

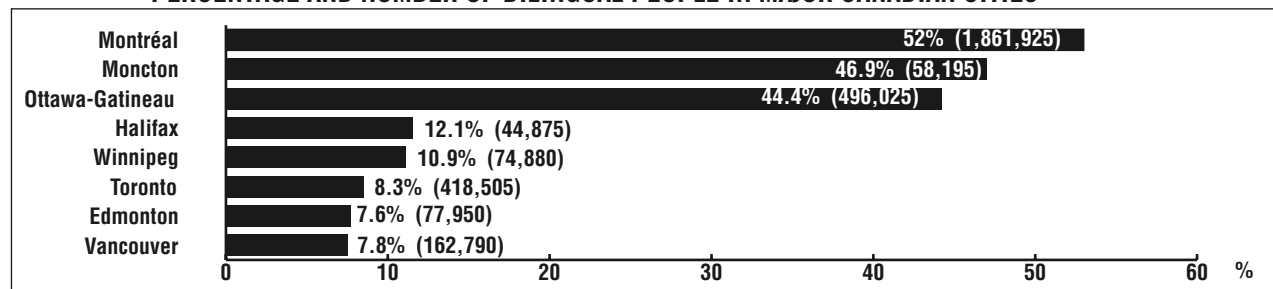


Canada's Official Languages

A few statistics

- 18 million Canadians (57.8% of the population) are native English speakers and 7 million Canadians (22.1%) are native French speakers.
- 26.6 million Canadians (85% of the population) can speak English and 9.6 million Canadians (30.7% of the population) can speak French.
- About 2 million Canadians live in official language minority communities. The 2006 census showed that there were 944,720 people in Quebec whose first official language spoken was English, while 997,130 people outside Quebec stated that French was their first official language spoken.
- By using English and French as official languages, the Government of Canada can communicate with more than 98% of the Canadian population.
- In 2006, 9.4% of people whose mother tongue is English said they were bilingual, compared to 9% in 2001.
- Outside Quebec, a national network of French-language schools provides instruction to close to 150,000 Francophone students.
- In Quebec, a network of nine school boards provide primary and secondary instructions to more than 110,000 young Anglophones.

PERCENTAGE AND NUMBER OF BILINGUAL PEOPLE IN MAJOR CANADIAN CITIES



Source: 2006 Census – Statistics Canada

* Montréal has more bilingual workers and people who speak at least three languages than any other city in North America.

Bilingualism among young people

- About 2 million students are learning French and one million young people in Quebec are learning English as a second language.
- During the 2005-2006 school year, about 300,000 Anglophone students were registered in French immersion programs across the country.
- Almost one-quarter of young people aged 15 to 29 say that they are bilingual.