



CIHI Language Codes

Version 3.1

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This CIHI standard language code pick-list is a subset of the current ISO 639-3 standard and is based on Statistics Canada language groups. When using the list, it is recommended to include 2 additional values for *other* and *unknown* by choosing codes from recognized standards such as Health Level 7 (HL7) standards or the CIHI Reference Data Model (CRDM). *Other* and *unknown* are not a part of the ISO 639-3 standard, but are defined as CIHI standard values.

Please send any questions or comments to masterdata@cihi.ca.

Code	English term for this language, or First Nations, Inuit or Métis name of this language	French term for this language, or First Nations, Inuit, or Métis name of this language	Macro-language	Alternate name of language (if applicable)	First Nations, Inuit and Métis languages used in Canada
prs	Afghan Persian, Dari	dari	—	—	—
afr	Afrikaans	afrikaans	—	—	—
aka	Akan	akan	Yes	—	—
sqi	Albanian	albanais	Yes	—	—
alq	Algonquin	algonquin	—	—	Yes
ase	American Sign Language	langue des signes américaine	—	—	—
amh	Amharic	amharique	—	—	—
ara	Arabic	arabe	Yes	—	—
hye	Armenian	arménien	—	—	—
asm	Assamese	assamais	—	—	—
asb	Assiniboine	assiniboine	—	—	Yes
aii	Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	assyrien néo-araméen	—	—	—
atj	Atikamekw	atikamekw	—	—	Yes
aze	Azerbaijani	azéri	Yes	—	—
bcr	Babine	babine	—	—	Yes
bal	Baluchi	baloutche	Yes	—	—
bam	Bambara	bambara	—	—	—
eus	Basque	basque	—	Euskera	—
bel	Belarusian	biélorusse	—	—	—
ben	Bengali	bengali	—	—	—
bik	Bikol	bikol	Yes	—	—
byn	Bilin, Blin	bilin	—	—	—
bin	Bini, Edo	edo	—	—	—
bos	Bosnian	bosnien	—	—	—
bul	Bulgarian	bulgare	—	—	—

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mya	Burmese	birman	—	—	—
crx	Carrier	carrier	—	—	Yes
spa	Castilian, Spanish	castillan, espagnol	—	—	—
cat	Catalan, Valencian	catalan	—	—	—
cay	Cayuga	cayuga	—	—	Yes
ceb	Cebuano	cebuano	—	—	—
khm	Central Khmer, Khmer	khmer	—	—	—
cld	Chaldean Neo-Aramaic	chaldéen néo-araméen	—	—	—
clc	Chilcotin	chilcotin	—	—	Yes
zho	Chinese	chinois	Yes	—	—
chp	Chipewyan, Dene Suline	Chipewyan, Dene Suline	—	—	Yes
coo	Comox	comox	—	—	Yes
cop	Coptic	copte	—	—	—
cre	Cree	cri	Yes	—	Yes
hrv	Croatian	croate	—	—	—
ces	Czech	tchèque	—	—	—
dak	Dakota	dakota	—	—	Yes
bea	Dane-zaa Záágé?	Dane-zaa Záágé?	—	—	Yes
dan	Danish	danois	—	—	—
din	Dinka	dinka	Yes	—	—
nld	Dutch, Flemish	néerlandais	—	—	—
arz	Egyptian Arabic	arabe égyptien	—	—	—
eng	English	anglais	—	—	—
ish	Esan	esan	—	—	—
epo	Esperanto	espéranto	—	—	—
est	Estonian	estonien	Yes	—	—
ewe	Ewe	éwé	—	—	—
fij	Fijian	fidjien	—	—	—
fil	Filipino, Pilipino	filipino, pilipino	—	—	—
fin	Finnish	finnois	—	—	—
fra	French	français	—	—	—
gaa	Ga	ga	—	—	—
gla	Gaelic, Scottish Gaelic	gaélique écossais	—	—	—
gan	Gan Chinese	chinois gan	—	—	—

