That beadwork is beautiful · Ni miyeuyhtayn aen waapamitaan - It is good to see you · Si boon - Awesome · Ni kishchiitayimoon aen lii Michif wiiyaan - I am proud to be Métis · Waah waa - Wow · Bonn ouvraazh - Good job

2024 Michif Languages in BC Vitality Survey Results Summary Report



Acknowledgements

Métis Nation British Columbia's (MNBC) Ministry of Culture, Heritage and Language would like to thank everyone who contributed to and participated in the 2024 Michif Languages in BC Survey. We are grateful to the citizens who responded to share their experiences with us. Your generosity in sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm for the Michif languages help us to do this work in a good way.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank our funders, the Department of Canadian Heritage (DCH). Their investment in Michif language revitalization is crucial and the returns of this investment are evident in the results we are reporting for this survey.

Kishchi maarsii. Sôskwâc kwayes marrsî. Marsi boko.

Thank you very much.



To hear these phrases spoken, please scan the QR code or go to: https://ameliadouglasinstitute.ca/phrase/ALL/30

Translation credits, in order of appearance: Southern Michif, translation by Elder Norman Fleury of St. Lazare, MB; Northern Michif, translation by Elder Vince Ahenakew and Elder Ted Ratt of Île-à-la-Crosse, SK; and Michif French, translation by Dr. June Bruce and Dr. Lorraine Coutu of St. Laurent, MB.

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Introduction

The following report details the findings of the 2024 Michif Languages in BC Vitality Survey ('the 2024 survey'). The goal of the 2024 survey was to obtain an update on the current vitality of Michif languages in British Columbia (BC). Language vitality is a measure of the health of a language based on many indicators including: where language is used, numbers of speakers, numbers of learners, and numbers of opportunities to engage in language learning in a community. Since Michif language revitalization in BC is in its early stages, measures of vitality in this survey are somewhat limited. Measures used include numbers of learners, comprehension levels of learners, numbers of speakers, levels of language awareness, and levels of language learning engagement.

The Michif Languages in BC Vitality Survey is an important tool for monitoring progress as part of <u>Aan Michif Piikishkwaytaak: MNBC's 10-year Michif Language Revitalization Plan</u>. Through this measure, we aim to monitor the impacts of MNBC's Michif language programming over time and respond to the emerging needs and interests of Michif learners across BC.

Definitions

- Advanced speaker, language carrier, fluent speaker: someone who can confidently talk about both aspects of their everyday life and beyond in their language.
- <u>First language speaker, mother tongue speaker:</u> someone who learned the target language in the home as a child as their first or one of their first languages.¹
- Language learner: anyone engaged in learning a language, at any level, by any means.
- <u>Language use</u>: all uses of a language, including oral/spoken language and written language.
- <u>Language vitality</u>: A measure of the health of a language, based on many indicators including domains of language use (e.g., early childhood, K-12 education; language in the home, workplaces, and community settings) numbers of speakers, numbers of learners, numbers of opportunities to engage in language learning in a community, and more.²
- <u>Métis in BC:</u> All Métis individuals residing in British Columbia, with or without citizenship with a Métis governing body.
- <u>Métis languages:</u> An umbrella term used to describe the broad group of Indigenous languages spoken by Métis communities. This term includes Southern Michif, Northern Michif, and Michif French, as well as other Indigenous languages that have a long-

¹ First Peoples' Cultural Council, "Language Fluency," First Peoples' Cultural Council, (2020): 13. https://fpcc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/FPCC-FactSheets-WEB.pdf

² Gessner, Herbert and Parker, "Report on BC First Nations Languages," 14.

- standing tradition of being spoken within Métis communities (e.g., Nêhiyawêwin/Cree, Anishinaabemowin)
- <u>Michif languages</u>: the three Michif languages Northern Michif, Southern/Heritage
 Michif, and Michif French. To learn more about the Michif Languages, we recommend reading <u>Words of Our Ancestors</u>.
- MNBC citizens: Individuals who are registered with Métis Nation British Columbia as citizens.

Methodology and Limitations

The design of the 2024 survey was influenced by MNBC's Métis Languages Vitality Survey issued in 2021 ('the 2021 survey'), as well as, performance measures from Aan Michif Piikishkwaytaak: MNBC's 10 year Michif Language Revitalization Plan. Respondents were incentivized to complete the survey with a raffle draw for an iPad. The 2024 survey was advertised to the MNBC citizenry and Métis in BC community through:



- Social media posts (i.e., Instagram, Facebook)
- Newsletters to Chartered Communities and Citizens
- Booths at MNBC events and Métis cultural gatherings (i.e., the Back to Batoche Festival)
- Postcards mailed to every household with registered MNBC citizens
- Word of mouth

A key change from the 2021 survey was the decision to focus specifically on Michif languages and not all Indigenous languages historically spoken by the Métis. MNBC currently chooses to focus its language revitalization efforts on the Michif languages. This survey is therefore limited to Michif, although we acknowledge that Métis people learn and speak other Indigenous languages and have been doing so throughout time.

Michif Language Revitalization

Current Status of the Michif Languages



Despite being among the most spoken languages within the Métis Nation in the 19th century,³ the Michif languages have faced a serious decline due to colonialism. While there is a lack of consensus on the exact number of speakers of each of the Michif languages across North America, it is clear that the Michif languages are critically endangered. In the 2021 Canadian Census,

1,905 people reported knowing of one of the Michif languages and 840 reported learning a Michif language as a mother tongue language.⁴ However, community members and revitalization experts working with the Michif languages presume that the number of current fluent speakers of the languages is much lower – with some estimates being in the low hundreds, or even less.⁵ The majority of the fluent Michif speakers active in language revitalization are also aging, with very few fluent speakers under the age of 50.

While the Michif languages are spoken across the Métis homelands including communities in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, and Northern United states (North Dakota, Montana and Idaho), the majority of Michif speakers in Canada live in Prairie provinces (76.1%) with 45.5% living in Saskatchewan.⁶

With a small and aging speaker population and a diaspora of Michif learners across the country, there are significant logistical challenges in reversing Michif language decline in Métis communities. A major collective effort from Métis governing bodies, communities, and citizens over the next few decades will be critical for the continued vitality of the Michif languages.

https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/des/article/view/19587/17017

³ Judy Iseke, "Negotiating Métis culture in Michif: Disrupting Indigenous language shift," *Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society 2,* no. 2 (2013): 92-116.

⁴ Statistics Canada, "Indigenous Languages Across Canada," 2021 Census, last modified July 3rd, 2024. https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/as-sa/98-200-x/2021012/98-200-x2021012-eng.cfm

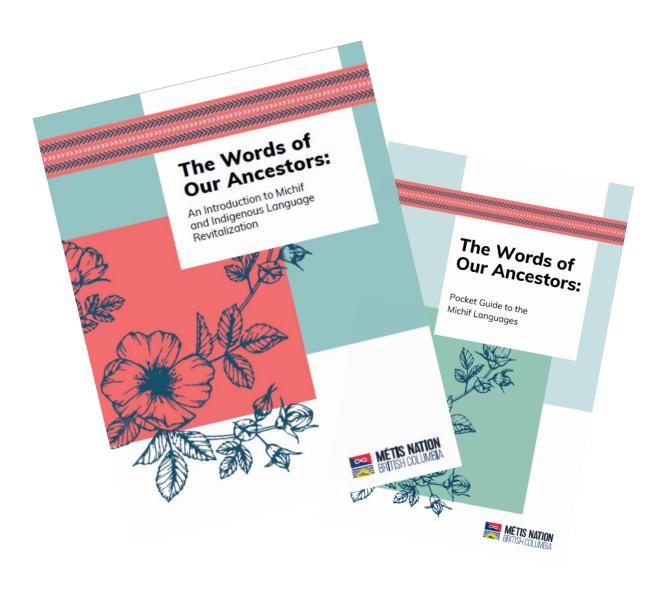
⁵ This is an anecdotal number from Michif community members and speakers working within language revitalization. This number needs to be clarified and substantiated by further surveys and reporting across the homelands.

⁶ Statistics Canada. "Table: 98-10-0294-01. Knowledge of Indigenous languages by single and multiple knowledge of languages responses and Indigenous language acquisition: Canada, provinces and territories." Last modified April 8th, 2025. <a href="https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=9810029401&pickMembers%5B0%5D=1.1&pickMembers%5B1%5D=2.1&pickMembers%5B2%5D=3.1&pickMembers%5B3%5D=4.1&pickMembers%5B4%5D=5.1&pickMembers%5B5%5D=6.1&pickMembers%5B6%5D=7.1

Current Revitalization Efforts and Initiatives

To date, there has been important work done within the Métis Nation to support language revitalization. Michif language learners, speakers, community leaders, Métis organizations, and provincial and national Métis governing bodies across the homelands have worked to document, share, teach, and promote their languages within the community.

To inquire about current Michif resources and programs available to Métis in BC, please contact the Ministry of Culture, Heritage and Language team at chi@mnbc.ca or check out the Words of Our Ancestors for a list of print and online Michif language learning resources.



Survey Results

The following section provides a summary of the key findings from the 2024 Michif Languages in BC Survey. Some findings will be presented in comparison with the findings from the 2021 survey to observe what changes have occurred in the years between surveys. While the data at this time is too limited to provide a fulsome analysis, the report offers possible explanations for some of the changes and trends discovered between the two surveys. Please note these explanations are just speculation and further research is required to fully validate cause and effect. The full results from the 2024 Michif Languages in BC Survey, along with a comparison of 2021 survey results, can be accessed in Appendix A.⁷

Emerging Trends

<u>Current Learners & Speakers</u>

From 2021 to 2024, there was a 4% reduction in the number of current learners overall. This decrease could be due to a change in scope of the questions asked in the surveys. The Métis languages from the 2021 survey include other Indigenous languages that the Métis have historically and currently speak, including Nêhiyawêwin (Cree) and Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe/Ojibway), which could explain the reduction in current learners. While there has been an increase in learning opportunities available to citizens in Michif that could increase the number of current learners, this increase could be overshadowed by the loss of other language data.

The 9% increase in respondents in 2024 not currently learning a Michif language but who have in the past could be tied to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the pandemic, more people were spending time at home, giving some people more time and opportunities to learn Michif in online settings. If this is the case, the 9% reduction in current learners could be linked to learners participating in other activities once the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted.

In the time between surveys, there was an increase of 4 respondents who claimed to have an advanced proficiency level in Michif, from 8 to 12, and an increase of 9 respondents with an advanced high (Fluent and/or mother tongue speaker) proficiency level, from 0 to 9. This could simply indicate that more Fluent and/or mother tongue speakers took part in the 2024 survey. It would take a long time for an advanced learner

At a GlanceRespondent
Demographics

Total number of survey respondents:

1138

Gender Breakdown:

Woman: 767

Man: 325

Two-Spirit: 34

Nonbinary: 11

Other: 1

Average Age Range:

45 - 50 Years Old

⁷ The results of the 2021 survey are summarized here: https://www.mnbc.ca/node/4023 The full report including the detailed findings for the 2021 Survey is available as a pdf on the MNBC here: https://www.mnbc.ca/sites/default/files/2021-07/Language%20Survey%20Summary%20Report%20Final100.pdf

to become fluent in Michif, so it is unlikely that 9 respondents could accomplish fluency in such a short period. The 2024 survey also saw an increase in the number of novice learners, which could be representative of the increased number of Michif learning resources being offered by MNBC and others.

At a Glance Learner Information Total number of Michif Learners

116

The most reported Michif language being learned:

Southern Michif

The most preferred learning method:

Attending classes (online or in person)

Learner Engagement

The 2024 survey saw changes in how respondents chose to engage with Michif learning resources. The shift towards attending classes between the two surveys likely represents the

increased availability of Michif classes, both online and in-person. Audio and video files remained popular with similar numbers of respondents engaging with them. The lack of responses in 2024 indicating cultural activities or language camps could indicate that Métis people in BC have not been provided with many such opportunities since the 2021 survey.



The most popular learning methods with the respondents who were very interested in becoming a fluent speaker of a Michif language were: attending classes (83.2%), online audio resources (65.1%), visiting with Knowledge carriers/Elders (64.2%) and online video resources (59.6%).



Attending online or in-person classes (58%)



Online audio resources (51%)



Online video resources (51%)



Visiting with Elders/Language Carriers (39%)



Online written resources (36%)



Worksheets and handouts (34%)



Books and dictionaries (29%)



No preference (13%)



Other (4%)

There was an increase of 12% in respondents reporting that they would be interested in taking formal training in Indigenous language revitalization. This may indicate that interest in Michif language initiatives has improved between surveys. Moreover, while those who reported being an active learner of a Michif language were more likely to be interested in taking formal training in Indigenous language revitalization, 39% of respondents who are not learning a language still reported that they'd be interested in participating in training. These findings, combined with overwhelmingly positive feelings regarding the importance of MNBC working to revitalize the Michif languages, show that

respondents still consider the work that MNBC is doing to be of critical importance to Métis people. The large number of non-learner respondents wanting to support language revitalization through formal training also demonstrates that people who are not learners still care about the languages and are interested in playing an active role in supporting the languages.



Feelings about Michif

Between 2021 and 2024, the number of respondents who had never heard Michif being spoken or were confused by hearing it decreased by 2%. The decrease could be the result of an increase in efforts from MNBC, as there has been a strong focus on improving awareness of Michif languages and promoting language learning opportunities. There was also a 22% decrease in the number of respondents who reported feeling negative emotions when hearing Michif. This change could indicate that previously negative emotions are being replaced by more positive ones when hearing a Michif language being spoken.

New Insights

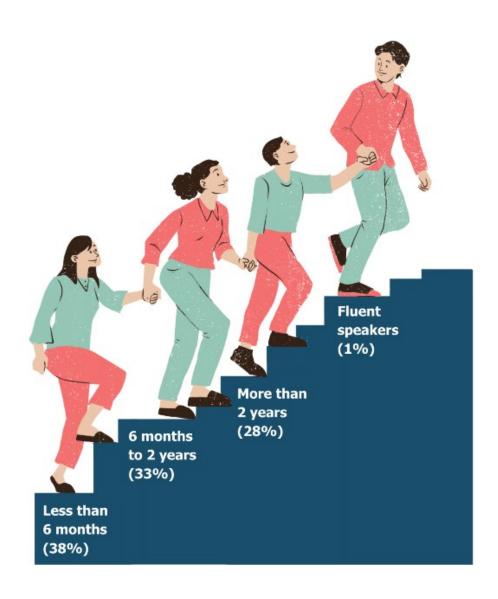
The 2024 survey provided new insights into the current status of the Michif languages and Michif language learning needs in BC. Below are some of the most notable emerging insights from the 2024 Michif Languages in BC Survey.

