

Overview

In the 2001 Census, English was the mother tongue for 59% of Canadians, unchanged from 1951, and French was the mother tongue for 23% of us, a decline from 29% in 1951. A mother tongue is the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood.

More than 100 other languages are spoken in Canada, and they can be heard on television and radio, at work, at school, on buses and at the local mall. So words such as *donair*, *siesta*, and *ciao* have found their way into our everyday speech.

After English and French, Chinese is the most commonly spoken language in Canada, followed by Italian and German. In 1971, German was third followed by Italian and Ukrainian. Arabic, Spanish and Punjabi are becoming more common, reflecting Canada's growing diversity and expanding trade.

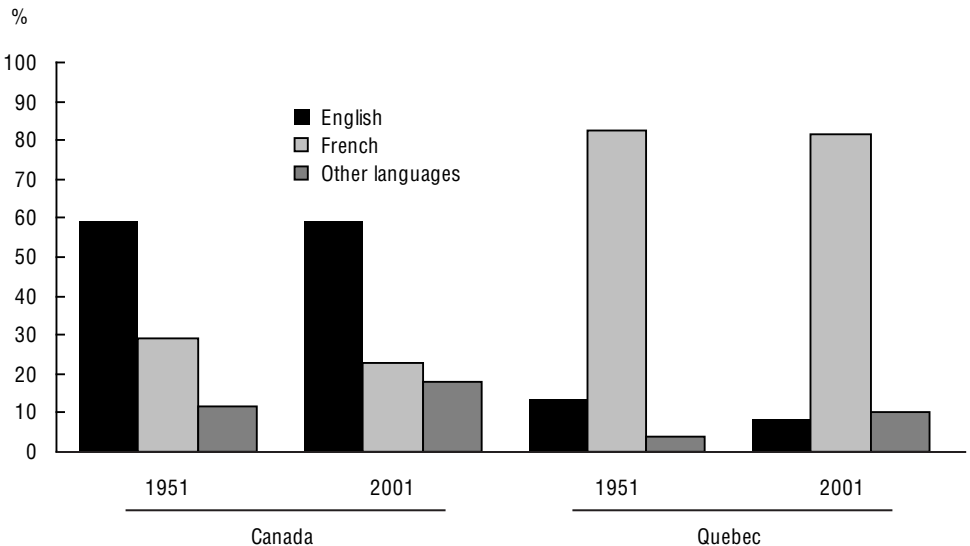
Many factors influence how Canadians' use of language evolves: immigration, interprovincial migration, cross-cultural marriages, fertility rates, legislation and the languages spoken at home and at work.

Language usage and transfer

For most immigrants, English or French soon becomes the language used most often at school or work, even as many strive to maintain their ancestral languages. In the long run, children and grandchildren of immigrants tend to acquire English or French as their mother tongue.

Language transfer—the tendency to speak a language other than the mother tongue at home—can signal a change in the language that will be passed down to future generations within a family.

Chart 22.1
Mother tongue, Canada and Quebec, 1951 and 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1951 and 2001.

For example, there has been an increase in language transfer among francophone minorities outside Quebec. In 1971, 30% of francophones outside Quebec spoke a language other than French, usually English, at home. By 2001, this increased to 38%. The transfer rate for francophones varied across the country from 11% for those living in New Brunswick to a rate of 75% in Saskatchewan.

Among Quebec's anglophone minority, the rate of language transfer was 10% in 2001, an increase from 8% in 1971.

In 2001, one out of six Canadians, more than 5.2 million people, were allophones; that is, their mother tongue was neither English nor French. They represented 18% of the population, up from 12% in 1951.

In Quebec these days, more allophones than in the past are learning and switching to French: 46% transferred to French in 2001, compared with 39% in 1996. In 2001, 73% of allophones could conduct a conversation in French, compared with 69% in 1996. About 54% transferred to English in 2001, compared with 61% in 1996.

The majority of allophones live in Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta. Most

Table 22.a
Top eight allophone groups

	1971		2001 ¹	
	thousands			
German	559.0	Chinese	872.4	
Italian	538.8	Italian	494.0	
Ukrainian	309.9	German	455.5	
Dutch ²	146.7	Punjabi	284.8	
Polish	136.5	Spanish	260.8	
Greek	103.7	Portuguese	222.9	
Chinese	95.9	Arabic	220.5	
Magyar (Hungarian)	87.5	Polish	215.0	

