



COMMUNITY HEALTH &
SOCIAL SERVICES NETWORK

RÉSEAU COMMUNAUTAIRE DE
SANTÉ ET DE SERVICES SOCIAUX

Quebec's English-speaking Communities: *Selected Findings from the 2021 Census*

CHSSN Building Together 2023

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Proportion by Language Group, 2016 and 2021



Proportion of English Speakers Québec, 2016 and 2021

Language Group	2016		2021	
	Total Population	Proportion	Total Population	Proportion
Total Population	7,965,455	100.0%	8,406,905	100.0%
English Speakers	1,097,920	13.8%	1,253,578	14.9%
French Speakers	6,795,275	85.3%	7,074,328	84.1%
Neither	72,260	0.9%	79,000	0.9%

Source: JPocock Research Consulting, 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. All persons excluding institutional residents - 100% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken, with multiple responses distributed equally.

- According to the 2021 census, the English-speaking population of Quebec grew in the 2016 - 2021 period, increasing from 1.1M to 1.25M.
- In 2021, English speakers represented 14.9% of the total Quebec population.

Language Groups by Age, Québec, 2021

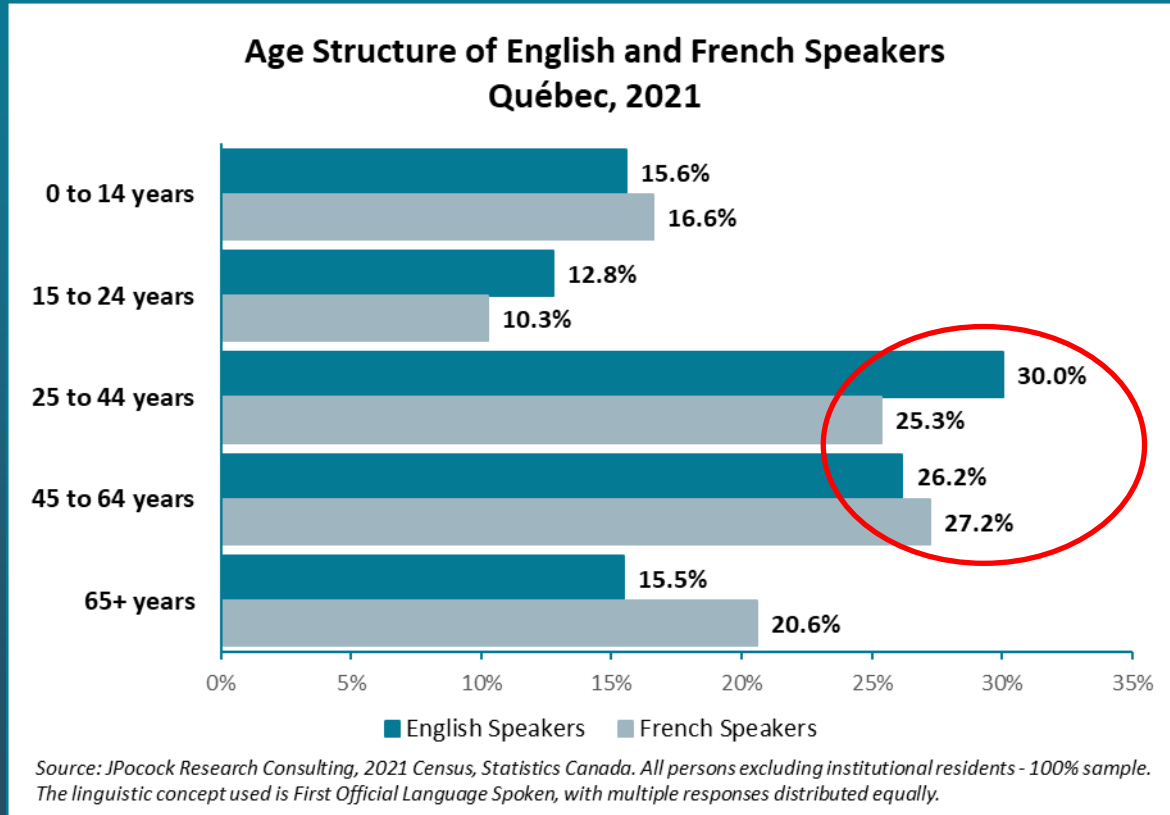
Age Structure of English and French Speakers Québec, 2021

Age Group	Total Population	English Speakers	French Speakers
Total Population	8,406,905	1,253,578	7,074,328
0 to 14 years	1,390,475	195,070	1,174,295
15 to 24 years	888,120	160,088	726,403
25 to 44 years	2,179,285	376,695	1,792,825
45 to 64 years	2,269,720	328,050	1,924,990
65+ years	1,679,310	193,680	1,455,820
Age Group	Total Population	English Speakers	French Speakers
Total Population	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
0 to 14 years	16.5%	15.6%	16.6%
15 to 24 years	10.6%	12.8%	10.3%
25 to 44 years	25.9%	30.0%	25.3%
45 to 64 years	27.0%	26.2%	27.2%
65+ years	20.0%	15.5%	20.6%

Source: JPocock Research Consulting, 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. All persons excluding institutional residents - 100% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken, with multiple responses distributed equally.

- The age structure of English speakers differs somewhat from Quebec's language majority.
- The proportion of English speakers aged 15-24 and 25-44 is higher when compared to Francophones in the same age categories.
- The proportion of French speakers is greater among those 45 -64 and 65+ years of age.
- The proportion of seniors in the English-speaking population (15.5%) which is substantially lower than that of the Francophone population (20.6%).

Language Groups by Age, Québec, 2021



Change in Age Structure of Language Groups Quebec, 2016 to 2021



Change in the English- and French-Speaking Population Québec, 2016 to 2021

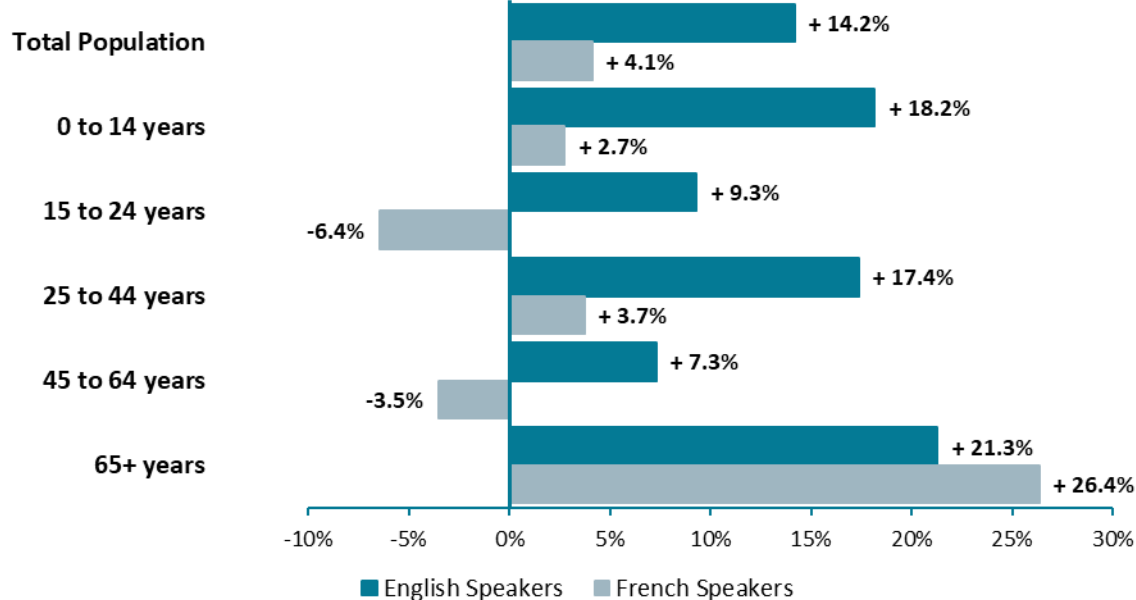
Age Group	English Speakers				French Speakers			
	2016 Total Population	2021 Total Population	Absolute Growth	Relative Growth	2016 Total Population	2021 Total Population	Absolute Growth	Relative Growth
Total Population	1,097,920	1,253,578	155,658	+ 14.2%	6,795,275	7,074,328	279,053	+ 4.1%
0 to 14 years	165,085	195,070	29,985	+ 18.2%	1,143,065	1,174,295	31,230	+ 2.7%
15 to 24 years	146,465	160,088	13,623	+ 9.3%	776,310	726,403	-49,907	-6.4%
25 to 44 years	320,935	376,695	55,760	+ 17.4%	1,728,440	1,792,825	64,385	+ 3.7%
45 to 64 years	305,775	328,050	22,275	+ 7.3%	1,995,460	1,924,990	-70,470	-3.5%
65+ years	159,670	193,680	34,010	+ 21.3%	1,152,005	1,455,820	303,815	+ 26.4%

Source: JPocock Research Consulting, 2016 Census and 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. All persons excluding institutional residents - 100% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken, with multiple responses distributed equally.

- In the 2016 - 2021 period, Quebec's English-speaking population experienced growth in every age category.
- The highest level of relative growth was in the 65+ age group.
- The highest level of growth in terms of absolute number was in the 25 to 44 age cohort.

Change in Age Structure of Language Groups Quebec, 2016 to 2021

**Change in the English- and French-Speaking Population
Québec, 2016 to 2021**



Source: JPocock Research Consulting, 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. All persons excluding institutional residents - 100% sample.
The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken, with multiple responses distributed equally.

