In 2006, Canada had 18.1 million people whose mother tongue was English, 6.9 million whose mother tongue was French, and 6.3 million whose mother tongue was neither English nor French.

The proportion of anglophones, Canada's predominant language group, is shrinking steadily as the proportion of allophones—people whose mother tongue is neither English nor French (Canada's two official languages)—is increasing. From 1981 to 2006, the anglophone share of the total population declined from 61% to 58%.

Francophones are the largest language minority in the provinces, except for Quebec, where they are the majority language group. In 2006, French was the mother tongue of 22% of Canadians, and close to 80% of Quebecers. From 2001 to 2006, francophones had the lowest rate of population growth, at 1.6%, compared with 3.0% for anglophones and 18.0% for allophones.

Cree, Inuktitut and Ojibway were the three most commonly spoken Aboriginal languages in 2006, with 69% of Inuit, 29% of First Nations people and 4% of Métis able to converse in an Aboriginal language.

A growing allophone population

Because of the substantial increase in immigration since the mid-1980s, the proportion of allophones in the population has more than doubled since 1981, growing from less than 10% to 20% in 2006.

According to projections of the diversity of the Canadian population, the allophone population could continue to increase from 7 to 11 times faster than the rest of the population. In fact, it could nearly double again to comprise around 29% to 32% of the total population by 2031.

In 2006, 87% of Canada's allophones were living in census metropolitan areas (CMAs). This percentage of allophones is expected to increase: 91% of the country's

allophones are projected to be living in a CMA by 2031.

People whose mother tongue is a Chinese language is the largest group of allophones in Canada. In 2006, this group accounted for 3% of the total population and 16% of the allophone population.

Official-language minorities

Francophones outside Quebec are scattered across Canada with large numbers residing in Ontario and New Brunswick.

People with French as their mother tongue made up 4.2% of Ontario's total population in 2006. One out of four of these francophones were living in Ottawa, and about the same proportion were located in northeastern Ontario.

Ontario's francophones speak French mostly at home and with friends. They use it less often in interactions with institutions and stores and for media consumption. Use of French in the various domains of the public sphere varies by region; French is more common in eastern Ontario.

In 2006, English was the first official language spoken by 995,000 people in Quebec, or 13.4% of the province's population. In other provinces, language transfers—when the language a person uses most often at home is not their mother tongue—are made primarily

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Aboriginal language groups, allophones, bilingualism, English language groups, French language groups, immersion programs, language at work, language instruction, language spoken at home, languages, languages of immigrants, mother tongue, non-official languages, official languages, official-language minorities, second languages

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toward English by allophones. In Quebec, such transfers are equally divided between French and English. In 2006, 50% of allophones who had made a language transfer were mainly using French at home while 48% were mainly using English.

Nearly 92% of Quebec's anglophone population is clustered in three regions: Montréal, the Outaouais, and in the Eastern Townships and southern Quebec. Anglophones in the Montréal CMA make up 80.5% of Quebec's total Englishspeaking population.

Quebecers whose first official language is English tend to use their language in both the public and private spheres. Among Quebecers who speak English, French and a third language, English is usually used for media consumption, while French is used in the public sphere and a third language is used at home.

Language and income

Anglophones are under-represented in Quebec's public service workforce, whereas francophones are over-

Chart 22.1 Allophone population, selected census metropolitan areas

Allophone population, scied	tou o	Jiiouo	monop	ontan a	ious						
Toronto											
Vancouver											
Abbotsford-Mission											
Windsor											
Calgary											
Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo											
Hamilton											
Montréal											
Winnipeg											
Edmonton											
Guelph		_	_							2 001	
London]					□ 2006	
Ottawa-Gatineau		_									
	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
					% c	f popula	tion				

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Table 22.a Workers who use an official language most often or regularly at work

	2001	2006
		%
English		
Total	84.4	85.0
Most often	78.4	78.3
Regularly	6.4	6.7
French		
Total	25.6	25.7
Most often	21.8	21.7
Regularly	3.8	4.0

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

represented. In addition, anglophone men in Quebec have a lower median annual income than their francophone counterparts (\$4,000 less).

