

# DEFINING OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MINORITY BUSINESSES



In Canada, official language minorities (OLMs) are English-language communities in Quebec and French-language communities outside Quebec.

Members of OLMs participate in the economy in a variety of ways, including as business owners. Their businesses contribute to both the vitality of official language minority communities and to the Canadian economy in general.

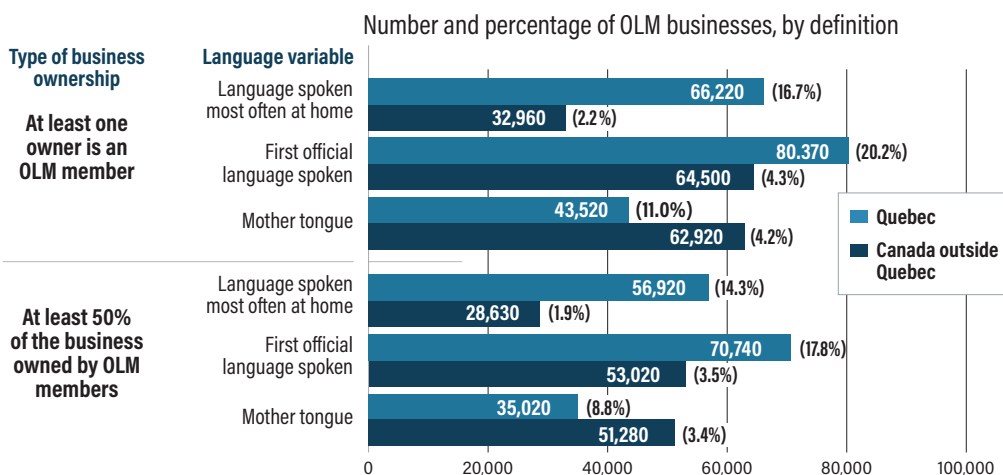
## How are official language minority businesses defined?

Two factors can be considered:

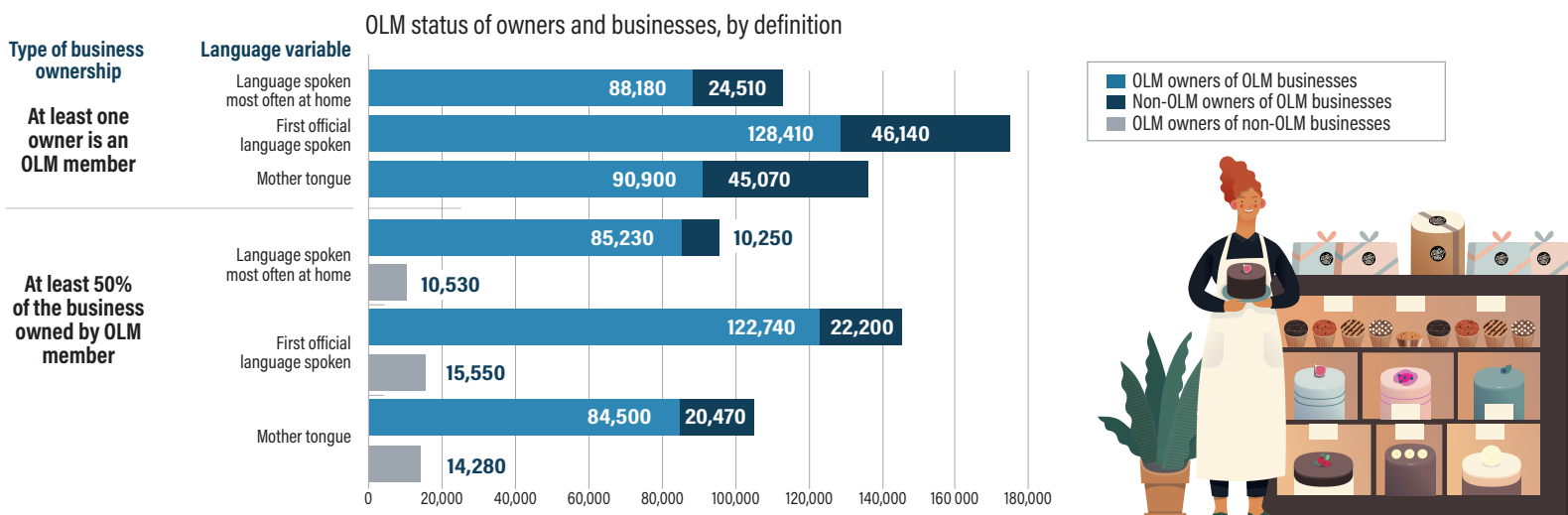
○ Which owners are members of official language minorities?  
Which language variable should be used?

○ What type of ownership should be considered?  
Is it enough for a business to have one OLM owner, or does it take a majority of OLM owners?

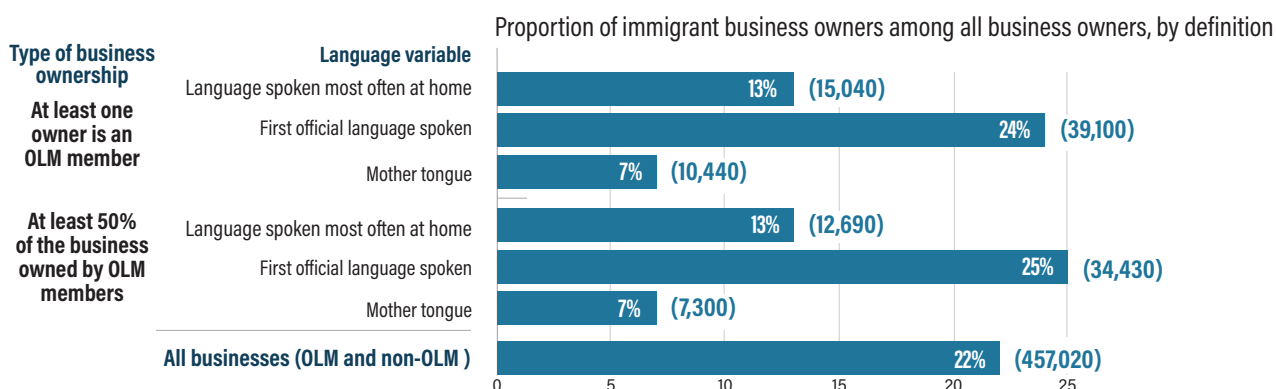
## The number of official language minority businesses in Canada varies depending on the definitions used (2016)



## Owners of official language minority businesses are not necessarily members of those minorities themselves



## The choice of definition affects certain characteristics of OLM owners and businesses, such as the percentage of owners who are immigrants



**Notes:**  
- All data in this infographic are for 2016.  
- A business's geographic location corresponds to the location of its head office.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, 2016 Census and Canadian Employer–Employee Database linkage.

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