

Chapter 2 Language and Mother Tongue

2.1 Language used in Cambodia

2.1.1 Language by Sex and Urban and Rural Areas

Most of the population in Cambodia speaks the Khmer language, the country's official language. Others include Vietnamese, Lao, Chinese, Thai, English and etc., reflecting such cross-border migration from neighboring countries and international migration from other foreign countries. French, once the language of government in Indochina during 1863 to 1953, is still spoken in by some older Cambodians. English is widely spoken among young Cambodians and foreign businessmen.

In the survey, all persons in the selected households were asked to state their mother tongue. Tables 2.1 and 2.2 indicate absolute and relative distributions of population by mother tongue, sex and urban-rural residence in 2008 and 2013. As of 2013, the overwhelming majority is population speaking in Khmer, 97.1 percent of total population. The proportion speaking in minority languages accounts for 2.3 percent, followed by Vietnamese (0.4%), and Lao (0.2%). Among the population other than Khmer and minority languages, Vietnamese has the highest percentage of the mentioned population, followed by Lao, Chinese, English, Korean and Thai. Population speaking in French and Japanese are very few. In comparing with the results of 2008 Population census, the proportions speaking in Khmer is by 0.4 percent higher (change from 96.3% to 97.1%), however those speaking in minority languages is by 0.6 percent lower (change from 2.9% to 2.3%) in 2013 (Table 2.2).

Table 2.1 Population by Mother Tongue by Sex: Urban/Rural, 2008, 2013

Mother Tongue	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
2013									
Total	14,676,591	7,121,508	7,555,083	3,146,212	1,527,479	1,618,734	11,530,378	5,594,029	5,936,349
Khmer	14,244,330	6,913,869	7,330,461	3,069,843	1,489,799	1,580,045	11,174,487	5,424,071	5,750,416
Vietnamese	61,293	29,515	31,779	45,749	23,055	22,694	15,545	6,460	9,085
Chinese	6,928	3,511	3,417	5,072	2,131	2,941	1,856	1,380	476
Lao	24,613	12,208	12,404	178	114	64	24,434	12,094	12,340
Thai	837	560	277	0	0	0	837	560	277
French	263	239	24	207	207	0	56	32	24
English	1,591	1,584	7	716	716	0	875	868	7
Korean	1,168	686	482	298	298	0	870	388	482
Japanese	91	20	71	0	0	0	91	20	71
Minority Languages	331,068	157,357	173,710	24,112	11,122	12,990	306,956	146,236	160,720
Others	4,410	1,958	2,451	37	37	0	4,373	1,921	2,451

Mother Tongue	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
	2008								
Total	13,395,682	6,516,054	6,879,628	2,614,027	1,255,570	1,358,457	10,781,655	5,260,484	5,521,171
Khmer	12,901,447	6,271,981	6,629,466	2,545,285	1,220,370	1,324,915	10,356,162	5,051,611	5,304,551
Vietnamese	72,775	36,857	35,918	30,289	15,178	15,111	42,486	21,679	20,807
Chinese	6,530	3,653	2,877	4,374	2,366	2,008	2,156	1,287	869
Lao	18,515	9,203	9,312	842	430	412	17,673	8,773	8,900
Thai	2,458	1,574	884	1,340	884	456	1,118	690	428
French	873	566	307	711	479	232	162	87	75
English	2,360	1,466	894	1,993	1,234	759	367	232	135
Korean	904	599	305	787	537	250	117	62	55
Japanese	396	239	157	319	194	125	77	45	32
Minority Languages	383,273	186,631	196,642	26,641	12,990	13,651	356,632	173,641	182,991
Others	6,151	3,285	2,866	1,446	908	538	4,705	2,377	2,328

Table 2.2 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue by Sex: Urban/Rural, 2008, 2013

Mother Tongue	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
	2013								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	97.1	97.1	97.0	97.6	97.5	97.6	96.9	97.0	96.9
Vietnamese	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Chinese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japanese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Minority Languages	2.3	2.2	2.3	0.8	0.7	0.8	2.7	2.6	2.7
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2.2 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue by Sex: Urban/Rural, 2008, 2013

Mother Tongue	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Both Sexes	Males	Females
	2008								
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	96.3	96.3	96.4	97.4	97.2	97.5	96.1	96.0	96.1
Vietnamese	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.4
Chinese	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japanese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Minority Languages	2.9	2.9	2.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.3	3.3	3.3
Others	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

The proportion of Khmer speaking population is slightly higher in urban area (97.6%) than that in rural area (96.9%) in 2013 (Table 2.2). Population who speak Vietnamese, Chinese, and French in urban area are much more than those in rural area. In contrast, population speaking in Lao and minority language are much more in rural area. Most minorities live in forest and hill areas in rural area. In comparing with 2008 population census, however, a strange result in 2013 that population who speak English, Korean and Japanese in urban are less than those in rural area is appeared in Table 2.1. This might be owing to sampling in this survey.

Table 2.3 Sex Ratio of Population by Mother Tongue: Urban/Rural, 2008, 2013

Mother Tongue	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
	2008			2013		
	Total	95	92	95	94	94
Khmer	95	92	95	94	94	94
Vietnamese	103	100	104	93	102	71
Chinese	127	118	148	103	72	290
Lao	99	104	99	98	177	98
Thai	178	194	161	202	-	202
French	184	206	116	995	-	132
English	164	163	172	21725	-	11901
Korean	196	215	113	142	-	81
Japanese	152	155	141	28	-	28
Minority Languages	95	95	95	91	86	91
Others	115	169	102	80	-	78

Note: Sex ratio is males per 100 females.

Table 2.3 shows the sex ratios of population by mother tongue. The sex ratios of population by Japanese (28), minority languages (91), Vietnamese (93), Khmer (94), Lao (98) are less than 100, which mean more females than males speak in these languages. On the other hand, the sex ratios of population of English (21,725), French (995), Thai (202), and Korean (142) are more than 100, implying that more males than females speak these languages. Clearly, it seems that high sex ratio in these languages may be due to male domination in international labour migration for business and trade. The extremely low sex ratio of Japanese and high ratio of English might be affected by the survey, considering sex ratios of Japanese (152) and English (164) in the population census of 2008 (Table 2.3).

2.1.2 Language by Age

Table 2.4 indicates the distributions of population by language and age group. The proportions of population by language differ from age to age. The age composition of population who speak Khmer, minority languages and Chinese shows the primary age pattern. On the other hand, the age compositions of population who speak Lao, Vietnam, Thai and English concentrate at the working ages. The age composition of foreigners may reflect not only sampling in the survey but also international migration.

Table 2.4 Population and Percentage Distribution of Mother Tongue by 5-year Age Group, 2013

Age Group	Total Population	Khmer	Minority Language	Vietnamese	Chinese	Lao	Thai	French	English	Korean	Japanese	Others
Total	14,676,591	14,244,330	331,068	61,293	6,928	24,613	837	263	1,591	1,168	91	4,410
0 - 4	1,303,588	1,261,034	35,528	3,724	21	2,452		33				796
5 - 9	1,474,650	1,428,658	37,992	4,267	209	3,131						393
10-14	1,543,160	1,494,619	39,539	4,943	433	3,204						422
15 - 19	1,558,004	1,516,031	33,889	4,163	343	2,855	52		331			340
20 - 24	1,613,940	1,566,046	35,282	8,913	388	2,572	86		231		20	402
25 - 29	1,342,919	1,305,029	29,307	5,733	112	2,007			246			487
30 - 34	1,210,936	1,180,640	23,607	4,116	377	1,407	199		52		71	467
35 - 39	734,970	710,192	17,596	4,214	939	1,544	157	8	33			287
40 - 44	844,823	821,851	14,925	4,475	956	1,410	116	82	505	388		116
45 - 49	772,599	749,404	17,445	4,431	25	947	23		118			206
50 - 54	661,350	643,704	12,588	3,325	705	719	188		7			113
55 - 59	498,504	483,662	10,171	3,392	517	593	15		61			94
60 - 64	390,619	377,613	9,515	2,236	388	411		15		298		143
65 - 69	272,657	263,929	6,099	940	675	626			7	324		58
70 - 74	201,989	197,664	2,829	729	112	471		125				58
75 & over	251,881	244,255	4,756	1,693	727	263				158		29

Table 2.4 Population and Percentage Distribution of Mother Tongue by 5-year Age Group, 2013 (Continued)

Age Group	Total Population	Khmer	Minority Language	Vietnamese	Chinese	Lao	Thai	French	English	Korean	Japanese	Others
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 - 4	8.9	8.9	10.7	6.1	0.3	10.0	0.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.0
5 - 9	10.0	10.0	11.5	7.0	3.0	12.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9
10-14	10.5	10.5	11.9	8.1	6.3	13.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.6
15 - 19	10.6	10.6	10.2	6.8	5.0	11.6	6.2	0.0	20.8	0.0	0.0	7.7
20 - 24	11.0	11.0	10.7	14.5	5.6	10.5	10.3	0.0	14.5	0.0	21.6	9.1
25 - 29	9.2	9.2	8.9	9.4	1.6	8.2	0.0	0.0	15.4	0.0	0.0	11.0
30 - 34	8.3	8.3	7.1	6.7	5.4	5.7	23.8	0.0	3.3	0.0	78.4	10.6
35 - 39	5.0	5.0	5.3	6.9	13.5	6.3	18.8	2.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	6.5
40 - 44	5.8	5.8	4.5	7.3	13.8	5.7	13.9	31.1	31.7	33.2	0.0	2.6
45 - 49	5.3	5.3	5.3	7.2	0.4	3.8	2.8	0.0	7.4	0.0	0.0	4.7
50 - 54	4.5	4.5	3.8	5.4	10.2	2.9	22.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.6
55 - 59	3.4	3.4	3.1	5.5	7.5	2.4	1.7	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	2.1
60 - 64	2.7	2.7	2.9	3.6	5.6	1.7	0.0	5.6	0.0	25.5	0.0	3.2
65 - 69	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.5	9.7	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	27.7	0.0	1.3
70 - 74	1.4	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.6	1.9	0.0	47.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3
75 & over	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.8	10.5	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.5	0.0	0.7

2.1.3 Language by Province

Table 2.5 indicates the distributions of population by mother tongue and province. The provinces where major languages are Khmer (around 95% of total population) are 22

provinces among 24 provinces. The provinces where major languages are minority languages are Ratanak Kiri (minority languages: 51.6%, Khmer:35.8%) and Mondul Kiri (minority languages 57.0%, Khmer:41.8%). The percentage of population speaking Lao is also high in Ratanak Kiri (10.3%) and Stung Treng (3.6%), both provinces are located near the border between Cambodia and Laos. The percentage of population speaking Vietnamese is relatively high in Kampong Chhnang (2.9%), Phnom Penh (1.5%) and Preah Sihanouk (1.4%).

Table 2.5 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue: Province, 2013

Mother Tongue	Country	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
	Total	Banteay Meanchey	Battambang	Kampong Cham	Kampong Chhnang	Kampong Speu	Kampong Thom	Kampot
Total Population	14,676,591	729,569	1,121,019	1,757,223	523,202	755,465	690,414	611,557
Percentage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	97.1	99.7	99.5	96.9	93.2	99.3	98.8	99.7
Vietnamese	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chinese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japanese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Minority Languages	2.3	0.2	0.2	3.0	3.9	0.7	1.2	0.2
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2.5 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue: Province, 2013 (Continued)

Mother Tongue	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Kandal	Koh Kong	Kratie	Mondul Kiri	Phnom Penh	Preah Vihear	Prey Veng	Pursat
Total Population	1,115,965	122,263	344,195	72,680	1,688,044	235,370	1,156,739	435,596
Percentage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	99.2	99.2	93.0	41.8	97.4	97.1	98.8	96.3
Vietnamese	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	1.5	0.0	0.4	0.2
Chinese	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
English	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japanese	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0
Minority Languages	0.2	0.2	6.4	57.0	0.8	2.9	0.8	3.5
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2.5 Percentage Distribution of Population by Mother Tongue: Province, 2013 (Continued)

Mother Tongue	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Ratanak Kiri	Siem Reap	Preah Sihanouk	Stung Treng	Svay Rieng	Takeo	Otdar Meanchey	Kep	Pailin
Total Population	183,699	922,982	250,180	122,791	578,380	923,373	231,390	38,701	65,795
Percentage	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Khmer	35.8	99.7	95.6	84.9	99.8	98.8	99.7	99.4	99.0
Vietnamese	0.2	0.0	1.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chinese	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao	10.3	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Thai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
French	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
English	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0
Korean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0
Japanese	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0	-	-	0.0
Minority Languages	51.6	0.3	2.4	10.4	0.1	1.2	0.2	0.5	1.0
Others	1.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2.6 Percent Distribution by Province for Each Mother Tongue, 2013

Province	Mother Tongue											
	Total	Khmer	Vietnamese	Chinese	Lao	Thai	French	English	Korean	Japanese	Minority Languages	Others
%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Banteay Meanchey	5.0	5.1	0.4	3.5	1.0	10.3	0.0	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	3.8
Battambang	7.6	7.8	2.7	7.1	0.0	46.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0
Kampong Cham	12.0	12.0	1.1	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	60.9	0.0	15.8	0.0
Kampong Chhnang	3.6	3.4	24.7	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0
Kampong Speu	5.1	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.0	0.0	0.0	13.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
Kampong Thom	4.7	4.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0
Kampot	4.2	4.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	8.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
Kandal	7.6	7.8	7.7	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.3	0.0	0.0	0.8	4.5
Koh Kong	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.6	0.1	0.8
Kratie	2.3	2.2	1.9	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0
Mondul Kiri	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.4	2.0	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	0.6
Phnom Penh	11.5	11.5	42.4	57.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.2	25.5	0.0	3.8	0.0
Preah Vihear	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0
Prey Veng	7.9	8.0	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9	0.0
Pursat	3.0	2.9	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	0.0
Ratanak Kiri	1.3	0.5	0.7	4.4	77.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	78.4	28.6	76.7
Siem Reap	6.3	6.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0
Preah Sihanouk	1.7	1.7	5.8	4.3	0.0	1.7	91.5	15.8	0.0	0.0	1.8	13.5
Stung Treng	0.8	0.7	1.6	3.3	18.2	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0
Svay Rieng	3.9	4.1	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Takeo	6.3	6.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0
Otdar Meanchey	1.6	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Kep	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.5	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Pailin	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0

Table 2.6 presents the distribution by province for each mother tongue. The distribution of Khmer language by province is naturally same as the population distribution by province in Cambodia. Vietnamese is mostly used in Phnom Penh (42.4%) and in Kampong Chhnang (24.7%). Lao is used in Ratanak Kiri (77.1%) and Stung Treng (18.2%) near the border of Vietnam, and Chinese is used mainly in Phnom Penh (57.4%). Minority languages are mostly used in Ratanak Kiri (28.6%), Kampong Cham (15.8%) and in Mondul Kiri (12.5%) where most minority groups live in. Persons who use foreign languages: English, French, Japanese and Korean languages, are likely to concentrate in Phnom Penh, however some foreign languages are spoken in local provinces other than capital city which might be affected by the sampling problem of survey.

2.2 Language among Minority Groups

2.2.1 Minority Language by Sex

Table 2.7 indicates population by minority language. Major minority languages are Chaam (44.5% of minority population), Tumpoon (15.7%), Phnong (14.3%), Krueng (6.8%), Proav (4.2%), Kuoy (4.1%) and Chaaaray (4.0%) among 23 minority languages. As regards the sex ratios of minority population by mother tongue, females surpass males in the number in most minority languages except Khogn, S'ouch, Mel, Por and Kaaveat.

Mother Tongue	Total				Total		
	Both Sexes	Males	Females	Sex Ratio	Both Sexes	Males	Females
Total	331,068	157,357	173,710	91	100.0	100.0	100.0
Chaaaray	13,326	6,636	6,689	99	4.0	4.2	3.9
Chaam	147,236	67,415	79,822	84	44.5	42.8	46.0
Kaaveat	5,618	3,008	2,610	115	1.7	1.9	1.5
Klueng	208	69	138	50	0.1	0.0	0.1
Kuoy	13,530	6,749	6,781	100	4.1	4.3	3.9
Krueng	22,385	10,162	12,223	83	6.8	6.5	7.0
Lon	436	22	413	5	0.1	0.0	0.2
Phnong	47,296	23,070	24,226	95	14.3	14.7	13.9
Proav	13,902	6,661	7,241	92	4.2	4.2	4.2
Tumpoon	51,947	25,737	26,211	98	15.7	16.4	15.1
Stieng	1,279	547	732	75	0.4	0.3	0.4
Ro Ong	266	67	199	34	0.1	0.0	0.1
Kraol	7,413	3,621	3,792	95	2.2	2.3	2.2
Raadeat	1,003	418	586	71	0.3	0.3	0.3
Thmoon	763	362	401	90	0.2	0.2	0.2
Mel	1,905	1,280	625	205	0.6	0.8	0.4
Khogn	270	226	44	515	0.1	0.1	0.0
Por	215	117	98	120	0.1	0.1	0.1
Suoy	0	0	0	-	0.0	0.0	0.0
S'ouch	837	638	199	321	0.3	0.4	0.1
Kchrak	731	328	403	81	0.2	0.2	0.2
Mon	174	174	0	-	0.1	0.1	0.0
Kchak	328	49	279	18	0.1	0.0	0.2

2.2.2 Minority Language by Urban and Rural Areas

Table 2.8 shows the minority language distribution by urban and rural areas. It is clear that minority languages are predominantly used in rural area (306,956 persons or 93% of total minority population). Among minority languages, Chaam is predominantly used in both urban and rural areas, 87.4% in urban area versus 41.1% in rural area. The top 5 languages used in rural areas are Chaam, Tumpoon, Phnong, Krueng and Proav, and those in urban area are Chaam, Chaaaray, Mel, Phnong and Raadear.

Total			Urban			Rural		
Mother Tongue	Population	%	Mother Tongue	Population	%	Mother Tongue	Population	%
Total	331,068	100.0	Total	24,112	100.0	Total	306,956	100.0
Chaam	147,236	44.5	Chaam	21,084	87.4	Chaam	126,152	41.1
Tumpoon	51,947	15.7	Chaaaray	886	3.7	Tumpoon	51,947	16.9
Phnong	47,296	14.3	Mel	528	2.2	Phnong	46,869	15.3
Krueng	22,385	6.8	Phnong	427	1.8	Krueng	22,361	7.3
Proav	13,902	4.2	Raadear	339	1.4	Proav	13,835	4.5
Kuoy	13,530	4.1	Kchak	279	1.2	Kuoy	13,530	4.4
Chaaaray	13,326	4.0	Lon	246	1.0	Chaaaray	12,439	4.1
Kraol	7,413	2.2	S'ouch	199	0.8	Kraol	7,413	2.4
Kaaveat	5,618	1.7	Proav	67	0.3	Kaaveat	5,618	1.8
Mel	1,905	0.6	Khogn	32	0.1	Mel	1,377	0.4
Stieng	1,279	0.4	Krueng	24	0.1	Stieng	1,279	0.4
Raadear	1,003	0.3	Suoy	0	0.0	Thmoon	763	0.2
S'ouch	837	0.3	Kaaveat	0	0.0	Kchruk	731	0.2
Thmoon	763	0.2	Klueng	0	0.0	Raadear	665	0.2
Kchruk	731	0.2	Kuoy	0	0.0	S'ouch	638	0.2
Lon	436	0.1	Tumpoon	0	0.0	Ro Ong	266	0.1
Kchak	328	0.1	Stieng	0	0.0	Khogn	237	0.1
Khogn	270	0.1	Ro Ong	0	0.0	Por	215	0.1
Ro Ong	266	0.1	Kraol	0	0.0	Klueng	208	0.1
Por	215	0.1	Thmoon	0	0.0	Lon	190	0.1
Klueng	208	0.1	Por	0	0.0	Mon	174	0.1
Mon	174	0.1	Kchruk	0	0.0	Kchak	49	0.0
Suoy	0	0.0	Mon	0	0.0	Suoy	0	0.0

Note: The table is presented as descending order of population by mother tongue.