Income disparities are greater among anglophone Quebecers than among francophone Quebecers. For example, a higher proportion of anglophones than francophones had an income above \$100,000 in 2006, and at the same time a higher proportion of anglophones than francophones were living in low-income circumstances.

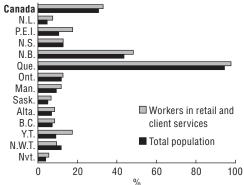
Shopping in French

Most francophones who live in a region where they are in the majority can be greeted and served in their own language when they shop.

In 2006, nearly all sales and service workers in the urban areas of Quebec knew French and used it at work. The proportion of sales and service workers who were able to converse in French was over 90% in the Montréal region and on the Quebec side of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA, two areas where the anglophone and allophone populations are both relatively large.

Outside Quebec, knowledge of French among sales and service workers varies by region. For example, on the Ontario side of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA, the proportion of sales and service workers who knew French in 2006 was 41%. In Moncton and Greater Sudbury—the two

Chart 22.2 Knowledge of French among sales and service workers. 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 11-008-X. regions with the largest concentrations of francophones outside Quebec—the corresponding proportions who knew French were 59% and 41%. However, fewer of those workers actually used French than knew the language.

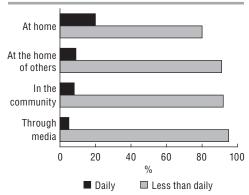
Language learning among Aboriginal children

Of the 57,110 First Nations children aged 2 to 5 who were living off reserve in 2006, 1 out of 5 were able to understand an Aboriginal language, while the majority spoke mostly English or French at home. About 10% of children were spoken to primarily in an Aboriginal language at home: for 8% of them, English or French was also spoken; for 1% of them, an Aboriginal language was spoken exclusively.

Exposing young children to an Aboriginal language at home plays a key role in their acquisition of the language.

Understanding an Aboriginal language is linked with other factors: being in a child care arrangement where Aboriginal languages are used; having parents who believe in the importance of Aboriginal languages; having at least one parent with an Aboriginal mother tongue; the

Chart 22.3 Children's exposure to Aboriginal languages, 2006

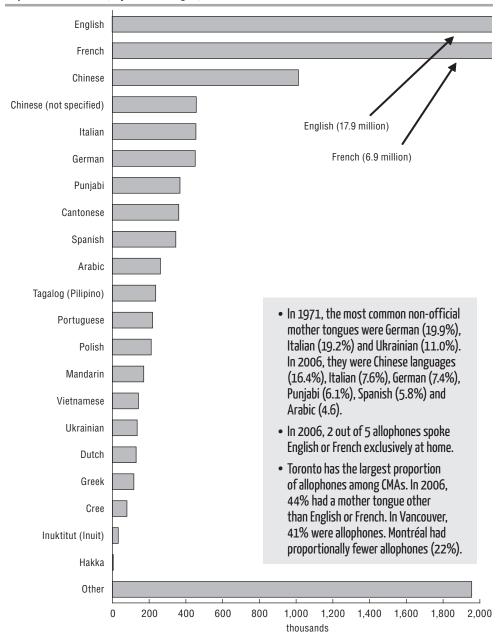


Note: First Nations children aged 2 to 5 living off reserve. **Source:** Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 11-008-X.

involvement of an extended family; living in a community perceived by parents as a good place to practise First Nations cultural activities; and participating often in traditional hunting, fishing, trapping or camping activities.

INTERNATIONAL perspective

Chart 22.4 Population of Canada, by mother tongue, 2006



Note: The respondent reported only one language as a mother tongue. **Source:** Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Table 22.1 Mother tongue, by province and territory, 2006

