

A PROFILE OF PEOPLE AGED 85 YEARS AND OVER

MONTRÉAL 2016



Who are the seniors aged 85 and over in Montréal?

Are their living conditions more or less favourable compared to younger seniors?

Are there gender gaps among older people?

There are **52.100** people in Montréal aged 85 years and older, which represents **16.1%** of the senior population.

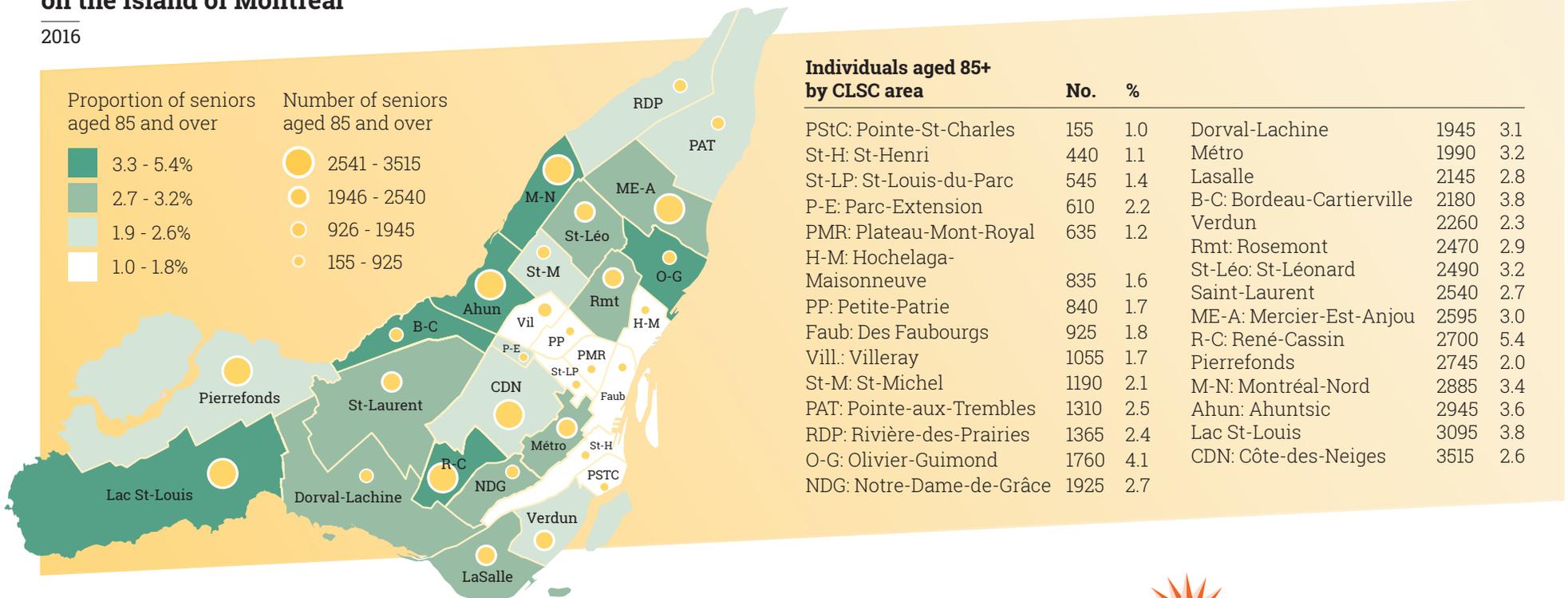
By 2036, this number is estimated to increase to **91.421**