1. Includes all responses where these non-official languages are mentioned.

2. Includes respondents who reported Flemish or Frisian.

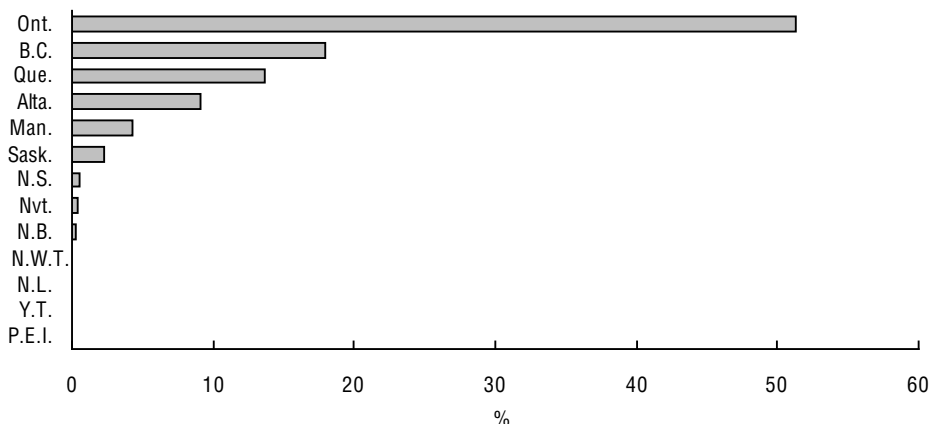
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1971 and 2001.

live in our large cities. Chinese is the main non-official language in Vancouver, Toronto, Calgary, Ottawa and Edmonton. Italian is the main non-official language in Montréal and Windsor. In Winnipeg and Kitchener, it is German. In Abbotsford, British Columbia, Punjabi became the main non-official language in 2001.

Preserving mother tongues

Many immigrants believe that teaching their mother tongue to their Canadian-born

Chart 22.2
Allophone population, by province and territory, 2001



Note: Allophones are people whose mother tongue is neither English nor French.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Population.

children is important. Aside from the cultural value, it provides children with knowledge of another language, strong ethnic identity and enables participation in ethnic businesses and social life.

In the 2002 Ethnic Diversity Study, 64% of adults said they learned their parents' ancestral language in childhood and 74% of this group could still use it to carry on a conversation. Children were most likely to regularly use their parents' mother tongue at home if they acquired it early.

As adults, 32% used their parents' mother tongue regularly in the home. Outside the home, 16% of grown children of recent immigrants spoke their ancestral language regularly with their friends, while 12% of those in the labour market used it regularly in the workplace.

Parents whose mother tongue was Punjabi, Spanish, Cantonese, Korean or Greek were most likely to have children who learned these languages as their mother tongue. Individuals who were part of earlier immigrant groups—including Dutch, Scandinavian, German, Filipino, Semitic and

Nigerian-Congolese—were the least likely to pass along their languages to their Canadian-born children.

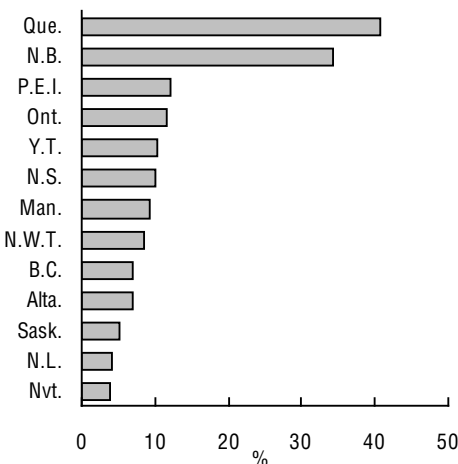
More of us are bilingual

In the 2001 Census, 18% of the population, or 5.2 million people, said they were bilingual in English and French, up from 17%, or 4.8 million, five years earlier. Nationally, 44% of francophones said they were bilingual in 2001, compared with 9% of anglophones.

Bilingualism is on the rise in Quebec. In 2001, 41% of Quebecers reported being bilingual, compared with 38% in 1996 and 35% in 1991. Anglophones in Quebec have the highest rate of bilingualism of all groups in Canada, and their bilingualism rate has risen, from 63% in 1996 to 67% in 2001. However, the proportion of anglophones has declined from 14% of Quebec's population in 1951 to 8% in 2001.

In the rest of Canada, however, the rate of bilingualism increased to 10% in 2001, compared with 8% in 1971.

Chart 22.3
English–French bilingualism, by province and territory, 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Population.

Selected sources

Statistics Canada

- *Canadian Social Trends*. Irregular. 11-008-XWE
- *Languages in Canada: 2001 Census*. Canadian Heritage/Statistics Canada, 2004 96-326-XIE
- *Profile of Languages in Canada: English, French and Many Others, 2001 Census*. Every 5 years. 96F0030XIE2001005
- *The Canadian Component of the 2003 International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey (IALSS): The Situation of Official Language Minorities*. Irregular. 89-552-MIE2006015
- *Use of English and French at Work, 2001 Census*. Every 5 years. 96F0030XIE2001011

Mother tongue, literacy and numeracy

Results of the 2003 International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey indicated major differences in literacy and numeracy levels among anglophone, francophone and allophone Canadians.

Fewer differences were found among the younger people in the survey and differences almost disappeared when education levels were taken into account. So level of schooling—not language—is strongly linked to the literacy skills required to process written information, be it words or numbers.

