

Section 9.—Language Spoken and Mother Tongue.

Official Languages.—In the Census of 1931 1,322,370 persons were reported as speaking both the official languages of Canada, 6,999,913 speaking English, 1,779,338 speaking French and 275,165 as unable to speak either English or French. In Table 35 the population is classified by racial origin and as able to speak one, both or neither of the official languages. (Children under 5 years of age are classed as speaking the language of the home.)

Mother Tongue.—By mother tongue is meant the language learned in childhood and still spoken by the individual. In the case of foreign-born persons it is the native language or the language spoken before coming to Canada. Table 36 giving the mother tongue by provinces shows that 1,630,086 persons did not have either English or French as a mother tongue. The largest number speaking a foreign language as a mother tongue is in Ontario with 398,476 but the largest percentage is in Saskatchewan with 39 p.c.

35.—Population of Canada Speaking One, Both or Neither of the Official Languages of Canada, Classified by Racial Origin, 1931.

NOTE.—Children under 5 years of age have been classed as speaking the language of the home.

Origin.	Total Population.	Language Spoken.			
		English.	French.	English and French.	Neither English nor French.
British Races.....	5,381,071	5,173,483	16,964	189,516	1,108
English.....	2,741,419	2,642,995	6,802	91,298	324
Irish.....	1,230,808	1,165,003	5,651	60,030	124
Scottish.....	1,346,350	1,304,403	4,458	36,848	641
Other.....	62,494	61,082	53	1,340	19
European Races.....	4,753,242	1,675,737	1,757,851	1,122,566	197,088
French.....	2,927,990	136,249	1,745,975	1,044,388	1,378
Austrian, n.e.s.....	48,639	41,413	144	987	6,095
Belgian.....	27,585	12,895	2,523	11,213	954
Czech and Slovak.....	30,401	24,454	65	394	5,488
Danish.....	34,118	32,183	43	805	1,087
Dutch.....	148,962	134,801	58	1,999	12,104
Finnish.....	43,885	34,601	22	343	8,919
German.....	473,544	436,601	1,378	9,220	26,345
Hebrew.....	156,726	126,399	177	21,861	8,289
Hungarian.....	40,582	31,239	55	564	8,724
Icelandic.....	19,382	18,217	4	103	1,058
Italian.....	98,173	66,810	5,902	16,822	8,639
Norwegian.....	93,243	89,472	153	910	2,708
Polish.....	145,503	114,668	401	3,513	26,921
Roumanian.....	29,056	23,490	125	1,261	4,180
Russian.....	88,148	69,335	169	1,734	16,910
Swedish.....	81,306	77,956	61	968	2,321
Ukrainian.....	225,113	173,427	99	2,011	49,576
Yugoslavic.....	16,174	13,178	23	178	2,795
Other.....	24,712	18,349	474	3,292	2,597
Asiatic Races.....	84,548	57,648	916	3,984	22,000
Chinese.....	46,519	32,190	46	443	13,840
Japanese.....	23,342	16,281	1	112	6,948
Syrian.....	10,753	6,415	740	3,101	497
Other.....	3,934	2,762	129	328	715
Indian and Eskimo.....	128,890	65,855	2,612	5,553	54,870
Various.....	20,137	19,411	83	593	50
Unspecified.....	8,898	7,779	912	158	49
Canada.....	10,376,786	6,999,913	1,779,338	1,322,370	275,165