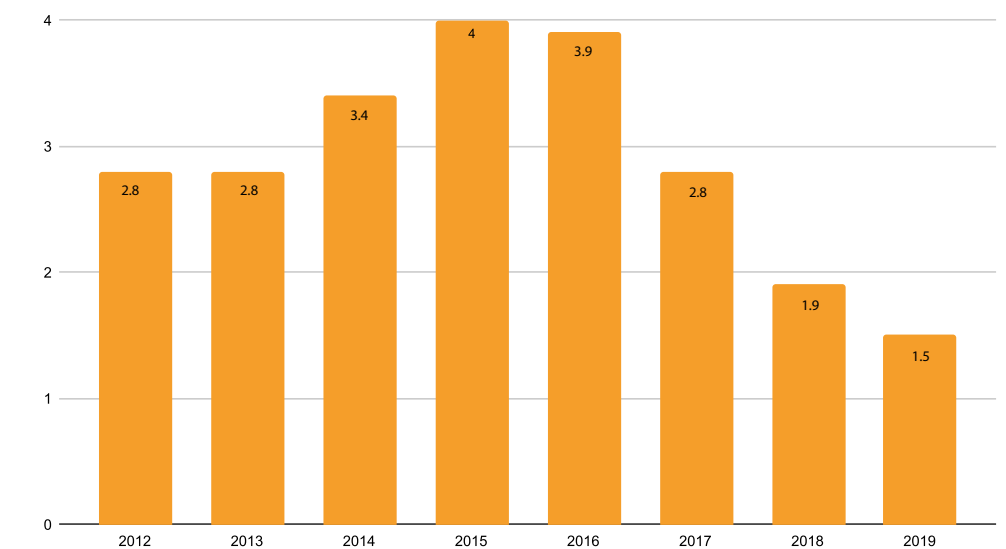
**Overall, from 2010 to 2018, the total number of trips on the STM's network went from 389 million to 450 million, an increase of more than 15%. Over the same period, the population of Greater Montréal grew by 7% (3.95 million to 4.26 million inhabitants).**

Fifteen metro stations are currently equipped with an elevator, out of a total of 68 stations. Put another way, 22% of stations are now universally accessible. From now until the end of 2020, the STM plans on increasing the number to 41, or 60% of its network.

In Toronto, 60% of the subway network is accessible, 45 stations out of 75. Vancouver's Skytrain network is 100% accessible.

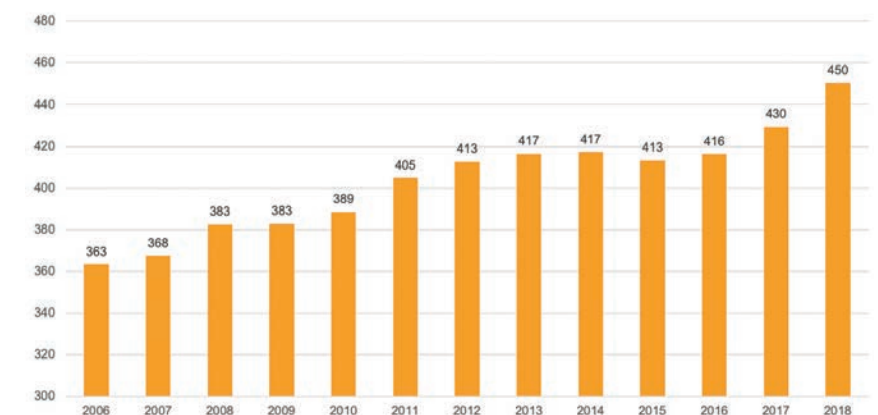
Vacancy rate in traditional rental housing in Montréal (CMA)

Graph 11-2



Ridership of the Société de transport de Montréal's buses and metros (millions of trips)

Graph 11-3



Sources: Société de transport de Montréal, Rapport annuel 2018, <http://www.stm.info/sites/default/files/pdf/fr/ra2018.pdf>

### Getting around by bicycle: the largest modal share

In North America, Montréal is one of the cities in which bicycling has one of the largest modal shares among means of travel. In 2015, the city already boasted more than a million cyclists, or half (51%) of its population<sup>5</sup>. Quebec-wide, Montréal is at the head of the pack in terms of number of hours per week spent bicycling among 18-to-74-year-olds, at 4.1 hours per week. **Roughly 56% of adult cyclists use a bicycle as a means of transportation, whereas the Quebec average is at 40%.** Montréal also is where the largest proportion of trips are made using a bicycle as a means of transportation (40%), the provincial average being 16%. As well, the City of Montréal has announced the implementation of a Réseau express vélo (express bicycle network) to stimulate an even greater increase in bike travel.



Sustainable urbanization, and barriers to mobility

Travel time getting to work is significant

According to the most recent available data (2016), normal travel time from home to work in the Montréal CMA was 30 minutes. The city thus ranks second in the country, behind Toronto (34 minutes), even though its populated area and demographic growth are quite a bit less than Toronto's. Montréal is therefore the unenviable "leader", over Vancouver (29.4), Calgary (27), Ottawa-Gatineau (26.2) and Edmonton (25.6)<sup>6</sup> in this ranking. In Quebec, Montréal tops Quebec City (22.4), Sherbrooke (19), Trois-Rivières (18.8) and Saguenay (17.7).

According to the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, the costs related to traffic congestion amounted to \$4.2B in 2018 and have doubled over the last 10 years.

It's safe to say that the situation in terms of travelling to work has not improved since 2016, because some major challenges have yet to be met in Greater Montréal. Getting around between suburbs off the island of Montréal is difficult, whether we're talking about the South Shore, the North Shore or Laval. Indeed, the metropolitan road network generally forces users towards Montréal, even if that is not their destination.The Réseau express métropolitain (REM), which will come into service in the next few years, represents an opportunity for the city to move to a more multipolar system.

Urban sprawl is also getting worse. The Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM) reported in January 2020 that 94% of the commuters coming from the periphery of Montréal and working in the CMM got to work by car<sup>7</sup>. Single-family homes represent the bulk of residential construction projects in the agglomerations surrounding Montréal, and these projects will do little in the short or medium term to help build up the density needed for a viable public transit system, as highways continue to be congested each weekday.

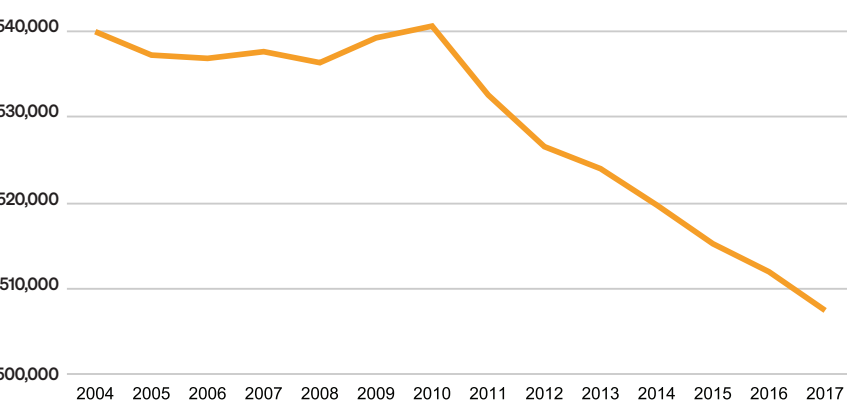
A steady increase in the number of vehicles, specifically light trucks

The number of vehicles in circulation in Montréal keeps going up: it went from 845,000 in 2004, to 898,000 in 2011 and 969,000 in 2017. The rate of vehicles being added annually has ramped up, and rose above 1.5% in 2016 and 2017, the biggest increase since 2004. Another trend is that buyers have gradually been replacing cars with light trucks, or sport utility vehicles (SUVs).

While the number of automobiles did decline from 540,000 to 507,000 between 2004 and 2017 (a drop of 6%), the number of light trucks soared by 107%, going from 129,000 to 267,000 during the same period.

Number of automobiles registered, Montreal agglomeration

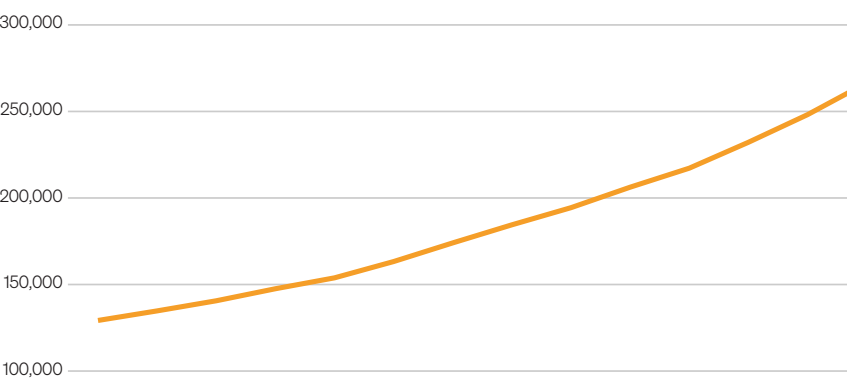
Graph 11-4



Source: Ville de Montréal, Coup d'œil sur les véhicules en circulation, Agglomération de Montréal, une publication de Montréal en statistiques, Division de l'intelligence économique, Service du développement économique, [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MTL\\_STATS\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/V%C9HICULES%20EN%20CIRCULATION\\_2018.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MTL_STATS_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/V%C9HICULES%20EN%20CIRCULATION_2018.PDF)

Number of light trucks registered, Montreal agglomeration

Graph 11-5



Source: Ville de Montréal, Coup d'œil sur les véhicules en circulation, Agglomération de Montréal, une publication de Montréal en statistiques, Division de l'intelligence économique, Service du développement économique, [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MTL\\_STATS\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/V%C9HICULES%20EN%20CIRCULATION\\_2018.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MTL_STATS_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/V%C9HICULES%20EN%20CIRCULATION_2018.PDF)

A city that is reducing its environmental footprint

Quantity of waste treated

The amount of waste generated on Montréal's territory is down. **From 2012 to 2016, it declined from 970,500 tonnes to 925,100 tonnes, a drop of nearly 5%<sup>9</sup>.** The amount of household waste generated declined by more than 10%, while the amount of recoverable materials was up by 11%<sup>10</sup>. In 2018, the amount of waste generated remained steady, amounting to about 930,000 tonnes.

When looked at in relative terms, these data are even more encouraging. Indeed, per capita household waste went from 287 kg/person in 2012 to 249 kg/person in 2016, a drop of 13%. For Greater Montréal as a whole, the rate of recovery of recyclable materials remained relatively stable, going from 59% to 60% from 2012 to 2016. The rate of recovery of organic matter increased substantially, going from 12% to 18% over that time frame.

Air quality

Montréal has significantly improved the air quality on its territory over the last few years, based on the annual average of the level of fine particles in the air<sup>12</sup>.

The triennial average of fine particulate matter per cubic metre declined by nearly 30% over 8 years, going from 10.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2008-2010 to 7.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2016-2018. While this particular dataset does not go as far back as 2000, archives show estimates of levels of about 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in the urban context in 2000, and closer to 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 1998.

This decrease in fine particulate matter concentrations puts Montréal in an enviable position: Its annual average fine particulate matter level places it below the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended threshold, which is 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Change in waste output, as per door-to-door collection (kg/person/year)

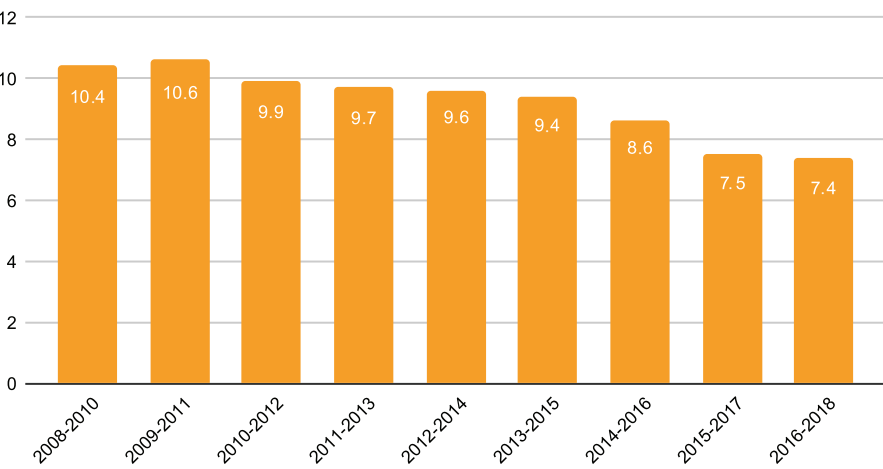
Table 11-1

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Recyclable material	89	90	87	84	83
Organic matter	20	25	26	31	36
Household waste	287	289	278	269	249

Source: Ville de Montréal, Portrait 2016 des matières résiduelles de l'agglomération de Montréal, [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/PORTRAIT2016\\_MATIERESRESIDUELLES.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/PORTRAIT2016_MATIERESRESIDUELLES.PDF).

Triennial average of annual average concentrations Fine particulate matter (PM2.5, diameter of less than 2.5 micrometres)

Graph 11-6



Source: Ville de Montréal, Qualité de l'air à Montréal, 2018, [https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro\\_fr/media/documents/vdm\\_bilanrsqa\\_2018\\_vf.pdf](https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro_fr/media/documents/vdm_bilanrsqa_2018_vf.pdf)

Worth noting

The Montréal region is facing challenges in housing, and in maintaining the long-term operability of its transportation network. The automobile is still taking up too much space. Notwithstanding all this, the city seems to have succeeded in reducing its environmental footprint.

<sup>6</sup> Statistique Canada, Durée moyenne du trajet domicile-lieu de travail (en minutes), régions métropolitaines de recensement, 2016, <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/fra/quo/bdd/autresproduitsvisuels/autre013>  
<sup>7</sup> Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, Le phénomène de l'urbanisation péri-métropolitaine en progression au pourtour du Grand Montréal, Note de l'Observatoire du Grand Montréal, [http://observatoire.cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user\\_upload/documents/2020\\_01\\_Note\\_observatoire.pdf](http://observatoire.cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/2020_01_Note_observatoire.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Ville de Montréal, Portrait 2016 des matières résiduelles de l'agglomération de Montréal, [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/PORTRAIT2016\\_MATIERESRESIDUELLES.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/PORTRAIT2016_MATIERESRESIDUELLES.PDF)  
<sup>10</sup> Principalement les matières recyclables, les matières organiques ainsi que les résidus de construction, de rénovation et de démolition résidentielles, et autres encombrants.  
<sup>11</sup> Ville de Montréal, Bilan 2018 des matières résiduelles de l'agglomération de Montréal, [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/BILAN\\_2018\\_MATIERES\\_RESIDUELLES.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/BILAN_2018_MATIERES_RESIDUELLES.PDF)  
<sup>12</sup> Ville de Montréal, Qualité de l'air à Montréal, 2018, [https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro\\_fr/media/documents/vdm\\_bilanrsqa\\_2018\\_vf.pdf](https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro_fr/media/documents/vdm_bilanrsqa_2018_vf.pdf)

# Responsible Consumption and Production

## Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

The level of consumption is high, but there is less waste

Sustainable natural resource management

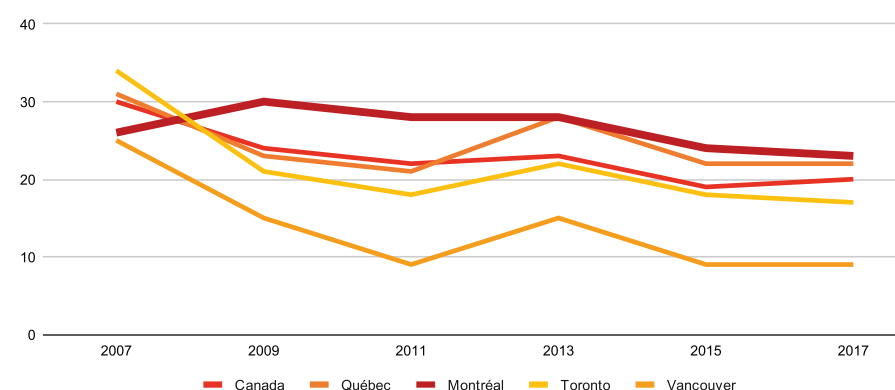
### Water consumption is high

Quebecers are among the biggest consumers of water in the world. In 2000, Canada ranked second out of 29 OECD nations in terms of per capita water consumption<sup>1</sup>. A lack of data prevents us from painting an accurate picture of Montrealers' water consumption; on the other hand, it is possible to look at potable water losses experienced by the City of Montréal, and at some data on sources of consumption for residents of Greater Montréal. These data show, for instance, that in 2017, 23% of Montrealers used bottled water as their main source of drinking water, which is a bit higher than what we see in Canada as a whole (22%) or in Quebec City (also 22%). As well, Montréal compares unfavourably with Toronto (17%) and Vancouver (9%) in this regard. But those cities' experiences do show that progress is possible: in 2007, their rate of bottled water use was equal to or greater than that of Montréal at 34% and 25%, respectively, versus 26% for their Quebec counterpart.

Quebecers consume more potable water than the average Canadian. In 2013, daily usage stood at 255 litres per person, while the Canadian average was 223 litres (13% less) and the Ontario average, 200 litres (22% less)<sup>2</sup>.

Primary type of drinking water consumed: bottled water in 2017 (in %)

Graph 12-1



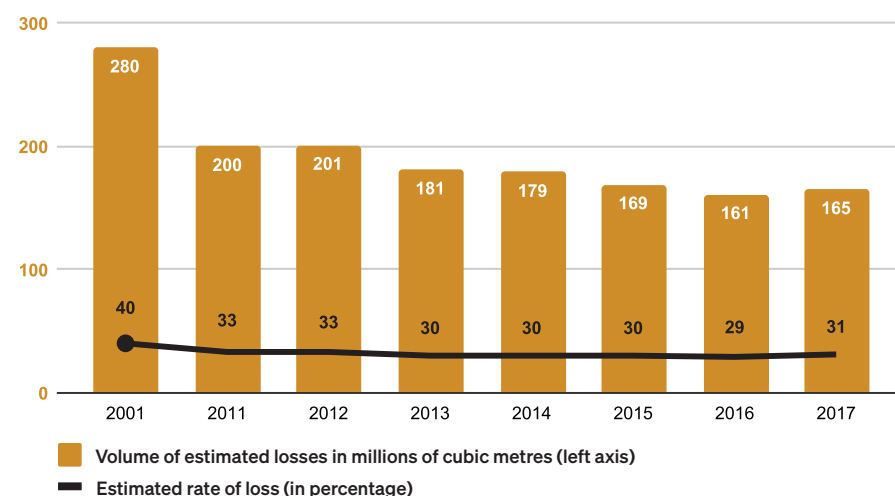
Source: Statistique Canada, Tableau: 38-10-0275-01, <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/fr/tv.action?pid=3810027501>

### Less water wasted

Overall, we see less water is being wasted in Montréal. In 2001, the estimated volume of potable water lost was 280 million cubic metres, which amounts to 40% of the total volume treated in Montréal's system. Ten years on, the city's performance had improved, with losses totalling 200 million cubic metres, bringing the rate down to 33%. The results have continued to get better, with losses down to 165 million cubic metres in 2017. The amount of potable water produced has also diminished, down to nearly 25% less than it was at the turn of the century.

Estimates of drinking water losses, City of Montréal

Graph 12-2



### Wasting food

Loss and wastage of food are now major issues for our planet. According to a study carried out by the National Zero Waste Council, a third of the food produced in the world is either lost or thrown out, and Canadians alone waste the equivalent of \$1,100 per household<sup>3</sup>. Nonetheless, from what can be gathered from a variety of sources, Canada's per capita food waste is actually a bit lower than the average in G7 countries, which is estimated at more than 100 kg per person per year<sup>4</sup>. When looked at in tandem with our conclusions on food insecurity in Chapter 2, that information is unsettling.

The City of Montréal has set ambitious targets for reducing food waste on its territory. It is currently consulting its residents on the issue.

### Managing hazardous chemicals and materials

Quebec's municipalities made a lot of headway during the 1990s and 2000s in terms of management of hazardous chemicals and materials. We can see this in the amount of hazardous household waste recovered in Quebec's municipalities, which went from 600 tonnes in 1992 to 3,500 tonnes in 2002, then to 7,000 tonnes in 2008. However, the rate of retrieval varies greatly from one category of waste to another<sup>5</sup>.

### Recycling

The current crisis in recycling demonstrates that greater efforts are going to be needed in this area. Triage centres are not doing well, and the quality of much of what is being recovered is poor for certain materials. A greater effort is therefore needed when it comes to reduction at the source. In that spirit, the City of Montréal has launched a consultation regarding its master plan for waste management.

Quebec's new policy for managing waste – Action Plan 2019-2024<sup>7</sup> – aims to:

- Reduce the amount of residual materials per capita to 525 kg or less;
- Recycle 75% of paper, cardboard, glass, plastic and metal;
- Recycle 60% of organic matter;
- Recover and upgrade 70% of residual matter from construction, renovation and demolition.



<sup>3</sup> RECYC-Québec, *Gaspillage alimentaire*, <https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/citoyens/mieux-consommer/gaspillage-alimentaire>

<sup>4</sup> Barilla Center for Food and Nutrition, Food Sustainability Index 2017, <https://foodsustainability.eiu.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/34/2016/09/FoodSustainabilityIndex2017GlobalExecutiveSummary.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> RECYC-Québec, *Les résidus domestiques dangereux*, Fiches informatives, <https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Fiche-info-rdd.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> RECYC-Québec, *Bilan 2015 de la gestion des matières résiduelles au Québec*, <https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/bilan-gmr-2015.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portail/page?\\_pageid=7237,75367571&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portail/page?_pageid=7237,75367571&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)

## Worth noting

Greater Montréal has not yet made enough progress in the overall reduction of waste.





# Climate action

## Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

### Some efforts, but very mixed results so far

The region has a plan to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Responding to climate change

Montréal was hit with two major flooding episodes in recent years, in 2017 and 2019. In May 2017, 24 municipalities in Greater Montréal (within the Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal) were affected, with 609 streets and 4,060 built-up lots being impacted. All in all, more than 2, 630 hectares of land were affected by these disasters<sup>1</sup>. In the City of Montréal itself, there were more than 1,100 victims, and 430 residences were flooded<sup>2</sup>. The city estimated the total costs at \$8M.

Episodes of extreme heat will also continue to be more frequent in Montréal and in Québec, and they will be more deadly. It is estimated that the mortality rate linked to extreme heat situations will be twice as high for the period of 2040 to 2064 as for 2011 to 2039<sup>3</sup>.

