

Catalogue no. 89-657-X2019010
ISBN 978-0-660-31072-5

Ethnicity, Language and Immigration Thematic Series

Evolution of the language situation in Nunavut, 2001 to 2016

by Jean-François Lepage and Stéphanie Langlois, with the
collaboration of Martin Turcotte

Release date: July 9, 2019



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Acknowledgments

This project is the result of a collaboration between the Government of Nunavut and Statistics Canada. The authors would like to thank Stéphane Cloutier, Director of the Official Languages Division at the Government of Nunavut's Department of Culture and Heritage, as well as his colleagues for their thoughtful suggestions and comments, including Louise Flaherty, Jonas Azonaha, Richard Paton and Allison Séguin.

This study was made possible thanks to the contribution of Josée Ménard, Julien Acaffou, Alejandro Paez Silva and Brigitte Chavez from Statistics Canada's Center for Ethnocultural, Language and Immigration Statistics. The authors would also like to thank the staff of the Client Service Team of the Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division of Statistics Canada for their involvement and availability.

Highlights

The main objective of this report is to provide a statistical overview of the recent situation of Inuktitut in Nunavut and of its speakers, based on 2016 Census data, by showing how the use of the language at home and at work has changed since 2001.

This report also aims to provide information to various stakeholders who work to support the protection, promotion and revitalization of Inuktitut in communities and among population segments, where its use is more limited or is declining over time.

Population characteristics

- According to data from recent censuses, the population of Nunavut grew 12.7% between 2011 and 2016, and reached 35,944 in 2016.
- Nunavut's population is much younger population than that of the provinces and other territories, with an average age of 27.7 years, compared with 41.0 years nationally.
- The Inuit made up 84.9% of the population of Nunavut in 2016, down slightly from 2011 (85.5%).
- The Inuit population is younger than the non-Inuit population in Nunavut. Over a third of the Inuit population is under 15 years of age (36.2%), compared with 13.3% of the non-Inuit population.
- In 2016, the non-Inuit population was mostly concentrated in Iqaluit (61.1%). A larger proportion was also found in Rankin Inlet (9.1%) and Cambridge Bay (5.7%).

Population with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue

- In 2016, 23,225 Nunavut residents (65.3% of the population) reported Inuktitut as their mother tongue. This proportion is down from previous censuses (71.7% in 2001).
- Nearly all people with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue (99.6%) are Inuit. In 2016, 95 non-Inuit reported an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, which is less than 1.0% of the population with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue.
- Just over three-quarters of Inuit (76.6%) reported an Inuktitut-mother-tongue in 2016, which means that Inuktitut was not transmitted as a mother tongue to 23.4% of Inuit, or 7,075 people.
- Inuit without an Inuktitut-mother-tongue are mainly located in the Kitikmeot region.
- Of the Inuit in the Kitikmeot region without an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, 70.4% are under 25 years old.

Ability to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut or English

- In 2016, 76.8% of the Nunavut population reported being able to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut. This proportion was 79.0% in 2001. The downward trend occurred in spite of a 6,370 increase, over 15 years, in the number of people who could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut, from 20,950 in 2001 to 27,320 in 2016.
- The Nunavut population with a knowledge of English has increased in both number and proportion. In 2001, 86.7% of the Nunavut population, or 23,000 people, was able to conduct a conversation in English, compared with 94.1% in 2016, or 33,485 people.
- In 2016, 89.0% of Nunavut's Inuit population (or 26,880 people) could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut, compared with 8.3% among non-Inuit (or 450 people).
- In 2016, 82.3% of Inuit were bilingual (Inuktitut and English).
- Although the proportion of the Inuit population with a knowledge of Inuktitut remained high in 2016 (89.0%), it had decreased since 2001, when 91.6% of Inuit in Nunavut were able to have a conversation in Inuktitut.
- In 2016, knowledge of Inuktitut among Inuit aged 0 to 34 was much lower in the Kitikmeot region, and it generally declined more quickly than in the other regions.

Inuktit spoken at home

- In 2016, 73.8% (26,270 people) of the Nunavut population reported speaking Inuktit at home on at least a regular basis. This proportion is slightly higher than in 2001 (73.4%), when 19,480 people reported speaking Inuktit at home.
- While Inuktit is being increasingly used in the home, it is shifting from the main language to the secondary language.
- At home, Inuktit is mainly spoken by Inuit. Across Nunavut, 98.8% of people who speak Inuktit at home have an Inuit identity.
- Most Inuit (58.4%) spoke more than one language at home in 2016. This proportion has increased since 2001, when 52.2% of Inuit spoke more than one language at home, a gain of 6.2 percentage points.

Language transfer, exogamy and transmission of Inuktit-mother-tongue

- The rates of complete language transfer are fairly low among Inuit who have Inuktit as their mother tongue, and have declined. In 2016, only 2.7% of Inuit with an Inuktit-mother-tongue no longer spoke it at least regularly at home, a lower proportion compared with the 5.1% in 2001.
- However, the rates of partial language transfer increased over the 15-year period. In 2016, 21.0% of Inuit with an Inuktit-mother-tongue spoke Inuktit at home as a secondary language and another language as their main home language. This rate of partial language transfer is higher from the 15.1% observed in 2001.
- In Nunavut, for 71.4% of couples with at least one Inuit spouse or partner, Inuktit is the mother tongue of both partners.
- For the whole Nunavut population, Inuktit is transmitted as a mother tongue to 87.4% of children aged 0 to 17 years living in a two-parent household where both parents have an Inuktit-mother-tongue, compared with 28.8% of children of linguistically exogamous couples and 1.4% of children of couples where neither parent has Inuktit as a mother tongue.
- The transmission rates of Inuktit as a mother tongue to Inuit children aged 0 to 14 years have been falling. For example, in 2001, 78.5% of Inuit children aged 0 to 4 years had Inuktit as their mother tongue, compared to 68.4% in 2016—a decline of over 10 percentage points.

Inuktit used at work

- According to 2016 Census data, 60.7% of Nunavut workers (10,315) reported using Inuktit at work. Inuktit was the main work language for 27.9% of workers in Nunavut.
- While 65.0% of Nunavut workers used Inuktit at work in 2001, only 57.8% did so in 2011, a decline of 7.2 percentage points over a 10-year period. This downward trend was reversed between 2011 and 2016: 60.7% of workers used Inuktit in 2016, as their language of work.

French and immigrants languages spoken in Nunavut

- In 2016, 1,565 people were able to conduct a conversation in French in Nunavut, up 550 from 2001 (1,015 people). This represented 4.4% of the Nunavut population in 2016, compared with 3.8% in 2001.
- In 2016, 630 people reported French as their mother tongue, and 625 people used French at home on at least a regular basis in Nunavut, representing 1.8% of the population.
- In 2016, 765 people reported an immigrant mother tongue, and the same number used an immigrant language at least on a regular basis at home in Nunavut, or 2.2% of the population.
- Tagalog was the immigrant language spoken most often at home in Nunavut (175 people, or 0.5% of the total population), reflecting international immigration from the Philippines.
- Since 2001, there has been a significant increase in the use of immigrant languages in Nunavut, and French has remained fairly stable.

Conclusion

- Non-transmission of the mother tongue seems to be the biggest factor that negatively affects the vitality of Inuktitut in Nunavut.
- Most of the linguistic indicators revealed considerable regional disparities.
- There was somewhat of a resurgence of Inuktitut between 2011 and 2016, particularly in the public sphere.

Evolution of the language situation in Nunavut, 2001 to 2016

by **Jean-François Lepage** and **Stéphanie Langlois**, with the collaboration of **Martin Turcotte**

Introduction and background

Nunavut adopted a unique legislative package ten years ago: the *Inuit Language Protection Act* and the *Official Languages Act*. These statutes contain provisions designed to protect, promote and revitalize Inuktitut in the territory. Together, these statutes seek to elevate the status of Inuktitut within the territory, while continuing to protect the rights of those speaking English and French. It also contains positive measures to protect and promote the quality and prevalent use of Inuktitut in a number of areas, such as in school, at work, and in the day-to-day services provided to the public by governments and private sector organizations (Government of Nunavut 2008a, 2008b, 2008c). Inuktitut, the term used by the Government of Nunavut, encompasses all dialects and regional variants of the Inuit language (Inuit Uqausinginnik, Taiguusiliuqtiit 2017).

Also in 2018, the Government of Nunavut released “Uqausivut 2.0,” a comprehensive plan to guide the ongoing implementation of its language laws. The plan defines the strategic priorities and desired outcomes for the next five years. Some of these expected outcomes involve a long-term increase in the number of an Inuktitut-mother-tongue speakers and the number of people in Nunavut who learn and speak Inuktitut in different areas of their life, particularly in communities where its use is on the decline (Government of Nunavut 2018a).

At the request of the Government of Nunavut, Statistics Canada was mandated to produce this report. The main objective of this report is to provide a statistical overview of the recent situation of Inuktitut in Nunavut and of its speakers, based on 2016 Census data, by showing how the use of the language at home and at work has changed since 2001. In addition, this report aims to provide information to various stakeholders who work to support the protection, promotion and revitalization of Inuktitut in communities and among population segments, where its use is more limited or is declining over time.

Inuktitut is not the only official language of Nunavut. English and French also have this status. The report also includes statistical information on these two other official languages, as well as on other languages used by Nunavut residents, to better illustrate the evolving dynamic between Inuktitut and other languages in the territory, whose linguistic situation is very different from the provinces and other territories of Canada.

In addition to its goal of preserving Inuktitut, the Government of Nunavut aspires to make this territory completely bilingual, with the population able to speak Inuktitut fluently, in addition to English or French. The objective of the Bathurst Mandate (Government of Nunavut 1999) was to help the Nunavut population to become a bilingual Inuktitut–English society by 2020. This goal continues to be a priority for the Government of Nunavut, as indicated in the Turaaqtavut Mandate, where one of the stated priorities is strengthening the foundations for a fully functional, bilingual society in Inuktitut and English or French (Government of Nunavut 2018b). The data on bilingualism in Nunavut presented in this report help to provide a snapshot of the 2016 situation, as well as its evolution since 2001 among the various age groups and communities.

This report can also be used for more general and diverse purposes. For example, many cultures and cultural groups around the world consider language preservation to be an important identity marker. As a result, when these cultures observe a decline in use of their language, they establish projects to revitalize it. This report presents several linguistic vitality indicators drawn from the census that can be applied to other languages, Aboriginal or not.

Since Nunavut’s Inuit and non-Inuit have different linguistic profiles, the information in this report is often presented separately for each of these two groups. Because the Inuit comprise the vast majority of Nunavut’s population, and represent virtually the entire population of Inuktitut speakers, greater attention will be paid to this group.

This report is divided into two main parts. The first provides an overview of the linguistic situation in Nunavut, highlighting data from the 2016 Census, but also presenting trends from the past 15 years based on previous censuses. This part is subdivided into four sections:

1. Populations of interest and basic linguistic characteristics
2. Linguistic transfers, exogamy and cross-generational transmission of language
3. Languages used at work
4. Other languages spoken in Nunavut

The second part of this report presents key indicators of the language situation in Nunavut's 3 regions (Qikiqtaaluk, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot) and 25 communities, as well as for the entire territory for comparison purposes.

Moreover, the report includes three text boxes that highlight language results from the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) to provide complementary information to that of the census, such as results on the self-rated ability to speak and understand Inuktitut, as well as the perceived importance of speaking an Aboriginal language.

Overview of the linguistic situation in Nunavut based on the 2001 to 2016 censuses

1. Populations of interest and basic linguistic characteristics

According to data from recent censuses, the population of Nunavut grew 12.7% between 2011 and 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017a), and reached 35,944¹ in 2016. In relative terms, this is the strongest growth among all of Canada's provinces and territories (Statistics Canada 2017b). By comparison, the Canadian population grew 5.0% over the same period.

This demographic growth is spurred by a high fertility rate: 2.9 children per woman, compared to the national average of 1.6 children per woman (Statistics Canada 2017c). In Nunavut, however, population growth is mostly due to natural increase, or the difference between the number of births and deaths. In 2016/2017, for example, there were 907 births and only 184 deaths in Nunavut, for a positive natural increase of 723 people.² Considering that Nunavut's total population growth was 577 people in 2016/2017, natural increase accounted for 125.3% of the growth.³

Nunavut's population is much younger population than that of the provinces and other territories, with an average age of 27.7 years, compared with 41.0 years nationally (Statistics Canada 2017a). The proportion of the Nunavut population represented by children under 15 (32.5%) is almost twice the proportion of children in the Canadian population (16.6%). Conversely, residents aged 65 and older make up a far smaller proportion of the Nunavut population (3.8%) than of the Canadian population (16.9%)⁴ (Statistics Canada 2017a).

Specifically, Nunavut stands out from the provinces and other territories because of its large proportion of the population with an Inuit identity, one of Canada's three main Aboriginal groups, along with the First Nations and Métis. The Inuit made up 84.9% of the population of Nunavut in 2016, down slightly from 2011 (85.5%). The Inuit's strong presence in the territory suggests different linguistic dynamics than elsewhere in the country. Nunavut could be considered an "area of contact" between language groups. In the territory, Inuktitut and English are predominant; Inuinnaqtun and French are also present, as are Inuvialuktun and other Inuit languages.⁵ The Inuit languages, or Inuktitut (the generic term used in this report)—mother tongue of the majority of the population—coexist with English, the mother tongue of a minority in Nunavut, but a majority in Canada, and with French, one of the country's official languages. Moreover, we are witnessing a growing presence of immigrant languages (see Text box 1 for an explanation of the main concepts) in Nunavut, particularly Tagalog (Pilipino), although the number of speakers remains low.

The linguistic dynamics are complex, and the issues differ between the original populations of Nunavut (or the territories that make up present-day Nunavut), the vast majority of whom are Inuit, and the populations originating from elsewhere in Canada or abroad but residing in Nunavut.

1. This figure is taken from 100% 2016 Census data that can be used to establish population counts. Most of the later analyses examine specific populations that can only be identified using the 2016 Census long-form questionnaire. These populations live exclusively in private households, and thus exclude persons living in collective households. The 2016 Census, like previous censuses, does not collect certain types of information, such as Aboriginal identity, from the population living in collective households.
2. Source: Statistics Canada. Table 17-10-0008-01 Estimates of the components of demographic growth, annual.
3. In comparison, only 34% of Canada's population growth between 2011 and 2016 was due to natural increase (migratory increase accounted for the remaining 66%).
4. This situation is likely also due to the lower life expectancy in Nunavut, compared to the provinces and the other territories (Morency et al. 2015; Statistics Canada 2018).
5. In 2016, the category "Inuit languages, n.i.e." (not included elsewhere) included all the other Inuit languages (Greenlandic, Inupiatun, Yupic, etc) category because they were uncommon.

Text box 1 – Data sources, methods and definitions

Data sources

The data included in this analysis are taken from the 2001, 2006 and 2016 censuses of population, as well as the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS), with the exception of the data in text boxes 2 to 4, which are taken from the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS). At the time this report was written, the 2017 APS data were not yet available.

Methods used for the censuses and the NHS

Random rounding and percentage distributions

To ensure the confidentiality of the information collected during censuses and the NHS, a random rounding process is used to alter the values reported in individual cells. As a result, when these data are summed or grouped, the total value may not match the sum of the individual values, since the total and subtotals are rounded separately. Similarly, percentage distributions, which are calculated on rounded data, may not necessarily add up to 100%.

Because of random rounding, counts and percentages may vary slightly between different census products, such as analytical documents, highlight tables and data tables.

Census and NHS definitions

Inuit population

The Inuit population is defined in question 18 of the 2016 Census long-form questionnaire: “Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit)?” Throughout this report, “Inuit population” or “Inuit” refer to persons who reported an Inuit identity (single or multiple responses), while “non-Inuit population” or “non-Inuit” are persons who did not report this identity.

The use of “by Inuit identity” in the title of a table or chart means that the data are shown separately for the Inuit and non-Inuit populations.

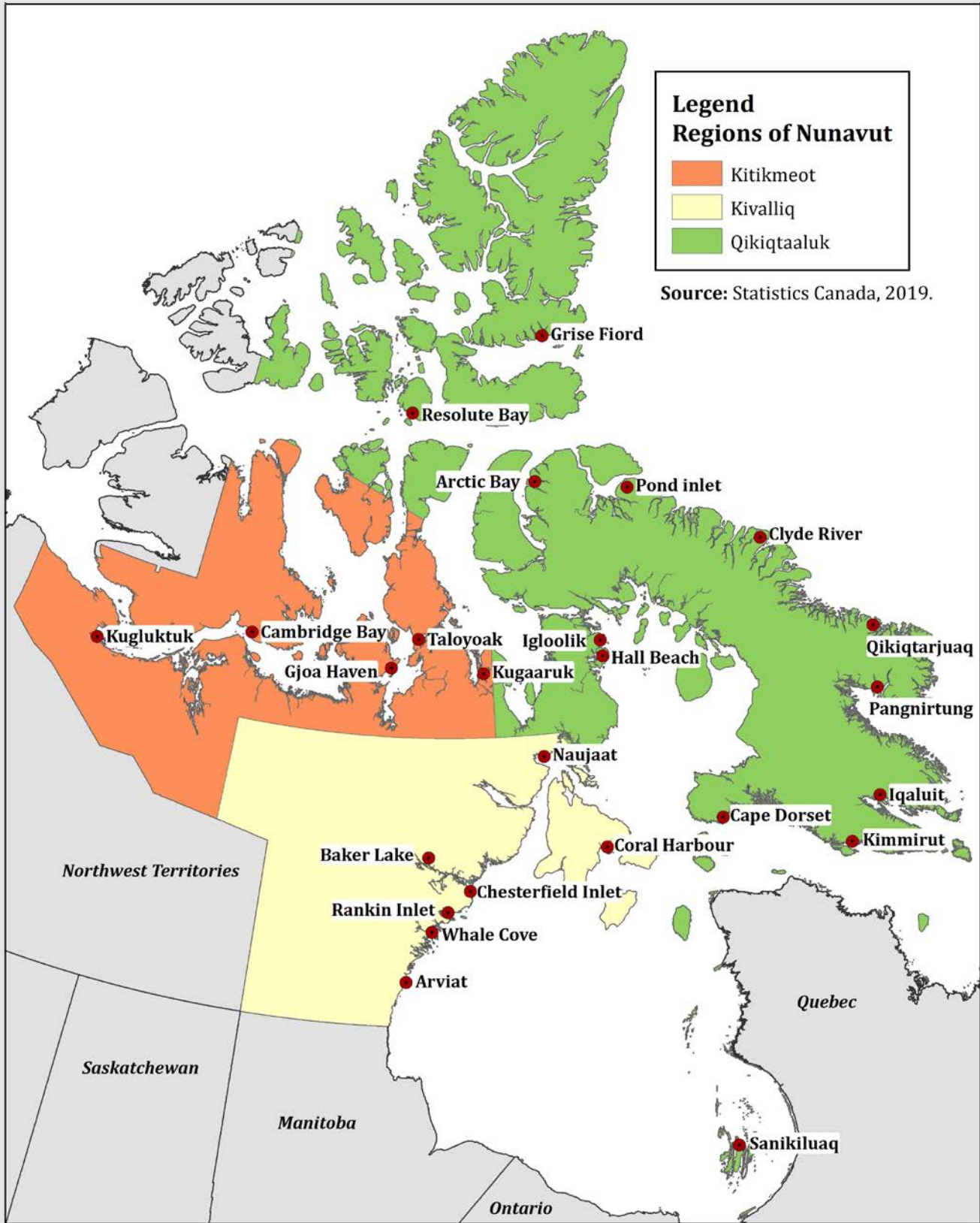
Community, region and regional centre

For readability, the term “community” is used instead of the geographic concept of census subdivision (CSD) used by Statistics Canada. For the same reason, the term “region” is used in place of census division (CD). In this report, regions and communities (see Map 1) are designated as per Government of Nunavut terminology, which may differ from Statistics Canada’s. In order to compare with Statistics Canada data, particularly in data tables, the region of Qikiqtaaluk refers to the Baffin CD, the region of Kivalliq refers to the Keewatin CD, and the community of Resolute Bay refers to the Resolute CSD.

Nunavut’s three regional centres are the city of Iqaluit for the region of Qikiqtaaluk, the community of Rankin Inlet for the region of Kivalliq, and the community of Cambridge Bay for the region of Kitikmeot.

Text box 1 – Data sources, methods and definitions (Continued)

Map 1
Regions and communities of Nunavut



Text box 1 – Data sources, methods and definitions (Continued)

Nunavummiut

Persons residing in Nunavut.

Mother tongue

Mother tongue refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood.

Language spoken at home

Since 2001, the Census of Population has included a two-part question on the languages spoken at home. The first part (part A) asks about the language spoken most often at home, while the second part (part B) asks for the language or languages spoken regularly at home in addition to the main language, if applicable. For each part, more than one response is accepted. In this article, the statistics on language spoken at home (or language of use) include, unless otherwise indicated, all individuals who reported that language in part A or B, alone or with another language.

Other language

The expression “other languages” refers to all languages other than English and French. It includes Aboriginal, immigrant and sign languages. Some data products also use the expression “non-official languages” to refer to the same concept.

Exceptionally, “other languages” can also be a residual category; the context will dictate what falls under it.

Aboriginal language

Aboriginal languages refer to languages (other than English or French) traditionally spoken by the Aboriginal peoples of Canada, that is, First Nations people (North American Indians), Métis and Inuit.

Inuktut

Inuktut is a designation standardized by the Inuit Language Authority of Nunavut (Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit). It includes all the dialects and regional variants of the Inuit language spoken in Nunavut. In this document, Inuktut refers to the census concept of the Inuit language family, which comprises Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, Inuvialuktun and Inuit languages n.i.e. (not included elsewhere).

Immigrant language

The expression “immigrant languages” refers to languages (other than English and French) whose existence in Canada was originally due to immigration after English and French colonization. This expression excludes Aboriginal languages and sign languages.

1.1 Definition of population of interest

1.1.1 Inuit identity population

The Nunavut population is 84.9% Inuit (30,190 persons) (Table 1.1). Thus, 15.1% of the population of Nunavut (5,390 people) does not identify as Inuit. The Inuit population has steadily grown since 2001, but its proportion of the total population of Nunavut has remained mostly unchanged (Chart 1.1).⁶

Table 1.1
Population by Inuit identity in Nunavut's regions and communities, 2016

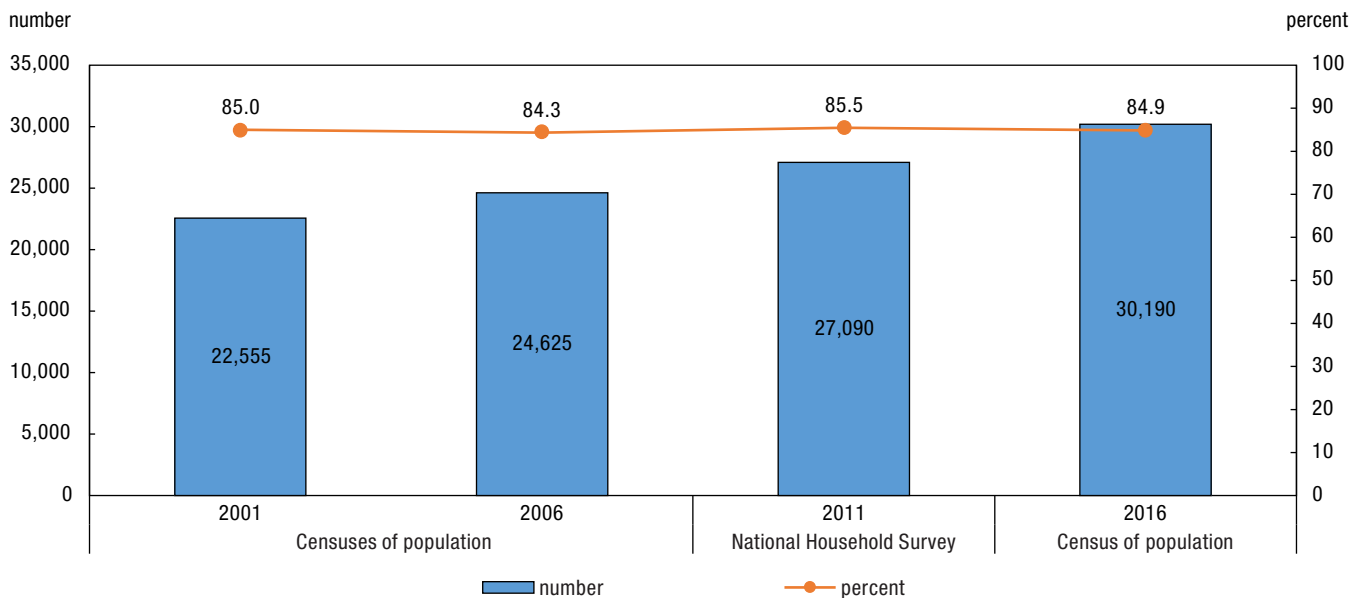
Region and community	Total population		Inuit population		Non-Inuit population	
	number		number	percent	number	percent
Nunavut	35,580		30,190	84.9	5,390	15.1
Qikiqtaaluk	18,805		14,905	79.3	3,895	20.7
Iqaluit	7,590		4,295	56.6	3,295	43.4
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	11,215		10,610	94.6	600	5.3
Sanikiluaq	875		840	96.0	40	4.6
Kimmirut	385		360	93.5	25	6.5
Cape Dorset	1,445		1,345	93.1	95	6.6
Pangnirtung	1,480		1,390	93.9	90	6.1
Qikiqtarjuaq	600		560	93.3	35	5.8
Hall Beach	845		815	96.4	35	4.1
Igloodik	1,670		1,580	94.6	95	5.7
Clyde River	1,055		1,020	96.7	30	2.8
Arctic Bay	865		830	96.0	40	4.6
Pond Inlet	1,615		1,515	93.8	95	5.9
Resolute Bay	190		165	86.8	25	13.2
Grise Fiord	130		120	92.3	0	0.0
Kivalliq	10,290		9,380	91.2	915	8.9
Coral Harbour	890		860	96.6	30	3.4
Arviat	2,650		2,515	94.9	135	5.1
Whale Cove	430		410	95.3	20	4.7
Rankin Inlet	2,775		2,280	82.2	490	17.7
Chesterfield Inlet	415		390	94.0	25	6.0
Baker Lake	2,050		1,890	92.2	160	7.8
Nauyasat	1,075		1,030	95.8	45	4.2
Kitikmeot	6,485		5,905	91.1	580	8.9
Kugaaruk	925		890	96.2	40	4.3
Kugluktuk	1,485		1,350	90.9	135	9.1
Cambridge Bay	1,740		1,435	82.5	305	17.5
Gjoa Haven	1,310		1,255	95.8	55	4.2
Taloyoak	1,025		980	95.6	45	4.4

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

6. The variations in the proportion of persons who report Inuit identity in Nunavut are mainly due to changes in the number of non-Inuit. While the Inuit population is growing steadily due primarily to natural increase, the growth of the non-Inuit population is more a function of migration. As a result, the growth of the non-Inuit population is less regular than the growth of the Inuit population. From 2001 to 2006, Nunavut's non-Inuit population grew 15.1%, versus 0.8% from 2006 to 2011 and 16.9% from 2011 to 2016.

Chart 1.1
Number and percentage of Inuit in the Nunavut population, 2001 to 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Table 1.1 shows that Inuit account for over 90% of the population in most of Nunavut’s communities. The exceptions are Iqaluit (56.6%), Rankin Inlet (82.2%), Cambridge Bay (82.5%) and Resolute Bay (86.8%). In all cases, the Inuit population comprises the majority, i.e., over half the population in each community.

The distribution of Inuit and non-Inuit population is not uniform across Nunavut (see Table 1.2). Non-Inuit population are mostly concentrated in Iqaluit (61.1%), the capital of Nunavut and Qikiqtaaluk’s regional centre. A larger proportion is also found in the territory’s two other regional centres (9.1% in Rankin Inlet and 5.7% in Cambridge Bay). In short, more than three-quarters (75.9%) of the 5,390 non-Inuit live in the three regional centres.

Table 1.2
Percentage distribution of the Inuit and non-Inuit populations among Nunavut's regions and communities, 2016

Region and community	Total population	Inuit population	Non-Inuit population
	percent		
Nunavut	100.0	100.0	100.0
Qikiqtaaluk	52.9	49.4	72.3
Iqaluit	21.3	14.2	61.1
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	31.5	35.1	11.1
Sanikiluaq	2.5	2.8	0.7
Kimmirut	1.1	1.2	0.5
Cape Dorset	4.1	4.5	1.8
Pangnirtung	4.2	4.6	1.7
Qikiqtarjuaq	1.7	1.9	0.6
Hall Beach	2.4	2.7	0.6
Igloodik	4.7	5.2	1.8
Clyde River	3.0	3.4	0.6
Arctic Bay	2.4	2.7	0.7
Pond Inlet	4.5	5.0	1.8
Resolute Bay	0.5	0.5	0.5
Grise Fiord	0.4	0.4	0.0
Kivalliq	28.9	31.1	17.0
Coral Harbour	2.5	2.8	0.6
Arviat	7.4	8.3	2.5
Whale Cove	1.2	1.4	0.4
Rankin Inlet	7.8	7.6	9.1
Chesterfield Inlet	1.2	1.3	0.5
Baker Lake	5.8	6.3	3.0
Nauyasat	3.0	3.4	0.8
Kitikmeot	18.2	19.6	10.8
Kugaaruk	2.6	2.9	0.7
Kugluktuk	4.2	4.5	2.5
Cambridge Bay	4.9	4.8	5.7
Gjoa Haven	3.7	4.2	1.0
Taloyoak	2.9	3.2	0.8

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Conversely, just over one-quarter (26.5%) of Nunavut's 30,190 Inuit live in one of the three regional centres (14.2% in Iqaluit, 7.6% in Rankin Inlet and 4.8% in Cambridge Bay). This means that a large majority of the Inuit population (73.5%) is distributed among the territory's 22 other communities.

Over 9 in 10 residents of the Kivalliq (91.2%) and Kitikmeot (91.1%) regions are of Inuit identity, compared with 79.3% in Qikiqtaaluk region. However, if we exclude the population of Iqaluit, 94.6% of the population in the rest of Qikiqtaaluk are Inuit.

The Inuit population is younger than the non-Inuit population in Nunavut (Table 1.3). Over a third of the Inuit population is under 15 years of age (36.2%), compared with 13.3% of the non-Inuit population. Conversely, three in four non-Inuit (76.2%) are between the ages of 25 and 64 years, compared with 41.0% of Inuit. These differences speak to the contrast between the Inuit population, whose demographic evolution depends mainly on natural increase,⁷ and the non-Inuit population, for which migration is an important factor.

7. Specifically, the Inuit population's age structure is due to high fertility and mortality rates, combined with the low impact of migratory increases.

Table 1.3
Inuit and non-Inuit populations, by age group, Nunavut, 2016

Age group	Inuit population		Non-Inuit population	
	number	percent	number	percent
Total	30,190	100.0	5,390	100.0
0 to 14 years	10,935	36.2	715	13.3
0 to 4 years	3,810	12.6	335	6.2
5 to 9 years	3,875	12.8	225	4.2
10 to 14 years	3,250	10.8	155	2.9
15 to 24 years	5,770	19.1	360	6.7
15 to 19 years	2,980	9.9	140	2.6
20 to 24 years	2,790	9.2	215	4.0
25 to 64 years	12,380	41.0	4,105	76.2
25 to 34 years	4,700	15.6	1,210	22.4
35 to 44 years	3,240	10.7	1,120	20.8
45 to 54 years	2,905	9.6	955	17.7
55 to 64 years	1,530	5.1	810	15.0
65 years and older	1,100	3.6	210	3.9

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

In 2016, Nunavut was home to 31,435 people aged five years and older. Of these, 28,715 also lived in Nunavut in 2011, while 2,535 lived in another province or territory and 185 lived outside Canada. In other words, about 9% of the Nunavut population aged five years or older in 2016 had been living in another province, territory or country in 2011.

In total, Nunavut's net interprovincial migration over the 2011-to-2016 period was slightly positive (+75). This period saw 2,460 people leave Nunavut for other provinces and territories, while 2,535 people migrated there.⁸

26,375 Inuit aged five and older enumerated in Nunavut in 2016, 26,005 (98.6%) also lived there in 2011.

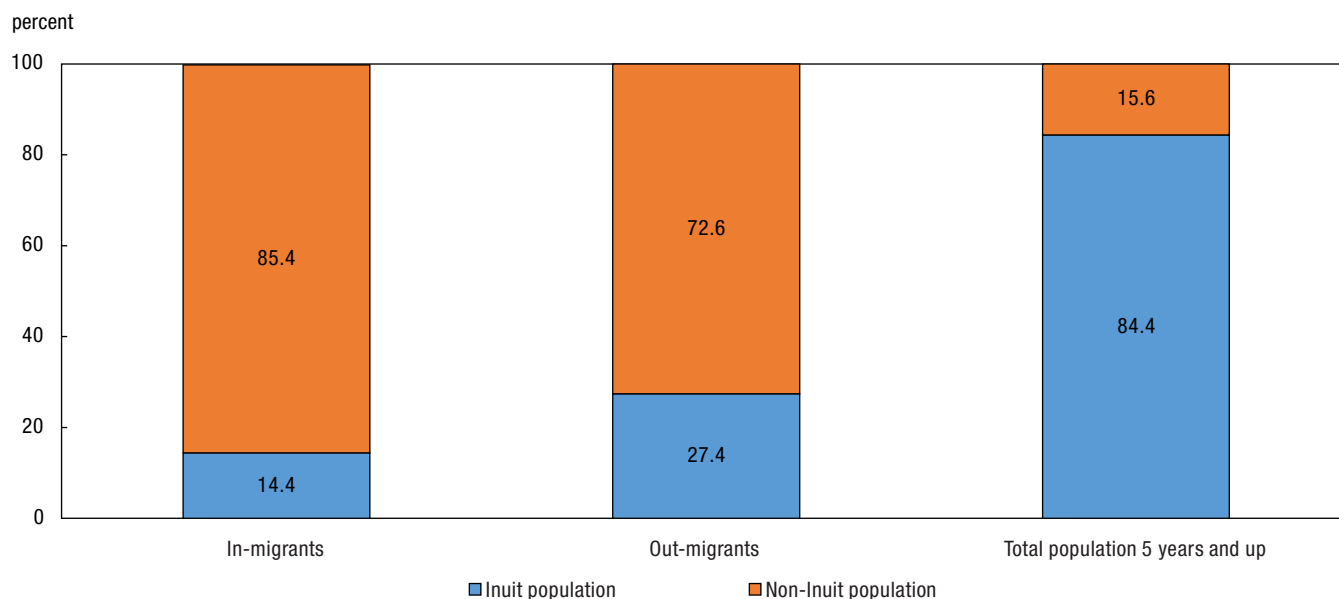
The situation among non-Inuit is very different. Of the 4,870 non-Inuit who were living in Nunavut in 2016, only slightly more than half (55.4%) had been living there five years earlier (2,705 people). Many non-Inuit move to Nunavut from a province or another territory to work there for a few years, then return to live in their home province or territory.

The distribution of in- and out-migrants by Inuit identity reveals in a different way the over representation of non-Inuit people among migrants compared to the total Nunavut population, the majority of whom are Inuit. In 2016, 85.4% of the migrants who had moved to Nunavut from provinces and territories since 2011 were non-Inuit, compared with 14.4% who were Inuit (Chart 1.2).

In addition, more non-Inuit than Inuit (both in number and proportion) left Nunavut between 2011 and 2016. Of the 2,460 out-migrants, 1,785 (72.6%) were non-Inuit and 675 (27.4%) were Inuit.

8. During the period from 2006 to 2011, net migration was also slightly positive (+85), since 2,270 people left Nunavut for provinces or other territories, while 2,355 people migrated there. During the period from 2001 to 2006, 2,740 people left Nunavut for provinces or other territories, while 2,390 people migrated there (net negative migration of -350).

Chart 1.2
Distribution of Nunavut in-migrants and out-migrants (migration between the provinces and territories) by Inuit identity, population aged five and older in Nunavut, 2016



Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Although Inuit are underrepresented among the population of migrants between the provinces and territories, migration has contributed to a slight slowdown in the pace of growth of Nunavut's Inuit population during this period. This is because the number of Inuit who left Nunavut between 2011 and 2016 (675) exceeded the number of Inuit who emigrated there (365), for a negative balance of -310 (Table 1.4).⁹ Among non-Inuit, net migration between the provinces and territories was positive (+380).

Table 1.4
Migrants between the provinces and territories, by Inuit identity, 2011 and 2016

Inuit identity	Migrants between provinces and territories			Total population of Nunavut		
	In-migrants to Nunavut	Out-migrants from Nunavut	Net migration between 2011 and 2016	2011	2016	Increase between 2011 and 2016
	number					
Total	2,535	2,460	75	31,695	35,580	3,885
Inuit	365	675	-310	27,090	30,190	3,100
Non-Inuit	2,165	1,785	380	4,610	5,390	780

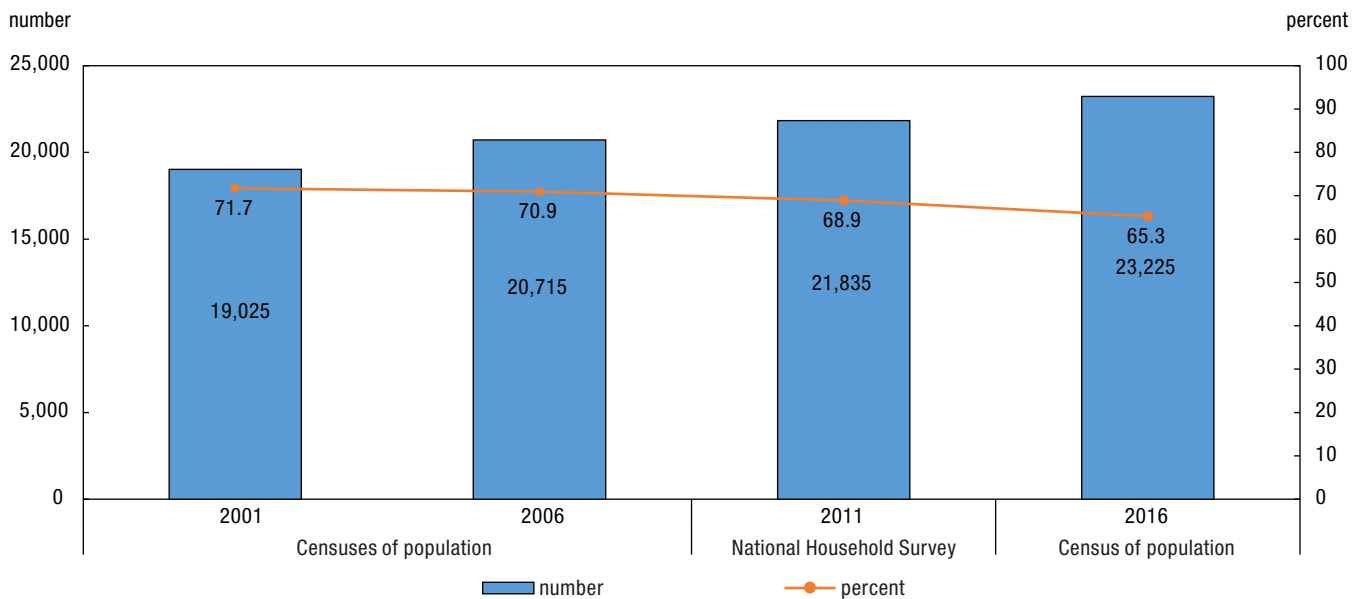
Sources: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

9. The same general trends were observed from 2006 to 2011: while net migration was negative for the Inuit population (-30), it was positive for the non-Inuit population (+120).

1.1.2 Mother tongue

In 2016, 23,225 Nunavut residents (65.3% of the population¹⁰) reported Inuktitut as their mother tongue. However, this proportion is down from previous censuses (68.9% in 2011 and 71.7% in 2001) (Chart 1.3). While it is mostly Inuit who have Inuktitut as their mother tongue, the proportion of this population reporting an Inuktitut-mother-tongue decreased from one census to another between 2001 and 2016.

Chart 1.3
Population with Inuktitut as a mother tongue and its proportion in the Nunavut population, 2001 to 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

The main Inuktitut-mother-tongue in Nunavut is Inuktitut: 97.4% of people with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue have Inuktitut as their mother tongue (22,630 people) (Table 1.5). The 545 people with Inuinnaqtun as their mother tongue, concentrated mostly in the communities of Kugluktuk and Cambridge Bay (Kitikmeot region), make up 2.3% of Nunavut’s Inuktitut-mother-tongue residents. Only a handful of Nunavummiut reported Inuvialuktun (15 persons or 0.1%) or another Inuit language (35 persons or 0.2%) as their mother tongue.

Table 1.5
Mother tongue of the Nunavut population, 2016

Mother tongue	Number	Percent
Total population¹	35,580	100.0
English	11,690	32.9
French	630	1.8
Aboriginal languages	23,235	65.3
Inuktitut (Inuit language)	23,225	65.3
Inuktitut	22,630	63.6
Inuinnaqtun	545	1.5
Inuvialuktun	15	0.0
Inuit languages, n.i.e. ²	35	0.1
Other Aboriginal languages	15	0.0
Other languages	765	2.2

1. This is the total population. The sum of the languages in this table exceeds the total population because a person can report more than one language in the census.

2. n.i.e. = not included elsewhere.

