

Languages in Saskatchewan

2021 Census of Canada

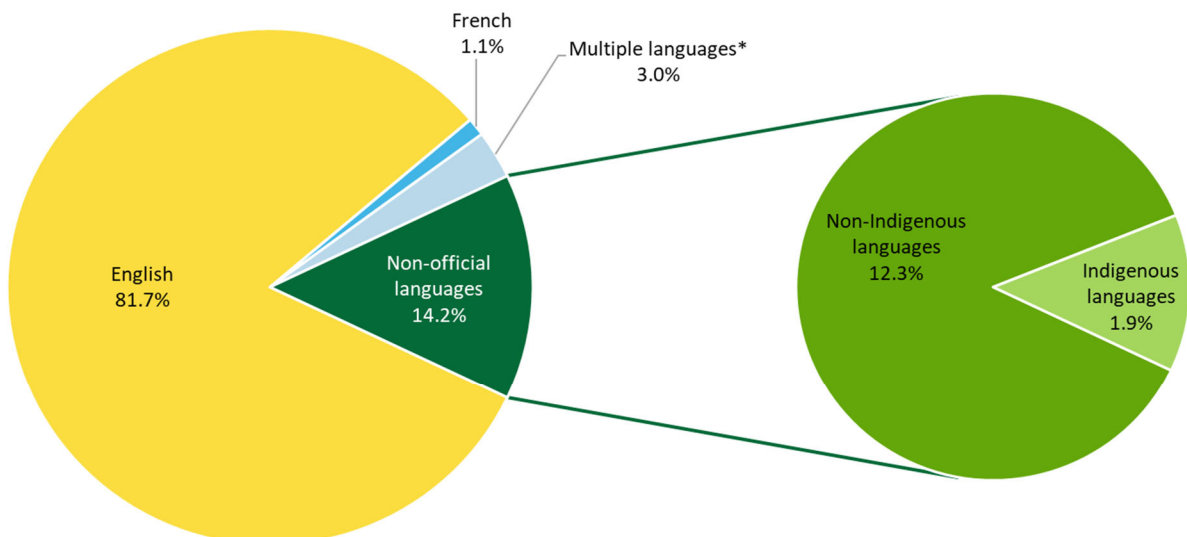
This report highlights key indicators of Statistics Canada’s release on linguistic characteristics from the 2021 Census.

LANGUAGE

In 2021, 81.7 per cent of the Saskatchewan population (excluding institutional residents) reported English as their mother tongue, down from 82.4 per cent in 2016. French as a mother tongue was reported by 1.1 per cent of Saskatchewan residents, a decrease from 1.4 per cent in 2016. Non-official languages made up 14.2 per cent of reported mother tongues down from 14.5 per cent in 2016. Multiple mother tongues represented the remaining 3.0 per cent of responses, up from 1.7 per cent in 2016.

Figure 1 shows the distribution of mother tongues in Saskatchewan.

Figure 1: Distribution of mother tongues in Saskatchewan - 2021 Census



* Reported more than one language as mother tongue including English or French.
Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Canada

The three most common non-official languages reported as mother tongue in Saskatchewan were, Tagalog at 2.0 per cent, German at 1.4 per cent and Mandarin at 0.8 per cent.

KNOWLEDGE OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

According to the 2021 Census, 99.2 per cent of all Saskatchewan population (excluding institutional residents) reported knowledge of at least one official language: 94.5 per cent reported being able to only speak English, 4.7 per cent knew both English and French, 0.8 per cent knew neither English or French and a negligible portion speak French only.

In every province, more than 97 per cent of the population reported having knowledge of at least one of Canada’s official languages, apart from British Columbia at 96.7 per cent.

