

Preface

Statistics Canada conducts its *Census of Population* every five years with the most recent census having occurred in 2006. The Census provides information on the demographic, social and economic conditions of the population on Census day (May 16 in 2006).

While the Census aims to enumerate all permanent residents of Canada, it will miss some residents while counting others more than once. In acknowledgement of this Statistics Canada publishes a net undercount that is used to adjust the population count. Based on these adjustments BC Stats produces quarterly and annual population estimates.

The City of Surrey's Planning Department also maintains building permit statistics. The number of existing buildings (updated with new constructions and demolitions) provides an accurate estimate of occupied dwellings. The dwelling count is combined with Statistics Canada Census variables to produce the City of Surrey's demographic profiles.

Where possible a comparison is made between the current and previous censuses. A regional comparison is also provided between Surrey and key municipal neighbours. Finally, for the purpose of this and other fact sheets, Surrey is divided into six communities: Cloverdale, Fleetwood, Guildford, Newton, South Surrey, and Whalley. City Centre is also identified as a sub-community planning area within Whalley. Unless otherwise indicated, statistical information provided at the community and sub-community level is based on a twenty percent sample of the Census enumeration.

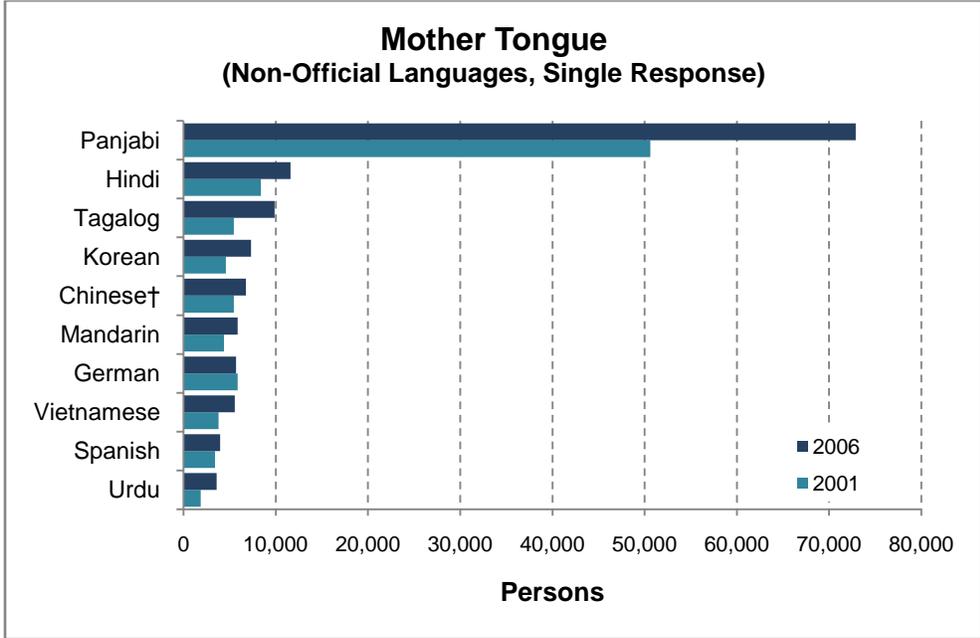
Language

The Census provides information on the language characteristics of the population. These include mother tongue, knowledge of official languages, first official language spoken, language spoken most often at home, and all languages spoken. The Census listed by name ninety-four languages in 2006 including English and French. Seventy-three of these are spoken in Surrey, whether as mother tongue, home language or neither. Any other languages not listed among the ninety-four were represented by the category ‘Other languages’.

The three most commonly reported non-official languages (for all uses) were Panjabi (84,610 persons), Hindi (32,790), and Tagalog (13,080). Knowledge of English was reported by 370,765 individuals while 21,690 reported no knowledge of English.

Mother Tongue

Mother tongue is defined as the first language learned at home and still understood. In 2006 ninety-eight percent of residents identified one mother tongue, while two percent listed two or more. Of the former group (single responses) English was the most commonly identified mother tongue (56.1%) followed by Panjabi (19.0%). No other language was identified as a mother tongue by more than three percent of the single responses. In total 43.1% of single responses indicated a language other than English as a mother tongue. The following chart lists the top ten mother tongues (excluding official languages) in 2006 and the number of speakers, both that year and in 2001. All but one of the top ten mother tongues in 2006 appeared in the top ten in 2001. In that year Urdu was ranked thirteenth.



† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category ‘Chinese’ includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.

