Survey on the Vitality of Official-Language Minorities (SVOLM)

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Presentation Plan

• Objectives, target population and samples
• Collection and principal themes
• Analytical possibilities and dissemination
• Conclusion
Two Main Objectives of SVOLM:

• To collect information for areas that are top priorities

• To disseminate statistical information
Target population and samples (1)

• Two samples:
  – Adults
  – Children

• Target population:
  – members of the official-language minority (English in Quebec, French outside Quebec)
Target population and samples (2)

• Oversampling of allophones in Montréal CMA

  – To compare FOLS-F and FOLS-E
SVOLM

Child sample

Child part

Common part

Adult sample

Adult part
SVOLM

Adult sample

Adult part
- Respondent’s parents
- Access to health services in the minority language
- Community participation
- Volunteering
- Social support
- Language use in the public sphere
- Linguistic practices in leisure time
- Geographic mobility
- Linguistic practices at work

Common part
- Respondent identification
- Household module
- Spouse module
- Respondent’s language skills
- Respondent’s schooling
- Linguistic trajectory from childhood to adulthood
- Sense of belonging and subjective vitality
- Economic activity
- Income
SVOLM

Child sample

- Child module
- Information on the child’s parents
- Child’s family background
- Use of languages at home
- Knowledge of official languages
- Daycare/school attendance
- Linguistic dynamic of child with friends
- Individual or parental reading habits
- Activities
- Use of television and internet

- Respondent identification
- Household module
- Spouse module
- Respondent’s language skills
- Respondent’s schooling
- Linguistic trajectory from childhood to adulthood
- Sense of belonging and subjective vitality
- Economic activity
- Income
Collection

- October 10, 2006 to January 14, 2007

- Sample of approximately 53,000 individuals:
  - 20,000 of adults
  - 15,500 of children
Four principal themes

• Sense of belonging and subjective vitality
• Use of languages in daily activities
• Use of the minority language during access to health care services
• School attendance
Proportion of the official-language minorities according to their relative weight in their municipality of residence

![Bar chart showing the proportion of official-language minorities in Quebec and outside Quebec.](chart_image)
Main language of French-speaking adults by the proportion that they represent in their municipality of residence, Canada less Quebec

- < 10
- 10 to 29.9
- 30 to 49.9
- 50 to 69.9
- >=70
- Total Canada less Quebec

Legend:
- French
- English
- French-English
Main language of English-speaking adults by their relative weight in their municipality of residence, Quebec
Sense of belonging and subjective vitality
Outside Quebec, the importance given by French-speaking adults to being able to use French in their daily life varies according to the proportion they represent in their municipality of residence.
Use of languages in daily activities
Use of English in the different social domains by the relative weight of the English-speaking population in the municipality of residence, Québec

- Minority official language
- Majority official language

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<th>Level</th>
<th>&lt; 10</th>
<th>10 to 29.9</th>
<th>30 to 49.9</th>
<th>50 to 69.9</th>
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</table>
The predominant use of French in daily activities among French-speaking adults outside Quebec is a reality only in certain regions of New Brunswick and Ontario.
Use of the minority language during access to health care services
In Quebec, almost 75% of the English-speaking population said it was « very important » or « important » to obtain health care services in the language of the minority. Among French-speaking adults outside Quebec, this proportion reached 53%.
School attendance
In Québec, 44% of children with an English-speaking parent attend an English school at the primary level (of whom 29% are in French immersion), compared to 54% at the secondary level (with 19% of them in immersion)
Type of school attendance in Quebec for children with at least one English-speaking parent, by region

- **Estrie and south**: Predominantly English regular
- **East**: Predominantly French
- **Mtl**: Predominantly English regular
- **West**: Predominantly English regular
- **Québec and environs**: Predominantly English regular
- **Rest of Quebec**: Predominantly French
- **Total**: Predominantly English regular
Analysis possibilities

• Early childhood and development of writing skills in the minority language
• Linguistic trajectory from childhood to adulthood
• Linguistic dynamic among household members at home
• Linguistic practices at work
• Inter- and infraprovincial migration
• Immigration
• Various themes related to the labour force
Dissemination

• December 11, 2007
  – Official release of data and first analytical document
    • *Minorities Speak Up: Results of the Survey on the Vitality of Official Language Minority Groups*

• 2008-2009:
  – Database in Research Data Centres (June 2008);
  – Possibility of a public use microdata file (PUMF)
Conclusion

• SVOLM gives us a snapshot of the present situation

• Wealth of information in many fields on official-language minorities
More information on the Web


• Information about the survey, including the questionnaire: http://www.statcan.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=5099&lang=en&db=imdb&dbg=f&adm=8&dis=2