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
			number		
Population	31,241,030	500,610	134,205	903,090	719,650
Mother tongue, single response ¹	30,848,270	499,830	133,570	899,270	714,490
English	17,882,775	488,405	125,260	832,105	463,190
French	6,817,655	1,885	5,345	32,540	232,975
Non-official languages	6,147,840	9,540	2,960	34,620	18,320
Chinese	1,012,065	1,080	190	3,370	2,160
Cantonese	361,450	185	15	505	295
Mandarin	170,950	120	45	595	505
Hakka	4,415	0	0	0	10
Chinese (not otherwise specified)	456,705	760	115	2,240	1,270
Italian	455,040	195	55	905	590
German	450,570	655	275	4,045	1,935
Polish	211,175	115	70	1,570	220
Spanish	345,345	670	220	1,305	1,040
Portuguese	219,275	150	10	560	210
Punjabi	367,505	120	0	420	55
Ukrainian	134,500	60	20	440	140
Arabic	261,640	540	150	4,425	970
Dutch	128,900	300	865	2,440	1,290
Tagalog (Pilipino)	235,615	180	15	415	330
Greek	117,285	70	30	1,035	275
Vietnamese	141,630	15	10	500	205
Cree	78,855	20	0	15	0
Inuktitut (Inuit)	32,380	595	15	15	0
Other non-official languages	1,956,060	4,775	1,035	13,160	8,900
Mother tongue, multiple responses ²	392,760	780	635	3,820	5,160
English and French	98,625	295	495	2,100	4,450
English and non-official language	240,005	435	105	1,440	560
French and non-official language	43,335	30	25	140	120
English, French and non-official language	10,790	10	10	145	30

^{1.} The respondent reported only one language as a mother tongue.

^{2.} The respondent reported more than one language as a mother tongue.

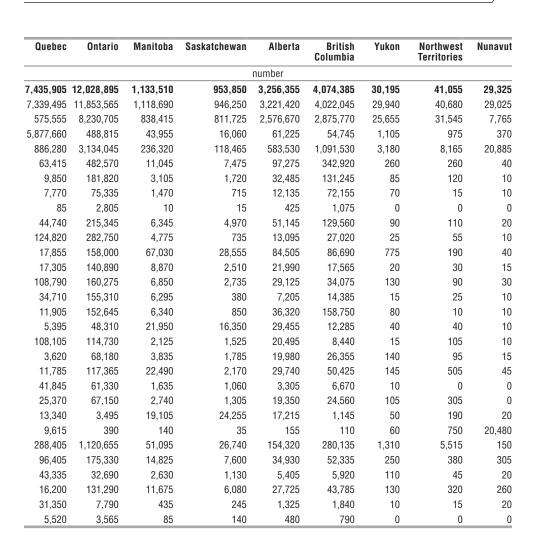


Table 22.2 Mother tongue, by census metropolitan area, 2006

	Total population		Single re	esponses1	
		Total	English	French	Non-official languages
			number		
St. John's	179,270	178,880	174,480	535	3,860
Halifax	369,455	367,520	337,715	10,085	19,725
Moncton	124,055	122,830	77,345	42,925	2,555
Saint John	120,875	120,300	111,215	5,510	3,570
Saguenay	149,600	149,230	1,100	146,435	1,700
Québec	704,185	700,810	10,250	671,140	19,410
Sherbrooke	183,635	182,345	8,850	165,115	8,385
Trois-Rivières	138,560	138,055	1,300	134,255	2,495
Montréal	3,588,520	3,514,485	425,635	2,328,400	760,445
Ottawa-Gatineau	1,117,120	1,096,315	550,260	360,175	185,875
Kingston	148,475	147,440	129,770	4,305	13,360
Peterborough	115,140	114,630	106,510	1,295	6,825
Oshawa	328,070	325,510	283,475	6,820	35,215
Toronto	5,072,075	4,965,405	2,746,480	58,590	2,160,335
Hamilton	683,450	675,780	516,360	9,725	149,695
St. Catharines-Niagara	385,035	381,310	307,350	13,490	60,475
Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	446,495	441,780	334,620	5,975	101,180
Brantford	122,825	122,115	107,720	1,310	13,085
Guelph	126,080	124,875	100,365	1,755	22,755
London	452,580	448,750	363,885	6,055	78,805
Windsor	320,730	315,780	230,920	11,105	73,755
Barrie	175,335	174,055	154,535	3,720	15,800
Greater Sudbury/Grand Sudbury	156,395	154,170	99,445	42,950	11,775
Thunder Bay	121,050	120,185	101,305	3,100	15,780
Winnipeg	686,040	676,315	507,530	29,020	139,765
Regina	192,440	190,890	169,720	2,675	18,495
Saskatoon	230,850	228,865	197,260	3,490	28,120
Calgary	1,070,295	1,056,760	797,555	16,310	242,895
Edmonton	1,024,820	1,011,725	785,755	21,980	203,990
Kelowna	160,560	159,490	136,025	2,530	20,935
Abbotsford-Mission	156,640	154,770	110,265	1,625	42,885
Vancouver	2,097,960	2,060,350	1,190,560	24,130	845,660
Victoria	325,065	322,655	274,950	5,580	42,120