Mother Tongue in Surrey's Communities

The following tables list the top ten mother tongues (excluding official languages) in Surrey's six communities, the City Centre, and Surrey as a whole. These rankings are based only on responses where a single mother tongue is identified. Additionally, any mother tongues ranked in the top ten for Surrey as a whole, but not for a community, are listed for that community.

Among the communities South Surrey stood out for the strong representation of European languages among its top ten mother tongues. Furthermore, 81.6% of South Surrey residents who identified a single mother tongue listed English.

Cloverdale			Fleetwood			Guildford		
Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons	Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons	Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons
1	Panjabi	1,980	1	Panjabi	8,970	1	Korean	3,495
2	German	650	2	Vietnamese	1,610	2	Tagalog	2,765
3	Korean	460	3	Tagalog	1,570	3	Panjabi	2,545
4	Chinese†	305	4	Korean	1,555	4	Mandarin	2,415
5	Dutch	300	5	Hindi	1,320	5	Chinese†	2,350
6	Mandarin	275	6	Chinese†	1,110	6	Vietnamese	1,285
7	Vietnamese	275	7	Mandarin	945	7	German	835
8	Italian	250	8	Cantonese	805	8	Spanish	680
9	Tagalog	240	9	German	635	9	Polish	680
10	Hindi	190	10	Spanish	465	10	Hindi	670
11	Spanish	155	11	Urdu	450	17	Urdu	175

† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category 'Chinese' includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.

Newton			South Surrey			Whalley		
Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons	Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons	Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons
1	Panjabi	38,830	1	German	1,740	1	Panjabi	19,600
2	Hindi	5,005	2	Panjabi	975	2	Hindi	4,385
3	Urdu	1,990	3	Korean	885	3	Tagalog	3,135
4	Tagalog	1,885	4	Mandarin	880	4	Chinese†	1,435
5	German	1,085	5	Chinese†	815	5	Vietnamese	1,395
6	Spanish	1,060	6	Dutch	520	6	Spanish	1,310
7	Vietnamese	945	7	Ukrainian	320	7	Urdu	905
8	Cantonese	875	8	Spanish	305	8	German	760
9	Mandarin	770	9	Polish	285	9	Cantonese	685
10	Chinese†	755	10	Serbian	275	10	Polish	650
16	Korean	265	11	Tagalog	255	11	Korean	645
			32	Urdu	40	12	Mandarin	580
			35	Hindi	35			
			38	Vietnamese	30			

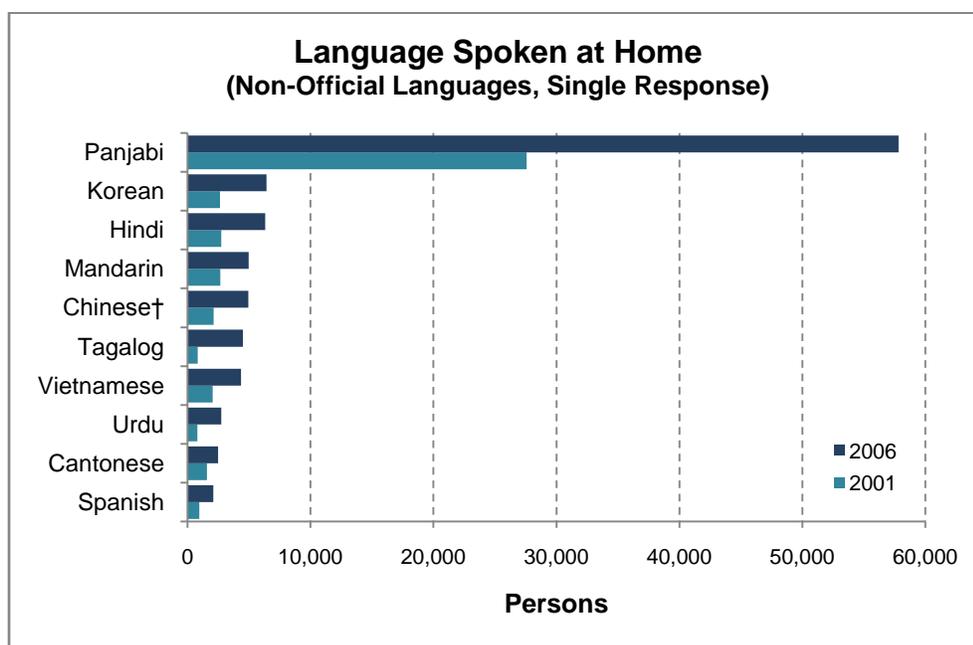
† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category 'Chinese' includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.

