



# Socio-Economic Profile of Anglophone Communities

## Maritime Sectors of Quebec 2006



Prepared by:

Policy and  
Economics Branch  
Quebec Region







*SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF ANGLOPHONE COMMUNITIES*

*MARITIME SECTORS OF QUEBEC*

*MARCH 2006*

*FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA  
QUEBEC REGION*

**Published by:**  
**Policy and Economics Branch**  
**Fisheries and Oceans Canada**  
**104, Dalhousie, Quebec, QC**  
**G1K 7Y7**

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**DFO/2006-1019**  
**Cat. No. Fs124-1/2006E**  
**ISBN 0-662-43437-4**

**March 2006**

Cette publication est également disponible en français.

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## **ACRONYMS**

RPEB: Policy and Economics Branch

DFO: Fisheries and Oceans Canada

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

M\$: Millions of dollars

K\$: Thousands of dollars

## **SYMBOLS**

p: preliminary

## ***ACKNOWLEDGMENTS***

*A large amount of statistical data from the Fisheries Management Branch's Statistics and Licensing Division was needed to complete this study. To this end, we would like to thank the service's entire staff, especially Édith Lachance and Bruno Lévesque for their generous collaboration.*

*We would also like to thank Canadian Heritage for their financial contribution through the Interdepartmental Partnership with Official Language Communities (IPOLC).*





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## Introduction

Several studies make the connection between belonging to a minority language group and the value gained by certain socio-economic variables that concern them<sup>1</sup>. The geographic and linguistic situation faced by Anglophone communities in the maritime sectors of Quebec has repercussions that would be interesting to quantify demographically as well as in terms of employment.

The *Socio-Economic Profile of Anglophone Communities in the Maritime Sectors<sup>2</sup> of Quebec* provides a better understanding of the reality in which this region's linguistic minority evolves. As an additional background document, this study gives key players a better assessment of the different policies and interventions in the maritime sectors, in addition to offering a source of data and analyses that can accompany all support and development approaches in this area.

The first section of the report presents the main demographic variables of the Anglophone population, as compared to the majority. The second section examines the labour market from the viewpoint of income. Finally, the last section describes the fishing industry according to landings, work forces and main species landed.

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<sup>1</sup> See notably: CANADA. CANADIAN HERITAGE. *The Socio-Economic Vitality of Official Language Communities*, 1999. For more references, see the appendix.

<sup>2</sup> The term "maritime sector" used in this document refers to the regions defined by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. This study concentrates on three sectors in the Quebec Region: Gaspé Area, the Magdalen Islands and the North Shore. For more information, see the appended map.

## Summary

### DEMOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

The Anglophone population settled in the maritime sectors in several waves. Aboriginals were the first to occupy the area and generally adopted English as the first official language spoken. During the American Revolution, as war was waged in the thirteen American colonies, a considerable number of Loyalists settled around Baie-des-Chaleurs. On the Gulf's other bank, the Lower North Shore, a certain number of Newfoundlanders took up residence temporarily, then settled permanently, attracted by the cod shoals.

Today, Anglophones are a minority in the maritime sectors of Quebec. In 2001, the Anglophone population in the maritime sectors had 15 060 members, representing 5% of the region's inhabitants. Approximately 60% live in Baie-des-Chaleurs and on the Lower North Shore. Between 1991 and 2001, the group lost 1 510 of its members, an average decrease of 0.95% per year compared to 0.65% for the rest of the population. This decline was mainly experienced in the sub-sectors<sup>3</sup> of South-Gaspé and East-Gaspé, where the Anglophone population lost 1 045 individuals in the same period, out of a total of 4 445 individuals in 1991.

The population exodus, in conjunction with the drop in birth rate seen throughout the province, is causing the Anglophone communities in the maritime sectors to age prematurely. The phenomenon is especially noticeable in Gaspé Area. During the last census, 12.3% of Quebeckers were 65 years and over, compared to 18.1% of Anglophones in Gaspé Area, 12.3% on the North Shore and 11.9% in the Magdalen Islands.

A more detailed analysis of the variables tied to education, bilingualism, mobility and ethnic origins is included in this report.

### ECONOMIC CONTEXT

The maritime sectors are generally called "resource regions" due to the important role that natural resource extraction plays in its economy. This is especially true for the Anglophone population, whose activity in the labour market is even more concentrated in the resource sector. In 2001, 20% of Quebec's labour force was working in the primary and secondary sectors, compared to 24% of Anglophones in Gaspé Area, 29% on the North Shore and 64% in the Magdalen Islands. Most of these English-speaking

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<sup>3</sup> Each maritime sector is divided into "maritime sub-sectors". The maritime sub-sectors in Gaspé Area are North-Gaspé, East-Gaspé, South-Gaspé and Baie-des-Chaleurs. The North Shore is subdivided into the Lower North Shore, the Mid North Shore and the Upper North Shore. The Magdalen Islands have no sub-sectors. For more information, see the appended map.

labourers worked in the fishing industry: 35% in Gaspé Area, 66% on the North Shore and 98% in the Magdalen Islands.

The Anglophone population's concentration in the maritime sectors' most isolated areas (Lower North Shore, Baie-des-Chaleurs) also has an impact on its working conditions. Relatively speaking, it is rarer for English-speakers to hold full-time jobs, year-round, than the rest of the inhabitants of the maritime sectors, which means earning a lower income. During the last census, residents of Quebec reported an average gross income of \$31,620, including government transfer payments. That same year, the average was \$28,700 for workers in the maritime sectors. As for Anglophones, Gaspé Area reported the lowest average income (\$24,076), followed by the North Shore (\$26,964). Only English-speakers in the Magdalen Islands have an income that exceeds the provincial average (\$35,409). This is due to the benefits of lobster fishing, an industry that employs nearly half of the workers.

Replacing the labour force is an important challenge faced by the English-speaking communities in the maritime sectors of Quebec, especially in Gaspé Area and the Magdalen Islands. It is in this administrative region, out of the entire province, that the lack of relief workers is most strongly felt.

### **MARINE FISHING INDUSTRY**

Fishing remains an important activity for all of the Anglophone communities in the maritime sectors of Quebec. During the 2005 season, nearly a quarter of the active fishers were Anglophone, 318 out of 1 301. Half live on the North Shore (153), followed by the Magdalen Islands (104) and Gaspé Area (61). These fishers generated landings totalling 5 800 tons during the last fishing season, worth \$19.8 M<sup>4</sup>, or 14% of the value landed by all Quebec fishers that year.

In 2005, the main species landed in terms of value was lobster (60%) and snow crab (24%), although the latter represents 40% of Quebec's total landed value. The main landing sectors were the Magdalen Islands (\$11.2 M), followed by the North Shore (\$6 M) and Gaspé Area (\$2.6 M). Anglophone fishers from the Magdalen Islands are profiting from high lobster prices, as this species' landed value has climbed 30% since 1995. Fishers on the North Shore were affected by both a drop in landed value of snow crab in 2005 as well as a moratorium on its capture in Area 13.

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<sup>4</sup> Excludes non-commercial fishing, such as personal consumption and sales made directly to the public.

## 1. Socio-Economic Profile of the Maritime Sectors

This section addresses the demographic and economic reality of Anglophone communities in the maritime sectors between 1991 and 2001.

Unless otherwise indicated, the data used in this section is from censuses taken by Statistics Canada in 1991, 1996 and 2001.

The term “community” refers to census subdivisions established by Statistics Canada.

The term “Anglophone” refers to people for whom English is the first official language spoken.



## 1.1. Demographic Context

In 2001, 830 000 Anglophones lived in Quebec, out of 7.1 million inhabitants. Therefore, English-speakers make up 11.6% of the Quebec population and 6.6% of people living off the Island of Montreal. Approximately 2% of Quebec's Anglophones live in one of the three maritime sectors studied and represent 5% of the population in these regions or 15 000 individuals out of 300 000.

The maritime sectors of Quebec underwent considerable demographic changes over the last several years, which are expected to accelerate as the baby-boomers age. The Anglophone community has not been spared. These transformations are already having major socio-economic impacts that are intensifying: youth exodus, capital and labour drain, increased demand for health care, etc.<sup>5</sup>

This section examines the social turmoil affecting the Anglophone populations in the maritime sectors, namely:

- History of settlement and current geographical distribution
- Population development between 1991 and 2001
- Population age structure in 1991 and 2001
- Population structure according to origin and mobility
- Knowledge of the official languages
- Education

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<sup>5</sup> QUÉBEC. MINISTÈRE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUE. *Portrait socioéconomique des régions du Québec*, 2005.

### 1.1.1. History and Geographic Distribution

The history of the maritime sectors begins with the settlement of the Aboriginal over 2 000 years ago, notably with the presence of Micmacs on Gaspesian land. A large Aboriginal population, whose first official spoken language is generally English, still resides around Baie-des-Chaleurs. In fact, according to information gathered during the last census, nearly one English-speaking Gaspesian out of five has Aboriginal blood.

The British began permanently colonizing Gaspé Area after conquering New France toward the end of the XVIIIth century. The peninsula was then politically tied to the province of Quebec, even though it remained isolated with regard to communication. The first great wave of colonization occurred with the arrival of the Loyalists, who left the newly independent United States to remain members of the British Empire. Consequently, “Around 1850, all of these communities together counted a population of less than 20 000, of whom almost half were English-speaking. The population was primarily located along Baie-des-Chaleurs, with inland areas and the north shore of the peninsula remaining almost uninhabited.”<sup>6</sup>

In the Magdalen Islands, the Anglophone population began to settle in earnest in the early XIXth century, with the arrival of Scottish and Irish immigrants. “In the first decades of that century, settlers came for the seal hunt and for the fishing. Immigrants came looking for a new home; others were shipwrecked and stayed on the island”.<sup>7</sup> The population was spread throughout the archipelago, instead of concentrated in the east as it is now. After they were conquered, the islands fell to Newfoundland until the Quebec Act of 1774, at which time they passed into the hands of Quebec. Still today, English-speaking islanders feel a certain attachment to the Maritime Provinces, with whom they share a time zone and main maritime link<sup>8</sup>.

