## Yukon Bureau of Statistics



The following statistics are from the 2006 Census of Canada, which took place on May 16, 2006.

- The majority of Yukoners ( $85 \%$ ) reported English as their single mother tongue, followed by French (4\%), German (3\%) and Athapaskan languages (2\%).
- Eighty-eight percent of Yukoners knew only English as one of Canada's official languages, and 11\% knew both English and French.
- Nintey-five percent of Yukoners reported English as the language most often spoken at home.

Selected Trend Data for the Yukon, 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses

| Percentage of population... | 1996 | 2001 | 2006 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\ldots$ whose mother tongue is English only | 86.1 | 86.2 | 84.9 |
| $\ldots$ whose mother tongue is French only | 3.6 | 3.1 | 3.7 |
| $\ldots$ whose mother tongue is a non-official language only | 8.8 | 9.5 | 10.5 |
| $\ldots$ who speak English and/or French most often at home | 97.6 | 97.6 | 96.9 |
| $\ldots$ who speak a non-official language most often at home | 2.4 | 2.4 | 3.1 |
| $\ldots$ with knowledge of an official language | 99.8 | 99.7 | 99.6 |
| $\ldots$ with knowledge of both official languages | 10.5 | 10.1 | 11.4 |

- Anglophones-those people who reported English as their mother tongue-still accounted for the majority of Yukoners. Although their numbers rose between 2001 and 2006, their share of the population declined.
- Conversely, both the number of Francophones (those who reported French as their mother tongue) and their
share of the population has increased back to 1996 numbers.
- While the percentage of the population who speak a non-official language most often at home has increased since 2001, so has the percentage of the population who reported having knowledge of both official languages.


## Mother Tongues in the Yukon, 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses

|  | 1996 | 2001 | 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total - Detailed mother tongue | 30,655 | 28,525 | 30,195 |
| Single responses | 30,215 | 28,185 | 29,940 |
| English | 26,405 | 24,590 | 25,655 |
| French | 1,110 | 890 | 1,105 |
| Non-official languages | 2,700 | 2,705 | 3,180 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Aboriginal languages | 775 | 760 | 880 |
| Romance languages | 105 | 125 | 170 |
| Germanic languages | 890 | 885 | 950 |
| Celtic languages | 10 | 30 | 10 |
| Slavic languages | 240 | 180 | 280 |
| Baltic languages | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Finno-Ugric languages | 105 | 95 | 100 |
| Greek | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Afro-Asiatic languages | N/A | N/A | 20 |
| Semitic languages | 0 | 15 | 20 |
| Indo-Iranian languages | 160 | 155 | 90 |
| Dravidian languages | 0 | 10 | 20 |
| Japanese | 15 | 10 | 25 |
| Korean | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Sino-Tibetan languages | 120 | 180 | 260 |
| Tai languages | 0 | 30 | 20 |
| Austro-Asiatic languages | 170 | 65 | 105 |
| Malayo-Polynesian languages | 75 | 140 | 165 |
| Niger-Congo languages | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Creoles | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Other languages | 0 | 0 | 20 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Multiple responses | 440 | 335 | 250 |
| English and French | 105 | 85 | 110 |
| English and non-official language | 310 | 245 | 130 |
| French and non-official language | 20 | 0 | 10 |
| English, French and non-official language | 0 | 10 | 0 |

Note: Mother tongue refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual.