City Centre			City Total		
Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons	Rank	Mother Tongue	Persons
1	Punjabi	870	1	Punjabi	72,900
2	Tagalog	750	2	Hindi	11,605
3	Chinese†	500	3	Tagalog	9,860
4	Hindi	495	4	Korean	7,305
5	Korean	485	5	Chinese†	6,780
6	Vietnamese	480	6	Mandarin	5,865
7	Spanish	465	7	German	5,705
8	Polish	340	8	Vietnamese	5,545
9	Mandarin	325	9	Spanish	3,980
10	Cantonese	320	10	Urdu	3,590
11	German	190			
12	Urdu	135			

† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category ‘Chinese’ includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.

Home Language

The Census also identified the language most often spoken at home by each individual. If two or more languages were spoken in equal amounts, each of them was identified. Ninety-six percent of residents identified one language while four percent identified more than one. English (70.7%) and Punjabi (15.4%) were the most common home languages among those giving a single response. The following chart indicates the top ten home languages (excluding official languages) in 2006 and the number of speakers, both that year and in 2001. The same languages comprised the top ten ranked home languages in 2001 and 2006 although in different order.



† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category ‘Chinese’ includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.

Home Language in Surrey's Communities

The following tables give the top ten languages spoken at home (excluding official languages) in Surrey's six communities, the City Centre and Surrey as a whole. These rankings are based on responses that list a single home language. In addition, any home languages ranked in the top ten for Surrey as a whole, but not for a community, are listed for that community.

As with mother tongue South Surrey counted a higher number of European languages among its top ten home languages than the other communities and the City as a whole. Additionally, English was spoken at home by 91.9% of those who listed a single home language.

Cloverdale			Fleetwood			Guildford		
Rank	Home Language	Persons	Rank	Home Language	Persons	Rank	Home Language	Persons
1	Panjabi	1,255	1	Panjabi	6,310	1	Korean	3,100
2	Korean	350	2	Korean	1,380	2	Mandarin	2,070
3	Mandarin	265	3	Vietnamese	1,175	3	Chinese†	1,835
4	Vietnamese	230	4	Chinese†	840	4	Panjabi	1,795
5	Chinese†	185	5	Tagalog	815	5	Tagalog	1,295
6	Spanish	95	6	Mandarin	770	6	Vietnamese	1,100
7	Cantonese	85	7	Hindi	710	7	Cantonese	585
8	Hindi	75	8	Cantonese	585	8	Arabic	445
9	Tagalog	70	9	Arabic	270	9	Spanish	425
10	Italian	60	10	Urdu	260	10	Hindi	405
14	Urdu	25	11	Spanish	225	15	Urdu	140

† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category 'Chinese' includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.

Newton			South Surrey			Whalley		
Rank	Home Language	Persons	Rank	Home Language	Persons	Rank	Home Language	Persons
1	Panjabi	31,810	1	Korean	805	1	Panjabi	16,050
2	Hindi	2,600	2	Mandarin	770	2	Hindi	2,520
3	Urdu	1,665	3	Panjabi	610	3	Tagalog	1,430
4	Tagalog	810	4	Chinese†	585	4	Vietnamese	1,050
5	Vietnamese	750	5	German	175	5	Chinese†	975
6	Mandarin	655	6	Serbian	145	6	Spanish	800
7	Cantonese	520	7	Russian	135	7	Urdu	635
8	Chinese†	520	8	Japanese	135	8	Cantonese	620
9	Spanish	435	9	Spanish	120	9	Korean	560
10	Persian	365	10	Polish	120	10	Polish	480
13	Korean	220	11	Cantonese	90	11	Mandarin	450
			14	Tagalog	75			
			23	Vietnamese	30			
			25	Urdu	25			
			29	Hindi	20			

† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category 'Chinese' includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.

City Centre			City Total		
Rank	Home Language	Persons	Rank	Home Language	Persons
1	Panjabi	700	1	Panjabi	57,835
2	Korean	450	2	Korean	6,410
3	Tagalog	385	3	Hindi	6,330
4	Cantonese	380	4	Mandarin	4,980
5	Chinese†	355	5	Chinese†	4,945
6	Vietnamese	350	6	Tagalog	4,500
7	Hindi	320	7	Vietnamese	4,345
8	Spanish	270	8	Urdu	2,755
9	Polish	255	9	Cantonese	2,490
10	Mandarin	240	10	Spanish	2,105
11	Urdu	100			

† For comparability with the 2001 Census the category ‘Chinese’ includes Taiwanese, Shanghainese, Chaochow, and Fukien.