European settlement on the North Shore’s coast took place in several stages. The first fishers moved there from Quebec, other British colonies and the United States on a seasonal basis to take advantage of the sea’s riches. The North Shore’s permanent colonization truly began in the XIXth century. Anglophone presence intensified considerably with the arrival of Newfoundlanders who wished to settle permanently. “This movement affects the Lower North Shore all the more, particularly as this region remains relatively unpopulated and its sedentary population is still not completely devoted to cod fishing, which is the Newfoundland settlers’ primary interest.”<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Gaspésie Tourism [<http://www.tourisme-gaspesie.com>]

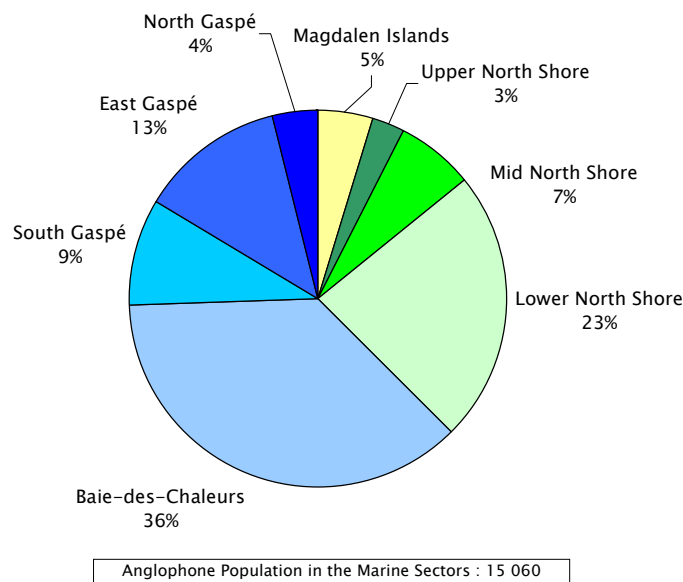
<sup>7</sup> Historical Heritage Complex (CAMI): [<http://www.ilesdelamadeleine.com/cami/index.htm>]

<sup>8</sup> CANADA. CANADIAN HERITAGE. *The Socio-Economic Vitality of Official Language Communities*, 1999.

<sup>9</sup> FRENETTE, Pierre, et coll. *Histoire de la Côte-Nord, Institut québécois de la recherche sur la culture*, 1996.

Today, the Anglophone population of the maritime sectors is concentrated in certain areas, notably Baie-des-Chaleurs, the Lower North Shore and east of the Magdalen Islands Archipelago. As such, it is isolated from the maritime sectors' economic centres, like Baie-Comeau/Sept-Îles on the North Shore and Gaspé/Rimouski in Gaspé Area, and the main regional services such as schools of higher learning and large hospital centres. This isolation is made more acute by the fact that people living on the Lower North Shore reside in small communities that are not connected by roads, since the 138 ends in Natashquan.

**Graph 1: Distribution of the Anglophone Population, Maritime Sub-Sectors of Quebec, 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

Gaspé Area is home to most of the Anglophones in the maritime sectors, that is 9 420 individuals (4.9% of the sector's population), compared to 4 930 on the North Shore (5.3% of the sector's population) and 710 in the Magdalen Islands (5.6% of the sector's population). The majority of English-speaking islanders live on Grosse-Île and Entry Island, where they make up almost the entire population. On the North Shore, approximately 70% of Anglophones live on the Lower North Shore, where they make up 65% of this sub-sector's population. In Gaspé Area, Anglophones are more scattered. In spite of this, most live in Baie-des-Chaleurs, where they make up 16.9% of the local population.

Table 1 lists the 21 communities with over 200 Anglophones inhabitants in 2001. Anglophones are a minority in nine of these communities. In Gaspé, the main community, they represent 13% of the inhabitants. However, they make up 97% of the population of Listuguj, 98% of Bonne-Espérance (the main English-speaking community on the North Shore) and 85% of the population of Grosse-Île in the Magdalen Islands.

**Table 1: Communities with Over 200 Anglophone Inhabitants, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, 2001**

Community	Maritime Sub-Sector	Total Population	Anglophone Population	Percentage of Total Pop.
Gaspé	East-Gaspé	14 670	1 845	13%
Listuguj	Baie-des-Chaleurs	1 440	1 390	97%
Bonne-Espérance	Lower North Shore	850	835	98%
Sept-Îles	Mid North Shore	23 625	835	4%
New Carlisle	Baie-des-Chaleurs	1 350	810	60%
Côte-Nord-du-Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent <sup>10</sup>	Lower North Shore	1 170	770	66%
Blanc-Sablon	Lower North Shore	1 185	760	64%
Percé	South-Gaspé	3 610	705	20%
Saint-Augustin	Lower North Shore	625	565	90%
Gros-Mécatina	Lower North Shore	575	535	93%
New Richmond	Baie-des-Chaleurs	3 725	495	13%
Cascapédia-St-Jules	Baie-des-Chaleurs	705	480	68%
Grosse-Île	Magdalen Islands	535	455	85%
Gesgapegiag	Baie-des-Chaleurs	490	415	85%
Port-Daniel	South-Gaspé	1 560	370	24%
Escuminac	Baie-des-Chaleurs	605	345	57%
Matapedia	Baie-des-Chaleurs	690	310	45%
Baie-Comeau	Upper North Shore	22 840	255	1%
Shigawake	Baie-des-Chaleurs	370	245	66%
Bonaventure	Baie-des-Chaleurs	2 695	215	8%
Rimouski	North-Gaspé	30 175	205	1%
Other communities	-	183 035	2 220	1%
Total	-	296 525	15 060	5%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

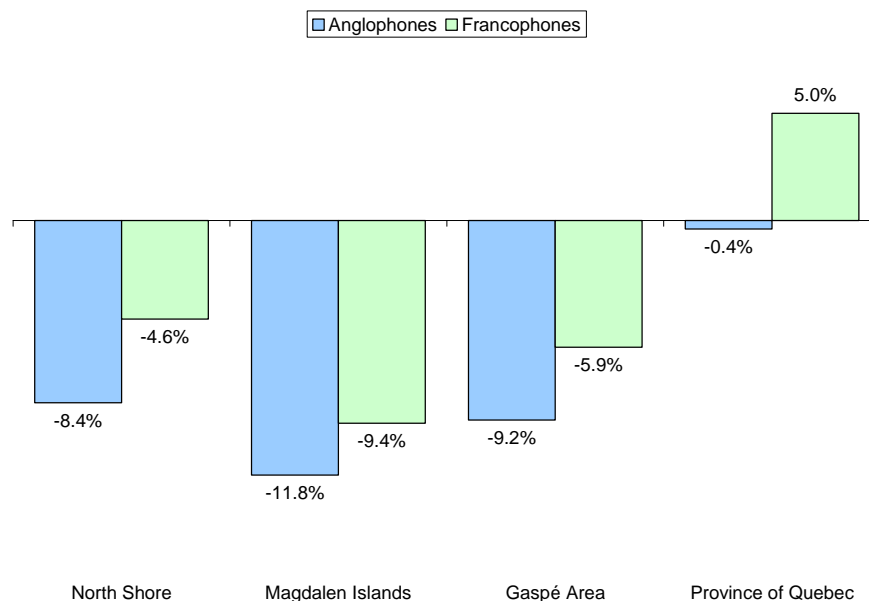
<sup>10</sup> Community including the villages of Kegaska, La Romaine, Chevery, Harrington Harbour, Aylmer Sound and Tête-à-la-Baleine.

### 1.1.2. Population Development

A drop in birth rate after the baby boom caused Quebec’s population growth to slow. The province’s population rose 3.3% between 1991 and 1996, while growing only 1.4% over the next 5 years. In the sectors, this problem is exacerbated by the vicious circle of rural exodus, affecting youth in particular: limited jobs and access to post-secondary education encourage them to move to urban areas, which adds to the initial difficulties.

For all of the maritime sectors, this combination of problems turned a predicted slowdown in population growth into a tangible decline. Overall, Gaspé Area, the Magdalen Islands and the North Shore lost 6.4% of their members between 1991 and 2001, less than 1% between 1991 and 1996 and 5.7% in the following years. The growing emigration movement coincided with Canada’s economic recovery, motivating many rural youth to settle in the city in order to take advantage of this growth.

**Graph 2: Demographic Development, by Maritime Sector, between 1991 and 2001**

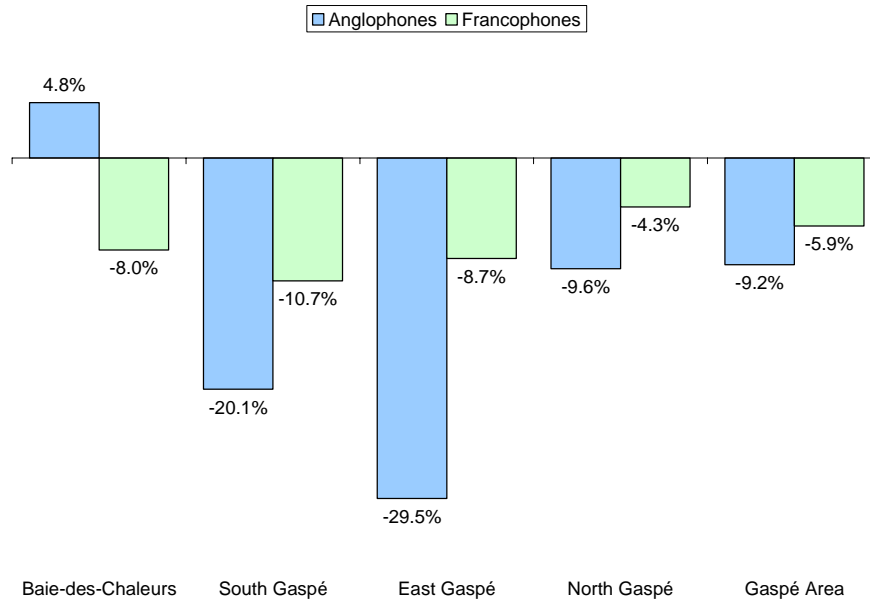


Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

The rural exodus affects both official language groups. However, emigration is a greater problem for the Anglophone population, as shown in Graph 2. In total, the maritime sector’s minority population lost 9.1% of its members between 1991 and 2001, compared to 5.7% for Francophone communities. Losses were greatest in Gaspé Area, where the English-speaking population lost 960 members during this period, compared to 455 on the North Shore and 95 in the Magdalen Islands. Percentage-wise, the exodus movement was the most remarkable in the Magdalen Islands, where the Anglophone population dropped 11.8% between 1991 and 2001, from 805 residents to 710.

The intensity of the exodus movement differs within the maritime sectors, as shown in Graph 3. Emigration mainly occurred in the sub-sectors of East-Gaspé (-29.5%) and South-Gaspé (-20.1%), where the Anglophone community lost 1 145 members in ten years. That is a significant amount, considering that the loss for all maritime sectors was 1 510 inhabitants over the same period. These two sub-sectors are among the areas most affected by the economic slowdown of the maritime sectors. They contain the smallest proportion of individuals earning an employment income: 48% in East-Gaspé and 45% in South-Gaspé, compared to an average 54% for all Anglophones in the maritime sectors.

