



Canadian Linguistic Facts and Figures

Office of the Commissioner
of Official Languages

Alberta

British Columbia

Northwest Territories

Yukon

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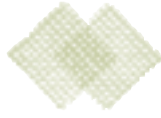
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DYANE ADAM IS YOUR COMMISSIONER OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

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%)

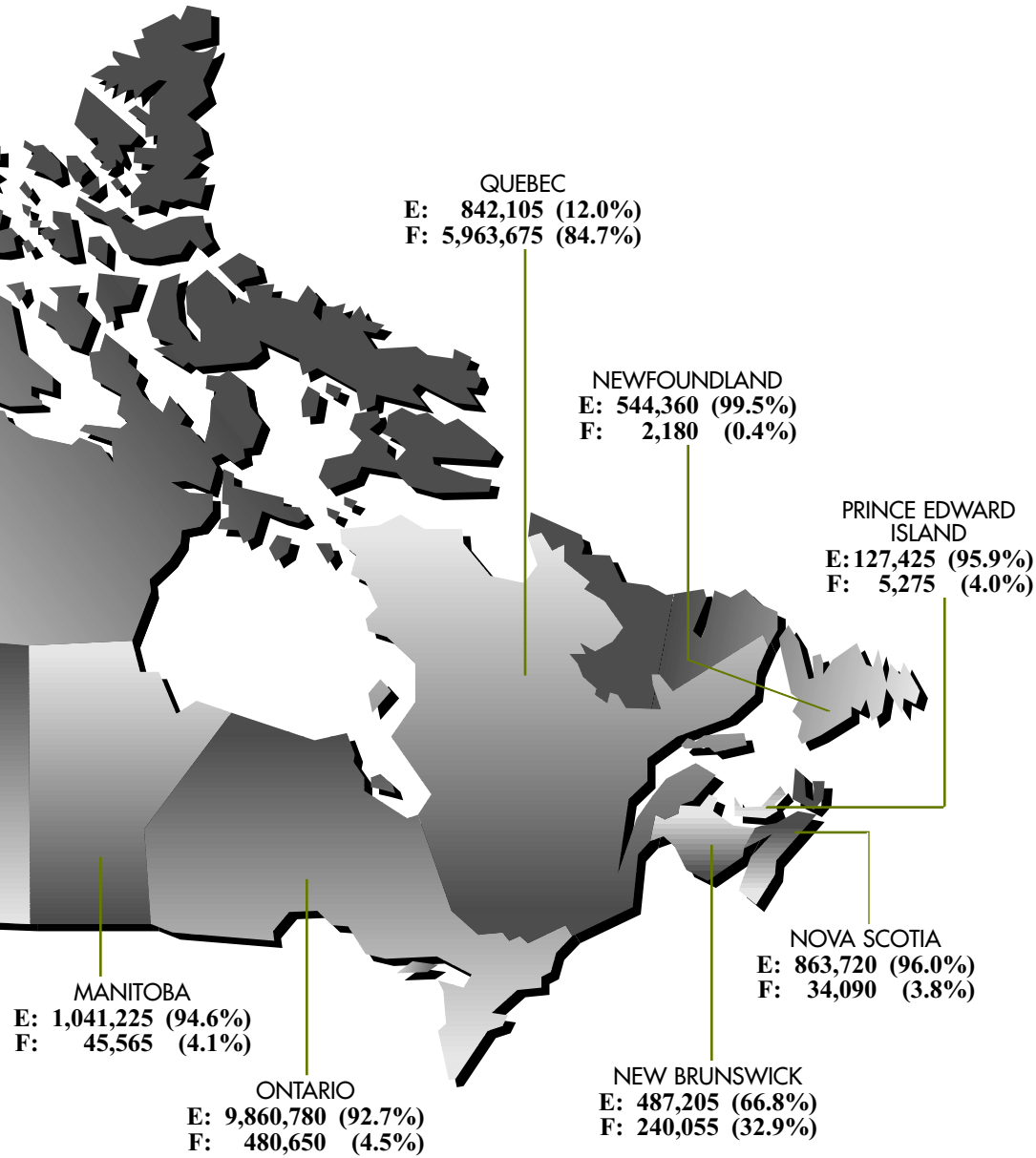
French-speaking population (F)
6,890,880 (24.6%)

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



ALBERTA

HIGHLIGHTS OF TABLES 1, 2 AND 3

- 52,380 persons (2.0%) have identified French as their mother tongue, while 49,390 (1.9%) have identified French as their first official language spoken.
- 452,595 individuals (16.9%) have a mother tongue other than English or French.
- Of the 49,390 citizens that have identified French as their first official language spoken, 47,740 (96.7%) can have a conversation in both official languages. On the other hand, 124,545 of the 2,580,675 citizens that have identified English as their first official language spoken (4.8%) can have a conversation in both official languages.
- The proportion of youth (19 years and less) among those whose first official language spoken is English (30.6%) is much higher than that among French speakers (12.5%).
- The percentage of individuals with only an elementary level of education (grade 8 or less) is approximately twice as high among those whose first official language spoken is French as among those whose first official language spoken is English (11.3% versus 6.8%).
- The average income for citizens whose first official language spoken is French (\$27,263) is slightly higher than that for English speakers (\$26,305).
- Among those who changed residence between censuses, the interprovincial migration rate is higher for persons whose first official language spoken is French (52.4% versus 31.0% for English speakers).
- The proportion of immigrants among those whose first official language spoken is English (14.5%) is much higher than the rate among those whose first official language spoken is French (6.2%).
- Concerning non-immigrants, the percentage of French-speaking individuals born outside the province (57.3%) is higher than that for English speakers (30.9%).
- In comparison with the other provinces and territories, the exogamy rate for Francophone families in Alberta is very high (64%) and the index of linguistic continuity (0.32) is well below the average (0.64). (A language continuity index less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.)

Table 1 (Alberta)

Population Profile by Mother Tongue

Mother Tongue	#	%
- French ¹	52,380	2.0
- English ¹	2,159,280	80.9
- French and English	4,945	0.2
- Other	452,595	16.9
- Total population	2,669,200	100.0

Table 2 (Alberta)

Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken

Language	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Language	49,390	1.9	2,580,675	96.7
Knowledge of both languages	47,740	96.7	124,545	4.8
Sex - men	24,700	50.0	1,296,110	50.2
- women	24,690	50.0	1,284,565	49.8
Age 0-19	6,180	12.5	788,275	30.6
20-34	10,685	21.6	605,100	23.4
35-64	25,760	52.1	959,830	37.2
65 and over	6,780	13.8	227,460	8.8
Education ² (15 years and over)				
- elementary	5,105	11.3	133,875	6.8
- secondary	15,475	34.3	754,015	38.1
- college or equivalent	14,850	33.0	621,760	31.4
- university	9,630	21.4	470,530	23.7

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

	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Unemployment rate		6.5		7.2
Labour force (15 years and over)	32,090	71.2	1 443,960	72.9
Population not in labour force ³	12,975	28.8	536,215	27.1
Annual income (15 years and over)				
- less than \$5,000	4,835	11.2	284,205	15.4
- \$5,000 - \$24,999	19,085	44.3	809,575	43.7
- \$25,000 - \$49,999	13,455	31.3	518,620	28.0
- \$50,000 and over	5,660	13.2	238,480	12.9
Average annual income	27,263		26,305	
Occupation (15 years and over)				
Management, business and administration	8,190	25.8	386,475	27.2
Natural and applied sciences, health	2,650	8.4	141,880	10.0
Social sciences, education, administration	2,665	8.4	86,250	6.1
Art, culture, recreation and sports	810	2.6	32,275	2.3
Sales and services	8,235	26.0	377,950	26.6
Trades, transport and equipment operators	5,625	17.7	213,015	15.0
Professions unique to primary industry	2,160	6.8	112,620	8.0
Manufacturing and public utilities	1,370	4.3	68,815	4.8
Total	31,705	100.0	1,419,280	100.0
Mobility (5 years and over)				
- Migrants ⁴	11,720		501,590	
- External migrants	750	6.4	60,520	12.1
- Interprovincial migrants	6,145	52.4	155,515	31.0
- Intraprovincial migrants	4,825	41.2	285,555	56.9
Immigrants ⁵	3,065	6.2	373,635	14.5
Non-immigrants	46,145		2,197,125	
- born in province of residence	19,805	42.9	1,517,460	69.1
- born outside province of residence	26,340	57.3	679,665	30.9

Table 3 (Alberta)

French Mother Tongue, Exogamy and Language Continuity Index

Exogamy ⁶	64%
Language continuity index ⁷	0.32

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.

⁶ Cases where the spouses in a couple have different mother tongues.

⁷ This index represents the relation between the number of persons speaking French most often at home and the number of persons for whom French is the mother tongue. A continuity index of less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.

