

*SOCIOLINGUISTIC SITUATION
IN CATALAN-SPEAKING AREAS
TABLES*



Generalitat de Catalunya
Departament de la Vicepresidència
Secretaria de Política Lingüística

Sociolinguistic situation in Catalan-speaking areas : tables

I. Catalunya. Secretaria de Política Lingüística

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In Catalonia, 2003

In 2003,¹ over half the total population of Catalonia stated that they use Catalan as a habitual language, while 44.1% used Castilian, and 4.7% stated that they use both Catalan and Castilian as habitual languages. Concerning the respondents' perception of their own or identifying language, 48.8% of the total population stated that they consider Catalan to be their identifying language, while 44.3% consider it to be Castilian and 5.2% say that they use Catalan and Castilian indistinctly as their identifying language.

Table 1.

***Comparison between first language, identifying language and habitual language.
Population aged 15 and over.***

Status	Catalan	Castilian	Both languages	Other cases
First language	40.4	53.5	2.8	3.2
Identifying language	48.8	44.3	5.2	1.7
Habitual language	50.1	44.1	4.7	1.1

Source: EULC03. Own data.

If we consider the data for language identification, we can see that the figure for Catalan is 8.4 percentage points higher than the figure for the first language learnt as a child, while the figure for Catalan as a habitual language is 9.7 percentage points higher.

1. The data used to produce this appendix is drawn from the synthesised data in the surveys of language use in Catalonia, 2003 (EULC), Andorra, 2004 (EULAN), the Balearic Islands, 2004 (EULB), Aragonese Border, 2004 (EULF), Northern Catalonia, 2004 (EULCN) and Alghero, 2004 (EULA). The results are available at <<http://www.gencat.cat/llengua/dades>>. For the sociolinguistic situation in Valencia we have referred to the data in the 2004 survey on the social situation of Valencian, carried out by the Valencian Language Academy (AVL).

Table 2.
Comparison of language, use in informal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than Castilian	Both languages	More Castilian than Catalan	Only Castilian	Other cases
Home	37.2	7.1	9.0	9.9	34.4	2.4
Friends	24.5	17.8	18.4	11.9	25.6	1.9
Neighbours	29.5	10.6	17.2	8.4	32.7	1.5
With classmates	27.3	18.0	20.3	10.9	19.7	3.8
With work colleagues	27.5	15.9	20.6	10.6	22.3	3.0

Source: EULC03. Own data.

If we compare figures for the exclusive or preferential use of Catalan and Castilian, we can see that both languages show similar figures for use at home: 44.3% use Catalan exclusively (37.2%) or as their preferred language (7.1%), and 44.3% use Castilian exclusively (34.4%) or as their preferred language (9.9%). However, when speaking to friends, 42.3% of the population use Catalan more than Castilian: 24.5% use Catalan exclusively and 17.8% have it as their preferred language, as against 37.5% in the case of Castilian. The only case in which Castilian shows a slightly higher figure than Catalan is in relations with neighbours, where the figures are 41.1% and 40.1%, respectively.

A greater difference in favour of Catalan can be seen in its use with work colleagues, where it is used predominantly or exclusively by 43.4% as against 32.9% for Castilian, while 20.6% use both languages indistinctly. In the case of those studying together the difference rises to 14.7 percentage points in favour of Catalan (45.3%), the figure for Castilian being 30.6%. In this context we also find 20.6% who use both languages indistinctly.

Table 3.
Comparison of language, use in formal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than Castilian	Both languages	More Castilian than Catalan	Only Castilian	Other cases
Small businesses	35.6	15.2	15.5	8.1	25.3	0.4
Large retail outlets	32.6	13.3	14.3	9.8	28.4	1.5
Baking	49.2	8.6	8.8	4.4	27.3	1.7
Healthcare staff	41.1	9.6	11.6	4.9	32	0.7

Source: EULC03. Own data.

In the case of small businesses there is a clear preference for using Catalan exclusively or predominantly (50.8%), compared with 33.4% for Castilian, while the two languages are used indistinctly by 15.5%. In the case of large retail outlets the use of the two languages is more balanced with 45.9% using Catalan exclusively or predominantly, while 38.2% use Castilian and 14.3% use the two languages indistinctly.

In the case of banking 57.8% of the population use Catalan exclusively or predominantly, with a clear preference for the exclusive use of Catalan (49.2%), the figure for using Castilian exclusively or predominantly being 31.7%. When dealing with health service staff, Catalan is the language of choice for 50.7% of the population (41.1% exclusively and 9.6% predominantly), while Castilian is used by 36.9% (32% exclusively and 4.9% predominantly). Respondents who use Catalan and Castilian indistinctly total 11.6%.

Table 4.
Respondents' attitudes when they address someone in Castilian and are answered in Catalan. Population aged 15 and over.

Continue speaking in Castilian	Continue the conversation in Catalan	Ask the person to speak to them in Castilian	Never address anyone in Castilian	Other cases
7.8	78.6	0.8	12	0.8

Source: EULC03. Own data.

The prevailing linguistic norm among Catalan speakers is to abandon their identifying language when dealing with a Castilian speaker, even when they know the latter understands and can even speak Catalan. However, from the above data we can see that nearly 80% of the population of Catalonia claim that they will continue the conversation in Catalan if they speak to a stranger in Castilian and are answered in Catalan.

This percentage is lower if the respondent speaks to someone in Catalan and is answered in Castilian: in this case 70.6% of the population continue the conversation in Castilian, as can be seen in Table 5.

Table 5.
Respondents' attitudes when they address someone in Catalan and are answered in Castilian. Population aged 15 and over.

Continue speaking in Catalan	Continue the conversation in Castilian	Ask the person to speak to them in Catalan	Never address anyone in Catalan	Other cases
18.5	70.6	3.9	5.4	1.5

Source: EULC03. Own data.

Sociolinguistic Situation

In Andorra, 2004

The level of understanding of spoken Catalan among respondents is 96% of the population of Andorra, while only 4% do not understand it. When asked if they can read Catalan, 89,7% answered that they can, while 10.4% state that they cannot read it.

Table 1.
Knowledge of Catalan. Population aged 15 and over.

Knowledge of Catalan	Understand Catalan	Can speak Catalan	Can read Catalan	Can write Catalan
YES	96	78.9	89.7	61.1
NO	4	21.1	10.3	38.9

Source: EULAN04. Own data.

In the case of productive language skills, spoken and written, 78.9% say that they can speak Catalan and 61,1% of the Andorran population can write it.

Table 2.
Comparison between first language, identifying language and habitual language. Population aged 15 and over.

Status	Catalan	Castilian	Both Languages	Portuguese	French	Other cases
First language	31.4	35.9	1.5	14.7	7.8	8.7
Identifying language	42.3	31.0	1.0	11.6	7.8	6.3
Habitual language	43.8	32.8	2.7	7.6	7.1	6.0

Source: EULAN04. Own data.

If we consider the results shown in Table 2, we can see that Castilian is the language first learnt by 35.9% of the population of Andorra, while Catalan is the first language

for 31.4%. The bilingual figures show a low percentage (1.5%) for those who say that they have learnt both Catalan and Castilian as first languages. This can be explained by the weight and significance of linguistic diversity in Andorra, where, apart from Catalan and Castilian, there is a substantial presence of other languages, especially Portuguese (14.7%) and French (7.8%).

With regard to the results for habitual language, Catalan is the language used most frequently (43.8%). Castilian is the habitual language for 32.8%, Portuguese for 7.6%, French for 7.1% and other languages account for 6%. If we compare these figures with those for the first language learnt, we can see that there is an increase of 12.4 percentage points in the use of Catalan as a habitual language, as against the figure for Catalan as first language. Catalan also shows the highest figure for identifying language (42.3%), whilst Castilian stands at 31%. Catalan thus shows an increase of 10.9 percentage points over the figure for first language. The figure for Castilian, however, is 4.9 percentage points lower.

Table 3.
Comparison of language, use in formal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Predominantly or exclusively Catalan	Both languages	Predominantly or exclusively Castilian	Predominantly or exclusively Portuguese	Predominantly or exclusively French	Other languages or combinations	Other cases
At home	36.7	6.4	32.4	8.6	6.8	8.8	0.3
With friends	39.9	13.0	29.4	2.4	3.1	11.7	0.5
With neighbours	39.5	15.0	34.3	1.0	1.4	4.7	4.1
With Classmates	31.2	15.4	31.3	2.8	12.5	6.8	0.0
With work colleagues	42.9	11.0	30.4	3.1	3.5	6.9	1.2

Source: EULAN04. Own data.

Overall, Catalan is the language most widely used in these areas, with the exception of communication with classmates. In the case of the language used at home, Catalan shows the highest figure, with 36.7%, while Castilian stands at 32.4% and respondents who use Catalan and Castilian indistinctly account for 6.4%. There are also significant numbers for other languages, such as Portuguese (8.6%) and French (6.8%). Catalan is also the language most used with friends (39.9%), as against 29.4% for Castilian. 13% of the population report that they use both Catalan and Castilian equally when speaking to friends. When speaking to neighbours, 39.5% use Catalan, while 34.3% use Castilian. 15% report that they use Catalan and Castilian indistinctly.

Table 4.
Comparison of language use in formal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Predominantly or exclusively Catalan	Both languages	Predominantly or exclusively Castilian	Predominantly or exclusively Portuguese	Predominantly or exclusively French	Other languages or combinations	Other cases
Small businesses	50.2	13.7	33.0	0.0	0.9	1.4	0.8
Large retail outlets	44.0	12.1	40.6	0.2	1.0	1.1	1.0
Banking	66.0	3.7	24.5	0.0	1.9	1.1	2.8
Healthcare staff	56.2	5.9	31.4	0.0	4.2	1.5	0.8

Source: EULAN04. Own data.

