



Working while poor



In Greater Montreal, 40% of people living in poverty work

Employment no longer provides an adequate income for a growing number of workers. Despite having a job, they remain poor. About 40% of the low-income people, aged from 18 to 64 years, in the Montreal region are employed. Some 125,000 are facing this reality.

Between 2001 and 2012, the number of working poor individuals in Greater Montreal grew by about 30%. From some 90,000 in 2001, their numbers have increased to an estimated 125,000 today.

Working poverty rate by neighbourhood (%).

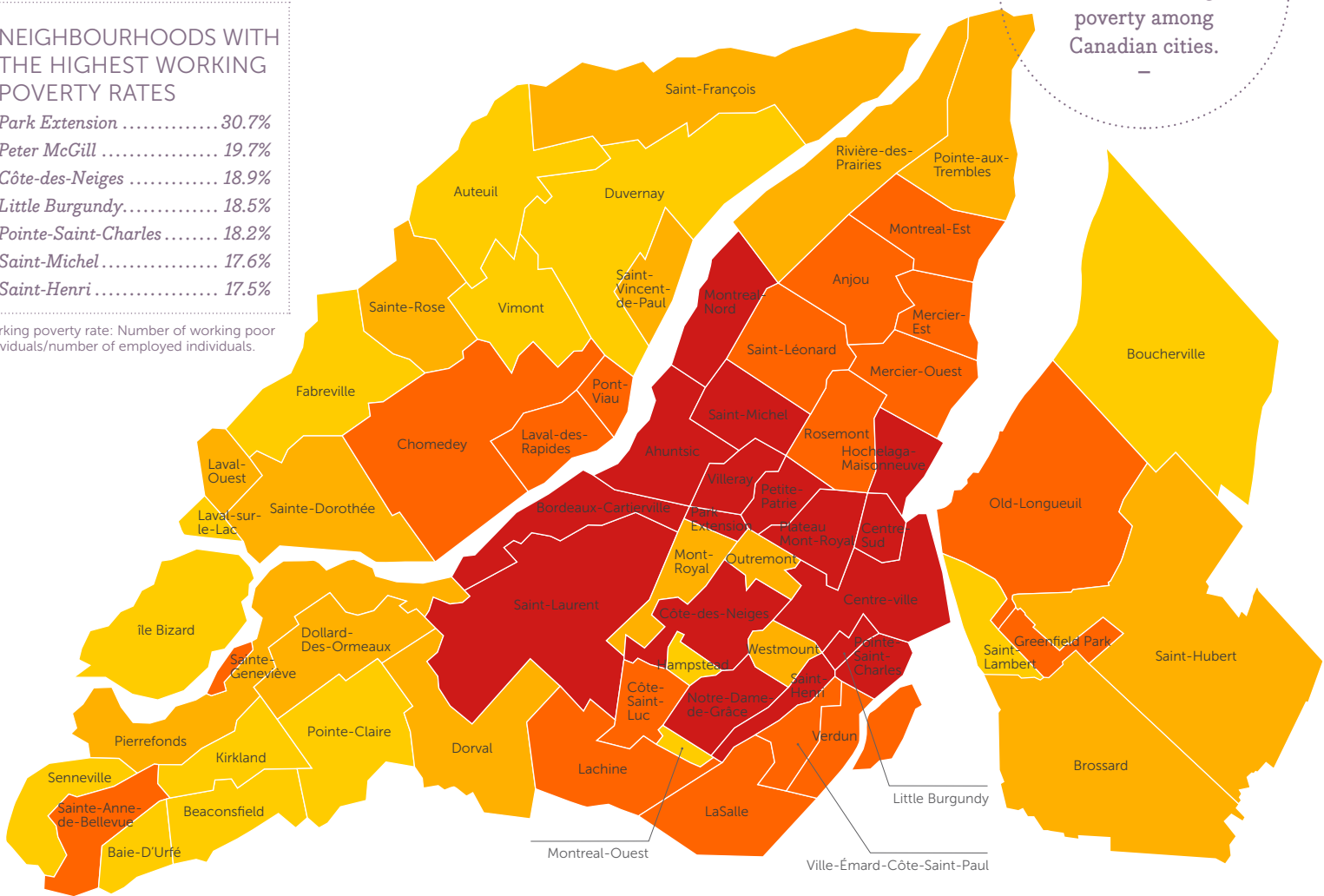
Laval, Montreal and the Urban Agglomeration of Longueuil (2006).

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 Montreal has
 the fourth highest
 rate of working
 poverty among
 Canadian cities.
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NEIGHBOURHOODS WITH THE HIGHEST WORKING POVERTY RATES

Park Extension	30.7%
Peter McGill	19.7%
Côte-des-Neiges	18.9%
Little Burgundy.....	18.5%
Pointe-Saint-Charles	18.2%
Saint-Michel	17.6%
Saint-Henri	17.5%

Working poverty rate: Number of working poor individuals/number of employed individuals.



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of the Population, special request from the PRTO. N.B.: As a result of the many changes to the 2011 Census, it was impossible to update this map at the neighbourhood level. However data are available for 2012 at the Census tract and subdivision levels, and they are dealt with in the complete report.





A member of the working poor



CENTRAIDE
AIMS TO BREAK
THE CYCLE
OF POVERTY
AND SOCIAL
EXCLUSION.



Snapshot of a widespread phenomenon in the Montreal region

During the 2000s, both the number and rate of working poor individuals increased in all Montreal neighbourhoods, with the exception of Baie-D'Urfé, as well as in Laval and the Urban Agglomeration of Longueuil.

- Working poverty is concentrated on the Island of Montreal, which is home to two-thirds of working poor individuals in the metropolitan area (64% or 70,000 people).
- Disadvantaged communities are the most affected by working poverty. These include primarily the central neighbourhoods of Montreal (North End and Southwest) as well as some districts in Laval (Chomedey, Laval-des-Rapides) and on the South Shore (Old Longueuil).
- A marked increase in working poverty is also observed in some other neighbourhoods not traditionally associated with deprivation, such as the Plateau Mont-Royal, Rosemont, Saint-Léonard and LaSalle.



Working poverty has consequences

It contributes to increasing inequalities

It makes breaking the cycle of poverty more challenging.

Centraide suggests that a vast process of reflection be launched on the question of the minimum wage and the guaranteed minimum income. This process should involve not only experts, but also the population and civil society.

To learn more: Xavier Leloux, Florence Desrochers and Damaris Rose, 2016, "Les travailleurs pauvres dans la RMR de Montréal. Profil statistique et distribution spatiale – Rapport abrégé", INRS-UCS and Centraide of Greater Montreal.