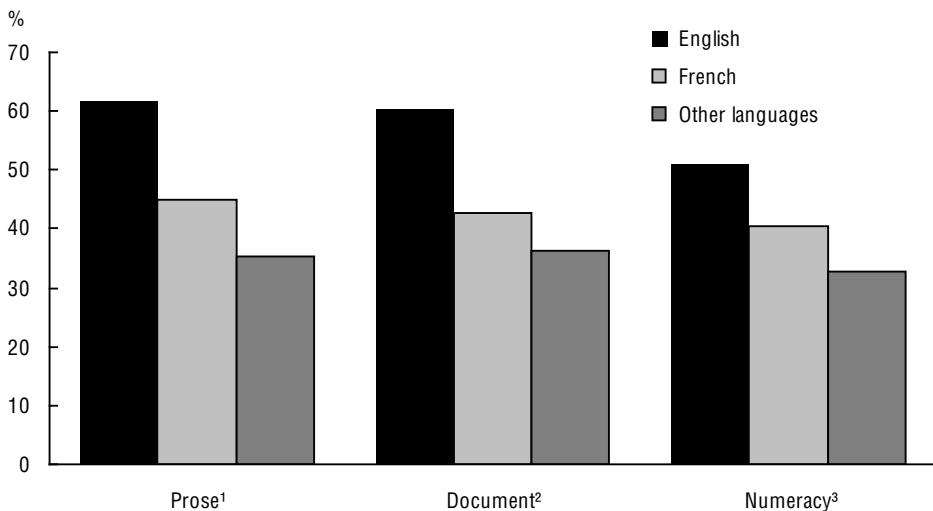
In the survey, people whose mother tongue was English scored higher than the other two linguistic groups in various literacy and numeracy tests. Almost 21% of anglophones obtained the highest level of competency in reading comprehension of narrative texts such as editorials, news articles or brochures.

By contrast, 13% of francophones and 10% of allophones scored at the highest level. Scores were similar in reading documents such as job applications, pay stubs, transport schedules, road maps, tables and charts.

According to the survey, 42% of the adult population aged 16 to 65 did not obtain at least a Level 3 in reading comprehension, which is seen as the minimum competency for responding to the demands of today's information-based society.

Literacy varies by province. For example, in New Brunswick, 66% of francophones did not achieve the minimum competency level for narrative texts, compared with 55% of francophones who did not in Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. New Brunswick also had the highest proportion of anglophones who did not achieve the minimum levels.

Chart 22.4
Literacy and numeracy proficiency, Level 3 and higher, population aged 16 to 65, by mother tongue, 2003



Note: Level 3 is considered the minimum threshold for using and understanding information in increasingly difficult texts and tasks.

1. The knowledge and skills needed to understand and use information from narrative texts.

2. The knowledge and skills required to locate and use information in various formats, such as maps, tables, charts and schedules.

3. The knowledge and skills required to effectively manage mathematical demands in daily life.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 89-617-MIE.

Evolution of Aboriginal languages

While the number of fluent speakers of some Aboriginal languages is declining, other languages are growing in use. Comparing Aboriginal communities counted in the 1996 Census with their status in 2001, Inuktituk is gaining fluent speakers. In 2001, 31,945 people reported that they could carry on a conversation in Inuktituk, up 8.7% from 29,400 in 1996. The number of speakers of Dene and Montagnais-Naskapi rose 10.2%.

However, fewer Aboriginal people reported having an Aboriginal language as a mother tongue: 198,595 in 2001, down almost 4% from 205,800 in 1996. A mother tongue is the first language learned in childhood and still understood.

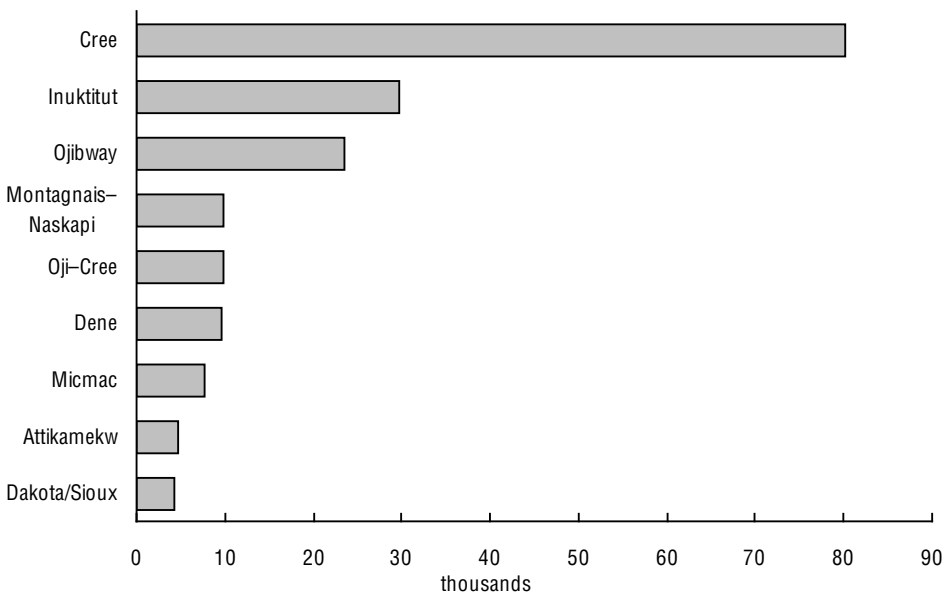
The number of people whose mother tongue is Cree slipped 3% from 1996, whereas the number speaking Ojibway declined 6%. Among the Aboriginal languages reported

as a mother tongue in 2001, the three most common were Cree (80,000 people), Inuktituk (29,700) and Ojibway (23,500).

A good indicator of language retention in a community is the language spoken by children aged 14 and younger. In 2001, 64% of Inuit children used an Aboriginal language as their mother tongue, compared with 17% of First Nations children. Among Métis children, 2% spoke an Aboriginal language as their mother tongue.

In 2001, 71% of Inuit reported knowledge of their ancestral language, compared with almost 30% of First Nations members and 5% of Métis. In 2001, 24% of Aboriginal people said they could converse in their language, down from 29% in 1996. People living in the North and on reserves and settlements are more likely to maintain their Aboriginal language than those living in urban areas.

Chart 22.5
Mother tongue, selected Aboriginal languages, 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Population.

Chinese as a mother tongue

Chinese has been growing rapidly as a mother tongue in Canada since the 1980s, due to increased immigration, particularly from Hong Kong, the People's Republic of China and Taiwan.

Of all the languages spoken in Canada, Chinese is the most spoken language after English and French. In the 2001 Census, 853,700 people reported Chinese as their mother tongue—the first language learned and still understood. Among those whose mother tongue is Chinese, the most common dialects are Cantonese (322,300) and Mandarin (101,800).

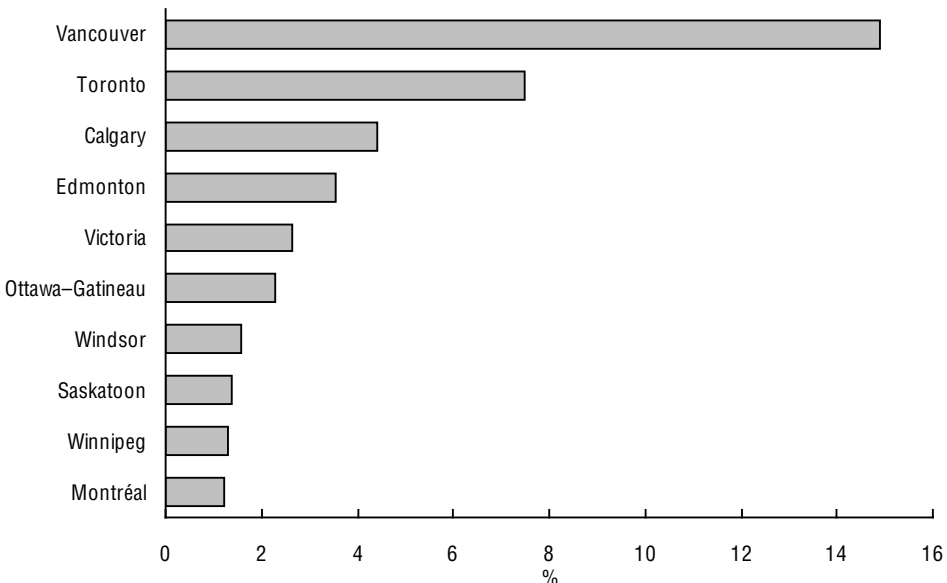
Most immigrants settle in our biggest cities. Vancouver is a magnet for Chinese immigrants. In 2001, one in six residents of Vancouver spoke Chinese as their mother tongue. Among the city's allophone workers (people whose mother tongue is neither

French nor English), 37% had Chinese as their mother tongue. Of this group, 53% use Chinese at work.

In Toronto, 18% of allophone workers have Chinese as their mother tongue and 40% of them use Chinese at work. In Montréal, 6% of allophone workers report Chinese as a mother tongue and 39% of them use Chinese at work.

In 2001, 85% of the Chinese in Canada—both Canadian- and foreign-born—had conversational knowledge of English or French. About 790,500 reported speaking a Chinese language at home regularly, 81,900 fewer than those who reported a Chinese mother tongue. This suggests some language transfer has occurred, mainly among those born in Canada who learned Chinese as a child but may not speak it regularly or do not use it as their main language at home.

Chart 22.6
Population with Chinese mother tongue, selected census metropolitan areas, 2001



Note: Respondents who reported only one language as their mother tongue.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Population.

Language services

Canadians speak more than 100 languages besides French and English. Depending on the community, a visitor might hear Chinese, Italian, German, Punjabi, Inuktituk or Cree.

Not surprisingly, firms involved in supplying language services have a strong market in Canada. In 2004, more than 14,000 people worked as translators, language teachers and interpreters, either as permanent or contract workers, in the 600 private firms that make up the language services industry.