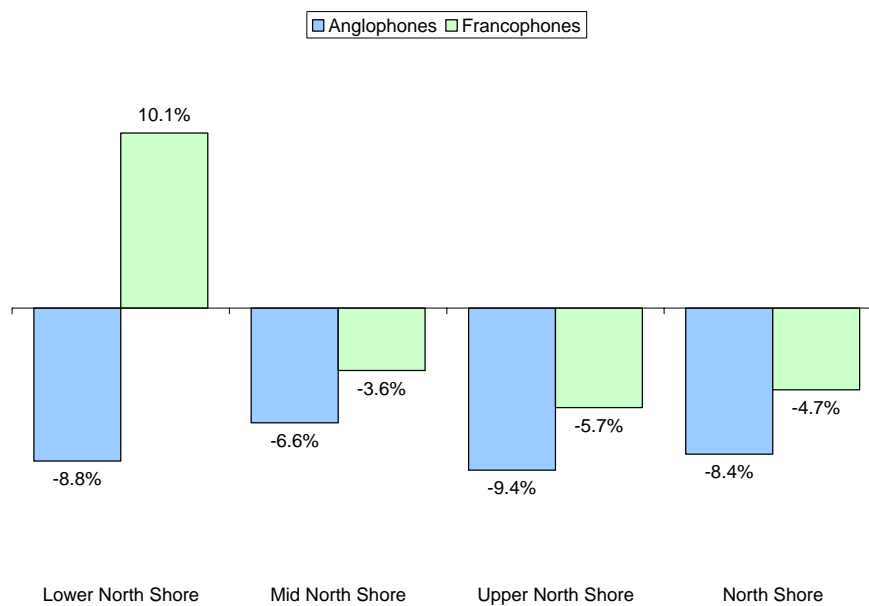
**Graph 3: Demographic Development, by Maritime Sub-Sector, Gaspé Area, between 1991 and 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

Baie-des-Chaleurs is the only sub-sector where matters improved for the Anglophone population between 1991 and 2001, with 4.8% growth. This unique situation is due to the presence of two First Nations Communities (Listuguj and Gesgapegiag) that are home to a third of the Anglophones in Baie-des-Chaleurs. According to the *Institut de la Statistique du Québec*<sup>11</sup>, these communities, whose members generally adopt English as the first official language spoken, gained 207 individuals between 1996 and 2001, a 12% growth, while the population in most Gaspesian communities dropped during the same period.

**Graph 4: Demographic Development, by Maritime Sub-Sector, North Shore, between 1991 and 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

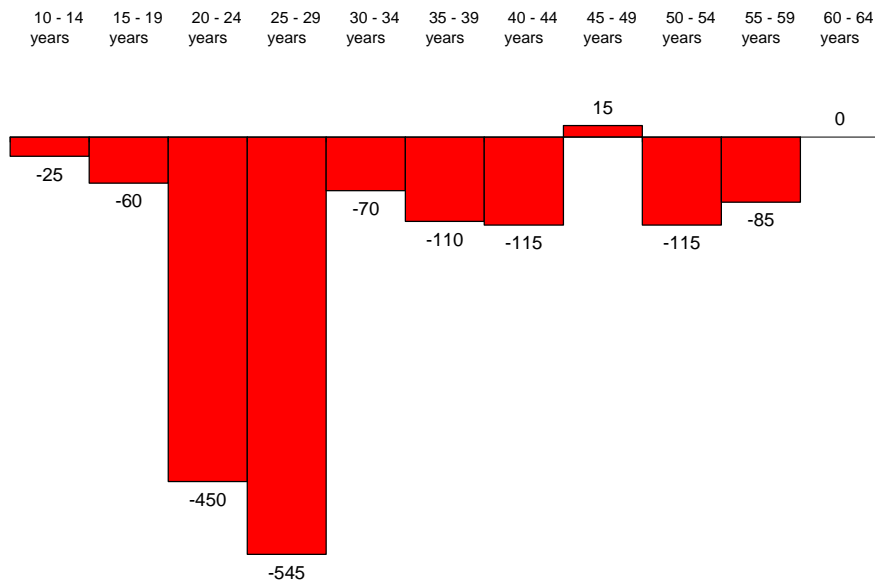
A similar phenomenon was observed in the La Romaine First Nations community on the Lower North Shore, where the population grew by 115 members between 1996 and 2001, a 14% increase. Since the Aboriginals residing in this community generally adopt French as their first official language, this explains the increase in Francophones on the Lower North Shore seen in Graph 4. The Anglophone population fell in all of the North Shore’s sub-sectors, and at a much quicker rate than its French-speaking counterparts.

<sup>11</sup> QUÉBEC. INSTITUT DE LA STATISTIQUE DU QUÉBEC. *Estimation of the Population of the Municipalities of Quebec, as of July 1, 1996 to 2005 According to Geographic Division as of July 1, 2004, 2005.*

Demographic changes seen thus far are the result of cross-effects from natural causes (births, deaths) and net migration (immigration, emigration). Considering that individuals aged 0 to 4 in 1991 became part of the 10 to 14 age group in 2001 and so on for all of the age groups, we obtain the outcome of these effects on each group<sup>12</sup>. Since net migration is the main factor affecting the population under 65 years of age, we also obtain an accurate estimate of the effect.

It is noted that the majority of individuals who left the maritime sectors over the period were between 20 and 29 years of age in 2001, that is, those who reached their twenties between the two censuses. Young people generally leave the region to pursue their studies or because they cannot find employment. The situation is problematic due to the fact that many never return<sup>13</sup>.

**Graph 5: Demographic Development between 1991 and 2001, by Age Group in 2001, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones<sup>14</sup>**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

<sup>12</sup> QUEBEC. MINISTÈRE DES TRANSPORTS. *Vers un plan de transport de la Côte-Nord*, 1997.

<sup>13</sup> For example, according to estimates made by the *Institut de la statistique du Québec*, only 51 out of 100 young people aged 16 and living in the Gaspé-Magdalen-Islands administrative region in 1988 still lived in the region in 2004.

<sup>14</sup> The 0 to 9 age group is missing since those individuals were born after 1991. As for the 65 and older group, Statistics Canada does not use any five-year increments after this age, which does not allow any comparisons to be made.

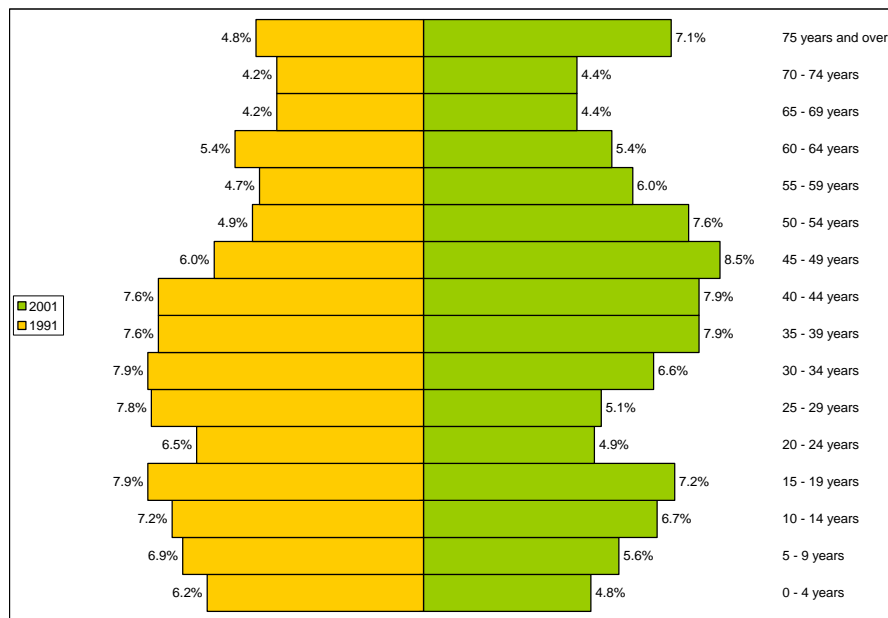


### 1.1.3. Population Age Structure

Demographic upheavals affecting the English-speaking population in the maritime sectors speed up its aging, as shown in Graph 6. In addition to the drop in 20 to 29 year olds due to the rural exodus, baby-boomers are also making their way to the top of the pyramid. This is not a unique situation since it affects most industrialized economies. While the provincial population was able to renew itself through international immigration, the maritime sectors were supported by a relatively high fertility rate.

In 1991, women aged 15 and over in Quebec had had an average 1.8 children over the course of their lifetime, compared to 2.3 children for French-speaking women in the maritime sectors and 2.5 for English-speaking women in the same area. This advantage later dwindled<sup>15</sup>, when women moved away during their most fertile period<sup>16</sup>.

**Graph 6: Age Pyramid, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 1991 and 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

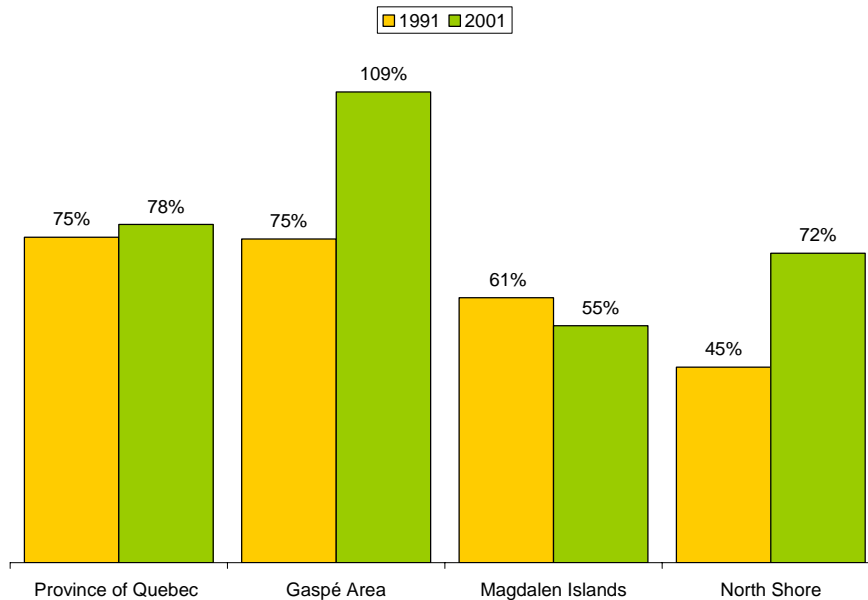
<sup>15</sup> Between 1991 and 2001, Quebec’s birth rate, defined as the number of births per inhabitant, fell from 1.38% to 1%. In the maritime sectors, this rate dropped from 1.22% to 0.71% in the Gaspé-Magdalen-Islands administrative region and from 1.45% to 1% on the North Shore. Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec*.

<sup>16</sup> Today, women in Quebec reach their peak fertility at the age of 28. Source: *Institut de la Statistique du Québec*.

Consequently, there is now a growing number of elderly people and a shrinking number of young people. Moreover, the movement is expected to intensify as baby-boomers age and fewer and fewer children are born. One way to study the evolution of this demographic imbalance is to compare the ratio of inhabitants aged 65 and older to those aged 15 and under. The result will give an idea of the magnitude of generational renewal or non-renewal.

Graph 7 shows the calculations made using data from the 1991 and 2001 censuses. At that time, the Anglophone population in the maritime sectors moved from a relatively steady position, demographically-speaking, to mirror the provincial reality, in which there are less and less children born to replace the aging generations. Note that the English-speaking population in Gaspé Area now contains a greater number of people aged 65 and over than people aged 15 and under.

