

20.—Percentage Distribution of the Population Speaking One, Both or Neither of the "Official" Languages, by Sex and by Province, Census 1961

NOTE.—See text and footnote *re* the term "official language" on p. 179.

Province or Territory	English Only			French Only		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Newfoundland.....	98.2	98.8	98.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Prince Edward Island.....	91.1	91.1	91.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
Nova Scotia.....	92.8	93.0	92.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
New Brunswick.....	61.9	62.1	62.0	17.8	19.7	18.7
Quebec.....	11.1	12.0	11.6	58.2	65.6	61.9
Ontario.....	89.0	89.0	89.0	1.4	1.6	1.5
Manitoba.....	89.9	89.3	89.6	0.8	0.9	0.9
Saskatchewan.....	93.9	93.2	93.6	0.4	0.5	0.4
Alberta.....	94.3	94.0	94.1	0.4	0.4	0.4
British Columbia.....	95.3	95.3	95.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Yukon Territory.....	92.6	94.7	93.5	0.2	0.3	0.3
Northwest Territories.....	61.4	55.8	58.9	0.4	0.6	0.5
Canada.....	67.5	67.2	67.4	17.8	20.5	19.1
	English and French			Neither		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Newfoundland.....	1.4	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Prince Edward Island.....	7.6	7.6	7.6	0.2	0.2	0.2
Nova Scotia.....	6.3	5.9	6.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
New Brunswick.....	20.0	18.0	19.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
Quebec.....	29.7	21.2	25.5	0.9	1.2	1.1
Ontario.....	8.3	7.5	7.9	1.3	1.9	1.6
Manitoba.....	7.5	7.3	7.4	1.8	2.5	2.1
Saskatchewan.....	4.6	4.5	4.5	1.2	1.8	1.5
Alberta.....	4.4	4.1	4.3	0.9	1.5	1.2
British Columbia.....	3.7	3.3	3.5	0.8	1.2	1.0
Yukon Territory.....	6.7	4.3	5.6	0.5	0.7	0.6
Northwest Territories.....	7.9	5.9	7.0	30.3	37.7	33.6
Canada.....	13.6	10.8	12.2	1.1	1.5	1.3

Among the 2,231,000 persons reporting ability to speak both English and French, certain characteristics stand out. In the first place, a high percentage (80 p.c.) were residents of urban centres, close to 70 p.c. living in the larger cities of 100,000 population or over. Secondly, with three fifths of the bilingual population residing in the Province of Quebec, it is obvious that a substantial proportion of this group were of French ethnic background. Actually 1,666,000 or 75 p.c. of the population speaking both languages were recorded in the 1961 Census as of the French ethnic group. Thirdly, the study of language by age groups reveals a tendency for the percentage of persons able to speak both languages to rise steadily from childhood to around 45 years and decline gradually in the older age groups. This percentage rose from 4 p.c. among children under 15 years of age to 20 p.c. for males between 20 and 45 years. Largely because of the higher proportion of males than females over 15 years in the labour force, the percentage of the latter able to speak both English and French was somewhat lower than for males.