



Langues à Bruxelles / Talen in Brussel
Fact sheet
Bourse/ Beurs 26/4/2019

**Brussels 2017: Languages spoken at home as a child and current competence
(Proportions of adult Brussels residents according to the latest Taalbarometer)**

	Exclusive home language	One of the home languages	Good or very good knowledge
French:	52.2 %	73.0 %	87.1 %
Dutch:	5.6 %	16.3 %	16.3 %
English:	1.1 %	2.6 %	34.4 %
Arabic:	4.6 %	8.9 %	9.1 %
Spanish	1.7 %	3.0 %	4.9 %
Italian	1.3 %	2.2 %	3.5 %
German	1.1 %	2.7 %	3.2 %
Portugese	1.2 %	1.5 %	2.1 %
Rumanian	1.1 %	1.4 %	1.5 %
Polish	1.2 %	1.3 %	1.3 %
Turkish	0.7 %	1.3 %	1.3 %

2000-2017: Proportion of Brussels residents with a good or very good knowledge of

French: fall from 96% to 87%
Dutch: fall from 33% to 16%
English: rise from 33% to 34%
French and Dutch : fall from 33% to 14%
French, Dutch and English : fall from 16% to 6%
none of the three languages: rise from 3% to 8%.

2000-2017: Proportion of young Brussels residents (18-30) with a good or very good knowledge of the three languages

• among those who attended a Dutch-language school in Brussels

Dutch : rise from 94% to 97%
French : fall from 94% to 69%
English : fall from 78% to 72%

• among those who attended a French-language school in Brussels

French : fall from 100% to 96%
Dutch : fall from 20% to 8%
English : rise from 37% to 41%

2000-2017 : Proportion of Brussels residents working in Brussels who use at work

French : rise from 90% to 100%
only French : fall from 73% to 34%
Dutch : rise from 18% to 46%
English : rise from 6% to 48%

(Source: Rudi Janssens, *Meertaligheid als opdracht*, VUB Press, 2018, table 4 + personal communication ; table 18, table 65 and table 79, respectively)

2016 : Language requirements in the jobs advertised through Actiris

Proportion of jobs with some language requirement : 52.7%,

and among them :

French & Dutch: 56.8%

French, Dutch & English : 23.2%

English : 14.4%

2017 : Linguistic competence of job seekers registered with Actiris :

Dutch : average knowledge 22% , good knowledge 7%

English : average knowledge 36% , good knowledge 18%

(Source : *Les exigences linguistiques sur le marché du travail et les connaissances linguistiques des demandeurs d'emploi en Région bruxelloise*, ACTIRIS, juillet 2017, graph 1, table 2 & footnote 6.)

2000-2017 : Arrivals in and departures from the Brussels Capital Region

Total population

- 2000 : 959.000
- 2017 : 1.184.00
- Difference: + 225.000

Arrivals 2000-2017

- from Belgium: 405.000
- from outside Belgium: 805.000
- total : 1.210.000

Departures 2000-2017

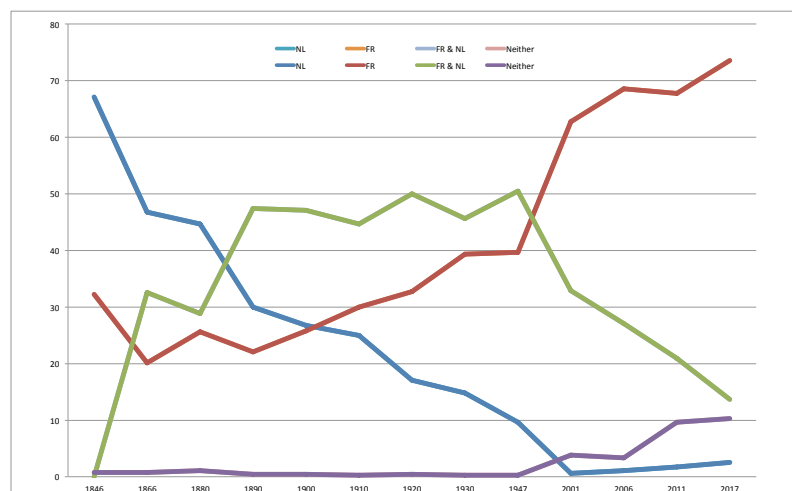
- to Belgium : 607.000
- to outside Belgium : 496.000
- total : 1.103.000

Net migration 2000-2017

- Belgium : - 202.000
- Abroad : + 309.000
- Total : +107.000

(Source : FOD-SPF economie, with help from Jan Hertogen)

Brussels (19 communes) 1846-2017 : proportion of residents who can speak Dutch and not French, French and not Dutch, both French and Dutch, and neither French nor Dutch



Source : National census for 1846-1947, Taalbarometer VUB for 2000-2017.

NB : the data for 1846 allow for only one language per respondent.