

# Alberta Official Statistics

## Knowledge of Language of Aboriginal Identity Population, Canada, Provinces and Territories

- Based on the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS)<sup>1</sup>, about one in seven (15.1%) Aboriginal people<sup>2</sup> in Alberta can converse<sup>3</sup> in an Aboriginal language. This is lower than the national average of 17.2%. Nunavut has the highest proportion at 88.6%.
- English remains the most dominant language spoken by the Aboriginal population across the country with the exception of Quebec. Over 1.3 million Aboriginal people, or 94.5% of the Aboriginal identity population in Canada, reported having knowledge of the English language in 2011. In Alberta, almost all Aboriginal people (99.9%) responded that they could conduct a conversation in English.
- In 2011, 15.2%, or 213,130 Aboriginal people in Canada indicated that they were able to converse in French. The majority of them reside in Quebec (52.6%) and Ontario (21.4%). In Alberta, less than 9,000 Aboriginal people could converse in French in 2011.

**Note:** The sum of the responses is greater than the total population since respondents may have knowledge of more than one language.

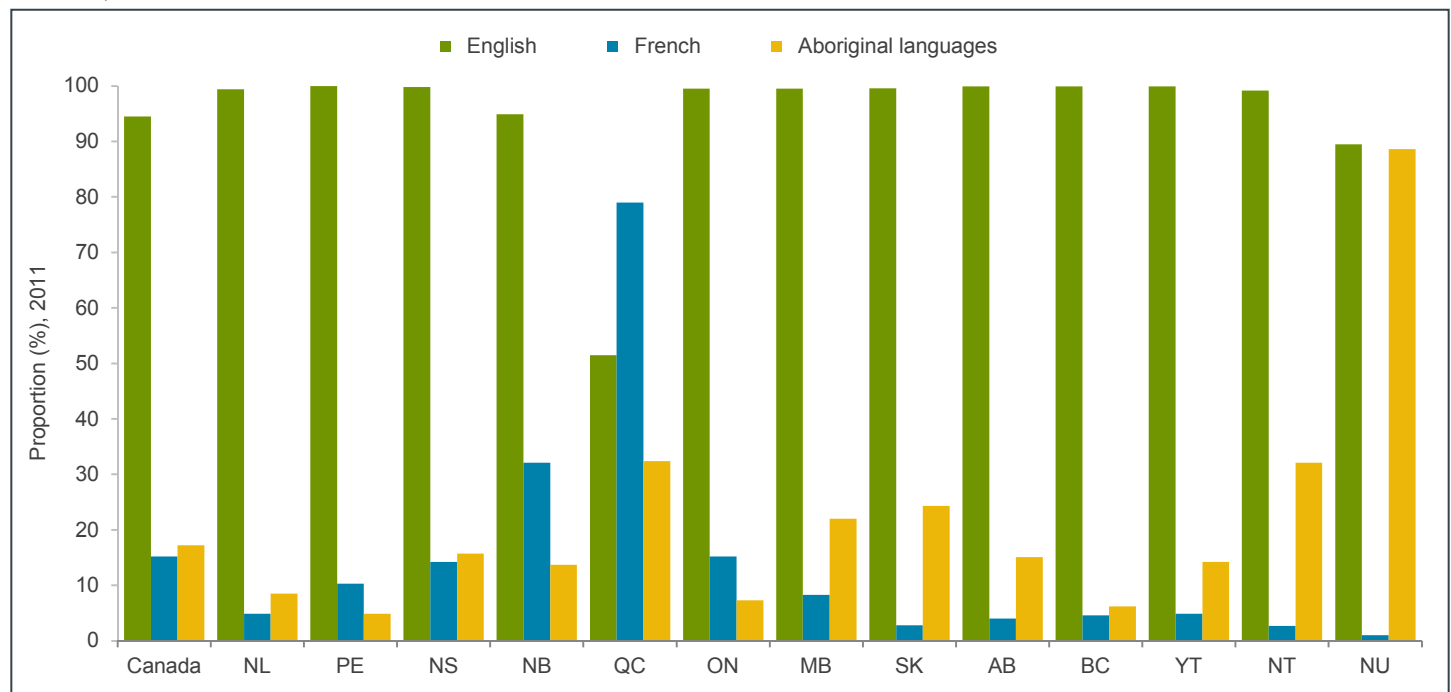
**1** Although the content of the NHS is similar to that of the 2006 long form Census, the shift from a mandatory to a voluntary survey, and some content changes, can affect the comparability of the data over time. As a result, users are cautioned when comparing NHS estimates with counts produced from the 2006 long form Census, especially for data involving small geographies. Users are suggested to consult the user guide and the reference materials provided by Statistics Canada to ensure appropriate use and analyses of NHS data.

**2** Aboriginal identity refers to whether the person reported being an Aboriginal person, that is, First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or being a Registered or Treaty Indian (that is, registered under the Indian Act of Canada) and/or being a member of a First Nations or Indian Band.

**3** 'Knowledge of languages' refers to languages in which the respondent can conduct a conversation based on the respondent's assessment.

### Knowledge of Language of Aboriginal Identity Population

Canada, Provinces and Territories



**Sources:** Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey