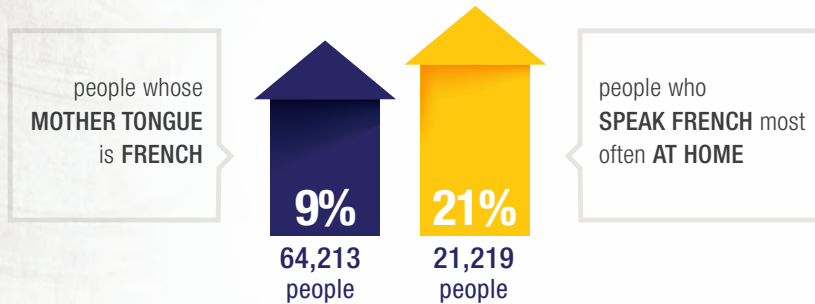




The French Presence in BRITISH COLUMBIA



FROM 2006 TO 2016,
there was an **INCREASE** of:



FRENCH is the **FIRST OFFICIAL LANGUAGE** of **1.4% OF THE POPULATION** (64,325 people).

7% OF THE POPULATION (314,925 people) can **SPEAK BOTH ENGLISH AND FRENCH.**



Nearly **6,000 STUDENTS** are enrolled in French-language schools (2016–2017)



40 FRENCH-LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

53,206 STUDENTS | **9.5%*** are enrolled in **FRENCH IMMERSION** (2016–2017)

FRENCH IMMERSION enrolment **HAS INCREASED NEARLY**



*of eligible enrolment



1/3 OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS (173,013)

are enrolled in **CORE FRENCH** (2016–2017)

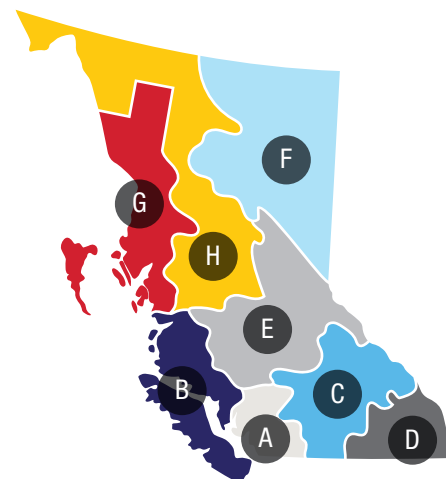


Simon Fraser University offers post-secondary education in French.

WHERE DO FRANCOPHONES LIVE?

(percentage of the population whose first official language is French)

ECONOMIC REGIONS



- A** Lower Mainland–Southwest: **58%**
- B** Vancouver Island and Coast: **20%**
- C** Thompson–Okanagan: **12%**
- D** Kootenay: **4%**
- E** Cariboo: **3%**
- F** Northeast: **1%**
- G** North Coast: **1%**
- H** Nechako: **1%**

WHERE WERE THEY BORN?

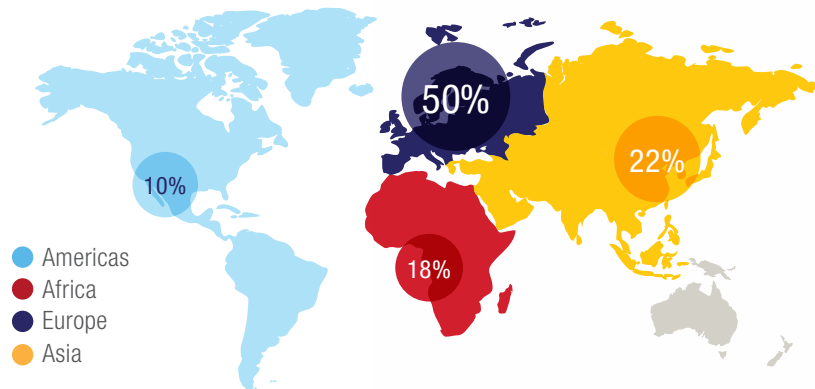
Elsewhere in Canada: **59%**

In British Columbia: **12%**

Abroad: **28%**



WHERE WERE FRENCH-SPEAKING IMMIGRANTS BORN?



MEDIA



La Source



CILS FM 107.9 (Victoria), and Radio-Canada ICI Première and ICI Musique



ICI Radio-Canada Télé and Unis TV

CELEBRATE!



March

The **FESTIVAL DU BOIS** in Maillardville honours French-Canadian traditions and culture. It is the largest Francophone festival on Canada's West Coast.

May

Victoria's **FESTIVAL DE LA FRANCOPHONIE** showcases local Francophone and francophile bands, Francophone artisans and community organizations.

June

The **FESTIVAL D'ÉTÉ FRANCOPHONE** in Vancouver celebrates French-Canadian music and culture.

HISTORY

- In 1793, six French-Canadian voyageurs, accompanied by Alexander Mackenzie, reached the Pacific.
- By 1812, over 300 French Canadians were engaged in fur trading and farming.
- Before the gold rush of 1858, French was the most spoken language in the west.
- Quebec families arrived in 1909 and settled along the Fraser River east of Vancouver, which would become Maillardville.
- The Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique was created in 1945, at a time when the province's French-speaking community was establishing itself. Today, the Fédération continues to represent the community's interests in British Columbia.
- The Franco-Columbian flag was adopted in 1982.
- The Legislative Assembly has recognized Franco-Columbians' education rights since 1997.

Sources:

- Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population
- Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey
- Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada
- Profiles of the Francophone and Acadian Communities of Canada
- Canadian Parents for French
- Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (in French only)

www.officiallanguages.gc.ca

