

Using Law to Support Language Diversity and Multilingualism: An International and Comparative Perspective

Conference on Changing Linguistic Landscapes, Mariehamn

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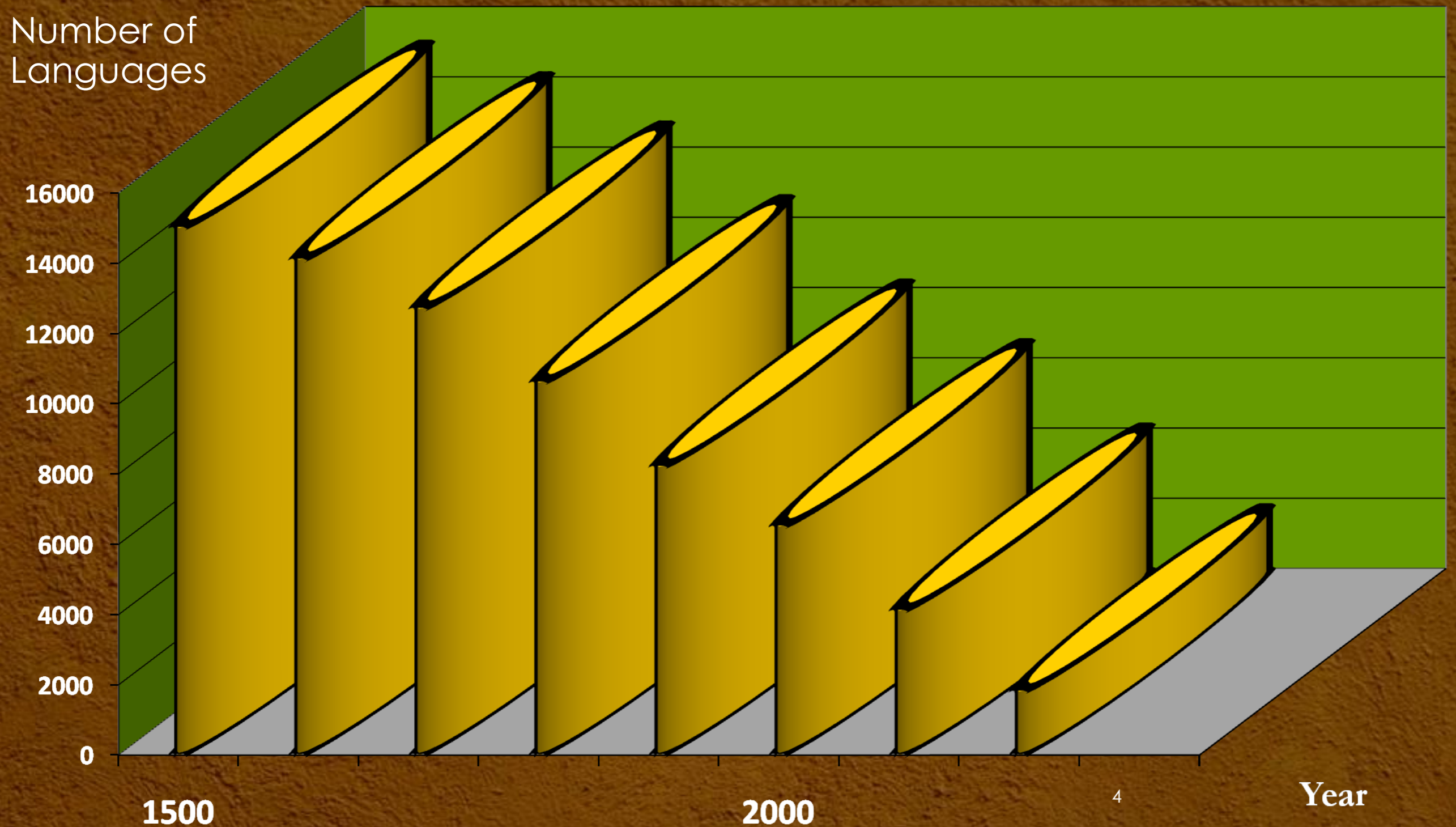
YES, WE CAN.



Worldwide Trends

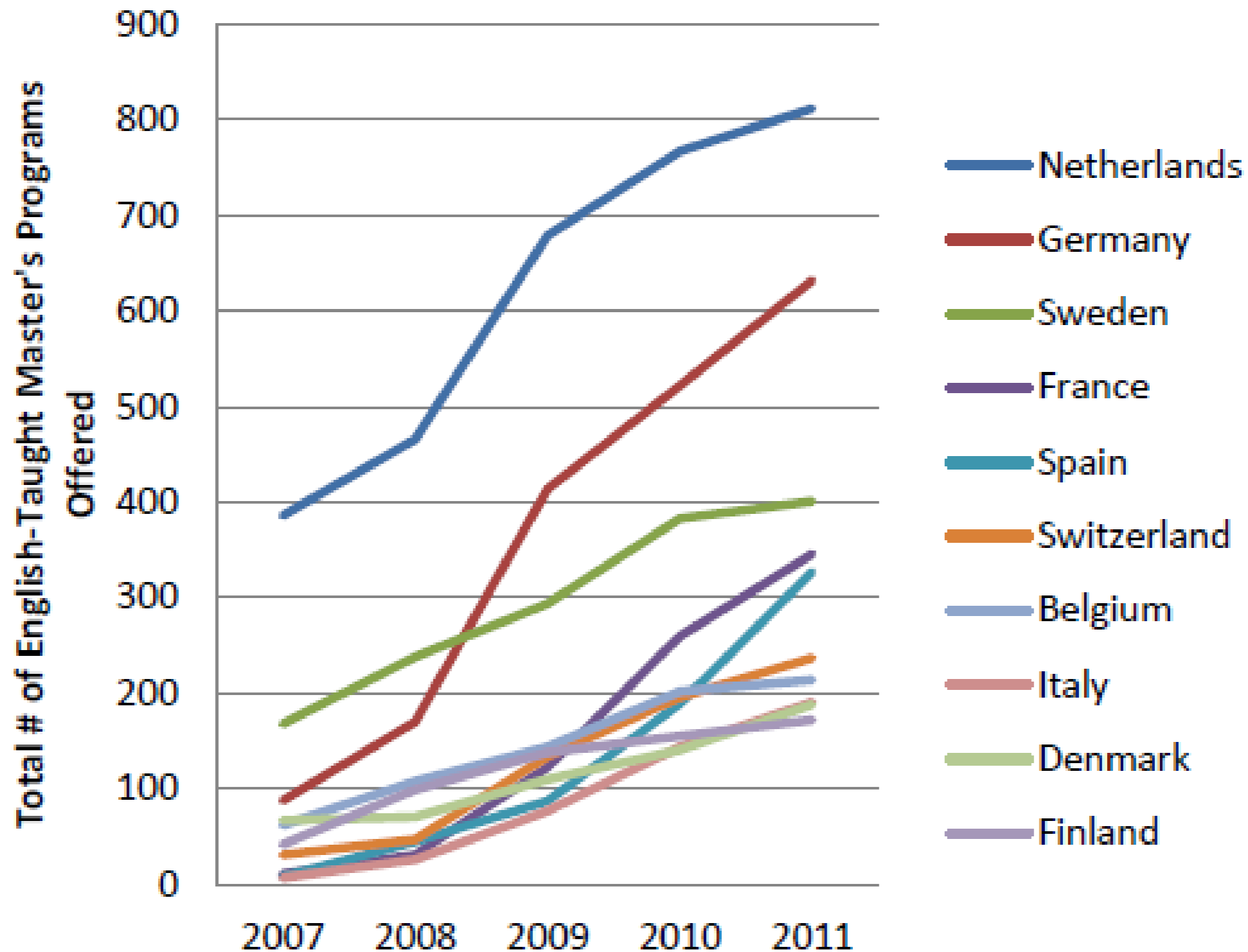
1. Languages and language diversity generally;
2. The legal responses both in international and comparative law;
3. Relatively rare successes in language revitalisation and maintenance.

A Narrower Linguistic Diversity: More than Half of the Today's World Languages to Disappear by 2100



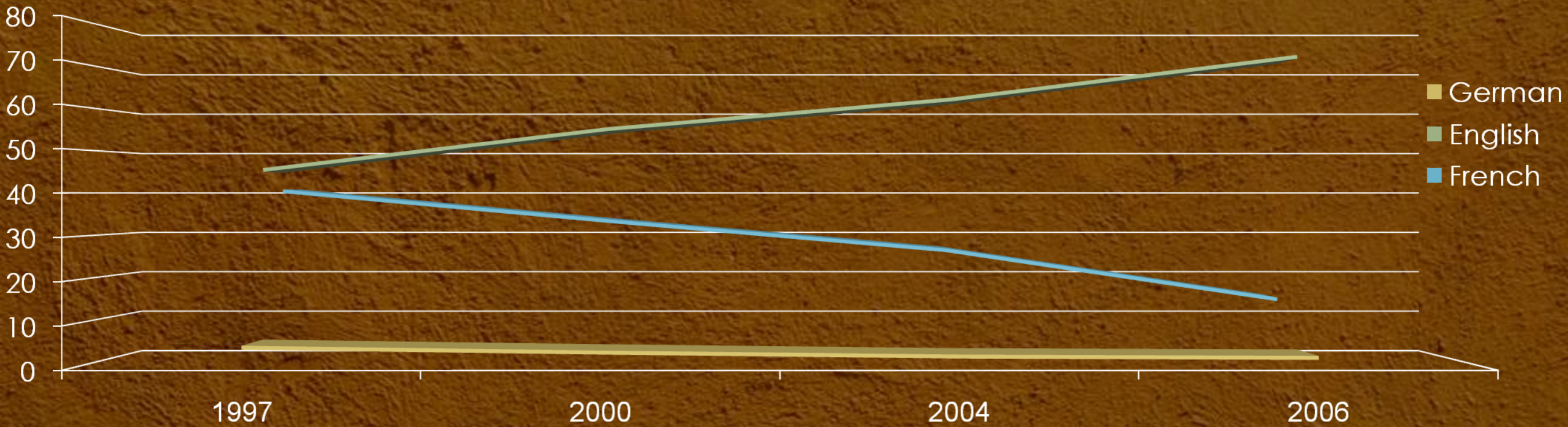
“Narrowing” in Europe Academia 2007-2011

**Table 1: English-Taught Master's Programs at
MastersPortal.eu (by Country and Year)**



Languages Used for Drafting of European Commission Documents (%) 1997-2006

(German, English and French , Working Languages of the Commission)

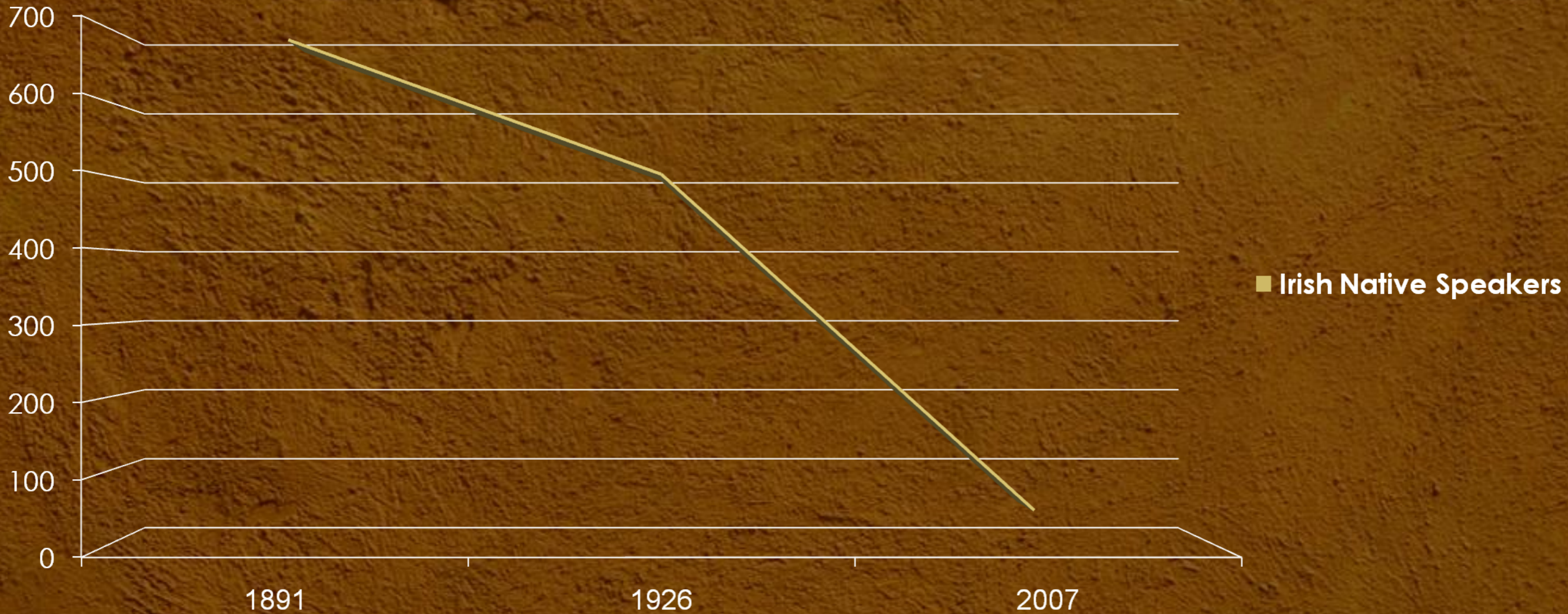


Greater (Apparent) Embrace of Multilingualism

- International Mother Tongue Day (21 February)
- European Day of Languages (26 September)
- 2008 International Year of Languages
- 2001 European Year of Languages
- UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity
- 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
- Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
- Council of Europe European Charter on Regional or Minority Languages

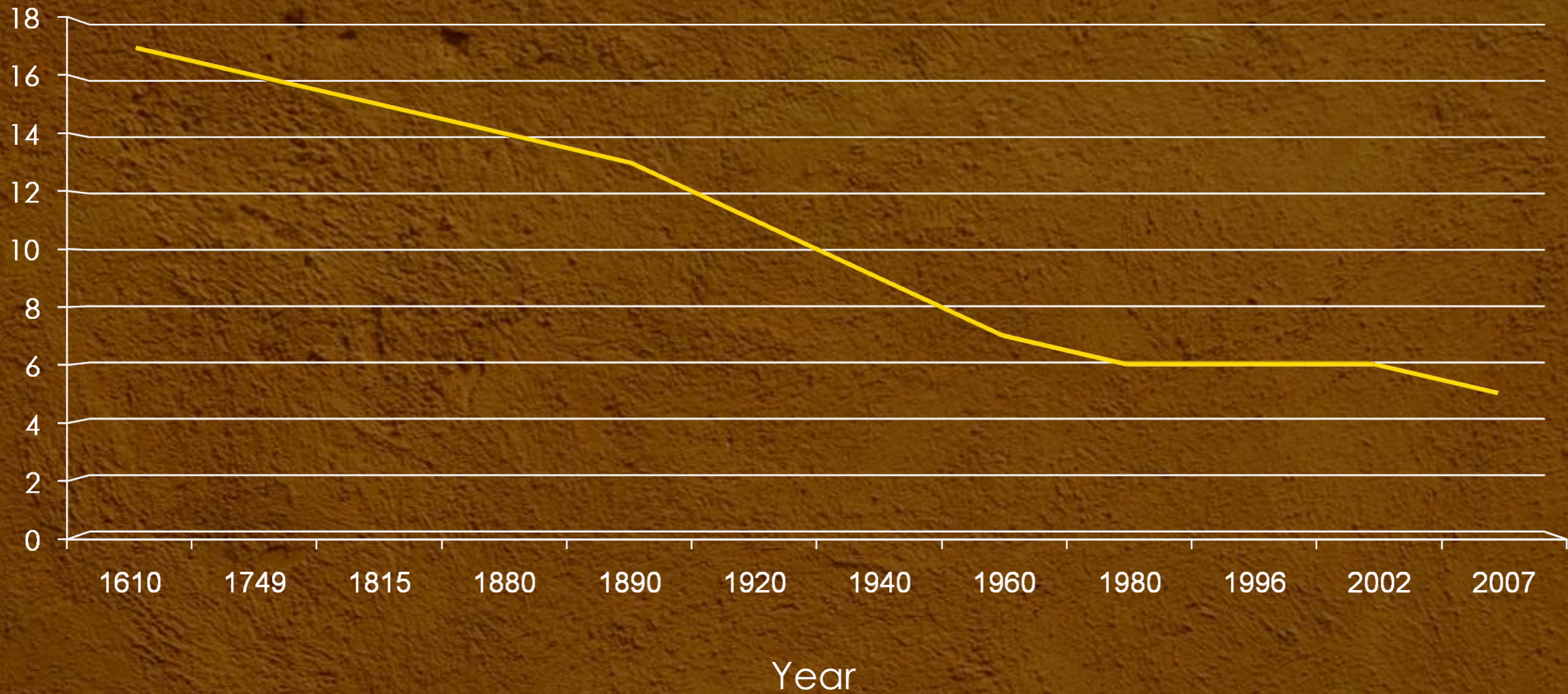
The (Possible Demise) of Irish in Ireland (but that's another story...)

Number of
Native Speakers
(in thousands)

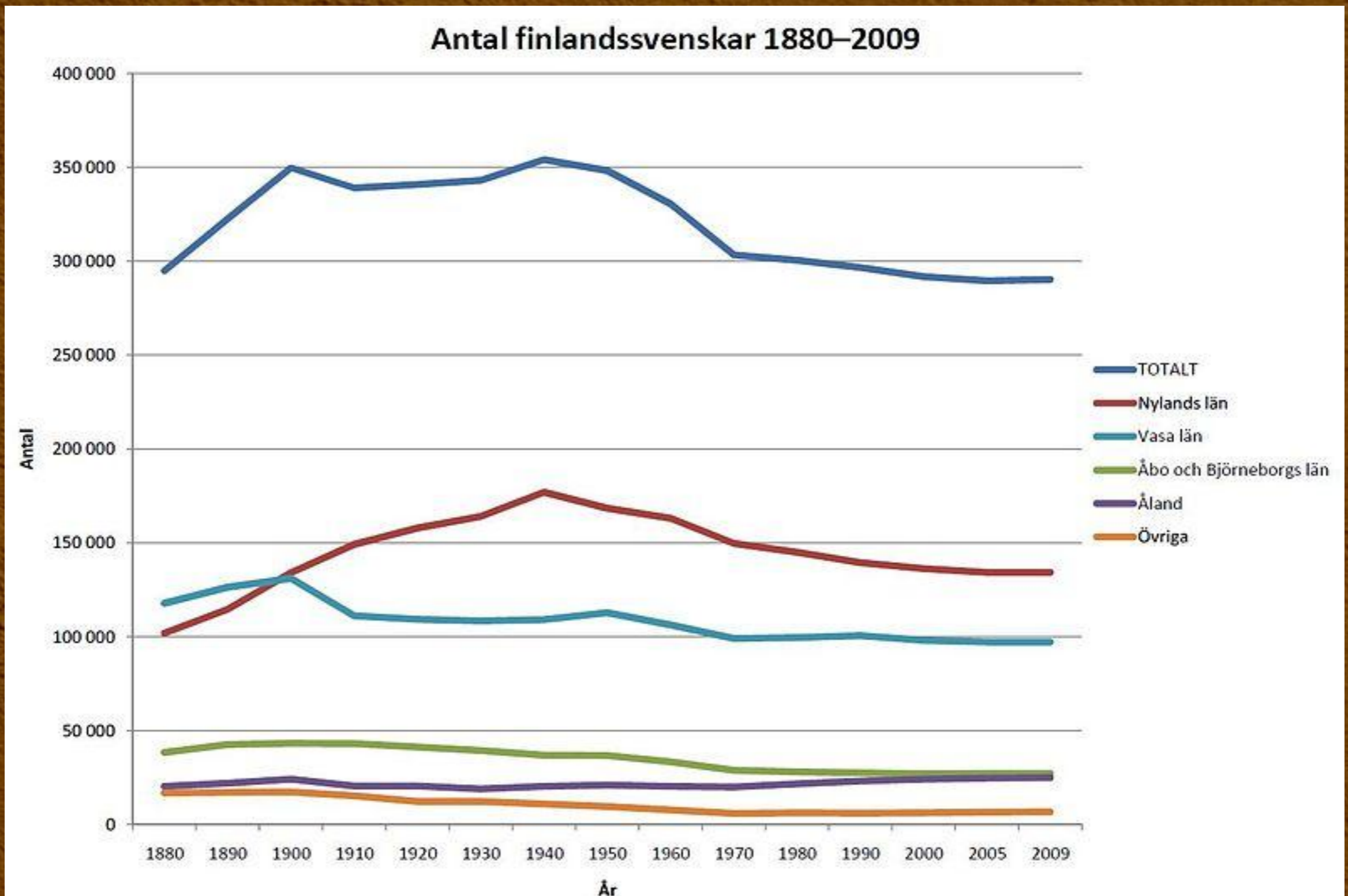


Percentage of Swedish-speaking Population in Finland

% of National Population



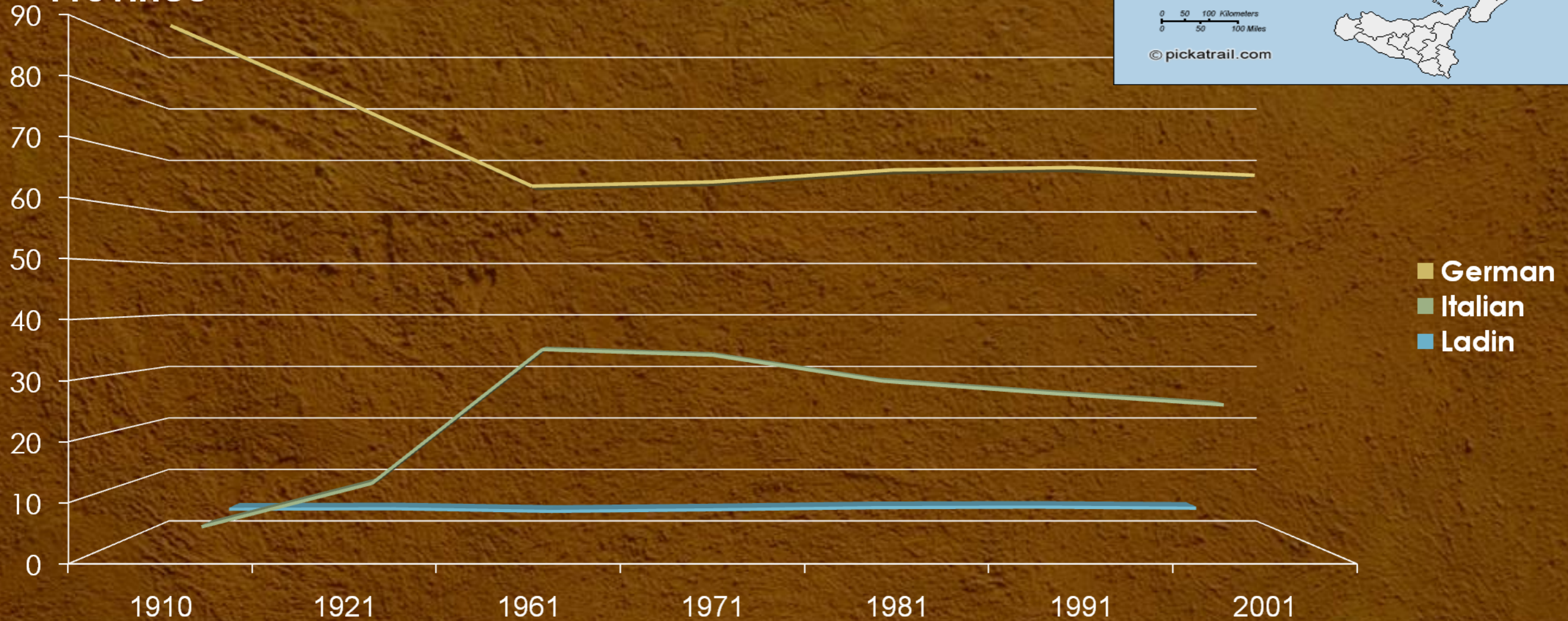
From 17.5% to Only 5.4% : The Erosion of Swedish in Finland, Except Åland



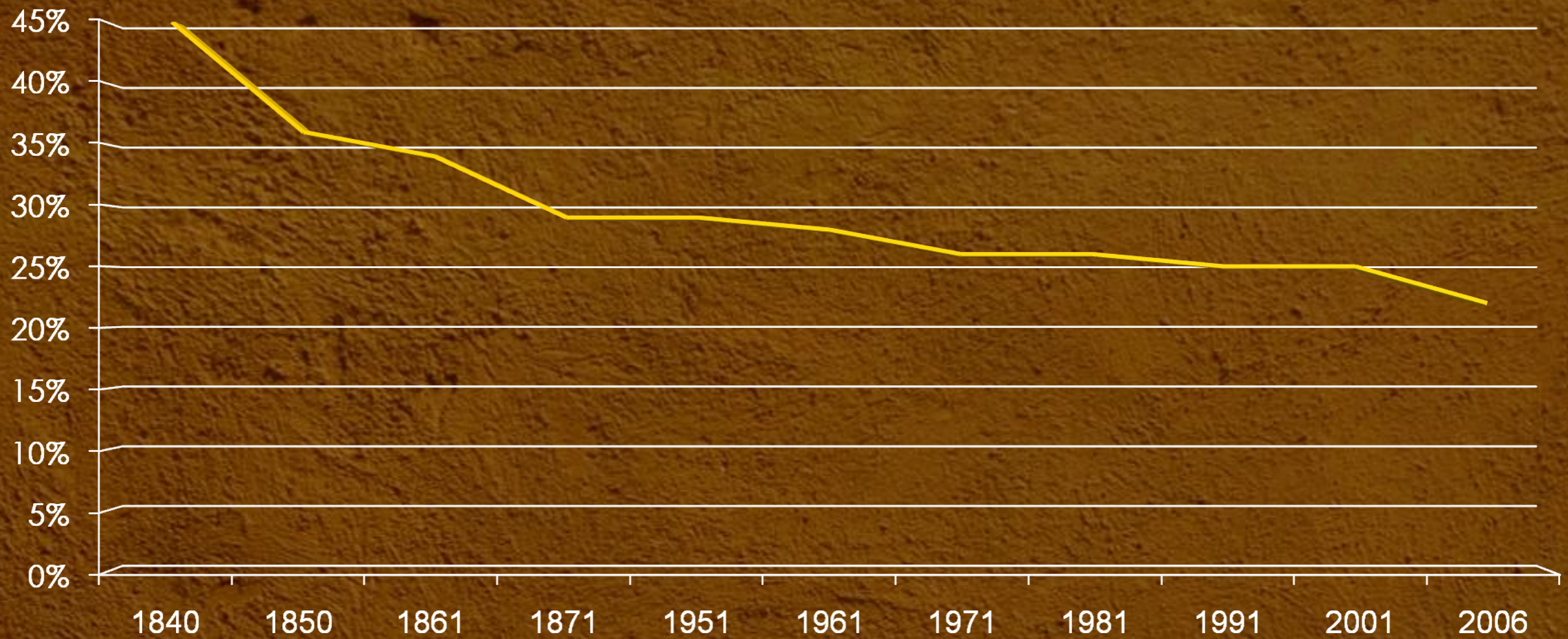
Bozen/Bolzano: Language Survival and Revitalization, 1910-2001



As % of Total
Population
Province

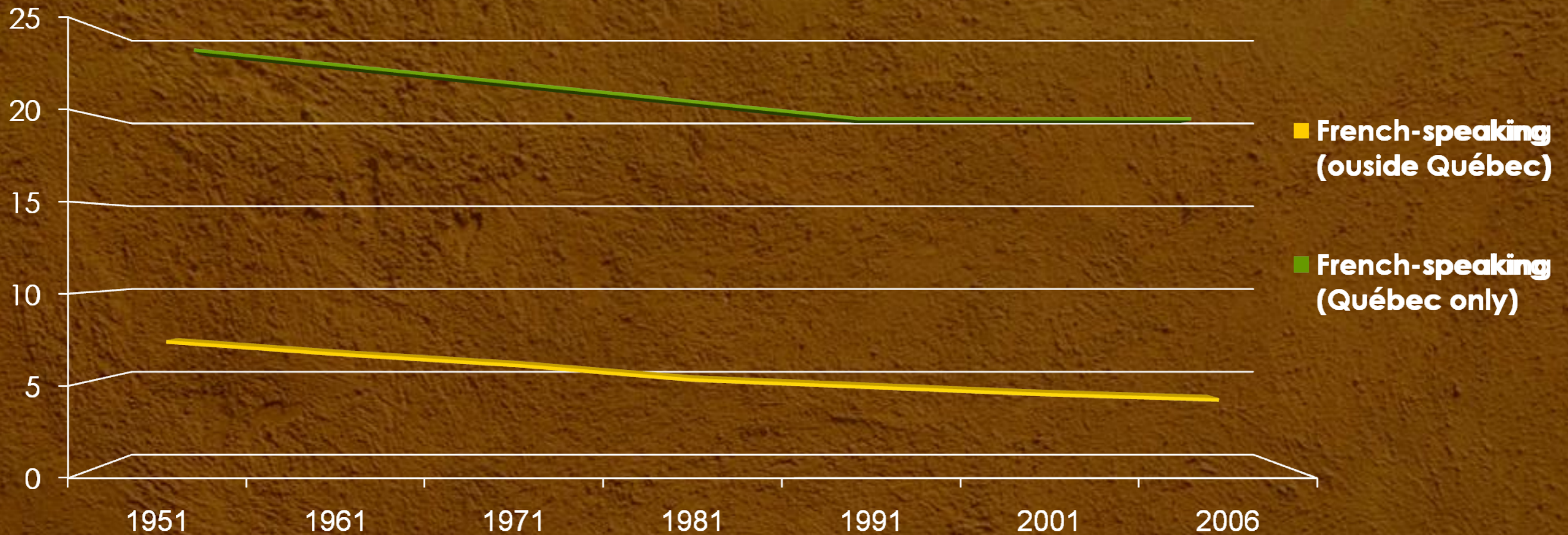


French-speaking Canadians, as Percentage of Total Population of Canada, 1840-2006



French-speaking (native speaker), Inside and Outside of Québec: An Increasing Erosion – Mainly Outside Québec

As % of
Population of
Canada



Tack – Kiitos – Merci

Eskerrik asko Ngiyathokoza Dankie გმადლობთ Go
raibh maith agaibh ལྷན་སྐྱེ་ཆེ། grazie thank you danke
gracias شكرا תודה רבה shokria 謝謝 terimah kasi
Dank U σας ευχαριστούμε obrigado takker De
благодаря ти hvala vam být zavázán tebe tak for lán
kiittää te köszönöm ありがとう ke a
leboha tsweetswee ngiyabonga Ndi a livhuwa ndzi
khense ngopfu takk skal du ha pasalamatan ka
dziękuje mulțumesc благодарю ddiolch 'ch eyvallah
gratias ago vos salamat danko tank mihi تشكر
takk þakka þú ndiyabulela ngiyabonga ke a leboga
danki tapadh leat asante tamemmirt chyeju kaba
sai go raibh maith agaibh Khanganav Eso
Blagodaram Kilissow Bayarlalaa Giittus Litumezi
Dakuyem