

Analytical Paper

Portrait of Official-Language Minorities in Canada: Francophones in Prince Edward Island

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Portrait of Official-Language Minorities in Canada: Francophones in Df]bW'9 Xk UfX' =g`UbX

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Symbols

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- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^S value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- P preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

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Introduction

This demolinguistic portrait of the French-speaking population in Prince Edward Island was undertaken with the financial support of Canadian Heritage's Official Languages Secretariat, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) and Justice Canada. It is the tenth in a series of demolinguistic portraits of official-language minorities in Canada, prepared by Statistics Canada's Language Statistics Section.

This study paints a general statistical portrait of the official-language minority in Prince Edward Island based on data from the Census of Population and the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities in Canada, conducted in 2006. The purpose of such a portrait is to present a set of characteristics, behaviours and perceptions of the minority official-language population, exploiting the analytical opportunities contained in the data.

This document is intended to be neither a mere collection of tables nor an in-depth study of the demolinguistic dynamics of the English-speaking population in Prince Edward Island. It presents a range of themes and issues that will be of interest to official-language minorities and anyone concerned with the past, present and future situation of minority official-language populations in Canada.

Section 1 of this demolinguistic portrait concerns the criteria chosen in this study to define Prince Edward Island's French-speaking population. It also provides a brief description of the data sources used.

Section 2 presents varied information on the evolution of the French-speaking population and its geographic distribution and concentration in Prince Edward Island. This includes an appended map and a detailed table on the size, relative weight and distribution of the Island's French-speaking population.

Section 3 concerns the main factors that affect or are affected by changes over time in this province's French-speaking population: transmission of mother tongue and the effect of exogamy; age structure; intragenerational linguistic mobility; and interprovincial migration. It also discusses the use of French in the public sphere and how the ability to conduct a conversation in that language has evolved according to mother-tongue group.

Section 4 looks at a few sectors essential to the vitality of minority official-language communities, as identified in the *Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality 2008–2013: Acting for the Future*,¹ namely health, justice, education and the media, the arts and culture. It also provides statistics on community participation, employment and income characteristics, and the use of French at work.

The last section of this portrait presents statistics on the identity of Francophones and their perceptions regarding the presence of French in their community, the provision of federal government services in French, the respect for linguistic rights, and the fact that people are working to develop the Francophone community.

1. When referring to this official-language strategy of the federal government, the expression "Roadmap" will be used throughout this report.

Section 1 Definitions of Prince Edward Island's French-speaking population

This statistical portrait of Prince Edward Island's official-language minority contains information regarding variables from the Canadian censuses. Up to 2006, these included no fewer than six questions or sub-questions on official languages: knowledge of official languages, language spoken most often at home, other languages spoken on a regular basis at home, mother tongue, language used most often at work, and other languages used on a regular basis at work.

What is the definition of the minority official-language group in Prince Edward Island? How is a Francophone defined? There is actually no established definition. For historical reasons, Statistics Canada has generally used the criterion of mother tongue, that is, the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood at the time of the census. Statistics based on mother tongue have the advantage of being roughly comparable going back more than half a century.

Other criteria are also used, opening the way for either more inclusive or more restrictive definitions of French-speaking persons. Thus, does the definition of a Francophone in Prince Edward Island apply to the roughly 5,600 persons who reported French as their mother tongue in the 2006 Census,² the 5,100 persons with French as their first official language spoken,³ or the 5,200 persons⁴ who speak French most often (2,800) or on a regular basis (2,400) at home? Or should a broader definition be considered? Such a definition might include all of the approximately 17,200 French speakers, or indeed more if we include young children who do not speak French, but who have at least one parent whose mother tongue is French. These are only a few examples of the variables that can be used to define language groups.⁵

Also, in choosing a strategy for estimating a language group, it is important to take into account at least two main options. On the one hand, if the objective is to enumerate the population considering all language groups on an equal basis—in other words, treating them symmetrically and creating mutually exclusive categories for estimating them (e.g., English, French, Other)—then this implies an appropriate allocation of multiple responses. In such a case, the French-mother-tongue population of Prince Edward Island would be 5,600. On the other hand, if one wishes to focus on a single language group (e.g., Francophones), one can broaden the criteria for inclusion without being concerned about the implicit overlaps between language groups. In this case, the number of French-mother-tongue persons in Prince Edward Island would be nearly 5,900.

This statistical portrait of Prince Edward Island Francophones mainly uses two criteria: mother tongue and first official language spoken. The latter criterion is now used increasingly to define language groups in studies on official-language minorities. The reason for this is that the composition of the Canadian population has shifted over the years, calling on researchers to redefine or broaden the concept of Francophone group or community. In fact, a significant number of persons whose mother tongue is neither French nor English nevertheless use French either predominantly or commonly in their daily lives.

The concept of "first official language spoken" is based on a number of considerations. Firstly, the substantial increase in immigration to Canada since the mid-1980s has had the effect of increasing the size of the population with a mother tongue other than English or French (20% in 2006). Such persons are often designated by the term "allophones." This term also includes persons who have an Aboriginal mother tongue.

Since an allophone cannot become a Francophone by reason of mother tongue but can become one by adopting French as the language used most often at home or in the public sphere, the question arises as to how to designate individuals' first official language spoken—or more specifically, how to allocate allophones between English and French based on the reported knowledge of either official language.

2. The number is approximately 5,900 if all single and multiple responses mentioning French are included.

3. Includes all single responses and half of English and French responses.

4. This number includes all single and multiple responses mentioning French.

5. To cite only one example, in June 2009, the Ontario government adopted a new, inclusive definition of the Francophone population (IDF) (formerly defined according to the mother tongue criterion). This definition is fairly similar to the one based on first official language spoken, except that it also includes French-mother tongue persons who understand French but can no longer conduct a conversation in it.

Questions of this type led to the development of different variants of the concept of first official language spoken (Statistics Canada, 1989). This concept echoes the spirit of the current version of the *Official Languages Act* (1988), which specifies, in section 32(2), that the government may take into account “*the English or French linguistic minority population of the area served by an office or facility, the particular characteristics of that population and the proportion of that population to the total population of that area.*”

The concept of first official language was chosen by the federal government, in December 1991, in the Official Languages Regulations (*Communications with and Services to the Public*). Section 2 of the Regulations describes the method used to determine “the first official language spoken,” namely the first of the two variants presented by Statistics Canada (1989). This method successively takes into account the responses to the following questions: knowledge of official languages, mother tongue and language spoken most often at home. The “first official language spoken” variable is thus not a census question but is instead derived from three questions in the census’ language module.

The concept of first official language spoken (FOLS) serves to allocate the Canadian population between the country’s two main language groups. In Canada, just over 97% of the population has either English or French as a first official language spoken. The residual portion comprises persons who cannot conduct a conversation in either of the two official languages (1.6%) and those who know both English and French but who cannot be assigned one or the other of the two official languages on the basis of the three census variables used for this purpose (1.1%).

Unlike the population with French as a mother tongue, the Francophone population according to the FOLS criterion excludes most persons for whom French is the mother tongue but who reported being unable to conduct a conversation in French at the time of the census. Also, it includes persons with an “other” mother tongue (i.e., other than English or French) who speak French most often at home as well as those who, while having an “other” language as the main home language, can also conduct a conversation in French but not in English. It also includes half the persons who can conduct a conversation in English and French and who speak an “other” language or both official languages most often at home.

This report will draw a statistical portrait of Francophones in Prince Edward Island, primarily using the FOLS criterion, but when relevant, will also draw from information on mother tongue.⁶ Following the practice of the Treasury Board Secretariat, Prince Edward Island’s Francophone population will refer here to persons having only French as their first official language spoken (FOLS) and half the population who have both English and French as their FOLS (and for whom it is not possible to assign either English or French based on responses to the three variables mentioned above).

6. In this report, the terms “Francophone” and “French-speaking” will be used interchangeably. Except when referring specifically to Francophones by the mother tongue criterion, this report uses the criterion of first official language spoken to designate the Francophone or French-speaking population. In this regard, the target population in this report differs slightly from the one in the report on the first results of the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, which were published in December 2007 (Corbeil, Grenier and Lafrenière, 2007). Also, for purposes of simplicity, the term “Francophone” naturally includes the designation “Acadian”. Note, however, that in the Canadian census, only the question on ethnic origin serves to identify Acadian origin. With regard to this point, this document emphasizes the language criterion rather than the criterion of identity or ethnicity.

Data sources

This portrait of the French-speaking population in Prince Edward Island contains information drawn from Canadian censuses from 1951 to 2006 and the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities (SVOLM)⁷ conducted in 2006 by Statistics Canada.

Census: The census data contained in this report are drawn from the long census questionnaire, completed by 20% of households and including 61 questions of which 7 are language-related.

Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities (SVOLM): This is a cross-sectional sample survey. Respondents to the SVOLM are selected from the sample of persons who completed the long questionnaire in the 2006 Census.

The survey focuses on Canada's official-language minorities, namely French-speaking persons outside Quebec and English-speaking persons in Quebec. The data can be used to gain a deeper understanding of the current situation of individuals belonging to these two groups on subjects as varied as education in the minority language, access to different services in the minority language (the health care sector in particular), language practices in daily activities both in and outside the home, and matters of linguistic identity.

7. For information on the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, the reader is invited to visit Statistics Canada's website at: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=5099&lang=fr&db=imdb&dbg=f&adm=8&dis=2>.

Section 2 Evolution of the population by mother tongue and first official language spoken

2.1 Evolution of the population by mother tongue

Prince Edward Island's population grew by 36% from 1951 to 2006, going from 98,430 to 134,205. The English-mother-tongue population increased 41% during this period to 125,565 in 2006, while the population with a mother tongue other than English or French more than quadrupled (327%), going from 710 in 1951 to 3,030 in 2006. By contrast, the French-mother-tongue population declined by approximately one-third during the same period, falling from 8,475 to 5,610 (see Table 2.1).

Table 2.1
Population by mother tongue, Prince Edward Island, 1951 to 2006

Year	Mother tongue						
	Total	French		English		Other languages	
	number	number	%	number	%	number	%
1951	98,430	8,475	8.6	89,240	90.7	710	0.7
1961	104,630	7,960	7.6	95,565	91.3	1,105	1.1
1971	111,640	7,360	6.6	103,115	92.4	1,165	1.0
1981	121,220	5,835	4.8	114,095	94.1	1,295	1.1
1991	128,100	5,750	4.5	120,770	94.3	1,585	1.2
1996	132,860	5,720	4.3	125,015	94.1	2,135	1.6
2001	133,385	5,885	4.4	125,390	94.0	2,110	1.6
2006	134,205	5,610	4.2	125,565	93.6	3,030	2.3

Notes:

Except for the 1951 to 1971 censuses, multiple responses were equally redistributed among the three main linguistic groups. Due to the random rounding of numbers, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the numbers presented in the table.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1951 to 2006.

Table 2.2 shows the average annual rate of population change for each mother tongue group. It reveals that except for the period from 1996 to 2001, the rates of change for the French-speaking population were negative, ranging from -0.61% in 1951 to -0.93% in 2006. Also, from 1951 to 2006, the rates of change in the Anglophone population were very low, falling from 0.71% to 0.03% during this period. For its part, the "other"-mother-tongue group, because of its small population, registered variable average growth rates from one period to another. Thus, whereas it was 5.57% for the period 1951 to 1961, it was 8.71% for the period 2001 to 2006 and ranged from -0.25% to 6.97% between these two periods.

Table 2.2
Yearly average population growth rate by mother tongue, Prince Edward Island, 1951 to 2006

Period	Mother tongue		
	French	English	Other languages
	percentage		
1951 to 1961	-0.61	0.71	5.57
1961 to 1971	-0.75	0.79	0.52
1971 to 1981	-2.07	1.06	1.12
1981 to 1991	-0.15	0.59	2.24
1991 to 1996	-0.10	0.70	6.97
1996 to 2001	0.57	0.06	-0.25
2001 to 2006	-0.93	0.03	8.71

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1951 to 2006.

The French-mother-tongue population outside Quebec resides mainly in two of its bordering provinces. The provinces of New Brunswick and Ontario alone accounted for 76% of all Francophones living outside Quebec in 2006. That same year, Prince Edward Island Francophones accounted for 0.6% of the French-mother-tongue population outside Quebec, a decrease compared to 1951 when the proportion was 1.2% (see Table 2.3). Also, Francophones constituted 4.2% of the overall population of Prince Edward Island in 2006. For the English-mother-tongue and "other"-mother-tongue populations, the proportions were 93.6% and 2.3% respectively (see Table 2.1).

Table 2.3
Number and proportion of Francophones in Prince Edward Island within the Francophone population outside Quebec, 1951 to 2006

Year	French mother tongue		Proportion of Francophones in Prince Edward Island
	Prince Edward Island	Canada less Quebec	
	number		percentage
1951	8,475	721,820	1.2
1961	7,955	853,460	0.9
1971	7,360	926,295	0.8
1981	5,835	923,605	0.6
1991	5,750	976,415	0.6
1996	5,725	970,210	0.6
2001	5,885	980,270	0.6
2006	5,610	975,385	0.6

Notes:

The term Francophone refers to the mother tongue. Except for the 1951 to 1971 censuses, multiple responses were equally redistributed among the three main linguistic groups.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1951 to 2006.

2.2 Evolution of the population by first official language spoken

As described in Section 1, the criterion of the first official language spoken (FOLS) offers a more inclusive definition of the Francophone population: it allows persons with mother tongues other than English or French to be included in the Anglophone or Francophone population. Most persons with “other” mother tongues are generally counted as part of the majority FOLS group. As with the English-speaking group, the population with French as first official language spoken is usually larger than the French-mother-tongue population in a province such as Ontario, for example, where a large proportion of persons have mother tongues other than English or French. In other cases, such as New Brunswick, the use of the FOLS criterion yields practically the same result as the mother tongue criterion, since persons with “other” mother tongues comprise only a small proportion of the population. In Prince Edward Island, use of the FOLS criterion yields a smaller Francophone population. The relative share of the French population (according to first official language spoken) within the overall population of Prince Edward Island is 3.8% (5,135) (see Table 2.4), while that of the French-mother-tongue population is 4.2% (5,610) (after equal allocation of multiple responses). As to the Anglophone population, its relative share is 94% according to the mother tongue criterion and 96% according to the FOLS criterion, which shows that the Island’s few allophones are strongly oriented toward English.

