CIHI Language Codes

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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. It includes unique language codes that are relevant to Canada. Also included in this list are 2 codes — oth (other) and unk (unknown) — that are not in the ISO standard but are a CIHI standard. Please send any questions or comments about this document to crdm@cihi.ca.

Code	English name of language	French name of language	Macrolanguage	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				
asb	Assiniboine				Yes
aii	Assyrian Neo-Aramaic	assyrien néo-araméen			
atj	Atikamekw	atikamekw			Yes
aze	Azerbaijani	azéri	Yes		
bcr	Babine	babine			Yes
bal	Baluchi		Yes		
bam	Bambara	bambara			
eus	Basque			Euskera	
bea	Beaver	beaver			Yes
bel	Belarusian	biélorusse			
ben	Bengali	bengali			
bik	Bikol	bikol	Yes		
byn	Bilin, Blin	bilin			
bin	Bini, Edo	edo			
bos	Bosnian	bosnien			
bul	Bulgarian	bulgare			
mya	Burmese	birman			
crx	Carrier	carrier			Yes
spa	Castilian, Spanish				
cat	Catalan, Valencian	catalan			

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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			Yes
coo	Comox	comox			Yes
cop	Coptic				
cre	Cree	cri	Yes		Yes
hrv	Croatian	croate			
ces	Czech	tchèque			
dak	Dakota	dakota			Yes
dan	Danish	danois			
din	Dinka	dinka	Yes		
nld	Dutch, Flemish	néerlandais			
arz	Egyptian Arabic				
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			
lug	Ganda	ganda			
kat	Georgian	géorgien			
deu	German	allemand			
kik	Gikuyu, Kikuyu				
git	Gitxsan	gitksan			Yes
guj	Gujarati	goudjarati			

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gwi	Gwich'in	gwich'in, loucheux			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				
heb	Hebrew	hébreu			
hei	Heiltsuk	heiltsuk			Yes
hil	Hiligaynon	hiligaïnon			
hin	Hindi	hindi			
hun	Hungarian	hongrois			
isl	Icelandic	islandais			
ibo	Igbo	igbo			
ilo	Iloko	ilocano			
ind	Indonesian				
moe	Innu, Montagnais	innu, montagnais			Yes
ikt	Inuinnaqtun, Western Canadian Inuktitut	inuinnaqtun			Yes
iku	Inuktitut	inuktitut	Yes		Yes
pes	Iranian Persian				
gle	Irish				
iso	Isoko	isoko			
ita	Italian	italien			
jam	Jamaican Creole English				
jpn	Japanese	japonais			
cjy	Jinyu Chinese	chinois jinyu			
kab	Kabyle	kabyle			
kfr	Kacchi, Kutchi				
pam	Kapampangan, Pampanga	pampangan	Yes		
kne	Kankanaey				
kan	Kannada	kannada			
kas	Kashmiri	kashmiri			

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kkz	Kaska	kaska			Yes
kaz	Kazakh				
krj	Kinaray-A				
kin	Kinyarwanda	kinyarwanda			
kon	Kongo		Yes		
kok	Konkani	konkani	Yes		
kor	Korean	coréen			
kri	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				
lua	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			
mar	Marathi	marathi			
cmn	Mandarin Chinese	chinois mandarin			
crg	Michif	michif			Yes
mic	Mi'kmaq, Micmac	micmac			Yes
mnp	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–)				
moh	Mohawk	mohawk			Yes

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mon	Mongolian	mongol	Yes		
crm	Moose Cree	cri de Moose			
mfe	Morisyen				
mos	Mossi			Mòoré	
wmw	Mwani				
nsk	Naskapi	naskapi			Yes
npi	Nepali	népalais			
ncg	Nisga'a	nisga'a			Yes
nde	North Ndebele				
scs	North Slavey	esclave du Nord			
crl	Northern East Cree	cri du Nord-Est			Yes
nso	Northern Sotho, Pedi, Sepedi	northern, sotho, pedi, sepedi			
ttm	Northern Tutchone	tuchoni du Nord			Yes
nor	Norwegian	norvégien	Yes		
nus	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		
oth	Other	autre			
otw	Ottawa	ottawa			Yes
pag	Pangasinan	pangasinan			
pan	Panjabi, Punjabi	pendjabi			
prd	Parsi-Dari				
pus	Pashto, Pushto	pachto	Yes		
fas	Persian	persan	Yes		
crk	Plains Cree	cri des plaines			Yes
plt	Plateau Malagasy			Merina	
pdt	Plautdietsch				
pol	Polish	polonais			
por	Portuguese	portugais			
fuf	Pular	pular			
cpx	Pu-Xian Chinese	chinois puxian			

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fcs	Quebec Sign Language	langue des signes québécoise			
rhg	Rohingya				
ron	Romanian	roumain		Moldavian	
run	Rundi	kiroundi			
rus	Russian	russe			
rue	Rusyn				
str	Salish, Straits	salish de la côte			Yes
sag	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				
sna	Shona	shona			
shs	Shuswap	shuswap			Yes
bla	Siksika	siksika			Yes
snd	Sindhi	sindhi			
sin	Sinhala, Sinhalese	singhalais			
den	Slave (Athapascan)	esclave (langue athapascane)	Yes		Yes
slk	Slovak	slovaque			
slv	Slovenian	slovène			
som	Somali	somali			
snk	Soninke				
nbl	South Ndebele				
xsl	South Slavey	esclave du Sud			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
apd	Sudanese Arabic				
swa	Swahili	swahili	Yes		
csw	Swampy Cree	cri des marécages			Yes
ssw	Swati	swati		Swazi	
swe	Swedish	suédois			

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tgl	Tagalog	tagalog			
tht	Tahltan	tahltan			Yes
tam	Tamil	tamoul			
tel	Telugu	télougou			
tha	Thai	thaï			
thp	Thompson	thompson			Yes
bod	Tibetan				
tir	Tigrinya	tigrigna			
dgr	Tłįchǫ	flanc-de-chien			Yes
tli	Tlingit	tlingit			Yes
tsi	Tsimshian	tsimshian			Yes
tsn	Tswana	setswana, tswana		Setswana	
tcy	Tulu				
tur	Turkish	turc			
twi	Twi	twi			
uig	Uighur, Uyghur	ouïghour			
ukr	Ukrainian	ukrainien			
unk	Unknown	inconnu			
urd	Urdu	ourdou			
uzb	Uzbek	ouzbek	Yes		
vie	Vietnamese	vietnamien			
vls	Vlaams	vlaams			
war	Waray (Philippines)	waray-waray (Philippines)			
cym	Welsh	gallois			
fry	Western Frisian	frison de l'Ouest			
ojw	Western Ojibwa			Saulteau	Yes
jod	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			

Change history

Date	Version	Change
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, cjy, cop, ish, epo, fil, kik, hau, ind, pes, gle, iso, jam, kfr, kne, kaz, krj, kon, kri, nds, lou, lua, hna, mos, mfe, wmw, nde, nso, nus, prd, plt, pdt, rhg, rue, sag, tsn, 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 Tlicho • 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"