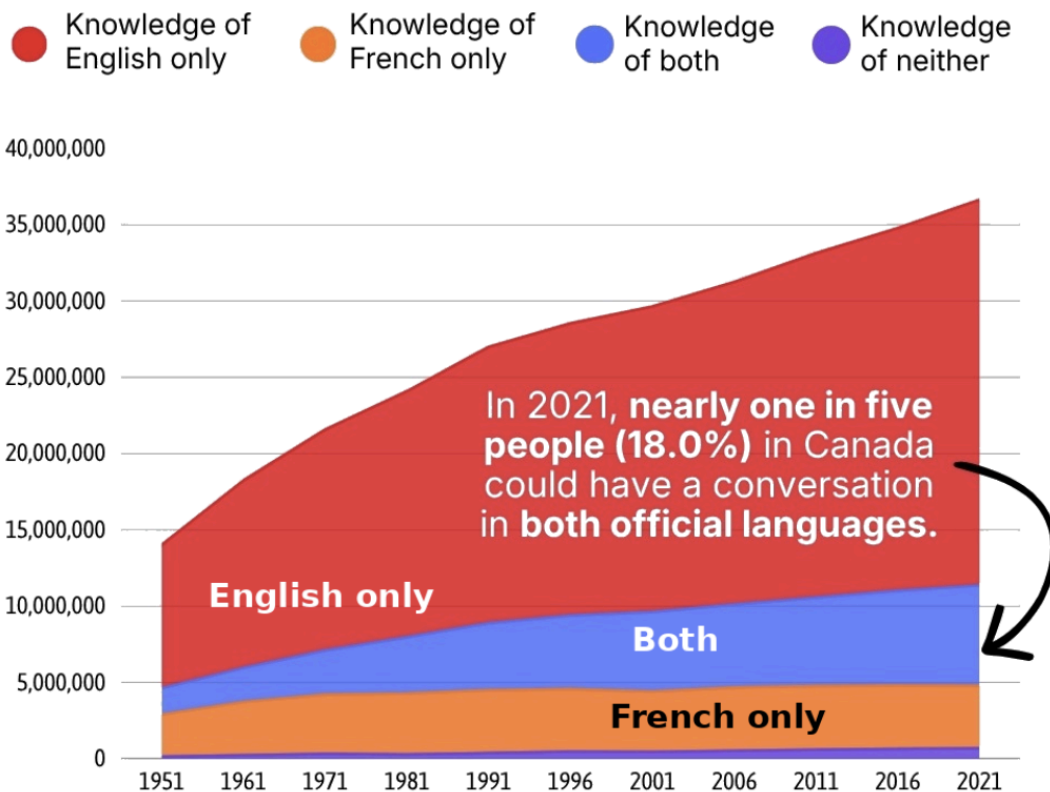


Canada's Two Official Languages: Who Speaks Both?

The following stacked area graph shows how many Canadians reported knowledge of English only, French only, both English and French, or neither official language in census years from 1951 to 2021.

🗨️ Official Languages Day

Canada's two official languages



Source: Census of Population

Statistics Canada @statcan_eng, Instagram, September 10, 2026

Counts vs Rates

Here are more exact figures for the people who can speak both English and French.

1) Fill in the English-French bilingualism rate for each year given.

Census Year	People who could speak both (count)	Total people (count)	Bilingualism rate
1951	~1.7 million	~14 million	12.3%
1971	~1.9 million	~21.6 million	
1991	~4.4 million	~27.0 million	
2001	~5.2 million	~29.3 million	
2021	~6.6 million	~36.6 million	

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population (1951, 1971, 1991, 2001, 2021)
For speakers >5 years of age

2) Compare the change in count to the percentage increase or decrease.

a) From 2001 to 2021, the count grew by about _____ million people.

b) How many percentage points did it increase during that time?

c) About what percent increase is that? Show your work.

d) How can the account grow by a lot while the rate barely changes?

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Redesign the Graph

Redesign the graph so that the change in English-French bilingualism rates is easy to see.

Check what you would change (you can check more than one):

☐ Chart Type ☐ Axis ☐ Categories ☐ Annotation

1) I would change _____ because right now it is hard to see

_____.

My new graph would show...

2) What data would you need to make your new graph?

3) Sketch your graph on the next page.

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