**Graph 7: Ratio of the Population Aged 65 and Over to the Population Aged 15 and Under, by Maritime Sector, Anglophones, 1991 and 2001**



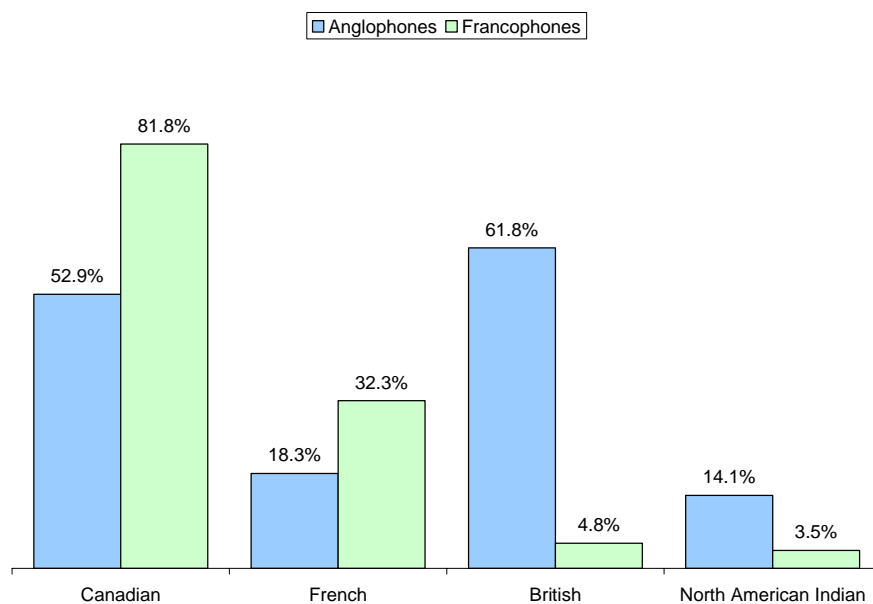
Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

### 1.1.4. Origins and Mobility

During a census, the federal government asks respondents to identify their ethnic or cultural origin. Multiple answers are accepted in order to consider multiple origins have no direct link to nationality<sup>17</sup>.

As for their sense of belonging with regard to origin, Anglophones in the maritime sectors are a much more heterogeneous group than their French-speaking neighbours. Graph 8 clearly demonstrates this:

**Graph 8: Ethnic or Cultural<sup>18</sup> Origin by Language Group, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

More Anglophones claimed that they were of British descent than Canadian. This is especially surprising in a region that welcomes few international immigrants. Anglophones in the maritime sectors seem very attached to their origins and history, a characteristic that is not as strong in the French-speaking population. There are also many First Nations residents, from the Listuguj and Gesgapegiag communities in Baie-des-Chaleurs.

<sup>17</sup> Ethnicity is not tied to nationality or official definitions (for example, the government’s definition of an Aboriginal). The value of this variable rests on a subjective assessment by the respondents. For a discussion on this subject: [www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/definitions/ethnicity.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/definitions/ethnicity.htm)

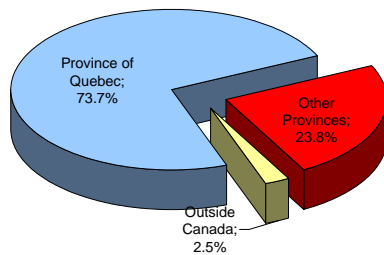
<sup>18</sup> The “British” category includes the following origins: English, Scottish, Welsh, Irish, British, Anglo, Celtic, origins of Cornwall, Gaelic, Jersey, origins of Isle of Man, United Empire Loyalist, United Kingdom, etc.

Across Canada, the interprovincial migratory movement is a phenomenon that, as a rule, affects Anglophones considerably more than Francophones. This is due to the fact that Quebecers migrate little for linguistic reasons, among others<sup>19</sup>. In fact, during the 2001 census, less than one percent of Quebec’s inhabitants had lived in another province five years previously, compared to 3% of the other Canadians.

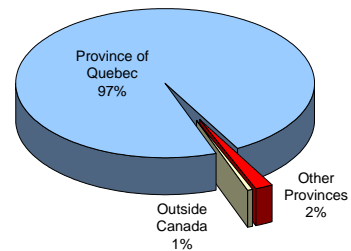
The Anglophone population in the maritime sectors is very mobile, even when compared to national standards. During the last census, 4.5% of Anglophones stated that they lived in a province other than Quebec five years previously, compared to 0.6% of their French-speaking neighbours.

This is not a recent occurrence, since nearly a quarter of Anglophones in the maritime sectors were born outside of the province, a proportion that is eleven times greater than for the Francophone population.

**Graph 9: Population by Place of Birth, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 2001**



**Graph 10: Population by Place of Birth, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Francophones 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

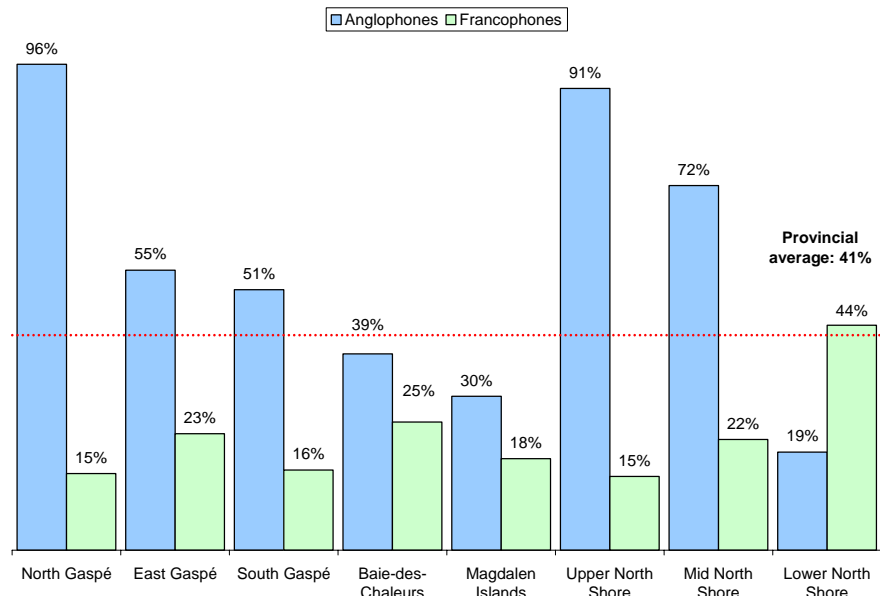
<sup>19</sup> According to Canadian Heritage, “...language is an important reason that many Francophones stay in Quebec”. Source: CANADA. DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE. *New Canadian Perspectives: Languages in Canada - 2001 Census*, 2004.

### 1.1.5. Knowledge of the Official Languages

Knowledge of the official languages is also an important factor in the vitality of minority communities, since it measures possible interaction between language groups and draws a picture of the ease with which both communities can meet in order to take part in common initiatives<sup>20</sup>.

Graph 11 presents the bilingualism rate of each language group by maritime sub-sector:

**Graph 11: Proportion of the Population that Uses Both Official Languages, by Maritime Sub-Sector and Language Group, 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

The bilingualism rate in French-speaking communities dips below the provincial average in every sub-sector except the Lower North Shore, which supports the following hypothesis: a language group's rate of bilingualism is inversely proportional to its representation in the total population and its geographic concentration. This is especially true in the Anglophone community. Knowledge of the official languages is very high in regions where English-speakers are few and/or scattered.

<sup>20</sup> CANADA. MINISTÈRE DU PATRIMOINE CANADIEN. *The Socio-economic Vitality of Official Language Communities*. According to authors, anglophones tend not to take an active role in local development organisms, as they see these organisations as operating in the French language only.

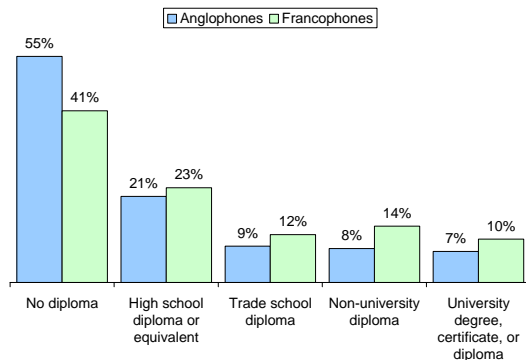
1.1.6. Education

Education plays a primary role in a region’s economic and social development. An educated population is more productive and has a higher standard of living. For this reason education generally goes hand in hand with an increase in income and consumption.

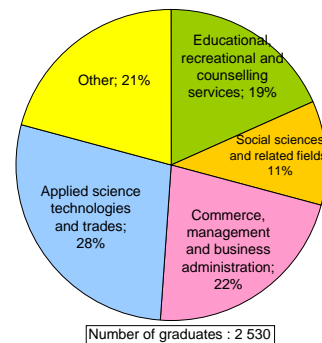
In addition to the structure and quality of the education system, economic environment is an important factor that has consequences on years of education and specialization. An economy focused on the primary sector will offer jobs that require little education, which in turn will have an impact on the time young people spend in school. Moreover, a lack of economic diversity forces youth who want to study a field that offers few possibilities in the region to move elsewhere. Finally, since the population in the maritime sectors is spread out, so too are the education services, thus affecting accessibility. For example, the college (CEGEP) closest to Blanc-Sablon, a predominantly English-speaking village, is 700 km west, in Sept-Îles.

These factors affect young people living in maritime sectors that report fewer years of education on average and most often choose trades elsewhere in the province. In 2001, approximately 55% of the Anglophone population in the maritime sectors did not have a diploma, compared to 41% of the Francophones and 33%, province-wide. The gap is especially wide with regard to university degrees, held by 17% of Quebecers aged 15 and over, 10% of Francophones in the maritime sectors and only 7% of Anglophones.

Graph 12: Highest Level of Education Reached by Language Group, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, 2001



Graph 13: Specializations of Individuals with an Postsecondary Diploma, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

The tendency to attend school for a shorter period of time is still current. In 2001, approximately 39% of Anglophones aged 15 to 24 did not attend an educational institution<sup>21</sup>, compared to 31% of Francophones and 33% of Quebeckers. This is a vast improvement, however, since nearly 43% of Anglophones in this age group were no longer in school in 1991.

Since economic structure differs from one maritime sector to another, it is not surprising to note that the number of graduates by field also varies. There is an exceptionally small number of graduates in the Magdalen Islands, where two thirds of the labour force works in the primary and secondary sectors, mainly in the fishing industry.

**Table 2: Highest Level of Education Reached and Specializations by Maritime Sector, Anglophones, 2001**

	Gaspé Area	Magdalen Islands	North Shore
<b>Specializations</b>			
Educational, recreational and counselling services	17%	20%	21%
Fine arts and applied arts	3%	0%	2%
Humanities, social studies and related fields	4%	0%	5%
Social sciences and related disciplines	13%	8%	7%
Commerce, management and business administration	22%	24%	22%
Agricultural and biosciences, nutrition and food services	4%	8%	4%
Applied sciences and engineering	3%	8%	2%
Applied sciences technologies and trades	26%	24%	33%
Health professions and related technologies	6%	12%	4%
Mathematics, computer and physical sciences	2%	0%	2%
No specialization	1%	0%	0%
<b>Level of education</b>			
No diploma	51%	61%	56%
High school diploma or equivalent	15%	9%	14%
Trade school diploma	3%	4%	5%
Non-university diploma	18%	14%	15%
Degree, certificate or diploma	12%	12%	10%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

<sup>21</sup> Full-time or part-time students.

## 1.2. Economic Context

The lack of economic diversity and weakness of the industrial structure hinder employment in the maritime sectors. There is no exception here, seeing as it is the fate of most regions that are dependent on the extraction of natural resources. Considering that the maritime sectors were developed around a limited number of activities, when these activities experience some problems, it's the entire economy that is affected. Provided that most services are a side-effect<sup>22</sup>, that is to say that they rely on growth rather than contribute to it, the service sector is having a difficult time taking over. Consequently, in 2004, the unemployment rate reached 11.6% in the North Shore-Northern-Quebec administrative region and 19.5% in the Gaspé-Magdalen-Islands region, compared to 8.5% on a provincial scale. Anglophones in particular are feeling the effects, since they are concentrated in areas whose economic structure is at its weakest, such as the Lower North Shore and Baie-des-Chaleurs.

One characteristic of the labour market in the maritime sectors is the importance placed on seasonal work, especially in the English-speaking community. Due to the time of year the census was taken in, we cannot compare the main labour market indicators (unemployment, labour force activity, employment, etc.) since they only apply to the week preceding the day of the census (May 15th). Seeing as the start date of certain activities varies from one year to the next, we cannot accurately compare these variables.

This section examines the labour market based on income, more specifically:

- Labour market structure
- Occupations
- Development and composition of income
- Replacement of the labour force

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<sup>22</sup> CANADA. DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE. *The Socio-Economic Vitality of Official Language Communities*, 1999.



### 1.2.1. Labour Market Structure

Quebec's economy is sometimes referred to as a knowledge economy to stress the important role that knowledge and technologies play in its growth. Its structure is mainly based on services, with the service sector employing 74% of the labour force, in relation to 22% in the secondary sector and 4% in the primary sector.

The maritime sectors are generally viewed as a resource region due to their reliance on natural resource extraction and the weakness of the manufacturing sector, especially in Gaspé Area and the Magdalen Islands. This structure is mirrored in the distribution of the labour force: 9% of the population works in the primary sector and 18% in the secondary sector. The service sector offers the majority of jobs, as seen on a province-wide scale, but these generally rely on growth<sup>23</sup>. The jobs have been created to meet a demand from driving industries like fishing, forestry and mining. Still today, difficulties in the natural resources sector affect the service sector, which is unable to take over job creation.

Reliance on natural resource extraction is especially strong in the Anglophone community, whose members are concentrated outside of business areas in the maritime sectors, where the economy is more diversified. In total, 17% of the Anglophone labour force is tied to the primary sector and 18% to the secondary sector. Among the Anglophones living in the Magdalen Islands, one active member out of two works in the primary sector, for the most part in the fishing industry.

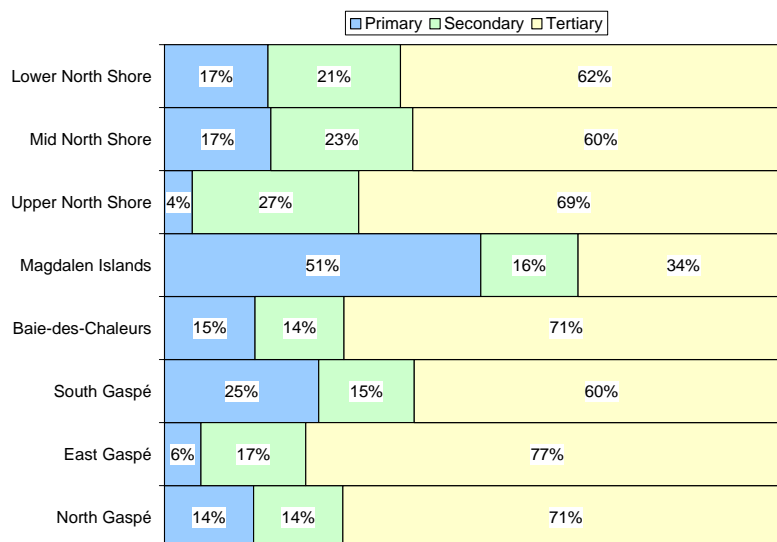
The secondary sector is Gaspé Area's weak link in the sense that only 15% of the labour force is tied to it, compared to 22% province-wide<sup>24</sup>. The North Shore's economic structure is much more solid and balanced, being home to large wood processing plants, paper mills and base metal manufacturing plants (aluminum and iron ore). The primary sector continues to play an important role on the North Shore, especially for the Anglophone community. The Anglophone labour force makes up 16% of its workers, compared to 9% of Francophones. This difference echoes the minority group's concentration on the Lower North Shore, where the economy is much less diversified and more dependent on natural resources.

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<sup>23</sup> Types of activities that rely on growth, known as "traditional services", notably include wholesale and retail trade, lodging, food service and personal services. Source: CANADA. DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE. *The Socio-Economic Vitality of Official Language Communities*, 1999.

<sup>24</sup> QUÉBEC. MINISTÈRE DES FINANCES ET MINISTÈRE DES RÉGIONS. *La Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine. Un maillon essentiel de notre économie*, 2001.

**Graph 14: Job Distribution by Industry Sector, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

The fisheries represent the main natural resource at the heart of the Anglophone community’s economic activity. For Francophones, resources are more diversified. As for the labour force working in the primary and secondary sectors in 2001, 98% of English-speaking islanders were tied to the fishing industry, compared to 66% on the North Shore and 18% in Gaspé Area. In the Francophone community, the labour force is divided as follows: 81% in the Magdalen Islands, 16% in the North Shore and 18% in Gaspé Area.

A total of 7 270 people worked in the fishing industry in 2001 in one of the three maritime sectors studied. Of this number, 15% were Anglophones although they only represent 3% of the total labour force. Most worked in the primary sector (69%), compared to 46% in the Francophone community.

**Table 3: Number of Jobs Tied to the Primary and Secondary Sectors of the Fishing Industry, by Maritime Sector and Language Group, 2001**

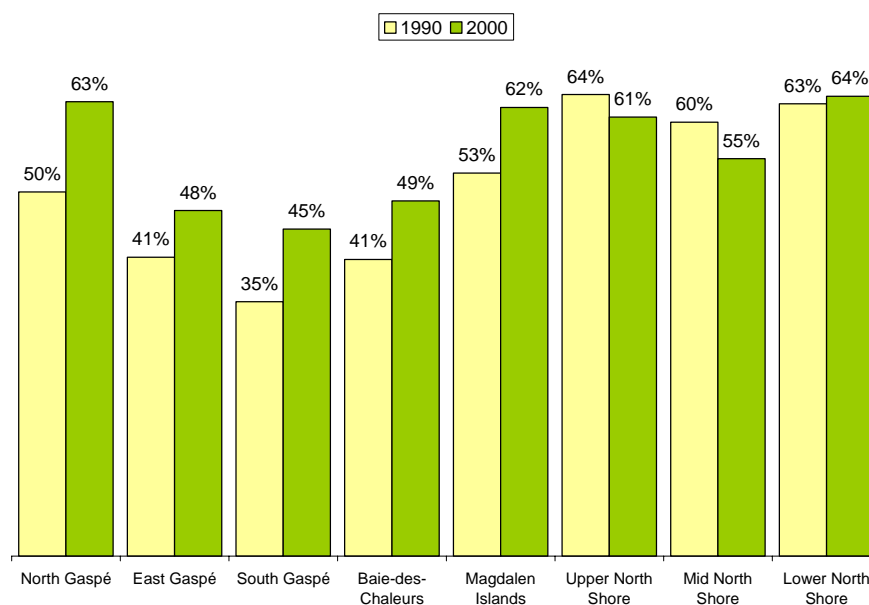
		Gaspé Area	Magdalen Islands	North Shore
Primary sector	Anglophones	265	195	295
	Francophones	1 350	820	650
Secondary sector	Anglophones	75	50	220
	Francophones	1 845	700	805

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

### 1.2.2. Occupations

The proportion of the population aged 15 and older earning an employment income during the year marks an important increase for the employment rate observed during this period. This measure also has the advantage of giving an overall annual view of the labour market situation in the maritime sectors<sup>25</sup>. Between 1990 and 2000<sup>26</sup>, the number of Anglophones with an employment income rose from 6 385 to 6 735, or from 48% to 54% of the population aged 15 and over. However, this improvement did not allow the population to bridge the gap with their Francophone peers (61%) and province-wide (66%).

**Graph 15: Proportion of the Population Aged 15 and Over Earning an Employment Income, by Maritime Sub-Sector, 1990 and 2000**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

This situation varies greatly from one sub-sector to the next. The proportion of individuals with an employment income is especially weak among the English-speaking population in Gaspé Area, where not even one person out of two works at one time or another during the year. This reality is a reflection of the sizeable group of inhabitants aged 65 and over, making up 18% of the population compared to 12% on the North

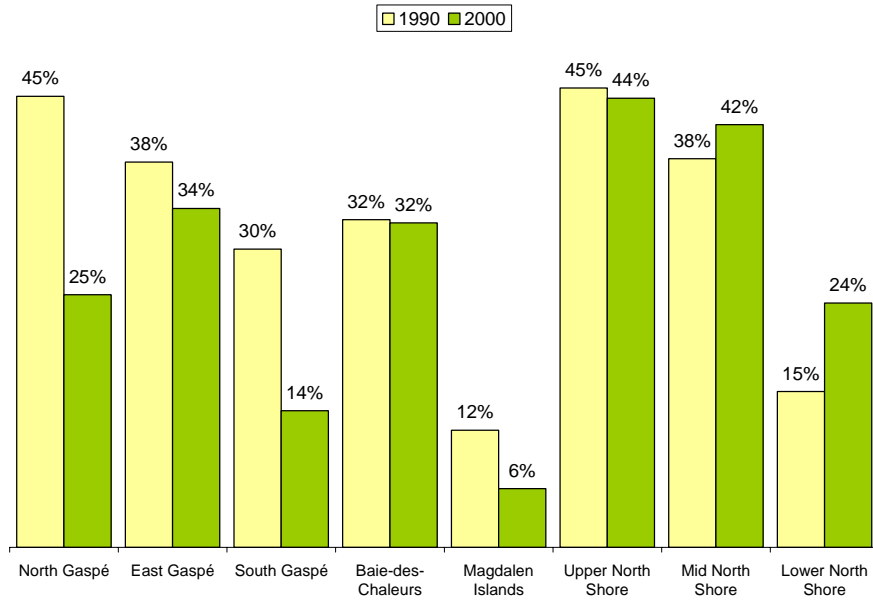
<sup>25</sup> The employment rate provides the number of people employed during the census reference week, while here we are speaking of the total number of people employed at one time or another during the year.

