

2006

Census Results

Language

March 2008

City of Mississauga, Planning and Building Department

No. 4a

On December 4, 2007, Statistics Canada released the fourth of a series of announcements from the 2006 Census of Canada, which was conducted on May 16, 2006. The release reported language, mobility patterns and immigration. Data regarding language are contained in this newsletter. For further information regarding the Census of Canada, please contact Statistics Canada at 1-613-951-8116 or 1-800 263-1136 or visit their website at www.statcan.ca.

LANGUAGE

Statistics Canada reports language information by a number of variables. This newsletter discusses knowledge of official languages, mother tongue, non-official languages and language spoken at home.

Knowledge of Official Languages

Canada has two official languages, English and French. According to the 2006 Census, 98% of the population can speak one or both of the official languages. In Mississauga, this proportion is marginally lower at 96%. Knowledge of English only in Mississauga, at 89%, is substantially higher than the country as a whole.

Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga								
Knowledge of Official Languages								
	Canada		Ontario		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Responses	31,241,030	100.0%	12,028,895	100.0%	5,072,075	100.00%	665,655	100.0%
English only	21,129,945	67.6%	10,335,700	85.9%	4,436,230	87.5%	591,205	88.8%
French only	4,141,850	13.3%	49,210	0.4%	4,435	0.1%	700	0.2%
English & French	5,448,850	17.4%	1,377,330	11.5%	418,505	8.3%	49,495	7.4%
Neither English nor French	520,385	1.7%	266,655	2.2%	212,900	4.1%	24,245	3.6%

Mother Tongue

Mother tongue refers to the first language learned at home and still understood. The share of the population whose mother tongue is neither English nor French has been increasing since the mid-1980s and in 2006 rose to one in five Canadians. The portions were considerably higher in Mississauga where almost one in two residents reported a mother tongue other than English or French. A person whose mother tongue is neither English or French is referred to as an Allophone.

Anglophones, or persons of English mother tongue, represent just over half of the Canadian population, although their share declined in 2006.

The share of Francophones, or persons of French mother tongue, also declined from 2001 to 2006.

In Mississauga, Anglophones represent less than half of the population. Their proportion has also declined considerably since 2001 when Anglophones accounted for 55% of respondents. In 2006 it was 48%. The proportion of Francophones remained below 2%.

Non-Official Language/ Language at Home

There were more than 200 non-official mother tongues reported in the 2006 Census. The proportion of Mississauga residents whose mother tongue was a non-official language was more than double the Canadian proportion, illustrating the City's diversity.

Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga								
Mother Tongue								
	Canada		Ontario		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Responses	31,241,030	100.0%	12,028,895	100.0%	5,072,075	100.0%	665,655	100.0%
Single Responses	30,848,270	98.7%	11,853,565	98.5%	4,965,405	97.9%	648,475	97.4%
English	17,882,775	57.2%	8,230,705	68.4%	2,746,480	54.1%	323,295	48.5%
French	6,817,655	21.8%	488,815	4.0%	58,590	1.2%	7,840	1.2%
Non-official Language	6,147,840	19.7%	3,134,045	26.1%	2,160,330	42.6%	317,340	47.7%
Multiple Responses	392,760	1.3%	175,330	1.5%	106,670	2.1%	17,180	2.6%
English & French	98,630	0.3%	32,690	0.3%	7,955	0.2%	1,020	0.2%
English & Non-official Language	240,010	0.8%	131,290	1.1%	92,665	1.8%	15,210	2.2%
French & Non-official Language	43,335	0.2%	7,785	0.1%	3,865	0.1%	580	0.1%
English, French & Non-official Language	10,790	0.0%	3,565	0.0%	2,185	0.0%	370	0.1%

**Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga
Mother Tongue: Top 10 Non-official Languages**

	Canada		Ontario		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-official Languages	6,441,890	20.6%	3,134,045	26.1%	2,160,335	42.6%	317,340	47.7%
1 Chinese Languages	1,012,170	3.2%	482,565	4.0%	410,855	8.1%	36,435	5.5%
2 Italian	455,040	1.5%	282,750	2.4%	185,760	3.7%	30,725	4.6%
3 German	450,570	1.4%	160,280	1.3%	132,745	2.6%	29,020	4.4%
4 Punjabi	367,505	1.2%	158,000	1.3%	108,380	2.1%	24,145	3.6%
5 Spanish	345,345	1.1%	155,315	1.3%	108,185	2.1%	18,745	2.8%
6 Arabic	261,640	0.8%	152,645	1.3%	100,425	2.0%	17,890	2.7%
7 Tagalog (Pilipino)	235,620	0.8%	140,885	1.2%	98,575	1.9%	17,290	2.6%
8 Portuguese	219,275	0.7%	117,370	1.0%	93,590	1.8%	16,580	2.5%
9 Polish	211,175	0.7%	114,820	1.0%	80,090	1.6%	14,145	2.1%
10 Urdu	145,805	0.5%	114,725	1.0%	65,210	1.3%	10,380	1.6%
Other Non-official Languages	2,737,745	8.8%	1,254,690	10.4%	776,520	15.3%	101,985	15.3%
Total Multiple Responses	392,760	1.3%	175,335	1.5%	106,670	2.1%	17,175	2.6%

**Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga
Language Spoken at Home: Official Languages**

	Canada		Ontario		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Responses	31,241,030	100.0%	12,028,895	100.0%	5,072,075	100.0%	665,655	100.0%
Total Single Responses	30,665,025	98.2%	11,756,485	97.7%	4,883,720	96.3%	633,330	95.1%
English	20,584,775	65.9%	9,655,830	80.3%	3,494,705	68.9%	436,570	65.6%
French	6,608,125	21.2%	289,035	2.4%	25,325	0.5%	3,625	0.5%
Total Multiple Responses	576,000	1.8%	272,410	2.3%	188,350	3.7%	32,325	4.9%

The three most common languages spoken by persons in Mississauga whose mother tongue is not one of the official languages is Chinese, Urdu and Polish. This has changed from the last census when Chinese languages were ranked second, Urdu was ranked sixth and Polish was ranked first. The Chinese languages, Urdu and Polish are also to the top three non-official languages spoken at home in Mississauga.

**Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga
Language Spoken at Home: Top 10 Non-official Languages**

	Canada		Ontario		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-official Languages	3,472,130	11.1%	1,811,620	15.1%	1,363,690	26.9%	193,140	29.0%
1 Chinese Languages	790,035	2.5%	380,390	3.2%	329,215	6.5%	28,835	4.3%
2 Punjabi	278,500	0.9%	117,445	1.0%	103,550	2.0%	20,545	3.1%
3 Spanish	209,955	0.7%	107,170	0.9%	75,620	1.5%	19,135	2.9%
4 Italian	170,330	0.5%	97,895	0.8%	74,690	1.5%	18,765	2.8%
5 Arabic	144,745	0.5%	81,380	0.7%	70,780	1.4%	10,030	1.5%
6 German	128,350	0.4%	79,070	0.7%	67,390	1.3%	9,455	1.4%
7 Tagalog (Pilipino)	119,345	0.4%	77,010	0.6%	56,060	1.1%	9,170	1.4%
8 Vietnamese	111,440	0.4%	72,855	0.6%	53,865	1.1%	8,320	1.2%
9 Portuguese	103,875	0.3%	67,495	0.6%	50,705	1.0%	7,795	1.2%
10 Urdu	102,805	0.3%	60,610	0.5%	47,395	0.9%	7,645	1.1%
Other Non-official Languages	1,312,750	4.2%	670,300	5.5%	434,420	8.6%	53,445	8.1%
Total Multiple Responses	576,000	1.8%	272,410	2.3%	188,350	3.7%	32,325	4.9%

Numbers in tables may not add due to rounding.