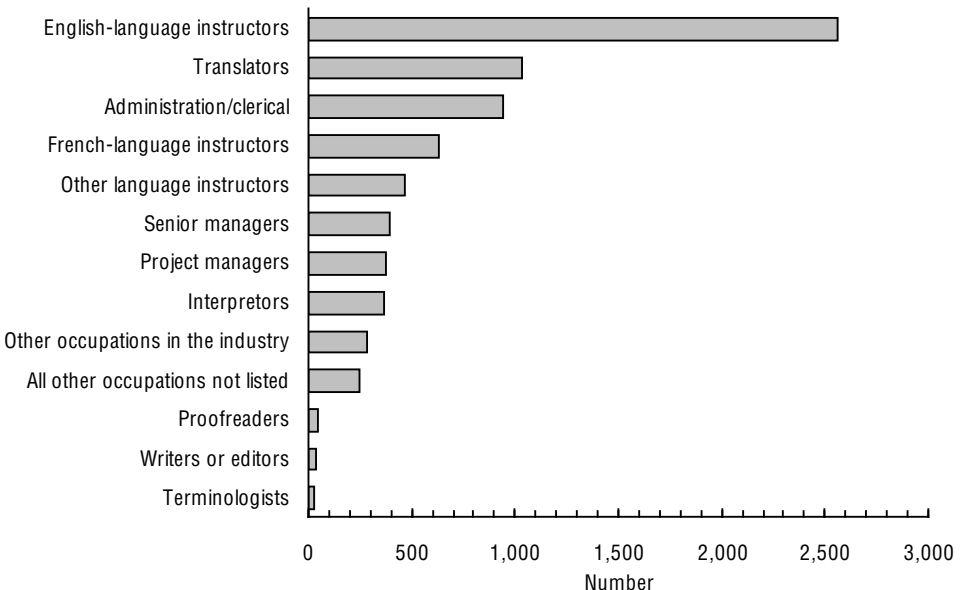
Together, these firms earned \$404.1 million in revenues. Classroom and online training accounted for almost half of revenues or \$193.2 million. Translation services revenues reached \$154.1 million, while interpretation totalled \$8.7 million. Accommodation fees associated with language study earned another \$23.1 million, and a range of other services accounted for \$25.0 million.

Nearly 200,000 people were enrolled in language training in 2004. Of the schools surveyed, 84% were private language schools, 9% were non-profit schools and another 7% were colleges, universities and other educational institutions.

The industry employed 7,405 permanent employees, split evenly between full-time and part-time workers. Among these workers, 2,557 were English-language instructors, 628 taught French and 1,033 were translators. Another 6,954 worked on contract.

Two-thirds of schools offered training to foreign students. Students from Asia made up the majority of foreign students, followed by students from Mexico, South and Central America and Europe. One-third of translation and interpretation firms exported goods and services—81% exported to the United States, while 38% exported to Europe.

Chart 22.7
Employment in the language services industry, by occupation, 2004



Source: Industry Canada.

Table 22.1 Population, by mother tongue and by province and territory, 2001

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
	number													
Population	29,639,035	508,080	133,385	897,570	719,710	7,125,580	11,285,550	1,103,695	963,150	2,941,150	3,868,875	28,520	37,105	26,670
Mother tongue, single response ¹	29,257,885	507,425	132,855	893,195	713,770	7,028,225	11,122,935	1,087,415	953,500	2,907,380	3,820,125	28,190	36,660	26,210
English	17,352,315	499,750	125,125	832,660	465,170	557,040	7,965,225	823,910	817,955	2,379,515	2,825,780	24,590	28,650	6,940
French	6,703,325	2,110	5,665	34,025	236,665	5,761,765	485,630	44,340	17,775	58,645	54,400	890	950	395
Non-official languages	5,202,245	5,495	2,065	26,510	11,935	709,420	2,672,085	219,160	117,765	469,220	939,945	2,705	7,065	18,875
Chinese	853,745	520	130	2,125	1,215	43,745	404,250	9,115	6,010	78,205	307,990	175	160	25
Cantonese	322,315	50	0	425	190	6,140	158,035	2,530	1,430	26,255	127,160	30	65	10
Mandarin	101,790	25	20	115	105	4,050	41,845	700	395	5,580	48,880	10	10	0
Hakka	4,565	0	0	15	10	70	2,245	15	20	570	1,625	0	0	0
Chinese (not otherwise specified)	425,085	445	115	1,505	915	33,490	202,125	5,945	4,170	45,795	130,330	150	90	10
Italian	469,485	115	60	865	510	124,695	295,205	4,945	890	13,935	28,165	30	60	15
German	438,080	340	190	3,015	1,420	17,690	156,080	63,215	32,515	78,040	84,605	725	215	25
Polish	208,375	75	65	960	220	17,155	138,940	9,910	3,015	20,635	17,320	20	40	10
Spanish	245,495	55	55	700	510	70,095	111,690	5,210	1,970	19,820	28,240	75	60	15
Portuguese	213,815	105	15	355	150	33,355	152,115	7,005	405	6,110	14,155	0	15	10
Punjabi	271,220	90	0	275	80	9,900	110,540	5,420	535	22,535	121,740	70	20	0
Ukrainian	148,085	20	20	320	105	5,125	48,620	26,540	19,650	33,970	13,600	55	50	15
Arabic	199,940	215	145	4,035	535	76,285	94,640	1,280	1,085	15,390	6,235	10	70	0
Dutch	128,670	90	480	1,980	855	3,220	69,655	3,975	1,930	19,575	26,740	100	65	0
Tagalog (Pilipino)	174,060	130	20	335	150	9,550	88,870	11,385	1,545	11,705	35,940	100	300	25
Greek	120,360	35	0	1,110	165	41,980	65,285	1,315	975	2,770	6,680	10	25	0
Vietnamese	122,055	60	10	480	110	21,640	55,240	2,950	1,390	16,680	23,215	65	160	0
Cree	72,885	0	0	30	10	11,810	4,405	11,110	22,055	15,105	1,115	20	155	10
Inuktitut (Inuit)	29,010	550	10	10	15	8,620	160	70	50	95	50	15	765	18,605
Other non-official languages	1,506,965	3,090	860	9,930	5,815	214,550	869,400	41,645	23,730	107,635	224,070	1,215	4,910	105
Mother tongue, multiple responses ²	381,145	650	530	4,375	5,940	7,350	162,605	16,285	9,650	33,770	48,750	335	440	455
English and French	112,575	330	440	2,555	5,255	50,060	37,135	2,675	1,375	5,780	6,780	85	85	20
English and non-official language	219,860	310	85	1,660	550	15,045	114,275	13,070	7,910	26,420	39,525	250	335	430
French and non-official language	38,630	0	0	125	105	26,890	8,000	435	255	1,090	1,705	0	15	10
English, French and non-official language	10,085	10	0	35	35	5,355	3,200	110	115	475	745	0	10	10

