

Name _____

Diversity: Languages Spoken in the United States

1. Summarize the class discussion about what diversity means.
2. Calculate the percentage of the population that speaks only English and a language other than English at home for the United States in 2010 and 2017.

Area and year	Total population 5 years and older	Speak only English at home (number of people)	Speak a language other than English at home (number of people)	Speak only English at home (% of population)	Speak a language other than English at home (% of population)
U.S., 2010	289,215,746	229,673,150	59,542,596	79.4%	20.6%
U.S., 2017	305,924,019	239,331,713	66,592,306		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates and 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates
 2010: <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B16001&hidePreview=false&tid=ACSDT1Y2010.B16001&vintage=2018>
 2017: <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B16001&hidePreview=false&tid=ACSDT1Y2017.B16001&vintage=2018>



3. Write your state and, as a class, select two other states to write in your data table below. Then predict the percentage of people who speak a language other than English at home for each state.

Area and year	Prediction: Speak a language other than English at home	Speak a language other than English at home (number of people)	Speak a language other than English at home (% of population)
My State, 2017 _____			
State 1: _____			
State 2: _____			

4. Using **Activity Item: Language Spoken at Home by State**, search for each state’s data and complete the remaining two columns of the data table.

5. How close were your predictions to each state’s true percentage of people who speak a language other than English at home? Were you surprised by any of them?



6. Which states across the country do you think would have the highest percentage of people who speak a language other than English at home? Why?

7. Why is it important that the U.S. Census Bureau collect this type of data? How could knowing more about the percentage of our population that speaks a language other than English at home affect decisions made by our federal and local governments?

Home Extension

Take your student worksheet home and share it with an adult in your home. Ask them if they can guess the percentage of people who speak a language other than English at home in your state. Verify their answer with the data you learned in class.









Word Bank and Vocabulary

Word Bank

You can use the following words to help you discuss answers with your classmates and to write answers on your worksheet.

diversity	language	state
country	border	immigration
materials	provide	support
accessible	information	government
resources	community	benefit

Key Vocabulary

	Census: A process of counting all the people in a country, city, or town and collecting information about them
	Questionnaire: A set of written questions that is given to people to collect facts or opinions about something
	Diversity: The ways people are different from one another
	Percentage: A number that shows a part of a group
	Data: Facts usually represented by numbers
	Population: The number of people who live in an area



Activity Item: Language Spoken at Home by State

Geography	Estimate Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - English only	Percent Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - English only	Estimate Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - Language other than English	Percent Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - Language other than English
Alabama	4,324,223	94.9	234,385	5.1
Alaska	574,744	84	109,554	16
Arizona	4,654,602	73	1,720,587	27
Arkansas	258,5911	92.8	201,889	7.2
California	20,418,288	56	16,071,014	44
Colorado	4,237,632	83.1	864,637	16.9
Connecticut	2,656,081	77.9	752,209	22.1
Delaware	774,288	87.2	114,162	12.8
District of Columbia	518,706	82.5	110,078	17.5
Florida	13,669,654	71.3	5,503,431	28.7
Georgia	8,220,677	86.1	1,323,530	13.9
Hawaii	986,478	74.2	343,763	25.8
Idaho	1,377,849	89.3	165,414	10.7
Illinois	9,312,735	77.2	2,756,231	22.8
Indiana	5,672,618	91.6	523,471	8.4
Iowa	2,698,198	92.4	223,419	7.6
Kansas	2,396,123	88.5	310,871	11.5
Kentucky	3,929,849	94.7	220,387	5.3
Louisiana	3,991,873	91.7	361,157	8.3
Maine	1,186,749	93.8	79,015	6.2
Maryland	4,613,252	82	1,016,077	18
Massachusetts	4,940,967	76.9	1,485,497	23.1
Michigan	8,476,289	90.6	877,280	9.4
Minnesota	4,557,386	88.7	583,378	11.3
Mississippi	2,686,128	96.1	109,237	3.9
Missouri	5,358,633	94	343,526	6



Activity Item: Language Spoken at Home by State (Cont.)

Geography	Estimate Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - English only	Percent Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - English only	Estimate Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - Language other than English	Percent Language Spoken at Home - Population 5 years and over - Language other than English
Montana	930,797	96.1	37,847	3.9
Nebraska	1,566,040	88.8	197,054	11.2
Nevada	1,881,829	69.5	824,689	30.5
New Hampshire	1,168,119	92.2	99,496	7.8
New Jersey	5,821,459	69	2,611,986	31
New Mexico	1,269,225	65	684,541	35
New York	12,924,635	69.4	5,696,716	30.6
North Carolina	8,369,406	88.6	1,079,175	11.4
North Dakota	654,693	94.4	39,016	5.6
Ohio	10,163,386	93.1	750,666	6.9
Oklahoma	3,264,424	89.9	366,714	10.1
Oregon	3,214,945	84.8	578,328	15.2
Pennsylvania	10,750,803	89	1,328,055	11
Rhode Island	780,740	78	220,827	22
South Carolina	4,283,646	93.1	319,834	6.9
South Dakota	744,104	93.6	51,128	6.4
Tennessee	5,762,777	93	432,026	7
Texas	16,455,855	64.7	8,981,907	35.3
Utah	2,334,994	85.2	404,933	14.8
Vermont	561,646	94.4	33,161	5.6
Virginia	6,613,662	84.2	1,242,368	15.8
Washington	5,438,146	80.9	1,283,676	19.1
West Virginia	1,693,131	97.5	42,667	2.5
Wisconsin	4,955,244	91.3	470,501	8.7
Wyoming	506,060	92.7	39,683	7.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

[https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B16001&g=0100000US.04000.001&tid=ACSDT5Y2017.B16001&hidePreview=true)

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