In 2018, a heat wave caused 66 deaths.

#### Mortality rate per 100,000 inhabitants related to effects of heat, by age, Quebec

Table 13-1

	Less than 65 years old	65 years old and up
2011-2039	3.6	6.3
2040-2064	7.1	12.5

Source: Larrivée, C., N. Sinclair-Desgagné, L. Da Silva, J.P. Revéret, C. Desjarlais (2015) Évaluation des impacts des changements climatiques et de leurs coûts pour le Québec et l'État québécois, Rapport d'étude, Ouranos, 58 pages

According to meteorological data for Montréal, the summer season, as measured by the period of vegetative growth, increased by nine days between the periods running from 1955-1984 and 1985-2014<sup>4</sup>. For example, this season used to start April 8 (that was the average between 1955 and 1984), whereas between 1985 et 2014, it began on average on April 2. The last day of the season went from being November 14 to being November 17, on average.

#### Duration of summer and winter seasons, number of days

Table 13-2

Summer: the growth period is getting longer	
1955-1984	221
2040-2064	230
Winter: the freeze period is getting shorter	
1955-1984	154
1985-2014	149
Winter: the snow period is getting shorter	
1955-1984	103
1985-2014	73

Source: Ville de Montréal. Plan d'adaptation aux changements climatiques de l'agglomération de Montréal 2015-20 http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro\_fr/media/documents/paccam\_2015-2020\_lesconstats.pdf

#### Montréal citywide greenhouse gas emissions in 1990 and 2014

Table 13-3

Activity sectors and sub-sectors	Emissions (kt CO <sup>2</sup> eq)		Variation (%)
	1990	2014	
Stationary energy	8,320	5,332	-36
Residential	2,310	1,236	-47
Commercial and Institutional	2,319	1,755	-24
Manufacturing industries and construction	1,506	1,238	-18
Energy industries	2,171	1,093	-50
Fugitive emissions	15	11	-27
Transport	4048	4616	14
On-road	3073	3567	16
Off-road	10	11	8
Railway	148	189	27
Waterborne navigation	325	272	-16
Aviation	491	578	18
Waste	1,956	437	-78
Disposal of solid waste	1,787	315	-82
Biological treatment of organic waste		8	
Incineration of waste	137	76	-45
Wastewater treatment	33	38	15
Industrial processes and product use (IPPU)	634	1,117	76
Industrial processes	171	180	5
Product use	463	937	103
Agriculture, forestry and other land use	6.7	5.7	-15
Enteric fermentation and manure management	6	4	-26
Agricultural soil management	0.7	1.1	69
Liming, urea and other carbon-based fertilizers	0,04	0.12	172
Total	14,965	11,508	-23

The City also subsequently published a followup on progress on the 14 solution tracks outlined in its 2013-2020 reduction plan<sup>7</sup>. Its next plan is scheduled to be rolled out after the Quebec government produces its own next Plan d'action sur les changements climatiques (PACC).

Four categories of indicators showed Montréal making significant progress, and they relate to: the energy efficiency of buildings, the governance of transit projects, emissions linked to waste, and stationary manufacturing sources and energy industries.

Moderate progress was noted in terms of: reduction of heating oil consumption (it will not be permitted starting in 2030), stimulus for the use of renewable energy, and data collection.

Other indicators showed less progress—they were stable or had regressed:

- The financing of projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation;
- The development of public transit;
- Parking optimization;
- Transportation demand management;
- The development of active transportation (walking, biking, etc.);
- The development of alternative modes of transportation, and
- The reduction of per-vehicle greenhouse gas emissions.

The province of Quebec has set a goal to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 37.5% relative to 1990 levels by 2030. **The latest available data, from 2017, show a reduction of 8.7%.**

#### Bring down greenhouse gas emissions

In 2005, the City of Montréal committed to reduce, by 2020, the Montréal community's greenhouse gas emissions by 30% compared to 1990. In 2014, the City has put together an inventory of its GHG(6). Moreover, in 2019, Montréal has committed to achieve carbon neutrality.

Source:Ville de Montréal, Inventaire des émissions de gaz à effet de serre (GES), 2014. [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/INVENT\\_GES\\_COLLECTIVITE\\_2014\\_VF.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/INVENT_GES_COLLECTIVITE_2014_VF.PDF)

### Worth noting

The City of Montréal has indeed cut its greenhouse gas emissions, but there is still much to be done. The region has implemented measures to mitigate the effects of global warming.

<sup>1</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>2</sup> Ville de Montréal (2017) Rapport d'évènement et de rétroaction, Inondations 2017 [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/COMMISSIONS\\_PERM\\_V2\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/DOCCONSULT\\_20171212.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/COMMISSIONS_PERM_V2_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/DOCCONSULT_20171212.PDF).  
<sup>3</sup> <http://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/changementsclimatiques/evaluation-impacts-cc-couts-qc-etat.pdf>.  
<sup>4</sup> Direction régionale de santé publique du CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal, Enquête épidémiologique – Vague de chaleur à l'été 2018 à Montréal. [https://santemontreal.qc.ca/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Uploads/bx\\_asssmpublications/pdf/publications/Enquete\\_epidemiologique\\_-\\_Vague\\_de\\_chaleur\\_a\\_l\\_ete\\_2018\\_a\\_Montreal\\_version15mai\\_EUSHV\\_finale.pdf](https://santemontreal.qc.ca/fileadmin/user_upload/Uploads/bx_asssmpublications/pdf/publications/Enquete_epidemiologique_-_Vague_de_chaleur_a_l_ete_2018_a_Montreal_version15mai_EUSHV_finale.pdf).  
<sup>5</sup> Plan d'adaptation aux changements climatiques de l'agglomération de Montréal 2015-2020: [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro\\_fr/media/documents/paccam\\_2015-2020\\_lesconstats.pdf](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro_fr/media/documents/paccam_2015-2020_lesconstats.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> Ville de Montréal, Émissions de gaz à effet de serre de la collectivité montréalaise - Inventaire 2014. [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/INVENT\\_GES\\_COLLECTIVITE\\_2014\\_VF.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/ENVIRO_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/INVENT_GES_COLLECTIVITE_2014_VF.PDF)  
<sup>7</sup> Ville de Montréal, Suivi du Plan de réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre de la collectivité montréalaise 2013-2020 [https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro\\_fr/media/documents/suiviplancollectivite2013-2020.pdf](https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro_fr/media/documents/suiviplancollectivite2013-2020.pdf)

## Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

### Significant improvement

As of December 31, 2019, 167,395 km<sup>2</sup> of territory were considered to be protected areas in Quebec, in other words, a tenth of the province's total surface area. The marine protected areas network totalled 1,957 km<sup>2</sup>. In all, 4,894 natural sites are considered to be protected areas in Quebec<sup>1</sup>. This is a relatively small number when compared to the Aichi target of the Convention on Biological Diversity (target 11), which aims to protect at least 10% of coastal and marine areas, a goal the province committed itself to in its 2011-2020 Strategic Plan<sup>2</sup>.

For example, Image 1 shows all of the protected natural environments in Montréal, including those in marine areas<sup>3</sup>.



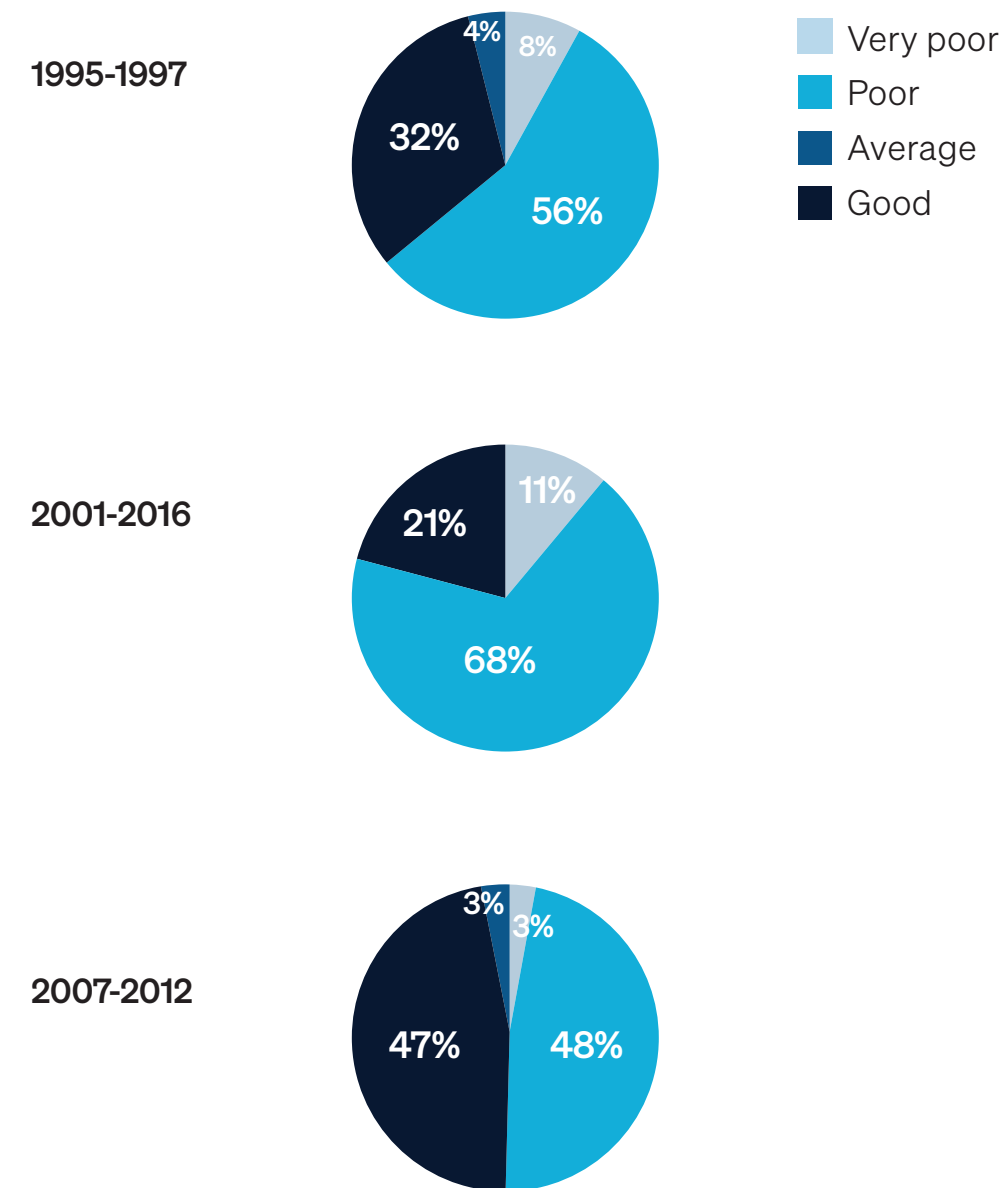
Only available in French

### The health of the St. Lawrence river

Over the 17-year period of 1995 to 2012, the health of the fish populations in the St. Lawrence was measured using the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI). In general, a deterioration was observed from 2001 to 2006, followed by a marked improvement between 2007 and 2012.