Language Learner Base

When asked about their language learning journey to date, 31% reported that they had tried learning a Michif language in the past. Of those actively learning a Michif language - 28%

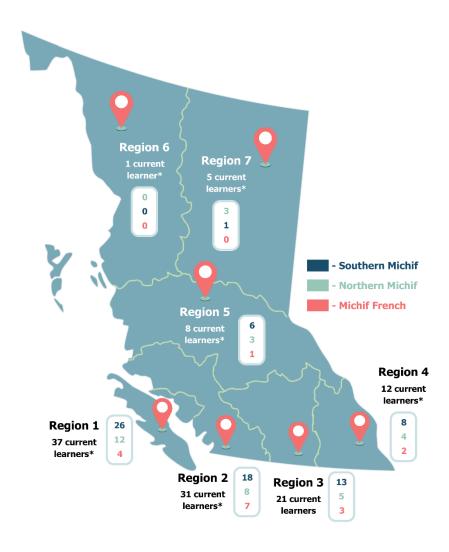
have been learning for more than 2 years (consecutively or cumulatively), while 38% have been learning for less than 6 months. An additional 699 respondents (63%) are interested in learning in the future.

The survey showed a significant difference between the number of Southern Michif learners in BC versus Northern Michif and Michif French. 19% of respondents mentioned learning Southern Michif, whereas only 9% were learning Northern Michif and 8% were learning Michif French.



Regional Breakdown

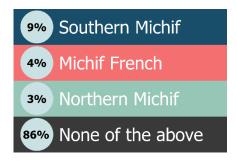
A regional breakdown of Michif language learners is detailed below. For every region except Region 6 (Northwest) and Region 7 (Northeast) – Southern Michif is the most popular language among learners. In Region 6, only one respondent reported learning a Michif language but did not specify which. For Region 7, the majority of learners are learning Northern Michif. The graphic below shows the number of respondents who report currently learning a Michif language, at any proficiency from each MNBC Region.



^{*} Current learner numbers denoted with an asterisk (*) may not match the total number of learners from all three Michif languages in each region as some respondents did not report which language they are learning or reported that they are learning multiple languages.

Michif Spoken in Homes

Michif is a language that has historically been spoken within the home and has been described by some speakers as a family language. However, 86% of respondents reported that the Michif languages are not spoken in their household today. Of those who do have Michif spoken in their homes – Southern Michif is the most spoken (9%), followed by Michif French (4%) and Northern Michif (3%).



When asked which Michif language was spoken in their homes in the past, Michif French was the most common (10% of respondents), followed by Southern Michif (7%) and Northern Michif (3%). 11% of respondents reported remembering a Michif language being spoken in their home in the past but could not identify which language it was. These respondents remembered hearing languages that sounded like "Cree," and "Cree and French mixes." Survey respondents typically named their parents or grandparents who came from historic Métis communities such as St. Laurent, Meadow Lake, and Lac La Biche as the speakers and some described their family speakers speaking several languages - including First Nations and European languages.

Understanding the Differences Between the Michif Languages

Despite MNBC's efforts to increase awareness about the three Michif languages since 2021, the majority of those surveyed (68%) do not understand the differences between the three. Only 17% reported understanding the differences between all three languages.



Perceptions of the Value and Importance of the Michif Languages

When asked about how much they valued the Michif languages, over half of the question respondents stated that they valued the Michif languages a lot (56%). Only 2% of respondents stated they did not value the Michif languages at all.

New Themes

The following section discusses the key insights and provides an analysis of new themes that arose in the 2024 survey.

Number of New Learners



The 2024 survey saw a high percentage of learners who had recently started their language learning journey, in comparison with those who had been learning for several years. The high proportion of new learners could be due to new language programming that launched in 2022 - 2024 that was available to beginner learners such as: grant opportunities for language learning initiatives in BC, Southern Michif online workshops, Youth Michif Language Camp, new beginner video and audio resources offered through the Amelia Douglas Institute, as well as the launch of language awareness resources like the Words of Our Ancestors Pocket Guide.

A Focus on Southern Michif

The survey illustrated that there is more than double the number of learners of Southern Michif than learners of Northern Michif, and Michif French respectively. However, in 2021 Southern Michif had the lowest number of prospective learners in 2021 (7%, in contrast with Michif French - 13%, and Northern Michif - 11%). The disproportionate number of Southern Michif learners compared to the other two Michif languages may be due to the differences in the types and number of resources and learning opportunities for each of the languages available to MNBC citizens. MNBC currently offers Southern Michif workshops for citizens and staff. Outside of MNBC's programming, there are also online self-paced learning courses available to BC residents. Additionally, some language circles and groups in BC focus on Southern Michif because of their access to Southern Michif speakers.

Due to speaker/teacher availability, MNBC's has offered more Southern Michif learning initiatives over the past few years than Northern Michif or Michif French; however, MNBC aims to promote all three of the Michif languages and continues to work with fluent speakers to develop resources in each language. It is MNBC's goal to expand its language learning opportunities to include Michif French and Northern Michif learners where possible, whether through workshops offered by MNBC or by supporting local Chartered Communities to host their own language learning initiatives through its Michif Language Grant streams.

Family Ties to Languages

Having languages spoken in one's family growing up is often a strong reason why people choose to learn a language later in life, as it provides a source of connection to the family members who speak/spoke the language. This was demonstrated in the survey's correlation between those who heard a Michif language in their home growing up and learning the same Michif language they heard. Of those who heard Southern Michif growing up, 67%

are learning it – followed by 50% for Northern Michif, and 24% for Michif French. While those who heard Michif French in the home are less likely to report learning it than Southern and Northern Michif, it was the most common language respondents reported hearing in their home growing up. See below for a breakdown of the number of respondents who heard one of the three Michif languages in their home growing up.

Knowing and Valuing the Languages



There is a correlation between people knowing about the languages and valuing them. 80% of people who have some level of understanding of the differences between the Michif languages, said they valued the Michif languages a lot - whereas only 45% of respondents who had no understanding of the Michif languages said they valued the Michif languages a lot. Similarly, respondents who had some level of understanding of the differences between the Michif languages were more likely to report that it was very important that MNBC revitalizes the Michif languages (68% versus 41%). People who had engaged in Michif language learning in the past, also were more likely to report they valued the Michif languages a lot (80%), in contrast with 45% of those who hadn't been involved in language learning.

These findings demonstrate a relationship between citizens learning about the Michif languages and feeling more strongly about the importance of revitalizing the Michif languages. Potential explanations include citizens feeling more connected to the languages once they learn more about the uniqueness of the languages, their significance to the Nation, and the critical need for revitalization. However, this finding may also be driven by the fact that citizens who have a good understanding of the differences between the languages may also be already involved in language revitalization efforts. Regardless of the potential reasons for this link – it is important to continue educating both Métis citizens and the public about the Michif languages so that future generations value and contribute to revitalization efforts.

Looking Ahead

The results of the 2024 survey are important in guiding MNBC's language programming and planning. Based on the 2024 survey results, the Ministry of Culture, Heritage and Language will begin exploring the following initiatives:



- Develop new Michif language awareness resources and enhance the promotion of current language awareness resources.
- Enhance opportunities for citizens to become trained in Indigenous Language Revitalization.
- Increase the number of Michif learning resources and opportunities for advanced and intermediate learners.
- Develop more learning resources and opportunities for those learning Michif French or Northern Michif.

The next Michif in BC Languages Vitality Survey is scheduled to be administered in 2027, as part of the Ministry's commitment to ongoing monitoring and evaluation of <u>Aan Michif Piikishkwaytaak:</u> <u>MNBC's 10 year Michif Language Revitalization Plan.</u>

Conclusion

While there is a long way to go for Michif language revitalization, the future is looking bright. From 2021 to 2024, there have been some positive changes in the vitality of Michif languages in BC. Over a quarter of respondents in 2024 reported being able to introduce themselves in a Michif language. The overall number of intermediate and advanced speakers has increased, as well as the number of new learners, and those interested in attending formal Indigenous language revitalization training. The percentage of people speaking Southern Michif at home has increased from between 2021 and 2024. These findings demonstrate that there is a small but growing community of Michif language learners in BC. With adequate support and resources, they will be able to flourish into speakers, and language revitalization experts. However, 63% of current intermediate and advanced learners are 65+ years old – illustrating that the languages are mostly spoken by Métis Elders and seniors. Building out more supports to grow new learners and intermediate learners into advanced learners will be key for creating a diverse Michif speaker base in BC.

In 2024, an increased demand for different learning methods also emerged amongst the surveyed learners. Learners reported having an increased interest in programs like attending classes (in person and online), as well as visiting with Elders. Whether the interest in more social activities were lower in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, or the new class-based opportunities introduced has sparked interest in more – these results demonstrate an interest in more opportunities for learners to connect with one another, and with fluent Elder speakers. Creating both online and in-person opportunities for learners and speakers to build connections will be important for fostering a sense of community amongst learners and building a network of emerging fluent speakers in the years to come.

Appendices

Appendix A – 2024 Survey Results

Below are the full data results from the 2024 survey. Where available, 2021 survey data has been included to provide a comparison.

| How old are you? | 2024 | 2021 |
|--------------------|------|------|
| Under 18 years old | 42 | 21 |
| 18-24 years old | 72 | 40 |
| 25-34 years old | 132 | 145 |
| 35-44 years old | 202 | 206 |
| 45-54 years old | 214 | 218 |
| 55-64 years old | 228 | 258 |
| 65-74 years old | 181 | 179 |
| 75-84 years old | 62 | 55 |
| 85+ years old | 5 | 6 |
| Totals | 1138 | 1128 |

| Which MNBC region do you live in? | 2024 | 2021 |
|--|------|------|
| Region 1 (Vancouver Island and Powell River) | 271 | 286 |
| Region 2 (Lower Mainland) | 374 | 394 |
| Region 3 (Thompson Okanagan) | 209 | 223 |
| Region 4 (Kootenays) | 75 | 65 |
| Region 5 (North Central) | 109 | 84 |
| Region 6 (Northwest) | 49 | 23 |
| Region 7 (Northeast) | 48 | 46 |
| Unsure/I don't live in BC | 3 | 7 |
| Totals | 1138 | 1128 |

| What is your gender identity? | 2024 | 2021* |
|-------------------------------|------|-------|
| Woman | 767 | n.a. |
| Man | 325 | n.a. |
| Two Spirit | 34 | n.a. |
| Nonbinary | 11 | n.a. |
| Other** | 1 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1138 | n.a. |

^{*}Note: Gender identity was not a demographic measure collected in the 2021 survey.

