

Montréal, a Welcoming Home for International Organizations

2025 Edition



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About Montréal International



Funded by the **Government of Canada**, the **Government of Québec**, the **Montréal Metropolitan Community** as well as the private sector, Montréal International (MI) is **Montréal's international investment promotion agency**.



MI's mission is to **contribute to Montréal's economic development and international status** by attracting foreign direct investment, qualified international workers and international organizations (IOs).



MI supports international organizations that wish to set up and grow in Montréal, in collaboration with its governmental partners

Montréal International offers a comprehensive support program for international organizations

We provide personalized support to international associations and organizations seeking to establish an office in Montréal



Financial support through a multi-year and flexible financial support available to through Montréal International's funding program



Support for international mobility with free and confidential advice for recruiting skilled foreign workers in Montréal



Access Montréal International's network and engage with key local institutional, academic and business stakeholders to make the most of your presence in Montréal



Strategic and logistical advice to support you in the process of setting up an office and growing your organization



Targeted expertise to simplify immigration procedures

We simplify the immigration procedures for you



Assistance in procedures for obtaining work permits

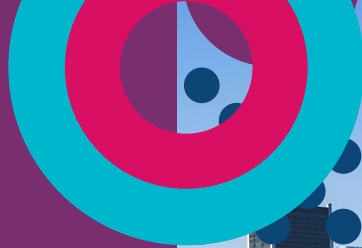


Expert immigration advice on obtaining official documents related to the temporary stay of international workers and their families



Organization of information sessions on temporary and permanent immigration procedures and employer compliance obligations (Labour Market Impact Study [LMIS], Québec acceptance certificate [CAQ])





01

A Strategic Location to Establish Your Organization



Montréal, THE Canadian city and a leader in the Americas for IO

3rd

IGO hub in the Americas,
after New York and Washington,
with 90% of IGO jobs in Canada

68

international organizations,
including 6 UN offices

\$450M

in economic spin-offs each year
(KPMG estimate)

2,100

direct jobs supported



**One of 9 host cities worldwide
for a UN specialized agency (ICAO)**



Montréal, a United Nations city



The world civil aviation capital and an important hub for environmental IO

▲ Aerospace and civil aviation



▲ Environment



International organizations are integrated into a collaborative and comprehensive ecosystem of clusters, innovation and research centres, accelerators and venture capital funds