Sources: 1) Statistics Canada, 1996 Census
2) Canadian Heritage, *Francophone Minorities: Assimilation and Community Vitality*, 1998

BRITISH COLUMBIA

HIGHLIGHTS OF TABLES 1, 2 AND 3

- 53,040 persons (1.4%) have identified French as their mother tongue, while 50,285 (1.4%) have identified French as their first official language spoken.
- 845,660 individuals (22.9%) have a mother tongue other than English or French.
- Of the 50,285 citizens that have identified French as their first official language spoken, 48,475 (96.4%) can have a conversation in both official languages. On the other hand, 188,085 of the 3,532,485 citizens that have identified English as their first official language spoken (5.3%) can have a conversation in both official languages.
- The proportion of youth (19 years and less) among those whose first official language spoken is English (26.9%) is much higher than that among French speakers (9.9%).
- The percentage of individuals with only an elementary level of education (grade 8 or less) is higher among those whose first official language spoken is French than among those whose first official language spoken is English (9.3% versus 6.1%).
- Among those who changed residence between censuses, the interprovincial migration rate is much higher for persons whose first official language spoken is French (57.0% versus 25.2% for English speakers).
- The proportion of immigrants is significant among both those whose first official language spoken is English and those whose first official language is French (22.9% and 14.8% respectively).
- Concerning non-immigrants, the percentage of French-speaking individuals born outside the province (90.2%) is approximately three times higher than that for English speakers (36.1%).
- In comparison with the other provinces and territories, the exogamy rate for Francophone families in British Columbia is the highest (72%) and the index of linguistic continuity (0.29) is well below the average (0.64). (A language continuity index less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.)

Table 1 (British Columbia)

Population Profile by Mother Tongue

Mother Tongue	#	%
- French ¹	53,040	1.4
- English ¹	2,785,020	75.5
- French and English	6,040	0.2
- Other	845,660	22.9
- Total population	3,689,760	100.0

Table 2 (British Columbia)

Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken

Language	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Language	50,285	1.4	3,532,485	95.7
Knowledge of both languages	48,475	6.4	188,085	5.3
Sex - men	25,630	51.0	1,757,820	49.8
- women	24,655	49.0	1,774,660	50.2
Age 0-19	4,970	9.9	949,580	26.9
20-34	11,465	22.8	797,400	22.6
35-64	26,135	52.0	1,372,035	38.8
65 and over	7,700	15.3	413,470	11.7
Education ² (15 years and over)				
- elementary	4,370	9.3	173,050	6.1
- secondary	14,385	30.8	1,039,405	36.9
- college or equivalent	15,640	33.4	878,200	31.1
- university	12,390	26.5	730,390	25.9

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

	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Unemployment rate		10.3		9.4
Labour force (15 years and over)	30,930	66.1	1,898,530	67.3
Population not in labour force ³	15,855	33.9	922,525	32.7
Annual income (15 years and over)				
- less than \$5,000	5,060	11.3	365,065	13.9
- \$5,000 - \$24,999	20,950	46.8	1,149,990	43.7
- \$25,000 - \$49,999	12,950	28.9	761,895	28.9
- \$50,000 and over	5,840	13.0	356,760	13.5
Average annual income	26,454		26,652	
Occupation (15 years and over)				
Management, business and administration	7,390	24.7	523,200	28.3
Natural and applied sciences, health	2,710	9.0	176,855	9.6
Social sciences, education, administration	2,600	8.7	122,970	6.7
Art, culture, recreation and sports	1,055	3.5	53,100	2.9
Sales and services	8,540	28.5	510,225	27.6
Trades, transport and equipment operators	4,800	16.0	279,185	15.1
Professions unique to primary industry	1,675	5.6	84,230	4.6
Manufacturing and public utilities	1,185	4.0	95,895	5.2
Total	29,955	100.0	1,845,660	100.0
Mobility (5 years and over)				
- Migrants ⁴	19,165		942,820	
- External migrants	1,600	8.3	175,410	18.6
- Interprovincial migrants	10,920	57.0	237,850	25.2
- Intraprovincial migrants	6,645	34.7	529,560	56.2
Immigrants ⁵	7,425	14.8	809,510	22.9
Non-immigrants	42,585		2,697,155	
- born in province of residence	4,165	9.8	1,723,495	63.9
- born outside province of residence	38,420	90.2	973,660	36.1

Table 3 (British Columbia)

French Mother Tongue, Exogamy and Language Continuity Index

Exogamy ⁶	72 %
Language continuity index ⁷	0.29

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.

⁶ Cases where the spouses in a couple have different mother tongues.

⁷ This index represents the relation between the number of persons speaking French most often at home and the number of persons for whom French is the mother tongue. A continuity index of less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.