^{**}Includes descriptions of other genderqueer identities.

| 1. 10450 501001 11111011 50410111011 5051 141011111105 7041 5051 | Please select which statement best identifies you: | 2024 | 2021* |
|--|--|------|-------|
|--|--|------|-------|

| I am a MNBC Citizen | 1002 | n.a. |
|---|------|------|
| I self-identify as Métis and I live in BC | 136 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1138 | n.a. |

^{*}Data on citizens versus self-identified Métis in BC was not recorded in 2021.

| Do you understand the basic differences between the three Michif Languages (Southern Michif, Northern Michif, and Michif French)? | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| Yes, I understand the basic differences between ALL three of the Michif languages | 188 | n.a. |
| Yes, I understand the basic differences between one or two of the Michif languages | 170 | n.a. |
| No, I don't understand the basic differences between the three Michif languages at all | 761 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1119 | n.a. |

| Have you been engaged in learning any of the Michif languages (Southern Michif, Northern Michif or Michif French) in the past? | 2024 | 2021 |
|--|------|------|
| Yes | 348 | n.a. |
| No | 771 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1119 | n.a. |

| Are you currently learning any <i>Michif</i> languages* / Are you currently learning any <i>Métis</i> languages?** | 2024 | 2021 |
|--|------|------|
| Yes. | 116 | 158 |
| Not currently, but I have in the past. | 164 | 72 |
| Not currently, but I might try in the future. | 699 | 743 |
| No, because I already speak a Michif language. | 6 | 15 |
| No, not planning to. | 134 | 140 |
| Totals | 1119 | 1128 |
| *2024, **2021 | | |

| If yes, to the previous question - how long | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| have you been learning for? | 2024 | 2021 |

| Less than 6 months | 39 | n.a. |
|--|------|------|
| 6 months - 1 year | 16 | n.a. |
| 1-2 years | 19 | n.a. |
| 2-3 years | 10 | n.a. |
| 3+ years | 19 | n.a. |
| Fluent speaker | 1 | n.a. |
| Not currently learning a Michif language, or no response to Q7 | 1035 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1139 | n.a. |

| If you are a speaker or learner of a Michif Language (2024) or Métis Language (2021) what is your proficiency?* | 2024 | 2021 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Novice Low: can communicate on some very familiar topics using single words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. | 196 | 141 |
| Novice Mid: can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. | 23 | 18 |
| Novice High: can share information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes using memorized language. | 7 | 4 |
| Intermediate Low: can take part in conversations on familiar topics using simple sentences. | 8 | 8 |
| Intermediate Mid: can participate in conversations on familiar topics using sentences and series of sentences. | 9 | 7 |
| Intermediate High: can participate with ease and confidence in conversations on familiar topics. | 3 | 3 |
| Advanced Low: can participate in conversations about familiar topics that go beyond everyday life. | 1 | 4 |
| Advanced Mid: can express oneself fully not only on familiar topics but also on some concrete social and professional topics. | 2 | 4 |
| Advanced High: Fluent and/or Mother Tongue Speaker Totals | 9 258 | 0 189 |

| Which Michif learning resources have you accessed in the past year? (Check all that apply): | 2024 | 2021* |
|---|------|-------|
| Amelia Douglas Institute Phrase Search | 74 | n.a. |
| Amelia Douglas Institute Video Library | 26 | n.a. |
| Gabriel Dumont Institute YouTube Videos | 89 | n.a. |
| Gabriel Dumont Institute Southern/Heritage Michif Dictionary | 131 | n.a. |

| Gabriel Dumont Institute Northern Michif Dictionary | 89 | 86 |
|---|------|------|
| Gabriel Dumont Institute Southern/Heritage Michif to Go App | 108 | 145 |
| Gabriel Dumont Institute Northern Michif to Go App | 62 | n.a. |
| Michif with Monok Samson TikTok | 51 | n.a. |
| Michif with Monok Samson YouTube | 58 | n.a. |
| Intro to Southern Michif with Samson LaMontagne (MNBC) | 59 | n.a. |
| MNBC's Culture and Language Youth Camp at Strathcona Lodge | 3 | n.a. |
| MNGV Southern Michif Language Circle | 18 | n.a. |
| Prairies to Woodlands Southern Michif Self-Paced Course | 39 | n.a. |
| Prairies to Woodlands Southern Michif Online Dictionary | 39 | n.a. |
| Louis Riel Institute's Michif French with Madam Patsy YouTube Video Series | 18 | n.a. |
| Rupertsland Institute's Northern Michif Classes | 7 | n.a. |
| University of Manitoba's Michif Classes | 4 | n.a. |
| University of Saskatchewan's Michif Classes/SUNTEP Training | 2 | n.a. |
| Nêhiyawêwin Masinahikan: Michif*/Cree Dictionary by Vince Ahenakew | 24 | n.a. |
| Southern/Heritage Michif Dictionary (2013) by Norman Fleury | 51 | n.a. |
| Children's Books (Fiddle Dancer, Call of the Fiddle, etc.) | 94 | n.a. |
| I haven't accessed any learning resources/I'm not learning a Michif language | 568 | n.a. |
| Other | n.a. | 1819 |

^{*}The 2021 survey did not distinguish between individual resources and instead gave examples (i.e., YouTube, or print resources).