Many other international organizations in key sectors

Life sciences and health



Education



Human rights



Data and artificial intelligence

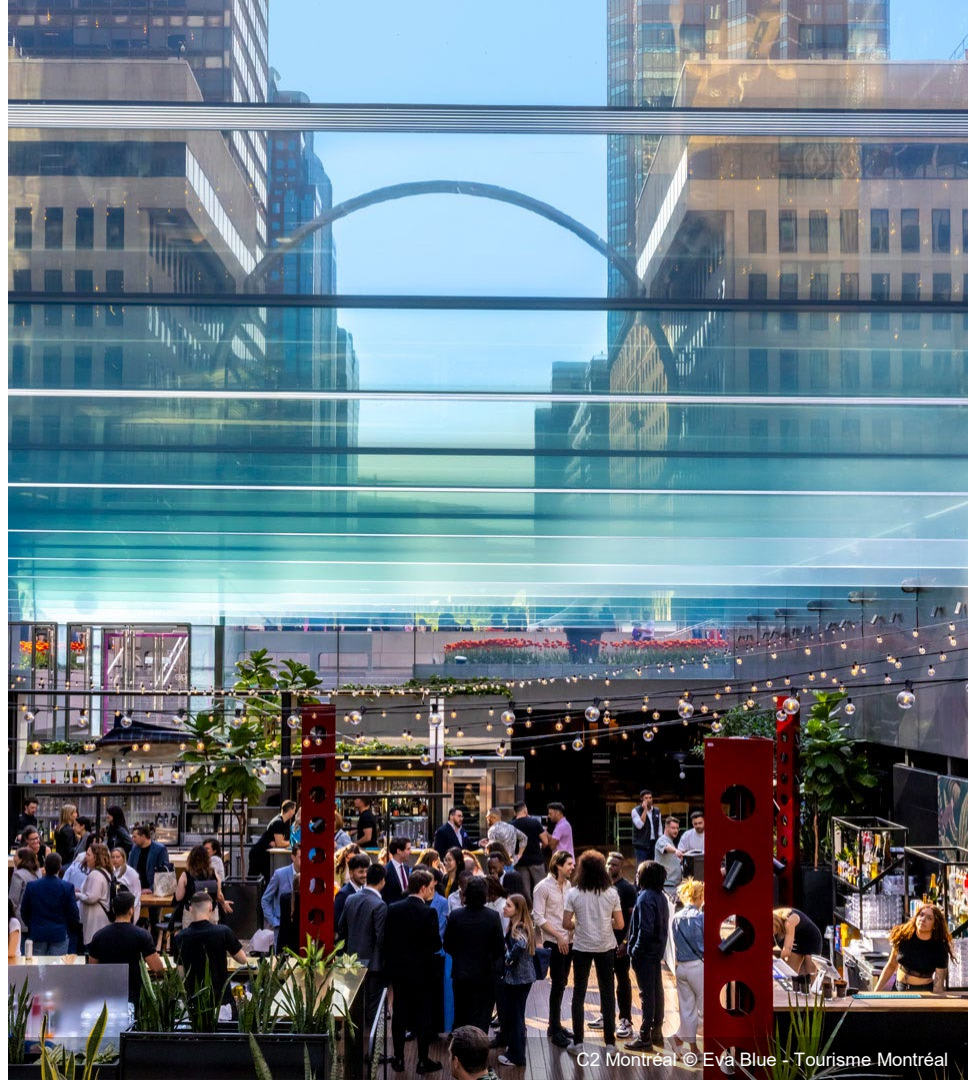


- And many more!

Top host city in North America for international association events

- **The Palais des Congrès, a world-class convention centre located downtown:**
 - 110+ rooms and meeting places,
 - 3 ballrooms
 - 4 terraces
- **Dozens of additional venues** to hold international events and meetings
- **An affordable business destination with a 22% cost advantage on hotel rooms** compared to New York City and Washington, D.C

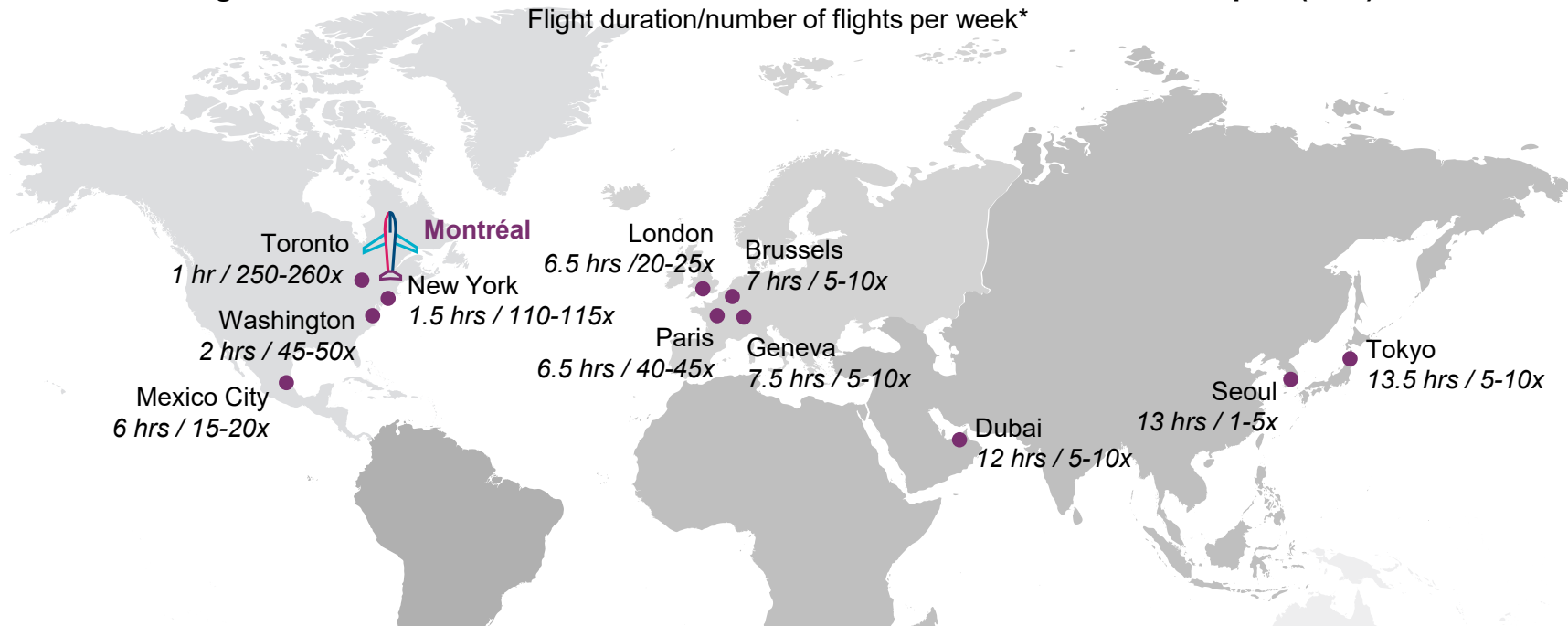
Source: Union of International Associations, 2025; International Congress and Convention Association, 2024; Tourisme Montréal, 2024; Montréal International compilation.