1. The respondent reported only one language as a mother tongue.

2. The respondent reported more than one language as a mother tongue.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Population.

Table 22.2 Population reporting an Aboriginal identity, by mother tongue and by province and territory, 2001

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
	number													
Aboriginal identity population	976,305	18,775	1,345	17,010	16,990	79,400	188,310	150,040	130,190	156,220	170,025	6,545	18,725	22,720
Mother tongue, single response ¹	956,240	18,685	1,320	16,805	16,565	77,560	185,010	145,845	127,125	153,000	167,240	6,360	18,440	22,290
English	704,770	16,595	1,105	11,975	9,165	9,180	151,320	106,050	95,095	127,505	154,640	5,540	12,965	3,640
French	64,130	50	25	785	4,385	32,900	13,560	6,400	1,585	2,050	2,180	60	135	25
Non-official languages	187,340	2,040	195	4,050	3,020	35,480	20,125	33,395	30,445	23,445	10,420	755	5,340	18,625
Aboriginal languages	186,835	2,040	195	4,045	3,005	35,455	19,970	33,315	30,405	23,380	10,315	755	5,340	18,615
Cree	72,680	10	0	30	10	11,810	4,385	18,090	22,020	15,010	1,160	15	155	0
Inuktitut	29,005	545	10	10	20	8,620	160	70	50	100	50	20	760	18,605
Ojibway	20,890	0	0	10	10	20	9,670	8,840	1,370	625	275	10	65	0
Montagnais–Naskapi	9,655	1,470	0	0	0	8,180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Micmac	7,230	10	185	3,995	2,265	690	60	0	20	0	15	0	0	0
Dakota/Sioux	3,880	0	0	0	0	0	10	730	350	2,765	25	0	0	0
Blackfoot	2,740	0	0	0	0	10	25	25	15	2,630	35	10	0	0
Salish languages	2,590	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,570	10	0	0
South Slave	1,380	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	100	20	1,005	0
Dogrib	1,860	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	10	20	0	1,830	0
Carrier	1,225	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,215	0	0	0
Wakashan languages	1,275	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,270	0	0	0
Chipewyan	575	0	0	0	0	0	10	20	0	225	10	10	300	10
Other Aboriginal languages	31,840	0	0	15	715	6,130	5,640	5,540	6,570	1,760	3,570	675	1,215	0
Non-Aboriginal languages	505	0	0	0	15	30	155	75	45	70	105	0	0	10
Mother tongue, multiple responses ²	20,070	90	20	205	425	1,845	3,300	4,200	3,065	3,215	2,790	195	290	445
Multiple Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal responses	15,470	75	10	135	190	970	1,605	3,645	2,845	2,915	2,225	160	270	435
English and Aboriginal language(s)	14,130	75	10	135	175	325	1,485	3,520	2,695	2,770	2,100	150	260	425
French and Aboriginal language(s)	1,010	0	0	0	15	565	65	95	95	90	70	0	10	10
English, French and Aboriginal language(s)	330	0	0	0	0	80	55	30	55	55	55	10	0	0
Other multiple responses	4,600	15	10	70	235	875	1,695	555	220	300	565	35	20	10

1. The respondent reported only one language as a mother tongue.

2. The respondent reported more than one language as a mother tongue.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Population.