The results show very similar figures for Catalan (31.2%) and Castilian (31.3%) in conversations with classmates. The figures also show a strong bilingual tendency, with 15.4% using Catalan and Castilian indistinctly. The figure for the use of French (12.5%) is worthy of note, largely attributable to the presence of the French Lycée in a number of Andorran parishes. Finally 42.9% of those interviewed said that they used Catalan when speaking to colleagues at work. The figure for Castilian was 30.4% and 11% said that they used Catalan and Castilian indistinctly.

In these areas the overall use of Catalan is also higher than that of other languages. In small businesses the figure stands at 50.2%, while Castilian accounts for 33%. This area also shows a high level of bilingualism, with 13.7% using either language indistinctly. Catalan is still the language used most extensively in large retail outlets (44%), although the figure here is lower than that for small businesses. This reflects a greater use of Castilian (40.6%) in large retail outlets, this figure being 7.6 percentage points higher than its use in small businesses.

Banking is the area of formal use with the highest level of use of Catalan, at 66% of the total. Castilian is used by 24.5%, while 3.7% report that they use Catalan and Castilian indistinctly. Lastly, in the field of healthcare Catalan is also the language most used when speaking to healthcare staff (56.2%). Castilian accounts for 31.4%, and 5.9% of respondents use Catalan and Castilian indistinctly. We should also note that a significant number of respondents (4.2%) give French as the language they normally use in this context.

If we consider data for language status for the 15-29 age group, we see a figure for Castilian as first language (42.9%) which is 7 percentage points higher than the figure for the total population of Andorra (see also Table 2), while only 22.9% have Catalan as their first language. Castilian is also the most widely used habitual language for

Table 5.
Comparison between first language, identifying language and habitual language.
Total population and population aged 15-29.

Status	Catalan	Castilian	Both languages	Portuguese	French	Other cases
First language						
Total population	31.4	35.9	1.5	14.7	7.8	8.7
Young people	22.9	42.9	1.1	22.1	6.6	4.4
Identifying language						
Total population	42.3	31.0	1.0	11.6	7.8	6.3
Young people	31.1	43.8	0.4	13.2	7.5	4.0
Habitual language						
Total population	43.8	32.8	2.7	7.6	7.1	6.0
Young people	30.5	47.4	1.1	10.9	7.5	2.6

Source: EULAN04. Own data.

young people, at 47.4%, which is 4.5 percentage points more than the figure for the first language. However, in this age group the use of Catalan as a habitual language also shows an increase over the figure for first language: 30.5% of young people between 15 and 29 have Catalan as their habitual language, 7.6 percentage points higher than the figure for first language, which we have seen is 22.9%. These increases, both in the use of Castilian and of Catalan as habitual languages, may be explained by the 11.2 percentage point fall in the use of Portuguese from first language to habitual language.

The outcome of this situation is that young people (15-29) have a high level of identification with Castilian. 43.8% of this age range report that Castilian is their identifying language, which is slightly higher (0.9 percentage points) than the figure for first language (42.9%). On the other hand, Catalan, with 31.1%, also shows a higher figure than that for first language (22.9%), an increase of 8.2 percentage points. In the case of Portuguese, 13.2% of young people report that it is their identifying language, which is 8.9 percentage points lower than the figure for Portuguese as first language (22.1%).

In the Balearic islands, 2003

From these figures we can see that over 93 % of the population can understand Catalan. Nearly three-quarters of the population (74.6 %) say that they can speak Catalan, 79.6 % can read Catalan, and nearly 47 % of respondents say that they can write it.

Table 1.
Comparative knowledge of Catalan.
Total Population aged 15 and over and groups by age.

Group	Understand Catalan	Can speak Catalan	Can read Catalan	Can write Catalan
Total population	93.1	74.6	79.6	46.9
Aged 15-29	93.2	80.1	89.8	77.4
Aged 30-44	94.8	72.3	82.9	49.6
Aged 45-64	92.0	69.1	73.7	27.3
Aged 65 and over	91.4	78.8	66.6	24.1

Source: EULB04. Own data.

If we consider the figures for different age groups, two features stand out. First, the percentage of people who say they can read and write increases the younger the respondents are, as can be seen in Table 1. Secondly, the intermediate age groups (30-44 and, especially, 45-64) have the lowest percentages for the ability to speak Catalan, while the other age groups have higher figures, that for the youngest group (15-29) being slightly (1.3 percentage points) higher than that for the oldest (over 65).

In this table we can see that Castilian is the first language of 48 % of the population and Catalan that of nearly 43 %. We should also note that over 7 % of the population had a first language which was neither Catalan nor Castilian. Respondents with a bilingual family background account for a small percentage, only 1.7 %. Figures for identifying language show small changes from those for first language, with small increases in the

Table 2.
Comparison between first language, identifying language and habitual language.
Population aged 15 and over.