Table 2.4
Population by first official language spoken, Prince Edward Island, 1971 to 2006

Year	First official language spoken											
	Total		French		English		English and French		Neither English nor French		Francophone Minorité ¹	
	number		number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
1971	111,640		7,370	6.6	104,235	93.4	10	0.0	30	0.0	7,375	6.6
1981	121,220		5,145	4.2	115,880	95.6	165	0.1	35	0.0	5,225	4.3
1991	128,100		5,235	4.1	122,720	95.8	85	0.1	55	0.0	5,280	4.1
1996	132,855		5,270	4.0	127,425	95.9	120	0.1	30	0.0	5,335	4.0
2001	133,390		5,245	3.9	128,025	96.0	85	0.1	35	0.0	5,290	4.0
2006	134,205		5,085	3.8	128,985	96.1	95	0.1	45	0.0	5,135	3.8

1. Total of first official language spoken (FOLS) French and half of first official language spoken English and French.

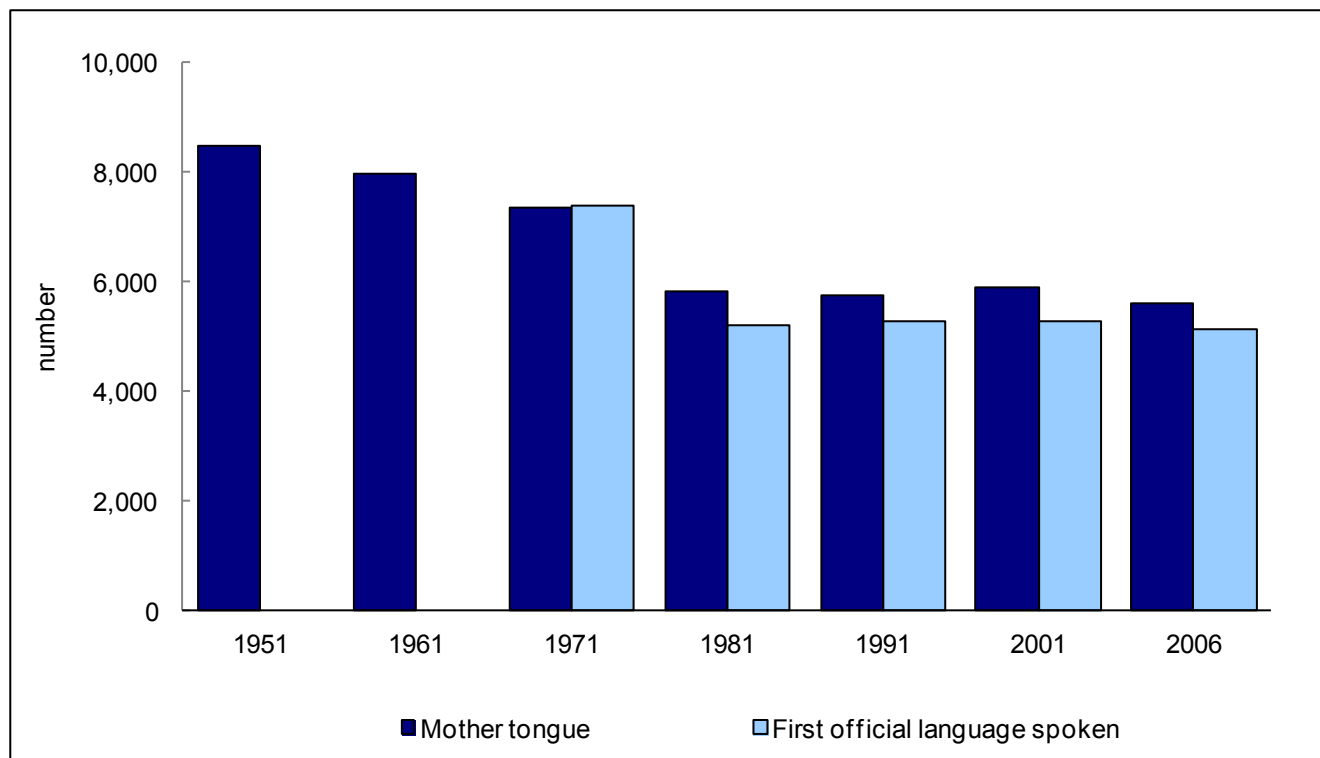
Note: Due to the random rounding of numbers, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the numbers presented in the table.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1971 to 2006.

The results presented in Chart 2.1 show that since 1981, the French-mother-tongue population has exceeded the population of the Francophone minority according to first official language spoken (FOLS). Generally, when the French-mother-tongue population is equal to the French FOLS population, this means that persons with mother tongues other than English or French are not integrating linguistically to the advantage of the official minority language. When the French-mother-tongue population is larger than the French FOLS population, this means that, as well as “other”-mother-tongue persons not being integrated, some persons with French as their mother tongue no longer know French (but do know English) well enough to conduct a conversation. For this reason, they are included in the English FOLS group.

From 1981 to 2006, there was little change in the size gap between the French-mother-tongue population and the French FOLS population. Whereas the gap was almost nil in 1971, it was more than 600 in 1981, in favour of the French-mother-tongue group. Since then, the French-mother-tongue population has continued to be larger than the French FOLS population, by a similar gap. However, both these sub-populations have decreased in size since 1971.

Chart 2.1
Number of persons with French as mother tongue and as first official language spoken, Prince Edward Island, 1951 to 2006



Notes:

Since the question on language used most often at home was asked for the first time on the 1971 Census, we can not derive the first official language spoken variable before 1971. Except for the 1951 to 1971 censuses, the multiple responses were equally redistributed.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1951 to 2006.

2.3 Geographic distribution of the population with French as first official language spoken

The Francophone minority represents 3.8% of the overall population of Prince Edward Island. The vast majority (97%) of P.E.I. Francophones live in two of the Island’s three census divisions (CDs): Prince⁸ (69% or 3,535 persons) and Queens⁹ (28% or 1,455 persons) (see Appendix A). Moreover, nearly one-third of the province’s Francophones live in the cities of Summerside (16%) and Charlottetown (14%).

2.4 Relative proportion within municipalities of residence and geographic concentration index

In this series of statistical portraits of official language minorities in Canada, we do not just present information on the province or territory of residence, because Francophones are not distributed evenly among various geographic entities and their proportion varies from one census division (CD) or census subdivision (CSD) to another within regions. It is therefore quite useful to present statistics that consider the relative share of Francophones within their municipality of residence. In other words, the proportion of Francophones within a municipality has more influence on their perceptions and their linguistic practices than does their proportion within a larger region.

8. The city of Charlottetown is located in this Census division.

9. The city of Summerside is located in this Census division.

An examination of Francophones' distribution according to their relative weight within their municipality of residence (see Table 2.5) casts a new light on the minority/majority relationship. Just over one-quarter (1,415) of the Island's Francophones live in municipalities where they constitute at least 70% of the population. Nevertheless, more than 70% of Francophones (3,720) in Prince Edward Island live in a municipality where the weight of the Francophone group represents less than 30% of the population.

Table 2.5
Number and proportion of Francophones by their relative weight within the municipality of residence, Prince Edward Island, 2006

Relative weight within the municipality	Francophone	
	number	%
0 to 9%	3,170	61.8
10 to 29%	545	10.7
30 to 49%
50 to 69%
70% and over	1,415	27.6
Total	5,135	100.0

Notes:

The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken. The total number of persons with French as first official language spoken differs slightly from the numbers in other tables presented in this portrait. This difference results from the random rounding and random distribution mode of the "English-French" category.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Table A in Appendix A shows, for 2006, the relative weight of the Francophone population in each region, census division and selected census subdivisions.

However, the municipalities vary in size, and in the case of urban agglomerations, for example, this information does not reveal whether Francophones are spread throughout the municipality or are concentrated in certain specific areas. It may therefore be useful to distinguish between municipalities where Francophones are concentrated in certain areas from those where they do not exhibit any particular concentration. For this purpose, the distribution of Francophones within Prince Edward Island is presented using a concentration index.¹⁰ Table 2.6 shows that 28% of Francophones are highly concentrated within their municipality. For the majority of Prince Edward Island Francophones (55%), their concentration is weak, while for 18% it is average.

Table 2.6
Distribution of Francophones within the region of residence according to the concentration index within their municipality of residence, Prince Edward Island, 2006

Concentration in the municipality	percentage
Weak	54.6
Average	17.9
Strong	27.6
Total	100.0

Note: The term Francophone refers to the total French first official language (FOLS) and half the French and English FOLS.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

10. See Appendix D for a description of the concentration index and the concept of dissemination area.

Section 3 Factors influencing the evolution of the French-mother-tongue population

How language groups in a given province or region evolve depends on the combined effect of different factors: on the one hand, the determinants of natural increase—fertility and mortality—and on the other hand, internal and international migration. In the case of Prince Edward Island, the latter two factors are of particular interest. There is also the factor of intergenerational linguistic continuity, that is, the mother-to-child transmission of mother tongue.¹¹ Yet another factor will also be described in this section, namely intragenerational linguistic continuity or its counterpart, language substitution or transfer. The latter, while it does not directly influence how a language group evolves in the short term, can nevertheless have a major long-term influence, in that the language predominantly used in the home is generally the one transmitted to the children.

This section will mainly focus on the French-mother-tongue group in Prince Edward Island. However, some of the analysis—particularly on interprovincial migration—will also cover the population for which French is the first official language spoken.

3.1 Transmission of mother tongue and the effect of exogamy

The tendency to transmit a language to one's children varies according to a number of factors; one of the most important of these is the geographic concentration of the population comprising a given language group. This geographic concentration factor also influences the propensity to form an exogamous couple, that is, a couple in which the spouses¹² do not have the same mother tongue. Also, the lower the geographic concentration or relative weight of a language group in a given community, the lower the propensity of parents to transmit the minority language. In Prince Edward Island, at the time of the 2006 Census, French had been passed on as a mother tongue to 39% of the children of couples in which at least one spouse had French as a mother tongue.

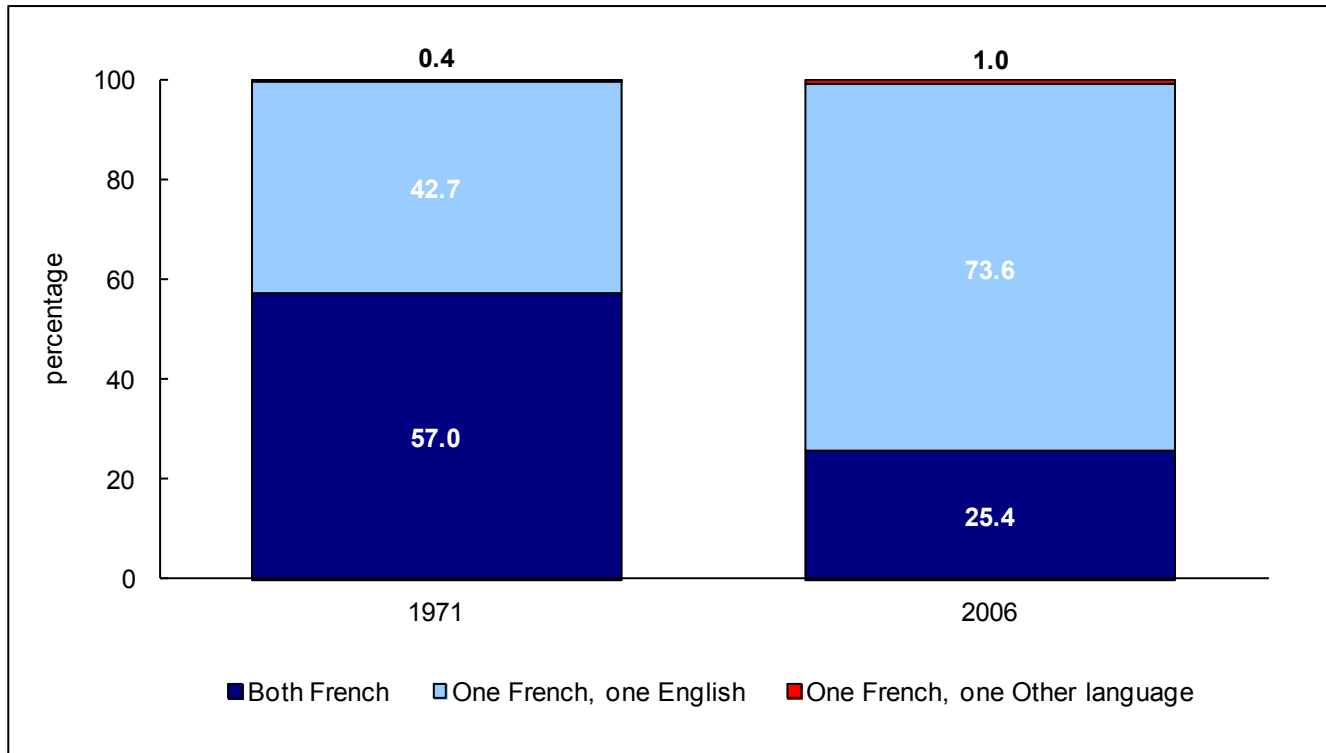
From 1971 to 2006, the proportion of children from a French-English exogamous family among all families with at least one French-mother-tongue parent increased in Prince Edward Island, going from 43% to 74%. Conversely, the share of children living in an endogamous family with both parents having French as their mother tongue declined substantially, from 57% in 1971 to 25% in 2006. The formation of French-“other”-tongue exogamous families slightly increased during this period, going from 0.4% to 1.0% (see Chart 3.1).

11. Of course, a language is also transmitted from fathers to their children, but it is usually the mother's language that predominates.

12. In this study, the term “spouse” includes persons that are legally married as well as those that are in a common-law union.

Chart 3.1

Proportion of children under 18 years of age living in a family where at least one parent is of French-mother tongue, by mother tongue of parents, Prince Edward Island, 1971 and 2006

**Notes:**

For 2006, multiple responses were equally redistributed among language groups. The 1971 Census database does not include multiple responses.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1971 and 2006.

During the same period, the proportion of French-English exogamous couples among all couples with one French-mother-tongue spouse increased strongly, going from 42% in 1971 to 71% in 2006. Conversely, the proportion of endogamous couples in which both spouses had French as their mother tongue declined sharply, going from 57% to 27%. The proportion of French-“other”-tongue exogamous couples changed little, going from 0.7% in 1971 to 1.6% in 2006.

Because of the decrease in the proportion of French endogamous couples from 1971 to 2006, one might expect to see a decrease in the rate of transmission of the minority language (in this case, French) to children. But whereas French had been passed on to 83% of the children under 18 years of age of French endogamous couples in 1971, the proportion was 89% in 2006.

One might expect that this increased transmission of French would be due in part to an increasing knowledge of French among non-Francophone spouses of Francophones. But in the case of Prince Edward Island, while French was more often passed on to children in 2006 than it had been in 1971, the proportion of spouses with a mother tongue other than French who were able to conduct a conversation in French and English did not increase (see Table 3.1). Indeed, whereas 19% of non-Francophone men in a union with a Francophone female spouse reported being able to conduct a conversation in French in 1971, the proportion was 9% in 2006. Among non-Francophone women in a union with a Francophone male spouse, the proportion who knew both French and English remained stable, going from 12.5% in 1971 to 13.4% in 2006.

Table 3.1
Proportion of spouses with a mother tongue other than French who can conduct a conversation in both English and French, by the couple's language combination, Prince Edward Island, 1971 and 2006

Couple's language combination	1971	2006
	percentage	
English male spouse or other language male spouse and French female spouse	18.6	8.8
French male spouse and French female spouse or other language female spouse	12.5	13.4

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1971 and 2006.

