



2017

Canadians becoming more
bilingual, linguistically diverse,
census data shows

Number of Canadians who speak a language other than
French or English at home up 14.5 per cent (By Éric

Grenier, [CBC News](#) Posted: Aug 02, 2017 9:16 AM
ET Last Updated: Aug 11, 2017 2:43 PM ET)

Canada's linguistic make-up is becoming more diverse, as the share of Canadians who speak a language other than French or English at home is increasing. But the rate of French-English bilingualism in Canada has also never been higher.

- **UPDATE: [StatsCan blames computer error for spike in English-speakers in Quebec](#)**

These are some of the trends revealed by the latest Statistics Canada release from the 2016 census of the population.

- **Interactive: [How does your family compare to others in Canada?](#)**
- **Highlights: [Latest census data on marriage, families and language](#)**
- **[More Canadians living alone and without children, census data show](#)**

The share of Canadians who speak a non-official language at home has increased significantly since 2011, up 14.5 per cent to 7.6 million.

Nearly 23 per cent of Canadians reported having an "other" mother tongue in 2016, up from 21.3 per cent in 2011. By comparison, 21.3 per cent said that French was their mother tongue — including 78.4 per cent of Quebecers.

Still, no single language other than English or French is spoken at home by more than two per cent of the population.

"We have to be careful in comparing French to 200 other languages," said Jean-Pierre Corbeil, an assistant director at Statistics Canada. "French isn't going to be overtaken by another language in the foreseeable future, particularly when English and French are the languages of integration for immigrants."

The data shows that 69.9 per cent of Canadians who have a non-official language as their mother tongue speak English or French regularly at home, while just 1.9

per cent of Canadians say they cannot hold a conversation in either language.

The most frequently spoken language at home other than English or French was Mandarin, spoken by 641,100 Canadians. It was followed by Cantonese (594,705), Punjabi (568,375), Spanish (553,495), Tagalog (525,375) and Arabic (514,200).

[For more on this article, click here](#)



1. Work at top international organizations: UNO, Council of Europe, European Space Agency, International Olympic Committee, NATO, Médecin sans frontières and

many more, who have French as their only, or one of their few official languages.

2. Travel the world: French is, together with English, the only language spoken on all continents. Except Antarctica. Maybe. Depending on whether or not there are currently some French explorers there - Do you really want to travel to Antarctica?



The Standing Senate Committee on Official Languages is travelling to each province as part of its study on the modernization of the Official Languages Act. CPF PEI was asked to recommend some students for consultation. Thomas was one of the students we recommended.

Hi CPF PEI!

I am emailing you to tell you that I have confirmed my interest in appearing before the public hearing presented to me by the Standing Senate Committee On Official Languages.

I would like to thank you for recommending me for this engaging opportunity as I feel it is a wonderful privilege, graciously supported by the Canadian Parents for French.

I also would like to greatly express my appreciation for all the support I have received in every aspect of my French language learning, and pursuits to further it, from the PEI CPF branch.

Thank you once again,
Thomas Haslam



CPF PEI Member of the Month is Dylan Mullally, Charlottetown. This is brought to you by McDonalds.



CPF PEI Board of Directors

President Nancy Kitson
VP Kelly MacNeill
Treasurer Stacy Thain
Member Kelly Doran
Executive Director Gail Lecky
Projects Sheri Brumsey
902-368-3703 pei.cpf.ca

State of French Second Language Education in PEI
Project: Mary MacPhee.

Word of the day:

Summer has not gone yet but we might remind you, just the same, of some words used at the beach this summer.

le transat = lounge chair
boules = pétanque or bocce ball
la peau = skin
le parasol = beach umbrella
à plus = bye for now

CPF PEI recognizes and thanks the [Department of Canadian Heritage](#) for its continued financial support of our projects and activities. /CPF PEI désire remercier le [Ministère du Patrimoine canadien](#) pour son soutien financier continu de nos projets et activités



Watch of the CPF PEI Concours d'art oratoire coming in the spring of 2018. Winners in the PEI Concours have the opportunity to proceed to the CPF National Concours and win thousands in scholarships, enjoy a great experience and grow

their abilities in French! Want to know more call 902-368-3703 or email glecky@cpfpei.pe.ca.



On June 3, 2017, thirty-eight of Canada's best and brightest French second language students from grades 11 and 12 met in the National Capital region to compete in the Canadian Parents for French 15th annual National *Concours d'art oratoire* finals.

The event, which offers over \$500,000 in scholarships from the *University of Ottawa*, *Université de Moncton*, *Université Sainte-Anne*, and *Université de Saint-Boniface*, is a reminder that year after year Canadian youth continue to want to be bilingual and that access to quality French second language programs is an important means to attaining this goal.

As the top 38 contestants from a total of 62,000 participants nationwide, the students competed in five categories ranging from Core French to Francophone. They spoke on topics such as the preservation of Indigenous languages, the qualities that make a good leader, as well as the importance of French as a second language.

Participants spent two nights in the National Capital region, and participated in excursions to commemorate Canada's 150, including a bilingual tour of Parliament Hill, as well as a scavenger hunt throughout Ottawa's downtown core.

Please see the following link if you would like further information:

<http://cpf.ca/en/activities/youth-activities/concours-dart-oratoire/>

How Parents Can Support French Immersion

Students

"Leaning French as a second language" is a compilation of blog entries by Martine Brouillet, founder, and director of [Camp Tournesol](#). Click [HERE](#) for a PDF version of her e-book of blog entries written about bilingualism and supporting children learning French as a second language.

CPF National in Partnership with the Council of the Network of Official Languages Champions

Last year, the Council of the Network of Official Languages Champions brought together key Official Languages representatives including Canadian Parents for French to examine and propose concrete measures to enhance external recruitment, language testing and retention, cultural change and policy change.

As part of this review, and with a goal to encourage and promote bilingualism as an essential benefit to potential and future employees of the public service, the Council of the Network and its partners created two videos. The videos aim to encourage students to develop their second Official Language skills and choose a career in the public service. Please feel free to promote these videos within your Branches and Chapters and share them with your own networks.

Link to video for high school students:

English version: osez-dare.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

French version: osez-dare.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Link to video for university students:

English version: osez-dare.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

French version: osez-dare.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

CPF National has recently updated its [Early Childhood Activity Workbook](#), designed to introduce your child to French in a friendly and natural way. For parents and educators, there is information and interesting facts about

French second language (FSL) programs. [Download](#) the free workbook online or [click here](#) to order a hard copy today from the CPF National Office.

To celebrate CPF's 40th anniversary, the National office has updated the interactive website timeline and the *Our Legacy* video. Both capture moments throughout CPF's history that have led to the organization becoming the leader in FSL education it is today.

The timeline can be viewed here:

<http://www.cpfnationallegacy.ca/>

The video is available on YouTube: <http://bit.ly/2rV8x9r>



Canadian Parents for french PEI
PO Box 2785
Charlottetown, PE C1A 8C4
40 Enman Crescent, Room 275
902-368-3703 pei.cpf.ca
info@cpfpei.pe.ca

Promoting Opportunities for Young Canadians to learn and Use French

Like

Tweet

Forward

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)