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lug	Ganda	ganda	—	—	—
kat	Georgian	géorgien	—	—	—
deu	German	allemand	—	—	—
kik	Gikuyu, Kikuyu	gikuyu, kikuyu	—	—	—
git	Gitxsan	gitksan	—	—	Yes
guj	Gujarati	goudjarati	—	—	—
gwi	Gwich'in	gwich'in	—	—	Yes
hai	Haida	haida	Yes	—	Yes
has	Haisla	haisla	—	—	Yes
hat	Haitian, Haitian Creole	créole haïtien	—	—	—
hak	Hakka Chinese	chinois hakka	—	—	—
hur	Halkomelem	halkomelem	—	—	Yes
haa	Han	han	—	—	Yes
har	Harari	harari	—	—	—
hau	Hausa	haoussa	—	—	—
heb	Hebrew	hébreu	—	—	—
hei	Heiltsuk	heiltsuk	—	—	Yes
hil	Hiligaynon	hiligaynon	—	—	—
hin	Hindi	hindi	—	—	—
hun	Hungarian	hongrois	—	—	—
isl	Icelandic	islandais	—	—	—
ibo	Igbo	igbo	—	—	—
ilo	Iloko	ilocano	—	—	—
ind	Indonesian	indonésien	—	—	—
moe	Innu, Montagnais	innu, montagnais	—	—	Yes
ikt	Inuinnaqtun, Western Canadian Inuktitut	inuinnagtun, inuktitut de l'Ouest du Canada	—	—	Yes
iku	Inuktitut	inuktitut	Yes	—	Yes
pes	Iranian Persian	persan iranien	—	—	—
gle	Irish	irlandais	—	—	—
iso	Isoko	isoko	—	—	—
ita	Italian	italien	—	—	—
jam	Jamaican Creole English	créole jamaïcain anglais	—	—	—
jpn	Japanese	japonais	—	—	—

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cjy	Jinyu Chinese	chinois jinyu	—	—	—
kab	Kabyle	kabyle	—	—	—
kfr	Kacchi, Kutchi	kacchi, kutchi	—	—	—
pam	Kapampangan, Pampanga	pampangan	Yes	—	—
kne	Kankanaey	kankanaey	—	—	—
kan	Kannada	kannada	—	—	—
kas	Kashmiri	kashmiri	—	—	—
kkz	Kaska	kaska	—	—	Yes
kaz	Kazakh	kazakh	—	—	—
krj	Kinaray-A	kinaray-a	—	—	—
kin	Kinyarwanda	kinyarwanda	—	—	—
kon	Kongo	kikongo	Yes	—	—
kok	Konkani	konkani	Yes	—	—
kor	Korean	coréen	—	—	—
kri	Krio	krio	—	—	—
kur	Kurdish	kurde	Yes	—	—
kut	Kutenai	kutenai	—	—	Yes
kwk	Kwakiutl	kwakiutl	—	—	Yes
lao	Lao	lao	—	—	—
lav	Latvian	letton	Yes	—	—
lil	Lillooet	lillooet	—	—	Yes
lin	Lingala	lingala	—	—	—
lit	Lithuanian	lituanien	—	—	—
lou	Louisiana Creole	louisianais créole	—	—	—
nds	Low German, Low Saxon	bas-allemand, bas-saxon	—	—	—
lua	Luba-Lulula	luba-lulula	—	Luba-Kasai	—
mkd	Macedonian	macédonien	—	—	—
mlg	Malagasy	malgache	Yes	—	—
msa	Malay	malais	Yes	—	—
mal	Malayalam	malayalam	—	—	—
pqm	Malecite-Passamaquoddy	malécite-passamaquoddy	—	—	Yes
mlt	Maltese	maltais	—	—	—
cmn	Mandarin Chinese	chinois mandarin	—	—	—
mar	Marathi	marathi	—	—	—