^{1.} The respondent reported only one language as a mother tongue.

^{2.} The respondent reported more than one language as a mother tongue.

		Multiple respons		
English, French and non- official languages	French and non-official languages	English and non-official languages	English and French	Total
		number		
15	30	235	110	390
125	85	710	1,015	1,935
15	60	70	1,085	1,225
0	0	80	495	575
0	80	0	270	365
155	1,015	85	2,120	3,375
40	400	25	830	1,295
30	120	25	320	505
4,950	27,005	15,225	26,855	74,035
635	2,890	6,785	10,495	20,810
15	20	630	365	1,035
0	15	265	220	505
45	100	1,875	540	2,555
2,180	3,865	92,670	7,955	106,670
140	380	6,020	1,135	7,670
45	155	2,505	1,020	3,725
75	255	3,690	695	4,715
15	20	570	105	710
15	40	975	180	1,205
65	170	2,860	730	3,830
80	330	3,420	1,115	4,955
35	10	815	415	1,280
15	40	490	1,675	2,225
15	70	590	190	870
50	310	7,525	1,830	9,720
30	70	1,220	225	1,545
45	50	1,630	265	1,990
165	600	10,920	1,845	13,535
185	485	10,600	1,830	13,100
0	90	805	175	1,075
10	40	1,680	135	1,870
595	1,285	32,880	2,855	37,615
60	115	1,530	700	2,405

Table 22.3 Knowledge of an official language, by province and territory, 2006

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
			number		
Total	31,241,030	500,610	134,205	903,090	719,650
English only	21,129,945	475,985	116,990	805,690	405,045
French only	4,141,850	90	60	1,000	73,750
Both English and French	5,448,850	23,675	17,100	95,010	240,085
Neither English nor French	520,380	850	55	1,385	765

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Table 22.4 Workers who use an official language most often or regularly at work, by province and territory, 2006

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
			%		
English	85.0	99.8	99.6	99.5	88.1
Most often	78.3	99.5	98.7	98.4	76.0
Regularly	6.7	0.3	0.9	1.2	12.1
French	25.7	1.5	5.5	4.6	37.5
Most often	21.7	0.4	1.8	1.8	26.8
Regularly	4.0	1.0	3.7	2.8	10.7

Notes: All mother tongues (multiple responses included).

Population aged 15 and older who had worked during the period from January 1, 2005 to May 16, 2006, regardless of whether or not they were in the labour force in the reference week of May 16, 2006.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Table 22.5 Language spoken most often at home, by province and terrritory, 2006

	Total	English	French	Non-official languages
		num	ber	
Canada	31,241,030	20,584,770	6,608,125	3,472,130
Ontario	12,028,895	9,655,830	289,035	1,811,620
Quebec	7,435,905	744,430	6,027,730	518,320
British Columbia	4,074,385	3,341,285	15,325	639,380
Alberta	3,256,355	2,893,240	19,315	297,955
Manitoba	1,133,515	989,215	19,515	107,875
Saskatchewan	953,845	897,130	3,860	46,605
Nova Scotia	903,090	866,685	17,165	15,700
New Brunswick	719,650	494,215	211,665	8,350
Newfoundland and Labrador	500,610	494,345	650	4,905
Prince Edward Island	134,205	130,115	2,680	1,095
Northwest Territories	41,060	36,795	445	3,570
Yukon Territory	30,195	28,540	540	935
Nunavut	29,325	12,955	205	15,810

Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
				number				
7,435,905	12,028,895	1,133,510	953,850	3,256,355	4,074,385	30,195	41,055	29,325
336,785	10,335,705	1,017,560	902,655	2,990,805	3,653,365	26,515	37,010	25,830
4,010,880	49,210	1,930	485	2,200	2,070	105	50	20
3,017,860	1,377,325	103,520	47,450	222,885	295,645	3,440	3,665	1,170
70,375	266,660	10,500	3,260	40,470	123,305	130	325	2,305

Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut	Canada except Quebec
					%				
40.4	98.6	98.8	99.4	99.3	98.0	99.3	99.2	91.2	98.4
17.1	97.0	97.2	98.6	98.6	96.5	98.5	97.5	70.7	96.7
23.2	1.6	1.7	0.8	0.7	1.5	0.8	1.8	20.5	1.7
94.3	5.8	3.6	1.2	1.5	1.5	4.0	2.7	2.4	5.0
86.7	2.0	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.6	2.1
7.6	3.8	2.3	0.8	1.1	1.1	2.9	1.8	1.9	2.9

English, French and non-official languages	French and non-official languages	English and non-official languages	English and French
	number		
16,600	58,885	406,455	94,055
3,405	3,065	239,890	26,050
12,035	54,490	26,560	52,330
580	465	73,730	3,610
395	460	41,645	3,340
105	110	14,870	1,825
10	50	5,335	860
25	80	2,120	1,310
30	130	965	4,295
0	0	525	180
0	0	165	150
0	0	210	30
0	0	110	65
0	20	320	15

Table 22.6 Language spoken most often at home, by census metropolitan area, 2006

	Total	English	French	Non-official languages
		num	iber	
Canada	31,241,030	20,584,770	6,608,125	3,472,130
St. John's	179,270	176,965	195	1,835
Halifax	369,455	354,325	3,700	9,345
Moncton	124,060	85,895	36,030	925
Saint John	120,875	116,405	2,010	1,960
Saguenay	149,600	770	147,740	635
Québec	704,180	7,415	683,135	9,520
Sherbrooke	183,635	8,240	168,720	4,715
Trois-Rivières	138,555	725	135,955	1,195
Montréal	3,588,520	592,130	2,435,650	442,080
Ottawa-Gatineau	1,117,120	664,170	325,295	100,330
Kingston	148,475	139,775	2,110	5,390
Peterborough	115,140	112,095	340	2,320
Oshawa	328,070	309,275	2,755	13,085
Toronto	5,072,075	3,494,705	25,325	1,363,690
Hamilton	683,450	595,465	2,955	73,185
St. Catharines-Niagara	385,035	351,355	4,860	24,390
Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	446,495	384,100	1,725	53,370
Brantford	122,825	116,360	360	5,205
Guelph	126,085	112,015	715	11,395
London	452,575	406,640	1,805	38,680
Windsor	320,730	271,870	2,950	39,050
Barrie	175,335	167,285	1,210	5,560
Greater Sudbury/Grand Sudbury	156,395	125,295	25,495	3,565
Thunder Bay	121,050	114,780	1,135	4,370
Winnipeg	686,035	599,320	12,735	61,435
Regina	192,435	183,820	1,005	6,305
Saskatoon	230,850	219,610	760	9,015
Calgary	1,070,295	906,280	4,805	138,335
Edmonton	1,024,825	902,975	7,395	96,495
Kelowna	160,560	152,435	585	6,000
Abbotsford-Mission	156,640	127,910	460	25,705
Vancouver	2,097,960	1,478,110	8,070	547,660
Victoria	325,060	304,220	1,490	16,680

English, French and non-official languages	French and non-official languages	English and non-official languages	English and French			
	number					
16,600	58,885	406,455	94,055			
0	0	240	30			
20	70	1,380	620			
10	105	60	1,035			
0	0	190	310			
0	200	10	255			
160	1,830	110	2,000			
45	930	35	950			
10	325	70	275			
11,115	47,340	25,005	35,205			
1,345	2,335	12,845	10,790			
10	25	890	270			
0	0	315	60			
35	0	2,515	405			
1,695	1,565	178,665	6,430			
140	95	10,885	730			
55	55	3,665	660			
60	40	6,760	430			
0	0	840	60			
20	0	1,845	95			
50	40	4,860	495			
210	70	5,880	705			
10	30	1,060	190			
20	15	595	1,405			
0	0	665	105			
85	85	11,135	1,240			
0	10	1,080	205			
0	15	1,250	195			
145	250	19,480	995			
175	120	16,415	1,250			
15	10	1,430	90			
0	15	2,475	80			
500	400	61,175	2,050			
60	25	2,285	310			