Sources: 1) Statistics Canada, 1996 Census
2) Canadian Heritage, *Francophone Minorities: Assimilation and Community Vitality*, 1998

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

HIGHLIGHTS OF TABLES 1, 2 AND 3

- 1,355 persons (2.1%) have identified French as their mother tongue, while 1,320 (2.1%) have identified French as their first official language spoken.
- 26,830 individuals (41.8%) have a mother tongue other than English or French.
- Of the 1,320 citizens that have identified French as their first official language spoken, 1,280 (97.0%) can have a conversation in both official languages. On the other hand, 2,640 of the 58,560 citizens that have identified English as their first official language spoken (4.5%) can have a conversation in both official languages.
- The proportion of youth (19 years and less) among those whose first official language spoken is English (41.0%) is much higher than that among French speakers (13.5%).
- The percentage of individuals with only an elementary level of education (grade 8 or less) is approximately two times lower among those whose first official language spoken is French than among those whose first official language spoken is English (7.7% versus 17.7%).
- The average income for citizens whose first official language spoken is French (\$42,059) is somewhat higher than that for English speakers (\$29,404).
- Among those who changed residence between censuses, the interprovincial migration rate is lower for persons whose first official language spoken is French (2.6% versus 4.0% for English speakers).
- The proportion of immigrants among those whose first official language spoken is English is very high in comparison with the rate among those whose first official language spoken is French (5.0% versus 4.5%).
- Concerning non-immigrants, the percentage of French-speaking individuals born outside the province (89.7%) is twice that for English speakers (41.0%).
- In comparison with the other provinces and territories, the exogamy rate for Francophone families in the Northwest Territories is very high (70%) and the index of linguistic continuity (0.43) is well below the average (0.64). (A language continuity index less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.)

Table 1 (Northwest Territories)

Population Profile by Mother Tongue

Mother Tongue	#	%
- French ¹	1,355	2.1
- English ¹	35,835	55.9
- French and English	105	0.2
- Other	26,830	41.8
- Total population	64,125	100.0

Table 2 (Northwest Territories)

Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken

Language	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Language	1,320	2.1	58,560	91.3
Knowledge of both languages	1,280	97.0	2,640	4.5
Sex - men	780	59.1	30,310	51.8
- women	540	40.9	28,255	48.2
Age 0-19	175	13.5	24,015	41.0
20-34	355	27.3	16,665	28.4
35-64	715	55.0	16,825	28.7
65 and over	55	4.2	1,080	1.8
Education ² (15 years and over)				
- elementary	90	7.7	6,860	17.3
- secondary	290	24.7	12,075	30.4
- college or equivalent	455	37.9	13,415	33.7
- university	350	29.8	7,415	18.6

Table 2 (*Northwest Territories continued*)

Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken

	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Unemployment rate		4.8		13.1
Labour force (15 years and over)	1,035	87.3	29,865	75.1
Population not in labour force ³	150	12.7	9,910	24.9
Annual income (15 years and over)				
- less than \$5,000	70	6.0	7,405	20.0
- \$5,000 - \$24,999	300	25.8	12,400	33.6
- \$25,000 - \$49,999	380	32.6	8,835	24.0
- \$50,000 and over	415	35.6	8,230	22.3
Average annual income	42,059		29,409	
Occupation (15 years and over)				
Management, business and administration	290	28.3	8,095	28.0
Natural and applied sciences, health	95	9.3	2,585	8.9
Social sciences, education, administration	135	13.2	3,255	11.3
Art, culture, recreation and sports	25	2.4	1,085	3.8
Sales and services	220	21.5	7,095	24.5
Trades, transport and equipment operators	190	18.5	5,020	17.4
Professions unique to primary industry	55	5.4	1,275	4.4
Manufacturing and public utilities	15	1.5	500	1.7
Total	1,025	100.0	28,910	100.0
Mobility (5 years and over)				
- Migrants ⁴	575		13,715	
- External migrants	15	2.6	550	4.0
- Interprovincial migrants	485	84.0	8,200	59.8
- Intraprovincial migrants	75	13.1	4,965	36.2
Immigrants ⁵	60	4.5	2,940	5.0
Non-immigrants	1,260		55,520	
- born in province of residence	130	10.3	32,735	59.0
- born outside province of residence	1,130	89.7	22,785	41.0

Table 3 (Northwest Territories)

French Mother Tongue, Exogamy and Language Continuity Index

Exogamy ⁶	70%
Language continuity index ⁷	0.43

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.

⁶ Cases where the spouses in a couple have different mother tongues.

⁷ This index represents the relation between the number of persons speaking French most often at home and the number of persons for whom French is the mother tongue. A continuity index of less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.

