## 2023

## REPORT

"An Analysis of the Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristics of Quebec's English-Speaking Community

Compared to the French-Speaking Population" with a Focus on the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest
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## Introduction

This report provides a detailed analysis of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the Englishspeaking community in Quebec, based on the 2021 statistics released by the Quebec Government and CHSSN. Despite representing a minority population in the province, the English-speaking community has made significant contributions to the cultural and economic fabric of Quebec. However, the data presented in this report also highlights disparities in income and employment outcomes between the English-speaking and French-speaking populations. This report emphasizes the need for targeted interventions to support the English-speaking community, designed with a sensitivity to their unique needs and characteristics. Ultimately, this report provides insights into the challenges faced by the English-speaking community in Quebec and underscores the importance of evidence-based policies to promote equity and inclusivity.


## Québec - Total Population, 2021



Source: JPocock Research Consulting, 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.
Population in private households $-25 \%$ sample. The linguistic concept is First Official Language
Spoken with multiple responses distributed equally between English and French.

## English-Speakers Population in Quebec by RTS

## English-Speakers percentage in each RTS

60\%

40\% $\qquad$


The following analysis focuses on the English-speaking community and how they compare to the French speaking population, based on the latest statistics released by the Quebec Government and our funder, CHSSN.

English speakers account for 15\% of Quebec's total population, while French speakers represent the majority with 84.1\%.

Other Languages
0.9\%

English-Speakers
15\%

French-Speakers
84.1\%

## Age distribution:

- Children aged 0-14: English speakers represent $15.7 \%$ of the total, which is similar to the proportion of French speakers at 16.8\%.
- Seniors aged 65+: English speakers represent $14.9 \%$ of the total, which is lower than the proportion of French speakers at $19.8 \%$.


## Family and living situation:

- Lone parent families: English speakers represent $12.1 \%$ of the total, which is higher than the proportion of French speakers at $11.5 \%$.
- Living alone: English speakers represent $14.0 \%$ of the total, which is lower than the proportion of French speakers at $16.3 \%$.


## Mobility:

- Recent inter-provincial migrants: English speakers represent $4.1 \%$ of the total, which is significantly higher than the proportion of French speakers at 0.5\%.
- Recent immigrants: English speakers represent $9.9 \%$ of the total, which is much higher than the proportion of French speakers at $2.8 \%$.


## Income and poverty:

- Below LICO (Low-Income Cut-Off): English speakers represent $11.9 \%$ of the total, which is higher than the proportion of French speakers at 7.0\%.
- Income under $\$ 20 \mathrm{k}$ : English speakers represent $25.7 \%$ of the total, which is higher than the proportion of French speakers at 19.9\%.
- Income over \$50k: English speakers represent $34.1 \%$ of the total, which is lower than the proportion of French speakers at 38.5\%.


## Education:

- Low education: English speakers represent $38.1 \%$ of the total, which is similar to the proportion of French speakers at $39.5 \%$.
- High education: English speakers represent $33.7 \%$ of the total, which is higher than the proportion of French speakers at $21.9 \%$.


## Employment:

- In labour force: English speakers represent $66.6 \%$ of the total, which is higher than the proportion of French speakers at 64.0\%.
- Unemployed: English speakers represent $10.9 \%$ of the total, which is higher than the proportion of French speakers at 6.9\%.
- Out of labour force: English speakers represent $33.4 \%$ of the total, which is lower than the proportion of French speakers at 36.0\%.

Overall, the English-speaking community in Quebec faces several challenges in terms of income and employment, with higher rates of unemployment and poverty compared to the French speaking population. However, they also have a higher level of education, which should ideally lead to better employment outcomes. The data also suggests that the English-speaking community is more mobile, with a higher proportion of recent inter-provincial migrants and immigrants compared to the French speaking population.


As a language model, the data analysis and interpretation can be complex, but based on the data presented, it is clear that there are both similarities and differences between the English-speaking and French-speaking populations in Quebec.