#### Health of fish populations in the St. Lawrence river (Index of Biotic Integrity)

Graph 14-1



Source: <http://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/rapportsurleau/Etat-eau-ecosysteme-aquatique-faune-situationCauses.htm>

<sup>1</sup> Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, Les aires protégées au Québec, [http://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires\\_protegees/aires\\_quebec.htm](http://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/aires_quebec.htm).

<sup>2</sup> Secrétariat de la Convention sur la diversité biologique, Plan stratégique pour la diversité biologique 2011-2020 et les Objectifs d'Aichi, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/2011-2020/Aichi-Targets-FR.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Ville de Montréal, Rapport sur la biodiversité, 2013, [http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/GRANDS\\_PARCS\\_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/RAPPORT%20LAB\\_JUIN2013.PDF](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/GRANDS_PARCS_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/RAPPORT%20LAB_JUIN2013.PDF).





# Life On Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and biodiversity loss

## Two steps forward, one step back

Greater Montréal: a region where the forest canopy is expanding.

In 2017, forest cover in Greater Montréal amounted to 21.6% of the region's total area<sup>1</sup>. That was an increase from 2015 (21%) and 2011 (20.4%). That area as measured in hectares went from 78,428 in 2011 to 80,719 in 2015, then to 82,775 in 2017 – an increase of 5.5% over six years<sup>2</sup>. For the City of Montréal, these totals, were, respectively, 3,451, 3,621, and 4,083 hectares – which represents an increase of 18.3% in six years.

The extent of forest cover does, however, vary in the five sectors of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal.

Forest cover by sector of Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal, 2017

Table 15-1

Montréal agglomeration	12.9 %
Longueuil agglomeration	18.1%
Laval	16.4%
North Shore	27.5 %
South Shore	20.5%

Source: <http://observatoire.cmm.qc.ca/observatoire-grand-montreal/outils-statistiques-interactifs/grand-montreal-en-statistiques/?t=3&st=69&i=981&p=2017&e=3>

The canopy index for the CMM went from 24.9% in 2011, to 25.6% in 2015, to 26.2% in 2017<sup>3</sup>. The City of Montréal has set itself the goal of achieving a canopy index of 25% by 2025<sup>4</sup>, which seems realistic, since the City was at 22.2% 2017, compared to 19.4% in 2011.

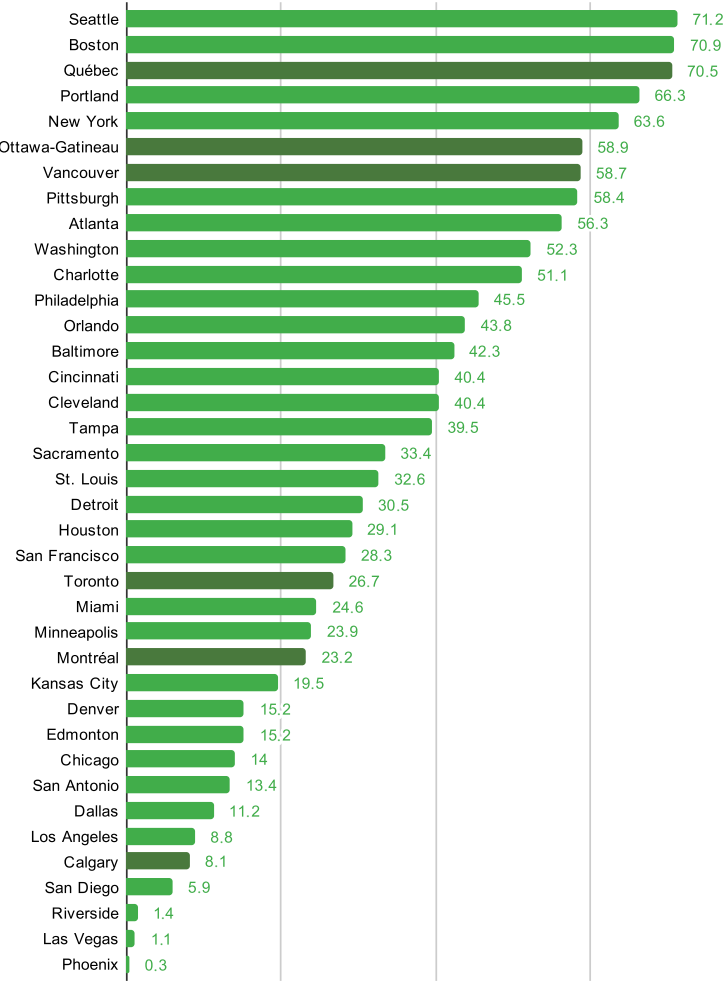
## Forest land is lacking

Forest land is mainly found in agricultural areas: they account for 64% of the forest cover of the Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal<sup>6</sup>. Greater Montréal comes in below the median when it comes to metropolitan areas in North America<sup>6</sup>. Within Canada, Montréal is doing better than Calgary and Edmonton, but less well than Québec, Ottawa-Gatineau, Vancouver and Toronto. These data points are from 2014.

Percentage of territory that was forest cover, 2014

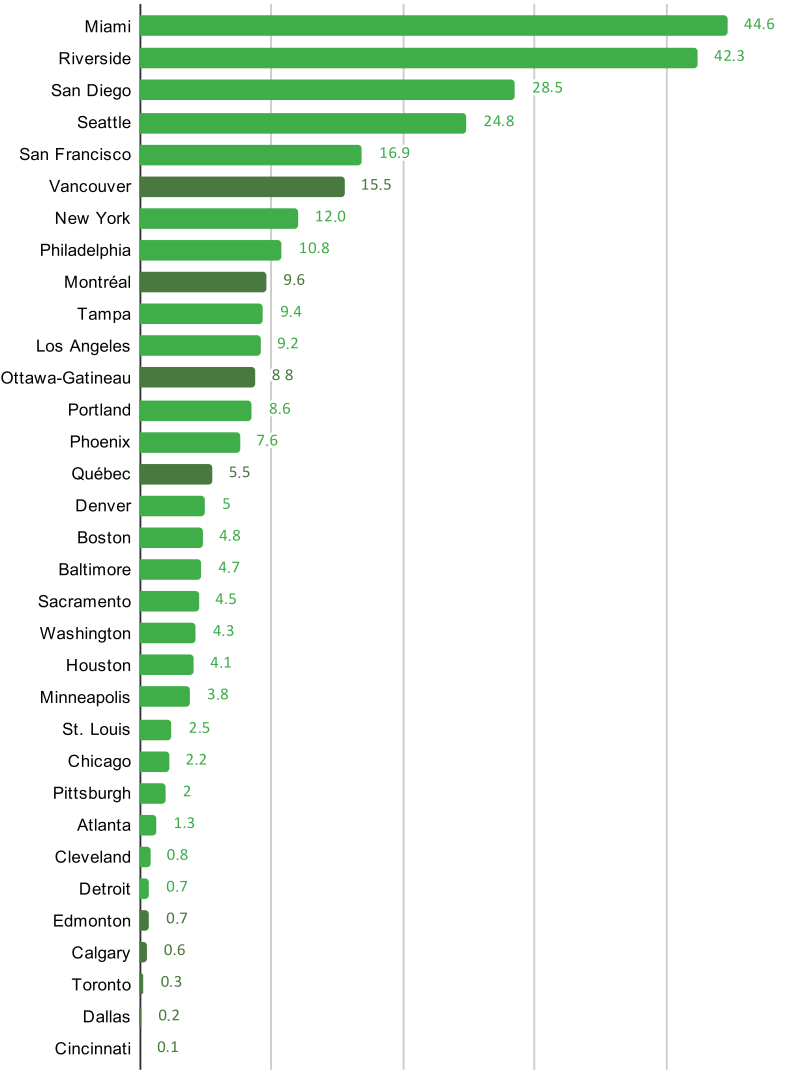
Graph 15-1

Source: Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, Plan d'action de mise en valeur du territoire et des activités agricoles 2016-2020, [http://observatoire.cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user\\_upload/documents/20160225\\_PAMAA](http://observatoire.cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/20160225_PAMAA),



Percentage of territory in protected areas (terrestrial and aquatic), 2014

Graph 15-2



## More protected areas

In 2012, the CMM had 42,022 protected hectares, which represented a bit less than a tenth of its land area (9.6%)<sup>7</sup>. The CMM estimated that it would be possible to add 41,452 hectares of woodland and forest corridors, as well as 8,701 hectares of wetlands to these protected areas, for a total of 92,175 hectares. With these additions, the Community's conservation rate would increase to 21.1%, which exceeds the 17% figure set by the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. In 2014, the metropolitan region ranked ninth among North American urban agglomerations<sup>8</sup>.

Source: Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, Portrait du Grand Montréal, Édition 2016, <http://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/cahiersMetropolitain>,

## Worth noting

Forest cover has increased in Greater Montréal, but remains insufficient.

<sup>1</sup> Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (2019) Perspective Grand Montréal, Canopée métropolitaine: des gains supérieurs aux pertes depuis 2011. Perspective Grand Montréal, Septembre 2019, [https://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/40\\_Perspective.pdf](https://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/40_Perspective.pdf).  
<sup>2</sup> <http://observatoire.cmm.qc.ca/observatoire-grand-montreal/outils-statistiques-interactifs/grand-montreal-en-statistiques/?t=3&st=69&i=981&p=2017&e=3>.  
<sup>3</sup> Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (2019) Perspective Grand Montréal, Canopée métropolitaine: des gains supérieurs aux pertes depuis 2011. Perspective Grand Montréal, Septembre 2019, [https://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/40\\_Perspective.pdf](https://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/40_Perspective.pdf).  
<sup>4</sup> Ville de Montréal, Canopée et îlots de chaleur, [https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?\\_pageid=7377,91101669&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/portal/page?_pageid=7377,91101669&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL).  
<sup>5</sup> Données de 2009, Plan d'action métropolitain de mise en valeur du territoire et des activités agricoles 2016-2020, CMM, [http://cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user\\_upload/documents/20160225\\_PAMAA\\_2016-2020.pdf](http://cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/20160225_PAMAA_2016-2020.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> [https://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/cahiersMetropolitains\\_no05.pdf](https://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/cahiersMetropolitains_no05.pdf).  
<sup>7</sup> Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, La trame verte et bleue du Grand Montréal, [http://cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user\\_upload/pmad2012/documentation/20130228\\_fascicule\\_trameVerteBleue.pdf](http://cmm.qc.ca/fileadmin/user_upload/pmad2012/documentation/20130228_fascicule_trameVerteBleue.pdf).  
<sup>8</sup> Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, Portrait du Grand Montréal, Édition 2016, [http://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/cahiersMetropolitains\\_no05.PDF](http://cmm.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/cahiersMetropolitains_no05.PDF).

## Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

### Institutions that will need strengthening

#### Safety

Canadian society is a peaceful one in general. When compared to other major cities in North America, Montréal stands out as a very safe municipality. Nonetheless, efforts do need to be made to reduce violence, especially violence against women, which remains at a high level.

#### Homicides in major cities

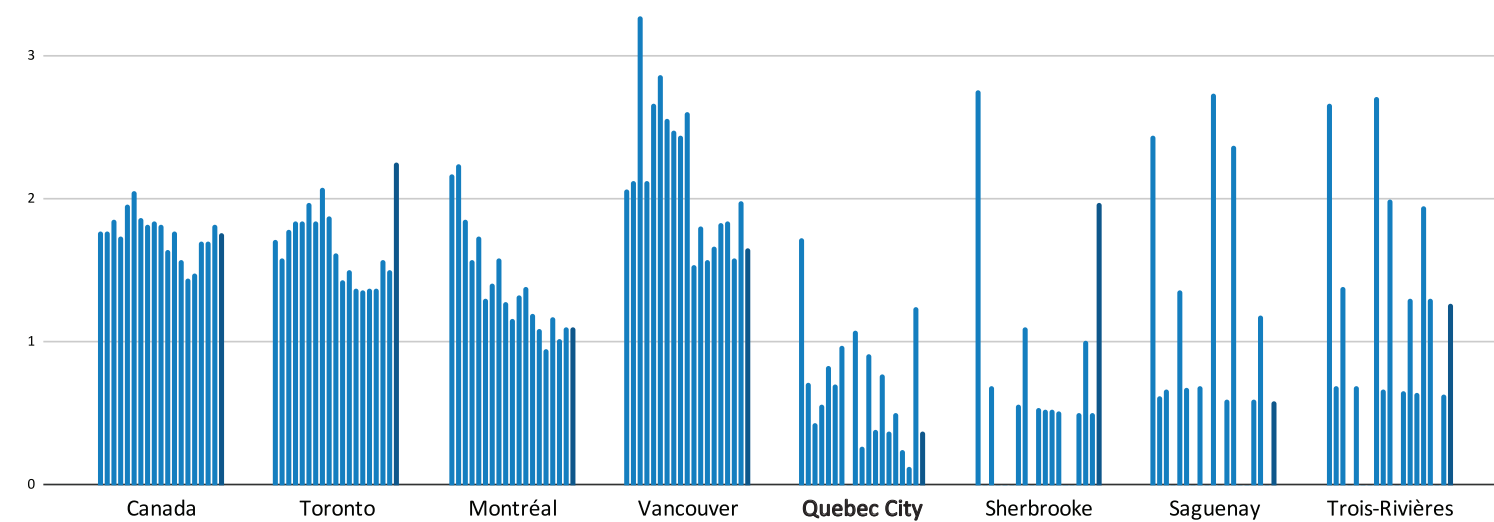
In 2018, the homicide rate per 100,000 inhabitants in Canada was about the same as in 2000. In fact, for the last 20 years, it

has been stable, hovering around 1.75 victims per 100,000 inhabitants<sup>1</sup>

Over the same period, **Montréal actually showed a significant drop in the homicide rate per 100,000 inhabitants, 0.47 percentage points (which translates into a 30% reduction). In 2018, among the 10 Canadian cities with 500 000 inhabitants or more, only Quebec City (0.37) had a lower homicide rate than Montréal (1.11).**

#### Homicide rate per 100, 000 inhabitants, 2000 to 2018

Graph 16-1



Source: Statistique Canada, Tableau: 35-10-0071-01 (anciennement CANSIM 253-0004)

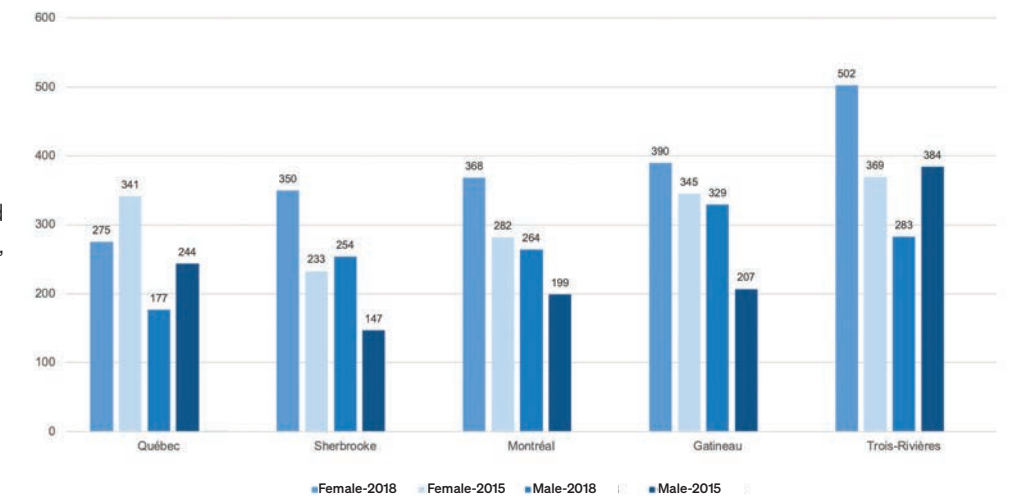
A high rate of domestic violence against girls under 18

When we look at domestic violence specifically in terms of victims who are girls under 18, we see that in general, cities in Quebec compare very unfavourably to those in the rest of Canada, and Montréal is no exception. In 2018, in every CMA in Quebec, the rate of domestic violence against minor females (under 18 years of age) was at 250 per 100,000, and it reached 368 in Montréal. On the other hand, Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver have rates under 200. The problem is less acute in the case of boys.

**Furthermore, the situation seems to have worsened since 2015, with declared cases of domestic violence against girls under 18 rising in Montréal from 282 to 368 per 100,000.**

Children and youth who were victims of violence (domestic and non-domestic), cases reported by police, by victim gender and Census Metropolitan Area, 2018

Graph 16-2



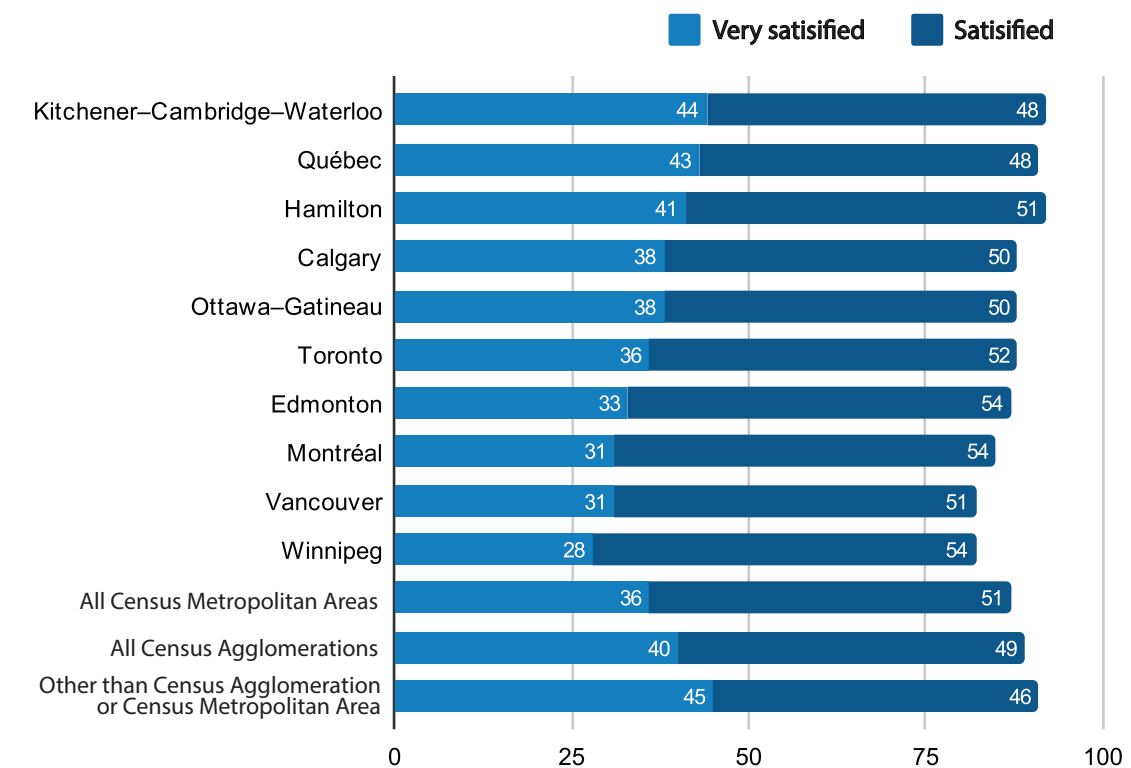
Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00018/tbl/tbl01-9-fra.htm>

#### Perception of safety

According to 2014 data, **the perception of safety in Montréal is slightly lower than the average for Canadian metropolitan regions.** Indeed, Montrealers' perception of personal safety from crime stood at 85%, 31% of those surveyed being very satisfied and 54% satisfied, compared to 87% for Canadian CMA's overall (36% being very satisfied, and 51% satisfied)<sup>2</sup>.

#### Perception of personal safety from crime, 2014

Graph 16-3



Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2017001/article/54889-fra.htm>



Offences against identifiable groups

In a cosmopolitan city like Montréal, respect for others is a priority. Two categories of crime statistics shed some light on how well the city is doing in this regard.

Thus, the rate of offences motivated by hate on a property used by an identifiable group has remained stable in relative terms since 2009 (0.3 per 100,000 habitants). Montréal's rate is comparable to the Canadian average.

However, public incitement of hatred in Montréal seems to be on the rise since 2013. At 0.5 offences per 100,000 inhabitants on average over the last five years, the city's rate for this crime is 150% higher than that of Canada as a whole (0.2).

Justice: varying perceptions

In 2016, Quebec's Ministry of Justice carried out a survey on perceptions of the justice system, including feelings about access to justice. The results showed some contrasting opinions. Thus, 51% of respondents said they had a positive view of the Quebec justice system, 59% said they had either some or a great deal of confidence in the justice system, 51% were of the opinion that the system is independent of political power, and 47% felt that decisions rendered within in the system were fair<sup>3</sup>.

When it came to accessibility, 58% of respondents believed that lower income citizens had access to the courts, versus 62% who believed the middle class had access, and 93% who believe that the wealthiest have such access. Furthermore, 31% believed they had the financial means to defend their rights before the courts, while few respondents seemed aware of legal aid, with only 35% saying they were quite familiar with its services, and 31% believing they would be eligible for it.

Cutting down on corruption and bribery

Perceptions of corruption

According to Transparency International, Canada's 2019 Corruption Perception Index (CPI) was 77, thereby maintaining the country in first place in the Americas, though in 12th place globally, tied with the UK, Australia and Austria. In 2012, Canada had a CPI of 84 and was 9th in the world, so it dropped by seven points in the intervening period. Transparency International considers this decline to be one of the deepest during this period, along with those of Nicaragua (-7) and Australia (-8). Worse yet, Canada had been as high as number 5 globally, in 2000<sup>4</sup>.

Montréal, before and after the Commission of Inquiry on the Awarding and Management of Public Contracts in the Construction Industry

Montréal was the centre of attention during the Commission of Inquiry on the Awarding and Management of Public Contracts in the Construction Industry (Charbonneau Commission). Following years of investigation and inquiry, several public office holders were charged with, and in some cases found guilty of, corruption. The work of rebuilding the public's trust in its institutions has only just begun.



62 <sup>3</sup> [https://cdn-contenu.quebec.ca/cdn-contenu/adm/min/justice/publications-adm/rapports/RA\\_enquete\\_perception\\_2016\\_MJQ.pdf?1545334585](https://cdn-contenu.quebec.ca/cdn-contenu/adm/min/justice/publications-adm/rapports/RA_enquete_perception_2016_MJQ.pdf?1545334585).  
<sup>4</sup> <https://www.transparency.org/cpi2019>.

Democracy and diversity

One way of assessing whether the city and the region have become more open is to examine how well historically underrepresented groups have been integrated in a variety of areas.