Table 22.7 Aboriginal identity population, by mother tongue, by province and territory, 2006

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
			number		
Aboriginal population	1,172,790	23,450	1,730	24,170	17,655
Mother tongue, single responses ¹	1,155,795	23,320	1,690	23,710	17,300
English	851,500	20,935	1,530	17,755	10,220
French	96,745	200	60	1,845	4,025
Aboriginal languages	207,205	2,185	95	4,110	3,050
Algonquian languages	142,860	1,590	75	4,075	3,030
Cree	77,970	20	0	15	10
Ojibway	24,025	0	0	0	0
Oji-Cree	11,630	10	0	0	0
Montagnais-Naskapi	10,535	1,555	0	0	25
Mi'kmaq	7,310	0	75	4,045	2,510
Atikamekw	5,135	0	0	0	0
Blackfoot	3,080	0	0	0	0
Other Algonquian languages	3,175	0	0	20	490
Inuktitut	31,925	595	15	15	10
Athapaskan languages	18,765	0	0	10	10
Dene	9,700	0	0	0	0
Dogrib	1,995	0	0	0	0
Other Athapaskan languages	7,070	0	0	0	0
Dakota/Sioux	5,540	0	0	0	0
Salish languages	3,150	0	0	0	0
Tsimshian languages	2,120	0	0	10	0
Other Aboriginal languages	2,855	0	0	0	15
Other single responses	345	0	0	0	0
Mother tongue, multiple responses ²	16,995	130	40	465	350
English and Aboriginal language(s)	10,915	90	0	275	140
French and Aboriginal language(s)	815	0	0	10	10
English, French and Aboriginal language(s)	215	0	10	0	0
Other multiple responses	5,045	40	30	190	205

^{1.} The respondent reported only one language as a mother tongue.

 $^{2. \} The \ respondent \ reported \ more \ than \ one \ language \ as \ a \ mother \ tongue.$

Nunavut	Northwest Territories	Yukon	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec		
	number									
24,915	20,635	7,580	196,070	188,365	141,890	175,395	242,490	108,425		
24,650	20,375	7,535	193,730	185,210	139,385	172,465	239,740	106,685		
4,340	14,550	6,620	178,245	155,570	103,880	128,750	197,440	11,665		
55	175	70	2,795	3,010	1,530	8,075	19,350	55,560		
20,245	5,645	850	12,635	26,580	33,940	35,600	22,850	39,425		
20	250	40	1,325	20,545	26,370	33,865	21,915	29,755		
15	185	40	1,045	16,905	24,100	19,035	3,390	13,225		
0	40	0	160	595	1,745	9,290	12,155	25		
0	0	0	10	10	0	5,415	6,185	0		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	8,935		
0	0	0	10	10	10	0	80	565		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,130		
0	0	0	30	3,010	10	15	0	0		
0	20	0	60	25	505	105	85	1,865		
20,200	700	60	105	150	30	140	370	9,535		
15	4,695	640	3,415	1,955	7,110	895	25	0		
0	50	0	70	1,575	7,100	885	10	0		
10	1,945	0	20	10	0	0	0	0		
0	2,695	635	3,320	360	10	0	10	0		
0	0	0	705	3,785	405	635	10	0		
0	10	0	3,095	45	0	0	0	0		
0	0	10	2,080	10	0	0	0	0		
10	0	100	1,905	90	15	55	525	135		
10	0	0	55	55	35	45	100	35		
270	260	45	2,345	3,155	2,505	2,930	2,750	1,745		
240	245	30	1,805	2,525	2,150	2,185	885	340		
20	0	10	40	55	160	95	25	405		
0	10	0	10	40	40	25	25	60		
0	10	10	485	540	155	625	1,815	935		