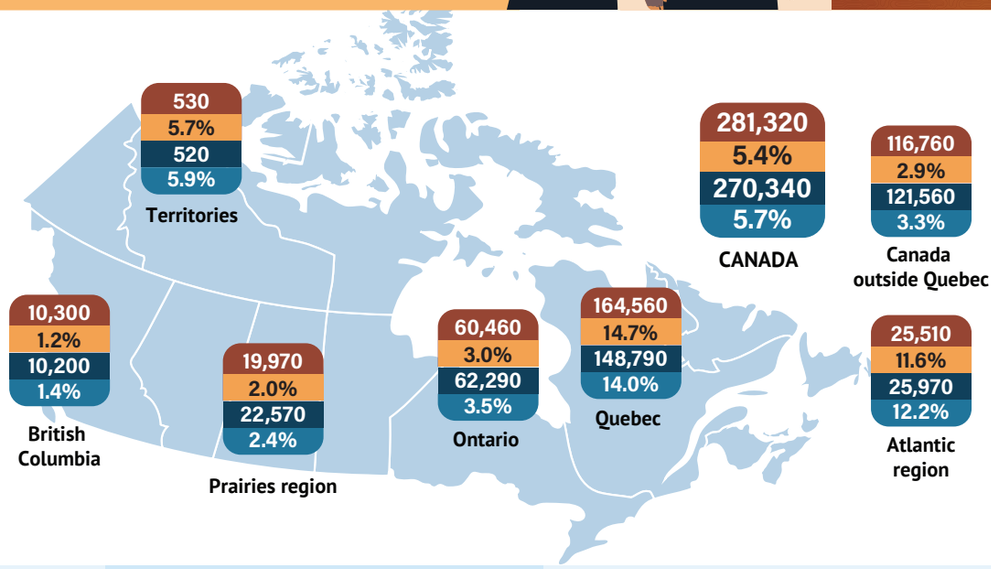
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MINORITY (OLM)
ENTERPRISES IN CANADA

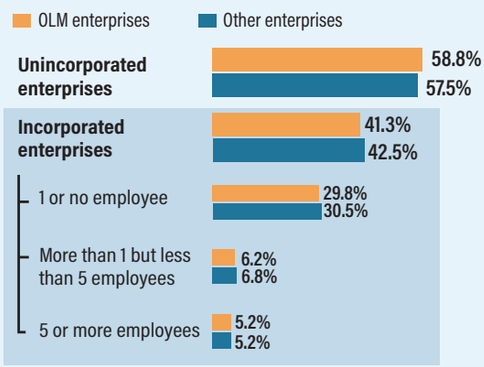
In 2021, 5.4% of enterprises in Canada were majority-owned by official language minority owners[1,2,3]

- Number of OLM enterprises, 2021
- Percentage of enterprises, 2021
- Number of OLM enterprises, 2016
- Percentage of enterprises, 2016

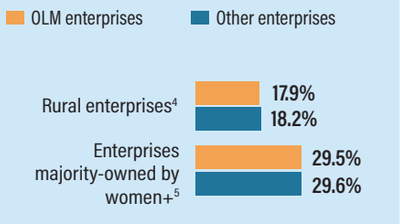


4 in 10 OLM enterprises were incorporated. Just over 1 in 10 were incorporated enterprises with more than one employee. These proportions are similar to those observed for other enterprises.

Type of enterprise and number of employees



Similar proportions of OLM enterprises and other enterprises were located in a rural region or were majority-owned by women+.

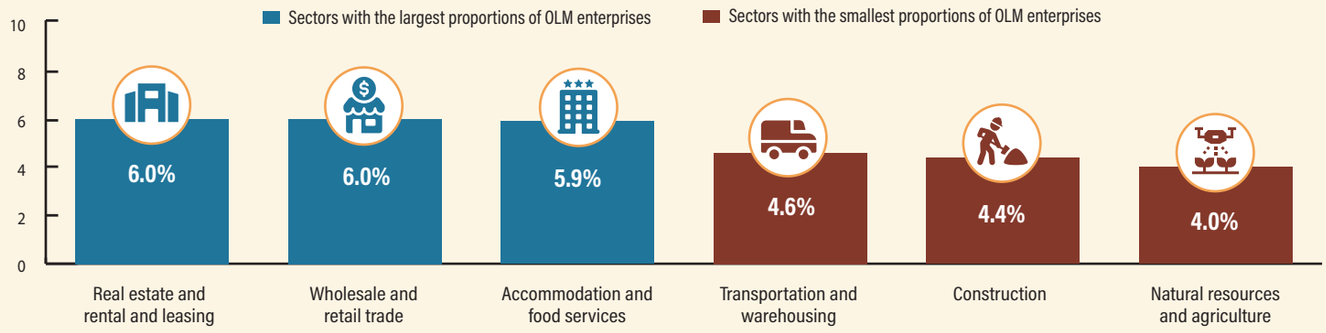


The shares of total employment and total payroll represented by OLM enterprises decreased slightly from 2016 to 2021, among incorporated enterprises with more than 1 and less than 5000 employees.

	2016	2021
Share of enterprises	5.4%	5.2%
Share of employment	5.9%	5.7%
Share of total payroll	5.6%	5.5%

Industry sectors with the largest and smallest proportions of OLM enterprises

Proportion of enterprises that are OLM-owned



Notes:

1. Official language minorities (OLMs) refer to English-language communities in Quebec and French-language communities in Canada outside Quebec.
2. Official language minority (OLM) enterprises are defined as: a) incorporated enterprises for which at least 50% of shares are owned by one or more people whose first official language spoken (FOLS) is the minority official language in the province where the enterprise is located (not including people with "French and English" as their FOLS), and b) unincorporated enterprises for which at least 50% of individual owners have the minority official language as their FOLS.
3. The geographic location of an enterprise is determined by its main operating address.
4. Rural enterprises are enterprises whose main operating address is in a rural region.
5. Enterprises majority-owned by women+ are defined as a) incorporated enterprises for which more than 50% of shares are owned by women+, and b) unincorporated enterprises for which more than 50% of individual owners are women+. The category "women+" includes women as well as some non-binary persons.

Source: Statistics Canada, Business Linkable File Environment (B-LFE).

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