Note: See “Random rounding and percentage distributions” and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

10. See Appendix A for statistics per regions and communities.

These data include all responses of Inuktitut as their mother tongue, be it single or multiple responses.¹¹ Table 1.6 shows that virtually all the responses on mother tongue are single responses, and that multiple responses are mostly English in combination with Inuktitut. The population who reported Inuktitut as their only mother tongue rose from 18,595 in 2001 to 22,560 in 2016. However, this increase represents a decline in relative terms, since the proportion of the Nunavut population who reported Inuktitut as their only mother tongue was 63.4% in 2016, versus 70.1% in 2001, a decline of nearly 7 percentage points.

Table 1.6
Distribution of the population by mother tongue, Nunavut, 2001 to 2016

Mother tongue	2001		2006		2011		2016	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Total population	26,530	100.0	29,200	100.0	31,695	100.0	35,580	100.0
Single responses	26,070	98.3	28,900	99.0	31,370	99.0	34,845	97.9
English	6,835	25.8	7,700	26.4	8,890	28.0	10,965	30.8
French	380	1.4	355	1.2	410	1.3	585	1.6
Inuktitut (Inuit language)	18,595	70.1	20,445	70.0	21,530	67.9	22,560	63.4
Other languages	245	0.9	355	1.2	540	1.7	735	2.1
Multiple responses	455	1.7	305	1.0	325	1.0	735	2.1
English and Inuktitut	420	1.6	245	0.8	300	0.9	650	1.8
French and Inuktitut	0	0.0	20	0.1	10	0.0	0	0.0
English, French and Inuktitut	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other multiple responses	35	0.1	35	0.1	20	0.1	70	0.2

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Multiple responses to the mother-tongue question have been on the rise in Nunavut since 2006, especially between 2011 (1.0%) and 2016 (2.1%). The number of people who reported Inuktitut in combination with English as their mother tongue doubled over this period (300 people in 2011 compared with 650 in 2016).

Nearly all people with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue¹² (99.6%) are Inuit (Table 1.7). In 2016, 95 non-Inuit reported an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, which is less than 1% of the population with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue.

Table 1.7
Population by Inuit identity and mother tongue, Nunavut, 2016

Mother tongue	Total population	Inuit population	Non-Inuit population
	number		
Total population	35,580	30,190	5,390
Single responses	34,845	29,525	5,320
English	10,965	7,010	3,960
French	585	35	550
Inuktitut (Inuit language)	22,560	22,465	95
Other languages	735	20	720
Multiple responses	735	665	70
English and Inuktitut	650	640	10
French and Inuktitut	0	0	10
English, French and Inuktitut	0	10	0
Other multiple responses	70	10	55

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

While having an Inuktitut-mother-tongue is strongly associated with Inuit identity, the reverse is not necessarily true. For example, just over three-quarters of Inuit (76.6%) reported an Inuktitut-mother-tongue in 2016, which means that Inuktitut was not transmitted as a mother tongue to 23.4% of Inuit, or 7,075 people (Table 1.8).

11. The calculation of multiple responses only takes into account the first language mentioned on the form in the "Other language – specify" category. Combinations of multiple responses can be "English and French", "English and another language", "French and another language" or "English, French and another language". Cases of multiple responses involving two languages other than English and French (e.g., Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun) are not taken into account.

12. Unless otherwise indicated, the statistics on the Inuktitut-mother-tongue population include all persons who reported Inuktitut (Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, Inuvialuktun or other Inuit language) as their only mother tongue or in combination with another language.

Inuit without an Inuktitut–mother-tongue are mainly located in the Kitikmeot¹³ region (Table 1.8). In each of this region’s communities, over half of the Inuit do not have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue. The number of Inuit without an Inuktitut-mother-tongue is 1,100 in Cambridge Bay (76.7% of Inuit), 995 in Kugluktuk (73.7%), 720 in Gjoa Haven (57.4%), 515 in Taloyoak (52.6%), and 475 in Kugaaruk (53.4%).

This means that 3,785 Inuit in the Kitikmeot region do not have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, or 53.5% of all Inuit in Nunavut who do not have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue. Of these 3,785 people, 1,775 are under 15 (46.9%) and 890 are between 15 and 24 years old (23.5%). In other words, of the Inuit in the Kitikmeot region without an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, 70.4% are under 25 years old.

Table 1.8
Inuit population by mother tongue and region and community of residence, Nunavut, 2016

Region and community	Total Inuit population	Inuktitut-mother-tongue population	Non-Inuktitut-mother-tongue population
	number		
Nunavut	30,190	23,115	7,075
Qikiqtaaluk	14,905	13,490	1,415
Iqaluit	4,295	3,140	1,145
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	10,610	10,345	265
Sanikiluaq	840	815	30
Kimmirut	360	350	10
Cape Dorset	1,345	1,325	25
Pangnirtung	1,390	1,365	20
Qikiqtarjuaq	560	560	0
Hall Beach	815	805	10
Igloodik	1,580	1,525	55
Clyde River	1,020	1,015	15
Arctic Bay	830	815	15
Pond Inlet	1,515	1,500	30
Resolute Bay	165	130	35
Grise Fiord	120	100	25
Kivalliq	9,380	7,510	1,865
Coral Harbour	860	795	65
Arviat	2,515	2,435	80
Whale Cove	410	365	40
Rankin Inlet	2,280	1,680	610
Chesterfield Inlet	390	330	55
Baker Lake	1,890	910	990
Nauyasat	1,030	995	35
Kitikmeot	5,905	2,125	3,785
Kugaaruk	890	415	475
Kugluktuk	1,350	355	995
Cambridge Bay	1,435	355	1,100
Gjoa Haven	1,255	535	720
Taloyoak	980	470	515

Note: See “Random rounding and percentage distributions” and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

In the Kivalliq region, 80.1% of Inuit have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue. However, this proportion varies greatly from one community to another. In Arviat (96.8%) and Coral Harbour (92.4%), nearly all Inuit have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, while the majority of Inuit in Baker Lake (52.4%) have a non-Inuktitut-mother-tongue.

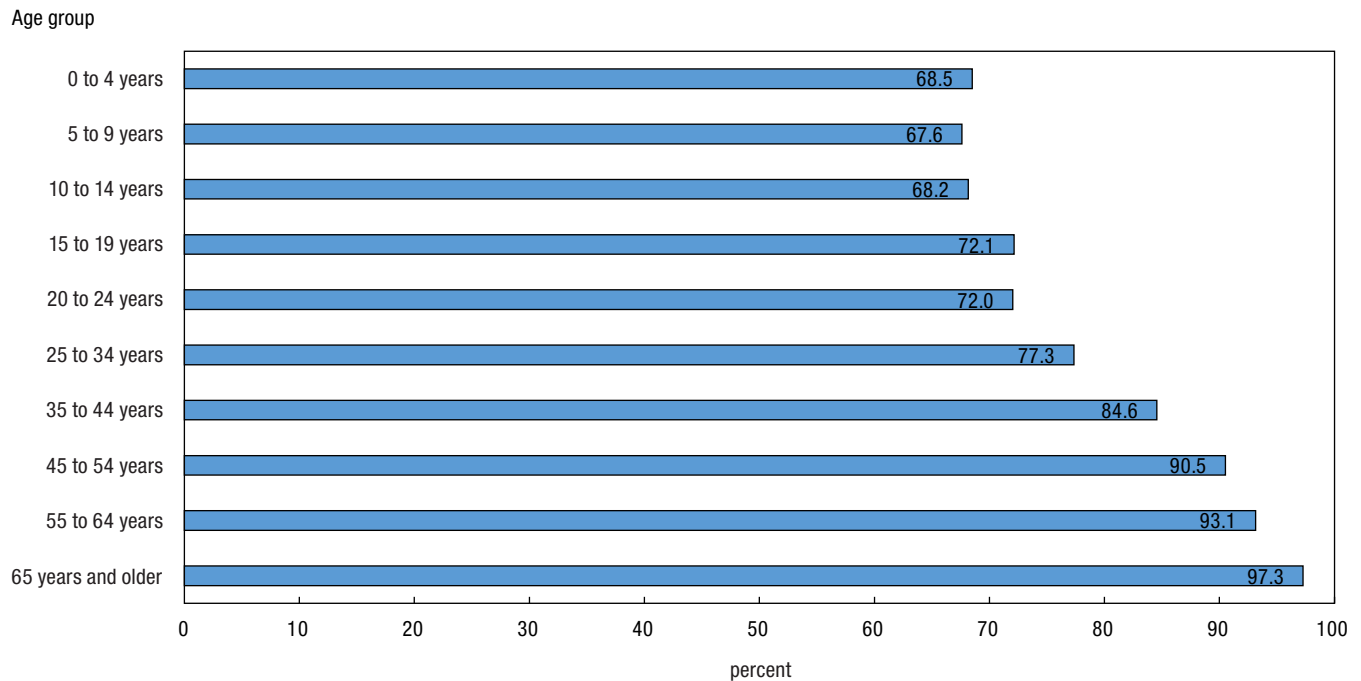
In the Qikiqtaaluk region, if we exclude the city of Iqaluit, 97.5% of Inuit have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue (this proportion is 90.5% if we include Iqaluit). In this region, the communities with the highest proportion of Inuit who did not have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue are Iqaluit (26.7%), the regional centre and capital of the territory—home to a relatively large number of non-Inuit—as well as Resolute Bay (21.2%) and Grise Fiord (20.8%), the two northernmost communities.

13. The statistical portrait of the Kitikmeot region differs in many respects from the portrait of Nunavut’s other regions. An examination of the factors that would explain this is beyond the scope of this report. For more information, see Dorais (2010), who discusses the long-standing presence of English—since the early 20th century—in this western Nunavut region.

The proportion of Inuit population with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue is higher among older people (see Chart 1.4). For example, 90.5% of Inuit aged 45 to 54 have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, as do 93.1% of Inuit aged 55 to 64 and 97.3% of Inuit 65 years and older. Conversely, 68.5% of Inuit aged 0 to 4 years, 67.6% of Inuit aged 5 to 9 years and 68.2% of Inuit aged 10 to 14 years have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue. This raises the issue of mother-tongue transmission to younger generations, which will be examined in more detail later in this report (see section 2).

Chart 1.4

Proportion of the Inuit population with Inuktitut as a mother tongue, by age group, Nunavut, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

However, the transmission of an Inuktitut-mother-tongue to children under 15 varies by Nunavut region: 85.8% of Inuit aged 0 to 14 years in the Qikiqtaaluk region have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue (96.7%, if we exclude Iqaluit), compared with 72.5% in the Kivalliq region and 15.9% in the Kitikmeot region.

Text box 2: How important is it for Inuit in Nunavut to speak and understand an Aboriginal language? How often are they exposed to an Aboriginal language?

For the vast majority of Inuit aged 6 and over in Nunavut, speaking and understanding an Aboriginal language was reported as being important to them. Among the 23,270 Inuit aged 6 and over living in Nunavut, as estimated by the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS), about 8 in 10 (83%) reported that it was very important and another 1 in 10 (11%) mentioned that it was somewhat important. The remaining Inuit population of this age group in the territory said that speaking and understanding an Aboriginal language was either not very important or not important to them, or claimed not to have an opinion on the subject.

Unsurprisingly, with Inuktitut being one of the official languages in the territory and further protected by a specific law to increase its use in various aspects of daily life, almost all Inuit aged 6 and over in Nunavut (99%) said in the 2012 APS that they were exposed to an Aboriginal language either at home or outside of the home. Many of them were frequently exposed to an Aboriginal language in both environments. In 2012, about 8 in 10 (81%) of the 23,270 Inuit aged 6 and over living in Nunavut were exposed to an Aboriginal language on a daily basis at home and outside the home.

Notes regarding the 2012 APS:

At the time this report was written, the 2017 APS data were not yet available.

In Nunavut, the 2012 APS covered the Aboriginal population aged 6 and over. Information specific to the regions and communities of Nunavut are not available in the 2012 APS.

Missing values (“don’t know”, “not stated” and “refusal”) were excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Additional information about the 2012 APS is available on the [Statistics Canada](#) website.

1.2 Linguistic characteristics and practices

Inuit identity and mother tongue are fairly stable characteristics that should theoretically remain the same throughout a person’s life.¹⁴ Census data provide information on linguistic characteristics or practices that can change based on different factors: the ability to hold a conversation in a language and the use of languages at home.¹⁵

People can acquire knowledge of one or more second languages. The ability to hold a conversation in a language can also be lost if the language is not used. As a result, some people are no longer able to conduct a conversation in their mother tongue, even if they still understand it.

Language use at home can change over the course of a lifetime and mainly depends on the languages spoken by the people who live with the person. Exogamous linguistic unions, which refers to unions between people with different mother tongues, are generally more common in “areas of contact” between different language groups and can result in the use of multiple languages in a household. Language use at home is strongly linked to transmitting a mother tongue to children.

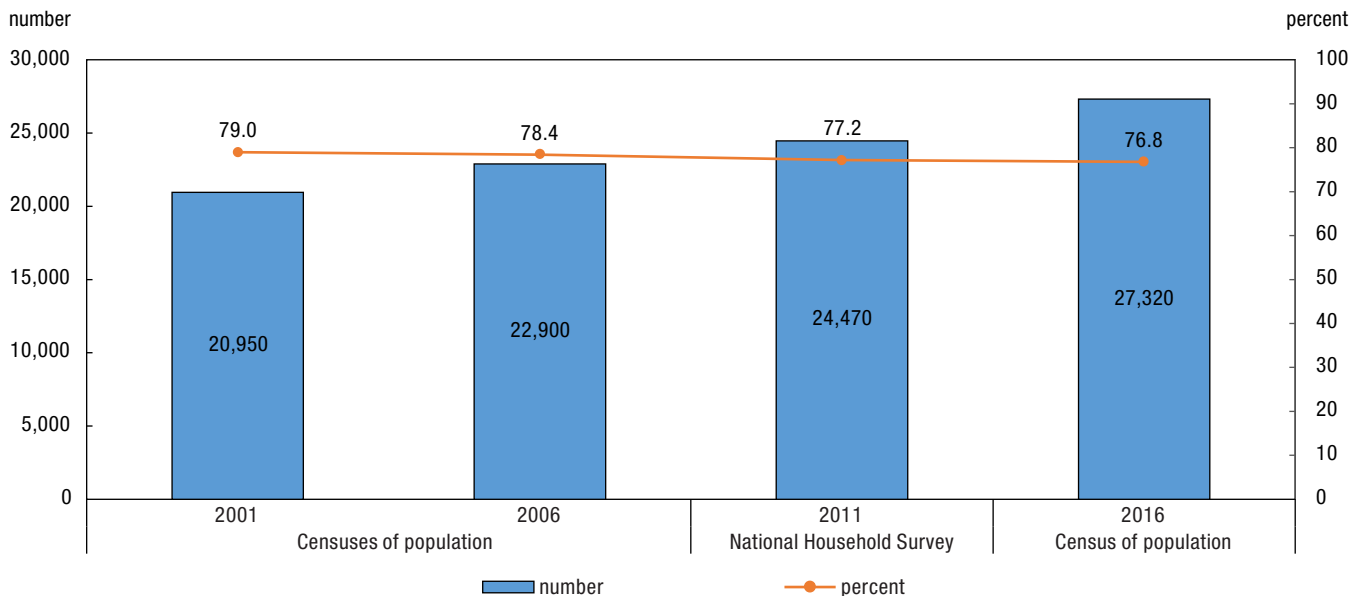
14. Changes can occur, particularly in cases where the first language learned is no longer understood by the person, but such situations remain exceptions. Moreover, studies suggest that the Inuit identity reported in the censuses is also relatively stable (Guimond 1999; Statistics Canada 2015).

15. Census data also provide information on languages used at work, this will be covered in section 3.

1.2.1 Ability to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut or English

In 2016, 76.8% of the Nunavut population reported being able to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut. This proportion was 79.0% in 2001. With each census, the proportion of the Nunavut population capable of conducting a conversation in Inuktitut fell slightly, but in a steady manner (Chart 1.5).

Chart 1.5
Population able to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut and its proportion of the Nunavut population, 2001 to 2016



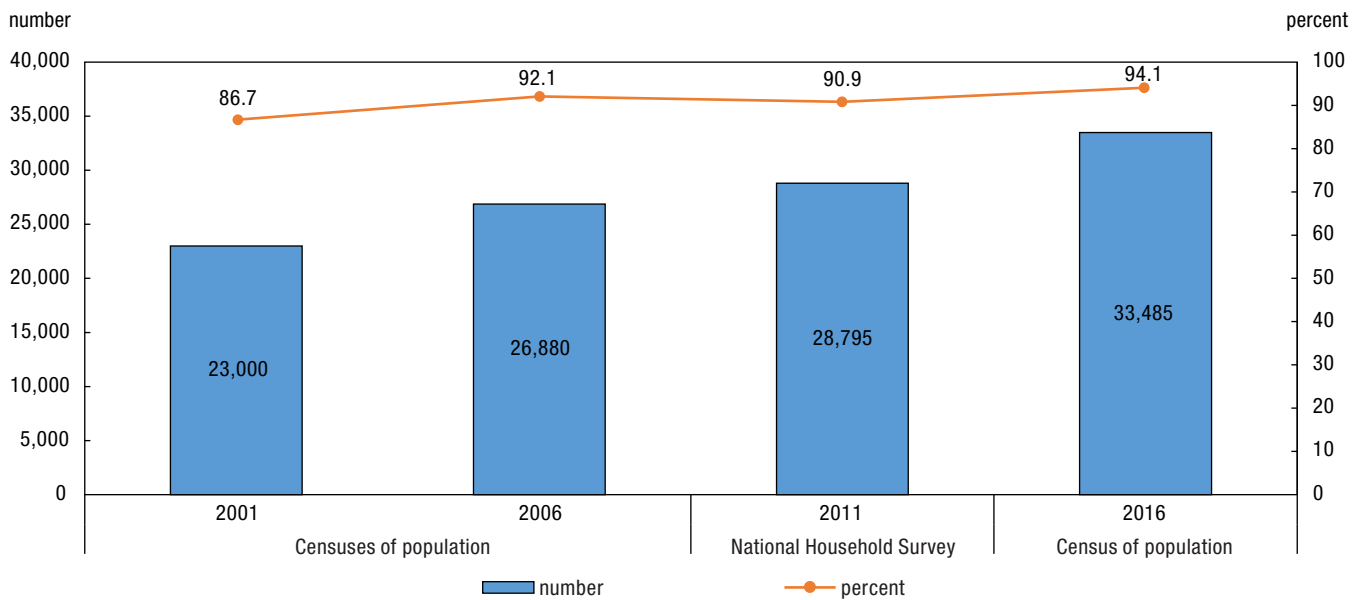
Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

The downward trend occurred in spite of a 6,370 increase, over 15 years, in the number of people who could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut, from 20,950 in 2001 to 27,320 in 2016. This is because the 30.4% increase over this period was lower than the growth of the Nunavut population (+34.1%) over the same period.

The Nunavut population with a knowledge of English has increased in both number and proportion. In 2001, 86.7% of the Nunavut population was able to conduct a conversation in English (Chart 1.6), compared with 94.1% in 2016. However, this growth was not linear; the proportion of people who could hold a conversation in English fell between 2006 and 2011.¹⁶

16. The decrease, between 2006 and 2011, of the proportion of people who knew Inuktitut and English (and French) can be attributed to the decrease in the share of the bilingual or multilingual population from 2006 (75.0%) to 2011 (73.2%). The changes to the collection mode that were made in 2011 may have had an impact on these results.

Chart 1.6
Population able to conduct a conversation in English and its proportion of the Nunavut population, 2001 to 2016



Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

The number of people with a knowledge of English rose from 23,000 in 2001 to 33,485 in 2016, a 45.6% increase.

In nearly all the communities of the Qikiqtaaluk and Kivalliq regions, at least 9 in 10 residents reported being able to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut in 2016 (Table 1.9). The sole exceptions were Iqaluit (51.2%), Resolute Bay (84.2%), Rankin Inlet (79.5%) and Baker Lake (81.2%). In the Kitikmeot region, 57.4% of the population was able to hold a conversation in Inuktitut. This proportion varied greatly between the region’s communities, from 33.6% in Cambridge Bay to 74.6% in Kugaaruk.

Table 1.9
Population by knowledge of Nunavut's official languages, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2016

Region and community	Population with a knowledge of...						
	Total population	Inuktitut		English		French	
		number	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Nunavut	35,580	27,320	76.8	33,485	94.1	1,565	4.4
Qikiqtaaluk	18,805	14,545	77.3	17,350	92.3	1,255	6.7
Iqaluit	7,590	3,885	51.2	7,460	98.3	1,105	14.6
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	11,215	10,665	95.1	9,895	88.2	150	1.3
Sanikiluaq	875	855	97.7	840	96.0	10	1.1
Kimmiut	385	360	93.5	340	88.3	10	2.6
Cape Dorset	1,445	1,360	94.1	1,315	91.0	20	1.4
Pangnirtung	1,480	1,385	93.6	1,270	85.8	40	2.7
Qikiqtarjuaq	600	560	93.3	525	87.5	0	0.0
Hall Beach	845	820	97.0	715	84.6	0	0.0
Igloodik	1,670	1,575	94.3	1,410	84.4	20	1.2
Clyde River	1,055	1,025	97.2	870	82.5	0	0.0
Arctic Bay	865	830	96.0	755	87.3	15	1.7
Pond Inlet	1,615	1,550	96.0	1,485	92.0	15	0.9
Resolute Bay	190	160	84.2	185	97.4	10	5.3
Grise Fiord	130	120	92.3	125	96.2	10	7.7
Kivalliq	10,290	9,045	87.9	9,715	94.4	205	2.0
Coral Harbour	890	860	96.6	865	97.2	10	1.1
Arviat	2,650	2,520	95.1	2,210	83.4	35	1.3
Whale Cove	430	395	91.9	435	100.0	10	2.3
Rankin Inlet	2,775	2,205	79.5	2,750	99.1	85	3.1
Chesterfield Inlet	415	375	90.4	410	98.8	10	2.4
Baker Lake	2,050	1,665	81.2	2,005	97.8	35	1.7
Nauyasat	1,075	1,040	96.7	1,045	97.2	15	1.4
Kitikmeot	6,485	3,725	57.4	6,415	98.9	105	1.6
Kugaaruk	925	690	74.6	910	98.4	0	0.0
Kugluktuk	1,485	770	51.9	1,480	99.7	30	2.0
Cambridge Bay	1,740	585	33.6	1,725	99.1	50	2.9
Gjoa Haven	1,310	945	72.1	1,290	98.5	10	0.8
Taloyoak	1,025	745	72.7	1,005	98.0	15	1.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Over 90% of the population was able to have a conversation in English in most Nunavut communities in 2016. In the remaining communities, this proportion was still above 80%.

In 14 communities, the number of people who could conduct a conversation in English exceeded the number of people who could hold a conversation in Inuktitut in 2016. These communities included the three regional centres (Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay). Conversely, the number of people who could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut exceeded the number of people who could have a conversation in English in 11 communities. These communities are all located in the Qikiqtaaluk region, with the exception of Arviat, which is in the Kivalliq region.

In 2016, those who could conduct a conversation in French (70.6%) were concentrated in the capital of Iqaluit and accounted for 14.6% of the city's population.

Among Canada's provinces and territories, Nunavut boasts the largest proportion of the population who reported being able to conduct a conversation in more than one language. In 2016, just over three-quarters (76.9%) of the Nunavut population knew more than one language, compared to 39.0% of the Canadian population. Quebec ranked second, with just over half (52.2%) of its population being able to conduct a conversation in more than one language.

1.2.1.1 Changes in the ability to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut and in English

The share of the population with a knowledge of English increased in all communities in Nunavut between 2001 and 2016 (Table 1.10).¹⁷ The largest increases occurred in Sanikiluaq, where 96.0% of the population were able to carry on a conversation in English in 2016, up 26.1 percentage points from 2001 (69.9%), and in Pangnirtung, where this proportion rose from 68.6% in 2001 to 85.8% in 2016, an increase of 17.2 percentage points. Also, an increase in the knowledge of English of more than 10 percentage points over this period was recorded in Hall Beach, Igloodik, Grise Fiord, Clyde River, Coral Harbour and Pond Inlet. In all these communities, the proportion of the population who could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut was very high (over 90% in 2016), and, unlike the proportion who knew English, it remained steady between 2001 and 2016.

Table 1.10
Proportion and variation of the population with a knowledge of Inuktitut, and proportion and variation of the population with a knowledge of English, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2001 and 2016

Region and community	Knowledge of Inuktitut			Knowledge of English		
	2001	2016	Variation between 2001 and 2016	2001	2016	Variation between 2001 and 2016
	percent		percentage points	percent		percentage points
Nunavut	79.0	76.8	-2.2	86.7	94.1	7.4
Qikiqtaaluk	80.4	77.3	-3.0	83.0	92.3	9.3
Iqaluit	57.0	51.2	-5.8	96.1	98.3	2.2
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	93.7	95.1	1.4	75.5	88.2	12.8
Sanikiluaq	94.9	97.7	2.9	69.9	96.0	26.1
Kimmirut	94.3	93.5	-0.7	80.5	88.3	7.9
Cape Dorset	93.5	94.1	0.6	82.2	91.0	8.8
Pangnirtung	94.5	93.6	-0.9	68.6	85.8	17.2
Qikiqtarjuaq	93.3	93.3	0.1	77.9	87.5	9.6
Hall Beach	94.3	97.0	2.8	69.7	84.6	14.9
Igloodik	96.1	94.3	-1.8	70.1	84.4	14.4
Clyde River	96.2	97.2	1.0	68.8	82.5	13.7
Arctic Bay	94.6	96.0	1.4	80.6	87.3	6.7
Pond Inlet	94.3	96.0	1.7	81.1	92.0	10.8
Resolute Bay	78.6	84.2	5.6	92.9	97.4	4.5
Grise Fiord	87.9	92.3	4.4	81.8	96.2	14.3
Kivalliq	87.6	87.9	0.3	88.0	94.4	6.4
Coral Harbour	96.5	96.6	0.2	85.9	97.2	11.3
Arviat	94.7	95.1	0.4	74.9	83.4	8.5
Whale Cove	95.1	91.9	-3.2	91.8	100.0	9.4
Rankin Inlet	73.7	79.5	5.8	95.8	99.1	3.3
Chesterfield Inlet	95.5	90.4	-5.2	92.5	98.8	6.3
Baker Lake	87.4	81.2	-6.2	90.4	97.8	7.4
Nauyasat	96.7	96.7	0.0	91.8	97.2	5.4
Kitikmeot	61.4	57.4	-4.0	95.6	98.9	3.3
Kugaaruk	86.7	74.6	-12.1	95.8	98.4	2.5
Kugluktuk	47.5	51.9	4.3	96.7	99.7	3.0
Cambridge Bay	42.3	33.6	-8.7	97.7	99.1	1.4
Gjoa Haven	76.6	72.1	-4.4	94.3	98.5	4.2
Taloyoak	77.6	72.7	-4.9	94.4	98.0	3.6

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001 and 2016.

The communities where knowledge of English grew the least are generally those where this knowledge was already very high (over 90%). Moreover, it was in these communities that knowledge of Inuktitut, proportion-wise, varied the most. In Kugaaruk, the proportion of the population who could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut was 74.6% in 2016, compared with 86.7% in 2001, a 12.1 percentage-point decrease. In Cambridge Bay, this proportion dropped from 42.3% in 2001 to 33.6% in 2016, a decrease of 8.7 percentage points. A decline in the knowledge of Inuktitut was also observed in Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak and Iqaluit. The communities of Resolute Bay, Rankin Inlet and Kugluktuk stood out: although knowledge of English, already very high in 2001, saw a moderate increase, knowledge of Inuktitut, which is lower than the knowledge of English in each community, saw a relatively large increase (5.6, 5.8 and 4.3 percentage points, respectively).

17. See Appendix B for complete statistics on the knowledge of Inuktitut and English by region and community.

1.2.1.2 Knowledge of languages among the Inuit population

These statistics speak to two important findings: the knowledge of languages differs between the Inuit and non-Inuit populations, and Inuktitut–English bilingualism is very high among the Inuit population (82.3%). In 2016, 89.0% of Nunavut’s Inuit population could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut, compared with 8.3% among non-Inuit (Table 1.11). Nearly all non-Inuit (98.9%) in Nunavut could conduct a conversation in English. Knowledge of English was also very high among Inuit (93.2%).

Table 1.11
Proportion of the population with a knowledge of Inuktitut and proportion of the population with a knowledge of English, by Inuit identity, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2016

Region and community	Inuit population		Non-Inuit population ¹	
	Knowledge of Inuktitut	Knowledge of English	Knowledge of Inuktitut	Knowledge of English
	percent			
Nunavut	89.0	93.2	8.3	98.9
Qikiqtaaluk	95.6	90.6	7.6	98.7
Iqaluit	85.8	97.9	5.9	98.6
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	99.6	87.6	15.8	100.0
Sanikiluaq	100.0	95.8	...	...
Kimmirut	100.0	87.5	...	...
Cape Dorset	99.6	91.1	...	...
Pangnirtung	98.9	85.3	...	...
Qikiqtarjuaq	100.0	87.5	...	...
Hall Beach	100.0	84.0	...	...
Igloodik	99.4	83.5	...	...
Clyde River	100.0	81.9	...	...
Arctic Bay	99.4	86.1	...	...
Pond Inlet	100.0	91.4	...	...
Resolute Bay	97.0	97.0	...	...
Grise Fiord	95.8	95.8	...	...
Kivalliq	95.1	94.0	13.7	98.9
Coral Harbour	99.4	96.5	...	...
Arviat	99.2	82.7	...	...
Whale Cove	95.1	100.0	...	...
Rankin Inlet	93.6	98.9	14.3	100.0
Chesterfield Inlet	96.2	100.0	...	...
Baker Lake	87.0	97.4	...	...
Nauyasat	100.0	97.6	...	...
Kitikmeot	62.7	98.8	4.3	100.0
Kugaaruk	77.5	98.9	...	...
Kugluktuk	56.3	99.3	...	...
Cambridge Bay	39.7	99.0	3.3	100.0
Gjoa Haven	75.3	98.4	...	...
Taloyoak	75.5	98.0	...	...

... not applicable

1. The proportions for the non-Inuit population are only indicated for Nunavut, the regions and the regional centres, since the number of non-Inuit is small in the other communities. The combination of small numbers and random rounding of counts may often yield more or less reliable proportions.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table 1.12 shows that in 2016, there were more Inuit who could conduct a conversation in English (28,150 people) than in Inuktitut (26,880). This was the case for nearly every age group among the Inuit population, except children aged 0 to 4, and adults aged 55 to 64 years and 65 years and older.

Moreover, in 2016, 82.3% of Inuit were bilingual (Inuktitut and English) (Table 1.12). The rates of Inuktitut–English bilingualism were particularly high among Inuit aged 25 to 64 years (92.1%). The lowest rates of Inuktitut–English bilingualism in the Inuit population were found among those aged 65 years and older (59.7%) and 0 to 4 years (61.8%).

Table 1.12
Knowledge of Inuktitut, knowledge of English and Inuktitut–English bilingualism among the Inuit population, by age group, Nunavut, 2016

Age group	Total Inuit population	Knowledge of Inuktitut		Knowledge of English		Inuktitut–English bilingualism	
	number	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Total	30,190	26,880	89.0	28,150	93.2	24,845	82.3
0 to 14 years	10,935	9,210	84.2	9,635	88.1	7,910	72.3
0 to 4 years	3,810	3,155	82.8	3,010	79.0	2,355	61.8
5 to 9 years	3,875	3,305	85.3	3,500	90.3	2,925	75.5
10 to 14 years	3,245	2,750	84.7	3,125	96.3	2,625	80.9
15 to 24 years	5,770	4,945	85.7	5,700	98.8	4,875	84.5
15 to 19 years	2,975	2,565	86.2	2,940	98.8	2,520	84.7
20 to 24 years	2,795	2,380	85.2	2,770	99.1	2,350	84.1
25 to 64 years	12,380	11,625	93.9	12,145	98.1	11,400	92.1
25 to 34 years	4,700	4,240	90.2	4,660	99.1	4,195	89.3
35 to 44 years	3,240	3,075	94.9	3,210	99.1	3,050	94.1
45 to 54 years	2,905	2,815	96.9	2,840	97.8	2,750	94.7
55 to 64 years	1,535	1,505	98.0	1,430	93.2	1,405	91.5
65 years and older	1,105	1,095	99.1	665	60.2	660	59.7

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Given that a high proportion of Inuit in Nunavut are able to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut and in English, only a small minority of the Inuit population knows only one language. In 2016, 2,015 Inuit (6.7%) could conduct a conversation only in Inuktitut, and 3,185 Inuit (10.5%) knew only English. Interestingly, the number of Inuit who spoke only English is higher than the number of Inuit who spoke only Inuktitut in all age groups, except among preschool-aged children and those aged 55 and older. Among Inuit children between the ages of 0 and 4 years, 800 spoke only Inuktitut in 2016, compared with 635 who spoke only English. Among adults aged 55 and up, 525 spoke only Inuktitut and 40 spoke only English.

Although the proportion of the Inuit population with a knowledge of Inuktitut remained high in 2016 (89.0%), it had decreased since 2001, when 91.6% of Inuit in Nunavut were able to have a conversation in Inuktitut. With the exception of Inuit aged 65 years and older, the proportion of the Inuit population able to converse in Inuktitut declined among all age groups (Table 1.13). The declines over this 15-year period were more pronounced among Inuit aged 0 to 34 years, except for the 5-to-9 age group, which posted the smallest decline.

Conversely, knowledge of English among the Inuit population rose over the same period, from 84.5% in 2001 to 93.2% in 2016. This increase was observed for all age groups, but was especially large among Inuit children aged 0 to 9 years and adults 45 years and older.

Among the entire Inuit population of Nunavut, the rate of Inuktitut–English bilingualism also rose from 2001 to 2016 (from 76.1% to 82.3%). However, it fell over the same period among teenagers and young adults aged 15 to 34 years.

Table 1.13
Proportion and variation of the Inuit population with a knowledge of Inuktitut, a knowledge of English, and who are bilingual in these two languages, by age group, Nunavut, 2001 and 2016

Age group	Knowledge of Inuktitut			Knowledge of English			Inuktitut–English bilingualism		
	2001	2016	Variation	2001	2016	Variation	2001	2016	Variation
	percent	percent	percentage point	percent	percent	percentage point	percent	percent	percentage point
Total	91.6	89.0	-2.5	84.5	93.2	8.8	76.1	82.3	6.2
0 to 14 years	87.0	84.2	-2.8	78.2	88.1	9.9	65.2	72.3	7.2
0 to 4 years	86.9	82.8	-4.1	63.8	79.0	15.2	50.6	61.8	11.2
5 to 9 years	85.8	85.3	-0.5	78.7	90.3	11.7	64.8	75.5	10.7
10 to 14 years	88.0	84.7	-3.2	92.2	96.3	4.1	80.2	80.9	0.7
15 to 24 years	90.8	85.7	-5.1	97.5	98.8	1.3	88.4	84.5	-3.9
15 to 19 years	89.7	86.2	-3.5	97.4	98.8	1.4	87.1	84.7	-2.4
20 to 24 years	92.2	85.2	-7.1	97.3	99.1	1.8	89.8	84.1	-5.7
25 to 64 years	96.7	93.9	-2.8	89.5	98.1	8.6	86.1	92.1	5.9
25 to 34 years	94.9	90.2	-4.7	97.9	99.1	1.3	92.9	89.3	-3.6
35 to 44 years	96.9	94.9	-1.9	97.1	99.1	2.0	94.1	94.1	0.0
45 to 54 years	98.3	96.9	-1.4	82.9	97.8	14.8	81.6	94.7	13.1
55 to 64 years	98.9	98.0	-0.8	44.9	93.2	48.2	44.9	91.5	46.6
65 years and older	97.6	99.1	1.5	22.6	60.2	37.6	20.2	59.7	39.6

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001 and 2016.

One way to preserve and revitalize a language is to ensure that young people learn it from childhood and maintain it through regular, everyday use. Table 1.14 highlights Nunavut's Inuit population aged 0 to 34 years and shows that knowledge of Inuktitut among children, teens and young adults varies a great deal depending on the region and or community.

Apart from Iqaluit, nearly all young Inuit aged 0 to 34 years in every community of the Qikiqtaaluk region could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut in 2016. In the capital, the proportion of this population with a knowledge of Inuktitut dropped sharply from 2001 to 2016 for each of the four age groups. This decline was most apparent among preschool-aged Inuit children: 84.5% could speak Inuktitut in 2001, versus 70.7% in 2016 (Table 1.14).

In several communities in the Kivalliq region, the proportion of Inuit aged 0 to 34 years who could have a conversation in Inuktitut was very high in 2016. However, results were different for the Baker Lake community: its Inuit population in this age group was less likely to be able to converse in Inuktitut. Furthermore, when compared with Inuit in the same age group in other communities of the region, 0- to 34-year-old Inuit in Baker Lake saw the sharpest decline in the ability to have a conversation in Inuktitut between 2001 and 2016. The biggest drop occurred among Inuit aged 15 to 24 years (from 93.5% in 2001 to 80.3% in 2016). In contrast, there was an increase in the ability to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut for some age groups among the Inuit population of Coral Harbour, Arviat, Rankin Inlet and Nauyasat.

In 2016, knowledge of Inuktitut among Inuit aged 0 to 34 was much lower in the Kitikmeot region, and it generally declined more quickly than in the other regions. In Cambridge Bay, the proportion of Inuit aged 0 to 34 years who could have a conversation in Inuktitut for each of the four age groups was much lower than in the other Kitikmeot communities in 2016. That year, only 13.8% of preschool-aged Inuit children in Cambridge Bay could converse in Inuktitut. Kugluktuk also had lower proportions than the three other communities in the region for each of the four age groups between 0 and 34, but unlike these communities and Cambridge Bay, the proportion of Inuit aged 0 to 4 years, 5 to 14 years and 15 to 24 years who could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut rose from 2001 to 2016.

Table 1.14
Proportion of the Inuit population aged 0 to 34 years with a knowledge of Inuktitut, by age group, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2001 and 2016

Region and community	Inuit population							
	0 to 4 years		5 to 14 years		15 to 24 years		25 to 34 years	
	2001	2016	2001	2016	2001	2016	2001	2016
	percent							
Nunavut	86.9	82.8	86.9	85.0	90.8	85.7	94.9	90.2
Qikiqtaaluk	95.8	92.2	96.2	93.1	98.2	95.3	98.6	96.6
Iqaluit	84.5	70.7	88.7	75.4	95.3	83.7	96.2	88.9
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	98.8	99.6	99.4	99.6	99.4	100.0	99.2	99.4
Sanikiluaq	100.0	95.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Kimmirut ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	94.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cape Dorset	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	97.6
Pangnirtung	100.0	100.0	98.4	98.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	97.5
Qikiqtarjuaq ¹	100.0	100.0	96.0	92.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Hall Beach	100.0	96.6	97.1	100.0	100.0	96.8	100.0	100.0
Igloodik	100.0	97.8	98.6	98.8	97.9	98.3	100.0	97.9
Clyde River	100.0	96.2	100.0	97.9	96.7	100.0	100.0	100.0
Arctic Bay	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pond Inlet	97.1	100.0	98.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.0
Resolute Bay ¹	80.0	100.0	80.0	85.7	87.5	85.7	100.0	100.0
Grise Fiord ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	85.7	100.0	100.0
Kivalliq	94.0	92.9	93.8	93.5	97.5	92.6	98.1	96.5
Coral Harbour	100.0	100.0	97.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Arviat	98.2	98.5	100.0	97.5	98.5	99.1	96.5	100.0
Whale Cove ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	81.8	90.0	93.8	100.0	100.0
Rankin Inlet	89.8	88.9	87.0	89.9	95.0	90.4	96.2	97.3
Chesterfield Inlet ¹	100.0	90.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	93.3	100.0	92.3
Baker Lake	81.8	75.0	88.9	81.9	93.5	80.3	97.6	91.2
Nauyasat	100.0	96.8	100.0	98.4	96.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Kitikmeot	50.4	43.6	50.0	50.2	59.6	49.8	80.3	64.3
Kugaaruk	89.5	50.0	88.2	72.7	100.0	66.7	100.0	92.3
Kugluktuk	19.2	36.7	24.1	36.1	35.0	45.7	67.7	55.6
Cambridge Bay	24.0	13.8	28.8	18.3	37.8	20.7	60.0	34.9
Gjoa Haven	65.4	61.1	66.0	65.0	76.5	63.8	93.5	76.3
Taloyoak	72.2	51.9	65.8	68.8	84.0	69.4	94.4	75.8

1. Exercise caution when analyzing this community's proportions, since they were calculated using small, randomly rounded numbers.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001 and 2016.

1.2.1.3 Ability of non-Inuit populations to speak Inuktitut

In 2016, 8.3% of non-Inuit living in Nunavut could conduct a conversation in Inuktitut (450 persons). Non-Inuit people's knowledge of Inuktitut fluctuated from one census to the next, with no clear trend apparent. The percentage rose from 7.5% in 2001 to 12.6% in 2006, then fell to 7.8% in 2011. The non-Inuit population is likely to change quite substantially based on migrations between the provinces and territories, which might explain these fluctuations.

Text box 3: How well is Inuktitut spoken: very well, relatively well, with effort or only a few words? How well is Inuktitut understood?

The previous section showed information about Inuit in Nunavut who spoke Inuktitut well enough to conduct a conversation, based on census or NHS data. In Text box 3, language data from the 2012 APS are used to provide complementary insights into how Inuit in Nunavut rated their ability to speak Inuktitut, from only a few words to very well, as well as how well the language is understood.