<sup>26</sup> Data on income applies to the year preceding the census.

Shore and the Magdalen Islands. The number of elderly people is notably very high in East-Gaspé (23%) and South-Gaspé (22%), the two regions most affected by the rural exodus.

A small number of workers in the maritime sectors have full-time jobs. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of Anglophones in the maritime sectors holding a full-time job rose from 1 830 to 1 895. Since this growth was weaker than for other types of jobs, the proportion of Anglophones with full-time jobs decreased, from 29% to 28% over the same period. This rate also remains below the one recorded for Francophone workers in the maritime sectors (42%) and Quebec as a whole (52%).

**Graph 16: Proportion of Workers Holding a Full-Time<sup>27</sup> Job, by Maritime Sub-Sector, Anglophones, 1990 and 2000**



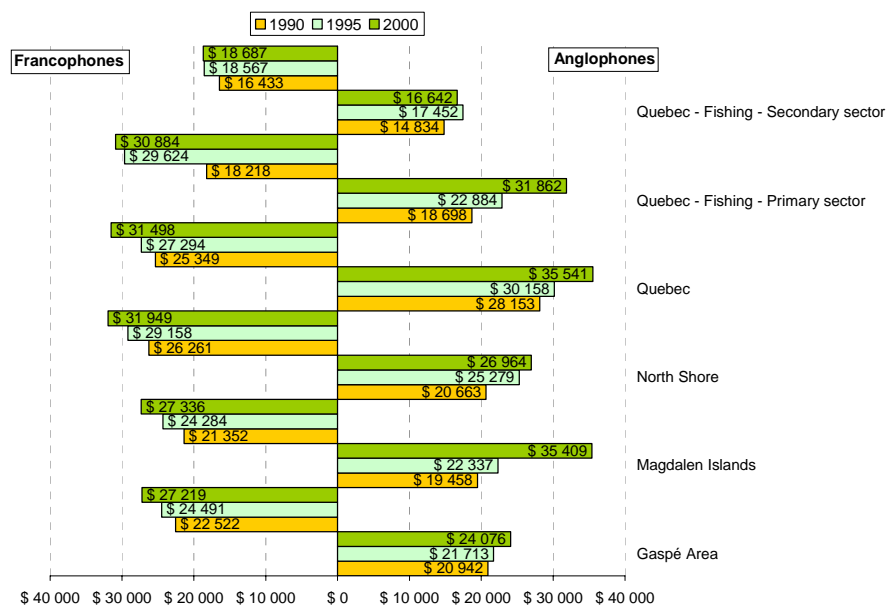
Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

<sup>27</sup> Individual who worked 49 to 52 weeks of the year, mainly full-time. Source: Statistics Canada.

### 1.2.3. Development and Composition of Income

Between 1990 and 2000, the average income for Quebecers rose 24.3%, from \$25,902 to \$31,620. At the same time, the average price for goods and services rose 17.9%<sup>28</sup>. Since general prices rose less rapidly than income, Quebec residents' *purchasing power*<sup>29</sup> went up in the 1990s. Average income rose more slowly in the maritime sectors, as shown in Graph 17. Income remains relatively high on the North Shore, especially on the Upper and Mid North Shore, where people can enjoy a relatively strong and diversified economic structure.

**Graph 17: Average Income By Language Group, Maritime Sector, All of Quebec and the Fishing Industry; 1990, 1995 and 2000**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991, 1996 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

Unlike what is reported for the Magdalen Islands and the province as a whole, Anglophones earn a lower average income than their Francophone peers. Islanders are benefiting from a significant increase in income in the primary sector of the fishing industry, which rose by 70% on average in the maritime sectors between 1990 and 2000. In the two other sectors, where 95% of the English-speaking population resides, income remains below the maritime sector average, notably due to the concentration of

<sup>28</sup> Bank of Canada [[http://www.bankofcanada.ca/en/rates/inflation\\_calc.html](http://www.bankofcanada.ca/en/rates/inflation_calc.html)]

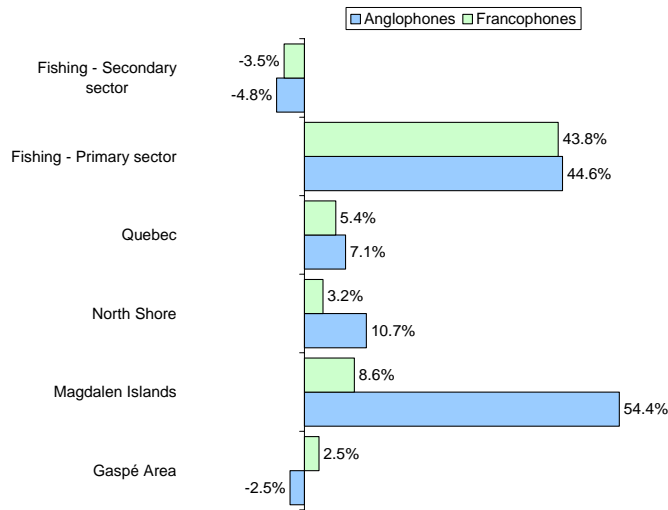
<sup>29</sup> This simple definition excludes certain problems, notably with regard to tax changes. However, it is useful to make temporal comparisons between groups of individuals and areas of activity.

Anglophones in the sub-sectors where, as on the Lower North Shore, incomes are generally lower.<sup>30</sup>

Differences in income between language groups also portray the fact that there are less Anglophones holding full-time jobs, as we saw in section 1.2.2. In fact, an Anglophone with a full-time job in the maritime sectors earns \$40,043 on average, compared to \$37,912 for a Francophone. The situation is reversed for other types of jobs with Anglophones earning \$15,002 on average compared to \$17,642 by their fellow citizens. In short, less Anglophones hold full-time jobs, but when they do, they are usually better paid.

The increase in income was generally strong enough to offset the rise in prices, except for Anglophones living in Gaspé Area. The Anglophone community even caught up to Francophones on the North Shore and the Magdalen Islands. The rise in purchasing power was especially high for the 755 Anglophones working in the primary fishing sector, whose average income rose by \$13,000 in ten years. The secondary sector reported less positive results, with incomes remaining below average.

**Graph 18: Variation in Purchasing Power Between 1990 and 2000, by Maritime Sector and Fishing Industry, Anglophones<sup>31</sup>**



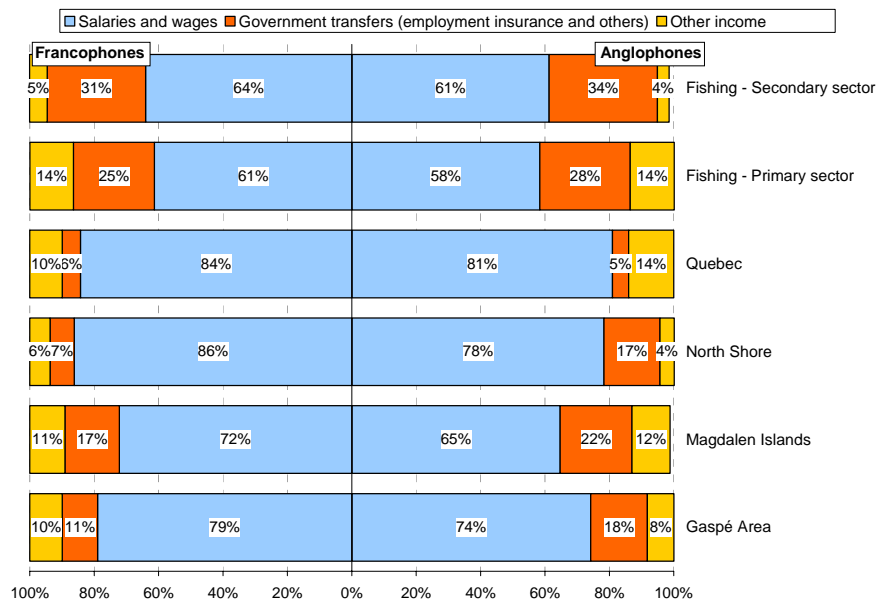
Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 2001 censuses, special compilations

<sup>30</sup> For example, in 2000, Anglophones on the Lower North Shore earned \$23,482 on average, compared to \$40,012 for those living on the Mid North Shore.

<sup>31</sup> The formula used to calculate purchasing power is appended.

In the 1990s, the number of Anglophones whose primary source of income was employment insurance dropped from 1 840 to 995, or from 16% to 9% in proportion to the population aged 15 and over. This proportion fell in all of the sub-sectors, but remains particularly high in the Magdalen Islands (18%) and on the Lower North Shore (14%), where work is often seasonal. The number of people who are very dependent on transfer payments remains quite high when compared to the Francophone population (4%) and all of Quebec (2%).

**Graph 19: Composition of Average Income by Language Group, All Industries and the Fishing Industry, 2000**



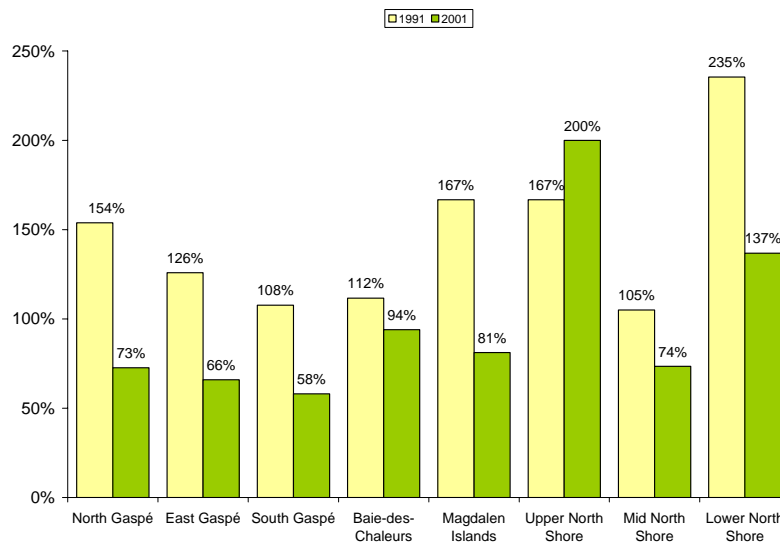
Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

### 1.2.4. Replacement of the Labour Force

Lower fertility rate and youth exodus problem affect the labour force in the maritime sectors by accelerating its aging and decline. Between 1991 and 2001, the pool of potentially active<sup>32</sup> individuals in the Anglophone community dropped 8%, from 10 980 to 10 100, with the average age moving up from 37.9 to 40.3 years, as compared to a provincial average of 39.5 years of age.