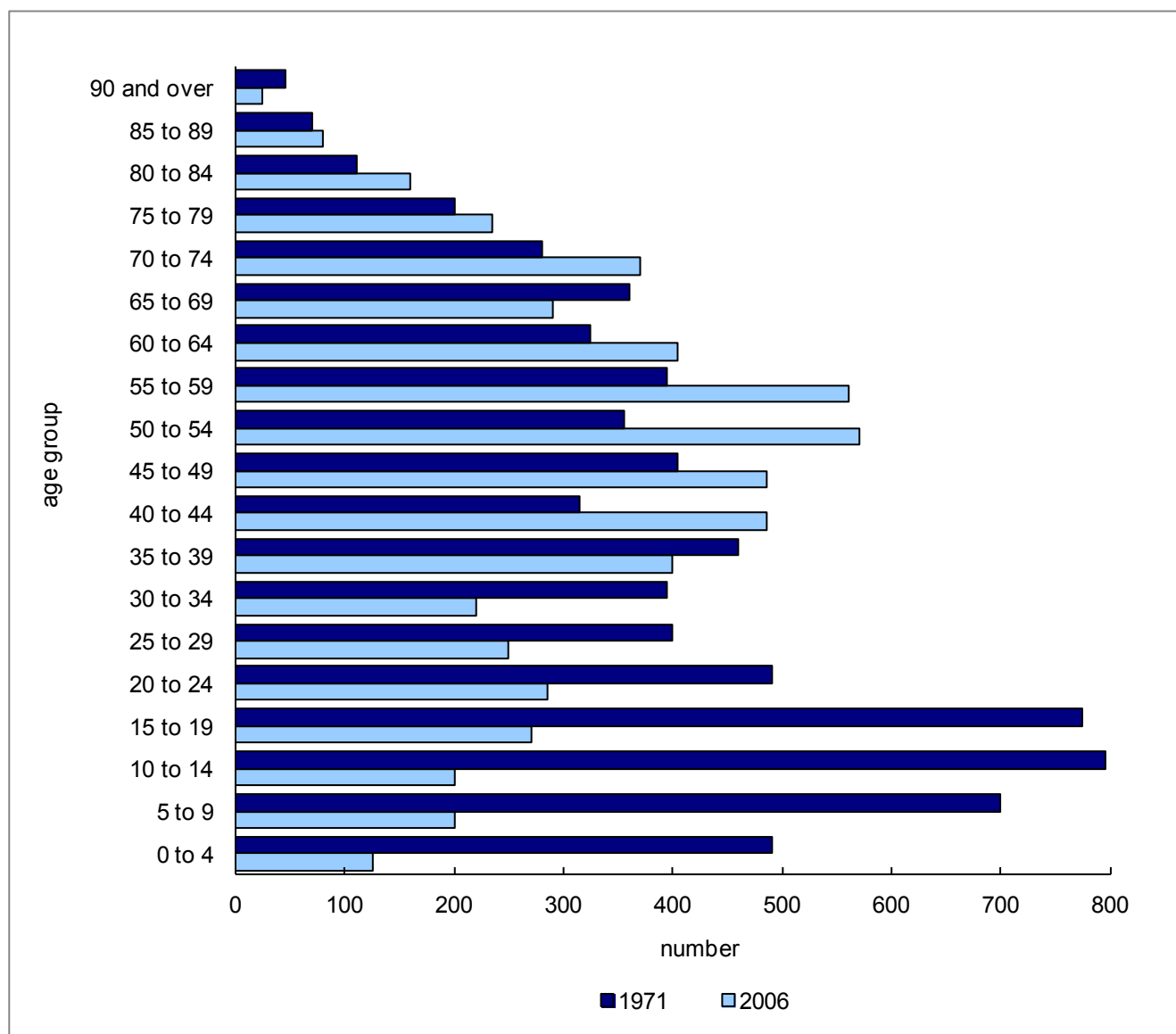
It is also worth noting that in 2006, 11.6 % of French-mother-tongue women living with an Anglophone male spouse spoke French most often at home. In 1971, that proportion was essentially the same (10.7%). Among French-mother-tongue men living with an Anglophone female spouse, the proportion remained virtually unchanged, at 4.6% in 2006 and 4.7% in 1971.

3.2 Age structure

It is useful to examine how the age structure of Prince Edward Island's Francophone population has evolved, so as to be able to update part of that population's demographic history while providing an indication of its future course. From 1971 to 2006, this evolution is essentially the result of a decreased total fertility rate of Francophone women, net interprovincial migration of the French-mother-tongue population and an increase in life expectancy. Added to all these phenomena is a low or moderate level of transmission of French to children as a mother tongue. As noted earlier, at the time of the 2006 Census, French was passed on as a mother tongue to approximately 4 in 10 children under the age of 18 with at least one French-mother-tongue parent.

Chart 3.2 shows how the age structure of Prince Edward Island's French-mother-tongue population has changed over time. As already noted, from 1971 to 2006, this language group saw its numbers decrease by nearly 24%, from 7,360 to 5,610. However, not all cohorts registered a decrease. The cohorts under 40 years of age decreased in size, owing to a drop in the fertility of Francophone women, due in part to a fertility rate below the replacement level. Conversely, there was a moderate increase in the number of persons aged 40 and over, owing to the aging of the population and longer life expectancy.

In 2006, the number of children under 5 years of age (125) was smaller than the number of adults aged 25 to 29 (250)—average age of childbearing—by a ratio of 0.50. By comparison, in 1971 this ratio was 1.2 (490/400). Also, as shown in Chart 3.2, the baby boom generation (born between 1946 and 1966), which corresponded in 1971 to the 5-9 to 20-24 age cohorts (2,760), is much larger than the 40-44 to 55-59 age cohorts (2,100) 35 years later.

Chart 3.2**Age structure of the French mother tongue population, Prince Edward Island, 1971 and 2006**

Note: Multiples responses were equally redistributed.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1971 and 2006.

All things being otherwise equal, the low numbers of the youngest cohorts in 2006—combined with the fact that in the coming decades a number of cohorts will reach age 65—will result in an age structure that reflects considerable aging of Prince Edward Island's French-mother-tongue population.

While the aging of the French-mother-tongue population is mainly due to a low total fertility rate and a steady increase in life expectancy, one assumes that it also results from the non-transmission of French as a mother tongue to children. As noted previously, in families composed of French-English exogamous couples, the rate of intergenerational transmission of French is low, although it increased from 1971 to 2006 (see Chart 3.2). Instead, it was predominantly English (79%) that these exogamous couples passed on to their children in 2006.

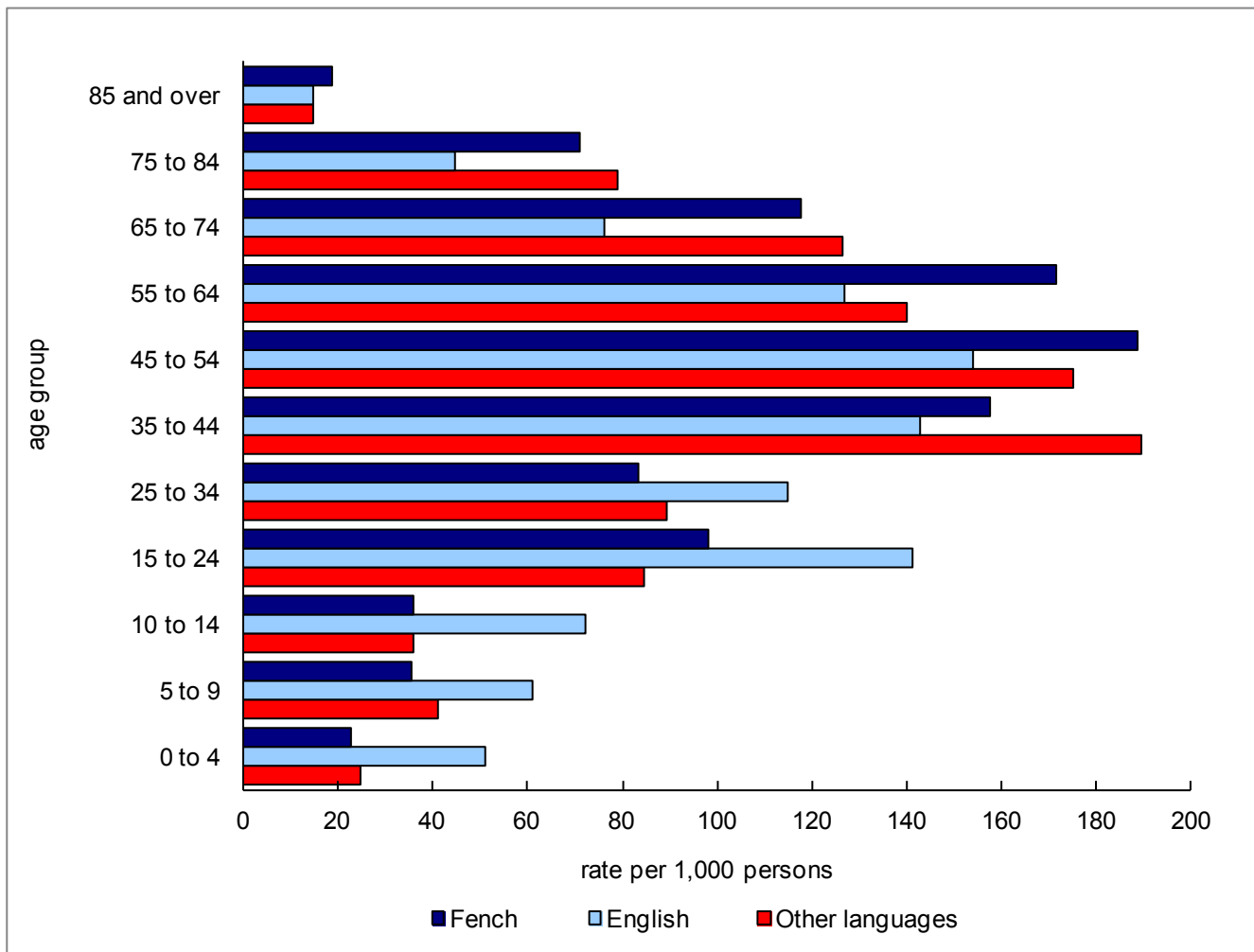
Overall during this period, the Francophone population was not favoured by intergenerational linguistic continuity. This phenomenon is measured by determining the ratio of children under 5 years of age with French as their mother tongue to children whose mother has French as her mother tongue.¹³ In Prince Edward Island, this index was 0.51 in 2006, down from 0.60 in 1971. “A language group emerges at the top of the mother tongue transmission process when the index is higher than 1 [...]. Conversely, transfers are unfavourable to a mother tongue when the index is less than 1.” (Lachapelle and Lepage, 2011, page 86). In the case of Prince Edward Island, intergenerational transmission remained unfavourable to the French-mother-tongue population in that the intergenerational continuity index was less than 1.¹⁴

The steep drop in births exhibited by the French-mother-tongue group in the past 35 years is not unique to this language group. Chart 3.3 shows the age structure of the main mother-tongue groups in 2006. The consequences of a fertility rate below replacement level are also apparent among Anglophone persons under 15 years of age, even though the relative share of cohorts under 35 years of age is greater in the English-mother-tongue group than in the other two groups. But unlike the French-mother-tongue and “other”-mother-tongue groups, the Anglophone group benefited from the contribution of intergenerational linguistic mobility from the other two groups.

It should also be noted that the overrepresentation of the French-mother-tongue group compared to the Anglophone group within the cohorts aged 35 and over reflects the aging of the population, which is substantial among Francophones as well as persons with a mother tongue other than English or French.

13. To establish this ratio, demographers generally look at children living in a two-parent family or a one-parent family headed by a woman, which account for more than 97% of all children in this age group.

14. For an in-depth examination of this approach, see Lachapelle and Lepage (2011).

Chart 3.3**Age structure of French, English and “other”-mother tongue populations, Prince Edward Island, 2006 (rate per 1,000)**

Note: The multiple responses were equally redistributed among the groups.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

3.3 Language transfers or intragenerational linguistic mobility

Language transfers—sometimes called language shifts—refer to the phenomenon where an individual’s main language used at home differs from their mother tongue. This language mobility phenomenon has no direct bearing on the evolution of language groups defined according to mother tongue. However, insofar as the language that dominates in the home is generally the one that is passed on to the children, it has a long-term influence on the future of language groups. When the criterion used to define language groups is the first official language spoken, the language spoken most often at home directly influences the size of the Francophone group. For example, according to this criterion, persons who have knowledge of both official languages and who have either English or French or another language as a mother tongue are part of the French-speaking group if they speak French most often at home¹⁵

15. As noted earlier, persons with an “other” mother tongue who know only French are assigned French as their first official language spoken, regardless of whether they speak that language most often at home.

Through successive censuses, there has been an increase in the language transfer rate for persons with French as a mother tongue in Prince Edward Island. Thus, in 1971, 43% of islanders with French as a mother tongue reported using another language, usually English, most often at home. Thirty-five years later, 51% of French-mother-tongue persons reported speaking a language other than French most often at home. Among English-mother-tongue persons, the proportion of language transfers was almost nil and remained stable over the period, 0.3% in 1971 and 0.1% in 2006. Among "other"-mother-tongue persons, linguistic transfers remained fairly stable from 1971 to 2001 at around 70%. However, they went from 71% in 2001 to 60% in 2006, a sizable decrease that may be due to a strong increase in the number of "other"-mother-tongue persons during the same period.

Table 3.2
Rate of language transfer by mother tongue, Prince Edward Island, 1971 to 2006

Year	Mother tongue		
	French	English	Other languages
percentage			
1971	43.2	0.3	69.5
1981	37.8	0.2	64.0
1991	46.8	0.1	72.2
2001	53.2	0.1	71.0
2006	50.6	0.1	60.2

Note:

With the exception of 1971, only single responses were used for mother tongue, whereas all responses were considered for the main language used at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1971 to 2006.

The linguistic continuity index can also be used as a corollary to the language transfer rate. This index is the ratio of persons with a given home language to persons with the corresponding mother tongue. A language group comes out ahead in exchanges with other language groups when the index is higher than 1. Conversely, transfers are unfavourable to a language group when the index is less than 1.

As shown in Table 3.3, the French-mother-tongue group saw its linguistic continuity index fall from 0.60 to 0.49 during the period from 1971 to 2006, while that of the Anglophone group remained unchanged at 1.04. The index for the "other"-mother-tongue group changed little during this period; in 2006, it was 0.39.

Table 3.3
Population by mother tongue, language spoken most often at home and linguistic continuity index, Prince Edward Island, 1971 and 2006

Linguistic characteristics	1971			2006		
	French	English	Other languages	French	English	Other languages
number						
Language spoken most often at home	4,410	106,790	440	2,755	130,270	1,180
Mother tongue	7,360	103,115	1,165	5,610	125,565	3,030
Linguistic continuity index (%)	0.60	1.04	0.38	0.49	1.04	0.39

Notes:

For 2006, multiple responses were equally redistributed among language groups. The 1971 Census database does not include multiple responses.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1971 and 2006.

Table 3.4 shows that the language most often spoken at home varies according to the mother tongue of the person speaking it. In 2006, approximately half (48.5%) of persons with French as their mother tongue used French most often at home, while the other half (51.5%) used English. Also, virtually all persons (99.9%) with English as their mother tongue used English at home. Among "other"-mother-tongue persons, the majority (62.3%) used English at home, while 37.4% used a mother tongue other than English or French.

Table 3.4
Population by mother tongue and language spoken most often at home,
Prince Edward Island, 2006

Mother Tongue		Language spoken most often at home			Total
		French	English	Other languages	
French	number	2,595	2,755	0	5,345
	percentage	48.5	51.5	0.0	100.0
English	number	95	125,110	50	125,260
	percentage	0.1	99.9	0.0	100.0
Other languages	number	10	1,840	1,110	2,960
	percentage	0.3	62.3	37.4	100.0
Total	number	2,695	129,710	1,160	133,570

Notes:

With equal redistribution of multiple responses to the language spoken most often at home question and single responses to the mother tongue question. Due to the random rounding of numbers, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the numbers presented in the table.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Because individuals' main home language may differ from their mother tongue, the concept of language transfer has often been interpreted as indicating the abandonment of one's mother tongue. But since 2001, the Canadian census has included a question on the languages, other than the main language, that are spoken on a regular basis at home. Although it may be difficult to judge how respondents interpret this new question, qualitative tests as well as the results from the Survey on the Vitality of Official- Language Minorities (SVOLM) have shown that they usually consider it to refer to the daily use of the language.

Based on the census results for this question, a distinction can be made between partial and complete language transfer. As a corollary to this distinction, the concept of linguistic continuity needs to be understood more broadly, since using one's mother tongue on a regular basis at home cannot be interpreted as linguistic discontinuity.

In 2006, nearly 2,700 Prince Edward Island residents spoke French as the only main language at home, while 150 persons reported speaking French most often in combination with English or another language (Table 3.5). Thus, 2.1% of islanders reported having French as their main home language. Data from the 2006 Census also show that 2,400 reported speaking French on a regular basis at home, although it was not their main home language (see Table 3.6). In short, French was spoken most often or on a regular basis at home by 3.9% of the province's population, or approximately 5,250 persons.