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crg	Michif	michif	—	—	Yes
mic	Mi'kmaq, Micmac	micmac	—	—	Yes
mnpc	Min Bei Chinese	chinois minbei	—	—	—
cdo	Min Dong Chinese	chinois mindong	—	—	—
nan	Min Nan Chinese	chinois minnan	—	—	—
czo	Min Zhong Chinese	chinois minzhong	—	—	—
ell	Modern Greek (1453–)	grec moderne (après 1453)	—	—	—
moh	Mohawk	mohawk	—	—	Yes
mon	Mongolian	mongol	Yes	—	—
crm	Moose Cree	cri de Moose	—	—	—
mfe	Morisyen	mauricien	—	—	—
mos	Mossi	mossi	—	Mòoré	—
wmw	Mwani	mwani	—	—	—
nsk	Naskapi	naskapi	—	—	Yes
npi	Nepali	népalais	—	—	—
ncg	Nisga'a	nisga'a	—	—	Yes
nde	North Ndebele	ndébélé du Nord	—	—	—
scs	North Slavey	esclave du Nord	—	—	Yes
crl	Northern East Cree	cri du Nord-Est	—	—	Yes
nso	Northern Sotho, Pedi, Sepedi	sotho du Nord, pedi, sepedi	—	—	—
ttm	Northern Tutchone	tuchoni du Nord	—	—	Yes
nor	Norwegian	norvégien	Yes	—	—
nus	Nuer	nuer	—	—	—
nuk	Nuu-chah-nulth, Nuuchahnulth	nuu-chah-nulth	—	—	Yes
oji	Ojibwa	ojibwa	Yes	—	Yes
oka	Okanagan	okanagan	—	—	Yes
one	Oneida	oneida	—	—	Yes
ori	Oriya	oriya	Yes	—	—
orm	Oromo	oromo	Yes	—	—
otw	Ottawa	ottawa	—	—	Yes
pag	Pangasinan	pangasinan	—	—	—
pan	Panjabi, Punjabi	pendjabi	—	—	—
prd	Parsi-Dari	parsi-dari	—	—	—

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pus	Pashto, Pushto	pachto	Yes	—	—
fas	Persian	persan	Yes	—	—
crk	Plains Cree	cri des plaines	—	—	Yes
plt	Plateau Malagasy	malagasy	—	Merina	—
pdt	Plautdietsch	bas-allemand mennonite	—	—	—
pol	Polish	polonais	—	—	—
por	Portuguese	portugais	—	—	—
fuf	Pular	pular	—	—	—
cpx	Pu-Xian Chinese	chinois puxian	—	—	—
fcs	Quebec Sign Language	langue des signes québécoise	—	—	—
rhg	Rohingya	rohingya	—	—	—
ron	Romanian	roumain	—	Moldavian	—
run	Rundi	kiroundi	—	—	—
rus	Russian	russe	—	—	—
rue	Rusyn	russine	—	—	—
sag	Sango	sango	—	—	—
srs	Sarsi	sarsi	—	—	Yes
sek	Sekani	sekani	—	—	Yes
srp	Serbian	serbe	—	—	—
hbs	Serbo-Croatian	serbo-croate	Yes	—	—
ojs	Severn Ojibwa	ojibwa de Severn	—	Oji-Cree	Yes
ksw	S'gaw Karen	karen s'gaw	—	—	—
sna	Shona	shona	—	—	—
shs	Shuswap	shuswap	—	—	Yes
bla	Siksika	siksika	—	—	Yes
snd	Sindhi	sindhi	—	—	—
sin	Sinhala, Sinhalese	singhalais	—	—	—
den	Slave (Athapaskan)	esclave (langue athapascane)	Yes	—	Yes
slk	Slovak	slovaque	—	—	—
slv	Slovenian	slovène	—	—	—
som	Somali	somali	—	—	—
snk	Soninke	soninké	—	—	—
nbl	South Ndebele	ndébélé du Sud	—	—	—

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xsl	South Slavey	South Slavey	—	—	Yes
crj	Southern East Cree	cri du Sud-Est	—	—	Yes
tce	Southern Tutchone	tuchoni du Sud	—	—	Yes
squ	Squamish	squamish	—	—	Yes
sto	Stoney	stoney	—	—	Yes
str	Straits Salish	Straits Salish	—	—	Yes
apd	Sudanese Arabic	arabe soudanais	—	—	—
swa	Swahili	swahili	Yes	—	—
csw	Swampy Cree	cri des marécages	—	—	Yes
ssw	Swati	swati	—	Swazi	—
swe	Swedish	suédois	—	—	—
tgl	Tagalog	tagalog	—	—	—
tht	Tahltan	tahltan	—	—	Yes
tam	Tamil	tamoul	—	—	—
tel	Telugu	télougou	—	—	—
tha	Thai	thaï	—	—	—
thp	Thompson	thompson	—	—	Yes
bod	Tibetan	tibétain	—	—	—
tir	Tigrinya	tigrigna	—	—	—
dgr	Tłchq	Tłchq	—	—	Yes
tli	Tlingit	tlingit	—	—	Yes
tsi	Tsimshian	tsimshian	—	—	Yes
tsn	Tswana	setswana, tswana	—	Setswana	—
tcy	Tulu	toulou, tulu	—	—	—
tur	Turkish	turc	—	—	—
twi	Twi	twi	—	—	—
uig	Uighur, Uyghur	ouïghour	—	—	—
ukr	Ukrainian	ukrainien	—	—	—
urd	Urdu	ourdou	—	—	—
uzb	Uzbek	ouzbek	Yes	—	—
vie	Vietnamese	vietnamien	—	—	—
vls	Vlaams	vlaams	—	—	—
war	Waray (Philippines)	waray-waray (Philippines)	—	—	—
cym	Welsh	gallois	—	—	—