An easy access to and from world cities

Flight time and number of connexions to Montréal-Trudeau International Airport (YUL)

Flight duration/number of flights per week*



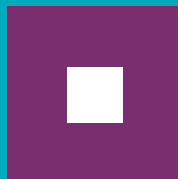
With 2 international airports, direct flights to 150+ destinations depart from Montréal, including 80+ international cities

*All local airports combined.

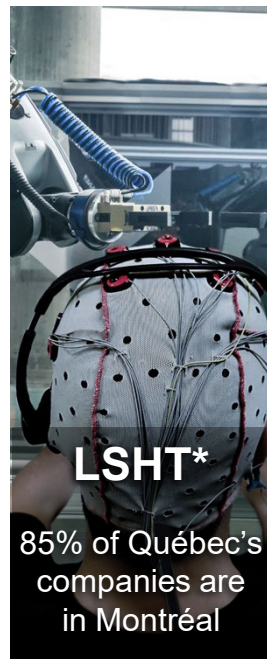
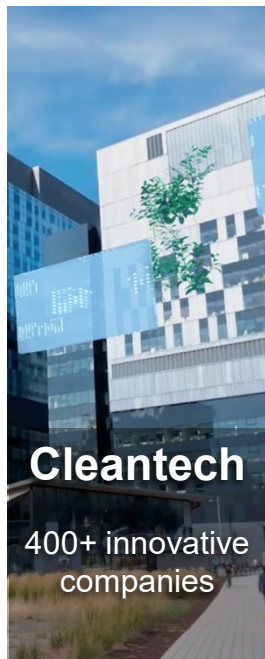
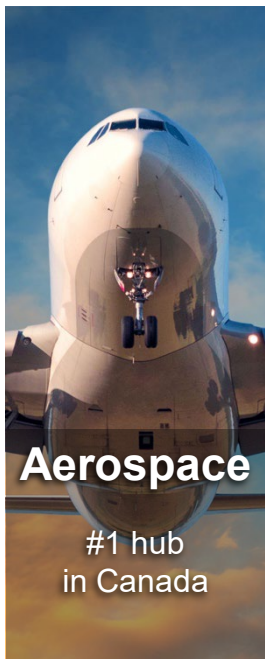
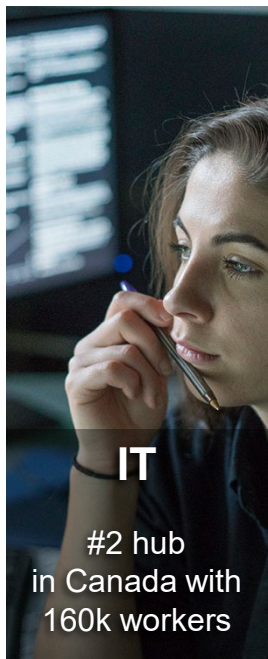
Source: Aéroports de Montréal, 2024; Tourisme Montréal, 2024; Montréal International compilation.