Despite the fact that the English-speaking community represents a minority population in Quebec, they have contributed significantly to the cultural and economic fabric of the province. However, the data suggests that there are disparities in income and employment outcomes between the two communities, which may be due to a variety of factors such as systemic barriers, discrimination, and a lack of resources.

In terms of policy implications, the data shows that there may be a need for targeted interventions to support the English-speaking community, particularly in areas such as employment and income. However, it is also important to ensure that these interventions are designed with a sensitivity to the unique needs and characteristics of the community.

After all, the data presented in this report provides valuable insights into the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the English-speaking community in Quebec. As we continue to work towards building a more equitable and inclusive society, it is important to remain aware of these factors and to ensure that policies and programs are designed with a nuanced and evidence-based understanding of the needs of all communities.


## Québec VS RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest :

The data provided presents a comparison between two regions, Québec and RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest, in terms of English speakers across various categories.

- The first notable difference is that the proportion of English speakers is higher in the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region compared to Québec overall. While English speakers account for $15.0 \%$ of the total population in Québec, the percentage is $21.7 \%$ in the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region.
- The data also shows that the proportion of English speakers in the children age group ( 0 to 14 ) is higher in RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest than in Québec overall. In the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region, 19.5\% of children are English speakers, compared to $15.7 \%$ in Québec overall. Similarly, the proportion of English speakers in the seniors age group (65+) is also higher in the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region (14.1\%) compared to Québec overall (14.9\%).
- In terms of education, the proportion of English speakers with a high education level is higher in Québec overall (33.7\%) than in the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region (24.8\%). However, the proportion of English speakers with low education levels is higher in Québec overall (38.1\%) than in the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region (41.0\%).
- Regarding employment, the proportion of English speakers in the labor force is higher in the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region (69.0\%) compared to Québec overall (66.6\%). However, the unemployment rate among English speakers is higher in Québec overall ( $10.9 \%$ ) compared to the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region (8.6\%).
- Finally, the data reveals that the proportion of English speakers with an income over $\$ 50 \mathrm{k}$ is higher in Québec overall (34.1\%) compared to the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region (23.0\%). However, the proportion of English speakers with an income under \$20k is also higher in Québec overall ( $25.7 \%$ ) compared to the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region (4.8\%).
- In summary, the data highlights some differences between Québec and the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region in terms of the proportion of English speakers across different categories. While the proportion of English speakers is higher in the RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest region, the distribution of English speakers across various categories differs from that in Québec overall.


## Solutions:

MWCN is fully committed to exploring and implementing viable solutions that can effectively enhance the support provided to English speakers. Our focus is on identifying ways to better cater to the needs of this demographic, and we are actively working towards achieving this goal.

Some possible solutions to better support English speakers in Quebec include:

- Increasing access to English language education and resources: One way to support English speakers in Quebec is to provide more English language education and resources. This could include investing in English language schools and programs, as well as providing more English language resources for individuals who need them.
- Providing support for low-income families: English speakers in Quebec are more likely to live in lone-parent families and have incomes below the low-income cutoff (LICO). To address this, the government could provide more support for low-income families, such as affordable housing, childcare subsidies, and income support programs.
- Encouraging bilingualism: Another approach to supporting English speakers in Quebec is to promote bilingualism. This could involve increasing access to French language education and resources for English speakers, as well as encouraging French speakers to learn English. Promoting bilingualism could help to bridge the gap between English and French speakers in Quebec and create a more inclusive society.
- Addressing employment barriers: English speakers in Quebec are more likely to have high levels of education, but they also have higher rates of unemployment than French speakers. To address this, the government could provide more support for English-speaking job seekers, such as targeted job training programs and job placement services.
- Improving access to healthcare: Finally, English speakers in Quebec may face challenges accessing healthcare services due to language barriers. To address this, the government could invest in healthcare services for English speakers, such as hiring more English-speaking healthcare providers and providing more English language resources for patients.


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