

Overview of the Toronto Labour Market for French Speakers

Date: June 28, 2021
To: Toronto Francophone Affairs Advisory Committee
From: Patrick Tobin, Director, Arts and Culture Services
Wards: All

SUMMARY

In response to the Committee's request as part of its work plan (adopted as item FA2.6) this report provides an overview of the Toronto Labour Market for French Speakers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Arts and Culture Services recommends that the Toronto Francophone Affairs Advisory Committee receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

N/A

COMMENTS

According to the 2016 Census, Toronto has 248,420 French-speaking residents, representing 9.2% of the total population of the city. This includes 49,005 residents who identified French as their mother tongue. Women account for more than half of Toronto's French-speaking and Francophone community.ⁱ

44,895 Toronto residents, or 2.9% of workers, report using French most often or regularly at work. The use of French at work in Toronto was below the provincial

average of 5.6%, reflecting a much higher use of French at workplaces in the Eastern and Northeastern regions of the province.ii

The labour force participation rate for Francophone Toronto residents in 2016 was well above that of the overall population (71.7% versus 64.7%). There was little variation in the unemployment rate between Francophones and the general population (8.1% versus 8.2%). In general, Francophones in Toronto are more heavily represented in management and professional occupations, and less represented in sales & service, manufacturing and construction trades, and have higher-than-average employment incomes.iii

A more complete and up-to-date picture of Toronto's labour market, including that of French-speaking and Francophone residents, will be available with the release of the 2021 Census data over the course of 2022, with the most detailed labour market information being released in November 2022. iv

i [Census Profile, 2016 Census - Toronto, Census division \[Census division\], Ontario and Ontario \[Province\] \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/981/total/001-eng.cfm)

ii [Census Profile, 2016 Census - Toronto, Census division \[Census division\], Ontario and Ontario \[Province\] \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/981/total/001-eng.cfm)

iii [Selected Demographic, Cultural, Educational, Labour Force and Income Characteristics \(981\), Mother Tongue \(4\), Age \(8B\) and Sex \(3\) for the Population in Private Households of Canada, Provinces and Territories, Census Divisions and Census Subdivisions, 2016 Census - 25% Sample Data \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/981/total/001-eng.cfm)

iv <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/ref/prodserv/release-diffusion-eng.cfm>

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