- In 2006 the majority of Yukoners reported English as their sole mother tongue (85\%), while 4\% reported French and 9\% had a
non-official language as a mother tongue. Just under one percent of Yukoners indicated having more than one mother tongue.
- In 2006, German was the most predominant non-official language mother tongue in the Yukon, with $25 \%$ of allophones (persons whose mother tongue is neither English nor French) listing it as their single mother tongue, followed by Athapaskan languages (20\%) and Chinese languages (8\%).
- After taking a dip in 2001, the 2006 number of Yukoners who listed French as their sole mother tongue were essentially back to where they were in 1996.
- There has been a steady increase in the number of Yukoners reporting a Malayan-Polynesian language as a mother tongue; the majority of those people learned Tagalog as a child.
- There was also a strong increase in the numbers of Yukoners who reported a Sino-Tibetan language (Chinese languages) as a mother tongue; 2006 saw an increase of $44 \%$ in this category over 2001.
- The number of Yukoners listing an Aboriginal language as a sole mother tongue increased by $16 \%$ in 2006, notably in the Algonquian languages, Athapaskan languages, and Inuktitut.
- Conversely, there were $42 \%$ fewer Yukoners in 2006 who reported an Indo-Iranian language as a mother tongue.
- The grouping for those with English and a non-official language as a mother tongue increased steadily between 1996 and 2006.


## Knowledge of Official Languages, Yukon 2006



- 26,515 of Yukon's 30,190 residents reported knowing only English as one of Canada's official languages, making up $88 \%$ of the population.
- Less than half of a percent of Yukoners knew only French, a similar amount knew neither English nor French, and 11\% knew English and French.

Knowledge of Non-Official Languages, Yukon, 2006

| ------Knowledge of Non-Official Languages------ |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total population | No nonofficial language | One nonofficial language | Two nonofficial languages | 3+ nonofficial languages |
| Under 5 years | 1,725 | 1,630 | 95 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 to 9 years | 1,835 | 1,665 | 160 | 10 | 0 |
| 10 to 14 years | 2,145 | 1,925 | 210 | 0 | 0 |
| 15 to 19 years | 2,270 | 2,020 | 225 | 20 | 0 |
| 20 to 24 years | 1,875 | 1,615 | 235 | 25 | 0 |
| 25 to 29 years | 1,755 | 1,520 | 220 | 15 | 0 |
| 30 to 34 years | 2,035 | 1,750 | 260 | 25 | 0 |
| 35 to 39 years | 2,170 | 1,835 | 290 | 45 | 0 |
| 40 to 44 years | 2,730 | 2,255 | 420 | 55 | 0 |
| 45 to 49 years | 3,040 | 2,490 | 465 | 85 | 0 |
| 50 to 54 years | 2,780 | 2,295 | 415 | 60 | 0 |
| 55 to 59 years | 2,245 | 1,835 | 350 | 55 | 10 |
| 60 to 64 years | 1,380 | 1,105 | 255 | 20 | 0 |
| 65 to 69 years | 840 | 595 | 225 | 20 | 0 |
| 70 to 74 years | 620 | 415 | 180 | 25 | 0 |
| 75 years+ | 735 | 545 | 180 | 15 | 0 |
| Total population | 30,190 | 25,510 | 4,195 | 480 | 15 |

- Eighty-four percent of Yukoners reported knowledge only of English and/or French.
- Of the rest, 4,195 or 14\% reported knowledge of one non-official language.
- Just under two percent knew two non-official languages, and there were 15 Yukoners reported as knowing three or more non-official languages.
- The age categories for 65 and over had the highest percentage of people knowing at least one non-official language.


## Language Spoken Most Often at Home, Yukon, 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses

|  | $\mathbf{1 9 9 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| English | 29,070 | 27,215 | 28,535 |
| French | 490 | 415 | 540 |
| Non-official language | 755 | 700 | 930 |
| English and French | 105 | 30 | 65 |
| English and non-official language | 230 | 160 | 110 |
| French and non-official language | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| English, French and non-official language | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total—Language spoken most often at home | $\mathbf{3 0 , 6 5 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 8 , 5 2 0}$ | $\mathbf{3 0 , 1 9 0}$ |

- The census showed that in 2006, $95 \%$ of Yukoners spoke English at home. Other languages are not spoken at home as often as they are reported as mother tongues. Three percent of Yukoners spoke a non-official language most often at home at the time of the Census, up slightly from $2.5 \%$ in 2001.
- 540 Yukoners spoke French most often at home in 2006, in comparison to 415 Yukoners in 2001, an increase of $30 \%$. However, the percentage of the total population who spoke French most often at home increased by less than half of a percent.


Additional information:
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