An increase in diversity in employment

From 2007 to 2017, minority representation in the workforce (visible, ethnic and Indigenous) increased from 12.3% to 19.1%.

This progress of 6.8 percentage points constitutes an increase of 55.3%. When we compare 2008 with 2017, visible minority hiring was up from 14.9% to 21.5%, or 6.6 points (+44,3%), and ethnic minority hiring was up from 5.5% to 6.5%, or 1 point (+18.2%).

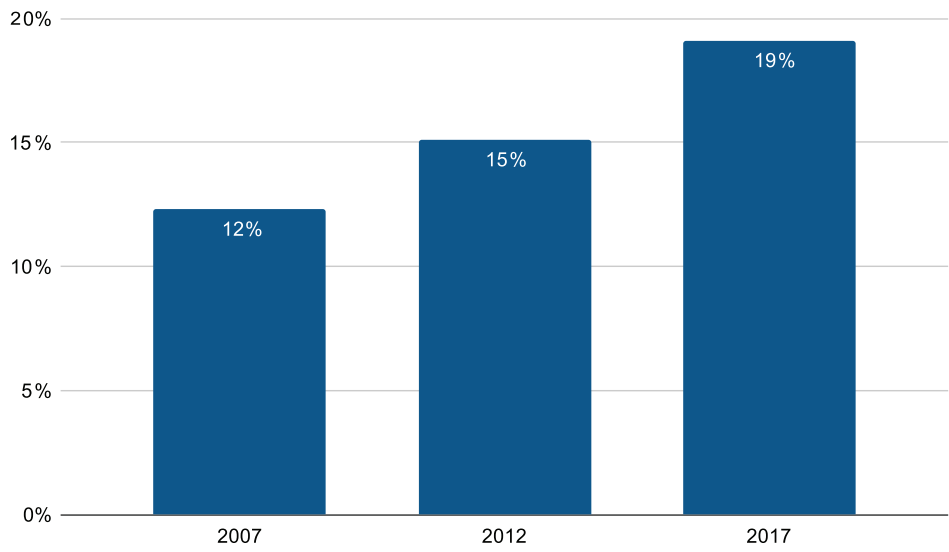
Hiring of Indigenous peoples remained marginal, however, going from 0.3% to 0.4%, an increase of only 0.1 point (+25%). As regards women, hires went from 44% to 45.1%, an increase of 1.1 point (+2.5%). There were more women in management positions; their proportion went from 27.4% in 2007 to 32% in 2012, then to 39.1% in 2017. The jump of 11.7 points between 2007 and 2017 represented an increase of 42.7%<sup>5</sup>.

Participation in municipal elections is down

In 2017, the rate of participation in the municipal elections was 42.46%, a small decrease when compared with 2013 (43.32%). Out of the eight largest Quebec municipalities, Montréal ranked in the middle of the pack in fifth place<sup>6</sup>.

Representation of visible minorities, ethnic minorities and Indigenous peoples compared to total number of employees

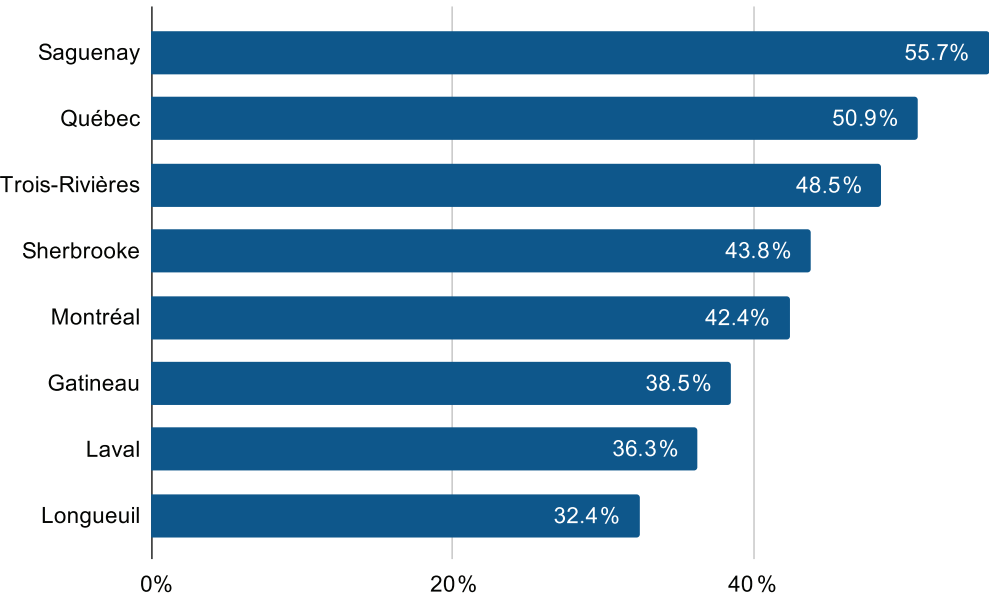
Graph 16-4



Source: Ville de Montréal

Rate of participation in municipal elections, 2017

Graph 16-5



Source: Ministère des Affaires municipales

<sup>5</sup> <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1065701/taux-participation-elections-municipales-quebec>.  
<sup>6</sup>



## No poverty



Understanding and finding sustainable solutions to poverty and social exclusion in Greater Montreal.

Marie-Lyne Brunet



In recent years, we have been witnesses to community action's transformation—much like the philanthropic community—as it shook itself up, and grew. 2020 will be a year of changes and challenges: the shift to digital technology, ecological transition, the need for a new generation to pick up the mantle, etc. Sustainable development goals clearly illustrate that we must do things differently, and more specifically develop new ways of working together, in an inclusive way. This can be unsettling and a source of tension: learning to change our way of thinking, how we look at things and how we work, leveraging the expertise of a variety of stakeholders, including citizens, is certainly complex but essential nonetheless.

I have been and still am to this day both an architect and a witness to the mobilization, co-creation and dialogue efforts that genuine community development calls for, all the more so when sustainability is part of the objective. These efforts have given rise to promising actions and projects that reach far beyond the territory where they took shape.

For 2030, we hope that collective impact and community development will be firmly rooted in Greater Montreal and that all relevant actors will get involved. Reducing inequalities necessarily means efficient social policies, but it also calls for the mobilization of community actors, as well as the recognition and inclusion of the know-how of each and every one of us.

Marie-Lyne Brunet is Director of Community Impact for Centraide of Greater Montreal's Social Development division and has a true passion for strategies and partnerships that lead to community development, improve living conditions and foster the inclusion of those most vulnerable.

She holds a degree in preschool and primary Education from Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) and is a mother to two daughters, aged 10 and 15. She is thoroughly committed to her adoptive neighbourhood in Montréal's East End where she held, for some 15 years, different positions in community-based organizations, with a particular focus on school perseverance and inclusion. She also helped create a number of forums and chaired the Regroupement des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte au décrochage (ROCLD), an association of Québec community-based organizations for school perseverance, for 6 years. Recipient of several awards recognizing her leadership, Marie-Lyne is renowned for her ability to bring people together, which helps her navigate complex situations and learning organizations.





# Zero Hunger

## Use new technologies to reduce hunger

Laura Howard



Laura Howard has over 15 years' experience working in not-for-profit organizations and social enterprises. She is Récolte's cofounder as well as its Director of Partnerships and Business Development. Building on a strong expertise in community development, communications, marketing and project management, Laura studied community economic development as well as food security, and is particularly interested in looking at the many ways the world of social entrepreneurship can contribute to the construction of local sustainable food systems. She works to build strategic partnerships and transformative projects, making good use of her extensive network of contacts in the local food movement as well as the social economy and entrepreneurship sectors across Québec, Canada and the United States.

In 2018, the federal government launched the Smart Cities Challenge, a pan-Canadian competition aimed at supporting and bringing about technological innovations to improve residents' quality of life in communities across the country. In May 2019, the City of Montréal was awarded the grand prize for its project to further mobility and access to food across its neighbourhoods.

In August 2019, Récolte and La Cantine pour tous were put in charge of the "Système alimentaire local et intégré" (local and integrated food system) project, working alongside other partners in the field. Physical and economical accessibility to healthy food in Montréal is a major issue. It involves a host of actors across the food sector, which is a complex and important ecosystem in itself. Building on research carried out in Montréal and several consultations with a wide variety of local actors, it became apparent that top priority should be given to supporting

existing initiatives, developing and pooling infrastructure, and improving access to relevant data for collective decision-making.

Given that organizations have limited resources to invest in infrastructure or pooling projects, the objective is to put in place an integrated local food system, with the ultimate goal of pooling the purchase, distribution, storage and transformation of food. A technological platform as well as local infrastructure will allow organizations, in the years to come, to increase their collective buying power for healthy and local food, as well as reduce both food waste and collective operating costs.

# Zero Hunger

## La Cantine pour tous in schools in 10 years' time

In 10 years, our action will be part of a global project involving important governmental measures, which will lead to the eradication of food insecurity: an increase of lower wages, lower cost for basic foodstuffs and easier access to healthy local food.

Food culture will have come a long way by then: standards will be higher and an awareness of the benefits of healthy food will be widespread among the population. Vegetarianism will be a fairly common—even prevalent—practice. Schools will have the necessary equipment to produce meals on site and dedicated spaces will be allocated to welcoming diners and sharing with them the art of cooking so they can adopt healthy eating habits from an early age.

In this environment, La Cantine pour tous and its members will play a significant role toward democratizing access to healthy meals. La Cantine dans les écoles program,

designed to provide healthy and affordable meals to all students in participating primary schools, will be expanded across all of the territory's educational institutions. It would fall under a program of universal school food guaranteeing access to local, organic and balanced meals for all children, without discrimination.

In short, our children's nutrition will be a collective responsibility.

Thibaud Liné



Holding master's degrees in Management and Sustainable Development Management, Thibaud Liné began his career in environmental research project management, and with several NGOs.

Passionate about social and solidarity economy issues, and particularly attuned to matters relating to the fundamental needs of human beings, such as food, he joined a food security organization in Montréal where he subsequently took on the role of urban agriculture project manager. In 2018, he took the helm of La Cantine pour tous. Beyond his involvement with the organization, he aspires to be an active participant in the creation of a movement to promote a transition toward healthier and more sustainable food for all.

## Good Health and Well-Being

### In community, to promote children's rights

#### Laetitia Angba



A graduate from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Civil Law and Bachelor of Social Sciences degrees, Laetitia Angba has extensive experience in the community and social fields. She has received several awards and honors in recent years. Nominated for the 2017 cohort of Concertation Montréal's Réseau jeunes femmes leaders (RJFL), she has been working since 2014 for the Fondation Dr Julien, following stints with the United Nations' International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in Geneva and the Women's Resource Centre of the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa. In addition to her professional activities, Laetitia Angba completed a specialized graduate diploma in business administration at HEC Montréal and is a volunteer with the Parc-Extension Youth Organization (PEYO), whose goal is to improve the quality of life of residents in that neighbourhood. She is known for her ability to bring together relevant partners to develop promising projects for the community.

The FER Project (Familles-Enfants-Réseaux) was designed to transform the way we look at children's rights so they too can participate, with those around them, in building a fair and equitable society. Founded by lawyer and social entrepreneur Hélène (Sioui) Trudel, FER is an innovative flagship project that brings together law and the Fondation du Dr. Julien's community social pediatrics.

