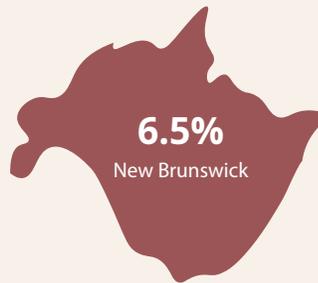# How poverty rates differed by language
in Quebec, New Brunswick and Ontario in 2021

At the national level, the poverty rate[1] of the Canadian-born population aged 25 and over was 6.0% in 2021.

PROVINCIAL POVERTY RATE

5.0% Quebec	**6.5%** New Brunswick	**5.8%** Ontario

In Quebec, New Brunswick and Ontario, the poverty rate was lower among those who knew both English and French than among those who knew only one of these languages.

QUEBEC

The poverty rate in Quebec was higher among the population with an English mother tongue, especially among those who knew only English.

Poverty rate of the Quebec population, by knowledge of official languages and mother tongue

	Overall poverty rate	Knowledge of English only	Knowledge of French only	Knowledge of English and French
Total population	5.0%	9.5%	5.5%	4.3%
English mother tongue	6.8%	9.6%	-	5.7%
French mother tongue	4.9%	-	5.5%	4.0%

NEW BRUNSWICK

The poverty rates of the bilingual population in New Brunswick were similar, whether their mother tongue is English or French.

Poverty rate of the New Brunswick population, by knowledge of official languages and mother tongue

	Overall poverty rate	Knowledge of English only	Knowledge of French only	Knowledge of English and French
Total population	6.5%	7.1%	8.5%	5.3%
English mother tongue	6.8%	7.0%	-	5.1%
French mother tongue	6.0%	-	8.5%	5.2%

ONTARIO

In Ontario, the population who knew only French had a higher poverty rate than the population who knew only English.

Poverty rate of the Ontario population, by knowledge of official languages and mother tongue

	Overall poverty rate	Knowledge of English only	Knowledge of French only	Knowledge of English and French
Total population	5.8%	6.0%	8.1%	4.8%
English mother tongue	5.9%	6.0%	-	4.7%
French mother tongue	4.9%	7.6%	8.2%	4.7%

1. The poverty rate refers to the proportion of the population living below the poverty line, according to the market basket measure. For more information, see the following Statistics Canada products: *Quality of life indicator: Poverty* and *Dictionary, Census of Population, 2021 – Market Basket Measure (MBM)*.

Note: In this infographic, the reference population is made up of persons 25 years and over who were born in Canada, excluding the population of the territories. The bilingual population comprises people who know English and French well enough to have a conversation.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2021.