

**Table 23a. Massachusetts -- Ability to Speak English by Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5 Years and Over: 2000**  
Internet Release Date: October 29, 2004 (revised 2/06)[Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf>]

Language spoken at home	Total	Speak English "very well"		Speak English "well"		Speak English "not well"		Speak English "not at all"	
	Number	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Population 5 years and over</b>	5,954,250	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Speak only English	4,838,680	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Speak language other than English	1,115,570	656,495	58.9	245,645	22.0	160,265	14.4	53,160	4.8
<b>Spanish or Spanish Creole</b>	370,010	207,105	56.0	80,235	21.7	58,020	15.7	24,650	6.7
<b>Other Indo-European languages</b>	529,785	335,530	63.3	108,110	20.4	67,900	12.8	18,245	3.4
French (incl. Patois, Cajun)	84,485	65,970	78.1	12,555	14.9	5,720	6.8	240	0.3
French Creole	43,520	23,130	53.2	12,645	29.1	6,125	14.1	1,620	3.7
Italian	59,810	41,125	68.8	11,885	19.9	5,870	9.8	930	1.6
Portuguese or Portuguese Creole	159,810	83,150	52.0	35,045	21.9	30,350	19.0	11,265	7.1
German	20,030	16,915	84.5	2,400	12.0	645	3.2	70	0.4
Yiddish	2,380	2,030	85.1	195	8.2	150	6.3	10	0.4
Other West Germanic languages	3,360	2,955	88.0	335	10.0	50	1.5	20	0.6
Scandinavian languages	4,675	4,020	86.0	520	11.1	130	2.8	4	0.1
Greek	28,820	20,365	70.7	5,275	18.3	2,835	9.8	345	1.2
Russian	32,580	13,725	42.1	9,330	28.6	7,685	23.6	1,840	5.7
Polish	27,630	18,950	68.6	5,725	20.7	2,635	9.5	320	1.2
Serbo-Croatian	3,610	2,020	56.0	865	24.0	590	16.4	130	3.6
Other Slavic languages	4,745	2,780	58.6	1,220	25.7	580	12.2	165	3.5
Armenian	8,090	5,815	71.9	1,475	18.2	680	8.4	115	1.4
Persian	4,600	3,175	69.0	985	21.4	355	7.7	85	1.9
Gujarathi	4,945	3,305	66.9	970	19.6	425	8.6	240	4.9
Hindi	9,170	7,335	80.0	1,340	14.6	380	4.1	120	1.3
Urdu	4,230	2,945	69.5	780	18.4	450	10.6	60	1.4
Other Indic languages	8,695	6,380	73.4	1,565	18.0	590	6.8	160	1.8
Other Indo-European languages	14,605	9,440	64.6	3,010	20.6	1,645	11.3	510	3.5
<b>Asian and Pacific Island languages</b>	171,255	81,320	47.5	48,550	28.4	31,590	18.4	9,795	5.7
Chinese	71,410	32,980	46.2	19,375	27.1	13,105	18.4	5,950	8.3
Japanese	9,985	5,040	50.5	3,095	31.0	1,685	16.9	160	1.6
Korean	12,135	6,380	52.6	3,525	29.0	2,040	16.8	195	1.6
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	21,550	9,835	45.7	5,920	27.5	4,465	20.7	1,325	6.2
Miao, Hmong	1,120	610	54.2	260	23.1	220	19.6	35	3.1
Thai	2,230	1,135	51.0	665	29.9	370	16.6	55	2.5
Laotian	3,465	1,560	45.1	1,125	32.5	675	19.5	100	2.9
Vietnamese	30,400	9,795	32.2	10,700	35.2	8,045	26.5	1,860	6.1
Other Asian languages	11,790	8,825	74.8	2,330	19.8	555	4.7	85	0.7
Tagalog	5,700	4,220	74.0	1,135	19.9	335	5.9	10	0.2
Other Pacific Island languages	1,470	945	64.5	420	28.7	85	5.8	15	1.0
<b>Other languages</b>	44,520	32,545	73.1	8,755	19.7	2,755	6.2	470	1.1
Navajo	35	35	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other Native North American languages	900	760	85.0	105	11.7	25	2.8	4	0.5
Hungarian	1,620	1,200	74.4	325	20.1	85	5.3	4	0.3
Arabic	18,740	12,745	68.0	4,070	21.7	1,605	8.6	325	1.7
Hebrew	6,530	5,610	85.9	725	11.1	195	3.0	0	0.0
African languages	14,030	10,165	72.4	3,155	22.5	600	4.3	115	0.8
Other and unspecified languages	2,665	2,030	76.0	375	14.0	245	9.2	20	0.8

(X) Not applicable.