Table 3.5
Population by mother tongue, language spoken most often at home and other languages spoken regularly at home, Prince Edward Island, 2006

Type of answer	Mother tongue		Language spoken most often at home		Other languages spoken regularly at home	
	number	%	number	%	number	%
Single responses	133,570	99.5	133,890	99.8	4,770	3.6
French	5,350	4.0	2,680	2.0	2,390	1.8
English	125,265	93.3	130,110	97.0	1,610	1.2
Other languages	2,960	2.2	1,100	0.8	770	0.6
Multiple responses	640	0.5	310	0.2	25	0.0
English and French	500	0.4	150	0.1	0	0.0
English and other	105	0.1	165	0.1	0	0.0
French and other	25	0.0	0	0.0	20	0.0
English, French and other	15	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	134,205	100.0	134,205	100.0

Note: Due to the random rounding of numbers, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the numbers presented in the table.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Table 3.6
Number and proportion of persons with French as mother tongue, first official language spoken, language spoken most often at home and language spoken regularly at home, Prince Edward Island, 2006

French language	number	percentage
Mother tongue	5,875	4.4
First official language spoken	5,180	3.9
Language spoken at least regularly at home	5,250	3.9
Language spoken most often at home	2,830	2.1
Language spoken regularly at home	2,415	1.8

Note: Single and multiple responses combined.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

One can use information on the regular use of French as a second language in the home to distinguish complete language transfers from partial language transfers. Accordingly, based on single responses to the question on the first language learned and still understood at the time of the 2006 Census (usually called the mother tongue), it emerges that for Prince Edward Island as a whole, one-third of persons with French as their mother tongue do not use French at least regularly at home (complete transfer), while 19% use it on a regular basis (partial transfer). Consequently, French is the main home language for only 49% of Francophones. It is also worth noting that in Prince Edward Island, Francophones who make a language transfer almost always transfer to English.

The rates for complete and partial language transfers are known to vary by age group (see Table 3.7). In Prince Edward Island, statistics from the 2006 Census show that the older Francophones are, the more likely they are to have made a complete language transfer, except for persons aged 65 and over, who are closer in their linguistic behaviour to those aged 35 to 54. Francophones aged 55 to 64 are more inclined to use a language other than French at home (70%) than those in other age groups, whereas those under age 15 are less likely to do so (18%). For partial language transfers, Francophones aged 25 to 64 have the highest rates (approximately 21%).

Table 3.7
Rate of complete and partial language transfers of Francophones by age group,
Prince Edward Island, 2006

Age group	Language transfers		
	Complete	Partial	Total
	percentage		
0 to 14	4.4	13.4	17.9
15 to 24	12.7	13.8	26.4
25 to 34	20.4	21.6	42.0
35 to 54	34.8	20.5	55.3
55 to 64	48.6	21.6	70.2
65 and over	39.2	16.0	55.2
Total	32.1	18.6	50.6

Notes:

The term Francophone refers to the mother tongue. Only single responses were used for mother tongue, whereas all responses were considered for the main language used at home.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Exogamy is often associated with language transfer for Francophones outside Quebec. Indeed, 84% of Prince Edward Island Francophones who live in an exogamous union with an English-mother-tongue spouse speak English most often at home. However, the SVOLM data serve to better document the link between exogamy and language transfer among Francophones. Those data show that for more than half of Francophones, language transfer took place well before a union was formed with an Anglophone spouse: approximately 72% of Francophones who live in an exogamous situation began to speak English most often at home before age 21, and 45% did so before age 15. Thus, it is not only exogamy that has a direct bearing on the fact that a Francophone speaks English most often at home. In fact, these results suggest that living in a highly minority situation increases the use of the majority language in daily activities, influences the main language of Francophones in the medium term, and ultimately affects the propensity to choose an English-speaking spouse. In any event, the relationship between exogamy and home language definitely operates in both directions.

Data from the SVOLM shed light on the relationship that tends to be established between language transfer and anglicization. The survey includes a question on respondents' main language, that is, the language they are most at ease speaking. The data show that 59% of the population for whom French is the first official language spoken have as main language either French (38%) or both official languages (21%).

Overall in Prince Edward Island, the proportion of Francophones who report speaking English most often at home (complete and partial language transfers) is greater than the proportion who report being more at ease in English than in French. Thus, around 50% of Prince Edward Island Francophones report speaking English¹⁶ most often at home, while 40% report being more at ease in English than in French.

16. This proportion includes both single and multiple responses. It therefore includes Francophones who report both French and English as languages spoken most often at home.

3.4 Use of French in the public sphere

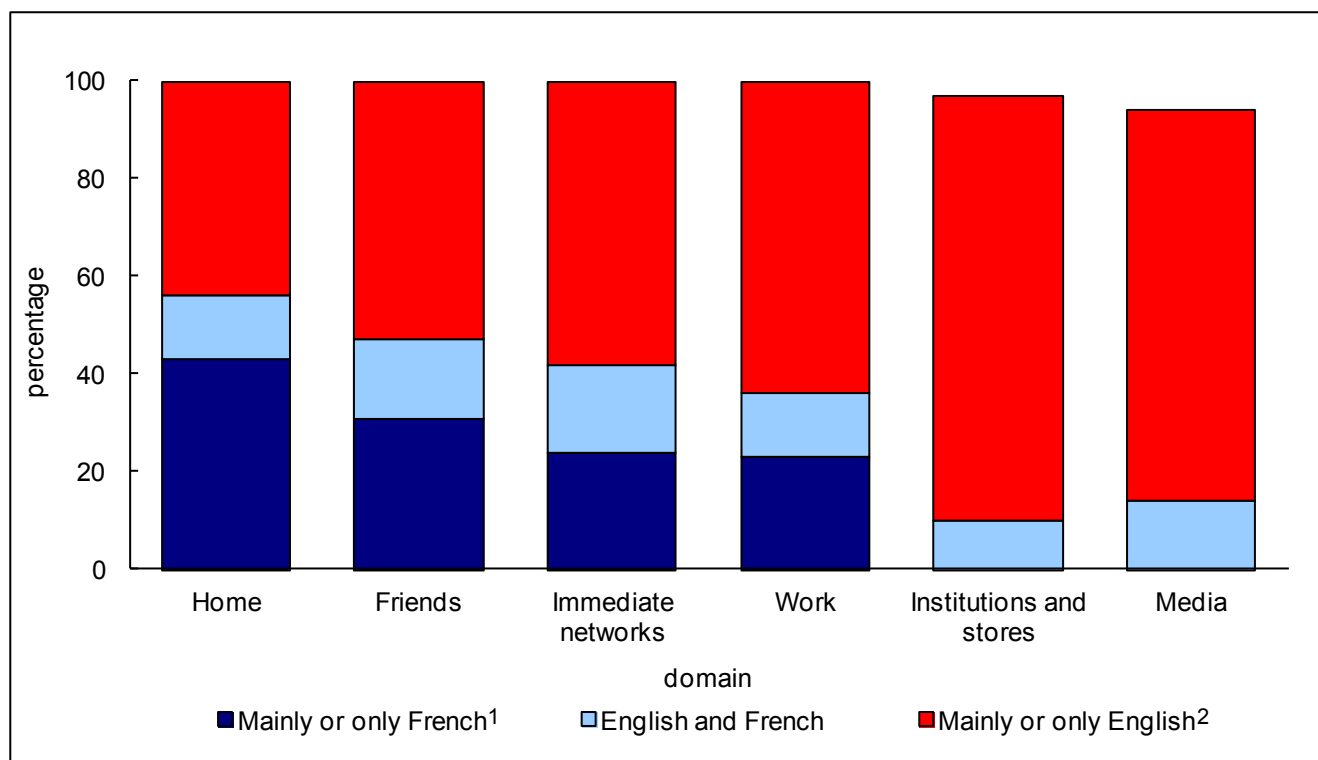
Statistics from the Census of Population shed light on the use of languages both in the private sphere (at home) and in the workplace, as we will see in the section on the labour force. But what do we know about the use of English and French by Prince Edward Island Francophones in domains of interaction other than the home?

The Survey on the Vitality of Official-language Minorities includes a number of questions on the use of languages in various domains of the public sphere such as stores, health care institutions (which will be examined in detail in the next section), volunteer activities, social support, community or sports activities, etc. Some questions in the survey also deal with domains on the borderline between private and public spheres, such as the language spoken with friends outside the home or the language in which various media are "consumed."

An examination of language practices in various domains of both public and private spheres reveals that in Prince Edward Island, persons whose first official language spoken is French mainly use English in the public sphere, while in the private sphere (at home) they use French as much as English (see Chart 3.4). The predominant use of English (that is, its main or only use) is most widespread in exchanges within institutions and stores (87%) and in the consumption of media (80%). In other domains of the public sphere (with friends, within immediate networks and at work), the extent to which English is mainly or only used shows little variation, ranging between 53% and 64%. It is worth noting that Francophones' joint use of English and of French ranges between 10% and 18% depending on the domain.

The general index of language use in the public sphere reveals that 67% of persons for whom French is the only first official language spoken use mainly or only English in the various domains of the public sphere (media, institutions and stores, work, immediate network and friends outside the home).¹⁷ In fact, 29% of Francophones use English exclusively in the public sphere, while 39% use mainly English (and another language).

17. See Appendix C for a description of the general index of language use in the public sphere.

Chart 3.4**Proportion of Francophones by language use in various domains of the public and private spheres, Prince Edward Island, 2006**

1. Refers to the sum of the "French only" and "Much more French than English" categories in the survey questionnaire.

2. Refers to the sum of the "English only" and "Much more English than French" categories in the survey questionnaire.

Notes:

The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken. Please refer to Appendix B to obtain quality indicators (coefficient of variation (CV)) for the estimates used to produce this chart. A note on the construction of the indices for use of language in daily activities is found in Appendix C.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 2006.

3.5 Knowledge of French

Within the overall population of Prince Edward Island in 2006, a larger proportion reported being able to conduct a conversation in French (13%) than reported French alone or with another language as their mother tongue (4.2%) or than reported French as their first official language spoken (3.8%). The relative share of Prince Edward Islanders able to conduct a conversation in French is highly polarized by language group. Whereas 92% of French-mother-tongue persons reported knowing both official languages, that proportion was only 9% for persons with English as a mother tongue and 10% for persons with another mother tongue (see Table 3.8).

Table 3.8
Knowledge of official languages by mother tongue, Prince Edward Island,
2001 and 2006

Mother tongue	Knowledge of official languages									
	2001					2006				
	English and French		Neither English nor French		Total	English and French		Neither English nor French		Total
French	English	French	English	French		English	French	English		
percentage										
French	1.6	9.1	89.3	0.0	100.0	0.9	7.5	91.6	0.0	100.0
English	0.0	91.6	8.4	0.0	100.0	0.0	90.7	9.3	0.0	100.0
Other languages	0.0	88.8	9.6	1.6	100.0	0.0	89.0	9.6	1.4	100.0
Total	0.1	87.9	12.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	87.2	12.7	0.0	100.0

Note: Multiple responses regarding mother tongue were equally redistributed among the groups.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 2001 and 2006.

Persons whose main language is French have more opportunities to use it when they are in contact with persons who are able to conduct a conversation in French even if it is not their first official language spoken. In Prince Edward Island, among bilingual Anglophones,¹⁸ that is, those who reported that they were able to conduct a conversation both in English and in French, 11% spoke French at least on a regular basis at home and 29% used it at least regularly at work in 2006.

In municipalities where Francophones comprise less than 10% of the population, the French-English bilingualism rate of non-Francophones barely reaches 10%. In municipalities where Francophones constitute from 10% to 29% of the population, the level of knowledge of French among non-Francophones climbs to 19%, while in those where Francophones make up at least 70% of the population, Anglophones' French-English bilingualism rate reaches nearly 30%. Thus, the greater the relative share of Francophones within their municipality, the greater will be the knowledge of French among non-Francophones.

3.6 Migration

The mobility of Francophones within Canada is a factor that influences the evolution of the French-speaking population of Prince Edward Island.

3.6.1 Place of birth

Table 3.9 shows the place of birth of Prince Edward Island Francophones. In 2006, approximately 70% of French-mother-tongue persons and French FOLS persons had been born in Prince Edward Island. Regardless of the criterion used, approximately 27% of Francophones living in Prince Edward Island were born in another province or territory of Canada, including 12% in Quebec and 8.5% in New Brunswick. As to foreign-born persons, most of whom were immigrants,¹⁹ they comprised between 2% and 3% of the French-mother-tongue population and the population with French as first official language spoken.

18. Without allocation of multiple responses.

19. Foreign-born persons include immigrants, non-permanent residents and Canadians born abroad.

Table 3.9
Place of birth of Francophones by mother tongue and first official language spoken,
Prince Edward Island, 2006

Place of birth	French mother tongue		French first official language spoken	
	number	%	number	%
Born in Prince Edward Island	3,970	70.7	3,590	69.9
Born in an other canadian province or territory	1,535	27.3	1,395	27.1
Born in Quebec	650	11.6	605	11.8
Born in New Brunswick	475	8.5	435	8.5
Born outside Canada	110	2.0	150	2.9
Total	5,610	100.0	5,130	100.0

Notes:

The multiple responses were equally redistributed. Due to the random rounding of numbers, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the numbers presented in the table.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

3.6.2 Interprovincial migration

From 1981 to 2006, the net migration of Francophones between Prince Edward Island and the other provinces and territories was almost nil, ranging from -590 to 335 depending on the five-year period (see Table 3.10). Departures of Francophones for other provinces and territories ranged from 390 to 1,140, while the number of Francophone migrants settling in Prince Edward Island varied from 380 to 725 for a given period. As regards the province's Anglophones, the number leaving Prince Edward Island was also roughly the same as the number settling there. Consequently, net migration went from 1,215 persons during the period 1981-1986 to 740 during the period 2001-2006. The province had its most unfavourable migratory balance from 1986 to 1991, with a net migration figure of -240.

Table 3.10
Interprovincial migration between Prince Edward Island and other provinces and territories by first official language spoken, 1981 to 2006

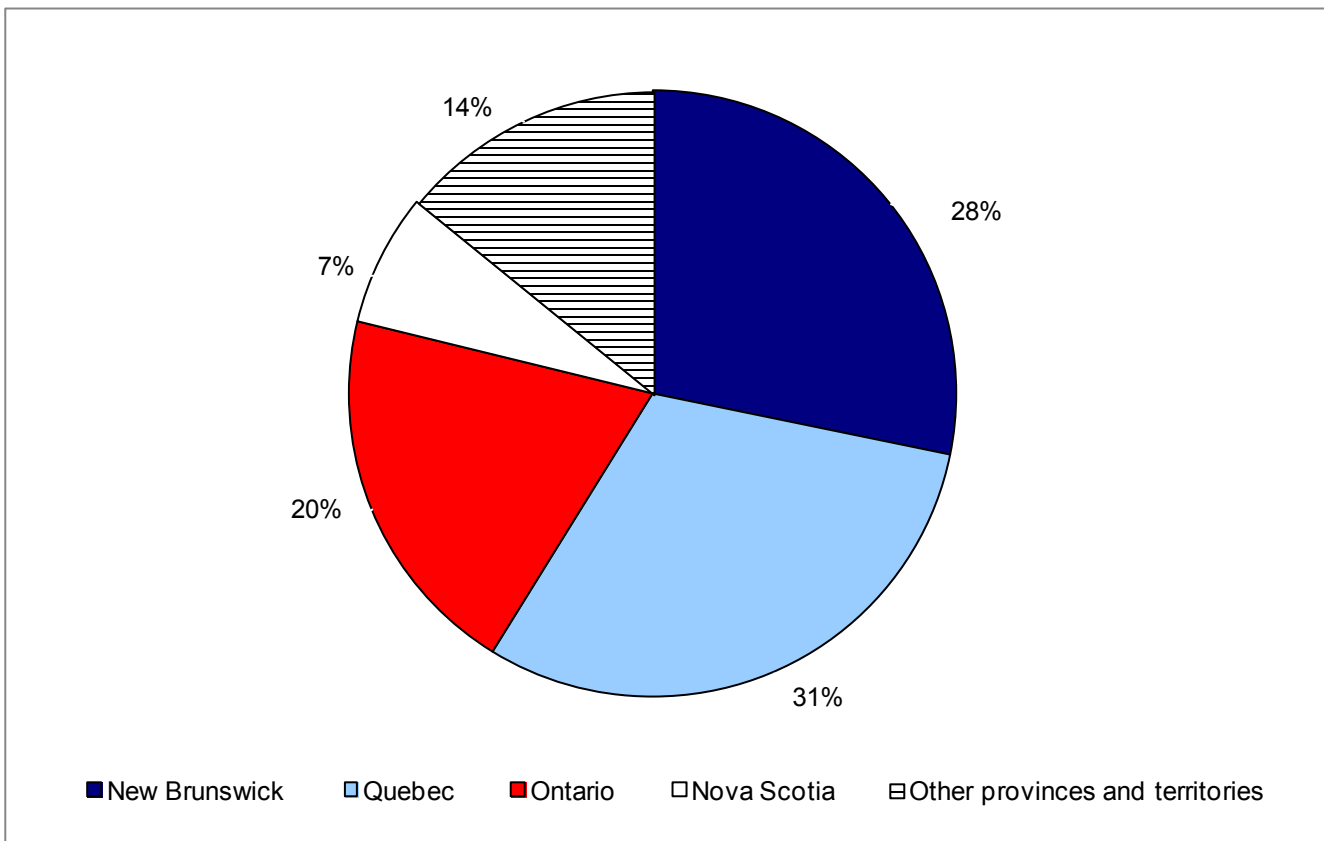
Period	First official language spoken		
	Total	French	English
	number		
From Prince Edward Island to other provinces and territories			
1981 to 1986	7,945	390	7,540
1986 to 1991	9,630	1,140	8,490
1991 to 1996	7,480	400	7,060
1996 to 2001	7,755	545	7,210
2001 to 2006	7,690	550	7,125
From other provinces and territories to Prince Edward Island			
1981 to 1986	9,480	725	8,755
1986 to 1991	8,785	540	8,250
1991 to 1996	8,950	700	8,250
1996 to 2001	7,900	380	7,515
2001 to 2006	8,300	420	7,870
Net migration (arrivals minus departures)			
1981 to 1986	1,535	335	1,215
1986 to 1991	-840	-590	-240
1991 to 1996	1,465	305	1,185
1996 to 2001	145	-160	305
2001 to 2006	610	-130	740

Note: Due to the random rounding of numbers, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the numbers presented in the table.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1981 to 2006.