02

Montréal Stands Out in Cutting-Edge Sectors



A world leader in many high value-added sectors



They chose to invest in Montréal



ORACLE



accenture

vmware®



SAFRAN
AEROSPACE DEFENCE SECURITY



nanoOne

Air Liquide

ABB



moderna



Medtronic



*Life Sciences and Health Technologies.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2024, definition based on CBRE, Scoring Tech Talent Report, 2024; Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie, 2023; Government of Canada, Dashboard of cleantech companies, 2022; Statistics Canada, Table 33-10-0719-01, 2022; Montréal International analysis.

A world-class hub in artificial intelligence

- **48,000+ workers** with AI skills
- Home of **Scale AI**, Canada's AI supply chain supercluster
- Presence of **Mila**, the world's largest academic research lab in deep learning and reinforcement learning and **IVADO**, Canada's largest AI consortium
- Many global leaders have opened an AI R&D centre in Montréal, such as:

Google Meta SAMSUNG THALES

Microsoft ERICSSON DeepMind IBM





Montréal, a global R&D centre



Québec, 1st province in Canada

for R&D investments in % of GDP
with \$10B+ spent annually*



Montréal, 1st metropolitan area in Canada

for university research funding with close to
\$2B annually



450+ research organisms

in cutting-edge areas such as AI, aerospace,
energy or life sciences

Montréal's universities are home to many international organizations and associations, bringing them as close as possible to research organizations

*Distributed between companies, the public sector and universities.
Source: Statistics Canada, Table 27-10-0273-01, 2022; Research Infosource Inc., 2024; Montréal International analysis.

Montréal, best city in North America to study



Canada's university capital:

15

University
institutions
with campuses

90+

Colleges

50+

Vocational
training centres



A large pool of students ready to join the workforce in Québec

500,000+ post-secondary students,
including 60% on Greater Montréal campuses



Montréal, selected as the best city in North America to study abroad

QS Best Student Cities 2025





Canada's most bilingual and trilingual population

2.4M residents speak English,
that's 4% more than in Vancouver

56% of the population is bilingual
(French and English), compared to
7% in Toronto and Vancouver

24% of the population is fluent in
three or more languages,
compared to 13% in Toronto and
12% in Vancouver

03

A Vibrant Sustainable Development Ecosystem





Québec, a key player in the fight against climate change

- **The lowest GHG emissions per capita in North America**
- **Aims to be carbon neutral by 2050 and reduce GHG emissions by 37.5% through the Québec government's 2030 Plan for a Green Economy***
- **Part of the Québec-California carbon market (cap-and-trade system)**
- **Member of several international groups for reducing GHG, such as:**

 **CLIMATE GROUP**



 **Regions4**
Sustainable Development



BOGA BEYOND
OIL & GAS
ALLIANCE

*Compared to 1990.

Source: Hydro-Québec, 2023; Government of Québec, 2030 Plan for a green economy; Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs; Montréal International compilation.

Montréal stands out for its commitment to the environment

- **A commitment to reduce GHG emissions by at least 55% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050**
- **Host of NATO Climate Change and Security Centre of Excellence** and the second part of the **UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15)** in 2022
- **Home of many international organizations fighting climate change**
- Mayor of Montréal, **ICLEI's Global Ambassador for Local Biodiversity***
- Montréal is actively involved in **sustainable development networks across the world:**



A collaborative ecosystem

Cluster organizations



Accelerators and venture capital



Innovation and research centres



International organizations



- And many more!