In Québec, 1 in 4 people aged 85 and over lives in Montréal

Distribution of seniors aged 85 and over on the Island of Montréal

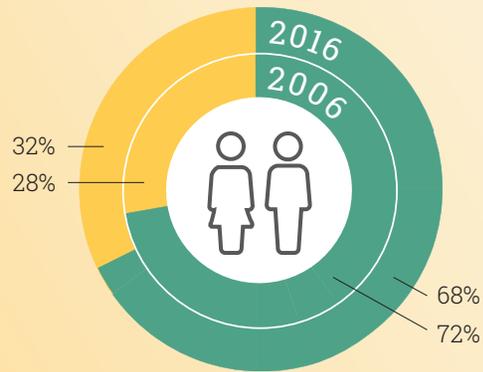
2016



Proportion of seniors aged 85 and over by sex

2006 and 2016 Censuses

Men Women

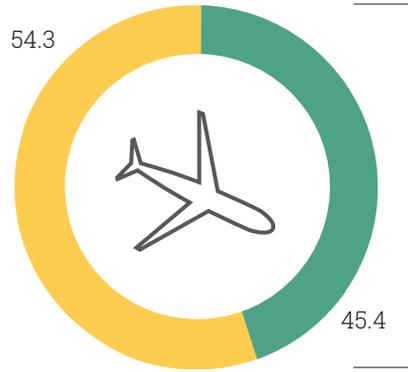


Although this gap has closed somewhat in recent years, the proportion of women remains much higher than that of men. Two thirds of people aged 85 or over are women (68.0%).

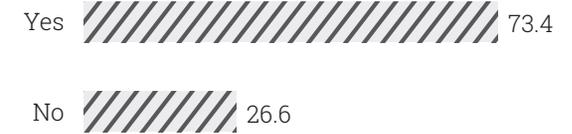
Proportion aged 85 and over by immigration status (%)

Montréal, 2016 Census

Born in Canada Immigrant



Knowledge of one of the two official languages, immigrant seniors 85 years of age and over (%)



85 years or over



Total population

Nearly one in two people aged 85 and over in Montréal were born abroad (45.4%). This proportion is higher than in the general population, where just over one in three people are foreign-born (34.0%).

Among the very elderly immigrant population, there is a significant proportion of people with no knowledge of either French or English (27%).

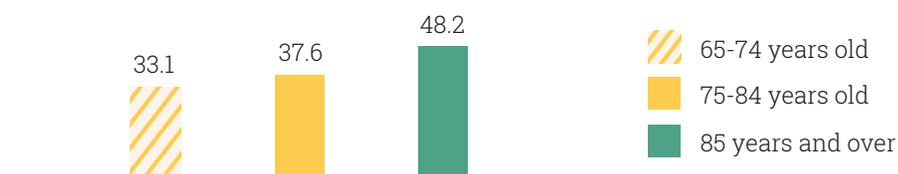
Proportion of the population living below the low income threshold (after tax) by age group (%)

Montréal, 2016 Census



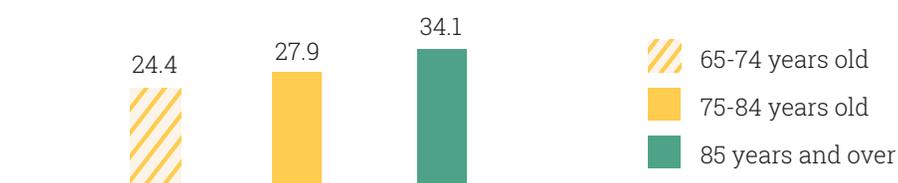
Proportion of the population living alone by age group (%)

Montréal, 2016 Census



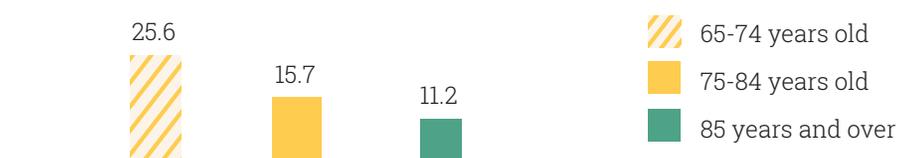
Proportion of the population spending too much of their income on housing, by age group (%)

Montréal, 2016 Census



Population with a university degree by age group (%)

Montréal, 2016 Census



The proportion of people living on a low income is similar across age groups, and even slightly higher among 65-74 year olds.