One way of measuring the scope of the labour force’s non-renewal is to compare the demographic load of the workers that will retire in the near future with that of people arriving on the labour market to replace them. If one ratio, called the *replacement index*, exceeds 100%, that means that there are more potential entrants than leavers. In 2001, the provincial average reached 129%, down 10 percentage points from 1991. That year, the Gaspé–Magdalen–Islands administrative region had the lowest index in the province, in addition to being the only region, along with Mauricie, to have a replacement index below 100%<sup>33</sup>. Replacing labour is especially problematic in regions where rural exodus is more intense, such as East–Gaspé and South–Gaspé, where there are less than 2 potential entrants per 3 leavers.

**Graph 20: Replacement Index,<sup>34</sup> by Maritime Sub–Sector and All of Quebec, Anglophones, 1991 and 2001**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 census, special compilations

<sup>32</sup> Defined as individuals aged 15 to 64.

<sup>33</sup> INSTITUT DE LA STATISTIQUE DU QUÉBEC. *Sociodemographic Data at a Glance*, February 2004.

<sup>34</sup> Ratio between the number of people aged 20 to 29 and those aged 55 to 64.



## 2. The Fishing Industry in Quebec

This section examines the harvesting sector, its evolution between 1990 and 2005 and its relative importance for Anglophone fishers as compared to Francophone fishers.

Unless otherwise indicated, the data used in this part of the study was provided by the Department of Fisheries and Ocean, Quebec Region's Statistics and Licensing Division.

Data for the 2005 season are preliminary and subject to change.

The term "community" refers to Statistics Canada's census subdivisions.

The term "Anglophone" refers to people for whom English is the first official language spoken.

### **The First Nations of Quebec**

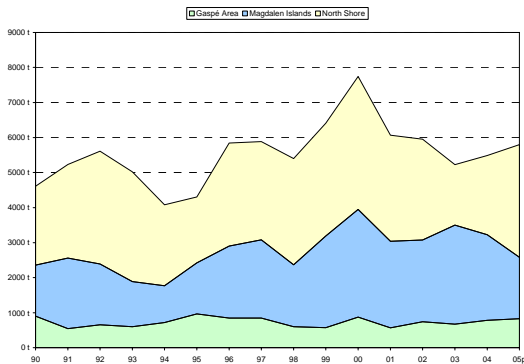
There are eleven First Nations in the maritime sectors of Quebec that fish commercially, including two Anglophone communities: Listuguj (Restigouche) and Gesgapegiag (near New Richmond). These First Nations took part in commercial fishing in 2000, following the application of the Marshall decision, when they received communal fishing licenses. To preserve confidentiality, Aboriginal fishing data has been excluded from this section.

## 2.1. Evolution of Landings

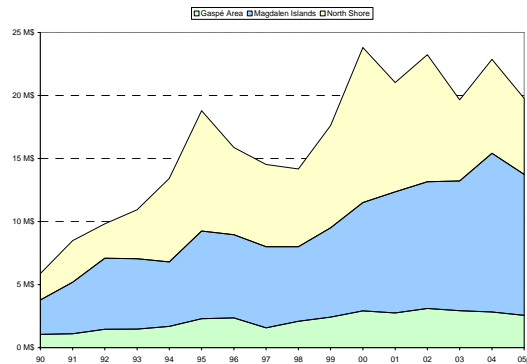
In Quebec, commercial fishing activities generated a total of 56 400 t in 2005, worth \$141 M. That signifies a return to normal, after a record year with landings reaching \$190 M (61 300 t)<sup>35</sup>. The fall from the previous high can be explained by a decline in the volume of shrimp landed, 22% less than the previous year, and the price of snow crab, which makes up 40% of the value of Quebec landings.

The English-speaking community in the maritime sectors makes up nearly a quarter of Quebec fishers with 318 active fishers in 2005. These fishers landed 5 796 t of fish products in 2005, 310 t more than the previous year, for a value of \$20 M. Lobster was the main species landed, making up 60% of the landed value, followed by snow crab with 24%. Lobster fishing is especially important in the Magdalen Islands and Gaspé Area, while snow crab makes up most of the landed value on the North Shore. As for the value of landings made by Anglophones, the Magdalen Islands top the list, followed by the North Shore and Gaspé Area.

**Graph 21: Evolution of Landings in Terms of Volume, by Maritime Sector, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



**Graph 22: Evolution of Landings in Terms of Value, by Maritime Sector, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



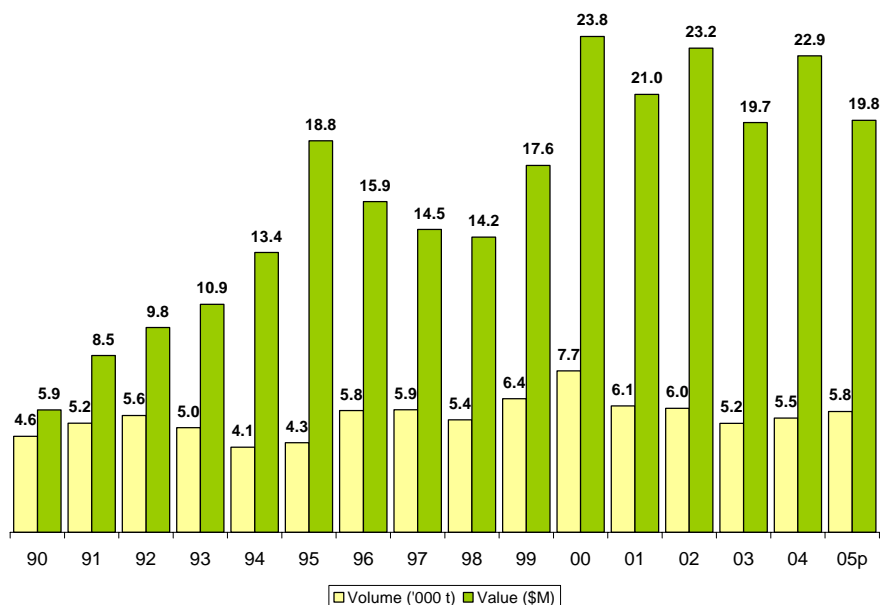
Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region  
 Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

<sup>35</sup> For comparison purposes, non-commercial fishing activities have been excluded from this total. These include, for example, personal consumption and sales made directly to the public. For 2004, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans estimated that non-commercial captures in Quebec were worth \$9 M.

From a historical standpoint, Anglophone landings remained relatively stable over 16 years, compared to a drop of nearly 30% for Francophones. However, values were particularly high during the last six fishing seasons due to rising lobster landed prices and high snow crab values since 2000.

Despite a \$4 M fall in landings between 2000 and 2005, values still remain three times higher than in 1990.

**Graph 23: Evolution of Landings in Terms of Value and Volume, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region  
 Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

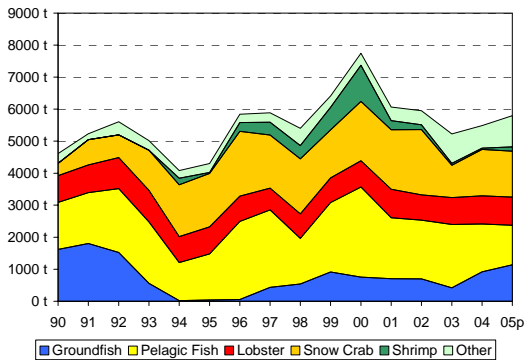
## 2.2. Species Landed

In 2005, the main species landed in Quebec were shrimp (31%), snow crab (29%) and pelagic fish (12%). Due to their high price, snow crab and lobster were by far the top species for landed value, representing 40% and 31% of Quebec’s landings, respectively.

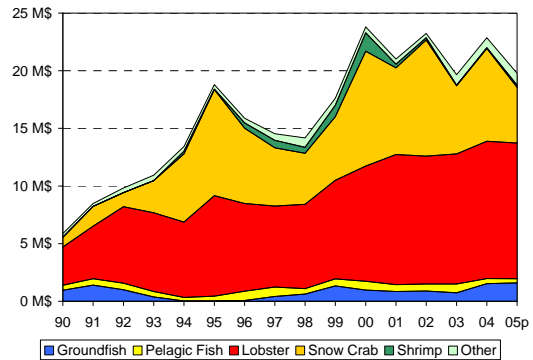
Since shrimp fishing takes place mainly north of the Gaspé Peninsula (North-Gaspé, East-Gaspé), very few Anglophones harvest this species. Snow crab is the leading species landed, with 25% of the volume, followed closely by pelagic fish (21%) and groundfish (20%). As for value, lobster represents 60% of landings made by Anglophone fishers, followed by snow crab (24%).

During the last 16 fishing seasons, Anglophone fishers landed an average of 5 542 t, worth \$16 M. Pelagic fish were the main species landed, with an average yearly volume of 1 833 t, followed closely by snow crab (1 436 t). Snow crab gained in importance over this period, so much so that it became the main catch from 1994 onward. Lobster represents 52% of the average yearly landed value, followed by snow crab at 34%, although these two species only make up 41% of the volume.

**Graph 24: Evolution of Landings in Terms of Volume, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



**Graph 25: Evolution of Landings in Terms of Value, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



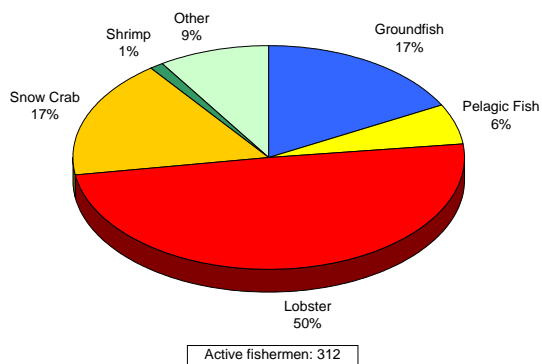
Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region  
 Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

### 2.3. Work Forces

There were approximately 1 300 active fishers in Quebec in 2005, a quarter of which are Anglophones. Most Anglophone fishers are part of lobster fleets from the Magdalen Islands, South-Gaspé and Baie-des-Chaleurs. The other fishers live mainly on the Lower North Shore where snow crab is the main species landed.

In 2005, the total value of landings made by Anglophone fishers, who form a quarter of Quebec's fishers, was 14% of the total value landed in Quebec and 10% of the volume. That symbolizes \$62 K per Anglophone fisher, compared to \$108 K per Francophone fisher. Landings by Anglophone fishers were especially low on the North Shore (\$39 K) and Gaspé Area (\$42 K), while matching the Francophone average in the Magdalen Islands (\$108 K).