Montréal, a sustainable finance centre with an early adopter mindset

- **In the top 10 in North America for green finance** according to the Global Green Finance Index 2025
- **Many major Montréal-based institutions have adopted decarbonization** targets toward achieving a carbon-neutral portfolio by 2050 such as CDPQ, Desjardins, Fonds de Solidarité FTQ, etc.
- **The City of Montréal is part of the UN-convened International Network of Financial Centres for Sustainability (FC4S)**
- The IFRS Foundation chose Montréal to establish its **International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB)**, which is relied upon by organizations such as the World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA)

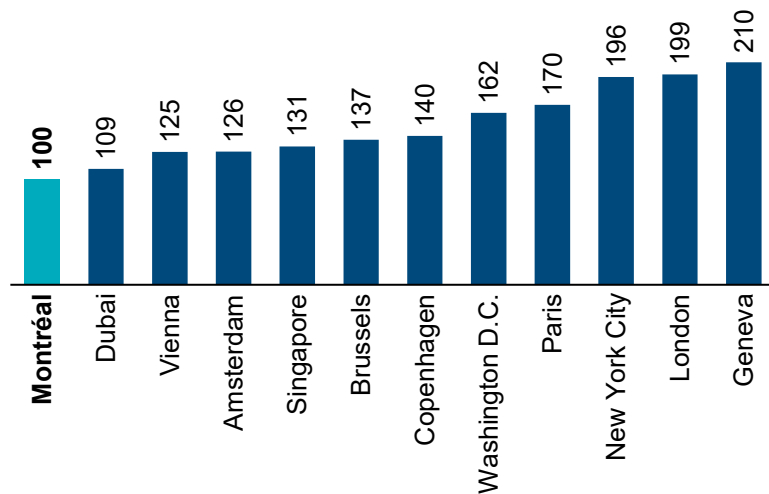
04

Advantageous Costs and Incentives for Your Organization



Montréal enjoys a 34% cost advantage over comparable world cities

Operating cost index* for regional offices
Selection of 12 cities worldwide, 2025



*Index Montréal = 100.

Note: Includes labour, property and utility costs.

Source: fDi Benchmark, 2025; Montréal International analysis.



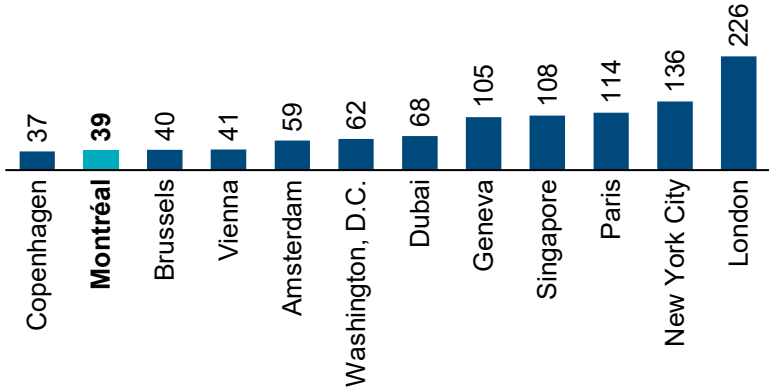


Affordable office space

Most Montréal-based IOs are located in the International Quarter and Old Montréal, very dynamic areas that are centrally located and well connected to Montréal's public transit system

Average asking rent (US\$)

Selection of metropolitan areas in the world,
all classes, US\$/sq.ft/yr*, 2023



*Regional headquarters scenario.

Source: fDi Benchmark, based on Collier, Q2 2023; Montréal International compilation.