People aged 85 and over are the most likely to live alone, with almost one in two people doing so (48.2 versus 33.1% for those aged 65-74).



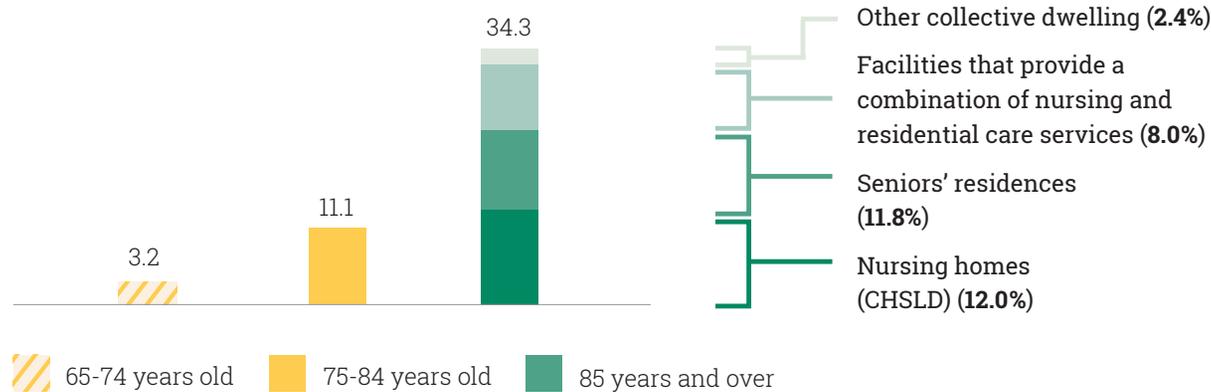
Older people are more likely to spend at least 30% of their income on housing. One in three people aged 85 and over is in this situation (34.1% compared to 24.4% among those aged 65-74).



People aged 85 and over are half as likely to have a university degree than their younger peers (11.2 versus 25.6% for those aged 65-74). In addition, those aged 85 and over are more likely to have no degree (50.5% versus 23.7% for seniors aged 65 to 74) (data not shown).

Proportion of the population living in collective dwelling, by age group (%)

Montréal, 2016 Census



From age 85, a high proportion of seniors migrate to collective living environments, with 34% occupying this type of housing (compared to 3.2% for those aged 65-74).

Collective dwellings are establishments used for commercial, institutional or community purposes that accommodate usual or temporary residents and offer a number of services. There are different categories of collective dwelling for seniors.

COLLECTIVE DWELLINGS

NURSING HOMES (CHSLD)

Any facility that provides housing with health care, personal care or assistance with daily living. Health care services include professional health status monitoring, access to nursing care and 24/7 supervision for people who are not self-sufficient in most daily activities.

SENIORS' RESIDENCES

Any facility that provides housing with health care or independent living support. These services include meals, housekeeping, bathing assistance, etc. for people who are able to be independent for most daily activities. This may include certified private residences for seniors (RPPs) as well as non-profit housing organizations (NPOs) that provide services.

FACILITIES THAT COMBINE THE SERVICES OF A NURSING HOME AND A SENIORS' RESIDENCE

Facilities that bring together the services of a nursing home and a seniors' residence. These are private homes for semi-autonomous seniors.

OTHER TYPES OF COLLECTIVE HOUSING

This includes hospitals, rooming or boarding houses, bed and breakfasts, shelters, detention facilities, and religious communities. It also includes collective homes or institutions for persons with disabilities who need health or social assistance services such as supervision or custody, support and independently living services.