As with any initiative that entails integrated law, FER rests on the respect of every right set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Using FER tools and training workshops, children and adults learn how to nurture their rights and responsibilities and how to claim and exercise them on a daily basis. To that end, they learn to use tools to express themselves and be heard so as to turn a problem into a solution. And that is how, through their words and their actions, they take ownership of their rights.

As such, children, adults and stakeholders from various networks looking to make a difference in their community can ready themselves with the tools they need and take concrete action toward the well-being of children in their community. These tools are now being used in 11 neighbourhoods in Montréal. In less than 3 years, FER has had an impact on more than 4,000 children and adults. The project is currently being deployed and will be accessible to other communities outside of Montréal as of 2020. By preparing and supporting young people and adults to become agents of change, we are working to build caring communities. And—why not?—change the world.

## Good Health and Well-Being

### Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Promoting health and well-being for all necessarily entails recognizing the social inequalities behind a great many injustices. To do so, we must first understand the underlying causes of health disparities across various segments of the population. Why are those most disadvantaged in poorer health than those who are better off? What are the determinants behind these disparities? How can these determinants become action levers?

I first decided to join Doctors of the World because it sees each individual as a whole, while also acting on this individual's physical, socio-cultural, economic and political environment. As such, our nurses go to extremely isolated locations in different neighbourhoods to offer care and build trusting relationships with those in vulnerable situations. These nurses, as well as other stakeholders such as our Indigenous Navigators, will also help with the (re)construction of bridges and reconciliation between these people and the health system, which rejects them far too often. Simultaneously, the

organization endeavours, through a robust advocacy, to change the determinants of this fragility. This approach is the DNA of Doctors of the World. The organization adopts this approach both in Canada and in international cooperation settings; humanitarian work is needed here and abroad. I want to help ensure that my colleagues in the health sector acknowledge and use these levers, both in and outside health institutions, in order to see sustainable changes occur for the well-being of everyone.

In 2030, those left behind by the current Canadian health system will actively participate to the development and adjustment of the health services which are intended for them. Furthermore, they will find in organizations such as Doctors of the World an ally to improve the social determinants at the root of the health issues they experience.

#### David-Martin Milot



David-Martin Milot holds a medical degree from McGill University as a Loran Scholar, a master's degree in public health from Université de Montréal, and a medical specialty in public health and preventive medicine from Université de Sherbrooke. He also completed a one-year fellowship in Paris and London to study social norms around psychoactive substances and their regulation modalities. He is now a medical advisor for the regional public health direction in Montérégie and a professor and researcher in the field of addictions at Université de Sherbrooke, where he also teaches at the faculty of medicine. David-Martin is also a researcher at the Institut universitaire sur les dépendances. He is the co-founder of Jeunes médecins pour la santé publique, an advocacy group promoting public investments in prevention in Québec, and is an executive board member of Doctors of the World Canada and the Réseau francophone international pour la promotion de la santé – section des Amériques. He is actively invested in global health projects in the Americas.





# Quality Education

## Address systemic barriers to educational success

Mélanie Marsolais



Mélanie Marsolais has been Director General at the Regroupement des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte au décrochage (ROCLD), an association of Québec community-based organizations for school perseverance, since 2013. Her professional and social involvement began in Montréal's Côte-des-Neiges neighbourhood where, from 2003 to 2011, she dedicated her time and energy to the educational success of children, families as well as adults with an immigrant background. Holding a master's degree in Education, she has been involved in the independent community action sector for over 20 years, advocating for accessible, equal and inclusive quality education for all young Quebecers. She collaborates with various bodies and organizations to address the underlying causes of young people's social disengagement and dropout rate. Among other things, she was actively involved in the Conseil supérieur de l'éducation's Commission on Preschool and Elementary Education from 2015 to 2020, and is thoroughly committed to the Mouvement Jeunes et santé mentale as well as the Coalition Interjeunes.

Greater Montréal is shaped by its population's rich diversity. The region is renowned for its culture, higher education and coexistence. With its citizens' strong community involvement, the city sets itself apart by providing fertile ground for the emergence of a large number of grassroots initiatives. Throughout the neighbourhoods and communities in Greater Montréal, independent community organizations join forces to advocate for the education of young people. Public schools are continuously inspired by their community to foster their growth.

In the coming years, it will be necessary for our education system to address issues that significantly interfere with educational success and the development of Québec's youth: public education as a cornerstone of a democratic society, deprivation, issues related to mental health and the medicalization of academic and social difficulties, systemic discrimination, reproduction of gender stereotypes, issues related to digital citizenship as well as environmental emergencies.

Since 1996, the ROCLD—an initiative of Montréal's community organizations fighting to reduce the dropout rate—has

been calling for a public education system that recognizes and empowers the voice of young people, the role of parents, citizen participation as well as the contribution of community organizations in the educational project of children and young people in their community.

For 2030, the ultimate goal being a fair, equal and inclusive society, community organizations fighting to reduce dropout rates strongly reaffirm their commitment to children, families and public schools, so that every young person may fulfill their potential based on their aspirations and their dreams.

# Gender Equality



## Support mothers in reaching their full potential

Over the next ten years, Mères avec pouvoir will guide some 200 women as they learn to deal with issues related to their homes and to their efforts to go back to school or work, and will help them navigate life as a parent. These women, heads of single-parent families, will gain the means to fulfill their dreams, and it is our responsibility to provide them with the necessary conditions to achieve their aspirations. These strong and courageous women will continue to pursue their life project and we will continue to devote our energies to the development of these young parents and their children. They will tirelessly work to better themselves, and will not falter in their desire to live in a harmonious home, to take care of their mental health, to learn

to trust themselves once again, to go back to school or to move into their first apartment. Throughout this new decade, Mères avec pouvoir will be there to support these women and these men, mothers and fathers who are learning to recognize their strengths and their challenges. We will always advocate for a fair income for all women who are doing their very best to get their lives back on track, in and outside of our community. At Mères avec pouvoir, these women and children, from the earliest years of their lives, will always find the support they need to thrive in a safe environment: they too will be able to dream,

Valérie Larouche



Valérie Larouche is the General Manager of Mères avec pouvoir. The mission of this Montreal-based organization is to help develop the self-reliance and support the socio-professional integration of women who head single-parent families of low- and modest-income, and have children under the age of five.

After having first studied performing arts, Valérie chose to follow her passion for social involvement. She worked for organizations providing support to families, in school settings and in the healthcare system, and then took the helm of a human rights organization focused on promoting universal accessibility to public transit services. In 2012, with more than 15 years' experience on many boards, she accepted the General Manager position at Mères avec pouvoir.

Among Valérie's many personal achievements, we would be remiss in not mentioning her passion for running and the road trip she took across North and Central America with her then 7-year-old daughter. Valérie shared their adventures in a blog called "Voyager pour grandir". Being herself a mother of a child with special needs, Valérie Larouche brings a wealth of personal and professional experience to her work empowering women.

## Decent Work and Economic Growth

### Le Responsable - Social impact game

#### Pascal Nataf



Pascal Nataf teaches video game design at Université de Montréal. He is the co-founder of Affordance Studio, a company specializing in serious (educational) games and gamification solutions. He is very involved in the independent video game community in Montréal and founded La Guilde, a non-profit co-op gathering more than 250 video game studios in Québec. He is also passionate about the intelligent use and integration of new technologies into a forward-moving Québec.

The game Le Responsable addresses financial investment from a holistic approach. You, the player, are an investment advisor for a bank. Going head to head with other investors, you must make the most of your investment portfolio, opting for the best available funds, start-ups or well-established companies. But you will not be judged solely on your returns on investment.

Whether playing individually or as a team, the player must invest in funds and businesses while managing all associated risks. Players need to keep up with world events to see if the climate, the investments of their rivals or the state of the economy have had an impact on their own investments. They will have to keep a close eye on their investments' impact on the community and the environment. Making money is not the only thing that matters.

This hybrid game—a traditional board game set up that brings into play a digital app—is designed to help players better understand responsible finance. The result of a co-design process, Le Responsable allows players to better understand the social and environmental

impact investments can have. The game's distribution is handled by Équiterre and Desjardins's "Personal Finance: I'm in Charge" program. This so-called "serious" game demonstrates that game mechanics are powerful vectors for change and awareness-raising.

Video games combine technology and culture. We need artificial intelligence and programming to create these games, but visual arts, music and storytelling also come into play. This industry, which currently generates close to 18,000 jobs, is expected to double in size in the coming decade. In 2030, Montréal will be the video game hub! Montréal's creativity is currently providing fertile ground for a host of businesses. Each success means more room for other ideas to flourish. Owing to its organic and fertile ecosystem, nurturing the hybridization of ideas and innovation.

## Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

### Strengthen our neighborhoods with places for meeting and pooling resources

These words are meant to convey hope. The decade before us will be, at long last, the decade of socio-ecological transition. And in Montréal, this transition will take root in citizen participation, fairness and solidarity. And happiness too. We might still be on shaky grounds, but the stars are aligning.

Solon's commitment to this movement will not waver. Among other things, we will see that new local infrastructure models are implemented in Montréal—open, living, genuinely shared models, which will ultimately serve as real urban commons. These infrastructures will be social (such as citizen third places), physical (such as urban heating and cooling networks), or even digital (such as a community-based platforms). They will address everyday issues in Montrealers' lives, but will also provide an opportunity to strengthen ties and improve social fabric, neighbourhood by neighbourhood. They will be but a few of the building blocks of a resilient city.

That, in itself, is a lever, among many others, to build a new model of society and imagine a democratic and engaging narrative that speaks to everyone. And not only in Montréal. From Barcelona to Strasbourg to Seoul, recent meetings and discussions have clearly demonstrated that a common theme is taking shape.

In 2020, we launched our first Transition Lab in the neighbourhood of La Petite-Patrie, so as to structure an approach, inspire citizen action and build bridges with other projects and players. By 2030, we hope to see similar initiatives implemented all across the city. And that these laboratories to have given rise to a new paradigm.

#### Bertrand Fouss



Bertrand Fouss is co-founder of Solon, an organization that offers support to Montréal communities as they undergo a socio-ecological transition. As such, he is involved in a number of projects, including Celsius (geothermal energy in alleys) and LocoMotion (neighbour-to-neighbour vehicle sharing), in addition to being directly involved in the creation and development of the organization and its partnerships. For the past 5 years, Bertrand has also been Project Director at Coop Carbone, a cooperative that develops projects to reduce greenhouse gases in various fields (energy, shared mobility, food and agriculture, carbon market). Bertrand holds degrees in Engineering and Journalism, and completed an MBA.



## Reduced Inequalities

### Fighting racism and decolonizing minds through education

#### Widia Larivière



Widia Larivière is Anishinabekwe and a member of the Timiskaming First Nation. She has been living in urban areas all her life. She holds a bachelor's degree in International Studies and Modern Languages, and a certificate in Immigration and Interethnic Relations. She advocates for human rights and Indigenous peoples' rights with a focus on issues affecting women and youth. She worked at Quebec Native Women for eight years, co-initiated the Quebec branch of the Idle No More movement and cofounded Mikana, an organization that raises awareness about realities affecting Indigenous peoples in Canada. She also codirected two short documentaries with Wapikoni mobile and contributed to several publications. She is a co-recipient of a Tribute Award bestowed as part of the 40th anniversary of the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms (2015) and a co-recipient of Amnesty International's Ambassador of Conscience Award (2017). Her greatest and most recent source of pride is her daughter Maélie, born in June 2018.