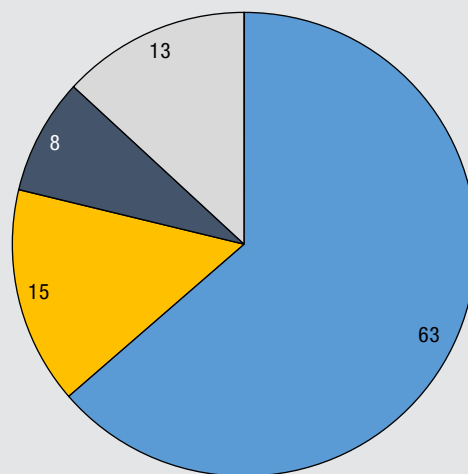
In 2012, among the estimated 23,270 Inuit aged 6 and over living in Nunavut, 96% said that they could speak at least a few words of Inuktitut.

The vast majority of Inuit aged 6 and over in Nunavut speaking Inuktitut in 2012 said they spoke it very well (63%), while another 15% said they spoke it relatively well. On the other hand, 13% were able to speak only a few words of Inuktitut, while the remaining 8% said they could speak it with effort (Chart A).

However, a minimal ability to speak Inuktitut does not necessarily mean that the language is not well understood. Among the 4,720 Inuit aged 6 and over who spoke Inuktitut with effort or who could speak only a few words, about half (48%) rated their ability to understand it either relatively well or very well.

Chart A
Inuit aged 6 years and over speaking Inuktitut by ability rating, Nunavut, 2012

percent



■ Speak very well ■ Speak relatively well ■ Speak with effort □ Speak only a few words

Notes: Missing values ("don't know", "not stated" and "refusal") were excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages. Percentages do not add up to 100% because of rounding.

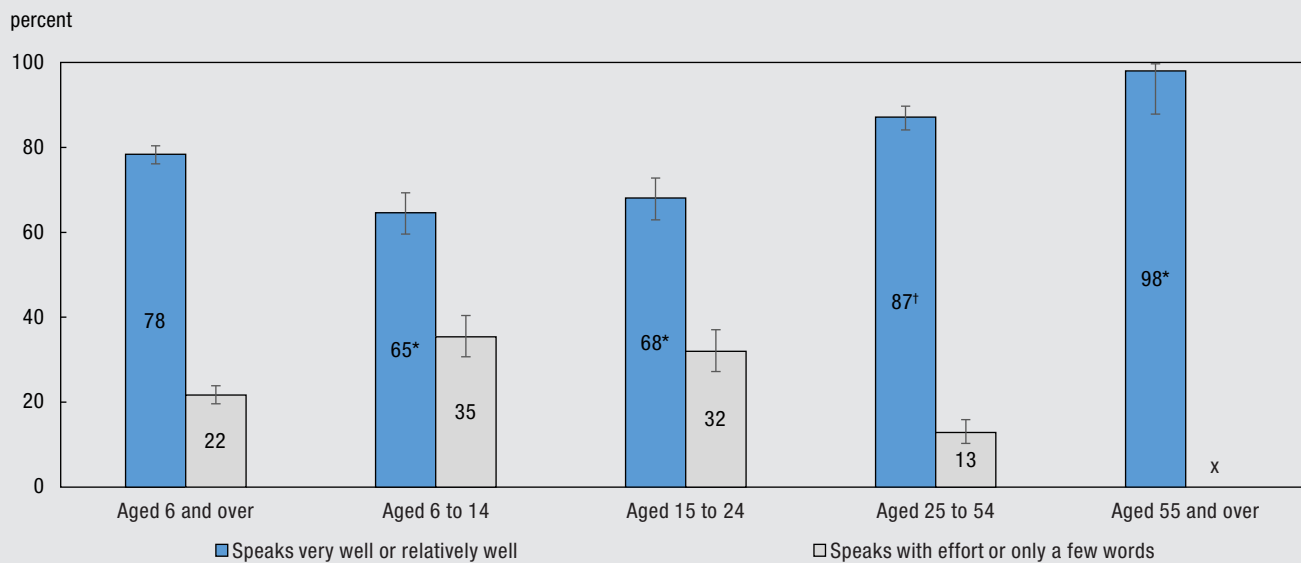
Source: Statistics Canada, 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

Text box 3: How well is Inuktitut spoken: very well, relatively well, with effort or only a few words? How well is Inuktitut understood? (Continued)

The self-rated ability to speak Inuktitut varied by age group. Adults were more likely to speak Inuktitut well, compared with children and youth. Among the Inuktitut speakers, almost all Inuit aged 55 and over (98%), and about 9 in 10 Inuit adults aged 25 to 54, reported speaking Inuktitut very well or relatively well. The proportions were lower for Inuit children aged 6 to 14 and Inuit youth aged 15 to 24. For both groups of Inuktitut speakers, about 7 in 10 said they spoke the language very well or relatively well (Chart B).

While about a third of Inuit children and youths spoke Inuktitut with effort or spoke only a few words, a number of them could understand it very well or relatively well. Among the 1,860 Inuit children aged 6 to 14 with a minimal ability to speak Inuktitut, about 4 in 10 (43%) could understand Inuktitut well. Among the 1,660 Inuit youth aged 15 to 24 who were unable to speak Inuktitut well, slightly more than half (53%) could, however, understand it well. The difference in the proportions for children and youth was not statistically significant.

Chart B
Self-rated ability to speak Inuktitut, by age group, Inuit population aged 6 years and over speaking Inuktitut, Nunavut, 2012



x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

* significantly different from reference category (p<0.05)

† reference group

Notes: The vertical lines on each bar represent 95% confidence intervals. Missing values ("don't know", "not stated" and "refusal") were excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

1.2.2 Languages spoken at home

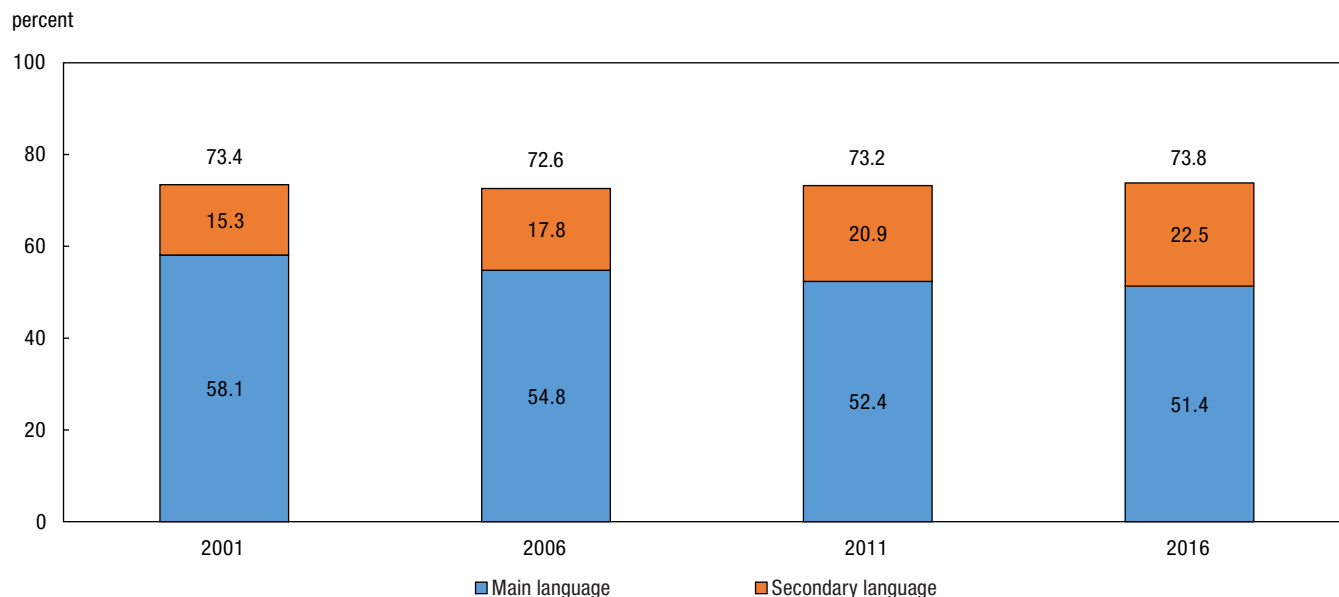
The ability to conduct a conversation in a language is essential for its use in various everyday situations. Census data provide information on the language spoken at home and the language used at work (see Text box 1 for the definitions of these concepts). Knowing a language does not necessarily mean that it is used on a regular basis at home. Speaking a language regularly at home helps people maintain their knowledge of the language, and makes it more likely that it will be transmitted to the children. In 2016, 73.8% (26,270 people)¹⁸ of the Nunavut population reported speaking Inuktitut at home on at least a regular basis. This proportion is slightly higher than in 2001 (73.4%), when 19,480 people reported speaking Inuktitut at home.

That being said, fewer people are reporting Inuktitut as the main language used at home. In 2016, Inuktitut was the main language used at home by 51.4% of the Nunavut population, compared with 58.1% in 2001 (see Chart 1.7). Although the use of Inuktitut as the main language at home fell 6.7 percentage points, its use as a secondary language was up 7.1 percentage points.

While Inuktitut is being increasingly used in the home, it is shifting from the main language to the secondary language.

Chart 1.7

Proportion of the population of Nunavut who speak Inuktitut at home, by main and secondary language of use, Nunavut, 2001 to 2016



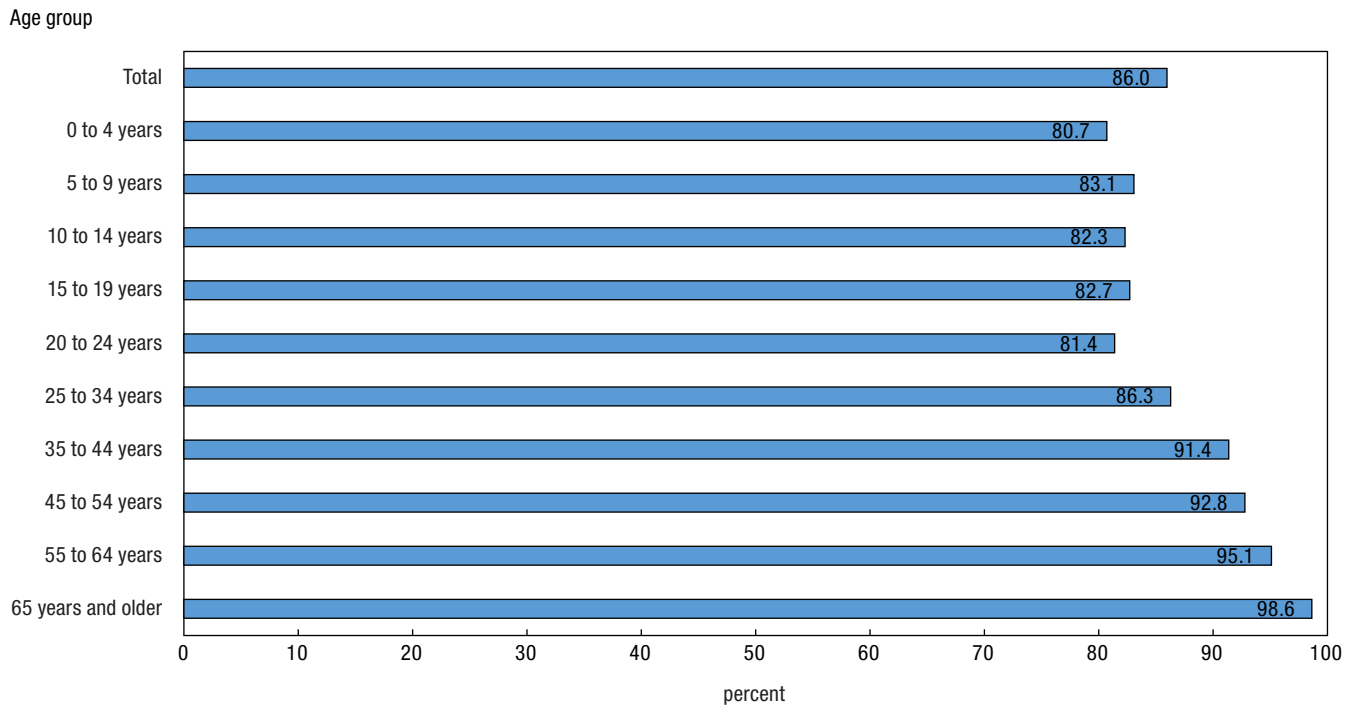
Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

At home, Inuktitut is mainly spoken by Inuit. Across Nunavut, 98.8% of people who speak Inuktitut at home have an Inuit identity. In 2016, 5.8% of non-Inuit reported speaking Inuktitut at home, or 315 people from a total of 5,390 non-Inuit. In comparison, 86.0% of Inuit reported speaking Inuktitut at home in 2016.

The proportion of the Inuit population who speak Inuktitut at home is higher among seniors: 98.6% of Inuit 65 years and older spoke Inuktitut in 2016, versus 80.7% of Inuit aged 0 to 4 years (Chart 1.8).

18. See Appendix C for statistics by regions and communities.

Chart 1.8
Proportion of the Inuit population who speak Inuktut at home, by age group, Nunavut, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Still among the Inuit population, there are wider variations in the use of Inuktut between communities. In the Kitikmeot region, 55.5% of Inuit speak Inuktut at home, compared with 93.6% in the Qikiqtaaluk region and 93.1% in the Kivalliq region (Table 1.15). Even within regions, use varies greatly. In Iqaluit, 79.9% of Inuit speak Inuktut at home, compared with 99.2% in all the other communities in the Qikiqtaaluk region. Nearly all Inuit speak Inuktut at home in every other community of the Qikiqtaaluk region. Inuktut is spoken by somewhat fewer Inuit in the communities of Resolute Bay (87.9%) and Grise Fiord (91.7%), farther north.

Table 1.15
Inuit population who speak Inuktitut or English at home, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2016

Region and community	Total Inuit population ¹	Language spoken at home			
		Inuktitut		English	
		number	percent	number	percent
Nunavut	30,190	25,955	86.0	21,715	71.9
Qikiqtaaluk	14,905	13,950	93.6	8,860	59.4
Iqaluit	4,295	3,430	79.9	3,785	88.1
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	10,610	10,520	99.2	5,080	47.9
Sanikiluaq	840	840	100.0	585	69.6
Kimmirut	365	360	98.6	215	58.9
Cape Dorset	1,345	1,340	99.6	730	54.3
Pangnirtung	1,390	1,375	98.9	455	32.7
Qikiqtarjuaq	560	565	100.0	130	23.2
Hall Beach	815	815	100.0	400	49.1
Igloodik	1,575	1,565	99.4	665	42.2
Clyde River	1,020	1,020	100.0	370	36.3
Arctic Bay	825	825	100.0	410	49.7
Pond Inlet	1,515	1,510	99.7	810	53.5
Resolute Bay	165	145	87.9	150	90.9
Grise Fiord	120	110	91.7	105	87.5
Kivalliq	9,375	8,725	93.1	7,180	76.6
Coral Harbour	860	850	98.8	810	94.2
Arviat	2,515	2,485	98.8	780	31.0
Whale Cove	415	390	94.0	385	92.8
Rankin Inlet	2,280	2,040	89.5	2,090	91.7
Chesterfield Inlet	390	370	94.9	385	98.7
Baker Lake	1,890	1,560	82.5	1,805	95.5
Nauyasat	1,030	1,025	99.5	925	89.8
Kitikmeot	5,905	3,280	55.5	5,670	96.0
Kugaaruk	895	655	73.2	810	90.5
Kugluktuk	1,345	635	47.2	1,295	96.3
Cambridge Bay	1,430	410	28.7	1,405	98.3
Gjoa Haven	1,255	890	70.9	1,215	96.8
Taloyoak	980	690	70.4	945	96.4

1. This is the total population. The sum of the languages in this table exceeds the total population because a person can report more than one language in the census.

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

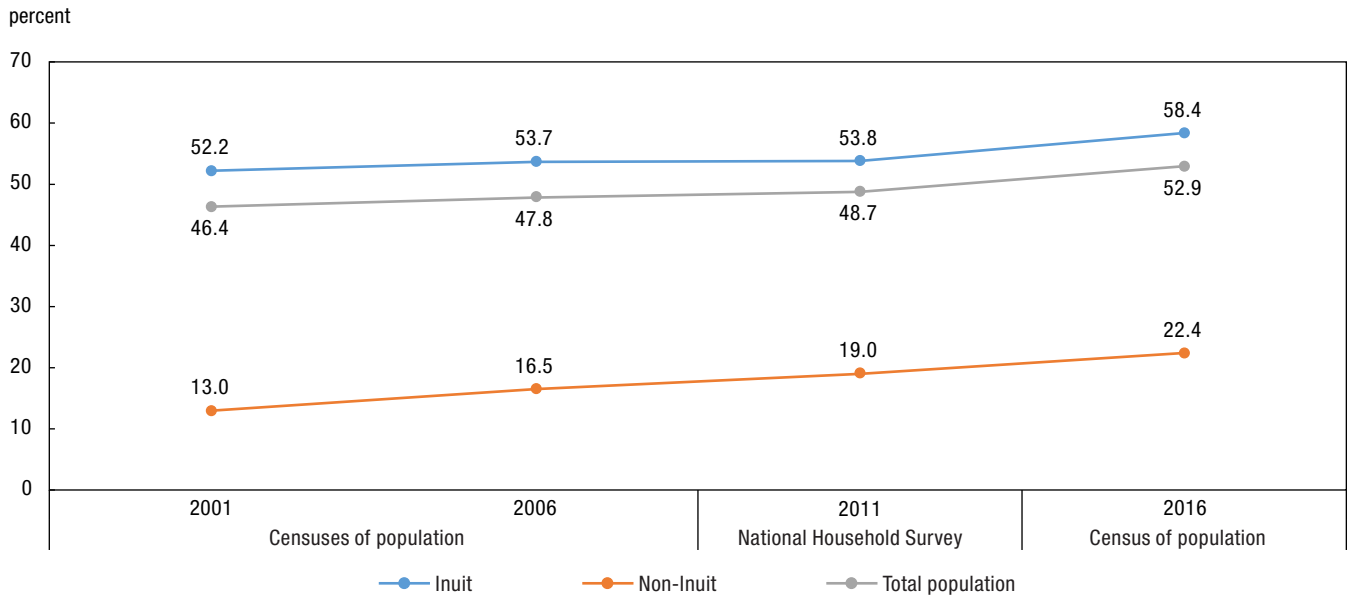
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

In the Kivalliq region, Inuit are slightly less likely to use Inuktitut at home in Baker Lake (82.5%) and Rankin Inlet (89.5%). However, the largest differences are found in the Kitikmeot region: the proportion of Inuit who speak Inuktitut at home is 28.7% in Cambridge Bay and 47.2% in Kugluktuk, while it is above 70% in the region's three other communities.

1.2.2.1 Use of several languages at home

Most Inuit (58.4%) spoke more than one language at home in 2016. This proportion has increased since 2001, when 52.2% of Inuit spoke more than one language at home, a gain of 6.2 percentage points. Chart 1.9 shows that this growth occurred primarily between 2011 and 2016.

Chart 1.9
Proportion of Inuit and non-Inuit who speak more than one language at home at least on a regular basis, Nunavut, 2001 to 2016



Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 1.9 also shows that this trend applies to non-Inuit as well, although speaking more than one language at home is less frequent among this population. For example, 22.4% of non-Inuit spoke more than one language at home in 2016—mostly a combination of English and Inuktitut, French or another language—an increase of 9.4 percentage points from 2001 (13.0%).

Nearly all Inuit who speak more than one language at home speak Inuktitut and English (99.3%). Overall, 58.0% of Inuit speak Inuktitut and English at home. Specifically, 30.4% of Inuit primarily speak Inuktitut at home with English as a secondary language, while 25.8% speak primarily English with Inuktitut as a secondary language. Lastly, 1.8% of Inuit reported speaking Inuktitut and English equally at home.

When compared with 2001 data, we can see not only that use of both Inuktitut and English is on the rise at home, but also that English is increasingly the main language used at home by Inuit. In 2001, 34.0% of Inuit primarily spoke Inuktitut at home with English as a secondary language, while 17.4% primarily spoke English with Inuktitut as a secondary language.

1.2.2.2 Use of English at home by the Inuit population

Generally speaking, while regular use of Inuktitut at home is stable among Inuit—it rose from 85.6% in 2001 to 86.0% in 2016—English use is growing. In 2001, 66.5% of the Inuit population spoke English at home, compared with 71.9% in 2016. It is mainly joint use of Inuktitut and English that is growing; exclusive use of Inuktitut at home fell from 33.4% in 2001 to 27.9% in 2016, down 5.5 percentage points.

Text box 4: How well is Inuktitut spoken when it is used at home as the main language, secondary language or not at all?

Section 1.2.2 showed that the vast majority of Inuit in Nunavut spoke Inuktitut at home according to the 2016 Census, but also that, since 2001, a growing proportion of them used English at home. With the increased use of English at home, either as a main language or secondary language, one may wonder how Inuit are able to maintain their ability to speak Inuktitut.

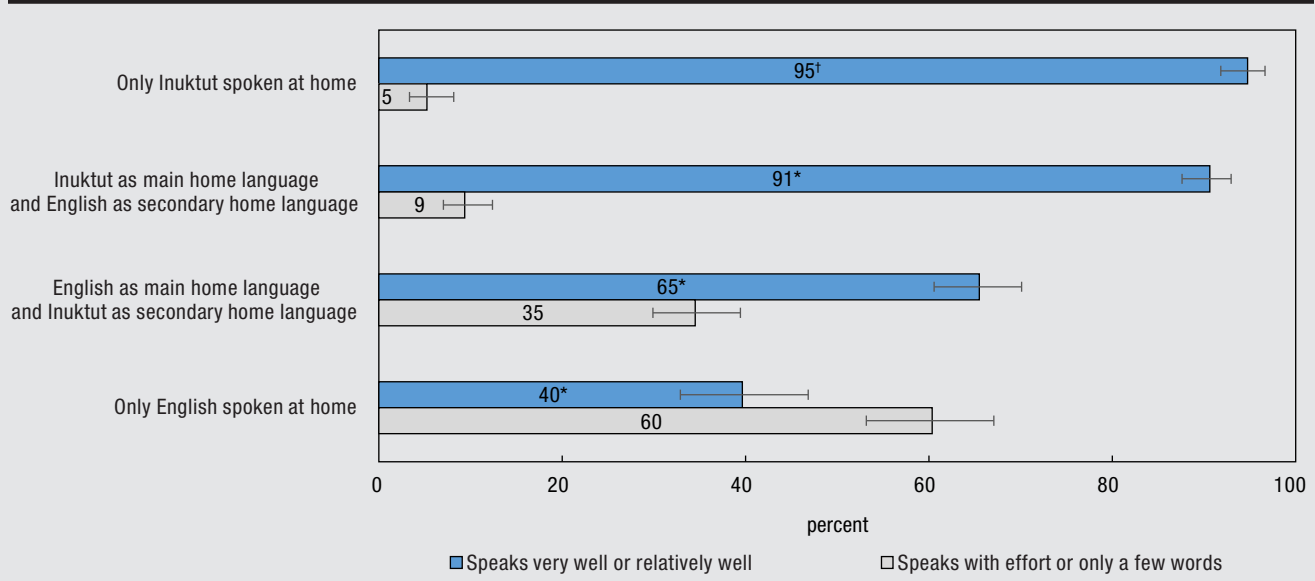
Since the 2012 APS used a subset of respondents from the 2011 NHS, language data collected in the NHS are also available for the people who answered the 2012 APS, providing additional information on their linguistic characteristics. Chart C combines these two data sources by showing the language(s) spoken at home from the 2011 NHS and the self-rated ability to speak Inuktitut from the 2012 APS.

In Nunavut, about 9 in 10 Inuit aged 6 years and over speaking Inuktitut in 2012 who had reported Inuktitut as the main language used at home spoke it very well or relatively well (Chart C). The proportion of Inuit speaking Inuktitut well was slightly higher when Inuktitut was the only language spoken at home (95%) than when Inuktitut was the main home language with English as a secondary language (91%).

However, a smaller proportion of Inuit aged 6 years and over speaking Inuktitut (65%) spoke it very well or relatively well when English was their main home language and Inuktitut was their secondary home language.

Not surprisingly, Inuit aged 6 years and over who used only English at home were those who struggled the most to speak Inuktitut: about 6 in 10 spoke it with effort or spoke only a few words. However, the remaining 4 in 10 were able to speak Inuktitut very well or relatively well despite not using this language at home. Of the 1,140 Inuit in this latter situation, 85% reported that they were exposed to an Aboriginal language outside the home on a daily basis.

Chart C
Selected combinations of language(s) spoken at home, by self-rated ability to speak Inuktitut, Inuit population aged 6 years and over speaking Inuktitut, Nunavut, 2012



* significantly different from the reference category (p<0.05)
 † reference group
Note: The horizontal lines on each bar represent 95% confidence intervals. Missing values ("don't know", "not stated" and "refusal") were excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages.
Sources: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey; 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

2. Language transfer, exogamy and transmission of mother tongue

A language's vitality relies on a number of factors that may or may not be conducive to its transmission and retention within a population. Linguistic exogamy, language transfer and intergenerational transmission are three important factors that can affect a language's vitality. For example, linguistic exogamy (living as a couple with a person whose mother tongue is different from one's own) can lead some people to abandon the use of their mother tongue as the home language (language transfers). Using a language at home contributes to the transmission of that language to the children.

2.1 Language transfer

A language transfer (or substitution) occurs when a person stops using their mother tongue at home. When the mother tongue is no longer used at home, this is called a complete language transfer.¹⁹ When the mother tongue is no longer the main language used at home, but continues to be used regularly as a secondary language, this is called a partial language transfer.²⁰

Table 2.1 highlights the rates of language transfer among the Inuit population in different Nunavut regions and communities. It shows that the rates of complete language transfer are fairly low among those who have Inuktitut as their mother tongue. Although 23.7% no longer use an Inuktitut-mother-tongue as their main home language, only 2.7% no longer speak it at least regularly at home. In the Kitikmeot region, a language transfer has occurred for 71.9% of Inuit with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue. This language transfer is partial for 59.2% of the region's Inuit with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, which means that they continue to use their mother tongue as a secondary language at home.

19. Here, a language is considered to be no longer used at home if it is not reported in either part A or B of the census question on the languages spoken at home. Use of the language may not have been completely dropped, but it is no longer spoken at least on a regular basis.

20. The information on language transfers covers an individual's lifetime. Transfers may occur very early in an individual's life. Furthermore, they may not necessarily be permanent, particularly when they reach adulthood.

Table 2.1
Partial and complete language transfer among Inuit with Inuktitut as their mother tongue, 2016

	Partial language transfer	Complete language transfer	Language transfer rate
	percent		
Nunavut	21.0	2.7	23.7
Qikiqtaaluk	11.4	1.7	13.2
Iqaluit	39.0	6.0	45.0
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	3.2	0.4	3.6
Sanikiluaq	9.2	0.0	9.2
Kimmirut	4.3	0.0	4.3
Cape Dorset	1.9	0.0	1.9
Pangnirtung	0.7	0.7	1.5
Qikiqtarjuaq	0.0	1.7	1.7
Hall Beach	1.8	0.0	1.8
Igloodik	1.0	0.7	1.6
Clyde River	0.0	0.0	0.0
Arctic Bay	3.1	0.0	3.1
Pond Inlet	2.0	0.0	2.0
Resolute Bay	40.0	8.0	48.0
Grise Fiord	45.0	10.0	55.0
Kivalliq	27.3	1.8	29.1
Coral Harbour	46.5	0.0	46.5
Arviat	1.6	0.0	1.6
Whale Cove	47.9	0.0	47.9
Rankin Inlet	36.9	3.3	40.2
Chesterfield Inlet	34.4	3.1	37.5
Baker Lake	69.8	3.9	73.7
Nauyasat	11.7	0.0	11.7
Kitikmeot	59.2	12.7	71.9
Kugaaruk	49.4	5.7	55.2
Kugluktuk	60.0	17.1	77.1
Cambridge Bay	48.6	36.1	84.7
Gjoa Haven	65.1	4.7	69.8
Taloyoak	66.3	8.7	75.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table 2.2 shows that following regular increases between 2001 and 2011, the rates of language transfer among Inuit with Inuktitut as their mother tongue declined between 2011 and 2016. Similarly, the rates of complete language transfer fell between 2001 and 2016.

Table 2.2
Partial and complete language transfer among Inuit with Inuktitut as their mother tongue, 2001 to 2016

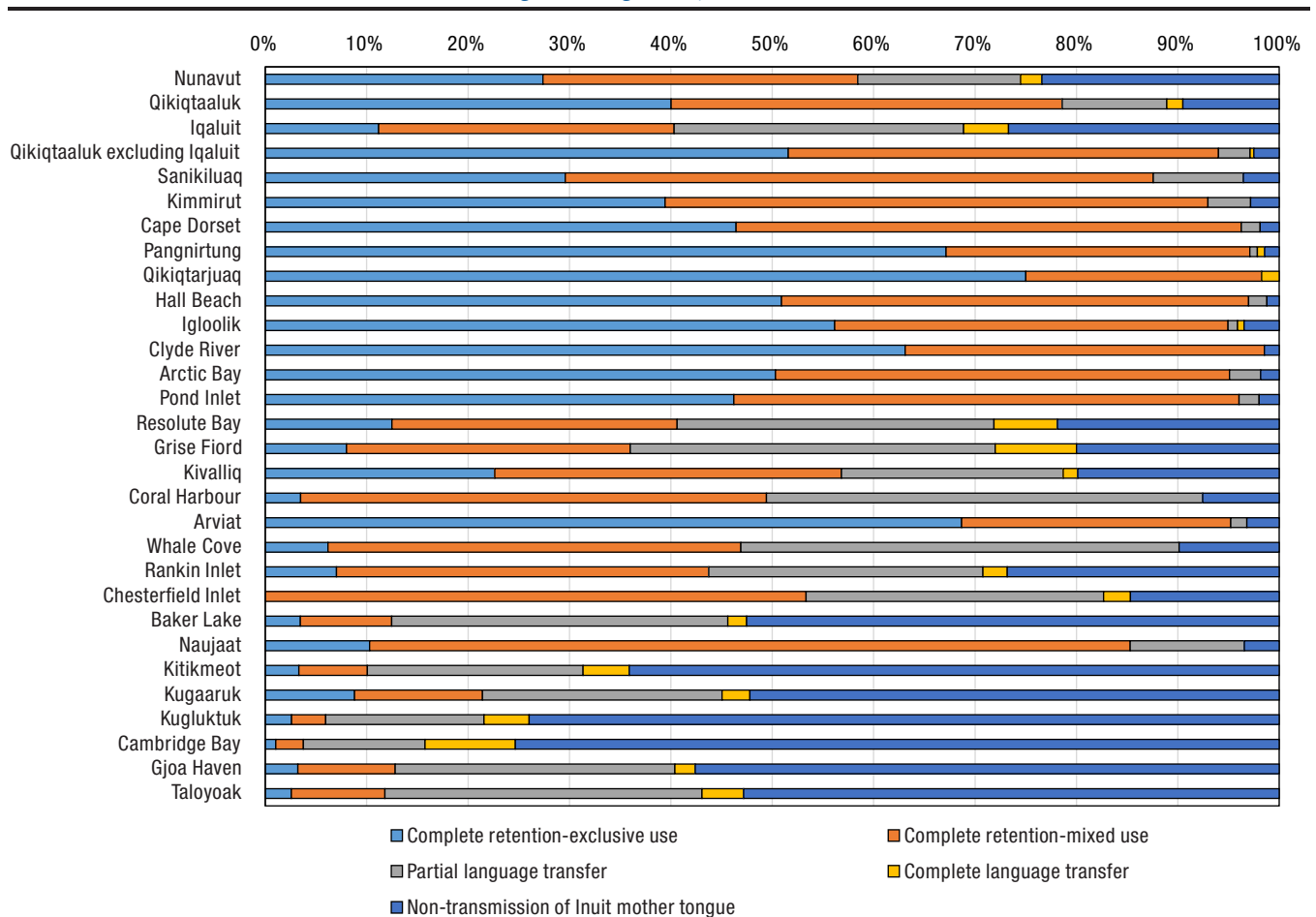
	Partial language transfer	Complete language transfer	Language transfer rate
	percent		
2001	15.1	5.1	20.2
2006	17.9	5.7	23.6
2011	21.3	4.8	26.1
2016	21.0	2.7	23.7

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

However, this apparent improvement masks an incomplete transmission of Inuktitut as a mother tongue. Those to whom Inuktitut was not transmitted as a mother tongue are not included in the language transfer rate calculations. Chart 2.1 provides a more detailed picture of language transfer, by including cases of non-transmission of mother tongue. It shows that the proportion of Inuit who report Inuktitut as their mother tongue and who use it exclusively at home is low in Kitikmeot region communities, reflecting the prominence of the English language in these areas. It also shows the limitations of the language transfer indicator in these communities, where fewer than 50% of Inuit report Inuktitut as their mother tongue.

For example, the language transfer rate in Cambridge Bay is 84.7% (Table 2.1), but this number does not reflect the fact that 75.3% of the community’s Inuit do not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue (Chart 2.1). According to (Chart 2.1), 20.9% of Inuit in Cambridge Bay underwent a language transfer (12.0% had a partial transfer and 8.9% a complete transfer). Chart 2.1 also indicates that 1.0% of Cambridge Bay’s Inuit have Inuktitut as their mother tongue and use it exclusively at home (full retention – exclusive use) and that 2.7% of Inuit with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue use it together with another language (full retention – combined use).

Chart 2.1
Rates of complete retention with exclusive or combined use of Inuktitut at home, of complete or partial language transfer, and of non-transmission of Inuktitut as mother tongue among Inuits, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

2.2 Linguistic exogamy

Language transfers or substitutions are often associated with linguistic exogamy.²¹ In Nunavut, for 71.4% of couples with at least one Inuit spouse or partner, Inuktitut is the mother tongue of both partners (see Table 2.3). Only 7.7% of couples where both members are Inuit are linguistically exogamous, meaning that they do not share the same mother tongue.²² However, for 11.4% of Inuit couples, Inuktitut is not the mother tongue of either partner. By contrast, the large majority (71.1%) of mixed couples (i.e., couples made up of one Inuit and one non-Inuit) are linguistically exogamous.

Table 2.3
Linguistic endogamy or exogamy within mixed or non-mixed couples¹ where at least one spouse/partner identifies as Inuit, Nunavut, 2016

	Couples where at least one spouse/partner is Inuit					
	Inuit couples		Mixed couples		Total	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Both Inuktitut mother tongue	3,680	80.9	25	3.9	3,705	71.4
Neither Inuktitut mother tongue ²	520	11.4	160	25.0	680	13.1
Linguistic exogamy	350	7.7	455	71.1	805	15.5
Total	4,550	100.0	640	100.0	5,190	100.0

1. A mixed couple is a couple where one spouse/partner identifies as Inuit and the other does not.

2. In theory, it is possible that neither spouse/partner has Inuktitut as a mother tongue nor do they share a common mother tongue. In practice, however, this situation does not occur.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table 2.4 shows that the rate of mixed couples is particularly low (3.6%) in the Qikiqtaaluk region, excluding the city of Iqaluit. The rate does not exceed 15% in any Nunavut region. It is higher in certain communities, namely Iqaluit (36.4%), Whale Cove (25.0%) and Cambridge Bay (23.2%). The rate of linguistic exogamy is generally equal to or greater than the rate of mixed couples, and the differences observed are rarely significant. By contrast, the rates of linguistic endogamy of Inuktitut, and the rates of complete Inuit endogamy,²³ vary considerably more from one community to another. These rates are below the 50% mark in the Kitikmeot region, but reach 100% in most of the communities in the Qikiqtaaluk region. This means that the Kitikmeot region is not characterized by a large proportion of mixed or linguistically exogamous couples, but by a smaller presence of an Inuktitut-mother-tongue among couples. In Cambridge Bay, 51.8% of couples with at least one Inuit-identity partner report that neither spouse nor partner has Inuktitut as their mother tongue.

21. The relationship between linguistic exogamy and language transfers is two-way: exogamy can result in a language transfer, and a language transfer can lead to exogamy (Castonguay 1979; Corbeil 2005).

22. All couples where both spouses/partners have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue (single and multiple responses) are considered linguistically endogamous. Linguistic exogamy, in terms of the Inuit language, refers to situations in which one spouse or partner has an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, alone or with another language, while the other spouse or partner does not report an Inuit language as their mother tongue.

23. Refers to couples in which both spouses/partners identify as Inuit and have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue.

Table 2.4
Identity or mother tongue indicators within couples where at least one partner identifies as Inuit, 2016

	Rate of mixed couples ¹	Rate of linguistic exogamy ²	Rate of complete Inuit endogamy ³	Rate of endogamy (Inuktitut mother tongue) ⁴	Percentage of Inuit couples where neither partner has Inuktitut as a mother tongue ⁵
					percent
Nunavut	12.3	15.5	70.9	71.4	13.1
Qikiqtaaluk	15.0	14.8	79.7	80.1	5.1
Iqaluit	36.4	36.9	51.1	51.1	11.9
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	3.6	5.6	93.8	93.8	0.6
Sanikiluaq	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Kimmirut	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Cape Dorset	5.6	5.6	94.4	94.4	0.0
Pangnirtung	4.0	4.0	96.0	96.0	0.0
Qikiqtarjuaq	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Hall Beach	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Igloodik	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Clyde River	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Arctic Bay	0.0	8.0	92.0	92.0	0.0
Pond Inlet	8.0	4.0	88.0	92.0	4.0
Resolute Bay	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Grise Fiord	0.0	0.0	60.0	60.0	40.0
Kivalliq	7.5	13.4	77.3	77.3	9.3
Coral Harbour	6.9	6.9	93.1	93.1	0.0
Arviat	2.4	7.1	92.9	92.9	0.0
Whale Cove	25.0	25.0	75.0	75.0	0.0
Rankin Inlet	15.0	26.3	65.0	65.0	8.8
Chesterfield Inlet	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Baker Lake	6.7	21.7	53.3	53.3	25.0
Nauyasat	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Kitikmeot	12.5	18.3	40.4	41.3	40.4
Kugaaruk	0.0	20.6	55.9	55.9	23.5
Kugluktuk	15.4	21.2	30.8	30.8	48.1
Cambridge Bay	23.2	23.2	25.0	25.0	51.8
Gjoa Haven	10.0	17.5	47.5	52.5	30.0
Taloyoak	5.7	17.1	57.1	57.1	25.7

1. Refers to the proportion of couples where one member identifies as Inuit and the other does not, among all couples where at least one member identifies as Inuit.

2. Refers to the proportion of couples where one member has Inuktitut as a mother tongue and the other does not, among all couples where at least one member identifies as Inuit.

3. Refers to the proportion of couples where both members identify as Inuit and have Inuktitut as a mother tongue, among all couples where at least one member identifies as Inuit.

4. Refers to the proportion of couples where both members have Inuktitut as a mother tongue, among all couples where at least one member identifies as Inuit.

5. Refers to the proportion of couples where neither member has Inuktitut as a mother tongue, among all couples where at least one member identifies as Inuit.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

2.3 Transmission of mother tongue to the children

Linguistic exogamy hinders the transmission of Inuktitut to the children. Generally speaking, in Nunavut, when one parent in a couple does not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue, the likelihood that Inuktitut will be transmitted to the child as a mother tongue is much lower (see Table 2.5), primarily because it is spoken very little or not at all at home. For example, Inuktitut is transmitted as a mother tongue to 87.4% of children aged 0 to 17 years living in a two-parent household where both parents have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue, compared with 28.8% of children of linguistically exogamous couples and 1.4% of children of couples where neither parent has Inuktitut as a mother tongue.²⁴

Table 2.5
Mother tongue of children aged 0 to 17 years living in a two-parent household, by parents' mother tongue, Nunavut, 2016

	Child's mother tongue	
	Inuktitut	Not Inuktitut
	percent	
Both parents have an Inuktitut-mother-tongue	87.4	12.6
Linguistically exogamous couple	28.8	71.3
Neither parent has an Inuktitut-mother-tongue	1.4	98.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

24. The proportions are for the entire Nunavut population, not just for the Inuit population.

The transmission rates of Inuktitut as a mother tongue to Inuit children aged 0 to 14 years have been falling (see Table 2.6). In 2001, 78.5% of Inuit children aged 0 to 4 years had Inuktitut as their mother tongue, compared to 68.4% in 2016—a decline of over 10 percentage points.

