




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

 Based on the American Community Survey (ACS), approximately **26 million people** in the United States do not speak English “very well.”

Nearly 90% of people in the U.S. who do not speak English “very well” may benefit from patient resources translated into the languages listed below.*



Top language translations that may aid in closing gaps in care in the U.S.†

	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	17,596,557	43,369,734	41%
2	Simplified Chinese	1,819,877	3,531,221	52%
3	Vietnamese	899,290	1,570,595	57%
4	Korean	557,162	1,079,420	52%
5	Tagalog	544,023	1,803,005	30%
6	Arabic	483,682	1,423,225	34%
7	Russian	436,396	998,179	44%
8	Haitian	405,876	973,378	42%
9	Portuguese	395,517	1,091,374	36%
10	French (incl. Cajun)	251,783	1,194,555	21%
11	Farsi/Persian	209,814	563,439	37%
12	Ukrainian (incl. Slavic)	208,147	484,892	43%
13	Bengali	186,264	453,191	41%
14	Polish	177,667	498,559	36%
15	Japanese	175,104	459,258	38%

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

Total U.S. Population: 316,581,199

† Data was collected in 2023 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.

 **Bristol Myers Squibb is committed to achieving equitable and inclusive care**

Reference: Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over: 2023. United States Census Bureau. Accessed February 14, 2025. <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT1Y2023.B16001?t=Language%20Spoken%20at%20Home&y=2023&d=ACS%201-Year%20Estimates%20Detailed%20Tables>