Sadly, as of this writing, the Indigenous peoples of Québec and Canada still experience considerable discrimination, prejudice and racism, which result in the violation of their rights. In order to address this need for awareness and education, Mélanie Lumsden and I decided in 2015 to start a non-profit organization, Mikana, wholly dedicated to this mission.

One of our objectives, through the organization's many activities, is to train young Indigenous people to raise awareness using their own expertise and experience. Not only does this approach help humanize Indigenous issues by giving them a human face, it also gives Indigenous individuals the opportunity to speak for themselves while illustrating their diversity, given that various assimilation tactics have long tried to stifle and silence Indigenous voices.

Decolonization through education provides an opportunity to raise awareness to the realities of Indigenous peoples, but also

to go even further by initiating serious reflection and exercises so as to change how things are done and develop new reflexes when forging partnerships and alliances between Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals.

Education helps broach and delve into difficult subjects related to the fight against racism. These issues entail self-reflection and a variety of approaches. But this work is essential as it has direct bearing on the rights of Indigenous peoples being respected. Needless to say, guilt about our colonial past is not what we are aiming for, as we have no control on that part of our history. However, we are accountable for what we make of our present and our future. Much work remains to be done, but it is in a spirit of solidarity that you are invited to join forces with us in the coming decade.

## Sustainable Cities and Communities

### Create inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods

Montréal is undergoing a transition. Accessible, central neighbourhoods are affected by gentrification, forcing marginalized and lower-income communities to move. The city administration is looking for a strategy to put a stop to this phenomenon, but very few structuring solutions, for a more inclusive and sustainable future, exist. The open market has a direct impact on our cities, and the ways of public property management are still very traditional. Though crucial to the social and urban fabric, the diversity of communities and activities is automatically eradicated in these neighbourhoods.

Entremise is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate sustainable and inclusive property development and management, thanks to urbanism and transitional use. We work alongside:

- Community, cultural and social organizations, to help them secure accessible and affordable spaces where they can live, work and play.

- Property owners and managers, to lower the costs, risks and environmental impact of vacant spaces, all the while protecting the value of heritage places. We also lend them a helping hand to create sustainable and inclusive living environments by building a community in conjunction with property development.
- Public administration, to find and develop opportunities as well as urban planning policies, so as to counter the social and economic costs of gentrification and real estate speculation.

For 2030, the members of Entremise dream of living in a vibrant, inclusive and sustainable city, where communities and activities in all their diversity thrive in central neighbourhoods and where existing buildings are valued and used to their full potential.

#### Mallory Wilson



After working in capital markets, Mallory completed a master's degree in Conservation of the built environment, at Université de Montréal, on the temporary use of historic buildings as a tool for preservation. Since that time, she has worked to develop regeneration projects for buildings of social and cultural importance in Quebec. In 2015, Mallory cofounded Montréal's heritage festival Vivre le Patrimoine! to promote awareness of built heritage through creative and inclusive activities. In 2016, Mallory cofounded Entremise, a non-profit that promotes and facilitates transitional urbanism, and has been the General Director since 2017. She is a commissioner for Culture Montréal's working group Cadre de vie, and sits on the steering committee for Quebec's first Social Heritage Trust, Monument. In 2018, ICOMOS Canada – the Canadian branch of the International Council on Monuments and Sites – recognized Mallory's contribution to her field with the Jacques Dalibard Award.



## Climate Action

### Putting collective intelligence at the service of the fight against climate change

#### André-Yanne Parent



Passionate about environmental justice and dedicated to empowering people to lead change in their communities, André-Yanne joined the Climate Reality Project Canada's team as Executive Director in 2019. She holds a master's degree in anthropology from Université de Montréal. A member of several boards, she is also one of the founders of DestiNATIONS, a cultural and artistic Embassy for First Nations, Inuit and Metis in Montréal, and was appointed on the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. André-Yanne was selected in La Presse's Top 30 Under 30. She was the Senior Director of Operations and Philanthropy for Inuit and First Nations Communities at Youth Fusion. Under her leadership, Youth Fusion's Indigenous Programming won the 2017 edition of the Marcel Côté Award from the Public Policy Forum for its leadership in improving public policies.

Imagine a Canada in which every neighborhood has its own citizen-led volunteer team, dedicated to accelerating a fair transition. Imagine the camaraderie and satisfaction those teams would feel when making concrete, positive changes in the lives of those in their communities. It's not a dream; it's already happening. By founding the Community Climate Hubs initiative, Climate Reality Project Canada believes that empowered citizens can contribute to not only raising their local government's ambitions, but also hold them accountable to their commitments by demanding concrete and measurable results.

Indeed, cities are the keystone of the fight against climate change. They have jurisdiction over transportation and waste management; they can issue regulations and plan the use of the territory; they are laboratories where solutions are tested before being applied on a larger scale.

The 2019 Standings of the National Climate League is a unique initiative of participative democracy, involving hundreds of volunteers in the choice and refinement of indicators, the collection and visualization of data and the promotion of inspiring solutions in their communities. It reveals the progress and ambition of 82 Canadian cities to become carbon neutral and promote its citizens' well-being. At the start of a new decade of climate action, this initiative strengthens the driving role cities have in achieving the national goal of zero net emissions by 2050: in addition to increasing their actions in their community, they can inspire other municipalities, challenge other levels of government and promote citizen participation.

## Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



### Encourage civic and democratic participation in youth

Apathy is Boring's vision is that every young Canadian is an active citizen, and youth are meaningfully engaged in all aspects of the democratic process. We are currently facing a crisis in political culture - a breakdown in the norms that drive democratic participation and widespread perception of distrust between the public and political decision makers. Apathy is Boring is tackling this problem through the RISE Program, which has shown how youth-instigated civic and democratic participation can facilitate new forms of peer-to-peer motivation and agency. The RISE Program is our "Projet d'avenir."

The program creates space for less engaged youth to lead by taking on a variety of decision-making roles, an approach that we refer to as Youth-Led Democratic Innovation. The program, which is designed to address the root causes of youth disengagement in Canadian democracy, began in January 2018 in Montréal, Ottawa and Edmonton, and has since scaled out to include Toronto,

Nunavut, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Halifax. RISE is a youth-led by-the-community-for-the-community 5-month program. Together, the youth in the program identify a local issue, recruit additional participants, develop and activate a project idea, evaluate and share the impact of their efforts. The program is intended for less engaged youth (aged 18-30), and offers skills development, networking and mentorship opportunities.

As we head into the next decade, we need youth to participate in developing solutions to the crisis in Canadian political culture that we are currently facing, and Apathy is Boring's youth-led RISE program is a first step.

#### Caro Loutfi



Caro is the Executive Director of Apathy is Boring, an organization working in a non-partisan manner and on a national scale to engage millions of Canadian youth in our democracy. After completing her BFA with distinction from Concordia University, she became an intern at Apathy is Boring and took on the national leadership role a year and a half later. She currently sits on the Inspirit Foundation's board, working to inspire pluralism among young Canadians and is an advisor to Sid Lee's C2 Conference, as part of the Sustainability Impact Unit. She regularly provides a youth perspective on topics of civic and political engagement and has been featured on CTV News, CBC and Global News among others. She was named one of the Top 25 Women of Influence in Canada for 2019, was featured as one of nineteen prominent young Canadians to watch in the We Are Canada CBC series in 2017, and was named a Canadian Arab to Watch in 2015 by the Canadian Arab Institute.



Sources

To put together this report, we used many sources of information and consulted a multitude of partners. To take a look at the full bibliography, visit the Vital Signs section of FGM's website.

Agence de la santé de Montréal	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Réseau Réussite Montréal
Public Health Agency of Canada	Canada Green Building Council		Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat
Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada	Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal	Ministère de l'Immigration de la Francisation et de l'Intégration du Québec	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Autorité régionale de transport métropolitain	Direction de la santé publique de Montréal	Department of Justice Canada	Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec
Food Banks Canada	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec	Société de transport de Montréal
Banques alimentaires du Québec	Government of Canada	Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale du Québec	Statistics Canada
Bank of Canada	Hydro-Québec	Moisson Montréal	Transition énergétique Québec
Campaign 2000	Institut de la statistique du Québec	Observatoire de la culture et des communications du Québec	Transparency International
Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives	Institut du Québec	Ouranos	Via Rail
Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux (CIUSSS) du Centre-Sud-de-L'Île-de-Montréal	Institut national de santé publique du Québec	Port of Montreal	Ville de Montréal
Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal	Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec	Railway Association of Canada	
Breakfast Club of Canada	Ministère de l'Environnement	Recyc-Québec	

Acknowledgements

The Foundation of Greater Montréal would like to extend its gratitude to the following organizations for actively contributing to this report.

Vital Signs™ 2020 Strategic Committee	<b>Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec</b> Anne-Marie Jean	<b>Université Concordia</b> Natasha Blanchet-Cohen	Vital Signs™ Team
<b>FGM Board</b> Andrea Clarke Juniper Glass Malvina Klag Danielle Sauvage	<b>Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal</b> Coralie Deny	<b>Université de Montréal</b> Juan Torres	<b>Committee:</b> Yvan Gauthier Tasha Lackman Catherine Fisette Marion Daul
<b>Altergo</b> Elsa Lavigne	<b>Culture Montréal</b> Valérie Beaulieu	<b>Ville de Montréal</b> Johanne Derome Marie-Josée Meilleur	<b>English Translation</b> Daniel Chonchol
<b>Centraide of Greater Montréal</b> Mario Régis	<b>Direction régionale de santé publique</b> Marie-Andrée Authier	<b>The YMCAS of Québec</b> Art Campbell	<b>Editing</b> Caroline Richer Daniel Chonchol Simon Delorme
<b>CIUSSS Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal</b> René-André Brisebois Julie Grenier	<b>Equiterre</b> Colleen Thorpe	Institut du Québec Team  Jean-Guy Côté, directeur associé Sonny Scarfone, économiste Simon Savard, économiste Karl Zayat, collaborateur	<b>Graphic Design</b> Agence Atypic
<b>Commission scolaire de Montréal</b> Ben Valkenburg	<b>Fédération des femmes du Québec</b> Gabrielle Bouchard	The IDQ would like to thank the Maringo Conseils team and Sarah Marchand for their collaboration.	
<b>Commission scolaire Marguerite Bourgeois</b> Abi Koné	<b>Fondation Chagnon</b> Martin Simoneau		
<b>Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal</b> Philippe Rivet	<b>Institut du Nouveau Monde</b> Julie Caron-Malenfant Stéphane Dubé		
<b>Concertation Montréal</b> Carle Bernier-Genest Francis Sabourin	<b>Moisson Montréal</b> Conseil du système alimentaire de Montréal Richard Daneau		
	<b>Réseau réussite Montréal</b> Andrée Mayer-Periard		

THE LUCIE AND ANDRÉ CHAGNON FOUNDATION whose support made the Vital Signs™ project possible.

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Visit fgmtl.org/en/signesvitaux2020.php to read the full report. You will find a more complete version including more statistics, sources and links.

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Ce rapport est aussi disponible en français.  
ISBN 978-2-924893-14-2



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## About Vital Signs™

The Vital Signs™ report, conducted by several community foundations, draws on local data and reports to measure the vitality of our communities and support actions that improve quality of life.



Foundation of Greater Montréal

The FGM is a registered charity (#88197 9124 RR 0001) with the Canada Revenue Agency.

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