SIGNIFICANT GENDER GAPS BETWEEN OLDER MEN AND WOMEN



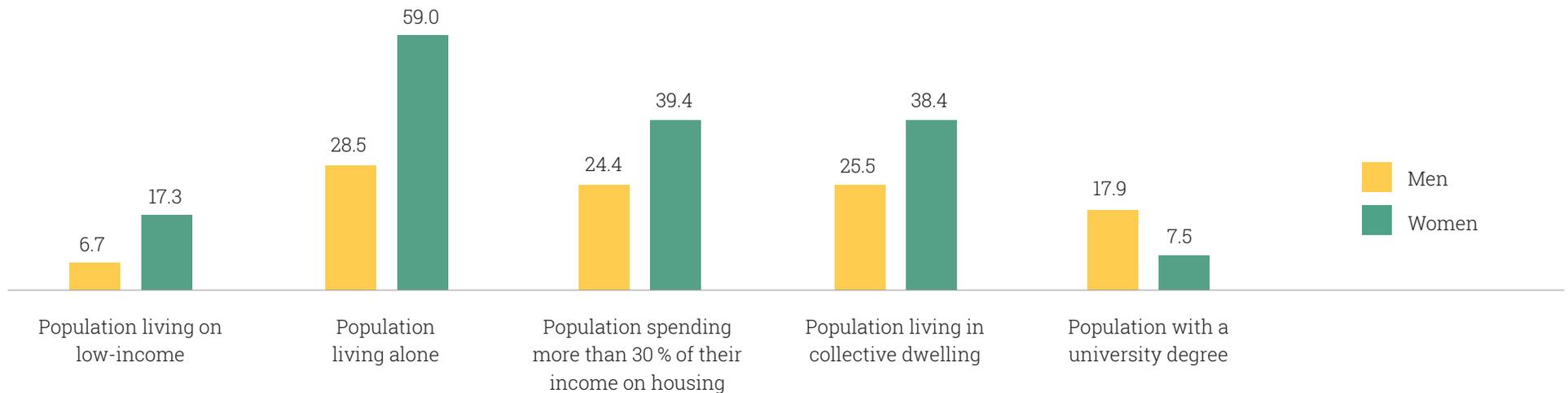
There are many more women aged 85 and over in Montréal than men (35,445 versus 16,660).

Compared to men, these women are more likely to live in conditions that are unfavourable to their health, well-being and social participation:

- a poverty gap between men and women, with women almost three times more likely to be affected by low income (17.3 versus 6.7%);
- a much higher proportion of women living alone (59.0% versus 28.5%);
- a higher number of women who spend a share of their income deemed too high on housing (39.4 versus 24.4%);
- a greater migration to collective dwelling (38.4 versus 25.5%);
- half as many women with a university degree (7.5% versus 17.9%).

Difference in living conditions of seniors aged 85 and over by sex (%)

Montréal, 2016 Census



AVENUES FOR REFLECTION

With the increase in life expectancy, the senior population now spans two generations. In Montréal, very old people, that is, those aged 85 or over, differ from younger seniors in almost every respect.

- In general, older people face more unfavourable living conditions that can increase their vulnerability in terms of autonomy, participation, and quality of life.
- Although there is a shift to collective dwelling, 66% of people aged 85 and over still live in private households.
- Eighty-five-year olds have experienced a completely different educational system than other generations. They are twice as likely as younger seniors to have no university degree. This can lead to significant gaps in the needs and interests of these two generations in terms of leisure, personal development and social participation.
- One in two aged 85 and over was born abroad. Among them, slightly more than one in four speaks neither French nor English.
- Finally, very old women appear disadvantaged compared to men in all the living conditions analysed.

To encourage people 85 years of age and over to thrive, some options can to be explored:

- Avoid considering the “senior population” as a homogeneous age group.
- Establish new guidelines in terms of taxation, public programs or services and privileges specific to the «ery old».
- Ensure that public services and social infrastructure consider generational differences in interests and needs among the senior population.
- Look for ways to strengthen home support.
- Work collectively to improve the living conditions of women aged 85 and over, give them more visibility, and value their contribution to society.

RÉFÉRENCES

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Table de concertation
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CREDITS

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