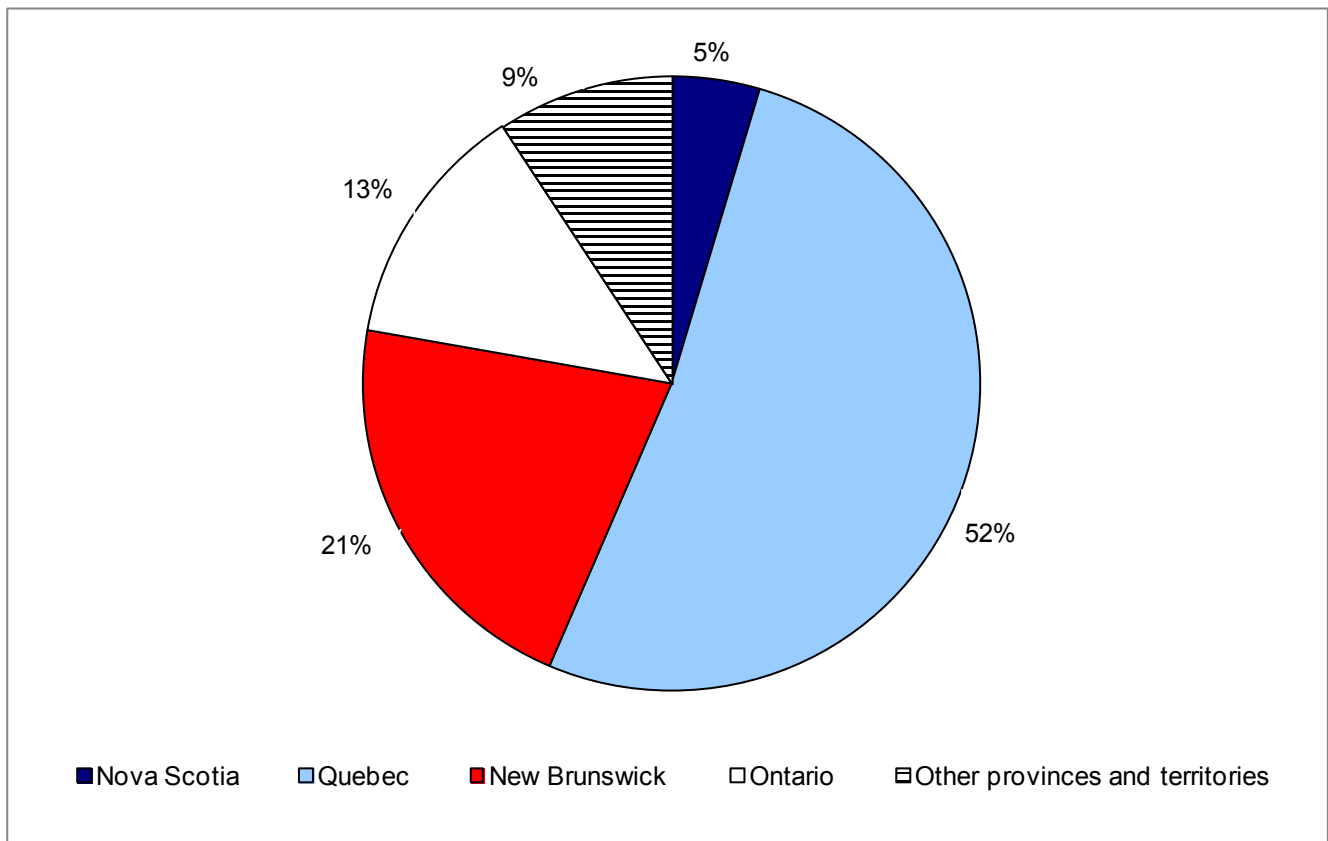
Charts 3.5 and 3.6 show migratory movements between Prince Edward Island and the other provinces and territories from 2001 to 2006. Of the roughly 425 Francophones who came from other provinces and territories to settle in Prince Edward Island in 2001, 31% were living in Quebec and 28% in New Brunswick. Of the roughly 540 Francophones who were living in Prince Edward Island and migrated to other provinces in 2001, approximately half settled in Quebec while slightly more than 20% opted for New Brunswick.

Chart 3.5
Province or territory of origin of Francophones who settled in Prince Edward Island from 2001 to 2006



Note: The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken.
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Chart 3.6
Destination of Francophones who left Prince Edward Island for another province or territory from 2001 to 2006



Note: The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken.
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Section 4 A few sectors essential to the vitality of minority official-language communities

The *Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality 2008–2013* calls for investing in five key sectors: health, justice, arts and culture, economic development and immigration. The last of these sectors was dealt with in an analytical report released by Statistics Canada in April 2010 (Houle and Corbeil, 2010). This section will present statistics on the other four key sectors identified in the *Roadmap*. Also, the *Roadmap* includes financial support for education in the minority language. This sector was identified as being of great importance for the future of official-language minorities in Canada (Lord, 2008); therefore, a section will be devoted to it.

Drawing on data from the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities (SVOLM) and the census, we will provide general information on the presence of French and the situation of Francophones in each of these sectors.

4.1 Health

A common language between patients and health care professionals is a key factor in access to health care services and their provision effectiveness. Language barriers can mean that some members of minority Francophone communities are less well served by health care services. It is therefore important to examine the situation of Prince Edward Island's Francophone communities regarding various aspects of access to health care services.

During the 2006 Census, very few doctors and nurses²⁰ working in Prince Edward Island reported that they were able to conduct a conversation in French, and none reported using French at least on a regular basis²¹ at work.²²

The proportion of doctors and nurses who are able to conduct a conversation in French is much larger than the relative share of Francophones within Prince Edward Island's population. Nevertheless, results from the Survey on the Vitality of Official Language Minorities show that the majority of Prince Edward Island's Francophones report using English in their contacts with the different health care professionals about whom the survey collected information: family doctors (96%), nurses (87%) and professionals in other places where people go to obtain care (89%). Lack of knowledge of French by health care professionals, as perceived by the respondents, is the main reason given by Francophones to explain why they are not served in French during their visits/consultations. This reason thus greatly influences the main language used to communicate during these consultations.

Overall, results of the SVOLM and the census show that two important factors affect the extent to which one language or the other is used with health professionals: the concentration of Francophones in their municipality of residence and the availability of professionals with knowledge of French.

The presence of Francophone professionals as well as those able to conduct a conversation in the minority language is likely to increase access to health care services in French. In Prince Edward Island however, there is a limited number of professionals able to conduct a conversation in French, which does not favour the extensive use of French in this key sector of the public sphere.

20. Owing to the very small numbers of doctors and nurses in Prince Edward Island, it is difficult to provide a reliable estimate of the number and proportion of doctors and nurses who practise in that province. In light of the sampling error and random rounding that apply to these numbers, it is difficult to estimate precisely how many doctors and nurses are Francophones and how many use French at work as well as the number who are able to speak French.

21. In other words, most often or on a regular basis.

22. On this subject, see Table 2.1 of *Health Care Professionals and Official-Language Minorities in Canada: 2001 and 2006* (Blaser, 2009, p. 20).

It is therefore important to examine whether Francophones who report having French as their main language were more likely to use French in their interactions with health care professionals than those with English as their main language. It seems clear that the lack of use of the minority official language by Francophones for whom French is the main language—that is, the language in which they are most at ease—does not depend on the same factors as in the case of Francophones who have made a language shift with the result that English is now the language in which they feel most at ease. Results from the Survey of the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities show that whatever their main language, the vast majority of Prince Edward Island Francophones (96%) use English in their contacts with the different health care professionals about whom information was collected in that survey, namely family doctors, nurses, telephone health line professionals and professionals in other places where people go to obtain care. Indeed, in their interactions with their family doctor, Francophones who have French as their main language are proportionally almost as likely (92%) to use English as those with English (97%) as their main language.

Information from the SVOLM clearly shows that for Francophones, obtaining health care services in the language of their choice does not necessarily mean obtaining them in French. Since 40% of Prince Edward Island Francophones have English as their main language, it is not surprising that French is not their “language of choice” for obtaining health care services.

4.2 Justice

An examination of results from the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities in the field of justice sheds light on the extent to which the French language is present among institutions that ensure its use in the public sphere by Prince Edward Island Francophones. By measuring the level of access to justice practitioners who are able to converse in French, one can document a phenomenon that is perceived by Francophones outside Quebec as being very important for the status of French and the future of French-speaking minority communities. In this regard, the Canadian government undertook in the *Roadmap* to ensure that Canadians have better access to justice services in the minority official language.

With respect to “...the administration of justice in the province, Section 11 of the *French Language Services Act* stipulates that French may be used in any proceeding before the Provincial Court or the Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island. Under Section 12, decisions of the Provincial Court and the Supreme Court must be rendered simultaneously in French and English in cases where French was used in the proceedings” [translation] (GTA Research, 2002). Also, with respect to criminal law, as stipulated by the Criminal Code of Canada, Island Francophones, like all residents of Canada, are entitled to a trial and a preliminary inquiry in French.

Because the language barrier can hinder access to justice, the Canadian government has made it a priority to train professionals who can provide service in the minority official language. According to the 2006 Census, Prince Edward Island had few lawyers or police officers who were able to conduct a conversation in French.²³ Nevertheless, the census data show that the number of police officers and lawyers who reported being able to conduct a conversation in French was slightly larger than the number who used that language at least on a regular basis at work.²⁴

The 2006 Census data also show that the number of police officers who use French in their work in Prince Edward Island is slightly smaller than the number of Francophone police officers. This is not the case with lawyers: the number of them who communicate at least regularly in French at work is greater than the number of Francophone lawyers. Thus, a certain number of non-Francophones reported using French as a language of work, which adds to the existing pool of lawyers who are likely or able to provide services in French.

23. As in the case of doctors and nurses (see note 19), it is difficult to give estimates here because of the very small numbers of lawyers and police officers in Prince Edward Island.

24. As in the case of health care professionals, the use of French by lawyers and police officers depends on a number of factors, including the proportion of Francophones in a given community. However, an analysis of these factors is beyond the scope of this statistical portrait.

Interactions with the justice system and its representatives, including lawyers and the police, are not widespread in the population. Of Prince Edward Island's roughly 3,830 Francophone adults, 28% reported that they had used the services of a lawyer in the two years preceding the survey, while 23% had dealt with the police.

Results from the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities indicate that Prince Edward Island Francophones generally interact with municipal police²⁵ in English. Thus, 9 out of 10 Francophones used only English in their interactions with municipal police. When using the services of a lawyer, a smaller proportion of Francophones, 69%, used only English.

In Prince Edward Island, the SVOLM results also show that access to these services in French does not appear to be highly valued by a majority of Francophones since 28% feel that if they had to use a lawyer's services, it would be important or very important that the lawyer could speak French. Conversely, 51% report that it would be not very important or not important to have access to the services of a lawyer in French.

4.3 Education

4.3.1 Children

Access to French-language schools and management of Francophone minority education systems have long been burning issues for Francophones outside Quebec. In many provinces, the education of Francophones in their own language was greatly limited by the fact that most French schools received no government funding until the early 1970s (Corbeil, 2003).

In a minority situation, French schools are accorded special status because of their role as an agent of socialization to French culture, transmission of the French language to children and maintenance of skills in that language. School is a public Francophone environment which, along with the family, can help Francophone community life to develop and flourish.

During the first half of the 20th century, Francophones had access to French-language elementary schools throughout Prince Edward Island. However, the consolidation of the province's school system—beginning in the 1950s and continuing until the 1970s—led to the disappearance of homogeneous Francophone elementary schools as they were integrated into Anglophone schools. By the late 1970s, École Évangéline secondary school was the only Francophone school in existence in Prince Edward Island (EVCFA, 2007).

In 1980, the *School Act* was amended: for the first time, the Island's Francophone students were entitled to instruction in French. That same year, a second Francophone school opened in Charlottetown. In 1982, Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms granted minority parents the right to have their children educated in their language. In 1990, the *School Act* was again amended, extending the authority of the newly created Commission scolaire de langue française throughout the province, henceforth enabling Francophones to manage their schools (Martel, 1991).

In 2000, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed that Prince Edward Island rights holders were entitled to instruction in French. Following this decision, in September of that same year, the Commission scolaire de langue française opened three new French-language schools. Subsequently, other Francophone schools were established on the Island (EVCFA, 2007).

It is important to examine here the extent to which French-language schools are attended by children who are eligible to attend them, along with the factors that influence decisions concerning children's language of instruction. Data from the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities can be used to estimate, for children of Francophone parents in Prince Edward Island, the number eligible for French-language education who are enrolled in a French-language school or immersion program. Additionally, these data can be used to examine the association between attending a French-language school and the use of languages, in particular at home and with friends.

25. Because of the very small number of members of the official-language minority who had contact with the provincial police or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), no conclusions regarding them can be drawn from the data obtained in the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities

In Prince Edward Island, 1,170 children of Francophone parents were enrolled in preschool, kindergarten, elementary or secondary school at the time of the survey. Of those children, nearly two-thirds were receiving an education in French, either in a French school or an immersion program in an English school, while 35% were receiving an education in English within an English school. Of the 950 children with at least one Francophone parent, the majority (66%) were from French-English exogamous families. Of these, approximately 62% were receiving an education in French in a French school or were enrolled in an immersion program in an English school.

The Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities also shows that attending a French-language school or French immersion program in an English school seems to be practically as popular a choice for parents of the youngest children as for those of older children: approximately two out of three children were enrolled in a French-language school or an French immersion program at both elementary and secondary levels.

A number of factors influence the choice of the language of a child's school. In particular, the language used by parents in their own educational pathway appears to have some influence on the language of instruction or school system they chose for their children. Thus, of the 810 children with at least one parent who had been educated in French at the elementary and secondary levels, approximately 74% were attending a French-language school or French immersion program and approximately 70% spoke French most often (44%) or on a regular basis (24%) at home.

Data from the SVOLM do not yield statistically significant results regarding the link between children's attendance of a French school and their sole or predominant use of French at home or with friends, or the link between their school attendance in French and their ability to use that language to conduct a conversation. However, one can establish an association between attending a French school and using French in various contexts. Thus, the majority of children who attend a French-language school use French (alone or with English) most often at home (76%) and when speaking with their friends (90%) and are therefore able to use it to conduct a conversation in almost all cases (97%).

