

Subsection 3.—Languages and Racial Origins of Immigrants

Languages of Immigrants.—At the Census of 1941, only 115,414 persons or 1 p.c. of the total population was unable to speak either English or French, but the percentages, by racial origins, of those speaking neither official language varied greatly. A short discussion of this subject will be found at p. 124.

The Immigration Branch does not record the ability of immigrants to speak the official tongues of the Dominion; the statistics appearing in Table 5 relate only to the mother tongue of the immigrant. The great majority of those coming from the United States naturally give English as their mother tongue, regardless of their racial origin. In the calendar year 1944, 309 persons (10 years of age or over) coming from the United States, many of whom were undoubtedly of French-Canadian origin, gave French as their mother tongue. In that year, persons from all countries giving English as their mother tongue constituted 94·5 p.c. of the total and those giving French 3·5 p.c.

5.—Mother Tongues of Immigrants, 10 Years of Age or Over, 1935-44

NOTE.—Dashes in this table indicate that no immigrants were reported for the corresponding stub item

Language	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Albanian.....	1	3	7	5	5	-	-	-	-	-
Armenian (Aramaic).....	1	5	3	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
Bulgarian.....	10	13	27	20	13	2	-	-	-	-
Chinese.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatian (Serbian).....	214	305	438	460	185	43	3	1	5	12
Czech (Bohemian).....	356	490	989	1,389	673	100	20	14	13	14
Danish.....	21	19	38	36	73	23	7	3	12	4
East Indian.....	21	10	8	8	16	6	1	3	-	-
English.....	5,367	5,397	6,643	7,142	7,431	8,206	7,497	6,023	6,518	9,054
Estonian.....	3	3	-	8	5	-	-	1	2	1
Finnish.....	37	36	65	56	60	10	7	6	7	4
Flemish.....	53	43	62	131	90	8	7	1	5	3
French.....	507	485	478	623	559	501	356	256	295	332
German.....	274	282	511	571	1,944	208	50	40	21	28
Greek.....	44	56	76	106	103	45	12	3	6	5
Hungarian (Magyar).....	234	265	436	507	383	94	21	2	14	7
Icelandic.....	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	1
Italian.....	265	245	367	337	183	105	8	4	10	4
Japanese.....	66	96	130	52	40	38	5	-	-	-
Lettish.....	-	3	7	4	3	5	2	-	1	-
Lithuanian.....	22	38	43	40	50	15	4	2	2	-
Netherland.....	26	53	58	95	190	56	30	8	7	4
Norwegian.....	29	36	25	20	43	27	16	26	6	3
Polish.....	707	793	1,215	1,440	1,198	62	47	19	20	37
Portuguese.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
Roumanian.....	64	65	103	142	90	12	12	4	6	2
Russian.....	32	36	42	29	88	16	23	7	6	19
Russniak ¹	184	266	401	728	665	5	2	1	7	3
Slovenian.....	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spanish.....	7	9	11	7	8	21	11	7	8	11
Swedish.....	18	15	41	28	14	12	4	7	6	8
Syrian (Arabic).....	13	15	16	18	13	2	4	-	1	5
Turkish.....	-	4	1	1	1	-	4	-	-	1
Yiddish and Hebrew.....	158	197	110	93	197	36	41	12	17	20
Not given.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Totals.....	8,736	9,286	12,354	14,099	14,326	9,660	8,195	6,452	6,998	9,582

¹ Includes Ruthenian and Ukrainian.