| If you are learning Michif, which language(s) are you learning? Please select all that apply. | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| I am not learning a Michif language | 735 | n.a. |
| Southern Michif (also know as Heritage Michif, Turtle Mountain Chippewa Cree) | 192 | n.a. |
| Northern Michif (also known as Île-à-la-Crosse Michif) | 89 | n.a. |
| Michif French (also known as French Michif) | 87 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1103 | n.a. |

| If you are a speaker or learner of NORTHERN MICHIF, what is your level of proficiency? | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Not applicable/I'm not learning this language | 785 | n.a. |
| No Proficiency: has no knowledge or knowledge of only a few simple memorized words. | 171 | n.a. |
| Novice Low: can communicate on some very familiar topics using single words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. | 53 | n.a. |
| Novice Mid: can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. | 4 | n.a. |
| Novice High: can share information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes using memorized language. | 1 | n.a. |
| Intermediate Low: can take part in conversations on familiar topics using simple sentences. | 4 | n.a. |
| Intermediate Mid: can participate in conversations on familiar topics using sentences and series of sentences. | 1 | n.a. |
| Intermediate High: can participate with ease and confidence in conversations on familiar topics. | 2 | n.a. |
| Advanced High: Fluent and/or Mother Tongue Speaker | 4 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1025 | n.a. |
| | | |
| | | |
| If you are a speaker or learner of SOUTHERN MICHIF, what is your level of proficiency? | 2024 | 2021 |
| what is your level of proficiency? Not applicable/I'm not learning this language | 2024 737 | |
| what is your level of proficiency? | | 2021 |
| what is your level of proficiency? Not applicable/I'm not learning this language No Proficiency: has no knowledge or knowledge of only a few | 737 | 2021 n.a. |
| what is your level of proficiency? Not applicable/I'm not learning this language No Proficiency: has no knowledge or knowledge of only a few simple memorized words. Novice Low: can communicate on some very familiar topics using single words and phrases that have been practiced and | 737 169 | 2021 n.a. n.a. |
| what is your level of proficiency? Not applicable/I'm not learning this language No Proficiency: has no knowledge or knowledge of only a few simple memorized words. Novice Low: can communicate on some very familiar topics using single words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. Novice Mid: can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that have been practiced and | 737 169 93 | 2021 n.a. n.a. n.a. |
| what is your level of proficiency? Not applicable/I'm not learning this language No Proficiency: has no knowledge or knowledge of only a few simple memorized words. Novice Low: can communicate on some very familiar topics using single words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. Novice Mid: can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. Novice High: can share information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes using memorized | 737 169 93 11 | 2021 n.a. n.a. n.a. |
| What is your level of proficiency? Not applicable/I'm not learning this language No Proficiency: has no knowledge or knowledge of only a few simple memorized words. Novice Low: can communicate on some very familiar topics using single words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. Novice Mid: can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. Novice High: can share information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes using memorized language. Intermediate Low: can take part in conversations on familiar | 737 169 93 11 | n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. n.a. |

| Advanced Mid: can express oneself fully not only on familiar | 1 | n.a. |
|--|------|------|
| topics but also on some concrete social and professional topics. | | |
| Advanced High: Fluent and/or Mother Tongue Speaker | 1 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1025 | n.a. |
| | | |
| If you are a speaker or learner of MICHIF FRENCH, | 2024 | 2021 |
| what is your level of proficiency? | | 2021 |
| Not applicable/I'm not learning this language | 810 | n.a. |
| No Proficiency: has no knowledge or knowledge of only a few simple memorized words. | 145 | n.a. |
| Novice Low: can communicate on some very familiar topics using single words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. | 50 | n.a. |
| Novice Mid: can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized. | 8 | n.a. |
| Novice High: can share information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes using memorized language. | 2 | n.a. |
| Intermediate Mid: can participate in conversations on familiar topics using sentences and series of sentences. | 4 | n.a. |
| Advanced Low: can participate in conversations about familiar topics that go beyond everyday life. | 1 | n.a. |
| Advanced Mid: can express oneself fully not only on familiar topics but also on some concrete social and professional topics. | 1 | n.a. |
| Advanced High: Fluent and/or Mother Tongue Speaker | 4 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1025 | n.a. |
| How interested are you in becoming a | 2024 | 2021 |
| speaker/carrier of a Michif language? Very interested | 328 | 383 |
| Somewhat interested | 500 | 453 |
| Not interested | 191 | 284 |
| I am already a speaker/carrier of a Michif language | 6 | 8 |
| Totals | 1025 | 1128 |
| | | |
| What are your preferred learning methods? | 2024 | 2021 |
| Attending classes (online or in person) | 593 | 374 |
| Visiting with Knowledge Carriers/Elders | 394 | 284 |
| | | |

Online resources (written)

n.a.