Table 2.6
Proportion of Inuit children with Inuktitut as their mother tongue, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016
	percent			
Nunavut				
0 to 4 years	78.5	76.4	73.1	68.4
5 to 9 years	76.1	74.6	70.6	67.7
10 to 14 years	79.1	76.3	73.7	68.2
15 to 19 years	80.2	78.5	76.9	72.1
Qikiqtaaluk				
0 to 4 years	93.9	90.1	88.0	86.6
5 to 9 years	92.4	89.4	85.0	84.4
10 to 14 years	94.2	92.3	88.5	86.3
15 to 19 years	95.5	93.2	90.7	89.4
Iqaluit				
0 to 4 years	78.6	68.3	68.0	54.3
5 to 9 years	76.8	67.9	59.8	51.5
10 to 14 years	83.1	76.8	65.3	59.1
15 to 19 years	86.2	81.5	73.5	65.8
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit				
0 to 4 years	97.9	98.3	94.9	96.8
5 to 9 years	97.9	97.4	94.7	95.8
10 to 14 years	97.8	98.2	96.7	96.9
15 to 19 years	98.9	97.7	97.6	97.6
Kivalliq				
0 to 4 years	83.9	85.2	80.8	72.4
5 to 9 years	78.9	79.7	78.5	71.7
10 to 14 years	83.4	79.0	78.6	73.9
15 to 19 years	83.1	85.2	83.1	77.7
Kitikmeot				
0 to 4 years	27.6	25.2	23.5	16.8
5 to 9 years	26.5	24.8	24.4	15.8
10 to 14 years	31.6	27.6	29.7	15.0
15 to 19 years	34.8	30.8	32.7	19.6

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Table 2.6 also shows losses among children cohorts.²⁵ For example, in 2006, 76.4% of Inuit children aged 0 to 4 years had Inuktitut as their mother tongue. In 2011, 70.6% of this same cohort of children, by then aged 5 to 9 years, had Inuktitut as their mother tongue. In 2016, 68.2% of Inuit children aged 10 to 14 years had Inuktitut as their mother tongue. These losses are likely due in large part to the fact that, according to the census, a mother tongue is not only the first language learned in childhood, but must also still be understood at the time of the census.

Beyond these trends, however, what emerges from Table 2.6 is the significant regional disparities in transmission of mother tongue to the children. In the Qikiqtaaluk region excluding Iqaluit, in 2016, over 95% of Inuit children had Inuktitut as their mother tongue in each of the age groups, up from 2011. By contrast, in the Kitikmeot region, the proportion of children with Inuktitut as their mother tongue—much lower initially—decreased significantly between 2011 and 2016 in each of the age groups. In the Kitikmeot region in 2016, 16.8% of Inuit children aged 0 to 4 years, 15.8% of children aged 5 to 9 years and 15.0% of children aged 10 to 14 years had Inuktitut as their mother tongue.

2.4 Language continuity index

How do these factors affect the vitality of Inuktitut? A language's vitality can be synthetically calculated through a language continuity index (LCI). "This index is the ratio of the number of persons with a given home language to the number with the corresponding mother tongue." (Lachapelle and Henripin, 1980, p. 122). This index is generally calculated using the main home language, i.e. the language spoken most often at home. In a context like Nunavut's, where several languages come into contact, this index shows which language or languages benefit

25. These are synthetic cohorts, but the cohorts of Inuit children in Nunavut are usually fairly stable.

or suffer from these contacts. When the index is greater than 1 for a given language, this means that people who have this language as their home language outnumber those who have it as their mother tongue. In other words, this language attracts non-native speakers. By contrast, an index below 1 indicates a loss of native speakers. In a way, the index presents the balance of gains and losses for a given language.

Table 2.7 shows that in Nunavut, the language continuity index (LCI) for English is greater than 1, and that it is systematically higher than the index for Inuktitut, which is below 1. Inuktitut's LCI fell between 2001 and 2011, but during the 2011 to 2016 period, it increased in Nunavut as a whole (0.79 in 2016 compared with 0.76 in 2011), in the Qikiqtaaluk region (0.88 in 2016 compared with 0.86 in 2011) and in the Kitikmeot region (0.34 in 2016 compared with 0.30 in 2011), while holding steady in the Kivalliq region (0.74 in 2011 and in 2016). Likewise, the English LCI increased between 2001 and 2011, and decreased slightly between 2011 and 2016.

Table 2.7
Language continuity index of Inuktitut and English, selected communities, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016
	percent			
Language continuity index - Inuktitut				
Nunavut	0.81	0.77	0.76	0.79
Qikiqtaaluk	0.89	0.87	0.86	0.88
Iqaluit	0.67	0.61	0.61	0.57
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	0.96	0.95	0.94	0.98
Kivalliq	0.80	0.76	0.74	0.74
Kitikmeot	0.40	0.32	0.30	0.34
Language continuity index - English				
Nunavut	1.51	1.66	1.61	1.47
Qikiqtaaluk	1.48	1.57	1.57	1.46
Iqaluit	1.47	1.52	1.49	1.49
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	1.53	1.76	1.95	1.29
Kivalliq	1.57	2.06	2.00	1.76
Kitikmeot	1.51	1.53	1.44	1.30

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

This index must be interpreted with caution, however, because it can be particularly sensitive to changes affecting the denominator (in this case, people whose mother tongue is Inuktitut or English). Thus, a smaller transmission of Inuktitut as mother tongue may generate an increase in Inuktitut LCI. Similarly, increased transmission of English as mother tongue, or significant in-migration of English-mother-tongue people in a given community or region, may cause a decline in the English LCI, despite the language's stronger presence.

Moreover, the language continuity index considers only the language spoken most often at home, irrespective of secondary use of languages at home. By rounding out the LCI calculation to include everyone who speaks Inuktitut at home at least on a regular basis, either as their home language or as a secondary language, we obtain a new index, which we will call LCI+, that takes into account the fact that people who speak Inuktitut at home outnumber those for whom Inuktitut is their mother tongue. Thus, the LCI+ of Inuktitut for all of Nunavut was 1.13 in 2016. However, a similar calculation shows that the English LCI+ in Nunavut was 2.29 in 2016, despite the fact that the number of people speaking Inuktitut at home (26,270) is nearly identical to the number who speak English at home (26,775). The difference is due to the gap in the denominator: Inuktitut-mother-tongue individuals (23,225) far outnumbered English-mother-tongue individuals (11,690) in Nunavut in 2016.

Thus, it may be wiser to calculate various indexes on the basis of the Inuit identity population. Table 2.8 presents indexes of the transmission, the use at home and the knowledge of Inuktitut that are calculated by viewing the Inuit population in relation to, respectively, the Inuktitut-mother-tongue population, the Inuit-language-of-use population (spoken most often or regularly) and the population able to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut. In each case, these indexes could have been greater than 1, since Inuktitut can be the mother tongue or language of use at home, or a conversation can be conducted in Inuktitut without the person belonging to the Inuit identity population. In other words, these indexes take into account both "gains" and "losses".²⁶ Although some indexes are equal to 1, in no case do they exceed this threshold.

26. "Gains" or "losses" are calculated based on the assumption that identity-defining membership in the Inuit group goes with the transmission, use and knowledge of the Inuit language. Accordingly, Inuit identity without the Inuit language amounts to a "loss," while the presence of the Inuit language without the Inuit identity represents a "gain" for the Inuit group.

Table 2.8
Index of transmission, home use and knowledge of Inuktitut, 2016

	Transmission index	Home use index value	Knowledge index
Nunavut	0.769	0.870	0.905
Qikiqtaaluk	0.910	0.950	0.976
Iqaluit	0.742	0.829	0.905
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	0.978	0.999	1.005
Sanikiluaq	0.964	1.012	1.018
Kimmirut	0.958	1.000	1.014
Cape Dorset	0.989	1.007	1.011
Pangnirtung	0.986	0.993	0.996
Qikiqtarjuaq	1.000	1.009	1.009
Hall Beach	0.994	1.000	1.006
Igloodik	0.965	0.994	0.997
Clyde River	0.995	1.005	1.010
Arctic Bay	0.976	0.994	1.000
Pond Inlet	0.990	1.017	1.023
Resolute Bay	0.818	0.879	0.970
Grise Fiord	0.833	0.917	0.958
Kivalliq	0.803	0.939	0.964
Coral Harbour	0.930	0.994	1.000
Arviat	0.968	0.994	1.002
Whale Cove	0.902	0.951	0.951
Rankin Inlet	0.739	0.914	0.967
Chesterfield Inlet	0.872	0.962	0.974
Baker Lake	0.484	0.833	0.878
Nauyasat	0.966	1.000	1.005
Kitikmeot	0.360	0.558	0.632
Kugaaruk	0.472	0.736	0.775
Kugluktuk	0.263	0.474	0.567
Cambridge Bay	0.244	0.289	0.404
Gjoa Haven	0.426	0.717	0.753
Taloyoak	0.474	0.704	0.755

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

The transmission, use and knowledge of English among the Inuit population can be measured in a similar way.²⁷ However, for purposes of comparison with Inuktitut, the indexes shown above must be recalculated using only the Inuit population.²⁸ The relative importance of Inuktitut can thus be compared with that of the English language within the Inuit population, either as a mother tongue or as a home language. It will also be possible to compare the ability to hold a conversation in any of these languages.

Table 2.9²⁹ shows that the ability to conduct a conversation in English (93.2%) is greater than the ability to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut (89.0%) within the Inuit population, despite the fact that a larger share of the Inuit population has Inuktitut as their mother tongue (76.6%, compared with 25.4% for English) or as their home language (86.0%, compared with 71.9% for English).³⁰

27. The indexes cannot be calculated in the same way, however. Those listed in Table 2.8 are noteworthy because the Inuit language is directly associated with Inuit identity. For a proper comparison with English, a comparable index would need to be used as a denominator, such as "English identity," which is not covered in the Census of Canada.

28. In so doing, "gains" are no longer taken into account, which is to say that non-Inuit who have Inuktitut as their mother tongue or home language, or who can conduct a conversation in this language, are no longer included. Making the same calculations while keeping the Inuit-identity population as the denominator and using the data on English in the numerator would produce inconsistent results from an analytical standpoint.

29. The results in Table 2.9 are not indexes, but rather percentages based on the total Inuit population.

30. The sum of the proportions for each index exceeds 100% because in each case, more than one response is accepted: one can know several languages, speak more than one language at home and have more than one mother tongue, although the latter situation is generally rarer.

Table 2.9
Proportion of the Inuit population who reported Inuktitut or English as their mother tongue, home language or a language they knew, Nunavut, 2016

	Inuktitut language			English		
	Mother tongue	Home language	Knowledge of the language	Mother tongue	Home language	Knowledge of the language
	percent					
Nunavut	76.6	86.0	89.0	25.4	71.9	93.2
Qikiqtaaluk	90.5	93.6	95.6	10.6	59.4	90.6
Iqaluit	73.3	79.9	85.8	29.0	88.1	98.0
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	97.5	99.2	99.6	3.2	47.9	87.6
Sanikiluaq	96.4	100.0	100.0	4.2	69.6	95.8
Kimmirut	97.2	100.0	100.0	2.8	59.7	87.5
Cape Dorset	98.1	99.6	100.0	2.2	54.3	91.1
Pangnirtung	98.6	98.9	99.3	3.2	32.7	85.3
Qikiqtarjuaq	100.9	100.9	100.0	0.0	23.2	87.5
Hall Beach	98.8	100.0	100.0	1.8	49.1	84.0
Igloodik	96.5	99.1	99.1	3.8	42.1	83.5
Clyde River	98.5	100.0	100.0	1.5	36.3	81.9
Arctic Bay	98.2	99.4	99.4	2.4	49.4	86.1
Pond Inlet	98.3	99.7	100.0	3.0	53.5	91.4
Resolute Bay	81.8	87.9	97.0	24.2	90.9	100.0
Grise Fiord	83.3	91.7	95.8	16.7	87.5	100.0
Kivalliq	80.1	93.0	95.1	22.5	76.5	94.0
Coral Harbour	92.4	98.8	99.4	8.1	94.2	97.1
Arviat	96.8	98.8	99.4	4.4	31.0	82.7
Whale Cove	90.2	95.1	93.9	9.8	93.9	100.0
Rankin Inlet	73.5	89.5	93.6	34.4	91.7	98.9
Chesterfield Inlet	85.9	94.9	96.2	20.5	98.7	98.7
Baker Lake	47.9	82.5	87.0	52.4	95.5	97.4
Nauyasat	96.6	99.5	100.5	3.4	89.8	98.1
Kitikmeot	35.8	55.5	62.6	67.1	96.0	98.8
Kugaaruk	47.2	73.6	77.5	55.1	91.0	98.3
Kugluktuk	26.3	47.0	56.3	77.8	95.9	99.6
Cambridge Bay	24.0	28.6	39.7	76.3	97.9	99.0
Gjoa Haven	42.2	70.9	74.9	63.3	96.8	98.0
Taloyoak	47.4	70.4	75.5	54.6	96.4	98.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

All these indexes and proportions provide an overview of the vitality of Inuktitut in Nunavut. It is difficult, however, to put these indicators into perspective, given the uniqueness of the language situation in Nunavut. To that end, the comparison with English is insufficient. What is more, the proposed indexes do not allow us to grasp the relative significance of the various factors that encourage or discourage linguistic vitality, such as the transmission of a mother tongue and language transfers

2.5 Devitalization factors

One way to take account of the various factors that can encourage or discourage linguistic vitality is to weigh each according to a common denominator, in this case the Inuit identity population. The first indicator of linguistic vitality is transmission of Inuktitut as mother tongue to people with an Inuit identity. Since 23.4% of the Inuit population do not have Inuktitut as their mother tongue (see Table 2.10), non-transmission of Inuktitut as mother tongue is a factor that negatively affects linguistic vitality (-23.4 percentage points).³¹

31. The “weight” of the factors is calculated using only the number of people who either have or do not have certain linguistic characteristics that favour the vitality of Inuktitut. However, the relative importance of these factors to the language’s vitality is not taken into account; rather, they are considered as equal. The same weight is thus given to a person whose mother tongue or main home language is Inuktitut and to a person who can have a conversation in Inuktitut but who does not speak the language regularly at home. While it is reasonable to assume that using Inuktitut predominantly at home is more favourable to its vitality than using it as a secondary language, the exact weighting of the relative importance of the various factors—and combinations of these factors—is fairly subjective.

Table 2.10
Devitalizing factors for Inuktitut and mitigating factors, Nunavut, 2016

	Number	Percentage points
Devitalization factors (Inuit population)		
Non-transmission of mother tongue	-7,075	-23.4
Complete language transfers	-630	-2.1
Total losses	-7,705	-25.5
Mitigating factors (Inuit population)		
Knowledge of mother tongue without using it at home	475	1.6
Use of Inuktitut at home among Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	3,445	11.4
Main use	525	1.7
Secondary use	2,920	9.7
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	450	1.5
Total mitigating factors (Inuit population)	4,370	14.5
Mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)		
Transmission of Inuit mother tongue to non-Inuit	105	0.3
Use of Inuktitut at home among non-Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	225	0.7
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	130	0.4
Total mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)	460	1.5
Sum of mitigating factors	4,830	16.0
Sum of devitalization factors and mitigating factors	-2,875	-9.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

A second factor consists of complete language transfers, i.e. when someone does not speak their mother tongue at all in the home. In Nunavut in 2016, there were 630 Inuit with Inuktitut as their mother tongue who never spoke their mother tongue at home, or 2.1% of the Inuit population (negative factor of 2.1 percentage points).

When we add non-transmission of mother tongue and full language transfers, linguistic devitalization factors total -25.5 percentage points, or just over a quarter of Nunavut's Inuit population.

However, consideration can be given to a number of mitigating factors which promote linguistic vitality. For example, a complete language transfer can result from a linguistic exogamy situation where the mother tongue has not necessarily been completely abandoned in all spheres of life. Of the 630 Inuit who have made a complete language transfer, 475 can still conduct a conversation in Inuktitut. This amounts to +1.6 percentage points. In addition, 3,445 Inuit use Inuktitut at home despite it not being their mother tongue. These language transfers towards Inuktitut, even partial ones, are a positive factor for linguistic vitality equalling +11.4 percentage points, even though most of these people use Inuktitut as a secondary language.

Furthermore, 450 Inuit learned Inuktitut as a second language,³² but did not use it regularly at home. These second-language speakers also contribute to the vitality of Inuktitut (+1.5 percentage points), since they can use this language outside the home.

Taken together, these factors mitigate the effect of the negative factors by 14.5 percentage points.

Other mitigating factors can also be taken into account; namely the transmission, use and acquisition of Inuktitut among non-Inuit. In all, 105 non-Inuit report Inuktitut as their mother tongue (+0.3 percentage points), 225 non-Inuit speak Inuktitut at home (+0.7 percentage points) and 130 non-Inuit are second-language speakers without speaking Inuktitut at home or having it as their mother tongue (+0.4 percentage points). In all, non-Inuit make a +1.5 percentage-point contribution to the vitality of Inuktitut.

When the negative factors (-25.5 percentage points) and the mitigating factors (+16.0 percentage points) are combined, the net effect is -9.5 percentage points.

This approach is based on the number of people who report Inuktitut as their mother tongue or home language, or who can conduct a conversation in the language. This is how it provides an indication of vitality. However, it ascribes equal weight to someone who knows Inuktitut as a second language without speaking it at home, and to

32. A second language refers to the ability to conduct a conversation in a language that is not the person's mother tongue.

someone who reports Inuktitut as their mother tongue and home language. In other words, there is no weighting of Inuktitut's significance in people's daily lives.³³

This indicator does, however, show changes in linguistic vitality and measure the relative significance of the various factors, as well as their evolution. Table 2.11 shows that overall, the net effect of the factors went from -6.5 percentage points in 2001 to -9.5 percentage points in 2016. Judging by this indicator, Inuktitut was less vital in 2016 than it was in 2001. The various factors evolved differently over this period, however. Non-transmission of mother tongue, which is the main devitalization factor for Inuktitut, saw an increase in its negative effect between 2001 (-15.7 percentage points) and 2016 (-23.4 percentage points). Conversely, the negative effect of complete language transfers lessened, from -4.3 percentage points in 2001 to -2.1 percentage points in 2016. On the whole, losses increased by nearly 6 percentage points over this period.

Table 2.11
Devitalizing factors for Inuktitut and mitigating factors, Nunavut, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016
	percentage points			
Devitalization factors (Inuit population)				
Non-transmission of mother tongue	-15.7	-17.1	-19.8	-23.4
Complete language transfers	-4.3	-4.7	-3.9	-2.1
Total losses	-20.0	-21.8	-23.8	-25.5
Mitigating factors (Inuit population)				
Knowledge of mother tongue without using it at home	3.9	4.2	3.3	1.6
Use of Inuktitut at home among Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	5.5	6.2	8.5	11.4
Main use	1.8	1.3	2.0	1.7
Secondary use	5.5	5.8	7.4	9.7
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	2.6	2.4	1.7	1.5
Total mitigating factors (Inuit population)	12.0	12.8	13.5	14.5
Mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)				
Transmission of Inuit mother tongue to non-Inuit	0.0	1.2	0.5	0.3
Use of Inuktitut at home among non-Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7
Secondary speakers	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4
Total mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)	1.5	2.4	1.6	1.5
Sum of mitigating factors	13.5	15.2	15.0	16.0
Sum of devitalization factors and mitigating factors	-6.5	-6.6	-8.7	-9.5

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Of the mitigating factors, use of Inuktitut at home by Inuit who do not report it as their mother tongue is on the rise (11.4 percentage points in 2016 compared with 5.5 percentage points in 2001). It should be noted, however, that this growth is aided by non-transmission of mother tongue, as more and more Inuit do not have Inuktitut as their mother tongue.

Table 2.11 also shows that the contribution of non-Inuit to the vitality of Inuktitut is fairly stable from one census to the next, and that it is relatively low in comparison with the other factors.

In short, non-transmission of mother tongue seems to be the main loss-of-vitality factor for Inuktitut, and it is growing.

The factors related to vitality and loss of vitality described above do not cover all the opportunities or contexts in which Inuktitut is used, such as at work or in the public arena, but without it being a main or secondary language at home. The next section will address this topic.

33. While it is reasonable to assume that using Inuktitut predominantly at home is more favourable to the language's vitality than using it as a secondary language, the exact weighting of the relative importance of the various factors—and combinations of factors—is fairly subjective. Mary Jane Norris (2007, p. 21-22) states that "learning an Aboriginal language as a second language cannot be considered a substitute for learning it as a first language. Nevertheless, increasing the number of second language speakers is part of the process of language revitalization, and may go some way towards preventing, or at least slowing, the rapid erosion and possible extinction of endangered languages." While this approach is not perfect, it is still useful to compare the different factors based on their demographic weight.

3. Languages used at work

In this report, language used in public is measured using data on the languages used by workers. Like the ability to conduct a conversation in a language and the language spoken at home, the use of a language at work hinges on the context. It first depends on the person's job, and as a result, can vary over a lifetime. Certain work environments are conducive to using and learning more than one language, while others require little in the way of language skills.

According to the 2016 Census, there were 17,000 people aged 15 or older in Nunavut who were employed between January 1, 2015 and May 7, 2016, and 94.7% of these workers (16,105) used English at work regularly, either as a main or secondary language.³⁴ Still, 60.7% of Nunavut workers (10,315) reported using Inuktitut at work. According to 2016 Census data, Inuktitut was the main work language for 27.9% of workers in Nunavut. Nearly all workers in Nunavut used Inuktitut, English or both at work. A majority of workers in the territory (55.6%) used both languages at work.³⁵

Some workers—the vast majority of which are non-Inuit (86.0%)—used French at work in 2016, almost always together with English, Inuktitut or both. The 500 workers who used French at work represented 2.9% of Nunavut workers. Of these, 415 used French as their secondary language of work, mainly combined with English.

Most workers in Nunavut used more than one language at work. In 2001, 56.8% of Nunavut workers reported more than one language of work. This proportion fell in 2006 (55.3%) and again in 2011 (53.5%), but this downward trend was reversed in 2016, with 58.4% of Nunavut workers using more than one language at work. These proportions are well above what we see at the national level: by comparison, 15.4% of Canadian workers used more than one language at work in 2016.

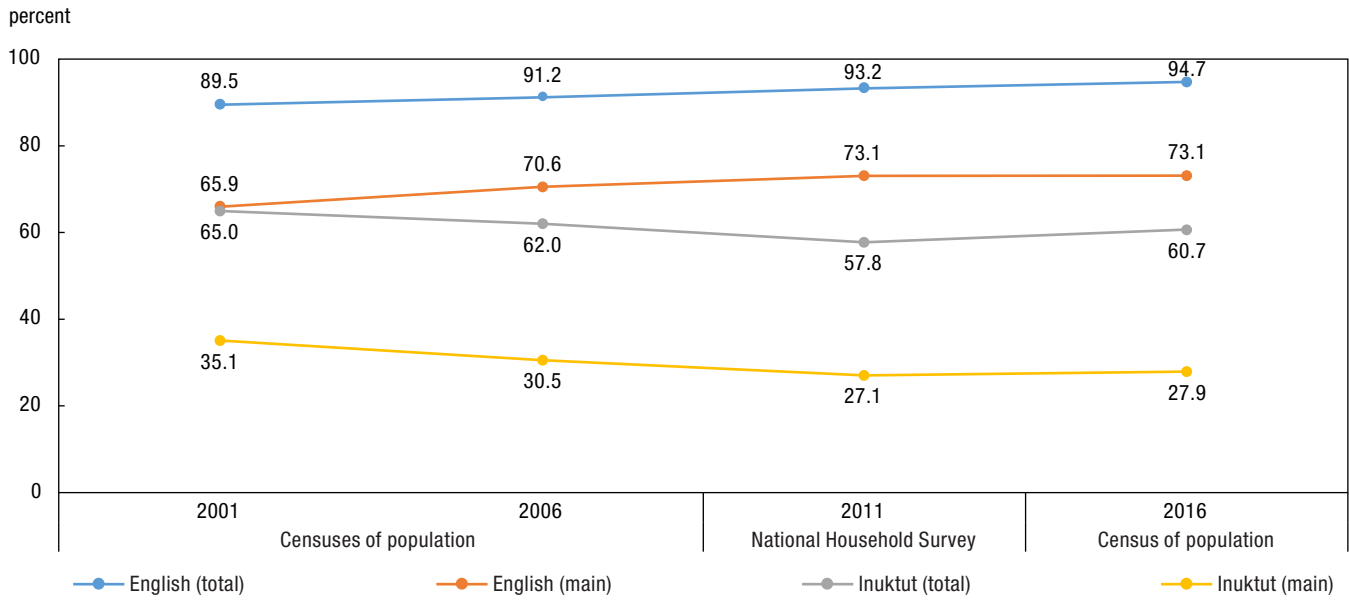
This rebound observed between 2011 and 2016 is most likely the result of a change in the use of Inuktitut by Inuit workers. The main trends showed an increase in the use of English and a decline in the use of Inuktitut at work between 2001 and 2011. While the use of English continues to grow, the presence of Inuktitut rebounded in 2016.

Chart 3.1 illustrates these trends well. First, it shows the steady rise in the use of English at work. Used by 89.5% of Nunavut workers in 2001, English has steadily risen from one census to the next, totalling 94.7% in 2016. However, the proportion of workers who used English as their main language at work remained the same in 2011 and in 2016 (73.1%), though it had risen from 2001 to 2011. This means that the growth of English as a language of work in Nunavut between 2011 and 2016 was mainly due to its rise as a secondary language of work.

34. The main language of work refers to the language respondents reported using the most often in the workplace. This includes all responses, including multiple responses, to part A of the question on the language of work, which asks about the language used most often at work. The statistics on the main language therefore include mentions of this language when used equally with another language. Secondary work language refers to a language reported in part B of the question on mother tongue, which includes the other languages used on a regular basis at work in addition to the main language. See Appendix F for statistics per regions and communities.

35. This proportion includes all combinations of Inuktitut and English as work languages (equal use; Inuktitut as the main language and English as the secondary language; and English as the main language and Inuktitut as the secondary language). It also includes workers who used Inuktitut and English at work along with other languages.

Chart 3.1
Proportion of workers who use Inuktitut or English at work, as main language or at least on a regular basis (total), Nunavut, 2001 to 2016

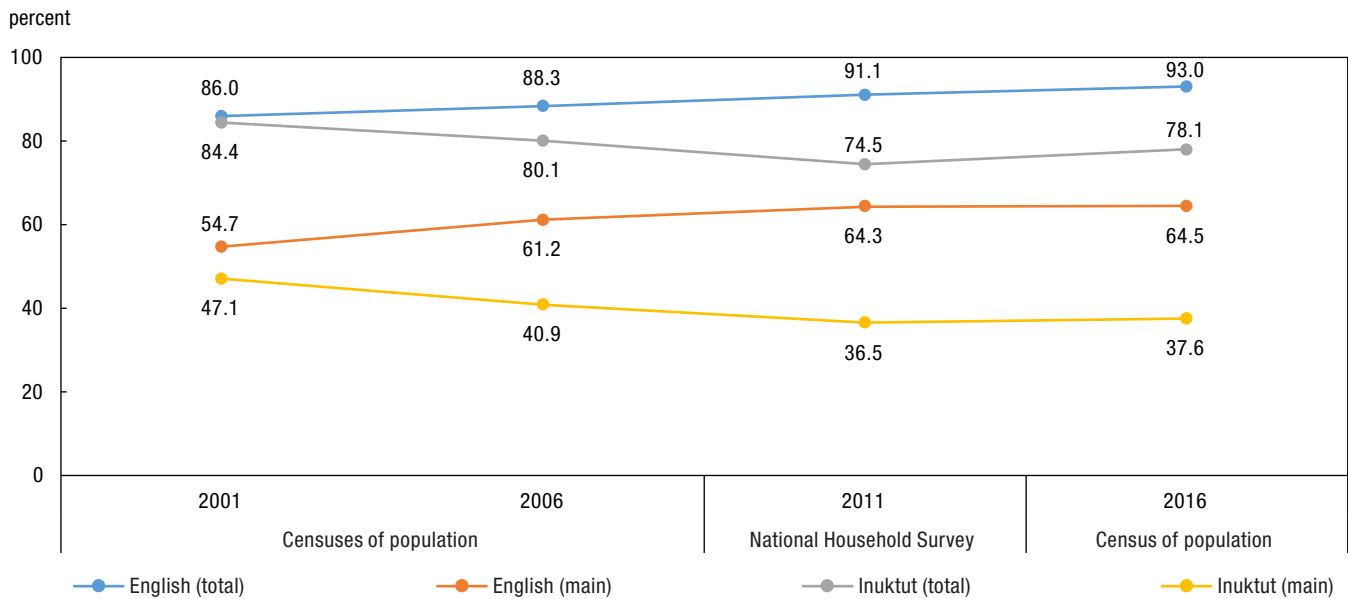


Source: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

While 65.0% of Nunavut workers used Inuktitut at work in 2001, only 57.8% did so in 2011, a decline of 7.2 percentage points over a 10-year period. An even larger decrease occurred for workers who use Inuktitut as their main language of work: 35.1% of Nunavut workers had Inuktitut as their main language of work in 2001, compared with 27.1% in 2011, a drop of 8.0 percentage points. In both cases, this downward trend was reversed between 2011 and 2016: 60.7% of workers used Inuktitut in 2016, and 27.9% used it as their main language of work.

It does not appear that these variations in the use of Inuktitut at work are due to a shift in the number of Inuit on the labour market. The proportion of Inuit among Nunavut workers has remained fairly stable across the various censuses: 74.1% in 2001, 73.8% in 2006 and 2011, and 74.0% in 2016. Moreover, similar trends occur when only Inuit workers are considered (Chart 3.2). The proportion of Inuit workers who use Inuktitut at work fell nearly 10 percentage points between 2001 (84.4%) and 2011 (74.5%). In 2016, 78.1% of Inuit workers reported using Inuktitut at work, up 3.6 percentage points from 2011.

Chart 3.2
Proportion on Inuit workers who use Inuktitut or English at work, as a main language or at least on a regular basis (total) Nunavut, 2001 to 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Practically all non-Inuit workers used English at work. Specifically, 99.3% of non-Inuit workers in Nunavut used English at work in 2016, a proportion that has varied very little from one census to the next. However, 11.3% of non-Inuit workers did use Inuktitut at work in 2016. This proportion has grown slightly, if steadily, since 2001 (9.2%).

3.1 Use of Inuktitut and English at work in the communities³⁶

In nearly all of Nunavut's communities, most workers used both Inuktitut and English at work (Table 3.1), except for three communities: Cambridge Bay (18.3%), Kugluktuk (22.6%) and Iqaluit (36.3%). In each of these communities, almost all workers used English. In fact, workers in these communities were the least likely to use Inuktitut at work.

36. See Community profiles (Part B) for data by Inuit Identity

Table 3.1
Workers who use Inuktitut and/or English at work, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2016

Region and community	Total number of workers ¹	Language used at work					
		Inuktitut		English		Inuktitut and English	
		number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Nunavut	17,000	10,315	60.7	16,105	94.7	9,450	55.6
Qikiqtaaluk	9,395	5,765	61.4	8,745	93.1	5,140	54.7
Iqaluit	4,830	1,815	37.6	4,750	98.3	1,755	36.3
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	4,560	3,960	86.8	3,985	87.4	3,390	74.3
Sanikiluaq	290	260	89.7	275	94.8	235	81.0
Kimmirut	170	150	88.2	165	97.1	145	85.3
Cape Dorset	555	480	86.5	495	89.2	420	75.7
Pangnirtung	665	595	89.5	555	83.5	480	72.2
Qikiqtarjuaq	265	215	81.1	190	71.7	145	54.7
Hall Beach	330	295	89.4	300	90.9	265	80.3
Igloodik	650	545	83.8	590	90.8	490	75.4
Clyde River	395	370	93.7	320	81.0	295	74.7
Arctic Bay	330	275	83.3	285	86.4	230	69.7
Pond Inlet	700	640	91.4	630	90.0	570	81.4
Resolute Bay	105	85	81.0	105	100.0	75	71.4
Grise Fiord	85	65	76.5	80	94.1	60	70.6
Kivalliq	4,705	3,475	73.9	4,480	95.2	3,265	69.4
Coral Harbour	365	315	86.3	350	95.9	300	82.2
Arviat	1,000	870	87.0	880	88.0	725	72.5
Whale Cove	190	160	84.2	185	97.4	150	78.9
Rankin Inlet	1,625	1,045	64.3	1,585	97.5	1,015	62.5
Chesterfield Inlet	225	195	86.7	225	100.0	195	86.7
Baker Lake	960	620	64.6	940	97.9	605	63.0
Nauyasat	335	280	83.6	320	95.5	270	80.6
Kitikmeot	2,900	1,080	37.2	2,865	98.8	1,050	36.2
Kugaaruk	350	235	67.1	340	97.1	225	64.3
Kugluktuk	685	155	22.6	675	98.5	155	22.6
Cambridge Bay	1,010	185	18.3	1,015	100.0	185	18.3
Gjoa Haven	490	285	58.2	475	96.9	275	56.1
Taloyoak	365	210	57.5	360	98.6	210	57.5

1. This is the total number of workers. The sum of the languages in this table exceeds the total number of workers because a person can report more than one language in the census.

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

In all the communities of the Qikiqtaaluk region, except Iqaluit (37.6%), more than 8 in 10 workers used Inuktitut at work in 2016. In Clyde River (93.7%) and Pond Inlet (91.4%), this proportion exceeded 90.0%.

In most communities of the Kivalliq region, Inuktitut was also used at work by more than 8 in 10 workers. The proportion of workers using Inuktitut was lower in Rankin Inlet (64.3%) and Baker Lake (64.6%) in 2016.

Workers were much less likely to use Inuktitut at work in the Kitikmeot region (37.2%). In 2016, close to 60% of workers used Inuktitut at work in Gjoa Haven (58.2%) and Taloyoak (57.5%), and the proportion was even higher in Kugaaruk (67.1%). However, far fewer workers used Inuktitut in Cambridge Bay (18.3%) and Kugluktuk (22.6%), two communities which accounted for nearly 60.0% of the workers in the Kitikmeot region.

4. Other languages spoken in Nunavut

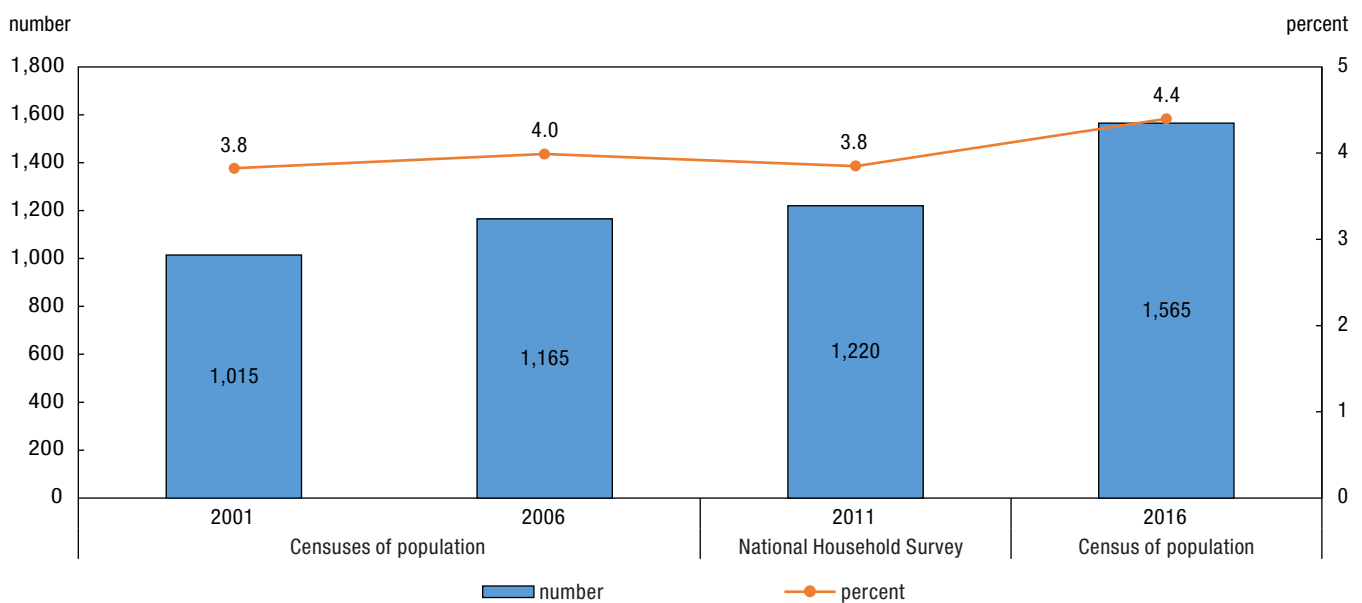
There are languages other than Inuktitut and English in Nunavut's linguistic landscape. This section gives an overview of the population who speaks French or an immigrant language.³⁷

4.1 Portrait of French use in Nunavut

In 2016, 1,565 people were able to conduct a conversation in French in Nunavut, up 550 (+54.2%) from 2001 (1,015 people). This represented 4.4% of the Nunavut population in 2016, compared with 3.8% in 2001. The trends in the Nunavut population's ability to conduct a conversation in French are similar to those observed for knowledge of English (section 1.2.1), but to a lesser extent (Chart 4.1).

Chart 4.1

Population able to conduct a conversation in French and its proportion of the Nunavut population, 2001 to 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

In 2016, 630 people reported French as their mother tongue, and 625 people used French at home on at least a regular basis in Nunavut, representing 1.8% of the population. In all, 455 people reported French as their mother tongue and language of use at home. This means that 175 people whose mother tongue is French do not speak French at home, and that 170 people whose mother tongue is not French use this language at least on a regular basis at home. The vast majority of the latter group (155 people) have English as their mother tongue.

The proportions of the population who speak French at home were 5.5% in Yukon and 4.0% in the Northwest Territories. Among the provinces, Quebec had the highest proportion of people who use French at least on a regular basis at home (87.0%), followed by New Brunswick (33.2%).

Of the 625 people who use French at home in Nunavut, a strong majority (500) live in Iqaluit (80.0%). In relation to Nunavut's total population, the rate of geographic concentration is very high; only 21.3% of Nunavut's total population was living in Iqaluit in 2016 (Table 4.1). There has been a francophone community in Iqaluit for several years, which accounts for this higher concentration of French speakers. As a result, a number of francophone organizations and services have been created, such as a Franco-Nunavut association, a school and a daycare centre offering programs in French, as well as a community radio station and newspaper.

³⁷ In 2016, only 10 people reported using a non-Inuit Aboriginal language in Nunavut. Given its small size, it is not feasible to profile this group in this section.

Table 4.1

Distribution of the total population, the population who speaks French at home at least on a regular basis, and the population who speaks an immigrant language at home at least on a regular basis, by region, Nunavut, 2016

Region	Total population		Language spoken at least on a regular basis at home			
			French		Immigrant languages	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
Nunavut	35,580	100.0	625	100.0	765	100.0
Qikiqtaaluk	18,805	52.9	550	88.0	525	68.6
Iqaluit	7,590	21.3	500	80.0	445	58.2
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	11,215	31.5	50	8.0	70	9.2
Kivalliq	10,290	28.9	50	8.0	185	24.2
Kitikmeot	6,490	18.2	25	4.0	60	7.8

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

4.2 Immigrant languages

Immigrant languages include all languages other than English, French, Inuktitut or the other Aboriginal languages.³⁸ In 2016, 765 people reported an immigrant mother tongue, and the same number used an immigrant language at least on a regular basis at home in Nunavut, or 2.2% of the population.³⁹ In contrast, 21.2% of the Canadian population spoke an immigrant language at home, compared with about 27% in Ontario and British Columbia, and over 40% in the Vancouver and Toronto census metropolitan areas.

In Nunavut, approximately 85% of residents who speak an immigrant language at home do so alongside another language. In almost all cases, the other language is English. In nearly 60% of cases, the immigrant language is not the main language of use.

Tagalog was the immigrant language spoken most often at home in Nunavut (175 people, or 0.5% of the total population), reflecting international immigration from the Philippines.⁴⁰ This was followed by Spanish (60 speakers).

In 2016, 58.2% of those who spoke an immigrant language were living in Iqaluit, compared with 21.3% of Nunavut's total population (Table 4.1).

4.3 Profile by age and Inuit identity

Compared with people who spoke Inuktitut at home, people who spoke French or an immigrant language were older on average. This is because international immigrants, who are most likely to speak a language other than English, French or Inuktitut, generally come to Canada as adults. Furthermore, many of those who speak French were not born in Nunavut and arrived in the province as adults to work. Lastly, the lower fertility of non-Inuit is a contributing factor to the older average age of residents who speak French or an immigrant language.

Consequently, while 52.4% of people who spoke Inuktitut at home were under 25 years old, this was the case for 30.4% of French home speakers and 24.8% of those who spoke an immigrant language (Table 4.2).

38. Specifically, immigrant languages refer to languages whose presence was initially due to immigration which occurred after English and French colonization in America. This category excludes sign languages.

39. Despite their identical number, people with an immigrant mother tongue do not necessarily speak an immigrant language at home, and not all people who speak an immigrant language at home have an immigrant mother tongue. In fact, 570 people reported an immigrant language both as their mother tongue and as their language of use at home.

40. This is the main birthplace of the immigrants who were living in Nunavut in 2016 (180 people, followed by the United States, with 45 people).