Status	Catalan	Castilian	Both languages	Other cases
First language	42.9	48.2	1.7	7.4
Identifying language	45.6	45.3	3.9	5.2
Habitual language	45.6	47.2	5.0	2.2

Source: EULB04. Own data.

numbers giving Catalan (45.6%) or Catalan and Castilian (3.9%) as their identifying language.

In the figures for habitual language we can see slight variations from the figures for identifying language. While the proportion of people who give Catalan as their habitual language is identical to the figure for identifying language, the percentage giving Castilian as their habitual language (47.2%) is 1.9 percentage points higher than those who give it as their identifying language (45.3%).

Table 3.
Comparison of language use in informal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than Castilian	Both languages	More Castilian than Catalan	Only Castilian	Other cases
At home	37.4	4.9	6.2	8.1	35.6	7.8
With friends	18.0	21.2	12.3	10.5	31.3	6.7
With neighbours	26.2	11.7	11.3	7.3	38.3	5.2
With classmates	23.1	9.7	10.6	6.7	41.8	8.0
With work colleagues	19.7	12.0	13.8	8.7	30.6	15.2

Source: EULB04. Own data.

The exclusive or predominant use of Catalan (42.3%) and Castilian (43.7%) is very similar in the home context. It should be noted, however, that nearly 8% of the population use other languages. In other cases the use of Castilian is predominant. For example, 41.8% use it predominantly or exclusively with friends, while 39.2% use Catalan. With neighbours 45.6% use Castilian predominantly or exclusively, while 37.9% use Catalan.

Another informal oral context in which Castilian is predominant is in conversation with classmates. 48.5% of respondents use Castilian, whereas only 32.9% use Catalan. Lastly nearly 40% of respondents say that they use Castilian predominantly or exclusively with colleagues at work, while nearly a third (31.7%) use Catalan.

Table 4.
Comparison of language use in formal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than Castilian	Both languages	More Castilian than Catalan	Only Castilian	Other cases
Small businesses	26.3	14.5	9.9	9.7	38.2	1.4
Large retail outlets	14.6	12.1	9.2	14.4	46.7	3.0
Banking	36.4	9.6	6.8	5.1	39.0	3.1
Healthcare staff	27.6	8.9	9.0	6.8	46.6	1.1

Source: EULB04. Own data.

From Table 4 we can see that in most situations there is predominant or exclusive use of Castilian. In the case of small businesses and shops, those who make some use of Catalan number over 40% but the figure for large retail outlets is only slightly over a quarter (26.7%).

Banks and savings banks are where Catalan is used most (46%), the figures for its exclusive or predominant use being 36.4% and 9.6% respectively, compared with a slightly lower total of 44.1% for Castilian. Lastly the predominant or exclusive use of Castilian can again be seen in dealings with healthcare staff, where it is used by 53.4%.

Table 5.
Opinions about the need to know Catalan in the Balearics.
Population aged 15 and over.

	Agree completely	Agree more than disagree	Disagree more than agree	Disagree completely	No opinion
In the Balearics everyone should know the language of the islands	54.2	26.8	10.2	5.9	2.9
In the Balearics everyone should know Castilian	64.8	22.5	8.0	2.8	1.9
A person who has just arrived in the Balearics will have to understand the language of the islands in future	57.6	28.5	7.1	4.8	2.1
A person who has just arrived in the Balearics will have to be able to speak the language of the islands in future	38.6	34.4	14.9	8.1	4.0

Source: EULB04. Own data.

81 % of those interviewed were completely or mostly in agreement with the statement that in the Balearics everyone should know Catalan, the native or identifying language of the islands, while 87.3 % considered that everyone should know Castilian.

In addition, 86.1 % considered that people who had just arrived in the Balearics would need to understand Catalan and 73 % that they would need to be able to speak it in the future.

In the Aragonese border area, 2004

Almost all the population of the Aragonese border area understand Catalan, with 98.5% responding affirmatively to this question. Among young people (aged 15-29) the percentage was slightly higher, at 99.3%. If we consider written Catalan, nearly three quarters of the population (72.9%) say that they can read Catalan. Here again the figure for young people (15-29) is higher, at 14.1 percentage points above the figure for the whole population, this age group having the highest level of all those in the survey.

Table 1.
Comparative knowledge of Catalan. Total Population aged 15-29.

Age group	Understand Catalan	Can speak Catalan	Can read Catalan	Can write Catalan
Total population	98.5	88.8	72.9	30.3
Aged 15-29	99.3	89.5	87.0	61.0
Aged 30-44	99.7	90.7	78.9	28.7
Aged 45-64	97.1	88.1	69.1	20.2
Over 65	98.2	87.5	62.1	19.7

Source: EULF04. Own data.

A figure of nearly 90% (88.8%) is recorded for the ability to speak Catalan, the figure for young people (89.5%) again being slightly (0.7 percentage points) higher than that for the whole population. Finally 30.3% of respondents say that they can write Catalan.

If we consider the figures for young people (15-29) the figure is considerably higher, as 61% of this age group say that they can use Catalan as a medium of written expression. In the following age group (30-44) the number of people who can write Catalan falls to 28.7%.

Table 2.
Comparison between first language, identifying language and habitual language.
Total population and population aged 15-29.

Status	Catalan	Castilian	Both languages	Other cases
First language				
Total population	70.5	26.4	1.8	1.3
Young people	63.9	30.7	2.7	2.7
Identifying language				
Total population	66.6	29.8	3.3	0.3
Young people	57.8	37.0	5.2	0.0
Habitual language				
Total population	73.6	22.3	3.5	0.6
Young people	62.5	27.9	7.8	1.8

Source: EULF04. Own data.

In the Aragonese border area, 70.5% of all those interviewed have Catalan as the first language they learnt at home while only 26.4% have Castilian. 1.8% have both languages indistinctly and 1.3% of the population have other languages or combinations of languages as their first language. For young people (15-29), however, the figure for Catalan is 6.6 percentage points lower, while in the case of Castilian the figure for young people is 4.3 points higher than that for the whole population. The figure for the use of both languages indistinctly as first language for this age group is 2.7%, the same percentage as those using other languages or language combinations.

The use of Catalan as a habitual language shows a slightly higher figure than that for first language learnt. Of all those interviewed, 73.6% report that they use Catalan as their habitual language, compared with 22.3% who use Castilian. On the other hand, if we consider the younger age group (15-29), the figure for Catalan as habitual language is 11.1 percentage points lower than that for the whole population and 1.4 percentage points lower than the figure for the first language the younger age group learnt.

Lastly, the percentage of respondents who give Catalan as their identifying language (66.6%) is lower than the figures for first language learnt and Catalan as habitual language. The figure is even lower in the case of young people, at 57.8%.

Catalan is the language most frequently used in informal contexts such as conversations with friends and neighbours. It is also used more when talking to classmates or work colleagues, although in these two cases the figure is only a little over half.

Table 3.
Comparison of language use in informal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than Castilian	Both languages	More Castilian than Catalan	Only Castilian	Other cases
At home	62.0	6.7	7.3	4.7	19.1	0.2
With friends	48.0	20.1	11.8	4.1	15.7	0.3
With neighbours	56.3	15.0	7.6	3.0	17.4	0.7
With classmates	40.5	11.8	11.1	9.8	26.4	0.4
With work colleagues	36.9	15.8	18.2	6.2	17.6	5.3

Source: EULF04. Own data.

Nearly 70% of the population (68.1%) report that they use Catalan predominantly or exclusively when speaking to friends and over 70% use Catalan when speaking to neighbours. Of those currently undertaking courses of study 52.3% report that they use Catalan with their classmates, 11.1% use both Catalan and Castilian indistinctly, and 36.2% use Castilian predominantly or exclusively. Lastly, when speaking to colleagues at work, 52.7% use Catalan. The figure for the indistinct use of both Catalan and Castilian rises to 18.2%, and 23.8% say that they use Castilian in this context.

Table 4.
Comparison of language use in formal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than Castilian	Both languages	More Castilian than Catalan	Only Castilian	Other cases
Small businesses	45.4	14.9	13.5	4.9	19.7	1.6
Large retail outlets	13.6	10.1	20.0	10.3	43.1	2.9
Banking	19.4	9.7	14.0	9.1	42.6	5.2
Healthcare staff	5.6	3.3	7.1	5.3	78.4	0.3

Source: EULF04. Own data.

The use of Catalan in small businesses in the Aragonese border area is considerably greater than its use in large retail outlets. 60.3% of the population use Catalan in small businesses, while only 23.7% use it in large retail outlets, less than half the figure for small businesses.

The use of Castilian in banking is also extensive, with over half the population (51.7%) using it, while nearly 30% of those interviewed use Catalan. Lastly, when dealing with healthcare staff, the use of Catalan does not even reach 10%, Castilian being used by over three quarters of respondents (83.7%).

Table 5a.
Language transmission across generations. Language spoken with father, mother and children. Population aged 15 and over.

	Predominantly or exclusively Catalan	Both languages	Predominantly or exclusively Castilian	Other cases
Father	74.5	1.1	22.9	1.5
Mother	71.9	1.0	26.1	1.0
Children	71.9	3.2	24.2	0.7

Source: EULF04. Own data.

71.9% of the population interviewed use Catalan with their mothers and only 26.1% use Castilian. With fathers the figure for Catalan is slightly higher (2.6 percentage points more).

The figure for the indistinct use of both languages is extremely low, with both mothers and fathers, although it is over 2 percentage points higher when respondents speak to their children.

Table 5b.
Language, transmission across generations. Language spoken with partners and children. Total population and population aged 15-29.

	Predominantly or exclusively Catalan	Both languages	Predominantly or exclusively Castilian	Other cases
Partner				
Total population	65.5	3.9	30.5	0.1
Young people	44.9	7.7	47.4	0.0
Children				
Total population	71.9	3.2	24.2	0.7
Young people	22.8	19.1	58.1	0.0

Source: EULF04. Own data.