Québec's hospitality policy for international organizations

- **A unique policy in North America** aiming to offer the best possible reception conditions as well as many advantages to non-governmental IOs
- **Significant benefits to non-governmental IOs:** property-tax exemptions (for the organizations), provincial income tax exemptions for their non-Canadian employees, various social measures and plans for employees, etc.
- **Eligibility criteria:** carry out activities in Québec's priority interest areas, be representative in nature, have an international structure, among others



For more information,
visit [Hospitality Policy for IOs](#)



05

An Exceptional Quality of Life





A globally recognized quality of life



Best city in Canada and #5 in North America

Time Out, Best Cities 2025

Best city for diversity and inclusivity in Canada

Time Out, 2025

Montréal, selected as the best city in North America to study abroad

QS Best Student Cities 2025

#2 sustainable destination in North America

Global Destination Sustainability Index, 2024

#3 best city for quality of life in North America

Mercer Quality of Living City Ranking, 2024

#3 most walkable city in Canada and #5 in the world

Insider Monkey, 2024

Access to high-quality transport infrastructure



Extensive public transit systems:

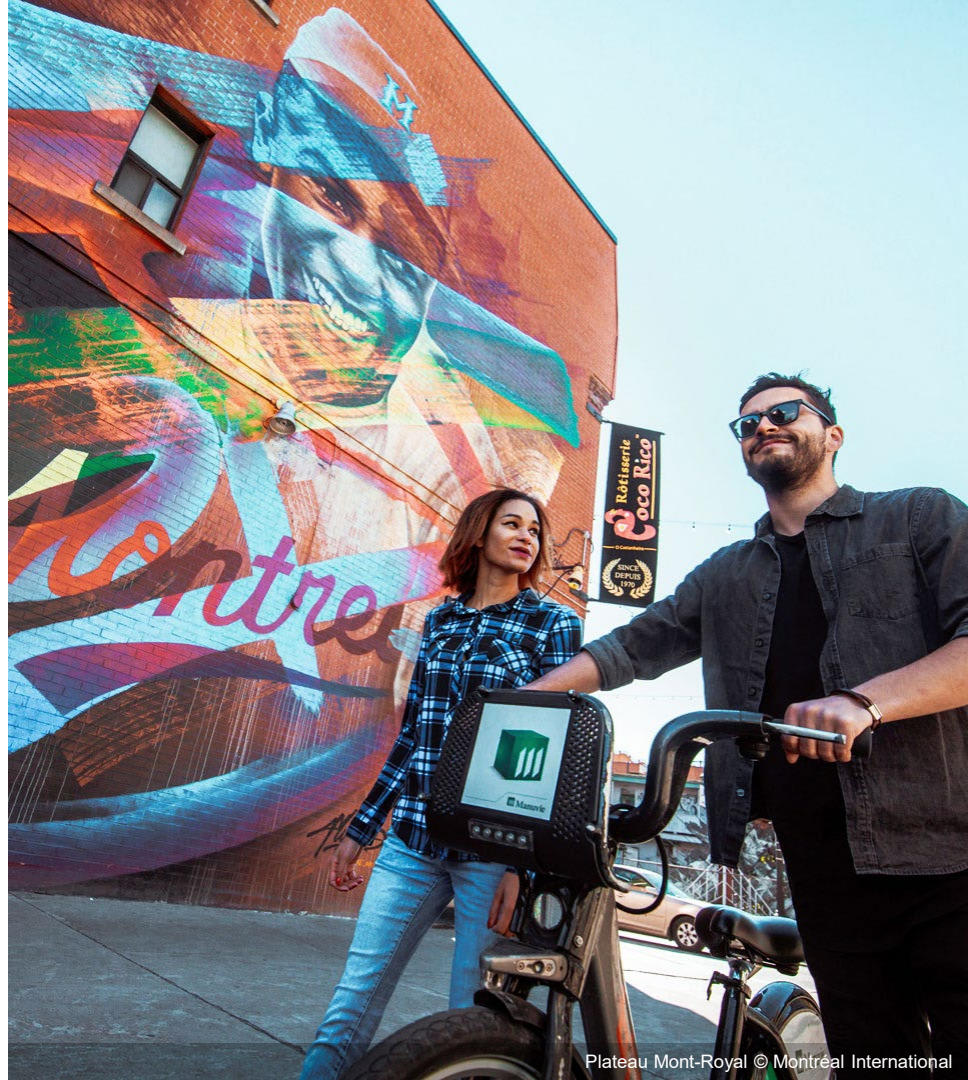
- 68 metro stations
- 220+ bus lines
- 5 commuter train lines
- One of the longest, fully automated and 100% electric light metro networks in the world upon completion



