



Canadian Linguistic Facts and Figures

Office of the Commissioner
of Official Languages

Quebec

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DYANE ADAM IS YOUR COMMISSIONER OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Canada's social fabric



A fabric is made up of many threads. The citizens of this country, who speak English or French and have very diverse ethnocultural roots, make up the social fabric that we call Canada.

FACT SHEETS ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGE GROUPS FOR EACH PROVINCE AND TERRITORY

INTRODUCTION

The fact sheets on official language groups consolidate and present demographic, linguistic and economic data on Canadians for each province and territory. They all follow the same format to facilitate comparisons among the various localities.

The statistics used for the fact sheets come from sample data from the 1996 Statistics Canada census. The information on exogamy and the index of linguistic continuity of French-speaking Canadians come from the Canadian Heritage publication entitled *Francophone Minorities: Assimilation and Community Vitality*.

The data pertain only to persons who have identified English or French as their mother tongue or first official language spoken. They do not take multiple answers into account (for example, Canadians who identified English or French and a non-official language as their mother tongue or first language spoken). This way of breaking down the information enables us to make interesting comparisons between the two categories (mother tongue as compared with first official language spoken).

Official Languages

Total population

CANADA
28,528,125

Newfoundland	547,160
Prince Edward Island	132,855
Nova Scotia	899,970
New Brunswick	729,625
Quebec	7,045,085
Ontario	10,642,795
Manitoba	1,100,295
Saskatchewan	976,615
Alberta	2,669,195
British Columbia	3,689,755
Yukon	30,655
Northwest Territories*	64,125

* Figures for Nunavut will be added when they become available after 2001 census.

English-speaking population (E)
20,921,770 (73.4%)

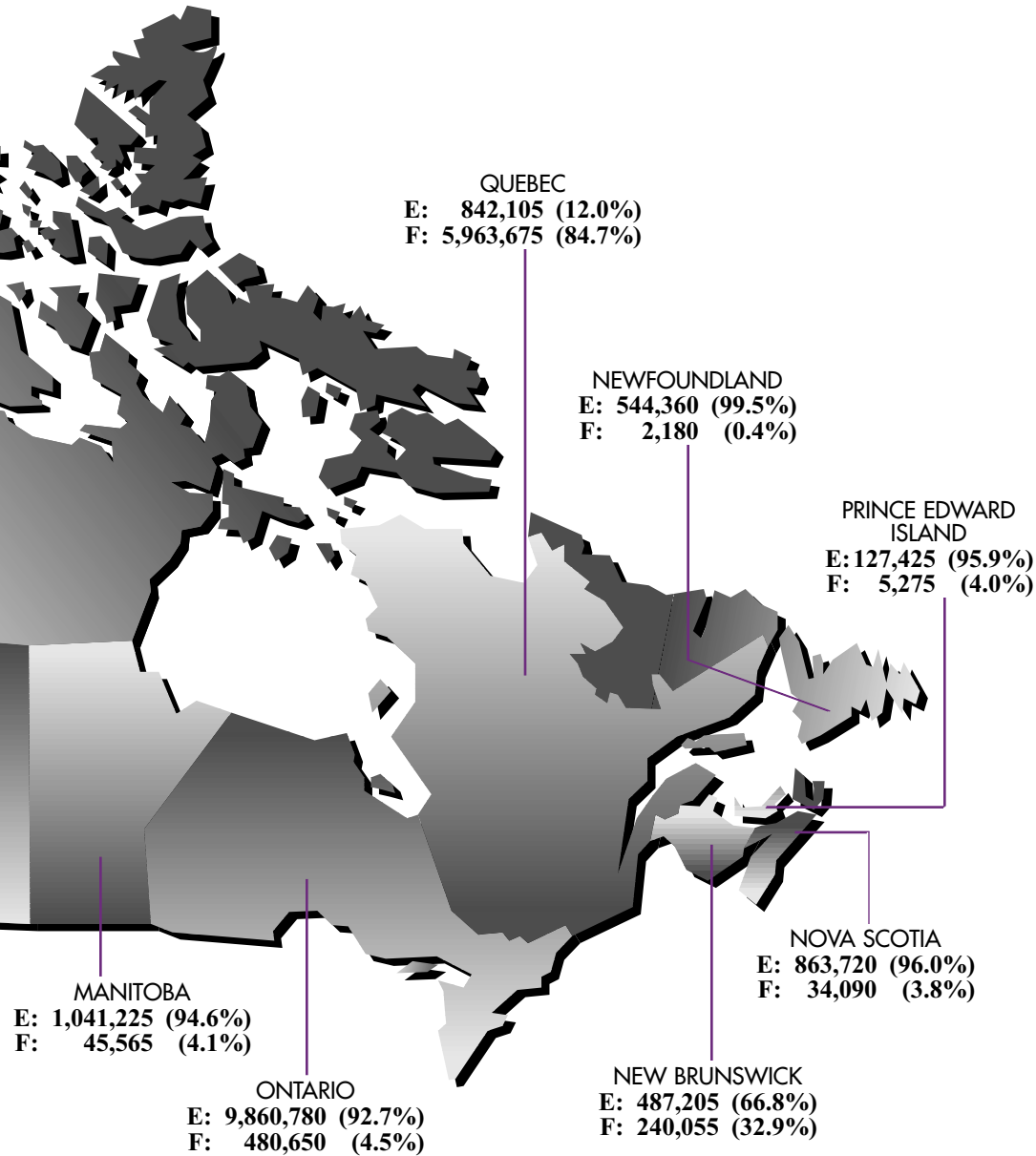
French-speaking population (F)
6,890,880 (24.6%)

Source: Statistics Canada, 1996 Census, First Official Language Spoken as defined by Official Languages Regulations.