4.3.2 Adults

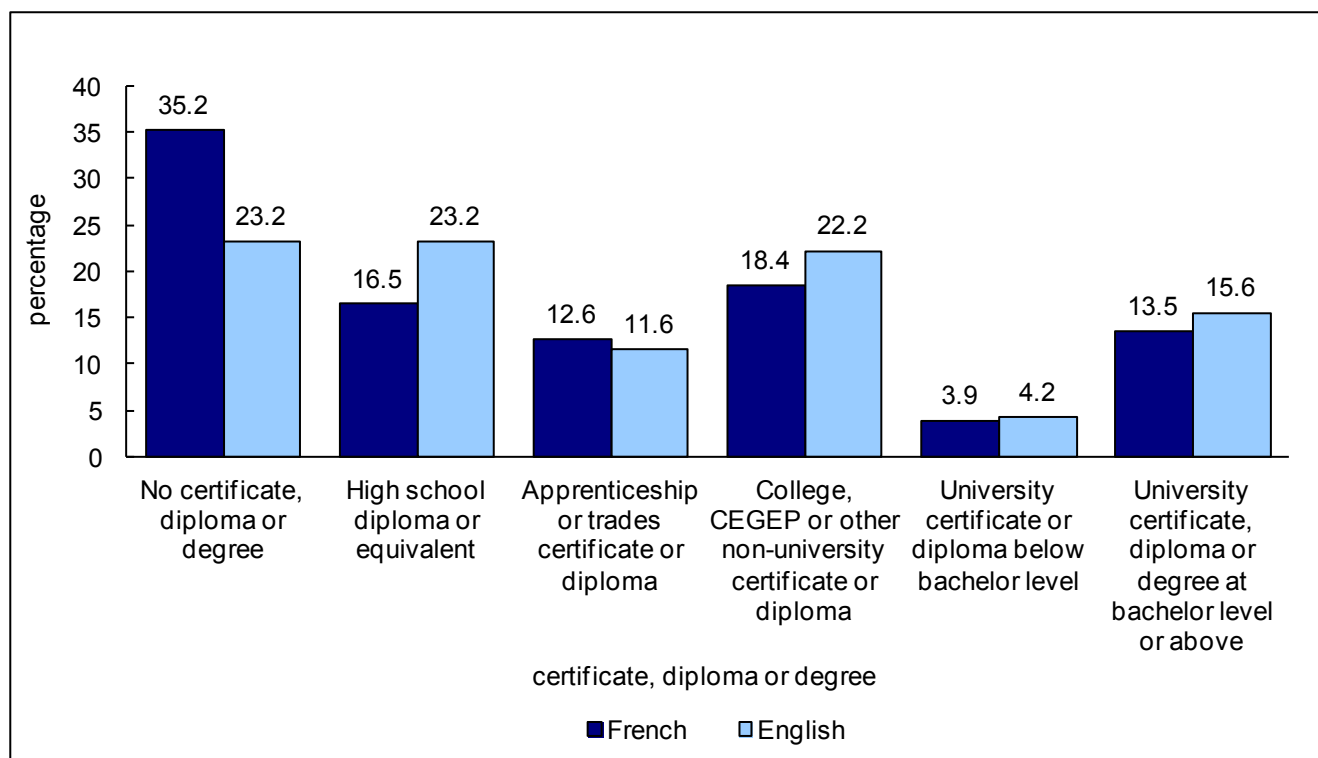
4.3.2.1 Highest level of education attained

The highest level of schooling of Prince Edward Island Francophones in 2006 is an important indicator of the progress made since the 1971 Census, which was conducted shortly after the Dunton–Laurendeau Royal Commission completed its work. Based on statistics from the 1961 Census, the Commission's work described the very large disparities observed between Francophones and Anglophones in Canada with respect to education as well as to labour market status and various spheres of economic activity. Notably because of compulsory education until age 16 and the growing importance that governments, employers and the general public assign to education, the disparities between Francophones and Anglophones in Canada have greatly diminished over time.

To illustrate the phenomenon, we will first examine the results concerning the situation in 2006 as shown in Chart 4.1. Francophones (35%) are proportionally more likely not to have any certificate, diploma or degree than Anglophones (23%) whereas Anglophones (23%) are proportionally more likely to have a high school diploma or the equivalent than Francophones (17%). For the other levels of educational attainment, the gaps are either small or very small, at less than 4%.

Chart 4.1

Highest certificate, diploma or degree obtained by first official language spoken, persons aged 25 years or over, Prince Edward Island, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

4.3.2.2 Adults' language of instruction

As seen earlier, in Prince Edward Island as a whole, nearly half of children with at least one French-speaking parent are enrolled in the regular program of a French-language elementary school. What about the language of instruction for adults who responded to the Survey on the Vitality of Language Minorities (SVOLM)? According to respondents' answers to various survey questions concerning the language in which they pursued part or all of their education, the presence of French varies from one age group to the next and from one education level to the next.

Table 4.1 shows that four out of five Island Francophones received all or part of their education in French at the elementary level. This proportion declines as young people continue on their educational path, then rebounds at the university level. Thus, while 62% of Francophones pursued all or part of their secondary education in French, the proportion is 32% for those who completed non-university postsecondary education and 67% for those who have a university diploma.

Results from the SVOLM regarding attendance of elementary and secondary school in French show a sizable gap between adults under 45 years of age and those aged 45 and over (see Table 4.1). At least 94% of Francophones under age 45 attended French school at the elementary level and 75% at the secondary level, but the proportions are smaller for older Francophones. This difference is notably due to the fact that Prince Edward Island Francophones increasingly have access to French schools.

Table 4.1**Proportion of Francophones who did all or part of their studies in French by age group and level of schooling, Prince Edward Island, 2006**

Age group	Level of schooling							
	Primary		Secondary		Non-university post-secondary		University	
	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV
18 to 24	97	2.9	74	12.4	61 ^E	21.3	F	F
25 to 44	94	1.5	77	6.4	34 ^E	21.4	79	11.5
45 to 64	68	8.5	50	11.7	F	F	81	10.5
65 and over	80	5.9	56	11.3	x	x	x	x
Total	81	3.4	62	5.5	32	15.1	67	8.6

CV coefficient of variation

Note : The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken.**Source** : Statistics Canada, Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 2006.

4.4 Media, arts and culture

Support for the arts and culture is one of the key elements targeted by the *Roadmap*, which recognizes the essential role played by arts and culture in the development of minority official-language communities.

The Survey on the Vitality of Official Language Minorities measures access to cultural products in the minority language in six media: television; the Internet; radio; newspapers; books; and live performances and arts events. These days, the Internet and cable television facilitate access to these media in various languages and from many countries, thereby increasing the availability of various French-language cultural products throughout Canada.

The Vitality of Official Language Minorities results reveal that Island Francophones, like their Anglophone counterparts, are big consumers of media, led by television (96%) (see Table 4.2).

Table 4.2**Proportion of Francophones by use of certain media (all languages included), Prince Edward Island, 2006**

Use of medium	Francophones percentage
Watch television	96
Listen to the radio	88
Read newspapers	85
Read books	81
Use Internet	61

Note : The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken.**Source** : Statistics Canada, Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 2006.

A majority of Prince Edward Island Francophones report that they read newspapers (82%), watch television (78%), access the Internet (78%), read books (75%) and listen to the radio (69%) mainly or only in English. Access to French-language media is therefore not the only factor that influences consumption in the minority language: the SVOLM results reveal that despite technological advances facilitating access to various French-language media, English predominates in media use.

Table 4.3
Proportion of Francophones by language used with certain media,
Prince Edward Island, 2006

Médias	Language used		
	Mainly or only English	French and English	Mainly or only French
			percentage
Radio	69	16	14 ^E
Television	78	19	3 ^E
Newspapers	82	14 ^E	3 ^E
Books	75	19	6 ^E
Internet	78	16 ^E	F

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 2006.

4.5 Community life

It is generally recognized that people's civic engagement and their participation in community activities are dimensions of civic life that contribute to creating and maintaining social support networks. Also, "social capital (broadly defined as participation in social networks) is increasingly being understood as a key component of community development or a key aspect of the 'capacity' of a community to develop." (Rothwell and Turcotte, 2006, p. 1)

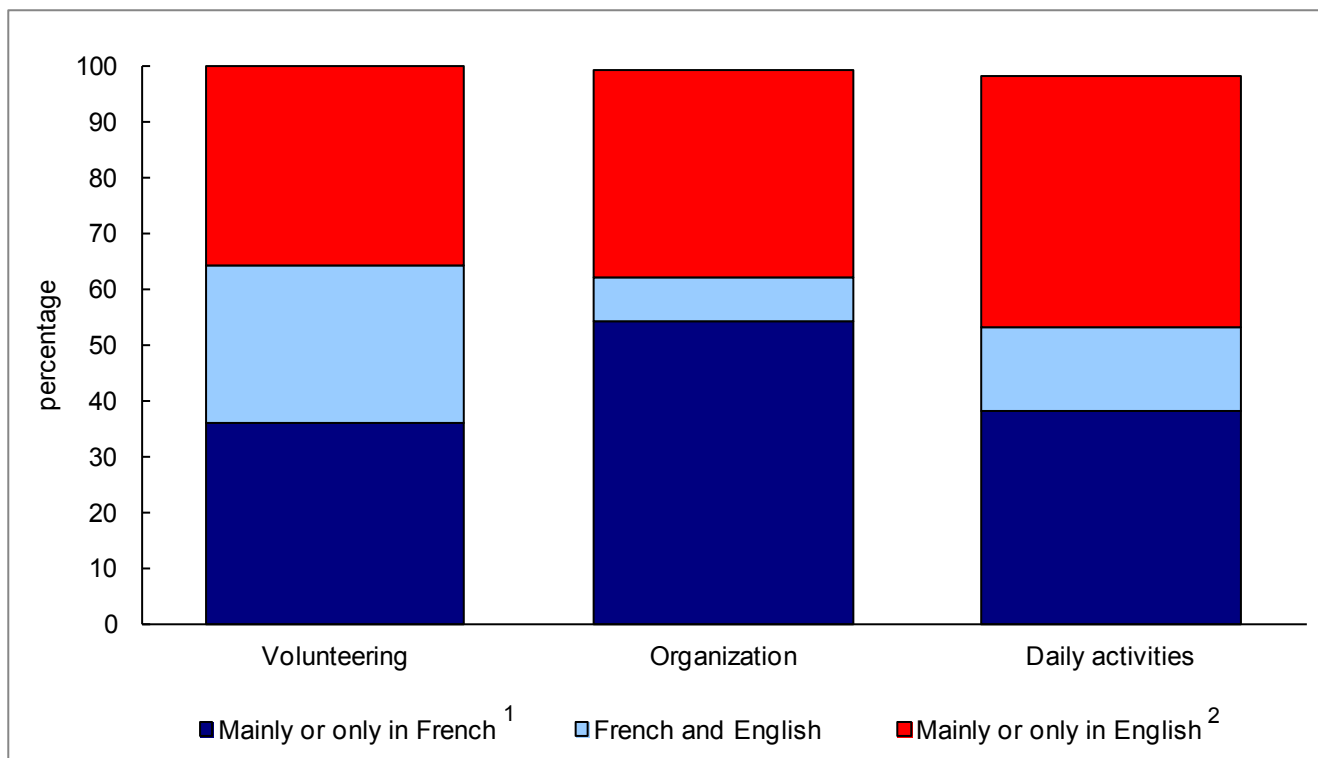
Data from the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities lend themselves to measuring several dimensions of Francophones' participation in community life. Statistics on participation in volunteer activities, membership in community organizations and informal caregiving can be used to examine the extent to which Francophones are engaged in the life of their community.²⁶

The SVOLM results show that at least 3 out of 10 Francophones in Prince Edward Island participate in one of the activities about which the survey collected data. Thus, 31% of adult Francophones reported belonging to an organization, network or association in the 12 months preceding the survey; 35% said they provided unpaid support for day-to-day activities to someone not living in their household; and 44% reported volunteering.

When Island Francophones engage in community activities, their language of interaction varies depending on the type of activity. French is the language that 54% of Francophones favour (i.e., using it mainly or only) during their involvement in organizations, while 38% favour French when they provide social support for day-to-day activities to someone not living in the household. When they do volunteer work, 36% of Francophones use mainly or only French, while 36% use English and 28% use French and English equally.

26. A number of sociodemographic and economic factors influence community participation, including age, education level, residential environment and socioeconomic status. However, an analysis of these factors goes beyond the objective of this report.

Chart 4.2
Proportion of Francophones by language used during community activities,
Prince Edward Island, 2006



1. Refers to the sum of the "French only" and "Much more French than English" categories in the survey questionnaire.

2. Refers to the sum of the "English only" and "Much more English than French" categories in the survey questionnaire.

Notes:

The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken. Please refer to Appendix B to obtain quality indicators (coefficient of variation (CV)) for the estimates used to produce this chart.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 2006.

Note that assistance with day-to-day activities is most often provided to family members—excluding children—(41%). Consequently, family appears to be quite important in the networks of Prince Edward Island Francophones. For example, in case of illness, 55% report that they would turn to other family members for support and 20% to their children, while 11% would turn to their friends.

According to the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 79% of Prince Edward Island Francophones report that it is important or very important to them that individuals or organizations work to develop the Francophone community. Also, 50% of those who belong to organizations, networks or associations do so in order to promote the Francophone community, which probably explains why the use of French is more widespread for this type of activity.

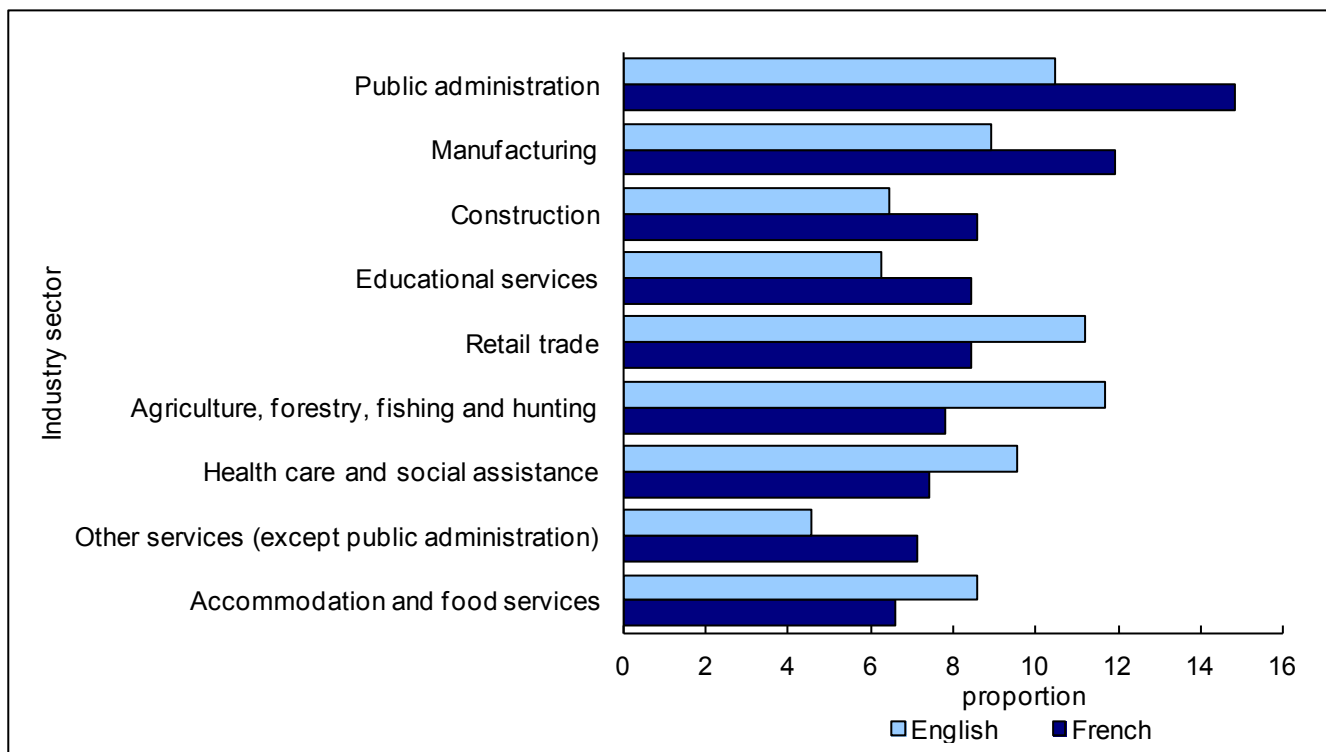
4.6 Employment and income characteristics

One can use data from the 2006 Census to examine the extent to which Prince Edward Island Francophones work in different industry sectors than Anglophones. These data allow one to identify similarities and differences in how language groups are distributed among various industry sectors.