3,450 km of cycling routes including 700+ km accessible all year around and a **public bike share system**



9,000+ taxi drivers and several easily accessible **car-sharing systems** (Leo Autopartage, Turo, Communauto, etc.)



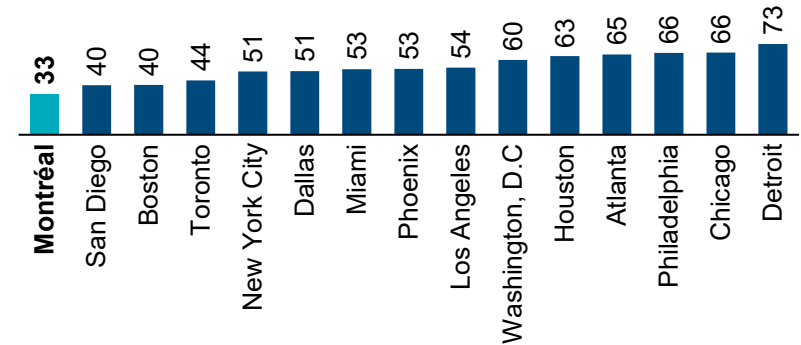


Among the safest cities in North America

A region where you can walk about with total peace of mind, with lively public places and a city centre that are well-frequented day and night

Crime index*

Selection of 15 cities in Canada and the U.S., 2025



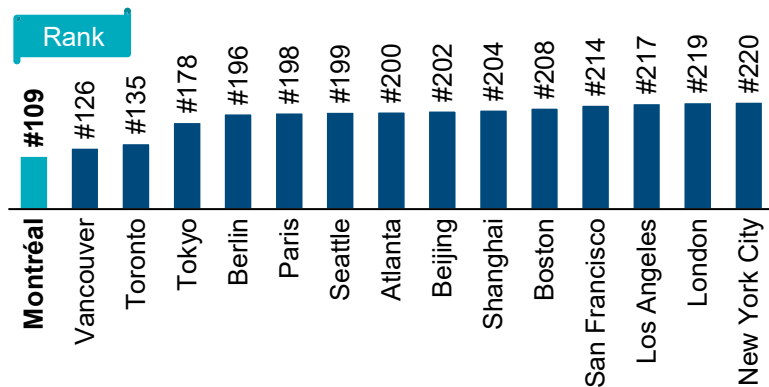
*Crime index is an estimation of the overall perception of the level of crime in a given city and/or country (<20 = very low; 20–40= low; 40–60 = moderate; 60–80 = high; and >80 = very high).

Source: Numbeo, June 2025; Montréal International compilation.

An affordable cost of living

Montréal is **more affordable than almost all other large cities** in North America, Western Europe, China and Japan

Mercer Cost of Living Index
Selection of major cities worldwide, 2024



Note: Ranking of 226 cities; the ranks from the original survey were inverted to order cities from the least to the most expensive.

Source: Mercer, "Cost of Living Survey", 2024; Montréal International compilation.





Activities to enjoy all year round

- ▲ **80+ music, food and art festivals** annually
- ▲ **50 museums** and many art galleries
- ▲ Among the **top 20 best gastronomic cities** in the world
- ▲ **16 nature and major urban parks**, and thousands of smaller urban parks with a complete offering of activities such as open-air skating, biking, tennis, etc.
- ▲ **Professional sports teams to cheer on**, such as the Montréal Canadien and the Montréal Victoire for hockey, the Montréal Alouettes for football, or the Montréal Impact and CF Roses for soccer



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