

2016

SNAPSHOT

The World's Top Languages

Number of native speakers

Chinese (all dialects)
1.2 billion

Spanish 399 million

English 335 million

Hindi 260 million

Arabic (all dialects) 242 million

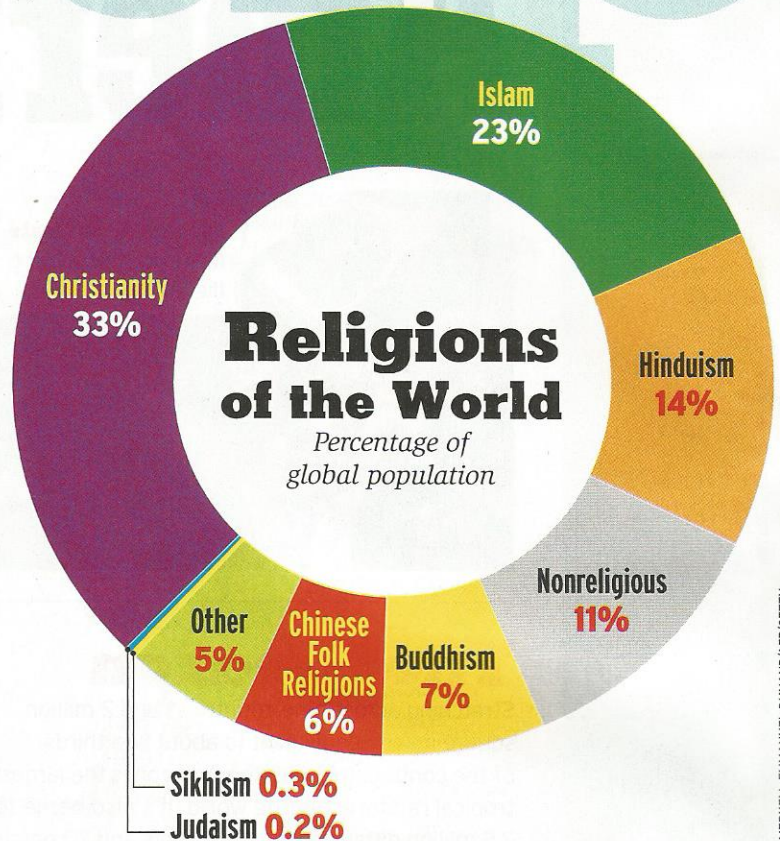
Portuguese 203 million

Bengali 189 million

Russian 166 million

Note: A native speaker is one who has spoken the language since earliest childhood.

SOURCE: ETHNOLOGUE; LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD, 2015; FIGURES ROUNDED



SOURCE: BRITANNICA BOOK OF THE YEAR, 2015; FIGURES DON'T ADD UP TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING



Average price of a movie ticket in selected countries (in U.S. dollars)

SWITZERLAND	DENMARK	KUWAIT	JAPAN	FRANCE	UNITED STATES	CHINA	BRAZIL	SOUTH AFRICA	INDIA
\$17 ⁰⁰	\$14 ⁵⁰	\$11 ⁴⁷	\$10 ⁷⁰	\$8 ⁵⁰	\$8 ¹⁰	\$5 ⁸⁰	\$5 ³⁰	\$2 ⁴⁴	60¢

SOURCE: EUROPEAN AUDIOVISUAL OBSERVATORY, FOCUS 2015: WORLD FILM MARKET TRENDS

Women IN POWER

Countries with the highest percentage of female national legislators

1. Rwanda*	57.5%	7. Belgium*	42.4%
2. Bolivia*	51.8%	8. Ecuador*	41.6%
3. Cuba*	48.9%	9. Finland	41.5%
4. Seychelles	43.8%	10. Nicaragua*	41.3%
5. Sweden*	43.6%		
6. Senegal*	42.7%	78. United States	19.5%

* Sets quotas or uses other strategies to include women in politics

Some Female Heads of State



Angela Merkel
Germany



Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Liberia



Park Geun-hye
South Korea

SOURCE: INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION, SEPTEMBER 2015

SHUTTERSTOCK (SIGN); FEING LIGGETTY IMAGES (ANGELA MERKEL); EMANUEL DUNAND/AFP/GETTY IMAGES (ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF); CHUNG SUNG-JUN/GETTY IMAGES (PARK GEUN-HYE)



The World's Largest Employers

Number of people employed

1. U.S. Department of Defense	3.2 million
2. People's Liberation Army (China)	2.3 million
3. Walmart (U.S.)	2.1 million
4. McDonald's (U.S.)	1.9 million
5. U.K. National Health Service	1.7 million
6. China National Petroleum Corporation	1.6 million
7. State Grid Corporation of China*	1.5 million
8. Indian Railways	1.4 million
9. Indian Armed Forces	1.3 million
10. Foxconn (Taiwan**)	1.2 million

* China's government-run electric utility

** Foxconn—best known for assembling iPhones—is Taiwanese, but most of its factories are in China.

SOURCE: WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM, JUNE 2015

Top-10 Debtors

Countries with the most government debt
(per person, in U.S. dollars)



SOURCE: INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND, APRIL 2015

Note: Renewable energy includes hydro, wind, geothermal, and solar power; non-renewable includes fossil fuels and nuclear power.

SOURCE: ENERDATA, GLOBAL ENERGY STATISTICAL YEARBOOK 2015; FIGURES ROUNDED



Green Giants

Countries that use the most renewable energy



renewable energy non-renewable energy

Smart Money

Countries that invest the largest percentage of public spending on education

1.		New Zealand	21.6%
2. & 3. (tied)		Mexico & Indonesia	20.5%
4.		Brazil	19.2%
5.		South Korea	16.5%
6.		Switzerland	15.7%
7.		Iceland	15.5%
8.		Denmark	15.2%
9.		Norway	14.9%
10.		Australia	14.4%
13.		United States	13.6%

SOURCE: OECD, EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2014

Questions

1. What percentage of the world's 7.3 billion people are native Spanish speakers?
2. Christians, Muslims, and Jews account for what share of the global population?
3. Why might a movie ticket be so cheap in India?
4. On which continent is the country with the highest percentage of female national legislators?
5. What do you notice about the top-two largest employers?
6. How does the government debt per person in the U.S. compare with Canada's?
7. How many South American countries are in the top 10 for renewable energy use?
8. What might the use of renewable energy say about a country?
9. Which country's public spending on education is 8 percentage points higher than that of the U.S.?
10. Which stats surprise you most? Why?