65.5% of those who have partners use Catalan with them, whereas only 30.5% use Castilian. There is, however, a certain amount of indistinct use, 3.9% reporting that they use both languages. Young people use Catalan with their partners considerably less; the figure is 20.6 percentage points lower than that for the whole population. Castilian is used by nearly half (47.4%) of young people with their partners.

Finally, 71.9% of the population who have children use Catalan with them, while only about 25% use Castilian. Among younger respondents, however, the number who use Catalan is lower, only 22.8% using it with their children, and nearly 60% using Castilian (58.1%).

In northern Catalonia, 2004

In Northern Catalonia in France nearly 70% of those interviewed understand spoken Catalan (68.9%). However, only half (51.2%) of the younger respondents (aged 15-29) report that they can understand Catalan. Nearly a third (31.4%) of the total population say that they can read Catalan but only 11.4% of younger respondents can do so.

Table 1.

Comparison of knowledge of Catalan. Total population and population aged 15-29.

Group	Understand Catalan	Can speak Catalan	Can read Catalan	Can write Catalan
Total population	68.9	37.1	31.4	10.6
Aged 15-29	51.2	24.2	11.4	6.2

Source: EULCN04. Own data.

If we consider oral expression, we find that nearly 40% of those interviewed can speak Catalan but here again the figure for young people is lower: 24.2%. Finally, writing is

Table 2.

Comparison between first language, identifying language and habitual language. Total population and population aged 15-29.

Status	Catalan	French	Both languages	Other cases
First language				
Total population	6.2	78.4	3.9	11.5
Young people	0.0	89.9	1.3	8.8
Habitual language				
Total population	3.5	92.0	1.0	3.5
Young people	1.4	97.4	0.0	1.2

Source: EULF04. Own data.

the skill with the lowest levels of the four in Catalan. Only 10.6% of all respondents say that they can write in Catalan and in the case of the younger age group (15-29) the figure is once again lower, at 6.2%.

Only 6.2% of respondents give Catalan as their first language learnt at home. For young people aged 15 to 29 none of the respondents give Catalan as their first language, which is a clear indication of discontinuity in language transmission between generations.

The figures for habitual language show only 3.5% of the total population using Catalan and only 1.4% of young people who give it as their habitual language.

*Table 3.
Comparison of language use in informal oral contexts.
Population aged 15 and over.*

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than French	Both languages	More French than Catalan	Only French	Other cases
At home	0.3	0.3	1.8	6.5	88.9	2.2
With friends	1.8	1.2	3.0	4.1	88.1	1.8
With neighbours	2.0	0.2	1.7	4.8	89.0	2.3
With classmates	0.8	0.0	0.5	2.0	91.7	5.0

Source: EULCN04. Own data.

In all cases French has the greatest frequency of use (over 90%), as can be seen in Table 3. We find that only 0.6% of the total population interviewed report that they use Catalan at home. Catalan is used by only 3% of the total population of Northern Catalonia when speaking to friends.

The figure for using Catalan with neighbours is also low, only 2.2% of the population using it in this context. In the case of speaking to classmates only 0.8% of the total population report that they use Catalan.

*Table 4.
Comparison of language use in formal oral contexts. Population aged 15 and over.*

Context	Only Catalan	More Catalan than French	Both languages	More French than Catalan	Only French	Other cases
Small businesses	0.2	0.5	2.2	92.7	3.4	1.0
Large retail outlets	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	98.5	1.0
Banking	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	99.0	0.8
Healthcare staff	0.0	0.0	0.3	99.0	0.2	0.5

Source: EULCN04. Own data.

The figures for the use of Catalan in informal contexts such as the home and with friends, classmates or work colleagues are very low but in formal contexts they fall even further, the use of Catalan being completely absent in some cases.

Only 0.7% of the population use Catalan when dealing with small businesses. In the case of large retail outlets the figure is 0%. Both banking institutions and dealings with healthcare staff show use by 0% of the total population.

*Table 5.
Attitudes towards learning Catalan. Total population and by age groups.*

	Total population	Aged 15-29	Aged 30-44	Aged 45-64	Over 65
Interested in being able to speak Catalan	49.3	55.9	58.9	31.6	42.1
Interested in learning Catalan	41.4	56.0	53.6	38.7	23.1
Interested in children learning Catalan	43.7	48.1	52.7	49.3	27.5

Source: EULCN04. Own data.

Nearly 50% of the total population of Northern Catalonia say that they are interested in learning to speak Catalan. Of the different age groups the highest level of interest in learning to speak the language is among those aged 30 to 44, with 58.9%, followed by the youngest group at 55.9%. When asked about learning Catalan, 56% of the population aged 15 to 29 answer that they are interested in doing this, a figure which falls to 23.1% in the case of those aged 65 and over.

Finally, if we consider the results obtained for respondents' interest in their children learning Catalan, we see that 43.7% of the total population report that they are interested. By age, the 30 to 44 year old group has the highest level of interest (52.7%), followed by the 15 to 29 year old group with 48.1%.

In Alghero, 2004

A percentage (90.1%) of the total population of Alghero can understand spoken Catalan. Of the youngest age group (18-29) 86.6% report that they can understand Catalan, though the highest figure is for the 45 to 64 age group, 92.9% of whom can understand spoken Catalan. Nearly half (46.5%) of those interviewed say that they can read Catalan but only a quarter of young people (25.6%) say they can do so. This age group has the lowest figure for the ability to read Catalan, while the highest figure for this skill is found in the 65 and over group, where nearly 60% is recorded.

Table 1.
Comparative knowledge of Catalan. Total population and groups by age.

	Understand Catalan	Can speak Catalan	Can read Catalan	Can write Catalan
Total population	90.1	61.3	46.5	13.6
Aged 18-29	86.6	47.2	25.6	5.5
Aged 30-44	90.5	56.1	39.2	9.5
Aged 45-64	92.9	69.7	58.7	17.6
Over 65	87.2	69.8	58.8	22.6

Source: EULA04. Own data.

Where oral expression is concerned, over 60% of those interviewed say they can speak Catalan. However, the youngest age group again has the lowest figure: 47.2%. For this skill the age group with the highest percentage is again those aged 65 and over, of whom nearly 70% (69.8%) report that they can speak Catalan. Lastly, if we consider the ability to write Catalan, we see that, of the four skills, this is the one with the lowest figures. Only 13.6% of the total population say that they can write Catalan. The lowest figure (5.5%) corresponds to the group aged 18 to 29, whereas the oldest group (65 and over) have the highest percentage (22.6%).

Table 2.
Comparison between first language, identifying language and habitual language.
Total population and population aged 18-29.

Status	Catalan	Italian	Sardinian	Other cases
First language				
Total population	22.4	59.2	12.3	6.1
Young people	4.7	89.8	4.4	1.1
Identifying language				
Total population	14.6	80.7	11.6	6.3
Young people	2.3	97.7	13.2	4.0
Habitual language				
Total population	13.9	83.0	0.0	0.3
Young people	1.1	98.9	2.8	0.0

Source: EULA04. Own data.

Nearly a quarter of the population of Alghero (22.4%) give Catalan as the first language they learnt at home, while the number of young people aged between 18 and 29 who give Catalan as their first language is only 4.7%, pointing to a possible discontinuity in language transmission between generations. The figures for the habitual language used show 13.9% of the total population interviewed who use Catalan, but only 1.1% of the younger age group say they use it as their habitual language.

Only 14.6% of the total population give Catalan as their identifying language and this figure falls to 2.3% in the case of those in the younger age group in Alghero.

Table 3.
Language transmission. Language spoken with father, mother and children.
Total population and population aged 18-29.

Context	Alguerese	Italian	Sardinian	Alguerese and another language	Italian and Sardinian	Other cases
Total population						
Father	22.7	51.6	11.7	5.0	2.8	6.2
Mother	22.6	50.6	13.3	5.4	2.5	5.6
Children	3.9	91.9	0.8	2.6	0.4	0.4
Young people						
Father	2.3	84.8	1.2	8.2	3.5	0.0
Mother	3.2	80.9	3.3	8.0	2.3	2.3
Children	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: EULA04. Own data.

Nearly a quarter of all respondents (22.6%) use Catalan with their mothers but this figure falls to only 3.2% in the case of young people aged 18 to 29. The figures for the use of Catalan with one's father are similar: 22.7% of the whole population but only 2.3% of young people report that they use Catalan with their fathers.

Only 3.9% of the total population report that they use Catalan with their children, a figure which falls to 0% in the case of young people between 18 and 29.

Table 4.
Comparison of language use in formal oral contexts.
Population aged 18 and over.

Context	Algerese	Italian	Sardinian	Algerese and another language	Italian and Sardinian	Other cases
At home	7.2	77.1	2.3	8.8	3.8	0.8
With friends	11.3	71.2	1.8	12.7	2.7	0.3
With neighbours	9.4	77.3	1.5	10.2	0.7	0.9
With classmates	0.0	89.6	1.1	2.4	0.0	1.0
With work colleagues	6.3	80.3	2.2	8.9	0.5	1.8

Source: EULA04. Own data.

Only 7.2% of the total population report that they use Catalan at home. Only 11.3% of all respondents say that they use Catalan in conversations with friends, while the figure for the use of the language with neighbours is also low, at only 9.4% of the total population who use it in this context.

The figure for the use of Catalan with classmates is 0%, reflecting the total absence of the Catalan language in the Italian education system. On the other hand, the language is present in conversations with work colleagues, where 6.3% of the total population of Alghero say they use Catalan.

Table 5.
Comparison of language use in formal oral contexts.
Population aged 18 and over.

Context	Algerese	Italian	Sardinian	Algerese and another language	Italian and Sardinian	Other cases
Small businesses	4.0	84.4	0.5	10.3	0.5	0.3
Large retail outlets	0.6	93.2	0.3	5.7	0.2	0.0
Banking	0.7	94.9	0.0	2.8	0.2	1.4
Healthcare staff	4.1	91.0	0.5	4.4	0.0	0.0

Source: EULA04. Own data.

While figures for the use of Catalan in informal contexts such as conversations with friends, neighbours, classmates and work colleagues are low, they fall even further in more formal or institutionalised contexts. Only 4% of the population of Alghero use Catalan when dealing with small businesses. In the case of large retail outlets the figure for the use of Catalan is 0.6% of the total population.

In banking only 0.7% of the population of Alghero report that they use Catalan. The figure for using Catalan with healthcare personnel is a little higher, at 4.1% of the total population.

In Valencia, 2004

Over three quarters of the population of Valencia aged 15 and over report that they understand Valencian fully or reasonably well. 53% say that they speak it correctly or reasonably well. Slightly under half (47%) say that they can read Valencian while, finally, just over a quarter (25.2%) say that they can write it correctly or reasonably well.

Table 1.
Language knowledge. Population aged 15 and over in Valencia.

	Understand Valencian	Can speak Valencian	Can read Valencian	Can write Valencian
Not at all	6.00	26.6	25.1	52.1
A little	18.11	20.3	27.6	22.5
Reasonably well	24.50	17.2	26.1	51.1
Fully	51.30	35.7	21.1	10.1
Rully or reasonably well	75.90	53.0	47.3	25.2

Source: EVL04. Own data.

If we now turn to Table 2, for the area where Valencian is the predominant language, these figures are higher. In the case of understanding spoken Valencian there is an increase of 5.6 percentage points bringing the total to 81.5% of the total population. The figure for the ability to speak Valencian is 5.4 percentage points higher, for reading 3.7 points higher and, finally, for the ability to write the figure is 2 points higher for the total population in this area.

From this table we can see that Valencian is used less than Castilian in all the contexts shown. It is used most at home (36.4%) and least in large retail outlets, where the figure is 21.3%. The context where Castilian is used least is with friends (52.1%).

Table 2.
Language knowledge. Population aged 15 and over in areas where Valencian is widely used.

	Understand Valencian	Can speak Valencian	Can read Valencian	Can write Valencian
Not at all	3.3	21.3	21.5	49.0
A little	15.0	20.2	27.3	23.7
Reasonably well	24.4	18.2	27.5	16.1
Fully	57.1	40.2	23.4	11.1
Rully or reasonably well	81.5	58.4	51.0	27.2

Source: EVL04. Own data.

Table 3.
Use of spoken Valencian in areas where Valencian is widely used. Population aged 15 and over.

	Exclusively or Predominantly Valencian	Both languages	Exclusively or predominantly Castilian
At home	36.4	5.5	55.4
With friends	32.7	14.9	52.1
Small businesses	32.1	10.3	57.3
Banking	30.1	9.2	60.5
Large retail outlets	21.3	19.7	56.0
Colleagues at work	26.8	14.0	56.1

Source: EVL04. Own data.

Table 4.
Language transmission in areas where Valencian is widely used. Population aged 15 and over.

	Parent-Parent	With mother	With father	With partner	With children
Always Valencian	38.4	38.1	38.1	33.0	35.5
Exclusively or predominantly Valencian	40.2	39.5	39.8	34.7	38.6
Exclusively or predominantly Castilian	53.7	55.6	55.0	59.0	52.3
Both languages	2.0	1.1	1.0	3.2	5.7
Other cases	3.5	3.3	3.5	2.1	1.8

Source: EVL04. Own data.

Figures for the indistinct use of Valencian and Castilian are higher in large retail outlets than in the other contexts. Lastly, the largest difference between the use of Valencian and Castilian in these contexts is in banking, where the use of Castilian (60.5%) is practically double that of Valencian (30.1%).

Concerning the transmission of Valencian between generations, 38% of those interviewed report that their parents always speak or spoke Valencian to each other. However, the number of those using only Valencian with their partners is somewhat lower, at 33%.

The number of respondents who always speak or spoke Valencian with their mothers or fathers is also 38% in both cases but the number using Valencian with their children is a little lower, at 35.5%. The use of both languages, Valencian and Castilian, is highest with respondents' children (5.7%), while the use of other languages with them is infrequent (1.8%). Lastly, it should be pointed out that in all these family relationships the use of Castilian is greater, at over half of those interviewed.

*Table 5.
Difficulty in using Valencian in areas where Valencian
is widely used. Population aged 15 and over.*

Great Difficulty	11 %
Some difficulty	46%
No difficulty	38%
Don't know/no answer	5%

Source: EVL04. Own data.

Nearly 60% of respondents in the area where Valencian is the widely used report that they have some difficulty or great difficulty in using Valencian as a normal language of communication.

38% consider that they have no difficulty using Valencian, while only 5% do not know or do not answer.

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