**Graph 26: Distribution of Active Fishers by Main Species Landed, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 2005**

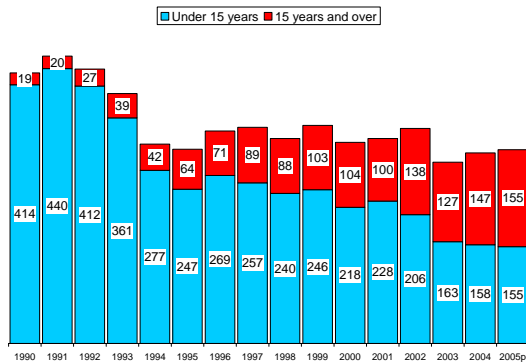


Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region  
Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

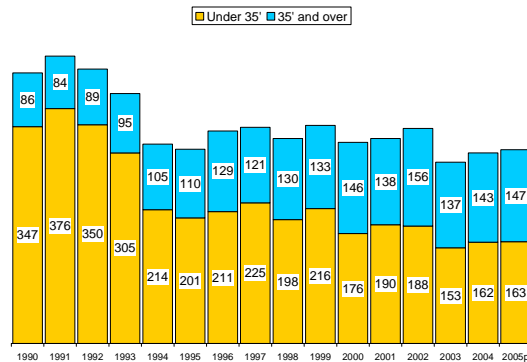
The fleet of Anglophone fishers is aging<sup>36</sup> and contains a smaller number of active vessels. This is not a unique situation, however, since the same can be said of the Francophone fleet. Between 1990 and 2005, the number of vessels aged 15 and over jumped from 5% to 51% for the fleet. At the same time, the number of active vessels dropped nearly 27%, from 438 to 318.

Vessel size also increased. The proportion of active boats in the fleet over 34' in length rose from 20% to 46% during the same period.

**Graph 27: Number of Active Vessels by Age, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



**Graph 28: Number of Active Vessels by Length, Maritime Sectors of Quebec, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region  
 Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

<sup>36</sup> The fleet's aging may be less drastic than the data indicates, since a ship can receive major renovations to increase its service life. When that happens, the ship's age remains high in our statistics despite its refurbishment.

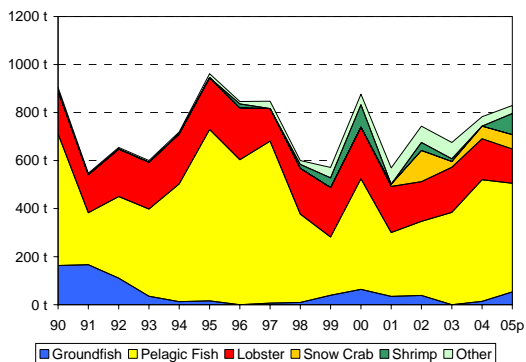
## 2.4. Overview by Sector

### 2.4.1. Gaspé Area

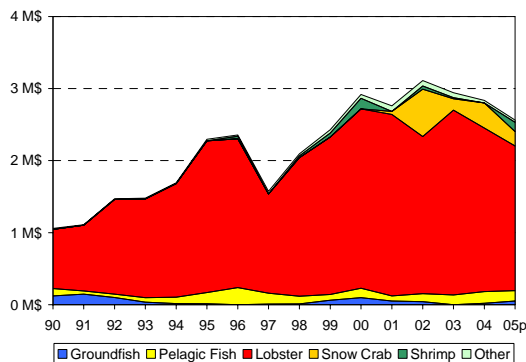
In 2005, there were 61 active Anglophone fishers in Gaspé Area, or one Anglophone fisher out of five and 14% of Gaspesian fishers. That year, their landings totalled 830 t, worth a total of \$2.6 M. This signifies a \$0.3 M decrease compared to the previous year, despite a 46 t increase in landings. Quantities landed by Anglophone fishers in 2005 made up 3% of the total landings in Gaspé Area.

Lobster was the main catch, supplying nearly the entire fishing income. Gaspesians are taking advantage of the constant rise in lobster landed prices, which rose 30% since 1995. However, the quantity of lobster landed is decreasing notably for biological and environmental reasons. Certain groundfish fishers also received temporary allowances for snow crab and shrimp fishing, mainly after 2001, which helped curb the reported drop in the value of the landings of Anglophone fishers in Gaspé Area since 2002.

**Graph 29: Landings in Terms of Volume, Gaspé Area, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



**Graph 30: Landings in Terms of Value, Gaspé Area, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



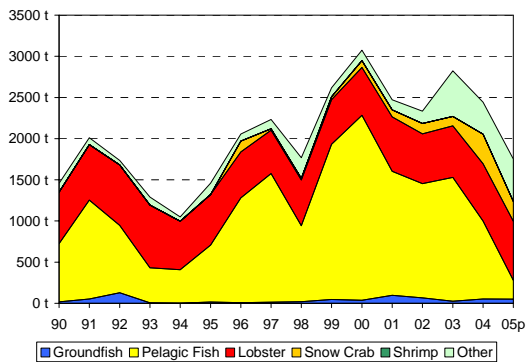
Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region  
 Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

### 2.4.2. Magdalen Islands

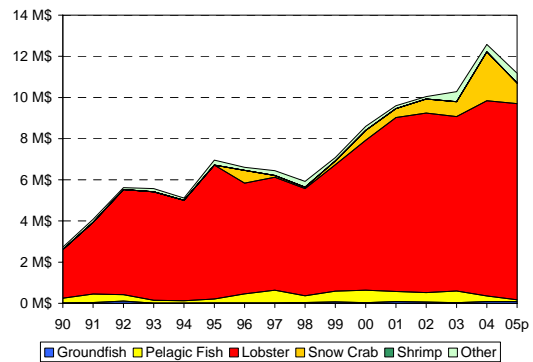
The archipelago is home to 104 Anglophone fishers, or a third of the Anglophone fishers in Quebec and a quarter of fishers on the islands. In 2005, Anglophone fishers landed 1 754 t, worth \$11.2 M, a quarter of the value of landings made in the Magdalen Islands that year. However, this was a 688 t and \$1.4 M less than the previous season.

In addition to the drop in snow crab value, the plummet in pelagic fish captures (85% since 2003) is responsible for this decrease in volume. The situation is the result of high water temperatures in the southern Gulf, which compromised mackerel migration to this area<sup>37</sup>, thus decreasing the number of catches. Herring also arrived late that year, once the fishing effort was concentrated on lobster, which resulted in a drop in volume.

**Graph 31: Landings in Terms of Volume, Magdalen Islands, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



**Graph 32: Landings in Terms of Value, Magdalen Islands, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region  
 Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

<sup>37</sup> François Grégoire, biologist at the Maurice Lamontagne Institute, DFO, Quebec Region.

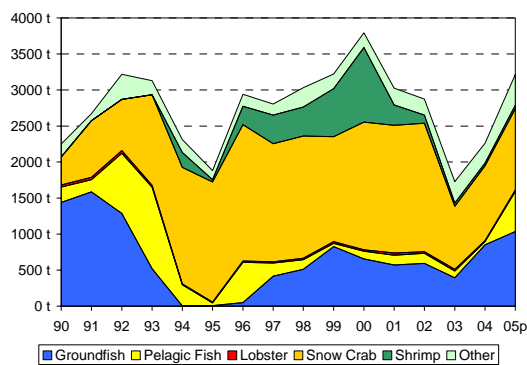


### 2.4.3. North Shore

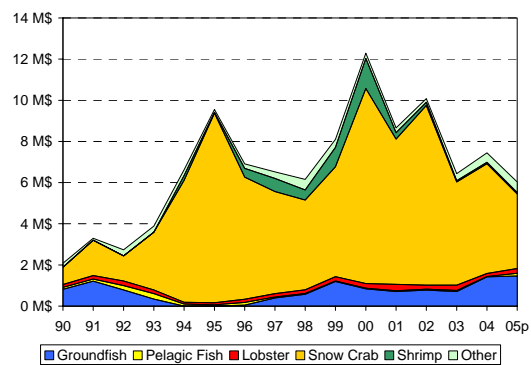
Nearly half of the Anglophone fishers in Quebec work on the North Shore, chiefly on the Lower North Shore (153 in 2005). They make a living mainly by fishing snow crab, whose price dropped last year. For this reason the value of landings on the North Shore decreased compared to 2004, despite a greater volume. Anglophone fishers on the North Shore landed a total of 3 213 t in 2005, worth \$6 M, compared to 2 260 t (\$7.5 M) the preceding year. This landed value represents a quarter of the landings recorded on the North Shore in 2005.

The landed volume of snow crab fell by nearly half since 2003 due to a moratorium on the species' capture in Area 13. The 2005 fishing season was especially good for groundfish and pelagic fish because of an increase in the cod quota and the marked presence of mackerel in the area. Unfortunately, the increase in cod landings was nullified by its drop in value, falling approximately 30% between 2004 and 2005.

**Graph 33: Landings in Terms of Volume, North Shore, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



**Graph 34: Landings in Terms of Value, North Shore, Anglophones, 1990 to 2005p**



Source: Statistics and Licensing Division, DFO, Quebec Region

Compilation: RPEB, DFO, Quebec Region

### 3. Conclusion

What stands out in this study is the significant demographic changes that Anglophone communities in the maritime sectors of Quebec underwent, namely a population decline. Between 1991 and 2001, the Anglophone population in the maritime sectors dropped 9.1%, compared to 5.7% for Francophones. Losses were most keenly felt in the sub-sectors of South-Gaspé and East-Gaspé. Combined with a drop in birth rate, these changes are contributing to the population's inevitable aging. This is especially true in Gaspé Area, where one person out of five in the Anglophone population is 65 and older.

The distribution of the Anglophone communities within the maritime sectors invites a certain number of socio-economic repercussions, notably on the labour market. Note that Baie-des-Chaleurs and the Lower North Shore are home to nearly 60% of the Anglophone population. These regions are among the most isolated, economically-speaking, and are especially dependent on resource extraction. We have seen that this results in more seasonal jobs for Anglophone communities, which impacts their level of income. Overall, Anglophones living in the maritime sectors have a lower income<sup>38</sup> than their Francophone counterparts and are more dependent on government transfer payments.

Finally, we must stress the important role the fishing industry plays on the Anglophone community's economic activity. In 2001, approximately 1 100 Anglophones worked in the primary and secondary sectors of the fishing industry. This number represents 8% of the inhabitants aged 15 and older and 15% of the people working in Quebec's fishing industry. Therefore, the considerable changes the industry has undergone over the last several years have had a distinct impact on the Anglophone communities. Among these changes, let us mention the transition in main species captured, with groundfish moving over to make room for crustaceans. Lobster is the main catch for Anglophone fishers, representing 60% of the value landed in 2005, compared to 29% province-wide. Crab is the main catch for Francophone fishers with 40% of landings in 2005, compared to 24% for Anglophones.

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<sup>38</sup> Including all sources, namely government transfer payments.

## 4. Appendix

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Quebec Community Group Network

<http://www.qcgn.ca/>

Statistics Canada

<http://www.statcan.ca/>

**FORMULA**

Formula used to calculate variation in purchasing power:

$$\left[ \left( \frac{I_{01}}{P_{01}} \right) - \left( \frac{I_{91}}{P_{91}} \right) \right] / \left( \frac{I_{91}}{P_{91}} \right)$$

or  $I_{01}, I_{91}$  : average income in 2001 and 1991

$P_{01}, P_{91}$  : price index in 2001 and 1991





# MARITIME SECTORS IN QUEBEC

