



## Spanish in the USA – Spanish in the World

From Capitol Hill to the campaign trail and at all levels of public service and business, leaders around the nation are engaging Spanish-speaking constituents, voters, and consumers in their dominant or preferred language...*ESPAÑOL*.

In the United States of America:

- Reside nearly 60 million Hispanics and Latinos, both Spanish-speaking and non-Spanish-speaking.
- About 40 million, or 13% of the population, speak Spanish as their home language.
- Twelve million more residents speak Spanish as a heritage language or second language.

The US has the second largest number of Spanish speakers globally after Mexico. The number of native Spanish speakers has doubled since 1990 and projections suggest that by 2060 the US will have the highest number of Spanish speakers in the world (2019 Instituto Cervantes).

Spanish is the official language of 19 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Uruguay, Venezuela; Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and is the national and co-official language of Equatorial Guinea.

In 2019 Instituto Cervantes published a report on Spanish in the world, noting that:

- A total of 580 million people speak Spanish (7.6% of the world's population).
- Of the above total, 483 million are native language speakers.
- Spanish is third in the global computation of speakers (native domain + limited proficiency + Spanish students) after English and Chinese.
- Spanish is studied in 110 countries by nearly 22 million people.
- Spanish is the third most used language on the internet.

Spanish is also an official language of the most eminent international organizations: United Nations, European Union, World Health Organization, International Labour Organization, World Trade Organization, and International Criminal Court, among others.

According to market research firms and analyses of electoral results in the US, engaging Spanish-speakers in their preferred language in culturally competent ways, increases civic engagement and voting, displays respect, builds trust, and influences voter and purchasing decisions.

Spanish is here to stay.



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