The largest percentage increases from 2010 to 2014. The largest percentage increases from 2010 to 2014:

- Spanish (up 2.3 million)
- Chinese (up 331,000)
- Arabic (up 252,000)
- Tagalog (up 115,000)
- Hindi (up 114,000)
- Urdu (up 89,000)

Languages with more than a million speakers in the United States:

- There are 39.3 million Spanish speakers in the United States.
- Chinese: 3.1 million
- Tagalog: 1.7 million
- Vietnamese: 1.5 million
- French: 1.2 million
- Korean: 1.1 million
- Arabic: 1.1 million

1 in 5 students comes from a home in which another language is spoken.

This number is expected to grow by 25% in the next few years.
Having a workforce that can sell to and service customers in their country and in America has been a proven way to grow a nation’s GDP.

Benefits of Bilingualism

Balanced bilinguals (individuals literate in both languages) were less likely to drop out of high school, more likely to have higher occupational status and earn more than those who lost their primary language.

On average, children who keep their primary language earn more annually than monolinguals.

Research shows that businesses overwhelmingly prefer to hire multilingual employees.

88% of executive recruiters say the ability to speak more than one language is critical to international business success.

In the past 20 years, emerging markets (markets from smaller non-English speaking countries) have surpassed the size of the US market.

According to the Society for Human Resource Management, up to 20% of call center companies’ staffs are bilingual.

Sources:

© Sylvia Acevedo, 2016.
For more information, visit www.SylviaAcevedo.com