366

| Online resources (audio) | 522 | n.a. |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|
| Online resources (video) | 515 | n.a. |
| Print resources (books/dictionaries) | 295 | 287 |
| Print resources (worksheets/handouts) | 348 | n.a. |
| *Other | 39 | 2977 |
| I don't have a preference | 131 | n.a. |
| Totals | 3203 | 3922 |

^{*}The 2021 survey included different categories.

| Have you participated or used any of the resources or opportunities developed by MNBC or the Amelia Douglas Institute, if so, which ones? | 2024 | 2021* |
|---|------|-------|
| Learn Michif Website | 150 | 104 |
| Online Intro to Southern Michif Workshops with Samson LaMontagne | 58 | n.a. |
| 2023 MNBC Youth Camp at Strathcona Lodge | 4 | n.a. |
| Amelia Douglas Institute Website (videos) | 32 | n.a. |
| Amelia Douglas Institute Website (phrase search) | 57 | n.a. |
| Not Applicable | 110 | n.a. |
| Other | 43 | n.a. |
| Totals | 454 | 104 |

^{*}The majority of listed resources were not offered/created yet at the time of the 2021 survey.

| Would you be interested in taking formal training in Indigenous Language Revitalization? | 2024 | 2021* |
|--|------|-------|
| Yes (please provide your name and email below): | 470 | 430 |
| No/not currently interested | 478 | 698 |
| Totals | 948 | 1128 |

^{*2021: &}quot;Would you be willing to attend training to support language initiatives or to learn how to teach a second language?"

| If you can speak/write/understand a Michif language*/ Métis Language** (regardless of your level of ability), please identify which language(s) you can speak/write/understand. | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| None of the above/I can't speak write or understand any of the Michif languages | 776 | n.a. |
| Southern Michif | 140 | 64 |
| Michif French | 79 | 80 |
| Northern Michif | 52 | 58 |
| Cree (all dialects)*** | n.a. | 93 |

| Other Indigenous Languages (Saulteaux, Bungi, | n.a. | 16 |
|---|------|-----|
| Chinook Jargon)*** | | |
| Totals | 1047 | 311 |
| *2024; **2021 | | |

^{*2024; **2021} ***Was not included as question options in the 2024 survey.

| If applicable, please identify the Michif language(s) most often spoken in your home currently. | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| Southern Michif (also known as Heritage Michif or Turtle Mountain Chippewa Cree) | 88 | n.a. |
| Northern Michif (also known as Île-à-la-Crosse Michif, or Michif Cree) | 33 | n.a. |
| Michif French (also known as French Michif) | 42 | n.a. |
| None of the above/I can't speak write or understand any of the Michif languages | 863 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1026 | n.a. |

| If applicable, please identify the Michif language(s) that you have heard spoken in your home in the past. Please select all that apply: | 2024 | 2021 |
|--|------|------|
| None of the above | 753 | n.a. |
| I remember a Michif language/languages spoken in my home, but I can't remember which Michif language it was | 107 | n.a. |
| Michif French (also known as French Michif) | 101 | n.a. |
| Southern Michif (also known as Heritage Michif, or Turtle Mountain Chippewa Cree) | 67 | n.a. |
| Northern Michif (also known as Île-à-la-Crosse Michif) | 35 | n.a. |
| Totals | 1063 | n.a. |

| Are you able to introduce yourself and say simple phrases in a Michif language? | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| Yes | 267 | n.a. |
| No | 703 | n.a. |
| Totals | 970 | n.a. |

| How much do you value the Michif Languages? | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| I don't value them at all | 18 | n.a. |
| I feel neutral or indifferent about them | 148 | n.a. |
| I value them a little | 263 | n.a. |
| I value them a lot | 546 | n.a. |
| Totals | 975 | n.a. |

| How do you feel when you hear Michif languages being spoken? | 2024 |
|---|------|
| Proud/Honoured/Respect(ed)/Recognized | 154 |
| Connected/Belonging/Community/Home | 95 |
| Good/Fine/Okay/Positive/Cool/Like to hear | 83 |
| Curious/Intrigued | 59 |
| Hopeful | 24 |
| Interested/Want to learn/Fascinated/Yearning | 114 |
| Happy/Glad/Joy/Delighted/Love to hear/Heart warming | 135 |
| Appreciation/Grateful/Enriched | 14 |
| Have not heard/Don't know/Cannot understand | 152 |
| Amazing/Great/Awesome/Impressed/Beautiful/Wonderful | 67 |
| Calm/Comfortable/Peace/Complete/Relieved/Safe | 25 |
| Nothing/Neutral/Unsure | 26 |
| Confused | 12 |
| Nostalgic/Familiar | 37 |
| Sad/Alone/Lost/Loss/Disappointed/Heartbroken/Home sick/Left out/Missing something/Outsider/Isolated/Longing | 70 |
| Excited/Empowered/Inspired/Encouraged/Alive/ Enthusiastic/Motivated/Invigorated | 65 |
| Grounded | 7 |
| Emotional/Overwhelmed/Frustrated/Envious/Nervous/ Vulnerable/Anxious/Impatient | 19 |
| Important/Meaningful/Impactful/Powerful/Special | 19 |
| Totals | 1177 |

| How do you feel when you hear Michif languages being spoken?* | 2024 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
| Generally positive feelings | 898 | 827 |
| Generally neutral feelings, or can't say | 79 | 226 |
| Generally negative feelings | 89 | 113 |
| Totals *Superant of the question shows | 1066 | 1166 |

^{*}Summary of the question above.

| 2024 | 2021 |
|------|------------|
| 483 | 586 |
| 317 | 352 |
| 143 | 157 |
| | 483 317 |

| Totals | 977 | 1128 |
|----------------------|-----|------|
| Not at all important | 12 | 6 |
| Not so important | 22 | 27 |

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