A brief data analysis reveals that 44% of Prince Edward Island Francophones work mainly in four industry sectors in which they have a higher likelihood of working than Anglophones: public administration (14.8% of Francophones versus 10.5% of Anglophones), manufacturing (11.9% versus 8.7%), construction (8.6% versus 6.5%) and educational services (8.4% versus 6.3%) (see Chart 4.3). For their part, Anglophones are more likely to have jobs in retail trade (11.2% of Anglophones versus 8.4% of Francophones), agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (11.7% versus 7.8%) and health care and social assistance (9.6% versus 7.4%).

Chart 4.3

Proportion of workers by certain industry sectors and first official language spoken, Prince Edward Island, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Table 4.4
Distribution of Francophone workers by certain industry sectors,
Prince Edward Island, 2006

Industry sector (NAICS)	Francophone worker	
	number	percentage
Public administration	490	14.8
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	255	7.8
Other services (except public administration)	235	7.1
Retail trade	280	8.4
Construction	285	8.6
Manufacturing	395	11.9
Accommodation and food services	215	6.6
Educational services	290	8.7
Health care and social assistance	245	7.4
Total	3,310	100.0

Notes:

NAICS = North American Industry Classification System.

The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken. Due to the random rounding of numbers, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the numbers presented in the table.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

4.6.1 Use of French at work

Of all Prince Edward Island workers aged 15 and over, 5.5% use French most often or on a regular basis at work. Among those with only French as their first official language spoken, this proportion is 63%, with 29% using French most often and 34% using it regularly (that is, less often than the predominant language).

4.6.2 Income differentials

Historically, Canada's Francophones have been economically disadvantaged. Prince Edward Island Francophones were no exception. Since the income level of individuals is highly dependent on their education level, their occupation and the industry sector in which they work (to name only these factors), it would appear that the substantial changes within Prince Edward Island's Francophone communities in recent decades have had major effects on their income level.

It is beyond the purpose and scope of this report to analyse the factors that have influenced the evolution of income differentials between the language groups. However, statistics from the 2006 Census suggest that the status of Prince Edward Island Francophones has greatly improved over time.

The 2006 statistics reveal that mean and median incomes of persons with French as their first official language spoken are slightly higher than those of Anglophones (see Table 4.5). Men with French as their only first official language spoken (FOLS) have mean and median incomes approximately \$800 higher than those of men in the English FOLS group. For women, the mean and median incomes of Francophones are respectively \$2,300 and \$1,800 higher than those of Anglophones (see Table 4.5).

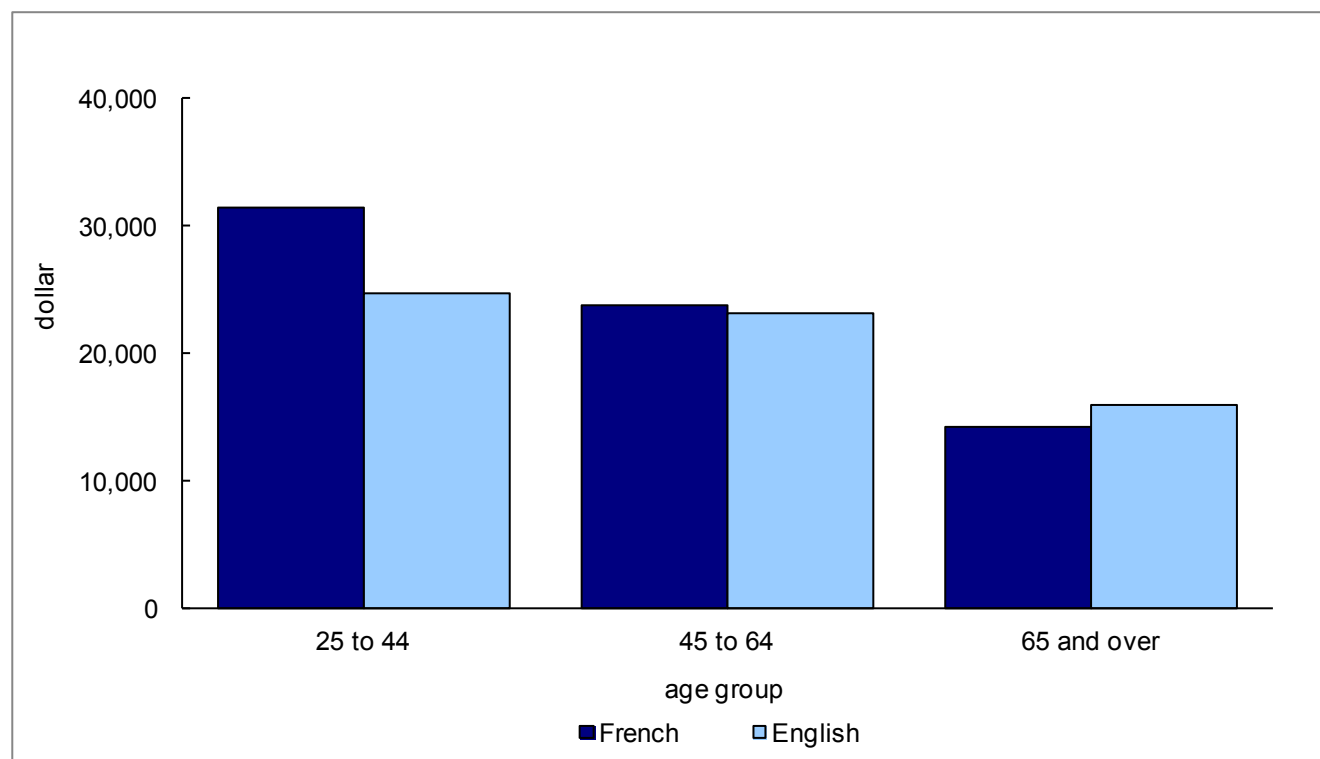
Table 4.5
Average and median income for males and females by first official language spoken, Prince Edward Island, 2006

First official language spoken	Males		Females	
	Average income	Median income	Average income	Median income
dollar				
French	32,665	27,380	26,207	20,817
English	31,845	26,593	23,861	18,971
Total	31,875	26,627	23,956	19,027

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

In light of the historical context described above, it is clear that the median income of the two language groups is associated with age. Charts 4.3-a and 4.3-b show that among persons aged 25 to 44 and 45 to 64, the median income of Francophones is higher than that of Anglophones, for both men and women.²⁷ On the other hand, in the 65 and over age group, the median income of Anglophone men and women is higher than that of Francophones, by \$5,000 and \$1,800 respectively.

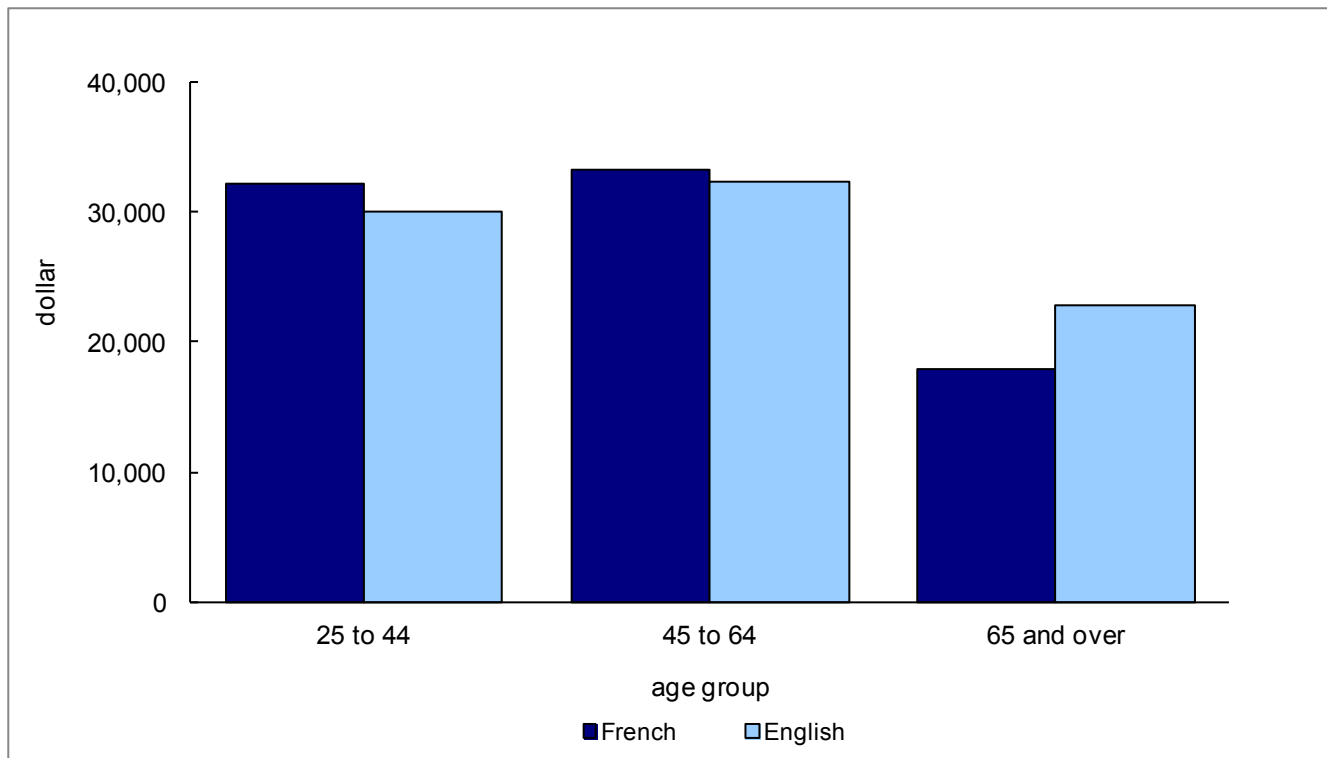
Chart 4.3-a
Median income of women, by age group and first official language spoken, Prince Edward Island, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

27. Because of the very small number of Francophones aged 15 to 24, no conclusions regarding them can be drawn from 2006 Census data.

Chart 4.3-b
Median income of men, by age group and first official language spoken,
Prince Edward Island, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Several factors may explain the income differential between Francophones and Anglophones. Although the results on the general population reveal that for both men and women, Francophones' mean incomes exceed those of Anglophones. These differences are due in part to a number of characteristics that distinguish the two populations.

An in-depth analysis of census results, specifically using the multivariate analysis technique, reveals that age, education, type of place of residence, industry sector and immigrant status are instrumental and partly explain these differences. Thus, if Francophones and Anglophones had exactly the same profile with respect to these characteristics (which is not the case), the mean income of Anglophone women in Prince Edward Island would be approximately \$1,600 lower than that of Francophone women. For men, the analysis reveals no statistically significant difference between the mean incomes of Anglophones and Francophones.

Section 5 Subjective sense of vitality

In this portrait of Prince Edward Island Francophones, we have drawn a general profile of their different demolingistic and socioeconomic characteristics. But what do we know about various key aspects of their subjective sense of vitality, and about how they perceive and value the French fact in their living environment?

Results from the Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities (SVOLM) bring out at least two key elements shared by most Francophones: a strong sense of double identification with both Francophone and Anglophone groups, and a high value placed on the French language.

As regards the phenomenon of identity, SVOLM results suggest that Francophones have a double ethnolingistic identity: 60% of them report that they identify with both Francophone and Anglophone groups.

Identity and sense of belonging are highly complex concepts. Depending on the circumstances, people may identify with their country, their language, their culture, etc. Among Prince Edward Island Francophones, the sense of double identification with Francophone and Anglophone groups suggests that in many cases, immersion in the primarily Anglophone culture may contribute to an emerging phenomenon: while Francophones value and respect their cultural and linguistic heritage, their language practices are influenced by living within the dominant and pervasive Anglophone culture. However, to verify and analyse this hypothesis would go beyond the scope of this analytical report and the limitations of the SVOLM in this regard.

Nevertheless, a number of factors indicate that Prince Edward Island Francophones definitely assign a value to French language. The majority of Island Francophones (81%) reported that it is important or very important to them to be able to use French in their daily life. Also, they consider it important or very important for individuals or organizations to work to develop the French-speaking community (86%), for government services to be provided in French (77%) and for linguistic rights to be respected in their province (76%).

In examining the extent to which French is used in the various domains covered by the SVOLM, (notably regarding interactions with health care and justice system professionals, as well as access to the main mechanisms for transmitting culture), we observe a phenomenon that may, on the face of it, seem contradictory: valuing a language does not necessarily translate into using it a great deal. For example, among Prince Edward Island Francophones who report that it is either very important or important to be able to use French in their daily life, 78% watch television only or mainly in English, while 8 out of 10 read newspapers only or mainly in English. Even though Francophones value the French language, and give it great importance, their demolingistic reality and the dynamics of their living environment may work against the use of that language.

The Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities collected data on respondents' subjective perceptions regarding the past and future evolution of the minority language's presence in their municipality of residence, as well as the vitality of the minority official-language community. On this score, 30% of Francophones feel that the vitality of the French-speaking community in their municipality is weak or very weak, while 25% feel that it is neither strong nor weak. Also, when asked how the presence of French in their municipality would evolve in the next 10 years, 58% of Island Francophones said that this presence would remain the same or increase. This is quite similar to the result obtained regarding their perception of how the presence of French had evolved in the past 10 years. These results suggest that Prince Edward Island Francophones are confident regarding their language's presence in their municipality and indeed their province.

Conclusion

This demolinguistic portrait of Prince Edward Island Francophones contains considerable and varied information on the characteristics, practices and perceptions of this language group. What stands out from all this information? While the following items are not a complete list of the key points contained in this report, they provide a general picture.

1. Prince Edward Island's population grew by 36% from 1951 to 2006, going from 98,430 to 134,205. The English-mother-tongue population increased 41% during this period to 125,565 in 2006, while the population with a mother tongue other than English or French more than quadrupled (327%), going from 710 in 1951 to 3,030 in 2006. By contrast, the French-mother-tongue population declined by approximately one-third during the same period, falling from 8,475 to 5,610.
2. In Prince Edward Island, use of the FOLS criterion yields a smaller Francophone population. The relative share of the French population (according to first official language spoken) within the overall population of Prince Edward Island is 3.8% (5,135), while that of the French-mother-tongue population is 4.2% (5,610).
3. The Francophone minority represents 3.8% of the overall population of Prince Edward Island. The vast majority (97%) of Prince Edward Island Francophones live in two of the Island's three census divisions (CDs): Prince (69% or 3,535 persons) and Queens (28% or 1,455 persons). Moreover, nearly one-third of the province's Francophones live in the cities of Summerside (16%) and Charlottetown (14%).
4. From 1971 to 2006, the proportion of children from a French-English exogamous family among all families with at least one French-mother-tongue parent increased in Prince Edward Island, going from 43% to 74%. Conversely, the share of children living in an endogamous family with both parents having French as their mother tongue declined substantially, from 57% in 1971 to 25% in 2006. The formation of French-"other"-tongue exogamous families slightly increased during this period, going from 0.4% to 1.0%.
5. Because of the decrease in the proportion of French endogamous couples from 1971 to 2006, one might expect to see a decrease in the rate of transmission of the minority language (in this case, French) to children. But whereas French had been passed on to 83% of the children under 18 years of age of French endogamous couples in 1971, the proportion was 89% in 2006.
6. From 1971 to 2006, the French-mother-tongue population saw its numbers decrease by nearly 24%, from 7,360 to 5,610. However, not all cohorts registered a decrease. The cohorts under 40 years of age decreased in size, owing to a drop in the fertility of Francophone women, due in part to a fertility rate below the replacement level. Conversely, there was a moderate increase in the number of persons aged 40 and over, owing to the aging of the population and longer life expectancy.
7. Through successive censuses, there has been an increase in the language transfer rate for persons with French as a mother tongue in Prince Edward Island. Thus, in 1971, 43% of islanders with French as a mother tongue reported using another language, usually English, most often at home. Thirty-five years later, 51% of French-mother-tongue persons reported speaking a language other than French most often at home. Among English-mother-tongue persons, the proportion of language transfers was almost nil and remained stable over the period, 0.3% in 1971 and 0.1% in 2006. Among "other"-mother-tongue persons, linguistic transfers remained fairly stable from 1971 to 2001 at around 70%. However, they went from 71% in 2001 to 60% in 2006, a sizable decrease that may be due to a strong increase in the number of "other"-mother-tongue persons during the same period.
8. Overall in Prince Edward Island, the proportion of Francophones who report speaking English most often at home (complete and partial language transfers) is greater than the proportion who report being more at ease in English than in French. Thus, around 50% of Prince Edward Island Francophones report speaking English most often at home, while 40% report being more at ease in English than in French.