Table 4.2
Distribution of the population by language spoken at least on a regular basis at home, Nunavut, 2016

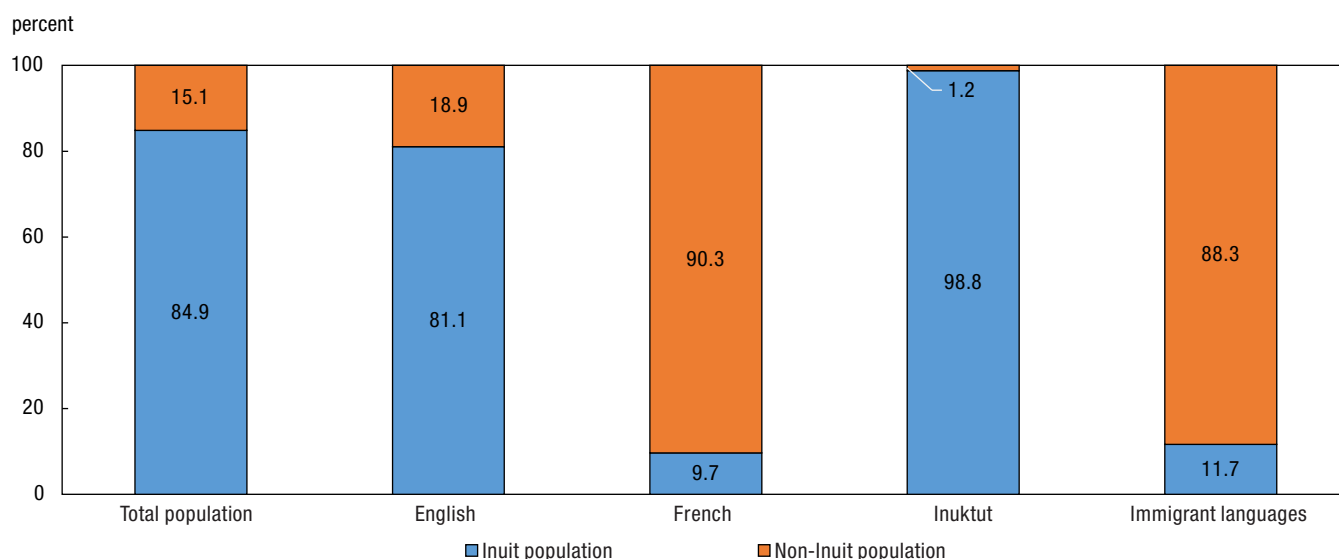
Age group	Total population	Language spoken at least on a regular basis at home			
		English	French	Inuktitut	Immigrant languages
		percent			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 to 24 years	50.0	48.9	30.4	52.4	24.8
0 to 14 years	32.7	31.6	22.4	34.3	16.3
15 to 24 years	17.2	17.4	8.0	18.1	8.5
25 to 54 years	39.7	41.7	53.6	37.7	59.5
55 years and older	10.3	9.3	15.2	9.9	16.3

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

The vast majority of people who speak French (90.3%) or an immigrant language (88.3%) at home were non-Inuit (Chart 4.2). In 2016, a small number of Inuit (60 people) reported speaking French at least on a regular basis at home (Table 4.3). Just under 100 Inuit spoke an immigrant language at home.

Chart 4.2
Percentage distribution of the population by language spoken at least on a regular basis at home, by inuit identity, Nunavut 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

However, almost everyone who spoke Inuktitut at least on a regular basis at home was Inuit (98.8%) in 2016 (Chart 4.2). Just over 300 non-Inuit spoke Inuktitut at home (Table 4.3), mainly as a secondary language.

Table 4.3
Distribution of the total population by language spoken at least on a regular basis at home, by inuit identity, Nunavut, 2016

Age group	Total population	Language spoken at least on a regular basis at home			
		English	French	Inuktitut	Immigrant languages
		number			
Total population ¹	35,580	26,775	625	26,270	765
Inuit population	30,190	21,715	60	25,955	90
Non-Inuit population	5,390	5,065	560	315	680

1. This is the total population. The sum of the languages in this table exceeds the total population because a person can report more than one language in the census.

Note: See "Random rounding and percentage distributions" and the definitions in Text box 1.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

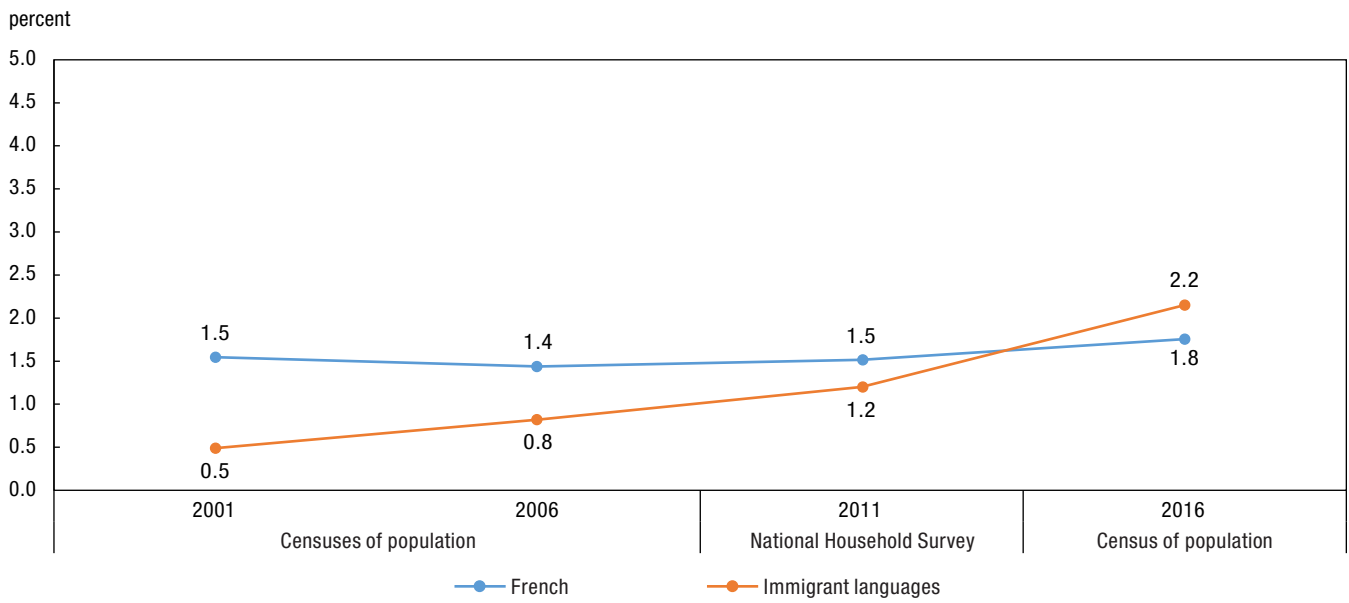
4.4 Evolution of the use of French and immigrant languages, 2001 to 2016

Given the low numbers, caution must be exercised when interpreting trends over time in the use of French and immigrant languages at home. Nevertheless, since 2001, there has been a significant increase in the use of immigrant languages in Nunavut, and French has remained fairly stable. Furthermore, there has been a more than four-fold increase in the proportion of the Nunavut population speaking an immigrant language at home. This number rose from 0.5% in 2001 to 2.2% in 2016 (Chart 4.3)

Conversely, the percentage of the population who spoke French at home remained more or less the same between 2001 and 2016 (Chart 4.3). French is the main language used at home for most people who speak this language at home at least on a regular basis, while immigrant languages have more of a secondary role at home.

At first glance, the proportion of the population speaking an immigrant language at home seems to have topped the proportion who used French at home in 2016. However, this comparison is inaccurate because immigrant languages comprise many different languages. In 2016, more than 45 immigrant languages were reported as being used at home in Nunavut, and most had a small number of speakers.

Chart 4.3
Proportion of the total population who speaks French or an immigrant language at least on a regular basis at home, Nunavut, 2001 to 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

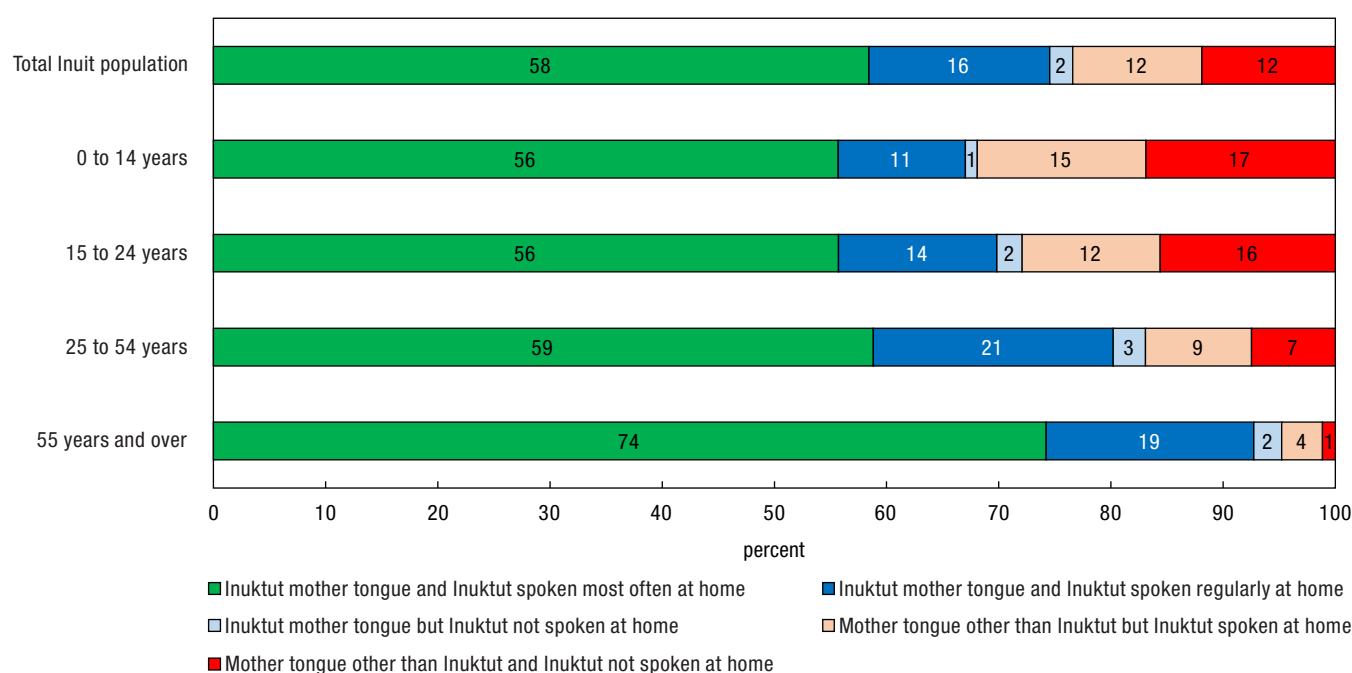
5. Profile by region and community

Nunavut

Table 5.1
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Nunavut, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	26,530	29,200	31,695	35,580	34.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	20,950	22,900	24,470	27,320	30.4
Inuktitut mother tongue	19,020	20,715	21,835	23,225	22.1
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	19,485	21,205	23,210	26,270	34.8
As a main language	15,415	16,005	16,595	18,275	18.6
As a secondary language	4,070	5,200	6,615	7,995	96.4
English spoken at home (Total)	18,825	21,340	22,975	26,775	42.2
Workers aged 15 years and older	12,420	14,095	14,785	17,000	36.9
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	8,070	8,730	8,540	10,315	27.8
As a main language	4,355	4,305	4,000	4,745	9.0
As a secondary language	3,715	4,425	4,540	5,570	49.9
Use of English at work (Total)	11,115	12,830	13,785	16,080	44.7
Inuit population	22,555	24,625	27,090	30,190	33.9
Knowledge of Inuktitut	20,650	22,325	24,105	26,880	30.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	19,020	20,410	21,715	23,115	21.5
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	19,315	20,780	22,955	25,965	34.4
As a main language	15,385	15,790	16,505	18,175	18.1
As a secondary language	3,930	4,990	6,450	7,790	98.2
English spoken at home (Total)	14,990	16,980	18,550	21,715	44.9
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	9,205	10,400	10,910	12,580	36.7
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	7,770	8,330	8,125	9,820	26.4
As a main language	4,335	4,250	3,985	4,725	9.0
As a secondary language	3,435	4,080	4,140	5,095	48.3
Use of English at work (Total)	7,915	9,185	9,940	11,695	47.8
Non-Inuit population	3,975	4,575	4,610	5,390	35.6

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.1
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Nunavut, 2001 to 2016


Note: Among the Inuit population in Nunavut in 2016, 58% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 12% of Inuit in the territory did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

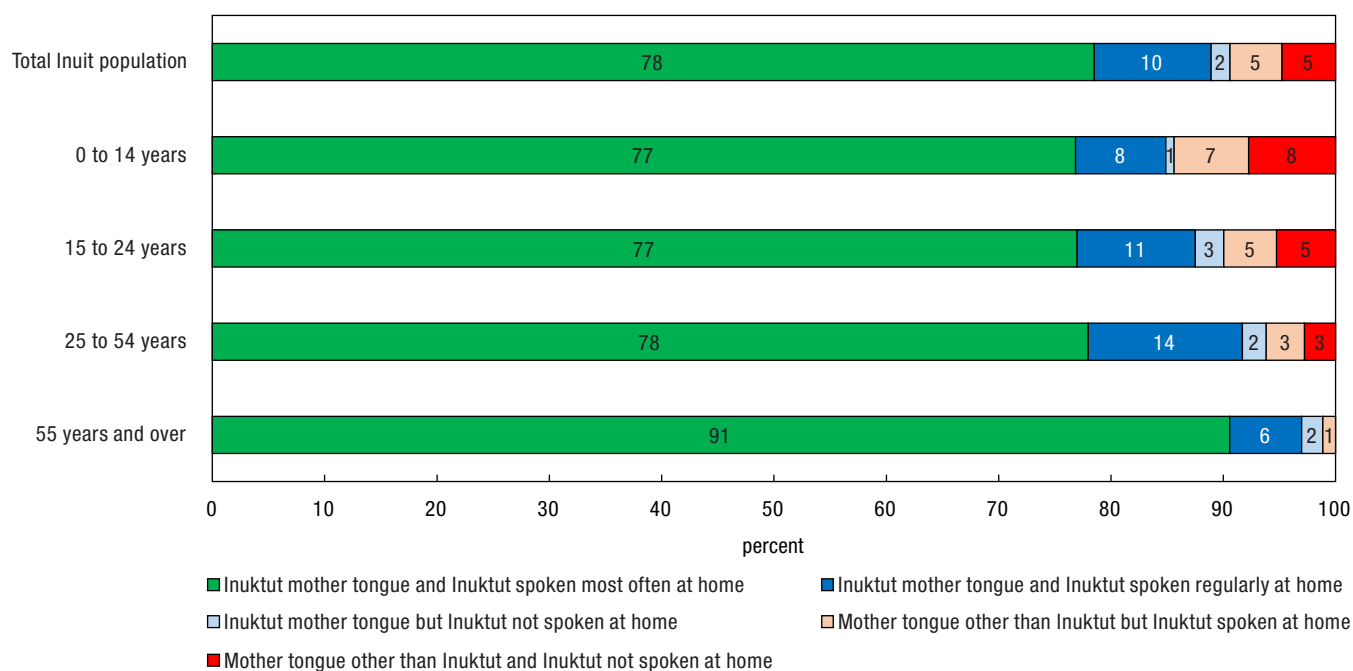
Qikiqtaaluk region

Table 5.2
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Qikiqtaaluk region, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	14,205	15,565	16,810	18,805	32.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	11,415	12,310	13,075	14,545	27.4
Inuktitut mother tongue	10,935	11,805	12,535	13,565	24.1
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	11,010	11,820	12,680	14,160	28.6
As a main language	9,770	10,225	10,750	11,970	22.5
As a secondary language	1,240	1,595	1,930	2,190	76.6
English spoken at home (Total)	9,000	10,655	11,000	12,475	38.6
Workers aged 15 years and older	6,895	7,930	8,205	9,395	36.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	4,475	4,970	4,750	5,765	28.8
As a main language	2,725	2,895	2,565	3,085	13.2
As a secondary language	1,750	2,075	2,185	2,680	53.1
Use of English at work (Total)	6,040	7,070	7,505	8,725	44.5
Inuit population	11,485	12,445	13,590	14,905	29.8
Knowledge of Inuktitut	11,210	12,015	12,855	14,250	27.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	10,935	11,665	12,445	13,490	23.4
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	10,895	11,610	12,510	13,935	27.9
As a main language	9,750	10,110	10,680	11,900	22.1
As a secondary language	1,145	1,500	1,830	2,035	77.7
English spoken at home (Total)	6,400	7,665	7,930	8,860	38.4
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	4,665	5,350	5,475	6,220	33.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	4,285	4,725	4,445	5,435	26.8
As a main language	2,710	2,850	2,550	3,070	13.3
As a secondary language	1,575	1,875	1,895	2,365	50.2
Use of English at work (Total)	3,820	4,505	4,795	5,585	46.2
Non-Inuit population	2,725	3,120	3,215	3,895	42.9

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.2
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Qikiqtaaluk region, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in the Qikiqtaaluk region in 2016, 78% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 5% of Inuit in the region did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

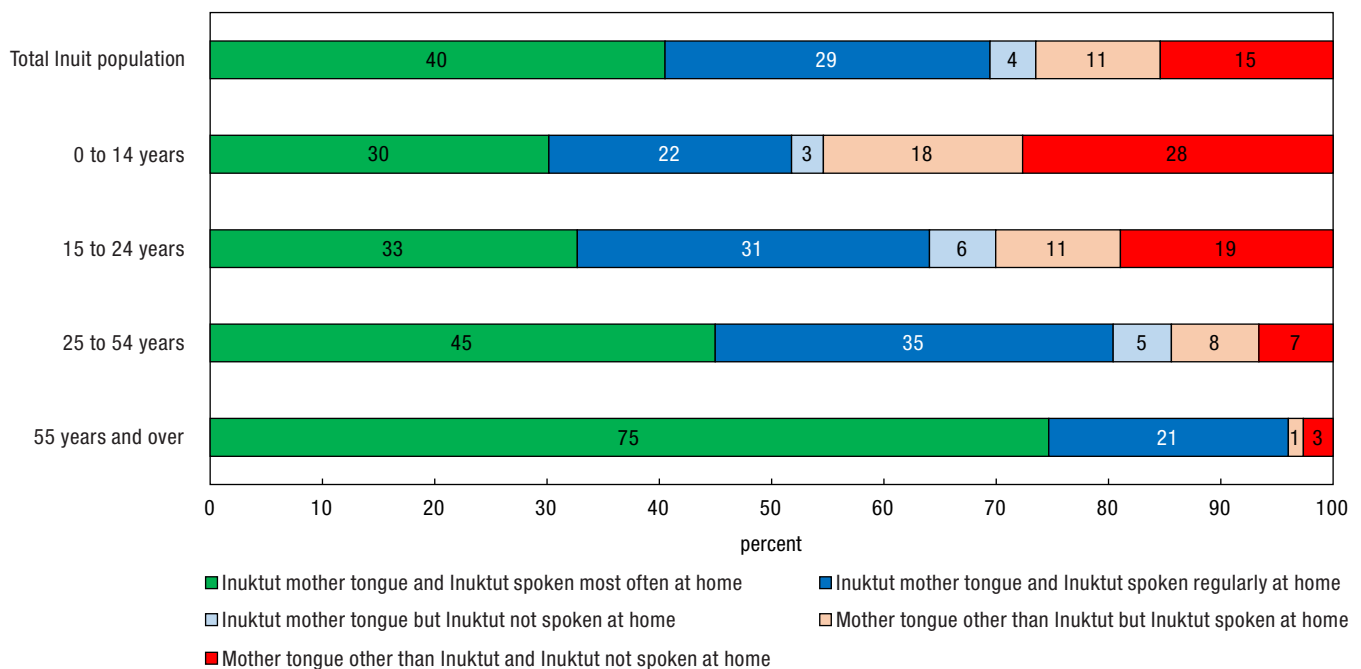
Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Iqaluit

Table 5.3
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Iqaluit, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	5,175	6,000	6,595	7,590	46.7
Knowledge of Inuktitut	2,950	3,305	3,520	3,885	31.7
Inuktitut mother tongue	2,615	2,960	3,125	3,185	21.8
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	2,680	2,995	3,275	3,550	32.5
As a main language	1,755	1,810	1,920	1,815	3.4
As a secondary language	925	1,185	1,355	1,735	87.6
English spoken at home (Total)	4,520	5,360	6,050	6,845	51.4
Workers aged 15 years and older	3,160	3,730	4,120	4,830	52.8
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	1,315	1,475	1,605	1,805	37.3
As a main language	400	420	385	510	27.5
As a secondary language	915	1,055	1,220	1,295	41.5
Use of English at work (Total)	3,055	3,630	4,035	4,740	55.2
Inuit population	3,010	3,520	3,900	4,295	42.7
Knowledge of Inuktitut	2,800	3,165	3,370	3,685	31.6
Inuktitut mother tongue	2,620	2,925	3,075	3,150	20.2
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	2,580	2,895	3,170	3,435	33.1
As a main language	1,740	1,785	1,890	1,800	3.4
As a secondary language	840	1,110	1,280	1,635	94.6
English spoken at home (Total)	2,465	2,955	3,470	3,785	53.5
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	1,410	1,665	1,860	2,175	54.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	1,205	1,335	1,385	1,600	32.8
As a main language	395	410	380	500	26.6
As a secondary language	810	925	1,005	1,100	35.8
Use of English at work (Total)	1,325	1,580	1,800	2,115	59.6
Non-Inuit population	2,170	2,485	2,695	3,295	51.8

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.3
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Iqaluit, 2001 to 2016


Note: Among the Inuit population in Iqaluit in 2016, 40% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 15% of Inuit in the city did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit

Table 5.4

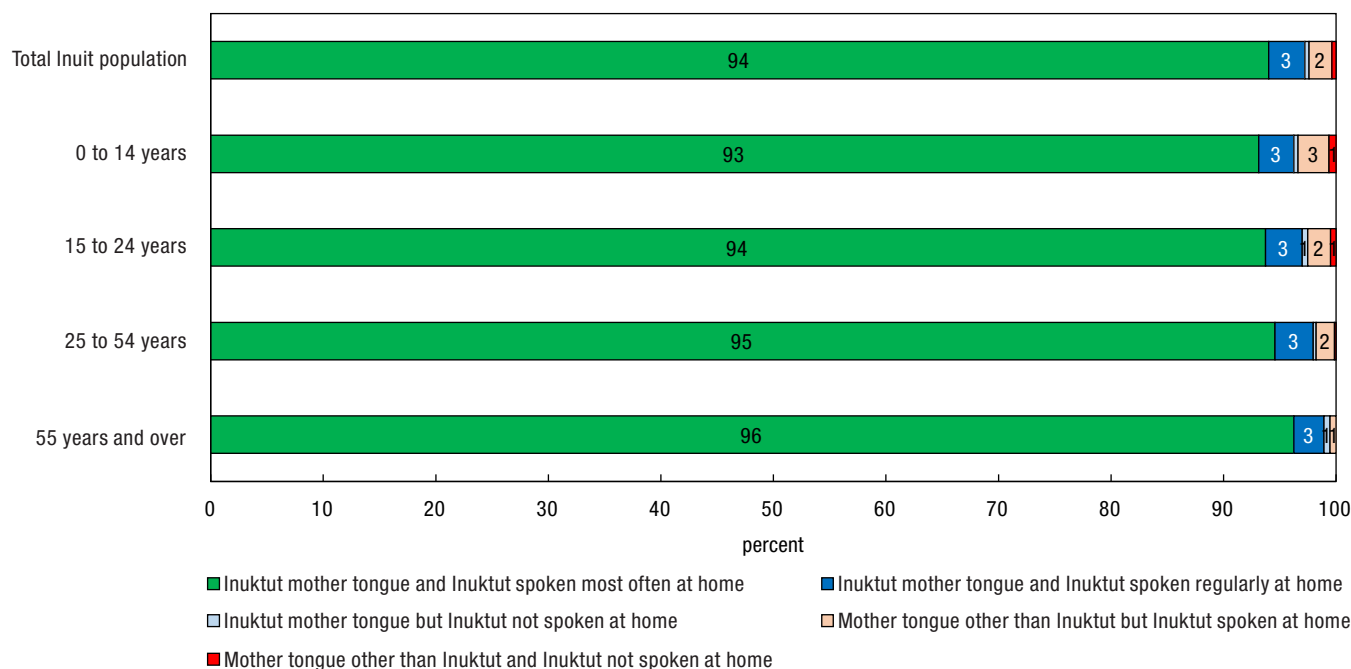
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Qikiqtaaluk region excluding Iqaluit, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	9,030	9,560	10,210	11,215	24.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	8,465	9,000	9,555	10,665	26.0
Inuktitut mother tongue	8,315	8,840	9,410	10,380	24.8
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	8,345	8,815	9,395	10,595	27.0
As a main language	8,015	8,410	8,830	10,155	26.7
As a secondary language	330	405	565	440	33.3
English spoken at home (Total)	4,480	5,295	4,950	5,630	25.7
Workers aged 15 years and older	3,730	4,200	4,085	4,560	22.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	3,170	3,495	3,145	3,960	24.9
As a main language	2,330	2,470	2,180	2,575	10.5
As a secondary language	840	1,025	965	1,385	64.9
Use of English at work (Total)	2,985	3,425	3,465	3,975	33.2
Inuit population	8,475	8,925	9,685	10,610	25.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	8,405	8,855	9,485	10,570	25.8
Inuktitut mother tongue	8,315	8,745	9,370	10,345	24.4
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	8,305	8,690	9,330	10,515	26.6
As a main language	8,005	8,315	8,785	10,105	26.2
As a secondary language	300	375	545	410	36.7
English spoken at home (Total)	3,935	4,705	4,460	5,080	29.1
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	3,255	3,685	3,615	4,045	24.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	3,095	3,400	3,055	3,840	24.1
As a main language	2,320	2,445	2,165	2,565	10.6
As a secondary language	775	955	890	1,275	64.5
Use of English at work (Total)	2,510	2,915	2,995	3,465	38.0
Non-Inuit population	555	635	525	600	8.1

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.4

Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in the Qikiqtaaluk region excluding Iqaluit in 2016, 94% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, less than 1% of Inuit in the region did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

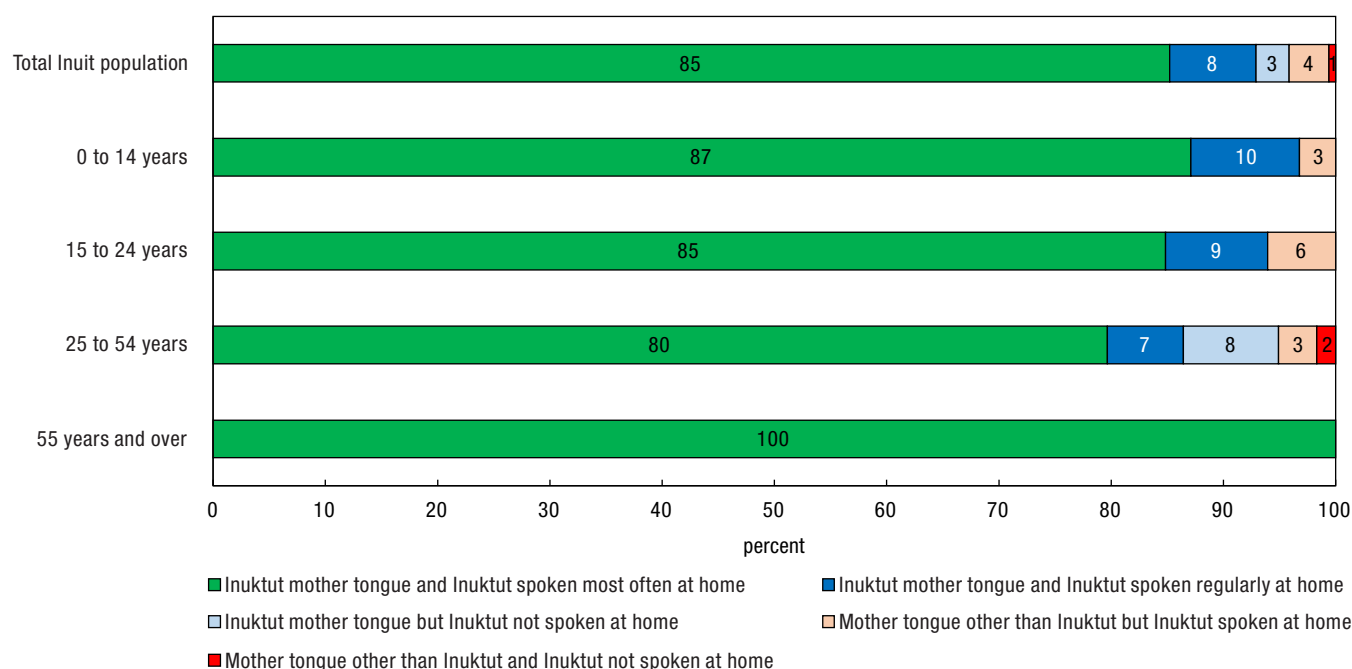
Sanikiluaq

Table 5.5
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Sanikiluaq, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	680	745	800	875	28.7
Knowledge of Inuktitut	645	705	785	855	32.6
Inuktitut mother tongue	640	700	770	810	26.6
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	630	705	760	850	34.9
As a main language	615	685	705	750	22.0
As a secondary language	15	20	55	100	566.7
English spoken at home (Total)	370	210	210	625	68.9
Workers aged 15 years and older	220	305	235	290	31.8
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	190	280	195	260	36.8
As a main language	145	195	130	185	27.6
As a secondary language	45	85	65	75	66.7
Use of English at work (Total)	175	265	200	275	57.1
Inuit population	645	705	785	840	30.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	640	705	780	840	31.3
Inuktitut mother tongue	640	700	775	810	26.6
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	630	705	760	840	33.3
As a main language	615	685	705	750	22.0
As a secondary language	15	20	55	90	500.0
English spoken at home (Total)	335	175	195	585	74.6
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	195	275	215	260	33.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	185	280	190	245	32.4
As a main language	145	205	130	175	20.7
As a secondary language	40	75	60	70	75.0
Use of English at work (Total)	150	240	180	235	56.7
Non-Inuit population	35	40	15	40	14.3

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.5
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Sanikiluaq, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Sanikiluaq in 2016, 85% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

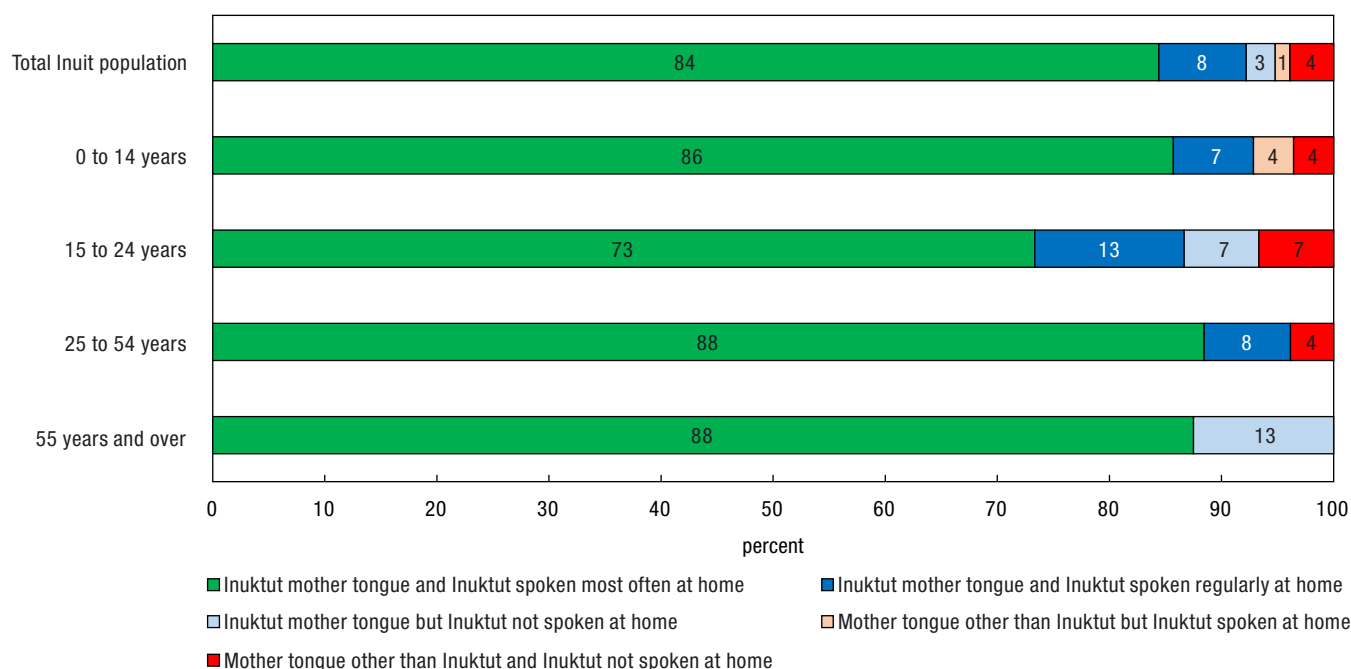
Kimmirut

Table 5.6
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Kimmirut, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	435	410	450	385	-11.5
Knowledge of Inuktitut	410	390	425	360	-12.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	395	385	415	345	-12.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	395	375	415	360	-8.9
As a main language	375	355	395	345	-8.0
As a secondary language	20	20	20	15	-25.0
English spoken at home (Total)	285	260	355	240	-15.8
Workers aged 15 years and older	210	185	190	170	-19.0
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	180	135	165	150	-16.7
As a main language	115	90	100	85	-26.1
As a secondary language	65	45	65	65	0.0
Use of English at work (Total)	165	145	170	165	0.0
Inuit population	405	385	425	360	-11.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	400	380	425	360	-10.0
Inuktitut mother tongue	395	380	410	350	-11.4
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	395	360	415	360	-8.9
As a main language	375	345	390	345	-8.0
As a secondary language	20	15	25	15	-25.0
English spoken at home (Total)	260	230	325	215	-17.3
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	190	165	160	150	-21.1
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	180	140	150	140	-22.2
As a main language	115	95	95	85	-26.1
As a secondary language	65	45	55	55	-15.4
Use of English at work (Total)	150	120	140	140	-6.7
Non-Inuit population	30	25	30	25	-16.7

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.6
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Kimmirut, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Kimmirut in 2016, 84% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 4% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

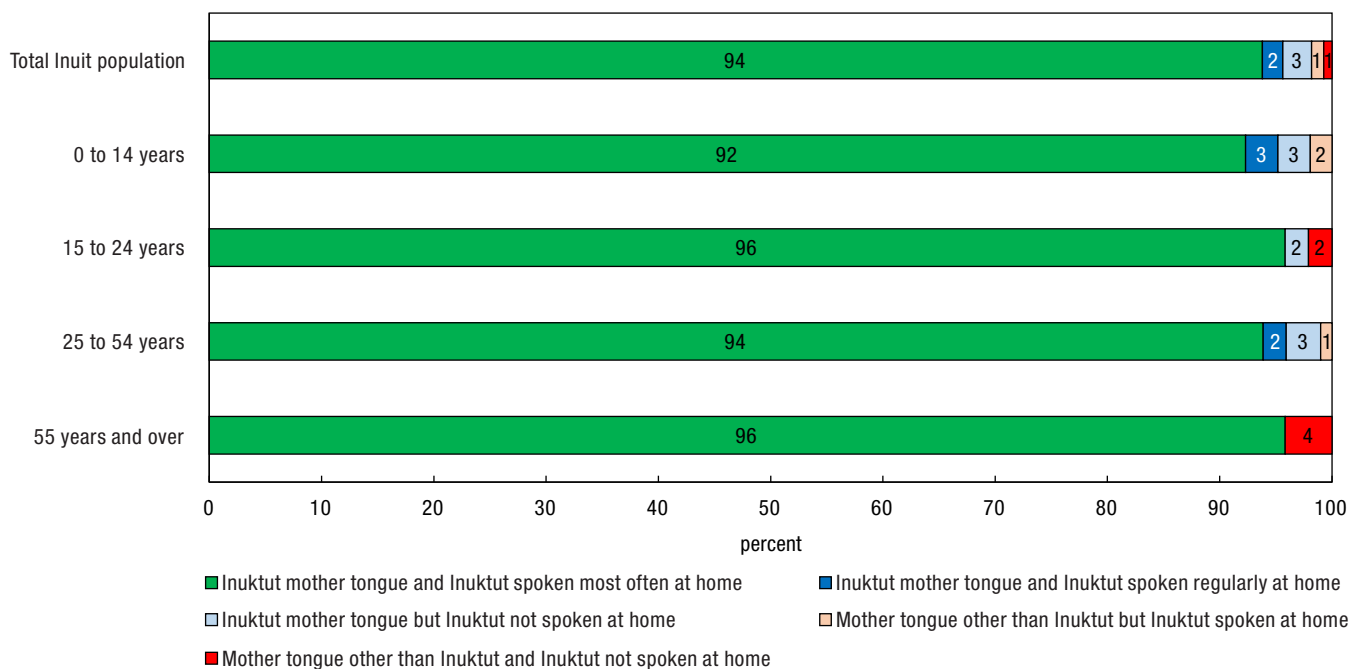
Cape Dorset

Table 5.7
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Cape Dorset, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,150	1,235	1,365	1,445	25.7
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,075	1,130	1,265	1,360	26.5
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,050	1,115	1,235	1,330	26.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,050	1,090	1,255	1,350	28.6
As a main language	1,025	1,040	1,185	1,305	27.3
As a secondary language	25	50	70	45	80.0
English spoken at home (Total)	685	875	670	815	19.0
Workers aged 15 years and older	505	520	605	555	9.9
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	425	400	485	480	12.9
As a main language	290	290	360	325	12.1
As a secondary language	135	110	125	155	14.8
Use of English at work (Total)	425	440	495	495	16.5
Inuit population	1,075	1,130	1,255	1,345	25.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,065	1,115	1,250	1,340	25.8
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,050	1,105	1,215	1,320	25.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,050	1,090	1,235	1,335	27.1
As a main language	1,025	1,045	1,165	1,295	26.3
As a secondary language	25	45	70	40	60.0
English spoken at home (Total)	615	765	560	730	18.7
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	435	435	510	480	10.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	425	390	475	450	5.9
As a main language	300	285	360	325	8.3
As a secondary language	125	105	115	125	0.0
Use of English at work (Total)	370	355	405	410	10.8
Non-Inuit population	75	110	110	95	26.7

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.7
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Cape Dorset, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Cape Dorset in 2016, 94% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Pangnirtung

Table 5.8
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Pangnirtung, 2001 to 2016

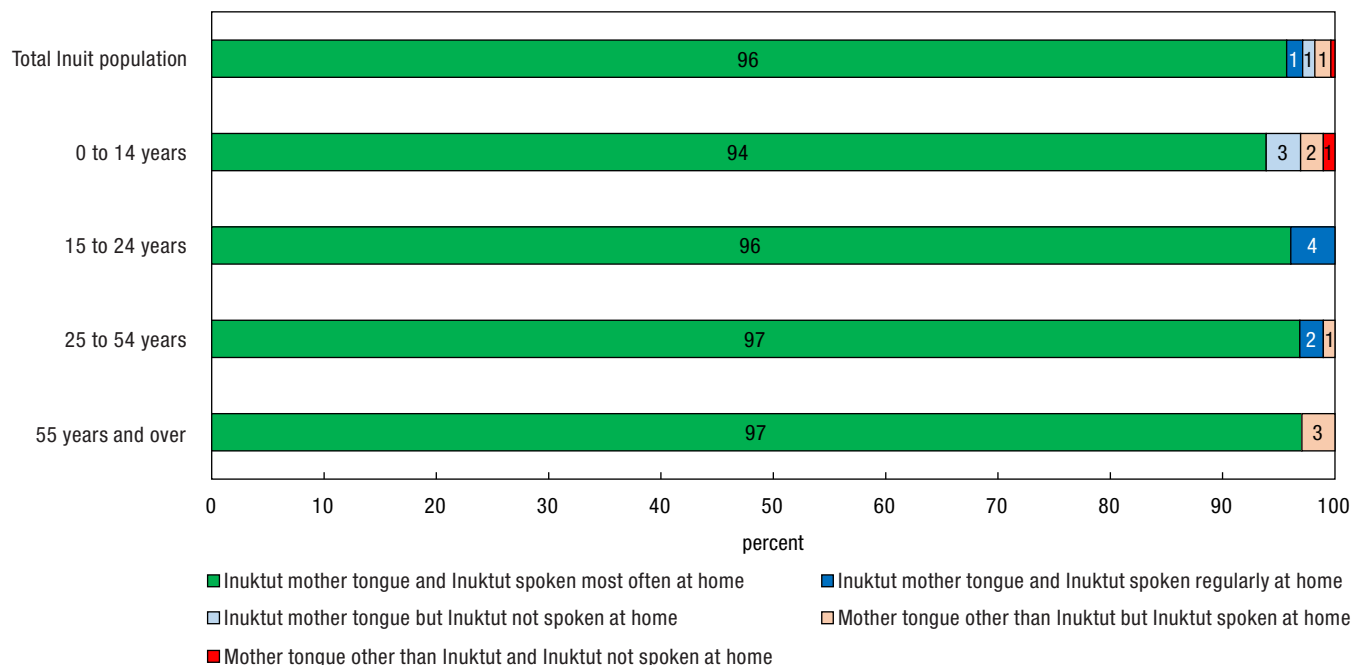
	2001	2006	2011 ¹	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,275	1,325	x	1,480	16.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,205	1,260	x	1,385	14.9
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,190	1,240	x	1,370	15.1
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,185	1,245	x	1,395	17.7
As a main language	1,160	1,195	x	1,360	17.2
As a secondary language	25	50	x	35	40.0
English spoken at home (Total)	555	555	x	540	-2.7
Workers aged 15 years and older	585	620	x	665	13.7
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	505	505	x	595	17.8
As a main language	405	400	x	395	-2.5
As a secondary language	100	105	x	200	100.0
Use of English at work (Total)	445	460	x	545	22.5
Inuit population	1,205	1,235	x	1,390	15.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,195	1,235	x	1,375	15.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,190	1,230	x	1,370	15.1
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,180	1,220	x	1,375	16.5
As a main language	1,155	1,175	x	1,355	17.3
As a secondary language	25	45	x	20	-20.0
English spoken at home (Total)	490	480	x	455	-7.1
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	525	550	x	590	12.4
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	490	500	x	560	14.3
As a main language	400	400	x	390	-2.5
As a secondary language	90	100	x	170	88.9
Use of English at work (Total)	385	395	x	465	20.8
Non-Inuit population	70	90	x	90	28.6