- Population growth in Quebec's English-speaking population exceeded the majority in every age category with the exception of those 65 years and over.
- Quebec's French speakers experienced decline in the 15 to 24 and 45 to 64 year age groups.

English-French Bilingualism, by Age Group and Language, Quebec, 2021

**English-French Bilingualism
Québec, 2021**

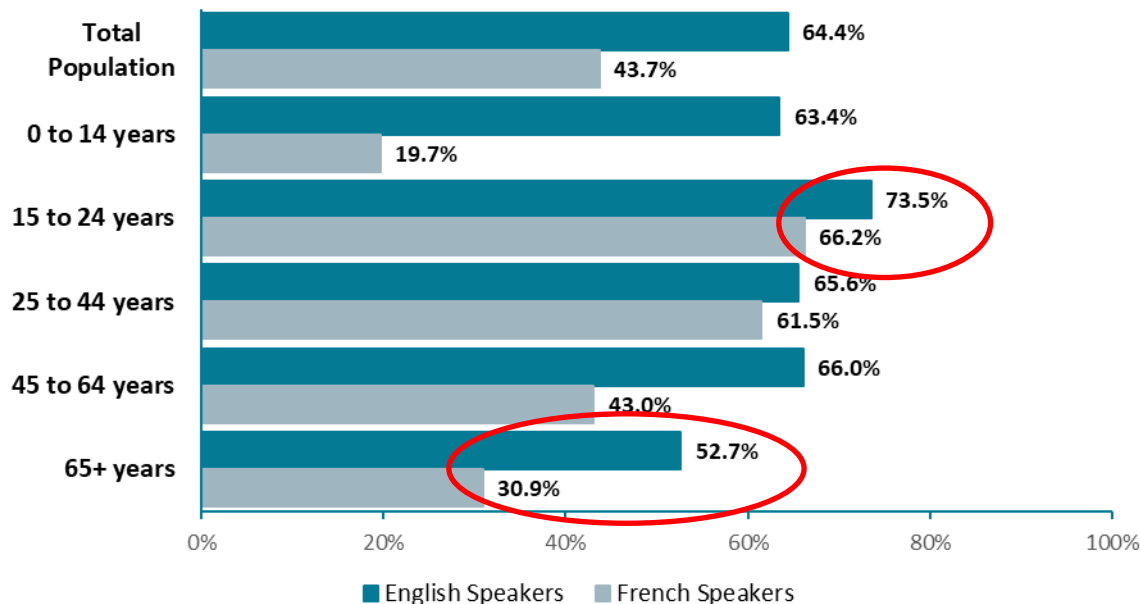
Age Group	English Speakers			French Speakers		
	Total	Bilingual (English and French)	Unilingual English	Total	Bilingual (English and French)	Unilingual French
Total Population	1,253,578	806,935	445,575	7,074,328	3,092,045	3,980,275
0 to 14 years	195,070	123,718	70,760	1,174,295	231,098	942,110
15 to 24 years	160,088	117,615	42,410	726,403	480,715	245,535
25 to 44 years	376,695	247,050	129,495	1,792,825	1,102,000	690,535
45 to 64 years	328,050	216,580	111,300	1,924,990	828,535	1,096,205
65+ years	193,680	101,973	91,600	1,455,820	449,718	1,005,895
Age Group	English Speakers			French Speakers		
	Total	Bilingual (English and French)	Unilingual English	Total	Bilingual (English and French)	Unilingual French
Total Population	100.0%	64.4%	35.5%	100.0%	43.7%	56.3%
0 to 14 years	100.0%	63.4%	36.3%	100.0%	19.7%	80.2%
15 to 24 years	100.0%	73.5%	26.5%	100.0%	66.2%	33.8%
25 to 44 years	100.0%	65.6%	34.4%	100.0%	61.5%	38.5%
45 to 64 years	100.0%	66.0%	33.9%	100.0%	43.0%	56.9%
65+ years	100.0%	52.7%	47.3%	100.0%	30.9%	69.1%

Source: JPocock Research Consulting, 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. All persons excluding institutional residents - 100% sample. The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken, with multiple responses distributed equally.

- English speakers living in Quebec are more likely to have knowledge of both French and English when compared to the majority population.
- There is a higher level of unilingualism among Quebec's French-speaking majority in every age category
- Among the Quebec population, the highest level of unilingualism is found among French speakers aged 0 to 14 years.
- Among English-speakers, the highest level of unilingualism is among seniors aged 65+.

English-French Bilingualism, by Age Group and Language, Quebec, 2021

**English-French Bilingualism
Québec, 2021**



Source: JPocock Research Consulting, 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. All persons excluding institutional residents - 100% sample.
The linguistic concept used is First Official Language Spoken, with multiple responses distributed equally.

- The highest levels of English-French bilingualism are among those 15-24 years of age for both language populations.
- The lowest level of bilingualism is among those 65+ for both language populations.



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Thank you!

Merci!