Sources: 1) Statistics Canada, 1996 Census
2) Canadian Heritage, *Francophone Minorities: Assimilation and Community Vitality*, 1998

YUKON

HIGHLIGHTS OF TABLES 1, 2 AND 3

- 1,110 persons (3.6%) have identified French as their mother tongue, while 1,085 (3.5%) have identified French as their first official language spoken.
- 3,035 individuals (9.9%) have a mother tongue other than English or French.
- Of the 1,080 citizens that have identified French as their first official language spoken, 1,035 (95.4%) can have a conversation in both official languages. On the other hand, 2,105 of the 29,455 citizens that have identified English as their first official language spoken (7.2%) can have a conversation in both official languages.
- The proportion of youth (19 years and less) among those whose first official language spoken is English (31.1%) is much higher than that among French speakers (20.7%).
- The percentage of individuals with only an elementary level of education (grade 8 or less) among those whose first official language spoken is French is similar to that among those whose first official language spoken is English (6.0% versus 5.6%).
- The average income for citizens whose first official language spoken is French (\$32,282) is slightly higher than that for English speakers (\$28,986).
- Among those who changed residence between censuses, the interprovincial migration rate is slightly lower for persons whose first official language spoken is French (3.8% versus 4.5% for English speakers).
- The proportion of immigrants among those whose first official language spoken is English (10.4%) is slightly higher than the rate among those whose first official language spoken is French (6.9%).
- Concerning non-immigrants, the percentage of French-speaking individuals born outside the province (88.1%) is greater than that for English speakers (62.2%).
- In comparison with the other provinces and territories, the exogamy rate for Francophone families in Yukon is very high (65%) and the index of linguistic continuity (0.46) is well below the average (0.64). (A language continuity index less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.)

Table 1 (Yukon)

Population Profile by Mother Tongue

Mother Tongue	#	%
- French ¹	1,110	
- English ¹	26,405	
- French and English	105	
- Other		
- Total population	30,650	100.0

Table 2 (Yukon)

Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken

Language	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Language	1,075	3.5	29,455	96.1
Knowledge of both languages	1,030	95.4	2,105	7.2
Sex - men	610	56.2	15,175	51.5
- women	475	43.8	14,285	48.5
Age 0-19	220	20.7	9,170	31.1
20-34	250	23.5	7,150	24.3
35-64	555	52.1	11,910	40.4
65 and over	40	3.8	1,230	4.2
Education ² (15 years and over)				
- elementary	55	6.0	1,240	5.6
- secondary	200	22.0	6,840	30.7
- college or equivalent	310	34.1	8,410	37.8
- university	345	37.9	5,795	26.0

Table 2 (Yukon continued)

Population Profile by First Official Language Spoken

	FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SPOKEN			
	French		English	
	#	%	#	%
Unemployment rate		10.1		11.1
Labour force (15 years and over)	790	86.8	18,110	81.2
Population not in labour force ³	120	13.2	4,185	18.8
Annual income (15 years and over)				
- less than \$5,000	95	11.0	2,960	14.0
- \$5,000 - \$24,999	290	33.7	7,650	36.1
- \$25,000 - \$49,999	275	32.0	6,695	31.6
- \$50,000 and over	200	23.3	3,885	18.3
Average annual income	32,289		28,986	
Occupation (15 years and over)				
Management, business and administration	210		5,000	
Natural and applied sciences, health	70		1,585	
Social sciences, education, administration	15		1,785	
Art, culture, recreation and sports	125		500	
Sales and services	185		4,525	
Trades, transport and equipment operators	135		3,255	
Professions unique to primary industry	45		705	
Manufacturing and public utilities	10		365	
Total	795		17,520	100.0
Mobility (5 years and over)				
- Migrants ⁴	395		7,725	
- External migrants	15	3.8	345	4.5
- Interprovincial migrants	355	89.9	5,570	72.1
- Intraprovincial migrants	30	7.6	1,810	23.4
Immigrants ⁵	75	6.9	3,065	10.4
Non-immigrants	1,005		26,315	
- born in province of residence	120	11.9	9,945	37.8
- born outside province of residence	885	88.1	16,370	62.2

Table 3 (Yukon)

French Mother Tongue, Exogamy and Language Continuity Index

Exogamy ⁶	65%
Language continuity index ⁷	0.46

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.

⁶ Cases where the spouses in a couple have different mother tongues.

⁷ This index represents the relation between the number of persons speaking French most often at home and the number of persons for whom French is the mother tongue. A continuity index of less than 1 means that French registers more losses than gains in its exchanges with other languages.

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