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

1. The 2011 NHS data for this community have been suppressed for data quality or confidentiality reasons.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.8
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Pangnirtung, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Pangnirtung in 2016, 96% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, less than 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

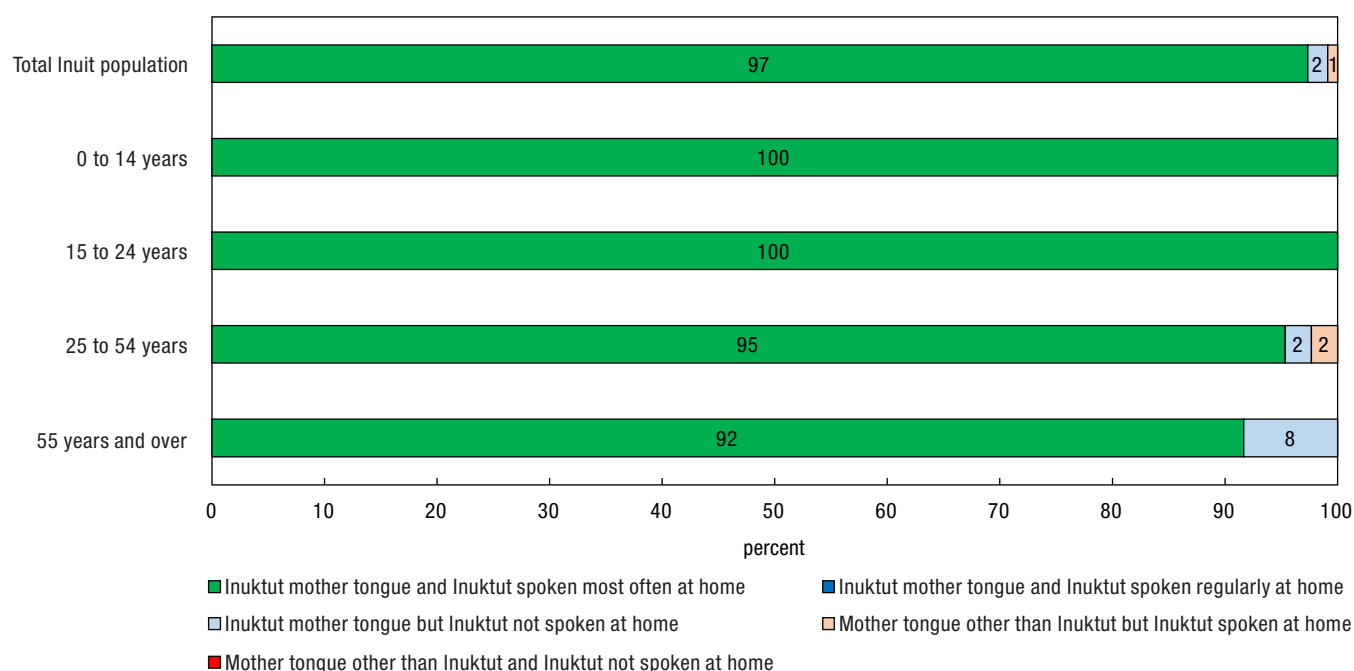
Qikiqtarjuaq

Table 5.9
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Qikiqtarjuaq, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	520	475	520	600	15.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	485	450	485	560	15.5
Inuktitut mother tongue	480	450	475	560	16.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	485	440	475	565	16.5
As a main language	485	440	475	565	16.5
As a secondary language	0	0	0	0	0.0
English spoken at home (Total)	235	255	325	160	-31.9
Workers aged 15 years and older	220	235	265	265	20.5
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	175	205	235	215	22.9
As a main language	135	145	150	180	33.3
As a secondary language	40	60	85	35	-12.5
Use of English at work (Total)	185	195	245	190	2.7
Inuit population	490	445	480	560	14.3
Knowledge of Inuktitut	490	445	485	560	14.3
Inuktitut mother tongue	485	440	470	565	16.5
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	485	440	475	560	15.5
As a main language	485	430	475	560	15.5
As a secondary language	0	10	0	0	0.0
English spoken at home (Total)	210	235	295	130	-38.1
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	195	210	230	235	20.5
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	180	195	215	220	22.2
As a main language	140	140	145	185	32.1
As a secondary language	40	55	70	35	-12.5
Use of English at work (Total)	170	180	205	165	-2.9
Non-Inuit population	25	25	35	35	40.0

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.9
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Qikiqtarjuaq, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Qikiqtarjuaq in 2016, 97% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue but spoke it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

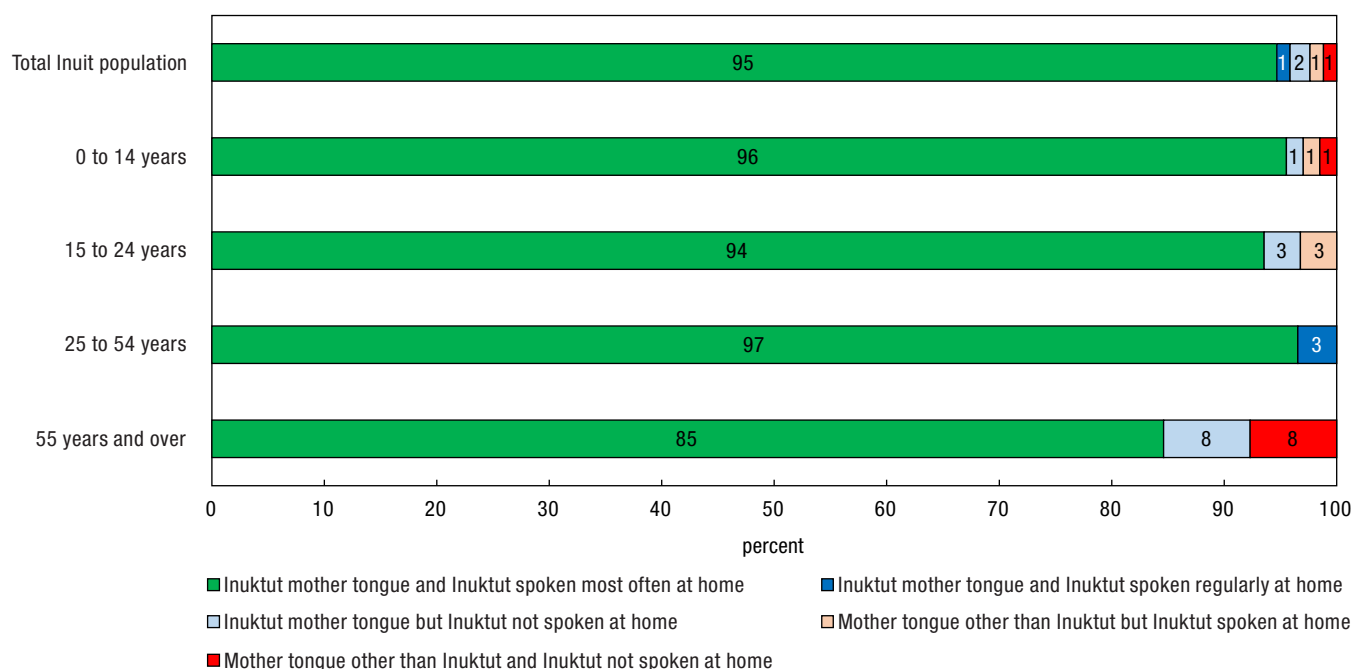
Hall Beach

Table 5.10
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Hall Beach, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	610	655	540	845	38.5
Knowledge of Inuktitut	575	625	525	820	42.6
Inuktitut mother tongue	580	625	520	810	39.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	575	625	485	810	40.9
As a main language	560	605	470	790	41.1
As a secondary language	15	20	15	20	33.3
English spoken at home (Total)	245	560	165	430	75.5
Workers aged 15 years and older	220	255	220	330	50.0
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	190	225	110	295	55.3
As a main language	140	105	60	135	-3.6
As a secondary language	50	120	50	160	220.0
Use of English at work (Total)	180	225	190	300	66.7
Inuit population	585	625	525	815	39.3
Knowledge of Inuktitut	580	625	515	820	41.4
Inuktitut mother tongue	580	625	510	805	38.8
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	580	620	475	810	39.7
As a main language	570	605	465	790	38.6
As a secondary language	10	15	10	20	100.0
English spoken at home (Total)	215	535	155	400	86.0
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	200	230	210	305	52.5
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	200	225	110	290	45.0
As a main language	145	105	60	135	-6.9
As a secondary language	55	120	50	155	181.8
Use of English at work (Total)	165	200	170	275	66.7
Non-Inuit population	25	25	15	35	40.0

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.10
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Hall Beach, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Hall Beach in 2016, 95% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Igloolik

Table 5.11
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Igloolik, 2001 to 2016

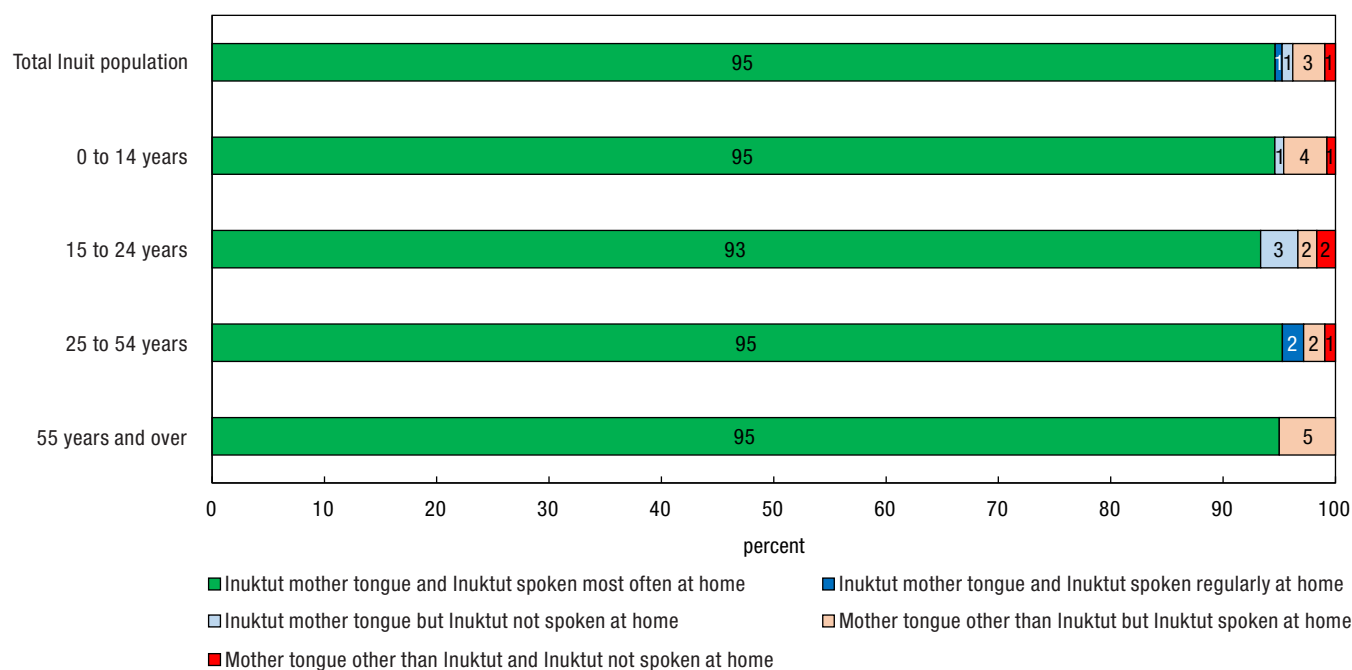
	2001	2006	2011 ¹	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,270	1,535	x	1,670	31.5
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,220	1,465	x	1,575	29.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,205	1,440	x	1,525	26.6
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,205	1,455	x	1,575	30.7
As a main language	1,180	1,430	x	1,545	30.9
As a secondary language	25	25	x	30	20.0
English spoken at home (Total)	535	640	x	750	40.2
Workers aged 15 years and older	465	570	x	650	39.8
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	410	485	x	545	32.9
As a main language	300	365	x	330	10.0
As a secondary language	110	120	x	215	95.5
Use of English at work (Total)	375	445	x	590	57.3
Inuit population	1,225	1,440	x	1,580	29.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,215	1,430	x	1,570	29.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,205	1,425	x	1,525	26.6
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,205	1,430	x	1,560	29.5
As a main language	1,180	1,405	x	1,535	30.1
As a secondary language	25	25	x	25	0.0
English spoken at home (Total)	490	550	x	665	35.7
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	425	490	x	560	31.8
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	410	460	x	535	30.5
As a main language	305	355	x	335	9.8
As a secondary language	105	105	x	200	90.5
Use of English at work (Total)	335	365	x	505	50.7
Non-Inuit population	50	100	x	95	90.0

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

1. The 2011 NHS data for this community have been suppressed for data quality or confidentiality reasons.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.11
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Igloolik, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Igloolik in 2016, 95% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Clyde River

Table 5.12
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Clyde River, 2001 to 2016

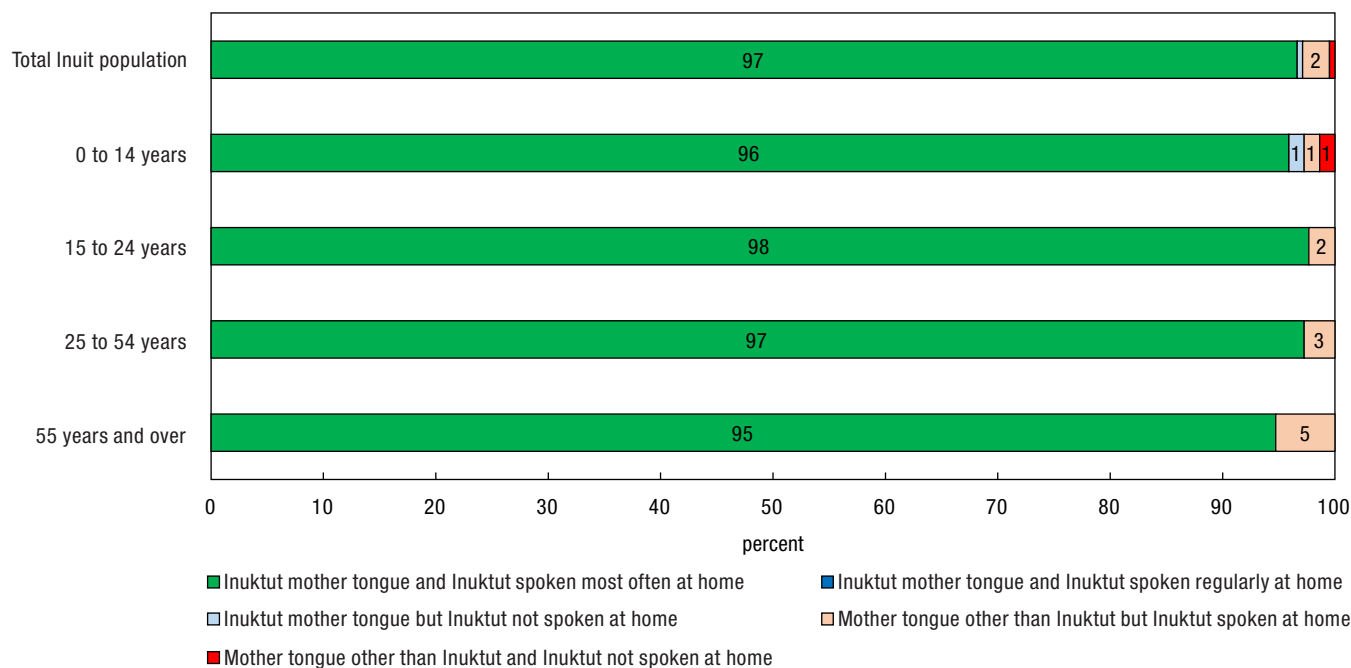
	2001	2006	2011 ¹	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	785	820	x	1,055	34.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	755	800	x	1,025	35.8
Inuktitut mother tongue	755	790	x	1,015	34.4
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	750	785	x	1,030	37.3
As a main language	740	770	x	1,020	37.8
As a secondary language	10	15	x	10	0.0
English spoken at home (Total)	240	415	x	390	62.5
Workers aged 15 years and older	315	355	x	395	25.4
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	280	305	x	370	32.1
As a main language	230	255	x	315	37.0
As a secondary language	50	50	x	55	10.0
Use of English at work (Total)	195	260	x	320	64.1
Inuit population	755	790	x	1,020	35.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	755	790	x	1,020	35.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	750	785	x	1,005	34.0
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	750	775	x	1,020	36.0
As a main language	740	765	x	1,010	36.5
As a secondary language	10	10	x	10	0.0
English spoken at home (Total)	210	390	x	370	76.2
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	285	330	x	375	31.6
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	270	305	x	365	35.2
As a main language	230	260	x	315	37.0
As a secondary language	40	45	x	50	25.0
Use of English at work (Total)	170	240	x	295	73.5
Non-Inuit population	30	30	x	30	0.0

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

1. The 2011 NHS data for this community have been suppressed for data quality or confidentiality reasons.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.12
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Clyde River, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Clyde River in 2016, 97% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, less than 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

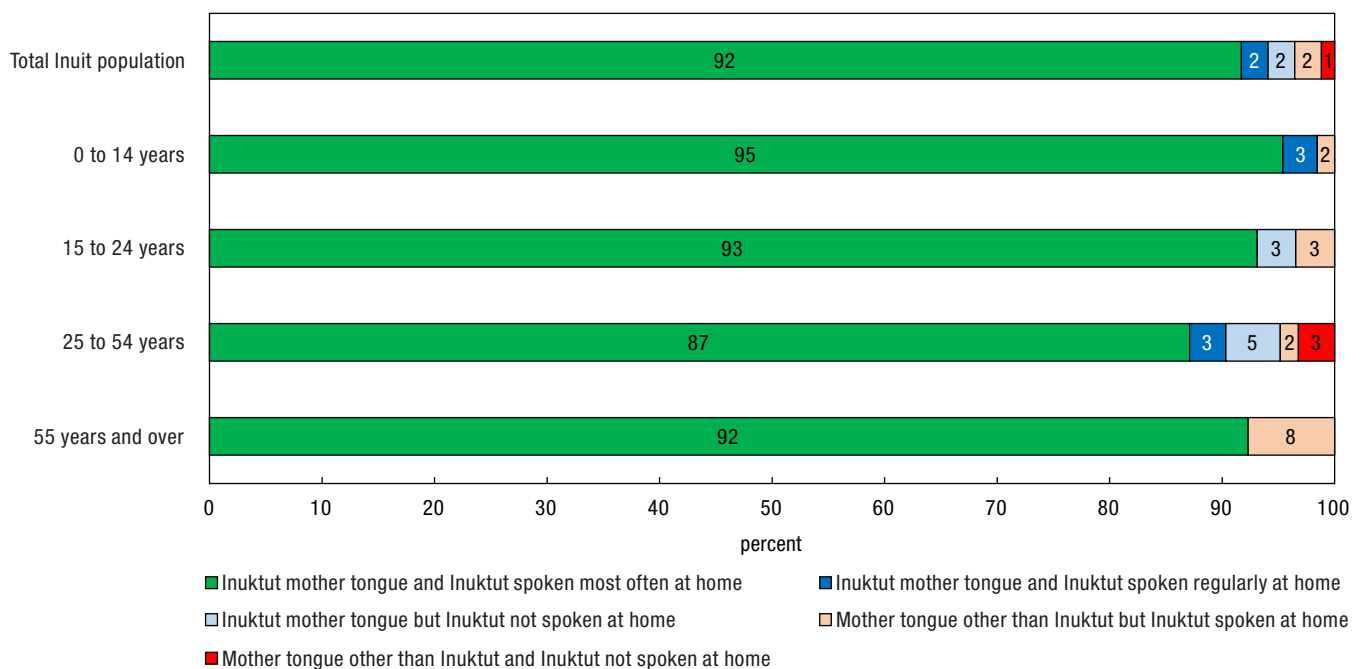
Arctic Bay

Table 5.13
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Arctic Bay, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	645	690	820	865	34.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	610	655	790	830	36.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	585	635	785	810	38.5
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	600	650	785	825	37.5
As a main language	570	615	750	795	39.5
As a secondary language	30	35	35	30	0.0
English spoken at home (Total)	350	325	350	445	27.1
Workers aged 15 years and older	270	310	310	330	22.2
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	225	270	245	275	22.2
As a main language	160	190	155	165	3.1
As a secondary language	65	80	90	110	69.2
Use of English at work (Total)	230	260	270	285	23.9
Inuit population	610	640	790	830	36.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	605	635	790	825	36.4
Inuktitut mother tongue	585	625	790	815	39.3
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	595	620	785	830	39.5
As a main language	565	600	750	805	42.5
As a secondary language	30	20	35	25	-16.7
English spoken at home (Total)	315	280	325	410	30.2
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	240	270	285	295	22.9
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	220	265	245	260	18.2
As a main language	160	190	155	160	0.0
As a secondary language	60	75	90	100	66.7
Use of English at work (Total)	195	220	240	235	20.5
Non-Inuit population	35	50	30	40	14.3

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.13
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Arctic Bay, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Arctic Bay in 2016, 92% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

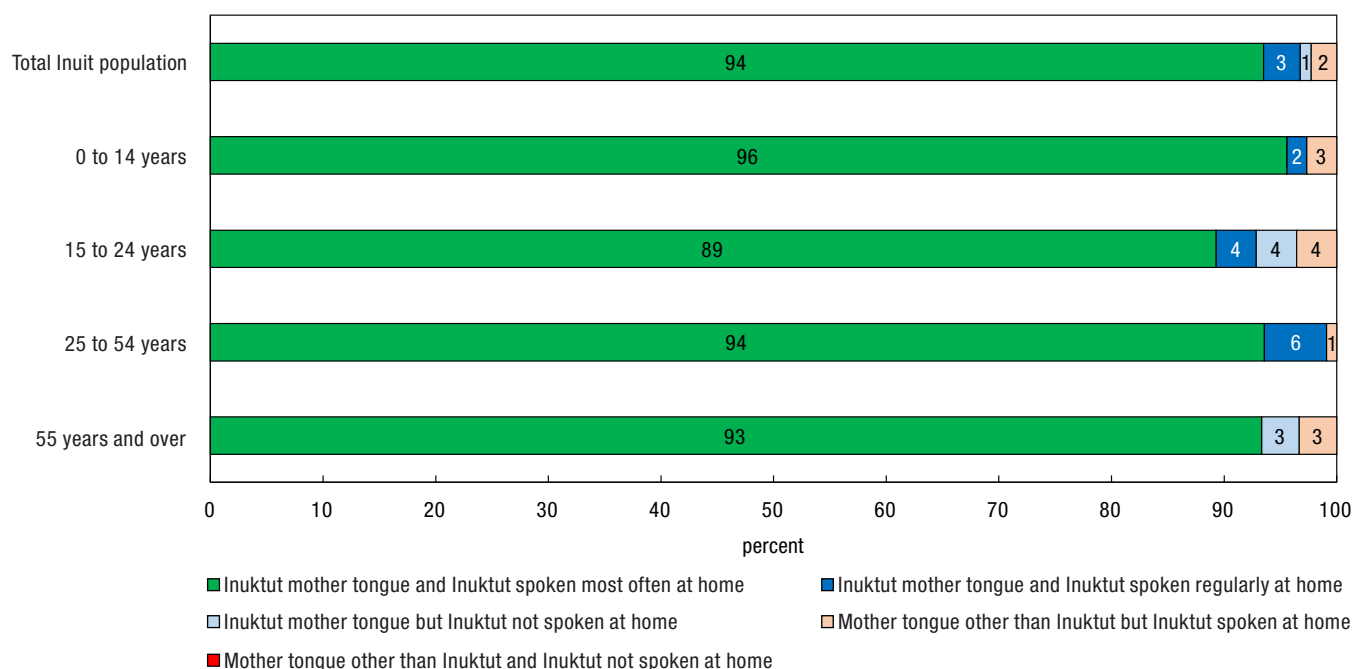
Pond Inlet

Table 5.14
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Pond Inlet, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,220	1,315	1,565	1,615	32.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,150	1,230	1,395	1,550	34.8
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,125	1,200	1,390	1,500	33.3
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,130	1,190	1,350	1,540	36.3
As a main language	1,070	1,140	1,335	1,495	39.7
As a secondary language	60	50	15	45	-25.0
English spoken at home (Total)	610	880	540	895	46.7
Workers aged 15 years and older	495	635	590	700	41.4
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	430	520	375	640	48.8
As a main language	330	355	280	430	30.3
As a secondary language	100	165	95	210	110.0
Use of English at work (Total)	380	545	505	630	65.8
Inuit population	1,145	1,210	1,495	1,515	32.3
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,140	1,205	1,390	1,515	32.9
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,120	1,180	1,390	1,490	33.0
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,125	1,165	1,345	1,515	34.7
As a main language	1,075	1,125	1,335	1,475	37.2
As a secondary language	50	40	10	40	-20.0
English spoken at home (Total)	535	790	470	810	51.4
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	435	560	525	625	43.7
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	415	510	370	610	47.0
As a main language	330	360	280	420	27.3
As a secondary language	85	150	90	190	123.5
Use of English at work (Total)	315	475	440	560	77.8
Non-Inuit population	75	105	70	95	26.7

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.14
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Pond Inlet, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Pond Inlet in 2016, 94% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 2% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue but spoke it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Resolute Bay

Table 5.15
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Resolute Bay, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	210	220	200	190	-9.5
Knowledge of Inuktitut	165	175	135	160	-3.0
Inuktitut mother tongue	145	145	130	135	-6.9
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	150	160	125	145	-3.3
As a main language	65	70	50	70	7.7
As a secondary language	85	90	75	75	-11.8
English spoken at home (Total)	190	205	180	170	-10.5
Workers aged 15 years and older	110	135	130	105	-4.5
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	60	85	60	85	41.7
As a main language	15	35	20	10	-33.3
As a secondary language	45	50	40	75	66.7
Use of English at work (Total)	100	120	130	105	5.0
Inuit population	165	190	170	165	0.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	160	170	130	160	0.0
Inuktitut mother tongue	145	145	130	135	-6.9
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	145	155	130	140	-3.4
As a main language	65	60	50	65	0.0
As a secondary language	80	95	80	75	-6.3
English spoken at home (Total)	155	175	150	150	-3.2
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	70	110	95	85	21.4
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	55	90	60	70	27.3
As a main language	15	35	20	10	-33.3
As a secondary language	40	55	40	60	50.0
Use of English at work (Total)	65	90	95	90	38.5
Non-Inuit population	40	25	35	25	-37.5

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Grise Fiord

Table 5.16
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Grise Fiord, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	165	140	130	130	-21.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	145	125	110	120	-17.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	140	115	110	100	-28.6
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	140	115	110	105	-25.0
As a main language	130	75	70	50	-61.5
As a secondary language	10	40	40	55	450.0
English spoken at home (Total)	115	120	95	115	0.0
Workers aged 15 years and older	75	85	75	85	13.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	65	60	60	65	0.0
As a main language	45	35	30	20	-55.6
As a secondary language	20	25	30	45	125.0
Use of English at work (Total)	60	70	75	80	33.3
Inuit population	150	120	115	120	-20.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	145	120	110	115	-20.7
Inuktitut mother tongue	140	105	110	100	-28.6
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	140	115	105	105	-25.0
As a main language	130	75	70	50	-61.5
As a secondary language	10	40	35	55	450.0
English spoken at home (Total)	100	100	80	105	5.0
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	60	65	60	75	25.0
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	60	70	55	65	8.3
As a main language	45	45	25	20	-55.6
As a secondary language	15	25	30	45	200.0
Use of English at work (Total)	50	65	55	70	40.0
Non-Inuit population	15	25	20	0	-100.0

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

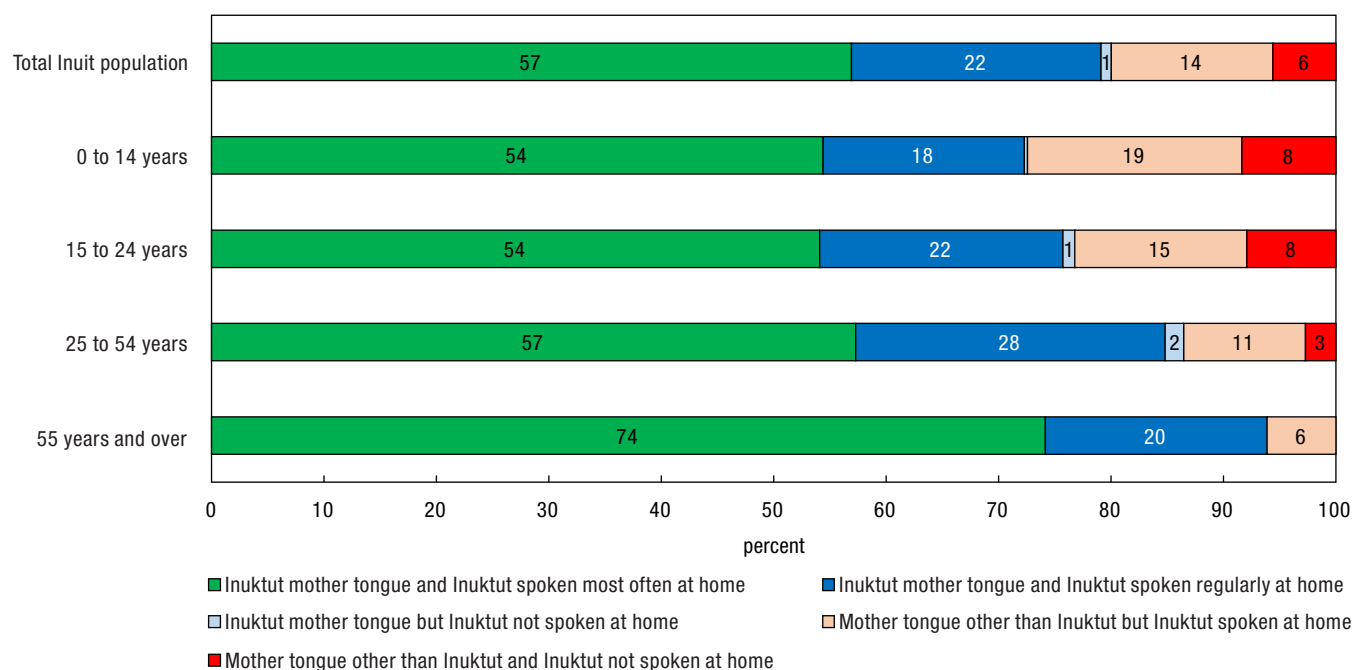
Kivalliq region

Table 5.17
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Kivalliq region, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	7,515	8,290	8,915	10,290	36.9
Knowledge of Inuktitut	6,585	7,295	7,820	9,045	37.4
Inuktitut mother tongue	5,915	6,625	6,955	7,535	27.4
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	6,195	6,925	7,420	8,820	42.4
As a main language	4,760	5,050	5,135	5,565	16.9
As a secondary language	1,435	1,875	2,285	3,255	126.8
English spoken at home (Total)	5,435	5,680	6,245	8,060	48.3
Workers aged 15 years and older	3,250	3,615	4,010	4,705	44.8
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	2,490	2,605	2,890	3,475	39.6
As a main language	1,345	1,210	1,255	1,470	9.3
As a secondary language	1,145	1,395	1,635	2,005	75.1
Use of English at work (Total)	2,910	3,310	3,755	4,480	54.0
Inuit population	6,760	7,450	8,090	9,380	38.8
Knowledge of Inuktitut	6,510	7,115	7,705	8,925	37.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	5,910	6,520	6,925	7,515	27.2
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	6,140	6,790	7,305	8,735	42.3
As a main language	4,755	4,980	5,100	5,545	16.6
As a secondary language	1,385	1,810	2,205	3,190	130.3
English spoken at home (Total)	4,690	4,900	5,445	7,180	53.1
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	2,655	2,950	3,335	3,955	49.0
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	2,410	2,500	2,770	3,340	38.6
As a main language	1,340	1,190	1,250	1,460	9.0
As a secondary language	1,070	1,310	1,520	1,880	75.7
Use of English at work (Total)	2,315	2,655	3,095	3,755	62.2
Non-Inuit population	755	840	825	915	21.2

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.15
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Kivalliq region, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in the Kivalliq region in 2016, 57% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 6% of Inuit in the region did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2001, 2006, and 2016 censuses of population, and the 2011 National Household Survey.

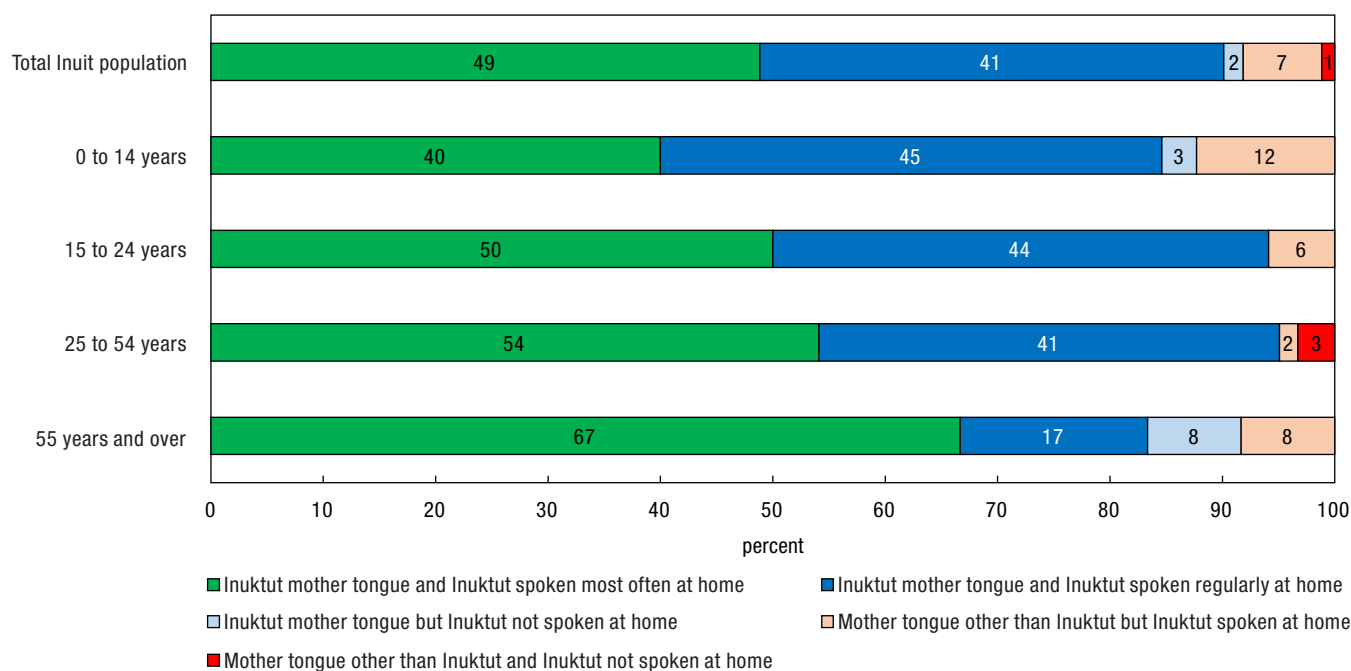
Coral Harbour

Table 5.18
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Coral Harbour, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	710	770	830	890	25.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	685	730	785	860	25.5
Inuktitut mother tongue	660	720	755	800	21.2
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	675	700	715	855	26.7
As a main language	620	625	545	450	-27.4
As a secondary language	55	75	170	405	636.4
English spoken at home (Total)	515	570	765	845	64.1
Workers aged 15 years and older	300	345	325	365	21.7
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	260	285	270	315	21.2
As a main language	160	185	155	115	-28.1
As a secondary language	100	100	115	200	100.0
Use of English at work (Total)	255	295	300	350	37.3
Inuit population	690	730	795	860	24.6
Knowledge of Inuktitut	685	720	785	855	24.8
Inuktitut mother tongue	665	715	750	795	19.5
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	675	695	710	850	25.9
As a main language	620	620	545	450	-27.4
As a secondary language	55	75	165	400	627.3
English spoken at home (Total)	495	540	735	810	63.6
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	280	325	295	340	21.4
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	255	280	270	315	23.5
As a main language	160	185	155	115	-28.1
As a secondary language	95	95	115	200	110.5
Use of English at work (Total)	230	270	265	325	41.3
Non-Inuit population	20	35	40	30	50.0

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.16
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Coral Harbour, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Coral Harbour in 2016, 49% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

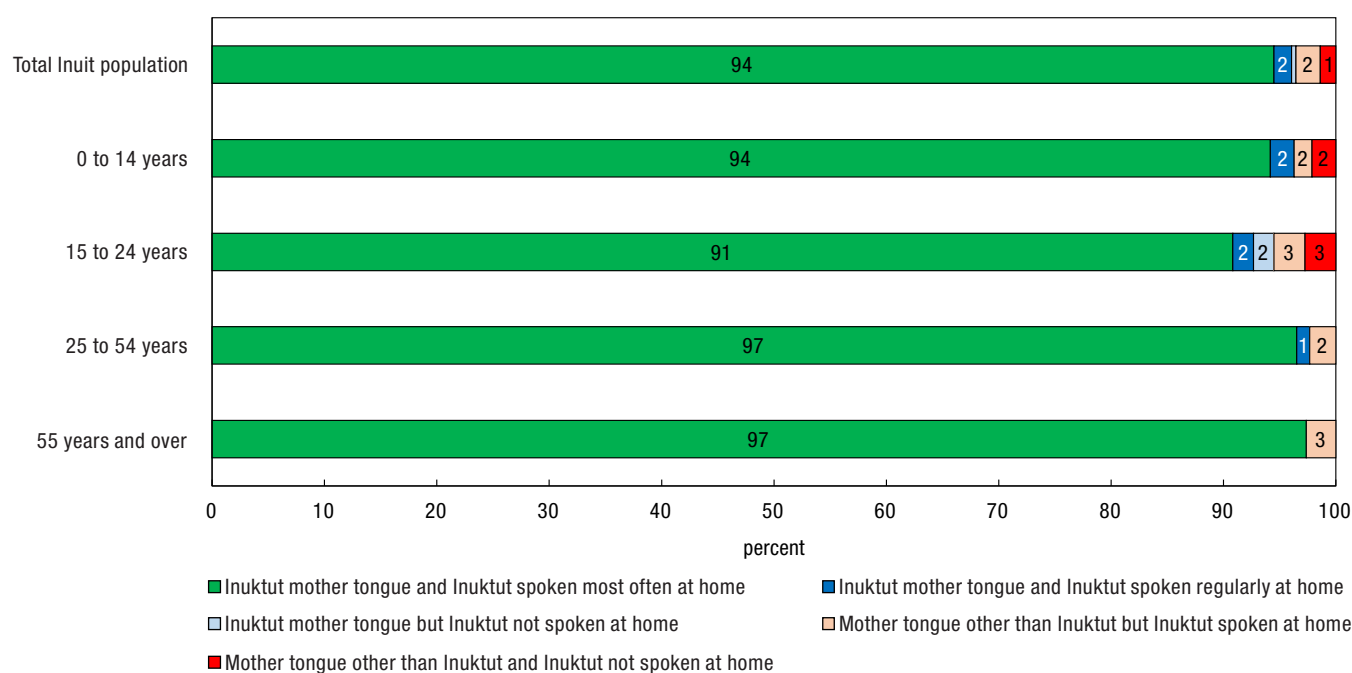
Arviat

Table 5.19
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Arviat, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,890	2,050	2,315	2,650	40.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,790	1,955	2,200	2,520	40.8
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,745	1,900	2,140	2,435	39.5
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,760	1,905	2,175	2,500	42.0
As a main language	1,685	1,835	2,090	2,420	43.6
As a secondary language	75	70	85	80	6.7
English spoken at home (Total)	700	620	480	910	30.0
Workers aged 15 years and older	660	685	880	1,000	51.5
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	570	545	745	870	52.6
As a main language	415	395	520	615	48.2
As a secondary language	155	150	225	255	64.5
Use of English at work (Total)	545	605	785	880	61.5
Inuit population	1,785	1,900	2,185	2,515	40.9
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,770	1,890	2,175	2,495	41.0
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,740	1,865	2,135	2,435	39.9
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,745	1,855	2,155	2,485	42.4
As a main language	1,680	1,795	2,080	2,415	43.8
As a secondary language	65	60	75	70	7.7
English spoken at home (Total)	600	505	360	780	30.0
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	580	575	785	895	54.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	545	530	715	825	51.4
As a main language	410	395	510	605	47.6
As a secondary language	135	135	205	220	63.0
Use of English at work (Total)	470	495	675	770	63.8
Non-Inuit population	105	150	125	135	28.6

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.17
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Arviat, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Arviat in 2016, 94% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 1% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