Table 22.3 Selected languages spoken at home, by frequency of use, 2001

	Total frequency	Only language spoken	Most often ¹	Equally often ²	Regularly ³
	number				
English	21,863,015	18,267,825	1,506,980	478,760	1,609,450
French	7,214,280	5,861,130	586,455	172,880	593,815
Chinese (not otherwise specified)	392,950	199,995	109,250	20,265	63,440
Italian	371,200	110,275	76,275	30,515	154,135
Cantonese	345,730	189,430	95,645	13,245	47,410
Punjabi	280,535	132,380	71,660	29,220	47,275
Spanish	258,465	70,355	78,235	28,860	81,015
German	220,685	48,075	60,420	13,940	98,250
Arabic	209,240	58,115	57,235	32,635	61,255
Portuguese	187,475	63,890	46,670	15,355	61,560
Tagalog (Pilipino)	185,420	36,710	53,705	41,915	53,090
Polish	163,745	53,320	54,050	15,115	41,260
Vietnamese	130,280	64,665	35,865	9,555	20,195
Greek	114,955	33,515	30,385	10,255	40,800
Mandarin	110,710	54,060	36,335	3,660	16,655
Tamil	97,345	45,860	29,745	9,460	12,280
Persian (Farsi)	92,025	41,970	28,005	7,600	14,450
Urdu	89,370	30,760	27,845	12,200	18,565
Russian	87,080	37,905	28,025	5,150	16,000
Korean	83,020	44,255	23,600	3,165	12,000
Cree	71,955	20,585	21,730	7,440	22,200
Ukrainian	67,665	14,325	14,515	5,385	33,440
Hindi	65,895	14,175	16,075	9,090	26,555
Gujarati	60,105	18,305	16,830	7,180	17,790
Creoles	49,905	7,845	8,135	10,445	23,480
Dutch	45,780	3,700	8,010	3,260	30,810
Romanian	44,975	16,320	14,945	3,760	9,950
Croatian	44,605	10,645	13,635	4,135	16,190
Hungarian	44,590	11,575	11,810	3,940	17,265
Serbian	39,965	16,725	14,275	2,435	6,530
Japanese	30,565	10,255	6,865	1,775	11,670
Bengali	29,705	12,840	9,615	2,780	4,470
Inuktitut (Eskimo)	29,615	14,415	9,535	405	5,260
Somali	27,800	10,915	7,930	4,335	4,620
Armenian	26,215	10,395	9,045	1,875	4,900
Serbo-Croatian	24,530	9,630	8,840	1,850	4,210
Ojibway	18,540	4,930	3,250	2,385	7,975
Turkish	16,560	5,945	4,650	1,380	4,585
Khmer (Cambodian)	16,435	6,235	4,545	2,075	3,580
Malayo-Polynesian languages (not included elsewhere)	16,430	3,475	4,720	3,090	5,145
Hebrew	15,645	2,350	3,300	1,485	8,510
Czech	15,245	2,695	5,065	1,500	5,985
Macedonian	14,410	3,585	4,085	1,320	5,420
Lao	13,525	5,005	3,720	2,030	2,770

1. Language is spoken most often at home; at least one other language is spoken on a regular basis.

2. Language is reported with another language as being spoken most often at home.

3. Language is spoken on a regular basis at home; another language is spoken most often.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 97F0007XCB2001004.

Table 22.4 Selected languages spoken at home, by census metropolitan area, 2001

	English	French	Chinese ¹	Italian	Cantonese	Punjabi	Aboriginal languages ²
	number						
Canada	21,863,015	7,214,280	392,950	371,200	345,730	280,535	63,315
St. John's	170,520	1,105	210	45	60	45	0
Halifax	350,575	10,255	1,135	370	265	195	50
Saint John	120,015	4,755	300	155	20	20	20
Saguenay	3,495	152,505	125	0	0	0	45
Québec	28,235	667,410	480	290	55	0	240
Sherbrooke	15,055	143,320	100	145	0	0	0
Trois-Rivières	4,005	134,115	0	65	0	0	45
Montréal	886,050	2,638,915	31,640	101,650	6,390	10,200	445
Ottawa–Gatineau	759,310	377,960	14,415	8,140	5,115	2,545	460
Quebec part	72,570	222,655	485	215	105	140	100
Ontario part	686,740	155,305	13,930	7,940	5,010	2,415	335
Kingston	139,225	4,720	675	630	225	140	20
Oshawa	287,165	6,420	680	2,435	530	475	0
Toronto	3,940,275	81,855	155,000	162,415	159,085	99,000	350
Hamilton	615,530	10,520	4,560	17,460	1,765	4,120	170
St. Catharines–Niagara	359,750	12,465	1,355	9,845	195	210	25
Kitchener	384,170	5,480	2,845	1,280	1,085	2,500	40
London	409,010	5,860	2,325	2,955	635	685	40
Windsor	282,575	11,255	3,215	9,540	865	1,605	0
Greater Sudbury / Grand Sudbury	139,380	42,980	300	2,280	50	45	345
Thunder Bay	117,755	2,625	170	2,795	15	25	690
Winnipeg	629,765	26,405	5,190	3,660	2,460	5,335	3,625
Regina	187,105	2,610	1,130	370	405	340	320
Saskatoon	218,340	3,180	1,985	115	745	190	1,670
Calgary	884,990	15,570	21,955	4,790	15,145	13,565	585
Edmonton	881,160	18,945	17,995	4,280	11,945	9,695	2,165
Abbotsford	132,560	1,590	585	155	380	16,300	10
Vancouver	1,663,185	29,515	109,575	13,235	129,695	91,210	680
Victoria	298,950	5,370	3,350	780	2,930	2,765	180

Note: Language spoken at home (total frequencies).