Languages other than English and French are not included; therefore figures may not add up to the total population or to 100%.



IN CANADA



QUEBEC

HIGHLIGHTS OF TABLES 1 AND 2

- 586,435 persons (8.3%) have identified English as their mother tongue, while 842,105 (12.0%) have identified English as their first official language spoken.
- 707,910 individuals (10.1%) have a mother tongue other than English or French.
- Of the 842,105 citizens that have identified English as their first official language spoken, 482,920 (57.3 %) can have a conversation in both official languages. On the other hand, 2,010,380 of the 5,963,675 French-speaking citizens (33.7%) can have a conversation in both official languages.
- The percentage of individuals with only an elementary level of education (grade 8 or less) is lower among those whose first official language spoken is English than among those whose first official language spoken is French (11.9% versus 18.5%). On the other hand, the proportion of English speakers with some university education (31.4%) is much higher than the proportion for French speakers (18.4%).
- The average income for citizens whose first official language spoken is English (\$25,525) is higher than that for French speakers (\$23,087).
- With regard to occupations, the percentage of persons in the management, business and administration category is higher for those whose first official language spoken is English than for French speakers (33.6% versus 27.7%). In return, the proportion of French-speaking citizens who work in the trades, transport and equipment operator category is higher than that of English speakers (14.5% versus 9.1%).
- Among those who changed residence between censuses, the rates of interprovincial and external migration are much higher for persons whose first official language spoken is English (20.2% and 25.7%) than for French speakers (3.5% and 6.7% respectively).
- The immigrant population among English speakers (26.6%) is very high in comparison with that among French speakers (4.9%).
- Concerning non-immigrants, the percentage of English-speaking individuals born outside the province (18.4%) is much higher than that for French speakers (2.6%).

Table 1 (Quebec)

Population Profile by Mother Tongue

Mother Tongue	#	%
- English ¹	586,435	8.3
- French ¹	5,700,150	80.9
- French and English	50,585	0.7
- Other	707,910	10.1
- Total population	7,045,080	100.0

Table 2 (Quebec)

Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken

Language	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	English		French	
	#	%	#	%
Language	842,105	12.0	5,963,675	84.7
Knowledge of both languages	482,920	57.3	2,010,380	33.7
Sex - men	415,185	49.3	2,921,955	49.0
- women	426,920	50.7	3,041,720	51.0
Age 0-19	200,945	23.9	1,593,605	26.7
20-34	205,315	24.4	1,278,740	21.4
35-64	323,485	38.4	2,448,455	41.1
65 and over	112,360	13.3	642,875	10.8
Education ² (15 years and over)				
- elementary	82,465	11.9	887,080	18.5
- secondary	223,380	32.3	1,711,085	35.7
- college or equivalent	168,145	24.4	1,316,370	27.4
- university	216,910	31.4	881,145	18.4

Table 2 (Quebec continued)**Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken**

	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	English		French	
	#	%	#	%
Unemployment rate		12.9		11.5
Labour force (15 years and over)	425,680	61.6	3,011,495	62.8
Population not in labour force ³	265,225	38.4	1,784,175	37.2
Annual income (15 years and over)				
- less than \$5,000	102,455	16.2	654,295	15.0
- \$5,000 - \$24,999	295,510	46.7	2,081,150	47.7
- \$25,000 - \$49,999	159,985	25.2	1,215,675	27.9
- \$50,000 and over	75,420	11.9	409,545	9.4
Average annual income	25,525		23,087	
Occupation (15 years and over)				
Management, business and administration	135,615	33.6	800,350	27.7
Natural and applied sciences, health	44,965	11.2	314,260	10.9
Social sciences, education, administration	30,310	7.5	200,580	7.0
Art, culture, recreation and sports	14,935	3.7	81,330	2.8
Sales and services	99,340	24.6	710,600	24.6
Trades, transport and equipment operators	36,615	9.1	417,235	14.5
Professions unique to primary industry	7,965	2.0	96,045	3.3
Manufacturing and public utilities	33,315	8.3	264,130	9.2
Total	403,060	100.0	2,884,530	100.0
Mobility (5 years and over)				
- Migrants ⁴	157,175		1,012,590	
- External migrants	40,325	25.7	67,405	6.7
- Interprovincial migrants	31,730	20.2	35,365	3.5
- Intraprovincial migrants	85,120	54.1	909,820	89.8
Immigrants ⁵	223,855	26.6	293,045	4.9
Non-immigrants	603,665		5,653,905	
- born in province of residence	492,345	81.6	5,505,095	97.4
- born outside province of residence	111,320	18.4	148,810	2.6

NOTE: ¹ This figure does not take into account citizens who have identified more than one mother tongue (for example, French and English, French and a non-official language).

² Represents the highest level of schooling achieved by the citizens of that province.

³ This population includes persons who, in the week prior to Census Day, were neither employed nor unemployed.

⁴ Migrants are movers who had resided in a different census subdivision five years earlier (internal migrants) or who had lived outside Canada five years earlier (external migrants).

⁵ Refers to people who are, or have been, landed immigrants in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada, 1996 Census