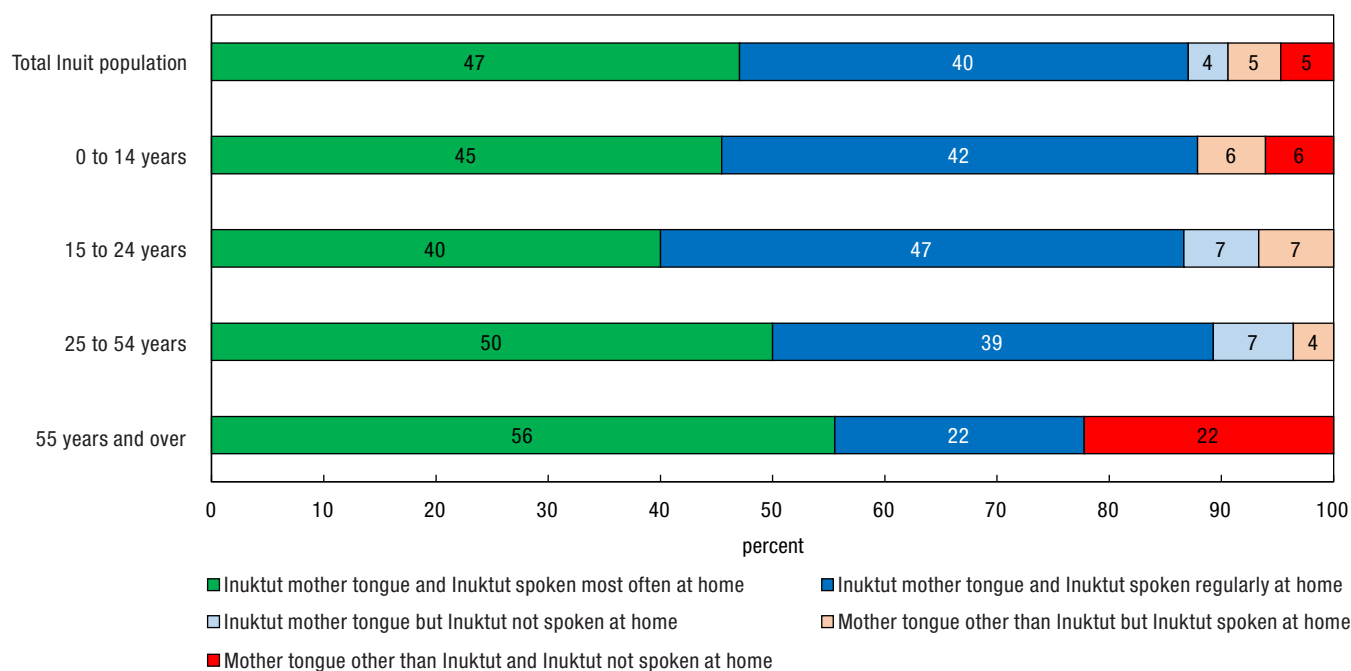
Whale Cove

Table 5.20
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Whale Cove, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	305	355	410	430	41.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	290	340	395	395	36.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	285	340	360	370	29.8
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	280	350	380	390	39.3
As a main language	215	325	260	200	-7.0
As a secondary language	65	25	120	190	192.3
English spoken at home (Total)	240	150	290	405	68.8
Workers aged 15 years and older	130	130	185	190	46.2
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	115	105	150	160	39.1
As a main language	70	85	40	45	-35.7
As a secondary language	45	20	110	115	155.6
Use of English at work (Total)	120	115	180	185	54.2
Inuit population	295	340	395	410	39.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	295	340	395	390	32.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	285	335	360	370	29.8
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	290	330	380	385	32.8
As a main language	220	310	260	195	-11.4
As a secondary language	70	20	120	190	171.4
English spoken at home (Total)	230	135	280	385	67.4
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	120	115	175	175	45.8
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	115	100	150	155	34.8
As a main language	70	80	40	40	-42.9
As a secondary language	45	20	110	115	155.6
Use of English at work (Total)	105	105	170	170	61.9
Non-Inuit population	15	15	10	20	33.3

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.18
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Whale Cove, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Whale Cove in 2016, 47% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 5% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

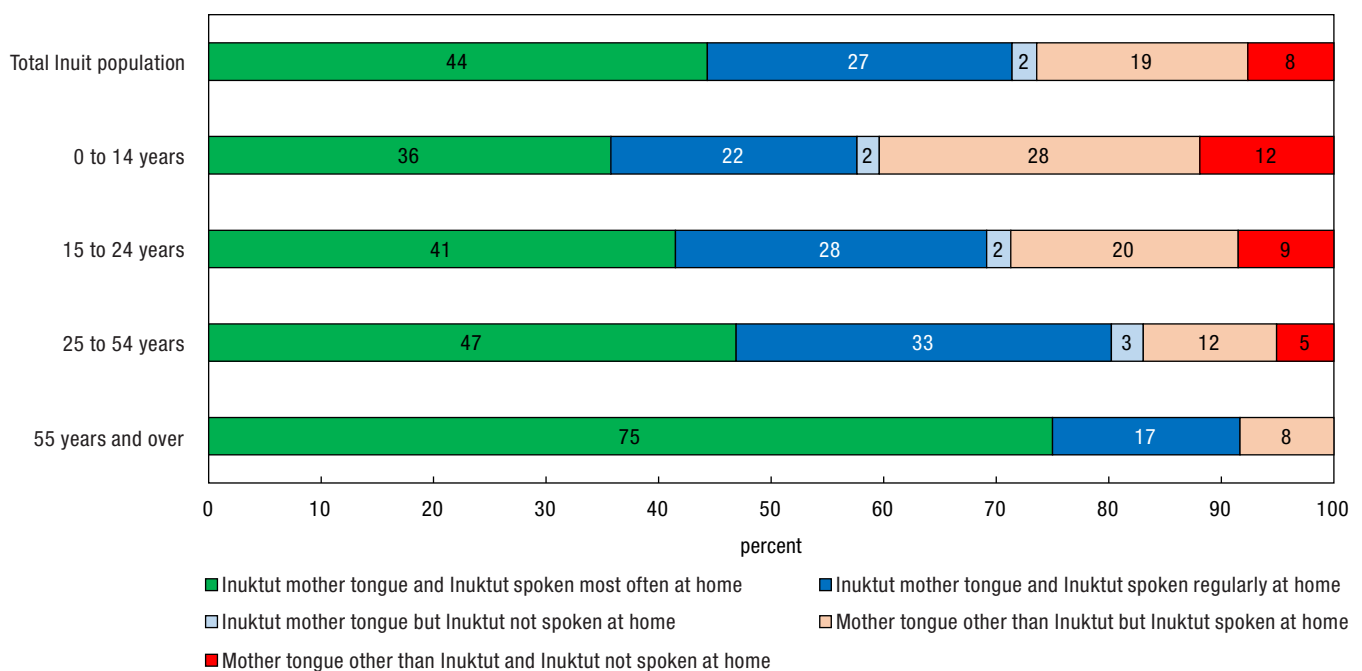
Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Rankin Inlet

Table 5.21
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Rankin Inlet, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	2,165	2,330	2,245	2,775	28.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,595	1,860	1,715	2,205	38.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,285	1,585	1,385	1,685	31.1
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,430	1,755	1,585	2,095	46.5
As a main language	835	1,035	725	1,070	28.1
As a secondary language	595	720	860	1,025	72.3
English spoken at home (Total)	1,935	2,130	2,040	2,565	32.6
Workers aged 15 years and older	1,120	1,240	1,260	1,625	45.1
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	700	780	740	1,045	49.3
As a main language	250	180	170	365	46.0
As a secondary language	450	600	570	680	51.1
Use of English at work (Total)	1,055	1,195	1,230	1,585	50.2
Inuit population	1,680	1,930	1,805	2,280	35.7
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,550	1,800	1,670	2,135	37.7
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,285	1,570	1,375	1,675	30.4
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,400	1,700	1,555	2,045	46.1
As a main language	825	1,020	715	1,060	28.5
As a secondary language	575	680	840	985	71.3
English spoken at home (Total)	1,455	1,725	1,620	2,090	43.6
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	745	890	900	1,215	63.1
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	655	740	695	950	45.0
As a main language	255	180	170	360	41.2
As a secondary language	400	560	525	590	47.5
Use of English at work (Total)	690	850	865	1,195	73.2
Non-Inuit population	480	400	445	490	2.1

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.19
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Rankin Inlet, 2001 to 2016


Note: Among the Inuit population in Rankin Inlet in 2016, 44% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 8% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chesterfield Inlet

Table 5.22
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Chesterfield Inlet, 2001 to 2016

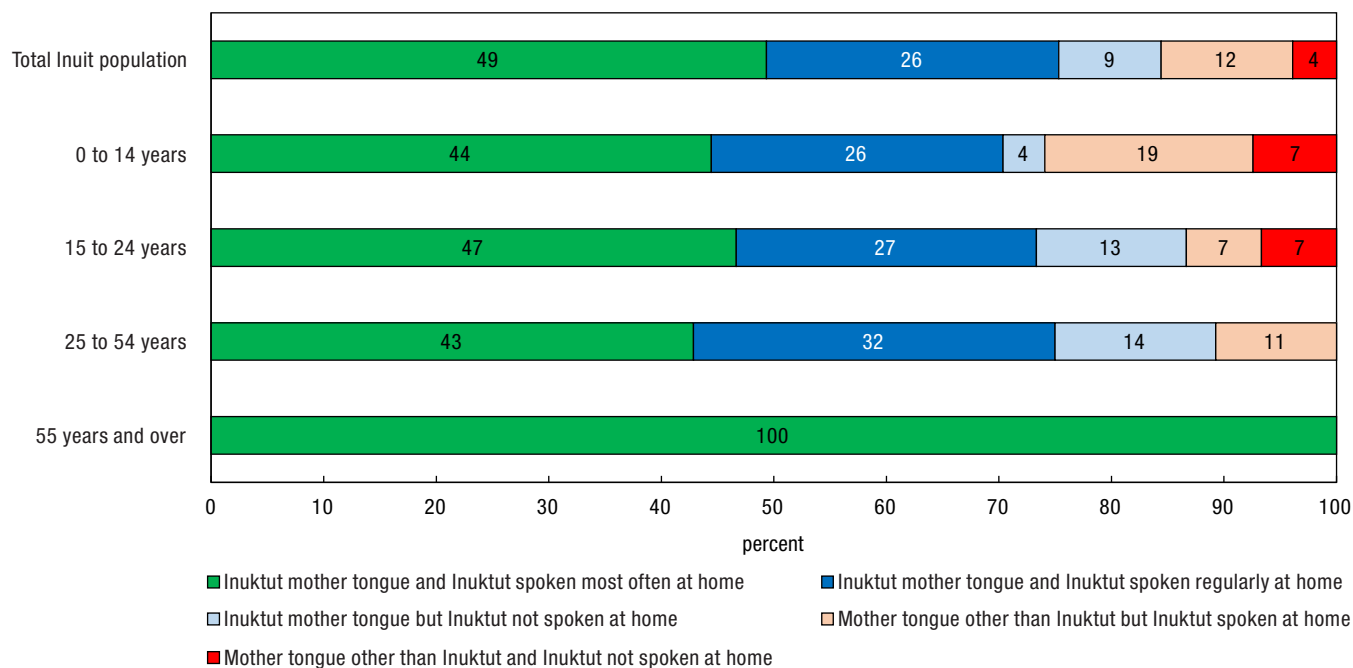
	2001	2006	2011 ¹	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	335	320	x	415	23.9
Knowledge of Inuktitut	320	290	x	375	17.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	305	275	x	340	11.5
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	305	275	x	375	23.0
As a main language	265	170	x	220	-17.0
As a secondary language	40	105	x	155	287.5
English spoken at home (Total)	285	265	x	405	42.1
Workers aged 15 years and older	175	185	x	225	28.6
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	150	140	x	195	30.0
As a main language	85	55	x	90	5.9
As a secondary language	65	85	x	105	61.5
Use of English at work (Total)	160	175	x	225	40.6
Inuit population	325	285	x	390	20.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	315	280	x	375	19.0
Inuktitut mother tongue	305	265	x	335	9.8
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	300	275	x	370	23.3
As a main language	260	170	x	220	-15.4
As a secondary language	40	105	x	150	275.0
English spoken at home (Total)	275	240	x	385	40.0
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	160	155	x	200	25.0
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	150	125	x	195	30.0
As a main language	85	45	x	95	11.8
As a secondary language	65	80	x	100	53.8
Use of English at work (Total)	150	145	x	200	33.3
Non-Inuit population	10	35	x	25	150.0

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

1. The 2011 NHS data for this community have been suppressed for data quality or confidentiality reasons.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.20
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Chesterfield Inlet, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Chesterfield Inlet in 2016, 49% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 4% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

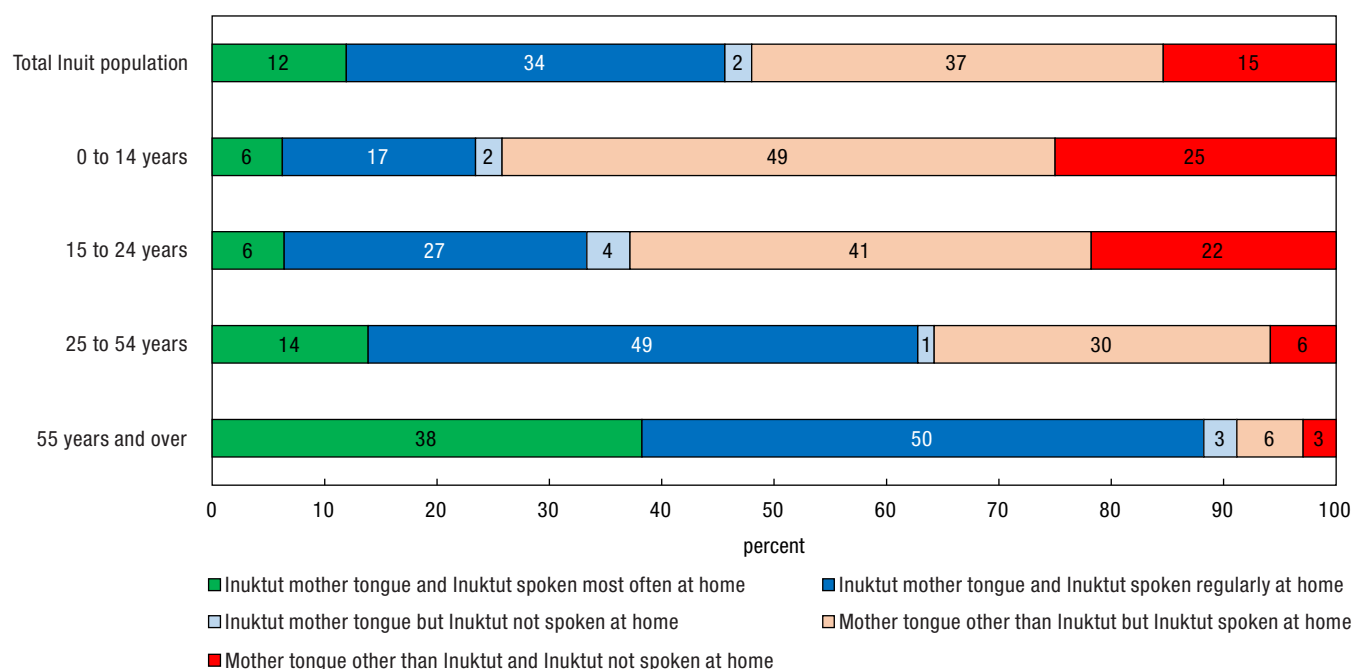
Sources: Statistics Canada, 2001, 2006, and 2016 censuses of population, and the 2011 National Household Survey.

Baker Lake

Table 5.23
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Baker Lake, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,505	1,720	1,865	2,050	36.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,315	1,425	1,525	1,665	26.6
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,060	1,105	1,210	915	-13.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,165	1,275	1,390	1,580	35.6
As a main language	580	445	500	305	-47.4
As a secondary language	585	830	890	1,275	117.9
English spoken at home (Total)	1,315	1,510	1,745	1,965	49.4
Workers aged 15 years and older	615	740	880	960	56.1
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	470	525	565	620	31.9
As a main language	160	155	85	75	-53.1
As a secondary language	310	370	480	545	75.8
Use of English at work (Total)	565	670	860	940	66.4
Inuit population	1,405	1,550	1,720	1,890	34.5
Knowledge of Inuktitut	1,305	1,385	1,505	1,645	26.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	1,055	1,075	1,205	905	-14.2
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	1,150	1,245	1,385	1,555	35.2
As a main language	580	445	505	300	-48.3
As a secondary language	570	800	880	1,255	120.2
English spoken at home (Total)	1,215	1,350	1,605	1,805	48.6
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	535	620	760	825	54.2
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	470	510	550	605	28.7
As a main language	165	155	85	75	-54.5
As a secondary language	305	355	465	530	73.8
Use of English at work (Total)	485	560	745	805	66.0
Non-Inuit population	105	170	145	160	52.4

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.21
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Baker Lake, 2001 to 2016


Note: Among the Inuit population in Baker Lake in 2016, 12% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 15% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

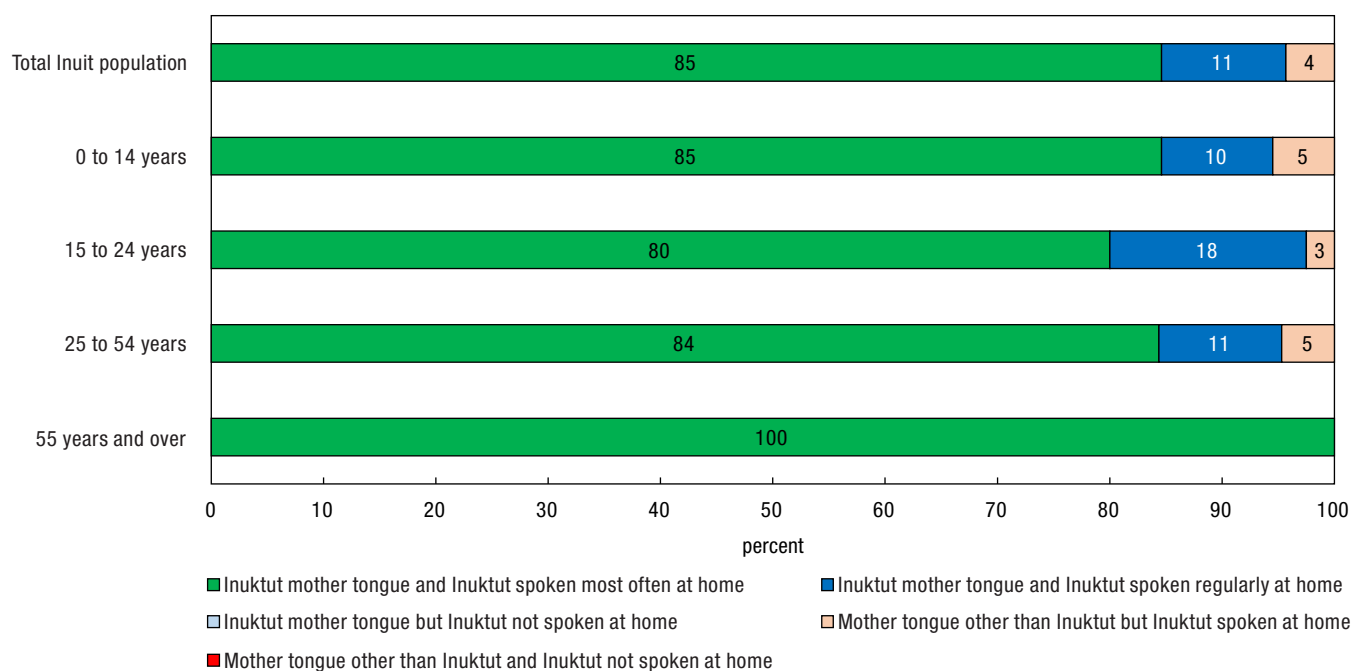
Naujaat

Table 5.24
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Naujaat, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	610	745	940	1,075	76.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	590	705	920	1,040	76.3
Inuktitut mother tongue	575	700	900	995	73.0
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	580	695	870	1,025	76.7
As a main language	565	635	825	895	58.4
As a secondary language	15	60	45	130	766.7
English spoken at home (Total)	440	430	625	965	119.3
Workers aged 15 years and older	255	290	330	335	31.4
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	235	215	275	280	19.1
As a main language	200	145	220	165	-17.5
As a secondary language	35	70	55	115	228.6
Use of English at work (Total)	205	245	270	320	56.1
Inuit population	585	715	920	1,030	76.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	585	700	915	1,035	76.9
Inuktitut mother tongue	575	690	895	995	73.0
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	575	680	870	1,030	79.1
As a main language	565	620	825	900	59.3
As a secondary language	10	60	45	130	1200.0
English spoken at home (Total)	415	405	605	925	122.9
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	235	265	310	295	25.5
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	225	220	275	275	22.2
As a main language	195	150	220	165	-15.4
As a secondary language	30	70	55	110	266.7
Use of English at work (Total)	180	225	255	280	55.6
Non-Inuit population	20	35	25	45	125.0

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.22
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Naujaat, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Naujaat in 2016, 85% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 4% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue but spoke it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

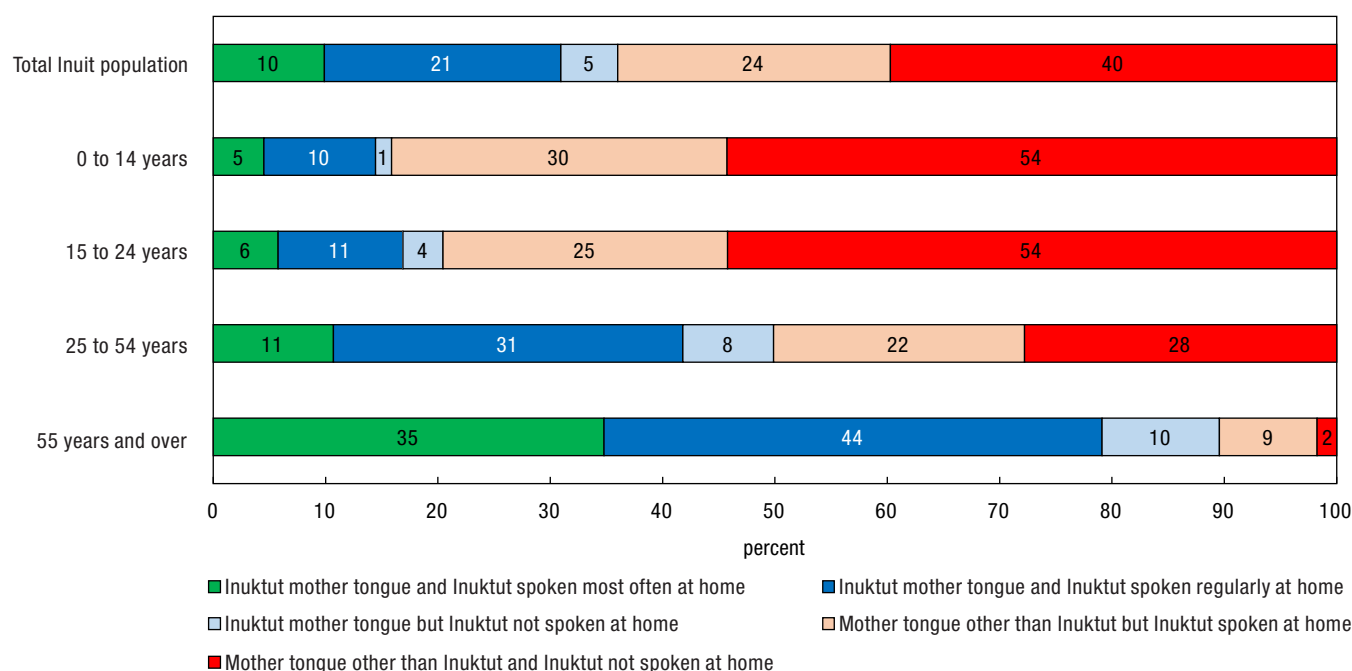
Kitikmeot region

Table 5.25
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Kitikmeot region, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	4,805	5,345	5,980	6,485	35.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	2,950	3,290	3,575	3,725	26.3
Inuktitut mother tongue	2,180	2,285	2,345	2,125	-2.5
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	2,265	2,460	3,120	3,295	45.5
As a main language	865	725	710	730	-15.6
As a secondary language	1,400	1,735	2,410	2,565	83.2
English spoken at home (Total)	4,390	5,005	5,730	6,240	42.1
Workers aged 15 years and older	2,275	2,545	2,575	2,900	27.5
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	1,095	1,155	920	1,080	-1.4
As a main language	285	210	185	190	-33.3
As a secondary language	810	945	735	890	9.9
Use of English at work (Total)	2,165	2,475	2,520	2,865	32.3
Inuit population	4,310	4,735	5,415	5,905	37.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	2,935	3,190	3,550	3,700	26.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	2,180	2,225	2,345	2,115	-3.0
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	2,265	2,365	3,110	3,280	44.8
As a main language	870	700	710	730	-16.1
As a secondary language	1,395	1,665	2,400	2,550	82.8
English spoken at home (Total)	3,905	4,415	5,175	5,670	45.2
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	1,885	2,100	2,100	2,405	27.6
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	1,065	1,110	895	1,050	-1.4
As a main language	275	210	180	195	-29.1
As a secondary language	790	900	715	855	8.2
Use of English at work (Total)	1,770	2,035	2,055	2,375	34.2
Non-Inuit population	490	615	570	580	18.4

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.23
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Kitikmeot region, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in the Kitikmeot region in 2016, 10% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 40% of Inuit in the region did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

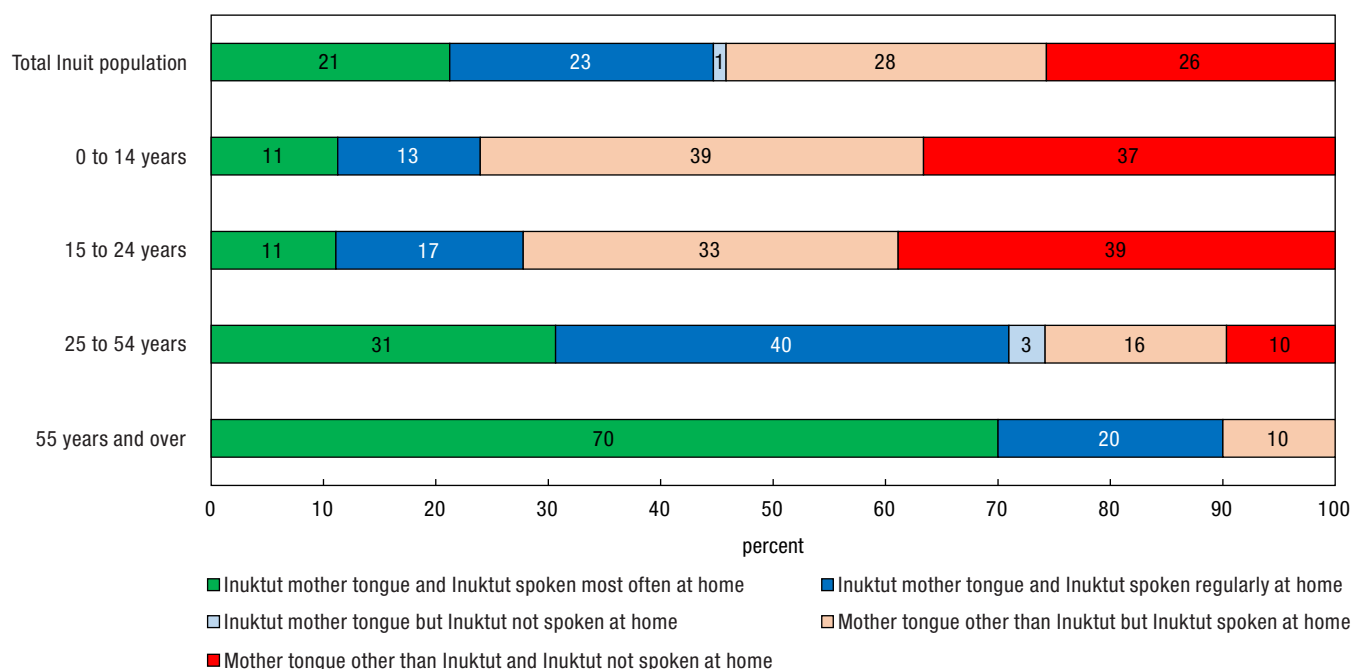
Kugaaruk

Table 5.26
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Kugaaruk, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	600	690	770	925	54.2
Knowledge of Inuktitut	520	600	685	690	32.7
Inuktitut mother tongue	455	455	505	420	-7.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	485	490	620	660	36.1
As a main language	220	170	195	245	11.4
As a secondary language	265	320	425	415	56.6
English spoken at home (Total)	570	630	740	840	47.4
Workers aged 15 years and older	270	300	235	350	29.6
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	225	230	170	235	4.4
As a main language	100	55	55	65	-35.0
As a secondary language	125	175	115	170	36.0
Use of English at work (Total)	250	290	235	340	36.0
Inuit population	570	630	750	890	56.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	520	575	685	690	32.7
Inuktitut mother tongue	455	435	510	420	-7.7
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	490	460	620	660	34.7
As a main language	230	155	195	245	6.5
As a secondary language	260	305	425	415	59.6
English spoken at home (Total)	540	585	725	810	50.0
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	245	270	220	320	30.6
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	220	205	170	230	4.5
As a main language	95	40	55	65	-31.6
As a secondary language	125	165	115	165	32.0
Use of English at work (Total)	225	245	215	305	35.6
Non-Inuit population	30	50	15	40	33.3

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.24
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Kugaaruk, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Kugaaruk in 2016, 21% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 26% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

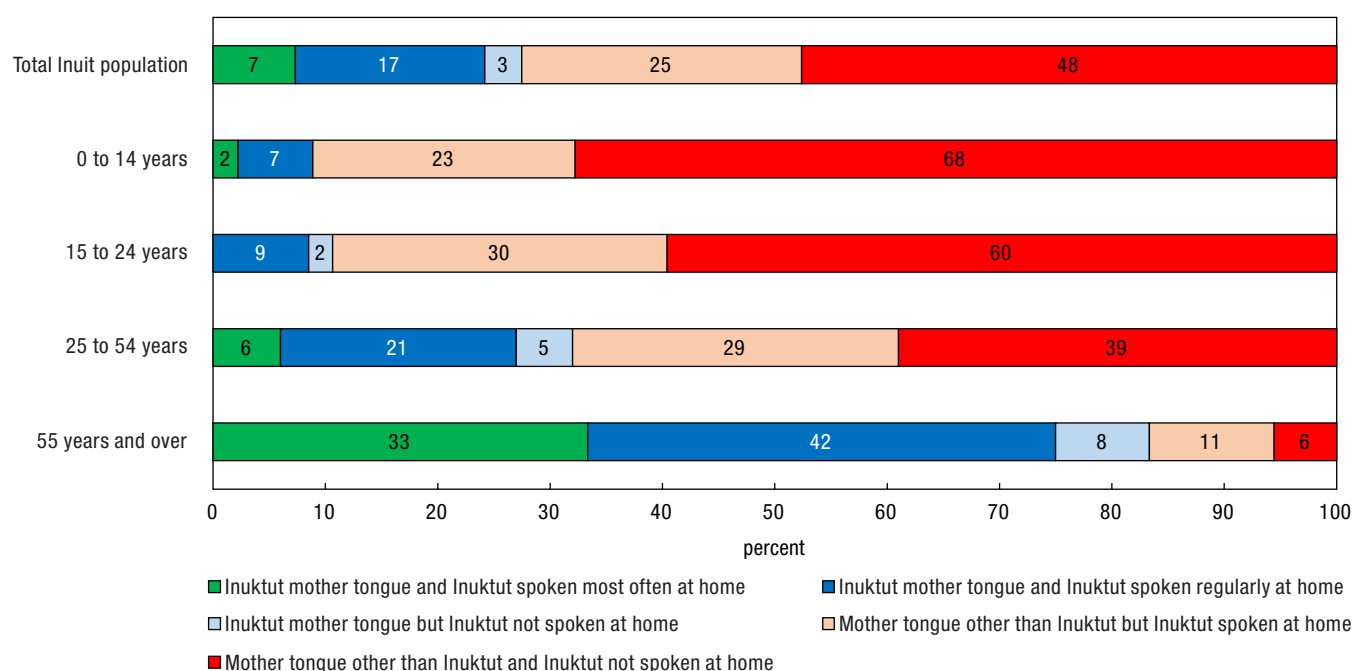
Kugluktuk

Table 5.27
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Kugluktuk, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,210	1,295	1,440	1,485	22.7
Knowledge of Inuktitut	575	620	690	770	33.9
Inuktitut mother tongue	380	395	315	355	-6.6
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	480	395	625	635	32.3
As a main language	120	115	85	105	-12.5
As a secondary language	360	280	540	530	47.2
English spoken at home (Total)	1,145	1,250	1,395	1,435	25.3
Workers aged 15 years and older	585	600	685	685	17.1
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	260	205	155	155	-40.4
As a main language	40	20	20	20	-50.0
As a secondary language	220	185	135	135	-38.6
Use of English at work (Total)	565	595	680	675	19.5
Inuit population	1,115	1,190	1,310	1,350	21.1
Knowledge of Inuktitut	575	615	685	760	32.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	385	395	315	355	-7.8
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	480	390	625	635	32.3
As a main language	120	110	85	105	-12.5
As a secondary language	360	280	540	530	47.2
English spoken at home (Total)	1,055	1,145	1,275	1,295	22.7
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	495	515	580	570	15.2
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	260	205	150	140	-46.2
As a main language	45	20	15	20	-55.6
As a secondary language	215	185	135	120	-44.2
Use of English at work (Total)	480	500	580	565	17.7
Non-Inuit population	95	105	130	135	42.1

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.25
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Kugluktuk, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Kugluktuk in 2016, 7% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 48% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

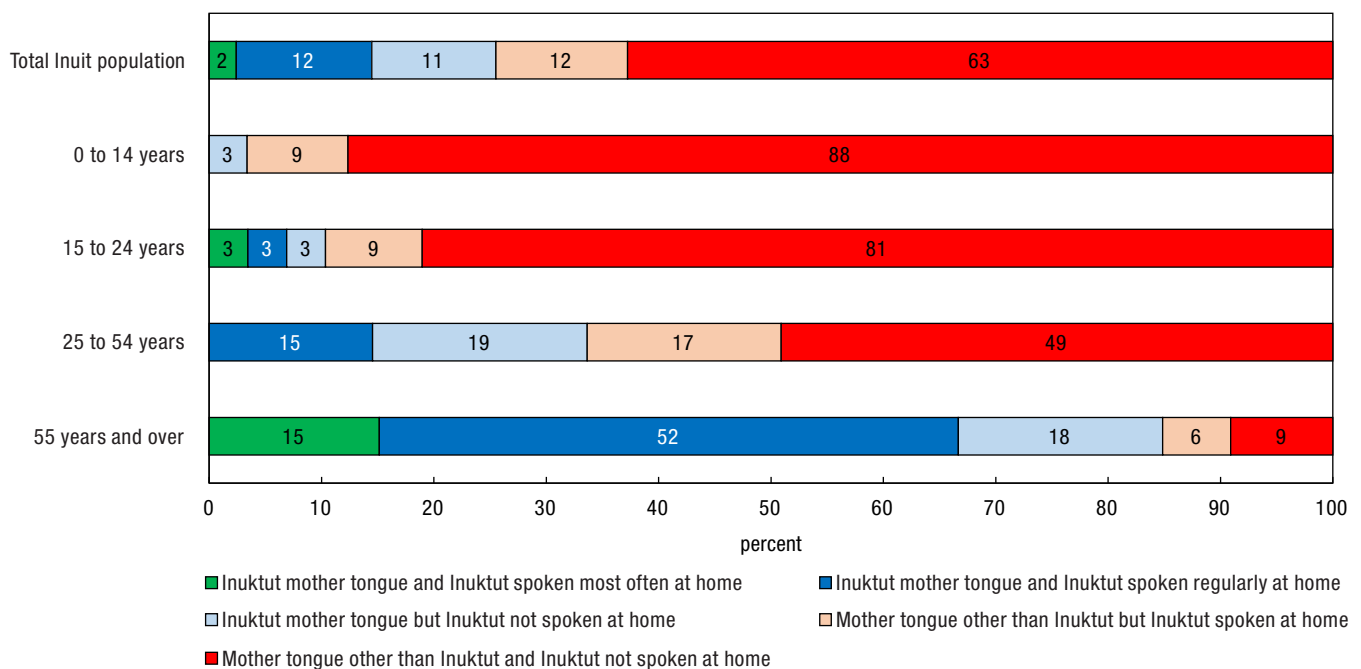
Cambridge Bay

Table 5.28
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Cambridge Bay, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	1,300	1,475	1,585	1,740	33.8
Knowledge of Inuktitut	550	590	575	585	6.4
Inuktitut mother tongue	340	440	335	350	2.9
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	350	305	420	425	21.4
As a main language	85	110	100	65	-23.5
As a secondary language	265	195	320	360	35.8
English spoken at home (Total)	1,245	1,395	1,540	1,710	37.3
Workers aged 15 years and older	690	835	815	1,010	46.4
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	160	145	120	185	15.6
As a main language	30	30	0	20	-33.3
As a secondary language	130	115	120	165	26.9
Use of English at work (Total)	695	825	805	1,015	46.0
Inuit population	1,025	1,165	1,250	1,435	40.0
Knowledge of Inuktitut	545	580	560	570	4.6
Inuktitut mother tongue	335	435	335	345	3.0
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	360	310	405	410	13.9
As a main language	95	120	95	65	-31.6
As a secondary language	265	190	310	345	30.2
English spoken at home (Total)	975	1,090	1,215	1,405	44.1
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	480	595	540	750	56.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	140	130	100	180	28.6
As a main language	15	25	0	20	33.3
As a secondary language	125	105	100	160	28.0
Use of English at work (Total)	480	585	525	750	56.3
Non-Inuit population	280	310	330	305	8.9

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.26
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Cambridge Bay, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Cambridge Bay in 2016, 2% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 63% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

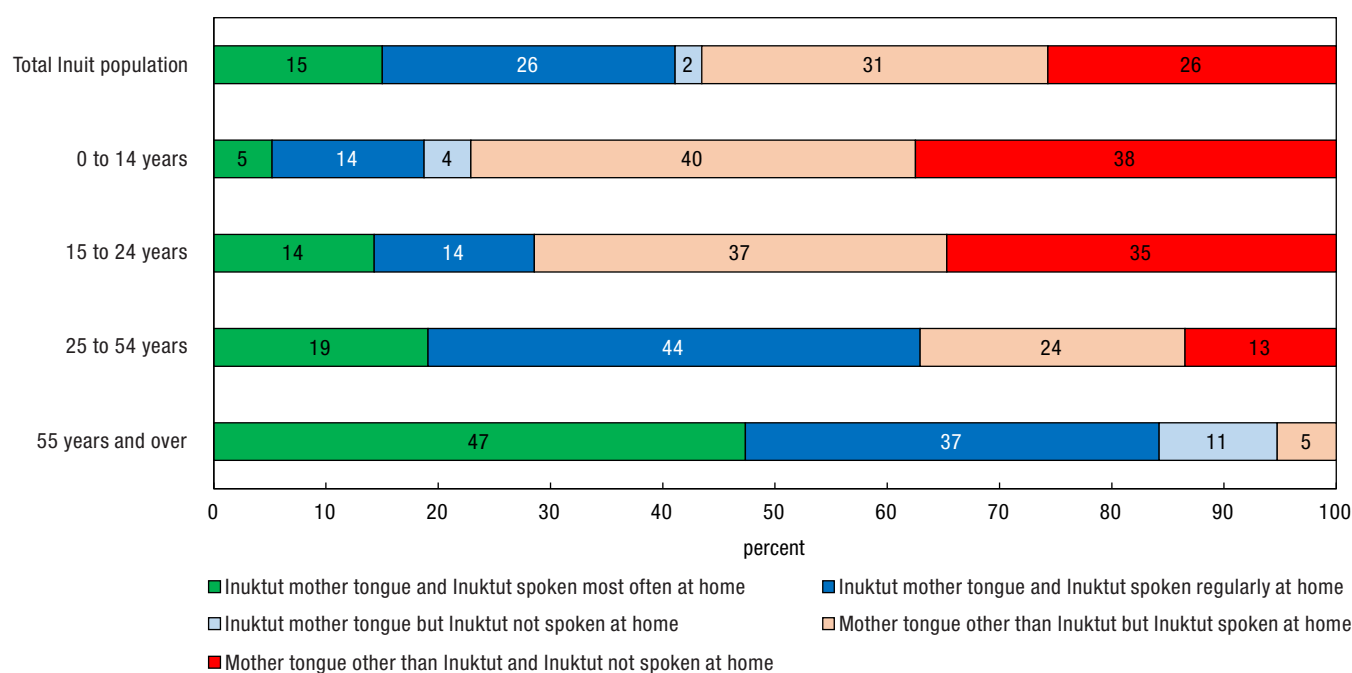
Gjoa Haven

Table 5.29
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Gjoa Haven, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	960	1,065	1,275	1,310	36.5
Knowledge of Inuktitut	735	815	880	945	28.6
Inuktitut mother tongue	565	470	625	535	-5.3
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	545	695	795	890	63.3
As a main language	275	150	185	190	-30.9
As a secondary language	270	545	610	700	159.3
English spoken at home (Total)	790	985	1,200	1,270	60.8
Workers aged 15 years and older	405	480	530	490	21.0
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	250	310	280	285	14.0
As a main language	75	65	60	45	-40.0
As a secondary language	175	245	220	240	37.1
Use of English at work (Total)	380	455	505	475	25.0
Inuit population	925	990	1,225	1,255	35.7
Knowledge of Inuktitut	730	795	885	945	29.5
Inuktitut mother tongue	565	455	625	530	-6.2
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	540	695	795	890	64.8
As a main language	270	155	185	190	-29.6
As a secondary language	270	540	610	700	159.3
English spoken at home (Total)	750	920	1,145	1,215	62.0
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	375	430	480	440	17.3
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	235	300	280	285	21.3
As a main language	65	65	60	45	-30.8
As a secondary language	170	235	220	240	41.2
Use of English at work (Total)	335	405	465	435	29.9
Non-Inuit population	35	70	55	55	57.1

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.27
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Gjoa Haven, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Gjoa Haven in 2016, 15% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 26% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

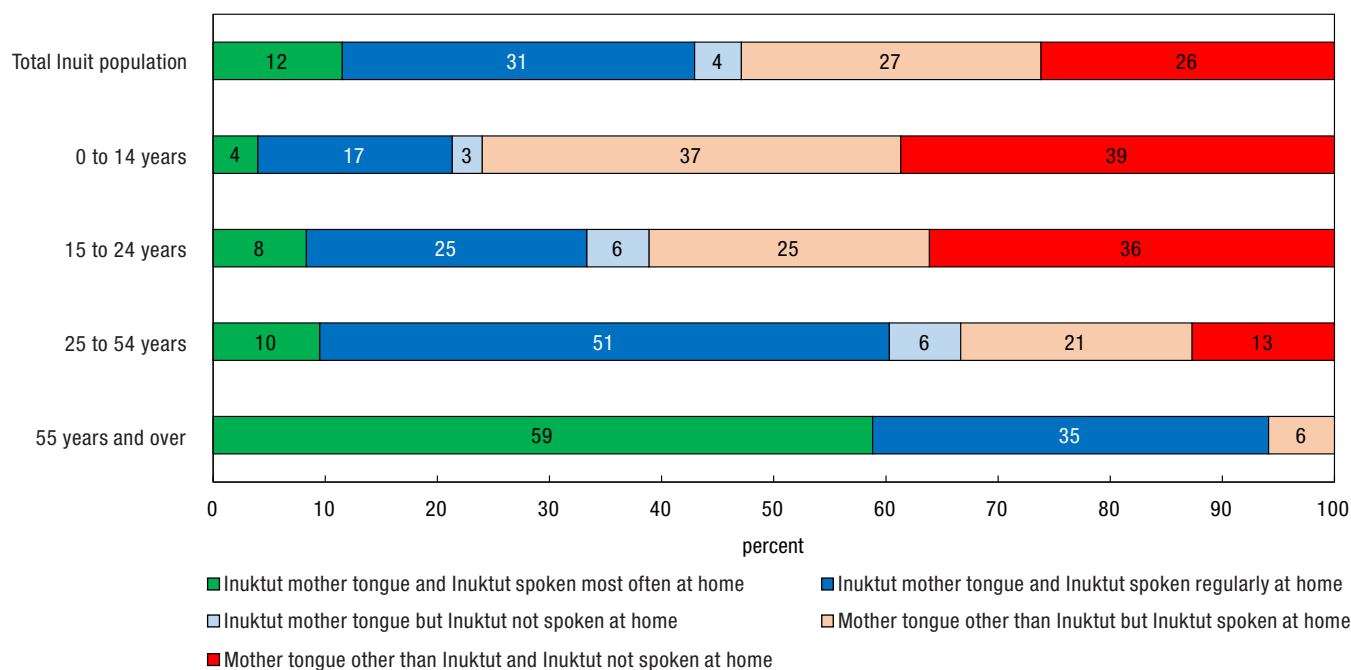
Taloyoak

Table 5.30
Total population, Inuit and non-Inuit populations by selected linguistic indicators, Taloyoak, 2001 to 2016

	2001	2006	2011	2016	2001 to 2016
	number				percent change
Total population	715	810	900	1,025	43.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	555	650	750	745	34.2
Inuktitut mother tongue	430	515	560	465	8.1
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	395	540	655	685	73.4
As a main language	160	165	140	125	-21.9
As a secondary language	235	375	515	560	138.3
English spoken at home (Total)	630	735	850	995	57.9
Workers aged 15 years and older	315	320	305	365	15.9
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	210	250	190	210	0.0
As a main language	55	40	45	35	-36.4
As a secondary language	155	210	145	175	12.9
Use of English at work (Total)	290	305	305	360	24.1
Inuit population	665	745	870	980	47.4
Knowledge of Inuktitut	560	620	740	740	32.1
Inuktitut mother tongue	425	500	565	465	9.4
Inuktitut spoken at home (Total)	400	510	660	690	72.5
As a main language	165	160	145	125	-24.2
As a secondary language	235	350	515	565	140.4
English spoken at home (Total)	580	665	815	945	62.9
Inuit workers aged 15 years and older	280	280	280	325	16.1
Use of Inuktitut at work (Total)	220	235	180	205	-6.8
As a main language	65	40	35	35	-46.2
As a secondary language	155	195	145	170	9.7
Use of English at work (Total)	260	270	265	325	25.0
Non-Inuit population	50	65	35	45	-10.0

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Chart 5.28
Proportion of the Inuit population by different combinations of mother tongue and language spoken at home, Taloyoak, 2001 to 2016



Note: Among the Inuit population in Taloyoak in 2016, 12% had Inuktitut as a mother tongue and were speaking it the most often at home. On the other hand, 26% of Inuit in the community did not have Inuktitut as a mother tongue and did not speak it at home.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Conclusion

The purpose of this report is to present a statistical portrait of language dynamics in Nunavut, primarily using data from Canadian censuses of population. These data provide a wide range of information on language in order to study the various linguistic characteristics and practices of the population and to compare them over time to track their evolution. The wealth of linguistic data gathered by the Canadian censuses also helps in developing more complex indicators to measure certain aspects of the vitality of the Inuktitut language in Nunavut.