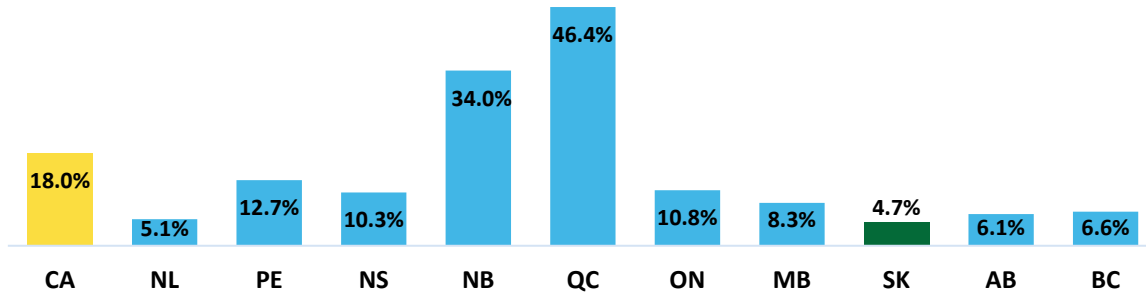
Overall, 98.1 per cent of Canadians reported knowledge of at least one official language.

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Figure 2 shows the percentage of population with knowledge of both official languages in Canada and provinces.

Figure 2: Knowledge of both Official Languages - 2021 Census



Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Canada

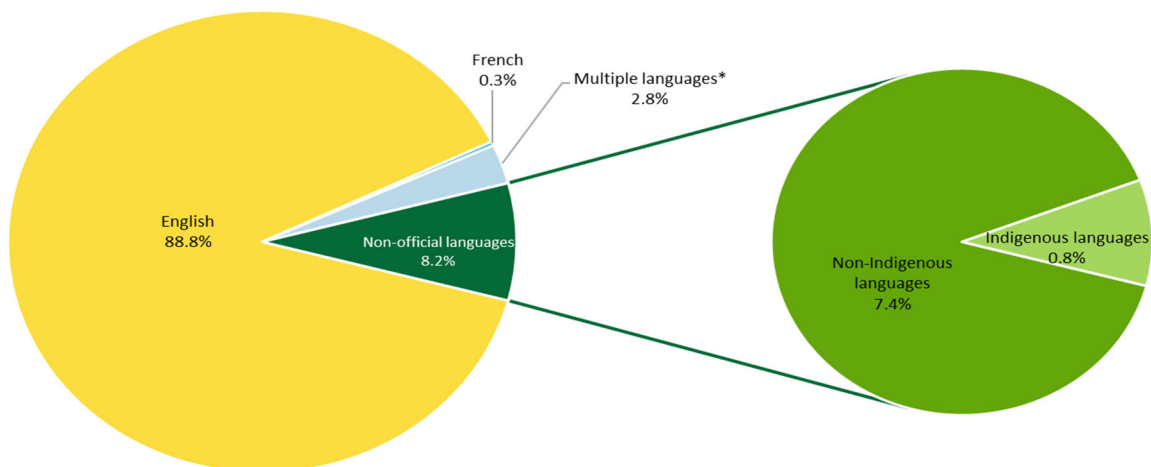
LANGUAGE SPOKEN MOST OFTEN AT HOME

In 2021, 97.2 per cent of all Saskatchewan population (excluding institutional residents) reported only one home language: 88.8 per cent reported speaking only English at home, 8.2 per cent spoke non-official languages at home, 2.8 per cent reported speaking more than one language at home and a negligible portion spoke French only at home.

English as a sole home language declined by 0.3 percentage points from the previous Census, the sixth highest decrease among the provinces. This change is largely due to the growth of non-official languages.

Figure 3 shows the distribution of languages spoken most often at home in Saskatchewan.

Figure 3: Distribution of languages spoken most often at home in Saskatchewan - 2021 Census



* Reported more than one language spoken most often at home including English or French.
Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Canada

All data in this report are preliminary and subject to revision. For more details, contact the Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics at (306) 787-6330 or visit: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/stats>
Additional information is available at [Statistics Canada](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-62-001/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm).