## Bridging communication barriers: a U.S. Census-based language analysis



Based on the American Community Survey (ACS), approximately **25 million people** in the United States do not speak English "very well."

**Over 85%** of people in the U.S. who do not speak English "very well" may benefit from patient resources translated into the languages listed below.\*



	Language	Total population who identify as not speaking English "very well"*	Total population speaking the language	% of population speaking the language who identify as not speaking English "very well"
1	Spanish	16,757,866	42,032,538	40%
2	Simplified Chinese	1,792,095	3,507,304	51%
3	Vietnamese	877,352	1,537,826	57%
4	Korean	567,024	1,110,875	51%
5	Ταgαlog	532,538	1,757,649	30%
6	Arabic	477,813	1,428,025	33%
7	Russian	391,777	974,829	40%
8	Portuguese	366,761	997,882	37%
9	Haitian	338,060	910,380	37%
10	French (incl. Cajun)	258,217	1,222,970	21%
11	Farsi/Persian	195,507	514,547	38%
12	Polish	180,153	482,519	37%
13	Japanese	171,500	431,996	40%
14	Bengali	170,941	416,062	41%
15	Hindi	146,479	881,242	17%

\* The need for language translations may vary in different communities within the U.S.

Total U.S. Population: 314,929,363

<sup>+</sup> Data was collected in 2022 by the ACS, part of the U.S. Census Bureau. Data reported for 42 different language groups. Respondents who reported speaking a language other than English were asked to indicate their ability to speak English in one of the following categories: "Very well," "Well," "Not well," or "Not at all." The data on ability to speak English represent the person's own perception about his or her own ability or, because ACS questionnaires are usually completed by one household member, the responses may represent the perception of another household member.



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Reference: Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over: 2022. United States Census Bureau. Accessed April 17, 2024. https://data.census.gov/table?t=Language+Spoken+at+Home&y=2021&d=ACS+1-Year+Estimates+Detailed+Tables&tid=ACSDT1Y2021.B16001&moe=false&tp=false