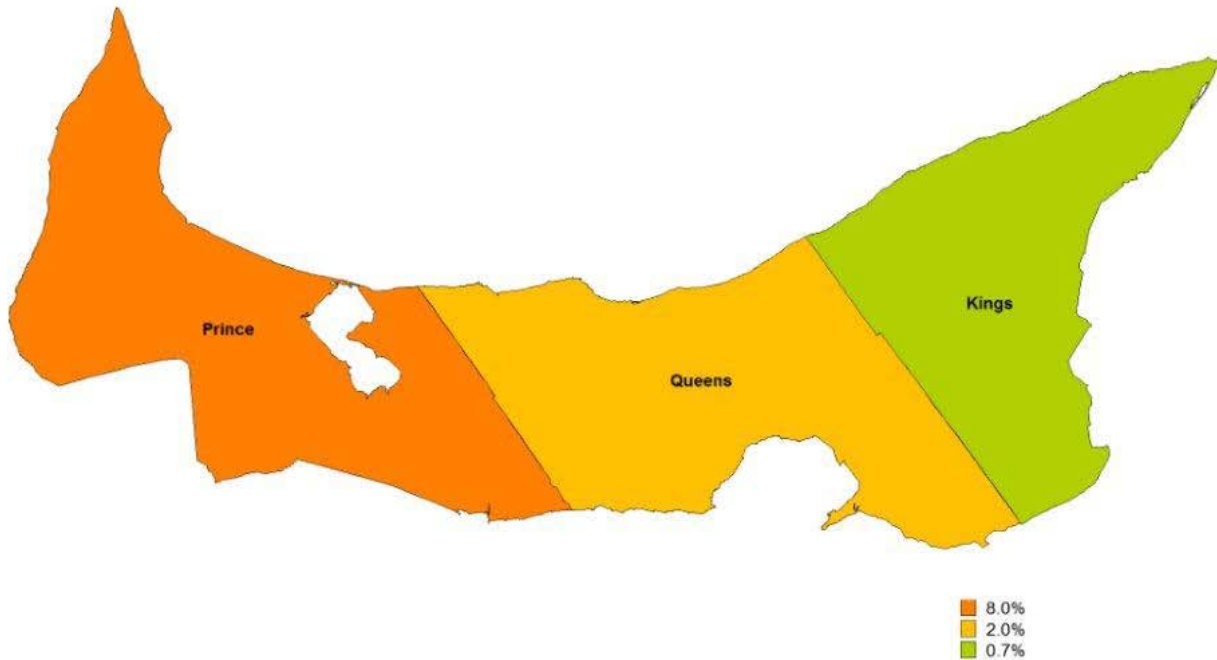
9. In Prince Edward Island, persons whose first official language spoken is French mainly use English in the public sphere, while in the private sphere (at home) they use French as much as English. The predominant use of English (that is, its main or only use) is most widespread in exchanges within institutions and stores (87%) and in the consumption of media (80%). In other domains of the public sphere (with friends, within immediate networks and at work), the extent to which English is mainly or only used shows little variation, ranging between 53% and 64%. It is worth noting that Francophones' joint use of French and English ranges between 10% and 18% depending on the domain.
10. Within the overall population of Prince Edward Island in 2006, a larger proportion reported being able to conduct a conversation in French (13%) than reported French alone or with another language as their mother tongue (4.2%) or than reported French as their first official language spoken (3.8%). The relative share of Prince Edward Islanders able to conduct a conversation in French is highly polarized by language group. Whereas 92% of French-mother-tongue persons reported knowing both official languages, that proportion was only 9% for persons with English as a mother tongue and 10% for persons with another mother tongue.
11. In 2006, approximately 70% of French-mother-tongue persons and French FOLS persons had been born in Prince Edward Island. Regardless of the criterion used, approximately 27% Francophones living in Prince Edward Island were born in another province or territory of Canada, including 12% in Quebec and 8.5% in New Brunswick. As to foreign-born persons, most of whom were immigrants, they comprised between 2% and 3% of the French-mother-tongue population and the population with French as first official language spoken.
12. From 1981 to 2006, the net migration of Francophones between Prince Edward Island and the other provinces and territories was almost nil, ranging from -590 to 335 depending on the five-year period. Departures of Francophones for other provinces and territories ranged from 390 to 1,140, while the number of Francophone migrants settling in Prince Edward Island varied from 380 to 725 for a given period. As regards the province's Anglophones, the number leaving Prince Edward Island was also roughly the same as the number settling there. Consequently, net migration per five-year period went from 1,215 persons during the period 1981-1986 to 740 during the period 2001-2006. The province had its most unfavourable migratory balance from 1986 to 1991, with a net migration figure of -240.
13. During the 2006 Census, very few doctors and nurses working in Prince Edward Island reported that they were able to conduct a conversation in French, and none reported using French at least on a regular basis at work.
14. Results from the Survey of the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities show that whatever their main language, the vast majority of Prince Edward Island Francophones (96%) use English in their contacts with the different health care professionals about whom information was collected in that survey, namely family doctors, nurses, telephone health line professionals and professionals in other places where people go to obtain care.
15. The 2006 Census data also show that the number of police officers who use French in their work in Prince Edward Island is slightly smaller than the number of Francophone police officers. This is not the case with lawyers: the number of them who communicate at least regularly in French at work is greater than the number of Francophone lawyers.
16. In Prince Edward Island, 1,170 children of Francophone parents were enrolled in preschool, kindergarten, elementary or secondary school at the time of the survey. Of those children, nearly two-thirds were receiving an education in French, either in a French school or an immersion program in an English school, while 35% were receiving an education in English within an English school.
17. In 2006, Francophones (35%) are proportionally more likely not to have any certificate, diploma or degree than Anglophones (23%) whereas Anglophones (23%) are proportionally more likely to have a high school diploma or the equivalent than Francophones (17%). For the other levels of educational attainment, the gaps are either small or very small, at less than 4%.

18. Of all Prince Edward Island workers aged 15 and over, 5.5% use French most often or on a regular basis at work. Among those with only French as their first official language spoken, this proportion is 63%, with 29% using French most often and 34% using it regularly (that is, less often than the predominant language).
19. The 2006 statistics reveal that mean and median incomes of persons with French as their first official language spoken are slightly higher than those of Anglophones. Men with French as their only first official language spoken (FOLS) have mean and median incomes approximately \$800 higher than those of men in the English FOLS group. For women, the mean and median incomes of Francophones are respectively \$2,300 and \$1,800 higher than those of Anglophones.
20. An in-depth analysis of census results, specifically using the multivariate analysis technique, reveals that age, education, type of place of residence, industry sector and immigrant status are instrumental and partly explain these differences. Thus, if Francophones and Anglophones had exactly the same profile with respect to these characteristics (which is not the case), the mean income of Anglophone women in Prince Edward Island would be approximately \$1,600 lower than that of Francophone women. For men, the analysis reveals no statistically significant difference between the mean incomes of Anglophones and Francophones.
21. As regards the phenomenon of identity, SVOLM results suggest that Francophones have a double ethnolinguistic identity: 60% of them report that they identify with both Francophone and Anglophone groups.
22. The majority of Island Francophones (81%) reported that it is important or very important to them to be able to use French in their daily life. Also, they consider it important or very important for individuals or organizations to work to develop the French-speaking community (86%), for government services to be provided in French (77%) and for linguistic rights to be respected in their province (76%).

Geographical map

Map 1

Percentage of the population with French as first official language spoken (with random²⁸ distribution of the English-French category) by census divisions, Prince Edward Island, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

28. The random distribution of the English-French category was implemented with the help of SAS software (RANUNI command) to attribute half of this category to the French group.

Appendix A

Table A-1
Francophone population of Prince Edward Island by census division and census subdivision, 2006

Census division and census subdivision ¹	Francophone population	
	percentage	number
Kings	0.7	135
Lot 64	1.1	10
Montague	0.9	15
Lot 44	1.7	15
Lot 45	2.0	10
Souris	3.0	35
Lot 41	3.2	15
Lot 40	2.1	10
Morell	3.3	10
Lot 38	2.0	10
Queens	2.0	1,455
Lot 62	1.9	10
Lot 60	4.7	15
Lot 57	2.6	25
Lot 50	3.5	30
Lot 49	1.0	10
Lot 48	1.7	30
Lot 31	2.8	45
Lot 65	1.2	25
Lot 30	2.0	15
Crapaud	3.2	10
Lot 67	1.8	15
Clyde River	2.4	15
Lot 20	1.3	10
Lot 21	1.0	10
Miltonvale Park	3.1	35
Lot 22	4.3	25
Lot 23	2.4	20
Lot 24	3.5	55
Resort Mun. Stan.B.-Hope R.-Bayv.-Cavend.-N.Rust.	3.5	10
North Rustico	2.5	15
Lot 33	2.8	30
Union Road	6.1	15
Lot 34	0.4	10
Lot 35	0.9	15
Lot 37	2.8	15
Charlottetown	2.3	730
Stratford	2.0	145
Cornwall	1.2	55

Appendix A

Table A-1
Francophone population of Prince Edward Island by census division and census subdivision, 2006 (end)

Census division and census subdivision ¹	Francophone population	
	percentage	number
Prince	8.0	3,535
Lot 28	1.1	10
Central Bedeque	6.7	10
Lot 25	2.2	25
Lot 19	2.1	40
Bedeque	7.4	10
Kensington	1.7	25
Lot 18	1.9	20
Sherbrooke	11.1	15
Lot 17	9.7	55
Linkletter	4.7	15
Miscouche	7.8	60
Summerside	5.7	810
Lot 15	71.1	860
Abrams Village	86.8	230
Lot 16	25.0	175
Wellington	81.3	325
Lot 14	15.1	120
Lot 13	1.4	10
Tyne Valley	4.8	10
Lot 12	1.7	15
Lot 11	1.9	10
Lot 10	3.4	10
Lot 6	1.8	15
O'Leary	1.8	15
Lot 5	2.4	30
Lot 4	3.0	35
Alberton	1.0	10
Lot 3	7.2	65
Lot 2	13.3	220
St. Louis	13.3	10
Lot 1	9.8	185
Tignish	9.7	70
Miminegash	8.6	15

1. The list excludes census subdivisions where there are little or no Francophones.

Note: The term Francophone refers to the first official language spoken.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Appendix B

Table 3.5

Proportion of Francophones by language use in various domains of the public and private spheres, Prince Edward Island, 2006

Language	Home		Friends		Immediate network		Work		Institutions and store		Media	
	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV
Mainly or only French	43	7.1	31	8.3	24	8.5	23	12	F	F	F	F
English and French	13 ^E	18.6	16	14.3	18	12.9	13	16.2	10 ^E	18.6	14	14.6
Mainly or only English	44	6.8	53	5.5	58	4.7	64	5	87	2.4	80	3.2
Total	100	0.0	100	0.0	100	0.0	100	0.0	100	0.0	100	0.0

CV coefficient of variation

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 2006.

Table 4.2

Proportion of Francophones by language used during community activities, Prince Edward Island, 2006

Language	Total		Mainly or only in French		French and English		Mainly or only in English		Other ¹	
	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV	%	CV
Language used during volunteering	100	0.0	36	11.2	28 ^E	16.6	36	11.5	x	x
Language used with organization	100	0.0	54	9.9	8 ^E	25.7	37	14.2	x	x
Language used during daily activities	100	0.0	38	12.8	15 ^E	25.7	45	12.3	x	x

1. For volunteering, included other responses (example, don't know and refusal) and the responses where there's only another language other than English and French.

CV coefficient of variation

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities, 2006.

Appendix C

Construction of indices

Note on the construction of the daily language use indices

The indices used in this section were developed in the following manner. Whether it comes to the use of French or English, in all cases where people use only the majority language, they are assigned a value of 1, while those who use only the minority language are assigned a value of 5. In general, most questions consisted of a scale with five levels. For certain questions, there were only three possible categories: “French”, “French and English”, and “English”. The median category therefore corresponds to a value of 3.

Two approaches were used to present the results covering each of the indices: one by language categories, the other by average level of use of languages. The first approach consisted essentially of summing the values obtained from each of the questions and dividing this sum by the number of questions answered by the respondent. For the second approach, the average scores obtained were regrouped into five categories. However, given that the results consisted of a continuous scale from 1 to 5, we identified thresholds which allowed us to redistribute the values among the following five language categories: “Only the majority language”, “Mainly the majority language”, “Both languages equally”, “Mainly the minority language”, “Only the minority language”. The corresponding thresholds for these categories are as follows: “1 to 1.49”, “1.50 to 2.49”, “2.50 to 3.49”, “3.50 to 4.49” and “4.50 to 5.0”. Since no perfect solution exists to carry out such a distribution, this approach has the advantage of centering the values on either side of the median category and cutting down the range of values at the extremities of the scale.

Finally, the general language use index was drawn up not by using the average values for all 23 variables, but by adding the value obtained for the question on languages used with friends to the average values obtained on each of the four following indices: languages at work, immediate network, institutions and media. Such an approach offers the advantage of not assigning too much importance to a domain made up of numerous questions to the detriment of another composed of fewer questions.

Lastly it should be noted that information covering language used at home was used in the same manner as that regarding friends. By using both the information on language spoken most often and language spoken regularly, the variable created is made up of the same five categories explained above.

Appendix D

Description of concentration index

Dissemination area: a small, relatively stable geographic unit. All dissemination areas have roughly the same number of residents, namely 400 to 700 persons. For a complete definition, see the 2006 Census Dictionary.

The definition of concentration takes into account both the proportion and the number of official-language minority persons within a dissemination area. A strong concentration of the minority group exists when the Francophone population within a dissemination area makes up at least 50% of the overall population or at least 200 persons. An average concentration refers to a situation where the proportion is at least 10% but less than 50% and the number of Francophones is equal to or more than 50 but less than 200. Finally, the concentration of Francophones is considered to be weak when their proportion within the dissemination area is less than 10% or their number is less than 50 persons.

Once a concentration class (ie. weak, average or strong) was assigned to all the dissemination areas in a given municipality (or census subdivision), we chose to assign to the Francophone population of that municipality the concentration class (or level) containing the largest proportion of the minority population. The total, which represents the largest portion of the total Francophone population of the municipality, tells us the concentration class assigned to Francophones of that municipality. In other words, when we state that 55% of the Francophones living in Prince Edward Island are weakly concentrated within their municipality of residence, this means that 55% of them live in municipalities where, in the majority of cases, either their number is lower than 50 persons or their proportion is lower than 10% of the population within their dissemination area of residence.

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