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fry	Western Frisian	frison de l'Ouest	—	—	—
ojw	Western Ojibwa	ojibwé occidental	—	Saulteau	Yes
jod	Wojenaka	wojenaka	—	—	—
wol	Wolof	wolof	—	—	—
cwd	Woods Cree	cri des bois	—	—	Yes
wuu	Wu Chinese	chinois wu	—	—	—
yid	Yiddish	yiddish	Yes	—	—
yor	Yoruba	yoruba	—	—	—
yue	Yue Chinese	chinois yu	—	Cantonese	—
zul	Zulu	zoulou	—	—	—

Note

— Not applicable.

Change history

Date	Version	Change
2026-05-29	3.1	- Updated first 2 column headings to include First Nations, Inuit and Métis terms - Updated English and French names for “bea” to Dane-zaa Zāágé? - Updated French name for “chp” to Chipewyan, Dene Suline - Updated French name for “dgr” to Tłıchǫ - Updated French name for “gwi” to gwich’in - Updated French name for “ikt” to inuinnaqtun, inuktitut de l’Ouest du Canada - Updated English name for “str” to Straits Salish - Deprecated “oth” and “unk” codes (see above for more details)
2024-03-31	3.0	- Added a new column to indicate macrolanguages. ISO 639-3 uses macrolanguage codes to identify clusters of closely related language varieties that can be considered distinct individual languages, yet in certain usage contexts a single language identity for all is needed. - Added alternate name Euskera to be associated with language code “eus” - Added alternate name Luba-Kasai to be associated with language code “lua” - Added alternate name Mòoré to be associated with language code “mos” - Added alternate name Merina to be associated with language code “plt” - Added alternate name Moldavian to be associated with language code “ron” - Added alternate name Oji-Cree to be associated with language code “ojs” - Added alternate name Swazi to be associated with language code “ssw” - Added alternate name Setswana to be associated with language code “tsn” - Added alternate name Saulteau to be associated with language code “ojw” - Added alternate name Cantonese to be associated with language code “yue” - Added new language codes: arz, apd, asm, asb, bal, eus, gan, cjt, cop, ish, epo, fil, kik, hau, ind, pes, gle, iso, jam, kfr, kne, kaz, krj, kon, kri, nds, lou, lua, mos, mfe, wmw, nde, nso, nus, prd, plt, pdt, rhg, rue, sag, tsu, ksw, snk, nbl, ssw, bod, tcy, jod, ojw, zul
2021-04-30	2.0	- Reflects changes from ISO up to the end of 2020 for codes supported in CIHI - New language code added: “ojw” (Saulteaux in English; saulteaux in French) - Updated English name for “chp” to Chipewyan, Dene Suline - Updated English name for “dgr” to Tłıchǫ - Updated name for “khm” (Khmer in English; khmer in French) - Updated name for “moe” (Innu, Montagnais in English; innu, montagnais in French) - Added a new column to indicate First Nations, Inuit and Métis languages used in Canada
Prior to 2021-04-30	n/a	- New language codes added: aii, byn, cld, coo, crj, crl, crm, din, fry, fuf, har, hil, kas, msa, ori, otw, uig, uzb, vls, war, yor - In English, added “Punjabi” as a language to be associated with language code “pan” - In English, added “Cantonese” as a language to be associated with language code “yue”

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