1. Not otherwise specified.

2. Total of all Aboriginal languages ranks twelfth in frequency for Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 97F0007XCB2001004.

Table 22.5 Language of work, by frequency of use, 2001

	Total frequency	Only language spoken	Most often ¹	Equally often ²	Regularly ³
	number				
English	14,371,770	11,918,110	1,015,235	367,300	1,071,125
French	4,355,930	2,433,570	981,525	289,890	650,945
Chinese (not otherwise specified)	108,260	31,505	19,760	11,515	45,480
Cantonese	74,720	22,740	14,625	6,170	31,185
Punjabi	49,835	11,265	5,240	8,345	24,985
German	59,030	7,365	10,330	5,095	36,240
Mandarin	25,425	6,635	4,820	2,225	11,745
Portuguese	38,205	5,775	5,415	4,750	22,265
Spanish	63,820	5,380	4,980	9,325	44,135
Vietnamese	17,905	3,525	2,205	2,185	9,990
Korean	15,470	3,110	3,135	1,425	7,800
Italian	64,590	3,075	4,330	11,200	45,985
Other languages	271,240	27,535	36,585	39,415	167,705

1. Language is spoken most often at work; at least one other language is spoken on a regular basis.

2. Language is reported with another language as being spoken most often at work.

3. Language is spoken on a regular basis at work; another language is spoken most often.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Population.

Table 22.6 Selected languages of work, by selected census metropolitan area, 2001

	English	French	Chinese ¹	Cantonese	Italian	Spanish
	number					
Canada	14,371,770	4,355,930	108,260	74,720	64,590	63,820
St. John's	96,300	1,280	15	0	15	55
Halifax	210,255	8,810	260	60	55	280
Saint John	66,365	4,005	55	0	10	160
Saguenay	7,845	77,245	0	0	0	105
Québec	77,320	383,470	165	10	85	1,805
Sherbrooke	25,870	83,020	40	0	40	300
Trois-Rivières	9,480	69,825	10	0	0	110
Montréal	1,068,440	1,729,840	7,275	1,020	18,165	16,860
Ottawa-Gatineau	578,270	270,310	2,250	725	1,370	2,815
Oshawa	169,920	4,080	125	165	300	230
Toronto	2,692,890	70,150	42,565	33,375	32,285	18,780
Hamilton	366,415	7,110	715	220	2,450	1,040
St. Catharines-Niagara	205,050	6,070	285	55	1,340	440
Kitchener	246,690	3,830	340	95	140	775
London	245,305	3,965	435	90	280	1,035
Windsor	168,165	4,645	530	125	1,495	270
Winnipeg	390,385	15,060	935	430	360	885
Regina	113,630	1,635	195	60	30	145
Saskatoon	131,945	1,345	285	185	0	165
Calgary	605,165	9,005	5,380	2,730	500	2,395
Edmonton	570,510	9,425	3,770	2,040	440	1,365
Vancouver	1,112,005	17,470	38,215	31,475	1,580	5,390
Victoria	178,375	3,790	770	450	55	410

Note: Language spoken at work (total frequencies).

1. Not otherwise specified.

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 97F0016XCB2001006.

Abbreviations and symbols



Provinces and territories

Newfoundland and Labrador	N.L.
Prince Edward Island	P.E.I.
Nova Scotia	N.S.
New Brunswick	N.B.
Quebec	Que.
Ontario	Ont.
Manitoba	Man.
Saskatchewan	Sask.
Alberta	Alta.
British Columbia	B.C.
Yukon	Y.T.
Northwest Territories	N.W.T.
Nunavut	Nvt.

Measurements

centimetre	cm
metre	m
kilometre	km
gram	g
kilogram	kg
litre	L
millilitre	mL
hour	h
watt	W
kilowatt	kW
degrees Celsius	°C

The symbols described in this document apply to all data published by Statistics Canada from all origins, including surveys, censuses and administrative sources, as well as straight tabulations and all estimations.

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0 ^s	value rounded to zero where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
P	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published

Note: In some tables, figures may not add to totals because of rounding.

When the figure is not accompanied by a data quality symbol, it means that the quality of the data was assessed to be 'acceptable or better' according to the policies and standards of Statistics Canada.

The statistics in this edition are the most up-to-date available at the time of its preparation. For more recent data, visit Canadian Statistics at www.statcan.ca