The data in the different sections of this report cover various ethnolinguistic characteristics of the Nunavut population, such as Inuit identity and mother tongue, as well as knowledge of languages and use of languages at home and at work. Furthermore, linguistic exogamy, language transmission, language transfers and migrations are other factors that can affect the linguistic vitality of a community and that have been examined in greater detail in this report.

In addition to the various highlights found throughout this report, three key findings emerge from these analyses.

First, non-transmission of the mother tongue seems to be the biggest factor that negatively affects the vitality of Inuktitut in Nunavut. The Inuit population is steadily growing in Nunavut and Inuit make up approximately 85% of the territory's total population, a figure that varies little from one census to the next. However, nearly one in four Inuit and close to one in three children under the age of 15 did not have Inuktitut as their mother tongue in 2016. The proportion of Inuit residents who did not have Inuktitut as their mother tongue rose steadily between 2001 (15.7%) and 2016 (23.4%). In comparison, other factors likely to adversely affect the vitality of Inuktitut, such as full language transfers, seem to have a much less significant impact.

As well, most of the linguistic indicators revealed considerable regional disparities. Regardless of the indicator used, the vitality of Inuktitut still seems to be more fragile in the Kitikmeot region, and particularly in the communities of Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk. The same is true in Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet, the regional centres with larger non-Inuit populations, and in Baker Lake, though generally to a lesser extent. Conversely, the vitality of Inuktitut seems generally very good, particularly in the communities of the Qikiqtaaluk region, with the exception of Iqaluit.

Finally, according to the data, there was somewhat of a resurgence of Inuktitut between 2011 and 2016, particularly in the public sphere. Between 2011 and 2016, the number of Inuit workers using Inuktitut at work increased, after falling between 2001 and 2011. However, the use of English at work increased continuously between 2001 and 2016. This means that the increased use of English at work by Inuit workers has not necessarily hindered the use of Inuktitut and, conversely, that the increased use of Inuktitut between 2011 and 2016 has not hindered the use of English, but has improved bilingualism at work.

Other findings in this report also show a strong English presence, but this is not necessarily detrimental to Inuktitut. For example, there was a decrease in language transfers among Inuit with an Inuktitut-mother-tongue between 2011 and 2016, particularly complete transfers. There was also constant growth of the combined use of Inuktitut and English at home among Inuit in Nunavut between 2001 and 2016.

Caution must nevertheless be exercised with these findings, in that it is hard to know how sustainable these recent trends will be. Moreover, while there are signs of a resurgence in the vitality of Inuktitut, some significant trends persist and highlight the importance of monitoring the situation in the coming years.

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Appendix A

Table A
Population with Inuktitut as their mother tongue (all combinations), Nunavut, regions and communities, 2001 to 2016

Region and Community	2001			2006			2011			2016		
	Total number	Inuktitut number	percent	Total number	Inuktitut number	percent	Total number	Inuktitut number	percent	Total number	Inuktitut number	percent
Nunavut	26,525	19,020	71.7	29,200	20,715	70.9	31,695	21,835	68.9	35,580	23,225	65.3
Qikiqtaaluk	14,205	10,935	77.0	15,565	11,805	75.8	16,805	12,535	74.6	18,805	13,565	72.1
Iqaluit	5,175	2,615	50.5	6,000	2,960	49.3	6,595	3,125	47.4	7,590	3,185	42.0
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	9,030	8,315	92.1	9,560	8,840	92.5	10,210	9,410	92.2	11,215	10,380	92.6
Sanikiluaq	685	640	93.4	745	700	94.0	805	770	95.7	875	810	92.6
Kimmirut	430	395	91.9	410	385	93.9	455	415	91.2	385	345	89.6
Cape Dorset	1,145	1,050	91.7	1,235	1,115	90.3	1,360	1,235	90.8	1,440	1,330	92.4
Pangnirtung	1,275	1,190	93.3	1,325	1,240	93.6	x	x	x	1,475	1,370	92.9
Qikiqtarjuaq	520	480	92.3	470	450	95.7	515	475	92.2	595	560	94.1
Hall Beach	605	580	95.9	655	625	95.4	545	520	95.4	850	810	95.3
Igloolik	1,275	1,205	94.5	1,540	1,440	93.5	x	x	x	1,670	1,525	91.3
Clyde River	785	755	96.2	820	790	96.3	x	x	x	1,050	1,015	96.7
Arctic Bay	645	585	90.7	690	635	92.0	825	785	95.2	870	810	93.1
Pond Inlet	1,220	1,125	92.2	1,310	1,200	91.6	1,565	1,390	88.8	1,615	1,500	92.9
Resolute Bay	210	145	69.0	220	145	65.9	200	130	65.0	190	135	71.1
Grise Fiord	165	140	84.8	140	115	82.1	130	110	84.6	130	100	76.9
Kivalliq	7,520	5,915	78.7	8,290	6,625	79.9	8,915	6,955	78.0	10,290	7,535	73.2
Coral Harbour	715	660	92.3	765	720	94.1	835	755	90.4	890	800	89.9
Arviat	1,890	1,745	92.3	2,050	1,900	92.7	2,315	2,140	92.4	2,650	2,435	91.9
Whale Cove	305	285	93.4	350	340	97.1	410	360	87.8	435	370	85.1
Rankin Inlet	2,160	1,285	59.5	2,330	1,585	68.0	2,245	1,385	61.7	2,770	1,685	60.8
Chesterfield Inlet	330	305	92.4	320	275	85.9	x	x	x	415	340	81.9
Baker Lake	1,505	1,060	70.4	1,720	1,105	64.2	1,860	1,210	65.1	2,050	915	44.6
Repulse Bay	610	575	94.3	750	700	93.3	940	900	95.7	1,075	995	92.6
Kitikmeot	4,800	2,180	45.4	5,350	2,285	42.7	5,980	2,345	39.2	6,490	2,125	32.7
Kugaaruk	600	455	75.8	685	455	66.4	770	505	65.6	925	420	45.4
Kugluktuk	1,210	380	31.4	1,295	395	30.5	1,440	315	21.9	1,485	355	23.9
Cambridge Bay	1,300	340	26.2	1,470	440	29.9	1,585	335	21.1	1,740	350	20.1
Gjoa Haven	960	565	58.9	1,060	470	44.3	1,280	625	48.8	1,310	535	40.8
Taloyoak	720	430	59.7	810	515	63.6	905	560	61.9	1,025	465	45.4

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Appendix B

Table B.1
Population by knowledge of Inuktitut and English, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2001 and 2006

Region and community	2001					2006				
	Total	Inuktitut		English		Total	Inuktitut		English	
	number	number	percent	number	percent	number	number	percent	number	percent
Nunavut	26,530	20,950	79.0	23,000	86.7	29,200	22,900	78.4	26,880	92.1
Qikiqtaaluk	14,205	11,415	80.4	11,790	83.0	15,565	12,310	79.1	14,030	90.1
Iqaluit	5,175	2,950	57.0	4,975	96.1	6,000	3,305	55.1	5,890	98.2
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	9,030	8,465	93.7	6,815	75.5	9,560	9,000	94.1	8,140	85.1
Sanikiluaq	680	645	94.9	475	69.9	745	705	94.6	560	75.2
Kimmirut	435	410	94.3	350	80.5	410	390	95.1	365	89.0
Cape Dorset	1,150	1,075	93.5	945	82.2	1,235	1,130	91.5	1,100	89.1
Pangnirtung	1,275	1,205	94.5	875	68.6	1,325	1,260	95.1	1,060	80.0
Qikiqtarjuaq	520	485	93.3	405	77.9	475	450	94.7	415	87.4
Hall Beach	610	575	94.3	425	69.7	655	625	95.4	615	93.9
Igloodik	1,270	1,220	96.1	890	70.1	1,535	1,465	95.4	1,185	77.2
Clyde River	785	755	96.2	540	68.8	820	800	97.6	705	86.0
Arctic Bay	645	610	94.6	520	80.6	690	655	94.9	580	84.1
Pond Inlet	1,220	1,150	94.3	990	81.1	1,315	1,230	93.5	1,210	92.0
Resolute Bay	210	165	78.6	195	92.9	220	175	79.5	215	97.7
Grise Fiord	165	145	87.9	135	81.8	140	125	89.3	130	92.9
Kivalliq	7,515	6,585	87.6	6,615	88.0	8,290	7,295	88.0	7,615	91.9
Coral Harbour	710	685	96.5	610	85.9	770	730	94.8	725	94.2
Arviat	1,890	1,790	94.7	1,415	74.9	2,050	1,955	95.4	1,700	82.9
Whale Cove	305	290	95.1	280	91.8	355	340	95.8	295	83.1
Rankin Inlet	2,165	1,595	73.7	2,075	95.8	2,330	1,860	79.8	2,265	97.2
Chesterfield Inlet	335	320	95.5	310	92.5	320	290	90.6	310	96.9
Baker Lake	1,505	1,315	87.4	1,360	90.4	1,720	1,425	82.8	1,630	94.8
Repulse Bay	610	590	96.7	560	91.8	745	705	94.6	685	91.9
Kitikmeot	4,805	2,950	61.4	4,595	95.6	5,345	3,290	61.6	5,230	97.8
Kugaaruk	600	520	86.7	575	95.8	690	600	87.0	670	97.1
Kugluktuk	1,210	575	47.5	1,170	96.7	1,295	620	47.9	1,285	99.2
Cambridge Bay	1,300	550	42.3	1,270	97.7	1,475	590	40.0	1,455	98.6
Gjoa Haven	960	735	76.6	905	94.3	1,065	815	76.5	1,020	95.8
Taloyoak	715	555	77.6	675	94.4	810	650	80.2	780	96.3

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

Table B.2
Population by knowledge of Inuktitut and English, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2011 and 2016

Region and community	2001					2006				
	Total	Inuktitut		English		Total	Inuktitut		English	
	number	number	percent	number	percent	number	number	percent	number	percent
Nunavut	31,695	24,470	77.2	28,795	90.9	35,580	27,320	76.8	33,485	94.1
Qikiqtaaluk	16,810	13,075	77.8	14,720	87.6	18,805	14,545	77.3	17,350	92.3
Iqaluit	6,595	3,520	53.4	6,430	97.5	7,590	3885	51.2	7460	98.3
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	10,210	9,555	93.6	8,290	81.2	11,215	10,665	95.1	9,895	88.2
Sanikiluaq	800	785	98.1	635	79.4	875	855	97.7	840	96.0
Kimmirut	450	425	94.4	385	85.6	385	360	93.5	340	88.3
Cape Dorset	1,365	1,265	92.7	1,115	81.7	1,445	1,360	94.1	1,315	91.0
Pangnirtung	x	x	x	x	x	1,480	1,385	93.6	1,270	85.8
Qikiqtarjuaq	520	485	93.3	450	86.5	600	560	93.3	525	87.5
Hall Beach	540	525	97.2	440	81.5	845	820	97.0	715	84.6
Igloodik	x	x	x	x	x	1,670	1,575	94.3	1,410	84.4
Clyde River	x	x	x	x	x	1,055	1,025	97.2	870	82.5
Arctic Bay	820	790	96.3	615	75.0	865	830	96.0	755	87.3
Pond Inlet	1,565	1,395	89.1	1,290	82.4	1,615	1,550	96.0	1,485	92.0
Resolute Bay	200	135	67.5	200	100.0	190	160	84.2	185	97.4
Grise Fiord	130	110	84.6	125	96.2	130	120	92.3	125	96.2
Kivalliq	8,915	7,820	87.7	8,185	91.8	10,290	9,045	87.9	9,715	94.4
Coral Harbour	830	785	94.6	810	97.6	890	860	96.6	865	97.2
Arviat	2,315	2,200	95.0	1,855	80.1	2,650	2,520	95.1	2,210	83.4
Whale Cove	410	395	96.3	395	96.3	430	395	91.9	435	101.2
Rankin Inlet	2,245	1,715	76.4	2,195	97.8	2,775	2,205	79.5	2,750	99.1
Chesterfield Inlet	x	x	x	x	x	415	375	90.4	410	98.8
Baker Lake	1,865	1,525	81.8	1,795	96.2	2,050	1,665	81.2	2,005	97.8
Repulse Bay	940	920	97.9	835	88.8	1,075	1,040	96.7	1,045	97.2
Kitikmeot	5,980	3,575	59.8	5,885	98.4	6,485	3,725	57.4	6,415	98.9
Kugaaruk	770	685	89.0	760	98.7	925	690	74.6	910	98.4
Kugluktuk	1,440	690	47.9	1,425	99.0	1,485	770	51.9	1,480	99.7
Cambridge Bay	1,585	575	36.3	1,580	99.7	1,740	585	33.6	1,725	99.1
Gjoa Haven	1,275	880	69.0	1,240	97.3	1,310	945	72.1	1,290	98.5
Taloyoak	900	750	83.3	880	97.8	1,025	745	72.7	1,005	98.0

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

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

Appendix C

Table C.1
Population who speaks Inuktitut at home as main and secondary language, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2001 and 2006

Region and community	2001								2006							
	Total population	Inuktitut language used at home						Total population	Inuktitut language used at home							
		Total		Main		Secondary			Total		Main		Secondary			
		number	percent	number	percent	number	percent		number	percent	number	percent	number	percent		
Nunavut	26,530	19,485	73.4	15,415	58.1	4,070	15.3	29,200	21,205	72.6	16,005	54.8	5,200	17.8		
Qikiqtaaluk	14,205	11,010	77.5	9,770	68.8	1,240	8.7	15,565	11,820	75.9	10,225	65.7	1,595	10.2		
Iqaluit	5,175	2,680	51.8	1,755	33.9	925	17.9	6,000	3,005	50.1	1,810	30.2	1,195	19.9		
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	9,030	8,345	92.4	8,015	88.8	330	3.7	9,560	8,815	92.2	8,410	88.0	405	4.2		
Sanikiluaq	680	630	92.6	615	90.4	15	2.2	745	705	94.6	685	91.9	20	2.7		
Kimmiut	435	395	90.8	375	86.2	20	4.6	410	375	91.5	355	86.6	20	4.9		
Cape Dorset	1,150	1,050	91.3	1,025	89.1	25	2.2	1,235	1,090	88.3	1,040	84.2	50	4.0		
Pangnirtung	1,275	1,185	92.9	1,160	91.0	25	2.0	1,325	1,245	94.0	1,195	90.2	50	3.8		
Qikiqtarjuaq	520	485	93.3	485	93.3	0	0.0	475	440	92.6	440	92.6	0	0.0		
Hall Beach	610	575	94.3	560	91.8	15	2.5	655	625	95.4	605	92.4	20	3.1		
Igloodik	1,270	1,205	94.9	1,180	92.9	25	2.0	1,535	1,455	94.8	1,430	93.2	25	1.6		
Clyde River	785	750	95.5	740	94.3	10	1.3	820	785	95.7	770	93.9	15	1.8		
Arctic Bay	645	600	93.0	570	88.4	30	4.7	690	650	94.2	615	89.1	35	5.1		
Pond Inlet	1,220	1,130	92.6	1,070	87.7	60	4.9	1,315	1,190	90.5	1,140	86.7	50	3.8		
Resolute Bay	210	150	71.4	65	31.0	85	40.5	220	160	72.7	70	31.8	90	40.9		
Grise Fiord	165	140	84.8	130	78.8	10	6.1	140	115	82.1	75	53.6	40	28.6		
Kivalliq	7,515	6,195	82.4	4,760	63.3	1,435	19.1	8,290	6,925	83.5	5,050	60.9	1,875	22.6		
Coral Harbour	710	675	95.1	620	87.3	55	7.7	770	700	90.9	625	81.2	75	9.7		
Arviat	1,890	1,760	93.1	1,685	89.2	75	4.0	2,050	1,905	92.9	1,835	89.5	70	3.4		
Whale Cove	305	280	91.8	215	70.5	65	21.3	355	350	98.6	325	91.5	25	7.0		
Rankin Inlet	2,165	1,430	66.1	835	38.6	595	27.5	2,330	1,755	75.3	1,035	44.4	720	30.9		
Chesterfield Inlet	335	305	91.0	265	79.1	40	11.9	320	275	85.9	170	53.1	105	32.8		
Baker Lake	1,505	1,165	77.4	580	38.5	585	38.9	1,720	1,275	74.1	445	25.9	830	48.3		
Repulse Bay	610	580	95.1	565	92.6	15	2.5	745	695	93.3	635	85.2	60	8.1		
Kitikmeot	4,805	2,265	47.1	865	18.0	1,400	29.1	5,345	2,460	46.0	725	13.6	1,735	32.5		
Kugaaruk	600	485	80.8	220	36.7	265	44.2	690	490	71.0	170	24.6	320	46.4		
Kugluktuk	1,210	480	39.7	120	9.9	360	29.8	1,295	395	30.5	115	8.9	280	21.6		
Cambridge Bay	1,300	350	26.9	85	6.5	265	20.4	1,475	305	20.7	110	7.5	195	13.2		
Gjoa Haven	960	545	56.8	275	28.6	270	28.1	1,065	695	65.3	150	14.1	545	51.2		
Taloyoak	715	395	55.2	160	22.4	235	32.9	810	540	66.7	165	20.4	375	46.3		

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

Table C.2
Population who speaks Inuktitut at home as main and secondary language, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2011 and 2016

Region and community	2011								2016							
	Total population	Inuktitut language used at home						Total population	Inuktitut language used at home							
		Total		Main		Secondary			Total		Main		Secondary			
		number	percent	number	percent	number	percent		number	percent	number	percent	number	percent		
Nunavut	31,695	23,210	73.2	16,595	52.4	6,615	20.9	35,580	26,270	73.8	18,275	51.4	7,995	22.5		
Qikiqtaaluk	16,810	12,680	75.4	10,750	64.0	1,930	11.5	18,805	14,160	75.3	11,970	63.7	2,190	11.6		
Iqaluit	6,595	3,275	49.7	1,920	29.1	1,355	20.5	7,590	3,550	46.8	1,815	23.9	1,735	22.9		
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	10,210	9,395	92.0	8,830	86.5	565	5.5	11,215	10,595	94.5	10,155	90.5	440	3.9		
Sanikiluaq	800	760	95.0	705	88.1	55	6.9	875	850	97.1	750	85.7	100	11.4		
Kimmirut	450	415	92.2	395	87.8	20	4.4	385	360	93.5	345	89.6	15	3.9		
Cape Dorset	1,365	1,255	91.9	1,185	86.8	70	5.1	1,445	1,350	93.4	1,305	90.3	45	3.1		
Pangnirtung	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1,480	1,395	94.3	1,360	91.9	35	2.4		
Qikiqtarjuaq	520	475	91.3	475	91.3	0	0.0	600	565	94.2	565	94.2	0	0.0		
Hall Beach	540	485	89.8	470	87.0	15	2.8	845	810	95.9	790	93.5	20	2.4		
Igloolik	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1,670	1,575	94.3	1,545	92.5	30	1.8		
Clyde River	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1,055	1,030	97.6	1,020	96.7	10	0.9		
Arctic Bay	820	785	95.7	750	91.5	35	4.3	865	825	95.4	795	91.9	30	3.5		
Pond Inlet	1,565	1,350	86.3	1,335	85.3	15	1.0	1,615	1,540	95.4	1,495	92.6	45	2.8		
Resolute Bay	200	125	62.5	50	25.0	75	37.5	190	145	76.3	70	36.8	75	39.5		
Grise Fiord	130	110	84.6	70	53.8	40	30.8	130	105	80.8	50	38.5	55	42.3		
Kivalliq	8,915	7,420	83.2	5,135	57.6	2,285	25.6	10,290	8,820	85.7	5,565	54.1	3,255	31.6		
Coral Harbour	830	715	86.1	545	65.7	170	20.5	890	855	96.1	450	50.6	405	45.5		
Arviat	2,315	2,175	94.0	2,090	90.3	85	3.7	2,650	2,500	94.3	2,420	91.3	80	3.0		
Whale Cove	410	380	92.7	260	63.4	120	29.3	430	390	90.7	200	46.5	190	44.2		
Rankin Inlet	2,245	1,585	70.6	725	32.3	860	38.3	2,775	2,095	75.5	1,070	38.6	1,025	36.9		
Chesterfield Inlet	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	415	375	90.4	220	53.0	155	37.3		
Baker Lake	1,865	1,390	74.5	500	26.8	890	47.7	2,050	1,580	77.1	305	14.9	1,275	62.2		
Repulse Bay	940	870	92.6	825	87.8	45	4.8	1,075	1,025	95.3	895	83.3	130	12.1		
Kitikmeot	5,980	3,120	52.2	710	11.9	2,410	40.3	6,485	3,295	50.8	730	11.3	2,565	39.6		
Kugaaruk	770	620	80.5	195	25.3	425	55.2	925	660	71.4	245	26.5	415	44.9		
Kugluktuk	1,440	625	43.4	85	5.9	540	37.5	1,485	635	42.8	105	7.1	530	35.7		
Cambridge Bay	1,585	420	26.5	100	6.3	320	20.2	1,740	425	24.4	65	3.7	360	20.7		
Gjoa Haven	1,275	795	62.4	185	14.5	610	47.8	1,310	890	67.9	190	14.5	700	53.4		
Taloyoak	900	655	72.8	140	15.6	515	57.2	1,025	685	66.8	125	12.2	560	54.6		

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Sources: Statistics Canada, Census of population 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Appendix D

Table D.1

Mother tongue of children aged 0 to 17 years living in a two-parent household, by parents' mother tongue, Nunavut, 2016

	Child's mother tongue				
	Total population	Inuktitut		Not Inuktitut	
	number	number	percent	number	percent
Both parents have an Inuktitut mother tongue	6,490	5,675	87.4	815	12.6
Linguistically exogamous couple	1,200	345	28.8	855	71.3
Neither parent has an Inuktitut mother tongue	1,820	25	1.4	1,795	98.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table D.2

Number of Inuit children with Inuktitut as their mother tongue, 2001 to 2016

	2001		2006		2011		2016	
	Total	Inuktitut	Total	Inuktitut	Total	Inuktitut	Total	Inuktitut
	number							
Nunavut								
0 to 4 years	3,120	2,450	3,180	2,430	3,755	2,745	3,810	2,605
5 to 9 years	3,135	2,385	3,110	2,320	3,180	2,245	3,870	2,620
10 to 14 years	3,080	2,435	3,060	2,335	2,985	2,200	3,250	2,215
15 to 19 years	2,325	1,865	2,970	2,330	2,900	2,230	2,980	2,150
Qikiqtaaluk								
0 to 4 years	1,550	1,455	1,570	1,415	1,870	1,645	1,870	1,620
5 to 9 years	1,585	1,465	1,560	1,395	1,565	1,330	1,960	1,655
10 to 14 years	1,540	1,450	1,555	1,435	1,435	1,270	1,575	1,360
15 to 19 years	1,230	1,175	1,470	1,370	1,450	1,315	1,410	1,260
Iqaluit								
0 to 4 years	350	275	410	280	485	330	460	250
5 to 9 years	410	315	405	275	435	260	515	265
10 to 14 years	385	320	410	315	375	245	440	260
15 to 19 years	290	250	405	330	415	305	365	240
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit								
0 to 4 years	1,200	1,175	1,160	1,140	1,385	1,315	1,415	1,370
5 to 9 years	1,175	1,150	1,150	1,120	1,130	1,070	1,445	1,385
10 to 14 years	1,155	1,130	1,140	1,120	1,065	1,030	1,135	1,100
15 to 19 years	940	930	1,065	1,040	1,035	1,010	1,045	1,020
Kivalliq								
0 to 4 years	995	835	1,015	865	1,145	925	1,195	865
5 to 9 years	970	765	985	785	955	750	1,185	850
10 to 14 years	965	805	930	735	960	755	1,035	765
15 to 19 years	650	540	915	780	885	735	1,010	785
Kitikmeot								
0 to 4 years	580	160	595	150	745	175	745	125
5 to 9 years	585	155	565	140	655	160	730	115
10 to 14 years	585	185	580	160	590	175	635	95
15 to 19 years	445	155	585	180	565	185	560	110

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 2001, 2006 and 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.

Appendix E

Table E.1
Devitalizing factors for Inuktitut and mitigating factors, Qikiqtaaluk, 2016

	Number	Percentage points
Devitalization factors (Inuit population)		
Non-transmission of mother tongue	-1,415	-9.5
Complete language transfers	-235	-1.6
Total losses	-1,650	-11.1
Mitigating factors (Inuit population)		
Knowledge of mother tongue without using it at home	200	1.3
Use of Inuktitut at home among Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	695	4.7
Main use	190	1.3
Secondary use	510	3.4
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	100	0.7
Total mitigating factors (Inuit population)	995	6.7
Mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)		
Transmission of Inuit mother tongue to non-Inuit	80	0.5
Use of Inuktitut at home among non-Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	145	1.0
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	85	0.6
Total mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)	310	2.1
Sum of mitigating factors	1,305	8.8
Sum of devitalization factors and mitigating factors	-345	-2.3

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table E.2
Devitalizing factors for Inuktitut and mitigating factors, Iqaluit, 2016

	Number	Percentage points
Devitalization factors (Inuit population)		
Non-transmission of mother tongue	-1,145	-26.7
Complete language transfers	-190	-4.4
Total losses	-1,335	-31.1
Mitigating factors (Inuit population)		
Knowledge of mother tongue without using it at home	160	3.7
Use of Inuktitut at home among Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	480	11.2
Main use	60	1.4
Secondary use	415	9.7
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	95	2.2
Total mitigating factors (Inuit population)	735	17.1
Mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)		
Transmission of Inuit mother tongue to non-Inuit	45	1.0
Use of Inuktitut at home among non-Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	100	2.3
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	70	1.6
Total mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)	215	5.0
Sum of mitigating factors	950	22.1
Sum of devitalization factors and mitigating factors	-385	-9.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table E.3
Devitalizing factors for Inuktitut and mitigating factors, Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit, 2016

	Number	Percentage points
Devitalization factors (Inuit population)		
Non-transmission of mother tongue	-265	-2.5
Complete language transfers	-40	-0.4
Total losses	-305	-2.9
Mitigating factors (Inuit population)		
Knowledge of mother tongue without using it at home	35	0.3
Use of Inuktitut at home among Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	215	2.0
Main use	125	1.2
Secondary use	85	0.8
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	10	0.1
Total mitigating factors (Inuit population)	260	2.5
Mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)		
Transmission of Inuit mother tongue to non-Inuit	35	0.3
Use of Inuktitut at home among non-Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	45	0.4
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	15	0.1
Total mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)	95	0.9
Sum of mitigating factors	355	3.3
Sum of devitalization factors and mitigating factors	50	0.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table E.4
Devitalizing factors for Inuktitut and mitigating factors, Kivalliq, 2016

	Number	Percentage points
Devitalization factors (Inuit population)		
Non-transmission of mother tongue	-1,860	-19.8
Complete language transfers	-135	-1.4
Total losses	-1,995	-21.3
Mitigating factors (Inuit population)		
Knowledge of mother tongue without using it at home	100	1.1
Use of Inuktitut at home among Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	1,335	14.2
Main use	245	2.6
Secondary use	1,115	11.9
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	105	1.1
Total mitigating factors (Inuit population)	1,540	16.4
Mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)		
Transmission of Inuit mother tongue to non-Inuit	25	0.3
Use of Inuktitut at home among non-Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	60	0.6
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	35	0.4
Total mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)	120	1.3
Sum of mitigating factors	1,660	17.7
Sum of devitalization factors and mitigating factors	-335	-3.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Table E.5
Devitalizing factors for Inuktitut and mitigating factors, Kitikmeot, 2016

	Number	Percentage points
Devitalization factors (Inuit population)		
Non-transmission of mother tongue	-3,790	-64.2
Complete language transfers	-270	-4.6
Total losses	-4,060	-68.8
Mitigating factors (Inuit population)		
Knowledge of mother tongue without using it at home	180	3.0
Use of Inuktitut at home among Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	1,430	24.2
Main use	140	2.4
Secondary use	1,305	22.1
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	235	4.0
Total mitigating factors (Inuit population)	1,845	31.2
Mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)		
Transmission of Inuit mother tongue to non-Inuit	10	0.2
Use of Inuktitut at home among non-Inuit who do not report it as mother tongue	10	0.2
Secondary speakers (without using it at home)	0	0.0
Total mitigating factors (non-Inuit population)	20	0.3
Sum of mitigating factors	1,865	31.6
Sum of devitalization factors and mitigating factors	-2,195	-37.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016.

Appendix F

Table F.1

Workers who use Inuktitut as main and secondary language at work, and their proportion of all workers, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2001 and 2006

Region and community	2001								2006							
	Total population	Inuktitut used at work						Total population	Inuktitut used at work							
		Total		Main		Secondary			Total		Main		Secondary			
number	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent			
Nunavut	12,420	8,070	65.0	4,355	35.1	3,715	29.9	14,095	8,740	62.0	4,305	30.5	4,435	31.5		
Qikiqtaaluk	6,895	4,475	64.9	2,725	39.5	1,750	25.4	7,930	4,970	62.7	2,895	36.5	2,075	26.2		
Iqaluit	3,160	1,315	41.6	400	12.7	915	29.0	3,730	1,475	39.5	420	11.3	1,055	28.3		
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	3,730	3,170	85.0	2,330	62.5	840	22.5	4,200	3,495	83.2	2,470	58.8	1,025	24.4		
Sanikiluaq	220	190	86.4	145	65.9	45	20.5	305	280	91.8	195	63.9	85	27.9		
Kimirut	210	180	85.7	115	54.8	65	31.0	185	135	73.0	90	48.6	45	24.3		
Cape Dorset	505	425	84.2	290	57.4	135	26.7	520	400	76.9	290	55.8	110	21.2		
Pangnirtung	585	505	86.3	405	69.2	100	17.1	620	515	83.1	400	64.5	115	18.5		
Qikiqtarjuaq	220	175	79.5	135	61.4	40	18.2	235	205	87.2	145	61.7	60	25.5		
Hall Beach	220	190	86.4	140	63.6	50	22.7	255	225	88.2	105	41.2	120	47.1		
Igloodik	465	410	88.2	300	64.5	110	23.7	570	485	85.1	365	64.0	120	21.1		
Clyde River	315	280	88.9	230	73.0	50	15.9	355	305	85.9	255	71.8	50	14.1		
Arctic Bay	270	225	83.3	160	59.3	65	24.1	310	270	87.1	190	61.3	80	25.8		
Pond Inlet	495	430	86.9	330	66.7	100	20.2	635	520	81.9	355	55.9	165	26.0		
Resolute Bay	110	60	54.5	15	13.6	45	40.9	135	85	63.0	35	25.9	50	37.0		
Grise Fiord	75	65	86.7	45	60.0	20	26.7	85	60	70.6	35	41.2	25	29.4		
Kivalliq	3,250	2,490	76.6	1,345	41.4	1,145	35.2	3,615	2,605	72.1	1,210	33.5	1,395	38.6		
Coral Harbour	300	260	86.7	160	53.3	100	33.3	345	285	82.6	185	53.6	100	29.0		
Arviat	660	570	86.4	415	62.9	155	23.5	685	545	79.6	395	57.7	150	21.9		
Whale Cove	130	115	88.5	70	53.8	45	34.6	130	105	80.8	85	65.4	20	15.4		
Rankin Inlet	1,120	700	62.5	250	22.3	450	40.2	1,240	780	62.9	180	14.5	600	48.4		
Chesterfield Inlet	175	150	85.7	85	48.6	65	37.1	185	140	75.7	55	29.7	85	45.9		
Baker Lake	615	470	76.4	160	26.0	310	50.4	740	525	70.9	155	20.9	370	50.0		
Repulse Bay	255	235	92.2	200	78.4	35	13.7	290	215	74.1	145	50.0	70	24.1		
Kitikmeot	2,275	1,095	48.1	285	12.5	810	35.6	2,545	1,155	45.4	210	8.3	945	37.1		
Kugaaruk	270	225	83.3	100	37.0	125	46.3	300	230	76.7	55	18.3	175	58.3		
Kugluktuk	585	260	44.4	40	6.8	220	37.6	600	205	34.2	20	3.3	185	30.8		
Cambridge Bay	690	160	23.2	30	4.3	130	18.8	835	145	17.4	30	3.6	115	13.8		
Gjoa Haven	405	250	61.7	75	18.5	175	43.2	480	310	64.6	65	13.5	245	51.0		
Taloyoak	315	210	66.7	55	17.5	155	49.2	320	250	78.1	40	12.5	210	65.6		

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

Table F.2

Workers, workers who use Inuktitut as main and secondary language at work, and their proportion of all workers, Nunavut, regions and communities, 2011 and 2016

Region and community	2011								2016							
	Total population	Inuktitut used at work						Total population	Inuktitut used at work							
		Total		Main		Secondary			Total		Main		Secondary			
		number	number	percent	number	percent	number		percent	number	number	percent	number	percent		
Nunavut	14,785	8,540	57.8	4,000	27.1	4,540	30.7	17,000	10,315	60.7	4,745	27.9	5,570	32.8		
Qikiqtaaluk	8,205	4,750	57.9	2,565	31.3	2,185	26.6	9,395	5,765	61.4	3,085	32.8	2,680	28.5		
Iqaluit	4,120	1,605	39.0	385	9.3	1,220	29.6	4,830	1,815	37.6	510	10.6	1,305	27.0		
Qikiqtaaluk excluding Iqaluit	4,085	3,145	77.0	2,180	53.4	965	23.6	4,560	3,960	86.8	2,575	56.5	1,385	30.4		
Sanikiluaq	235	195	83.0	130	55.3	65	27.7	290	260	89.7	185	63.8	75	25.9		
Kimmirut	190	165	86.8	100	52.6	65	34.2	170	150	88.2	85	50.0	65	38.2		
Cape Dorset	605	485	80.2	360	59.5	125	20.7	555	480	86.5	325	58.6	155	27.9		
Pangnirtung								665	595	89.5	395	59.4	200	30.1		
Qikiqtarjuaq	265	235	88.7	150	56.6	85	32.1	265	215	81.1	180	67.9	35	13.2		
Hall Beach	220	110	50.0	60	27.3	50	22.7	330	295	89.4	135	40.9	160	48.5		
Igloolik	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	650	545	83.8	330	50.8	215	33.1		
Clyde River	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	395	370	93.7	315	79.7	55	13.9		
Arctic Bay	310	245	79.0	155	50.0	90	29.0	330	275	83.3	165	50.0	110	33.3		
Pond Inlet	590	375	63.6	280	47.5	95	16.1	700	640	91.4	430	61.4	210	30.0		
Resolute Bay	130	60	46.2	20	15.4	40	30.8	105	85	81.0	10	9.5	75	71.4		
Grise Fiord	75	60	80.0	30	40.0	30	40.0	85	65	76.5	20	23.5	45	52.9		
Kivalliq	4,010	2,890	72.1	1,255	31.3	1,635	40.8	4,705	3,475	73.9	1,470	31.2	2,005	42.6		
Coral Harbour	325	270	83.1	155	47.7	115	35.4	365	315	86.3	115	31.5	200	54.8		
Arviat	880	745	84.7	520	59.1	225	25.6	1,000	870	87.0	615	61.5	255	25.5		
Whale Cove	185	150	81.1	40	21.6	110	59.5	190	160	84.2	45	23.7	115	60.5		
Rankin Inlet	1,260	740	58.7	170	13.5	570	45.2	1,625	1,045	64.3	365	22.5	680	41.8		
Chesterfield Inlet	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	225	195	86.7	90	40.0	105	46.7		
Baker Lake	880	565	64.2	85	9.7	480	54.5	960	620	64.6	75	7.8	545	56.8		
Repulse Bay	330	275	83.3	220	66.7	55	16.7	335	280	83.6	165	49.3	115	34.3		
Kitikmeot	2,575	920	35.7	185	7.2	735	28.5	2,900	1,080	37.2	190	6.6	890	30.7		
Kugaaruk	235	170	72.3	55	23.4	115	48.9	350	235	67.1	65	18.6	170	48.6		
Kugluktuk	685	155	22.6	20	2.9	135	19.7	685	155	22.6	20	2.9	135	19.7		
Cambridge Bay	815	120	14.7	0	0.0	120	14.7	1,010	185	18.3	20	2.0	165	16.3		
Gjoa Haven	530	280	52.8	60	11.3	220	41.5	490	285	58.2	45	9.2	240	49.0		
Taloyoak	305	190	62.3	45	14.8	145	47.5	365	210	57.5	35	9.6	175	47.9		

x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

Sources: Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2016; 2011 National Household Survey.